

MAY / JUNE 2010 EDITION

the

FOCAL Point

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

✧ Freely and Cheerfully Give & Receive ✧

Creola's house was falling apart. The West Virginia mountainside was literally sliding into it. She needed help and graciously received it when Toledo First missionaries to America, Keith and Charlene Barr, intervened through the SWAP organization [which stands for Sharing With Appalachian People] that they are partnering with in the coal mining



area of McDowell County, West Virginia. Today, a strong retaining wall is holding the mountain back. A new bathroom and bedroom has been added. And thanks to Toledo First members Dave Case and Shawn Flack, who along with five other members from Toledo First spent last week in southern Appalachia, Creola has a sewer again.



Though there is no Adventist church nearby, Creola has started attending another church for the first time in years. The rich young ruler in Mark 10 didn't grasp what Creola did. And even though he didn't, Mark 10:18 says, "Jesus looked at him and loved him." I wish the Bible added "like crazy" but we still get the point. It takes grace to give and receive.

To help us model this in our 11AM worship service on Sabbaths, as we discussed during our April 20 Business Meeting, we're moving the collection of our tithes and

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As the Father has loved me,
so I have loved you ...
John 15:9

*God loves us,
not because we are
lovable but because
He is love,
not because He
needs to receive but
because He
delights to give.*

—C. S. Lewis

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*Having someone who understands is a great blessing for ourselves.
Being someone who understands is a great blessing to others. —Janette Oke*

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Freely and Cheerfully Give & Receive

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offerings to the conclusion of our 11AM worship service starting June 5th.

I hope doing so won't discourage the faithful contributors who in the past have cheerfully given their tithes and offerings toward the beginning of our worship service as offering plates were being passed around. Instead, my hope is that as we exit following worship under the giant cross at back of the sanctuary, in response to He who looks at us and loves us, that more of us will love Him back and freely and cheerfully give back to Him.

To do so, a box with an opening at the top has been added to the foot of the cross in the back of the sanctuary for you to place your tithes and offerings on your way out of church. And should you exit on the sides of



Tithe & Offering

the sanctuary, deacons with plates will be there to open the doors and offer you another option to give as well.

Aside from providing us the opportunity to give after we have received, an additional benefit of collecting our tithes and offerings this way is that people can give "secretly" all Sabbath morning long. You don't have to wait until the end of worship to give. You could place

your financial gifts in the box anytime before or during the service as well. Since giving and receiving is a personal response to our loving God, perhaps this additional benefit of anonymity will encourage others to give to our local church budget and not just our tithes remembering as we do that it takes grace to give and to receive. —Pastor Mike ##

Annual Women's Tea in June @ Mount Vernon

The annual Women's Ministry "Camp Meeting Tea" is being held at the Mount Vernon Academy Cafeteria on Sunday, June 13, from 11:30 AM until 2:00 PM. The theme is "Tea by the Sea," and will feature delicious food, an inspiring devotional, gifts, and door prizes. Tickets are \$3.00, payable at the event, and must be reserved in advance. Go to www.ohioadventist.org for online reservations, or call Ruth Ann at 740-397-4665, Ext. 111. Reservation deadline is June 4, 2010. (This event is for adults or teens only. No childcare provided.) ##



Who are our GRADUATES?

On June 19 we will have our annual "Honoring Graduates Potluck." All graduates from Kindergarten on up (who have graduated since last June) will be honored.

So please if you know someone who is connected to our church family and who has graduated sometime during the year, call the church office (419.882.6200). Please don't assume that we already know! —Dee Caulder ##

IMPACT Atlanta

Seventh-day Adventist young adults are invited to IMPACT Atlanta, June 23 through July 3, 2010, at the Sheraton Atlanta Hotel, Georgia. Young adults from around the world will convene to sharpen leadership and compassion skills through training and community service. Adventist collegians through young professionals age 35 are invited to apply and find information at www.impactatlanta.info. ##



they have each Sabbath morning. Their theme this quarter is Fruits of the Spirit and peacemaking was their theme at morning worship acted out in skit, sermonette and action songs. Thanks, Pastor Rachel & kids! ##

Thanks, Kids!

On May 1, Pastor Rachel and the Kid Connect gang gave us a little hint of the learning fun

A child's life is like a piece of paper on which every person leaves a mark.
— Chinese proverb



Caught by Jeff's camera during March & April

As always we thank Jeff Batchelder for the pictures we show here. He was busy as usual keeping a pictorial account of the past two months. In the first photo some of the Kid Connect

children are shown with teen staff. We celebrated communion on April 17. The middle picture is our Toledo Junior Academy students singing at the Just Claim It Convention in Co-

lumbus. (Jeff was there, too!) Luann Ostrander, shown with Pastor Mike, joined our church in April. *Welcome, Luann!* She is daughter of Bev Ostrander, brother of Robert. The final

photo is some of the art work featured in March for Eat 'n Greet 'n Art (which you can enjoy the 4th Saturday of each month. ##

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MAY 8
Mother's Day Tea

MAY 25
JMLC Graduation

MAY 27
TJA Graduation

JUNE 19
Honor Grads @ Potluck

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

Graduations

James Meade Learning Center will hold their graduation on Tuesday, May 25 at 7 PM. Then on Thursday, May 27, ceremonies begin at 6:30 for Toledo Junior Academy Kindergarten graduates. Following a brief intermission, the 8th grade program will begin. Everyone is invited to these momentous events in the lives of our students. ##

May will be busy!

Students at Toledo Junior Academy have a busy last month of the school year (including academ-

ics). Here's the extra-curricular calendar:

May 13 - Parent Meeting regarding next school year.

May 19 - Mud Hens Game. Parents and students are invited.

May 25 - Field Day
May 27 - Graduations (Dismissal @ 1:00 PM)

May 28 - Last Day (Dismissal @ 1:00 PM) ##

Bring your pop cans

Did you know we have a new microwave? Donna was able to purchase one with the money she's been

saving from recycling pop cans.

Please bring all your pop cans in to church because now Donna is saving for a new cooktop for the kitchen counter! — Dee Caulder ##

Play at water park!

Pastor Rachel is planning a fun day for the youth, their parents, and anyone young at heart on Sunday, May 23. Kalahari Waterpark in Sandusky, Ohio is the biggest indoor water park in the U. S. Cost for youth 5 - 18 is \$12/ Adults, \$24. Bring extra money for lockers and lunch.

Meet on the playground side of the church parking lot before 9:00 AM. Return will be in late afternoon.

RSVP is required by May 15 by calling Pastor Rachel (419.320.3516). ##



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Join us in building families, providing hope. . .

Haven of Hope is planning its next make over project in early June. If you are unfamiliar with HoH we are a non profit started by members of Toledo First. We hope to offer many services to the less fortunate, our first focus being providing minor to full home makeovers to low income families and individuals. Our mission is: "Building Families, Providing Hope, Empowering Community." By renovating homes and offering support to those in need, Haven of Hope simultaneously helps families rebuild their lives. Many of these families have outlasted poverty and drug addiction and now are valiantly trying to improve their lives as they move back to



independent living and become contributing members of their community. You can help us continue the valuable work of rebuilding lives.

Please consider donating your skills and/or time! **We are working hard to find 2 important items for 2 different individuals: we need a stove and a refrigerator. Both individuals live in a mobile home. We are also seeking people who are skilled in these areas: fixing light fixtures, windows, insulation, tub caulking, wood paneling, etc.** Please contact me or Pastors Mike or Rachel if you can help!
—Nicole Warner, Director, igotjoy777@gmail.com / 740-507-0431 ##

Get ahead of the crowd. Sign up now for Life Line

Toledo First is pleased to offer a preventive health event. **Life Line Screening**, a leading provider of community-based preventive health screenings, will host their affordable non-invasive, painless health screenings on Tuesday, **July 20, 2010** in our fellowship room.

Five screenings will be offered that scan for potential health problems related to blocked arteries, which is a leading cause of stroke, abdominal aortic aneurysms, which can lead to a ruptured aorta, hardening of the arteries in the legs, which is a strong predictor of heart disease, atrial fibrillation or irregular heartbeat, which is closely tied to stroke risk, and a bone density screening, for men and women, used to assess the risk of osteoporosis.

Register for the Stroke, Vascular Disease and Heart Rhythm Package for \$139. All four ultrasound screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. Your Health is in Your Hands, so call 1.888.653.6441 for more information or to pre-register. Right now you can have your choice of appointments as they have not yet advertised to the public.

—Dee Caulder ##

Give to Campus Connections

Ohio Conference, in an effort to reach the half million students in Ohio colleges and universities, has a goal of raising \$180,000. Adventist young adults will be placed on campuses throughout Ohio to serve as missionaries to college students. If you have not given, but would like to support this worthy plan, your gifts are most welcome. Please give to "Campus Connections." ##

Rest is not idleness, and to lie sometimes on the grass under the trees on a summer's day, listening to the murmur of water, or watching the clouds float across the sky, is by no means a waste of time. —John Lubbock

Come to a Recital!

The students of Janica Peppard and Sharon Van Wyk will give a Piano & Vocal Recital on Thursday evening, May 20, from 6:30 - 7:30 PM at our church. Everyone is invited. ##

Mother's Day Tea set for May 8

Ladies from church and community will enjoy the Mother's Day Tea on Saturday, May 8, 2:30 PM. Reservations promise a full house! Attendees should bring their favorite teacup to enjoy their tea, and any toiletries they would like to donate to share with others in the community. ##

Calendar Events - May & June 2010

May

Birthdays

May 1 Austin Jessop
May 3 Gary Gooden
May 4 Angela Eschmann
May 8 Lori Marsh
May 11 Wanda Graham
May 12 Linda Ostrander
May 14 Tina Polzin
May 15 Melissa Bilby
May 18 Linda Bilby
Eric Ashley
May 19 Rachel Davies
May 22 Sue Burrow
May 25 Raymond Kawakami
May 26 Janell Ashley
May 27 Cindy Leibengood
May 30 Sharon Crosby
Julie Larimore

Sabbath Events

Sabbath School @ 9:30 & Worship @ 11 AM & 5 PM each week
Kid Connect @ 11 AM & 5 PM each week (except ???)

May 1 Potluck
May 8 Mother's Day Tea @ 2:30 PM
May 9 Mother's Day
May 15 Potluck
May 22 Eat n Greet 'n Art

Sundays

Christ the Word Church rents our church morning & evening on the 1st & 3rd Sundays
May 30 Parkwood Wedding

Mondays

Bell Choir @ 3 PM each week

Tuesday

May 25 JMLC Graduation

Wednesdays

Soup for You @ 6 PM each week; Adventurers & Pathfinders @ 6:30 PM each week; Book discussion @ 6:30 PM each week
May 19 Investiture

Thursdays

Bell Choir @ 3 PM
May 20 Piano Recital
May 27 TJA Graduation

Fridays

Worship Practice @ 5:30 PM
May 28 Last day of school

June

Birthdays

June 1 Cindy Naus
Troy Brion
June 3 Christine Behler
June 4 Harold Rumsey
June 10 Gerald Marsa
June 13 DeLaura Caulder
June 14 Rachel Hall
June 15 Jack Herman
Helen Szana
June 16 Mary Ann Hess
June 19 Mike Heiney
June 21 Dan Frey
Pam Frey
June 25 Judy Riley
Cheryl Malosh
June 26 Karen Sandy
June 29 Marilyn West
June 30 Sandy Gorsuch

Sabbath Events

Sabbath School @ 9:30 & Worship @ 11 AM & 5 PM each week
Kid Connect @ 11 AM & 5 PM each week

June 5 Potluck
June 19 Potluck to honor Graduates
June 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
June 20 Father's Day

Wednesdays

Soup for You @ 6 PM each week starting Jan. 13
Adventurers & Pathfinders @ 6:30 PM each week
Book discussion @ 6:30 PM each week

Fridays

Worship Practice @ 5:30 PM

The General Conference 2010 Session
will be held in Atlanta June 23 - July 3