

The

S

abbath

News for and about
Seventh Day Baptists

January 2001

R

ecorder



Need
direction
in your
ministry?

How about
Short-term Missions?



Who are Seventh Day Baptists?

If you've never read *The Sabbath Recorder* before, you might be wondering who Seventh Day Baptists are. Like other Baptists, we believe in:

- salvation by grace through faith in Jesus Christ.
- the Bible as the inspired word of God. The Bible is our authority for our faith and daily conduct.
- baptism of believers, by immersion, witnessing to our acceptance of Christ as Savior and Lord.
- freedom of thought under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.
- the congregational form of church government. Every church member has the right to participate in the decision-making process of the church.

The seventh day

God commanded that the seventh day (Saturday) be kept holy. Jesus agreed by keeping it as a day of worship. We observe the seventh day of the week (Saturday) as God's Holy Day as an act of loving obedience—not as a means of salvation. Salvation is the free gift of God through Jesus Christ. It is the joy of the Sabbath that makes SDBs just a little bit different.

If you would like more information, write: The Seventh Day Baptist Center, 3120 Kennedy Road, PO Box 1678, Janesville, WI 53547-1678. Phone (608) 752-5055; FAX (608) 752-7711; E-mail: sdbgen@inwave.com and the SDB Web site: www.seventhdaybaptist.org

The Washington, D.C., Seventh Day Baptist Church will celebrate its 55th Anniversary in 2001. If you have been a part of the congregation or have information about its history, please contact the church:

- E-mail: sdb@maranatha.net
- Mail: Washington SDB Church
c/o Pastor Paul R. Andries
4700 16th St. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20011-4331

- Phone: (202) 291-7002
- Fax: (202) 726-5198

Pastors' Conference 2001



April 17-21
Alfred Station, NY

with instructors
Dr. William Brackney
(Church history)
Dr. Paul Manuel
(Biblical interpretation)

Missionary Society Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the members of the Seventh Day Baptist Missionary Society will be held at the Pawcatuck SDB Meeting House, 120 Main St., Westerly, R.I., on Sunday, March 18, 2001, at 2:00 p.m. for the following purposes:

To elect voting members, a Board of Managers, and officers to hold office until the next annual meeting and until their successors are elected.

To hear and act upon the reports of the Board of Managers and officers for the fiscal year January 1, 2000, to December 31, 2000.

To ratify the appointment of independent public accountants for the current fiscal year.

To consider and act upon such other matters as may properly come before said meeting or any adjournment thereof.

The Board of Managers has fixed the close of business on February 28, 2001, as the time at which members entitled to notice thereof and to vote at the meeting and any adjournment thereof shall be determined.

—Cindy L. Nadeau, secretary

The Sabbath Recorder

Establ. 1844

January 2001
Volume 223, No. 1
Whole No. 6,858

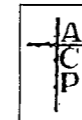


A Seventh Day Baptist publication

The Sabbath Recorder (ISSN 0036-214X) (USPS 474460) is published monthly (combined July & August) by the SDB General Conference's Tract and Communication Council, 3120 Kennedy Road, PO Box 1678, Janesville, WI 53547-1678. This publication is distributed at no cost to members and friends of Seventh Day Baptist churches and is made possible by donations from its readers. Printed in Canada. Periodicals postage paid at Janesville, WI, and additional offices.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *The Sabbath Recorder*, 3120 Kennedy Road, PO Box 1678, Janesville, WI 53547-1678

This is the 156th year of publication for *The Sabbath Recorder*. First issue published, June 13, 1844. Member of the Associated Church Press. The Sabbath Recorder does not necessarily endorse signed articles.



Kevin Butler
Editor

Leanne Lippincott
Assistant Editor

Contributing Editors

Aubrey Appel, Calvin P. Babcock, Gabriel E. Bejjani, Andrew J. Camenga, G. Kirk Looper, Clayton Pinder, Laura Price, Don A. Sanford.

WRITERS: Please type manuscripts double spaced. Only manuscripts that include a stamped, addressed envelope can be returned. Unsolicited manuscripts are welcomed; however, they will be considered on a space available basis. No remuneration is given for any article that appears in this publication. Paid advertising is not accepted.

Features

Helping others help themselves 4
by Kirk Looper
How we can assist our overseas brethren.

Gambian school children want to be promoted 5
by Kirk Looper
Older students in need of a new building.

Interested in short-term missions? 7
by Kirk Looper
Matching workers and sites for short-term projects.

Resuscitating the Lake 9
About to close its doors, one church is revived.

New windows of opportunity open 10
by Ronald J. Elston Sr.
New fellowship launched in suburban Atlanta.

Old Stonefort extends its ministry 10
More branches in southern Illinois and Tennessee.

The language of love 12
by Jeff Hazen

Department Index for 2000 23
Feature Index for 2000 28

Departments

Women's Society <i>Pain and suffering</i>	13	President's Page <i>Let God lead you</i>	19
Pearls from the Past <i>Our first periodical</i>	14	Local news <i>Auburn, WA</i>	20-22 20
SR Almanac <i>Looking back 5, 10, 25... years</i>	15	<i>Colorado Springs, CO</i>	21
Christian Education <i>Nurture Series lessons</i>	16	<i>New Auburn, WI</i>	21
Focus <i>God's work in Kerala, India</i>	17	<i>Alfred, NY</i>	22
The Beacon <i>God vs. machine</i>	18	Family flux <i>Accessions,</i>	24-26 24
		<i>marriage, birth</i>	
		<i>Obituaries</i>	25-26
		Kevin's Korner <i>Traveling mercies</i>	27



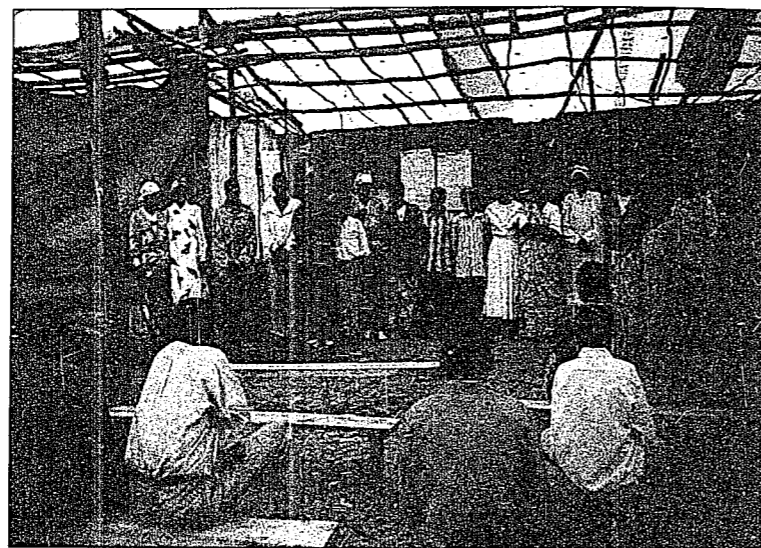
Helping others help themselves

by Kirk Looper

Talking about the work of the Seventh Day Baptist Missionary Society is one of my favorite topics. Especially when you consider that the Society is made up of all who care about the work being done in our sister Conferences and churches, both here and abroad.

Each and every one of you is important—every child who puts a penny in the Sabbath School Missions Offering, those who remember the Missionary Society in their will, and everyone in between is needed to do the work.

All of you have done so much over the past year that it would be impossible to list every contribution on these pages. So, you will need to wait



This church in Rwanda would benefit from having a metal roof.

for some of the projects to be listed in future articles.

We appreciate everyone who unselfishly gave beyond all expectations. The funds that you donated helped to build churches, and assisted in buying educational materials for schools and churches, hymnals, bicycles, automobiles, computers, printers, photocopiers, clothing,

food, cooking utensils, blankets and bedding, hospital medicines and equipment, and many small items. Without your collective support, we would have no mission work.

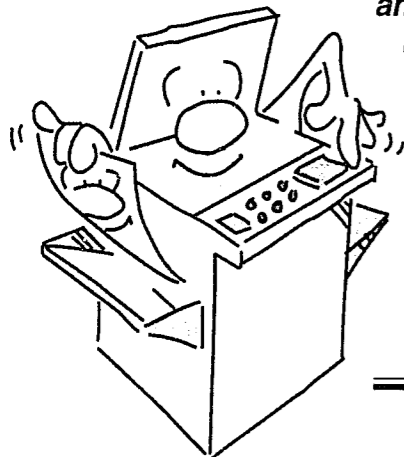
Recently, funds have been received to help the churches in Rwanda, Africa, replace their thatch roofs with metal roofs. Donations also helped replace roofs in Zambia and Liberia. Each of these metal roofs cost only a few hundred dollars and last much longer than thatch roofs.

Another advantage is that church buildings with metal roofs are considered permanent structures. Governments often require churches to have permanent buildings before they can be registered or continue meeting if already registered.

The lack of church buildings is one of the biggest stumbling blocks to outreach work in Africa—no church building equals no registration. People are sometimes reluctant to go to churches without buildings. There are still many churches without roofs, so we appreciate your interest and willingness to supply them.

The second most requested need is

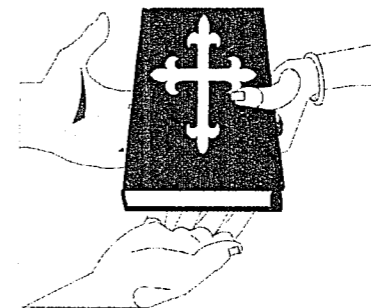
A donation for computers, printers, and photocopiers allows the Conferences and churches in underdeveloped countries to publish their own tracts, study guides, study materials, and other pertinent literature.



for printed material. A Bible costs about \$6 U.S. in Rwanda and Zambia, and a little more or less in other countries. In many nations, it may take several days to earn that amount of money. Even though the cost of Bibles is not high by our standards, it is more than the people in these churches can afford. Study guides and other materials are just as expensive.

Some donations to the Missionary Society were designated for computers, printers, and photocopiers. This is so helpful because it allows the Conferences and churches in underdeveloped countries to publish their own tracts, study guides, study materials, and other pertinent literature. This also allows the Conferences to use this equipment for a business venture, such as writing letters for those who cannot write.

Fax machines are also utilized for business purposes, since they can be used to send letters and other faxes



Even though the cost of Bibles is not high by our standards, it is more than the people in these churches can afford. Study guides and other materials are just as expensive.

for people outside the church. Any machine that can provide income will help Conferences support themselves.

Donations have also helped our Conferences by supporting volunteer missionaries in Zambia and Malawi. These funds extend volunteer work by supplying money for buildings, medicines, and outreach. This giving is greatly appreciated, and it makes the recipients feel like they are better able to cope with the problems they encounter on the field. It is good that so much can be done through these volunteers.

"Focus" articles in *The Sabbath Recorder*, "Missions Notes" in *Lead On*, and "Missionary Reporter" for Key Workers help us to update you about new needs. If you do not receive these publications, please contact our office, and we will gladly send them.

Please continue to pray for the work in each and every one of our churches and sister Conferences. God bless all of you who are making this work successful. **SR**

Gambian school children want to be promoted

by Kirk Looper

"Today is a day that many of the young people have been looking towards," noted a student at the Sev-

enth Day Baptist school in Serrekunda, The Gambia. "It is the last day of the term, and everyone is anxious

to see if they will be promoted to the next level in school. It has been so good to have a school so close."

For several years, the school has offered classes through the first three levels. Now the "promoted" youngsters will have to travel many miles to a different school. If the school could be expanded to include the next three levels, students there would not have to travel great distances just to continue their education.

In 1997, the SDB Missionary Society received a generous donation to help erect the school in The Gambia—one that houses preschool and the first three grade levels. Now is the time for them to expand so that the children who started school in



School children in The Gambia are happy to receive new clothing. But what of their future schooling?



1997 can stay in their own community. Some of the students who have completed the third level are not attending school at all because they cannot afford transportation and school fees.

It will cost \$2,500 to construct a new building to house the next three levels, if they can use the same group of workers from the original building project. Church members did much of the work, which took many months to complete.

Digging the trench for the foundation took the most time. While this was happening, cement blocks for the foundation and walls were formed in the yard. Then the blocks for the foundation were laid, followed by the blocks for the walls.

Each step was recorded on video tape and sent to the Missionary Society so that people could see the work that has been put into the building. If your church is interested in a copy of this tape, we would be glad to send it. Just notify us by writing the Missionary Society at 119 Main St., Westerly, RI 02891.

Once the original building was completed, tables and chairs were provided and books were purchased. School supplies and clothing were

also sent to the school from individual donors. We are thankful to those in other Conferences who supplied some of the financial assistance.

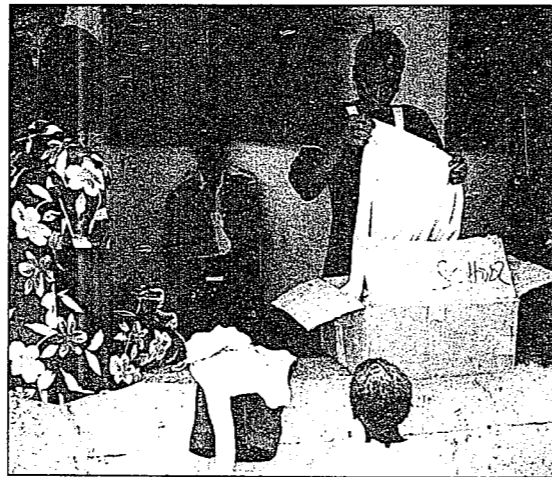
ed to hear about the plans to increase the size of the school, and covet your prayers for funds to help complete this project.

If the school could be expanded to include the next three levels, students there would not have to travel great distances just to continue their education.

The funds came in slowly, but the outcome was the same—a complete building ready to use.

Shortly after the beginning of the first term, the Missionary Society received a background report on each student, along with a picture. Photos were also sent showing the progress of the building, as well as the students and teachers in each of the rooms and outside the building. We are excit-

It will truly be a blessing to the community, ensuring that the youngsters have a greater chance to get a higher education. Prayers are always welcomed and needed. **SR**

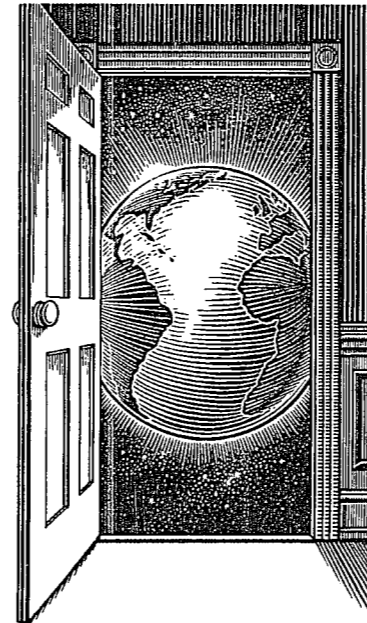


Top photo: A Gambian teacher opens a box of clothing sent from the SDB Missionary Society.

Bottom: Teachers and students stand in front of one of the school buildings in The Gambia.

Interested in short-term missions?

by Kirk Looper



Short-Term Mission Programs take a long time to develop. When I became Executive Director of the Missionary Society, it was my dream to place our youth in international mission fields.

Over the past six years, the Missionary Society has worked toward completing the planning phase of this mission program. Guidelines were submitted by the Youth/Young Adult Committee of the Missionary Society and accepted by the Board of Managers in October of 1999. These guidelines were then published in the

October '99 *Missionary Reporter*.

Since then, we have been developing a project request form for our sister Conferences and churches, and developing the rest of the program. We have also developed an application form for Seventh Day Baptists interested in working in missions through the SDB Missionary Society.

Why short-term missions?

A Short-Term Mission project will provide help to other Seventh Day Baptist ministries; educate and train adults for short-term mission work;

and instill in the participants a love for missions that will impact their lives.

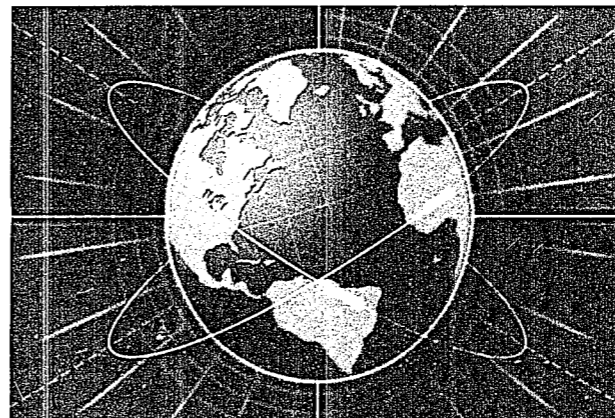
The process of implementing the program includes writing to our sister Conferences and churches, and letting them know that the program is available. Those interested in hosting a team are asked to submit a written request and a work proposal. Their proposal needs to explain how the mission team is going to be used, how long the project will last, expected cost of the project, and how the funds will be raised.

After these proposals are received in the Missionary Society office, they will be analyzed to determine the feasibility of the project. We can then determine how to begin training the team going to that project.

Project training

Much thought and prayer has gone into the training portion of this program, taking under consideration the needs of our sister Conferences and churches. The training program will cover several projects.

Participants will gain education in the areas of personal and group evangelism, Bible study techniques, basic Sabbath theology, Seventh Day Baptist polity, Seventh Day Baptist history, and specific cultural training



We want to provide opportunities to develop Christian leadership qualities, organizational skills, and ways to develop basic evangelistic techniques.



related to the country in which they will serve. The length of the training may be as long as three weeks. Pre-training will include preparatory reading and correspondent study units.

Training will not be superficial and will involve lifetime skills. Once the individual has gone through the original training program, a short update program would suffice before travel to another project.

Training goals

Our goal is to prepare the participants to meet the specific needs of the host church or Conference by having a working knowledge and respect for the culture in which they will find themselves.

We also want to provide our missionaries with opportunities to develop Christian leadership qualities, organizational skills (including how to start and lead Bible studies), and ways to develop basic evangelistic techniques, both one-on-one and in groups. This would include the ability to effectively verbalize their personal testimony.

Providing the mission teams basic information on SDB history, doctrine, and polity is meant to increase their ability to relate to our Conferences and churches. Hopefully, this will encourage the locals to organize and develop groups where they live. Perhaps a deeper

commitment to the Lord and His work will be the final outcome.

Financial costs and age qualification

Participants must raise funds to cover the cost of traveling to training as well as travel and other expenses while on the field. The Missionary Society would assume the financial costs of the training.

Expenses may vary depending on the location and length of the project.

Expenses may vary depending on the location and length of the project. If projects are located in the United States, they may cost no more than \$700 to \$800. Mexico or Jamaica expenses may be as little as \$1,000. Africa, Indonesia, India, or Australia may be closer to \$4,000. The length of time for each project will be no less than one month, unless it is within the United States.

Applications will primarily be accepted from members of churches in the Seventh Day Baptist Conference, USA and Canada. We see no limit to the upper age of the participant. However, the age qualification de-

pends upon the specific project and Christian experience of the individual as assessed by the screening board.

And on to the review board

A board composed of SDB Missionary Society members will screen these applications. This board will also act as a review board following each project. Requirements for participation will include—but not be limited to—church participation, financial freedom, and family responsibilities.

Each individual would also be responsible for his or her own health insurance. Several good insurance companies that specialize in missionary work are available to issue policies. It will be a responsibility of the screening board to determine that the applicant does indeed have valid health insurance. The board will also be responsible for checking for any signs of political unrest in the project area.

If you are interested in this type of service, you can photocopy the form below, fill in the requested information, and send it to the SDB Missionary Society, 119 Main St., Westerly, RI 02891. Or, send an e-mail with this same information to sdbmissoc@edgenet.net. A detailed application form will be sent to you.

May the Lord bless this new project and its participants. **SR**

Request for Worker Application form

Name: _____ Age: _____ Telephone No.: _____

Address: _____ Church Membership: _____

E-mail Address: _____ Area of specific interests: _____

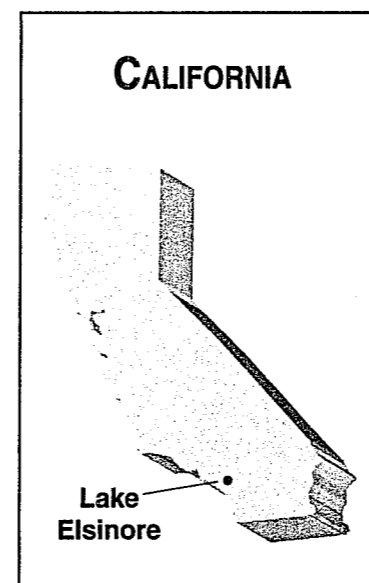
Resuscitating the Lake

There was a "For Sale" sign on the church building, and the congregation had dropped to six. Discouragement had set in. But veteran Missionary/Pastor Leland Davis and his wife were not willing to let the work die.

After much prayer, Pastor Davis contacted the National Missions office and discussed the situation with National Extension Minister Rev. Ronald J. Elston Sr. A visit to their church in Lake Elsinore, Calif., was discussed and planned.

A short time later, Rev. Elston visited the West Coast and met with the Lake Elsinore church. He presented the Sabbath message and conducted an afternoon meeting with those interested in keeping the work going. Many issues were discussed, including the need for a younger pastor with more energy and a growth vision for the church.

Just as the group was faithful in seeking the Lord's direction, God was already in the process of providing for their needs.



There was a "For Sale" sign on the church building, and the congregation had dropped to six. Discouragement had set in.

During an earlier visit to the West Coast, Pastor Elston was hosted by Brother Leland Pike, a member of the Foothill Community Church in Montrose, Calif. At the time, Leland expressed an interest in the ministry. After his visit to "the Lake," Pastor Ron met with Brother Pike to explore the possibility of working with the Lake Elsinore group. There was much interest, PTL!

Meetings were held with Gabe Bejjani, Director of Pastoral Services, to see if training could be provided. Then Gabe and Pastor Ron met with Pastor Davis and the Lake Elsinore church to discuss the process. Again, the Lord provided in a wonderful way.



Leland Pike

Now, the rest of the story: The Lake Elsinore church called Leland Pike to co-pastor with Brother Davis. In cooperation with the National Extension Minister, the church developed a Missionary Society-sponsored project of outreach and evangelism, which is scheduled for early spring.

The "For Sale" sign has been taken down, and building repairs made, including a new roof. Not one but two men are now scheduled to start the T.I.M.E. (Training In Ministry by Extension) program—Brother Pike and a new member who has also felt the call to the ministry.

There is a new wind blowing over the Lake, breathing new life into the ministry of the Lake Elsinore SDB Church. The Holy Spirit of God is listening to the prayers of His servants, who are not willing to give up on the work of His Kingdom.

"I have been blessed to have played a part in God's plan for 'resuscitating' the Lake," Pastor Elston said. "I pray that those who are going through similar problems will call upon the Lord and find Him always faithful." **SR**



New windows of opportunity open

by Ronald J. Elston Sr.

September 30, 2000, was a special Sabbath as a new church was launched in the Southeast.

Following my trip to Africa with Missionary Society Executive Director Kirk Looper, I planned to go to the Christian Stewardship Association seminar in Atlanta, Ga. Just prior to leaving for Atlanta, I received a phone call from my good friend,



Pastor Alvin Bernard

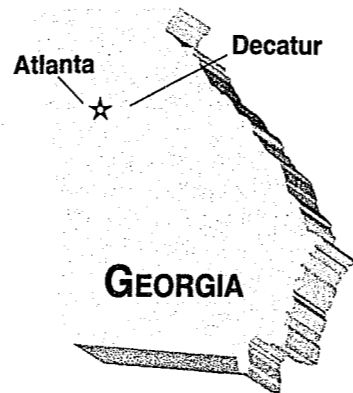
Pastor Alvin Bernard, who invited me to attend the launching of a new church in the Atlanta area.

I was thrilled to be a part of this exciting new group—now named Christian Family Fellowship—going public with their worship services. The group meets in Decatur, Ga., and is a branch of the Atlanta Metro SDB Church.

Pastor Bernard's sister picked me up at my hotel on Sabbath morning and we drove to the church facility, a house revamped for worship and study. Pastor Bernard did much of the remodeling, turning the structure into an attractive facility for the Lord.

Twenty-five people attended this "launching" service. It was followed by a fellowship dinner, where a great spirit of joy and sharing prevailed. During the afternoon session, they held an organizational meeting and officers were elected.

Pastor Bernard brings many years of pastoral/administrative leadership to the new group, and I appreciate all



The group meets in Decatur, Ga., and is a branch of the Atlanta Metro SDB Church.

the work that has gone into this new church.

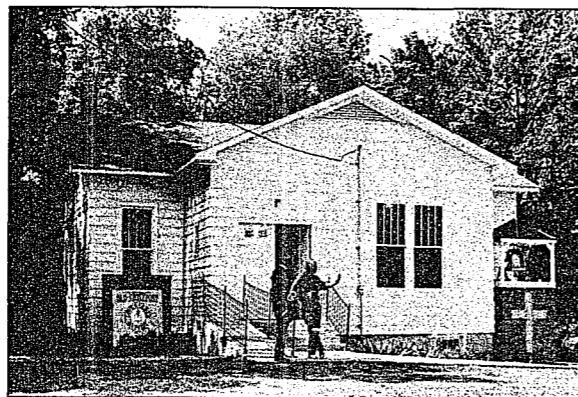
I believe we will see much fruit develop from the believers at Christian Family Fellowship. *SR*

Old Stonefort extends its ministry with three new branches

Another new church to launch on September 30, 2000, was the Marion SDB Church, a branch of the Old Stonefort (Ill.) SDB Church. Marion, Ill., is located about 22 miles from Stonefort.

The new group is led by Pastor Bob Farr, who attended Stonefort prior to starting the new branch church. Pastor Farr is the District Manager of the Farr Insurance Co. and is this year's First Vice President of the Southwest Association.

Pastor Timothy Parsley, a former



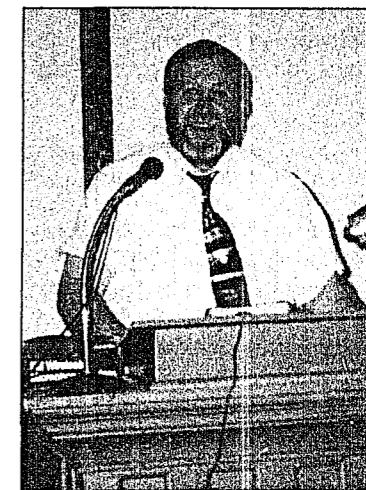
Old Stonefort, Ill., Seventh Day Baptist Church.



Pastor Tim Parsley
Mattoon, Ill.



Pastor Bob Farr
Marion, Ill.



Pastor Doug Burkhamer
Stonefort, Ill.

General Baptist minister with years of ministry experience, leads a group in Mattoon, Ill. He worked with the Stonefort church and its minister, Pastor Arthur "Doug" Burkhamer, for several years before starting the new work in the Mattoon area. Brother Parsley also worked with Steve Packard and the group in Champaign, Ill., and is active in missions work in the Southwest Association.

Stonefort's newest branch is located in Red Boiling Springs, Tenn., and the pastor is Bobby Duffer. Pastor Burkhamer recently attended services with the new group and conducted four baptisms.

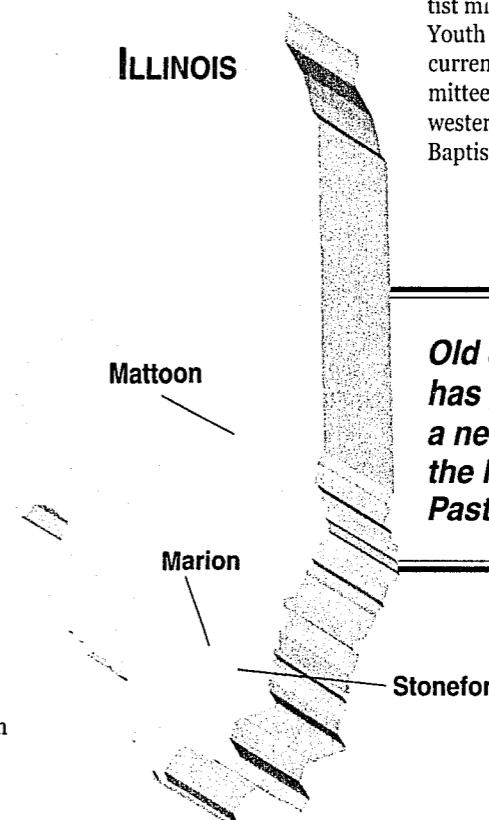
National Extension Minister Rev. Ronald Elston commented, "I commend the outreach and extension efforts put forth by the leadership and congregation of the Old Stonefort SDB Church in working with and establishing extension through their new branches."

Old Stonefort has grown and taken a new direction under the leadership

of Pastor Burkhamer. Prior to accepting the call to the Stonefort pastorate, Brother Doug was the church

planter/leader of the Royalton (Ill.) SDB Fellowship.

He is an ordained Southern Baptist minister who has worked with Youth Ministry for many years. He currently chairs the Mission Committee and is President of the Southwestern Association of Seventh Day Baptists. *SR*



Old Stonefort has grown and taken a new direction under the leadership of Pastor Burkhamer.

The language of love

by Jeff Hazen

•**Mu li shani?**—

How are you?

•**Chiwawa**—

pumpkin leaves, a vegetable dish eaten with nshema

•**Kwen-de-la-shani?**—

How was your trip?

•**Na li temoi ou boali**—

I like eating nshema.

•**Aye em quoi**—

A sign of agreement/respect

•**Lesa mi pali**—

God bless you

•**Toiah**—Bye

Some time ago, a smart Christian author wrote a book called *The Language of Love*, about how to communicate love to your spouse. Well, I don't think it's what that author was talking about, but I think I've been learning Zambia's "Language of Love": Bemba.

It's been a hard language to learn. You know, other people have different ways of doing things, and for some of them, you just don't get it. Bemba's not my natural language. It's taken a lot of effort to learn what I know, and I still can't speak it flu-

ently—to the surprise of many Zambians.

Love is tough. It takes time to grow and be nurtured. After I leave Zambia, I may never speak this language again. Love doesn't always have a point. It just does things... for love.

But I think the Mukumbos, my host family, have understood me. I think they see that I never wanted strings attached to my work... only that they stand on their own two feet for Jesus. Though I've spoken broken Bemba, I think they "got my gist."



Jeff Hazen in Zambia

So that's it. On December 19, I finished this mission project in Zambia. I've gone back to speaking another love language: English. You folks have spoken that language to me. So many of you supported me and my work that it would fill this page if I tried listing all of you. Thank you.

Love never ceases. As Christ allows, I'll speak Bemba in Zambia again. But for now, **Na li cou temoi** (I love you). **SR**



Women's Society page by Laura Price

Pain and suffering (Praise the Lord!)

I remember my 10th grade honors English class. The first day we walked in and found our seats, Mrs. Mary Louise Thomas scribed on the chalkboard a quote by some famous philosopher: "Life is suffering."

So, the stage was set for that particular class right from the start, because she seemed to have a sort of "natural gift" to fulfill that particular philosophy. And as for the rest of life...?

Well, it's true. We don't go through life without being tried once in a while. Our days are often filled

deceive us, just as he tried Christ.

Thankfully, he failed at thwarting our Savior, who just so happens to be our way out of sin (darkness) and our way into life (light). May we ultimately follow after Christ and be "...the light of the world" (Matt. 5:14, John 8:12). Our hope continues.

Still, be wary; Satan will continually try to derail us from our hope and faith, and he will take as many of us down with him as he possibly can. If we read our Bibles, we have been warned well in advance: "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary

from your personal trials. Look for the purpose and learn, and grow into the best person that God would have you be.

Again, read the above quote from 1 Peter. God wants us to become perfect (Christlike), confirmed, strengthened, settled. So we, along with our faith, get to be refined by our trials.

"Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh [produces] patience; And patience, experience [character]; and experience, hope: And hope maketh not ashamed [does not disappoint]; because the love of God is shed abroad [has been poured out] in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us. For when we were yet without strength, in due time [at the right time] Christ died for the ungodly" (Rom. 5:1-6).

The trials that challenge us are the opportunities and methods to distinguish our character and to learn valuable lessons. How we react to adversity will define us. Here is where our character may be refined and our virtue tested.

Through God's love and His Word, we may take comfort and find the strength to face our trials, take hold of them, work through them and beyond them to the next level of our personal spiritual growth.

"These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world" (John 16:33). **SR**

The trials that challenge us are the opportunities and methods to distinguish our character and to learn valuable lessons. How we react to adversity will define us.

with all sorts of trials and tribulations—some big, some little—and all are relative to what we are capable of handling. Remember, "There hath no temptation overtaken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear [endure] it" (1 Corin. 10:13).

Take comfort and be encouraged by this verse—and many others! But please note: just because you might be able to "bear" or "endure" a particular trial, this by no means suggests that it will be easy or painless. Sometimes it's excruciating!

Satan has a mission and is extremely crafty. He knows our weaknesses, our desires, and even the Word. He will use whatever means he can against us in an attempt to

the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour; Whom resist steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in [experienced by] your brethren that are in the world.

"But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish [confirm], strengthen, settle you. To him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen" (1 Peter 5:8-10).

Now, won't you agree that this is the interesting part? That God *allows* us to suffer "a while"?

The trials we suffer, however, are not without a purpose. For "to every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven" (Eccles. 3:1). Bear this in mind and glean whatever valuable lessons you can

One 2020 Fund Raiser

by Nancy May

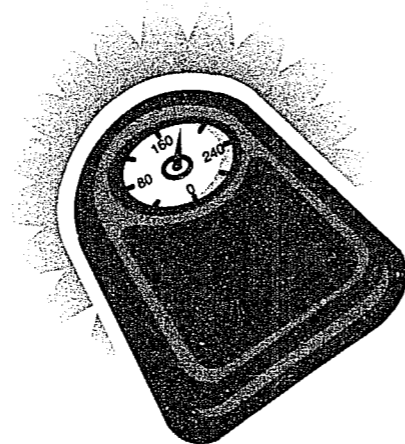
We often hear "WE WEIGH MORE THAN WE COUNT." Our Denominational Budget shows a large minus amount. So what should we do to serve our Lord As we strive to be God's two-edged sword?

Let's weigh in with a buck for each pound of excess To assure that our budget goals meet with success. Dr. Pete has worries of your health, you see And your future in the denomination of SDB.

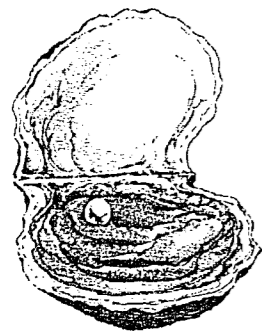
The Conference needs all SDBs to tithe, But this is a new way to let Conference revive. In August, just wait, don't forget with smiles You can each week be walking forty miles.

A weight loss fund raiser, that's something new If you lose the weight promised, that's the cat's mew! That is healthy for you, and Conference too Here is an address to send your money due—

I thought about double penalty if you fail to lose But I will wait until Conference and just let you choose.



SDB Denominational Budget
Weight Loser Fund Raiser
PO Box 1678
Janesville, WI 53547-1678



Pearls from the Past by Don A. Sanford, historian

Our first periodical

The year 2001 marks the 180th year of the first Seventh Day Baptist periodical, *The Seventh Day Baptist Missionary Magazine*. In its premier August 1821 issue, the editors stated four principle reasons for its publication:

1) "First, to bring to view a people who have long labored under almost every species of discouragement, and in the consequence of their observation of the Seventh-day Sabbath, have not only suffered in common with their dissenting brethren, but many hardships and inconveniences peculiar to themselves; and to acquaint the public with the sentiments, and religious observances, that distinguish this people from other Christian denominations."

That year, 1821, marked the 150th anniversary of the founding of the first SDB church in America in Newport, R.I., in 1671. To our chagrin, their observation has changed little in the 18 decades since that first Missionary magazine was printed.

The editors further stated, "It may appear strange, that a distinct people, professing Christianity, and practicing all the ordinances of the Christian institution, could exist within our borders ever since the first settlement of our country and still need a work like this, or any other public document to bring them to notice. But it is really a fact, that there are many high standing Christians, even within the limits of these United States, who are totally ignorant that such a people exist."

2) The second purpose "is to circulate Religious and Missionary information among the societies of our denomination."

The magazine promoted two goals: spiritual growth within the denomination, and "a charitable disposition towards differing Christians, and in removing those local prejudices which so often render the society and conversation of those with whom we differ, unpleasant and unprofitable."

3) The third purpose printed in the magazine showed their ecumenicity. In stating that they were "Baptists who keep the scripture Sabbath," they maintained that they differed from other Baptists in the article of the Sabbath only.

As in other denominations, the views of individual SDBs on some subjects of minor importance were not always in perfect unison. "It is another object of this work to cultivate harmony among our brothers;

shall exhibit the cause of our difference, and the reason of the hope that is within us, with meekness, and fear; and freely discourse the subject of the Sabbath, in common with other religious subjects."

A total of 16 quarterly issues were published from August 1821 to September 1825. In the final issue, the editors stated, "Four years have elapsed since its commencement. In these issues, those points in which the Seventh Day Baptists differ from their brethren are exhibited, and sufficiently enforced by scripture testimony and argument for our readers to understand the reasons of our difference. So that one important object had in view in its introduction, is at least in a measure, effected."

However, from a historian's viewpoint as well as that of other readers,

***Its topics encompassed
a host of missionary interests,
not just those limited to
Seventh Day Baptists.***

and we fondly indulge the pleasing hope of being useful to others in this point: that we may all speak the same thing, and that there be no division among us, but that we be perfectly joined together in the same mind, and in the same judgment."

4) The fourth purpose was not only to announce to the world the prominent feature of these Sabbath-keeping people, but to unite with others in "the laudable work of holding up the doctrine of the Cross—the depravity of the human heart, the necessity of repentance and the new birth, salvation by grace, and believer's baptism. And in as much as they differ on the subject of the Sabbath, not only with Baptists, but with the greater part of other Christians, it is intended that this work

it is a valuable source of primary material on the religious climate and activities of the time. Its topics encompassed a host of missionary interests, not just those limited to Seventh Day Baptists.

The journals of the home missionaries give insight into the "frontier" of the time, and obituaries of some of the faithful are valuable for genealogical students. Anecdotal stories and poems were used in nearly every issue. Two indexes were included to guide the reader in selections of interest.

Unfortunately, the number of known copies of the missionary periodical is limited, but the magazine can be researched in the Historical Society archives at the SDB Center in Janesville, Wis. **SR**



SR Almanac

*A look at where we have been
from the pages of The Sabbath Recorder*

One year ago—January 2000

Missionary Society Executive Director Kirk Looper writes about SDB missions in Kenya and Rwanda, Africa.

Local outreach events in Toronto, Canada, and Montrose, Calif., shared by National Extension Minister Ron Elston.

Steve Weber, from Raritan Valley, N.J., reports on his short-term mission to Venezuela; Jessy Olson and Miriam Lawton share stories from their summer missions to Jamaica.

The SDB Board of Christian Education presents Resolution of Thanks to retiring Executive Director Ernest K. Bee Jr.

Rev. Larry Graffius killed while snorkeling in Hawaii.

Five years ago—January 1996

The Missionary Society's Kirk Looper reports on his trip to Guyana, South America. Other updates come from SDB Conferences in Africa.

Stateside mission reports received from Portsmouth, Va.; Bowling Green, Ky.; Plainfield, N.J.; and Tupelo, Miss.

Joseph Alegre moves from Australia to Argentina to pastor a new SDB work there.

"Pearls" looks at missionary work of John T. Davis, which led to formation of a Pacific Coast Association.

The Christian Social Action Committee's operating procedure presented for information.

Ten years ago—January 1991

Missionary Ian Ingoe reports on the 8,000 refugees from Mozambique entering Malawi, Africa.

Director of Extension Russell Johnson focuses on national missions as we "extend for eternity."

Board of Christian Education adopts a modified weekend retreat form of the Natural Evangelism Training (NET) program.

Local church news shared from Philadelphia, Pa.; Bradenton, Fla.; Nortonville, Kan.; Shiloh, N.J.; and Middletown, Conn.

Theme, "Being Called to Holiness," attracts many to Mid-Continent Association in North Loup, Neb.

25 years ago—January 1976

The year 1976 begins with a Bicentennial feature: "U.S.A.—Land of the Unfinished Revolution."

Pastor Rex Burdick writes on the third Beatitude. North Jersey SDB Church in Basking Ridge (now the Raritan Valley church) organized in November.

Jinx Kuehn Stonestrom gives details of a strange lunch shared at Young Adult Pre-Con. Campers were assigned to different "countries" where food and utensils were divided unequally.

Local news sent from Adams Center, N.Y.; Battle Creek, Mich.; Denver, Colo.; and Lost Creek, W.Va.

50 years ago—January 1951

Universal Week of Prayer theme is "A Fellowship Without Frontiers."

The Dodge Center (Minn.) SDB Church hosted a National Christian Teaching Mission in November. Four phases included a self-study, an area-wide religious census, a fellowship cultivation meeting, and enlargement plans.

Columns and ads speak against U.S. President Truman's proposal to appoint a full-time ambassador to the Vatican.

The SDB Commission invites each church to participate in a "Call to Study."

After more than a quarter century of service, Rev. Erlo Sutton announces his retirement as editor of *The Helping Hand*.

...where are we headed?

Pray for—

- our Missionary Society workers
- positive effect of our December outreach issue
- local church outreach efforts
- your part in short-term missions
- our political leaders and process
- those in need of food and shelter
- a renewed call to study God's Word



Christian Education

by Andrew J. Camenga

Nurture Series lessons available

In the year 2000, the Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education published the Senior High Missions level works within its topic in a way that provides continuity with the other age levels. That helps to

While you can use the Nurture Series in a variety of settings, the typical use is as a quarter of Sabbath School lessons.

and Ministry Nurture Series and reprinted the Junior Sabbath Nurture Series materials.

More than 20 years ago, the Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education began producing lessons to help local churches teach their children and youth. We designed this material to help children and youth to grow in their Christian experience.

The lessons do not create a full curriculum. However, they do provide an opportunity for children and youth of all ages to begin to know more about the mission and ministry of Seventh Day Baptists, and to explore and understand the Sabbath.

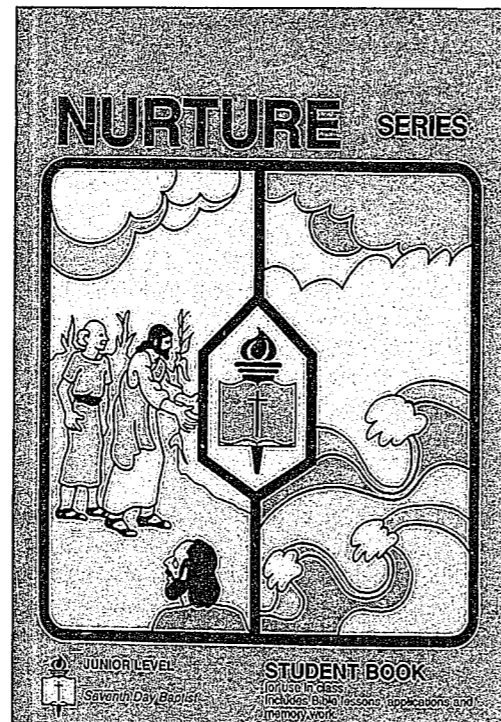
While you can use the Nurture Series in a variety of settings, the typical use is as a quarter of Sabbath School lessons. The Sabbath series and the Missions and Ministry series provide material for several age levels. Each

avoid repetition which can frustrate students.

Pastor Matthew Olson and Carl Greene edited the Senior High Missions and Ministry material. The student book uses 15 authors

and explores the lives of Moses, Jesus, and followers of Christ. The student book has 83 pages. The companion teacher's help has 31 pages.

RuthAnne Peil edited the Junior Sabbath Nurture Series. This portion of the series had been unavailable for a short time because it had sold out. Both publications, along with the rest of the Nurture Series, are available for purchase through the SDB Center in Janesville, Wis., or the Board of Christian Education office in Alfred Station, N.Y. *SR*



FOCUS on Missions

God's work in Kerala, India

by Kirk Looper

This letter was written by Mrs. Sosamma Philip, treasurer of the Malankara SDB Conference of Kerala, India, and one of the executive secretaries of the Red Cross Society of the Pathanamthitta Branch.

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ. We would like to give you a brief description of the projects that we have done during the past few months, especially from March 2000 to September 2000.

I have ample opportunities to get involved in social projects. This relays in getting the Conference involved in social activities.

With the help of the Red Cross, we organized an eye camp at Pathanamthitta to find the people with vision difficulties. Everything was free to the needy, including consultation,

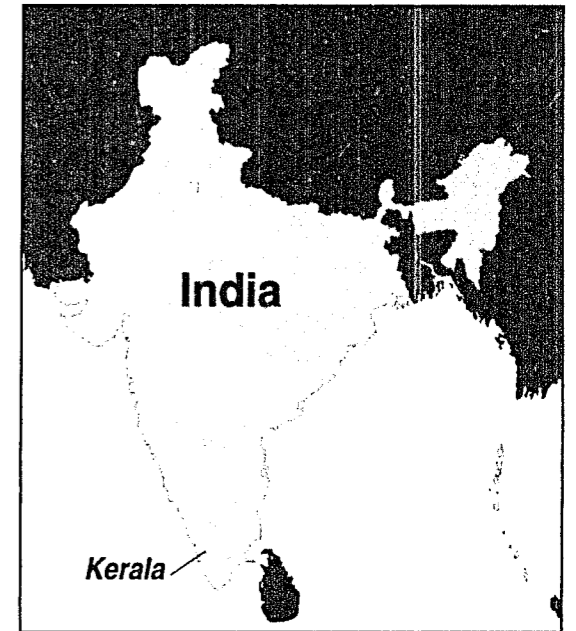
check up, operation, medicine, and glasses. It was a one-day program, with the doctors and nurses coming from Chennai, India. They cared for around 300 patients with a variety of eye problems. Glasses were supplied to 78 patients.

Medicine was given to all, and 21 patients were taken to the hospital in Chennai for cataract operations. All the operations were suc-

cessful and, after one week, the patients were sent home fully cured. They were provided with eyeglasses and 500 Rupees for additional food expenses.

During the monsoon season in July, a big flood struck Kerala. Almost all the lowlands were flooded due to the land slipping in the High Range. A nearby colony, which accommodates 400 families, was hit very badly. Roaring rains poured down for one week, and many houses collapsed as the water level rose. Almost all the houses went under the water.

We, along with the Red Cross Society and government officials, rushed to the spot and helped evacuate the people to safer places, such as the community school. Life was miserable since they shared minimum space and facilities with cattle, dogs, cats, sheep, and other animals. We fed the people for one week, and



supplied clothing and other needed items. Meanwhile, the government also extended help.

Staying in the community school became unhygienic, since there were no toilet facilities for the 400 families. So we met with government officials, the Red Cross Society, and World Vision, and discussed possible ways to improve the living standards of those who were thrown into this difficult condition. We are now in a process of constructing 50 toilets for these people.

We are happy that we could come forward to help the poor and needy, and do some fruitful social activities like this to help the public. We believe that this is a golden opportunity to step into this colony to share the love of Jesus. *SR*



Mrs. Sosamma Philip

Yours in Christ,
Sosamma Philip



the BEACON

Produced by the Youth Committee of the Board of Christian Education
For and by members of the SDB Youth Fellowship January 2001

God vs. machine

by Aubrey Appel, Milton, Wis.

One day, a group of scientists got together and decided that humans had come a long way and no longer needed God. So they picked one scientist to go and tell God that.

The scientist walked up to God and said, "God, we've decided that we no longer need You. We're to the point that we can clone people

Unfortunately, people in our society today have begun to replace God with technology.

and do many miraculous things, so why don't You just go on and get lost."

God listened very patiently and kindly. After the scientist was done talking, God said, "Very well, how about this? Let's say we have a man-making contest." To which the scientist replied, "Okay, great!"

"But," God added, "we're going to do this just like I did back in the old days with Adam."

The scientist said, "Sure, no problem," and bent down to grab a handful of dirt.

God looked at him and said, "No, no, no. You go get your own dirt."

This story that a friend sent me

over the Internet is true in many ways. Unfortunately, people in our society today have begun to replace God with technology. How much time do you spend at your computer? How much time do you spend in prayer or reading the Bible? I know that I am guilty of spending too much time checking my e-mail and then falling asleep when I pray at night.

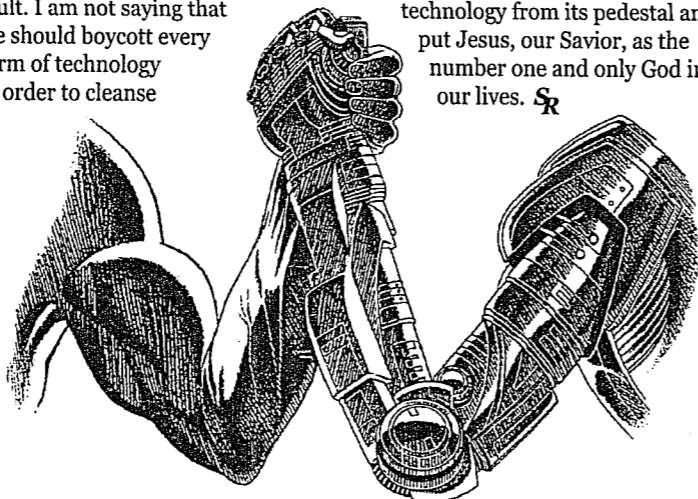
Like so many things in our secular world, technology has good points and bad points. We all know how the Internet helps and harms. We have all read about how genetic engineering is both exciting and dangerous. With our growing technology, people feel more and more that they are gods.

We cannot blame technology for this problem; it is our own fault. I am not saying that we should boycott every form of technology in order to cleanse

ourselves. God gave us many things to use on earth as tools for living. And, like so many of God's perfect gifts, once in the hands of imperfect human beings, things tend to fall apart.

It seems that nothing is ever "good enough" for us, and our greed and sinful nature get the better of us since we are weak. God gave us technology, and we have exploited it.

But let's not give up hope. We don't need to worry about stopping technology because God is taking care of us here on this old earth. Instead of worrying about saving the world from technology, we can put our superhero suits back in the closet and spend more time in God's presence, rather than facing a computer screen. In that way, we can remove technology from its pedestal and put Jesus, our Savior, as the number one and only God in our lives. ✠



Try God

In Lindsborg
Aug. 5-11, 2001

*"Make me know Thy ways,
O Lord; teach me Thy paths.
Lead me in Thy truth and teach me
for Thou art the God of my
salvation" (Psalm 25:4-5).*

If you TRY GOD, then you have to allow Him to teach you. You also need to follow Him and His ways.

In looking back at my life, I can see how God taught me and showed me His ways. He wanted me to put my trust in Him. Many times, I was put into a position where I had to seek God's help.

I was working in a new Management Training program in Baltimore. I had been there only a few months when I was notified that the training program was being cut and I would be laid off.

I turned to God and asked for peace of mind. In return I promised to work for Him. He gave me peace immediately, and I held up my end of the bargain. Then He made it possible for me to get a job.

The President's Page

Let God lead you

by Clayton Pinder

The person who interviewed me got a call from the home office in Philadelphia to stop on his way back from North Carolina and talk to me. The Lord had prepared him, and I got a job as a result of that visit.

We moved to Nitro, W.Va., where we were active in a Presbyterian church. Here, God used me in many ways. It was during this time in Nitro that the pastor and some of the deacons told me I would be preaching. To me, this was the farthest thing from my mind. Not long after that, I was transferred to Philadelphia.

In 1971-72, God spoke to me, and I became fully committed to Him. As Scripture says, God taught me and led me, and I followed His leading. In the latter part of 1972, I became uneasy and sensed God had something in mind for me. I felt I should go back to the Nitro area and the church I had been in. I had an interview and a job waiting for me, but God had other plans.

A call came in from Summersville, W.Va., asking if I would stop and interview for a job. As a result, on my way to Nitro, I stopped for the inter-



Clayton Pinder

view in Summersville and took that position. Within three months I resigned, and, six months later, I was in Salem—right where God wanted me.

During this time Floyd Goodson, who was going to Crites Mountain SDB Church, was praying for someone to replace him. God got us together, and I ministered to the people on the mountain for about 13 years. We saw lives change as several people came to accept Jesus as their Savior.

The same thing happened at Salem College. I was able to tell many to TRY GOD, and again lives were saved and changed. It was during this time that we went to the Lost Creek church and worked with Pastor Delmer Van Horn on outreach, visiting many homes and telling them to TRY GOD.

If you allow God to lead, your path will be straight. He will use you, and you will receive blessings. God is good and upright, and we need to trust and follow Him. ✠

What We Must Do

1. **Trust (Faith)**
Ps. 25:1-2a
2. **Know Him and His Covenant**
Ps. 25:14-15
3. **Integrity (Commitment)**
Ps. 25:21,10

What God Will Do

1. **Salvation**
Ps. 25:5b-7
2. **Teaching (Follow)**
Ps. 25:4-5, 8-9
3. **Blessings**
Rom. 15:13, John 14:27,
and Ps. 25:13

Seattle hosts Northwest Days

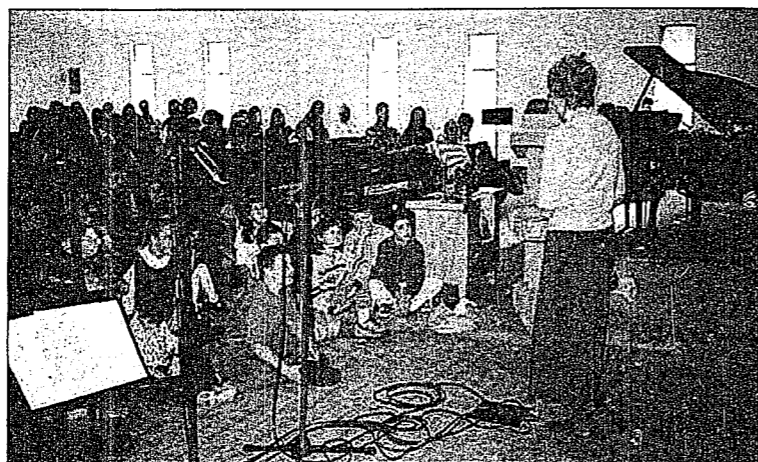
by Bob and Katherine Spreadborough

On November 4, 2000, the Seattle Area Seventh Day Baptist Church in Auburn, Wash., hosted fellow Washington State churches (Centralia and Vancouver) and the Portland, Ore., church for Northwest Days. A total of 110 members and visitors attended.

The Sabbath morning sermon was given by Pastor Stanley Fox of the Ahtanum Community church in Yakima, Wash.

Pastor Fox and his wife, Gladys, have fellowshiped with the Seattle Area church for many years. Just a few years ago, his entire Sunday-keeping congregation voted unanimously to become Sabbathkeepers. Stanley's excellent message, "The Last Invitation," was a challenge to reach out to the lost with the Gospel.

The Seattle Worship Team led the praise time, assisted by Robin



Nancy May brings the young ones forward for the children's message.

children's message, assisted by wife Nancy. At the end of the message, the Mays had the children distribute a "Prayer Rock" to each person in the congregation. The rocks are to remind everyone to pray for their

also described. In one country, an expensive corrugated metal roof is required for any public meeting place to be approved for use by the government. As little as \$250 U.S. can provide a roof for one of the Seventh Day Baptist churches in that country.

The Mays also shared how many people in Africa came forward to accept Christ at a revival meeting during a visit by Kirk Looper and Ron Elston (Executive Director of the SDB Missionary Society, and National Extension Minister, respectively).

After fielding a few questions, Dr. Pete and Nancy asked for prayer support in their mission to Seventh Day Baptist churches. They also offered to pass along to other churches any ideas for outreach that the assembled group might come up with.

During the afternoon, youth from the four churches gathered for an activity, with Gary Hemminger as advisor.

The Portland Area SDB Church will host the spring gathering for Northwest Days on May 5, 2001. **SR**

The Mays spoke about happenings in the SDB denomination. It was encouraging to hear about new churches springing up, and about a dying church revitalized by the renewed commitment of its members.

and Liz Todd from Centralia. Paul and April VanDyck of the Vancouver church offered special music on flute and piano, including a beautiful alto flute solo by April.

A large number of youngsters came forward to hear SDB Executive Secretary, Dr. Pete May (in his puppet-alias as "Peter Penguin") give the

churches, pastors, and other people.

Following a fellowship dinner, the Mays spoke about happenings in the SDB denomination. It was encouraging to hear about new churches springing up, and about a dying church revitalized by the renewed commitment of its members.

The struggle of African churches to gain government recognition was

Colorado Springs branch organizes as church

by L.B. Lee

The Helping Hand in Bible Study, Spring 2000, featured a photo of the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Boulder, Colo. The title for the quarterly lessons, "Continuing Jesus' Work," is an appropriate title for the photo.

In the late 1800s, the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Boulder was established. In the 1920s, a fellowship of Seventh Day Baptists gathered in Denver. This fellowship drew upon the Boulder church for support and encouragement. The Denver SDB Church sprang forth in 1928 and has been a strong church family for these many years.

The first week in December 1996, the Colorado Springs gathering emerged as a fellowship under the wing of the Denver SDB Church. In 1998, the Boulder church agreed to support and encourage the new growth in the Colorado Springs area by being a "mother church." The Lord greatly blessed the Colorado Spring SDB Fellowship, and today it is a "full-fledged" church, recognized by the General Conference of Seventh Day Baptists in August of 2000.

Effective November 1, 2000, the Colorado Springs SDB Church re-

quested that all of their memberships (which are "branch memberships" of the Boulder SDB) be transferred to the Colorado Springs SDB Church. A transfer is requested so as to not duplicate membership among the churches.

The relationship among the three churches continues to be strong with mutual support and encouragement. The churches look forward to a future of working together, now as sister churches, in the work that our Lord Jesus has put before us here in Colorado. **SR**

Members of the Colorado Springs SDB Church (* indicates Charter Member)

- | | | | | |
|----------------------|------------------|--------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| * Doris Barber | Samantha Elms | Rev. Robert Harris | Krista Kettleborough | * Pastor L.B. Lee |
| * Frances Barnett | Leland Emken | Linda Harris | * Angela Lee | Timothy Lee |
| Delbert Bateman | Rose Emken | Benjamin Harris | Danny Lee | * Evelyn Mitchell |
| Kathy Bateman | Jeff Fiedel | * Jess Hawthorn | Danita Lee | David Stall |
| * Dr. Victor Burdick | Donna Fiedel | * Ruth Hawthorn | Danielle Lee | Jennifer Stall |
| * Beth Burdick | David Fiedel | * Gene Hawthorn | * Darlene Lee | * Barbara White |
| Matthew Coffin | Sarah Fiedel | * Charles Hopper | Dorcas Lee | Deceased Members |
| Jordyn Coffin | * Rick Fowler | * Doris Hopper | Joshua Lee | * D. Claude Barber |
| Kristina Elms | * Joann Fowler | * Robert Hopper | Karen Lee | * Edna Key |
| Nicole Elms | Christina Fowler | * Jean Jorgensen | * Kristen Lee | * Daryl White |

"Ambassadors For Christ"

by Jerry Johnson



Pastors Harold King (left) and Dale Rood (right) welcome Carrie and Jerry Johnson to the North Central Association.

The North Central Association of Seventh Day Baptists met for its 2000 Annual Meeting at the New Auburn, Wis., SDB Church on October 13-15, 2000. Representatives of eight churches in Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Michigan attended.

In addition, retired SDB missionary and pastor Leroy Bass came over from Washington Island, Wis., to give the keynote message during the Sabbath Eve service Friday night. He spoke on the topic, "The Joy of Entering

Into God's Rest," dealing with the practical implications of Sabbath observance in our busy world. Throughout the weekend, Pastor Bass shared a lot of material from his personal study on creationism and its relationship to knowing God today.

One of the highlights of the weekend was the installation of Pastor Jerry Johnson as pastor of the New Auburn SDB Church. It was also a wonderful time for Pastor Johnson and his family, as they were "officially" welcomed back to the Midwest.

Other high points included a forum on evangelism Sabbath

afternoon in which each of the churches presented what they are doing to reach out to their individual community. A Saturday evening concert featured the trio "Sequoia," involving personalities from the local Christian radio station WWIB. More than 100 attended the concert, and close to that number came to the main services.

About 16 youth accompanied Justin Knudson to "Nightmare" in

Marshfield (Wis.) on Friday night to experience a type of Christian "haunted house" dealing with the results of making poor choices. Everyone came back with a much greater understanding of what can happen when one becomes involved in drug and alcohol abuse, sexual immorality, and the like.

The Association's executive committee met, and a general business session was held Sunday morn-

ing. We were excited to learn of the Dodge Center church's involvement in potential church starts in two parts of Northern Minnesota.

All of the Association churches expressed optimism in the way that their congregations are growing, and a spirit of unity impressed everyone in attendance. The pastors plan a busy 2001 in preparation for the annual meeting in Battle Creek, Mich., next October. **SR**

Update from Alfred

Dear Editor: Having talked with Cynthia (Rogers) Rudolph about her "Alfred Recollections" in the October SR, here are some updates to her memories and hopes.

With its bell ringing, the First Alfred (N.Y.) SDB Church continues to declare the Sabbath as a time for worship as well as rest from commerce and labor.

The bell in the 90-foot steeple rings each Sabbath morning as the worshipers enter. All of us need reminders of times for worship, not just the "absentminded professors" in this two-college town. Each week, the bell echoes through this frenetic, over-populated valley.

Since 1922, two congregations have regularly used the church's baptistry for immersion of newly-committed Christians. Its use arose when Alfred University's President Booth C. Davis voiced concerns for worship facilities for faculty, their families, and students. (Davis had left the Alfred pastorate in 1895 to become president at Alfred University, a position he held until 1933.)

Davis and the congregation arranged for a non-denominational church to worship in their spacious sanctuary on Sundays. For many years, the two congregations also depended on the facilities of the SDB Women's Society's Parish House for educational and social programs. The baptistry continues to serve both congregations. In the weekly services

of the two congregations, worship is richly enhanced by the Rosebush pipe organ. Its tuning and upkeep are managed by professionals hired by the SDB trustees, and the Union University Church shares that and other costs.

Our skilled organist, Claire Randolph, plays on Sabbaths whenever she and her husband are here, and Diane Davis is hired for other times. (Trained pipe organists are hard to find, and even the Union church has been unable to secure a trained organist on a regular basis.)

In the past, our church has rented out the organ to University students for practice and performance. The church currently has no contract

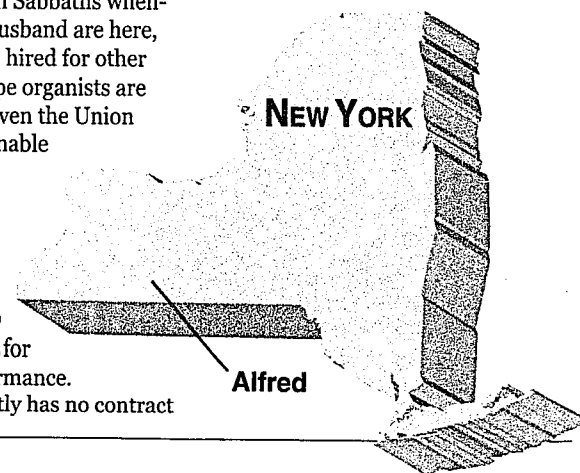
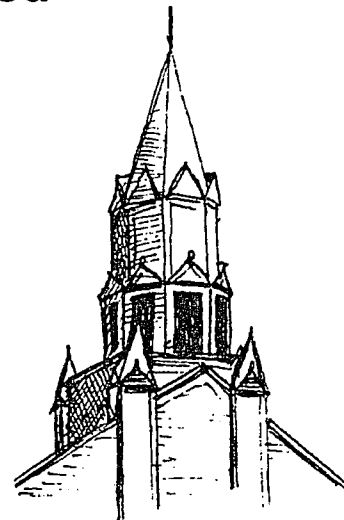
by David S. Clarke

for student use, but many of us would like to help them to train on our organ.

Alfred University's music department's choir, chorus, and chamber orchestra have performed seasonal concerts in our sanctuary for many years. These have filled our hall, foyer, and nursery to overflowing.

Church members use the Parish House for all kinds of social groups, and hundreds of people visit the Opportunity Shop to buy used clothing and household goods. Dozens also come to the Parish House, where the town's Food Pantry is housed and supervised.

Cynthia Rudolph's "Alfred Recollections" will continue to remind us of God's Sabbath. They will also help us remember the wonderful people who serve Him through this House of God and in their neighborhoods and work places. **SR**



Department Index for 2000

(Feature Index on back cover)

Columns

Local News

Alfred, NY	Oct.	Leonardsville/ Brookfield, NY	Feb.	Philadelphia, PA	July-Aug.
Alfred Station, NY	Feb., May	Marlboro, NJ	Sept.	Pinole, CA	Jan.
Argentina	July-Aug.	Melbourne, Australia	Feb.	Port Norris, NJ	March
Ashaway, RI	Nov.	Montrose, CA	Jan.	Portage, WI	Jan.
Boulder, CO	March	Nortonville, KS	Oct.	Riverside, CA	Nov.
Bridgeton, NJ	Sept.	Old Stonefort, IL	Sept.	Salem, WV	Feb.
Dodge Center, MN	June	Paint Rock, AL	April	Texarkana, AR	Jan.
Jamaica	May	Pawcatuck, CT	Nov.	Zambia, Africa	June, July-Aug., Sept.

Pearls from the Past

Following "The Voice"	Jan.	New link for an old heritage	June
Blind Lewis had vision for future	Feb.	Petition points to persecution	July-Aug.
The meter's still running	March	Baba, white sheep	Sept.
What's in a word?	April	Our amazing week	Oct.
"Waffling" on the Sabbath	May	The Lyceums live on	Nov.

Christian Education

Retiring Executive receives thanks	Jan.
Seeking nominations for Teacher of the Year	Feb.
Publications for sale	March
Helping Hand helps in daily Bible meditation	April
Are you CALLED?	June
A portable faith	July-Aug.
Scripture Memory Verses	Sept.
2000 Scripture Memorization participants	Oct.
2000 Teacher of the Year	Nov.

Focus (Missions)

World Fed to meet in Brazil	Feb.
Gambia with more students, needs	March
Greetings from Guyana (part 1)	April
Greetings from Guyana (part 2)	May
Fall in Australia	June
Training in the Philippines	July-Aug.
Rwanda needs "permanency"	Sept.
Recommendations from Conference	Oct.
Different storms batter Nigeria	Nov.

Women's Society

SDB women in missions	Jan.
When we are hurt	Feb.
Women of Faith Conference—a faith booster!	March
BWA Women's Leadership Conference	April
On to Greater Heights	May
"Marthas and Marys"	June
Board to depart New Jersey	July-Aug.
New Women's Board named	Sept.
The gavel is passed	Oct.
More Ladies' Aid Reports	Nov.

The Beacon

When God does it His way	Jan.
Jamaica journey, mon	Jan.
National Youth Retreat held in Wisconsin	Feb.
How well do you know your Bible?	March
A day we've all forgotten	April
"Leavin' for the Youth Retreat"	May
Nebraska YF accepts Bible challenge	June
God surprised me	July-Aug.
"Well, it <i>could</i> happen..."	Sept.
Spending time with God	Oct.
Tons of fun for youth in Oregon	Nov.

New members

Ashaway, RI

D. Scott Smith, pastor

Joined by letter
Barbara Grove
Julianne Grove
William Grove

Central, MD

Ernest K. Bee Jr., transition pastor

Joined after baptism

Patrick Hibbard
Robert Parrish Jr.
Joined by letter
Arlene J. Bee
Rev. Ernest K. Bee Jr.

Ft. Worth, TX

Earle S. Holston, pastor

Joined after testimony
Jacki Gaconnet
Leo Gaconnet

Lake Elsinore, CA

Leland Davis, pastor
Leland Pike, associate

Joined by letter
Leland Pike

Milton, WI

George Calhoun, pastor

Joined by letter
Merry Etta Fitz
Randolph
Kecia Thompson-gordon

Montrose, CA

Scott Hausrath, pastor

Joined by letter
Erin Burdick
Dannette Montague

Washington, DC

Paul Andries, pastor

Joined after testimony

Elnora Andries
John Hodges
LaFern Phillips
Lydia Stasiak

Wichita Falls, TX

Bill Sharon, pastor

Joined after baptism
Candice (C.G.) Weist
Joined after testimony
Kaye L. Weist

Birth

Clarke.—A daughter, Schawn Mikayla Clarke, was born to Matthew and Christen Clarke of Westerly, RI, on July 21, 2000.

Marriage

Elliott - Andries.—Dr. James Elliott and Te-Ann B. Andries were united in marriage on October 21, 2000, at the Berwyn Presbyterian Church, Greenbelt, MD. Pastor Joe Samuels officiated and Pastor Paul R. Andries, brother of the bride, coordinated.

Pastoral Changes

Ernest K. Bee Jr.
to Central, Md., church
(Transition Pastor)

Alvin Bernard
to Decatur, Ga.

Nathan Crandall
to White Cloud, Mich.
(Associate Pastor)

Eric Davis
in Riverside, Calif.
(Senior Pastor)

Jerry Johnson
to New Auburn, Wis.

Steve Osborn
to Milton, Wis.
(Associate Pastor)

Leland Pike
to Lake Elsinore, Calif.
(Associate Pastor)

Dale Smalley
to Adams Center, N.Y.

David Taylor
to Vision Christian Fellowship
Pawcatuck, Conn.

Obituaries

Loofboro.—Esther C. Loofboro, 89, passed away on April 6, 2000, at Knapp Haven Nursing Home in Chetek, Wis.

She was born on December 25, 1910, in North Loup, Neb., the daughter of Raymond and Jennie (Loofboro) Bee. She graduated from Kearney State Teacher's College, where she received a Bachelor of Science degree. She taught math and English in town and rural schools in Nebraska and Wisconsin.

On August 22, 1945, Esther married Ralph Loofboro and worked for a short time at National Lock in Rockford, Ill. The couple moved to New Auburn, Wis., and she became a homemaker and mother.

Esther was a member of the New Auburn Seventh Day Baptist Church and taught Bible classes at different levels for many years. She loved the Lord and served Him most of her life.

Survivors include one son, Walter, of New Auburn; nieces, nephews, cousins, and other relatives and friends. She was predeceased by her husband and four infant brothers.

Funeral services were held on April 9, 2000, at the New Auburn SDB Church, with Rev. Dale Smalley officiating. Interment was in the New Auburn Cemetery.

Parry.—Pauline H. Parry, 85, died on July 6, 2000, in the Wellsville (N.Y.) Manor Nursing Home following a long illness. She was born on June 6, 1915, in Wadestown, W.Va., the daughter of Ray and Enza (Wilson) Haught. She was married to Ralph E. Parry, who died in 1974.

Pauline was employed for many years in the bridal department of Bradner's Department Store in Olean, N.Y., retiring in 1974. She was a member of the Little Genesee, N.Y., Seventh Day Baptist Church.

One son, William, survives. In addition to her husband, she was

predeceased by one son, Charles.

Services were held on July 18, 2000, at the Schaffner Funeral Home in Bolivar, N.Y., with Pastor Gordon Lawton officiating. Burial was in Wells Cemetery, Little Genesee.

Waite.—James Gleason Waite, 96, of Hopkinton, R.I., died on September 2, 2000, at the Westerly (R.I.) Hospital.

Mr. Waite was born in Stonington, Conn., in 1904, the son of Loren G. and Dr. Anne (Langworthy) Waite. After living a short time in Avondale, R.I., his parents bought property in Bradford, R.I., and relocated to what became the Waite Farm. He graduated from Westerly High School in 1923. After attending Milton (Wis.) College, he graduated from Alfred (N.Y.) University in 1927.

After his father died in a farm accident in 1920, he and his mother collaborated in many activities, including a trip across the country in a Model A Ford in 1929-30. It was an experience he loved to recall and share with friends.

In 1931, Mr. Waite married Helen E. Kenyon Coon, a partnership that was to span 57 years and ended with her death in 1989. With family help, he continued to operate the Waite Farm as a truck garden, growing and distributing fresh produce to the local community.

In the 1940s, he joined the war effort by working as an inspector at the Hamilton Standard Propeller plant in Pawcatuck, R.I. Over the years, he supplemented the farm's income by working at the Bradford Dyeing Association, Eccleston Construction, Main and Dufour Plumbing, and Ashaway Line and Twine, from which he finally retired in 1958. After selling the farm, he relocated to Hopkinton and moved into a house he had helped to construct.

Mr. Waite was a lifelong member of the First Seventh Day Baptist

Church of Hopkinton, Ashaway, R.I. He served that church in many capacities, including president, trustee, and deacon.

In recent years, Mr. Waite most enjoyed traveling and visiting. He was on a motor home trip to Alaska as he passed his 95th birthday and outlived many vehicles used to make his "drop-in" calls on the many friends he made over the years. A unique character has left us, and the community will miss him.

Survivors include one daughter, Barbara Anne Barber of Dunns Corners, R.I.; one son, James, of Hopkinton; one stepdaughter, Connie Coon of Belmont, N.Y.; nine grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren. In addition to his wife, he was preceded in death by one stepson, Philip Coon.

Funeral services were held at the First Hopkinton SDB Church on September 9, 2000, with Pastor Scott Smith officiating. Burial was in the First Hopkinton Cemetery.

Anderson.—Evelyne E. Anderson, 88, died on September 14, 2000, in Jones Memorial Hospital, Wellsville, N.Y., following a brief illness.

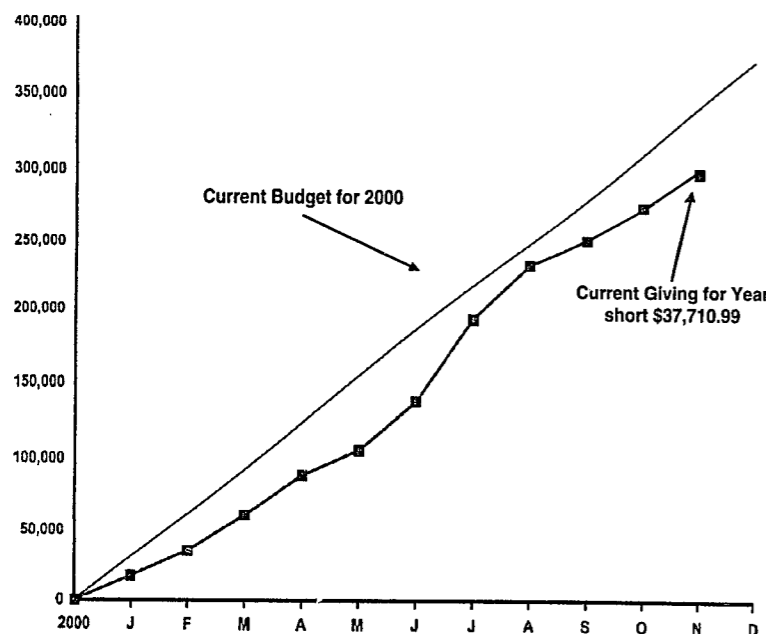
She was born on May 20, 1912, in Little Genesee, N.Y., the daughter of Jacob and Ida (Baxter) Eaton. On October 12, 1949, she married William Anderson, who died in 1991. She had three children—James, Nancy, and Judith.

Evelyne was a member of the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Little Genesee, the Little Genesee Sunshine Society, and the 4Cs Senior Citizens Club in Bolivar, N.Y.

She had many troubles in the last few years of her life, including a fire which destroyed her home, the frustrations of replacing that home, the loneliness of widowhood, and the need to give up driving. Through all

cont. next page

Current Giving 2000



KEVIN'S

ORNER

Any type of Christian mission involves travel—whether that be local, global, or even electronic.

Part of my “mission” as editor involves travel, certainly to General Council meetings and Conference sessions, but also to seminars and Christian press conventions. And I consider it a great joy and privilege to make local church visits to preach and talk about the Tract Council and Conference ministries, or to attend special church celebrations.

My family and parishioners exhibit great patience and understanding at my being on the road or in the air. Yet some who do not have the opportunity to get away from home tend to view my travel as “glamorous.”

Now, please don't get me wrong. I'm thankful for the health and resources to travel, but just exactly where is the glamour in flight changes, gate changes, time zone changes, delays, cancellations, and airline worker strikes? Sometimes it is just plain hard work to “get there from here.”

Living in the upper Midwest adds another major factor for travel: the unpredictable weather. (I'm writing this Korner during a 4-hour weather-related delay in Chicago. You would think that O'Hare would have better mall-type shopping as in other major airports. Maybe the officials here thought that people like me would be less distracted by the shops so I could get some work done. And if that's true, you would think they would provide more outlets for my computer... I know; gripe, gripe.)

The Lord has blessed me more than once by “turning around” what could have been an aggravating travel predicament. Several times a flight cancellation has resulted in a later booking in First Class. (I know; gripe, gripe.)

One particular trip stands out for me. I was once again in Chicago, waiting for a flight to Miami, with a connection through Raleigh, North Carolina. My bus to O'Hare arrived in plenty of time, so I made my way to the assigned gate and started on some work.

The time to board grew closer. I glanced toward the counter. It showed a different destination! I had not heard the gate change announcement.

As I strolled toward the new gate, I noticed a large crowd and a bit of commotion. “They've canceled the flight to Raleigh,” someone groaned. So I dutifully took my spot at the back of the line.

Then I overheard a man who just “happened” to mention, “Boy, I hope you're not planning to go to Miami. The direct flight from here is totally booked!”

Why me? I griped to myself. I started to head toward the customer service desk, then remembered that it was no longer at that concourse. I turned around to look for an available ticket agent.

Here's a gate to the left. No, they look too busy. Oh, here's another one to the right.

They were just finishing the boarding process for the next flight.

“I don't know if I can re-book you here,” the friendly but preoccupied agent told me. “Maybe you could call the toll-free number...”

As I rolled my eyes, they froze at the sign above her head: West Palm Beach.

“This flight is going to West Palm?” I stammered in disbelief. “Are there any available seats?” (I was to stay with church friends in Boca Raton—close enough!!)

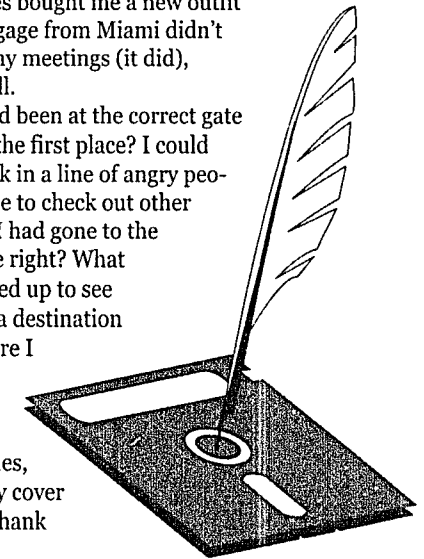
She checked the computer. “Well, let's see...”

I sat for a couple of minutes, then heard my name called. I was heading directly to Florida!

It wasn't until we reached cruising altitude that a few “details” hit me, like, what about my luggage, and the rental car I reserved out of Miami? To make a long story short, the car company didn't charge extra for the different drop-off site, the airlines bought me a new outfit in case my luggage from Miami didn't arrive before my meetings (it did), and all was well.

What if I had been at the correct gate for Raleigh in the first place? I could have been stuck in a line of angry people and not able to check out other gates. What if I had gone to the left and not the right? What if I hadn't looked up to see another Florida destination so close to where I needed to go?

When you say prayers for traveling mercies, sometimes they cover all the bases. Thank you, Lord!



of this, her spirit remained strong. She was a woman who loved her family deeply.

Services were held at the SDB Church in Little Genesee on September 19, 2000, with Pastor Gordon Lawton officiating. Burial was in Wells Cemetery, Little Genesee.

Niles.—Randy Wayne Niles, 44, of Dodge Center, Minn., died on September 21, 2000, at his home. He was born on April 27, 1956, in Unionville, Mo., the son of Gary and Shirley (Wood) Niles. He attended school in Lake Mills, Iowa.

On January 13, 1990, Randy was united in marriage to Barbara Suby in Sioux Falls, S.D. After living in Claremont, Minn., they moved to Dodge Center in 1995, into a home across the street from the Dodge Center Seventh Day Baptist Church.

Randy was a truck driver, who later became disabled. It was during his disablement that he accepted Christ as his Savior and Lord. On September 12, 1998, both he and Barb were baptized and subsequently became members of the Dodge Center SDB Church. He suffered greatly from depression, and yet loved his Lord, had a genuine faith, and was regular in his church participation.

In addition to his wife, survivors include their children, Julie Maas of Dodge Center, and Katie and Randy Jr.; and two children from a previous marriage, Shanna Niles and Matthew Niles of Lake Mills, Iowa. He is also survived by his father, Gary Niles of Owatonna, Minn.; one brother, Roger, of Owatonna; one sister, Connie Niles of Nashville, Tenn.; and two grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his mother, Shirley Niles.

Funeral services were held on September 24, 2000, in the Dodge Center SDB Church, with Pastor Dale E. Rood officiating. Burial was in Riverside Cemetery, Dodge Center.

Severance.—Howard Douglas Severance, 88, of White Bear Lake, Minn., passed away on October 19, 2000, at Maplewood Care Center. He was born on August 19, 1912, in

Dodge Center, Minn., the son of Burton and Anna (Osborn) Severance. He graduated from Milton (Wis.) High School in 1931 and attended Whitewater (Wis.) State College. On September 20, 1936, he married Mildred Kerr in Milton.

Howard served in the U.S. Army during World War II. In 1947, he began his career with the Mutual Service Insurance Company. He was appointed district sales manager in Racine, Wis. In 1950, he was transferred to Fond du Lac, Wis., where he remained as district sales manager. In 1962, the couple moved to White Bear Lake, where he was appointed advanced sales services supervisor.

On September 1, 1974, Howard took early retirement after 27 years. He spent many of his retirement years golfing and bowling. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge and former member of the Elks Club.

Besides his wife, survivors include one son, Phil; and two grandchildren. He was preceded in death by five brothers, Lyal, Irving, Duard, LuVern, and Graydon; two sisters, Lorna Howe and Belva Fox; and one granddaughter, Amanda.

A memorial service was held on October 27, 2000, at the Milton Seventh Day Baptist Church, with Rev. George D. Calhoun officiating. Interment was in Milton Lawns Cemetery, Janesville, Wis.

Johnson.—Robert Charles Johnson, 77, died on October 21, 2000, at his home in Milton, Wis. He was born on August 28, 1924, in Lake Geneva, Wis., to Eryv A. and Pearl (Palmer) Johnson. He moved to Milton in 1937 and graduated from Milton Union High School in 1942.

Bob was employed by Parker Pen in Janesville, Wis., from 1942 until his retirement in 1993. He served in the U.S. Air Force as an airplane mechanic from April of 1943 until March of 1946. On August 26, 1944, he married Barbara Fox.

Bob was a member of the Seventh Day Baptist Church, and a lifetime member of VFW Post 1621 of Janesville.

In addition to his wife, survivors include three sons, Kenneth and Ronald of Janesville, and Glen of Beloit, Wis.; one daughter, Annmarie Bennett of Evansville, Wis.; one brother, Roy, of Wisconsin Rapids, Wis.; eight grandchildren, and one great-grandson. He was predeceased by a brother, Gerald; a sister, Margaret York; and two grandchildren.

Funeral services were held on October 25, 2000, at the Milton SDB Church, with Pastor George Calhoun officiating. Entombment was in Milton Lawns Memorial Park, Janesville.

Britland.—Lois E. Britland, 73, of Westerly, R.I., died on November 11, 2000, at her home.

She was born in Westerly on February 23, 1927, the daughter of Fred and Marion (Arnold) Brayman.

Mrs. Britland was employed at the Stillwater Textile Mills of Ashaway, R.I., and Douglas Randall of Stonington, Conn. She was a member of the First Hopkinton Seventh Day Baptist Church in Ashaway, and a past president of its Ladies Aid Society.

Lois was also a member of Westerly Senior Citizens, Westerly Songbirds, Ashaway Grange, the Deborah Hope and Grand Chapters of the Order of the Eastern Star, and the Carolyn Rebekah Lodge 30 of Hope Valley, and a past Noble Grand. She was a member of the Crandall Family organization and a Mayflower descendant.

Survivors include five children, Kelsie James of Bethlehem, Pa.; Larry Spencer of Caribou, Maine; Diane Spencer of Narragansett, R.I.; Cathy Park of Charlestown, R.I.; and Paul Spencer of Westerly. She is also survived by three sisters—Hazel Hall of Wakefield, R.I.; Virginia Higgins of Westerly; and Geneva Farrar of Florida. She was predeceased by three brothers—Daniel, Kenneth, and F. Arthur Brayman.

Services were held on November 14, 2000, at the First Hopkinton SDB Church. Pastor Scott Smith officiated, assisted by Rev. Edgar Wheeler.

Oak Grove Cemetery in Ashaway is the interment site.

Feature Index for 2000

(Department Index on page 23)

A church's dedication (in many ways) (by Richard and Mary Steele)	Nov.	"Martha, Martha..." (by Camille Henry)	April
A jubilee for a camp (by Don A. Sanford)	July-Aug.	Milton goes "high tech" (by Mary Thompson)	July-Aug.
A royal priesthood and church polity (by John Conrod)	Feb.	Ministering with compassion (by Charlotte Chroniger)	Oct.
A simple answer, via e-mail	June	More than just a building (by Richard Steele)	Nov.
A tale of three cities (by Greg Asimakoupoulos)	Feb.	My mission of praise (by Steve Weber)	Jan.
By What Authority?	May	Nellie Jo Brissey gets a new Robe	Oct.
Churches emerge from refugee camps in Rwanda (by Kirk Looper)	Jan.	Pew Number 12 (by Jerry VanHorn)	July-Aug.
Conference in review	Sept.	Planting the seed (by Ginny Burdick)	June
Creativity an underused 'gift from God' (by Ken Camp)	July-Aug.	Remember to leave the lights on! (by Bob Hett)	Feb.
Devotions under grace (by Althea Rood)	April	"Sabbath Readings" (Compiled by Pastor Elmo Fitz Randolph)	Feb.
Fighting the virus (by Justin Hibbard)	June	Sabbath witness in the South (by Don A. Sanford)	March
Five positive principles for keeping Sabbath	March	The Discipline and Intimacy of devotions (by Dale E. Rood)	April
How keep the Sabbath?	March	The Internet and I (by Aubrey Appel)	June
Humility imposed (by D. Scott Smith)	Oct.	The miracle at the well (by Jim August)	Nov.
Internet use linked to social isolation in study (by Sarah Griffith)	June	The rest from restlessness (by Jim Jarantowski)	May
Journey of a lifetime	Dec.	The spirit of the Sabbath (by R. Gregory Lincoln)	March
Kenya: An almost-forgotten mission (by Kirk Looper)	Jan.	"Tickets please!" (by Lana Van Horn)	Sept.
Learning to walk (by Jeff Hazen)	Nov.	20/20 Vision for 2020 (by Dr. Pete May)	Nov.
Long Haul for the Lord (by Jennie Wells Munn)	Nov.	What is a parent? (by Marie Ward)	July-Aug.
"Lord, Send Someone Else! (by Teresa Shattuck)	Jan.	Who can write a devotional? You can! (by Leanne Lippincott)	April
		"Who is God Anyway?"—the Toronto Crusade (by Ronald Elston)	Jan.

Kevin's Korner

Sitting close to the President	Jan.	Lessons from Leon	June
Passionate people Down Under	Feb.	Lessons learned from my back	July-Aug.
Go climb a bridge!	March	Turkey legs and Conference	Sept.
Is your thermostat connected?	April	Who wants to be an Editaire?	Oct.
Keeping up with the neighbors	May	Contrast of new and old	Nov.