

The

S

abbath

News for and about  
Seventh Day Baptists

December 2002

R

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## Our awesome Young Adults





### 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

## Robe of Achievement nominations

The SDB Women's Society is accepting nominations for the Robe of Achievement for 2003. Please consider a woman in your church who meets these criteria for nomination:

- Was/is active as a volunteer in some phase of denominational effort
- Has shown evidence of special service with her family and/or community
- Must be a committed Christian
- Must be an active member of a local Seventh Day Baptist church

A complete resumé must be submitted containing a life history, including her achievements and activities. Without a resumé in hand, the committee cannot make a competent choice among many nominees. If an individual has been nominated before, and you still want that person considered, please resubmit the name as well as the resumé.

Send all nominations to:  
Robe Nominations  
Audrey Fuller  
908 N. Colonial Circle  
Daytona Beach FL 32117

or apply on-line at  
www.sdbwboard.org

Deadline:  
March 31, 2003

## Come to Brazil

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Sessions of the Seventh Day Baptist World Federation (SDBWF) will be held February 10-16, 2003, in Curitiba, Paraná, Brazil. SDBWF delegates and observers will be welcome also at the Brazil convention sessions the previous week, February 4-9.

Contact Rev. Dale Thorngate, SDBWF Executive Secretary, for additional info:  
171 E. Main St.  
Salem WV 26426 USA

Phone: (304) 782-1727  
FAX: (304) 782-4792  
E-mail: sdbwf@aol.com

## 2003 SDB Pastors' Conference

"He must increase,  
but I must decrease."  
(John 3:30)

March 19-22  
Daytona Beach, Florida

# The Sabbath Recorder

Establ. 1844



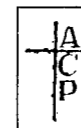
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## Of all nations!

by Linda Camenga  
SCSC Committee Chair

Members of the 2002 Summer Christian Service Corps (SCSC) chose Matthew 28:18-20 as their theme verses. If you read these verses, the reason was simple: God brought together young adults from Australia, Canada, Jamaica, and the U.S. to train and serve Him through presenting the Gospel, teaching, and baptizing (14 this summer).

The SDB Women's Board, based in Florida, has the privilege and challenge to hear and coordinate the dreams expressed by many for SCSC training.

Two young men—Jeffrey Sinclair and Jamaal Fyffe—felt the call of the Lord to serve Him in their local church in Toronto, Canada. We were pleased to encourage and help with their planning and operation of the first-ever project there.

Their local congregation pledged support, encouragement, and means for the participation in a variety of outreach ministries. With the leadership and coordination of Phoebe Fyffe, much was accomplished and an understanding of what to do for the *next* project is already underway.

The years 2001 and 2002 saw the formation of a corps group in Australia. Planning and preparation is mapped out for their first project, scheduled for January of 2003. Maureen Siolo and Matthew Tori joined Karl Rudd and Donnah Ciempka for SCSC training and service in the United States. Together with Pastor Andrew Goulding, they are working out the details for Australia.

Marissa Van Horn and Nathanael Lawton are going to serve in Australia as encouragers and participants in the

three camps and Vacation Bible School located primarily in the Brisbane area. They will also be provided an opportunity to get acquainted with the people and needs in the Sydney area before coming home.

We have communicated with a couple of young adults who have a similar dream for Jamaica. Last summer,

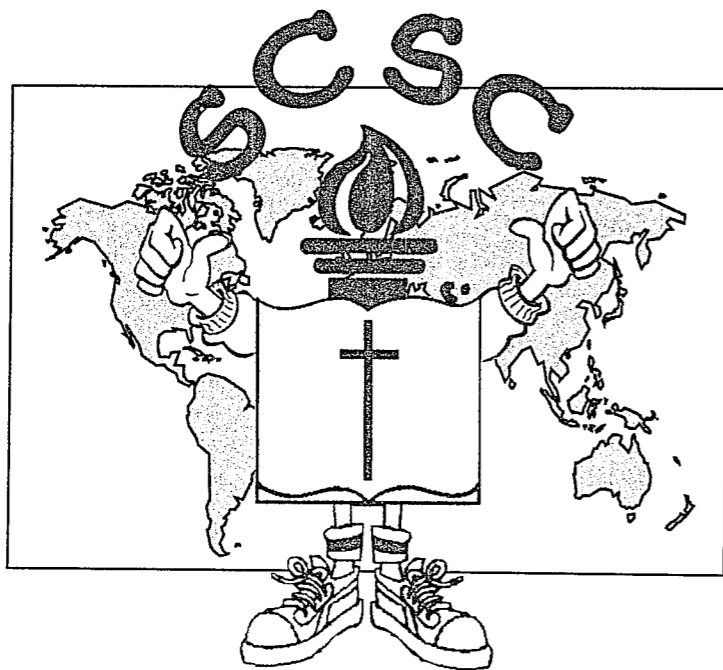
Tarike Delisser from Mountain View, Jamaica, attended training and service. We look forward to others coming during the summer of 2003. We will need to be open to God's plan in this area and ready to meet His call.

The logo for the Women's Board is "to serve, not to be served..." Please pray with us as we take this challenge seriously. What does God want for the future of His kingdom building?

Finances are a concern. It takes \$1,000 per SCSC worker to cover the cost of transportation, food, lodging, training materials, and communication. A lot of time and individual costs are donated. This past summer, the expenses for 35 participants totaled \$35,000.

The Australian project is not in the SCSC budget. Just our part of sending two young people there, prepared and ready to serve, will cost \$5,000. We do know that God does not call us to do more than is possible. We want to thank all those who have been led to support this new outreach.

How about all of our other projects? Are you a part of the answer? Will you help us "go into all nations," as the Lord directs? **SR**



## Summer in 'the Cloud'

by Michelle Crandall

This past summer, Tarike Delisser, Brandon Parker, Paula Reynolds, and Stephanie Ritchie followed "the cloud" to Michigan. I think they learned a lot of what "real" ministry is all about. There were long hours, hurting teens, and many who didn't know Christ. Our Summer Christian Service Corps (SCSC) team accepted the challenge and met it head on.

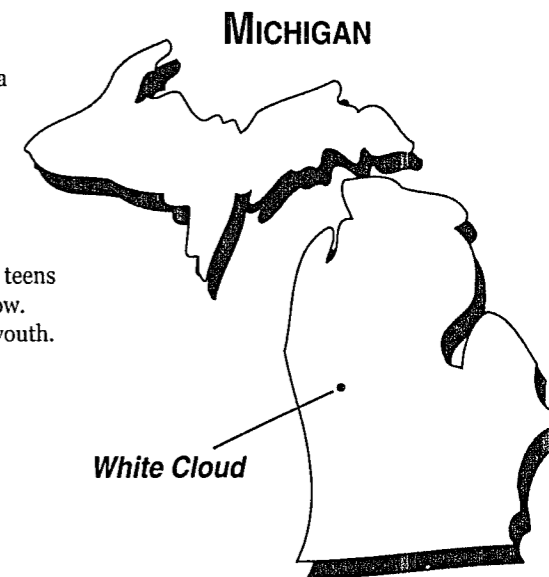
The first week they were here, there were two funerals for teens in White Cloud. One was a Christian; the other, we don't know. The team's presence at the funerals was helpful to our local youth.

*I think the team learned a lot of what "real" ministry is all about.*

The team worked at the Teen Center, Monday through Friday, from 6:00 p.m. to midnight. This is a place where dysfunctional families are the norm. Our team spent their time getting to know these teenagers and showing Christ's love to them.

Every year, the Teen Center volunteers at the National Baby Food Festival. This year, we ran the middle school activities, set up the children's activities, and picked up trash every night. This festival is a great way for our local community to see God's love at work.

SCSC is designed to train our young adults in ministry. I think that was accomplished this summer in White Cloud. Ministry isn't always easy, but it's always worthwhile. **SR**



## Once upon a summer

(From the 2002 Conference Crier)

Once upon a summer there were four SCSCers: a Wisconsinite, a Seattleite, a Canadian, and a Jamaican. This fine foursome, known as Team Thunder, was sent on an amazing adventure deep into the heart of the land of surfboards and sunglasses to a California church called Riverside.

Team Thunder's first assignment was to brave the traffic in order to travel to the Union Rescue Mission (URM) in Los Angeles. They journeyed with the Riverside SDB Youth Fellowship to learn another aspect of service—serving and assisting the staff at the Mission with cleaning, and with serving, preparing, and handing out food.



SCSCers shout to the Lord at their Conference program.

Team Thunder worked through their exhaustion and managed to serve approximately 600 homeless guests at each of six meals, all the while keeping the kitchen and the

cafeteria staff's spirits high with joyful singing. What an opportunity for the team members, and the YF, to be able to see all the amazing work God

*cont. on next page*



is doing through the staff and the guests at the URM!

After the blessings of working at the Mission, it was time to get into the camp mindset. Team Thunder braved the heat and swirling clouds of dust brought on by the California drought. They did their best to keep their energy level and enthusiasm soaring while teaching Junior and Primary campers about the beginnings of the Christian Church, and the love poured out for them by their Lord, Jesus Christ.

At the camps, the team taught classes; performed skits; and led recreation, campfire vespers, devotions, and work groups. And they still managed to maintain the majority of their sanity!

With a small supply of energy but a large supply of determination, Team Thunder set about preparing for and carrying out a successful Vacation Bible School called, "The Quest for Truth." The kids acted as a judge and jury to prove five foundational beliefs in Christ and the Bible.

God definitely was working in Riverside this summer, as each of us can attest to. He proved and showed Himself in a plethora of ways. Our hearts and prayers are with our summer church home as they continue to seek the Lord's guidance in all of their ministries. **SR**

Sharai Fyffe (Toronto, Ontario)  
Ginny Burdick (Seattle, WA)  
Chris Sinclair (Miami, FL)  
Amy Wright (Milton, WI)

## Lifelong learner motivates others

by Randy Carlsen

*Althea (Greene) Rood loves to inspire our youth. She was part of one of the first Summer Christian Service Corps (SCSC) outreach teams for Seventh Day Baptists in 1965.*

*Althea joined the SCSC training staff in 1989, and has served as training coordinator since 1993.*

*As you'll see from this article (reprinted from the Dodge County, Minn., Independent), we are not the only ones to benefit from Althea's gift of teaching.—Editor.*



Althea Rood (left) with SCSC Committee Chair Linda Camenga.

Many little boys dream of becoming professional baseball players. As a little girl growing up, Althea Rood wanted to be the first woman to play professional baseball.

She dreamed of being another Sandy Koufax, pitching in the ninth inning of the World Series. But as she grew older, reality set in. She determined that the next best occupation was to be a teacher.

Althea never was a baseball All-Star, or got to play in a World Series, but she did get recognition for a comparable honor in the teaching field: She has been selected as the Kasson-Mantorville (Minn.) School District Teacher of the Year.

Althea grew up on a century farm in upstate New York. After receiving her B.A. in math from Alfred (N.Y.) University, she taught in Pennsylvania and Connecticut schools before coming to Minnesota. She ended up in Dodge County when her husband, Dale, took a pastorate at the Seventh Day Baptist Church in Dodge Center.

In spite of taking 10 years off to raise two children, Althea has taught math for 22 years. Her husband was a math major in college, and daughter Kristin, who student taught at Kasson-Mantorville (K-M), is now studying for her doctorate in math at Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y.

Althea's son, Jeff, has no interest in math and is an assistant manager at an electronics store in Colorado.

At a young age, Althea set her sights on teaching as well as playing professional baseball. Back then, New York was much more advanced in the area of women's athletics than states in the Midwest, so her baseball dream was a little more attainable there. Today, she still enjoys following sports and can reel off major league scores from previous night's games.

What Althea enjoys most is interacting with students. "Students are delightful! Their sense of humor, crazy antics, and zest for living always fascinate me," she said.

Having a student achieve success who felt unable to do so is an aspect of her job that Althea especially appreciates. This is the Teacher of the Year's way of hitting a home run or winning a big game.

"My philosophy of teaching includes modeling respect and caring in such a manner that students find themselves respecting and caring as well," Althea stated.

Initially, she was a lecturer. With experience, she grew and changed, trying a number of teaching methods.

"As kids change we need to change the way we teach, too," she said. "I'll try something new if I can do it better to help the kids."

Students change, and their family environment changes. That offers new challenges to teachers.

"You are never sure of the support you are going to get from parents today, either. Generally, they have been very good here," Althea noted.

Another challenge is "meeting a wide variety of students' needs within a single classroom and motivating each of them to achieve his/her potential."

There is no magic formula for motivating young people in the classroom today. Althea attempts to instill a zest for learning in her students, and to make them aware of their potential and ability so that they can put forth their best effort. She considers herself a lifelong learner and is hopeful that her students "catch" that attitude as well.

Althea coaches the High School Knowledge Bowl, and is the Kasson-Mantorville Education Minnesota building representative. She believes that it is important to maintain a good working relationship with colleagues because that, in turn, benefits the students and staff.

She still struggles with her selection as K-M Teacher of the Year. "There are so many outstanding and committed teachers at K-M," she pointed out.

Does Althea have any regrets about where she is with her career today? Not at all. "I teach. That is what I want to do," she said with a broad smile.

If Althea's enthusiasm and skill in the classroom could be transferred to professional baseball, she would have had a good chance at realizing her other childhood dream! **SR**

## Touching lives in North Loup

by Helen Goodrich

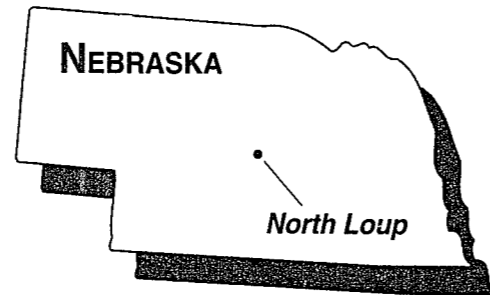
Summer 2002 in North Loup, Neb., welcomed Team Awesome: Aubrey Appel, Emily Kandel, and Jeff Neher. Their Project Director was me, Helen Goodrich.

This group of three "rookie" SCSCers and one (I've seen a lot in 10 years) Project Director—and the always encouraging church family in North Loup—were about to embark on another season of summer ministry.

This team weathered some unique circumstances: special family celebrations which required some to miss part of training or their project, illness, injury, and one member (Jeff) submitting to surgery.

These are things that could have hurt team unity and ministry, but God had another plan. He used those very circumstances as a refining tool for all of us. Each SCSCer came with different gifts, personalities, and expectations; yet, together, we were complete.

Through VBS, Mini-Camp, Junior Camp, and Intermediate Camp, many lives were touched by God's Spirit. The team, the various directors, staff, and the church family were all blessed to experience what God can do in any situation.



The summer camping ministry and SCSC is a special dedicated time for all who are involved. Members of our church and community are encouraged and blessed by the young people who come.

**Although I've "seen a lot" being involved with SCSC over the years, I learn and grow and stand amazed each year as I experience all that God does.**

Although I've "seen a lot" being involved with SCSC over the years, I learn and grow and stand amazed each year as I experience all that God does—in me, in the team, in our church, and in our community. Even though a situation might look like a calamity, God wants to use it for our good.

Is God awesome? All of the time! Does SCSC make a difference? Absolutely! **SR**



Team Awesome: Emily Kandel, Jeff Neher, and Aubrey Appel.





# God is moving in Zambia

## College students visit needy country

by Miriam Lawton

### The story

On August 13, 2002, Karlene Neher and I set out from Buffalo, N.Y., on our way to Zambia, Africa, for a short-term missions trip. Our main objectives were to work with the Faith Orphanage Foundation (FOF) and the Seventh Day Baptists of Zambia distributing Bibles and teaching basic Bible study skills, English, and HIV/AIDS prevention techniques. (Over 60% of the population has HIV/AIDS.)

Upon arriving in Lusaka, we were met by Faith Liyena (the founder of FOF) and her husband. They took us into their home for the first few days of our stay there. While we were with them, Karlene received word from her fiancé that he was in the hospital and very ill.

After much prayer, Karlene decided that she would venture out into one of the villages and then return to the United States. We traveled to Kabulankashi where we worked with the Seventh Day Baptist Church and the FOF center. Every night, they had



Miriam Lawton receives a gift from representatives of the Zambian SDB Conference.

Karlene and I discussed with the women how to prevent HIV/AIDS. We then returned to our more "permanent" home with Rev. Mukumbo and his family in Kitwe.

Karlene left for the U.S. the following day (Justin Hibbard, her fiancé, has since recovered and is doing

There I taught all the children at the Conference. This amounted to over 120 non-English-speaking children of all ages, and I had only one translator helping me. After much fellowship, singing, and dancing, I returned to Kitwe for a few days.

My final trip out into the "bush" was to go to Mibenge for a few days to work with the orphanage center there. Again, I distributed Bibles and taught, and the evening services were very exciting! One of my favorite things to do was to look at the stars at night. They are so bright and different than the stars we see in the northern hemisphere.

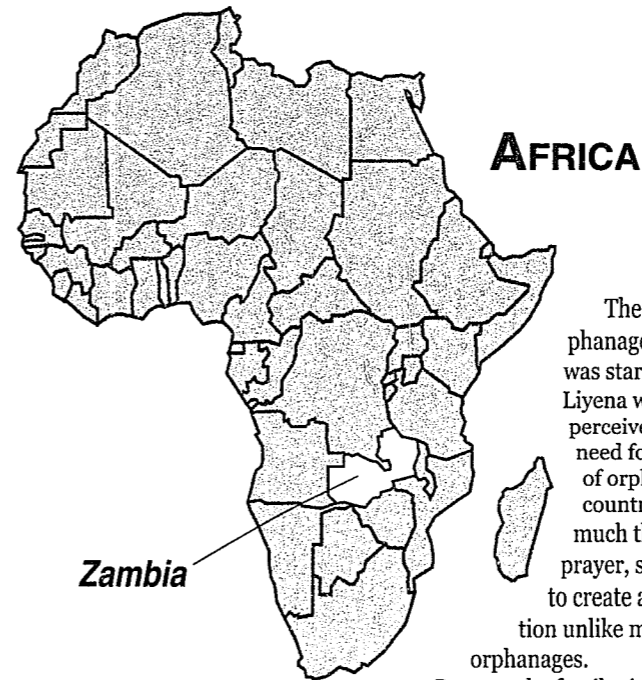
The last Sabbath I was there, I was able to preach at the Buchi SDB Church in Kitwe (built by Jeff Hazen and other volunteers). Having only two days left, I traveled to Livingston where I saw elephants, rhinos, giraffes, hippos, zebras, water buffalo,

**God is moving in the hearts, minds, and lives of many in Zambia. People are continually being converted, and families are being reconciled.**

worship services that were full of singing and dancing. During the day, we distributed Bibles and taught basic Bible study skills.

Difficult as it was because of the cultural taboos on talking about sex,

fine), and I proceeded to the Zambian Seventh Day General Conference in Solwezi. They had moved the Conference dates ahead a week to accommodate my schedule, as I was an honored guest.



The Faith Orphanage Foundation was started by Mrs. Liyena when she perceived the great need for the care of orphans in her country. After much thought and prayer, she decided to create an organization unlike many other orphanages.

Because the family ties in Zambia are very strong, orphans usually have a household of extended relatives into which they can move. However, the economic standing of these families makes it difficult to support another child. This is where the FOF comes in. It provides money for education and food (when needed) for the children. The hope is that these children will then be able to support their families when they are grown.

The orphanage has purchased land and equipment to start a training center. The center would provide vocational training for orphans who have graduated from secondary school, offering hope to those who would otherwise go without. Everything is in place, including teachers, governmental approval, and prospective students.

### What needs to be done

All these programs are in the planning stage, but there are not enough funds to implement them. With the current drought and HIV/AIDS epidemic, even those who were once

wart hogs, impala, and Victoria Falls.

I returned home on September 5. More than \$1,000 was raised over and above the amount that was needed for my travel, housing, supplies, etc. This money has subsequently been sent to the orphanage.

### What God is doing

God is moving in the hearts, minds, and lives of many in Zambia. People are continually being converted, and families are being reconciled. Since Rev. Mukumbo started planting churches in Zambia about 15 years ago, 15 churches have been welcomed into the Conference.

There were 1,071 attendees at the General Conference this year, and they continue to plant new churches. The current churches are planning more outreach programs which include daycare centers, and community farms and wells.

able to support these ministries are no longer able to do so.

Funds are needed to expand the ministry that is now being carried out. Pastors would like to spend all their time doing ministry, but they must work on their farms in order to support their families, leaving much work for the church undone.

The Zambian SDB Conference could always use more money to put roofs on the church buildings, drill wells, help families cover funeral expenses, or buy food.

**Pastors would like to spend all their time doing ministry, but they must work on their farms in order to support their families, leaving much work for the church undone.**

Many pastors in the denomination have had no formal training. The entire Conference would benefit greatly from having one or more pastors educated at a Bible college. They then could teach other leaders what they learned.

The FOF is sponsoring more than 2,000 orphans currently, but more and more children are being orphaned every day. The organization does not have the resources to take on any more orphans or start any new programs.

Pray that the Zambian people would seek God's will and be able to carry it out. Pray that they would see an increase in the move of His Spirit. **SR**



## A people bathed in prayer

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus,  
 My name is Peter Osborn. I am a Seventh Day Baptist young adult currently living in Maryland, and I'm contacting you about our mid-week fast. For those unfamiliar with the fast, during General Conference 2002, the Young Adults decided to fast and pray for our denomination every Wednesday.

For over a week now, I've been praying specifically about an idea I had concerning our weekly time. The way I understand our mission, we fast all day and when we would normally be eating, we pray instead. I personally would like to see our prayers go beyond that.  
 So, I am proposing that we set up a 27-hour prayer vigil for every Wednesday that starts Tuesday night at midnight on the east coast, and goes until midnight Wednesday night on the west coast. This way, we cover the entirety of Wednesday, coast-to-coast.

To put this plan into effect, it will require all of you to participate. I am asking for only 15 to 20 minutes of your time every Wednesday. Surely everyone can set aside 15 minutes each week for some really focused prayer concerning the future of our denomination.

The current plan is to have an individual pray for 15 minutes, starting a new person every five minutes. This would ensure that, at any given time, there will be roughly three people praying at the same time. Some 325 people will be required to do this. Since I have only about 200 addresses, I am depending on you to help me find the rest of the participants.

To get started, I will need everyone to e-mail me with their request for a specific time slot. I ask that you give me three options since many will have coinciding requests. When requesting times, please tell me what time zone you are in so that we're all "on the same page."

With that said, I urge you, brothers and sisters, to diligently pray about this matter and bring it before your churches, youth groups, and Bible studies. Seek the Lord's heart on this issue, and respond accordingly as soon as possible.  
 I'm excited and ready to get this project started. I also ask you to pass this idea along to other Seventh Day Baptists you know. The more people we have praying, the better!  
 Here am I, Lord. Send me.

—Peter

*Peter Osborn has ministered with the "Stained Glass" SDB singing group for the last two summers. Since this e-mail was circulated in October, Peter has filled most of the time slots which begin every 15 minutes. To contact him for more information, write: Peter Osborn, 9713 Crystal Falls Dr., Hagerstown, MD 21740. His e-mail is: scchapmanfan@hotmail.com. Let's keep this prayer circle unbroken!*



Are you wondering what to do next summer?  
 Are you wanting to serve God?

In the **Summer Christian Service Corps** you can serve God and get acquainted with some of our fantastic youth. See what it's like to commit yourself to a challenging experience.

**For applications, contact:**  
 Linda Camenga, 209 First Ave.  
 Daytona Beach, FL 32114  
 Phone: (386) 255-4743

**Application Deadlines:**  
 Team members—Jan. 1  
 Churches—Feb. 1  
 (Note earlier deadline)

Check the Women's Society  
 Web site for more info:

[www.sdbwboard.org](http://www.sdbwboard.org)

## Year-End Retreats!!

(must Pre-register)

For the Youth:

**Dec. 29 – Jan. 1**  
**Camp Wakonda**  
 Milton, Wis.  
 Nate Crandall, Director  
 pastornate@riverview.net

For Young Adults:

**Dec. 29 – Jan. 2**  
**Rancho Ybarra Camp**  
 Tujunga, Calif.  
 Anna Mackintosh, coor.  
 blueeyes1212@netscape.net

## Travel assistance possible

The Seventh Day Baptist Memorial Fund Trustees decided to offer financial assistance to youth and young adults who would like to attend the year-end retreats but cannot because of the cost of transportation.

This program offers up to \$100.00 of assistance to individuals to help defray the cost of commercial transportation on a first-come, first-served basis.

Contact the Board of Christian Education office for an application. The form, and a copy of the fare receipt, must be mailed no later than January 6, 2003.

**Seventh Day Baptist**  
**Board of Christian Education**  
**P.O. Box 115**  
**Alfred Station, NY 14803**

(607) 587-8527  
 sdbbce@educatingchristians.org

## Shortage of pastors looming as seminarians rethink their calling

by Andrew Black

DALLAS (ABP)—Shane Hipps is a 27-year-old student at Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, Calif. He is studying for a master of divinity degree, the credential typically sought by prospective pastors. Yet Hipps hesitates when asked if he will follow that traditional route into ministry.

Hipps came to seminary from Minneapolis, where he worked in advertising for about four years after college.

"I sensed a clear call to leave advertising, and I'm pretty sure I'm called to be in seminary. But that's as clear as it gets right now," he said. "Seminary is primarily an opportunity to pursue God's call on my life... and not necessarily vocational training."

Hipps isn't alone. Less than a third of seminary students intend to minister in congregations, according to a study by Auburn Theological Seminary in New York.

It's common to hear people confess to being afraid that if they answer a call in ministry, God might send them to Africa as a missionary. But, as jarring as it sounds, more and more spiritually sensitive and creative young Christians are now more frightened that God will ask them to be pastor of the church on the suburban corner.

The result, say researchers and seminary leaders, is an impending pastor shortage.

"What it means to local congregations is a crisis of ordained leadership as the boomers continue to retire," said seminary consultant Sheryl Carle Fancher.

The impact is already being felt. For all denominations surveyed by the Alban Institute, the number of

ministers under 35 has fallen precipitously since the 1970s—dropping by at least half and for some two-thirds.

Seminaries and other organizations concerned for the future of the Church are studying and discussing these trends. They cite a litany of negatives—the prospect of low pay, exhausting job demands, and dwindling social respect—that make the pastorate so unattractive to young adults.

"I think '20-somethings' go to seminary for noble reasons: they want to be about the transformation of people and communities and about making the Good News good for people," said Jason Mitchell, 38, a seminary graduate in Dallas who is working two secular jobs.

But those young adults, he said, see "the church" as a group of people speaking mostly to themselves—too isolated from their community and too concerned with their own institutional viability or growth.

Mitchell said many idealistic and innovative Christians who might otherwise become pastors are instead starting small businesses and non-profit organizations that give them opportunities to encounter people different from themselves.

That doesn't mean they've given up on the Church. Mitchell foresees the growth of new, authentic, Christian communities out of these coffee shops, thrift stores, non-profits and similar efforts. Instead of transplanting leaders from traditional churches, however, these new congregations will arise with "indigenous" leaders from within their own subculture.

Brian McLaren, pastor of Cedar Ridge Community Church in suburban Washington, D.C. has become a mentor to many young Christian

leaders. His recent book, *A New Kind of Christian*, articulates many of their concerns.

"I think the existing Church is largely modern in its theology, not just style," says McLaren.

"Meanwhile, the rising generation is more postmodern in its thinking, and the disconnect is huge. It's about empowerment, seeking understanding, holism, pattern and layered thinking, wonder, relationships, and processes. These are huge differences. Many young Christians recognize the challenges of a turbulent time like this and believe most churches are too busy trying to weather the storm intact to risk innovation and rethinking familiar assumptions."

McLaren said if churches want young ministers to consider congregational ministry, they must create an environment where they are "cared for, listened to, and respected."

Wilshire Baptist Church is hoping to demonstrate one way this can happen. The Dallas church recently launched a "residency" program in which young ministers-to-be spend two years gaining field experience on a church staff before going off on their own.

Just as medical students work in "teaching hospitals," churches can commit to be "teaching congregations," providing a forgiving environment in which seminary graduates can practice ministry, said George Mason, Wilshire's pastor. **SR**

*Andrew Black is a free-lance writer and theology student at Baylor's Truett Theological Seminary in Waco, Texas.*



Women's Society page by Laura Price  
www.sdbwboard.org

## A view from the training staff

*A testimony by Helen Goodrich, Summer Christian Service Corps Project Director, North Loup, Neb.*

I am not a Seventh Day Baptist by birth. I learned about SDBs in college when I met Jim Goodrich, who would eventually become my husband. We married in the North Loup, Neb., SDB Church, and I later became a member there.

acceptable, was still in the back of my mind.

Our involvement in church led me to many ministry opportunities over the years. In 1993, God allowed me to participate in a ministry that changed my life.

Being an SCSC Project Director was a terrifying experience but one that God knew I needed. The time PDs spend at training is full—with

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**Time and again,  
we're reminded that it is  
in our weaknesses that  
God makes us strong.**

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I first experienced the Seventh Day Baptist "extended family" at Mid-Continent Association meetings, and then at Conference. I realized how important family was when I was asked repeatedly about my maiden name and had to explain that I had no previous connection to SDBs.

Most responded that it was good to see "new blood," but I felt inferior because I couldn't trace my bloodlines back to Tacy Hubbard, or any of the other historical SDB names.

Jim and I were blessed with foster and adopted children as well as biological children. We emphasized that love and commitment—not just blood ties—was what made us a family. We all are special. We're God's adopted sons and daughters, and that's the best family ever!

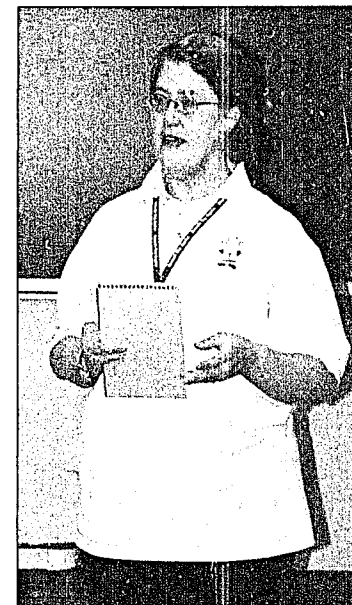
I believed in the concept we taught, but my childhood fear of not being adequate, of not being found

worship, Bible teaching, study and spiritual growth, as well as project preparation, team bonding, and testimonies. Yes, that fearful time of sharing personal faith stories.

I struggled in this area, writing and rewriting. Little did I know what God would do in and through me as I stepped out in faith and began sharing from my heart. God has opened many doors, and I have experienced more of His power in my life by allowing Him to work as He sees fit.

For the past several years, I have been on the Training Staff of SCSC. Each time we gather, it's amazing to see how God had been preparing us through the battles we fought throughout the year. Time and again, we're reminded that it is in our weaknesses that He makes us strong.

God has used my SCSC experiences to mold and shape me, to heal

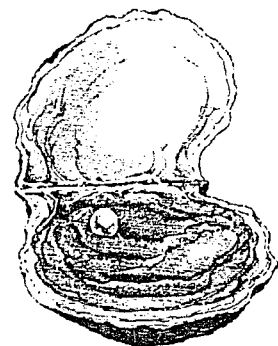


*Helen Goodrich, one of the SCSC Project Directors and trainers.*

and reveal Himself to me, and to keep me from coasting. He has shown me more of who He wants me to be. His ministry and His plan are the guiding factors, not my strength or wisdom.

I am but one of many who have been challenged and changed by the Lord through the SCSC program. I thank my God each time I think of how He has used the SCSC program to provide me the opportunity to become a Seventh Day Baptist and participate in His ministry.

*"A man's heart deviseth [plans] his way: but the Lord directeth his steps" (Proverbs 16:9). SR*



Pearls from the Past by Don A. Sanford, historian

## Looking for room to work

One of the pleasures of historical research is encountering unexpected detours that can open up whole new chapters in other fields of interest.

The year 2003 marks the 150th anniversary of the American Baptist Historical Society. To celebrate this event, the June issue of the *American Baptist Quarterly* will be devoted to their century-and-a-half of history. This will be followed by a September issue devoted to a dozen other Baptist historical societies. I've been asked to write the review of the Seventh Day Baptist Historical Society.

After over a century of collecting and communicating history, our Society was incorporated in 1916 to obtain the extensive Julius Sachse collection of the German Pietists and their cloisters at Ephrata, Pa.

Thanks to some previous research, I recalled that the safe storage of this valuable collection was a problem. I turned to the November 19, 1917 issue of the *Sabbath Recorder*. Here were recorded some of the findings of the Denominational Building Council which met to consider the subject of "a new denominational building for the housing of our publishing interests for offices, and vaults for the safekeeping of our denominational files and literature."

A tour of those old facilities in Plainfield, N.J., revealed the following:

"In the front office of the publishing house they found a little room about 10 feet square, containing a large safe, four desks and tables, a typewriter, an adding machine, a heat radiator, and chairs.

In this little space there are sometimes three or four persons doing clerical work or proofreading, so if one wishes to cross the room he

cylinder press, and the stapler—eight machines in all, some of them so close together that no one can go between them.

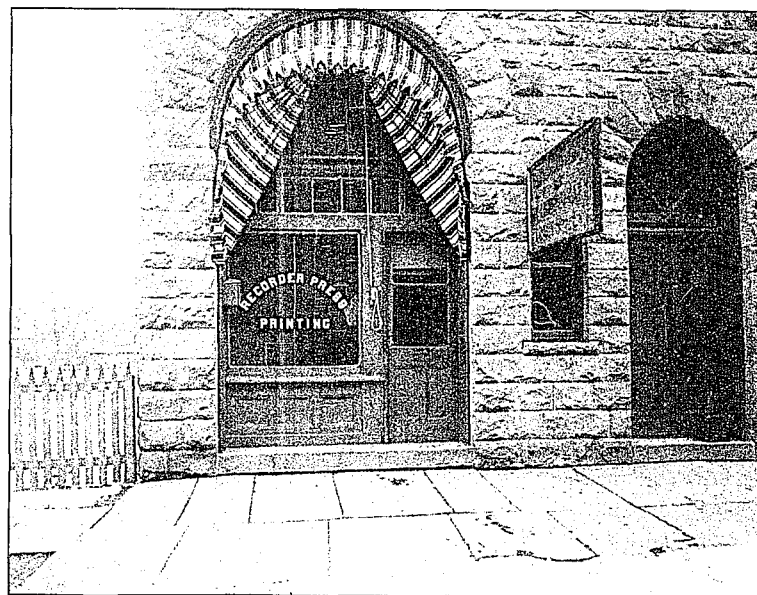
***I'm thankful for today's modern and less crowded working conditions. It is a pleasure to welcome visitors to our denominational workplace, where I can spread out my work without cramping others.***

must edge around as best he can to get through.

"The manager's office, of nearly the same size, is similarly crowded with furniture and working equipment. In the next two rooms, the visitors found two Linotype machines, two job presses, a large cutter, a folding machine, the large

"Almost every square yard of space is filled with tables, cases for type, and other apparatus, while quantities of stock for use in printing have to be stored here and there as little space can be found for them.

"Before these rooms were com  
*cont. on page 26*



*The cramped quarters of the Recorder Press in Plainfield, N.J., before the construction of a new publishing house and denominational building in the 1920s.*



# SR Almanac

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

### One year ago—December 2001

Doreen Sanford Davis writes on "Celebrating the Incarnation."

Susie P. Fox shares ideas in "Building family Advent memories."

The Missionary Society offers suggestions for White Christmas gifts.

2001 Sabbath School Teacher of the Year, Judy Parrish, is profiled.

The Outreach Bible Church in Portage, Wis., dedicates their new building in October.

Battle Creek, Mich., hosts the North Central Association.

### Five years ago—December 1997

Feature articles look at the Biblical view of angels. Writers include Paul Manuel, Gretchen Zweibel, and Jeanne Yurke.

Changes to the contents page include descriptive blurbs for the features and departments.

Christian Education page solicits funds to support sending the *Helping Hand* to Jamaica.

Home for orphans opens in Nellore, India.

Executive Secretary Calvin Babcock resigns to become the Office Manager for the SDB Memorial Board.

Leonardsville, N.Y., church celebrates 200th anniversary.

### 10 years ago—December 1992

"Appreciating Your Pastor" is the theme. SDB writers include Richard Barany and Lannette Calhoun.

Women's page editor, Charlotte Chroniger, offers practical ideas to support a pastor.

Missionary Society executive Kirk Looper reflects on his recent trip to Europe and Africa.

The "Beacon" suggests YF Christmas projects.

New York City church ordains more diaconate members and dedicates their church building.

Mid-Continent Association meets in Nortonville, Kan., in October.

### 25 years ago—December 1977

Pastor Clifford Bond writes on the spiritual fruit of gentleness.

The Central SDB Church—our first in Maryland—holds its inaugural meeting in October.

Editor John Bevis reports on his trip to Holland.

Mary Clare is named interim executive secretary for the Board of Christian Education. The Board also holds a youth leadership lab in Schenectady, N.Y.

The Albion, Wis., Ladies Aid celebrates its centennial.

Ernest K. Bee Jr. is re-elected as chairman of the North American Baptist Fellowship.

### 50 years ago—December 1952

Pastor Charles Thorngate passes away at his home in Dodge Center, Minn.; Rev. Riley G. Davis passes away in Des Moines, Iowa.

Crosby Rogers is named head of the chemistry department at Salem (W.Va.) College.

Rev. Leon Maltby resigns as pastor of the Riverside, Calif., church; Rev. Kenneth Stickney receives a medical discharge from the Army chaplaincy.

With his sermon from Conference, Rev. Charles Bond reminds believers that we all "cast a shadow."

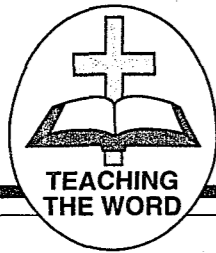
A serious illness cuts short Rev. Clifford W.P. Hansen's preaching mission in Plainfield, N.J., in early November. Hansen was "much improved" by mid-December.

*...where are we headed?*

### Pray for—

- a blessed Advent remembrance
- a deeper, Biblical understanding of angels
- SDB orphanages in India and Africa
- better appreciation of our pastors
- World Federation meeting plans in Brazil
- the work of our Associations
- a safe and peaceful New Year





# The ENDS that define the means

God causes growth. The apostle Paul told us this. "What then is Apollos? And what is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, even as the Lord gave opportunity to each one. I planted, Apollos watered, but God was causing the growth" (1 Corinthians 3:5-6).

Paul and Apollos were working for the purposes of God. They wanted people to believe, to grow, to become mature. Yet, each recognized that their own hard work did not produce the growth; it merely prepared the way for God to cause the growth. This was a point that Paul wanted to make clear. Immediately following verse 6, he said, "So then neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but God who causes the growth."

Scripture makes it clear that God is the One who produces everything we consider good. We do not produce conversion in others; God does that. We do not produce fellowship; God does by providing love. We do not produce ministry or service; each act that fits the category of "good work" is something that God prepared for us to walk in. We do not produce maturity. Every important character trait of the mature Christian is given as an outworking of the presence of God's Spirit in our lives.

God calls us to love and action. His production of every good thing does not absolve us of responsible action here on earth. The picture of

the Church in Ephesians 4 is that of a body unified by the Spirit and working together to reach the knowledge and maturity of Jesus Christ.

While God produces the maturity, we must prepare for it. The Great Commission includes responsibility for teaching those who accept Christ to observe all that He commanded (Matthew 28:18-20). This teaching goes beyond imparting knowledge.

**E**vangelism  
**N**urture  
**D**iscipleship  
**S**tewardship

While knowledge is important, we are to act and to help others act in God's love. In fact, God calls us to think carefully about how to "spur one another on to love and good deeds" (Hebrews 10:24). Seventh Day Baptists have recognized this call to maturity by stating the Church will perform certain actions ("worship, fellowship and service, practicing and proclaiming common convictions") while striving to grow "in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."

At its annual corporation meeting in October, the Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education, Inc., considered the call that God has placed on our lives, the Seventh Day Baptist Statement of Belief, and the purposes and activities to which the Board is committed. Following that consideration, four marks of Christian maturity were chosen as areas that the Board will highlight and encourage.

These areas are **Evangelism** (reaching out to the world with the purpose of presenting Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior), **Nurture** (including other people in God's love and plan—fellowship), **Discipleship** (teaching and learning the will of God in personal and corporate situations), and **Stewardship** (working to preserve and increase God's Kingdom). The result of this meeting was the adoption

of the following statement as policy for the Board:

The Board of Christian Education will promote the local church preparation of Christians for maturity by encouraging and modeling specific, active commitment to evangelism, nurture, discipleship, and stewardship.

Let us all strive for maturity. Evangelism, Nurture, Discipleship, and Stewardship: the ENDS that define the means. **SR**



We praise God for the many contacts who have found us through encyclopedias, reference books, and the internet. We cannot help but believe that God is opening up new realms of witness and evangelism for SDBs throughout the world.

A section of Yugoslavia known as Serbia has invited Rev. Rod Henry to their country in an effort to recombine the independent Sabbathkeeping groups that exist there. We are currently working towards that goal. (Rod, a former missionary to the Philippines and past director of the Council on Ministry, is currently the pastor of the Denver, Colo., SDB Church. He struck up a relationship with the Serbs after they translated his book, *The Sabbath: God's Creation for Our Benefit.*)

In 1919, some people separated from Serbia's Seventh-day Adventist denomination. This movement eventually gave birth to three churches in the summer of 1923:

- The Seventh Day Christian Church, which is basically Seventh Day Baptist except that they keep the Old Testament food laws.
- The Church of God Seventh Day Christians. They also are similar to Seventh Day Baptists, and they *do not* keep the food laws.
- The Seventh-day Adventist Reform Movement.

Until 1942, these three churches were grouped under the name, "The Small Community of Sabbatharians." (Many still call them "Small Community.")

The Seventh Day Christian Church is currently undergoing a transition. Although they are the third largest Sabbathkeeping church in Serbia, they are not satisfied with their situation and are starting a "reformation" movement in their church.

One change they are considering is uniting with The Church of God Seventh Day. This church is made up of very small groups which have no more than 40 members, only three of whom are men. If these two parties merge, the clean/unclean food doctrine will not be an official part of their beliefs.

The merged group would strive to include more young people in church activities. This would give "new wind" to the church, building a generation of believers who will be able to take responsibility for the church's life and growth. Their wish is to have believers willing to

serve *in* the church, rather than believers who want to be served *by* the church.

For more than 60 years, Serbia's Sabbathkeeping churches functioned in the shadow of a Communist regime, and many members were afraid to minister openly to the world. Understandably, these older members still have some hesitancy and thus need to make the newly-proposed transition slowly.

These churches do not force tithing among their members, although many are very generous in their giving. It is believed that some give more than 20 percent of their income.

## **Serbia has invited Rev. Rod Henry to their country in an effort to recombine the independent Sabbathkeeping groups that exist there.**

Pastor Drasko Denovic is the only person connected with these churches who has some theological education. Hopefully, one or two young people from the churches will soon begin attending a Bible School in Serbia or the Evangelical Theological Seminary.

Pastor Drasko has prepared a correspondence course for non-believers and placed it on the internet. He is also leading a seminar on deacons since it is vitally important for people to be prepared for service.

He has also translated the writings of Rod Henry into Serbian. These are used in their education program and distributed to potential members. All independent Sabbathkeeping groups have received the books and studies with enthusiasm.

Serbia has approximately a 0.8% Protestant population, which is recognized by the government as a sect. Half of these Protestants are Sabbathkeepers, including 14 Sabbathkeeping denominations, churches, and movements, besides the Adventists, which is the main Sabbathkeeping group in the country.

Rod and Camille Henry plan to visit Serbia this coming March. They will spend the week teaching the pastors, speaking at the local evangelical school, and looking for ways in which SDBs in the U.S. and elsewhere can be of help and support. There is a real need for funds to help with the translating, printing, and publishing of materials for study and evangelism.

We praise God for this new field and the workers who are willing to cultivate it. For more information, write the Missionary Society Office at 119 Main St., Westerly, RI 02891. Phone: (401) 596-4326; Fax: (401) 348-9494. **SR**



# the BEACON

Produced by the Youth Committee of the Board of Christian Education  
For and by members of the SDB Youth Fellowship December 2002

## Making your priorities

by Eowyn Driscoll

*"When times are easy, prayer is hard; when times are hard, prayer is easy."*

Does anyone else feel this way? When everything is easy, it's so tempting to coast through life, to take things in stride and not remember God. Then things turn around and blow up in your face and you go, "Hey, God!! Remember me?"

Of course, He does, even though it's been months since your last conversation. When everything clears up, all of a sudden God disappears into the background, along with that little silver cross around your neck, and the dust-covered Bible on your bookshelf.

Between school, work, homework, rehearsals, sports, friends, and family, when *can* we find time for the "finer things" in life? Like say, God.

It shouldn't be difficult to find time for God. After all, He is our Creator and our salvation. But we do have difficulty doing that. Why? Because we're busy finding it for ourselves.

Have you ever lost something and never found it? We need to *make* time for God, not simply squeeze Him into our schedule. We need to set aside a time each day when we can talk with Him and be with Him in our daily lives.

I know I have trouble making time for God. Kevin [Butler, *SR* editor] might also add *making my Beacon deadlines*. (But at least I know that I need to work on it!)

Sometimes, you can't just *say* you're going to do something. Thinking about it doesn't count,



and listening to Christian music while doing homework doesn't count either.

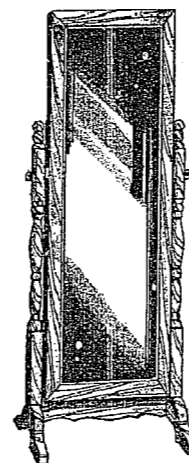
So, instead of saying, "I'm going to read my Bible," or "I'm going to say a prayer," or "I'm going to write the *Beacon*," I'll set aside a time every day when I know that I can be with God. (Like "alone time/devotion time" at camp.) Then I'll work my schedule around the time that I specifically set aside for Him. That way, I'm getting my priorities straight as well as getting my work done.

If you have any tips for getting *your* priorities straightened out, e-mail me at [sdb\\_youth@myrealmailbox.com](mailto:sdb_youth@myrealmailbox.com), and I'll put your suggestions on a web site we are developing. **SR**

## Year-End Youth Retreat

**When?** December 29 to January 1  
**Where?** At Camp Wakonda, Milton, Wis.  
**Director?** Pastor Nate Crandall. Cost is \$15.

All Youth eligible to attend Pre-Con next year are invited.  
Contact Pastor Andrew Camenga for more information  
[sdbbce@educatingchristians.org](mailto:sdbbce@educatingchristians.org)



## 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*

## Wimpier winters

fortify our stash of "ammunition" with ice-encrusted snowballs. (Thanks to our poor aims and even poorer arms, we rarely wounded anybody.)

The harsh weather inevitably led to school closings every winter, which I always thought was ironic. When it

*"He [the Lord] spreads the snow like wool and scatters the frost like ashes" (Psalm 147:16, NIV).*

Ah, winter... a wondrous, whimsical world of whitened walkways that weave past windows wrapped in ice. Wide-eyed children, awash in warmth, watch warily as the wind whiffles, and wild, wayward snowflakes whoosh to earth to weaken and whip away the last vestiges of wilting, withering autumn. (Whew! I think I just used up all of my "w"s.)

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Although I'm in my fifties, I still have an idealized vision of what winter should be: Red-cheeked cherubs frolicking in mountains of snow; regal-looking houses draped with icicle garlands; a mother serving steaming hot cocoa to her "snowbabies" as father stokes the fire and places bowls of popcorn and roasted chestnuts on the hearth.

Gone are the days when I witnessed "wool and ashes" (snow and frost) in unbelievable abundance. As a youngster, I would ride outside of Milton, Wis., with my father, taking pictures of snowbanks that towered several feet above the roof of our old Chevy.

My younger sister and I used to burrow into huge walls of snow at the end of our driveway, using our mittened hands and an old coal shovel to create igloos and caves. Sometimes we would use some of that snow to erect forts and then

was too cold or too snowy to go to school, all of the neighborhood kids were running around outside, playing in the frigid air and toe-numbing snow with great exuberance.

Nowadays, our winters here in southern Wisconsin definitely seem milder. That has its pluses, of course—lower heating bills, less snow to shovel or blow, etc. But I feel a tinge of sadness when I think of the fun many of today's young people are missing.

One of my most vivid childhood memories is tied to a winter day in the 1950s, right around Christmas. I'm not sure how old I was, but my guess is that I was still in grade school.

I was standing on the sidewalk across from my house, next to a

large oak tree. It was nighttime, and the air was exquisitely clear and cold. Suddenly, I saw it, and it literally took my breath away.

There, peeking through the bare branches of that old oak, was the most brilliant star I had ever seen. It hung high above our home like a gigantic, teardrop diamond, all glitter and sparkle.

*Is that the Star of Bethlehem?! I thought excitedly. Of course, I knew it couldn't be; Christ had been born years and years ago. But I felt a thrill just the same. Is that what the shepherds saw?*

I finally crossed the street and walked up our driveway. The hard-packed snow squeaked beneath my boots as I approached the back door. The yellow glow radiating from the living room windows made me feel warm and safe. I knew that Mom and Dad were inside, and that they loved me.

As I opened the porch door, I took one last look at that brilliant winter star. Once again, I felt warm and safe. I knew, beyond a shadow of a doubt, that God loved me, too. **SR**



A "wall" of snow outside of Milton, Wis., February 1960.

# I am in Christ

The President's Page - December 2002

George Cruzan

Our theme this year is "I am in Christ." We usually prefer to think about "Christ in me." So, what do I mean by being in Christ? How does that differ from Christ being in me?

Jesus said, "I do the works I do because I am in the Father and the Father is in me." For this Conference year we are emphasizing being in Christ (as He is in the Father).

This month I want to focus on being in Christ in our worship. I have often equated worship with church attendance. We go to church and we worship. Why do you go to church? To sing praises? To lift your spirits? To catch up with friends? To teach others? To worship God? These can all be done as a routine, ritual, or in Christ.

God is not concerned with where we worship

or what our rituals are. When Jesus confronted the woman at the well about her spiritual condition and a right relation with God, she tried to change the subject by asking a question that would provoke an argument - should one worship in Jerusalem (as the Jews did) or "on this mountain" (as the Samaritans did). This could obviously lead to an unending discussion on worship rituals, sin, and sacrifice, and lead away from her spiritual condition.

Jesus turned her diversion into a statement regarding true worship. He said, "God is spirit, and true worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth." God wants us to worship Him in spirit and in truth to become closer to Him, so we can be better ambassadors for Him. In all we do, we should be in Christ, as He is in the Father. *SR*

Thursday night at Conference will be an opportunity for you to contribute to worship in Christ. The program will consist of songs, skits, and readings that portray the theme of being "in Christ." If you have something that you or your church, group, or choir would like to present, please let me know directly or through the SDB Center at Janesville.



The Shiloh, N.J., church choir at Conference.

*Give to those who gave so much.*

## PASTORS:

Leroy C. Bass   C. Rex Burdick   David S. Clarke   John A. Conrod  
Leland E. Davis   Elmo Fitz Randolph   Ralph L. Hays Sr.  
Melvin G. Nida   David C. Pearson   Donald E. Richards  
Don A. Sanford   Victor W. Skaggs   Trevah R. Sutton  
Kenneth B. Van Horn   Edgar E. Wheeler

## OTHER RETIREES:

Ida Babcock   Margaret S. Bond   Mabel Cruzan  
Ethel D. Dickinson Clarke   Esther Lewis  
Beatrice D. Hibbard   Jean D. McAllister  
Ruby H. Maxson   Etta N. O'Connor  
Janette Rogers   Lila S. Saunders  
Rowena R. Van Horn  
Erma B. Van Horn  
Ethel M. Wheeler  
Jaunita Zwiebel

## Pastors Retirement Offering Project

Contributions are needed for continuing support of SDB retired pastors and denominational workers, and surviving spouses of pastors.

**Please donate to PROP!**

Please send your check to: PROP  
Seventh Day Baptist Center, P.O. Box 1678, Janesville, WI 53547-1678

## Sixty-five years and counting!

by Jasmine Lynch

Pastor William and Roselyn Vis celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary on September 28, 2002, at the West Palm Beach (Fla.) Baptist-Seventh Day Church. This was a special occasion for the whole church family.

The celebration started during the worship service's Prayer and Praise time. The couple received gifts, and individuals told them how much they have enjoyed their company, teaching and preaching over the years.

Following the service, a special surprise luncheon was held in the fellowship hall. Some members of the Miami SDB Church joined in the celebration.

The couple had been next-door neighbors and were just 21 when they exchanged vows in Paterson, N.J., on September 28, 1937.

William and Roselyn have lived through the terms of 16 U.S. Presidents. They're too young to remember anything about World War I, but their memories of WW II remain



Pastor William and Roselyn Vis

vivid. William especially remembers the bombing of Pearl Harbor and living through the Great Depression.

Pastor Vis did not complete high school but went on to get his GED and a BA degree in Library Science. He worked as a librarian in public schools in New Jersey. After "retiring," he began pastoring the Paint Rock, Ala., SDB Church.

He served Paint Rock for three years, then "retired" again in West Palm Beach. He spent the next 10 years helping to build up the Miami church. When Pastor Andy Samuels began ministering at Miami, William helped start the West Palm Beach

church. He has been volunteering his services there ever since.

Roselyn was an only child, born in Paterson. An epileptic seizure kept her from completing high school, but she found work in factories and as a waitress. When she accepted the Sabbath, her mother disowned her, but she held firm to her convictions.

It's so refreshing to spend time with this couple. Pastor Vis' sense of humor, memory, wit, and teaching skills are envied by all who know him. He preaches at least two Sabbaths each month, and frequently teaches Sabbath School.

Roselyn, who is a great encourager, loves to do interior decorating. She also paints quite well and is very creative. Until asthma prevented her from singing, she had a beautiful, pure soprano voice and often sang during Miami's worship service.

It is our prayer that William and Roselyn live to see many more anniversaries. They are role models at a time when marriage is often viewed as temporary or simply convenient. **SR**

## Portage hosts Semi-Annual

by Pastor Dale Rood

Semi-Annual Meetings of the northern Wisconsin and Minnesota churches were held on September 27-29 in Portage, Wis. The Outreach Bible Church, Baptist of the Seventh Day, hosted the gathering in their new meeting house.

The theme, chosen by Darcy Julson, was "In God We Trust." Participants gathered from the member churches of the Semi-Annual Fellowship: New Auburn, Wis.; Dodge Center, Minn.; and the church in Portage.

Pastor Michael Burns and his family from the Albion, Wis., SDB Church also attended. In recent

years, Mike and Jill have been regular participants.

The meetings began on Sabbath eve with a testimonial concert by singer/composer Judy Turner, a Portage resident who is legally blind.

Julie Clark, a pastor's wife, spoke at the worship service and in the afternoon. (She also spoke at the Woman's Retreat near Milton, Wis., in May.) She noted that trusting God is easy to say but difficult to do. The key is living the same way all of the time.

A karaoke night of songs and skits closed the Sabbath. The evening began with a Bible game styled after the TV program, "Family Feud."

During Sunday's business meeting, we decided that the mission offering should go towards famine relief in drought-ravaged Malawi. The Missionary Society will determine the best use for the funds—whether to buy medicines for the SDB clinic, purchase seeds, or fund other relief.

We also set up a pulpit exchange among our "Semi-Annual" churches, with a tentative date of February 1, 2003. (February 15 was chosen as a "snow date.") Pastor Burns will join in the exchange. **SR**

From the Dodge Center church's "Joyful Newsletter."

## Department Index for 2002

(Feature Index & Kevin's Korner on back cover)

### Columns

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Argentina ..... July-Aug.	Little Genesee, NY ..... June, Oct.	SCSC ..... June
Australia Association ..... Jan.	Miami, FL ..... March	Shiloh, NJ ..... Feb., June
Battle Creek, MI ..... April	Milton, WI ..... Jan., April, Nov.	Springfield, MA ..... June
Boulder, CO ..... July-Aug.	North Loup ..... Dec.	Summer Institute ..... July-Aug.
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## Birth

**Elliott.**—A son, Bodior Alexander Elliott, was born to James and Te-Ann (Andries) Elliott of Bowie, MD, on May 19, 2002.

## Marriage

**Shepard - Thomas.**—Morgan D. Shepard and Katherine A. Thomas were united in marriage on October 13, 2002, at the Pawcatuck Seventh Day Baptist Church in Westerly, RI. Revs. James Menzies and Dale Thorngate officiated.

## New Members

**Adams Center, NY**  
*Dale Smalley, pastor*  
Joined after baptism  
Victoria Hatch  
Joined after testimony  
Scott Hodge

**Centralia, WA**  
*Tom Mitchell, pastor*  
Joined after testimony  
Mel Neighbours  
Marilyn Neighbours

**Little Rock, AR**  
*Floyd Van Horn, assistant pastor*  
Joined after baptism  
Rose Marie Dozier

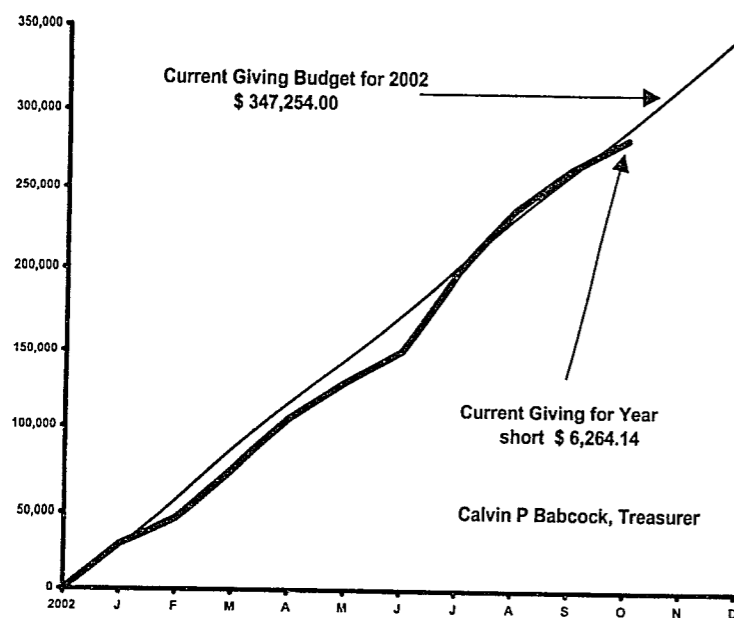
**Marlboro, NJ**  
*Robert Babcock, pastor*  
Joined after baptism  
Christopher Davis

**Milton, WI**  
*George Calhoun, pastor*  
Joined after baptism  
Kathryn Bornemann  
Jim Sabo-Shuler  
Joined after testimony  
Paul Snyder  
Christine Snyder  
Betty Snyder

**Old Stonefort, IL**  
Joined after testimony  
Merritt Mills  
Anita Mills  
Mildred Tittle  
Betty West

**Salem, WV**  
*Dale D. Thorngate, pastor*  
Joined after baptism  
Greg Dulaney Smith

## Current Giving 2002



## Seventh Day Baptist Week of Prayer

January 5-11, 2003

A prayer booklet by Pastor Al B. Paypa, the Philippines, has been sent to each church.

And on Sabbath, January 11, 2003, please take a special offering for the SDB World Federation.

## Obituaries

**Stoodley.**—G. Kent Stoodley, 94, died on January 5, 2002, in Mercy of Northern New York, Watertown, N.Y. He and his wife, Mildred, had lived there since September of 2001.

He was born on September 13, 1907, in Adams Center, N.Y., the son of Clark A. and Margaret (Greene) Stoodley. He married Mildred E. Northrop on October 7, 1934, at his parents' home in Adams Center.

After taking the short agricultural course at Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y., Kent became a milk tester. He worked in Jefferson County from 1926 to 1929, and in San Luis Obispo, Calif., in 1930. That same year, he took over ownership of the family farm and operated it until retiring in 1990. He also worked at Pine Camp (now Fort Drum) in 1941-42, and was a bus driver for Adams Center Central School from 1947 to 1950.

Kent joined the Adams Center Seventh Day Baptist Church in 1920. He was a deacon and over the years served the church as moderator, Sabbath School Superintendent, and church historian. He also volunteered at the Adams Center Public Library, and enjoyed reading and local history.

In addition to his wife, survivors include two sons, David and John, both of Adams Center; one daughter, Donna Irwin of Adams Center; eight grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by one brother, Ross, in 1989.

Funeral services were held on January 8, 2002, at the Carpenter-Stoodley Funeral Home in Belleville, N.Y. Rev. Ray Merritt, pastor of the Honeyville Baptist Church, officiated. Spring burial was in Union Cemetery.

**Bowers.**—John William Bowers, 63, of Stonefort, Ill., died on August 10, 2002, at his residence.

He was born on January 17, 1939, in Norris City, Ill., to Mr. and Mrs. John Bowers. On May 3, 1980, he married the former Christine Bethel, who survives.

John worked as a truck driver and was a member of the Old Stonefort Seventh Day Baptist Church, where he was a deacon.

In addition to his wife, survivors include four sons, Jeff Gunning of Eldorado, Ill., and John, Raymond, and Roger Gunning, all of Harrisburg, Ill.; three daughters, Deborah Hollerson of Stonefort, Theresa Moore of Carrier Mills, Ill., and Dianne Quick of Newburgh, Ind.; one brother, Jimmy Bowers of Centralia, Ill.; three sisters, Zella Jean Bowers of Norris City, Ill., Mavis Duckworth of Benton, Ill., and Dean Peas of Alabama; 23 grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held on August 13, 2002, at the J.M. Weirauch Funeral Home Chapel, with Pastor Bob Farr officiating. Burial was in the Joyner Cemetery in Stonefort.

**Van Horn.**—W. Sheldon Van Horn, 92, of North Loup, Neb., died on October 3, 2002, at the Good Samaritan Center in Ravenna, Neb.

He was born on December 22, 1909, in Farnam, Neb., the son of William and Alice (Adams) Van Horn. When he was a youngster, the family moved to a farm five miles south of North Loup. He attended various schools as his family moved, including Union Ridge School, Pleasant Hill School, and Barker Rural School.

In 1927, the family moved back to a farm near North Loup, and he graduated from North Loup High

School in 1929. He farmed outside of North Loup until moving into town in 1939.

In April of 1942, Sheldon entered the U.S. Army and served until September of 1945. He returned to North Loup and worked at the H.J. Kyle popcorn business until 1947.

From 1947 to 1954, he lived in California, Kansas, Texas, and Alaska. In 1954, he moved back to North Loup and again worked at the popcorn plant. In 1958, he purchased a fertilizer business.

On Oct 19, 1956, he married Lois (Barber) Swenson in North Loup. He became manager of the Blevins Popcorn company and continued with his fertilizer business until retiring in 1977.

He was a member of the North Loup Seventh Day Baptist Church; the American Legion (for over 50 years); the Ord, Neb., Elks Lodge; and the North Loup Lions Club.

Survivors include nieces and nephews. His wife died on June 29, 1982. He was also predeceased by three brothers, Lloyd, Elwood, and Ray Van Horn; and two sisters, Hazel Ingraham and Elma Walkup.

Funeral services were held on October 8, 2002, in the North Loup SDB Church, with the Rev. Christian Mattison officiating. Burial, with military rites, was in the Hillside Cemetery, North Loup.

## Death Notices

William H. Richardson Jr., 79, of Shiloh, N.J., died on June 14, 2002.

Florence (Briggs) Fetrow, 78, of Waterford, Conn., died on September 20, 2002.

Their obituaries will appear next month.

## Looking for room, cont. from page 14

pletely inspected, the visitors began to say, 'Indeed, we *do* need more room.' But the visit was not over until other places in connection with our work were seen.

"Down in the cellar... the visitors found quantities of paper for printing stored, sometimes to its damage. Two doors up the street they were shown where *Recorder* stock was stacked away in a vacant storeroom for later use. They saw the storage place for bound volumes of all our publications, plus the office of the corresponding secretary of the two societies. Across the road, they visited the editor's office, which is in his own home, made into a workshop. There, with the help of his wife, he does the work for the *Sabbath Recorder*.

"Then the visitors were taken around the Babcock Building to Front Street and up to the third floor to see the most important office belonging to our work—that of the Memorial Board.

"It must not be forgotten that the valuable collection of the Historical Society is stored in safety vaults at Newark, some 18 miles away. But the friends did not have to visit these to convince them that there is real need for a denominational building just as soon as it can be secured, in which to work and house our various interests. This was forenoon well spent."

Four years later, in 1922, the Publishing House at 510 Watchung Ave. in Plainfield was dedicated. In December 1929, the Denominational

Building was dedicated.

As I read this account, I was thankful for the wonders of modern technology in making more attractive publications.

I'm also thankful for today's modern and less crowded working conditions. It is a pleasure to welcome visitors to our denominational workplace, where I can spread out my work without cramping others.

I continually marvel at the dedication of those who, for over two centuries, have put forth the effort to record our heritage. They have preserved our distinctives as Sabbathkeeping Baptists who still have a message which God has entrusted us to share. *SR*

*'Sabbath Recorder, Vol 83: 21, pp. 642-643.*

## Diaconates enlarged at two churches

"With PERSEVERANCE Set Your Goals High" was the theme of the Mid-Continent Association meetings held in North Loup, Neb., on October 11-13, 2002. Delegates came from Colorado (Colorado Springs, Boulder, and Denver); Nortonville, Kan.; and North Loup.

Brice Severance, this year's Association president, planned and implemented the program. Jim Goodrich was worship leader on Sabbath eve.

On Sabbath morning, Steve Grafius from Colorado Springs led a time of singspiration before the worship service. With worship leaders John and Ruth Ryschon, Colorado Springs' Pastor L.B. Lee brought the message, lifted up by the singing of the combined choirs.

Pastor Rod Henry of the Denver church challenged the congregants in the afternoon to persevere in their daily walk.

In a service conducted by Pastor Christian Mattison, four members were ordained into the diaconate of

the North Loup church. Following their testimonies, Brice Severance, Peggy Van Horn, Phillip Van Horn, and John Ryschon were ordained. Cecil Severance welcomed them on behalf of the diaconate.

The day ended with "North Loup famous sloppy joes" and a variety show.

October 19, 2002, was a busy and memorable Sabbath at the Daytona Beach, Fla., SDB Church.

The morning worship celebration was led by Rev. John Camenga, with special music provided by Johnmark and Cathy Camenga. Guest speaker from the General Conference was Rev. Kevin Butler, editor of the *Sabbath Recorder*.

A short time of fellowship and refreshments followed, before church members and friends reentered the sanctuary for a blessed service of ordination. Four candidates to the Daytona Beach diaconate shared their statements of Christian expe-

rience after the congregation sang each candidate's favorite hymn. Sharing their statements were James Jacob, June Kenyon, Michael Spearl, and Patricia Thompson Gordon.

Aaron Price, deacon from the SDB church in Palatka, Fla., presented the charge to the candidates. Deaconess Shirley Morgan from Miami gave the charge to the church, and her pastor, Andrew Samuels, led in the laying on of hands and dedication prayer.

Partaking in the Lord's Supper concluded the service, with the new diaconate members assisting in serving the elements. With their spirits well-fed, attendees partook in a bountiful fellowship meal.

The day was not over! Over 20 representatives from Florida's SDB churches met in the late afternoon. Inspired by a training program going on in the Plainfield, N.J., area, a planning committee voted to begin a new "Florida Church Leadership Training Institute." More details of this exciting project will follow. *SR*

# KEVIN'S

## KORNER

When I first started working at the Center, I never imagined that I would make an announcement like this on my "Korner" page.

But, here we are, 14 years later, and here's the announcement: Welcome to my 150th issue as editor of *The Sabbath Recorder*!

(I can just hear Leon Maltby chiding me from beyond: "Um, Kevin, I did that in three years!")

Yes, the *Recorder* used to be a weekly newspaper, then a smaller weekly journal. They also had a huge staff of writers and pressmen to run their denominational

papers and commercial press.

Today, it's pretty much two of us who have the hands-on responsibility of designing and getting this "baby" to a contracted printer every month. But there are many more dedicated people involved.

I thank Calvin Babcock for overseeing the management of the SDB Center and the Memorial Fund (and for all SDBs who gave sacrificially to provide this wonderful building). Thanks to Jan Ehlers for writing the checks and handling the mailing list and keeping me informed of our finances. Thanks to Rosie Geske for fulfilling requests for our printed material and for sending out our bulk mailings. Thanks to Jeremy Howard for running our monthly financial reports and doing our payroll. Thanks to Don Sanford for being a walking treasure-trove of historical data.

I'm thankful when all of our contributing editors send in their department pages; when our talented writers tackle tough topics for our features; when church news correspondents keep us up-to-date on local happenings.

And an extra-special thanks to my "right-hand woman," Leanne Lippincott. Even with our perfectionist

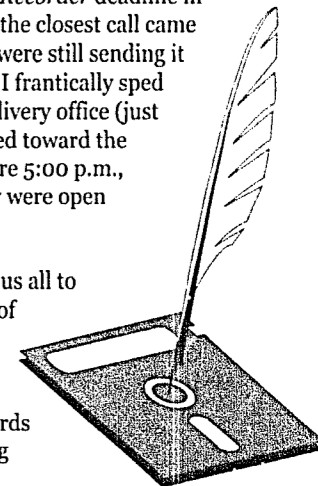
tendencies, I think that we've got this work-flow pattern down. Leanne just celebrated her 20th year of working here at the Center, and I couldn't do this job without her.

Leanne and I have lived through oodles of technological changes over this tenure, and I can remember most of them. Like when we got our first article sent by fax machine (I had to run to the local bank to pick it up; the Center hadn't installed a fax yet). Now we get updates and articles and even quality photos by e-mail. And don't even mention the word "darkroom" to Leanne.

All these words and graphics used to be hand-pasted onto big "boards" and personally delivered to a printer outside of Madison, Wis. That gave us an all-too-convenient excuse for a monthly lunch out in the big city. (We still celebrate each month's blessed event, locally, and Leanne swears that she used to be skinnier. Please don't look at *my* photos of a decade ago.) Now, everything is computerized and sent to a printer in Canada via cable modem.

How about deadlines? Well, not to brag, but with all of this help and with the Lord blessing us, we haven't missed a *Recorder* deadline in these 14 years. I believe the closest call came early last year when we were still sending it out on a computer disk. I frantically sped over to the overnight delivery office (just one street away), sprinted toward the door at one minute before 5:00 p.m., when I noticed that they were open until 6:00...

May the Lord inspire us all to support this work—one of the oldest continuous religious periodicals in America. I pray that He will allow more good words to come from these aging computers, and editors.



My biggest THANK YOU goes to Janet Davis Butler, a true servant and miracle worker. Without you, honey—"holding down the fort" at home, putting up with me (even around deadline), putting up *without* me as I travel to the churches and meetings—this work would be impossible. I honor you and cherish you for these 14 years of support, and for all 23 years of a marriage made in heaven. As I proudly proclaim on our license plates: KEV ♥ JAN!

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