

The Sabbath Recorder (ISSN 0036-214X)(USPS 474460)
3120 Kennedy Road
PO Box 1678
Janesville, WI 53547-1678

Second class postage paid at Sun Prairie, WI 53590

Nature Speaks

by John Constantine Mastor

God's creation
shouts to all mankind.

A picturesque sunset,
a storm tossed beach...
snow capped mountains
and boundless starry galaxies.

The mystery of creation
eludes my finite mind.

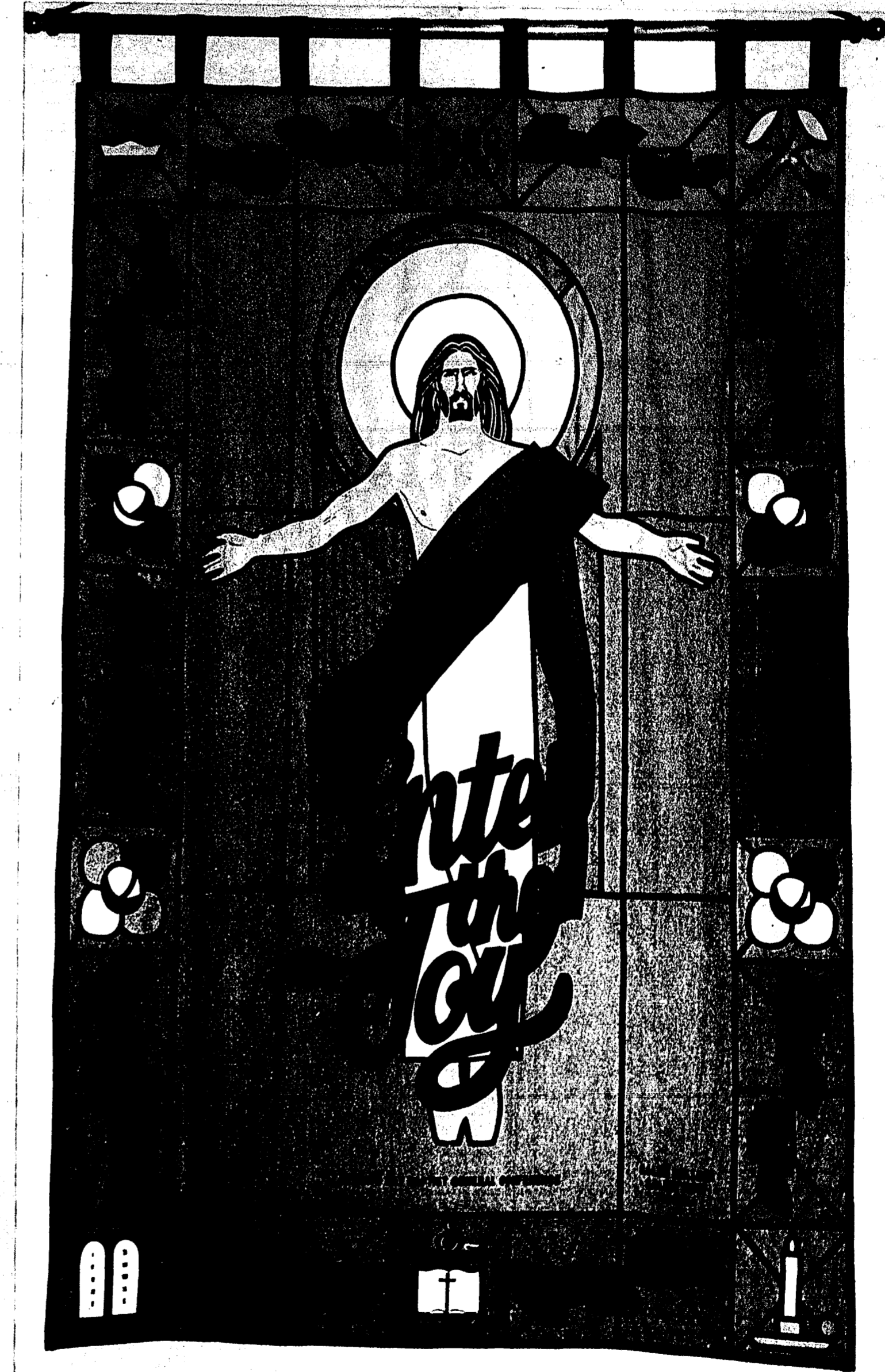
Oh, enlightened Man, who
are you to say there is no God?

Acquisitions Section
816 State St
Madison, WI 53706

The Seventh Day Baptist

September 1988

Sabbath Recorder



Conference 1988...

Salem College, Salem West Virginia



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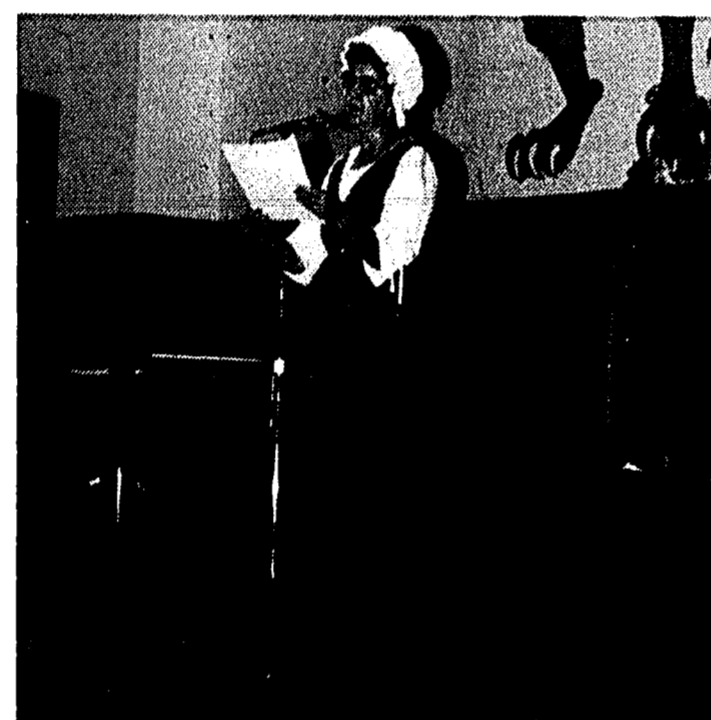
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Leanne Lippincott
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the Bible as the inspired word of God and a record of God's will for man. We use the Bible as our authority both for our faith and our daily conduct.
We believe in freedom of thought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

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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

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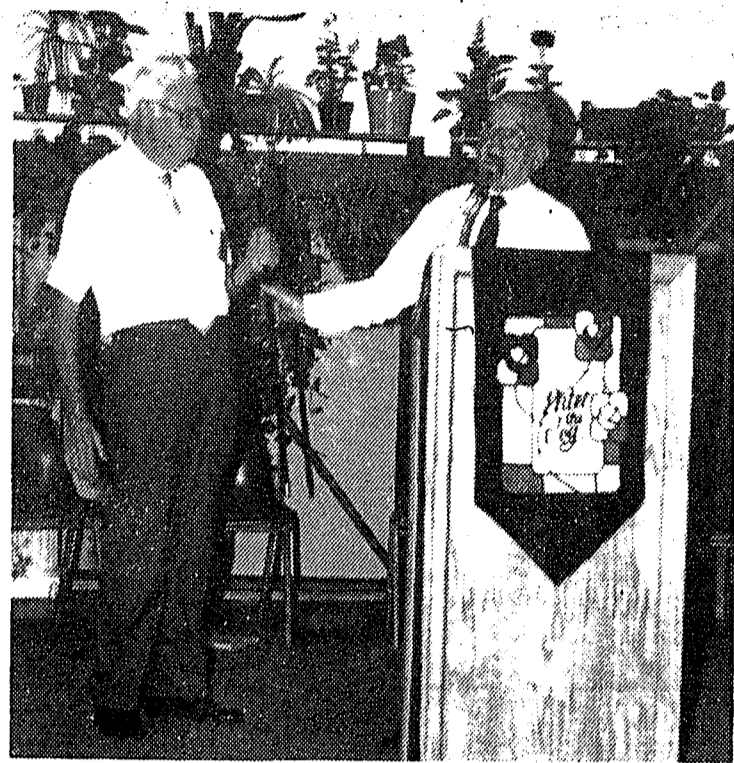
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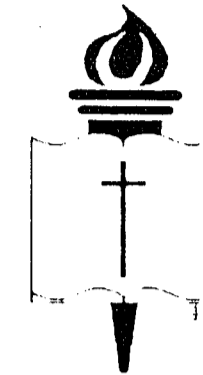


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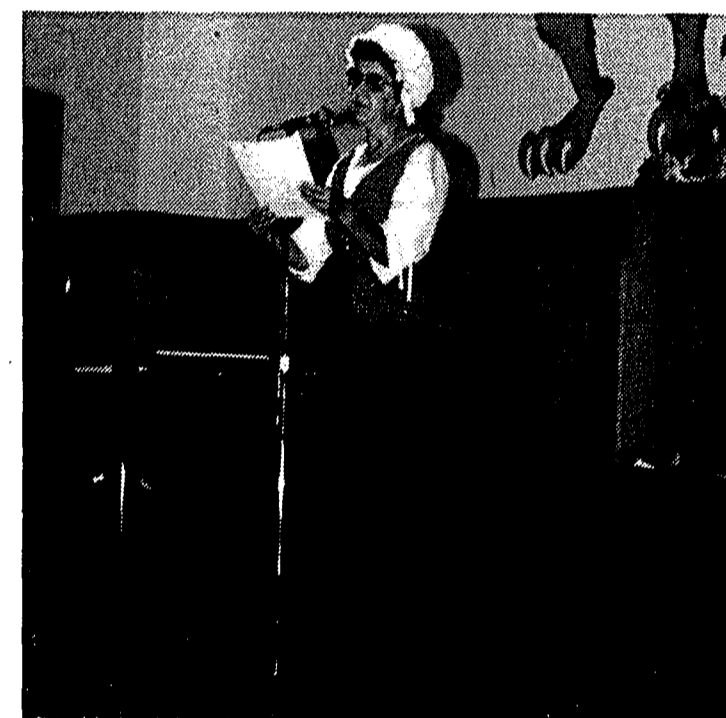
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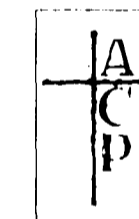
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1988 conference highlights

by Janet Thorngate

176th Annual Session, Salem College,
Salem, West Virginia
August 7-13, 1988, Herbert E. Saunders,
President

Enter the joy!

Many delegates interviewed listed the president's opening address as the highlight of the week, setting the tone, extending the invitation: Enter the joy of Salvation, of Praise, of Simplicity, of Loving, of Sharing, of Discipleship, of Sabbath Celebration! (Matthew 25:21) As each speaker and worship leader took their place beneath the colorful banner (over 300 hours of handwork by Jeanie Smith), delegates and visitors alike rose to the challenge.

Who was there?

Registered—548
(as of Thursday noon)
Expected by Sabbath: 650
Delegates—358
Churches represented—58
Ministers & pastors—68
Youth & Children's Conf.—103
Pre-Cons—70:
45 youth, 25 young adults
Sabbath worship: approx. 800
Last year's conference had 450
registered,
321 delegates from 55 churches.

Four new churches welcomed into the conference:

Kirkwood, Missouri; Lake Elsinore, California; Charleston, South Carolina; Santa Barbara, California.

"A gift of God to be used for ministry"

General Council announced the receipt of \$408,987 given to the General Conference by the estate of Sue McMillan of Bel Air, California. It was an unrestricted gift. Conference approved the following formula for its use: \$14,900 to repay line of credit loan from Memorial Fund; \$39,000 as a gift to the Pastors' Retirement Offering Project (PROP); \$39,500 in a flexible spending account to supplement Denominational Budget receipts in 1989; \$75,000 to become an income-bearing investment

account, the income to go to General Conference Administrative Budget; and the balance (over \$200,000 plus interest) to be held by the Memorial Board in a flexible spending account, the principal and interest for new ministries proposed by the Coordinating Leadership Team and approved by the General Council.

Medema concert and workshop well received

Young and old, many delegates poled on Friday morning named Tuesday night's concert by Ken Medema (internationally known blind singer-pianist, composer and music therapist) as the highlight of the week. Many guests from the surrounding community joined conference attendees, responding spontaneously to his infectious rhythms and powerful dramatic renditions of such experiences as Moses' argument with God and Christ's healing of the man possessed. He dramatized the switched-around nature of Christian values in "Flying Upside Down" and then delighted the audience with an encore detailing the contrast between rumors heard about SDBs—and the real thing. Those attending his choral ministry workshop, however, declared it even better: "an experience in feeling the music. He can't 'read' it, so

must 'feel' it, and he taught us to feel it, too."

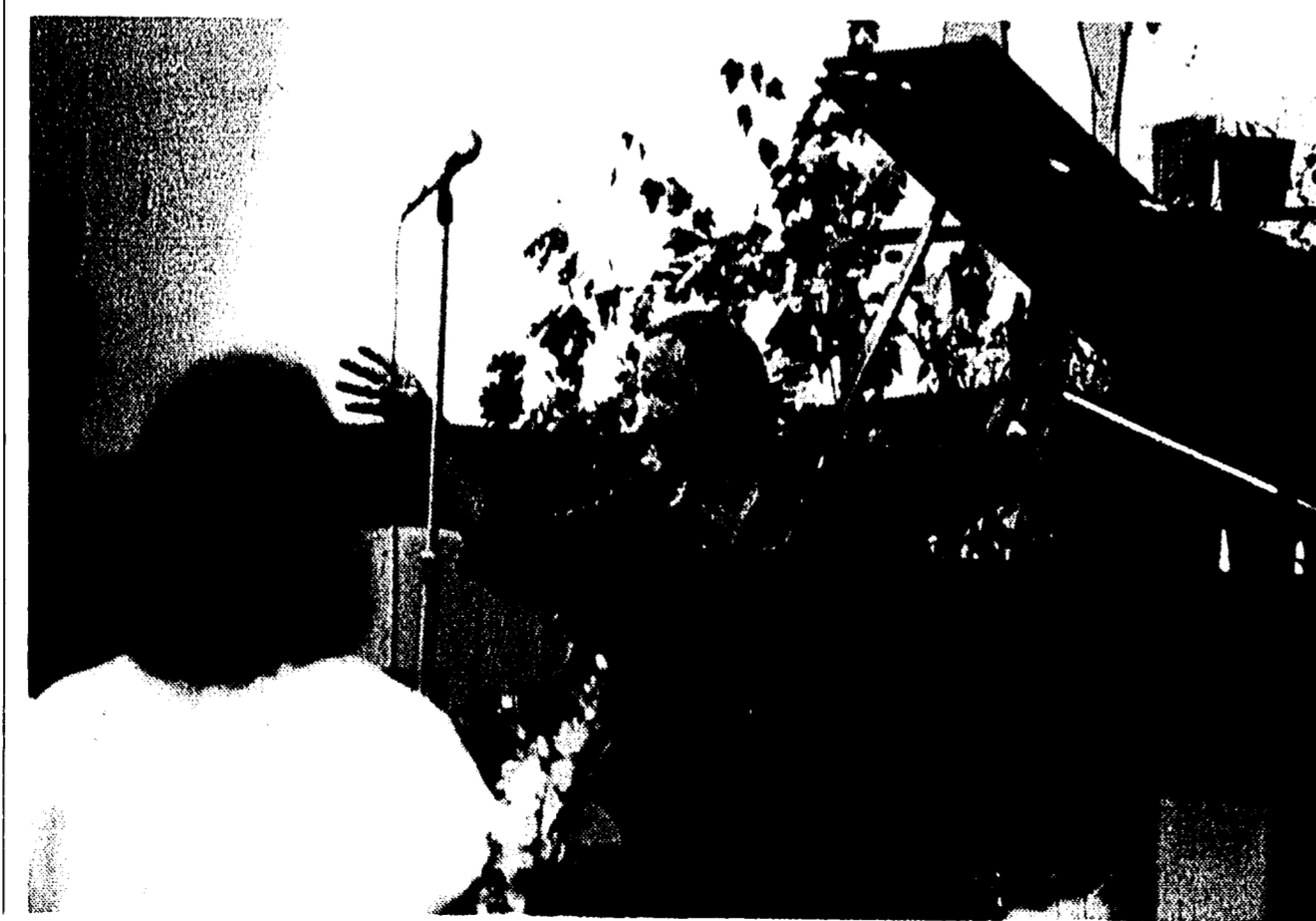
New opportunities for Seventh Day Baptists

A second most frequently named highlight was the excitement of learning about the abundance of new contacts discovering our churches; new pastors, emerging through the T.I.M.E. program particularly; new groups meeting; new churches forming; and new Seventh Day Baptists. Work in the National Missions Interest Committee, conference presentations of the Missionary Board and Council on Ministry, and workshops featuring the work of both national and international ministries were named as sources of this excitement. Mark Green inspired many with his dynamic testimony of his personal search for direction, his commitment to Seventh Day Baptists, and his call to missions. The stimulating presentations of Rev. Thomas McElwain, missionary to Finland who was ordained on Friday afternoon of conference week, was equally exciting to others.

Sabbath Nurture Series ready!

On display during conference: the colorful and attractive new Junior Nurture Series, one quarter's lessons (13 weeks),

Ken Medema leading choral conductors' workshop



including Student Book, Teacher's Guide and Sabbath Afternoon take-home paper. Order this, and previously published Primary and Senior High series, from the SDB Center, P.O. Box 1678, Janesville, WI 53547. (Junior High and Pre-School series are now in production. Conference encouraged the Board of Christian Education to continue to develop new series of such Sabbath School materials.)

Leaders elected:

Rev. Joseph Samuels of Plainfield, New Jersey, elected to the General Council and named President-Elect for 1990 Conference in Arkadelphia, Arkansas
Ralph Mackintosh of Los Angeles, California, elected to General Council
A new member to these major agencies:
Charlotte Chroniger of New Auburn, Wisconsin, to Council on Ministry
Douglas Rausch of Washington, D.C., to Committee on Support & Retirement
Norma Rudert of White Cloud, Michigan, to Tract & Communication Council
Richard Shepard of Houston, Texas, to the Memorial Fund Trustees

Diversity of thought illustrated in social concerns

A highlight of the conference week,

listed by most involved on the Christian Social Action Interest Committee, was the awareness of the wide diversity of thought among Seventh Day Baptists on almost any issue and yet the openness and unity of purpose which prevailed in the committee and, subsequently, on the floor of conference. Rather than adopt a new statement on peace and war, conference voted to reaffirm the content and intentions of previously voted peace resolutions of 1974, 1979, 1981 and 1982.

Conference also voted to urge SDBs not to attend the movie "The Last Temptation of Christ," to express their displeasure to its producer, Universal Studios; and to boycott Universal Studio products.

Awards and recognitions

David and Bettie Pearsonmissionaries to Malawi, Central Africa, since 1954
D. Scott Smithnearly seven years as editor of *The Sabbath Recorder* and as executive for the Tract and Communication Council
Harmon Dickinson30 years as a Historical Society trustee/director and their treasurer
Harmon DickinsonRecipient of the Gold Headed Cane historical award
Herbert E. Saundershonorary

Dale Thorngate, executive secretary, at Investment Forum



Doctor of Divinity Degree from Salem College
Stephan F. Saunders accredited as a Seventh Day Baptist Minister
Audrey FullerRecipient of the Robe of Achievement
Linda HaysRecipient of the Robe of Achievement
Margaret AllenRecipient of the Sabbath School Teacher of the Year Award

Agencies reviewing use of invested funds

Representatives from the various denominational agencies held two meetings during conference week to discuss the handling and use of invested funds for Seventh Day Baptist ministry. Discussion is to be continued in similar subsequent forums, but informal reports of those involved were positive and encouraging for more innovative and cooperative efforts in use of available resources. The meetings grew out of an invitation of the Memorial Board in response to recommendations of General Council resulting from the work of the Financial Task Force appointed two years ago.

1989 budget projects growth in "Year of Ministry"

Conference adopted a budget of \$749,433. Of that, \$399,601 is to come from current giving, a 5 per cent increase over the current budget. Dynamic budget increases are in the executive secretary's travel for church contacts, the design and writing of a Pre-School Nurture Packet to complete the Sabbath Nurture Series, new church development, publication of an SDB Pastor's Guide, support of four additional seminary students, and increased cost of the SCSC (Summer Christian Service Corps) program.

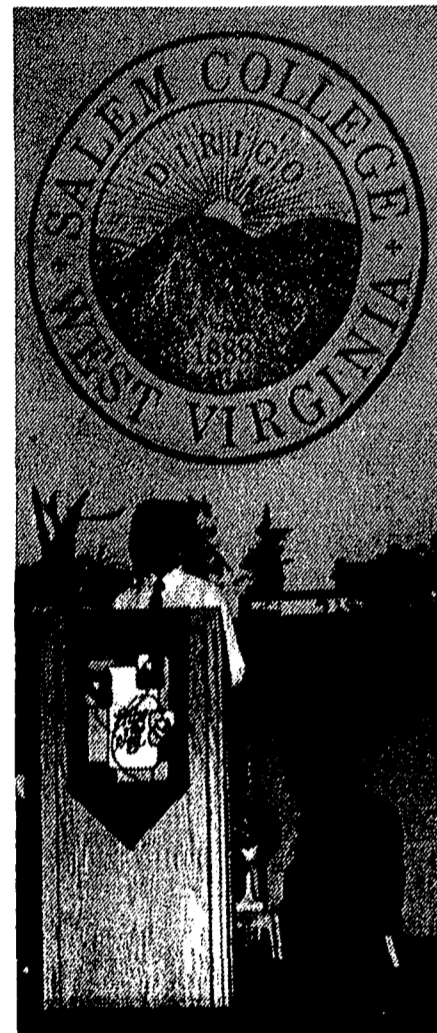
Next year in
Portland, Oregon!
August 6-12, 1989
Luan Ellis, President
Share the Joy!

(Psalm 9:1-2)
SR

Enter the joy of discipleship

Friday night service—Conference 1988
Glen W. Warner, speaker

Luke 5:1-11 & 1 Peter



Glen Warner

"Jesus is our guide. He gave us the assurance that the Spirit will comfort and illumine. It can be no casual visitant or a chance acquaintance. The Spirit is a constant companion and a continued spiritual creation within us. For Jesus knew the dangers of idolatry and that it was expedient that he go away that he might come again in spirit. But, said he, 'I will not leave you, I will *not* leave you.' His eternity was not broken, and he is the spirit within us of the Sabbath of God.

"The world needs something more than culture and improved political machinery. The world needs salvation. It needs redemption. It needs recreation of the inner man." —A. H. Lewis

Such is the priceless experience of the Sabbath begun here tonight, in which we meet the Savior and enter the joy of his discipleship.

I recently read a fascinating story by a marine biologist who was explaining that sharks kept in a small aquarium will grow only as large as their environment. A shark can be fully mature when it is only six inches long, but put the same animal into the ocean and it can grow to its ordained size of six to 12 feet—or even longer.

As I have thought about that, I have thought about how many little six-inch Christians I have seen paddling about in the small puddles of life. There is a great difference in what makes growth happen, and a lot of it has to do with this whole sense of discipleship and the joy that is a part of it.

What makes the difference? The difference is between living in the adventure mode and living in the survival mode.

I have a friend named Robin, who is an old Baptist preacher from years back.

He tells the story of being out on a choppy lake with his father in a light-weight aluminum boat. His father was back by the motor, steering the tiller. Robin was sitting on the bottom of the boat, in the center, clutching at the sides as his father was roaring across the lake. Robin said, "I was in the survival mode; my father was in the adventure mode." In other words, some of us feed the deficiency needs of life, and others try to feed the growth needs of life.

The deficiency needs are the type that keep us from growing—such as the need for approval in everything, or the inability to accept criticism as a source of learning. Or perhaps it is the need to be right all the time or to control everything.

If we minister to those needs, we will become defensive, self-protective people, accumulating security and hiding it under the mattress of our minds. Deficiency needs cause us to want low risk and high safety; that is, a survival mode.

But the growth needs, on the other hand, are a great contrast. This is the need to have new experiences, new relationships, taking risks for future good; the need to give, to love, to make sacrifices, to learn new things, to acquire new skills. And to these people, security is meant to be spent and then replaced, not hoarded. These are the folks who are able to trust and stimulate trust in others. This is the adventure mode.

I asked Ken Medema the other day for his definition of discipleship. He thought and then he said, "Whatever else it is, it cannot be true discipleship if it is apologetic; or if it comes from guilt, or if it is only an obligation. True discipleship comes from a sense of gratitude to God—true thanksgiving for what he has done for us. Then it becomes loving service done for all the joy of it."

David Watson, in his excellent book of a generation ago called "Discipleship," reminds us that Jesus promised his disciples three things.

First, he said his disciples would be

absurdly happy. Second, he said they will be completely fearless. And third, he said they will be in constant trouble.

That is a fair estimation of the New Testament Church. Almost everywhere in the biblical witness, we find the paradoxical theme, "Joy and woe are woven fine, a clothing for the soul divine." While Jesus meets the deepest needs of our lives—and while there is joy in discipleship—there is also the *cost* of discipleship. We remember that Jesus, for the joy that was set before him, endured the cross. By despising the shame, and by this obedience, his name is set above every other name. Such is the joy of discipleship. As the master was, so shall the disciple be.

And so we have heard these great words of Peter: "Wherefore, let them that suffer according to the will of God, commit the keeping of their souls to him in well-doing, as unto a faithful creator." And again, the very familiar words he wrote, "But sanctify the Lord in your heart and be ready to always give an answer to everyone that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you, with meekness and with fear."

This matter of being instantly ready, in season and out of season, is a very important part of being faithful disciples of Jesus Christ; ready at any time to give an answer.

We have all had the experience, I am sure, of having left a conversation or meeting with someone and thinking, "I wish I had thought to say something to that person." Or perhaps we go home from great meetings, like these at conference, and we regret that we did not have a chance to see or to visit with others we had been looking forward to meeting.

This is one of those Scriptures you can read about in the commentaries, use to write your own paraphrase, or even preach from. But until it is a part of your own experience, I do not think it has all the meaning it can possibly have.

Some months ago, I was traveling in the West. It was a Tuesday; one of those days when you have gone through three

time zones by 3 in the afternoon. Although you live in the Eastern time zone, you are living at that moment in the Pacific time zone. And your body is saying, "What are we doing here? You're supposed to be resting now."

That was the way I was feeling, sitting in this airport waiting area. I happened to be reading my Scriptures, since I have opportunity to preach about every week where I am living now.

As I sat there reading the Bible—in this place that was empty of everyone except myself—a couple of people came in. They walked around and then walked up to the ticket counter. Eventually, they came over to where I was sitting and sat down in front of me, three feet or so away. I glanced up, and then I went back to reading. It was one of those experiences when you think, "I've seen that person somewhere." So, I looked up again and then back at the Scriptures.

I looked up a third time—at this young woman who was sitting there with this very large man—and she was smiling at me. It was a dazzling smile. It is hard to describe the smile, because it was so great. And I thought, "She certainly looks familiar."

Just then, a couple of youngsters came running up to her and said, "Miss White, Miss White, can we have your autograph?" And so, Vanna White signed her autograph.

The youngsters went away, and Vanna White looked at me again and glanced at the Bible I was holding in my hands.

While Jesus meets the deepest needs of our lives—and while there is joy in discipleship—there is also the cost of discipleship.

As we read of Peter's personal experiences, we begin to see the tremendous hope and the tremendous power that can be brought into anyone's life when they have the disciple's passion to learn a new and a better way.

What do you say?

So I said, "How do you do, Miss White. Are you going to Los Angeles?" And she said, "Yes, I am. Where are you going?" And I couldn't remember where I was going! The word "dumbfounded" took on new meaning. Nor could I remember my name. Then, in a few moments, the crowds arrived, and the opportunity to talk about this book—the Bible—was gone.

I thought a lot about that experience. As I read the Scriptures now—and as I read this one about being "instant in season and out of season"—I remember that experience and so many, many others; times when we all have the opportunity to speak a good word for Jesus Christ.

In this letter of First Peter—this great letter of hope—we see many direct words from Jesus, seen through the personality, faith and spirit of Peter; and, we may assume, also through the eyes of Peter, who is described as an unlearned and ignorant man. (It seems the scribe may have been Silas.)

The journey—from the rough fisherman we read of in the Gospel of Luke, to the apostolic writer—was a long and difficult one: leaving his nets and his boats to join the traveling group of other disciples; venturing farther than the others with Jesus; trying to walk on the water to meet the Lord; seeing the transfiguration; making the great confession; claiming absolute loyalty and then severing the servant's ear; and, worst of all, denying Jesus three times with an oath and then weeping bitterly at the look of Jesus.

Peter ran away; but then, later, he ran to the open tomb. Then came the come-

back: three vows to love Christ and then preaching him fearlessly in the face of prison and death; opening the Church to the gentiles when he saw the undeniable work of the Spirit in Cornelius; and then sealing his apostleship, according to tradition, by a martyr's death—crucified, as was his Lord. Peter was a person of great contrasts.

One asks the question, "What kind of disciplines could take this visceral kind of person and turn him into a rock-like apostle? What kind of disciplines could take the conflicting impulses and bring this man to the point, near the end of his ministry, where he is able to write things like, "Therefore, prepare your minds for action. Be self-controlled. Set your hope fully on the grace to be given you when Jesus Christ is revealed. As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance, but just as he who called you is holy, be holy in all you do."

And as we read of Peter's personal experiences, we begin to see the tremendous hope and the tremendous power that can be brought into anyone's life when one has the disciple's passion to learn a new and a better way.

Here is Peter's sequence of disciplines, as we have read about them in this passage tonight: He mentions—first off—to be sober, take thought; that is, not to worry. There is quite a difference.

We are familiar with these times—they have come to all of us. Tonight may be one of those times when the ordinary concerns and problems of life are suspended. Somehow, the awareness of eternity breaks into our minds and hearts. We suddenly understand the importance of decision and realize that we cannot procrastinate forever in making a commitment to Christ. These are life-changing moments, when we truly face the question about what is going to happen to us next. "Be sober," Peter said. "Take thought."

The second discipline (and for the purposes tonight, the main one) is the discipline to watch and pray.

The words of Jesus are so clear: "I tell you the truth. Anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these because I am going to the Father. And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. You may ask me for anything, in my name, and I will do it." Or again, the wonderful passage, "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be open to you."

When we look at the matter of personal growth and personal discipleship—and when we look at the matter of church growth and church expansion—all in the adventure mode, have we asked? Have we sought? Have we been persistently knocking and knocking? For the Lord himself says, "For everyone who asks, receives; he who seeks, finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened." In the adventure mode—living in the risk, there's no turning back and the power is provided in the extremities of life.

Then Peter mentions a third discipline: "Have a strong love for each other," he says, "for it covers a multitude of sins."

When Peter says this, I listen. Especially when our understanding of Peter is based on him being a very competitive—and, we think, maybe *combative*—type of individual. He was a commercial fisherman who knew you can only count what you catch. His first real experience with the Lord was when the Lord said, "Throw your nets down on this side, and I will show you the power of God." Peter became a believer. "Have a strong love for each other," he said, "for it covers a multitude of sins."

Many of us live in a very competitive world, and we see so many, many things that are accomplished through guilt and intimidation. But in the church of Jesus Christ, accomplishments are made through love, joy and growth, and through the shared discipleship of which we speak this night.

The fourth discipline Peter mentions

is to be hospitable without grumbling. I had always sort of passed over this, thinking that it meant inviting people home for dinner, or perhaps inviting them to stay overnight. But I think it has a much broader meaning than this. In the adventure mode, this means living the gospel at home. It means realizing that some people have the gift of hospitality, in a traditional sense, and some do not. Thirdly, I think it means realizing that hospitality can take many forms.

Pastor Duane Davis, who is much on our minds, once quoted these lines: "He couldn't speak before a crowd, he couldn't teach a class, but when he came to Sabbath School, he brought the folks in mass. He couldn't sing to save his life; in public, he couldn't pray. But always, his jalousy was just crammed on each Lord's Day. And although he couldn't sing, nor teach, nor lead in prayer, he listened well, he had a smile and he was always there. And through all the others he had brought, who lived both near and far, God's work prospered, for this man had a consecrated car."

Hospitality can take many forms, and we all are able to do something in that department.

The fifth and last discipline that Peter mentions is, "Whatever gift you have received, you must use it to serve others." This is grace in its many various forms. Peter then divides this discipline into two categories: First, if you speak, speak the wisdom of God in relationships; and secondly, if you serve, then serve in the strength that God provides. SR

When we look at the matter of personal growth and personal discipleship—and when we look at the matter of church growth and church expansion—all in the adventure mode, have we asked? Have we sought?

Share
The
Joy

Share the joy of giving

by Luan Ellis

Welcome to the president's column. Throughout the year I will be trying to communicate with you through this space in *The Sabbath Recorder*. As I said at conference, since I teach math, I am not much of a speaker or writer so these articles will be short and sweet; well, at least short.

Conference is over for another year. Has everyone recovered? What a wonderful session. Now it is time to share, with those who were unable to attend, all the wonderful experiences we had.

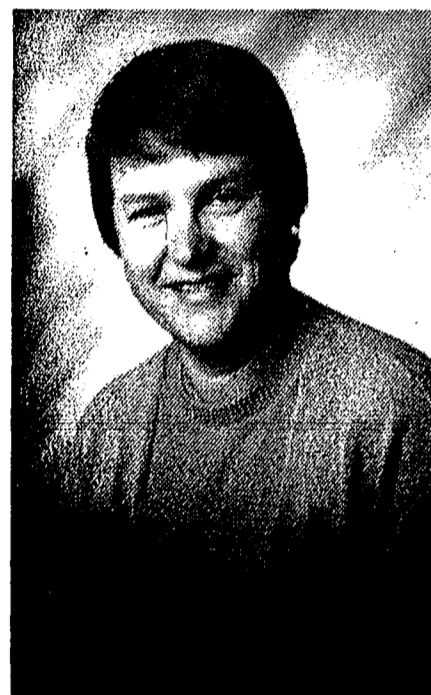
With the passing of the denominational budget, we have committed ourselves and our churches to contribute more than we have in the past to continue the programs of the denomination. If we are to grow, we need to meet the budget. Let's share that need with all Seventh Day Baptists.

What is the joy of giving? Sometimes it is a real struggle to give. Remember Christ's story of the widow's mite (Luke 21:1-4). She gave all she had. Did this

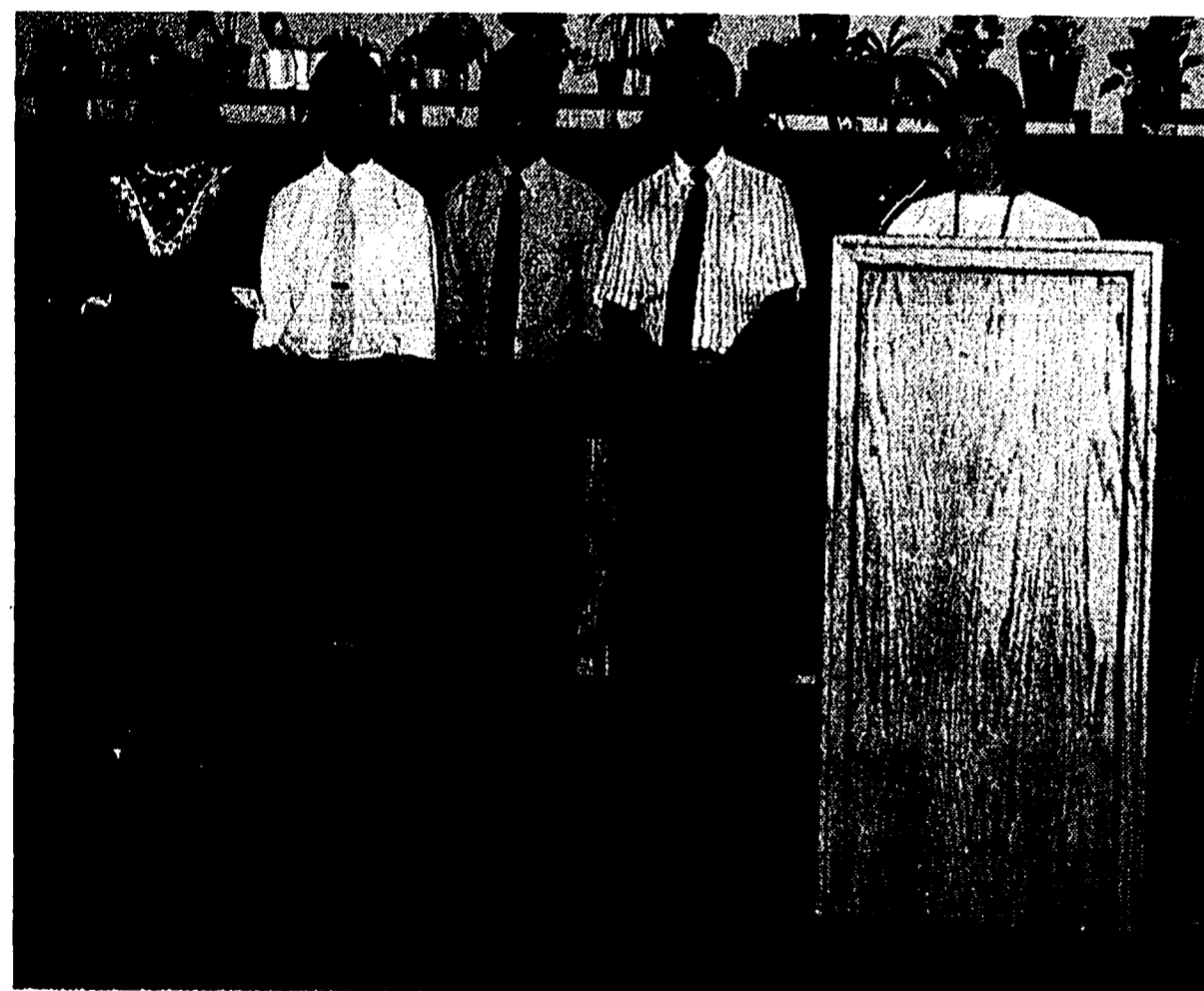
make her happy, or was she giving because of her joy in the Lord? Many times our giving does not make us "happy," but that inner glow of joy for all that the Lord has done for us will lead us to happiness.

This is the time of year that our church begins a new Sabbath School year. It seems that we are always looking for people to help. Can you "give" to the Lord in that way? The choir is also looking for more singers. Our giving is not restricted to our money.

God has given each one of us a special talent. Do you know what yours is? If not, try to find out by counseling with your pastor—or even ask your friends—and then share that talent. That will be sharing the joy of giving; even if it means ringing the church bell or dusting the church pews. Everyone has their job to do. Please see where you can "Share the Joy of Giving" by giving of yourself to your church, denomination, neighbors, family, etc. **SR**



Luan Ellis, conference president



(Above) The Ellis family: (left to right) Debbie, Terry, Tim, Ron and Luan.

(Below) 1987-88 Conference President Herbert Saunders passes the gavel to new Conference President Luan Ellis.



Focus
on missions

by Leon R. Lawton

Several branch groups planted in Jamaica

Jamaica, West Indies: Several local churches are planting branch groups. The work at Martha Brae, founded by the Women's League of the Wakefield SDB Church, is progressing nicely with 11 "strong" adults. Pastor Black assists, and they have had special evangelistic meetings this summer.

Albert Town is sponsored by the Jackson Town SDB Church, with Pastor Irving assisting Pastor John Blissett.

The Luna SDB Church has started a new group at Castleton, about 10 miles from the church. Someone has given a piece of land to erect a small building. Sunday night meetings are held on a regular basis, in addition to the Sabbath services, which are held—for the present—in a home.

The White Hall group, a branch of the Kingston Charles St. SDB Church, had been dormant for some time but is active again. There are about 15 attending, as well as some regular visitors. Evangelistic meetings are scheduled.

Crandall High School students were graduated on July 16. A new principal will be in place for the fall term. There are still 13 students in the Jamaica SDB Bible Institute program. They have completed module two and will begin their next module this month.

Extension Pastors, USA: Two groups made application for aid in support of a new Extension Pastor under the Church Development Plan. These were approved by the Missionary Board at their July meeting, pending obtaining a pastor. We understand that Rev. Larry Graffius has accepted the call to the new branch church (of Denver, Colorado) at Rapid City, South Dakota. He will begin his ministry this month. The second group—in Lake Elsinore, California—had not obtained a pastor by late July.

Two groups seek extension pastors

Sister churches: The Sister Church plan adopted by conference in 1987 has been implemented, with 12 churches linked together by mid-July. These are:

Alfred, New York, and Uitenhage, South Africa
 Toronto, Ontario, Canada, and Surrallah, South, the Philippines
 Lost Creek, West Virginia, and Blantyre, Malawi
 Milton, Wisconsin, and Lodz, Poland
 Nortonville, Kansas, and Kingston, Jamaica
 Pawcatuck, Westerly, Rhode Island, and Port Elizabeth, South Africa
 Paint Rock, Alabama, and Parika, Guyana
 Miami, Florida, and Bydgoszcz, Poland
 Bay Area, California, and Lilongwe, Malawi
 Bradenton, Florida, and Cebu City, the Philippines
 Alfred Station, New York, and Higgin Town, Jamaica
 Lake Elsinore, California, and Thembe, Malawi

There are still several churches in sister conferences that seek to relate to a church in our conference. Application for participation has been sent to every local church and pastor for their use. We hope that more churches can be linked this fall. Please contact your Missionary Board office.

Twelve churches participate in sister church relationships

Finland, Europe: Missionary Thomas McElwain, his wife, Ritva, and daughter, Anna Maria, attended the quarterly Missionary Board meeting in Westerly, Rhode Island, on July 24. They also attended General Conference sessions at Salem College, Salem, West Virginia, where they shared information on their ministry in Finland—our newest mission field.

Missionary McElwain visits United States

The Missionary-centered approach to overseas missions

by Rodney L. Henry



Rodney Henry

Let us take a look at the two major options for ministry in a cross-cultural setting: The first of these options is the Missionary-centered Approach, in which the missionary is the leader and decision-maker of the church in the Receiving Culture. The second option is the Indigenous Approach, in which the leadership and decision making comes from within the members of the Receiving Culture.

In the Missionary-centered Approach, we have a person who was born and raised in a culture different from the culture to which he is sent to minister. He enters this new culture knowing very little about it, no matter how much he has read on the subject. Most of the time the missionary will spend from one to two years studying the language and the culture before he can begin to speak the language even haltingly. Usually, following his one or two-year study of the language, he will be given the most important and difficult tasks of ministry: evangelism, church planting and theological education.

In the Missionary-centered Approach—if the missionary is American—

It is the American look which causes others in the Receiving Culture to perceive Christianity as a sort of "white man's religion."

then the national church in the Receiving Culture will have a very American look. This American look is seen in the buildings and churches which are constructed.

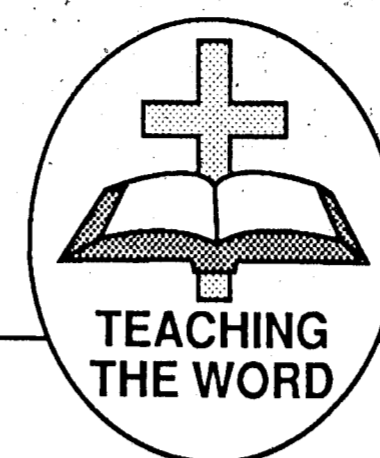
Even the internal structures of organization will take on an American look. This is especially true of Baptist groups, which insist on a democratic (congregational) form of church organization. In some cultures, this does not work well.

There are certain advantages to the Missionary-centered Approach; however, the advantages are centered on the fact that in many evangelical groups the bulk of the budget still comes from the Mission Board in the Missionary Culture. When American Christians perceive that their contributions are being monitored by another American in the Receiving Culture, they are more willing to give.

When the national church has an American look, it is much easier for Americans to identify with the situation there. When there is close identification, the giving from the States to the Mission Board will increase.

In spite of these advantages, the Missionary-centered Approach has some major disadvantages which cause me to reject it. It is this American look which causes others in the Receiving Culture to perceive Christianity as a sort of "white man's religion." They begin to think that it is necessary to accept American ways and values in order to be a Christian. So Christian conversion is seen as a moderate *conversion* to the American culture.

The Missionary-centered Approach limits the growth of the church to the resources of money and leadership which the missionaries can provide. In the long run, the mission of the national church will be hurt when the church is not a reflection of the culture in which it is planted. SR



Christian Education

Natural Evangelism Training receives high marks

by Bobby D. Wright
Pastor, Blountville, Tennessee, SDB Church

I must admit that when I first heard of Natural Evangelism Training (and before I experienced the first phase, "Discipleship—Who Am I?"), I felt this may be just another program. I was wrong. NET is an *experience*!

After Ernest Bee's presentation of NET to the congregation, in which he explained its concept, thrust and purpose, I began to sense a kind of excitement and a desire to know that I had not seen in previous studies. People in the congregation desired to know and understand *who* they were and *what* they are as Christians. As we moved through this first section, the desire and excitement began to mount rather than fall away, as is so often the case.

After completion of the first phase of the program, I had a different congregation—a congregation who knew who they are as Christians, who they are as Baptist Christians, and who they are as Sabbath-keeping Christians. And because they knew—and because we would tell it to one another during class—they were now able to tell it to others. Some said this was the first time that they had felt comfortable sharing their Christian faith, even though they had been Seventh Day Baptists for most of their lives.

The second phase of the NET program, "Churchmanship—where Am I?", began with great eagerness. I was reminded of Nehemiah's praise of his people as they began to realize who they were and where they were, and why God had called them to the rebuilding of the walls of Jerusalem—"So we built the wall...for the people had a mind to work." Here in Blountville, they had a mind to work; even to the point of reminding me of the homework assignment at the end of each session.

We really began to learn together as

we proceeded through this phase. I felt a new commitment had begun to grow in each of us concerning our time, money and talent. Also born during this phase was a new awareness of how it all works together—the local church, with its covenant, constitution and bylaws, interacting with the association and denomination. It was exciting to watch this awareness grow and to participate in this maturing process.

During this time, the church began to minister to a group of Christians living some 200 miles from us who were interested in Seventh Day Baptists. During their initial visit to our church, I decided to turn to the NET material because I knew I had only one afternoon to present Seventh Day Baptists to them. While there was not enough time to present NET as constructed, I did find the material very adaptable to this type of presentation. And after they joined the church, NET proved very beneficial in furthering their understanding of Seventh Day Baptists during our periodic visits with one another.

From what we have experienced so far, I see three main areas where NET can be of tremendous value to the local church.

First, it is a good tool for teaching Seventh Day Baptist church members, regardless of age or how long they have been SDBs.

Second, NET is easily adaptable for outreach work. It is a concise and clear way to present Seventh Day Baptists to new contacts.

Third, it is great reference material for both teacher and student. This is not a book that will gather dust on a shelf. I find myself returning to it time and again in the work of the church.

We are eagerly awaiting the third phase of this experience, which is entitled, "Ambassadorship—How do I?" SR

People in the congregation desired to know and understand who they were and what they are as Christians. ...After completion of the first phase of the program, I had a different congregation.



the BEACON

Produced by the Youth Committee of the Board of Christian Education
For and by members of the SDB Youth Fellowship September 1988

Pine Street Gospel Chapel starts new YF

In November of 1987, the Pine Street Gospel Chapel in Middletown, Connecticut, began a new ministry to the youth in the area. The local high school gym was secured for use once each week, to be used as the facility for the meetings. The meetings involved sports activities, along with an outreach program of teaching the participants about Christ.

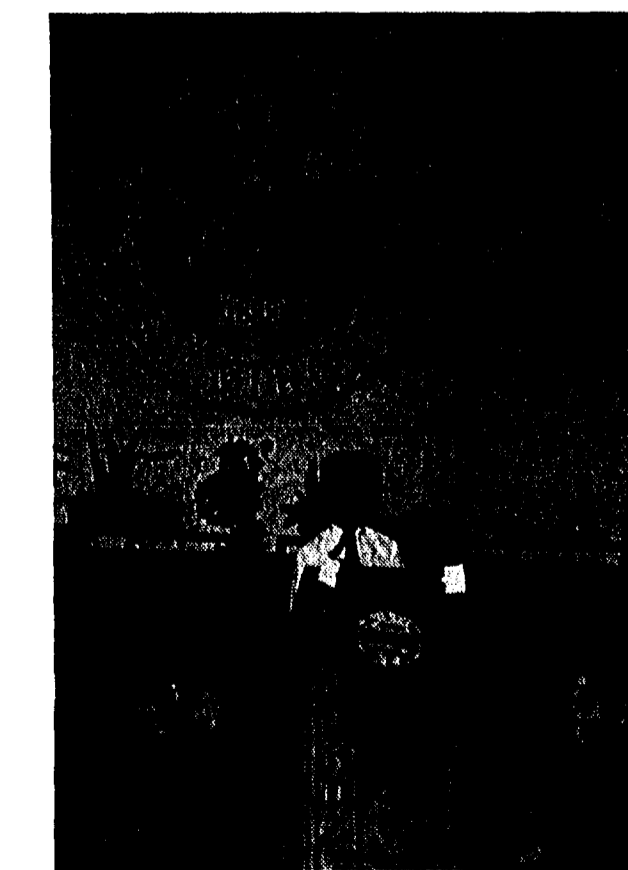
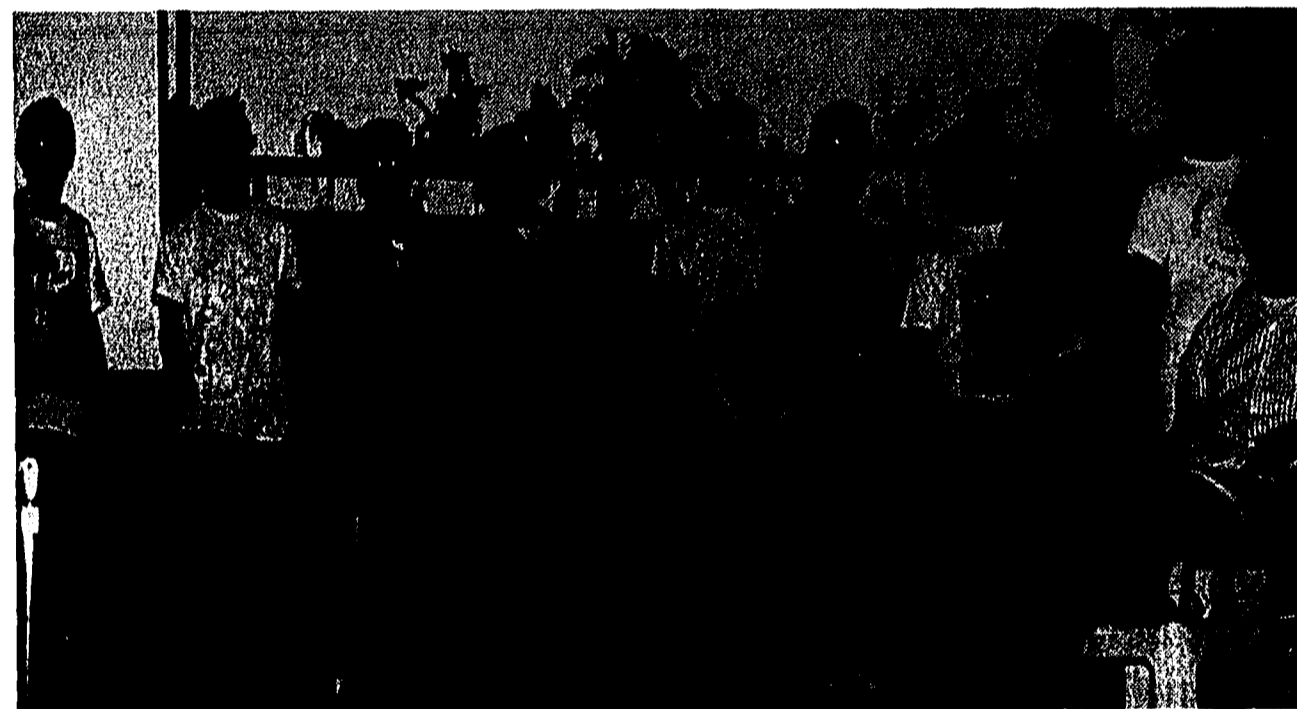
Unfortunately, this caused some

problems for a few of the residents in the area. They filed a complaint with the school board, which resulted in the suspension of the outreach program.

The Pine Street Gospel Chapel appealed this decision, citing the fact that the school has allowed numerous groups to use the facilities without regard to the nature of the group. Their appeal was based upon legal counsel they received. The appeal prompted the school board to reconsider the closing of the program. Happily, the board decided to rescind their earlier decision and allow the meetings to continue.

Today, 50 young people from the area enjoy basketball and several other sports, as well as the Christian fellowship provided by the program. The Pine Street Gospel Chapel is excited by their new Youth Fellowship, which meets every week, and hope to see it continue for years to come.

Upper photo: Summer Christian Service Corps workers during conference program.
Lower photo: Mark Green inspires conference delegates with a vision for growth.



Director's Ditty

Conference is over, and for most of us, it's time to go back to school. I'll be starting Calvin Seminary this fall, so I should be able to relate to your situations out there. (Of course, I'm looking forward to starting school, so maybe not!)

As you start the new school year, I hope that each of you will make an attempt to share your

faith with those around you. Even though it's a new year—and for many of you, a new school, new friends, and so on—remember that one thing never changes: our place in the Kingdom of Heaven. And with a place as secure as that, nothing is too big of a challenge!

Hope you all have a wonderful school year!

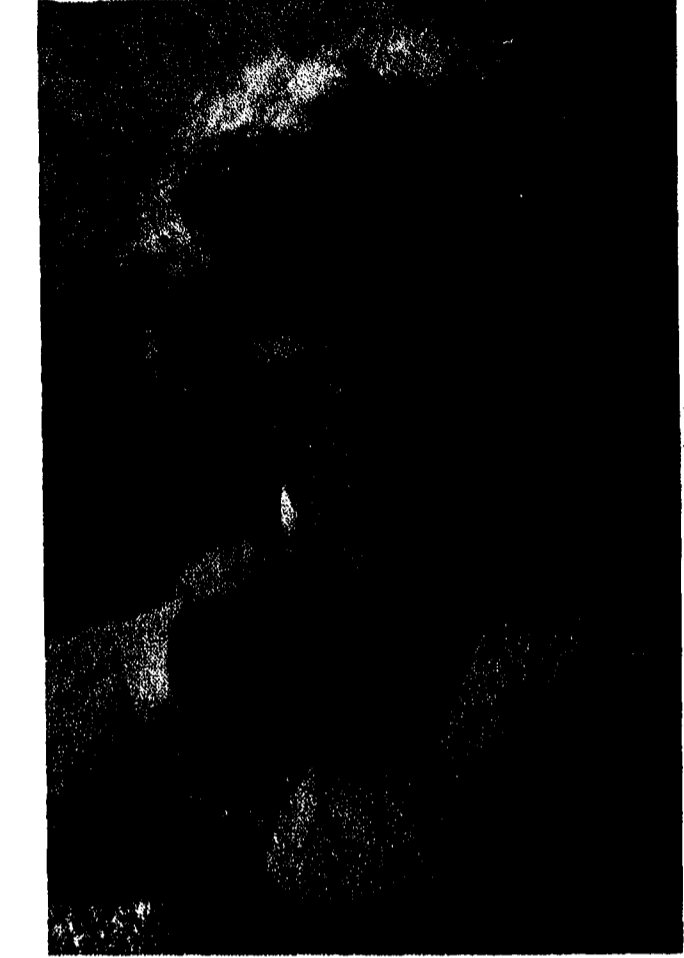
Meet the 1989 NSDBYF officers



Kerith Camenga, president



Brandee Grooms, vice president



Brenda Galloway, secretary-treasurer

President: Kerith Camenga

Kerith is the daughter of C. Justin and Susan Camenga and has completed her sophomore year at Linfield College, where she is working toward majors in elementary education and music. She has completed three summers of SCSC dedicated service (New Jersey, Rhode Island and Michigan) and serves as Sabbath School teacher at the Portland (Oregon) Area Seventh Day Baptist Church, where she is a member.

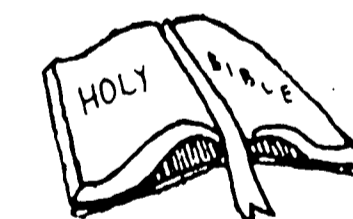
Vice President: Brandee Grooms

Brandee is the daughter of Brad and Julie Grooms. Her home is in Centralia, Washington, where she is an honor student and a participant in the accelerated learning programs of her school. She has a younger brother, Brandon. Brandee's talents include piano and ballet. She regularly attends Centralia Seventh Day Baptist Church, where she lights the candles at the beginning of each worship service and soon hopes to become the accompanist.

Secretary-Treasurer: Brenda Galloway

Brenda is a freshman at Highline Community College and the daughter of Dennis and Gloria Galloway. Their home is in Burien, a suburb of Seattle, where the

Seattle Seventh Day Baptist Church is currently meeting. Brenda is working at Denny's, but has ability and interest in fashion and modeling. She would like to help plan the youth activities for Conference '89.



Study
Helps

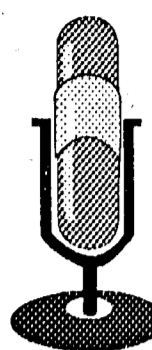
Read: Hebrews 13:25-29
Memorize: Hebrews 13:28

The writer of Hebrews speaks in this passage of the unshakable kingdom—the kingdom of heaven. Unlike the earth and other created things, which are changing all of the time and are easily influenced by the most trivial of matters, the

kingdom of heaven is solid and immovable.

Christians should be thankful for the fact that there is a place for them which is stable, in which they can finally feel at home. This is a marvelous gift prepared for us by God himself.

Our reaction should not stop with a feeling of gratefulness, though. We should be moved in such a way that we are eager to offer to God our service here on earth. God has prepared a place for us, but while we are waiting to go to that place, we should be serving God in "reverence and awe" for what he has done for us.



RELIGION IN THE NEWS

Catholic educators expect decline

Catholic schools will decline in enrollment by more than half in the next 15 years, according to a survey of education officials.

Rev. Thomas Gallagher, secretary for education of the United States Catholic Conference, reported that 90 percent of Catholic educators accept the projections.

Concern was expressed that Catholic schools are trending toward elitist enrollments because of tuition expense. Parish subsidies for Catholic schools are declining sharply, according to Gallagher, as fewer parishioners send their children to parochial schools.

Southern Baptist growth slows

Although Southern Baptists are among the fastest growing Protestant churches, annual growth for 1987 was the lowest in 50 years. Mainline denominations have experienced membership declines since 1960.

Some Southern Baptist leaders have expressed concern that the nine-year controversy between fundamentalists and moderates has been a negative factor in the outreach of the denomination.

The recent Southern Baptist Convention narrowly elected a fundamentalist as president and resolved a conflict over pastoral authority in the local church.

More women attending seminary

While the number of men in Protestant seminaries is on the decline, the enrollment of women has grown steadily. Some predict that, by the year 2,000, a fourth of all mainline Protestant churches will have women pastors.

The Association of Theological Schools reports that women constitute 27 percent of total seminary enrollment. That is up from 10 percent just 15 years ago. Overall, seminary enrollment was down by one percent in 1987-88, marking the third straight year of decline.

Americans show greater religious interest

A recent Gallop religion poll—"Unchurched Americans 1988"—reports that while the percentage of unchurched Americans has increased slightly, the respondents indicated greater religious interest.

With 43 percent described as unchurched, increased religious interest suggests that many are ready to move into the church category. Twenty-five percent of those who are described as church members report that there was a period of at least two years or more when they were not active in a church.

Forty-four percent of the unchurched say that they have made a commitment to Christ. Seventy-two percent of the unchurched say they believe in Jesus as God or the Son of God.

Fifty-eight percent of the unchurched report that they are considering a return to church as a probability or a possibility.

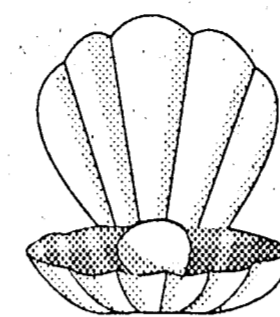
Christian book stores good business

Volume is steadily growing for Christian and family books these days, according to reports from the Christian Booksellers Association.

"There is a renewed interest in religion in general, an acute awareness of the spiritual side of life, and a return to Judeo-Christian values," according to William R. Anderson, president of the association.

Christian book stores sell about 80 million volumes annually, and their best-sellers sometimes sell two or three times more than books on the secular best-seller lists.

Anderson said that publishers are dealing with new issues, such as child abuse, broken marriage, death and dying. Christian music is also reported to be a fast growing area in the association book stores.



Pearls of history from the Seventh Day Baptist Historical Society,

Newport reflections

by Historian Don A. Sanford

In 1862, Julia Ward Howe wrote the words for the stirring "Battle Hymn of the Republic," which was popularized during the Civil War and has remained a favorite of many people. In my mind's eye, I have pictured soldiers sitting around the "watchfires of a hundred circling camps." The singing of this hymn bolstered their conviction that what they were doing was a part of God's judgment, and that God's glory and truth would go marching on.

But recently another picture came to my mind as I was digging through the archives of the past. I had understood that the "Ward" in Julia Howe's name was her maiden name and that she was the great-granddaughter of Governor Samuel Ward, a Seventh Day Baptist member of the Continental Congress in 1776. But an undated clipping from *The Westerly Sun* put more meaning to this bit of information as I connected her with historic Newport, Rhode Island, and the church which gave birth to Seventh Day Baptists in 1671.

At the invitation of Corliss Randolph, Maude Howe Elliot, the daughter of Julia Ward Howe, visited the Old Meeting House of the Newport Seventh Day Baptist Church. She recalled a childhood visit to the Old Meeting House with her mother. The church then stood at its original location on Barney Street and still retained the original family box pews. She said:

The past few moments have touched me deeply as I remembered associations with this beautiful old church. I will tell you about seeing it the first time I entered it. My mother brought me here when I was a girl of fourteen. I think it was fourteen because I remember it was about that time my mother was trying to interest me in other things to take my mind off beaux and dances.

As we entered the church I was impressed by its great age. Everything was left just as it had been after the last

service. My mother found the Ward pew and we sat in it. On the altar was a plush cushion that evidently had been crimson but had faded to a lovely rose. On it was the Bible, which I hope is in the possession of the Historical Society, closed just as the minister left it after the last service....

The pews were as they had been when the church was in use and each pew had a name on it. From the time we entered the Ward pew my mother seemed to forget me. As we sat there I could not understand nor feel as my mother felt. It seems it must have been the way she felt when she wrote that beautiful hymn, "In the beauty of the lilies, Christ was born across the sea, with a glory in his bosom that transfigured you and me. As he died to make men holy, let us die to make men free. While God goes marching on."

Mrs. Elliot then recalled an experience which she had had during one of her travels abroad a few years after the Russo-Japanese War of 1904-05. She asked one of the Japanese generals how a small country like Japan could dare take up arms against a great country like Russia. The general responded, "We went out and looked up to the sky and remembered our ancestors, and dared."

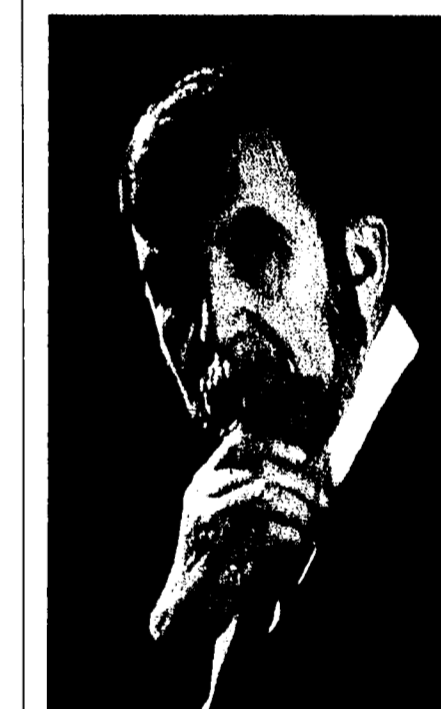
She then ended her reminiscence with a tribute to her heritage as she said:

I have often thought of that and it has helped me. When there has been some particularly trying situation, I have gone out and looked up to the sky and thought of my ancestors. Of those two great ancestors, Richard Ward, the colonial governor of the colonies, whose ancestors fought with Roger Williams for religious freedom and of that later one, his son, Samuel, who was governor at the time of the Revolution.

I do not remember when this church building was built but I know my ancestors worshipped in it; and it means much to me. Those are my recollections of it.

SR

"From the time we entered the Ward pew my mother seemed to forget me. As we sat there I could not understand nor feel as my mother felt."



Don A. Sanford, Historian



The women at conference were overwhelmingly in favor of continuing the Robe of Achievement recognition, revising guidelines if necessary.

Women's Society *NEWS & IDEAS*

Conference is a joyful time

by Donna S. Bond
Guest Editor

As usual, the Women's Society had a full schedule of activities and interests during the 1988 General Conference sessions at Salem, West Virginia. These activities included five Interest Committee meetings, a craft sale and silent auction of the "Confidence Quilt" to benefit SCSC, an annual business luncheon, collection of a Love Gift at the annual Women's Society Banquet, and the awarding of the Robe of Achievement.

Women's Interest Committee meetings

These sessions were held under the capable leadership of Mabel Cruzan, assisted by her secretary, Irma Van Horn. Since SCSC is our major project, much discussion was held concerning the value of this program (immeasurable), its cost (\$750 per worker), and possible means of improvement.

Three guest speakers, all of whom were in SCSC leadership positions, added insight to a general concern over the *quality* of workers selected to serve in this program. Many good suggestions were made during our discussions, leading to the following recommendations to the Women's Board. 1) That the Training Coordinator should have the authority to veto any applicant who may not be sufficiently mature or committed to meet the expectations made of him or her; and 2) that each worker provide documented evidence of two to three years' experience of quality dedicated service to a local church and/or community concern before he applies for an SCSC project.

Projects adopted for the board to implement during 1988-89 were: SCSC, Robe of Achievement, Women's Page in *The Sabbath Recorder*, the Love Gift, Pen 'n' Prayer, Tuition Fund, and the "Link of Love" newsletter to pastors' wives.

A recommendation from the Women's Board to the society was that the Robe of Achievement be discontinued after this year. While committee members were sympathetic to the difficulty of selecting one or two recipients from a multitude of qualified nominees, we were overwhelmingly in favor of continuing this annual recognition, revising guidelines if

necessary. The outcome of this discussion led to a suggestion that the Robe of Achievement Committee consider *only* those nominations which are made during any given conference year. In other words, *if you have sent a resumé in the past, you must now resubmit it next year* to keep the nominee's name before the committee.

One question was asked in committee which was not answered. We are calling on some of our "more mature" readers for help. If you can remember events of 1906, read on. A most intriguing quilt was found among the personal possessions of Anna (Crofoot) North after her death this summer. It apparently was given to her parents, the Jay Crofoots, when they returned to the mission field in China in that year. The quilt is white with blocks of individual and church names embroidered in red. If you can provide any clue to this enigma, please contact Irma Van Horn at 1308 Continental Dr., Daytona Beach, FL 32017.

Craft sale and Confidence Quilt

These two projects were instituted in 1988 to help raise the budget for SCSC. The Conference Host Committee had strategically placed one table for display of hand-crafted items near the registration desk; by Sunday night, a second table had to be added. New items appeared throughout the week as women "from Cali to Rhody" contributed the fruits of their labor for this worthy cause. While the sale was instituted as a one-time effort, the Interest Committee suggested that the board consider holding a similar sale in 1989. By Friday afternoon, almost \$600 had been realized by this sale.

A concise description of the Confidence Quilt crafted by women from coast to coast would be impossible to write. Hopefully, someone was thoughtful enough to get some color photos for the local societies to see... Suffice it to say, the quilt won a blue ribbon in the Dodge County (Minnesota) Fair.

As you know, 48 individual blocks were designed and stitched by society members all over the country. As the Quilt Committee recounted the saga of quilt assembly in Missouri, Minnesota and Wisconsin, the listeners were amazed at the Lord's hand in providing a means for the quilt to be in the right place at the right time.

At the end of the conference week, the quilt had netted a profit of \$1,570 for SCSC.

Annual business luncheon

On Wednesday, approximately 40 ladies carried their lunch trays to the faculty dining room for fellowship and the official annual business meeting of the SDB Women's Society. Two items of business were finalized: the election of 1988-89 officers, as listed in the Report of the Nominating Committee (to conference), and approval of the Board of Directors' relocation to the Shiloh, New Jersey, area beginning after conference, 1990.

The Love Gift

As of the end of conference, the Love Gift totaled \$2,891, to be disbursed in this way: SDB's in Finland and India are to receive \$500 each for publishing needs, and Ely Paypa in the Philippines is to receive \$200 to meet medical expenses. The remainder of the gift is to be divided, with 50 percent going to the Bill Shobe family for medical or other related expenses; 25 percent as an appreciation gift to the Pearsons as they return from the mission field in Malawi, Africa, after 26 years of service; and 25 percent to Sunshine Mountain for industrial quality cookware. We thank all ladies and societies for their contributions to this fund.

Women's Society Banquet

The annual Women's Society Banquet was held on Thursday evening, August 11, in the main dining room. While our spouses and offspring picnicked on the "green" between buildings, we enjoyed a sumptuous feast of boneless chicken breast on wild rice, broccoli spears, tossed salad, rolls and strawberry cheesecake. Furthermore, we were waited on, hand and foot!

Women's Society President Dorothea Shettel introduced special guests, including officers of the board—Jean Lewis, Jackie (Wells) Payne, and Ruby Hambleton; recently returned missionaries—Bettie Pearson, Ritva McElwain and Ellen Olson; Elizabeth Bruhn from Hamburg, Germany; and former conference presidents—Geri Van Dyke and Dorothy Parrott. Dorothea proudly informed us that SDB women measure up to the status of women in

other denominations.

As we finished our dinners and collected the Love Gift, 10 familiar masculine faces entertained us with delightful renditions of sacred songs, all with emotionally moving parts, and topped their concert off with, "While strolling through the park one day..."

The highlight of the evening was undoubtedly the dramatic portrayal of the woman at the well (Althea Rood), Pilate's wife (Norma Rudert), and Mary Magdalene (Nancy May). Each woman was dressed in an appropriate costume and recited her story about encountering Jesus Christ and his impact on her life. It is not exaggeration to report that the listeners felt the women's emotions and that the normally expected shuffle of moving persons was conspicuously absent during the presentation.

On leaving the empty tomb, Mary Magdalene's proclamation, "Jesus is alive... So enter the joy... Enter the joy," tied our program in beautifully with President Herb Saunders' 1988 conference theme.*

Robe of Achievement

One highlight which we all eagerly anticipate each conference week is the awarding of the Robe of Achievement. Who will be the honored one this year? This question was answered on Sabbath afternoon, August 13, when the identities of two special ladies were revealed. These ladies were Audrey (Babcock) Fuller from Daytona Beach, Florida, and Linda (Bingham) Hays from Sunshine Mountain, Mississippi. (Their biographical information and resumé of achievement are printed elsewhere in this *Recorder*.)

Once again, we are proud to honor these Christian women, and we renew our commitment to serve our Lord as they have.

*The selections recited for this program were adapted from *The Women Speak* by Marion Fairman. This paperback book would be an invaluable addition to any society's program library. For further information, write to Contemporary Drama Service, Box 7710, Colorado Springs, CO 80933. SR

The highlight of the evening was undoubtedly the dramatic portrayal of the woman at the well, Pilate's wife, and Mary Magdalene. Each woman was dressed in an appropriate costume and recited her story about encountering Jesus Christ and his impact on her life.

Nortonville celebrates 125 years

by Kathryn Niemann

By 1873, Nortonville had become a booming little town. The railroad had come through, and many Seventh Day Baptist families had migrated there.

The Nortonville, Kansas, Seventh Day Baptist Church celebrated its 125th birthday on August 20, 1988. The church was organized in 1863 by a group of Seventh Day Baptists who came from Farmington, Illinois, by wagon train and settled along a two-mile strip of land north of Nortonville that became known as the Seventh Day Lane. The corner at the west end of the lane is still known as Wheeler Corner, and the east end of the lane used to be known as the Babcock Corner.

The five original families came to this vicinity on October 5, 1857. The day after their arrival, they held the first Sabbath service—as far as is known—in the state of Kansas. The first five families were the Lyman and Dennis Saunders families, Anna Buten and children, and the David Stillman and Samuel Petty families. The Joshua Wheeler family came later that same year. There are still active church members who are descendants of Joshua Wheeler. Ten-year-old Andrew Maris Wheeler is a descendant of three of those first families—Joshua Wheeler, Anna Buten, and David Stillman.

These families purchased land on both sides of the two-mile strip, and other Seventh Day Baptist families came and settled around them.

Lane School

The group built a one-room schoolhouse in 1865 and began holding their church services there. Before that time, services were held in their homes.

Rev. A.A. FitzRandolph, sent by the Missionary Board in 1861, was the first pastor. He purchased a farm at the east end of the lane, on the south side of the road, and moved his family here in 1863.

The Pardee, Kansas, Seventh Day Baptist Church was organized in 1863 by 14 people: Rev. Randolph and his wife, Lucy, and daughters Emily and Abbie; Electa Stillman; Dennis and Hannah Saunders; Joshua Wheeler; Alma Buten

Maris; S.P. Griffin and Eliza; Samuel and Eunice Petty; and Kate Buten Perry.

In 1878, the congregation voted to build a church, and a committee was appointed to raise \$1,000. The church building was completed in 1883 at a cost of \$2,000. It was located three-quarters of a mile south of Wheeler Corner. Pardee was a prosperous little town one and one-half miles north of Seventh Day Lane, waiting for the railroad to come through. (It never came.) The congregation's mailing address came through Pardee.

By 1873, Nortonville had become a booming little town. The railroad had come through, and many Seventh Day Baptist families had migrated there. Many of the businesses were owned or run by them. There was a photographer, jewelry and music store, dentist, doctor, wallpaper and picture frame shop, insurance and real estate company, produce market, dry goods store, hardware and undertakers shop, the Sentinal Publishing Company, grocery, and boot and shoe shop.

Two members of the church were presidents of the two banks, while another member was president of the manufacturing company. Most of the other members of the congregation—which numbered about 200—were farmers. Since Nortonville was largely made up of this congregation, when the subject of repairing the country church or building a new church in the village came up, 60 voted to repair the present building and 151 voted to build a new church. In 1901, the present church was completed, and the building is now listed in the state Historical Society register.

The church celebrated its 25th anniversary in August, 1888. Elder G.M. Cottrell was pastor, and Rev. Samuel R. Wheeler returned to help the church celebrate. Rev. James Skaggs was pastor when the church entertained the Northwest Association and marked its 50th anniversary in 1913. In 1938, under the direction of Rev. Lester G. Osborn, the church celebrated its 75th anniversary

and entertained the Northwest Association in August.

Rev. Leroy Bass was pastor at the time of our church's 100th celebration in 1963. Church plates were made for this anniversary.

We have had 20 ministers and two full-time supply ministers. They included the Reverends A.A. FitzRandolph, Samuel R. Wheeler, A.J. White, G.M. Cottrell, J.M. Todd, George Hills, M.B. Kelly, James L. Skaggs, Herbert L. Polan, Herbert L. Cottrell, S. Duane Ogden, Lester G. Osborn, Vernéy Wilson, Duane L. Davis, Robert Lippincott, Leroy Bass, Paul Osborn, Edgar Wheeler, and our present pastor, Harold King. Rev. A.E. Main was our pastor for a few

months in 1882-1883 and preached the dedication sermon for our first church building. Supply pastors between ministers were Rev. John Hodge of Easton, Kansas, and Dr. Kenneth Smith, a member of our church.

Five of our young men have become ministers. They are Alton and Edgar Wheeler, Wendell Stephan, Allen Bond, and Clifford Bond. We have ordained two ministers, Rev. Duane L. Davis and Chaplain Clifford Bond.

A church history book, published in 1986, is available for \$5 at the church. (Add \$1.25 for postage and envelope, if mailed.) The book has many pictures in it, including pictures of all the ministers except the first one. SR



Steve Crouch, Pastor of the Bay Area, California, SDB Church preached during an evening worship service.



Anna Maria McElwain shared her gift of music during one of the musical interludes.



Andrew Samuels, Pastor of the Miami, Florida, SDB Church led a morning Bible study.

Retreat, no! Advance, yes!

by Andrew Samuels

Eighty-four youths and young adults assembled at Jersey Oaks Camp in southern New Jersey for the second annual Spiritual Advance sponsored by the Plainfield, New Jersey, Seventh Day Baptist Youth Fellowship.

On the weekend of June 10-12, 1988, 84 youths and young adults assembled at Jersey Oaks Camp in southern New Jersey for the second annual Spiritual Advance sponsored by the Plainfield, New Jersey, Seventh Day Baptist Youth Fellowship.

There were young people from the following churches: New York City, New York; Hope, Pennsylvania; Shiloh, Marlboro, Raritan Valley and Plainfield, New Jersey; and Central, Maryland. There were also other young people with no real SDB church affiliation. The weekend's theme was "More Than Conquerors," with Romans 8:37 as the theme verse. The theme song, "More Than Conquerors," proved to be a real inspiration.

The Advance began on Friday night with orientation and Sabbath welcoming vespers. On the following beautiful Sabbath morning, the young adults were led by Pastor Joe Samuels in a study entitled, "Why Not Cults?" In this study, the characteristics of a cult were considered, as well as the teachings of some major cults. Simultaneously, Pastor Andy Samuels, the Advance director, led the youths in a program on drug abuse.

While a few "Advancers" drove over to Shiloh, New Jersey, to share in their Youth Sabbath Service, the rest were moved and challenged by a powerful worship service led by Marlene Campbell, assistant director. There was a splendid rendition of "The Old Rugged Cross" by Fay and Diane Mckie, Shevaughn Loney and Othneil Murphy from New York City. Pastor Cormeth Lawrence of Hope Seventh Day Baptist Church, North Hills, Pennsylvania, brought the sermon. He spoke as led by the Lord and encouraged us to be conquerors in all areas of our lives.

On Sabbath afternoon, Pastor John Camenga of the Shiloh, New Jersey, Seventh Day Baptist Church led us in an enlightening workshop entitled, "Who Shall Separate Us From the Love of God?"

After the workshop, one of the music directors, Pauline James from New York,

led a prayer session called "Hotline." This was followed by a debate on the moot subject, "The Believer is Eternally Secure." This was an opportunity for our pastors, and Jean Boland from Connecticut, to utilize their public speaking skills and biblical insights. And what a marvelous job they did! In the end, based upon the presentations, our three judges (Winston Samuels from Maryland, Georgi Bennett from Hope, and Sally Rogers from Central) voted two-to-one in favor of those who argued against the premise that believers are eternally secure. The chairman of the debate, Lois Lawrence of Hope, did an excellent job. She also served as one of the music directors.

Vespers, led by Julie Harley from Hope, closed the Sabbath with singing, shouting, dancing and testifying unto the Lord.

Saturday night saw us having a fun-filled time as our director, assisted by Norman Murphy, led a session called "Crowd Breakers." The Ugliest Man in the World, Banana Bolt, Squirm Race, Initiation and Hypnotism were indeed enjoyable.

On Sunday morning, a calisthenics session was led by Kay Samuels. An evaluation of the Advance was also held, along with closing exercises. During this time, we got reactions from representatives of the churches to the Advance experience. A few of them were: "This was culture shock for me."—Ryan Cruzan, Marlboro; "I will definitely tell my church that they missed something. However, they did not miss the English muffins."—Dana Taylor, Central; "The beautiful singing was a highlight for me."—Brad Maltby, Plainfield; "I would have really made a mistake if I had decided not to come."—Harold Smith, New York City; "It was culture shock, but I enjoyed it."—Matt Cruzan, Raritan Valley.

Outdoor games like volleyball, kickball and soccer were the culmination of the Advance. The "Advancers" said good-bye to the director and his family, who were

Cont. on page 24

Miami installs new pastor

by Jasmine Lynch

June 18, 1988, was a historic day for the Miami, Florida, Seventh Day Baptist Church, as Andrew Samuels preached his first sermon as pastor of the church.

The day began with Sabbath School, under the direction of Superintendent Louise Miller. During Sabbath School, fathers who were present were recognized in commemoration of Father's Day. The children read statements of why fathers are special and deserve to be loved and respected. Sister Vis sang a special song to the fathers while the children placed pins on them which symbolized our Christian faith (praying hands, the rainbow, and the dove of peace). Sister Miller also presented certificates of appreciation to the individuals who started the church in Miami. They were Brother and Sister Lynch, Aldrich Lynch, Sister Edwards, Sister Hamilton, and Sister Pottinger.

Then the mission spotlight was turned on Brother and Sister Vis, who had served the church for three years as ambassadors. Sister Lynch read the poem, "Tribute to William and Roselyn Vis." Brother Lynch, the moderator of the church, then presented them with a beautiful plaque, which read: "In Appreciation of dedicated service to Ambassadors William and Roselyn Vis 1985-88." The Vises, who were totally surprised and humbled, wanted everyone to know that they could not have done what they did without God's help and the church's support, and that they had gained tremendously from the experience. "If you ever get an opportunity to serve in the capacity as ambassador, take it," they urged.

Sabbath School was followed by a rousing song service led by Sister Lynch. Sister Edwards, in her children's message, told the children that God is saying, "I want you." It is up to them to respond by accepting or rejecting. The story of Jonah helped to bring her message across to the

children. Sister Lynch then dedicated Andrae Crouch's song, "Tell Them," to Pastors Samuels and Vis, as they face the difficult task of convincing people that God loves them and that Jesus came to tell them.

Pastor Samuels' first official act as pastor was to present a license to preach, baptize and perform marriages. Then Brother Vis, as assistant pastor, presented Pastor Samuels his license to perform the same functions. At its quarterly business meeting on April 16, the church had voted to license both men for two years.

Pastor Samuels then gave a stirring sermon, "Requirement for Victory," using 2 Chronicles 20 as his text. He listed the four requirements for Victory as:

1. There has to be an attack from the enemy. (Churches and Christians often use the attack from the enemy as an excuse for giving up.)

2. You must seek the Lord. (If the church gets to the point where it has all the answers, we are in trouble.)

3. You must be prepared to hear from God. (We often try to fight our own battles and do not listen, so we cannot hear what God has to say to us.)

4. You must be prepared to sing praises to the Lord, even before the victory. "We have a great God whose mercy endureth forever. We need to

Cont. on page 31



Installation officers left to right: Dale Thorngate, Rodney Henry, Andrew Samuels, Leland Bond, Herlitz Condison, Joe Samuels

You must be prepared to sing praises to the Lord, even before the victory. "We have a great God whose mercy endureth forever. We need to praise the Lord; then the victory will be ours."

Boulder church is moving

There has been a "For Sale" sign on the lawn of the meeting house since last fall. The sign now says "Sold."

Last summer, the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Boulder, Colorado, made an offer on a church facility on North Broadway in Boulder, contingent upon the sale of our property at 900 Arapahoe and the parsonage at 1648 9th Street. Another offer was accepted over ours. Even so, the church body voted to place our property on the market, believing that most sellers will not wait for our sale. So there has been a "For Sale" sign on the lawn of the meeting house since last fall. The sign now says "Sold."

For a long time, there has been a need for more parking, more classroom space, as well as level entrances, and a little more room in general. The zoning codes of the City of Boulder would require us to purchase at least \$100,000 worth of adjoining property, maybe twice that much, before we could do any expanding at our present site. Last spring, we had about \$3,000 in our building fund, so in order to do anything in the near future, we would have to sell our property and seek a less expensive site. In about one year, our building fund has risen to over \$15,000; this is mostly from solicited gifts and continuing pledges to the Building Fund.

So where are we now?

We accepted contracts on both the meeting house and the parsonage and closed on July 15, 1988.

The meeting house is being purchased by the Emergency Family Assistance Association. After being granted a variance by the city, the association will have its offices and food storage and distribution at 900 Arapahoe. This independent agency also runs a furniture bank and Echo House, which provides very short-term, temporary housing for families. We signed the papers on July 15 and had our last service in the meeting house on July 16.

The parsonage is under contract to a contractor who is planning to end up with four two-bedroom apartments, but he has requested a review by the Planning Department. So, although the pastor believes that all will go well, the City of Boulder could prevent this sale.

We are going to be renting a church from Mesa Memorial Baptist Church at 805 Yale Road, Boulder. Mesa Baptist is affiliated with the American Baptists.

Pastor Gordon Lawton and his family are renting a home at 216 Caledonia St., Louisville, Colorado 80027. Their personal phone number is (303) 673-0906. Presently, we do not have a church phone number. (Watch for the phone number in *Leadline*.)

As we celebrated 95 years as a congregation in Boulder, we reviewed the ways the Lord has led us in the past. We hope to be in our new facility before we reach the century mark. Pray for us as we grow and change. **SR**

Retreat, no! Advance, yes!

Cont. from page 22

on their way to Miami to assume the pastorate of the Miami SDB Church. May God's speed be with them as they begin their new ministry.

A special word of appreciation to Joyce Samuels, Janet Henry, Margaret Armstrong, Anita Loney and Karlene Virgo,

who so ably directed the kitchen staff and meal preparations. Also, a word of gratitude to our nurse, Heather Muschette. And a big "thank you" to everyone who in any way supported the Advance and contributed to its success. To God be the everlasting glory. **SR**

Pennsylvania Churches Day celebrated

by Kent Martin

More than 100 people representing seven Sabbath-keeping Christian churches attended the third annual Pennsylvania Churches Day in Salemville, Pennsylvania, on May 14, 1988. The theme for the day's services was "The Faith We Share in Common." Seven representative elders spoke to the vision of this theme in morning and afternoon messages, making a clarion call for more spiritual solidarity among Sabbath-honoring Christians who have often taken pride in their divisions.

Elder Victor Burford (superintendent, Church of God, 7th Day) reminded us in the morning message that God is more interested in the mercy we show each other than the sacrifices we make to preserve our sectarian identities. The presence of the Lord reiterated and verified this and other aspects of Elder Burford's message. Five different afternoon speakers rose in our services to remind us that our churches, though denominationally separate and holding different distinctives, do not therefore have an excuse to be spiritually divided at any time. One elder even noted that the independent church he represented was, therefore, by the very nature of its

"oneness of a kind," more dependent on the rest of us for frequent fellowship in Christ.

The choir for Pennsylvania Churches Day seemed to prove our celebration theme. It was a product of joint cooperation between the Salemville churches, which would not have been possible had both churches not blended their voices. Since everyone could not attend every practice, Linda Graffius was challenged in her efforts to blend our voices. Some could not even read music, and none of us felt adequate to lead in a solo. Yet, in struggling together, we accomplished our mission to sing for the Lord. Our different voices (parts) gave us something to offer—"harmony" in the Lord."

Pennsylvania Churches Day was a lesson in spiritual symbols; never, at any moment, was it possible without the assistance of both Salemville churches. Children who were not from Salemville sang with our children. Seven churches sang and spoke with one spirit, and the food that was shared overflowed our tables. We were many tribes in Israel who only knew one God, in Jesus' name. **SR**

God is more interested in the mercy we show each other than the sacrifices we make to preserve our sectarian identities.

Family retreat a success

The sun shone brightly as families from West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Washington, D.C., and Columbus, Ohio, gathered at Camp Joy in beautiful Berea, West Virginia, for the Spring Family Retreat held May 28-30. There were 126 registered participants, with 99 people staying (some in tents and camper units) from night after the Sabbath until Monday.

The Spring Youth Retreat, under the direction of Larry Graffius, was also held in conjunction with the Family Retreat. The youth led vespers and the evening campfires.

The Camp Joy Board of Directors and the Southeastern Association Executive Committee (Northern Region) also met during the weekend.

Plans are already under way for the Fall Family Retreat, which is scheduled for September 3-5. **SR**

Bond retires from Memorial Board



Ernest F. Bond

March 1, 1988

Mr. Ernest F. Bond
8989 Dustin Road
Galena, Ohio 43021

Dear Ernie,

The quarterly meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Seventh Day Baptist Memorial Fund was held on January 30-31, 1988, in the Raritan Valley Seventh Day Baptist Church, Bridgewater, New Jersey. During that meeting, the trustees asked me to attempt to communicate to you their feeling on the occasion of your retirement from that body.

Your well-reasoned input into this deliberating body has, in many cases, brought to our attention aspects of a problem that might have otherwise gone unnoticed. Your humane warmth has helped the board to reconcile human needs to the stark reality of availability of funds and the absolute necessity of keeping faith with those departed grantors, donors and testators who, in reality, the Memorial Board serves.

Meeting and knowing you has been a great encounter on the path of life for all of us. No one can know you and not find his life enriched thereby.

We wish to thank you for so unstintingly giving of your time and talent for the six years you were on the board (1981-1987) and for keeping "accurate record of the transactions of the board," as well as communicating on the board's behalf the four years you were the board secretary.

Lastly, we wish to acknowledge you as the founding father of the Fund Development Committee. It was your brain child, and you carefully nurtured it. There was—and is—a real need for such an activity, and it has begun to accomplish its intended goal. Those of us who remain on the board pledge to you that your vision will not die.

We wish you and your wife good health and many years of service to the Lord in your churches and communities in Columbus, Ohio, and Daytona Beach, Florida.

Sincerely,

Stephen J. Pierce, secretary
For the Seventh Day Baptist Memorial Fund

Alfred Station homecoming planned

Homecoming at the Alfred Station, New York, Seventh Day Baptist Church will be held on September 24, 1988. An invitation is extended to all members, former members, former pastors, and friends to attend the all-day "get together." The worship service will be at 11 a.m., with a dinner following the service. There will be an afternoon and evening program, and a light evening lunch.

Evelyn Thomas, chairman of the trustees, reported that the new restroom on the ground floor, accessible to the handicapped, has been completed.

Eastern Association was held at our church from May 13-15. Rev. Herbert E. Saunders, conference president, gave the proclamation, "Enter the Joy." A concert by the Houghton Academy Choir was

enjoyed by all in the afternoon. Supper was served by the host church, followed by an evening of fellowship. Central New York delegates led devotions at the close of the day, and the annual business meeting was held on Sunday morning.

The young people held a very meaningful service on Youth Sabbath, May 28. Participants were Kelly Jones, Amy Palmer, Kim Gesner, Gretchen Burdick, Jon Wheeler, Bill Burdick, and Susie Butts.

The following people completed the Discipleship Course of the NET program: Christian Mattison, Jean L. Pierce, Rebecca Schweigart, Amanda Snyder, Nelson Snyder, and Yvonne L. Stephan. Pastor Melvin F. Stephan presented certificates on Resurrection Sabbath. SR

An invitation is extended to all members, former members, former pastors, and friends to attend the all-day "get together."



Margaret Allen, teacher of the year, receives crystal apple from David Clarke.



Above: Conference delegates enjoy music during Medema concert.

Below: Children's associated conference.



Robe of Achievement recipients announced

Total commitment to the Lord's work is an all-encompassing responsibility which becomes an integral part of all the years of a Christian's life.

The text printed below was read during the Robe of Achievement presentation ceremony held during General Conference, August 7-13, 1988, in Salem, West Virginia.

This year, the Seventh Day Baptist Women's Board has selected two ladies to receive the 1988 Robe of Achievement.

The first to be honored is not present at General Conference this year. Most of the following is a direct quotation from the letter of nomination.

"Total commitment to the Lord's work is an all-encompassing responsibility which becomes an integral part of all the years of a Christian's life. Audrey Fuller, with her husband, Menzo, has met this responsibility cheerfully and willingly in all areas required for a Robe of Achievement recipient: family, home church, denomination, and ecumenical interests.

"During their young adult years, Audrey and Menzo did what most couples do. They earned a living, began raising two daughters and worked hard for the North Loup, Nebraska, Seventh Day Baptist Church. But, alas! The Fuller household became a little fuller (pun intended) when they adopted twin nephews



Linda (Bingham) Hays receives Robe of Achievement from Dorothea Shettel, president of the Women's Society.

after the tragic death of their parents.

"Once the children—Phyllis, Kéry, Richard, and Robert—became independent, the Fullers turned their attention to denominational service. Leaving the comfort and security of their home in North Loup, they shared their love for Christ with the natives of Malawi, Africa, where Audrey was employed as a missionary nurse.

"When they returned from Malawi in 1980, Audrey and Menzo set down new roots and joined the Shiloh, New Jersey, Seventh Day Baptist Church. Audrey has been active in several areas of our church program. In the Ladies Benevolent Society, for example, she has found her niche in many places. She has served on the Sabbath School Missionary Committee for several years, helping indirectly to meet international, denominational, community and individual needs. She and Menzo also serve as consultants on the Shiloh/Marlboro-based Africa Committee for the denomination's Missionary Society.

"She brings experience and insight to our local Board of Christian Education, and during 1987-88, led the primary-age youth group—a position not often filled by a grandmother.

"Her care for children does not end when she leaves the church building, however; she and Menzo serve as surrogate grandparents for some of our church children, even to the extent of providing full-time, live-in responsibility when business takes parents away from home overnight.

"Nor is her talent limited to missions, women's work and children. Her soprano voice is a welcome addition to the Shiloh choir, where the high A-flats are a little less intimidating when Audrey is with us.

"Audrey is a dedicated Christian worker outside our church and denomination, as well. The personal attributes which make a good nurse have been put to good use in New Jersey. A few years ago, she gave desperately needed regular relief to a family who was devoting full-time to the care of their Alzheimer's disease victim. More recently, Audrey has become active in a newly-formed day care center for other victims of this disease.

"Since Menzo is now employed as a handyman at Ranch Hope for Boys, Audrey has become a supporter of their non-denomina-

Cont. on p. 29

Derby joins Center staff

Reprinted from *Leadline*

Douglas W. Derby of Janesville, Wisconsin, began work as the new Center manager at the SDB Center in Janesville on June 1, 1988.

For the past 13 years, Derby has been business manager at the University of Wisconsin Center Rock County in Janesville. While in that position, he was responsible for all fiscal aspects of the two-year campus, including budget, purchasing, fee collections, staff supervision, payroll and employee relations and training.

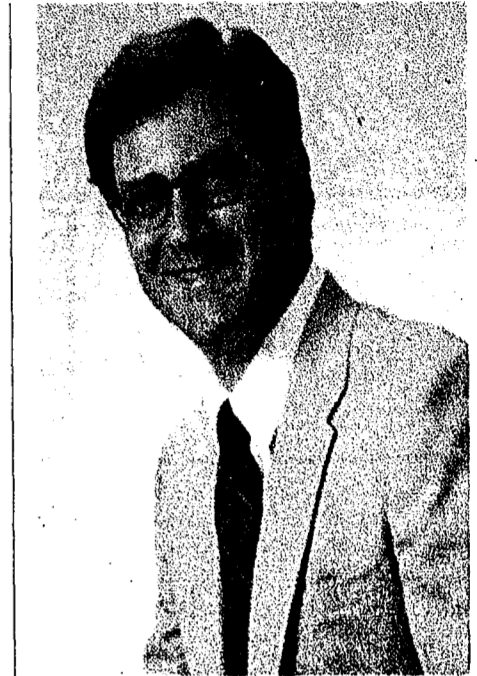
"We are glad to welcome Doug Derby to the Center staff," said Executive Secretary Dale Thorngate. "His strong qualifications and experience are already a great help."

Derby's training includes an M.A. in German (1972) and a B.A. in German (1970) from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, plus all course work for a master's degree in business administration from the graduate school. He was instructor of German language, 1985-1987.

As Center manager, Derby will be responsible for administration of the denominational

office, including accounting services, other computer and financial services, mail services and building maintenance.

"For over a year, we have been functioning without a business manager," Thorngate noted, "and for the past six months, without the administrative assistant. It has been a difficult time, and all members of the staff have done a commendable job of accepting added and shifted responsibilities during the transition time. The management review called for by the General Council in February helped us greatly in better assessing the services the office provides and appropriate resources to get the job done. A priority for the General Council was to provide for efficient management support of the Center so that the executive secretary could be freed to focus on his major tasks of communicating, coordinating and promoting the work of Seventh Day Baptists." SR



Douglas Derby
Center manager

tional cause—turning lives of troubled boys around for Christ."

Since the time that this was written, Audrey and Menzo have retired from their work at Ranch Hope in New Jersey and are busy settling into their new church and home in Daytona Beach, Florida.

We are pleased at this time to present the Robe of Achievement and its accompanying plaque to Audrey (Babcock) Fuller, in absentia.

Our second recipient for the 1988 Robe of Achievement award is a calm, lovely Christian lady whose entire life has been directed toward helping others.

As one of many brothers and sisters, she seemed shy as a young person, always cooperative but never in the forefront. As she matured, she soon showed the potential she had for Christian service. In the early 1960's, she became one of our early Youth Field Workers, and directly as a result of this work, became part of our first Summer Christian Service Corps team. Also directly as a result of these responsibilities, she met and married her husband.

Not long after their marriage, they helped to conceive and then implement an idea for a home in which special people would be welcomed. Slowly their idea grew into actuality, although not without struggle and setbacks.

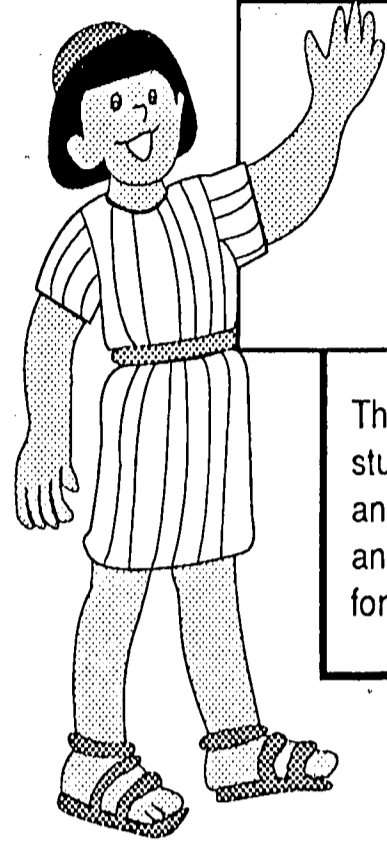
To put others first, to do without necessities, to take from what one has to give to others—all of these attributes they have given, by example, to their children. Even life-threatening health problems have not slowed her determination to help those who cannot help themselves. Over the years, she and her husband and their three children have shown how Christ can be revealed in the lives of his faithful workers.

Her community and her local church, as well as the denomination, have benefited from her caring heart. By her example, her daughter has become a second generation SCSC volunteer. The Women's Board is proud to award the 1988 Robe of Achievement to Linda (Bingham) Hays. SR

Robe

Cont. from p. 28

Sabbath Nurture Series



Thirteen lessons that teach...
about Christ
about the Sabbath
about faith.

The Nurture Series material includes a student lesson book, a teacher's guide and teaching aids for primary, junior and high school levels. For ordering information, write:

Seventh Day Baptist
Board of Christian Education
PO Bx 115
Alfred Station, NY 14803



"God Uses Kids!"

(Colby 4)

Over 60 children participated in the musical presentation which features a computer named "Colby."



Eddie Ferguson, played by Scott Graffius, learned that being famous was not as important as having friends.

Miami installs...

Cont. from page 23

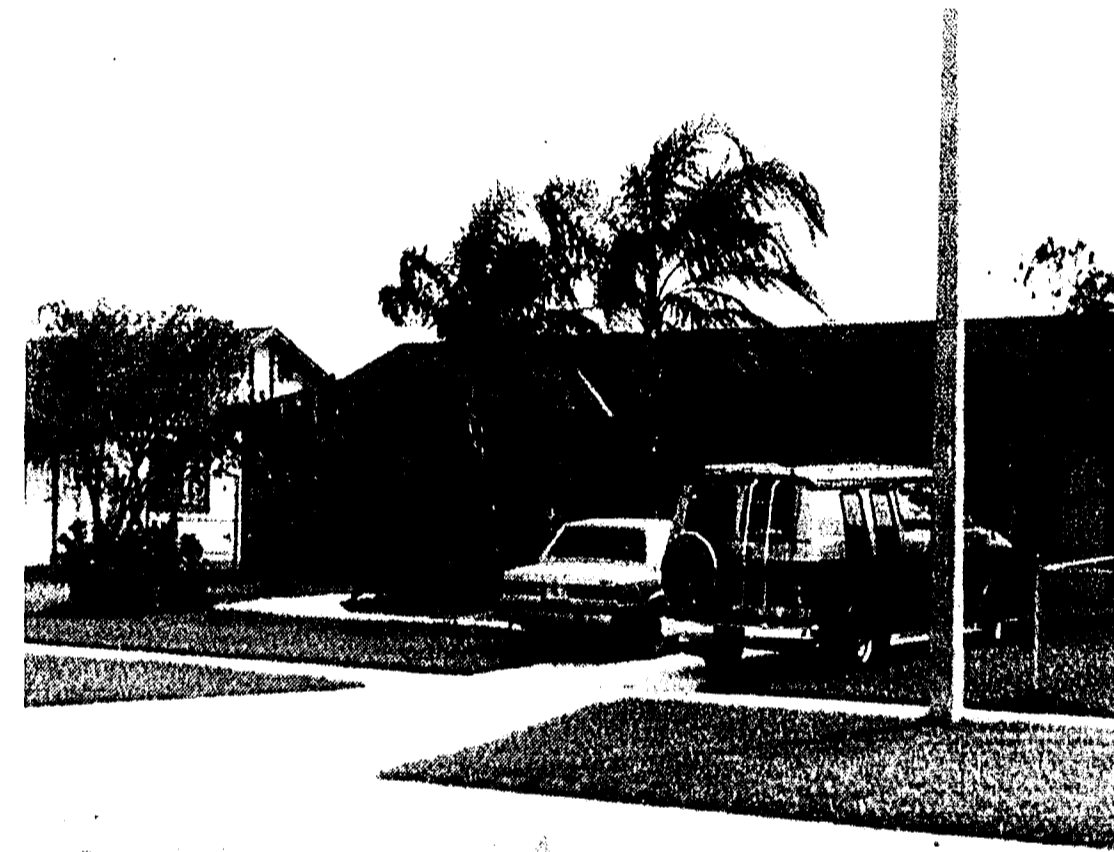
praise the Lord; then the victory will be ours."

After divine service, all were treated to refreshments of hors d'oeuvres, cake and fruit punch. Sister Mamby had made a special cake, which was decorated with an open Bible, words from the great commission, and the burning torch.

Several members then left the church to have their first look at the parsonage, which was purchased on June 13 with assistance from the Memorial Board. The

installation service for Pastor Samuels was held on July 2. Executive Secretary Dale Thorngate was the installation officer, and Director of Extension Rod Henry represented the Missionary Society. Pastor Samuels' new address is: 19920 N.W. 32nd Ave., Miami, FL 33056.

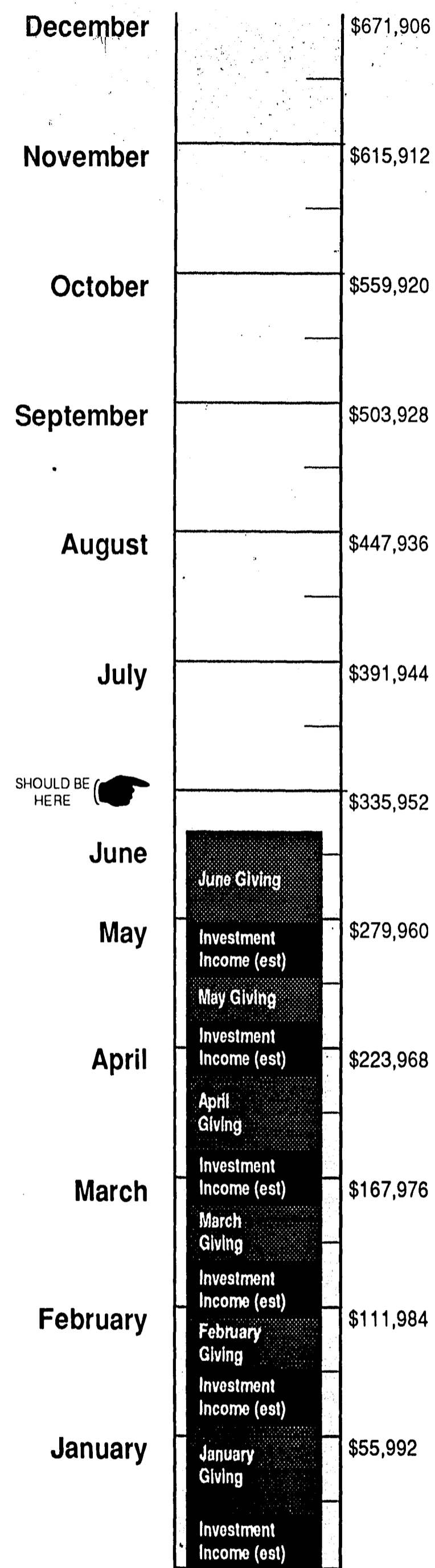
We rejoice and give God the praise for all he has done for us. We look forward to working with Pastor Samuels, as we anticipate building a great church in a great American city. **SR**



New parsonage in Miami, Florida



Pastor Andrew Samuels, Kay and daughter, Tsahai



1988 income needed from all sources—\$671,906.
Per month gift income needed—\$31,630. Total
needed each month—\$55,992.

The Denominational Budget... Our partnership in ministry

How's life going?

From "Link"—July, 1988
Australasia Seventh Day Baptist Newsletter

You are alive because God has given you life. But perhaps life is not going too well for you, and you feel as though you are only existing. This is not God's intention for you. He wants you to enjoy *abundant life* now and *eternal life* in his kingdom forever.

You receive this metamorphosis of new life when you stop going your own way and surrender your life to God, asking Jesus Christ, who willingly died and took the punishment for your sin, to come into your life and be Lord and Master.

Jesus said, "I came that they may have life, and have it *more abundantly*" (John 10:10). "God has given to us *eternal life*, and this life is in his Son; he who has the Son has that life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have that life" (1 John 5:11, 12).

Let Jesus Christ, Creator, Saviour, King of Kings and Lord of Lords, take over your life today and receive this abundant and eternal life.



Accessions

Adams Center, New York
Quintin E. Smith, Pastor

Joined after Baptism
Catherine M. Roberts

Blountville, Tennessee
Bobby D. Wright, Pastor

Joined after Baptism
Rick Burdick

Boulder, Colorado
Gordon Lawton, Pastor

Joined after Baptism
Brian Heath
Nathanael Lawton

Joined by Letter
Gene Davis
Doris Rood

Denver, Colorado
Ralph Grosser, Pastor

Joined after Baptism
Lindsay Hansen
Rachel Parker
Melissa Winkleblack

Joined after Testimony
Lois Barber

Fouke, Arkansas
Mary-Esther Jones, Pastor

Joined after Testimony
Roger Bruce Slaton

Milton, Wisconsin
Herbert E. Saunders, Pastor

Joined after Baptism
Shelly McHone
David Summers

Joined after Testimony
Shawna Cook
Heidi Saunders
Jerry Arneson

Plainfield, New Jersey
Joe A. Samuels, Pastor

Joined after Testimony
David Samuels

Riverside, California
Gabriel Bejjani, Pastor

Joined after Testimony
Cliff Rosa
Salma Bejjani
Roy Ross
Tatsuko Ross

Waterford, Connecticut

Joined after Baptism
Deborah Gressly

Joined by Letter
Paul Gressly

Marriages

White-Rasmussen.—Eleanor White and John Rasmussen were united in marriage on May 29, 1988, at the Seventh Day Baptist Church in Boulder, Colorado.

Wasil-Teague.—Gregory F. Wasil and Kathy S. Teague were united in marriage on June 25, 1988, in Gallup Garden Park, Littleton, Colorado. Rev. Elmo Fitz Randolph officiated.

Smith-Carpenter.—Angela Smith of Adams Center, New York, and Richard Carpenter of Evans Mills, New York, were united in marriage on July 2, 1988, at The Church of the Nazarene, Watertown, New York. The brides's father, Pastor Gene Smith of the Adams Center Seventh Day Baptist Church, officiated.

Births

Lubke.—A son, Phillip Douglas Lubke, was born to Douglas and Jayne Lubke of Edgerton, Wisconsin, on May 2, 1988.

Clare.—A son, Ryan Daniel Clare, was born to Leon and Sandy Clare of Bridgewater, New Jersey, on May 12, 1988.

Obituaries

Burdick.—Ralph Watson Burdick was born on September 25, 1912, in McGregor, Iowa, the son of Harvey L. and Beulah Burdick, and died at his winter home in Florida on March 7, 1988.

He was a graduate of Milton College, Milton, Wisconsin, in 1934. He worked for Highway Trailer Co. in Edgerton, Wisconsin, for more than 35 years. He married Gladys Forrest on December 19, 1936. To this union were born three children, Rita of Burlington, Wisconsin, Gail Leider of Mundelein, Illinois, and Michael of Janesville, Wisconsin. He is survived by his wife and children; his brother, Dr. H. Laurence Burdick of Milton; four grandchildren, and nieces and nephews. EC

Cavinder.—Rosa A. Cavinder, 94, of Brevard, North Carolina, died at her home on Wednesday, March 16, 1988. She was a native of Ohio but had resided with her daughter, Rosemary, for the past 13 years. She had spent most of her life in Michigan.

She was the daughter of Thomas and Hannah (King) Richards and wife of the late G.C. Cavinder, who died in 1947. She was a member of the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Battle Creek, Michigan, and an associate member of the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Hendersonville, North Carolina.

Survivors include two sons, Raymond of Battle Creek and Lisle of Tekonsha, Michigan; six daughters, Rosemary Haire of Brevard, June Gardner of Bellevue, Michigan, Jean Spindlow of Union City, Michigan, Beth Jones and Barbara Vantrease of Battle Creek, and Janet Needham of Marshall, Michigan; a sister, Gladys Hilborn of Ionia, Michigan; 46 grandchildren, 98 great-grandchildren, and 33 great-great-grandchildren.

Services were held in Jackson Center, Ohio, at Van Horn Funeral Home Chapel. The Rev. John Thompson, pastor of the Hendersonville, North Carolina, Seventh Day Baptist Church officiated. Burial was in the Seventh Day Baptist cemetery in Jackson Center, Ohio.

Davis.—Bruce W. Davis, 74, of Alfred Station, New York, died on April 22, 1988, at St. James Mercy Hospital, Hornell, New York.

He was retired as a truck driver from Alfred Atlas Sand Company, where he worked more than 30 years.

Bruce was born on September 10, 1913, the son of Everett and Lu (Turner) Davis. He was a member of the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Alfred Station and also a past member of Eagles Club No. 2640 of Hornell.

Survivors include his wife of 47 years, Betty Beier Davis of Alfred Station; two daughters, Carol Meely of Avoca, New York, and Mary Lou Jackson of Alfred Station; four sons, Larry of Cohocton, New York, Richard of Canisteo, New York, John of Bricktown, New Jersey, and Robert of Denver, Colorado; two sisters, Jerry Lu Davis of Rochester, New York, and Bernadine Williams of Toledo, Ohio; a brother, Maxon Davis of Youngstown, New York; 12 grandchildren, one great-grandchild, and nieces and nephews.

A private funeral service was held at the Robertson Funeral Home, Hornell, with Rev. Albert N. Rogers officiating. Burial was in the Maplewood Cemetery, Alfred Station. ANR

Cobb.—Margaret (Harris) Cobb, 76, of Marlboro, New Jersey, died on Wednesday, May 4, 1988, in Bridgeton (New Jersey) Hospital, where she had been a patient less than one day.

The wife of the late Charles Melvin Cobb, who died in 1986, Margaret was the daughter of the late Warren S. and Elsie (Richey) Harris. She resided all her life in Stow Creek Township, New Jersey, where she was born.

Margaret was an active member of the Marlboro Seventh Day Baptist Church and a member of the church board of deacons. She taught Sabbath School, sang in the choir, served on the Advisory Committee, and was ordained to the diaconate on December 30, 1950.

Surviving are two sons, Leland of Pennsville, New Jersey, and Charles of Silver Spring, Maryland; a sister, Florence Berry, with whom she resided; seven grandchildren, and three great-

grandchildren.

A memorial service was held on May 14, 1988. ECD

Green.—Rollin C. Green was born on June 19, 1916, in Edgerton, Wisconsin, to Wayland Martin and Lutie Blanche (Ehlfledt) Green, and died at Rock Haven Nursing Home in Janesville, Wisconsin, on May 7, 1988.

Green was a member of the Albion, Wisconsin, Seventh Day Baptist Church and had farmed in the Edgerton area. He is survived by one brother, Dean Green of Floral Park, New York, and by aunts, uncles and cousins.

Funeral services were held on Wednesday, May 11, 1988, at the Albion Seventh Day Baptist Church, with Rev. Earl Cruzan officiating. Burial was in Evergreen Cemetery. EC

Mitchell.—Rev. James Monroe Mitchell, 58, of Little Rock, Arkansas, died on May 8, 1988, in St. Vincent Medical Center.

Born on May 29, 1929, in Nady, Arkansas, he was the son of Claude and Sarah (Parrish) Mitchell. He was active as a Seventh Day Baptist minister, evangelist and writer.

Rev. Mitchell was a very active member and minister in the Southwestern Association for many years. He pastored the Little Prairie Seventh Day Baptist Church in Nady and the Seventh Day Baptist Church in Edinburg, Texas, from 1952 to 1960, at which time he moved to Little Rock.

He became active in all areas of the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Little Rock, holding offices as moderator, Sabbath School superintendent, treasurer, trustee, Sabbath School teacher, and chairman of the evangelistic committee, with involvement in many fair booths sponsored by the church.

His major concern was for evangelism, and after his ordination as an evangelist in 1963, he conducted many evangelistic services in Florida, Alabama, West Virginia, Louisiana, and Arkansas. Rev. Mitchell was instrumental in organizing Christ Seventh Day Baptist Church of Little

Rock in 1978, and the First Seventh Day Baptist Church of Memphis, Tennessee, in 1979. In recent years, he also assisted with services in Lonoke, Arkansas, and Alexander, Louisiana. Rev. Mitchell served in the Southwestern Association as president, treasurer, camp director, Missionary Committee chairman, and on other committees.

In 1977, he was vice president of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference. He conducted a radio ministry for over five years and carried on printing, tract and tape ministries for several years. He authored several tracts and recently completed a book of over 200 pages entitled, "A Comprehensive Study of the Book of Revelation."

Survivors include two sons, James and Brian, both of Little Rock; two daughters, Elaine Garrett of Little Rock and Janis Smith of Mabelvale, Arkansas; his father, Claude Mitchell of Texarkana, Arkansas; two brothers, Alfred of Texarkana, Texas, and Roy of Lafayette, Louisiana; a sister, Annie Hudson of Fouke, Arkansas; and four grandchildren.

A memorial service was conducted on May 14, 1988, at the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Little Rock, with Rev. Kenneth Van Horn, Rev. Mynor Soper and Irving Seager officiating. IDS

Kagarise.—Julia T. Kagarise, 90, of Salemsville, Pennsylvania, died on May 10, 1988, at her home, following an extended illness.

Julia was born on June 25, 1897, in Arcadia, Nebraska, the daughter of Royal R. and Zilla (David) Thorngate and married Sherman R. Kagarise of Salemsville on October 14, 1920.

Julia was an active member of the Bell Seventh Day Baptist Church, Salemsville, and she and her husband were well known for their hospitality to all Seventh Day Baptists who visited Salemsville.

Surviving are her husband; two daughters, Carol Guyer of New Enterprise, Pennsylvania, and Denise Green of Milton, Wisconsin; a sister, Geraldine Leonard of Port St. Luci, Florida; seven grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Services were held on May 13, 1988, at the Bell Seventh Day Baptist Church and were led by Rev. Kent L. Martin.

Batson.—Eldred H. Batson, 84, of Parkersburg, West Virginia, a retired school teacher, died on May 11, 1988, in Willows Intermediate Care Facility, Parkersburg.

Batson was born on July 11, 1903, in Richie County, the son of the late Charles H. and Martha (Wade) Batson.

On August 13, 1930, he married Alberta Davis, who preceded him in death on April 5, 1987.

Batson, a 1931 graduate of Salem College, Salem, West Virginia, taught school for many years. At the time of his retirement, he was principal of Neal Junior High School in Vienna, West Virginia. He was a member and senior deacon of the Salem Seventh Day Baptist Church and a member of the Kiwanis Club in Parkersburg. He also served as treasurer of Our World Mission for a time. He and Alberta were recognized at conference a few years ago for having attended 50 consecutive conferences, the first one on their honeymoon.

Surviving are one brother, Seagor O. of Charleston, West Virginia, and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to his wife, he was preceded in death by two infant children. SKD

Maltby.—Iris May (Sholtz) Maltby of South Daytona, Florida, died on May 26, 1988, at the age of 82. She was born on March 6, 1906, at Nortonville, Kansas, to Joseph and Effie (Davis) Sholtz. She was a member of the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Daytona Beach, Florida.

Iris was baptized in 1918 at Verona, New York, where she married Leon Monroe Maltby on June 16, 1930. Together, they served Seventh Day Baptist churches in Shiloh, New Jersey, White Cloud, Michigan, and Riverside, California.

Iris was not only a co-worker in the churches her husband pastored; she had her own career as well. Even before she and Leon were married, she had

taught in a one-room rural school near Verona. Later, in California, she did substitute teaching. But it was after they moved to Plainfield, New Jersey—where Leon became editor of *The Sabbath Recorder*—that Iris really came into her own as a teacher. From 1953 to 1973, she taught second grade at a private institution, the Hartridge Girl's School.

Her love of teaching and of children naturally led her to teach in Sabbath School everywhere she went. She loved to teach through drama and was the author of many poems and plays. She was also active in church camping programs.

In the fall of 1973, Iris and Leon retired to Daytona Beach. Retiring did not mean slowing down, however. Over the years, Iris was Sabbath School teacher to a whole generation of Daytona Beach children, "moving up" with them from class to class. At the time of her death, she was superintendent of the Primary Division of the Sabbath School. She was also serving on the Christian Education Committee, the Sunshine Flower Committee, and the Social Committee. She was chairman of the church's Coordinating and Extension Committee, which seeks to nurture branch churches in Florida. She was also the Missionary Society keyworker.

At the denominational level, Iris was a member of the board of the American Sabbath Tract Society for some 20 years and served as chairman of the Sabbath Promotion Committee. In 1980, she was honored by the Women's Board of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference, which named her the recipient of their Robe of Achievement award for that year.

Iris was also involved in the community. She was a member of the Women's Christian Temperance Union and was active in Church Women United. One of her special interests was a nursing home ministry at Clyatt Geriatric Center in Daytona Beach, which she carried on with her husband and others.

She was preceded in death by a son, Glendon, who died at the age of three.

Cont. on page 39

Executive secretary's annual report to General Conference

July 1987 - July 1988

Enter the joy

Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your Lord.—Matthew 25:21

General Conference President Herbert Saunders tells us that "to enter the joy of the Lord means to be faithful—faithful to the very end where he will receive the 'crown of life'—joy forevermore." Saunders also states that "joy comes from within, from the God who created us to be alive and who knows what it is that will bring joy to our hearts." This Scripture promises us great joy, but you will note that along with the reward for faithful obedience and fruitful service comes additional responsibility. "I will put you in charge of many things."

Conference year 1987-88 has revealed the deep truth of this passage for me. I have, moreover, been strengthened by a passage of Scripture that was shared with me by a dear friend. This passage from the book of Jeremiah has given me a new sense of purpose, and I share it with you because

I believe this is not only a promise to the people of Israel in exile but also a promise to all God's people who would seek to enter "into the joy of the Lord."

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you," declares the Lord.—Jeremiah 29:11-14

Even though this past year has been difficult in many ways, I do believe that God does have a plan for our future—a plan that gives hope and prosperity. As we review this past year together, let us not lose sight of God's vision for us to indeed "enter into his joy."

Year's highlights

A review of the year from last conference to this one reveals the following measurable results of our efforts:

—Annual net increase in total membership continues, though small:
1981—91, 1984—31, 1985—126, 1986—45, 1987—4

—New groups meeting for worship, fellowship and outreach:
Charleston, South Carolina; Aiken, South Carolina; Jefferson City, Missouri; Kirkwood, Missouri; and Beth-El, Houston, Texas.

—Pastors ordained:
D. Keith Mogle, Centralia, Washington; Earle Holston, Dallas-Ft. Worth, Texas.

—Nine new pastors:
Richard Evans, Andrew Samuels, Jorge Guardado, Vernon Burke, Jeanne Wilhelm Yurke, Arthur Rowe, W.H. Winborne, James Taylor, Jon Warren.

—111 pastors and church leaders gathered in three area spiritual workshops to prepare for "Our Near-By Mission."

—Revised Statement of Beliefs adopted by General Conference.

—United Relief Fund Contributions growing:
1984—\$11,000, 1985—\$12,386, 1986—\$13,759, 1987—\$14,010

—T.I.M.E. (Training in Ministry and Extension) Program continues to grow with four new trainees: Claudette Mogle, Centralia, Washington; Ruben Garcia, Los Angeles, California; Jon and Jean Warren, Jefferson City, Missouri. Total in the two training centers is now 18.

—Matthew and Ellen Olson complete cooperative short-term missionary service with the SDB Philippine Convention in Cebu City, Philippines.

—Three new churches organized:
Charleston, South Carolina, organized October 3, 1987, W.H. Winborne, pastor.
Kirkwood, Missouri, organized October 3, 1987 (merger with Farina, Illinois).
Lake Elsinore, California, organized December 12, 1987, Leland Davis, pastor.

—Rev. Rodney Henry appointed to new position, director of pastoral services, by Council on Ministry, a position combined with director of extension for the Missionary Society, beginning September 1988.

—Several churches expanding their ministry through building programs or relocation: Boulder, Colorado; New York City, New York; Riverside, California; Los Angeles, California (sale of building to support the ministry of four new congregations—Foot-hill, Southwest Los Angeles, Carson, and Primera Iglesia Hispana); Central in Upper Marlboro, Maryland.

—New disability insurance obtained for pastors and denominational employees.

—Our heritage celebrated: participation with other Baptists in marking 350 years in America; 250th anniversary of the Shiloh, New Jersey, church (one of the three of the original seven congregations that organized the General Conference); and the Bay Area (San Francisco), California, church celebrated 25 years (the first of more than 30 metropolitan area churches established since then).

—New publications produced to articulate and teach our distinctives: second phase of the NET (Natural Evangelism Training) materials on Churchmanship (local, associational and denominational); third set of Sabbath Nurture materials (revised and updated in attractive, colorful format); third edition of *Free People in Search of a Free Land* in attractive paperback format.

—New Finland mission grows with new contacts and new group meeting with Pastor Risto Sorsa in Helsinki.

World Federation highlights

—22nd Week of Prayer, "Individuals United Through Prayer"—reprint of first Week of Prayer booklet written by Gerben Zijlstra and Everett Harris, honored for their work in founding the federation.

—Jamaica SDB Bible Institute opened in October with 15 students from six churches—a project supported by the federation.

—President Gabriel Bejjani traveled with Leon Lawton to Asia in January to attend the Australasian Conference and visit churches in India and Burma conferences. Later, Bejjani conducted evangelistic services and visits with new Seventh Day Baptists in Kerala, West India.

Office management

Staff changes

This past year has been one of employee turmoil at the SDB Center. With Ivan FitzRandolph's retirement in February, we embarked on a very stormy sea of employee turnover, one which is not yet completed.

After four months of employment, Jeffery Crandall resigned as business manager. Ivan agreed to help us part-time, but he ended his part-time employment on September 30.

During our period of being without a business manager, we attempted to spread the activity and management tasks between Kathy Carr, Jill Groelle, Scott Smith and myself. By the end of the year, it was obvious that we were not making it with this vital position not being filled.

On December 31, Ethel Dickinson retired after a long and significant career in several areas of denominational work.

Also, December 31 was Paul Green's last day as dean of the Center on Ministry. This position remains open until Rod Henry becomes director of pastoral services on September 1. We are grateful for his assistance in this area in the interim.

In February, the General Council authorized a management consultation to review Center procedures. I am grateful for the council's support during this most difficult period. The results of that study by the Dick Shepard Company showed how the job tasks of each position had expanded since moving to Wisconsin and how important the business manager's position was to the day-to-day operation of the Center. After the consultation, we reviewed the tasks, reassigned some and developed a new job description for a center manager. This position provides for the on-going operation of the Center without the daily presence of the executive secretary. This is crucial since a great deal of my responsibility includes travel away from the area to do the important communicating and coordinating work among our churches and agencies.

On June 1, after extensive interview and follow-up procedures, Douglas Derby was hired as the new Center manger. Doug,

who has an MBA equivalent, comes to us after 13 years experience as business manager at the University of Wisconsin, Rock County Center, Janesville. He comes highly recommended by his previous employer and subordinates as well. I am already beginning to feel an easing of the pressure on our day-to-day activities.

Early in the year, Matthew Olson, director of youth ministries, announced his decision to attend seminary in the fall of this year. He will continue to work part-time for the Board of Christian Education but will leave his office here in Janesville in August when he moves to Calvin College, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

During the months of April, May and June, financial secretary Jill Groelle was on maternity leave. On April 3, Lacey Lynn Groelle was born. Jill returned to work on June 20, and we are thankful. While Jill was away, Ethel Dickinson and Jeremy Howard helped with some of the day-to-day tasks on a part-time basis.

On June 23, Scott Smith resigned as executive director of the Tract and Communication Council. His resignation becomes effective August 15. He will continue on a six-month interim basis as editor of *The Sabbath Recorder*, through the March issue.

And on July 12, Brenda Cornelio, office secretary and my new right hand, tendered her resignation, also to be effective August 15.

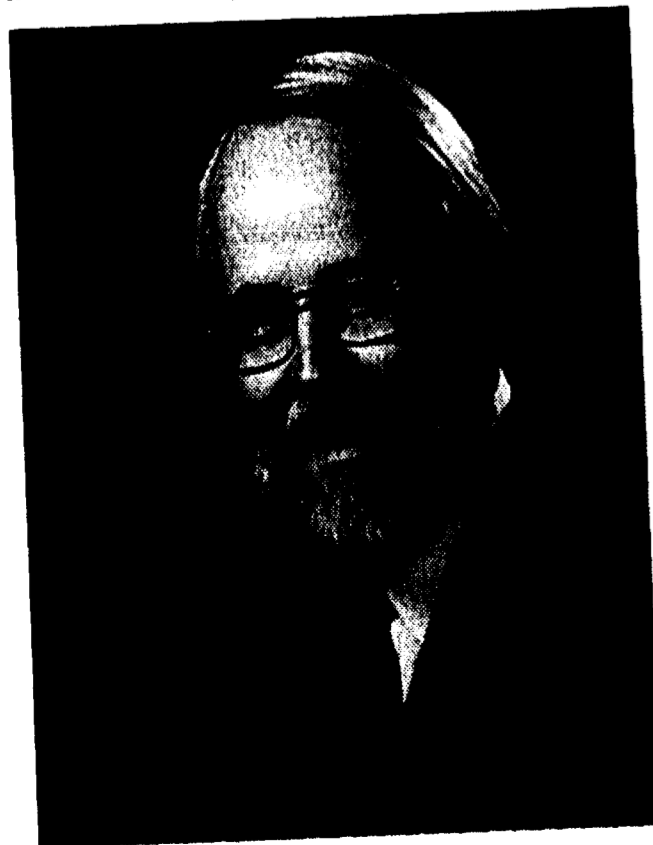
Computer system

As you will remember from last year's report, in October of 1986 we had installed a new Sperry, 40 megabyte, multiuser computer system. By December 1987, we were still unable to use the new system because of unethical business practices and incompetent personnel of the original vender.

By the end of December, we were able to extract ourselves from the original contract, although we were paid off with a check which would not process due to insufficient funds. Eventually, we were able to process the check with help from the Valley Bank of Janesville.

Once we were out of the original con-

Executive Secretary Dale D. Thorngate



tract we were then able to hire a new programmer and to begin to actually set up the new system. This has required a great deal of undoing of the previous vender's work even before we could begin to install the new programs. We have also discovered that the hardware would not do what the original vender said it would; therefore we have had to purchase new components for the basic unit, as well as a new printer.

The new computer is now up and running. We have completed the programming for the mailing list and the accounting. The Memorial Fund is able to do its accounting and reporting. Denominational Budget distribution is being made off the new computer. The computer accounting for the other agencies is still in process, and I am awaiting the monthly reports for 1987. This means there will be no financial reports at this conference for 1987 for the General Conference, Ecumenical Affairs, Christian Social Action, Council on Ministry, and Tract and Communication Council.

Communications and public relations Lead-Line

The monthly leadership newsletter continues to provide information across the denomination on a timely basis. Janet Thorngate continues to edit it and now produces it on the Macintosh desk-top publishing system.

Meetings

During the year I attended 31 meetings of our boards and agencies as well as ecumenical organizations.

Church visits

During this year I have only visited 14 churches making presentations, sometimes preaching, but always listening to concerns and ideas.

Pastors' workshops

In March and April I participated in the three area Pastors' Workshops. I led the Friday evening worship in preparation for the Sabbath, and presented a workshop on the history, meaning and significance of the covenant for the church. I was person-

ally enriched by the workshops, each one unique, even though the topics and presenters were the same. I am encouraged by the enthusiasm of our denominational leadership. I believe our churches are excited about the potential they have for growth and ministry.

Stewardship

1987 was the lowest year in denominational budget support in the last five years. We conducted a survey through the *Lead-Line* to try to identify the problems. The results of that survey were inconclusive. In January we began the year by oversubscribing the budget. This was a good indication that things were going to be different in 1988. Receipts as of June 1988 are \$20,000 above where we were last year at the end of June.

There does not seem to be any clear reason for last year's large shortfall or for this year's higher giving. We are still short of the budget: with 50% of the year gone, we have raised 45% of the budget. We are very thankful for the increased giving of our people. I am excited about the possibility of our going over the budget in August with the special conference offering.

Reflections

I come to this conference with high expectations. God has revealed himself in the increased giving by Seventh Day Baptists across the country, several in significant amounts. No small indication of God's action is the \$408,987 given to the General Conference by the Estate of Sue McMillan of Bel Air, California. Mrs. McMillan had two contacts with Seventh Day Baptist pastors in Los Angeles—Rev. Leland Davis when he was pastor there and Rev. Duane Davis approximately three years ago. This gift has no strings attached. I believe that God has given us, as his people, a clear sign that he wants us to do something. Your General Council is working on an exciting plan that will make use of these funds in a creative way. You will be hearing more from them on this plan.

Leadership

I have been impressed by the leadership

demonstrated by your General Council and the Coordinating Leadership Team as they have been planning and projecting into the future. The leadership Mission Statement demonstrates the forward-looking thinking of people you have chosen to lead the denomination into the next decade. Pray for the Coordinating Leadership Team as we come together in the fall for a planning retreat to develop goals and programs for the accomplishment of our Mission.

The experience with the pastors and other church leaders at the spring workshops was indeed inspiring. I saw bright faces shining with joy from obviously having an intimate relationship with God through Christ. These people came with the anticipation that they would be spiritually fed and motivated to fruitfulness in God's family called Seventh Day Baptists. I believe they left these meetings having experienced an intimacy with God and his people. We together are beginning to celebrate the joy that Christ has provided to us through his promise of love.

Our mission

This past year has been difficult on a daily basis, but it has produced a vision for God's great promise of "hope and a future." I seek God every day and know that without the knowledge that he does have a plan, I would not have made it. Pray with me for a joyful heart.

President Saunders said in his article on faithful prayer in the October 1987 *Sabbath Recorder*: "We have a tremendous message to share with the world, of faith in Jesus Christ as Master, and of the Sabbath as a gift of joy for those who believe." Seventh Day Baptists are unique in the modern world. We believe in salvation by faith in Christ alone as our access to God. But, we believe that God gave us the Sabbath to experience that intimate, fruitful celebration on a weekly basis. We do have a tremendous message. It is a God-given message. Let us tell someone today about God's great promise of love. SR

Obituaries

Cont. from page 35

Survivors include her husband; two sons, Ronald of North Plainfield, New Jersey, and Allan of Marlboro, New Jersey; a daughter, Lucille Jennings of San Bernardino, California; 11 grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Arthur Rowe at Bellevue-Cedar Hill Funeral Home, Daytona Beach, on May 29, 1988, with the service of committal following on May 30. Interment was in the Bellevue-Cedar Hill Memory Gardens. AR

Jackson.—Albert Bliss Jackson of Denver, Colorado, was born on November 2, 1913, and died on June 8, 1988.

Services were held at Olinger's Chapel Hill Mortuary, with Pastor Ralph Grosser of the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Denver, officiating.

Davis.—Carrie F. Davis, 88, a former resident of Bridgeton-Salem Pike, New Jersey, died on Monday, June 20, 1988, in the Cumberland County

Medical Center, where she had resided for seven years. She had been in failing health for 10 years.

Born in Stow Creek, New Jersey, on January 7, 1900, Carrie was the daughter of the late Joseph H. and Louie (Rainear) Fogg. She was the wife of the late H. Ernest H. Campbell, who died in 1949, and the late Frank G. Davis, who died in 1987.

Carrie had been employed at the former Ward Tomlinson Store in Shiloh, New Jersey, for a number of years.

Surviving are a son, Walter E. Campbell Sr. of Bridgeton, New Jersey; two daughters, Irene Moulder of Norristown, Pennsylvania, and Mildred Williams of Ocean City, New Jersey; a stepson, F. Rollo Davis of Shiloh; 16 grandchildren, and 27 great-grandchildren.

Carrie was a member of the Marlboro, New Jersey, Seventh Day Baptist Church for over 60 years, and her pastor, Rev. Everett C. Dickinson, conducted graveside services in the

Seventh Day Baptist Cemetery, Shiloh.

Contributions may be made in her memory to the Memorial Fund of the Marlboro Seventh Day Baptist Church.

Funeral arrangements were under the direction of the Garrison Funeral Home.

Bottoms.—Mattie Miller Bottoms died at her home in Athens, Alabama, on July 3, 1988, at the age of 87.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Burrell Bottoms. As long as health permitted, Mattie attended the Seventh Day Baptist Church in Paint Rock, Alabama.

Survivors include a son, Wendell Miller; a daughter, Ehrma Whitt; 14 grandchildren, and 19 great-grandchildren. Funeral services were conducted at the McConnell Funeral Home, with burial in the Athens City Cemetery. JDB

Conference '88...

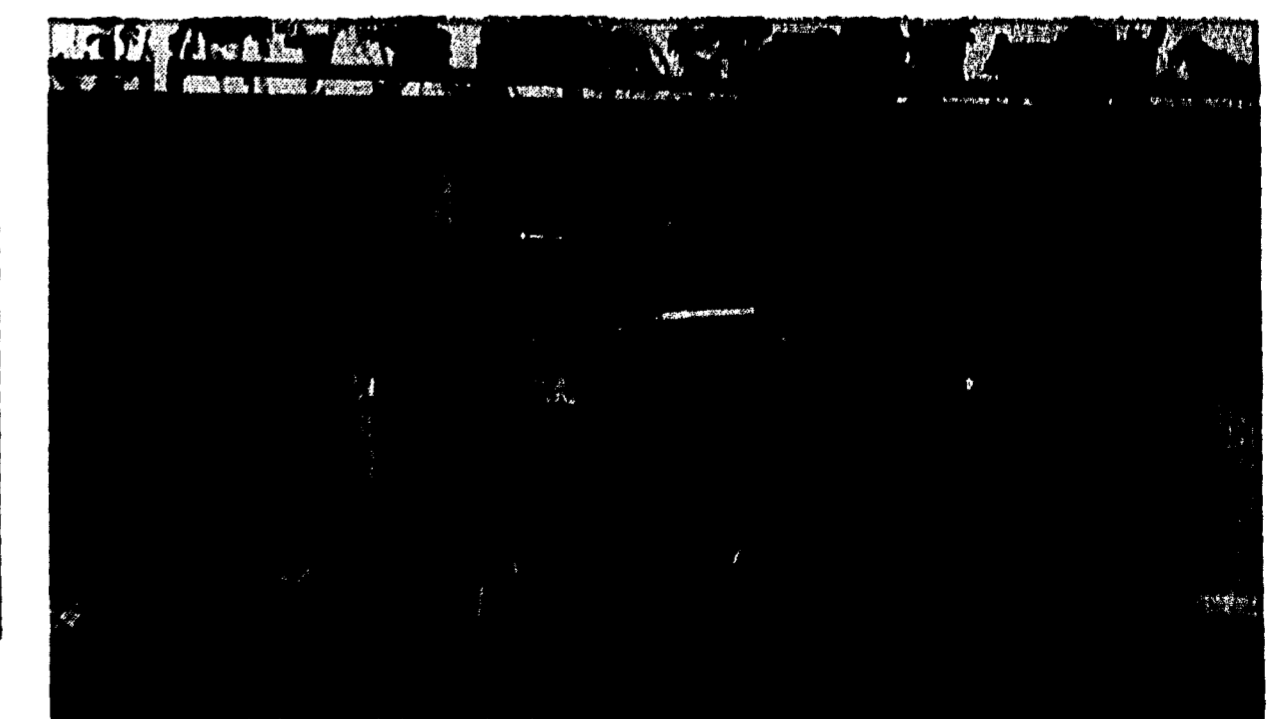
Praising the Lord through music



Lanette Calhoun and Monty Bishop welcome Sabbath in Friday evening concert.



(Left) Throughout each day, musical interludes inspire—Debbie Hoff and Paul Green. (Below) Pianist-Composer Ken Medema leads choral workshop before his Tuesday evening concert.

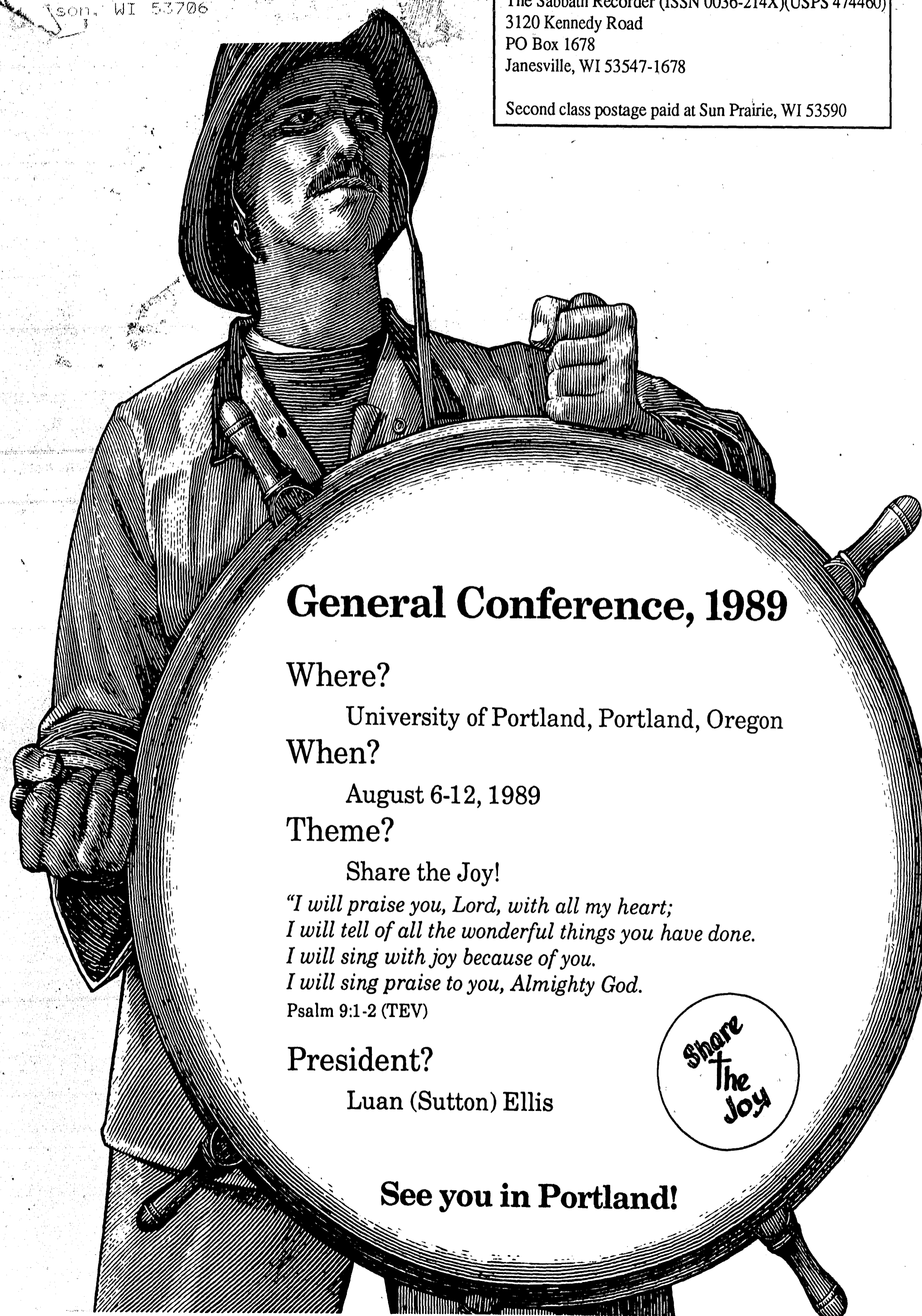


(Below) Pianist-Composer Ken Medema leads choral workshop before his Tuesday evening concert.

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General Conference, 1989

Where?

University of Portland, Portland, Oregon

When?

August 6-12, 1989

Theme?

Share the Joy!

*"I will praise you, Lord, with all my heart;
I will tell of all the wonderful things you have done.
I will sing with joy because of you.
I will sing praise to you, Almighty God.*

Psalm 9:1-2 (TEV)

President?

Luan (Sutton) Ellis



See you in Portland!

The Seventh Day Baptist

October 1988

Sabbath Recorder



Good question, Satan!