

October/November 2016

FOCAL POINT

Centered on activities of Toledo First Seventh-day Adventist Church

The Heavens Declare the Glory of God

Ordinary Outreach: NOV 10 & 11 @ 7pm; NOV 12, 11am & 6pm

“The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows His handiwork. By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, and all the host of them by the breath of His mouth. Let all the earth fear the LORD; Let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him. He has made the earth by His power, He has established the world by His wisdom, and has stretched out the heavens at His discretion. Blessed be the name of the LORD from this time forth and forevermore!” Taken from Psalm 19:1; Psalm 33:6,8; Jeremiah 10:12; Psalm 113:2 (NKJV)

So save the dates NOV 10-12! Jim Burr from *Heavens Declare* will be here to teach Biblical Astronomy classes for the community. This is our fall evangelistic effort / series of meetings so lets have lots of people present to mingle with our guests from UT Astronomy Club and invited homeschool groups on THUR NOV 10 @ 7pm, FRI NOV 11 @ 7pm; SAT NOV 12 @ 11am and 6pm. Please plan on inviting some friends as well. Did you know NASA actually used one of his telescope inventions? Come hear all about it! Here are some of the things he’s going to be talking about. *(Continued on page 3, column 1)*



For Starry Night Scavenger Hunt and credit for this painting, see page 3 column 1, bottom

“I am the Lord’ rings everywhere like the refrain of the heavens.”—Charles Williams in He Came Down From Heaven

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TF Snapshots

These photos by Jeff Batchelder were taken in AUG-SEPT. Shirly greeted everyone warmly (photo 1) and in photo 2 we welcomed Debbie Balnaves and Antoinette Edgecombe into membership. Evannah read the scripture

flawlessly in photo 3. Josh, Ryan and Daniel listen during Sabbath School and, last photo, youth class girls helped make and serve lemonade at the park on a rainy Sabbath in September. ##

<i>Calendar of Events</i>	OCT 1	OCT 23	OCT 28	NOV 10-12	NOV 19
	Hayride @ Case Place w/vespers @ 6:45pm	TJA's Fall Festival, 1 - 4pm	RingFest Concert, 7:30pm	Jim Burr — Biblical Astronomy	Smile for Freedom, 7pm

RingFest Festival Concert is coming soon



Bell Choirs from around the country are getting ready for the 17th annual RingFest at Toledo First. They'll arrive Wednesday, OCT 26 and have two days of instruction followed by the Concert to Amaze on Friday, OCT 28, 7:30pm. Come one, come all! ##

Don't Miss the Christmas Concert DEC 3

If you were fortunate enough to attend the "Evening of Gospel Music" in March with Glenn Szana and other musicians, we know you will want to invite friends to the Christmas concert at Toledo First! Save the date; time to be announced later. The concert is free. 100% of donations will be given to charities. ##

H2O The Mini Series @ Parkwood SDA

Evangelist Pastor Steve Valles will present God's Word on three weekends: OCT 1-2, OCT 7-8-9, and OCT 14-15-16 from 7:00-8:45pm at Parkwood SDA Temple, 2200 Parkwood Ave., Toledo Ohio. Be encouraged and equipped! Feel joy like never before! Know the difference between living and existing! Everyone's invited. Free childcare for ages 5-11. ##

Come to the Hayride at Case Place

Invite someone who doesn't go to church and come to the Hayride on OCT 1 starting with vespers at 6:45pm around the bonfire at Case Place near Delta, Ohio. Hot dogs and veggie dogs will be provided along with hot drinks and snacks. Could there be a more fun way to do friendship evangelism? We don't think so! Enjoy the evening with old friends and new. ##



Join the Fitness Class Sundays at 5pm

Need to exercise but can't get motivated? Join friends at Toledo First on Sundays at 5pm in the Fellowship Room. Learn more about health and fitness and for those who want to lose some extra pounds, there will be a weight loss challenge, too! Come any Sunday and get started toward a healthier you! For more information, see Antoinette Edgecombe. ##



The Heavens Declare. . . *Continued from page 1*

NOV 10 - 7pm **The Hubble, the Bible and the Big Bang (that Never Happened)**

NOV 11 - 7pm **How Big Is God?**

NOV 12 - 11 am **Orion Declares His Glory** (also Pathfinder Sabbath)

NOV 12 - 6 pm **Star of Bethlehem, Life on Other Planets** (also Pinewood Derby vespers)

Evening lectures last from 7:00 pm to 8:45 pm. On THUR and FRI, we're also going to have telescopes and hot chocolate available in the parking lot after the presentations to look at the wonders in the heavens. So bring a warm coat and plan to linger a little longer. Viewing through telescopes continues till 9:30 pm. For more info, see <http://www.heavensdeclare.org/> To get fired up about astronomy, subscribe to NASA's astronomy pic of the day here <http://apod.nasa.gov/apod/archivepix.html> And for extra credit, if you want to read the most balanced explanation I've ever heard on a young earth but old universe, please see Jim Burr's challenging response to Bill Nye here <http://www.heavensdeclare.org/response.htm> These seminars are presented by Jim Burr, Heavens Declare, Inc. (HDI) and JMI Telescopes. —Pastor Mike ##



Did you know Van Gogh's original painting Starry Night does not include the Comet Hale-Bopp? But this featured re-production does—not only to honor one of the most famous paintings of the second millennium, but to act as a scavenger hunt. Can you find, in the featured image, a comet, a spiral galaxy, an open star cluster, and a supernova remnant?

Starry Night Scavenger Hunt Image Credit: Vincent van Gogh; Digital Collage & Copyright: Ronnie Warner courtesy <http://apod.nasa.gov/apod/astropix.html> ##

Come to Fall Festival OCT 23

You are invited to Toledo Junior Academy's annual Fall Festival Fundraiser on Sunday, October 23, from 1:00 to 4:00 pm. James Meade Learning Center will be represented, too! Come for food, fun, and fellowship for young and old! Take a turn in our bouncy house, get your face painted, and play our free games for prizes. Invite your friends and family, and come support our school! —Vicki Hall ##

**Smile for Freedom - NOV 19**

This year The Daughter Project's fundraiser, *Smile for Freedom*, will feature Chondra Pierce at 7pm at the Stranahan Theater, 4645 Heatherdowns Blvd., Toledo.

Chondra Pierce, a stand-up comedian, TV hostess, author and actress, has channeled her often-challenging life experiences into positivity. It will be a family-friendly show from the "Queen of Clean."

All ticket sales will benefit The Daughter Project, a non-profit helping girls who have been rescued from sex trafficking by giving them a home in which to recover. ##

**Strengthen Your Marriage**

Making It Even Better is a weekend for couples OCT 21-23 at Camp Mohaven. Ohio Conference Family Ministries director Buffy Halvorsen and her daughter Stephanie Halvorsen Parrish, both Marriage and Family therapists, will share with couples key tools to help strengthen their marriage. Prices range from \$150 - \$240 for accommodations/meals/materials. Email Buffy Halvorsen at bhalvorsen@ohioadventist.org for more information or call Karen Robinson 740.397.4665, ext 126 or email krobinson@ohioadventist.org to register. #

When I look at the galaxies on a clear night, when I look at the incredible brilliance of creation, and think that this is what God is like, then instead of feeling diminished by it, I am enlarged. I rejoice that I am part of it. How wonderful and mysterious that the Creator of the Universe not only knows and loves us but wants us to know and love Him! Incredibly, we are at once infinitesimally small and yet immeasurably significant because of Who we are. —Madeleine L'Engle (from The Newsletter Newsletter) ##

Pathfinders/Adventurers resume!

As always the school year starts off with a BANG! Too much to do, too little time, and, well to add to parents' schedules, we're introducing our Pathfinder/ Adventurer schedule. Natalie Hood & Linda Bilby met with several parents a few weeks ago after church.

Natalie will be leading out in Adventurers (grades 1-4) & Eager Beavers (Kindergarten). Adventurers will begin SEPT 21 and will continue the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month from 6 - 7pm. Dates are: SEPT 21; OCT 5, OCT 19, NOV 2, NOV 16, DEC 7 (no DEC 21 due to Christmas), JAN 4, JAN 18, FEB 1, FEB 15, MAR 1, MAR 15, APR 5, APR 19, MAY 3, MAY 17.

The program will be geared for children in grades K-4. Our goal for the year is to work through the Busy Bee program while having fun learning more about God, the Bible, nature, life-skills, and health. We look forward to working with your children and you as we all grow together, while making great friends and memories along the way.



Pathfinders will begin Sabbath, SEPT 24, at 2:30pm. Pathfinders is separated into Junior Pathfinders (grades 6-8) & Teen Pathfinders (high school). Our plan will have many programs with both groups together, and others with the two groups separate.

We will have a separate meeting for the Junior Pathfinders Sunday, SEPT 25, at the Toledo Botanical Gardens at 1:00 - parking at the

maintenance entrance. There will be a calendar on the bulletin board with each month's events posted.

Pathfinders is an organization to teach our youth about God, nature, family, and responsibility to God, ourselves, and others. With this in mind, we will have many guests come to present programs, as well as going to other venues to learn skills. Since these programs are not always offered on the same day, our schedule will be greatly varied.



Our Pinewood Derby this year will be NOV 12; please watch the bulletin board for our "Begin your Car Night."

We will also begin a program just for teens - stay tuned for more information.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Natalie Hood, John Hood, or Linda Bilby. — Linda Bilby ##

You Can Help!

We at Toledo Junior Academy are proud to see growth in our enrollment. This year we are boasting 40 students, which is approximately a 20% increase, and we have had a great start to our school year. We like to see every child who wants a Christian Education enrolled in our school, and we sometimes bend over backwards to help families afford what we have to offer. Even so, we still have families who aren't sure exactly how their child's tuition will be paid but who



have stepped out in faith trusting that God will provide. If you would like to help, feel free to write a check, along with a note designating that the money be applied where needed, and we will make sure the money is used accordingly. We can receipt the donation for tax purposes.

In addition, the Toledo First Scholarship and Worthy Student Fund supplies money for partial tuition for children of our own members who need financial assistance, including children who are in one of our academies or colleges. This year, Toledo Junior Academy is hoping to receive \$500 per month from this fund for our members' children. Please check the giving in this area each week in your church bulletin. It often isn't quite enough. If you can help to boost the offerings in this area, we would very much appreciate it. Mark the amount you want to give on your tithe envelope under "Scholarship Fund."

"But Jesus called for the children, saying, 'Let the little children come to me...'"

—Vicki Hall ##

JamFest dates

OCT 8 - NOV 5 - DEC 10 are the next three JamFest nights, from 6 - 8 pm at Toledo First.

JamFest is an opportunity for beginners on up to practice praise and worship music. All ages are invited and have been coming. Bring your instrument, your voice, or just come to listen at JAMFEST. ##



October & November 2016 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
 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 1 Sabbath School & Worship; Hayride @ Case Place, 6:45pm Vespers
OCT 8 Sabbath School & Worship; Friendship Dinner with Shirly Heiney & friends; JamFest 6 - 8pm
OCT 15 Sabbath School & Worship; Fellowship Potluck; Visit Genesis Nursing Home on Whiteford @ 3pm
OCT 22 Sabbath School & Worship; Communion; Visit Elizabeth Scott Care Center @ 3pm
OCT 29 Sabbath School & Worship; Lunch for RingFest students

Sundays - Fitness Class meets most Sundays in the Fellowship Room at 5pm

OCT 23 TJA Fall Festival, 1 - 4pm

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

OCT 10 Columbus Day - No School

OCT 31 No School - Parent-Teacher conferences

Tuesdays - Church office open 9am-4pm (except Oct 4)

OCT 11 Teacher Professional Day - No School

Wednesdays - Church office open 9am-4pm (except Oct 5); Soup for You—soup at 6pm; Discussion of Jonah, Navigating a Life Interrupted (through OCT 19)

OCT 5 Adventurers (K-4), 6 - 7pm

OCT 19 Adventurers (K-4), 6 - 7pm

OCT 26 RingFest students arrive

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

OCT 27 RingFest begins

Fridays - Worship Practice @ 5:30

OCT 28 RingFest Festival Concert at 7:30pm

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 5 Sabbath School & Worship; JamFest 6 - 8pm
NOV 12 Sabbath School & Worship (Pathfinder Day & Derby); Jim Burr speaks @ 11am: "Orion Declares His Glory" followed by Fellowship Potluck. Jim Burr speaks again for Vespers @ 6pm: "Star of Bethlehem, Life on Other Planets;" then Pinewood Derby
NOV 19 Sabbath School & Worship; Vegan Challenge Potluck; visit Genesis Nursing Home on Whiteford at 3pm; Smile for Freedom, 7pm @ Stranahan Theater
NOV 26 Sabbath School & Worship; Visit Elizabeth Scott Care Center @ 3pm

Sundays

NOV 6 Daylight Savings Time ends

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

NOV 21 Deadline for DEC/JAN Newsletter

Tuesdays - Church office open 9am - 4pm

NOV 8 Election Day - get out and vote

Wednesdays - Church office is open 9am - 4pm; Soup for You starting @ 6pm with soup

NOV 2 Adventurers (K-4), 6 - 7pm

NOV 16 Adventurers (K-4), 6 - 7pm

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

NOV 10 "The Hubble, the Bible, and the Big Bang (that Never Happened)", 7:00pm with Jim Burr of Heavens Declare

Fridays - Worship Practice @ 5:30

NOV 11 "How Big Is God?" @ 7:00pm with Jim Burr