

SVA Weekly UPDATE



CALENDAR

Friday, December 2

- Community Christmas Caroling @ 6:30 p.m. Meet at New Market SDA Church

Sabbath, December 3

- 1st Service @ 9:00 a.m.
- 2nd Service @ 11:45 a.m.
- Shenandoans Concert at Library @ 7:00 p.m.
- SA Christmas Party begins @ 8:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 4

- SAT Test begins @ 8:00 a.m. in Hewitt Hall
- Staff Christmas Party @ 6:00 p.m. at Good Life Station

Thursday—Sunday, Dec. 8—11

- "Walk Through Bethlehem" each evening from 6:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m. behind New Market SDA Church

It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas!

Students are anxiously counting down the days until the Christmas holiday break, but this month's festivities will surely keep them happily occupied until then!

This Friday evening, students are Christmas caroling in the community then returning to the church for cocoa and cookies.

On Saturday, the Shenandoans will be performing a short mini-concert at the New Market library as part of the town's "Holidays in New Market" event.

Fiber Comes to SVA

Shentel workers ran fiber into the Ad Building on Wednesday. This is the first step in improving SVA's connectivity to the internet, allowing better access to internet sites and allowing HD streaming of school events. Finishing up the installation process will take several more days.

"Fiber" refers to thin glass fibers used to conduct data by using light pulses from one party (Shentel) to another (SVA), and back. This technology is rolling out in cities around the country.

This technology allows up to *100 times more data* to flow than we typically

That same evening, the SA will host their annual Christmas party, which begins with an open house tour of the holiday décor in the boys' and girls' dorms. A Christmas movie will be shown in the auditorium.

SVA's annual Candlelight Concert Weekend begins with a sacred concert @ 7:30 p.m. on Friday at the New Market SDA Church. The following evening @ 6:30 p.m. in the gym, the musicians will perform another concert featuring more holiday songs. All are invited to attend these awesome performances!

get out of copper wires or WIFI.

SVA currently gets internet access thru a T1 line – basically a dedicated telephone trunk line – with a 10 megabytes per second DSL as a backup. The new fiber will give the same level of performance at a significant savings, as well as providing room for growth as we need it.

We will be working with Shentel to tune our use of the new fiber line and making sure we are running smoothly before disconnecting our other services. We're looking forward to a better internet experience in January!



Shentel workers lay fiber-optic cable for a vastly improved internet service.



The main altar in the cathedral.



Seventh-day Adventist Barry Black, Chaplain of the United States Senate, has his very own seat in the cathedral.

Senior Bible Tour

On Thursday, Pastor Tim Harley led the senior class on an extensive "Bible Tour" where they visited various religious sites in the Washington, D.C. area. The renowned Washington National Cathedral was the first and favorite place seen that day.

Next the students went to an Islamic mosque where they observed a prayer service. The women needed to cover their heads during their time there.

The Mormon Tabernacle was next on the itinerary and was already decorated for the holidays!

The last two stops included a Jewish synagogue and a Buddhist temple. The purpose of the trip was to expose the students to a variety of religious cultures.

Basketball Update

The guys' basketball team played Evangel Christian last Monday, November 11 in Richmond. It was a well-played game and close the entire time, but we came up just a little short. Final score: 78-70.

On Tuesday, both the girls' and boys' team played MMA. Our girls won easily, 55-9 and our guys won 95-40.

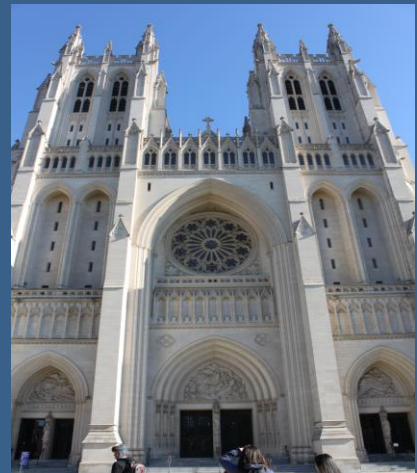
The boys' team has also been invited to play against some of the top public schools in the area. Their first tournament is today.



Please Take Note!

- **SAT Test** this Sunday, December 4 @ 8:00 a.m. in Hewitt Hall. Deadline to register for the next SAT Test (scheduled for Sunday, January 29) is on Friday, December 30.
- The **"Walk Through Bethlehem"** program begins each night @ 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. behind the New Market SDA Church. Several of our SVA students & staff have been working diligently to make sure this will be an unforgettable evening. Please come out and travel back in time to the birth of Jesus.
- **Dress Rehearsal** for the Candlelight Concert Weekend is Tuesday, December 13 and Thursday, December 15 @ 6:00 p.m. Attendance is mandatory. Location TBA.
- **Christmas Break** officially begins @ 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, December 20 after the last semester exam. Buses heading North, South, and West will depart Wednesday morning.

Yearbook photographer Brandie Fisher captured the beauty of the National Cathedral in these photographs.



Inside the cathedral was an altar where you could light a candle and offer up prayers for a loved one.