

**August 2008** Please forward this newsletter and/or print out copies for your local church bulletin board and for distribution.

**We say farewell** and thank you to Merrill Caviness, senior pastor of the West Wilmington (DE) church, who has accepted a call to the Oregon Conference. He has been a valuable member of our pastoral ministry team during two different “tours” and totaling more than 15 years. This move creates the opportunity for him to be near his aging parents. Merrill and his wife, Pam, will make the transition at the end of August. Their son, Cody, will finish his senior year at Highland View Academy.

**We welcome the following full-time faculty to the Chesapeake Education Team.** Some are new to the school and some are returning, but have new responsibilities within the school.

**Friendship Adventist School, Linthicum**

Mary Brown—Head Teacher and grades 5-8

**Highland View Academy, Hagerstown**

Seth Ellis—math and technology

Stephen Herr—Bible and vice-principal

Jake Villaneuva—biology, math and physics

**Mount Aetna Adventist School, Hagerstown**

Jelena Sanchez—math and science for grades 5-8

**Rocky Knoll Adventist School, Martinsburg, WV**

Angela Ellis—grades 1-2

**Spencerville Adventist Academy, Silver Spring**

DeWayne Boyer—Bible and math

Kameron DeVasher—Bible and campus ministries

Barbara Plubell—7<sup>th</sup> grade homeroom, middle school math

Darlene Rackley—K-12 technology (formerly part-time)

**The Annual Adventist Community Services (ACS)/Disaster Response Summit** will be held in the Chesapeake office auditorium on Sunday, September 14 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Nikolaus Satelmajer, editor of *Ministry* magazine and May-Ellen Colon, ACS director at the world church headquarters, will report on world-wide efforts and give new ideas and inspiration to our leaders in Chesapeake Conference. Pastors and ACS volunteers are encouraged to attend. Lunch will be provided. This event is free, but attendees are asked to register by August 25. For more information contact Evelyn Gates at (410) 995-1910 or egates@ccosda.org.

**A Youth Leaders Training Convention** for all who work in youth ministry is planned for September 12-14 at Mount Aetna Retreat Center. Manny Cruz, associate youth director for the North American Division, is the keynote speaker. Tracks offered will include basic training for Adventurer and Pathfinder leaders, Master Guide certification, Pathfinder Leadership Award (PLA) certification, Honor Master/Conservation, Youth Evangelism/Teen Leadership Training (TLT), and Youth Evangelism/Discipleship Groups. For more details contact Ann Reynolds at (410) 995-1910 or areynolds@ccosda.org.

**Summer must be a good time to go on a mission trip** as several trips have taken place in recent weeks. A sister congregation in Korea raised more than \$15,000 to bring a group of young adults from the Baltimore Korean church to teach classes in English conversation as part of their community evangelism program in July. A group of 40 members from New Hope and Williamsport churches spent two weeks last month in Mozambique, Africa. In partnership with Maranatha Volunteers International, the crew assisted with construction of a new Adventist school, conducted Vacation Bible School, and operated a temporary medical clinic to address the physical needs of the local people. Chesapeake's Youth Ministries department sponsored a trip for high school age Adventists who attend public school or are home-schooled to Santa Barbara, Honduras. Headed by Pastor Steve Finney (Martinsburg, WV), the group of 12 helped with the construction of a new church. Pastor Vladimir Corea (Highland View) will take a collegiate group to the Santa Barbara site this month to continue work on the project.

**FLAG Camp** debuted this summer and enriched the lives of young people in four regions of the Chesapeake Conference. Directed by pastors Keith Acker (West Wilmington, DE) and Ismael Nuñez (New Castle, DE), the weekly day camps provided Adventist young people and their community friends the opportunity to swim, play, make crafts and develop a clearer understanding of God's great love for His children. Our hope is to build participation and see this endeavor grow. If you would like to host a week of camp at your church or school next summer, contact the Chesapeake Youth Ministries department. Appreciation is extended to the host churches and schools, directors and volunteers who made it happen!

**The Washington-Spencerville Spanish church** has purchased a five-acre property that has two structures, one of which will be converted to a multi-purpose meeting room. The 145-member congregation has been meeting in a Methodist church and looks forward to a permanent home just north of the Spencerville English church.

**Academy Reunion**—Have you, or anyone you know attended the Greater Baltimore Academy, Greater Baltimore Junior Academy, or formerly Edgewood Junior Academy? If so, there is an Academy Reunion in 2009, honoring the first graduating class of GBA in 1959; celebrating their 50th anniversary. If you have an interest in attending, contact Marian (Schubert) Phillips. E-mail: phillipsm@gc.adventist.org, or phone (home) 301-604-7355, or (work) 301-680-5044.

**Chesapeake's Prayer Ministries team** is organizing a conference-wide Prayer Emphasis Weekend for November 7-8 to be held at the Columbia Union Conference office. Jerry and Janet Page from the Central California Conference will be the featured presenters. Elder Page serves there as president and his wife, Janet, as Women's Ministries coordinator. They are highly sought after presenters around the North American Division for these Prayer Emphasis weekends. Please mark the date on your church calendars as we hope to draw representatives from every church within Chesapeake. Registration is open exclusively to Chesapeake members through September 30 as seating is limited. Open registration begins October 1. A \$15.00 registration fee covers the cost of materials and Sabbath lunch. More details will be sent to churches later this month. You can get additional information by contacting Samantha Young at (410) 995-1910 or syoung@ccosda.org.

**Thy Kingdom Come!** is the theme of the Mission Conferences being conducted throughout Chesapeake in '08 and '09. The first one is scheduled for September 20 in Hagerstown (MD)\*. This one-day gathering will focus on moving forward with the mission of the Church in Chesapeake and will feature the preaching ministry of Ron Halvorsen, Sr., well known evangelist, revivalist and author; the teaching ministry of Gary Krause, director of the Office of Adventist Mission for the General Conference; the music ministry of Ponder, Harp and Jennings, award-winning and much-loved gospel group; and a palette of practical seminars geared to equip local members in fulfilling their role in the Great Commission. The schedules and venues are as follows:

Morning Services 9:30 – 12:30

Adults - Hagerstown Community College gymnasium (across the street from our Hagerstown church)

Beginners through Juniors – Hagerstown church\*\*

Earliteen and Youth – Kepler Auditorium HCC

Church Potluck Picnic 1:00 – 2:00 pm

All ages – Highland View Academy gymnasium. The conference will provide the entrée and drink while members are asked to bring salads and vegetable dishes that do not need warming. Paper goods and tableware will be provided, but please bring a serving spoon for your dish.

Afternoon Services 2:30 – 5:30 pm

Adults – Training seminars – various locations on HVA campus (2:30-4:00)

Adults – Preaching service with Ron Halvorsen, Sr., in the Highland View Church (4:15 – 5:30)

Beginners through Youth – various locations on HVA campus (2:30 – 5:30)

Evening Services 6:30 – 8:00 pm

Adults – Concert by Ponder, Harp and Jennings – Highland View church sanctuary

Kindergarten through Youth – various locations on HVA campus

\* Directions to the Hagerstown Community College and Hagerstown church and from the HCC to Highland View Academy will be published in special advertising going out later this month and also in materials handed out at the morning services.

\*\*we will be running shuttle buses between the Hagerstown Community College and the Hagerstown church before and after morning services. A system for addressing safety concerns will be in place.

**Conference Finances at a Glance** shows the effects of a sluggish economy as our tithe gain through the first half of the year is showing only a slight gain—a total of \$6.5 million year to date as compared to \$6.4 million in June of 2007. Giving to Chesapeake Advance (CAP) has suffered more of a slowdown while still accumulating more than \$82,000 through June. The breakdown on the distribution of CAP funds is as follows:

Evangelism – 40%	\$32,818.18
HVA Capital Dev – 20%	\$16,409.09
Mt. Aetna Camp Dev – 15%	\$12,306.82
Church/School Dev – 15%	\$12,306.82
Church Planting – 10%	\$ 8,204.55

**The annual audit** of the conference was conducted recently by the General Conference Auditing Service. The auditing team reported that they were able to finish their work well within the allotted timeframe due to our treasury staff being well prepared and extremely helpful during the process. As in prior years, the conference received an unqualified (clean) opinion. The Chesapeake Conference Association (the corporation) will be audited in October.

**Evangelism funding requests** for 2009 are due by November 1, 2008. The details and forms are being sent out to pastors, head elders and treasurers later this month. As 2009 is the Year of Evangelism for our World Church we will be encouraging every church group to make plans to experience the joy of leading individuals into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and a life of discipleship within His Church.