

Sabbath Recorder

**The grass withers
and the wildflowers fade,
but our God's Word
stands firm and forever.**

A Seventh Day Baptist Publication

May 2017



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ChurchNewsWanted

Unfortunately your editor does not travel the country from SDB church to SDB church to find out what is happening in all the SDB churches. If you want to share news from your church or to find out what is happening in other churches, someone must submit the stories. So send the news stories from your church as Word documents to the Editor:

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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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My Sabbath Candle

Many years ago, I had the privilege of attending a seminar on the meaning of Sabbath conducted by Robert Raines at the retreat center of Kirkridge in Eastern Pennsylvania. During the course of the weekend we were asked to spend several hours in silence, letting the power of God's presence and Holy Spirit come upon us in reflection and praise. One half hour we were asked to focus attention on one particular object and glean from our awareness of it something of a commentary of our own lives.

I chose a large candle sitting in the middle of the room that had been lit as the Sabbath (my Seventh Day Sabbath) had begun and continued to shine through the night and day. It was nearing sundown, and several images came to me as I observed the candle.

- Looking straight down upon it I noticed the reflection of the flame on the melted wax — but a particle of dust made the reflection break.

- The windows of the room were double-pane and caused a double reflection from the candle.

- I put my hand over the candle and felt its warmth — it stood on a stand that had the shapes of circles and a cross at its base.

- The room had not been finished, was in a strange shape, with batting covering the ceiling (batting covered with brown paper and aluminum).

- I closed my eyes after looking at the candle for some time and saw the red glow and observed the surroundings as negatives behind the candle.

- Someone walked in front of me and stood between me and the candle.

All these are shared because it helps to give understanding about the poem that I wrote which I would like to share as a statement of my faith.

— Herbert E. Saunders
Madison SDB Church, WI

A candle glowing brightly
In the intimacy of space
Images silently on the surface of molten wax
As a particle of waste distorts reflection.
May I — the image of Christ's own light
Eliminate my particles of waste
Avoiding the imperfection of His reflection.

A candle burning brightly
In the darkness of descending sun
Throws images two-fold on windows to the world.
And I stand transfixed
As if the images are mine.
For what does the world see?
A reflection of me — ego, selfish bound
Or the two-fold image of Christ in me.

A candle moving silently
Aglow throughout my Sabbath Day
Lends warmth to my hovering hand,
Atop a stand of cross and circle
Reminding me of God's own holy plan.
A light, warmth to a cold, cool world
Rejected by men whose darkness they preferred
Gives hope to my searching silent heart.

A candle caught glimmering
In a room of uneven shapes,
Sitting askew astride an octagon,
Points upward to unfinished work
Which both absorbs and returns its light.
To what unfinished tasks is God's light calling me?
The melody of His absorbing grace that lets me be myself,
And the call to share the grace of light!

A candle burning images on my waiting eyes
Still glows beyond the darkness of its profile.
My searching heart awaits return to light my life
And once again bring hope and joy and peace.
What intruders come upon my daily light of life?
What profiles of darkness blot out my hopes and dreams?
May I see always beyond the grim unknown
To witness His illumination as an ever present fire
Still there when even source departs.

A candle, lit for my Sabbath Day
Brings peace to my waiting soul.
Its flame the golden glow of hope
That makes today my own.
May each new Sabbath Day find me
Transfixed in all my ways, on God
The source of Sabbath rest and peace,
My Lord, my Joy, my Life, my Light.





A real estate agent approached a young lady and wanted to sell her a house. This was her reply: "A home? Why do I need a home? I was born in a hospital, educated in a college, courted in an automobile, and married in a church. I live out of the delicatessen and paper bags. I spend my mornings on the golf-course, my afternoons at the bridge table and my evenings at the movies. And when I die I am going to be buried at the undertaker's. All I need is a garage."

This statement may exaggerate modern living somewhat, but I am afraid that we will have to admit that it is only too true. There has been a breakdown in the family life in America. The child is commanded in the Holy Scriptures to "Honor thy father and thy mother." But it must be hard for a child to honor a parent he scarcely knows and who because of his example does not command respect.

"Now there stood by the cross of Jesus his mother." It must have been a great satisfaction to Jesus in these moments of suffering to see his mother standing close by. She had always given him the best of everything throughout life. Because she had kept her body clean and pure, he had been given a strong body. The halo which encircled his head was not a nauseating smoke but a God-like love. This love is revealed in his tender care.

When the baby was but a few days old "they took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord." And after this service of dedication they went to their own city of Nazareth "and the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom and the grace of God was upon him. (Luke 2:40)"

Yes, Jesus was brought up in a religious home by religious parents. I doubt very much if he ever came home to an empty house and a cold meal which showed the lack of a mother's care and a mother's time. We might try to slough it off by saying we live in a different age, but we cannot deny indifferent parents raise indifferent children and that delinquent parents raise delinquent children.

Jesus' spotless life and his interest in his "father's business" found its roots in parental love and teaching. When he had become a man he wanted to go on teaching things of God which had made his life so rich and happy. Mary was proud of her son and Jesus provided for the care of his mother. What an example of beautiful family life! SR

— Written by Rev. Charles Bond, 1945
Contributed by Donna S. Bond

Last month this series was about the Kingdom of God. It was about how that kingdom is drastically different than any other kingdom. It is a place of justice, peace and mercy. The Kingdom of Heaven is the utopia that so many nation states try and fail to create. For some this may seem like a unicorn – a magical beast that everyone wants, but does not exist. The truth is that the Kingdom of God does exist. It is a place greater than anything we know, but living there is not easy. To live in the Kingdom of Heaven requires giving up every selfish desire. It means that you must submit to the King of that Kingdom.

Free will is an interesting concept. If you go through the annals of philosophy you will find differing opinions on this. People like Jean Paul Sartre thought that humanity could do nothing but express free will. He thought that it is the meaning that we put into things that determines how we act. Since we are the ones that put meaning in things we are responsible. Take the statement: “Without money for food I will die. Therefore I have to work.” Sartre says that you don’t actually have to work. You could choose to die, but since you put more worth in living that is why you work. It is your free will that determines that you work, not any cosmological determinism. (For more on this see Sartre’s *Being and Nothingness*.)

Most philosophers, however, hold to some form of determinism. This is the idea that there are things outside your control. The ideas vary greatly, but in short they all agree that there are some things that we cannot control and therefore some of our actions are a result of outside forces.

Enough with the philosophy lesson, on to history! (Have I bored you yet?)

A History of Bad Choices

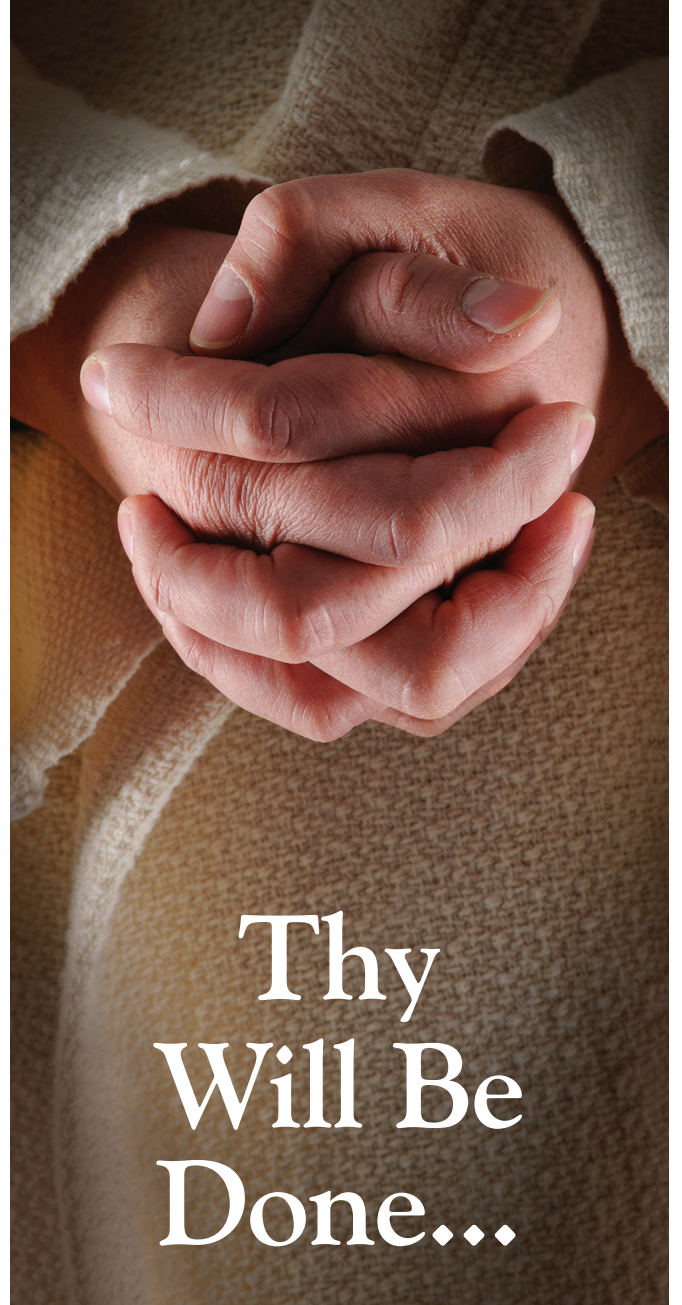
If we look at the stories in the Old Testament we will see a theme: people make wrong choices. This goes all the way back to Adam and Eve. They lived in a garden full of everything they could want. All they had to do was not eat from one specific tree. So what do they do? They eat from it. (*Seriously guys, you had one job.*) Joking aside, this is crucial to understanding how human nature relates to the Kingdom of God.

Adam and Eve are the perfect example of humanity’s greatest (perhaps only) sin. They did not trust God. They did not trust that God knew what He was doing. They didn’t know why they couldn’t eat from the tree. (*Honestly we still don’t really know.*) All they knew was that God told them not to. We can look back on this now and see what they did wrong, but we all do this. How many times do you question God’s plan for your life? Do you really trust that God will work things out? Or do you take things into your own hands? Do you say, “Listen, I know you are God, but I know how this should play out.”?

Adam and Eve were not the only ones. When God created Adam and Eve they were told that they should fill the earth. This goes for

Continued on next page...

THE LORD’S PRAYER



Thy
Will Be
Done...

*If you want to live
in the Kingdom of Heaven
you have to submit to
the King of the Kingdom.*

Continued from previous page

their descendants too. When the earth starts to get populated we find that all the people of the earth have populated one place. In fact they decide to build a tower for the express purpose of NOT filling the earth. Yet again humanity has decided that it knows better than God. And God has to intervene.

“When Jesus healed lepers, there was the Kingdom. When Jesus brought sight to a blind man, there was the Kingdom. When Jesus died on a tree for our sins, there was the Kingdom. And when Jesus rose from the dead — Hallelujah! — there was the Kingdom.”

This is just Genesis. There are countless places in the book of Exodus where the Israelites — the people chosen by God — think they know better than God. The best example of this is when they built the golden calf. Not only did they build an idol, but they called it YHWH! That is the name of God. They replaced the God that brought them out of Egypt. Why? Because they didn't like the way YHWH was doing things. They thought they knew better.

The book of Judges is full of bad choices. One phrase occurs over and over in the first several chapters: “The people did evil in the sight of God.” This later changes to: “Everyone did what was right in their own eyes.” The second is clarified by the fact that they had no king. But as we talked about last time, having an earthly king does not really solve this problem.

Now and Not Yet

I could go on, but I think you get the point. The story of human history is a story of people thinking they know what is right and failing at taking care of each other. We see this every night on the news. The world we live in is a mess. Just this morning I read that the US launched missiles into Syria because of a chemical weapons attack. We are not living in the Kingdom of God.

The Kingdom of Heaven is a place without death. It is a place where the hungry are fed. A place where the naked are clothed. In it the homeless have a home and the

orphan a family. The Kingdom of God is a glorious place. But it is not here. And it is here.

There is a phrase used by New Testament theologians: “The Now and the Not Yet.” Basically what this means is that Jesus has brought the Kingdom of God — but it is not fully realized. What this means is that we can see glimpses of this Kingdom right now, but that we will not see its full glory until Jesus comes again.

Lest you think this is made up, Jesus himself told us that the Kingdom of God is among us. What Jesus meant is that wherever He went, there the Kingdom was. After all, Jesus is the King of the Kingdom. When Jesus healed lepers, there was the Kingdom. When Jesus brought sight to a blind man, there was the Kingdom. When Jesus died on a tree for our sins, there was the Kingdom. When Jesus rose from the dead — Hallelujah! — there was the Kingdom.

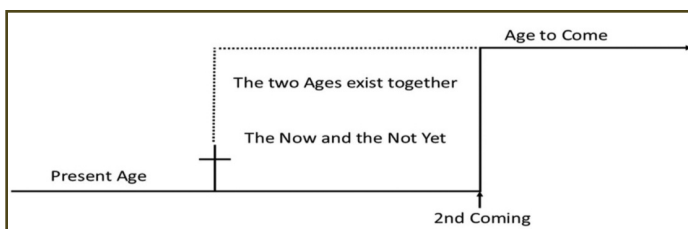
Jesus did one more thing. Right before he ascended to Heaven He told his disciples to do all that He had done. He told them that they should make disciples, just like He did. He told them that they should spread the gospel, just like He did. In essence He told them to spread the Kingdom. This is the job of the church. We are to spread the Kingdom. We are to continue what Jesus started until that day when He comes and completes it.

You Must Give Up Your Will

***This is the job of the church.
We are to spread the Kingdom.***

Now comes the convicting part. To live in this Kingdom you must — not should, not maybe, not it's a good idea — you must submit to the King. This is what Jesus meant when He said, “Thy will be done.” Jesus was showing us that the only way to live in the Kingdom of God is to live out the will of God. Jesus submitted to the will of the Father. We are to submit to the will of Jesus.

This sounds easy, but it really is not. The will of God is that ALL should come to him. This means everyone. This means that coworker who takes credit for everything you do. This means that guy at school whom you want to punch every time he opens his mouth. This means the drunks, the drug addicts, and homosexuals. This means your estranged uncle who always says the wrong things at Thanksgiving.



For all to come to God, we must be Jesus to people. This will mean that you can't do what you want to. And let's be honest – that isn't working is it? Every time you do what you think is right it falls apart, doesn't it? The state of our world shows this. If we have it all figured out, why is there so much conflict?

We all need Jesus. He is the King. He deserves our unswerving loyalty. When Jesus tells you to go minister in Alaska with the cold and the bears, and the horrible death, you go. No questions asked. When Jesus tells you that you need to stop working so much and spend more time with your family, you do it. You don't ask how you will pay bills. You trust that if the King has told you to do something He will take care of everything else.

Look, I'm not saying that you can't ask God questions. I think sometimes we shut people down too quickly. But what I am saying is that every time you get in an argument with God you will lose. I know. I have lost more arguments than I care to mention. God is big enough for your questions – but God is also big enough to take care of your worries. If you want to live in the Kingdom of Heaven you have to submit to the King of the Kingdom. ^[SR]

May you come to realize that you aren't as smart as you think you are. May you learn that God's way is the best way. May you start to share the Kingdom with others. May you submit to the King. And may the King give you peace.

Amen!

A series by Assistant Pastor Phil Lawton at the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Shiloh, NJ. Check out Phil's blog at contemplatingkenosis.blogspot.com



How can Old Testament history influence modern-day America? A chapter from the history of Shiloh, NJ, provides one example.

When the membership of the Seventh Day Baptist Church (founded in 1737) outgrew their meetinghouse, a larger brick church was built nearby in 1771. The old frame building, measuring 20 feet by 26 feet, was sold and arrangements were made to roll it to the northwest corner of the village, which was then known as Cohansey Corners.

At the appointed time — Friday afternoon — villagers gathered to watch the event unfold, not realizing that history was in the making. Given our belief in a sundown-to-sundown seventh-day Sabbath, it came as no surprise when a

SHILOH: EVOLUTION OF A NAME

bystander noticed the sun's position and commented that the Sabbath was rapidly approaching.

Rev. Jonathan B. Davis, Pastor, stopped the forbidden manual labor and exclaimed, "And the ark resteth at Shiloh," as it had in the days of young Samuel. Thus the old building rested, along with the parishioners, until the Sabbath was over. Cohansey Corners eventually became known as Shiloh.

This event — including a replica of the original building — was re-enacted by Cohansey Corners descendants and others at least twice. The first happened in 1976 as part of the nation's bicentennial celebration with Rev. Charles H. Bond, Pastor, proclaiming, "And the ark resteth at Shiloh." The second re-enactment was held in 1987 when the church celebrated its 250th anniversary; Rev. John H. Camenga, pastor, then echoed the pronouncement, "And the ark resteth at Shiloh." ^[SR]

Adapted by Donna Bond from History: Seventh Day Baptist Church, Shiloh, New Jersey, 1737-1937 as recorded by John H. Bonham (1937) and Timothy L. Bond (1987).

A New Beginning in Dunedin

For several years, I had been convinced that Bradenton Seventh Day Baptist Church needed to find its own home. However, we were comfortable meeting at a local Presbyterian church where we had a good relationship. The problem was that the relationship was too good. The building was beautiful, but we had no community outreach and no identity. We were little more than an event item listed on the Presbyterian Sunday morning bulletin. Some of us were praying about the situation. Our prayers were earnest prayers, but they weren't "active" prayers. They were spectator prayers. If you want your prayers to be answered, then you need to give God something to work with. You need to ask and you need to seek and knock (Matthew 7:7).

On October 12, one of our members, Perry Cain, a retired SDB pastor, was in the hospital for the 30th time in five years. He too had been praying; he prayed for healing and he prayed that God would use us in Bradenton as a presence in a community. Perry's condition varied from difficult to critical. He was basically confined to a wheelchair, unable to walk more than fifty feet without experiencing total exhaustion; he was never without an oxygen generator. This trip to the hospital was due to chest pains. His heart, although apparently healthy, was pumping extra hard because his lung capacity was far below normal.

During his uneasy, restless sleep the following day, he had a dream, a vision that laid out two different possibilities for his future. The voice speaking to him said, "Recommit to serving God and you will no longer need a wheelchair or an oxygen tank. Choose not to recommit to serving God and your life will soon be over."

When I saw him a couple of days later, I didn't know what to think, at first. There he was, beaming with joy, no wheelchair, no oxygen generator. He was excited as he told me all about his experiences over the previous few days. I was a little skeptical at first – but before long I realized that Perry had been supernaturally lifted out of his wheelchair and away from his oxygen tank. And he could sing again, with power. This healing was authentic and it got my attention!

I knew that it was also a message for Bradenton SDB Church. It was a message telling us that it was time to step out in faith. We gave notice to the

Presbyterian church terminating our rental agreement at the end of 2016. We put together a plan to worship in homes until we could find our own worship center in a community. So, we started looking for a fixer-upper. That's the way I think – low cost – do whatever it takes to get our own worship facility. We found some places that I could have spent the next five years working on. Thank you, Lord – those deals fell through and you had something much better in mind.

The Holy Spirit doesn't normally shout at us. The Holy Spirit speaks softly; we need to be listening. It was Friday, November 25, when Laura called me over to her computer to look at a church listed for sale in Dunedin. It had been listed for nine months. "Must be a dump," I told myself. But all the pictures looked good – too good to be true. That's when the Holy Spirit got my attention. I felt the Spirit's tug. So, we dropped whatever we were doing and made our way to Dunedin to see for ourselves. The pictures were true to life. For some reason this church was still available. We made an offer on Sunday, under the asking price, and soon we had a contract signed.

At the closing, only five weeks later, there were hugs and tears. This church building had been well cared for and joy was obvious on the faces of the dear saints who were "turning over" their beloved worship center to us. They were overjoyed that a Bible-based ministry would continue at 630 Union Street, Dunedin, FL, 34698.

Our new beginning, under the Lord's timing, included a new worship center and a new name. We are:

Union Station at Dunedin
a Seventh Day Baptist Church

Our first worship service at Union Station was on January 21, 2017. Our dedication service is scheduled for April 1. Oh, by the way, Pastor Perry Cain is no longer retired. He has a new title: Minister of Music and Outreach. And this story gets even better. Union Station SDB Church has no mortgage. God is so good! We own this wonderful worship facility free and clear. That's a story for another time. [SR](#)

Feeling blessed,
Pastor Michael Spearl



Honoring of Church Leaders

Our Sabbath School class has just finished listening to the video series "Honors Reward" by John Bevere. He has taught us what "Honor" is and the three aspects of a "Reward" when we do honor others. Those would be a "Full Reward," "Partial Reward" or "No Reward." He teaches about honoring civil leaders, social leaders, domestic leaders, church leaders, our peers, husbands/wives and children, and last but not most important: God.

The one I feel led to share more about is "Honoring of Church Leaders."

The foundational scripture for the study is Matthew 10:40-41: "He who receives (honors) you receives (honors) me, and he who receives (honors) me receives (honors) the one who sent me. (That is God). Anyone who receives (honors) a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and anyone who receives (honors) a righteous man because he is a righteous man will receive a righteous man's reward."

My question is: how does your church treat your pastor and church leaders? Do you honor them, respect them, pray for them daily, give them extra money from time to time, take them out to eat once in a while to show them you love them? Do you go over to their houses and help fix something that's broken or help them do yard work? Do you stand up when your pastor comes into the room or put a glass of water on the pulpit for him on Sabbath morning? Did you know God's word says we should be paying our pastors double?

I Timothy 5:17-18 says: "the elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching. For the scripture says, "Do not muzzle the ox while it is treading out the grain," and "The worker deserves his wages." Wow! Some may debate about the double honor referring to wages — but think about it.

I know a great number of our churches are having a hard time meeting budgets and your response to those words are probably, "Are you crazy, lady?!" But what about taking up a special love gift offering once in a while for your pastor and wife — just to "Honor" them? You know what — God will bless you and your church for doing that!

Remember how we treat our pastor and his family is how you are treating God, who called them into ministry in the first place. John 13:20 (Jesus said) "I tell you the truth, whoever accepts anyone I send, accepts me; and whoever accepts me, accepts the One who sent me."

This also applies to all our church leaders. How do you treat them? What's your attitude toward them or your motives behind what you do or say to them? Are you talking negatively about them to others? Are you manipulating a situation to get things done your way? I Timothy 5:19 says, Do not entertain an accusation against an elder unless it is brought by two or three witnesses. Hebrews 4:12 talks about the sword of the word judging the thoughts and intents of the heart.

John Bevere quotes in his book (page 120), "Remember, God says we come under a curse when we dishonor our father. Not only does this apply to our natural fathers, but spiritual fathers as well. I personally believe a lot of tragic mishaps could have been avoided if those involved would have developed true honor within their hearts and guarded themselves from offenses, especially in regard to their spiritual fathers and mothers."

We also dishonor our pastors and teachers when we don't show up to church on time, or mess with our phones, reading emails or Facebook, while he's preaching — not paying attention to his sermon. Not to mention how it dishonors God. This isn't meant to condemn anyone — it's meant to bring to our attention the importance of treating our pastor and church leaders and teachers with the respect and honor that God expects of us. It will result in a great reward for our church and us individually.

After this particular lesson on pastors, teachers, and leaders, I asked the question in class — Do we honor our pastor the way we should? The answer came back "No." In our discussion we realized that this could be the case in a great majority of our churches, thus resulting in small rewards.

Lets change that! Think about "Honor" and what that looks like to you and your church, and how that looks to God. Take a minute and ask God to forgive us for our lack of "Honoring" our pastors, leaders, teachers, and each other. Lets go out of our way to find ways to bless and honor them so we can receive a full reward. [SR](#)

I was compelled to write after our young adult class finished this study of "Honors Reward" by John Bevere. It's been awesome to see some of the changes people are making — like showing up for S.S. on time when they used to be chronically late; or giving over and above in a love offering to the pastor. It's been fun to observe the changes!

— Becky Van Horn
SDB Church, Pataskala, OH

Life on Mission:

Encounter • Equip • Empower

As the time is drawing near to General Conference 2017, I pray that your plans are being set to join us in California for an experience that will challenge you to think differently about what it really means to live a *Life On Mission* for Jesus. The plans are set and our hearts are being prepared for all that is to come and an opportunity to share what God is doing in our lives from now until we meet again. I have been impressed with the way God covers our every need and supplies strength in times of weakness.

This past month has been an interesting one with more transitions and challenges on the home front. Thank you to those who have been praying for my father who became very ill with this season's upper respiratory bugs including Influenza B. I'm thankful he has survived the trial and is now recovering from a fractured hip at our local extended care rehabilitation center. One thing I know for sure is that God has a plan in all things and the opportunities were there, just as they are for you, to share the message of Jesus' love through the journey we walk daily.

Last month I shared about Dustin Willis and Emily Klotz, who will join us in Azusa this summer. In addition to their contributions, two more exciting experiences are planned. Alan Briggs has become a friend to many in our church teams. He has been spreading the gospel in a very unique way as God has called him to ministry and outreach for local and international gospel purposes. He is a man of God, husband, father, pastor, coach, author, and creative influencer in the cause of Christ. The following snapshot tells a bit about his life and work. I'm thrilled that he is coming to share, listen, and give wisdom to those who lend an ear.

Alan Briggs is the Director of Frontline Church Planting, a network and equipping hub in Colorado. He is the Multiplying Pastor at Vanguard Church in Colorado Springs where he makes disciples and trains leaders to multiply. He is also the lead creative at Stay Forth Designs, a leadership development team that equips leaders for health and impact. His speaking and writing focus on equipping and unlocking the saints for effective ministry inside and outside the family of God. He has written two books: Staying is the New Going (2015) and Guardrails (2016), and his next book,



Fawn Immboden

LIFE ON MISSION

Touching lives for Jesus

President's Page

by Patti Wethington
SDB Church, White Cloud, MI

Everyone's a Genius, to release in 2017. He and his wife, Julie, have four kids, two adopted and two biological, and are enjoying the process of growing roots. Their family focuses on building bridges to the lost, largely in the context of their neighborhood. He is passionate about equipping leaders and churches to multiply through relational, experiential and formal learning. He loves climbing, camping, grilling and connecting with his neighbors.

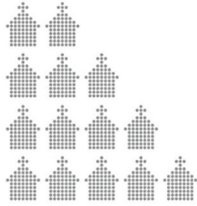
Finally, I included in our plans for this summer an opportunity to speak with some financial experts. They can offer encouragement to our pastors, leaders, and participants on how to make their financial plans improve and seek solutions for stability and future financial security. I met Fawn Immboden in what I consider a "divine appointment" with my cousin, who worked until retirement as a V.P. for finance with their agency. Their offices are in Glendora, CA, and when we met, Fawn shared a great vision of strength and support over our pastors and outreach workers. Interestingly, in her prayer she blessed me with calling God's power and strength through Ephesians 3:20 that God could "do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us" — not knowing my connection to this verse. God is AmaZnG!

ETERNAL POSSIBILITIES — As a credit union rooted in the Christian faith, we exist to serve God and our nationwide communities. Explore the ways we can help you transform your life — today and tomorrow.

WHO WE SERVE — We are made up of a strong network of Christians all over the country looking to serve the Lord through the healthy management of finances. Individuals, ministries, and businesses are welcome.



Six Steps Towards Multiplication



Here is a list of the top six steps towards Multiplication to counter the most common pitfalls:

1. Recognize that Multiplication is Part of Health.

The reality is that healthy living things multiply for the survival of their species. The lack of multiplication is an indicator of an unhealthy organism. If your denomination or network is healthy, it will have a strong emphasis on multiplication at every level.

2. Have Unity Around the Essentials.

Your denomination or network must have a well-defined plan for multiplication that includes (with explicit clarity) the theological, missiological, and ecclesiological expectations for churches within your ranks.

3. Define Cooperation Clearly.

Your denomination or network must clearly define cooperation. This step is closely related to the second. Cooperation occurs around a common set of beliefs — a common theological confession that leads to missiological cooperation.

4. Follow and Build the Right Leaders.

Church partnerships must follow good leaders and build leaders for the future. Don't let your leadership choices be accidental; cultivate the kind of leaders that will continue to develop your denominational identity and lead a multiplication movement.

5. Celebrate Multiplication.

We celebrate the things that are important to us — and people get that. So, healthy denominations celebrate multiplication. I have said it before, but it bears saying again: What you celebrate, you become.

6. Grieve the Fact that the World is Filled with Lost People.

Finally, grieve lostness. It is that simple. Hurt for those who have not been transferred from the domain of darkness into the kingdom of the Son God loves (Col 1:13)

**Used with permission from Dr. Ed Stetzer*

Continued from previous page

I am praying daily that your plans include a trip to California this summer to visit Azusa, CA, and spend a week together with our team to **Encounter** God in a personal way; **Equip** yourself with new insights of ministry and outreach to touch lives for Jesus; and know that you are **Empowered** through the life-sustaining gift of Jesus to share with all people so that they can “grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ and to know this love that surpasses knowledge.” Then together we “may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God” (Ephesians 3: 18-19). SR

Expected Conduct at General Conference

*This must be read, then noted
online or at the end of the paper form on p. 16*

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 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.

1. Local rules of the school and facility are binding on all who attend Conference unless changed by the Host Committee or the General Council.

2. 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.

3. 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).

4. A Disciplinary Council shall be established before Conference convenes.

5. 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 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, violators will be sent home at their own expense (or the sponsor's expense in the case of a youth).

6. 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.

7. 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.

**PLEASE SIGN this understanding on the online form
or on p. 16 of the paper form in this issue.**

2017 CONFERENCE

July 23 – 30

Registration Instructions

Azusa Pacific University

901 East Alostia Ave.

Azusa, CA 91702

(626) 969-3434

Registrars: Jan and Sarah Owen

(661) 383-1732

registrar@seventhdaybaptist.org

Forms to: Jan Owen

P.O. Box 784

Montrose, CA 91021

• **ONLINE REGISTRATION ends June 30!** Go to www.seventhdaybaptist.org to register online.

You may pay now sending a check or using your **Credit Card**. You may also use your credit card on campus. This will speedup your check-in process on arrival!

• **On-Campus Registration** Follow the signs to the **Campus Center**. Begins Sunday July 23, at 11 a.m. to late evening. *Be prepared to wait if you did not pre-register and pay ahead of time.*

• **Registration** Mon.-Thur. is 9 a.m. to noon, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. & after the evening service to 10 p.m. Fri. is 9 a.m. to noon, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. & after the evening service to 10 p.m. Sabbath Day is 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.

• **If you are coming just for Sabbath, July 29**, please pre-register. We will ask you to register on-site with a donation, so you will be covered by Conference insurance, and we can have an accurate count.

• **About the Form** ~ One family per form ~ One form per family. **(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 2017. First-time Conference attendees, please identify yourselves. There is **no charge** for children 0-3 years. Please indicate if you plan to use the **NURSERY**. **ALL NAMES must be listed** to ensure that everyone is covered by insurance.

• **Special Requests:** e.g., if need handicapped access; willing to be in "higher tolerance" dorm; want a Shire Mod.

(2a) & (2b) FULL WEEK RATES:

On Campus or Off Campus **(3a) & (3b)**

DAILY RATES: On Campus or Off Campus On-Campus packages **include**

the registration fee. For daily rates, please indicate days attending.

• **Registration for all:** Everyone attending (ages 4 & up), full- or part-time, is required to pay the registration fee. It covers facilities, materials, and insurance at Conference activities.

• **Housing:** All beds are single beds. **Two children** (ages 11 and under) **are allowed to sleep on the floor** at no charge if there is a paying adult family member for each child.

There is air-conditioning in all of the dorms.

• There are 10 Shire Mods that feature 2 bedrooms, bath, small kitchen and living room. They include only bedroom furniture (no pans or silverware).

• Dorms are set up "Jack and Jill" style sharing a bathroom. They have 2 beds per room.

• **KEYS:** There will be a **\$50** lost key charge.

• **Linens:** Include pillow, pillowcase, sheet set, towel, and washcloth. **Prices** for linens are the same for **per week** and **per day** options.

• There are elevators in the dorms and Conference buildings.

• **All unmarried people under the age of 18**, if not attending with a parent, must have a sponsor over 25 years of age in attendance at Conference. Sponsor must be listed on the Registration form; young people will be assigned to same dorm and close to the sponsor.

• **Meals:** Meal tickets for the entire week include supper Sunday, July 23, through breakfast Sunday, July 30. "Lunch & Supper" meal tickets include supper on Sunday, July 23, through supper Sabbath, July 29. **Children ages 3 & under are free.** Individual meals may be purchased in the meal line at the cafeteria. HOWEVER, you MUST be pre-registered in order to eat lunch in the cafeteria on Sabbath Day.

(4) & (5) Banquet Tickets Please register for Banquets so we know how many to plan for. Prices are discounted with meal tickets. ****Please see page 17** for more details about the Youth Banquet. **Indicate if you prefer vegetarian or gluten-free.**

(6) Youth Conference and Young Adult activities: Youth (finished 9th–12th grade) must sign up for youth events held Sunday thru Friday lunch. There is a fee per youth. ****See more info on page 17.**

(7) Off-campus Housing: Please indicate a phone number (cell or other) where you can be reached. **(8)**

Transportation: Attendees will be picked up only at the **Ontario (ONT) Airport** & the train station near the APU Campus. Please indicate arrival and departure times by pre-registering by **June 30**. There is a FEE of \$20.00 each way for pick-ups from the airport.

If you fly into LAX you will need to take the **FlyAway** bus (\$8) to Union Station (45 Minutes) and then take the train (**Gold Line**) to **APU / Citrus College Station** (48 Minutes). If you make arrangements, we will pick you up there.

• **NOTE: NO RV spaces** on campus.

• **Nursery Services:** Will be in the Classrooms **Multi-Media Building 1-4** (across from the Cornerstone Coffeeshouse). Hours will be posted. **Parents using the nursery are asked to help for half a day** some time during the week.

• **Internet Access:** Guest wi-fi is available throughout the campus.

• **NO SMOKING** or **ALCOHOL** allowed on campus.

• **ALL ATTENDEES** should read and sign the Expected Conduct Statement on p. 13. Those registering online will mark a box indicating that they have read it and agree to abide by it.

2017 SDB Conference Registration – Azusa (CA) Pacific University July 23 – 30 (Information for your name tag)

(1) NAME:	LAST	FIRST	Gender	Grade	Age	Need Nursery	1st	SDB CHURCH (or Organization representing)	CITY/STATE if different from below
Child's School Grade completed <input type="checkbox"/>								<input type="checkbox"/> Mark if your first Conference	
									<i>Need more room? Use another sheet</i>

Address _____ E-mail _____ Phone () _____

Spec. Requests (**Higher tolerance** dorm; _____ Name of Sponsor (All youth under 18) _____

Shire Mod; Handicapped access)

Fees: Adults (Age 12 and over); Children (Ages 4-11); **[Children, 3 and under, FREE—please list ALL names above]**

(2a) FULL WEEK RATES

ON CAMPUS *	How many?	Rate	Amount
•Adults (age 12 and up)			
Room (bed), All Meals	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$500	=
Room (bed), Lunch/Supper only	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$430	=
Room (bed), No Meals	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$290	=
•Children (age 4-11)			
Room (bed), All Meals	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$375	=
Room (bed), Lunch/Supper only	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$330	=
Room (bed), No Meals	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$255	=
<i>[For children on floor, must have one adult family member per child on floor]</i>			
Room (floor), All Meals	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$171	=
Room (floor), Lunch/Supper only	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$142	=
Room (floor), No Meals	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$59.50	=
•Linens:	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$8	=
•Children (3 and under)	<input type="checkbox"/>	FREE	=
TOTAL (2a)			

*(On-campus rates incl. registration)

(2b) FULL WEEK RATES

OFF CAMPUS	How many?	Rate	Amount
•Adults (age 12 and up)			
Registration, All Meals	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$310	=
Registration, Lunch/Supper only	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$250	=
Registration, No Meals	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$125	=
•Children (age 4-11)			
Registration, All Meals	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$180	=
Registration, Lunch/Supper only	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$145	=
Registration, No Meals	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$59.50	=
•Children (3 and under)	<input type="checkbox"/>	FREE	=
TOTAL (2b)			

(4) Women's _____ x \$15.00 w/meal ticket _____ x \$25.00 w/out ticket

Banquet _____ # of Vegetarian meals _____

(4) _____ # of Gluten-free meals _____ (4) _____

(5) Youth _____ x \$10.00 w/meal ticket _____ x \$20.00 w/out ticket

Banquet _____ # of Vegetarian meals _____

(5) _____ # of Gluten-free meals _____ (5) _____

(6) Youth Conference _____ How many? _____ Rate \$25 = (6) _____ Amount _____

All attendees **MUST** be registered or listed! Please read the “**Expected Conduct**” statement on page 13 and sign the statement at the bottom of the next page. **Register on-line at www.seventhdaybaptist.org**

**(3a) PER DAY RATE
ON CAMPUS**

•Adults (age 12 and up)
Room (bed), All Meals

Room (bed), Lunch/Supper only

Room (bed), No Meals

•Children (age 4-11)

Room (bed), All Meals

Room (bed), Lunch/Supper only

Room (bed), No Meals

Room (floor), All Meals

Room (floor), Lunch/Supper

only Room (floor), No Meals

•Children (3 and under)

•Linens:

*(On-campus rates incl. registration)

(7) If housing off-campus, Location: _____ Phone: _____

(8) Transportation assistance needed between Ontario Airport and the campus.

Arrive: Air # _____ Time: _____ AM / PM Depart: Air # _____ AM

Arrive by Train to APU / Citrus College stop. Train # _____ Time: _____ AM / PM Depart: Air # _____ AM

Pick-up needs One way _____ x \$20/person = _____

Round trip _____ x \$40/person = _____

**(3b) PER DAY RATE
OFF CAMPUS**

•Adults (age 12 and up)
Registration, All Meals

Registration, Lunch/Supper only

Registration, No Meals

•Children (age 4-11)

Registration, All Meals

Registration, Lunch/Supper only

Registration, No Meals

•Children (3 and under)

How many? # days Rate Amount

_____ x _____ x \$77 = _____
[Circle days: M T W Th F Sa]
_____ x _____ x \$66 = _____
[Circle days: M T W Th F Sa]
_____ x _____ x \$43 = _____

_____ x _____ x \$61 = _____
[Circle days: M T W Th F Sa]
_____ x _____ x \$55 = _____
[Circle days: M T W Th F Sa]
_____ x _____ x \$43 = _____
_____ x _____ x \$31 = _____
[Circle days: M T W Th F Sa]
_____ x _____ x \$25 = _____
[Circle days: M T W Th F Sa]
_____ x _____ x \$13 = _____
_____ x _____ FREE
_____ x _____ \$ 8 = _____
TOTAL (3a) = _____

How many? # days Rate Amount

_____ x _____ x \$47 = _____
[Circle days: M T W Th F Sa]
_____ x _____ x \$35 = _____
[Circle days: M T W Th F Sa]
_____ x _____ x \$17 = _____

_____ x _____ x \$28 = _____
[Circle days: M T W Th F Sa]
_____ x _____ x \$22 = _____
[Circle days: M T W Th F Sa]
_____ x _____ x \$ 9 = _____
_____ x _____ FREE
TOTAL (3b) = _____

TOTALS

Regis., Housing, Meals, etc = _____
Less amount prepaid = _____
Balance Due = _____

Checks to: "SDB Host Committee"
Send form to: Jan & Sarah Owen
P.O. Box 784
Montrose, CA 91021
(host.committee.registrar@gmail.com)
Jan Owen (661) 383-1732

Expected Conduct document on p. 13

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

Signed _____ Date: _____

Sponsor _____ Date: _____

Youth _____ 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: _____

Things You Need To Know About Conference 2017

Conference 2017 is but a few months away! Over the past few years, many people have said, "When are we going to have Conference in Southern California again?" Well here it is! However, there are some things that you need to know before you attend.

It has not been easy in finding a suitable location for Conference in Southern California. I looked at a number of locations: one university was too high in cost; another college did not have the dates that we needed; and another location was having too many other events going on simultaneously with our event.

At first Azusa Pacific University (APU) was not an option due to the dates. They were off my radar. But I emailed them a few months later and something had changed. I am not sure exactly what, but the dates we wanted were available. God works in great ways!

Now having said this, you need to know that things are more expensive here in California. Our taxes are higher, our gas is higher, minimum wage is higher — therefore, everything costs a little bit more. So, Conference will be more this year because of that. Sorry — but it cannot be helped if we are going to hold our event here.

Even with the costs being higher than most years, please understand that the people we (host committee and myself) worked with were very helpful in trying to keep costs down. I will not mention any names (Tim and Chad 😊), but our contacts tried their best to accommodate us and our needs.

But back to the costs, you have options to keep them down.

First of all let's start with the cost of a bed.

All adults who stay in a dorm room have to pay the full cost. But, each child under 11 years of age can sleep on the floor for free (with a paying adult in the same room).

You have a choice of hotels in the area. A family of four can stay in a room and have breakfast included in the cost.

Stardust Hotel

0.7 Mile away from APU — (626) 334-0251

Garden Inn and Suites

0.8 Mile away from APU — (626) 963-9361

www.gardeninnglendora.com

Super 8

1.6 Miles away from APU — (626) 969-8871

www.wyndhamhotels.com

America's Best Inn

2.6 Miles away from APU — (626) 969-4221

www.vantagehotels.com

Secondly, let's talk about what is near and dear to SDBs...FOOD! You have options!

Most people buy the Lunch/Dinner only. Only one third of those eating in the cafeteria buy breakfast. I say this because the breakfast cost is expensive compared to other years. If you want a big breakfast, if it is an important meal for you, then I suggest you purchase all three meals. However, if you eat a light breakfast, you might want to skip this meal at the cafeteria and go with the Lunch/Dinner plan.

There are options for BREAKFAST:

- Across the street from the campus (a very short walking distance) there is a **Starbucks**, **Chick-fil-A**, and **McDonald's**. Also less than a mile from the campus, there is a **Taco Bell**, **Marie Callender's**, and **Flappy Jack's Pancake House**.
- There is a **Stater Bros. Grocery Store** about 0.7 of a mile from the heart of the APU campus.

My hope is that you do not let the "sticker shock" of Conference keep you away. There are creative ways to still attend Conference on a lower budget.

If you have any questions about Conference, please contact me — but please keep in mind, I am not your travel agent. 😊

Pastors and Spouses Luncheon



The guest speaker for our Pastors and Spouses Luncheon at the 2017 General Conference sessions will be Alan Briggs.

Alan Briggs is the Director of Frontline Church Planting, a network and equipping hub in Colorado. He is the Multiplying Pastor at Vanguard Church in Colorado Springs where he makes disciples and trains leaders to multiply. He is also the lead creative at Stay Forth Designs: a leadership development team that equips leaders for health and impact. His speaking and writing focus on equipping and unlocking the saints for effective ministry inside and outside the family of God. He has written two books: *Staying is the New Going* (2015) and *Guardrails* (2016), and his next book, *Everyone's a Genius*, to release in 2017.

He and his wife, Julie, have four kids, two adopted and two biological, and are enjoying the process of growing roots. Their family focuses on building bridges to the lost, largely in the context of their neighborhood. He is passionate about equipping leaders and churches to multiply through relational, experiential, and formal learning. He loves climbing, camping, grilling, and connecting with his neighbors.

The luncheon will take place on Wednesday, July 26. Please plan on attending. [SR](#)



Church Development & Pastoral Services

by John J. Pethtel
Director

Sabbath School Teacher of the Year Nomination

Each year the SDB Christian Education Council solicits nominees for the Sabbath School Teacher of the Year

Any member church (or branch church) of the General Conference may nominate **ONE** Sabbath School teacher (Nursery through Adult).

Selection for this award shall be based on the following criteria:

The Sabbath School Teacher of the Year shall :

- exhibit the qualities of faith and teaching found in the life and teachings of Christ
- serve as a Sabbath School Teacher
- be a member of the nominating church
- have other Christian education service that shall contribute to a fuller appreciation of the nominee's Christian service

A church whose nominee has received the Crystal Apple Award is ineligible for the following three years.

The Christian Education Council selects a person from those nominated to be honored at General Conference. This person receives a certificate of award and a crystal apple.

The **deadline** for nominations for this award for the 2016-2017 Conference year is **May 31, 2017**. The nomination form can be downloaded at seventhdaybaptist.org/ChristianEducationCouncil/Sabbath-School-Teacher-of-the-Year-Nomination-Form. Upon completion of the nomination form, it should be sent to Peggy Chroniger either by email (chroniger@gmail.com) or by postal mail (5940 St Rt 21, Alfred Station, NY 14803).

Nominations sent by postal mail must be postmarked by May 31 to be accepted.



Christian Education Council

Rev. Nicholas J. Kersten
Director of Education and History

Family of Faith in Sierra Leone... No Matter What

Keep Mattia and our
brethren in Sierra Leone
in your prayers



Distributing Ebola prevention supplies



Francis Mattia of Sierra Leone



Breaking ground at the
Maranatha Conference

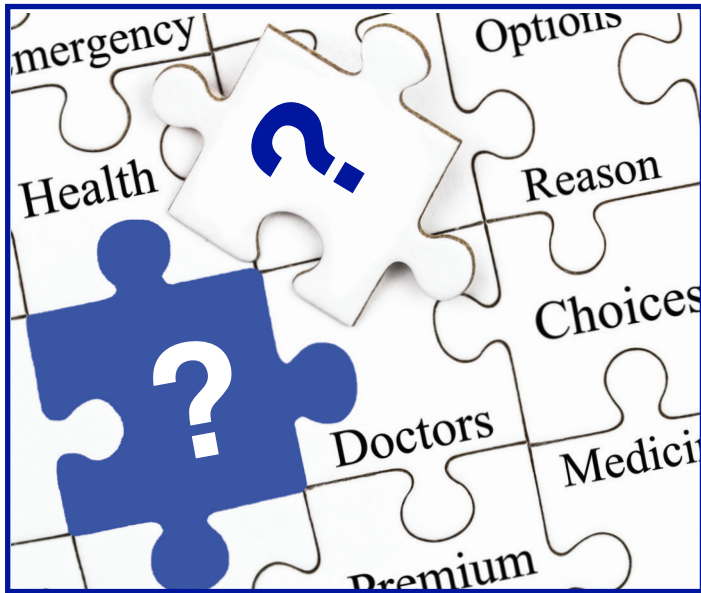
In April, I had the privilege of traveling with David Johnson to visit our Seventh Day Baptist brothers and sisters in Sierra Leone, Africa. They have had many struggles in their ministry work, particularly in recent years. I was originally scheduled to visit them two years ago, but an outbreak of Ebola in the region motivated the Missionary Society Board to postpone my visit. Seventh Day Baptists there were separated from their families by quarantine and sometimes death due to the disease. We helped by sending support received at the Society for necessary cleaning supplies to eliminate the virus in homes where there may have been contamination, thus preventing continued spread.

Leading their ministry is Francis Mattia, a pastor and their conference president. Mattia has faced steep challenges and even persecution in Sierra Leone for his convictions as a Seventh Day Baptist. His wife's father was a pastor in another Sabbath-keeping denomination. That group in Sierra Leone received much more financial assistance from overseas. Before she died in a car accident, Mattia's wife had gone back to stay with her family in protest of Francis' commitment to our family of faith.

This is not the first sacrifice Mattia has experienced. About seven years ago, Kirk Looper planned to go to western Africa to meet in Guinea with a developing group of believers. A conflict of schedule forced him to change his plans. Mattia agreed to go from neighboring Sierra Leone to represent SDBs and encourage the new group in Guinea. While there, civil unrest erupted and Mattia was injured as the conflicts raged through the streets of the capital, Conakry.

Mattia recovered, but about two years later, the Sierra Leone SDBs went into partnership with the local government to establish and maintain a school for children. An SDB church member and the nephew of Mattia was appointed treasurer of the project and responsible for the finances of the partnership. The nephew and a friend succumbed to temptation when several thousands of dollars were provided by the government for support and administration of the school. They took the funds and fled. Being both the elder in the family and leader of the church that had been entrusted with the funds, Mattia was brought to court and threatened with incarceration until the funds were returned. Mattia reported that the presiding judge was part of the other Sabbath-keeping group and quietly advised Mattia that something could be worked out to avoid jail time if Francis would just agree to come back to the other group. After brief consideration Mattia decided to go to prison until the funds could be raised to pay back the government rather than compromise what he believed was true. Francis had come to conviction that if he were to preach another doctrine or beliefs other than those of Seventh Day Baptists, he would be living in his own prison of lies, separated from his family of like-minded believers.

Within a few weeks the debt was repaid by the Sierra Leone SDB Conference with some assistance from donations received through the Missionary Society and Mattia was freed. Today, he still leads the churches in Sierra Leone as they recover from the grief and economic struggles following the Ebola outbreak. The churches have combined forces to build a Conference Training & Worship Center in Bo. They have recently transitioned six orphans into SDB homes and are looking at other ways that they can continue to bring the Water of Life to the thirsty in their, and neighboring, communities in Africa. I ask that you keep Mattia and our brethren in Sierra Leone in your prayers for God's glory. SR



Uncertainty...

The end is in sight. On May 13, I will graduate from college. That's not to say it's over. I have a national board licensure test to take, a few years of online school to go, and many more steps of continuing education beyond that. But this summer, I will be a Registered Nurse. I will be a bona fide professional at taking care of people. And I have no idea where I am going.

It seems to me like all my peers in my nursing program have a plan. They have jobs lined up, or at least interviews to go to. They chose a specialty way back in Nursing 2. They know where they are going. On the other hand, I am floundering in the unknown.

I dread changing floors for my clinical rotations. That's because each new nurse I meet asks the same question: "What kind of nursing are you interested in?" And they all raise their eyebrows and look away when I reply, "I don't know." It's true. I don't have much of a plan. It's not for lack of trying. You should see the spreadsheets I've created listing pros and cons. I have lists of places I definitely do not want to work. I also have lists of places that I could see myself working. All my lists and spreadsheets have not

yet given me an answer. But that's okay. I am learning to embrace uncertainty. I am learning to expect God to show up when there is no possible solution or answer that I can see. I expect I will be learning to do those things for the rest of my life.

I wanted to write about uncertainty because I know I am not the only young adult in that unpredictable place. In fact, there are probably many not-so-young adults in a state of endless waiting, too. So here's some encouragement about uncertainty: while we may be uncertain, God never is. As Job asserted in a time of his life that was nowhere near steady, "But He knows where I am going. And when he tests me, I will come out as pure as gold" (Job 23:10, NLT). Proverbs 16:9 is an incredible promise and encouragement to me: "The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps" (ESV). It doesn't matter if I don't have a plan. Even if I do lay out a plan for myself, it will inevitably fail. I am incapable of choosing what is good and right for me. But God is more than capable, and He promises that He has done just that.

So in this season of uncertainty, I will wait on the Lord. I can turn away from my spreadsheets and lists. After all, the Bible tells us not to lean on our own understanding, but rather to trust God to make a path for us (Proverbs 3:5-6). As I turn away from my lists, I can turn to the God who already has that path laid out before me. I will pray. I will wait for His response. I will expect God to show up in the insecurity. And while I wait, the Bible promises me, I will not be disappointed.

"But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint" (Isaiah 40:31, ESV). [SR](#)

ARE YOU IN THE LIFE-SAVING BUSINESS??



Friends and family are important to me, so I think that it is important to share my faith with them. I have had many moments when I shared my faith with my friends. One of those moments was with my friend Teagan. I thought that I should share my faith about God with her because she is very important to me. I would love for her to know more about Jesus and that she can only get to Heaven by asking Him into her heart and asking for forgiveness. So I have always had mini conversations with her about God.

One day we went to a concert where a Christian artist talked and sang. Carmen (who was the artist) called people to the front of the room if they felt comfortable and ready to ask Jesus into their hearts. So I explained to her what he was talking about in more detail so that she could understand better. She decided that she was ready and wanted to ask Jesus into her heart as her Lord and Savior. I brought her up front to say the prayer with other people who were praying. I was so proud of her that I almost cried. It was such a happy moment for her and me. I was also proud of myself because I helped her realize that Jesus died on the cross for our sins and loves us so much. Now she wants to go to church on some Sabbaths when she can.

Another moment in my life when I shared my faith was to a friend named Morgan. My friends and I were at lunch on one of the first days of school and we started talking about God. We were talking about how God sent His one and only Son Jesus to

die on the cross for our sins. We explained to her that the only way to get to Heaven was to ask Jesus into our hearts and ask for forgiveness. She didn't know that and wanted us to tell her more about it. She asked us a few questions like: "Are you able to get to Heaven by being a really good person and going to church?" We told her that you can't get to Heaven that way although it is great to go to church and be a really good person. We told her you have to actually pray and ask God into your heart as your Lord and Savior. So she decided that later that night she was going to go home and before she went to bed she was going to ask God into her heart! We were so proud of her I really wanted to cry. Now we are going to talk to her about more information about God and what it says in the Bible so she understands a little better!

Another shorter story about my friends and me sharing a religious conversation was not long ago when we were in school at art class, working and talking quietly. I am not quite sure how this subject came about but it was a conversation I will never forget — because a lot of kids don't usually talk about this subject at school. But I don't mind because I like sharing my faith and I am not afraid to do so! We talked about God. Then a few comments were made that I was not sure about because they didn't quite seem realistic to me. We didn't argue about it, we just all shared a little about what we thought and believed. I figured I would ask my parents about it or my pastor, maybe, just to see what they thought. I haven't asked about it yet, but I will soon. I do think it was a fun and great conversation because it was religious and not an everyday conversation that you would have at school. What I really liked about it was that we didn't argue and we all wanted to have a religious conversation the next day since we all had fun talking about it!

So now you all should have a good thought about why I think it is important to share your faith with your friends and family — before you won't be able to anymore! This is why I think you should share your faith with your friends and family who you care so much about! [SR](#)





Reflections of
a Life on Mission:

Warrior Princess Stephanie Sholtz

By Jenni Wangsness
Women's Society President

Stephanie — “Steph” — was not just my cousin or my VP for the Women's Society. She was my closest friend. Her friendship and life inspire me, and so I'm sharing her story so that it may also inspire you.

Steph grew up on her family farm in Oneida, NY. She had a cheerful, fun personality from the beginning. However, her childhood was not exactly “easy.” Her health was limited by asthma and allergies from a young age, and she was hospitalized in an air tent before she ever went to school. It was here that she earned the nickname “Tougher Nutter,” her inner *Warrior* already showing through. She was a fierce competitor. Legend has it that she was banned from partnering with her grandfather at Pinochle when she was five years old. They were ruthless as a pair and no one wanted to play against them. She made the decision to follow Christ at a young age, but that didn't mean life was suddenly rosy. Yet, she never lost her cheerful personality. She was very intelligent, so when life in her house was less than peaceful, she would often escape through books, school activities, or music.

SCSC was an experience that God used to help Steph begin to see herself, not only as a warrior, but as a Princess — chosen and loved by her Father. She served in SCSC as a student for three years and went on to be a Project Director, host, and Training Staff member. As she experienced the love of her

Father, she was able to see the people around her as our Father sees them. One of her unique gifts was teaching us to see ourselves the same way. I am blessed to have first-hand experience of this. This was the beginning of her mission.

Steph was a Conference “Regular” — someone you expect to see every year. She viewed giving her talents and time to our Conference as part of her mission. Not only did she show up, but she was often an official delegate from a church and took business sessions seriously. Reference and Counsel was her favorite interest committee and several times she participated in the Nominating Committee. She served on the Conference's Tract & Communication Council and wrote for the *Helping Hand*. Other activities included choir, Pre-Con staff, and leading seminars. She chose her friends carefully, but was friendly with most everyone. She often chose friends who might otherwise be left out — including me. Catching up with her close friends was part of her Conference agenda.

Her friendships were part of her mission field. As a friend, she was a trustworthy confidant who was not afraid to be vulnerable and honest with you. She used her spiritual gifts of wisdom and discernment in deep conversation. In the meantime, much fun was had playing cards, going on road trips, or cooking up something in the kitchen together before watching a movie. She saw her singleness as a gift from God. She had a great capacity for deep friendship because she was single. Now I see it as a gift from God to her friends.

Steph learned to hear God's voice and trusted Him implicitly to guide her steps, both geographically and professionally. After attending Nazareth College near home, she chose Eastern University for her graduate work on the career path to becoming a Licensed Mental Health Provider — utilizing those God-given spiritual gifts of wisdom and discernment to their full potential. She attended and participated in the Shiloh, NJ, SDB church. Soon after, she followed God's voice to Milton, WI. She worked at the Rape Crisis Center in Rockford, IL, and later Crossroads Counseling Center in Janesville, WI. Next, she followed Him to Huntsville, AL. She was only there a year but served the Paint Rock church in many capacities.

Her final earthly church home was in Dodge Center, MN. Her professional mission blossomed and she became a well-respected mental health resource in the community. She led drug and alcohol addiction recovery groups, participated in Drug Court, and provided mental health services for inmates at several area county jails. She was halfway through a PhD program at Liberty University and had begun a private practice. She used her expertise to train lay counselors at the Compassion Counseling Center, a ministry that provides free Christian-based counseling services in Rochester, MN.



NEW MEMBERS

SALEM SDB CHURCH

Salem, WV

Rev. Brent Hannah, Pastor

Joined by testimony:

Ruth Ables

Daniel Hardie (Associate)

Cherie Poth (Associate)

Joined by baptism:

Alyssa Caitlyn Barnes

Erin Curran

Logan Curran

Seth Michael Davis

Ziara Renee Davis

Leela Huffman

Sawyer Huffman

Alexander Martin

Emily Martin

Trinity Penfold

Alexis Richmond

Eliana Blaze Sias

Nora Raine Sias

During this time, she served on the Women's Society Board of Directors as Webmaster, Stained Glass committee member, member-at-large, and Vice President. Steph was willing to walk through whatever door God was opening for her and expand her mission there. In each church, she gave of the best of her time and talents: serving on praise team, teaching Sabbath School for teens and adults, Audio/Visual team, camp staff, Vice President, Deacon, and "regular." So "regular," that when she did not show up for church one Sabbath morning in January, we knew something was wrong.

Her Life on Mission was cut short that day. It is our job, as her fellow Warrior Princesses, to continue the pieces of her mission that God is calling us to. Steph began her PhD program because she felt God calling her to be a greater asset to our conference of churches, especially our pastors and their families. Training in counseling will help healthy pastors create healthy churches. The **Stephanie Sholtz Wellness Fund** has been created to carry her mission forward. It will be a collaboration between the Women's Society and Pastoral Services. Donations to the fund can be sent to the Women's Society in Janesville.

Most importantly, don't forget, YOU are also a Warrior Princess! Follow God's voice so that you, too, can live a Life on Mission, dearly loved and fighting for others, so that they may see themselves as God sees them. SR

SDB CHURCHES SEEKING A PASTOR

The Middle Island SDB Church of New Milton, WV is seeking a pastor.

Middle Island SDB Church is a small gathering of believers from various communities who come together on Sabbath in rural Doddridge County in West Virginia. Our current weekly attendance averages around 11. We have a desire to serve the Lord and to serve others as well. We are praying for a minister who has a similar desire.

Ideal Requirements:

- Biblically knowledgeable (formal training preferred)
- Previous pastoral ministry experience preferred, but not required
- Ability to be bi-vocational

If you feel a calling to serve God in this church, please send a resume including your ministry experience and educational background, along with a cover letter to:

**Middle Island SDB Church
5915 WV Rt 18 S
New Milton, WV 26411**



Covenant SDB Fellowship, a Seventh Day Baptist gathering, meeting in Hungry Horse, Montana, is seeking a pastor or entrepreneurial Bible leader to help catalyze this congregation.

Covenant SDB Fellowship is a small gathering of active Christ-centered Bible believers who are seeking to love the people of Hungry Horse and the Flathead Valley and share with them the love of Christ by training them to become Sabbath-honoring and gospel-sharing ambassadors of Christ.

Ideal requirements:

- Biblically knowledgeable (Bible College or Seminary preferred)
- Previous pastoral ministry experience preferred
- Previous experience in starting a church or ministry preferred
- Ability to be bi-vocational or raise support to pursue this ministry
- Spiritual giftings in evangelism and/or administration helpful
- Willingness to live in a rural area required
- Ability to work with others and equip them to serve to their potential

Please send a resume including your ministry experience and a cover letter explaining why you believe you are a fit for this position to:

**PO Box 190278
Hungry Horse, MT 59919**

Hungry Horse, MT, is located near the Flathead Valley, in the gateway to Glacier National Park. Big Sky country provides the beauty that reveals the wonders of God's creation and provides the opportunity to spend time with God.

Salem Church Ordains and Trains New Deacons

On a happy Sabbath last November 19, the Salem, WV, Seventh Day Baptist Church ordained four new deacons who had answered the church's call earlier in the fall. To begin the day, each participated in the morning worship leading up to the sermon by Rev. John Pethtel titled "Rooted and Built Up in Releasing Leaders to Serve" from Colossians 4:7-18. Now Director of Church Development and Pastoral Services for the Conference, John had grown up in the church as an "older brother" to some of the candidates.

Heart of the afternoon ordination service was the spiritual journey testimonies by each of the candidates: A. J. Curran, Andrea Huffman, Waine Nicholson, and Julie Richmond. Deacon Stephen Rogers conducted the service with Rev. Pethtel giving a charge to the candidates and Pastor Johnmark Camenga of the Lost Creek, WV, Church a giving charge to the church. Salem Pastor, Rev. Brent Hannah, led the consecration prayer and Deacons Paul Davis and Christine Sias, parents of two of the candidates, welcomed them to the diaconate.

After the new deacons had been on the job for four months (and attended four monthly deacons' meetings), the church sponsored a deacon training Sabbath which involved the whole congregation. It was Sabbath, March 25, when Director of Education and History, Rev. Nicholas Kersten, preached the morning sermon, "What is the Gospel?" Following a fellowship lunch, he challenged the whole congregation, "Working Out the Gospel in the Church," and in the evening, Nick led the diaconate through an interactive seminar on "How the Diaconate Fits in With The Broader Church" based on Acts 6:1-7 and I Timothy 3:8-12.



SDB churches have different selection patterns and roles for their deacons. Salem's is a traditional pattern of ordaining deacons for life. The selection process begins when the church decides a new deacon or deacons are needed. Members write suggested names on a secret ballot. During a special meeting with focused prayer, the deacons review the list of suggested names and decide which individuals to ask if they would accept a call; candidates have as long as they need to consider the request. When all have responded, the names are taken to the church which votes to call individual candidates to ordination. A service is then planned with invitation to sister churches of the Association.

Major official responsibilities of the Salem diaconate are to assist the pastor in maintaining the appointments and sustaining the work of the church, lead out in church visitation and ministry to the sick and needy, and arrange for and assist in the ordinances of baptism and communion.

—Janet Thorngate, a deacon in the Salem SDB Church

OBITUARIES

GREER – Marjorie Sue Greer, 76, of Bridgeport, WV, and formerly of Salem, passed away February 9, 2017, in Ft. Pierce, FL.

Marjorie was born May 10, 1940, in Gentry, AR, the eldest daughter of the late William B. Lewis and Marian P. (Green) Lewis. She attended Riverside Polytechnic High School in Riverside, CA, graduating in 1958. She then received her BA Degree from Salem College in 1966 and her MA Degree from West Virginia University.

Marjorie was a schoolteacher in Elementary and Gifted Education in Kanawa and Harrison Counties, WV. Her life was committed to serving others, whether in the classroom or through community service. She was a member of the Salem Seventh Day Baptist Church and held offices in many community organizations including United Hospital Center Auxiliary in Clarksburg. She loved flower gardening, reading, volunteer service and travel, but most of all her children and grandchildren. She will be remembered by some for her fun-loving

devil-may-care youthfulness, while all who knew her will remember her as an elegant lady.

She is survived by her husband of 56 years, Michael D. Greer, whom she married August 28, 1960 in Riverside, CA.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by three sons; Robert L. (Mary K) Greer of Bridgeport, WV; Michael D. (Sandy) Greer of Buckhannon, WV; and Stephen E. (Laura) Greer of Clemmons, NC; eight grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and her siblings: Ellis R. Lewis, Mancos, CO; Dorothy Jane Lewis (Thom Goodson), Half Moon Bay, CA; Ruth Ann (David) Whittington, Oceanside, CA; Stephen (Josie) Lewis, Rolling Hills, CA; and Stanley (Judith) Lewis, Corona, CA; a sister-in-law, a brother-in-law, and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents; she was preceded in death by her in-laws, Robert E. and Irene Greer; brothers-in-law; John B. Peil and James DeWind; sister-in-law, Joyce Phillips; daughter-in-law, Nancy Garrett Greer; and nephew, Derek Phillips.

A memorial service was conducted February 25 by Pastors Dale Thorngate and Brent Hannah.

OBITUARIES

GRAFFIUS – Lorna Austin Graffius died March 22, 2017, in Whitewater, WI, after 14 years of Alzheimer’s Disease.

Born to Arthur and Eva Payne on April 6, 1923, Lorna lived on the family farm in Claremont, MN. She learned to play piano and organ. After high school graduation, Lorna attended college in Milton, WI, and Winona, MN. She enlisted in the Army and trained in Physical Therapy at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN. Upon earning her PT License, Lt. Payne served in WWII England and Western Europe, where she met Lt. William Robert (Bob) Austin. They were married in 1946.

The Austins lived in Rochester, MN, until Bob’s Army reenlistment in 1951. As they raised their four daughters, they were stationed in many states (including Alaska) and countries (Okinawa and Germany). Lorna worked as a Physical Therapist when possible, her career spanning fifty years. She served at the local Post Chapel as a musician. Lorna hosted many luncheons as an officer’s wife. She often invited guests to her home for a meal or soldiers in for a holiday.

Lorna was a Girl Scout Executive in Rapid City, SD, in the mid-1960s. She taught leadership courses and covered administrative duties. She directed a large Girl Scout Camp in the Black Hills. Bob retired in 1968. The family moved home to Dodge Center, MN, where Lorna resumed her Mayo Clinic PT work for St. Mary’s Hospital. She spent the last decade of her full-time practice working for the Dodge County Children’s Day Activity Center.

As a lifelong member of the Dodge Center Seventh Day Baptist Church, Lorna served as accompanist and choir director. She worked at the SDB associational and denominational levels as a leader, committee chair and Council On Ministry board member. In the 1970s, the Austins traveled in their RV, often bringing Natural Evangelism Training to SDB churches. Lorna supported Bob in 1979 when he was President of the SDB General Conference Sessions. She was awarded the SDB Women’s Board Robe of Achievement in 1998.

1989 brought a move to Oviedo, FL. Lorna, aged 65, passed the National PT Licensing Exam in order to work part-time at So. Seminole Hospital and in Home Health Care for several years. Lorna bowled in the community women’s league and played for the local choir. She and Bob attended the Daytona Beach SDB church.

In 1993, after 47 years of marriage, Bob passed away. Through an SDB connection, Lorna met Rev. Charles Graffius. They wed in April of 1994. Spending the first ten years as residents of Florida, the couple served a variety of SDB churches, both as pastor and wife, and with Senior Saints. They enjoyed traveling the Western Hemisphere visiting friends and family, taking in sights, old and new.

In 2003, Chuck and Lorna moved to Fairhaven Senior Living in Whitewater, WI. Chuck, family and staff, supported Lorna as

she progressed through Memory Care, into the Nursing Home facility. While able, Lorna attended the Milton SDB Church with Chuck. They were blessed with 23 years of marriage.

Lorna loved Jesus Christ as Savior and Friend. She believed in knowing God through His Word, the Bible. She was a prayer warrior and a strong witness in the lives of many.

Lorna was preceded in death by her parents; three siblings; husband, Lt. Col. Wm R. (Bob) Austin; one son-in-law, Mike Sudbury; and one stepson, the Rev. Larry Graffius. She is survived by her husband, the Rev. Charles Graffius, her four daughters: Cheryl Driver (Rich) Anderson, Sharon (Jim) Groves, Shelley Sudbury, and Cheri (Rob) Appel; two step children: Judge Don (Linda) Graffius, Cindy (Jim) McKenzie, 8 grandchildren; 5 step-grandchildren; and 8 great grandchildren, all of whom stand as in Proverbs 31 to call her Blessed.

McCALL – Joanne B. McCall, age 49, of Edgewater, died March 3, 2017, at Halifax Health Medical Center, Daytona Beach, FL.

Joanne was born May 23, 1967, in Bucaramanga, Columbia, to Jack and Graciella Morales Butterbrodt. She came to this area in 1967 from her birthplace. Mrs. McCall graduated from New Smyrna Beach High School, Stetson University, and, with her masters degree, from Nova Southeastern University. Joanne began her career with the Volusia County School System as a teacher, working her way up to administration. A member of the Seventh Day Baptist Church-Edgewater, Joanne loved her church and was a Sabbath school teacher. She was an avid runner and was a wonderful caregiver to her late mother, Chela, and late sister, Patti. Joanne was very dearly loved and will be missed by so many.

Survivors include her husband of twenty years, Keith; two sons, Keith A. McCall II of Edgewater, and Alek Templin of South Daytona; and two nephews, Jareck and Joshua Butterbrodt of New Smyrna Beach. She is preceded in death by her parents, her sister, Patti, and her brother, J.R.

A memorial service was held on Saturday, March 11, 2017, at Bella Vista Baptist Church, with Pastor John Camenga, of the Seventh Day Baptist Church-Edgewater, officiating.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in Mrs. McCall’s name to the Seventh Day Baptist Church, Attn: Church Building Fund, PO Box 35, Oak Hill, FL 32759.

PLEASE SEND YOUR CHURCH NEWS TO:

Editor Pat Cruzan

sdsbr@seventhdaybaptist.org

OBITUARIES

SKAGGS – Rev. Victor Whitney Skaggs, born October 5, 1918, to the Rev. James L. and Hettie Whitney Skaggs in Plainfield, NJ, died on March 15, 2017, at Brookdale Senior Home in Longmont, CO, where he had resided for his last year.

Having been married to Ardale Coon on June 25, 1939, Victor returned to his studies earning his Bachelor's Degree from Salem College, Salem, WV, in the spring of 1940. By spring 1943, Victor had acquired his Bachelor of Divinity from Alfred University School of Theology, NY. From there he followed his father's footsteps in becoming a Seventh Day Baptist minister.

During his forty-some-year career as an SDB minister, Rev. Skaggs at various times and places served individual churches both in voluntary and salaried positions for the SDB denomination and its boards and agencies. Some of these positions were held concurrently. He pastored SDB churches which were located in the following communities: Piscataway, NJ (where he was ordained in 1944); Little Genesee, NY; Verona, NY; Albion, WI; Milton Junction, WI; Alfred Station, NY; North Loup, NE; and Plainfield, NJ. On the denominational level he also served as: Corresponding Secretary for the American Sabbath Tract Society, President of the SDB Board of Christian Education, Dean of the SDB Center for Ministerial Education, Trustee of the SDB Historical Society, and Trustee of the SDB General Conference.

The Rev. Victor W. Skaggs was honored to serve as the President of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference in

1960. Late in life, his work for the SDB Historical Society was recognized when he was the recipient of the Gold Headed Cane Award in 1991.

After retiring in 1983, Victor and Ardale moved from Plainfield, NJ, to Wampsville, NY, where they lived until January, 1990, when they finally settled in Longmont, CO. They became active in the SDB Church in Boulder, CO.

Obviously at 98, Victor was predeceased by his parents, and his wife Ardale. He also was the last of his own generation of Skaggses to pass away. His siblings were Allison Skaggs, Evalyn Camenga, J. Leland Skaggs, and Margaret Bond. One granddaughter, Stephanie Sholtz, also predeceased him.

Victor is survived by three daughters: Nina (Joe) Karhnak of Oneida, NY; Janice (Keith) Kenyon of St. Joseph, MI; and Lynne (Keith) Severance of Frederick, CO; one son: Patrick (Debbie) of Longmont, CO; six grandchildren: Leticia Wicks, Deborah Rod, Joseph Balog, Jeremy Balog, Amy Stephan and Erin Skaggs; ten great-grandchildren: Christopher Wicks, Nathan Wicks, Daniel Wicks, Katie Wicks, Jessica Rod, Cassandra Rod, Nicodemus Rod, Adalia Stephan, Hailey Fahrenbruch and Connor Fahrenbruch; as well as numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

A memorial service was held April 2, 2017, at the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Boulder, CO, with Rev. Steve Osborn officiating. Memorial contributions may be made to Suncrest Hospice or the SDB Church of Boulder. Cremation was entrusted to Ahlberg Funeral Chapel and Crematory.

SUTTON – Pastor Edward Sutton, 79, of New Enterprise, PA, passed away on March 9, 2017, at UPMC Altoona.

Ed was born November 23, 1937, in Berea, WV, to Guy and Bertha (Davis) Sutton. On May 13, 2001, Ed married Patricia Bennett at the Potter Creek Lutheran Church. Ed was serving the Bell Seventh Day Baptist Church in Salemville, PA, as pastor when he died.

He graduated from Salem College and received his Master of Divinity from Crozer Theological Seminary. He was ordained as a Seventh Day Baptist pastor in 1967 and accredited by the Conference the next year. Beyond his current service to the Bell Church, Pastor Ed's 50 years of pastoral ministry included serving as pastor, student pastor, or pastoral assistant for churches in Washington, DC; Marlboro, NJ; Shiloh, NJ; New Auburn, WI; Alfred Station, NY; Salem, WV; Lost Creek, WV; Berlin, NY; Little Genesee, NY; and Shepherd's Fold, TN. He also served the Seventh Day Baptist

General Conference as a director of the Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education.

In recent years, he was the chaplain and on the board of directors for the Southern Cove Fire Company; served on the board and as a member of Camp Joy in Berea, WV; was a member of the Southern Cove Ministerium; and was a member and past president of the Corvair Club.

Survivors include wife, Pat; daughter, Terri (Joseph) Field of Keyser, WV; stepchildren, Brian (Tina) Walter of New Enterprise and Barry (Kristie) Walter of New Enterprise; grandchildren, Mitch Sweeney, Samantha Hess, Brandon Walter, Whitley Gladwell, Hunter Walter, Kendra Free, and Olivia Walter; great-grandchildren, Kendra Hess, Bryson Free, and Jordan Free; brother, Eugene (Ruth) Sutton of Unionville, VA; daughter-in-law, Kim (TJ) Sutton-Richards; nephews and niece, Adrian, Paul, Darrell, and Linda.

He was preceded in death by son, Jeffrey Sutton; sisters, Mary Carneal and Kathy Sutton; and brother-in-law, Raymond Carneal.

The clock of life is wound but once,
and no man has the power,
To tell just where the hands will stop,
at late or early hour.

The present only is our own,
to seek to do God's Will.

Tomorrow holds no promise,
for the clock may then be still.



Coming This Summer:
July 23 - 29, 2017

**LIFE
ON MISSION**

Touching lives for Jesus



Seventh Day Baptist General Conference
Azusa Pacific University — Azusa, California

**Conference Registration Forms
& Information inside!!
Pages 13-16**

Coming next month!!

A Special June Sabbath Recorder
celebrating 50 years of the
Seventh Day Baptist World Federation