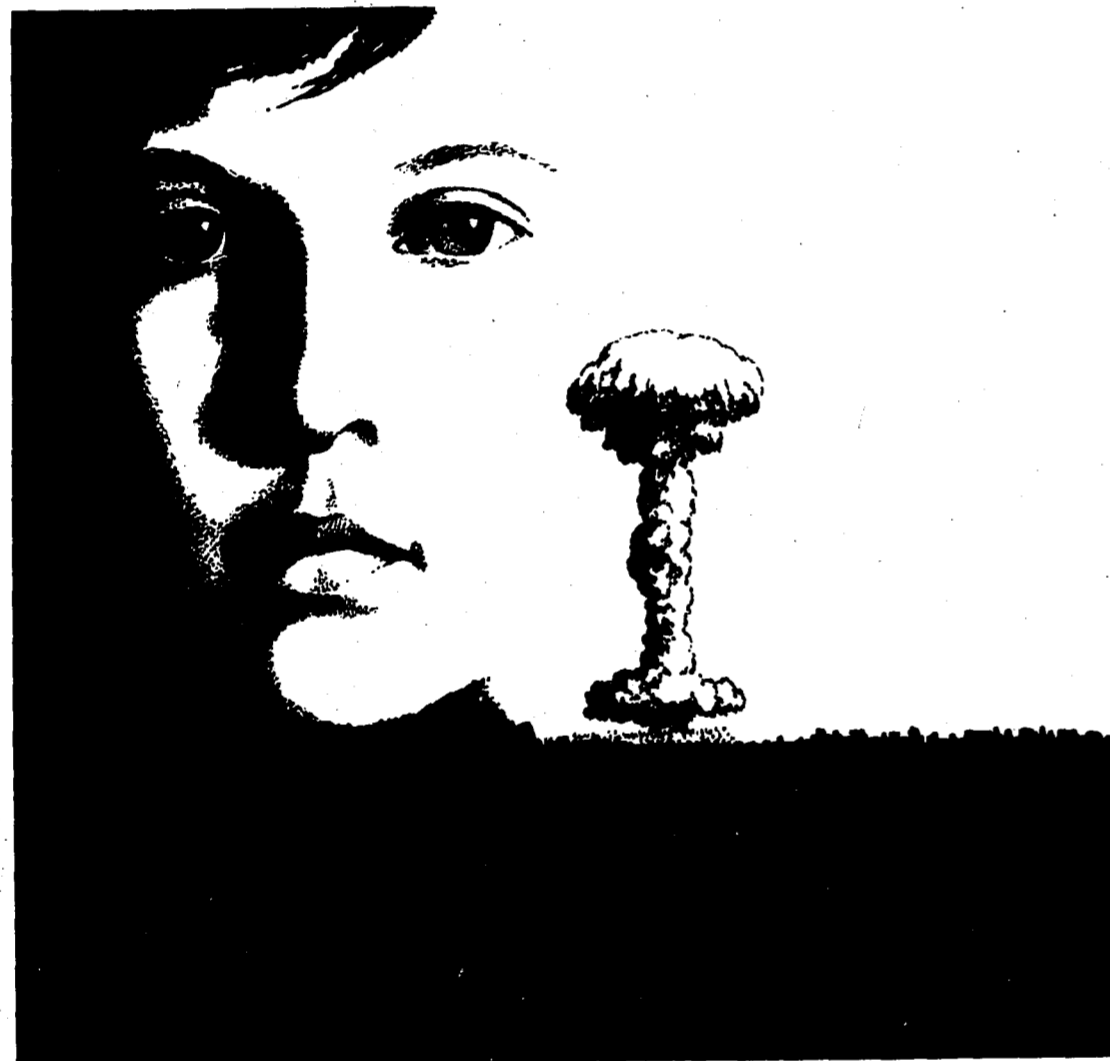


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He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide for many peoples; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

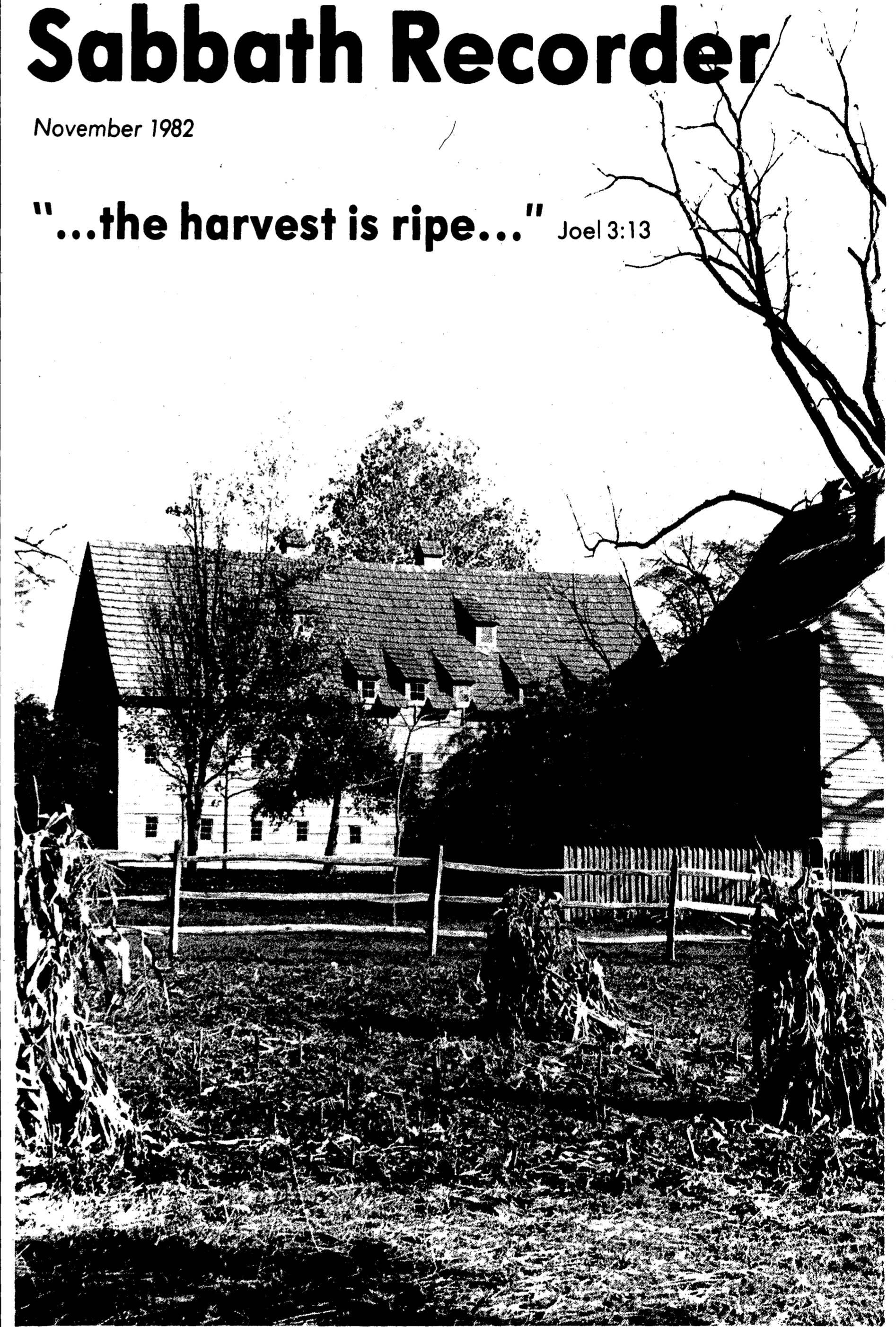
(Isaiah 2:4)

The Seventh Day Baptist

Sabbath Recorder

November 1982

"...the harvest is ripe..." Joel 3:13



**The
Sabbath
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COVER PHOTO: *The Sisters' House at the Ephrata Cloisters, Ephrata, Penn. The Cloisters were once the home of German Seventh Day Baptist separatists.*

Thankful Hearts

Henry Ward Beecher once said, "If one should give me a dish of sand, and tell me there were particles of iron in it, I might look for them with my eyes, and search for them with my clumsy fingers, and be unable to detect them; but let me take a magnet and sweep through it, and how it would draw to itself the almost invisible particles of iron by the mere power of attraction. The unthankful heart, like my fingers in the sand, discovers no mercies; but let the thankful heart sweep through the day, and as the magnet finds the iron, so it will find, in every hour, some heavenly blessing, only the iron in God's sand is gold."

David, to whom Psalm 103 is ascribed, possessed a thankful heart which could sweep through the day and draw to it a multitude of heavenly blessings. He was able to express his gratitude effectively because he had had a personal experience with God. From the very depth of his being, he was moved to recount God's benefits to him and the quality of love which brought them forth.

This psalm begins with the individual summons to praise directed toward his own soul rather than to his fellow worshipers as we often find. His whole inner being is called forth to offer praise. Lest one forget the many benefits one receives from God, the psalmist calls them specifically to mind. They include forgiveness, healing, redemption, even a crowning of glory and the satisfaction of one's needs.

As a member of the congregation of Israel, the psalmist ex-

presses thanks on behalf of the nation (vs. 6-13). Although he recognized God's justice in dealing with others, His justice was tempered with mercy so that He did not deal with the people according to their sins, but was forgiving.

The psalmist moves from himself, to his people, and from his people to mankind in general as he speaks of God's.

Our days may be numbered as the grass of the field, but the love of God is from everlasting to everlasting.

loving care. The weakness and temporality of man which reflects the creation story of Genesis and the formation of man from the dust of the earth, is contrasted to the eternity of God which is displayed to all generations of those who keep His commandments (vs. 14-18).

The final portion of the psalm asserts that there is nothing which lies outside God's do-

minion. Then amid the chorus of the whole universe, the psalmist returns to his own soul as he says, "Bless the Lord, all his works in all places of his dominion. Bless the Lord, O my soul!"

When we consider our own expression of thanks, even our thanksgiving offered on the one day of the year which we have set aside for that purpose, there is seldom this sense of overwhelming gratitude which sweeps through our hearts like a magnet attracting the particles of blessings hidden within. The forgiveness, the healing, the redemption which the psalmist experienced reminds us of the even greater forgiveness, healing, and redemption which we as Christians have received through Christ. We can feel the crowning of an even greater love and satisfaction which He gives not only in this life, but the life eternal. Our strength is likewise renewed like that of an eagle, for we can soar to the



by Don Sanford

heights in prayer and meditation.

This personal experience may then quicken our historical imagination as we remember what God has done for generations before us. The first thanksgiving service in this country is considered to be the public expression of thanks offered by the Pilgrims in 1623 following refreshing showers which ended a prolonged drought in the Plymouth Colony. Edward Winslow wrote of this corporate act of thanks, "Having these many signs of God's favor and acceptance, we thought it would be great ingratitude if secretly we should smother up the same, or content ourselves with private thanksgiving for that which by private prayer could not be obtained. And therefore another solemn day was set apart and appointed for that end; wherein we returned glory, honor, and praise, with all thankfulness to our God which dealt graciously with us."

Many churches call special prayer services petitioning God for various needs, yet how few there are who "return glory,

honor, and praise, with all thankfulness to our God, which dealt graciously with us." However, in spite of our ingratitude, He keeps showering us with His love; "He is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love."

A young man who had borrowed from his friends over a period of years when he was ill, regained his health and started to pay back those who had helped him. He first repaid those who began to hound him and insisted on repayment. One day as he was talking with a creditor who had made no fuss about repayment he remarked, "It is terrible to think that those who keep off my neck are the last to be repaid."

We might think how much better it would have been if he had made his payments to those who were more considerate, but we find in this experience a re-enactment of our own attitude toward God. We ought to be able to show our gratitude without having it forced from us, for forced gratitude would be no gratitude at all.

Finally, as the psalmist envisions the love of God for all

mankind, even over the whole creation which God has established, we find in it a measure of hope for our time. Our days may be numbered as the grass of the field, but the love of God is from everlasting to everlasting. Man might even blow this old earth up, but that would not stop the love of God from continuing on.

How desperately we need to give thanks that we have a God who is so much greater than mankind that His will cannot be defeated by man, but who continues to bestow his blessings despite our weakness and mistakes. □

Psalm 104:6-18

- 6 The Lord works vindication and justice for all who are oppressed.
- 7 He made known his ways to Moses, his acts to the people of Israel.
- 8 The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
- 9 He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger for ever.
- 10 He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor requite us according to our iniquities.
- 11 For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;
- 12 as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.
- 13 As a father pities his children, so the Lord pities those who fear him.
- 14 For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust.
- 15 As for man, his days are like grass; he flourishes like a flower of the field;
- 16 for the wind passes over it, and it is gone, and its place knows it no more.
- 17 But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting upon those who fear him, and his righteousness to children's children,
- 18 to those who keep his covenant and remember to do his commandments.

PRAYER

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me bless his holy name. Father, we are thankful for all thy benefits which crown our lives with steadfast love. Help us expand our expressions of thanks to include not only our personal thanks but the remembrance of our nation and our world. Give us the thankful heart which can sweep through our lives attracting to our remembrance all Thy benefits.

Amen.

Diversity and Unity

by Edgar Wheeler

from the Nortonville Messenger

Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of God ...

Romans, Chapter 14

The often expressed wish to have a *New Testament church* may indeed be a fact already. We, like they, must seek to have spiritual unity created out of great diversity. Also, like them, we have our problems in doing so, even when there is organizational unity. For there were and are among Christian believers in different levels of spiritual growth, diversity of backgrounds and personalities, different perceptions as to the vital issues of Christian life—and just simply the problem of human nature not yet fully redeemed. Can unity come out of such diversity? That is the problem that St. Paul addresses in Romans, chapter 14.

His word is direct: "Accept him whose faith is weak, without passing judgment on disputable matters." Issues such as asceticism and dietary rules and various taboos are not to be treated as essential in the acceptance of believers. If one demonstrates evidence of true faith in and commitment to Jesus Christ, he is to be accepted without judgment passed as to practices that are of no moral significance.

There is a tendency that tends to fracture the fellowship of believers. This is addressed in verse three. I suppose we would call this tendency *spiritual pride*, and it is. The

more mature and free Christian tends to look down on the believer who follows a more restrictive regimen of rules, and the more *straitlaced* Christian tends to condemn the more liberal Christian as not really Christian. The word here is *don't judge one another at all in these matters*. Every believer belongs to God. God is his owner; he is responsible to God, whatever he does, and whatever his condition. We have no right to judge "the

Every believer belongs to God ... he is responsible to God, whatever he does ...

servant of another."

The real responsibility, as pointed out in verses 13ff, is that we weigh out our own attitudes and actions so that we will not cause the *weak* brother to violate his conscience and to fall away into sin. For to obey conscience is always a step to more enlightenment from God, and if we cause another to disobey his conscience we are

cutting him off from that avenue of spiritual growth.

Christianity is in its essence to live a life of righteousness, peace and joy (verse 17) under the leading of the Holy Spirit. We are free, therefore to "make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification" (verse 19). That is, in fact, our primary duty in the church.

All this does not mean that we are to live in a kind of innocuous tolerance with no substance. "Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind," the Apostle says. When our faith and relationship with Jesus Christ are firmly established, we have the security of our position that frees us from the feeling we must challenge our fellow believers. We can respect them for their convictions in Christ, as well.

Can there be unity in our diversity? Yes, by all means, when our faith and loyalty are in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. For He Himself has prayed that His people "may be one," as the Father and the Son are a unity. Supreme commitment to Him is the key. □

Growing Up Together

"Let them both grow together till harvest." — Matthew 13:30

6

by Alan Crouch

According to Bible scholars, the weeds in the grain field were probably darnel. Darnel looks very much like wheat; it's hard to tell the difference between them. So usually the farmers let them grow until harvest time approaches; then women and children weed them out by hand.

The darnel, if harvested and eaten along with the grain, would cause nausea, dizziness and possibly death. An enemy might plant this treacherous weed in someone's grain field as a means of revenge, even though it was a crime to do so under Roman law.

In Jesus' story, the farmer's helpers wanted to go and pull up the weeds right then and there. But the farmer tells them to be patient, to wait until the harvest.

The parable pointed to the conflict of all time: right vs. wrong, good vs. evil.

Jesus teaches his disciples to be patient until the final judgment. He tells them not to separate the wheat from the weeds prematurely, but to let the harvesters handle it when the time for reaping has come. Paul echoes the same thought (1 Corinthians 4): "Because the Lord is judge, pass no premature judgment; wait until the Lord comes."

Why wait? For one thing, it's hard to tell the darnel from the wheat, the wrong from the right. People cannot know the hearts of others, and cannot know the circumstances under which other people struggle.

For another thing, people

might pull up wheat along with weeds. Stan Mooneyham writes: "How tragic it would be if some tender wheat were plucked up erroneously, by a gardener with more zeal than knowledge. Jesus would rather have the darnel grow, than have a stalk of wheat destroyed."

Besides, God has set the time for separation. He has his own plans for the gathering of the good into his barns, and for the



sorting, and burning, of the evil.

Jesus said to "let them both grow together." Mooneyham comments: "If you have the uneasy feeling that evil is getting worse, you are right. At the same time, good is also getting better. There is a growth dynamic in both sin and righteousness. Neither can remain static."

On the way to his crucifixion, Jesus said to those following along and weeping over his suffering: "If these things are done now, when the wood is green, what will happen when the wood is dry?" That is, if you think this is bad, you haven't seen anything yet.

Examples? Each of you could fill in the blanks yourself. These examples have occurred to me.

There was a recent ad in the newspaper for a movie entitled "The Beast Within". This one seems to be another in a long line of movies which hope to cash in on people's depravity. The ad says: "Warning! This motion picture contains scenes of extremely graphic and violent horror." Granted, the movie itself may be so poorly done that it wouldn't scare a flea. But as with a seemingly increasing number of films, this one aims its appeal at our morbid side.

If it seems that irresponsibility is getting worse, you're right. What next, we wonder. Well, either something worse, or the harvest.

But at the same time, good is also getting better. The kingdom of Heaven is like a mustard seed, said Jesus - it starts out small, and grows. Over the centuries, the Bible has become more and more available to the

average person. We've come a long way from the days when only clergymen had copies of the Scriptures and few other people could read. Printing has made it possible for nearly anyone to have a copy, and education has enabled him to read it. The American Bible Society has been trying to distribute it worldwide, at prices people can afford.

Some things look like a stalk of wheat from one angle, but in a different light look like a weed. Electronic computerized games provide diversion and entertainment, for children and adults alike. Pac-man, Space Invaders, and the others have also been touted for helping to refine eye-hand coordination. But the electronic games can also be addicting, and can waste time and money which could better be spent elsewhere. Are they a blessing or a curse? Some of both, perhaps?

Most things contain both evil and opportunity for blessing. When the walkways collapsed at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Kansas City, many people died, many others were injured, and as with any such disaster, the emotional scars will last a long time.

For some of the people trapped under the rubble, however, as the horror got worse, their faith grew stronger. One mother and her son were trapped close to each other, each enduring intense pain from broken bones and other injuries. They spent seven hours in the dark, apprehensive about whether they would be rescued, wondering what had happened to the rest of their family. The boy would occasionally cry out in panic,

and his mother, keeping her own fear in check, would comfort him. They prayed together, talked together about death and about God's care, and held hands - until rescue finally came. As so often happens, the worst situation brought out the best in them. The evil and the good grow up together.

All evil will finally end - it will be gathered up and it will be burned! And all that is good - all that is true, honest and just, all that is pure, lovely and of good report, all that is virtuous

...God has set the time for separation. He has his own plans for the gathering of the good into his barns, and for the sorting, and burning, of the evil.

and worthy of praise - will be gathered into God's barn, where the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father!

We often talk about the "good old days." Were the "good" old days really better, as we often say, or were they actually worse, as someone is always quick to point out? In the light of Jesus' parable, the "good old days" were both better and worse. The weeds were shorter then, but so were the stalks of grain. Now the grain is

higher, along with all the weeds.

What, then, are we to do? Did Jesus mean we are not to be concerned about the spread and gathering strength of evil? By no means. By his own example Jesus solemnly warned against obvious sins, as when he rebuked the Pharisees for their hypocrisy, and overturned the tables of the sellers in the temple.

I believe Jesus would tell us: don't plant weeds, don't encourage them, know the difference between the darnel and the grain as best you can, and warn both others and yourself of their presence. But don't try to pull them up - in so doing you might cause more harm than good. Paul tells us to hate that which is evil, but does not tell us to try to eradicate it.

A few years ago a Christian youth group here in Daytona Beach picketed the Capri Theater on Ridgewood Avenue. They carried signs, and talked to people who passed by. Were these demonstrators trying to weed out pornographic movies? Or were they making a bold statement about the wrongness of pornography? Whatever their motives, there is always a need for witness to what is true and good. And whenever we seek to hold fast to that which is good, we find ourselves in opposition to what is evil.

But God alone is in a position to make the final separation. We are asked to be patient until the harvest. And in the meantime, we are told to keep our hands off the weeds, and concentrate on nurturing the grain. □

7

Post Conference Retreat

by J. Paul Green, Jr.

8

On Sunday afternoon following General Conference at Redlands, California, 25 people drove up into the San Bernardino Mountains for a Post-Conference Ministerial Retreat. What follows is comments on the retreat from Dean Paul Green, who served as director, and others who attended.

Back up to the Chapman-Stout Chalet at Lake Gregory. Only 25 compared with the 35 young adults who were jammed in here week before last made it seem almost roomy.



Part of the group that enjoyed the Post Conference Retreat.

"California is great!"

"The camp setting was excellent."

"Even with little babies the place was nice and worked better than was first thought."

"I have enjoyed this retreat, but a little more living space would have made things easier."

"Location needs to be looked at. The Chalet is a great place but if at all possible in the future we need a facility where everyone can have their own room."

The retreaters took turns leading in worship. Some were very creative. Verne and Betsy Wright gave us a "spiritual feast." Leon Wheeler built his worship around the three babies and they cooperated beautifully. Helen Green told about her prison ministry, which most of us had not heard about.

"Great idea to have each person do a worship service. Each one had a part in making the retreat special."

"I like the rotation among the different participants and appreciated the different styles of worship that were presented."

"Having the students lead worship gave opportunity for all of us to see and enjoy the fact that they have a lot of ability and a lot to offer in spiritual leadership. How encouraging! Also having Dale and Janet, the Kubes and others lead worship gave opportunity for students and the rest of us to gain from their experience and maturity."

"John Peil led good studies on the book of Revelation. He is a fine teacher."

"Bible study is a must!"

"It might have been good to have more discussion during the Bible studies, but not a real problem."

Earl and Mabel Cruzan led a series of discussions on home and family life of the pastor's family which was very well received. This was informal, addressing matters suggested by the group, with lots of discussion. It was especially good to have Mabel in attendance, since she is a new member of the Council on Ministry.

"The family topic was good."



The Chalet at Lake Gregory, Calif.

"The Cruzans were an excellent choice because of the excellent results in their own family. Also I can see that they enjoyed this assignment."

"I remember the Denver retreat that had almost all the members of the Council on Ministry present. It was a special chance to meet them and for them to meet us. I would like to see it happen again."

I led discussions on worship and ceremonies of the church, giving out some materials, with lots of discussion, often getting

on unexpected areas of concern including explanation of the Council on Ministry's program and how students relate to it. Planned topics included baptism, weddings, ordinations, dedication of babies, etc.

Leland Bond, Chairman of the Council on Ministry, was at the retreat briefly and led two helpful discussions with the students. Executive Secretary Dale Thorngate led a session on denominational organization and work.

"The leaders were good in their opening the group up in discussion and very honest with personal problems and examples which helped me to feel more relaxed."

"The discussion of ceremonies was helpful."

"I liked Leland Bond's approach."

"Post-Conference review was good, but probably not necessary."

One evening our Australian

friends, Stefan and Vicky Kube and Allan Ford, showed slides of their country and told their fascinating life-stories. Stefan grew up in Poland, Vicky in Holland. He went from Australia to Holland to meet and marry her after a pen-pal romance. Vicky is cute in telling about it. Allan Ford is shy but pleasant and very earnest. It has been great getting to know them. It will give us much more interest in Australasian SDB's.

Dorothea Shettel spent most of her summer cooking for camps and retreats. She seems to have endless energy and creativity.

"I must say the cook did a fantastic job, and I appreciated her participation in other events as well."

Recreation at the Chalet was limited by vertical terrain. Considerable ping pong was played. Hiking was the most prevalent activity, mostly on hillside roads. Late afternoons about

half our group went down to Lake Gregory for a little swimming and a lot of water sliding - something new to most of us, a little scary, exciting and a lot of fun.

"Recreation seemed to meet the needs of the group."

"I loved the swimming, hiking and water sliding."

"Recreation wore me out."

The hardest part of leading this retreat was arranging transportation. Things kept changing! Marian and Bill Lewis were our guardian angels down in Riverside. They did all the leg-work plus furnishing loads of bedding. Sometimes it looked as though our plans were falling apart but the Lewises came through like troopers. Praise the Lord for them!

We closed the retreat on Thursday evening. What a hard-working cooperative group, especially in getting cleaned up and ready to go! Ted Hambleton and Bill Lewis transported us off the mountain. Complicated transportation arrangements, various times and places involved.

Evaluations by the retreaters were generally positive, and furnished a multitude of ideas for future retreats.

"The idea of Post-Conference Retreat is excellent. The easy-going format was super, especially since most of us already work under too much stress at school. Schedule was flexible which was good, allowing for greater freedom in thought and discussion."

"It makes sense to plan the retreat at the time and place of Conference, especially if COM



Amy Wright, Sara Wilson and Jenny Butler were a delightful focus of the group's interest and activity.

9

History's Lesson

by Rev. Stephen Burdick

sponsors the students to come to the Conference meetings."

"On the whole I enjoyed the retreat. Post-Conference is a practical time as it combines two events but keep in mind the ability of people to be alert. The schedule allowed for a lot of rest and free time which was needed since we were already tired from Conference. The discussion format is good. I like it since I think the group can talk about its concerns and not be locked into a lecture's subject. On the whole I enjoyed the retreat, most of all the fellowship."

"Suggest topics: The student and his seminary; Christian counseling; alternative places and forms of worship; evaluation of present society needs and the church's response."

"Topics: parenting; preaching; denominational changes (by-laws, people, structure, work of SDBs, etc.); a topical Bible study; study of statement of faith; Sabbath worship and observance; goal setting and planning for Christians; church growth; divorce; church leadership; personal finances."

"Though my family couldn't attend, the time was great, and the location beautiful. I am for the same time next year. I wish I could have seen more of California. The leaders and topics were fantastic! Appropriate, timely topics, leaders were challenging, greatly competent and loving. At first I was apprehensive about a whole four days, but now I wish we had another. Everything went smoothly, people participated in discussion, I met new friends and feel I have been challenged to grow. I hope you use this retreat as a basic guide for the future." □

The words of the prophet Isaiah have been verified again and again in the world's history. "As soon as Zion (the church) travailed she brought forth her children." The history of the past as it relates to the work of God's kingdom in general and the experience of Seventh Day Baptists in particular, serves to illustrate and emphasize certain important principles and facts to which we may call attention.

(1) The mission to which the Seventh Day Baptist denomination has been called is important in its nature and intent and sacred in its obligations, because it rests upon principles which underlie all moral obligations, all moral law and all spirit-

If we ... are to meet the world upon us, it will be by ... going wheresoever the Master sends us, ...

ual life and is that which gives to the Gospel its benign purpose and its power to redeem men from sin.

(2) The work of the Gospel is, first and last, a reform work. Its mission is to redeem men from all transgression, and effectually promote the coming of God's kingdom and the doing of his will on earth, as done in heaven.

(3) Its sources of enlightenment and power are the word of God and his Holy Spirit.

(4) Its active agencies are, first, the church of the living God, enlightened by the word of God and quickened by his Holy Spirit. Second, the divinely commissioned living teacher sustained by a living church,

whose members with him became "co-workers together with God in the upbuilding of his kingdom."

(5) If we as the people of God are to meet the demands of the world upon us, it will not be by following the multitude, going wheresoever they go, doing whatsoever they do, but rather going wheresoever the Master sends us, doing ourselves and teaching others to do whatsoever our Lord has commanded. If we would do this, effectually, successfully, we need to humble ourselves in the sight of God, and with earnest appeal to him for favor and help seek and labor for the development of deep, abiding and widely prevailing spiritual life in the membership of all our churches and with anxious, prayerful waiting, receive, in God's own good time, that baptism of his Holy Spirit which changes the hearts and lives of men and leads them into loving obedience to the will of God in all things.

Then may we experience the blessed fulfillment of God's promise — "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings as eagles, they shall run and not be weary and they shall walk and not faint." May the Lord help us to seek and so to find. □

— Rev. Stephen Burdick; 1827-1905. Rev. Burdick served as Editor of the *Sabbath Recorder*, and Recording Secretary of the American Sabbath Tract Society. This selection was from his paper entitled: "A Lesson From the Past" as published in *Seventh Day Baptists in Europe and America*, Vol. II.

Urgent Appeal for Poland...

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

We are very grateful to the Lord that the last food action to Poland has been a great success. Maybe some of you have seen the report and pictures in the *Sabbath Recorder*. We are now planning a new action to bring food, clothing and printing materials, as a result of an urgent request from our Polish brothers. There are political problems still in Poland, but our brothers have a license to print religious magazines and tracts. To print these, special paper is needed. This paper is not available in Poland, so it must be brought in from other countries.

Soon it will be winter, and food for our brethren will be scarce. People are already waiting in long lines to shop in stores that are nearly empty. Flour, sugar, meat, oil, soap and coffee are tightly rationed. As an example, each person is allowed only one small bar of soap each two months. One four-person family can have one loaf of bread every other day. Milk, potatoes and other staples are difficult to get. Laundry soap is a luxury.

We believe God has called us for this difficult job. With your help, we can answer His call and the call for help from Poland.

We plan to go to Poland before winter, hopefully mid-November. The time is short to answer His call. By circumstances, we are later with this request than we had planned. If you are led to answer this request, we can make it together. Your financial support can make this action possible.

Maybe it is possible for a special offering in your local church, Sabbath school, association or conference.

Please help us reach out again to Poland. The need is urgent, and we pray for a quick response to that need.

From an earlier visit to Poland, we have received a Polish porcelain coffee service from a sister there. We would like to pass this gift on to a person who participates in this new call for action.

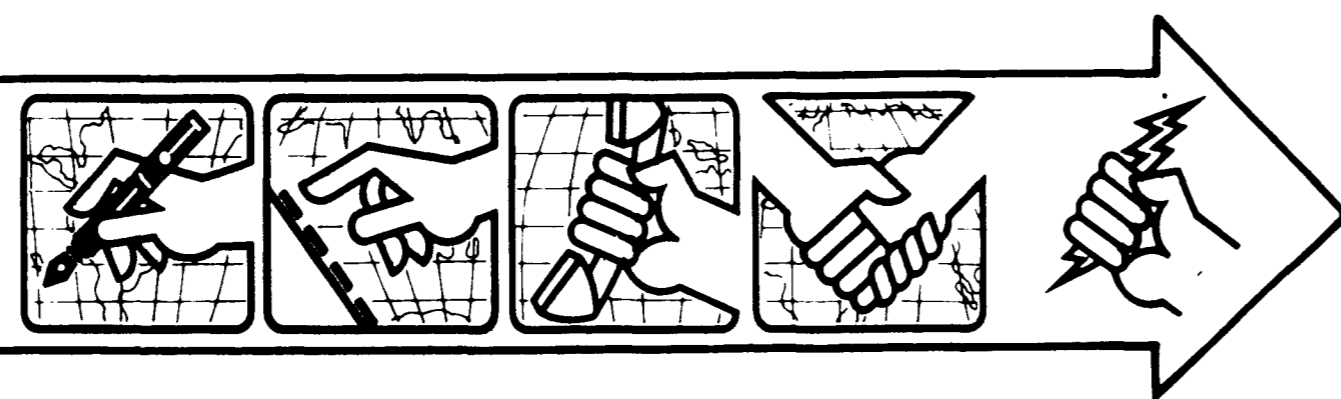
If you have questions or suggestions about this action, please feel free to write me.

"I was hungry, and you gave Me your food.
I was thirsty, and you gave Me your cup.
Whatever you have done to the least of My brothers,
said Jesus, you have done it to Me.

"When I was cold, you gave Me your clothes.
I was a stranger, and you let Me in.
Whatever you have done to the least of My brothers,
said Jesus, you have done it to Me."

With friendly greetings,
In His name.

Jan and Ruth Lek
Holland □



Dale D. Thorngate, Executive Secretary

8th in a series on Church Growth

Proclaim the Word

"If the trumpet does not sound a clear call, who will get ready for battle?" (1 Corinthians 14:8)

Last month we began this series on 3-P Evangelism:

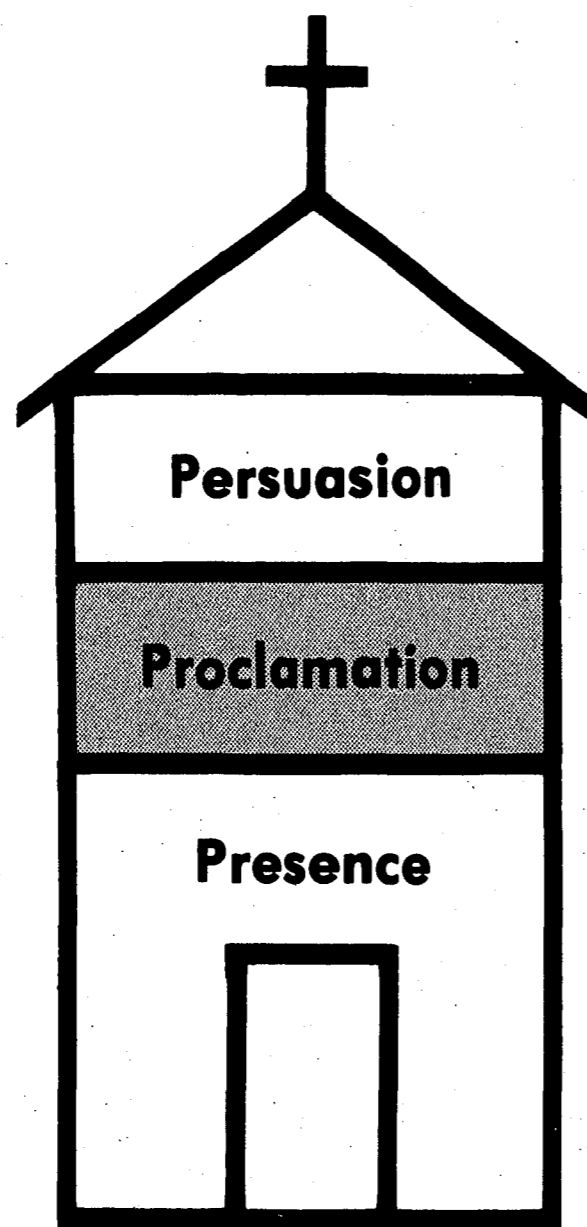
- 1-P Presence Evangelism
- 2-P Proclamation Evangelism
- 3-P Persuasion Evangelism

As you remember, Presence Evangelism is the witness of works. It is the first level upon which the other types of evangelism build. People in the larger community may first become aware of the church through the active presence of Christians in caring social ministry. Through Presence Evangelism many are first led to the door of the church. This month we are going to talk about the second "P" - proclaiming of the word or the "good news."

In 2-P Evangelism (Proclamation) the gospel is presented in such a way that the people hear it, understand it, and accept it.

"Some have claimed that 1-P Evangelism (Presence), the witness of works, is all that is necessary for the outreach of the church. That nothing more is required. As long as the Christian is involved in doing anything to

help his fellow man or better society this is sufficient. Now all this is important - feeding the hungry, visiting the sick, helping the oppressed, caring for the aged, promoting civil rights. Everything



that can be done in the name of Christ to bring a better life should be a part of normal Christian life and witness. But it is not the end. It is just the beginning, for we are not building a one-story house for God. We have just begun.**

In Such a Way That People Hear and Understand

The second story of our house of God is Proclamation Evangelism. The goal of 2-P Evangelism is to help people hear and respond to the "good news" of forgiveness and life through Christ. Proclaiming the "good news" within the program of the church occurs in several different forms. The most obvious and perhaps most crucial is the presentation of the gospel message from the pulpit. It is important that the message of forgiveness and a new life in Christ be presented as a part of every sermon. Most people hear it first from the pulpit. At that point they are either motivated to find out more or they reject it based upon what they have heard.

The pulpit, however, is not the only place that the message of Christ is proclaimed. In Sabbath School each week, or during any Bible study, the message should also be stated and opportunity given for searching individuals to understand. Other forms include radio or television broadcasts along with publication and distribution of the "good news" in various printed forms.

SDB Preparation for Proclamation

Pastors take classes in seminary so that they can understand more clearly and can

communicate better the gospel message. They also have opportunity to hone their skills by attending continuing education classes. In his travel among several of our eastern churches in October Dean Paul Green visited with seminary students already enrolled in the Center on Ministry program and talked with a number of prospective students who feel a special call to be "proclaimers." For the first time this fall a number of young people who have given previous dedicated service on behalf of Seventh Day Baptists are attending college on scholarships through the denominational Memorial Fund. Many of them are preparing for special proclamation ministry.

Teachers of Sabbath School classes and Bible studies are also encouraged to take courses on a continuing basis in order to maintain their skills and ability to communicate clearly the message of love, forgiveness, and potential for new life. A major focus in our Year of Ministry (1983) will be identification of resources available to churches and individuals to help lay people of all ages and gifts to better prepare for all types of ministry including that of proclaiming the word. One example: The Board of Christian Education at its annual meeting in October reported plans for Christian writers' workshops in which gifts for written proclamation might be developed.

The goal is proclamation of

the new life potential based on acceptance of Christ as Lord and Savior. Next month we will discuss the third "P" - Persuasion Evangelism. May God bless you as you evaluate the proclamation style of evangelism in your church. Ask yourself: Are people hear-

ing, understanding and accepting Christ as Savior and Lord as the message of new life is proclaimed in my church?

* "Body Evangelism Workshop," Commitment to Growth Notebook, Fuller Evangelistic Association, Pasadena, CA. □

A Car Dealer Discusses the Ultimate Trade...

New Models for Old

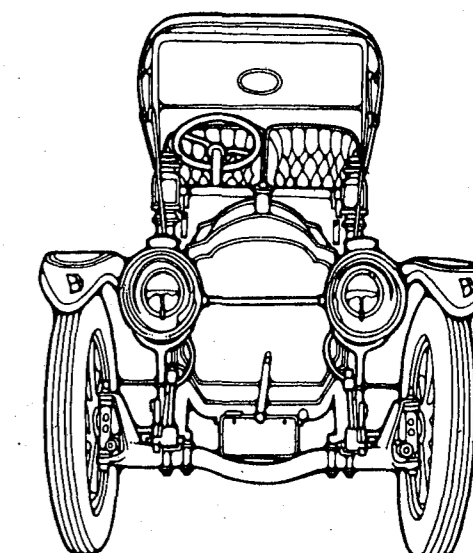
by J. Elliott Stedelbauer

A Detroit automaker recently introduced a sensation in automobile circles, the 50,000 mile warranty - a written guarantee that the powertrain components of its vehicles were under warranty for 50,000 miles or five years, whichever occurred first.

But let me tell you about another warranty - one you may never have heard about - which will give you **free of charge** a brand new life *right now* in exchange for your old one...regardless of age or "mileage."

Let's compare our lives to a car with a 70,000 mile warranty. God says in the Bible, "The days of our years are three score and ten (70)." (Psalm 90:10) This means that we can reasonably expect to reach 70 years of age. Let's assume, then, that each year of a 70-year life equals 1,000 miles or 70,000 miles in a lifetime in automobile terms. I am quite willing to admit that my model is a 1910, already beyond God's "usual" warranty period.

What would your natural re-



action be if you were nearing the end of a guarantee on your automobile and you didn't wish to drive it without a factory warranty? The logical thing to do is to trade it in on a new one with a full guarantee or at least one not so old that still has a partial guarantee.

Here is where the Good News concerning my 1910 model comes in. It's already turned in on a new one! The Bible says, "If any man be *in* Christ, he is a new creature. Old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." (2 Corinthians 5:17) The key to my new

Continued on page 28.



THE BEACON

For and by members of the Seventh Day Baptist Youth Fellowship

November, 1982

Too Strong for Peer Pressure

Upon the arrival on a college campus, or perhaps even at Junior High school, students are hit by a great deal of pressure - particularly that of their peers.

Those who perhaps most strongly resist this pressure to conform to the behavior of peers are sometimes labeled by those peers as "square."

Someone anonymously wrote: Everybody knows a few squares. I know one. He's that strong, polite, God-fearing young fellow who freely admits that he prays, weeps for joy, plays with little kids, kisses his mother, goes to his dad for advice, and thinks old folks are great.

He wears clothes that fit him, puts

savings in the bank, has his hair neatly groomed, likes school, can't imitate all the television comics, avoids dirty discussions about sex - he even blushes.

He goes to church, drinks milk, drives within the speed limit, is in bed by 12, doesn't smoke, and expects purity in girls.

As a result of this unusual behavior, he suffers the loss of gang companionship; but he gains the gratitude and admiration of his parents, family, and teachers, has an unjaded imagination, and enjoys spiritual perception.

To some he may seem a strange fellow, but I like him!

The Alfred Sun

-Anon.

Straight Talk About Sex

Book Review

CHANT, Berry
Straight Talk About Sex
Whitaker House, Springdale, PA 1977

This book is exactly what it claims to be. In clear, straight-down-the-line language, it faces the issues aroused by today's sexual revolution and answers them.

Being frank, and yet often humorous, Barry Chant tackles, head-on, questions ranging from standards of dress, love and marriage, to premarital sex, abortion, masturbation and homosexuality. And he uses lively anecdotes and real-life situations to answer these important questions for every young person's life.

In a day when traditional standards have been exploded, and when confusion about sex and marriage abounds,

you will find positive answers and clear guidelines in **Straight Talk About Sex**.

The book may be borrowed on a one-month basis from the Board of Christian Education, 15 South Main Street, Alfred, NY, 14802 or purchased from your nearest book store.

Heritage Corner

With all the interest about Pre-Con shown by the young people at the Redlands S.D.B. Conference, some may be interested in its early history.

"The first Pre-Con Retreat was held at a camp on Fair Lake near Battle Creek, Michigan, in 1940 under the leadership of the Revs. Harley Sutton and Elmo Fitz-Randolph. Among the staff members were Rev. and Mrs. A.J.C. Bond, Mrs. Harley Sutton, Mrs. Grace Babcock, and others. Sixteen churches were represented by the campers."

Rev. Harley Sutton was a leader in the use of camping in religious education. In recognition of his activities in this field, the Western Association (now the Allegheny Association), when it founded its camp in 1951 at Alfred Station, New York, named the camp in his honor. It is known as Camp Harley Sutton.

Rev. Elmo Fitz-Randolph also has a long history of camp promotion. He was instrumental in the founding of Camp Wakonda at Milton, Wisconsin. Although now retired, he is still active in the affairs of Camp Paul Hummel (formerly the Rocky Mountain Camp) at Boulder, Colorado.

from Seventh Day Baptists in Europe and America, Vol. III

Sabbath Observance in a Technological Age

Statement of Faith - "We believe the Sabbath of the Bible, the seventh day of the week, is sacred time... that it should be faithfully kept by all Christians as a day of rest and worship."

Statement of Concerns - "What does this mean 'to keep it holy'?"

I hesitate to try to tell... We need, however, to get a right idea of what Sabbath

really is, in order for us so to guide our conduct that our keeping of it may be holy...but we surely make a mistake when we undertake to make a set of rules by which we can draw a line."

Edwin Shaw, quoted in The Sabbath: Symbol of Creation and Recreation by Herbert Saunders, American Sabbath Tract Society 1970

Walk in the Spirit

by Craig Mix

God is concerned about **You!** (*Psalm 139:17,18*) Are you a true follower of Him? Do you deliberately choose the way of the cross?

When you received Christ, it was by a simple, unexplainable faith. After that you found yourself at the beginning of a long "road" ahead. *Colossians 2:6* says, "As you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him." What better way is there to be Christ-like than to walk in His Spirit? By simple trust we have a moment by moment walk in the Lord which is full of adventure, meaning and growth. If you allow His Holy Spirit to fill you (allowing Him to guide you in what He wants for you), then every minute can be a meaningful adventure.

First, let's talk about how we can "mess up" the walk that God is concerned that we have. Basically you can disrupt your walk in God's Spirit by just breaking one of His basic commands for you. This could be called grieving the Holy Spirit. (*Eph. 4:30*) Unfortunately, it is very easy to grieve the Holy Spirit because He is absolutely Holy and we aren't (*1 John 1:5*), and because God has given us a free will, which because of our own human nature, is often different from God's nature. (*Rom. 7:14-17*) Well then, how do we actually grieve the Holy Spirit? Paul mentions in *Ephesians 4* and *5* many ways which we grieve the Spirit. Some of these include lying, anger, stealing, impure thoughts, fornication, bitterness and many others. The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of complete Holiness (*Rom. 1:4*) and thus is grieved by all impurity or any contact with evil.

Since the Holy Spirit is also the spirit of wisdom, understanding, and knowledge (*Isa. 11:2*), and is the spirit of true faith (*2 Cor. 4:13*), He is grieved by ignorance of Bible truths (lack of zeal in Bible study), and by doubt and constant worrying.

Perhaps you are asking, well what exactly happens when we grieve the Holy Spirit? Well, most importantly, the Holy Spirit does not leave you, or stop loving you. He remains with you always. (*John 14:16*) But you will lose both your power and your real joy in Him. This is because your fellowship with God is severely limited. (*Psalm 32:3,4*) Instead of working fully in you, God's Spirit is caused to "plead" for you to yield to Him.

He does not want us to live a defeated Christian Life!

Now that we've looked at ways we can "mess up" our walk in the Spirit, let's look at how we can have a moment by moment walk in Him. The key to a true walk in God's Spirit is understanding that we have in us both a sinful nature and a spiritual nature. Each is in conflict with the other. But if we are led by the Spirit, we are not bound by the law of our sinful nature. (*Gal. 5:16-18*) Be open to the Spirit and remember that through the blood of Jesus Christ (his dying on the cross) we are forgiven. (*Acts 2:38*) Admit to God when you are wrong and thank Him for your forgiveness. Then and only then can you share in the abundant, adventurous, Christ-like life that God wants for you. Will you begin to walk in the Spirit, quickly confessing your sins and allowing God to fill you with His power and joy? □

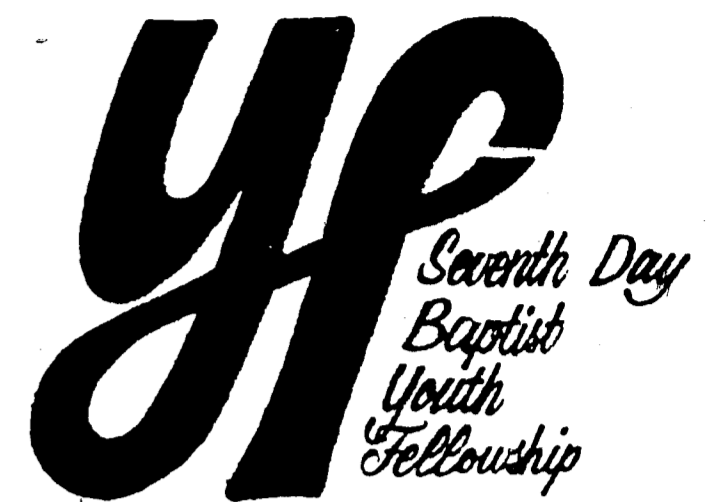
"Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desire. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit."
-Galatians 5:24,25

Program Suggestion

The week of November 21-27, 1982, is *Bible Week*. There are several suggestions in the October *Sabbath Recorder* of activities which are appropriate for the week. Youth could lead the church or community in some of these activities. □

Tying YFs Together —

A Reminder - the youth at the Youth Interest Committee agreed to send in material - now is a good time to submit articles. Everyone is invited to send in poems, articles, and notice of youth activities. □



Info-Corner

The General Conference President, Dr. K. Duane Hurley, has selected the theme "Proclaim the Word" for the 1983 Conference. He is urging all groups who are a part of the denomination to set this as a goal toward which to work during the year.

In particular, Dr. Hurley envisions goals of expanding evangelism in order to share the gospel with many people. Another objective is to give wider visibility to the Seventh Day Baptists and the practice of worshiping on the Sabbath. On the night after the Sabbath at General Conference, 1983, there will be a celebration with an opportunity to make or renew commitments of the goals set. One feature of the celebration will be a parade of banners which depict the projects set by groups.

As Youth Fellowships resume activities for the ensuing year, you are urged to set one or more goals in keeping with Dr. Hurley's theme. Make a banner and keep it in front of you as a reminder of what you wish to accomplish. Take it to Conference at Houghton as a declaration that the Youth are a viable part of the denomination working for the spreading of the gospel of God the Father and Jesus Christ His Son. □

Steps Toward Your Objectives

General Conference President, Dr. K. Duane Hurley, is urging churches to set goals for developing activities in several areas. Individuals also should set goals for their lives, without them people often become drifters, letting circumstances govern their lives rather than they, themselves, governing the circumstances.

Helping Workers Set Objectives was written specifically for church workers, but the principles involved are helpful for individuals as they work in the family team.

Helping Workers Set Objectives

Authors: Daniel L. Mead and Darrel J. Allen

Both in mission and means of achieving their missions, John the Baptist and today's church leaders have much in common. John prepared the way for the coming of the Messiah. Our work involves preparation for His return. John had a clearly defined objective and was diligently striving for its achievement. May we make the same claim about our ministry?

The local church team must know where it is going, why, what is required, how to work with each other and with leaders, and how to evaluate their efforts. Imagine what would happen if a football team appeared on the field, and there were no goalposts or yard lines. What chaos if the quarterback was uncertain which direction to lead the team or what call to make. Similarly in ministry, all workers must know what the goals are and how to proceed

toward achieving them.

Objectives give direction and purpose. They are the basis for determining which activities should be performed and provide criteria for evaluating how well they are being implemented. Without objectives, activities have little meaning. Setting Holy Spirit-led objectives, then, is the key to an effective ministry.

While almost as many approaches to determining objectives are available as individuals setting them, the basic components of an objective remain the same. To develop Spirit-directed objectives, workers, leaders, and pastors must spend time in prayer asking for the leading of the Holy Spirit and God's continual input in the formulating process. Otherwise, setting objectives might become a mechanical rather than spiritual endeavor. The church can work endlessly doing things the right way but, without the Holy Spirit's leading and provision of power behind and through the plan all is vanity.

When setting objectives, consider the following principles: **Acceptability** An atmosphere for developing team spirit, mutual supportiveness, and trust is not likely if an objective is not acceptable. Involvement of as many workers as possible at this stage helps increase the level of acceptability, an important element in the achievement process.

Attainability To be effective, an objective must be attainable within a reasonable period of time. A balance between formulating realistic objectives and ones that challenge each worker to increase achievement

for the Lord should be maintained.

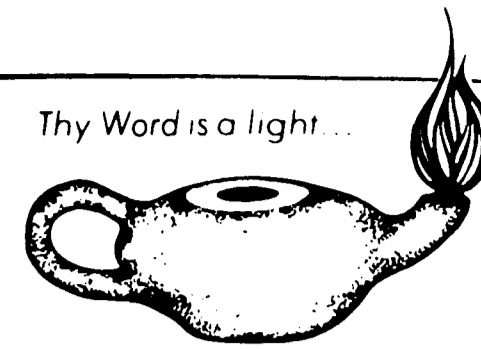
Motivation An objective must be inspirational enough that all personnel want to achieve it. While being compatible with the interests of individuals, needs of the organization also must be considered.

Measurability Criteria for periodic measurement must be an integral part of the objectives being set if success is to be evaluated properly. Measurability with a regular review system builds in a sense of accountability which can greatly increase achievement. Otherwise, no one knows if progress is being made.

Simplicity A simple, clearly stated objective increases the possibility of its effectiveness. When an objective is so complex that God's people wander aimlessly trying to understand what they are to achieve, it is a tremendous obstacle. Nebulous objectives create nebulous results.

Communication Informing others of the purpose of an objective and the progress being made is essential. Awareness increases achievement.

Finally, define long-range, intermediate, and short-term intervals for completing developed objectives - in that order - so that deadlines can be kept in mind. Be careful not to develop three separate sets of objectives. Short-range and intermediate objectives should be stepping stones for reaching long-range objectives. With objectives in mind and a sensitivity to the Holy Spirit's leading and indwelling power, you are now ready for goal-oriented work activity. □



Board of Christian Education

Mrs. Mary Clare

Scripture Memorization Honor Roll

The Board of Christian Education congratulates the teachers and students who worked on the Scripture memorizing project in 1982.

Those who earned certificates for the second year:

Ryan HolgateRiverside, CA
 Jeremy Burdick.....Riverside, CA
 Emily Davis.....Riverside, CA
 Napoleon deZaldivar...Riverside, CA
 Bob DriverRiverside, CA
 Richard Crouch... Daytona Beach, FL
 Amy Hamelton... Daytona Beach, FL
 Nikki Cruzan Milton, WI
 Angie Gilmore Milton, WI
 Mandi Cruzan Milton, WI
 Jennifer Lippincott Milton, WI
 Becky Loofboro Milton, WI

Kristin Rod Westerly, RI
 Jonathan Hazen Washington, DC
 Jeffery Hazen..... Washington, DC
 Dionne Ross..... New York, NY
 Rebecca Thorpe Ashaway, RI

Those who earned certificates for the first time in 1982.

Warren EberhardtRiverside, CA
 Deja CoffeltRiverside, CA
 Anita TilleryRiverside, CA
 Erin BurdickRiverside, CA
 Mark WebbRiverside, CA
 David EberhardtRiverside, CA
 Danny BojorquezRiverside, CA
 Shenan ChadwickRiverside, CA
 Virginia RosaRiverside, CA
 Heidi GilmoreMilton, WI
 Michael KellerMilton, WI
 Kory GeskeMilton, WI

Lane JorgensenMilton, WI
 Michelle LoofboroMilton, WI
 Becky ThorngateMilton, WI
 Robert Crane, Jr.Westerly, RI
 Desire LafranceWesterly, RI
 Dawn Lafrance,Westerly, RI
 Althea RoodWesterly, RI
 Heather ThorpeAshaway, RI
 Christen ThorpeAshaway, RI
 Rachael BowyerAshaway, RI

We would be happy to have the names of others who have completed the scripture learning for 1982.

Scriptures for 1983 have been announced. We invite families as a whole to participate in this program which ends with Conference, August 1983. □

American Bible Society Stresses Volunteer Program

The American Bible Society is pushing hard this year to further a program that would put a volunteer ABS representative in every local church. The program, which has been ongoing for sometime, is an effort to establish a "vital link between ABS and the local church."

The volunteer representatives are asked to communicate the Bible Society's work to the church's pastor, Sabbath School classes, men's and women's fellowship groups or youth organizations. Informative materials are periodically supplied to volunteers so that local groups can be aware of new

ABS materials and programs.

Ed. note: *For many denominations, a representative in every church would require an army of volunteers. Seventh Day Baptists are reminded that because of our size, an ABS volunteer in every church is a reachable goal. In a year of goal setting, it is a goal that your church may want to set. DSS.*

For more information on The ABS representative program, contact:

The American Bible Society
 Volunteer Activities Dept.
 1865 Broadway
 New York, NY 10023□

Seventh Day Baptist Logo Pins



A new supply of Seventh Day Baptist logo pins has arrived. These beautiful pins are useful as Christmas gifts or would make excellent gifts for a reward for memory work or other contest prizes.

Three designs are available: clutch back, clasp and charms.

\$2.50 each

Send orders to:
 Mrs. Leon Maltby
 2279 Nottingham Road
 South Daytona, FL 32019

Teacher's Mini-Lab

by P. Loth

Set Standards for Excellence

Local churches need to establish standards in their Christian education programs. Standards insure quality workers instill confidence in Christian education and encourage workers to prepare more adequately for service.

Areas to be considered when developing standards are:

Spiritual life:

- *Salvation
- *Theological views
- *Personal Christian walk
- *Testimony

Church relationship:

- *Membership
- *Involvement

Preparation:

- *Experience
- *Books read
- *Conventions/seminars attended
- *Courses taken
- *Certificates earned

Establishing standards requires extreme care. Those being asked to submit to standards need to have a part in establishing them. A Sabbath School staff meeting is a good opportunity for teachers and workers to discuss the need for criteria and then decide upon the standards to be established.

Standards should be written for clarification. Many churches find it helpful to write a job description, including standards and expectations, for each position in the Christian education program.

Once standards are set, workers are expected to honor

them. Those presently not able to fulfill requirements may serve as assistants, substitutes, helpers, or teachers-in-training. When the standards are met, they then may become "fully qualified" teachers or workers. Gradually, everyone will understand that to work in the Christian education program of the church certain

standards must be met.

A tradition of excellence is developed by establishing standards in the Christian education program of the local church. People know they must meet these standards if they serve in the church, resulting in quality Christian education and glory to God. - *Teacher Training Profile, 1978.* □

Now Available...

Our Favorite Recipes Cookbook

\$5.75

Featuring:

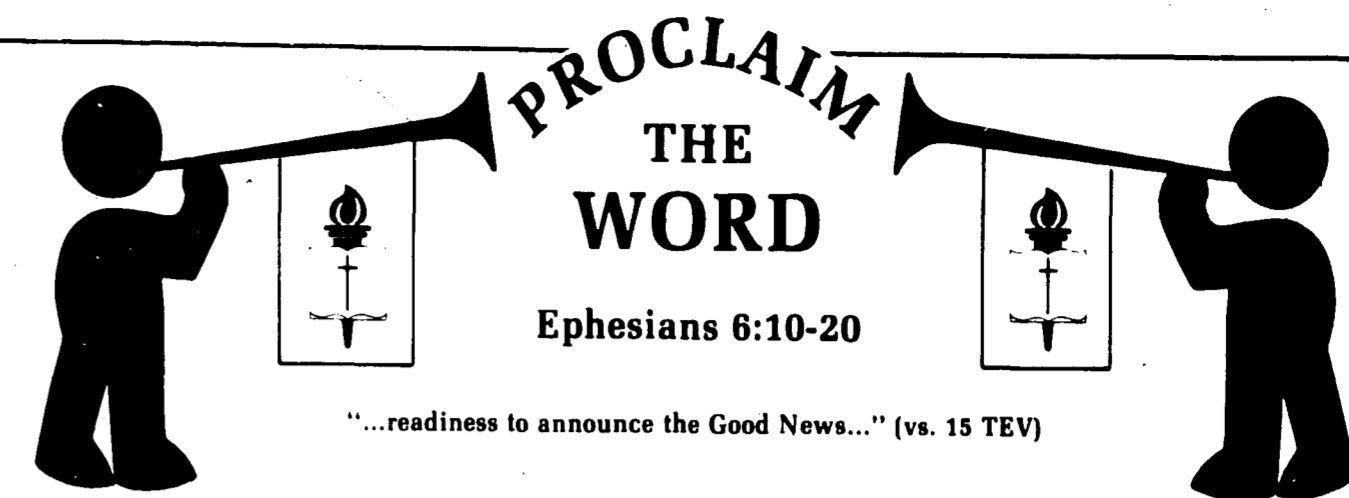
- ★ 475 recipes submitted by some 200 men, women and children
- ★ A page of table graces prepared by several SDB ministers
- ★ Quantity recipes
- ★ Diet workshop recipes
- ★ Some of the recipes bear the names of women who are no longer living but will be remembered by many.

Proceeds will help pay for the SDB Center.

Cost: \$5.00 per book, plus 50¢ postage and 25¢ tax = \$5.75

Make checks payable to: (Out-of-state orders, omit tax.)

Milton Seventh Day Baptist Women's Circle
c/o Mrs. Leland Skaggs
600 College St.
Milton, WI 53563



Parade!

by K. Duane Hurley

President,
Seventh Day Baptist General
Conference

A parade is a very special event! Parades have lively music, unfurled flags, marching people and colorful banners. Parades can make your heart quicken and your emotions stir. The key word in describing a parade is *enthusiasm!*

During the 1983 Seventh Day Baptist General Conference at Houghton College, Houghton, N.Y. (August 7-13) a specific time has been set aside for just such a celebration. The parading of banners and flags that deal with the conference theme, *Proclaim the Word*, will be held on the evening after the Sabbath, August 13, 1982.

Preparation for the activity involves two inter-related ingredients. First, there must be the setting of goals for growth by the churches and associations. When that step is completed, there can be the creation of colorful banners that communicate the theme or the set goals.

Youth groups, women's societies, pastors and lay leaders should be alert for communications carrying details about this unusually important event. In the meantime, all appropriate people should take the initiative in beginning to make plans for goal-setting and banner-making.

Parade of Banners

Hopefully, every SDB association, church, fellowship and group will be represented in the

parade of banners at conference in 1983. Each banner will be carried to the platform by a young person, accompanied by a representative of the women's society and the pastor, lay leader or moderator of the group.

The Bevis family of Denver, Colorado, will prepare for and coordinate the event. A procedure will be established for Pastor John D. Bevis to collect information about the goals illustrated by the banner. Then, even as the banners are being paraded at conference, announcements will be made regarding what they stand for in connection with church outreach and extension. The over-

...wherever our shoes take us, we should be prepared and eager to evangelize in Jesus' name.

all purpose is, of course, to have Seventh Day Baptists become increasingly effective in their efforts to *Proclaim the Word*.

Jesus, in his final words to his disciples, instructed Christians of every age to be witnesses for him throughout the world, beginning where they live. It is still the main task of Christians to *Proclaim the Word*. The Apostle Paul, in his letter to the Ephesians, mentions among the various parts of the "armor of God", the "shoes of readiness to announce the Good News..." (*Ephesians 6:15 TEV*). Wherever we are; wherever our shoes take us, we should be prepared and eager to evangelize in Jesus'

name.

Church Growth Technique

Experts in church growth suggest a number of techniques in planning and conduct which are guaranteed to produce results. Among them are the following: *Develop a systematic plan for growth.*

Have a goal-setting meeting before the beginning of each phase of the growth process.

Set specific goals. Make them simple, measurable and attainable.

Be sure that all members of the group understand the goals and that a majority are behind the objective as decided upon.

Verbalize the dreams often and translate them into mission.

Print the goals. Distribute and review them often, at least once a month.

When goals and objectives have been set, then organize, train and activate the lay people, all as ministers, in doing the work of the Lord.

Generate and maintain a spirit of enthusiasm.

*Use every possible channel of communications to inform members about the goals in connection with our theme, **Proclaim the Word.***

Prepare worship services and other meetings around the theme to raise the people's consciousness of their responsibility to work actively toward the goals. Have times to analyze and celebrate accomplishments.

Of course, some goals that are set early in this conference year will be achieved before next August. But there will be plenty left to do in the year following conference in 1983 and on through the *Decade of Discipleship*.

Continued on page 28

Rev. Rex Zwiebel Retires

by Katherine G. Crandall

On the evening of August 28, 1982, friends of Pastor Rex and Jaunita Zwiebel gathered in the parlors of the Alfred Station Church for a retirement reception to honor the Zwiebels for their years of service to the church, community, and denomination. An estimated 175 people from the church and community, from other S.D.B. churches in the Allegheny Association, and from other area churches were present on this occasion.

Church President George Bottoms served as Master of Ceremonies. The program consisted of three beautiful anthems sung by the Senior Choir. Amanda Snyder, choir director, sang, "How Beautiful Are the Feet," by Handel. A prayer poem honoring Pastor Zwiebel was composed and presented by Phyllis Mattison. Rev. Albert Rogers presented a plaque from the Board of Christian Education to Rex, honoring him



Rev. Albert Rogers presented a plaque from the Board of Christian Education to Pastor Rex Zwiebel, honoring him for his years of service.

for his many services to this and other churches, to the denomination, and to the communities in which he has lived. Rev. David Clarke presented a certificate honoring Rex as one of about 50 recipients internationally of the "1982 Distinguished Volunteer Award," bestowed by Christian Camp-

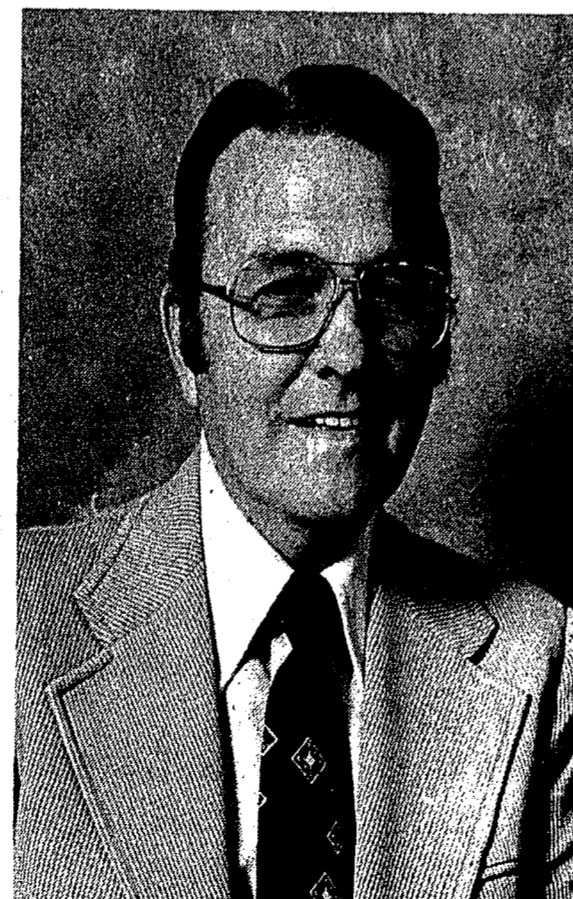
ing, International.

A monetary gift from church members and friends was presented to Rex and Jaunita by Georganna Marvin.

We wish Rex and Jaunita a happy retirement. Their new address is: 520 James Street, P.O. Box 642, Jackson Center, Ohio 45334. □



Pastor Zwiebel and his wife, Jaunita, were honored with a retirement reception at the Alfred Station Church.



Rev. Rex Zwiebel

World Day of Prayer

World Day of Prayer. Sponsored in the United States by Church Women United, this annual international observance unites women of faith in 170 countries on six continents around the globe. 1983 marks the 95th consecutive year in which untold thousands of women will gather to be part of this worldwide prayer witness. Translated each year into hundreds of languages, the World Day of Prayer service is thought to be the most widely used

piece of Christian literature in the world today apart from the scriptures.

This year's service was written by Christian women from the island countries of the Caribbean on the theme, "New Persons in Christ." Representing a rich mixture of races and cultures, these women are seeking a new Caribbean identity. The service reflects their joy in the new found independence of their nations and the new opportunities opening up to

women socially, politically and within their own churches. They have also prepared a special Children's Service designed to build bridges of understanding and teach young people 'round the world a new awareness of the culture of the Caribbean.

If your community does not have a World Day of Prayer service, Church Women United encourages you to take the initiative. Bring together women from the various churches and plan with them for the sharing of this important worldwide celebration. Consider reaching out beyond the churches and bring World Day of Prayer to an office group, a Girl Scout troop, Christian students on a university or college campus, a retirement or nursing home, hospital chapel, local prison or halfway house.

A variety of World Day of Prayer materials are available and can be ordered from the Church Women United Distribution Center, P.O. Box 346, Kutztown, PA 19530. Worship Services as well as the Leader's Guide and the Children's Service may be obtained in English and Spanish. For those with special sight needs, WDP materials may be ordered free of charge in braille and/or in large print from the John Milton Society for the Blind, Room 832, 475 Riverside Drive, New York, NY 10115.

Posters, Radio and TV spot announcements and a sample Press Release are also available to facilitate promotion of your event. For further information, write Church Women United, 475 Riverside Drive, Room 812, New York, NY 10115. Plan and order as early as possible. □

In Testimony

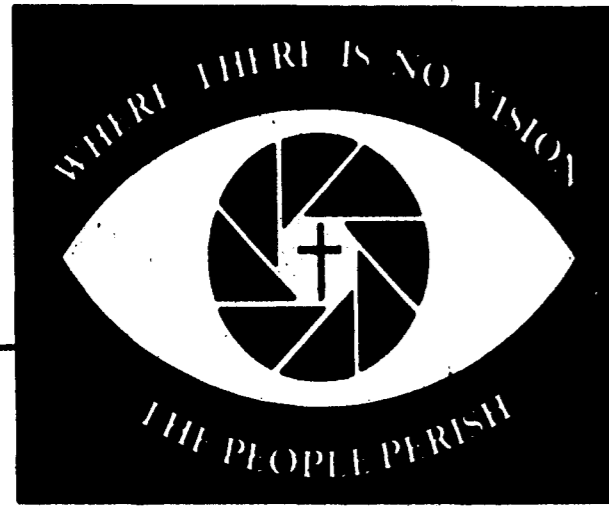
WHEREAS Rex Edward Zwiebel, faithful minister and friend, has felt led to retire from active service, BE IT REMEMBERED how he served

- As a student at the Alfred University School of Theology (painting houses during summer vacations),
- As pastor of the Hebron SDB Churches and leader of youth camps in the Association ("did you ever hear a moth bawl?"),
- As a teacher of Christian Education at Salem College while pastor of the Lost Creek and Roanoke SDB Churches,
- As executive secretary of the SDB Board of Christian Education and interim pastor of the Buffalo SDB Church,
- As dean of the Center for Ministerial Training at Plainfield, N.J., where he served with distinction,
- As pastor of the Alfred Station SDB Church and supply pastor of the Hartsville Community Baptist Church, as an officer and active member of the Alfred Station Fire Co., and in many other roles, and
- As president of the Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education, its *leader, mentor* and *champion*...

THEREFORE, We, the undersigned, with many others, affirm our deep respect and love for Rex; and bid him Godspeed, a happy rest, and joy and peace unending!

The Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education, Inc. □

FOCUS



MISSIONS TODAY

CEBU CITY, THE PHILIPPINES- Missionary Rodney Henry writes: "I have been busy completing the Pastors Training Course materials to be printed and I still have some left for Year 1. Then, I'll tackle Year 2! (These are the courses that the pastors will use in their local church classes for new leadership training). Also, I am just completing a course of study on Animism which I acquired from Fuller Theological Seminary last year. It has been a very enlightening and practical course."

NEW WORK, USA- One of the big hurdles every new Extension Church faces is the place for regular meetings. Some find suitable facilities in a church that is open to sharing. But this is not usually long term. To acquire their own property is a tremendous step of faith. The Evangelical Community Church finds that costs are way beyond them in their area of Southern California. The Metro Atlanta, GA church are prayerfully seeking God's will. We all need to be aware of such problems and uphold our new work in prayer!

MALAWI, AFRICA- The Central Africa Conference of SDBs has asked your board to send a "medical administrator" to aid in their growing ministries. Such a person need not be an RN or MD but should have accounting/book-keeping experience and some familiarity with medical terms. This request was considered at the October board meeting. Pray that the Lord may raise up His person according to His will.

Missions News

WASHINGTON, DC- "To carry out a plan of team teaching in the upper four levels of our Sabbath School along with a possible rotation of teams every quarter, we are prayerfully searching for additional teachers. We believe it will be good for teachers as well as students to have a change. We are also in the process of enlisting trainees for our fall semester in Evangelism Explosion discipleship training. It is our aim to involve certified trainers (three at present) in the ongoing teaching of new trainees. The lay people, under the leadership of Doug Rausch, planned and presented the Sabbath services the two weeks I was in Southern California." - Pastor Leland E. Davis

GUYANA, SOUTH AMERICA- Sister Inez Peters writes of the youth camp at their site on the Pomeroon river. "Despite extreme shortages of food items, we are trusting God to see us through, as we expose about 50

young people to have an encounter with the Lord." Pastor Jacob Tyrrell was recently appointed a Marriage Officer, meeting a vital need that has been unfilled for many years. He is the Pastor of the Kitty SDB Church in Georgetown and a renewed group in Uitvlugt, a village on the main road to Parika.

ATLANTA, GA- The November MISSIONS (mailed with LEADLINE to all pastors and to local church Missionary Keyworkers) gives an update on how the Lord has been leading and blessing one of our newest churches in this large metro area. Be sure to discover what is happening there.

FIELD MINISTRIES of Mynor G. Soper since Conference have included: visiting contacts in Tenn.; encouraging and ministering to the group in Asheville, N.C.; helping with a fair booth at Amarillo Texas; holding revival services at Memphis and ministry in Florida. For much of this time Allen Ford, a visitor to Conference from Australia, has traveled with him aiding in the work. □

WANTED:

DEDICATED AND ALIVE

WANTED: Music Director

FOR: Traveling Music Ministry

IDENTIFYING FEATURES: Joy in the Lord
Zeal for Spreading His Word

If you have any information concerning the whereabouts of such a person, contact:

Phil Burrows, Chairman
LightBearers' Standing Committee
Seventh Day Baptist Center
P.O. Box 1678
Janesville, WI 53547

Theological Education by Extention (TEE) In Malawi

by Bettie Pearson

There are 30 enrolled in TEE in Malawi, which began in April 1982. Thirteen of these are Pastors and seventeen other church leaders. They study at home, at their own pace, and are sent texts to answer and return by mail after each ten lessons. In Pastor Manyamba's area, there are four church leaders studying in addition to him. These men have met with Pastor Manyamba several times for class discussion.

The foundation text, *Following Jesus* is published in Chichewa in Nairobi, Kenya. It is a very good study of the basics of the Christian life and consists of 50 lessons arranged in sets of five,

designed to be studied one each day for ten weeks.

Of the 30 who are studying, six have completed Test IV (or 4/5th of the book) and four others have sent in Test III. It is planned to highlight the TEE course at the September Conference sessions and we hope another ten Pastors/Leaders will enroll.

Because of distance it is not possible to call the men together for periodic class sessions. We do plan, however, a discussion time with those who are in attendance at Conference at Makapwa.

The next study book, *Christian Family Living*, is in hand for those who have completed the found-

ation text. Initial comments from some of the students include:

"The day that I began my lessons, I began to really believe Jesus Christ and to repent of my sin and to take Him in my heart. Today I am a new creation. Thank you, God bless you."

"I see that my life is being changed and I believe that I will receive much."

"I see that I will be helped with these lessons, and interesting questions. We are on a long journey and often we are tested. I pray that God will help me in reading all the lessons and going ahead." □

December 1982

- 1-Our brethren in Nigeria as they continue their witness for the Lord.
- 2-Missionary Pastor Lawrence Watt, White Cloud, MI.
- 3-Mary Clare, Exec. Director, Board of Christian Education.
- 4-True Praise to Him, at home, in Sabbath School, and in worship.
- 5-David and Bettie Pearson as they seek the Lord's leading/strength each day.
- 6-Conference President, K. Duane Hurley as he plans for 1983.
- 7-Pastor John Thompson and the Berean SDB Church, Hendersonville, NC.
- 8-All those looking for jobs, especially ones without Sabbath work.
- 9-Missionary Pastor Gabriel Bejjani and the Evangelical Comm. Church, CA.
- 10-Leaders of the Kenya SDB Mission as they seek God's leading and wisdom.
- 11-The joy of giving to missions through the SSMO (Sabbath School Missions Offering).
- 12-The Women's Board and President Floy Owen, in their ministries.
- 13-Rodney and Camille Henry and family in their work in the Philippines.
- 14-People in nursing homes/hospitals (after you pray and make a visit - you'll be surprised how much the Lord will bless you through these people!).
- 15-The youth of the churches - our future Church!
- 16-Our World Mission giving. Is my church reaching the goal for 1982?
- 17-Your pastor and church leaders.
- 18-A person to sit in the empty spaces in our church - someone who you are going to "love to Jesus".
- 19-The new group in Spokane, WA in their witness and work for our Lord.
- 20-Pastors and leaders in Mozambique, Africa SDB churches.
- 21-The church community. Does your community know about your church?
- 22-Those who are alone in this holiday season - who do not know God's love.
- 23-A coming together into a group of individuals in Johannesburg, S. Africa.
- 24-Families on Christmas Eve - the eve of the Sabbath, too!
- 25-PRAISE GOD as we celebrate the birth of Love!
- 26-Light Bearers for Christ - that there may be a Team in '83.
- 27-Director of Church Extension and Evangelism, Mynor G. Soper.
- 28-Executive Vice President Leon Lawton and his wife Dorothy, Missionary Soc.
- 29-Barbara Hays as she works in the Missionary Board office.
- 30-Pastor Kenroy Cruikshank and the Ambler (PA) SDB Church.
- 31-Thank God for His guiding hand and blessings to you in 1982, pray that 1983 will be a time for real spiritual growth!

Baptist Village Thrives in Israel

by Jennie Goldman

24

Kfar HaBaptisti, Israel - A fragrant orange grove, the sounds of children at play, and the echoes of "Jerusalem! Lift up your gates and sing!" greet the visitor approaching "Baptist Village", an intriguing example of Christian life in Israel.

The village is located ten miles north of Tel Aviv near the Mediterranean coast, in a pastoral setting of orchards and open fields. The tiny community of three American families and a dozen or so volunteers devotes its energies to summer camps and year-round conferences at its spacious facilities, the nurturing and harvesting of citrus fruits, and its renowned choir.

The director of Baptist Village is Rev. Don Mantooth, originally from Tennessee. He and his wife Suzanne were assigned here by America's Southern Baptist Convention, which sponsors and staffs the village. In all, the Convention has about 30 representatives living and working in Israel, and Baptist Village is their center.

Multilingual Meeting Place

"It's an ideal venue for meetings and conferences," explains the tall, sandy-bearded Rev. Mantooth. "Our churches in Nazareth and Jerusalem, for example, make use of the facilities here throughout the year."

As summer approaches, the community moves into high gear for its program of children's camps. Some 500 youngsters from up and down the country take part in the camps, which are organized in language groups: English, Arabic, Hebrew, French and German. "We've quite a tradition of



Above The main complex of buildings in Israel which house the Baptist Village offices, conference rooms and dining room. **Below** Wives of volunteers walk their children around the grounds.

camps here," the village's director points out. "As early as the 1940s, our Arabic churches in the Galilee used to bring school parties to this spot. The Yarkon River runs close by and that was of course a prime attraction."

It was also in the 1940s that the forerunner of Baptist Village was set up on this site: a farming community composed of Christians from various countries and backgrounds. "But that venture failed," relates Rev. Mantooth, "and then in the mid-50s the Baptists moved here and opened an orphanage for Arab children which later became a high school. That was eventually phased out, and since 1973 Baptist Village has been exclusively a camp and conference center."

Well, almost exclusively. With lush orange and grapefruit orchards rolling into the distance all around, life at Baptist Village also has its agricultural side. During the picking season, the community expands as young volunteers arrive from



the United States to lend a hand. "The fruit is sent to the Israeli marketing cooperative, Tnuva," says Rev. Mantooth, "and then it's exported. Who knows?" he muses. "Our friends back home may be enjoying our fruit right now."

Sharing in the Work

This cultivation of the land makes the villagers feel they are really a part of the Israeli scene. Rev. Mantooth puts it this way: "The people of this country

Continued on page 25



Book Review

Dear Lord...

25

Dear Lord

Children's Letters to God

Selected by Bill Adler

Illustrated by Bettye Beach
Published by Thomas Nelson Publishers, Nashville, Tenn.
ISBN 0-8407-5266-0
120 pages, Hardbound
\$3.95

As adults, we place many restrictions on ourselves when it comes to prayer. There are some things that we don't feel comfortable praying about and so we build a list of "no-no's" for ourselves. "Don't pray for

weather, material blessings or concerns too trivial for God to be bothered with."

Bill Adler's book, **Dear Lord**, is a dose of the wonderful openness of children. Many of the letters that Adler has selected reflect the child's view of her family.

Dear Lord,

Thank you, Lord, for the best mother and father in the world. And thank you, Lord, for my brother. He is not the best brother in the whole world but he is the only brother I have.

Love,
Jennifer, Age 8
Brunswick

Brothers and sisters certainly can be trying! The children who wrote these letters to God don't feel any reason that they

shouldn't tell God about it.

Dear Lord,

Please send a new baby for Mommy. The new baby you sent last week cries too much.

Love,
Debbie, Age 7
Coral Gables

If you are a parent, listen to your child pray and you will hear yourself and what your child thinks about you. God is, after all, the ultimate authority. If you are not satisfied with mom's and dad's answer, ask God.

Dear Lord,

I need a raise in my allowance. Could you have one of your angels tell my father?

Thank you,
David, Age 7
Durham

Finally, in the pages of **Dear Lord**, you will find glimpses of a child's love and respect for his grandparents...

Dear Lord,

Do you have a long white beard? My grandfather said you have a long white beard and I think he knows you.

Gwen, Age 8
Tyler

...and the child's view of what we all need to remember; that God knows and loves each of us and calls us by name.

Dear Lord,

My grandma just went to heaven. Please take care of her. Her name is Grandma.

Your Christian,
Paul, Age 7
Cincinnati

Bill Adler's book, **Dear Lord**, is a book by children that is for adults. It is a book that will remind you of a more simple faith and the power of honest prayer. Put it on your coffee table and share it with your friends. □

Baptist Village

Continued from page 24

have developed the land and made it produce. We feel that with our citrus crop we are contributing our share."

Baptist Village has also been active in a different kind of national undertaking - Israel's assistance to the Southern Lebanese villagers who cross through the "Good Fence" on the country's northern border, seeking help. Many sick and injured Lebanese have received treatment in hospitals in the Tel Aviv area, and Baptist Village offers the patients' relatives a place to stay during the period of hospitalization. "One elderly woman stayed with us for eight months," recalls Suzanne Mantooth. "She spent all day at the hospital with her son and returned here to sleep. It all ended happily and they're both back in Lebanon now."

Music-making is another of the village's specialties: The Singers of Praise, its 60-voice choir, has a nationwide reputation for its Christmas and Easter concerts. It is composed of expatriate Christians from some ten different countries, Arab Christians from various parts of Israel, and even a number of Jewish members, all under the baton of John Carr, a trained conductor on a two-year assignment from the United States. Suzanne Mantooth, who is the coordinator of the choir, reflects, "It's a very special experience to sing together in one voice with people from so many different backgrounds."

For everyone at Baptist Village, in fact, it is evidently these enriching encounters with different faiths and cultures that make an **Israeli** Baptist Village quite unlike any other. □

Helping Hand Preview

by David Clarke

Fall Quarter 1982

Origins of God's People

"The Communications Interest Committee co-sponsored a dinner meeting to evaluate use of and effectiveness of the 'Helping Hand'. It is our considered opinion on the basis of that evaluation that the 'Helping Hand' is an indispensable tool for unity, for image, as the sole resource for some Sabbath Schools and as evidence of our denomination's continued interest in adult and youth Christian education."

The foregoing paragraph is taken from the report of the Communications Interest Committee as given at General Conference in Redlands, 1982.

To encourage more people to become involved in personal or class study of *Helping Hand* lessons, the Unit Introduction and Scripture to be studied for the November lessons are listed below. For comments on Scripture, please order your *Helping Hand* from the Seventh Day Baptist Center, P.O. Box 1678, Janesville, WI 53547.

Unit III: God Leads and Delivers His Chosen People

Unit Diamond: Norman Podhoretz has written a book recently, *Why We Were in Vietnam*, which calls for some solid thinking for Americans in their peace-making. He points

to the naivete of the "make-the-world-safe-for democracy" motive for militarily defending South Vietnam against communist North Vietnam. He also points to the degree of self-interest in American involvement in southeast Asia. But he urges our learning from the sad political abuse of half-truths that deny the difference between even limited democracy and dictatorship. Significant connections with Israel's early history need to be studied for our day.

We study in this unit how God worked with His small nation of painfully slow-maturing people at stages where they were coming into Palestine, that proving ground for their covenant relationships. We study how leaders arose and related to God and their nation. We pray your study may clarify meanings in our modern worldwide search for democracy and "Shalom" - social well-being and peace.

Scripture for November 6, 1982
Lesson 10

God Leads Through Jordan

Base: Joshua 3:14-4:7

Source: Joshua 3-4

Worship: Joshua 4:15-24

Key Verse: Behold, the ark of the covenant of the Lord of all the earth is to pass over before you into the Jordan.

- Joshua 3:11

Scripture for November 13, 1982

Lesson 11

New Kind of Leaders for God

Base: Judges 2:6-19

Source: Judges 1-2

Worship: Judges 24:19-29

Key Verse: Whenever the Lord raised up judges for them, the Lord was with the judge.

- Judges 2:18

Scripture for November 20, 1982

Lesson 12

Using Power from God

Base: Judges 6:3-6; 11-16; 7:20-21

Source: Judges 6:1-8:21

Worship: Psalm 105:7-15

Key Verse: And the angel of the Lord appeared to him and said to him, "The Lord is with you, you mighty man of valor."

- Judges 6:12

Scripture for November 27, 1983

Lesson 13

No King Without God

Base: Judges 8:22-23; 9:6-15,55-57

Source: Judges 8:22-9:57

Worship: Isaiah 12:1-6

Key Verse: Gideon said to them, "I will not rule over you, and my son will not rule over you; the Lord will rule over you."

- Judges 8:23□

Religion in the News

Adventists Report on Fund Losses

Neal Wilson, president of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, has released a 624 page report on huge church losses through a 1981 bankruptcy. An Adventist developer in Los Angeles had received loans from church investments prior to bankruptcy last year. Losses to local churches may total \$20 million, in addition to church agency losses of \$21 million.□

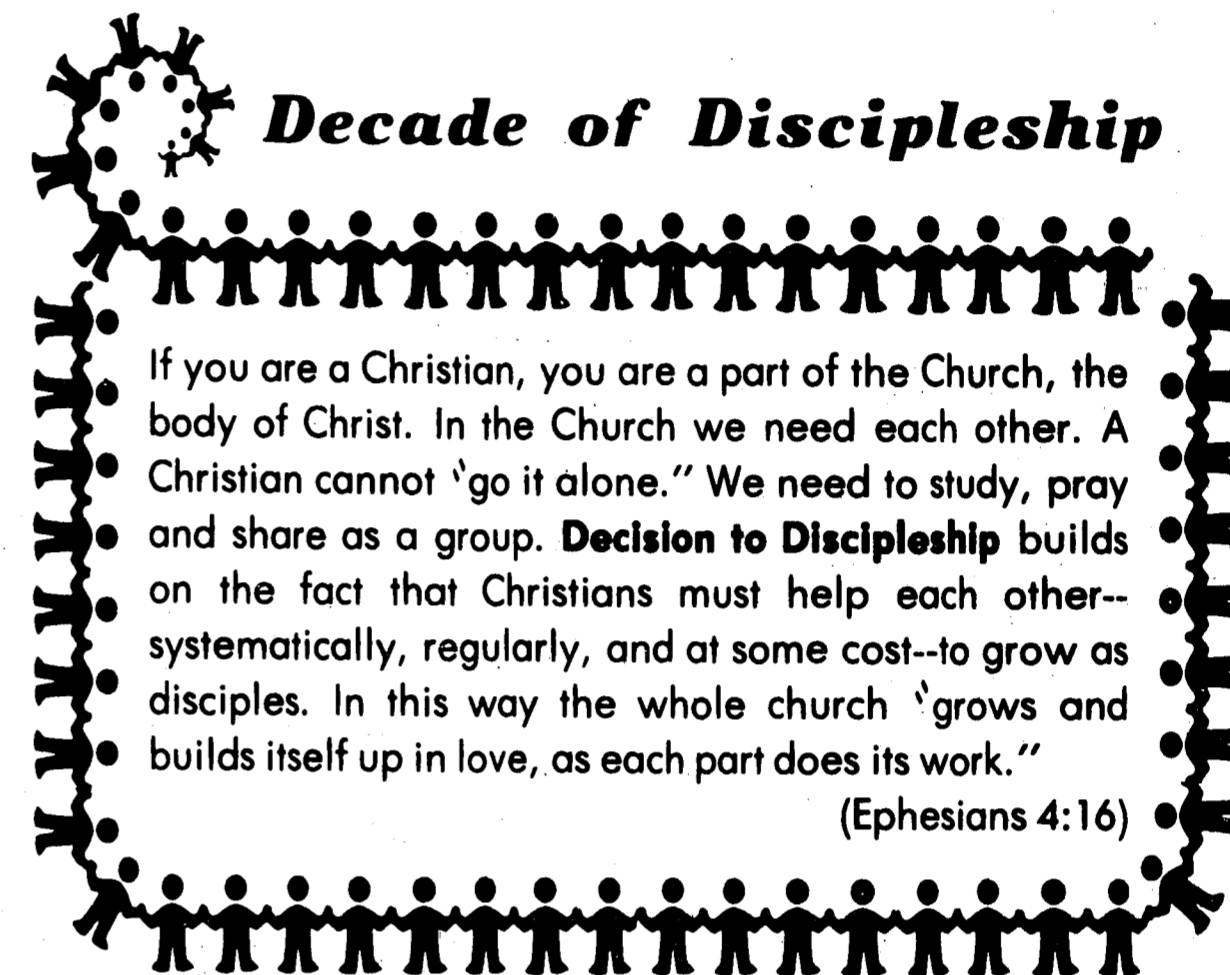
Mennonite Students Indicted

Two Mennonite students from Bethel College, Kansas, were indicted for failure to register for the draft, and both gave religious grounds for refusal. Charles Epp & Kendal Warkentine are among twelve persons indicted at this writing.

In an earlier action, Enten Eller, a Church of the Brethren student at Bridgewater College, VA., was convicted for failure to register, and placed on three months probation. If at that time Eller has not complied, he will be subject to five years imprisonment.□

China Reopens Churches

Shanghai now has seven Protestant churches reopened, and officially recognized by the Chinese government. Reports indicate that two more churches are expected to reopen in the next few weeks. Shanghai has more church activity than other Chinese cities, although progress on reopening is reported in other urban areas.□



Decade of Discipleship

If you are a Christian, you are a part of the Church, the body of Christ. In the Church we need each other. A Christian cannot 'go it alone.' We need to study, pray and share as a group. **Decision to Discipleship** builds on the fact that Christians must help each other--systematically, regularly, and at some cost--to grow as disciples. In this way the whole church 'grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.'

(Ephesians 4:16)

Episcopal Church Approves Lutheran Ties

A few days after three Lutheran bodies agreed to a merger process, the Episcopal General Convention meeting in New Orleans, agreed to a relationship of "shared sacraments" with the Lutheran churches. The step does not mean doctrinal agreement or full recognition of each other's sacraments or ordination, but approves experiences of worship. Lutheran and Episcopal dialogues are to establish new areas of cooperation in missions, evangelism, and education.□

Americans United Elect

Americans United for the Separation of Church and State have named W. Melvin Adams as executive director. He was formerly director of the Religious Liberty Department for the Seventh-day Adventists.□

New Shows Look Better?

Television critics are reporting some improvements in the fall schedules which reflect reduced levels of violence and sex. *Christianity Today* reports the views of television critic, Ron Alridge, that there is an increase in the number of "positive role models" in the new shows.□

Independent Baptist Fundamentalists to Rally in 1984

A group of independent Baptists have scheduled a conference in Washington, D.C., for April 1984. Leaders include Jerry Falwell and Raymond Barber. The theme will stress the reconciliation of fundamental Baptist groups which have had various conflicts in the past. Planners predict that 25,000 will attend what is being called, "Baptist Fundamentalism '84."□

New Models

Continued from page 13

...Jesus Christ Himself paid the difference.

model in exchange for my old one is the little word "in." The Bible is saying that my old model (life) became a new model (life) in Jesus Christ the moment I accepted Him as my Savior.

Although I didn't have to pay a cent, it still cost a tremendous amount to exchange this 1910 model of mine for a new one. The Bible declares, "You were not redeemed (bought back with a price) with corruptible things as silver or gold; but with the precious blood of Christ, as a lamb without blemish and without spot." (1 Peter 1:18-19)

You see, Jesus Christ Himself paid the difference. This means that there is available a new model for you, completely paid for in this all-inclusive purchase price!

Here's how you can get your new model...and it's guaranteed by God Himself.

Confess

Admit to God that you are a sinner. The Bible says we all are. "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." (Romans 3:23)

Repent

The Bible also warns, "Ex-

cept you repent you shall all likewise perish." (Luke 13:3) This word repent means a change of heart and life, turning one's back on sin and self, and turning to God.

Believe

Believe that Jesus Christ, God's Son, has paid God's price for you. The good news of the Gospel is that "...God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." (John 3:16)

Ask

Invite Jesus Christ to come into your life. The Bible promises that "as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name." (John 1:12)

The final question is, "Will it work?" Yes, it will! Untold millions have followed these four simple steps and would gladly attest to the fact, as I now do, that there isn't anything on earth to compare with the joy and contentment that comes when you commit your life to Jesus Christ. And the moment you commit your life to Christ, you will have just traded your old model in for a new one!

Now right about here you may be saying, "I am a 1940, 1950 or 1960 model and I have lots of warranty and mileage left with plenty of time to trade for a new model." Just keep in mind that even new cars are often recalled by their makers! That is why God warns, "Today

is the day of salvation." (2 Corinthians 6:2) New models are available now, but there is no guarantee for tomorrow.

But how can one be sure it will last? Christ Himself said, "Truly, truly, I say unto you, he that hears my word and believes on Him that sent Me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life." (John 5:24)

So, how about it? Of your own free will, why not act now and accept this exchange today. □

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Parade

Continued from page 19

The goal-announcing ceremony on August 13, 1983, will be both an end and a beginning. It will be part of the climax of conference week and the start of a new phase in denominational church growth. It will be the conclusion of specific planning and achievement and the launching of on-going procedures to assure doubling in the decade.

The presentation of the banners at conference, 1983, will be a parade with purpose. Like everyone else, I too, love a parade. But I love more what the proposed SDB parade of banners stands for - the carrying out of Christ's Great Commission to go for God and grow. □

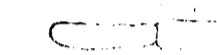
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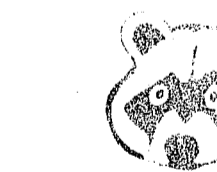
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Continued from page 13

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Matthew 5:8 Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God

Racco and the Carrot Cake



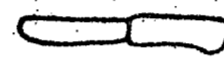
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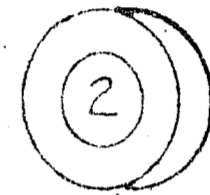
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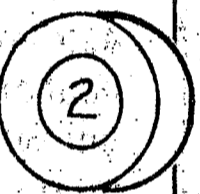
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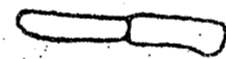
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Oh, Oh. The



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looked at



but

said nothing.

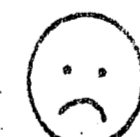


put the



away and left the room.

was



He had taken away the chance to share with

his



went to his



and said, "I ate the



. I am sorry."

told



that he loved him and wanted



to come

and be with him. This made



The Church in Action

30

News From North Loup, Nebraska

Young Adults Meet

Soon after our last report of February 14, 1982 to the Recorder the Young Adults were involved in a meaningful devotional social time. Sitting around in Keowns' living room, each person was asked to compliment the person on his left (a practice in building the self-esteem of others), name a Biblical attribute most desired, and tell what he would like written on his gravestone. This sharing time was one method of strengthening our ties and was brought to an intermission with sentence prayers specifying requests for the person on the right.

Graffiuses Attend Retreat

Our pastor, Larry Graffius, and wife Jan, along with Elery and Iva King attended the area Spiritual Retreat February 22-26 in Milton, Wisconsin. Larry also attended Vacation Bible School Workshop on March 5th, and he and another person participated in "Evangelism Explosion" last June. We truly appreciate those who have the craving and the initiative for extra training in spiritual things. The following are Larry's words on "Evangelism Explosion" (E.E.):

The E.E. clinic that I attended last June was one more confirmation of the exciting direction in which God has been leading me this year. Perhaps some of you will recall that I wrote with glowing enthusiasm about the

Spiritual Retreat that I attended last February at Milton with Synott Matthews as the speaker. There I made a commitment to become a soul-winner; there I set a goal of winning 10 persons to Christ in 1982.

At the E.E. clinic I, along with one of our lay persons, Brice Severance, was trained in that very thing. We were given specific words, illustrations, and tools to use in the process of winning someone to Christ. We were also involved in the very important experience of on-the-job training. An experienced trainer served as the leader of our three-person teams and we set out to apply what we had learned in the classroom. I had the joy of personally helping to lead four persons to a profession of faith in two evenings! Since returning to North Loup after Conference, I have used the same method to lead another person to Christ. So, in case anyone is keeping track, my goal is now five more in 1982.

We are now getting the first trainees enlisted for the fall semester of E.E. We ask that all of you join us as prayer partners in this exciting and fruitful ministry.

Camp Riverview Work

This last Spring work began on the new dining hall at Camp Riverview; however, due to the unusually wet Spring, the progress was slower than anticipated

and a tent served as temporary dining facilities during our camping season. The damp Spring didn't seem to dampen anybody's spirits; in fact, one camper was baptized in the river at the end of his week of camping, fellowship, and Spiritual learning.

Discipleship Cell

Decision to Discipleship is still meeting, and below is a testimony of its effectiveness by one of the regulars:

The "Discipleship" group has begun Phase III with renewed commitment after taking a summer recess. We have completed Phases I, II, and VII.

We have learned much from the scripture and Bible study portions and explored reaching out to others through the "Bridge Building Exercises". We are also working on memorizing the verses, and retaining them for future use!

Our prayer time has resulted in a binding of our spirits and lives as we seek God's leading. He has blessed us through answered prayers and continued Christian growth.

Softball

The church softball team was challenged this summer more any other year; however, they are the champs again. This is a great way to be involved with the community in an uncompromising way...even if we were to lose. Good sportsmanship can be an excellent witness. □

31

Read the Bible Through in '82

NOVEMBER

1 Luke 14-17
2 Luke 18-21
3 Luke 22-24
4 John 1-3
5 John 4-6
6 John 7-10
7 John 11-13
8 John 14-17
9 John 18-21
10 Acts 1, 2
11 Acts 3-5
12 Acts 6-9
13 Acts 10-12
14 Acts 13, 14
15 James 1, 2
16 James 3-5
17 Galatians 1-3
18 Galatians 4-6
19 Acts 15-18:11
20 1 Thessalonians 1-3
21 2 Thessalonians 1-3
Acts 18:12-19:10
22 1 Corinthians 1-4
23 1 Corinthians 5-8
24 1 Corinthians 9-12
25 1 Corinthians 13-16
26 Acts 19:11-20:1
2 Corinthians 1-3
27 2 Corinthians 4-6
28 2 Corinthians 7-9
29 2 Corinthians 10-13
30 Acts 20:2
Romans 1-4

DECEMBER

1 Romans 5-8
2 Romans 9-11
3 Romans 12-16
4 Acts 20:3-22
5 Acts 23-25
6 Acts 26-28
7 Ephesians 1-3
8 Ephesians 4-6
9 Philippians 1-4
10 Colossians 1-4
11 Hebrews 1-4
12 Hebrews 5-7
13 Hebrews 8-10
14 Hebrews 11-13
15 Philemon, 1 Peter 1, 2
16 1 Peter 3-5
17 2 Peter 1-3
18 1 Timothy 1-3
19 1 Timothy 4-6
20 Titus 1-3
21 2 Timothy 1-4
22 1 John 1, 2
23 1 John 3-5
24 2 John, 3 John, Jude
25 Revelation 1-3
26 Revelation 4-6
27 Revelation 7-9
28 Revelation 10-12
29 Revelation 13-15
30 Revelation 16-18
31 Revelation 19-22

Chroniger Accepts Call to New Auburn

Donald L. Chroniger has accepted a call from the New Auburn, Wisconsin, Seventh Day Baptist Church. Chroniger will graduate from Central Baptist Theological Seminary in 1983 with a Master of Divinity degree in Pastoral Theology.

Chroniger has served as an Assistant Pastor for the Shiloh, New Jersey Seventh Day Baptist church and more recently has been assisting the Nortonville SDB church as a "Minister in Training." He is a graduate of Washington Bible College.

Don's wife Charlotte (Mennen) Chroniger is also a graduate of Central Seminary with a Master of Divinity degree in Missions and Christian Education. □

Semi-Annual Meetings Held in Minnesota

The semi-annual meetings of the Wisconsin and Minnesota Seventh Day Baptist Churches were held in Dodge Center, Minn., on September 17-19, 1982.

Following the theme, *God's Word For Today*, the meetings began on Friday evening with an instrumental band and the singing of praises. Susan

Medina of Clear Lake, Iowa, spoke. The evening's offering was designated for The Media Project.

The Sabbath morning service included words from Marlene Kelpes who "gave her testimony of faith in God and how it had completely healed her totally immobilized body." During the afternoon services, Susan Medina spoke to the group once again.

Devotions began the Sunday morning schedule. The day's business meeting was conducted by President Roger Langworthy. The group voted \$50.00 to be given for the new building in Janesville, Wisconsin, \$100 to be used by New Auburn and Dodge Center pastors for conferences and fellowship or pastoral exchange. The sum of \$30 was voted for a local needy family. □

The Difficulty of Cross-Cultural Communication

by Rod Henry
Missionary to the Philippines

Cultural differences make travelling as a tourist interesting and exciting. People who have travelled a great deal have many amusing stories to tell about their encounter with another culture. It is one thing to experience another culture as a tourist and another thing to experience that same culture as a missionary. As a tourist, the Receiving Culture goes out of its way to make your cross cultural experience enjoyable so that you will stay longer and spend more. As a missionary many Receiving Cultures will go out of their way to avoid you. As a tourist you can relax and enjoy the differences in culture. As a missionary you have a task to accomplish and that is the communication of the specific message of God's salvation in Christ. In the accomplishment of this task misunderstandings are not so amusing.

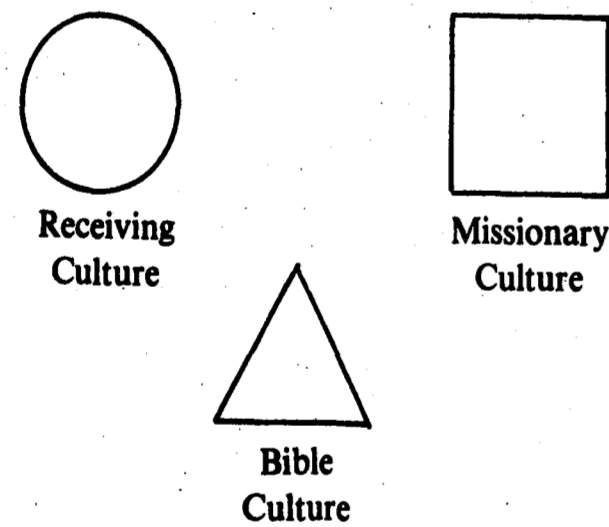


Figure 1: A three-culture model of missionary communication (Adapted from E. Nida's three-culture model.)

Cultural differences create misunderstandings. All of our communications are wrapped (encoded) in the language and understandings of our culture. When we come to the Receiving Culture as new missionaries our Gospel message is wrapped (encoded) in our Missionary Culture to such an extent that the Receiving Culture will not be able to understand our message unless they understand the

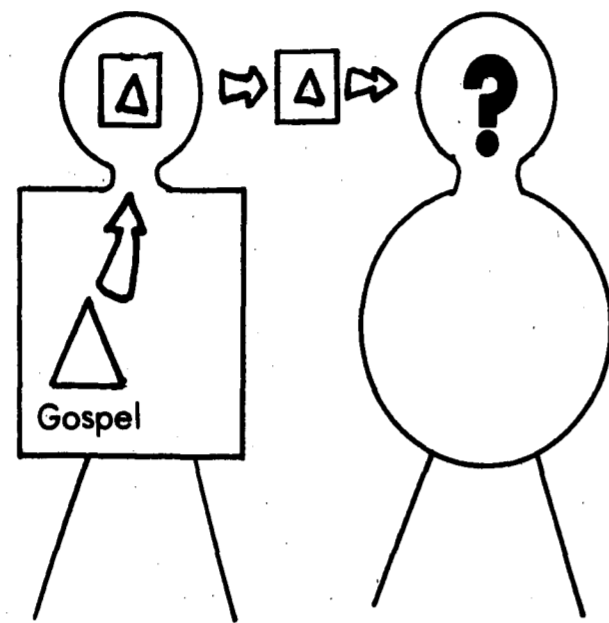


Figure 2: Cross-cultural misunderstanding.

Missionary Culture. (See Figure 2.)

Sharing a common language or speaking through an interpreter (interrupter) helps, but does not solve the problem. Cultural differences are more than linguistic. The English word "hospital" is the word used here in the Philippines in all the dialects. When the missionary uses the analogy of the church being a hospital for people suffering from the sickness of sin, the missionary may not share the same understanding of what a hospital is. The missionary and the Filipino may have a picture of the same hospital building in their minds but their concept of hospital is different. For the missionary, the hospital is a place where people are healed. To many Filipinos a hospital is a place where people go to die! Because most Filipinos are poor they cannot afford the hospital unless the situation is desperate. But this is quite often too late and the person dies. So their experience with hospitals is different than the missionary's. To use the analogy of the church as a hospital is to say that the church is a place to die from the sickness of sin.

Even non-verbal communication in one culture simply

does not mean the same in different cultures. The American gesture for "come here" is curling the index finger toward you without moving the rest of the hand. This exact same gesture in the Philippines is a sexual proposition. So when a visiting American evangelist called for people to come forward to accept Christ and he used the American finger gesture for "come here", the crowd began giggling and whispering and the moment was lost.

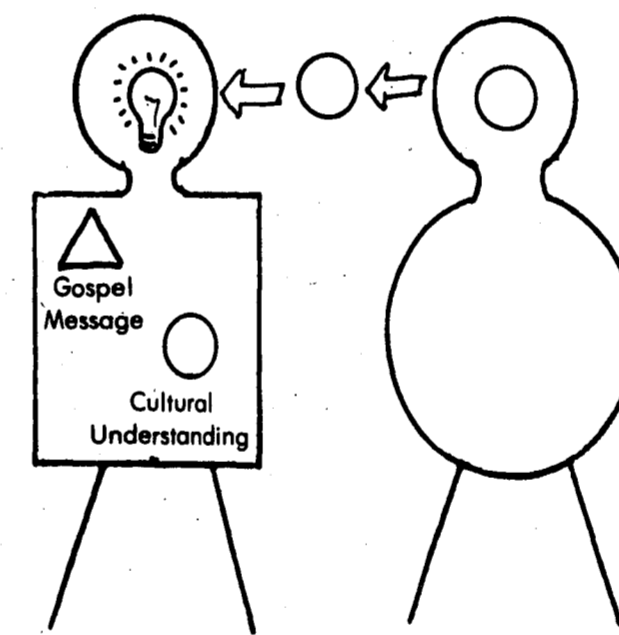
Missionaries always have been aware of cultural differences. In past centuries the missionaries coped with these problems by first Westernizing the so-called "savages" so that they could then understand the gospel message. This method required that the Receiving Culture be converted to the Missionary Culture so that they could understand what it meant to be converted to Christ. It has been only in this century that missions has seen the folly of this culturally imperialistic approach.

The Challenge of Cross-Cultural Communication

Today's missionary must be trained with cross-cultural skills in order to effectively communicate the Bible message. It is the responsibility of the missionary to learn about and from the Receiving Culture and then encode the gospel message in a way that is understandable. The missionary must take the meanings from the scripture which is "wrapped" in the Bible Culture and apply these truths to the Receiving Culture so that they have the equivalent meaning.

This cross-cultural com-

munication is a two-step process. The first step requires that the missionary enter the Receiving Culture as a learner. This requires a great deal of time to learn the language and to try to see the world through the eyes of the people in the Receiving Culture. All of the missionary's Bible knowledge and ministry skills are worthless if he cannot wrap (encode) the gospel message in a way that will be understandable to the Receiving Culture. And that is the second step. Wrap (encode) the Bible message in the language and understandings of the Receiving Culture. (See Figure 3).



Step 1: Learn the culture.

Step 2: Put the Gospel in the context of the receiving culture.

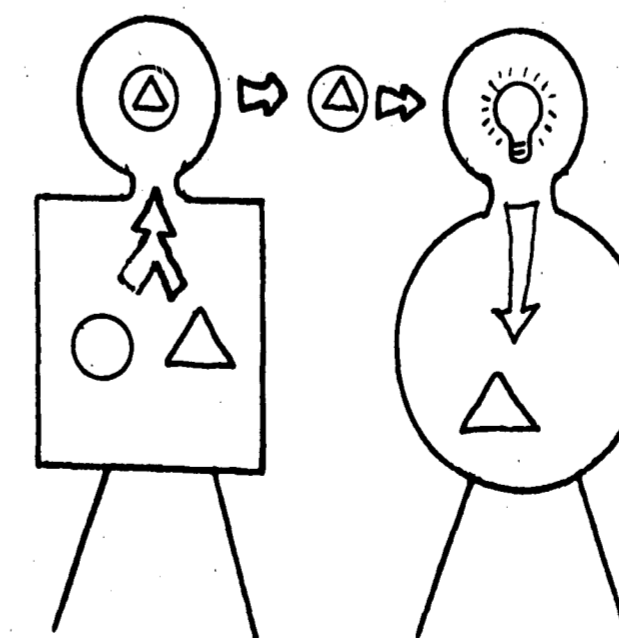


Figure 3: A two-step model of cross-cultural communication.

If I have painted a picture for you that cross-cultural communication is a very difficult challenge, then I have succeeded. However, though the task is difficult it is certainly not impossible. Our missionaries to Malawi, the Pearsons, have been successful at the task for years. Until the gospel has been preached to every nation there will always be a need for cross-cultural ministry. The communication of the gospel cross-culturally is essential where there is no gospel witness within the Receiving Culture. But the fact still remains that cross-cultural ministry is the least desirable option because communication is at its best between members of the

same culture. Though it is the missionary's goal to understand and behave as do the members of the Receiving Culture, he will never completely reach that goal.

That is why God is calling on missions all over the world to turn over the work and responsibility of ministry to the national leaders who are "experts" in their own cultures so that the gospel message will be heard and understood in ways that are best suited to their cultures. This is the process of indigenization, which is the subject of my next article. □

Next month, Rod Henry will discuss the Missionary-centered Approach to cross-cultural ministry.

Marriages

Neher-Kloppstein.--James Charles Neher of Lakeville, MN, son of Mr. and Mrs. Merlin Neher of Rochester, MN, and Tamala Sue Kloppstein, daughter of Robert and Vivian Kloppstein of Rock Dell, MN, were united in marriage on April 3, 1982, in Dodge Center, MN. The bride's pastor, Paul B. Osborn, officiated. The newlyweds are living in Lakeville, MN.

Bonesteel-Walters.--Robert Keith Bonesteel, and Theresa Walters, daughter of Mrs. James Saunders, were united in marriage on May 1, 1982, by their pastor, C. Rex Burdick. The ceremony took place in the Berlin, N.Y., Seventh Day Baptist Church.

Sanders-Bond.--Kenneth Carlton Sanders of Austin, Tex., and Mary Bond of Austin, Tex., daughter of Claston and Seili Bond of Dodge Center, MN, were married July 25, 1982. The ceremony was performed in Dodge Center, MN, by the bride's pastor, Paul B. Osborn.

Gaff-White.--Jody James Gaff, Utica, N.Y., son of the late Lester and Niomi Gaff, and Vicky Lynne White, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Emmite L. White, Jr., Brookfield, N.Y., were united in marriage on August 28, 1982. The ceremony was held at the Bridgewater Municipal Park, Bridgewater, N.Y., and

was conducted by Pastor John Rau, the couple's pastor. They are making their home at 717 3rd Ave., Utica, N.Y.

Richards-Boyd.--Pastor Donald E. Richards of the Waterford Seventh Day Baptist Church and Shirley M. Boyd, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Boyd, Salemville, Pa., were united in marriage on September 19, 1982, at the German Seventh Day Baptist Church in Salemville. Pastor Kent L. Martin officiated.

Drenning-Snyder.--Timothy Drenning, son of Mr. and Mrs. Norman Drenning, Jr., Altonna, Pa., and Sandra Snyder, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Snyder of New Enterprise, Pa., were united in marriage September 25, 1982. The wedding was held at the German Seventh Day Baptist Church in Salemville, Pa., and was conducted by Pastor Stevens E. Burr.

Fowler-Jarvis.--John Fowler and Sandra Jarvis were united in marriage, October 15, 1982 at Sunshine Mountain Seventh Day Baptist Church, Pastor Ralph Hays officiating. Sandra is from the Westerly, R.I., church. The couple plans to live in South Miss. They have united with the Sunshine Mountain S.D.B. Church.

Obituaries

BUCHER.--Francis E. "Chip" Bucher, 28, died August 24, 1982, as the result of a farm accident. Born July 17, 1954, he was the son of Francis and Ruth Buckley Bucher. On January 31, 1975, he was married to Pamela Stout, who survives.

Chip, as he was affectionately known, was a member and trustee of the Richburg Seventh Day Baptist Church. A life-long resident of Little Genesee, N.Y., he was a graduate of Alfred State University.

In addition to his widow, survivors include a son, Aaron Bucher; his mother and stepfather, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bottoms of Little Genesee; two brothers, Robert Cartwright of Almond, N.Y., and Gregory Bucher of Savona, N.Y.; four sisters, Mrs. Walter (Mary) Steesy of Interlaken, N.Y., Mrs. David (Margret) Taylor of Lost Creek, W. Va., Mrs. Samuel (Jean) Cook of Hyattsville, MD, and Miss Sue Bucher of Little Genesee, N.Y.; and several nieces and nephews.

The funeral service was conducted in the Richburg Seventh Day Baptist Church by his pastor, Rev. Wayne Babcock. Interment was in the Wells Cemetery in Little Genesee.

WB.

LAWTON.--Mildred J. Lawton was born February 28, 1899 in Berea, W. V., the daughter of Leonard and Nancy M. Jett and passed away in a Charleston, W. Va. hospital on September 19, 1982 following a long illness. She had resided in Battle Creek, Mich. until moving to W. Va. to make her home with a daughter a short time ago.

Mildred graduated from Salem Academy and Salem College, W. Va. and from the former Battle Creek Sanitarium Nursing School. She was employed as a registered nurse by the North Philadelphia Children's Hospital for five years and the Battle Creek Sanitarium before her retirement.

She was a member of the Seventh Day Baptist Church, its Ladies Aid and the San Nurses Alumni Association.

She is survived by her husband Stephen Lawton; a stepdaughter, Mrs. Denzil (Elaine) Stonestreet of Charleston, W. Va.; a stepson, the Rev. Leon Lawton of Pawcatuck, Conn.; ten grandchildren and nine great grandchildren.

Services were held at the Richard Henry funeral home in Battle Creek, Mich. with her pastor, Rev. S. Kenneth Davis, officiating. Interment was in Evergreen Cemetery, Albion, Wis.

SKD.

MILLS.--Martha Gates Mills, 78, of DeRuyter, N.Y., died September 9, 1982, at Cortland Memorial Hospital after a long illness at Highgate Nursing Home, Cortland, N.Y.
Born April 2, 1903, in Lincklaen, the daughter of William and Ida Davis Gates, she was baptized and joined the DeRuyter Seventh Day Baptist Church when Rev. T.J. Van Horn was pastor.

A graduate of DeRuyter Teachers' Training School, Martha taught in the Lincklaen and DeRuyter elementary schools and later in Wisconsin and Rhode Island. She was married on Sabbath Day, July 3, 1937, to Rev. Neal D. Mills, then pastor of the DeRuyter

church.

The Mills served a total of eight years as missionaries to Kingston, Jamaica, where Rev. Mills served as principal of Crandall High School. Among her many activities, Martha served as a fulltime teacher, church treasurer and organist, school librarian and piano teacher. When her husband retired in 1974, they returned to DeRuyter where they helped organize a senior citizens group and were active in the DeRuyter Historical Society and the DeRuyter church.

At General Conference in 1969, Martha received the Women's Society "Robe of Achievement", honoring women who have given of themselves to others in devote and loving Christian service.

Surviving are her husband, Rev. Neal D. Mills of DeRuyter; a daughter, Miriam Mills of Norwich, Conn.; a brother, Lloyd Gates of Pitcher; two sisters, Mrs. Nina Coon of Plainfield, N.J., and Mrs. Ruby Burrows of Nokomis, Fla.; and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

Services were held on September 12, 1982, at the DeRuyter Seventh Day Baptist Church and Hillcrest Cemetery, DeRuyter, by Rev. Helen R. Green, her pastor, and Rev. Victor W. Skaggs.

Contributions in Martha's memory may be made to the DeRuyter Seventh Day Baptist Church.

HRG.

Accessions

Daytona, Fla.
Kenneth B. Van Horn, Pastor

By Testimony:
Roswell Carpenter
Marjorie Carpenter

Milton, Wis.
Herbert E. Saunders, Pastor

By Letter:
L. Eugene Davis
J. Paul Green, Jr.
Denise Green
Laurie Green
Doneta R. Richards
Janet Thorngate
Dale D. Thorngate
Jean F. Smith
Joel K. Osborn

By Testimony:
Elizabeth van Dalen
Roy Leach

North Loup, Neb.
Larry Graffius, Pastor

By Baptism:
Mike Goodrich
Carol Severance

By Testimony:
Brice Severance

Sunshine Mt., Miss.
Ralph Hays, Pastor

By Letter:
John Fowler
Sandra Fowler
Tom White
Tom Grace

Washington, D.C.
Leland E. Davis, Pastor

By Testimony:
Helen W. Moore

Portland, Ore.
Justin C. Camenga, Pastor

By Testimony:
Herbert Bruce
Mildred Busch

Births

Neher.--A daughter, Karlene Joann, was born to Richard and Madelyn (Payne) Neher on April 11, 1982.

Greene.--A son, Brett Peter, was born to Wesley and Martha (Burdick) Green of Berlin, N.Y., on June 23, 1982.

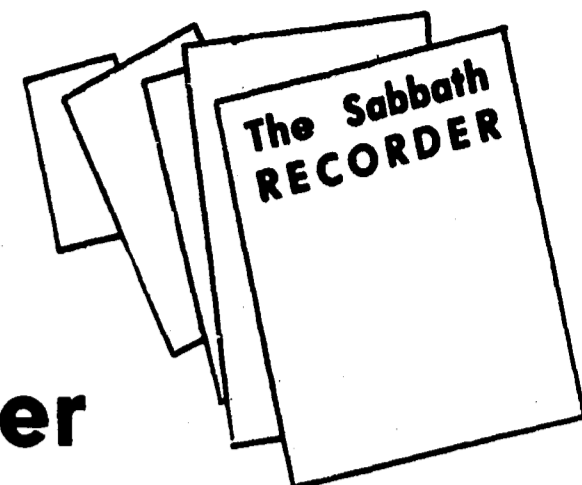
Bonser.--A son, Trenton Lee, was born to Burt and Brenda Bonser on August 19, 1982.

Payne.--A son, Shawn Michael, was born to Doug and Karen Payne on September 10, 1982.

Langworthy.--A son, Rodney Darrin, was born to Roger and Melanie Langworthy on October 4, 1982.

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Society Museum

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Come and view the Historical Society's extensive collection of Bibles. From the Cranmer Bible (1549), which is older than the King James version, to the Bible presented to Seventh Day Baptists in honor of their 300th Year in America, the collection covers many unique volumes of the Holy Scriptures. Some of the other topics that will be covered will be the American German Bibles of the 1700s, the Luther Bibles of the 16th and 17th centuries and ancient and modern language Bibles from the 18th and 19th centuries. There will also be a display of the Psalms from the 16th to the 20th centuries and a large collection of family and personal Bibles that each have their own unique history.

On Display
Nov. 21-28

SDB Center, Janesville, Wis.



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A unique medieval cloister of the early American German Seventh Day Baptists, the Ephrata Cloister is one of the most remarkable landmarks in Pennsylvania's *Trail of History*. The cloister, which was founded in 1732 by Conrad Beissel, is celebrating its 250 anniversary. *Vorspiel*, a musical drama depicting eighteenth-century cloister life, is presented at dusk, Saturday evenings and selected Sunday evenings, late June to early September. A stop at Ephrata would make an excellent prelude to Seventh Day Baptist General Conference in Houghton, New York.

Visit Our SDB Historical Sites.

Ephrata Cloister

The Seventh Day Baptist

Sabbath Recorder

December 1982

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