Shady Grove Adventist Hospital Introduces New Cancer Center

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"At Shady Grove Adventist Hospital, we recognize the difficult journey that cancer patients and their families go through," says Jane Peck, executive director of cancer care services at Adventist HealthCare. "By offering all of these services in one convenient location, patients and families will be able to spend more time together instead of traveling from appointment to appointment."—Story by Jennifer Plaia and Susan Griffiths

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Cada presentación incluía un testimonio inspirador y durante la semana, muchas
MVA’s Literature Evangelists Learn to Trust God

After the discouragement of the previous day’s literature ministry sales, Jason Williams, Mount Vernon Academy’s (MVA) Magabook Ministry’s coordinator asked each of his eight literature evangelists to share what they would like the Lord to do for them and through them.

Gabriella Hernandez, a junior at the Mount Vernon, Ohio, boarding school, said she just wanted to sell one book for the day. Surprised, Williams blurted out, “Let us challenge God for more than that!”

After she pondered some more, Hernandez mustered renewed boldness and changed her goal to three books. Immediately the other students matched her enthusiasm and added even loftier sales goals of their own. At the conclusion of that canvassing shift, each student reached their goals. “The students were humbled greatly, not just that God had blessed them as a group, but that He had heard each of them individually and answered according to their belief,” Williams said.

Takoma Academy Choir Wins Local Competition
Congratulations are in order for members of the Takoma Academy Chorale. Last Friday, under the direction of Lulu Mupfumbu, students of the Takoma Park, Md., school performed for the first time in the I-Sing Choir Competition in Glenn Dale, Md., and won the grand prize of $5,000. The choral competition of sacred music included choirs from high schools throughout Maryland, Virginia and Pennsylvania. Click here to watch the video of their performance.

Adventist Military Chaplain Coordinates East Africa Revival

Cmdr. Washington Johnson, a Military chaplain, former editor of Message magazine and a member of Allegheny East Conference’s Breath of Life church in Fort Washington, Md., recently coordinated a groundbreaking, weeklong revival at Camp Lemonnier in Djibouti, East Africa.

We wanted “to meet the spiritual needs of the service members who are away from home,” Johnson shared. “The revival was a groundbreaking experience because it had never occurred at Camp Lemonnier previously, and chaplains representing multiple denominational backgrounds and all branches of the military participated.”

Johnson preached through the series and led a week of prayer prior to the revival meetings.—Story by Visitor Staff; Photo by MC1 Eric R. Dierich

Should the Church Be Engaged in Public Policy Discussions?

Seventh-day Adventist Church leaders have advocated for religious freedom for well over 100 years, but what about other important societal issues, like the sanctity of marriage, capital punishment or conscience protections for physicians in the recent healthcare debate? Certainly, the church is in a unique position to offer
sound and ethical advice to policymakers, but should we follow the example of early church leaders who intensely engaged policymakers over prohibition and dietary health reform?

Although church founders James and Ellen White warned members about political preoccupation, they found temperance reform to be of particular importance to the church. The Whites often spoke on the dangers of consumption and worked with like-minded individuals and groups to help establish health and temperance societies. They also viewed a campaign against national Sunday laws as a “duty … to arouse to action” (Counsels for the Church, p. 336).—Story by Billy Errico

READ MORE

NAD Recommends Ordination for Men and Women

During year-end meetings this week at the North American Division in Silver Spring, Md., executive committee members approved a recommendation from its Theology of Ordination Study Committee (TOSC) that affirms both men and women for ordination to ministry.

Each of the Seventh-day Adventist Church’s 13 world divisions are now in the process of establishing and holding their own TOSC in response to a call from the 2010 General Conference Session to examine the theology of ordination.

The wording for the recommendation follows: “That we receive the Biblical study of ordination prepared by the North American Division Theology of Ordination Study Committee and affirm the conclusion that all people, men and women, may receive ordination as an affirmation of the call of God, and that the North American Division supports the authorization of each division to consider, through prayer and under the direction of the Holy Spirit, its most appropriate approach to the ordination of women to gospel ministry.”—Story and photo by NAD/ANN Staff

READ MORE AT ADVENTIST NEWS NETWORK

Book Release: The Skull and The Cross
The skull and the cross have a lot in common argues Ohio Conference pastor Tom Hughes in a new book, The Skull and the Cross. Hughes, pastor of the Newark Community church, has ministered to motorcyclists for 40 years and says he wrote the book to show “skulls were originally Christian symbols.” Below he shares more:

Q: Do you remember what inspired you to study the similarities between the skull and cross symbolism?

A: A Christian biker approached me at a rally and said, “Tom, you have to get all those skulls off your motorcycle. They’re evil.”

I explained to him that skulls were actually Christian symbols at first, long before they were hijacked by pirates and bikers. I told him that my bike was covered with dozens of symbols of Calvary, which was quite a shock to him. After much research and a year of thinking about it, he now shares my opinion.— Interview by V. Michelle Bernard

READ MORE

World Church Releases Creation Movie
The General Conference recently premiered its first, professionally produced film titled “Creation: The Earth Is a Witness.” The 27-minute film tells the story of creation through Moses’ eyes and will be one of the denomination’s key evangelism efforts for 2014. More than 70,000 people have viewed the film in nine countries. Click here to view it now.—Story by Edwin Manuel Garcia/ANN

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARYLAND

November 9: Miracle Temple is hosting a vendor expo from 6 to 9 p.m., for those interested in getting a start on their holiday shopping. Admission is free and there will be door prizes. For more information, mail mtvendorexpo@gmail.com or call (845) 554-EXPO (3976). The church is located at 100 South Rock Glen Road in Baltimore.

November 10: Join members of the South Carroll church for the Healthy Holidays cooking demonstration and food tasting at 4 p.m. The program is sponsored by Better Living for South Carroll, a health ministry of the South Carroll church. Jane Kurtz, RD, MPH, will share information on diet and inflammation. Space is limited! For more information or to reserve your spot, email betterliving4sc@gmail.com or call (410) 861-0460. The program will be held at 2020 W. Liberty Road in Taylorsville, Md.

November 14-17: The General Conference is hosting a series of family-friendly events from 6 to 8 p.m. each night featuring the new creation movie, live orchestra and keynote speakers including U.S. Senate Chaplain Barry Black and several university professors. Also, there will be a kids’ workshop with Guide magazine’s “Mud Guy” Rich Aguilera. Click here http://www.adventist.org/world-church/general-conference/events/ for tickets and details.

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

November 9: The Melashenko Four concert takes place at 4:30 p.m. at the Centerville church on Spring Valley Road. Many know Lonnie (and Jeannie) and Joedy (and Judy) Melashenko from their work with Voice of Prophecy and Quiet Hour ministries. Share a 90-minute vespers this coming Sabbath evening through their Southern gospel music and testimonies. Tapes, DVDs and CDs will be available afterward.

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
conzert at 2 p.m.

**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.

**WASHINGTON, D.C.**

**November 9: As this week marks Capitol Hill church’s 40th anniversary and
successful renovation of the sanctuary, members will be hosting a
celebration of thanks.** The daylong celebration will feature a message from
Henry Fordham, president of the Allegheny East Conference; a fellowship meal
and a 4 p.m. concert featuring Jaime George, world-renowned violinist with a
special dramatization by Sheryl Brown-Norman. Extra parking will also be
available. The church is located at 914 Massachusetts Avenue in Northeast
Washington, D.C. For more information, call (202) 5443-1344.

*Click here for a full calendar of upcoming events around the
Columbia Union.*

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**Taashi Rowe, Visitor News Bulletin Editor**

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Visitor News Bulletin is an electronic newsletter published by the Seventh-day Adventist
Church in the Columbia Union Conference. You are free to reprint any portion of the bulletin,
however, please identify Visitor News Bulletin as the source.
Shady Grove Adventist Hospital Introduces New Cancer Center

Story by Heidi Shoemaker; Photos By Sue Kirschbaum Published 10/29/13

Tomorrow will mark the grand opening of the Shady Grove Adventist Aquillino Cancer Center in Gaithersburg, Md. The center, the first of its kind in Montgomery County, offers personalized, expert care, with up-to-date technology and support services to treat various forms of cancer in one location. “At Shady Grove Adventist Hospital, we recognize the difficult journey that cancer patients and their families go through,” says Jane Peck, executive director of cancer care services at Adventist HealthCare. “By offering all of these services in one convenient location, patients and families will be able to spend more time together instead of traveling from appointment to appointment.”

The 50,000-square-foot, three-story building provides clinical and support services including: • Physician offices • Chemotherapy and infusion • Radiation therapy • Pain and symptom management • Cancer Navigation Team, which includes nurse navigators, an oncology dietitian and a social worker • Clinical research • Education and resource area • Support groups • Rehabilitation • Nutrition counseling • Complementary alternative medicine • Fitness activities “We are excited to be bringing these comprehensive cancer care services to Montgomery County,” says William G. “Bill” Robertson, president and CEO of Adventist HealthCare. “The Aquilino Cancer Center helps us continue the mission of Adventist HealthCare, which is to provide a ministry of physical, mental and spiritual healing.” The Center was made possible through a generous donation from county resident Michael Aquilino, whose wife passed away from cancer in 2004, as well as numerous other contributions from physicians, employees and the community. As part of the Shady Grove Life Sciences Center and the Great Seneca Science Corridor in Rockville/Gaithersburg, physicians at the Aquilino Cancer Center are able to closely collaborate with local and national research organizations, offering patients an opportunity to participate in clinical trials and research projects. Many of the cancer services that were already offered on The Adventist HealthCare Rockville Campus are now located in the Aquilino Cancer Center including Adventist Rehabilitation Hospital's lymphedema therapy program. In addition, The Adventist HealthCare Rockville Campus continues to provide screenings, educational programs and special services to the community aimed at the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of cancer. For more information on the Aquilino Cancer Center or cancer care services at Shady Grove Adventist Hospital, visit YourCancerTeam.com.

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Union City Women Lead Evangelism Meetings

Story by New Jersey Conference Staff Published 11/6/13

The Women's Ministries team at New Jersey Conference’s Union City Spanish church recently led a weeklong evangelism series, themed “United in a Vision is Our Mission.” Together a team of seven women preachers allowed the Holy Spirit to use them to share God’s Word. One of the preachers, Glenny Morel, (pictured) was baptized only six months ago, while another was baptized 18 months ago. Before the week started, the ladies asked their fellow members to write down the names of people they wanted to attend the series so the women could pray for them. The Lord answered their requests, and five of those people showed up. In addition to those in the list, there were visitors who came by themselves including a woman who walked in on her own and returned the following night with her children.

Each presenter had an inspiring testimony to share, and, during the week, several people accepted the call to get baptized. Several are already receiving Bible studies.

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Bienvenido a la presencia de la Unión de Columbia de los Adventistas del Séptimo Día en el internet. Desde nuestra sede en Columbia, Md., trabajamos para avanzar y ejecutar la misión de la Iglesia Adventista del Séptimo Día en el centro de los Estados Unidos--preparar a un pueblo para el pronto regreso de Cristo.

En esta página compartimos historias emocionantes de cómo Dios está obrando en las iglesias hispano hablantes. ¡Necesitamos su ayuda en mantener actualizada esta página! Le invitamos a enviarnos sus historias y noticias en inglés y español a Visitor@columbiaunion.net.

Mujeres de Nueva Jersey dirigen reuniones evangelísticas

Publicado 11/6/13

El equipo del Ministerio de la Mujer de la iglesia hispana de Union City, en New Jersey Conference, recientemente llevaron a cabo una serie evangelística de una semana de duración bajo el nombre “Unidos en una Visión es Nuestra Misión”. De manera conjunta, un grupo de siete mujeres predicadoras permitieron que el Espíritu Santo las use para compartir la palabra de Dios. Una de las predicadoras había sido bautizada (en la foto) tan solo seis meses antes y otra hacía 18 meses. Antes de que comenzara la semana, las mujeres pidieron a los miembros que escribieran los nombres de las personas que ellos deseaban que asistieran, para que ellas pudieran orar por esas personas. El Señor respondió a sus pedidos y cinco de esas personas asistieron. Además de las personas en la lista, hubo visitas que asistieron por motivación propia, entre las cuales había una mujer que ingresó sola y regresó la noche siguiente con sus niños. Cada presentación incluía un testimonio inspirador y durante la semana, muchas personas aceptaron el llamado para bautizarse. Varios ya están recibiendo los estudios bíblicos.

NORMAS Y PÓLITICA PARA LOS COMENTARIOS: Columbia Union Visitor fomenta la conversación de calidad e invita sus comentarios. Todos los comentarios están sujetos a aprobación. Por favor límite sus comentarios a quinientas palabras o menos.

Únase al diálogo:
News

Is the Church Engaged in Public Policy Discussions? And, Should We Be? Where does our church stand on some of today’s most talked about issues?

Story by Billy Errico; Photo by Michael McKinnis Published on 10/30/2013

Seventh-day Adventist Church leaders have advocated for religious freedom for well over 100 years, but what about other important societal issues, like the sanctity of marriage, capital punishment or conscience protections for physicians in the recent healthcare debate? Certainly, the church is in a unique position to offer sound and ethical advice to policymakers, but should we follow the example of early church leaders who intensely engaged policymakers over prohibition and dietary health reform?

Although church founders James and Ellen White warned members about political preoccupation, they found temperance reform to be of particular importance to the church. The Whites often spoke on the dangers of consumption and worked with like-minded individuals and groups to help establish health and temperance societies. They also viewed a campaign against national Sunday laws as a “duty … to arouse to action” (Counsels for the Church, p. 336)

Making Official Statements

Today the church is more engaged in political discussions than most members probably realize, says Melissa Reid (below), executive director for the North American Religious Liberty Association (NARLA). “The church has commented on a number of issues, including more controversial matters,” she explains. “Take family planning. While it may not necessarily be a priority currently, the church has issued a statement.”

These policy statements are also important tools when contemplating public advocacy. “If there’s a pending issue before the state legislature on a topic like family life, we will refer to these press releases as we formulate our response here in the Columbia Union,” adds Gary Ross, (above) assistant to Walter Carson, the Columbia Union Conference’s vice president for Public Affairs and Religious Liberty (PARL).

Engaging in Advocacy

The church uses public advocacy to educate community leaders and policymakers on important issues. For instance, the General Conference’s PARL office works with United Nations and world ambassadors, heads of state and leaders of faith communities to endorse human rights, health, education, women’s rights and religious freedom for all faiths.

Church experts monitor religious liberty discrimination in the workplace and seek accommodations. They also sign amicus briefs in support of, or in opposition to, pending litigation.
Within the Columbia Union, the PARL staff monitor pending legislation before state legislatures. If an issue like the recent marriage debate arises in the Maryland General Assembly, the office will work with community leaders and faith-based organizations, prepare committee testimony and raise awareness for church members. “We lobbied the state legislature and worked with our coalition partners,” Ross notes, referring to the marriage debate. Although the legislation ultimately passed, the effort did establish an important conscience clause. “Religious organizations and their personnel do not have to officiate or host ceremonies that violate their beliefs,” Ross explains.

**Forming Partnerships**

Through faith-based and community partnerships, the church maintains open lines of communication with policymakers and community leaders so that expertise and perspective can be shared and our religious freedoms protected. The church also participates in religious liberty round tables that allow our denomination to work closely with other faith groups to pool resources and discuss legislative approaches.

“We recognize that there are local public policy issues that may not fit in a traditional religious liberty category but are important to church-state relations,” adds Carson.

For instance, working with the Maryland Interfaith Legislative Committee and the Central Maryland Ecumenical Council provides an opportunity for the church to speak out on religious and social issues at the state level. It also promotes interfaith dialogue and name recognition.

**Why Focus on Religious Liberty?**

Although there are many important issues confronting our church community, church leaders remain focused on protecting and advocating for religious freedom because, as the Statements, Guidelines and Other Documents by the Seventh-day Adventist Church manual reads, “A society that respects religious liberty is more likely to tolerate diverse political views and show greater respect for the individual.”

It is also partly because of our understanding of end-time events, says Carson. “I believe all liberties are important, but religious freedom goes to the heart of our beliefs as Adventists,” he explains. “Bible prophecy and counsel by Ellen White clearly show that religious freedom will be infringed upon during the last days.”

Religious liberty also reflects Christ’s nature. “He gives us the freedom of choice. The church believes it should work to preserve this freedom for others,” says Reid.

And, our Protestant heritage plays a role. “Like the reformers, the Adventist Church respects the free will of the individual, and tends not to take stands on issues unrelated to core beliefs or doctrines,” adds Reid. “Members should be free to exercise their own conscience rather than merely accepting the dictates of the corporate church.”

**You Can Make a Difference**

Church leaders say they aren’t the only members who should join conversations about public policy. In Testimonies for the Church, Ellen White wrote, “We are not doing the will of God if we sit in quietude, doing nothing to preserve the liberty of conscience” (Vol. 5, p. 713).

The apostle Paul said, “Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God” (Rom. 13:1, NIV).

Education is probably the most important tool for decision-making, says Reid. “An informed citizen is better situated to respond. Look at both sides of an issue. Ask, ‘How does it relate to our Christian faith, and do our values support the cause?’” she says.

“We are citizens and should take our civic responsibility seriously. I believe this means everything from praying for our leaders, to paying taxes, to casting a thoughtful vote, to understanding our country’s history,” states Ross. The key, he suggests, is a proper
balance between our religious obligations and civic responsibilities.

Civic responsibility extends well beyond voting and writing our representatives. Church organizations like NARLA provide an excellent opportunity for congregants to be involved in public policy discussions. They provide in-depth analysis on legislation and trends and coordinate member events, grassroots mobilization and educational awareness, including an annual Capitol Hill advocacy day in Washington, D.C.

Civic involvement also means being visible in the community. “This is consistent with Christ’s life,” observes Carson. “He reached out to people and helped them. We should not be so far removed that we are not a part of our community.”

**PARL’s Tips for Becoming a Better Advocate**

1. Tune in to the weekly Talking About Freedom digital podcast, where academics, lawyers, authors, newsmakers and other headliners discuss interesting and timely church/state issues. Visit [columbiaunion.org/talkingaboutfreedom](http://columbiaunion.org/talkingaboutfreedom).

2. Subscribe to Liberty magazine, which provides analysis on religious freedom issues and pending litigation to American policymakers, judges and community leaders.

3. Build relationships with your local politicians to lay the groundwork for later advocacy opportunities.

**Read these related articles:**

What Can You do About Sabbath Issues at Work?

*Post by Columbia Union Visitor.*

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Adventist Church in North America recommends affirmation of men and women for ordination

Dwight Nelson, senior pastor of Pioneer Memorial Church at Andrews University, makes a presentation during the report of the North American Division Theology of Ordination Study Committee during the division's Year-End Meetings, held October 31 through November 5. [photo: Daniel Weber/NAD]

Report from division’s Theology of Ordination Study Committee to be delivered to denomination’s wider committee

November 05, 2013 | Silver Spring, Maryland, United States | Author: NAD staff/ANN staff

The Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America yesterday approved a recommendation from its Theology of Ordination Study Committee (TOSC) that affirms both men and women for ordination to ministry.

Each of the Adventist Church’s 13 world divisions are now in the process of establishing and holding their own TOSC in response to a call from the 2010 General Conference Session to examine the theology of ordination.

North America’s TOSC’s recommendation to the division Executive Committee was: “That we receive the Biblical study of ordination prepared by the North American Division Theology of Ordination Study Committee and affirm the conclusion that all people, men and women, may receive ordination as an affirmation of the call of God, and that the North American Division supports the authorization of each division to consider, through prayer and under the direction of the Holy Spirit, its most appropriate approach to the ordination of women to gospel ministry.”

The division’s TOSC was comprised of 14 members. The division’s executive secretary, G. Alexander Bryant, told delegates, "As we looked to staff this committee, we sought for balance and different perspectives that will represent all viewpoints of the division."

The church in North America’s review of the committee’s report will now be given to the General Conference's Theology of Ordination Study Committee, along with the reports from the 12 other divisions. Reports from all 13 divisions will then be synthesized by the General Conference's Theology of Ordination Committee.

The following is the world church’s timeline regarding the Theology of Ordination:

- From December 2013 - June 2014 — The General Conference’s Theology of Ordination Study Committee will analyze the materials received from the divisions and prepare a combined report.
- June 2014 — Report will be reviewed by General Conference executive officers.
- June 2014 — Report will be reviewed with the President’s Executive Administrative Council (PREXAD) and the General Conference Administrative Committee (ADCOM).
- October 2014 — General Conference administration will process the report for the 2014 Annual Council.
- October 2014 — Annual Council will review the report and, if needed, take any appropriate action. If voted material needs to be placed on the 2015 General Conference Session agenda, it will be processed accordingly.

Click HERE for more information and links to NAD TOSC presentation materials.
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 Skull and The Cross**

**Interview by V. Michelle Bernard Published 11/6/2013**

The skull and the cross have a lot in common argues Ohio Conference pastor Tom Hughes in a new book, *The Skull and the Cross*. Hughes, pastor of the Newark Community church, has ministered to motorcyclists for 40 years and says he wrote the book to show “skulls were originally Christian symbols.” Below he shares more:

Q: Do you remember what inspired you to study the similarities between the skull and cross symbolism?

A: A Christian biker approached me at a rally and said, “Tom, you have to get all those skulls off your motorcycle. They’re evil.”

I explained to him that skulls were actually Christian symbols at first, long before they were hijacked by pirates and bikers. I told him that my bike was covered with dozens of symbols of Calvary, which was quite a shock to him. After much research and a year of thinking about it, he now shares my opinion.

My study led me to the churches in Germany and Rome, to the catacombs in Italy and France, and to early Christian baptisteries. This was not only a fascinating journey, but it is also ongoing.

Almost every month I encounter more evidence, new pictures, or articles that prove without a doubt that both the skull and crossbones were originally Christian symbols that predate the modern use of them in an evil context by more than a thousand years. Centuries before any evil usage was documented, the skull and crossbones were used as a symbol of Calvary, resurrection, baptism, and of the Messiah—Jesus Christ.

Q: What surprised you most about what you found?

A: Everything! I was astounded to learn that the English word for “skull” is derived from the Latin word **calvaria**, which literally means skull. So calvary is just another word for skull! [I was also surprised to learn] that according to an ancient Jewish and Christian tradition, Adam is buried on Golgotha and it’s called the “hill of the skull” because he is buried there; that there’s a skull and crossbones over a representation of the baptistery in the oldest baptistery in Christendom AD 413 representing resurrection; and that medieval paintings have the skull and crossbones painted below the cross with the blood of Jesus dripping on the head of Adam.

Q: The world of bikers and Christians seems to be worlds apart. What can we learn from each other?

A: They are worlds apart, but they are just people like us after all, and we need to not condemn, critique, criticize or condescend to them. Rather we need to cultivate relationships with [those of other] cultures we meet. Instead of looking down on them, we need to create new and arresting means of meeting their needs, getting to know them and then bid them to follow us as we follow Jesus.


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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@myactv.net or call (301) 824-6045.

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 jstefam@ccosda.org, or by phone at (410) 995-1910.

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**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