January 2013

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

Happy New Year!

Congratulations are offered to:
~ Jennifer and Jason Payne on the birth of their son Alistair James, born at 11:10 a.m., on 12/12/12. He measured 20.5 inches long and weighed 8 pounds, 4 ounces. Big sister Juliana, age 3, happily welcomes her new baby brother. Jennifer Payne taught English at Highland View Academy for many years and now serves on the conference Executive Committee. Jason Payne works for UltraCamp, an online camp registration software company.
~ Sherilyn and Mark O’Fill on the arrival of their second child, Katie Ann Noelle, born December 14, 2012, at 11:58 a.m. She weighed 7 pounds, 2 ounces, and measured 19 inches long. Elder O’Fill, Bible teacher at Atholton Adventist Academy (Columbia, Maryland) and youth pastor for the Atholton church, reports that the family isn’t getting much sleep these days. Sherilyn is taking a maternity leave from her duties as associate youth director for the Potomac Conference. Six-and-a-half-year-old Alec is a big fan of his new baby sister.

Members of the Dundalk congregation are finally able to worship in their new sanctuary. To celebrate, they hosted a weekend of events including a special worship service, luncheon, concert and prayer breakfast December 23 and 24. The congregation purchased a Verizon building in 2008, and since then has held worship services in the basement of the building while the upper level was under renovation.

Highland View Academy welcomed Leroy Snider who came out of retirement last month to serve as interim principal. Many in the Chesapeake Conference will remember him for the years he spent as principal of Mount Aetna Adventist Elementary School. Snider replaces Gregg Cain who is experiencing health issues that require rest and an extended recovery period. The school’s Board of Trustees has initiated a search for a new principal. "HVA remains fully committed to educating for eternity," says Rick Remmers, conference president. "We look forward to all that God has in store for us in the second half of this school year."

Join the Northeast church for a “Week of Revival” at their new rented meeting place located at St. Andrew Lutheran Church, 1201 Taylor Avenue in Baltimore. The meetings begin Sunday, January 6, and run nightly at 7:00 p.m. through Friday, January 11. A closing service takes place on Sabbath, January 12, at 11:00 a.m. Anibal Hansell, evangelist and pastor of the Cornerstone, Pocomoke, and Parkesly Spanish district, is the featured speaker. For additional information, email Pastor Sedley Johnson at sedueljon@verizon.net.

New Hope church has planned a “Miracle and Healing Night,” Friday, January 11, at 7:30 p.m. Participate in praise, prayer and testimony with Victory Experience. The church has partnered with the American Red Cross to host a blood drive on Sabbath, January 12, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. To schedule an appointment to donate blood, visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter sponsor code 05311866. The church is located at 12350 Hall Shop Road in Fulton, Maryland. For more details, visit lookingforachurch.org, or call (301) 854-1866.

The Berkeley Springs church hosts a monthly Supper Club. This month, Supper Club meets Tuesday, January 15, at 6:00 p.m., and features homemade breads and soups. The vegan meal is offered free to community visitors and members. A Health Tips presentation on the topic of “Natural Cold and Flu Remedies” is planned for the evening. The church is located at 3606 Valley Road in Berkeley Springs, West Virginia. Questions? Call (304) 258-6620, or email bssdac@yahoo.com.

Enjoy a fun, inexpensive day in the snow. Yes, there is plenty of snow in the nearby Pocono Mountains of Pennsylvania! The Youth Ministries department has planned two more Family Ski Days at Jack Frost Resort in Pennsylvania this season: Sunday, January 13, and Sunday, February 24. Skiing and snowboarding packages that cover lift ticket, rental, and a lesson are available from $41. Tubing can be added for $10, or tube all day for $37. These fees include a $2.00 per person fee for mandatory accident insurance. Groups of more than 15 get one free leader ticket. To register, email Youth Ministries director Carl Rodriguez at crodriquez@ccosda.org, or call (410) 241-4919.

High school students will want to attend the Generation Rain Spiritual Retreat, February 8-10, at Mount Aetna Camp and Retreat Center in Hagerstown, Maryland. For more details, contact your pastor or youth leader.

“A Lifetime of Love” is the theme for the fifth annual marriage retreat co-sponsored by Triadelphia Seventh-day Adventist Church and Linden Linthicum United Methodist Church. The retreat takes place February 8-10, 2013, at the Dunes Manor Hotel in Ocean City, Maryland. Joan and Rich Liversidge are the featured presenters. The $275 per couple fee includes lodging for two nights, brunch, dinner and tea on Sabbath, and brunch on Sunday. To learn more, call Mark and Peggy Lee at (301) 317-5428, or Jeff and Sandy Hartz at (443) 864-6328.
Know someone who has stopped coming to church? Love them back to church through the conference-wide Connect 2 Reconnect initiative. It is estimated that there are more than 50,000 inactive and former Seventh-day Adventists within the Chesapeake Conference territory. Connect 2 Reconnect is an intentional ministry to engage inactive members. This month, take time to discuss this with the church board, speak about it to the congregation, assemble a list of missing members, and prayerfully learn how to reconnect with them. Each congregation is invited to plan an extra special “Reconnect to Worship” Sabbath for April 6, and invite missing members to attend. Ideas and instructions on ways to effectively reach out to inactive members can be found at ccosda.org, under Quick Links on the homepage.

The Executive Committee, at its December 11, 2012 meeting, voted the following actions:
~ voted, to authorize the Spencerville youth mission trip to San Pedro, Dominican Republic, March 20-31, 2013
~ voted, to approve the 2013 Chesapeake Conference Calendar (view/download the calendar at ccosda.org)
~ voted, to receive the October Financial Report
~ voted, to sponsor Evan Knott to the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University to pursue a Master of Divinity degree.
~ voted, to grant church status to the Dundalk Spanish company. A commemorative ceremony is planned for Sabbath, February 2.

Heartfelt sympathy is offered to the family and many friends of John Konrad, Vice President and General Manager of WGTS 91.9, the radio station owned and operated by Washington Adventist University. Konrad, 43, died January 2, following a brief battle with bilateral pneumonia. He was a man of great faith and a passion for ministry. Under his leadership, WGTS grew from 10,000 weekly listeners to more than 600,000. Konrad was a member of the New Hope church in Fulton, Maryland. Please keep his wife, Dawn; adult daughter, Marina; and his father, Al Konrad (pastor of the Grasonville, Maryland church) in your prayers as they deal with this sudden, tragic loss. Funeral plans will be posted on the station’s website: wgts919.com.

Church clerks and treasurers are urged to submit year-end reports to the conference right away. Conference personnel are closing out 2012 business and finalizing the 2013 operating budget, as well as preparing year-end reports that are due. Thanks very much for making this a priority.

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Find us on Facebook at facebook.com/chesapeakeconference.

January Sunset Calendar and Offering Schedule:

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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.

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