

November 2008

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

We apologize if you have experienced difficulty reaching the conference office staff by telephone or email, or if you are not receiving emails from the conference office as expected. We continue to encounter challenges with our telephone system, and with Internet connectivity. Thank you for your patience and persistence as we endeavor to correct the situation. Please contact the conference office if you subscribe to *Currents* by email and have not been receiving it.

Congratulations to

~ Tim and Joy Lee on the birth of their fourth child, Lydia Gracia Lee, on October 25. Lydia joins siblings Benjamin, Leilani, and Titus. Elder Lee serves the Beacon of Light, Salisbury Park, and Federalsburg churches on Maryland's eastern shore.

~ David and Stephanie Livergood on their recent marriage. Elder Livergood comes to Chesapeake from the Pennsylvania Conference to serve as pastor of the Baltimore White Marsh church. Stephanie has been hired as a part-time Bible Worker for White Marsh, and for occasional training workshops within the conference. The couple will take up their duties in early December.

We are pleased to announce that October 21 the Chesapeake Conference Executive Committee elected Eduardo Muñoz conference treasurer. Muñoz came to Chesapeake to serve as associate treasurer in 2000, from the Texas Conference where he functioned in a similar role. He holds an MBA from Southwestern Adventist University. His wife, Elsy Muñoz, is a claim service representative for Adventist Risk Management Service.

On another happy note, Andrew Choi, Highland View Academy (HVA) business manager, was appointed as associate conference treasurer, the position Eduardo Muñoz leaves behind. Andrew holds an MBA from Hood College. He and his wife, Paula, have a daughter, Abigale, age nine. Choi has served at HVA for eight years, giving outstanding financial management. His transition into conference treasury work fulfills a long-time dream for his career path. He will also be invaluable in grooming a new business manager.

A hearty welcome is extended to

~ Shawn Paris, the new Spencerville church youth pastor. He and his wife Michelle Paris, and their infant daughter Julianne, come to us from northern California, where Pastor Paris served as associate pastor of the Ukiah Seventh-day Adventist Church. Some will already know Michelle (Tatum) Paris, who grew up in Takoma Park, Maryland. Pastor Paris will assume his responsibilities in November.

~ Robb Long, new pastor of the Triadelphia church in Clarksville, Maryland, his wife Chris, and their daughters Abigail and Sara. Elder Long has been serving in the Iowa-Missouri Conference. He will begin his duties at Triadelphia November 15.

We are sad to report that North Pacific Union president Jere D. Patzer lost his long battle with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma on Sunday, October 26. Elder Patzer's strong faith and upbeat attitude during his treatment inspired those who knew him. A memorial service is planned for Saturday, November 15 at 3:00 p.m. in the Meadow Glade Seventh-day Adventist Church, 11001 NE 189th St., Battle Ground, WA 98604. Cards and messages of condolence should be sent to the Patzer family in care of Cindy Stewart, North Pacific Union Conference, 5709 N 20th St., Ridgefield, WA 98642, or via email; cindy.stewart@nw.npuc.org.

Pastor Hal Butman from Berkeley Springs reports that his wife Louise is recovering well from her October 21 surgery to remove cancerous tissue. Continue to keep them in your prayers as they await a prognosis from physicians.

LAST CHANCE to register for the Prayer Emphasis Weekend planned for November 7-8 at the Columbia Union Conference office. Presenters Jerry and Janet Page, from the Central California Conference, will show you how to enhance your personal prayer life as well as breathe new life into prayer ministry within your church. A \$15.00 registration fee covers the cost of materials and lunch on Sabbath. Register by Monday, November 3 by contacting Samantha Young at (410) 995-1910, or email syoung@ccosda.org.

The Annual Youth and Pathfinder Lock-In sponsored by the conference Youth Ministries department will take place at Mt. Saint Mary's University in Emmitsburg, Maryland, November 8-9, 8:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. Antonio Lopez, Atholton youth pastor, is the featured presenter. This popular event typically draws 400 youth (grades five through twelve) to enjoy sports, as well as Christian movies, scrapbooking, swimming and lots of food. The cost is \$10 per person. Contact Ann Reynolds at (410) 995-1910, or email areynolds@ccosda.org for more information.

Donations of new blankets and socks (all sizes), as well as funds to replenish food shelves, are needed for the ACS/DR Rebuilding Project on the Gulf Coast. A team of 16 volunteers representing Chesapeake Conference will spend their Thanksgiving holiday, November 20-30, helping to rebuild homes damaged by hurricanes. You can bring donations to the Chesapeake Conference office by November 17, or mark a tithe envelope "ATT," and enclose a check payable to Chesapeake Conference Disaster Response. Your generosity is appreciated!

An Adult Sabbath School Summit is being planned by the Adult Ministries Department of the North American Division. The Summit is scheduled for April 24-25, 2009, at the Seventh-day Adventist World Headquarters in Silver Spring, Maryland. Under the theme, "Sabbath School: One Mission, Many Methods," local church Sabbath School leaders will learn creative ways for enhancing Bible study, fellowship, outreach, and world mission in their churches. There is no fee, however, registration is required at www.PlusLine.org to obtain seminar materials and a noon meal. More information can be found at www.comeseetotell.com.

"Go Deeper" is the theme of the North American Division Adventist Single Adult Ministries (ASAM) 2009 Convention to be held July 2-4 in Newport Beach, California. Keynote speakers are John McVay, Hyveth Williams, José Rojas, and Johnny Ramirez-Johnson. To register, visit www.Plusline.org.

Autumn is upon us and we are reminded to focus on raising funds for Ingathering/Hope for Humanity during November and December. These funds not only benefit people in need in other parts of the world, a percentage is used to support Chesapeake's community services centers and disaster response projects. Pastors should have recently received starter kits containing free Ingathering materials. To order additional supplies, visit www.AdventSource.com or call (800) 328-0525.

Are you a talented musician who would like to perform at the 2010 General Conference Session in Atlanta, Georgia? To apply, visit www.gcsession.org/music. Applications must be received by January 31, 2009.

Conference Finances at a glance show that we are experiencing the effects of the downturn in the economy as our tithe income is basically flat as compared to the first three quarters of 2007. If that remains the case it will present some real challenges in our budgeting process for 2008. Across the Columbia Union territory the accumulative gain is less than 1%. We thank you for your continued faithfulness in these difficult and uncertain times.

The Executive Committee also took the following actions at its October 21 meeting.

- ~ voted to authorize the organization of the Bowie Spanish Company.
- ~ voted that the Beacon of Light Company be changed to regular church status.
- ~ voted to approve the recommendation from the Board of Education to conduct a conference education convention on a three-year cycle, with the first convention to occur in 2009.
- ~ voted to approve the report of the Audit Review Committee regarding the audit of the conference books for 2007. It was a clean audit.

November Sunset Calendar and Offering Schedule:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Sunset</u>	<u>Offering</u>
Nov 1	6:06	Local Church Budget
Nov 8	4:59	Annual Sacrifice/World Budget
Nov 15	4:52	Local Church Budget
Nov 22	4:47	Chesapeake Advance
Nov 29	4:44	Highland View Academy

Note: Sunset times published above are for Baltimore, Maryland. For Delaware and the Eastern Shore, subtract two minutes. For West Virginia and Western Maryland, add three minutes.

The Chesapeake *Currents* is published monthly by the Communication Department – Samantha Young, director/editor