

VISITOR

CONNECTING COLUMBIA UNION MEMBERS

APRIL 2011 • VOLUME 116 • ISSUE 4

ROAD TRIP

Columbia Union

*Travel With us and Learn More About
Seventh-day Adventists in our Region*

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APRIL 2011



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Whether you're in Worthington or Wilmington, Reading or Richmond, you are part of the great Columbia Union family. Our union was founded in 1907 with 187 churches and 5,320 members. Today our church family has grown to include eight conferences, two healthcare networks with 12 hospitals, 93 elementary and secondary schools, a medical college, a university and numerous community-based ministries. Check out our map to learn more about our members, ministries and services.

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Compiled by Trevor Delafield and Beth Michaels

Pack your bags, buckle in the kids, fire up your GPS and journey with us around the Columbia Union territory. Discover how the Seventh-day Adventist work was started in our 10 largest metropolitan areas and what many of our churches are doing today to reach people for Christ.



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Lilly Tryon

STAY CONNECTED



columbiaunion.org

On the Web

Live Streaming - Watch President Dave Weigley's (pictured) report to members at the 26th Constituency Session of the Columbia Union Conference, live via the Internet on Sabbath, April 16 at 8 p.m. The report will include video segments, live interviews, and highlights from churches, members, ministries, union leaders and administrators from our healthcare networks and Washington Adventist University. Visit columbiaunion.org/constituency for details.



Podcast - This month's *Visitor* provides a look at the 10 major metropolitan areas in the mid-Atlantic United States and how Adventists minister in each area. One place not to be missed is the nature center at Mt. Aetna Camp and Retreat Center in Hagerstown, Md. It houses static displays of thousands of natural specimens. Showcases filled with



seashells and minerals from around the world line the walls. Large dioramas containing fullsize mammals, birds

and plants illustrate the habitats of the Chesapeake Bay watershed and other regions of the world. The live animal room, which draws the most repeat visitors, contains turtles, frogs, fish, lizards and salamanders, a few birds, the occasional small mammal and more than a dozen snakes. In this interview, director Glen Milam and camp naturalist Joel Springer will share more about this educational ministry that draws thousands of visitors each year and is open on Sabbath from 2-5 p.m.

Facebook - Have you become a "fan" of our *Visitor* Facebook page yet? Join us to keep up with the latest news, share your comments, and promote your upcoming church and school events. We'd also like to see photos of past events, learn more about your ministries and hear your story ideas.

Adventists Are Everywhere

The first time I attended a Seventh-day Adventist church, I made sure I wore my perfect attendance pin from the Lutheran church. I was 12 years old and went to a small church in the suburbs of Baltimore with my mother. I thought it would be a one-time visit to the only Saturday-keeping church in the world.



Sixty years and about 160 churches later, I am still going to Adventist churches. I have discovered that Adventist churches and institutions are everywhere. I have visited Adventist hospitals in Nepal, Trinidad, Venezuela, Tanzania and Lesotho. I have visited Adventist colleges in India, Peru and Kenya and Adventist churches in Dominica, Columbia, The Gambia, Russia, Cuba and South Africa.

I have driven up and down the roads of the eight-state Columbia Union territory, visiting hospitals, church schools, community services centers, academies and churches. I've been to an Indonesian church in New Jersey, a Hungarian church in Ohio and a Hispanic church in Maryland. I may have even worshipped at your church.

WHAT HAVE I LEARNED?

I have learned that Adventist churches are different. Some churches are large and have hundreds in attendance on Sabbath, while others are small with just a handful of members. We worship using different styles, languages and music. Some churches have children everywhere; others have no children at all. Many churches are like the United Nations, with people from around the world and many ethnic backgrounds represented.

I have also learned that Adventist churches are the same. We study the same Sabbath School lesson, believe the same doctrines and enjoy the same fellowship. We wash each other's feet, pray for those in need and support the church with our tithe and offerings. Every church has wonderful cooks who joyfully share their skills on potluck Sabbath. And, we all want to be faithful to our mission of sharing God's love and plan for us.

As you attend your church this Sabbath, rejoice that someone introduced you to the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Rejoice in knowing that you have brothers and sisters in faith throughout the eight conferences of the Columbia Union and around the world. Adventists, indeed, are everywhere. Determine to help your church fulfill the denominational mission of leading people to accept Jesus as their personal Savior and unite with His church in preparing them for His soon return.

Edward Motschiedler recently retired from denominational employment, but not from the service of helping to build the kingdom of God.

Washington Adventist University Looks to Open Branch Campus at AUC

Early last month, the Washington Adventist University (WAU) Board of Trustees voted a Memorandum of Understanding with Atlantic Union College (AUC). This document calls for the two institutions to work toward an agreement to establish a branch campus of Washington Adventist University at Atlantic Union College in South Lancaster, Mass. WAU would lease the facilities of AUC and become the sole provider of higher education at the New England location. All provisions are dependent upon approval from the required accrediting and regulatory agencies.

This move follows a recent decision by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges to discontinue AUC's accreditation July 31 for financial reasons.

"We're grateful that our enrollment growth and financial position enables us to continue to provide accredited higher education to the community and constituents that Atlantic Union College serves," said Weymouth Spence, EdD, president of WAU.

"Our desire is to build upon the rich heritage they've established with a focus on the future."

Norman Wendth, PhD, president of AUC, added, "I have believed for many years that to unite Atlantic Union College with Washington Adventist University would create a truly impressive educational institution. I am deeply pleased that we can respond to AUC's accreditation challenge in such a historically significant way."

The expansion positions WAU to serve the educational needs of students in 15 states in the Mid-Atlantic and Northeastern United States and the island of Bermuda.

Officials from both entities will now work together to complete a formal and binding agreement. This process will address key questions about governance, academic programs and services to facilitate a smooth transition for both current and future students. WAU will then develop a business plan and seek approval from their governing boards, as well as state, regional and church accrediting agencies. Updates will be posted at wau.edu.

PHOTO BY KEVIN MANUEL



Weymouth Spence, president of WAU; Dave Weigley, chair of the WAU Board of Trustees; Don King, chair of the AUC Board of Trustees; and Norman Wendth, president of AUC sign the Memorandum of Understanding.

FROM THE PULPIT

"If you think today there is no urgency to be ready to meet Jesus, then you have been deceived."



Dan Jackson, president of the North American Division, speaking last month at the Columbia Union Adventist-laymen's Services and Industries Convention at Trinity Temple church in Newark, N.J. Look for an article and video about this organization in June.

Pennsylvania Names New Vice President

The Pennsylvania Conference Executive Committee recently elected William Peterson to the role of vice president for Mission and Administration. Peterson, a native Pennsylvanian, has served



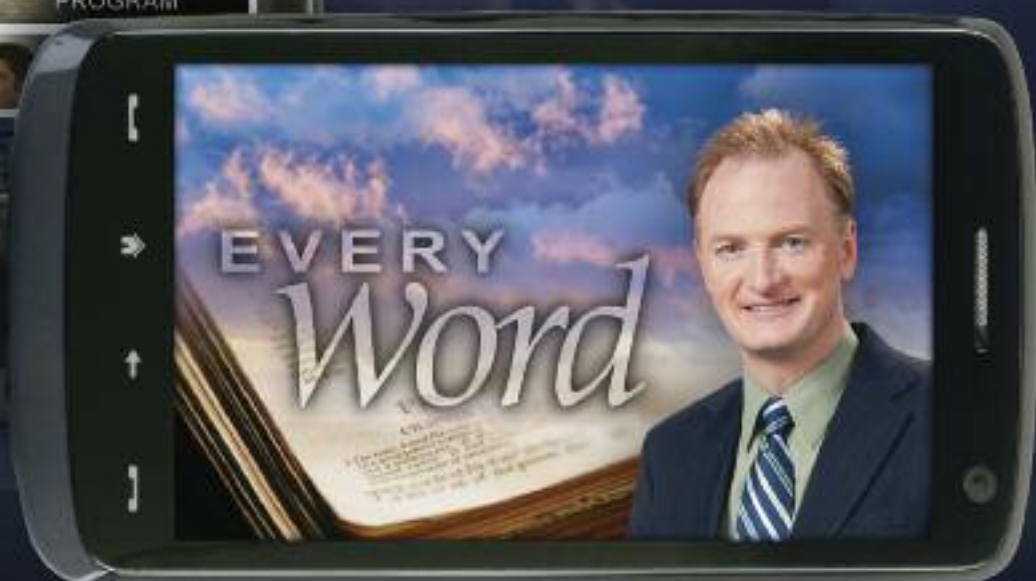
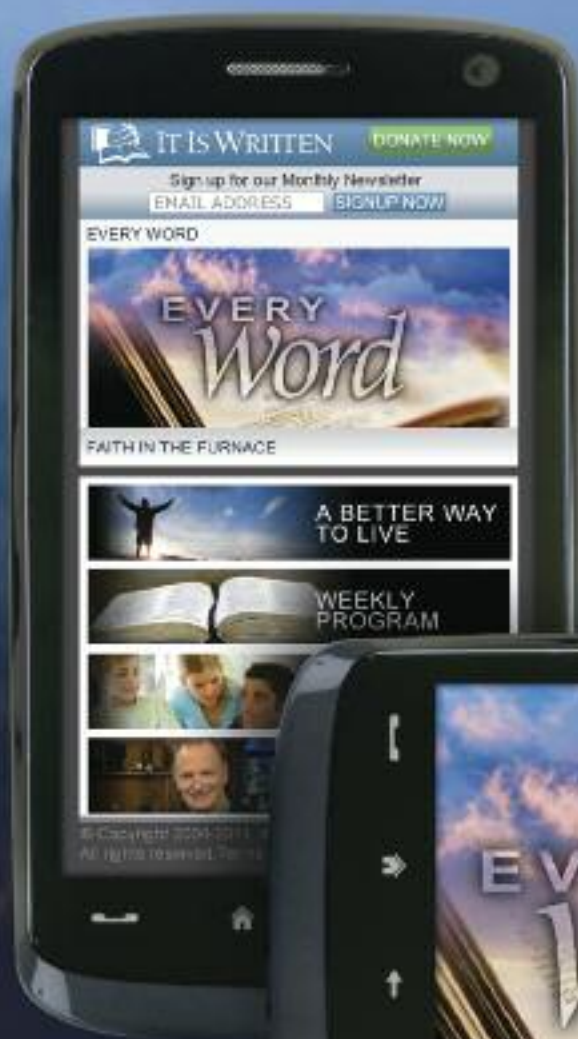
as assistant to the president for Mission for 11 years. He was raised in the western

part of the state where he first heard the Adventist message, joined the church and felt the call to ministry.

"Will has a passion for effectiveness in mission and is gifted in thinking and planning strategically for ministry opportunities," says Ray Hartwell, conference president. Read the full story in *Pennsylvania Pen* on page 41.—Tamyra Horst



*It is written,
"Man shall not live by
bread alone, but by
every word
that proceeds from
the mouth of God."*



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You Are Here.



Whether you're in Worthington or Wilmington, Reading or Richmond, you are part of the Columbia Union family.

Our union was founded in 1907 with 187 churches and 5,320 members. Today our church family has grown to include eight conferences, two healthcare networks with 13 hospitals, 93 elementary and secondary schools, a medical college, a university and numerous community-based ministries (see map). Each Sabbath some 136,000 Seventh-day Adventist believers worship in 773 churches and companies across the eight states that comprise the Mid-Atlantic region. Because we believe that Jesus is soon to return, we're doing all we can to share His love and prepare people in this territory to meet Him.



Get More: Learn more about the Columbia Union Conference, including our history, past presidents, mission and current priorities at columbiaunion.org/aboutus.

CONFERENCES—The Columbia Union Conference provides administrative support for eight local conferences, an eight-state area (including the District of Columbia): Allegheny East, Allegheny West, Chesapeake, Mountain View, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Potomac and Ohio.



EDUCATION—Currently there are 70 elementary schools, 14 junior academies, nine **academies** (day/boarding) and 499 teachers who are driving education ministry in the Columbia Union. The union also runs a medical college and a liberal arts university.

Kettering College in Kettering, Ohio, offers graduate and undergraduate degrees as well as certificate programs in health sciences. **Washington Adventist University** (WAU) in Takoma Park, Md., operates a three-school model with 32 undergraduate and eight graduate degree programs.

CAMPGROUNDS AND RETREAT CENTERS—Each conference operates campgrounds and/or retreat centers throughout the union's territory. The facilities are used for summer camps, health retreats, conventions and numerous outreach ministries.

ADVENTIST BOOK CENTERS—Conferences run six such centers around the union where they sell Bibles, literature and vegetarian food and hold outreach and educational events for their communities.



HEALTHCARE NETWORKS—The union oversees two healthcare networks: Kettering Adventist HealthCare based in Kettering, Ohio, and Adventist HealthCare based in Rockville, Md. Under their combined 12 hospitals and numerous other health institutions, they employ 17,500 professionals and annually serve more than 100,000 patients.



HOMELAND MISSIONS—The Columbia Union Conference annually provides sponsorships to the local field to assist with church planting, laity training, evangelism initiatives, metropolitan ministries, young adult-led ministries and innovative endeavors. Over the last five years, the union has returned well over \$1 million to local conferences to seed 32 such projects.

RADIO MINISTRY—The radio station WGTS 91.9 FM, owned and operated by Washington Adventist University, uses their newly established chaplaincy ministry to help them better minister to their 600,000 listeners and connect them with Adventist churches. They do this through prayer ministry, mission trips, weekly worship services and other events.

MULTILINGUAL MINISTRIES—The union started this new department in 2007, which has since helped plant seven churches and coordinate discipleship training programs for 445 students. Hispanic members, the union's fastest growing cultural group, now claim more than 21,500 members and 162 churches. There is also growth in Haitian, Ghanaian and Korean communities, among others.



MISSIONS ABROAD—With support from its two healthcare networks, the union lends its support to overseas projects. Efforts during the past five years include building a dormitory for a school in India, donating a passenger van to church workers running an AIDS program in Africa, building a church in South Africa and constructing a surgery center for a health clinic in the Congo.



Compiled by Trevor Delafield
and Beth Michaels

ROAD TRIP

Columbia Union

Pack your bags, buckle in the kids, fire up your GPS, and journey with us around the Columbia Union Conference territory. Discover how the Adventist work was started in our 10 largest metropolitan areas and what many of our churches are doing today to reach people for Christ.

BALTIMORE

Then

1876—D.M. Canright organized the first two churches in Maryland, and the first Adventists were baptized in the Calverton area of Baltimore.

1899—Delaware, Maryland and the District of Columbia were assigned to the newly organized Chesapeake Conference.

1924—Adventists purchased an estate in Catonsville, which served as a campsite until 1971, when it was moved to Hagerstown. That estate was later purchased for the Chesapeake Conference headquarters.

Now

The Baltimore First church, an historic congregation in Ellicott City, started Crossroads Adventist School in 1996.

- Berea Temple, organized in 1900, was designated in 1974 as an historic landmark.
- The Liberty church ministers to the homeless, operates a soup kitchen and food pantry and runs a computer-training program.
- Miracle Temple has a television network and runs an outreach ministry that provides afterschool activities, exercise classes, health fairs, Bible studies and a GED program. They also provide temporary housing for ex-offenders in transition and send prisoners' children to summer camp.
- Baltimore Spanish church members offer health seminars and training to residents.

Next

- Miracle Temple's Spring Fling Community Fair May 1
- Maryland Men of Faith Conference October 1
- The Review and Herald Publishing Association's 12th annual 5k Fun Run/Walk in October

Don't Miss

- Crossroads Adventist School's "Fun with Magnets" exhibit and presentation at Port Discovery Children's Museum April 19.



Members: 5,700
Churches: 30
Schools: 5

- Established in 1860 by Seventh-day Adventist Church co-founder James White, the Review and Herald Publishing Association is the church's oldest institution. Located on 127 acres in Hagerstown, Md., it is known for publishing *The Bible Story* by "Uncle Arthur," magazines such as the *Adventist Review*, *Vibrant Life* and *Message* and numerous books.

DAYTON/CINCINNATI

Then

1844—Cincinnati was once home to a large number of Millerites. One congregation built a tabernacle where William Miller lectured to a crowd of 4,000.

1895—Dayton's first Adventist church organized with 17 members under the leadership of Pastor W.L. Iles.



1964—Eugene and Virginia Kettering, son and daughter-in-law of inventor **Charles F. Kettering**, called on the Adventist Church to build a hospital and school in honor of his life and work. Kettering College opened three years later.

Now

The Cincinnati Shiloh church, founded in the 1920s, is one of the country's historically African-American congregations. ● Cincinnati Junior Academy is a mission school where four out of five students are not Adventist. ● The Good Neighbor House (GNH), supported by all Dayton-area churches, provides basic social and clinical services to the working poor with no health coverage.

● Cincinnati Village church members collaborate with

the governor's office on faith-based initiatives and operate a community book-store where they host seminars and exhibits. ● Kettering Adventist HealthCare operates seven hospitals. ● Kettering College offers certificate programs, associate and bachelor's degrees and a Master of Physician Assistant Studies. ● Spring Valley Academy in Centerville has been rated among the top five private schools in the state.



Members: 5,000
Churches: 25
Schools: 3

Next

- Stillwater church's community picnic and health fair held each Labor Day
- Kettering and Centerville churches' CHIP programs hosted each spring and fall
- GNH's fundraising golf event held each summer
- Ohio Conference's seventh Conference on Innovation October 2-4

Don't Miss

- Kettering church's Casavant pipe organ, originally built in 1971.



Fountain Square, Cincinnati



COLUMBUS

Then



1903—Ellen G. White addressed a large rally under a tent pitched in Liberty Park.

1920—George T. Harding II started Harding Hospital, an Adventist sanitarium in Worthington. It remains a leading psychiatric hospital, now run by

The Ohio State University (OSU) Medical Center.

1939—Worthington Foods opened and remained the hospital's neighboring institution for decades.

1982—Renowned evangelist **E.E. Cleveland** who baptized thousands during his lifetime, held his last major campaign in Columbus.



Lovett's Grove Schoolhouse

and professor emeritus at The Ohio State University. He was recently inducted into the Ohio Civil Rights Hall of Fame.

Next

- Ohio Conference's ACTS '11 Bible conference October 22
- Ephesus church's centennial celebration this July
- Beacon of Hope's community basketball tournament and festival August 7

Don't Miss

- The little schoolhouse in Lovett's Grove (now Bowling Green) where Ellen White experienced her "Great Controversy" vision in March 1858.
- Allegheny West Conference's basketball league that involves 28 teams from 11 churches, which culminates in the Final Four Basketball Championship and concert each March.

Now

Every Tuesday Worthington church members host a community haystack lunch followed by an evening support group for the unemployed. ● The Columbus Ghanaian church, the largest Twi-speaking, Christian congregation in the Midwest, sponsors a summer school and after-school tutoring program for immigrant children. ● The Ohio Conference launched new campus ministries at several state universities. ● The Mount Vernon Hill church holds services once a month for special needs people in the community. ● Founded in 1893, Mount Vernon Academy in Mount Vernon remains the Adventist Church's oldest boarding school. ● Frank Hale Jr., PhD, former Oakwood University (Ala.) president, is a vice provost

Members: 2,950
Churches: 15
Schools: 5



CLEVELAND

Then

1851—Due to the work of evangelist H.S. Case, a small group of Adventists met in a house church.

1925—Ramah Junior Academy opened.

1958—The General Conference Session was held in the Cleveland Public Auditorium.



1966—**C.D. Brooks**, then pastor of the Glenville church, was voted as a Columbia Union Conference field secretary, leading a new wave of African-Americans elected to union and General Conference officer positions.

Now

Walk of Faith Fellowship meets in a community service center where they also serve Sabbath morning breakfast to the homeless. They also operate an after-school center for teens. ● The Warren church is part of an interfaith coalition helping families in need. ● The Southeast church operates many community outreach projects, including a coat and shoe drive.

Members: 8,150
Churches: 39
Schools: 2

Next

- Cleveland Hungarian church's Bible conference July 1-3
- Walk of Faith's We Care Expo and community fair August 7

Don't Miss

- The Glenville church, an historic African-American congregation established in 1918, which is the largest area church with about 1,400 members. They have planted five churches, hold a popular Wednesday night youth prayer service and are developing a television show.



The Arcade



Glenville Church

PHILADELPHIA, TRENTON & WILMINGTON

Then

1874—The Vineland, N.J., church was the first congregation organized in the region.

1889—D.T. Fero organized a church in Philadelphia.

1891—The first church was reported in Wilmington, Del.

Now

The Germantown (Pa.) church collaborates with an interfaith network to provide housing for displaced families. ● The Adventist Humanitarian Resource Center (AHRC) provides adult mentors to area youth and connects underserved and unemployed residents with resources.

● Philly's Chestnut Hill church runs a youth evangelistic and colporteur program. ● The Maranatha Romanian church in Hazelton, Pa., offers piano and English lessons to residents. ● The West Wilmington (Del.) church runs a community services center and homeless ministry. ● The W.C. Atkinson Center in Coatesville, Pa., runs a community services center and provides meals, services and housing to homeless men and veterans. ● Newly planted Grace Outlet in Reading, Pa., ministers to former members and unchurched young adults.

Next

● Community fairs by Jersey City (August 19-21), Southwest Philadelphia (August 21) and Boulevard church with AHRC (September 4)

● Pennsylvania Korean church's annual NEWSTART program September 25-October 1

● Chestnut Hill's vegetarian Smart Suppers May 15, July 31 and November 6



Members: 10,810 Churches: 69 Schools: 4

● Allegheny East Conference's 33rd annual Fit 4 You health retreat July 17-31

Don't Miss

● Veggie Philly cheesesteaks at The Basic 4 Vegetarian Snack Bar, owned and operated for 30 years by Ebenezer church member **Alfoncie Bethea**, at the Reading Terminal Market.

● Alan and Gwen Foster directing an annual performance of Handel's *Messiah* at the Ebenezer church, December 17, which celebrates their centennial this year.

● A visit to an Underground Railroad site, now home to Pine Forge Academy in Pine Forge, Pa., which boasts a world-class choir.

NEWARK

Then

1874—Mahum Orcutt organized a group of 15 in South Vineland.

1890—E.E. Franke's Jersey City evangelistic meetings yielded 47 baptisms and a church plant.

1901—Thousands witness the baptism of 60 in the Delaware River.

1901—The New Jersey Conference was organized and headquartered in Paterson with 14 churches, two ministers and 386 members. In 1904 it moved to Trenton.

1955—First Spanish congregation, Paterson Temple, organized.

Now

The First Church of Newark offers free legal aid, ESL classes and women's health seminars to residents and runs a food pantry. ● The Church of the Oranges in Orange runs the Community Family Enrichment Services Center to address health, family and educational needs. ● The Montclair church hosts Life Skills

Academy, an annual summer youth mentoring program.

● The Teaneck church also runs a mentoring program for

area youth to break the cycle of abuse and neglect.

● Through Adventist Community Development Services, several area churches are addressing family and youth needs in the community. ● The La Esperanza Spanish church in Union City ministers to their community with life skills training, Bible studies and groceries distributed weekly after Sabbath worship. ● Each fall Trinity Temple, one of the oldest area churches, distributes hundreds of book bags, filled with school supplies, to community children.

Next

- Passaic Spanish I's sixth annual health fair June 5
- First Filipino church's annual health and lifestyle seminar in August

Don't Miss

- North Jersey Ministerium's Unity Day convocation July 31. Some 25 churches will gather at the Tranquil Valley Retreat Center in Tranquility for a day of international worship and celebration.

Members: 6,300
Churches: 30
Schools: 4



PITTSBURGH

Then

1879—Pennsylvania became its own conference with 42 churches and 914 members.

1883—Work in Pittsburgh began and included a branch of the Health and Temperance Association. A year later, the church opened a city mission and its first congregation.

Now

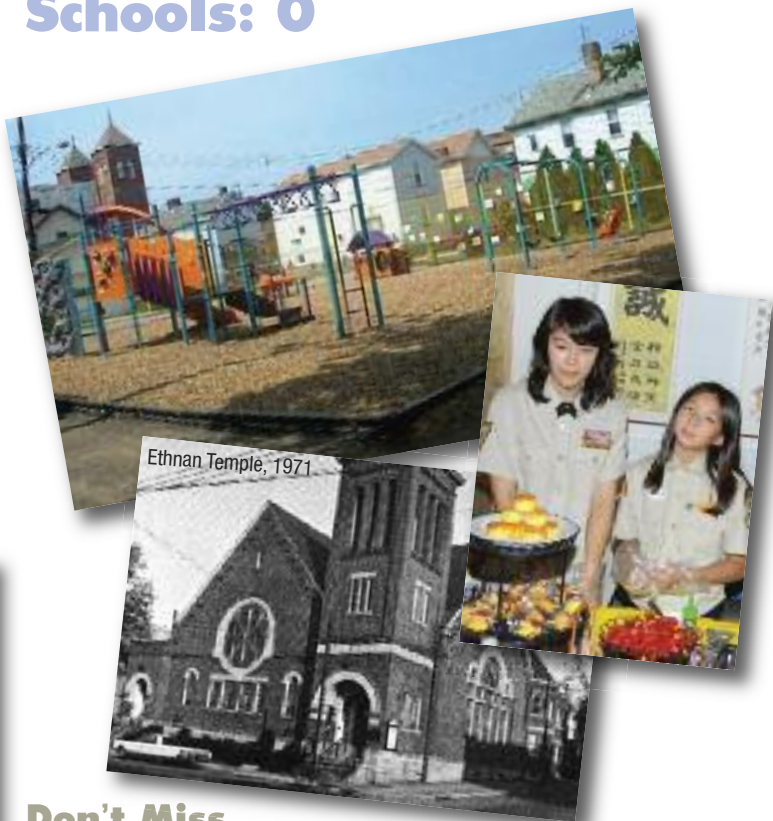
The Rock of Faith church coordinates a weekly youth mentoring program at the local recreational center. ● The Greater Pittsburgh Metro Ministry (GPMM) in Carnegie is a community services center and church plant that involves various initiatives, including a bookstore and café and programs for teens. ● The Pittsburgh church performs annual area cleanups, holds biannual food drives and runs a monthly blanket ministry for area hospitals and veterans. ● Each spring Ethnan Temple performs a bike blessing for local motorcyclists and every month serves vegetarian food samples at a local grocery store.

Next

- Rummage sales to benefit Pittsburgh Pathfinders and Adventurers, April 24 and October 30
- Pittsburgh church's annual international food festival to benefit ADRA projects August 28



Members: 2,100
Churches: 14
Schools: 0



Don't Miss

- Prayer warrior **Mamie Clemons**, 94, of the Hilltop church and her prayer wall, which features photos of the 600 people for whom she has prayed.
- The playground 400 GPMM volunteers built to reduce crime and revitalize Carnegie.



PHOTO BY PAUL SPRADLEY

WASHINGTON, D.C., METRO & NORTHERN VIRGINIA

Then

1876—J.O. Corliss and E.B. Lane helped start Adventist work in Virginia. Corliss also organized the first Adventist church in Washington, D.C., in 1889.



1894—A few members of the First church in D.C. helped establish a church in Arlington, Va. This was later **H.M.S. Richards'** first church as a new pastoral graduate of Washington Missionary College (now Washington Adventist University) in Takoma Park, Md.

1903—After a fire destroyed the Review and Herald Publishing Association, it was temporarily housed near the U.S. Capitol.

Now

The Southern Asian church in Silver Spring, Md., is the largest Southern Asian Adventist congregation outside of Southern Asia. ● The Metropolitan church in Hyattsville, Md.,

recently opened a community center with a medical clinic, gymnasium, banquet hall and conference center.

- The Sligo church in Takoma Park, one of the largest Adventist congregations in North America, is very engaged in community advocacy.
- The Capital Memorial church in D.C., established in 1902, holds an outdoor church service in a local park every summer.
- The Takoma Park church, established in 1904, recently planted the union's first Oromo Ethiopian congregation.
- Adventist Community Services of Greater Washington is a coalition of seven area churches that offers food, a thrift store, computer and ESL classes and a variety of resources to low-income families.
- First church in D.C. runs an emergency food pantry and serves hot meals four times a week to residents in need.
- The Washington Spanish church in Silver Spring birthed Hispanic work in the nation's capital in 1957 with 46 charter members. Today there are nearly 10,000 Spanish-speaking Adventists in the region and some 60 churches.

Members: 41,000
Churches: 95
Schools: 10

Next

- Deaf Evangelistic Adventist Fellowship's 11th annual Deaf Eastern Autumn Revival October 27-30
- Capital Memorial church's International Food Fair May 15
- WAU Music Department's Tenebrae Good Friday service April 22 and Christmas concert December 2



Don't Miss

- The Potomac Adventist Book and Health Food Store in Silver Spring, Md., which opened in 1905, is one of the largest distributors of Bibles, Christian books and vegetarian products in North America.



Adventist World Headquarters

RICHMOND

Then

1883—After relocating from Oswego, N.Y., the Oscar Fenton Dart family became the first Adventists in Richmond.

1894—The Virginia Conference was headquartered here until it moved to New Market in 1900.

1895—The Richmond church (now called Patterson Avenue) was organized with 28 charter members.

1911—Richmond Academy of Seventh-day Adventists opened.

Now

The Far West End church is a young and growing congregation that focuses on small groups and personal ministries.

- The Courthouse Road church has an active prison ministries team, hosts financial seminars for the community and supports a building project in Cambodia.
- The Patterson Avenue church, the oldest area congregation, regularly sponsors spaghetti dinners for the homeless and hosts health and cooking classes.
- The Richmond Brazilian church offers community services and spiritual support to Portuguese residents.
- The Prentis Park church in Portsmouth provides the community with HIV testing, prevention education and patient services.
- The Meadowbridge church in Mechanicsville runs a monthly vegetarian supper club and regularly distributes literature at the local flea market.

Next

- Far West End's StepFast health seminar April 3-May 8
- Calvary church's fourth annual block party August 21

Don't Miss

- A chance to watch a performance of the Ephesus church Rams Pathfinder Club's award-



Members: 2,100
Churches: 12
Schools: 2

winning drum corp on Pathfinder Day—April 30—and at other venues around the city.

- The renowned Blue Ridge Bells handbell choir from C.F. Richards Junior Academy in Staunton who performed at the 55th presidential inauguration and other notable events.



CHARLESTON

Then

1903—R.G. Patterson and “Elder Trough” held a tent meeting in St. Albans, W.Va., that resulted in the area’s first congregation.

is a quality day care, adult education center and free medical clinic, operated by the Summersville church and located about two hours from Charleston. ● The Berea church coordinates a weekly children’s program involving kids from the community.

Next

● Mountain View Conference’s fourth annual wellness camp May 8-22



● Mountain View’s first COMPEL Mission mobile evangelistic training event September 6–November 27

Don’t Miss

● Agricultural, vegan cooking and health classes by Spencer church members Bob and Lynnita Gregory at their farm in Minnora (bereagardens.org). They’ll also hold some training events this fall.

● Country Life Natural Foods owned and operated by Glenville church members David and Alice Meyer. Opened in the 70s, it remains one of the few health food stores in the state.

Members: 300
Churches: 2
Schools: 0



1939—Robert L. Boothby and song leader Leslie Mansell held meetings at a temporary tabernacle

constructed on Virginia Street West that resulted in 175 baptisms.

1961—The Charleston church’s community services group provided important relief efforts following the city’s worst flood July 20.

Now

The Mountain View Conference is headquartered in Parkersburg, about an hour and a half from Charleston. During the next three years, they are implementing an aggressive evangelistic campaign in Charleston. ● The Parkersburg church has operated the NewStart Thrift Mart since 2007. ● The Charleston “Boulevard” church, an historic congregation, operates a food pantry, prepares meals for those in need and spends Sabbath afternoons distributing literature. ● Friends R Fun



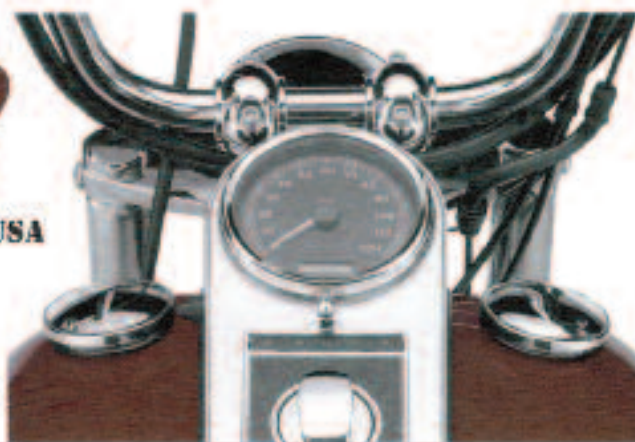
The Gregorys, Berea Gardens

REV IT UP! REVIVAL!

MOTORCYCLISTS CAMP MEETING USA

**June 2-5, 2011
Mount Vernon, Ohio**

Ride your motorcycle, come in an RV or thumb a ride. Join us for great fellowship, gospel music and good news about Jesus Christ!



Speakers

Gerald (GR) Niver - Thursday, June 2 at 7pm
Steve Chavez - Bible Study Series, June 3-5 at 9am
Tom Hughes - Friday, June 3 at 7pm
Dave Weigley - Saturday, June 4 at 11am
Paul Collins - Saturday, June 4 at 7pm
Paul Collins - Sunday, June 5 at 10am

Dorm rooms and RV sites available. Contact 740.397.5411, ext 228 for reservations.

Visit www.ohioadventist.org or email TomHughes@biblebiker.com for more information.

Statement of Policy—Nondiscrimination in Adventist Schools

The Seventh-day Adventist Church, in all of its church-operated schools, admits students of any race to all privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at its schools and makes no discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed, gender, handicap, ethnic background or national origin in the administration of education policies, applications for admission, scholarship or loan programs and extracurricular programs.

The governing body of the Church has ruled officially, and in practice abides by, the following policies:

1. Equal employment opportunities shall be afforded, with no discrimination in recruitment or hiring against any employee or application because of race, color, ethnic background, country of origin, age or sex except where age or sex is a bona fide occupational qualification.
2. Preferential hiring shall be practiced only on the basis of freely chosen adherence to Adventist tenets essential to the operation of an Adventist institution.
3. Compensation and benefits will be administered without regard to race, color, ethnic background, country of origin, creed, age or sex except where age or sex is a bona fide occupational qualification.
4. Decisions for the promotion of employees will be based upon the qualifications of an individual as related to the requirements of the position for which he or she is being considered.
5. Inasmuch as the personal life and professional identity of an individual are inseparable, all employees are expected to conform to the standards of conduct that are in harmony with Seventh-day Adventist practices.

Allegheny East—Baltimore Adventist Academy, Calvary Adventist School, DuPont Park Adventist School, Ephesus Adventist School, George E. Peters Adventist School, Hillside Adventist School, Jessie R. Wagner Adventist School, Pine Forge Academy, Sharon Temple Adventist School, Trinity Temple Adventist School, Wilbert F. Mays Adventist School

Allegheny West—Columbus Adventist Academy, Ramah Junior Academy

Chesapeake—Athalton Adventist Academy, Baltimore White Marsh Adventist School, Crest Lane Seventh-day Adventist School, Crossroads Adventist School, Eastern Shore Junior Academy, Frederick Adventist School, Friendship Adventist School, Highland View Academy, Martin Barr Adventist School, Mount Aetna Adventist Elementary School, Rocky Knoll Adventist School, Spencerville Adventist Academy, Susquehanna Adventist School, Wilmington Seventh-day Adventist Junior Academy

Mountain View—Brushy Fork Christian School, Greenbrier Valley Academy, Highland Adventist School, Mountaintop Adventist School, Summersville Adventist School, Valley View Seventh-day Adventist School

New Jersey—Cohansey Christian School, Collingwood Park Seventh-day Adventist School, Delaware Valley Junior Academy, Lake Nelson Seventh-day Adventist School, Meadow View Junior Academy, Tranquility Adventist School, Vineland Regional Adventist School, Waldwick Adventist School

Ohio—Cincinnati Junior Academy, Clarksfield Seventh-day Adventist School, Eastwood Seventh-day Adventist Junior Academy, Elyria Christian Academy, Lancaster Seventh-day Adventist School, Lima Seventh-day Adventist School, Mansfield Seventh-day Adventist School, Mayfair Christian School, Mount Vernon Academy, Mount Vernon Seventh-day Adventist Elementary School, Newark Seventh-day Adventist School, Piqua Seventh-day Adventist Christian School, Spring Valley Academy, Toledo Junior Academy, Twin Oaks Seventh-day Adventist School, Worthington Adventist Academy, Zanesville Seventh-day Adventist Elementary School

Pennsylvania—Adventist Christian School of Erie, Blue Mountain Academy, Blue Mountain Seventh-day Adventist Elementary School, Central Penn Christian School, Fairview Village Adventist School, Gettysburg Seventh-day Adventist Adventist School, Harrisburg Adventist School, Huntingdon Valley Christian Academy, Irvin Comstock Adventist School, Lehigh Valley Seventh-day Adventist Elementary School, Mountain View Christian School, Reading Adventist Junior Academy, Stroudsburg Seventh-day Adventist School, Wyoming Valley Seventh-day Adventist Elementary School, York Adventist Junior Academy

Potomac—Beltsville Adventist School, C.F. Richards Junior Academy, Desmond T. Doss Junior Academy, John Nevins Andrews, Manassas Adventist Preparatory School, Olney Adventist Preparatory School, Powell Valley Christian School, Richmond Academy, Roanoke Adventist Preparatory School, R. A. Lewis Christian School, Shenandoah Valley Academy, Shenandoah Valley Adventist Elementary School, Sligo Adventist School, Stanley Adventist School, Takoma Academy, Tappahannock Junior Academy, Tidewater Adventist Academy, TLC Prep, Vienna Adventist Academy, Yale Adventist Elementary School

CAN YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN MINISTRY?

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The Columbia Union Revolving Fund (CURF) has provided more than 1,600 loans to help build and expand hundreds of churches, schools, conferences and other entities across the union's eight-state region. One such project was the acquisition of Potomac Conference's Filipino Capitol church in Beltsville, Md.

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Profiles in Caring



Geoffrey Morgan (right), Vice President for Expanded Access, talks with a General Conference employee about Washington Adventist Hospital's plans to relocate



Washington Adventist Hospital
Shady Grove Adventist Hospital
Hackettstown Regional Medical Center
Adventist Rehabilitation Hospital
of Maryland
Adventist Behavioral Health
Adventist Home Care Services
The Reginald S. Lourie Center for Infants
and Young Children
Adventist Medical Group
LifeWork Strategies
Cytology Services of Maryland

The Difference a Word Makes

At church awhile ago, the individual presenting one of the readings for the morning misread just one word and changed the meaning entirely. The reading, part of a litany and prayer, was supposed to be, "May our worship today be an unforgettable encounter with You." I am sure that it is a sentiment that has been sincerely expressed many, many times in the prayers of the faithful.

What was said instead was, "May our worship today be an uncomfortable encounter with You." What a difference a single word makes! However, this is a provocative difference that I happen to like very much.

For the rest of the service I kept thinking about that word "uncomfortable." It seems that some of the best times in my life are when I am so uncomfortable about something that I finally seek to change it and make it better. It seems that some of my most important growth results from when I recognize that the discomfort I am feeling is actually challenging me—calling me—to do things in a better way.

And it occurs to me that while we want to be "comforted" by the amazing love of God, deep in our hearts we also know that there are things about which we should be uncomfortable, should be disquieted, should be unwilling to continue to ignore or live with.

It is my experience that "uncomfortable" tends to create more change than "unforgettable." A friend once said to me that necessary change seems to happen better when there is pain involved. Maybe that discomfort is what is needed to move us ahead, to keep us awake and aware, and to make us strive for a better result. I really believe that God calls us to a life of making a difference—and maybe being uncomfortable is one of the ways that he reminds us about it.

From my own experience, I know that change generally seems to happen when the pain associated with not changing exceeds the pain of changing. That's when I realize that there are no easy answers, and that ignoring the discomfort is not really a solution.

"No pain, no gain" is the way the kids say it. I think they might be right. God does not call us to a life of complacency and the status quo. When we stop growing we start dying, and there is nothing more uncomfortable than that.

Comforted, but not too comfortable: story of our lives.

William G. "Bill" Robertson
President & CEO
Adventist HealthCare



Health and Wellness Provides Screenings to General Conference

Employees Receive Update on Washington Adventist Hospital Relocation Plans at Fair

Adventist HealthCare took part in the General Conference Employee Health Fair held in February. Employees were offered free Osteoporosis and Facial Skin Scan screenings among other health and wellness offerings. At the same time, employees could learn about the future relocation of Washington Adventist Hospital.

"We're dedicated to our mission of improving the health of people and communities through a ministry of physical, mental and spiritual healing," said Judy Lichty, Regional Director of Health & Wellness for Adventist HealthCare and a member of the Spencerville Seventh-Day Adventist Church. "Participating in this event was a great way to connect with employees, and remind them to keep their health top of mind."

Adventist HealthCare's Health Ministry department was also there to encourage employees to participate in their own churches health ministry.

In addition, Geoffrey Morgan, Vice President of Expanded Access at Washington Adventist Hospital, and also a member of the Spencerville Seventh-Day Adventist Church, was on hand to talk about the hospital's exciting relocation project. The proposed new medical campus is on 48 acres at Plum Orchard Drive and Cherry Hill Road in White Oak, near the General Conference and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. The new site will allow for a modern health-care facility offering 21st century whole-person care.

More than 100 General Conference employees signed letters of support that were sent to the Maryland Health Care Commission. The Commission is in the process of reviewing the hospital's application to relocate.

The hospital's relocation plans also call for providing health care services on the current campus in Takoma Park, once the hospital relocates, as part of the Village of Education, Health and Wellbeing.

Washington Adventist Hospital continues to work with its neighbor and partner, Washington Adventist University, to plan for the utilization of hospital space on the current campus for classrooms and other University functions. The 100-year relationship with the University will expand to include creating clinical simulation learning environments, allow for University nursing faculty and students to work in the primary and urgent care center, and enhance collaboration to expand the University's School of Health Professions, Science and Wellness.

If you have not already, and would like to sign a letter of support, you can do so at www.ExpandedHealthAccess.com.



Washington Adventist Hospital's Health & Wellness team offered General Conference employees free health screenings and answered their health related questions.

Adventist HealthCare In The News

Adventist HealthCare Recognized by EPA as Leading Green Power Purchasers

Adventist HealthCare has been recognized for its work with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Green Power Partnership, through a purchase of more than 5 million kilowatt-hours (kWh) of green power annually. This is the largest purchase within the Partnership by a health-care services provider in Maryland, and the fourth largest nationwide.



The green purchase, which covers from 2011-2014, demonstrates a choice to switch from traditional sources of electricity generation and support cleaner renewable energy alternatives. According to the EPA, the organization's green power purchase is equivalent to avoiding the CO2 emissions of more than 700 passenger vehicles per year.

Organization Receives Nearly \$1 Million Grant for Breast Cancer Care

Adventist HealthCare, through Shady Grove Adventist and Washington Adventist Hospitals, has received a nearly-\$1 million grant from the Susan G. Komen for the Cure Foundation, the largest single grant awarded to the organization.

The four-year, \$917,000 grant will fund the Navigate to Health: Rapid Referral Program, which will provide comprehensive breast care services to medically underserved, low-income, minority women in Montgomery and Prince George's Counties. Navigate to Health is expected to provide care and services to more than 2,000 new patients between 2011 and 2014, making a tremendous difference in the health of women in the community.

Region's First MRI-Safe Pacemaker Implanted at Washington Adventist Hospital

On Feb. 16, Washington Adventist Hospital became the first hospital in the Mid-Atlantic region to implant a new MRI-safe pacemaker. This was one week after the U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved this first-of-its-kind pacemaker specifically designed to be compatible with magnetic resonance imaging, or MRI exams.

Pacemakers are surgically implanted devices that generate electrical impulses to treat stalled heartbeats. An estimated 200,000 pacemaker patients a year cannot receive an MRI to diagnose a medical problem because of the potential for the machine's magnetic fields to interfere with pacemaker operation, according to Medtronic, the maker of the device.

Many of the region's "firsts" in cardiac care were performed at Washington Adventist Hospital, including the first open heart surgery, first heart bypass, first heart catheterization, and first Mini-Maze to correct atrial fibrillation (abnormal heart rhythm).

Hackettstown Partners with Hackensack University Medical Center

In early January, Hackensack University Medical Center (HUMC) signed an Affiliation Agreement with Hackettstown Regional Medical Center (HRMC) to collaborate and expand clinical programs and services, further improving the high-quality medical care HRMC provides patients in northwestern New Jersey and northeastern Pennsylvania.

The partnership will benefit patients and the service-area communities by strengthening and supporting HRMC's existing programs and bringing additional state-of-the-art care and specialized diagnostic and medical treatments to the community. The collaboration will also foster a closer working relationship between the medical staff and physicians at both hospitals, helping to foster superior outcomes for patients.

Adventist HealthCare a Finalist for MBE Best Practices Award

Adventist HealthCare was recognized as a finalist for the 2010 MBE (Minority Business Enterprises) Best Practices Award by the Legislative Black Caucus of Maryland. This commendation recognizes the initiatives that the organization continues to provide to its diverse community.

Adventist HealthCare's Advantage Savings and Purchasing Program (ASAP) and Adventist HealthCare's Construction and Facilities Department have worked to understand the utilization of women-owned and minority-owned businesses and how to establish relationships with vendors of diverse backgrounds.

Chief Medical Officer Presents Innovative Health Program to Maryland Legislature

Gaurav Dayal, M.D., Vice President and Chief Medical Officer for Adventist HealthCare, briefed the Maryland House of Delegates Health and Government Operations Committee in Annapolis, Md., on Jan. 27 about the health-care organization's use of Electronic Medical Records to help physicians improve community health outcomes.

Adventist HealthCare is rolling out ACES – which stands for Ambulatory Care EMR Solution – to support its 1,700 community-based physicians in integrating all aspects of patient care within the inpatient and outpatient environments. The ACES program is part of the health-care system's goal to deliver population-based care through medical, health and chronic disease management by providing a continuum of care.

Visit www.adventisthealthcare.com to read more news and "Like" us on Facebook at Adventist HealthCare.

Adventist HealthCare en las noticias

Adventist HealthCare reconocido por EPA como compradores líderes de energía ecológica.

Adventist HealthCare ha sido reconocido por su trabajo con la Asociación de Energía Ecológica de la Agencia de Protección Ambiental (EPA, por sus siglas en inglés) de EE.UU., por la compra de más de 5 millones de kilovatios-hora (kWh) de energía ecológica anualmente. Esta es la compra más grande dentro de la Asociación por parte de un proveedor de servicios de salud en Maryland, y la cuarta más grande en toda la nación.

La compra ecológica, que cubre el periodo desde 2011 hasta 2014, demuestra nuestro compromiso de cambiar las fuentes tradicionales de generación de electricidad y apoyar alternativas de energía renovable más limpias. De acuerdo con EPA, la compra de energía ecológica que hace la organización es equivalente a evitar emisiones de CO2 de más de 700 vehículos de pasajeros por año.

La organización recibe un subsidio de casi \$1 millón para la atención del cáncer de senos

Adventist HealthCare, a través de los hospitales Shady Grove Adventist y Washington Adventist, ha recibido un subsidio de casi \$1 millón de la Fundación Susan G. Komen for the Cure, el subsidio individual más grande otorgado a la organización.

El subsidio de cuatro años de duración por \$917,000 financiará el programa Navigate to Health: Rapid Referral Program, (Navegue hacia la salud: programa de referidos rápidos) que ofrecerá servicio integral de atención de senos a mujeres de las minorías, marginadas en servicios médicos, de bajos ingresos en los condados de Montgomery y Prince George. Se espera que Navigate to Health brinde atención y servicios a más de 2,000 nuevas pacientes entre 2011 y 2014, lo que hará una gran diferencia en la salud de las mujeres de la comunidad.

Primer marcapasos en la región que es compatible con la resonancia magnética (MRI) implantado en Washington Adventist Hospital

El 16 de febrero Washington Adventist Hospital se convirtió en el primer hospital en la región del atlántico medio en implantar un nuevo marcapasos que es compatible con un MRI. Esto ocurrió una semana después de que la Administración de Drogas y Alimentos (FDA) de EE.UU. aprobó este marcapasos, el primero de su clase, específicamente diseñado para ser compatible con la resonancia magnética, o exámenes de MRI.

Los marcapasos son aparatos implantados quirúrgicamente que generan impulsos eléctricos para tratar latidos del corazón erráticos. Se estima que 200,000 pacientes de marcapasos al año no pueden recibir un MRI para diagnosticar un problema médico debido a que el potencial de los campos magnéticos de la máquina interfiere con el funcionamiento del marcapasos, según lo expuesto por Medtronic, el fabricante del aparato.

Muchas de las innovaciones realizadas en atención cardiaca en la región se hicieron por primera vez en Washington Adventist Hospital, incluida la primera cirugía a corazón abierto, el primer bypass de corazón, el primer cateterismo de corazón y el primer Mini-Maze para corregir la fibrilación auricular (ritmo cardíaco anormal).

Hackettstown se asocia con Hackensack University Medical Center

A principios de enero, Hackensack University Medical Center (HUMC) firmó un acuerdo de afiliación con el Hackettstown Regional Medical Center (HRMC) para expandir y colaborar con los programas y servicios clínicos, mejorar aun más la atención médica de alta calidad que HRMC ofrece a los pacientes en el noroeste de New Jersey y noreste de Pennsylvania.

La asociación beneficiará a los pacientes y a las comunidades del área de servicio mediante el fortalecimiento y apoyo de los programas existentes de HRMC y el aporte de lo último en tecnología para la atención médica, diagnóstico especializado y tratamientos médicos a la comunidad. La colaboración también promoverá una relación de trabajo más cercana entre el personal médico y los doctores de ambos hospitales, ayudando a fomentar mejores resultados para los pacientes.

Adventist HealthCare, finalista para el premio de mejores prácticas MBE

Adventist HealthCare recibió reconocimiento como finalista para el premio de mejores prácticas MBE (Empresas de negocios de las minorías) del 2010 otorgado por el Legislative Black Caucus de Maryland. Esta mención de honor reconoce las iniciativas que la organización continúa ofreciendo a su diversa comunidad.

El programa ASAP (ventajas en compras y ahorros) de Adventist HealthCare y el departamento de construcción e instalaciones de Adventist HealthCare han trabajado para entender el funcionamiento de los negocios de propiedad de mujeres y de minorías y para establecer relaciones con proveedores de diferentes orígenes.

Visite www.adventisthealthcare.com para leer más noticias y para que se nos una en Facebook en Adventist HealthCare.



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Montclair's Family, Youth Conference Attracts 1,000

The First church of Montclair, N.J., recently organized their first Family and Youth Leadership Conference. Held at Montclair State University, the daylong event drew a crowd of nearly 1,000 people. Individuals from New York and New Jersey filled the university's auditorium to hear featured speaker Barry Black, DMin, PhD, chaplain of the United States Senate. The theme of the event was "Expect the Unexpected." The morning service was followed by youth empowerment seminars. Paula Olivier, First church's senior pastor, facilitated the first seminar. She covered topics of self-image and how to conquer the fear of failure.

Thirteen-year-old Jordan Jones says he learned, "The more you fail, the closer you get to success because you can learn from your mistakes." First church member Mellissa Bullen conducted the second seminar. Bullen is a registered nurse who helps treat victims of chemical dependency. In her workshop, she showed how illicit drugs damage the brain. One participant declared after the workshop, "I'm too scared to try drugs." Chaplain Black taught leadership principles to the youth in the third and final seminars.

Conference attendees included the Rev. Allen Shelton, president of Montclair African-American Clergy Association, and the Rev. Elizabeth Campbell, president of the Baptist Ministers' Conference of Newark and Vicinity. Campbell remarked, "I was most pleased to spend profitable time [at the conference]. I took back some thoughts to our congregation. Thank you, Pastor Paula and church family, for sharing."



U.S. Senate Chaplain Barry Black, urges attendees to the Family and Youth Leadership Conference to "Expect the Unexpected."

Bethany Welcomes Four Youth Into Fold

Members of the Bethany church in Bridgeton, N.J., recently welcomed four new members to their church through baptism. Jaden Brewer (11), Zarea Duncan (13), Moriah Duncan (10) and Chloe Munez (10) made the decision for baptism after successfully completing a Bible study class.

When asked why they made this commitment to Christ, Moriah Duncan responded, "I want to go to heaven, and I want God in my heart so that I can be kind and generous." Zarea Duncan said, "I want to be a part of God's family, so that I can see Jesus and be prepared for Judgment Day." Munez said she wanted to "praise the Lord and to do His commands." And Brewer said, "I wanted to be made whole and forgiven of my sins."

Pastor Howard Duncan hopes that by teaching them to continually serve God out of a pure heart they "can continue this great Advent Movement so that Jesus can take us home." He adds that a vibrant youth ministry will consume what he calls a pervading spirit of complacency.

"Our young people are important and this church belongs to them. We are actively nurturing their gifts

and talents," he said. "I challenge them to grow and express themselves as they take ownership of various ministries within the church."



PHOTO BY RACHEL GRANT

Pastor Howard Duncan stands proudly with four young people prior to their baptism into the Bethany church in Bridgeton, N.J.

College Students Partner With Publishing Ministries

Students from ANEW, a Seventh-day Adventist student-organized and -led network of secular campus ministries in the mid-Atlantic region, recently spent two weeks canvassing in Maryland. The students (pictured) worked with Reginald Alexander, the associate director of Publishing for the Allegheny East Conference's Washington, D.C., metropolitan area, in conjunction with the Reaching Hearts church in Spencerville, Md. Students reported leaving the program more equipped and inspired to tackle their secular campuses.

Kwabena Yamoah, who is studying physiology neurobiology at the University of Maryland in College Park, said during those two weeks he saw God answer prayers and open hearts. "It's one thing when people testify that God has performed miracles in their lives, but it's a totally different experience when you see the Spirit of God

working on the heart of an individual," he marveled.

Antonia Richards, who is studying for a master's in Chemistry Education from Cornell University (N.Y.), says one of her most precious memories was meeting a soldier who was on his way to drinking away his problems. "It was a blessing [that] we were able to encourage him and pray for him and stop him from purchasing alcohol. We left him with a health book instead and words of encouragement," she said.

Katie Smith, a Nutritional Science major at Cornell, added, "Throughout my canvassing experience I learned that God wants us to share Him with others even if we think they may turn us down. Only God knows just who is seeking to know more about Him ... It is simply our job to go where He leads."

Some 18 ANEW students plan to work with the conference for 10 weeks this summer. For more information, visit anew-web.org.

—David Park



New Joy Fellowship Hosts First Communication Day

New Joy Fellowship members in Hagerstown, Md., recently hosted their first Communication Day with Celeste Ryan Blyden, editor for the Columbia Union Conference's *Visitor* magazine.

Blyden titled her morning sermon "What's Your Message?" and main-

tained a lively flow of information mixed with soft laughter. Supporting her facts with PowerPoint slides and video clips, she led participants in applying facts and possibilities to themselves and New Joy Fellowship.

After the morning service, members surrounded Blyden. "I had never heard of Communication Day," said a smiling June Jones, a transplant from New York City. Other members chimed in, agreeing with Jones and with Sadie Ashley who said, "I learned a lot."

In the afternoon, Blyden addressed newswriting, photography and social networking. She also walked participants through

a newswriting quiz. Members submitted photographs that were numbered and exhibited on a large bulletin board. She critiqued photos and gave affirmation as well as direction for improvement where needed.

New Joy members are still talking about the PowerPoint quiz that Blyden gave, leading them to rank their communication among themselves and with the Hagerstown community. They are determined to move their ranking to a 10 by January 2012.—Faith Crumbly

PHOTO BY RON PRIDE



Visitor editor Celeste Ryan Blyden (left) gives tips to Jasmine Pride about using the church camera to move good photographs to publishing quality.

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Bethel Members Adopt a Street

Members of the Bethel church in Staunton, Va., have been seeking ways to express how much they care about their community. When the opportunity arose for the church to adopt Stafford Street, which suffered from drugs and violence, the church gladly accepted the challenge to get involved through their ministry, Agape In Motion (AIM).

“We have members that grew up in that neighborhood and community and felt inspired to take an active part in restoring that area,” shares Pastor Bryant L. Smith. “It is just one part of [our] multifaceted plan to take back our community and spread the news of Jesus Christ.”

Every quarter Bethel members gather to work on the street. On one occasion, they received help from “Mkono Nia,” Oakwood University’s drama group. They raked, weeded, picked up trash and cleared debris. People soon started noticing and many drove by honking their horns in appreciation for their labor of love. “We were able to share God’s love in both the physical and literal meaning of the word,” says Pastor Smith.

Bethel church members restore pride to Stafford Street in Staunton, Va., by cleaning up the street each quarter.



Erie Adventist Temple Makes Outreach a Weekly Event

Driven by a desire to share the Word of God with fellow Spanish-speakers, Julio Garcia, Alice Rodriguez and José Quiñones started a Sabbath School group at the English-speaking Mount Zion church in Erie, Pa. Today that effort has led to the formation of Templo Adventista de Erie (Erie Adventist Temple)—the first full-fledged Spanish-speaking church in Erie.

Julio Magdiel Juarez, who now pastors the church, says this group of believers is completely focused on outreach. When members went knocking on doors last year, they met a Latino family who lived across the street from their current location for the past 15 years. They had never before heard of Seventh-day Adventists. When Pastor Juarez gave them Bible studies, they accepted the Lord and were baptized. Unfortunately, the mother later died from cancer. But even in the wake of such sadness, this woman’s death brought even more people to Christ. Many who came to her funeral wanted to know more about Adventists.

The church has now outgrown the fellowship hall where they now hold worship services. To accommodate their growing membership, Juarez has switched its worship times to 2:30 p.m. so they can use the church’s main sanctuary.

“In the mornings, we are going to get all of our friends and bring people over to the church,” Pastor Juarez explains. “Our whole emphasis is evangelism. We want to teach people and equip them to go out into the community. This is the work of the Holy Spirit. God can use anything and anyone to do His work.”

Walter Castro, Multicultural Ministries director for the Allegheny West Conference, says without the involvement of lay members the church would not exist. “Church planting can only happen when lay members engage in this holy work,” he says.—*Taashi Rowe*



Julio Magdiel Juarez baptizes a mother and daughter.



Southeast Members Donate Clothing, Shoes

The Southeast church in Cleveland recently held a coat and shoe drive to help those in their community. Organized by the Community Outreach Ministry (right), members donated 186 coats for men, women and children; 106 pairs of shoes and 108 pieces of clothing. The team also gave away 100 toys. In total they helped 190 men, women and children.

"We saw this as an opportunity to show our love for Jesus to the community around us," shared Tawanna Norton, community

outreach leader. "It also offered each team member a [unified purpose and goal]."

Southeast members chose this method of outreach after surveying the community for meaningful ministry ideas. "We want to inspire the Southeast community outreach team to show Jesus to others through our work and our prayers rather than just *tell* others about Jesus," Norton said. "It also gave us the opportunity to develop meaningful relationships between many different people in the community and church."



Next month the church will organize a Dress for Success campaign. They are encouraging members and friends to donate work-appropriate shirts, pants, dresses, skirts, blouses and suits both for men and women who cannot afford these items. For more information, contact the church at (216) 662-3080.

Community members sift through donated clothing at the Southeast church in Cleveland.

Calendar

April

- 9 Southern Ohio Elders Association Meeting
- 10 Family Life Training
- 10-30 Church Growth Evangelism Meetings, *Appomattox, Va.*

May

- 1 VAWW Community Service Federation
- 13-14 Marriage Retreat
- 13-14 Prayer Summit, *Thornville, Ohio*
- 14 Ohio Elders Association Meets
- 15 Southern Ohio Community Service Spring Federation
- 15- Church Growth Evangelistic Meetings, *Erie, Pa.*
- June 4 Church Planting Conference, *Thornville*
- 22 Northern Ohio Community Service Spring Federation
- 27-29 Latino Camp Meeting *Thornville*
- 28 Singles Conference

"Go Take Territory"



Allegheny West Conference hosts their second Church Planting Summit May 20-22 at the conference campgrounds



Speakers: Fredrick Russell (left), conference president, and Walter Castro, Multicultural Ministries director

The summit is designed to inspire and equip attendees and share insight into tried and tested models of church planting.

To register, contact Pastor Walter Castro at (614) 252-5271 or castrowal@gmail.com

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THE CHALLENGE

chesapeake conference newsletter

APRIL 2011

Meditations in a Tool Shed

I once walked into my backyard tool shed, and the door closed behind me. The sun was shining outside, and through the crack at the top of the door there came a sunbeam. From where I stood that beam of light was the most striking thing in the shed. Everything else was almost pitch black. I was seeing the sunbeam, not seeing things by it. Then I moved so that the sunbeam fell on my eyes. Instantly the previous picture vanished. I saw no tool shed and, above all, no sunbeam. Instead I saw green leaves moving on the branches of a tree outside and beyond that, some 93 million miles away, the sun. Looking at the sunbeam and looking along it were two very different experiences.

A young man meets a young woman and the whole world looks different when he sees her. Her voice reminds him of something he has been trying to remember all of his life. A 10-minute chat with her is more precious than a lengthy conversation with anyone else. He is *in love*. Then along comes an observer and suggests this is nothing other than a matter of genetics—a recognized biological stimulus. That is the difference between *looking at* and *looking along* something. Which is the true and valid experience? Which tells you the most about the thing? The truth of the matter is that one must look at *and* along everything.

Take the doctrines that we hold so dear, those propositional truths that define us as a people. Too often we have shared them as truths we have simply *looked at* and altogether too seldom as truths we have *looked along*. We need to share both perspectives and, in doing so, our witness will be all that more attractive and compelling.



Rob Vandeman
President

Elders Retreat Promotes Healthy Churches

On a recent Sabbath, church elders from around the Chesapeake Conference worshiped together at the Mount Aetna Camp and Retreat Center in Hagerstown, Md. Speaker S. Joseph Kidder (right), DMin, associate professor of Spiritual Formation at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University (Mich.), addressed the group about the spiritual dynamics of a healthy church.

He first focused on personal prayer and worship, then on congregational worship and prayer ministries in the church.

“The retreat was a blessing,” said Julia DiBiase, an elder at the Atholton church in Columbia, Md. “Dr. Kidder brought out a lot of important spiritual lessons. He challenged us to pray for the people in our congregation and watch what God can do.”

Rob Vandeman, conference president, says the event was well received and will likely be offered annually. “There was a good spirit among the group,” he says.



PHOTOS BY GLEN MILAM



About 100 men and women, representing 29 churches, attend a retreat for church elders in Hagerstown, Md.

Pathfinder Classoree Draws Record Crowd

Sleeping bags were everywhere at the recent Pathfinder Winter Classoree held at the Mount Aetna Camp and Retreat Center. There were 410 Pathfinders registered for the event—a record turnout that far exceeded the center’s lodging capacity—according to Ann Reynolds, a staff member in the conference’s Youth Ministries department. Overflow campers were housed in private homes, the Highland View Academy gym and in the fellowship hall of the Highland View church.

Jamison Moran, a seventh-grader at Eastern Shore Junior Academy in Sudlersville, Md., and member of Delaware’s Dover Diamonds Pathfinder Club, liked the Esther and Gourmet Cooking class. “We learned how Esther helped the people, then we dipped strawberries in chocolate and learned to cut radishes into the shape of a rose,” he said. “It was really fun.”

Tim Boyd (right) of Delaware’s West Wilmington Wolverines Club invests Felix Nieto II of the New Hope Nighthawks Club in Fulton, Md., with the Pathfinder Instructor Award.



PHOTO BY CHARLES KOERTING

HISPANIC NEWS

Seaford Group Gains Company Status

The Seaford Spanish group in Seaford, Del., has been promoted to company status. Members from all three congregations in the Salisbury/Seaford/Denton Spanish district along with Rick Remmers, conference secretary, and Eduardo Muñoz, conference treasurer, recently gathered to commemorate the occasion with a special worship service.

Ten years ago, a few families began meeting under the leadership of Ken Scheller, pastor of the English-speaking Seaford church. The group has grown and now, with more than 30 people attending regularly, is part of a district led by Pastor Eliezer Tineo.

Members also celebrated securing a permanent meeting place, Remmers shared. The congregation leases the old David G. Fleagle Adventist School building in Seaford and has been meeting there since January 1.—*Silvano Rondon and Eliezer Tineo*



Jovana Rondon is one of 22 members to sign the charter for the newly organized Seaford Spanish company.

PHOTO BY RICK REMMERS

Small Groups Thrive in Western Maryland

Pastor Luis Orjuela is trying a different approach to ministry in his Frederick/Hagerstown district in Maryland. He is cultivating several small groups with the goal of developing them into churches, using a method he calls “spiritual multiplication.” On a recent Sabbath, nine small groups held Sabbath School and worship services in individual homes. In the afternoon, the groups all met at the Frederick Spanish church for a concert and seminar.

Allan Machado, a Florida pastor, presented on the early church model—growth through the ministry of small groups—and the involvement of lay people. Orjuela then charged lay leaders to accept the challenge and vision set before them.

Members have been encouraged to bring their friends and co-workers to worship in the small groups. They will meet quarterly in private homes for fellowship and spiritual enrichment.—*Kleyton Feitosa*



Conference representatives and pastors of area Hispanic churches lend their support at an afternoon meeting at the Frederick (Md.) Spanish church.

The Challenge is published in the *Visitor* by the Chesapeake Conference 6600 Martin Road, Columbia, MD 21044 ■ Phone: (410) 995-1910 ccosda.org ■ President, Rob Vandeman ■ Editor, Samantha Young

Students Show Compassion by Going Hungry

Recently, on our Highland View Academy (HVA) campus, more than 60 students participated in the 30 Hour Famine. So what exactly is the 30 Hour Famine, you ask? It involves students around the world, who love God, fasting for 30 hours to raise funds and awareness for the world's hungry people. Our students experienced what it is like *not to be able to eat* when they are hungry. I participated in this outreach thinking that I was going to offer insight and experience; however, what I found were 60-plus students who truly taught me about conviction and servant leadership.

As Christian educators, our goal is to be lifelong learners with a spirit of openness that facilitates the growth that God wants to offer us through His Word.

In *Fundamentals of Christian Education*, Ellen White shares that "there is a time for training children and a time for educating youth; and it is essential that in school both of these be combined in a great degree. Children may be trained for the service of sin or for the service of righteousness. The early education of youth shapes their characters both in their secular and in their religious life" (p. 15).

At HVA our primary focus is to become the training ground that God has called us to be. Please continue to pray for us as we seek to educate for eternity!



Paris Ritter ('12) and Sam Jun ('13), participants in the 30 Hour Famine, make toys used by children in developing countries.



Deborah Treviño
Principal

Teacher Wins Science Award

Ophelia M. Barizo, chairperson of HVA's Science Department, was recently named the high school level winner of the Making a Difference Award. Presented by the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA), this award recognizes and honors excellence in a science program that impacts the lives of students. Two teachers (one middle school and one high school) are selected to receive the award each year. According to the NSTA, award recipients are recognized for showing "effective teaching strategies combined with a science program that have influenced students to initiate or extend their interests in the exploration and investigation of science and its application to global problems."

The \$2,500 prize goes to the school's science program. "I never expected to receive this award, but I am both honored and humbled that our science program is being recognized nationally," Barizo says. "I praise the Lord for His goodness! I am excited about getting some funds for the enhancement of science education at HVA."

Barizo, who has been at HVA for 15 years, teaches chemistry, environmental science and forensic science.



Last month Ophelia Barizo and Deborah Treviño, HVA principal, traveled to the National Conference on Science Education in San Francisco, where Barizo (holding award) was honored at the Teachers Awards Banquet.

Students Retreat to Study the Bible

Highland View Academy students recently attended a three-day Bible Retreat in a rustic farmhouse in rural Pennsylvania. The theme for the weekend was “Running Toward God.” The Bible retreat included much singing and creative journaling under the guidance of the weekend’s facilitator and speaker, Seth Ellis, HVA’s math and computer teacher. Students and sponsors then shared and discussed what God had prompted them to write in their journals.

“The purpose of the Bible retreat is to provide dedicated Bible students a place to study God’s Word with minimal distractions and good intentional biblical instruction,” explained Chaplain Rico Woolcock. “The Bible retreat is also a great

time for people to reconnect and experience God and the working of the Holy Ghost and focus on Jesus and His sacrifice.”

Stephanie Calhoun, Student Association pastor, helped coordinate the retreat. Calhoun said she really enjoyed the revival stories of Elijah on Mount Carmel and Jonah at Nineveh because even though they had witnessed the power of God, they still needed personal revival.

“We spent the weekend hiking, fellowshiping together and studying about God with like-minded friends,” said HVA junior Emily Bankes.

Students say the highlight of the weekend was a trip to Rest Assured, a local nursing home, to sing hymns and visit with its residents. One visiting family was so



Highland View Academy students enjoy fellowshiping with like-minded classmates during a Bible retreat.

touched by HVA’s students that they insisted on donating \$50 to the Campus Ministries fund. —Khelsea Bauer (’11)

Girls Form Lifelong Friendships in Dorms

DeHaan Hall is home to about 20 girls this year. Throughout the year, the girls spend time together worshipping, studying and bonding. They plan several events, such as the annual Girls’ Club Camp Out and Wednesday night games. The boys’ and girls’ clubs recently got together for a camp out at Elk Neck State Park in eastern Maryland. While there, they enjoyed the Chesapeake Bay beach, games and worships

around the campfire and playing volleyball.

This year the girls hosted their first Ugly Skirt Night. All of the girls (village students included) were invited to put on their craziest, ugliest, most atrocious outfits and attend a special worship and “beauty” pageant. They shared some musical talents and the worship was focused on inner beauty. They took away the message: the Lord looks upon our hearts and minds and does not get caught up in our latest fashion statement.

Living in the dorm also provides another opportunity for students to be leaders on campus. The resident assistants and Girls’ Club officers frequently help prepare activities and worships for the residents. They also provide support for the homesick or frustrated

student who needs a friend.

“Living in the dorm helps you build relationships that will last a lifetime,” says Makhela Libebe, a junior. “I hope to never forget the friends I’ve made.”

SAVE THE DATE

Don’t forget to visit the HVA campus during Alumni Weekend May 6-8. For more information, contact Renee Williams at (301) 739-8480, via cell at (610) 389-8667, rwilliams@highlandviewacademy.com or visit hva-edu.com.

Highlander is published in the *Visitor* by the Highland View Academy 10100 Academy Drive, Hagerstown, MD 21740 • Phone: (301) 739-8480 Fax: (301) 733-4770 highlandviewacademy.com Principal, Deborah Treviño Editor, Renee Williams



Dorm residents learn about inner beauty during an Ugly Skirt Night worship program.

MOUNTAIN VIEW POINT

APRIL 2011

A New Day

Life can be challenging at times. There are times in each person's life when they feel as if they are filled with darkness. At times they may feel that there is no light at the end of the tunnel, but I praise God that even in the middle of a storm, we can find peace when we turn our eyes upon Jesus. Jesus told Nicodemus, "... Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God" (John 3:3). A person must be born again to have a new life.

Our summer camp theme for 2011 is "A New Day," because that is exactly what Jesus offers to those who open their hearts to Him. We believe that when the Spirit of God gets a hold of youth, He will turn their lives completely around and use them in a mighty way. He will give them a new beginning—a new day. As Paul wrote, "If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature" (2 Cor. 5:17). We are certain that during our summer camp programs at the Valley Vista Adventist Center in Huttonsville, W.Va., there will be a lot of creating happening. We know the Lord will make all our youth a new creation. He will change their lives, and our young people will be ready for the "new day" when the Lord will come in the clouds of heaven and all "shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air" (1 Thess. 4:17). What a glorious day that will be. Maranatha, come Lord Jesus!



Walter Cardenas
Summer Camp Director

Church Officers Learn to "Act in Concert"

Almost 100 church officers from all over the Mountain View Conference recently gathered at the Charleston (W.Va.) church to learn more about their specific church ministry. With the theme "Acting in Concert," members attended seminars for elders, deacons, deaconesses, Children's Ministries, Pathfinders, Youth Ministries, Health Ministries,

communication, personal outreach, church clerks, adult Sabbath School and Treasury.

"From what I heard from others and my experience, this church officer training was the best we have had since I've been here. Praise God for His continuing work in this conference," shared John Ott, who pastors the Moorefield, Romney and Franklin churches in West Virginia.

"We had tremendous turn out and are excited that our members came to help improve unity and outreach in our local churches," commented Larry Boggess, conference president. "I expected a good turn out from the churches close by, but we [even] had groups travel from Cumberland and Frostburg [Maryland] and further distances."

Neville Harcombe, executive secretary of the Columbia Union Conference, opened the assembly with a compelling message. He encouraged attendees to listen and know God's voice, as Samuel did, even as a young boy. Harcombe also helped lead the elders training session.

"This training was well-organized with so many choices, I wasn't sure where I should go," enthused Amy Fullmer from the Parkersburg (W.Va.) church. "I learned so much from both the seminars I attended and brought home enthusiasm and materials to continue the momentum."



Amy and Charles Garvick from the Wheeling (W.Va.) church enjoy a seminar.

MOUNTAIN VIEWPOINT

Williamson Member Shares Journey

According to Douglas Dustan Rutherford (below), he was living the American dream. He had a lovely wife, Amanda, with whom he sang in the church choir; two beautiful, healthy children; a well-paying career and was studying for a degree in mine management. However, something was missing.



So he began a personal investigation into the doctrines and history of his church and paid close attention to the origins behind the doctrines. When he could find no scriptural basis for a doctrine, he dismissed them. As he dug deeper into his studies, he researched various world religions and Christian denominations, searching for a church that truly lived up to its claims of upholding the Bible as

the supreme basis for their beliefs; and who truly follow the teachings of Christ.

One day he questioned in his heart, "Is there such a church?" While flipping through the TV channels one Sunday morning, he stopped on the Discovery Channel, which was broadcasting a program from Amazing Facts, featuring evangelist Doug Batchelor. He was astonished at what was being taught as it was in complete agreement with the truths he was studying from the Bible.

He then began more in-depth studies and learned more about the Seventh-day Adventist Church's beliefs. He soon realized that it was the only denomination that could prove all of its doctrines from Bible truths. His family now belongs to the Williamson (W.Va.) church.

Mountain View EVENTS

April

29-May 1 CHIP Leadership Training
Parkersburg Academy

May

1-6 Outdoor School, *Boston*

8-22 Wellness Camp
Valley Vista Adventist Center

June

3-5 Pathfinder Fair, *Valley Vista*

17-25 Camp Meeting, *Valley Vista*

Correction: In the March issue of the *Viewpoint*, we neglected to mention that Justin Howard not only pastors the East Pea Ridge church in Huntington, W.Va., but also the Point Pleasant (W.Va.) church.

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June 12 ~ 17

Adventure Camp - Ages 7-9

July 3 ~ 10

Junior Camp - Ages 10-12

July 10 ~ 17

Teen Camp - Ages 13 & up

July 17 ~ 24

VALLEY VISTA
2011

Visit us online at mtviewconf.org or call 304-422-4581 for more information.

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Phone: (304) 422-4581 ■ mtviewconf.org ■ President, Larry Boggess ■ Editor, Monica Zill

SPIRIT

MOUNT VERNON ACADEMY

APRIL 2011

A Special Homecoming

April signals the beginning of the end of another great school year. While some students anticipate going home where they will find love and acceptance, an increasing number of Mount Vernon Academy (MVA) students find home a place of insecurity and uncertainty. So many times as I work with students, I have to recognize that my perspective of what home and family represent may be very different from what my students know and experience. When we talk of going to heaven as going “home” or our “Father” in heaven, many of my students struggle with connecting happiness with home and family.

While on our campus, our students gain a glimpse of heaven in our humble school. They find adults who love them and a school where, for the first time, they are not worried about their physical or mental well-being. It is our challenge to point to an eternity of love and acceptance for our students—an existence that for some is a bigger dream than streets of gold. It is my prayer that we will all look forward to the day when all of our students will only know the love of their Savior. See you there.



Robert Stevenson
Principal

NEWS

Students Make a Difference in Lesotho

A group of MVA students recently returned from helping the Maluti Adventist Hospital in Lesotho in Southern Africa. They worked for a week fixing broken vehicles, repairing damaged buildings, landscaping, relocating a very large playground, worshipping together and playing with and witnessing to the Maluti children.

During their stay, flooding caused a shortage of running water in the taps, forcing students to filter and boil water for drinking and cooking. After working all day in the dry, hot sun, the mission students would hike 20 minutes to the river to wash and clean up in the cool, clean rapids.



They also found time to enjoy the authentic flavor of African food and the country’s natural beauty. Students report that they have been truly and forever changed by this mission experience.

Junior Wins Essay Contest

Every year Knox County holds an essay contest for middle and high school students in honor and remembrance of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. Anna Abraham, a junior, placed first in the competition.

Abraham, who was “humbly honored” at winning the award, said writing her essay caused her to look into King’s life and his purposes.

“As I read more about Dr. King, I identified with his ideals of unity and opportunities for all people without considering color or race,” Abraham shared. “God created all men equally with the sole purpose of glorifying Him and living to fulfill His will. In this way, we can show others how amazing God is.”



SPRING VALLEY ACADEMY (1984)

CONNECTIONS

INSPIRING STUDENTS TO KNOW FOLLOW SHARE JESUS

APRIL 2011

Students Challenged to Show Love

PHOTO BY LENESSA BOODIE

Recently the Rachel's Challenge organization presented an incredible story of courage and hope at Spring Valley Academy (SVA). Rachel Scott was the first person killed in the Columbine High School tragedy on April 20, 1999. Her acts of kindness and compassion, coupled with the contents of her six diaries, have become the foundation for a life-changing school program in America. Presenters go into schools like SVA and share Rachel's vision for a better world.

Rachel's Challenge presented two separate assemblies for the middle

Abby Jackson, Emma Miller and Katie Lawrence accept Rachel's Challenge by signing the poster.



school and high school divisions. They also offered training to students and faculty who wish to join the Friends of Rachel Club. The club challenges students to do the following:

- **Eliminate prejudice**—Look for the best in others
- **Dare to dream**—Set goals and keep a journal
- **Choose positive influences**—Input determines output
- **Kind words**—practice little acts of kindness
- **Start a chain reaction**—inspire others to be kind

SVA fifth-graders organized their own club and Bible study called "More About Jesus," while the high school students' SOUL (Students Offering Unconditional Love) Club has already embraced the five challenges. The entire SVA student body is literally creating a paper chain on which each link has an act of kindness written on colored paper, representing each grade level. These will be collected and joined together. There have been schools that have actually acquired a total paper chain length of six miles, and SVA students aim to do the same!

School Acquires "Legendary" Grand Piano

It is doubtful that when singer/songwriter John Legend recorded his song "Shine" for the much talked-about documentary film on education, *Waiting for Superman*, that he had the students at Spring Valley Academy in mind. However, several SVA students will be able to shine now that they have Legend's signed grand piano—the very one he used to record the song. It was in his Springfield, Ohio, hometown where he recorded the theme song "Shine" and afterward autographed the Grand piano.

Laura Grodrian, piano teacher, made contact with the owner of Kincaid's Music Store in Springfield, Ohio, to purchase a Yamaha C3 Grand Piano. They provided the same piano for Legend, which was returned to Kincaid's and displayed to promote the movie. After talking with the Yamaha Piano Company, they felt this piano deserved a special home. They admired how SVA kept performing music under very challenging circumstances following the school's fire in 2008 and ultimately made it possible for SVA to acquire the piano.

"As music educators, we see the importance of quality music training and inspiration from others in the development of young musicians," said a thankful Grodrian.



Grammy-award winning singer/songwriter John Legend signs the grand piano that now has a home at Spring Valley Academy.

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1461 Spring Valley Pike, Centerville OH 45458
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Principal, Jeff Bovee ■ Editor, Vicki Swetnam

NEWS NEW JERSEY

APRIL 2011

Youth Ministries Convention Has Record Attendance

Some 376 young people and leaders recently attended the Youth Ministries Convention at Tranquil Valley Retreat Center in Tranquility, making it the conference's largest ever youth event. This year, the Youth Ministries department's theme is "Search and Rescue" with an emphasis on reclaiming lost and missing members, especially fellow young people.

The weekend combined training sessions and retreat experiences for teens, college-aged youth and young adults. Guest speakers for the weekend included Jason McCracken from Oakwood University (Ala.), Troy Fitzgerald from Walla Walla University (Wash.), Cindy Tutsch from the Ellen G. White Estate in Silver Spring, Md., and many others. Training sessions were also held for Adventist youth leaders, Pathfinder leaders and those who work with teen and college-aged youth. There was also an investiture service for Master Guides and Pathfinder Leadership award recipients.

Master Guide and Pathfinder Leadership award inductees proudly display their awards.



PHOTO BY MELVIN VAZQUEZ

Cape May Members Celebrate 65 Years of Marriage

If you are ever in Cape May Court House, N.J., please be sure to attend church and meet Leroy and Teresa Hamann. They recently celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary. The story of their life together displays many evidences of God's leading and protecting them through the years.

Teresa first met Leroy when she was a 12-year-old Catholic girl. She threw apples at the 16-year-old Seventh-day Adventist boy as he was walking by her father's orchard in Newfield.



PHOTO BY JIM GREENE

Teresa and Leroy Hamann say the secret to 65 years of marriage is to never stay angry at each other.

Four years later, they were engaged. However, before they were married, Leroy was drafted to serve in the Army during World War II. Leroy served as a medic in North Africa and then joined with the allied invasion forces in southern France. Leroy's landing craft hit a mine just a few yards offshore and was totally destroyed. Leroy was filled with shrapnel and knocked unconscious from the explosion and ended up in the water. He was rescued and flown to a medical hospital in Italy where he spent three months recovering before he returned to his unit, which by this time was marching up through France. Leroy was awarded the Purple Heart for his injuries and also the French *Croix de Guerre* for his service.

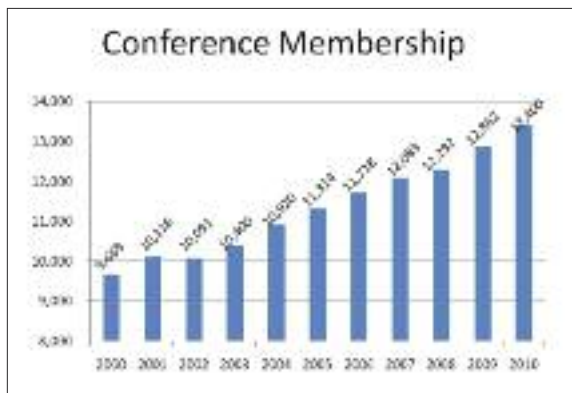
After he returned from service, Leroy married Teresa in New York City on January 13, 1946. In 1949 they moved to Cape May Court House and soon started building a house. They still live in the house, which they completed in 1950. God blessed their family with a son and daughter, five grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

When asked the secret to their long and happy marriage, Leroy smiled and said, "I always make up with Teresa after an argument; I don't stay angry." Teresa laughed in agreement.

At their 65th anniversary celebration, their granddaughter said, "Grandma went from throwing apples to throwing kisses."

Membership Tops 13,000

Jim Greene, New Jersey Conference vice president for Administration, reports that as of December 31, 2010, the conference membership stands at 13,400. This represents a 4.18 percent growth in membership for 2010. There were 788 baptisms and professions of faith during 2010.



“Our goal is to exceed 14,000 members before the end of 2011 and reach 15,000 by the time of our constituency meeting in September 2012,” says Greene. The graph below shows the growth of conference membership since the start of this century.

Youth Ministries Director to Take up New Post

Pastor Laffit Cortes, conference Youth Ministries director for the past eight years, has accepted a call to serve as the chaplain of Pacific Union College (Calif.). He also pastored the Lakewood Spanish church. “Laffit has changed the focus of our Youth Ministries program from sports and recreational events to also incorporate more spiritual growth and outreach,” says José H. Cortés, conference president. “We will miss Laffit’s leadership in our conference.” The conference will honor Cortes’ service with a farewell event during camp meeting.



La Esperanza, Hoboken Spanish Pastor Says Goodbye



Since December 2002, **Pastor Efrain Duany** has served the conference as a pastor, most recently pastoring at the La Esperanza church in Union City and the Hoboken Spanish church. He also served as the conference’s Music Ministries director. This month Pastor Duany started pastoring in the Florida Conference.

His wife, Zoraida, will complete her teaching assignment at the Waldwick Adventist School in Waldwick before joining him in Florida this summer. “We will really miss Efrain and Zoraida and their great contribution to the pastoral and teaching ministry of the conference,” said President Cortés.

April

- 1 Central NJ Prayer & Praise Evening, *Mt. Holly Church*
- 3 Children’s Ministries Training *Conference Office*
- 8-10 English Elders Retreat *Tranquil Valley Retreat Center (TVRC)*
Spanish Women’s Retreat *Cape May*
Master Guide Backpack Trip
- 15-17 Singles Ministry Retreat *TVRC*

May

- 7 Education Emphasis Day *Local Churches*
- 13-15 Family Time Out Zones 5-7
- 20-22 Pathfinder Camporee *Zones 5-7*
- 21 Sabbath School Friends Day, *Local Churches*
- 27-29 Pathfinder Camporee *Zones 1-4*

June

- 10-12 NJ Family Time Out *Camp Berkshire*
- 12 Children’s Ministries Training *Conference Office*
- 17-19 English Camp Meeting Weekend, *TVRC*
- 19-24 Life Guard School & Counselors Training, *TVRC*
- 24-26 Spanish Camp Meeting Weekend, *TVRC*

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New Youth Ministries Director Welcomed

The Ohio Conference staff recently welcomed Steve Carlson as their new Youth Ministries director. After an extensive search, he replaces longtime director Mike Stevenson. “We are thrilled to join the Ohio Conference,” Carlson says.

The Carlson family, which includes Steve’s wife, Daisy, and their sons, Ian Parker (2) and Gavin Eli (5 months), come to Ohio by way of California. Carlson previously served as the youth and young adult pastor and worship leader at The Place Adventist Fellowship. The Carlsons met at Union College (Neb.), where Steve completed his bachelor’s in religion and religious education, while Daisy completed her bachelor’s in business administration. Together they have enjoyed doing ministry in Colorado and California. Carlson’s past ministries include serving as youth/young adult pastor at the Denver First church and religion teacher at Campion Academy (Colo.).

Carlson says his goal for Youth Ministries in Ohio involves “creating opportunities for growth in the local church. Growth happens as generations realize the value of each other. I want our churches to discover the potential inside our youth waiting to be unleashed! As the youth have ownership in ‘their’ church, positive change is always the result.”

During the short periods of free time that arise between work and raising two little boys, Carlson enjoys the guitar, piano, singing and playing any sport! He also has deep Adventist roots; his father, Pastor Ron Carlson, is president of the Kansas-Nebraska Conference.



New Youth Ministries director Steve Carlson, his wife, Daisy, and their sons are thrilled to join the Ohio Conference.

18 Baptized Into Spanish Churches in Columbus

More than 400 Hispanic people met nightly for a week to hear pastor and evangelist Alejandro Bullón preach at the Worthington church. “This series was planned and carried out by the Ohio Conference and the Allegheny West Conference Hispanic churches in the Columbus area with the only purpose of seeing souls brought to the feet of Jesus,” said Oswaldo Magaña, Hispanic Ministries coordinator for the Ohio Conference. “Many were powerfully touched by the power of the Holy Spirit.”

One such couple was Juan Ernesto Guzman and Karla Yamileth Borrayo. They had recently begun living together unmarried when Yony Miranda, Pathfinder leader of the Worthington Spanish church, invited his neighbors to a small group meeting at his house. Through these meetings, Guzman and Borrayo found they enjoyed the people, music and friendly atmosphere. Leidi, Yony’s wife, began Bible studies with the couple. After several weeks of meetings and studies, the young couple decided to get married at the courthouse.

They attended nightly during the series, and when Pastor Bullón extended an altar call, Borrayo asked to

be baptized. At first her husband did not share her desire. However, he soon came to Roberto Rivera, pastor of the Worthington Spanish church, and asked for baptism. A few days later, Rivera married the couple at the Worthington Spanish church.

Magaña says the series yielded 18 baptisms, and more than 50 others gave their lives to Jesus.



Pastor Roberto Rivera and his wife, Vicky, flank newlyweds Juan Ernesto Guzman and Karla Yamileth Borrayo.

Newark Turns Storage Space Into Community Center

Under the leadership of Pastor Tom Hughes, the Newark church recently undertook a project aimed at enhancing their outreach into the community of Newark, Heath and surrounding areas.

In early 2010, they made plans to renovate a church-owned building in downtown Newark. The building, formerly used as public storage, was “recreated” into the New Horizons Community Learning Center (located at 21 Easy Street). Church members hope that the center will meet the needs of low- to middle-income families who are



Center. “He sent us an architect who took us ‘under his wing’ and nurtured us through the beginning stages of development; a volunteer building superintendent with many years of experience, a nonchurch member, who recognizes the need in the community and is willing to donate his time and expertise to our project; an electrician within our denomination who is willing to allo-

Volunteers from the church get ready to work.

cate his resources to help with our project; funding from the estate of one of our faithful members; financial help and encouragement from our local conference; and volunteers from our local congregation and Pathfinder group.”

More than \$90,000 has been donated for completion of the center, but \$35,000 is still needed to finish the facility and purchase furniture, computers and materials for curriculums. “God’s blessings are being poured out in such abundance that we are enjoying the breezes of God’s movements at every turn,” Goodell said.

They are planning to have the structure ready for their grand opening by mid-summer. For more information, to volunteer or to donate, contact Goodell at (740) 522-8855.



Walls go up in the New Horizons Community Learning Center.

unable to avail themselves of the services offered them in the community due to a lack of reading skills, basic computer skills, interviewing skills and other basic job-seeking tools. Their vision also includes offering divorce care support groups, grief recovery seminars, smoking cessation clinics, basic money management and other programs.

“We give praise to God for sending us funding and just the right people to fill the needs as they present themselves,” said Donna Goodell, director of the New Horizons Community Learning



Volunteer Joe Kriner is hard at work on the renovation.

Mission Ohio is published in the *Visitor* by the Ohio Conference P. O. Box 1230, Mount Vernon, Ohio 43050 ■ Phone: (740) 397-4665 ohioadventist.org ■ President, Raj Attiker ■ Editor, Heidi Shoemaker

Pennsylvania Pen

APRIL 2011

Peterson Named to Vice President Role

The Pennsylvania Conference Executive Committee recently voted changes in the way conference administrative roles are divided. In the past, one person held the roles of both executive secretary and ministerial director. The position has now been divided. The executive secretary's responsibilities were combined with those of the current assistant to the president for Mission to form a new position—vice president for Mission and Administration. The role of ministerial director was renamed director of Leadership and Spiritual Growth, with a job description that focuses on supporting and resourcing pastors, lay pastors and church leadership.

The executive committee then elected William Peterson to the role of vice president for Mission and Administration. Peterson, a native Pennsylvanian, has served as assistant to the president for Mission for 11 years. He was raised in the western part of the state where he first heard the Seventh-day Adventist message, joined the church and felt the call to ministry. After graduating from the Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University (Mich.), Peterson pastored churches in the Gulf States Conference for 12 years.

"Will has directed and guided several successful Pennsylvania Conference church and mission initiatives and worked personally with many local churches. He has a passion for effectiveness in mission and is gifted in thinking and planning strategically for ministry opportunities," shares Ray Hartwell, conference president.

The personnel committee is working on filling the role of director of Leadership and Spiritual Growth, as well as, the role of conference Youth and Young Adult Ministries director.



Fleetwood's Attendance Doubles After ShareHim Meetings

The Fleetwood church is one of the oldest Adventist churches in Pennsylvania—worshipping in their original facility on East Locust Street for nearly 100

years. In recent years, the church has grown smaller with fewer families and members attending services. But things are changing.

Members of the Hampden Heights church in Temple recently joined the Fleetwood church family to present a ShareHim evangelism series.

More than 50 guests attended the opening night meeting at the local YMCA.

Most continued attending after the presentations were moved to the church. Walton Williams, David Beard and Jeanne Kennedy (left), all from Hampden Heights, joined Andrew Carroll from Fleetwood in leading the meetings. Brian Cassell, who pastors both churches, opened the meetings and led the nightly Bible Q&A.

Nine people were baptized following the meetings with more continuing to study. Twenty-five people are now attending the weekly prayer meeting—double what the attendance had been for Sabbath worship before the meetings. Pastor Cassell says he's seeing not only more visitors but also former members come back to the church.

"At first I wasn't quite sure how a lay-led meeting would go," Cassell said. "I knew God could use our lay people, but how He blessed was far more than I could imagine."

A few Hampden Heights members are also transferring to Fleetwood to help with the ministry there. The church is intentionally planning discipleship and will be holding two more ShareHim meetings this year.



Members Learn How to Start House Churches

More than 20 people from Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia recently traveled to Pittsburgh to learn more about starting house churches. Milton Adams, director of the Adventist Simple Church network, led the presentation. “Less than 17 percent of the North American population attends church on a given weekend,” he shared. “Approximately 80 percent of all churches in North America have reached a plateau or are declining.”

After sharing the challenges, Adams suggested the solution is to take seriously the Gospel Commission to “Go” (referring to Matt. 28:19, 20). He also introduced a plan to reach lost people for

Jesus through house churches, which only requires four people to begin. He also pointed out that the New Testament sets a precedent for house churches. Not until the time of Constantine did church buildings become commonplace.

“The Pennsylvania Conference is pleased to be a sponsor of the Simple Church Network believing it to have great potential for sharing Jesus and making disciples here in Pennsylvania and across the world,” said William Peterson, vice president for Mission and Administration.

There are two such churches in Pennsylvania—Joy of Life in West Chester and another in Muncie. Adventist Mission, a division of the



General Conference, has recently partnered with the network to share the love of Jesus throughout the world. For more information, visit SimpleChurchAtHome.com.

—Lonnie Wibberding

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A promotional poster for the SEEDS 2011 Conference. The background is a gradient of blue. In the center, a green plant with several leaves grows from a dark, shadowed base. The text is arranged around the plant, with the main title 'SEEDS 2011 Conference' in a stylized font. Below it, the dates 'June 14-18' and location 'Blue Mountain Academy - Hamburg, Pennsylvania' are listed. The phrase 'Multiplication Movement' is written in a large, elegant script. At the bottom, there is a call to action with a website URL and pricing information.

Potomac People

APRIL 2011

700 Youth, Leaders Attend Youthfest

More than 700 young people, their parents and their youth leaders recently attended Potomac Conference's annual Youthfest. In addressing the theme "Answering the Call," youth evangelist Juan Cubero of Puerto Rico, emphasized that the only way to understand God's plan for your life is through serious time spent in prayer.

Youth leader workshops were newly added to this year's Youthfest. Of the 700 participants, awards were given to youth leaders who have spent the most and the least amount of time in youth ministry, with the most being 40 years and the least being two weeks.

Many attendees to Youthfest 2011 say they were blessed with great music and drama skits that supported the theme of the event.

All of the components of the weekend worked together under the influence of the Holy Spirit to lead more than 45 participants to make first-time decisions for Christ.—Denny Grady



The Washington Spanish Praise Team from Silver Spring, Md., leads song service at Youthfest 2011.

1,500 Hispanic Members Attend Ministries Convention

More than 1,500 laymen made the trip to Ocean City, Md., for the annual Potomac Conference Hispanic Ministries Convention. With the theme "Divine Rest for the Remnant," this event was filled with messages about the Sabbath and how it will be the seal that will distinguish the remnant in the last days.

Attendees spent those hours listening to speakers, singing, praying, participating and learning. On Saturday night, a group of laymen was recognized for completing training in different areas of church work after two to four years of attending classes on Sundays.



Pastors also met with their constituents to lay a plan of action for the year. They plan to baptize 1,599 new converts and create 11 new churches this year.

At the end of the program, evangelist and keynote speaker Alejandro Bullón made

Members commit to start 11 new churches this year.

an appeal for people who had not yet given their lives to Jesus. He didn't expect to see many visitors since this was a lay-training weekend, however, a group of about 40 came forward to be baptized.—Hugo Chinchay

Jose Esposito, DMin, is the Hispanic Ministries director for the Potomac Conference.



PHOTOS BY TONY VENTOURS/ANCIENT CITY PHOTOGRAPHY



Potomac People

World Church Recognizes Rockville, Gaithersburg Pastor for Excellence in Education

The North American Division recently bestowed the General Conference Award of Excellence for education to Bertram Melbourne, PhD. Melbourne is a professor of biblical language and literature at Howard University in Washington, D.C., and pastor at the Rockville and Gaithersburg churches in Maryland. The award is the second highest conferred by the General Conference Department of Education.

“When you take into consideration his innovative, creative leadership over the span of his career, in addition to the programs he initiated on behalf of young African-American men, we clearly felt that Dr. Melbourne is more than deserving of this recognition,” said Hamlet Canosa, the vice president for Education in the Columbia Union Conference who recommended Melbourne for the award.

Melbourne has served as an academy teacher; a superintendent of education for K-8; and taught at West Indies College in Jamaica, Washington Adventist University in Takoma Park, Md., and Griggs University, a long-distance education provider.

“It is gratifying to note that while you are doing your work, others are noting what you are doing for the Master and recognize your contributions,” said Melbourne during the recognition ceremony at the Rockville church.

To qualify for the award, candidates must have worked for the Seventh-day Adventist denomination for at least 20 years, 15 of which must have been spent in Adventist education. The candidate’s service must have impacted at least two unions or educational institutions, earned the respect of students and



colleagues and provide evidence of the person’s lasting contribution to Adventist education.

“The thing that stands out above all other qualities with Dr. Melbourne is his Christian heart,” Canosa said. “He exemplifies what it means to be a Christian theologian, and ... clearly [sets] an example for all who will follow in his footsteps.”
—Adrienne Suarez and Dan Jensen

Three Northern Virginia Churches Promoted

Three groups in Northern Virginia were recently promoted. During their organization celebrations, the members embraced the challenge to reach their communities for Christ.

Woodbridge Route 1 Spanish was organized as a company with 66 charter members.



Planted from the Woodbridge Spanish church, the Dale City Spanish company became an official church with 53 charter members.



Members of the Woodbridge Ghanaian church, a plant of the Washington Ghanaian church in Hyattsville, Md., celebrate their growth from a group to a company. Mid-week prayer meetings and Friday night Bible studies have led to more than 100 people attending on Sabbath.

Correction: In the “Richmond Academy Holds First Bike-a-thon” story, which appeared in last month’s *Potomac People*, we gave the incorrect name of the school. The school is Richmond Academy of Seventh-day Adventists. We apologize for the error.

Potomac People is published in the *Visitor* by the Potomac Conference 606 Greenville Ave., Staunton, VA 24401 Phone: (540) 886-0771 ■ pcsa.org President, Bill Miller ■ Communication Director, Dan Jensen

Teaching God's Ideal for His Children

Educational reform and innovation seem to be hot topics across the nation. Politicians are spending billions of dollars seeking innovative ideas to hold administrators and teachers more accountable for the growing gap that exists between the United States and other countries. These conversations have led to schools making the leap to become tech savvy, developing programs that focus on specific job markets or providing students with opportunities to learn in a classroom without walls. While all of these actions have merit, they appear to be simple tweaks to a larger issue. This is an issue I believe our Seventh-day Adventist school system has the answer to but oftentimes neglects to implement.

Ellen White writes, "It is the work of true education to develop this power, to train the youth to be thinkers, and not mere reflectors of other men's thought" (*Education*, p. 17). Educators for decades have focused on their own ability to provide the keys to the wonderful world of knowledge when the reality is that there's no longer a need for a gatekeeper but merely a guide on the learning journey. This is not by any means a slight on the roles of educators but an exciting opportunity to get back to our core purpose—to teach young people to think.

As we continue our pursuit of excellence in Adventist education at Takoma Academy (TA), we are focused on developing young people who will actively seek to think and act on "reaching God's ideal for his children" (*Education*, p. 18).



David Daniels
Principal

Former Teacher to Speak for Alumni Weekend

Alumni and friends are invited to reconnect on the campus of Takoma Academy for Alumni Weekend. A weekend full of programs has been planned for all to



come and enjoy. Former teacher Bruce Freeman (left) will be the keynote speaker on Sabbath morning. Not only did Freeman teach English, journalism and speech at TA from 1970 to 1984, but he also worked with students to develop the school newspaper, video productions and drama groups. During his time at TA, he was very involved in the community and

served as the director of the Keystone Youth Ministry at the nearby Takoma Park church.

"We look forward to seeing everyone on campus and are certain those who attend will be blessed during this time of fellowship and worship together," said David Daniels, principal. For more information, visit taalumni.org.

Alumni Weekend Schedule

Friday, April 15

- 7 a.m. Golf Tournament
- 5:30 p.m. Registration and Honor Class Meetings
- 7:30 p.m. Music Vespers & "TA Memories"

Sabbath, April 16

- 9:30 a.m. Registration in the Lobby of JP Laurence Auditorium
- 11 a.m. Worship Service
Special Music: TA Alumni Reunion Choir
Keynote Speaker: Bruce Freeman
- 9 p.m. Basketball Game
Students vs. Alumni

Sunday, April 17

- 10 a.m. Alumni Brunch and Business Meeting

TATODAY

TA Adds AP Courses, Summer Training, Exam Prep

Takoma Academy's faculty members understand that providing a quality educational experience means providing instruction focused on long-term student learning and content mastery. Facilitating this type of classroom environment requires dedication and hard work from each instructor. TA's commitment to their students' learning has led the administrators and faculty to engage in over 60 hours of professional development this school year in a "Building Practices for Effective Teaching and Learning" workshop based on *The Skillful Teacher*. These sessions have provided the framework to begin implementing changes in the classrooms toward a student-centered environment where learners can develop enthusiasm and passion for life-long learning.

"The students are really responding to our renewed focus of integrat-



ing higher-level thinking skills with real-life application," commented Jennifer Howe, English instructor.

Teachers continue to be excited about the potential being fulfilled in all TA students as they become critical thinkers prepared for their future beyond high school. TA is increasing the number of Advanced Placement (AP) courses offered to students. During the next two years, AP offerings will be made in each content area. Next year, for the first time in the school's history, students will be able to take AP courses as early as their sophomore year. In addition, the computer program is being restructured to offer Microsoft Office certifications to help give students a competitive edge in the technological and business world.

Ensuring students get the right

start to their high school career, this summer TA will once again offer the Freshmen Enrichment program.

Participants will learn strategies to help them be successful in math and English and also study Stephen Covey's book *Seven Habits of Highly Effective Teenagers*. Avery Seymour ('14), a participant in last summer's program, shared, "The summer program was like a stepping stone that helped me transition from middle school to high school. I was also able to get to know the different people in my class." TA will also offer an enrichment program that focuses on science and preparation for college placement exams like the ACT and SAT.

"Takoma Academy is committed to helping our students develop the hard work, perseverance and determination necessary for academic success," says Amy Soper, vice principal for academics. "By creating classroom environments that allow for collaboration, exploration and risk-taking, students will be prepared for the rigorous demands of college and career."



TA Today is published in the *Visitor* by Takoma Academy • 8120 Carroll Ave., Takoma Park, MD 20912 • Phone: (301) 434-4700 • ta.edu • Principal and Editor, David Daniels

Service: Our Motto and Mission

As we approach the end of another academic year and the beginning of another quinquennium, we at Washington Adventist University (WAU) must take two important actions. The first action is to thank our constituency and our Board of Trustees for their leadership and support. The second action is to assess if we are fulfilling the university's mission. Our blending of faith and learning is designed to produce graduates with intellectual knowledge and compassion for others and to produce graduates who are deep thinkers and demonstrate a responsibility to society. So we must ask ourselves if we are actually preparing our students to be competent moral leaders to their communities throughout the world.

I believe we are. The distinguishing mark of Washington Adventist University is the interest and emphasis placed on the spiritual development of the student. Our predecessors created an outstanding motto: "Gateway to Service." We accept this to mean that the university should prepare students to be actively engaged members of society. To continue the task of making this a reality, we require service-learning across the curriculum and now hold two full service days per year.

Service-learning provides an opportunity for students to integrate Christian thought into action. Research indicates that spiritual formation within the academic setting is most effective when the classroom is both affirmed and complemented, and where vital elements of the spiritual life are nurtured, taught and encouraged in settings other than the classroom. We want to be known and recognized for our stellar graduates and as a Seventh-day Adventist institution that expresses its faith commitment through service.



Weymouth Spence
President

Students Dedicate Memorial Prayer Room

Residents of Halcyon Hall recently attended a dedication ceremony for The Prayer Room—a room set apart in memory of the late Julia Kay Blair, a former student resident. After Blair passed away, her parents requested that her room be used as a prayer room. The room was developed and furnished through the Theta Alpha Beta Sorority (TAB) in conjunction with the Office of Campus Ministries. The room includes a sofa, end tables, Bibles, journals and Post-it notes.

Adrienne Matthews, dean of women, opened the ceremony with a history of the room and acknowledged those

involved in establishing it as a place for prayer. Pastor Baraka Muganda, vice president for Ministry, offered a blessing followed by Kayon Spencer, TAB president, and member Aleyda Mercola who read from Scripture and introduced the room. Attendees were encouraged to write prayers on Post-it notes and attach them to the walls.

"It's a great idea," said Arielle Laguerre, a junior communication major and Halcyon Hall resident. "It promotes sisterhood and the power of prayer. This can be a place to come together, share concerns and pray for each other."—*Communication Staff*



Adrienne Matthews (left), dean of women, and A. Jean Warden (right), vice president for Student Life, joins students in The Prayer Room at Halcyon Hall, the women's dorm.

Graduating Students Look Back on Schooling With Fondness

This year members of the Class of 2011 will pass through WAU's Gateway to Service for the final time. Whether they seek more education or immediately join the workforce, many of these students look back with fondness on their time at WAU.

Alexander Barrientos (below) graduates with a bachelor's in theology and a minor in pastoral ministry. Although he attended two other Adventist schools during his



college career, Barrientos says, "The theological training I received at WAU was challenging and engaging and kept my interest. The members of the theology department were very warm and would listen to us students."

Barrientos says he would recommend WAU to any student interested in pursuing theology. "They present a [wholistic] perspective and deal with contemporary issues that are important for young students," he says.

Although pastoral ministry is his passion, he is also considering pursuing teaching—his other passion.

Originally from India, **Steev Yovan** (right) became a student at WAU in 2007. He is graduating with a bachelor's in biology with a pre-medicine emphasis and a minor in chemistry. Yovan says he feels "like there is a strong spiritual sense on campus." He also says because of WAU's small student to teacher



ratio, he gained from the expertise of his teachers and professors. "I was able to get a lot of one-on-one time with my professors. They were welcoming and encouraged and motivated me," he said.

He plans to attend medical school and pursue a career as a doctor. Eventually, he wants to be a medical missionary. "The life lessons I have learned at WAU shaped my life and gave me the impetus to serve," he concluded.

Commencement Moved to Constitution Hall

After years of holding the commencement exercises at Sligo church, Washington Adventist University has outgrown the space needed for graduates and their families and friends. This year the university will host its Commencement service at Constitution Hall in Washington, D.C.

The graduation weekend will begin April 29 at Sligo church. The



speaker for Friday evening is Michael Kulakov, PhD, a professor of Philosophy at WAU. Kulakov is currently working on the Russian Biblical Translation Project. On Saturday, April 30, Pastor Mark Finley (above), assistant to the General Conference president, will speak at the Baccalaureate service, also at Sligo church. Isaiah "Ike" Leggett (left), Montgomery

County, Maryland's executive, will present the Commencement address Sunday, May 1.

Calendar

April

8-10 Alumni Weekend

10 WAU Family Fun Festival
12-5 p.m.

15 Washington Adventist
University Constituency

29-

May 1 Graduation Weekend

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HUNTSVILLE, ALA., HOUSE FOR SALE: 3BR, 1.5BA, bonus room. Indoor laundry, oversized double garage, enclosed therapy/lap pool. Large, fenced backyard, whole house generator. Hope Channel/3ABN satellite dish and receiver. Walking distance to Central Adventist church and 15-minute drive to church school. For more information, call (256) 527-5202.

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CHRISTIANHOMEFINDERS.COM is ready with a network of 350 recommended realtors to help church members and employees buy or sell their home. Make your request online at ChristianHomeFinders.com, or call Linda Dayen at (888) 582-2888. Realtors and brokers are welcome to join.

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	Apr 8	Apr 15	Apr 22	Apr 29	May 6
Baltimore	7:37	7:44	7:51	7:58	8:04
Cincinnati	8:08	8:15	8:22	8:29	8:36
Cleveland	7:59	8:07	8:14	8:22	8:29
Columbus	8:03	8:10	8:17	8:24	8:31
Jersey City	7:28	7:35	7:43	7:50	7:57
Norfolk	7:33	7:40	7:46	7:52	7:58
Parkersburg	7:57	8:03	8:10	8:17	8:24
Philadelphia	7:32	7:39	7:46	7:53	8:00
Pittsburgh	7:51	7:59	8:06	8:13	8:20
Reading	7:35	7:42	7:50	7:57	8:04
Richmond	7:39	7:45	7:50	7:58	8:04
Roanoke	7:48	7:55	8:01	8:07	8:14
Toledo	8:07	8:15	8:22	8:30	8:38
Trenton	7:30	7:38	7:45	7:52	7:59
Wash., D.C.	7:38	7:45	7:52	7:58	8:05

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MARYLAND ADVENTIST

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COMPLETION. Ken Varga, Pro-Built, LLC, construction management/consultant. Serving Maryland, Virginia, Delaware and New Jersey. Email: kenvarga@msn.com, or phone: (609) 618-8714. "Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it" (Ps. 127:1).

MARYLAND ADVENTIST

DENTIST, David Lee, DDS, FAGD, AFAAID, has practices located in Silver Spring and Ellicott City, Md. He is extensively trained in implant, cosmetic, TMD/TMJ, sedation and laser dentistry. Dr. Lee is an Associate Fellow of the American Academy of Implant Dentistry, as well as having many other certifications. For appointments, call (410) 461-6655 in Silver Spring. Mention this ad and receive 10% discount on all services, excluding third-party payers. We welcome new patients.

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LEGAL NOTICES

ANNUAL CONSTITUENCY SESSION OF RAMAH JUNIOR ACADEMY

Notice is hereby given that the annual constituency session of Ramah Junior Academy of Seventh-day Adventists will convene at 10 a.m. on Sunday, May 1, 2011, at the Glenville Seventh-day Adventist Church, 737 East 105th Street, Cleveland, OH 44108.

This meeting is called for the purpose of electing officers, to receive reports and any other business that may properly come before the session at that time.

John Preston,
School Board Chair
Juanita Burris, Principal

ANNOUNCEMENTS

EJA, GBA, AND GBJA SCHOOL

REUNION 2011: All alumni and former faculty of Edgecombe Junior Academy, Greater Baltimore Academy and Greater Baltimore Junior Academy, please mark your calendars for Alumni Sabbath, July 2, at Baltimore First Church, Ellicott City, Md. Contact: Ralph L. Miller, 435 Mount Hermon Circle, Danville, VA, 24540; (434) 836-4861; email: RalphLMiller@juno.com.

CELEBRATE WITH US AS

WE BURN OUR MORTGAGE, during a special service at 11 a.m., Sabbath, April 16, at the Manassas church, 9858 Fairmont Avenue, Manassas, VA 20109. Our conference president, Bill Miller, will lead out, and there will be a fellowship dinner following the service. For further information, contact Joey Pollom at (703) 335-1710, or pollomj@gmail.com.

CHARLES REID, TENOR WITH THE METROPOLITAN OPERA

for 11 seasons, and Julie Reid, mezzo-soprano, will be in concert at 4 p.m., Sabbath, April 9, at the Frederick church, 6427 Jefferson Pike, Frederick, MD 21703. For additional information, call the church office at (301) 662-5254 or visit: fredericksdachurch.org. Free will offering.

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION:

Detroit Southfield Jr. Academy and Metropolitan Jr. Academy are celebrating 100 years of Christian education, April 30 at 9:30 a.m., at the Metropolitan Adventist church, 15585 N. Haggerty Rd., Plymouth, MI 48170. The guest speaker is Nathan Greene, with an afternoon concert by Scott Michael Bennett and Camille Aragon. Potluck lunch planned. Please bring food to share. Special offering for Worthy Student Fund. Please bring your memorabilia! For more information, (734) 420-4044; metroshooloffice@yahoo.com; or southfield-metro100years.com.

INVITATION TO TEACH IN

THAILAND: Missionary teachers needed to serve God in the wonderful country of Thailand. Please answer God's call! (Matt. 9: 37-38). For more information on this exciting opportunity, please contact: carla2andersen@hotmail.com.

OBITUARIES

SINGLETON, Harold D., Sr., born December 10, 1908, in Brunswick, Ga.; died February 6, 2010, in Adelphi, Md. He was a member of the First church in Washington, D.C. He graduated from Oakwood Jr. College in 1928, and pastored in Tennessee, Florida, and Carolina. In 1945 he was elected as the first president of

South Atlantic Conference and then served as president of the Northeastern Conference from 1954-1962. In 1962 he was elected secretary of the Regional Dept. at the General Conference, where he served until 1975, when he retired. In 1966 he was also elected to serve as an associate secretary of the General Conference in addition to his other responsibilities in the Regional Dept. After retirement he pastored several small churches in the D.C. area. Survivors: his wife of 71 years, Mary L. Singleton, of Adelphi; daughters, Mercedes Mitchell of Jonesboro, Ga., and Marilyn Dimas of North Potomac, Md.; his four sons: Harold Singleton, Jr., from California; Alvin Singleton of Fort Washington, Md.; Kenneth Singleton of Bowie, Md.; and Dwight Singleton of Culpepper, Va.; four grandchildren; one great-grandchild; and his 95-year-old sister, Mercedes Harris, of Jacksonville, Fla.

LANDIS, Derwin L.,

born May 9, 1930, in Shanghai, China; died January 3, 2010, in Los Angeles, Calif. He was a member of the Vallejo Drive church in Glendale, Calif. He was the third child of missionary parents, Fred and Chloe Landis. He received a bachelor's degree in music from Washington Adventist University (then Washington Missionary College) in 1958, and a master's degree in music in 1960. In 1955, during his service in the U.S. Army Medical Corp, he married Erma Lewis. A career music teacher in strings, orchestra, band, and voice and choir, he served from 1960 at Thunderbird Academy in Arizona, Orangewood and San Fernando Valley academies in California, and Fletcher Academy in North Carolina, until his retirement in 1996. He also founded and directed the Southern California string choir. Several trips to China resulted in meeting and bringing The Guilin String Quartet back to California, who became like adopted children. He was an accomplished nature photographer as well as a violinist. He is survived by his wife, Erma Lewis-Landis of Simi Valley, Calif.; his sister, Norma Hilliard of St. Helena, Calif.; five nieces, three nephews and their spouses.

COREY, Naomia M.,

born August 21, 1921, in Overton, Pa.; died August 26, 2010, in Sayre, Pa. She was a member of the Sayre (Pa.) church. She is survived by her daughter, Naomia (John) Rumpff, of Athens, Pa.; grandchildren: Alissa Rumpff Crain of Sayre, Michael (Sarah) Rumpff of Barton, N.Y., Denise (Levente) Levai of Nevada, Kevin Carey of Nevada, Becky (Carl) Fowler of Ridgebury, Pa., and Brian and Shawn Carey of Towanda, Pa.; 18 grandchildren; nephews: John (Eleanor) Walmsley of Boonsboro, Md., and Burton (Wanda) Wolfe of East Wales, N.Y.

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The *Visitor* provides news and information, resources for effective ministry, and insight on issues with a spiritual focus to help people celebrate God's transforming grace in preparation for His return.

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KETTERING COLLEGE: Charles Scriven, President; Mindy Claggett, *Visitor* Correspondent; 3737 Southern Blvd., Kettering, OH 45429. Tel. (937) 395-8601 ■ kcma.edu

WASHINGTON ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY: Weymouth Spence, President; (vacant), *Visitor* Correspondent; 7600 Flower Ave., Takoma Park, MD 20912. Tel. (301) 891-4000 ■ wau.edu

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ADVENTIST HEALTHCARE: William G. "Bill" Robertson, President & CEO; Thomas Grant, *Visitor* Correspondent; 1801 Research Blvd., Suite 400, Rockville, MD 20850. Tel. (301) 315-3030 adventisthealthcare.com

KETTERING ADVENTIST HEALTHCARE: Fred Manchur, President & CEO; Christina Keresoma, *Visitor* Correspondent; 3965 Southern Blvd., Kettering, OH 45429. Tel. (937) 395-8167 khnetwork.org

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Volume 116 ■ Issue 4

Trust

Life is unpredictable and often doesn't turn out as we'd planned—you get laid off, your spouse hands you divorce papers, your child is diagnosed with a learning disorder, your biopsy comes back positive. What makes some people bounce back from adversity and even grow stronger when life presents challenges, while others get knocked off their feet, feel helpless and give up?



Researchers have identified resilience as the key to how we deal with what life brings us. Resilience comes from the Latin *resilire*, meaning “to spring back.” Those who have it are less likely to get ill under stress and live longer and healthier lives.

Resilience is hardly new. Consider the biblical tragedies of Job, Joseph, David and Daniel. Instead of wondering *why me?*, these men remembered God's faithfulness in the past, found meaning in



their current circumstances and trusted Him for their future.

What challenge are you currently facing? Reframe it as an opportunity for growth, and declare with the Psalmist, “But as for me, I will

always have hope; I will praise you more and more. ... Though you have made me see troubles, many and bitter, you will restore my life again” (Ps. 71:14,20, NIV).

REFLECT – How can what I'm going through be an opportunity for growth? What meaning can I find in this situation?

RESPOND – God, open my eyes to see Your faithfulness, my mouth to sing Your praises and my heart to trust that You will help me be resilient through the challenges I'm facing right now.

RELATE – I grow stronger in adversity.

REMEMBER – “Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything” (James 1:2-4, NIV).

RESOURCE – Watch Walter Sackett, vice president of Clinical Services at Kettering Medical Center in Kettering, Ohio, talk more about this topic at [youtube.com/user/ColumbiaUnion](https://www.youtube.com/user/ColumbiaUnion).

Wellness coach Lilly Tryon is the principal contributor for the 2011 Visitor Calendar, expounded upon here each month.

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