WAU Trustees Vote to Proceed With Establishment of Branch Campus at AUC

Columbia, MD—The Trustees of Washington Adventist University (WAU) today voted to proceed with a formal agreement to establish a branch campus at Atlantic Union College (AUC) in South Lancaster, Mass. They voted a business plan, new governance structure and operating plan for the branch campus.

The university will now seek approval from required state, regional and church accrediting agencies. In addition, WAU officials will present the plan to delegates at the Washington Adventist University Constituency April 15. In turn AUC officials will present the plan at the Atlantic Union College Board of Trustees meeting April 11 and constituency meeting June 13.

The expansion positions WAU to serve the educational needs of students in 15 states in the Mid-Atlantic and Northeastern United States and the island of Bermuda.

WAU will provide updates as they become available via email and at www.wau.edu and www.auc.edu. Inquiries should be directed to William Jackson, vice president for Marketing and Recruiting at WAU at (301) 891-4475 or wjackson@wau.edu.
Pennsylvania Names Leadership, Spiritual Growth Director

The Pennsylvania Conference has invited Kentucky pastor Tim Madding to serve as director for Leadership and Spiritual Growth, a new position created in place of the former Ministerial director position (read that story). His responsibilities will include training and equipping the pastoral team, lay pastors and church leaders. “The Lord has given me a clear passion to prepare as many people as possible for the second coming of Jesus,” he says. “I see this most effectively accomplished by leading the church in positively impacting the lives of people in the community with God’s love and developing dedicated followers of Christ.” Read more about him in an upcoming issue of the Visitor. —Tamyra Horst

Columbia Union Session to be Streamed Live

Some 350 delegates representing churches, schools, ministries, networks within the Columbia Union Spring, Md., April 16-17 for the 26th Columbia Union Conference. The session President Dave Weigley themed will feature video segments, live from churches, members, ministries, union Members will be able to watch the report Sabbath, April 16 at 8 p.m. at www.columbiaunion.org/constituency.
Chesapeake Enjoys Record Baptisms, 4th Largest Tithe Per Capita

Even in difficult times our members respond faithfully as Chesapeake Conference ranks 4th within the North American Division in tithe per capita. We trail the Bermuda, Alberta and Michigan conferences (trailing Michigan by just $2). In addition, during 2010 Chesapeake received 415 new members through baptism or profession of faith. That is the second year in a row to have exceeded the 400 mark. Only twice in the past 30 years have we exceeded 400 before the past two years. We hope it is a trend that continues.—Rob Vandeman, Chesapeake Currents

April Visitor Now Online

Whether you’re in Worthington or Wilmington, Reading or Richmond, you are part of the great Columbia Union family. Our union was founded in 1907 with 187 churches and 5,320 members. Today our church family has grown to include eight conferences, two healthcare networks with 12 hospitals, 93 elementary and secondary schools, a medical college, a university and numerous community-based ministries. Check out our map to learn more about our members, ministries and services. Then, pack your bags and travel with us around the union to see how the Seventh-day Adventist work was started in our 10 largest metropolitan areas and what many of our members are doing today to reach people for Christ.

READ APRIL VISITOR
Podcast Features Chesapeake’s Nature Center

The nature center at Mt. Aetna Camp and Retreat Center in Hagerstown, Md., houses static displays of thousands of natural specimens. Showcases filled with seashells and minerals from around the world line the walls. Large dioramas containing full-size mammals, birds and plants illustrate the habitats of the Chesapeake Bay watershed and other regions of the world. The live animal room, which draws the most repeat visitors, contains turtles, frogs, fish, lizards and salamanders, a few birds, the occasional small mammal and more than a dozen snakes. In this interview, director Glen Milam and camp naturalist Joel Springer will share more about this educational ministry that draws thousands of visitors each year and is open on Sabbath from 2-5 p.m. **Listen to the April podcast coming soon!**

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