November 2014  Please forward this three-page edition and/or print out copies for your local church bulletin board and for distribution.

Remember to reset your clocks back one hour and enjoy an extra hour of sleep. Daylight Saving Time for 2014 ends on Sunday, November 2, at 2 a.m. local time.

A hearty welcome is extended to Chad Stuart, who begins November 1 as senior pastor of the Spencerville church in Silver Spring, Maryland, filling the vacancy created when Jerry Lutz was elected Chesapeake Conference secretary earlier this year. “My family and I look forward to the journey ahead with Jesus leading the way as we all pray and all participate in the growth of the family of God,” says Stuart. Elder Stuart is a seasoned pastor and church planter who has led the Visalia, California, church for the past six years. He is married to Christina (Holm) Stuart, a nurse anesthetist, and they have three boys, Dayton, 5, Landon, 3, and Levi, 1. The family will relocate to Maryland in January.

It is with deep appreciation and good wishes that the conference bids farewell to two pastoral couples. Robert Quintana, senior pastor of the Frederick, Maryland, church, has accepted a call from the Oklahoma Conference to pastor in the hometown of his wife, Heather Quintana, editor of Vibrant Life magazine. Ken and Carolyn Scheller, pastors in the Seaford/Salisbury Park district on the Eastern Shore, have joined the ranks of the retired. They plan to stay in the area and attend the Seaford, Delaware, church.

Visit the Latin American Food and Music Festival at Spencerville Adventist Academy (SAA), Sunday, November 2, from 5-7 p.m., and experience authentic Latin American food and music. Enjoy dinner and a show! All proceeds will help the SAA Choir and Strings raise funds to travel to Florida where they will perform at the Candlelight Festival held at Disney’s Epcot Center in Orlando. Spencerville Adventist Academy is located at 2502 Spencerville Road (Rt. 198) in Spencerville, Maryland. Please pre-purchase tickets via SAA’s online ticketing site: spaac.net/tickets/index.php

Dover First Christian School, located at 655 Wyoming Avenue in Dover, Delaware, has planned two upcoming events:

- Family Skate Night at the Dover Skating Center, Monday, November 3, 6:30-9 p.m. The cost is $3.50 per person or $10 per family. The Dover Skating Center is located at 2201 S. Du Pont Hwy in Dover.
- Family Fun Movie Night, Saturday, November 8, at 6:30 p.m., featuring the film “Amazing Love.” Admission is free. Food will be sold.
- Veteran’s Day Program, Tuesday, November 11, at Noon, honors area veterans. A luncheon follows the program.

A Total Health seminar series takes place this month at the Willow Brook church located at 8916 Mapleville Road in Boonsboro, Maryland. Presenter David Emerson, M.D., a board-certified internist who has served as Medical Director at Eden Valley Lifestyle Center in Colorado, has helped hundreds of people lose weight, increase energy, and reduce health care costs. The seminars include a cooking school. Attendance is limited, so call (301) 797-8808 to reserve a seat. The cost is $10 per seminar or $40 per person/$60 per family for the series. Topics include, Endurance, November 5; Diabetes, November 7; Get Thin!, November 8; Lower Blood Pressure, November 12; Beat Heart Disease, November 14; Heal Your Soul, November 15; Fever Therapy, November 15; Banish Back Pain and Avoid Alzheimer’s, November 18.

A Teacher Commissioning Service is planned for Sabbath, November 8, 11 a.m., at the Atholton church located at 6520 Martin Road in Columbia, Maryland. The conference Office of Education continues to focus on the commissioning of a new group of Christian educators who have committed their lives and energies to teaching the four R’s—reading, writing, arithmetic, and a meaningful relationship with Jesus. The Atholton Adventist Academy faculty to receive the Commissioned Ministry of Teaching credential are: Lisa DeWitt, 7th grade homeroom, Bible, Social Studies and Language Arts; Julia DiBiase, 5th grade; Candace Iseninger, vice principal and ESL Science; Miya Kim, kindergarten; Kayla Thorn, Pre-K; Beth Villanueva, high school English and ESL Reading and English, Typing; Jeremy Villanueva, History, for grades 8-10 and for ESL.

Regional Town Hall Meetings continue and offer constituents an opportunity to hear a mid-term constituency report. Come and listen to the conference officers share what’s been happening throughout the Chesapeake Conference and plans for the future. Each meeting will begin with a brief vespers service followed by reports and a short Q & A session. The meetings are informational—no voting takes place and everyone is welcome to attend (church members who served as delegates to the 2012 Chesapeake Conference Constituency Session are especially encouraged to attend). Each member household should receive a printed summary in the mail within the next week. Meetings have already been conducted in the Eastern and Western regions. Here is the remaining schedule:
- Northern Region, Sabbath, November 8, 5 p.m., Baltimore-White Marsh church, 7427 Rossville Blvd., Baltimore, Maryland
- Southern Region, Sabbath, November 15, 4:45 p.m., Atholton church located at 6520 Martin Road in Columbia, Maryland

Atholton Adventist Academy will honor veterans in the community during a program in the church sanctuary, Tuesday, November 11, at 9 a.m. The church and school are located at 6520 Martin Road in Columbia, Maryland.
Highland View Academy (HVA) hosts Academy Days for students in grades 7 and up, November 9-10. A talent show kicks off the event that features some new and exciting activities. Potential students can audition for music scholarships and enter a drawing for prizes such as T-shirts, sporting goods and a Kindle Fire! Participants will have an overnight dorm experience and tour the campus. HVA has a new STEM program that includes a robotics class and a Makerspace creative workshop where students can build, tinker and create—and use a 3-D printer. To learn more or register to attend, contact HVA by email at: email@hIGHLandviewacadeMY.com, or by phone at (301) 739-8480. The campus is located at 10100 Academy Drive, Hagerstown, Maryland.

The HVA Highlanders Choir performs at the following churches this month under the direction of Joseph Choi:
Sabbath, November 1, at 11 a.m.—Middletown Valley church, 1811 Arnold Road, Jefferson, Maryland
Friday, November 14, at 8 p.m.—Washington-Spencerville Korean church, 1700 Spencerville Road in Spencerville, Maryland
Sabbath, November 15, at 11 a.m.—Maryland Central Korean church located 20101 Woodfield Road, Gaithersburg, Maryland

Did you miss the “Grow-Reach-Thrive” Women’s Retreat sponsored by the conference Women’s Ministries department? Visit ccosda.org and select “Women’s Retreat” to watch videos of the general sessions in English and in Spanish. More than 300 women spent an uplifting Sabbath worshipping together. Plans are underway for the 2015 retreat themed “High Heels and High Callings—Women of the Word” that takes place next year, October 30-November 1, at the Clarion Fontainebleau Hotel in Ocean City, Maryland. Tamrya Horst, author of Praying Like Crazy for Your Kids, is the keynote speaker for the English-language track. Pastor Alex Harter of the Collegedale Community church in Tennessee is the featured speaker for the Spanish-language general sessions. Watch future issues of Currents for more information, or visit ccosda.org frequently for updates.

Washington Adventist University (WAU) News and Events:
Visit wau.edu or call (301) 891-4000 for more information
~ Adventist Social Workers are invited to a special meeting at 1 p.m. on Friday, November 7, at the DoubleTree Hotel, 210 Holiday Court in Annapolis, Maryland. The meeting takes place in connection with the North American Christian Social Workers Conference. To get more details, contact John Gavin by phone at (301) 891-4153, or email wausocialwork@gmail.com.
~ 181 students registered for the School of Graduate and Professional Studies for the Fall 2014 semester. This record represents a 67 percent increase over five years ago when WAU had 108 graduate students enrolled. The program offers convenient evening classes to accommodate the needs of working adults.
~ WAU’S Enactus Team is the recent recipient of a $1,500 Sam’s Club grant to help spruce up area small businesses located along Flower Avenue in their community, and a $1,500 Walmart grant for a JobQuest “Walmart Women’s Economic Empowerment” project to be used collaboratively with Adventist Community Services of Greater Washington to help local residents find employment.

Hispanic Ministries sponsors two conference-wide events on Sabbath, December 6. Pastor Melchor Ferreyra, Personal Ministries director for the Inter-American Division, is a special guest. All Chesapeake Hispanic church pastors plan to participate as well. A Small Groups Leader Training takes place from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The cost per leader is $10 and includes lunch and training materials. The IV Small Group Festival begins at 3:30 p.m. Organizers expect more than 400 attendees at the festival. Parking is limited, so plan to carpool if possible. Both events will be held at Spencerville Adventist Academy located at 2502 Spencerville Road (Rt. 198) in Spencerville, Maryland. For more details, ask your pastor, or contact Orlando Rosales by email at rosaleso@ccosda.org.

The Executive Committee at its October 21 meeting took action on the following items:
~ voted, to accept the financial report.
Final approval of the following two actions rests with the Constituency of the Chesapeake Conference in business session.
~ voted, to approve the application of the Hagerstown Spanish Company to change its status to Church.
~ voted, to endorse the decision of the Glen Burnie and Brooklyn, Maryland, churches to proceed with their intention to merge their congregations.
~ voted, to accept the recommendation of the K-12 Board of Education to fill two board vacancies with the following individuals: Ron Vandervort, board chair, Friendship Adventist School; Beverly Boyer, retired Spencerville Adventist Academy elementary teacher.
~ voted, to accept the recommendation of EDCOM that Beth Villanueva receive the Commissioned Minister of Teaching Credential.
~ voted, to accept and adopt the proposed 2015 Chesapeake Conference calendar.
~ voted, to ratify the appointment of Geoff Crowley as pastor for the Annapolis/Bell Branch district.
~ voted, to ratify the appointment of Chad Stuart as senior pastor at Spencerville church.
~ voted, to ratify the appointment of Mark Swearingen as senior pastor at the Hagerstown church.
~ voted, to enable administration to fill the following pastoral vacancies: senior pastor, Frederick church; associate pastor, Atholton church; district pastor, Salisbury Park/Seaford churches.

Tim Crosby, D.Min, author of 10 books and pastor of the Willow Brook church in Boonsboro, Maryland, has published a new book, The Unknown Jesus: Hidden Truths from the Book of Luke. Did you know that Jesus was born in a house, not a barn? That He avoided cities, crowds, and the title Christ? These and other fascinating insights are revealed in this second quarter 2015 adult Sabbath School lesson helps book available at local Adventist Book Centers and online at adventistbookcenter.com.
Mount Aetna Retreat Center will host a Scrapbooking, Card Making and Spiritual Retreat, January 9-11, 2015, at its beautiful woodland location at 21905 Mount Aetna Road in Hagerstown, Maryland. Enjoy a time of spiritual communion and fellowship and share your memory-preserving skills! Local participants can attend the program and enjoy five meals for $54. A $68 package that includes the program, two nights in cabin lodging (no linen provided), and five meals is also available. Space is limited, so call (301) 824-6045 now to reserve your spot.

Want to support the Adventist response to the Ebola crisis? Help the two Adventist hospitals in West Africa address the crisis, and help mobilize hundreds of churches and thousands of members disseminate life-saving public health information in their communities by donating online at the North American Division’s crowd-funding site: hope4.fundly.com/ebola-crisis

Keep up with Adventist news and information in North America—to subscribe to NewsPoints, the North American Division’s e-newsletter for all church leaders and members, visit nadadventist.org and click the green box on the lower right side of the home page.

November Sunset Calendar and Offering Schedule:

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<thead>
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<th>Sunset</th>
<th>Offering</th>
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<tr>
<td>November  1</td>
<td>6:06</td>
<td>Local Church Budget</td>
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<td>November  8</td>
<td>4:59</td>
<td>Annual Sacrifice Global Mission/World Budget</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 15</td>
<td>4:52</td>
<td>Local Church Budget</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 22</td>
<td>4:48</td>
<td>Chesapeake Advance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 29</td>
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<td>NAD Evangelism</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
www.ccosda.org • syoung@ccosda.org • (410) 995-1910 • (301) 596-5600

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