



The
Sabbath
RECORDER

2008
Youth
Issue

June 2008

News for and about Seventh Day Baptists



**7 tips to
survive
(and thrive)
in life**



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 Christ Jesus.
 - 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 our Lord. It is the joy of the Sabbath that makes SDBs just a little bit different.

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See our website for more:
www.seventhdaybaptist.org

Pre-Con Travel info

For people going to Pre-Con (starts July 30) and if you are flying into the Milwaukee or Chicago airports, you must see the important travel information posted on the Conference Registration page of our website: www.seventhdaybaptist.org.

Youth Pre-Con will be at Camp Wakonda in Milton, Wis. There are Coach USA buses that run from Chicago O'Hare or Midway, but no service from Milwaukee.

Young Adult Pre-Con will be on the campus of Carthage College in Kenosha, Wis. (site of this year's General Conference which begins on August 3). There is bus service to Kenosha from all the airports, but not necessarily right to the campus. **PLEASE READ** the Pre-Con Travel Information notice on the website so you're not stranded at an airport or bus station.

Plan ahead and let the Conference transportation people help you!



Time to
Be
Crafty!

*A reminder to all who like to make crafts:
Please send or bring your creations to Conference for the SCSC Craft Table. It is always a hit with boys and girls, and the Summer Christian Service Corps appreciates your continued support!*

New Directory available

Tired of rising energy and food prices?? Here's a bit of good news. The **2008 Directory** of churches and ministries is available—at the 2007 price! Each Directory is still \$7.50 plus \$1.50 for postage.

If you need more than one Directory, please contact the Center at 608-752-5055 and we can invoice you. Or, place your order at our E-Store and let the computer do the calculations.

We can also provide the **SDB Directory on CD**, for just \$5 including shipping.



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Ⓔ = Editor's Circle members

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Features — Youth Issue

- Seven tips to surviving life**4
by Deryka Nairne
Powerful principles (and even more powerful Scripture) to guide you through this roller coaster existence.
- “Love your neighbor”—
Even my little brothers??**.....6
by TJ Osborn
Yes, your family is included in that “neighbor” deal.
- Look up and count your blessings**..... 7
by Micayla Neher
How would this teen make it past all those losses?
- Psalm 23 in verse**8
by Lance Greene
A rhyming tribute to an old church member (and God).
- “Everything”**.....9
by Jessica Chroniger
A one-word answer to what the Lord wants from us.
- Invitation to the World Federation**..... 12
by Joe Samuels

Departments

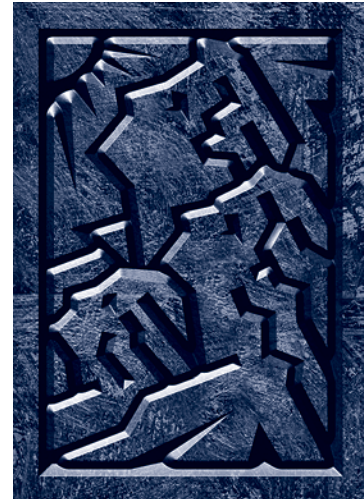
The Beacon 10 <i>Worship your God</i>	President's Page 20 <i>Kids are our future</i>
Women's Society 13 <i>The rest of the story</i>	Alliance In Ministry 21 <i>Let's be Positive about this!</i>
Pearls from the Past 14 <i>SCSC—A technical misnomer</i>	Financial Faith 22 <i>The cost of borrowing</i>
Christian Education 16 <i>Memorize those verses!</i>	Local news 11, 23 <i>Milton, WI 11 Salem, WV 23</i>
Focus 17 <i>SDBs are called what in Kenya?</i>	Family flux 24-25 <i>New members, Births, Marriage 24 Obituary 25</i>
Reflections 19 <i>A survivor's role model</i>	Kevin's Korner 27 <i>The little things</i>

7 Seven tips to surviving life

by Deryka Nairne, Washington, D.C.

This isn't just for the youth. Older folks should pay attention; maybe even take notes. You never know if you can use this for your children or your grandchildren.

Each tip carries with it a Bible verse. So if you ever start to slip, there's a Scripture reference to help you!



• Tip ONE—

When you're in trouble, do not run.

("...to the One who remembered us in our low estate, His love endures forever." Psalm 136:23)

He will always remember you. Instinctively, we want to run... but don't.



• Tip TWO—

Don't be afraid to go to Him when you've done something wrong.

("I live in a high and holy place, but also with him who is contrite and lowly in spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly and to revive the heart of the contrite." Isaiah 57:15-16)

If you can't go to anyone else, take a moment to pray and talk to God. He won't judge you, but He will listen... and hear you.



• Tip THREE—

Remember that He's always there and always listening.

("Surely the arm of the LORD is not too short to save, nor his ear too dull to hear." Isaiah 59:1)

Any time that you need to talk—whether with concerns, praises or requests—He's always there. If you think you're just talking to the ceiling and no one is there, God is.



• Tip FOUR—

Believe that through Him, you can do ANYTHING.

("Jesus looked at them and said, 'With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.'" Matthew 19:26)

Don't let anyone—no one—tell you that you can't do something. If you believe in yourself and you believe in Him, anything is possible.

• **Tip FIVE—**

Do not be afraid of what tomorrow holds; it will take care of itself.

“But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.” Matthew 6:33-34)

God’s promise is there, so you can know that while you will have bad times, there will also be good times. Though the sorrows may last through the night, His joy comes with the morning.



• **Tip SEVEN—**

God has a plan for each and every one of us.

“‘For I know the plans I have for you,’ declares the LORD, ‘plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.’” Jeremiah 29:11)

This is by far my favorite verse. In this one sentence, it tells me all I need to know about my future.

• **Tip SIX—**

Remember that God loves you, and through His grace, we all have hope.

“May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word.” 2 Thess. 2:16-17)

He loves us more than we can even imagine. God’s grace gives all of us hope.



For the youth (and older ones who like to think they’re young), life is like a roller coaster. It has its high highs, and low lows.

When life seems dark, God is there to bring light and make everything right when it seems upside down. The darkness may linger longer than you’d hope. But guess what? God is riding right there next to us. He will never give us more than we can handle.

So stand on His Word and remember these seven tips. Dream great dreams. Hope against every odd. You have nothing to lose and everything to gain.

Because of Him, you can survive—and thrive—in this world. **SR**

“Love your neighbor” — Even my little brothers??

by TJ Osborn, Weyerhaeuser, Wis.

“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.” This is the great and foremost commandment.

“The second is like it, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments depend the whole Law and the Prophets” (Matthew 22:37-40).

These four verses hold a lot of meaning.

In a nutshell, they’re saying that if you don’t love God with your “everything,” and treat your neighbors how you would want to be treated, then you’re not really getting the gist of what it means to follow God.

I used to think that as long as I treated people nicely on the outside, it was okay if I treated my own little brothers like dirt. They’re annoying anyways; what did I care?

But recently, as I babysat them, I realized that I felt insecure about being in charge. I could feel disrespect in the air. God convicted me about treating others as I want to be treated—

even my little brothers.

Some people say, “I love my neighbors. I’m always nice to them.” But let me tell you something: Your *family* is also your “neighbors.” That’s right! When God said “neighbors” He meant your sisters and brothers, too.

You may think, *I love my family, my brothers and sisters, and I try to be nice to them; BUT sometimes it’s impossible.*

I want to challenge you that it’s not impossible.

Don’t forget what Jesus says is the first and foremost commandment: Love God with your everything. I believe that if you give your all to God and love Him with all your heart, soul, and strength, loving your family will be possible.

Philippians 4:13 says, “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.” As long as I keep on trying to love my brothers and treat them with respect with *my own* strength, I’m going to fail miserably and end up treating them wrongly.

If I ask God to help me and give my best effort, in His strength I know I can do it. SR



Look up and count your blessings

by Micayla Neher, Dodge Center, Minn.

When you're a senior in high school, you really start looking back and reminiscing about everything!

I'm remembering things from my first years in school all the way to last week. I think about the hard times, the joyous times, and times I didn't know what to think.

It certainly can be scary to grow up. You have to say goodbye to old friends and make new ones. You have to leave the comfort of living in your parents' house—where they helped you with most of your responsibilities—and learn how to make it on your own.

You might wonder, *How am I ever going to get by? Who am I going to turn to when I need help?*

The answer to those questions is simple: Put all your trust in God.

God wants to see you succeed. He will never leave you, even though it may feel like it sometimes. The best thing to do is to remember that in your hardest trials in life, God's not walking beside you; He's *carrying* you.

Bad things might happen, but you don't have to be downhearted about them. When it seems like you have come to the end of the road, look to the left, look to the right, but most of all look up! He'll be there waiting for you to ask for help.

Counting your blessings is one of the best ways to make yourself feel happy about things in life. Say you get a "B" on a test. Make yourself feel better by thinking, "Hey, at least it's not a C."

If your car has to go to the mechanic, at least you don't have to pay for gas!

For the past couple of years I've



had to go through some very hard situations. My grandfather died in December of 2005, then my grandmother died that next November. Last August, my aunt died after a long battle with breast cancer.

That's three relatives—very dear to my heart—in three years. I wondered how I was going to get through it. At first I focused solely on losing them. I never thought about the many people I was blessed with that were still here with me.


I was so sad as I kept thinking about how these three people would not be there to see me graduate, go off to college, eventually get married and have a family of my own. I thought, *How am I going to be*

able to be happy at these events when people I love are missing?

It took me a few months to realize that I didn't have to feel bad. I had to think about how many people I *would* have there during these important times.

I know for a fact that God places each person in my life for a purpose. He even sent me special people to help me get through some tough times this year.

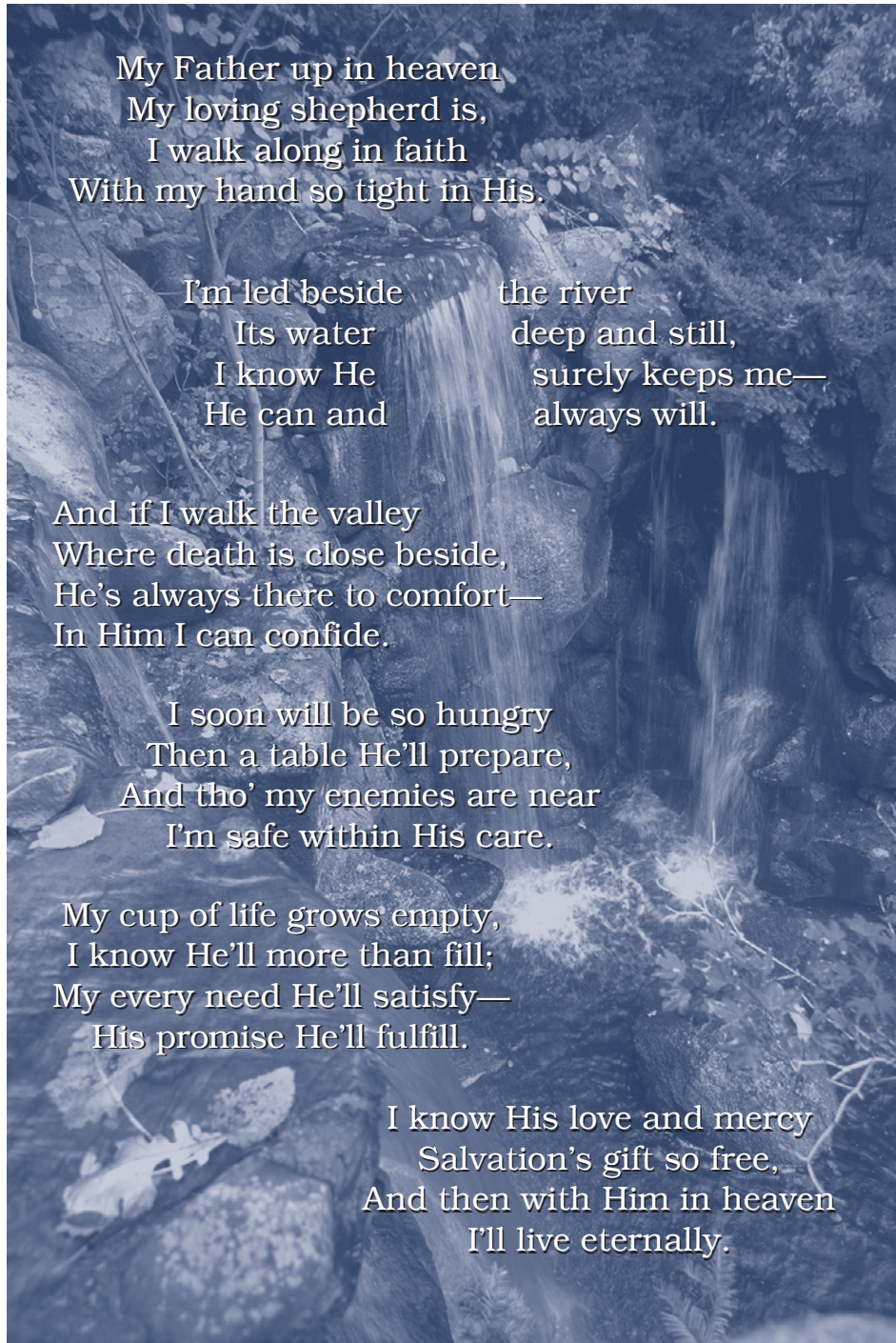
It's going to be a challenge to move on to the next steps in my life. But I know that if I put all my trust in the Lord, He will help me through everything.

Remember, "If God brings you to it, He'll bring you through it." 

Psalm 23

in verse

by Lance Greene
Dodge Center, Minn.



My Father up in heaven
My loving shepherd is,
I walk along in faith
With my hand so tight in His.

I'm led beside the river
Its water deep and still,
I know He surely keeps me—
He can and always will.

And if I walk the valley
Where death is close beside,
He's always there to comfort—
In Him I can confide.

I soon will be so hungry
Then a table He'll prepare,
And tho' my enemies are near
I'm safe within His care.

My cup of life grows empty,
I know He'll more than fill;
My every need He'll satisfy—
His promise He'll fulfill.

I know His love and mercy
Salvation's gift so free,
And then with Him in heaven
I'll live eternally.

*In loving memory of
and to honor Claston Bond*

“Everything”

As I awoke to the beginning of a brand new day,
It seemed like waves of trials kept coming my way.
Problem after problem was all I could see;
I cried out, “Lord, what is it You want from me?”

The answer that came from the One Most High
Was nothing but a very simple reply.
It was one unexpected, and yet rang so true;
It’s something He desires from me and from you.

He said, “EVERYTHING.”

“I want you to know Me as your Savior and Guide;
The One Who’ll always be right there at your side.
I want you to serve Me through the good times and bad,
To sing praises to My Name whether you’re happy or sad.

“I want your faith to grow stronger as each day goes by,
To trust Me when there’s no answer to your questions of ‘Why?’
To learn of My love and to feel My embrace
When you’re called to endure the hardships you face.

“I want no one or nothing to take my place in your heart.
In whatever you should do, I want to take part.
Stand on My promises, let nothing cause you doubt;
In the end you will see that all things will work out.

“So you see, My dear child, I want to be your all in all,
To depend on My presence when you stand or you fall.
When you question just what is it that I want from thee?
My answer is ‘EVERYTHING,’ as you are EVERYTHING to Me.”



—Author unknown
Submitted by Jessica Chroniger
Shiloh, New Jersey



the BEACON

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

June 2008

Worship your God

by Jessica Chroniger and Lance Greene

Every year, the SDB church in Shiloh, N.J., holds an Easter Sunrise Service at Jersey Oaks Camp. We sing a few songs about the resurrection and read a passage or two about Jesus rising from the tomb. Afterwards, most of us eat breakfast at the church.

This year, we realized that some of us attend the service just because it has become a tradition; something to do. With this attitude, the only thing that's exciting about the Blessed Resurrection morning will be wondering what new casserole will be served at the breakfast.

Have we missed the meaning of the Resurrection? Well, let's start at the beginning; the very beginning.

God sent His only Son to earth. Wow! That must have been one of the hardest things for God to do!

Would *you* send someone you loved with your whole heart into a place where you knew that he or she was going to die? I can't even imagine that. As much as we don't always get along with family members, we would never seriously want to inflict pain onto them.

Let's think some more...

Jesus knew that he was going to die. In Matthew 26:42, he says, "My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may your will be done."

Jesus had all the feelings of a human. He was afraid of dying,

and yet he agreed to do it because it was the will of his Father in Heaven.

Would you die for someone you loved? Better yet, would you die for someone who was your enemy? Jesus did what we would deem impossible for us.

During biblical times, few people were willing to stand up for Christ.

***Church
is a wonderful
way to worship God,
but what are we
doing outside of
church to wor-
ship Him?***

Most mocked him, spat at him, and even yelled, "Crucify him! Crucify him!"

So many people hated Jesus. Although they didn't have a sincere reason to hang him on the cross, Jesus still died for everyone—even for those who despised him. God and Jesus wanted to give the gift of eternal life, and they did. Jesus died on the cross so that the sins of all could be forgiven.

The Bible says, "Love the Lord your God and serve him only." Is

that too much to ask? God sent Jesus into the world, and he was willing to die for everyone, including his enemies, because he loved us.

Often, we find ourselves worshipping "idols": TV, video games, someone close to us. We get so caught up in worldly things that we fail to read our Bible, or limit our prayers to the ones we say before going to sleep.

What did we do to deserve such a Lord? The answer is, "Nothing. We *don't* deserve him."

The truth is, God deserves a lot more than we can ever give Him. However, one thing we *can* do to show our love for God is to worship Him with everything we have.

A lot of people go to church one day a week. Church is a wonderful way to worship God, but what are we doing outside of church to worship Him?

If you're mowing the lawn, do it for God. Even while doing the dishes or cleaning the bathroom, we should still worship God during those mundane tasks. Be happy and thankful that you have a house to live in and clothes to wear.

Worshipping God should leave you feeling refreshed, and it makes your day better.

Here's a challenge for you: When you're having a bad day—or involved in something you don't enjoy—always remember to worship God in everything you do. **SR**

SDBs up in lights!

by Kevin Butler

In a pilot project proposed by the General Council and supported by the Memorial Fund, the Milton, Wis., SDB Church is now featured in a billboard advertising campaign.

A subcommittee named by the Council (Rob Appel, Kevin Butler and Pat Cruzan) had proposed an ad concept and hoped to get it running in late spring. We had planned to use a regular “static” billboard on a busy highway between Milton and Janesville.

Then, the local Lamar advertising company offered a special deal to the Milton Chamber of Commerce. (The Milton church is a member.) If 10 businesses or groups signed on, they would be featured on a new digital billboard in Janesville to entice people to come to nearby Milton.

The campaign would begin on April 1 and run for three months, at about one-third the cost of a usual digital board ad.

We got busy snapping photos of children to promote Milton’s Wednesday night AWANA and youth group programs. The original concept had nine kids holding up



posterboards to spell out the word “WEDNESDAY.” This might have worked on the static board, but once the Lamar artist started working with the pictures, he soon realized that they would be too small and too “busy” to use on a digital sign.

So... “Plan B” (featured above) used two of the youth and bigger words to feature “Kid’s Nite.” With the 10 Milton groups, plus some Janesville businesses and public

service ads, the church sign can be seen every four minutes. Each ad is displayed for six seconds. (You can see why focusing on nine cute faces—*small* faces, plus all the words—would have been difficult.)

When the youth program ends in May, we plan to promote the church’s camping ministries through June. Let’s pray that some good seeds are planted—even digitally—for the glory of God. **SR**

Reaching out to Brazilian youth (and adults)

Last June, Edwin and Maria Lopez (from the new SDB Christian Church in Arlington, Va.) traveled to Santa Catarina, Brazil. Their intent was to minister and give aid to Maria’s home church.

While in Brazil, they met Pastor Jonas Sommer of the Brazilian SDB Conference. Pastor Jonas shared his vision and needs for his church and Conference. Edwin caught the same vision and vowed to return to help spread the Gospel of Christ.

In sharing this desire back in the States, other people “got on board” and began planning a mission trip to Brazil. This trip is about to take place.

Edwin and Maria will be joined by Saul Alonzo, Bethany Chroniger, and Helmer Umana Jr. The purpose for their mission is to plant seeds to help fulfill

Pastor Jonas’ vision. They plan to equip the youth of the church (as well as the adults) with solid evangelism methods and tools. They also expect to take part in the street evangelism with those they are equipping.

Please be in prayer for this missionary team from the U.S. as they visit the cities of Joinville and Curitiba in Brazil, and invite others to hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Some of their activities will include worship services, evangelism training, movie nights, arts and crafts, game nights and Bible studies.

Donations for the mission may be sent to the SDB Missionary Society, 19 Hillside Ave., Ashaway RI 02804.

Invitation to the World Federation



***This session's theme:
"Christ Is Coming—
Be Ready!"***

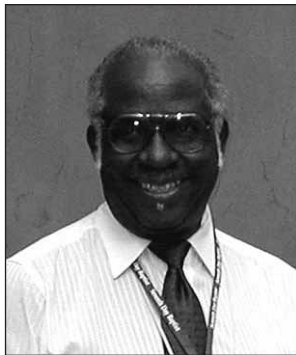
by Pastor Joe A. Samuels
President of the SDB World Federation

It is my pleasure to invite the entire Seventh Day Baptist community to experience the next SDB World Federation meetings, July 28 to August 2. Come and join the inspiring international fellowship with the officers, delegates and observers of the Federation at the beautiful campus of Carthage College in Kenosha, Wisconsin.

We are planning to have a wonderful time of Bible study on various facets of our theme, along with informative seminars on church administration, the importance of evangelism, mass communication and computer skills.

Come and be blessed by the inspiring worship, dynamic messages by SDB preachers from around the world, and uplifting Gospel music. This could be the spiritual experience of your lifetime!

I wish to express my profound gratitude to those churches and individuals who have been so faithful in contributing toward the Federation expenses. You are helping to provide



Rev. Joe Samuels

the hosting and airfares to bring delegates to this country.

I also want to thank those who have in past years given so generously to the work of the Federation around the world. I am sure that many still recall the precious memories of when international visitors came to your churches or stayed in your homes. This could be a great opportunity to renew those friendships, or to establish new ones.

If you would like to have one of these delegates visit your church, we would be delighted to help arrange this. It is possible to sponsor

a delegate to get to the Federation sessions, then have them come to your church and be your guest. Please contact Brother Calvin Babcock or Rev. Kirk Looper.

Financial support for the work and hosting of this year's session is far below the desired amount. We ask you to prayerfully consider making a generous donation—we will be eternally grateful to you.

Please send your donation to:

Luan Ellis, Treasurer
614 Pleasant Valley Road
Alfred Station NY 14803

We also crave your earnest prayers for a blessed and successful session.

In these exciting and troubling times around the world, Seventh Day Baptist Christians need to come together to pray, to seek the face of our God, to ask forgiveness for our sins, and to claim His promise of the spiritual healing of our land.

I sincerely look forward to hearing of your financial and prayerful support, and to seeing you at the World Federation sessions at Carthage. **SR**



The rest of the story

I've been inspired to finish a story that I began in the May 2006 *SR* entitled, "The Open Window."

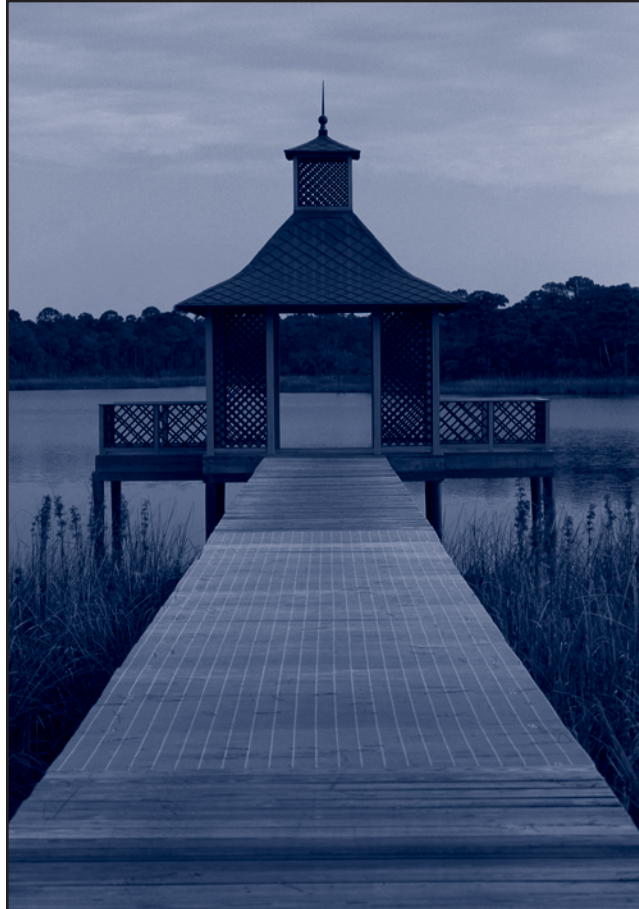
At the time, God and my husband directed me to leave my dream home at Bear Creek in Ormond Beach, Fla.—only 11 minutes from the Florida seashore—and follow them back to the hills of West Virginia. The tears flowed, but God bolstered me greatly by affirming my decision with a song.

Knowing that all of this was God's will made it okay. In fact, the following winter I was content. In the early morning hours, I could hardly pull myself away from the cozy fireplace in the den. There, I would greet God and the dawn as large snowflakes pressed against the window. It helped that Rich had cheered me with a dramatic facelift to the old farmhouse, painting the den tea-room green. What was *not* to like?

Interestingly, it was my husband who started dropping hints about returning to Florida. As I recall, these were rather one-sided conversations. I had no great compulsion to pick up and move again, although there will always be a part of me that's innately attracted to water and sand. So, I listened.

My listening took a turn one Sabbath eve last August, while visiting my mother in Bradenton, Fla.

I was walking from the hallway to her living room when I heard a favorite hymn on the TV, "Be Thou My Vision." A congregation gathered in London was honoring Princess



Diana on the 10th anniversary of her death. Following the song, Di's eldest son, Prince William, read Ephesians 3:14-21.

The next morning, the first hymn sung in the Bradenton SDB Church was "Be Thou My Vision." And the first portion of Scripture was Ephesians 3:14-21. God definitely had my attention!

Later, Pastor Michael Spearl and parishioner John Mellquist acted out a skit based on James 1:27: "Pure religion is this, 'To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction...'" There was a pronounced tug on my heart to move closer to Mom.

Two months later, Rich and I made an offer on a house by a

lake. By this time, neither of us could remember anything about this particular place. But, right away, we believed that the decision was being affirmed by our God; God, the Master of "coincidences."

The sellers were flabbergasted to learn that our West Virginia address was Broad Run Road in Jane Lew. Mrs. Lanham, the wife, had grown up on that very road! (Jane Lew's population is only 409.)

Even after that, I admit I still had my doubts about the move.

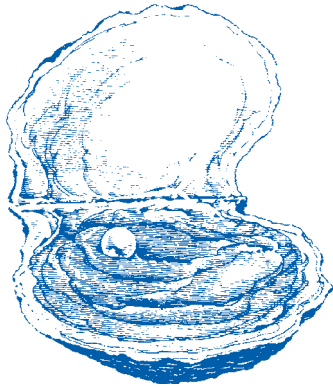
The morning after my third restless night, our realtor telephoned to say that everything was set for the closing.

About an hour later, I listened to a worship tape sent from the Alfred Station, N.Y., SDB church. The service closed with

the hymn, "Be Thou My Vision." I couldn't help but see this as God's way of saying, "You're okay, Susie. You're doing the right thing."

Walking into our new home was like opening a huge surprise box. Bubbling over with joy, I had to say to Rich, "This is just like Bear Creek—the dream home that I had left 19 months earlier—only more wonderful!" **SR**

"Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart. Naught be all else to me save that Thou art... Heart of my own heart, whatever befall; still be my Vision, O Ruler of all." (An ancient Irish hymn translated by Mary E. Byrne.)



Pearls from the Past by Don A. Sanford, historian emeritus

SCSC: A technical misnomer

The Summer Christian Service Corps (SCSC) was started in 1964 to answer a need of the Metairie Seventh Day Baptist Church in Louisiana. But what started out as a *summer* project could well be called the *Sustaining Christian Service Corps*, with its work and influence extending into the fall, winter, and spring as well.

Actually, several youth programs existed prior to SCSC's formal beginnings.

In 1959, Helena Knox became a Summer Field Worker, primarily ministering in Associational camps. That same year, the SDB Board of Christian Education reported to the General Conference: "We anticipate being able to have a full-time field worker within a few years, if funds from Our World Mission become available."

The following year, Luan Sutton served as Summer Field Worker, sponsored by the Board of Christian Ed. She worked at five Association camps as well as Pre-Con camp.

That same year, the General Conference Year Book reported that the Youth Work Committee's proposal for a full-time field worker "remains very much in our minds."

Myrna Cox, Women's Board president at the time, wrote an article for the March 4, 1972, *Sabbath Recorder*. In it, she stated that when the Board was located in Milton, Wis., under the presidency of Caroline Gray, "it [the Board] decided to undertake this [SCSC] project and made plans to send a team to Metairie that summer.

"Travel and miscellaneous expenses were to be paid by the Women's Board, and the local church was to furnish room and board. Four young people were picked by the Board to go... Judy Van Horn, Linda Bingham, Dale Rood, and Al Crouch.

"After evaluating this summer of dedicated work, the Women's Board decided to make this an annual project. They asked Leon Lawton, who was just returning from the missionary field in Jamaica, to hold a training session in the spring for those young people planning to give a summer of dedicated service.

"The procedure of soliciting applications was started. This then

involved the Missionary Society. The Planning Committee also helped to coordinate the program. However, the Women's Board felt that this was still primarily its project, and has been supporting SCSC financially, as well as sharing administrative duties, ever since. The financing is largely through contributions to the Women's Board."

Throughout this entire process of establishing the SCSC program, a number of "coincidences" happened. Linda (Bingham) Hays best summarized this with the adage, "A coincidence is a miracle in which God chooses to remain anonymous."

The gender ratio comprising this initial SCSC team was equal; two young men, and two young women. The following year, nine girls and two boys were recruited to serve projects in New Orleans, La.; Battle Creek, Mich.; and Adams Center and Syracuse, N.Y.

In 1966, 10 girls and eight boys participated in SCSC. By 1969, the

Sustaining



number of SCSCers included 17 girls and eight boys serving in church projects in Milton and in Alfred Station, Little Genesee, and Verona, N.Y.; Boulder, Colo.; Little Rock, Ark.; North Loup, Neb.; Plainfield, N.J.; Riverside, Calif.; Paint Rock, Ala.; and West Virginia.

A team also worked with the Historical Society at the SDB building in Plainfield.

Since many of the workers put in multiple years, it's difficult to determine the number of youth and leaders who have been involved in the SCSC program. But a sizable number of them later became SDB ministers and denominational leaders.

No statistics were ever recorded regarding the number of married couples who first became acquainted through SCSC, but their numbers have definitely strengthened many of our churches, both for today and future generations.

The denomination and local churches are not the only ones to

have benefited from the SCSC program; families have also participated in the residual experience of the program.

I'm well aware of one family in which three daughters (with a total of seven summers as SCSC team members) have contributed to various ministries, both in their local churches and in the denomination at large.

My oldest daughter, Donna, served two years in SCSC, then put in a year of dedicated work at the denominational building in Plainfield. She married a minister's son, and together they have been active SDBs in their church. Donna served as president of the Women's Society and represented SDB women at a Baptist World Alliance meeting in Argentina.

Her son, Levi, after serving in the military, attended seminary but didn't feel called to a "regular" pastorate. Instead, he has done considerable preaching and extension work

in branch churches. He has also been an important cog in hosting General Conference sessions.

Our second daughter, Doreen, put in two years as an SCSC worker and project leader, and then served on the SCSC training staff for over a decade. She, too, married the son of an SDB minister, and both have been active in churches near their various homes.

Youngest daughter, Deirdre, was an SCSCer for three years and has also served as a project director. She, too, married a pastor's son, and together they have been active in their church's AWANA program, ministering to students both within the church and in the wider community. Their two young girls are showing potential for church leadership, also.

Similar family involvement has undoubtedly been duplicated elsewhere. But the residual effect of SCSC training certainly isn't limited to a short summer program. It continues through the years. **SR**

Denominational Dateline

June 2008

- 2-13 Summer Institute, Janesville, Wis.—Gordon Lawton
- 6-8 Central NY Association, Verona, N.Y.
- 6-8 Southwest Association, Little Rock, Ark.—Andy Samuels, Rob Appel, Ron Elston
- 17-26 SCSC Training, Milton, Wis.—Andrew Camenga
- 20-21 Ordination Council, Daytona Beach, Fla.—Lawton
- 27-29 Appalachian Association, Lost Creek, W.Va.—Samuels
- 28 300th Anniversary Celebration, Ashaway, R.I.—Kevin Butler

July

- 27 BCE Executive Committee, Alfred Station, N.Y.—Camenga
- 28-8/2 SDB World Federation, Carthage College, Kenosha, Wis.

- 29-30 CLT, Carthage College
- 30-8/1 General Council, Carthage College

August

- 2 Memorial Board meeting, Carthage College—Morgan Shepard, Appel
- 3 COM mid-year, Carthage College—Lawton
- 3-9 The 196th SDB General Conference, Carthage College
- 21-29 Pennsylvania churches and historical sites—Nick Kersten

September

- 20 Diaconate Seminar, Hebron, Pa.—Camenga
- 27 New England Yearly Meeting, Ashaway, R.I.—Kersten, Butler
- 28 MOST Teachers Seminar, Marlboro, N.J.—Camenga



Memorize those verses!

When this *Sabbath Recorder* is delivered to your house, there will be less than one month left in this year's Scripture Memorization challenge. That means you still have time to complete the work.

As we announced last fall, you have two ways to complete the challenge. The first is by memorizing the nine verses that correspond to the Conference theme chosen by Pastor Andrew Samuels. The second is by memorizing Isaiah 55.

I realize that I have allowed nearly a year to slip by without taking the time to etch in my head any specific Scripture passages. That is not to say that I haven't studied and pondered Scripture while preparing to preach, teach, lead seminars, or write reports. That is not to say that God has not used His Word to transform my life.

It is to say, however, that I have not worked with intention to bury any specific part of His Word so deep between my ears that my heart is pierced. So now, as the Scripture Memory challenge enters its final stretch, I challenge myself in front of you to learn Isaiah 55 in the next month.

I also challenge you to learn this year's verses or Isaiah 55 before the month ends.

Here are some thoughts about memorizing that I shared on this page three years ago:

The effort spent to memorize is valuable; it brings us face-to-face with God's words and forces us to pay attention to what is said and

how it's said. In a very real sense, the harder it is for you to memorize Scripture, the more likely you are to ponder it as you work.

Learning the addition and multiplication tables was a challenge for me in grade school. The teachers really wanted us to learn these things. Our parents got in on the act by quizzing us at home. The teachers even tricked us into working on the tables by giving us flashcards and turning the repetition into a game. It was work, and we learned.

I learned those addition and multiplication tables. In retrospect, I also learned how to memorize. Memorizing, especially memorizing Scripture, is not something that you sequester to one small part of your life. The more of your life you are willing to involve in the process, the more you are likely to accomplish this important task. Once you've decided to memorize Scripture, use these keys and hide His Word in your heart—

Use as much of yourself as you can

Look at the verse (use your eyes). Read it out loud (use your voice). Have somebody else read it to you, or record it and play it back (use your ears). Write it out (use your hands). Read the verse in context and paraphrase it (use your brain). Set it to music or draw a picture of it (use your creativity).

Involve other people

Work with someone else one-on-one (read it to each other; see how

far you can go without making a mistake). Read it together in your Sabbath School class. Discuss what it means and how it helps with life.

Review it as often as you can

Post it where you can see it in your house, your car, your bedroom, your Sabbath School room, and other places. Decide to stop and read it aloud the first time you see it each day.

Make a card and carry it with you. Read it as you begin each meal. Read or recite it aloud at the start of each commercial break when you watch TV, at the start of a new chapter when you are reading for fun, or at the turn of every page when reading a newspaper or magazine.

Break it down into smaller parts

Find chunks of words that can fit in your mind. Learn the passage using a word, a phrase, a clause, or a sentence at a time.

Provide ways to test yourself

With the Scripture Memory Program, one is already built in. On the back of your brochure is a list of the verses with a place for somebody else to initial. Bring the folder to someone you trust and have them test you. They can have the words right in front of them as you recite from memory. As you succeed, have them initial the blank lines. In time, all nine spaces will be filled. **SR**



SDBs are called what in Kenya?

by Kirk Looper

The life of a General Secretary in many of our overseas Conferences is not boring. It's full of challenges, successes, and disappointments.

These emotions aren't foreign to Benard Mose, General Secretary of the Kenya Conference; in fact, his life exhibits them on a regular basis. We can look back on this past year and see God working through this Conference's activities.

Pastor Mose is one of the youngest General Secretaries in Seventh Day Baptist circles. He was married only a few years ago, and last year he and his wife welcomed a darling little girl into their lives. Of course, this added more responsibility and another mouth to feed.

An extended family of more than 10 people live with Benard, depending on him for room and board. His family is part of a farm project being carried out on his property. He spends so much time working in the fields and visiting church members that he hardly has time to visit new contacts or organize classes for new members.

Last November, the State Law Office called him to discuss the Kenyan Conference with Alexander O. Mose, Senior Litigation Counsel Commissioner of Oaths. When Benard arrived, he was told that he needed to register the Conference again—not an easy task.

They explained that the Conference could register as “Seventh-day Adventist” or “Baptist,” but not as Seventh Day Baptist. Benard contacted the Missionary Society office for advice.

We suggested that he take Conference literature to the official to show that we are a longstanding, valid organization. “Ask again to be registered as Seventh Day Baptist,” we urged.

Pastor Mose followed our advice, but his request was denied. It was the law of the country.

It was decided that I would visit Kenya on behalf of the Missionary Society to see what could be done. I invited Ned Lozani, General Secretary of the Central Africa Conference, to meet me in Nairobi and help with any problems arising from the local culture and ethnicity. He agreed.

The trip was planned for April 13-16, giving us two days to work with the government offices. We arranged to meet with the Commissioner of Oaths on April 14, so we could meet again the next day if needed. We both would return home on the 16th.

Everything went as scheduled. We met Sunday evening with Benard Mose and Henry Ogachi, one of the pastors from the Conference, to discuss the problems of getting registered and possible solutions.

It turned out that we had misunderstood the situation. The Kenyan Conference couldn't register as SDBs, but they *were* allowed to come up with another name. That name couldn't have any word in it that appears in

the name of any other registered organization.

So, we simply sat down and worked with synonyms for the Conference, finally settling on “Sabbatarian Church of the Immersed in Kenya.” We decided to take that name to the government office the next morning.

We were surprised when Mr. Mose said he was very pleased with the new name. He instructed us to write a letter to his Board requesting the name change, along with four other suggestions.

By the time we left his office, he had written the letter for us. All we needed to do was get it typed up and returned that afternoon. That was done.

The next day, we met with Commissioner Mose to finalize the action and sign the petition.

One of our generous donors supplied funds to pay the registration fees, plus enough extra to cover a few months rent for an office in Kisii—which was one of the registration requirements.

It will be interesting and exciting to receive the address of the Kisii office. Now all that needs to be done is to come up with funds to furnish it!

Their needs include a computer, printer, photocopier, and furniture. If you are able to help, please send your donation to the Missionary Society Office, 19 Hillside Ave., Ashaway, RI 02804.

We praise God daily for those who help with the projects of our sister Conferences and churches. **SR**

The Conference couldn't register as SDBs; the name couldn't have any word in it that appears in the name of any other registered organization.

“Reflections” writer reflects courage

While preparing for my Assistant Editor’s retirement party (held on the first of May), I invited a number of people to express their thoughts about the one-and-only Leanne Lippincott-Wuerthele. The tributes and memories were read at the dinner. (We plan to share even more stories during her “roast” at Conference.) I felt that one special tribute needed to be shared with all of you. Enjoy.—Editor



It is difficult to describe the special words that we feel apply to Leanne. We were introduced to Leanne when a dear friend, Denny Lippincott, came to visit and brought his new bride to our home.

Little did any of us know what heartache was in store for this young couple. Over the years of visits, and then with Denny’s tragically early demise, we saw Leanne overcome the huge task of supporting and raising two wonderful kids by herself as a widow.

We were then privileged to attend her standing-room-only wedding, a second courageous commitment to love and live with a fine man, Fred Wuerthele.

In the intermittent years (more than two decades) between her first and second commitment, Leanne experienced more trials and heartache than seems fair for one person’s lifetime. She has met every one of those trials with grace.

She has never burdened anyone with her grief but has instead demonstrated courage to face what each experience has demanded. We are privileged to have known her and count her as a friend for lo these many years.

How could one little human package encounter so many trials and still maintain her balance of enthusiasm for living?

“Courageous” is a good word to describe Leanne. She is an encouragement to others with her perseverance in the face of adversity. She has demonstrated her faith during each encounter of pain, sickness and death.

It is one thing to write about faith, but quite another to demonstrate it in reality. Leanne is THE REAL THING.

She somehow manages to bring insight and poignancy into her *Sabbath Recorder* articles. It is the first place I turn to in the *Recorder*; she never fails to reach out and touch some soft spot in my heart, or bring her joy of eloquent observation to this reader. I love her self-deprecating humor!

I’m hoping that her retirement won’t curtail her writing for the *SR* for the sake of all to whom she brings similar joy.

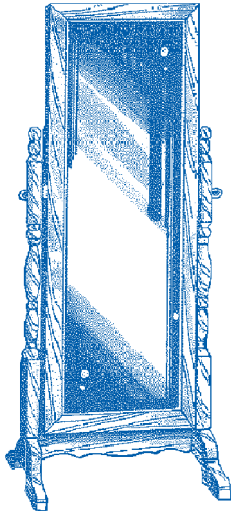
We wish her well with her new endeavors and can’t accept that she will retire her creativity to communicate on paper. Is it possible there is a novel in the making, or time to finally complete something already in progress?

I love stories with a happy ending, even if the ending is just a transition to a second beginning! (Leanne, I suppose that it’s okay if you take a little time off to go fishing!)

With heartfelt love and congratulations on this transition,

Floy and Paul Owen
Granite Bay, Calif.

Well, to Floy, and other “Fans of Leanne’s” I’m happy to report that Leanne has agreed to continue writing for us. PTL!



Reflections

by Leanne Lippincott-Wuerthele

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

A survivor's role model

In last month's *SR*, my former boss (that's sounds so weird!) honored my retirement in his "Kevin's Korner." The gist of his tribute was that I'm a survivor, overcoming such obstacles as widowhood, depression, and a life-threatening illness.

As flattering as that column was, my "survivorhood" pales in comparison to my courageous friend and role model, Sharon Hodge.

I first met Sharon in 1999, soon after I was diagnosed with Stage 3 breast cancer. She belonged to a local breast cancer support group and came to my house to encourage me.

I poured out my heart to this total stranger, especially sharing my fears about undergoing chemotherapy and being unable to keep food down. "I'm scared I'll look like a concentration camp survivor," I blurted.

Sharon looked me straight in the eye and said, "You *will* get through this." She spoke with an air of authority, and for good reason. At the time, she was a six-year survivor of Stage 4 breast cancer—the most deadly you can have.

Sharon had trouble getting her disease diagnosed. Finally, she went to the University Hospital in Madison, Wis., where it was confirmed that she did indeed have breast cancer. Then the doctor added, "It's already metastasized to your lungs."

"When I got home that day, I couldn't remember driving," Sharon said.

"Telling my family I had cancer was the hardest thing I ever did," she continued. "The prognosis was pretty grim. I thought I had three to six months to live."

For both of us, good news came with the bad. While sharing the diagnoses with our children, Sharon and I learned that we were going to be first-time grandmothers.

words the courage and dignity of this amazing woman. Her strong faith and indomitable spirit were hallmarks of her life and key factors in her living much longer than many expected.

We often refer to cancer patients as "victims." But Sharon was no victim. She was an unbelievably courageous survivor who touched

"Telling my family I had cancer was the hardest thing I ever did," Sharon said.

"The prognosis was pretty grim. I thought I had three to six months to live."

"When my daughter told me she was pregnant," Sharon said, "I decided right then and there that I was going to be around to see my grandchild."

Sharon had a mastectomy and, to the amazement of her doctors, she also survived the lung cancer. (Depending on its stage, the five-year survival rate for lung cancer ranges from 50 percent down to just 2 percent.)

Later, while vacationing with her husband, Sharon noticed a lump in her remaining breast. It turned out to be Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma, and she had a second mastectomy.

When I remarried in May of 2006, Sharon vowed to make it to the wedding. And she did. She came in a wheelchair because she had developed brain cancer.

I can't even *begin* to put into

hundreds of lives. She was a woman of steel, encased in an invisible armor so strong that many of the slings and arrows of life simply bounced off of her. Yet she was a tender woman—a graceful, grace-filled willow tree that could bend and sway without breaking when pummeled by the winds of adversity.

Sharon died on April 11. Many said that she lost her 15-year battle with cancer, but I disagree. She was an awesome warrior who never lost her fighting spirit, her sense of humor, and—most importantly—her Christian faith.

Sharon was a true survivor; a winner in every sense of the word. I hope that I can follow in her footsteps, becoming an encourager to others, just as she encouraged me.

You are—and always will be—my hero, Sharon. See you in Heaven! **SR**



A LIMITLESS GOD FOR A HUNGRY PEOPLE

2008 SDB General Conference August 3-9
Carthage College, Kenosha, Wisconsin



The President's Page
by Pastor Andrew Samuels

Kids are our future

Church leaders and parents are very fearful today. They are afraid that their kids—having been raised in Christian families, and having spent their childhood and teenage years in the church—will nonetheless walk away unchanged. They fear that their children will depart from the true faith.

In mainstream denominations, between 69 and 94 percent of young people are leaving the traditional church after high school, and very few are returning.

In the 1970s and '80s, significant numbers of Christian parents began removing their children from the public school system in an attempt to “salvage” this younger generation. The hope was that a Christian school education would somehow undergird their children with a Biblical worldview.

Today there are over 12,000 Christian schools in the United States. But what are the results?

- 63% don't believe Jesus is the Son of the one true God
- 58% believe all faiths teach equally valid truths
- 51% don't believe Jesus rose from the dead
- 65% don't believe Satan is a real entity
- 68% don't believe the Holy Spirit is a real entity

But it is much more than a matter of what they believe. It's also a matter of how they live their lives. Further research has shown that when young people lack a basic belief system, it negatively affects their attitude. They are more likely to engage in destructive behaviors such as cheating on exams, stealing, physically hurting someone, using illegal drugs, and even attempting suicide.

Seventh Day Baptist youths are not immune to these dangers. To many of our young people, church is boring. It is not a big influence in their lives or even in their spiritual development, and it will not help them to grapple with the real issues.

It's not an easy thing for them to develop a spiritual appetite or to really hunger for God, His righteousness, and His Kingdom. Nor is it easy for them to see God as the limitless One Who is involved in our lives in a caring way.

Many adults have a hard time relating to kids. Generally speaking, adults and young people have a different understanding of certain concepts such as tolerance, respect, acceptance, moral judgments, freedom, and truth. These differences can easily lead to conflict and distance in relationships. The generation gap is ever present.

Yet, among Seventh Day Baptist

youths, I am wholeheartedly encouraged by what I see among them—their passion, their enthusiasm, their desire to make a difference in the world, their talent and abilities, their intelligence, and their longing to please God.

When I asked one youth to take on an assignment at Conference, the response came back: “I am willing to do anything I'm needed to do; I always want to find new ways that I can be more involved at Conference.”

Wow! I'd love to have that response resonate throughout our denomination.

In a survey of Christian leaders who work primarily with youth, the top five priority issues were that the young people:

- experience a transformed life in Christ
- know why they believe what they believe
- develop healthy relationships
- learn to resist ungodly influences
- learn how to make right choices

These can be our priorities as well, as we minister to our young people.

This year's Conference will have a daily Bible study for youths, as well as activities following the evening worship services, and of course, the Pastors vs. Youth basketball game. Even our youths must become hungry for our limitless God. **SR**



by Executive Director
Rob Appel

Let's be Positive about this!

We all need to be as positive as we can in this world bombarded with bad news. To help Seventh Day Baptists be positive, I would like to use the four sides of a plus sign to challenge us to have a positive effect in people's lives.

Church CPR

Back in the '90s, the Mission of Revival and Evangelism (MORE 2000) directed churches to discover their purpose and helped them to achieve more than they knew they could.

We are making this positive program available again and renaming it "**SDB CPR—Commitment, Purpose and Revival.**" It will be on a first come—first service basis. I suggest that you seriously consider this ministry of revival and purpose in your church, and take the SDB CPR training!

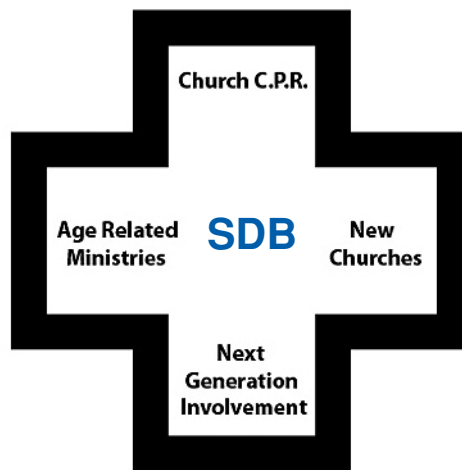
Church Plants

The population of the United States is around 305 million people. The top 100 metropolitan areas house a population of 164 million. Of those top 100, SDBs do not have a presence in 72 locations. In Canada, the population is about 32 million. Of the top 10 cities in Canada we have churches in one: Toronto.

In the late 1970s and early '80s, Seventh Day Baptists planted churches in urban areas. Some of those locations are New York City (1974); Houston, Texas (1977); Columbus,

Ohio (1976); Central Maryland (1978); Portland, Ore. (1978); Philadelphia, Pa. (1982); and Atlanta, Ga. (1982). **All of these churches are still in existence today!**

I would like for us to seriously consider where we should plant some churches again and do it together.



Next Generation Involvement

We are growing in numbers, growing in churches and growing in unity. What has been achieved is no less than a miracle of God. While history may someday record these times in our Conference, Scripture instructs us to be ready to "give an account" for the hope that is within us (1 Peter 3:15). This must be our motivation and the cause to which we have dedicated our lives in doing the Lord's work.

Each generation needs to speak

to the issues of its day, and face the challenges of its own climate. The climate of today is not the climate of tomorrow. Therefore, I would like to see us get adults who are under the age of 40 involved in the work of this Conference. They are the ones who will be involved during the next generation of denominational work.

Age-Related Ministries

We need to make changes in how we develop our leaders of tomorrow—for both our churches and our Conference. We need to develop more children's ministries and opportunities for new church programs. We also need to develop an education and involvement ministry designed for elementary-aged children.

Another area of concern is with our college-aged people. We need a ministry to encourage the development and participation of this group. This needs to happen soon if we are to solve the "disconnect" that many of our young people feel once they leave home to get a higher education.

More to come...

Want to learn more about these areas of thinking positively and working to enhance Christ's Kingdom here on earth? Then come to General Conference in Kenosha, Wis., and you can hear the challenge that will be laid out for consideration. I look forward to seeing you there! **SR**



The cost of borrowing

by Morgan Shepard

Sometimes we make purchases with a credit card because we don't have the money right now. But what does it really cost to borrow money?

Many of us have borrowed money to buy a house or a car. We try to save money (or not) for a down payment so we can borrow less. We try to shop around to get the best interest rate so the payments are within our budgets (or not).

Sometimes we make purchases with a credit card because we don't have the money right now. "We'll pay it off once the bill comes in" or we'll make payments as we are able. But what does it *really cost* to borrow money?

The purchase of a house usually represents our biggest debt. For some, a house is an investment. A home's value typically doubles every decade depending on where you live.

Say you borrow \$100,000 on a 30-year loan at a fixed rate of 6%. Your monthly payments would be \$599.55 (source: www.bankrate.com, Mortgage Calculator). Over 30 years, you would pay \$115,838 in interest!

What if you made some extra payments in order to retire the loan more quickly?

As a rule, if you made at least one additional monthly payment on the mortgage principal per year, along with the regular payments, a 30-year mortgage will be reduced by about seven years. The savings in interest would be \$24,555.

If you paid an extra \$100 per month, a 30-year mortgage can be reduced by at least nine years at a savings of \$39,900 in interest! Hmm... what could you do with that money?

Well, you could pay off your credit cards. Like most folks, you probably furnished your new house using credit because you didn't have the cash. The best practice is to pay off the card balance each month in order to avoid the interest payments.

However, statistics show that the median balance on a credit card is \$2,200—meaning that half owe more, half less. Just over 8% of households owe \$9,000 or more on their cards. (Source: www.creditcards.com, MSN Money.)

What is that costing you in interest if you pay only the minimum? Let's assume you owe \$5,000 on a credit card with 10% interest, and that you send the minimum of \$50 per month. It will take 17.5 years to pay off! That's \$5,500 in interest—*double* of what you originally owed!

If you increased your monthly payment to \$100 per month, it would take over five years to pay off the balance with \$1,500 going towards interest (bankrate.com, Credit Card Calculator).

The lesson here? Don't go into



The Salem, W.Va., church burned their mortgage recently. See story next page.

debt but live within your means. Sometimes that is harder to do in today's economy. God has promised to provide all our needs, so we should be good stewards of what He has given us.

We will discuss more strategies on how to avoid debt in future articles. If you have a lot of debt and don't know where to start, there are numerous websites that can help. We'll provide those as well.

By developing a plan and being a good steward of what God has given, then someday you too can "burn your mortgage" and truly own your home.

"Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for he who loves his fellowman has fulfilled the law" (Romans 13:8). SR

Salem says, “Bye-bye, mortgage!”

by Janet Thorngate

To celebrate paying the mortgage on its 1998 building-and-renovation project, the Salem, W.Va., Seventh Day Baptist Church observed a high Sabbath of thanksgiving and festivities on April 18-19.

Friends from sister churches joined in the occasion, along with the trustees of the SDB Memorial Fund (holders of the mortgage) who held their quarterly meeting while in Salem.

The celebration began with a Sabbath welcoming service on Friday evening, with attendees enjoying a church choir cantata under the direction of Rebecca Rogers. It was titled “The Church’s One Foundation: Celebrating the Unity of the Church” by Lloyd Larson.

A photo review of the big project—constructing a four-story addition to the 1902 brick church—was narrated by Christopher Churchmouse and Friend (Christina Green and Chuck Meathrell).

Dr. George Cruzan, President of

the SDB Memorial Fund, brought the Sabbath morning message, “So It’s Paid For—What Now?” based on Luke 12:16-21.

A children’s message by the popular puppet, Frank Nichols (with friends Scott and Kevin Smith) highlighted the responsibility to pay our debts and honor our lenders. In addition to the choir and the regular Genesis Praise Team, special music included flute-piano duets and an impromptu men’s chorus of 15.

Following a fellowship dinner, the afternoon service gave thanks to God for the blessings the expanded facility has provided for the church’s growing ministry.

The congregation also thanked those who led out in helping the church retire its 20-year mortgage in less than 10 years. Fred Sias, chairman of the Building Finance Committee, presented appreciation plaques to committee members, then Pastor Dale Thorngate presented a plaque to Fred.

Memorial Fund Financial Manager Morgan Shepard gave Pastor Dale a copy of the Deed of Trust. Ruth Rogers, the oldest active member of the church, and Tressie McKenzie, the youngest new member, shared the honor of burning the paper, cheered on by the applauding congregation.

The \$491,000 project was the fifth major one on the church’s site during its more than 200 years in Salem. The structure progressed from a log church, to a frame church, to a brick church, to one renovated after a 1947 fire, to this remodeled facility with its new addition.

The addition includes classrooms, church offices, a choir room, library, activity room, restrooms, expanded Social Hall, and a new kitchen. Renovation of the existing portion resulted in a new heating system, fresh paint, new floor coverings, and paved parking lots.

The facility not only provides for a busy church program; it’s used by several community groups, including Senior Citizens, Alcoholics Anonymous, Foster Grandparents, Fort New Salem Board, and Weight Watchers.

We praise the Lord for all His provisions! 



Church members Ruth Rogers and Tressie McKenzie assist Pastor Dale Thorngate (r.) in the burning of the Salem church mortgage in April.



The church’s “new” addition.

Are you following the SDBlog?

* * *

The "SDB Exec" web log (known internally as 'SDBlog') features posts from our agency executives. Check it out at:

seventhdaybaptist.org

And while you're there, shop at the [E-Store!](#)

New members

Alfred Station, NY
Kenneth Chroniger, pastor
 Joined after baptism
 Shannon O'Brien
 Joined after testimony
 Bethany Quick

Fort Worth, TX
Bill Burks, pastor
 Joined after testimony
 Jeff Horn

Little Rock, AR
 Joined after testimony
 Geneva Lane
 Susanna Monroe

North Loup, NE
Christian Mattison, pastor
 Joined after testimony
 Bernard Dutcher
 Duane Psota
 Chris Worden
 Chrystal Worden

Births

Majerus.—A daughter, Tegan Jade Majerus, was born to Nalin and Jamie Majerus of Grand Island, NE, on October 30, 2007.

Wilkerson.—A son, Christian Maximillian "Max", was born to Quinton and Karen (McPherson) Wilkerson of Harrisburg, PA, on March 11, 2008.

Williams.—A son, Blake Tyler Williams, was born to Khale and Sandra Williams of Miramar, FL, on March 24, 2008.

Williams.—A son, Jordan Ray Williams, was born to Levi and Amber Williams of Burwell, NE, on March 31, 2008.

Marriage

Palermo - Goodrich.—Nicholas Yano Palermo and Amy Karlene Goodrich were united in marriage on March 8, 2008, in the North Loup, NE, Seventh Day Baptist Church. Pastors Steven Graffius and Christian Mattison officiated.

2008 SDB General Conference Operating Budget

Board / Agency	Monthly Operating Budget	Monthly Giving Towards Budget	Received Apr '08	Over / (Short)
General Services*	\$ 22,635.13	\$ 16,513.25	\$ 19,096.93	\$ 2,583.68
Council On Ministry	13,017.33	5,410.25	4,008.10	(1,402.15)
Missionary Soc.	25,083.33	4,879.83	4,823.26	(56.57)
Tract Council	12,142.17	4,750.00	2,949.97	(1,800.03)
Christian Edu.	9,676.67	4,470.33	3,567.40	(902.93)
Women's Soc.	3,116.67	2,475.00	318.33	(2,156.67)
Total	\$ 85,671.30	\$ 38,498.67	\$ 34,763.99	\$ (3,734.68)

* Includes: General Services, Building Operations Fund, Christian Social Action, Ecumenical Affairs

Budget Overage / Shortfall Year to Date	\$ (51,349.62)
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Morgan Shepard
 Treasurer, SDB General Conference

THANK YOU

for responding to last month's plea for help. April was a big improvement over March. Please know that your gifts are appreciated. Without your support, we could not achieve the unity of ministry that we have. Thank you again, and God bless you all. I look forward to seeing many of you at Conference.

—Rob Appel
 Executive Director

Obituary

Burdick.—Carrol T. Burdick, 87, of Angelica, N.Y., passed away on March 23, 2007.

He was born in Andover, N.Y., on November 26, 1919, the son of Clifford T. and Edna (Norton) Burdick. He graduated from Andover Central School and later from NYS Ag Tech in Alfred, N.Y., receiving a degree in farm machinery in 1942.

On June 19, 1943, Carrol married Merabah Olson.

Carrol was employed by the U.S. Government to teach farmers how to repair their old farm machinery. He also worked as a dairy farmer, a telephone operator, maple syrup maker (also selling syrup equipment), and retired from Alfred State College in 1983.

He was a member and deacon of the Alfred Station Seventh Day Baptist Church. Mr. Burdick was a charter member of both the Chemung Valley Region Antique Auto-

mobile Club and the Andover Lions Club, and was instrumental in starting the Andover Maple Festival.

He was involved in numerous agricultural and steam engine associations, and was a published author and historian. His miniature carousels were exhibited in several area museums, including a traveling museum throughout the Northeast.

In addition to his wife, Merabah, survivors include one daughter, Dawn Miller of Angelica; one sister, Phyllis Mattison of Whitesville, N.Y.; three grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren, and several nieces, nephews, and cousins. He was predeceased by two sisters, Lorraine Burdick and Jane Sisson.

A funeral service was held on April 6, 2007, at the Alfred Station SDB Church, with Pastors Ed Sutton and Kenneth Chroniger officiating. Burial was in the Until the Day Dawns Cemetery in Angelica.

Death Notice

Linda (Bingham) Hays, 67, of Chatawa, Miss., died on May 11, 2008.

Dear Readers,

Thank you for keeping us informed of your family news. You may e-mail updates to: editor@seventhdaybaptist.org.

If you mail in obituaries from a newspaper, please make sure that the death and service dates are listed, along with the location of the burial.

—Editor

General Conference Carthage College, Kenosha, Wis. August 3-9, 2008



Housing

There are a limited number of “triple occupancy” dorm rooms that will allow one child (age 11 and under) to sleep on the floor without charge.

These rooms will only be available through the on-line registration while they last. Please register early!

Thinking about Camping at Conference? Check out these campsites:

Happy Acres Kampground
www.happyacres.com

Richard Bong State Recreation Area
www.bongnaturalistassociation.org

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Curious about **What to Do** in the Kenosha area?  
Just go to our website to find links for the city, county, and more:  
**[www.seventhdaybaptist.org](http://www.seventhdaybaptist.org)**

**Do you read *The Sabbath Recorder*?**

**Do you study *The Helping Hand*?**

**Do you have a pastor?**

**Do you send a donation to the SDB Budget?**

Your dollars make *The Sabbath Recorder* and *The Helping Hand* possible. Your dollars keep someone there for your pastor to talk to, learn from, and help you. Your dollars enable the Seventh Day Baptist Conference to serve your spiritual needs. Please send your dollars to support your denomination!

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# KEVIN'S

## ORNER

### The little things

Charles Mylander writes this in *The Encourager*:

Los Angeles motorcycle police officer Bob Vernon saw a red pickup truck speed through a stop sign.

*This guy must be late to work*, Vernon thought to himself.

He turned on his emergency lights and radioed that he was in pursuit. The pickup pulled over, and the officer approached.

Meanwhile the driver thought, *The cops already know!* He rested his hand on the same gun he had used a few moments

earlier to rob a 24-hour market. The sack of stolen money was beside him.

The policeman said, "May I see your—"

He never finished the sentence. The driver shoved his gun toward the officer's chest and fired. The cop was knocked flat seven feet away.

A few seconds later, to the shock of the criminal, Bob Vernon stood up, pulled his service revolver, and fired twice. The first bullet went through the open window and smashed the windshield. The second tore through the door and ripped into the driver's left leg.

"Don't shoot!" the thief screamed, throwing the gun and sack of money out the pickup window.

What saved the policeman's life? Kevlar, the super strong fabric used for bulletproof vests. Only 3/8 of an inch thick, Kevlar can stop bullets cold.

It was a good thing that Officer Vernon decided to put on his armor that day.

Are we putting on the "full armor of God" as He instructs us in Ephesians 6?

I applaud our youth today. From "Seven tips to surviving life" (p. 4), to inspiring poetry, to President Andy Samuels' testimony of a young willing worker

(p. 20), our future looks bright. May all of us—whatever our age—put on the full armor today, and do all for the glory of God.

As Jessica and Lance say in "The Beacon" (p. 10), we can live for the Lord and serve Him even in the mundane, everyday activities of life. They might seem insignificant, but if tasks are undertaken as an act of obedience and thanksgiving, they become important.

And even though Bob Vernon's vest was only three-eighths of an inch thick, ask that L.A. cop if something that small is "insignificant." The little details count.

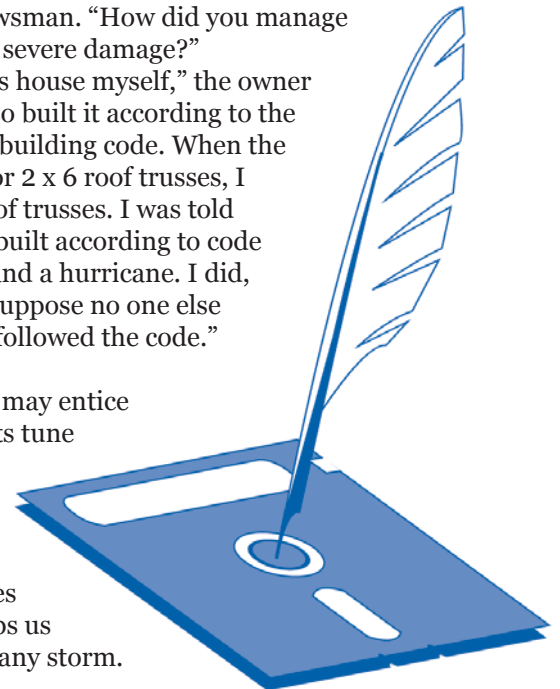
Following a devastating hurricane in Florida, a TV news crew came upon one lone house amid a neighborhood of nothing but debris. The reporter approached the owner of the home as he was cleaning up the yard.

"Why is your house the only one standing?" asked the newsman. "How did you manage to escape the severe damage?"

"I built this house myself," the owner replied. "I also built it according to the Florida state building code. When the code called for 2 x 6 roof trusses, I used 2 x 6 roof trusses. I was told that a house built according to code could withstand a hurricane. I did, and it did. I suppose no one else around here followed the code."

The world may entice us to follow its tune and to cut corners.

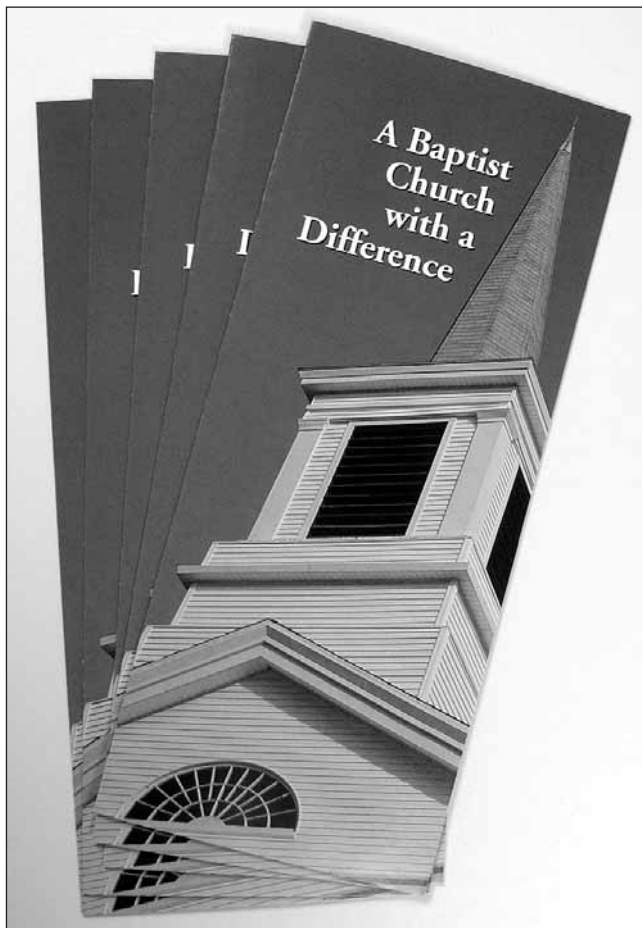
Following "God's Code" when the skies are clear keeps us prepared for any storm.



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Our best-selling tract, “A Baptist Church that’s a Little Different” has become “A Baptist Church with a Difference.”

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