

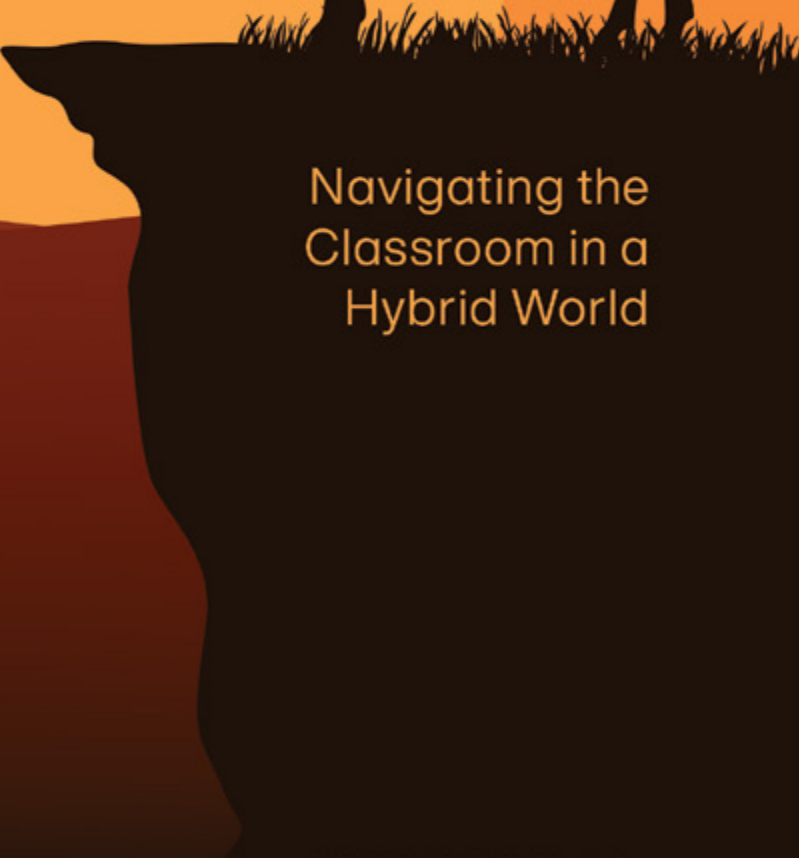
VISITOR

CONNECTING COLUMBIA UNION SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

JULY/AUGUST 2022 ■ VOLUME 127 ■ ISSUE 4



Educating in the new
FRONTIER



Navigating the
Classroom in a
Hybrid World

A Heartfelt Thanks



When I was in the classroom, one of my favorite verses for morning devotion was Proverbs 3:5–6: “Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths” (NKJV). These verses reminded my class and me that when we trust in God, we will be blessed by His direction. I’m still comforted by that reminder, especially as our Columbia Union Conference schools contend with the COVID-19 pandemic and its consequences.

When our schools closed their doors in March 2020, we were able to transition to virtual learning within just a few days. Our teachers embraced new ways of instructing, and our students had to adjust to new ways of learning. Our educators, even those who experienced fear and trepidation, rose above the challenges to meet the academic needs of our students, providing rigorous content weeks ahead of public-school systems. Many teachers drove to students’ homes to deliver work and goody bags. Some schools provided food for families with food insecurities. And various administrators made unscheduled calls to students just to check in and talk.

As our schools coped with this “new reality,” they discovered that, not only did the pandemic wreak havoc on the physical health of students and educators, but it created and exacerbated mental health conditions such as anxiety and depression. Many students experienced “learning loss” and “Zoom fatigue.” As a result, schools and teachers are implementing various strategies to address these issues.



OUR PATH AHEAD

Enrollment declined earlier in the pandemic but is now beginning to grow, and new school buildings are being erected. Students are benefiting from more robust internet access at school and greater access to technology to enhance their learning.

As we look to the future, we need to focus more of our collective resources on social and emotional learning and addressing the mental health of our students and teachers as we continue to maintain high-quality schools and to lead our students to a lifelong encounter with Christ.

During these difficult years, we have seen God “directing our path” and sustaining our schools. For this, He is worthy of our praise. Thank you, students, parents, educators and church members for your support, patience and perseverance—for it is by His name that we are more than conquerors!

Donovan Ross serves as the vice president of education for the Columbia Union Conference.

VISITOR

Celeste Ryan Blyden ■ Editor and Publisher
Ricardo Bacchus ■ Managing Editor for Print
V. Michelle Bernard ■ Managing Editor for Digital Media
Kelly Butler Coe ■ Art Director and Designer
Sandra Jones ■ Advertising and Circulation Manager

The *Visitor* is a publication of the Columbia Union Conference reaching nearly 65,000 Seventh-day Adventist homes in the Mid-Atlantic area and 75,000 online readers. The *Visitor* provides news and information, inspiration for effective ministry and insight on issues with a spiritual focus to help engage members in experiencing the mission.

CONTACT ■ (410) 997-3414 ■ columbiaunionvisitor.com
visitor@columbiaunion.net ■ To subscribe, change address or discontinue *Visitor* mailings, call your local conference, as listed below. Ask for the membership clerk. Free to members. All others, \$18 annually. Email sjones@columbiaunion.net.

PUBLISHING BOARD ■ Dave Weigley (chair), Celeste Ryan Blyden (secretary), Jorge Agüero, Emmanuel Asiedu, Tim Bailey, Marvin C. Brown, III, Bob Cundiff, Gary Gibbs, Jerry Lutz, Pete Palmer, Charles A. Tapp



Columbia Union
Conference

OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

5427 Twin Knolls Road, Columbia, MD 21045
(410) 997-3414 ■ columbiaunion.org

Dave Weigley ■ President
Celeste Ryan Blyden ■ Executive Secretary
Emmanuel Asiedu ■ Treasurer
Tabita Martinez ■ Undertreasurer
Frank Bondurant ■ Vice President, Ministries Development
Lisa Saveikis Burrow ■ Vice President/General Counsel
Rubén A. Ramos ■ Vice President, Multilingual Ministries
Donovan Ross ■ Vice President, Education
José D. Espósito ■ Asst. to the President for Evangelism
H. Candace Nurse ■ Secretary/Treasurer, Revolving Fund
Curtis Boore ■ Director, Plant Services
Kelly Butler Coe ■ Director, Communication Services
Greg Iverson ■ Director, Information Technology Services

CONFERENCES

ALLEGHENY EAST: Pete Palmer, President; LaTasha Hewitt, *Visitor* Correspondent ■ Tel. (610) 326-4610 ■ visitaec.com
ALLEGHENY WEST: Marvin C. Brown, III, President; Benia Jennings, *Visitor* Correspondent ■ Tel. (614) 252-5271 ■ awconf.org
CHESAPEAKE: Jerry Lutz, President; Evan Knott, *Visitor* Correspondent ■ Tel. (410) 995-1910 ■ ccsda.org
MOUNTAIN VIEW: Tim Bailey, President; Liz Bailey, *Visitor* Correspondent ■ Tel. (304) 422-4581 ■ mtviewconf.org
NEW JERSEY: Jorge Agüero, President; (vacant), *Visitor* Correspondent ■ Tel. (609) 392-7131 ■ njcsda.org
OHIO: Bob Cundiff, President; Kasper Haughton Jr., *Visitor* Correspondent ■ Tel. (740) 397-4665 ■ ohioadventist.org
PENNSYLVANIA: Gary Gibbs, President; Tamyra Horst, *Visitor* Correspondent ■ Tel. (610) 374-8331 ■ paconference.org
POTOMAC: Charles A. Tapp, President; Debra Anderson, *Visitor* Correspondent ■ Tel. (540) 886-0771 ■ pcsda.org

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

KETTERING COLLEGE: Nate Brandstater, President; Courtney Dove, *Visitor* Correspondent ■ Tel. (937) 395-8601 ■ kc.edu
WASHINGTON ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY: Weymouth Spence, President; Everett S. Wiles, *Visitor* Correspondent ■ Tel. (301) 891-4000 ■ wau.edu

HEALTHCARE NETWORKS

ADVENTIST HEALTHCARE: Terry Forde, President & CEO; Costin Jordache, *Visitor* Correspondent ■ Tel. (301) 315-3030 ■ adventisthealthcare.com
KETTERING HEALTH: Fred Manchur, CEO; Christina Keresoma, *Visitor* Correspondent ■ Tel. (937) 395-8167 ■ ketteringhealth.org

Printed at Pacific Press® Publishing Association in Nampa, Idaho.

Adventist® and Seventh-day Adventist® are the registered trademarks of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists®.

Volume 127 ■ Issue 4



A CARING HEART

Josh Roberts, a recent graduate of Chesapeake Conference's Highland View Academy (HVA) in Hagerstown, Md., is one of eight graduates from Columbia Union Conference academies to receive the Caring Heart Award this year. "[Josh] is a truly exceptional student who seeks to be educated for eternity while being a Christian servant to all. We are blessed to have him here at HVA!" says Andrew S. Lay, HVA alumni and development coordinator.

\$12,000

Washington Adventist University (WAU) is offering all Seventh-day Adventist members from the Columbia Union Conference a flat tuition rate of \$12,000 per year. "Our intention is to eliminate the obstacle of cost in order to gain access to Christian education," says Weymouth Spence, WAU president. ■ wau.edu

SWEETEN YOUR SUMMER AND YOUR HEALTH

Attend Mountain View Conference's Wellness Camp at Valley Vista Adventist Center in Huttonsville, W.Va., August 7-19. This camp will provide attendees with inspiration to improve lifestyle habits, fresh mountain air and delicious plant-based dishes. Go online (columbiaunionvisitor.com/wellnesscamp) to find recipes for healthy peach smoothies, strawberry sauce and marinated tofu by Johanna Emerson and Oleta Emerson, head chef at the camp.



155 Number of new members recently baptized at Ohio Conference's Hispanic Camp Meeting



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SETS VALUES

At the latest Columbia Union Conference Executive Committee meeting, members set values that will guide the committee and union through the remainder of the quinquennium:

We wholeheartedly embrace and strive to embody a spirit of Christlikeness that promotes

- Excellence
- Integrity
- Respect
- Equality
- Unity
- Diversity
- Service



WATCH THE 'RELENTLESS' LIVESTREAM

Pathfinders and volunteers around the Columbia Union are gearing up for #Relentless2022, the Columbia Union Camporee, held August 10-14, at Summit Bechtel Reserve, W.Va. Watch the evening meetings at columbiaunionvisitor.com/relentlesslivestream.

“Mission isn't magic. It is not a formula. It is not taking a rabbit out of a hat. Mission is very much creating space where we welcome our neighbors to participate.”

—Alex Barrientos, senior pastor at Sligo church in Takoma Park, Md.



HEY, KIDS! VISIT AGAPE'S NEIGHBORHOOD

Teens and preteens at Allegheny East Conference's Metropolitan church in Hyattsville, Md., have created two seasons of *Agape's Neighborhood*. The YouTube mini-series seeks to teach kids about the fruit of the spirit. Find it at youtube.com/c/metrosda.

PHOTO BY MELANIE BURGESS

CARAVAN EMPHASIZES PLANTING MULTICULTURAL CHURCHES

In a series of caravan meetings, members from 17 churches around the Chesapeake Conference gathered to encourage attendees to win souls for Jesus, plant multicultural churches and start small groups.

Speaker José D. Espósito, assistant to the president for Evangelism at the Columbia Union Conference, said union

leadership is emphasizing planting multicultural and multilingual churches in the community—not just for second- and third-generation immigrant communities.

DONALD RUSSELL, FORMER TREASURER, PASSES AWAY

Donald J. Russell, Sr., former treasurer of the Columbia Union Conference, passed away April 28. He was 90 years old and a member of Chesapeake



Conference's Spencerville church in Silver Spring, Md.

Russell, a graduate of Washington Adventist University (then Columbia Union College) in Takoma Park, Md., worked for the Seventh-day Adventist Church for 43 years in various treasury rolls, on the General Conference Mission Board, and as treasurer of several organizations, including the Chesapeake Conference. He retired from the Columbia Union in 1996 after serving as treasurer for 19 years.

5 Things You Should Know

columbiaunionvisitor.com/5Things

- 1** Teachers continue to go above and beyond in serving their communities. The Columbia Union Conference Office of Education recently honored two educators with the union's Outstanding Educator awards for their excellence in the classroom and in administration. Find out who they are online.
- 2** This summer and every summer, children attend Columbia Union's eight camps. Adults can enjoy the facilities throughout the year, too, by planning a ministry or family event on the campgrounds. Contact your local camp or retreat center for details.
- 3** Did you know that Adventist Community Services of Greater Washington (ACSGW), with the help of Adventist HealthCare, has started Healthy Child 1000, a program to assist mothers with needs, from conception to the time the baby turns two. Prior to the new program, ACSGW provided food and diapers and a monthly food basket to families. Participating families can now receive fresh produce, nutritious shelf-stable foods and baked goods every other week, as well as feminine hygiene items and 100 diapers each month. At weaning, baby/toddler food will be added.
- 4** In June, delegates representing nearly 22 million members from around the world gathered in St. Louis, Mo., for the 61st General Conference Session of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Read about what took place at columbiaunionvisitor.com/2022generalconference.
- 5** This spring, Kettering College (Ohio) graduated more than 65 students, and Washington Adventist University, located in Takoma Park, Md., graduated 200 students. Watch recordings of their graduation ceremonies at columbiaunionvisitor.com/2022graduations.



BECKY WEIGLEY HONORED

During the Washington Adventist University graduation in Takoma Park, Md., President Weymouth Spence recognized Becky Weigley, director of the Ministerial Spouses Association for the Columbia Union, for her behind-the-scenes years of service of supporting pastors' spouses in the union.

THE REST OF THE STORY: Read full content at columbiaunionvisitor.com/upfront.

EL COMITÉ EJECUTIVO ESTABLECE VALORES

En la última reunión del Comité Ejecutivo de la Unión de Columbia, los miembros establecieron valores que guiarán al comité y a la unión durante el resto del quinquenio :

Abrazamos de todo corazón y nos esforzamos por encarnar un espíritu de semejanza a Cristo que promueva

- Excelencia**
- Integridad**
- Respeto**
- Igualdad**
- Unidad**
- Diversidad**
- Servicio**

MIRA LA TRANSMISIÓN EN VIVO DE ‘INCANSABLE’

Conquistadores y voluntarios de la Unión de Columbia se están preparando para #Relentless2022, el Camporee de la Unión de Columbia, que se llevará a cabo del 10 al 14 de agosto en Summit Bechtel Reserve, W.Va. Vea la reunión vespertina todos los días en columbiaunionvisitor.com/relentlesslivestream.

CARAVANA ENFATIZA LA PLANTACIÓN DE IGLESIAS MULTICULTURALES

En una serie de reuniones de caravanas, miembros de 17 iglesias alrededor de la Conferencia de Chesapeake se reunieron para animar a los asistentes a ganar almas para Jesús, plantar iglesias multiculturales e iniciar grupos pequeños.

5 Cosas Que Debes Saber

columbiaunionvisitor.com/noticias5cosas

- 1** La Universidad Adventista de Washington (WAU, por sus siglas en inglés) ofrece a todos los miembros Adventistas del Séptimo Día de la Unión de Columbia una matrícula fija de \$12,000 por año. “Nuestra intención es eliminar el obstáculo del costo para tener acceso a la educación cristiana”, dice Weymouth Spence, presidente de WAU.
- 2** WGTS 91.9 recolectó y distribuyó recientemente más de 40 000 pañales y toallitas en varios lugares del área de Washington, D.C. El equipo de WGTS transmitió en vivo desde ubicaciones en Maryland, Virginia y Washington, D.C. En cada parada, los oyentes donaron pañales y toallitas húmedas.
- 3** Los delegados eligieron a los líderes de la Conferencia Oeste de Allegheny para un nuevo mandato de cinco años durante la 18.ª sesión ordinaria de constituyentes de la conferencia. Marvin C. Brown, III, presidente; Joel Johnson, vicepresidente ejecutivo; y Keisha Bone, directora financiera, regresaron a sus cargos. Lea más en la página 15.
- 4** En su quinta sesión quinquenal, los delegados de la Conferencia de Chesapeake votaron para regresar a sus cargos a Jerry Lutz, presidente; André Hastick, secretario ejecutivo; y Eduardo Muñoz, tesorero, por un período de cinco años. Lea más en la página 17.
- 5** Los maestros continúan yendo más allá para servir a nuestras comunidades. La Oficina de Educación de la Unión de Columbia honró recientemente a dos educadores, en el salón de clases y en funciones administrativas, con los Premios al Educador Sobresaliente de la unión. Descubra quiénes son en línea.

El orador José D. Espósito, asistente del presidente para evangelismo en la Unión de Columbia, dijo que el liderazgo de la unión está enfatizando la plantación de iglesias multiculturales y multilingües en la comunidad, no solo para las comunidades de inmigrantes de segunda y tercera generación.

FALLECE EXTESORERO, DONALD RUSSELL

Donald J. Russell, Sr., extesorero de la Unión de Columbia, falleció el jueves 28 de abril. Tenía 90 años y era miembro de la iglesia de Spencerville de la Conferencia de Chesapeake en Silver Spring, Maryland.

Russell trabajó para la Iglesia Adventista del Séptimo Día durante 43 años en varios registros de tesorería, en la Junta de Misiones de la Asociación General y como tesorero de varias organizaciones, incluida la Conferencia de Chesapeake. Se retiró de la Unión de Columbia en 1996 después de servir como tesorero durante 19 años.



Nouvelles

V. MICHELLE BERNARD

5 Choses à Savoir

columbiaunionvisitor.com/nouvelles5choses

1 L'Université Adventiste de Washington (WAU) offre à tous les Adventistes du Septième Jour de l'Union de Fédérations de Columbia un frais de scolarité fixe de 12 000 dollars par an. « Notre objectif est d'éliminer l'obstacle du coût afin de permettre l'accès à l'éducation chrétienne », déclare Weymouth Spence, président de la WAU.

2 L'équipe WGTS 91.9 a diffusé en direct depuis des restaurants de Chick-fil-A du Maryland, de Virginie et de Washington D.C., collectant des couches et des lingettes auprès des auditeurs.

3 Les délégués ont élu les dirigeants de la Fédération Allegheny West pour un nouveau mandat de cinq ans lors de la 18e session ordinaire de la fédération. Marvin C. Brown, III, président, Joel Johnson, vice-président exécutif, et Keisha Bone, directeur financier, ont tous été reconduits dans leurs fonctions. Plus d'informations en page 15.

4 Lors de leur cinquième session quinquennale, les délégués de la Fédération de Chesapeake ont reconduit par vote : Jerry Lutz, président ; Andre Hastick, secrétaire exécutif ; et Eduardo Munoz, trésorier, dans leurs fonctions pour un mandat de cinq ans. Plus d'informations à la page 17.

5 Les enseignants continuent de se surpasser pour servir nos communautés. Le bureau de l'éducation de l'Union de Fédérations de Columbia a récemment honoré deux éducateurs — dans la salle de classe et dans des rôles administratifs — en leur décernant le Prix d'Éducateur Exceptionnel de l'union. Découvrez en ligne qui ils sont.

LECOMITÉ EXÉCUTIF FIXE DES VALEURS

Lors de la dernière réunion du comité exécutif de l'Union de Columbia, les membres ont défini les valeurs qui guideront le comité et l'union jusqu'à la fin du quinquennat :

Nous embrassons de tout cœur et nous nous efforçons d'incarner un esprit chrétien qui promet

Excellence
Intégrité
Respect
Égalité
Unité
Diversité
Service

SUIVEZ EN DIRECT « RELENTLESS »

Les éclaireurs et les bénévoles de l'Union de Columbia se préparent pour #Relentless2022, le Camporée de l'Union de Columbia, qui se tiendra du 10 au 14 août à la réserve Bechtel de



Summit, W.Va. Suivez chaque soir les réunions sur columbiaunionvisitor.com/relentlesslivestream.

LA CARAVANE MET L'ACCENT SUR L'IMPLANTATION D'ÉGLISES MULTICULTURELLES

Lors d'une série de réunions en caravane, les membres de 17 églises de la Fédération de Chesapeake se sont réunis pour encourager les participants à gagner des âmes à Jésus, à implanter des églises multiculturelles et à créer des petits groupes.



Le conférencier José D. Espósito, assistant du président pour l'évangélisation à l'Union de Columbia, a déclaré que la direction de l'union mettrait l'accent sur l'implantation d'églises multiculturelles et multilingues dans la communauté — et pas seulement pour les communautés d'immigrants de deuxième et troisième génération.

DÉCÈS DE DONALD RUSSELL, ANCIEN TRÉSORIER DE L'UNION

Donald J. Russell, Sr, ancien trésorier de l'Union de Columbia, est décédé jeudi le 28 avril 2022. Il avait 90 ans. Il était membre de l'église de Spencerville de la Fédération de Chesapeake à Silver Spring, Md.

Russell a travaillé pour l'Église Adventiste du Septième Jour pendant 43 ans dans divers rôles comme trésorier de plusieurs organisations, dont la Fédération de Chesapeake. Il a pris sa retraite de l'Union de Columbia en 1996 après avoir été trésorier pendant 19 ans.

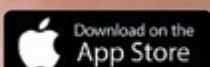
BE INSPIRED.

Download the brand-new AWR360° app!

Inspiration and a full media library at your fingertips!



Be sure to visit the Adventist World Radio booth online during the GC Session Virtual Exhibition and in person during the CALLED and ASI Conventions! awr.org/events



visit: awr.org/apps



AWR360°
CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

Adventist World Radio 12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20904

Let's Connect!

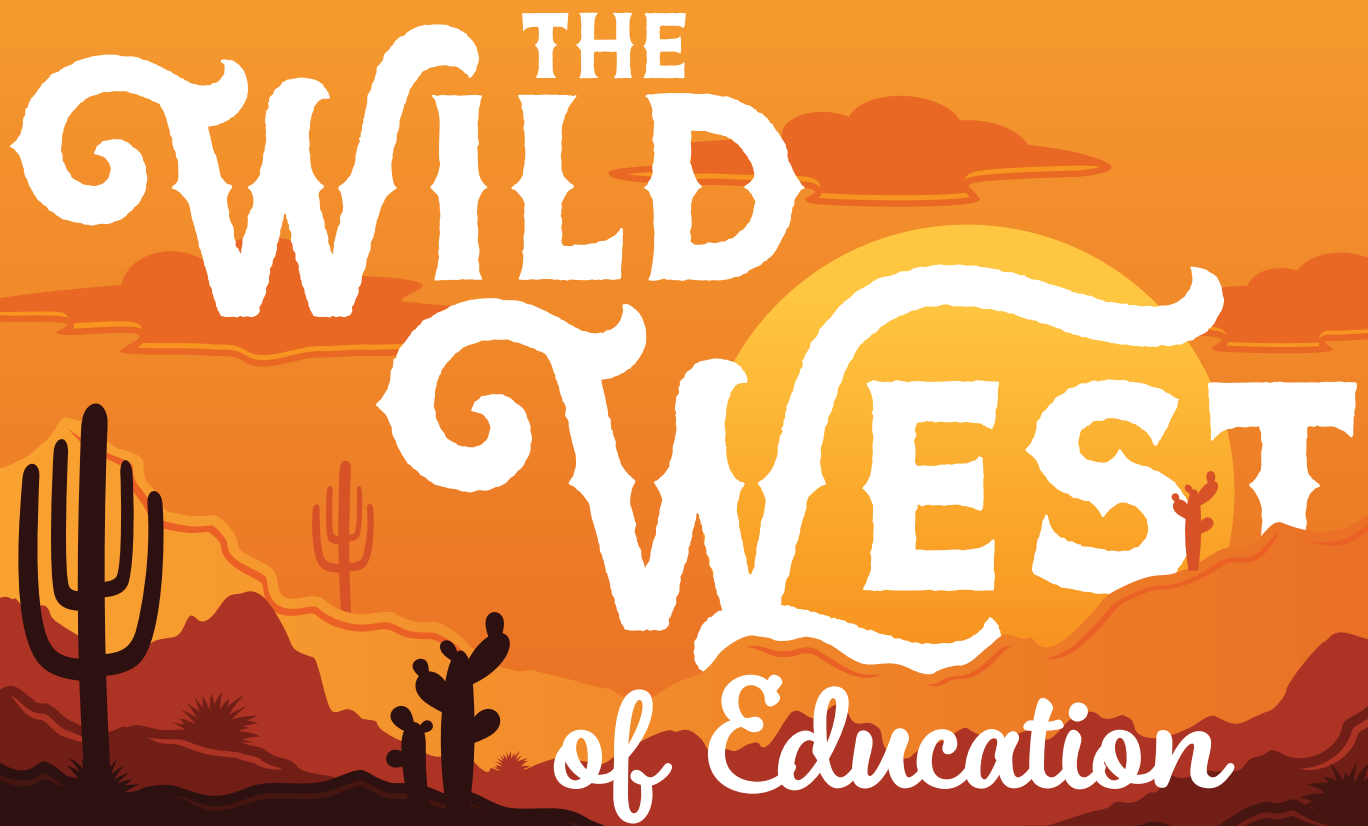
[f awr360](https://www.facebook.com/awr360)

[t awr360](https://www.instagram.com/awr360)

[@awr.360](https://www.youtube.com/awr360)

[awr.org/videos](https://www.youtube.com/awr360)

[awr.org/apps](https://www.awr.org/apps)



THE WILD WEST of Education

By Tamaría L. Kulemeka

Educators have embraced the new frontier of hybrid instruction and have adapted their classrooms in a way that would never have been conceived prior to the pandemic shutdown.

RETIRED WRANGLER

When Vaughn Jennings visited Pennsylvania Conference's Gettysburg Adventist Christian School after teaching online for more than a year, the students treated him like he was famous.

"They said, 'You're like a TV celebrity; we have only seen you on the screen,'" says Jennings, recalling the first time since the pandemic began that he stepped foot in the school he and his wife helped start years ago. After 15 years of

retirement, Jennings, 77, returned to the classroom to teach a homeschooling group of high school students affiliated with the school. What would make this former Chesapeake Conference associate superintendent, and later Pennsylvania Conference superintendent of education delve into the realm of online teaching for the first time in the middle of a pandemic?

"I had nothing to do," says Jennings. "I decided I *had* to do something."

The rest, they say, is "virtual" history!

Jennings, who teaches British literature, British history and Bible and coordinates the elementary school's weekly chapel, says the greatest challenge he faced was learning how to navigate Google Classroom.

"There was no one to teach me," Jennings says, referring to the digital platform that enables teachers to post and grade assignments in an efficient manner.

Now that a couple of students have talked him through it, Jennings is eager to help seasoned teachers become familiar with what has become an essential in-person and virtual tool.

As for next school year, Rose Gamblin, Gettysburg principal, plans to grow the homeschool program. There are already three educators, including Jennings, who teach various online classes. And, according to Jennings, Leona Bange,

education superintendent, may potentially develop a registry of teachers and pastors to teach online classes whenever a need arises.

UNEXPLORED TERRITORY

Though Columbia Union Conference schools have returned to in-person learning, many of them continue to offer a virtual option for the unforeseen future.

For Yoel Paredes, vice principal, chaplain and teacher at New Jersey Conference's Waldwick Adventist School, the pandemic created an opportunity to expand the school's reach. The school provides instruction for about 100 kindergarteners through 10th-graders. However, after sophomore year, students have had to move on to other schools—until the pandemic forced schools into virtual learning mode. As a result, this past school year Waldwick partnered with Lake Nelson Adventist Academy (LNAA)—located in Piscataway, N.J.—which has a satellite program that enabled eight of Waldwick's juniors and seniors to continue taking classes without ever leaving their campus.

"Today our 11th- and 12th-graders don't need to be in person. ... They can just get on Zoom," says Paredes. "Some of [the students] were in this school since they were in first grade, and if it wasn't for this program, they would have left."

Paredes says the idea to partner with LNAA was sparked after Waldwick provided similar services during the 2020–21 school year to ninth- and 10th-graders at the conference's Vine Haven Adventist School (N.J.), which only goes up to eighth grade. Paredes says Waldwick even had an international student attend online classes after the student had to return home because of the pandemic.

LNAA, which initially provided virtual learning for their students in March 2020 until the end of that school year, resumed in-person learning in a hybrid fashion for the 2020–21 school year. At that time, LNAA students had three options: attend classes three days a week, four days a week, or remain completely virtual. The school, which has 293 students, added the satellite program during the 2021–22 school year. Besides the eight students from Waldwick, the program served seven students from Vine Haven, and, pending approval, Elisa Maragoto, LNAA's principal, says the Tranquility Adventist School in Andover, N.J., could be joining the satellite program next school year.

While they knew there would be challenges, Ashley Boggess, LNAA's high school English teacher and junior and senior art history teacher, says she and LNAA teachers felt very comfortable offering virtual classes to students at other



campuses while teaching their own students in person at the same time. To aid their delivery, the school added microphones on computers so virtual students could better hear the teachers. In addition, classrooms are now equipped with a remote-control camera and speaker positioned on the ceiling so students can see the teacher no matter where they move in the room. They also added Promethean boards to enhance in-person and virtual instruction.

Most beneficial in making the partnership a success is the "close relationship" forged among the school principals and facilitators at the other schools. Boggess says the satellite campus facilitators ensure their students are on task, allowing her and other teachers delivering instruction to focus on "teaching in the moment."

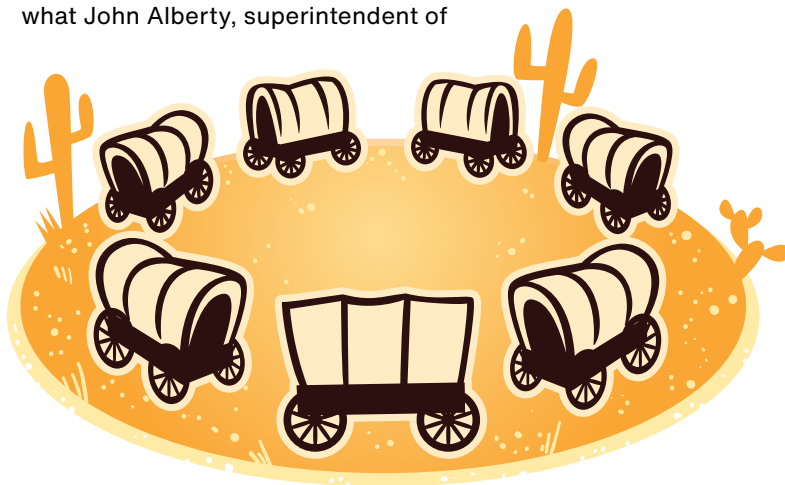
Boggess says she is thankful for leaders seeing wisdom in extending learning in a way that would not have been conceived before the pandemic. "We've all been working very closely with each other to support one another on this journey," she says.

Virtual learning has opened numerous possibilities, and, during a time when many Adventist schools are struggling financially, Paredes believes the Adventist Church needs to capitalize on this idea and seek ways to "create an online academy to reach the rest of the world." This, in turn, would better connect students no matter what city, state or country they live in, says Paredes, whose students have engaged via Zoom with classrooms in his native Peru as part of a language-exchange activity.

"You know the students feel like our schools are small, but if you're realizing we're connected, even if it's virtually, then we can give them the sense that we belong to a bigger system," says Paredes.

CIRCLE YOUR WAGONS

Allegheny East Conference school leaders and staff can also attest to the benefits of what can be accomplished when schools come together. At the height of the pandemic, the conference joined its seven schools to form a consortium, or what John Alberty, superintendent of



education, readily refers to as “one big school.” This allowed for the conference’s kindergarten through eighth grade schools to share teachers and resources, as more than 150 students and about 10 teachers met daily on Zoom. These teachers taught classes for the entire group during the 2020–21 school year.

“Students were able to break out into English Language Arts, social studies, math and science [virtually]. The music teacher, the Spanish teacher and other exploratory teachers were able to share resources across schools,” Alberty says. “Because of that, we didn’t lose any teachers and didn’t have to lay anyone off.”

Alberty says the consortium school even served a student who lived outside the country during that time. Today, sharing resources and some classes continue among the schools.

VIRTUAL LEARNING COAST TO COAST

While many parents and students were eager to return to in-person learning, Marcus and Channele Eveillard found a refuge in virtual learning. Being in the military, Marcus Sr., and his family of six were relocated to Plumas Lake, Calif., but the children continued to attend New Jersey Conference’s Meadow View Junior Academy online. Read about how God has blessed the Eveillards through this unprecedented situation at columbiaunionvisitor.com/eveillards.



Chameron, Marcus Jr., and Chawn-donna Eveillard attend New Jersey Conference’s Meadow View Junior Academy online from California, with baby sister, Cameah (in chair), eagerly awaiting her school career to start.

For example, some upper-grade students at Sharon Temple Adventist School in Wilmington, Del., take classes with students from Baltimore Junior Academy, “now that we have the appropriate platform to do that,” Alberty says, adding that the schools continue to offer a virtual option for parents who are still not comfortable sending their kids back to school.

“Teaching in person and virtually at the same time is not easy, so I commend my teachers ... who are our biggest commodity,” he says.

As for the conference’s only high school and boarding school, Alberty says, “When the rest of the world shut down, we did not close Pine Forge Academy (PFA) in Pennsylvania. They created a bubble, and there was no one on or off campus besides the teaching staff.”

The school’s Music and Creative Arts departments found innovative ways to engage students and “reached their stakeholders and the community” through innovative virtual programs and productions that brought PFA to a larger audience digitally, says Alberty, something the school intends to continue to do.

“This group of students had a connection and core memory that will always be uniquely theirs and will last them a lifetime!” says Jarrett Roseborough, PFA’s choir director.

PROTECTING THE FOLD

Many educators agree that one of the biggest takeaways from life spent in pandemic mode is that mental health matters. “There are a lot of issues that people are struggling with,” says Janet Armstrong, associate superintendent of education for the Potomac Conference. “A few teachers talked about students who told them they were depressed when schools were virtual. Some of students had contemplated self-harm or even thought about suicide.”

Armstrong was among several educators who signed up to become a mental health first aid trainer when Donovan Ross, vice president of education for the Columbia Union, announced his ambitions of offering this training. Armstrong said the three-day course equips trainers with tools necessary to “point [students and staff] in the direction of getting help.”

Armstrong says the issues people have experienced during the pandemic won’t just go away now that things are starting to “get back to normal.”

Armstrong is gearing up to train teachers throughout the Potomac Conference, which has 17 schools.

“COVID-19 has kind of helped take away the stigma about talking about mental health and self-care, so that has been a silver lining. As more and more educators are made aware of signs to look for, questions to ask and how to respond, this can help our students know how to help themselves and their friends when someone is feeling overwhelmed and doesn’t know what to do,” Armstrong says.

KEEPING OUR KIDS IN SCHOOL



Instead of providing Band-Aids for the lack of funding, decrease in enrollment and the inability of many families to afford Seventh-day Adventist education—which existed long before the COVID-19 pandemic—Sadrail Saint-Ulysse, New Jersey Conference’s superintendent of schools, suggests, among other

things, that more tithe money needs to be allocated to help schools. In his self-published book, *The Elephant in the Room: Church Schools Are Drowning—Champions Needed!* Saint-Ulysse tackles the myriad issues facing Adventist education like affordability and accessibility. Copies of his book, including digital versions, can be purchased through Amazon and Barnes & Noble.

GIDDY UP, LITTLE CHILDREN

During the shutdown mode of the pandemic, the primary focus of Allegheny West Conference’s Ramah Junior Academy in Cleveland was to help families cope and thrive mentally, socially, emotionally, spiritually and physically, according to Celeste Giles, Ramah’s principal.

“[During the pandemic] was the first time we drove to every single student’s home,” says Giles. “We met with them and took different [care] packages to them. We knew the isolation had affected some of them.”

In addition to distributing more than 1,000 breakfast, lunch and snack bags weekly, the school provided close to \$1,000 worth of sensory fidgets and other social-emotional toys to give students an outlet to combat isolation at home and the inability to interact in person with their friends at school.

“The fidgets gave them a sense of calmness and peace ... if they felt stressed,” says Giles, who added the fidgets increased the students’ ability to focus on the task [at hand] and pay attention more readily.

Looking ahead, Giles says she and her staff are seeking ways to “gap the learning loss” incurred at the height of COVID-19.

In addition to using fidgets and other social-emotional toys as part of the daily routine, Giles said

the school also provides music and art twice a week to meet students’ emotional needs. “Music and art utilized as therapy is soothing and relaxing and has enabled students to de-stress and release anxiety,” she says.

Despite the need for in-person instruction, Giles agrees with many educators that virtual learning has become an essential component of education. She says Ramah plans to offer online classes with a dedicated online teacher next school year.

“Virtual is here to stay in some capacity,” Giles says. “We’re moving to a new style of learning, so we have to adapt and grow with it. That’s what we’re trying to do.”



HOW ONE TEACHER TAUGHT MUSIC CLASS ONLINE



When schools shut down in March 2020, music teachers scrambled to figure out how to best deliver instruction in a virtual setting. For Lulu Mwangi Mupfumbu, director of choirs and orchestra for Potomac Conference’s Takoma Academy, delivering quality music instruction and programming required a total shift of mindset because her students were used to practicing in person and traveling to performances—not being stuck behind a screen. Read how Mupfumbu navigated a creative approach to music at columbiaunionvisitor.com/mupfumbu.



WORTHINGTON | PLANT POWERED™

MEATLESS MEAT MADE SIMPLY SINCE 1939!



SALE!
JULY 1 - 31, 2022

JULY IS NATIONAL #PICNICMONTH



\$1.50 OFF

BUY ONE (1) 24OZ FRIPAT™ FAMILY PACK AND GET \$1.50 OFF ONE (1) RETAIL CARTON OF YOUR CHOICE FROM XBURGER®, LEANIES™ DELI DOG OR RETAIL FRIPAT™. [OFFER EXPIRES JULY 31.]

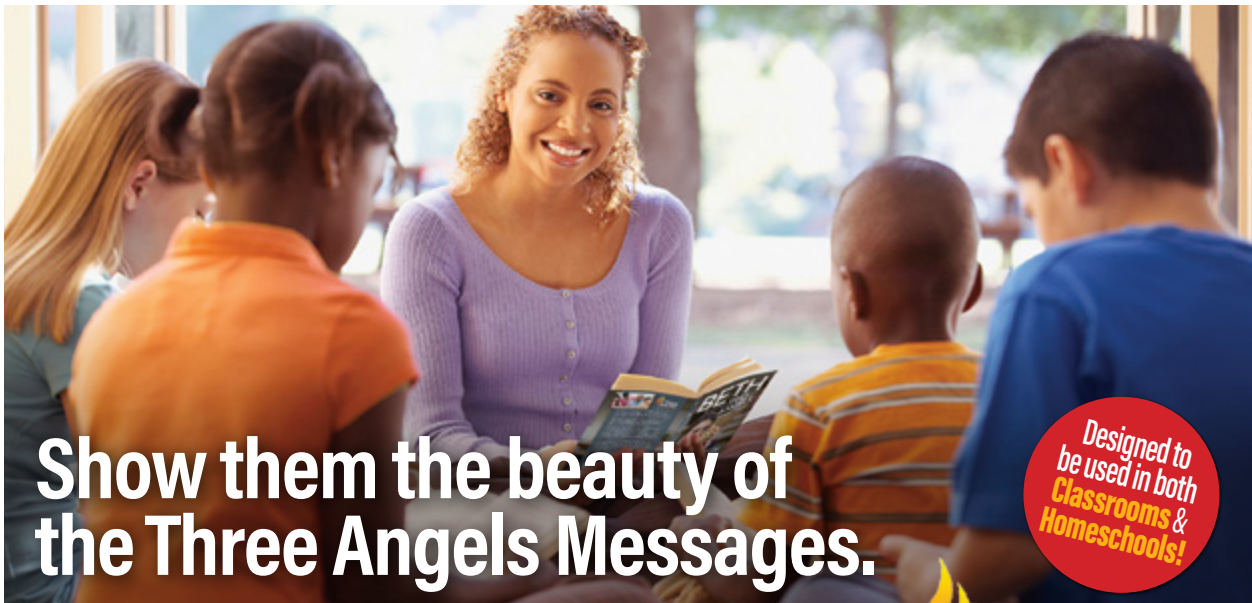


CHECK YOUR SDA GROCERS FOR IN-STORE PROMOTIONS ALL MONTH LONG!

EATWORTHINGTON.com
@EAT.WORTHINGTON
EATWORTHINGTON

CELEBRATING OVER 80 YEARS OF MEAT FREE PICNICS!

GOOD TOWARDS WORTHINGTON® FROZEN PRODUCTS ONLY. NOT TO BE DOUBLED OR COMBINED WITH ANY OTHER COUPON OFFER. ONE (1) COUPON OFFER PER CUSTOMER.



Show them the beauty of the Three Angels Messages.

Designed to be used in both Classrooms & Homeschools!

A Grace-Filled Look at Revelation 14 for This Generation

- ▶ NAD-approved units for PreK-12 curriculum
- ▶ Easy to teach—all materials included!
- ▶ Supplementary, integrated curriculum
- ▶ Videos, posters, slides, and story books
- ▶ Designed to engage each age group
- ▶ Teach in as little as two weeks

THREE ANGELS FOR KIDS™
ThreeAngelsForKids.org



ALLEGHENY EAST *Exposé*

Conference Member Celebrates 100th Birthday



Henry L. Richards, a member of the East Lansdowne (Pa.) church since 2005, recently celebrated his 100th birthday during a special event hosted by his family.

In 1951, Richards was baptized into the Ebenezer church in Philadelphia. Richards later became a member of the North Philadelphia church, where he served as elder under the pastoral leadership of J. C. Smith. God ultimately led Richards to use his talents and experience to help grow the Mizpah church in Philadelphia.

For nearly 20 years, Mizpah was his home church. He served in multiple capacities, ranging from Adventist Youth Society leader to first elder and choir member.

Richards met the love of his life, Lauren, in 1978, and they got married the following year. He is the proud father of two daughters and two sons and grandfather of seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Richards owned a highly successful painting and hardware store business for more than 30 years. Even with his success, he often looked out for family members by giving them employment opportunities and teaching them the trade that came naturally to him. Although he may be retired on paper, Richards has not and will never retire in spirit, as you will find him “piddling around” as he likes to say, on any given day to keep busy.

“Elder Richards has been a symbol of dignity and grace to the East Lansdowne church community,” says Shawn Fordham, pastor of the East Lansdowne church. “This comes only from a life rooted in the Lord, and we celebrate with him a century of life and love.”

Richards currently resides with his wife in Wynnewood, Pa.

Area Churches Partner for Compassion Project

Members from the New Hope church (NHC) in Tappahannock, Va., recently partnered with area churches to serve their community. Activities included sewing bibs for a local nursing home, building ramps for older individuals, distributing prayer shawls and Bibles to others, and delivering food to homes. NHC also had the privilege of buying

approximately \$400 worth of undergarments for children, youth, men and women.

This act of service was part of a program called Operation Inasmuch: a Compassion Revolution, sponsored by Essex Churches Together (ECT), an interdenominational organization in Tappahannock. ECT was created to bring small churches together to accomplish more in the community collectively. NHC has been part of the group for more than 10 years and has participated in many community outreach projects.

“The opportunity to see the joy on the recipients’ faces, to pray with someone and to hear their stories was a privilege and an honor,” says Dee Lucombe, pastor of NHC. “The building is God’s house, but the church is everyone who chooses to be His hands and feet and reach out ‘to the least of these.’”



Dee Lucombe, pastor of the New Hope church, along with her husband, Winston, participate in an Inasmuch Project.

Virtual Bible Conference Yields 13 Baptisms

Several churches in the conference's Bay Area, including congregations in Delaware, Maryland and South Jersey, recently hosted a joint virtual evangelistic series titled, "Living with Hope Bible Conference." The 20-day conference resulted in 13 baptisms at the Sharon Temple church in Wilmington, Del., the New Life church in Salisbury, Md., and the Glassboro (N.J.) church. Several other individuals expressed interest in baptismal classes.

The idea for the conference started as a series Jimmy Ferguson, pastor of Sharon Temple, planned for his church. However, after considering the topic and speaker, Gene Donaldson, the conference's ministerial director, Ferguson, who serves as the Bay Area leader, extended the invitation to other churches within the Bay territory. The effort included 11 churches, eight pastors and four language groups: English, Spanish, Swahili and Korean.

Among those who expressed interest in being baptized were Robert Best's mother and aunt. Best, pastor of the Mount Olivet church in Camden, N.J., never believed his nearly 80-year-old mother would make such a decision so late in her life. "My mother's decision meant that God is able to do exceedingly and abundantly above all that we could



After attending the virtual Bible conference, brothers Ause T. Dye and James A. Dye, Jr., decide to get baptized at the Sharon Temple church.

ask or think," says Best.

After attending the same conference, his aunt's desire to be baptized just added to the blessing. The sisters have become evangelists by their own right, sharing the message with other family members.

Member Honored for Service to Women's Ministries



Margaret Brown is Allegheny East Conference's (AEC) longest-serving Women's Ministries area leader. Brown, a member of the Berea church in Baltimore, has been a local church leader in the Baltimore area since the inception of Women's Ministries in the AEC more than 30 years ago.

Brown has served under all AEC Women's Ministries directors, including Sandra Hayden, Minnie McNeil and current leader Cynthia Poole. Brown was responsible for spearheading several successful retreats in the Baltimore area.

The Women's Ministries Department recently presented her with a plaque, recognizing the dedicated leadership she has exhibited through the years. "She is truly dedicated and committed to the cause of Women's Ministries," Poole shares.

"It was my privilege to minister together with the AEC Women's Ministries Leadership Council, a team of amazing women. It was

Margaret Brown that reminded us of our need to wear white for retreats, and, on conference calls, her prayers were powerful," remembers Minnie McNeil, former Women's Ministries leader at AEC.

Brown's many years working at Proctor & Gamble and Women's Power, Inc., prepared her for her role as a Women's Ministries coordinator. "Her love for Women's Ministries was unmistakable," adds McNeil.

Conference Leaders Elected at Constituency Session

At the 18th Allegheny West Conference (AWC) Constituency Session held earlier this year, delegates elected Marvin C. Brown, III, president; Joel E. Johnson, executive vice president; and Keisha Bone, chief financial officer, to serve a five-year term. In addition to Johnson's role, he also serves as stewardship director.

During the meeting, Brown expressed his gratitude to the constituents in his president's report and reminded them of the work ahead. "Indeed the hand of the Lord was and continues to be upon us. He has preserved and sustained us during uncertain times and brought us safely to the other side," he said. "All around us, there are hurting people living without Jesus and bound for an eternity without God. We must tell them the good news of God's grace and everlasting love in sending His Son, Jesus Christ. We must move forward together in mission and ministry."

In Johnson's report, he said it is the goal of his office to "foster the growth of healthy churches within our territory through leadership development and support of church ministries. During this new quinquennial period, development of our churches must start at the conference level. Our local church departmental leaders must be trained so that they can lead the members of their churches to fulfill their calling to service."

In her financial report, Bone shared AWC's success through the COVID-19 pandemic and its bright future. "God has abundantly blessed our conference and churches," she said. "Allegheny West Conference has continued moving mission forward even in these unprecedented times. We could never have anticipated the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic; it has been a challenging experience for us all. However, in the face of uncertainty, we remained focused and exercised our mustard-seed faith, confident that we could move mountains. God blessed us!"

While the meeting focused on the last four years, the administration pointed to God's calling to press forward in its mission. "We have chosen 'Moving Mission Forward' as the theme for our 2022 constituency session," said Brown. "As we look to Jesus,



Allegheny West Conference leaders Marvin C. Brown, III, president (center); Joel E. Johnson, executive vice president; and Keisha Bone, chief financial officer, will serve the conference for the next quinquennium.

following His example of service and humility, He will help us, bless our efforts and energize us to finish the work. May God bless the Allegheny West Conference. The best is yet to come."

Delegates also voted the following departmental directors into office during the constituency session:

- Children's Ministries** - Laura Ottati-Romero
- Church Planting** - Sergio E. Romero
- Communication** - Benia Jennings
- Community Services** - Jerome Hurst
- Education** - Violet Cox
- Family Life Ministries** - Lloydston Burton
- Media Ministries** - Gerson Pancorbo
- Ministerial Secretary** - William E. Joseph Jr.
- Multicultural Ministries** - Sergio E. Romero
- Public Affairs and Religious Liberty** - Jerome Hurst
- Prayer Ministries** - Violet Cox
- Prison Ministries** - Melvin Mitchell
- Sabbath School** - Lloydston Burton
- Stewardship** - Joel E. Johnson
- Women's Ministries** - Bobbe Reynolds
- Youth Ministries** - Eric K. Peters



Ethan Temple Honors Prison Ministries Leaders

The Ethan Temple church in Dayton, Ohio, recently featured a Prison Ministries Emphasis Sabbath. Bob Rice, longtime Prison Ministries leader, honored members, including Lonnie Bynum, Andrew Ewing, Garrett Lockett and Clyde Woodley, for their many years of service.

Melvin Mitchell, AWC’s Prison Ministries director, issued a charge to the attendees to accept God’s call “to be counted ‘in’ for those who don’t count” in the eyes of society. His appeal for volunteers included a solemn reminder of the greater significance of this ministry, as found in Jesus’ parable in Matthew 25:41–46.

Ewing, a longtime officer with the Cincinnati Police Department, presented a message titled, “The Hostage Negotiator,” a reference to the guilt incarcerated individuals feel upon their return to society. “More specifically, it refers to their need for a negotiator—someone who will intercede for them with those in society who fail to forgive and release them from the shame of their past,” Ewing said.

Ewing acknowledged that we need to forgive people who have hurt us. “Truly, God wants us to experience a full release from an unforgiving spirit so that we can become ‘hostage negotiators’ for our



Bob Rice (center), Prison Ministries leader for the Ethan Temple church, thanks Fred “Butch” Coleman (left) and Jerry Carter for their service to the ministry.

brothers and sisters who need a saving relationship with Jesus,” he concluded.

John Trusty, pastor of Ethan Temple, led the congregation in prayer, seeking God’s divine help in breaking free from things that are difficult to let go of on our own.—*Camille Lewis, Communication Leader*

Women’s Ministries at Shiloh Crafts for a Cause

The Women’s Ministries Department at the Shiloh Cincinnati church recently hosted a crafting event. The women enjoyed conversation, music, a raffle



Shiloh Cincinnati church member Robin Cleaver displays a care package for a local women’s shelter.

giveaway and a light meal before making crafts to support two local community projects. The first project was attaching greeting notes to individual packs of cookies with the inscription, “Have a nice day” or “Thinking of you.” The care packages also included shower gel, lotion, hair products, flip flops and shower shoes.

The Women’s Ministries group supports a local women’s shelter by donating various items for the residents. These cookie care packages, delivered on Mother’s Day, served as the latest gift to the shelter.

The second project involved decorating cards for the Cards for Kindness initiative. They gave these cards to a local library for distribution to cancer foundations, hospitals, shelters, retirement homes, children’s homes and other organizations.

The women also planned ways to support future community projects. Sheila Hughes, Women’s Ministries leader, says her goal is to serve others because “we are all blessed to be a blessing.”

Delegates Re-Elect Officers at Constituency Meeting

On May 22, delegates to the Fifth Quinquennial Constituency Meeting of the Chesapeake Conference re-elected Jerry Lutz, president; Andre Hastick, executive secretary; and Eduardo Munoz, treasurer. The meeting was conducted virtually through Zoom due to the lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

“It is a humbling experience and a privilege to serve the Lord and the people of this conference in this leadership role,” Lutz said. “Seeing how the Lord has blessed us beyond what we could have imagined during the past five years, despite the pandemic, it is exciting to anticipate what greater blessings He has in store for us in this new term.”

During the session, five new churches—Aberdeen Spanish, Baltimore Centro Spanish, Waldorf Spanish, Seaford Spanish, and Washington Ghanaian—were accepted into the Chesapeake Conference sisterhood of churches. During the last quinquennium, 2,063 people joined churches within the conference through baptism or profession of faith, and conference membership approached 17,000.

“While we have seen the church grow in numbers these past five years, strengthening the footprint and reach of our congregations in their various communities, what is of even greater importance in this new term is strengthening our individual relationships with Jesus,” Lutz said. “As we are individually strong in the Lord, the greater will be our witness to those around us who do not know Jesus.”

During the treasury report, Munoz stated that the Chesapeake Conference remained in a steady and healthy financial condition over the past five years. Munoz reported that between 2017–2021, the conference maintained the highest tithe per capita in the Columbia Union and the fifth-highest tithe per capita in the North American Division.

“For 42 years, tithe has increased in the Chesapeake Conference each year,” Munoz said. “This is an amazing story to tell.”

Lutz has served as president since January 5, 2021, when the executive committee elected him to fill the vacancy left by Rick Remmers, who accepted



Newly re-elected Chesapeake Conference officers Jerry Lutz, president (center), with his wife Janet; Andre Hastick, executive secretary (left), with his wife Heather; and Eduardo Munoz, treasurer, with his wife Elsy, look forward to the next quinquennium.

a call to the Columbia Union. Lutz served as executive secretary from 2014–2021. Before joining conference administration, Lutz served as the senior pastor of the Spencerville church in Silver Spring, Md., from 1996–2014.

Hastick has served as executive secretary since February 22, 2021. He joined the Chesapeake Conference as a pastor in 2011 before accepting a call to serve as communication director in 2017.

Munoz has served as treasurer since 2008. Before coming to the conference as an associate treasurer in 2000, Munoz served as an associate treasurer in the Texas Conference.

“There is much to be done to spread the three angels’ messages in our neighborhoods and communities,” Lutz said. “With the presence of the Holy Spirit to equip us for ministry, and the commitment of His people to live for Jesus, we may, by faith, anticipate that in this new term, should time last, many thousands of people will join us as we seek to do His will.”

Father Follows Daughter's Example, Gets Baptized

When a Baltimore-White Marsh Adventist School student decided to get baptized, the student's father took notice.

Travis McClurkin visited the Baltimore-White Marsh church October 9, 2021, to watch his daughter, Emma, get baptized. After witnessing the baptism and hearing his daughter's testimony, McClurkin decided he needed to follow her example.

McClurkin decided that day to give his life to God. He approached Ivor Quashie, the church's head elder, and asked if he could begin taking Bible studies.

"God has been so good to my family," McClurkin says. "I want God to do in my heart the same thing He's done for my daughter."

McClurkin received Bible studies, and Diego Boquer, senior pastor of Baltimore-White Marsh, baptized him into the church March 26.

The baptism was an answered prayer for other family members who'd been praying for McClurkin for years. In addition to Emma, Travis' wife, Melody, and three other daughters, Kara, Alexandra and Paige, are active church members.

The two eldest daughters, Kara and Alexandra, are Baltimore-White Marsh school graduates, and Emma and her youngest sister, Paige, currently attend the pre-K through eighth grade school.



Diego Boquer, senior pastor of the Baltimore-White Marsh church, celebrates with newly baptized member Travis McClurkin.

Emma says the school played a significant factor in her decision to be baptized.

"It's powerful to see the influence of the church and school coming together and spilling over a family," says Boquer. "It's amazing to see God doing amazing things in people's lives."

Conference Launches Evangelism Training Program

The Chesapeake Conference recently launched Proclaim, a new training initiative for pastors and lay leaders desiring to become more effective evangelists.

Organized by the conference's Evangelism and Church Growth Department, this new training program requires participants to attend four modules throughout the year, focused on different aspects of public evangelism. Participation in the program is invite-only, and all the participants are required to hold evangelistic meetings within the next year.

Sixteen people, including four participants from the Ohio and New Jersey conferences, attended the first module at the conference's headquarters in Columbia, Md.

The first module focused on creating a culture of evangelism in a local church. Presenters included Chris Holland, senior evangelist for Hope Channel, Eric Flickinger and Wes Peppers from It Is Written, and Pavel Goia, editor of the *Ministry* magazine.

"The Proclaim evangelism modules are specifically for pastors or laypeople who want to grow their gift in public proclamation evangelism," says David Klinedinst, Chesapeake Conference evangelism and church growth director. "People are excited to be here. Everyone is committed and wants to be trained."



Participants from Proclaim, a new training initiative for pastors and lay leaders, convene to become more effective evangelists.

MOUNTAIN VIEWPOINT

Lay Bible Workers on Fire for God

In late spring, the Mountain View Conference (MVC) hosted its first annual Lay Bible Worker Training at Valley Vista Adventist Center in Huttonsville, W.Va. The purpose of the training was to encourage Total Member Involvement. But what attendees didn't know was that their lives would be changed in the process!

"I was pleading with God in my prayers, as were many others involved, for at least 40 people to come to this event," explains Tony Garcia, lead Bible instructor for the MVC. "With only a few weeks left, there were just 14 people signed up. However, it was in those last two weeks that we saw the numbers jump from 14 to 82! God blessed this event beyond what we expected!"

Jesse Beamer, a new member of Crossroads Fellowship—a church plant in New Martinsville, W.Va.—says, "I went there just wanting to learn to give Bible studies, but when I left, I not only wanted to 'set my church on fire,' but I also gained a family and a feeling of acceptance."

Offering classes such as "Ministering to Broken People," the "Everlasting Gospel," "Answering the Tough Questions," and more, the training powerfully prepared its attendees—a mix of pastors and lay workers—to "tell somebody about Jesus." Presenters included MVC pastors, along with guest speakers John Kent from the Pennsylvania Conference and Angel Rodriguez from the Ohio Conference.



Lay Bible workers, including Rich Fullmer, head elder of the Parkersburg (W.Va.) church, attend a seminar at the Bible Worker Training.



Eighty-two leaders and pastors were trained by Tim Bailey, Mountain View Conference president (pictured second from right); four conference pastors (also pictured); and other speakers during the special weekend.

Throughout the training, attendees shared their excitement about returning home to witness in their communities and help their churches grow. Dawn Wadsworth, a member of the Boulevard church in Charleston, W.Va., felt especially blessed, exclaiming, "I was privileged to attend a week of training and to be of service to others. It was amazing! I learned so much, drew closer to God and learned that I could tell somebody about Jesus. It was literally life-changing!"

One crucial class at the training was "Gaining Decisions for Christ" because many attendees expressed a lack of confidence in obtaining commitments. This class not only gave them proper tools but empowered them to win souls for Jesus.

"I have learned how to give Bible studies, and I am now able to lead my Thursday Bible study to make decisions for Jesus," remarks Tim Stone, also a Boulevard church member.

The training created 64 newly equipped and powerful lay Bible workers across the region. Tim Bailey, conference president, sums it up perfectly: "Mountain View Conference members are on the move! Our 82 attendees from across the conference came motivated to work for the Savior and left even more on fire to tell somebody about Jesus!"

—Megan L. Garcia

God's Providential Care for Hispanic Work

Much of West Virginia territory, especially minority groups, still waits to be reached with the Seventh-day Adventist message. One such place is Moorefield, a small town boasting a population of 3,000, with 500 Hispanics.

In 2006, a bilingual Adventist couple, Anita and Quelman Quiroz, arrived in town and began attending the Moorefield (W.Va.) church. The couple saw the need to have a church service in Spanish. Quelman presented the need to Rubén A. Ramos, vice president of Multilingual Ministries for the Columbia Union Conference. Ramos contacted Larry Boggess, Mountain View Conference (MVC) president at the time. They both sensed God's leading, and the vision was born to plant the first-ever Hispanic congregation in MVC.

In 2007, Walter Cardenas became the pastor of the Hispanic group, who met in the Moorefield church building. Unfortunately, transportation issues for many of the Hispanic members called for the group to relocate. In 2016, the 35 members became a company and met in the Presbyterian church in town. Working alongside their new pastor, Heroes Sical, they added 12 to their membership in 2019.

When the pandemic struck in 2020, the Presbyterian church closed its doors. Undeterred, the Spanish company met in members' homes during the week and outdoors on Sabbath. With winter approaching, they bought a 20' x 40' tent to pitch in a member's yard. They worshiped in the cold, sitting in front of space heaters. Three precious souls made the decision to be baptized that year.

The group was determined to buy their own building, and soon an empty school building became available for sale—listing at \$125,000. Sical and Victor Zill, MVC's treasurer, examined the building and realized that many repairs would be needed. The seller approved their offer of \$75,000, although someone later offered full price, showing them God's seal of approval.

Each household gave \$1,000 to start the repairs. One member even worked on the building three months for free. "Members were truly committed, some working at jobs all night and then on the church building in the morning," Sical shares.

The project was divided into two phases. The first phase—renovation of the fellowship hall, kitchen, children's rooms and bathrooms—began October 2021 with the completion date set for July 2022. The second phase will be the renovation/construction of the sanctuary to accommodate 130 worshippers.




Presently, between 60 and 80 people gather to worship God each Sabbath. "Without a doubt, the Lord is blessing the faithfulness of the Moorefield Spanish Company," says Sical.

JESUS ... For Times Like These

Featuring **Elizabeth Talbot, Ph.D.**
Speaker/Director of Jesus 101 Biblical Institute

Women's Retreat ~ 2022
Mountain View Conference

October 7-9
Huttonsville, WV



For more information:
mtviewconf.org/ministries/womens-ministries

NEWS NEW JERSEY

Going Through the Storm

Our world is in commotion: COVID-19, the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the economic impact our world is facing. People are worried about their loved ones, their jobs and their lives. Some Christians depend on their own resources and energy to protect themselves instead of trusting in God. But His Word tells us what to do when we are facing a storm.

In Mark 4:35–41, Jesus commands His disciples to go to the other side of the lake. And what do the disciples encounter on their journey? A storm! Frightened by the high winds and rough waves, I'm sure they worked for hours to keep the boat afloat, bailing water that threatened to sink the ship.

Verse 38 says that Jesus was sleeping at the back of the boat. The disciples couldn't believe He was resting, while their lives were on the line. They woke Jesus saying, "Teacher, don't You care that we're going to drown?" When Jesus heard the disciples call, He rebuked the wind, and the storm stopped. Just like that, He solved the problem. In verse 40, Jesus asks His disciples: "Why are you afraid? Do you still have not faith?"

We are facing powerful storms today. Most likely, we are like the disciples, depending on our own efforts to stay afloat. We forget that Jesus is next to us, waiting for us to call on Him. Unlike the disciples, we can come to Jesus first, then act in His power. We need to learn to trust Him! God is asking each one of us, "Why are you afraid? Do you still have not faith?"

That evening on the lake, there were other boats following the disciples. Those in the boat must've witnessed the disciples' distress. People are watching us today too. Do they observe us trusting in ourselves, or do they see us depending on our Savior? He will guide us through each storm.



Carlos Portanova
Treasurer

Couples Become Protagonists for God

Marriage is a miracle; two very different people decide to live together and begin a home enterprise, echoing the divine command: "Therefore shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh" (Gen. 2:24, KJV). Each couple has the privilege of being protagonists for God, by assuming the commitment to hold high the banner of the sacred institution of marriage.

During the conference's recent 2022 Couples' Retreat, more than 70 couples took part in a marriage vow renewal ceremony, where they pledged to continue together in the journey of love, whose end goal is heaven with our Father.

"We praise God for the opportunity and blessing the 2022 Couples' Retreat brought," says Carlos Torres, Family Ministries director. "After two years of social distancing due to the pandemic, we met in person to share, learn and enrich our marriages.

"You, too, can be a protagonist in the love story God wrote," Torres adds. "The success of every marriage is not in our capacity, talents or abilities, but

rather in the measure in which we put our lives in the hands of the Lord each day."



Cindy Stalker (at the keyboard), and her husband, Javier Donate (standing), address the participants at the 2022 Couples' Retreat.

Vine Haven Students Inducted Into NJHS

Earlier this year, the Vine Haven Adventist School held its annual student induction ceremony into the local chapter of the National Junior Honor Society (NJHS). The honor was bestowed on seven eligible students who each had a cumulative grade point average of 3.0. In addition to excellent academics, to be accepted into the NJHS, students must exhibit high standards of service, leadership and character.

Service is evaluated based on participation and responsible involvement in activities such as Pathfinders and/or community organizations. Leadership is based on the student's participation in community or school activities. Character is measured in terms of integrity, behavior, ethics

and cooperation with both students and faculty. Students are reviewed by a faculty council consisting of six members of the faculty appointed by the principal.

As members of the NJHS, these students are now engaging in a number of individual and chapter service projects. "At Vine Haven Adventist School ... we believe in educating the whole child, not only for the here and now, but for eternity," says Dulce Gabriel, principal.

The NJHS—founded in 1929 by the National Association of Secondary School Principals—is the nation's oldest and best-known student recognition program for middle-level students.



Luciana Gonzales, Brianna Torres, Nehemiah Custodio, Yamile Gonzales, Derek Vazquez, Brayan Carrasco and Gabriel Custodio join the National Junior Honor Society.

Children's Ministries Leaders Receive Training

The New Jersey Conference's Children's Ministries Department began the year with its first-ever hybrid convention, titled "Let Them In." The

theme was based on Noah and his efforts to prepare others to enter the safety of the ark through faithful preaching and teaching.

More than 100 leaders attended the two-day event, earning certificates for the North American Division Children's Ministries Track 3 Child Evangelism training program.

After the virtual certification, the department held an in-person Vacation Bible School (VBS) training. Local church leaders were excited to familiarize themselves with Jasper Canyon and Rocky the Hound Dog, but, more importantly, they are excited to have the opportunity to offer in-person VBS at their local churches this summer.

"Please pray for New Jersey's children and our Children's Ministries leaders," says Cinthia Portanova, Children's Ministries volunteer director. "May our number one priority be to help save as many as possible for the kingdom of heaven, just like Noah."



Cinthia Portanova, Children's Ministries volunteer director, leads the "Story Time" station.

Celebrating a Culture of Evangelism

Did you know that the church manual says evangelism should always be on the church board agenda—and that it should always be first? If we’re regularly talking about evangelism at the church board level, how much more should we be visioning and celebrating it at the conference executive committee level? During Ohio Conference’s second quarter executive committee meeting, without realizing it, leaders report that almost everything on their agenda had something to do with evangelism!

It is a privilege to share this report on what God is doing across our territory as we round the half-way point of 2022. Use your smartphone camera to scan the QR code and watch a short video recap on ministry in Ohio.

We’re seeing baptisms continue, as local churches rally around our conference-wide initiative to see 2,023 baptisms from 2021 until our next constituency session in 2023. We are 56 percent of the way toward our goal and excited to watch God continue to bless! What if we don’t hit our goal? Well, then praise the Lord for the baptisms we have had to date!

To support this bold vision, we’re excited to announce a spring 2023 evangelistic campaign in the Columbus, Ohio, metropolitan area. David



Klinedinst, speaker of the Forecasting Hope Bible prophecy series, will preach at this multi-night event. Please pray that, even now, God begins to work in the hearts of people across the Columbus metro area.

We do not want to be about inward-focusing ministries with a fortress mentality. That is not our mission! Our mission is to go out to seek and save the lost. This church is not a hotel, keeping us safe until Jesus comes; it is a hospital for those in need of God’s love! May this ever be the culture of our calling here in Ohio.



Bob Cundiff
President

300-Plus Pathfinders Worship at Camp Mohaven



More than 300 youth recently gathered for a weekend of worship and participation at Ohio Conference’s Pathfinder Fair at Camp Mohaven in Danville. Themed “Respectfully Yours,” speaker Samuel Adjei, youth and young adult pastor of the Columbus Ghanaian and Eastwood churches, challenged Pathfinders to honor and respect God, His Word, parents, others and themselves.

New Slavic Ministry Begins in Cleveland

“This is the first time I have heard the Word of God preached in my native language!” Nina spoke with her new pastor, tears welling up in her eyes. “We immigrated to the United States many years ago and found out about Adventism from friends. Since then, every sermon I have heard has been through a translator until today! How beautiful the Word is!”

Nina’s story is part of an amazing new ministry God is building in the Cleveland area for people of Slavic descent. Northern Ohio is home to 70,000-plus eastern Slavic people from Russia, Belarus and Ukraine. Now in her 80s, Nina has been a Seventh-day Adventist for several years, attending church in English though only speaking Russian.

On May 14, the Cleveland Slavic church held its first Sabbath worship service for people just like Nina, ministering to them in Ukrainian, Belarusian and Russian. Approximately 45 Adventists and non-members attended the service.

The journey of this new congregation began over a year ago, as Ohio Conference leadership began to pray for a pastor who could minister in the native languages of the eastern Slavic people. As 2021 drew to a close, Gennadii Kasap accepted the call to serve and began the process of moving with his family to the U.S. from their home in the Euro-Asia Division. Little did everyone know, God’s timing



Gennadii Kasap, pastor of the Cleveland Slavic church, preaches during the church’s first service.



Andrei Shamray, guest pastor visiting from the Czech Republic, speaks with Sabbath School members.

could not have been more perfect, as the Kasap family arrived just as the Ukrainian conflict began.

Kasap immediately went to work. “With God’s blessing, beginning May 14, a worship service will now be held every Saturday for Eastern Slavic people living near Cleveland,” Kasap recently told the Ohio Conference Executive Committee.

He continued, “Our first missionary project was a charity dinner to raise funds for the ‘First Aid Kit of Life’ project. The goal of the project was to raise funds to buy first aid kits with essential medicine and bandages, then send the kits to the active war zone in Ukraine. We raised over \$3,000, which will be used to buy 200-plus kits and hopefully save at least 200 lives!”

Bob Cundiff, conference president, comments, “We see God’s hand in the timing of the Cleveland Slavic church plant. When we started this process nearly a year and a half ago, we had no idea that Russia would be at war with Ukraine and the world at odds with Russia. What an opportune time for us to minister to both the Russians and the Ukrainians who reside here in the territory of the Ohio Conference.”

Pennsylvania Pen

Adventist Education: A Classroom for God's Love

In a world of constant change, teachers in the Pennsylvania Conference have demonstrated that God's love is consistent. Teachers continue to provide loving, caring, nurturing classroom environments that allow students to safely reintegrate into face-to-face learning. Laughter fills the hallways. Smiles are seen behind desks. Waves of singing bounce off classroom walls. And the sweet prayers of little children ascend daily in every school.

The love of Jesus expressed at school carries into the home atmosphere. One teacher told of a mother who came to a parent-teacher conference and asked, "Do you teach the children to sing at school? My son does his homework and sings. I don't know the songs, but they are good songs with good messages." A discussion of God's love and the Bible stories taught at school followed.

"My relationship with my parents is changing now that I have drawn closer to God," writes one student. "I have started to tell my parents things about God, which is pulling them closer to God than they have ever been before."

In yet another school, Bible studies have resulted in five students giving their lives to Jesus through baptism. Continue to pray for our teachers as they share God's love and the good news of His soon return.



Leona Bange
*Education
Superintendent*

Garden Grows Opportunities for Students

Huntingdon Valley Christian Academy is situated on a large plot of land in the Philadelphia suburbs. School supporters have long considered creating a garden on a portion of the property to benefit the students and community. That desire became a reality this year with the school board's approval and help from more than 20 local church volunteers and students who dug, built and planted.

Local businesses donated \$2,000 worth of materials. Blue Mountain Academy in Hamburg donated raspberry plants, which now line much of the perimeter of the garden. The 2,000-square-foot plot includes two garden boxes where students planted kale, lettuce, spinach, Swiss chard and strawberries for a spring crop. The space also includes tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers, eggplant, squash and zucchini, with corn growing outside of the fenced area.

Students are encouraged to actively participate in gardening to broaden their perspectives and cultivate their interest in nature. Produce is available for students and their families with the remainder sold at a fruit stand as a fundraiser.

"A lot of good things come out of the garden and gardening," shares Matt Pettengill, who together with his wife, Jennifer, started the project. "Not only growing good food but children getting their hands in the soil and watching plants grow provides

them with practical lessons for life."

Jennifer adds, "We believe the school garden is going to be a blessing to the local community through the sale of fresh produce. We hope this will bring in additional funds to benefit the school as well."



A group of kindergarteners from Huntingdon Valley Christian Academy, along with teacher's aide Aida Torres, proudly show the first fruits from their community garden.

Peterson Retires, Shives Elected as Executive Secretary

Will Peterson (right), executive secretary and vice president for administration at the Pennsylvania Conference, recently announced he will be retiring September 1. The conference's executive committee unanimously voted to invite Shawn Shives (below) to step into that role following Peterson's retirement. During this transition phase, they will work together to maintain continuity of service.

Shives is currently the assistant to the president and pastor for the Hampden Heights church in Temple. Shives has faithfully served the church for more than 28 years, beginning while he was a captain in the United States Marine Corps. In 1999, he accepted a call to pastor in western Pennsylvania and later in Harrisburg. Shives returned to Pennsylvania in 2020 after pastoring in the Georgia-Cumberland Conference. He and his wife, Nephlen, have five children and 14 grandchildren. Two of their sons graduated from Blue Mountain Academy in Hamburg.

"We thank God for leading in the selection of Shawn for this new role," states Gary Gibbs, conference president. "He brings a passion for evangelism and a vision of growing leaders and churches for God's work. He is a man of prayer whose personal faith impacts every aspect of his life. He works tirelessly to serve our conference and his church and will bring his success as a leader with a pastor's heart to this new role."

Peterson's retirement follows more than 22 years serving in Pennsylvania. He previously pastored in the Gulf States Conference. Peterson joined the Pennsylvania Conference in 2000 as assistant to the president. His responsibilities included the initiation of the Arise and Build program, which enabled



five churches with inadequate buildings to construct new facilities, as well as the revitalization of churches and church planting.

During his tenure, 48 churches were planted with 38 of those still functioning. He also began Equipping University, a training program for church growth. In 2011, he transitioned

to executive secretary, with responsibilities for policy, church governance, membership, and human resources. In addition, he administered property transactions and estates for the past nine years.

"It has been a privilege to serve in ministry with Elder Peterson here in the Pennsylvania Conference," says Gibbs. "He is not only a colleague in ministry, but a dear friend. Will's commitment to mission and sharing the gospel, his heart for people and equipping churches, and his attention to detail have blessed God's work across our state. We wish him and his wife, Darlene, God's richest blessings in their continued witness for the Lord."



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- July 3-10:** Tween Camp
Laurel Lake Camp
- July 10-17:** Teen Camp
Laurel Lake Camp
- July 22-25:** Lay Bible Worker Training
Blue Mountain Academy
- August 4-7:** Camp Meeting
Laurel Lake Camp
- August 5-6:** Hispanic Children's Ministries Certification
- August 19-21:** Young Adult Retreat
Laurel Lake Camp
- August 21:** Treasurer's Training
Blue Mountain Academy
- August 26-28:** Women's Retreat
Laurel Lake Camp

For information on these events and more, visit paconference.org/events.



Pastors Receive Special Anointing

Most pastors' meetings focus on best practices, professional growth workshops or topics centered on evangelism and church growth. Pastors, however, also need spiritual refreshing and inspiration to fill their souls. Potomac Conference pastors experienced just that earlier this year.

Marvin Wray, the interim lead pastor of the Beltsville (Md.) church and a former ministerial director of the Potomac Conference, shared four presentations that spoke directly to what pastors need.

Attendees share that Wray spoke with energy, enthusiasm and encouragement at the seminar, and his messages were spiritually weighty, authentic and sprinkled with belly-laughing humor.

"The goal is to simplify, yet deepen, the way we see our daily walk with Christ and to allow the fullness of His power and His presence to abide and dwell within us literally," said Wray during the event. "I know that these opportunities to share are not coincidences or chances. God has a designed purpose in bringing us together, and He has plans for the results that ensue."

Wray's message focused on the simple two-letter word "in." He reminded pastors that 2 Corinthians 5:17 says "in" Christ we are recreated, and the old is forever gone. He pointed out that Jesus' prayer in



Marvin Wray, interim lead pastor of the Beltsville church, encourages Potomac Conference pastors to accept Christ's invitation to dwell "in" their hearts and minds.

John 17 shares His desire to be "in" us, to allow His presence and His power to live through us.

Rick Labate, Potomac's vice president for Pastoral Ministries, says, "In his unique way, Elder Wray reminded the pastors that they are ambassadors of Christ and are to share the message of reconciliation to our world. Elder Wray provided water for their thirsting souls; it was just what they needed."

According to Wray, the Seventh-day Adventist Church has talked for so long about the latter rain and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit that it seems like some future event. But God desires to anoint us with His Spirit *today*. He wants to actively indwell "in" our hearts and minds.

At the conclusion of the gathering, Wray invited pastors to be anointed as they declared their desire to allow God's Spirit to live in and through them. Accepting the invitation, they stepped forward to be anointed. They then turned to their fellow brother or sister in ministry to administer the same anointing. Those in attendance share it was a spirit-filled moment that positively affected them.

"God used Elder Wray to minister to the ministers in practical and powerful ways," remarks Labate. "We were all very blessed."



Chris Cheatham, pastor of the Pennsylvania Avenue church in Capitol Heights, Md., receives an anointing from fellow pastor Paulasir Abraham of the Southern Asian church in Silver Spring, Md.

Olney Trains ‘Kids in the Kitchen’

Prior to COVID-19, 25 students, ages 8–13, from the Olney Adventist Preparatory School (Md.) and the Olney (Md.) church enrolled in a cooking class to help develop their culinary skills. The children were excited to learn the basics of food preparation while fixing healthy meals and discovering new foods. COVID-19, however, forced the cooking class to be held via Zoom for a year. Still, the students did not lose their enthusiasm. They continued to meet every month, concocting new dishes to share with their family and friends.

As a final end-of-year celebration, school administrators held a “Kids in the Kitchen” contest. Fourth-grader Lukas McLean (pictured, right) and seventh-grader Illiana Simons (left) won first prize in their respective age groups.

“I’m really glad that I was able to participate in this competition,” says McLean. “I am grateful for my mother who practiced with me beforehand. ... Even though being a professional chef is not my goal, I do enjoy cooking, and it’s a hobby I really like.”



Simons says, “The competition tested my skills and creativity. I learned some new flavor combinations to help improve my cooking. It was also fun trying my friends’ recipes. Winning was great, but the experience itself was the most rewarding.”

Special Education Director Joins Education Team

Juwel Watson is the new director of special education for the Potomac Conference. A former fourth- and fifth-grade teacher at Takoma Academy Preparatory School in Takoma Park, Md., Watson has a solid academic background and a wealth of experience in special education.

The Potomac Conference Office of Education has been on a mission to hire a qualified specialist to provide guidance and support to schools



Juwel Watson is Potomac Conference’s new special education director.

that have students with special education needs. Departmental data shows a significant need in the conference to expand the opportunities for students who qualify for special education.

As the director of special education, Watson will provide all students with the proper accommodations and modifications to meet their specific learning styles. She will research, identify and implement the necessary resources to create a supportive atmosphere where every student in every grade has the opportunity to reach their academic potential.

“Every student deserves the opportunity to learn in a way that best suits their academic needs,” says Steve Laing, Potomac’s vice president for education. “Having Juwel at the helm of this important initiative gives us confidence that an equitable environment in which students can learn and be successful in the classroom will be achieved.”

Watson will assist teachers as they interact with students who have physical, mental or emotional challenges that lead to learning disabilities. General lesson plans will be adapted to support the learning styles of students with mild, moderate or severe disabilities.

When the new 2022–23 school year begins, Watson will be poised to take this educational ministry to new heights for students and their parents.

PHOTO BY RICHARD CASTILLO AND COURTESY OLNEY ADVENTIST PREPARATORY SCHOOL



THE BMA EXPERIENCE

BLUE MOUNTAIN ACADEMY

Students Bring Their Experience to Your Home

When five students show up late for school registration, the principal assigns them to a new initiative called “The Ambassadors.” At first, none of the students take the assignment seriously, but eventually something that started out as a project changes their lives forever.

One goal of the series is to enable families to connect with the academy in a fun, memorable and innovative way. As students worked on this filming project, they soon discovered that the storyline reflected their real lives more closely than expected.

A student who plays one of the ambassadors did not want to attend BMA when his parents began talking about the school. But like his character, he was deeply impacted by his experience at BMA. “I’m perceived to be an introvert around the school, just like my character,” he shares. “However, BMA has helped me with my social interaction, work ethic and my spiritual journey with God.”

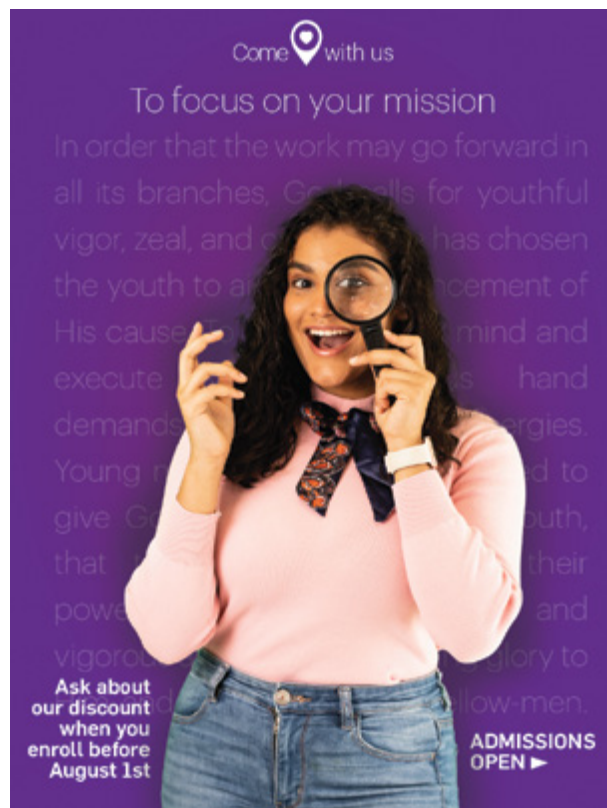
Sara Hoyos, a senior, shares, “As ambassadors, we can be instruments of God and be a light to the world.”

Watch *The Ambassadors* at bma.us/the-ambassadors-series, and learn how your student can grow into being an ambassador for God at bma.us.



This is the storyline of *The Ambassadors*, an original seven-episode video series created, scripted, filmed and produced by Blue Mountain Academy (BMA) students and staff during the 2021–22 school year. The idea not only reflects BMA’s vision that education is more than just academic learning, but it includes developing students to be mission-focused leaders and growing a strong relationship with Christ.

“We are committed to developing students to become change agents and ambassadors to society,” shares Burney Culpepper, BMA’s principal. “BMA students are ambassadors, and we are using social media to tell their stories and the power of Adventist education.”



The BMA Experience is published in the *Visitor* by the Blue Mountain Academy ■ 2363 Mountain Road, Hamburg, PA 19526
Phone: (610) 562-2291 ■ Fax: (610) 562-8050 ■ bma.us ■ Principal, Burney Culpepper ■ Editor, Esther Hernandez

Academy Celebrates Class of 2022 Graduates

Congratulations to Highland View Academy’s (HVA) most recent graduates—the Class of 2022! These 20 graduates are aiming to change the world with their presence and ambition to be the best in their fields. At a recent Career Day event during Student Association Spirit Week, seniors dressed up as medical professionals, business people and athletes as they envisioned their future. HVA is glad to have had the opportunity to work with these young people as they pursued their educational dreams! May they continue to share the gospel in word and action until the Second Advent, where they can truly be “Educated for Eternity”!



HVA CLASS OF 2022

Kayleigh Michael Joel Eddy Yasmin Jayden

Ana Melissa Jacob Kerubo Priscilla Ruben Makayla

Guy Naava Kierra Gustavo Isaiah Ian Digan

www.hva-edu.com

HVA 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, Harry Janetzko ■ Editor, Andrew S. Lay



the LEGACY

OUR JOURNEY

A PUBLICATION OF LAKE NELSON ADVENTIST ACADEMY

A Year in Review

As Lake Nelson Adventist Academy (LNAA) students and staff enjoy summer break and look forward to a new school year, they recognize how much God has blessed the school family this past year.

The year began with a bang. The state of New Jersey was hit by Hurricane Ida, flooding the academy and some students' homes. The academy saw God's protection, as there was only minimal damage to the school, and LNAA was able to support families who were temporarily displaced due to the flood waters.

The Lord also expanded the school's territory. The partnership between LNAA, the Waldwick Adventist School and the Vine Haven Adventist School was fruitful. Fourteen students enrolled, seven from both schools. Next year, they are anticipating adding the Tranquility Adventist School in Andover to the partnership. LNAA ended the school year with nearly 300 students in grades pre-school through 12th grade, graduating 18 pre-K students, 19 kindergarteners, 19 eighth-graders and 10 seniors.



Students Sophia Mantilla (second grade), Alianna Saintil (eighth grade), Daisha Bannis (fourth grade) and Sofia Navarro (fourth grade) dress up as doctors for Career Day.



Back row, left to right: Principal Elisa Maragoto; Week of Prayer speakers, seniors Joshua Atalaya, Gabriel Velez, Brenda Moris and Sara Rubio; along with school Chaplain Webster Sterling, recognize newly baptized students (front row) Anabel Nemi (third grade), Annabelle Cruz (third grade), Annalise Cruz (second grade), Zaria Swaby (second grade) and Priye Nemi (first grade).

Beyond the academic side of the academy, God continued to bless the other aspects of the school, say leaders. The music program supported the students in honing their musical talents and led them to use those abilities for God. LNAA was able to resume church visitations after postponing them due to the pandemic. On May 21, they were able to hold their first in-person Spring Concert in two years and were greatly blessed by the orchestra, band and bell choirs.

This year, the spiritual blessing was, by far, the most evident, says Elisa Maragoto, principal. Each semester, the academy holds a Week of Prayer. For the spring Week of Prayer, the senior class led it, with one senior each day presenting a message on one of the "I Am" statements from John 6. At the end of the week, five young people dedicated their lives to God through baptism. LNAA has also begun the process of establishing a campus church to be able to better support the spiritual lives of their students.

As the school looks back on the year, students, their families and staff members can see God working in their lives, they say. The entire campus praises Him for His protection, grace and guidance through another school year.

The Legacy is published in the *Visitor* by the Lake Nelson Academy ■ 555 South Randolphville Rd., Piscataway, NJ 08854
Phone: (732) 981-0626 ■ Fax: (732) 981-0770 ■ lakenelsonacademy.org ■ Principal, Elisa Maragoto ■ Editor, Ashley Boggess

PFA POST



Visit us online at PINEFORGEACADEMY.ORG. Excellence is no accident.

Congratulations!

PINE FORGE ACADEMY
CLASS OF
2022

You Did It!

ALFRED, JULIANNA	AMEDE-GOBUIN, SANAA	BAMBA, JANAE	BARTLEY, SARAH-ELIZABETH	BECKLES, LAEL	BREWER, DANYEL	BROWN, KYA	BROWN, MILYN
CAMPBELL, PRISCILLA	CAMPBELL, SAMANTHA	CRAWFORD, DALANE	CUMMINGS, IMMANUEL	DADA, DEBORAH	DADA, MICHAEL	DENSON, DAHLIA	FIELDS, MIYA
FORDHAM, JENNINGS	GOODMAN JR., KEITH	<p>PINE FORGE ACADEMY CLASS OF 2022</p>				HENDERSON, JOHANA	HOLLOWAY, ROBERT
JACKSON, EMMALOUISE	KOWLESSAR, NATHANIAL					LEGETTE, DESTINY	LEONCE, ZIPPORAH
LIBURD, TIANNA	MARTIN, JAYDEN					MURRELL, NAOMI	OMELER, CHRISTIANNAH
PARKER, SALEA	PEREZ, JEREMIAS					PLUVIOSE, NATHAN	RAVENALL, HEATHER
		SPEAKES, DAMIAN	STEWART, JAYON			WHITE, ANGEL	

PFA Post is published in the *Visitor* by the Pine Forge Academy ■ P.O. Box 338, Pine Forge, PA 19548
Phone: (610) 326-5800 ■ Fax: (610) 326-5152 ■ pineforgeacademy.org ■ Principal, H. Clifford Reynolds, III ■ Editor, Tracey Jackson

Spotlight

on Spencerville

Highlights from Spencerville Adventist Academy

LOVE TO LEARN
LIVE TO SERVE
ALL FOR CHRIST



Spencerville
Adventist Academy



**“Commit to the Lord whatever you do,
and He will establish your plans.”**

Proverbs 16:3

Spotlight is published in the *Visitor* by Spencerville Adventist Academy ■ 2502 Spencerville Road, Spencerville, MD 20868
Phone: (301) 421-9101 ■ spencervilleacademy.org ■ Head Principal, Tissiana Bowerman ■ Editor, Heidi Wetmore

SPRING VALLEY ACADEMY_{.ORG}

CONNECTIONS

INSPIRING STUDENTS TO KNOW FOLLOW SHARE JESUS

Making Missionaries for Life

What makes a great spring break? How about digging ditches and building foundations under the equatorial sun in Africa? Or extracting a painful tooth? Or swinging a hammer a thousand times? To Spring Valley Academy (SVA) students, this sounds like the best spring break ever!

Recently, 75 SVA students, staff and parents made the 35-hour journey to the remote Maasai Mara region of southwest Kenya for big reasons. Jesus' own personal mission statement was ringing in their ears:

"The Spirit of the Lord is on Me, because He has anointed Me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent Me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to release the oppressed" (Luke 4:18, BSB).



Freshman Jordyn Winston takes a break from water filter distribution to make new friends.

Here are the results of SVA's efforts to follow in His footsteps:

- Two medical teams treated more than 1,500 patients in field clinics.
- Construction Team 1 built trusses and roofed a new dining hall for a Maasai church school.
- Construction Team 2 dug and poured foundations for a new maternity clinic that will serve thousands of Maasai women and their babies.
- The Water Filter Team distributed 500 water filter systems that will supply many families with clean drinking water for up to 10 years.
- The VBS Team shared Jesus and fell in love with 300 Masai children.
- The Dental Team relieved pain for more than 60 patients via restorative care and extractions.

The power of this trip, however, cannot be reduced to numbers. SVA young people were eyewitnesses to miracles. They returned knowing that Jesus is not an abstract concept or a distant historical figure, say staff members. For the rest of their lives, when they doubt His presence, they will remember that He can be found among the poor. That's enough to make a young person a missionary for life.

Watch the video of the trip to Kenya at youtu.be/T3-MdEERXFM.



Junior Ellie Sauser takes vitals at a field medical clinic in Kenya.

Connections is published in the *Visitor* by Spring Valley Academy ■ 1461 Spring Valley Pike, Centerville, OH 45458
Phone: (937) 433-0790 ■ springvalleyacademy.org ■ Principal, Darren Wilkins ■ Editor, Vicki Swetnam



IMPACT Shenandoah

Serve God - Value Knowledge - Accept a Life of Service

SVA Music Is on the Road Again!

After a three-year hiatus, Shenandoah Valley Academy's (SVA) choir and orchestra hit the road for a tour of the Midwest during the 2021-22 academic year. For many students, this was their first music tour ever. Under the direction of Daniel Biaggi, music director, and Kelly Wiedemann, associate music director, the group set out bright and early on a Tuesday morning.

Their trip started in Chicago, where they took an Architecture Boat Tour into the heart of the city, explored Navy Pier, visited the Cloud Gate (pictured, right), tried deep dish pizza and went up 103 stories to the top of the Willis Tower. Nearby performances included concerts at the Burr Ridge church in Darien, Hinsdale Adventist Academy and AdventHealth Hinsdale. "It was extra special to visit the place that began my teaching career and see former colleagues and students," says Wiedemann, "although a bit jarring to discover the students I taught in first grade are now seniors!"

Next, they gave two performances at Ohio Conference's Spring Valley Academy in Centerville, toured Kettering College and Kettering Health Main Campus, and enjoyed a vespers with Spring Valley students. Both schools enjoyed mingling with "the other SVA." From there they played at the Kettering church (pictured), the Taylor Mills (Ky.) church, visited the Ark Encounter in Kentucky, and concluded with a performance at Mountain View Conference's



Highland Adventist School in Elkins, W.Va.

"Even though we were tired from the busy travel schedule, morale was very high. We were still laughing and enjoying being together," says sophomore Jonathan Pelote. "It was nice having long stretches of time on the bus to talk and hear [different] perspectives on both lighthearted and difficult topics."

Hania Kantzer, senior and concertmaster of Orchestra and Strings, commented on what was most meaningful to her: "For me, it was discovering that what I see as a fun activity is actually so impactful to other people. ... While we're having a good time, I discover all these people find our music so valuable. ... The tour affirmed music as a life-long calling and something that SVA is called to do because it benefits more than just ourselves."

Biaggi reflects, "Seeing our young people ready to share their music in any place that was needed and the people being impacted by their message reminded me of Ellen White's powerful quote: 'With such an army of workers as our youth, rightly trained, might furnish, how soon the message of a crucified, risen, and soon-coming Saviour might be carried to the whole world!' (*Messages to Young People*, p. 7)."

Wiedemann adds, "As a director, there is no greater joy than seeing my students discover this higher calling."



‘The Big Three’ Retire From Academy

Three beloved and accomplished Takoma Academy (TA) staff members retired at the end of the 2021–22 academic year.

C. Dunbar Henri received his Master of Divinity from the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary (Mich.) in 1983. After 18 months of singing and traveling with the Heritage Singers out of Placerville, Calif., he pastored three churches in Maryland from 1983–1986 before joining TA’s staff full-time.

During the last 37 years, Henri has served as a Bible teacher and administrator, including two stints as TA principal from 1995–1997 and 2005–2009. During his first stint, he became the first black principal to serve at TA. He also served as vice principal.

“The relationships I have cultivated with students is key. I will miss having students come back and share how I helped them in various ways,” Henri says. “Having the opportunity to ... give some Bible studies followed by baptizing them, all means so much.” On the other hand, Henri eagerly states, “I am happy I am done ... 37 years here at TA. I am excited to travel more with my wife.”

Henri and Deborah have been married for 42 years. Their adult children, Cara Henri Wright (’01) and Christopher Henri (’05), graduated from TA.

Thirty-seven years ago, **Lou Anne Wood** moved from Michigan to Maryland to join the TA staff.

A social studies teacher who also served as the school librarian, Wood caps a 45-year career. Exactly at the time technology changed the role for school librarians, her teaching time increased at TA to the point she eventually took on a full-time teaching load.

“I have loved my time here at TA. The students and staff have become part of my family,” Wood says.

Woods’ retirement plans include moving from the area and buying property in another state with family members.

After a dozen years on staff, it’s clear that TA has earned a place in **Nora Ramos’** heart. She chokes up



Nora Ramos, C. Dunbar Henri and Lou Anne Wood retire from Takoma Academy.

a bit when thinking about moving on from her position as Spanish teacher, which she has held since 2010. “I will miss all of the students and the teachers,” she said, shortly before tearing up.

Ramos also speaks fondly of John Nevins Andrews (JNA) School in Takoma Park, Md., where she taught music. In July 2017, JNA merged with Sligo Adventist School to form Takoma Academy Preparatory School. Her children, Carolina Ramos (’99), Ruben Ramos Jr. (’01) and Valeria Ramos (’04), all attended JNA and graduated from TA.

In Argentina, Nora met her future husband, Rubén A. Ramos, who currently serves as vice president of Multilingual Ministries for the Columbia Union Conference.

Nora says, “For the next how many years I plan to teach private piano and Spanish lessons, travel with my husband of 42 years, spend more time with my mother, children and eight grandchildren, and volunteer in community service.”

Staff and faculty thank “the big three” for their love, dedication, wisdom and commitment to TA!

wgts 91.9 news

Eastern Shore Signal Reaches Listeners With Hope, Joy

God's timing. Your prayers. Your gifts of support. The vision of many for more than 20 years.

We are so amazed and thankful 12 months later as we remember how God brought everything together allowing WGTS to be heard throughout the Eastern Shore on WGBZ 88.3.

The music and words of hope, joy, and encouragement are reaching local residents, those vacationing at the beach, students in Salisbury, and even those in prison. We recently heard from Michael, who told us...

While incarcerated in Delaware for 90 days, I was able to get a radio and your station 88.3 came through loud and clear. My friends in Maryland had talked about you for years. Your station was truly a God-send and my salvation while I was there. I wasn't the only one listening either. Thanks to all the people who helped to get you on the Eastern Shore.

Because of you, lives are transformed, and listeners discover courage, strength, and salvation in difficult situations. Through this media ministry, they are taking one step closer to Christ—which is our mission. Pray with us that God continues to work in wonderful ways on the Eastern Shore.

WGBZ 88.3 was purchased last year and signed on June 24, 2021. The signal covers a population of 500,000 residents throughout the Eastern Shore region.



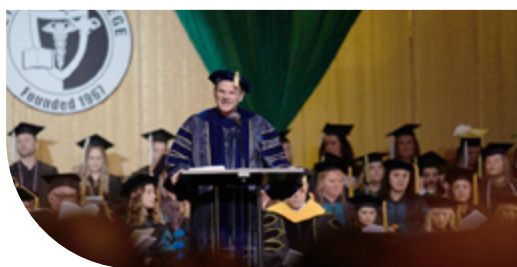
Hands and Heart Campaigns Help Children, Families

"It is such an honor to provide listeners opportunities to be the hands and heart of Jesus to those in our communities and around the world," says Kevin Krueger, president and CEO.

In early 2022, WGTS listeners generously provided for two important and timely projects.

- In February, WGTS listeners sponsored 835 children, mostly in Haiti, with Compassion International. Haiti is the poorest country in the western world. Poverty increased in August 2021 when a 7.2 earthquake hit Haiti. Listeners' sponsorship provides children with schooling, food, spiritual and medical care, all of which moves them away from the cycle of poverty. "Child sponsorship changes both the life of the child and the sponsor—bringing them closer to Christ—which is our mission," says Krueger.
- In April and May, listeners joined us on-site at locations throughout the region to donate diapers and other baby supplies, helping families in Virginia, Maryland and Washington D.C. Over 40,000 diapers and wipes were donated by generous WGTS 91.9 listeners, providing for so many throughout the region.





Kettering College Celebrates Its Spring Commencement Ceremony

By Courtney Dove

The world acknowledges now, because of the pandemic, the sacred work of healthcare workers. This sentiment was echoed by speakers at the 2022 Spring Commencement Ceremony, held on Friday, April 29, 2022, at Southbrook Christian Church.

More than 100 graduates gathered at the ceremony—the first in over two years. Gratitude, excitement, and relief resonated throughout the afternoon as recipients accepted their degrees after years of hard work with the added obstacles of a worldwide pandemic.

President Nate Brandstater addressed the graduating class, stressing the importance of this career path. “Over the last 2 years of unprecedented challenges and disruptions, people all over the world have acknowledged a truth: healthcare is a calling, and the people who are called to it are heroes.”

He talked about students’ transformational journey saying, “You are not the same person you were when you began this journey. Neither is our college, and neither is our world.”

Graduating radiology student Richard Courtney Rasmussen reflected on his time at Kettering College and acknowledged students come here with different life journeys but with one shared goal to help others.

Illustrating this, Rasmussen asked graduates to raise their hands if

- They got engaged, married, or had a baby while they were earning their degree.
- They’re over the age of 26, 35, or 40.
- They’ve lost a loved one while earning their degree.
- They’re a single parent.

Several hands were raised in response to these questions, reminding everyone present that our students do come from many different walks of life, and they do an excellent job juggling life while chasing after their goals with grit and determination.

Rasmussen said he felt a difference at Kettering College and was drawn to its inclusive learning environment and culture. He stressed that students here are taught values—that patient care is *people* care.

After graduates received their diplomas, Steve Carlson, director of Campus Ministry, ended the afternoon with reflection and a prayer. He shared that Psalm 90:17 came to his mind as he thought about the day: “May the favor of the Lord our God rest on us. Establish the work of our hands for us—yes, establish the work of our hands.”

The Cincinnati Bengals and Kettering Health Partner Together

By Christina Keresoma

Kettering Health has been selected as the official healthcare provider of the Cincinnati Bengals. The 10-year partnership includes five branded clinics inside Paul Brown Stadium that Kettering Health team members will operate. Our team members will administer care to fans during concerts and events in the stadium. Kettering Health and the Bengals will also collaborate to offer programs and health services such as supporting the Bengals' official youth flag football program, which reaches dozens of schools in a 60-mile radius. Kettering Health will also partner with the Bengals to bring year-round awareness of the NFL's "Crucial Catch: Intercept Cancer" campaign to raise awareness for cancer screenings.



"As a healthcare organization, Kettering Health is dedicated to supporting the needs of our community, ultimately helping people be their best," said Fred Manchur, CEO of Kettering Health. "The Bengals are equally committed to their people, their fans, and local residents. This partnership builds on that common purpose and the strengths of both organizations. We are excited to work together to build a healthier community."

During a visit to Paul Brown Stadium, the executive team toured the Bengals training area—now known as the Kettering Health Training Room—and they noticed a Bible verse printed on the wall: Proverbs 27:17, which says, "As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another."

*Check out our Facebook and Instagram pages for more photos



"As we forge ahead in this new relationship, I believe this verse will prove to be true. Together, we'll make each of our organizations and the communities we serve stronger and healthier."

—Fred Manchur.

Springfield Receives a New Medical Center

Kettering Health leadership and staff celebrated the new Kettering Health Springfield medical center with a ribbon cutting on Friday, April 22, before its doors were officially opened on April 27. Community members came together on Sunday, April 24, to tour the facility and meet staff members. More than 700 people walked the halls learning about the care provided at the new facility. Kids enjoyed face painting and balloon animals while parents enjoyed snacks and great music.

The new facility will offer 24/7 emergency care including lab and imaging. There will also be medical offices for primary care and specialty services.



Kettering Health to Build Medical Center in Wilmington

Kettering Health is expanding healthcare offerings in Wilmington, Ohio, with the construction of a new medical center.

The 32,000-square-foot facility is expected to open in summer of 2023. Services will include

- 24/7 emergency center
- Primary care
- Lab and imaging
- Specialty physicians

"As the Clinton County seat, Wilmington is a vibrant and growing community," said Fred Manchur, CEO of Kettering Health. "Their welcoming spirit and excitement for what Kettering Health will bring to their community has energized our team and exemplified our mission to improve

the quality of life of the people in the communities we serve through healthcare and education."

The facility will employ approximately 100 full-time positions, and it will be the first investment Kettering Health has made in Wilmington.



In His Hands

Recently I have been reflecting on Psalm 31, a scripture passage in the Old Testament of the Bible that many people have turned to during times of great unrest, uncertainty and conflict. It is attributed to David, a person who would often call out to God in a mix of sorrow, appeal and praise.

Verse 9 reads, "Be merciful to me, Lord, for I am in distress." [NIV] Our calling to serve in healthcare means that we often meet people at some of the most difficult moments of their lives. Our work is rooted in meeting the challenges of human illness, disease, anxiety and difficulties. To live our Mission, we must be merciful towards those in distress. And when we are feeling troubled, we know that we, too, can turn to both God and each other.

Verse 14 continues with "I trust in you, Lord; I say, 'You are my God.'" What a blessing – for which we can be thankful – that we are not tasked to confront these needs alone. Anchoring the science, skill, expertise and response to the needs of all those we serve is our faith in a loving God.

But the declaration in verse 15 is what I love the most in this psalm: "My times are in your hands." Time and space intersect with those six words. Every moment of every day, every interaction with one another, every happening, every turn of events, all of it: our times are in God's divine care. And when we are distressed, when we face calamity, when circumstances are beyond our control, we can remember that we are in God's hands.

This heartfelt prayer, still resonates today. Earlier this year, the Chief Rabbi of Kyiv, Ukraine, invited Christians to join with Jews in praying Psalm 31. And as the invasion has unfolded, the Ukrainian people have continued praying this prayer together – posting pictures and video of people coming together to restate their common faith in God and that "our times are in your hands."

May this also be our prayer.

Terry Forde
President & CEO
Adventist HealthCare



Ultrasound Machines Sent to Ukraine

Adventist HealthCare Shady Grove Medical Center has donated two ultrasound machines to help Ukrainian physicians care for patients impacted by Russia's invasion.

Dr. William Chester, an anesthesiologist who practices at Adventist HealthCare helped the much-needed equipment make it to Ukraine through his Paul Chester Children's Hope Foundation. The nonprofit, which performs medical missions around the world, is named after Dr. Chester's son, Paul, who died in a car crash at age 16. Dr. Chester has been regularly communicating with an intensive care unit physician in Kyiv, Ukraine, who passed along a wish list of the war-torn nation's most needed medical items to Dr. Chester and his foundation. Ultrasound equipment ranked high on the list.

Dr. Chester approached Shady Grove Medical Center's radiology leaders and Shady Grove Medical Center President Dan Cochran to see if they could help. Shady Grove decided to donate the machines after Dr. Chester presented the opportunity to get them to Ukraine.

Dr. Chester's foundation shipped the machines to Poland, where aid organizations assisted getting the items across the Ukrainian border. Once in Ukraine, one ultrasound machine went to Kyiv. The second was sent to a medical facility in Zaporizhya.

A clinician there emailed Dr. Chester to share how anesthesiologists began using the machines immediately to care for civilians and soldiers. "All my colleagues are absolutely amazed by the picture quality of the devices! So far those are the best that our anesthesiologists have. Thank you again so much! With your help we will continue to save more and more lives."



Dr. William Chester prepping the ultrasound machines for Ukraine.

Living Our Mission to Extend God's Care



2022 Amputee Awareness 5k Walk, Wheel or Run

On April 24, Adventist HealthCare held its seventh Annual Amputee 5K Walk, Wheel or Run to raise awareness and support in our community for those with limb loss. Plenty of sunshine and warm temperatures helped boost this year's participation to record levels with over 300 people turning up at the Berman Hebrew Academy in Rockville. The event raised over \$54,000 to help support amputees in the purchase of medical equipment, medication and other necessities.

Battling Breast Cancer Better



Thanks to a generous donation to the Shady Grove Medical Center Foundation, Adventist HealthCare Shady Grove Breast Center now has an Automated 3D Breast Ultrasound Device (ABUS). Adventist HealthCare Shady Grove Breast Center is the only facility in Montgomery County to have this technology available.

For all cancers, early detection increases survival rates but, for the 40% of women with dense breasts, mammograms often are not enough. Dense breast tissue and cancer appear white on a mammogram, which makes it difficult for radiologists to distinguish between the two, particularly in early stages. Adding enhanced screening information from a 15-minute ABUS exam immediately increases early detection rates by 37% over mammography alone, improving chances for a potentially life-saving early diagnosis.

EDUCATING THROUGH WEBINARS

To best meet the needs of community members seeking information they can trust about key health topics and care options, Adventist HealthCare is committed to providing frequent, timely webinars to support individuals with the facts they are looking for to support total well-being. Three popular opportunities have been:



Lowering Your Risk of Type 2 Diabetes

Ogechi Anyaoku, MD, primary care physician with Adventist HealthCare Adventist Medical Group, discussed facts about type 2 diabetes and how to lower risk – or, if diagnosed with type 2 diabetes, how to manage it including through healthy nutrition choices.

Get the Facts On: Bariatric Surgery

Tuesday F.A. Cook, MD, bariatric surgeon with Adventist HealthCare Adventist Medical Group, discussed her multi-disciplinary program to help individuals struggling with losing weight and keeping it off. She also explained what to know when considering bariatric surgery (or weight-loss surgery) to help maintain weight loss and reduce risks of health complications.

America's Childhood Trauma Crisis: A Call-to-Action

Maryland Pao, MD, and Tami Benton, MD, shared the devastating repercussions of the COVID-19 pandemic on our children's mental health and ways The Lourie Center for Children's Social & Emotional Wellness serves as a local, regional and national model to educate and work with children experiencing trauma. This event was held in partnership with The Lourie Center Champions for Children, a women-led advocacy group that seeks to increase understanding and solutions for the children's mental health crisis.

To register for future webinar opportunities, visit AdventistHealthCare.com/Calendar

Promoting Diversity

This spring, Eunmee Shim (pictured right), president of Adventist HealthCare Fort Washington Medical Center, and other hospital leaders attended the Washington Business Journal Diversity in Business Awards. As a title sponsor of the event, Eunmee delivered some powerful remarks about her own experiences and presented awards to some of the inspiring business leaders of color in the region.



WAW IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE FIXED TUITION FOR COLUMBIA UNION CONFERENCE MEMBERS



The Columbia Union Conference Executive Committee at its March 2022 meeting, approved the Columbia Union Strategic Plan. The following are the five priorities of the strategic plan:

- * Spiritual Renewal
- * Mission Engagement
- * Leadership Development
- * Education
- * Community Engagement

Washington Adventist University (WAW) is continuing to be a strong partner in the Mission and strategic initiatives of our Columbia Union Conference. We are excited that education is continuing to be identified as a priority. We will continue to grow and develop WAW into a thriving and distinctive Christian institution of higher education, defined by its excellence in student success, for the Columbia Union Conference. Moving forward together will allow WAW to continue with the emergence as a premier private Christian university that engage minds and transform lives.

Because Christian education continues to be a priority and the fact that Christian education transform lives by growth in wisdom, physical development, and the personal relationship with God and humanity, **Washington Adventist University is offering to all SDA members of the Columbia Union a flat tuition rate of \$12K per year which equates to a \$46,500 scholarship over the four year period. Effective immediately, this fixed tuition is not only provided to new students, but to current WAW students who will be returning Fall 2022.** Our intention is to eliminate the obstacle of cost in order to gain access to Christian education. Christian education is the guaranteed pathway to the workplace and to eternal life.

"The location that has been secured for our school and sanitarium is all that could be desired. The land resembles representations that has been shown to me by the Lord. It is well adopted for the purpose for which it is to be used... Were Christ here upon this ground, he would say, 'Lift up your eyes and look on the fields, for they are white and already to harvest.' We have work to do in leading precious souls onward, step by step. Many will have to be taught line upon line, precept upon precept. The truth of God will be applied, by the spirit's power, to the heart and conscience. We must present the truth in love and faith and hope and courage. My hopes for this place are high."
Ellen G. White 1904

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Weymouth Spence". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Weymouth Spence, President



Scan to
view video





WASHINGTON
ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

THE WAU EXPERIENCE

Tuition-free 8th semester (for students who complete their degree in four years)

\$12,000 fixed tuition costs annually for undergraduate Columbia Union Adventist students.*

The only Honors College in our denomination

24/7 high-quality online tutoring with tutor.com

New Macbook Air



STILL ENGAGING MINDS!



APPLY HERE!

SCAN FOR
YOUR WAU
VIRTUAL
TOUR



STILL TRANSFORMING LIVES!

*Conditions apply, speak with a financial aid advisor for more details.

NINTH ANNUAL VISIONARIES GALA

Save The Date

SEPTEMBER 18, 2022 | 6:00 pm

CONGRESSIONAL COUNTRY CLUB
8500 River Rd, Bethesda, MD 20817



WASHINGTON
ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

wau.edu

VISITOR ADVERTISING AND SERVICES ■ The *Visitor* does not guarantee the integrity of any product or service advertised and does not accept responsibility for typographical or categorical errors. For advertising guidelines and rates: columbiaunionvisitor.com/advertising

EMPLOYMENT

INTERESTED IN HEALTH CARE?

Consider our CNA Academy. Become a Certified Nursing Assistant to earn while you learn in the classroom and on the clinical unit.

Salary and benefits • Free tuition • Free books and supplies • Expert guidance in a hospital setting • Prepare for the Maryland CNA exam • Job placement • Further career development

Learn more and apply at: AdventistHealthCare.com/Careers/Macklin-CNA-Academy

STALLANT HEALTH RURAL HEALTH CLINIC is accepting applications for full-time NPs, PAs, or physicians at our Weimar, Calif., and Crescent City, Calif., locations. Competitive pay, benefits and ministry opportunity. Send CV to Marva, marva@stallanthealth.com, or call (530) 637-4025, ext. 263.

UNION COLLEGE, Lincoln, Neb., is accepting applications for a director of the Ella Johnson Crandall Memorial Library. A Master of Library Science is required. Please view the full job description and instructions for application at ucollege.edu/employment. Contact Dr. Edward Allen at ed.allen@ucollege.edu for more information.

UNION COLLEGE, Lincoln, Neb., is seeking applicants for two positions in the Physician Assistant Program: principal faculty and clinical director. Both are full-time faculty positions with competitive compensation and full benefits package. Please see the full job descriptions and instructions for application at ucollege.edu/employment. Contact Megan Heidtbrink at megan.heidtbrink@ucollege.edu for more information.

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY is seeking computing faculty (emphasis in cybersecurity). The position holds a faculty

appointment and has academic, service and scholarship responsibilities consistent with the mission and philosophy of the Department of Computing and of Andrews University.

The Department of Computing has programs in Computer Science, Information Systems, Informatics, Data Science and Cybersecurity. Link: andrews.edu/admres/jobs/show/faculty#job_4.

MISCELLANEOUS

MOUNTAIN VIEW WELLNESS CAMP August 7-19, 2022

Valley Vista Adventist Center
532 Valley Vista Lane
Huttonsville, WV 26273

A 12-day program to enhance your health journey.

You will have access to an onsite physician and health coaches, partake of healthy and delicious plant-based food and receive instruction and exercise. The fee also includes two lab tests, and there's more!

To register, get pricing and more information, **contact:**

Mountain View Conference
Phone: (304) 422-4581
wellnessmountainview.com

SERVICES

MARYLAND ADVENTIST DENTIST, DAVID LEE, DDS, FAGD, AFAAID, FICOI, FAACP, has practices located in Silver Spring and Columbia, Md. He is extensively trained in implant, cosmetic, TMD/TMJ, sleep apnea treatment, 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 (301) 649-5001 or (410) 461-6655. Mention this ad and receive a 10% discount on all services, excluding third-party payers. We welcome new patients!

DON'T JUST RETIRE, live with purpose at Fletcher Park Inn, an independent living

retirement community, located on the campus of Fletcher Academy near Hendersonville, N.C. Join our family, take part in the many opportunities for staying active, volunteering, making new friends and living with a purpose. Call to find out more about our apartment and villa homes, (828) 209-6930, and ask for our marketing department, or visit fletcher-parkinn.com.

ELTERNHAUS ASSISTED LIVING, Adventist family-owned and -operated, provides specialized care for seniors in a family homestyle setting. Delicious vegetarian food, activities, Friday night vespers and a shuttle to church Sabbath morning, just to name a few of the many options. Check out our newly updated website, elternhausalf.com. Elternhaus also offers a great work environment for Adventist caregivers, LPNs and RNs. Call Tim Mayer, (240) 286-3635.

NEW/USED ADVENTIST BOOKS: TEACH SERVICES helps authors publish their book, including editing, design, marketing and worldwide distribution. Call (800) 367-1844 for a free evaluation. Visit LNFBOOKS.com for used books and your local ABC or TEACHServices.com for new book releases.

MOVE with an award-winning agency. Apex Moving & Storage partners with the General Conference to provide quality moves at a discounted rate. Call us for your relocation needs. Adventist beliefs uncompromised. Call Marcy Dante at (800) 766-1902 for a free estimate. Visit us at apexmoving.com/Adventist

REAL ESTATE

FLORIDA LIVING RETIREMENT COMMUNITY, independent living on 13.5 acres near Orlando; sunny beaches, golf course, shopping areas and medical care. All renovated ground-level units. Florida Conference-owned facility. Call us at (407) 862-2646, or visit our website at: floralivingretirement.com.

HOUSE/ACREAGE FOR SALE IN WEST VIRGINIA: 3,300 sq. ft. home on 72+/- acres in Ritchie County. House has 3-4 BR, free gas, two central heating and air systems, four gas fireplaces and a 20x20 ft. sunroom on back of home. Small greenhouse, chicken coop, two attached

garages and one detached garage. Creek around back of property, Hughes River across street; never had flood problems. Great hiking trails nearby. Beautiful, peaceful setting. Rare opportunity for missionary-minded workers. \$325,000. Call Robert, (304) 966-3487.

INTERESTED IN BUYING OR SELLING YOUR HOME?

Call The Seema Rodriguez Team, trusted realtors in Maryland, with a proven track record:

More than \$230 million in business. Over 21 years of service, providing:

- Honesty and Integrity
- Market Knowledge
- Local Real Estate Expertise
- Superb Negotiation Skills
- Great Communication

The Seema Rodriguez Team – Where Service is Key!

Seema Rodriguez:
(301) 922-1770
s4rodr@yahoo.com

or
Margie Eldridge:
(301) 325-8503

23margieeldridge@gmail.com

ReMax Realty Center
(301) 774-5900

LEGAL NOTICES

CONSTITUENCY MEETING OF THE NEW JERSEY CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS, INC.

Notice is hereby given that the 41st regular constituency meeting of the New Jersey Conference of the Seventh-day Adventists, Inc., is called to convene at 10 a.m., Sunday, September 25, 2022, at the Robbinsville Community Seventh-day Adventist Church, 2314 Route 33, Robbinsville, NJ 08691.

The purpose of this meeting shall be to elect officers and committees, consider recommendations for amendments and revisions of the constitution and bylaws, receive reports of the organization, and transact such other business that may properly come before the constituency at that time.

Member churches, church boards, New Jersey Conference-operated institutions, departmental directors and permanent commissions, committees and boards of the New Jersey Conference may

Bulletin Board

propose items for the agenda. The deadline is July 28, 2022.

Jorge Aguero, *President*
Mario Thorp, *Secretary*

QUADRENNIAL SESSION OF THE ALLEGHENY EAST CONFERENCE CORPORATION OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

Notice is hereby given that the third quinquennial session of the Allegheny East Conference Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists will convene Sunday, October 16, 2022, at 9:30 a.m. at the Metropolitan Activity Center (Metropolitan Seventh-day Adventist Church), 6303 G. Riggs Road, Hyattsville, MD 20783. This meeting is called for the election of officers, departmental directors and committees that may properly come before the session at that time.

Pete Palmer, *President*
Marcellus T. Robinson, *Vice President for Administration*

MEETING OF THE PINE FORGE ACADEMY CONSTITUENCY

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Pine Forge Academy Constituency will be held in connection with the third quinquennial session of the Allegheny East Conference

Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists at the Metropolitan Activity Center (Metropolitan Seventh-day Adventist Church), 6303 G. Riggs Road, Hyattsville, MD 20783, Sunday, October 16, 2022, at a time that will be called by the chair.

This meeting is called to elect a Board of Trustees for the academy and to transact any other business that may come before the constituency at that time. The delegates of the third quinquennial session of the Allegheny East Conference Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists are delegates of this session.

Pete Palmer, *President*
Marcellus T. Robinson, *Vice President for Administration*

Interested in placing an obituary?

Visit columbiaunionvisitor.com/obituary to download an obituary submission form, or contact Sandra Jones for more information.
sjones@columbiaunion.net
 (410) 997-3414, ext. 571

Obituaries are posted as a free service to our members.



Sligo by the Sea

2022 WORSHIP SERIES

First Presbyterian Church
1301 Philadelphia Avenue, Ocean City, MD 21842

SABBATH SCHOOL 10 A.M. | WORSHIP 11 A.M.

JULY 7/2	Pastor Nathan Krause
7/9	Bonita Shields, Associate Secretary
7/16	Pastor Mark Sique
7/23	Scripture & Song
7/30	Dr. Terry & Dr. Kara Johnsson
AUGUST 8/6	Pastor Anthony Kent
8/13	Tim Jennings, M.D.
8/20	Pastor Jerry Lutz
8/27	Pastor Alex Barrientos
SEPTEMBER 9/3	Pastor Rick Remmers
9/10	Pastor Marcellus Robinson
9/17	Pastor Tom Hughes

sligochurch.org/sligobythesea 301-270-6777

	July 1	July 8	July 15	July 22	July 29	Aug 5	Aug 12	Aug 19	Aug 26
Baltimore	8:37	8:36	8:33	8:28	8:22	8:15	8:07	7:58	7:48
Cincinnati	9:08	9:07	9:04	8:59	8:54	8:46	8:38	8:29	8:19
Cleveland	9:04	9:03	9:00	8:55	8:48	8:40	8:32	8:22	8:11
Columbus	9:05	9:03	9:00	8:56	8:50	8:42	8:34	8:24	8:14
Jersey City	8:32	8:30	8:27	8:22	8:16	8:08	8:00	7:50	7:39
Norfolk	8:28	8:27	8:25	8:21	8:15	8:09	8:01	7:53	7:43
Parkersburg	8:57	8:55	8:52	8:48	8:42	8:35	8:27	8:17	8:07
Philadelphia	8:33	8:32	8:29	8:24	8:18	8:11	8:02	7:53	7:43
Pittsburgh	8:54	8:53	8:50	8:45	8:39	8:31	8:23	8:13	8:03
Reading	8:38	8:36	8:33	8:28	8:22	8:15	8:06	7:57	7:46
Richmond	8:35	8:34	8:31	8:27	8:22	8:15	8:07	7:58	7:49
Roanoke	8:44	8:43	8:40	8:36	8:31	8:24	8:17	8:08	7:58
Toledo	9:13	9:11	9:08	9:03	8:56	8:49	8:40	8:30	8:19
Trenton	8:33	8:31	8:28	8:23	8:17	8:10	8:01	7:52	7:42
Wash., D.C.	8:38	8:36	8:33	8:29	8:23	8:16	8:08	7:59	7:49

Start your day with our new devotional program filled with
inspiring songs and encouraging messages!



WAKE UP WITH
HOPE

New episodes Mondays through Fridays | 7AM ET
HopeTV.org/WakeUp

Columbia Union Revolving Fund

MAKING MINISTRY POSSIBLE



Reaching Hearts International Seventh-day Adventist Church, Laurel, Md.

When we started our journey with a vision for a new church plant in the year 2000, we were worshipping in a tent in Spencerville, Md., hoping to soon have a church of our own. Under the leadership of our then conference President, Elder Charles Cheatham, working closely with our pastor, myself, the treasurer, and a few others, we finally prevailed in a landmark religious liberty victory in federal court that changed the law of the land. That change opened up the providential door for us to build our church on 17 acres of fertile farm land in West Laurel, Md. All of our prayers to God in every hour of struggle leading up to the legal victory would have been for naught if the Columbia Union Revolving Fund had not come to our rescue at the last hour. Our friends at the Columbia Union Revolving Fund, working hand in hand with the executive officers of the Allegheny East Conference found a way for us to realize our long-held dream. Today we worship in a beautiful facility with a large cross that reaches high toward the sky, showing the whole world that our church is a gift from God.

—Thomas Kunjoo, Treasurer

Since 1968 the Columbia Union Revolving Fund (CURF) has been providing low-interest loans and financing for Seventh-day Adventist church and school building and renovating projects so as to facilitate growth. What started as a \$200,000 fund with investments from members has grown to a \$182 million resource that makes ministry possible.

By providing loans for more than 2,000 projects to date, CURF has helped further the work of the Seventh-day Adventist Church all across the Columbia Union.

Learn more: (866) 721-CURF /
columbiaunionrevolvingfund.org

CURF



Helping Finance the Gospel Mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church

This advertisement does not constitute an offer to sell nor a solicitation of an offer to buy securities. Any offer to sell securities issued by CURF is made only through its Offering Circular. No one should consider any investment in CURF Notes other than by careful reference to the Offering Circular. Neither FDIC, SIPC nor any other government agency guarantees or insures repayment of CURF Notes.