Rick Remmers was elected Chesapeake Conference president by the Conference Executive Committee on August 30. He assumes the position vacated by Rob Vandeman who is the new Columbia Union Conference executive secretary. “Rick is well qualified to lead the Chesapeake Conference, having served admirably as secretary in two conferences,” said Dave Weigley, Columbia Union Conference president. “He has a grasp of administration and has the respect of many of his constituents.” Remmers has been the conference executive secretary since early 2010. “The Chesapeake Conference is filled with many wonderful people and I’m grateful for the privilege of partnering with them in advancing the kingdom of God, said Remmers. “I solicit their prayer as I take up these new responsibilities so that we can effectively pursue the mission God has entrusted to us.” Read more at the conference website: www.ccosda.org

Congratulations are extended to Roosevelt Marsden and Carol (MacKenzie) Marsden, married in Montego Bay, Jamaica, on July 24. Elder Marsden is the pastor of the Pikesville (Md.) church. Best wishes are offered to the newlyweds and to Elder Marsden’s daughters, Stacy-Ann, a student at Andrews University, and to Daedre and Aveann, students at Atholton Adventist Academy in Columbia, Maryland.

Adventist Community Services/Disaster Response Update:
~ The Adventist Community Services/Disaster Response (ACS/DR) annual meeting themed “Apple Sunday” is planned for Sunday, September 11, at 10:00 a.m., at the Chesapeake Conference office, located at 6600 Martin Road in Columbia, Maryland. This meeting is for anyone involved in community service or disaster response, as well as pastors. Lunch is provided. Questions? Contact Evelyn Gates at (410) 995-1910.
~ Urgent need: Brand new blankets and pillows are needed for hurricane victims in Caroline County (Md.). Bring items to the ACS/DR meeting on September 11, or send a donation payable to Chesapeake Conference Disaster Response, Attention: Evelyn Gates, Chesapeake Conference, 6600 Martin Road, Columbia, Maryland 21044. You will receive a tax deductible receipt. Thank you for helping!
~ A Disaster Preparedness Training meeting takes place October 29-30 at Eastern Shore Junior Academy, 407 Dudley Corners Road, Sudlersville, Maryland. Anyone interested in learning how to protect families and communities during a disaster should attend. Participants will receive a certificate upon completion of the course. To register, visit www.acsdr.org, or call Evelyn Gates at (410) 995-1910.

Upcoming Ministry Events:
~ Youth Leaders Convention, September 9-11 at Mount Aetna Retreat Center in Hagerstown, Maryland. Pastors, youth and children's ministry leaders as well as those involved in Pathfinder and Adventurer clubs are urged to take advantage of the broad array of seminars, leadership classes, and general sessions. To register, contact Ann Reynolds at (410) 995-1910, or email areynolds@ccosda.org.
~ The 6th Annual Maryland Men of Faith Conference, themed “Who Shall I Send?” is planned for Sabbath, October 1, at Mount Aetna Retreat Center. 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.mmfob.org.
~ the Annual Adventist Single Adult Ministries Fall Retreat at Mount Aetna Retreat Center in Hagerstown, Maryland, takes place October 7-9. Christian family counselors, Kim Logan Nowlin, PhD, LPC, BCPC, and Arthur E. Nowlin, LMSW, CAADC, will cover topics of interest to single adults including those contemplating marriage. To register, visit www.asamchesapeake.com, or call Fred Thomas at (410) 992-9731.
~ For women only: the 2011 Chesapeake Conference Women’s Retreat is planned for October 14-16, at the Carousel Resort in Ocean City, Maryland. “Designer of Our Lives” is the theme for this first conference-wide English/Spanish retreat. A special track is offered for young women age 15 and up. Elizabeth Talbot, associate speaker for Voice of Prophecy is the keynote speaker, and Angela Bryant-Brown is the guest vocalist. To register (by September 18 for the early bird rate), visit www.ccosda.org, or phone Jenn Stefan at (410) 995-1910.

Adventist Attorneys and Pre-law/Law students are cordially invited to the Annual Attorney/Pre-Law Student Dinner, sponsored by The Center for Law and Public Service of Washington Adventist University (WAU) & the Adventist Lawyers Association of Greater Washington, on September 18, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. in WAU Dining Hall. The theme this year is Partners, and the keynote speaker is Petra Aaron, Esq. RSVP by email to prelaw@wau.edu, or call (301) 891-4572. Visit www.alagw.org, or email info@alagw.org for more details.

A Prayer and Revival Weekend at the Middletown Valley church is planned for October 21-22. Elder Jerry Page, Ministerial Association secretary for the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and his wife Janet Page, leader of the Ministerial Association’s Shepherdess International, will share how to tap into the power of prayer. The Pages are passionate about prayer ministries and use their personal experiences to demonstrate the impact of a dynamic prayer life. The event runs Friday, October 21 from 7:00-9:00 p.m., and Sabbath, October 22, 9:30-12:30, followed by a fellowship lunch and a closing meeting from 2:00-4:30 p.m. The church is located at 1811 Arnold Road, Middletown, Maryland. For more information, call pastor Dick Thomas at (301) 730-7084.
The Executive Committee at its August 23 meeting took the following actions:
~ Voted, to recognize the name change of our First Mizo church to “Mizo Seventh-day Adventist Church.”
~ Voted, to grant full church status to the South Carroll company.
~ Voted, to accept the report of the Audit Review Committee on the 2009 Audited Financial Statement. The General Conference Auditing Service gave Chesapeake a clean opinion. (GCAS recently finished the audit for 2010 and plan to give us another clean opinion for that year as well.)
~ Voted, to adopt the NAD guidelines on locally funded employees. These guidelines are to assist in bringing locally funded employees into compliance with federal, state and local statues as employees of the local conference. Chesapeake will handle the transitioning of these employees in two phases. Phase I will be implemented starting January 1, 2012, and will address the treatment of Conference locally funded exempt and non-exempt part-time pastors, church secretaries, janitors and all others funded by local churches. Phase II will be implemented no later than July 1, 2012, and will address the treatment of all employees locally funded by schools, i.e., teachers, secretaries, janitors and others.

The Conference plans to organize instructional (inservice) meetings to help local church and school boards understand the legal and monetary implications that these new policies will create.
~ Voted, to receive the Mills Avenue house (District of Columbia) from the Washington-Spencerville Spanish church in lieu of payment of the bridge loan the church currently has with the Conference. The committee also approved a loan modification request to the Columbia Union Revolving Fund to convert the church’s mortgage to an interest only payment for the next two years. The congregation is in a difficult position with a mortgage that is upside down as a result of the tough economic times these past three years.
~ Voted, a partial Personnel Committee report for redistricting on the Delmarva Peninsula. The resulting configurations are as follows:
~ Tim Lee to pastor the Providence church near Elkton, MD and also serve as part-time auditor for the Conference.
~ Cesar Gonzalez adds the Beacon of Light church to his duties as pastor of the Cambridge church and goes on a full time status.
~ Doug Renn wanz takes over the Federalsburg and Sussex Central churches.
~ The Middletown, Delaware, church is being placed in a district with the Newcastle Spanish congregation and a bilingual pastor (yet to be named) will be assigned to the churches. Several other pending issues were discussed and enabling actions were taken to fill those positions with full-time or interim pastors. The Committee recognizes the need to move pastors within the conference to create opportunities for professional growth.
~ Voted, to endorse a negotiated proposal offered to the Washington-Spencerville Korean church to assist them with the ability to close on the sales agreement signed with the Spencerville church two and a half years ago (for the purchase of the old Spencerville Adventist Academy property), thus hoping to preclude the Korean congregation from defaulting on the $4.2 million agreement.
~ Voted, to express gratitude to Rob Vandeman for his 27 plus years of service to the members of the Chesapeake Conference.

The Conference staff offers heartfelt sympathy to the following families and congregations who have recently lost loved ones:
~ Hugh Maplesden, 80, husband of Millie Maplesden, who works in the Trust Services department of the conference, died September 1 following an illness. Hugh was an active member of the Spencerville church choir. Please remember Millie and Hugh’s children and grandchildren in prayer as they grieve the loss of Hugh. A memorial service and reception will take place beginning 4:00 p.m. on Sabbath, September 10 at the Spencerville church, 16325 New Hampshire Avenue in Silver Spring, Maryland.
~ Colonel J. D. Brighton, 90, longtime member of the Cambridge, Maryland, church died August 31 after a long battle with cancer. He was a relative of Jacqueline Messenger, conference associate superintendent of education. Condolences are offered to his wife, Doris, sons Jim and Jack, and the rest of the family.
~ Cathy Recuenco, 14, a member of the Hagerstown, Maryland, church, died September 1 in Mexico where she was receiving treatment for leukemia. Hagerstown area churches and schools have supported the Recuenco family by holding several fundraisers and helping out while Cathy received treatment at Johns Hopkins Medical Center in Baltimore. Cathy received a standing ovation in May at her eighth-grade graduation at Mount Aetna Adventist Elementary School (where her siblings Kevin and Jacqueline are students). Cathy’s father, Manuel, is employed by the Review and Herald Publishing Association, and her mother, Pilar, is currently a homemaker.

September Sunset Calendar and Offering Schedule:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Sunset</th>
<th>Offering</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 3</td>
<td>7:37</td>
<td>Local Church Budget</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 10</td>
<td>7:26</td>
<td>Fall Mission Appeal/World Budget</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 17</td>
<td>7:15</td>
<td>Local Church Budget</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 24</td>
<td>7:03</td>
<td>Chesapeake Advance</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.