

AUG / SEPT 2013 EDITION

the

FOCAL Point

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

✧ Welcome! ✧



*Your love,
O LORD,
reaches
to the heavens,
your
faithfulness
to the skies.*

—Psalm 36:5

The following welcome was posted on the church facebook page on July 26 and later on our church website. So far we have reached over 60,000 people with over 1,000 likes and over 500 comments.

We extend a special welcome to those who are single, married, divorced, gay, filthy rich, dirt poor, y no habla ingles. We extend a special welcome to those who are crying newborns, skinny as a rail, or could afford to lose a few pounds. We welcome you if you sing like Andrea Bocelli or can't carry a note in a bucket. You're welcome here if you're just browsing, just woke up, or just got out of jail. We don't care if you're more Catholic than the Pope, or haven't been in church since little Joey's baptism. We welcome service dogs and their handlers. We welcome Muslims, Jews, politicians, and sinners like us. We extend a special welcome to those who are over 60 but not grown up yet, and to teenagers who are growing up too fast. We welcome soccer moms, NASCAR dads, starving artists, tree-huggers, latte-sippers, vegetarians, junk-food eaters. We welcome those who are in recovery or still addicted. We welcome you if you're having problems, or you're down in the dumps, or you don't like "organized religion;" we've been there too. If you blew all your offering money at the casino, you're welcome here. We offer a special welcome to those who think the earth is flat, who work hard, don't work, can't spell, or come because grandma is in town and wanted to go to church. We welcome those who are inked, pierced, or both. We offer a special welcome to those who could use a prayer right now, had religion shoved down your throat as a kid, or got lost in traffic and wound up here by mistake. We welcome tourists, seekers, doubters, bleeding hearts . . . and you! ##

God's faithfulness means that God will always do what He said and fulfill what He has promised.

Address Service Requested

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June & July at TCF

We don't often show pictures of dogs in our church photos but this cute one was part of the Family Pet Show in June—a fundraiser for the Romania Mission Trip. Also in June we honored

our graduates at potluck. Lincoln Steed came on July 6 to speak about Religious Liberty. Also in June Cassidy made her debut as an accompanist for one of our praise teams. Way to Go,

Cassidy! Pastor Jolee, in the 5th photo portrayed Ruth as she brought life to the OT Bible story. In the last photo Pastor Mike dedicated Chris Atkins on July 27 as our missionary to New York.

He begins a year-long sojourn there helping to rebuild homes damaged by Hurricane Sandy.

Thanks, Jeff Batchelder, for taking the pictures which we share here. ##

SPECIAL EVENTS @ TF	AUG 17 Baptisms / Pastor Yoon & family visit	AUG 31 God Is Faithful Salad Supper & program, 6:30pm	SEPT 7 & 8 Mark Anthony Sabbath Testimony / Sunday Dinner & Message, 3pm	AUG 17 & SEPT 7 & 28 Fellowship Potlucks
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Remember: You can see this newsletter in beautiful color by visiting www.tfsda.org

Scrapbooking

The next date to hone your paper crafting skills will be Sunday, September 15, from 1-9pm when Creative Memories instructor, Jill Oblizajek, will again teach at Toledo First. Registration forms are available at church. ##

Church Business Meeting Aug 20

A business meeting for all church members is set for Tuesday, August 20, at 7pm. Among the items to be discussed are Finance Committee recommendations including Pastor Jolee's salary. ##

Jeff Hunt Concert August 3, 8pm

You may remember Jeff Hunt from his concert at Toledo First some 15 or so years ago. He writes most of his own songs and has an "easy-to-listen-to" style. Don't miss this concert at church on Sabbath, August 3 at 8pm. ##

Women's Retreat

The Ohio Conference annual Women's Retreat will be at Camp Mohaven September 20-22. Guest speaker is Jo Ann Davidson, author and professor at Andrews Theological Seminary. Information at www.ohioadventist.org or by emailing

wministries@ohioadventist.org

Hayride Oct 3

Dave and Sheila Case will host another Toledo First hayride on Saturday night, October 3. Save the date! ##

Prayer Connections

Connections, on the second Saturday night of the month at 5pm has a new format to include more prayer time and more leaders taking part. Young adults lead the music. Connections continues to meet the needs of those wishing to get together to praise the Lord. and you are invited! ##

Young people on Mission Trips

Pastor Jolee along with Emily Bills and Brendan Leibengood are on their way to Romania to serve there in helping to build a church and conducting a Vacation Bible School for the local children. Please pray that God will bless them all in a special way.

Christopher Atkins leaves soon for a year in New York helping to rebuild homes damaged by Hurricane Sandy. Please pray for God's blessing on his ministry there. ##

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Toledo Junior Academy has lots of plans for 2013-2014

School at Toledo Junior Academy is about to begin with a lot of exciting things happening. Mrs. Vicki Hall has returned to TJA as the new principal, teaching grades 5-8, while Mrs. Natalie Hood is taking on the challenge of teaching grades 1-4. Mrs. Cindy Naus is teaching kindergarten. Our two aides will help to make the load lighter for the teachers. Mrs. Sandy Johnson will be helping Mrs. Hood in the classroom and teaching art for all grades, and Mrs. Teresa Lewis will be spending some time in Mrs. Hall's classroom, teaching PE for all grades, and helping wherever necessary. Mrs. Hall will also be teaching music. In the office, Mrs. Charlotte Herman and Mrs. Maryann Sandy continue to do their part to help the school to run smoothly.

School begins on Tuesday, August 13, with back to school night on Thursday evening, where parents will learn all they will need to know to make the school year a success. After a few weeks of settling in, we will have a weekend devoted to Adventist education. On Sabbath morning, September 28, we will have Education Sabbath where our kids are highlighted throughout the church service. Then the following day, Sunday, September 29, we will have lots of fun and hopefully raise lots of money at our Fall Festival, held on the school parking lot. Invite your friends and neighbors! We have lots of plans for the year. Among other things we'll have muffins with mom, red ribbon week, the Thanksgiving feast and Christmas program, donuts with dad, Passion for Jesus week, and eventually even a grandparents' day!

Please pray for us as we strive to make this year successful and show each child what it means to do our best for Jesus. If Jesus can lead us to it, He'll take us through it! He's going to give us a great year! —Mrs. Vicki Hall
##



Baptisms & Yoon Family make August 17 a High Sabbath

Four more of our young people will be baptized on August 17, making a total of fourteen lives that have been changed at Toledo First this year.

Pastor Yoon will be on hand to baptize Nikyta Cantwell and Pastor Mike will have the privilege of baptizing Kelly, Brandon and Allen Gustrowsky.

Accompanying Pastor Yoon (C. J.) this time are: his wife, Soo, and their family: Jessica who will be starting college at Andrews University, Jonathan who has completed 8th grade and Jane, who will soon be 13 years old.

Everyone is invited to stay for the Fellowship Potluck following worship as we celebrate the new 'birth' days of Nikyta, Kelly, Brandon and Allen. The Yoon family will be joining us for lunch, too. ##

Hear Mark Anthony Sept 7 & 8

The "Adventist Emeril" (as Pastor Mike refers to him)—Mark Anthony, who is guest speaker and chef on 3ABN, will be our guest on Sabbath, September 7 at worship when he will give his inspiring testimony of how God changed his life amidst the sin and deception of being a casino owner in Las Vegas. Miracles still happen!

On Sunday, September 8, @ 3pm Mark Anthony will present a "Live Vegetarian Performing Arts Cooking Show." He advertises it as "A FREE Dinner and a Message." Invite your friends and neighbors to come. And sign up at the bulletin board at church to reserve your place. (Or call Dee at 419.882.6200 to be added to the list). As of July 30, 31 people have signed up.

In his presentation Mr. Anthony will cover nutrition, weight loss, lowering cholesterol and increasing energy, all the while promising to deliver on "cooking at its funnest". For more information about Mark Anthony, you may go to: www.ChefMarkAnthony.com. ##

God Is Faithful

Let's celebrate His goodness August 31

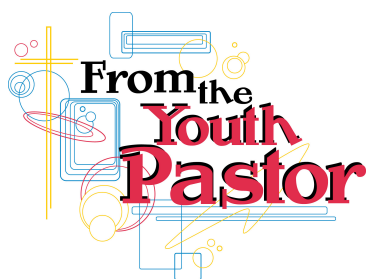
You are invited! Please come to a very special celebration on Saturday, August 31, at 6:30pm at church when we remember and acknowledge God's goodness to our church family through our school, Toledo Junior Academy, during its 94 years of existence. This is an evening for *everyone at Toledo First & Toledo Junior Academy* so we hope you'll be there. Please bring a salad of your choice to share. That's all. We'll provide the rest.

During the program that follows we will hear from former school students and parents, current and former school teachers, and we'll also hear some "Did you know. . ." little-known facts about our school, too. The goal of the evening is to be an encouragement to parents, teachers, students, and church family as we can see through the stories and experiences shared that God has always been, and continues to be, present—guiding and sustaining us.



Therefore, we hope YOU will come, to give glory to God and to add your encouragement and appreciation for our wonderful school—teachers and staff, school board and volunteers, past and current who help to make TJA the great missionary tool that it is. God is Faithful. Truly we are blessed!

See you at church on August 31, 6:30pm. ##



Hello to my Toledo First SDA Church Family!

Here are some updates from youth and children's ministries.

Vacation Bible School was for families who enjoyed the opportunity to spend time together having fun, and learning about Jesus through the story of the Apostle Paul. Things children said they learned about God included "God loves us no matter what," "Just as I have loved you, you should love each other," and "God is always with us." Thank you to all who helped us show Christ's love to these families. We couldn't have done it without your support.

The Romania Mission Trip is July 30 - August 14 and thanks to all our church family we are fully funded! Emily Bills, Brendan Leibengood, and Pastor Jolee Gaede would like to thank our church family for their generosity in giving us the opportunity to experience showing Christ's love to others through acts of service. We will be excited to tell you the stories and show you the pictures when we return.

Ohio Conference of Seventh-day Adventists is hosting a Pathfinder and Adventurer Leadership Weekend at Mohaven Camp and Retreat Center August 23-25. This will be a chance for Pathfinder and Adventurer leaders as well as Master Guide students to sharpen their skills. Registration and further information is available online at the Ohio Conference Youth Department website, www.ohiosdayouth.org.

On September 14, another Ohio Conference event will be available to all young adults ages 18-35, called Koinonia—a Greek word meaning "communion by intimate participation. It identifies the idealized state of fellowship and community that should exist within the Christian Church." This event is intended to help young adults in Ohio create and strengthen community. For further information, go to www.ohiosdayouth.org.

Thank you all for everything you do to help youth and children be fully included and grown up in our church family here at Toledo First Seventh-day Adventist Church. By coming together as a family we will continue to grow from the children's divisions up, following Christ's direction every step of the way.

Sincerely, Pastor Jolee

PS - Please feel free to contact me with suggestions, comments, or concerns at 503-914-9569 or my email at gaede.jolee@gmail.com. I greatly appreciate and value ideas and feedback. May God bless you all the days of your life, and have a great day! ##

Calendar of Events... August & Sept 2013

Birthdays

August 2 Marcene Marsa
 August 6 Joshua Fortune
 August 7 Laura Frey; Alex Jessop
 August 8 David Kawakami
 August 9 Pastor Jolee Gaede
 August 10 Nolan Hood
 August 11 Kay Kermod
 Deb Britenbaker
 August 14 Lanetta Cross, Kim Stanley; Gale Ostrander
 August 15 Gail Flack
 August 17 Teresa Moses
 August 21 Ron Szczechowski
 August 24 Mary Snowberger
 August 26 Becky Godie; Laura Williams
 August 27 Mary Ann Engelbert
 August 31 Cole St. Clair



Birthdays

September 2 Shirley Smith; Dr Burgess Bills
 September 4 Nicole Rieger
 September 6 Pastor Mike Fortune; Claire Jakubowski
 Joyce Jenkins
 September 10 Vickie Wintersmith
 September 14 Glendon Cross
 September 15 Jeff Batchelder
 September 16 Troy Leibengood
 September 18 Camile Sluder
 September 19 Pam Frey
 September 20 Shawn Flack
 September 21 Karen Conkle
 September 22 Andrea Orr; Elaine Mitchell
 September 23 Gloria Clark
 September 27 Emily Bills
 Luann Ostrander
 September 29 Alvin Landeros



Sabbath Events

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

AUG 3 "Sacrifice. Suffering"; (Hebrews 13:7-14); Communion; Concert w/Jeff Hunt @ 8pm
AUG 10 Worship & Connections Appreciation
AUG 17 Worship w/Pastor Mike and Pastor CJ Yoon; baptisms w/fellowship potluck; visit nursing home on Whiteford at 3pm
AUG 24 "Sacrifice. Praise" (Hebrews 13:15-17) w/Pastor Mike; Eat'n Greet; visit Elizabeth Scott nursing home @ 3pm
AUG 31 "The Prayer" (Hebrews 13:18-21); Salad Supper @ 6:30 followed by "God Is Faithful" program

Sabbath Events

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

SEP 7 Mark Anthony is our guest speaker; Fellowship Potluck
SEP 14 Pastor Mike speaks "Hebrews Parting Shots" (Heb 13:22-25); Thank Connections @ 5pm
SEP 21 Worship w/Pastor Mike; visit nursing home on Whiteford at 3pm
SEP 28 Education Sabbath; Fellowship Potluck; visit Elizabeth Scott nursing home @ 3pm

Sundays - Greater Faith Fellowship Church rents each Sunday morning

AUG 25 Pathfinder Leadership Training ends

Mondays

AUG 19 TJA Board Meeting

Tuesdays - Church office is open 9am - 4pm; Pathfinders, 6:30pm

AUG 13 Toledo Junior Academy first day of school

AUG 20 Church Business Meeting, 7pm

Wednesdays - Church office is open 9am - 4pm

AUG 28 Soup for You @ 6pm

Thursdays

AUG 15 Back to School Night @ TJA
 (Community) Wedding Rehearsal & Dinner

Fridays - Worship Practice @ 5:30pm

AUG 23 Pathfinder Leadership Training @ Mohaven begins

Sundays - Greater Faith Fellowship Church rents each Sunday morning

SEP 1 Youth Vespers/Bonfire

SEP 8 Mark Anthony - "Dinner & a Message" - 3pm

SEP 15 Scrapbooking, 1 - 9pm

SEP 29 TJA Fall Festival

Monday

SEP 2 Labor Day

Tuesdays - Church office is open 9am - 4pm; Pathfinders, 6:30pm

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

SEP 4 Doll Club in Fellowship Room

Thursdays

Fridays - Worship Practice @ 5:30pm

SEP 20 Ohio Conference Women's Retreat