

May 2009

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

**A groundbreaking service** for the new Spencerville Adventist Academy was held Sunday morning, April 16, on property located on Spencerville Road near Oursler Road in Silver Spring, Maryland. The 33-acre parcel of land was purchased six years ago when enrollment reached double the number of students the current school was built to accommodate. Finally, capital has been raised, permits secured, and contracts signed. The contractor estimates that it will take 20 months to complete the new 100,000+ sq. ft. facility that will house pre-kindergarten through grade 12. The ceremony ended with the congregation singing the doxology in praise and gratitude for God's guidance and abundant blessings.

**Highland View Academy (HVA) celebrates 60 years** at their annual Alumni Weekend that begins with a golf tournament at 8:00 a.m. this Friday, May 1, at the Glade Valley Golf Course in Walkersville, Maryland. Lonnie Melashenko, an HVA alumnus, is the keynote speaker for the Sabbath worship service to be held in the academy gymnasium. Elder Melashenko served as speaker /director of the Voice of Prophecy for 17 years before accepting the position of vice president for Spiritual Services and Missions for the Kettering Health Network in Kettering, Ohio last year. Former HVA teacher Kathy Goddard is the presenter for vespers at 7:30 p.m. on Friday at the Highland View church. Other highlights of the weekend include campus tours, class meetings, a basketball game Saturday evening, and a Sunday morning soccer game. For additional details, call Stephen Herr at (301) 739-8480, ext. 225 or visit [www.highlandviewacademy.com](http://www.highlandviewacademy.com) to view a full schedule of events.

**The Middletown Valley church is hosting a financial seminar** titled Staying Afloat in Troubled Times on Sunday, May 3, from 3:00-5:00 p.m. at the church located at 1811 Arnold Road, Jefferson, Maryland. Congressman Roscoe Bartlett; real estate attorney Russell Horman; and Dave Dennis, CPA, will facilitate a panel discussion of real estate, retirement, and tax issues, as well as the government's role in the current economy. The seminar is open to everyone, and childcare is available. This is one of several events leading up to a series of evangelistic meetings the church has planned for September with Elder Dave Weigley, Columbia Union Conference president, as presenter.

#### Upcoming graduations to note:

- ~ **Columbia Union College's** graduation ceremonies will be held at the Sligo church, 7700 Carroll Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland. A Baccalaureate/Consecration ceremony will take place Friday, May 1, at 8:00 p.m. The Commencement is Sunday, May 3, at 11:00 a.m.
- ~ **Highland View Academy** has 30 graduating seniors, and has planned a celebratory weekend. A Parent Tribute service begins at 8:00 p.m. on Friday, May 22, at the Highland View church. The Baccalaureate service is at 11:00 a.m. on Sabbath, May 23, also at the Highland View church. Commencement will take place in the academy gymnasium at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, May 24.
- ~ **Spencerville Adventist Academy** is having their graduation events at the Spencerville church located at 16325 New Hampshire Avenue, Silver Spring, Maryland. The festivities begin with a consecration service at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, May 29, followed by a Baccalaureate service at 11:15 a.m. on Sabbath, May 30. The Commencement ceremony takes place at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, May 31.

**If you are a ministry leader** and you are looking for ways to create an environment of worship that is authentic and relevant, the REVEAL Worship Conference, May 13-17, is for you. Sponsored by the North American Division and the Chesapeake Conference, and hosted by the New Hope church in Fulton, Maryland, the training event offers creative ideas and resources for pastors, children and youth leaders, worship leaders, musicians, and media technicians. Register at [www.PlusLine.org](http://www.PlusLine.org) or call the New Hope church at (301) 854-1866 for more details.

**A Pathfinder Fair and Olympics event**, sponsored by the youth ministries department, is planned for Sunday, May 17, at the New Hope church located at 12359 Hall Shop Road, Fulton, Maryland from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The day will include track and field events, sports tournaments, and golf and paintball targetting. Clubs will be selling food to earn money to pay for the trip to the international camporee in Osh Kosh, Wisconsin in August. At the closing ceremony there will be drill demonstrations, trophies will be awarded for Pathfinder of the Year, and outstanding clubs will be recognized.

**A Hispanic Mission Conference** is planned for June 5-7 at Mount Aetna Retreat Center in Hagerstown, Maryland. Themed *Let's Show His Glory*, this inspirational event features Dr. Humberto Treiyer, retired theology professor and author; Pastor Emerick Angela, evangelist and youth director, Netherlands Antilles Conference; Dr. Miguel DiFrancisco and Dr. Nethy DiFrancisco, family psychologists; Pastor Anibal Hansell from the New Jersey Conference; and Alabanza Pura, a popular vocal group. For meal and lodging information, or to register to attend, please contact your church pastor.

**A Faith Community Nursing (Parish Nursing) Preparation Program**, sponsored by Adventist HealthCare, will be held July 25-30 on the campus of Columbia Union College and Washington Adventist Hospital in Takoma Park, Maryland. This training course is for nurses who are involved in the health ministry programs of their local church. Register by the June 30 deadline with program coordinator Katia Reinert at [kgreiner@ahm.com](mailto:kgreiner@ahm.com) or by calling (301) 891-6102.

**The Northeast Baltimore Church Planting Project**, initiated in June 2008, is going very well, reports Pastor Sedley Johnson. Attendance has swelled to 50-60 people coming each Sabbath. The group has already outgrown the small chapel they have been renting from a local Methodist congregation since January, and is looking at the possibility of moving into a larger facility by June. According to Johnson, 84 people have requested Bible studies, and plans are underway for a three-week series of evangelistic meetings to begin July 25. Please continue to pray for this congregation and their outreach endeavors.

**Conference Finances at a Glance** – While this country is still reeling from the worst recession in more than 70 years and while the future strength of the economy is still in question, here in Chesapeake we have a guarded optimism that the worst is behind us. Our tithing income through the first quarter of 2009 is running at a 6.1% gain. Of course, we were facing a 3% loss through March in 2008 so the gain is not as strong as under normal conditions. But we are relieved that so far during 2009 our monthly income has exceeded the 2008 figures. We are still committed to maintaining our strategy of being careful with our expenditures and trust that coupled with the ongoing faithfulness of our members we will get through these difficult days without having to take any drastic measures.

Giving to Chesapeake Advance (CAP) has been steady with \$43,104.72 received through March. The breakdown of CAP funds is as follows:

Evangelism—40%	\$17,241.88
HVA Capital Dev—20%	\$ 8,620.94
Mt. Aetna Camp Dev—15%	\$ 6,465.70
Church/School Dev—15%	\$ 6,465.70
Church Planting—10%	\$ 4,310.50

**Still looking for fun activities for your child to participate in this summer?** Register for camps online at [www.mtaetnacamp.com](http://www.mtaetnacamp.com). Mount Aetna Camp (MAC) offers the following overnight camps at MAC in Hagerstown, Maryland:

~ Adventure Camp	June 21-28	Ages 7-10	Teen Outpost Camps for Ages 13-17, June 21-28:
~ Junior I Camp	June 28-July 5	Ages 10-12	~ Water Skiing    ~ Extreme Adventures
~ Junior II Camp	July 5-12	Ages 10-12	~ Golf Camp
~ Tween I Camp	July 12-19	Ages 12-14	
~ Tween II Camp	July 19-26	Ages 12-14	C.I.T. (Counselors in Training) Camp for Ages 15-17:
~ Teen Camp	July 26-August 2	Ages 13-16	Three one-week sessions—June 21-28 • June 28-July 5 • July 5-12

Mount Aetna Camp also offers the following regional day camps called F.L.A.G. (Fun Learning About God) Camp for kids in grades 1-8. The one-week (Monday-Friday) day camps combine worship, arts and crafts, sports, and a daily field trip to help kids connect with God, enjoy friendship, and experience educational and recreational activities. The cost is \$100 for the week. Dates and locations are listed below:

~ New Hope church, Fulton, Maryland—June 22-26 & June 29-July 3	~ Dover church, Dover, Delaware—July 20-24
~ Baltimore First church, Ellicott City, Maryland—July 6-10	~ West Wilmington church, Wilmington, Delaware—July 27-31
~ Park church, Salisbury, Maryland—July 13-17	

**Chesapeake is the leading conference in the Columbia Union** in church participation in the national *InStep For Life* campaign of walking 10,000 steps per day for fitness. Churches that are not currently participating can still join the campaign by contacting Katia Reinert, InStep coordinator, at [kgreiner@ahm.com](mailto:kgreiner@ahm.com) or get more details at [www.InStepforLife.com](http://www.InStepforLife.com). There is no cost to participate, so why not sign up now?

**Highland View Academy** is accepting applications for the 2009-2010 school year. Special discounts are available for incoming freshmen. For more information, contact Kim Brown, registrar, at (301) 739-8480, ext. 239 or email [kbrown@highlandviewacademy.com](mailto:kbrown@highlandviewacademy.com).

**The Voice of Prophecy invites you** to view a weekend of special programs May 8-9 by satellite on the Hope Channel (or on Channel 368 on DIRECTV). Or view them on the Internet at [www.theadventistchannel.org](http://www.theadventistchannel.org). You can download mp3 files of radio broadcasts at [www.vop.com](http://www.vop.com).

**May Sunset Calendar and Offering Schedule:**

Date	Sunset	Offering
May 2	7:59	Local Church Budget
May 9	8:05	Disaster and Famine Relief/World Budget
May 16	8:12	Local Church Budget
May 23	8:18	Chesapeake Advance
May 30	8:24	Spring Mission Appeal/World Budget

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.