

The

S

abbath

*News for and about
Seventh Day Baptists*

June 2002

R

ecorder



Garbage in,
Garbage out

Special Youth Issue
on Today's Choices



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

General Conference in Houghton, N.Y.

August 4-10, 2002

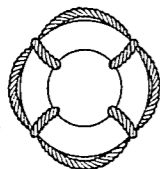
Registration forms are in the May SR

For more details, check the web site: sdb2002conference.com

Lifeguards needed

The Deep South SDB Camp in Florida (near Ocala) needs two lifeguards for the week beginning July 7th.

If interested, please call J.P. Flint in Florida at (386) 325-4407.



Where to worship?

What are you going to do on August 3, the Sabbath before the meetings of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference at Houghton College? Your kids are at youth Pre-Con at Camp Harley. Your young adults are at Pre-Con on campus at Houghton. You have arrived in time for Sabbath School and worship, but where do you go? Here's some information:

First SDB Church of Hebron
13 Carley Hill Rd., Coudersport, PA
814-274-8946
Sabbath School: 9:45 a.m.
Worship: 11:00 a.m.

Verona SDB Church
6765 Blackman Corners Rd.,
Verona, NY
315-339-9854
Sabbath School: 11:30 a.m.
Worship: 10:30 a.m.

First SDB Church of Toronto
48 Fisher St., Toronto, Ontario
416-535-7178
Sabbath School: 10:00 a.m.
Worship: 12:30 p.m.

First SDB Church of Alfred
5 Church St., Alfred, NY
607-587-9430
Sabbath School: 10:00 a.m.
Worship: 11:00 a.m.

Adams Center SDB Church
13324 U.S. Route 11,
Adams Center, NY
315-583-5158
Sabbath School: 11:15 a.m.
Worship: 10:00 a.m.

Alfred Station SDB Church
585 St. Rt. 244, Alfred Station, NY
607-587-9545
Sabbath School: 9:45 a.m.
Worship: 11:00 a.m.

Leonardsville-Brookfield SDB Church
Huey Rd., Leonardsville, NY
315-899-3319
Sabbath School: 10:00 a.m.
Worship: 11:00 a.m.

First SDB Church of Genesee SDB Church
8265 Main St., Little Genesee, NY
585-928-1857
Sabbath School: 9:45 a.m.
Worship: 10:45 a.m.

These churches have prepared all year to host you this Sabbath before Conference. You may be the first person they have ever met from your church! See you in Sabbath School and Worship.

The Sabbath Recorder

Establ. 1844



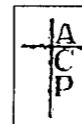
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Choices:



Into my own hands

by Eowyn Driscoll

Age 16, driver's license; 17, R-rated movies. Age 18, porn, lottery, and cigarettes; 21, alcohol.

Who made the decision that those are the legal ages for buying and seeing and doing all of those things? More importantly, who makes the decision about how you are going to act on those privileges?

You do. You are the person who ultimately has to make the choices which will define who you are as a person. You make the choices about those privileges and others. When you're a kid, you have your parents to help you. But when you grow up, you have to rely on your own judgment.

When you're a little child, you do what your parents tell you to. They say, "Don't touch the stove, it's hot." And you don't. But when you get a little older and they say, "Don't touch the stove, it's hot," you do. You get burned, you cry, your parents tell you that you shouldn't have done that, and you don't do it again.

Then you get even older, and your parents are *still* telling you what to do. "Don't go to the movies" (you do). "Don't stay out past 10:00 p.m." (you do). "I don't like those people who hang out on the corner. Don't talk to

them." You do, and you get caught and punished. And you hate your parents for that. You think that they are the meanest, most selfish, dumbest old people you've ever known, and they don't know what it's like for you.

Why do we do things that we know God wouldn't have us do? Because we're proud.

Guess what? They *do* know. They were young once upon a time, too.

I know that "Listen to your Parents" is the last thing you want to hear from anyone, and I feel the same way. But it's true. Listening to your parents now will help you a lot, if only to keep you out of trouble.

But what about later—say, in college or beyond—when you're out of your parents' house and living on your own? Who's going to help you then? Who's going to say, "Don't touch the stove, it's hot" when you're 21 and out with your friends on a Sat-

urday night? Who's going to tell you that what you're doing is wrong or right? *You* are!

So, now that you're making your own decisions, will you decide to do what you want, or what's right? What about what God wants? Who will do *that* for you? No one but yourself.

That's a scary thought; having to make all of your decisions on your own, having to be responsible and mature. It doesn't sound like much fun. In fact, it sounds really difficult. But we're lucky because we have God to help us with our decisions. We have God to guide us through those times in our lives when we need help.

Being a Christian means that we have an internal guide to help us choose what to wear and how to act, what to do and who to hang around with.

Isaiah 43 says: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you I have summoned

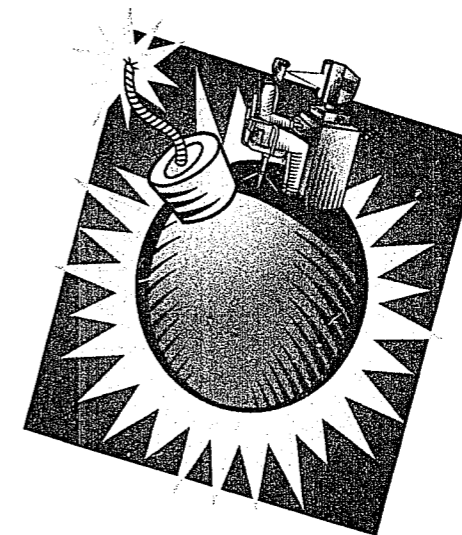
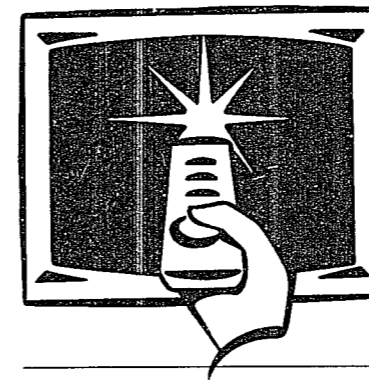


you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze. For I am the Lord, Your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior" (Isa. 43:1-3).

God promises to be with us at all times, and that nothing will harm us. And God never breaks a promise.

So why do we, even as Christians, refuse to do what God asks us to do? Why do we go to movies that have content we know isn't good? Why do we wear clothing that is too tight, or too short, or not even there?

What about the things we do? One drink or one cigarette isn't



going to hurt us, right? Or will it?

Why do we do things that we know God wouldn't have us do? Because we're proud; because we think that we can sin and it won't drag us down. Pride was our downfall in the beginning, and it's our downfall even now.

Will you decide to do what you want, or what's right? What about what God wants?

When Kevin [Butler] suggested the topic for this *SR* youth issue, I was a little taken back. Entertainment and choices? Even censorship? How am I going to write about that? I whined to my mother.

Even now, I really don't know. But after I had thought about it for a while, I decided, *Well, maybe I'll talk to the other youth about making their own decisions. What if we told the adults that we do listen?*

So that's what I'm trying for. Even in putting this issue together, I had a

lot of choices to make. "What will I ask the youth?" "Who can I ask to write an article?" "What's going on?"

Although I don't always know what's going on, that's okay because God does. He's guiding me through this article, this day, and this lifetime. Without Him, I would be nothing.

Even if the choices made for this issue aren't real "biggies" in the overall scheme of things, I hope that the lessons found will help parents understand young people. I also hope that they help young people as we grow up with God. *SR*



Eowyn Driscoll lives in Baldwin, N.Y., and is editor of *The Beacon*. We thank her for "choosing" to organize this month's youth issue.

Junk mail

by Emily Kandel, Alfred Station, N.Y.

We've never had cable TV in our house.

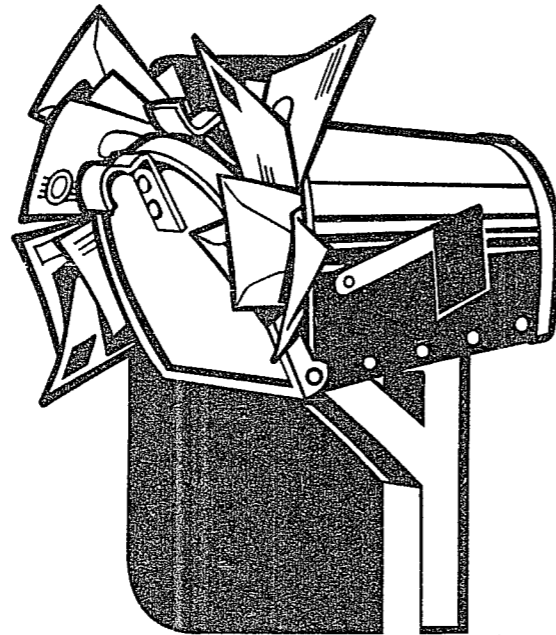
When we were younger, we would go to our neighbor's house to watch "Saved by the Bell" reruns. We hated not having cable because it made us "different." We thought that we were missing out.

We *were* missing out, but that was the point. My parents didn't want us to see those things. My mother said that some of the things on TV were inappropriate for us to see, which I now realize was true. However, I didn't think so at the time, and I made sure she knew it.

I grew to hate the word "inappropriate." It seemed that every time I was finally doing something exciting and interesting—something that everyone else was allowed to do—I found out that it was inappropriate. Though I didn't understand it at the time, my parents were instilling Christian values in me so that I would eventually be able to decide for myself what was appropriate.

I'm certainly not saying that everything on network television is good, or that all other channels are bad. I'm simply using television as an example of how my parents have taught me to censor the world for myself.

I now know what I should and should not see, hear, and read. However, it was important for me to discover what's out there so that I could decide *for myself* if it was worthwhile and righteous. I made some mistakes, but the choice was more meaningful to me because it was mine.



**The media is much like mail.
You can't just throw out
the whole thing because you
don't need some of it.**

It's important for Christians, especially younger Christians, to realize that we live *in* the world even though we're not *of* it. We must be in the world and interact with it every day. We can't just stay inside our homes and not watch television or listen to the radio or use the Internet or look at billboards.

Though I'm sure many parents wish that they could keep their children inside forever, it's important to experience the world and to know what's out there. If we don't know what else there is, we can't decide if it's something worthy of our attention; or if it's junk, meant to clutter up our lives and take our focus off of God.

Everyone gets junk mail. There are flyers and advertisements and "special offers" mixed in with the bills, letters from friends, and reminders to get your teeth cleaned. You must take the time to sort through it, discarding the things that are "junk" and processing the things that are valuable.

The media is much like mail. You can't just throw out the whole thing because you don't need some of it. But you can't *keep* everything, either, because you would eventually run out of room.

The world is your mailbox, and the media is your mail. You must decide for yourself what is valuable and what will simply take up space. **SR**

Just say Yes

by Aaron Smith, Ashaway, R.I.



We hear about peer pressure all the time from parents and teachers. They see peer pressure as something that puts teens at risk, but for the most part they're wrong.

At least once we've all made fun of this discussion—I know I have—but the truth is, this is a real issue. Even if you don't know it, you're being pressured and you're pressuring others around you.

Peer pressure doesn't have to be a bad thing. Peers can pressure you to join a club or a team. Peers can pressure you to go to a Bible study or pressure you *not* to try something you don't want to do—like smoking, drinking alcohol, or engaging in premarital sex.

In a recent poll conducted by The National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, 58% of teen girls report-

ed that peers have a "very positive" or "somewhat positive" effect on their decisions about sex.

We've all heard the slogan, "Just Say No." I say, don't put yourself

**Peer pressure
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in a situation where you have to say "No." Choose your friends wisely. Don't hang around people who are going to pressure you into doing something you don't want to do. Put yourself in a situation where you can say "Yes."

So, instead of just saying no, just say yes. **SR**

Saving grace?

One day an atheist was rowing a boat on Loch Ness. While he was out, he saw "Nessie," the Loch Ness monster.

Nessie saw him and started to chase him. He eventually grabbed the atheist's boat and threw him up into the air. The atheist cried out, "Dear Lord, please help me!"

God stopped time and said, "I thought you didn't believe in Me."

The atheist replied, "That was then, this is now. Can You help me?"

"What do you want Me to do about this?" God retorted. To which the atheist replied, "Make this creature a Christian." And God said, "Okay."

When God started time again, Nessie folded her hands and prayed, "Dear Lord, please bless this food which I am about to receive..."



Boundaries and Consequences

Interview with a parent

Eowyn Driscoll did this interview with her mother, Elizabeth Bowen Driscoll, to get a parent's perspective on how life should work.

Q: How did your childhood affect your parenting?

A: My parents never let me defend myself, so I decided to let my children at least state their opinions.

I think that my parents were correct in their beliefs that girls shouldn't date until they were 16. The way I see it, girls who begin dating at a young age often get sidetracked from their academics by their need to please boys.

Once you get past a certain age, it gets a little better, but that Junior High age is very tender and more susceptible to peer pressure. I learned in my childhood that it's

important to find out who you are so you can decide who you want to be. My parents taught me to be true to myself and God.

Q: How does being a Christian affect your parenting?

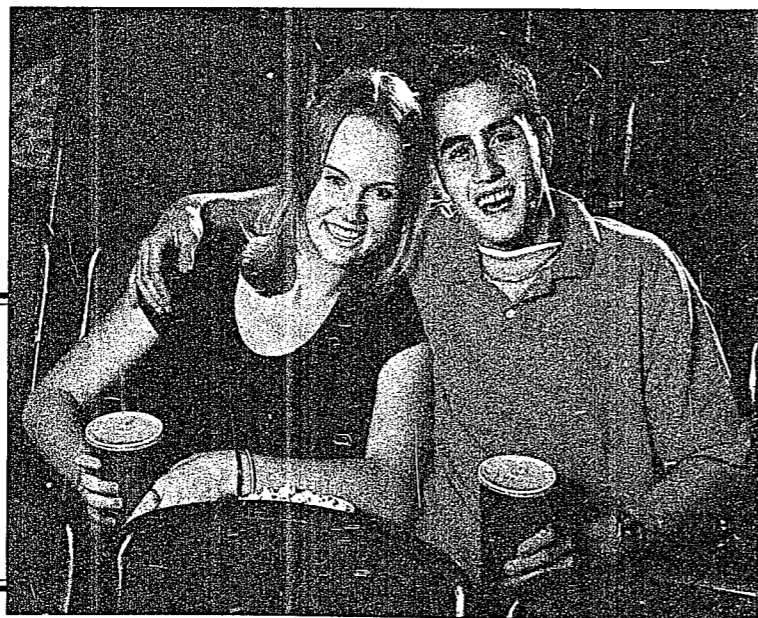
A: Because I am a Christian, my goal is for everything I do to be done to the Glory of God. Therefore, my parenting is affected by this in that I always keep in mind the godly character that I am supposed to be modeling for you girls.

Q: What type of boundaries did you set up for us girls?

A: To a particular activity?

Q: To whatever.

A: Hmm, okay... Just general parenting discipline aside, be clean, bedtime, obedience, etc. If you are talking about what activities would be good for you, I would think about what the activities were, what the consequences would be, were they harmful in any way? Helpful?



Remember who you are and what you represent—when you go into a movie theater, restaurant, wherever you are.



And I would talk to you about why you wanted to be part of those activities and what the possible consequences were.

Q: What about reading material?

A: I generally read the book first, to see if it was well written or harmful, or full of ideas I thought that you couldn't handle.

Q: What about Harry Potter?

A: Well, first let's talk about Susan Cooper and the *The Dark Is Rising* series.

Q: Okay.

A: I bought them when you were in 4th grade, but after having read them myself, I decided that although they were well-written fantasies, they contained ideas about Christianity and humanism that might confuse you.

I decided to wait until you were 12 and firm in your faith before allowing you to read

I generally read the book first, to see if it was well written or harmful, or full of ideas I thought that you couldn't handle.

them, because I thought they denigrated Christianity. The ideas they contained about magic and power (and where that power came from) were too seductive for someone who is not so sure about their beliefs.

Q: Do you think the same about Harry Potter?

A: No. I think Potter is pretend, just like *The Wizard of Oz*. There is no denigration of Christianity in the Harry Potter books.

Q: So you've read them all?

A: Yes, more than once, just to make sure I wasn't missing anything because of all the "hoopla" over them. Let me say this: Although I view them as being harmless, and enjoy them, they lack spiritual substance (considering their good versus evil themes). However, they

are not anti-Christian and offer a lot of good values, such as teamwork and loyalty, which are important for children to learn.

Q: Then, why not read *Lord of the Rings*?

A: Why not? *LOTR* is a wonderful book, although it is probably best for kids over 12. It is well written, and is packed with great values and spiritual substance.

Q: What about movies?

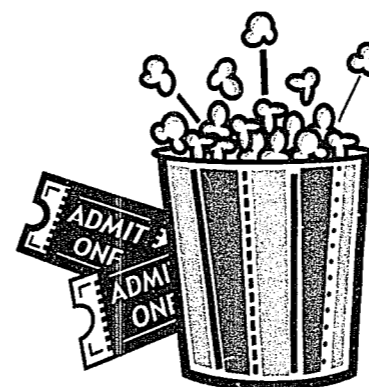
A: When I was a camp counselor in college, my director always said, "Remember who you are and what you represent." This has been my motto, even when I go into movie houses. I think, *Is the hero going to engage in activities that I shouldn't, as a Christian, be engaging in?* If this is the case, then I don't choose that movie. This is the guide that I have tried to give you girls. Sometimes I preview movies to help me decide.

Q: Are you pleased overall with your parenting thus far?

A: I find parenting to be the most difficult job I engage in. I always feel that I fall short. It is only by the grace of God that I have any success at all.

Q: Any words for the SDBYF?

A: Remember who you are and what you represent—when you go into a movie theater, restaurant, wherever you are. SR



Advice from a freshman

by Aubrey Appel, Milton, Wis.

"The University of Wisconsin, Madison, eh? Isn't that a big party school? You know, lots of underage drinking? Hmm... not a very Christian atmosphere, I suppose."

I don't know how many hundreds of times I was asked a variation of that nagging question, from the start of my senior year of high school until the day I moved into my minuscule dorm room.

The answer was always the same—I had it down to a routine: Smile, laugh halfheartedly, look at my feet and then back up to meet my inquirer's eyes, and admit, "Yeah."

But I was out for adventure! I wanted to play the games. I wanted to do *what* I wanted, *when* I wanted. I figured I was more than ready for college. And I got exactly what I wished for.

No one was giving me a curfew. No one was asking me to be quiet if I stayed up past ten. No one was telling me to eat more fruit, turn in my assignments, when to get up, what to wear, drink, see, do, be.

It was like an instant rush of freedom that hits you slowly, if you can imagine that. All of a sudden, you wake up and realize that if you mess up your life now, you have no one to blame but yourself. Likewise, you can take the credit if your life turns out swell.

For a lot of college students, their freshman year is the time they have been waiting for; the time when they get to "call the shots," make the decisions, and go crazy. And you can bet most of them are scared stiff and don't have a clue of what they're doing.

You need to decide who you are, what you believe, and what you

are and are not willing to compromise *before* you graduate from high school. And if you are not sure, I advise prayer. I say this because, when the moment comes to decide, you are not going to have time to weigh your decision. Most likely, you will regret that decision later.

It was like an instant rush of freedom that hits you slowly, if you can imagine that.

You have to decide for yourself what you will do during your free time: what movies you watch, music you listen to, games you play, beverages you drink, even people you hang out with. I had to let God lead me, and still do, in all of my deci-

sions. Some days I am still fighting for my carthy, "freshmanly" right to "freedom" because what I want to do feels good, but it is contrary to what God wants.

Here's a question that always helps me decide if what I am doing is giving glory to God: "I know God is with me when I am doing this, so is He happy or sad that I am doing it?" Sometimes the answer leaves me queasy, but I have to ask. Otherwise, what kind of witness am I? I mess up a lot, but I am trying. And with God's help, I know I can do anything for Him.

I have learned this year what is truly important to me. The Sabbath has taken on a whole deeper meaning as I have tried my best to keep it while away from my church family. My daily devotions have become like real food (the Bible is usually the only book I want to study at night), my prayer time is sacred and often emotional, and the Christian friends



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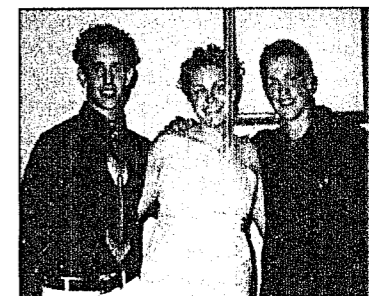
I have made on campus are priceless.

I have truly leaned solely on God this year, and He continues to hold me, even when I am defiant, too "busy," or too tired. He is my everything. When classes rob you of your senses, when working takes away your energy, when friends make you confused, and studying for exams leaves you with no sanity, God is the only constant. College is a dynamic, unpredictable lifestyle,

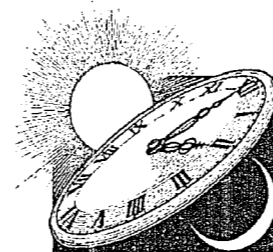
and we all need His constancy.

So, take some advice from a freshman: Never stop talking to God, never puts things ahead of God, get involved in the Christian community around you. Most importantly, listen to Him and follow where He leads you in your decisions. **SR**

Aubrey Appel is a student at the University of Wisconsin and a former editor of The Beacon.



Aubrey Appel with Conference friends Gabe Graffius and Josiah Thorngate.



You asked for it...

A man talking to God asks, "God, since You made everything, what is money to You?"

God answers, "Well, one million dollars to you would be one penny to me."

The man thinks and then asks, "God, since You have been around forever, what is time to You?"

God replies, "Well my son, one second to me would be one million years to you."

The man thinks some more and asks, "God, can I have a penny?"

God replies, "In a second."



And always let your conscience be your guide

A guy breaks into a house and is creeping across the pitch-black living room when he hears a voice:

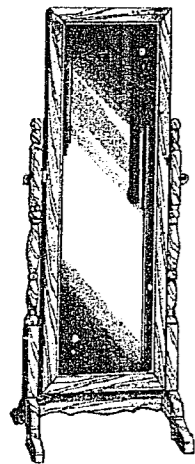
"Watch out! Jesus is behind you!"

Startled, he flicks on his flashlight and breathes a sigh of relief to see a parrot in front of him. Again the parrot says, "Watch out! Jesus is behind you!"

The robber asks the parrot, "What's your name?" And the parrot replies, "Moses."

The robber laughs and says, "Who on earth would call a parrot 'Moses?!'"

The parrot replies, "The same person who would call a rottweiler 'Jesus!'"



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

Too many options, nothing to do

Recently, I fulfilled a long-time dream and bought a 57-inch, rear projection TV, which was like moving the local cinema into my living room. I had to smash a lot of piggy banks to finance my purchase, but I decided to indulge myself. *Life is too short*, I thought. *I may live only 50 more years or so.* (Obviously, I can justify anything.)

A teenage neighbor stopped by the other night to check out my new "toys." (I had also purchased a DVD player to add to my TV, VCR, and stereo.) As Brandon inched his way to the couch, eyes glued to the big screen, I politely asked him to stop drooling on my carpet. When he was finally able to speak, he offered to swap his television for mine. After a five-minute belly laugh, I graciously declined. (Duh.)

This month's *SR* focuses on youth and entertainment. Thinking back on Brandon's visit, one thing immediately jumps out: Brandon wanted to trade televisions, mine for his. For *his*.

Technological advances over the past two decades have given today's young people more avenues of recreation than I could have dreamed of growing up. Many teens have their own television and video games. Some, like my 17-year-old nephew in California, have their own TV and computer. (He earned the money through a paper route.)

I was 25 before I owned a television—a small black and white console

that was a wedding gift from my parents. Years before, when I was still in grade school, the family across the street was the first in the neighborhood to own a set. Talk about excitement!

I remember watching the musical, *Peter Pan*, after which a neighbor girl ran home, crying, because she couldn't fly like Mary Martin. We went to my Uncle George's house on New Year's Day just so we could watch the Rose Bowl Parade *in color*.

Today, entertainment isn't necessarily home-centered. There are video arcades, even in small towns, and hand-held video games. There

My friends and I may have been "electronically underprivileged," but we never lacked diversions.

are portable CD players and boom boxes with headphones.

Of course, not all teens are glued to their electronic toys. They play tennis, skateboard, go dancing or to the movies, eat out, cruise the mall, read books and magazines, and hang out with friends.

I don't expect the youth of today to revert to my "Leave It To Beaver" childhood and "teenagehood," even if they could. But I feel a tinge of sadness for them. They can never experience what I experienced—a less stressful, innocent time, when grass was something we played on



and were never pressured to smoke.

My friends and I may have been "electronically underprivileged," but we never lacked diversions.

We put on neighborhood plays and formed clubs. We built tree houses and constructed an Army tank out of an old refrigerator box. We rode our bikes all over town and played hide 'n seek at dusk. During summer, we caught baseballs in the afternoon and fireflies at night. We held slumber parties, went to outdoor theaters, attended sock hops, and watched free movies in the town park on Saturday nights.

A common complaint among teenagers is, "There's nothing to do." My kids voiced that same complaint 20 years ago. And, 20 years from now, my grandchildren will be saying the same thing.

There's a difference between "being entertained" and "entertaining yourself." Between "being bored" and "boring others." Or "bringing boredom upon yourself."

My advice to today's young people—and to myself—is to step back now and then and switch off all of our electronic toys. Then, before the silence becomes deafening, switch on life. **SR**



Women's Society page by Laura Price

Guard your heart

There are examples of marriages between non-believers and believers within the Bible, such as Esther and King Ahasuerus, Naomi's sons to Ruth and Orpah, Solomon with his many wives, etc. Some of the non-believers changed to believers, some did not. Some of the marriages were blessed by God and some were extremely displeasing to Him.

There are stipulations concerning proper conduct necessary for a good marriage. And there are specific covenantal responsibilities that believers must keep in order to be faithful to God and what they profess to believe.

So, care and prejudice certainly should be taken into account when contemplating something as serious as a prospective life-mate. Though one may believe and the other not believe, there still is room enough for love to manifest and grow. Love is the key.

Differences are not as detrimental as a lack of communication and love. Problems can be worked out if an underlying love exists and each is committed to the marriage.

Sometimes the question arises, "Should I remain in this marriage or leave it?" A believer should not leave a marriage if he/she is married to a non-believer, nor should believers be prevented from worshiping (practicing their faith) by the non-believer.

If the non-believer is "pleased" to dwell with his believing spouse, then the believer should not leave. However, if the non-believer is "not pleased" to dwell with the believer, he/she is not bound to stay. The believer is expected to honor the marriage covenant if the non-believer is willing to stay. Paul wrote:

"But to the rest speak I, not the Lord: If any brother hath a wife that believeth not, and she be

pleased to dwell with him, let him not put her away [divorce]. And the woman which hath an husband that believeth not, and if he be pleased to dwell with her, let her not leave him. For the unbelieving husband is sanctified by

God allows all sorts of people to come together. Some people are morally good but lack spirituality.

the wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified by the husband; else were your children unclean; but now are they holy. But if the unbelieving depart, let him depart. A brother or a sister is not under bondage in such *cases*: but God hath called us to peace. For what knowest thou, O wife, whether thou shalt save *thy* husband? Or how knowest thou, O man, whether thou shalt save *thy* wife?" (1 Cor. 7:12-16).

The believer carries the responsibility for his or her own actions under God, as does the non-believer. Each of us will be judged accordingly by our Creator regardless of what we profess.

Either way, it is not the responsibility—nor in the ability—of the believer to "save" the non-believing spouse. God is the only one who has the power to save anyone. The choice is given to each individual on a personal basis, whether or not to grab onto that lifeline.

Believers can only pray for their spouses, themselves, and their families, and live their own lives according to God's will, as best they can in conjunction with the ones they love. Hopefully, the lifestyle of believers will be conducive to peace and joy for all of those around them.

Should you expect any of this to be easy? No. Might it possibly work out for the good? Sure.

Great blessings could come out of the experience. But we need to realize that this could be a major setup for heartbreak or futility. It could even injure and scar the spirits of the couple, and anyone else associated with them, including their children.

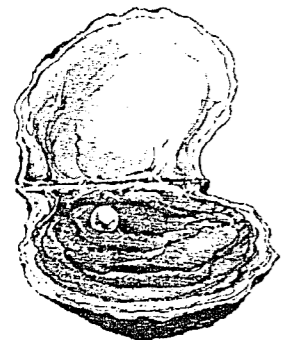
I mentioned earlier that love is "key" because it is the essential element for anything to work out for the good. And where love is, God is.

"Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God, for God is love" (1 John 4:7-8). "No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us" (1 John 4:12).

God brings and/or allows all sorts of people to come together. Some people are morally good but lack spirituality or a more conscious spiritual awareness.

Test the "fruits" of their spirit. (See Gal. 5:19-23.) In Proverbs, we are told to "Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life" (4:23), or "Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the well-spring of life" (NIV).

Whether it turns out to be a blessing or another trial, consider that all of life is a trial and a blessing. Praise God! **SR**



"Having been reminded of the unfeigned faith that is in thee; which dwelt first in thy grandmother, Lois, and thy mother, Eunice; and I am persuaded in thee also"—(2 Timothy 1:5).

In 1929, Ahva John Clarence Bond—better known as A.J.C. Bond or Alphabet Bond—compiled a small book of children's sermons entitled, *When I Was A Boy*. His dedication was "To my first Hero, My Father, who at 22 settled on the little farm which he still owns at 84, and about which there clusters for me, at 53, all the memories of a happy boyhood."

One of those sermons he entitled "Choosing Our Grandparents." He began with this illustration: "A wise man was once asked how early a child's education should begin. He replied, 'The education of a child should begin with its grandparents.'"

What he meant was that the boy or girl whose grandparents were strong and wise and good has a great advantage in this life, and will be able to get on better; that is, if he is willing to make the proper effort himself.

"I never saw a grandma or a grandpa of my own," Bond said. "They all went to heaven before I came to earth, and I missed out... I am going to tell you a story which will show how my grandfather, who died four years before I was born, did me a good deed.

"When I was 18 years old, I passed a teacher's examination and got a teacher's certificate and taught school.... One morning I saddled one

Pearls from the Past by Don A. Sanford, historian

Choosing our grandparents

of father's horses, climbed into the saddle and started off up the road to find a school to teach. I went up the valley and over the hill, through gates and bars, and down another valley.

"I was going to apply for a school that was nearer home than the one I taught at the year before. I found the trustee I was looking for at work in the field. I went up to him, told my name, and when I thought the proper time had come, asked him about the school.

"Now, I had my certificate in my pocket, but I do not remember that he asked about that. I am sure he did not ask where I went to school or whether I had taught before. I was sure I could answer all these questions quite to his satisfaction.

"But this is what he asked me, 'Are you a grandson of Richard Bond?' I didn't see what difference it made whose grandson I was. But it mattered a great deal to this old farmer-trustee. When I told him Richard Bond was my grandfather, he replied, 'He was the best friend I ever had. You can have the school.'

"My grandfather, who was a prosperous farmer for those days, had been kind to a poor boy, and that kindness had not been forgotten. If that kindness shown so many years before helped me to get a school, I am sure that it helped me to teach a better school."

I could relate to this story, not only because I was a student of A.J.C. Bond when he was a teacher and Dean of the Alfred School of Theology, but also because I experienced the effect of grandparents upon my life, even though I never met them.

My maternal grandfather, Alberne Burdick, died two days before I was born. In a letter to my mother, his pastor (T.J. Van Horn) expressed the hope that this new life would be the long-looked-for leader of our people

to lead them out of their present darkness and confusion.

I have not lived up to Rev. Van Horn's expectations, but my middle name, Alberne, is a constant reminder of my call to research and writing.

My paternal grandfather died when I was only 3, but I was moved by reading his obituary in the May 30, 1929, *Sabbath Recorder*.

"During a series of meetings conducted by Rev. A.H. Lewis, he was converted, and on May 25, 1878, united with the First Genesee Seventh Day Baptist Church....

"Brother Sanford was a hard-working man, an energetic farmer, having bought and cleared the home farm where now one of his sons lives. He was a faithful attendant at the church service and interested in all things pertaining to community betterment. He was a man of strong convictions, and of clean personal habits. A good man has left us; and he often expressed the desire he felt in active service."

As historian, I receive between one and two dozen requests each month for genealogical information. A person may think that his or her ancestor was at one time a member of one of our churches.

Genealogists want me to check for such information as birth, marriage and death dates, along with names of parents and children. They are often disappointed that most of our church records give the date of admission to the church, but little other biographical information. Even some of the older obituaries in the *Sabbath Recorder* are more concerned with a person's relation to Christ and the church than with the simple facts that interest a genealogist.

It is true that we cannot choose our grandparents, but we can choose some of the faith which made them "grand" in the sight of God. **SR**



SR Almanac

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

One year ago—June 2001

Another great youth issue organized by *Beacon* editor Aubrey Appel. She provides two features, along with Ginny Burdick, Bethany Thompson Gordon, Heidi Kinnicutt, and Sandy Noel.

First of a three-part series of Dale and Janet Thorngate's visit to the SDB Conference in Brazil. The Brazilians prepare to host the SDB World Federation meeting in early 2003.

Youth activities for Conference highlighted on the Board of Christian Education page.

Obituary reviews the 95 years of Rev. Leon Maltby—SDB pastor, chaplain, and 20-year editor of the *SR*.

Val Bennett's missionary work in Guyana honored at a service in Philadelphia, Pa.

Pastors' Conference held in Alfred Station, N.Y.

Five years ago—June 1997

Norman and Vicki Burdick share excerpts from their "Empty Nest" Conference Bible study.

Camille Henry looks at life with her youngest leaving first, and the middle one marrying and staying at home; Donna Bond reflects on the "short" journey of her 18-year-old embarking into the military.

New pastor Bill Bowyer reports from the Leonardsville-Brookfield, N.Y., church.

Kirkwood, Mo., church reaches out with new computer technology.

Jamaica dedicates the rebuilt Waterford SDB Church facility. The previous building was destroyed by Hurricane Gilbert in 1988.

10 years ago—June 1992

Cover story reminisces over the 1982 move of the SDB Center from Plainfield, N.J., to Janesville, Wis. Floor plans and photos show the many changes made over the 10 years.

A happy Don Sanford and others unload the long-awaited shipment of his new book, *A Choosing People: The History of Seventh Day Baptists*.

Salem, W.Va., church celebrates its 200th anniversary. Conference President Mynor Soper lists this year's seminars.

Topics include home schooling, outreach ministries, and a wellness program for pastors.

Former U.S. Senator Jennings Randolph turns 90.

25 years ago—June 1977

The ladies of the Adams Center, N.Y., church assemble a large quilt using squares sent by SDB women's societies from across the country.

Dean Herbert Saunders reports on Ministers' Conference hosted by the Daytona Beach, Fla., church. Host Pastor Marion Van Horn honored for his 40 years in Christian ministry. The denominational Planning Committee meets in Daytona just prior to the conference.

Rev. David Clarke steps down after nearly seven years of serving as executive secretary of the Board of Christian Education.

Three large crosses are dedicated in front of the Denver, Colo., church.

Eight-page insert section on the theme, "Sharing," prepared by Ann Williams.

50 years ago—June 1952

The SDB Church of Los Angeles, Calif., dedicates their new building on North Figueroa Street in Highland Park.

After five years of service, *SR* editor Hurley Warren resigns to accept the call to the Alfred, N.Y., church.

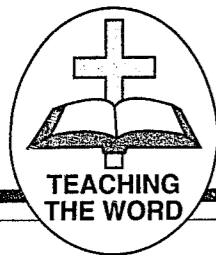
Other leadership changes: Rev. Neal Mills appointed executive of the Board of Christian Education; Pastor John Randolph, Berea, W.Va., retires; Trevah Sutton, Jackson Center, Ohio, accepts call to Fouke, Ark.

Adequate housing for August's General Conference in Denver a concern, so article lists, "Rooms in hotels near the Conference headquarters can be rented for \$1.50 and up a night per person.... Only light lunches will be served at headquarters; however, restaurants are close by where complete meals can be bought for less than a dollar."

...where are we headed?

Pray for—

- our SDB youth nationwide
- World Federation meeting preparations
- those experiencing an "empty nest"
- this year's SCSC training and projects
- Conference President Gordon Lawton
- local church women's societies
- church and Conference leadership



Christian Education

by Andrew J. Camenga

Nominate a teacher

You are invited to participate. We have already sent the invitations to your church.

Make a list of the people who teach your Sabbath School classes. Think about the skills, abilities, and gifts they bring to the classroom. As your local church, devise some method for recognizing and encouraging the work they do in Christian Education. Then, pick one teacher and nominate that person to be the next Sabbath School Teacher of the Year.

The Sabbath School Committee of the Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education is seeking nominations for the next recipient of the Crystal Apple award. Each member church and branch church of the General Conference may nominate one teacher. The following criteria will be used for determining the Sabbath School Teacher of the Year:

- Is a member in good standing of the nominating church
- Exhibits the qualities of faith and teaching found in the life and teaching of Christ
- Currently serves as a Sabbath School teacher
- The church has not had a recipient of the award in the last three years.

The local church pastor and superintendent are asked to complete, sign, and return the form certifying the nominee's church membership, present teaching position, previous teaching experience, unique teaching skills or practices, and other

Christian Education service. The postmark deadline for the nomination form is June 30, 2002.

If you need a nomination form, please contact the Board of Christian Education office.

SDB Board of Christian Education
P.O. Box 115
Alfred Station, NY 14803
Phone/Fax: (607) 587-8527
sbbce@EducatingChristians.org

The following people have received the Crystal Apple award:

1986 **George E. Parrish**
Battle Creek, Mich.

1987 **Shirley S. Cargill**
North Loup, Neb.

1988 **Margaret B. Allen**
Lost Creek, W.Va.

1989 **Helen K. Bond**
Columbus, Ohio

1990 **June Johnson**
Nortonville, Kan.

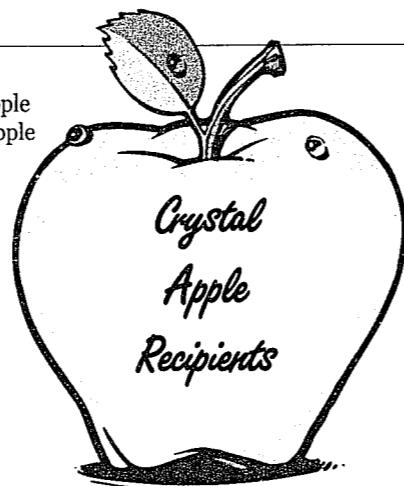
1991 **Ruth B. Bennett**
Battle Creek, Mich.

1992 **Dan Richards**
Texarkana, Ark.

1993 **Dr. Lewis H.V. May**
Riverside, Calif.

1994 **Alan R. Crouch**
Daytona Beach, Fla.

1995 **Madeline FitzRandolph**
Boulder, Colo.



1996 **Karen S. Payne**
Dodge Center, Minn.

1997 **Janis M. Bond**
Shiloh, N.J.

1998 **Earl W. Hibbard**
Central, Md.

1999 **Marilyn Merchant**
Riverside, Calif.

2000 **Esther A. Burdick**
Waterford, Conn.

2001 **Judy Parrish**
Battle Creek, Mich.



FOCUS on Missions

New church, new leader down south

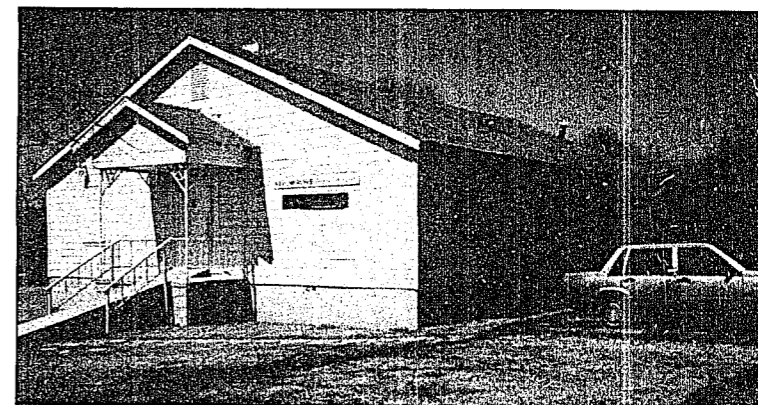
by Ron Elston

Solid Rock SDB Church in Tulsa

I recently traveled to Tulsa, Okla., where I met with Pastor and Mrs. Jim Rowe to discuss the status of their church, Solid Rock Seventh Day Baptist. (The church is a branch of the Texarkana, Ark., SDB Church.)

Pastor Rowe and his congregation were part of the American Baptist denomination until learning of the Sabbath a few years ago. After much study and prayer, they decided to become part of the Seventh Day Baptist fellowship.

The worship service at Solid Rock was delightful, and the congregation has a real burden for the lost souls in their community. *SR*



The Solid Rock SDB Church in Tulsa, Okla.



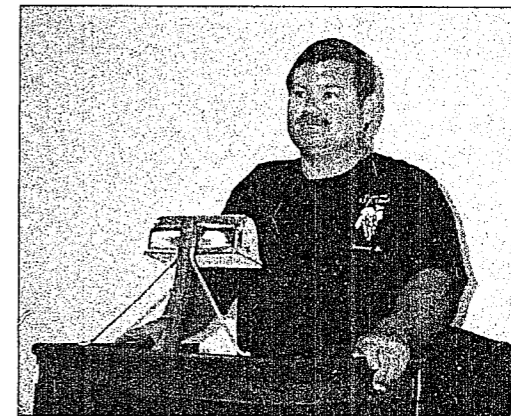
Pastor Jim Rowe (second from right) and members of the Solid Rock church.

New pastor at Cornerstone

The Cornerstone Seventh Day Baptist Church in Pontotoc, Miss., has a new pastor. And, for the first time, he lives and works in the community, which has led to an increase in visitors.

Since it started meeting in the early 1990s, the church has had only "pulpit supply" leadership. Now, leadership has emerged from within the local group in the person of Randy Newsom. He has served the church as a deacon, and has answered the call to the pastoral ministry.

Pastor Randy and members of his family were among the first visitors when the group began meeting in Tupelo, Miss. *SR*



Pastor Randy Newsom stands at the pulpit built by the late Lee Stewart. It was originally constructed for Pastor Ron Elston when he led the Kirkwood SDB Church in St. Louis, Mo. Lee's widow, Thelma, has since donated the pulpit to the Cornerstone church.



the BEACON

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

June 2002

Spring Retreat 2002

by Matt Olson, Berlin, N.Y.

The Berlin, N.Y., Seventh Day Baptist Church hosted this year's Senior High Spring Retreat at "Camp Holliday," a summer cottage near the Greene's Mapledale farm.

Eighteen youth were there from start to finish, with two other young

people staying for part of the retreat. Young people from New York and New Jersey attended this year.

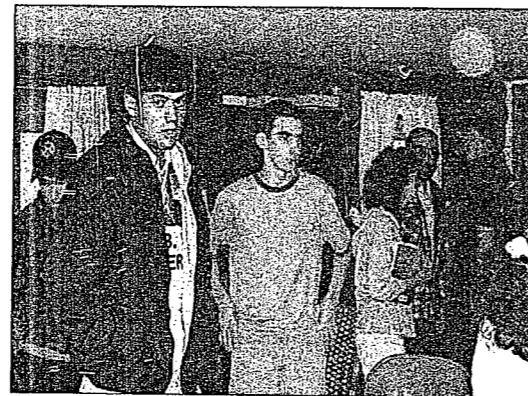
The retreat, held April 19-21, focused on enjoying our life in Christ. Joy is our basic perspective as Christians, and those in attendance talked about living in that

joy each day. Classes were taught by Carl and Cindy Greene, and John and Damian Greene. Josh Ferguson and Ed Stall also led some sessions.

As you can see from the pictures, it was an exciting weekend—one filled with worship, Bible study, and fun. **SR**



Time to unpack!



"So, what's next?"



Young folks from New Jersey and New York gathered for the Spring Retreat.

The Paraclete



by Sidney Draayer

Noisy distractions

I remember the first time I saw her. It was love at first sight. I had just graduated from high school. She was 13 years old, but I thought she was beautiful.

Her body was solid and well taken care of. She could run with the best of them. I knew I'd be proud to be seen with her.

I couldn't resist. So I bought my first car, a 1936 Ford.

It was a great car. I washed and waxed it regularly, serviced it on time, and usually drove with caution. My only problem with it came one night after dropping off a friend.

As I was heading home, I heard a persistent squeak coming from the rear of the car. I decided to ignore it, but the volume increased. I stopped the car to see if I could find the trouble. Nothing amiss. All the service stations were closed, so I decided to keep going.

The crescendo, however, increased. I knew something ingenious had to be done. Then it came to me. I turned on the radio. Sure enough, the piercing cry went away. But not for long.

The shrill sound soon overcame the soothing music. I turned up the volume. Peace... but it was short-lived. The car begged for attention. I upped the volume. It countered the move.

This silly game went on until I got home. Fortunately, no damage was done, and a mechanic fixed the problem the next day.

My ploy, of course, did nothing to cure the cacophony. It was only a distraction to keep my mind off the real problem. I tried to trick myself into thinking nothing was awry. I knew I was wrong, but I kept it up anyway.

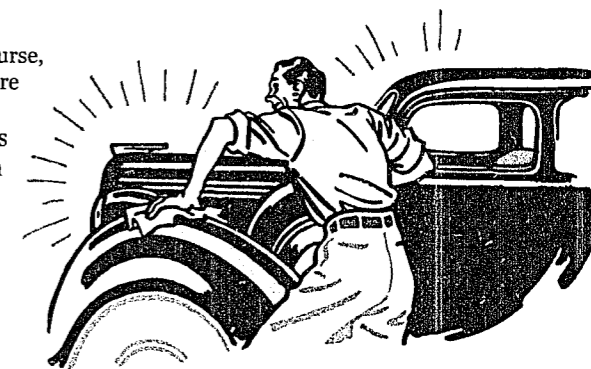
It's easy to use distractions to keep our minds off issues that need to be addressed. That is one of the hazards of ministry. We need to be careful that our full schedules are not a way of avoiding unpleasant

My ploy did nothing to cure the cause of the cacophony. It was only a distraction to keep my mind off the real problem.

issues. Our crammed calendars may be a tribute to our importance, but they can also indicate something is calling for our attention.

Being overly busy can be a cover-up for feelings of inferiority, for grudges we harbor, or for a painful situation we wish would go away.

Our absorption in activities can



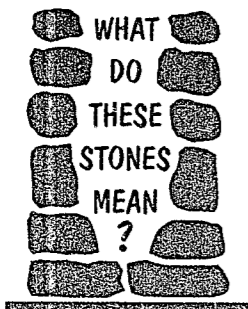
be a way of avoiding a broken relationship or a difficult task. There may be a bad habit we cannot shake. We may be speeding along, but we are dying on the inside.

How much better to admit the struggle we are having and open it up to others—and to God.

Remember the words of Jesus: "Come to me... and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28). As He heals us from within, He frees us to enjoy Him more fully, releasing us from the captivity of the calendar, and allowing us to carry out our ministry more effectively.

In the name of Him who "heals all our diseases" (Psalm 103:3). **SR**

Dr. Sidney Draayer is director of Paraklesis Ministries, an evangelical agency of clergy encouragement. A paraclete is an advocate and intercessor, and the Greek term for Holy Spirit. You may e-mail Sid at parakles@iserv.net.



The President's Page

The blessings of summer camp

by Gordon Lawton

Dear Young Person,
Summer camp is so much fun. It is a time away from home, with people of your own age, and it is not like school. At school, you seldom go outside except for gym class. At camp, you tend to do a lot of things outdoors.

There are games like soccer, softball, basketball, and volleyball. Then there are the hikes (which usually are really only short walks) to vespers or the outdoor chapel. A tradition at Camp Harley Sutton (in Alfred Station, N.Y.) is the water fight and the water slide for the Primary campers. Not at all like school, huh?

Other camps have their own unique features, like swimming in the North Loup River at Nebraska's Riverview Camp, or looking at the stars in the 12-inch reflecting telescope at Camp Paul Hummel in Colorado.

After attending camp once or twice, most young people look forward to the next year when they can see their friends from camp once again. These friendships can last a lifetime. I am amazed at how many people I am connected to because of times together at summer camp as well as Pre-Conference retreats.

I was less than 5 when I attended my first camp, a family camp at Pacific Pines in California. I have few, if any, memories of those times.

The first camp I do remember was in Jamaica. My folks sent me to a Christian boys camp near Mandeville. They did have electric lights, but the water was kept in holding pools in which we swam. That water was also pumped by hand to a tank on the roof, which provided pressure for flushing. I doubt that we drank any of that water.

The Jamaican camp was a great experience and prepared me for SDB summer camps. Camp Holston, near Battle Creek, Mich., was my introduction to SDB camping. Then came New York's Camps Harmony and Harley Sutton, Paul Hummel, Riverview, Lewis (New England), and Jersey Oaks. Since then, I have been at Wakonda (Milton, Wis.) and Joy (Berea, W.Va.)

I do not remember ever attending a camp at Pacific Firs, Miles, or Deep South, but I know what I would find: leaders who love the Lord and campers. Youth who enjoy each other learn about limits on appropriate humor and pranks. By the end of the week, the campers almost always want to stay longer with their friends, even though they have gone "cold turkey" for a week away from their own beds, TVs, radios, video games, and telephones.

Oh yeah, they learn of God and His ways, too. And some make the best life-choice ever at camp: accepting Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

I hope you get to go this summer, and that it is a blessed time of learning, relationship building, and yes, FUN!

Have a good summer, and I hope to see you at Conference in Houghton, N.Y.

Pastor Gordon Lawton

President Gordon Lawton and his "stone" prop at Conference.



Church to celebrate 175th

by Kristin Camenga

The First Seventh Day Baptist Church of Genesee in Little Genesee, N.Y., will celebrate its 175th anniversary this summer.

The church was founded on July 9, 1827, by a group of settlers who had come primarily from SDB churches in Ashaway, R.I., and Berlin, N.Y. The founding members were John, Benjamin, Joel, and Phoebe Maxson; Ezekiel and Susan Crandall; Henry P., Amos, Esther, and Lucy Green; Joseph and Lydia Wells; and Nancy Kenyon. In the next decade, two other churches (Second Genesee and Third Genesee) were formed in nearby areas.

In 1837, the original church building was erected in Little Genesee, and significant renovations were made in 1879. On June

20, 2001, it was destroyed in a fire.

Since then, the church has been meeting in the Community Center building, which it owns. Members are currently planning for a new worship space.

To celebrate its 175th anniversary, the church will host an open house on Sabbath, August 3, 2002, from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. The 3:30 program will be followed by a light supper. The day of celebration will wrap up with "Stained Glass" sharing a concert at 7:00 p.m.

Anyone who would like to help celebrate this occasion is urged to join us as we remember what God has done in the church's history, and how He continues to work among us.

Commemorative plates and mugs are being sold to mark the occasion.

They have a picture of the old church building on them, and come with a brochure giving a concise history of the Little Genesee church. The plates are 10 inches in diameter and have a gold band around the edge. They cost \$20 each, and the mugs are priced at \$6 each. All proceeds will be added to the church building fund.

The plates and mugs will be sold at Conference in August. To ensure that you get one, please order in advance for pickup at Conference or at the open house. They can be shipped for an additional cost.

To order, please write to:
Brenda Kinnicutt
829 Salt Rising Rd.
Bolivar, NY 14715-9647
or e-mail her at:
stonekin@hotmail.com SR

Shiloh breaks ground for parsonage

by Pat Cruzan

On Sabbath day, March 23, 2002, the Shiloh, N.J., Seventh Day Baptist Church held a groundbreaking ceremony for their new parsonage. The five-bedroom home will be built on property purchased a few years ago, adjacent to the church grounds. The church bought the current parsonage in 1874.

Pastor Donald Chroniger led the brief ceremony, closing with, "We dedicate this place with high hopes for service in winning the lost, building up the faithful; until the Redeemer shall come again for His own, we thankfully dedicate this place."

Trustee Chairman Ron Campbell and Moderator Phil Bond broke ground. Everyone present joined in the Prayer of Blessing:

"God bless the corners of this house,
And be the lenthil blest;
And bless the hearth and bless the board
And bless each place of rest;
And bless each door that opens wide
To stranger as to kin;
And bless each crystal windowpane
That lets the starlight in;
And bless the roofree overhead,



Pictured (l. to r.) are Ron Campbell, Phil Bond, and Pastor Don Chroniger breaking ground for a new parsonage.

And every sturdy wall.
The peace of man, the peace of God,
The peace of love on all.
In Jesus Name, Amen." SR

Time to reconcile relationships

by Loy A. Steir, Springfield, Mass.

Night was drawing near and the chill of the impending winter filled the air. "Oohs" and "aahs" could be heard amid our laughter as we stumbled down the winding path that led to the retreat center.

"Sister Jean, where are all the street lights?" "Nana, I'm scared. It's so dark." "Where in the world is this place?!"

Several of us adventurous souls had left the comfort of our church in Massachusetts (Springfield SDB, a branch of the New York City SDB

so we didn't have to go outside to another building for meals, etc.

We ate dinner soon after our arrival. Dan set up the music so that we were ready for our Sabbath eve vespers service as soon as our "sisters" arrived from New York City.

Part way through vespers, the rest of our Springfield contingent walked through the door. We were delighted that they, too, had made it safely through the darkness.

After greeting each other, we started sharing. We were having

We discovered that many of us have had relationships that have caused us pain and suffering. As a result, we have been in bondage far too long.

Church) to trek through unfamiliar territory in the Woodstock Valley of Connecticut.

We had planned to arrive at the Roskin Leadership Lodge in the daytime so that we could have everything ready for the other "retreaters." But traffic problems, wrong turns, and late-arriving passengers quickly foiled that plan.

When we finally found the lodge, our musician, Dan LaPointe, and his wife, Valerie, were there to greet us. As we unloaded our luggage and settled in, the fragrance of pine, mixed in with the warmth and comfort of the indoors, was a welcome luxury. It was so comforting to know that we could all be together in one place!

The young people in our group immediately fell in love with the lodge and lost no time in checking out the bathrooms and sleeping areas. The lodge had open doors leading from one place to the next,

so much fun in the Lord that we fellowshiped most of the night. When morning came, we could see the beautiful surroundings of the lodge, including the lake. Everyone quickly forgot the scary, gloomy darkness of the previous night.

After a delightful breakfast, we prepared for devotions and the day's worship. Our guest speaker, Josephine Miller, arrived and was thrilled that we had found such a wonderful place for the retreat.

Sabbath was truly a day of rest and worship as we sang praises and fellowshiped with like-minded believers. We were at rest as we delighted in the atmosphere of oneness.

The theme of the retreat was "Reconciling Broken Relationships." Although Josephine took us into different areas of relationship, she focused on family. She pointed out that God has always wanted a family. In the assembly of believers, we usually call each other "brother" and

"sister" because we have the same Father—God.

It's always been God's intention to have a well-developed, functional family. This is the basis for having our individual families at the place God wants them to be. From that place, church families will be real, and our relationships will have matured and become lasting.

As the discussion about family relationships opened up, we discovered that many of us have had relationships that have caused us pain and suffering. As a result, we have been in bondage far too long.

We learned that we should acknowledge our brokenness, then root out its causes. That way, we'll be able to do something about what is wrong, what is missing, or what needs to be restored.

As we shared our struggles and failures, our hurts and hearts, we decided that we would meet the challenge and implement the changes needed to get us from the level of brokenness to the higher heights and deeper depths that are in Christ.

We also learned that people need to open old wounds so that they can heal old hurts. We shared each other's pains and triumphs, and cried and laughed together. We prayed about each other's problems, knowing that we have a common bond that keeps us connected—Jesus Christ, our Lord.

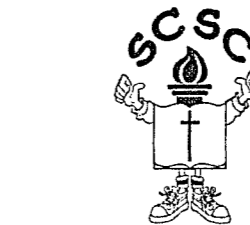
All of us have a responsibility to God, our families (individual and church), and to this world to be the kind of disciples that will draw all men—and women—to the saving knowledge of Christ.

The ladies of the Springfield and New York churches would like to extend an open invitation to other SDB women to join them at their next retreat. Letters of invitation will be sent to our churches, so be on the lookout for it. *SR*

Summer Christian Service Corps gears up—and heads south

The Summer Christian Service Corps (SCSC), a ministry of the SDB Women's Board, is preparing for another exciting summer of service throughout our denomination. This year, there are 12 projects with 36 team members.

Training will be held at the Daytona Beach, Fla., SDB Church. Team members arrive on June 20 and leave



for their projects on June 28. Evaluation will be held at the General

Conference site in Houghton, N.Y., in July. Please be in prayer for the training, travel, and projects.

Funds to support this ministry should be earmarked for SCSC and mailed to Enid Nobles, 9 Little Pond Trails, Ormond Beach, FL 32114.

Thank you so much, and may God bless this important ministry.

SCSC Teams for 2002 and their home churches

PD = Project Director

•Battle Creek, MI

PD—Pastor Kory Geske
Steven Pimple
Riverside, CA
Amy Goodrich
North Loup, NE

•Berlin, NY

PD—Paul Greene
Craig Mosher
Berlin, NY
Jeremy Bullinger
Berlin, NY
Kevin Bonesteel
Berlin, NY
Jennene Schillinger
Berlin, NY

•Boulder, CO

PD—Sonja Looper
Lindsey Cowden
Dodge Center, MN
Joshua Michaels
Berlin, NY
Maureen Siolo
Brisbane, AUS
Bethany Thompsongordon
Daytona Beach, FL

•Charleston, SC

PD—Pastor Christian King
Keith Ashley
Toronto, ONT
Camille Charlton
Mountain View, JAM
Siana (Jody) McLean
Toronto, ONT

•Columbus, OH

PD—Lana VanHorn
Theona Gordon
New York, NY
Julia Sias
Salem, WV
Marissa VanHorn
Columbus, OH
Heather Wright
Milton, WI

•Milton, WI

PD—Angie Osborn
Miriam Lawton
Little Genesee, NY
Sonya Fyffe
Toronto, ONT

•North Loup, NE

PD—Helen Goodrich
Jeffrey Neher
Dodge Center, MN
Aubrey Appel
Milton, WI
Emily Kandel
Alfred Station, NY

•Riverside, CA

PD—Youth Pastor
George Lawson
Virginia (Ginny) Burdick
Seattle, WA
Omar (Chris) Sinclair
Miami, FL
Amy Wright
Milton, WI

•Seattle, WA

PD—Ruth Burdick
Joanna Harris
Colorado Springs, CO
Matthew Rio
Brisbane, AUS

•Shiloh, NJ

PDs—Dodi Moncrief
& Debbie Bond
Brett Greene
Columbus, OH
Oneika Rhoden
Toronto, ONT
Katie Colvin
Nortonville, KS

•Toronto, ONT

PD—Phoebe Fyffe
Jeffery Sinclair
Toronto, ONT
Jamaal Fyffe
Toronto, ONT

•White Cloud, MI

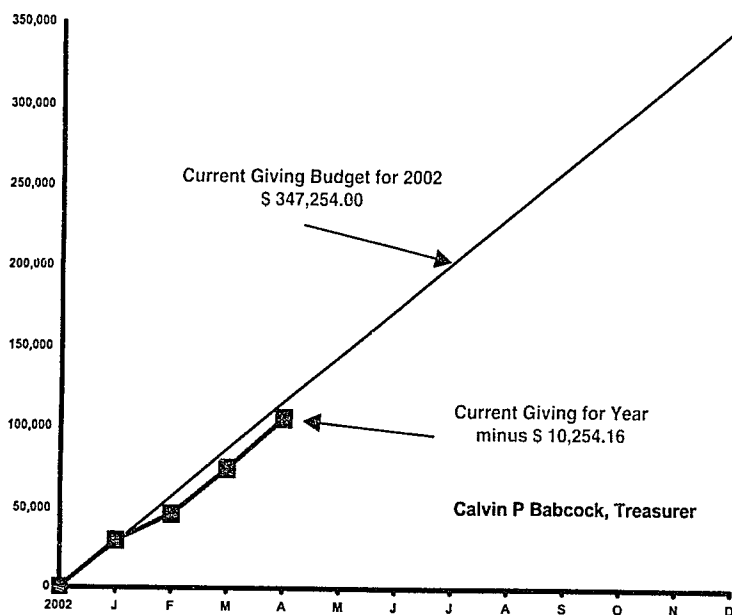
PD—Michelle Crandall
Brandon Parker
Denver, CO
Paula Reynolds
Toronto, ONT
Stephanie Ritchie
Riverside, CA
Tarike Delisser
Mountain View, JAM

Walking for those who can't



On April 14, 2002, members of the Foothill SDB Church in Montrose, Calif., participated in the annual MS Walk. The walk supports the National MS (Multiple Sclerosis) Society. This year—their fifth time of involvement—the Foothill church raised over \$500.

Current Giving 2002



Marriage

Moore - Seelinger.—Levi Moore and Katie Seelinger were united in marriage on February 16, 2002, at the Denver, CO, Seventh Day Baptist Church, with Pastor Rodney L. Henry officiating.

New members

Adams Center, NY
Dale Smalley, pastor
 Joined after testimony
 Paul Thompson
 Jane Thompson
 Jennifer Thompson
 Peter Thompson

Alfred Station, NY
Kenneth Chroniger, pastor
 Joined after baptism
 Dawn Palmiter
 Matthew Palmiter

Dallas/Ft. Worth, TX
Earle Holston, pastor
 Joined after testimony
 James Lindsey
 Penny Lindsey
 Jennifer Lindsey
 Jessica Lindsey

Denver, CO
Rodney L. Henry, pastor
 Joined after baptism
 Jordan Robles
 Katie Seelinger
 Randy Sprouse
 Joined after testimony
 Analyn Coleman
 Marty Coleman
 Daniel Ditson

Dodge Center, MN
Dale E. Rood, pastor
 Joined after testimony
 Micayla Neher
 Shane Robinson
 Barbara Simonsen

Obituaries

Bee.—Lillian (Bottoms) Bee, 88, died on March 5, 2002, at the United Hospital Center in Clarksburg, W.Va.

She was born on July 29, 1913, in Cullman, Ala., the second daughter of Rev. Ary Thomas and Jewel (Mason) Bottoms. She graduated from the State Agricultural Secondary School in Athens, Ala., in 1930. On November 2, 1933, she married Ernest K. Bee Sr.

Lillian received additional schooling at Salem College and Fairmont State College, both in West Virginia. In 1957, she graduated from the University of Alabama.

Lillian was a school teacher in rural West Virginia and taught first grade for 22 years in Reform, Ala. Upon retiring in 1975, she and "Kay" moved to DeLand, Fla. Following her husband's death in 1988, she moved to Salem to live with her daughter, Marie.

She was a member of the Salem Seventh Day Baptist Church.

Survivors include two daughters, Marie Zwiebel of Salem and Ethel Brown of Hudgins, Va.; one son, the Rev. Dr. Ernest K. Bee Jr. of Waldorf, Md.; two sisters, Estelle J. Fernandez of Longmont, Colo., and Almira Ann Tye of Lancaster, Calif.; one brother,

James D. Bottoms of Traynor, Iowa; nine grandchildren, 17 great-grandchildren, one great-great-grandchild, and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by two sisters, Edna Ruth Sutton and Katherine Duitsman; one brother, A. Thomas Bottoms; one grandson, and one great-grandson.

Funeral services were held at the Salem SDB Church on March 8, 2002, with Rev. Dale Thorngate officiating. A burial service was held at Pine Grove Cemetery in Berea, W.Va., conducted by Rev. Melvin Nida.

Lippincott.—Bernice E.

Lippincott, 83, of Milton, Wis., died on April 9, 2002, at the Skaalen Home in Stoughton, Wis., following a long illness.

She was born on December 2, 1918, in Janesville, Wis., the daughter of Otto P. and Clara (Homan) Manthei. She attended Janesville schools. On September 23, 1939, she married Walden ("Froz") Lippincott in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Bernice was a homemaker and lived in Milton all of her married life. She was a member of the Milton Seventh Day Baptist Church and its

Births

White.—A daughter, Alexis Louise White, was born to Andy and Jessica (Cowden) White of Mantorville, MN, on March 6, 2002.

Bierman.—A daughter, Emily Elizabeth Bierman, was born to Mark and Lisa (Greene) Bierman of Spring Valley, MN, on March 15, 2002.

women's Afternoon Circle. In addition to her husband, survivors include one son, Bruce, of Milton; two daughters, Jean Chase of Lake Geneva, Wis., and Joyce Ritter of Janesville; one sister, Georgene Minnick of Janesville; two brothers, A.C. Manthei of Janesville and Norman Manthei of Indianford, Wis.; eight grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, and many nieces, nephews, relatives, and friends.

She was preceded in death by one daughter, Janet Roenneburg; one sister, Beverly Fiedler; and two brothers, Kenneth and Roland Manthei.

Funeral services were held on April 12, 2002, at the Milton SDB Church, with Rev. George Calhoun officiating. Burial was in the Milton Cemetery.

SR Reaction

Opinions do not necessarily reflect the views of the SR or all SDBs. Letters may be edited according to space and editorial style.

Dear Kevin,

Our April issue came with all the right pages in all the right places.

During this school year, it has been driven home how much our students, teachers, and administrators need prayer! The Lord suggested I start a Moms In Touch group.

I'm kind of like Moses, and had to ask God, "Are you sure you've got the right person for this?" I found out that there was no group for our

school. Okay, Lord, I see the need!

Should I call the mom that leads the group in Newport? Are there any other SDB women involved in this organization? Would they recommend it?

The answer came in the mailbox, when the April SR arrived. Yes, there is another SDB mom involved with MIT! And she says it is great!

Knowing that there are other Christian moms praying not only

for your school, but for you and your child who is having surgery, gives you the strength to get through those long hours in the waiting room.

It's a great way to bring together the body of Christ, to do something that our children desperately need. All of our schools need prayer in these times of uncertainty.

Nadine Lawton
 Westerly, RI

Come to Brazil

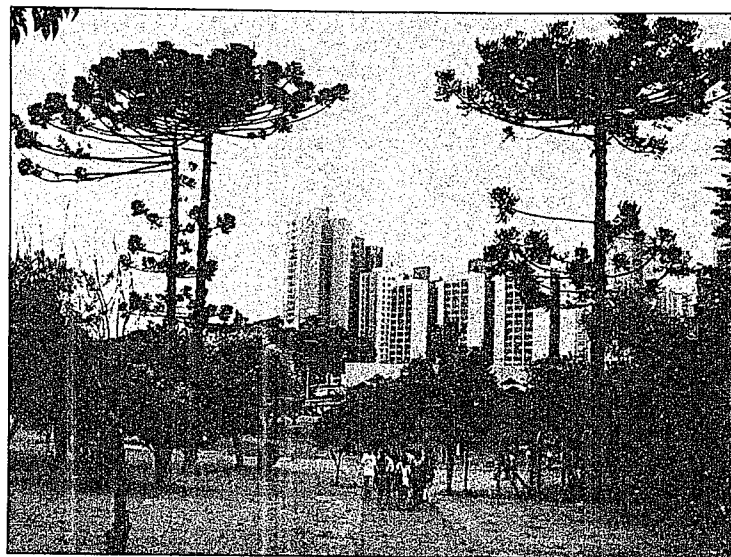
by Janet Thorngate

Most of the 16 member Conferences of the Seventh Day Baptist World Federation have named their delegates to the sessions to be held near Curitiba, Brazil, February 10-16, 2003 (three weeks later than previously announced).

Pre-registration is in progress and the Host Committee in Brazil is busy with other preparations. It is time for individuals who are interested in going as observers to pre-register also.

Pastor Leonildo Lebkuchen, President of the Brazil Conference, functions as Host Committee Chairman. Pastor Eli de Souza Rangel, their Conference General Coordinator, will be sessions pastor. Federation President, Rev. Gabriel Bejjani of the USA & Canada Conference, will preside over the sessions. Registration is handled by the Federation Executive Secretary, Rev. Dale Thorngate (addresses below).

Delegates and observers will all be invited to attend the Brazil Conference national sessions the week preceding the Federation sessions, particularly Conference Sabbath Worship, and youth and women's



Skyline of Curitiba, Brazil, framed by native arucaria trees in the Botanical Gardens. Curitiba is the capital of the State of Paraná, south of São Paulo.

their stay.

Member Conferences provide transportation for their delegates to and from Brazil. The World Federation pays for registration including hosting costs while they are in Brazil. Observers are responsible for their own transportation to and from

required by the Brazil government for tourists from some countries, but they are required for those attending a religious conference.

USA & Canada delegates are Andrea Davis (secretary), Luan Ellis (treasurer), Rev. Joe Samuels (vice president, North America), Dale Thorngate (executive secretary), and Nathanael Lawton, with Jeff Hazen as an alternate. Rev. Bejjani (president) and Missionary Society executive Kirk Looper go as *ex officio* members.

Since the World Federation is funded solely by contributions from member Conferences and friends, contributions are solicited to help with sessions costs. They may be sent to the Federation Treasurer, Luan Ellis, at 614 Pleasant Valley Rd., Alfred Station NY 14803 USA.

Those interested in attending as observers should contact Pastor Thorngate as soon as possible to obtain complete information and pre-registration forms: 171 E. Main St., Salem WV 26426 USA. Phone: (304) 782-1727; FAX: (304) 782-4792; E-mail: sdbwf@aol.com **SR**

Delegates and observers will all be invited to attend the Brazil Conference national sessions the week preceding the Federation sessions.

congresses on Sabbath and Sunday, February 8-9. The sessions week will include a day for visits to SDB churches near Curitiba and an optional sightseeing tour of the city, which is the capital of the State of Paraná.

World Federation sessions will be held at a conference center where delegates will be housed during

Curitiba, and for the registration and hosting fee of \$300 US for the full two weeks.

Delegates and observers will fly into the airport at Curitiba, Paraná, by a connecting flight from São Paulo. In addition to international passports, delegates will need to obtain a visa at the Brazilian consulate in their own country. Visas are not

KEVIN'S

ORNER

Keep it short

We were about to finish our Sabbath School quarter at the Milton church, and teacher Liz Green was summarizing the course on 1 John. She ended by sharing that we didn't have any "parking lot" issues to cover this time.

As a newcomer to her class, the puzzled look on my face must have asked, "What's a parking lot issue?"

"Oh," she answered, "sometimes we have a list of unanswered questions that we 'put on hold' in an imaginary parking lot. You know, like, 'Explain the Trinity in 25 words or less.'"

Liz was joking about that one, but it did remind me of some tough upcoming assignments:

—Historian Don Sanford was just asked to write a capsule of Seventh Day Baptist history for another Baptist web site—and to keep it under 500 words! How will he squeeze 350 years into those parameters? (Don admits that he's not known for his condensing of words.)

—The Tract Council asked our Publications Committee to keep a new reprint of "What the Bible Teaches about the Sabbath" to one sheet so we can mail it out easily in a business envelope. There are so many Sabbath questions and many Sabbath scriptures that it will be a tough task.

—I've been asked to speak to a combined summer Sabbath School class in Milton. In this one session (which will be abbreviated due to other promotions and announcements) I'm supposed to cover two diverse topics. Each subject could easily consume two full classes each.

How can we do so much in so little space and time? How can we neatly package the Good News of Christ? One nice method is the "Roman Road." On an inside

page of your Bible, write down, "Rom. 3:23." This is the first verse you look up and share with your friend: "...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

In the margin near that verse, you write, "Rom. 6:23." After reading from chapter 3, you move to chapter 6 and read, "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Your next little note leads you to Romans 5:8— "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

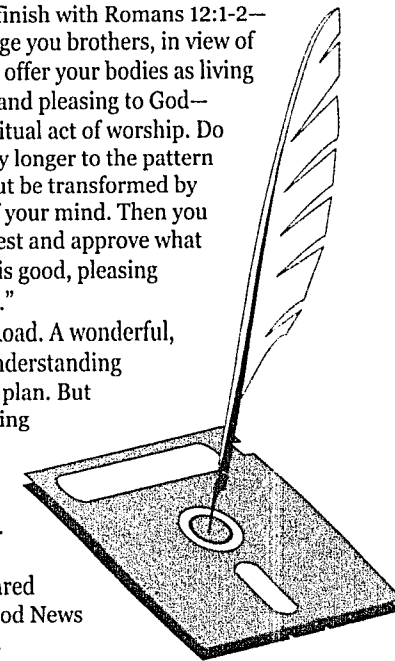
Romans 10:9 follows, "...if you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."

And how does one live after accepting that salvation? You finish with Romans 12:1-2— "Therefore, I urge you brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God— this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will."

The Roman Road. A wonderful, short path to understanding God's salvation plan. But that's approaching the 500-word limit.

There's always John 3:16.

I pray that we are all prepared to share His Good News on short notice.



What's a person to do?

So you are coming to Conference at Houghton College (August 4-10), and bringing the family with you. You're using your vacation time and want to see some of the sights of rural New York state and not just the Houghton campus. What's a person to do?

WELCOME to Allegany County—A Place for All Seasons and All Reasons

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Equipment Society*
Scio
585-593-1180

Almond Historical Society
Almond
607-276-6781

Seneca Oil Springs
Cuba
585-268-9293

Stull Observatory
Alfred
607-871-2270

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national Museum of
Ceramic Art (Alfred)*
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607-871-2615

American Costume Studies
Alfred Station
by appt. 607-587-9488

Alfred
607-587-9319

*Canaseraga, Shawmut
Station & Museum*
Canaseraga
by appt. 607-545-6527

Allegany County Museum
Belmont
585-268-9293

Pioneer Oil Museum
Bolivar
Wed., by appt. 585-928-1433

*Alfred Historical Society
Terra Cotta Museum*

Cuba Military Museum
Cuba
Wed., by appt. 585-968-3679

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Allentown; 585-593-6652

Circus Barn Antiques
Friendship; 585-973-7921

Heritage Antiques
Angelica; 585-466-3712

*Angelica Country Store
and Annex*
Angelica; 585-466-3040

Cold Creek Antiques
Fillmore; 585-567-2676

Kitchen Cupboard Antiques
Andover; 607-478-8060

Anntiques
Friendship; 585-973-7921

Country Collectibles & Antiques
Friendship; 585-973-7505

Enjoy Allegany County! For
more info, call 800-836-1869, or
e-mail tourism@alleganyco.com