August 2014

Congratulations are showered on conference treasury staffer Serah Zaw and her husband Million Maw who joyfully welcomed the birth of their little boy, Shane Waiyan Maw, on July 16. Baby Shane weighed 8 pounds 8 ounces, and measured 21 and a quarter inches. Big sister Sue, age 2, is very pleased with her new brother. Million works for American Wood Fibers in Columbia, Maryland. Serah plans to return to the office this fall following maternity leave. The family attends the Triadelphia church in Clarksville, Maryland.

A hearty welcome is offered to Bill and Shirlene McClendon, the new pastoral team at the Baltimore First church in Ellicott City, Maryland. The couple arrived from Seattle in late July. Bill was vice president for Church Growth as well as Ministerial and Evangelism director at the Washington Conference. Shirlene is an experienced educator, most recently coordinating the Early Childhood Education program for the Washington Conference and teaching music at Northwest Christian School. The McClendon’s are seasoned church planters and are excited to be involved at Baltimore First church. They fill the vacancy left by Elder Mike Porter. The couple has one daughter, married and a recent graduate of Loma Linda University’s pharmacy program.

The Calvary Southern Asian church in Burtonsville, Maryland, celebrated their 20th anniversary on Sabbath, July 26, with an inspiring service of music, acknowledgements and preaching—followed by a bountiful fellowship luncheon. The congregation has an active prison ministry and many outreach projects already planned through 2019. Pastor J.J.S. Moses and conference president Rick Remmers challenged attendees to bring the light of Jesus to the world.

Principals and school leaders have spent the past two weeks engaged in facilitative leadership training at the conference office. Taught by expert consultants Linda Natalie and John Antonishak, the intensive coaching focused on skills in facilitating meetings and bringing stakeholders together as a vibrant collective, says Jacqueline Messenger, superintendent of schools. Seasoned educators attending the training commented, “It’s the best training I’ve had in 20 years,” “very hands-on,” and “empowering.” The instruction was co-sponsored by Chesapeake Conference and the Commonweal Foundation.

Happenings at Highland View Academy:
The campus is located at 10100 Academy Drive, Hagerstown, Maryland, 21042

~ A work bee is planned for Sunday, August 10, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., with a goal to spruce up the campus before the new school year begins. Everyone is invited to help with raking, painting and general cleanup. There is plenty of work for skilled and unskilled volunteers. The old adage, “many hands make light work” holds true, so plan to join the crew. Concentrated efforts focus on inner campus landscaping and the girl’s dormitory. For more information, contact Janet Ford at jford@highlandviewacademy.com, or call (301) 739-8480.

~ The Adventist Book Center (ABC) on campus has a new manager—Renee Williams—and new store hours. The store is open every Sunday, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.; Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, 11:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Tuesdays from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.; and Fridays, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Pick up favorite veggie foods, books and music in the newly designed store. Need more information? Contact Renee by email athvaabc@highlandviewacademy.com, or call (301) 739-16452. Stop by and see what’s new!

Washington Adventist University seeks mentors for new students. The University is looking for alumni and friends to provide educational guidance, career advice and life lessons to new students. Want to get involved and give back to the next generation of students? Mentor training takes place Sunday, August 10, 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., on campus at 7600 Flower Avenue in Takoma Park, Maryland. Get more details online at wau.edu/first-year-experience, email fye@wau.edu, or contact coordinator Becky Barker by phone at (301) 567-0192.

Youth and Children’s Ministry leaders are invited to participate a weekend of training covering topics such as Pathfinder and Adventurer leadership, children’s Sabbath School, outreach and creative ministry ideas. The event takes place September 5-7 at Mount Aetna Retreat Center in Hagerstown, Maryland. The featured speaker is Ron Rambo, Arise Missions director and member of the Prince Frederick church in southern Maryland. New leaders and directors, especially, will benefit from this smorgasbord of workshops. For more information and to register, contact Ann Reynolds at (410) 995-1910, or email areynolds@ccosda.org.

Attend the Growing Dynamic Churches and Seeds Church Planting Conference, September 12-14, to learn proven church growth strategies. Sponsored by the Chesapeake Conference, this event takes place at the adjacent Atholton church located at 6520 Martin Road in Columbia, Maryland. The cost is $15 and includes lunch on Sabbath. Learn success secrets of church planting and growing churches, how to have an innovative prayer ministry that reaches non-members, and how to use technology for ministry—even greeting methods that will have guests returning week after week! To register, visit ccosda.org, or call (410) 995-1910, ext. 2349.

The World Stewardship Online Conference, a joint initiative of the General Conference and Inter-American Division, takes place September 19-21. This free online conference is intended to promote biblical stewardship principles and practices, strengthen the quality of stewardship education among church leaders and pastors, share principles of tithe and offerings, and integrate Christian stewardship into the nurturing processes of discipleship. It is designed to equip and empower Stewardship Ministries’ educators and pastors, church elders and leaders responsible for promoting Christian stewardship in local congregations. Individual members are also encouraged to attend this online conference. The event features inspirational keynote speakers, training sessions, panel discussions, live Q & A sessions, and music. Registration opens August 18. For more information and to register, visit adventiststewardship.com, email gcstewardship@gc.adventist.org, or call the Stewardship office at (301) 680-6157.

Women’s Ministries Events:

~ Women—register now for the “Grow-Reach-Thrive” conference-wide women’s retreat. The 2014 retreat is an abbreviated version of the usual weekend getaway to enable women to use their funds this year to attend the NAD Women’s Convention in Orlando, Florida. Chesapeake Conference’s retreat begins with an evening concert that is open to everyone (not just women) at Spencerville church on Friday, October 17. Although there is no charge for the concert, a free will offering will be collected. Women and teen girls age 15 and up are invited to register for the Sabbath event planned exclusively for them. Worship services and seminars in both English and Spanish languages will take place on Sabbath, October 18, at Spencerville Adventist Academy. Raquel Arrais, associate Women’s Ministries director for the Seventh-day Adventist world church, is the speaker for both English and Spanish tracks. A seminar track just for teens will be offered (in English) this year. The $35 registration fee covers lunch and materials. Space is limited, so register soon! See details and register online
The NAD Women’s Convention takes place September 25-28 at the Rosen Shingle Creek Resort in Orlando, Florida. This unique opportunity comes only once every five years and is a spiritual feast for women age 18 or older. Join the 30 Chesapeake women already registered to attend and about 2,000 other women at a beautiful resort for inspiring preaching and music, practical seminars, an outreach project and Christian fellowship—all in a luxurious setting at very low cost. The registration fee is just $199, and includes some meals. Hotel rooms are $125/night and can accommodate up to four people. Take a peek at the lovely setting online at rossenschinglecreek.com. To view the schedule and register for the convention, visit the NAD website nadwm.org, or call (301) 680-6427.

Churches who are making hats for cancer patients to be distributed at the NAD Women’s Convention need to have them at the conference office by Monday, September 8. Sincere appreciation is extended to those who are participating in this worthy project. Many thanks to women from the Bell Branch (Gambrills) and Annapolis churches in Maryland for the pretty hats they made and donated.

Chesapeake Conference has been requested to provide nail polish, remover and cotton balls for an outreach project at the NAD convention. Attendees will visit women’s shelters and provide manicures and encouragement to the women there. Please bring donations to the conference office by Monday, September 8. Help brighten the day for women experiencing challenging circumstances.

Save the Date! The 2014 Maryland Men of Faith (MMOF) Conference, themed, “What Will it Profit a Man?” is planned for Sabbath, October 4, at Mount Aetna Retreat Center in Hagerstown, Maryland. Watch future issues of Currents for details, or visit the MMOF website at mmofo.org. Missed last year’s event? Listen to archived presentations online.

September 1 is the deadline to sign up for the Adventist Heritage Tour, September 23-28, led by William Fagal, associate director of the E.G. White Estate, and sponsored by Triadelphia church. For details, call Cindy at (301) 728-7817, or Jeanie at (301) 460-9320.

Check out the Noah and the Flood app for iPad recently released by the Review and Herald Publishing Association. Kids will enjoy discovering the dozens of hidden animations embedded in the 55 pages of the familiar story. Noah and the Flood is based on the familiar story found in the My Bible Friends book series, and features the same beloved text and artwork found in the book. The app is available from the App Store through August 31 for a special introductory price of $1.99.

Stay connected:
Subscribe to Currents via the conference’s website at ccosda.org.
Find us on Facebook at facebook.com/chesapeakeconference.

August Sunset Calendar and Offering Schedule:

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Sunset</th>
<th>Offering</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 2</td>
<td>8:19</td>
<td>Local Church Budget</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 9</td>
<td>8:11</td>
<td>Oakwood/Andrews/Loma Linda/World Budget</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.