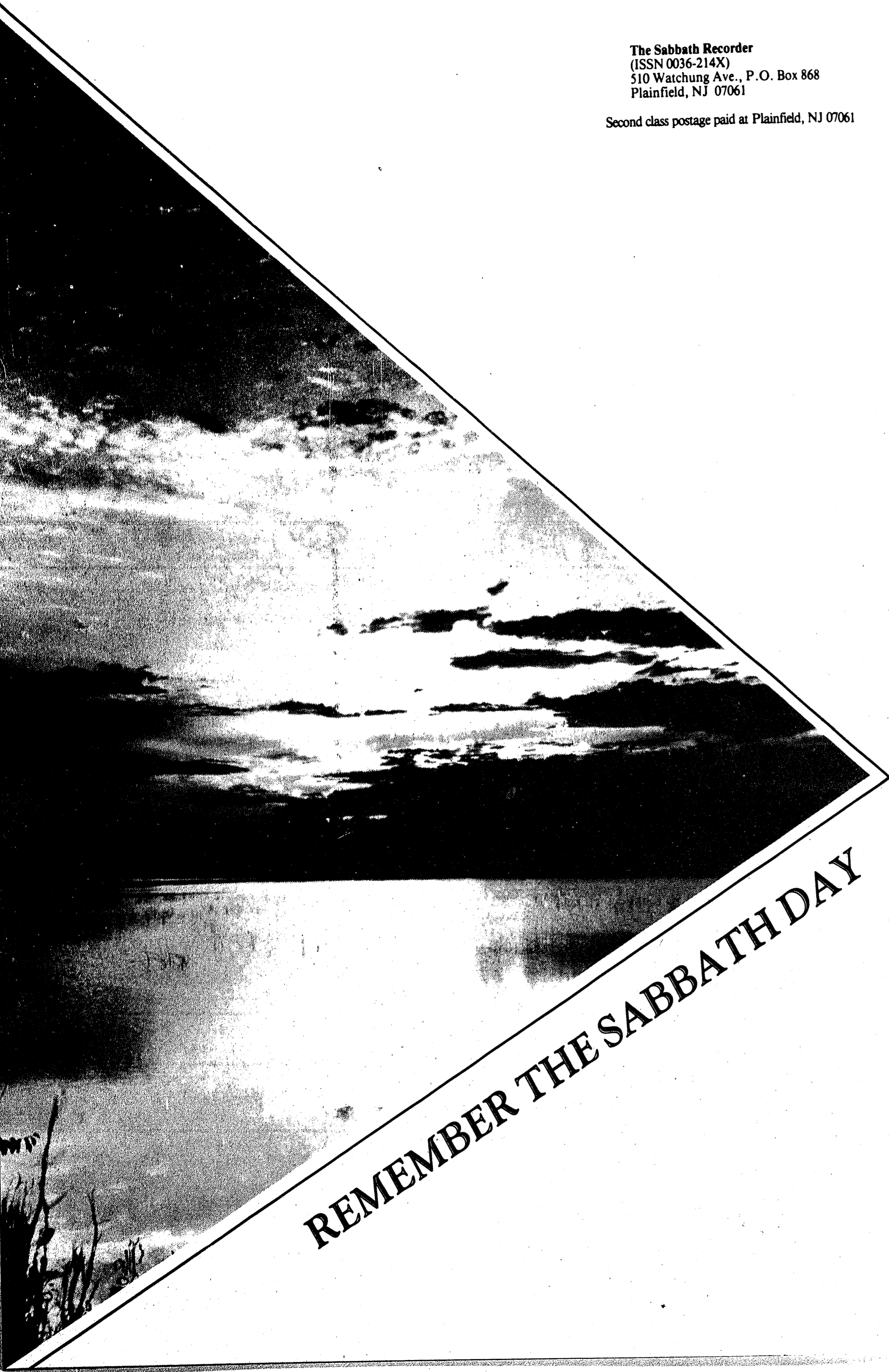


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REMEMBER THE SABBATH DAY

THE SABBATH

OUR 137th YEAR

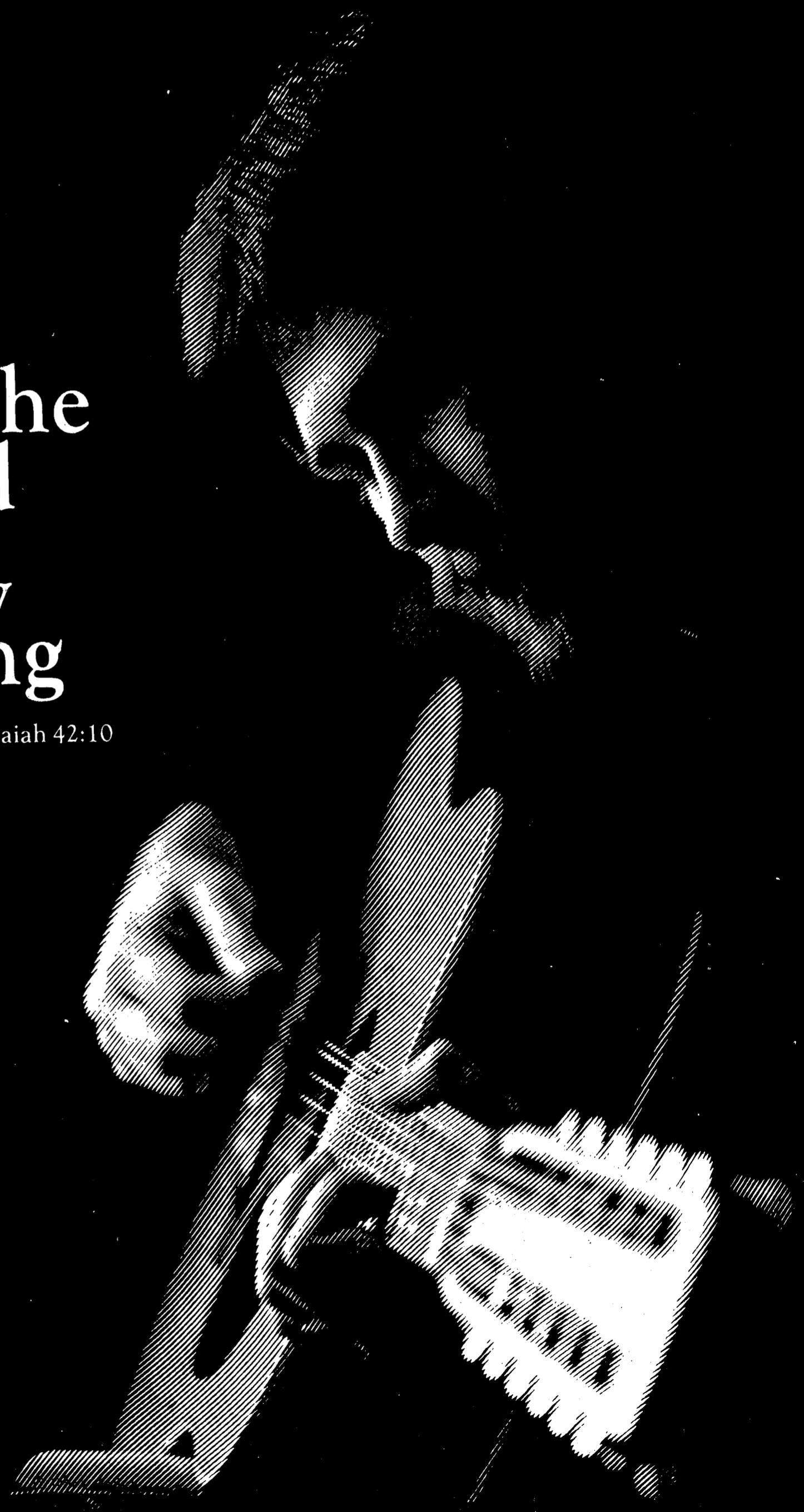
# RECORDER

SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST

MARCH 1981

Sing  
unto the  
Lord  
a  
new  
song

Isaiah 42:10



# FEATURES

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This special theme section of the *Sabbath Recorder* was edited by the Rev. Larry Graffius of White Cloud, MI, and soon-to-be pastor of the church in North Loup, NE. We appreciate the fine work he did in making this issue "special." -Editor

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## The Sabbath Recorder

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### DENOMINATIONAL DATELINE

April 12  
Memorial Fund Trustees  
Plainfield, NJ

April 19  
American Sabbath Tract Society  
Plainfield, NJ

Board of Christian Education  
Alfred, NY

April 26  
SDB Missionary Society  
Westerly, RI

### GENERAL CONFERENCE

August 2-8, 1981  
Salem, West Virginia

### DELMER VAN HORN 1911-1981

A Memorial Fund to provide scholarships for Camp Joy has been established to honor Delmer Van Horn. Contributions should be sent to Lost Creek Seventh Day Baptist Church (Post Office Box 241, Lost Creek, WV 26385) and designated for this purpose. □

Therefore, if any man  
be in Christ, he is a new  
creature: old things  
are passed away;  
behold, all  
things are  
become  
new.

11 Cor. 5:17



photo by Dale Cruzan, White Cloud, MI

# THE UNIQUENESS OF RE-CREATION

**unique** (yō-nēk') adj. 1. one and only; sole 2. without like or equal 3. very unusual

In an age of Xerox copiers and mass duplication, of Quick Print and cloning, it is of great psychological and spiritual value to us as Christians to be reminded that we are something very special. In spite of the fact that I may be eating the 24 billionth McDonald's burger, as a child of God I am a unique creation. Not only that, I am a most unique re-creation. Try as they may, scientists will never clone a Christian, much less make a Xerox copy of one. There is this very basic uniqueness about being "born again" that is simply "without like or equal" and is absolutely nontransferable!

As a pastor, I am constantly on the alert for new, innovative and stimulating illustrations for spiritual truths. I enjoy a good story or piece of information which can be used as a parallel or an analogy to relate a concept from God's Word. There is one specific point, however, for which I have never found an adequate illustration, parallel or analogy; namely, regeneration.

"Therefore, if any one is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has passed away, behold, the new has come" (2 Cor. 5:17).

In all of nature, science, literature, the arts or any other source there is not to be found that which can adequately illustrate what it means to become a "new creation"; to be "born again." Contrary to the popular children's song, Bullfrogs and Butterflies have not been born again an one can readily see. The tadpole obviously passes through several growth stages of unusual appearance. The caterpillar on his way to becoming a butterfly does not die and come to life again but merely exists in a dormant, yet very growing changing state until it emerges from the cocoon. Neither is actually reborn as we are!

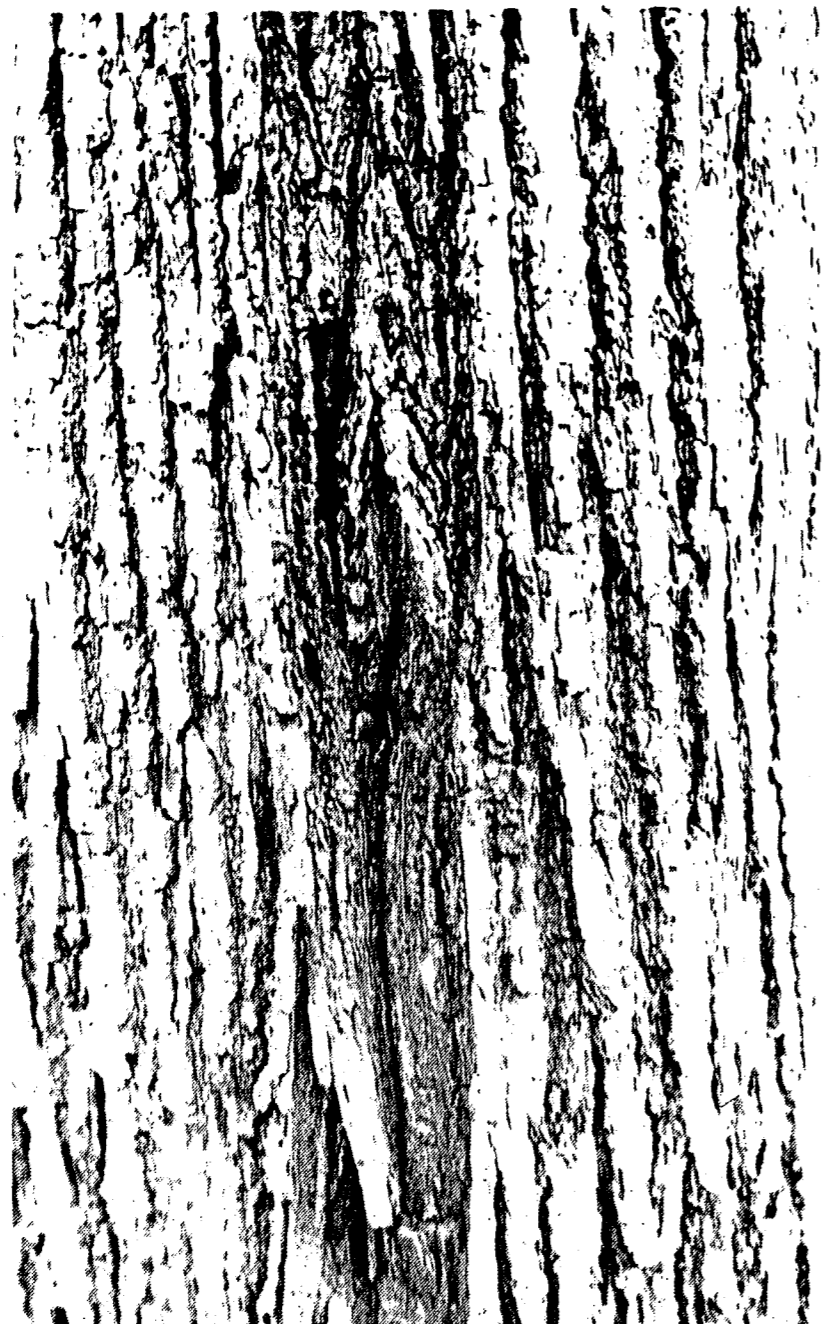


photo by Dale Cruzan, White Cloud, MI

Perhaps the closest approximation I have discovered is the *iberivillea sonora*, a form of green plant which can exist in a state of suspended growth for up to seven years. With no water or nourishment of any kind, even after six years and more this plant can again begin the growing, reproducing, life sustaining processes. But after seven years this revitalization can no longer occur. Thus it would appear that rather than being dead and born again, it could simply be said that the *iberivillea sonora* takes up to seven years to die! (This by the way, has rich sermonic implications in a number of other contexts!)

Unique. As a born again, re-created child of God we are the only creature of our kind! We are "peculiar" in more than one sense of the word! Not odd balls, but individuals; specialized persons of our Master's workmanship.

sons of our Master's workmanship.

Furthermore, the uniqueness of our new nature is rooted in and founded upon the uniqueness of Christ's resurrection. Nothing has occurred in all of history before or since the resurrection of Christ which could be compared to that one earth shattering event. It too was one of a kind. Because that single phenomenon occurred, we too are born to new life!

"We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his." (Romans 6:4,5)

When Jesus comes and takes control of someone's life it simply defies definition, explanation or comparison! As the following testimonies will clearly show, there is nothing else like it in all the world! □

-Rev. Larry Graffius has recently become pastor of the Seventh Day Baptist Church of North Loup, Nebraska.

# INSPIRED

I first came to know Christ through a wonderful Christian father and mother, who raised me in a Christian home and in a good Christian church, the Seventh Day Baptist Church of White Cloud. When I was near the age of twelve, I came to know Christ and was baptized by Pastor Orville Babcock. I continued growing in my faith, in my church, but I was not really "turned on" to Jesus Christ as I am now.

I completed my high school years and resisted temptations that confronted me. I went to college for two years and again resisted temptations put before me. Then I was drafted into the service. I was a medic in the Army and spent thirteen and a half months in Viet Nam. I was approached there by drugs, marijuana and different things. I was tempted many times by the devil to go out with the ladies of the night, but I resisted the temptation. I served my time and returned to the place where I was raised.

I felt I was still a Christian, but my life was not really inspired, nor was I an active Christian. Several years passed and I stayed on a plateau. Then our church was without a pastor for several years. I started to stray from God and the activities of the church. If I felt like going to church I would; if I didn't feel like getting up, I wouldn't. God was about number three priority in my life. I was really falling away.

Then our church put out a call to Pastor Larry Graffius, who accepted the call and came to White Cloud and started his ministry with our church. At this time, a very dramatic change came into my life. At this time, a "Paul" came into my life. We started a discipleship training program and this "Paul" started to train four of us to become disciples, to change our lives and to really come to know our Lord. We studied the Word of God, we fellowshiped together, we grew in Christ and we grew in our relationship with each other. At the same time, I got involved in a new business, part-time and incidental to my regular job. This business was one where my precious wife and I could make a joint effort together. Before this, I was going my way with various activities in the community and she was going her way or staying home and being bored. We got into this business and we then had a joint goal in life, something to work for together. Not only as husband and wife, but as a family.

Consequently our ties as a family started to grow. Our relationship as husband and wife grew. Our relationship with our children was strengthened. Therefore, I had a compatible relationship between

our new found business and my discipleship training. They just led me down the path together; neither opposing the other, but both went hand in hand leading me to Christ and strengthening my ties with my church family. This "Paul" really helped me grow in faith, fortifying my life in Christ. This "Paul", better known to others as Pastor Larry, is where I attribute my life in Christ.



photo by Dale Cruzan, White Cloud, MI

I began to read books and study the Word of God, something I hadn't done in the past. Therefore, I couldn't really be a strong disciple of Christ because I did not study God's Word. Now I have read at least eight books in the past year, which was a big step for me. I've read books on positive thinking, family life, and books that have helped me in my spiritual life.

It's things like this that convince me that God is working in my life and that God introduced me to a business that would go hand in hand with the change that was coming in my life, through my discipleship training. Praise God! I have really been turned on to Christ in the last year and pray to Him that He will help me go out into this world and help me to transform it back to the Christian way. □

-Sam Cruzan

-Sam and his wife are members of the White Cloud, MI, church. Sam is the father of two children, a city councilman, fire department leader, Amway distributor and is employed as a foreman at North American Refractories of White Cloud.

# COMPLETELY REDESIGNED

In my life as a child the only time I attended church was when friends of the family would take us. Each summer my sisters and I would attend Bible School. As I approached my teens, I think this was one of the most difficult times of my life. With six children in the family, personal times with my parents seemed few and far between. You received attention if you excelled in school or our hobbies—horses; if you didn't, you weren't trying hard enough. I had feelings of rejection and unacceptance. No matter how I tried, the job just wasn't good enough. I really tried hard, but I ended up turning to my friends. No matter what it was, I did it, to receive recognition and acceptance from them. These things I know now were wrong, but then it was the way I went.

After graduation I went to work, and it was alright, but I was so alone and still searching. For what, I wasn't sure, but anything was better than my life then.

One evening as my sister and I were eating at a restaurant, I met a man who at that point changed my life. He accepted me as I was. As we dated I discovered many things about him. I had always thought him to be shy, but with me he was strong. I thought he and his family had money, but they are just ordinary people. He was always gentle, kind and loving; he made me feel I was very im-



photo by Dale Cruzan, White Cloud, MI

## ACCEPTED

portant in his life. We fell in love and were married.

I came to a point in my life where I had some crucial choices to make. Through Dale I had returned to attending church. Through fellowship from church members and family and their relationship with Christ I began to feel that this was how I wanted to live. I became more attentive to sermons in church and Bible study, thus accepting Christ as my Savior and being baptized.

But that wasn't the end of it. I felt after baptism that was it. But as time goes on through musical witnessing and learning of God's word and His plan for us, His children, I have discovered for the first time who I am, where I am going as a person, wife, mother, and having a true realization of what my purpose is through Christ. I am strong and confident of myself. I know what my abilities are and am discovering where to apply them. All this came from my love, faith and acceptance of Christ as my Savior. As each day goes by, I know He's with me, and no matter what comes or how bad it seems, I know He's always there. This is what I never had before and now I know I could only have through Jesus! □

-Carol Cruzan

-Carol is the wife of Dale Cruzan of White Cloud, MI, and the mother of two boys. She was recently employed as a teacher's aid, working with learning disabled children.

How has Christ changed my life? In asking this question you assume that, before receiving Christ, I had a certain lifestyle, values, ambitions, and expectations—or lack of them, and that upon receiving Christ these things were either exchanged, altered or varied to one degree or another. In my case that assumption is absolutely correct. Not only was my life changed, it was completely redesigned and redirected. But changed from what you ask? Let's start at the beginning.

Up until even my mid-teens, my life was greatly affected by the teachings of Christ, but not by Christ Himself. My strong Christian family along with our loving church family seemed to have me headed in the right direction down that long, narrow road. However, as I began to make my own decisions in choosing new friends and activities, the road became broader and wider all the time. By that I mean my interests, along with those of my friends, turned toward self and of seeking our own pleasures. We began to cheat, to lie, and to steal...cigarettes, booze, eventually drugs. Anything to have a good time, regardless of how it affected others. These things didn't just happen all at once, but slowly and gradually, until they were not just a part of our lifestyle, they were our lifestyle. We were now well on our way. Racing headlong down that broad, wide road straight to destruction.

By the time I was 21 I found myself alone and empty. Almost totally alienated from my parents and family. Disillusioned by the false promises of peace and security so freely offered by a corrupt and dying world whose only god was that of self-satisfaction. And sure, I accepted all those fleshly pleasures the world offered, thinking, "Man, this is really where it's at." Yet finding myself nowhere and with nothing. No meaning or purpose in life. No lasting satisfaction, no peace or real joy. More than once I found myself in jail. I just didn't know where to turn for the answers that brought meaning to life. The answers that I was so obviously unable to find on my own.

Then one night, after I had been drinking, I agreed to talk with our pastor. He told me of how Jesus loved me and gave His life for me, so that I might have eternal life. I even prayed a prayer, asking God to forgive me and help me. I certainly felt better but something was still missing. In just a couple of days I sunk back into the same sins that so long had been a part of my life. Only now I was really miserable. Knowing that the way I was living was not right, but powerless to break or even resist the grip that sin had on my life.

Then about two weeks later, a good friend from church called me and asked if I'd like to go to a prayer meeting he was attending that night. My

original plans were to go to a bar, but for some reason I said I would go. Well, when we got there I could see the love of God shining from their faces—all seven or eight of them. I know they had something I didn't and that they weren't going through the same things I was. Right then and there I literally fell on my knees and cried out to God, that if He wanted me to live as a Christian should live, He was going to have to give me something more than I had. The people then prayed for me. It was at that moment that I was "born from above" (Jn. 3:3), and "made a new creature in Christ" (2 Cor. 5:17). God's precious Holy Spirit came upon me in a most complete and wonderful way. He filled my whole being with His peace, His joy, His love, His fulfillment! It was wonderful beyond description! For the first time I could go home at night and sleep like a baby without passing out from drugs or alcohol. For the first time it didn't matter what happened to me, I knew my life was in the Lord's hands and I knew that I would spend eternity with Him. I had power to tell my friends that I had decided to follow Jesus. And perhaps as important as anything, He gave me power and victory over the habits and sins that previously had controlled my life. Praise the Lord!

Now that doesn't mean I suddenly became perfect or never sinned again. It just simply means that Jesus Christ set me free from the bondage of serving sin and death, and that He liberated me to obediently and victoriously follow Him and His Word. It's been a long, sometimes arduous growing experience—and still is. Yet God has been faithful "to keep that which I've committed" (2 Tim. 1:12), and to "continue His good work in me" (Phil. 1:6).

Neither has the joy or blessing of God worn off in these last seven years since meeting Him. He's just as real, just as personal, just as precious as the first night I met Him. Certainly there are times when I don't feel as close to God as at others, yet I know He's always there. And as I'm able to more fully yield my life to Him, He becomes even more personal, more real, more a trusted friend than ever before. And so He wants to be with anyone and everyone who will simply come to Him by faith.

Has Christ changed my life? Once I was lost, but now I am found. Once I was blind, but now I see. Once I was dead but now am alive, living eternally! □

-Barry Clapper

-Barry and his wife, Risa, live in Martinsburg, PA, and are members of the Salemville German Seventh Day Baptist Church. Many will remember Barry from the year he spent with the Light Bearers for Christ (1975). He then served as interim pastor of the Paint Rock, AL, church. Barry is now an independent building contractor.

# STRAIGHTENED OUT

Ordinarily I would have thought I was a Christian, because I was born and raised as a Christian, I had good Christian teaching, and I felt I was doing what Jesus expected me to do. I did right things, and I thought I was a real good Christian. I did do some things which I thought were wrong at the time, but I never really asked God for forgiveness when I did wrong. I would go forward to altar calls, but they must not have been fully successful.

I started to go to Bible studies and read the Bible because I felt that something was missing in my life. The more I read and studied, the more I knew I was just a surface Christian.

Then one day God spoke to me. I was all confused and scared. I mean really scared. For three days I knew I had to do something. So I finally got to talk to our minister, and he helped me get my life straight. I told him all that was in my heart. I finally opened up the door of my heart to Jesus and asked Him to come into my heart. This is when I started the Decision to Discipleship study and I knew this was the way God wanted me to go to be His disciple.

I do know I still have some problems that are not right with God. But I pray that someday those sins will be far away from me. I feel now that I have Jesus in my heart because I have learned to pray and have been more at ease to talk about God to others. I have become more humble and I now think of others, though that still has to be worked on. I have been learning more about what God wants me to do and I am learning day by day to be more obedient to Him. □

-Shirley Cruzan

Shirley is a housewife and member of the White Cloud, MI, church.

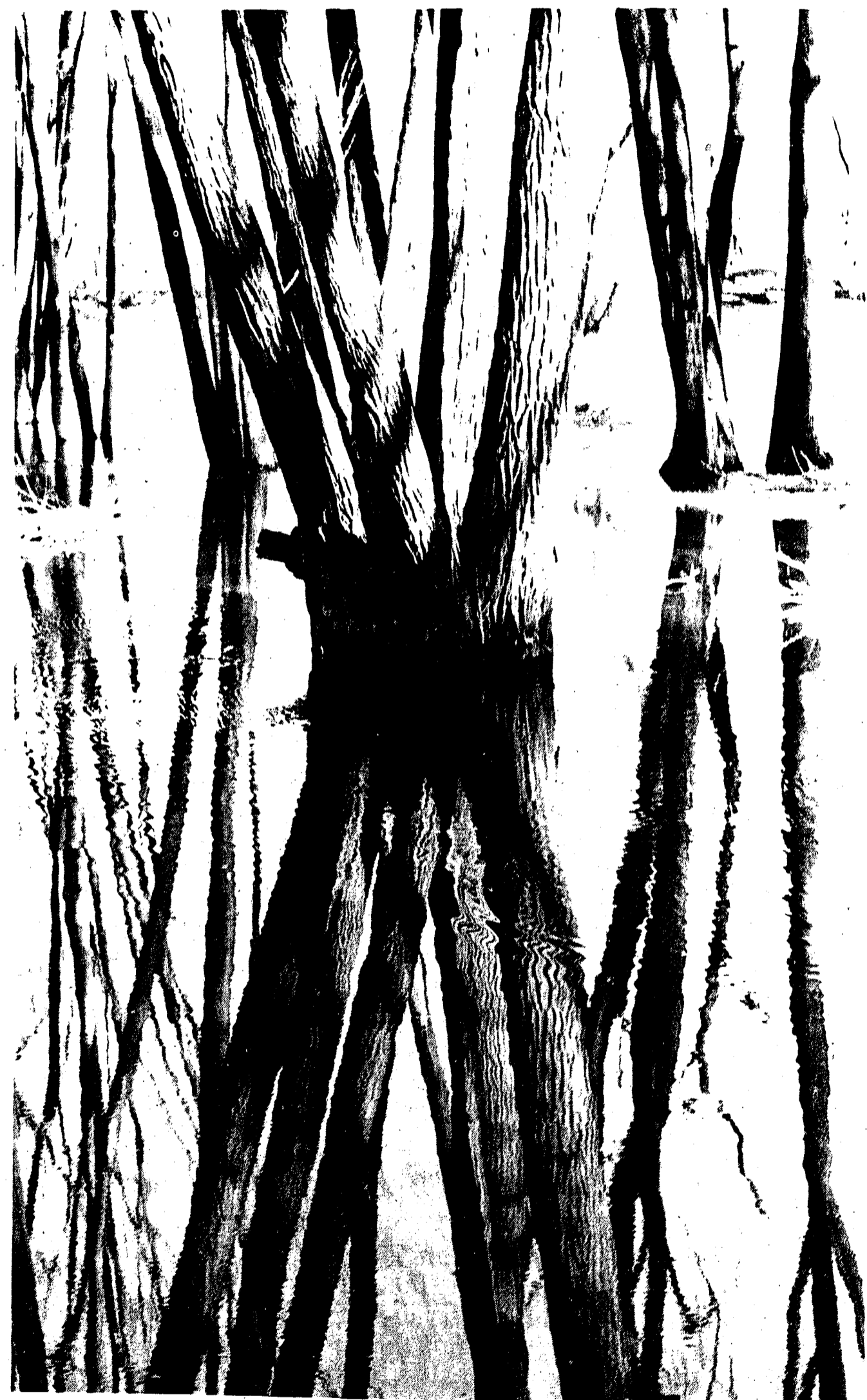


photo by Dale Cruzan, White Cloud, MI

# LEARNING

There have been many things that have helped me in my spiritual growth. One is my family, who has built the foundation. Since the building of the foundation was a slow process, I didn't always recognize it. Other times I didn't want to recognize it. I looked at non-Christians around me and saw how happy they seemed and saw how unhappy I was. It just didn't seem fair. If Christianity caused unhappiness and trials then I didn't want to be a Christian.

Somehow, the Lord got me to go to the Basic Youth Conflict Seminars. There I learned that God lets good and bad things happen to both Christians and non-Christians. The difference is that when Christians have trials, God is using them to produce character and Christlikeness in the person. "God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose" so that we may "become conformed to the image of His Son..." (Rom. 8:28, 29).

I learned many things at the Basic Youth Seminar, and it helped turn me around and to start heading in the right direction. The Lord taught me the importance of forgiving others. If I didn't forgive, I would become bitter, and this would block off my communication with the Lord. So the closer I got to Him, the easier it got to sense when there was bitterness or another sin in my life. When the Lord removed His peace from me, I'd know something was wrong, so I'd quickly ask forgiveness, and the peace would return.

The Lord also taught me self-acceptance. I was made in His image, and for a very special purpose. He made my outward appearance in order to reflect my inward character. He's the creator and I'm the creation. He knew what He was doing, so who am I to argue with Him?

I went to SCSC the summer after attending the B.Y.C. seminar. The Lord taught me many things and helped me grow from experiences I had. One thing I learned was that I, with God's help, could love anyone, even those whom I found humanly impossible to love.

Another thing was that God is always there for me, and is willing to listen. Before SCSC, I had always taken my problems and hurts to my parents. Now that I was away from them, I took them to the Lord instead. I found that He always had time to listen to me and could comfort me, point out my faults and give me peace, strength, answers to my questions and solutions to my problems. No human could ever do all that!

When I went back to school that year, I gradually began to backslide a little. But even then, the Lord

was taking care of me and patiently waiting for me to give my whole life to Him again.

In the second semester of that year, I met a Christian girl at school. Through fellowship with her, my Christian friends at church, and my family, I gave my life back to the Lord.

That summer I went into SCSC again. It was harder than the year before, but I learned a lot more. During training we learned that God is our provider and He gives us everything that we need. Also that "it is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35). If we give, "God is able to make it up to you by giving you everything you need and more, so that there will not only be enough for your own needs, but plenty left over to give joyfully to others" (2 Cor. 9:8).

Often times that summer, I became unhappy and dissatisfied, so the Lord told me that the only way to have joy was to put Jesus first in everything, others second, and myself last. "In everything you do, put God first, and He will direct you and crown your efforts with success" (Prov. 3:6).

After that summer was over, I went to college. I found it a little difficult to adjust at first and kept getting doubts about whether I was really where God wanted me. One time when I was really loaded down, the Lord reminded me that He was still there and would listen to me. He showed me a beautiful passage in Jeremiah (vs. 11-13). "For I know the plans I have for you says the Lord. They are plans for good and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. In those days when you pray, I will listen. You will find me when you seek me, if you look for me in earnest." That was just what I needed to hear and from then on, I knew I was where the Lord wanted me.

The Lord has been so real and close to me since I've been in college. He's shown me part of what His will is for my life and given me many new answers and insight into His Word. He's supplied for all my needs and given me an abundance of love, joy and friends. Sometimes I'm so filled I feel as if I could burst!

The more I study God's Word and get to know Him better, the more I want to totally submit my life to Him. When I do trust Him with every area of my life, He is able to work out His perfect will for me and bless me and make me successful. Praise the Lord!! □

-Joni Burdick

Joni Burdick is from Los Angeles, CA, and has served two summers in SCSC. She is presently a student at Houghton College, Houghton, NY.

## The Great Good Shepherd

Ninety-nine in His fold ~ one must be lost!

"The Good Shepherd" grieves over that which is tossed  
Alone and afraid on dark paths, led astray,  
Among wild animals seeking their prey.  
Exposed to the cold, wind steals as a thief  
Poor bleating lamb lost in regions beneath.

Heartbroken, "The Master" must go to seek  
Pardoned life for this stray, wandering sheep.  
Fearful dangers ahead would surely be found  
As he gropes through darkness to stumble around.  
In deep wilderness he parts from the ninety-nine,  
Trusting God's protection and love divine.

Steep valleys with endless paths seem long,  
His legs grow weary, although quite strong.  
At last ~ a cry leads to the lost "lamb child"  
Soon tenderly soothed in His bosom bowed;  
Moved with compassion the worn lamb is laid  
On Shepherd's tired shoulders - no longer afraid.

Restored to the fold with those of its kind  
Both calm and content, green pastures to find.  
Loud calls to celebrate ring out like a bell  
Neighbors gather round - He's anxious to tell,  
"Lost lamb has been found, to you I employ  
God loves each one; let's praise Him with joy!"

This parable bears meaning you see...  
The "Good Shepherd" is God, little lamb is me  
Frightened and lost, wondering where to go;  
Found in hovering arms God let me know  
My sins are forgiven; all heaven doth sing  
One sinner repenteth, saved by the King.  
~ Risa Clapper

-Risa is the wife of Barry Clapper of Martinsburg, PA.



William—surrounded by his family.

by Jack Hummel

This is a story about a woman with a constitution so tough it wears like a diamond ring. This is a story about a little boy, 4½ years old, who has had eight or nine stays in the hospital, but has as much love to give as any normal child.

It is a story about a man who was a .300 hitter in his ballplaying days and is still leading the league in batting when it comes to taking care of his son. Even though he's legally blind.

This is the story of a small community that has provided the love and comfort and the money that has enabled a family to hang together on sheer guts and be able to say: "We thank God for what we have."

Maybe it should have been written before Thanksgiving. Maybe that it's in time for Christmas is enough.

His name is William.

He's 4½ years old now. He was born with severe brain damage. He will never be able to take care of himself.

He is the son of Sandy and Charley Lupton of Shiloh. But he's also known as a "town baby."

His mother believes she has heard him say "Dad" and "I love you" in garbled form on occasion. Otherwise, he cannot talk.

"We waited 18 months to get a smile of any kind," says Sandy Lupton. "You don't realize what a smile is worth until something like this happens."

## His Name Is William, His Family Is Shiloh

William has been in and out of hospitals for much of his life. He has a severe respiratory problem that leads to bronchitis and pneumonia attacks.

The kind that scare a mother and father half to death.

"A couple of times, we thought we were going to lose him," says Sandy Lupton. "But I like to say that he has a lot of Lupton in him."

All Sandy Lupton wants for Christmas is to have William home with the family.

"The cold weather is William's worst time," she explains. "We've spent so many holidays in the hospital. We were grateful to have him home at Thanksgiving."

Sandy and Charley Lupton took turns eating Thanksgiving dinner at their Aunt Katherine's house.

Charley Lupton is on total disability. He has sugar diabetes that has caused hemorrhaging in his eyes.

"He has tremendous patience when it comes to taking care of William," says Sandy. "Not many men would do all the things he does."

Sandy Lupton is a grateful woman.

She can talk forever about what the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Shiloh has done for her family. About the fund they've set up for William.

It's a fund that helps take care of the \$55 a month needed for the seizure medicine and the antibiotics. It bought the suction machine that is used daily.

Along with the March of Dimes and the Elks, it helped purchase the \$900 wheelchair for William.

"I thank God that we have the wonderful friends we have," stresses Sandy Lupton. "We can call on them at any time and they'll be there."

Charley Lupton played baseball with Claude McAllister on the old Shiloh team. McAllister remembers

the two-run homer he hit to beat Pennsville in 1965. He remembers how well he went to his left as a third baseman.

"But most of all, I remember that Charley was always there," said McAllister. "You know when you manage adults, you're sometimes lucky to wind up with nine players."

"When you're married, you have other commitments."

"You never had to worry about Charley. He took care of the commitments and he was always there."

He's still there although he lost his father a year ago. They were very close. Always traveled together.

Five years ago, he said he hoped he would be able to see his son.

"William keeps him busy," says Sandy. "Charley has always been an active person."

So Charley Lupton is still in the starting lineup.

Sandy's mother lives with the family and it enables her daughter to break free to take the other two children, ages 12 and 9, places.

"She can feed William," says Sandy. "And that's a big help."

William Lupton, the "town baby," is holding his own, his mother says.

"We have a lot of faith that God has a plan," she says. "That things will work out. I know a lot of our faith has come through the church family."

All she wants is the family to be together for Christmas.

"William has so much love to give," she repeats. "When you've been with him 4½ years, you know he knows a lot of what's going on."

If anybody asks you, the spirit of God is alive and well in Shiloh. □

-reprinted from the Bridgeton, NJ, Evening News, Dec. 2, 1980.



## NEW EXECUTIVE SECRETARY CHOSEN

### THE REV. DALE D. THORNGATE

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He holds degrees in counseling from the American University, and Business Administration from St. Benedict's College. He graduated from Methodist Theological Seminary of Ohio in 1978. He with his wife, Janet (Van Horn) have been active in denominational activities for several years.

The new Executive Secretary will begin working with Dr. Hurley on July 1 for a transitional period of time. □



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One of the valuable programs instituted through the Center has been the inclusion of spouses in seminars, retreats, and training sessions. Mrs. Barbara Saunders has been especially helpful in these programs and in counseling and helping wives to understand their roles in the ministry.

In addition to the Summer Institutes, Ministers' Conferences, Post-Conference Retreats and Weekend Seminars, Dean Saunders has traveled extensively to visit seminaries in the interest of the students and has visited new pastors in their new parishes. In a real sense he has been a "Pastor's Pastor."

Outstanding leadership has been demonstrated by the Dean as he has served on the General Council and helped to develop and write much of the material for the Decade of Discipleship, worked with the Ministerial Committee, helped to establish a good health and hospitalization insurance program for denominational personnel and ministers, and counseled with local churches and aided them in recruiting ministers.

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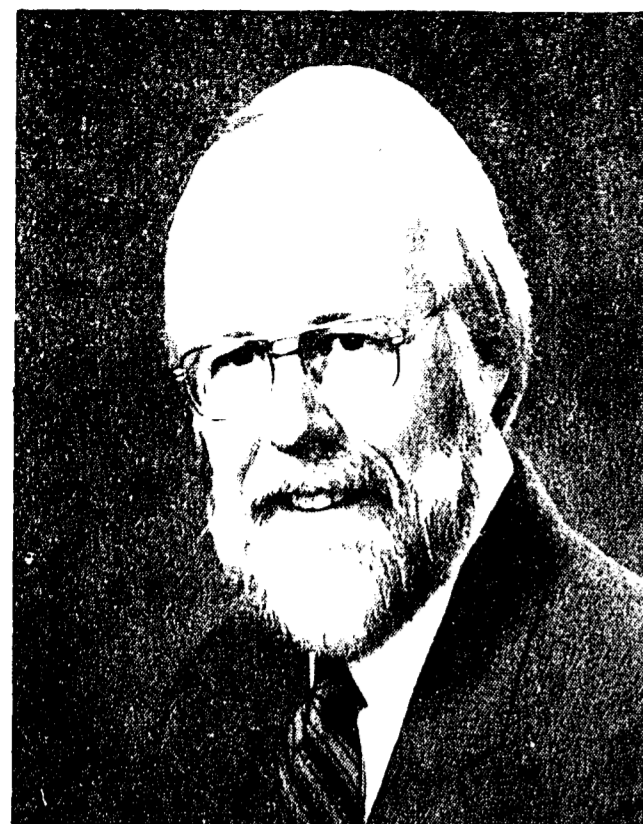
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by President Charles Graffius

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"How big and wide His vast domain  
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I shall never forget the view or the inspiration of that moment. Thank you, Lord, for making Yourself known to me. The trip back home to Auckland and the warm reception and hot soup in the Yaap Westerdal home was the end of a perfect day.

### A Maori Holiday

Wednesday was "shopping day" in Auckland. We visited many souvenir shops and ate in a downtown department store. On this day I learned about the "Maori Holiday." The Maori, or natives, are good workers but sometimes other things are just more important, so they take a day off for these more important things. That day was a Maori Holiday for Rebekah. (Anyone can take a "Maori Holiday.") Rebekah is the oldest daughter of my New Zealand family—a delightful young lady. I am glad she took a Maori Holiday so that I could learn to know her, to be with her, to walk beside her, and to laugh with her. She talks with wonder and excitement about some day coming to the United States. Perhaps one day I will be able to introduce her to you in person.

It was necessary to hurry home, for that night the young people were coming to the Barrar home for a meeting. Come they did, and fun we had. We ate, we sang songs (one that we will be singing next August at Conference), we shared stories, we played games, we did skits. With few exceptions, they know our songs, we know their stories, they play our games, we do their skits. News travels fast. It was an exciting time for me and I think for the young people, also. We closed with our circle, holding hands, and praying for each other. "Goodbyes" and hugs were exchanged as it was getting late.

On Thursday, Gale and Angela, who are Rebekah's younger sisters, took a Maori Holiday from school because it was very late when our young people's meeting ended the previous evening. They are delightful, obedient, and loving girls and they deserved a Maori Holiday. Gale and Angela had relinquished their beds for the guests during the Conference and the week after. It was a tremendous sacrifice for the entire Barrar family to make during this period with six or eight

guests in their home all of the time. Angela, too, wanted to come back to the United States with me. However, with the sheepskins and all of the other purchases, there just wasn't room for her in the suitcase. I praise the Lord for this family. My Heavenly Father knew just exactly what my needs were and where I needed to be. That is why he opened up the home and the hearts of the Barrars. We learned to love each other, but when God's love is added and shed abroad in our hearts, we are tied together very quickly.

My tenth day, Friday, dawned and as I looked out of my bedroom window, or Angela's window, I realized that I must take some pictures of the bay, or the inlet from the ocean that invades the front yard, the sheep on the hill between the house and the water, the early morning fog that would soon be gone, and the picturesque landscape that you must see and live in order to believe. That was my last day in New Zealand and there were many things I must discuss with Pastor Ron Barrar, now President Barrar, of the new Australasian Conference.

### How Can We Work Together?

He asked some very exciting questions, such as: "How can the United States and the Australasian Conferences work together in S.C.S.C. projects?" "Would it be possible for a Center on Ministry theological student to study in New Zealand and be a student pastor to an S.D.B. church there at the same time?" "What about "borrowing" an evangelist for several months to travel to our churches in New Zealand and Australia?" "Could the World Federation endorse printing Sabbath literature to be more effective witnesses, worldwide?" I have since relayed these questions to the appropriate people in the United States Conference. It is exciting just to dream of the possibilities of our working together on an international basis to lift up the name of Jesus Christ, which is above every name, according to Philipians 2:10.

I had a wonderful time riding back and forth to church and other places with Pastor Ron, discussing possibilities and future plans of the Australasian Conference. There is a tremendous challenge in Australasia, and Ron is capable of meeting that challenge. Maria, wife of Ron, and mother of the beautiful children that we have been talking about, is aptly described in Proverbs 31, verses 10 through 31. That passage of Scripture reveals her relationship to her husband and to her children, and as a wonderful hostess to the many guests that filled her home those July days of the First Australasian Conference. The last meal in the Barrar household on that Friday afternoon was a feast, a ceremony, a farewell, and a celebration—all rolled into one. After partaking a meal of New Zealand lamb, with a lot of mixed emotions on my part, I was ready to pack and leave for the airport.

At the airport yet another surprise awaited me. About twenty members of the body of Christ were gathering for the final hugs and "Goodbyes." It was a happy time and a sad time, but most of all it was a reassurance from God that His love is displayed by His children everywhere I go, and this was certainly no exception. I was reminded of the song that I learned in S.C.S.C. in the United States:

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I shall never forget the view or the inspiration of that moment. Thank you, Lord, for making Yourself known to me. The trip back home to Auckland and the warm reception and hot soup in the Yaap Westerdal house was the end of a perfect day.

### A Maori Holiday

Wednesday was "shopping day" in Auckland. We visited many souvenir shops and ate in a downtown department store. On this day I learned about the "Maori Holiday." The Maori, or natives, are good workers but sometimes other things are just more important, so they take a day off for these more important things. That day was a Maori Holiday for Rebekah. (Anyone can take a "Maori Holiday.") Rebekah is the oldest daughter of my New Zealand family—a delightful young lady. I am glad she took a Maori Holiday so that I could learn to know her, to be with her, to walk beside her, and to laugh with her. She talks with wonder and excitement about some day coming to the United States. Perhaps one day I will be able to introduce her to you in person.

It was necessary to hurry home, for that night the young people were coming to the Barrar home for a meeting. Come they did, and fun we had. We ate, we sang songs (one that we will be singing next August at Conference), we shared stories, we played games, we did skits. With few exceptions, they know our songs, we know their stories, they play our games, we do their skits. News travels fast. It was an exciting time for me and I think for the young people, also. We closed with our circle, holding hands, and praying for each other. "Goodbyes" and hugs were exchanged as it was getting late.

On Thursday, Gale and Angela, who are Rebekah's younger sisters, took a Maori Holiday from school because it was very late when our young people's meeting ended the previous evening. They are delightful, obedient, and loving girls and they deserved a Maori Holiday. Gale and Angela had relinquished their beds for the guests during the Conference and the week after. It was a tremendous sacrifice for the entire Barrar family to make during this period with six or eight

guests in their home all of the time. Angela, too, wanted to come back to the United States with me. However, with the sheepskins and all of the other purchases, there just wasn't room for her in the suitcase. I praise the Lord for this family. My Heavenly Father knew just exactly what my needs were and where I needed to be. That is why he opened up the home and the hearts of the Barrars. We learned to love each other, but when God's love is added and shed abroad in our hearts, we are tied together very quickly.

My tenth day, Friday, dawned and as I looked out of my bedroom window, or Angela's window, I realized that I must take some pictures of the bay, or the inlet from the ocean that invades the front yard, the sheep on the hill between the house and the water, the early morning fog that would soon be gone, and the picturesque landscape that you must see and live in order to believe. That was my last day in New Zealand and there were many things I must discuss with Pastor Ron Barrar, now President Barrar, of the new Australasian Conference.

### How Can We Work Together?

He asked some very exciting questions, such as: "How can the United States and the Australasian Conferences work together in S.C.S.C. projects?" "Would it be possible for a Center on Ministry theological student to study in New Zealand and be a student pastor to an S.D.B. church there at the same time?" "What about 'borrowing' an evangelist for several months to travel to our churches in New Zealand and Australia?" "Could the World Federation endorse printing Sabbath literature to be more effective witnesses, worldwide?" I have since relayed these questions to the appropriate people in the United States Conference. It is exciting just to dream of the possibilities of our working together on an international basis to lift up the name of Jesus Christ, which is above every name, according to Philippians 2:10.

I had a wonderful time riding back and forth to church and other places with Pastor Ron, discussing possibilities and future plans of the Australasian Conference. There is a tremendous challenge in Australasia, and Ron is capable of meeting that challenge. Maria, wife of Ron, and mother of the beautiful children that we have been talking about, is aptly described in Proverbs 31, verses 10 through 31. That passage of Scripture reveals her relationship to her husband and to her children, and as a wonderful hostess to the many guests that filled her home those July days of the First Australasian Conference. The last meal in the Barrar household on that Friday afternoon was a feast, a ceremony, a farewell, and a celebration—all rolled into one. After partaking a meal of New Zealand lamb, with a lot of mixed emotions on my part, I was ready to pack and leave for the airport.

At the airport yet another surprise awaited me. About twenty members of the body of Christ were gathering for the final hugs and "Goodbyes." It was a happy time and a sad time, but most of all it was a reassurance from God that His love is displayed by His children everywhere I go, and this was certainly no exception. I was reminded of the song that I learned in S.C.S.C. in the United States:

(Continued on page 30)

Jesus, thou divine companion, By thy lowly human birth,  
Thou hast come to join the workers, Burden bearers of the earth.  
Thou, the carpenter of Nazareth, Toiling for thy daily food,  
By thy patience and thy courage, Thou has taught us toil is good.

They who tread the path of labor Follow where thy feet have trod;  
They who work without complaining Do the holy will of God.  
Thou, the peace that passeth knowledge, Dwellst in the daily strife;  
Thou, the Bread of heaven, art broken In the sacrament of life.

Every task, however simple, Sets the soul that does it free;  
Every deed of love and kindness Done to man is done to thee,  
Jesus, thou divine companion, Help us all to work our best;  
Bless us in our daily labor, Lead us to our Sabbath rest. A-men.  
Henry van Dyke

"Will any one of you, who has a servant plowing or keeping sheep, say to him, 'Come at once and sit down at table'? Will he not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me, and gird yourself and serve me, till I eat and drink; and afterward you shall eat and drink'? Does he thank the servant because he did what was commanded? So you also, when you have done all that is commanded you, say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty.' "  
Luke 17:7-10

# VOCATIONS SABBATH

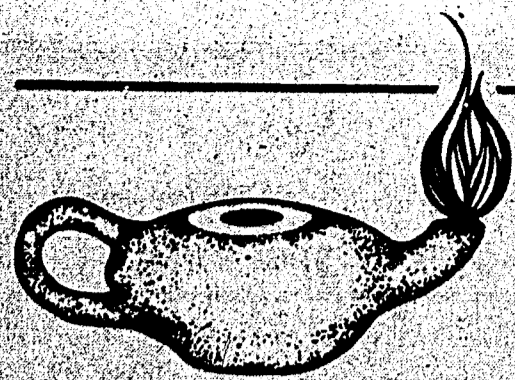
## MARCH 1981

Now to him who by the power at work within us  
is able to do far more abundantly  
than all that we ask or think,  
to him be glory in the church  
and in Christ Jesus  
to all generations,  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.  
Ephesians 3:20-21

**OUR FATHER**, we remember in prayer before you, all those who are making choices of life occupation and ask that they look to you for guidance in finding vocations which honor you by being of service to their fellowman.

We pray that those who have already chosen their life work be satisfied to give nothing but their best; that all who have received honor may be worthy of that honor.

Use each of us as channels through which men's needs may be met, that so losing ourselves we may find ourselves—through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. AMEN.



Thy Word is a light...

## BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Mrs. Mary Clare

### VOCATION:

### CHRISTIAN

LIVING A CHRISTIAN LIFE-STYLE ENCOMPASSES EVERY ASPECT OF LIFE IF WE ARE TO FULFILL TO THE UTMOST OUR PURPOSE HERE ON EARTH. God gave Moses guidelines for victorious living; let us look at them as a basis for a Christian life-style as a vocation.

**1. you shall have no other gods before me:** When you think of choosing your life's occupation do you assess the monetary rewards before thinking about the opportunity to give service to God and man in the work?

**2. you shall not make any graven image...you shall not serve them:** Do you have the image of social or political acclaim, bowing to the pressures of society to reach those goals?

**3. you shall not take the name of the lord your god in vain:** Are you a Christian in name only—saying the right words, appearing in church as the occasion demands but failing to show love to all people in all situations? Are you honest in all your dealings, an example for others to follow in Christian living?

**4. remember the sabbath day to keep it holy:** Have you really looked around at the vocational opportunities, willing to make necessary adjustments to be free to worship on the Sabbath? Do you worship and serve others on the Sabbaths you do have free?

**5. honor your father and mother:** Do you really listen to their advice? Do you think about their needs before your pleasure?

**6. you shall not kill:** Do you speak kindly, building the confidence and a feeling of self-worth of those around you? Many a spirit has been killed by unkind words and harsh treatment.

**7. you shall not commit adultery:** Do you think about the effect of your actions on the family who loves and believes in you? The fabric of family stability is torn when one member fails to live up to the trust placed in him.

**8. you shall not steal:** "How are we robbing you (God)? In your tithes and offerings. Bring full tithes into the storehouse,...I will open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing." Malachi 3:8,10.

**9. you shall not bear false witness against your neighbor:** Gossiping and tearing down another's work or character does not build up the character of the speaker.

**10. thou shall not covet:** By making the best use of your time and talents given by the Holy Spirit you have no need to take from another. "Give, and it will be given to you; good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap." Luke 6:38.

## FOCUS



### MISSIONS TODAY

● **CHURCH IN THE HOME!** A growing number of home meetings are being started. PTL! The Seattle, WA, church has a "Mission Fellowship" meeting in Algona, WA, (South King County). The Columbus, OH, church has a group meeting in Mt. Vernon, OH, for Sabbath School and Bible Study. The Paint Rock, AL, church has a meeting in Annison, AL. We feel there may be others but these have begun in January 1981.

● **SEOUL, KOREA:** Pastor Jin Sung Kim reports a Seventh Day Baptist leadership meeting in mid-February. Items on the agenda included the election of an executive committee and ordination of a pastor. "We have been holding regular meetings every Sabbath Day," Brother Kim writes.

● **BAY AREA, CA:** A new service designed to provide love and comfort to the lonely and disheartened who receive little or nothing from family and friends is called LITA (Love Is The Answer), of Contra Costa County. Sister Iris R. Shul heads this ministry which is carried on in nursing homes and hospitals as well as with individuals. (Write her at 6830 Stockton Ave., El Cerrito, CA 94530 for information.)

● **MOZAMBIQUE, E. AFRICA:** Pastor A. L. Benesse who was reported under detention last year has now indicated he is again active in the ministry. It is interesting to note that there was a Women's Day of Prayer on November 6, 1980 "in favor of Pastor Lopes Benesse of Mocambique who is in detention." Praise the Lord for answered prayer! A representative of the Mozambique SDB Churches attended the December Board of Trustees Meeting of the Central Africa Conference in Blantyre, Malawi. The establishment of an association was approved and Julio

Andre "was ordained as a deacon and issued a license to preach the gospel and administer the sacraments." He reported three churches with 69 members.

● **PHILADELPHIA, PA:** A special gift has been received by the Memorial Fund Trustees to be used to establish a new church in Philadelphia. Pray for the Project Committee as they begin action in March and for Mynor G. Soper who will be visiting the field and work closely with them.

● **LILONGWE, MALAWI:** Since several SDB's have moved to the new capital city it was voted that Pastor Watson Mataka be appointed to start the SDB church work there in 1981.

● **WASHINGTON, DC:** "Praise the Lord for continued growth. In 1979 we grew faster than any SDB church in the USA and in 1980 we continued with a 26% growth receiving 17 new members."-Church Bulletin

### NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the members of the Seventh Day Baptist Missionary Society will be held at the Pawcatuck Seventh Day Baptist Church in Westerly, RI, on Sunday, March 15, 1981, at 2 p.m., for the following purposes:

1. To elect voting members, a Board of Managers, and officers to hold office until the next annual meeting and until their successors are elected.
2. To hear and act upon the reports of the Board of Managers and officers for the fiscal year January 1, 1980 to December 31, 1980.
3. To ratify the appointments of independent public accountants for the current fiscal year.
4. To consider and act upon other such matters as may properly come before said meeting of any adjournment thereof.

The Board of Managers has fixed the close of business on March 1, 1981 as the time at which members entitled to notice thereof and to vote at the meeting and any adjournments thereof shall be determined.

-Elston Van Horn  
Secretary

## PRAYER

A Prayer Reminder for Each Day!!

APRIL 1981

*Verse for the month: "Pray all the time. Ask God for anything in line with the Holy Spirit's wishes. Plead with Him, reminding Him of your needs, and keep praying earnestly for all Christians everywhere."*

-Eph. 6:18 TLB

### PRAY FOR:

- 1-Summer Christian Service Corps workers & projects—1981
- 2-Conference President Charles Graffius
- 3-Missionaries Rodney and Camille Henry & family, Philippines
- 4-Sabbath School Mission Offerings received today

- 5-The establishment of a new SDB church in Philadelphia, PA
- 6-Secretary Jan Lek, Netherlands SDB Conference
- 7-HEM—Home Evangelistic Meetings in your specific area
- 8-Pastor Jin Sung Kim, Seoul, Korea
- 9-Light Bearers for Christ team and ministries
- 10-Rev. E. O. Ferraren, Cebu City, The Philippines
- 11-Churches which are searching for pastors

- 12-Memorial Board Trustees as they make important decisions
- 13-Missionaries David & Bettie Pearson, Malawi, Africa
- 14-Senator Jennings Randolph, Washington, DC
- 15-Secy. Nathan B. Thompson, Jamaica SDB Conference
- 16-Our need for more pastoral leadership
- 17-Pastor Joel Omare and Kenya SDB churches, East Africa
- 18-**PRAISE GOD FOR A LIVING SAVIOR!** Is Jesus Christ my Lord?

- 19-The American Sabbath Tract Society & Board of Christian Education
- 20-SDB pastors and churches in South Africa
- 21-New outreach ministries for my own congregation
- 22-Rev. B. John V. Rao, Nellore, India
- 23-Those enrolled in the Guide to Bible Understanding course
- 24-Rev. Ronald H. F. Barrar, Auckland, NZ
- 25-Making your Sabbath more meaningful

- 26-Your Missionary Board in their Quarterly meeting today
- 27-Pastor Elias Camacho, Cd. Madera, Mexico
- 28-The children in your Sabbath School
- 29-Seventh Day Baptist leaders in Nigeria, West Africa
- 30-Preparations for 1980 COM Summer Institute in Sabbath Philosophy



## "BECOMING A DEMONSTRATION MODEL"

Gerry VanDyke, SCSC Training Coordinator

*"Therefore you are to be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect." Matthew 5:48*

In a world that is spoiled and imperfect, in a world that often appears to be on a collision course, headed for destruction, it seems this scripture is irrelevant for our time, and that perhaps Christ was speaking to another generation, or only in an idealistic frame of reference. But through this whole chapter of Matthew 5, Jesus is speaking of the difficulties of life—the temptations we are sure to face, the insults, the lack of appreciation, and the seeming unfairness of life in general. Yet after mentioning all of these things, He says, "be perfect"; or—consequently, be perfect; or—now, my friend, the next step is to be perfect.

Man's point of view has always been "an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth." We even look at our relationship with God in that same context. If our decisions turn out well, if we seem to be successful, we are undoubtedly doing God's will—but if we are ill, or calamity strikes it must mean that God no longer loves us, or we are out of His will. Many times it is true that we choose our own way over God's way and we have serious consequences as a result of our decisions, but very often difficult circumstances come to us as a result of other people's disobedience to God, and many times our hard times are the result of the battles that Paul speaks of in Ephesians 6:12.

In our experiences in the Summer Christian Service Corp we have seen people respond to the love and the help we strive to give as our workers go out "into all the world" to tell the good news that Jesus is alive, and that there is hope, but many times we have experienced rejection, ridicule, and seemingly complete defeat. And when those times come, and they are sure to come, not only in the lives of SCSC workers, but in each of our lives, those are the times Jesus is saying to us "Therefore you be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect." He is asking us to demonstrate to the world God's love; to forgive, to help, to encourage, to work without ceasing, to turn the other cheek, to walk the second mile, to stand for what is right in the face of humiliation and danger, to pray for those that hate you, to be glad when the going gets rough; *to be perfect*; not because you have a perfect nature, or a perfect disposition, or are able to let hurtful things roll off your back, but because Christ is perfect, and everytime you demonstrate Christ's perfection to the world, one more person can see Him as He is. It is not that we can become perfect in this lifetime, but that we allow Christ's own perfection to be reflected in our lives.

The Women's Board of our denomination understands

how important it is for many of us to demonstrate to the world God's love and His promise of hope, and they have provided a great means for us to do this. Through the Summer Christian Service Corp program many young men and women have the opportunity to study in depth the nature of God, and His wonderful truths revealed to us in the Bible, and then a way to learn how to live out the truths they learn in a practical way.

In the training provided in this program, the staff tries to offer the workers and project directors an atmosphere of total acceptance so that they will have an opportunity to think about both realms of life, the physical and the spiritual, and to pursue on a deeper level than ever before, the kind of understanding of God and each other that will help them become the demonstration models He would have them be. There is not a one of us, whether it be staff, cook, host, workers or project directors that leaves training the same as when we came. Each of us come away with a broader view of God's purposes for this world, and a greater desire to fit into His plan. We may not be able to carry out His plan perfectly, but we have a willingness to begin being His person, and a yearning to be yielded to His design. Training is, of course, a very important part of SCSC, a part. There must be an opportunity to put into action what we learn, or it only becomes theology, and not the living word of God.

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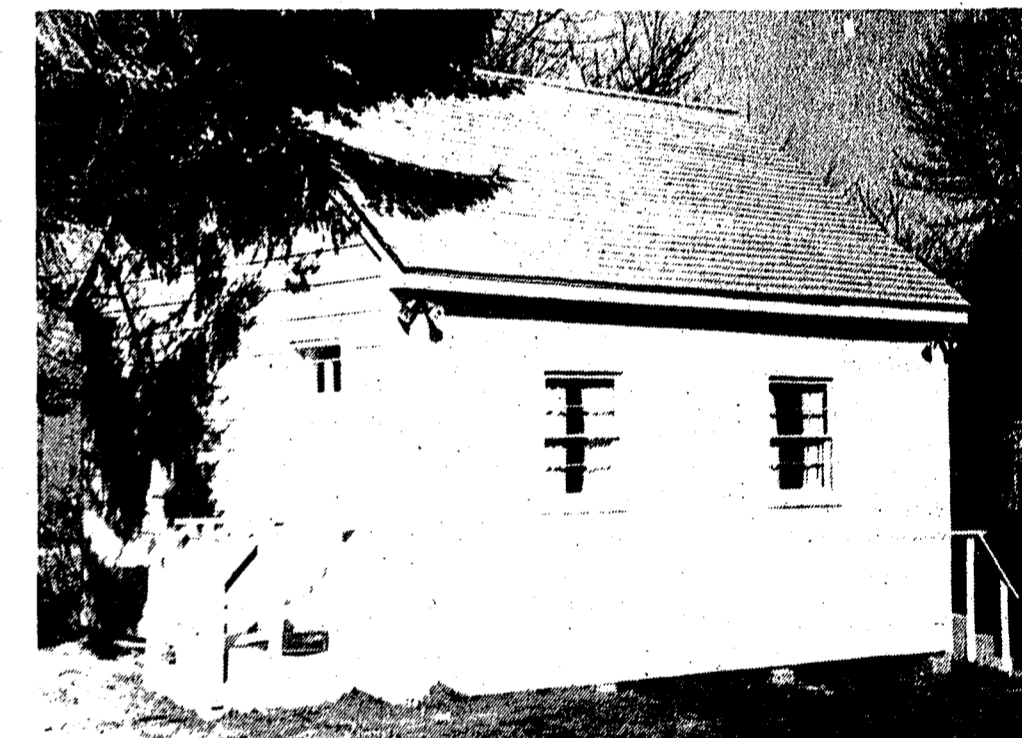
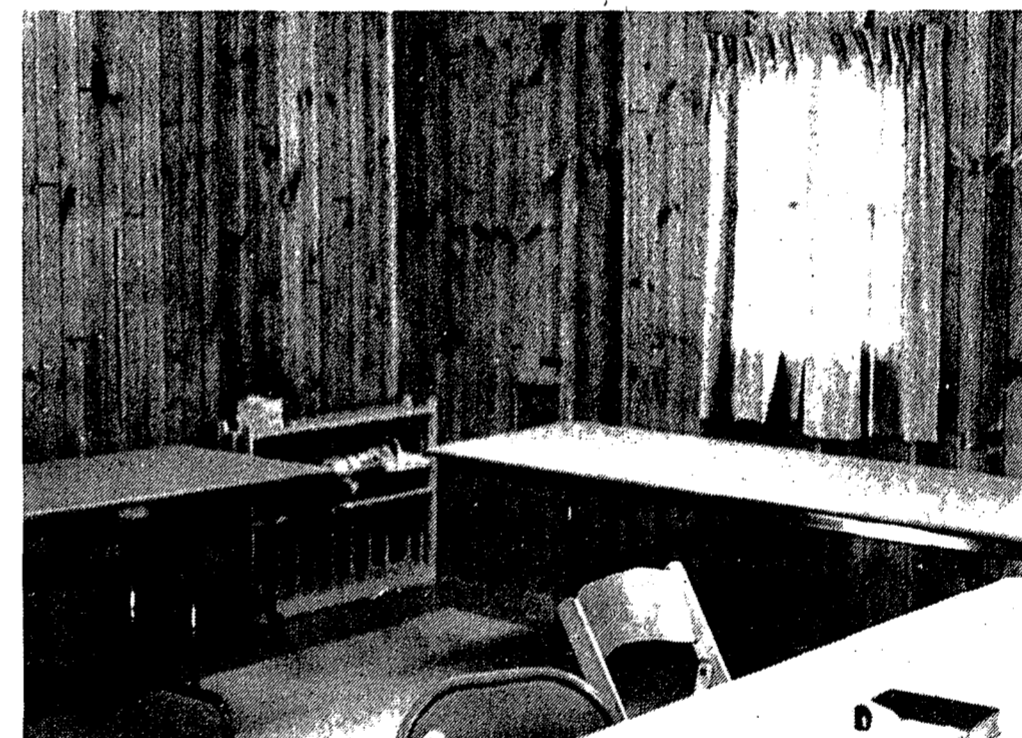
*Commit everything you do to the Lord. Trust Him to help you do it, and He will!" Psalm 37:5*

## the CHURCH in ACTION

### HOW GOD BUILT OUR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION BUILDING

WATERFORD, CT—November 8th was a day of great rejoicing for our church as we gratefully accepted and dedicated the building God has given us for Christian Education and fellowship. It was also a day to reflect on how wonderful our God has been to us. God's plans and timing are so perfect.

We realize anew how trustworthy God's Word is. "With men it is impossible, but not with God: for with God all things are possible."



Interior and exterior views of the Christian Education Building recently completed by the Waterford, CT, church.

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On April 14, 1979 we voted to build a 20'x20' building. This despite the fact that the estimate was \$2,900 just for the materials to frame it and we had only \$1,139.07. The church minutes read "We will now purchase materials for footings. We are to use materials and any help we can get. Much prayer is needed for this."

On June 30, 1979 our treasury showed an increase of over \$5,000 in the building fund—primarily from an anonymous donor. We could now continue and buy new materials to construct the building! Another gift provided all the sub-flooring and

flooring for the new building. God was up to something again.

In May, 1979 the actual work was begun. Church members young and old, male and female were supervised by Salvatore Condinio as they tore down the old building. "Sal" was another of God's provisions. He is a retired roofer who came to Waterford just a few years ago. Sal's attitude and action was, "this is something that I really want to do for the Lord."

Construction continued until the exterior and interior were complete enough to have a Bible school class in our new building in July, 1980. We were so pleased to have a completed building and yet God was not through yet. At that time memorial gifts for a dear friend made possible new furniture needed for the building. We would have been satisfied to "make do" but God had something better in store.

How much more we have to learn of our God. We have learned to "Have faith in God...What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them." (Mk. 11:22, 24) □

### THOUGHTS ON MY NINETY-FIRST BIRTHDAY

Why has God allowed me to reach this age? Why has He not called me home? It must be because He has a message for me to proclaim. For one-half of my life I have worked and prayed for peace among the nations, but the task is not one-half done. It will not be done until every church has a group praying for peace.

Once Jesus and His disciples were on their way to the city of Jerusalem. They would like to stop and rest in a city of Samaritans. But the Sa-

maritans would not welcome them into their city because "their faces were set toward Jerusalem." The disciples begged Jesus to bring down fire upon the city as God did upon Sodom and Gomorrah, but Jesus said, "The Son of Man came not to destroy men's lives, but to save them." He desired to save both body and soul.

During my lifetime I have seen many young men go off to war. Some never returned. BUT WAS THAT NECESSARY? No war would ever be necessary if we followed the words of Jesus. "Love your enemies,"

he said. (And Paul): "If thine enemy hunger, feed him, if he thirst, give him drink." And, "be not overcome with evil, but overcome evil with good."

The true Christian has tried to do this.

It is said that wars are started by the old and the rich, but are fought by the young and the poor. If this were turned around, there would be no more wars. That is why the true Christian will not endorse a war. □

-Rev. Paul Burdick Waterford, CT



## "BECOMING A DEMONSTRATION MODEL"

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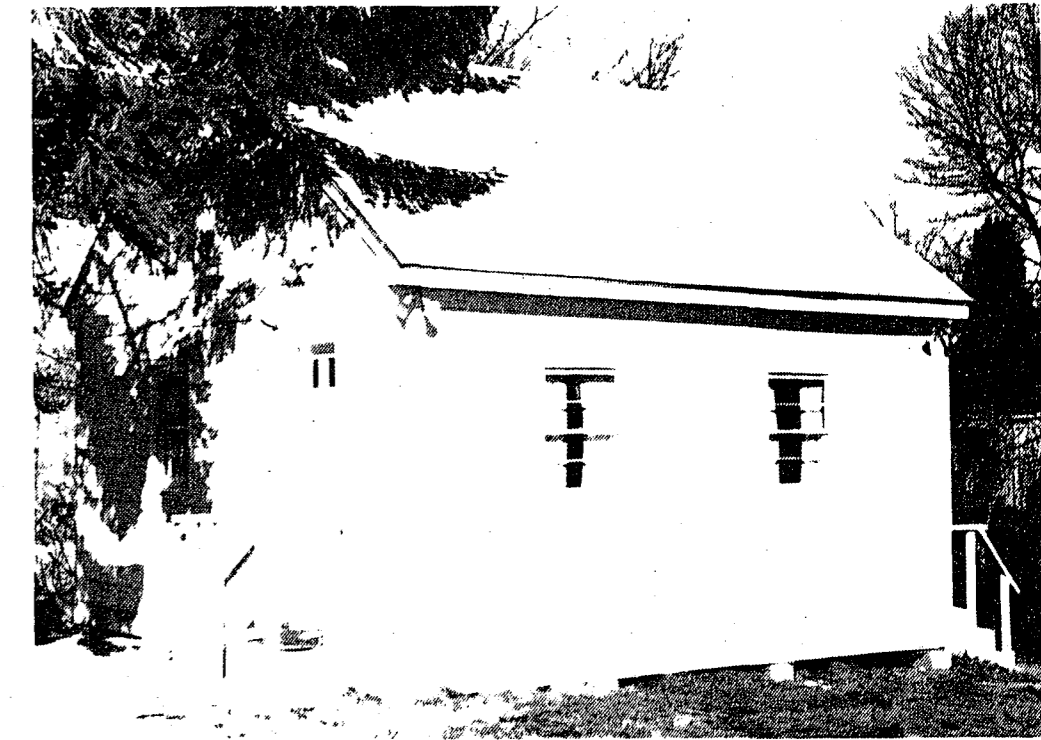
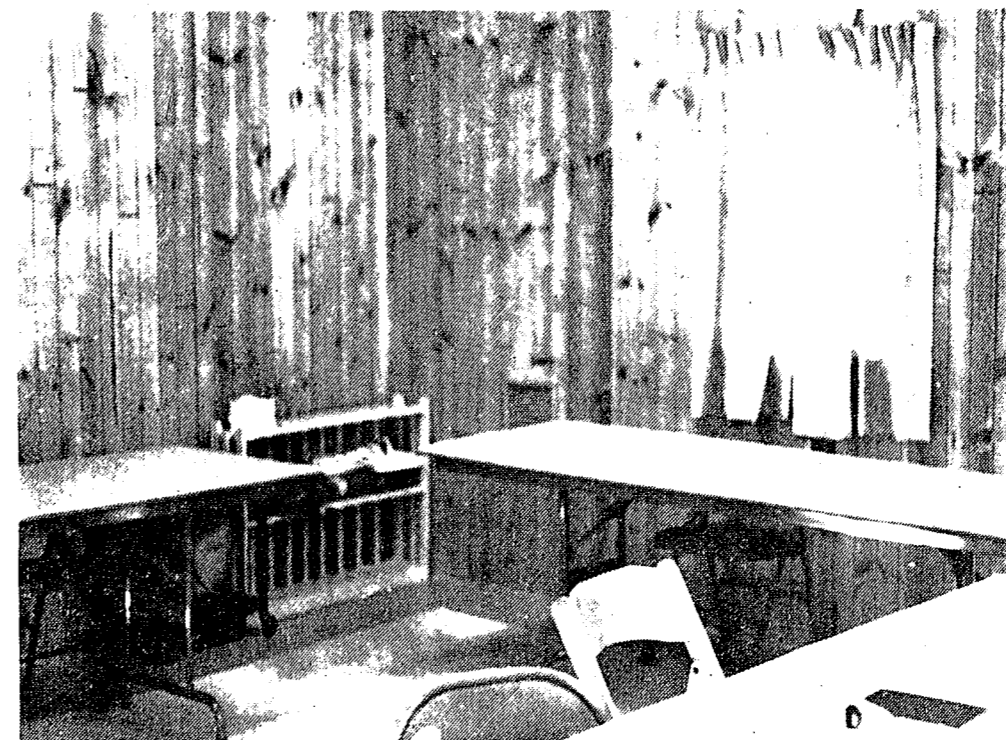
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flooring for the new building. God was up to something again.

In May, 1979 the actual work was begun. Church members young and old, male and female were supervised by Salvatore Condinio as they tore down the old building. "Sal" was another of God's provisions. He is a retired roofer who came to Waterford just a few years ago. Sal's attitude and action was, "this is something that I really want to do for the Lord."

Construction continued until the exterior and interior were complete enough to have a Bible school class in our new building in July, 1980. We were so pleased to have a completed building and yet God was not through yet. At that time memorial gifts for a dear friend made possible new furniture needed for the building. We would have been satisfied to "make do" but God had something better in store.

How much more we have to learn of our God. We have learned to "Have faith in God...What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them." (Mk. 11:22, 24) □



Interior and exterior views of the Christian Education Building recently completed by the Waterford, CT, church.

### THOUGHTS ON MY NINETY-FIRST BIRTHDAY

Why has God allowed me to reach this age? Why has He not called me home? It must be because He has a message for me to proclaim. For one-half of my life I have worked and prayed for peace among the nations, but the task is not one-half done. It will not be done until every church has a group praying for peace.

Once Jesus and His disciples were on their way to the city of Jerusalem. They would like to stop and rest in a city of Samaritans. But the Sa-

maritans would not welcome them into their city because "their faces were set toward Jerusalem." The disciples begged Jesus to bring down fire upon the city as God did upon Sodom and Gomorrah, but Jesus said, "The Son of Man came not to destroy men's lives, but to save them." He desired to save both body and soul.

During my lifetime I have seen many young men go off to war. Some never returned. BUT WAS THAT NECESSARY? No war would ever be necessary if we followed the words of Jesus. "Love your enemies,"

he said. (And Paul): "If thine enemy hunger, feed him, if he thirst, give him drink." And, "be not overcome with evil, but overcome evil with good."

The true Christian has tried to do this.

It is said that wars are started by the old and the rich, but are fought by the young and the poor. If this were turned around, there would be no more wars. That is why the true Christian will not endorse a war. □

-Rev. Paul Burdick  
Waterford, CT

### LORD'S ACRE SABBATH AT NORTONVILLE

NORTONVILLE, KS—On November 8th, a beautiful, warm and sunny Sabbath Day, Lord's Acre Sabbath was celebrated with audience participation of music, scripture and prayer. Theme this year was "True Fellowship" with the worship service divided into three sections: Fellowship of Love (Col. 3: 12-17); Fellowship of Prayer (Acts 2:41-47a, 6:4); and Fellowship of Suffering (Phil. 3:7-11). Each section contained the reference scriptures as responsive readings, appropriate hymns and prayer. The Prelude and the Offertory were played by two of our young pianists—James Trower and Kelli Wheeler. Special music was provided by the choir—anthem of praise "Praise Our God and King" and a mixed quartet (Ira and Floreen Bond, Kent and Billie Wheeler) singing "Take Time To Be Holy."

The sermon was entitled "The Basis of Fellowship" taken from the theme scripture—1 John 1:3-7, with emphasis on verse 7: "If we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin."

The OWM Mini-Message extended the theme to the mission field. The mission field was defined as anywhere outside the church doors. Our (yours and mine) World Mission

is a Worldwide Witness for Christ. There is a great need for the true fellowship of the New Testament displayed by the disciples in their interchange of both spiritual and material gifts which came as a result of Christian compassion and wisdom, moving toward deeper fellowship and greater mission ability. It was a four-dimension fellowship: UPWARD—reaching to God through Jesus Christ; BACKWARD—back to the Upper Room, resembling the fellowship of Christ and His chosen twelve; OUTWARD—enhancing people of all races, cultures and backgrounds as one in Christ; and FORWARD—witnessing by life, word and deed to bring others to Christ.

While the Children's Choir sang several verses of "God Is So Good" offerings were brought individually to the altar. Lord's Acre Offering was \$5,572.54—goal exceeded in a wonderful united effort—Praise the Lord! Outstanding bills for metal siding and paint for the church, and paint, paper and paneling for the parsonage have been paid with a small surplus.

The worship service ended with the unison benediction and a benediction hymn.

The theme/Love-Prayer-Suffering—was displayed on the worship table. Decorations were fall bouquets of grasses and grains of ecru, brown, orange and yellow. □

—Mrs. Merlin Wheeler

### SABBATH RENEWAL DAY

The Sabbath Promotion Committee of the American Sabbath Tract Society wants to remind pastors and lay leaders that Sabbath Renewal Day is set for May 15. The theme chosen this year is "The Joys of Sabbath Conviction." A packet containing bulletin covers with responsive reading, sermon outlines, children's message, and worship suggestions for children and youth will be sent to each church.

The Sabbath Promotion Committee remains active in advertising in various secular publications with good response, and in matching funds for church and association fair booths. The committee also recently sponsored and promoted the Seventh Day Baptist Day of Prayer and Fasting (January 4). Mrs. Leon Maltby continues as chairman of this denominational committee located in Daytona Beach. □

—Janette Crouch

### LADIES' AID IN ACTION

FOUKE, AR—A group of women are busy working for the Fouke Seventh Day Baptist Church. They have raised the money to put cushions on the church pews; to put curtains in the church kitchen, and new carpet in the southeast room of the parsonage.

The women meet weekly to quilt. Usually they meet on Wednesday from 9:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. In addition to their work they enjoy good fellowship together. Their business is conducted the first Wednesday of the month.

Some of their projects have been bake sales, paper drives, a Christmas bazaar, a garage sale, and an ice cream social. Ladies who meet include: Juanita Buckley, Lena Mae Slaton, Merlene Murray, Julia Monroe, Lois Goodson, Mildred Monroe, Pauline Frazier, Kathy Webb and Freda Whittington. □

### SUCCESSFUL TOUR FOR LIGHT BEARERS

PAINT ROCK, AL—The new Light Bearers for Christ team recently completed its first major tour, designed as a promotional tour to acquaint Seventh Day Baptists with their new team.

The traveling began with a three-day revival in Memphis, held from October 16-18, 1980, in cooperation with Rev. Mynor Soper and the pastor and members of the Memphis SDB Church.

Following the overhauling of the motor and transmission of our 1974 Dodge Maxiwagon, the four of us—Brooke Soper, Doneta Richards, Jerry Van Horn, and Art Rowe—squeezed ourselves and our equipment aboard and began our 9,269 mile tour. Between November 3 and December 23, a period of 50 days, we gave 38 presentations. In addition to our music, we gave each family a folder outlining some of our policies and plans for the future. About 730 families were contacted in this way.

As a result of the tour, we spoke with 25 people about becoming part of our ministry. We believe that we will be able to choose new members who will add much to our ministry, both musically and spiritually. At the time of this writing, the new team lineup is not complete, but we will introduce them as soon as possible.

Wherever we went, we found great enthusiasm about the reactivation of the LBC ministry. Seventh Day Baptists, it is clear, want to have a musical group representing them. We received many frank and positive suggestions while on tour, and we believe that these will help us to become a truly effective ministry as we seek to render service to Christ and to Seventh Day Baptists. □

—Arthur Rowe, Director

### PASTORAL CHANGES

The Rev. Larry Graffius, pastor of the church in White Cloud, MI, since June of 1978, has accepted a call to serve the North Loup, NE, congregation.

The new pastor of the church in Dodge Center, MN, will be the Rev. Paul Osborn. Pastor Osborn has served the Nortonville, KS, church since September, 1966.

### REPORT OF NEW WORK IN LOUISIANA

COLUMBIA, LA—We enjoyed Christian and Sabbath fellowship Nov. 13-16, 1980, with our Pastor Jim Mitchell from Christ SDB Church in Little Rock. Brother Mitchell led our group in several Bible studies. One study was "How much does God love you?" Of course the very first answer was John 3:16, but Brother Mitchell led us into deeper spiritual truths with John 7:23. God loves us just as He loved His Son Jesus Christ. He also shared with us Bible truths on healing, especially Isa. 53:5 and 1 Peter 2:24, "by His stripes we are healed."

Pastor Mitchell and Deacon Hubert Phillips made several hospital and home calls. Our dear sister, Mrs. Ola Taylor, a former SDB from Arkansas, age 84, has been very ill; we ask for continued prayers for her. She is so happy to be in fellowship with Seventh Day Baptists again. She enjoys telling how "Mama washed and plowed on Sunday—but never on the Sabbath."

On Sabbath evening we held a weiner roast for about 18 neighborhood children plus several teen-agers and adults. At least one of the boys has now become more interested in Bible study—we ask for prayers for several who are now beginning to accept the Sabbath truth.

We hope to get the children together again Dec. 31 for a sunset, watch-night fellowship. How wonderful it is to watch the evening sun go down, and to realize that as the old day—or year ends—a new one begins. Even the smallest child can watch God's wonderful sunset. God's ways are so much more wonderful than the ways and traditions of man. I never cease to thank God for leading us out of traditional Sunday worship into the wonders of Sabbath truth.

We now have three formal members (and another now in Texas) and, praise God, several more seem to be interested and look forward to the visits of Brother Mitchell. Pray for the continued development of this new work in Columbia, LA. □

—Mrs. Agnes Phillips

**PLEASE NOTE  
NEW TELEPHONE NUMBER**  
Board of Christian Education Offices  
(607) 587-8527

### MANY WINTER ACTIVITIES

PLAINFIELD, NJ—Our Christmas celebration started November 29 with the lighting of the prophecy candle in the Advent wreath. The candles of repentance, joy, and salvation and the Christ candle were also lit on successive Sabbaths. The Women's Society had its secret pal party on December 15 at the Saunders home, when Dean Herbert Saunders presented his colorful slide program, the Gospel in Stained Glass. On December 20 the children hung their Christmons on the tree, and that evening a caroling group visited several old folks' homes and nursing homes. Our inspiring Christmas Eve candlelight service emphasized the songs of Christmas.

Other special events have included Bible Sabbath with an offering for the American Bible Society, the lovely Light Bearers concert November 11, Thanksgiving Sabbath with an offering for the SDB United Relief Fund, Day of Prayer and Fasting for worldwide acceptance of the Sabbath, SDB World Federation Sabbath with a special offering, International Missions Sabbath with a talk by Dean Saunders about his recent visit to Jamaica, Church

Women United Sabbath with a talk by Anna North, and Baptist World Alliance Sabbath with a special offering.

On Sabbath Eve, January 23, three of our young people and one from Raritan Valley church were baptized. Our three boys were welcomed as new members the next day.

At our quarterly meeting January 25 we adopted a set of ten-year goals including four outreach goals, four nurture goals, and four service goals. Pastor Victor Skaggs presented guidelines for accepting *in absentia* members—those living far from an SDB church who want to join the headquarters church—and they were adopted. Ted Jones of Buena Vista, VA, was accepted as an *in absentia* member. During the meeting we paused for a few minutes to buy refreshments and baked goods at the Youth Fellowship bake sale.

Pastor and Mrs. Skaggs plan to attend the Ministers' Conference at Daytona Beach, FL, February 18-24. We are greatly enjoying their presence and work among us. May we all be filled with the Holy Spirit as we continue our second year in the Decade of Discipleship. □

—Ruth Hunting Parker

### NEW FACILITIES FOR TENNESSEE CHURCH

KINGSPORT, TN—Another long-term goal of the Upper East Tennessee SDB Church has been achieved with the purchase of property near Blountville for use as a church center. The three and one-half acre tract has two houses, a barn, smokehouse, garage and almost unlimited possibilities. Purchase was made possible through a grant from our SDB Memorial Fund.

Present plans are to use the older house as a Christian Education Center and fellowship hall. The newer house is already in use as the pastor's home and church office. Long-term plans will include construction of an auditorium, but we hope to meet the present need by use of existing structures.

The church received much good publicity from a feature article recently in the *Kingsport Times*. The *Times* told the history of the church as well as of the denomination in the religious news under the title of "Church of the Week." □

—The Link

### SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST EVANGELICAL COMMUNITY CHURCH REPORTS

STANTON, CA—We are happy to share that our church has been getting more and more responses to our advertising in the newspaper and to our visible sign in front of the church. People are beginning to know us in this area.

We have a new family visiting every Sabbath, a mother with seven of her ten children, and they have been ministering to us in song with their beautiful voices. We praise the Lord for their ministry and presence with us. Several of our brothers and sisters from the Los Angeles church have been supporting us with their presence the past few Sabbaths and our church is so joyful to have them.

We have Sharon Bates in our area now who brings us music on the piano each week and adds her beautiful voice to our praise and worship in song. We continue to covet your prayers for our continued growth in our area. □

—Betty Wear

## MID-CONTINENT ASSOCIATION MEETS IN NORTONVILLE, KS

Mid-Continent Association was hosted by the Nortonville and Kansas City churches in Nortonville, October 3-4-5. Theme for the meetings was "Room at the Table with Plenty for All." A Friday evening fellowship supper was followed by Vesper Services led by Don Chroniger. The Sabbath began with music, devotionals and prayer.

President Kirk Looper gave the welcome to those attending including guests from North Loup, Denver and Boulder. Pastor Edgar Wheeler brought the message: "The Individual's Responsibility for Feeding (John 21:15-23). Among sermon points mentioned were Motivation (love); Restoration (growth/caring); "Sustenance" (help/uplift); Qualification (doing God's will); Edification (teach/share); and Compensation (daily walk with God).

Bible study was held for all ages during the regular Sabbath School time followed by a bountiful fellowship dinner.

The afternoon Bible study: "Rejuvenation of the Ailing and Dying Christian" was led by Kirk Looper. Love, purpose and witness are the results of Spiritual Food—food for a better and healthier Christian. Following a Sharing Time and a vocal duet (Feed My Sheep) by Ed and June Johnson, the Lord's Supper was served.

The young people proceeded to the Catholic School Gym for volleyball and then on the farm for a hayrack ride, bonfire, weiner roast and vespers. Later the group gathered at the parsonage for a pizza party and group sing.

After supper in the church basement the adults gathered in the sanctuary for vespers: "Parents' Responsibility to Their Children" by Dr. Ken Smith. The comparison was made by Dr. Smith between the family of 100 years ago and today. There has been more change in the last 100 years than in 2,000 years in the home life, work life and social life, reflecting cultural and social shock. Good points to remember: teaching is not just saying—and—be the kind of example you want your children to be. Important words for children today—parents, public opinion and police.

Slides were shown of the work in Mexico followed by a Sing-Along. All also enjoyed a quiz show take-off on "The Family Feud" called

"Family Food," and refreshments.

Sunday morning the Executive Committee met at 7:30. At the Business Meeting which followed, items of interest in the budget show emphasis on the Mexico Project including Spanish lessons for someone led to the work in Mexico, Ministerial Students Emergency Fund, and Camp Expenses. At the conclusion of the business session the 1980-81 Association President, Vince Farkas, Denver, presented his theme "The World Needs Us Now" and theme

scriptures—Phil. 2:14-15 and Matt. 5:13-14.

There were 38 "extra" people here including four from Kansas City and seven of our own who stayed over. Trailers were parked on the back church lawn for the convenience of the staff and guests. The remainder of the guests were housed in our homes. The weather was warm and beautiful and much "Spiritual Food" was enjoyed in worship, fellowship and fun. □

—Mrs. Merlin Wheeler

## "PACIFIC NORTH WEST SEVENTH DAY BAPTISTS" HOLD FIRST GATHERING

CENTRALIA, WA—Something new in the history of Seventh Day Baptists occurred on Sabbath, Nov. 15, 1980, with the gathering of representatives from four SDB Church groups in Washington State and Oregon for worship and fellowship at Centralia, Washington.

Hosted by the Centralia, Washington, church, the Pacific North West meeting was led by Pastor Wayne Babcock of Centralia. Pastor Babcock called our meeting, "The First Semi-Annual Meeting of the Seventh Day Baptists of the Pacific North West," as he welcomed us to Centralia. Participating in the worship service also were Pastor Duane L. Davis of Seattle and Pastor C. Justin Camenga of Portland, OR, with the message brought by Pastor Tracy Smith of Roseburg, OR. Pastor Smith's message, based on Romans, chapter 11, was on the Importance of Being Grafted into the Living Tree of Christ. Mrs. Elizabeth Myklebust of Centralia was pianist. A bountiful fellowship dinner followed the service, with about 40 staying to participate. The Seventh Day Baptist General Conference was represented at this first Pacific North West meeting by Mrs. Paul (Floy) Owen of Los Angeles, new President of the Seventh Day Baptist Women's Society and member of the General Council. Mrs. Owen brought words of greeting and encouragement on behalf of the denomination.

Pastor Babcock commented, "At this milestone in the development of God's Church, Seventh Day Baptists in the North West, we feel privileged to share your fellowship, believing that we are laborers together with God. The Seattle Area Seventh Day Baptist Church was

constituted in 1968, the Portland Area Church in 1979, the Centralia Church in 1980, the Roseburg Church was organized in 1980. Before that time there was no organized Seventh Day Baptist witness in the North West. Obviously, the Heart of God has stirred Seventh Day Baptists to proclaim the Word of Truth in the Great North West; the momentum that is apparent must be maintained, even increased. We are here in recognition of the joy and the call to labor together with God. May God bless us with a real vision of the possibilities ahead."

Almost like an "Amen" to Pastor Babcock's prophetic and challenging call, greetings were shared from Bill Goff of Spokane, Washington, about the thrilling results of weekly newspaper ads begun there on October 25, with response every week since, and several people in Spokane who have begun worshipping together in the Goff family home for the present, with the plan to establish a Seventh Day Baptist church there soon. Also encouraged by the meeting were folks present from Hood River, Oregon, who have been attending at Portland, and ask our prayers about beginning an SDB fellowship meeting at Hood River. During the dinner hour, there was a brief discussion about our possibilities of growth and outreach, our relationship to the Pacific Coast Association churches in California and Arizona, our large area of responsibility, and possible developments of SDBs together in Washington State and Oregon. Pastor Duane Davis, on behalf of the Seattle Area church, invited the churches present to begin planning now to carry on the "Semi-Annual Meeting" plan by meeting in Seattle, Washington, on the 3rd Sabbath of May 1981. Representatives from other groups agreed, "Invitation received and accepted!" □

## SOCIAL TIME ENJOYED

WASHINGTON, DC—On November 8 an enjoyable evening was shared by members of the Washington church. A party was arranged by Mrs. Patsy Harris and Mrs. Leila Bishop, church social committee.

As each person arrived the name of a Biblical character was pinned onto the back of the collar. By questions each person attempted to guess the name. "Ducking for Apples" was a game enjoyed by the children. Grover and Alma Brissey wrote a sentence about a Biblical character for the group to guess the identity of the person. The young people participated in this game with Alaiki Harris able to identify the most of the characters. Doughnuts and hot chocolate were the refreshments. □

—Alma D. Brissey

## YOUTH FELLOWSHIP PRESENTS CANTATA

ALFRED STATION, NY—In the Fall the Union Industrial Society had a harvest sale which included the sale of handcrafts and baked goods. A dinner was served in the church dining room; \$500.00 was realized from the day's activities. On Dec. 21 some sixty were served dinner at the church and later enjoyed a Christmas Cantata presented by the youth fellowship and directed by Craig Mix.

Some twenty Christmas cheer boxes were packed and sent out by the Union Industrial Society. About thirty people attended the Sabbath School breakfast on Sabbath Dec. 27. Following the meal there was a time of sharing of special Christmas cards that people had received.

Mrs. Irene Conderman of Hornell is our organist now. She replaces Mrs. Phyllis Mattison who has faithfully served our church for many years. □

—Rena Clarke

● On Sabbath, Jan. 3, 1981, Rev. John Rau brought the morning message at the Los Angeles church. A former member of the church, he now pastors the Brookfield, NY, church. His wife, Margy, accompanied him. The parents of both John and Margy were in attendance also. The church was also happy to have Dorothy Parrott, President-Elect, present also to share in the worship.

## YEAR OF VISION

NEW AUBURN, WI—The New Auburn Seventh Day Baptist Church held its annual business meeting on Sunday, January 11. Pastor Dave Taylor accepted the call to serve our church for a fourth year.

Pastor Dave challenged us to a "Year of Vision" by stating, "I believe we can increase our (Sabbath School) attendance to 55-60 by the end of the year... My vision for 1981 includes seeing our regular Sabbath morning worship attendance

reach 75-80... Impossible?... I believe in the power of Almighty God to accomplish anything. All He needs is willing, dedicated men, women and children to work with."

The denominational statement on abortion, as amended by General Conference, was presented. A recommendation that our church go on record as opposing the adoption of this statement was introduced. The vote in favor of this recommendation was unanimous.

Please pray for us as we enter our "Year of Vision." □

—Margaret Taylor

## RECORDER HELPS TO RENEW AND REFRESH OUR CHINESE BRETHREN!

SHANGHAI, CHINA—A letter was recently received from James Chang in Shanghai and sharing greetings from his father T. M. Chang. "Thank you for several issues of the *SABBATH RECORDER* that you sent my father. We are happy and proud to learn that the Lord's work has made such advances and borne such fruit all over the world. It makes us feel that we are not alone and our hearts are warmed by the knowledge that we are part of that body of which He is the Head. His love deeply satisfies and is reflected in the love and fellowship among His people. Although we cannot get together with you, sing or pray with you,

the *RECORDER* has served to bring us close to each other. It has brought us His word and we have been renewed and refreshed. Praise the Lord!"

He writes that several more churches have been opened for worship at Christmas—there are now five churches open in Shanghai. Our brother also shares with us concerning the SDB week of prayer and day of fasting. "I wish you to know that in keeping with this tradition, Seventh Day Baptists here (China) will also be praying individually on that day."

This letter from China is concluded by good wishes to "all our brothers and sisters in our Lord Jesus Christ." Let us continue to pray for our brethren in China and look forward to that day when our church there will be reopened. □

## Decade of Discipleship

*DECISION TO DISCIPLESHIP is a year-long experience in practicing the lifestyle of Jesus Christ. Individuals commit themselves to eight-week phases of personal and small-group Bible Study and one-to-one training. The purpose is to take the teaching examples of Jesus out of the classroom and through discipline apply them to the total person—leading to a lifestyle of redemptive discipleship.*

*Topics are basic Christian disciplines, life priorities, stewardship of God's resources, personal relationships in family and church, sharing one's faith, and disciplining others. □*

—Crossings, Columbus, Ohio





## BONDS HONORED

(Continued from page 13)

Mrs. Ella Sheppard, great-grandmother of 11, spoke of Rev. Bond's work in the Shiloh Sabbath School, noting that he had done his share in causing the rolls to grow. When he came to Shiloh in 1958 he was the head of a family of five; with the additions of two daughters-in-law and four grandchildren, the family now numbered 11—more than a 100% increase—and all 11 were now active in the Sabbath School. She also remarked that Pastor Bond was not content to sit with one group; when he wasn't teaching a class he was a welcome addition in any other class and had even been seen in the Nursery.

Mrs. Dodi Moncrief, President of the Ladies' Benevolent Society, thanked Mrs. Bond for her work in the Society and bestowed honorary membership on the Pastor for his attitude of benevolence (i.e. kindness).

Deacon Charles Harris recalled a number of his previous associations with Pastor Bond leading up to their work together in the Diaconate. He thanked the Pastor for having nerve to change certain traditions in Shiloh and presented him with a set of bookends symbolizing a triune God on a base of love.

Rev. Donald Richards, pastor of our sister S.D.B. Church at Marlboro, recited an original poem which described their years of work together in camps, Bible Schools, Joint Communion and Association meetings as well as their fellowship.

### The Tie That 'Bonds'

Part five of the program was entitled "The Tie That 'Bonds.'" Making reference to the 100%-plus increase of Bonds in the Sabbath School, Moderator Probasco commented that "interest grows if Bonds are properly invested" and read another of his punful poems based on that theme.

Ron Bond, eldest of the famed "Bond Boys," read a letter from his father's older sister Bea expressing her love and best wishes for Charles and Margaret on their retirement.

Rev. Victor Skaggs, "little brother" of Margaret Bond, then read a humorous letter from their older brother Al reminiscing about his boyhood days as the preacher's kid in Shiloh some 67 years ago. He

stated that he was happy for Charles and Margaret but sorry for the church in Shiloh on this occasion.

Rev. Skaggs then read a letter from another couple who had bonded the Skaggs and Bond families together—Leland and Mary (Bond) Skaggs, who welcomed Leland's sister Margaret and Mary's brother Charles into the church as fellow laymen.

Speaking as fellow minister and brother, Rev. Skaggs quoted and reaffirmed a former Shiloh deacon who said 15 years ago that "Pastor Bond has the right combination of seriousness and humor to meet the needs of the congregation."

Representing the younger (but not youngest) generation of Bonds, son Tim eulogized the career of a man who was not going

"From womb to tomb  
With doom and gloom"

But

"From breast to rest  
With jest and zest."

He then read two of his own poems: "Pastor Bond," describing December's diverse duties done so dutifully each December by his favorite dad, and "Thirty Years of Married Life," written in 1969 toasting his parents' marriage and his childhood with brothers Ron and Phil.

### The Final Word

The highlight of the evening came at least three times during part six, "The Final Word," when three special love gifts were presented. Mrs. Marietta Fansler described a man who accepted a phone call at 3 a.m. from a woman facing a crisis in her life, prayed her through the crisis, led her to Jesus and gave her strength through the years that followed. She sang, "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles" to that man, whom she believed the song portrayed, and then presented her own painting of a soaring eagle to a couple who "are retiring from the ministry, moving into their own house for the first time, are the sweetest couple this side of Texas, and have the last name of Bond."

Then Shiloh's favorite quilt-maker and comedienne, Mrs. Olga Fogg, began a "This is your life" monologue, ran out of time (two minutes allowed) and finished in pictures—pictures done in patchwork, applique

and crewel embroidery on an exquisite hand-made quilt depicting the lives of Charles H. Bond and Margaret Skaggs Bond from their respective birthplaces of Canoe Run, WV, and the S.D.B. parsonage at Nortonville, Kansas, through their marriage on December 23, 1939, their three parishes, the raising of three sons and the sons' current activities, milestones of the Shiloh church reached during the past 22 years and, finally, a quilt square resembling the four-room home now being purchased and occupied by the honored couple.

Finally, a committee of three ladies, Mrs. Ruth Davis, Mrs. Matilda Dickinson and Mrs. Mildred Harris, presented a gift of love which they had collected during the autumn months from church members and community friends—a handsome black bank book along with a framed scroll signed by all who had contributed to the fund.

After two hours and twenty minutes of listening to public expressions of love and appreciation for his life's work, the Rev. Charles H. Bond claimed to be at a "loss for words." He did, however, happen to have with him a drill which symbolized for him how "all things work together for good." It had been acquired almost by accident with no specific intentions for immediate use during the time that renovations were being made in the house he and Margaret would soon be calling "home." When it appeared feasible to enclose the cement porch on this house, this drill was the perfect tool for boring holes in the concrete slab. And so it was that, at the time that he had announced his intention to retire, he had had no idea where they would live or how they could manage. Over a period of months, the Lord miraculously revealed His plan and Charles and Margaret Bond are now the proud owners of their own little retirement home within walking distance of the church they love and near their expanded family of 11.

He called upon the church family to wait upon the Lord and believe that He will work all things together for good in their search for new pastor.

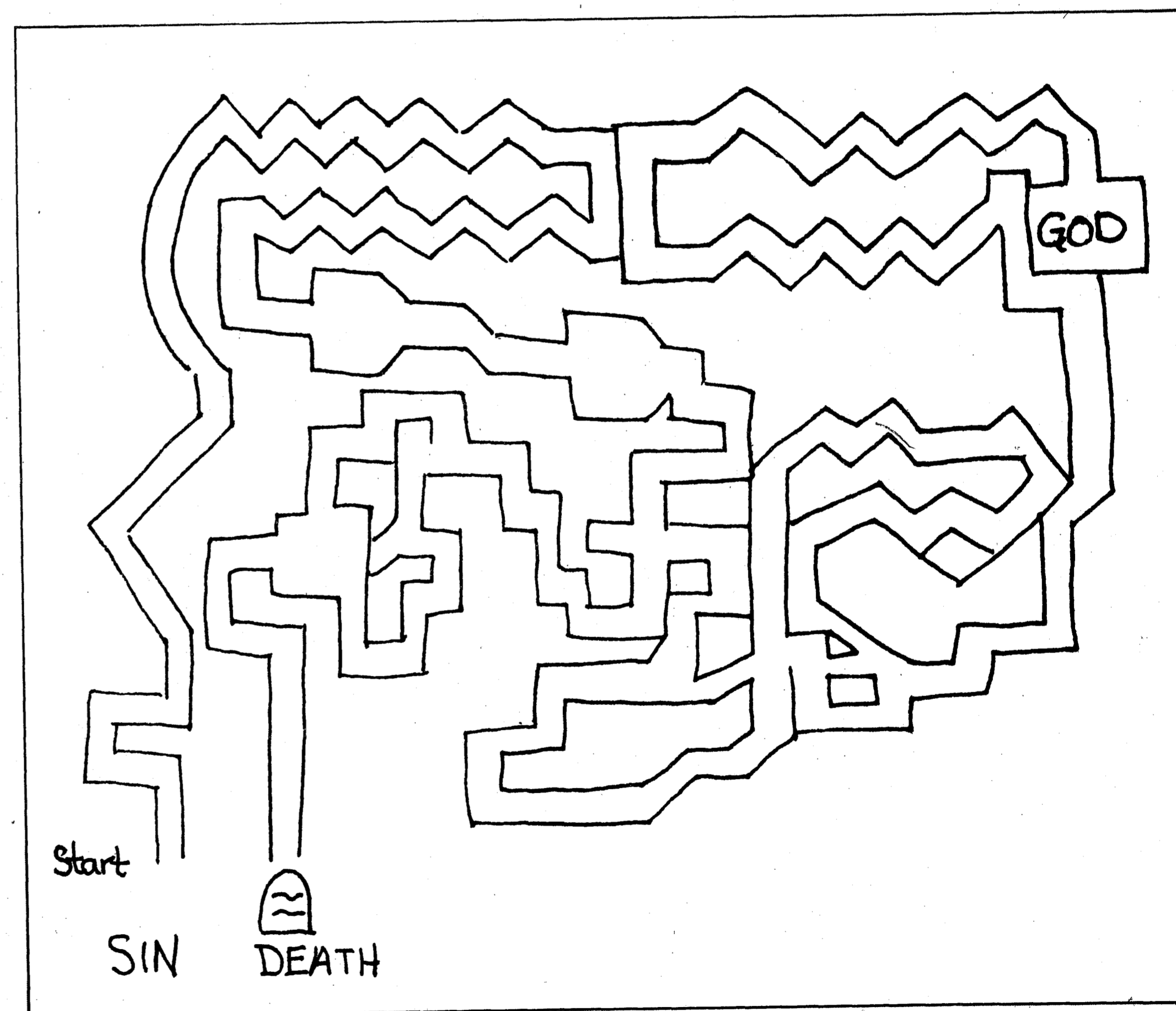
Meanwhile, those who know and love Charles and Margaret Bond know that Christ's work will continue in Shiloh. □



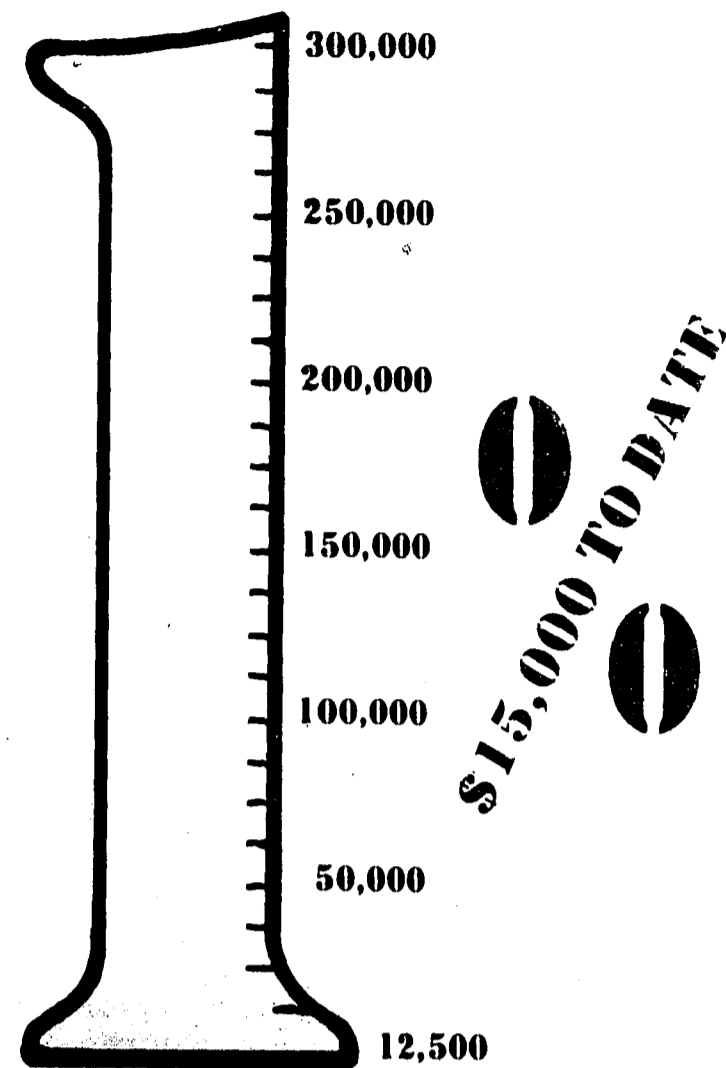
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Mark Morey, age 12, from the Pine Street Gospel Chapel in Middletown, CT, made this maze. The object is to start at "Sin" and go to "God." If you make a wrong turn, you will end up at "Death." This is just the way it is in real life. The Bible says, "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." (Romans 3:23) We all start out in sin. But as we live our lives, we have a choice. If we make the right choice, and accept Jesus as our Savior, we will go to heaven, where God is. But if we make the wrong choice, we will end up where we started—in sin, and that means death. As you do the puzzle, try to figure out the place where you make the choice between God and Death. What shape do you find there? What does it mean? For our memory verse this month, memorize Romans 3:23.

-Linda Harris



## Pastor's Retirement Offering Project



by Clayton Pinder

How's PROP doing? At the time of this writing we have just started to contribute to the fund.

What's needed to get us on track? Send in your contributions. Someone from the Committee on Support and Retirement (COSAR) or your church should have contacted you about the Pastor's Retirement Offering Project (PROP). Your help is needed. At our last COSAR Meeting in December 1980, we all agreed the campaign must be started and the pumps primed to get the fund flowing in. There is no way we can meet our goal unless you help. Your gift whatever the size will help this happen. Some of the members wanted to know of ways we might suggest for giving. As noted in the pamphlets sent out and the prior article in *The Sabbath Recorder*, it was decided that one percent of earnings

for the year be suggested as a guide. But let us also suggest some methods you might use to accomplish this or do even better than the suggested one percent.

Some methods are:

(1) Windfall—That is, committing all sources of funds that you are not expecting. This allows the Lord to work through us. Some examples are:

- A utility refund or tax refund
- A gift
- Repayment of a debt you had already written off
- A garage sale—sell some items you want to get rid of

(2) The pledging of one percent of your income for a period of at least three years as suggested in the pamphlet.

(3) Some gimmicks to channel funds in a sacrificial manner—for example: give up a lunch or dinner out once a month and give the same amount of money you would spend to the fund. If you drink soda, give up the price of a coke once a week to the fund. For those dieting, fast a day and give the price of food that day to the fund. I like ice cream. Whenever I have the urge for some ice cream, I plan to take the cost of that ice cream and put that into the fund instead of eating it (Better for both my health and the fund).

(4) There are many times you do an errand or job for someone and they want to pay you but you don't want to accept anything for yourself; why not suggest if they like, they could donate something to PROP.

(5) I have clients and friends who at times would like to contribute to a cause, some organization worthy of their gifts. Why not suggest PROP to them?

(6) Many churches and Sabbath School classes are looking at times for a place to give or help. Why not suggest PROP?

(7) Why not suggest that we save our change? This is, anytime you have change left in your pocket and your thoughts are on PROP, you would put it in a jar or bank and when you have saved a sufficient amount (\$10-\$25) you would send it in.

(8) Involve the whole family or Sabbath School class by suggesting these ways: I believe children should be involved also. They can give \$5 to \$10 a year easily. How? \$10.00 a year ÷ 365 days = less than \$.03 a day or \$.19 a week. That's less than a coke or candy bar. Also, maybe you can get some work done and have them give it to PROP. A project or two once a month by your children would add to the fund and make it a family concern. It has a lot of beneficial effects.

(9) How about clearing out your attics or dressers in search of old silver and gold items and selling them and giving it to the fund? Many of the items you're saving are not in use and are just laying around. Why not let the Lord use them?

Again each of us must look back and thank God for our blessings and ask the Holy Spirit to guide us in our giving. You must first be convinced that you have been blessed and that to support our pastors is a worthy need. Once that is done you will have no problem in contributing your share.

So far, the majority of gifts have come from retired ministers; some of whom are retired ministers, and widows. They know the need and know that the Lord does provide. Will you let Him guide you in your decision to give? May He bless you real good. □

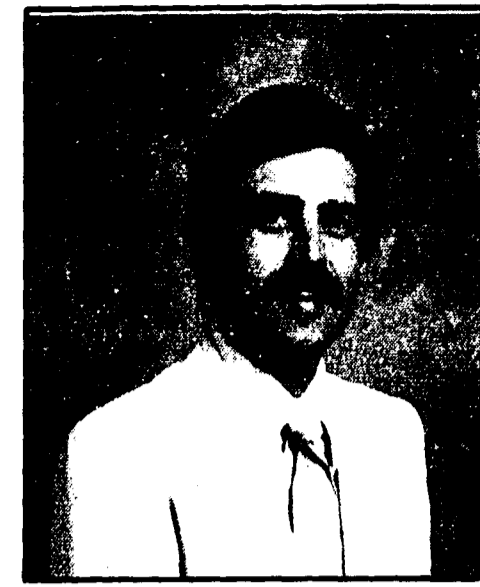
hours until it was, once again, daylight as our plane was now racing "ahead of time." We made a stop on the Island of Tahiti, followed by another long ride to arrive in Los Angeles on Friday evening, which was several hours earlier than the same Friday that I left New Zealand. I was anxious now for I knew that Anne would be landing at the Los Angeles International Airport about the same time as this Air New Zealand DC 10 would bring its load of travelers, tourists, and this child of God who was just completing a wonderful trip with my Heavenly Father. □

### AUSTRALASIAN CONFERENCE

(Continued from page 15)

"I love you with the love of the Lord.  
I love you with the love of the Lord.  
I can see in you the glories of my King, and  
I love you with the love of the Lord."

As the Sabbath was beginning in New Zealand, the plane lifted off into the night and it was only a few



## EDITORIAL

### TIE A YELLOW RIBBON

Across America from the greatest of cities to the most remote hamlet there was a profusion of yellow ribbons. The ribbons, in all sizes and varying in their yellowness, decorated every conceivable object from automobiles to bicycles and even airport control towers. They were found on doors and windows of businesses, homes, schools and churches. Many women wore yellow ribbons in their hair and even usually somber businessmen consented to a yellow ribbon on the lapel of their finest pinstripe suit. It was amazing—everywhere yellow ribbons.

Somehow during the 444 days of the hostage ordeal with Iran the yellow ribbon had come to symbolize the one word, the one thought that was on the collective American mind—hope; the hope and trust that the hostages would be safely returned to their homeland and reunited with their families. It seemed that no one dared give up hope—hence the yellow ribbon reminding us of their suffering, reminding us not to forget, reminding us of our national purpose, reminding us to never give up hope.

And what a celebration we witnessed upon their safe return. Church bells across the land pealed their welcome and our thanksgiving. It was the main topic of conversation from barbership to conference meeting room. The news media concentrated their attention upon the release, return and reunification of the hostages. Countless billboards and home-made signs announced their release and our gratitude; they read "Welcome Home" or simply "It's Over." Not in many a year had the American people been brought closer together than in this celebration.

And so we join in the celebration and with the Psalmist in praise: "I prayed to the Lord, and he answered me; he freed me from all my fears...The helpless call to him, and he answers...His angel guards those who have reverence for the Lord and rescues them from danger...The Lord will save his people; those who go to him for protection will be spared" (from Psalm 34 TEV).

Display the yellow ribbons—God has heard our prayers! □

### ITEMS WORTH SHARING

We recently read where a Lutheran commentator, examining fund-raising techniques of the "electronic church," likened certain media evangelists to "indulgence sellers," medieval clerics who said they sold remission of punishment for sin. Speaking at St. Peter's Lutheran Church in New York City, Richard J. Neuhaus, reportedly said that appeals for money by many radio and television evangelists are similar to those used in the sixteenth century and encourage a "works righteousness" rejected by Martin Luther and other sixteenth-century reformers in the church.

Mr. Neuhaus shared that "one television program I heard claimed a soul would be saved for every dollar sent in." He continued that some of these media preachers "set up a tit-for-tat relationship with God. They say 'give' to them and God will bless

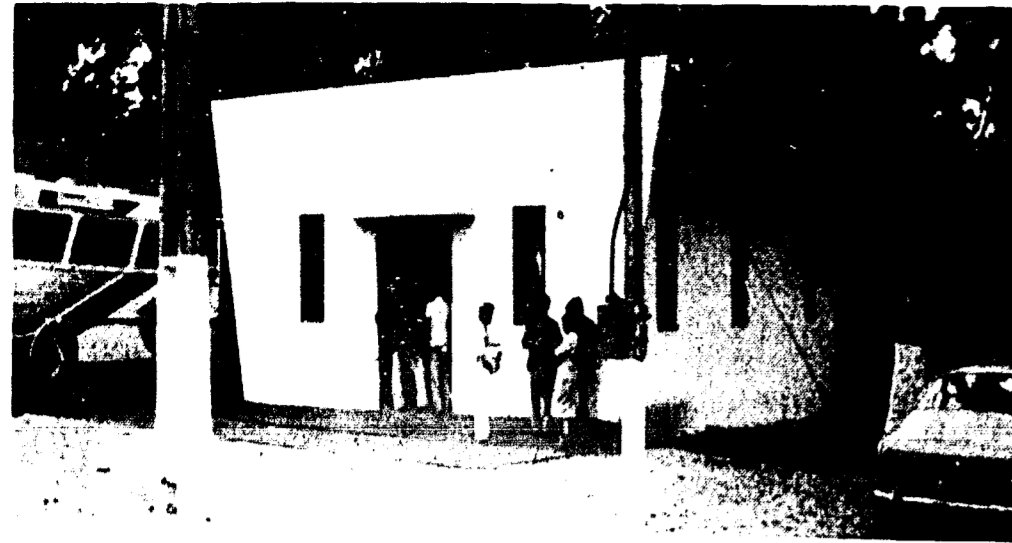
the giver, and they ignore the central Reformation teaching that salvation is by God's grace alone."

\* \* \*

There has been so much use and misuse of the term "born again" that Billy Graham has stated that he will no longer invite people to be born again. The term he will be using now is "born from above."

\* \* \*

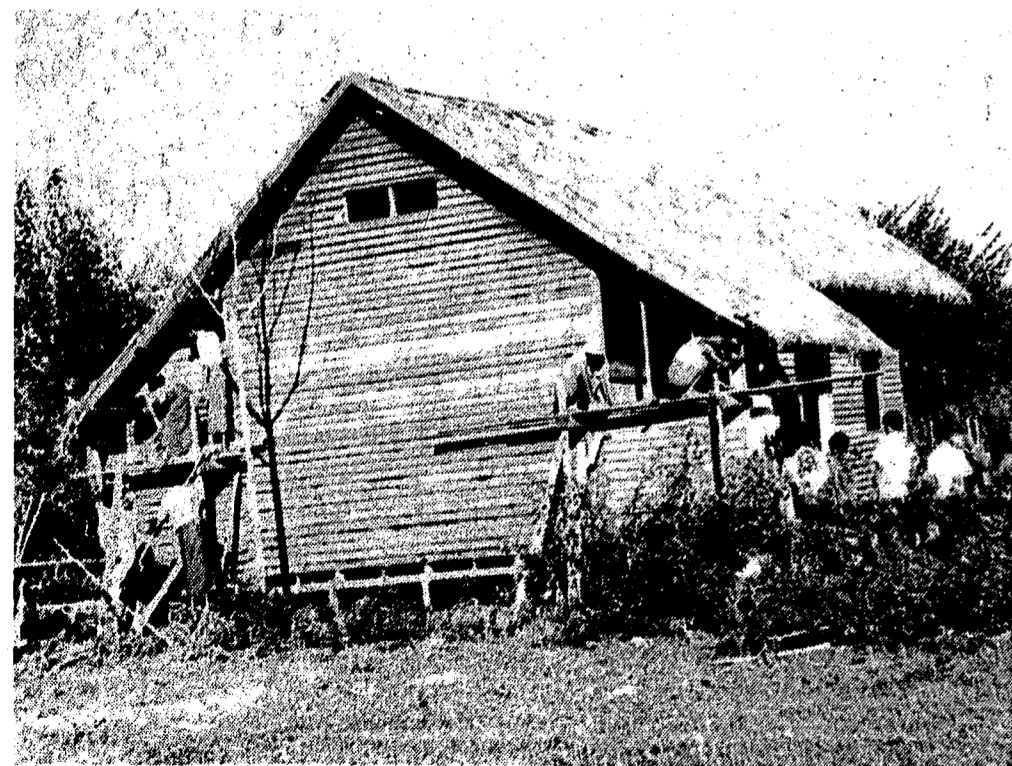
The American Jewish Congress has filed a brief arguing for accommodation of a Sabbath-observing airline pilot under the 1964 Civil Rights Act. When Robert Kendall, a member of the World Wide Church of God, refused to fly on Sabbath for United Air Lines he was fired. The case has yet to be heard. □



From Brazil we are happy to share in the dedication of a new Seventh Day Baptist Church in Bocaiuva Do Sul. These photos show the exterior of the church and the attendance on the day of dedication.



Pastor Nivaldo Schunemann is shown preaching at the dedication of the Bocaiuva Do Sul Church in Brazil.



Rev. L. Sawi Thanga reports from Burma on the construction of the new Canaan Seventh Day Baptist Church. The annual district Conference was held here. This church is located 60 miles from another church at Tahan—the trip by bus takes ten hours according to Brother Thanga.

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This Methodist church building was the site of the annual Conference of Polish Sabbathkeepers. Jan and Ruth Lek of our Dutch Conference were able to attend and bring greetings on behalf of Seventh Day Baptists around the world. Some 200 were present for the weekend meetings in Bielsko-Biala, Poland.



Ruth Lek discussing the renovation of a building into a Sabbath-keeping Chapel in Czechoslovakia. She is talking with Brothers Wiecek and Buok. The Dutch S.D.B. Conference recently raised funds to provide an organ for this chapel.

THE SABBATH

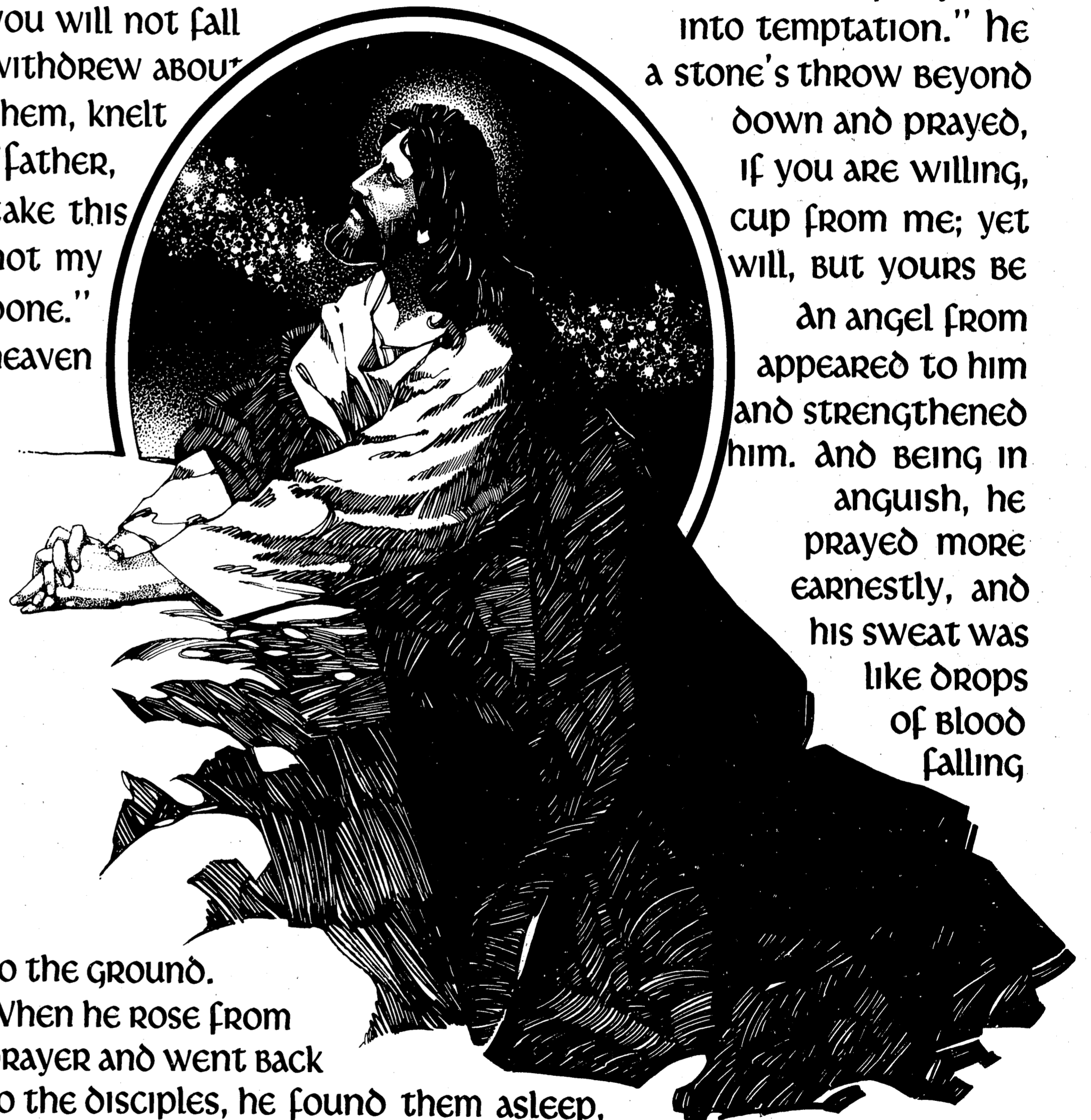
OUR 137th YEAR

# RECORDER

SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST

APRIL 1981

Jesus went out as usual to the Mount of Olives, and his disciples followed him. On reaching the place, he said to them, "pray that you will not fall into temptation." he withdrew ABOUT a stone's throw BEYOND them, knelt "father, take this not my done." heaven



to the ground. When he rose from prayer and went back to the disciples, he found them asleep, exhausted from sorrow. "Why are you sleeping?" he asked them. "Get up and pray so that you will not fall into temptation."

Luke 22:39-46 NIV

THE CHURCH IN ACTION