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The Seventh Day Baptist

May 1987

Sabbath **SR** Recorder



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Building Lasting Families

Christian Family Week—May 3-9

COME TO KANSAS FOR CONFERENCE 1987

Seventh Day Baptist General Conference
Bethany College—Lindsborg, Kansas
August 9-16, 1987

Registration blank in this issue!

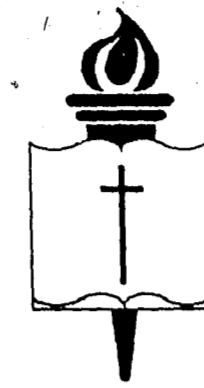
**SDB General Conference
PRE-REGISTRATION DEADLINE**
postmarked no later than
JULY 1, 1987

see page 17 for registration instructions

Mileage from Lindsborg, Kansas, to:

Salina	20
Wichita	70
Kansas City	200
Denver	475
Dallas	450
Chicago	700

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May 1987
Volume 209, No. 5
Whole No. 6,707

A Seventh Day Baptist publication

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This is the 142nd year of publication for The Sabbath Recorder. First issue published, June 13, 1844. Member of the Associated Church Press. The Sabbath Recorder does not necessarily endorse signed articles.



D. Scott Smith
Editor

Leanne Lippincott
Assistant Editor

Contributing Editors

Ernest K. Bee, J. Paul Green, Gerry VanDyke, Leon R. Lawton, Douglas Mackintosh, Marilyn Merchant, Matthew Olson, Don A. Sanford, Dale D. Thorngate.

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We believe in freedom of thought and the congregational form of church government. That means that every member of the church has the right to participate in the decision making process of the church.

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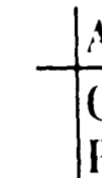
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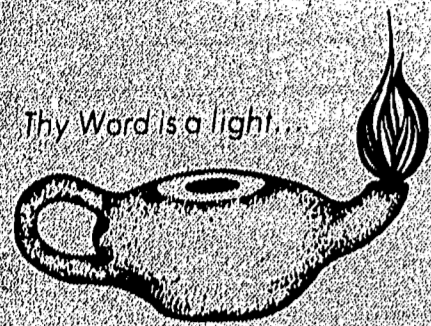
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Thy Word is a light...



Board of Christian Education

Building lasting families

by Rachel Kenyon
for the Life Ventures Committee
SDB Board of Christian Education

We believe that families are the foundation for human civilization. However, families as we have known them are falling apart. Statistics on today's divorce rate, teen-age pregnancy, single-parent families, and drug abuse alarm and sadden us. It is God's intention a family to last in order that its members produce successful families which will endure. As Christians, and as "the salt of the earth," (Matt. 5:13) we are commanded to make every effort to preserve this God-given institution.

COMMITMENT is a first and important requirement for any endeavor to succeed. We live in a world of *instants*: instant coffee; instant relief from headache or muscular pain; instant hamburgers at the drive-in; instant warm-ups in the microwave; and instant answers on the computer. Our devotion to number one is supported by a society which reinforces guilt-proof values and accepts easy, quick resolutions, no matter what the toll on our children, our spouses, or our marriages. However, strong families require patience, endurance, sacrifice, much energy, and time to listen and to love.

Commitment is more than a casual decision. Proverbs 16:3 states, "Commit to the Lord whatever you do and your

plans will succeed." (NIV) Our time needs to be rearranged so that more is spent with our children who may only be getting close attention with dad or mother 25 minutes a week compared to 25 hour with the TV. We must not rationalize that it is *quality* time rather than *quantity* which counts. How could a business operate on that philosophy or ratio?

HONESTY is an essential part of developing families which stay together. Children want, and deserve, honest answers to all their questions as their minds and bodies mature. Parents' honesty in all their dealings and inter-relationships is observed and imitated. The hour spent in Sabbath School and/or church each week will not negate any misconduct of his role-model parents, which a child may observe during the rest of the week.

RESPECT for each other, as individuals with feelings which yearn to be met and understood, contributes importantly to keeping families strong and together.

INSTRUCTION is another essential for nurturing lasting families. We observe families which have separated because of the stress caused by wayward children who have been caught up in the web of drug abuse and unconventional behavior patterns. The Bible tells us to instruct our children continually with God's commandments. "Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up" (Deut. 6:7 NIV).

SEeking is another key to producing lasting families. In Matthew 7:7 we read, "seek and you will find." Seek constructive solutions when problems arise. Seek a Christian counselor, if possible. Seek within the family during

forums and discussion times. Quiet, controlled, face-to-face and heart-to-heart talks can clear up preconceived ideas, and give opportunities for venting frustrations and expressions of feelings, intentions, ambitions and aspirations. And, as Jehoshaphat said to the king of Israel, "First seek the counsel of the Lord." (I Kings 22:5 NIV)

TRUST—families need to be able to trust each other. Also, they need to "trust in the Lord." (Psalm 4:5b is an exhortation not to give way to exasperation or anxiety [lit. "tremble" in anger or fear] but to look to the Lord. NIV text note.)

I purposely chose words that begin with letters which form an acrostic: **CHRIST**—Commitment, Honesty, Respect, Instruction, Seeking and Trust. Paul, the apostle, wrote in I Corinthians 3:11, "For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ" (NIV).

In the parable which Jesus told of the houses built on rock and sand, it would seem that both used the same timber, bricks and mortar, for there was no criticism of the materials. Only the foundations differed, and they alone determined whether the house fell or stood during the rough times. The foundation is the determining factor in life. We have many choices and responsibilities. It is our prayer that today's families choose that which will last and glorify our God and Creator. In the words of the hymn, "all other ground is sinking sand." **SR**

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**Christian Family
Week: May 3-9**

Save the endangered species

by Edgar Wheeler

"You yourselves used to be in the darkness, but since you have become the Lord's people, you are in the light. So you must live like people who belong to the light, for it is the light that brings a rich harvest of every kind of goodness, righteousness, and truth. Try to learn what pleases the Lord." Ephesians 5:8-10 (Today's English Version)

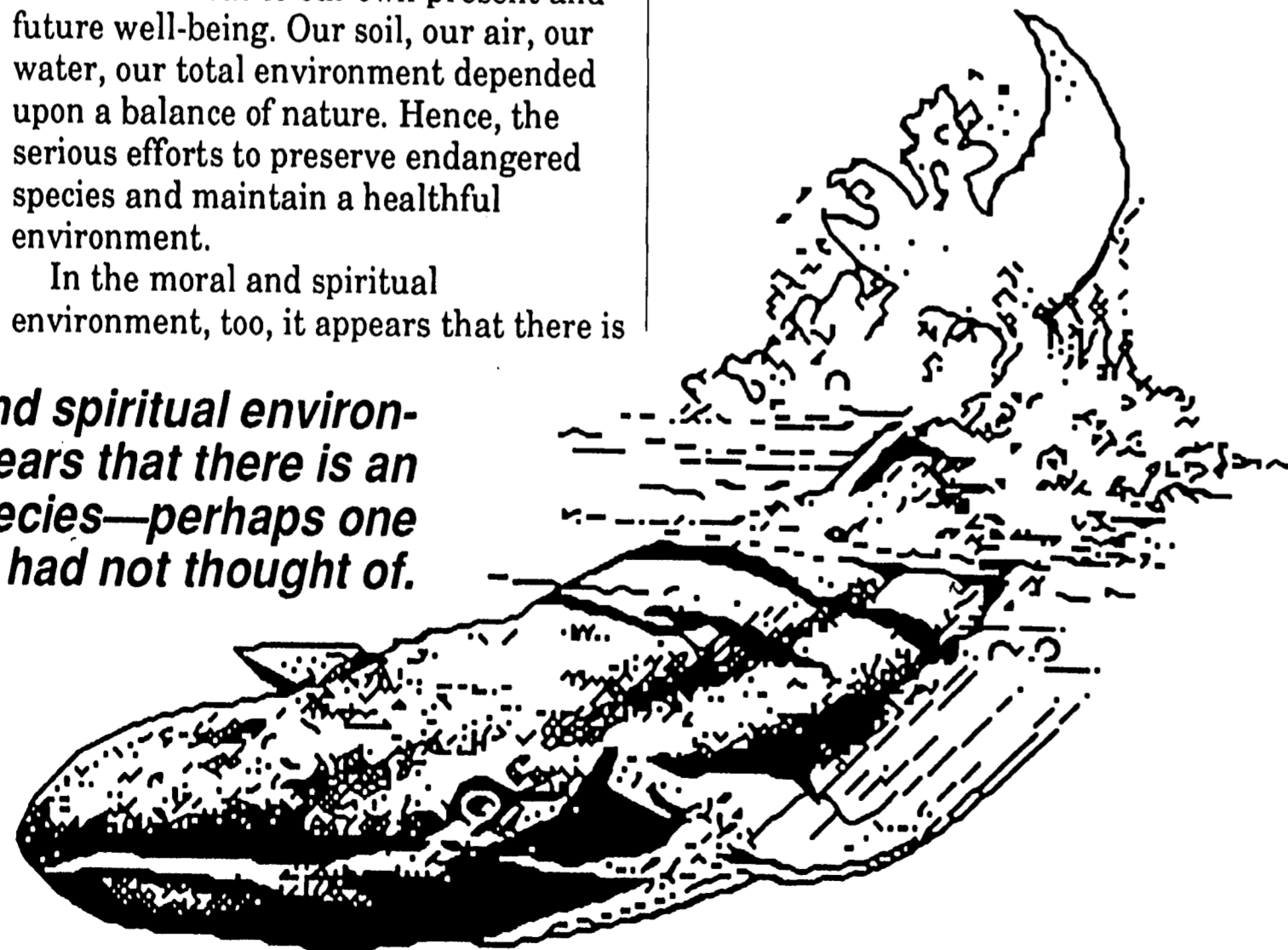
We have been hearing a lot in recent years about saving endangered species of animals, birds, fish, trees and other plants, and our ecology in general. At one time, nature was taken for granted and it was felt that we could go our way and do just as we wanted with it. It would have been considered pure sentimentality to concern ourselves with efforts to preserve certain species of animals and their habitats.

The time finally came when we realized that carelessness could destroy plant and animal life, and that could become a threat to our own present and future well-being. Our soil, our air, our water, our total environment depended upon a balance of nature. Hence, the serious efforts to preserve endangered species and maintain a healthful environment.

In the moral and spiritual environment, too, it appears that there is

an endangered species—Christians of deep faith and conviction that are aware of their highest calling and are responsive to it. They are Christians who are conscious that they are the light of Christ, called to live a life-style that throws spiritual light in a world where the darkness of sin in its many forms of corruption, violence, hatred, immorality and injustice is rampant. Jesus said to his people, "You are the light of the world. ... Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven." (Matthew 5:14, 16 AV)

George Barna of the American Resource Bureau reports on a survey of 1,587 representative American households: "There is a clear distinction between Christianity as a system of beliefs and values, and the manner in which people who profess to be Christians exercise those beliefs in



In the moral and spiritual environment, too, it appears that there is an endangered species—perhaps one you had not thought of.

their daily lives. The survey results suggest that Scriptural exhortations to lead a Christ-like, Bible-based life-style are consistently ignored. American Christians have been captivated by secular opportunities and possessions.... There is little evidence that Christians have substantially or meaningfully translated their ideals into action." (News & Views, Mark Taylor, in *The Lookout*)

That hurts. It hurts me because I see some things about myself in this report as I make an honest personal evaluation. But evaluate myself I must—and we all must—if we take being Christian at all seriously. It is, in fact, a sign of spiritual health to be able to look honestly at ourselves and to give attention to mending our spiritual flaws.

The Scriptures have a name for the family of God—Saints. Unfortunately, that name is often misconstrued in the popular mind as a football team which is not always exceptionally good; or, by contrast, as religious people who are exceptionally good—far above the capacity, or perhaps even the desire, of the rest of us.

In the New Testament, the Greek word *Hagioi* (Saints) comes from the root of a word that means "holiness," set apart for God, with the resulting conduct that befits those who are so called. In its adjective form, it is descriptive of the flawless character of God—the Holy One in his purity, majesty and glory. So believers, called to reflect this holiness of God, are named *saints*—*sanctified* or *holy ones*. It is the title for all believers and should be a challenge to each one of us. So the Apostle Paul says to believers in Ephesians 5:1: "Since you are God's dear children, you must try to be like him."

It seems we all need, from time to time, to be reminded of the honor of our family name—Christian (Saints)—and our responsibility to honor it with our lives.

My Wheeler family came from England and eventually arrived in Kansas in its early days. They were not the exceptionally brilliant kind of folk

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whose names got in the history books. Yet they were folk who established a reputation as community-minded citizens, industrious, forward-looking folk, people of religious conviction and character. We of the younger generation generally wore the name with a degree of pride, but sometimes, as children, we forgot this.

I remember that, one time, I was acting like an undisciplined urchin, and my father said, "Remember your name is *Wheeler*." That brought me to my senses, and I realized that my life was a part of maintaining a good family reputation. That, of course, is a responsibility of each of us in honoring our fathers and mothers.

In a higher sense, it is our responsibility as believers to uphold the family reputation of "the children of God"—Saints.

As the Apostle again challenges believers: "Since you have become God's people, you are in the light. So you must live like people who belong to the light, for it is the light that brings a rich harvest of every kind of goodness, righteousness, and truth. Try to learn what pleases the Lord." (Eph. 5:8-10 TEV)

It is not surprising that the unregenerate world puts a low estimate on Christianity with its virtues and values, never having personally experienced them. But it does strike us that perhaps professing believers also underestimate their crucial place in society in countering wickedness, in being beacons of light for righteousness, and new hope for individuals who can

see nothing better for themselves than what they have experienced without the faith of Christ.

We dare not be mere onlookers commenting on crumbling morality in the world, about corruption and infidelity and injustice. It has been said that each individual greatly influences at least 70 other lives during his own lifetime. Think of what that can mean when we think of the influence the individual Christian can have in a lifetime, not to speak of the church as a whole!

Ours is a gospel—good news that our God and Creator is a God of grace and mercy, expressed through the sacrificial life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. He is, as Thompson says, "The Hound of Heaven" who relentlessly pursues us out of love to bring us to the life of faith and blessing. Our whole Bible is salvation history—his story.

It is our message that there can be a new beginning, a new birth, a new affection that turns life around, makes it full, and gives it an eternal dimension. The world needs that witness, and that is why we must save this endangered species of bold, loving, true Christians. That means that it is up to each of us individually, and as a body of believers helping each other, to build up our faith, practice spiritual discipline and obedience to God, and

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I know we all grow weary of all those *How To's* that we hear today from "authorities on the subject." What I am about to suggest, though, is not something novel, but something tried and true in the maintenance and growth of the spiritual life:

1. Focus your attention always on Jesus Christ. He is our Savior from the guilt of sin, our Savior from low perception of what we ought to be and can be, our Savior from the power of sin. He is our life, the focus of Christian faith.

2. Maintain a personal relationship with God through devotional life—Bible study (it is really interesting), consistent prayer life (keeping in close touch and receptivity to God), and meditation (thinking and opening your mind to the instruction of God through the Holy Spirit.).

3. "Practice the Presence of God," as Brother Lawrence teaches in his book by that title. Think of your homemaking, your marriage relationships, your employment, your life in society as a companionship with God and the arena of your service to him.

4. Be intentional in Christian growth. Set goals in developing higher thoughts, better attitudes, a more compassionate spirit. Train yourself in obeying your purest, most generous, highest impulses, for these are of God.

5. Maintain regular fellowship with other believers, one of the special benefits of the Sabbath. Practice worship in congregation, share person-to-person and in small groups. We are God's gift to one another.

We are challenged and can "grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." (II Peter 3:18 AV)

Ludwig van Beethoven, the German composer, is said to have written music beyond the capacity of the instruments of his day. That, of course, made it necessary to create instruments capable of playing his music. His biographer wrote: "Born into a day of small things, he helped the day to expand by giving it creations beyond the scope of its

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Partnership in Ministry



Seventh Day Baptist

Remember the Sabbath Day to keep it holy... For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore, the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy. (Exodus 20:8, 11)

I was really surprised during a recent seminar at Fuller Seminary when the professor, who was listing spiritual disciplines on the chalkboard, listed the Sabbath along with meditation, prayer, fasting, Bible study, etc. It is exciting to me to hear people advocating Sabbath who have never really experienced the Biblical Sabbath as a part of their life.

Immediately I was challenged to do something regarding the Sabbath for my course project. As I began the research, I discovered there are many non-Sabbath-keeping Christians who have had a Sabbath-like experience and are encouraging others to do the same. Although these people are not advocating a seventh-day Sabbath, I think that they have really gotten in touch with true needs in our society and with an aspect of the Sabbath that many of us have missed.

It seems to me that these, our contemporaries, are calling for a real Sabbath experience and that we as Sabbath-keeping Christians have an opportunity to share our unique faith experience as never before. Think with me now for a few moments about the potential for Seventh Day Baptists as we review some of these comments about the need for a 20th century Sabbath experience.

Harvey Cox, in his book *Turning East* (1977), reflected on a Sabbath experience he had with a Jewish family in Boulder, Colorado: "I accepted the invitation and joined in the relaxed

A 20th century Sabbath

by Dale D. Thorngate, Executive Secretary

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Sabbath, which lasted from Friday sundown until sundown on Saturday." In his reflecting on his Sabbath experience, Cox made these observations:

"Sabbath originally meant time that was designated for ceasing all activity and simply acknowledging the goodness of creation. Sabbath is Israel's ingenious attempt to live both history and beyond it, both in time and eternity. "The word rest means literally to catch one's breath."

Cox says the Sabbath postulates an ultimate force in the universe which is not just passive and changeless, but which acts and is acted upon. It is eternal and perfect. Sabbath links God and world and human beings in a dialectic of action and rest, of purposeful doing and just sitting. One keeps it holy by doing nothing.

"Empty time is neither Sabbath nor meditation. What we need is a form of Sabbath observance which can be practiced in the modern pluralistic world, which can function on an individual or small group basis, but which restores the lost dialectic of action and response, of intervention and letting be."

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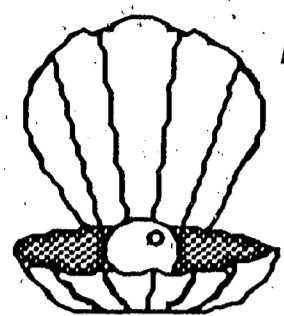
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Pearls of history from the Seventh Day Baptist Historical Society

The conversion of Vianna Davis

by Don A. Sanford
Historian

The March column from the Historical Society contained an invitation for readers to contribute historical sketches or anecdotal material. In response, a small booklet entitled *As A Tale Is Told*, written by Iva Bond Goodrich, was sent by Ira Bond of Nortonville, Kansas. It contains sketches from pioneering days, mostly from Kansas, with a few items from Wisconsin.

One of the first "tales that is told" is the account of the conversion of Vianna Davis,

"I have raised a large family," my father said, "and they have never heard me pray. I would like to pray once with my family before I die."

which was dictated in 1885 to the author's grandfather, Jacob Babcock of Garwin, Iowa, and included in his notebook. Vianna was born in 1804 at Greenbrier, West Virginia, to Captain William and Elizabeth (Johnson) Davis. She said:

"My father was a praying man but believed in foreordination and predestination and was anxious, and greatly feared that he was one that was ordained to be lost. He became very sick and thought he would probably die. One evening, just as the sun was sinking behind the Virginia mountains, my father, addressing my mother, said, 'I have raised a large family, and they have never heard me pray, and if you will join me,

I would like to pray once with my family before I die.' He prayed fervently, and from that time on for about two years, I labored with a burdened heart and guilt of sin. In those days it was thought children could not be Christians. One day at dinner something whispered in my ear that I must pray. I went back in the orchard and tried to pray, but at the time felt no relief. But by perseverance and faith, I obtained relief. Our quarterly meeting at hand I knew I could feel no better until I followed the Lord in all His requirements. I asked my mother about it. She said she was willing, but I must ask my father. On Sabbath morning I went to him and asked if he was willing that I should be baptized and join the church. He said he rejoiced to think his children could find peace and pardon and follow the Lord in all His ordinances, even though he could not see his way clear, and still be in doubt and darkness.

"Mother and I went to the meeting on Sabbath Day. I was baptized by Rev. Amos K. Wells, in Patterson's Fork near Salem. The next day my mother was baptized. We went home happy.

"The next day my work was spinning wool. It seemed to me as though I didn't weigh five pounds, that I would never have any trouble, but since that time I have passed through many hard trials, and the Lord has ever been my friend and helped me through. He promised to be with me in the sixth trial, and in the seventh He would not forsake me. I have found Him as good as His word. He has never forsaken me."

Iva Goodrich adds a note at the end of the account to explain why Vianna's father had difficulty in finding his own peace and pardon:

Great, great, great-grandfather, Captain William Davis, was a "Shaker, Quaker or Friend. As you know, Quakers do not believe in war, and he had taken part in some of the

Cont. on page 34



FOCUS On Missions Today

by Leon R. Lawton

Outboard motor enroute

Guyana, South America: A new 40 horse power Yamaha outboard motor is enroute to Guyana that will make the ministry of Pastor English of the Bona Ventura SDB Church more effective. At conference last August, the Women's Board Love Gift spurred others to consider the remaining need. An individual gift, the Women's Society in Westerly, Rhode Island, the Sabbath School in Shiloh, New Jersey, and a grant from the Missionary Board have provided necessary funds. It will be in use this summer to aid in transportation of campers to the Guyana youth camp on the Pomeroon River as well as make possible greater outreach on the river and its tributaries. The two newest SDB churches are up creeks in the Amerindian area.

Extension Pastor update

Extension Pastor Churches, USA: Six local churches are currently receiving aid in support of their pastor under the Extension Pastor Plan: San Gabriel, California, Pastor John Peil; Los Angeles (Carson), California, Pastor Oscar Godoy; Santa Barbara, California, Pastor Robert Babcock; Madison, Wisconsin, Pastor Kevin Butler; Naylor, Missouri, Pastor Ronald Elston; and Miami, Florida, Pastor Tom Whitney. The Tucson, Arizona, branch church is also under this plan but is without a pastor just now.

Souls saved in the Philippines

Cebu, the Philippines, Asia: Pastor Ely Paypa wrote: "We want to let you know that the Lord is working miraculously with us here in the Philippines today, despite the troublesome times. Pastor Saubon of Butuan City, a fresh graduate from our Pastor's Training Course (PTC), baptized two souls. There was another baptism for four at Silocap last December 13. We left for San Miguel to baptize four, but one was in Pagadian City where she was a student, and another left the place the day before I arrived because of kidnapping and rampant killings in the area.

That night, while we had conversation with the candidates for baptism, Bro. Estender saw some people hiding in the dark near the house listening to what we were talking about. After our supper, we left immediately to the Barangay Captain's house to seek shelter. There we prayed to the Lord to spare our lives for the sake of his ministry. That evening, I was informed by Estender's brother that this sister was waiting for me to visit Waling-waling, 40 Km away, in order to hear 'the message of truth.' The Bible study was started when we arrived there with the two candidates for baptism from San Miguel.

The following day the Bible study continued, and they were ready to serve the Lord, with the woman who invited me. Thirty precious souls were led to the Lord, and 20 were baptized that day. I organized the church before I left.

In Cebu City, Mrs. Paypa prepared meals and we invited friends in for New Year's Eve. Before the meal was served, they were able to listen to the message about Praising God and Thanksgiving. On Sabbath, January 3rd, we had six visitors, and three were led to the Lord. Oh how wonderful.

According to Paul, he can do all things through Christ which strengthens him. (Phil. 4:13). For with God nothing shall be impossible! (Luke 1:37) We are expecting your prayer support. Please extend my warmest regards to all SDB members throughout the world."

Youth efforts in Adams Center

Adams Center, NY, USA: The SDB church, with Missionary Pastor Gene Smith, has been very active with the Community Board of Christian Education in sponsoring four Kid's Krusades. These were held each Friday evening in February with the pastors and church leaders of the four local churches taking leadership roles. The children were from the 2nd through 6th grades, and youth from the churches conducted much of the program itself. It was truly a great time in the Lord.

Cont. on page 34

A prayer reminder for each day

June 1987

Verse for the month: "Bless our God, O peoples, and sound His praise abroad, Who keeps us in life, and does not allow our feet to slip. ... Blessed be God, Who has not turned away my prayer, nor His lovingkindness from me." Psalm 66:8, 9, 20 NAS

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1- SCSC workers, projects and funding | 17- Pastor Herlitz Condison & church in Toronto, Ontario, Canada |
| 2- Australasian SDB Conference churches | 18- Pastor Robert Coffman Sr. & branch church at St. Petersburg, FL |
| 3- local church Daily Vacation Bible Schools | 19- SCSC training at Camp Paul Hummel |
| 4- Pastor M. Burns, Washington, DC SDB Church | 20- my church's leadership |
| 5- 250th anniversary celebration at the Shiloh, NJ SDB Church this weekend | 21- Richard Evans & group he serves, Pittsburg, PA |
| 6- Conference President Gerry Van Dyke | 22- churches without pastors & pastors without churches |
| 7- the camping ministry of our churches | 23- Pastor Bill Bowyer & church at Schenectady, NY |
| 8- Summer Institute students (through 26th) | 24- graduates and others seeking employment |
| 9- Conference President-elect Herbert Saunders | 25- Pastor Dale Smalley & branch church at Imalone, WI |
| 10- Pastor Leland Bond & Bradenton, FL, branch church | 26- Southeastern Association, Salemville, PA church |
| 11- Pastor Lacey Joiner and church at Stone Fort, IL | 27- a day of rest and worship |
| 12- Southwestern Association at Houston, TX church | 28- Terry Patrow, Paul Robles & the branch church at Colorado Springs, CO |
| 13- Pastor Keith Mogle & church at Centralia, WA | 29- SCSC workers as they travel to their projects |
| 14- summer outreach programs in the churches | 30- Pastor James Gardiner & branch church at Rapid City, SD |
| 15- Pastor Earl Cruzan & branch church at Milwaukee, WI | |
| 16- churches deciding on Statement of Belief vote | |

MOVING?

Please clip this change of address form and mail it to:

Circulation Department
The Sabbath Recorder
PO Box 1678
Janesville, WI 53547

Affix your
old mailing address
here

New Address: _____

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____



Religion in the news...

Editor's Note: Religion has been in the news more than usual in recent weeks, and much of it has been focused on TV evangelists. Events have moved so quickly that a monthly journal, such as The Sabbath Recorder, is not likely to keep pace. —DSS.

Resignation of Bakker under review

Leaders of the Assemblies of God have been meeting to consider the "moral failure" of television evangelist, Jim Bakker. Bakker resigned from the leadership of PTL and its Heritage USA complex after saying he had faced blackmail over an extramarital relationship in 1980. He claimed that the blackmail was a plot on the part of another evangelist to take over PTL.

The Executive Presbytery of the Assemblies of God have met in Springfield, Missouri, to review a variety of options for the denomination. TV Evangelist Jimmy Swaggart, also an Assemblies of God minister, raised the issue of Bakker's fitness to continue at PTL. The Rev. Jerry Falwell has assumed the leadership of PTL and its related business empire at the request of Bakker.

Roberts makes \$8 million goal

Oral Roberts came close to death, he reported, after coming out of a 10-day prayer vigil in the tower of Oral Roberts University. On April 1st, Roberts reported that he had received \$8.7 million to date, but urged that an "overflow" of gifts should continue.

The final gift of the campaign was a \$1.3 million check from dog race track owner, Jerry Collins, of Florida.

Gallup Poll on fund-raising

More than 40 percent of Americans think that Christian fund-raising programs are unethical, according to a survey by the Gallup Poll. Speaking to a national conference on "Funding the Christian Challenge," George Gallup Jr. said he was shocked by the findings.

The survey dealt with perceptions of religious fund-raising today, "and these could be misconceptions," Gallup said. "Whether the perceptions are right or wrong is the problem for the fund-raisers."

Nearly half of those polled said there have been too many fund-raising appeals for Christian causes in recent years.

Recent controversy over the Oral Roberts' statements that the Lord would "take him home" if he did not raise an additional \$4.5 million was frequently discussed by conferees. The conference was co-sponsored by the Christian Stewardship Conference and the Billy Graham Center.

Court upholds Sabbath-keeper

The Supreme Court has ruled that a worker may not be denied unemployment benefits if dismissed for refusing to work on the Sabbath.

Paula A. Hobbie had been dismissed from her job in Winter Park, Florida, for refusing to work Friday evenings and Saturdays for reasons of religious conviction. After working at a jewelry store for two years, she became a Seventh Day Adventist. She was fired for refusal to meet management schedule requirements, and the State of Florida ruled that she was ineligible for unemployment benefits.

Justice William Brennan wrote the majority opinion on a vote of eight to one, and cited the First Amendment guarantee of free exercise of religion.

"The employee was forced to choose between fidelity to religious belief and continued employment," Brennan wrote. "The forfeiture of unemployment benefits for choosing the former over the latter brings unlawful coercion to bear on the employee's free choice."

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Thinking and acting in the Lord's way

by B. John V. Rao

It is time for the evangelism to be carried out by the Christian youth. With our energies, will and application, we can do wonders in the propagation of the Word. Let us unite and promote the Cause.

It is also high time for the youth to rise against the evils that today flourish in the name of religion. We, the youth, should think and act in the Lord's way, following in the steps of our dedicated forefathers who served him. To lead such a life, our own hearts should be pure and should be purified by baptism.

Time does not stop, and the cycle of seasons goes on. Our daily life has become complex and invariably filled with negatives in every aspect. There is no choice; we are simply cogs in a machine. Life is a nonentity. One is a stranger to oneself—without confidence, without identity, without a goal. We are lost in ourselves; we are one of the faceless crowd.

By the time we realize this, the inevitable has already happened, and we do not have any time even to repent, let alone atone. Hence, the need to heed the call of the Christ. There is not a single power other than him.

So do not waste your time in wavering. Find yourself in Christ. For, "As a man, his days are as grass, as a flower of a field, so he flourisheth. For the wind passeth over it and it is gone and the place thereof shall know it no more."

His call is more powerful, and you cannot fail to hear it. Turn to him. Make good of your last days. Walk in his Grace. Lead

thyself in his Light. Life is full of temptations; heed them not. You have been given this blessed life. Make yourself useful in his service. If you lose it, you are lost forever. David charged his son to keep the charge of the Lord thy God; to walk in his ways, keeping his statutes, his commandments, his ordinances, and his testimonies, as it is written in the law of Moses.

Now, everybody knows God's commandments. Everybody professes to know their meaning. But are they following and acting out those commandments? Positively, the answer is **no**. "Bind them about your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. So you will find favour and good repute in the sight of God and man." (Prov. 3:3, 4)

Let us act on those commandments. When we do that, without forgetting them even for a moment, the words in Proverbs 3:1, 2 will come true. Those words are, "My son, do not

Do not waste your time in wavering. Find yourself in Christ.

forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my Commandments, for the length of days and years of life and abundant welfare will they give you."

Abundant welfare we are promised, if only we keep and act upon those commandments. Who are then fit to get such welfare in abundance from God? Those who are in God's way; who keep the commandments. Those are blessed by the Father. To such life, our youth should direct their efforts.

If you ignore God's hand when it is

stretched out to you, you are lost. But when you seek the protection of that hand, not only are you blessed, but you also are the light that shows the Lord's way to your brothers. By keeping yourself pure and pious, you can show others the true meaning of service, devotion, and life.

The gift of God is for everyone; anybody can reach him by faith and devotion. Be devoted to him and revere him from your innermost heart. That very heart, you will realize, is the seat of our Lord. Only then, you will know that you are chosen—chosen to lead others to him through the Word. But if you neglect him, he may cause you to realize the meaning of the words in Proverbs 6:6, i.e., "Go to the ant, O sluggard, consider her ways and be wise. Without having any chief, officer, or ruler, she prepares her food in summer, and gathers her sustenance in harvest."

Likewise, we—in our youth—should gather every good will from God and man by our deeds and sustain our spiritual and

material harvest. Laziness and complacency are the two major enemies in our path. We should keep them at bay, and seek God's guidance. He will certainly lead you.

But, before that, qualify yourself to be guided by God. How? By being pure in your thought and deed. We should remember David's Psalm 119:9, 10: "How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to thy Word." And, how to guard it? By prayer. That prayer should be, "Let me not wander from thy Commandments that I might not sin against thee."

Apostle Paul, in II Timothy 2:22, chastises us to "shun your youthful passions and aim at righteousness, faith, love and peace along with those who call upon the Lord from a pure heart."

In such condition, you will be strong in the grace that is in Jesus Christ. The Word is his, and you should carry it to everybody, far and near. The opportunity is given to you always, and without doubting, open your heart and welcome him. **SR**

Endangered

Cont. from page 8

available means of expression. So it was literally forced to improve these means and thus to grow with them—a method much used by emancipators of humanity."

Harry Emerson Fosdick commented: "...When Beethoven wrote a symphony, he did not write it merely to be admired, but to be reproduced. ...His symphonies can be reproduced again and again.

...So Christ played His life like music meant to be played over and over again. In His unselfishness, His love and mercy, His faith in God, His purity, His reverence for personality, His practice

of brotherhood, and His devotion to a nobler social order, he was not creating a piece of music for the world to stand before and cry, 'How lovely!' He wanted it reproduced—played again and again by boys and girls, men and women, on all the human instruments that God had given them, until the whole world should be full of His music—the music of the Gospel."

It is our calling to be true Saints, to play this music of the gospel over and over so faithfully that it entrances and draws others to the faith, the righteousness and the happiness of the family of God. **SR**

YOUTH PRE-CON REGISTRATION

Who— Youth, ages 15-18 (or completed grade 9)
Where— Camp WA-JA-TO, Lyons, Kansas
When— August 5-9, 1987
Director— Pastor William Shobe

Registration Shut-off
 July 10, 1987
Late Registration Fee
 \$10.00

Cost— \$45.00 Includes transportation to General Conference

Please bring—sleeping bag, personal effects, bathing suit, warm jacket, Bible, notebook. *Please do not bring—*hair driers or radios.
 Please do not send Pre-Con fee with conference registration. Send fee (or pay on arrival), along with this registration form to:
 Mr. Kirk Looper, 320 Maple Ave., Leavenworth, KS 66048 • Make checks payable to **SDB Pre-Con**

Name: _____		Address: _____	
Home phone: (____) _____		Home church: _____	
Transportation by: <input type="checkbox"/> private car <input type="checkbox"/> bus <input type="checkbox"/> time:			
<input type="checkbox"/> \$45 fee enclosed <input type="checkbox"/> Will pay at camp			
<input type="checkbox"/> I have a car and will take _____ persons to General Conference			
<input type="checkbox"/> I need transportation: <input type="checkbox"/> to General Conference <input type="checkbox"/> to bus stop			
<input type="checkbox"/> I will make certain I am in good health before leaving for Pre-Con (and conference) and will not take unnecessary chances in risking the welfare of others or myself.			
<input type="checkbox"/> I have a medical condition that requires special care. I will bring the appropriate medicines and will inform the staff of possible special needs. Describe if you wish:			
Signature: _____		Date: _____	
Parent's Signature: _____		Date: _____	

YOUNG ADULT PRE-CON REGISTRATION

Who— Young Adults, ages 18-35
Where— Camp Daniel, Bonner Springs, KS
When— August 5-9, 1987
Director— Rodney and Camille Henry

Registration Shut-off
 July 10, 1987
Late Registration Fee
 \$10.00

Cost— \$45.00
 Please bring—sleeping bag, personal effects, bathing suit, warm jacket, Bible, notebook. *Please do not bring—*hair driers or radios.
 Please do not send Pre-Con fee with conference registration. Send fee (or pay on arrival), along with this registration form to:
 Mr. Kirk Looper, 320 Maple Ave., Leavenworth, KS 66048 • Make checks payable to **SDB Pre-Con**

Name: _____		Address: _____	
Home phone: (____) _____		Home church: _____	
Transportation by: <input type="checkbox"/> private car <input type="checkbox"/> bus <input type="checkbox"/> time:			
<input type="checkbox"/> \$45 fee enclosed <input type="checkbox"/> Will pay at camp			
<input type="checkbox"/> I have a car and will take _____ persons to General Conference			
<input type="checkbox"/> I need transportation: <input type="checkbox"/> to General Conference <input type="checkbox"/> to bus stop			
<input type="checkbox"/> I will make certain I am in good health before leaving for Pre-Con (and conference) and will not take unnecessary chances in risking the welfare of others or myself.			
<input type="checkbox"/> I have a medical condition that requires special care. I will bring the appropriate medicines and will inform the staff of possible special needs. Describe if you wish:			
Signature: _____		Date: _____	

REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS

Seventh Day Baptist General Conference

Bethany College
 Lindsborg, Kansas
 August 9-16, 1987

Pre-Registration: Fill out form and mail to—

Phil Van Horn
 PO Box 146
 North Loup, NE 68859

Deadline: All those attending Conference whose registrations are not postmarked on or before July 1, 1987, will be subject to a late fee.

On-Campus Registration: Syvenna Billue Addition, the connecting building between the Stroble-Gibson Centennial Center (where main Conference meetings will be held) and the Ray Hahn Physical Education building. The registration area will be just inside the doors that open off the main parking lot there, which is on the northeast corner of the campus.

Hours: Sunday, August 9, 12 Noon until late evening—Monday–Friday, 9 am to 5 pm and 6 pm to 7 pm

Room, Board and Registration Information: Please refer to the registration form for the specific charges. It is more complicated than last year's form, but that is to your advantage. That way you do not pay for an air-conditioned (A/C) room or several optional meals, if you do not want them. Those staying at an off-campus motel or campground are given the opportunity to purchase a separate meal ticket that will cover only the specific meals they want to eat on campus. They will not have to pay for a whole day's meals, when they just want lunch (for instance) on certain days. If you do want a separate meal ticket (for Monday-Sabbath), please do a little advance planning and request it ahead of time on this registration form. Then it will be figured in with your registration fee, and we will not have to handle so many separate meal ticket sales at the registration desk during the week of conference. If you choose the Friday night Smorgasbord option (\$3.50 extra) and you are also requesting a separate meal ticket, be sure to pay the basic supper charge for that night (\$5.00) on your separate meal ticket. Note: There will be no charges of any kind for children 2 and under.

Room & Board Totals (Whole week/without optional meals): Adult (A/C room), \$166.50, (Non A/C room), \$154.50, children 3-12 years, \$124.00. *Note:* For comparison to costs in other years, add \$5 to each of the above (base cost of Friday supper).

First Conference? Be sure to check the box on the name line for anyone who will be attending Conference for the first time. A special line will then be printed on their name tag, so we can congratulate them and offer a little extra help finding their way around.

Your options:

Registration: As in the past, you may choose to register either for the whole week (6 days) or the weekend (3 days: Thurs-Sabbath). Everyone who attends Conference (whether or not they are staying on campus) is required to pay the registration fee. Included in the registration fee is a "facilities use fee" (a per-person charge by the college for use of the campus—added to meal cost last year).

Room: You may also choose either an air-conditioned (A/C) or a non air-conditioned room (Non A/C rooms are all in Swensson Hall). No beds or linen will be supplied for children 2 and under (bring your own crib). If parents prefer to have one other child (12 & under) sleeping on the floor in the same room with them, that will be allowed, but at no reduction in rates. Most rooms are doubles, and will sleep up to 2 people in the beds and 2 children 12 and under on the floor (though this would be crowded). Since most of the air-conditioned double rooms adjoin one other double room (with bathroom in between, children could sleep in the room adjoining their parents' room. There are a limited number of adjoining triple (A/C) rooms available. If you wish to request these, or if for health reasons you require a first floor room, or a first floor handicapped accessible room (Marm & Gregory Halls only), indicate this on the "Special Instructions"

line. The room fee includes a linen package which contains two sheets, one pillowcase, one pillow, one blanket, two towels and two washclothes. You may wish to bring a fan if you are requesting a non air-conditioned room.

Optional meals: Please indicate on the form if you would like supper on Sunday, August 9, and/or breakfast on Sunday, August 16. Also, there is an extra charge for adults (no extra charge for children) for the Smorgasbord meal that will be the Friday, August 14, supper. If you want to have supper in the cafeteria that night, add the additional \$3.50 per adult. If you don't want it, and you already paid the base rate for supper that night in your daily meals charge, you may deduct the \$5 for that meal on the "No" line.

Nursery services will be provided throughout the Conference week. Parents with children in the nursery are requested to help for one half day at some time during the week.

Campus laundry facilities will be available for our use at no extra cost (bring your own detergent).

Check cashing will be handled by the college accounting office with a \$50 maximum. (Hours Mon-Fri, 8 am-12 noon, 1-5 pm.)

Transportation: As explained in the March issue of *The Sabbath Recorder*, we will pick you up at the airport or bus station in Salina, Kansas, and will drop you off there after Conference, if you so request on the registration form. Young Adult Pre-Con campers: if you plan to fly into Kansas City (which is closer to Camp Daniel), we will see that you get to Pre-Con, but we request you arrange a connecting flight from Salina to Kansas City for your return trip (so we won't have to transport you 200 miles to the Kansas City airport!).

Host Committee Contact Persons:

Ken Burdick, Host Committee Chairman
PO Box 146
North Loup, NE 68859
(308) 496-2041 Home
(308) 496-3531 Church

Jim Goodrich, Host Committee Treasurer
PO Box 164
North Loup, NE 68859
(308) 496-2741

Registration: Phil & Peg Van Horn
RR #1 Box 117
North Loup, NE 68859
(308) 496-3401

Stage Arrangements: Calvin Babcock
605 W. Holly St.
Carthage, TX 75633

Audio-Visual & Equipment: Ed Johnson
Seventh Day Baptist Church
Nortonville, KS 66060

Ushers: Harold King
Seventh Day Baptist Church
Nortonville, KS 66060

Transportation: Gordon Lawton
1648 9th Street
Boulder, CO 80302

Publicity: Jean Jorgensen
Box 294
Syracuse, KS 67878
(316) 384-7513

Exhibits: Sheldon Van Horn
PO Box 177
North Loup, NE 68859

Nursery: Susan Soper
Box 76
Taylor, NE 68879

Associated Conference Needs: Ruth Ryschon
RR #2
Ord, NE 68862

Receptions: Elsie Cox
PO Box 22
North Loup, NE 68859

Seventh Day Baptist General Conference Registration—1987

Name:	Last	First	Initial	Sex	Age	First Conference?	Delegate/Church
1.						<input type="checkbox"/>	
2.						<input type="checkbox"/>	
3.						<input type="checkbox"/>	
4.						<input type="checkbox"/>	
5.						<input type="checkbox"/>	
6.						<input type="checkbox"/>	

For additional children, use extra paper.

Name of Sponsor (All youth under 18):

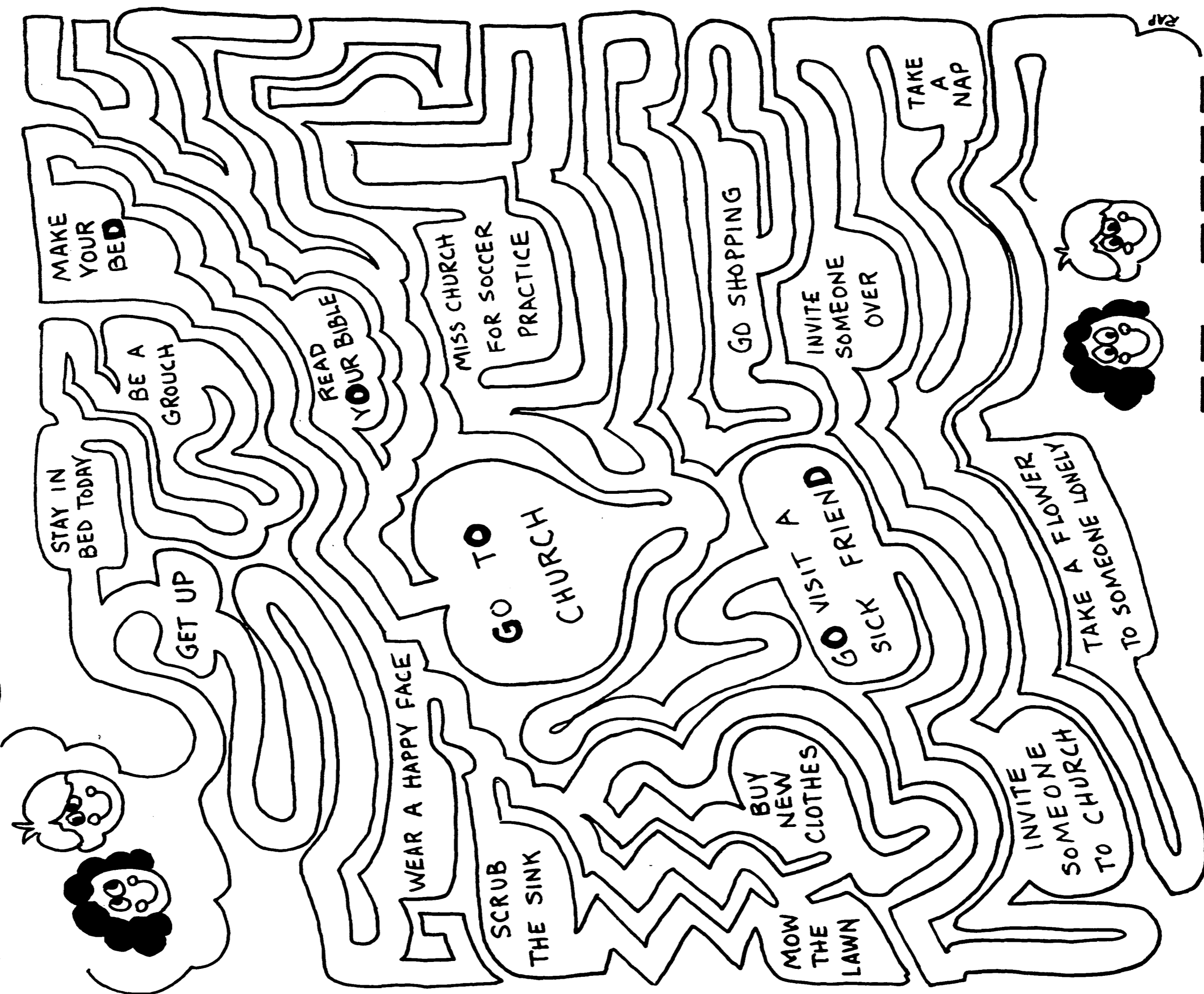
Registration Fee:	(Week) # Adults <input type="checkbox"/> X 39.50=	# Children 3-12 yrs <input type="checkbox"/>	X 16.00=	Total=
	(Weekend, Thursday-Sabbath) # Adults <input type="checkbox"/> X 23.00=	# Children 3-12 yrs <input type="checkbox"/>	X 10.00=	Total=
Room & Board Fee:	(A/C) # Adults <input type="checkbox"/> X # of days	<input type="checkbox"/> X 22.00=		
	(Non A/C) # Adults <input type="checkbox"/> X # of days	<input type="checkbox"/> X 20.00=		
	# Children 3-12 yrs <input type="checkbox"/> X # of days	<input type="checkbox"/> X 18.00=		
	Sunday, August 9, Supper? # Adults <input type="checkbox"/>	+ # Children <input type="checkbox"/>	= # Persons <input type="checkbox"/> X 5.00=	
	Friday night Smorgasbord? If No: # Adults <input type="checkbox"/>	X -5.00 (refund only if you paid above)=		
	If Yes: # Adults <input type="checkbox"/>	X 3.50 (extra charge for adults)=		
	Sunday, August 16, Breakfast? # Adults <input type="checkbox"/>	X 3.00=	+ # Children <input type="checkbox"/>	X 2.00=
Meal Ticket Only (# individuals meals requested. Children= 3-12 yrs. 2 yrs & under are free)	Breakfasts: # Adults <input type="checkbox"/> X 3.00=	+ # Children <input type="checkbox"/>	X 2.00=	X # days =
	Lunches: # Adults <input type="checkbox"/> X 4.00=	+ # Children <input type="checkbox"/>	X 3.00=	X # days =
	Suppers: # Adults <input type="checkbox"/> X 5.00=	+ # Children <input type="checkbox"/>	X 5.00=	X # days =
				Total Room & Board=
				Total Separate Meals=
Banquet Tickets:	Women: Cost is 2.00 with meal ticket, 7.00 without meal ticket.	Women's: # Tickets <input type="checkbox"/>	X cost @ <input type="checkbox"/>	=
	Youth: Cost is 2.00 with meal ticket, 7.00 without meal ticket.	Youth: # Tickets <input type="checkbox"/>	X cost @ <input type="checkbox"/>	=
	Late Registration Fee: (Pay if registration is not postmarked by July 1, 1987)	# of persons <input type="checkbox"/>	X 10.00=	=
				Total Registration, Housing, Meals=
				Less amount pre-paid=
				Balance Due=

Make check payable to "SDB General Conference Host Committee." See other side for Special Instructions and Transportation information.

The children's page

Find Your Way

Follow the path with Jeff and Linda to find a happy Sabbath rest. There are several paths and you will have to make some choices, sometimes between a good choice and a better one. Things are not always clearcut. Look for the dark letters and write them in the blanks at the bottom.



From the Junior Nurture Sabbath School Series, available next fall.

May 1987

21

Special Instructions: (Health needs, floor requests, etc.)

Transportation: (Circle one) Air Car Bus Train (see transportation note on information page)

Arrival: (date/time/flight#/carrier/place)

Departure: (date/time/flight#/carrier/place)

Resident Off-Campus Location:

Phone # ()

If not rooming at Bethany

Do You Request:

To be picked up?

To be dropped off?

Attention Youth!

We, the undersigned, have read the General Conference rules and regulations and agree to comply with them during the 1987 Seventh Day Baptist General Conference.

As the parent of _____, I further agree that my child is legally responsible to the undersigned sponsor, and that said sponsor may also make any necessary decisions regarding medical services.

Signatures

Parent:

Date:

Youth:

Date:

Sponsor at Conference:

Date:

Guidelines for Christian Conduct at General Conference

SDB General Conference Regulations and Rules:

Generally, wherever Seventh Day Baptists have held their sessions of General Conference, they have left behind a strong witness for the Christ whom they serve and a spirit of goodwill because of their high level of morality and attitude of cooperation.

In order to maintain our witness for Christ, in order that our people may be spared from social pressures that might otherwise involve them in unapproved activity, and in order to help conscientious parents and sponsors

of young people at Conference to give proper supervision, and out of respect for those who need a good night's sleep in order to fulfill their Conference responsibilities, the following regulations have been drawn up by the Youth Ministries Committee of the Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education and approved by General Council.

1. All unmarried young people under 18 years of age in attendance will have their own parents or a sponsor over 25 years of age who are also in attendance at Conference. All young people will be assigned to rooms on the same floor of the same dorm as their sponsors. It is the responsibility of the youth to be certain that if dorm rates are different, the sponsor and youth will cooperatively choose the dorm selected, (i.e. non air-conditioned vs air-conditioned, etc.).
2. Parents or sponsors assume full responsibility at all times for the conduct and discipline of the young people whose sponsorship they accept. Such responsibility does not extend to direct supervision when youth are engaged in a scheduled Conference activity. But the sponsor's responsibility does cover necessary transportation to and from any activity if not provided. This responsibility includes actions day and night in the dorms.
3. Local rules of the school and facility are binding on all Conference attenders unless changed by Host Committee or the General Council.
4. Curfew hours will be established for the consideration of others, for health reasons, and will mean that each individual will be in his own assigned room and quiet at that time. Such consideration should be the sign of a maturing Christian.
5. Socializing between boys and girls is to be limited to public areas so that no one may have reason to question even the most innocent of intentions.
6. A Disciplinary Council composed of two National Youth Ministries Committee members, two Host Committee members and a member of the General Council shall be established before Conference convenes. The General Council member shall be chairman.
7. The Disciplinary Council shall meet at the call of the chairman to deal with infractions of the *Guidelines for Christian Conduct*. Discussion shall be confidential and shall include input from the person(s) involved (and their adult sponsors in the case of youth). Action requiring discipline may result in the person(s) being required to leave the Conference facility (under the supervision of the adult sponsor) at their own expense.



the BEACON

Produced by the Youth Committee of the Board of Christian Education-
For and by members of the Seventh Day Baptist Youth Fellowship

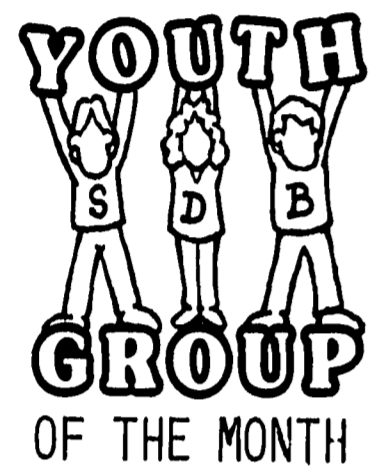
May 1987

Nello Sonnet One

by D. Nello Carmichael

The sky was dark, no sun, no moon, no light.
The darkness swallowed light so death could spawn
in hearts of men to captivate the dawn.
Then even morning could not stop its blight.
While nations froze in hatred coming trite
the spring air withered, slain in sleepless yawn
by silenced music of the Roman Fawn.
Men's hearts grew cold, all nature groaned with
fright.

A trumpet blared and light glowed 'bove the east,
Its source was love, a beacon to assail.
The Beast with darkened hate would not prevail.
And now eternal death unto the beast,
and life eternal from the Light above.
Bin in the light an bright new birth of love.



Adams Center, New York

by Angi Smith

At a first glance, you might say that the Adams Center Youth Fellowship is rather small. Well, you'd be right. We have three members in the senior high youth group: Renee Brown, Deanna Burnash, and Angi Smith. There are four members in the junior youth group: David Brannon, Jennifer Brown, Janelle Moses, and Debbie Smith. Last

Cont. on page 23

(L to R) Front row: Jennifer Brown, David Brannon. Back row: Renee Brown, Angi Smith, Debbie Smith.



Cont. on page 23



Study
Helps

Read: James 2:14-17
Memory Verse: James 2:14

Many times we tend to focus on the more *spiritual* aspects of our Christian walk. When this happens, action is often left out of our expression of what it means to be a Christian. Don't let this happen to you!

It is very important to have faith in God. But, we must remember that if that faith is to be realized to the fullest, we

Cont. on page 23

Vital Statistics

**Pre-Con registration
forms are in this issue.**

**Be sure to register
early! This year
promises to be one of
the best ever!**

Group of the Month

Cont. from page 22

but not least are our leaders, Ken and Helen Brannon, who lead us in singing and Bible study every two weeks.

The senior high and junior groups worked together to hold a yard sale last spring. We also had our own table in the Ladies Aid Bazaar in the fall on which we sold candles and knick-knacks for Christmas. We're planning a pancake breakfast for the end of March.

The junior youth group participated in the local "Kids Crusade" on Friday nights during the month of February.

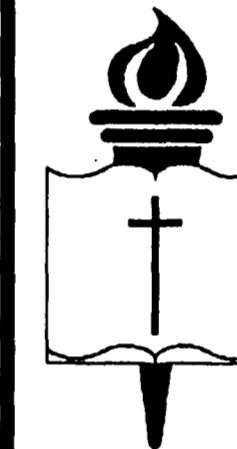
We just started our youth groups in the spring of last year, and we're off to a rather slow start. We hope to be bringing more youth into the church and youth groups, and we hope to have such an effect on them that they are eager to return. Please keep us in your prayers.

Study Helps

Cont. from page 22

must express it through compassionate acts toward others. Commit yourself to looking for opportunity to help those in need. By helping them, you will strengthen your faith and give the individual being helped a positive image of who and what Christians are.

In this way, you will witness to God's grace and mercy, while helping those around you in a real and meaningful way.



Seventh Day Baptist
General Conference
August 9-16, 1987

Director's Ditty

The month of May marks several transitions in my life. Of these, one is of special interest to Seventh Day Baptist youth. As of May 1, I will no longer be located at the Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education offices in Alfred Station.

Due to my impending marriage (on May 24), I will be moving to Milton, Wisconsin, and will begin operating out of the Seventh Day Baptist Center located in Janesville, Wisconsin. I will be located here for at least eight months, after which I hope to be able to move back to the Alfred Station area.

I look forward to settling in at my new office, and to the chance to work with some of the other denominational executives located in Janesville. Thanks to all for the input given to me while I was located in Alfred Station. I hope it continues after my move to Janesville!

Send all correspondence to:
PO Box 1678
Janesville, WI 53547-1678

LEGACY

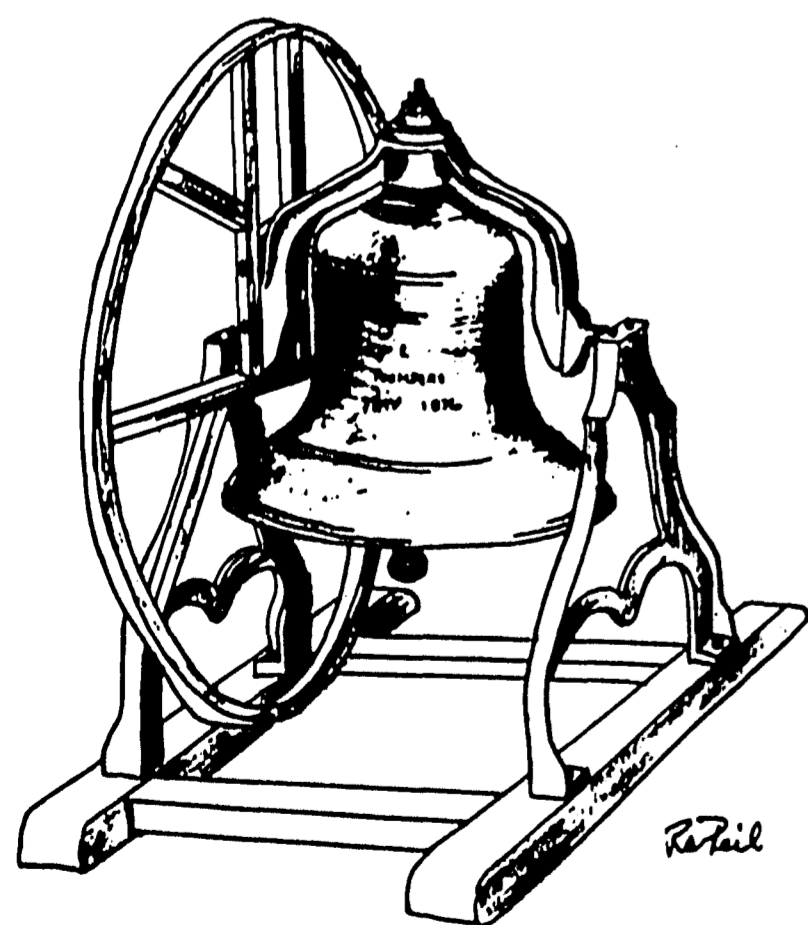
by Marian (Green)
Lewis

The following article was printed in the January 1987 issue of the *Riverside, California, Chimes*.

The Farina, Illinois, Seventh Day Baptist Church, organized 30 years before the first Riverside, California, Church, has left us a legacy. They have given the Riverside Church the brass bell that called the Farina people to worship for one 110 years. This bell now awaits construction of our new church building. They have also given us three leather upholstered pulpit chairs which are also very old and in need of renovation.

As we consider these gifts, it seems appropriate to consider an even greater legacy and think of some of the persons active in both churches. Among the constituent members of the Colony Heights Church (the original Riverside S.D.B. Church organized April 5, 1896) are Silas F. Randolph and his wife, Emily, and their daughter Mabel, all from Farina. Mabel married Earl C. Furrow, son of John Furrow and brother of Daisy Furrow Allen, at Colony Heights on July 30, 1900. Earl died in

SDB CHURCH
FARINA BELL



1906. The Randolph family moved back to Farina where Mabel married Will Allen and was a faithful member and organist in the Farina Church for many years. Isaphine Allen, her step-daughter, is listed as a member of the Riverside Church 1908-1912.

Mr. and Mrs. B.F. Titsworth and Miss Bertha Titsworth are listed as constituent members at Colony Heights and were also members at Farina. Dr. C.H. West (a dentist) was ordained a deacon

in the Farina Church, later moving to Riverside and serving as deacon in the Riverside Church from October 1, 1910 until his death July 28, 1933. His daughter, Mary (Matie) married Olney Moore, who also served as deacon in the Riverside Church. They lived in Riverside from February 1931 until they died.

The founder and first pastor of the Colony Heights Church was Rev. J.T. Davis. He and his daughter were constituent members. Rev. Davis was pastor of the Farina Church from July 1920 to September 1921. His daughter, Ethlyn, was with him at Farina, served as hostess at the parsonage, and taught piano to young people. She later married a widower, Mr. Copeland, in Riverside, and they were active in the church here until their death. After his pastorate here, Rev. Davis was instrumental in organizing the Pacific Coast Association of Seventh Day Baptists.

Marian Howard, a Farina girl, married Rev. Gerald Hargis. They served in the pastorate of the Riverside S.D.B. Church from June 26, 1926 to January 23, 1932. They had previously served as missionaries to Jamaica and went on to the pastorate of the Los Angeles, California S.D.B. Church.

After most of the Colony Heights people moved to Riverside, they changed the name of the church to Riverside Seventh Day Baptist Church and built a new building at Fifth Street and Park Avenue, which was completed in January, 1904. The present Riverside Church at 14th and Lemon Streets was built in 1927 and has now been sold, although we are still meeting in it. The Relocation Committee is now negotiating on an excellent location on Chicago Avenue. We are all looking forward to getting started on the new building. Some have long wanted a bell for our present church. Our new church will have a bell that was originally purchased in 1876.

The Farina Seventh Day Baptist Church, throughout the 120 years of its existence, served the Lord well in the local community, providing faithful leadership there. Its young people went away to be educated and many went on to serve in other communities and in other churches.

The migration from Farina, along with changes in structure of the farming community and reduction in population there, have caused the Farina Church, once a large active church, to dwindle in recent years until the few remaining members have felt it appropriate to disband the church.

Some say the Farina Seventh Day Baptist Church is "dead." As we consider the faithful persons from Farina who have contributed and are still contributing to the growth and stability of the Riverside Church and of other Seventh Day Baptist churches, as well as those of other denominations, we cannot say that the Farina Church is "dead." Their legacy is not just a legacy of things—a church bell and some chairs, but a legacy of faith and loyalty that will never end. It is still serving in many churches and many communities. Thank you, Farina.

Bibliography

Information for the above article has been gleaned from:

1. Allen, Daisy Furrow and Bonham, Elizabeth Harris
History of the Riverside Seventh Day Baptist Church, about 1966
2. Chapman, Bernice B. and Curtis, Maleta O.—Editors
History of the Riverside Seventh Day Baptist Church 1893-1979
3. Daland, Nellie Furrow
Furrows of the Land, 1976
4. Crosley, Stella and Wells, Lena
Three Quarters of a Century of Seventh Day Baptist History at Farina, Illinois 1866-1941
5. Old copies of *The Sabbath Recorder*

Information from the above sources has been supplemented by my own experiences in the Farina and Riverside churches and by information gleaned from conversations and correspondence with people in both churches. The bell was sketched by Ruth Anne Peil.

Shiloh continues celebration

by Donna S. Bond

If you are an ardent national weather report fan, you already know that the South Jersey area received a record-breaking amount of snow during January and February. During one 33-day stretch, for example, our children spent 20 1/2 days at home and 12 1/2 days at school. In spite of the chaos generated in the school calendar—and perhaps in some homes—the Lord has blessed the Shiloh Seventh Day Baptist Church in its work during these months.

On January 14, the Ladies Benevolent Society met at the home of Elsa Scull to "tie a quilt, roll bandages and sew carpet rags." These activities were chosen to recreate the flavor of bygone monthly society meetings in honor of the church's 250th anniversary. The usual advance publicity notice had been sent to the Bridgeton *Evening News* but had received an unusual response: to call attention to the anniversary, the *News* sent a photographer to the meeting and we enjoyed a four-column spread depicting modern ladies pretending to do old-fashioned "women's work."

Youth Week activities included a swimming party, West District Church League basketball games, regular game room activities in our Youth Center, and bowling. On Friday evening, Linda Camenga directed the community-based youth groups in a mini-musical, "Daniel, Darius and De-Lion." (Other churches have since requested *encore* performances.) On Sabbath, February 14, the Junior, Intermediate and Senior High Sabbath School classes entertained and inspired us with a variety of skits and special music selections.

On the following Sabbath, Pastor Emeritus Charles Bond presented a professionally mounted and framed collection of portraits of some very special Servants of God—19 of the 24 pastors who have served in our 250-year history. Pastor Bond, who had gathered these portraits from hither and yon (with help from his wife, Margaret, of course), summarized the pastorates of each of these men. Pastor John Camenga then offered a dedicatory prayer and asked, "What will our spiritual descendants say about our faith in 2087, or 2037, or even 1988?"

Heavy snow storms may have closed down schools, offices and highways this winter, but they have not dampened the spirit of the Shiloh congregation as we begin our 251st year of service to our Lord.

Shiloh Pastors 1738-1987

Jonathan Davis	1738-1769	Ira L. Cottrell	1891-1899
Johathan Davis	1769-1785	Edward B. Saunders	1899-1905
Nathan Ayars	1785-1802	D. Burdette Coon	1906-1910
John Davis	1807-1841	James L. Skaggs	1910-1914
Azor Estee	1841-1844	Erlo E. Sutton	1915-1923
Solomon Carpenter	1844-1846	Eli F. Loosboro	1923-1931
Samuel Davidson	1846-1849	Leon M. Maltby	1932-1938
Giles M. Langworthy	1849	Lester G. Osborn	1940-1951
William M. Jones	1850-1853	Robert Lippincott	1951-1958
Walter B. Gillette	1853-1873	Charles H. Bond	1958-1980
A. Herbert Lewis	1873-1876	John H. Camenga	1982-
David H. Davis	1876-1879		
Theodore L. Gardiner	1879-1890		



by Marilyn Merchant

Remembering mom and spring

Dear Ones All,

Happy May Day, Mother's Day and happy happy spring. As I thought about the page for this month, I thought of May baskets made of construction paper and filled with wild spring flowers and goodies, hung on a friend's doorknob while we dashed away lest they should catch us. I remembered the school yard, and later the school gymnasium, where the May pole had been placed with its colorful streamers. I also remember our bobbing and weaving to make the intricate pattern about the pole.

A few weeks ago we had an all-church birthday party, and the cake decorated for May had just such a pole in the center with lovely ribbons twining 'round. One youngster asked what that was. On being told, he said only, "oh," with the most puzzled look

on his face. It obviously was not a happening in his sphere of knowledge. It certainly brought back happy memories to me, though.

One thing that does not change about this time of year, however, is Mother's Day. I have a daughter who was born May 12, so we always celebrate together. It makes it very special, but I somehow have been thinking a lot about my mother lately.

For some reason, my earliest memories of Celia Ella Alida Hoshaw Moulton seem to begin shortly before the birth of my brother, when I was five. I remember her as a loving mother who turned being a gracious hostess into an art. A great many of the warm memories I have of her revolve around the guests in our home. I was a depression child, and things became very difficult during those years. Business became more and more

scarce, funds fewer and farther between but, somehow, we were always warm, clean, well fed and happy.

I recall one particular Sunday that the folks decided we would cut down to two meals that day. Well, they did not consult me, and when bedtime came, I refused to go to bed because I had not had supper yet. So much for economizing.

Mom would rather make over a dress or other article of clothing than to start with new material because she had had to do so much of it.

I think the fact that our friends—and our parents' friends—always seemed to feel so welcome and at home at our place spoke well for her spiritual gift of hospitality.

Because we always had a large garden and everything was canned and dried, there was always lots to share. I remember cider-making parties, complete with freshly-made doughnuts; huge shortcakes at strawberry time, and garden gleaning parties where all the "city" friends came and gathered fresh vegetables for their homes. Most of all, I remember bountiful Sabbath dinners when sometimes expected guests and sometimes spur-of-the-moment guests were always welcome.

My parents were of the school who did not believe children still living at home should pay rent or board, so we compensated by keeping an emergency shelf stocked with some of the "fancy" groceries dad's meager salary did not cover. These were hauled down from the shelf to supplement the meal when the unexpected guests joined us. We all learned hospitality and good manners then. We also learned how to wash dishes without grumbling (out loud so the company could hear us).

Mom was no saint; otherwise, how could she have put up with us? She had one habit that nearly drove me up a wall: she took 10-minute naps. When I get to sleep, I want to sleep it out, especially on Sabbath afternoon. But just as sure as I dozed off, up she would pop and head for the piano. Mother was no concert

pianist. She played more for her own amusement than anything else, and I am sure no one ever taught her what the soft pedal was for. On those afternoons, the house would vibrate from *Love Lifted Me*, *Stand up, Stand Up for Jesus* and *Onward Christian Soldiers*. (It just dawned on me as I wrote these titles, the not-so-subtle message she was conveying.) She was never satisfied until she had both of us girls at the keyboard with her shaking the roof. We were awake, too.

Mother passed away the day before her 90th birthday, but up to the end her snapping black eyes kept you wondering just how much you could get away with. We girls have talked about it often, how frequently we think of something we want to tell her. I am sure this is true of our brother, also. We were a family that communicated.

Mother's two great strengths were her unflinching faith in her **Heavenly Father** and her 60-plus year love affair with my dad. Neither ever faltered, come plenty or not so plenty. My prayer for every child is that they might be blessed with a warm and loving home, and with a mom such as we three Moulton kids had. **Happy Mother's Day, moms everywhere.**

The Robe of Achievement Committee is watching eagerly for your nominations for that prestigious award. A really thorough nomination, almost a resume, is needed by the committee to make a choice. Send to: Jean Lewis, 5060 Sierra Street, Riverside, California 92504.

Secretaries, we hope you are working on your annual report to be shared at conference. Margaret Taylor will be chairing the Women's Interest Committee. The Women's Banquet is slated for Wednesday night at conference. There has also been a half hour allotted for a program on Women's Interests. Of course, the annual meeting for election of board officers will also be on the agenda, as will the S.C.S.C. program.

I again have no special Women's Society news. I know you are meeting, I

know you have programs, I just am not informed what they are other than what has been mentioned in the past. I hope some of you have Mother-Daughter Banquets in the works.

Now for some Mighty Mites. Pay one cent for each year you had your mom, and PTL for all the happy memories those years brought. Find an elderly lady you can take a small remembrance to and chat awhile. No money due. Count the flowers in bloom in your territory—be it yard, apartment or room—and pay one cent for each. Since hats are "in" this year, look for the prettiest one you see worn and compliment the lady wearing it. If it is at church, pay nothing. If not, pay five cents. Pay 10 cents if you did not study the Sabbath School lesson this week. Add one cent for each daily reading you did not look up. Some of you mothers/fathers have been doing a magnificent job on the comments on these. Pay one cent for each person on your prayer list the 21st day of this month. Read a good book and share it, paying two cents for each.

Until next month, moms, give the children a big hug—aren't they wonderful?

Love,

An Item of Vital Interest to Parents Planning to Use the Nursery at Conference

Over the years, the youngsters have worn out the toys that had been accumulated for use by the children at conference. A request was made of the board for funds to purchase new toys. After much thought and discussion, and in consultation with the host committee representative and the conference president, it was decided to ask each parent who intends to put a child in the nursery to bring along one brand-new educational and safe toy appropriate for sharing for the nursery.

We stress **new** so that there will be no sentimental attachment to the toy, and it can readily be shared by all. Please, nothing with small pieces to become detached or lost.

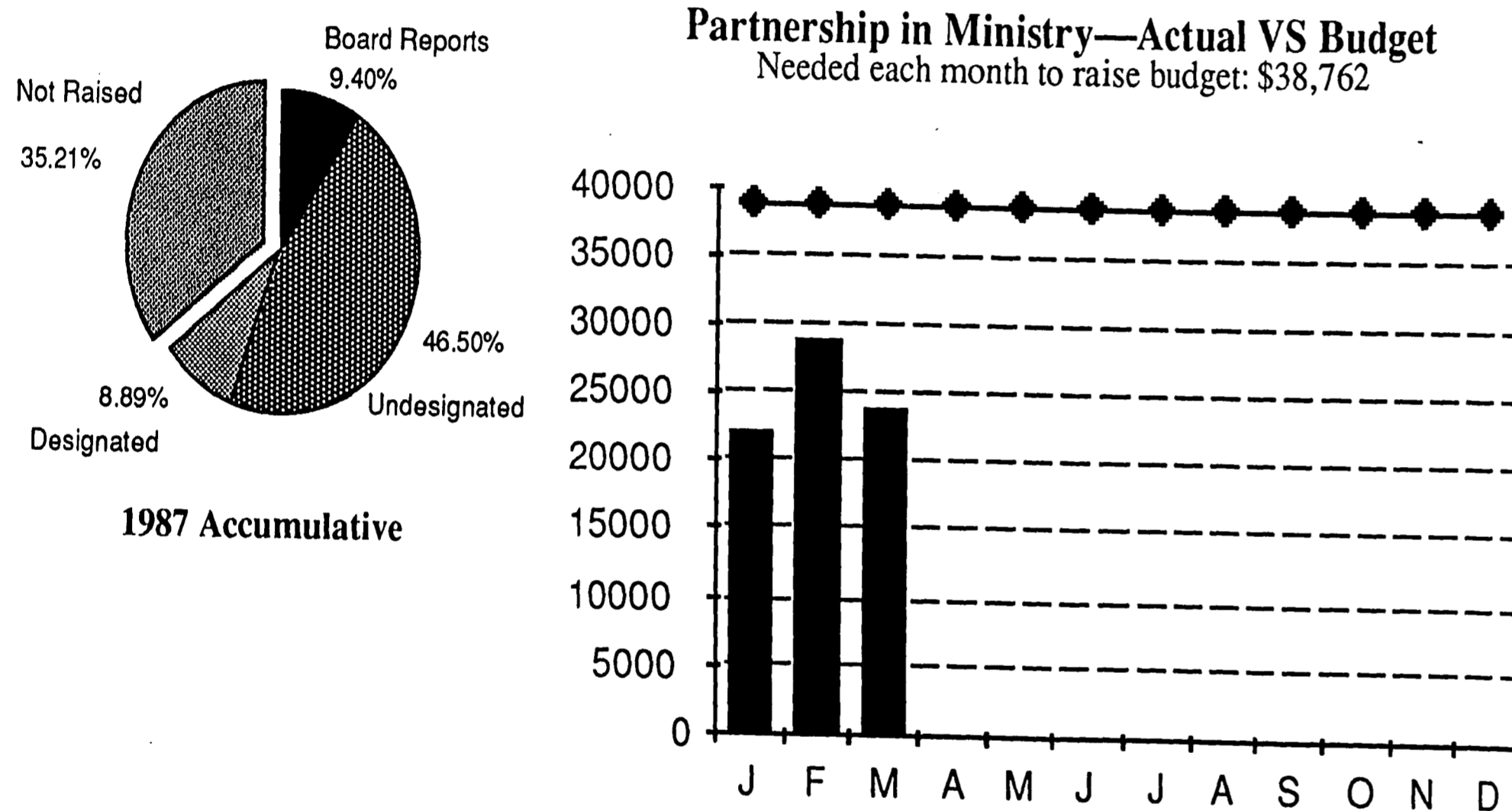
At the close of conference, these toys may be taken home by the provider or will be given to some children's charity. At the present, we do not plan to transport toys from site to site.

Partnership in Ministry

Our World Mission budget update

You can be an active part of this partnership through your ongoing relationship to your local church. At the same time, you can help to carry the responsibility of the partnership by supporting our combined denominational budget—Our World Mission. Your dollars are needed to do the work that is the denominational agencies' responsibility in the partnership. Your prayers, ideas and reactions are also needed to support the work that Seventh Day Baptists are doing together.

"The whole is greater than the sum of its parts."



Count me in...
on the partnership.

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____
 Zip: _____ Church: _____

Please make checks payable to Our World Mission

- This contribution is for:
- undesignated giving
 - designated for:
 - Evangelism and Missions
 - Christian Education (Sabbath School, camps, youth materials etc.)
 - Publishing (Sabbath Recorder, Leadline, Tracts)
 - Leadership Training (Ministerial or Lay Training)
 - Hunger Relief (SDB United Relief Fund)
 - Summer Christian Service Corps
 - SDB World Federation

Partnership in Ministry

The Sabbath Recorder

20th century Sabbath

importance of a Sabbath experience. He says:

"The person who establishes a block of time for Sabbath rest on a regular basis is most likely to keep all of life in proper perspective and remain free of burnout and breakdown."

MacDonald seems to be saying the Sabbath must be seen as a way of life.

"Why did God choose to rest? Because God subjected creation to a rhythm of rest and work that he revealed by observing the rhythm himself... This rest was not meant to be a luxury but rather a necessity for those who want to have growth and maturity. Sabbath rest penetrates to the deepest levels of fatigue in the inner private world."

In picking up on the original intent for the Sabbath and applying it to today, MacDonald writes:

"When we rest in the biblical sense, we affirm our intention to pursue a Christ centered tomorrow... the Jewish pace of a unique pace to Sabbath. Routines are to stop; labor to cease."

"Sabbath is first of all a day... But, Sabbath is more than just a day. It is a principle of rest."

In emphasizing the importance of the Sabbath for today, MacDonald says:

"The world and the church need genuinely rested Christians who are regularly refreshed by true Sabbath rest, not just leisure or time off. When a godly rest is achieved, you will see just how tough and resilient Christians can actually be."

"Today, our public worlds demand a few good people who can walk among the masses and negotiate with the powerful, but never change, never capitulate, never compromise."

In *Leadership Magazine* (Spring 1985), Eugene H. Paterson, in an article entitled "The Pastor's Sabbath," had this to say about its importance:

"The precedent to quit doing and simply be is divine."

"Sabbath keeping: Separating ourselves from the people who are clinging to us, from the routines to which

we cling for our identity, and offering them all up to God is praise... Sabbath keeping is not a matter of belief but of using a tool (time) not an exercise for the mind but the body... simply removing our bodies from circulation once a week.

"We don't have any rules for preserving the sanctity of the day, only the commitment that it be set apart for being, not using. Not a day to get anything done but a day to watch and be responsive to what God has done."

These modern day writers are encouraging us to respond to God's command to "Remember the Sabbath Day to keep it Holy." I encourage us all to think about our Sabbath experience and maybe to reorder it along the following lines:

1. To stop doing and to focus on our being as people of God
2. To worship God
3. To focus on God and his creation
 - to read Scripture
 - to reflect on how he has acted in our lives and the lives of our ancestors
 - to think about how he is acting in our lives today
 - to envision how we would like to have him act in the future
4. To reflect on our relationships
 - Who are the important people in our lives?

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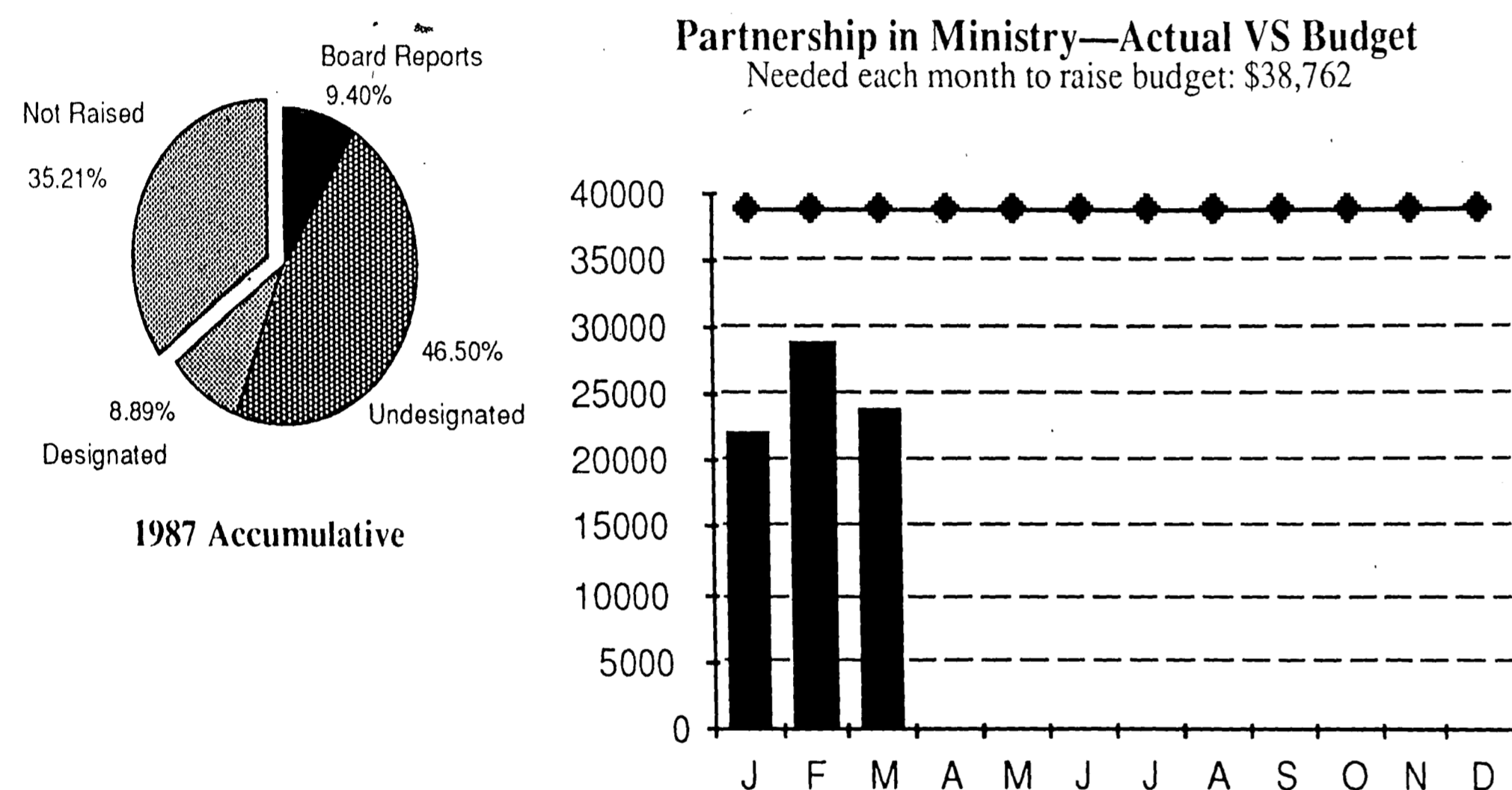
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Cont. from page 9

Cont. on page 34

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Obituaries

Palmiter.—Charles E. Palmiter, 70, of Hornell, New York, died on February 3, 1987, at St. James Mercy Hospital, Hornell, where he had been a patient for five days.

He was born on November 22, 1916, in the town of Alfred, New York, the son of Earl and Bertha (Pierce) Palmiter. He had lived in the Hornell area for several years and was a member of the Alfred Station, New York, Seventh Day Baptist Church.

Survivors include his wife of 20 years, Beverly (McGlire); three brothers, Lester of Corning, New York, Clinton of Alfred, and Lynn of Hornell; one sister, Dorothy Ide of Almond, New York; one aunt, and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at the H.P. Smith and Son Funeral Home, Canisteo, New York, with the Rev. Dorr Harrington officiating. Burial will be in the Alfred Rural Cemetery. MFS

Stevens.—Dorothy A. Stevens, 64, died on February 12, 1987, at her home in Ormond Beach, Florida, following an extended illness.

She was born on October 16, 1922, the daughter of J. Leroy and H. Gertrude Batcheller Allen, and had lived much of her life in Alfred Station, New York. In recent years, she spent her summers at Waneta Lake, New York, and winters at Ormond Beach.

She was a graduate of Alfred High School in 1940 and later earned a national secretaries degree. Prior to her retirement, she was employed as a secretary at the College of Ceramics at Alfred for 24 years. She was a charter member of the Alfred Station Firemen's Auxiliary, and a member of the Alfred Station Seventh Day Baptist Church.

Survivors include her husband of 45 years, Franklin E. Stevens; two sons, Michael of Houston, Texas, and Andrew of Lufkin, Texas; two daughters, Amanda Snyder of Alfred Station and Margaret Jefferds of Almond, New York; one brother, Robert Allen of Beaver Dams, New York; one sister, Jeanette Stewart of Knoxville, Pennsylvania; 10 grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews.

The Rev. Kenneth Van Horn of the Daytona Beach, Florida, Seventh Day Baptist Church officiated at a service held on February 15, 1987, at the Haigh and Black Funeral Home at Ormond Beach. A memorial service will be held at the convenience of the family at a later date. MFS

Owen.—J. Paul Owen of Palmdale, California, was born in Siguatepeue, Honduras, the son of Elder Herbert and Nellie (Daley) Owen, and died from an automobile accident on February 16, 1987.

Paul's parents were missionaries in Central America when he was born. He came to California around 1920 and attended Glendale Adventist Academy. In 1932, he was married to Louise Sturm, who died in 1968. For over 50 years, he was a roofing contractor in Los Angeles County.

Survivors include his only son, Paul J. Owen of Glendale, California; three sisters, Blanche Ashcraft of Arcadia, California, Helen McCollum of Los Angeles, California, and Beth Stevenson of Phoenix, Arizona; five grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren.

Funeral services and interment were at Forest Lawn, Glendale, with Pastor Duane L. Davis officiating.

Walkup.—Joyce Ann Walkup of North Loup, Nebraska, died on February 16, 1987, at the age of 52. She was born on June 30, 1934, in Scotia, Nebraska, the daughter of Henry and Anna (Keppel) Hosch.

Joyce was raised in Scotia and graduated from school there. She married Gordon Dean Walkup on November 28, 1952. They lived in Omaha and Ord, Nebraska, and in California, before returning to live in North Loup. Joyce was a member of the United Methodist Church of Scotia.

Survivors include her husband, Dean; three daughters, Patricia Martinez of North Loup, Vivian Sue Walkup of Simi Valley, California, and Joy Lynn Kronholm of Ozark, Missouri; two sons, Gregory Dean Walkup of Simi Valley, and Carl Wayne Walkup of San Luis Obispo, California; one brother, three sisters, and six grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Rev. Ken Burdick and Rev. Wayne Alloway at the North Loup Seventh Day Baptist Church on February 19, 1987.

Ring.—Evelyn E. Ring of Yucaipa, California, died on February 19, 1987, at her home in Yucaipa at the age of 80. She was born on April 6, 1906, in Alcester, South Dakota, the daughter of Henry and Minnie Ring.

Her parents and family moved to Nortonville, Kansas, during the early years of her life so they could be active participants in the Nortonville Seventh Day Baptist Church. Academically, Evelyn earned her bachelor of arts degree at Milton College, Milton, Wisconsin, and her library science degree at Emporia State College, Emporia, Kansas.

After teaching high school for a year, she was joined by Lucille Prentice in operating a rooming and boarding house for girls attending Salem College in Salem, West Virginia. She later became a professor of English at Salem College, a position she held for 12 years. Upon returning to California, she served as catalogue clerk at the A.K. Smiley Library in Redlands for 20 years before retiring in Yucaipa.

Through the years, Evelyn was dearly loved by the youth and made a tremendous impact, especially on many college young people. She dedicated many years of service as librarian in the Riverside, California, church and as historian of the Pacific Coast Association.

She is survived by her sister, Helen Hurley of Yucaipa, and her brother, Donald Ring of Prescott, Arizona.

The funeral service was conducted by her pastors, Rev. Gabriel Bejjani and Rev. Alton L. Wheeler, at the Emmerson-Bartlett Redlands Chapel, with private interment in the Hillside Memorial Park in Redlands.

ALW

Henson.—Lola Stillman Henson of Albuquerque, New Mexico, died on February 22, 1987, at the age of 79. She was born in North Loup, Nebraska, on May 27, 1907, the daughter of Homer and Mattie (Coleman) Sample.

She attended school in North Loup and was married to Leland Stillman on May 30, 1928. They resided near North Loup until 1951, when they moved to Albuquerque where they owned and operated a motel. Leland died in 1963. In 1968, Lola married James Henson, who passed away in 1974. Lola continued to live in Albuquerque until her death.

Survivors include two brothers who live in California, one grandson, and two great-grandchildren. In addition to her husbands, she was preceded in death by one daughter, Phyllis, and a son, Gordon.

Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Ken Burdick and Lola's nephew, Rev. Jim Stillman, at the North Loup Seventh Day Baptist Church on February 26, 1987.

Kennedy.—John Kennedy, 89, of Coventry, Rhode Island, died on March 6, 1987, at Coventry Health Center. He was the husband of the late Margaret C. (Clinton) Kennedy.

John was born on November 17, 1897, in Providence, Rhode Island, son of the late James and Mary (Maguire) Kennedy. He was employed as a baker most of his life and had lived in Coventry for 33 years. Prior to that, he lived in Exeter, Rhode Island. He was a World War I army veteran and served with the AEF in Europe. He was a member and deacon of the First Hopkinton Seventh Day Baptist Church in Ashaway, Rhode Island.

Surviving are two sons, James G. Kennedy of Saunterstown, Rhode Island, and Clinton R. Kennedy of Cherry Hill, New Jersey; five sisters, Irene Phillips of California, Agnes Shadlow of Pascoag, Rhode Island, Gladys Ferry of Manchester, Connecticut, Winifred Tuhey of Warwick, Rhode Island, and Charlotte McDonald of North Providence, Rhode Island; eight grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held on March 9, 1987, at the Frank R. Gorton Funeral Home, Coventry, conducted by Pastor Leon R. Lawton. Interment was in Greenwood Cemetery, Coventry.

Accessions

White Cloud, Michigan
Lawrence Watt, Pastor

Joined after Baptism
Debra Rudert
Diana Ishman

Births

Cruzan.—A daughter, Jacqueline Ruth Cruzan, was born to Edward and Cathleen Cruzan on August 20, 1986, in White Cloud, Michigan.

Goodrich.—A daughter, Ronnie Lynn Michelle Goodrich, was born to John and Ricky Goodrich on October 2, 1986.

Timmons.—A son, Benjamin Jon Timmons, was born to Kent and Lesa (Williams) Timmons of Scotia, Nebraska, on January 10, 1987.

Chester.—A son, Christopher David Chester, was born to Gary and Bonnie (Mosena) Chester of Hopkinton, Rhode Island, on February 13, 1987.

Martin.—A daughter, Sarah Jean Martin, was born to Gilbert and Karen Martin of Lakewood, Colorado, on March 15, 1987.

Marriages

Monahan-Rudert.—William Daniel Monahan and Sandra Carol Rudert were united in marriage on October 18, 1986, at Grosse Pointe Farms Memorial Church, Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan. The Rev. Dr. Stanley Wilson officiated.

Rudert-Sherman.—Eric William Rudert and Debra Sherman were united in marriage on November 30, 1986, at the Faith Lutheran Church in Plainfield, Michigan. The Rev. Lawrence Watt officiated.

Water and spirit

by Ernest K. Bee, Jr.

It was as if God had offered a truce. The Communion Table was covered with a white cloth. The universal symbol of suspension of hostilities between contending parties focused everyone's attention. The children in the church family sensed the solemn tension in their parents. "The Sabbath Service will be longer," thought one member who worried about making her noon appointment on time. Others were quieter, more introspective that Sabbath morning. A flag of truce usually brings a time of quiet. And so it did.

When the bread was passed that morning a young child in the front was served. It was a warm, touching, family picture. The mother offered the plate to her young daughter. One could sense a special peace.

Seated farther back in the congregation another girl, a few years older, turned to her father and asked if she could take communion. With the rejecting motion of her father's head, she protested loudly that she was older than the child up front. The daughter demanded to know, "Why?" Her embarrassed father explained that she must be baptized before she could

participate in the Lord's Supper. "But _____ hasn't been baptized," was her hurt reply. Her father stared painfully at the communion table. The truce offered by God was forgotten, for tears flowed down his daughter's cheeks as she sobbed. No one could doubt the unhappiness in that pew. There was little sense of peace.

The tension at that Lord's Supper mirrored the tension that surfaces when we have not clearly explained to our children the relationship between baptism and the Lord's Supper. Our churches in their teaching ministry

must first understand the significance of baptism and then interpret it to the church family. It is then that the family may understand the relationship between the two ordinances or sacraments: Baptism and The Lord's Supper.

A clearer understanding of these two ordinances which we Baptists hold sacred came for this writer when I served the Alfred Station, New York, Seventh Day Baptist Church as pastor. In that sanctuary, the pastor serves the Lord's Supper from the Communion Table which stands on a raised platform over the baptistry. Those who had been buried in the water were raised to a new life in Christ. "Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life." (Romans 6:3,4-RSV)

"Water" baptism is a term used more frequently today. It seems to be the result of a renewed interest among Christians in the power and work of the Holy Spirit. This emphasis may lead us to a misunderstanding of baptism. If we examine the teachings of Jesus we find him answering the Pharisee leader, Nicodemus, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God." (John 3:5-RSV)

In this verse there is one preposition governing both nouns which are without articles (in the Greek). We have two coordinate requirements: baptism and Spirit. All life begins within water, physically and spiritually. Nicodemus realized this when he asked Jesus, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" Such is our question when we say we are born of the "spirit" and have been baptized by the "spirit" but do not give public evidence of such through baptism. It is not one or the other. It is baptism and the acceptance of the grace of God through the gift of his Holy Spirit.

The word, "baptize," is borrowed from the Biblical context and is not translated. It is the Greek word, "baptizo," transliterated into English. The root means "to dip;" "to plunge under" or "to make overwhelmed." It is used in Scripture to mean "plunge under water." There are two instances of its metaphorical use: (1) John the Baptist's comment on Jesus' gift of the power of the Holy Spirit (John 1:33) and (2) Jesus' comment upon his suffering and death (Mark 10:38,39). Yet, even these references are related to the total commitment necessary to follow Christ, to be empowered by him.

The first is the familiar setting where Jesus comes to John the Baptist at the Jordan River for baptism. John does not seem to have clearly identified Jesus as the "Lamb of God" until the act of baptism. So others do not know our inner convictions until we submit to baptism before God and his people. Christ's public demonstration of commitment to God's will by baptism was sealed by the Spirit descending upon him in the form of a dove and a voice from heaven, "Thou art my beloved Son; with thee I am well pleased." (Luke 3:22) Christ accepted baptism to fulfill God's will. We, too, are baptized and baptize others to fulfill God's will.

Baptism is not something we do to ourselves. It is the acceptance of God's will expressed through the actions of our fellow Christians. The act of being baptized is an act of submitting to the care and leading of our fellow covenant members. The church baptizes in response to Christ's example and command (Matthew 28:19,20). If Christ is the head of the church (Ephesians 1:22, 23; 4:15; 5:23 and Colossians 1:18) then we should follow him.

The second metaphorical use of baptism is found in Jesus' reply to James' and John's request for places of honor in Christ's kingdom. Jesus asks the question, "Are you able?" When the disciples affirm that they are able, Jesus informs them that "the cup" and "baptism" are one. "The Cup" is for

those who would be baptized with his "baptism." Both are a commitment to suffering and death. "Cup" is a metaphor for God's will for his people: blessing (Psalms 16:5 and 116:13) or judgment (Isaiah 51:17 and Luke 22:42). Baptism is here, also, a metaphor for Christ's suffering. It is so used by Paul in his instructions to Roman (6:3,4) and Colossian (2:12) Christians.

If we are "baptized into Christ" we "have put on Christ." If we accept his cup we confirm our baptism with Him. To accept the cup and bread of the Lord's Supper is to say to God and each other that we are Christ's. To do so without first being baptized is to seek to avoid the pain and the suffering of Christ's death. Without the cross there is no resurrection. Acceptance of baptism symbolizes acceptance of God's will in my life.

Paul's instructions on the Lord's Supper (I Corinthians 11:17-29) are directed to the group when they assemble "as a church." Paul wrote asking Christians at Corinth to remember that when they participate in the Lord's Supper, "you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes." The cup and the bread are a recurring confirmation of our baptism into Christ. It is as if God offers his truce over and over and over again.SR

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Sabbath

Cont. from page 29

- When did I last tell them I love them?
 - When did I last do something for someone else?
5. To think about what we do and ask the questions that MacDonald suggested:
- What does my work mean?
 - For whom do I do this work?
 - How well is my work done?
 - Why do I do this?
 - What results did I expect?
 - What did I receive?
6. To rest our minds and our bodies from the six-day routine

Missions news

Cont. from page 11

The same C.B.C.E. is planning five evangelistic services in July, and we hope to have Rev. Rodney L. Henry as our speaker, with special music supplied by various talented people—or groups of people—from this area. We in Adams Center are excited, and rightly so, because we feel a tremendous burden to this community to present the Gospel of Jesus Christ to everyone, so that none might perish. We covet your prayers during the next few months as we finalize the plans for this giant undertaking. —Pastor Gene Smith SR

The conversion

Cont. from page 10

squabbles with the arrogant governors sent here by the British in the early pioneer days. He thought he was 'lost.' "

Editor's note: This Captain William Davis is often known as "Greenbrier Billy" to distinguish him from other William Davises in the area who went by such illustrious titles as "Flint Billy," "Jarsey Bill," "Bottom Billy," and "Buckeye Billy." Both Captain William and his wife, Elizabeth, died on the same day—January 6, 1845—and are buried in the Salem, West Virginia, Seventh Day Baptist Cemetery, where the grave is marked with an appropriate military stone. SR

- to be present with God
- to be present with our families
- to be present with fellow Christians
- to be present with those in need

I have often quoted Elizabeth O'Conner in this column. In *Letters to Scattered Pilgrims* (1979) she focuses on the Sabbath as a practical as well as spiritual event:

"Of course, a decision to keep the Sabbath can become another heavy rule to give us a long-faced look, or it can be a means of liberation—freeing us from all the deadlines that we are always making for ourselves and for each other. Perhaps on the Sabbath we can find time to be with each other, to listen to each other and care for each other. If we give ourselves permission not to bake, or mow the lawn or shop on the Sabbath, perhaps we can learn to be present to each other and create our heaven right now, straighten out our priorities and join the revolution because we have had time to deal with the question of 'What is to be done?'"

Have a happy Sabbath! SR

Religion in the news Cont. from page 13

Judge bans textbooks

Saying that the textbooks promote "secular humanism," U.S. District Judge W. Brevard Hand banned several dozen textbooks in Alabama's public schools.

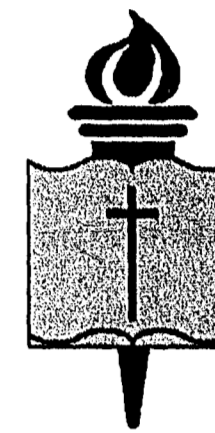
In his 172-page decision, Judge Hand said that secular humanism is a religion which makes man, and not God, the center of the universe. If it is unconstitutional to include references to belief in God, so it is unconstitutional to promote the beliefs of secular humanism, Hand argued.

Numerous groups have indicated intentions to appeal Judge Hand's decision. SR

Week-End Advance

Where: Jersey Oaks Camp site, Shiloh, NJ
When: June 12-14, 1987
Who: Young adults ages 18-45
Cost: \$25.00

Theme: *Straight Ahead*
Theme Song: *Straight Ahead*, by Amy Grant
Theme Scripture: Philippians 3:13-15
Featuring: Dynamic speakers, songs of inspiration, discussions, Bible quiz, drama, games, and much more!
Advance Speakers: Rev. Joe A. Samuels, Director
Rev. David Taylor
Rev. Corneth Lawrence



Registration closes on **May 30, 1987**. Mail registration to: Andrew Samuels, 501 Central Ave., Plainfield, NJ 07060.

Sponsored by

Plainfield SDB Youth Fellowship

Family Reunion

of the Relatives of

Reuben Jay and Hannah Frances Van Horn Davis

August 16, 1987
Landsburg, Kansas

Please Put This Appointment on Your Calendar and Plan to Attend

We will enjoy the noon and evening meal together (details are yet to be worked out). Those who are able to spend more than the one day in the area may do so, of course. This is the day following SDB General Conference sessions, so why not plan to attend those meetings as well, all or part.

It has been suggested that this group organize for the possible purpose of meeting somewhat regularly. Come and bring your ideas. We request your suggestions and input at any time.

More details about the reunion will be sent to you in June.

See You at Landsburg, Kansas

RSVP to
Vivian Cooper, 320 Maple, Leavenworth, KS 66048 Phone (913) 651-6114
or
Dorothy Lawton, 73 Granite Street, Westerly, RI 02891 Phone (401) 596-6149

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Sabbath Emphasis
Day
May 1987

Sharing the Sabbath of Creation



So then, there remains a Sabbath
rest for the people of God...
Hebrews 4:9

State Hist Soc of Wisconsin
816 State St
Madison, WI 53706

The Seventh Day Baptist

June 1987

Sabbath **SR** Recorder

China Mission—Revisited



An ordination statement

*Ain't Misbehavin'
The Sabbath in the Supreme Court*

JUN 3 1987
STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MADISON, WISCONSIN