February 2015
Please forward this three-page newsletter and/or print out copies for your local church bulletin board and for distribution.

Staff transitions:
~ Heartfelt gratitude and good wishes are offered to Spencerville member Catherine (Kitty) Juneau who on January 31 retired from her role as Chesapeake Conference Disaster Response coordinator, a position she has held for the past two decades. “Kitty has served incredibly well as a volunteer in this capacity,” said conference president Rick Remmers. Kitty’s tireless efforts are deeply appreciated by the conference administration and staff as well as the many volunteers who have served by her side during times of crisis.
~ On March 1, Volodymyr Grinchenko takes up responsibilities as pastor of the Willow Brook church in Boonsboro, Maryland, filling the vacancy left by Tim Crosby. Grinchenko joined the conference team in 2009 as pastor of the Waldorf, Maryland, church and has most recently been interim pastor at the Park/Seaford district on the Eastern Shore. The Willow Brook congregation welcomes Elder Grinchenko, his wife Agnesa, and their four children: Nikita (10), Zlata (almost 9), Sophia (4) and Gustav (2½).

Media on the Brain is the topic of a seminar presented by Scott Ritsema, January 30 and 31, at the Atholton church located at 6520 Martin Road in Columbia, Maryland. Hollywood, popular music, TV, video gaming, spectator sports, e-relationships, and pornography are saturating the lives of God’s professed people. But what does the latest science say about the mind-altering effects of 21st century media? And what is the spiritual agenda in the entertainment and advertising industries? Learn more in this fast-paced, information-packed series. Presentations begin Friday evening at 7 p.m., and continue during the worship service on Sabbath at 10:50 a.m., and following the fellowship luncheon (bring an entrée to share) at 2 p.m. Questions? Call (410) 740-5030, or email church@atholton.us.

Join some 1,500 Hispanic church pastors and leaders at the Columbia Union Lay Evangelism Festival (Festival de Evangelismo Laico) for a weekend of worship and training, February 20-22, at the Ocean City Convention Center in Ocean City, Maryland. A stellar line-up of presenters will focus on the basic means of fulfilling Christ’s mission. View the full schedule and registration information online at livevangelism.com, or contact Sylvia Urrutia by email at surrutia@columbiaunion.net, or call (410) 997-3414, ext. 586.

Please pray! Sabbath, April 11, is the launch date for the Reach Chesapeake evangelism initiative and there are three upcoming prayer rallies for those who want to pray as a group. Everyone is encouraged to think of and pray for five people who are not connected to church life. Beginning April 11 and continuing through 2015, area churches will host a variety of evangelistic events in their communities to share the everlasting gospel. Chesapeake Conference churches are joining the Allegheny East and Potomac Conferences, and the Columbia Union Conference, to share the Good News in the Baltimore-Washington Metro area. To join in the outreach or to learn details of the events that are planned, contact your pastor or visit hopeinprophecy.org/evangelism. The upcoming prayer rallies are:

~ Baltimore Area, Sabbath, March 7, 4-5:30 p.m.: Miracle Temple Seventh-day Adventist Church
100 South Rock Glen Road
Baltimore, Maryland 21229
Phone: (410) 368-9294

~ Western Maryland, Sabbath, March 7, 5 p.m.: Hagerstown Seventh-day Adventist Church
11507 Robinwood Drive
Hagerstown, Maryland 21742
Phone: (301) 733-4411

~ Washington Area, Sabbath, March 21, 4-5:30 p.m.: Southern Asian Seventh-day Adventist Church
2001 East Randolph Road
Silver Spring, Maryland 20904
Phone: (301) 879-7222

Prayer warriors are invited to join the NAD Prayer Ministry Team in an all-night prayer call, Thursday, February 5, beginning at 10 p.m. and ending at 5 a.m. on Friday, February 6. To participate, call (404) 891-6338 and use access code Prayer# (772937#).

Chesapeake Evangelism Offering—The loose offering collected on Sabbath, February 28, benefits Chesapeake Conference evangelism and the Reach 2015 meetings to be held throughout the conference’s territory. Supporting the evangelistic efforts of local churches provides an opportunity to impact your own community and introduce people to Jesus. The Reach 2015 initiative is an intense targeted effort this year that goes beyond the usual annual evangelism budget. Thank you for supporting this effort to share the Seventh-day Adventist message of hope and healing. Note: You can support evangelism throughout the year by marking “Chesapeake Conference Evangelism” on a tithe envelope.
Youth Ministries Upcoming Events:
For more information about these events, contact Ann Reynolds by email at areynolds@ccosda.org, or call (410) 995-1910.

~ There is time to register for the Generation Rain High School Spiritual Retreat planned for February 27-March 1 at Mount Aetna Camp and Retreat Center in Hagerstown, Maryland. The weekend features keynote speaker Gibert Cangy, General Conference Youth Ministries director, and a praise band from Southern Adventist University. The $40 fee covers lodging and meals for the weekend. Commuters (no lodging) pay just $15. Register through your church youth director.

~ Enjoy a snow day! The Youth Ministries Department has planned two more Family Ski Days at Jack Frost Resort in Pennsylvania—Sundays, February 8 and March 8. Skiing, snowboarding and tubing packages are available. To register and get details, contact Youth Ministries director Carl Rodriguez by email at crodriguez@ccosda.org.

~ The Pathfinder Conference Level Bible Experience is Sabbath, February 14, at 3 p.m., at the Atholton church located at 6520 Martin Road in Columbia, Maryland. Study is focused on the book of Matthew. Fifteen teams move from area level to conference level.

~ also at the Atholton church, the Pathfinder Rain Gutter Regatta is planned for Sunday, February 22, beginning at 10 a.m. Join the fun watching Pathfinders blow on the sails to move their handmade crafts down the rain gutters to the finish line. Up to 20 boats compete in each timed race.

~ Come to Youth Leaders Enrichment Day for an uplifting worship service and valuable training workshops on Sabbath, March 7, from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., at the Baltimore White Marsh church located at 7427 Rossville Blvd. in Baltimore. The event is free and registration is not necessary. Those planning to participate in the potluck luncheon should bring a casserole to share. Jonathan Duffy, ADRA president, is the worship speaker. More than 18 seminars in these seven training tracks will be offered: Children's Ministries, Adventurer Basic, Pathfinder Basic, PLA, Youth, TLT, and Master Guide.

Movie Night and Spring Retreat—just for single adults! Join other singles on Saturday evening, March 21, for pizza and a movie. The event takes place at 6:30 p.m., at Chesapeake Conference, 6600 Martin Road in Columbia, Maryland (in the lower level). The annual Spring Retreat is planned for April 17-19 at Mount Aetna Retreat Center in Hagerstown, Maryland. Katia Reinert, NAD Health Ministries director, is the keynote speaker for the weekend themed “Choosing to Live a Full Life with Purpose.” For more information about these events, contact coordinator Fred Thomas by phone at (410) 992-9731, or email fmthomas1950@yahoo.com.

Highland View Academy (HVA) Upcoming Events:
HVA is located at 10100 Academy Drive in Hagerstown, Maryland.

~ “Parents Night Out” Fundraiser to benefit the class of 2017. Parents, enjoy an evening without the kids secure in the knowledge that they will have a good time, too. Saturday, January 31, from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m., for $25 per child, kids will be treated to games and activities, snacks and drinks at the Williamsport church located at 16421 Lappans Road in Williamsport, Maryland. Reserve space and more get info by contacting Abby Choi by phone at (240) 472-5334, or email abigalenicole19@gmail.com.

~ Dinner and a Concert—The Highlanders Choir and Class of 2017 offer an elegant evening featuring Italian cuisine and a choral performance to benefit the 2015 Brazil Music Tour on Saturday, February 7, at 6:30 p.m., in the HVA Cafeteria. The suggested donation (tax-deductible) is $20 per person. Reservations are recommended. To reserve a seat, contact Kim Brown by email at kbrown@hIGHLANDviewacademy.com, or call (301) 739-8480, ext. 239, by February 2.

~ The annual Presidents’ Day Middle School Basketball Tournament is planned for Sunday, February 14. For details and to participate, contact John Henline by phone at (240) 500-4884.

~ Calling good S-P-E-L-L-E-R-S. The third annual HVA Spelling Bee for students in grades 4-12 takes place Saturday, February 14, at 7 p.m. in the Administration Building. Admission is $3 for spectators, $2 for contestants and free for children ages 8 and under. Concessions will be sold. Proceeds benefit the Class of 2016. Contestants may pre-register by emailing name and grade to Lori Zerne at lzeme@highlandviewacademy.com.

~ The STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) lecture series continues the second Monday of each month from 7-8 p.m. in the HVA Library. The topic this month, offered Monday, February 9, is Antarctica, the frozen underbelly of planet Earth. During their joint presentation, Natalie Harr and Erika Wallstrom, Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellows at the National Science Foundation, will chronicle their Antarctic expeditions. All are welcome to attend. Email Ophelia Barizo at ombarizo@gmail.com for more information, or call (301) 739-8480.

~ The STEM afterschool program on Monday, February 9, 4-5 p.m., will focus on exploring the southernmost continent in the world—Antarctica. Children will personally meet with two Antarctic researchers and participate in hands-on activities related to the polar environment.

The Executive Committee at its January 27 meeting took action on the following items:
~ voted, to accept the financial report for November 2014
~ voted, to accept the 2015 Budget Proposal
~ voted, to accept the report of the Association Board
~ voted, to invite Richard Bacon, a member of the Dover First church in Dover, Delaware, to be the conference Disaster Response Coordinator, a volunteer position, filling the vacancy left by Kitty Juneau who retires January 31.
Plan now to attend The Gathering, Chesapeake Conference’s annual camp meeting experience, June 19-20*, on the campus of Highland View Academy in Hagerstown, Maryland.

Our theme this year is iConnect—Opening Our Hearts to God

**Keynote speaker:**
Pavel Goia—popular speaker/author and pastor of the Lexington Seventh-day Adventist Church in Lexington, Kentucky. Born and raised in communist Romania, following God’s call to ministry was not an easy task. He says his life continues to be one miracle after another. Be filled with wonder at God’s love in action as Pastor Goia shares miraculous stories of answered prayers. Learn to commune with God and know His real and constant presence in your life. Discover how to understand God’s will and how to be more efficient in serving Him. Experience for yourself the transforming power of a walk with God.

**Featuring music by:**
- ~ Youth in grades 5-12, preregister for a Sabbath Afternoon
- Soprano Laura Morena, Professional Christian recording artist
- Outing to Catoctin Zoo and Wildlife Sanctuary
- Camp Meeting Choir
- Programs for all ages
- Brass Ensemble
- ~ ABC Sale
- Local Talent
- ~ ~

~ Come early on Friday and enjoy a swim in the Mount Aetna Retreat Center pool. Gather around a cozy campfire after the evening meeting and sing familiar songs and hear stories.

~ Women are invited to the annual Sabbath morning Women’s breakfast—Ruthie Jacobsen, NAD Prayer Ministries Coordinator, is the devotional speaker.

~ Participate in an uplifting Sabbath morning worship service; immerse yourself in vibrant music and mission reports in the afternoon followed by a watermelon refresher.

~ Get details and register for lodging and meals online at ccosda.org, or use the form printed in the March issue of Visitor Magazine.

*The Gathering is a two-day event this year due to financial constraints and the General Conference Session that also takes place in June. Chesapeake Conference anticipates returning to a five-day camp meeting in 2016, and has booked keynote speakers Shawn Boonstra, Voice of Prophecy Speaker/Director for 2016, and John Bradshaw, It is Written Speaker Director for 2017.

Mount Aetna Retreat Center in Hagerstown, Maryland, is hiring local Adventists as part-time challenge course facilitators, lifeguards, food service team members and guides for group hikes. Positions are tied to events rather than standard shifts, so times and dates vary. Training is provided. Contact Glen Milam or Diana Fishell at (301) 824-6045, or email mtaetnacamp@myactv.net, for more information or to apply.

Attention, Community Services Leaders—the conference Disaster Relief Team has some 90 “Flood Disaster Buckets” that are available to any community that can benefit from these resources. Call the Chesapeake Conference at (410) 995-1910 for more details.

3ABN is conducting a talent search for the network’s Kids’ Time program. Kids ages 14 and under who sing or play an instrument are invited to audition for the opportunity to perform during upcoming scheduled tapings in April, May, September and November. To audition, email a YouTube link to simplycarole@hushmail.com or send a DVD demo to 3ABN, Attn: Miss Brenda/Kids’ Time Praise, P.O. Box 220, West Frankfort, Illinois 62896. Audition guidelines, such as no accompaniment tracks, can be accessed online at kidstime4jesus.org/be_on_kids_time.html.

**February Sunset Calendar and Offering Schedule:**

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Sunset</th>
<th>Offering</th>
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<td>February 7</td>
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<td>Local Church Budget</td>
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<td>February 14</td>
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<td>Adventist TV Ministries/NAD/World Budget</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 21</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.

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