



# The Sabbath RECORDER

June 2009

*News for and about Seventh Day Baptists*



## A Miracle for Malawi

*Plus, from  
our Youth:*

### Closing the Generation Gap

### When You First See Me

### The Day I Met Jessica





## 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)

### A Banner Year!

I love banners, so I'm asking your church to make one for Conference 2009.

Create your banner around the Conference theme of "Pray," or one of the Scripture Memory verses.

Have fun and make plans to display your banner at General Conference in Lancaster, PA!

To God be the Glory,  
Ed Cruzan, President

A good size for banners is 60 inches high and 36 inches wide, with a rod and cord to hang it. See you there!

### New Directory ready

Tired of rising prices?

Here's some good news: The 2009 Directory of SDB 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 (608-752-5055, or [media@seventhdaybaptist.org](mailto:media@seventhdaybaptist.org)) and we can invoice you. Or place your order at our website's E-store and let PayPal do the calculations.

## SDB General Conference Lancaster Bible College, Lancaster, Pa. July 26 – August 1, 2009

### Off Campus housing

There are many accommodations in the Lancaster area. A block of rooms has been reserved at a Days Inn about a mile from the college. Contact info: Days Inn, 1492 Lititz Pike, Lancaster PA 17601 Ph 717-293-8400. Rooms are being held until June 26 at a cost of \$71/nt.

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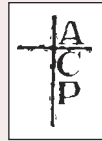


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# Closing the Generation Gap

by Christopher Davis, Marlboro, N.J.

*“Don’t let anyone think less of you because you are young. Be an example to all believers in what you teach, in the way you live, in your love, your faith, and your purity.” (1 Timothy 4:12)*

With age comes wisdom, or so they say. That is why in many churches, it seems as though the older adults in the congregation are the ones making nearly all of the decisions.

We teenagers feel like we are “along for the ride” and tend to be passive and watch all of those active adults. “Thank goodness we don’t have to do all of that work” we might say.

The problem with that situation? We are the future of the church! We are going to have to *become* those active adults sooner or later.

We have the talent and skill to further God’s Kingdom, and yet we often just sit there. The fact is, if we want His Kingdom to grow, then we need to help it along.

You can’t grow a very good garden by simply tossing some seeds in the ground and hoping they will grow. You have to put tender loving care and endless loads of hard work into it.

**“We tend to be passive and watch all of the active adults.”**



And the time to start working is now. God judges by a man’s deeds, not his age.

Take Timothy for example. Timothy was a young man — young enough to be regarded by Paul as his son. Still, he was sent by Paul to pastor the crumbling church of Ephesus.

Even though he was much younger than a normal preacher, Timothy worked hard to successfully unify the people in the church, drive out false teaching and unruly women, and improve leadership standards.

His actions—not his age—defined his works. When the Bible said, “Let a man reap what he sows,” there was no “age clause” attached.

We often limit ourselves to our age, yet the Lord judges us by our deeds. Why don’t we do the same? **SR**

***The problem with that? We are the future of the church! We are going to have to become those active adults sooner or later.”***

# Youth: What's your Role on the Church Roll?

by Emily Olson, Berlin, N.Y.

When I was first asked to write an article for this Youth Issue, I decided that I would do it. But then I put it off for a little while.

After procrastinating for about three weeks, I thought, "Maybe I should start to write that article!"

The theme was the importance of the youth's role in the church. I tried putting something together, but every time I started to write, I failed to stick to the theme.

Then it hit me. The church is using me—a youth—to write this article. Being asked to do something like this made me feel useful. Then I



*The Youth Fellowship in Berlin, N.Y., participated in the nationwide Ice Cream Social to mark the end of the successful "Bricks for Malawi" project. Read about the campaign on p. 10.*

**“Everyone felt useful! Having the youth included made the night go a lot easier because it helped free up the adults to do other things.”**

realized, "Hey, I like how being useful feels!"

Some churches struggle with having very few youth. One reason for this problem may be that the youth don't feel useful. Young people like to feel important. The truth of the matter is, if a church doesn't encourage and use their youth, those kids may not want to stick around.

There are so many things the church can use the youth for: taking up the offering, singing or playing in

a praise team (or providing some other kind of music), even helping out in the nursery. For example, I choose ushers for the offering and I sing with the church's praise team. Just doing those two things makes me feel like I am an important individual in the church.

Recently, our church held a community date night, showing the movie "Fireproof." Fifty-two couples from the community were served a four-course meal before watching the film.

Not only did the church use the high school kids as wait staff to serve the meal, they used the younger middle school students to provide childcare so the couples wouldn't have to pay for a sitter.

Everyone felt useful! Having the youth included made the night go a lot easier because it helped free up the adults to do other things.

When our church did a "Faith

in Action" campaign, the youth also participated. We all took part through our Sabbath School classes. The youngest kids went to a nursing home and performed for the people there.

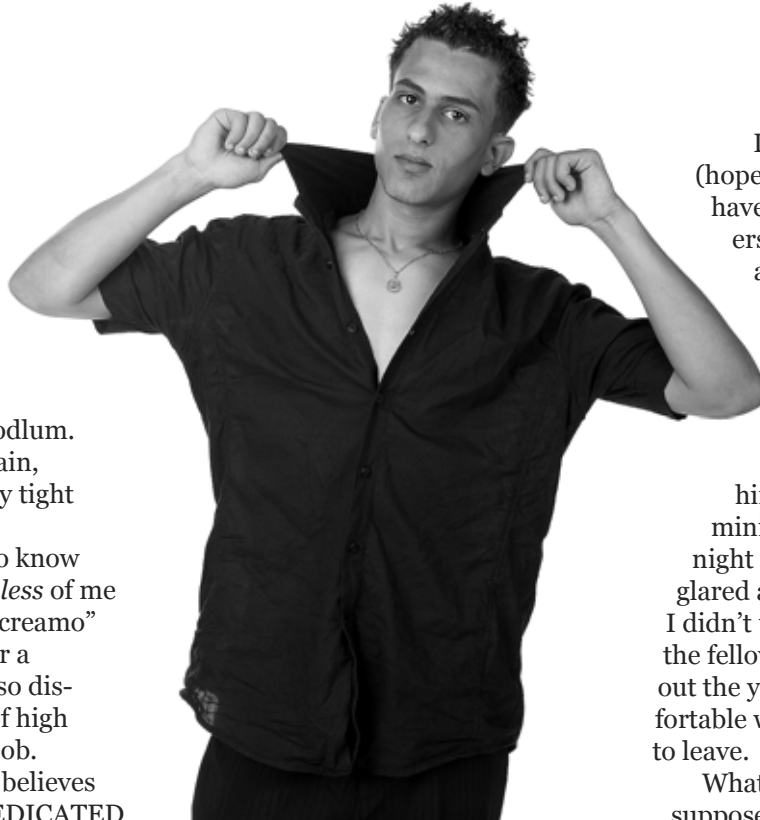
The middle school and high school classes combined and provided a free car wash for the community. When it started to rain, we switched gears and helped clean up the Little Hoosick Watershed, painted a building, and did other projects in and around Berlin. These are only a few of the many examples I could give you.

What I am trying to say is this: Don't neglect your youth. Listen to their ideas. Make more opportunities for them to participate.

As a youth myself, I can tell you honestly that if the kids in your church feel useful, they just might start bringing some of their friends to church, too. **SR**

# When you first see me...

by Benny Uhlich, Seattle, Wash.



When you first see me, you might think I'm a hoodlum. You'll notice my wallet chain, spiky/colored hair, and my tight clothes.

When you start to get to know me, you might think even *less* of me seeing that I love heavy "screamo" music. In fact, I scream for a screamo band. You will also discover that I dropped out of high school and I don't have a job.

But here's what no one believes when I tell them: I'm a DEDICATED Christian. I am looking toward a future ministry. My screamo band is Christian; all of our lyrics are strictly dedicated to our faith in Christ.

I have a fairly dark past—I do admit to that—but the Lord saved me from who I was. I am not in the dark place I used to be in.

I have decided that I will serve my Lord with the skills He has given

me. I use my music to minister to the "screamo" scene. I feel if our crowds are lost souls, who better to witness to?

I also use the sense of humor God gave me to tell jokes as a stand-up comedian. At my gigs, I let people know I am a Christian and I keep my jokes clean.

Last and far from least (hopefully not my last gift), I have recently received leadership skills and am now a youth leader at my church. My cover misled you about my book, huh?

I went to a youth group and the youth pastor scoffed when I told him I was training toward a ministry role. Throughout that night the same youth pastor glared at me for most of the time. I didn't understand it. Later, after the fellowship was over I found out the youth pastor was uncomfortable with me and wanted me to leave.

What's up with that? We are supposed to be a family, correct? We don't get to choose who our flesh-and-blood family members are. However, we love them because of who they are: family. Those ties are special.

The ties we have within the Family of God are even more so! Then why do we work to remove those "family members" that make us uncomfortable? This prejudiced nonsense tears us apart.

I want to know: Who did Jesus pick as his disciples? "Regular Joes," right? I also recall reading that Jesus hung out with prostitutes and "sinners."

So when someone doesn't look or act the way we expect, we get offended. The Lord looks at the heart, he doesn't look at the physical stuff. **SR**

***My cover misled you about my book, huh?***

BTW, this isn't Benny. See him on page 12.

# Why get so stressed?

by Cory DuBois, Shiloh, N.J.

My life—like a lot of people’s—has become very stressful.

I recently became employed at a local Wal-Mart. This means that I’m working 30 or more hours a week on top of a full class schedule (I am a senior in high school) plus extra-curricular and church activities.

To make matters worse, I have been sick for the past week and a half, but still managed to make it to work every day and only miss one day of school.

In all honesty, I think that I would have gone crazy by this point—about a month into this new job—if it

weren’t for some wise words from a man at church.

He was talking about all the things in life that create stress and give you headaches and make you want to scream and complain. Then he said that “We’re just too blessed to be stressed.”

This little quote has really stuck with me and I turn to it any time I feel like I can’t handle things anymore or a customer makes my job a little tougher.

I just need to remember that I asked God for a job, and He gave me a pretty good-paying one where

I have decent hours and don’t really have to work all that hard. He has blessed me with a job and He has greatly blessed my life as a whole with a loving family, great Christian friends, a wonderful Christian girlfriend, and a bright future.

That’s why when a coworker asked me if I liked working at Wal-Mart—apparently because I seemed to like working there—I replied, “Not particularly; I just really enjoy being alive.”

So count your blessings, enjoy being alive, and remember that your life is too blessed to be stressed! **SR**



# The Sins of the World

by Baylea Osborn, Weyerhaeuser, Wis.  
Submitted by Lance Greene, Dodge Center, Minn.

Look what you did to this boy, you messed up his life.  
You told him, “Everyone is doing it, so it must be  
all right.”  
He just wanted to fit in, thought he might find some love  
But now he’s addicted to something worse than drugs  
Images haunt his mind,  
day and night,  
all the time  
He’s afraid to open up  
because of what  
others will find.  
On the outside he’s  
got a smile, on  
the inside it’s pain  
Will he ever get past  
this and respect  
himself again?  
How could he have  
done this, gotten ad-  
dicted and trapped?  
He was supposed  
to be above this,  
supposed to stick  
to the right track  
He looks at his Mom, he just wants her to hold him,  
To tell her all he’s done wrong, hear her say she  
forgives him  
But he knows she would surely reject him  
So he bottles everything back up and continues  
his hidden sin.  
“Please help me, God,” he silently cries,  
“I cannot do this without You by my side!”  
He does not realize it’s not all his fault  
That the person who tripped him up has also  
done wrong—  
You stole away his innocence, you don’t even care!  
You once professed your love for him, now  
you’re not even there!  
The deed has been done, you cannot erase his mind  
But he can always start again, there is always  
another time...



Look at her smile, she’s so beautiful and kind  
She’s one of the girls that is always so nice  
Always helpful and happy,  
always eager to please  
But there is another side that nobody sees—  
She gives in to  
the pressure,  
again and again  
She feels dirty inside,  
she hates living a lie  
But it has her addicted,  
she couldn’t leave  
if she tried  
Who would know  
what she has  
hidden behind  
that pretty face?  
It all started so  
innocently when  
she was surfing  
MySpace  
Somebody sick  
wanted to make  
others sick, too.  
So he posted some pictures that would stick  
to her mind like glue  
Nobody knows, how could she confess it?  
She’s a ‘good little girl,’ she hears everyone profess it.  
Every time she’s alone she finds herself  
at the same site  
Trying to fill an emptiness and forget  
what freedom feels like—  
“Break off my chains, I want to be free!  
Won’t somebody please listen to me?”  
But who could she tell? Who could she trust?  
There isn’t anybody who wouldn’t  
turn in disgust—  
Sick-minded person, you ruined her life!  
You posted your pictures, you promoted your site,  
Now she’s entangled in a life threatening trap,  
One day you’ll have to answer to God for that... **SR**



# The Day I Met Jessica

by Corey Gaburo, Shiloh, N.J.

When I was a young girl, I had gone to church every Sunday with my grandparents. I went until I hit fourth grade, then things got really busy, and I stopped going.

As time went on, I grew farther and farther away from the Lord. During my high school years, I went through some tough times. I was dealing with my Mom getting remarried, trying to establish an identity for myself, but the big thing was my father going to rehab for drugs.

I felt like the world was crumbling down all around. Everything seemed to change that day I met Jessica.

Jessica Chroniger and I met during my sophomore year at lunch. We talked and soon became friends. I had told her about everything that had happened and she was honest with her replies.

She asked if I went to church and if I believed in the Lord. I wasn't

really sure how to answer, but I told her that I had gone when I was little and hadn't been in a long time. I also told her that I believed "somewhat."

We went through weeks of eating lunch and discussing the topic at hand. Although skeptical, she had convinced me to go to Jersey Oaks Camp to hang out, meet some more people, and more importantly, to reconnect to the Lord.

At the camp, I felt uneasy being surrounded by "true Christians," and didn't know how to react to them. Jessica introduced me to Pastor Wayne North. I think that he had a sense of how I was feeling, because he kept the conversation simple and made the atmosphere relaxing as we continued to talk. I will never forget that day.

As the day went on, I met more people like Lauren Muffley, Abby Morresay, Rich Bidwell, and Debbie Bond. They had all gone out of their

way to make me feel part of what was going on.

I found myself going back a few more times that week. I began to feel guilty about how I was living, but wasn't really willing to change my ways at that point. Jessica convinced me to come to the church for the skit the camp was doing.

That day in church, I felt something I hadn't felt in a long time: connected and wanted. I had established an identity for myself. After that day in church, I found myself returning every Saturday. Each week I learned more and more of what I was missing out on for so long. And every time I go, I continue to learn and have fun with the people who mean the most to me.

Jessica showed me an environment where there was fun, learning, and great people all in one place. Even though she and I have gone through ups and downs along the way of our friendship—and I am continuing to work out the kinks in my life—I know that there is nothing that could stop us from hanging out as friends.

I learn in church and I also learn from my friends there. Ever since I started attending, I meet more and more people and I continue to want to go there. And it all began with Jessica knowing how to sucker me into hanging out at the camp, and then convincing me to come to church.

Now I participate in retreats, youth group and youth center, and even sing a solo at church every now and then. And it all began with a simple friendship. **SR**



# A Miracle for Malawi

by Jean Jorgensen

Everybody who participated in the “Bricks for Malawi” project: CLAP your HANDS! A few of you can even jump for joy!

God’s hand *had* to have orchestrated all of our lives and turned this youth project into a major miracle. The results were exhilarating!



## How it all began

At last year’s SDB General Conference session, the Youth Interest Committee voted to work together on a fund raising project to help people in another country. Little did anyone imagine what would happen.

Correspondence with Nedd Lozani, General Secretary of the SDB Conference of Malawi, Africa, led to our goal: to provide funds for some of the bricks they needed to repair the Thembe Medical Clinic’s Maternity Ward and three staff houses. He wrote that they needed 400,000 bricks to do the job. They had already made 100,000 bricks, so that meant only 300,00 to go (!).

## Brother, can you spare 4 cents?

Based on Mr. Lozani’s estimates, we advertised that each brick would

cost about 4 cents (U.S.). We figured that providing funds for 100,000 bricks would be an attainable goal.

Partnering with the Seventh Day Baptist Missionary Society, letters went out to every SDB pastor and youth advisor, and announcements were placed on the SDB website, in the *Sabbath Recorder*, on the Facebook social network, and through e-mails.

## We got to work

Our SDB youth across the continent caught the challenge. They

remarkably and diligently sacrificed their allowances, took extra jobs, and even waged “Penny Wars” among Sabbath Schools. (One girl had her tutoring students provide pennies.) In the Salem, W.Va., church Penny War, it was boys vs. girls (and the girls won).

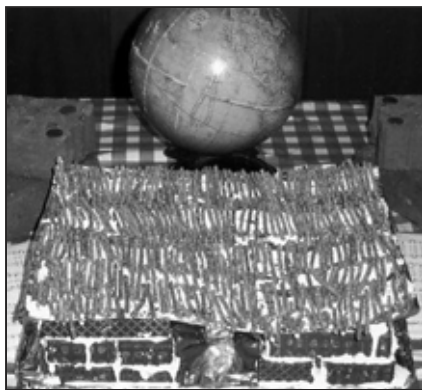
The youth provided everything from coin collection boxes and pails, to a five-gallon water bottle (in Ashaway, R.I.). They hosted meals and sold ice cream. A carnival at Stony Brook University added funds for the New York City youth.

Several kids involved people where they worked. Some churches

*cont. on p. 12*



*The ice cream social in Nortonville, Kan., kicked off right at 6:00 p.m. The old glass fish-plate has become a local tradition.*



*The Bell church in Salemville, Pa., created a model of the Thembe Medical Clinic using wafer cookies, frosting and pretzels.*

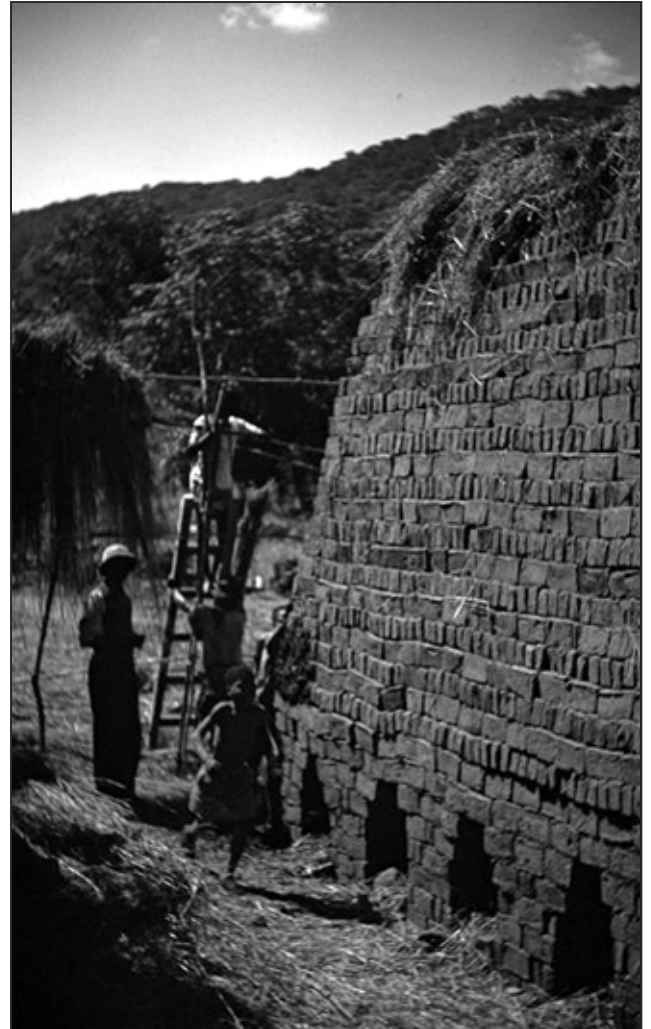


*The New York City youth group earned \$1,560 for the Malawi project, or a whopping 39,000 bricks!*

## How the bricks are made



*Workers dig up the clay and dirt. Then water is added and the mud is placed in a mold.*

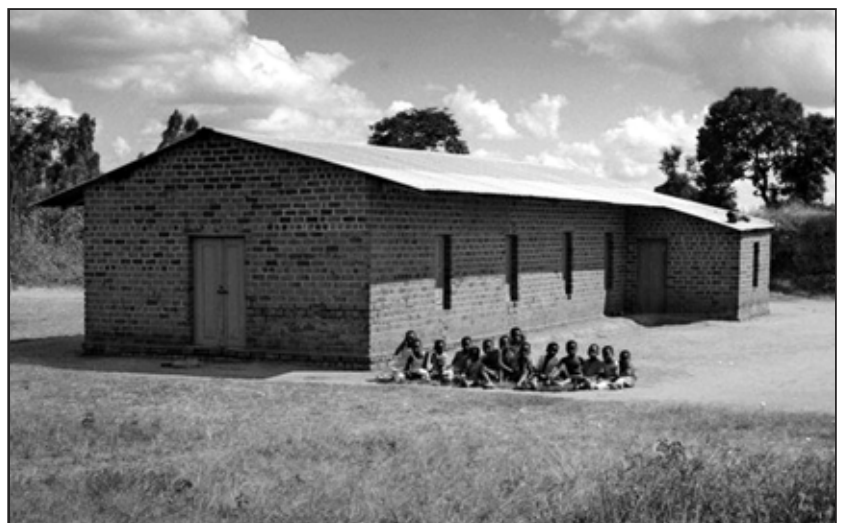


*Once this kiln is fired and the bricks are inserted, the smoke really rises!*



*Above: Laying the molded bricks out to dry. They're going to need a lot of room for 300,000 more!*

*Right: One of their finished products—the church/school building in Thembe.*



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## Miracle for Malawi *continued from p. 10*

even started talking in terms of bricks rather than money, as in, “Here’s six bricks” (one quarter). Their excitement was caught by the church families and other adults.

### Who got involved?

The big project culminated on March 21 with a nationwide Ice Cream Social, to celebrate the generosity of our churches and friends. Celebrations included puppet shows and skits, Malawian meals, singing and good old-fashioned fellowship. Everyone joined together at the same hour on that Sabbath (i.e., 7:00 p.m. Eastern, 4:00 p.m. Pacific).

A total of 21 youth groups or churches participated, along with individual donations. The churches represented were: Texarkana, Ark.; All Nations in Los Angeles, Calif.; Colorado Springs, Colo.; Metro Atlanta, Ga.; Nortonville, Kan.; Marlboro, N.J.; Shiloh, N.J.; Berlin, N.Y.; Alfred/Alfred Station/Little Genesee, N.Y.; New York City, N.Y.; Pataskala, Ohio; Portland, Ore.; Salemville, Pa.; Ashaway, R.I.; Vision Christian Fellowship, R.I.; Westerly, R.I.; Nashville, Tenn.; Arlington, Va./Mitchellville, Md.; Seattle, Wash.; and Salem, W.Va.

### And the final tally?...

So, CHECK THIS OUT! Drum roll, please...

Together, we provided 293,886 bricks!! (And I was hoping that we’d *maybe* reach 100,000.) Can you believe it?

That’s \$11,020! Only 6,114 bricks away from the 300,000 needed. At 3.75 cents each, we were only \$229 short of meeting that total need. Then I realized that two of the churches had not submitted their amounts to the Missionary Society.



Oh, there's Benny! (second from left)

*Our Seattle, Wash., church represented the west coast and got to start their social at 4:00 p.m. local time...*



*...while the group in Salemville, Pa., had a very social Social!*

They reported a total of \$1,540.77. Once that got to the Society, we surpassed the 300,000 bricks! This is beyond amazing!!

“Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever! Amen” (Ephes. 3:20-21).

### To God be the glory

God must have big plans for the

Thembe Medical Clinic and His people in Malawi. Praise the Lord for your ability to give generously.

But this is much more than being generous with time and money. It is allowing God to work through us. That’s the exciting part!

This project was a sign that God is at work among us—worldwide—and will continue to lead and inspire each of us in ways that can be measured, and in countless ways we cannot measure. What a mighty God we serve! **SR**



## A June Bride's Tribute to her Mate

I was a June bride. It just turned out that way because that was the only month (in 1967) that the U.S. Navy was going to give Richard Carlton Bond some leave time.

I'd met this handsome, rugged farm boy at Camp Joy five years before. My Dad had driven a vanload of us teens from Daytona Beach to the hills of West Virginia because back then that's where the closest SDB church camp was located.

It was instant attraction for me, and the sound of his deep-voiced "Hello" grabbed hold of my heart.

Now that it's been 47 years since that first meeting, and 42 years since we married, it seems like a good time to honor the man who has given me quite a bit of material for this page over the last few years.

Last month, while in Iowa visiting our daughter, I was in the car with Julie when these lyrics by Lee Ann Rimes came on the radio, "What'll I do without you?" I confessed to our daughter that there was a tear in my eye as I thought about her dad. I added, "Julie, it's worth the long haul." She knew what I meant.

What marriage *hasn't* had rocky roads to travel at times? A line from a Charles Stanley devotional caught my attention recently: "God didn't intend marriage to make you happy but to make you holy."

So, thank you, Richard Bond, for doing your best to make me happy even while God has been working to make us holy. Thank you for staying the course when it was tempting to give up. I have admired your tenacity through the years and smile over the memories of your recharging the battery on the riding lawn mower and unclogging the bathtub drain. That

same quality that drives you to stick with a job until it's completed gives me pause to thank God for your steadfastness in loving me. God's not done with me, and you're not either. Hallelujah!

As I think about the things I like about my husband—girls, he's even keeping his promise to take dance lessons with me—I feel led to share one of the many things my Dad gave to me as I was approaching marrying age: a book by Charles Shedd called *Letters to Karen*. The chapter I most remember advised that when the day comes that you wonder why on earth you married this man, you make a list of the things you like about him and a list of the things you don't like. Tack the first list to the head of your bed. Burn the second list.

I've done that mentally whenever necessary. I imagine Rich has done the same.



*Rich and Susie Bond in 1967, and 40 years later sharing an anniversary cupcake.*



About 15 years into our marriage, a Marriage Encounter weekend taught us that "Love is not a feeling; it's a decision."

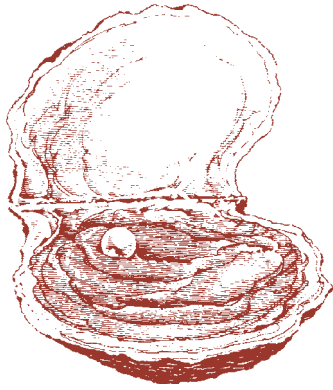
Thank you, Rich, for deciding to love me. I'm reminded of a sermon on relationships that I heard just a few years ago. Confessing that the 11<sup>th</sup> year of his marriage had been the "year from hell," the preacher said, "At the end of that year, we gave each other a gift—acceptance."

I realize that this page is more than a tribute to my husband. It is a "thank you letter" to God for all the help we've had over the years; sometimes miraculous, many times practical.

I appreciate the Lord feeding me with His Word and giving me good thoughts. As I was recently muttering over some communication glitch between Rich and me, the thought hit me, "God, you take pleasure in us" (Zeph. 3:17; Rev. 4:11). That gave me a smile.

Lastly, this page is written with a prayer that someone reading—perhaps another June bride—will be encouraged to take a fresh look at her mate and give thanks. **SR**

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



## Camping Champion

I have never been involved in hunting for pearls produced by oysters, but I have been blessed in being surrounded by individuals who have been “pearls” in the lives of many.

For Seventh Day Baptists, one of the most productive “oyster beds” over the past three-quarters of a century has been our youth camping program.

In the June 1980 *Sabbath Recorder*, Rev. Elmo Fitz Randolph wrote an article entitled, “We’ve Come So Far in Seventh Day Baptist Camping.” In that article, Pastor Randy wrote:

“How many children and young people from our church have been inspired and enriched in their lives by experiences of camp living under Christian auspices and in Christ-centered love? In the more than 50 years of [SDB] camping, how many of our pastors and dedicated lay people have shared a loving testimony of their Christian faith in an environment of Christ-centered love?... How many of our Seventh Day Baptist ministers and dedicated church workers have felt their call to ministry and Christian service from experiences in camp?”

But the “pearl” that began to formulate in my mind was Randy’s reference to the early 1940s and an “innovating champion in Rev. Harley Sutton, executive secretary of the SDB Board of Christian Education. Under his leadership, Youth Pre-Conference Retreats were introduced into our denominational youth pro-



“***How many of our Seventh Day Baptist ministers and dedicated church workers have felt their call to ministry and Christian service from experiences at camp?***”

gram—the first one being held near Battle Creek, Michigan, in 1940.”

Then he added, “How appropriate it is that our camp owned and administered by the Allegheny Association of Seventh Day Baptist Churches has been named ‘Camp Harley Sutton.’ Not only was I privileged to be the Director at that first camp held, but I had been baptized by Harley Sutton and it was during his years as my pastor that I felt the call into the ministry.”

From June 1944 to October 1949, Harley served as Executive Secretary for the Board of CE. He traveled widely and shared with youth camps and conferences.

He was planning on graduate study work in Christian Education when illness forced his retirement

from active, on-the-field work. But he was an inspiration to all who came into contact with him.

In the event of his death, he had directed that his eyes be given to the Buffalo (N.Y.) Eye Bank. Within 24 hours of his passing, both corneas had been transplanted to blind persons who were thus enabled to see. Perhaps this was symbolic of the vision that he gave to all of us in some of our blindness.

Following a previous Pacific Coast Association gathering, Harley Sutton had accompanied Elizabeth Fisher Davis and others on a tour of Knott’s Berry Farm in southern California. While there, she copied an anonymous poem that was posted above the trunk of an immense petrified redwood tree more than 42 feet in

diameter. The poem was called "Fallen Monarchs."

When informed of Harley's illness, Ms. Davis resolved to have the poem printed in the *Sabbath Recorder*—a tribute to a fallen monarch of our denomination. It appeared in the issue for May 28, 1956, three weeks after his passing at the age of 53:

### FALLEN MONARCHS

Tho' the trees may fall—the forest  
does not die;  
Age is a storm that cannot be defied,  
And tall trees crash upon the mountain  
side.  
But saplings rise, where fallen monarchs  
lie.



*Rev. Harley Sutton*  
1902–1956

Men pass away, but mankind  
struggles on;  
And, like the forest, climbs the  
mountain slope:  
Old trails must end—but men  
with youth and hope  
Will blaze new trails before  
their strength is gone.

Death is a part of immortality  
The winter that must pass before  
the spring;  
There comes an end to every  
living thing!  
But life goes onward for eternity.

Elizabeth Fisher Davis concluded her article with "May God grant that 'saplings rise where fallen monarchs lie.'" **SR**



## History Tour During Conference!

**Sign up by  
July 1st!**

The Seventh Day Baptist Historical Society is proud to announce that we will be sponsoring a tour of the Ephrata Cloister on Friday afternoon, July 31<sup>st</sup>, during the General Conference sessions held at Lancaster Bible College.

The Ephrata (Pa.) Cloister is the remains of a community of German Seventh Day Baptists started by Conrad Beissel in 1733. For more information on the Cloister you may visit their website at [www.ephratacloister.org](http://www.ephratacloister.org)

Transportation will be provided from the college in Lancaster to the Ephrata site, where we have arranged a special tour of the grounds. The cost of the trip will be approximately \$8 per person. If you are interested in attending the tour, please call the Society at 608-752-5055, or send an e-mail to [sdbhist@seventhdaybaptist.org](mailto:sdbhist@seventhdaybaptist.org), including your contact information and the number of spots you would like to reserve. **There are a limited number of spots available for this special tour!**



## Of Faith Unfeigned

Do you fake your faith?

Is the faith you proclaim to others on Sabbath day the faith you show at home? ...in stores? ...while driving? ...when making choices about where to live and how to provide for food, clothing, and shelter?

Is your faith so portable—so durable, so valuable—that you always have it with you? Even as we know the “right answer” to those questions, we also know that from the get-go, this world has been hostile to Jesus Christ, his message, and those who would diligently follow him.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ is good news, and some people can’t resist tampering or trying to hijack it.

With the best of motivations, some people focus on all the wrong things and miss the Gospel altogether. With the worst of motivations, others strive to get rich or powerful by “working” the Gospel into a con. They mislead, hoodwink, endanger, and condemn those who can be tricked or sidetracked.

From the earliest days of the scattering Church [Acts 8 with Simon the Sorcerer attempting to buy the Spirit] through the developing work of God in Antioch [Galatians 2 with Peter forsaking the behavior connected to God’s extension to the Gentiles] through the missionary effort of the Apostle Paul [2 Corinthians 11 where people were willing to put up with false preaching] and into our very lives, people and events have tried to hijack the Gospel of Christ. Sometimes it seems as though the effort succeeds.

The church in Ephesus was dealing with something similar—a group of people who focused on the wrong things and boldly misused the law of God. Paul had known that the church there was likely to be a hotbed of contentious people, and he left Timothy behind to safeguard the Gospel.

Knowing the work would be hard, Paul sent letters to Timothy, encouraging him to keep on working to correct the groups who misunderstood the Gospel and focused on the wrong things. In his first letter, Paul quickly identified the problem and explained how Timothy should work to quash those destructive efforts without undermining the very message Timothy was proclaiming.

In the midst of identifying the problem, Paul contrasted the work of the troublemakers with the work of God in the lives of humankind:

*“The goal of our instruction is love from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith” (1 Tim. 1:5, NASB).*

With those words, Paul provides us with much to ponder. Consider the source of the love, pure heart, good conscience and sincere faith; dwell on the call to action to care for the lives (including “private” spiritual matters) of those in Christ. And please notice one small detail about the goal Paul lays before Timothy; the word “sincere.”

“Sincere” is perhaps the best translation available for modern English. However, this is one spot where the English available to the translators of the King James Version

provided a stronger alternative. The sentence ends, “of faith unfeigned.”

We don’t talk much about people “feigning.” I think the closest I’ve heard is about a child “feigning illness” to get out of school. More often, we would talk about somebody “faking it.”

There is another word that we could use to translate what Paul is saying about faith. The word is hypocrite, and we still use it. It shows up in the news when talking about this politician or that preacher.

Hypocrisy is something that we recognize—in other people. We define it simply as “saying one thing and doing another.” A slightly better way of thinking about hypocrisy is to say that someone is putting a false face forward when they should just be true; they are two-faced or multi-faced.

And that word lets us get the best picture of what Paul was saying. He was saying that our faith should have only one face—the faith we show as we gather with Christians is the faith we show as we go anywhere else in life.

So, I ask you again, “Do you fake your faith?” Is the faith you proclaim to others on Sabbath day the faith you show at home? ...in stores? ...while driving? ...when making choices about where to live and how to provide for food, clothing, and shelter?

Is your faith so portable—so durable, so valuable—that you always have it with you? Is your faith unfeigned? **SR**





## FOCUS on Missions

# Brazil needs more T.I.M.E.

by Kirk Looper

Brazil is one of the largest countries where Seventh Day Baptists have organized and developed churches. Located on the east side of South America, it takes up most of the northern half of the continent.

The country's size and terrain make it one of the more difficult to evangelize. However, their Conference has churches all the way from the north along the Amazon down to the southern state of Rio Grande do Sul. It is exciting to hear stories of how they travel to some of their churches.

As you speak to Brazil's Conference leaders you have a distinct feeling that they know what their mission is in respect to the Gospel and the growth of their Conference. They are working hard to fulfill Christ's Great Commission (Matt. 28:18-20). Their drive has directed them to seek ways to enlarge the area where churches are planted and to reach out to the people around them.

Out of Brazil's 61 churches, only three have pastors with a theological education and two more pastors are studying in seminary. Forty-four have no pastor to lead them.

They have depended upon other denominations for their education. Even though more people have felt called by God to become pastors, it is difficult for them to attend school. The cost is prohibitive and they have to hold full-time jobs to support the family.

Also, the Conference has no money to have a full-time person who would devote himself to educating the pastors in training. The Conference urgently needs to train field pastors who will advance the skills of those who feel called to the ministry.

Over the past few years the Conference has held training sessions with teachers from the U.S. devoting their time and energies to help the Brazilians get started and stay ahead. Dynamic leaders—Rodney Henry, Dale and



*Brazilian SDBs Jonas and Clarice Sommer and João Telles dos Santos*

“  
***They know what their mission is in respect to the Gospel and the growth of the Conference.***”

Janet Thorngate, and David and Margaret Taylor—have spent time with the pastors and other leaders to give them a better grasp of the polity, beliefs and organization of SDBs. We are grateful to these teachers for their dedicated work in these areas.

In 2007, Rod Henry introduced the Training In Ministry by Extension (T.I.M.E.) program. It was decided that the program was what they needed and they planned to begin the training. However, the one given responsibility to administer the program—Luciano Barreto de Moura—has his own secular job and is also pastor of the Brasilia SDB Church. This means he has no funds or time to concentrate on this program.

The Conference has no financial means to help a pastor

dedicate himself exclusively to training future pastors. In that respect, they would request help from their sister Conferences and churches through donations that can be used for that purpose.

They are looking for funds to cover:

<b>Maintenance of the Pastor in charge of T.I.M.E.</b>	\$14,535
<b>Expenses with study materials</b>	4,233
<b>Traveling expenses</b>	8,695
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$27,463</b>

This is the annual budget for the program. Funds would need to be available at the beginning of the year. This would ensure a continuous program with no stops while waiting for funds to arrive.

We pray that we are able to help in this project, to at least bring about some of their plans to assist their pastors and churches. **SR**



# *the* BEACON

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

June 2009

## NEW Nurture Series on the Horizon

Hey guys, remember learning good stuff from the old **Nurture Series**—stories about Sabbath and Missions?

Well, the **Nurture Series** is being revised and expanded. The new series will help kids understand, experience, and be able to explain the Sabbath, our Mission & Ministry, and Seventh Day Baptist Identity.

So, why don't you mention this to your folks, or your pastor? Or maybe your YF could do a fundraiser to get this project going!

Your special donation will help create this updated ministry tool. Please send your gift to PO Box 115, Alfred Station NY 14803, and make sure it is marked "Nurture Series." Or, send it online through the BCE webpage ([educatingchristians.org/Donate/Donate](http://educatingchristians.org/Donate/Donate)).

THANKS!!

## Hey Pre-Con Campers!

### 2009 Youth Pre-Con Camp

### 2009 Young Adult Pre-Con Camp

*Dates:*

July 22, 4:00 p.m. —  
July 26, 1:00 p.m.

*Campers:*

Ages 15–18 (or compl. 9<sup>th</sup>)

*Location:*

Jersey Oaks Camp  
Shiloh, New Jersey

*Director:*

Pastor Don Chroniger  
Shiloh, N.J.

*Cost:*

\$125.00 on or before  
June 30, 2009  
\$145.00 after June 30

*Medical Form required.  
See the May SR.*

*Dates:*

July 22, 4:00 p.m. —  
July 26, 1:00 p.m.

*Campers:*

Ages 18–29

*Location:*

Lancaster Bible College  
Lancaster, Pennsylvania

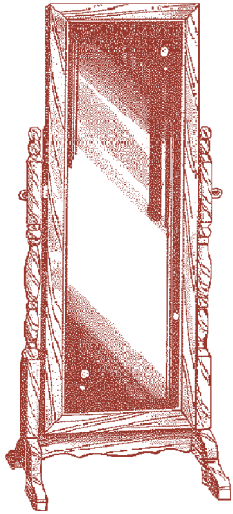
*Director:*

Pastor John Pethel  
Metro Atlanta, Ga.

*Cost:*

\$185.00 on or before  
June 30, 2009  
\$200.00 after June 30

Mail your registration form  
from the May SR, or go to  
[educatingchristians.org](http://educatingchristians.org)



# 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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## My Human Life Preserver

It seems as if the flame on the Seventh Day Baptist logo has dimmed a bit recently.

On March 13<sup>th</sup>, a kind, sweet man passed from this small sphere we call Earth. Some people would use other words to describe Don Alberne Sanford: husband and historian, father and friend, writer and wit, hard working and handy.

Others might describe him as curious and caring, well-read and reliable, gentle and generous. But for me, "kind and sweet" work just fine. I witnessed those attributes both inside and outside the walls of the SDB Center here in Janesville.

Don was always giving me verbal and written praise as a fellow employee and writer. He constantly presented another coworker, Jan Ehlers, with newspaper clippings mentioning her children's sports and academic achievements. When I requested "no gifts" for my 50<sup>th</sup> birthday, Don gave me a present anyway: one dollar for every year of my life. (Which made me wish I had been turning 100!)

As SDB Historian, Don was my "next-door neighbor" at the Center for many years. While I slaved away as Assistant Editor of the *Sabbath Recorder*, he wrote the "Pearls from the Past" and faithfully carried out his many other duties.

Don was a walking encyclopedia of Seventh Day Baptist information, past and present. Whenever I needed

a question answered regarding our denomination's history or specific individuals, I'd ask Don. He was my human life preserver; someone who rescued me from hours of swimming in the sea of reference books floating about in the Center's library.

If I hadn't known better, I would have guessed that Don was 300 years old. He talked about many of our

***He was my human  
life preserver...***



***...rescuing me from  
hours of swimming in  
the sea of reference books.***

SDB ancestors as if they were his personal acquaintances.

Don would be the first to admit that he wasn't a silver-tongued orator. But the sermons he preached, and the vignettes he often shared, were well-researched and interesting, leaving his listeners with much food for thought.

Before heading out of town for a trip, I visited Don in the hospital. Sitting by his bedside, I held his hand the entire time we talked. In spite of pain medication and the ravages

of Alzheimer's, he was amazingly alert. His youngest daughter, Deirdre, later told me that was his "best day of the week."

We talked mainly about his father's expertise at producing maple syrup. I fired a lot of questions at Don, and he answered every single one of my inquiries. He especially enjoyed relating how he "paid" Pastor Elmo Fitz Randolph for officiating at his wedding. "It was a two-gallon ceremony," Don grinned.

Shortly before leaving, I sang "In the Garden." To my amazement, Don started singing along. His voice wasn't strong, but the notes were "right on the money" as his baritone filled the room. It was as if the melody and words of that beautiful hymn had been permanently engraved on his heart.

While in Arkansas, I learned that Don had died. Although Monday had been tagged his "best day of the week," in retrospect, Friday was. That's when death's door opened and he entered Life.

Although Don's passing signaled the end of his earthly time, it marked the beginning of an unimaginable heavenly existence. We mourn Don's passing, but we rejoice that he now has a new body, totally free from earthbound, human infirmities, and a mind as clear and sparkling as a mirror embedded with diamonds.

I recently read these words: "Do not fear death, but rather the un-lived life. You don't have to live forever. You just have to live."

And Don A. Sanford certainly did that. **SR**

pray

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

Lancaster (Pa.) Bible College



*The President's Page*  
by Ed Cruzan

## Pray to Encourage

The unconditional “yes.”

This is the single-most encouraging word we can utter to someone in need.

Ask your teenager to take out the trash, and when you get an unconditional “yes” you’ll know what I mean. Ask a stranded motorist how encouraging it is to get an unconditional “yes” from someone passing by. How encouraging do you think it is when your pastor needs help with a ministry and you give an unconditional “yes”?

What are some of the differences between an *unconditional* yes and a *conditional* yes? Attitude, motivation, and heart. When the teenager takes out the trash grumbling all the way, there is a *condition* placed on the “yes”—**Attitude**. When the stranded motorist is asked to contribute toward the gas, there is a *condition* placed on the “yes”—**Motivation**. When the pastor’s particular ministry is not to our personal liking, there is a *condition* placed on our “yes”—**Heart**.

The encouragement of an unconditional “yes,” however, rests upon two foundational premises: 1) Love of our God, and 2) Love of our brothers and sisters.

There are many examples of encouragement in the Bible: letters sent, disciples sent, things said,

events happened, meetings held, Scriptures read, a Spiritual gift given—all to encourage believers. Barnabas was such an example that he was called a “son of encouragement.”

Why is encouragement so important? Because the days are evil and Satan prowls around like a lion looking to devour believers. Encouragement binds up wounds and heals the body. Unconditional “yeses” are needed within the body of believers to build it up and keep it strong. 1 Thessalonians 5:11 says, “Therefore encourage one another and build each other up.”

One particularly meaningful form of encouragement is meeting together regularly. (And I’m not just talking about Sabbath morning.) Meeting together includes mid-week prayer, in-home Bible studies, diaconate meetings, ministry meetings, Association meetings, and General Conference meetings.

Do not underestimate the power of spiritual meetings and their ability to encourage. Here’s what Hebrews 10:25 says, “Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and *all the more* as you see the Day approaching.”

We are actually called to have *more* spiritual meetings to encour-

age each other as Christ’s return comes closer.

A “spiritual” meeting is one whose exclusive purpose is to bring glory to God. Period!

We may have meetings to discuss temporal matters of the church, but unless they are “spiritually” focused on the Kingdom of God, they are of no real eternal value. True encouragement can only take place in a spiritual meeting, so let’s have more of them, to the glory of God.

The encouragement that comes from our brothers and sisters in Christ is extremely important. Hebrews 3:12-13 says, “See to it... that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin’s deceitfulness.”

And the ultimate encouragement we receive and are called to pass along is this: God loves you! God loves your brothers and sisters in Christ! And God loves all those in the world!

Please pray to encourage your pastor, your deacons, those in your fellowship, and those you reach in your spiritual ministries. Encourage one another with these words, and all the more as you see the Day approaching. Pray to encourage. **SR**



by Executive Director  
Rob Appel

## God Bless our Yutes!

In the 1992 movie, “My Cousin Vinny,” actor Joe Pesci plays a character who purports himself to be a New York City lawyer. An altercation between himself and the judge goes like this:

**Vinny:** Is it possible that the two yutes...

**Judge:** ...Ah, the two *what?* What was that word?

**Vinny:** Uh, what word?

**Judge:** Two what?

**Vinny:** What?

**Judge:** Um... did you say ‘yutes’?

**Vinny:** Yeah, two yutes.

**Judge:** What is a yute?

**Vinny:** Oh, excuse me, your honor. [*exaggerated*] Two YOUTHS.

At General Conference last year, I spoke about our Yutes. ...I mean, Youth.

One of my biggest concerns is the lack of young people in our churches. I know that many of us are concerned with the center of attention being primarily focused on the adults of this Conference.

If we are to stay a vital part of Christ’s work here on earth, we need to establish programs and enthusiasm among our youth. If we don’t do this they will continue to go somewhere else—where the grass appears to be much greener.

One quick solution available to us is to get our young people more involved in their local churches, and at an earlier age than has been our

tradition. A fresh insight could benefit your church. It would certainly give our young people firsthand experience in organization and service to the congregation.

We have had too much tendency to believe that with “youth” there is a lack of wisdom. Yes, with age there

“**Yes, with age there is maturity, but with youth there is enthusiasm. I would sure like a dose of both!**”

is maturity, but with youth there is enthusiasm. I would sure like a dose of both!

We can also use more young adults in the work of the local church and in the service of General Conference. Through their vision, enthusiasm and involvement, we can press forward and reach the potential that God has in mind for this people called Seventh Day Baptists.

I recommended at the Conference session that we, through our normal nominating processes, get people from the ages of 21-40 more involved in the work of the SDB Conference.

Some have already heeded the call to do this. The Board of Chris-

tian Education has six of their 14 members under the age of 40. The Memorial Fund has three of their nine trustees under the age of 40. The Tract and Communication Council has three of their 6 elected members under 40!

That’s what I call a “good start.”

Hasn’t our *Beacon* editor, Christopher Davis, done an outstanding job? If you haven’t read his articles, do yourself a favor and go back and read them. If you can’t find the printed copy, you can go online and read it there as well. Chris is but one example of our youth who can make a difference. He already does so in our Marlboro, N.J., church.

We have 18 students in SCSC this year. If your church is getting a team, I applaud you. You are getting some of our best talented and dedicated young adults. Please make sure you encourage them as often as possible.

Let me conclude with a comment from my 2008 Conference address: “As our history acknowledges, each generation faces the responsibility of speaking to the issues of its day, and facing challenges of its own climate. What the climate is today is not the climate of tomorrow. Oliver Wendell Holmes said, ‘What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us.’ So, what lies within us? Or are we willing to see another generation leave our churches?”

God bless our Yutes!



# Saving for Retirement AND College??

by Morgan Shepard

*“A good man leaves an inheritance for his children’s children, but a sinner’s wealth is stored up for the righteous” (Proverbs 13:22).*

By now you have saved 3-6 months’ worth of expenses, and you’ve eliminated all your debt except the house mortgage. You’ve done a great job of dealing with your present financial situation. You know where every dollar is going and you pay cash for everything.

Now it’s time to start thinking about the future.

Don’t be scared by the next two baby steps. Saving for retirement is not as difficult as you may think, nor is saving for your children’s college costs a stretch. It takes time, persistence and patience to put together a sound, safe investment plan to ensure that you have enough to do what you want once you retire.

Investing for retirement is a “loooooong”-term process. Start with the end in mind.

First, decide on an annual income (in today’s dollars) that you want to live on once you retire. If you invest it at 12% annually—yes, that’s still possible over the long term—and account for 4% annual inflation, you will be living on 8% income. So, if you want a retirement income of \$50,000 you will need a nest egg of \$625,000 [ $\$50,000/8\%$ ] by age 65.

Now how much do you need to be saving per month to have \$625,000 at retirement age? Here is where the long term planning pays off, and starting early is better than starting later:

For a \$50,000 income at age 65, you will need to save...

Age Now	Years to Retirement (65)	Monthly Savings
25	40	\$178.75
30	35	\$272.50
40	25	\$656.88

Saving for college works the same way. If you think college will cost \$20,000 per year, you will need to save \$80,000 for a four-year degree.

Depending on how old your children are when you start saving determines how much per month you need to put away:

For \$80,000 college savings, you will need...

Child’s Age Now	Years to Save	Monthly Savings
0	18	\$166.64
6	12	\$332.64
10	8	\$597.60

Now the question becomes, “Where do you invest that money?” Keep in mind these four principles:

- **KISS** – Keep It Simple, Silly. If you don’t understand what you’re investing in, then it’s a good idea to find something you do understand.
- **Risk** – The more risk you are willing to take with your investments, the greater your return. So it follows: the less risk, the lesser the return.
- **Diversification** – If you “put all your eggs in one basket,” then *when* something happens, you could lose everything. Mutual funds allow for a single investment, plus it allows your investment to be spread across various markets. You can also diversify the return you want to earn by spreading your investments across several mutual funds.
- **Time** – The longer you can invest, the better chance you have of earning a higher return. (But nothing is guaranteed.)

You have now set the stage for developing a legacy of financial peace for yourself and your family.

*“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid” (John 14:27). SR*

For more tools and ideas, check out [www.daveramsey.com](http://www.daveramsey.com)

# Releasing for Ministry

by Lauren Kinlocke

The Seventh Day Baptist Church of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., has always had a desire to recognize the calling and gifting of its members, and to release them for ministry.

This desire once again led to the calling of two more of their own—Sister Evelyn Reid and Sister Cynthia Miller—to the office of deaconess. After successfully completing a period of training and evaluation, both ladies were ordained as deaconesses in an inspiring service on March 14, 2009.

**Sister Evelyn Reid** gave her life to Christ in 1977 during an evangelistic crusade held by the Barrett Town SDB Church in Jamaica. After leaving her homeland to move to Michigan in 1988, she searched earnestly for a Seventh Day Baptist church to attend but was unsuccessful.

The desire to fellowship and praise God would not allow her to stay in her home so she found another

church to attend. In 1998 she relocated to Florida and discovered the Miami SDB Church where she was a member until the opening of the SDB church in Fort Lauderdale in 2003. She has held several positions in the church: head usher, Sabbath School Director, and choir member.

From an early age, **Sister Cynthia Miller** was guided by her Christian parents to love and honor Christ while attending the Thornton Seventh Day Baptist Church in Jamaica. She recalls that the journey to the church was mountainous. While attending the SDB-operated Crandall High School, she fully surrendered to the Lord and was baptized at the Kingston SDB Church.

Like Sis. Reid, Sis. Miller was away from the Seventh Day Baptist fellowship for several years, being unable to find a church in Connecticut following her move from Jamaica. Attending other Sabbath-

keeping churches to fill the void, Deaconess Miller knew that her heart was with the SDB family.

Some 30 years later, the Lord directed her to the Miami SDB Church, and later the church in Fort Lauderdale. She has served the church as secretary and as a choir member.

The Lord has enabled both ladies to be joyfully and actively blessed with the desires of their hearts as they serve Him. They would agree that their service allows them to experience the words of Isaiah 40:31—

*“They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.”*

The ordination service was blessed with over 100 attendees. The church’s Pastor, Andrew Samuels, gave the charge to the candidates, and Pastor Wray Winborne (Daytona Beach, Fla.) offered the charge to the church. Pastor Norman Fearon from the SDB Conference in Jamaica gave an inspiring message called “Getting a Better View of the Mission.”

Other participants included Pastor Shirley Morgan, Deaconess Louise Miller, and the church’s praise team, choir, and dance ministry. Those in attendance came from the Miami, West Palm Beach, Daytona Beach, South East Atlanta (Ga.), and New York City SDB Churches. Representatives from the Redeemer Lutheran Church—our host facility—were also there, along with lots of family members and friends.

Both Sister Evelyn Reid and Sister Cynthia Miller gave God the glory as they humbly accepted their new appointments into the diaconate. **SR**



*A Golden Day*  
**Rev. Joseph and Mrs. Joyce Samuels**  
*celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary on May 9 at the Plainfield, N.J., Seventh Day Baptist Church. Joe and Joyce were married in Jamaica on April 8, 1959.*

## New members

### Salem, WV

*Dale D. Thorngate, pastor*

Joined by letter  
Johnmark Camenga  
Cathy Camenga

### Shiloh, NJ

*Don Chroniger, pastor*

Joined after baptism  
Tyler Chroniger

### Texarkana, AR

*Mynor Soper, pastor*

Joined by letter  
Emily Richards

### Thornton, CO

*Rodney Henry, pastor*

Joined after baptism  
Trinidad Freed  
Paul Kimber  
Linda Kimber  
Joaquinn Robles  
Jeremiah Robles  
Dominique Soto  
Alex Soto  
Joined by testimony  
David Oliver  
Candolyn Streed  
Mark Streed

## Births

**Henry.**—A son, Paxtyn Edison Henry, was born to Eddie and Hannah Henry of Thornton, CO, on October 28, 2008.

**Mackintosh.**—A son, Zachary Caleb Mackintosh, was born to Adam and Rachel (Parker) Mackintosh of Sterling, CO, on February 12, 2009.

**Solomon.**—A son, Jacob Lee Solomon, was born to Nicholas and Lydia (Davis) Solomon of Salem, WV, on March 24, 2009.

## Marriages

**Matthews – Richards.** Shayne Christopher Matthews and Danielle Patrice Richards were united in marriage on April 11, 2008, at the Texarkana, AR, SDB Church, with Rev. Mynor Soper officiating.

**Looney – Richards.** Matthew Looney and Jenna Rae Richards were united in marriage on May 28, 2008, in Hawaii.

**Davis – DeLong.** Liam Davis and Susanna DeLong were united in marriage on June 7, 2008, in Salem, WV, with Dr. Paul Davis officiating.

**Ackerson – Bland.** Kevin Ackerson and Amanda Bland were united in marriage on July 11, 2008, in West Union, WV, with Rev. Dale D. Thorngate officiating.


**Richards – Beck.** Gregory Brett Richards and Emily Katherine Beck were united in marriage on September 20, 2008, in Texarkana, AR, with Rev. Mynor Soper officiating.

**Green – Samuels.** Earl Green and Tshahi Samuels were united in marriage on April 12, 2009, in Hollywood, FL, with Rev. Dr. Gerry Gallimore officiating.

### Dear Readers,

Thank you for keeping us informed of your family news.

You may e-mail updates to: [editor@seventhdaybaptist.org](mailto:editor@seventhdaybaptist.org)

And now you can even send your items via “Sabbath Recorder” on the social network [Facebook](#). When info is marked with a  it came from Facebook.

For marriages, please include the location of the wedding and who officiated. 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*

## Obituary

**Reingruber.**—J. Paul Reingruber, 64, passed away on April 5, 2009, in St. Petersburg, Fla. He was born June 26, 1944, in Washington, D.C., to Elsworth John and Dorothy (Spilman) Reingruber. Paul was raised in Falls Church, Va., and graduated from Falls Church High School in 1963. He was a member of the Central Seventh Day Bap-

tist Church in Mitchellville, Md.

He is survived by two brothers, Mark Reingruber of St. Petersburg, and Walter Reingruber of Marshall, Va. Funeral services were held at Murphy Funeral Home, Falls Church, on April 10, 2009, with Pastor David Taylor officiating. Interment was at National Memorial Park in Falls Church.



# 2009 SDB General Conference

## Lancaster, Pa., Bible College

### July 26 – August 1, 2009

The Host Committee has been burning the midnight oil, making preparations. Some of our members have tirelessly subjected themselves to visiting establishments such as “Shady Maple” to ensure that the delectability of each buffet is worthy of our Conference goers. We’re even putting our children to work inspecting every ride at Dutch Wonderland so all the SDB youth have a great time there.

Lancaster Bible College has a beautiful campus located in the heart of Pennsylvania Dutch Country. Plan to come early and stay after—there’s plenty to see and do in the area. Check out [www.padutchcountry.com](http://www.padutchcountry.com).

Please see [inside the front cover](#) for important off-campus housing information in Lancaster. Conference **REGISTRATION forms** are in the May *Sabbath Recorder*, or on-line at [www.seventhdaybaptist.org](http://www.seventhdaybaptist.org).

Here’s more of your Conference lowdown:

#### Transportation



The Committee will provide transportation from the **Harrisburg** (Pa.) Airport, and the Lancaster Amtrak and bus stations. Please contact Ward Bond at [wdbond@rocketmail.com](mailto:wdbond@rocketmail.com) (ph. 856-451-5681), or Steve Moncrief at [smoncrief@prodigy.net](mailto:smoncrief@prodigy.net) (ph. 856-455-4419) for assistance.

#### Linens on campus

Please note that the college does **NOT supply linens** for conferences. However, the Host Committee can obtain them for you. The cost will be \$25, and this includes 2 sheets, one pillow and pillowcase, and a light blanket. (This does **not include towels**.) The price without the blanket is \$15. After Conference, you may either keep the

linens, or you can give them back to the Host Committee. The linens will be washed and donated to a charity.

#### Nursery

Volunteers are needed! If you can offer some of your time during the week to this valuable resource, please contact Dottie Cruzan at [dottiecruzan@gmail.com](mailto:dottiecruzan@gmail.com). Share your intention to share your attention today!



#### Children’s Conference

Charlotte Chroniger is looking for 4<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade children to play a musical instrument in a Children’s Conference Instrumental Group. Band members will be given one or two pieces to practice between now and July. At least one year of lessons is required. This is a great way to encourage our young SDBs to meet new friends and use their musical gifts to magnify the Lord. If interested, please contact Charlotte at 856-455-0488.



The Host Committee can’t wait to see what the Lord has prepared for us when we all get together in Lancaster in July. Please **“PRAY”** for the Conference and for us.

We might prepare the beds for the week, but He has prepared a place for all of us! We might arrange the meals, but He invites us to the wedding feast as His bride. We might invite you to enjoy the local entertainment, but He invites you to live in paradise.

We PRAY that the Lord will work in us and through us. And please PRAY that He is glorified in all things! **SR**

**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!

Seventh Day Baptist Center  
PO Box 1678  
Janesville WI 53547-1678

# KEVIN'S

## ORNER

### Who's Directing Whom?

Due to a series of scheduling mishaps and calendar snafus, I missed our Pastors' Conference in April. Well, sort of.

Thanks to modern technology (Twitter and Facebook) and an enterprising and thoughtful young pastor, a bunch of us were kept informed of events taking place at this biennial gathering—while they were happening.

John Pethtel (Metro Atlanta, Ga.) sat near the back of the room in rural Shiloh, New Jersey, and tapped some awesome tidbits and teasers into his phone, like:

“Regarding the Trinity, don't confuse the Persons or divide the essence.”

“I am a local church protectionist.”—Ken Chroniger

“A contract is based on mistrust; a covenant is based on trust.”—Chroniger

“My exegesis will cure your insomnia.”—George Calhoun

“Are people asking you about the hope that is within you?”

“Jesus wants us to plagiarize Him.”—Calhoun

And when an illness prevented Ed Sutton from leading a worship service:

“We can't take the place of Pastor Ed, but we can fill the time.”—David Thorngate

Of course, not all of John's network friends were anxious to hear what our pastors were saying. A couple of responders wondered what in the world was going on in John's life with this overload of one-liner entries. My favorite was, “Why the sudden disturbance in the force?” John's gentle explanation solicited more encouragements from other conference absentees.

I might have the title “Director of Communications,” but I know that communications often direct us.

When I first arrived here at the Center, we had a phone/intercom system and just a few networked computers (plus our desktop publishing Macs). A couple of people might have had pagers for personal commu-

nications, but we didn't even have our own fax machine. If we wanted to send or receive a fax, we'd have to drive over to the local bank.

Now, everyone has their own personal computer (plus a laptop for traveling) and a cell phone.

Today is nothing like 1989, and I'm sure that “tomorrow” will be nothing like 2009.

With Facebook and other internet social networks, we can be instantly “in the know” with our friends and family.

As I look at—oh, excuse me; that's my cell phone.

When we consider—whoa, look at those clouds rolling in! Better check the current forecast on-line.

I've often thought that—um, hang on, I've got another text message coming in.

Now, what was that news story on the radio? Oh, I can play it again on the station's website. [click]

Ha! There's a new video posted from the kids.

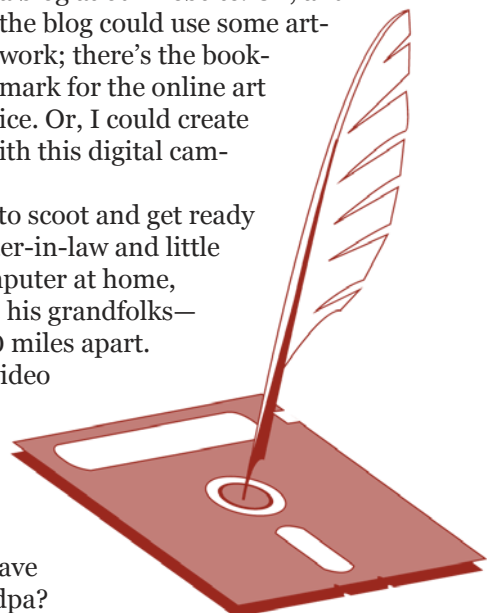
So, with all of these communication tools, we're able to stay on task and get more work—just a sec; instant message popped up...

Hmm, I should share this in a blog at our website. Oh, and the blog could use some artwork; there's the bookmark for the online art

subscription service. Or, I could create something else with this digital camera or scanner...

Well, it's time to scoot and get ready to see our daughter-in-law and little Adrik on our computer at home, and have him see his grandfolks—“live” while 1,000 miles apart. That free Skype video phone service is awesome!

I wonder what kind of communication tools Adrik will have when *he's* a grandpa?





Important Memo:

**165 Years and counting!!**

**To: Friends of  
The Sabbath Recorder  
From: Editor Kevin Butler**

**DID YOU KNOW THAT THE SABBATH RECORDER IS FUNDED BY YOUR GIFTS? YOUR DONATION TO THE SABBATH RECORDER IS PART OF THE TOTAL SDB DENOMINATIONAL BUDGET.**

**I HOPE THAT YOU HAVE BEEN ENJOYING THE MAGAZINE DURING THIS PAST YEAR AND WILL BE ABLE TO MAKE A TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATION TO THIS PART OF OUR SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST CONNECTION AND OUTREACH. MAY GOD BLESS YOU AND THANK YOU.**

GRACE AND PEACE,

*Kevin*



***YES!*** *I want to celebrate 165 years of The Sabbath Recorder!*

Enclosed is my GIFT for *The SR*  
 \$165    \$100    \$50    \$25    \_\_\_\_\_

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