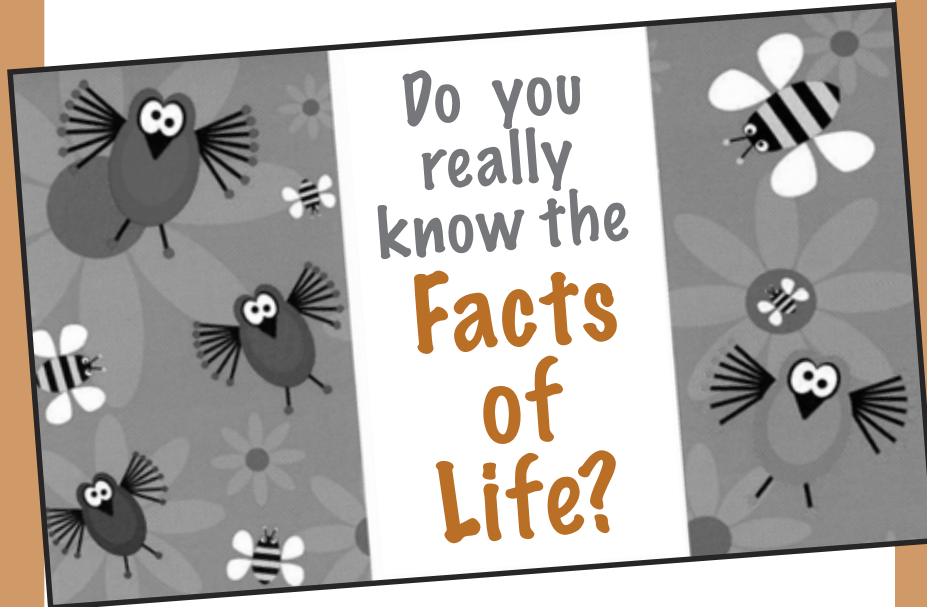




# The Sabbath RECORDER

October 2008

*News for and about Seventh Day Baptists*



**It's ready!  
Are you?**

*Share the Gospel  
with our new  
Salvation tract*



## 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 a people with a difference.

For 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@seventhdaybaptist.org](mailto:sdbgen@seventhdaybaptist.org) and the SDB Web site: [www.seventhdaybaptist.org](http://www.seventhdaybaptist.org)

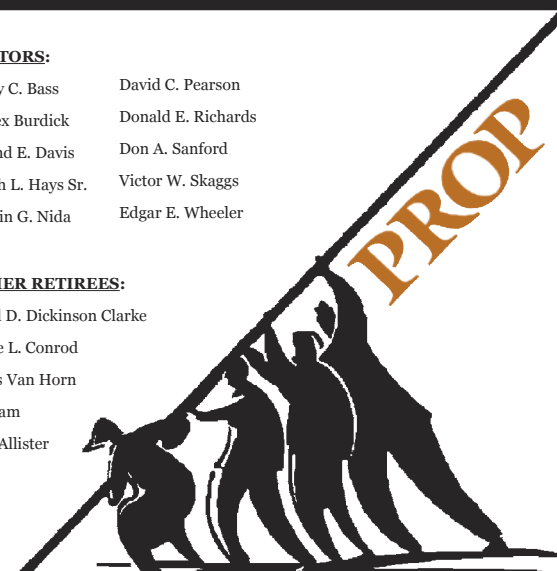
*Give to those who gave so much.*

#### **PASTORS:**

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C. Rex Burdick	Donald E. Richards
Leland E. Davis	Don A. Sanford
Ralph L. Hays Sr.	Victor W. Skaggs
Melvin G. Nida	Edgar E. Wheeler

#### **OTHER RETIREES:**

Ethel D. Dickinson Clarke  
 Joyce L. Conrod  
 Doris Van Horn  
 William McAllister



### **Pastors Retirement Offering Project**

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

**Please donate to PROP!**

## **PROP still going**

**PROP** (the Pastors Retirement Offering Project) continues to support our retired pastors and denominational workers.

**Won't you give to those who gave so much for Seventh Day Baptists over the years?**

*Send your donation to:*

**PROP**

**Seventh Day Baptist Center**

**PO Box 1678**

**Janesville WI 53547-1678**



Establ. 1844

October 2008  
Volume 230, No. 10  
Whole No. 6,943



**A Seventh Day Baptist publication**

*The Sabbath Recorder* (ISSN 0036-214X) (USPS 474460) is published monthly (combined July & August) by the SDB General Conference's Tract and Communication Council, 3120 Kennedy Road, PO Box 1678, Janesville, WI 53547-1678. This publication is distributed at no cost to members and friends of Seventh Day Baptist churches and is made possible by donations from its readers. Periodicals postage paid at Janesville, WI, and additional offices.

**POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to *The Sabbath Recorder*, 3120 Kennedy Road, PO Box 1678, Janesville, WI 53547-1678

This is the 164th year of publication for *The Sabbath Recorder*. First issue published, June 13, 1844. Member of the Associated Church Press. The *Sabbath Recorder* does not necessarily endorse signed articles.



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**WRITERS:** Please type manuscripts double spaced. Only manuscripts that include a stamped, addressed envelope can be returned. Unsolicited manuscripts are welcomed; however, they will be considered on a space available basis. No remuneration is given for any article that appears in this publication. Paid advertising is not accepted.

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# Do you really know the Facts of Life?

by Kevin Butler

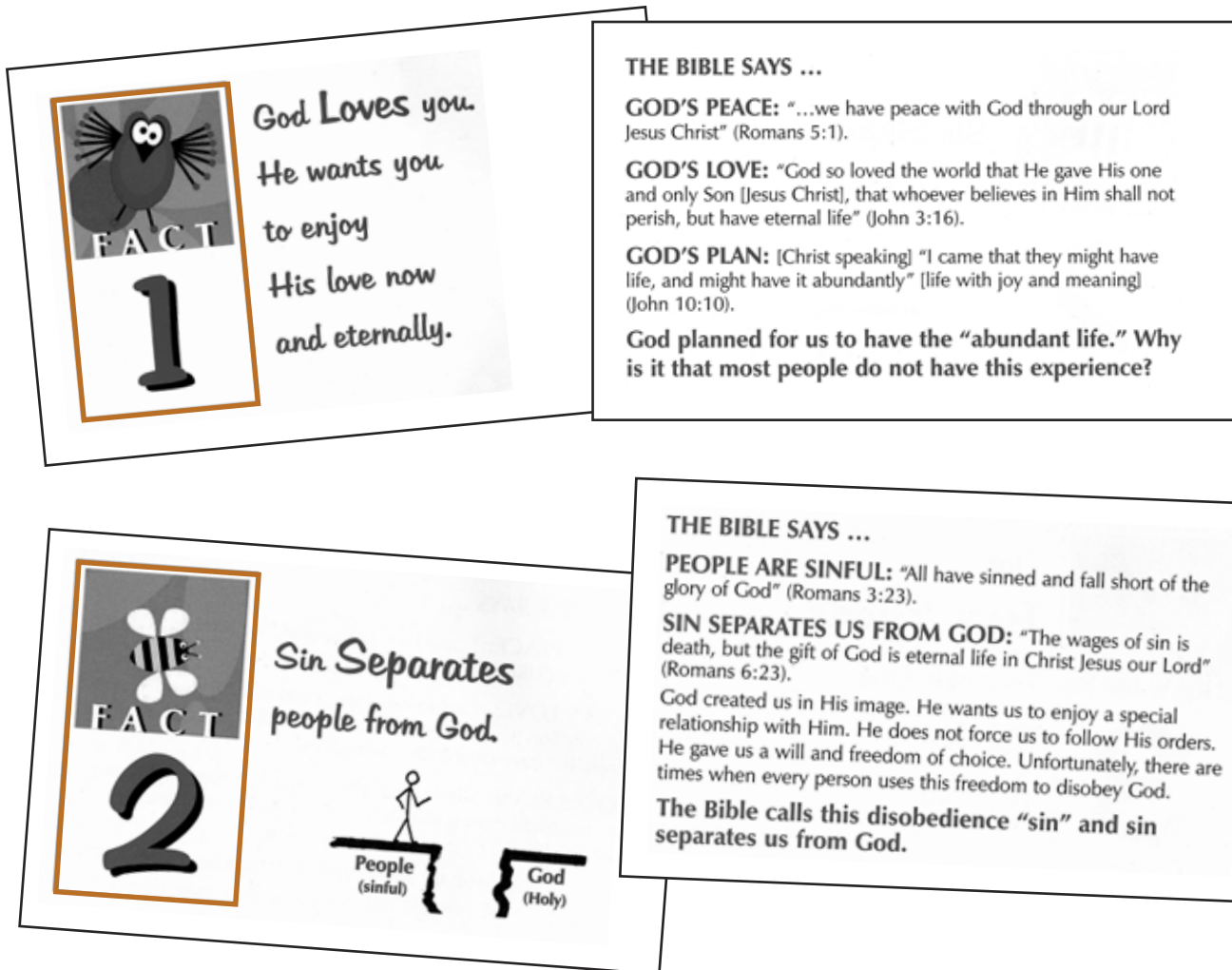
**“Do you really know the Facts of Life?”** is the name of our new salvation tract. This long-awaited tool will help people understand the facts of their spiritual condition, and introduce them to Jesus Christ.


The tract, unveiled at this year’s Conference, follows the concept that Pastor John Camenga developed during his ministry with SDBs in Australia. Artist Pat Cruzan came up with the artwork

and layout, and several Tract Council members worked on the wording and final touches.

For a time, Seventh Day Baptists relied on other companies’ Gospel tracts to help spread the Good News. Now we once again have one by our own people, for our own people, with our own logo and address. See page 7 for ordering information.

We pray that this is a positive sign that SDBs are getting back to our evangelistic roots!






**THE BIBLE SAYS ...**

**GOD’S PEACE:** “...we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ” (Romans 5:1).

**GOD’S LOVE:** “God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son [Jesus Christ], that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life” (John 3:16).

**GOD’S PLAN:** [Christ speaking] “I came that they might have life, and might have it abundantly” [life with joy and meaning] (John 10:10).

**God planned for us to have the “abundant life.” Why is it that most people do not have this experience?**



**THE BIBLE SAYS ...**

**PEOPLE ARE SINFUL:** “All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23).

**SIN SEPARATES US FROM GOD:** “The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 6:23).

God created us in His image. He wants us to enjoy a special relationship with Him. He does not force us to follow His orders. He gave us a will and freedom of choice. Unfortunately, there are times when every person uses this freedom to disobey God.

**The Bible calls this disobedience “sin” and sin separates us from God.**



Our Best Efforts to reach God fall short of the goal

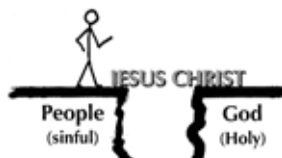
**THE BIBLE SAYS ...**

**OUR EFFORTS:** "There is a way that seems right to a man, but the end of it leads to death" (Proverbs 14:12).

We can't reach God by human effort.



Jesus Christ is God's Only solution for man's sin.



**THE BIBLE SAYS ...**

**HE DIED FOR OUR SIN:** "God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ [God's Son] died for us" (Romans 5:8).

**HE ROSE FROM THE DEAD:** "Christ died for our sins... He was buried...He was raised on the third day, according to the Scriptures...He appeared to Peter, then to the twelve. After that He appeared to more than five hundred..." (1 Corinthians 15:3-6).

**HE IS THE ONLY WAY TO GOD:** "Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but through Me'" (John 14:6).



It is not enough just to know these facts... Each of us must make a personal decision to Receive Christ as Savior and Lord.

**THE BIBLE SAYS . . .**

**RECEIVE CHRIST:** "As many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believed in His name" (John 1:12).

**RECEIVE CHRIST THROUGH FAITH:** "By grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, that no one should boast" (Ephesians 2:8-9).

**RECEIVE CHRIST BY PERSONAL INVITATION:** [Christ speaking] "Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him" (Revelation 3:20).

*continued...*

Receiving Christ includes turning from self-reliance to God (repentance) and trusting Christ to forgive our sins. Receiving Christ includes being available for service. Knowing the facts is not enough. You must make a decision.

**Christ will enter your life right now if you invite him in.**

Prayer is talking to God. God knows your heart and is more concerned with your sincerity than with the words you use. If you are not comfortable with prayer, here is one way to express your desire to have Christ as your Savior:

*Heavenly Father, I know that I am a sinner in need of forgiveness. Thank You for sending Your Son to die on the cross for my sins. I invite Jesus into my life as my Savior and my Lord. Thank You for forgiving my sins and giving me eternal life. Take control of my life. Make me the kind of person You want me to be.*

Does this prayer express your true desire? If you pray this right now, Jesus will come into your life.

**You can trust God to keep His promises.  
He has offered you eternal life.  
It is now your personal possession.**



You can  
count on God  
to keep His  
promises.

**THE BIBLE SAYS ...**

**YOU NOW HAVE ETERNAL LIFE:** "The witness is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, in order that you may know that you have eternal life" (1 John 5:11-13).

**God is reliable. His Word (the Bible) is reliable.  
God will do what He has promised.  
We can rely on God and His Word.**



You must rely on  
God's Word,  
not your feelings.



**FACTS AND FAITH OVER FEELINGS**

While feelings are important, they can change. Your relationship with Christ is based on **FACTS** about God found in His Word, the Bible. Think of it this way:

When you board a plane, you have to place your **FAITH** in the aircraft and the pilot who flies it. Our **FEELINGS** cannot affect the plane, but they certainly can affect how much we enjoy the trip!

In the same way, we shouldn't depend on our emotions (feelings), but always place our faith in the **FACTS** and promises found in God's Word. You will soon begin to respond to His truth and not just to your circumstances.

When you made the decision to **RECEIVE CHRIST** into your life, here is what happened:

- **Your sins were forgiven.** (Colossians 1:14)
- **Jesus Christ came into your life.** (Colossians 1:27)
- **You became a child of God.** (John 1:12)
- **You received eternal life.** (John 5:24)
- **You began a new life that God always wanted for you.** (John 10:10; 2 Corinthians 5:17; 1 Thessalonians 5:18)

Now you really do know the Facts of Life! And just as physical life changes as you grow, so does **SPIRITUAL LIFE.**

It is important not only to **START** living spiritually but also to **CONTINUE** living spiritually!


<b>L</b>	Let Jesus Christ bridge the gap between you and God. (John 14:6 and 1 Timothy 2:5)
	Invest time praying and reading the Bible. (Luke 11:1-10, Matthew 22:28, and Romans 15:4)
	Function as a new child of God. (2 Corinthians 5:17 and 1 Peter 1:3-4, 14)
	Entrust the facts of life to others, so they too can live an abundant life. (John 1:40-42 and Philemon 1:6)

**BAPTISM** by immersion (being completely covered in the water) is a witness to your new faith in Christ (Romans 6:1-7). It is important to understand that baptism is a *result* of salvation, not a cause.

**BECOME INVOLVED IN A BIBLE-TEACHING CHURCH**

God's Word instructs us not to forsake "the assembling of ourselves together" (Hebrews 10:25). Your friends at a nearby **SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST** church invite you to become a part of their congregation.

*"Facts of Life" concept by John H. Camenga, 2006*



**Seventh Day Baptist General Conference**  
www.seventhdaybaptist.org 08-20M

We hope you enjoyed this "tour" of your new salvation tract. The black and white doesn't do the booklet justice—the vibrant artwork is very colorful, attracting kids and adults alike. Much of the text is also in color. The size presented here is about 3/4 the actual size.

As you can see to the left, the back cover has room for a stamp or label of your local church information.

"Do you really know the Facts of Life?" sells for 25 cents each, or 5 for \$1.00. Go to our website, [www.seventhdaybaptist.org](http://www.seventhdaybaptist.org), and click on E-Store to order. Or call the SDB Center at 608-752-5055.

May the Lord Who inspired this tool use it for His glory. 

# Seventh Day Baptist origins

## England, 1590–1670

by Jim Skaggs

*Editor’s note: Jim Skaggs, a retired high school history teacher in Madison, Wis., hosts an impressive weblog at [www.one-eternal-day.com](http://www.one-eternal-day.com). He covers numerous stories on religion and books, and has added articles from and about Seventh Day Baptists. This article begins a series from his blog covering SDB history. The following is Jim’s introduction to the series—*

For some time I’ve been engaged in a project of summarizing Seventh Day Baptist history from the origins of the denomination in England (in the 17<sup>th</sup> century) up to the present day.

It has not been my purpose to provide a detailed chronicle, but rather to place denominational history in the context of the broader history of the United States and the American experience. I’ve done no original research.

My most valuable sources have been Don Sanford’s books, *Conscience Taken Captive: A Short History of Seventh Day Baptists*, and *A Choosing People: The History of Seventh Day Baptists*. I have adapted and added freely, and Rev. Sanford bears no responsibility for any of my errors.

I welcome corrections, clarifications and suggestions.

### Seventh Day Baptist Origins

England, 1590-1670

#### –Our final authority

One of the great principles of the Protestant Reformation was *sola scriptura*, or “Scripture alone”—meaning that the only reliable authority for faith and human behavior is the Bible.

In England, as elsewhere, the study of the Scriptures led devout believers to doctrinal conclusions that differed from previous tradition. With the Bible as their principal guide, some Christians became convinced that the Sabbath should not only be observed, but be observed on the seventh day of the week.

#### –The Sabbath is rediscovered

Some, like John Traske and Theophilus Brabourne, considered the Sabbath and tried to persuade others to adopt it. Failing to do so, they went no further.

After the English Civil War and the establishment of the Commonwealth under Oliver Cromwell, there was more freedom for Protestant dissenters.

From 1650 to 1660, a number of Baptists chose the Sabbath. Among

*Dr. Peter Chamberlen’s tombstone in Essex, England. The last lines of the inscription read: To tell his learning and his Life to Men: Enough is said by here lyes Chamberlen*







Samuel Stennett (left) wrote the well-known hymn “Majestic Sweetness Sits Enthroned,” and “On Jordan’s Stormy Banks I Stand.”

those were James Ockford, William Saller, John Spittlehouse, and Thomas Tillam, as well as Dr. Peter Chamberlen, who was physician to three English monarchs.

Several congregations of Sabbathkeeping Baptists were established, including the oldest still-existing Seventh Day Baptist church, later named Mill Yard.

### –Sabbathkeepers are persecuted

After the fall of the Commonwealth and the restoration of the monarchy in 1660, it again became more difficult for those outside the established Church of England.

John James, a leader of the Mill Yard congregation, was executed in 1661 on charges of being a Fifth Monarchist. Because of his Sabbath convictions, Edward Stennett was forced to change his profession and worship behind closed doors.

Francis Bampfield came to the Sabbath while in prison for holding

illegal worship. There he began the preaching which led to the founding of the Pinners’ Hall SDB Church. That church continued for over 175 years after Bampfield died in prison.

### –Sabbath comes to the American colonies

About 1664, two Sabbathkeeping members of the Baptist congregation at Tewkesbury—Stephen and Anne Mumford—emigrated to Rhode Island where they were instrumental in helping to found the first Seventh Day Baptist church in North America.

During the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries, English Seventh Day Baptists included several distinguished individuals including the hymn writers Joseph and Samuel Stennett and the lexicographer, Nathanael Bailey. **SR**

*Adapted from Don Sanford, A Choosing People: The History of Seventh Day Baptists, Broadman Press, 1992.*



Nathanael Bailey

## Lexicographer, Seventh Day Baptist

Nathanael Bailey was an English schoolmaster, philologist and lexicographer. His *Universal Etymological English Dictionary* of 1721 went through some 30 editions. His 1730 *Dictionarium Britannicum* was a massive folio dictionary that Samuel Johnson used as a basis for his own dictionary.

Bailey included etymologies, rudimentary pronunciations, proverbs, and many woodcut illustrations. Esoteric Latinisms were excluded, but common words were defined. The *Britannicum* had about 48,000 entries, many more than any of its predecessors, and even more than Johnson, at about 42,000.

Bailey was a Seventh Day Baptist, had a school at Stepney, and was also the author of *Dictionarium Domesticum* and other educational works.

*(Information taken from the new historical museum display at the SDB Center, curated by Jim Skaggs.)*

# Cruisin' after a bruisin'

by Victor Skaggs

*Introduction by daughter Lynne S. Severance:*

On June 11<sup>th</sup> of this year, my Dad, Victor Skaggs, “Went to sleep on his feet” because of a mix-up with his medicines. He apparently hit the underside of his bed and cut his head open. (*SCALPED* himself is more like it!)

He was on the floor losing lots of blood for nearly 1-1/2 hours before he was able to get up and call for help. When emergency workers arrived, they were not able to find a blood pressure.

Three days later, Dad boarded a flight to take a long-planned trip with his children down the coast of Alaska. It was a trip of a lifetime for all of us. It was set for this year so we could celebrate Dad’s 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on October 5.

Dad gave this testimony in the Boulder, Colo., SDB Church in July. We are extremely thankful to God that we were able to do this together and that we are blessed with this particular man of God as our father.



I asked the pastor if I might take a few minutes for a testimony.

I could spend my time telling you about my family and thanking them for their wonderful care and prayers for me. I could spend all my time thanking you, and people where I live, and others for their concern and prayers.

While I am very thankful, I feel compelled to talk of something else.

Most of you know that I have had a series of traumas over several years. Sometime back in that series, I learned a prayer so that following emergency service and lying in bed I could pray: “Father, if this is to be the end of my earthly life, take me Home and I will rejoice. If I am to continue this life, give me strength and the wisdom to use it for Your purposes.”

Then I could relax and wait for His decision. I was at peace.

I think I am a slow learner! Though I knew it before, this last trauma made His presence—and the very, very intimate, personal care God gives us through Christ and His Spirit—so real



*Enjoying their “miracle cruise” with Dad in Alaska (l. to r.): Keith Severance, Janice Kenyon, Lynne Severance, Pastor Vic Skaggs, Deb Skaggs (on top of couch), Nina Karhnaq, and Pat Skaggs.*

it is overwhelming...

Taken normally (and separately), the pills that I took on June 11 would put me to sleep for four to five hours. I took them together and at the wrong time, which made them stronger than ever.

Yet I awoke within 90 minutes, got to my feet, and had a few moments of confused action. I could not think of “9-1-1” though I remember trying.

Then into my mind there came a 10-digit number. I had never used that number without looking it up,

but like a signboard it stayed in my head while my fumbling fingers found it on the phone.

It was the number of Lynne and Keith’s home. I gave a rather incoherent sentence or two, put the phone down and the pills took over. I had just one more momentary glimpse of reality until it was nearly four hours from the time I had taken the pills. They worked perfectly, just as they should.

That one brief hiatus I had, the number that appeared in my confused mind, the fumbling fingers that dialed it, are explainable only in terms of God’s very personal care. Yet His care and love would have been the same had He left me on the floor not to

rise again, for His decisions are always for our good.

I was compelled to come and tell you this and to let you know that I covet for each of you the same wonderful experience of His intimate personal intervention in your life—but not the trauma by which it came to me.

His care is always there. Look for it!

May God keep us all in the faith of Christ and the joy of life both here and hereafter!! **SR**

# Mothers never stop mothering

by Donna S. Bond



“I want my Mommy!!” I screamed inwardly, having just suffered the humiliation and physical pain of a careless tumble outside my dorm on opening day of Conference.

I kept this sentiment to myself, rather than bring extra pain to Dad (Don Sanford) just nine months after the loss of his partner of 59 years. In practical terms, Mom (Ilou) would not have been much help since she had been confined to wheelchairs and walkers long before God called her Home. (Ditto for my mother-in-law, Margaret Bond, who had also entered into Glory just five months prior.)

God was good. Lifting myself off the hard cement, the first person I hobbled into was Ruth Burdick—a podiatrist’s assistant. She rounded up the Conference nurse’s bag

of tricks, wrapped my ankle, cleaned my scraped knee, and applied a bandage while a cafeteria worker found some ice.

Conference nurse Barbara Green, Dr. Ron Davis and others attended and offered advice and drugs. Cousin Justin Camenga and Bill Probasco formed “human crutches” as I got into a van to head to the emergency room.

After many x-rays and much foot-twisting, personnel at St. Catherine’s confirmed what I knew: I had a scraped knee and a sprained foot.

They re-taped me, prescribed painkiller, and sent me on my way with instructions. Back at Carthage College, numerous people helped me in the cafeteria, opened doors, brought supplies, ran errands, and made phone calls on my behalf.

Even little children told me that their class was praying for “the sprained ankle lady.” Thanks, kids!

After the evening service (from which I played hooky), Nurse Green appeared at my door with a wheelchair. It had been donated to the Milton church and brought along “just in case.” What a sight for sore eyes!

Even more welcome was the sticker identifying the former owner: “Property of Ilou M. Sanford.”

Dad felt “right at home” pushing the familiar chair around campus. And my son Levi (perhaps with an eye toward the future?) soon learned to navigate it.

God had provided a way for my mother to minister to me even from heaven! **SR**



*Don Sanford got to push his daughter Donna around at Conference.*

# Robe of Achievement 2008

Like the Alpha and Omega—Whose love and grace sustain her—she has been the picture of staying power to all who have come to know her.

Raised as an only child, she later married the boy she met in Sabbath School and they went on to have six children of their own.

At a young age, she worked for the SDB denomination at the Recorder Press in Plainfield, N.J. While working there she became familiar with the names of churches, and the people involved in the Conference. This gave her a sense of loyalty and interest in our churches.

She also used her secretarial skills to help with the family income while her husband studied to get his seminary degree. (Many interest committee chairmen have appreciated these secretarial skills during numerous General Conference meetings over the years.)

One of her best gifts is the gift of music. She has been a choir member, an accompanist on piano and organ, and a choir director. Not long ago, a lady in her neighborhood gave her a colorful handmade quilt—a ‘thank you’ gift for her willingness to direct the community choir. This neighbor had been depressed, and felt her involvement in the choir had given her a reason to live.

As a pastor’s wife, her support behind the scenes has not gone unnoticed, especially by other pastors’ wives who look up to her and emulate her behavior.

A peacemaker—evidenced as she supported her husband in maintaining a loving cooperation among their children as they were growing up—she extends this gift to anyone who needs to find peace with God. She knows how to be a friend even to the friendless. Not only does she



*This year’s Robe went to Jean Davis. Women’s Society President Margie Jacob (left) helped make the presentation.*

provide a listening ear; she also sees that basic needs are met for those who have no other help.

She is a deaconess and a Sabbath School teacher, and has hosted SCSC teams in her home several times. She and her husband made deliveries for the FISH organization. She also has delivered the monthly newsletter for the Manatee Religious Services, and was recently honored for having served the longest in this capacity.

Devotedly loyal to her pastor husband, she remained at his side during his final years, taking on increased responsibility in the church as his health declined. Even today she supports the student pastor in her church as he is finding his way, relying on her to help with planning worship music and proctoring his exams as he studies to become a minister.

A loving and giving person, her life is a wonderful example for anyone to follow.

This year’s Robe of Achievement recipient is Jean Bailey Davis. **SR**

## Recent Robe recipients

- 2007** — Camille Henry
- 2006** — Ruth S. Rogers
- 2005** — Vivian Looper
- 2004** — Ruth Bottoms
- 2003** — Barbara Green
- 2002** — Sylvia Lindo
- 2001** — Floy Owen
- 2000** — Nellie Jo Brissey
- 1999** — Jean Lewis
- 1998** — Lorna Austin Graffius
- 1997** — Beth Burdick
- 1996** — Luan Sutton Ellis
- 1995** — Ethel Wheeler
- 1994** — Mabel Cruzan
- 1993** — Dorotha Shettel
- 1992** — Myrna Cox
- 1991** — Gertrude Davis
- 1990** — Geraldine Van Dyke
- 1989** — Mae Bottoms
- 1988** — Audrey Fuller
- 1987** — Xenia Lee Wheeler
- 1986** — Madeline Fitz Randolph
- 1985** — Lois Wells and Ethel Dickinson



## Shaken and stirred

by Linda Weber

From Susie Bond:

*Jan Graffius was eager to introduce me to a longtime friend at the North American Baptist Women's Union (NABWU) Assembly in Arlington, Va., last fall. This friend, Linda Weber, was elected president of NABWU at that meeting, stepping in for Judith Chambers who spoke at our Conference Women's Banquet in 2006. Judith has since gone to be with the Lord.*

*Following is an excerpt from Linda's speech at this year's Banquet.*

\*\*\*\*\*

We arrived in China just days after the giant earthquake hit Sichuan Province earlier this year. The impact of this earthquake was formidable, measuring nearly 8.0 on the Richter scale with the original quake being felt up to 1,000 miles from its epicenter.

The government-controlled television switched to non-stop coverage of the quake disaster and recovery. All the programs focused on how this was affecting their lives and the country itself.

This country and its people were shaken to the very core of their being. A pastor friend told us that people were streaming into their church to talk about why this happened. What did it mean for them personally? What was the meaning of life if everything that they thought important could be taken from them in such an abrupt manner?

People lost their only child, their homes, their livelihoods; any trace of the history of their villages; and sometimes their entire extended families.

An earthquake isn't the only thing that can shake up your world:

- Ann is a mother of four children who lives in a small Midwestern town. Although Ann and her husband have raised their kids in the church and pray for them daily, one of their daughters ran away from home and was lost to them



for several months. One day they got word that she was working as a dancer in a supper club in a nearby town. They were heartbroken. Little did they know that this club was a "front" for prostitution in their very own community.

- Dori lives in a suburban area. In a nearby shopping strip, a "travel agency" operates a brothel filled with young teenage girls who have been recruited from malls and fast food restaurants in her city.

- Peg fears for her life every night when her husband comes home from

work. She is ashamed to admit to anyone that her husband beats and abuses her at a whim, especially when everyone at church thinks they have "such a nice family."

- Mary knows that she is next on the list of people to lose her job. She is petrified for what that will mean for her family. If she loses her home, where will they live?

The Christians I met in China faced the earthquake filled with courage, and used this opportunity to share Jesus with everyone.

Fear moved many to wonder if God had turned from them. I sat in a group of 400 university students as a young pastor encouraged them with Isaiah 54:10—"Though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed, yet my unfailing love for you will not be shaken, nor my covenant of peace be removed says the Lord, who has compassion on you."

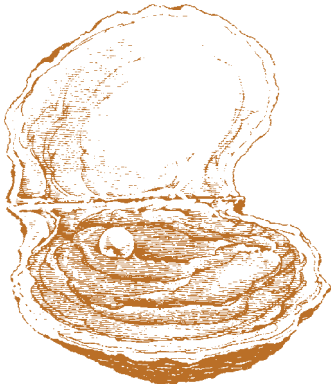
This compassion isn't extended only to people who experience horrendous things in other parts of the world. No, this compassion is for all of us; for the things that you and I face daily.

This compassion is for those who live around us whose lives have been shaken to their very core.

This compassion is for those who live under the "rubble" caused by the things that come down around them in their own personal earthquakes. **SR**

*NABWU is a network of Baptist women from Canada, Guyana, and the U.S. and is affiliated with the Baptist World Alliance Women's Department. [www.nabwu.org](http://www.nabwu.org).*

## From acorns to oaks

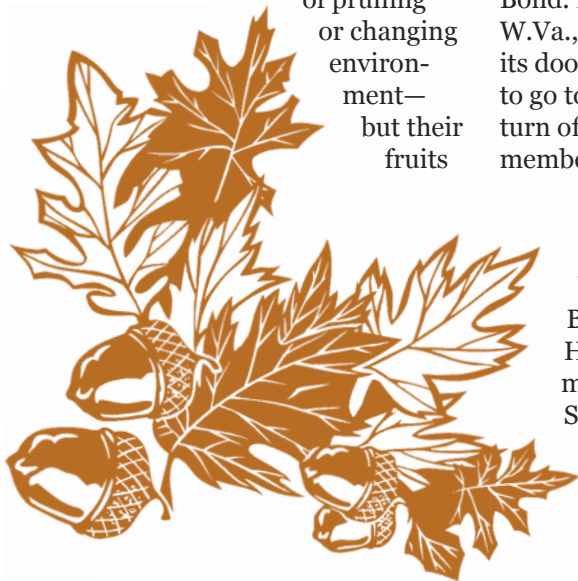


When God sent His Son into the world, He did not have him grow up in Jerusalem, Babylon, Rome, or any other large city of the time. Instead He chose the small town of Nazareth.

That pattern seems to be repeated over and over as great events or prominent leaders have developed in relatively small towns. A number of our most noted Presidents of the United States had beginnings in small communities.

That same scenario of history has been repeated within the church. Some smaller churches may have lost their vitality, but their “productivity” continued in even greater proportions elsewhere.

Many of our church leaders have been as “acorns” from the oaks that succumbed to either old age or lack of pruning or changing environment—but their fruits



took root and became productive in other places.

Seventh Day Baptist history and patterns—both past and present—have featured leaders who have been nurtured in some of our smaller churches. The February 2007 “Pearls” was entitled “A living legacy from an extinct church.” It centered on members of the Berlin, Wis., SDB Church: Abraham H. Lewis, Lewis Alexander Platts, and Jeremiah and Pardon Davis.

The first two were prominent in SDB history and Sabbath promotion. The Davises got involved in an anti-slavery issue that received wide publicity.

Two months later, my “Pearls” looked at another member of that church, Walter Cockerill, who was an independent missionary in Nyasaland, later called Malawi.

Similar scenarios can be found in other churches. One of my most influential mentors was Dean A.J.C. Bond. He was raised in the Roanoke, W.Va., SDB Church, which closed its doors in 1972. At the time he left to go to Salem (Wis.) College at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Roanoke’s membership was listed as 26.

Rev. Harley Sutton was my pastor during much of my public school days, and later became Executive of the SDB Board of Christian Education. He inspired and encouraged me in my writing career. Rev. Sutton was a product of the Middle Island, W.Va., church. When he left for college and seminary, the church listed 46 resident



members. That church continues to report its membership to General Conference; our latest Directory shows 12 members.

Following my first semester at Milton (Wis.) College in 1946, I visited the church in Jackson Center, Ohio. At the time, its rolls were listed at 46, with no distinction between resident and non-resident membership. Yet I was aware that three members of that church (two bearing the name Zwiebel and another with the more common name, Davis) were either active in or preparing for Seventh Day Baptist ministry.

I was also aware that the organists at Jackson Center were younger sisters of my future helpmate in ministry. In time, even their mother moved to Milton where she became active in the Women’s Circle and cooked for a number of years at Camp Wakonda.

From a historian’s perspective, these scenarios show that leadership is often fostered not so much in the larger churches, but rather in the smaller ones where each individual has to assume a larger responsibility in the various ministries.

Many leaders (or potential leaders) in smaller churches move away and become members of larger, or “magnet,” churches. Some may just be absorbed as “pew members.” However because of their leadership in smaller congregations, they find areas where they become responsible workers and leaders in that larger environment.

There is, in a sense, a fulfillment of Jesus’ parable of the talents (found in Matthew 25:14-30). The two faithful servants who invested their gifts were rewarded, but the unfaithful servant who buried his talent was condemned.

In today’s increasing urbanization, it is sometimes hard to differentiate between rural and urban culture. However, it is safe to say that a majority of the current and (foreseeable) future leaders in Seventh Day Baptist circles will come from men and women who have been actively involved in multiple ministries of small local churches.

In addition, leadership is developing in our new churches and fellowships that have similar untapped potential akin to those of the past.

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***Leadership is often fostered in smaller churches where each individual has to assume a larger responsibility in the ministries.***

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It is imperative that today’s churches take every opportunity to develop and utilize the talents and gifts within their group! When these individuals become members (or even founders) of other churches, they can be as productive as some of our illustrious forefathers were.

As I was developing this Pearls in the midst of springtime reminiscence, a parallel illustration from my youth came to mind.

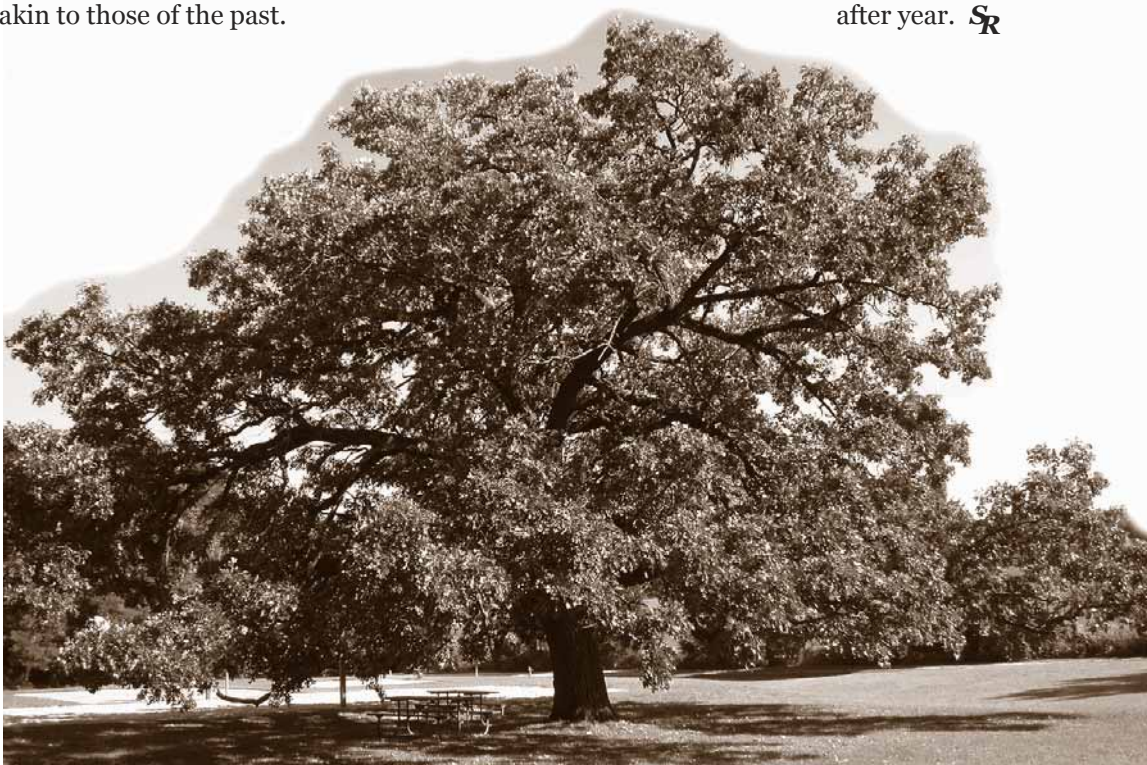
I grew up on a farm in New York state that was blessed with a hillside containing maple trees. Each spring, the thawing days and freezing nights would cause the maple sap to flow. Those trees were tapped and sap was collected in buckets hung on the trunk.

Through the process of evaporation, the sap was condensed to some tasty maple syrup. Depending upon the sugar content of the sap (which might be in the low range of 3% sugar) it took hours to evaporate the excess water to produce sweet syrup.

With several hundred buckets of sap yielding gallons of syrup, our family could not eat enough pancakes to utilize all the produce. The surplus was marketed where it could be used. (Some of the late-season “buddy flavored” syrup was wholesaled and erroneously marketed as “Vermont made.”)

A similar process takes place in the church. A host of both large and small individuals are “tapped,” collected, processed, and distributed far beyond their original “groves of trees” that continue to produce year after year. **SR**

Camp Wakonda oak. Photo by Janet Butler





## 2008 Scripture Memorization participants

2008 Conference President Andy Samuels worked with the Board of Christian Education to choose Scripture verses highlighting the year's theme, *A Limitless God for a Hungry People*. More than 400 SDBs completed the Memorization program, with more than 40 churches participating. The participants are listed here to encourage others to hide God's Word in their hearts.

The Toronto, Ontario, SDB Church had the largest number of participants complete the program this last year, so they will maintain the Mary G. Clare Scripture Memorization Bowl until next Conference.

The 2008-2009 Memorization program was listed in last month's *Sabbath Recorder*. Brochures were mailed to churches in August. In addition to, or instead of, those verses, you may participate in this year's program by memorizing 1 Thessalonians 1. Additional copies are available from the BCE. Call (607) 587-8527; e-mail us at [sdbbce@educatingchristians.org](mailto:sdbbce@educatingchristians.org); or go to [EducatingChristians.org](http://EducatingChristians.org).

The following people completed the 2007-2008 Memorization Program:

<b>Ahtanum Yakima, WA</b> Margaret Ann Fox	Eden Rao Susie Sanborn Amanda Snyder Sarah Torkaman Amber Trudell Morgan Trudell John Wood Mary Woodworth	<b>Bell SDB Salemville, PA</b> Benjamin Baker Esther Baker Jeff Baker Beth Boyd Joe Boyd Lon Calhon Eileen Claycomb Robert Claycomb Lois Fletcher Dwight Kagarise Jeannie Kagarise Nichole Musselman Floyd Roberts Ruthanna Roberts Ed Sutton	<b>Boulder, CO</b> Ellen Behme Paul Behme Danielle Crowder Nathan Crowder Tiffany Crowder Valerie Heath Jason Looper Nicholas Looper Angie Osborn Rachael Osborn Seth Osborn Stephen Osborn Paul Petersen Doris Rood Cletus Severance Lynne Severance Matthew Severance TJ Severance Sue Stitzel Pat Williams Gretchen Zwiebel	Rose Chroniger Cliff Gordon Pam Gordon Jeffrey Hazen Ruth Hazen Gina Jackson Jason Jackson Brian Parrish Robert Parrish Paul Reingruber David L. Taylor Margaret Taylor Lydia Thompson	Cathy Payne Abrielle Robinson Dale Rood
<b>Alfred Station, NY</b> Mae L. Bottoms Elaine Brundage John Brundage Linda Butts Ivan Cherry Nancy Cherry Elianna Chroniger Kenneth Chroniger Madge Chroniger Onika Day Yevan Day Darren Dickerson Katelyn Dickerson Kiersten Foster Jim Hitchcock Ivy Johnson Jessamine Johnson Phyllis Mattison Reid Mattison Abigail Noel Dorothy Noel Melissa Noel Mary Nunn Abigail Quick Samantha Quick Sandy Quick Alexis Rao	<b>All Nations Gardena, CA</b> Gwendolyn Ewen Bree Johnson Vivian Lynch Venice McLean  <b>Asheville, NC</b> Kenneth Lance  <b>Battle Creek, MI</b> Caron George Elijah Geske Kory Geske Tiffany Geske Freda Hoebeke Beth Jones Nancy Makuch Suzanne Mesaros Jo Mitchell Judy Parrish Nicholas Thorngate Maryellen Wilkey Connie Yafes	<b>Berlin, NY</b> Bradley Bink Josannah Bink Becky Bonesteel Paula Dibble Casey Greene Katie Greene Luke Greene Seth Greene Wyatt Greene Aileen May Elise Morse Rebecca Olson	<b>Bradenton, FL</b> Richard Bond Laura Mirabal Betty Strawser  <b>Central SDB Mitchellville, MD</b> Carlos Alonzo Pratt Chroniger	<b>Daytona Beach, FL</b> Everal Kelly Leora Pinder  <b>Dodge Center, MN</b> Rayan Bond Jared Edwards Jesse Edwards Austin Greene Del Greene Jada Greene Jordan Greene Khalen Greene Lance Greene Weston McNeilus Jeffrey Neher Micayla Neher	<b>Edgewater, FL</b> Joanne McCall Keith McCall Linda McCall Kay Wilks  <b>First Genesee Little Genesee, NY</b> Andrew J. Camenga Kristin Rood Camenga Patricia Palmiter Wilma Sanford Barbara Welch  <b>First Hebron Hebron, PA</b> Pearl Brock Breanne Dubots Dylan Dubots David Hauber Fay Hauber JoAnne Kandel Mark Kandel Damaris Kenyon

(cont. on page 26)





## FOCUS on Missions

# Philippines: A land, a prayer away

by Kirk Looper

During the World Federation meetings in July, Pastor Al Paypa, General Secretary of the SDB Conference in the Philippines, challenged us to support a project in his country.

Their Conference plans to purchase land and build a structure to use as a church, office, and community meeting place. We were thankful and excited for this proposal since it extends the work already happening there.

We have already seen tremendous success in their Training In Ministry by Extension (T.I.M.E.) program that is administered to pastors. This is the same program initiated by Rod Henry while he and Camille were serving as missionaries in the Philippines. It has grown to be one of the outstanding training programs in many of our sister Conferences and SDB church groups. We are proud to recognize Pastors Al Paypa and Bernard Agudera for their work with this program.

The project presented at the World Fed meetings was just as exciting and the vision was communicated well. It consists of purchasing 600 square meters of land and erecting a building to house the present congregation in Bankal, located near Cebu City. It would also allow space for the offices of the SDB Philippine Headquarters. The congregation will certainly encourage and help develop the community of Bankal.

In the future the group will support a Seventh Day Baptist school/daycare building. They also plan to use the facilities to generate income for the Conference through a multi-purpose function room. These activities in the compound

***Their Conference plans to purchase land and build a structure to use as a church, office, and community meeting place.***

will further develop the work in the community, Conference, and church.

This project is so enormous that it consumes the Filipino hearts. While listening to Pastor Paypa he stated, "With the help of other Christians, churches, and you my fellow servants, SDBs will be able to build and serve the people and the community better."

They are looking for 600 givers who will generously share \$55.55. Each gift of \$55.55 that is received will pay for one square meter of space. This do-

nation will be an eternal investment to expand the Kingdom of Jesus Christ in the Philippines.

Even though this price is the one given in the presentation, it was very evident that any amount would be appreciated. This will encourage them in their work and help build the Kingdom of our Lord through the SDB Headquarters in that country. They desire our help because they see themselves as "daughters" in the legacy of our existence and support.

You can help us by promoting this and other projects in each of our churches. You could choose one Sabbath as "International Promotion for SDB Growth." Local funds sent to the Missionary Society can be dedicated to one of the many Conferences that need additional help.

Pray to God that we are able to better support the work being done in our sister Conferences and churches. Please pray for all the ministries and work being done around the world. **SR**



*I am Rev. Al Paypa, SDB General Secretary of the Philippines. I have led, I am leading, and I will continue to lead. With your support we can move on to where God will take us in this ministry of Leadership Training and Evangelism in the Philippine Islands.*



# the BEACON

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

Oct. 2008

## Dependence!

by Christopher Davis, Marlboro, N.J.

*“You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below” (Exodus 20:3-4).*

In today’s society, we are so dependent on technology. Almost everyone owns a computer and uses it on a daily basis. Cell phones are also a “must have,” to keep in touch with everyone you know at all times.

An MP3 player is another common technology tool that most people own. What would happen if you didn’t have your music on hand everywhere you go?

I happen to own all three of these technological wonders, and use them often. But I never considered myself “dependent” on them.

I was wrong.

This year at Conference, I did not bring my laptop. *That’s good*, I told myself. *I knew I wasn’t dependent on that...* and went on without a problem.

Then, one night, my music player suddenly broke. That worried me a lot. *But at least I still had my phone.* Or so I thought.

Not even five minutes later, my phone died and refused to charge.



Panic time! I had no phone, no iPod, and no laptop.

This might not sound like a huge deal, but it was to me. I got angry and worried, like an addict going through severe withdrawal. Then it hit me; I really *was* dependent.

The dictionary defines an idol as “one that is greatly or excessively loved and admired.” You could definitely say that my techno-toys were excessively admired.

Although it didn’t seem like it, they were becoming an idol to me. It wasn’t like I loved them more than family and friends—or more importantly, more than God—but I still greatly needed them.

We all have idols in our lives: technology, shopping, work, or even our own family and friends. What

we need to do is recognize our idols and fix that. Instead of depending on them, we need to turn to and depend on God. (Prayer anyone?) Only then can the story have a happy ending.

After I recognized my idols and how dependent I was on them, something amazing happened. My iPod, which I thought was gone for good, became unbroken. That was nothing short of a miracle.

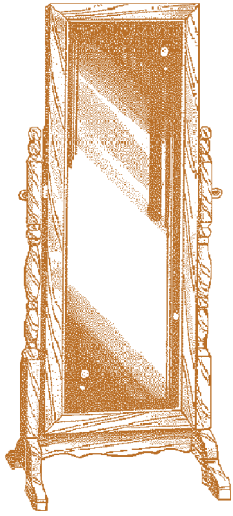
Then came my phone...

Nope. Still broken. I still needed help realizing how much I was dependent. I thought I would have a severe “text-messaging withdrawal,” since I was constantly texting before. Now, I haven’t sent a text message in weeks, and I don’t feel the need to. God is good!

Another point was made to me. In five or ten years, I most likely won’t have my iPod, phone, or laptop anyway, but God will still be there. He is always there when we need Him, and you can’t leave Him at home.

So which would you rather lean on? The things of this world that will not be around in a few years, or the everlasting Father? God will always be waiting for you to depend on Him.

Now for the big question: What things of this world are you dependent on? **SR**



# 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*

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## Let the talkfest begin (the best part of Conference)



This summer, I went to my third General Conference in 24 years. Not a sterling record, considering the number of SDBs who have gone multiple times.

Former fellow employee, Historian emeritus Don Sanford, has attended 55 Conferences at last count. He made his first appearance in Alfred, N.Y., at age 10, then began attending the annual sessions on a near-regular basis since 1941.

Every year, Conference delegates take care of important business: interest committees issue reports, resolutions are debated and voted on, new officers are elected, etc. At the end of the week, many people head home "fired up" to continue God's work in their local church. Conference is definitely a time of inspiration and renewal.

I attended a National Missions interest committee meeting and some of the general business sessions. I especially enjoyed a plenary seminar by author Steve Sjogren. Afterwards, I bought one of his books—*The Day I Died*—and he graciously autographed it.

While singing in the Conference choir, I had fun watching our director, Lannette Calhoun, bounce around like the Energizer Bunny. She was a bundle of nonstop energy while playing the piano at rehear-

sals as well as when leading us in song at night. She's awesome!

I want to publicly thank fellow alto Ruth Burdick. She put up with me constantly sitting or standing next to her so I could actually hit the right notes—most of the time. I also want to apologize to the other altos I pushed aside to secure my place next to Ruth...

Like most colleges, the buildings on the Carthage campus are fairly spread out. So I took advantage of the golf cart transportation. One of the drivers, Jon Cruzan, was especially fun. He always had a smile or a wry comment to offer. Jon is a fellow member at the Milton (Wis.) SDB Church, but I've come to appreciate him even more because of our interaction at Conference.

For me, the highlight of the week is hearing the nightly speakers. I also enjoy Sabbath mornings. The worship services are wonderful, and I never fail to get goose bumps when all those great SDB voices join in singing heartfelt praises to the Lord.

As much as I enjoy the official "meat" of Conference, I "eat up" the unofficial part even more.

I believe the real heart of Conference is the fellowship that's available in every nook and cranny. It happens while visiting with old friends and newcomers during meals, conversing over heaping bowls of ice cream, or sharing thoughts and dreams while strolling down the sidewalk.

My favorite part of this year's

Conference was participating in an informal talkfest every evening after the official activities. It usually began around 9:30 and ended a few minutes before midnight.

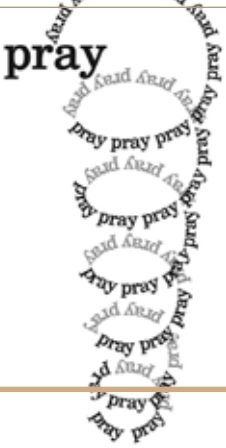
I lived at home while attending college, but I suspect our Carthage gatherings resembled the late night bull sessions that took place in the dorm when I was a student—and probably still do. However, all the topics we discussed at Conference '08 were religious in nature, and the conversations often became quite profound.

Some of the subjects we broached were the Apostle Paul's words concerning the role of women in the Church, the legitimacy of near-death experiences, and the Adventist belief in "soul sleep."

Our unofficial facilitator was Pastor Paul Manuel of the German SDB Church in Salemville, Pa. I knew Paul only by name before that week, but his vast Biblical knowledge quickly impressed me.

The group differed in size from night to night, but several people were "regulars." I especially enjoyed Jim Skaggs' input. His comments were always well thought out, concise, and thought provoking. In the words of an old investment firm's commercial, "When Jim speaks, people listen."

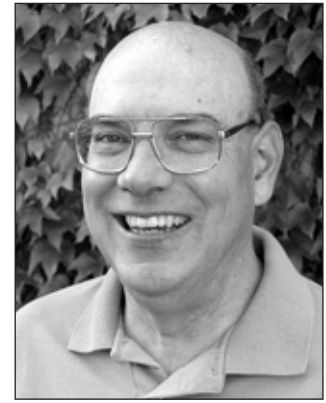
If you haven't attended Conference yet, and get a chance to go, DO IT. It just might be one of the best experiences of your life. **SR**



**PRAY— 1 Thess. 5:17**  
**SDB General Conference**  
 July 26–August 1, 2009

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Lancaster (Pa.) Bible College



*The President's Page*  
 by Ed Cruzan

## Foundational pieces

### *Love, honor and respect your pastor*

What an awesome honor to serve as your Conference President for 2009! I am truly blessed.

The theme is “Pray,” supported by 1 Thessalonians 5:17 which says, “Pray continually.”

In my message to General Conference in Wisconsin, I referred to Psalm 127:1—“Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labor in vain.” Unless Conference 2009 is built upon the foundation of the Lord, we, as the builders, labor in vain.

The question then becomes, “What is the foundation of the Lord?”

Looking at the context of the theme verse, I discovered some foundational pieces. One piece is found in 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13, “Now we ask you, brothers, to respect those who work hard among you, who are over you in the Lord and who admonish you. Hold them in highest regard in love because of their work.”

At Young Adult Pre-Con, I referred to Hebrews 13:17 which reads, “Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you.”

As I reflect upon my own experience with my past and present pas-

tors, I have become painfully aware that my treatment of them has been shameful at times. Scripture exhorts me to love, honor and respect my pastor, but I have not always done this.

Sadly, I know my mistreatment of pastors is not unique among Seventh Day Baptists. I have seen and heard evidence (from the days of my childhood) of how our pastors have been mistreated. In churches across the denomination, I know there are stories of un-Christlike attitudes and actions.

In truth, we cannot deny it—although sometimes we may try to justify it with our own self-righteousness. Some of us may think the matter is “resolved” because we now smile, talk with and are nice to these pastors. But this cannot take the place of confession, repentance and forgiveness.

I know some of you may truly be in a position where this admonition does not apply to you. To you I give my blessing. Please continue to love, honor and respect your pastors. Please pray for all the fallen saints.

To those who are guilty of treating a past or present pastor in a manner unworthy of the name Christ, then we need to confess, repent and ask for forgiveness! If

we want General Conference—and our local churches—to be built upon the foundation of the Lord, we need to start right here, right now.

I’m asking my brothers and sisters from across the denomination to pray together over this issue. We need to look deep into our hearts and consider our thoughts, words and deeds. If we are guilty of any un-Christlike attitude, we need to confess this to God through the power of His Son Jesus Christ.

Remember, confession and repentance are not enough. We must seek forgiveness from this pastor. I ask you—no, I implore you today—to talk with this pastor, write a letter, make a call, send an e-mail. Ask for forgiveness.

I want all of us and our pastors (past and present) to be reconciled and restored. It’s hard, very hard, but it is essential for the body of Christ! It is one of God’s foundational pieces upon which we are to build.

James 1:22 says, “Do not merely listen to the Word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.”

I pray for you continually. Share with me your stories of reconciliation and restoration.

May the peace of God overwhelm each of us as we are transformed into the likeness of Jesus Christ. **SR**



by Executive Director  
Rob Appel

## The State of the Conference (Part 2 of 3)

Last month we heard of the distance that many major population centers are from an SDB church. And we read the recommendation that I presented at Conference in Kenosha, Wis., about planting new churches.

This month is the middle part of my Conference speech.

In the April and May *Sabbath Recorders* I gave you a taste of a 3-year “Ministry Alliance Plan” that I have been working on. I called this a “Blueprint M.A.P. for SDB Growth and Services.”

We need to have a strategic vision that explains who we want to be as a Conference of churches, and states specifically what the ministry purpose is for the local church. All our future ministries, projects, spending, and key decisions should be prioritized based upon one single overriding consideration: Will this action move us closer to the realization of our Unified Strategic Vision?

Two “driving forces” will guide us toward our vision. First, we will have to proactively work to market the local church in the community as the “go-to” church. This means we will actively seek to reach out and support all ministries and opportunities that promote Christ’s principles within the community. We might even have to work with other groups in order to achieve this!

In **Berlin, N.Y.**, they have a vital community outreach being spearheaded by the SDB church. The **Milton, Wis.**, church is continuing to grow an already exciting AWANA ministry and youth program. They have become the “go-to” church in the Milton and Janesville area through their “Hands of God” ministry and working with the county to help those in need.

The second driving force to accomplish our vision will be to increase our personal opportunities to serve others. We will make it our motto, “Others first... then me.” This will ensure that we are fulfilling the Great Commission in all that we do. I love the Camp Joy slogan: **J**esus, **O**thers, and **Y**ou.

The SDB Christian Church in **Arlington, Va.**, is looking to plant more Spanish-speaking churches in the U.S. and in Central America. They have a desire to start and nurture churches. They have established four home-based churches in the Washington, D.C., area.

The **Houston, Texas**, church has English and Spanish services now! That congregation is mission-minded and is supporting mission work in the Philippines, Ecuador, Nicaragua, India and Guatemala. And the **Salem, W.Va.**, church has a foster care and adoption ministry that many families have become in-

involved in. What a wonderful community ministry!

Churches that see the opportunity for service are the ones making changes in their ministry and their community. The Next Step Church in **Thornton, Colo.**, is using their 25- to 35-year-olds as leaders in the church. They also made a tough but logical decision to move from their original location to a growing community in the Denver area.

And the **Toronto, Ontario**, church sold their building and moved into a former factory. With the hard work of many talented members of that church, they have a beautiful sanctuary and facility to meet in. They saw that a change was needed and they made that change happen! I see excitement in many of our churches and their ministries.

I’m thankful to be a Seventh Day Baptist. 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 will someday record these times in our Conference, it still remains that it is not about what *we* have done, but rather what *God* has done. We owe Him the glory. We have no cause for arrogance or pride. We have no cause to rejoice except that we rejoice in Him. **SR**

(Next month: Part 3.)



# “Where is the biggest need?”

by Morgan Shepard

When it comes to giving to the Conference, a question I am often asked is, “What is the biggest need?”

That certainly is a loaded question.

My first response is usually, “What is your passion? What excites you?” I then ask, “*What type* of gift do you want to make? Do you want it used now? Do you want to make a lasting gift?”

For those looking to make a long-term impact, then a gift that creates an endowment is the best choice. Endowments can be set up at any time, for any amount of money, for any purpose.

Most endowments are set up as part of a will or estate planning. Others have drafted insurance policies naming the Memorial Fund or General Conference as the beneficiary. You can add to an endowment over time as you are able. You can control all aspects of the endowment when you set it up.

Most of the endowments in the Memorial Fund are for a stated purpose. For some of the older endowments, that purpose may no longer exist (e.g., endowments for Milton College when it was an SDB institution). If you want to ensure that your endowment remains effective in meeting the Conference’s current and future needs, consider an endowment for the benefit of the SDB Memorial Fund “Discretionary Account.”

In 2007 the Memorial Fund provided over \$202,000 in grants from the Discretionary Fund (*see chart above*). These grants went toward operating budgets for the various Agencies and Societies; grants to churches as part of loans; scholarships for our future leaders; college savings accounts for pastors’ children; new evangelistic outreach; and Ministerial Staff Development grants through the Council on Ministry.

<b>2007 SDB Memorial Fund Discretionary Fund Grants</b>	
Agency/Society Grants	\$ 104,500
Church Grants	42,615
Scholarships	20,375
Pastors’ Children’s	
529 College Savings Accounts	14,400
New Outreach Grants	11,735
Ministerial Staff Devel. Grants (thru the Council on Ministry)	9,000
<b>Total Grants</b>	<b>\$ 202,625</b>

When setting up an endowment, you need to consider the following:

- If the initial gift is small, consider reinvesting the income for the first few years so that the principal can grow.
- If the gift is for a current need, consider giving the Memorial Fund the discretion to work within the “spirit” of the gift if that current need changes.
- Allow the Memorial Fund to invest the gift in a way that earns the most income within the current financial market conditions.

The Memorial Fund is always looking for ways to use gifts—past, present and future—that extend the work of Seventh Day Baptists in spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ in today’s world. Please consider being a worker in that effort. **SR**

“...The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field” (Luke 10:2 NIV).

## Six decades and counting

### Couple started local singing group

Garth and Mayola Warner of Oneida, N.Y., celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary this summer. They were married on July 25, 1948 at the Verona (N.Y.) Seventh Day Baptist Church, where they've been active members all their lives.

Garth served in the U.S. Armed Forces and then became a teacher and guidance counselor at Westmoreland Central High School. Mayola has taught piano and was church organist in various churches.

In the late 1960s, they began a teenage Christian singing group "The Power Company," named after the Bible verse in Acts 1:8. That ministry lasted some 25 years—and had 10 marriages evolve from it! *(And my wife and I are still happily together after 29 years.—Editor)*

The Warners have four children: Mark and Norma Warner of Westmoreland; Kevin and Julie

Warner in Virginia; Wendy and Jerry Park of Virginia Beach; and Jim and Sharon Warner in Phoenix, Ariz. Those families have given them eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

The family gathered at a surprise reunion in the Catskills, with most members attending.

Garth and Mayola have enjoyed much traveling, including most of the United States, Israel, Europe and Africa. **SR**



Garth and Mayola Warner have been active members of the Verona (N.Y.) Seventh Day Baptist Church all their lives. They were married there 60 years ago.

## Denominational Dateline

### October 2008

- 1-2 Coordinating Leadership Team, SDB Center, Janesville, Wis.
- 6-7 Baptist Joint Committee Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C.—Rob Appel
- 10-12 Faith SDB Church, Bronx, N.Y.—Appel
- 10-12 North Central Association, Battle Creek, Mich.—Ed Cruzan
- 14-19 Pennsylvania (Ephrata, printers; both Salemville churches on the 18th)—Nick Kersten
- 17-18 Pacific Coast Association, Riverside, Calif.—Appel, Cruzan
- 17-19 Allegheny Association, Alfred, N.Y.—Andrew Camenga, Gordon Lawton

- 24-26 Board of Christian Education Directors' Retreat—Camenga
- 25-26 Memorial Fund Trustees, Toronto, Canada—Morgan Shepard, Appel, Lawton
- 25-26 Missionary Society Quarterly Board meeting—Kirk Looper, Ron Elston

### November

- 1-2 American Sabbath Tract and Communication Council Annual Meeting, SDB Center, Janesville—Kevin Butler
- 7-9 South Atlantic Association, South East Atlanta, Ga.—Appel, Cruzan, Looper, Elston

# Women's Society Love Gift 2008

Members of the Women's Interest Committee voted to distribute this year's Conference Love Gift (approximately \$5,300) in ten equal 10% increments to these individuals or ministries:

**Linda Camenga**  
**Linda Harris**  
**Dan Richards**  
**Don Shackelford family**  
**Tim and Jayme Osborn**

Then, to those serving in their own countries, to be distributed at the discretion of the Missionary Society:

**Philippines** – to help purchase land for their Conference facility

**England** – to assist in health work within the SDB community

**Malawi** – to purchase equipment for vocational start-ups

**Eastern Europe** – as the Leks see the greatest need

**Sierra Leone** – for schools and teachers' salaries

This year's Craft Table netted an even \$1,000. The SDB Women's Society thanks everyone for their generosity.

## 2008 SDB General Conference Operating Budget

Board / Agency	Monthly Operating Budget	Monthly Giving Towards Budget	Received Aug '08	Over / (Short)
Conference Services*	\$ 22,635.13	\$ 16,513.25	\$ 32,821.72	\$ 16,308.47
Council On Ministry	13,017.33	5,410.25	2,164.01	(3,246.24)
Missionary Soc.	25,083.33	4,879.83	1,893.41	(2,986.42)
Tract Council	12,142.17	4,750.00	3,456.65	(1,293.35)
Christian Edu.	9,676.67	4,470.33	1,603.65	(2,866.68)
Women's Soc.	3,116.67	2,475.00	905.33	(1,569.67)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 85,671.30</b>	<b>\$ 38,498.67</b>	<b>\$ 42,844.77</b>	<b>\$ 4,346.10</b>

\* Includes: Conference Services, Building Operations Fund, Christian Social Action, and Ecumenical Affairs

Other Sources of Income for monthly operating budgets include: income from investments, sales and withdrawals from savings.

<b>Budget Overage / Shortfall Year to Date</b>	<b>\$(21,952.12)</b>	<b>93% Of Budget</b>
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Morgan Shepard  
Treasurer, SDB General Conference

## New members

### Fort Worth, TX

*Bill Burks, pastor*  
Joined after testimony  
Lilian Horn

### Houston, TX

*Jim Barclift, pastor*  
Joined after testimony  
Mauricio Fuentes Jr.  
Nanciza Fuentes  
Linda J. Fuentes  
Cynthia Jasso Fuentes

### Paint Rock, AL

*John D. Bevis, pastor*  
Joined after testimony  
Nancilu Burdick

### Riverside, CA

*Gabriel Bejjani, pastor*  
Joined after baptism  
Donald Jackson Sr.  
Joined after testimony  
Edgar Balderas  
Jana Balderas



# Obituaries

**Jorgensen.**—Ersel Caroline Jorgensen, 89, of North Loup, Neb., died on June 3, 2008, at Valley County Health System Hospital.

She was born in North Loup on September 29, 1918, to Clifford and Eva (Pierce) Goodrich. Ersel was preceded in death by her husband, Nels Jorgensen, in 1993, and by a daughter, Betty Rienks.

Survivors include one daughter, Norma Mason of Phillips, Neb.; two sons, Larry Jorgensen and Cliff Jorgensen, both of Alma, Neb.; three sisters, Doris Barber of Colorado Springs, Colo., Frances Van Horn of North Loup, and Beverly Stillman of Albuquerque, N.M.; and two brothers, Chuck Goodrich of North Loup, and Ron Goodrich of Pueblo, Colo.

A celebration of Ersel's life was held on June 6, 2008, at the North Loup Seventh Day Baptist Church with Pastor Christian Mattison officiating. Interment was in the Hillside Cemetery, North Loup.

**Crandall.**—Delmar E. Crandall, 99, of Ashaway, Rhode Island, died peacefully on July 21, 2008, at The Westerly (R.I.) Hospital.

Born in Hopkinton, R.I., on December 4, 1908, he was the son of Ellsworth and Minnie (Thompson) Crandall. Del married Grace Eleanor Champlin, who predeceased him.

He had been a carpenter and builder in South County for 40 years, working with Walter Eccleston. He later retired from the maintenance department at The Westerly Hospital.

Del was a pillar and served in many capacities, including deacon, at the First Seventh Day Baptist Church of Hopkinton for over 80

years. He was still serving on the Stewardship Board at the time of his passing.

Mr. Crandall had been active in local politics and served on the Hopkinton Town Council for several terms.

He is survived by one son, Kenneth Crandall of Clinton, Conn.; one grandson, Roger Crandall of North Carolina, and one granddaughter, Lori Crandall of Wallingford, Conn.; siblings Linton Crandall, Doris Debigare and Elva Larkin, all of Hopkinton; five great-grandchildren; several nieces and nephews; and by many dear neighbors and friends who considered Del like a grandfather. He was predeceased by his brother William Crandall.

The funeral service was held on July 24, 2008, at the First SDB Church of Hopkinton, with Pastor Justin Camenga and Kirk Looper officiating. Burial was in First Hopkinton Cemetery, Ashaway.

**Carneal.**—Mary Genevieve Carneal, 83, formerly of Berea, W.Va., died August 10, 2008, in Jacksonville, Fla., from a fatal stroke after a courageous battle with Alzheimer's disease.

She was born in Berea on April 20, 1925, a daughter of Guy Toy and Bertha Rhoda (Davis) Sutton. After graduating from Los Altos High School of Hacienda Heights, Calif., Mary was employed in many service roles throughout her life in banking, medical and commercial enterprises. She excelled in meeting the needs of others. Most recently, she was a reporter of Berea community news for the *Pennsboro News* and the *Ritchie Gazette*.

Mary was a member of the Seventh Day Baptist churches of Berea,

and Daytona Beach, Fla., and also attended a Baptist Church in Auburn, W.Va.

She is survived by three sons, Adrian Carneal of Manassas, Va., Paul Carneal of Jacksonville, and Darrell Carneal of Raleigh, N.C.; one daughter, Linda Olena of Elberton, Ga.; two brothers, Eugene Sutton of Unionville, Va., and Rev. Edward Sutton of New Enterprise, Pa.; nine grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a younger sister, Kathleen.

Funeral services were held on August 14, 2008, at the Ritchie SDB Church in Berea, with Rev. Edward Sutton officiating. Interment was in the Pine Grove Cemetery, Berea.

## Death Notices

**Pastor Don Shackelford**, 72, of Mesa, Ariz., died on August 7, 2008.

**Wilna Mae Van Noty**, 90, of Hemet, Calif., died on September 6, 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

# Scripture memory participants,

cont. from page 16

<b>First Hopkinton Ashaway, RI</b> Joel Roache Matthew Roache Thelma Tarbox	Penny Walker Wade Walker Elton Williams	<b>Miami, FL</b> Jaidean Buddle Stefan Buddle Cortney Charlery Marc Downes Christine Francis Earl Green Ashley Henry Tanya Morgan Cassandra Murphy Andrew Samuels Kay Samuels Tsafiq Samuels Tshahi Samuels Coleen Saunder Theonathan Wilson	Kaila Cooper Carol Cruickshank Clive Fairclough Georgia Fairclough Jamila Fairclough Maya Fairclough Iman Francis Oliver Francis Sasah Francis Inez Gray Una Jackson Cecil King Menard King Shaunese McLean Lisa Moore Dannavette Morrison Magon Morrison Rashan Morrison Rasheed Morrison Othneil Murphy Carol Shorter Mauva Smith-Campbell Anthony Junior Stewart Sarah Stewart Monica Thompson Virginia Thompson Dorothy Walsh Pamela Whitely Pansy Whyte Shaunette Whyte Blanche Williams	<b>Pawcatuck SDB Westerly, RI</b> Barbara W. Barber Isaac Barber Simon Barber Spencer Barber Adam Nadeau Patrick Nadeau	Sharon Campbell Don Chroniger Joshua Coleman Nancy Davis Ruth Ann Davis Cathy Dixon Danielle Dixon Alex Hitchner Matt Hitchner Melissa Hitchner Frank B. Mulford Bill Probasco Holly Probasco Liam Probasco Valerie Probasco
<b>First Toronto Toronto, Canada</b> Estel Aird Norma Anderson Keith Ashley Natasha Reynolds Ashley Herlitz Condison Merlin Condison Marva Edwards Lee Fyffe Sharai Fyffe Winsome Gilmore Shayanne Gilmore Debralee Gooden Herman Grant Tyvaugh Holness Hermine Hunter Lorette Hunter Jamoke Johnson Godfrey London Margaret London Tiffani London Winston London Jalyssa Lynch Jordan Lynch Josiah Lynch Jonathan Meshach Lyons Joshua Charles Lyons Moses Lyons Tyrell Mingo Annette Murray Jacqueline Murray Vanessa Ormsby Florence Reynolds Linnette Reynolds Paula Reynolds Ruth Reynolds Lorna Samuels Gloria Simpson Nadia Simpson Elon Sinclair Isolyn Sinclair Festina Smith Evelyn Taylor	<b>Fort Lauderdale, FL</b> Tashani Fung-Chung Jenniel Johnson Brandon Minto Lauray Philbert Adrienne Russell	<b>Middle Island New Milton, WV</b> Alice Robinson Emily Robinson John Robinson		<b>Plainfield, NJ</b> Linda Barron Jean Ellenbacher William Franklin	
	<b>Hope SDB Philadelphia, PA</b> Rolleesa Phillips	<b>Milton, WI</b> Quinn Bennett Ellen Bentz Jackson Butler George Calhoun Elizabeth Camenga Barbara Green Shawn Hamm Olivia Heilman Micaela Jorgenson Marcy Kersten Daniel Leitel Linda Lyke Addison Mattox Zachary Muench Lukas Mullen Lydia Snyder		<b>Raritan Valley Bridgewater, NJ</b> Jeanne W. Yurke	<b>Stonefort, IL</b> Alice Brooks Blake Buchanan Bryleigh Buchanan Kim Buchanan
	<b>Little Rock, AR</b> Donna Monroe Sarah R.J. Monroe Betty Seager Irving Seager			<b>Riverside, CA</b> Leona Cobb Patricia Cobb Yvonne Farley Evelyn Gibson Matthew Gieling Donald Jackson Kara Juhl Melinda Juhl Elie Laham Robert Romezes Esmeralda Rosalas Paul Stevens Taylon Tom Markie Williams	<b>Texarkana, AR</b> Amanda Brown Jennifer Brown Katie Brown Melissa Brown Juanita Buckley Andrea Davis Caleb Gammons Haylee Gammons Karen Gammons Randi Gammons Alexis Garrett Merline Lewis Ruth Joy Smith Marian Soper Lauren Telford
	<b>Lost Creek, WV</b> Susan D. Bond Denise Fenstermacher Rick Fenstermacher Phyllis Randolph				<b>Verona, NY</b> Aaron Browka Mayola Warner
	<b>Marlboro, NJ</b> Ashley Davis Christopher Davis Sharon Davis Jessie Fogg	<b>New York City, NY</b> Knoxie May Beverly Alexander Linda Anderson Jean Barrett Michael Barrett Kaydiann Blackwood Samantha Bonnet Kelvin Campbell Mertella Castilla Ericessen Cooper Jibreel Cooper	<b>North Loup, NE</b> Ron Cargill Shirley Cargill Beth Dutcher Katherine Dutcher Helen Goodrich Jerry Kolbo Kaitlin Mattison Teri Morgan Brice Severance Frances VanHorn	<b>Salem, WV</b> Alyssa Barnes Canaan Davis Steve Rogers Patience Spencer Issac Yoneda	<b>Vision Christian Westerly, RI</b> Susie Lamphere Cassandra Nadine Lawton Sarah Lawton Barbara Nugent
	<b>Metro Atlanta Hiram, GA</b> Debbie Hargett Jeff Hargett Joel Hargett Rebekah Hargett Alex Kelley Jasmine Kelley AnnaRuth Lovelace Daniel Lovelace Joanna Lovelace Jonathan Lovelace Josiah Lovelace Michael Lovelace Bettie Pearson John Pethtel Tabatha Pethtel Lucy Tyler		<b>Nortonville, KS</b> Barbara Antrim Miriam Lawton Berg Robert Colvin Jean Jorgensen	<b>Seattle Area Auburn, WA</b> Daniel Borek Melodie Noyes Lena Sanford Katherine Spreadborough Robert Spreadborough	<b>White Cloud, MI</b> Cathy Cruzan Ed Cruzan

# KEVIN'S

## KORNER

### Stand up to CF

I'm Kevin Butler, and I approve this message.

"On Friday night, September 5<sup>th</sup>, over 50 of the most renowned personalities in TV, film, sports and music came together to make history. In an unprecedented television event, NBC, ABC, and CBS simultaneously devoted one hour of commercial-free prime time to raise funds for the fight against cancer."

Thus began a press release for "Stand Up to Cancer." Celebrities raised more than \$100 million during that historic event. Their catch-phrase was, "This is

where the end of cancer begins."

September 5<sup>th</sup> was also the one-month birthday of our grandson, Adrik.

The day before, Matt and Danielle got some tough news. Adrik was diagnosed with cystic fibrosis (CF).

In Matt's words, "It's definitely not the best news that new parents want to hear, but we know that God has a plan for his life and all will be well. Praise God that Adrik currently has no symptoms and we caught it early enough to start preventive treatments."

After our initial shock and numbness, Janet and I started learning all we could about cystic fibrosis. CF is a genetic disorder that causes the body to produce thick, sticky mucus. The mucus then clogs the lungs and leads to life-threatening lung infections, and also obstructs the pancreas from helping the body process food.

I started to hate this disease already.

Then we read about life expectancy. Back in the 1950s, few children with cystic fibrosis lived to attend elementary school. Today, thanks to research and treatments, the median age of survival for a person with CF is more than 37 years. (That's up from 32 in just the year 2000.)

But 37 is still way too short. There is no known cure.

I began this Korner by talking about cancer. Cancer is a horrendous, pervasive and prevalent disease. And I don't want to diminish or downplay the efforts of the Stand Up to Cancer celebrities. It is a powerful and worthy cause. Cancer affects just about every family I know—both of my sisters, my mother-in-law, and a brother-in-law were stricken. Thankfully, they've all survived.

In comparison, cystic fibrosis is extremely rare. There are only 30,000 cases in the United States. That's one in 10,000 people. That means that if we more than doubled the membership of our Conference, we might still have only one person infected with CF: little Adrik.

Now look, I'm accustomed to being in the minority. I played soccer in a time when football totally reigned as the fall sport. I'm a Baptist who goes to church on Saturday. Heck, I've even used a *Macintosh* computer since the '80s!

But I want to declare, "This is where the end of cystic fibrosis begins!" As people of faith, we are praying. In Matt's letter to family and friends, he shared, "Please pray for healing through a miracle or through medicine; God works through both."

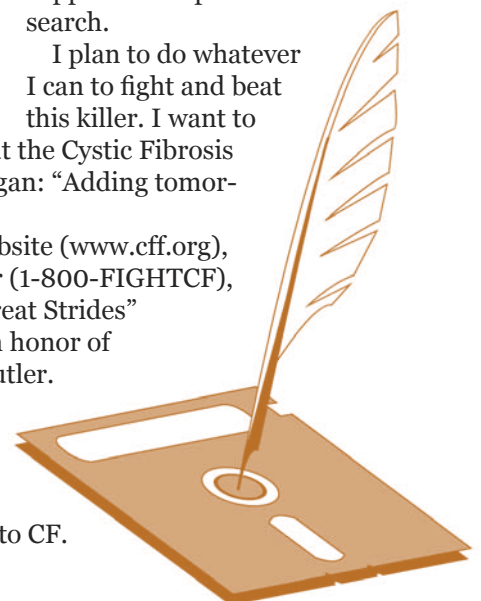
With fewer people affected with CF, fewer people are aware to support the expensive research.

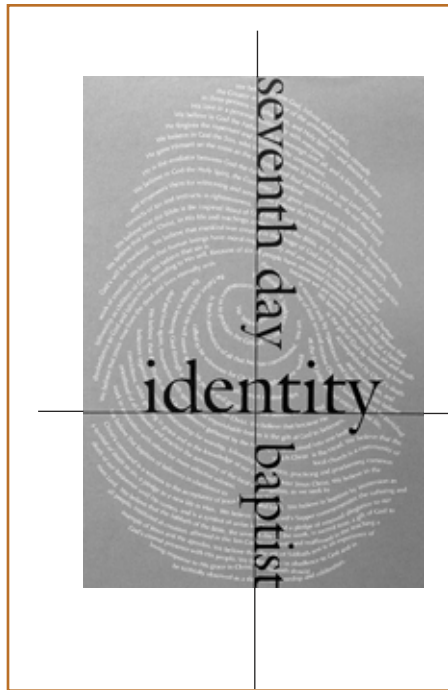
I plan to do whatever I can to fight and beat this killer. I want to

adopt and live out the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation's slogan: "Adding tomorrows every day."

Go to their website ([www.cff.org](http://www.cff.org)), call their number (1-800-FIGHTCF), support their "Great Strides" walking events in honor of Adrik Jackson Butler.

As a fellow parent or grandparent, have a heart and help us stand up to CF.





*We may have lost  
our 'Distinctives'...  
...but we've found  
our 'Identity'!*

## **Seventh Day Baptist Identity**

A very popular item at Conference, this colorful 32-page booklet is the perfect introductory study of what SDBs believe. Filled with Scripture references, each section follows our denominational Statement of Belief (included in the back of the booklet). The cover's distinctive fingerprint is actually formed with words from our Statement—a clever design by artist Pat Cruzan.

The new "Identity" updates and replaces our old "Distinctives" booklets.

Each copy is only 50 cents (plus 75 cents postage; e.g., \$1.25 for one). Please call us for larger orders so we can calculate the shipping costs. Or, go to our on-line store and the checkout system will calculate the shipping for you.

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