

Can

GOD

Fix It?



Heart Repair

Every once in a while, I struggle with what I've diagnosed as a hardened heart. Thankfully, it's not an everyday thing. But, like the migraines that overtake me occasionally, I can sense when the "hard heart syndrome" is approaching. It's characterized by the onset of negativism and criticalness. So this morning I decided to ask God to take a look at my heart. Symbolically, I took it from my chest and handed it to Him. I said it needed some repairs...some restoration and fine tuning. It feels very crusty in some areas and needs some sanding and filing to make it softer. It feels like it's calloused! I told Him I could leave it with Him while He fixed it, because I know He has lots of customers. He said, "I'll fix it while you wait." While I waited, I was able to pray for family, friends, other things. When it was ready, He put it back in just the right place. He gave me the gift of peace. Go to God with your crusty heart. Talk to Him and be still with Him. He will do the rest.

Psalm 51:10-12: *Create in me a clean heart, oh God.* (v.10)

Introducing short devotional thoughts from a series by Donna Mae (Ochs) VanHorn. She graduated from Milton Union High School and later met, then married, her husband Jared while both were students at Milton College. They relocated to RI, Jerry's home state, when he took a job with The Providence Journal. Her professional career has spanned several administrative support positions. Today, she and her husband live in retirement in a Des Moines, IA, suburb. They serve their two adult daughters, their families and their grandchildren in a variety of ways, and worship at Lutheran Church of Hope. Donna is a mentor to younger women and leads women's Bible studies in her home. This devotional series is her second publication. She can be reached at dvstrawb43@gmail.com.

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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.

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Faith Healing

There is a shrine in the French Pyrenees where people come to pray for healing. A war veteran who had lost a leg appeared at the shrine sometime after World War II. As he hobbled his way along the street to the shrine someone said, "Look at that silly man! Does he think God is going to give him back his leg?" The young man overheard the remark and turned toward the speakers and said, "Of course I do not expect God to give me back my leg. I am going to pray to God to help me live without it!"

As Christians we believe in "faith healing." "Faith healing" conveys its dynamic in physical, emotional, spiritual, and eternal certainties all experienced in God the divine source of life.

Healing can only be experienced through faith in the grace of God. The Apostle Paul, obviously a man of deep faith, had a "thorn in the flesh" from which he prayed to be healed. The Lord informed him God's "grace was sufficient." (2 Corinthians 12: 7, 9) Paul, obviously disappointed, praised God and prayed that God would help him live with that thorn. Perhaps this was one reason God provided the physician Luke to accompany him and minister to his physical needs.

The scriptures are resplendent with images of men and women physically and emotionally healed through faith. A woman touched Jesus' garment and was cured, a blind man asked to see and his vision was restored, a leper returned to Jesus to thank Him for healing his tortured body. To each of these Jesus said: "Go, your faith has made you well." (Matthew 9:22, Mark 10:52 and Luke 17:19) However, even our Lord Jesus while visiting His hometown of Nazareth "could not do any miracles there." Why? "He was amazed at their lack of faith." (Mark 6:4-6) Obviously, Jesus believed that faith was the catalyst for healing.

Faith is the spring from which physical and emotional healing surface. There are moments when, through the power of prayer and the faith of the oppressed, healing becomes an instantaneous and spontaneous event. We acknowledge it to be a miracle — something supernatural and extraordinary. We don't understand it and can't explain it. It is an act of God's mercy, grace, and healing power. God be praised!

God also provides other means by which one is physically or emotionally healed. When we become ill we search out those God has endowed with the ability to bring healing and wholeness. The goal of placing one's faith in a doctor is to get better or even well. However, as James writes, "faith by itself, without works is dead." (James 2:17) One who wishes to be well, must also in faith, do that which the doctor asks him to do: take the prescribed medications and endure physical rehab or mental exercises. This step, along with prayer, invites God to complete the healing process.

We also enjoy spiritual and eternal healing. We are spiritual beings, relying solely on God to guide and sustain us. When circumstances get out of control, God faithfully restores our spiritual energy and faith. We are "cured" of our selfishness, apprehension, misguided thoughts, worry, and fear. In faith we affirm our dependency on the only one who has the answers we crave. We are spiritually healed.

Being sincere as people of faith, we recognize that the supreme healing any of us may experience is that moment when this physical corporal life ends and we begin our life with God in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ. Death is a portal to ultimate healing. As Christians we believe that awaiting us is perfect healing — complete healing — eternal healing. As Jesus said: "Let not your hearts be troubled...I go to prepare a place for you...and will take you to be with me where I am." (Jn. 14:1, 3) And we can praise God with the words: "I'm healed!"

Christians believe in "faith healing." SR

— by Pastor Herb Saunders

Pastor Herb is the pastor of the Madison, WI, Seventh Day Baptist Church. He has served as Dean of the Seventh Day Baptist Center on Ministry and as President of the Conference. He is married to Barbara and has three children and six grandchildren.





A Healing Passion

by Pastor Bill Shobe

My interest in healing began quite suddenly on a Sunday about 25 years ago. A young man from our congregation collapsed and was being transported to the hospital. I raced to the emergency room only to wait almost a half hour for the ambulance to arrive. The news they brought was bad. His heart had stopped. They could not resuscitate him. Diabetes had claimed another victim.

His wife approached me and asked if I would accompany her to the room where they had placed his body. I remember vividly the questions that raced through my brain that afternoon: "Why, God? In the Bible those with sickness and disease were healed! Some were brought back to life! What changed? Why don't people get healed? What changed? Where are You, God?" The remainder of the afternoon was a blur of numbness.

God did not speak to me that night with a clear response or a vision. Yet over the next months God began to answer my questions. He challenged and reformed my world view — the way I understood His creation. He opened my eyes to see the Scriptures from a new perspective and allowed me to witness His healing hand at work. First, as I prayed a simple blessing over a woman, God's power was released and her back was healed and freed from 20 years of chronic pain and deterioration. At Camp Miles, a fair-skinned youth was healed of 2nd/3rd degree sunburn, with the heat, blisters and stiffness of his skin just taken away as two of his friends and I prayed. God was winking at me as He responded to my questions, by revealing that He still delights to heal and has not changed.

Since that time God has shown me so much more. During a 2 1/2 year time, I served as coordinator/trainer for the *Healing Rooms* of Washington, DC. Each Sabbath afternoon a group of believers gathered from 30 different congregations to seek God's healing for whoever might come. Each week we witnessed people freed from sickness and disease; and others freed from bitterness, shame, fear, and other bondages. AIDS, diabetes, arthritis and terminal cancer could not withstand the loving compassion of our God! Many left still in need, but returned to receive ministry until their breakthrough finally arrived. Each one who came, however, testified to having had a fresh encounter with God and His deep love for them. Each week, we who prayed were drawn into a deeper love and awe of our God.


*God is a Healer
and delights in healing.
Healing is an expression of
God's heart of compassion.*

Three things I have come to believe about healing:

1. God is a Healer and delights in healing. Healing is an expression of God's heart of compassion. He calls Himself "Yahweh Rapha" (I am Who Heals: Exodus 15:26). Jesus, who exactly expresses the Father's character, affirmed this compassion as He healed the multitudes of "every kind of sickness and every kind of disease" (Matthew 9:35-36, Hebrews 1:3, John 14:19).

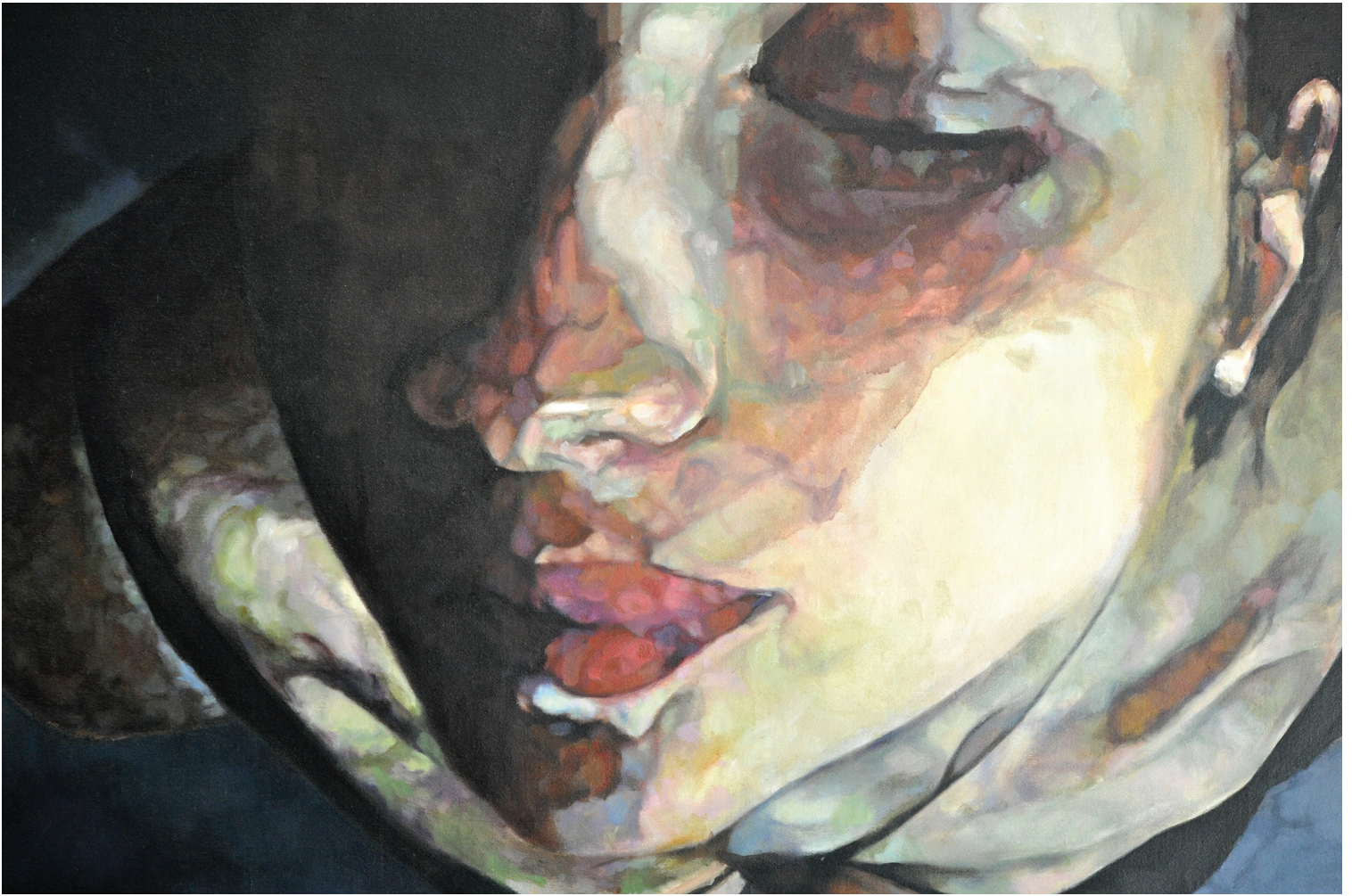
2. Healing flows through the dynamic of our relationship with God — not the practice of a methodology. Holy Spirit expresses and releases His gifts through responsive believers and lives are healed. The work of healing requires full dependence on God the Healer — Who allows us to be a part of His process of redeeming lives from brokenness. There is no one method. Jesus responded to three blind men in different ways (Matthew 9:27, Mark 8:22, John 9:7).

3. Prayer that brings healing arises from believers who pray with confident faith in God's desire to heal. If we pray in agreement with God's will, we will see results (1 John 5:14-15). But we must pray in faith, expecting God's miracles to be revealed. (James 1:6-8, Hebrews 11:1,6).

Not all my questions have been answered, nor does everyone I pray for get healed. Yet I am resolved to continue to seek for more understanding, and to believe and pray for God's compassion to be revealed in healing. 



Bill Shobe serves as Pastor of the Dodge Center, MN, Seventh Day Baptist Church. He has previously served the SDB congregations in Atlanta, GA, Houston, TX, and Washington, DC. He currently serves on the SDB Board of Christian Education.



My Healing Experience

The decision to have spine surgery was not an easy one to make. I had so many tearful conversations with God about, and for, my healing. But I believe God had something different in mind for me. I knew that surgery was what I had to do, and finally I scheduled spine surgery for June of 2014.

After surgery was done, I had a big shock. I realized that it was going to be a much longer healing time than I had expected. I didn't know that my walking was going to be affected to the extreme that it was. I used a walker for about four months to help me walk again. The first time I used the walker I was only able to walk a short distance from the bedroom to the kitchen and back. I was not able to walk down or up stairs, etc. I slept sitting up in a chair for the good part of five months because lying down meant pain and irritation. The most humiliating part was not being able to physically take care of myself. Thank God for my family who was there for me through it all. A special thank you to a wonderful mom, who took me in her home and cared for me during the hardest part of my healing.

By Diane Andries

I believe that I went through three different stages in my healing journey. The first stage was disbelief. This was when I realized what I was actually facing. It seemed insurmountable. At this point all I could see was the struggle I was facing, and it was hard to imagine myself healed. Then came self-pity, which is what I call the second stage in my healing journey. I began to wallow in “if only” and “why me?” I began thinking of all the stories I heard — about people who had this surgery with no success, some even felt worse after or they had to have the surgery again. This was an awful place to be in. I thank God He did not allow me to linger there for long.

The Holy Spirit reminded me of something I learned a while ago, something that has seen me through many difficult struggles. He reminded me I should use every difficult circumstance that comes my way as an opportunity to see God move in my life. Sometimes, I need a little reminder. I wouldn't know if God could completely heal me if I didn't trust Him to do it. And if I truly believe that “God works all things together for good to those who love God and those who are called according to His purpose” (Romans 8:28), then I had to believe He was working in my situation. This is when I entered the third stage of my healing journey. Faith kicked in and nothing was going to stop me from full restoration. I began standing on the Word for my healing. If the doctors told me to walk a block, I would walk two. Whatever they told me to do, I did more. I was determined to prove all the voices of doom wrong. I knew I was not fighting alone, but that God was the one giving me the strength to get through. I am happy to say I am fully healed.

My life is better now, having gone through this experience. This might sound strange, but I needed go through this so that I could hear God calling me to draw even closer to Him. Sometimes there are so many activities going on in our lives, so many things we are doing, that we miss the most simple thing that God desires from us, which is simply to spend time with Him. That is more precious to Him than anything else we could do for Him. I thank Him for taking me to the place where He was my only choice — total reliance on Him. SR

Diane is wife to Pastor Paul Andries from the Washington, DC, SDB Church and a mother to three wonderful children. She is a Deacon in the church, Young Adult Sabbath School Teacher, and Worship Leader. Her favorite thing to do is worship through songs.



Christian Healing

What comes to mind when you hear the word healing: doctors, state-of-the art cardiac units, amoxicillin? What about the phrase "Christian healing"? To some, this calls to mind the worst religious broadcasting has to offer. Many dangle the promise of miraculous cures to those who would just summon the faith to buy them. With the right balance of illusion and charisma, con artists can make big bucks by exploiting all the suffering in the world. Some theologies have instilled in believers a distrust of traditional medicine. It is sad to read stories of people refusing basic health care because they believe their sicknesses are part of "God's plan" – that God, not the physician, should be the one to determine whether or not they will be made well.

At the heart of the Christian story is this conviction: God wants us to be whole, restored, redeemed, reborn into the fullness of who we were created to be. Jesus revealed this through His life and ministry. He was preacher, teacher, and healer. He challenged demons to flee, the eyes of the blind to open, and leprous skin to be restored. Jesus had God-given authority to heal through words and touch for a very important reason. He healed for the same reason that He shared parables with people: to show the nature of God's kingdom. Just as the kingdom of heaven is like the smallest seed that grows into the largest tree, so is the kingdom of heaven like a woman who touched the hem of Jesus' garment.

The woman's affliction (Luke 8:42-48) affected not only her body. Her culture had strict guidelines for cleanliness and a bleeding woman was considered unclean. She could not participate in the religious life of her community and anyone who came in contact with her would also be considered ritually unclean. Barred from religious expression, denied human touch, and always on the brink of death, the chronic hemorrhage had drained the life out of the woman. Her radical act of touching the hem of Jesus' garment threatened Jesus. Because He had been touched by an untouchable, He could be labeled unclean.

Healing power flowed from Him to her and her life was saved. Her body and role in the community were restored. It bears repeating: the kingdom of heaven is like a woman who touched the hem of Jesus' garment. Perhaps then, the kingdom of heaven is also like a psychiatrist who helps a patient find the right combination of antidepressant medication.

The promise of the gospel is that we will be healed: body, mind and spirit. The human community will be made whole. As Christians endeavoring to live a way of life shaped by our Savior, we have work to do. We are called to participate in the unfolding of God's great plan. We are called to be healers, even as we are still wounded by loss and pain ourselves.

Christian healing is not about magic and it is certainly not about trickery. Not every disease can be cured. Not every life can be preserved. Healing is never about cultivating false hope. Healing moments take place every day in ordinary and extraordinary ways. When we embody God's healing presence to others through touch, concern, or liturgy, we take part in God's activity of healing the world. Sharing a plate of cookies with a grieving family, listening to a stranger in crisis, comforting a feverish grandchild, praying for a friend fighting cancer are all holy work, healing work.

Our God is a lover of life; He will transform every tear of grief into a tear of joy. Christ responds to our pleas for help and healing in ways we request but also in ways other than we imagine. His mission was not to guarantee healing but to give hope. The good news of Jesus is that we will be redeemed, we will be saved, and we will be healed. In the meantime, we hope and pray and work for God's gracious will to be done on earth as it is in the kingdom of heaven. SR

*(Adapted from Healing Christian Healing,
Church Health Reader, Spring 2015.)*

“Who Are You? What Are You For?”




Every day, each of us makes decisions about how we will spend what God has given to us. Those decisions extend to every area of our lives — from our time and energy to our physical resources. How we make these decisions define our lives and our relationships, both with other people and with the Lord. The process by which we make those decisions is therefore exceedingly important. And that process will be guided by our sense of identity. Being a disciple of the Lord Jesus is, on one level, an exercise in lining up our identity in Christ with the resources God has given us, and then using them accordingly. We speak about this exercise as calling: what God wants us to do with what he has given to us.

Our Christian vocabulary (discipleship, calling, etc.) sometimes obscures what should be obvious: we cannot follow the Lord as a disciple and honor our calling if we do not know who we are. Identity is not optional. Sometimes, we confuse truth with identity. We know, for example, that we are God’s beloved children. This is an amazing truth, and can be especially profound for those who have experienced great fulfillment or brokenness in their relationships with their human parents. But simply stating we are God’s children, while true, does not in itself tell us anything about our identity. It does not become our identity until we own it and live from it. Our identity and our purpose are closely related — the latter cannot exist without the former. What would we say about an adopted orphaned child with loving adoptive parents who still lives like an orphan? Many things, probably. But we would clearly note that they don’t know how loved they are. They are loved — but they don’t know it on a level that changes anything about them. They are struggling with their identity.

And so, as you read this, I’d like to ask you a question about your identity in the Lord Jesus Christ: **What are you for?** What is God’s purpose for you as His follower and disciple and beloved child? What did He redeem you from your sin to be and to do? Until you can answer these questions, you will flail and founder in your Christian life. You will move from activity to activity and you will fail to find the joy in obedience that comes from life animated by the Holy Spirit. You may do all the right things, but being a fully formed follower in Christ is not about “doing all the right things” — it is about being found in Him and living from that “foundness.”

If you are struggling with your identity, there are two steps I can encourage you to take. The first is to carefully consider what God says about you in the Scriptures. Through the use of spiritual disciplines, reflect and pray about the truths you discover in the Word. When you have a sense of what the truth is about you, you will be ready to take the second step: to consider those truths you have discovered in light of the unique life God has given you — the work, relationships, gifts, and passions that you have, and the experiences you have that have shaped you. Your identity will be found at the intersection of God’s truth and His work (past and present) in your life.

It is difficult to overstate the importance of knowing who you are and what you are for. Until we as Seventh Day Baptists have a clear sense of what we are for individually, we will struggle to discern what we are for as local churches, as associations, and as a General Conference. We will be unable to use what God has given us as He intends. To close, therefore, I will ask the question again: **What are you for?** 



Covenants, Creeds, and the Church



One of the hallmarks of Seventh Day Baptist life is our belief that the Bible is the only guide to our faith and practice. In this, we share something important with all Baptists, and more generally, with all Protestants. Along with Martin Luther, Seventh Day Baptists can affirm it is “only the Scriptures” which undergird our beliefs. All of our distinctive beliefs — salvation by grace through faith in Jesus Christ, believer’s baptism by immersion, regenerate church membership, and the Sabbath — come to us as a result of our shared convictions corporately as we study the Scriptures individually. We are Seventh Day Baptists because our reading of the Scriptures leads us to the same convictions and we join together in covenant relationships in local churches in response to that belief.

I recently took a trip to Zambia to teach SDB history to pastors and leaders in our Conference there. I was amazed as I heard from our pastors and leaders there how much their stories of conviction match the stories of Seventh Day Baptists throughout our history. While some groups can claim a founder or pre-eminent leader, there is no such figure for us — just a group of people throughout our history who came to the convictions we still hold today. The classic Seventh Day Baptist story is one of personal conviction, led by the Holy Spirit through study in the Scriptures, followed by connection to a community of the same convictions.

For that reason, our relationship with our Statement of Belief is very different than other groups. In some denominational traditions, it is agreement with doctrinal positions (or creeds) which triggers identification and membership with the group. Such groups are rightly called “creedal.” But SDBs do not work that way, not because we do not have strong beliefs and doctrinal convictions, but because those positions precede membership. Membership for us is more than just mental assent to a series of doctrinal statements: it is the covenant relationship with the local congregation of people who are convicted the same way. We often describe this relationship as “covenantal” rather than “creedal.”

But while agreement with our Statement of Belief is not what makes a person Seventh Day Baptist, it would be wrong to deduce from that fact that our shared beliefs are unimportant. I have sometimes heard the preamble to our Statement, which includes an affirmation of our belief in “freedom of conscience under the guidance of the Holy Spirit,” used as justification for allowance of beliefs which are not only inconsistent with historic Seventh Day Baptist beliefs, but Christian beliefs more generally. This certainly is not what is meant by our being “covenantal” or by proclaiming “freedom of conscience.”

Far from allowing any belief someone might espouse under the guise of permitting Christian freedom or maintaining relationship, our convictions about the importance of covenant relationships and the nature of our shared beliefs set an even higher bar: mutual accountability to one another and our shared beliefs while also allowing the freedom to explore the Scriptures on items beyond those beliefs which are shared. We live as Seventh Day Baptists in community because of shared belief. If either the community or the shared belief is degraded, our churches cannot function as they ought. The level of responsibility to one another in covenant requires us to be diligent about both relationship AND doctrine! The purpose of this diligence is really part of our covenant responsibilities to “grow in grace” and to “watch out for each other for good.”

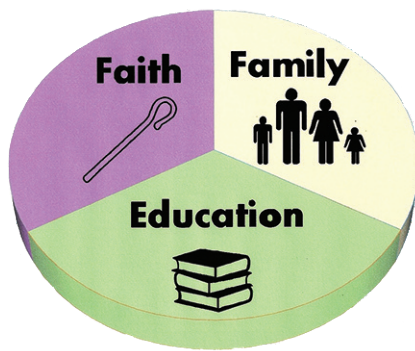
How are the relationships inside your church? Are they robust, loving, encouraging and challenging relationships which fully embody our convictions, or are they flimsy, permissive, toothless relationships which disengage whenever there is difficulty or disagreement? Consistency with our beliefs demands investment by us to explore our shared convictions with our brothers and sisters for the sake of the Gospel. Such investment can be costly, but can yield enormous fruit for the Kingdom. [SR](#)



Council on History

Rev. Nicholas J. Kersten
Director of Education and History

Equipped for the Battle in Zambia and at Home



Our 2016 General Conference President, Dr. Ken Chroniger, has set a theme of **Faith, Family, and Education**. As you may have noted, the Missionary Society has been receiving and helping respond to many in our **Family of Faith** asking for help with their need for **Education**. The two final teams of our T.I.M.E. for Zambia (leadership training sessions) are gearing up to go for their sessions. In July we have Dustin Mackintosh, pastor of Next Step in Colorado, and his brother, Jonathan Mackintosh, heading out to work with our Zambian brethren to build the Zambian leaders' preaching skills and their worship


leading, and to make sure they have a good foundation for their general pastoral theology. While there, they will encourage our SDB brothers and sisters. They will be available for opportunities to share the gospel with people in the communities and direct them to local Seventh Day Baptist congregations to help them learn to submit their lives to Christ.

“Every Christian is either a missionary or an imposter.”

Dusty and Jonathan will need your prayers as they step out into all the challenges that a ministry work like this can afford. While we pray for these guys and their responding to this call to leave the comfort of their everyday lives, we should consider reflecting on our own abilities and preparations to respond to God's call for us to take the gospel message to all the peoples. Charles Haddon Spurgeon is attributed with saying, “Every Christian is either a missionary or an imposter.” I believe Spurgeon was renowned as a power preacher, but not typically as a missionary in the sense that he went to foreign places. So what did Spurgeon mean? I think Spurgeon was trying to say that if we do not have a heart for reaching those that do not yet know Jesus as their Lord, we do not have the new heart and spirit as written about in Ezekiel 36:26 and 2 Corinthians 5:17.

You can only receive this new heart by **Faith**. But as part of your **Family** of God I can recommend some **Education** that will help you better understand how “missions” is the mission that God is on and the one to which He is calling us all to be a part. We do not have to necessarily stop doing what we are doing to answer, but we do need to continually refocus our mindset to match His and remember and respond to what this life is all about.

A great way to explore your role in missions ministry, be able to better articulate God's Great Commission, and refocus your mind, is to take the *Perspectives on the World Christian Movement* course. It is a bigger investment in time than Dusty and Jonathan will spend in Zambia, but you can get this training in your own neighborhood or online and it is spread out over weekly meetings for a semester. One of the great things about taking the *Perspectives* course right now is the Missionary Society is offering scholarships to cover the cost.

For more information go online and check out perspectives.org or contact our office at 401-596-4326 or perspectives@sdbmissions.org. 



Faith-Family-Education

I have developed a better appreciation and understanding for who we are and just what we have to offer.

Faith. Family. Education. These are the three areas that this year's conference president, Rev. Dr. Ken Chroniger, has asked us to meditate on through the year as our 2016 General Conference theme. In his introduction to the theme, Rev. Dr. Chroniger has affirmed these three ideas as important tenets of who Seventh Day Baptists are and what we stand for. They are the foundation of our denominational culture, each building upon the other helping create our denominational DNA.

Reflecting specifically on **Faith, Family, and Education** as they relate to us as a denomination has been comforting, as well as provoking, for me this past year. I can name dozens of instances in each of these categories where these have been demonstrated in my own life. Many times it is easy to take for granted and gloss over the blessings that have come from being an SDB. Having these tenets at the core of who we are as a people through this year-long reflection, I have developed a better appreciation and understanding for who we are and just what we have to offer.

Faith. Revelation 14:12 (January memory verse — you should know this!) speaks of faith and perseverance. SDBs have an extremely rich heritage concerning this. Faith has always been at the core of who we are. One example that has stuck in my mind recently is how our forbearers decided, in faith, to set up endowments to provide for the future of SDBs. They had faith that in another 100 years we would be around and they wanted to plan long-term. Planning in terms of 100 years — that takes a lot of faith. I can tell you there aren't many other denominations and church-based organizations that have that foundation. Now it is this generation's turn to live by the faith that has been demonstrated for us time and again. No matter how dark the days may seem, Christ is our light. Because of that, we should have faith enough to plan for the next 100 years.

Family. Every time someone new shows up at church or Conference they are asked at least a dozen times who their family is. If they aren't somehow related to a Davis, Burdick, etc. everyone excitedly exclaims, "New blood!" This may be

a bit of an exaggeration; however, the enthusiasm remains because we love our family and meeting a new member is exciting. We love watching our family grow and learn together, even when we disagree. Matthew 12:50 (May memory verse) speaks about our kingdom family and how our service bonds us through the blood of Christ. While some of us are literal family, we are branching out and making more kingdom family. That's what evangelism and church planting are ultimately about. The church provides a support system for Christians that is so desperately needed and no one supports you like family.

Education. Most people would respond positively if asked whether education is important. They would probably say it is one of the most important things you will do in your life. However, sometimes Christians are afraid of education because it causes questions. I remember one girl commenting after a course in theology that it had caused her to question her faith negatively. And that was a Christian theology course — not biology, philosophy or anything else typically associated with being anti-Christian. SDBs believe in the promise of Proverbs 22:6 (March memory verse) and so we place an emphasis on education with our Sabbath schools, scripture memory and Bible learning in general. Being a Christian is a commitment to lifelong education because life is full of questions and challenges. When faith is grounded in scripture, those questions and challenges won't cause corrosion but rather a deepening and returned commitment to studying God's word for yourself.

Faith-Family-Education. This year's conference theme has struck a chord with me and hopefully you as well. I look forward to further learning and growing in my faith with my family in Houghton, NY, this summer at General Conference, July 31- August 6. Hope to see you there! [SR](#)

Ladies, don't forget to bring your crafts to Conference as we will be having the craft table this year! Proceeds go to SCSC!

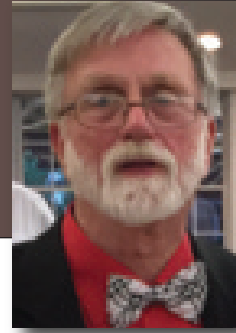


Women's Society

Katrina Goodrich
www.sdbwomen.org

Faith-Family-Education

by Rev. Dr. Kenneth Chroniger



Perhaps as far back as August 2015, you made sure that July 31 – August 6 was blocked off for the General Conference 2016 session on the campus of Houghton College, Houghton, NY. Allow me to sound Biblical for a moment — “the time is upon us!” So what may you do to prepare for this opportunity with God and His people?

You can **PRAY**. If you haven’t joined the 100 days of prayer on Facebook, developed by Pastor Steve James, there is still time. Our Conference session is a spiritual event, so pray!


As you plan travel to and from Conference, choose to **WORSHIP** on the Sabbath before with God’s people. Plan your travel to worship with your brothers and sisters at one of the Seventh Day Baptist churches along your way. There are 28 Seventh Day Baptist churches within one day’s drive of Houghton.

Please get plenty of **REST** before you come to Conference session. This is our family reunion where our “fictive kinship system” is on display. Some of us will meet family we never knew. By the end of the week, there will be new aunts and uncles, nieces and nephews, cousins, brothers and sisters. So rest up!

While it seems to be a Conference session truth that we all intend to attend everything during Conference session, one does not attend everything. Here are some suggestions as you make your plans for the week:

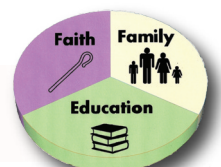
- Are you desiring a way to begin your morning with God? The prayer gathering in Wesley Chapel each morning may be your commitment.
- Are you really wanting to know what is happening with our boards, agencies and societies? Meeting times with our Executives on Monday and Tuesday may be your commitment.
- Are you a delegate representing your church? Your attendance at Business sessions may be your commitment.
- Are you an attendee at the Conference session who wants to help set the tone for the direction of the General Conference in the next year and beyond? Attending an Interest Committee session may be your commitment.
- Are you looking for a time of spiritual refreshing and renewal? Evening Praise and Evening Worship may be your commitment.

These are not the only opportunities to participate in during Conference session but these are some suggestions for how you might commit yourself to serving God.

So my brothers and sisters, I look forward to seeing and greeting you on the campus of Houghton College in Houghton, New York, on July 31 as we consider **FAITH-FAMILY-EDUCATION**. 

Rev. Dr. Kenneth Chroniger
Alfred Station SDB Church, NY

President’s Page



When life is changing it's good to
find something constant in your life to focus on.

GOD IS MY CONSTANT



There are two things in life that do not mix very well: change and anxiety. I first started noticing my anxiety around age 15. Since then it has been something that I have had to learn to function with. A big part of life is experiencing different changes, but for some they are harder to handle than others. Over time I have learned, in order to handle change, you need to find a constant. My constant has become God.

This year has consisted/will be consisting of some very big changes for me. The first change was my eighteenth birthday. Some people may say, "It's just a birthday — what's the big deal?" But it was, honestly, the biggest change in my life. I am no longer considered a kid — I am now an adult. People expect the best of me and to be a role model to those who are younger than I am. Way to make me feel anxious! To follow the sudden step into adulthood, I graduated two days later. Trust me, I felt the panic and anxiety all in one. Graduation and becoming an adult in the same week was definitely a life-changing moment and a trigger for anxiety. Now to add to those, I have the thought of being on my own and growing as a person. This summer I will be going on my first mission trip. This will be the first time I'll be away from home for over a month or will fly in an airplane. I will also be overloaded with meeting new people and introducing myself, which I have never found easy. Finally the biggest change is moving out. This September I will be moving out of my

house to go to college. It's been something I've always thought of and looked forward to — but the fact that it's so close has given me the biggest panic attacks ever. I will admit that at the beginning of these changes I didn't know how to handle it; my life was anxiety attacks 24/7. Some of you may be asking how I'm surviving — the answer is God.

There are moments when we forget that God is on our side. Through stress, anxiety, and the bad times, we just think this is such a terrible moment — why is this happening to me? We don't think about how God has a plan laid out for us. When life is changing it's good to find something constant in your life to focus on. It helps make everything else not seem so bad. When everything started overflowing, I didn't think about going to God right away because I was only focused on controlling my anxiety. Jeremiah 29:11(NIV) says *"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.'"* This verse reminds us of the plan set forth for us. I find myself reading it every morning to remind myself that God is my constant and He has a plan for me even when I don't like it. In the end, it is important to remember that we are never alone. Sometimes in life, through all the changes, we forget that we have Someone by our side. We feel alone or anxious. But always remember that there is a plan for everyone and because of that plan we will make it through what seems to be impossible. SR

Self Loathing, Mental Illness, and Alternative Folk Rock: Why Evangelism Needs Hopefulness

I've heard enough SCSC testimonies to know they follow a certain formula: person grows up Christian, then falls out of it in during the teen years, and eventually comes back, and now everything's hunky-dory. As a child born and raised in the church, I never thought that could happen to me. I thought I was above ever falling out of faith, ever doubting, ever rejecting my upbringing. I thought pretty highly of myself — that while it's true I'm a sinner, God would forgive me no matter what. As you might expect, these assumptions about myself turned out to be not terribly accurate.

Around fourth or fifth grade, an idea came to me that hadn't before. Even though I was a Christian, would it be possible to be so out of line that God wouldn't forgive me? The idea of not being "enough" to be loved, that the things in my life I found not important enough to be of any obstacle in my faith were actually separating me from God and jeopardizing my chances of going to Heaven. These things wracked me with guilt and self hatred just for the crime of being alive.

Every few weeks or so, I fall into a state of depression. I feel empty, hopeless, disconnected from the things I usually enjoy. At times it has gotten to the point where I worry that my emotions will get the better of me and I will end up seriously harming myself. I have taken measures to avoid this, such as seeing a therapist regularly, taking an ADD medication that regulates my dopamine levels, and surrounding myself with people that I feel comfortable being open with emotionally. Recently (again, at time of writing) when I fell into one such low point, I told my dad about it for sake of disclosure. He was understanding and asked me something that I had vaguely considered but never brought to fruition: "Have you prayed about it?"

Too often I have seen people showing the exact negative traits and stereotypes associated with Christianity that have led many, myself included, to dislike it. When people are dismissive and mocking of the idea that God loves everyone no matter what, it's not hard to see why so many people wave the church off as a hate group.

I invite everyone reading to give a listen to the album *The Life of the World to Come* by alternative folk rock band, The Mountain Goats (it's available on YouTube, don't worry). With each track named after a Bible verse, it's essentially a concept album about Christianity. While not a strictly Christian band, and while the music is not at all what we usually classify as Christian music, it's probably one of the most powerful pieces of evangelism I've ever seen. TMG frontman, John Darnielle, had incorporated Scripture into his passionate, empathetic, emotional lyrics before — but on this album, he brings religion to the foreground. It's about people's relationship to religion, specifically people with mental illness, with lyrics like "I won't get better / but someday I'll be free / for I am not this body / that imprisons me" (from the song Isaiah 45:23) or "Lord send me a mechanic / if I'm not beyond repair" (Psalms 40:2).

Evangelism does not need more explanations and damnations of every single thing we've done wrong. There is a time and a place for self-denouncement, and it shouldn't be the face of religion. Evangelism needs hope. The force that created the universe, carefully detailed every molecule in our beings and the far reaches of the stars, cares about us and our troubles. That's a very comforting thought. God didn't send us to spread His word to scare people; He sent us to show His love for all people.

Harsh truths come abundantly with faith, and of course, bad things will come no matter where you stand in faith. Religion, for many, acts as the solution, but for many more, it stands as the cause. I believe the former is what God wants for His children, and that means all people of the Earth. God created us because He loves us, not because He wants us to live in fear and despair. To quote Philippians 3:20-21 (the Mountain Goats song, that is), "The path to the palace of wisdom that the mystics walk / is lined with neuroleptics and electric shocks." Everyone deserves love, not just those who live their lives perfectly according to the church — everyone. ^{SR}

By Duane Davis
Seattle, WA, SDB Church

THE BEACON





Feelin' Groovy!

Many of our older folks feel that we are moving a break-neck speed! Some of the technology that we have proposed for publications can be daunting — especially when you don't understand all the terms and the process that's involved.

Then, there are the changes in our Executives. We even call the new ones, "Directors."

When we have had Executives leave us, who had worked a long time in the Conference, it can seem like nothing is the same. Executives chose to retire: Kevin Butler (25 years); Kirk Looper (20 years); and Gordon Lawton (10 years). Andrew Camenga (14 years) chose to go back into a church and minister to a local congregation.

Their replacements, Jeremiah Owen at the Tract & Communications Council and Clinton Brown at the Missionary Society, came in as rather "unknowns" to many people. The roles of Gordon and Andrew were not replaced directly with another person. All Education functions were coupled with History — Nick Kersten (11 years) took on this combined role. This means that the seminary students now report to Nick.

Then there was this certain Conference action of 2014: "Hire someone full-time for Church Development." Okay. Fine...But we already approved the 2015 budget, and um...we don't have the funds for another full-time position. However, the General Council came to our rescue! They took the new role of Church Development and combined that with Pastoral Services. This is where John Pethtel came in. John has a passion for both of these areas and has done an outstanding job of bringing SDBs up-to-date with what is happening in the church planting arena.

If you come to the sessions of our General Conference this summer, please engage with these young men. You will see quickly that they have a heart for serving God and serving Seventh Day Baptists.

It might seem like we skipped a generation of leaders. Maybe we did! Maybe God did. I am not the one to say. But I can tell you this: **we have the right people in the right positions! Directors who are driven to do God's work in this world. Kingdom work!**

Many of you know that I like music from the 60's, 70's, and the 80's. Many of you have tried, and a few stumped me, with music trivia. Many of you are wondering now, "What's this have to do with *Feelin' Groovy*?" I am glad you asked!

The correct name for this song was, "The 59th Street Bridge Song (*Feelin' Groovy*)." Paul Simon, of *Simon & Garfunkel*, wrote this song. However, a group by the name of *Harpers Bizarre*, are the ones who made it a hit in 1967 — reaching number 13 on the Billboard Charts. This turned out to be their only hit. "And what does all of this have to do with Seventh Day Baptists," you ask? Another fine and timely question!

Last month (June), I wrote about my travels and conversations I have had with many folks about what is going on in our Conference. One of the concerns is that we are **moving too fast**. Another is that people in our churches don't know our younger Directors. And last, but not least, it seems to some people that we skipped a generation of leadership.

In the song that I referenced above, the beginning of the song starts: "Slow down, you move too fast. You got to make the morning last."

Slow down, you move too fast.

There have been so many changes since 2012! New organization, new General Council, updated by-laws, executive changes, and now proposed publication changes — it seems to be a lot. Even in this day and age when we can communicate so much more and even quicker than ever, many feel they don't know what is going on. Sometimes this feeling comes from the fact that we do things in an operational way that's different from the past.

Leroy Bass



Pastor Leroy Bass was born on January 17, 1925, in Springfield, MA. He was raised in a Christian home and was baptized by immersion at the age of 18 in a Methodist church. He graduated from Northampton Vocational School in Northampton, MA, in 1943.

It was through Bible study during Leroy's service in the army that he discovered that Sabbath was on the seventh day of the week. This changed his whole practice of what it meant to pursue Christ-likeness.

Leroy married Marjorie Darrow on August 29, 1954. They have four children: Vivian (Allen); Clifford; Valerie (Gregg); and Marvin. They also have 18 grandchildren.

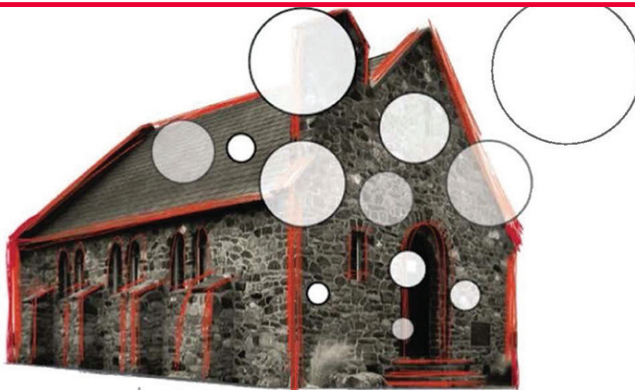
Pastor Bass received further education for the ministry by graduation with a Bachelor of Arts in Religion and Ministry from Atlantic Union College. He also took classes at Potomac University Theological Seminary and Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Pastor Leroy served SDB churches in Paint Rock, AL; Nortonville, KS; New Auburn, WI; and Madison, WI. He has also served as a missionary to Guyana, a chaplain, and as a director of the Bible Sabbath Association.

Pastor Leroy and Marjorie are retired at Washington Island, WI. [SR](#)



Retired Pastor Profile



multiply
CONFERENCE colorado springs
OCTOBER 20-22, 2016
revitalization - renewal - development - growth - planting

Contact information:

John Pethtel, Director of Church Development
(cell) 304-629-9823 or jpethtel@seventhdaybaptist.org

The 2016 MULTIPLY Church Development Conference

is open to anyone who desires to see renewal and revitalization in his church or desires to see new SDB churches in North America. We will be combining our own SDB learning cohort with the MULTIPLY Conference put on by Frontline Church Planting in Colorado Springs to learn from missional church leaders and each other during this weekend.

Registration Website:

tiny.cc/MULTIPLY2016

Registration deadline is September 19

Registration is free.

Lodging is available for \$75 for 3 nights on a first come, first served basis.

Your only additional cost is travel to and from Colorado Springs.

Retired Pastor Profile

David C. Pearson


Pastor David C. Pearson was born in Amsterdam, NY, on September 10, 1931. He was baptized when he was 12 years old and grew up going to the Schenectady mission of the Berlin SDB Church and to his uncle's first-day church. His family was very active in both churches, often attending seven or more services each week. However, it was not until his time in Paint Rock, AL, that he joined a church.

He graduated from Wilbur Lynch High School in Amsterdam in 1949. He attended Bob Jones University, graduating in 1953 with a Bachelor of Arts in Religion. Pastor Pearson would later go on to take classes at Gordon Divinity School and graduate with a Master of Arts in Religion from Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary in 1972.

After his graduation from Bob Jones University, he married Bettie Butler on September 20, 1953, in Paint Rock, AL. They had two daughters: Deborah (Hargett) and Joanna (Lovelace). They had ten grandchildren and one great-grandchild. David and Bettie served churches in Paint Rock, AL; Berea, WV; Middle Island, WV; Richburg, NY; Marlboro, NJ; Plainfield, NJ; Memphis, TN; and Hiram, GA.

Perhaps their greatest ministry was serving in Malawi for about 30 years as missionaries in four different stints. Pastor Pearson has written some stories documenting their time there and Bettie has written a book entitled *Hundredfold*.

Even in their retirement near their daughters in Georgia, David still continued to be active in service to both the Metro Atlanta SDB Church and as a chaplain in his local hospital.

After lives lived that touched other lives in profound and impactful ways, both Bettie and David have passed away recently. Bettie went Home on November 9, 2015 and Pastor Pearson on May 10, 2016. Their legacy will not be quickly forgotten. 



COSAR

Over the course of 2016, the Committee on Support and Retirement and the General Conference wish to highlight the eleven current retirees in our Old Pastors Retirement Plan, formerly called P.R.O.P. (Pastors Retirement Offering Project), to bring awareness to our continued need to meet the obligations set forth by the terms of these plans in honor to their service to SDBs.

If you wish to contribute to honoring the service of these individuals, you may make a donation by giving online with a mention towards COSAR at seventhdaybaptist.ministrygive.com or by mailing a check to: COSAR, PO Box 1678, Janesville, WI 53547.

THANK YOU for your generous support!

OBITUARY

PEARSON — Rev. David Pearson, age 84, of Aragon, GA, passed away Tuesday, May 10, 2016. Rev. Pearson was a native of Amsterdam, NY, but lived in many different places during his lifetime. He served with his wife, Bettie, in Seventh Day Baptist Churches across the United States and the world, including churches in West Virginia, New York, New Jersey, Alabama, Tennessee, Georgia, and approximately 28 years in Malawi, Africa.

David Pearson grew up in Amsterdam, NY, where he attended the Schenectady Seventh Day Baptist Church on Sabbath and the Fultonville Pilgrim Holiness Church on Sunday. Following high school, he attended Bob Jones University, graduating in 1953. He had met Bettie Butler previously at an SDB camp in Arkansas and they married in 1953. Shortly after that they moved to Berea, WV, for David to begin serving as pastor of the church. Both David and Bettie had expressed an interest in missions while in college but neither foresaw the whirlwind chain of events that led to their departure from Berea and acceptance of the call to Nyasaland (now Malawi) in 1954. Within a year of graduation from college he had married, accepted his first pastorate, was ordained, and accepted the call to the mission field in Africa. He was fond of telling that some said he was too young for such a responsibility. But Everett Harris of the SDB Missionary Society said, "Time will take care of that!" In the years following, he and Bettie served approximately 28 years as missionaries to Malawi while also serving other short-term pastorates between terms or during furloughs in the United States.

The Pearsons served two five-year terms, four four-year terms, and three shorter terms in Malawi. The last term was in 2001. His job responsibilities in Malawi varied over the years, but usually included supervising construction of churches, preaching, teaching, visiting churches, pastoral training, and at times playing his trombone, accompanied by Bettie on the accordion. In the US, between terms and during furloughs, he attended seminary and/or served as either full-time, part-time, or temporary pastor at churches in Berea, WV; Richburg, NY; Plainfield, NJ; Memphis, TN; Paint Rock, AL; and for many years as an elder at the Metro-Atlanta SDB Church. During their early years in Malawi two daughters, Debbie and

Joanna, were born and grew up on the mission field with their parents.

Following retirement from full-time ministry, David worked in various part-time and volunteer positions: working at the Cotton Council in Memphis, TN, while serving as pastor of the Seventh Day Baptist Church in Memphis; volunteering with CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) in Polk County, GA; and serving as a volunteer at Floyd Medical Center in Rome, GA, where he preached each Sunday for the last 13 years, continuing until two weeks before his death. In 2014, he and Bettie were chosen as Good Samaritan Volunteers of the Year at Floyd Medical Center for their many years of service to the hospital and its patients. It was noted that normally only one person was chosen, but this time they chose two because they worked together as a team.

He is survived by his children, Debbie Pearson Hargett (Jeff) and Joanna Pearson Lovelace (Luis); grandchildren, Rachel Hargett Fox (David), Nathan Lovelace (Kristen), David Lovelace (Erika), Daniel Lovelace, Joel Hargett (Tamatha), Michael Lovelace (Leana), Rebekah Hargett, Josiah Lovelace, AnnaRuth Lovelace, and Jonathan Lovelace; great-grandchild, Elyse Fox; brother, Harold Keith Pearson, Jr. (Pat); sister-in-law, Pat Pearson; and numerous nephews and nieces. He was preceded in death by his parents, Harold Keith Pearson and Iva Belle Lepper Pearson; brothers, Carl Pearson and Fred Pearson, and his beloved wife of sixty-two years, Bettie Butler Pearson.

Funeral services were held on Thursday, May 19, 2016, at 2 p.m. at the Paint Rock Seventh Day Baptist Church with the Rev. Harold Pearson and Rev. Luis Lovelace officiating at the ceremony. The burial took place afterward at Bethel Cemetery in New Hope, AL. A memorial service was also held at the Metro-Atlanta Seventh Day Baptist Church in Hiram, GA, on May 30, 2016.

Perhaps his servant attitude in service to God can be summed up in a statement he made in an interview about his volunteer service at the hospital, but also applies to his whole lifetime of service in Africa and elsewhere. He said, "We go there to help the people, but then it seems that we receive the greater blessing."



Seventh Day Baptist General Conference

July 31- August 6

at Houghton College, Houghton, NY

Registration Forms in *May Sabbath Recorder* on pages 13-16
or register online at seventhdaybaptist.org

NEW MEMBERS

FIRST SDB CHURCH OF GENESEE

Little Genesee, NY
Rev. Kevin Palmiter, Pastor

Joined by baptism

Tim Sisson
Caleigh Sisson
Madison Sisson
Connor Sisson

Joined by testimony

William Rockefeller
Bonnie Rockefeller
Barb Seeley
Jackie Stevens

Joined by transfer of membership

Rogers Baker
Wilma Baker
Barbara Welch

REMEMBRANCE SDB CHURCH

Fort Worth, TX
Dr. Bill Burks

Joined by baptism:

Phillip Hackenberg
Karina Hackenberg

MIAMI SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST CHURCH

Miami, FL
Rev. Andrew Samuels

Joined by testimony

Tiffany Hall

How to contact General Council:

Email address to all of the General Council members:

sdbgeneralcouncil@seventhdaybaptist.org

Regular mail can be sent to:

Susie Fox, General Council Chair
1722 Taylor Station Road, Blacklick, OH 43004.

OBITUARY

EDWARDS — Arlouene Marie (Van Horn) Edwards of Loveland, CO went to be with the Lord on Saturday, May 21, 2016.

Arlouene Marie Van Horn was born to Kenneth and Doris Van Horn on March 31, 1945, in Edgerton, WI. In 1952 her family moved to Dodge Center, MN, and later in 1959, they relocated to New Auburn, WI. She graduated from New Auburn High School in 1963. From early childhood she had an interest and talent in music and singing. She learned to play the piano, organ, oboe and cello. She attended the University of Wisconsin at River Falls for two years then transferred to the University of Central Arkansas in Conway, AR, graduating with a B.A. in music education in 1967. Her first job was teaching music at Jasper High School in Jasper, NY. Shortly thereafter she opened her own music studio teaching piano, organ and voice. In later years she moved into a career path which included real estate, mortgage lending, computer programming, and church administration.

On May 15, 1982, after a whirlwind courtship she married Jim Edwards in Lakewood, CO. They lived for 10 years in Denver raising their three children. In 1992, they moved to Eaton, CO, then in 2004, they moved to Loveland, CO, where they continued to live. Arlo was preceded in death by her father, Kenneth Van Horn. Arlo is survived by her loving husband, Jim Edwards; two daughters, Maria (Michael) Cox and Michelle (Michael) Edwards; one son Jake (Jill) Edwards; her mother, Doris Van Horn. She is also survived by 2 brothers, 2 sister-in-laws, 7 grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Arlo devoted her life to bringing the gospel to people of all ages and this was apparent in everything she did. Her love of the Lord and music continued throughout her life as evidenced by her unending participation in church activities. She directed community musicals, taught Sunday school, headed up Christian Education programs, directed summer camps, directed Awana programs, and often served as choir director, organist, and handbell choir director. She was especially proud of the Awana programs which she co-directed with her husband. Her hobbies included fishing, camping, gardening, quilting, sewing, knitting, and playing games. She pursued her work and hobbies with unbridled passion and enjoyed her life to the fullest.

A Celebration of a Life of Service was held at Galilee Baptist Church on Friday, May 27, 2016. A grave side interment will be held later this year in Alfred, New York.

In lieu of flowers the family requests memorial contributions be made to the Awana Program at Galilee Baptist Church 2525 Van Buren Ct, Loveland, CO.



In the first devotion titled “Heart Repair,” I wrote about handing my heart to God for some fine-tuning. Since then, I’ve heard of the song “*Tell Your Heart To Beat.*” It’s been recorded by Danny Gokey as well as Phillips, Craig & Dean, and perhaps others. I marvel at the story behind the song. It’s said a famed surgeon performed a delicate operation on a woman’s heart. At the end of the successful surgery, the woman’s heart had ceased to beat. Although she was still under general anesthesia, the famous surgeon bent over her and, close to her ear, said very gently, “Mrs. Johnson, tell your heart to start beating again.” Instantly, the repaired organ began a steady, normal pulsing. After a life filled with troubles and sorrows — or even when experiencing a one-time setback — we’re left wondering to whom we can turn for healing. Jesus, the Great Physician, waits patiently for us to surrender to Him and His miraculous healing powers. When we do, He tells us we’re whole again — and then He whispers, “Tell your heart to beat again.”

Mark 1:32-34: That evening after sunset the people brought to Jesus all the sick and demon-possessed. The whole town gathered at the door, and Jesus healed many who had various diseases.

— from Devotional Thoughts by
Donna Mae (Ochs) VanHorn



The 2016 4th annual Gospel Feet 5K run event is organized to help finish the race for equipping SDB leaders and evangelists with training in Zambia. We have already had four teams complete their legs of the relay with SDB trainers from the USA, Jamaica, and New Zealand. Now with only two teams remaining we can see the finish line ahead. Scheduled for Friday morning, August 5th at 5:30AM, the race is expected to have some exciting new features this year—so tighten up those laces and help us finish this project strong.



This year's event will be a
Color Run!