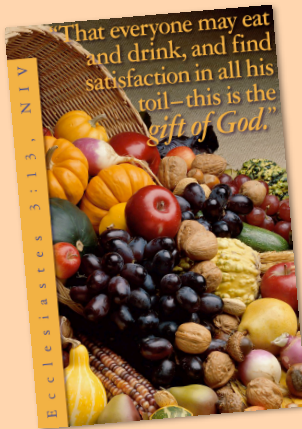


NOVEMBER 2007 EDITION

the

FOCAL Point

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



*True gratitude,
like true love,
must find
expression
in acts,
not words.*

lealeale

✳ YO = Youth Operate! ✳

YO! The Youth have a new name. YO stands for Youth Operate. We have been talking in Sabbath School for the last three months about what it means to be a community of people who follow the way of Jesus. The Youth have answered questions like, "My community will be strong when...." And "What I wish was different about the world is...." They have done a great job of dreaming and thinking about how to better take care of themselves, each other, their school, their neighborhood, and the world.

We got our YO t-shirts two weeks ago and most of the youth have received theirs. We are budgeting for only YO members (called YO-YO's) to receive t-shirts right now. If you are a mom or dad of a YO member (YO-YO MA's or YO-YO PA's) or anyone else who might like a t-shirt, they are \$6, and if we can order them in the next two weeks the printers will give us the same bulk price. The t-shirts have our logo and the new YO mission statement, "Making Our Community A Better Place To Live."



Youth Operate is not just a name, it is a call to action. It says that we must act and be for the people and the things close to God's heart.

A few YO terms are:

- A YO member.....YO-YO
- A YO parent.....YO-YO MA (or YO-YO PA)
- A YO leader.....YO-DA
- A YO open mic night.....YO-DEL

—Pastor Nathan ##

There is something in every season, in every day, to celebrate with thanksgiving. —Gloria Gather

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Little Minnow Awards to be given November 17

You give 20 hours a week to the church as a volunteer and who notices? Or, you are always at your post on time to teach Sabbath School...and who says thanks? Or, your volunteer work is “behind the scenes” and who even knows or cares?

We do! Sabbath, November 17th is the day to recognize the efforts of all of our volunteers who keep our church

running, effective and vital! Pastor Mike (and everyone)

wants to thank you for all that you do! —DeLaura Caulder

Please note: If you do not want to be recognized, thanked and receive your Little Minnow Award publicly at 11 o'clock worship, please call the church office before November 15.
##

Learning Center teaches giving

James Meade Learning Center staff believes that teaching children to give to others at a young age will demonstrate the teachings of Jesus.

During October, the children collected and gave socks to Hannah's Socks. After a time of worship in the Pre-K classroom, the children walked together to throw the socks into the sock bin.

The month of November will include the story of *Stone Soup*, and each child will collect and donate a can of soup to a neighboring mission. December will include a mitten tree. The children will collect mittens for needy children.

These lessons are critical to develop a conscience of giving and instilling Christian character. As a ministry of Toledo First, the James Meade Learning Center continues to carry on the giving message. —Tanya Purcell, JMLC Director ##

Come to Unveiling Celebration!

The home makeover is almost ready!

An unveiling ceremony will be held on Sunday, Nov. 18, at 3 PM at 510 Shea St. (Take 23 South to Airport Hwy. East, then Shea St. is on the left after the RR tracks.

OR, meet at church at 2 PM & carpool to the party!)

The neighbors, news people, and family are all invited. You are, too! Come and join the celebration, spread Christian goodwill and cheer, and welcome the family to their “new” home. ##

Fruit is coming!

The flyers were late in coming from the printers, so there wasn't much time to let you know—fruit orders are due Nov. 2 for pickup Nov. 18. For next month, order by Nov. 30 for delivery on Dec. 16. Call Toledo Jr. Academy to order [419.841.0082]. ##

Thanksgiving

Giving and Thanksgiving go together. And it is a tradition at Toledo First. This year instead of bringing food to give away to the needy, please bring a Thanksgiving offer-

ing. The money will be used to purchase ingredients for turkey sandwiches (with mayo and all the trimmings!) to give to the homeless. Your offering envelope can be marked “homeless.” ##

YO Mentors

The Youth Leadership Team met this month and one of the things we'd like to do in the next year is have a mentor for every YO member. While we are deciding how to do this, we need to find young adults who have a heart for this type of ministry. If you are or know of someone who would be a good Christian friend to a teenager trying to make it through today's world, please contact me or the staff so we can get you plugged in. Thanks to everyone, including parents, for your continued support. YO has left the building and will continue to over the next year as we fulfill our mission and calling to be the hands and feet of Jesus! —Pastor Nathan ##

Pinewood Derby

November 10th we will welcome Pathfinders from various clubs in Ohio for the Pinewood Derby that evening.

We will have a Fellowship Potluck that day. Please come and bring food to share. ##

What do you think?

You have another chance to give feedback to the pastoral staff. The business meeting was Oct. 29th. The next opportunity is at the potluck on Nov. 17th. Come and share your “Way to Go's” or your “truth in love” critiques about worship service, Sabbath School, ordinary outreach, education, nurture teams etc. Express what's in your heart—either on paper (signed) or by speaking up. We'll listen. ##

Drama—Nov 8th

Fountain Music Academy (Sharon Van Wyck & team teach music for TJA students), has a drama group which will present “Great Women of History” on Thursday, Nov. 8th at Toledo First. Great women depicted include Eleanor Roosevelt, Laura Ingles Wilder and Harriet Tubman. Tickets are \$2 per person. Info: 419.870.4007. All are welcome. ##

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



Church Life @ Toledo First

The above snapshots, taken by Jeff Batchelder, show an overview of a few happenings in October at Toledo First. On the left is the baby dedication of Dr. Ramon & Celeste Issa's

newest son, Seth, by David Case. Next are Irene Nsubuga and her son, Isaiah Nsubuga Kawesa who joined our church family (from Ann Arbor). Marc Cross received a "blessing" by members and

pastors during the October 6th worship, a demonstration of what we could do in our families as we interact with each other. Finally, the photo of the 8th annual RingFest Concert on October 26th

shows a portion of the 11 bell choirs who enjoyed the RingFest, organized by Bill and Janell Ashley. Bell Ringers helped the homeless by bringing 2,000 pairs of socks. ##

CALENDAR OF EVENTS	NOV 10	NOV 17	NOV 18	DEC 1
	<i>Pathfinder Sabbath & Pinewood Derby</i>	<i>Little Minnow Awards</i>	<i>Home Makeover Unveil</i>	<i>Women's Tea</i>

How much does mayo mean?

On Oct. 22, I joined students from Toledo Junior Academy at Cherry Street Mission in downtown Toledo to serve 200 turkey sandwiches, chips, and drinks to the homeless. About 75 people waited patiently until after "grace." Ladies went first. Followed by the guys. They were all very polite. And grateful. Especially for the mayo and mustard and pickles we brought for their sandwiches.

Apparently, most volunteers mass assemble sand-

wiches the night before and don't put mayo on them. We made ours that morning. With plenty of condiments on the side. Isn't it amazing how much mayo means? Who knew that a pickle and mustard could most powerfully proclaim the lavish love of God?

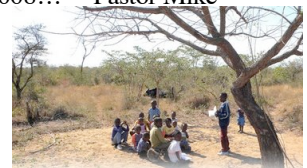
After lunch, I met a 19 year old guy who showed me his healing stab wounds. [Suffered elsewhere the previous week, not at Cherry Street Mission]. But he smiled just as wide when explaining that he's almost got his GED. I also met a middle aged woman who stayed long enough to tell me she'd love it

if we did a regular chapel service on Saturday nights followed by an untalent show or karaoke. She couldn't stay longer because she had to get in line at 2 PM for the women's shelter opening at 4 PM. Will our church really leave the building? —Pastor Mike ##

Could cars comfort kids in Africa?

This children's Sabbath School class is part of an Adventist congregation outside of Mozambique's capital, Maputo. It didn't need to leave

the building...because it never had one!!! Watch for more details about Cars 4 Kidz...in Africa, in the months ahead. Coming to Toledo and 3 other cities in Ohio on Labor Day 2008!!! —Pastor Mike



Workbee, Nov 11th

A workbee to gather the leaves will be held 1:30 - 4:30 on Sunday, Nov. 11th. Pastor Mike would **REALLY** appreciate your help!!! ##



Annual Christmas Tea is Dec. 1

The annual Christmas Tea hosted by Women's Ministry will be held Saturday, December 1st, 2:30 - 4:30 at Toledo First. Reservations must be made by calling the church [419.882.6200] or signing up at the bulletin board. Please indicate the number in your party. Reserve a table!

Bring your favorite teacup and friends, neighbors or relatives. Pastor Arelis Benitez is the featured speaker with Haven of Hope (Home Makeover) the topic. Come and start off the Christmas season with an afternoon of tea, desserts, and warm Christian fellowship. ##



The 2008 devotional and sharing books have arrived at the Adventist Book Center. Great news! You can save \$\$ if you order through church. Call or sign up at the bulletin board for your selections. They make good Christmas gifts for friends, family, or for your own use. Stay close to Jesus by reading these books each day. *Prices do not include tax & shipping.*

Here is a little information about the devotionals:

Adult, *Love Makes a Way* by Herbert Douglas. Enjoy a guided tour through the history of the universe, from Satan's first deception through Jesus' second com-

ing. Chapter by chapter, Dr. Douglas draws out special insights into a big picture of the plan of salvation. \$13.99 (**\$9.99 church price**)

Adult, *The Gospel from Patmos* by Jon Paulien. This book is unlike anything previously written on revelation. It is all about everyday insight for living. \$14.99 (**\$10.99 church price**)

Evening, *This Day With God* by Ellen White. This volume is not on a central theme, but the readings are arranged according to the day on which they were originally written. \$14.99 (**\$10.99 church price**)

Women, *Heaven's Whisper* by Ardis Dick Stenbakken. In this book you will meet 200 women from all over the world who have heard God's whisper. \$17.99 (**\$13.99 church price**)

Young Adult, *Screen Deep* by Scott Moncrieff. Grabbing hold of the latest trends in pop culture, the author examines

each. How does it stack up against what the Bible says? \$11.99 (**\$8.99 church price**)

Teen, *God Space* by Tom-paul Wheeler. The author tackles seven central themes with wit, spirit, and openness. Discover God's incredible mission for your life. \$14.99 (**\$10.99 church price**)

Junior, *Curiosities* by Charles Chase. Explore the wild world of nature. God has hidden fascinating lessons in the details of His creation (from kangaroo rats to sea cucumbers)! \$14.99 (**\$10.99 church price**)

Primary, *God's Big Idea* by RoseAnn Tetz. A guide through the seven days of creation, this book shows that God has a plan for you, too. Think of it as 365 rules for happiness. \$13.99 (**\$10.99 church price**)

Preschool, *Little Hearts for Jesus* by Sally Pierson Dillon. Each reading includes a game, activity, craft, or a charming and original lyric

sung to a well-known tune that will entice your child to delight in our awesome God. \$14.99 (**\$10.99 church price**)

Now, let's take a look at the sharing books for 2008: **Adult Sharing Book—*Life Without Limits*** by Clifford Goldstein. In this enlightening book the author takes on some of life's biggest questions and offers some answers that will change how you view—and live—your life.

Teen Sharing Book—*Unrapped* by Melanie Bockman. They wanted fame, money, and to make it big in the music industry. This is the story of a couple of guys who got it all—then gave it all up for something better.

Sharing book prices:

\$1.99 (1 - 9)

\$1.49 (10 - 99)

\$1.29 (100+)

Call 419.882.6200 or sign up at bulletin board.

—DeLaura Caulder ##