

October/November 2017

FOCAL POINT

Centered on activities of Toledo First Seventh-day Adventist Church

18th Annual RingFest here OCT 25-27

We open our doors to 200+ students and you are invited to help

The Bells are coming! The Bells are coming! RingFest 2017 is just around the corner and promises to be as big as ever. The students will be coming to Toledo for Registration night on Wednesday, October 25. After two grueling days of rehearsals on Thursday and Friday, October 26 & 27, the junior and high school aged ringers will be performing their concert on Friday night, October 27, starting at 7:30 pm. You won't want to miss this amazing event.

RingFest will have two Clinicians this year leading out during the two-day rehearsals and guest directing the mass ringing during the concert. Returning for his second time with us is David Harris, Director of the Raleigh Ringers in Raleigh, North Carolina - an advanced semi-professional community handbell ensemble. Our second clinician is Nick Hanson, director of handbell ensembles at the Potomac School in McLean, Virginia & Assistant Director/Member of Virginia Bronze Handbell Ensemble.

An event this size cannot function without your support. There are many different opportunities to lend a hand (or two)! A sign-up sheet will be posted at the church after September 21. Please give of your time and talents to help make this event a success for the many students (over 200) who will be visiting Toledo First SDA Church for RingFest.

Something new this year: Those who sign-up to help with the various projects prior to October 21st and complete a minimum total of 4 total hours of volunteer time, will receive an official RingFest T-shirt—just like the ones the ringers wear!



(Continued on page 3, column 1)

'I love autumn, the one season of the year that God seemed to have put there just for the beauty of it. —Lee Maynard

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August Snapshots

Jeff Batchelder took the photos above for us. In the first one, Megan & Jordan read the scripture. Photo 2 shows the N’Couraged Praise Dance group praising God. Annastyn & Aubree are attentive to the children’s story in Photo 3.

In the last photo Pastor Mike and the children (who are holding stuffed monkeys) sing “Oh, Be Careful Little Eyes What You See” following his sermon, “See No Evil,” first in a series on media. ##

<i>Calendar of Events</i>	OCT 1	OCT 7	OCT 27	NOV 1	NOV 11
	Scrapbooking, Cardmaking, Crafting, 10am - 8pm	Hayride @ the Case Place	RingFest Concert, 7:30pm	Six Weeks Groups begin	Pathfinder Sabbath

When are church lunches?

On OCT 14, we will have our first Friendship Lunch of the Fall season. Rose Cross will be leading out. Everyone is invited. RingFest Sabbath Lunch will be on OCT 28, and is especially for bell choir students, staff, parents and visitors.

In November, Heather Smith-LaPoint and her team will prepare the Friendship Lunch on NOV 4. Then, on Pathfinder Sabbath we will have a Fellowship Potluck. The Vegan Challenge (Thanksgiving) Potluck will be NOV 18. (Our tradition is that we do not have lunches the Sabbath after Thanksgiving or Christmas.) ##

Delegates needed

On OCT 21 and NOV 4, a delegate ballot will be in the bulletins. Please look for it and choose 11 names of church members to represent Toledo First at the Ohio Conference Constituency Meeting in Worthington, Ohio on Sunday, MAY 6, 2018. Return forms in church offering plates or church office. Please vote only once.

Want someone to pray for you?

Write your prayers & praises and put them in the box at the foot of the cross in the foyer at the courtyard exit doors. Cards are provided in the little box attached to the wood beam. ##

End It Now to be presented OCT 21

END IT NOW is an initiative to raise awareness and advocate for the end of violence. One out of every six American women have been the victims of an attempted or completed rape in their lifetime. Plan to join RosaLinda Contreras-Harris and Pastor Mike as they share and preach that week from Psalm 11:4-7 and Ezekiel 45:9. ##

Wednesday discussions continue

FAITH FOR YOU (1:30pm) & SOUP FOR YOU (6pm) continue on Wednesdays with a discussion of Alden Thompson’s book Beyond Common Ground: Why Liberals and Conservatives Need Each Other. Copoies for \$5 are available in the church office while supplies last. It’s not about Republicans and Democrats; it’s about how the Adventist Church, with all its differences and diversities really needs everyone in it. Study group continues through OCT 18. ##

“I’m glad I live in a world where there are Octobers.” —L. M. Montgomery, Anne of Green Gables



18th Annual RingFest *(continued from page 1)*

Attending this year, from all over the country, are the following schools:

- 1 AJA = Adelpian Junior Academy, Michigan
- 2 AA = Andrews Academy, Michigan
- 3 AAA = Atlanta Adventist Academy, Georgia
- 4 BMA = Blue Mountain Academy, Pennsylvania
- 5 GLAA = Great Lakes Adventist Academy, Michigan
- 6 GLAS = Greater Lansing Adventist School, Michigan
- 7 HA = Heritage Academy, Tennessee
- 8 HVA = Highland View Academy, Maryland
- 9 IA = Indiana Academy, Indiana
- 10 JCA = Jefferson Christian Academy, Texas
- 11 MA = Maplewood Academy, Minnesota
- 12 MPA = Mount Pisgah Academy, North Carolina
- 13 RA = Richmond Academy, Virginia
- 14 SVA = Shenandoah Valley Academy, Virginia
- 15 SAA = Spencerville Adventist Academy, Maryland
- 16 TJA = Toledo Junior Academy/Toledo 1st Church, Ohio
- 17 WWVA = Walla Walla Valley Academy, Washington
- 18 WA = Wisconsin Academy, Wisconsin

Please keep the schools, directors, & clinicians in your prayers and come out to watch this incredible musical event. If you cannot be here in person, please make sure to watch the live stream of the performance on the church website - www.tfsda.org. —Janell Ashley ##

Celebrate the Reformation NOV 4

The 500th anniversary of the publication of Martin Luther's Ninety-Five Theses in 1517 is the perfect time of year to reflect on the gospel of grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone. Is the Protestant Reformation over? Why was the priesthood of all believers such an important truth to Martin Luther? What did Luther mean when he said, "My conscience is captive to the Word of God. Thus I cannot and will not recant, for going against conscience is neither safe nor salutary. I can do no other, here I stand, God help me."

Join us in church on Sabbath NOV 4 as we take a closer look at the timely and powerful truths both Luther and the Reformation emphasized that still shape our thinking as Christians today. ##



SMILE 4 FREEDOM OCT 27, 2017

For KING & COUNTRY is a Christian duo composed of Australian brothers Joel (born 5 June 1984) and Luke Smallbone (born 22 October 1986). They describe their philosophy as such:

"The power of music can impact our mood, emotions, our day. But when you merge the strength of music with the heart, hope and passion of the Gospel...it has the ultimate power not only to change someone's day, but to impact them for eternity. This is why we write music and sing songs - we hope that people will be moved, encouraged and stirred to live a life for Someone greater than themselves."

Committed to combating human trafficking, Joel Smallbone was the lead actor in a 2016 drama about human trafficking entitled *Priceless*, which was released in theaters in October 2016. Luke was one of the producers (together with their father) and their brother Ben directed the movie. Some of the music for the film was written by For King & Country. In 2015, they won two Grammy Awards at the 57th Grammy Awards, one for Best Contemporary Christian Music Album and one for Best Contemporary Christian Music Performance/Song.

This year, they will be the featured guests at the '6th Annual Smile for Freedom' show at the Stranahan Theater on Friday, October 27, 2017 at 7 pm and once again, Toledo First is partnering with The Daughter Project providing both tickets to TF members while supplies last (see Ron Szczechowski or Pastor Mike) and volunteers to help unload and load the trucks with the band's equipment and instruments. 100% of the ticket sales are donated to *The Daughter Project* - a 24/7 recovery home for adolescent survivors of trafficking in northwest Ohio. —Pastor Mike ##

Ohio Conference headquarters moving?

The Ohio Conference Executive Committee has accepted the gift of a building worth \$3.2 million located in the greater Dayton area.

"Conference officials see merit in transitioning the Ohio headquarters to this new location. ...Full transition to the new building will need to be ratified at the upcoming constituency session on May 6, 2018" according to the official announcement on www.ohioadventist.org.

Toledo First needs delegates to this constituency meeting. Make your choices known on OCT 21 or NOV 4 when ballots will be placed in the bulletins. ##



October 1 Scrapbooking/Cardmaking/ Crafting Crop, 10:00am – 8:00pm

Join us for a day full of laughter and friendship, all while preserving your memories, making cards or working on another type of craft project. The funds raised will benefit the Gym For Kids.

Who tells your story?

If you want future generations to know your story, the best way to do that is to preserve your memories by documenting them in a scrapbook.



Do you make cards? Then this is a great opportunity to get started on your Christmas cards!

Do you have other craft projects (sewing, crocheting, knitting)? Bring them along and join in the fun! ***This crop is for all types of crafting, not just paper crafting.***

Brenda Szana, who is a Close To My Heart Independent Consultant, will be available to help you with your scrapbooking and cardmaking questions. Depending on the craft project you are working on, she might even be able to help you with those.

The Registration Fee is \$25, which includes table space to craft, lunch & dinner, snacks, goodie bag and free Make & Take. We hope to see you there! —Brenda Szana ##

Come to the Hayride OCT 7, 6:30pm

Toledo First's Annual Bonfire and Hayride night at The CasePlace is coming up fast —OCT 7, 6:30pm! The



**JOIN US FOR A
HAYRIDE**

Case family has been making the farm available for hayrides for three generations. Aaron and Valerie Case and their family are continuing this special tradition. This is a great evening of fun and fellowship for everyone. Come on out, relax on a bale of straw, watch the sun set and the real stars appear and shine! The stars are always brighter in the country. There will be plenty of good food and music around the fire

and a peaceful ride around one or two of the farm's fields on a hay wagon. When you come be sure to bring a friend or two, there's plenty of room and everyone is welcome here. Come on out to the country, leave your cares behind for a few hours and spend a relaxing evening with friends. We are looking forward to seeing you at The Hayride! —Sheila Case ##

Adventurers schedule & Pathfinder Day

Adventurers (grades 1-4) started on September 6 learning about animals, where they live, their sounds, what their babies are called. There were about 10 Adventurers at our first meeting.



Schedule for Adventurers through end of the year

OCT 4 will be our first field trip - *Time is 4:30. Permission slips handed out Sept 20*

OCT 18 Lions

NOV 1 Raptors

NOV 15 – Natures' Nursery (?)

DEC 6 Bears – only meeting in DEC

Pathfinders (grades 5-high school seniors) will resume on Sabbath, November 11—the date of Pathfinder Day and the Pinewood Derby.

The Ohio Youth Director will be speaking for the church services. In the afternoon we will have honors taught by many various instructors. In the evening Gary

“The Snake Guy” will be here at 6pm.

The Pinewood Derby race is at 7PM.

See you then.

Anyone interested in racing will be able to purchase kits either at Camp Miakonda (5600 W Sylvania Ave) or from most hobby stores.

Any questions, please leave a message on the church answering machine and

we will get back with you.

Thanks

Adventurer & Pathfinder Toledo Torchbearers ##



Six Weeks Groups begin NOV 1

After Faith for You and Soup for You end OCT 18, there will be a short break before the Six Weeks Groups start again, NOV 1. Pastor Mike explained it like this earlier this year:

“I'd like to see Six Week Groups launching or continuing after every Ringfest, Valentines for Toledo, and Easter. . . . Imagine the number of people we could reach if everyone participated in a group and each group had one or two people who haven't been baptized and you were praying would come closer to Jesus.”

Now is the time to think of what you would like to study and whom you would like to invite to study with you in your home, or another location.

Dave Bening invites men to study and discuss the book, Every Man's Battle at his Six Weeks Group. What book will you choose? —DeLaura Caulder ##

OCT & NOV 2017 CALENDAR

Birthdays

- Oct 1 Megan Cross
- Oct 2 Dr. Steven Bills
- Oct 4 Mary Famulare
- Oct 5 Cathie Heath
- Oct 8 William Ashley
- Oct 9 Vicki Hall, Katie Swackhamer
- Oct 10 Denise Edwards
- Oct 11 Marshall Makley
- Oct 14 Pat Olenik, Greg Tary
- Oct 18 Bill Schulz, Olga Villalon
- Oct 21 Charlotte Flack, Nia Jake
- Oct 23 Jean Kline, Kim Williams
- Oct 26 Wil Ashley
- Oct 29 Will Orlet
- Oct 31 Rose Cross



Sabbath Events

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

- OCT 7** Sabbath School & Worship w/communion; Hayride at the Case Place in the evening
- OCT 14** Sabbath School & Worship; Friendship Lunch with Rose Cross and her team
- OCT 21** Sabbath School & Worship w/emphasis on End It Now; Visit Genesis Nursing Home on Whiteford @ 3pm
- OCT 28** Sabbath School & Worship; RingFest lunch; Visit Elizabeth Scott Care Center @ 3pm

Sundays -

OCT 1 Scrapbooking in Fellowship Room, 10am - 8pm

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

OCT 9 No school - Columbus Day

OCT 30 No school - Parent-Teacher conferences

Tuesdays - Church office open 9am-4pm - OCT 24 & 31
(vacation first 3 weeks of October)

OCT 5 Flipping the Switch - followup to Mad About Marriage small group meeting, 7pm

Wednesdays - Church office open 9am-4pm - OCT 25
(vacation first 3 weeks of October)

OCT 4 Faith for You @ 1:30pm; Soup for You, 6pm; Adventurers, 6 - 7pm

OCT 11 - Faith for You @ 1:30pm; Soup for You, 6pm

OCT 18 Faith for You @ 1:30pm; Soup for You, 6pm; Adventurers, 6 - 7pm

OCT 25 Bell Choirs arrive for RingFest

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

OCT 26 RingFest

Fridays - Worship Practice @ 5:30

OCT 27 **RingFest Concert, 7:30pm at church;** Smile for Freedom Concert - For King & Country - 7pm @ Stranahan

Birthdays

- NOV 1 Frank Engelbert, Anjelika Manakhimova
- NOV 3 Leisha Barbee
- NOV 4 Larry Duwve
- NOV 5 Helen Konewka
- NOV 7 Gabriel Landeros
- NOV 9 Bev Ostrander
- NOV 11 George Jenkins
- NOV 14 Daniel Landeros
- NOV 15 Fern Baer, Sara Rios, Randy Neal, Jennifer, Joshua & Lanna Cozzens
- NOV 17 Will Frey, Pat Kline
- NOV 18 Marilu Beebe
- NOV 21 Andrew Jessop, Ben Neal
- NOV 22 Shelly Batchelder
- NOV 27 Sonja Maxwell
- NOV 28 Callie Hood
- NOV 30 Alex Bills, Kathryn Landeros

Sabbath Events

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

- NOV 4** Sabbath School & Worship - celebrating the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation; Friendship Lunch with Heather Smith-LaPoint & team
- NOV 11** Sabbath School & Worship - Pathfinder Sabbath & Fellowship Potluck
- NOV 18** Sabbath School & Worship; Vegan Challenge Potluck; visit Genesis Nursing Home on Whiteford at 3pm
- NOV 25** Sabbath School & Worship; Visit Elizabeth Scott Care Center @ 3pm

Sundays

NOV 5 Daylight Savings Time Ends (clocks turned back one hour)

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

Tuesdays - Church office open 9am - 4pm

NOV 21 Thanksgiving Feast at TJA; early dismissal @ 1pm for Thanksgiving vacation

Wednesdays - Church office is open 9am - 4pm

NOV 1 Six Week Groups begin

NOV 8 Six Week Groups

NOV 15 Six Week Groups

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

NOV 23 Happy Thanksgiving!

Fridays - Worship Practice @ 5:30

