



The Sabbath RECORDER

Inside:

Sabbath
song contest

Conference
forms

May 2012

News for and about Seventh Day Baptists

What will we be singing



Years from Now?



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 and the SDB Web site: www.seventhdaybaptist.org

Hotels in Buckhannon

Two hotels have given us special rates for the week of General Conference, July 29 – August 5, 2012. You need to book by June 1.

Microtel Inn & Suites

304-460-2525
(Mention "SDB" rate of \$69.99)
2 miles from college
www.microtelinn.com

Bicentennial Inn

304-472-5000
(Mention "SDB" rate of \$69.00)
3 blocks from college
www.bicentennialinn.com

2012 General Conference

(Registration forms in this issue)

July 29 – August 4

WV Wesleyan College
Buckhannon, WV

Host Committee

Chairman:

Larry Lawrence
304-745-4557
llawrence@msesinc.com

Registration:

Laura Lee Modesitt
304-782-3161
registrar@seventhdaybaptist.org

Transportation:

Fred Spencer III
304-873-3052
fspencer@lavabit.com

Facilities:

Norman Green
304-669-1582
nhgreen@hotmail.com

Nursery:

Lydia Solomon
304-782-2353
ljdavis311@aol.com

Health Services:

Christina Green
304-782-2738
ccain1002@yahoo.com

Exhibits:

Vickie Perine
304-659-3499
cl_perine@yahoo.com

Receptions/Banquets:

Peggy Meathrell
304-782-6218
pmeathrell@gmail.com

Conference Travel!!

NEW THIS YEAR: There will be a **Pick-up FEE** for transportation between **Charleston, W.Va.** and Buckhannon.

The fee will be **\$35** one-way;
\$50 round-trip.



Establ. 1844

May 2012
Volume 234, No. 5
Whole No. 6,983



A Seventh Day Baptist publication
SabbathRecorder.org

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 167th 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.



Kevin Butler
Editor

editor@seventhdaybaptist.org

Ⓔ = **Editor's Circle members**

Contributing Editors

Rob Appel, Clinton Brown, Andrew J. Camenga, Kristin Camenga, Jessica Chroniger, Barb Green, Nicholas Kersten, Gordon Lawton, Rebecca Olson, John Pethtel, Morgan Shepard.

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.

Features — Sabbath Song Contest

Awakened by music.....4
by Kevin Butler
A recent documentary shows a memory-impaired man “come alive” while listening to music from his past. Will today’s sacred songs awaken us in the future?

And the winner is...5
A pensive and peaceful praise song—calling us to rest in the Lord—garners the most points by our judges.

And more entries...6-10
A wide variety of musical styles were represented in this year’s Hymn Contest. To hear the songs, go to www.seventhdaybaptist.org and click on “Sabbath Song Contest” in the Resources section.

2012 Conference Registration Forms 14-17

Departments

Women’s Society 11	Center on Ministry 22
<i>SCSC and Stained Glass</i>	<i>Continuing Education for pastors</i>
The Nick of Time 12	Pastor’s Retirement 22
<i>Relationally Engineered Part 3: The Society Model</i>	<i>Profile of Kenneth and Doris Van Horn</i>
Financial Faith 13	Focus on Missions 23
<i>The cost of Conference</i>	<i>God made time for us</i>
Health & Fitness 18	Local news 24
<i>What’s on your plate?</i>	<i>Portland, OR</i>
Reflections 19	Family flux 25
<i>Be careful what you dance for</i>	Young Adults 26
President’s Page 20	<i>Time to “Get our game on”</i>
<i>Are you ready for every opportunity?</i>	Kevin’s Korner 27
Alliance In Ministry 21	<i>Sabbath praise in rhyme</i>
<i>Music calms the savage beast SDB</i>	

Awakened by music

What will we be singing years from now?

by Kevin Butler

If I hadn't seen the short video myself I might not have believed it. A recent TIME magazine article by Aylin Zafar explains:

"To watch Henry—an elderly man who has spent over ten years in a nursing home, barely able to answer yes or no questions—come alive when listening to music from his past is a reminder of the powerful, inspiring, and affecting power of music.

"A new documentary, *Alive Inside*, follows the 'awakening' that occurs when people suffering from memory loss and Alzheimer's are given music they have a strong emotional connection to—often, music they grew up with. In the clip, Henry is barely responsive before one of his caretakers puts headphones on him and starts up one of his favorite tunes. Almost instantly, we see Henry swaying from side to side and singing, his eyes wide open."

When I watched that video clip, I had a hard time believing it was the same man. It's a fascinating and almost miraculous transformation.

The article then quotes neurologist Oliver Sacks, author of *Musicophilia*. Dr. Sacks is involved with the documentary. "The philosopher Kant once called music the 'quickening art.' And Henry is being quickened, he's being brought to life."

After they take the headphones off, Henry is still excited

and able to recall memories. Dr. Sacks explains:

"Music imprints itself on the brain deeper than any other human experience. Music evokes emotion and emotion can bring with it memory... Music brings back the feeling of life when nothing else can."

How often has a hymn or praise song "transported" you back to the church of your childhood, or a special time when the Lord's Spirit filled you to overflowing? (And we know that *HE* can bring back the feeling of life when nothing else can.)

When the current Sabbath Recorder Committee suggested holding a hymn contest, I nearly dismissed the idea with "we've already done that." Yes, we did; but that was 20 years ago! A whole new generation of worshipers and musicians has a chance to contribute to our anthology.

I'm happy to share with you the entries to this year's Sabbath Hymn and Praise Song Contest. We've posted the audio files (and one video) at our website: www.seventhdaybaptist.org. Click on "Sabbath Song Contest" in the Resources box found in the lower right corner.

My prayer is that Seventh Day Baptists continue to nurture our special (and disproportionately blessed) gift of music—the "quickening art"—to exalt the Lord and awaken each other for years to come. SR



And the winner is...

Instead of a “big build up” to this year’s contest winner, here it is.

“**We Find Our Rest in You**” is a pensive and peaceful praise song written by David Stall, pastor of the First Hopkinton SDB Church in Ashaway, Rhode Island.

For submitting the top song, Dave receives an engraved iPod Nano—he even got to pick out the cool metallic green color. Thanks, Dave, and we hope you fill that Nano with great tunes and keep singing and composing for the Lord!

(Again, you can hear these songs at our website: www.seventhdaybaptist.org and click on “Sabbath Song Contest” in the Resources box.) **SR**



Pastor
Dave Stall

The Contest Criteria

As published in the February and March SRs, the songs were to be judged on:

- Singability
 - Biblically correct
 - Understandable to laypeople
 - Glorifying to God
- (Rhyming scheme helpful)

Our judges (representing various age ranges) were handed the words to each song, with no composer names revealed. After hearing the song, each category above was given a 1 to 5 grade—5 being the highest. We thank all of the entrants for sharing their God-given gifts!

“We Find Our Rest in You” © Words and Music by Dave Stall

When the sun is going down,
and Your Sabbath comes around
Lord, we find our rest in You
Heavy burdens we can’t bear,
Lord we place them in Your care
And we find our rest in You

Chorus:

We want to live our best
and give our best to You
We need Your grace.
There’s only so much we can do
Every Sabbath we’re reminded of this truth
That we find our rest in You
Lord, we find our rest in You

It’s a lesson slowly learned,
that Your grace can not be earned
Lord, we find our rest in You
So we fall down at Your throne,
saved by Your work, not our own
And we find our rest in You

Repeat Chorus

And more entries...



Henry Ross of Riverside, Calif., sent us his original song entitled, **“A Shelter from the Storm.”** It reminded the judges of an old seafaring melody—fitting for the storm motif.

Everyone knows the familiar tune to the hymn “Amazing Grace.” Marie Ward, from Edgewater, Florida, used that music for her hymn entry called **“Our Sabbath Rest.”**



“Our Sabbath Rest”

© Words by Marie Ward

[to the tune of “Amazing Grace”]

Since time began God made this world,
He gave His very best
He created six days, and rested on one
The Sabbath our Holy rest.

We enjoy this day for fellowship sweet
And worship His Holiness
Our Father, Creator, and God of all
Who made our Sabbath rest.

“A Shelter from the Storm”

© Words and Music by Henry Ross

Chorus: O Sabbath rest You give to me,
2x the peace that brings serenity
This weekly gift I do embrace,
a shelter from the storm.

Verse 1: The Lord our God who loves us so,
created from His mind
A day of sanctuary rest, a glimpse of the divine
From even unto evening, my heart cannot contain
the blessings He’s prepared for me,
in His holy name.

Chorus

Verse 2: All battles fought and won or lost,
the week cannot compare
to simply rest the Lord provides,
we celebrate and repair
Surely someday face to face, when all is said and done
Sabbath will be every day,
while worshipping His Son.

Chorus 2x

Remember the day God set apart
He sanctified and blessed.
Six days we work, rest on the seventh,
Thanks for our Sabbath rest.

As children of God when this life is o’er
Our Savior we shall see.
Heaven’s our final resting place,
For all eternity.

“Rejoice in the Sabbath Day” is set in a minor key, with the bottom-note rhythm giving the song a definite and memorable Middle Eastern flavor. This comes from Clara Glover of the Middle Island SDB Church in New Milton, West Virginia. Thanks, Clara!



Rejoice in the Sabbath Day

© Words and Music
by Clara Glover

Chorus

Re-joice in the Sab-bath day— Re-joice in the Sab-bath day.—

Hal-low-ed be God's day of rest— Re-joice in the Sab-bath day.—

Verses

1. Six days shalt-thou— la-bar, giv-ing thy heart to the Lord— Re-

mem-ber the Sab-bath is Ho-ly. Give hon-or to God's word.

Verse 2: God made Heaven and Earth, the sea and the dry land.

All things on Earth and Heav'n above. All things he Commands.

Repeat chorus... 2x

This performance song brought smiles to the judges. Norman McCall from Edgewater, Fla., put a lot of time and effort in producing his audio file, but it really couldn't compete with the others since the verses are all spoken and not sung. Only a short part of the chorus is singable. (Think C.W. McCall's '70s hit "Convoy." Related to Norm? No, because C.W. McCall is a pseudonym for William Dale Fries, Jr.)

This toe-tapper caused one judge to declare, "He should get the 'Johnny Cash Honorable Mention' Award!" Fun song, Norm!



"The Only Day God Ever Blessed"

© Words and Music by Norman McCall

Long ago the Lord decided He
would make Himself a world
filled with life
So He worked very hard for six
full days and then rested from
all His strife
And even though He wasn't really
tired, He was so proud of His
creation
His world was everything that He
desired, so He admired it from
a day of relaxation.

Chorus:

Was it a Sunday? No!
A Monday? No!
A Tuesday? No!
A Wednesday? No!
A Thursday? No!
A Friday? No!
A Saturday? YESSSS!
That's the only day God ever
blessed!

When the Hebrew children
wandered 'round in the desert
for 40 years
The Lord, well He rained that
manna down to ease their
hunger and quell their fears
They received a double portion
on day six which they hurried
to gather in
They knew that work and worship
didn't mix so they rested the
next day to honor Him.

When the Law was given on
Mount Sinai there was only
one day that God mentioned
It was the day of Rest He made
for you and I it never changed
it still is His intention
The Fourth Commandment is to
keep it holy; not to try to start
another one instead
So we must keep the faith and
do it boldly by always doing
what our Lord has said.

Repeat Chorus

When Jesus walked the earth
and chose to rest it was never
on the first day of the week
He kept the only day our Father
blessed and commanded the
same thing to you and me

He died there on the cross at
Golgotha but the Sabbath was
still kept though He was gone
And if for some reason you
believe you ought to
keep another day just
listen to this song.

Acts 13 tells us Paul and
Barnabas were speaking to
the Jews one Sabbath day
The Gentiles came and asked to
hear those words and here is
what those men of God did say
They told the Gentiles come back
in a week we'll be here on the
Sabbath once again
So the Word of God those Gen-
tiles boldly seek was spoken
on that Sabbath day to them.

Repeat Chorus

With a fine guitar-pickin' accompaniment, Dan Richards (from our church in Texarkana, Ark.) played and submitted his song, "**We Come to Worship.**" (Verse 2 is on the audio file at our website.)

The judges enjoyed the folk music style, and appreciated the blending of choruses at the end. The second chorus is sung alone, then chorus #3 is added with the second, then all three are sung together. Nice job, Dan!

We Come to Worship

© Words and Music
by Dan Richards

Voice

CHORUS

We come to wor - ship we come to pray we come to bow down
 be - fore our might - y King For it's You a - lone that de - serves all praise So we lift up
VERSE (1)
 our voice to praise your Ho - ly name. In the wil - der - ness we feel so all a - lone but Your pre -
 sence there it makes us strong Six days to la - bor the next to set a - side to as - sure us
BRIDGE
 of Your con - stant care. As the an - gels dance a - round Your throne. They
 shout Ho - ly Ho - ly is the Lamb. With all the saints in the
CHORUS 2
 throne room of our King We join them in their joy - ful song. Ho - ly
 Ho - ly Ho - ly Ho - ly Ho - ly Ho - ly Praise Your Ho -
CHORUS 3
 - ly name Ho - ly Ho - ly Ho - ly Ho - ly Prase Your Ho - ly name
 Ho - ly Ho - ly Ho - ly Ho - ly Praise Your Ho - ly name.

The musical score is written for voice in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of 12 staves of music. The first staff is the Chorus, followed by Verse (1), Bridge, Chorus 2, and Chorus 3. The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words hyphenated across lines. The score includes various musical notations such as rests, beams, and slurs. There are double slashes (//) indicating section breaks between Verse (1) and Bridge, and between Chorus 2 and Chorus 3.

Order of song: C - V1 - C - V2 - Br - C2 - (C2&C3) - (C1&C2&C3)

After Bridge, sing Chorus 2 / repeat and add Chorus 3 / repeat and add Chorus 1



Another song entry from Edgewater, Fla., was sent by Kay Wilks. Think “Messianic meets Country-Western.” Well done, Kay!

“Sabbath Day”

© Words and Music by Kay Wilks

Verse 1—

God made the world and everything in it
 He set the stars and sun above
 He created man in His own image
 Every detail made with love.
 The Lord labored for six full days
 The seventh set aside for rest—
 We join together, worship, and pray
 On the Sabbath which He blessed.

Chorus:

Let’s be thankful for our Sabbath Day
 Lift your voices with praise and song!
 God’s our Creator and precious Savior
 For it’s to Him that we belong
 For it’s to Him that we belong

Verse 2—

We have the promise of salvation
 It’s written with our Savior’s blood
 Thanks be to Jesus, we give all glory
 He gave His life for those He loved.
 Love one another and witness boldly
 Proclaim the Gospel throughout the land—
 Honor the Father, keep the Sabbath holy
 For this is one of His commands.

Repeat Chorus

(You can hear these songs at our website: www.seventhdaybaptist.org and click on “Sabbath Song Contest” in the Resources box.)

Denominational Dateline

MAY 2012

- 15 Canopy Pastors’ Gathering, Verona, NY—Andrew Camenga
- 19 Stonefort, IL SDB Church Homecoming Celebration—Rob Appel
- 19 **Sabbath Renewal Day**
- 20 Historical Society Annual Meeting, SDB Center, Janesville, WI—Nick Kersten
- 21–June 5 Malawi, Ethiopia, South Sudan visit—Clint Brown

JUNE

- 11-21 SCSC Training, Camp Wakonda, WI—Camenga
- 21–July 22 SCSC Projects in churches/camps
- 24 BCE Director’s Meeting, Alfred Station, NY—Camenga

- 24–July 2 Sr. Camp at Camp Holston—Gordon Lawton (vacation)

JULY

- 15 Qtly Missionary Society Meeting, Ashaway, RI—Brown
- 23-25 CLT, Buckhannon, WV
- 25-27 General Council, Buckhannon, WV
- 28-29 SDB Memorial Fund Qtly Meeting, Buckhannon—Morgan Shepard
- 29 Council on Ministry mid-year meeting, Buckhannon—Lawton
- 29-Aug 4 General Conference, WV Wesleyan, Buckhannon, WV

AUGUST

- 12-17 Summer Institute at SDB Center—Lawton, Kersten



Women's Society page by Kristin Camenga
www.sdbwomen.org

SCSC and Stained Glass

by Kristin Camenga

The Seventh Day Baptist Women's Board is once again overseeing the Summer Christian Service Corps (SCSC), which is in its 49th year. "Stained Glass," an SDB musical ministry, is running in conjunction with SCSC in its second year of oversight by the Women's Board. Both groups are opportunities for SDB young adults to grow in leadership and serve churches around the country.

After application and selection, SCSC and Stained Glass members participate in significant training and mentoring, completing modules and attending a week of on-site training to help them grow in their faith and leadership. This year, the training is at Camp Wakonda in Milton, Wis., from June 13-21. This prepares them not just for the summer projects, but also for life-time service in their home churches.

SCSCers have been prayerfully placed into teams that will be sent to a project at a local church. A church member serves as project director (PD) to coordinate the work of the team. Stained Glass has already met a number of times to write, practice, and record their songs and will be touring this year in the East and Southeast, providing musical encouragement and evangelism to local SDB churches.

We are pleased to announce that this year there are 6 Stained Glass

members as well as 14 SCSCers who will serve on eight projects (home churches listed):

Stained Glass

- Gabriela Alonzo,
SDB Christian Church, VA
- Aaron Andries,
Washington, D.C.
- Cheyane Blevins, Milton, WI
- Jessica Chroniger, Shiloh, NJ
- Lance Greene, Dodge Center, MN
- Tim Lawton,
Ashaway, RI, Sound man

Co-PDs:

- Angie Nicholson, Salem, WV
- Jackson Butler, Milton, WI

SCSC

**[PD = Project Director;
 V = Veteran, R = Rookie]**

- Ashaway, RI**
Nadine Lawton PD
 Lauren Telford
 (V-Texarkana, AR)
- Colton, CA**
Matthew Lawson PD
 Nathan Crowder (V-Boulder, CO)
 Danielle Hazelton
 (V-New Auburn, WI)
- Dodge Center, MN**
Stephanie Sholtz PD
 Amanda Smith
 (V-Middle Island, WV)
- Milton, WI**
Liz Green PD
 Allie Rudawski (R-Milton, WI)
 Sydnee Palmer (R-Milton, WI)

•**New Auburn, WI**

- Sally Webb PD*
 Stephen Lawson (V-Colton, CA)
 Caleb Gammons
 (R-Texarkana, AR)

•**North Loup, NE**

- Katrina and Helen Goodrich PDs*
 Bobby Burdick
 (R-Seattle Area, WA)
 Devon Merz (R-New Auburn, WI)

•**Seattle, WA**

- Dave Alldredge PD*
 David Pottinger
 (V-South East Atlanta, GA)
 Lindsay Crouch (V-Bay Area, CA)

•**White Cloud, MI**

- Angel Floyd PD*
 Logan LaGesse
 (R-New Auburn, WI)
 Allison Johnson
 (R-Texarkana, AR)

Training Staff: Jane Mackintosh, Training Director; Andrew Camenga, Helen Goodrich, Linda Lawton, Wayne and Kris North

A significant opportunity for personal growth and ministry like this must be blanketed in prayer. We would encourage you to pray regularly for the SCSCers and Stained Glass members, the PDs, and the training staff. Pray that God would make His presence known in each person's life this summer and provide amazing opportunities for ministry so that His name is glorified! **SR**



Relationally Engineered Part 3: Household chores and the Society model

It was John Donne who penned the words, “No man is an island.” This asserted that humans are interconnected, and that all mankind bears a portion of the loss of one individual.

In last month’s column, we explored how SDBs have connected and related to one another through the General Conference and other regional Associations. But Seventh Day Baptists have not been insulated from the cultural trends that affect all people. Just as larger factors motivated SDBs to work together through Associations, SDBs were influenced by cultural developments and trends which gave rise to the Society model.

The Society model suggests that interested individuals band together to get work done, independent of their relationship to their local congregation. The impulses that drove people to form Societies likely came from the stresses and strains of rapid geographic expansion on Associations.

As American believers became more aware of the larger world, the field for fruitful Kingdom work expanded—first to missions, then to the ministries that support missions: education, publication, and others. Because of their primarily relational nature, regional associations like our General Conference were not always equipped to efficiently conduct the work that springs from shared convictions. In some cases, this inability came from a lack of mandate or common agreement. In other cases, it may have been a question of prioritizing the work or a theological disagreement. In any event, it is probably not a coincidence that the creation of the first Baptist Societies follows the formation of Associations.

After several congregations considered a proposal from Henry Clarke (pastor of the Brookfield, N.Y., SDB Church) to associate, the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference was formed in 1802. As a means of comparison, the Triennial Convention—formed from the Philadelphia Association and other regional associations

of “first day” Baptists—began in 1814. Both of these groups were formed to facilitate collective mission work.

But both first-day Baptists and SDBs also created local and national mission societies soon after formalizing their Associations. The Baptists’ foreign mission society was founded in 1814, and their home mission society in 1832. SDBs had a variety of missions groups between 1818 and 1844, when our current Missionary Society was founded.

This same pattern is reflected in publication and education ministries as well. SDBs developed our ministry structures and philosophies at the same time similar structural models and philosophies were being used by other Baptists.

If the Associational principle gave SDBs a way to formally express their relational convictions, then Societies gave us a way to make sure that all the family’s household chores were completed. Members of the family were able to select which parts of the work they wanted to

support, and priorities inside a particular kind of work were determined by the people who cared about that work. It is crucial to understand that though the work was being conducted by the Societies, the Societies were not distinct from the larger family; what would household chores be if there was no household?

There is one more critical point here: the Society model itself embodies a set of cultural and organizational values employed to handle a specific set of challenges. The formation of each of our General Conference’s Societies reflects the reality that there is no such thing as a cultureless organizational model.

As the times have changed, so have our Societies, to varying degrees. Those changes reflect shifting cultural values, use of emerging technologies, and changing financial realities. We err when we believe that our Societies are sacred, that they have always been as they are now, or that they all operate the same. Our Societies exist for the same reason they always have: to make sure the work of our family is completed totally and efficiently. **SR**

“
*Societies gave us
a way to make sure
that all the chores
were completed.*
”



The cost of Conference

by Morgan Shepard

While our Conference President has asked “Are You Ready” there has been a lot of work put in to ensure “We Are Ready” for an uplifting, energizing and productive week. The Host Committee has been meeting monthly to make all the arrangements that go into hosting a Conference. (If you have ever served on a Host Committee you know the amount of work required.)

In January, I began working with the Host Committee to develop the overall budget so we could set the fees. Once that is done Ken Burdick, Linda Lawton, and Kevin Butler go into action putting together the registration program, registration form and on-line registration to have it ready by early April (even earlier this year). It is truly a herculean effort.

As we work on fees the focus is to first ensure it is affordable, while at the same time collecting enough revenue to cover all the costs. This year was particularly challenging. After a few last-minute changes the fees were set and they look a lot like last year’s. Here is how it all breaks down:

Rooms

Rooms are less than last year but the biggest difference is that there is no sleeping on the floor as in the

past. (Colleges have to answer to fire marshals and insurance companies.) Recognizing that this is a family-oriented conference, WV Wesleyan gave us a flat fee for children 4-12 regardless of room type.

Meals

Meal costs are slightly lower. This year we are only offering meal plans. No individual meals can be purchased from the Host Committee; it’s either all meals or the lunch/dinner option. We have set our meal prices lower than the walk-up rate you would pay at the door.

Registration Fee

The registration fee is where we charge for things that are not in the room and meal contract. It typically includes the facility use fees, transportation, printing, and evening receptions. And this year is no exception except for...

Transportation


The Host Committee will provide transportation from Charleston, WV, a 220-mile round trip. It is estimated to cost \$5,440 to provide for vans and busses to get everyone around for the two weeks. Considering the small number of people that utilize this service we decided to make it a separate charge this year. Had this stayed in the registration fee it would have added another \$10 to everyone’s registration.

Receptions

Receptions continue to be a costly endeavor but the time for fellowship and relaxing is a great way to end a day. The past few years we’ve been working to find sponsors for the receptions. However, until sponsors sign up earlier I have to include this in the fees. There are still evenings available for sponsorship so if your church, Association or group is interested contact the Host Committee.

What if...

There is one last contingency. We are estimating that 500 excited SDBs show up. If they do we will have no problem covering costs. But what if only 450 attend? These fees still allow us to stay in the black as far as income and expenses are concerned. Reserve funds to cover a shortfall do not exist at the present so we can’t afford to lose money.

Are you Ready? The 200th General Conference in Buckhannon, WV will be ready! See you there! 



See p. 25 for what happened on April 2...

2012 CONFERENCE
Registration
Instructions

WV Wesleyan College
59 College Ave
Buckhannon, WV 26201
(304) 473-8000

Registrar Laura Lee Modesitt
Route 1 Box 11, Salem, WV 26426
(304) 782-3161
registrar@seventhdaybaptist.org

•**Deadline to pre-register**

We are offering an early (**on-line**) **registration discount**.

Register on-line by **June 30** and fees are: Adult Full week— \$91 vs. \$105 (\$14 savings); Child Full wk— \$45.50 vs. \$52.50 (\$7 savings); Adult per day—\$13 vs. \$15; Child per day— \$6.50 vs. \$7.50.

****ON-LINE REGISTRATION ENDS JUNE 30** (You may pay now or at the college).

•**On-campus Registration:**

A) Come to **Virginia Thomas Law Center** for Performing Arts (College Avenue) on Sunday, July 29 from 12 noon to late evening.

B) Mon.-Fri. from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and after the evening service; come to lounge in **Fleming Hall** (south side of Wesley Chapel). **If you are coming just for Sabbath, August 4**, please pre-register.

•**About the Form:**

(1) Please list **all names** as you want them to appear on the official name tags, last name first. Ages must be given for those under 18, as well as last school grade completed as of June, 2012. First-time Conference attendees, please identify yourself. There is **no charge** for children 0-3 years. However, **ALL NAMES must be listed** to ensure that everyone is covered by insurance.

(2) & (3) **Full Week or Per Day Registration:** Everyone attending Conference (ages 4 and up), either full- or part-time, is required to pay the registration fee. It covers the use of college facilities, materials produced, and insurance on each individual at Conference activities.

Housing: Five multilevel dormitories (some air-conditioned). **Elevators are in 3 of the dorms.** Each room has two beds and uses a community bathroom except for

two dorms which share a bathroom between two rooms. **All 4 years old and up must register for a bed** (no sleeping on the floor). Small appliances (coffee pot with automatic shut-off, 4.0 cubic foot or smaller refrigerator, microwave and box fans, but no open burner or heater coil appliances) are allowed in the dorm rooms. **Linens are supplied at an extra cost** (choose room with or without linens). Linens will consist of two towels, two washcloths, a pillow and set of sheets with a pillow case. You may register for a room without linens and bring your own.

Apartments: There are **two** 4-person and **four** 5-person apartments available. ****Please contact the Registrar** before applying for an apartment. ****** Registration will be on-line only for apartments.

Special Requests: Please indicate if you need a first floor room; willing to be placed in a “higher tolerance” dorm; need handicapped access; preference for who occupies the adjoining room, etc.

Handicap access: There are a limited number of rooms with handicapped access. Contact Registrar. **All unmarried young people under the age of 18**, if not attending with a parent, must have a sponsor over 25 years of age at Conference. This sponsor must be listed on the Registration form; young people will be assigned to a room on the same floor of the same dorm as their sponsor.

Meals: Meal tickets for the entire week include supper Sun., July 29, through breakfast Sunday, August 5. “Lunch and Supper” meal tickets include supper on Sunday, July 29, and lunch and supper through Sabbath, August 4. Children ages 6 and under are free. Individual meals may be purchased from the school

in the meal line at a higher rate.

(4) & (5) **Banquet Tickets:**

Please register for Banquets so we can know how many to plan on. (Prices discounted w/meal tickets.)

Indicate if you wish a vegetarian meal.

(6) **Off-campus Housing:** If choosing off-campus housing, please indicate location and phone number.

(7) **RVs:** There are **20 RV spaces** on campus, available on a first-come, first-served basis. These spaces include **ELECTRICAL HOOKUP ONLY**. There will be **BATHROOM FACILITIES** in the gym during operating hours (not during night hours) available for RVs. Registration will be on-line only for RV spaces.

(8) **Transportation:** Attendees traveling by air will be picked up at the Yeager Airport, Charleston, WV. Attendees traveling by bus or train will be picked up at the respective stations in Charleston, WV. If you require transportation to or from the airport, bus or train please notify us of arrival and departure times by pre-registration. Requests for transportation must be made by **July 1**. There is a **PICK-UP FEE!**

•**Nursery Services:** A nursery will be provided in the west end of Wesley Chapel throughout Conference week. Hours of operation will be posted there. Parents using the nursery are asked to help for half a day some time during the week.

ALL ATTENDEES should read and sign the Expected Conduct Statement. Those registering online will mark a box indicating that they have done so and agree to abide by it. Young people under age 18 must make a copy of the completed Health Form (at BCE website) for their sponsors.

•**Room Keys:** There will be a **\$35 fee** for each lost room key!

2012 SDB General Conference Registration – WV Wesleyan, Buckhannon WV

(1) NAME:	LAST	FIRST	INIT.	G	SEX	AGE	1st	(Information for your name tag) SDB CHURCH (or Organization representing)	CITY/STATE if different from below
Need more room? Use another sheet								Mark if your first Conference	
Child's School Grade completed								Phone: ()	
Address								E-mail:	

Spec. Requests (**Higher tolerance** dorm, _____ Name of Sponsor (All youth under 18) _____
 ground level, elevator)

Fees: Adults (Age 13 and over); Children (Ages 4-12); [Children, 3 and under, FREE—please list ALL names above]

	# persons	rate	amount	# persons	#days	rate	amount
(2) Full Week Plan	(3)	Per Day Plan	(3)	Per Day Plan	(3)	Per Day Plan	(3)
•Registration: Adults	_____	X \$105.00 =	_____	_____	X	\$15.00 =	_____
Children (age 4-12)	_____	X \$52.50 =	_____	_____	X	\$7.50 =	_____
Children (3 and under)	_____	FREE	_____	_____	_____	FREE	_____
•Dorm Room* (Air-Conditioned)	_____	_____	_____	_____	X	\$22.50 =	_____
Per Adult	_____	X \$157.50 =	_____	_____	X	\$10.00 =	_____
Per Child (age 4-12)	_____	X \$70.00 =	_____	_____	[Day in: Su M T W Th F Sa]	[Day out: M T W Th F Sa Su]	_____
•Dorm Room* (Non-A/C)	_____	_____	_____	_____	X	\$17.50 =	_____
Per Adult	_____	X \$122.50 =	_____	_____	X	\$10.00 =	_____
Per Child (age 4-12)	_____	X \$70.00 =	_____	_____	[Day in: Su M T W Th F Sa]	[Day out: M T W Th F Sa Su]	_____
•Linens (per set)	_____	X \$10.00 =	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
•Meals: (All) Adults	_____	X \$151.50 =	_____	_____	X	\$22.75 =	_____
Children (age 7-12)	_____	X \$80.00 =	_____	_____	[Circle days: M T W Th F Sa]	X \$12.00 =	_____
•Meals: (Lunch and Supper only) Adults	_____	X \$109.50 =	_____	_____	[Circle days: M T W Th F Sa]	X \$16.75 =	_____
Children (age 7-12)	_____	X \$59.00 =	_____	_____	[Circle days: M T W Th F Sa]	X \$9.00 =	_____
TOTAL	(2)	_____	_____	TOTAL	(3)	_____	_____

*All residents/names MUST be registered or listed!

TOTALS

4. Women's _____ x \$11.00 w/meal tkt _____ x \$20.00 w/out tkt _____ # of Vegetarian meals **(4)** _____
 5. Youth _____ x \$8.00 w/meal tkt _____ x \$17.00 w/out tkt _____ # of Vegetarian meals **(5)** _____
(6) If housing off-campus, Location: _____ **(7)** RV Spots 20 Sites; Electric only
 please indicate: Phone: _____ \$10 per night; On-line registr. only
 Phone: _____
(8) Transportation assistance needed between Charleston (air) _____ (train) _____ (bus) _____
 and the WV Wesleyan campus.
 Arrive: Air # _____ Bus # _____ Train # _____ date _____ time _____ (a.m.) _____ (p.m.) _____ (Carrier) _____
 Depart: Air # _____ Bus # _____ Train # _____ date _____ time _____ (a.m.) _____ (p.m.) _____
 Pick-up costs: One way _____ x \$35/person = _____ Round trip _____ x \$50/person = _____

Regis., Housing, Meals = _____
Less amount prepaid = _____
Balance Due = _____
 Checks to: "SDB Host Committee"
 Send form to: **Laura Lee Modesitt**
RR 1 Box 11
Salem WV 26426
(registrar@seventhdaybaptist.org)

Expected Conduct at General Conference

We desire to maintain our witness for Christ. Part of this witness is our ability to live as a community that recognizes the responsibility to think of and respond to the needs of others. One such responsibility is a demonstration of respect for those who need a good night's sleep. We also want to spare our people from social pressures that might encourage inappropriate activity.

- Local rules of the school and facility are binding on all who attend Conference unless changed by the Host Committee or the General Council.
- All socializing between males and females (except husband and wife) shall be limited to public areas, or personal rooms (except during quiet hours) in which the doors are completely open.
- Quiet hours are from 12 midnight to 6 a.m. each night of Conference. During quiet hours no excessive noise will be permitted. No talking will be allowed in hallways, and no music (such as instrumental, vocal, or from a stereo) will be permitted except where used with personal headphones. Quiet talking will be permitted in lounges, or in personal rooms with the doors closed (same gender only and spouses).
- A Disciplinary Council shall be established before Conference convenes.
- The Disciplinary Council shall meet at the call of the chairman to deal with infractions of these conduct guidelines. Discussion shall be confidential and shall include input from the person(s) involved.
- A first offense of the rules will result in a formal written notice of warning. In the case of a youth being in violation, copies of the warning shall be delivered to both the youth and sponsor.
- A second offense of the rules will require that a violator (and sponsor, if appropriate) meet with the Disciplinary Council to work out an agreement of what type of service or restitution would be an appropriate consequence for the violation. In the case

of youth offenders, the sponsor will also monitor the service of the youth.

- A third offense is punishable by a fine of \$50. In the case of a youth offender who is unable to pay, the youth's sponsor will be responsible for the fine.
- If the offense warrants, the violator will be sent home at their own expense (or the sponsor's expense in the case of a youth).

- All unmarried young people under 18 years of age will need to have their own parents, or a sponsor over 25 years of age, attend the Conference. **ALL YOUNG PEOPLE will be assigned to rooms on the same floor of the same dorm as their sponsors.**
- Parents or sponsors assume full responsibility for the conduct and discipline of the young people whose sponsorship they accept. Such responsibility does not extend to direct supervision when youth are engaged in a scheduled Conference activity.

I/we, the undersigned, have read and do understand the "Expected Conduct at General Conference."
 Signed _____ Date: _____

As the parent of _____, I further agree that my child is legally responsible to the undersigned sponsor, and that said sponsor may also make any necessary decisions regarding medical services.
 Parent _____ Date: _____
 Sponsor _____ Date: _____
 Youth _____ Date: _____

2012 YOUTH PRE-CON CAMP REGISTRATION

Forms, Driving Directions, Info:
<http://EducatingChristians.org/PreCon>
Youth, ages 15 (or completed grade 9) – 18
Camp JOY, Berea, WV
4:00 p.m., July 25 – 1:00 p.m., July 29, 2012

Please Bring—Bible, notebook, flashlight, sleeping bag, personal items, one-piece bathing suit, towel, jacket.

Name: _____ Parent
Parent/ E-Mail: _____
Guardian Phone: _____ Home Church: _____

Gender: Male / Female Age (at Pre-Con end): _____ Planning to fly.*

***If you choose to fly, fly into the Charleston, WV airport. There will be a one-way charge of \$25 for the ride from the airport to the Pre-Con site. Send your flight information to sdbbce.educatingchristians.org or call 607-587-8527.**

Medical/Health form must be completed. Form is available for download from the BCE website, or at your request from 607-587-8527.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

YOUNG ADULT PRE-CON RETREAT REGISTRATION

Forms, Driving Directions, Info:
<http://EducatingChristians.org/PreCon>
Young Adults, ages 18-29
West Virginia Wesleyan, Buckhannon, WV
4:00 p.m., July 25 – 1:00 p.m., July 29, 2012
**** must be at least 18 to attend ****

Please Bring—Bible, notebook, personal items, bathing suit, and jacket. **Linens are provided.**

Name: _____ E-Mail: _____

Contact Phone: _____ Home Church: _____

Gender: Male Female Age (at Pre-Con end): _____ Planning to fly.*

I have a medical condition requiring special care. I will bring the appropriate medications and will inform the staff of possible special needs.

***If you choose to fly, fly into the Charleston, WV airport. There will be a one-way charge of \$25 for the ride from the airport to the Pre-Con site. Send your flight information to sdbbce.educatingchristians.org or call 607-587-8527.**

I will make certain that I am in good health before leaving for Pre-Con. I will not unnecessarily risk the welfare of others or myself. I agree to abide by the rules established by the college and director. I give permission to the SDB General Conference USA and Canada, Ltd., and its agencies for photographs and audio/video recordings of me to be used for news, publicity, and promotional purposes.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

**Cost: \$130.00 on or before June 30, 2012
\$150.00 after June 30, 2012**

(Register by deadline. Please pay at camp.)
Send Pre-Con registration and medical form
[but NOT Conference registration forms] to:

**SDB Pre-Con, P.O. Box 115
Alfred Station, NY 14803
Fax: (866) 571-5879**

**Cost: \$190.00 on or before June 30, 2012
\$210.00 after June 30, 2012**

(Register by deadline. Please pay at Retreat.)
Send Pre-Con registration
[but NOT Conference registration forms] to:

**SDB Pre-Con, P.O. Box 115
Alfred Station, NY 14803
Fax: (866) 571-5879**



What's on your plate?

by Barb Green, Parish Nurse
Milton, Wis.

Do you ever really look at your plate once you have dished up your food? What do you see? Does your meal include all of the food groups?

All of us need to take a closer look at our diet. One source of help is the USDA website www.dietaryguidelines.gov. This plan tells you how much of each food group you need to eat daily. It helps determine the number of calories needed based on age, gender and activity level.

The five major food groups are Grains, Vegetables, Fruits, Protein foods and Dairy products. Any food made from wheat, rye, rice, oats, cornmeal, barley, or another cereal grain is a **Grain** product. A quarter of your plate should be filled with grains—at least half of them whole grains.

The first ingredient listed for a grain product should be “whole,” such as whole wheat. Whole grains include oats, popcorn, brown rice, wild rice and buckwheat. Examples of an ounce of grain product are one slice of bread, half an English muffin, a cup of flaked cereal, or half a cup of cooked rice or pasta.

Vegetables often get a bum rap, and that's a shame because they come in a wide variety of colors and flavors. All vegetables are needed to be sure you get all the vitamins and minerals each supply. Dark green

veggies include broccoli and spinach. Red and orange include acorn squash, carrots, tomatoes and sweet potatoes. Starchy vegetables are foods like corn, green peas and white potatoes.

Most vegetable portions should be one-half cup. Examples include 6 baby carrots, 1/2 large baked sweet potato, 1/2 small baked potato or 1/2-cup green beans. Fruits and/or vegetables should cover half of your plate.




Fruits also offer a variety of choices and colors: oranges, grapefruit, berries of all kinds, apricots, cherries, peaches, mangoes and pineapple to name a few. Again a variety must be eaten to take full advantage of the nutrition offered. The standard portion is 1/2 cup. This equals half an 8-inch banana, half an

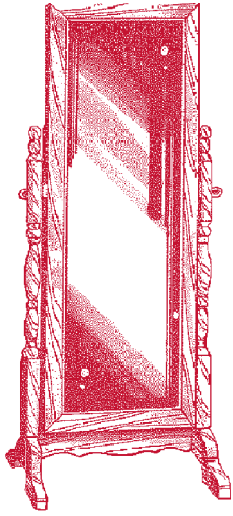
orange, 16 grapes, or 4 strawberries. To ensure that you eat the number of fruits you need daily, just remember that fruits along with a vegetable should fill half your plate.

The last quarter of your plate should be filled with **Protein** foods. Try choosing lean or low-fat foods. Eat seafood twice a week instead of meat. Examples of one-ounce servings include 12 almonds, 1 T peanut butter, 1 egg, and 1/2-cup split pea soup. Grilled or baked fish, poultry or meat should be limited to a 3-ounce serving (the size of a deck of cards).

Most adults do not get enough **Dairy** products. For good heart health always pick from low-fat or fat-free choices. One cup of milk is the same as 8 oz. of yogurt, 1 1/2 oz. hard cheese, 1 cup soy beverage, 2 cups cottage cheese, or 1 cup pudding made with milk. Dairy products provide the calcium needed to protect bones and is needed at all ages.

So does this mean you have to forfeit your Sabbath morning donut? Maybe. If you meet the goals in each food group and choose foods that are low in fat and without added sugar you might still have calories left over to use as you like.

Remember that healthy eating requires a plan, one you can get from the website listed above. Watching what's on your plate will pay off in dividends of weight loss and overall better health. Why not try it? 



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

Be careful what you dance for



Mankind has always tried to control the weather, with little success.

In biblical times, man realized that God alone—as the Maker, Sustainer, and Overseer of the Universe—has power over the elements. The prophet Jeremiah wrote, “Do any of the worthless idols of the nations bring rain? Do the skies themselves send down showers? No, it is you, O LORD our God” (Jeremiah 14:22, NIV).

As mere mortals, we don’t have the innate power to control the weather, but we can offer up prayers regarding it. In Zechariah 10:1 (TLB), the prophet wrote, “Ask the Lord for rain in the springtime, and he will answer with lightning and showers. Every field will become a lush pasture.”

Man’s age-old struggle to control the weather is fascinating.

In ancient Rome, officials kept one of two sacred stones called the “lapis manalis” in a temple of Mars outside the city. (The stone’s name is derived from the verb *manare*, which means “to flow.”) Whenever Rome suffered from drought, citizens dragged the stone into the city.

In a ceremony called the *aquaelicium* (“calling the waters”), the people made offerings to Jupiter, the Roman god of sky and thunder. They then petitioned for rain while pouring water over the stone.

Another tradition had unscrupu-

lous Scandinavian “witches” selling the wind in bags so sailors could release the turbulent air when their ships became adrift in calm waters.

In the European kingdom of Navarre—located on either side of the Pyrenees Mountains—people prayed to St. Peter for rain. If it didn’t rain, they would drag statues of St. Peter from their churches and toss them into a river.

Native Americans wearing special headdresses and clothing still perform rain dances. The dances are usually done during spring planting or in the summer months before harvest. They include both men and women, indicating the importance of rain to the entire community. The dance steps are quite intricate and usually involve a zigzag pattern.

In more modern times, pilots have “seeded” clouds with a chemical [usually silver iodine] to form rain clouds, disperse fog, suppress hail, or produce snow. While the benefits are obvious, the procedure is expensive. Other drawbacks include possible adverse effects on plants and animals from the chemicals, and possible flooding.

Earlier this year, I learned that my two Colorado grandchildren tried to control the weather; apparently with some success.

On February 2nd, Keegan and Amber Lippincott—ages 10 and 11—decided they didn’t want to go to school the next day. So on Thursday night, like scores of other chil-

dren living in the Denver area, they performed their traditional snow dance.

According to my son, Jay, this modern-day ritual has a specific set of rules:

First off, you have to take two ice cubes out of the freezer and flush them down the toilet.

Secondly, you have to dress in your pajamas or the ceremony loses its power.

Thirdly, once rules one and two are followed, you’re required to dance. This dance, done with or without music, can be as simple as jumping up and down on a bed. It can also be quite complex, involving repetitive dance steps with or without a partner. Either way, you’re required to “dance your head off.”

Later that evening it started to snow, and school officials quickly canceled Friday classes because of blizzard warnings. When Jay informed Amber school was canceled, she looked at him with an expression that said, “Duh. Of course it is, Dad.”

When the storm finally abated, people had to deal with 26 inches of snow. Which prompts me to exclaim, “Thank goodness my grandkids didn’t flush *four* ice cubes down the toilet!” **SR**



The President's Page
by John Pethtel

Buckhannon, WV July 29–Aug. 4, 2012

Are you ready for every opportunity?

“Preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching.” (2 Timothy 4:2 ESV)

Here are some words from Oswald Chambers’ devotional, *My Utmost for His Highest*, concerning this passage. I think that they may be eternally appropriate to the condition of mankind:

Many of us suffer from the unbalanced tendency to “be ready” only “out of season.” The season does not refer to time; it refers to us. This verse says, “Preach the Word! Be ready in season and out of season.” In other words, we should “be ready” whether we feel like it or not. If we do only what we feel inclined to do, some of us would never do anything. There are some people who are totally unemployable in the spiritual realm. They are spiritually feeble and weak, and they refuse to do anything unless they are supernaturally inspired. The proof that our relationship is right with God is that we do our best whether we feel inspired or not.

One of the worst traps a Christian

worker can fall into is to become obsessed with his own exceptional moments of inspiration. When the Spirit of God gives you a time of inspiration and insight, you tend to say, “Now that I’ve experienced this moment, I will always be like this for God.” No, you will not, and God will make sure of that. Those times are entirely the gift of God. You cannot give them to yourself when you choose. If you say you will only be at your best for God, as during those exceptional times, you actually become an intolerable burden on Him. You will never do anything unless God keeps you consciously aware of His inspiration to you at all times. If you make a god out of your best moments, you will find that God will fade out of your life, never to return until you are obedient in the work He has placed closest to you, and until you have learned not to be obsessed with those exceptional moments He has given you.

We do ourselves no favors when we allow circumstances to dictate our outcomes or our emotions. This is why we must be *ready* for every

opportunity to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ in word and deed, both through ourselves and through His bride, the Church.

What kind of season are you in right now? What about your church? ARE YOU READY to **R**ealize whether you are ready or not? ARE YOU READY to **R**emember how God has worked mightily in and through you and your church?

ARE YOU READY to **R**epent of falling short of the Great Confession (our belief; Matthew 16:16), the Great Commission (our mission; Matthew 28:18-20), and the Great Commandment (our actions; Matthew 22:37-38)—and to turn to Jesus as our only hope for continuing?

ARE YOU READY to **R**evitalize your church by making the changes necessary to serve faithfully? ARE YOU READY to **R**eproduce yourself and your church spiritually through discipleship and church planting?

Will you be READY for His **R**eturn in power and glory as He comes for His bride? Finally, ARE YOU READY to **R**est in Him completely and not your own accomplishments?

I encourage all of you to register for this summer’s Conference sessions. You will be challenged, refreshed, and encouraged to serve the Kingdom with more vigor, with a renewed purpose and with a new perspective.

On behalf of myself, our denominational executives, our Boards and Agencies, and our Conference Host Committee, we invite you to join the *ARE YOU READY?* conversation at West Virginia Wesleyan College in Buckhannon, W.Va. from July 29–August 4, 2012. **SR**



by Executive Director
Rob Appel

Music calms the savage ~~beast~~ **SDB**



The debate in many churches today is the music style in worship, or the number of hymns vs. praise songs. Some of you will say that a praise song isn't really worship music anyway, so there is no debate here. WRONG! And there are those who will say that hymns are passé and not really worship songs today. WRONG again!

I hope to bring you an awareness of the power that lies behind music and to be more tolerant of the music preferences of others. All of the music in our churches should be used as a way to express what is in our hearts to the Lord. That is the essence of praise!

In all our music, we should communicate to God with words of **content**—words that have theological substance. The song should be **coherent** in the way it is expressed and memorable to our minds. And it should be **compatible**, with the words and the music conveying well-matched symmetry.

Many of our old hymns and today's songs have words that are not in harmony with the Bible. I have heard some praise songs that are like syrupy "pop" love songs. I have sung hymns that have tunes from an old English pub or sung to a Hawaiian melody. Neither of these examples are what I would call worshipful.

Is the content of our songs correct with God's Word? If we want it to be memorable and become engraved in our minds, is it coherent—that is, logical and consistent with the Bible? And again, our songs must be compatible between the words and the music. If they are not, then they lose their ability to help us communicate from our hearts to God's eyes and ears.

If we sing, "Our God is an awesome God," and we say it like we describe a TV show—"That show rocked, it was totally awesome!"—then we aren't thinking our God is awesome, but rather like the television show.

Our purpose in gathering as believers is to celebrate the Holiness of God. In other words, we can have unity in our diversity. We all know that worship is both a private and public matter.

Through the centuries, the Church has gone through a lot of transitions. It has moved from temples to strip mall store fronts. Church music has moved from Gregorian chants, to psalms, to classical masterpieces, to '70s rock medleys, to praise and

rap songs. Instruments have evolved from voice-only to organs, then pianos, then guitars and drums, and now just about anything can be found in a church on any given Sabbath.

These transitions alone should tell us that through time, there has been a lot of variety when it comes to worship. This has been reflected in the culture and personality of the people of that time. And this is still true today as ever!

There are certain styles of worship (particularly when we talk about music) that we like best. The tendency of course is to like ours the best, and in turn, toss out the rest. We absolutely must remember that when we gather for worship, it is not for ourselves. We are not to be focused on how *we* want things to be done. Our corporate worship should not be about customer service as though we are the customers and therefore we are right.

Together, we must affirm that God alone matters. In the midst of our community, we need to have this perspective: God alone is worthy of our praise... and our songs... and our instruments! **SR**



Continuing Education for pastors

by Gordon Lawton, Dean
Director of Pastoral Services

Sitting with friends at our favorite Mexican restaurant I asked a college student about his plans. He noted that he might not push to get a bachelor's degree since the right courses for his desired field might be enough training.

We spoke of others who got specific training and progressed in their field without the four-year degree. Another at the table noted that he is using none of the computer stuff he learned in college. The field has moved on and he has grown with it.

Is it this way for pastors? We can say "God is unchanging and the canon of the Bible is fixed," and be heard to say, "I don't need

to learn new stuff." Really? I hope not. The pastoral ministry covers so many areas that most pastors are generalists and not able to focus on only one aspect of ministry.

Sharpening Bible skills, learning counseling techniques, thinking about church growth and applying it in the home church are all important. This sharpening can occur as we read books, watch videos, have discussions with other pastors and as we attend classes (on-line and otherwise) or seminars.

Although COM no longer has a budget line for pastors' continuing education, we have some funds thanks to the generosity of the

children of Rev. Earl and Mabel Cruzan. Pastor, if there is a seminar or on-line course that you have been considering, you may qualify for up to \$300 a year to help with the cost of the class and required books. At www.sdbministry.com simply **touch** the "Pastoral Services" drop-down menu, then "To Pastors", then "In-Service Education", and then **click** on "Continuing Education." **Click** on "Continuing Education" on the next page and the description will appear. At the bottom of that page **click** one more time for the "Continuing Education Request Form."

I hope to hear from some of you this year. *SR*



SDB PASTOR'S RETIREMENT FUND SUPPORTING THOSE WHO GAVE SO MUCH

Rev. Kenneth B. Van Horn served in eight different SDB churches in his more than four decades of full-time ministry. His wife, Doris, was a faithful partner in the church work.

Ken grew up in North Loup, Neb., and then went to Salem (W.Va.) College. That's where he met Doris Langworthy from Andover, N.Y. They married in 1939 and had three children: Rodney, Arlouene and Floyd.

Pastor Van Horn and Doris served in these churches:

- Albion and Milton Junction, Wis. (1944-1952)
- Dodge Center, Minn. (1952-1959)
- New Auburn, Wis. (1959-1965)
- Little Rock, Ark. (1965-1973)
- Hebron, Pa. and Little Genesee, N.Y. (1973-1979)
- Daytona Beach, Fla. (1979-1987)

Ken retired to Little Rock in 1987, "continuing active service to that church as Pastor Emeritus.



Pastor Ken and Doris Van Horn

He served as a trustee, treasurer, groundskeeper, janitor, and Sabbath

cont. bottom of p. 24



FOCUS on Missions

God made time for us

by Clinton R. Brown

Time is an incredible, unfathomable element of the Creation. It spans from less than the inconceivable nanosecond to an incomprehensible eternity. It is so amazing, yet is such an integral component to our lives that we cannot imagine an existence without it. God, in His foreknowledge, knew we needed the sun and moon to mark off the hours and seasons so we could order our lives (Psalm 104:19).

When we say that God made time for us, we not only mean that He created the element of time in the universe, but also

He set aside time just for our relationship: the Sabbath. We know that the Lord is always there for us, and is glad for us to be perpetually in communication, but He specifically reserved the Sabbath as a weekly appointment for building our relationship.

We have four daughters. With my hectic work and ministry schedules, I knew if we did not designate certain regular one-on-one blocks of time—where we could focus on our individual connections—we would have only “catch as you can” moments in the blur that is their short season in our home. I was blessed with Christian influences that helped me see how God had shown, by example, that when you value someone you set aside specific time for opportunity for relational growth.

What does this have to do with missions?

Understanding that God is on a mission to build relationships with people, the Sabbath is yet another way He facilitates that relationship. It reinforces the message of His commitment to bless our lives to His glory. It also resonates as an example of how we are to show our own commitment to fulfilling both the Great Commission and the Great Commandment.

The Great Commission is to go and make disciples of all nations (Matthew 28:19). If I am not willing to designate **time** to the fulfillment of that commission, can I really say I am serious about it? Likewise, will

	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SABBATH	
15:00	Work	Work	Rest	
16:00	Work	Work	Rest	Prep
17:00	Kids	RaquetBall	Rest	Prep
18:00	TV Dinner	RaquetBall	Rest	Yo
19:00	TV Dinner	Prep Lesson	Kids	Yo
20:00	Finances	Prep Lesson	Kids	Yo
21:00	Finances	Prep Youth	Kids	Yo
22:00	Finances	Prep Youth	Spouse	Spd

*I am going
to have to budget
my time just as
I do my finances.*

my neighbor believe I love him as myself—according to the Great Commandment—if I hoard my time for my own interests and give little or none of it to him? (See Matthew 22:39.)

We are called to incarnate the good news of Christ in relationships. Until giving my time becomes a natural

extension of my walk with Jesus, I am going to have to budget it just as I do my finances (or any other resource that God puts under my stewardship) for the advancement of His Kingdom. If I do not do as God did and allocate regular times with them, people will not know

I love them and will not by extension know that God loves them through my witness.

What will this look like? I may have to sip a soda in a pub or bowling alley and sit on the same stool each week so it becomes apparent that I value talking with someone that I would not see at church or work. Or take on a part-time job waiting tables a couple nights a week so I can spend time with the unreached kitchen staff at a local truck stop.

I may have to designate annual vacation time to volunteer at a community camping program, where I can let some campers know that I care about them and God does, too. I may have to designate a time in my life, a season or years, that I will **go** and make disciples, building meaningful relationships. This would reflect the commitment my Lord Jesus did in spending 33 years among a people, speaking their language and practicing their customs, while sharing the love of the Father.

This evening I am going to sit down with some graph paper and chart out my week by the hour and see exactly where the time—that God has given me—is being spent.

I pray you will join me in making time for God, as He did for us.

“And he said unto them, ‘The sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath’” (Mark 2:27). SR

The future looks bright!



The Bruces, Durans and Hoffmans at the Portland Area church.

On Sabbath, March 17, 2012 the Portland Area (Ore.) Seventh Day Baptist Church held a special baby/child dedication service for three couples. The service coincided with a Meal-of-Sharing (potluck) Sabbath since so many people guests came for this special occasion.

Two of the three couples involved in the dedication were children of Pastor Jerry and Martha Vaught: daughters Abigail (Abbie) Bruce and Melody Duran. The other couple, Galen and Savannah (Goodson) Hoffman, recently moved to the area

from Ohio and have become a part of the church body.

Abigail and her husband, BJ (Robert Lourance Bruce, Jr.), dedicated their son, Robert (Robbie) Lourance Bruce III. Melody and her husband, John, dedicated their daughter, Andrea Belle Duran. Galen and Savannah dedicated their son, Eli Hoffman. Pastor Jerry gave a message related to the dedication of these children, plus each set of parents—as well as church members—gave individual commitments to see to it that each

child is raised in the way of the Lord.

There was a large attendance for the celebration and all went well. Pastor Jerry gave a copy of the message and service as well as a dedication certificate to each set of parents. **SR**

But wait... There's more!

A baby dedication service was held on April 14 at the **Texarkana, Ark., SDB Church.**

The following children were dedicated to the Lord:

- Ellen-Claire, daughter of Greg and Emily Richards
- Max, son of Shayne and Danielle Matthews
- Elijah, son of Jeremy and Jennifer Arndt
- Slayde, son of, and Payton, daughter of Matt and Jenna Looney
- Preston, son of Joe and Shawn Rayburn

Retirement Fund, *cont. from p. 22*

School Superintendent, and also preaching the Word!" (*Sabbath Recorder* 227:9, p. 26).

Doris' church and Conference activities over the years included:

- Child Evangelism Fellowship (backyard clubs) in Little Rock, Hebron, Little Genesee and Daytona Beach
- Bible School teacher
- Cook for SCSC Training (1972)
- Author of the *SR* Children's Page (1974)
- Served on the Board of Christian Education
- Tract Society's Sabbath Promotion Committee (1980)

- Directed Family Pre-Con (1983)
- On BCE Scripture Memory Honor Roll (1987)

Pastor Van Horn passed away in 2005 at the age of 90. Under the "old" retirement plan, he was receiving funds based on his years of service.

As a surviving spouse, Doris is entitled to receive payments from this retirement fund. The monies raised by the old "PROP" campaign are gone, and we need to continue supporting these faithful servants of the Lord. (Please see the April 2012 *SR* for more details.) The

Committee on Support and Retirement has a goal to raise \$25,000 per year to help our retired pastors. Can you please do your part?

Your tax-deductible gifts can be sent to the SDB Center or we can arrange a monthly automatic gift. Make your check payable to COSAR, with "Pastor's Retirement Fund" in the memo line. Thanks so much!

If you'd like to send Doris a card, her address is:

Doris Van Horn
Sierra Vista
821 Duffield Ct
Loveland CO 80537 **SR**

Obituaries

Albion.—Dolores Jean Albion, 91, died on February 10, 2012 in Kalamazoo, Mich.

Jean was born August 7, 1920 in Chicago, Ill., the daughter of Charles and Neva (Early) Foster. On November 3, 1963 she was united in marriage to Charles M. Albion, who preceded her in death in 2001.

A Kalamazoo resident since 1964, Jean was a longtime member and deaconess of the Seventh Day Baptist Church in Battle Creek, Mich. She served as president of the church's Ladies Aid Society, Sabbath School Superintendent, and wedding coordinator. She taught Sabbath School for juniors and teens and was always very interested in our young people, often sponsoring them at the many General Conferences she attended.

For years Jean prepared "Sabbath Thoughts" for the weekly bulletin. Using her creative skills, she made most of the banners used by the church. She wrote a play based on Noah, "You're Gonna Get Your Feet Wet," incorporating the hit songs "Stormy Weather" and "Raindrops Keep Falling on My Head." She would use her handmade puppets

for the Children's Story time during worship. Jean directed junior camp at Camp Holston and developed the week's program several times. The bulletin at her memorial service noted, "Jean helped make our church complete with her special talents and gifts, and we are indeed fortunate to have received her love."

Surviving are two grandsons and four great-grandchildren. Besides her husband, Jean was preceded in death by a daughter, Barbara Jean Shay.

A memorial service was held on February 18, 2012 at the Battle Creek SDB Church with Pastor Kory Geske officiating. A private interment will be held at Ft. Custer National Cemetery in Augusta, Mich.

Bennett.—After a courageous battle with multiple health issues, A. Ruth Bennett, 86, passed away on February 19, 2012 at her home in Battle Creek, Mich.

She was born April 7, 1925 in Dodge Center, Minn., the daughter of Harry L. and Cecile L. (Lewis) Bird. She graduated high school in Dodge Center in 1943, then worked

for a year in Chicago, Ill., as a nurse's aide at Presbyterian Hospital. Ruth studied education at Salem (W.Va.) College then settled in Battle Creek working as a ward clerk at Percy Jones Army Hospital where she met her future husband. She later attended Kellogg Community College and graduated from Michigan State University in 1968.

Ruth married Charles H. "Herb" Bennett on November 22, 1945 in Battle Creek. He died in 1990.

She retired in 1986 as a teacher after 18 years at McKinley Elementary School in Battle Creek. In 1991, Ruth was named Sabbath School Teacher of the Year by the SDB Board of Christian Education.

She enjoyed reading, following Detroit sports, working on craft projects, playing piano, traveling, reading to her grandchildren, and gardening. Ruth was a member of the Battle Creek Seventh Day Baptist Church where she had served as choir director and singer, president of Ladies Aid, deaconess, and camp director. She was a former member of the NEA and the MEA (Michigan Educational Association) and a lifetime member of VFW 565 Auxiliary.

Ruth is survived by two daughters, Lorrie J. Bird and Marilyn K. Smith, and a son, James L. Bennett, all of Battle Creek; three grandchildren and five great-grandchildren; a nephew and two great-nieces. She was preceded in death by her husband, Charles; her son, Alton D. Bennett; a brother, Derwin Bird; a nephew and a niece.

Funeral services were held on February 24, 2012 in the Bachman Funeral Chapel with Pastors Kory Geske and Brian Lutz officiating. Entombment was at the Memorial Park Cemetery Mausoleum in Battle Creek. **SR**

Births

Hipskind.—A daughter, Leah Grace, was born to Greg and Jennifer (Butler) Hipskind of Moline, IL on March 25, 2012.

Shepard.—A son, William Thomas, was born to Morgan and Kate (Thomas) Shepard of Janesville, WI on April 2, 2012.

Murphy.—A son, Emmitt James, was born to Tom and Nicole (Cruzan) Murphy of Milton, WI on April 9, 2012.

Death Notices

Mary Frances (Saunders) Saeger, 94, of Wellsville, NY, died on February 5, 2012.

Nedd Lozani, 65, of Blantyre, Malawi, died on March 21, 2012.

Ernest F. Bond, 94, of Mount Vernon, OH, died on March 25, 2012.

Time to “Get our game on”

by *Timothy Lawton*
Ashaway, R.I.

The Day of the Lord draws closer every passing moment. Are we ready for that day? Are we living flesh, God’s mighty army ready for battle or are we dry dead bones, bleaching in the desert sun?

Here in America, our lives are plush. Yes, we have our troubles at school, our troubles with the car, etc. But for the most part, we do not have insoluble problems, difficulties beyond our own ability to overcome.

Because of this, we believe we can sustain ourselves without God, and though we claim to be Christians and claim to be walking with Him, we often are going in a totally opposite direction, myself included.

A seemingly perpetual cycle exists in our relationships with God, starting with realization of our guilt and confession. Then we walk consistently with God for a while, building a relationship with Him. As between a husband and wife, a boyfriend and girlfriend, if time is not put into the relationship, it decays and disintegrates.

In our relationship with God, we become distracted by other things, spending less time with Him. School, friends, video games, social media, even a task from the Lord can distract us from maintaining that relationship. This third part of the cycle perpetuates for a while, eroding the progress made in the second part before returning to the beginning and starting all over.

Many of us Americans seem stuck in part three. We are too relaxed and too entertained, too busy to care

about our Savior. Getting to know Him constitutes the very smallest action we should undertake to repay our insurmountable debt. He owns everything, we only pay Him back with what He already owns.

Yet Jesus canceled the debt that we could not pay, preferring us, ourselves, to an infinite reimbursement for all the time, effort, and suffering put into us. And then we ignore that gift, preferring to wallow in our search for easy pleasure. When will our complacency end? When will we finally put down the controller, release the mouse, hang up the phone, close the books and just spend solid time in prayer or reading a Bible? Whatever dominates your life defines you. We who claim to be Christians should live lives dominated by Christ.

Young people need to form a relationship and make it last while we are still young, so that it may grow and mature, allowing us to become the leaders of the next generation. Our parents and our grandparents will not be around forever. One day those small bits of Godly knowledge and wisdom we now receive from our elders will be gone. Start finding it yourself now, while you can bounce those bits of knowledge and wisdom off of your elders for confirmation. Get to know Yahweh. There is nothing to lose and more than this world to gain.

Like it or not, deny it or not, a war occurs every moment of every day—the forces of God vs. the forces of Satan. Our poor relationship with our Creator, our lack of knowledge and wisdom about Him, allows the enemy easy access and manipulation. Once our lifelines of our elders disappear, where will we be?

“So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists,



the pastors and the teachers, to equip his people for the works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching.” (Ephesians 4:11-14) Those church leaders are currently our elders.

If we do not “get our game on” now and continually work on our relationship with the Father, when it becomes our turn to step into those roles, we will not be ready, weakening the Church by our absence. I, for one, do not want to be among the unprepared. **SR**

KEVIN'S

ORNER

Sabbath praise in rhyme

As mentioned on page 4, it's been 20 years since we held a Sabbath song contest.

Looking back at the May 1992 issue of the *Recorder*, I was reminded of two songs that I shared—not entered into that competition—to lift up the Lord and His special Day of blessing. (I decided to reprint the same ones, below.)

My first Sabbath hymn came from my early days as a pastor in Madison, Wis. The Lord had given me the words that went along with a familiar sacred tune used for “Angels from the Realms of Glory” and “Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation.”

Writing that hymn inspired me to pen more poetic words corresponding to each of our SDB Statements of Belief, all of which we sang during my ordination process a quarter-century ago. I was then truly humbled when Barb Saunders chose to have the Conference Choir sing my hymn about sin and salvation (a medley of two tunes) for an anthem.

Music has always played an important role in Seventh Day Baptist worship and devotional life. May the Lord continue to bestow on us new words, tunes and talent for His glory!

“On This Day You Ceased Your Labor”

*Tune: Regent Square
 (“Angels from the Realms of Glory”)*

On this Day You ceased Your labor,
 On this Day Your work was done.
 Author of this blessed favor
 We observe as ages run;
 Thank You, Father!
 Thank You, Jesus!
 And the Spirit Three in One!

Keep the Sabbath as commanded,
 Six days labor then we rest;
 To the Lord we give the Seventh:
 Show’rs of Blessing manifest!
 Just as God did
 At Creation—
 Made it Holy, made it Blest.

There remains a restful Sabbath
 For the people of the Lord.
 Strive to follow His example,
 Giving peace we can well afford!
 Just as God did
 At Creation—
 Re-creation our reward! Amen.

© 1985 by Kevin Butler

“On the Sabbath, Working Ceases”

*Swedish Melody: Tryggare Kan Ingen Vara
 (“Children of the Heavenly Father”)*

On the Sabbath, working ceases
 As Thy Holy Spir’t releases—
 Sweat of brow and working dry land
 Turned to thoughts of gifts from Thy Hand.

From the first day of Creation
 Thou hadst planned our destination;
 Adding Sabbath to Thy story
 For a glimpse of time in Glory.

After six days of Thy labor,
 How we thank Thee for Thy favor;
 Granting time, we gladly render
 Giving glory to the Sender.

On the Sabbath we’re connected;
 May our worship be accepted.
 Joined together seeking Thy face
 On this Day—a gift of Thy Grace.

© 1992 by Kevin Butler



God of the Sabbath

MARY A. STILLMAN.
With dignity

SABBATH. 10, 10, 10, 10.

WILLIAM C. DALAND.

1. God of the Sab - bath, un - to Thee we raise
2. Christ, Thou art Lord e'en of the Sab - bath day;
3. Spir - it di - vine, O shed a - broad Thy love!

Our grate-ful hearts in songs of love and praise. Mak - er, Pre -
Dark-ness and er - ror Thou canst sweep a - way. From sor-did
Quick-en our souls with pow - er from a - bove. Fa - ther and

serv - er all to Thee we owe; Smile on Thy
bond - age bring us sweet re - lease, Light of the
Son and Spir - it, might - y Three, Grant us a

chil - dren, wait - ing here be - low.
World and glo - rious Prince of Peace.
bless - ing, ho - ly Trin - i - ty! A - men.