Did you miss The Gathering or just want to revisit the experience? Visit the conference website at www.ccosda.org for links to view photos and video as well as listen to Dick Duersken’s evening and Sabbath sermons. Facebook fans can view and download photos as well as get conference news at www.Facebook.com/chesapeakeconference. Camp meeting was well attended and featured many new events and activities that will be offered again next year. Save the date and plan now to attend the 2012 camp meeting June 12-16, 2012. John Nixon, professor of Religion and Spirituality at Southern Adventist University is the featured speaker. You can reserve your lodging online now at www.ccosda.org. Headlining camp meeting in 2013 is sought after speaker Derek Morris, editor of Ministry magazine at the General Conference.

Transitions:
~ Conference President Rob Vandeman was elected executive secretary of the Columbia Union Conference on June 22. He replaces J. Neville Harcombe, a former Chesapeake Conference president who served in the post for five years and died unexpectedly on May 11. “I came to Chesapeake still wet behind the ears and will leave wet with tears,” says Vandeman. “Chesapeake has been good to the Vandeman’s and I can only hope that in some small measure that we have been good for Chesapeake.” Elder Vandeman has spent the past 27 years in Chesapeake Conference, first as senior pastor of Spencerville church in Silver Spring, Maryland, for 12 years, then as conference secretary and ministerial director for 10 years, and as conference president for the past five years. “Rob is a pastor’s pastor,” says Phil Hamman, pastor of the Dover First and Harrington churches in Delaware. “He understands our stresses, he relates to us and is not aloof. He really listens and is open to trying new things.” Elder Vandeman and his wife, Judy, have been much loved and valued by Chesapeake staff and constituents. God’s richest blessings are wished for them as they look forward to a new adventure. Vandeman will take up the duties of his new position later this summer. The couple plans to remain active members of Spencerville church. The Executive Committee will meet in a special session in August to begin the process of finding a new conference president.

~ Tim Lee has assumed pastoral leadership at the 103-member Providence church in Elton, Maryland, and will also work as an auditor for the conference—a role he has had in previous years. Pastor Lee has been serving the Beacon of Light, Salisbury Park, and Federalsburg churches on Maryland’s eastern shore.

~ Antonio Lopez, youth pastor for the Atholton church in Columbia, Maryland, recently accepted a call to serve as youth pastor at Glendale church in Indianapolis. The family has already relocated to Indiana. Good wishes and appreciation are extended to Antonio and his wife, Lilly, as they embark on a new assignment.

Washington Adventist University offers an “Explore Your World” summer day camp program on campus for students age 9-16. Campers will explore topics in biology, chemistry, physical science and computer science in unique and exciting ways. The program runs Monday through Friday, July 5 – August 5, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Volunteer opportunities are also available. For more details, contact Dr. Melinda Villanueva by phone at (301) 891-4462, or email mvillanu@wau.edu.

The Chesapeake Chapter of Adventist Single Adult Ministries has planned a corn roast on Sunday, August 14, at noon, hosted by Shirley and Howard Bankes at their home. RSVP to Shirley Bankes at (410) 531-3192, or to Fred Thomas by phone at (410) 992-9731, or by emailing fmthomas1950@yahoo.com.

Youth and Children’s Ministry leaders are invited to participate a weekend of training covering topics such as Pathfinder and Adventurer leadership, children’s Sabbath School, outreach and creative ministry ideas. Randy Fishell, editor of Guide and Real magazines, is the featured speaker. The event takes place September 9-11 at Mount Aetna Retreat Center in Hagerstown, Maryland. New leaders and directors, especially, will benefit from this smorgasbord of workshops. For more information and to register, contact Ann Reynolds at (410) 995-1910, or email areynolds@ccosda.org.

“Designer of Our Lives” is the theme for the 2011 Women’s Retreat sponsored by the conference Women’s Ministries department. The event takes place October 14-16 at the Carousel Resort in Ocean City, Maryland, and is the first conference-wide English/Spanish women’s retreat. A special track for young women age 15 and up is another new feature. Elizabeth Talbot, associate speaker for Voice of Prophecy is the keynote speaker, and Angela Bryant-Brown is the guest vocalist. If there is enough interest, transportation by motor coach may be arranged. For details and to register, visit the Women’s Ministry page on the conference website at www.ccosda.org, or phone Jenn Stephan at (410) 995-1910. Register by September 11 for a $20 discount.

The 6th Annual Maryland Men of Faith Conference, themed “Who Shall I Send?” is planned for Sabbath, October 1, at Mount Aetna Retreat Center in Hagerstown, Maryland. Frederick Russell, president of the Allegheny West Conference, is the worship speaker. Seminar topics include Bible-based parenting, prophecy, how to have an affair-proof marriage, ethics, and topics of interest to youth. The all-day event begins at 8:30 a.m. Find more information and register (by September 21 for a reduced fee) online at www.mmof.org.
Emergency Response Training takes place October 29-30 at Eastern Shore Junior Academy, 407 Dudley Corners Road in Sudlersville, Maryland. Attend the workshop to learn how to be personally prepared for a disaster, how to set up and manage disaster collection and distribution centers, and warehouse management for disaster response. The early registration (until October 17) cost is $25 per person plus $5.00 for photo ID. The fee covers training materials and four meals. To register, visit www.acsdr.org, or call Evelyn Gates at (410) 995-1910.

Conference finances at a glance—Through the month of May tithe income is showing a positive gain of 4.16 percent, which equates to nearly a quarter million dollar increase. Conference administration hopes it is a reflection of a strengthening economy within Chesapeake but will be only cautiously optimistic for a few more months. The Chesapeake Advance fund is lagging slightly behind the previous year with a loss of approximately $3,800.

Hope Channel is looking for churches to participate in a unique prayer ministry initiative. Hope Channel is preparing to launch a live, evening series called Let’s Pray! beginning in September. Viewers will be able to request prayer by contacting the studio via telephone, email, Twitter or Facebook. Prayer teams of 7-14 members from local churches are needed for two hours each evening to pray for the viewers’ needs from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., just before and during the live broadcast. Prayer teams from churches will participate on a rotating basis. If you are interested in being a Hope Channel prayer warrior, contact your pastor.

Vacation Bible School programs are in full swing this summer. Consider donating your time and/or money to support this child evangelism endeavor in your church and community—or a church nearby if yours doesn’t host VBS. Volunteers of all ages and skill sets are needed to have a successful program. VBS leaders are encouraged to share stories, ideas, and photos with the conference Children’s Ministries department by emailing syoung@ccosda.org.

The Chesapeake Conference operates 14 schools including Spencerville Adventist Academy, a PreK-12 grade day school in Silver Spring, Maryland, and Highland View Academy a day/boarding high school in Hagerstown, Maryland. All schools—elementary, junior academy, and high school—are accepting students for the 2011-2012 academic year. For registration dates, contact your local Adventist school, call the conference office at (410) 995-1910, or find links to schools at www.ccosda.org. Classes begin Monday, August 15. Following is a list of Chesapeake schools:

- Atholton Adventist Academy, Columbia, Md.
- Baltimore White Marsh School, White Marsh, Md.
- Crest Lane School, Westminster, Md.
- Crossroads School, Ellicott City, Md.
- Eastern Shore Junior Academy, Sudlersville, Md.
- Frederick School, Frederick, Md.
- Friendship School, Linthicum, Md.
- Highland View Academy, Hagerstown, Md.
- Martin Barr School, Gambrills, Md.
- Mount Aetna Elementary School, Hagerstown, Md.
- Rocky Knoll School, Martinsburg, W.Va.
- Spencerville Adventist Academy, Silver Spring, Md.
- Susquehanna School, Perryville, Md.
- Wilmington Junior Academy, Wilmington, Del.

AdventistGiving allows members to return tithe and give offerings (including local church offerings) online while doing online banking, traveling on business, vacationing, or even when unable to attend church due to an illness. Most important, those who desire to give back to the Lord the “first fruits” right away, can do so immediately through AdventistGiving. For more information, visit www.adventistgiving.org, or contact your church treasurer.

July Sunset Calendar and Offering Schedule:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Sunset</th>
<th>Offering</th>
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<tr>
<td>July 2</td>
<td>8:37</td>
<td>Local Church Budget</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 9</td>
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<td>NAD Women’s Ministries</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 16</td>
<td>8:32</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 23</td>
<td>8:28</td>
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<td>July 30</td>
<td>8:22</td>
<td>Washington Adventist University</td>
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Note: Sunset times published above are for Baltimore, Maryland. For Delaware and the Eastern Shore, subtract two minutes. For West Virginia and Western Maryland, add three minutes.

Chesapeake Currents is published monthly by the Communication Department – Samantha Young, director/editor

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