

February / March 2018

# FOCAL POINT

Centered on activities of Toledo First Seventh-day Adventist Church

## Toledo First welcomes Timothy Noble

*Teenage piano prodigy featured at 2018 Valentines for Toledo*

Timothy Noble, a young Gospel pianist and singer, will be participating in our worship service Sabbath FEB 17 @ 11am. That evening FEB 17 @ 7pm, he will also be our featured guest for this year's Valentines for Toledo concert. Every year in February for ordinary outreach, to reflect on God's love for the world, we invite a musical artist to share a sixty minute concert. About halfway through, we introduce a community partner or other non-profit organization demonstrating God's love to NW Ohio. To encourage them and to bless the mission field we share, we then collect a love offering 100% of which is given and often matched by our church for the community partner.

If you participated in SEPT 2017 during our Mission Trip to Toledo, you are already familiar with David and Kelly Kaiser and Mosaic Ministries in south Toledo. We toured, organized, and helped clean the old brick building they recently purchased to provide worship, bible study, pre-school, tutoring, medical clinics, meals, and continuing education to individuals from many different socio-economic walks of life. They will be the recipients of this year's love offering.

Your heart will be moved as you hear Timothy's obvious God-given talent with the addition of pictures, narration and some family participation. Those who receive our funds will know that our church is a grace based, Christocentric, community focused congregation. And those God loves in south Toledo will be blessed through the service of our mission field partners Mosaic Ministries. That's a win-win-win!

*(Continued on page 3, column 1)*



*"No winter lasts forever; no spring skips its turn."—Hal Borland*

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# Happened in December @ TF

Jabez & Mary Othoo joined TF (in first photo with son, Johnson, and Pastor Mike). Photo 2 shows some of the Toledo Jr. Academy students singing at the Christmas program. In middle photo, Campanas Cristalis performed at worship. In photo 4 Gabe is helping to make “Santa’s

beard” at the Christmas Party. The last photo shows “inspiration” to raise money for SDA schools in Texas & Puerto Rico which were devastated by hurricanes. *(Thanks to Glendon Cross, John Hood & Jackie Fortune for taking the photos shown here.) ##*

<i>Calendar of Events</i>	<b>FEB 3</b>	<b>FEB 17</b>	<b>FEB 21</b>	<b>FEB 24</b>	<b>MAR 10</b>	<b>MAR 31</b>
	<b>Meeting for prospective photographers after worship</b>	<b>Valentines for Toledo, 7pm</b>	<b>Six Weeks Groups begin again</b>	<b>Toboggan @ Pokagon, leave @ 4</b>	<b>Battle Creek Academy band plays @ church</b>	<b>Communion</b>

## Do you like to take pictures?

Please come to a “Photography Meeting” on Sabbath, FEB 3, right after worship on the front, right side of the sanctuary if you are willing to take pictures at church or special events like Valentines for Toledo, socials, or school programs. Think about how often you would be willing to take photos. Based upon that information, we can make a rotating schedule. If we have enough people, we may even want to have two photographers assigned per event. We want this to be fun, and not a burden for anyone. See you FEB 3! — DeLaura Caulder ##

## Tobogganing is set for FEB 24

If speeding down a refrigerated slide over the course of a quarter-mile sounds like fun to you, then be sure to join the group leaving from the canopy side of church at 4pm on Sabbath, FEB 24, heading for Pokagon State Park in Angola, Indiana. Cost is \$5 per person and includes pizza on the way home. This is an annual event loved by the young and young-at-heart! ##

## Vegetarian food order arrives in March?

We are attempting to get a date in March for vegetarian food delivery. We will let you know (in the bulletin) as soon as we have dates confirmed. ##

## Church lunches for February and March

The kitchen project is on schedule, so we are planning for the Vegan Challenge Potlucks on FEB 24 and MAR 24. A regular vegetarian potluck is scheduled for MAR 10 since we are hosting the Battle Creek Academy band that day. Please check your bulletin for a Friendship Lunch which may be added to the schedule. ##

## Scrapbooking has a new date

The last scrapbooking class in January was postponed to Sunday, February 25. You are invited to join women who will be having fun and preserving memories from 10am - 8pm that Sunday in Toledo First’s fellowship room.



Registration fee of \$25 includes table space to craft, lunch and dinner, snacks, goodie bag and a “make & take.” Funds raised will benefit the “Gym for Kids.” ##

We live and die; Christ died and lived!  
— John Stott

## Timothy Noble at Valentines for Toledo *(continued from page 1)*

Timothy began playing the piano at the age of three and has continued to enjoy and nurture this talent he sees as a gift from the Lord and wants to honor God by giving it back to Him in sharing it with others. From that young age he has had several opportunities to play with other gifted pianists who have been an inspiration to him and he has been honored to open at many concerts for nationally-known vocalists and groups.

Timothy participates in the annual, week-long National Quartet Convention held in Pigeon Forge, TN, and has been honored to be a part of The Parade of Pianos, Artist Showcases and Main Stage Showcases. Timothy's music ministry has greatly expanded and he is now traveling full-time doing concerts for churches, organizations and other special events where he not only plays the piano, but is also singing!

It is Timothy's desire that you not only enjoy his piano music, but that you also truly get the message of the songs he plays. Timothy's programs are meant to proclaim the gospel, encourage and uplift Christians, and bring honor and glory to our great God. So save the date! And think about inviting some friends to join you. You can learn more about Timothy on his website <https://www.timothynobleplayspiano.com/>

—Pastor Mike ##

## Let's Celebrate!

Thanks to the generosity of the people of Toledo First Church (you!) we are thrilled to share that we not only met our \$154,430 goal for the 2017 Local Church Budget, we exceeded it! With two weeks to go in 2017, we were \$5,611 behind. But praise the Lord we made up the difference the last two weeks and finished with \$154,566. THANK YOU for your cheerful support of our local church budget! With those gifts, we not only funded Evangelism, Pathfinders/Adventurers, Sabbath School Expense, Social Committee, Worthy Student, Youth Ministry Projects, and Adventist schools in Ohio Conference through Ohio Advance, WE ALSO...

- HANNAH'S SOCKS — Raised enough money to sponsor (10) children through World Vision, contribute \$205 to help people affected by homelessness, poverty and domestic abuse in Ohio and Southeast Michigan and collected 351 pairs of new socks after our Valentines for Toledo

concert 2017 to give to those in need through shelter homes, public schools and direct distribution.

- MILITARY BIBLE STICKS — Collected \$2,230 to help our service men and women take God's Word with them wherever they go. Each BibleStick is \$25 and when we submitted the money in AUG, a special matching program had begun so our gift was doubled to \$4,460 resulting in 178 soldiers who now have access to God's word because of you.
- ADVENTIST SCHOOLS IN PUERTO RICO AND TEXAS — Donated \$2,612 to help hurricane ravaged areas resume Adventist education sooner than later.

We are so grateful for your sacrifice and your gifts to Jesus. We have no idea how encouraging and timely these gifts will be to those who receive them. And they are going to have a tremendous impact in 2018 as well! Thank you in advance for your continued support in 2018. —Pastor Mike ##

## Invitation from Women's Ministry Leader

Greetings Ladies and Gentlemen! Happy New Year!

This year I would like to invite everyone to participate with me to improve Women's Ministry.

So I am asking everyone (men and women) to share event ideas that can be held to raise awareness and monies for the ministry. Also, if you are interested in helping with any upcoming events (TBA), you are invited to volunteer. Sign-up sheets will be available two or three weeks before announced events.

I am also looking for two to three people willing to become Women's Ministry team members who will work with me on the annual Mother's Day Tea and other events we may plan.

Please help out in any way you can to get and keep this ministry active! Please send me your ideas! Or give me a call. I would love to hear from you.

Thank You, Jenny Eichelberger, Women's Ministry4  
jeneich366@outlook.com, 419-764-6731 (voicemail) ##



## Six Weeks Groups begin again FEB 21

Think about it now and let Pastor Mike or Dee know at the church office what kind of group you are interested in starting and we will advertise it for you. Some groups will study a book for six weeks and invite friends and acquaintances to join them. Others may want to form a weekly walking group, or breakfast club at a restaurant, weekly craft class or some other kind of get-together. Your group can be formed around what you like to do best. The key is to invite someone you want to introduce to Jesus. Praying for that friend daily, and meeting with them weekly, see what God will do. ##

## It's time for a new photo directory

Our last church photo directory was printed in 2014 and if you haven't looked at it lately, you'll be surprised at the changes in our church family that have occurred since then. Please plan to set aside some time for you (your family) to have your photo taken by Universal's photographers on April 17 or April 18. You don't have to purchase anything. There will be no pressure to buy. You will receive an 8x10 of your choice and a church photo directory just for having your photo taken.

You will be able to sign up online or at church on Sabbaths in March. Please look for more information as the time draws closer. —DeLaura Caulder ##

## April 29 is a red letter day! Plan to come

Do you know how many new members have joined our church since January 2013? 56 people! If you don't know each and every one, that's understandable! But not acceptable!!

Let's do something about that.

We're inviting everyone - new members - new attendees - older members - everyone, whether you're 9 or 90 - to come to a GETTING TO KNOW YOU PARTY, at 5pm, Sunday, April 29, beginning with a sandwich supper similar to our "Christmas in July" social last year.

Sound like a plan? Okay. But it's success depends on you. Save the date. Plan to come. New members and guests, we invite you. Older members, come and do your best to make everyone feel welcome. More later.... ##

## Baptisms start 2018 off right

These new members were baptized on January 13. New baptism classes will start in March on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons and evenings. If you would like to

plan for baptism on April 7, please contact Pastor Mike for a place in the class.

Aubree Edgcombe (left), here with her youngest sister, Annastyn, is 8 years old and a student at Toledo Junior Academy. She loves gymnastics and swimming, smoothies and movies. She loves her home, but can't wait to go to her real home in heaven with Jesus.



Maria Prindle is shown here with her mother, Susan Wilson, after her baptism. She's a 5th grader who loves almost every kind of sport and also enjoys singing, playing violin and is learning to play bells. She's always been in love with Jesus and has wanted to be baptized for a couple of years. Her favorite scripture is Matthew 5:44, 45.



Caleb Rieger, shown here with Pastor Mike just before being baptized, is 13 years old and in 8th grade at TJA. He loves God and has accepted Jesus as his Lord and Savior and wanted to be born again as Jesus instructed us through baptism.



Emily Bills, a sophomore in college, loves music and singing, and she loves kids, helping in Cradle Roll Sabbath School. Because she wanted to be a good example to the children she was helping to teach, and realized the impact she was having on their lives, and because she has always known Christ, having grown up in the church, she made her decision for baptism. She thanks her family and church family for showing her what Christ's love looks like. ##



*(Thanks to Carla Szczechowski for taking these photos.)*



# FEB & MAR 2018 CALENDAR

## Birthdays

FEB 1 Brandon Gustrowsky  
 FEB 3 Julie Herman  
 FEB 5 Shirlie Heiney, Eniko Romine  
 FEB 7 Kendra Bills  
 FEB 9 Edith Kolmar  
 FEB 10 Beth Bench  
 FEB 11 Cavin Atkins, Carrie-Ann Leibengood  
 FEB 12 Barbara Duwve  
 FEB 13 Lydia Fortune  
 FEB 14 Natalie Hood  
 FEB 15 Tamara Davydova  
 FEB 18 Tracy Jakubowski  
 FEB 20 Carla Szczechowski  
 FEB 23 Rebekah Godie Koehler  
 FEB 26 Allen Gustrowsky, Alec Leibengood, Ariel Richardson  
 FEB 27 Morlon Harris, Andrea Hughes  
 FEB 28 Nikyta Cantwell

## Sabbath Events

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

**FEB 3** Sabbath School & Worship  
**FEB 10** Sabbath School & Worship  
**FEB 17** Sabbath School & Worship Visit Genesis Nursing Home on Whiteford @ 3pm; Timothy Noble in concert @ 7pm - Valentines for Toledo  
**FEB 24** Sabbath School & Worship; Vegan Challenge Potluck; Visit Elizabeth Scott Care Center @ 3pm; leave from canopy side of church for Tobogganing @ Pokagon State Park @ 4pm

## Sundays

**FEB 25** Scrapbooking-Crafting-Cardmaking, 10am-8pm

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

**FEB 19** Presidents' Day - no school

**Tuesdays** - Church office open 9am-4pm

**Wednesdays** - Church office open 9am-4pm

**FEB 7** Faith for You @ 1:30; Soup for You @ 6pm; Adventurers 6 - 7pm

**FEB 14** Faith for You @ 1:30; Soup for You @ 6pm

**FEB 21** Adventurers, 6 - 7pm; Six Weeks Groups begin

**FEB 28** Six Weeks Groups

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

**Fridays** - Worship Practice @ 5:30

**FEB 23** Donuts with Dad @ TJA, 7:30 - 8:00am

## Birthdays

MAR 1 Leonard Jessop  
 MAR 3 Craig Horvath, Emma Landeros  
 MAR 4 Lucille Seagert  
 MAR 11 Theresa Brown, Katie Yoder  
 MAR 12 Ideshia Schuler  
 MAR 13 Larry Godie, John Hood  
 MAR 14 Debbie Putano  
 MAR 15 Charlotte Herman, Marilyn Marsh  
 MAR 16 Allan Wolfson  
 MAR 17 Glen Good, Sr  
 MAR 20 Julie Jessop  
 MAR 23 Dr. Ted Nonoy  
 MAR 24 Brenda Szana  
 MAR 26 Leisha Armistead  
 MAR 29 Sheila Case



## Sabbath Events

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

**MAR 3** Sabbath School & Worship  
**MAR 10** Sabbath School & Worship w/Battle Creek Academy Band; Fellowship Potluck  
**MAR 17** Sabbath School & Worship; visit Genesis Nursing Home on Whiteford at 3pm  
**MAR 24** Sabbath School & Worship; Vegan Challenge Potluck; Visit Elizabeth Scott Care Center @ 3pm  
**MAR 31** Sabbath School & Worship w/ communion

## Sundays

**MAR 11** Daylight Savings Time begins

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

**MAR 26 - APR 2** Spring Break @ TJA

**Tuesdays** - Church office open 9am - 4pm

**MAR 20** First Day of Spring!

**Wednesdays** - Church office is open 9am - 4pm

**MAR 7** Adventurers, 6:00 - 7:00pm; Six Weeks Groups

**MAR 14** Six Weeks Groups

**MAR 21** Adventurers, 6:00 - 7:00pm; Six Weeks Groups

**MAR 28** Six Weeks Groups

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

**Fridays** - Worship Practice @ 5:30

**MAR 2** Grandparents Day @ TJA, 11:30am

