

February 2010 Please forward this newsletter and/or print out copies for your local church bulletin board and for distribution.

A Valentine party, sponsored by Chesapeake Adventist Single Adult Ministries, is planned for Saturday, February 13, at 6:30 p.m., at the Chesapeake Conference office, 6600 Martin Road, Columbia, Maryland. This is a potluck event, so please bring food to share. There will be games, and an opportunity for fellowship. For more information, call Fred Thomas at (410) 992-9731, or email fmthomas1950@yahoo.com.

A Benefit Concert for Haiti/ADRA will be held Saturday, February 13, at the Dover First church, 647 Wyoming Avenue, Dover, Delaware. Musicians from area Seventh-day Adventist churches and from the local community will perform. A Love Offering will be collected and given to ADRA to be used specifically for relief work in Haiti. A light reception will be held at 5:00 p.m., and the concert is from 6:00-8:00 p.m. For directions or information, contact Pastor Phil Hamman at (302) 670-5675, or email pah44@comcast.net.

Wondering how to help people in Haiti affected by the recent earthquake? You can help Adventists and the Adventist work in Haiti by donating at your local church and writing Haiti/SDA on your tithe envelope, or by donating online at www.nadadventist.org. If you prefer to help the general population in Haiti, give to ADRA by marking your tithe envelope ADRA/Haiti, or donate online at www.adra.org. Please also continue to pray for the people in Haiti, and those people here in the United States with relatives there.

A Financial Seminar and Book Signing will take place at 2:00 p.m., Sunday, February 21, at the Potomac Adventist Book Center located at 12004 Cherry Hill Road, Silver Spring, Maryland. Learn tips on financial well being from Michelle Singletary, author of *The Power to Prosper: 21 Days to Financial Freedom*.

The International Women's Day of Prayer, Sabbath, March 6, provides an opportunity for women to strengthen their bonds with each other and with God. It is a time to pray together for women and their concerns, both in the local church and around the world. Churches are encouraged to designate this day, or another Sabbath in March, for earnest prayer focus. Resources are available to help make this a life-changing experience for the women in your church. You may download a sermon, children's story, and a PowerPoint presentation from the North American Division Women's Ministries website: www.nadwm.org. Click on Women's Day of Prayer.

Upcoming Youth Ministries Events:

~ **Another Family Ski Day at Jack Frost Resort** in Pennsylvania, is planned for Sunday, February 21. Enjoy a fun, inexpensive day in the snow. Skiing and snowboarding packages that cover lift ticket, rental, and a lesson are available from \$33. Tubing costs range from \$20-30. Mandatory insurance costs just \$2 per person. To register, contact conference youth director Carl Rodriguez at crodriguez@ccosda.org.

~ **Generation Rain "The Promise" Spiritual Retreat** for high school youth takes place February 26-28 at Mount Aetna Camp. Randy Preston, lead singer for the Christian band Jakob's Night, is the featured speaker for the weekend. The \$38 registration fee covers lodging and meals. For more information, visit www.generationrain.blogspot.com, email pourdownrain@yahoo.com, or call (410) 995-1910, ext. 2337.

~ **Conference-wide Pathfinder Bible Achievement (PBA)** will be held Sabbath, February 20, at 3:00 p.m., at the Pikesville church located at 4619 Old Court Road, Pikesville, Maryland. For information on Area PBA events, contact your Pathfinder area coordinator.

~ **Just Claim It 2010 and YPAC** will be held at the Greater Columbus Convention in Columbus, Ohio, April 7-11. The event is sponsored by the North American Division Youth and Young Adult Ministries department, and is open to anyone involved in young adult, youth, or children's ministry. For the first time, the following events have been scheduled together: NAD Youth Ministry Leadership Summit (YPAC), Just Claim It 2010, Ignition—God Encounters for Young Adults, and a Children's Worship Festival (on Sabbath only). For a detailed description and schedule, visit www.jci2.org, or call (301) 680-6420.

Health Ministries Training Events:

~ **A Coronary Health Improvement Project (CHIP) Train the Trainer** program is offered March 26-28 at Blue Mountain Academy in Hamburg, Pennsylvania. This Columbia Union-wide training is for people interested in starting CHIP in their church or becoming a part of an already active CHIP team. CHIP is a four-week lifestyle education program that has proven successful in helping people incorporate healthier lifestyle principles in their lives.

~ **A Parish/Faith Community Nursing Preparation Program**, sponsored by Adventist HealthCare, takes place July 17-22 on the campus of Washington Adventist University (WAU) in Takoma Park, Maryland. The program is open to registered nurses who recognize that spiritual care is central to the practice of nursing, and who desire to facilitate wholistic health across the age span of a congregation. The class fee of \$850 includes tuition, resources, all sessions and class activities, contact hour awards, housing accommodations on the WAU campus, and breakfast and lunch daily. Register by March 31 to receive a \$75 discount. The registration deadline is June 30.

~ **For more information** on these and other health ministry training opportunities, contact Katia Reinert at kgreiner@ahm.com or call (301) 891-6102.

Washington Adventist University's annual Alumni Weekend takes place April 9-11. Graduates in honor classes 1940, 1950, 1960, 1970, 1980, 1990, and 2000 will receive tributes. The weekend events begin on Friday with a groundbreaking ceremony for the new Music building, and end with an Acro-Airs Home Show on Sunday afternoon. For more details, visit www.wau.edu/alumni, or call (301) 891-4133.

The Columbia Union Disaster Response Training Institute, April 23-25, encompasses all aspects of disaster response including donations, operations, warehouse, crisis care intervention, forklift safety, and food service. This interactive experience will be held at the Tranquil Valley Retreat Center located at 2 Campus Drive, Andover, New Jersey. Anyone interested or already involved in disaster response is encouraged to take advantage of this educational opportunity. The \$83 registration fee covers seminar materials and all meals for the weekend. Lodging costs only \$35-40 per night. Register and learn more at www.PlusLine.org, or call Kitty Juneau at (301) 367-2715.

The Conference Executive Committee at its January 26 meeting heard the following reports and took the following actions:

~ The Year of Evangelism emphasis resulted in 458 accessions to the church in Chesapeake Conference. While the conference did not reach its objective of 500 new members, it is the highest number of baptisms and professions of faith in Chesapeake's history. The average has been around 365, and two or three times in the last 20 years the numbers have edged just above the 400 mark.

~ Chesapeake Conference started the year 2009 with a conference membership of 12,940 and finished with 13,353 members.

~ A 3.16 percent tithe gain was realized in 2009—and while December giving was down for the second straight year, conference administration is thankful for an increase. The vast majority of conferences across North America ended with a loss. Chesapeake's Sabbath School Mission offerings were down, however.

~ Voted, to approve the 2010 operating budget as presented. The budget, however, is not balanced and has a deficit of approximately \$175,000. The committee felt that the conference's operating reserves are sufficiently strong (120 percent of required working capital) to cover the shortfall if an increase in income does not materialize during this new year. Conference administration also pledged to continue to be vigilant in watching expenditures.

~ Voted, to ask Elder Franke Zollman, pastor of the Williamsport church in the Western Region, to serve on the Executive Committee. He fills the vacancy created when Rick Remmers became Conference Secretary.

~ Voted, to move Pastor Eliezer Tineo, from the Cornerstone, Parksley, and Pocomoke district to the Denton, Salisbury, and Seaford Spanish district. The district became open when Pastor Marcos Schwantes returned to Costa Rica to pursue his medical school studies.

~ Voted, to call Pastor Anibal (Ah knee' ble) Hansell from the New Jersey Conference to pastor the Cornerstone, Parksley, and Pocomoke district.

~ Voted, to make a special contribution of \$20,000 from our Ingathering reserve fund to the Adventist work in Haiti, and to encourage Chesapeake Conference constituency to participate in the special division-wide offering on February 6 for the same purpose.

The Review and Herald Publishing Association recently launched *Real*, a new magazine for unchurched kids ages 9-15. Published bimonthly, *Real* contains true stories, puzzles, fun facts, Bible studies, and other spiritually uplifting content that appeals to young readers. The magazine encourages children to begin a saving friendship with Jesus and challenges them to live for Him. Do you know a child who needs to receive *Real* magazine? Sign them up for a free subscription at www.ShareReal.org, or mail the child's name and address, along with your name and address, to *Real* Magazine, 55 West Oak Ridge Drive, Hagerstown, MD 21740. You can also donate to the *Real* magazine ministry through the website or by mail.

February Sunset Calendar and Offering Schedule:

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Sunset</u> | <u>Offering</u> |
|-------------|---------------|--------------------------------------|
| February 6 | 5:30 | Local Church Budget |
| February 13 | 5:38 | Adventist TV Ministries/World Budget |
| February 20 | 5:46 | Local Church Budget |
| February 27 | 5:54 | Chesapeake Advance |

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.

Chesapeake *Currents* is published monthly by the Communication Department – Samantha Young, director/editor
www.ccosda.org • syoung@ccosda.org • (410) 995-1910 • (301) 596-5600