April 2013

Please forward this newsletter and/or print out copies for your local church bulletin board and for distribution. Subscribe at www.ccosda.org.

Congratulations are extended to:
~ Charles Yang, MDiv, associate pastor of the Washington-Spencerville Korean church in Spencerville, Maryland, who will be ordained to the gospel ministry during the 11:00 a.m. worship service at the church, Sabbath, April 6. Elder Yang came to Chesapeake Conference in 2010 from North Carolina where he was the senior pastor of the Greensboro and Raleigh churches. He and his wife, Yeonsu, have two children, Minha, 8, and Havin, age 6. “We want to congratulate Charles on this occasion and pray for his continued effectiveness in ministry,” says Rick Remmers, conference president.
~ Ophelia Barizo, a science teacher at Highland View Academy in Hagerstown, Maryland, is among 27 distinguished science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) educators selected to serve the next school year at four federal agencies. As a recipient of the 2013-2014 Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellowship Program, Barizo will serve in Washington, D.C., for 11 months beginning September 1 at the National Science Foundation Directorate for Engineering Emerging Frontiers in Research Innovation Division. “I praise the Lord for this wonderful opportunity,” Barizo said. “During the 15 years I have known and admired Ophelia, she has received a number of awards for her excellence in teaching,” says Carole Smith, conference education superintendent. “This award is a significant recognition and opportunity for professional growth.”

Welcome friends back to church—This month more than 30 Chesapeake Conference churches will host a special “Reconnect to Worship” Sabbath as part of a conference-wide Connect 2 Reconnect initiative to welcome back members who have stopped coming to church. Take a moment to reconnect and invite people you know who are no longer attending church. It's never too late for congregations to reach out to missing members and engage them in a supportive church fellowship again. Learn how to reach out or locate participating churches and schedules at www.ccosda.netadvent.org/directory, or call Evangelism director Gary Gibbs at (410) 895-1910.

The “Religion, Politics, and Global Conflicts” seminar series with Ganoune Diop, General Conference representative to the United Nations, concludes Sabbath, April 6, from 4:00-5:30 p.m. Dr. Diop examines how various world religions and their corresponding beliefs (based on sacred writings) are contributing to the political and religious conflicts currently taking place in the world-arena. The Triadelphia church, located at 12950 Brighton Dam Road in Clarksville, hosts the seminar. For more details, call the church at (301) 854-3678.

Pastor Charles D. Brooks is the featured speaker at the Blythedale church on Friday, April 12, 7:00 p.m., and Sabbath, April 13, at 11:20 a.m. Join the congregation for these uplifting services and be blessed. The church is located at 36 Blythedale Road in Perryville, Maryland.

Interested in Puppet Ministry? A Puppet Ministry Certification class, sponsored by North American Division (NAD) Children’s Ministries, takes place April 13-14 at the Kid’s Ministry Center, Review and Herald Publishing Association, 55 West Oak Ridge Drive in Hagerstown. Expert puppeteers will teach puppet manipulation, black light puppets, beginning ventriloquism and more. The cost is $50. To register, visit www.kidsministryideas.org, or call Phyllis Washington, NAD Children’s Ministries director, at (301) 680-6425.

Spencerville Adventist Academy’s (SAA)spring musical this year is The Music Man. The opening performance, Wednesday, April 17, is a matinee for senior citizens and visiting school students, beginning at 1:00 p.m., for just $7/ticket. Additional performances are Thursday, April 18, 7:00 p.m.; Saturday evening, April 20, 8:30 p.m.; and Sunday, April 21, at 1:00 and 5:00 p.m. The 1:00 p.m. matinee showcases middle school talent. General admission is $10/ticket, and includes a dessert intermission. For more information about ticket reservations, call (240) 883-3538, or email jlanning@spencerville.org. Tickets may be purchased online at www.spencerville.org/tickets. All performances take place in the SAA Auditorium located at 2502 Spencerville Road in Spencerville, Maryland.

“Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage” is the title of a marriage enrichment seminar sponsored by the Middletown Valley church. The weekend event begins Friday, April 19, 7:30 p.m., at the church located at 1811 Arnold Road in Jefferson, Maryland. It continues on Sabbath, April 20, with the 11:00 a.m. worship service, potluck lunch, and an afternoon seminar at 3:00 p.m. The final seminar takes place at the church on Sunday at 9:00 a.m., and is followed by a brunch at the Dutch’s Daughter restaurant in Frederick, Maryland. A fee of $10 per couple covers materials and light refreshments—but not the Sunday brunch. Contact Lynne Williams at (301) 371-6887, for session topics and to register. Registration deadline is April 12.

Message of Mercy is performing three gospel concerts throughout Maryland this month. The first takes place Friday, April 19, at 7:00 p.m., at the Reisterstown church located at 7 Beryman’s Lane in Reisterstown. The group performs at the Westminster church (home church of group member Joey Norwood Tolbert during her youth) on Sabbath, April 20 at 11:00 a.m. The church is located at 320 Crest Lane in Westminster. The last concert is later the same day, at 6:00 p.m., at the Hagerstown church, 11507 Robinwood Drive, in Hagerstown. Learn more about the group and listen to a music sample at www.messageofmercy.org.
Youth Ministries Upcoming Events:
For details about these events, see your Pathfinder or Adventurer leader, or contact Ann Reynolds by email at areynolds@ccosda.org, or call (410) 995-1910.

~ A Teen Leadership Training (TLT) camping weekend is planned for April 12-14 at Mount Aetna Camp and Retreat Center located at 21905 Mount Aetna Road in Hagerstown, Maryland. Participants will learn team-building skills on the low ropes course.
~ Adventurers may take the Presidential Physical Fitness Challenge, Sunday, April 21, at noon, at the Atholton church located at 6520 Martin Road in Columbia, Maryland. Registration is required. Contact your local Adventurer leader to register.
~ April 26-28 is the annual Pathfinder Fair/Campout on the Terrace Campground at Mount Aetna Camp and Retreat Center. The theme is “God’s Incredible Nature.” Steve Gatz, known for his nature presentations featuring live animals, is the guest speaker. Each club will teach a nature honor or a portion of a nature honor to attending Pathfinders—offering more than 22 honors during the weekend.

Women’s Ministries Upcoming Events:
~ Save the date for the 2013 conference-wide Women’s Retreat planned for November 1-3 at the Hershey Lodge in Hershey, Pennsylvania, a 90-minute drive from Baltimore. Featuring general sessions and seminars in English and in Spanish, the focus this year is on prayer and intimacy with God. Watch future issues of Currents, visit www.ccosda.org. or check Facebook often for more details.
~ Join the women and families of the Pikesville church, Sunday, April 21, at 10:30 a.m., for a nature trail walk and mid-day potluck at the Irvine Nature Center located at 11201 Garrison Forest Road in Owings Mills, Maryland. Learn more about the center’s interactive exhibits and animals at www.explorenature.org.
~ Women in western Maryland will appreciate a newly launched Bible study group sponsored by the Middletown Valley church in Jefferson, Maryland. The group meets Thursday evenings from 6:30-8:30 p.m., and is currently using the Steps to Christ Bible Study Guide. The meeting place alternates weekly between the Common Market, 5728 Buckeystown Pike, #1B in Frederick, Maryland, and the Brunswick Library located at 915 N. Maple Avenue in Brunswick, Maryland. To learn more, and reserve a print copy of the study guide ($5.50), contact Angela Ball by email at angelaball@outlook.com.

Camp Meeting is coming soon! The theme for The Gathering 2013 is “It’s All About Jesus.” Derek Morris, editor of Ministry magazine, is the featured speaker from June 11-15. Dick Stenbakken is back by popular demand for family worships. New features this year include air-conditioning in the gym, live-streaming, and plenty of overflow seating on Sabbath. The event takes place on the campus of Highland View Academy in Hagerstown, Maryland. Go to www.ccosda.org to reserve lodging and to view updates on seminars, activities, worship experiences and quality programming for children, youth and young adults planned for this special week. See you at The Gathering!

Condolences and deep sympathy are offered to Virginia Moyer and family, and the Rock Hall/Chestertown congregations following the April 4 death of retired pastor, Arthur Moyer, 94. Moyer was pastor of the Rock Hall/Chestertown district in the 1970’s and eventually retired there. During his retirement, Moyer and his wife, Virginia, conducted health seminars and screenings in churches throughout the conference. In the early years of their ministry, the couple served as missionaries in Africa. A memorial service is planned for Sunday, May 21, 1:00 p.m., at the Chestertown church, 302 N. Kent Street in Chestertown, Maryland. Moyer is survived by his wife and their two sons.

Help the Dover First church win a $20,000 grant from Walmart for the church’s Kent County-based HOPE food distribution program. The organization with the most votes via Facebook will receive the grant. Vote daily for the Dover First church during the month of April by visiting http://local.walmart.com/mobileapp/hunger/. At the “Search of an Organization” prompt, type in “Dover First Seventh-day Adventist Church”, then log into Facebook. The Dover First church has an ongoing partnership with local government to feed needy neighbors.

College and high school students can do something extraordinary for God and earn a scholarship for tuition at the same time. Join a group of excited young people, June 2 to August 9, for a great experience with God and each other in the metro area and Wilmington, Delaware. No experience is required for this literature ministry. Visit www.golightamerica.com, or call (678) 788-5622 for details.

Adventist Community Service/Disaster Response (ACS/DR) leaders are calling all congregations to assemble kits to replenish the inventory of Personal Care Kits distributed to needy individuals during a crisis (such as the “Sandy” storms last fall). See the ACS/DR leader in your church for a list of items to include in the kits. To make a donation or learn more, visit www.acsdr.org

April Sunset Calendar and Offering Schedule:

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Sunset</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 6</td>
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<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.

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