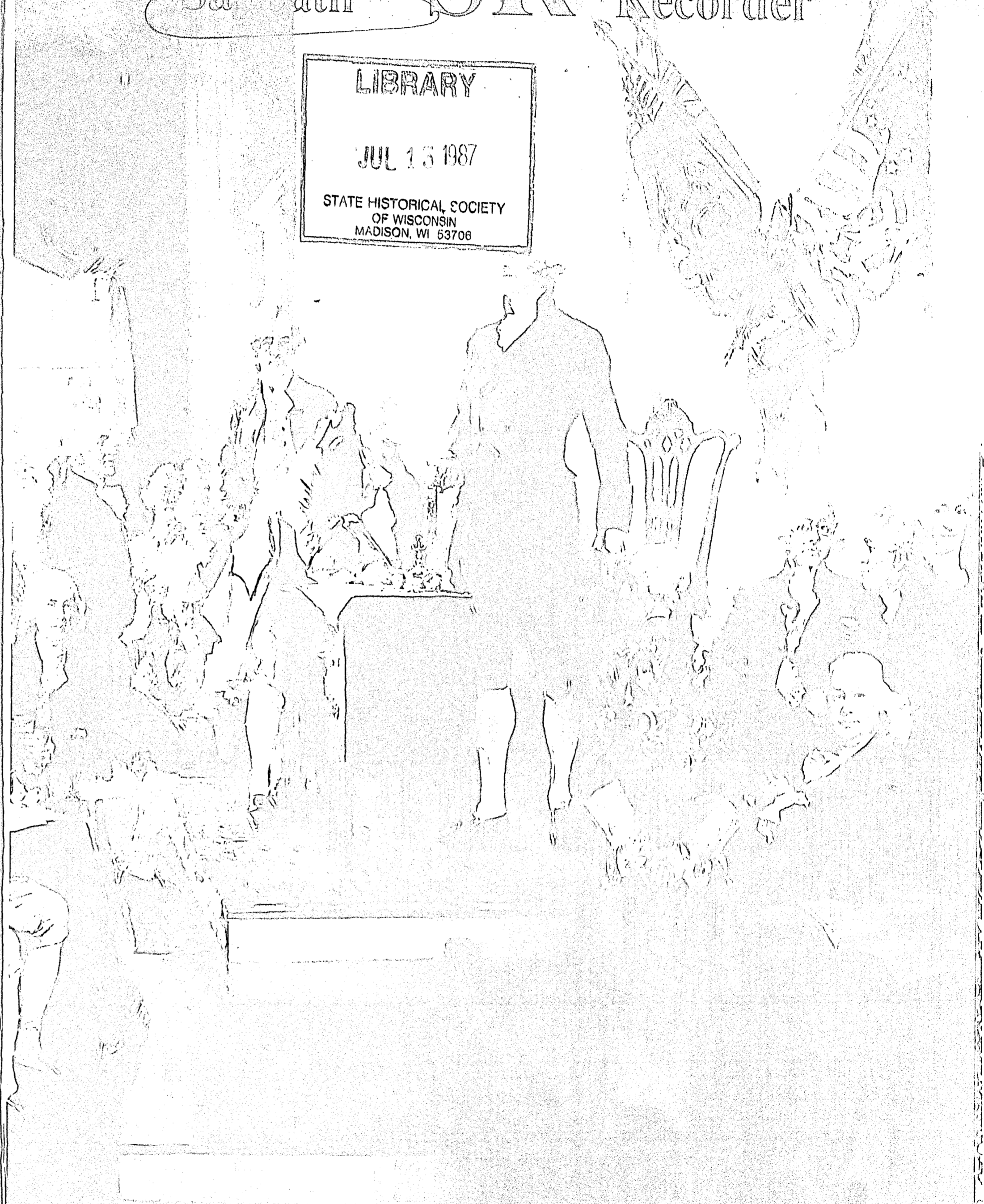


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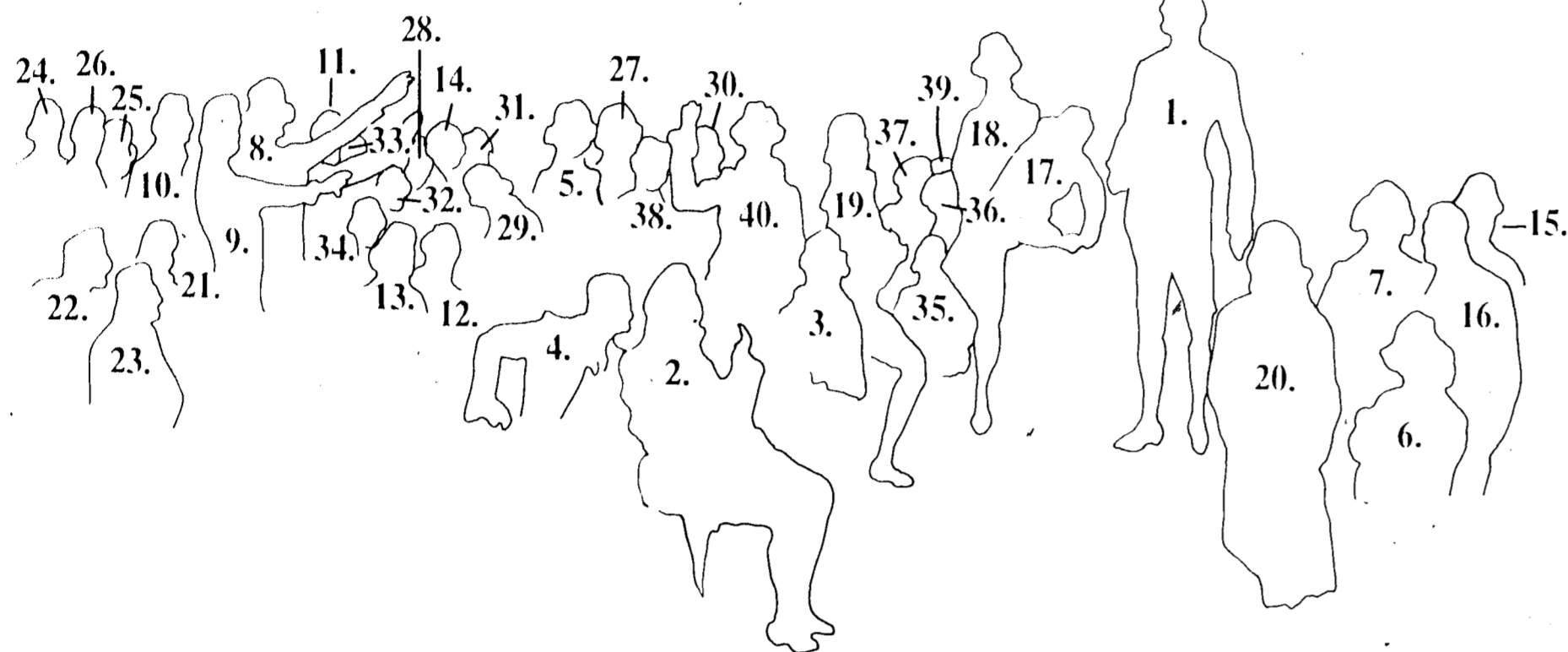
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The Seventh Day Baptist July 1987
Sabbath **SR** Recorder

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Cover art: *The Christy painting*
Scene of the signing of the Constitution of the United States



- | | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Washington, George—Va. | 15. Read, George—Del. | 29. Livingston, William—N.J. |
| 2. Franklin, Benjamin—Pa. | 16. Bassett, Richard—Del. | 30. Paterson, William—N.J. |
| 3. Madison, James—Va. | 17. Spaight, Richard Dobbs—N.C. | 31. Mifflin, Thomas—Pa. |
| 4. Hamilton, Alexander—N.Y. | 18. Blount, William—N.C. | 32. Clymer, George—Pa. |
| 5. Morris, Gouverneur—Pa. | 19. Williamson, Hugh—N.C. | 33. FitzSimons, Thomas—Pa. |
| 6. Morris, Robert—Pa. | 20. Jenifer, Daniel of St. Thomas—Md. | 34. Ingersoll, Jared—Pa. |
| 7. Wilson, James—Pa. | 21. King, Rufus—Mass. | 35. Bedford, Gunning, Jr.—Del. |
| 8. Pinckney, Chas. Cotesworth—S.C. | 22. Gorham, Nathaniel—Mass. | 36. Broom, Jacob—Del. |
| 9. Pinckney, Charles—S.C. | 23. Dayton, Jonathan—N.J. | 37. Dickinson, John—Del. |
| 10. Rutledge, John—S.C. | 24. Carroll, Daniel—Md. | 38. (Not at signing) |
| 11. Butler, Pierce—S.C. | 25. Few, William—Ga. | 39. Brearley, David—N.J. |
| 12. Sherman, Roger—Conn. | 26. Baldwin, Abraham—Ga. | 40. Jackson, William (Secretary) |
| 13. Johnson, William Samuel—Conn. | 27. Langdon, John—N.H. | |
| 14. McHenry, James—Md. | 28. Gilman, Nicholas—N.H. | |

Howard Chandler Christy, the prominent patriotic artist commissioned by Congress in 1939 to do this subject, set up his studio in the sail loft of the United States Navy Yard in Washington, D.C. The culmination of five years of research and study, his painting was completed in one year and unveiled on May 29, 1940. Measuring 20 by 30 feet, the canvas now hangs in the United States Capitol.

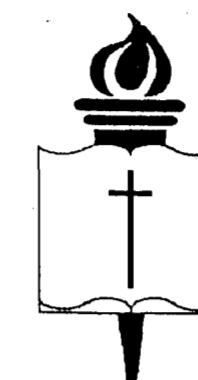
Christy endeavored to portray this important event in our history as if he had actually been present to paint it on that memorable September 17, 1787. He was most particular about presenting accurately everything as it was, so he visited Independence Hall in Philadelphia on September 17th at the precise time of day the signing took place. He observed just how the light came into the room from the Walnut Street windows. Wherever possible, he copied the original articles. He made very effort to place the delegates as they sat at the final meeting. To assure authenticity of likenesses, Christy obtained 37 original portraits of

the signers. The only two missing are indistinctly placed in the background—Jacob Broom of Delaware and Thomas FitzSimons of Pennsylvania. He copied an original Stuart painting for the likeness of James Madison of Virginia, known as the "Father of the Constitution."

The Founding Fathers believed this occasion to be one of the most important of their lives. They wore their finest clothes on that day they were to put their signatures on America's great document of government—the Constitution of the United States. In many cases Christy was able to copy accurately the exact clothing worn by these delegates. We see George Washington standing 6 feet 3 inches in height, weighing 190 pounds, 55 years of age, full of health and dignity, as a major focal point in the painting—the president of the Constitutional Convention. The actual clothes worn by Washington,

Cont. on page 29

The Sabbath Recorder



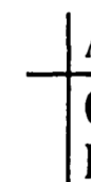
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Who are Seventh Day Baptists?

If you've never read *The Sabbath Recorder* before, you might be wondering who Seventh Day Baptists are. Like other Baptists, Seventh Day Baptists believe in... the saving love of Jesus Christ...

the Bible as the inspired word of God and a record of God's will for man.
 We use the Bible as our authority both for our faith and our daily conduct.

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.

The seventh day

God commanded that the seventh day (Saturday) be kept holy. Jesus showed that he agreed by keeping it as a day of worship. We observe the seventh day of the week (Saturday) as God's Holy Day as an act of loving obedience, and not as a means of salvation—salvation is the free gift of God through Jesus Christ.

It is the joy of the Sabbath that makes Seventh Day Baptists just a little bit different. If you would like more information about Seventh Day Baptists, write: Seventh Day Baptist Center, 3120 Kennedy Road, PO Box 1678, Janesville, WI 53547-1678

An ordination statement of belief

Second in a series
by Kevin J. Butler

Editor's note: The Sabbath Recorder has traditionally printed ordination statements from our Seventh Day Baptist pastors. Frequently, however, space does not permit the entire statement in one issue. This month we continue with Rev. Kevin Butler's statement, beginning in the middle of his section on the church. If you have not read the segment that precedes it, I highly recommend that you do. DSS

The reason we call ourselves God's people today—is the mediator of the New Covenant: Jesus Christ. Through his sacrifice and the sending of the Holy Spirit, that Spirit makes us members of one body by bringing us into union with Christ (1 Corinthians 12:4-28; Romans 12:6-8). That is the **organism**, the **heavenly church**: the continuation of an ancient promise of God.

There is also the **organization**, the **earthly church**. It has been said that the church (small c) is more than an **aggregation**—a people called together by the Word of God, the good news of Christ and his forgiveness.

It is God's church—God's people needing God. Yet it is also people needing people. We were created for fellowship and belonging. And as the "capital c" Church was founded on the covenant principle, our local churches are formed around a covenant. God's people can unite locally to "watch over each other for good, to pray for each other, and to counsel one another so that we may grow in love and service."

We are part of the body of Christ and the family of God. We are also a part of the temple of the Spirit (2 Corinthians 6:16; 1 Corinthians 3:16-17).

God once reserved his revelations or appearances to the Holy of Holies in Jerusalem. Now, through the Holy Spirit, his presence can

be (and should be) felt in every local church gathering (Matthew 18:20). As fellow dwellers within the temple of the Spirit, the special class of priest is open to everyone (1 Peter 2:9).

Equality under the Spirit lends itself to equality within our structure. Our freedom of thought under the guidance of the Holy Spirit and the love of Christ lends itself to the freedom and autonomy of our local communion. But that same Holy Spirit, that same love of Christ, urges us to work together toward unity and a stronger witness for him (1 Corinthians 12:20, 25).

Our body parts are many and scattered. But let us rejoice that we belong to the same family, the same body, and the same temple.

The Sacraments

I believe in the sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

Some folks in the Reformed or Protestant tradition would rather not use the term "sacrament." Webster defines "sacrament" as: "a formal religious act that is sacred as a sign or symbol of a spiritual reality." I see no problem with that—as long as it remains a sign or symbol of a spiritual reality. When the spiritual reality is limited to and must manifest itself through the sacrament—that is when we start using the words "rite," "ritual observance," and "ordinance." As long as it remains a sign or symbol, it is a sacrament as it points to a sacred, spiritual truth.

We can retain the sacraments, but avoid sacramentalism. We must watch out for doctrines that say the sacraments, or even the church, is a source of grace. The church does not dispense grace—it is not a co-redeemer. Grace is a gift from God alone. The church and its ordinances are but instruments of grace. Let us look at two of those instruments.

Baptism

Baptism, or at least ritual cleansing with water, predated the church by many centuries. John's use of baptism was one of repentance and of eschatological expectation (Acts 19:4)—he told the people to believe in the one coming after him. Jesus did come and himself submitted to the baptism as part of God's plan

to fulfill all righteousness (Matthew 3:15). And it became for him a moment of decision and consecration to the tasks of public ministry. It was also an act of identification with the people whom Jesus had come to save.

The rite continued as a baptism of repentance—not causing it but witnessing to the change in the believer's life (Acts 10:47-48). The mode of immersion—which is best supported by Scripture (Matthew 3:16; Mark 1:10; Colossians 2:12)—signified the death and burial of the old man and the rising to new life in Christ (Romans 6:3-4). We must remember that it is not the mode, not the person conducting, not the water (water can not save anyone unless they are dying of thirst; and then it is only temporary and not the living water that wells up to eternal life [John 4:13-14]). The external act will not (necessarily) transform an unbeliever into a Christian.

The New Testament church was a gathered body—a church that one entered by a profession of faith. Membership was not automatic because of birth or by baptism. The Word emphasizes the personal belief (Mark 16:16), and the sincerity of repentance of those involved (Acts 2:38).

As Christ's earthly ministry began after his baptism, so it should be for believers today. The candidate not only becomes linked to the Church (capital c) and often the local congregation, but he or she is linked to continuing spiritual growth. A new relationship with God has begun (1 Peter 3:21). A public confession has been made. An irrevocable commitment to Christ has been born.

The Lord' Supper

There are several names for this sacrament: Lord's Supper—recalls its institution by Christ.

Holy Communion—reminder of the fellowship of believers with the Lord and with other believers.

The Eucharist—thanksgiving.

Maybe we should call it the Lord's Holy Supper and Eucharist Communion. Because it is all the above.

Jesus, on the eve of his death, was enjoying the fellowship of his followers celebrating the thanksgiving of the Passover feast (Matthew 26:17ff; Mark 14:16ff; Luke 22:13ff). And, using parts of that feast, bread and wine, he instituted a memorial meal. The bread was the

broken body, the wine was the shed blood. They represented Christ's death and thereby the new covenant between God and his people. Paul said, Christ, our Passover Lamb, has been sacrificed (1 Corinthians 5:7).

With the Lord's Supper, we remember that ultimate sacrifice and are strengthened. Carl Henry said, "as the bread and wine are assimilated into the physical body to contribute to its well-being, so the person and picture of the life of Christ enters spiritually into the life of the believer." Spiritually, not the literal body and blood of Christ. Jesus, in John 6, confounded many listeners by insisting that his flesh was real food and his blood was real drink. But later he confided with his disciples that his words were of the Spirit—the Spirit leading to life.

The Lord's Supper can lead to life—not because it is performed, but because it is believed. It reminds us of the gospel and that forgiveness is available.

The Lord's Supper is a time of thanksgiving as we are pointed toward true communion with God and fellow believers, and are reminded of the One who started the special meal and why.

The Sabbath

I believe that the Sabbath began on the first seventh day.

By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. And God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done (Genesis 2:2-3).

I believe that the Sabbath was demonstrated during the exodus.

Bear in mind that the Lord has given you the Sabbath; that is why on the sixth day he gives you bread for two days (Exodus 16:29).

The New Testament church was a gathered body—a church that one entered by a profession of faith. Membership was not automatic because of birth or by baptism.



Rev. Kevin Butler

Our freedom of thought under the guidance of the Holy Spirit and the love of Christ lends itself to the freedom and autonomy of our local communion. But that same Holy Spirit, that same love of Christ, urges us to work together toward unity and a stronger witness for him (1 Corinthians 12:20, 25).

***I believe
Sabbath
observance is
pleasing to
God and man.***

I believe that keeping the Sabbath is a commandment from God—

Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your manservant or maidservant, nor your animals, (Exodus 20:8-10)

For both Jews and Gentiles—

Nor the alien within your gates (Exodus 20:10),

To remember the creation—

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 (Exodus 20:11),

To remember the exodus—

Remember that you were slaves in Egypt and that the Lord your God brought you out of there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm.

Therefore the Lord your God has commanded you to observe the Sabbath day (Deuteronomy 5:15).

I believe Sabbath observance is pleasing to God and man.

"If you keep your feet from breaking the Sabbath,
and from doing what you please on my holy day,
if you call the Sabbath delight,
and the Lord's holy day honorable,
and if you honor it by not going your own way,
and not doing as you please or speaking idle words,
then you will find your joy in the Lord, and I will cause you to ride on the heights
of the land and to feast on the inheritance of your father Jacob." (Isaiah 58:13-14).

I believe that Jesus himself was a Sabbath keeper—

He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom (Luke 4:16),

That he taught on the Sabbath—

On a Sabbath Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues (Luke 13:10),

That he healed on the Sabbath—

"It is lawful to do good on the Sabbath." Then he said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." So he stretched it out and it was completely restored (Matthew 12:12-13).

I believe that Jesus came to fulfill the Law—

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them" (Matthew 5:17).

And to revive the spirit of the Law.

"Now if a child can be circumcised on the Sabbath so that the law of Moses may not be broken, why are you angry with me for healing the whole man on the Sabbath? Stop judging by mere appearances, and make a right judgment" (John 7:23-24).

I believe that Paul and the apostles kept the Sabbath—

As his custom was, Paul went into the synagogue and on three Sabbath days he reasoned with them from the Scriptures (Acts 17:2),

That they spoke on the Sabbath to all men—

Paul and Barnabas went as usual into the Jewish synagogue. There they spoke so effectively that a great number of Jews and Gentiles believed (Acts 14:1),

That Paul continued to observe the Sabbath.

Then Paul made his defense: "I have done nothing wrong against the law of the Jews or against the temple or against Caesar" (Acts 25:8).

I believe that the Sabbath was given for our benefit—

Then he said to them, "The Sabbath

was made for man, not man for the Sabbath" (Mark 3:27),

That Christ, as Creator, made the Sabbath—

"So the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath" (Mark 3:28),

That he expected us to keep it until the last days.

"Pray that your flight will not take place in winter or on the Sabbath" (Matthew 24:20).

I believe that the Sabbath is sacred time—

And God blessed the seventh day and made it holy (Genesis 2:3),

A time for rest and holy celebration—

"Keep my Sabbaths holy, that they may be a sign between us. Then you will know that I am the Lord your God" (Ezekiel 20:20),

A time that still stands today.

"Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away" (Matthew 24:35).

I believe that the Sabbath is a time that looks to the future—

There remains, then, a Sabbath-rest for the people of God (Hebrews 4:9),

A sign of obedience—

Let us, therefore, make every effort to enter that rest, so that no one will fall by following their example of disobedience (Hebrews 4:11),

And a response of reciprocal devotion and love.

"Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me. He who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love him and show myself to him" (John 14:21).

Evangelism

Some say evangelism starts with the church.

Others say evangelism starts with the individual.

I believe evangelism starts with Christ.

The word "evangelism" means to announce—the Greek term *evangelion* means

"good news." We are to announce the good news.

For believers, the good news is about the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and his gift of the Holy Spirit.

Evangelism starts with Christ.

Once accepting Christ's atoning work of the cross, we can receive the Holy Spirit. And since Pentecost, men and women have been receiving the power of the Holy Spirit, enabling them to be witnesses for Christ all around the world.

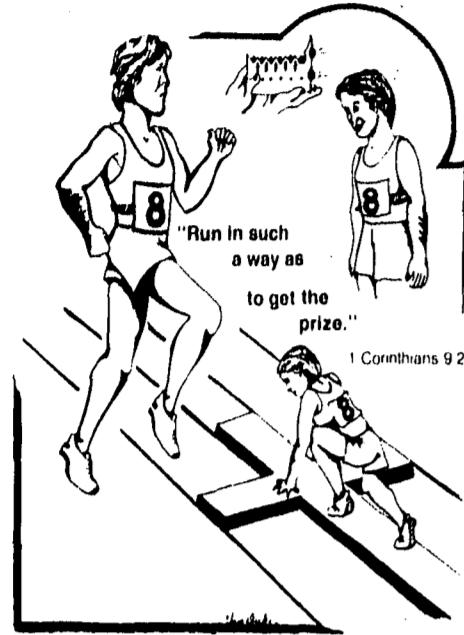
Do you ever wonder about the title, "The Great Commission"? Jesus did not say, "Uh, before I go, I want to give you the 'Great Commission.'" Readers of the Bible, men and women of God have labeled it Great. The commission to go and make disciples, to baptize, and to teach is great because of the awesomeness of the task: to make disciples of all nations, to baptize all those people, to teach all those people to obey everything that he commanded (Matthew 28:19-20a). That is a great task set before us. And it is great (good/great). It is great because it gives us direction; it gives us purpose; and it gives us the assurance that he will be with us always, even to the end of the age (Matthew 28:20).

It is a great commission because we do not have to preach ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord. Through Christ we have been reconciled to God and given the great task of being ministers (all of us) of reconciliation (2 Corinthians 5:18-29)—of reconciling others to Himself by proclaiming the message of Christ (2 Corinthians 5:20-21).

It is a message of great news. And tough to

Cont. on page 27

It (the Great Commission) is great because it gives us direction; it gives us purpose; and it gives us the assurance that he will be with us always, even to the end of the age (Matthew 28:20).



LET US PRESS ON

Press on to be God's family

by Gerry VanDyke

What does it take to be a family? Some might say that it is simply a matter of genetics. To be born to a certain man and woman at a certain time in history is all that is required. But God views family life somewhat differently than that. He says we need to build memories together, to work together, to play together. We are to remind each other of the past, and plan for our future. We are to spend time together.

As I have traveled across the country and visited so many congregations, I have found how important these ingredients are if we are to be a family. Going to Shiloh, New Jersey, for the celebration of 250 years of continuous worship showed me how important it is to build wonderful memories and then share them with one another. Visiting one of our newer churches in Portland, Oregon, and listening to the people's desire to host conference in 1989, I again saw how being together as a family is one special way we can encourage each other. How often in the Scriptures we find God telling his people to remind their children and their children's children of his great goodness to them.

We are to remind each other of the past, and plan for our future. We are to spend time together.

He instructs them to tell the stories of their past in order to give them hope and courage to press on.

Each year we are given that opportunity to build wonderful memories for the future, to recall the great things our God has done for us, and share in all the special things God is doing in our present lives. Conference allows us a block of time and the perfect setting in which to do this. I have talked with people who have wonderful memories about conference when it was held at Milton College (Milton, Wisconsin), where huge tents were set up to accommodate people for eating and meeting. From more recent conferences, I have heard talk of a dorm called the "pit," where young people shared their rooms with the cockroaches. No doubt at the time that seemed rather unpleasant, yet there were still memories of good fellowship, laughter, encouragement and love expressed in a way that has lasted over the years.

Some people are able to keep track of the years by remembering where General Conference was held. "Oh yes, I remember, that was the year we went to Houghton, New York. That was the time people dressed in costumes." "I remember sitting out on that lovely patio at Redlands, California, with the hurricane lamps on the tables, and we ate delicious little strawberry sundaes." "Do you remember the little ice cream shop where we gathered to chat when we were at Adrian, Michigan?"

I cannot remember a perfect conference. But I can remember at least 15 conferences that I have attended. I love to hear the stories our young people tell of their experiences at their Pre-Conference retreat, and all the memories my stepfather had that were as vivid as yesterday. Those memories

were part of what drew him back to his Heavenly Father in the latter years of his life.

No, conference is not ever a perfect experience, because we are not perfect people. Sometimes we are not happy with the accommodations, or the long drives or airline trips we must take to get there. There are times when the food leaves something to be desired, and the speakers may talk too long. Yes, there are those tedious debates that seem irrelevant and irritating. Still, there are all those wonderful times when we hear a testimony of what God has done in someone's life, or a sermon that is just what we need. Sometimes we are able to have a special conversation with an old friend, or a new friend that will stay in our mind for years to come. Families are not perfect, but how we need them.

My heart's desire and constant prayer is that we will experience renewal and revival at our conference in Lindsborg, Kansas, this summer. I know it will not be perfect, but I am confident it will have all the ingredients to build good memories for each one attending. God has told us to not forsake the gathering together. We are to pray, sing, encourage and love one another, in the midst of our imperfections. He is blessed by our praise and our fellowship, because he has chosen to call us his family.

If you have not been to conference before, I hope this will be the year you decide to come and join in the family gathering. If it has been a while since you have come, allow yourself to recall some of the great blessings you have received in the past, and make that decision to come again. For those of you who do not have to make that decision each year, but simply send in your reservations as a matter of course, you already know many of the good things that are in store for you. For each of us it will take some sacrifices to get there. It will be harder for some than others. Yet God has prepared many blessings for us when we are willing to commit ourselves totally to him, and when we are willing to love and care for each other. I am looking forward to seeing you there. The Lord willing, we will experience another special family reunion at Bethany College this summer. SR

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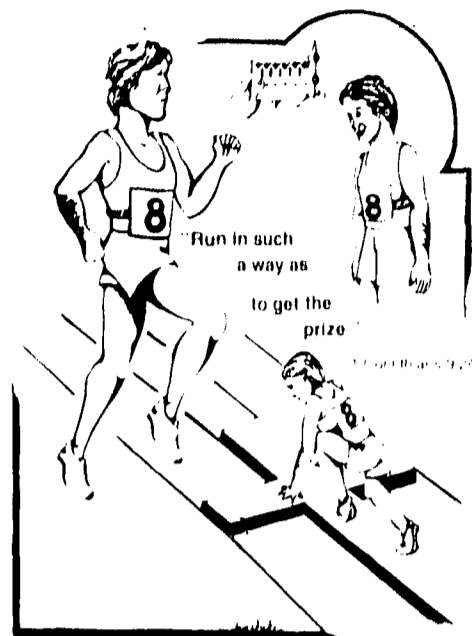
Children's Conference musical planned

The Children's Conferences (Associated Conferences) will once again be doing a musical for General Conference on Sabbath afternoon of conference week. The musical, entitled *Bible Walk*, by John Nielson and Otis Skillings (Lillenas Publishers), has two main characters (already cast), 12 possible solos and 12 speaking parts.

Children interested in solos are encouraged, although not required to get the book or tape and begin learning the music. These parts will be cast at conference.

Also, if anyone has robes or head coverings which can be used for biblical costumes for children, please bring them to conference.

SR



LET US PRESS ON

Press on to be God's family

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No, conference is not ever a perfect experience, because we are not perfect people. Sometimes we are not happy with the accommodations, or the long drives or airline trips we must take to get there. There are times when the food leaves something to be desired, and the speakers may talk too long. Yes, there are those tedious debates that seem irrelevant and irritating. Still, there are all those wonderful times when we hear a testimony of what God has done in someone's life, or a sermon that is just what we need. Sometimes we are able to have a special conversation with an old friend, or a new friend that will stay in our mind for years to come. Families are not perfect, but how we need them.

My heart's desire and constant prayer is that we will experience renewal and revival at our conference in Lindsborg, Kansas, this summer. I know it will not be perfect, but I am confident it will have all the ingredients to build good memories for each one attending. God has told us to not forsake the gathering together. We are to pray, sing, encourage and love one another, in the midst of our imperfections. He is blessed by our praise and our fellowship, because he has chosen to call us his family.

If you have not been to conference before, I hope this will be the year you decide to come and join in the family gathering. If it has been a while since you have come, allow yourself to recall some of the great blessings you have received in the past, and make that decision to come again. For those of you who do not have to make that decision each year, but simply send in your reservations as a matter of course, you already know many of the good things that are in store for you. For each of us it will take some sacrifices to get there. It will be harder for some than others. Yet God has prepared many blessings for us when we are willing to commit ourselves totally to him, and when we are willing to love and care for each other. I am looking forward to seeing you there. The Lord willing, we will experience another special family reunion at Bethany College this summer. SR

I am confident it will have all the ingredients to build good memories for each one attending.

Children's Conference musical planned

The Children's Conferences (Associated Conferences) will once again be doing a musical for General Conference on Sabbath afternoon of conference week. The musical, entitled *Bible Walk*, by John Nielson and Otis Skillings (Lillenas Publishers), has two main characters (already cast), 12 possible solos and 12 speaking parts.

Children interested in solos are encouraged, although not required, to get the book or tape and begin learning the music. These parts will be cast at conference.

Also, if anyone has robes or head coverings which can be used for biblical costumes for children, please bring them to conference. SR

Los Angeles church begins Spanish language services

The Spanish congregation is presently made up of Spanish-speaking persons from Mexico, El Salvador, Cuba, Peru, and Puerto Rico.

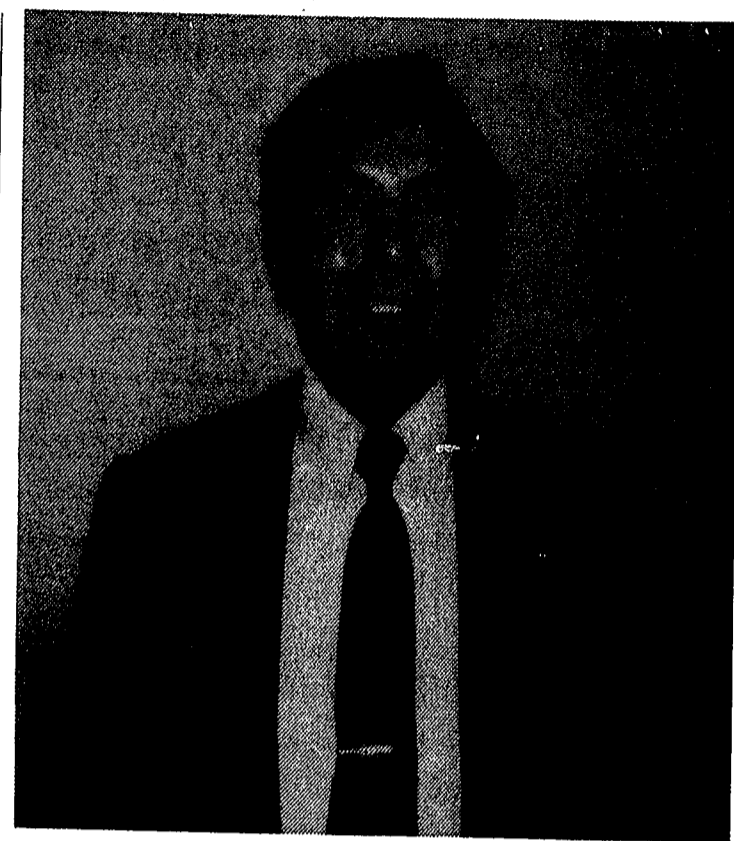
On Sabbath, May 2, the Los Angeles, California, Seventh Day Baptist Church held its first regular Spanish language services, led by Pastor Jorge Guardado, with 35 people in attendance.

Simultaneous Sabbath School was held during the English language worship service and Spanish worship was conducted at 11:30, during English Sabbath School. The church anticipates that it will continue this double use of its facilities, as both congregations continue to share the gospel and grow.

A large sign in Spanish, saying "Bienvenido" (Welcome) was placed on Avenue 50. The evening before, the Spanish-speaking members visited several hundred homes around the church property in the Highland Park district of Los Angeles. Highland Park is estimated to be 66.6% Hispanic in population.

The worship service, with a beautiful bulletin, featured the inauguration of the "Primera Iglesia Bautista Hispana del Septimo Dia" (First Hispanic Seventh Day Baptist Church) and was led by Pastor Guardado. Others who shared in the dedication service were Ida and Enrique Barquinero; Abram Camero; Nelda Morris, Organist, and dedication prayers by Pastor Duane L. Davis and Pastor Oscar C. Godoy.

Jorge Guardado and his wife Doris have been fellowshiping with the Los Angeles church since October, 1985, and are members. A native of El Salvador, Guardado is a four-year graduate of Instituto Evangelica, a Spanish-



Pastor Jorge Guardado of the First Hispanic Seventh Day Baptist Church, Los Angeles, California.

language Bible School and Seminary in the Los Angeles area. Doris is from Cuba and was a journalist and TV news commentator there before renouncing Communism to follow Jesus Christ completely. The Los Angeles church has been praying for some time about reaching out to the millions of Spanish-language people in the area and began a weekly small-group prayer meeting in January, 1985, for a specific Spanish ministry. At the same time, the Guardados and the Barquineros were praying to find a Baptist Church that worshipped on the Bible Sabbath. The Spanish congregation is presently made up of Spanish-speaking persons from Mexico, El Salvador, Cuba, Peru, and Puerto Rico. For the present, the plan is for the Los Angeles church to continue as one membership meeting in two congregations, until such time as enough Spanish-language members join the church to form their own church organization.

The bulletin for the Sabbath, May 2, Dedication Services carried a large headline in Spanish. The slogan, translated into English, read, "The vision placed in our hearts is multitudes of persons coming to Christ!" SR

Pastors' Conference—1987

by Melvin and Yvonne Stephan

Fifty-six expectant persons gathered in Battle Creek, Michigan, April 28-May 4, 1987, to attend the biennial Seventh Day Baptist Pastors' Conference.

We were delightfully entertained by the members of the Battle Creek Seventh Day Baptist Church pastored by George Calhoun, who was our host pastor. We express our heartfelt thanks to the congregation for their kindness, graciousness and the excellent food.

J. Paul Green, dean of the Center on Ministry, was our director. Paul created the program, established the curriculum, selected guest leaders and arranged the schedule. He also recruited worship, Bible study and prayer leaders, and invited others to be participants as song and chorus leaders.

Each day our worship and praise moments and Bible studies were inspired by assigned portions of I Peter. The worship and praise were led by Kevin Butler, Helen Green, Leon Wheeler, Harold King, David Thorngate, Don Chroniger and Everett Dickinson. Our Bible studies were led by Don Sanford, Mel Stephan, Ken Davis, Ed Sutton and Gabe Bejjani. The seasons of corporate prayer were led by Ken Burdick, John and Joyce Conrod, Joe Samuels, and Bob and Linda Harris.

Praise and prayer songs at the beginning of meeting sessions and before meals were led by Russ Johnson and Herb Saunders. (Ask Herb for a copy of the song sheet! It includes 34 singing graces)

Guest leaders for the work session presentations were: Beverly J. Worth of Winona Lake, Indiana, who is the director of Worth Tax Service; Alfred O'Shields from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, who is a vice president of Presbyterian Ministers' Fund; and

for the spouses' sessions, Marge Zuhl, a member of the First Wesleyan Church of Battle Creek, whose husband serves as pastor of that church.

Various timely topics and reports relating to the theme of the conference, "Issues and Maturity in Ministry," were presented by Dale Thorngate, Paul Green, Leon Lawton, Rod Henry, Ernest Bee and Matt Olson. The presentations generated extensive discussion, especially on such matters as "issues of power and authority in the church" and "the pastor's financial situation."

After the Sabbath, Bill Shobe was the m.c. for a variety program. Those who participated by being part of the show, and those watching and listening, celebrated together the joy we have in following our Lord Jesus Christ. Mel Stephan was asked to lead some choruses on an impromptu basis to allow those who were a bit late to join the festivities. Ed Sutton shared a rambling, amusing, very entertaining story about how he learned to play the harmonica and how he was going to play for us. We all began to wonder if he was truly going to play. Ed did play

A total of 56 participated in the 1987 Pastors' Conference in Battle Creek, Michigan.



A highlight of Pastors' Conference was the celebration of ordination to the Ministry of Jesus Christ for the host pastor George Calhoun.

She'll Be Comin' Round the Mountain, finally! Rod Henry, Paul Green, Herb Saunders and Dale Thorngate sang as a quartet: *Drink to Me Only With Thine Eyes*. Paul Green told a story about "Kvetch?!" Yvonne Stephan sang with herself and the *Housewife's Lament* became a duet. Graham Duffin, our visiting pastor from Sidney, Australia, was asked by M.C. Bill Shobe to help him sing *Tie Me Kangaroo Down!* The audience joined in on the chorus. Four selected volunteers were "cheeky" as they recited "Chubby Bunny" at the request of Herb Saunders, and the winner was Herb Bennett. Joe Samuels sang *No One Ever Cared for Me Like Jesus*. A men's impromptu chorus was invited to sing three numbers from "Towner's." The local Battle Creek congregation presented a

skit called "Salvation's Story." Linda Harris sang *Live for Jesus* as a special number, and Mike Goodrich shared a short story about the crucifixion of Jesus. The ladies group sang *Flow Gently Sweet Afton* and *Rejoice the Lord is King*. M.C. Shobe created interesting interludes and shared questionable introductions. The evening was super, with the varied talent declaring once again how good God is to each of us. A highlight of Pastors' Conference was the privilege to be reminded of—and remember again—the occasion of each of our personal ordinations to ministry as we joined in the celebration of ordination to the Ministry of Jesus Christ for the host pastor, George Calhoun, on Sabbath morning at the worship service. SR

More news from China

Word was recently received from James Chang in Shanghai, China, of the death of his father T.M. Chang (age 88) in February of 1986. Long associated with the SDB China mission, T.M. Chang was principal of the combined schools (K-12) during the difficult wartime period of the 1930s and the 1940s

T.M. Chang



and continued as a communication link after all missionaries had to leave China.

T.M. Chang (Toong-ming—Theodore) graduated from Milton College, Milton, Wisconsin, in 1922, after which he returned to China to teach in Grace School, later becoming principal of the Boys' School and then of the combined schools. He attended General Conference in 1947, the 100th anniversary of the China mission, giving an address on the past, present and future of the China mission—a future which did not foresee the change to come about during the "cultural revolution."

James Chang's recent letter, in addition to telling of the death of his father, also tells of the death of his own wife, Kate, on November 5, 1986. He confirms earlier reports on the former mission property (see *June Recorder*) and that people formerly connected with the SDB mission are meeting with family members and others in their homes for worship and Bible study in Liuho. SR

Three receive divinity degree

Three participants in the Center on Ministry program graduated this spring, each receiving the master of divinity degree: Arthur Rowe, from Iliff School of Theology in Denver, Colorado; Sharon Wauls from Methodist Theological School of Ohio in Delaware, Ohio; and George Calhoun from Bethel Theological Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Arthur Rowe, who has served as intern pastor of the Denver SDB Church since February, had earlier served an internship in a United Church of Christ in Denver. Before seminary, he had served as pastor of the Paint Rock, Alabama, SDB Church and in 1985, was summer pastor in the Alfred, New York, SDB Church.

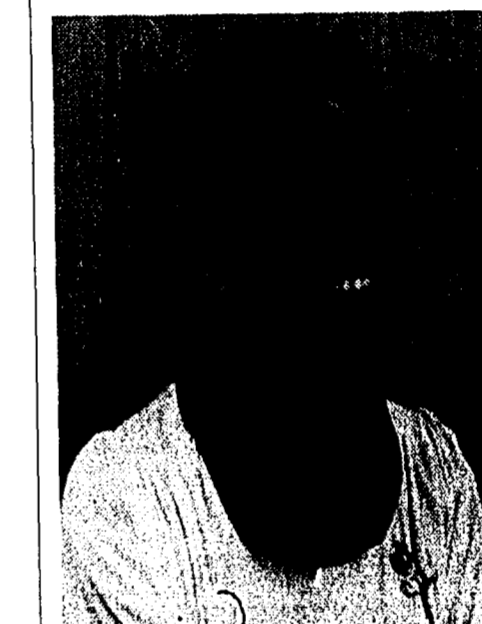
Sharon Wauls served in various capacities in her home church in Columbus, Ohio, during seminary; was summer pastor in Alfred Station, New York, in 1985; and has been youth minister for a Methodist church in

Columbus. She is currently doing further seminary study.

George Calhoun served as pastor of the San Diego, California, SDB Church during part of his seminary time, before becoming pastor of the Battle Creek, Michigan, SDB Church a year ago. He was ordained by the Battle Creek church on May 2, 1987. SR



(Right) Arthur Rowe, (Below left) Sharon Wauls, (Below right) George Calhoun.



George Calhoun ordained

by Judy Fatato

An Examination Council met on March 28, 1987, at the Seventh Day Baptist Church in Battle Creek, Michigan, Dean Paul Green and other pastors from North Central Association churches questioned the candidate and reviewed his statement of belief. It was unanimously decided to ordain the pastor, and his beliefs were found to be in accord with the Seventh Day Baptist Statement of Belief. It was further voted to recommend Pastor Calhoun's accreditation at General Conference. The ordination service was set for May 2, 1987, coinciding with Pastors' Conference which was in session in Battle Creek at that time. It was noted that this would be the first time the Battle Creek church had called a pastor to ordination, and a very special day was

planned.

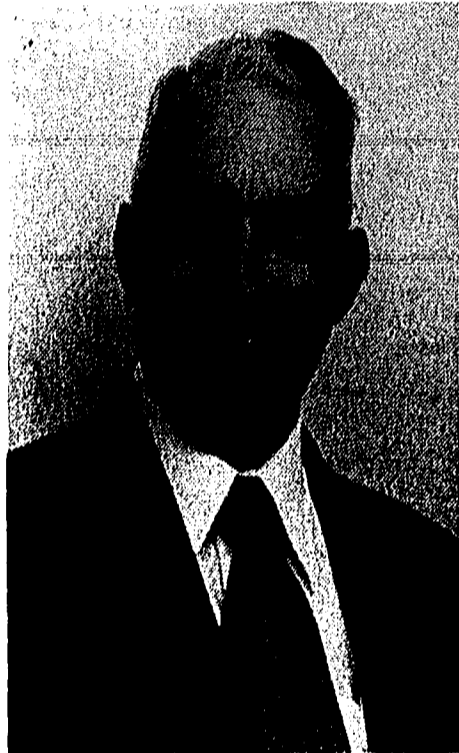
The service took place during the morning worship which was led by George Parrish, chairman of the Diaconate. Romans 12 was the Scripture read by former pastor, Rev. S. Kenneth Davis, who personalized it for the candidate. Rev. Alton Wheeler gave the morning message as a charge to the candidate. Based on II Timothy, the message was entitled, "Rekindling the Afterglow." Rev. Herbert Saunders gave the consecrating prayer and anointing while all active North Central Association pastors and those on the program participated in the laying on of hands. The congregation was led in a responsive covenant and then Dean Paul Green welcomed Rev. George and Lanette Calhoun to the ministry.

It was noted that this would be the first time the Battle Creek church had called a pastor to ordination

Cont. on page 14

Retirement celebration held

A significant number spoke of the pastor's faithfulness...



Rev. Kenneth Van Horn

A retirement reception was held Sabbath afternoon, May 23, at the Daytona Beach, Florida, Seventh Day Baptist Church for Rev. and Mrs. Kenneth Van Horn. Pastor Ken and Doris plan to establish their home base in Little Rock, Arkansas, after July 1.

Geraldine Kline, master of ceremonies, opened the program with Crosby Rogers leading in singing old-time favorites with Anita Harris at the piano.

Erma Van Horn had constructed a map, pinpointing and labeling the six churches Pastor Van Horn has served in the last 40 years. Pictures on the side brought back memories of happenings in each church. Evalyn Camenga pointed out the locations and facts about each church while Pastor Ken and Doris entertained with interesting stories of earlier years. The churches served were: New Auburn and Milton Junction, Wisconsin; Dodge Center, Minnesota; Little Rock, Arkansas; Hebron and Little Genesee, New York and Daytona Beach.

At the suggestion of the m.c., each person present told of some special ways the Van Horns have touched his or her life. A significant number spoke of the pastor's faithfulness in staying with them before surgery for a loved one and

Calhoun ordained

Cont. from page 13

Special music was provided by the church choir, augmented by guests from the conference attendees; a men's quartet of Paul Green, Herb Saunders, Rod Henry and Dale Thorngate; and soloist Lanette Calhoun. A puppet play, written by Jean Albion, was performed for the children's story to acquaint them with the term *ordination*. After the service, a fellowship meal was held for the more than 120 guests with more greeting and sharing with the Calhouns. **SR**

of visits after their own surgery. Others had praise for Bible studies and children's Bible clubs.

A framed certificate of recognition for Rev. Van Horn's ministry in the Daytona Beach church was presented by Leon Maltby, president of the church. Pearl Bond presented a similar certificate to Mrs. Van Horn for her outstanding work.

A large number of cards from friends far and near were presented to the Van Horns. Then Col. Sedgley Thornbury gave them a beautifully wrapped gift box. Much to their surprise, at the very bottom of the box, they found a check from the members and close friends of the church.

The room was decorated in spring colors and flowers. A beautifully decorated cake and punch were served. **SR**

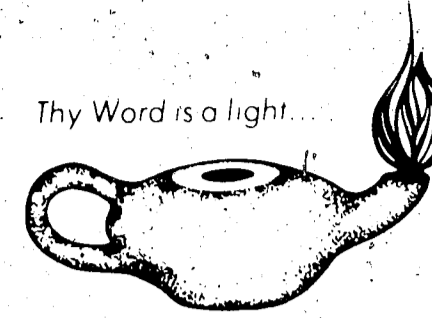
Good fellowship in Blountville

by Deanna Wright

The Seventh Day Baptist Church in Blountville, Tennessee, had a full house for worship on Sabbath, April 11. Bill and Gloria Palmer, members living in Atlanta, Georgia, were able to join us, and we accepted our new members from North Carolina. The right hand of fellowship was given to Joe and Linda Shannon, Eddie and Cheryl Creasy, and Gregg Bowman. The Spirit of the Lord was felt by all.

Afterward we shared in food and conversation. Pastor Bob Wright took the children on a hike, and the adults conversed. The fun and fellowship continued as some gathered at the parsonage. Gregg Bowman and Tony Malone played their guitars and everyone joined in song.

Later that evening, we came together for football and kickball, more singing, and a round of Bible Trivia. As the night came to an end everyone departed fulfilled, exhausted, and inspired. **SR**



Board of Christian Education

Conference workshop: Sabbath School

Who: Pastors, Sabbath School superintendents, Christian education chairmen.

What: Session One—Tuesday, August 11, 2:30 p.m.

Section A—The Role of the Pastor (pastors only!)

Rev. Herbert E. Saunders, pastor, Milton, Wisconsin, Seventh Day Baptist Church

Section B—The Role of the Sabbath School Superintendent

Rev. Ernest K. Bee Jr., exec. dir., Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education, Inc.

Session Two—Wednesday, August 12, 2:30 p.m.

Pastors and superintendents (Christian Education Chairmen may substitute for your superintendent). Teamwork activities to assist pastors and superintendents in exploring their relationship in their church's teaching ministry.

Where: General Conference Sessions
Bethany College, Lindsborg, Kansas

Children's and Youth Conferences

The Board of Christian Education is sponsoring the annual Associated Conferences, August 9-16, 1987, during General Conference sessions, Bethany College, Lindsborg, Kansas. We have given them new names: Children's Conference (Preschool-Junior) which is the responsibility of our Children's Committee, and Youth Conference (Junior and Senior High) which is the responsibility of our Youth Committee. The conferences are designed to provide an age-level learning and activity experience while their parents and sponsors are involved with conference business.

The Children's Conference music director, Linda Lawton, has selected the musical, "Bible Walk." It will be presented Sabbath afternoon of conference.

The leadership will include the following directors:

Children's Conference

Coordinator: Jane Mackintosh, Half Moon Bay, California
Music: Linda Lawton, Boulder, Colorado

Sanja Severance, Boulder, Colorado, assistant
Recreation: Beth Dutcher
Nora Dutcher, assistant
Preschool, ages 3-5: Charlotte Chroniger, New Auburn, Wisconsin
Kindergarten/First Grade: Muriel Osborn, Dodge Center, Minnesota
Primary, grades 2-3: Vicki Burdick, Riverside, California
RuthAnne Peil, Rialto, California
Junior, grades 4-6: Christina Thorngate, Columbus, Ohio

Youth Conference

Junior High, grades 7-8: Dan and Dawn Richards
Senior High, grades 9-12: Pastor Edward Sutton, Berlin, New York

SR

We have given the conferences new names: Children's Conference (Preschool-Junior) and Youth Conference (Junior and Senior High).



the BEACON

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

July 1987

Worry

by Paul M. Barber

Worry is concern over something that you have no power to change. Worry comes between you and God.

"Worry: To feel distressed in the mind; to be anxious, troubled or uneasy."

—Noah Webster

Worry is trying to take responsibility for something you have no authority over. Worry is concern over something that you have no power to change. Worry comes between you and God, and does not allow him to bless you like he could. Don't worry, because God knows your needs and has already supplied them.

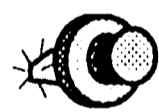
I used to worry about many things—such as grades. Now, whenever I start to worry, I remember that God cares for me and is interested in my life. He answers my prayers and gives

me peace while I am waiting.

He doesn't like people to worry about the future, or past or present, but to give him an opportunity to direct our lives through his Word, and by his Spirit. When I worried, I did not accomplish anything. Worry has a way of seeping into other areas of your life if you give it a place in your spirit. The way you keep from worrying is to say, "Jesus, please help this situation, or bless me with your peace which passes understanding." When you let go, and let God handle the situation, he can show you other concerns he has for you and fellow Christians.

Don't worry about what to say. Let the Holy Ghost give you the right words when you need them. Worry can destroy your health with problems such as ulcers, headaches and nervousness. Worry is the opposite of trust. If you worry, your trust in God diminishes, and he is not able to do his will in your life.

Faith in God is weakened by fear. God wants us to realize that we worry in vain because he has given us salvation through his Son, Jesus Christ. God wants us to seek his kingdom first, and then he will supply all our needs (Matthew 6; 10:19, Mark 13:11; 14:72, Luke 12).



Vital Statistics

Attention all youth who are attending Pre-Con: Be certain to check the June Recorder for important information about travel to and from Pre-Con (June issue, page 23).



Study Helps

Scripture: Matthew 6:25-34
Memory Verse: Matthew 6:34

Worry seems to be one of those things that a lot of people are good at. In fact, it is a rare individual who can say that he has no problem with worry. Jesus, in this passage, tells us that we really have nothing to worry about.

As children of God, we can trust him to take care of us. That is not to say that such trust is easy. In fact, trusting God for all we need can be

very difficult. Nevertheless, you must strive to do so.

It may help to imagine whatever it is you are concerned about as a physical object. For instance, if you are worried about an upcoming exam, you might want to picture the exam in your mind, and then imagine yourself literally handing it to God. Of course, it would be important in that case that you also prepare yourself for the exam and not rely on God to somehow magically implant the necessary knowledge in your brain.

Whatever it is that is worrying you, isn't it good to know that we can find comfort and security in Christ?

As children of God, we can trust him to take care of us. That is not to say that such trust is easy.

Director's Ditty

July has always been one of my favorite months. School has been out for a few weeks, and there are still nearly two months of summer vacation left. When I was still attending school, the summers seemed endless. It would get boring at times, but there were a few events that always made summers special.

One of these events was summer camp. Although I never got the chance to go to an overnight camp, I did attend day camp (I grew up in a large city). It was always great to spend time in the

woods, doing crafts, swimming, and all of the other things that go with camp.

I want to encourage each Seventh Day Baptist youth to attend camp this year. It could very well be the highlight of your summer. In addition, you might want to consider being a part of your association's exchange camper program, if there is one. It's a great way to meet others in your association, make new friends, and reacquaint yourself with old ones.

Have a great summer, and happy camping!



Celebrate independence

Dear Ones All,

Independence

When most of you read this, the Fourth of July will be past but still in your minds, I am sure. It is not too late to wish you a happy Independence Day. This is a proud time in the history of our country—with the celebrations going on in Philadelphia all year in honor of the bicentennial of the Constitution.

Yet, there is a troubling thread running through the fabric that goes to make up the whole of us. More and more we hear of disloyalty to God and country. I feel a disquieting sense of unrest. Why seems to be the repetitive word heard over and over. Why does someone sworn to uphold the Constitution of these United States turn their back on it? Why, for that matter, does anyone who has given their allegiance to God, turn away from their chosen walk? Of course, turning from God to one's own way goes back as far as Adam and Eve. The story that was recently covered in our Sabbath School lessons taken from the book of Hosea dealt with this same turning away from God by Israel. It is certainly not a new story. It still remains troubling and we ask "why?"

Of course, if one wishes to go back in political history, that disloyalty, too, is an old story. And again there is the question why. As I have thought about this the past few months, I pondered the recent and recurrent *ME* movement. "What I want, think and feel is what is important, and what I have to do to accomplish it is all right." How very sad. We are told the story of Benedict Arnold, one of our country's most trusted Generals. When he was charged with using poor judgement in using military personnel to sustain his chosen lifestyle (and very nearly received a court-martial

for it) it so embittered him that he promised himself that he would certainly betray this country and his dear friend, George Washington. Of course, he was found out, but extravagance, ambition and greed have destroyed many down through the ages. One wonders how much he repented of his selfish actions and the damage it caused. Judas betrayed our Lord for 30 pieces of silver. We are told why he did it and his reaction when he had time to think it over.

At the time I am writing this, the news is full of the Contra scandal and the suspected espionage in our embassy. Although the motives stated are completely different, they again seem to come down to the *ME* theory. Many, many ills of the country can be traced to this selfishness. As one rustic stated when interviewed, "Laws is laws. Until we 'uns can get 'em changed, we's stuck with 'em." No matter what you think of his rhetoric, this thinking is sound. We cannot put our own welfare above that of the whole country. God made his laws to benefit all his children. We celebrate Independence Day, but each must decide in his own heart, independence from what. Let your choice be independence from sin; choose dependence on God.

News from the societies

Milton, Wisconsin, reports there are 58 women now participating in their new prayer chain. They spoke of having a "Show and Tell" meeting. Many interesting things must have made their appearance. They also spoke of their Soup and Chili Supper held in memory of a former member and the proceeds being forwarded to S.C.S.C., her favorite project. (Our treasurer reported at the last board meeting how impressed she was with the unique ways some of you raised the funds for your contribution to the Summer Christian Service Corp.) Both Westerly, Rhode Island, and White Cloud, Michigan, reported holding rummage sales. Nortonville, Kansas, reported holding a Meal of Sharing for S.C.S.C. From the Albion, Wisconsin, bulletin I gleaned a notice stating that Conference President Gerry VanDyke was to be the guest at the Milton SDB Evening Circle. They had issued an invitation to

southern Wisconsin SDB groups. This is an excellent idea to take advantage of denominational personnel when they are in your area for your women's meetings. Even the male gender might have something to share of interest to your women's group and be willing (even pleased) to be asked. Many years ago, this was a regularly scheduled part of most association programs. Communications between conferences is vital and we are much in favor of this.

Here are two thoughts gleaned from the Nortonville bulletin; "When a church stops doing, it starts dying." "A church is no stronger than its fellowship and no bigger than its visitation." We were discussing the women's societies that seem to be vital and growing. A former president of the board remarked that she had never known a church or society to prosper which had no interests outside their own group. From your bulletins, I know that many of you have community interests that you support. We applaud you.

This is the year when many organizations for women are concentrating on causes of poverty and what can be done about them. Here are some facts to reflect on:

- Almost 3/4 of all people living in poverty are women and their children.
- 71% of the elderly poor are women.
- Approximately 1/2 of all older women receive an income within \$1,000 of the federal poverty level.
- By 1990, one in four children will grow up in a single-parent family.

What can you do to help? This is certainly a matter for deep concern and prayer.

Reminders

A final reminder that 50 copies of your annual report of society activities are needed to share at conference. If your group has done something unusual (a craft, a service project, anything that is different and might be shared verbally during the Women's Interest Committee), I am positive Margaret Taylor, who is chairman of the committee, would be glad to give you some time. Plans are shaping up for the Women's Banquet. Do plan to join us there. Is your pastor's wife making it to conference with your help? If so, how about sharing how you made the money for this extra project. Do not forget also to send your Love Gift along.

Mighty Mites

Now for some Mighty Mites—Pay 3¢ if you have not done something to show someone you cared this week. Pay 2¢ for each time you eat out this month. Pay 5¢ for each time you skipped Bible Study this month. Pay 1¢ for each telephone call you received in any given day. Did you attend Ladies Meeting this month? Pay 5¢ if you did not. Pay 15¢ if you did not attempt to memorize a verse in the Sabbath School Memorization Program. Pay 2¢ if you did not send a get-well card to anyone this month. Pay 30¢ if your family has more than one doctor. Pay 10¢ for each one of the family who uses supplementary vitamins. Pay 12¢ if you had a July birthday. Pay 5¢ for each letter you owe. Did you pray for the approaching conference? Pray for the safe arrival at Pre-Con of all our young people and pay 1¢ for each one you know personally. Pray for the success of evaluation of S.C.S.C. and pay 2¢ for any from your church who served or who came to your church. P.T.L. for all the good work they did and all those who were helped by their presence. Pay 50¢ if you are leaving for conference next month and pray the Lord will go with you each step of the way. If my count is correct, this is about one Mighty Mite every other day. Sabbaths are free as they are a gift from God. Thank him and praise him for them.

Lovingly, in his service,

Plans are shaping up for the Women's Banquet at General Conference. Do plan to join us there.

Nursery toys to be provided

In the May issue of *The Sabbath Recorder*, a call was made for replacement toys for the nursery at General Conference sessions. **The Host Committee will be providing toys for the nursery. Parents need not supply a new toy.**



Focus on missions today

by Leon R. Lawton

Guyana Conference report

Bona Ventura, Guyana, South America: The 38th Conference of Guyana SDBs was held with the Bona Ventura SDB Church on November 14-16, 1986, with 16 pastors, officers, 16 delegates, and 12 observers in attendance. The Uitvlugt (I-flit) group has been established as a church. Their camp in 1986 had 64 campers and there were five baptisms. Vacation Bible Schools were held in seven places, with the recorded attendance as follows: Uitvlugt 81, Wakenaam 25, Kitty 32, Dartmouth 10, Parika 42, Bona Ventura 68, and Manawarine 27. Five students were reported baptized. Their 1987 conference is scheduled for August 3, 1987.

Growth in Southern California

Southern California, U.S.A.: Only six years ago there were but two SDB churches in Southern California—Riverside and Los Angeles. With the organization of the new Santa Barbara, California, church early this year, there are now five, with home Bible studies being held in several other locations. Most recently, the Los Angeles church, which has Rev. Oscar Godoy as their extension pastor, started a second Sabbath service in Spanish. This service is held while the English Sabbath School is in session. The Hispanic pastor is Jorge Guardado. Their Sabbath School is held during the English worship hour.

Increase of 30% in Burma

Tahan, Burma, Asia: The 23rd Annual Session of the Burma Seventh Day Baptist Conference was held here on March 11-15, 1987. Action taken included upgrading the Tuingo church to a pastoral center with Rev. Neihchana living there. Evangelist Zalianzawna will now serve in Tahan; Evangelist Satinkhuaia will remain at Zonuam. Lalchungnumga will serve the Kanaan church, and Thawng Za Go is the new leader at Darkhai, where a new church is being formed. Giving from churches and individuals increased by about 30% over the same period last year. Secretary L.S. Thanga sends his love and best wishes and says, "We pray for you all."

Successful revival at Naylor church

Naylor, Missouri, USA: "I feel the Spirit has truly been moving in our church. We now have an outreach of a mission in Neelyville, Missouri. We just finished a revival, which was a success in that we have had several rededications. We have a very beautiful spirit in our church. We continue to reach out and help the needy in our area. Please continue to pray that the Lord will continue to bless."—Bonnie J. Elston, clerk.

Paper still scarce for Polish publications

Bielsko-Biala, Poland, Europe: Secretary Bronislaw K. Ciesielski has shared copies of two of their publication—the monthly, *The Spirit of Times (Duch Czasow)*, and the quarterly, *The Voice of Preacher (Glos Kaznodziejski)*. While their monthly is published with 2,650 copies, they have a permit for 10,000—but the necessary paper is not available. Most of it comes by special import from Jan Lek, when he is able to purchase and transport it from Holland to Poland. Special funds for paper are sent to him and more are needed to maintain even the present publication schedule. SR

A prayer reminder for each day

August 1987

Verse for the Month: *We can make our plans, but the final outcome is in God's hands. We can always 'prove' that we are right but is the Lord convinced? Commit your work to the Lord, then it will succeed.*—Proverbs 16:1-3 TLB

Pray for...

- Guyana SDB Conference meeting August 3rd at Bona Ventura church
- Conference President Gerry VanDyke and committee chairmen
- General Council pre-conference meetings
- Summer Christian Service Corps evaluation
- Pre-Con youth and young adult campers & staff
- that SDBs may *Press On*
- those enroute to conference at Lindsborg, Kansas
- giving to Our World Mission budget in local churches
- conference sessions that begin this evening
- that SDBs may *Persevere in God's Way* and *Pursue God's Wisdom*
- that SDBs may *Perfect Our Walk*
- that SDBs may *Perform Good Works*
- that SDBs may *Proclaim God's Word*
- that SDBs may *Pray Without Wavering* and *Purify our Worship*
- conference Sabbath blessings and new President Herbert Saunders
- safe travel for those returning from conference
- ministerial students at Post Conference Retreat
- Missionaries David and Bettie Pearson, Malawi, Africa
- a pastor you know and care about
- the Miami, Florida, SDB Church
- Ethel Dickinson, administrative asst. at the SDB Center
- the Los Angeles, California, SDB Church's Spanish ministry
- Brenda Cornelio, secretary at the SDB Center
- Missionaries Thomas and Ritva McElwain and their ministry in Finland
- a pastor's wife who needs support
- Jill Groelle, financial secretary at the SDB Center
- Kathy Carr, computer operator at the SDB Center
- a pastor's family you love
- a Sabbath of celebration
- The Sabbath Recorder* staff: Scott Smith, Leanne Lippincott and Camille Henry
- Roselyn Geske, mail clerk at the SDB Center

MOVING?

Please clip this change of address form and mail it to:
Circulation Department
The Sabbath Recorder
PO Box 1678
Janesville, WI 53547

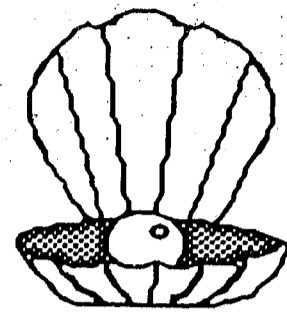
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Pearls of history from the Seventh Day Baptist Historical Society

James Ockford, banned in Britain

by Don A. Sanford, Historian

The first known writing for the seventh day Sabbath, by a Baptist, was published in London, England, in 1650, with the title, *The Doctrine of the Fourth Commandment, Deformed by Popery; Reformed & Restored to its Primitive purity*. In his introduction, James Ockford wrote:

Out of a true devotion to God, and sincere affection to thee; I have presented to thy consideration, a duty, which my conscience telleth me, thou ought to perform to the Lord thy God, for the furtherance of his honour and thy salvation. Namely the duty of Observation and Sanctification of the Lord's seventh day-Sabbath (the day called Saturday) commanded by the

Lord himself, Exod. 20.8. Which duty we and our Fathers have neglected near 1300 Years.

The mayor asked the Speaker of the English Parliament what should be done with a book which undermined the observance of the "Lord's Day." ...the committee (of Parliament) reported back recommending that the book be burned...

According to information sleuthed out by Rev. Oscar C. Burdick, associate librarian for collection development at the Graduate Theological Union Library in Berkeley, California,

there is a letter in the library at Oxford University from the mayor of Salisbury dated February 27, 1649 (Julian), which reports that a packet of copies of Ockford's book was seized at Salisbury. The mayor asked the Speaker of the English Parliament what should be done with a book which undermined the observance of the "Lord's Day." The letter was read to Parliament, who acted in typical legislative manner—they referred it to a committee. About a week later the committee reported back, recommending that the book be burned

and that the author and publisher be punished.

The proclamation of Parliament, under the heading *Die Veneris*, 8 Martii, 1649, reads:

Mr. Milligan Reports from the Committee of Plundered Ministers, the matter of Fact touching the Book entitled, *The Doctrine of the Fourth Commandment Deformed by Popery, Reformed & Restored to its Primitive purity, &c.* And examination of Augustine Nicholas, Servant to Gertrude Dawson, Printer of said Book for James Oakeford; and the examination of John Hide.

Resolved by Parliament, That this Book (entitled, *The Doctrine of the Fourth Commandment...*) asserting the observation of the Jewish Sabbath, and condemning the observation of the Lords day as the Christian Sabbath, is Erroneous, Scandalous and Profane, contrary to the practice of the Apostles, and all the Christian Churches.

Resolved by Parliament, That all the Printed Copies of the said Books be burnt; and that the Marshall be required to do the same at the Exchange and in Cheap-side.

Resolved by Parliament, That all Printed Copies of the said Book, wheresoever they shall be found in England and Wales, shall be brought to the Chief Magistrate of the place where the same shall be found, who is hereby required and enjoined to cause the same to be burnt accordingly.

Only one copy is known to have escaped the flames, but from that one copy can be learned much of the beliefs and attitudes of the early Sabbath-keeping Baptists of the mid-seventeenth century who eventually became known as Seventh Day Baptists.

James Ockford assures his readers that he is fully Christian saying, "I am no Jew, nor inclined to any Jewish

opinions; I seek not righteousness by the law, but by faith in the Son of God, according to the Gospel." He saw the Sabbath as a delight and a joy, stating, "Happy shall the church be, that worshippeth God according to his law, and giveth him his due, by placing on the seventh day, the honour which God requireth to be performed on it."

In this book on the Sabbath, Ockford does not specifically identify himself as a Baptist. However, in 1652, one of Ockford's opponents, Daniel Cawdry, refers to him as a "Sabbatarian Anabaptist." The name *Anabaptist*, at

this time in England, was the term often used for Baptists by their opponents. It is possible that this is the same James Oakeford which the 1631 city records of Salisbury lists as being among the "Anabaptists" who had been absent from the parish church service. The spelling of his name is the same as that which was used on Parliament's proclamation banning his book.

A photocopy of this book has been secured by Oscar Burdick. It and a copy of the proclamation of Parliament have recently been added to the library of the Historical Society. SR

Reminiscences... Available Again

Reminiscences of Early Days in the Seventh Day Baptist Southwestern Association

by Clifford A. Beebe

An illustrated booklet of sketches on early church and leaders in Arkansas and Texas—includes Col. Robert Crockett's significant 1885 speech on religious liberty

Reprinted by the SDB Historical Society as a memorial to Clifford Beebe, first published by his Bible Witness Press in 1975
\$1.00 per copy—order from the SDB Center, PO Box 1678, Janesville, WI 53547



50th Wedding Anniversary

Rev. & Mrs. Elmo & Madeline FitzRandolph

will be honored at a reception, on Sunday, July 26, 1987, from 2 to 5 p.m. at the First Baptist Church - 13th and Pine Streets, Boulder, Colorado

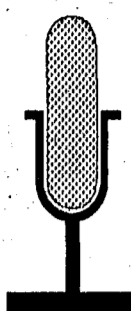
Please send letters, cards, or pictures for a family scrapbook to:
Mrs. Deborah Planer
3480 17th Street
Boulder, CO 80302



The hymnbook for conference sessions will be

Hymns for the Family of God.

If you have your own copy, please bring it along for your personal use.



TV contributions decline

TV evangelists have reported significant declines in gift revenues, despite crisis appeals. Partly as a result of the PTL problems, other evangelists reporting money problems include Jerry Falwell and Jimmy Swaggart. Swaggart reports being down by \$8 million in the past few months, and Pat Robertson told his TV audience that recent events had cost him \$10 million in donations.

According to a *New York Times* poll, one quarter of those who previously supported TV ministries said the Bakker scandal would cause them to withhold such support in the future.

Seventy-two percent of all who were polled said they held an unfavorable view of "most TV evangelists." Of those who were regular viewers, 50% held an unfavorable view. Among regular donors, 75% thought such ministries place too much emphasis on raising money.

Bishop regains authority

The Roman Catholic Church has reached a compromise to restore Seattle, Washington, Archbishop Raymond Hunthausen to his former authority, but a coadjutor has been named to assist him.

In a report to the Vatican, a special commission recommended that the archbishop and the Seattle Archdiocese be given target dates to bring itself into full compliance with Vatican guidelines.

The archbishop had been disciplined by the Vatican with a partial loss of his authority, a move unprecedented in American Catholicism. The action against the liberal Hunthausen had caused intense debate among priests and laity in the Seattle area.

Controversy has centered on complaints of Hunthausen's liberal policies, including general absolution of sins, intercommunion with Protestants, and a sympathetic view of homosexuality. The Vatican had restricted the archbishop's authority on grounds that he lacked the "firmness necessary to govern the archdiocese." Hunthausen's supporters viewed the restoration of control as a victory for American Catholics.

Church must pay back on gift

A federal court judge has ruled that the Bible Speaks church and its founder, Rev. Carl H. Stevens Jr., must return \$6.6 million to a chain-store heiress, Elizabeth Dovydenas.

Judge James E. Queenan called the non-jury trial "an astonishing saga of clerical deceit, avarice and subjugation."

Since the church had purchased land with most of the contributions, the judge ruled that the court would allow three years for payoff of the claims. Otherwise, the church property will be sold.

Dovydenas is the daughter of a founder of the Dayton-Hudson Corporation, one of the largest retail chains in the U.S. SR

Bits of Shiloh history

by John Camenga

A church on the move

As part of the 250th anniversary celebration of the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Shiloh, New Jersey, an event from 1771 was re-enacted—an event that affected the community as well as the church. The congregation was organized in an old log building at Bowentown in 1737, but in 1739 they built a meeting house on land given by Caleb Ayars. This property is the northeast corner of the present cemetery. The frame meeting house was used until 1771, when a larger, brick building replaced it. (The present church building was constructed in 1850.) There was still *life* left in the old building, so it was moved from the church property to a new location. Over the next 190 years it served as a shop, a home and finally as a storage building. It was destroyed by fire in the early 1960's. As you can imagine, moving even a small building in those days was quite a task. An old history lists the size of the meeting house as 20 by 26 feet.

A town gets a name

One interesting sidelight of moving the church had long lasting impact on our community. All of the land that makes up Shiloh was once owned by Robert Ayars, who distributed it among his children in pie-shaped pieces so their families could live close together and still have farmland. Those old property lines became the roads leading from the center of town. The place where these roads met became known as *Cohansey Corners*. Cohanzyck was the name of an area Indian chief, and various forms of the name were frequently used. What later became Cumberland County was once known as

Cohansey country. Greenwich was first called Cohansey. Cohansey Bridge was the earliest name for the community that later became known as Bridge Town and still later as Bridgeton. Cohansey was also attached to a community that would take on the name of Sayres Crossroads, present day Roadstown. With such widespread use of the name, confusion was bound to occur.

As the church building was being moved toward its new location, sunset Friday (the start of the Sabbath) caught the workers with the building sitting near the crossroads in the center of the village.

Pastor Jonathan and the workmen left the building there for the Sabbath and spent the day in rest and worship. Pastor Davis mentioned the Old Testament story of how the Ark of the Covenant rested at Shiloh. This comment had great impact on the minds of the listeners, and someone suggested they adopt Shiloh as the name of their community. So the name reflects the story from 1 Kings, but it also refers to the Friday night when another "Ark of the Covenant" rested at the crossroads in the middle of our town. SR

As the church building was being moved toward its new location, sunset Friday (the start of the Sabbath) caught the workers with the building sitting near the crossroads in the center of the village.

Special services at Plainfield

by Ruth Parker

In April, the Plainfield, New Jersey, Seventh Day Baptist Church held three special services. Pastor Joe Samuels conducted a baptismal service on April 11 for Mary Herman. Pastor Joe and his daughter, Marlene Campbell, sang a duet, *Fill My Cup, Lord*, and the message was based on the story of Philip and the Ethiopian in Acts 8.

Our "Good Neighbor" Easter service on April 18 was a great success with an attendance of 115. Pastor Joe had prepared special invitations for members to distribute and had mailed a pastoral letter to "non-attending" members. Many from our New York City church were present, and two of their babies—and one from our church, the daughter of Andre and Tracie Tyler, were dedicated by the pastor. Joyce Lyons of our Toronto church sang a beautiful solo. Everyone enjoyed the fellowship dinner after the service, and there was an abundance of food, even

with the unusually large attendance.

The next afternoon, Pastor Joe conducted the Easter service at the Presbyterian home, where our oldest member, Celia Whitford, resides. Two of our members took part in the service.

On Sunday afternoon, April 26, Pastor Joe led a prayer and fasting service (similar to the one we had January 4) with a dozen participants. The theme was "Laboring Together with God," 1 Corinthians 3:9. There were four sub-topics, each one followed by a prayer session and a praise session.

We are looking forward to our S.C.S.C. project. Our team will be teaching Vacation Bible School for six hours a day from July 6 to the 17th. We are also looking forward to the ordination of Deacon Thomas Sheffield on September 12, followed by a fellowship dinner. Our 150th anniversary committee for 1988, headed by Janet Whitford, has already held two meetings and is making plans for the celebration. **SR**

Marriage

Gallop-Burnett.—Richard Gallop and Hortense Burnett were united in marriage at the Plainfield, New Jersey, Seventh Day Baptist Church on November 9, 1986, by Pastor Joe A. Samuels.

SDB Conference Telephones

Lindsborg, Kansas—August 1987

SDB General Conference
Registration—(913) 227-2019
SDB General Conference Office—
(913) 227-2039

These numbers will be in service from
Monday, August 3, to Monday, August 17.

Births

Jacob.—A daughter, Jennifer Diane Jacob, was born to Mark and Carla Jacob on May 16, 1986, in Hampton, Virginia.

Tyler.—A daughter, Cortni Michelle Tyler, was born to Andre and Tracie Tyler of Plainfield, New Jersey, on March 6, 1987.

Meyers.—A son, James Albert Meyers, was adopted by Douglas and Paula Meyers. James was born on February 25, 1987.

Burdick.—A daughter, Leslie Paige Burdick, was born to Victor and Darcy Burdick on March 30, 1987, in Aurora, Colorado.

Ordination statement of belief

Cont. from page 7

present negatively. So-called evangelists say, "you're going to hell!" Well, it is okay to mention the alternative, but let us concentrate on the *evangelion*—the positive good news.

Evangelism should be like fire. Elton Trueblood said evangelism occurs when Christians are so ignited by their contact with Christ that they in turn set other fires.

A fire that does not spread will eventually go out, and a church without evangelism is a

contradiction of terms.

Wesley declared long ago, "Get on fire for God and men will come to see you burn." And it could be added, that you will be like Moses' burning bush. You will burn with a fire that gives warmth and light, but does not consume.

Evangelism begins with Christ—
is empowered by the Holy Spirit—
is kindled in the believer—
and set aflame by the church. **SR**

Original hymns written for Butler ordination

Kevin Bulter wrote special lyrics for a number of pieces of music as part of his ordination statement. Only a sample can be shared in this limited space.

"We Praise You, God" Tune: Lancashire

We praise You, God the Father;
We praise You, God the Son
We praise You, God the Spirit—
The mighty Three in One!
You were, You are, You shall be,
Forever and always:
Creator and Sustainer—To you our voices raise.

Our Father in the heavens,
Look down on us we pray;
Keep watch on all Your children
Each night and every day.
Created in Your image; In love, Your plan begun.
You saved us from destruction through mercy and the Son.

Dear Jesus, Lord and Savior,
From heaven to earth You came;
Incarnate to deliver new life to blind and lame.
You died, You rose for our sin,
Your choice, Your task was done;
You sent the Holy Spirit—
More vict'ries to be won.

Convict our sin O Spirit, then comfort us we pray;
Empower us to witness and teach us Thy true way.
O Spirit speak to spirit
In hearts and minds and lives;
You dwell within and free us:
The Spirit who revives.

We praise You, God the Father!

We praise You, God the Son!

We praise You, God the Spirit!

With You the battle's won.

Saved from the separation, upon Your throne we gaze

The Sovereign, Savior, Dweller—

We lift our hands in praise!

"God-Breathed in Every Way" Tune: "Christ Arose!"

God-breathed in every way—our Holy Bible
Eternal it will stay—His Blessed Word

Chorus:

Praise God for His Blessed Word,
For the greatest story ever heard;

May its truth be held
in ev'ry heart and breast,

and its power be loosed
in ev'ry trial and test—

Blessed Word! (Blessed Word)

Blessed Word! (Blessed Word)

1. Father, thank You, for Your Word!

2. Jesus, etc.

3. Spirit, etc.

Sharper than any sword—our Holy Bible
Truth in its pages stored— His Blessed Word

Given that you receive—our Holy Bible
Life always—just believe! His Blessed Word

We Praise You, God and God-Breathed in Every Way,
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Eastern Association held at 1st Hopkinton

Expect a miracle

by Barbara LaFrance

Expect a miracle bigger than the biggest one—resurrection.

Eastern Association was held the weekend of May 15-17. The First Seventh Day Baptist Church of Hopkinton, Rhode Island, was the host church. This beautiful country church is located on a quiet street off of U.S. Route 3 in the village of Ashaway. It is a peaceful setting, a blessing to all who come there to worship.

Friday evening, May 15, at 6:30, we all came together to worship and praise our God. It was a night of miracles, fellowship, worship, prayer and refreshment. Sabbath morning dawned the beginning of a clear cool day. There was not a cloud in sight. At 10 a.m., Association President Linda Camara stepped forward to give her welcome, and the morning communion service began. Rev. Leon Lawton and Rev. Wendall Stephan were leaders. The meditation was *Remembering*. Rev. Stephan quoted Scripture and spoke of indifference and our call to love. Special music was a violin solo by Tammy Mickel. Following the singing of the hymn, "I Am Thine, O Lord," communion was served. Thus ended the miracle of joining again in the bond of love through remembering and sharing of the Lord's Supper.

The hymn, "The Church's One Foundation," led the way for the sermon entitled, "Two Resurrection Miracles" delivered by Dr. Robert Barr. Dr. Barr shared his faith. "God can do more than we ask. Expect a miracle bigger than the biggest one—resurrection. God is almighty, all loving, can do anything he wants."

Dr. Barr talked about prayer; prayer with words and prayer without words.

He told of Jesus with his disciples. Following a hard day for Jesus and the disciples, they would sleep. Jesus would walk to a solitary place to pray. He also told the story of Lazarus and took us back to the experience through our imaginations. Then he shared in prayer, "Dear Lord, may I know you more clearly, follow you more nearly, love you more dearly."

"The King is Coming," was sung, and a benediction was spoken. Thus ended the morning worship. People exiting from the church were greeted by a beautiful sun-filled day. God had again blessed each heart as only he can do.

The Sabbath noon meal was served by the Ashaway Grange. Children and others came forward to help with the serving.

Dr. Barr led the afternoon workshop. He shared background concerning the theology of the unconscious about which he is currently authoring a book. Dr. Barr also teaches three courses at the University of Connecticut on religion, ethics and philosophy. He has authored two books and over 30 published articles concerning philosophy and religion. He ended with the prayer, "Speak Lord, for thy servant heareth."

There was an evening musical program with Ellsworth and Millie Rand providing the special music.

Sunday morning, there was a 15 minute devotional time of sharing followed by the 149th business session. The meeting adjourned with the singing of the hymn, "To God Be The Glory," written by the late Fanny J. Crosby, blind poet and writer. Lunch was served in the parish house, and delegates prepared for their return trip home.

The Bible verse, "Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit." (Zechariah 4:6) is an excellent way to describe the success of the 149th session of Eastern Association. God's blessings upon each who were a part of it all. **SR**

Oscar C. Godoy ordained

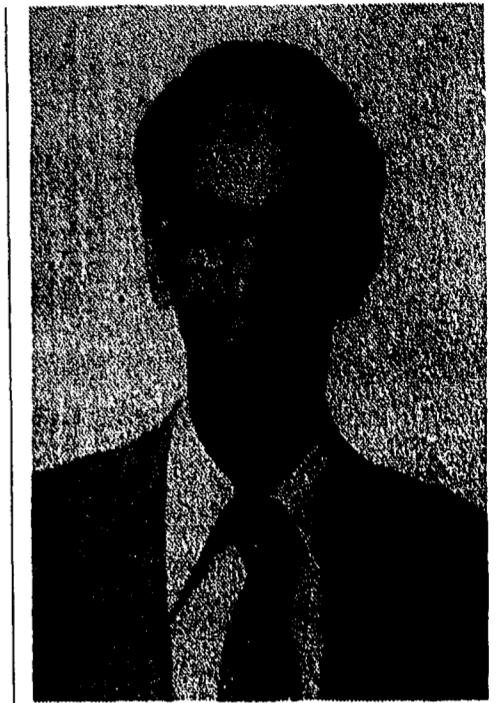
Rev. Oscar C. Godoy, assistant pastor of extension and evangelism at the Los Angeles, California, Seventh Day Baptist Church, was ordained to the gospel ministry at Los Angeles on Sabbath, November 1, 1986.

The Examination Council for Pastor Godoy was held on October 18, during the sessions of the Pacific Coast Association (PCA). Delegates from the Los Angeles church and seven other churches in the PCA, plus the Council on Ministry and the General Conference, were present. Dean J. Paul Green of the Council on Ministry was elected chairman of the special council, and Beverly Davis, Los Angeles church clerk, was elected ordination clerk. Pastor Godoy shared his statement of Christian Experience, beginning with his early life in the Philippines, his conversion and growth as a Christian, his experience as a businessman, and his recent years as he devoted all his time as a personal and home group study evangelist. He has been serving the Lord, with joint cooperation of the Los Angeles Church and the SDB Missionary Society, since February 1985. After answering a number of questions, Pastor Godoy was asked to

leave the room, and the council voted to proceed with ordination.

About 200 attended the ordination service, representing the Los Angeles church and visitors from other Southern California churches, many Filipino friends, and Executive Secretary Dale Thorngate of the General Conference. Worship leader was Rev. Shinsei Hokama of Los Angeles. The ordination sermon was delivered by Riverside, California, pastor Rev. Gabriel Bejjani. Rev. John Peil of Faith Church of San Gabriel (SDB) gave the charge to the candidate, and Executive Secretary Thorngate gave the charge to the church. Nine ordained pastors then participated with the laying on of hands during the prayer of consecration by Rev. Vernon O. Burke of Los Angeles. Senior Pastor of the Los Angeles church, Rev. Duane L. Davis, then gave Rev. Godoy the "Welcome to the Ministry" with a big "Mabuhay" ("Welcome," in Tagalog).

Immediately after pronouncing the benediction for the ordination, Rev. Godoy baptized A. "Jun" Malacaman of Manila. Then a bountiful dinner of Filipino food and a time of fellowship were enjoyed. **SR**



Rev. Oscar C. Godoy

The Christy painting

Cont. from page 2

including the watch fob in his hand, are exhibited in the Smithsonian Museum.

Benjamin Franklin, in the center foreground, is depicted as he appeared at age 82, in the beautiful and expensive blue suit he brought from France. Seated at his side is Alexander Hamilton, full of energy, youthful fire and enthusiasm. On the extreme right sits Robert Morris of Pennsylvania, the "Financier of the Revolution," and behind him wearing spectacles is James Wilson, the distinguished Pennsylvania lawyer and the first association justice of the Supreme Court appointed by Washington. Standing in

his fine red coat, William Jackson of Pennsylvania, secretary of the convention, raises his hand denoting that South Carolina has four delegates who wish to sign. These South Carolina delegates stand with arms raised, while Richard Spaight of North Carolina signs with a pen from the boyhood home of Patrick Henry.

The books on the floor by Franklin are works of Thomas Jefferson, and the open Bible on the table by Morris is from that period. On the wall behind Washington's "Sunrise Chair," mentioned in Franklin writings, are the banners of New Hampshire and

Christy endeavored to portray this important event in our history as if he had actually been present to paint it on that memorable September 17, 1787.

Cont. to page 35

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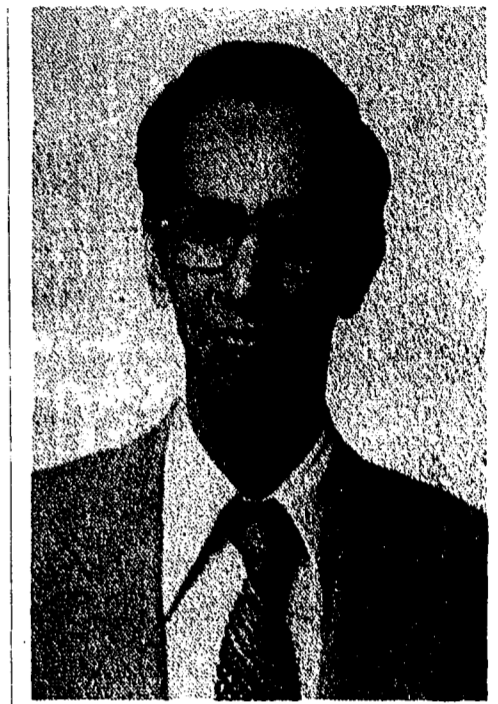
Rev. Oscar C. Godoy, assistant pastor of extension and evangelism at the Los Angeles, California, Seventh Day Baptist Church, was ordained to the gospel ministry at Los Angeles on Sabbath, November 1, 1986.

The Examination Council for Pastor Godoy was held on October 18, during the sessions of the Pacific Coast Association (PCA). Delegates from the Los Angeles church and seven other churches in the PCA, plus the Council on Ministry and the General Conference, were present. Dean J. Paul Green of the Council on Ministry was elected chairman of the special council, and Beverly Davis, Los Angeles church clerk, was elected ordination clerk. Pastor Godoy shared his statement of Christian Experience, beginning with his early life in the Philippines, his conversion and growth as a Christian, his experience as a businessman, and his recent years as he devoted all his time as a personal and home group study evangelist. He has been serving the Lord, with joint cooperation of the Los Angeles Church and the SDB Missionary Society, since February 1985. After answering a number of questions, Pastor Godoy was asked to

leave the room, and the council voted to proceed with ordination.

About 200 attended the ordination service, representing the Los Angeles church and visitors from other Southern California churches, many Filipino friends, and Executive Secretary Dale Thorngate of the General Conference. Worship leader was Rev. Shinsei Hokama of Los Angeles. The ordination sermon was delivered by Riverside, California, pastor Rev. Gabriel Bejjani. Rev. John Peil of Faith Church of San Gabriel (SDB) gave the charge to the candidate, and Executive Secretary Thorngate gave the charge to the church. Nine ordained pastors then participated with the laying on of hands during the prayer of consecration by Rev. Vernon O. Burke of Los Angeles. Senior Pastor of the Los Angeles church, Rev. Duane L. Davis, then gave Rev. Godoy the "Welcome to the Ministry" with a big "Mabuhay" ("Welcome," in Tagalog).

Immediately after pronouncing the benediction for the ordination, Rev. Godoy baptized A. "Jun" Malacaman of Manila. Then a bountiful dinner of Filipino food and a time of fellowship were enjoyed. SR



Rev. Oscar C. Godoy

The Christy painting

Cont. from page 2

including the watch fob in his hand, are exhibited in the Smithsonian Museum.

Benjamin Franklin, in the center foreground, is depicted as he appeared at age 82, in the beautiful and expensive blue suit he brought from France. Seated at his side is Alexander Hamilton, full of energy, youthful fire and enthusiasm. On the extreme right sits Robert Morris of Pennsylvania, the "Financier of the Revolution," and behind him wearing spectacles is James Wilson, the distinguished Pennsylvania lawyer and the first association justice of the Supreme Court appointed by Washington. Standing in

his fine red coat, William Jackson of Pennsylvania, secretary of the convention, raises his hand denoting that South Carolina has four delegates who wish to sign. These South Carolina delegates stand with arms raised, while Richard Spaight of North Carolina signs with a pen from the boyhood home of Patrick Henry.

The books on the floor by Franklin are works of Thomas Jefferson, and the open Bible on the table by Morris is from that period. On the wall behind Washington's "Sunrise Chair," mentioned in Franklin writings, are the banners of New Hampshire and

Christy endeavored to portray this important event in our history as if he had actually been present to paint it on that memorable September 17, 1787.

Cont. to page 35

“It’s unconstitutional!”

The gavel falls and the United States’ Supreme Court rules a law or lower court decision to be “unconstitutional.” Few other actions better sum up the strength of our American form of government.

As we enter this celebration season for the 200th anniversary of our U. S. Constitution, there are a number of federal court cases that should be carefully reviewed by Seventh Day Baptists.

The first is the recent ruling by the high court in the case of Paula Hobbie, a Florida Seventh Day Adventist who was denied unemployment benefits because she refused to work on the Sabbath. (See *Ain’t misbehavin’, The Sabbath Recorder*, June 1987). The State of Florida viewed her stand for the Sabbath as “misconduct.” The Supreme Court, however, in reversing the lower court’s decision, said that, “the State may not force an employee to choose between following the precepts of her religion and forfeiting benefits, ... and abandoning one of the precepts of her religion in order to accept work.” The court said that the State’s refusal to grant unemployment benefits violated the Free Exercise clause of the First

Amendment.

Seventh Day Baptists were well established in America when the Constitution and its First Amendment were written. Freedom of religion and separation of church and state were enormously important to our forefathers. In earlier decades, Seventh Day Baptists had been imprisoned and harassed for not adhering to “Lord’s Day” provisions in Massachusetts and Connecticut. The guarantee of these freedoms in the Constitution must have seemed an answer to prayer. Today, the constitutional principal of separation of church and state has been called into question. More and more “church and state” questions are appearing in our courts.

Recently, Judge Brevard Hand banned 44 textbooks from Mobile, Alabama, schools because they taught the *religion* of secular humanism. The case has been stayed by a higher court and will, undoubtedly, continue through the judicial system. While the case is complex, Dr. Robert L. Maddox of Americans United for Separation of Church and State has summed up what is a very present danger with the following statement.

“By ruling that if the textbooks did not teach Christian fundamentalism, they must be teaching secular humanism instead, the judge implied that government *could not* be neutral.” “Most disturbing to me,” Maddox continued, “Judge Hand’s ruling is an extension of his previously asserted view that the Bill of Rights *does not apply* to the government of the State of Alabama...”

Frequently, members of the Christian community find the Constitution’s protection of religious rights to be frustrating. Out of that frustration, some Christians are attempting to mold governmental activities into what they view as being “more Christian.” The end result of these well-meaning efforts

Editor’s note:

It has been my pleasure to be the editor of The Sabbath Recorder for over five years. During that time, I have felt that editorials and letters to the editor (which must go hand-in-hand) would be a more detrimental than a positive force in the overall purpose of the magazine. Lately, however, I have been convinced by my editorial colleagues and by fellow Seventh Day Baptists that the publication needs both an editor’s voice and reader reaction.

Though an editorial may not be included in each month’s issue, letters to the editor will be included whenever they are appropriate. Please note the policy statement on page 31.

is an erosion of the Constitution’s protection of those who believe “differently” (or choose not to believe at all).

It is my hope that Seventh Day Baptists can stand firmly against any softening of the wall of separation between church and state. It is what we came to America for in the first place, and we must never take for granted the religious freedoms that our forefathers longed for. Let us celebrate 200 years of the Constitution’s protection of our right to worship as we see fit. The Constitution is, after all, our government’s protection of our right to keep the Sabbath.

Policy on letters to the editor

The Sabbath Recorder welcomes letters to the editor. Although not all correspondence can be published, reader’s opinions are appreciated. The editorial staff reserves the right to edit all letters for brevity and clarity. Only signed letters can be printed.

The Sabbath Recorder statement of purpose:

The Sabbath Recorder is an instrument for communication among Seventh Day Baptists as individuals, churches, and organizations. It is also an outreach tool intended to share the Christian gospel and to acquaint others with the denomination. As an expression of Seventh Day Baptist thinking and activities, *The Sabbath Recorder* provides inspiration, information about Seventh Day Baptists, an historic perspective, and a realistic, positive image of the denomination.

Obituaries

Kagarise.—Robert W. Kagarise, 62, of New Enterprise, Pennsylvania, died unexpectedly, on March 15, 1987, at his home following a year’s illness.

Kagarise was a retired truck driver for Interstate Motor Freight.

A funeral service was held at the Bell Seventh Day Baptist Church, New Enterprise, by the Rev. Kent L. Martin. Burial was in the New Salemville Cemetery, New Enterprise.

He was born on January 27, 1925, in Huntingdon County, a son of Raymond and Emma (Baughman) Kagarise. He married Edna L. Leach on September 18, 1948, at Roaring Spring, Pennsylvania.

Kagarise was a member of the Bell Seventh Day Baptist Church. He also was an Army veteran of World War II. He will always be remembered for his willingness to provide transportation and other assistance to Old Order Mennonites in need.

Surviving are his wife, along with seven children: Debbie K. and Robert L., both of New Enterprise; Randy L. of East Freedom, Pennsylvania; Doreen Peterson of Warsaw, Ohio; Denise Baker of Greenville, Mercer County, Pennsylvania, and Mike and Jeff, both at home.

He is also survived by nine grandchildren and one brother, William Miller of Saxton, Pennsylvania.

Batson.—Alberta Davis Batson of Parkersburg, West Virginia, died on April 5, 1987, in Parkersburg, at the age of 88. She was born on March 21, 1899, in Salem, West Virginia, the daughter of M. Wardner and Ivie (Van Horn) Davis.

She was a graduate of Salem College. On August 13, 1930, she married Eldred H. Batson, who survives. She was a faithful member of the Salem Seventh Day Baptist Church.

Batson was the first woman to serve on the Commission of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference. She and her husband attended the annual sessions for General Conference for 53 consecutive conferences before his stroke incapacitated him. She was twice president of the West Virginia Business and Professional Women’s Club.

She was preceded in death by two infant children, Robert and Barbara. She is survived by her husband and a number of nephew and nieces.

Memorial services were conducted by her pastor and nephew, S. Kenneth Davis, at the Salem Seventh Day Baptist

Church on April 9, with interment the following day in the Lost Creek, West Virginia, Seventh Day Baptist Church cemetery between the graves of her parents and her children. SKD

Rose.—Elizabeth Goodwin McFall Rose of Holly Hill, Florida, died on April 13, 1987, at age 83 in Daytona Beach, Florida.

Elizabeth, daughter of John and Nellie Antrim, was born in Armay, County Antrim, Northern Ireland. She immigrated to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, as a young girl and was employed as a secretary for Amer Manufacturing Company. Elizabeth moved to Florida in the 1970’s, where she joined the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Daytona Beach.

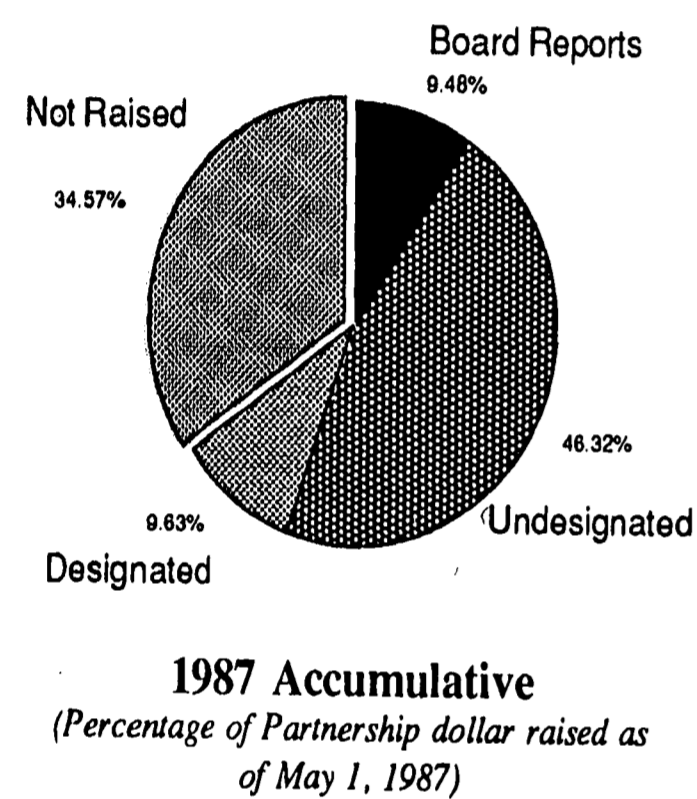
Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Kenneth Van Horn on April 19, 1987, in the Daytona Beach Seventh Day Baptist Church. KVH

Partnership in Ministry

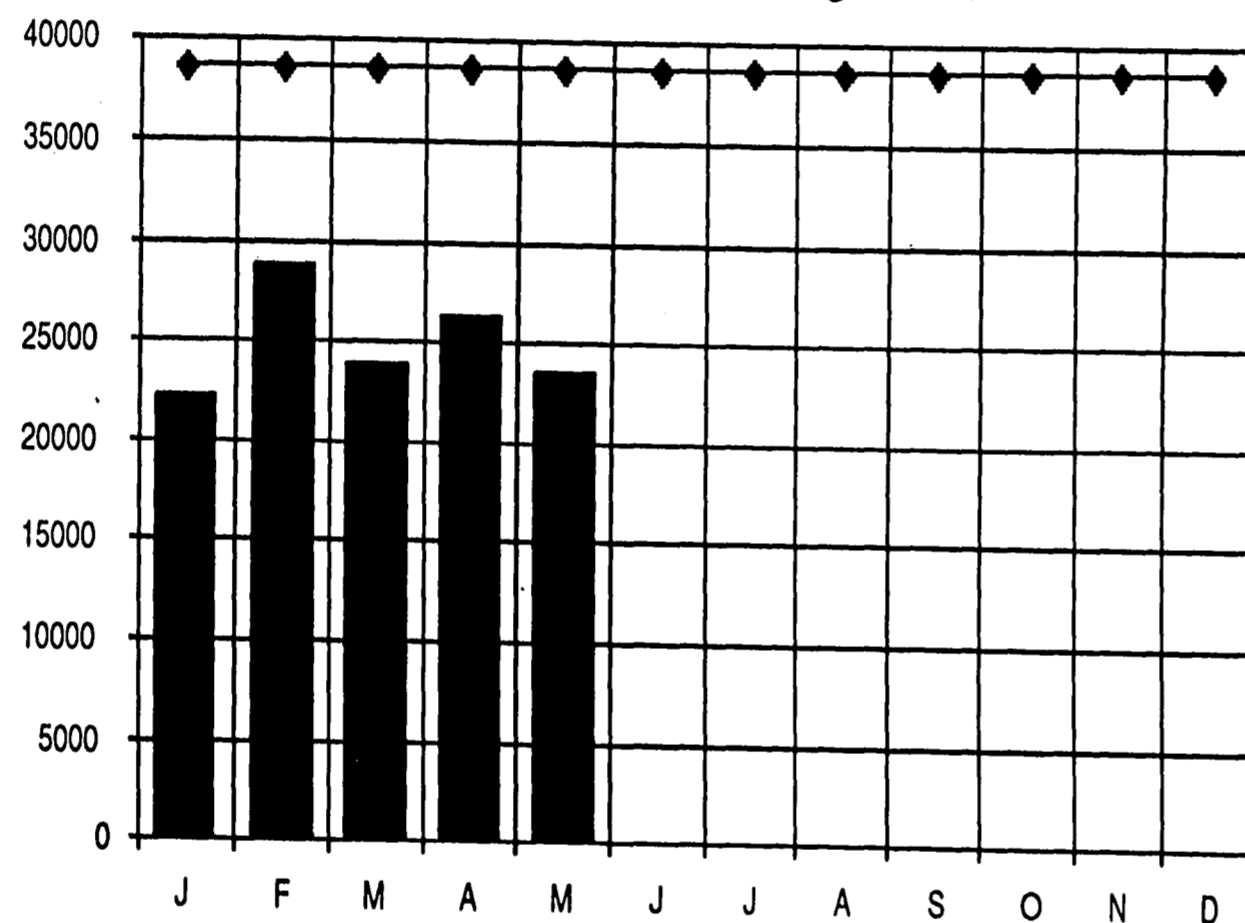
Our World Mission budget update

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."



Partnership in Ministry—Actual VS Budget
Needed each month to raise budget: \$38,762



Count me in...
on the partnership.

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

- 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

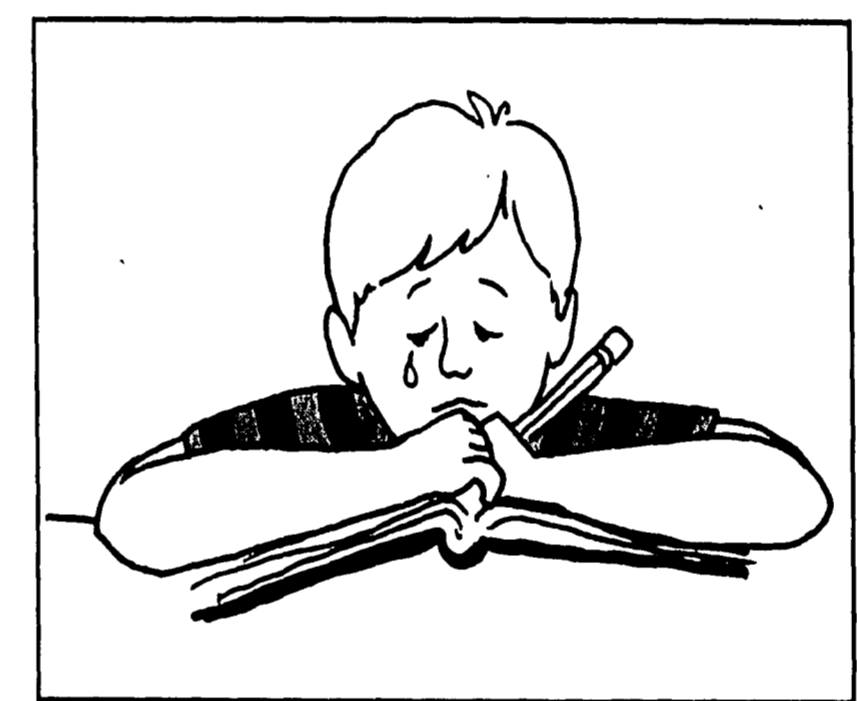
Please make checks payable to Our World Mission

Partnership in Ministry

The Children's Page

If there were no Sabbath... from the Junior Nurture Sabbath School Series, available in the fall

Janet's dad got home from work Friday at six p.m. He looked very tired. As he passed through the kitchen, he tossed his coat down on a chair and trudged into the living room to collapse into a chair. "I'm bushed!" he said as his wife brought him a can of pop. "This working seven days a week is killing me. I don't know how much longer I can go on. I never get a break."



Toby sat at his desk in his bedroom staring at his math book. A tear splattered down onto the next problem. He had had math homework every night for the last 15 days. Tomorrow was Saturday and he knew the teacher would assign more work. Then would come Sunday and more school. "Who ever planned a world like this?" Toby thought. "We go to school seven days a week. It's always the same, day after day. This is crazy!"

Why *did* God plan a seven day week? Why is there a rest day at the end? Write your answers on the lines.

THINK!



1. I think there is a seven day week because

2. God planned a Sabbath rest because

Accessions

Atlanta, Georgia
William Shobe, Pastor

Joined after Testimony
Sharron Jacobs

Denver, Colorado
John D. Bevis, Pastor

Joined by Letter
Robert R. White
Elsie M. White

Nortonville, Kansas
Harold King, Pastor

Joined after Baptism
Robert Wheeler
Russell Wheeler

Plainfield, New Jersey
Joe A. Samuels, Pastor

Joined after Baptism
Richard Gallop
Mary Herman

Joined after Testimony
Marlene Campbell
Hortense Gallop

San Diego, California

Joined after Baptism
David Hashit

Joined by Letter
Karen Hashit

Upper East Tennessee, Tennessee
Bobby Wright, Pastor

Joined after Testimony
Joe Shannon
Linda Shannon
Eddy Creasy
Cheryl Creasy
Greg Bowman

POST- CONFERENCE RETREAT

For: Theological & pastoral
students
Pastors and families

Where: Nortonville, Kansas

When: August 16-20, 1987
(Right after General
Conference)

Cost: \$25

Program: Relaxed sessions
Bible study
Home & family life of the
pastor
Pastors' concerns

Staff: Dean Paul Green, Director
Edgar & Xenia Lee Wheeler
Others to be announced

Employment Notice Business Manager Seventh Day Baptist General Conference

Duties include: Management of accounting and bookkeeping, printing and duplicating, payroll and benefit administration, building maintenance, and denominational treasurer functions, including computerized accounting and fund distribution system.

Salary range: \$18,000-\$21,000, depending upon education and experience, plus benefits package.

For more information or detailed job description, please contact:

Executive Secretary Dale D. Thorngate
PO Box 1678
Janesville, WI 53547
Telephone: (608) 752-5055
Send resume to the above address, ATTN: Dale D. Thorngate.

The Christy painting

Cont. from page 29

Maryland regiments, along with the original "Stars and Stripes." The drum shown on the wall is now in the Smithsonian Museum. Behind Hamilton, William Livingston of New Jersey leans in front of James McHenry of Maryland, the namesake of Fort McHenry, made famous by Francis Scott Key's "Star Spangled Banner." Daniel Carroll of Maryland, one of the first commissioners of the District of Columbia appointed by President Washington, stands on the extreme left holding the lapel of his coat.

Facts on deputies (delegates) to United States Constitutional Convention

May-September 1787

- 74 men were appointed by state legislatures or governors.
- 55 attended.
- 19 declined to attend (Rhode Island not represented).
- 14 left before convention closed.
- 39 signed final draft (including one absentee's added signature).
- 3 refused to sign.

of the 55 who attended:

- 21 were 40 or younger (Dayton youngest, 26).
- 14 were 50 or older (Franklin oldest, 81).
- 43 was average age.
- 47 were colonial natives.
- 31 had attended college (Princeton, 9; Yale, 5; William and Mary, 5; Harvard, 3; King's College [Columbia], 3).
- 21 had seen military service.
- 18 had been officers in the Continental Army.
- 10 were members of the Society of the Cincinnati.
- 1 had been a British Army officer before the Revolution.
- 34 had studied law.

- 13 were in business or commerce.
- 10 were planters.
- 3 were physicians.
- 2 had been religious ministers.
- 46 had been members of colonial/state legislatures.
- 3 attended the Stamp Act Congress.
- 10 attended state constitutional conventions.
- 42 were delegates to the Continental Congress.
- 3 had been executive officers of the Congress.
- 8 signed the Declaration of Independence.
- 6 signed the Articles of Confederation.
- 7 attended the Annapolis Convention.
- 7 had been governors.
- 1 had been a minister abroad.

Copy of Christy painting and informational fact sheet provided by the Commission on the Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution. Used by permission.

Sources:

Sol Bloom. *History of the Formation of the Union Under the Constitution*, Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, Sesquicentennial Commission, 1941.

Winton V. Solberg, Ed. *The Federal Convention and the Formation of the Union of the American States*, Indianapolis: Bobbs-Merrill, 1958.

He (Christy)... visited Independence Hall in Philadelphia on September 17th at the precise time of day the signing took place. He observed just how the light came into the room from the Walnut Street windows. ...he copied the original articles. He made every effort to place the delegates as they sat at the final meeting.

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Madison, WI 53706

The Seventh Day Baptist

August 1987

Sabbath Recorder

Verdugo Canyon
U.S.S. ...
home ...
Seventh Day Baptists in
Finland

The Sabbath keeper's 30
year pilgrimage

Last of the remnant

