

April/May 2016

FOCAL POINT

Centered on activities of Toledo First Seventh-day Adventist Church

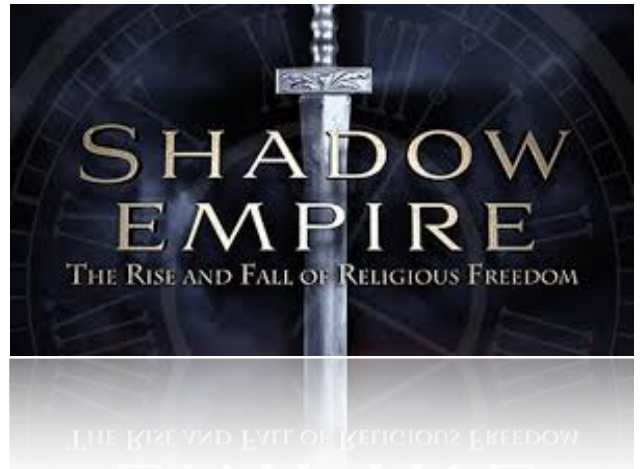
Shadow Empire is April 28-30

What do you know about the Rise and Fall of Religious Freedom?

Shadow Empire: The Rise and Fall of Religious Freedom is a four part series describing how one man, Constantine, ignited a global movement that forever affected the relationship between church and state. Discover the consequences of a church driven by the government and explore what it means for our lives in America today. Featuring new on-location video from countries such as Turkey, Italy and Serbia, and stunning insights from Scripture, join us at Toledo First for four presentations that will alter the way you think about religious freedom.

The four meetings include one on Thursday, APR 28, at 7pm, one Friday, APR 29, at 7pm and two on Sabbath, APR 30, at 11am and 2pm. Each meeting will feature a video presentation by Shawn Boonstra, speaker for Voice of Prophecy, followed by guided discussion by Toledo First moderators.

Save the dates for this simple but powerful ordinary outreach coming soon! Invitation cards to share will be available soon. —Pastor Mike ##



"It is spring again. The earth is like a child that knows poems by heart."—Rainer Maria Rilke

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Toledo First Seventh-day Adventist Church
4909 West Sylvania Avenue
Toledo OH 43623
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Feb-Mar TF family photos

In addition to worship and Sabbath school, we enjoyed the International Food Fest in February (photo #3), and then along came busy March! Jabez and Mary Othoo were married March 5. *Congrats!* Then the long-anticipated Gospel Concert with Glenn, Megan, Jack,

Sheila and Kevin wowed us March 12! The 50s Party was a roaring success the following week (photos, page 4) and we celebrated baptisms March 26 (see story on page 5.) Thanks, Jeff, for your pictures! ##

Calendar of Events

APR 9

Communion

APR 12

Business
Mtg, 7pm

APR 16-17

Biblical
Weight Loss,
7pm & 2pm

APR 28-30

Shadow
Empire

MAY 7

Mother's
Day Tea,
2:30pm

Bring friends to Scrapbooking April 3

Our Scrapbooking events are fundraisers for our school, so invite some friends along for a full day (10am - 8pm) of Scrapbooking fun. Organize your photos and learn how to make keepsakes to pass down through generations. Included in the \$25 fee is 4' of table space, dinner, raffle prizes and make and takes. Registration forms are on the foyer table. ##

“This do in remembrance of Me.”

God loves us so much that He sent His Son to this world to save us when we had no hope of saving ourselves from sin. Because we appreciate what He has done, we choose to keep our appointment with Him. Let us prepare our hearts and minds for the quarterly communion service on Sabbath, April 9, 2016. ##

Business Meetings are for everyone

On Tuesday, APR 12, 7:00-8:30pm learn more about ordinary outreach and evangelism for 2016. Help to make financial decisions and give your input about wedding policies and the tentative school budget for 2016-2017. We'll be looking for you! ##

Come to lunch on these Sabbaths

April 2 - Fellowship Potluck (everyone brings vegetarian food to share)

April 16 - Vegan Challenge Potluck (bring vegan or vegetarian food and challenge yourself to at least try some vegan dishes). Melody Prettyman, speaker for Biblical Weight Loss, will be with us.

April 30 - Planned lunch for everyone attending the Shadow Empire series.

May 14 - Fellowship Potluck (bring food to share)

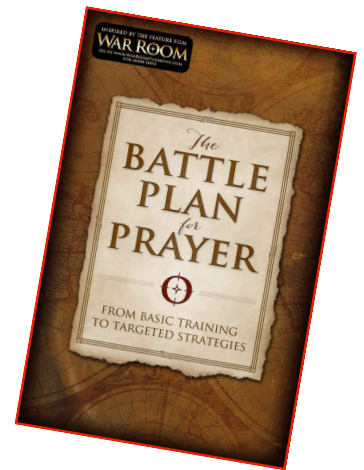
May 28 - Vegan Challenge Potluck ##

Do you have an old black hymnal?

In the old church on North Cove Boulevard, our hymnals were black and the words on the front were “Church Hymnal.” When we moved into our current building on Sylvania Avenue, we purchased the red hymnals we still use and we gave away the old black ones. If you have one that you are willing to part with, would you call the church (419.882.6200). It would mean a lot to someone who grew up in the old church. Thank you. —Dec Caulder ##

Learn to pray more effectively at Soup for You

Inspired by the movie, *War Room*, the new book *The Battle Plan for Prayer* begins with prayer's core purpose, its biblical design, and its impact throughout history. Join us during Soup for You starting WED APR 6 at 6-8pm. Readers will be guided scripturally through the fundamentals of how effective prayer works, inspired towards a closer, more intimate relationship with God, and shown how to develop specific prayer strategies for each area of life. Prayer can accomplish what a willing God can accomplish. It should be your first plan of attack in all of life's battles, not your last resort. If you don't want to experience the joy of knowing Jesus more through prayer, then don't come. But if you do want to experience more about Jesus through prayer, join us! —Pastor Mike ##



You're invited for Mother's Day Tea May 7, 2:30pm

In honor of Mother's Day we encourage you to bring a friend and your favorite teacup and join us for Tea. The menu will feature sweet and savory delicacies along with aromatic tea. The guest speaker will tell how, when life gave her lemons, she made lemonade! Call 419.882.6200 to make reservations or sign up at the bulletin board at church. ##

Want to feel great, lose weight, delay aging and prevent illness?

Then you'll want to make this Toledo First event a high priority on your schedule. Presenter, Melody Prettyman lost 200 lbs on a gourmet plant-based diet. Learn how she did it and enjoy free samples at each meeting: Saturday, April 16 at 7pm and Sunday, April 17 at 2pm.

Invite members of your family and friends to attend with you. Everyone can benefit by a healthier lifestyle and better eating habits.

Seating is limited, so make your reservation today Sign up at church, or call 419.882.6200 and leave your contact information, or email your reservation to delaura6150@gmail.com.

Here's looking forward to a healthier you...and yours! ##

Biblical Weight Loss Weekend Event

FREE EVENTS with Sampling

Melody shares the solutions that transformed her life from chronic illness to vibrant health.

Learn the Secrets

- Feeling Great
- Weight Loss
- Preventing Illness
- Delay Aging

Your donations at these events help support this ministry.
Visit: www.MelodyPrettyman.com







3ABN Guest Speaker and Chef



Toledo First SDA Church
4909 W. Sylvania Ave.
Toledo, OH 43623

Saturday, April 16th - 7:00pm
Simple Home Remedies- With Samples

Sunday, April 17th - 2:00pm
Foods That Heal Seminar - With Samples

Limited Seating. To Register call: (419) 882-6200
or Email: delaura6150@gmail.com

TJA News

The Ohio Conference State **Elementary Music Festival** this year is at Kettering SDA Church on Sabbath, APR 9, 3:30pm. Our students will be participating.

Academic Expo will be on Tuesday MAY 3, 6:30pm and will feature the academic achievements of the students in each classroom. They will also celebrate spring with baked goods and a plant sale. Church family, parents, grandparents, friends and neighbors are invited. Come and support our school!

Graduation programs will be on Thursday, MAY 26, beginning at 6pm for Kindergarten and 7pm for Eighth Grade. Everyone is invited.

Did you know? . . .

Adventist Frontier Missions President, Conrad Vine, will make a presentation during Sabbath School on April 2nd. . . You're invited to Pastor Mike's home for **Fireside Chats** every 3rd and 4th Friday night from 7-10pm. . . The next **JamFest** at Toledo First is Sabbath, April 23, 6-8pm. . . Here are some opportunities from the Ohio Conference: **Life After Abuse** is a Women's Ministry seminar with Pastor Lori Farr on April 10, 10am at Worthington SDA Church. The \$10 fee includes materials and a light luncheon. To register call 740.397.4665, ext. 128. . . The **Town Hall Meeting** for the northern area of the conference will be at Toledo First on Thursday, APR 21, 7pm. Everyone is invited to attend and hear from Ohio Conference president, Ron Halvorsen, Jr., secretary Oswaldo Magana and treasurer, Karen Senecal about the state of the conference. . . **Family Camp at Mohaven** is set for June 8-12. For more information call 740.397.4695, ext. 122. . . **Summer camps** for kids are also available. Find info at ohiosdayouth.org/camp-mohaven. If you know someone who would like to attend, we will make it happen! Let us know right away! ##

Thanks, Social Committee!

The 50s Party was fun for the whole family with contests like bubblegum blowing (who can make the biggest bubble?) and hula hoopin' (who can last the longest?). Mostly the younger set enjoyed the limbo, and other brave souls sang along to the oldies.

First we enjoyed delicious burgers (veggie of course) with all the trimmins' >>>>



Maya was good at keeping the hula hoop going—even around her knees! Way to go!

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Karaoke was a popular feature during the evening and Elvis ruled! Shown here are Nicole R. and Bill A. >>>>



Pastor Mike & Jackie sang a heart-wrenching duet to each other near the evening's close.

We celebrated baptisms Easter weekend

Eight ladies joined our church on Sabbath, March 26. We were happy to welcome Karen Simpson by Profession of Faith. Karen relies on “faith in all I do” and her favorite scripture is Hebrews 11:1. Karen & Lewis’ daughter,



Courtney, was baptized by Pastor Mike. She likes to play volleyball and she chooses “God to be my Lord and Savior.”



Her twin sister, Megan, likes to read, hang out with friends, and browse Instagram. She chose baptism because she wants to “give my life to Christ.”



In the baptism classes, Kathryn Landeros learned that she needs to Ask, Believe, Confess (ABC) in order to stay close to God. She is in the 8th grade and likes animals, drawing, and Mexican food.



Her sister, Emma, a 5th grader, likes reading, playing outdoors, swimming, and horses. She wanted to be baptized to start a new



life with Jesus and to “show my church and family my decision.”

Taryn Landeros is in the 3rd grade. Her favorite subjects are science and art. She wanted to be baptized to spend her life with Jesus and she wants “to tell other people all about Jesus so they can be saved too.”



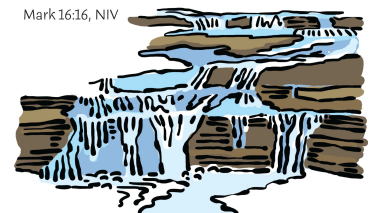
Jo Ann Arthur has been a member of Toledo First for 34 years and wanted to be rebaptized because she was so “frozen” with the idea of getting up in front of everyone that she has no memory of her first baptism. This time she was “mentally present” and knows that she was really baptized! She believes “the gospel of Jesus Christ who died to save each of us.”



Our next baptism will be on Sabbath, May 7. If it is your desire to be baptized, contact Pastor Mike at 419.386.8918 or email him at mike4tune@gmail.com to set up a time to meet. ##

“Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved.”

Mark 16:16, NIV



April & May 2016 Calendar

Birthdays

April 2 Mary Ann Bagaoisan
 April 3 Taryn Landeros, Tom Sandy
 April 4 Netania Rieger
 April 8 Robert Ostrander
 April 9 Kimiko Kawakami
 April 11 Kelly Gustrowsky
 April 18 Greg Justice
 April 20 Tyler Leibengood
 April 22 Arden Brion
 April 24 Nina Reams
 April 25 Loni Orlet
 April 26 Ray Riley
 April 27 Lewis Simpson Jr
 April 30 Autumn Eichelberger



Birthdays

May 1 Austin Jessop
 May 3 Gary Gooden
 May 8 Lori Marsh
 May 11 Kelly Maxwell
 May 12 Linda Ostrander
 May 14 Tina Polzin
 May 15 Eric Polzin, Sheri Schrecongost
 May 18 Linda Bilby
 May 22 Derrick Polzin
 May 25 Raymond Kawakami
 May 26 Janell Ashley
 May 27 Cindy Leibengood
 May 28 Madeline Flack
 May 30 Sharon Crosby, Julie Larimore

Sabbath Events

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

APR 2 Sabbath School & Worship w/ Conrad Vine, President of Adventist Frontier Missions; Fellowship Potluck
APR 9 Sabbath School & Worship w/communion
APR 16 Sabbath School & Worship w/ Melody Prettyman; Kindergarten & Cradle Roll children sing at beginning of church; Vegan Challenge Potluck; Pathfinders @ 2:30pm; visit Genesis Nursing Home on Whiteford at 3pm; Biblical Weight Loss w/Melody Prettyman @ 7pm
APR 23 Sabbath School & Worship; Visit Elizabeth Scott Care Center @ 3pm; JamFest, 6-8pm
APR 30 Sabbath School & Worship—Shadow Empire meetings @ 11am and 2pm; planned lunch

Sundays -

APR 3 Scrapbooking, 10am - 8pm
APR 17 Biblical Weight Loss - Foods that Heal w/Melody Prettyman, 2pm

Mondays

APR 4 TJA is back to school after Spring Break
APR 25 No school @ TJA

Tuesdays - Church office open 9am-4pm

Wednesdays - Church office open 9am-4pm

APR 6 Soup for You @ 6pm; The Battle Plan for Prayer at 6:30pm
APR 13 Soup for You @ 6pm; The Battle Plan for Prayer at 6:30pm
APR 20 Soup for You @ 6pm; The Battle Plan for Prayer at 6:30pm
APR 27 Soup for You @ 6pm; The Battle Plan for Prayer at 6:30pm

Thursdays

APR 28 Shadow Empire meeting @ 7pm

Fridays

APR 29 Shadow Empire meeting @ 7pm

Sabbath Events

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

MAY 7 Sabbath School & Worship w/Baptism & Child Dedication; Mothers' Day Tea @ 2:30pm
MAY 14 Sabbath School & Worship; Fellowship Potluck
MAY 21 Sabbath School & Worship; visit Genesis Nursing Home on Whiteford at 3pm
MAY 28 Sabbath School & Worship; Vegan Challenge Potluck; Visit Elizabeth Scott Care Center @ 3pm

Sundays -

MAY 8 Happy Mothers' Day!

Mondays

MAY 30 Memorial Day

Tuesdays - Church office open 9am - 4pm

MAY 3 Academic Expo @ TJA w/ bake sale & plant sale, 6:30pm

Wednesdays - Church office is open 9am - 4pm

MAY 4 Soup for You @ 6pm; The Battle Plan for Prayer at 6:30pm
MAY 11 Soup for You @ 6pm; The Battle Plan for Prayer at 6:30pm
MAY 18 Soup for You @ 6pm; The Battle Plan for Prayer at 6:30pm
MAY 25 Soup for You @ 6pm; The Battle Plan for Prayer at 6:30pm

Thursdays

MAY 26 TJA Graduations: Kindergarten @ 6pm; 8th Grade @ 7pm

Fridays - Worship Practice @ 5:30



MAY