

literature. He is equally at home in French and other languages. His letters reveal an unusual balance between social, ecumenical, and evangelistic interests.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

DE RUYTER, N. Y. — Our church co-operated in the pulpit exchange for Sabbath Rally Day in May. Pastor Victor Skaggs came here while Pastor Swing was in Adams Center.

There were some pleasant "get-togethers" here, when the menfolk painted most of the interior of the church. The ladies helped with the cleaning and served dinners at noon.

We were greatly blessed by having Central Association convene with us the first part of June. Sabbath morning the church was filled to capacity and chairs added. The attendance was very good at all the meetings. Besides those attending from the five churches of the Association and vicinity, it was good to have with us the Rev. Duane Davis and family of Lost Creek, W. Va., Mrs. Doris Fetherston and Mrs. Marilyn Merchant of Battle Creek, Mich., and the Rev. Paul Maxson of Berlin, N. Y.

Pastor Swing attended Eastern and Southeastern Associations as the delegate from the Central Association. In his absence the deacons and the Ladies' Benevolent Society took charge of the church services.

A union Vacation Bible School was held in co-operation with the Federated Church this year with an enrollment of 121. There were 6 teachers, 7 helpers, a business manager, and a director. A large attendance at the closing demonstration showed a fine community spirit.

Six young people accompanied the pastor to Camp Harmony at Redwood, N. Y., for six days of worship, study, fun, and inspiration. They gave good reports at the church service Sabbath, July 20. Those attending were Nancy Brannon, Linda Burdick, Gretchen Swing, Frederick Schule, Richard Burdick, and Howard Meldrim. — Correspondent.

Unless we form the habit of going to the Bible in bright moments as well as in trouble, we cannot fully respond to its consolations, because we lack equilibrium between light and darkness. — Helen Keller.

More Bumper Cards

Again this year the publishing house at Plainfield printed large bumper cards and distributed them free of charge to all churches for the use of those going to the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference at Milton, August 13 to 18.

It is possible that many drivers failed to take advantage of this means of advertising our denominational gathering. More of the cards will be available at Conference for the return trip.

Another bumper card usable at any time will be available at the Tract Society's display. A smaller, luminous card (15" x 4") in orange and black, this card bears the words,

"The 7th DAY is the Sabbath of the LORD."

These were ordered from a friend at a cost price of 25 cents and will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis. Stick one on your bumper and let the Sabbath light shine.

Births

Burdick. — A daughter, Jan Ellen, to Robert E. and Mary P. Burdick of Syracuse, N. Y., on June 9, 1957.

Sheppard. — A son, Jeffrey Mark, to Mark and Arah Mae (Davis) Sheppard of Shiloh, N. J., on June 30, 1957.

Obituaries

Conyers. — Col. James Bennett, age 65, died in the Naval Hospital, Pensacola, Fla., April 17, 1957, of a heart attack, after a very brief illness. He and Mrs. Conyers were on a tour of Florida.

He was a native of Cartersville, Ga., and served in France during World War I as an artillery captain. He bought a place known as "The Reservation" at the foot of Yonah Mountain near Cleveland, Ga., where he was instrumental in organizing in 1937 the Yonah Mountain Seventh Day Baptist Church.

He was recalled to active service in World War II, and later served as a colonel in the legal department at the Pentagon, during which time he was active in the Seventh Day Baptist Church in Washington. In October, 1956, he returned to Cleveland.

He is survived by his wife; a daughter, Capt. Madge Conyers, now at Frankfurt, Germany; and two brothers, John L. and C. T. Conyers, both of Atlanta, Ga.

Funeral services, with full military honors, were held at Arlington National Cemetery, Washington, D. C. — C.A.B.

AUGUST 26, 1957

The Sabbath Recorder



The Conference at Worship on the Sabbath

Pictured above is part of the second service held on Sabbath morning in the Milton College gymnasium as part of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference. One of the largest audiences of recent years, this congregation gave more than three times more money than usual to the World Mission work of the denomination. See stories inside.

The Sabbath Recorder

First Issue June 13, 1844

A Magazine for Christian Enlightenment and Inspiration
Member of the Associated Church Press

REV. LEON M. MALTBY, Editor

Contributing Editors:

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WOMEN'S WORK Mrs. Lester Nelson
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION Mrs. LeRoy DeLand
..... Rex E. Zwiebel, B.A., B.D.

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PLAINFIELD, N. J., AUGUST 26, 1957
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The Days Before Conference

Each year the official activities and meetings preceding the announced dates of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference seem to increase. Another article or articles will deal with some of these. Equally interesting are some of the local preparations for entertaining. It was the editor's privilege to arrive in the village of Milton nearly five days early and to see just a little of the effort expended by the local people and to imagine what went on behind the scenes in the homes.

The college buildings were being readied for Conference use. The campus was still in the process of beautification. The stately elms and other trees of cherished memory to former students had been extensively trimmed. With lower branches cut away they lifted high their arms with slender grace to open the sloping campus to a wider vista. Parking facilities on the enlarged campus had been made more ample and more accessible than ever before.

Our contact with the chairman of the Registration and Entertainment Committee gave us some insight to the problems incident to finding suitable places for the hundreds of guests in the homes of Milton, Milton Junction, and Albion. Every effort was being made to house the many who were arriving several days in advance as well as those registering on the opening day. We heard of one home where hospitality seemed to be stretched to its utmost limits to provide for nearly 35 guests. People unconnected with any of our churches turned over their homes to unknown guests in acts of gracious good will.

On the Sabbath before Conference the Milton Church was packed almost to capacity. The Sabbath eve prayer meeting, just before the appointed hour, gave the appearance of a gathering of the faithful few but soon the pews filled with visiting worshipers. Refreshingly unusual was the sound of a baby in the arms of a young mother from a western state. Other churches also in the Milton area were blessed with greatly enlarged attendance, both of young people from the camp and visiting adults.

Expectancy was in the air. Numerous details were yet to be taken care of by

AUGUST 26, 1957

3

hard-working local committees but basic preparations were well in hand. Those who were arriving daily were perhaps more aware of the work involved than those who would come later.

We are aware that the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference is not as large numerically as some of the state conferences of other denominations but it is a national gathering involving much planning, preparation, and travel.

In the Gospel of Matthew we read of the blessing that came to little Bethlehem when the prophecy was fulfilled at the coming of Christ and the village became host to the Son of God: "And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel." The presence of Christ, whether in large places or small, great gatherings or lesser ones—that is the determining factor in real blessing. Many were the prayers for such a presence in the Conference about to begin.

Bracketed with Prayer

The Seventh Day Baptist General Conference is only in its second day as this is being written. We expect the pattern of the first two days to continue and to become fixed in the remainder of the 6-day nation-wide gathering.

Under the president's theme, "Pray without ceasing" — abound unto every good work," one would expect a strong emphasis on prayer. Seldom before have we seen the times of prayer so prominently and effectively built into the formal program. Each day is bracketed with prayer. In the morning at 8 o'clock, before committee meetings or business are undertaken, the main auditorium is the place of directed prayer. In the evening, following the benediction, the people — many of them — gather at the urging of President Harris in the college chapel for nearly an hour of prayer and spontaneous singing.

Some of us have had experience with field and anti-aircraft artillery practice. It involves most accurate mathematical calculations in the shortest possible time. The target is lost — and so might be

the cause — if the calculations were inaccurate or took too long. The procedure is to shoot first a little beyond and then a little short of the target. It is thus bracketed, and the next rounds narrow the bracket. Thus the artilleryman gets on target. So it was at Conference. There was an earnest attempt to get quickly on target by bracketing each day's program with rounds of prayer sent heavenward.

Participation in these prayer meetings was good, ranging from 45 to 65, with numbers a little larger at the early morning hour than at the late evening session. There was little leadership. Most of the time was spent in actual praying. Sometimes the prayers were grouped at the leader's suggestion under designated subjects. At other times it was quite spontaneous. Many of those attending were people gathered from far and wide who were not in a position to attend prayer meetings in a local Seventh Day Baptist Church.

The accomplishments of this Conference, which will go down in the annals of our history as real forward-looking steps, must be counted as answers to the prayers of the people. It was observed that, busy as he was, the president of Conference never missed one of these prayer meetings.

1957 Conference Sabbath Morning Worship

A subcommittee of the Missionary Interests Committee met most of Friday afternoon and mimeographed a statement on giving to Our World Mission, distributed them after the Friday evening service, and enclosed them in the bulletins for the two identical services on Sabbath morning. We understand that their intention was to try to get the Conference delegates to give enough to bring the August receipts up to the amount needed.

The effort was highly successful as compared with previous years. See flash announcement from the treasurer elsewhere in this issue.

The attendance at the two services, 9 and 10:30, was nearly equal, with a total of about 900.

MEMORY TEXT

Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water. Hebrews 10: 22.

Curious Court Decisions

The Associated Press picked up the New Jersey Attorney General's decision involving saying a prayer before lunch in the elementary school cafeteria of the little Edgewater Park community (population 350). For years the principal, Mrs. Mildred Magowan, in whose honor the new school was named, had encouraged the pupils to say the following prayer:

"God is great, God is good
And we thank Him for this food.
By His hand we all are fed.
Thank Thee for our daily bread."

Someone objected and the prayer before meals was stopped by the school board in April. Later it was resumed upon receipt of a petition signed by 603 people. A ruling was sought from Attorney General Grover C. Richmond, Jr. He ruled that the saying of the prayer, being a religious exercise, was illegal. On the other hand, state law requires the reading of at least five verses of the Old Testament, without comment, in each classroom to start the school day. The legal authority pointed out that it would be perfectly legal to repeat the Lord's Prayer before lunch in any public school cafeteria.

We do not want to take issue with the attorney general but we would challenge him or any other lawyer to point out in what respects the prayer used at Edgewater Park is more sectarian than the Lord's Prayer. A later news bulletin makes such a challenge unnecessary. The attorney general's office announces that it is preparing an amendment to state statutes which would permit children to say grace before meals in public elementary schools. Now we must take the attitude of watchful waiting. It is possible that the amendment may permit too much and be used as an entering wedge leading to the abuse of the religious liberty where minorities are involved.

President's Conference Message

By Charles F. Harris

Pray Without Ceasing — Abound to Every Good Work

The Conference year has passed quickly. Yet it seems that the candle-lighting service at Alfred was a very long time ago. I have looked forward with much pleasure to the 145th meeting of General Conference here in Milton.

It may be that I was thinking of the previous Conference sessions that I have enjoyed here; or it may have been the thought that I would soon be turning over the gavel to a new president. With so many friends and loved ones in attendance, and others praying for these meetings, although they are not here, I am sure that the pleasure resulted from all of these thoughts.

During the year I have visited many churches and Associations and I have received warm Christian fellowship in each gathering. Surely the Conference theme has taken hold in most of the churches of our General Conference.

"Pray without ceasing" (1 Thess, 5: 17) requires a constant contact with our Heavenly Father. This is made possible by the presence of Christ in our lives. As Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No man cometh unto the Father but by me," so we are complete in our Savior, and we come to the throne of grace in His name. The Book of Hebrews, our theme book of the year, reveals this marvelous plan to us.

It is only when we have the knowledge of God's will for us, that we are in a position to receive the blessings that He has in store for us. This knowledge comes to us by the revelation of the Holy Spirit as we study God's Word, and as we meditate on it.

"Abound to every good work" is one of these promises that we can claim. 2 Corinthians 9: 8 reads, "God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work."

In the first chapter of the Book of Colossians we find some conditions set forth in order for God to pour out His blessing. Faith in Jesus Christ, constant

prayer, the knowledge of His will for us, and spiritual understanding are set forth as requirements before He will make us abound. Then we must walk "worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing."

The Bible tells us in many places that a close walk with God and love for each other are needed before our prayers will be answered, and blessings will be received.

John writes in the Word that if we know God and love God, we will keep His commandments. We hold the fourth commandment as the reason for our denominational existence, and rightly so. If we truly kept the first three commandments, we could claim the full blessing of the Sabbath, as well as other promises of God's riches.

Another requirement of a true Christian is that he love the brethren. We are to live and work with each other in the spirit of love. "If God so loved us, we ought also to love one another." "If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us."

May we be consistent in our Christian lives, study God's Word, and meditate on it. Let us pray, love, and work together and God who is able, will make us abound to do His will.

FLASH!!

Conference Offering

Offering at Conference	
in Milton	\$3,636.62
Offering from Churches	3,719.80
Pledges for current budget —	
Conference Delegates	1,301.00
	\$8,657.42

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON for September 7, 1957

Baruch: Vocational Dependability
Lesson Scripture: Jeremiah 36: 4-8, 22-26, 32.

MISSIONS — Sec. Everett T. Harris

News from Holland

By Brother G. Zijlstra

For a long time you have not heard from Holland. This does not mean that we do not remain often with you in spirit. We appreciate much receiving the Sabbath Recorder which keeps us informed to a certain degree of the course of events in your churches.

Humanly speaking, things in our Dutch churches are not going well. Since the death of Pastor Taekema in January, 1954, none of our churches has had a pastor. We hope and pray that God will send us or raise up among us a talented young man who will shepherd the flock.

In the last years we have more than once had the pleasure to see one of our American brethren. In March, 1956, Rev. Kenneth Smith came from Edinburgh and visited us when he began his tour on the Continent. Camille Crofoot surprised us when she came back from France. Mrs. Kuiper of Shiloh was here a few weeks to see her old father and the other family again after 28 years, and much enjoyed her stay in her native country. On September 30 we held a conference at Rotterdam to bid her good-bye. And on a certain Friday evening Leroy Burdick of Waterford, Conn., was on the telephone, on his way back from Austria, and stayed with us two nights. My thanks to all of them.

This summer (early in July) we held our conference again at "Woudschoten," a well-equipped student center, ideally situated in one of the most beautiful parts of our country. The total attendance was ninety, including the children, of whom twenty-four were under twelve years of age. There were ten visitors from Germany, among whom was Brother O. Kohler, who, on Sabbath afternoon, gave a talk on the assumption of the Church. Mrs. A. Wagner, another visitor, told us about the Los Angeles Church. Meetings were held from 8 p.m. on Friday evening until 5 p.m. Sunday afternoon. A choir, formed by members of all of the churches, added much lustre to our meetings. This

time we concluded our conference with the business meeting.

Within the bounds of Woudschoten a nice camping place was discovered and plans were made to hold a youth conference there next year.

A collection for Nyasaland amounted to f240.— and one for the young people to about f60.—

The Sabbath closed with a program for and by the young people which was well received by young and old. Next autumn the Haarlem Church will commemorate its constitution 80 years ago.

Friday, July 19, the nurses Joan Clement and Beth Severe came over from London on their way back home to visit us a few days. The next Sabbath the Haarlem Church welcomed them. In the morning the elder, Brother H. Visser, preached the sermon and then we celebrated the Lord's Supper with the nurses. We stayed at the chapel, ate our bread there, while coffee was served. After we had installed the projector and found that though we could not darken the chapel as well as we would have liked, the pictures were still very good. Brother Baars brought the sisters to a belvedere in the neighborhood, from where we had a nice view of the dunes, the sea, etc., and then for a few minutes to the seaside. In the afternoon Beth and Joan told us about Makapwa Mission and answered several questions and then showed many beautiful colored pictures of the Mission Station, people, and the medical work. It was all very interesting as it gave us a clear picture of the situation and brought this work nearer to us. It was a unique Sabbath. As we held our conference only a fortnight ago, we could not expect so many members from outside, but there were members from all of the churches present and the attendance was between twenty-five and thirty. On Sunday morning we made a boat trip through the canals of Amsterdam and in the afternoon we visited the Rijks Museum, and then it was time to go to Rotterdam from where Beth and Joan had to sail to London at noon on Monday. God bless them and give fruits to their labour.

WOMEN'S WORK — Arabeth DeLand

SEPTEMBER DEVOTIONAL

(A lone Sabbathkeeper, Marguerite Kuehn, welcomed the opportunity to serve her denomination by preparing this devotional for us. She was brought up in the Pawcatuck Seventh Day Baptist Church, taught in the Sabbath School, sang in the choir, and was Junior Sabbath School superintendent. Since leaving West-erly, she has worked in the Council of Church Women as Social Service chairman. She writes of her most wonderful experience serving the World Council of Churches Planning Commission each day, July 15-August 7, at Yale Divinity School.)

Nothing Impossible

Scripture: Romans 4: 8; Luke 1: 37

We have just read, "for with God nothing is impossible." All Christians take for granted this statement is true, that our Creator, Ruler of the Universe, Father and Savior of us all can work miracles and do the impossible. It is a positive truth. We must apply the positive approach to our own problems, using our faith and God-given courage to implement a solution — not forgetting in prayer the little word if, followed by "it is Thy will."

This all sounds well and good, but many of us know through experience it is not easy. Our human frailties undermine our good intentions. However, all around us are examples and experiences which can inspire and encourage us to try and try again, and to attack problems which seem impossible. Christ used the birds and flowers and little children to teach His disciples and people of that day, and today, lessons of the Father's love and individual care. We must accept and use this love and guidance and so carry on the work of His Kingdom which at times seems so hopeless and discouraging.

After hearing our wonderful Nyasaland nurses, Joan and Beth, tell of their experiences — the guidance and miracles in healing that happened before their eyes — we are inspired as you will be when you see and hear them. The growth that has been accomplished in equipment, buildings, and souls added to the Kingdom shows that the work of our people in Nyasaland is guided and inspired by our Heavenly Father, to whom they give all the praise.

As we go about our daily tasks we quite often find people with greater troubles than our own, and as we sympathize and try to encourage them, we become less depressed and worried over our own which then seems to make them grow smaller. A positive attitude then takes root for finding a solution to our own problems. In praying for our friend or neighbor as well as for ourselves for the Lord's way and help, a solution is reached; perhaps not as we had hoped or expected, but as time lapsed the best in the end, which we previously had not foreseen. Did you ever see what a miracle a smile can sometimes bring about on the face of someone on the sidewalk looking despondent? Try it some time and you'll be amazed at what it can do for you, too.

I have been inspired many times by accounts of the changes in people's lives as given in **Guideposts**. Just recently it told of how Marjorie Rambeau, a great Broadway and Hollywood actress, had a change in her life. She had had a car accident twelve years previously; and after fighting for life itself several months, was a cripple. After several operations which were unsuccessful, she ostracized herself from society and took drugs to deaden her constant pain. One night, after much coaxing, she attended a party at Jack Oakie's, where she fainted. Dale Evans Rogers was there and helped to make her comfortable until a doctor arrived. Dale invited her to attend a meeting of the Hollywood Christian Group, which she did and consequently decided to start studying the Bible and praying. The group helped and prayed for her. Immediately she experienced results by being able to go among people and soon was able to take a small wheelchair part offered her. Then she heard that a film was to be made of "A Man Called Peter" and was determined to try for a part in it. She was given the part of the domineering old woman which required her to take a few steps. She managed to walk after many painful tries. Until then she said her faith was only theory, but she read in the Bible: "Prove me now herewith, saith the Lord," and from then on she put her trust into practice. At the next rehearsal she managed to start up the aisle and refused help from

an extra, saying, "I'm taking the most important steps of my life." She managed to walk the length of the aisle the fifteen times needed for the filming. She described it as "Healings of Grace" for they came unearned, undeserved gifts of God, freely given.

As the reports and plans of General Conference are given and discussed, may each Seventh Day Baptist have the faith and implement his works with the Heavenly Father's guidance so that our World Mission may be accomplished. Then we will be able to train our needed ministers, find missionaries to answer the calls for help and religious educators for our children. We will grow in numbers, working together constructively as God's children should, with love and concern for our brothers here and abroad. Let each of us prayerfully strive to walk where Christ walked because we have faith and know personally His will.

Prayer: Dear Heavenly Father, may each of us do what seems the impossible because we love and are led by Thee and it is Thy will. Amen.

Seventh Day Baptist Church in Moscow

Word has been received from a prominent member of the Milton Junction, Wis., Church that her grandson who is in government service attended a Seventh Day Baptist Church in Moscow on a Sabbath day late in July of this year. From the letter we gather that he was only there a short time. We are assured that he is well aware of the differences between Sabbathkeeping denominations and made no mistake as to the name of the church, the address of which he gives. It has frequently been stated that if the Seventh Day Baptist denomination did not already exist, it would be called into being by the gathering together of Baptists who have come to believe that the seventh-day Sabbath of the Bible is as important for modern-day Christians as it was for the Christians of the first centuries of our era. This seems to be another case where Baptists have adopted the name of our denomination without knowing anything about the denomination as it exists in other countries.

Report of Commission

The organizational meeting of the Commission of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference and the midyear meeting of last December have been previously reported in the columns of the **Sabbath Recorder**. This denominational body prefaces its full report with the following paragraph:

Your Commission is aware of the need of the blessings of God on our work. To claim the promise of these blessings we must let His will guide us in all of our activities and plans. Thus we have sought His presence to be with us at all times, not that He shall approve our actions, but that we will work and plan according to His holy will.

The latest meeting of Commission was held in Dodge Center, Minnesota, beginning August 6, 1957, with all members and the executive secretary present.

We note with thankful hearts the ordination of Kenneth Smith as a minister of the Gospel. We have examined the credentials presented, find them in order, and are pleased to recommend that the request by the Milton Junction and Albion Churches for his accreditation as a Seventh Day Baptist minister be approved. We would also commend the Riverside, California, Church for calling out for ordination O. Arlie Davis of Phoenix, Arizona. We would urge other churches to encourage lay persons to prepare themselves for Christian service looking forward to ordination.

A list of Seventh Day Baptist ministers has been prepared and is available for inspection at this Conference. Permission is requested to make any necessary changes of address occurring between now and the publication of the Year Book. Recognizing that there are various steps in the process of training for leadership, the listing in the 1957 Year Book will be as follows:

Licensed laymen; licensed pastors and assistant pastors; ministers, ordained but not yet accredited by General Conference; official list of accredited Seventh Day Baptist ministers.

The Auditing Committee reports that the accounts of the treasurer of the Gen-

eral Conference and the treasurer of Our World Mission budget have been duly audited by a competent auditor and found correct.

Correspondence with the executive secretary from churches and ministers concerning ministerial relations has been prayerfully carried out, realizing our tremendous need for greater understanding in this vital field.

Commission has met with the treasurers of the various boards and agencies to review the results of the fund distribution of this year. The method agreed upon and used has been satisfactory and has seemed to call for no adjustment. Problems concerning the bringing of the financial part of Our World Mission program into proper relationship to the potential giving of our people were carefully considered. We look toward a greater vision of total stewardship among our members.

Note: The remainder of the Commission's report involving resolutions and recommendations and the proposed budget were modified somewhat by committee and Conference action and will be printed in a later issue.

Christian Education Interests

At the General Conference, recently held at Milton, Wis., one of the committees was charged with considering the annual report of the Board of Christian Education located in the Alfred, N. Y., area and with making such suggestions or recommendations for Seventh Day Baptist Christian education interests as it saw fit. The following report refers to the major activities of that board:

1. We commend the executive secretary of the Board of Christian Education for his leadership and activities during the past year as he began his work with this board.

2. In considering the reports of the various committees of the Board of Christian Education it was noted that several items were being considered by other committees of General Conference, and were therefore passed over without official comment.

3. It was recommended that the Helping Hand Committee of the board pursue

its present policy with relation to the editing of the adult quarterly.

(The Commission had suggested in order to bring down the budget to what it thought could be raised, that the executive secretary of the board be asked to edit the adult quarterly. Conference accepted the above recommendation, thereby rejecting the suggestion of Commission.)

4. It was voted that we commend the Junior Quarterly Committee for its diligent work and express the hope that the Board of Christian Education will be able to find some means of continuing the publication of these helps.

5. It was voted that we commend the various editors of the publications of the Board of Christian Education and further express our appreciation of the work done by the various publishers, noting particularly the work of Eugene Van Horn and Donald Ring.

6. In noting the practice of several Sabbath Schools which send **The Sabbath Visitor** to mission churches, we would encourage more of our Sabbath Schools to undertake the sending of additional copies to mission churches and sister groups.

7. In reviewing the report of the treasurer, it was noted that the treasurer served this year without compensation and we commend the devotion of various members of the board in giving many hours of time to such service.

Another recommendation asking the Tract Board to seriously consider assuming the cost of publishing in the Year Book the annual reports of this and the other boards was defeated on the floor of Conference after two or three people had spoken on the implications of it.

The following three commendations and the report as a whole were adopted:

We congratulate Alfred University upon the completion of its first century as a chartered university and commend their progress in improving the educational facilities of that institution. We commend Milton College in its continued efforts at accreditation, noting the increase in faculty salaries and the very evident improvements being made in the physical plant. We commend Salem College for its efforts of the past year, noting particularly its leadership in the interests of smaller

Conference Encourages Vocational Guidance

The Vocational Committee of the General Conference has recently become very active and its work has begun to be publicized in the **Sabbath Recorder**. Future articles are promised which will tell in more detail of the workshop conducted on the day prior to the assembling of the 1957 Conference and the future work of the committee. From the delegates at Milton a committee was selected to consider the report of this committee and to make suggestions to the standing committee.

It suggested the development of the following areas of work in co-operation with other denominational agencies:

The use of vocational materials in Christian Endeavor and Sabbath School programs; the assembling of information and literature on vocations which may be of help to all our people; the fuller use of vocational guidance in our colleges and among our high school students; the continuance of vocational guidance as a special emphasis at Pre-Con Retreat, acting as a clearinghouse for employment opportunities and business enterprises.

It suggested a change in the selection of its own membership in the future by the following recommendation:

"That the Conference Committee on Vocational Interests consist of two persons from each Association, appointed by the Association, with additional members appointed by the Conference president."

The other recommendation concerned the setting up of a lending institution. This invoked some questions from the floor of Conference as to the meaning of the term. It was explained that it might be well to help young men get started in business ventures. The recommendation follows: "That the Vocational Committee be encouraged to explore business enterprises for development by Seventh Day Baptists, including such businesses as a lending institution."

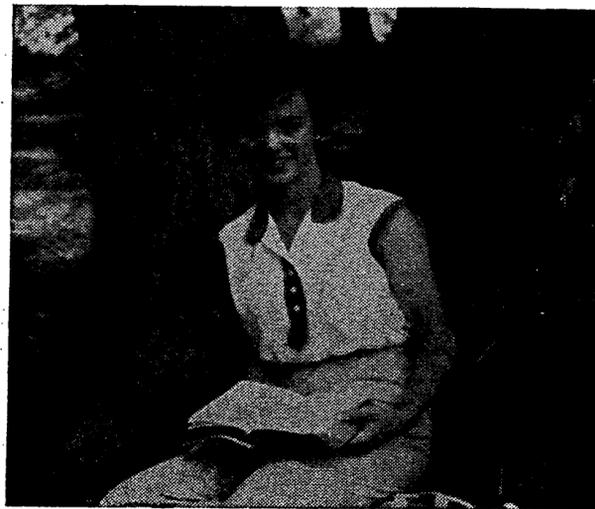
colleges in the nation. Such service we feel is indicative of the position of Seventh Day Baptists in general.

PICTURE STORY OF PRE-CON RETREAT

Under the supervision of the Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education representative youth of the denomination gathered 100-strong from the four quarters of the nation for a concentrated camping program from Thursday afternoon to Monday afternoon just before the General Conference. The campsite was the Indian Trails Boy Scout Camp about 7 miles from Milton, Wis.



Just before the hawthorn tree was relieved of its burden of dresses by the Missouri and Wisconsin girls, the camera caught this view of ample preparation for the long weekend. The tree would not understand why so much variety of color was needed.



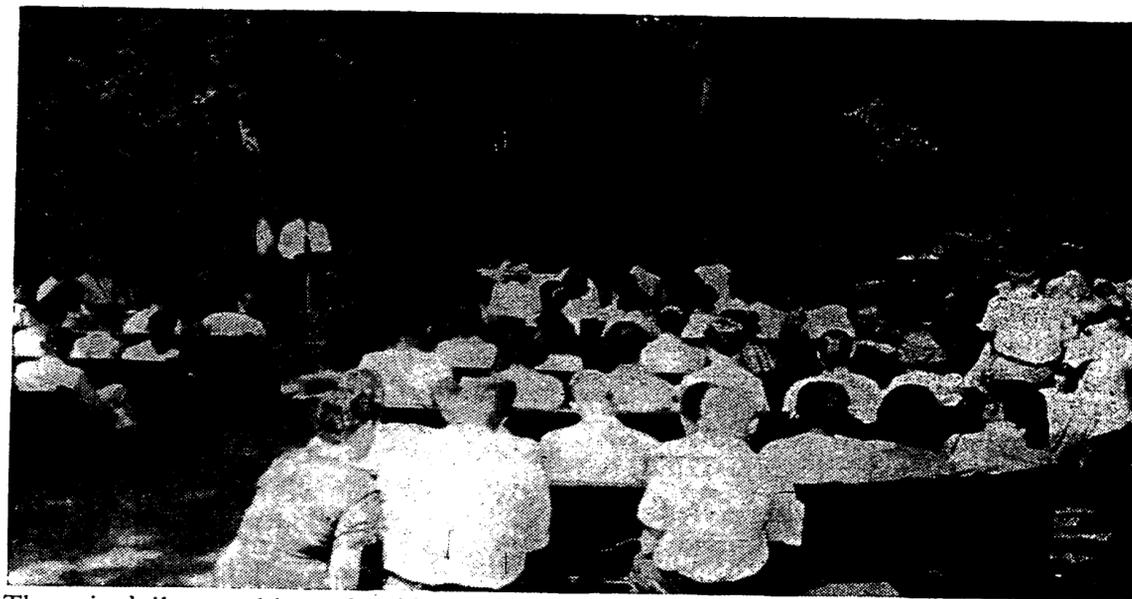
The early morning "alone hour" is 30 minutes of private, individual Bible study in a favorite trysting place. Here Marjorie Lewis of Riverside, Calif., is happy to sit beside towering twin oaks as she seeks strength from above with her open Bible in her lap.



Five girls from Los Angeles, Calif., share this tent. Donna Bowman, Dixie Crouse, Marie Gregory, Carol Ashcraft, and Martha Gregory are ready for a profitable experience. They are veterans of Pacific Pines Camp, having attended from earliest childhood.



All the campers attended morning church services in the three nearby village churches. Here two of the older campers smile for our readers after church in Milton. Dale Curtis, from Riverside, Calif., the camp doctor, is about to begin his two years of military medical work. Geri Hargis is ready to teach in the Los Angeles school system. The whole program of the youth retreat pictured above is designed to help all who attend to prepare themselves for useful, Christ-centered lives.



There is daily worship and Sabbath afternoon worship. A portion of the Sabbath afternoon church service is shown here. Visitors swelled the camp audience to 170 in this chapel in the woods built to accommodate about 50 boys.



These Milton boys, Dan Randolph and Frank Green, gather up their light luggage to carry it to their little clustered tent village in the woods.

Pastoral Changes

Quite a number of churches have been seeking pastoral leadership for a considerable length of time. Others faced with the need of new leadership, have already been successful in their calling. The Rev. C. Harmon Dickinson, of the Denver, Colo., Church, accepted a call to the Plainfield, N. J., Church and will undertake his work in that place the first Sabbath of October. It has recently been announced that the Rev. Kenneth E. Smith, of the Albion and Milton Junction, Wis., Churches, has accepted the call of the Denver Church and will assume the pastorate in that place in November. The Schenectady, N. Y., Church is looking forward to the coming of the Rev. Lester G. Osborn this fall. Meanwhile, the Ashaway, R. I., Church, where he has served for several years, is making an effort to secure a pastor. The Albion and Milton Junction Churches have also taken steps through a joint committee toward calling a man for that double pastorate. Putnam County Church at Carraway, Fla., is now without a pastor, following the resignation of Clifford Beebe which became effective at the close of the Vacation Bible School this summer.

Spirits and Secrets Don't Mix

When J. Edgar Hoover became Director of the FBI, at the age of 29, the Bureau was in widespread disrepute. One of the new director's first official acts was to forbid any employee from drinking alcoholic beverages, on duty or off, in public or in private. He was promptly labeled "fanatic" and "dictator," but he has never compromised in this type of insistence on the highest standards of conduct.

Nyasaland Missions, Educational Work

(A message given at General Conference)

By Joan Clement

It is so good to be here and see you again after four years. It was a long time in a way and yet it seems like yesterday that we stood before you in General Conference to bid you farewell to go out to experiences about which we knew so little. I want to tell you today that the Lord has been good to us. He has kept us. He has prospered us and it is my joy to tell you a little bit about the educational work in Nyasaland.

I would like to begin by saying something of the purpose of education in missions as it is found in Africa today, and I think that education in missions all over the world is probably quite similar. After all, the true purpose of a mission is to preach the Gospel. And any portion of the mission program that doesn't preach Christ and Him crucified is no mission work at all. So in our school, and in the schools which we have not only on the mission but out in the villages, it is Christ first. Academic subjects come second. Our schools — we have seven in all at the present time — we feel to be among the most important contacts for Christ that we have. Studies made by various groups have verified in all places that the young person, particularly the one in his teens, is the most pliable. He is the one that is most ripe for the Gospel message, and we have surely found that to be so.

For the most part the students in our school are what we call overage students. They are boys and girls that are too old to get into government assisted schools for primary grades, but since our school does not receive government assistance, we have been happy to open the doors for these boys and girls who, though too old to get into other schools, still have an opportunity for education at our mission. So, first of all, the school is a contact for Christ.

Second, we look to the schools in Africa as we do here as agents for character building of young people. Young people need to be built up first, spiritually, second, socially, so that they can take their place in a world of social enterprise and business activity. But you say I thought Africa was

a very backward country. Africa is a land of contrast today. We find the primitive side by side with the ultramodern. The young person of Africa today is going through a transition period in the history of the land. He comes out of a family of parents and ancestors who live according to the tradition of the tribes. Yet he expects to step into a world that is like in some respect the one in which we live in here. Cities in Africa are modern. Facilities are modern. The Africans look at the white man and all the material things he possesses and he wants them too. And surely, he should have them too.

We feel that we have been given a very special trust by God to be able to have these young people on the mission and try to help them bridge this transition period in their lives which will carry them out of the past and into a present, modern-day society. But one thing is so important — that we bring them through the transition period with a knowledge of the true values of life.

It has been said the African who has an education but not Christ is a far worse individual than the pagan in the bush who has never seen the schoolbook. That may sound strange to you but I can testify today that it is quite true. To give an education to the African without giving him Christ is simply to put into his heart desires for a world of materialism, desires for temporal wealth and power with no thought of love for his brother.

Deeply rooted in the life philosophy of the African is the idea that every man must take care of himself. And to the African, it is every man for himself; never mind what happens to the other fellow. We are happy to say the Christian way is not that way. And if we can give to these young people a desire to live as Christ would have them live, then we see coming from the mission school fine young men and women who are taking their places in the modern world with, first of all, love in their hearts for Christ and, second, a love consideration and concern for their fellow men, which is quite foreign to anything that they have had in their culture in years past.

The African today wants the material things of life. He is fired with the feeling of nationalism which is sweeping so many

lands over the face of the earth today. And, after all, we can't blame him for these desires. They are quite natural to us. Even we in this country want the comforts of life. We cherish our independence as a nation. We pride ourselves in our history and the tradition of our country, and why should the African have any less? Through Christ and through a program of the schools as carried on by the missions, such a thing can be possible, yet fostered in a spirit of love and kindness toward all.

We Must Have a Good School

If we are to have any kind of a mission school at all it goes without saying that that school should be a good one. We have been striving in the past four years to develop, upon the mission and in the villages, schools which are acceptable, first of all, to the Lord, and second, to the government and accrediting bodies of the country. The government of Nyasaland, which of course is British, provides a curriculum which it expects schools to follow. It provides a certain standard of equipment which must be provided in the schools, building specifications, and so on. Most important of all it requires government-certified teachers, which is perhaps the greatest problem in education in Africa today.

When we arrived in Africa four years ago we found a school on the mission which had no equipment at all and no qualified staff. We are extremely happy today to say that we have been able to gather — with the Lord's help — some equipment (just the bare essential equipment) that will enable us to follow the government curriculum in teaching. We have upon our staff two government-certified teachers. With those teachers and the help of the other African teachers on the mission which are not certified by government examination we have been able to lift up the school to a place where it is quite acceptable in the eyes of the people whom we serve.

We have felt that we have followed to the best of our ability the leading of the Lord in the planning of the school, and He has blessed it. The school has been able to function and provide for its own needs with the exception of salaries. We would hate to in any way curtail the work of the school. It would break not only our hearts

but the heart of every African to have the school cut back. I wish that you could see with us, face to face, an African whose eyes are filled with joy and happiness at being able to receive not only salvation but a good education.

Some people are deeply moved by the letters which were written from the field before the mission was supported — the harsh cries of the African people for someone to come over and to help them. Now that the mission has been established, I would not have you consider for a minute that these cries have been turned off like a water tap. Simply to establish a mission in a place, to build it up, to provide some of the things that are needed does not put an end to the need. If we are going to do God's work at all it cannot be static. God's work is not a thing that stands still but it is something that is ever growing, ever expanding, reaching new hearts, touching more lives. If we are to do a thing at all I feel sure in my heart that our Lord Jesus expects us to do it with everything that we have that we can give Him — our time, our talents, the sincere prayers of our souls, our money. All that we have which the Lord can use belongs to Him.

Today we have one school on the mission with an enrollment of 300 students. We have 6 schools set out in the villages. I want to say something about plans for the future. I won't say that they are plans; I would rather tell you that they are the desires of our heart. And even more than our desires, there are the longings of our brothers and sisters in Africa. We depend upon God. Yes, you don't know how we depend upon God on the mission field. But do you know that as we depend upon God He depends upon you — each one of you, not just the Missionary Interests Committee, not just a Ladies' Aid Society. Every single person who calls himself by the name of Christ belongs to God and is expected by God to carry forth His work. It has been said that God has no hands but ours to work for Him. God has no feet but ours to walk and carry His message, and it is true also that God has no purse but ours to be opened. Out of our abundance we are to give so that the needs of His children wherever they are may be met.

We would love to make plans. We have made plans. We wish to complete our school at the mission so that it would be a fully complete and accredited junior, senior primary school. We wish to put within our school a staff of fully accredited Seventh Day Baptist teachers, some of whom are preparing to enter their training this October. We wish to improve our school buildings so that each class might meet in its own room and not have to shout above the other class which sits in the other end of the same room. We wish to put a permanent roof on our building so that the students can sit through a day and keep dry instead of having to continually move their seats to avoid the rain which comes through the grass roof. We wish, if it's the Lord's will, that there might be a willing soul found that could have upon his or her heart a burden for the education work in Nyasaland. We wish to be able to pay our teachers according to the government wage scale. But I am not asking these things, I am simply presenting them to you as our hearts' desires. Do you know, it is the hardest thing in the world to have to stand still when you see so many things that must be done? And it is very, very difficult to sit on the other side of the sea 8,000 miles away, and wait and wonder if the help is coming.

As I said, God has been good to us. He has blessed us. He has prospered us more than we even imagined when we went there, but we hope that in the years to come the work may continue to grow and to increase so that in the day when Christ comes He might find us growing instead of just sitting still. I am not making any special appeals of any kind except this: I would appeal to your heart in behalf of the Africans who sent us home with this message: "Oh, Donas, will you please tell the people in America what we need." If you could see how the African looks to you for all that he has through God. To the African you are his parents: you are the one who has given him his start, you are the one who has brought him up in the knowledge of the Lord. His thanks will be to you for his salvation and all that he has that is good in life.

I would like to read a letter which we received shortly before we left that may express to you better than I can say it the

value of mission education for the African. We called for pledges from our students that they might with willing and obedient hearts give themselves to the service of Christ. The boy who wrote this letter is 22 years old. He is completing his education in senior primary school this year. He wants to be a teacher. He is one of the finest Christian boys we know and this is what he says:

Please, Madam, there are no doubts in me in giving my name to being in the Christian Endeavor Society for there is nothing in this evil world which is of great value more than to do the work of the Lord. Today I promise Him that I shall do anything which He will want me to do. I shall read the Bible and try to bring others into His Kingdom. I know that I am a man born of the flesh and it is likely for me to fail in some points, but still I shall seek the power of the precious Lamb and of the Holy Ghost, the Comforter, in order to enable me to do and to keep all the promises which I have made in the sight of the Lord this day. Thank you very much and may God help me to do all these things so that wherever I shall go I must not forget these promises which I have made.

Your student, Richman.

If we can have a response like this from an African student in the school, how much more should each one of us respond in our hearts and pledge to God that to the best of our ability we will do all that we can to bring others into His Kingdom.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

PAINT ROCK, ALA — The first half of the year 1957 has been a busy six months for us with normal activities of the church: Sabbath school teachers ever alert to make their classes more interesting, instructive, and impressive in the love of Jesus; soul-stirring messages by our pastor; pastoral visits and counsel to inquiring individuals; and visits by members to the sick, invalids, and needy of the community. Hundreds of articles of clothing (sent us by our sister churches) have been altered, remodeled, mended, and distributed to needy families whose very expressions speak deep gratitude. For these benefits we are deeply grateful to those who have contributed them. Also our hearts go out in loving appreciation for gifts of cash sent to us.

Our pastor continues with the radio broadcasts, the past few weeks discussing

reasons or excuses often given for observing the first day as the Sabbath or rest and worship day instead of the seventh day. We pray and hope that these broadcasts may be as "bread cast upon the waters."

Our Vacation Bible School was held July 8 to 19 with Miss Joyce McWilliam of Milton, Wis., director, and Miss Pearl Hibbard of Hammond, La., assistant — having also three other teachers. Students enrolled numbered 103 with the average attendance around 70. We feel deeply grateful for the way these teachers gave of themselves to make our Bible School a success, and for their Christian conviction which surely was the medium for planting seeds that will "bring forth fruit in due season." We long to see more young people of such consecration and talent — talents not "hidden in a napkin" or buried. Brother Soper gave Bible quizzes on most of the days of the Bible School and they were of great interest and help to the children.

The climax of our first half year was experienced in our evangelistic services, the speaker for each evening being Brother Carlton W. Wilson of Cheltenham, Pa. — truly a soldier of the Cross — a man of deep spiritual consecration and unwavering faith. His messages were spiritual feasts. Souls were stirred, the faith and zeal of our membership strengthened, and many made to realize the vastness of the harvest before us. People who never attended church anywhere came to these services — one man and his whole family of seven for five services in succession. We feel deeply thankful that Brother Wilson was sent to us. It is impossible to express the blessings we feel were brought to us.

These meetings closed on Sunday evening, July 28. On the following Sabbath, August 3, lunch was served at the church to 55 people, after which a train of cars drove to the river about two miles down the highway for a baptismal service. Baptism was administered to four candidates who afterward presented themselves for membership in our church group along with three others by testimony. Five of these are from the old (now extinct) Attalla Church community. We rejoice for these precious new members in our fel-

lowship, and desire to be a help to them as they will surely be to us. Two of these are grandsons of Brother A. T. Bottoms who confessed the Savior at the close of the first week of Bible School.—Correspondent.

BERLIN, N. Y. — On May 12, a group from our church had dinner with the Schenectady group in their new church. It happened to be the 92nd birthday of Mrs. Wing, who was able to be present.

In April we enjoyed a visit from the Conference president and family, and the Everett Dickinson family, who brought us an inspiring message and enjoyable music.

On June 29, we were very happy when eight young people and two adults were baptized and joined the church together with two adults who joined by letter.

On Friday, August 2, Joan and Beth, our Nyasaland missionary nurses, were with us, and some of our members accompanied them to Schenectady the next morning. Beth gave a most interesting talk about their work and conditions in the mission, and together they showed slides portraying the mission, groups of the people, and some of the diseases they have to treat. We were also glad to welcome Mr. and Mrs. Harold Pearson of Amsterdam, and a Palmer family from Brookfield.

Lois Burdick of Ashaway has been visiting Eunice Maxson and assisting in the local Vacation Bible School conducted by the three Protestant churches. The school had an attendance of over 100 with ten from our group.

New hymnbooks have been purchased and we are learning some new hymns. Under the direction of Eunice Maxson, a junior choir has been formed.

— Correspondent.

"There is no doubt that we are experiencing the great religious renaissance in American history. However, there seems to be little evidence of increased personal morality, though there seem to be more and more encouraging signs of a deepening here and there and of a willingness for total commitment to Christ as personal Lord and Savior in many individual lives." — Dr. Billy Graham.

OUR WORLD MISSION

Statement of Denominational Treasurer, July 31, 1957

		Receipts					
	July	Budget 10 mos.	Non- Budget 10 mos.		July	Budget 10 mos.	Non- Budget 10 mos.
Balance July 1	\$ 60.56			Los Angeles	146.00	1,282.33	
Adams Center	104.05	863.33		Los Angeles, Christ's		100.00	5.00
Albion	117.86	522.60		Lost Creek		880.00	4.50
Alfred, 1st	244.12	3,832.81	85.00	Marlboro	667.06	2,697.42	
Alfred, 2nd		1,044.14		Middle Island	22.00	187.00	
Associations and groups	41.28	2,588.33		Milton	569.21	5,312.44	
Battle Creek	573.67	4,856.69	413.00	Milton Junction	101.10	1,496.95	
Bay Area		55.12		New Auburn		64.09	
Berlin		489.72		New Orleans	28.75	28.75	
Boulder	48.35	486.45	25.00	North Loup		380.18	
Brookfield, 1st	45.00	292.74		Nortonville	130.32	711.62	
Brookfield, 2nd	215.43	345.03		Paint Rock		137.00	
Buffalo	84.00	229.00		Pawcatuck		3,550.43	77.65
Chicago	472.62	1,529.62		Plainfield	237.37	4,046.74	124.00
Daytona Beach		511.29		Putnam County		105.00	
Denver		454.39		Richburg	73.00	519.80	20.00
De Ruyter	71.77	678.77		Ritchie	40.00	197.00	
Dodge Center	182.97	685.42		Riverside		2,154.35	100.00
Edinburg	15.00	311.10		Roanoke	12.00	237.00	
Farina		370.00	8.50	Rockville	20.55	202.01	
Fouke	81.87	221.97		Salem		906.76	
Friendship	28.00	247.50		Salemville		78.97	
Hammond	28.65	108.65		Schenectady	15.00	202.89	
Hebron, 1st		258.57	15.29	Shiloh	358.65	3,985.75	
Hopkinton, 1st	123.25	1,328.90		Stonefort		75.85	
Hopkinton, 2nd	30.00	111.00		Syracuse		50.00	
Independence	44.00	901.00	33.00	Texarkana	5.00	24.16	
Individuals	22.50	2,768.50	2.00	Twin Cities	38.43	78.75	
Irvington	250.00	650.00		Verona	162.75	1,443.14	40.50
Jackson Center		40.00		Walworth	56.20	182.20	
Kansas City	35.00	285.00		Washington	40.00	344.05	
Little Genesee		486.22		Waterford	90.84	644.16	65.01
Little Rock		12.00		White Cloud	135.63	469.11	19.60
					\$5,869.81	\$60,342.46	\$1,038.05

Disbursements		
	Budget (Designated & Undesignated)	Non- Budget Gifts
Missionary Society	\$2,436.21	\$ 54.02
Tract Society	351.90	
Bd. of Christian Education	606.90	
Women's Society	87.10	
Historical Society	127.50	
Ministerial Retirement	737.18	
Ministerial Training	607.90	
S. D. B. Building	51.00	
General Conference	657.90	
World Fellowship & Service	49.30	
Salem College		10.00
Oneida Valley Nat. Bank	.65	
	\$5,713.29	\$ 64.02
Balance, July 1	90.75	

Comparative Figures	
Current annual budget	\$95,469.50
Treas.' budget receipts in 10 mo.	60,342.46
Boards' budget receipts*	5,759.98
Approx. 10 mo. budget total	\$66,102.44
Amount required next 2 months	\$29,367.06
Ave. monthly requirement next 2 mo.	14,683.53
Budget receipts in July	5,745.23
Percent of budget elapsed	83.33
Per cent of budget raised to date	69.35
Approx. budget shortage to date	\$15,914.77
* This is an approximate amount of budget gifts received directly by our boards, according to the latest figures reported from the board treasurers to the executive secretary.	
Olin C. Davis, Treasurer.	
Verona, N. Y.	

The Sabbath Recorder



Rev. Earl Cruzan is the president of the 1958 General Conference to be held at California Baptist Theological Seminary at Covina, California (located midway between Riverside and Los Angeles), August 11-16.

Theme: One in Christ — Forward in Growth.
 "... we are laborers together with God."