

June 2008

Please forward this newsletter and/or print out copies for your local church bulletin board and for distribution.

Congratulations to the following for outstanding achievement and/or service.

- ~ Kumar Dixit, associate pastor of the New Hope church, and his wife, Rajinie, upon the arrival of their daughter, Wilomina Grace Dixit on May 28.
- ~ Williamsport members, Herman and Jeanice Griffin, upon the celebration of their 70th wedding anniversary on June 6. The Griffins are the parents of Chesapeake Conference Secretary Charles Griffin.
- ~ A belated congratulations to Antonio and Lilly Lopez on the birth of their daughter, Corinthia Diella, born April 17. Lilly taught at Spencerville Academy and Antonio is the youth pastor of the Atholton church.

We say farewell and thank you to a valued member of our pastoral workforce – Dr. George Rice. George has pastored the Triadelphia church for the past dozen or so years and has decided it is time (end of June) to step aside from his pastoral role. Dr. Rice has served the Church as a pastor, teacher, seminary professor, and as an associate director of the Ellen G. White Estate at denominational headquarters. When his wife, Janet, completes her employment commitments with the Montgomery County School system they plan to move to their retirement home near Greencastle, PA.

The Executive Committee during a brief teleconference meeting in late May took the following actions.

- ~ It was voted to call Pastor Alvin Payne from the Oregon Conference to serve as the Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry of the Frederick church. Alvin is already on duty and making a strong impact with his ministry.
- ~ It was voted to ratify the financial plans and loan requests (from CURF) recommended by the Association Board of Trustees for the Baltimore First, Baltimore Korean, Cornerstone and Washington/Spencerville Spanish churches.
- ~ It was voted to grant Church status to the New Castle Spanish Company and to proceed with setting up an organizational meeting.
- ~ It was voted to approve the Mission Trips being organized by the Baltimore Korean church to New Orleans and the two conference sponsored trips to Honduras subject to receiving the names of all participants.
- ~ It was voted to develop a new policy for assisting conference hired employees with their visa applications – both their initial religious/working permit (R1, etc.) and their application for permanent status (Green Card).

The church planting initiative in the northern/northeastern quadrant of Baltimore is set to move forward this month. An initial meeting is being called for June 21 at the Towson Holiday Inn, 1100 Cromwell Bridge Road, at 3:00 p.m. Elder Sedley Johnson will be the leader in this new initiative and we are asking mission minded members who would like to assist with this mission project to attend this meeting. Please be clear on this – we are not asking members to leave their home churches to join a new plant, but rather to help us in working territory on Sabbath afternoons to develop interests and to aid us in determining the best location for the new church plant.

FLAG Camp – this new day camp initiative by the conference to help local churches minister to their children/youth and community friends is kicking off this summer in the following locations: Baltimore First/Crossroads School (June 23-27) Salisbury Park (June 30-July 4) ESJA (July 7-11) and West Wilmington (July 14-18) Young people from nearby churches are welcome to participate but should make contact with the host church leadership regarding registration and availability. FLAG is an acronym for “Fun Learning About God.”

Calendar items of note:

- June 6-8 *Thy Kingdom Come!* Mission Conference at Mt Aetna Camp for our Hispanic constituency
- Sept 20 *Thy Kingdom Come!* Mission Conference at Hagerstown Community College/Highland View Academy
- Oct 11 *Thy Kingdom Come!* Mission Conference at Eastern Shore Junior Academy
- Nov 7-8 *Our God is Alive!* Prayer Conference at Columbia Union Conference office