January 2011

Please forward this newsletter and/or print out copies for your local church bulletin board and for distribution.

The Chesapeake Conference staff extends best wishes for 2011. May the New Year find you nestled deep in the warmth of God’s love.

On New Year’s Day more than 4,000 Adventists in the Greater Baltimore area will board 75 buses and traverse the city to invite residents to sign up for Bible studies. Please pray earnestly that many of the persons contacted will give their hearts to the Lord as a result of this An Open Door in Baltimore evangelism effort. Area church members will follow up and give Bible studies to those who are interested.

A One Day Elder’s Retreat has been planned for Sabbath, February 5, at Mount Aetna Camp and Retreat Center. There is no cost for the retreat (other than your own transportation costs), and those traveling from the extremities of the conference will also be provided Friday evening lodging and Sabbath morning breakfast at no charge. Joseph Kidder, associate professor of Christian Ministry at the Andrews University Theological Seminary, will be the guest presenter and will focus on the spiritual dynamics of a healthy church. Many Chesapeake pastors are still talking about the blessings they received when Dr. Kidder took them through a similar retreat experience back in September. Please RSVP to Pam Strahle at pstrahle@ccosda.org, or call her at (410) 995-1910 by January 17 to reserve your spot.

Last chance, Scrapbookers! Register now for a weekend of faith and fellowship at a Spiritual Retreat for Scrapbookers to be held January 7-9 at Mount Aetna Retreat Center, 21905 Mount Aetna Road, Hagerstown, Maryland. For more details and to register, contact Diana Fishell at (301) 824-6045, or email mtaetnacamp@myactv.net.

Jesus in Your Church—A broadcast for Revival and Reformation in North America airs on the Hope Church Channel, Sabbath, January 8, at 11:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. EST. Dr. Ron Clouzet, speaker for NET 2011, is the presenter. The one-hour broadcast is suitable for church and home services. For details, visit www.hopechurchchannel.com, or call (301) 680-6689.

Church members are encouraged to attend a conference-wide Disaster Response Training, January 29-30, at the West Wilmington church located at 3003 Millcreek Road in Wilmington, Delaware. The workshop is designed to prepare members to work effectively in their church and community following a disaster event. The $35 registration fee ($40 after January 19) covers the training and four meals, but NOT lodging. Register online at www.acsdr.org. For additional information, email Kitty Juneau at cjuneau@hotmail.com, or Evelyn Gates at egates@ccosda.org. Or call the conference office at (410) 995-1910.

Chesapeake Adventist Single Adult Ministries is sponsoring the following events:

For more information about these events, contact Fred Thomas by email at fthomas1950@yahoo.com, or by phone at (410) 992-9731. Or visit www.asamchesapeake.com.

~ Valentine Potluck Party, Saturday, February 12, at 6:00 p.m. at the Chesapeake Conference office, 6600 Martin Road, Columbia, Maryland. Bring food to share. Dessert and beverage will be provided.

~ Film Night, Saturday, March 19, at 7:00 p.m. at the Chesapeake Conference office, 6600 Martin Road, Columbia, Maryland.

Upcoming Youth Ministries Events:

To receive email about upcoming youth and family activities, call Ann Reynolds at (410) 995-1910, or email areynolds@ccosda.org.

~ Pathfinder Winter Classoree, January 21-23, at Mount Aetna Camp and Retreat Center in Hagerstown, Maryland. Pathfinders—Friend through Guide—can earn a variety of honors (choose from 30+ honors offered) in First Aid and Safety, Nature Appreciation, Church Heritage, and Arts & Crafts in a single weekend by attending. For a class schedule, contact Ann Reynolds (see above).

~ Pathfinder Bible Achievement (Bible Bowl) Area Level takes place Sabbath, February 5, at 3:00 p.m. at five locations throughout the conference territory. Pathfinders will be asked 90 questions to test their knowledge of I & II Corinthians, and the Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary Introduction to those books of the Bible.

~ Generation Rain “The Release” Spiritual Retreat for high school youth takes place February 25-27 at Mount Aetna Camp and Retreat Center. God calls! God promises His enabling power! Then God RELEASES His chosen people into the world to turn it upside down. Be the generation that changes the world. Be transformed to think like Christ, to see the world through His eyes, to be compelled to do something to change it. Mike Fortune, pastor of the Toledo First church, is the featured speaker. Come. Be a part of this journey. Receive the RAIN! The $38 registration fee covers lodging and meals. For more details, call Ann Reynolds at (410) 995-1910.
The Executive Committee met on December 14 and took the following actions:
~ voted, to recommend to the Columbia Union the retirement request of Barbara-Lee Boyd effective March 1, 2011. Barbara will have completed 37 years of denominational service—all of them in Chesapeake’s headquarters.
~ voted, to recommend to the Columbia Union the retirement request of Elder Ben Boggess effective April 1, 2011 after 41.89 years of service—the past 20 of those years as pastor of the Baltimore First congregation.
~ voted, to recommend to the Columbia Union the names of Pastor Steve Finney and Pastor David Byrkit for ordination to the Gospel Ministry.
~ voted, to sponsor Atholton Youth Pastor Antonio Lopez at the seminary at Andrews University starting with the summer or fall semester 2011.
~ voted, an enabling action to find an associate pastor for the Atholton church to fill the vacancy created by Elder Bill Peeke’s retirement at the end of 2010.
~ voted, to hire Omar Rivera on a part time stipend basis to pastor the Newcastle, Delaware Spanish church.
~ voted, an enabling action to fill the vacancies at Baltimore First and Providence churches created by the retirements of Elder Ben Boggess and Elder Art Miller (retiring again).
~ voted, policy updates to the Employee Handbook regarding locally funded visa applications, pastoral and office personnel travel budgets, and the ordination/commissioning process for pastors.
~ voted, to organize the Seaford, Delaware Spanish group into a company. The new company plans to rent the David Fleagle school building near Seaford from the constituent churches.
~ the committee took other actions that will be reported on after the decisions have been discussed and processed with those individuals or entities involved.

Finances at a glance—Through November Chesapeake Conference tithe income for 2010 as compared to 2009 was running at a 0.6 percent loss. That equates to about an $80,000 difference. What concerns conference administrators is that while showing a loss of income the conference is also experiencing a significant increase in expenses in areas like medical and legal expenses. When the year end totals are in, it can be determined what steps will be necessary to help get the conference back on track in 2011. Of course, Chesapeake is not alone with these challenges. Nearly half of the conferences in the North American Division are also showing a loss through November, and the entire division is reporting an accumulative gain of only 0.7 percent. Conference administrators are thankful for the continued faithful support of our members in this difficult economic climate.

Students interested in filmmaking are invited to submit entries in the SONscreen Film Festival. Win a prize and have your film featured at the 2011 SONscreen IX Film Festival, April 7-9, in Simi Valley, California. The contest, sponsored by the North American Division, is open to high school, undergraduate and graduate students. The theme is “Illustrations of God’s Love and Grace.” To learn more, visit www.SONscreen.com, find them on Facebook, or call (866) 766-3146.

The offer still stands for getting copies of the newly published Ellen White compilation entitled “True Revival” at the discounted rate of $0.44 per copy (it retails for $7.99). The conference is paying an additional $0.45 per copy to make this possible. Churches have already ordered more than 3,000 copies. Conference leaders suggest that local churches provide a copy of this book to every active family unit. Churches that have not yet taken advantage of this offer, should do so ASAP by contacting Pam Strahle at pstrahle@ccosda.org, or calling (410) 995-1910 ex.2320. Churches will be invoiced for their portion of the cost of these books.

Want Currents delivered straight to your inbox each month? Provide your email address to syoung@ccosda, or call (410) 995-1910.

### January 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>January 1</td>
<td>4:52</td>
<td>Local Church Budget</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 8</td>
<td>4:58</td>
<td>Chesapeake Advance</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 15</td>
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<td>Local Church Budget</td>
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<td>January 22</td>
<td>5:12</td>
<td>NAD Religious Liberty</td>
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<td>January 29</td>
<td>5:20</td>
<td>Highland View Academy</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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