

The

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News for and about  
Seventh Day Baptists

April 2002

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Are  
your

KIDS

SAFE at school?





## 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

## Summer Institute on SDB History and Polity

June 3 – 14, 2002

Seventh Day Baptist Center  
Janesville, Wis.

Taught by  
Janet Thorngate  
and  
Gabriel Bejjani

Please contact Rev. Gabriel  
Bejjani for more information:  
(909) 682-2002

## “Michigan Churches” Hosted this year in White Cloud April 27, 2002

Besides good worship, preaching, food, and fellowship, there will be a “Musical Fest” Saturday night, starting at 7:00 p.m. The day includes a catered Sabbath dinner and light supper.

If you know any Sabbathkeepers interested in our denomination's perspective on the Gospel, invite them to this wonderful occasion.

## Historical Society Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Seventh Day Baptist Historical Society will be held at the SDB Center in Janesville, Wis., on Sunday, April 28, 2002, at 2:00 p.m., in connection with the Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors.

The Society serves the denomination in the collection, preservation, and communication of SDB history. As a membership corporation, its work is financed by membership dues, endowments, contributions, and the sale of its books.

Any member of the Seventh Day Baptist church may become a Contributing Member for a \$10 annual fee, or a Life Member for \$100, payable to the Historical Society at the SDB Center, PO Box 1678, Janesville, WI 53547.

## Sabbath Renewal Day 2002

“Sabbath: Rest Assured”  
Celebrated on May 18



Worship packets  
and bulletins will be  
sent to each church.  
Watch your mail!

# The Sabbath Recorder

Establ. 1844



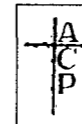
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# Violence in schools—what to do?

## A simple lesson of Galatians 6:7-10

by Wayne North

*“Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers” (Galatians 6:7-10).*

We reap what we sow.

For many years now, we have watched a gradual decline in our moral standards and societal values. These problems are not the result of our government or leaders. Instead, they can be attributed to the people of this country. Violence, sex, drugs, immorality, lying, cheating, and poverty are only the symptoms of our society's heart condition.

As God's children, we need to equip ourselves with the wisdom and power that is available to us through Christ's death and resurrection, and the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. All of us need to become soldiers for Christ to carry out the Great Commission—regardless of our age, sex, race, or abilities. We are all responsible for the things of God and the spreading of His Word.

In recent years, the condition of our entire educational system has fostered a growing malignancy of worry and fear. Escalating violence in our schools seems to be following a worldwide trend towards violence.

While statistics show that violence in inner-city schools has always been high, we are now seeing Satan and his cohorts bringing the war into everyone's backyard.

For years, Christians have been told that the separation of church and state is vital to our nation's well-being. Now Evolution and Humanism are the “religious doctrines” that have filled this void in our society. Values are being taught in our schools, but whose values?

I've been an educator in the public school system for about 10 years now. Even though I tell my wife differently, I'm far from being an expert in the field. But God has opened my eyes to certain attributes of education and has given me some insight into making our schools more God-friendly and God-centered. And all without too much preaching!

Where I teach, God has surrounded me with awesome people who respect Him and His goodness. I hope that the following suggestions will help prevent violence and promote a better working relationship between schools and their communities.

I also hope that my ideas will spark a desire in people to reach out to their schools and take back the ground that we've lost.

### We must pray

First, **prayer** is the beginning, middle, and ending to any work of

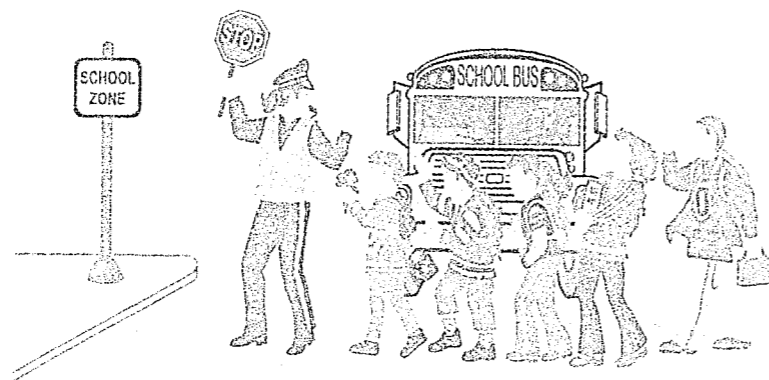
God. We must earnestly seek God's will and plan for our individual schools. His all-knowing mind knows the right prescription and treatment for each school.

I'm pleased to report that my local community is praying for me and my co-workers. Along with some administration and staff members, I attend a teacher's Bible study every Thursday morning before school. We pray earnestly for the students, teachers, and administrators.

The problems of the world are too big for us to try to remedy on our own. God must first work on the hearts of the people, and that means spiritual warfare is inevitable. Satan will try to oppose us, so we need prayer warriors interceding on behalf of those on the front lines.

Public schools are part of this world. We need a hedge of protection around our schools daily, and I personally try to do this for my classroom. A silent prayer said in my heart and mind cannot be stopped by any of man's laws.

We need to take back the spiritual ground before we can claim the physical. Remember, we reap what we sow, and ultimately we want spiritual growth in all people. So we sow in Spirit.



### God must prepare our hearts

Secondly, God must **prepare** our hearts for the work at hand.

I am very adamant about my faith, but God has instilled in me a humble heart. Discernment is a necessity. Our actions must be wrapped in love. We must not get ahead of God, but let Him lead the battle.

People like power, and Christians are no different in this area. We want to walk into a school building, quote Scripture, and give the “hell and damnation” theme. Then we expect everyone to repent. If we do that, we'll simply add more invisible walls between churches and schools.

We need to put our feet where our mouths are (many times we take this too literally), and show our respect. Yes, respect! We are called to respect and cherish one another. After all, God has a perfect plan for everyone.

As a teacher, I live out my faith by my actions. Or at least I try. Sometimes God brings a need to me that also requires words. Students ask questions as they seek knowledge or search for a compassionate heart. We need to be there for them.

We need to remember that most problems start at home. The school is trying to offset societal problems that develop in the home. Some school programs are implemented as a way of handling a problem that is truly spiritual. Many times their intentions are good but their plan is flawed.

Remember, the devil came to seek, kill, and destroy. The best-laid plans can become Satan's snares if not fervently enveloped in prayer.

Since most schools don't seek out the Ultimate Wisdom, we can expect them to come up short. The more connected a school is with the community and its people (including the church), the more effective the school will be at targeting issues like violence.

People in the community need to encourage their school staff and administration. Many times, contact occurs only when problems develop.



**Students ask questions as they seek knowledge or search for a compassionate heart. We need to be there for them.**

Sometimes we teachers lack input because we lack relationship and compassion skills. Working relationships and friendships need to be developed and fostered.

Volunteers are always needed in the schools, especially with so many districts feeling budget crunches. Cards, letters, phone calls, baked goods, etc., that encourage school staff and administrators are awesome!

Even with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, expect opposition. (Remember Moses?) You will be persecuted, for Christ was persecuted. Learn to be humble in spirit so you can separate yourself from the criticism thrown at you. If we expect to reap in the physical realm, we must sow the Fruit of the Spirit.

### We must use programs

Third, within a school, staff and administrators can develop **programs** that prevent violence.

I feel very blessed to work at my school. God has provided me with a missionary field that is so big that I can't wait to see how God is going to work.

A few years back, I was ready to

get out of education. I prayed for God's wisdom and guidance, and He placed in my path a very strong group of peers—teachers, administrators, and parents—to encourage one another.

My school does many different things to promote unity and prevent violence. Besides a successful program called “Changing Lives” (see page 6), we are also involved in:

### School safety plan—

This requirement is in place to prevent situations from occurring, or just in case an incident should happen. Ours has prevention measures which include a developmental guidance program, family and community involvement, clear objectives for behavior, using positive peers as role models, a police liaison and resource officer, surveillance cameras, visitor badges, and lock-down drills.

Prevention is always better than reaction. We are a small school so these parts easily form a single entity.

### Intervention strategies—

First, we encourage students and staff to report any violence and concerns they see or hear. Open commu-

nication is a necessity. A "stop system" is implemented so a consistency in discipline is maintained. I believe students and parents respect school rules more if discipline is handed out fairly to all students.

#### **PASS Program—**

Promoting and Assisting Student Success allows school officials to meet with the sheriff's department and social services twice a month to share information about students and situations that need attention.

#### **Searches and screenings—**

Locker searches by personnel and canine drug searches are carried out according to board policy and statute. We also can administer alcohol breath tests. Under the influence of drugs and alcohol, many students lose control of reality and common sense.

Many of our staff have been trained in Crisis Prevention and Intervention (CPI). At a staff inservice we could learn how to handle different situations. Also, radios are available to all staff at remote locations (outside on playgrounds or for physical education). Since we want everyone notified if something *should* happen, every teacher has a phone and PA system in their rooms for immediate communication.

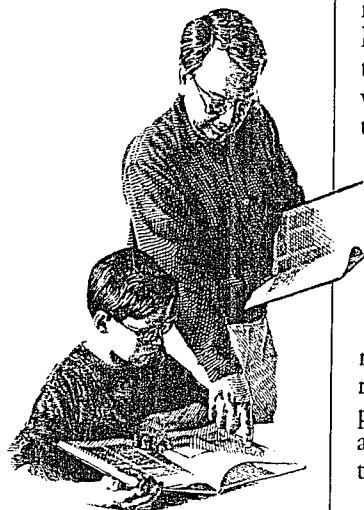
#### **Alternative education—**

The district provides alternative education for those students who can't remain in the regular school environment because of aggressive and non-compliant behavior. Many courses can be taken independently at home through our school or technical colleges, and alternative diplomas are awarded. We've had students return to the regular education program after maturing on the alternative track.

#### **A reward system—**

We also have "positive consequence days" for those students who meet or exceed the criteria that are set for each quarter. (The early

## "Teaching to Change Lives"



Our school has implemented a program called "Changing Lives." It started out as an athletic program of "Coaching to Change Lives," but was quickly brought into middle and high school classrooms in the format of "Teaching to Change Lives."

In the high school, the character-developing curriculum has a four-year itinerary. The areas taught are Foundations of Character, Inward Character, Outward Character, and Opportunities of Character.

Each school day begins with a 25-minute advisor period. We try to create a non-structured time where we can discuss topics that are important to the students. Not allowing a student to fall through the cracks is the main goal for this time. We schedule activities, organiza-

tional meetings, and community outreach activities. Each Monday, the principal reads the "Character" word of the week (i.e. gratitude, faith, integrity, etc.), defines it, and gives examples.

We do the "Changing Lives" curriculum on Wednesdays, with the students writing their responses in a handbook. Each lesson reviews the word and its definition, and includes a story revolving around prominent people, quotes (Scripture, too!), and an activity and question time.

Sometimes my students don't feel like doing the lesson, but intense discussion usually follows.

The moral vacuum left in our society by the decaying family structure has wiped out the teaching of virtues and character, things that were once taught in our homes and churches. Modern-day parenting has succumbed to the lie that we must allow our children to find "truth"; that we must let *them* decide if they want to go to church.

This curriculum tries to instill these God-given attributes back into society without "pushing religion" in schools. Lessons are easy to use and preparation time is minimal. If nothing else, this material allows students to open up and discuss issues, rather than bottling them up inside.

For more information about the Changing Lives program, you can call (800) 431-1256.

standards are set lower than the last.) Typical criteria include no Fs, no suspensions, less than three detentions, and a limit of five tardies. These criteria are set by the Student Council and administrators. Activities include going to a movie, skiing, sliding, and ice fishing.

A couple of teachers also took a half dozen at-risk students on a week-long fishing trip to Canada. The students had to collect donations and get jobs to earn their way. Costs were kept low, but enthusiasm kept high.

These teachers are strong Christians with high moral character. They hoped to encourage the students to start making good choices in their lives, not necessarily the easiest ones. And the results were great! Many of these volatile students responded positively to the attention and encouragement that these role models displayed.

The school district is also trying to develop additional after-school programs for all ages, providing more options and activities for bored students. We live in a rural, impoverished area, and the "cancer of boredom" is very prevalent.

One new club will be for outdoor enthusiasts. A lot of our students enjoy a variety of outdoor activities. This club would set up activities, contests, and service projects. Our principal currently has taken the lead for this program.

#### **Get kids involved**

We are blessed to have a high percentage of students involved in extracurricular activities. I believe that we must keep our minds and bodies occupied with positive activities. We are commanded to take every thought captive and are told that the body is God's temple.

When people, especially teenagers, get bored, we are asking for trouble. Being creatures of habit, we need to incorporate good habits into our lives. Going to church, reading the Bible, and praying are

all habits we must develop.

New Christians find it hard to instill these functions into their already hectic lives. Whether it's sports, music, or clubs, we need to encourage students to find their God-given gifts and abilities. We must get active in the students' lives and mentor them in the right direction.

We don't always have to get in their faces and condemn them. They're already condemned in their hearts, unless they know God. We need to show them the love (sometimes tough love) and the compas-



**Whether it's sports, music, or clubs, we need to encourage students to find their God-given gifts and abilities.**

sion that Christ showed us even while we were still sinners.

Our school has many guest speakers throughout the year. You can tell many are Christians by their walk and talk. They exude more than a "don't do this and that" attitude because they bring the personality of God with them. These guests encourage the students and school to make good decisions.

Our Fellowship of Christian Athletes (see page 10) arranges for many of our speakers, well-known athletes and coaches who travel the country

talking to young people at school assemblies. They give secular talks in the schools, perhaps adding a little of their personal faith into the mix. But many times they give faith-based messages in the evenings. Kids in our school seem to look up to these sports figures.

#### **It's your choice**

All of the above components are our school's prescription to promote healing and help fill the moral vacuum left by our post-modern society. But by no means is this an exhaustive list of all of the programs and strategies implemented in our school.

Our students and young people are desperately searching for something to follow and believe. And we're desperately seeking ways to keep them from becoming distant or violent.

We must take steps to provide a safe learning environment. Everyone must do his or her part in both the physical and spiritual realms. Don't be too busy. Satan and his legion don't take vacations!

Set aside time to pray for our schools. Become involved in a school program. We must show our light to the schools, and with it bring the peace and safety that only God can provide. Our faith must be followed by actions (works). I encourage you to find out the policies your school has in place.

I believe that God has allowed certain circumstances to happen. Maybe, as a society, our actions have removed ourselves from the umbrella of His protection.

God has tilled the soil. Are you ready and willing to sow the seeds? If you do, we will reap the blessings for our schools! **SR**

*Wayne North teaches at the Bruce, Wis., Public Schools, and is a deacon at the New Auburn, Wis., SDB Church.*



# Moms in touch

## Covering our kids in prayer

by Deirdre Camenga

Monday, April 10, 2000  
8:45 a.m., Children's Hospital  
of Wisconsin

"No! Bring her back! Don't do it!"  
The mother lioness in me wanted to shout those words as three "blue triplets" in scrubs wheeled my 7-year-old treasure away from me, down the long hallway, and through the big, ominous, surgical steel double-doors. I turned and sobbed on the nearest shoulder I could find, that of my mother-in-law.

My dear, sweet Elizabeth was headed for open-heart surgery, and I couldn't go with her. I was filled both with relief (we could finally get this over with) and fear. My mind conjured up all kinds of nasty "what ifs" regarding the surgery. (I'm good at Worst Case Scenarios.) I felt too overwhelmed, even to pray.

### Moms In Touch means moms in touch with God, their children, their school, and one another through prayer.

Then I remembered that I not only had a host of friends and family praying for us. In 15 minutes, my Moms In Touch ladies would be gathering to intercede. What a wonderful "God thing" for the surgery to be scheduled during my regular Moms In Touch time!

#### What's a mother to do?

I can't be with my girls 100 percent of the time, just like I couldn't be present when Elizabeth had her operation. Even if I *could* be with



them all the time, I don't have the power, wisdom, or capability to keep them from harm, sickness, or even to ensure that they make right choices. But I can pray. Moreover, I can enlist others to help me pray, just like my Moms In Touch ladies.

When I joined the Moms In Touch group in Milton, Wis., I had no idea what I was getting into. My motives for going were mixed.

We had just moved from the metropolitan area of Milwaukee. I had left a wonderful Bible Study of moms with whom I connected emotionally and spiritually. They were one of my links to sanity in "big city living." (I'm *not* a city girl!)

Even though we were moving "home," I still felt a little disconnected. In addition, Elizabeth was starting first grade in a new school where we didn't know a soul. I worried about her. Would she adjust? Would she make friends? Would she like it?

A friend (thanks, Jayne!) directed me to my first-ever Moms In Touch gathering. I had no idea the organiza-

tion even existed! Little did I realize at the time how much I would grow to love and appreciate these praying moms.

#### What is "Moms In Touch"?

So, who are these Moms In Touch ladies anyway?

In the fall of 1984, God began stirring the heart of Fern Nichols, a mother of four. Her two oldest children were about to enter junior high school. In her own words, "I found myself with a heart heavy and burdened with concern for the new world they would be entering. They would be facing their greatest test in resisting immoral values, vulgar language, and peer pressure. My heart cried out to the Lord asking Him to protect them, and enable them to see clearly the difference between right and wrong, and to make good decisions.

"The burden to intercede for my boys was so overwhelming that I knew I could not bear it alone. I asked God to give me another mom who felt the same burden and who

would be willing to pray with me concerning our children and their schools. God heard the cry of my heart and led me to phone another mom who voiced her agreement as I shared my burden.

"We also thought of a few other moms we believed would want to pray. We called them and began meeting the following week for prayer. This was the beginning of what is now known as Moms In Touch International—moms in touch with God, their children, their school, and one another through prayer."<sup>1</sup>

In 1985, Fern's family moved from British Columbia to California. She started another Moms In Touch group. Shortly after that, other groups began popping up in the area. Each group prayed for a specific school.

Then, in 1988, Fern and 13 other praying moms were interviewed by Dr. James Dobson on his radio broadcast, "Focus on the Family." More than 20,000 moms responded, expressing interest in forming Moms In Touch groups. Currently, 34,000 groups pray in every state and 85 countries.<sup>2</sup>

#### Not a social hour

Moms In Touch groups meet one hour each week to pray for their chil-

dren, their schools, and their teachers and administrators. Moms, grandmas, or anyone else willing to pray for a specific child and school are welcome. Refreshments aren't served because it's not a social hour; it's a sweet hour of prayer.

Moms In Touch women pray in one accord, which means praying through one subject at a time, as guided and directed by the Holy Spirit. With an emphasis on praying the Scriptures, group leaders guide the prayer through times of praise, confession, thanksgiving, and intercession. Guidelines and Scripture suggestions are available through Moms In Touch.

As I mentioned earlier, my motives for participating in a Moms In Touch group were mixed. Selfishly, I wanted to connect with other women. It didn't take long for that to occur. There's something about consistently meeting to pray, week after week, that binds hearts together.

#### How do we pray?

More often than not, God graces us with a very real sense of His presence. We pray for our kids and their struggles. We pray with tears of thanksgiving as God listens and responds. We pray for our schools, teachers, administrators, support

staff, and school board members.

We ask God to enable Christian teachers to be salt and light to their students and fellow colleagues. We pray for the physical safety of our kids, which can't be taken for granted anymore, even in small towns like Milton. It's easier for me to send my girls off to school each morning, knowing they are consistently covered in prayer.

Another perk, which I have been pleasantly surprised by, is the "inside scoop" I glean from other moms whose kids are in grades ahead of mine. I feel like I'm getting to know the teachers and principals in the middle and high schools. I'm able to gather information I can't read about in the local newspaper. The intermediate school Elizabeth began attending last fall didn't seem quite so unfamiliar because I'd already spent time praying with other moms for the teachers and staff there.

#### Prayers for the children

One of my favorite parts of Moms In Touch is when we pray for our kids. In addition to specific concerns, we pick one Scripture and ask God to make the verse(s) very real in our kids' lives.

Last week, for example, we prayed Psalm 32:8-9: "I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you and watch over you. Do not be like the horse or the mule, which have no understanding but must be controlled by bit and bridle or they will not come to you" (NIV).

*cont. on next page*



*In addition to specific concerns, we pick one Scripture and ask God to make the verse(s) very real in our kids' lives.*

One of my dumplings was having a "mule week." What better thing for me to do for her (and me) than to pray away her stubbornness.

### Does this stuff work?

Does God hear and act on behalf of our kids when moms pray? Let me give a personal testimony to answer that:

My Moms In Touch ladies helped pray for my family throughout Elizabeth's open-heart surgery. Going into it, the best hope the surgeon gave us was the placement of an annulus (rubber ring) around Elizabeth's mitral valve.

Her valve had been damaged by a viral infection at the age of 1. It wasn't closing properly, making her heart enlarge to compensate. Without the surgery, Elizabeth's heart would continue to enlarge. Eventu-

ally, it would stop functioning altogether.

If the annulus didn't correct the problem, she would need a mechanical mitral valve, followed by a lifetime of anticoagulant therapy. In addition, our girl would need to retire her rollerblades, bike, and cross-country skis.

Thanks to the mercy and power of God, activated by prayer, the surgeon was able to repair Elizabeth's heart with neither the annulus nor a mechanical valve! It was truly a miraculous event that we hadn't even dreamed possible.

Elizabeth is now as active (maybe even more so) as any other 4th grader. She swims, bikes, and skates in addition to playing on basketball, softball, and soccer teams.

Does God listen and act when moms pray? Oh, yeah!!!! **SR**

\*\*\*

Interested in starting a Moms In Touch group in your area? Contact:

Moms In Touch International  
PO Box 1120  
Poway, CA 92074-1120  
www.momsintouch.org

*Deirdre S. Camenga is a member of the Milton, Wis., SDB Church.*

*<sup>1</sup>Fern Nichols, Moms In Touch International, 1987, p. 5.*

*<sup>2</sup>Bonnie Shepherd, "When Moms Pray," Focus on the Family Magazine, 1999.*

## Playing for keeps

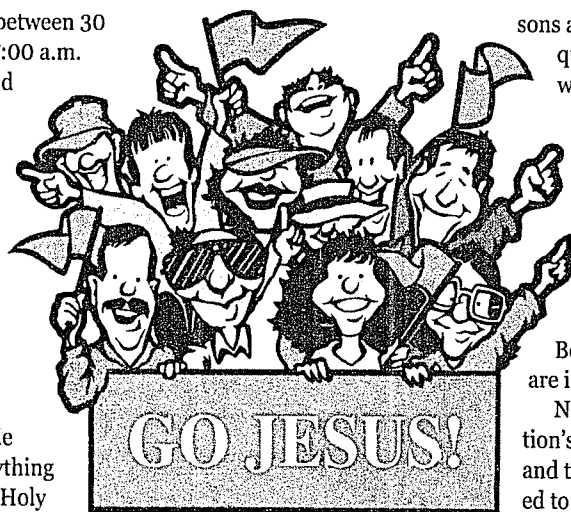
by Wayne North

Each Friday morning, between 30 and 60 students meet at 7:00 a.m. at our school to glorify God and have fellowship. It's our local chapter of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA).

Many different denominations are represented. This year, our district has officially recognized the organization. We sing songs, do activities, and break into small and large group Bible studies. We try to do everything under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

We encourage all students to become involved, not just athletes. Yet, the athletes are eligible to attend camps and seminars where they can meet national athletes and coaches, and get physical and spiritual training.

The FCA Bible alone is excellent study tool. The les-



sons are easy to use and spark quite a few conversations with its heart-searching questions.

The strength of our group is the outstanding relationship between the adults, leaders, and attendees. The FCA also gets together to go to concerts, watch the Super Bowl, etc. The bonds formed are irreplaceable.

No particular denomination's viewpoints are pushed, and the students are encouraged to search the Word of God to find knowledge and wisdom.

This organization allows students to see other worship styles, and some have even attended SDB youth retreats.

This organization has been a big blessing. I feel it has turned our school upside down and inside out. I strongly encourage every school to start a chapter. **SR**

## Nortonville church rededicated

by Jean Jorgensen and Reba Wheeler

December 15, 2001, was a day of celebration in the life of the Nortonville, Kan., SDB Church. We commemorated 100 years of meeting in our current church building, as well as the completion of a new basement and kitchen. During the morning worship service, a new Baldwin organ was dedicated in memory of Vivian Wells Harris.

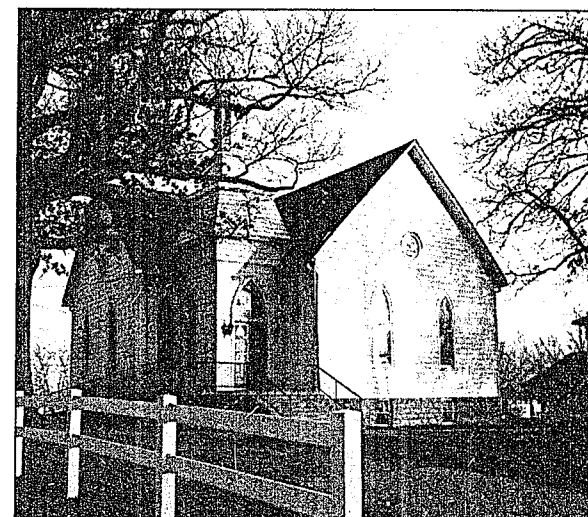
In 1857, a group of Seventh Day Baptists traveled by wagon train from Farmington, Ill., to the prairie of Kansas to help keep that state free from slavery. (Kansas was recognized as a state in 1861). They settled in an area that became known as "The Seventh Day Lane."

Settlers kept coming to Kansas to live on the "Lane" and nearby areas. At first, they held services in homes each Sabbath. Libbie Burdick held school in her home until they built the "Lane" Country School in 1863.

Worship services were held at the school until a church structure was built one mile south of Wheeler Corner (on Stillman land) in 1882. Its address was Pardee, Kan.

Since the town of Nortonville had been established in 1873, the congregants named their new facility the Nortonville Seventh Day Baptist Church. The church was so full at times that they had to place chairs in the aisle to accommodate the large congregation. They dedicated the church building—constructed at a cost of \$2,000—in 1883, and completed the parsonage in 1884.

In March of 1882, the young people of the Seventh Day Baptist Church organized the "Mission Band," later known as "Christian Endeavor." In 1887, with 44 active members, the second Christian Endeavor group in the state of Kansas was credited to our SDB church young people.



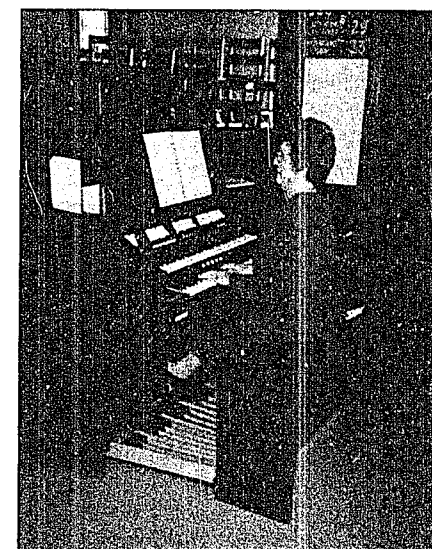
Left: The Nortonville, Kansas, SDB Church. Below: Organist Darlene Bond plays the new Baldwin organ.

In 1900, the congregation voted to tear down their church and rebuild it in Nortonville, now a thriving community where many SDBs owned homes. Three-fourths of the town's businesses were owned and operated by Seventh Day Baptists.

They purchased land in Nortonville and dug a full basement for the present-day building. (They had carefully dismantled the old church so some parts could be used in the new one.)

Once the basement was in, they added a vestibule, a north room, two classrooms, a choir loft, a baptistery, cathedral ceilings, hand-carved woodwork, and lovely stained-glass windows. All of the additions made the new church more beautiful and practical than the previous structure.

The parsonage was also moved into town—on skids and logs, pulled by teams of horses and mules. It took two days to



complete the move to the south of the church. Because the move went so smoothly, the minister's wife was able to stay in the parsonage, preparing meals for the movers and going about her daily home-making routine.

The congregation held its first service in their new church on the

cont. on page 23

# What ever happened to it?

by Charles Graffius

I was privileged to pastor the Los Angeles, Calif., Seventh Day Baptist Church from 1976 to 1983.

In 1979, I dreamed about making an upper room of the church into a prayer room. The church members agreed and accomplished this task, which included the greatest "center-piece" anyone could envision.

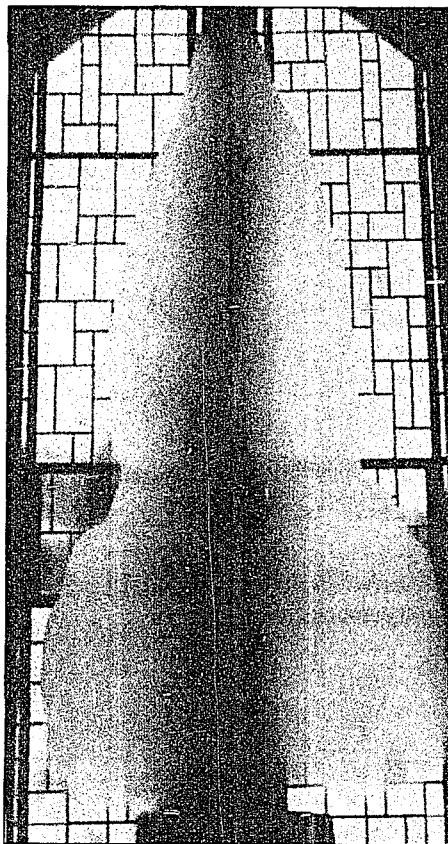
Imagine, if you will, a kneeling altar in the form of a half-circle. On the straight side of this semi-circle were stained-glass windows stretching from floor to ceiling. These beautiful colored windows would form the background for the focus of the prayer room.

Albyn Mackintosh, a member of the church family, provided a "gem" in memory of his recently deceased wife: a piece of glass, 6 feet wide and 13 feet high, etched by a craftsman in Los Angeles.

I had taken a small plaster of Paris replica of Albrecht's "Praying Hands" from our fireplace mantel and delivered it to the artisan, who used it as a pattern to etch a 9-foot high set of hands. The glass was then placed in the prayer room in front of the stained-glass windows.

I loved to pray and meditate in this beautiful place. Visitors were often awestruck as they entered the room to kneel and pray in front of the massive hands. The quiet atmosphere was always peaceful and prayerful.

The Los Angeles SDB Church has since divided into four distinct churches. The existing



*These hands watched over the prayer warriors of the Los Angeles SDB Church.*

**Visitors were often awestruck as they entered the room to kneel and pray in front of the massive hands.**

church building was sold to another Christian ministry.

Many years ago, Albyn's son, Ralph Mackintosh, removed the Praying Hands glass and stored

it in a facility in the Newport Beach area.

As I visualize this valuable work of art, I can see it in a sanctuary or prayer room, or some other special place in a Seventh Day Baptist church. It's truly a fitting memorial of a man who wished to remember his dear wife in a special way.

This masterpiece would be a beautiful addition to any church. Perhaps you're already visualizing it in *your* church. We would like to take it out of storage and place it in a reverent place. Ralph has indicated that he would like the glass moved to an SDB church where it can be viewed and appreciated as a reminder and encouragement to prayer.

If you would like the honor of having people come to your church to see this unique treasure, contact me as soon as possible. We will arrange to have it crated, insured, moved, and installed. Your name, or your church's name, will be put high on the priority list of where this "reminder of love and devotion" will find a home.

We will pick the site this spring, and shipping and installation will begin in early summer. If all goes as planned, this project will be completed before Conference 2002 meets. You will then be invited to come and see it in its permanent home.

You can contact me at:

Charles Graffius  
4180 Sugar Palm Terrace  
Oviedo, FL 32765-6939  
Phone: (407) 365-9640  
E-mail: chuc547@cs.com



Women's Society page by Laura Price

## Serving in SCSC

Testimony by Faith Green

I spent three consecutive summers in SCSC (Summer Christian Service Corps) and an "unofficial" one after I married. I enjoyed serving in Battle Creek, Mich. (1990); North Loup, Neb. (1991); New Auburn, Wis./Dodge Center, Minn. (1992); and Milton, Wis. (1995).

God hand-picked my wonderful partners: DeLynne Jorgensen, Kim Baker, and Heather Van Horn. I felt

Working in camps was usually an enjoyable experience, but I was never comfortable in a camp setting. (Many of you know that I am not a dirt-huggin', mosquito-lovin' kind of gal. Plus I tire quickly of prancing around a campfire singing "Little Bunny Foo-foo" or "High Silk Hat.")

I always felt that God was nudging me a wee bit out of my comfort

other times it wasn't. God seemed to give me a heart for those "strugglers."

Their struggles varied widely. I was frustrated when I couldn't "fix" things, and spent a lot of time feeling helpless. That's why I spent a lot of time in prayer.

When a child who was changed very little left camp, I prayed that God would send another person to help lead the way. (I still pray for some of those campers.) Most of the time, God gave me peace. I knew that that child would continue to be exposed to Christ's love in church and at home.

Peace also came when I watched children accept Christ and saw smiles of *hope* light up their faces. Peace came as I watched a child's progress over the years. I smiled as I saw children allow Christ's light to brighten their lives.

I enjoyed my summers in SCSC. Each congregation warmly welcomed me into their church family and allowed me to be a servant. I felt accepted where I was in my Christian walk and yet encouraged to grow. I know God's Hand was there guiding me, preparing me for the path ahead.

My hope is that God will continue to bless the young adults who join SCSC, and the churches that allow them to be God's servants for a summer. It is through these opportunities that God helps prepare us for what He has planned for our lives.

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD. "Plans to prosper you and not harm you. Plans to give you hope and a future" (Jeremiah 29:11). **SR**



***I enjoyed my summers in SCSC. Each congregation warmly welcomed me into their church family and allowed me to be a servant.***

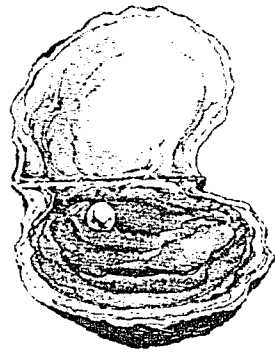
that He had chosen each one to make efficient, well-rounded teams. Each summer that I joined SCSC, I hoped to be of service to a church and prayed that I would help at least one person find lasting Hope.

I spent some weeks doing Vacation Bible Schools or Neighborhood Bible Clubs. Many hours were dedicated to various painting, organizational, or cleaning projects, but the majority of my time was spent in camps.

zone. That was good! That's what was needed. It was then that God could really open my eyes and heart to Him, and I truly allowed Him to lead. It made me more aware of my surroundings.

I was always blessed with groups of youth that I could easily love. This does *not* mean they were always calm, well-behaved, and easily-managed...

Also, I was always blessed with at least one camper who was struggling. Sometimes it was obvious,



Pearls from the Past by Don A. Sanford, historian

## Lottie's legacy lives on

When the young people at Albion, Wis., wanted to remodel some their church's classrooms, \$750 was drawn from the fund. And, in 1976, the fund granted \$360 to help meet the needs of an orphanage in India.

Many people have benefited from this fund over the years, but few today know much about Lottie or her interest in children and youth. (Even fewer know that her given name was Charlotte.) Almost a century ago, the 1904 *Seventh Day Baptist Yearbook* printed the following:

"To the Committee on Educational Interests was referred a proposition of Miss Lottie Baldwin and her brother, James Baldwin, of the town of Plymouth, Sheboygan County, Wisconsin, to donate to General Conference their farm, located as above mentioned, for the purpose of founding an orphanage."

(One wonders if her interest in orphans was influenced by the work of Rev. Herman Clarke, who at the time was engaged in placing orphans in the Midwest under the auspices of the New York Children's Aid Society.)

One year later, a special committee reported, "The impression has been deepened in the minds of the committee that the Baldwin estate, which the present owners offer for the purpose of an orphanage or some kindred purpose, is a valuable piece

**"Her loyalty was expressed in a denial of self for the sake of good to others and by reason of her thoughtful provisions has been extended into the future."**

of property. It lies in a prosperous locality where real estate is rising in value. Legal advice has been obtained regarding the transfer of the property. Miss Baldwin seems anxious that arrangements for such transfer be made at an early date, and the committee advises Conference to recommend that the final measures be taken to secure it for that end."

The committee was empowered to arrange for the transfer of the property to the trustees of the Memorial Board, "if it be practicable to make such an arrangement." However, if it was not practicable, the said committee was empowered to "arrange for the transfer of title to itself as trustees, arranging that the board of trustees so created shall be perpetuated by annual appointment by Conference."

It was not until after the death of James in 1918, that the farm was sold. Lottie used part of the \$10,000 proceeds to buy a modest home in Milton. It was deemed impractical,

*cont. on page 26*

When Camp Wakonda was established in Milton, Wis., in 1951, the organizers borrowed \$5,000 from the Lottie Baldwin Association. When they needed to buy camping tents, the Lottie Baldwin Association provided the money.

Some 15 years later, a boys' dorm was constructed to replace the tents. Once again, the Lottie Baldwin Association provided the funding, and the dorm still carries her name.

In 1974, Lottie Baldwin funds paid for a telescope at Camp Paul Hummel in Colorado. That same year, \$100 was given to help cover the cost of Associated Conference for children, and \$131.84 paid for a Conference film rental. Camp Harley Sutton in Alfred Station, N.Y., was also granted money for a volleyball court.



An early photo of the Lottie Baldwin boys' dorm at Camp Wakonda.



# SR Almanac

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

### One year ago—April 2001

A *Recorder* full of transitions. SDB writers share testimonies of God's guidance through life's changes: Grace Crouch (from outside work to stay-at-home mom), Mabel Cruzan (widowhood and living alone), Doreen Davis (becoming a "church lady"), Donna Bond (new jobs and move to smaller home), Rod Henry (several ministry moves), John Peil (adjustments ministering to young adults), L.B. Lee (following call to pastorate), and Chuck and Lorna Austin Graffius (widowhood and second marriages).

News updates come from Marlboro church (Bridgeton, N.J.), and the South Atlantic Association.

### Five years ago—April 1997

"Caring for the Caregiver" is the theme. Practical advice comes from a nurse, a professor, a gerontology center, and the National Family Caregivers Association, along with a personal testimony from SDB Helen Green.

Obituary lists death of the Rev. Clifford W.P. Hansen. In local news: Youth Week Service highlighted in Shiloh, N.J.; in Bradenton, Fla., Pastor S. Kenneth Davis builds bridges with local community college and the host Sunday church.

While on a personal trip, Australians Stefan and Vicki Kube greet SDB leaders in Poland, the Ukraine, and England.

### 10 years ago—April 1992

Pastors Mynor Soper, Bernie Wethington, and Steven James focus on the 1992 Conference theme, "Lifting Up Jesus."

More agency and standing committee ministries featured.

Christian Education page highlights Natural Evangelism Training retreats.

SDB Missionary Society reviews the past on its 150th anniversary.

Coverage of the organization of the West Palm Beach, Fla., SDB Church.

### 25 years ago—April 1977

Noted church historian, Winthrop Hudson, delivering the annual Willis Russell Lecture at Alfred (N.Y.) Univer-

sity, calls Seventh Day Baptists "separate but not sectarian."

More negative reaction to *Christianity Today* editor Harold Lindsell's concept of imposing "quiet Saturdays" upon non-Sabbathkeepers. Responding to the same article, the Seventh-day Adventist magazine, *Ministry*, proposes Monday as a non-religious day of rest for the United States.

Light Bearers for Christ musical team tours in Mexico.

"Growth Force" committees from the Albion and Milton, Wis., churches get info from trainers Bob and Lorna Austin as part of the SDB "Commitment to Growth" program.

Former Conference President Dr. Lloyd Seager passes away in February.

### 50 years ago—April 1952

Businessman Adelbert Whitford named to serve as Memorial Fund trustee.

Evangelistic meetings held in Marlboro, N.J., and Riverside, Calif., churches.

Fifty-one SDB churches take part in the "Budget Marchers Campaign," organized by Rev. Elmo Fitz-Randolph on behalf of the Commission.

Death reported of Dr. William L. Burdick, long-time SDB pastor, missionary, and historical writer.

Inaugural ceremonies welcome K. Duane Hurley as the seventh president of Salem (W.Va.) College.

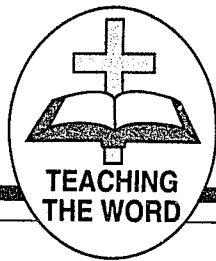
Rev. Ronald Hargis resigns as executive of the SDB Board of Christian Education to pursue his doctorate.

### ...where are we headed?

#### Pray—

- for God's guidance during times of change
- for those providing care for family members
- for a positive witness to our community
- with thanks for our Conference agencies
- for our ecumenical witness and contacts
- that the Sabbath remains a special delight
- for the support of our denominational budget





## Christian Education

by Andrew J. Camenga

### This is Christian Education

#### For children

Children seem to be at the heart of Christian Education. The very words, "Christian Education," bring to mind images of Sabbath School classes, youth groups, children's messages, Vacation Bible Schools, summer camps, and Pre-Cons.

Attention to children's education is good. It is part of the call that God has placed on our lives.

God made the training of children an integral part of the life of the nation of Israel. We see this in Deuteronomy 4:7, where the people were commanded to teach diligently the words of God.

We see it through the work of Joshua. After the 40 years in the wilderness was complete, God brought the people back to the Jordan River.

Joshua led the people across the Jordan River. He did so at God's command and had the Ark of the Covenant lead the way. The river split, and the people walked across. Before the Ark was removed from the river, 12 stones were pulled from the riverbed and placed in a carefully constructed pile.

Joshua 4 reveals that the purpose of these stones was to create questions in the minds of the nation's children. As those questions moved from the world of the child's brain into the world of verbal communication, the parents were to make sure that they shared what God had done.

God established an object lesson for the people of Israel. He showed them one method for training their children. Paying attention to children's education is an impor-

tant task given to the people of God. It must not be neglected.

#### For adults

The Great Commission clearly states that we are to teach His disciples to observe all that Jesus commanded (Matt. 28:19-20, NASB). Adults are disciples. So, in addition to children, Christian Education is also for adults.

During the week preceding his crucifixion, Jesus walked into Jerusalem with his disciples and saw a fig tree. As he approached the tree, he discovered that it did not have any fruit, and he cursed the tree. Jesus then went into town, drove the money changers out of the temple, taught the crowds who would listen, and went home.

The next morning, Peter saw the fig tree that Jesus had cursed. It had withered from the roots up. Peter noticed the withered tree and brought it to Jesus' attention, who in turn used it as an object lesson to illustrate the power of God and the need for prayer.

This event in Jesus' life (Mark 11) shows that even after three years of training by the Master Teacher, the disciples still needed to be reminded of God's work in the world. At times, basic knowledge about the way God works needs to be reiterated for adults. In this sense, Christian Education is for adults.

#### For the Church

As Jesus worked to increase the disciples' knowledge, we need to work to increase each other's knowledge. Increased knowledge is not the

final goal of Christian Education though. We know that we can stand in the presence of God because of the work of Jesus Christ. That is God's firm promise. Faithful Christians will never let go of that fact.

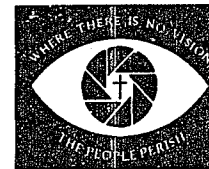
Yet God commanded us to consider how to spur one another on to love and good deeds (Heb. 10:24). He commands us to challenge each other into loving and caring acts. Christian Education cannot stop with knowledge. It must include elements that challenge behavior and decision-making.

Here, Christian Education becomes difficult. Here, Christian Education becomes the responsibility of every member of the church of God. Here, Christian Education is for children *and* adults.

One part of the church's work is to help people attain maturity, which is measured by the stature of the fullness of Christ (Eph. 4:13). Until you—and every member of your church—can affirm that you have achieved that standard, the need for Christian Education will remain.

Don't forget your responsibility to children. Realize that your responsibility for training extends past them. Examine yourself. Examine your church. Think about ways to help yourself and others to walk in the paths marked by God.

Don't be afraid to work for changes in thinking and behavior. We are called by God to figure out how to help and to allow ourselves to be helped. This is Christian Education. It is how we are supposed to live. *SR*



## FOCUS on Missions

### Coffee and Bible study do mix

by Ron Elston

John Benjamin Peil has started an exciting new ministry on the West Coast. He is the son of Rev. John and RuthAnne Peil, who shepherd the San Gabriel SDB Church of Faith in Azusa, Calif.

Since October 29, 2001, John "the younger" has been leading three Bible studies and two Evangelism Nights each week.

I first learned of this new work last fall while visiting the Riverside, Calif., SDB Church during Pacific Coast Association. I was introduced to a young man who seemed "on fire" for the Lord. During our visit, John shared his vision for expanding the Kingdom: using a coffee shop as a base for Bible studies and evangelism.



John Benjamin Peil

Additional information came from Pastor Eric Davis of the Riverside

church, who shared his excitement about this expanding ministry. Shortly afterwards, John contacted the Missionary Society office seeking help.

After talking with him, I decided to further explore this new ministry and assist with a Sponsored Project. We have been very pleased with the results of this new work for the Lord.

They hold a Bible study in Pasadena on Mondays,

in San Dimis on Tuesdays, and after regular church services on Sabbath mornings. The Tuesday Night Bible study is by far the most important and outreach-oriented of the three. John's Thursday night evangelism team was created specifically to help the ministry grow.

On October 30, four people attended the first Bible study. Since then, it has grown fivefold to 20 people and two teachers.

The attendees meet in a large coffee shop as a group, with John kicking things off by explaining the main theme of that night's study. After he introduces the other teachers, the class splits into two groups. This creates two separate Bible study cells that operate independently of each other.

According to John, this seems to be the most effective method of Bible study thus far. Only time will tell if this Bible study growth can metamorphose into viable, healthy church growth.

One of the most daunting challenges currently being faced is how to get those Bible study students to attend regular church services on Sabbath mornings. As it now stands, four of the 20 attend the San Gabriel Valley church.

We at the SDB Missionary Society are always eager to learn about new ministry possibilities. We look with excitement at this new work that the Lord has given, and we seek ways to duplicate this in other areas of the Home Missions Field.

If you have new ideas or suggestions for ministry outreach, please contact the Missionary Society office at 119 Main St., Westerly, RI 02891, or the Home Missions office at P.O. Box 10, Fairdealing, MO 63939. *SR*

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# the BEACON

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

April 2002

## Welcome to judgment day

by Eowyn Driscoll

Picture this: You are in a great room, filled with people waiting silently for you to deliver judgment on God.

Somehow, I think there are a few flaws in that image.

First, a person—a being less than God—passing judgment on the Creator? Not possible by any stretch of the imagination! Yet, as human beings, judging comes easily to us.

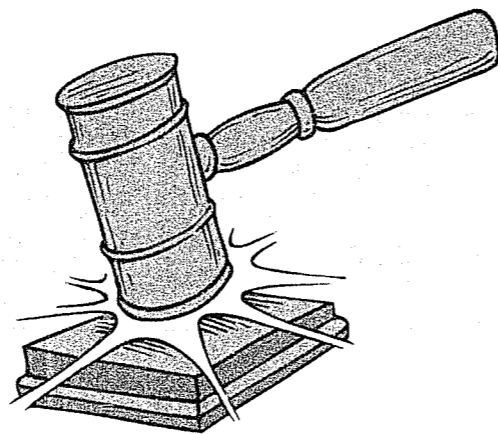
Something happens and automatically it's, "Goodness [place a name here], why did you do that?" Or, "Do you think you could be any stupider?"

Sound familiar? It does to me. As people, we easily pass judgment on each other, as if we are bigger than everyone else.

Genesis 1:1 says, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." We all know this statement. Perhaps it's the first Bible verse you ever memorized.

Just by looking at this verse, you know that God created all things—me, you, the mountains and the seas, everything. So, by placing judgment on another part of that creation—whether it's another person or any other uniquely created thing in the world—you are passing judgment on God.

It's logic time. If God created everything, then He created all people. So people are smaller than God.



**We easily pass judgment on each other, as if we are bigger than everyone else.**

Let's deal with this concept: We are smaller than God. Thus no one is in a position to judge another.

If God is a higher and greater being than we are, how can we expect Him to just sit by and let us pass judgment on Him? The very idea is ridiculous.

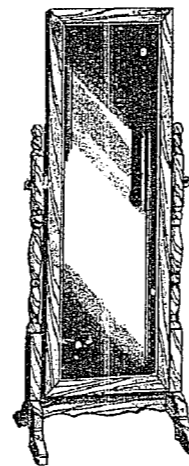
We spend much of our lives complaining and passing judgment on others, ourselves, and God. But because we are smaller than God, it's all simple, mindless babble. Why should God listen to our judgment, or even hear us, if we don't

even know what we're talking about?

"...Till that word can be dug out of us, why should they hear the babble, that we think we mean? How can they meet us face to face, till we have faces?" (C.S. Lewis, *Till We Have Faces*).

How can we look upon God when we are so much smaller? How can we even *presume* to pass judgment?

Keep all of this in mind the next time you're tempted to judge someone else's behavior, choices, or actions. Then ask yourself, "Am I on the same level as God?" **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

## School days to school daze

ried it out diligently and proudly. (A great "perk" was that I could walk into class late.)

Compared to today, the school atmosphere was tame and uneventful. Occasionally, a stray spitball would strike a teacher in the forehead. Or someone would stick a fresh wad of gum onto the bottom of a desk. The

**When I was a youngster, "bombing" at school meant flunking a test, not blowing up a building.**

biggest disciplinary problem was talking without permission. ("But Al spoke to me first!")

Teachers and principals were the ultimate authorities back then, and punishment was swift and effective. Perhaps a little too swift and effective at times. An elementary school principal once "got in my brother's face" and shoved him up against a wall.

Even in high school, there were no phones in the classrooms, no armed guards patrolling the hallways, no unannounced locker searches, no metal detectors at building entrances. The kids in the "bad crowd" smoked in the restrooms and drank beer on the weekends. Drugs were what Doc Davis or Doctor Burdick gave me when I got sick.

When I learned that this month's *Recorder* would deal with "Keeping kids safe in school," my mind flashed back to *my* school days.

I grew up in little Milton, Wis. My most vivid childhood memories revolve around the 1950s and '60s, when I attended grade school, high school, and Milton College.

My school days were relatively sheltered and safe. It's not that "bad things" didn't happen. But the media coverage back then wasn't as prevalent as it is now. Some things that would have made the newspapers today were totally ignored or discussed only in whispers, such as strangers lurking on the playground, or teachers who were overly friendly towards female students.

Among other meanings, *Webster's Dictionary* defines "safe" as "secure from threat of danger, harm, or loss."

Some things at my grade school were more dangerous than others. If a boy pulled my hair or kicked me in the shins during recess, I wasn't going to die from it. But I had to be extra careful whenever I climbed the highly-polished, slippery stairways, or rode my bike to school.

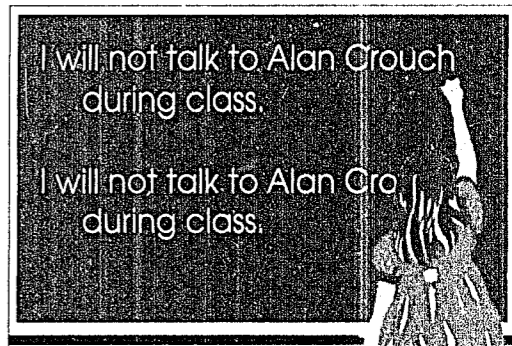
I was a member of our school's Safety Patrol. In the morning and late afternoon, we older kids would station ourselves at busy intersections and help the younger ones cross the street. I wore a wide white belt with a red and silver badge pinned to a shoulder strap. It was an important assignment, and I car-

I hope I don't sound like an old fogey glorifying "the good old days," but it's true: schools are more dangerous today. Much more dangerous.

There wasn't an epidemic of school shootings when I was a youngster. If there had been, most of the kids would have used BB guns and slingshots, not .357 Magnum pistols and AK-47 automatic rifles. "Bombing" at school meant flunking a test, not blowing up a building.

All three of my grandchildren are still under the age of 2, but I already fear for them. And for *their* children and grandchildren. What will our schools be like in 10 years? Or even five years from now? Will they be safer? And, if they are, will they be more like maximum security prisons than hallowed halls of learning?

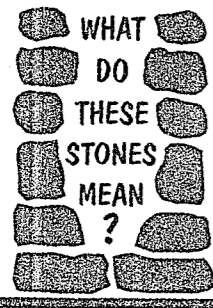
I don't have the answers. But all of us have a potent weapon—one that we can use every day to fight for the hearts and minds and very lives of our children: Fervent, diligent, daily prayer. **SR**



I will not talk to Alan Crouch during class.

I will not talk to Alan Crouch during class.





## The President's Page

# The fifth stone: Ambassadorship

by Gordon Lawton

Dear Friends,

When I talk of this daily theme for Conference, I get a lot of blank stares. Or worse yet, skeptical stares. So I need to explain my thinking.

In 2 Corinthians 5:14-21, Paul speaks of the ministry of reconciliation. Maybe if I had chosen the title, "Ministry of Reconciliation," it might be understood. Paul said, "We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us" (v. 20).

This is the point of entry for us. We, like Paul, are ambassadors, and SDBs have been ambassadors for the full 200 years of the General Conference.

SDBs established the Conference to advance missionary work, sending missionaries to the "frontier" to preach Christ and to draw together those church members who had moved there from back home. Through the years, many forms of ambassadorship have been used. Education was, and is, important to Seventh Day Baptists. We opened academies all across the American continent. In Ashaway, R.I., SDBs operated a school until it was turned over to the government public school. The building which had housed the school was returned to the church when the school district no longer needed it, and it now serves as the Parish House.

Academies grew in many places, including Alfred, N.Y.; Salem, W.Va.; Milton, Wis.; Fouke, Ark.; Shiloh, N.J.; and Albion, Wis. The first three of these became colleges, two of which remain. SDBs established the Alfred School of Theology, which trained pastors for nearly 100 years. Sabbath Schools were set up to teach people about God and the Bible. The Sabbath School in Little Genesee, N.Y., began in the 1840s. In its first four years, it grew from nothing to 170 registered students and 11 teachers.

Publishing worked hand-in-hand with the schools. Books, tracts, study materials, and a weekly newspaper all were part of our efforts. *The Sabbath Recorder* is a continuation of that paper. Great social movements with their roots in Scripture have also been ways in which SDBs have served as ambassadors. In the 19th century, our churches and Conference were active in the Emancipation Movement. Some SDBs even participated in the Underground Railroad, helping runaway slaves escape to "free states" and Canada.

The Winter 2001-2002 *Helping Hand* includes some of the strong statements that came out of General Conference meetings regarding slavery. In the late 19th century and early 20th century, members of our denomination participated in the Women's Suffrage movement and voiced support for Civil Rights. Today, many SDBs are involved in the Right to Life movement. Youth Ministry through summer camps came about in the 20th century, as did Fair Booth Ministries. And then there are foreign missions with medical and educational works.

To put it succinctly, Ambassadorship is any effort that reaches out to others, seeking opportunities to present the Gospel as hearts are opened or as needs are met. As we consider some of our past and present Ambassadorship efforts, I hope we'll be able to dream of new ways to impact the world with the love of Christ.

We can apply our faith as individuals, as small groups with shared interests, as churches, Associations, and even as a Conference. Compelled by Christ's love, we can be His Ambassadors, showing His love to others.

Pastor Gordon Lawton  
(Hope to see you at Houghton College, August 4-10.)

## In memory of Rev. Leon M. Maltby

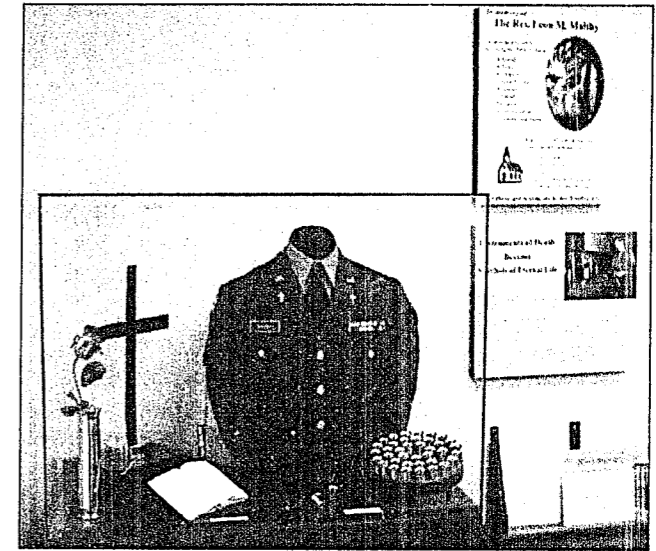
On Sabbath afternoon, January 5, 2002, friends of the Rev. Leon Maltby gathered in the social hall of the Daytona Beach, Fla., SDB Church, to remember him and testify to his remarkable life and the impact for good that he had on others. In each of his 95 years, he touched many lives as he demonstrated his:

- Love of God
- Love of people
- Love of learning
- Love of making things grow
- Love of giving and sharing.

Leon's children attended the special service. His son, Allan Maltby, told of how the memorial service came to be, how meaningful the service was, and how the family had grown much closer as they prepared for this day.

Then Leon's daughter, Lucille Jennings, regaled the guests with stories of Leon's World War II experiences:

Chaplain Maltby was in the Pacific Theatre, on the island of Biak. He started services in the island chapel—an open-sided empty tent



battle had raged and made two 40-piece communion sets. First, he carefully removed the lead and powder, and set off the firing caps. Then, with the help of a machinist, a lathe, and a five-ton press, he fashioned communion cups. It took two hours to make each cup.

He also made two wooden trays, each designed to hold 40 cups. One

**Friends of the Rev. Leon Maltby gathered in the social hall of the Daytona Beach, Fla., SDB Church, to remember him and testify to his remarkable life.**

with a packed coral floor. Wanting to make the chapel/tent a more meaningful and familiar worship center, he fabricated brass vases and candlesticks using spent Japanese and American artillery shells. A 16-inch cross was laboriously sawed out of a 90-mm anti-aircraft shell and mounted in its base.

Not yet complete, Leon gathered unspent 50-caliber machine gun shells near a cave where a bloody

set is permanently displayed in the conference room of the Daytona church, and the other is on display at the SDB Center in Janesville, Wis., under the auspices of the SDB Historical Society.

Following Lucille's talk, Leon's second son, Ronald, described his father's passion for outreach. He told how important it was to Leon to help others and how thoroughly he loved life. He also listed the many service

**In memory of  
The Rev. Leon M. Maltby**

He dedicated his life to spreading the Word of God as:

- A Minister
- A Pastor
- A Youth Leader
- A Bible School Teacher
- A Teacher
- A Friend
- An Editor
- A Correspondent
- A Husband and Father

In each of his 95 years he touched lives as he demonstrated his:

- Love of God.
- Love of people.
- Love of learning.
- Love of making things grow.
- Love of giving and sharing.

*All these are testimony to his fruitful life.*

opportunities that God had given his father.

Leon's friends also had a chance to speak. Owen Probasco, Kirk Looper, and Pastor John Camenga, as well as community residents, had kind words to say on his behalf.

We will miss Leon Maltby, a true Warrior for Christ. **SR**

*From the January 2002 Daytona Beach Sentinel newsletter.*

## Staff, outreach growing in Battle Creek by Judy Parrish

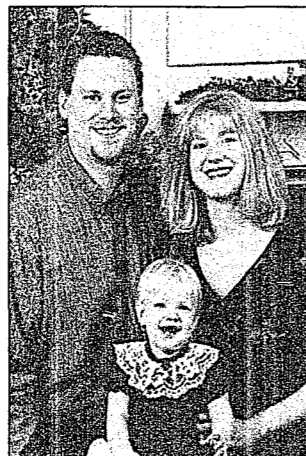
The Battle Creek, Mich., SDB Church is pleased to announce that we have an Associate Pastor! Rev. Harold King is entering his fifth year with us, and now Pastor Kory Geske is also on staff full time.

We appreciate the vision of the SDB Council on Ministry's Ministry Staff Assistance Program and the Memorial Board for helping this to happen.

Pastor Kory's work includes camp programming, young adult and cell group ministry, continuing production of our worship services for Access Vision, and the summer music event, "On the Rock." He also preaches for our Sabbath night contemporary service.

Kory moved to Battle Creek from Milton, Wis., in 1994 to do youth ministry. Now Kory, wife Jackie, and daughter Tiffany are an important part of our congregation, each doing so much in the work of the church. (We include Tiffany because we get to dote on her, and it makes us happy!)

Another aspect of this staff addi-



*Associate Pastor Kory Geske, his wife Jackie, and daughter Tiffany now serve full-time in Battle Creek, Mich.*

tion is that Pastor Harold and his wife, Kathi, now live in the Parish House apartment. This gives the church a personal presence in the Park Hill Neighborhood and, therefore, a more credible witness and ministry where we are located. They are to be commended for their generosity of spirit in making this move.

Other recent events in Battle Creek were our annual Homecoming Celebration held the Sabbath after Thanksgiving, and Christmas observances. Baskets were given to five families, and we participated in other group events to help those less fortunate.

We have two teams in the local church volleyball league that is enjoyed by players of any skill level. Our Youth Fellowship participated in World Vision's 30-Hour Famine to raise money for the hungry, then had a Valentine spaghetti supper to feed our own hungry SDBs.

A local recording artist, Ken Norberg, who has had engagements all over the U.S. and in England, will soon be in concert at our church for the third time. His reworking of 1960s and '70s rock and roll songs to Christian lyrics besides his own original compositions will make for another super concert!

We are looking forward in 2002, hoping to be found worthy of our great calling as Christians and ministers of the Gospel. **SR**

## FitzRandolph: Isn't that an old SDB name?

Many people across the nation might have asked that question while watching the 2002 Winter Olympics. Indeed, gold medal-winning speed skater Casey FitzRandolph does have SDB ties.

Jeff FitzRandolph, Casey's father, grew up in the Milton SDB Church. (He now lives in Verona, Wis., with his wife, Ruth.)

A few years ago, Milton's Pastor George Calhoun baptized Casey and his sister, Jessie, during a private baptismal service.

A number of Casey's relatives are active in the Milton church, including several aunts and uncles: Jill and Gary Groelle, Jon and Sue Cruzan, and Brian and Robin Bleise. His grandparents, Ivan and Virginia

("Spin") FitzRandolph, have been members of the church for 55 years.

Casey's SDB ties go back to the early 1900s. For many years, his great-grandfather, Rev. John FitzRandolph, pastored the Milton Junction, Wis., SDB Church. Prior to that, his great-grandfather served several SDB churches in New York State.

Casey, who has been skating for 22 of his 27 years, won his gold medal in the 500-meter race. His first run of 34.42 seconds set a new Olympic record, and was one-tenth of a second short of tying the world record. **SR**



*Olympian Casey FitzRandolph shares his gold medal moment with his grandparents, Virginia and Ivan FitzRandolph. (Note the American flag on Ivan's cheek.) And how did "Spin" get as tall as her grandson? Stairway steps!*

## Nortonville church, *cont. from page 11*

second Sabbath in March, 1901. Rev. George Hills was pastor at the time. Over the years, the Nortonville church has been blessed with many godly men.

In 1942, lightning struck the belfry, causing irreparable damage. The church was without a bell until a new bell tower was installed in 1988, making the church building whole again. Several of Nortonville's residents have told us that the tower's blue light directs them at night. In 1985, we added a ramp, new steps, and new front doors to the church.

The church celebrated its 130th anniversary in 1993, under the guidance of Rev. Robert Harris and family.

Last spring, the church approved a much-needed basement repair and remodeling project. Everyone in our

church family helped by cleaning, painting, digging, and urging one another onward, guided by our current trustees: Lois Wheeler, Mike Graves, Daryl Aims, Charles Wheeler, Ira Bond, Jonathan Saunders, and Carl Prentice. Besides the trustees, Pastor Steve and Irene Saunders, Kent Wheeler, Darlene Bond, and David August were constant workers at the church.

The original project design was revamped many times to accommodate the surprises that awaited behind the old basement walls. After repairing leaks and other damage, new walls were erected a few inches out from the old. The room is actually 30 square feet smaller, but it looks and feels larger than the old basement.

The completely remodeled basement now includes major electrical

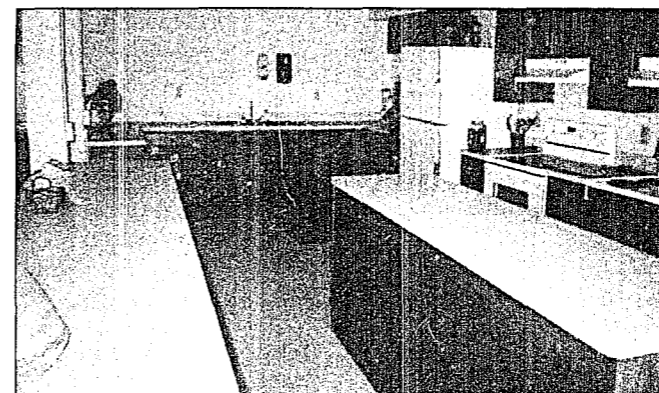
upgrades, new speakers, a commercial dishwasher and garbage disposal, a serving/preparation island in the kitchen, new cement floors, resurfaced walls, and new kitchen cabinets and floors. (Tile was installed on the kitchen floor, and the dining area was carpeted.)

New sinks were also installed. We dedicated a "beverage sink" and counter to the memory of Norris Wheeler, who passed away on October 16, 2000. It's a wonderful addition and keeps the flow of traffic for coffee, tea, etc., out of the kitchen area. The "dishwashing sink" was donated in memory of Alma Davis, who died in 1989; and the "vegetable sink" is in memory of Floreen Bond. (She passed away in 1989 and was Irene Saunderson's mother.)

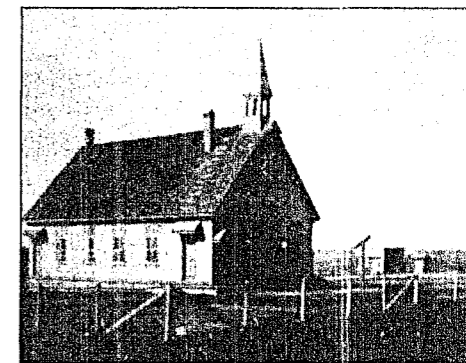
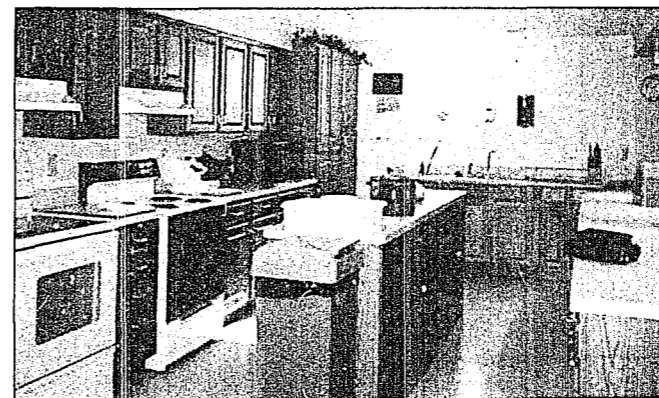
It took over two months to complete the remodeling project. Meanwhile, church members held their weekly Sabbath dinners in the parsonage. On November 10, 2001, they held their first Fellowship Dinner in the new basement.

On December 16, 2001, the Nortonville church hosted the annual Community Choir Concert, gratefully "showing off" their new basement and enhanced speaker system to nearly 200 people.

We are grateful for the many blessings that God has bestowed on the Nortonville SDB Church. **SR**



*Above and below: The Nortonville church's remodeled kitchen includes new cabinets, sinks, and a large serving/preparation island.*



*A postcard of the old Nortonville Seventh Day Baptist Church, circa 1890.*

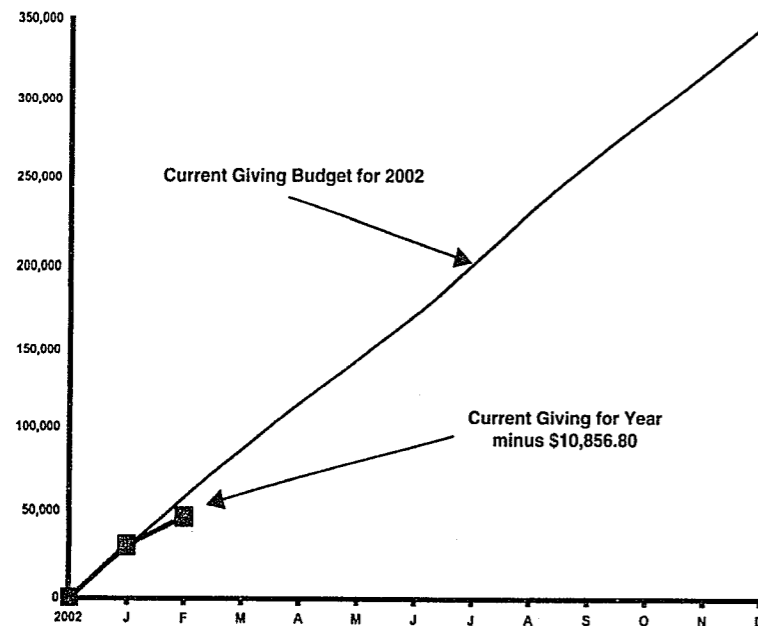


**Costs for Conference 2002**  
**Houghton (N.Y.) College, August 4-10**  
*www.sdb2002conference.com*

	<u>Full Week</u>	<u>Per Day</u>
<b>Registration</b>		
Adults	\$ 52.50	\$ 7.50
Children (5-11)	\$ 14.00	\$ 2.00
<b>Housing</b>		
Dorm/bed	\$ 98.00	\$ 14.00
Town House	\$ 112.00/person	\$ 16.00/person
<b>Meals</b>		
<u>All</u>		
Adults	\$ 107.50	\$ 16.10
Children (5-11)	\$ 71.00	\$ 10.65
<u>Lunch and Supper</u>		
Adults	\$ 82.95	\$ 12.60
Children	\$ 54.95	\$ 8.35

Town Houses must be filled (8 single beds) with family units only. There are 14 RV hook-ups available at \$10 per vehicle. For early reservations on the RV spaces or the Town Houses, please contact Mae Bottoms:  
 Phone: (585) 268-5368  
 E-mail: maeb@infoblvd.net  
 See website for more details. Forms will be in the May SR.

## Current Giving 2002



## Birth

**Flister.**—A son, Andrew James Flister, was born to James and Heidi (Gilmore) Flister of Janesville, WI, on February 21, 2002.

## Marriage

**Lynch - Long.**—Alrich Bernard Lynch and Sharon Long were united in marriage on March 10, 2001, at Lafayette Street United Methodist Church in Dothan, AL. Pastor Luis D. Lovelace Jr. officiated.

## New members

**Atlanta (Metro), GA**  
*Luis Lovelace Jr., pastor*  
 Joined after baptism  
 Sharon (Long) Lynch  
 Joined after testimony  
 Alan Kiral  
 Melody Kiral

**Montrose, CA (Foothill)**  
*Scott Hausrath, pastor*  
 Joined after testimony  
 Norma Dorminey

**Pontotoc, MS**  
*John Bevis, co-pastor*  
 Joined after testimony  
 Larry Broussard  
 Jamie McCollum  
 Shauna McCollum

## Obituaries

**North.**—Charles Harrison North, 88, passed away on November 24, 2001, at Palomar Medical Center in Escondido, Calif. He was a retired spectrographic chemist for National Lead Co. and Schiavone Bonomo Corp.

He was born on October 28, 1913, in Milton, Wis. In 1924, his family moved to Plainfield, N.J., where he graduated from high school in 1931. He returned to Wisconsin to attend Milton College and graduated in 1937. On August 10, 1940, he married Betty Doane, and they had four children. She died in 1972. In 1974, he married Bettie Malloy Wolf of Levittown, Pa.

Charles was a longtime member of the Plainfield Seventh Day Baptist Church, where he served as treasurer. He was a member of the American Sabbath Tract Society from 1948-1982, serving as trea-

surer from 1954 to 1965, and as president from 1966-1975. He joined the SDB Historical Society as a Life Member in 1967.

In addition to being an active Seventh Day Baptist, Charles sang in the chancel and oratorial choirs of Plainfield's Crescent Avenue Presbyterian Church.

The Norths retired to Daytona Beach, Fla., and lived there for many years before relocating to Escondido in the 1990s to be closer to relatives. Betty died there in 1999.

Charles had a long and special life. His love for his family, friends, and music will be long remembered.

Survivors include three daughters, Judith Sloane of Burleson, Texas, Virginia Hallam of Alpharetta, Ga., and Barbara Benjamin of Valley Center, Calif.; one son, Roger, of Portland, Ore.; his elder sister, Etta North O'Connor of North Plainfield,

N.J.; six grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

A memorial service was held on November 28, 2001, at Casa de las Campanas in Rancho Bernardo, Calif., where he had resided. His ashes were buried at Hillside Cemetery in Scotch Plains, N.J.

**Albion.**—Charles M. Albion, 81, of Kalamazoo, Mich., died on December 27, 2001, at his home.

He was born on June 20, 1920, in Little Rock, Ark., and had lived in Kalamazoo since 1964. On November 3, 1962, he married Dolores (Jean) Foster, who survives.

Charles served in the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II. Prior to his retirement, he was owner and operator of the Intertypesetting Company for many years.

In addition to his wife, survivors  
*cont. on next page*

## Denominational Dateline

### April

- 6 San Gabriel, Calif., SDB church—Ron Elston, Kirk Looper
- 7-8 SDB churches in Lake Elsinore and Lucerne Valley, Calif.—Elston
- 13 Shiloh, N.J.—Pete May
- 13 Riverside, Calif., SDB Church—Elston, Looper
- 13 San Gabriel church—Calvin Babcock
- 20 All Nations SDB Church, Gardena, Calif.—May
- 20-21 SDB Memorial Fund Quarterly Meeting, Boulder, Colo.—Babcock
- 27 Columbus, Ohio, SDB Church—May
- 28 BCE Director's Meeting, Alfred Station, N.Y.—Andrew Camenga
- 28 SDB Missionary Society Quarterly Board Meeting, Westerly, R.I.—Looper, Elston
- 28 SDB Historical Society Annual Meeting, SDB Center, Janesville, Wis.—Don Sanford

### May

- 3-4 Spiritual Renewal services, Bell and Brick SDB churches, Salemville, Pa.—Kevin Butler

- 4-5 Allegheny Association, Alfred Station—Camenga
- 5 Church meeting, Salemville (Bell)—Butler
- 11 BCE Presentation, New Auburn, Wis.—Camenga
- 11 SDB Center, Janesville; Milton, and Madison, Wis., churches—May
- 12 General Council, SDB Center, Janesville
- 13 CLT, SDB Center, Janesville
- 16-25 Church Planters School, SDB Center—Elston, Looper, Babcock, Sanford
- 31-6/1 Baptist Heritage.com Council, Washington, D.C.—Sanford
- 31-6/2 Central NY Association, Adams Center—Elston

### June

- 3-14 Summer Institute, SDB Center—Gabe Bejjani, Sanford
- 7-9 Southwest Association, Faith SDB Church, Doniphan, MO—Elston
- 8 Talk on BJCPA and Australia trip, Milton, Wis.—Butler
- 8-9 Diaconate Workshop, Miami, Fla.—Camenga
- 14-16 Salemville, Pa., church—May

**Lottie's legacy, cont. from page 14**

if not downright impossible, to use the remainder of the estate funds to build or maintain an orphanage. Yet the Lottie Baldwin Association continued to support children and youth work, which was her original intent.

After Lottie's death in 1930, the trustees of the Association recognized her devotion to the denomination, her church, and the community.

In their report to Conference in 1931, they stated, "Her loyalty was expressed in a denial of self for the sake of good to others and by reason of her thoughtful provisions has been

extended into the future. It shall be the aim of this Association, which was founded by her, to justify her faith in it by carrying out her ideals and wishes in the management of the property entrusted to us."

In the Association's 1933 report, they told how they had received an urgent request for assistance from the SDB mission field in China.

The trustees responded by paying part of the salary for Mabel West, an instructor at Shanghai's Grace School for girls.

In its 1976 report, the Associa-

tion wrote, "We note with sorrow the passing of Miss Mabel West, Seventh Day Baptist Missionary to China until forced to return to the U.S."

When the Communists closed the mission, the Association continued to assist Miss West by providing a modest stipend to supplement her retirement income.

Though the Association last reported to Conference in 1985, the legacy of Lottie Baldwin continues to fulfill much of her dream of caring for children and youth. **SR**

**Obituaries, continued from page 25**

include one daughter, Barbara Jean Shay of Palatine, Ill; two grandsons, four great-grandchildren, and several cousins.

A memorial service was held on January 6, 2002, at the Battle Creek, Mich., Seventh Day Baptist Church, with Pastors Harold King and Kory Geske officiating. Interment of cremains, with military honors, was held on January 7 at Fort Custer National Cemetery.

**Scull.**—Martha Davis Scull, 93, of Bradenton, Fla., died on January 22, 2002.

She was born on April 12, 1908, in Shiloh, N.J., the youngest daughter of Auley C. and Estella Davis. On April 10, 1926, she married Howard S. Scull of Bridgeton, N.J. He preceded her in death on January 13, 1994. She moved to Manatee County in 1970.

Martha was truly a homemaker, not just a housewife. Their house became "home" not only for their own children, but for nieces, nephews, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and many others. It was also the first meeting place of the Bradenton Seventh Day Baptist Church, of which they were charter members. She was also a member of the Craft Club of Wood Park.

Martha was the "Rock" around which family and friends gathered. As a devoted church member and a gifted Bible teacher, she was a precious "living stone" for Christ who was in communion with God. It was very appropriate that, just three weeks before her death, she prepared the bread, filled the cups, and set the table for the church's New Year's communion service.

Survivors include two daughters, Eleanore Jensen of Largo, Fla., and Terri (Hannah) Cowfer of Bradenton; one son, Howard S., of Shiloh; two brothers, Isaac Davis of Hialeah, Fla., and Marvin Davis of Punta Gorda, Fla.; 11 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren, and four great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at the Griffith-Cline Funeral Home of Bradenton, with Pastors S. Kenneth Davis, Leland Bond, and Warren Ruby officiating. Interment was in Mansion Memorial Park, Ellenton, Fla.

**Bond.**—Marjorie L. Bond, 89, of Hornell (N.Y.) Gardens Nursing Home, formerly of Alfred, N.Y., died on January 28, 2002, at St. James Mercy Hospital in Hornell. She had been a patient there for five days.

She was born in Independence,

N.Y., on June 17, 1912, the daughter of SDB pastor, Rev. Leslie O. Greene, and Georgia (Black) Greene. In 1942, she married Gerald C. Bond, who died in 1977. She graduated from Salem (W.Va.) College and had taught elementary school in Madison, Wis.

Marjorie had resided in the Alfred area since 1971. She was a lifelong Seventh Day Baptist, and had been a member of the First SDB Church of Alfred since arriving in the village. She served as church organist for 19 years and was church clerk for 20 years. Throughout her life she remained devoted to and active in the SDB denomination.

Survivors include two sons, Philip of Castro Valley, Calif., and Daniel of Atlanta, Georgia; three brothers, Harold Greene of Oak Ridge, Tenn., Herbert Greene Sr. of Lombard, Ill., and Donald Greene Sr. of Louisville, Ky.; four grandchildren, one great-granddaughter, and several nieces and nephews. In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by her sister, Katherine Crandall, in 1998.

A memorial service was held on February 1, 2002, at the First SDB Church of Alfred, with Pastor Patricia Bancroft officiating. Interment was in the Fayetteville (Ark.) National Cemetery.

**K E V I N ' S**

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You could "see" it in their stride, the way they carried themselves across the stage. It was almost as if we were witnessing—can I say this in a conservative publication?—the *evolution* of high school students right before our eyes.

The freshmen, the lowly ninth-graders, began the procession. Then the sophomores and juniors followed, one by one, until the mighty seniors could command our full attention.

Janet and I were once again in the high school auditorium for the annual Academic Recognition Awards (our local version of the Oscars or Emmys). And I couldn't help but notice the steep

ascent of human characteristics.

The early recipients came across as hesitant, gangly adolescents (except for *our* son, of course). One girl lost her shoe climbing to the stage; another knocked a senior plaque off the table. But over the course of the evening, they seemed to "morph" into more confident, self-assured young adults.

What a difference a few years can make!

And it's a difference that I would like to see continue, in my children and all others in our school and across the nation.

We need safe and supportive school environments in which they can learn and grow.

I *think* I would have said the same thing just two weeks ago.

Following a meeting in Washington, D.C., I was waiting for our plane to take off—me, and about 40 middle school students who were returning from a field trip to our nation's capital.

Air traffic delays in Chicago and increased security measures in Washington caused our flight to sit on the tarmac longer than usual. Much longer.

The 20-minute initial delay had another 50 minutes tacked onto it. As the pilot announced the additional torture, he made a "deal" with the passengers. (Why did this sound like a parent talking to his pre-teen? Then I looked around and remembered why.)

"When the tower gives us the go-ahead to take off, there's just a short window of opportunity to do so. If you *promise* me that you'll be ready to return to your seats as soon as I tell you, I will let you get up and walk around."

Iridescent halos appeared above these young heads, and I could almost hear them say, "Oh, *we will*, Mr. Pilot, sir. We promise!"

The seat belt light was extinguished, kids' seat belts flew apart, and serious socializing commenced. From forward to aft. From port to starboard.

There was laughter. There were tears. (Apparently a "friend" made a sick joke about a plane hitting the Sears Tower being the cause of our delay.)

And through it all were the two flight attendants, valiant ladies charged with the responsibility of keeping order.

The kids were being... well... "kids." They were in their "own little world" and not always considerate of the other passengers. The attendants could have gotten real nasty and screamed at these youngsters, but they kept their cool. The workers were firm and direct when they needed to be, maintaining a tolerable level of decorum. (Maybe it just *seemed* tolerable since both my seatmate and I had 13-year-olds at home.)

When the pilot finally gave us all the signal, I believe that the students repaid the crew's show of respect and dutifully returned to their seats in good order, and we got to take off.

It was late. I was tired. I still had a two-hour bus trip ahead of me.

Settling into my seat on the bus pointed toward Janesville, I noticed a familiar face. "Weren't you just on the Washington flight with all those students?" I asked a tired-looking woman wearing a flight attendant uniform.

"Yes," she sighed. "I thought I recognized you."

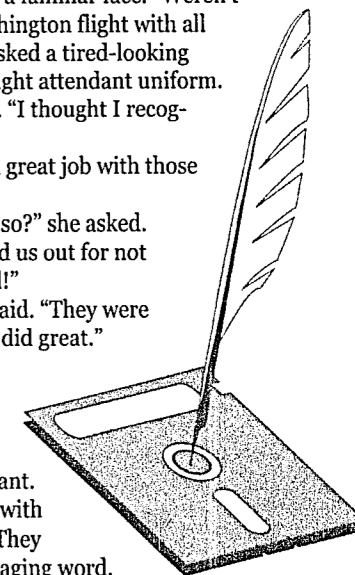
"I think you did a great job with those kids," I shared.

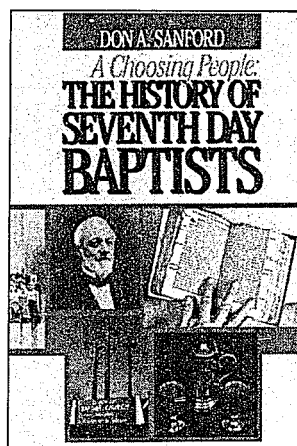
"You really think so?" she asked. "One woman reamed us out for not having more control!"

"Oh, brother," I said. "They were just being kids. You did great."

She beamed with gratefulness.

I'm glad I had to chance to share that with the attendant. Why don't I do that with my boys' teachers? They could use an encouraging word.





The freedom and responsibility of choice is one of the basic tenets of Baptist beliefs. Seventh Day Baptists, as a part of this Baptist heritage for 350 years, have upheld and practiced that right. The decision to follow the Bible instead of ecclesiastical authority and tradition led them to accept the seventh day of the week as the Sabbath holy unto the Lord. This choice of the Sabbath sets them apart from other Baptists, but as Dr. Winthrop Hudson noted, "Seventh Day Baptists are separate but not sectarian."

*A Choosing People: The History of Seventh Day Baptists* documents the history of this oldest Sabbathkeeping Christian denomination within the framework of both religious and secular history, from the Reformation in Europe to modern times in America.

From their origins in mid-17th century England and American colonial Rhode Island, the book traces their development of associational relationships during the 18th century; expansion with the Western frontier, the organization of General Conference and related societies in missionary and education outreach in the 19th century; and grappling with social, theological, and organizational issues in the 20th century. (448-page hardcover, published by Broadman)



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same address, \$15.00 each, postpaid.

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