March 2013

Congratulations are offered to Elvis and Lafane Agard who welcomed their first child, Abigail Evelyn Agard, born Sunday, February 10. The newborn weighed 5 lbs, 7 oz., and measured 18 inches. Mr. Agard teaches grades 3-5 at Crossroads Adventist Preparatory School in Ellicott City, Maryland. “We thank God for His goodness towards us,” he said following Abigail’s birth.

Women’s Day of Prayer—The North American Division has designated Sabbath, March 2, as Women’s Day of Prayer. Please take the opportunity to unite with your church and community to pray for one another as well as persons around the world facing challenges. A small booklet titled Praying for Rain and other resources (in English, French and Spanish) are available for download at www.nadwm.org.

A Revival Series hosted by the Chestertown church, brings a “Message of Hope.” Dan Jarrard, author and revivalist, is the featured presenter. All area Adventists are invited to support this evangelistic endeavor, and are encouraged to bring friends from the community. The opening meeting is Sabbath, March 2, at 11:00 a.m. Evening meetings are 7:00 p.m. nightly from March 2-6. Bring an entrée to share and stay for potluck on Sabbath. The church is located at 305 N. Kent Street in Chestertown, Maryland. Questions? Call (410) 778-4333.

Youth Ministries Upcoming Events:
For more information about these events, contact Ann Reynolds by email at areynolds@ccosda.org, or call (410) 995-1910.
~ The Pathfinder Pinewood Derby is planned for Sunday, March 3, beginning at 9:00 a.m. in the Washington Spencerville Korean church (WSK) gym located at 15930 Good Hope Road in Spencerville, Maryland. More than 300 cars will participate.
~ Attend Youth Leaders Enrichment Day for worship and training on Sabbath, March 9, 9:00 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. Javier Mendez, Pennsylvania Conference camp director, is the worship speaker. Seven training tracks will be offered: Adventurer Basic, Pathfinder Basic, PIA, Youth, TLT, Master Guide and Spanish Federation.

A free interactive webinar to introduce Investigation Station: The Genesis Factor, the new Vacation Bible School (VBS) Program developed by the North American Division Children’s
Ministries department, is planned for Tuesday, March 5, at 8:00 p.m. To register for the one-hour webinar, go to https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/954057497. The Investigation Station VBS kit includes leader guides and a music CD featuring tracks in three versions—traditional, gospel and contemporary. Take a peek at www.adventistbookcenter.com.

**Atholton Adventist Academy** hosts its annual Open House on March 7 from 9:00-11:00 a.m. Prospective students looking for a dynamic Adventist Christian education are encouraged visit. Students entering Pre-K through Grade 6 will interact with current students and staff for a fun morning of activities. Students entering grades 7-10 are invited to spend the day from 8:30 a.m.to 3:00 p.m. Upper grade students will preview classes, meet classmates and teachers, and have opportunity to earn scholarships. Lunch is provided for Academy Day (grades 7-10) registrants. Registration is not required to attend. For more information, call the school at (410) 740-2425.

**The Highland View Academy senior class** presents, “The Beverly Hillbillies”, a comedy play, Saturday, March 16, 8:00 p.m., on campus at 10100 Academy Drive in Hagerstown. The evening includes a silent auction (trips, concerts, gift baskets and more). Tickets cost $12 for ages 13-adult, $7 ages 4-12. Food will be available for sale. Come support HVA’s talented students and enjoy a fun evening out. For more details, email info@hva-edu.com, or call (301) 739-8480.

**The Berkeley Springs church** offers community friends a free vegetarian meal at its monthly Supper Club. The March 19 Supper Club menu features Asian foods served at 6:00 p.m., followed by a healthful presentation on hydrotherapy and natural remedies. About 25-30 community visitors usually attend. The church is located at 3606 Valley Road in Berkeley Springs, West Virginia. For more information, contact health ministries leader Lisa Shingleton at (304) 258-2739 or (304) 671-1534.

**Single Adults, Take Note:** the Chesapeake Chapter of Adventist Single Adult Ministries has two spring events planned. For more details and to register for the retreat, visit http://www.asamchesapeake.com/, or contact Fred Thomas by email at fthomas1950@yahoo.com, or by phone at (410) 992-9731.

~ **Film Night**, Saturday, March 23, at 6:00 p.m. at the Chesapeake Conference office, Rear Entrance, 6600 Martin Road in Columbia, Maryland. Enjoy a spaghetti dinner and a movie among friends.

~ **Spring Retreat**, April 19-21, at Mount Aetna Retreat Center, 21905 Mount Aetna Road, in Hagerstown, Maryland. Themed “Forgiving the Unforgivable,” the retreat features J. David Newman as keynote speaker. Elder Newman is editor of Adventist Today magazine. His experience includes working as a pastor, conference administrator, professor and former editor of Ministry magazine. His passion is helping people see and experience the unconditional love of God. Lodging fees are $60-80, and meals are $10 each. Register by April 12.

A “**Young Adults Sabbath**” is planned for March 23 at the Prince Frederick church located at 3085 Broomes Island Road in Prince Frederick, Maryland. All area young adults are invited. Plan to bring an entrée to share and stay for the fellowship luncheon. For more information, email Ron Rambo at rrambo522@gmail.com, or call the church at (410) 586-2939.

**Welcome friends back to church at a “Reconnect to Worship” Sabbath** next month. In a conference-wide Connect 2 Reconnect initiative, more than 30 Chesapeake Conference churches have planned a special Sabbath (most on April 6 or 13) to welcome missing/inactive members. Take a moment to reconnect with and invite people you know who have stopped coming to church. Locate participating churches and schedules at http://ccosda.netadvent.org/directory, or call Evangelism director Gary Gibbs at (410) 995-1910.

**Reserve Lodging for Camp Meeting** at www.ccosda.org, or use the form in the March issue of Visitor magazine. The theme for The Gathering this year is “It’s All About Jesus.” Derek Morris, editor of Ministry magazine, is the featured speaker from June 11-15. The event is held on the campus of Highland View Academy in Hagerstown, Maryland. Watch future issues of Currents and the church bulletin for updates. Seminars, activities, worship experiences and quality programming for children and youth are planned for this special week.

**Learn what to hunt and gather at a Wild Edible Plants class** offered Sunday, June 9, at Mount Aetna Retreat Center. The class runs from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. The $48 fee includes guided
identification hikes, lectures, a textbook, color plant identification packs, and two meals featuring plants gathered during class time. Class size is limited. Must be at least 10 years old. Reserve a space by June 3—call (301) 824-6045, or email mtaetnacamp@myactv.net. The Retreat Center is located at 21905 Mount Aetna Road in Hagerstown, Maryland.

Attention college and high school students: Want to do something extraordinary for God and earn a scholarship for tuition at the same time? This summer, June 2 to August 9, join a group of excited and fun young people for an awesome experience with God and each other in the Baltimore metro area and Wilmington, Delaware. No experience is required for this literature ministry. Visit www.golightamerica.com, or call (678) 788-5622 for details.

Making summer plans for the kids? Here are some great options:
~ Mount Aetna Camp offers fun summer activities for kids and teens in a safe, Christian setting. To request a brochure, email summercamp@mtaetnacamp.com, or call (301) 824-2729. Already planning to come? Register online at mtaetnacamp.com.
~ Pére Leclere's French Immersion Summer Camp at Spencerville Adventist Academy, June 3 to July 13, is a terrific way for kids ages 6-12 (or K-6th grade) to learn French while having summertime fun in a Christian environment. Campers are introduced to basic French expressions, words and phrases, while developing listening and speaking skills and glimpsing new cultures through a wide range of fun activities such as games (indoor and outdoor), songs, crafts, well-known Bible stories, role-play and conversations. Full and half-day programs available. Get applications and details at www.spaac.net/French, or email instructor Arnaud Leclere at pereleclere@yahoo.com.

Adventist Community Service/Disaster Response teams (ACS/DR) distribute Personal Care Kits to needy individuals during a crisis (such as the “Sandy” storms last fall). ACS/DR leaders are calling all congregations to assemble kits to replenish inventory. 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.

Resources:
~ Hugh Rowe, who attends the Pikesville church, found himself at a low point in his life in 2001 when he lost his job due to corporate downsizing. The Lord led Rowe to the story of Joseph. Inspired by the Bible hero, he wrote Joseph’s Memoirs: Life Lessons for a Successful You, as Joseph’s first-person account of what made him successful as he led Egypt through one of its worst recessions. The book is available through online retailers Barnes & Noble and Amazon.
~ Interested in starting a small group, giving Bible studies, getting training for literature evangelism or children’s evangelism? The Lay Institute for Evangelism (LIFE) can help you and your church with training. Online courses are available. Call (888) 628-2819, email info@comeexperiencelife.com, or visit the LIFE website at www.ComeExperienceLife.com to learn more.

March Sunset Calendar and Offering Schedule:

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<tr>
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<th>Sunset</th>
<th>Offering</th>
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<tr>
<td>March 2</td>
<td>5:58</td>
<td>Local Church Budget</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 9</td>
<td>6:06</td>
<td>Adventist World Radio/World Budget</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 16</td>
<td>7:13</td>
<td>Local Church Budget</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 23</td>
<td>7:20</td>
<td>Chesapeake Advance</td>
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<td>March 30</td>
<td>7:27</td>
<td>Washington Adventist University</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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