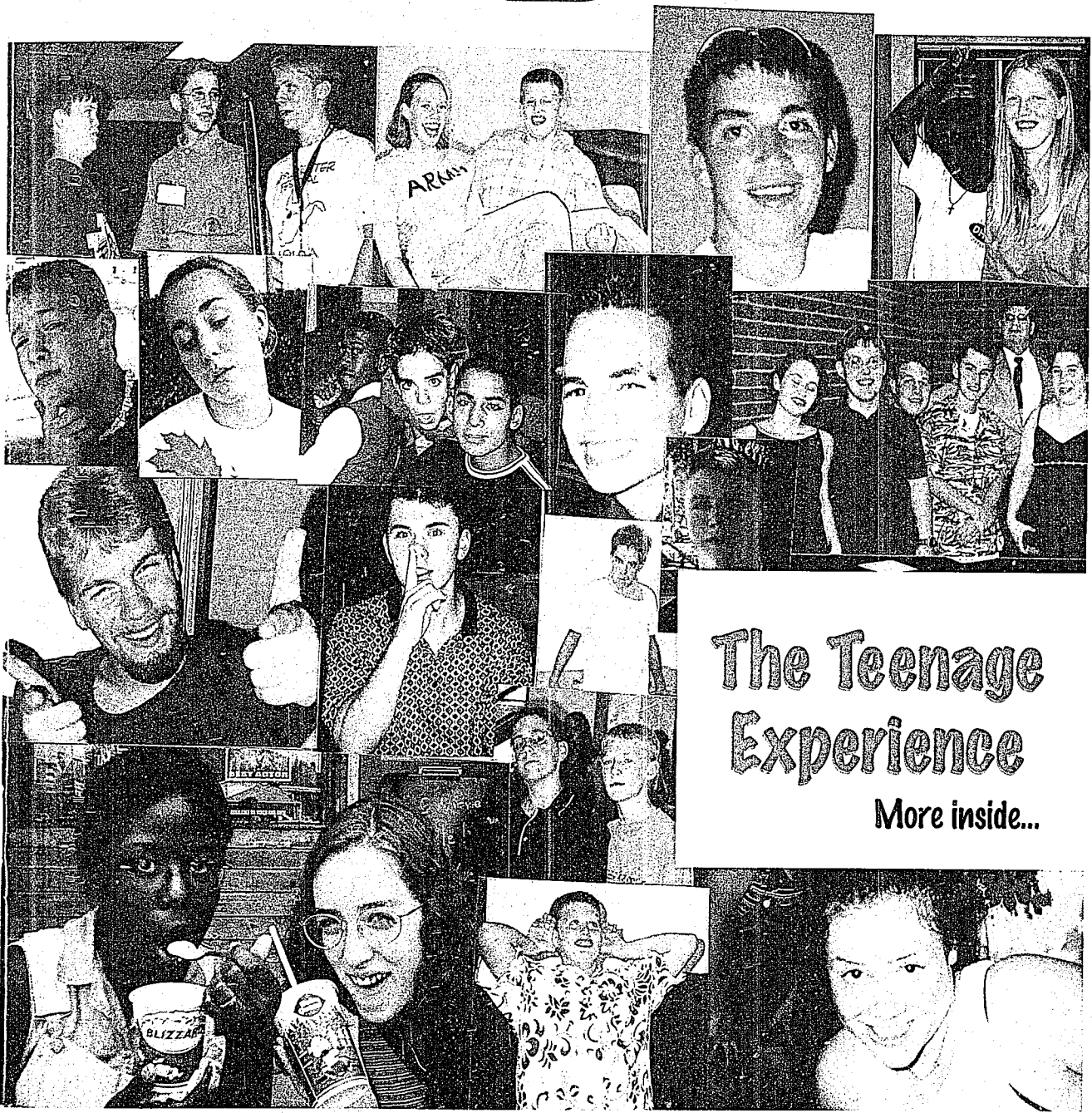




The **S**abbath
News for and about
Seventh Day Baptists
Recorder
June 2001



The Teenage
Experience
More inside...



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.

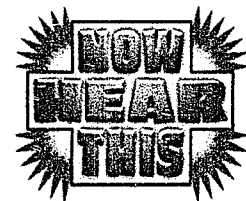
If you would like more information, write: The Seventh Day Baptist Center, 3120 Kennedy Road, PO Box 1678, Janesville, WI 53547-1678. Phone (608) 752-5055; FAX (608) 752-7711; E-mail: sdbgen@inwave.com and the SDB Web site: www.seventhdaybaptist.org

Calling Camp Wakonda alumni

So many people have such wonderful memories from Camp Wakonda in Milton, Wisconsin! Over the years God has touched numerous lives through the ministry of this camp.

Unfortunately, we have lost touch with many of you. We are about to embark on an exciting new project. If you are interested in being updated on and supporting the ministry of Camp Wakonda (alumni or not), please send your name and address to:

Camp Wakonda
c/o Milton SDB Church
720 E. Madison Ave.
Milton, WI 53563



Our thanks to
Aubrey Appel, Milton, Wis.
for pulling together another
great youth issue!

Denominational Dateline

June 2001

- 2 Cornerstone SDB Church Dedication, Pontotoc, Miss.—Ron Eiston, Kirk Looper, Pete May
- 4-15 Summer Institute, SDB Center, Janesville, Wis.—Gabe Bejjani, Don Sanford
- 8-10 Southwestern Association annual meeting, Stonefort, Ill.—Elston
- 9 New Auburn, Wis., SDB Church—Bejjani
- 18-25 Project Director Training (SCSC), Daytona Beach, Fla.—Calvin Babcock
- 23 San Gabriel, Calif., SDB Church—May
- 30 Rockville, R.I., SDB Church—Looper

July

- 1-17 Africa Trip (Liberia, Ghana, The Gambia)—Looper
- 8-15 Director & Doctor at Pacific Pines Camp, Crestline, Calif.—May
- 8-15 Director at Camp Harley Sutton, Alfred Station, N.Y.—Andrew Camenga
- 21-22 Missionary Society Meeting, Westerly, R.I.—Looper
- 22 BCE Executive Committee Meeting, Alfred Station—Camenga
- 28 Vision Christian Fellowship, Pawcatuck, Conn.—Looper

Dateline Key

- BCE**—Board of Christian Education
- BJCPA**—Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs
- CLT**—Coordinating Leadership Team
- COM**—Council on Ministry
- NET**—Natural Evangelism Training
- SCSC**—Summer Christian Service Corps
- TCC**—Tract and Communication Council
- SR**—Sabbath Recorder

The Sabbath Recorder

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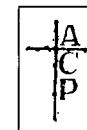


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The future

by Ginny Burdick

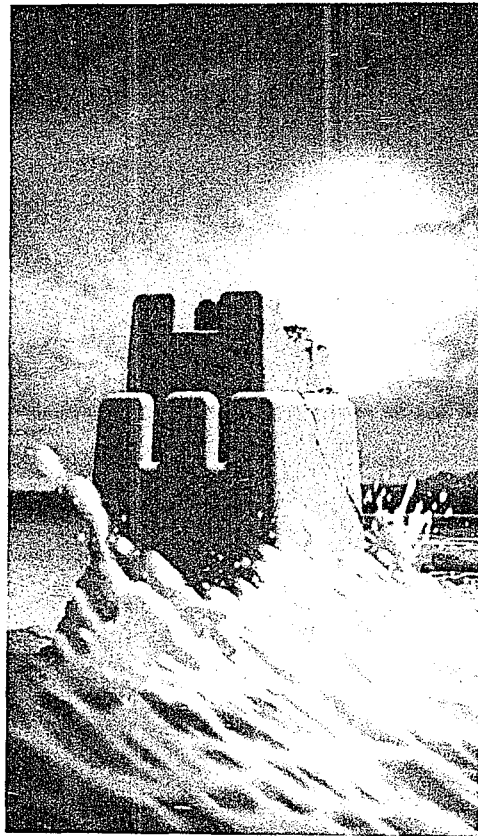
Future, future... You know, the future really doesn't inspire me. All I know is that during the past couple of years, I've been terrified of my future; of *the* future.

There were all these things—keeping up my grades, getting a job, figuring out which college I wanted to go to, filling out applications, getting scholarships, figuring out what it was I wanted to be. Man, it was scary!

But lately, I've managed to calm down. People have told me over and over that God has a plan for me, and it has started to sink in.

I'm still not looking forward to the future in certain areas. Lately, I've noticed how bad society is getting—with the media and family life, just bad stuff. Things just seem to be falling apart.

And I notice it especially in public school. So many things happen that would have been horrendous ten or even five years ago. The swearing gets way too out of hand; sex, drugs, and alcohol are everyday encounters; magazines and music are so explicit that it's sickening; and people just



Lately, I've noticed how bad society is getting. Things just seem to be falling apart.

don't seem to *care* anymore. I don't even want to think about what it's going to be like in the future.

Of course, it's not *all* bad. Think of the cures and vaccinations we

could develop. Our technology will be overpowering, which can be good or bad. With the way we are progressing, we could do some astounding things.

But the major thing I know is that, whatever happens, I am going to do my best to keep myself above all the trash and filth of modern-day America. And when I have kids, I will try my hardest to raise them with the love and faith that I've been raised with, so that they, too, will be set apart.

That's the joyous part of it all—to think of how wonderful it is that, even if the rest of the world is running down around you, you can stay strong in the Lord. Wow! I guess I had more to say about the future than I thought!

"But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope you have. But do this with gentleness and respect" (1 Peter 3:15). SR

Ginny Burdick is a member of the Seattle Area, Wash., Seventh Day Baptist Church.



Smearing chocolate

by Aubrey Appel

The urge to smear chocolate frosting on your face only happens so many times throughout your life. And when the urge comes, you must make the choice: to smear or not to smear.

That decision may depend on the company you are keeping at the moment, the number of cameras with flashes ready, or the consistency of the frosting. But you *must* make the decision nonetheless. It's like a super-big part of life. *Duh.*

If you're an adult, smearing chocolate all over your face would be totally out of the question. After all, it is immature, messy, and rather silly. But if you're 3 years old, the decision is quite easy to make. Of course, 3-year-olds with frosting all over are much cuter than 30-year-olds in the same situation. *Like eww, gag me with a spoon.*

I may be alone in my dilemma, but every once in awhile I get a strong urge to regress to a younger, more immature age and produce the fitting behavior. Such as eating a chocolate-frosted Rice Krispies treat, and suddenly wanting very badly to cover as much of my face

as I can with that gooey, chocolatey frosting. *That's like, so disgusting.*

Throughout my teenage years, this regressive behavior has caused me to seriously lack maturity one moment, and seriously embarrass myself the next. I've ended up questioning my every motive and adding up how many people actually saw me.

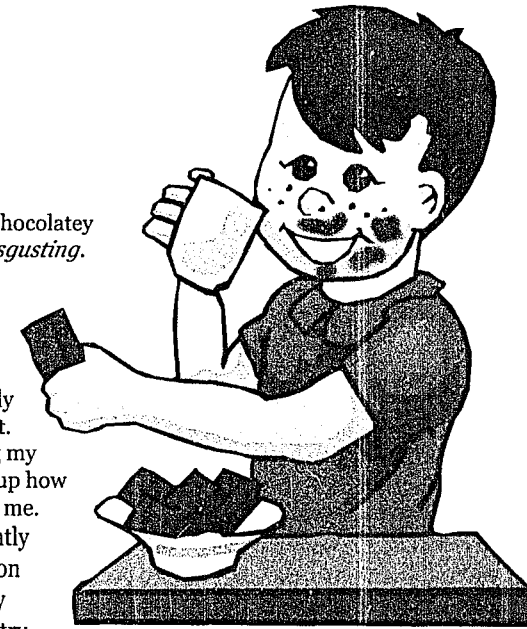
My parents have patiently explained this phenomenon as "being lost," not exactly "fitting in," a "square peg trying to fit into a round hole," not sure if I am an adult or still a child... That sounds pretty reasonable, *like totally.*

Now that I understand why I do these silly, childish things, I am not so lost. But it does make my life and other teenage lives rather interesting.

How many times have teens complained about not being treated like mature adolescents, then the next day head to school wearing every article of clothing they own displaying school colors, decorating their faces with school-colored paint,



The author, proving her point.



and going to a football game screaming and jumping up and down? Similar to a 4-year-old's temper tantrum? *Whatever.*

Because we are stuck contradicting ourselves with strange behavior for approximately six years (or longer) as a teen, I have made myself one very important rule. Whatever I do, I do for the glory of God. After all, if God had not brought me through these teenage years of torture, I would definitely be crazy today—a little more crazy than I am now.

I try my best on my English tests because I know that everything I do works for God's glory. He gave me my brain, so I ought to use it to the greatest of my ability. And if I feel like smearing chocolate frosting all over my face, well then, I will do my best to smear it all over myself. To glorify God, *like for sure.* SR

The teenage experience

by Aubrey Appel and Co.

The adolescent years—arguably the toughest in a person's life—are something that every adult must survive. Teenagers juggle everything from homework to part-time jobs, from acne to a social life, from the protection of parents to the novelty of independence.

Speaking on behalf of teens, it can be rather confusing. One minute, I am deciding how my actions define who I am, and the next minute I realize I want to change myself. There are parental pressures, monetary pressures, educational pressures, and peer pressures. But gradually, our lives become our own, and we have to decide the best way to live them.

Let's also look at "the positives" of being an adolescent. We are young. We are growing up, but we are not grown up. Our world is wide open for thousands of goals and dreams to invade. We inspire, enlighten, and have fun. We have the right to act young and immature one moment, and much older and full of maturity the next.

Being a Christian and a teenager can be both awesome and tough. I asked some of my SDB friends a few questions about their teenage walk with Christ and here are their answers:



Youth Pre-Cons are TOO cool!!!

1. How do you deal with keeping God in your everyday life, and being a witness in your school, home, community, etc.?

•"Together, every morning, my family and I pray and read the daily *Helping Hand* lessons before heading off to school and work. It gets our day off to a good start. I'm a witness to others merely through the way I live each day. Actions speak louder than words."

•"Almost every night, I would write in my journal, but I was having trouble finding the much-needed time for God. Then I finally realized that I could fit in devotions *before* I wrote in my journal. I found a great book called *Xtreme Talk Devotional* that related to what I had to deal with everyday, and I wrote down thoughts and questions. The devotional passages are short, and they don't take more than five minutes to read. But they make you think, and that's what counts."

•"I think witnessing is one of the most difficult things to do. I try to lead people by example, and it really seems to work. One of my favorite things is when a stranger comes up to me and asks if I'm a Christian. I know that does not seem like much, but it shows me that they can see the difference in me. It opens a doorway for me to share my relationship with Christ."

2. How do you depend on God to bring you through each day, and keep you from insanity?

•"God is what keeps me going during the week because I know that by the weekend, I can go to church, which is so much fun. If I was faced with nothingness at the end of the week, I believe I would go insane."

•"I think the only answer for me is prayer. People underestimate the true power of prayer. For me, it's a release point. I can share my problems with God, and He shares His love and forgiveness with me. Without that time of prayer, I would lose myself to my own problems."

•"I depend on God for everything—from waking up rested, to safe travel wherever I'm going, to doing well on a math test. He keeps me safe and keeps me sane."

3. What in the future do you look forward to?

•"I think the thing I look forward to the most is being done with the present! As in: I want to be done with school, settled into a steady job, and have a firm grasp on where my life is heading."

•"I look forward to starting my own family. Some-

day I'd like to get married and become a mom with whomever God ordains."

•"I look forward to the ups and downs in life. I know I'm going to have a lot more to come and I know [God will] prepare me or take care of me as needed."

4. What things do you wish that adults and teens would take more seriously?

•"The thing I wish teens would take more seriously is sexual relations. It doesn't seem like a big deal anymore... but I think they should really think about it a whole lot more. Look at what they are giving up to someone, that is such a big part of them."

•"I wish that teens and adults would take the everyday images of violence on TV more seriously. Many people are still unaware of how constant exposure to violence desensitizes society. It's sad. You'd think people would get the message after all the school shootings and youth violence... Our world is changing rapidly, and it's frightening."

•"Sex in the media or just sex, period. Nowadays, the term is used too loosely, and few keep it in its place. It has lost its sanctity, and has become dirty and commonplace."


•"I think we should take things *less* seriously. I think some adults get so caught up in responsibilities that they don't ever sit back and enjoy their God-given gift of life."

5. What makes you righteously angry? (I mean totally angry!)

•"Hypocrites."

•"When people label themselves 'Christians,' yet do not show it daily, it makes me really annoyed and angry. It gives us true Christians a bad reputation. We may be the only Jesus that the world sees."

•"Abortion gets me pretty angry. Some say [the fetus] is not really alive, but it is. If something is growing, it's alive; I learned that in like third grade... Babies are so pure and so clean, not to mention, one of God's best creations. They're the best hope for our future, if you ask me."

•"When people use the word 'teenager' as if it were a synonym for 'juvenile delinquent.' It's specifying an age group, not a certain type of adolescent... It angers me how so many people can make assumptions that because we are between the ages of 13-17, we are automatically troublemakers and rebels." 

Thank you to Heather Hemminger, Jonathan Mackintosh, Sandy Noel, and Bethany Thompson-gordon for answering my questions.

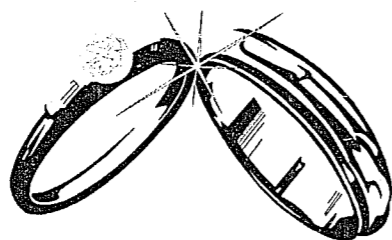


Aubrey Appel (left) and Aaron Smith met in Milton when they were pre-pre-teens.

A pure promise

by Bethany Thompsongordon, Daytona Beach, Fla.

*For those who have
remained strong,
good for you!*



*For those
who haven't,
our God is a
forgiving and loving
God.*

Recently I had a conversation with a classmate of mine. I don't recall how we got on the subject, but we ended up talking about teen promiscuity and pre-marital sex.

We talked about how—when temptation arises—it can be hard to resist; some people do and some people don't.

After telling her about my commitment to abstinence until marriage, she told me that since she gave away her once-in-a-lifetime gift of virginity, it became easier and easier to give in, and it even became addicting. She said that she'd had the goal and wanted to "save" herself, but that she just couldn't wait.

It seems like everywhere we turn, there is some sort of sexual connotation or image: network television

shows display unmarried people in sexual relationships; sex appeal is used in tons of advertisements or music; and sometimes it seems as if everyone around us has done the deed.

As Christians, especially as young people, God calls us to a life of purity. Many make pacts and proudly wear rings, necklaces, or other symbols of this promise to God and our future marriage partner.

Sometimes people tease me about how introverted I am on the topic of sex. But you know what? It doesn't bother me at all. I don't really mind—at least they know where I stand.

For those who have remained strong, good for you! God rewards those who wait.

For those who haven't, our God is a forgiving and loving God. By repenting and remaining pure in the

future, you can reclaim virginity from the moment you repent. (Aren't we blessed that God forgets our sins?! I think it's pretty nifty!)

"I Promise," sung by Jaci Velasquez, and "I Don't Want It," by DC Talk, are a couple of songs that totally remind me of why we wait. If you haven't already, really listen to the words of these songs the next time you hear them. Make the promise of purity your prayer. **SR**

"Flee also youthful lusts; but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart" (2 Timothy 2:22).



Bethany
Thompson-
gordon

In search of a college

by Heidi Kinnicutt, Little Genesee, N.Y.

Looking for a college is such a big step in life. And so far, my search has been one of great tribulation.

It all started back in October, when I decided to apply to Houghton (N.Y.) College. Ever since, my life has not been the same. I have tried my best to stay on top of things and not go crazy, but nothing seems to work.

Along came the month of March, and the only thing I'd heard from Houghton is that they had deferred me (in December) for later consideration.

My grades aren't exactly horrid, but they aren't all that great either. I have an 83 average for my overall high school career. That is just under the 85 average needed to get into the National Honor Society (NHS) at my school.

I had been working for the past few years to get my average up so that I could get into the NHS. I was so disappointed when my guidance counselor told me that I was less than 2 points away. That was just the beginning of a bad year.

Within a month, I had completely forgotten about my application to Houghton. I was too busy working on our school yearbook and doing homework to worry about college.

Around the end of November, I started preparing some more college applications, and began to really anticipate some kind of reply from Houghton. Then I got their letter saying that I had not been accepted—but I had not been rejected, either.

Now, as some people well know about God answering prayers, He reveals His plans for our lives when He wants to. I would have rather gotten a flat-out reply from Houghton, saying that I was accepted or rejected. But the fact that they were saying "not yet" bothered me.

That reply added to the evidence

that my year had not been going well. There had been so much going on in my life that it was not fun anymore.

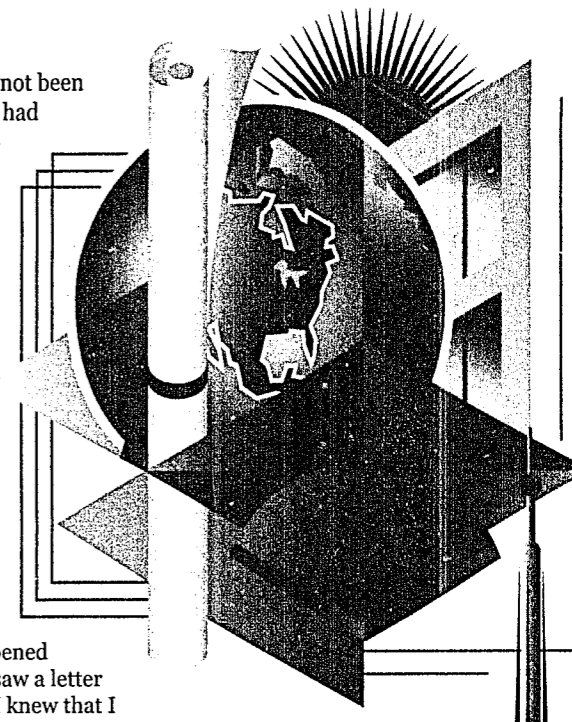
Friday, March 16th, was a day off, so I helped my aunt clean someone's house in the morning. Then I went home to eat lunch and do my homework. After I ate, I checked the mail.

As soon as I opened the mailbox and saw a letter from Houghton, I knew that I had been accepted! I rushed inside to open it up. I was so happy to have been accepted to my college of choice!

*The fact that
they were saying
"not yet"
bothered me.*

I read through the package and then watched some TV to calm down. My mom wasn't home yet, so I left a note. I asked which day would be best among the three "welcome weekends," and asked to borrow \$300. When we finally talked, she asked, "What is this all about?" and I simply handed her the Houghton envelope.

I told everyone in my family to



keep the news quiet until announcements were made at church the next morning.

When the announcement time came, I spoke up and said, "I'm going to Houghton next year!" Miriam Lawton turned around and smiled that dorky smile of hers, and then someone started clapping. The next thing I knew, the rest of the congregation had joined in.

After church, Miriam came up to me and gave me a big hug, and simply said, "Lambien." (Meaning: make sure you circle Lambien Hall on your roommate request form.)

I don't know what else to say, but that God is AWESOME!!!! I was just about ready to disobey my parents' wishes and go to another school.

I'm excited to be going to Houghton next year. And even more excited about attending our SDB Conference there in 2002. **SR**



Doubting God

by Sandy Noel,
Battle Creek, Mich.

At this point in my life, I'm having a little bit of turbulence in my walk/flight with Christ.

Sometimes I'm so close to the Lord that I can feel Him all around me, and I *know* He's absolutely there. Then, a couple days go by, and I lose that feeling, and I start wondering again if He's around.

Then I say, "Come on, just show me again, give me that feeling—let me know." This leads to, "Who am I talking to if I don't know He's really there? Is it simply "stuck" in me since that's the way I was raised?"

I'm thinking that it's just a "teen thing," that I'll get through it. But I don't want to be labeled like that. I want to be known for being strong in my walk, yet there's so much in this world that pulls me away and gives me doubt. I know the Bible says to avoid it, but how *can* you with so much against it?

We're supposedly one of the bigger Christian nations, but where is the Christianity? It's been smothered so much that you can't even tell anymore. We're accepting too much or something.

I don't know how to change it, so that brings me back to my original

point of losing sight and doubting. Oh, the doubting!

I know God's really there, otherwise I wouldn't get this emotional about it. Like they say about hardcore atheists: "Why are they fighting so hard if what they're fighting against isn't there?" I mean, come on; that's just silliness.

Even though I know He's truly there, I still have my doubts. And

about the footprints in the sand.

God will set me on track and eventually make me strong. I know He will; He *has* too. If that's not believing, I don't know what is!

So, for any of you out there doubting Him, just talk it out. Talk to God, and talk to someone who loves Him. You'll see and feel God all around you. Believe and have faith, and let Him take you in as His own.

***There's so much
in this world that pulls me
away and gives me doubt.***

that kills me, because I want to help bring Christians up front, to change the world. How can I do that if I'm not strong and totally without-a-doubt for Christ?

I know that God says He'll "spit you out" if you're lukewarm. I'm trying so hard, but I just get more confused the harder I try. I don't know if college is going to help my situation or kill me even more inside. Whatever happens, I know that God will be there with me—like the poem

He is so great. Let Him be in control.

Everything has a purpose, and God knows what He's doing. I believe that this stage in my life will only make me stronger when God really needs me to be. He is so awesome!

If you can't think of anything to be happy about, go back to knowing that God's in control, and that He's got a plan. Just don't worry and try to give it all to Him. **SR**

Thorngates visit Brazil

by Janet Thorngate

(Editor's Note: Rev. Dale D. Thorngate and his wife Janet visited Seventh Day Baptists in Brazil in January and February of this year—he as Executive Secretary of the Seventh Day Baptist World Federation, she representing the SDB Historical Society. In addition to reviewing plans for the World Federation sessions to be held there in January 2003, they taught courses in Seventh Day Baptist beliefs, polity, and history during the national convention sessions and visited churches in three different states. First of a three-part report.)

"Why haven't we known about these people before?" That was the question my mother asked after looking through our 106-page Brazil photo album.

There they are in Kodak Gold-Max color. A busy, healthy Conference of Seventh Day Baptist churches, steadily "expanding their tent" across their vast country—and even into other countries of South America.

There they are in my 530 pictures from our month in Brazil: a family with 12 children, a little boy with his ice cream cart, church groups and church buildings, cityscapes and farm gardens, people singing (children, youth, congregations); barbecues and zoo visits, lunch at the Center office and the Conference cafeteria, more people singing (solos, duets, choirs, quartets); rolling plains and rain forests, committees meeting, pastors preaching, new friends, old friends—

Why haven't we known about these people before? When the *Sabbath Recorder* comes in the mail, my mother reads it from cover to cover. Over the years, it has recorded that the Brazil Conference was a charter member of the Seventh Day Baptist World Federation in 1965, and that they have had from one to six representatives at each of the five sessions since then. Of course it recorded reports of Leon Maltby's visit to Brazil in 1960 and Leon Lawton's in the 1970s.



The youth singing group "Cantares" leads choruses on Sabbath at the Curitiba Central Church. Children and adult choirs also contribute to joyful, worshipful praise.

Long-time SDBs

As I brought official greetings in the 15 churches we visited, or introduced myself before teaching sessions at the national conference, I often mentioned that I was the daughter of a Seventh Day Baptist pastor, or I used my SDB lineage to hook into an SDB history lesson. I must admit my surprise and pleasure as many older pastors came to tell me, "I too grew up in a Seventh Day Baptist home," or young women would say, "My great-grandfather was also a Seventh Day Baptist pastor."

American SDBs have tended to look eastward across the Atlantic to England and Africa, and westward to Asia and the Pacific. Most communication and missionary activity followed the routes of the British Empire, to English-speaking countries.

cont. next page



Pastor José Dirceu de Andrade Cruz, Conference General Supervisor and Coordinator, speaks at the church in Curitiba.

I remember my mother brushing up on her Spanish before going with my father on his second trip to visit SDBs in Mexico in 1967—but we had never even known anyone who spoke Portuguese.

Studying English

Thus, my response to Mother's question: "I suppose it's because of the language barrier. Communication between American and Brazilian Sev-

where we traveled, people—especially the young people—wanted to try to speak English with us.

Our official host and our main translator for the one-month visit were the two men who represented Brazil at the 1997 World Federation sessions in Jamaica: José Dirceu de Andrade Cruz and João Maria Alves Correia.

Pastor Cruz sets aside time to study English every week as part

Portuguese to English. Brazil's quarterly *Seventh Day Baptist Newsletter* is now mailed to other SDB Conferences in Portuguese and in English.

Curitiba Headquarters

The Conference office building in Curitiba—home base for our three-week stay—is a busy place indeed. Besides the office of Pastor Cruz and the Conference secretary, Miriam Felicio, there is a large conference room, kitchen, bathrooms, and bedroom (ours for our visit, but usually occupied by Jonas Sommer, a seminary student who also works for the Conference). These are at the back of the building which opens into an airy patio and vegetable garden.

At the front, on the busy four-lane street (Rua Comandador Franco), is the commercial print shop operated by Daniel Diniz, a church member who contracts the Conference printing. He lives with his family in an apartment between the print shop and the offices.

Curitiba, capital of the State of Paraná, and a city of 1.5 million people, is renowned for its efficient bus system and delightful parks. Its several Seventh Day Baptist churches include the oldest, Curitiba Central,

cont. on page 26

Brazil's invitation to host the World Federation Sessions in 2003 and their preparation for that event has started a flurry of English study in their Conference.

enth Day Baptists has been scant indeed."

It is the Brazilians who are changing that. Brazil's invitation to host the World Federation Sessions in 2003 and their preparation for that event has started a flurry of English study in their Conference. Every-

of his full-time work for the Conference. His official positions include General Supervisor of the Executive Board and General Coordinator for the departments.

John (João Maria) Correia teaches English privately in the east-coast city Paranaguá, where he also leads a new Seventh Day Baptist church group. His work for the Conference includes lots of writing and translating from English to Portuguese and



Printer Daniel Diniz prepares copies of the *Helping Hand* for distribution at Conference. The Brazilians translate it from English to Portuguese for use in their 80 churches.



Translators make communication possible: Liani and Luciano de Moura from Brazilia (on the ends), and João Maria Correia (second from right) with his wife Marilene and daughter Fabian, from Paranaguá.



Women's Society page by Laura Price

Before your final "I do's"

Written by Maggie Greene, edited by Laura Price

Dear Sons and Daughters,

Just wanted to write you some of my thoughts before you say the final "I do's." I hope it goes without saying, that I love you. As you say, I'm a bit serious, but I think it's from a long history of not being serious enough about the consequences of life.

Here are some things that I think are worth your thoughts on. I should have said what I thought more in the past as you've been growing up. But I probably didn't say enough at the time because I didn't want to alienate you from me.

In a love relationship there are three main ingredients that you need in order to have a loving and lasting marriage. Everyone probably thinks that they have these key ingredients before they get married, but from the divorce rate, we see that some things were not carefully considered. The three ingredients that I know you need for a lasting marriage are:

1. Intimacy—Knowing the person. Knowing what to expect in that particular relationship.

2. Commitment—The glue that holds the relationship together during the tough times.

3. Passion—We all know what passion is, but sometimes there is no passion for whatever reason (money problems, children problems, personal reasons). That's when you need the glue of commitment.

Passion can arrive swiftly in a relationship, and only time will tell if you have the commitment to each other. But the intimacy, the knowing, is what I want to talk to you about. I love you enough to address these things, so that hopefully if there is anything you have not looked at

closely, you will look at it now so there will not be regrets on either part.

Right now all you see is the good, but are you prepared to live with each other's differences? Are you prepared to move anywhere if your relationship might require you to, be it work-related or family-related? Are you prepared to maybe one day have children and do the necessary things with them every day?

Will you end up feeling all alone and deserted if your spouse goes off to work all day and you have to stay home? Can you depend on each other?

And, can you live with each other's beliefs? Are you willing to let the other grow in a way that you may not agree with? Would you try to undermine the other's beliefs—even subtly?

Finally, can you each look at your relationship and say that what you want most is to give to this relationship? Can you say, "I want my husband to be the best person, the best father, the best husband he can be, and I believe that it is my part to help him be that"? Can you say, "I want my wife to be the best person, the best wife, the best mother that she can be, and I believe it is my part to help her do that"?

Most people enter relationships thinking about what *they* need or want. But you really only get what you need or want by having the attitude of "What do I need to *give* to this relationship?" It really is better to give than to receive, and in giving you do receive.

One final thought: marriage is about becoming "one." Not equal, but one. If the initial love we feel is enough to make that oneness,

all would be well. But these areas that I've brought up often divide couples, and the oneness never occurs.

When these hard decisions arise, someone will have to give in order for the best result in the situation to be realized. That's why I say, "Ask yourselves these hard questions now."

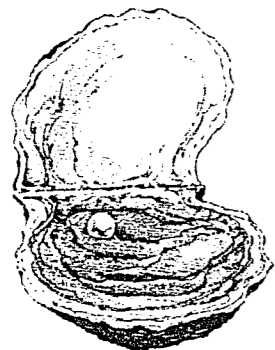
We know there will be always the "unexpected," but for the everyday tough situations, we need to be really honest and mature in this decision of marriage. Because it is a lifetime commitment, or it should be.

Love, Mom.

"My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother: For they shall be an ornament of grace unto thy head, and chains about thy neck" (Proverbs 1:8-9). SR

Maggie Greene is a fellow Sabbathkeeper and long-time friend of the Palatka, Fla., SDB Church group. She is a mother of two grown children, and a grandmother a few times over. She also runs a lunch counter called "The Bread of Life" inside the Desoto Drugstore in Lake City, Fla., which specializes in made-from-scratch menu items with a touch of her own gift of gourmet.

Reminder to all ladies from the "Prez"! ...Don't forget to bring or send your crafts to Conference as ALL proceeds will go toward SCSC. Thanks!



Pearls from the Past by Don A. Sanford, historian

"I cannot tell a lie"

This was followed by a tribute from H. Lee, Major-General, Army U.S.—

"The author has treated this great subject with admirable success in a new way. He treats all of the actions of Washington to the encouragement of virtue, by a careful application of numerous exemplifications drawn from the conduct of the founder of our republic from his early life."

Rev. Weems attributes much of his information about the early life of young George to anecdotes "related to me twenty years ago by an aged lady, who was a distant relative, and when a girl spent much of her time in the family."

Thus he wrote a kind of prelude to the most often repeated incident:

"Pa," said George very seriously, "do I ever tell lies?"

"No, George, I thank God you do not, my son; and I rejoice in the hope

whenever by accident, you do anything wrong, which must often be the case, as you are but a poor little boy yet, without experience or knowledge, you must never tell a falsehood to conceal it, and instead of beating you, George, I will but the more honor and love you for it."

When George was about six years old, he was made the wealthy master of a hatchet of which, like most little boys, he was immoderately fond, and was constantly going about chopping every thing that came his way.

One day in the garden where he often amused himself hacking his mother's pea-sticks, he unluckily tried the edge of his hatchet on the body of a beautiful young cherry



"He unluckily tried the edge of his hatchet on the body of a beautiful young cherry tree which he barked so terribly that I don't believe the tree ever got the better of it."

you never will. At least, you shall never, from me, have cause to be guilty of so shameful a thing. Many parents, indeed, even compel their children to this vile practice, by barbarously beating them for every little fault: hence on the next offence, the little terrified creature slips out a lie just to escape the rod. But as to yourself George, you know I have always told you, and now tell you again, that,

tree which he barked so terribly that I don't believe the tree ever got the better of it.

The next morning the old gentleman, finding out what had befallen his tree, which by the way, was a great favorite, came into the house; and by much warmth asked for the mischievous author, declaring at the same time that he would not have

cont. on page 26



SR Almanac

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

One year ago—June 2000

SDB youth take over the feature section once again, with the topic, "The Internet." Writers include Aubrey Appel, Ginny Burdick, and Justin Hibbard.

Many other youth from across the country answer the question, "What's the importance of God in your everyday life?"

Don Sanford shares news of a Baptist web page under construction: BaptistHeritage.com.

Kirk Looper introduces T.I.M.E. and CALLED studies to Australia.

President John Camenga thanks fellow SDBs for the prayer support following his wife's heart surgery.

Five years ago—June 1996

"The Role of the Diaconate" features articles by Owen Probasco, David Taylor, Mayola Warner, and Daryl White. Ernest Bee Jr. shares the biblical basis for the diaconate on the Christian Education pages.

Women's Page lists Summer Christian Service Corps (SCSC) teams and sites for 1996.

News updates come from Lost Creek, W.Va., and Westerly, R.I.

Coverage shared of the January Australasian Conference in New Zealand. Chuck and Lorna Graffius lead a NET retreat in Sydney, Australia.

10 years ago—June 1991

Several SDB writers reflect on the "Sanctity of Life."

Rod Henry's Sabbath study series looks at the Sabbath in the giving of the manna.

Missionary Ian Ingoe reports on Phalombe Plains flood disaster, along with some encouraging baptisms at the Chipho Clinic in Malawi, Africa.

Plainfield, N.J., congregation forced to say good-bye to their historic ceramic tile roof.

Coverage of Pastors' Conference in Battle Creek, Mich. Sidney Draayer is guest speaker.

25 years ago—June 1976

Pastor Socrates Thompson writes on the Eighth Beatitude.

General Conference Task Force presents proposed denominational reorganization. Suggestions include forming a General Board (instead of Commission and Planning Committee), and moving headquarters to a more central location.

Special four-page insert explains, "Who are Seventh Day Baptists?"

The singing group, "Light Bearers for Christ," visits SDBs in El Paso and Houston, Texas.

Summer pastorates listed for ministerial students.

50 years ago—June 1951

The first editorial from the very first issue of the *SR*—published in New York City, June 13, 1844—is reprinted.

Salem (W.Va.) College bestows honorary Doctor of Divinity degree to Rev. Erlo Sutton, pastor emeritus of the Boulder, Colo., SDB Church.

Missionary reports come from British Guyana (Benjamin Berry), Jamaica (Neal Mills), and New Zealand (Emmett Bottoms).

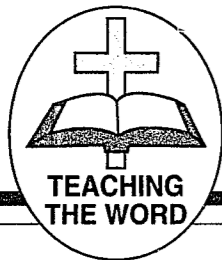
Sales begin for a book of children's sermons, "Twenty Little Stories," by Kenneth Smith.

Associations hold their spring meetings: Pacific Coast in Riverside, Calif.; Central in Leonardsville, N.Y.; and Eastern in Rockville, R.I. Fouke, Ark., to host Southwestern Association in late June.

...where are we headed?

Pray for—

- God's grace to impact our youth
- positive, redemptive use of the internet
- your church's diaconate members
- SCSC training and projects
- all of our summer ministries
- the mission of our Conference
- our high school and college grads



Christian Education

by Andrew J. Camenga

Youth activities at Conference

The Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education wants to help the General Conference experience be enjoyable for all of those involved. That is why we help organize and support activities during the week of our annual session. Several of these activities include similar sets of children and youth. However, the activities are sponsored by different groups that have different requirements for inclusion. Frequently, these differences cause confusion. In an effort to clarify the situation, we offer the following information.

Children and Youth Conferences

These conferences are responsible for most of the morning and afternoon activities that are geared for Pre-School through High School students. These conferences are divided based on the grade a child has completed.

Although the division between classes occasionally has to change based on attendance at a particular session of Conference, the determining factor for inclusion in a particular class is the most recently completed grade. In general, our division is as follows:

- Pre-School* 3 to 5-year olds who have not attended kindergarten
- K-1* Completed kindergarten or 1st grade
- Primary* Completed 2nd or 3rd grades
- Junior* Completed 4th, 5th, or 6th grades

- Junior High* Completed 7th or 8th grades (optional for 9th graders)
 - Senior High* Completed 9th, 10th, 11th, or 12th grades
- Two additional policies should be noted.

- Only children participating in morning Children Conferences will be able to participate in the afternoon children recreation activities.
- Afternoon recreation involving off-campus activities will include children, Kindergarten through Sixth

We want to help the General Conference experience be enjoyable for all of those involved.

Grade. A separate recreation time for preschoolers will be offered on campus. In the event a parent wants the preschooler to participate in the off-campus activity, a parent or designated adult (other than the recreation staff) must accompany the child. When state law requires a child seat for the transportation of a child, a parent or designated adult must provide transportation for that child and stay with them for the duration of the activity.

Youth Fellowship

Inclusion in Youth Fellowship activities is determined by age. Most

evening youth activities are organized by the Seventh Day Baptist Youth Fellowship of U.S.A. and Canada. This group is supervised and supported by the Board of Christian Education. Yet, it has its own constitutional organization. By the rules established in this constitution, members of the Youth Fellowship are Seventh Day Baptist youth of ages 12 through 19. Youth who are members of the Youth Fellowship are permitted to participate in these activities.

Example Situations

The following common and not-so-common examples help illustrate how these inclusion standards apply. If you are 11 and have completed eighth grade, you are in the Junior High Associated Conference but are not eligible for Youth Fellowship activities. If you are 12 and have completed sixth grade, you are in the Junior Associated Conference and may attend Youth Fellowship activities.

Business Sessions

Finally, allow us to assure all children and youth who want to attend the business and committee meetings of the General Conference: You are allowed and encouraged to attend these meetings (with your sponsor's permission). If a member church of the Conference appointed you as a delegate, you are allowed to vote at these meetings. Should you choose to attend the business sessions, you will usually be able to find someone at the meeting who is willing to help you understand the process and some of the significance. *SR*



FOCUS on Missions

General Conference of Africa

by Kirk Looper

Seventh Day Baptists in Africa have been trying to organize their churches and Conferences "under one umbrella" for several years.

They held their first organizational meeting in 1992 in Malawi, under the leadership of Rev. James Siwani. They also held meetings in South Africa in 1994, and in Zimbabwe in 1996.

to search for ways in which these Conferences can be put on the right track to financial independence, as the big bunch of beggars cannot take a stand on any matter, and honesty is always absent from their vocabulary."

This effort to organize SDBs will enhance the work of the Conferences specifically, and benefit Africa as a

more money, they can increase their tithing and other giving.

The financial status of a Conference is often determined by the number of churches with roofs, and in projects where we help provide farm tools, typewriters, sewing machines, and other items. This helps churches to become active in their communities.

We are happy to collect these funds and disperse them to the designated projects, countries, or areas of interest. We always have more projects and interests than we do funds.

In addition to observers, these organizational meetings in Africa need financial support. Because of the higher economic level in South Africa, they need additional funds for the September dates.

When they meet this fall, leaders of our SDB Conferences in Africa will discuss the problems they have in evangelism, finances, and church organization and development. They will also have time to fellowship and get acquainted.

Let us pray for these meetings and the results that may come out of them. *SR*

When they meet this fall, leaders of our SDB Conferences in Africa will discuss the problems they have in evangelism, finances, and church organization and development. They will also have time to fellowship and get acquainted.

Their fourth meeting, scheduled for Zambia in 1998, was canceled after organizers realized that the SDB Conferences in most African countries could not financially support such a gathering. Similarly, the meetings planned for 2000 in the Cameroons were not held.

Currently, sessions are scheduled for September 30, 2001, in South Africa. Unless enough money is raised to offset the costs, this will call for a huge sacrifice on the part of the SDB churches there.

In a recent letter, Rev. Siwani wrote, "It is a general feeling that all African Conferences be represented in this meeting in order to jointly formulate the strategy pointing to the kind of message we are supposed to convey to the new millennium generation. But the main focus should be on how to rescue African Conferences from the legacy of colonization, which reduced the indigenous inhabitants of Africa to nothing less than beggars.

"The bottom line is that we need

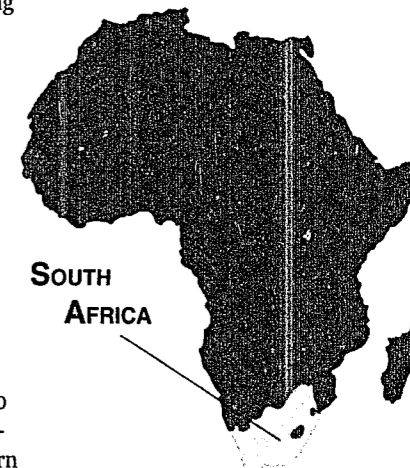
whole. Siwani ended his letter by inviting visitors to these meetings:

"The presence of observers from the developed Conferences—including Australasian, USA and Canada, and the Netherlands—will be of immense importance. These people can play a vital role in advising Africa on how to become financially viable. This can even involve lectures, if necessary."

Have you thought of vacationing in South Africa?

One of our foremost goals here at the Missionary Society is to provide funds to help African Conferences become self-reliant. This is done through individual donations in the U.S. and Canada, and through our sister Conferences and churches.

This money can provide computers, printers, photocopiers, fax machines, and other business machines, which in turn can generate income. Another approach to self-reliance is helping farmers become more productive. As they earn





the BEACON

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

June 2001

Conference 2001 Youth Committee

As Most Gorgeous Member (formerly Member-at-Large—need I explain the change?), I was required to compile biographies of all the Youth Committee members. So, without further adieu, I present to you the 2001 Youth Committee.

President— Virginia Burdick, aka "Ginny"

Ginny is 17, a junior in high school, and a very hard worker. In my opinion, she needs to slow down and breathe before she blows up. But because of her hard work, she can't be anything but successful.

When she graduates from college, she wants to become a *good* history teacher and make many lucky students actually enjoy their history class.

She attends the Seattle Area SDB Church in Auburn, Wash. Ginny plays the flute with the Worship Team and is also in the choir. She takes great pictures and easily could be named the church photographer.

Vice President— Jonathan Mackintosh, aka "Jono"

Jono is 17 years old, a member of the Foothill SDB Church in Montrose, Calif., and a recent high

school graduate. He enjoys long walks on the beach and candle-lit dinners... (oops, wrong article). I mean snow, snowboarding, and high school baseball—he stars as the ace pitcher. He also enjoys playing the bass guitar in his church band.

This year, he will be touring America with the all-around famous Stained Glass.

Jono wanted me to write about his charm as well. Hmm, I must say he has a lot. What girl could resist a pickup line plucked straight from Song of Solomon?

Treasurer— Gabriel Vaught, aka "Gabe"

Gabe is 18, and he lives in Portland, Ore., where he attends the SDB church. He enjoys camping, swimming, and dragon boat racing? (Oookay.)

Gabe is currently enlisted in the Army Reserves and will be shipped off to basic combat training at Fort Benning, Ga., this September. He also plans to go to the Oregon Institute of Technology, and from there get a high-paying job with Lucent, or Intel, or some other "tech" firm.

He also wants to get married and live like a king in Lake Oswego, or "some other ritzy place."

Gabe, all I have to say is, we all have dreams. "Be All That You Can Be!" (Sorry; I couldn't resist.)

Secretary— Cameron Tyson, aka "Cam"

Cam is 17 and attends the SDB church in the Bay Area of California. Movies, music and sports such as football and baseball are just a few things Cam enjoys.

He plans on going to college and majoring in history, aiming for a career as a history teacher or a liar... ahem, lawyer. His favorite Bible verse is 1 Samuel 16:7.

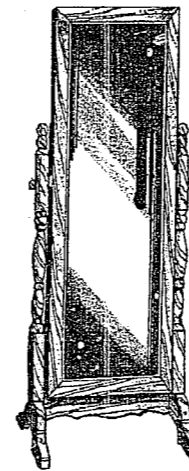
Most Gorgeous Member— Heather Hemminger

I am 15, or shall we say 16, because I might be that old by the time you read this. Unfortunately, I can't say I enjoy driving because I haven't yet! But all in due time.

What I do enjoy is reading (snore), watching and collecting movies, and ASL (American Sign Language), which I believe is a beautiful language. In the future, I plan to become an ASL interpreter.

I also enjoy playing the viola, which I have been doing for almost six years. I attend the Seattle Area SDB Church, same as Ginny. And can you believe, there I have been nicknamed "Gorgeous." Honest, I didn't make it up!

Hopefully, we'll see you at Conference! **SR**



Reflections by Leanne Lippincott

"Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror;
then we shall see face to face."—1 Cor. 13:12

Teen pressures different today

"bad" girls smoked Lucky Strikes in the school restrooms and stayed out after curfew.

For my part, I barely knew what a curfew was. (If one doesn't date, one doesn't have to worry about getting home on time from a date...) Frankly, I was more into Roy Rogers than James Dean. Although I did like the singing (and good looks) of a young, side-burned, guitar-playing rebel who remained "all shook up" well into his adults years.

I'm the first to admit that I was a naive, sheltered teenager. But I still believe that drug abuse wasn't as big an issue back then. The "rowdy kids" were into alcohol; I never heard

ent. The rules have changed. Many things that were once an outrage are now accepted and often promoted.

The teens of today didn't invent the terms "jocks" and "nerds." In the 50s and 60s, we had our own little cliques and stereotyped groups. Meanness isn't exclusive to any one generation. Ex-President Bush's vision of a "kinder, gentler nation" is a concept that adults as well as teens would do well to embrace.

I have tons of respect for the 13 to 19-year-olds growing up today. The pressures and temptations they face on a daily basis would try the courage and patience of even the most mature

**During my teen years, there were
no bomb threats scrawled on
bathroom walls, no metal detectors
at the doors, no bullet-
riddled cafeterias.**

about any of the "stuff" that's so common today—cocaine, speed, crack, and ecstasy.

During my teen years, the majority of the school troublemakers skipped class a lot. When they *were* in class, they got into trouble for talking out of turn, chewing gum, or "smarting off" to the teacher. There were no bomb threats scrawled on bathroom walls, no metal detectors at the doors, no bullet-riddled cafeterias.

Don't get me wrong. Teens of my generation were not somehow "better" or more moral than the teens of today. Today's society is just differ-

adult: competition to get into the best colleges, widespread drug and sexual abuse, discrimination in its many forms, the acceptability and promotion of pre-marital sex, the pervasiveness of one-parent families. And that's where the Church comes in.

Teenagers who have a spiritual support system—be it a home church, a Christian youth group, faith-filled peers, or a Bible-based upbringing—are much more apt to flourish and grow where God plants them. They will end up being better teens and, in the long run, better adults. And that's a goal that *all* of us should strive for. **SR**



The President's Page

Conference week at a glance

by Clayton Pinder

May this year's Conference—August 5-11 in Lindsborg, Kansas—be a time of renewal and revival as we are all encouraged to "Try God."

General Conference 2001

"Try God" – Psalm 25

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sabbath
6:30 am	MORNING PRAYER IN THE DORMITORIES					
7:00 am	BREAKFAST					
8:30 am	BIBLE STUDY AND CHILDREN'S CONFERENCES					
9:30 am	Business Session	Memorial Board	Missionary Society	Board of Christian Ed	Business Session	Sabbath School 9:15-10:15
10:00 am	General Council Executive Secretary	Council on Ministry	Historical Society	Tract Council		---Break 10:15---
10:30 am	Interest Committees	Interest Committees	Business Session	Business Session		Sabbath Worship Service 10:30
11:30 am	<i>Pastors' Wives</i>	<i>Women's Business</i>	<i>SCSC Evaluation</i>	<i>Pastors' lunch</i>	<i>Past Presidents</i>	
12:30 pm	Youth and Young Adult Bible Studies					
1:00 pm	Interest Committees	Business Session and Interest Committees	World Federation	SCSC	Business Session	12:00 Sabbath Dinner
1:45 pm			Workshops	Workshops		-or- FREE TIME
4:00 pm	CHOIR PRACTICE					
5:00 pm	DINNER <i>Women's Banquet</i> <i>Youth Banquet</i>					
7:00 pm	Youth Pre-Con	Young Adults	Men's Practice	Men's Chorus Sing	Sabbath Eve Worship and Communion	Supper 5:00
7:30 pm	Evening Worship	Evening Worship	Evening Worship	Evening Worship		Installation of New President 7:00
9:00 pm	FELLOWSHIP AND YOUTH ACTIVITIES					
12:00 am	MIDNIGHT CURFEW					



by Sidney Draayer

Happy (!) Birthday

My grandson, Nate, and I blew out the candles on the cake as we celebrated our same-day birthday last week. "Best birthday present I ever had," I always tell him. It's a fun time for both of us. It's also a time for me to reflect on some interesting phases I've gone through in my lifetime.

Once upon a time I *wanted* to be older. At the magical age of 14 I became a licensed driver. (Yup, we were young drivers in the Stone Age.) But I still envied 16-year-olds, and at 16, I envied 18-year-olds. Age 21 brought the privilege of voting. Getting older was "cool."

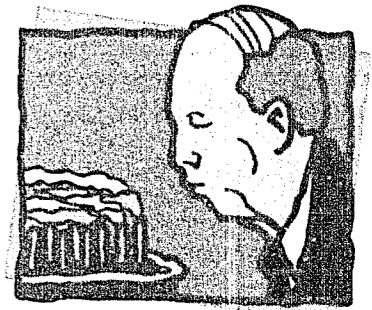
But that changed. Looking *young* was in vogue for me. When our oldest son, Ron, was 2 or 3, a few people asked me if we were brothers. Wow! Thanks! When I served my first church, people often told me I looked too young to be a pastor. Thanks again! Keep it coming.

Not for long. I soon entered a chronological no-man's land. Age wasn't much of a factor in my life. But the 15-year hiatus ended when clerks and waitresses started to call me "sir." Middle age was beginning to show.

At 55 I began to ask about senior discounts, but soon, to my chagrin, McDonald's waitresses gave me my 25-cent coffee without my asking. That started a domino effect.

More change. Gradually people began to ask—kindly and gently, and with some hesitancy—whether I was

At 55 I began to ask about senior discounts, but soon, to my chagrin, waitresses gave me my 25-cent coffee without my asking.



retired. Ouch! Reality started to sink in. *I'm really looking older.* And today it's not unusual for people to say, "How do you like retirement?" I don't, so I'm not.

I have concluded that it's a waste of energy wishing one were younger or older. NO age is the perfect age. Each phase of life has some advantages and each has some disadvantages. It is much more important to focus on service to God and others at the present moment and in the present place. Enjoying "the here and now" is better than wishing for "the then or when."

Our behavior, our decisions, our attitudes, today shape us as we grow older. The direction in which we are going is more important than the number of candles on our cake.

As we focus on God—doing His will and enjoying His world—He

promises to help us become wiser. More Christ-like, more useful, and more fulfilled.

As we give ourselves to the present, getting older will take care of itself. I believe that is behind our Lord's reminder, "give us this day our daily bread" (Matt. 6:11). *SR*

Dr. Sidney Draayer is director of Paraklesis Ministries, an evangelical agency of clergy encouragement. A paraclete is an advocate and intercessor, and the Greek term for Holy Spirit. A number of our pastors have attended Paraklesis retreats, and Sid was a speaker at one of our SDB Pastors' Conferences. You may e-mail him at parakles@iserv.net.

Pastors study and fellowship

A thick blanket of snow shocked a few of the guests from the south and west, but Pastors' Conference 2001 was still declared a "success." Warmer temperatures and blue skies later appeared as nearly 60 pastors and spouses met in Alfred Station, N.Y., on April 17-21.

Gabriel Bejjani, Director of Pastoral Services, invited two knowledgeable speakers. Dr. Paul Manuel, pastor of the German SDB Church in Salemville, Pa., presented lectures on biblical exegesis (understanding and explaining the meaning of a Bible passage). As an expert in Semitic languages, Manuel cautioned the pastors not to miss a passage's meaning by ignoring its context.

Dr. William Brackney—chair of the Department of Religion at Baylor University, Waco, Texas—led workshops on Baptist heritage and history. Attendees were asked what traditional "Baptist" beliefs are in their own church, and challenged to see where SDBs fit into the greater Baptist family.



Evening speakers included Chris Mattison (North Loup, Neb.), Joe Samuels (Plainfield, N.J.), and George Calhoun (Milton, Wis.). Ernest Bee, from the Central Maryland SDB Church, preached Sabbath morning in Alfred Station. Other SDB churches in nearby Alfred, Little Genesee, and Hebron (Pa.), also welcomed those from the conference. **SR**

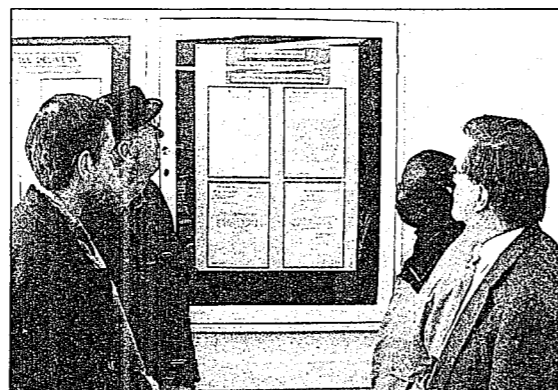
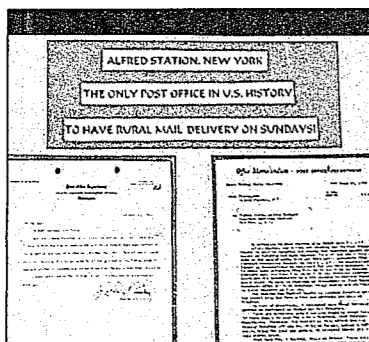


Dr. William Brackney

Post office display welcomes SDBs

"Alfred Station, New York. The only post office in U.S. history to have rural mail delivery on Sundays!"

The story of a church's influence in a small town was on display at the local post office during Pastors' Conference. Below, Paul Manuel, Pete May, Andy Samuels, and host pastor Ken Chroniger read how Sunday delivery was the norm in Alfred Station from 1914 to 1958.



Ministry in Guyana appreciated

by Rolleesa Phillips

A Service of Recognition and Appreciation honoring Val and Olga Bennett's missionary work to Guyana was held on March 24, 2001, at the Hope SDB Church in Philadelphia, Pa.

The service was led by their daughter, Karen Donato, and Val's brother, Pastor Cormeth Lawrence, gave the opening prayer. A letter from the Hope SDB Church of Guyana was shared, followed by a congregational reading of the 23rd Psalm.

Karen introduced some of the other Bennett children seated in the sanctuary: her sister, Georgiana Bennett Charles, and Geoffrey. She then introduced the service's "master of ceremonies," Yvonne Henry. Olga's niece, Julia Coleman, and "Sisters" Morris and Looney, all sang solos.

As part of the service, Pastor Lawrence reminisced about his brother:

"When I was a little kid, Val protected me from the bullies," Cormeth

commented. "He has the makings of a sermon—joy from serving, and satisfaction from giving. Riches are not the value of material possessions; the real wealth is what we do for God. Val and Olga have real wealth."

"Val has the makings of a sermon—joy from serving, and satisfaction from giving."

Kirk Looper, SDB Missionary Society Executive Secretary, spoke on behalf of the denomination.

"This is one of the few times I've seen Val sit down!" he exclaimed. "Val has set an example and inspired others to volunteer service," he added.

The Gospel Herald—Val, Cormeth, Fitzgerald Bogle, and Carmi and Ronald Smith—presented special music.

One of Olga's former pupils, Deacon Sterling of the New York City church, gave her a tribute and gift. Deaconess Virginia Ayars, representing the Hope church, also presented Olga with a gift. A free-will offering was taken to help continue the work in Guyana.

Deacon Llewellyn West, of Faith SDB Church (Bronx Branch of New York City), offered words of appreciation, and Hope's pastor, Rev. Kenroy Cruickshank, also spoke. Deacon Edson Barrett presented the Bennetts with a gift from the church.

After Val and Olga's comments, Rev. Joe Samuels of the Plainfield, N.J., SDB Church delivered the message, "A Profile of a True Servant of Jesus."

Dennis Coleman prayed a blessing, and Val's son, Geoffrey, gave the closing remarks. After Pastor Ken's benediction, the attendees gathered in the reception area for cake and punch. **SR**

SR Reaction

Dear Kevin & Leanne,

My last issue of the *SR* came, and I was so excited to see the topic. It is right where I am—questioning why Saturday and how to respect the Sabbath. I like how each person has their own slant on this issue, referring to the Bible teachings. Isn't it amazing how God speaks to us each in our own way?

Your issue on transitions was so timely, too! Great work and so thrilling for me when God provides a means for my growth.

Mary Adams
Fort Atkinson, WI

Dear Kevin & *SR* Committee:

After reading the *Sabbath Recorder* for 40 years, I want to commend you for the April issue featuring "Transitions."

It was one of the most cover-to-cover readable issues I can remember and others have said the same thing. I feel compelled to address some comments to some of the contributors:

Grace: I went back to work when my children were in 5th and 6th grades. Consequently, I will have to work until I am 67 to retire with full benefits. However, I will never, ever regret having raised my own children. May God bless you. (Creamed eggs on toast makes a terrific day-before-payday supper.)

Doreen: You have yet another "church lady" experience to look forward to: The pained look on your cherub's face when you tell him, "No, Sweetheart, this cake is for the church."

Mabel and Leanne: May God bless you both. Some people who live alone don't

eat regular meals; others eat just one meal a day... all day long."

Leanne: So glad to hear about your clean bill of health. I had been wondering how you were doing.

John: I am sorry your church lost those two couples, but someone has to speak up for God's plan for marriage. Maybe someday those involved will see that He had a reason for establishing the family the way He did.

Finally, *Don*: Thanks for NOT sharing your experiences teaching your first daughter to shift gears. Rest assured that her daughter won't trust her to touch her precious stick shift.

May God continue to bless the ministry of the *Sabbath Recorder*.

Donna S. Bond
Bridgeton, NJ

New Members

Dodge Center, MN

Dale Rood, pastor
 Joined after baptism
 Jon Cowden
 Kim Cowden
 Jordan Greene
 Baylea Osborn

Seattle Area, WA

Ken Burdick, pastor
 Joined after baptism
 Pamela Cairnes
 Ronald Uhlich
 Joined after testimony
 Elizabeth Babylon
 Oscar Babylon
 Beatrice Haggard

Births

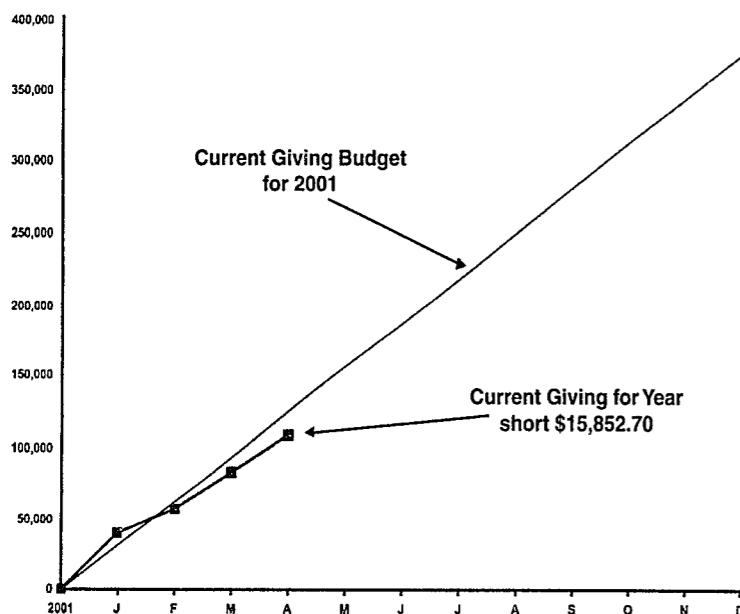
Bond.—A daughter, Rayah Ilene Bond, was born to Chet and Tanya (Bonser) Bond of Dodge Center, MN, on August 26, 2000.

Hair.—A daughter, Hannah Grace Hair, was born to Melvin and Loretta (Cargill) Hair of Brownell, KS, on April 9, 2001.

Medicraft.—A daughter, Abigail Rose Medicraft, was born to John and Alane Medicraft of Hayfield, MN, on January 9, 2001.

Bond.—A daughter, Kacie Rebecca Bond, was born to Keith and Jennifer (Hays) Bond of Chat-awa, MS, on April 23, 2001.

Current Giving 2001



Obituary

Gordon.—Elaine Murphy Gordon, 81, of Colorado Springs, Colo., died on February 10, 2001. She was born on January 5, 1920, in Woodston, Kan., the daughter of Elton and Alice (Manion) Murphy. On June 18, 1941, she married W. Paul Gordon.

Elaine was a school teacher, artist, and loved taking her grandchildren on nature walks. She was also a strong encourager for Pastor L.B. Lee, shepherd of the Colorado Springs Seventh Day Baptist Church. Elaine was a shut-in, and Pastor Lee began visiting her at the behest of her daughter, Ruth.

"She was what you would call a 'minister to the ministers,'" Pastor Lee said. "I didn't minister to Elaine," he added. "Elaine ministered to me."

Elaine quoted Scripture and never passed up an opportunity to pray for "L.B." Every time he would get up to leave, she would grab his hand and say a blessing over him. She was a truly selfless and godly woman.

Survivors include two daughters, Karen Foster and L. Ruth Hawthorne; one brother, Don Murphy; two sisters, Irma Lee and June Downing; eight grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. In addition to her husband, Paul, she was preceded in death by one daughter, Phyllis.

Since Paul's ashes had never been interred, a graveside service and joint burial was held at the Chapel Hill Cemetery in Littleton, Colo. Pastor Don Pegler of the Village 7 Presbyterian Church and Pastor Lee officiated at the memorial service.

Pastor, Editor, church leader passes



Rev. Leon M. Maltby
 1905 - 2001

The earthly segment of a remarkable life concluded on Sabbath eve, April 6, 2001, when Leon Monroe Maltby, age 95, slipped quietly away. The timing of his death was particularly appropriate, as he exchanged an earthly Sabbath rest for a permanent heavenly one.

The timing was appropriate, too, because this life had become a burden he was ready to set down. Declining strength had deprived him of many things he enjoyed doing. Even with these difficulties, Leon struggled to stay alert. Shortly before his death, he began reading a new theological book club selection. He wanted to be aware of the latest in theological thinking and biblical scholarship.

Leon was born near Adams Center, N.Y., on November 26, 1905. He grew up in the nurture of the Seventh Day Baptist Church there. He graduated from Milton (Wis.) College, and Westminster Theological Seminary. He gave his heart to the Lord at an early age, was baptized and joined the Adams Center church.

Following his theological training, his home church ordained him. He pastored our churches in Shiloh, N.J. (1932-40); White Cloud, Mich. (1940-43); and Riverside, Calif. (1946-53). He served as an active military chaplain from 1943 to 1946. Major Maltby continued as a reserve officer. A lasting reminder of his wartime years is a communion set, a cross and candlesticks, that he crafted from brass ammunition casings.

He was editor of the *Sabbath Recorder* and corresponding secretary of the American Sabbath Tract Society for 20 years. In addition to putting out a weekly magazine, he corresponded with people all over the world. His influence helped many decide to affiliate with SDBs. Our brothers and sisters in Brazil remember him as the first American SDB to visit and encourage them.

Pastor Maltby's effectiveness as a leader was enhanced by his wife, Iris. Together they created many new and enduring ministries. The first Vacation Bible School in Shiloh was a Maltby project. That VBS still operates after nearly 70 years. The first SDB youth camp in Michigan was another Maltby project. It continues today as Camp Holston.

Leon and Iris also directed the first youth camp in Jamaica. A gift in memory of Iris helped to make the camp and conference center at Maiden Hall, Jamaica, a reality.

The Maltbys chose Daytona Beach for retirement. They enjoyed the combined benefits of a warm seaside

climate and the nurturing environment of our church. He was church president for 16 years and spent another six as a trustee. He was usually the first to arrive for work-bees, and—until the last year—was the last to leave, too.

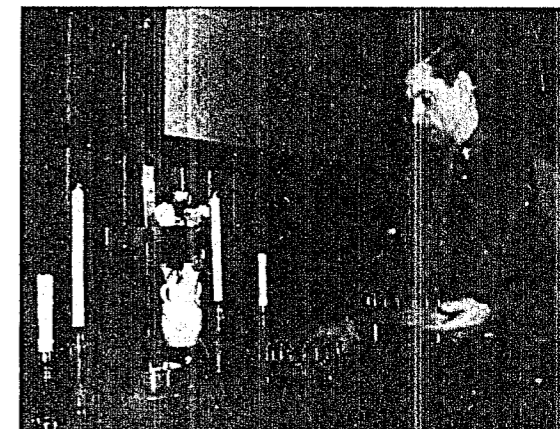
He taught Sabbath School, advised pastors, encouraged believers, and continued a lifestyle of personal evangelism and service to those around him. His scholarship, loving spirit, and genuine warmth made many friends for him, and for our church. Stories of his bicycle rides to make contacts are legendary.

He and Iris had four children, Lucille Jennings, of San Diego, Calif.; Ronald, of Plainfield, N.J.; and Allan, of Marlboro,

N.J. Another son, Glendon, died in childhood. There are also seven grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

Graveside services at Beville Memorial Gardens, Daytona Beach, preceded a memorial celebration at the Seventh Day Baptist Church. Pastor John Camenga presided, with many friends and family members sharing in a time of rejoicing for the life and contributions of Leon Maltby.

Beside his bed was his Greek New Testament. This well-worn volume portrays Leon's continued scholarship up to the end. The bookmark indicates that he had been reading from Luke 23 and 24—the record of the burial and resurrection of Jesus! What an appropriate thought! As the apostle Paul said, "Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?" —JHC



Pastor Maltby with his handcrafted communion set.

Thorngates visit Brazil, cont. from page 12

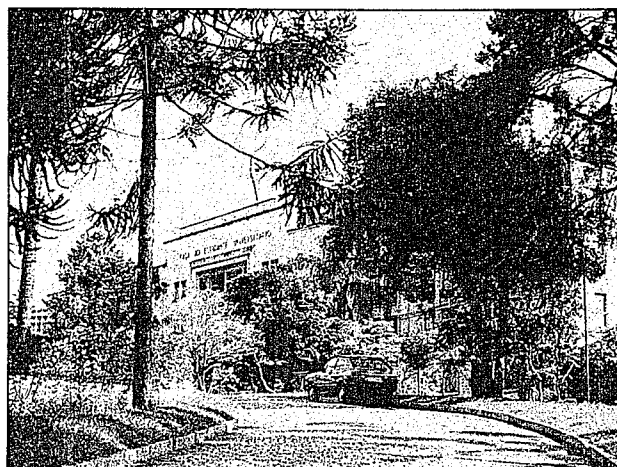
which dates back to 1913.

Folks here look forward to welcoming SDBs from around the world for the World Federation sessions to be held in Curitiba in January 2003. One major purpose of our trip was to review plans and visit potential sites for those meetings. Here also we visited a long-time friend: Brother Ruben Nisio, former executive of the Brazil Conference and World Federation delegate.

Each of the Curitiba area churches, like the others, holds its special memory. At São José dos Pinhais, we shared our first Sabbath welcoming service with its sunset view across the city. In Bocaiuva do Sul, Pastor Aparacido de Souza's booming baritone voice set the key and a young boy found it on the keyboard as the congregation burst into joyous praise.

At Curitiba Central, one of the 85-year-old mother churches, the children and youth sang proof that the spirit lives from generation to generation. In Boquiereño, the house-made-into-meeting-place burst at the seams while the old kitchen produced delicious *nega-maluca* (chocolate cake) to go with carbonated *guaraná* (Brazil's answer to Coca-Cola).

One goal of the Conference is to plant a church in each of Brazil's



Some of the SDB World Federation sessions will be held at the public high school in Curitiba, Paraná, in January 2003. Delegates and visitors are invited from all sister Conferences.

other 24 state capitals. One of the newest is in the national capital of Brazilia. It is made up of mostly new Seventh Day Baptists who learned about the church on the Internet.

Currently there are 80 churches in the Conference with nearly 3,000 members, the majority of them still in the southern states south of Rio de Janeiro. Another Conference goal is to help construct new church buildings, always a challenge in a struggling economy.

How familiar to us was the flurry of activity at the Conference offices as the staff and helpers prepared to leave for the national Conference sessions. Stacks of annual reports

and programs fresh from the print shop, boxes of Sabbath School quarterlies (translations of the *Helping Hand*) and tracts and study booklets to take to various pastors and other delegates (saving on postage), Bibles, hymnbooks and study books to sell, display boards and projectors. (The computer and sound equipment would already be there.)

How would we get all that stuff and all these people (including the two American guests and their luggage) into two over-loaded vehicles for the trip south to Porto União? **SR**

[Next month, Part 2, Brazil Conference Sessions in Porto União]

KEVIN'S

ORNER

Pushing aside the pain

"Jacks, I'm sure it hurts, but I need your help, NOW!!"

We were in the second day of a rare, early spring "hot spell" in Wisconsin. (Meaning, it actually got above 45°...) The house was getting pretty stuffy, so it was time for the annual ritual: removing the big square board that covers and insulates the attic fan for the winter.

To be safe, it's a two-person job, and 12-year-old Jackson happened to be the only person #2 available. He dragged a kitchen chair under the vent while I went to the garage to scrounge up a screwdriver.

With lawn refuse bags guarding the tool bench like a fortress, the only screwdriver within reach was a giant-sized, wooden handle model with a rusty blade. *This oughta do*, I figured as I headed back inside.

Time for the "unveiling." Jackson stood below to receive the five screws. (We lost one of them several rituals ago.) Struggling to balance the four-foot square as I loosened the last screw, that old tool slipped out of my hand, scraping Jackson's bare leg before landing on the floor. But it wasn't done. The big handle bounced off the rug and the blade shot upward, grazing his leg again!

Instant cut (minor); instant pain (moderate); instant reaction (major). The little guy collapsed into the fetal position, writhing and screaming as I helplessly stood on a chair with a heavy board hovering over my head.

With my bad back, I knew I couldn't remain in that position, nor could Jackson remain in his—since he was writhing and screaming in the only place where I could move to at the end of our skinny hallway.

"Jacks, I'm sure it hurts," [which was probably more like, "It *doesn't matter* how much it hurts!"] "but I need your help NOW!!"

Through tear-soaked eyes, he peered up from his flat-on-the-floor perspective and saw my predicament. Yes, I was yelling at him; yes, I was asking him to push aside the pain, but I might have been saving him from further pain if that board dropped onto his head!

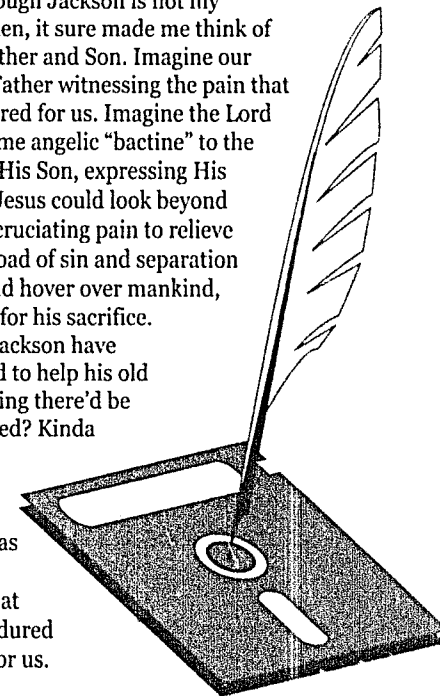
The brave kid jumped up and grabbed one end of the board as I lowered it to him.

That crisis over, I could attend to Jackson's cut. Applying antiseptic to the wound, I told him how proud I was that he could move beyond his own pain to help relieve my tough situation.

Even though Jackson is not my only begotten, it sure made me think of another Father and Son. Imagine our Heavenly Father witnessing the pain that Jesus endured for us. Imagine the Lord rubbing some angelic "bactine" to the wounds of His Son, expressing His pride that Jesus could look beyond his own excruciating pain to relieve the heavy load of sin and separation which would hover over mankind, were it not for his sacrifice.

Would Jackson have volunteered to help his old man, knowing there'd be pain involved? Kinda doubt it.

Jesus knew that the cross was before him. He faced that pain, he endured that pain, for us. Hallelujah!



"I cannot tell a lie," cont. from page 14

taken five guineas for his tree. Presently, George and his hatchet made their appearance.

"George," said his father, "do you know who killed that beautiful little cherry tree yonder in the garden?"

This was a tough question; and George staggered under it for a moment; but quickly recovered himself: and looking at his father, with the sweet face of youth brightened with the inexpressible charm of all-conquering truth, he bravely cried out, "I can't tell a lie, Pa; you know I can't tell a lie. I did cut it with my hatchet."

"Run to my arms, you dearest boy," cried his father. "Run to my arms; glad am I, George that you killed my tree; for you have paid me for a thousand fold. Such an act of heroism in my son is more worth than a thousand trees, though blossomed with silver, and their fruits of purest gold."

Although this story has normally been repeated as an example of the truthfulness of young George, within its context, it speaks well of the father, for Weems continues the account with application to the father:

"It was in this way, by interesting at once both his heart and head, that Mr. Washington conducted George with great ease and pleasure along the happy path of virtue. But well knowing that his beloved charge, soon to be a man, would be left exposed to the numberless temptations, both from himself and from others. His heart throbbled with the tenderest anxiety to make him acquainted with the great being, whom to know and love, is to possess the surest defense against vice, and the best of all motives to virtue and happiness." **SR**

Share the Journey



If you enjoyed reading December's special issue, "Journey of a Lifetime," how about sharing the story with neighbors and friends?

You may receive more copies of this special issue by contacting us at the Seventh Day Baptist Center, PO Box 1678, Janesville WI 53547. Our phone number is (608) 752-5055, and the e-mail address is sdbmedia@inwave.com.

Individual copies are free. We will need to add shipping charges for larger quantities. Please contact us for those costs.

We pray that the Lord will bless this outreach effort, and many others will join us on our "Journey of a Lifetime."