Adventist Church’s Oldest Publishing House Asked to Consider Merger

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Mountain View Members Support West Virginia Flood Relief

Over a three-day period, members of Mountain View Conference’s Adventist Community Services (ACS) Disaster Response (DR) team (some pictured) assisted 458 people in the Spencer, W.Va., area this month.

“Inside some homes was anywhere from 2 to 4 feet of water. Basements were totally flooded; there were also ambulances, vehicles and bridges under water. Over 200 homes were affected by this flood,” reported Cesar Quispe, a Mountain View pastor and the conference's ACS director.

The flooding happened Thursday, June 13, and Quispe was there by Friday evening pitching in and helping with cleanup, food distribution, providing shelter and reinstalling ruined drywall and floors.

Initially 10 people from the ACS team came and helped for several days. Members of several other local church ministries pitched in to help. Among them was Glen Pate, a member of the Spencer church and manager of its Roane County Better Living Center thrift store. “He has been committed from day one,” Quispe says.—Story by Sue Patterson

Maryland Comptroller Recognizes Potomac Member

Last Friday Peter Franchot (pictured right), comptroller for the state
Erwin Mack (pictured left), head elder at Potomac Conference’s Sligo church in Takoma Park, Md., with a community service award in front of two dozen local officials, church members, family members and community leaders. The comptroller presents the William Donald Schaefer Helping People Award, named after the state’s former governor and comptroller, to individuals and organizations in each county and Baltimore City who best exemplify the namesake’s lifelong commitment to helping people.

The award was presented in Langley Park, where most of Mack’s activism has centered for the past three decades. While Mack is known for the Takoma Langley Crossroads Development Authority, a business association that he founded and chaired for more than 20 years, he is equally well known for working with community members from both Prince George’s and Montgomery counties to make Langley Park, the area straddling both counties, safer for pedestrians.—Story by Taashi Rowe

READ MORE

Grandview Medical Center Gets a Makeover

With construction and remodeling complete, administrators, staff and patients at the Grandview Medical Center in downtown Dayton, Ohio, are enjoying the benefits of the hospital completing its first major construction project in 29 years. Grandview, one of seven hospitals in the Kettering Adventist
network, took on the two-year project primarily to improve patient experience. Hospital personnel say they believe they exceeded their goals.

The inpatient surgery unit is now closer to the pre- and post-care units, which makes the transportation of patients easier, shorter and less stressful. The dining area is larger and now located just off the lobby, giving visitors easier access to a bite to eat while waiting for loved ones. The expanded dining area not only allows for more variety of foods to be served, but also new dining options. There is also a new, wall-length window that looks out to a garden patio area, giving visitors options for their dining experience.—Story by Christina Keresoma

Hope Channel Wins Three Telly Awards

Hope Channel, headquartered in Silver Spring, Md., is the winner of three Telly Awards this year. Competing against more than 12,000 entries from the United States and around the world, the following Hope Channel productions won bronze awards:

- *Real Family Talk with Willie & Elaine Oliver*, Religious/Spiritual Category
- *The Logos Project*, Religious/Spiritual Category
- *The Logos Project*, Visual Effects Category

Founded in 1979, the Telly Awards is the premier award honoring outstanding local, regional, and cable TV commercials and programs; the finest video and film productions; and Web commercials, videos and films. The Telly Awards annually showcase the best work of the most respected advertising agencies, production companies, television stations, cable operators and corporate video departments in the world. Pictured is the team from the *Real Family Talk* program.—Story by Fylvia Fowler Kline
Adventist Church’s Oldest Publishing House Asked to Consider Merger

Book Release: The Strength of Male Tears

We recently talked with Richard P. Campbell (pictured), pastor of Allegheny East Conference’s Community church in Englewood, N.J., about his new book, *The Strength of Male Tears*:

Q: What is this book about?
A: In short, this is a call for men to value their personhood more than their so-called manhood. The book assures men that there is no virtue in tearless manhood, and challenges that many of the measures we use to determine true manhood are just cop-outs from facing our deep inner truth.

Q: What motivated you to write the book?
A: I had met too many men—including upright Christian men—who had extreme difficulty sharing their deep pains and needs, and would rather die than be thought of as weak. ... For example, a man lost his dear wife of many years, and when I visited him, uppermost in his mind was his fear that he would fall apart at the funeral, and that people would think he was *not a man*—for crying. Somebody had to write this book.

The book is available at Amazon and Barnes and Noble.—*Interview by Taashi Rowe*

READ MORE

WAU Faculty Member’s Article Featured in Vibrant Life

Grant Leitma, PhD, chair of the Psychology Department at Washington Adventist University in Takoma Park, Md., is the author of *Vibrant Life*’s cover story for the July/August 2013 issue titled “What’s the Right
Exercise for Your Personality?" The article explores the relationship between personality types and social/psychological needs as a way to match the kind of exercise routine that an individual would most enjoy. It includes a self-test to find out the best exercise for you. Leitma, who has been at WAU since 1982, says, "One of the quotes I use in class that summarizes my view about psychology is this, 'Change your lifestyle, you can change your brain.' Exercise is one of the important factors that influences good brain function and ultimately behavior."

Vibrant Life, one of the Seventh-day Adventist Church's oldest publications, is a bimonthly lifestyle magazine that promotes physical health, mental clarity and spiritual balance from a practical, Christian perspective. The article is accessible online at: vibrantlife.com/?p=2651.

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Spotted: Federalsburg Members Celebrating Love

Lydija Collins (79) of Browns Mills, N.J., and Sherman Dearth (87), were spotted getting married at Chesapeake Conference’s Federalsburg (Del.) church, where Dearth is a member. The couple met through an Adventist social club. —Photo by Doug Rennewanz
End quote: Jesus, Our Customs Officer

“I am an international student, and I have to travel every summer. One thing that I notice is that every time you transfer planes, you have to go through tons of security checks. People have to check your background and your luggage to trust you. But once you get home, they barely check your luggage and your passport as you
walk through the airport. The customs officers will greet you with a smile and welcome you home.

I believe it is the same with our spiritual lives. We all have different flight plans. Some have more twists than others … but we know that our final destination will be heaven. I believe that Jesus will be the customs officer waiting there for us. He won’t look into the passport of our lives, which holds the record of our sins and our achievements, instead He will greet us with a smile and extend His arms to give us a hug. Then He will say softly to us, ‘Welcome home.’”

—Ruei “Tony” Kao is a Taiwan native who is entering his junior year at the Spring Valley Academy in Centerville, Ohio

Corrections

In the June 19 Visitor News Bulletin, we gave the incorrect dates for the Pennsylvania Conference’s and the New Jersey Conference’s Hispanic camp meetings. Pennsylvania’s meeting was conducted June 7-9 while New Jersey’s will be June 28-29. We regret the errors.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Click here for a complete listing of upcoming events around the Columbia Union Conference.

MARYLAND

June 30: Stop by the “Eat Like a ‘Super’ Kid” Healthy Cooking Fair at the Middletown Valley church Sunday, June 30, from 3-5 p.m., and join fun activities designed to give families healthy options for eating and living. Dinner is provided. To register—by June 23—email
June 30-August 4: The 3 Angels Farmacy will be conducting a Medical Missionary Training Course at Baltimore First church for six consecutive Sundays from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Participants will learn about lifestyle diseases, healthy cooking, hydrotherapy and how to treat diseases with natural remedies. Fees: Single $165; Pairs $300. To sign up, send an contact Beniam Astatie at trueeducation1@gmail.com, (202)957-8036 (cell) or 3afarmacy.org.

July 14: Do you sing, play an instrument, recipe poetry, perform comedy acts, do interpretive dance, rap or some other creative art? If so, the Metropolitan church in Hyattsville, Md., is inviting you to share it at their 40th anniversary community fair. If you're interested, click here and let them know!

July 15-20: The Frederick (Md.) church is hosting a Vacation Bible School with the theme “Mission 1 To Eternity.” The program lasts from 6:30 to 8:45p.m. Sign up now atwww.Fredericksdachurch.org or call (301) 662-5254 6437.

July 20: There will be a Review and Herald Homecoming in Hagerstown, Md. Join current and former employees for a Sabbath-day event celebrating 30 years since the move to Hagerstown. Services begin on the campus at 10 a.m. followed by an afternoon program of praise for God's leading. Ted Wilson, General Conference (GC) president; Delbert Baker; GC vice president; and Jim Nix, director of the White Estate, are guests. Lunch is provided. RSVP to 30@rhpa.org or (301) 393-4015. All are welcome. For details, visit ReviewandHerald.com/30.

Pennsylvania

June 27-July 6: The Allegheny East Conference Camp Meeting in Pine Forge, Pa., will feature the following speakers: June 29—Carlton Byrd and July 6—Charles D. Brooks. The youth speakers will be: June 29—Marquis Johns and July 6—Noah L. Washington. For more information, check out visitaec.com.

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Adventist Church’s Oldest Publishing House Asked to Consider Merger

Story by General Conference Administration Published 6/21/2013

The Review and Herald Publishing Association, located in Hagerstown, Md., is considering a merger with the Pacific Press Publishing Association in Nampa, Idaho.

On Wednesday, June 19, the administrations of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and its North American Division (NAD) forwarded, to the boards of Pacific Press Publishing Association and Review and Herald Publishing Association, a request for the two organizations to consider a merger in the near future. The proposal comes in response to church administrators’ analysis of the current publishing mission setting along with related distribution systems. It builds upon the work of several commissions/groups that, over the past several years, have studied the challenges and opportunities arising from rapid technology changes in publishing, as well as changes in how society accesses information.

The boards of both institutions met separately on Wednesday, June 19, and each, by overwhelming majority votes, expressed agreement to consider a yet-to-be-developed merger proposal. In addition, each board authorized its chair and president to represent the institution on a task force whose assignment will be to develop a detailed merger proposal for future consideration by the boards. Ted N. C. Wilson, president of the General Conference, affirmed that “publishing and distributing materials to advance the proclamation of the gospel remains a vital and integral part of the church’s worldwide evangelistic and witnessing program. We believe that restructuring the two General Conference institutions could serve even more effectively the future needs of the church,
especially in North America, as well as for more general assistance to the world for print and digital content that correlates with information in other media platforms.” The Review and Herald Publishing Association, located in Hagerstown, Md., and the Pacific Press Publishing Association, located in Nampa, Idaho, have been operating as General Conference institutions. The two publishing houses serve the General Conference, the global Adventist Church, and more specifically the NAD, as they derive the large majority of their operating resources from services to church members and denominational organizations in North America. The proposal forwarded to the respective boards, through the board chairs, requests not only consideration of a merger of the two institutions but also a transfer of identity for these entities from being General Conference-sponsored institutions to that of being NAD-sponsored. The combination of restructuring envisaged in the request placed before the boards therefore involves two principal concepts, with the expectation that both would be considered as a package and implemented together. The proposal envisions:

1. Placing both Pacific Press Publishing Association and Review and Herald Publishing Association on the pathway to merger as one publishing house to serve the North American Division territory, as well as the needs of the General Conference office.

2. Restructuring the publishing house governance model from a General Conference-based constituency and board of directors to a North American Division-based constituency and board of directors.

Over the past two years, the NAD has been developing a comprehensive approach to all forms of media ministry. “The preparation and use of literature by church members, by local church-sponsored witnessing initiatives, and as an adjunct to programs in other media platforms is a prominent component of this strategy. A publishing house closely linked to church infrastructure and intimately involved with planning, implementation and coordination of witnessing and nurture programs is a key component in accomplishing our mission objectives,” said Dan Jackson, NAD president. Neither publishing house receives financial appropriations from the General Conference or from the NAD. Both publishing houses currently enjoy operating gains. Historically the Adventist Church has operated several publishing houses in North America. Each must make important decisions regarding its vision for the future and the investment of capital to maintain the efficiencies in the publishing and printing processes. Such decisions will have far-reaching impact. A “Case Statement” presented to the two boards outlines a design for a positive, mission-oriented future for the church’s publishing ministry in North America. “It is a strategy in response to twenty-first-century realities,” commented Dale Galusha, president of Pacific Press Publishing Association. Mark Thomas, president of the Review and Herald Publishing Association, added, “Commercial and private publishing houses today are finding it necessary to redesign their business plans. We need to be proactive in addressing a rapidly changing publishing environment.” In the event that the publishing house boards consent to reviewing a specific merger plan, a task force with representation from each publishing house will prepare a blueprint for merger. It is expected that a report from the task force would be presented to the boards by late September of this year. Each board will then have the opportunity to determine its response to the merger proposal. The Adventist Church operates 63 publishing houses worldwide, with each operating under its own board of governance. The Review and Herald Publishing Association is the successor to the first publishing house, the Seventh-day Adventist Publishing Association, incorporated in 1861. The Pacific Seventh-day Adventist Publishing Association, established in California, was organized in 1875. It was renamed the Pacific Press Publishing Association in 1904. A third General Conference-sponsored publishing house, the Southern Publishing Association, merged with the Review and Herald Publishing Association in 1980. The General Conference administration asked that church members pray for God’s guidance upon church leaders and publishing house boards.

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Please limit your comments to 500 words or less. Only one comment per person will be published.
Flooding in the Spencer, W.Va., damaged roadways and homes.

Over a three-day period, members of Mountain View Conference’s Adventist Community Services (ACS) Disaster Response (DR) team assisted 458 people in the Spencer, W.Va.-area in this month.

“Inside some homes was anywhere from 2 to 4 feet of water. Basements were totally flooded; there were also ambulances, vehicles and bridges under water. Over 200 homes were affected by this flood,” reported Cesar Quispe, a Mountain View pastor and the conference’s ACS director.

The flooding happened Thursday, June 13, and Quispe was there by Friday evening pitching in and helping with clean up, food distribution, providing shelter and reinstalling ruined drywall and floors.

Initially 10 people from the ACS team came and helped for several days. Members of several other local church ministries pitched into help. Among them was Glen Pate, a member of the Spencer church and manager of its Roane County Better Living Center thrift store. “He has been committed from day one,” Quispe says.

“Another group of workers consisted of eight students and staff from Miracle Meadows School (a self-supporting Adventist school in Salem, W.Va.) who came for two days and put in long hours doing a wonderful job with cleanup,” said Quispe.

ACDR also worked with businesses such as the Dollar General, Lowes and Wal-Mart to obtain cleaning supplies that included wipes, paper towels, water, brooms, mops, etc.

As members of Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD), ACS team members work hand in hand with volunteers from other denominations in the area to support flood victims. Jenny Gannaway, the state chair representative and a member of the National VOAD explains, “Our organization helps bring together non-profit organizations to help people with shelter, cleaning supplies, anything needed in helping with the effects of the disaster, putting families into homes and mucking out homes. On behalf of the state of West Virginia and
VOAD, I would like to say that the Adventist Community Services has done a phenomenal job and we couldn’t have done it without their help. We appreciate so much the services they offered.”

“Even though short-term efforts were completed in one week, there remains an ongoing long-term recovery team to help rebuild homes,” Quispe says.

Members of the conference’s Adventist Community Services Disaster Response team sprang into action to help their neighbors.

One Spencer resident cleans mud from her driveway. Some residents even had mud inside their homes.

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Maryland Comptroller Recognizes Potomac Member

Story by Taashi Rowe Published 6/26/13

Last Friday Peter Franchot, comptroller for the state of Maryland, presented Erwin Mack, head elder at Potomac Conference’s Sligo church in Takoma Park, Md., with a community service award in front of two dozen local officials, church members, family members and community leaders. The comptroller presents the William Donald Schaefer Helping People Award, named after the state’s former governor and comptroller, to individuals and organizations in each county and Baltimore City who best exemplify the name sake’s lifelong commitment to helping people. According to the comptroller’s office, the winners met the following criteria: “improving the community, swiftly solving a citizen problem through effective government intervention, directly aiding the most vulnerable in society or creating a public/private partnership to improve the lives of Marylanders.”

The award was presented in Langley Park, where most of Mack’s activism has centered for the past three decades. While Mack is known for the Takoma Langley Crossroads Development Authority, a business association, which he founded and chaired for more than 20 years, he is equally well known for working with community members from both Prince George’s and Montgomery counties to make Langley Park, the area straddling both counties, safer for pedestrians. Before Mack’s taskforce got involved, the New Hampshire Avenue and University Boulevard intersection was the third most dangerous in the state. The group lobbied for realignment of signals, bus stops, pedestrian crossings and put up fencing in the area to discourage the mostly new immigrant residents from dashing across the street to catch buses.

“You were so influential in that you did so much for public safety, for pedestrian safety and I don’t believe the Purple line [above ground light rail] would be on the burner right now if the task force didn’t lead the charge,” Franchot said while presenting the award. He also noted that because of the good that came from Mack’s taskforce, they planned to reinstate the group.

In addition to the award, Mack received a proclamation from the state of Maryland and a newly issued comptroller’s medal. In accepting the award, Mack shared how honored he was for the recognition and his motivation for getting involved. “I’m a first-generation American,” he said. “My parents were immigrants and I didn’t learn to speak English until I was six years old. Folks who come to me from other cultures think I don’t understand, but my response is ‘I went through what you went through before your parents were born.’ I know what it is like to live with parents who could not speak English … So my heart went out to the people here who were being hurt by poor pedestrian habits.”
At 82 Mack is still a community activist as he chairs the Montgomery County Pedestrian Traffic Safety Committee. “I’m not supposed to sit in a rocking chair,” he asserts. “There are things to be done because people my age have the experience to do it!”

Wendell Osborne, a Sligo church member said, “Erwin is a good friend and I came here to support him. I think what Erwin has done is right in line with what we are studying—which is that Christians should be engaged in the community and be concerned with their neighbors who can’t help themselves.”

Terry Seamens, a city of Takoma Park councilman, met Mack in 1998 when he was considering running for office, said Mack has helped him “understand better how to help the community and how to help the community grow.”

Fred Schultz, another Takoma Park City councilman told Mack, “You deserve recognition for all you’ve done. Anytime I’m working with Erwin, he makes me feel younger. His energy, vision, doggedness—he will wear you out—is impressive. It is a privilege to be standing next to you.”

Two years ago, at his retirement party, Maryland’s governor and comptroller also presented Mack with a certificate of recognition for his service.

Erwin Mack is surrounded by government officials.

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Grandview Medical Center Gets a Makeover

Story by Christina Keresoma Published 6/19/13

Kettering Adventist HealthCare administrators and medical staff celebrate the grand reopening of Grandview Medical Center at the official ribbon-cutting ceremony.

With construction and remodeling complete, administrators, staff and patients at the Grandview Medical Center in downtown Dayton, Ohio, are enjoying the benefits of the hospital completing its first major construction project in 29 years. Grandview, one of seven hospitals in the Kettering Adventist HealthCare (KAHC) network, took on the two-year project primarily to improve the patient experience. Hospital personnel say they believe they exceeded their goals. The inpatient surgery unit is now closer to the pre- and post-care units, which makes the transportation of patients easier, shorter and less stressful. The dining area is larger and now located just off the lobby, giving visitors easier access to a bite to eat while waiting for loved ones. The expanded dining area not only allows for more variety of foods to be served, but also new dining options. There is a new, wall-length window that looks out to a garden patio area, giving visitors options for their dining experience. The lobby also includes a sculptured feature called “the creation wall,” which now appears in three of KAHC’s seven hospital facilities. According to staff, the sculpture showcases God’s handiwork that surrounds humans each day but has become a shadow of His original creation due to man’s fall. Network administrators believe it is important to share their Christian faith and beliefs with everyone who visits their facilities. Staff designed the newly renovated chapel to offer calm and peace to individuals who visit to sit and reflect on the day’s outcomes. They explained that they felt it important for patients and family members to have a place to spend time contemplating or coping with difficult events and circumstances.

“We are thrilled to have an easily accessible main entrance and beautiful lobby to welcome our incoming patients,” says Dave Seidel, vice president of clinical and support services. “The new signage and location of the information desk also helps patients and visitors find their way in a timely manner. Patients have been informing us of their positive first impressions to all the changes that have been made.” During the morning of the recent ribbon-cutting ceremony, medical staff, employees, elected officials and numerous visitors crowded the lobby to admire the changes. According to Seidel, the new atmosphere—with creative design, a multitude of colors and better natural flow—has brought a sense of pride to all who work at Grandview.

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Potluck

[Link to Columbia Union Conference website]
Just like an after church fellowship lunch, *Potluck* is where members of the Columbia Union Conference can share what they've cooked up in terms of spiritually-based music, literature and arts. Have a book, recording or project to share? Email us at visitor@columbiaunion.net.

**Book Release: The Strength of Male Tears**

**Interviewed by Taashi Rowe Published 6/26/13**

![The Strength of Male Tears](image)

Richard P. Campbell, pastor of Allegheny East Conference’s Community church in Englewood, N.J., recently wrote the book *The Strength of Male Tears*. We talked with Campbell, whose ministry spans three decades and who holds a master’s in community counseling and a post-graduate advanced counseling certificate, about the book:

**Q: What is this book about?**
**A:** In short, this is a call for men to value their personhood more than their so-called manhood. The book assures men that there is no virtue in tearless manhood, and challenges that many of the measures we use to determine true manhood are just cop-outs from facing our deep inner truth.

**Q: What motivated you to write the book?**
**A:** I had met too many men—including upright Christian men—who had extreme difficulty sharing their deep pains and needs, and would rather die than be thought of as weak. During the course of preparing the manuscript, many situations occurred that made me think this book was needed as of yesterday. For example, a man lost his dear wife of many years, and when I visited him, uppermost in his mind was his fear that he would fall apart at the funeral, and that people would think he was *not a man*—for crying. Somebody had to write this book.

**Q: What can women in general gain from this book?**
**A:** Ladies could become more aware of what they may be doing or saying to reinforce faulty stereotypes of what a real man should be or do; for both men and women tell their boys that *big boys don’t cry*. The irony here is that to shape him into a *man*, you proceed to make him emotionally dysfunctional. If indeed both male and female need to review their beliefs and perceptions on the matter of
manhood, this book could hopefully be a worthwhile stop.

**Q: Is there a biblical model of manhood?**

**A:** Manhood is linked with family priesthood, responsibility, sacrifice and respect for women. But biblical manhood is equally about owning up to one’s hurts, needs, failures and fears. True manhood recognizes the need for the support of man and help of God. Real men in the Bible had frailties. Daniel had grave fears and anxieties and experienced his share of uncertainty, hence he prayed and fasted his way through his season of confusion. Elijah experienced fear, doubt, and depression, and David, as we see in the Psalms, often opened up about his distresses, fears and despondency. We could talk about Jesus’ expressed need for human support and divine rescue at Gethsemane. True biblical manhood is therefore synonymous with asking and receiving, not pretending that you could “take care of business” on your own.

The book is available at Amazon and Barnes and Noble.

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Upcoming Events Around the Columbia Union

columbiaunion.org/article/984/news/visitor-news-bulletin-archives/2012-visitor-news-bulletins/upcoming-events

MARYLAND

October 25-26: “Christ our Rock” is the theme for Highland View Academy’s (HVA) Academy Days. Students in grades 7-11 who have an interest in learning more about HVA should contact Renee Williams by email at rwilliams@highlandviewacademy.com or call (301) 739-7480. Registration is required. The campus is located at 10100 Academy Drive in Hagerstown, Md.

October 26: The Heritage Singers will be in concert at the Southern Asian church in Silver Spring, Md., at 6 p.m. Known and loved all over the world, these singers will thrill your hearts with their powerful testimony and unique vocal sound. The church is located at 2001 East Randolph Road.

November 1-3: Get a “Total Body Tune Up” at Mount the Aetna Retreat Center in Hagerstown, Md. Garner practical information for healthier living in workshops presented by John Kelly, MD, and Pastor Inskip Allsop. For details, email mtaetnacamp@myactiv.net or call (301) 824-6045.

November 2: Modern day addictions and how they impact children will be the focus of a series of presentations led by Kiti Freier Randall, PhD, director of psychological services in the Department of Pediatrics for Loma Linda University Health Care in California. She will present the 11 a.m. sermon at the Spencerville church on November 2 and hold a seminar at 3 p.m. that day in the church sanctuary. Everyone is invited to her Sabbath presentations at the church, which is located at 16325 New Hampshire Avenue in Silver Spring, Md.

November 16-17: The Reisterstown church is hosting the Love and Respect video conference on love, relationships and marriage presented by Christian best-selling author Dr. Emerson Eggerichs. According to Eggerichs, women need love, men need respect. It’s as simple and complicated as that! The two-day conference takes place Sabbath, November 16, 2-6 p.m. and Sunday, November 17, 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Pre-registration is FREE (a $15 value) but required and seating is limited, so reserve your spot today! Visit ReisterstownSDA.org or call (410) 833-4634 for more info or to register.

OHIO

October 25: The King’s Heralds will performing at The Majestic Theater in Chillicothe, Ohio, starting at 7 p.m. There will be a suggested donation of two cans of food or $3. For more information, call (740) 637-9010.

October 26: Lonnie Melashenko will be speaking at the Chillicothe (Ohio) church at 9:30 and 11 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. A potluck lunch and supper will be provided. The church is located at 510 Metzger Avenue. For more information, call (740) 637-9010.

October 27: Lonnie Melashenko will present “Missing the Message: Six Words to Take Us To Glory” at 10 a.m. at the Jackson (Ohio) church. The church is located at 11184 State Route 93. For more information, call (740) 637-9010.

November 1: The Bowling Green State University a capella choir will present a free community concert at the Kettering church starting at 7:30 p.m. The choir will perform a program of sacred choral music, featuring a variety of styles ranging from a 16th-century English anthem to a Brahms motet sung in German. The evening also will feature African-American spirituals and gospel songs. The choir also will perform at Kettering College’s monthly Spiritual Emphasis session on that same Friday at 9:30 a.m. at Kettering church. The church is located at 3939 Stonebridge Road. Everyone is welcome, and a freewill offering will be collected.

November 16: The Wooster church marks their 50th anniversary at their current location of 445 North Bever Street in Wooster. “Circle Up Around the Throne” is the theme for the anniversary celebration. A special worship and reflection service will be held at 11 a.m. A fellowship meal will follow the church service. The Echoliers and Bell Choir from Mount Vernon Academy will hold a concert at 2 p.m.

 PENNSYLVANIA

November 1-3: “Intimate Moments With God” is the theme of Chesapeake Conference’s women’s retreat, which will take place at Hershey Lodge in Hershey, Pa. Over the weekend, attendees will learn valuable strategies for developing a deep, authentic relationship with the Creator. Gwen Foster, former Philadelphia health czar, and “Binding the Wounds” facilitator Sharyn Joseph will present. There will also
be seminars for young women (age 15-21) on topics such as dating/relationships and beauty. For more information and to register, visit ccosda.org, or contact Jennifer Stefan by email at jstefan@ccosda.org, or by phone at (410) 995-1910.

VIRGINIA

November 8-9: “iThurst,” Potomac Conference’s Young Adult Retreat will be held at Camp Blue Ridge in Montebello, Va. For more information, inquire at youth@pcsda.org or online at www.pcsda.org