August 2015

Congratulations are extended to Mount Aetna Camp and Retreat Center, which just passed with flying colors an accreditation visit from the American Camping Association. “[The Mount Aetna Camp team] did an exceptional job in getting us one of the highest reviews we have ever had,” says Carl Rodriguez, Youth Ministries director. “We have an awesome team.”

Children and Youth Leaders Convention—Youth and Children’s Ministry leaders are invited to participate in a weekend of training covering topics (34 of them!) in the areas of Pathfinder, Adventurer, Teen and Youth Leadership, Master Guide, Children’s Ministry. The event takes place September 11-13 at Mount Aetna Retreat Center in Hagerstown, Maryland. Pastor Eli Rojas, conference Ministerial and Family Ministries director, is the featured speaker. Research shows that churches with a vibrant children’s and youth ministry have higher baptism and growth rates, and that leaders who attend the convention tend to stay within that ministry two to five years compared with less than two years for those who don’t attend. For more information and to register, contact Ann Reynolds at (410) 995-1910, or email areynolds@ccosda.org.

Enjoy an afternoon of Gospel Music sponsored by the Rock Hall church on Sunday, August 2, in the Chesapeake Room at the Rock Hall Volunteer Fire Company (RHVFC) located at 21500 Rock Hall Avenue in Rock Hall, Maryland. Featured musicians include John Dierker, Kathy Wright, Wesley Chapel Choir, Men of Jane’s Church Choir, Stosh and El Piotrowski, the Children’s Music Camp and others. A free will offering will be collected to benefit the RHVFC. Ample parking. Questions? Call Glenda Dierker at (443) 480-2104.

Award-winning filmmaker Martin Doblmeier (The Adventists, The Blueprint) and Adventist education’s leading researcher Elissa Kido, Ed.D., are guest presenters at Sligo by the Sea, Sabbath, August 11, from 10 a.m. to noon. A panel discussion considers bold claims founded on recent research and how these may impact the future of Adventist education. Sligo by the Sea meets at St.
Education Update:

**Monday, August 17, marks the first day of school** for the 2015-2016 school year at Chesapeake Conference schools. All schools—elementary, junior academy, and high school—are accepting students for the upcoming academic year. To find a school near you, visit [ccosda.org](http://ccosda.org) or call the conference Office of Education at (410) 995-1910 or (301) 596-5600.

A warm welcome is offered to the following new and transitioning faculty:

~ Tammy Charles returns to Chesapeake Conference as head teacher at Chester River Adventist School in Chestertown, Maryland. She previously taught at Spencerville Adventist Academy. Most recently, Charles taught at Five Oaks Adventist Christian School in Durham, North Carolina.

~ Sam Engles, a recent graduate of Washington Adventist University, will teach the upper grades at Dover First Christian School in Dover, Delaware.

~ Elementary teacher Angela Singh will teach at Frederick Adventist Academy in Frederick, Maryland. She transitions from Crossroads Adventist Preparatory School in Ellicott City, Maryland.

~ Shannon Brown joins the Highland View Academy (HVA) team as registrar. Brown is a graduate of Washington Adventist University and subsequently earned a master’s degree in school counseling and school psychology from LaSierra University in California. She comes from Conroe, Texas, where she was vice principal at Adventist Christian Academy of Texas.

~ Austin Grube Gomez is the new Dean of Girls at Highland View Academy. She is certified to teach English and will also support the English department. Gomez comes from Escondido Adventist Academy in Escondido, California.

~ Omar Gomez, husband of aforementioned Austin Gomez, takes on the roles of assistant Dean of Boys, campus ministries, and recruitment at Highland View Academy (Hagerstown, Maryland). He comes from Rio Lindo Academy in Healdsburg, California.

~ Juliana Savoy, a member of the Hagerstown church and former Review and Herald employee, joins the HVA faculty teaching English as a second language (ESL) and Spanish. She has taught ESL in Argentina and Spanish Composition for Adventist Colleges Abroad.

~ John Ward transitions from Frederick Adventist Academy to HVA to facilitate the expanding science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) program. He also enjoys leading student mission trips to South and Central America and the Caribbean.

~ Donna Calderon teaches Pre-K at Spencerville Adventist Academy (SAA) in Spencerville, Maryland. She was the teacher’s aide last year.

~ SAA alumna Brittany Jacobson is the new assistant business manager. She comes from North American Division in Silver Spring, Maryland, where she was an Implementation/Training Specialist in the Treasury department.

~ Greg Macalino, returns to his alma mater, Spencerville Adventist Academy, to teach physical education. He most recently taught at Olney Adventist Preparatory School in Olney, Maryland.

~ Tyler Mathis, a recent graduate of Southern Adventist University, comes to SAA to teach mathematics.

~ Cliff Wright comes to SAA as an intern under the sponsorship of the Commonweal Foundation. He has been working as Student Activities director at Washington Adventist University.

**Prepare and Engage** is a training series aimed to teach strategies for leading people to Jesus through small groups and friendship evangelism. Gary Gibbs, Chesapeake Conference’s Ministries Development director, is one of four expert instructors. The event takes place Sabbath, August 29, from 3:30-6:30 p.m., at Sligo Seventh-day Adventist Church located at 7700 Carroll Avenue in Takoma Park, Maryland (use Greenwood Avenue entrance). Bring the whole team and jumpstart your church’s ministry! To register, visit [academy.findhopetoday.com](http://academy.findhopetoday.com). Need more details? Call Gary Gibbs at (410) 995-1910, or emailgargy@ccosda.org.
Join Christian women of all ages for the **2015 Women's Retreat** themed “High Heels and High Callings—Women of the Word,” October 30-November 1, to be held at the oceanfront Clarion Resort Fontainebleau Hotel in Ocean City, Maryland. The early bird rate has been extended through August 31. Whether you prefer heels or flats, embark on a biblical journey and gain deep insights from the stories of women in Scripture. Fun, spiritual and inspiring programs for English-speaking women, Spanish-speaking women, and young women ages 15-21 are planned, so register now and bring your BFF. See your Women’s Ministry leader for a flyer, and visit [ccosda.org](http://ccosda.org) for new details and to register. Please direct questions to Natysha Berthiaume at nberthiaume@ccosda.org, or call (410) 995-1910.

**Want to get back that loving feeling? Mad About Marriage is a live seminar** led by Mike and Gayle Tucker, co-directors of Faith for Today and hosts of TBN’s Lifestyle Magazine. The Tuckers draw on the latest research and the expertise of a variety of scholars, authors and psychologists to help couples find solutions to the challenges in their relationships and get them back to being “madly in love.” This engaging seminar takes place Friday, September 18, 7-9 p.m., and Sabbath, September 19, from 1-6 p.m., with lunch included, at the New Hope church located at 12350 Hall Shop Road in Fulton, Maryland. Married, engaged and courting couples are encouraged to attend. The cost for the weekend is $25/couple or $15/individual. To register online, visit [madaboutmarriage.com](http://madaboutmarriage.com).

**Take note! An Eastern Shore gathering of the saints** is planned for Sabbath, October 17, at Governor’s Hall at Sailwinds Park, 200 Bym Street, in Cambridge, Maryland. Plan to be part of a wonderful time for revival and fellowship. Pastor Lonnie Melashenko, former speaker-director for the Voice of Prophecy, is the featured speaker. Look forward to great music and the usual good eating, too! Watch for more details soon in local church bulletins and on the conference website—[ccosda.org](http://ccosda.org)—and on the conference’s Facebook page.

**Is your church prepared to help your community if disaster strikes?** Save the dates of October 3-4, and plan to participate in Disaster Relief Training at the Chesapeake Conference office in Columbia, Maryland. Stay tuned for more information.

**The 2015 Maryland Men of Faith Conference**, themed “When Champions are Few,” is planned for Sabbath, October 3, at Mount Aetna Retreat Center in Hagerstown, Maryland. Keynote speaker Dwayne Lemon of Atlanta, Georgia, was a dancer and choreographer in the Hip-Hop/R&B entertainment industry before he gave his heart to God and chose the life of an evangelist. In his messages, Pastor Lemon applies the Bible and Ellen White’s writings in practical, useful ways. Get full details and register online at [mmodf.org](http://mmodf.org).

**The “Love At Work Ten Commandments Musical”** will be presented live in the nation’s capital October 3 and October 10 featuring popular musicians Steve Darmody, Jennifer LaMountain, Rudy Micelli, Charles Haugabrooks, Christian Berdahl, Yolanda Innocent-Palmer, Neville Peter and others, and Chaplain Barry Black as master of ceremonies, and Lonnie Melashenko, as narrator. The venue on October 3 is yet to be announced. Sligo Seventh-day Adventist Church, located at 7700 Carroll Avenue in Takoma Park, Maryland, hosts on October 10. For more information visit the website [LoveatWorkMusical.org](http://LoveatWorkMusical.org), or text LOVE to (202) 417-2922 for updates.

**A fall retreat for single adults** sponsored by Chesapeake Adventist Single Adult Ministries takes place October 9-11 at Mount Aetna Retreat Center in Hagerstown, Maryland. For information and to register, contact Fred Thomas by email at fmthomas1950@gmail.com, or by phone at (410) 992-9731.

**Health Ministries Upcoming Events:**
~ Let’s Move Day takes place Sunday, September 20. The goal is to get as many people as possible involved in physical activity on that day. Consider what kind of event your church, school or youth
group can sponsor on that day to get the community moving. For ideas resources and details, visit adventistsinstepforlife.org.

~ Got health? Get the tools needed to develop a wholistic and balanced Health Ministry in your congregation at “Creating a Vibrant Health Ministry,” a workshop sponsored by the Columbia Union Conference and North American Division. The event takes place October 2-4 at Allegheny East Conference Center in Boyertown, Pennsylvania. Registration costs $79 by September 16, or $99 from September 17-23. To register online, visit adventsource.org, or call (800) 328-0525.

~ Learn how to lead others to the path of recovery from addictions and compulsive behaviors. Attend “Journey to Wholeness,” sponsored by North American Division’s Adventist Recovery Ministries, October 9-11, at Southwestern Adventist University in Keene, Texas. Discover how to create a Christ-centered, biblically based 12-step ministry in your church. Questions? Call (301) 680-6733. Register online at adventistrecovery.com.

Help a sister school by donating school supplies. The Chesapeake Conference Office of Education is collecting new school supplies for Pennsylvania Conference’s Blue Mountain Elementary School, which was recently destroyed by a storm. The school will open this fall in temporary accommodations. Donate supplies by August 7 at any Chesapeake Conference Adventist School or at the conference office located at 6600 Martin Road in Columbia, Maryland (Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.).

Heartfelt sympathy is offered to recently retired Chester River School teacher Diana Bailey. Her father, who has been living in her home under her care, died on Friday, July 24. Please remember Diana and her family in prayer during this sad time.

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August 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.

Chesapeake Currents is published monthly by the Communication Department – Samantha Young, director/editor

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