

the

JAN / FEB 2011 EDITION

FOCAL Point

CENTERED ON ACTIVITIES OF TOLEDO FIRST SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH FAMILY

✧ Valentine Concert to benefit Haiti orphans ✧

Mary Grace was born with physical deformities. Her right hand is a stump half past the elbow. And her right foot is eight inches shorter with only three toes. But she never allows her disadvantage to hinder her from fulfilling a desire to produce beautiful music for Jesus. She has played the piano with her left hand and right stump in Guam, Germany, Korea, Japan, Philippines, Canada and the USA and has been featured in numerous journals (you can read one such story at www.adventistreview.org/2002-1541/story1) and television ministries.

But on Saturday, February 12, 2011 she will be our guest as she shares her story of hope, faith, and inner strength to transcend limitations. The free one hour piano concert will start at 7 PM and will conclude with a tasty “afterglow.” Please pick up invitation cards at church and make plans now to invite your friends and family. 100% of the collected love offering will benefit the Eden Garden Orphanage in Haiti. This ordinary outreach is sponsored by the Toledo First Church of Seventh-day Adventists.—Pastor Mike ##



Travel with God

God gives us
all a free trip
around the sun
each year.
Enjoy the ride!

lelelele

Be always at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbors and let each new year find you a better person.

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We closed the year with a busy two months

First, Bill and Janell Ashley along with Toledo First, hosted another very successful RingFest. Here they are in photo 1 with our ringers. Pathfinder Day and Pinewood Derby arrived

soon after. Photo 2 shows some of the Derby winners. For our Little Minnow awards we honored three treasurers (present and past) - Marilyn Marsh, Gail Flack, David Kawakami

along with Harold Rumsey (not pictured) and Dr. Gerald Marsa for all the "little things" they do. Photo 4 shows "shopkeeper Deb" in Bethlehem during our

Christmas VBS. We say goodbye to Keturah in photo 5. And the final photo was taken at TJA's Christmas program. Thank you, Jeff Batchelder, for these pictures! ##

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JAN 8-15-22
"Truth About Poverty" classes
1 - 3 PM

JAN 29
International Food Fest, 7 PM

FEB 6
Souper Bowl of Caring, 6 PM (Super Bowl)

FEB 12
Mary Grace Concert & Haiti Fundraiser

Remember: You can see this newsletter in beautiful color by visiting toledofirstadventist.org

Come for games then Family Film Night



We're having Game Night on January 22 at 7 PM. Bring the family and join in the games!

Then on February 19, at 7 PM, Toledo Junior



Academy will host a Family Film Night as a fundraiser. Come and support our school! ##

TJA still selling fruit

Deadlines for ordering fruit in the next two months are January 7 and

February 11. Call the school at 419.841.0082 to order or for more information. ##

Year-end Offerings

To count for tax purposes all tithes & offerings must be in the hands of the treasurer, Marilyn Marsh, on 12/31/10 or postmarked no later than 12/31/10. No matter the date on the check, received or postmarked 12/31/10 are the only funds to be included for 2010. No exceptions. ##

Come to HoH annual meeting

January 25, 2011 is the date set for Haven of Hope's annual meeting, from 7 - 8 PM at the



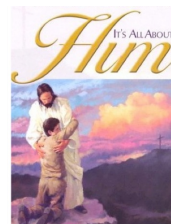
church. Everyone interested is invited to attend. All board members are urged to be present. Monte Sahlin from the Ohio Conference will chair the meeting.

A history of HoH will be presented along with a financial report and other items of business. ##

Soup for You resumes January 5

After a 2-week Christmas break, Soup for You will continue with the cur-

rent book discussion. They have chosen *It's All About Him* by Lee Venden for their next book. For more information about an exact date for that study, call the church office at 419-882-6200 about mid-January. ##



Church Business/School Board meet

All members are invited to the above meeting on Monday, Jan. 31, 7 PM. Church and school issues are on the agenda ##

The Focal Point is published bi-monthly by Toledo First Seventh-day Adventist Church ~ 419.882.6200 ~ toledofirstadventist.org

Truth About Poverty?



When we think of those in poverty, certain questions automatically come to mind. Why don't they just get a job?! Why are they so irresponsible?! Are handouts really all they want or need? What should a church know about serving those in poverty?

These are just some of the questions that will be answered after church potluck on consecutive Sabbath afternoons in January starting January 8 and continuing January 15 and 22 from 1-3 PM. Geared toward churches and organizations who are currently [or who are thinking about] working more intentionally with the poor, these classes teach participants what generational poverty is, the reasons why the poor stay poor, how to really help the poor, and how we can align ourselves with God's heart for the poor.

Elijah Jones, long time Toledo resident with a wealth of experience serving the poor, will be teaching these classes and facilitating the follow up conversations. Elijah is a friend of Toledo First Church and serves on the Haven of Hope board. If you're at all interested in the next steps Connections takes to a possible storefront location downtown, please make these classes a priority!

Your response to these classes will help us determine whether we have the interest or "manpower" we need to proceed. The classes are free but RSVP @ 419.882.6200 is required. —Pastor Mike ##

Circle Jan. 29, 2011 on your new calendar

The ever-popular church social, the International Food Fest will be January 29, 2011. Plan to come and enjoy foods from many lands which our own culinary artists will whip up! Don't be late. Arrive at 7 PM for best selection! ##



International Food Fest

Christmas giving provides goats

The young goats shown in the picture below visited church on several occasions in December (*thanks to Dave Case*), and helped to remind us that families in the Philippines can work their way out of poverty with just a little help from us.



For just \$70, ADRA can purchase a goat to give to a Filipino family and as of December 18, we had enough money donated for 26 goats! Praise the Lord for generous

hearts! It's not too late to give if you would like to give towards "Really Useful Gift" #43 from ADRA's 2010 catalog. ##

Church Directories are ready

If you had your photo taken the end of August by Universal photographers, you have a photo directory waiting for you at church. Office hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9 AM - 4 PM except during the holidays when they are Tuesday and Wednesday, 9 AM - 4 PM. —DeLaura Caulder ##

A resolution for the new year...

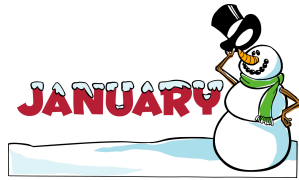
Let us resolve: First to attain the grace of silence; second, to deem all fault-finding a sin ... Third to practice the grace of virtue and praise. — Harriet Beecher Stowe

Calendar Events - Jan & Feb 2011

January

Birthdays

January 1 Jo Ann Arthur
January 3 Cathy Hall
January 7 David Ashley
Kevin Herman
January 8 Donna Schuster
January 16 Rosemary Maehre
January 20 Cassidy Cross
January 24 Kathy Kajfasz
January 27 Glenn Szana
January 29 Ericka Bilby
January 30 David Case
Kyla Reams



Sabbath Events

Sabbath School @ 9:30 & Worship @ 11 AM each week
Kid Connect @ 11 AM each week

Jan 1 Allan Wolfson speaks @ morning worship. No dinner.
Jan 8 Dave Case speaks @ morning worship; Potluck; Poverty Class from 1-3 PM; Jesus Walk @ 5 PM
Jan 15 Pastor Anna speaks, Potluck; Poverty Class from 1-3 PM
Jan 22 Pastor Mike speaks @ 11 AM Worship; Communion; / Eat n Greet 'n Art; Poverty Class from 1 - 3 PM; Game Night @ 7 PM

Sundays

Christ the Word Church rents our church morning & evening on the 1st & 3rd Sundays
Jan 23 Fruit pickup

Mondays

Jan 24 No school; Parent-Teacher conferences

Tuesdays - Church office is open 9 AM - 4 PM

Jan 25 Haven of Hope Annual Meeting at 7 PM

Wednesdays

Soup for You @ 6 PM each week
Adventurers & Pathfinders @ 6:30 PM each week
Book discussion @ 6:30 PM each week

Thursdays - Church office is open 9 AM - 4 PM

Fridays

Worship Practice @ 5:30 PM

February

Birthdays

February 3 Julie Herman
February 5 Shirlie Heiney
February 7 Kendra Bills
February 9 Edith Kolmar
February 10 Beth Bench
Jim Naus
February 11 Betty Godie
February 12 Barbara Duwve
February 13 Lydia Fortune
February 15 Tamara Davydova
February 18 Tracy Jakubowski
February 22 Helen Emch
February 23 Rebekah Godie
February 27 Andrea Hughes
February 28 Nikyta Cantwell

Sabbath Events

Sabbath School @ 9:30 & Worship @ 11 AM each week
Kid Connect @ 11 AM each week

Feb 5 Pastor Mike speaks @ morning worship; Fellowship Potluck

Feb 12 Mary Grace concert/Fundraiser for Haiti

Feb 19 Friendship dinner hosted by Cindy Larimore & team after worship; TJA Family Film Night

Feb 26 Eat 'n Greet 'n Art

Sundays

Christ the Word Church rents our church morning & evening on the 1st & 3rd Sundays; Morning only the other Sundays

Feb 6 Souper Bowl of Caring

Feb 20 Tobogganing

Mondays

Feb 21 No school/Presidents' Day

Tuesdays - Church office is open 9 AM - 4 PM

Wednesdays

Soup for You @ 6 PM each week
Adventurers & Pathfinders @ 6:30 PM each week
Book discussion @ 6:30 PM each week

Thursdays - Church office is open 9 AM - 4 PM

Fridays

Worship Practice @ 5:30 PM





Christmas VBS

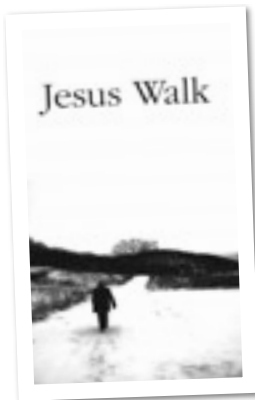
In the Scribe shop kids learned how to write with a bamboo stylus, write a message and seal it with wax and a stamp. Next door in the Leatherworking shop they learned how to braid and bead a bracelet. The hammering and pounding came from the Metalworking shop where kids carefully punched a Christmas design in a tin canning lid with a hammer and nail. They made and painted wooden tops (or dreidels) in the Carpentry shop, tasted candy treats, made olive-leaf wreaths, and in the Pottery shop even made

their own clay jars. The aroma of freshly baked Sabbath bread filled the whole Bethlehem marketplace and kids loved tasting the sweet bread with a dribble of honey on top. It looked like, smelled like, and seemed just like a night in a marketplace during the time when Jesus was born in Bethlehem. "Mary" and "Joseph" even led kids out to the stable where they petted two kid goats. All in all our Christmas VBS "A Night in Bethlehem" was a huge success thanks to all who helped! Forty five kids stopped by and experienced all that we had to offer - we met and made many new friends and look forward to keeping in contact with everyone who stopped by! ##

TJA Students feed Homeless

You can barely see their heads over the counter, and their plastic serving gloves are about four sizes too big, but once a month the bright smiling faces of a small group of students from the fifth through eighth grade classes welcomes anyone who comes through the doors of the Cherry Street Mission dining hall. Although it's a little out of their comfort zone, these kids serve up a filling lunch tray including sandwiches made up by a group of ladies from our very own Toledo First, accompanied by a bowl of hot soup, chips, munchies, and dessert. Of 150-200 homeless that they serve, some are appreciative, some don't say anything, but it's just good to be there to serve someone in a practical, ordinary way. If you're interested in tagging along **January 31 or February 28**, please let Pastor Anna know - we'd love for you to join us! ##

Ever wonder what it would be like...



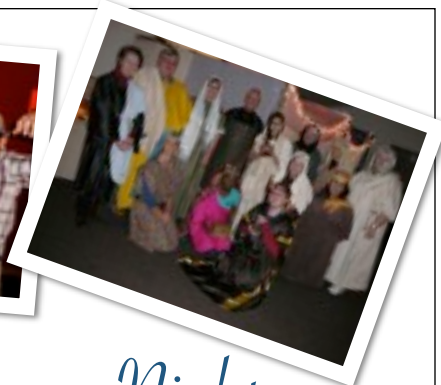
to take a walk with Jesus? Picture it, close your eyes for a second. If you forget about everything else, just for a moment, and imagine it...what would it look like, feel like, to walk side by side with Jesus? As you walked, what would you talk about? Would you talk about all the burdens on your heart, all the pain and anger of the times you've had your heart broken, all the times you've gone the wrong way in life, or all the times life wasn't what you expected? Join us Saturday, **January 8** at 5:00PM for a "Jesus Walk," a special program hosted by Connections, brought to you by Pastor Anna. ##

Souper Bowl of Caring

Gear up football fans! Pull out those jerseys, slather on the face paint, and get ready for our Super Bowl party. But this isn't just any party. Here at Toledo First we like to find ways of doing ordinary outreach and this is just one more way we can do something great together. Last year more than 260,000 young people across the nation worked together in the weeks before and on the Sunday of the Super Bowl football game to fight hunger and poverty in their local communities. They collected \$10 million in dollars and food for local hunger-relief charities. This year's goal is \$11 million collected for hunger-relief charities in local communities. So bring in your cans of non-perishable foods or even a donation of money and on Sunday **February 6** don't just come out to cheer, eat lots of pizza, and have a great time no matter which teams are playing, but help us **tackle hunger in America!** ##



Pastor Anna Romuald



Toledo First's Winter Olympics Game Night

On your mark, get set, goooooo! Put it on your calendars, invite you friends, and start getting into shape for our first ever, **indoor** Winter Olympics game night **Saturday January 22** here at Toledo First! Zoom down the track in a three man bobsled race, try your best to win some cash by taking the "icy plunge," show off your skills in the

marshmallow relay, and so much more! Come one and come all, no age restrictions or requirements. All you have to have is the need for fun! ##



KIDCONNECT

JAN 1
Janica & Dave
Pastor Anna Away

JAN 8
Pastor Anna,
Deb B, & Jackie

JAN 15
No KidConnect

JAN 22
Pastor Anna,
Deb W, & Rose

JAN 29
Pastor Anna,
Janica & Dave

CALENDAR

FEB 5
Pastor Anna &
Deb B

FEB 12
Pastor Anna,
Jackie, & Rose

FEB 19
Pastor Anna,
Deb W, & Dave

FEB 26
Pastor Anna &
Janica

*SCHEDULE SUBJECT
TO CHANGE

Sledding at Superspeed

I may come from Minnesnowta where we get to do *a lot* of sledding, but I've never been down a toboggan track a quarter of a mile long at 35-40 miles per hour! On **Sunday February 20**, put on the long underwear, the thick wool socks, the colorful hat, gloves, scarf, and get ready for some super speed sledding. Kids ages 8 and up, (unless accompanied by adult), are invited to spend a couple hours sledding at Pokagon State Park on the refrigerated toboggan run, cost is \$15 per person and the fun is worth every penny! ##



Pastor Anna Romuald