On Sabbath Day, March 16, our church will join with thousands of others in America in the observance of One Great Hour of Sharing, seeking in Jesus' name to complement that which we have begun so well in our Thanksgiving appeal for the Seventh Day Baptist United Relief Fund. Through those offerings we provided direct relief for disasters throughout the world. Now we have the opportunity to join with other Christians in doing some things we could in no way do alone.

1. ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING makes it possible for Church World Service to have people on hand in disaster areas to see that every cent of the money given through our United Relief Fund is translated into food, medicine, blankets, clothing, and other relief supplies. The Christians who do the administering need to eat, too. And our relief funds are not for that.

2. ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING helps in reconstruction and rehabilitation work in war-torn and disaster areas — helping people to help themselves. Our relief funds do not go into that area.

3. ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING aids in agricultural projects to increase crop production in underdeveloped countries. That is not a function of the United Relief Fund.

4. ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING helps the churches of many lands in interfaith projects. That is not covered under the Seventh Day Baptist United Relief Fund.

Your Christian Social Action Committee heartily endorses all these projects and for that reason commends to our churches support of ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING in March. "YOU ARE THERE BECAUSE YOU CARE."
DENOMINATIONAL DATELINE

March 3-7
Rev. Lawton and Rev. Wheeler
Rhodesia Seventh Day Baptists

March 4
Women's Board Meeting
Denver, Colorado

March 8-12
Rev. Lawton and Rev. Wheeler
South Africa

March 9
Vocations Sabbath

March 13-24
Rev. Lawton and Rev. Wheeler
Brazil Seventh Day Baptists

March 17
Missionary Society Annual Meeting
Westerly, R. I.

March 26-31
Rev. Lawton and Rev. Wheeler
Guyana Seventh Day Baptists

April 4-7
Mrs. Myrna Cox
Church Women United
Nazareth, Kentucky

April 30 - May 9
Ministers Retreat

On Sabbath Day, March 10, our church will join with thousands of others in America in the observance of One Great Hour of Sharing, seeking in Jesus' name to complement that which we have begun so well in our Thanksgiving appeal for the Seventh Day Baptist United Relief Fund. Through those offerings we provided direct relief for disasters throughout the world. Now we have the opportunity to join with other Christians in doing some things we could in no way do alone.

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"YOU ARE THERE BECAUSE YOU CARE."
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THE SABBATH RECORDER

April 1974
Volume 196, No. 4
Whole No. 4,963

WELCOME
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Milton Junction, Wis.

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ALLEGIENY ASSOCIATION

The Allegheny Association of Seventh Day Baptists will hold its annual meeting May 10-12, 1974, at the Alfred, N. Y., church. Services are as follows:
Friday evening 7:30—Program by Laymen.
Sabbath morning 11:00—President Ernest Bond.
Sabbath afternoon 1:30—Conference plans.
Sabbath evening 7:30—Musical program by the Houghton Academy choir.
Sunday morning 9:30—Worship service, followed by the business meeting.

Next Month
Theme: "The Christian Family," prepared by the Board of Christian Education.

It was with a spirit of joy that I read the January edition of the Sabbath Recorder. I do pray it will keep others like me informed as I am far from an S.D.B. church. Enclosed please find my check for a subscription.

—Franklin Ross
Bronx, N. Y.

I would like to subscribe to the Sabbath Recorder. The new look is quite impressive.

—Ivan Soper
Lincoln, Nebr.

Enclosed is my check for renewal of my subscription. I enjoy the new Recorder very much and like the idea of having more pictures; also news from the Churches and Recorder Reactions.

—Mrs. Oscar Hartman
Milton Junction, Wis.

The new Recorder exceeds my expectations! Keep up the good work . . .

—Elston Shaw
Milton, Wis.

Enclosed is my check for renewal of my subscription. The "new look" and future plans for the Recorder promise to make it very interesting and valuable as a denominational magazine.

—Walter A. Kenyon
St. Paul, Minn.

My compliments on the appearance, the readability, and the format of the new Recorder . . . we are really proud of it . . . Congratulations to all who have worked so hard to bring us such an attractive and interesting magazine.

—Mrs. Alta M. Leonard
Boulder, Colo.

March 1974
Thou shalt not be forgotten of me (Isaiah 44:21).

You are My servant. I have formed you to serve Me. You will never be forgotten by Me.

With precious memories, you can now look back over your life, and see that I have done great things for you.

I have redeemed you. I have supplied your needs. I have blessed you. I have preserved you. I have protected you. Now you are entering into the twilight of your life. Your working years are behind you. BUT, be assured of this: I have begun a good work in you — and I will complete it. It will be gloriously consummated when I return for you.

You will not be discarded by Me. Neither will you be neglected.

I care for you. I know your burdens. I know your concerns.

I also know the desires you have concerning your loved ones. Your family will be as a completed circle around My throne. They shall be Mine, in that day when I take up My jewels, and I will spare them as a father spares his own son.

In these latter years, you will be fruitful and productive.

I know no age level. My grace is for all ages.

I say to you, I have begun a good work in you. I will perform it until My coming. You will be gathered to Me as one of Mine. You will enter into My joys. You will receive your reward because you have faithfully followed Me.

... God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labor of love ... (Hebrews 6:10).

One of the newer members of the Board of Christian Education was subject of a Sunday newspaper article under the above title, Oct. 7, 1973. Miss Robinson is a member of the Richburg Seventh Day Baptist Church, and told us that "regardless of age, creed, or color a person is the happiest when he is serving mankind in some helpful work or hobby as long as he takes

God as a partner and listens to the voice of "The Holy Spirit." Then he can always find the right guidance. My work could easily fill a book. I have had very rewarding experiences."

The Sunday Spectator (published by the Wellsville Reporter and Hornell Evening Tribune co-operatively for an area including all of the Allegheny SD8 Association except Buffalo) published the article by Martha Jewell from which these excerpts come:

Susie Robinson has been "retired" from teaching for over a year, in one sense. But in a very real sense, she may never stop teaching reading. In her apartment on Sunnyside Street, she continues to help people learn to read or improve their reading skills. It is a consuming interest with her, something she would not give up as long as people need her help.

Miss Robinson began teaching in 1926 in a one-room school in West Almond. Usually she taught second grade in Friendship for many years in that position, she retired, but only her post-school teaching career ended. For many years before she retired, Miss Robinson had tutored children from several communities in and near Allegheny County. She brought to her individualized instruction a great deal of preparation and experience.

Miss Robinson’s interest in reading problems began early in her teaching career. “So many children had problems in reading, and this carried over into other subjects,” she said. Of the many children she has tutored, Miss Robinson said some had handicaps, some were retarded, some had perceptual problems, and other learning disabilities. But others were just “behind” because of illness or absence from school. These need help too, as soon as possible.

“Extra help should be available to children whenever they need it. Delay can cause more serious difficulties,” Miss Robinson said. There is no one best method for teaching reading, she has learned. She uses various combinations of known methods and adds some touches she has invented. “The longer I teach, the more I realize that you must treat each child as an individual,” Miss Robinson said. The advantages of individualized instruction are obvious, in that a program can be tailored to each child according to his combination of needs and abilities, as well as his interests. Small groups can provide interaction, though, and teamwork or mild competition.

One key to readiness to improve skills is “a good self-image.” Miss Robinson tries to make each student feel good about himself and develop confidence and feelings of self-worth.

Each success is praised. “Those who have had problems in reading have been put down, at least in their own minds. I try to put them up, and help them feel they can do well.” Another key to success is interest. The choice of materials makes a difference, of course. Boys seem to enjoy adventure and sports stories, or things of scientific nature. Girls might find stories about girls and women, or family life, more to their liking. But it is best not to generalize, for tastes are as different in children as in adults, Miss Robinson says.

Miss Robinson says that she has never said she is sure she can do something, but that she will try, with God’s help. “I have had answers beyond the realm of earthly training, to help.” She credits God with helping her gain the needed insights to break through barriers in the feelings of her students.

She finds her work especially satisfying, because “it can be a dreadful handicap to lack these abilities in our society.” The identities of such students are held in strict confidence. “It is never too late to learn,” she said, but “the earlier, the better!”

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Miss Sue-Sie Robinson
“Just can’t retire”

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The Sabbath Recorder

APRIL 1974
The Golden Years

Christian Retirement

By Ralph Bell

Out of the glories of the Christian life is that we can live with our personalities, talents, gifts and how the Lord leads us. This begins when we first say “Yes” to God, and continues down through the Golden Years.

At retirement we face special problems, different in kind and degree from those in our earlier years. These may include reduced income, less vigorous health and fewer job opportunities.

But our Christian maturity will be in our favor. If we have walked close to the Lord and learned from Him, we shall be in a position to embrace this maturity that will add stature to our lives.

When the Lord said, “Take any yoke upon you, and learn of me,” He was telling us how to get this maturity. Those of us who have entered the Golden Years know the wisdom of these words. We have long since found there is no such thing as instant wisdom, instant spirituality or instant maturity. We must acquire these priceless gems slowly and sometimes with great agony.

Paul was telling us in a inspired writing when he said, “I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content” (Philippians 4:11). Even he had to learn some things the hard way.

Our Christian maturity shows in our increased sensitivity to the leading of the Spirit of God and in our acceptance of what seem like adverse circumstances. And through the study of God’s Word we may have a better understanding of how the Lord leads His people.

The promises of God and the leading of the Spirit will not have changed just because we have added a few years. God’s promise, “All things work together for good to them that love God,” remains in force. And so does His promise, “I will not leave thee, nor forsake thee” (Hebrews 13:5). David too, had to look way back and say, “I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread” (Psalm 37:25).

The term “image of God” in the first chapter of Genesis tells us that our inner creativity is very complex. This means that the closer we walk with God the better we shall know Him—and the better we shall know ourselves.

We must learn to live within the parameters God has set for us. In other words, we must learn to live with ourselves. From our Lord’s command, “Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself,” it follows that we cannot love others when we hate ourselves.

Our Golden Years should long since have taught us this wisdom.

We know from God’s Word and from experience that we are not all endowed in the same manner. We see this illustrated in the difference between Paul and Barnabas. Paul was a fiery individual, firm in his convictions, and he had an unusual keen mind. On the other hand, Barnabas was an easygoing person who placed a high priority on getting along with people. Yet the Bible portrays a wide range of personality types. Hebrews 11 is a brief summation of how the Lord used different personalities to accomplish His purpose. We will never see gifts for our amusement, but He gives them to be used for His glory. And He never intended for any of us to sit and vegetate. To those with physical problems or illness Milton had these words of encouragement: “They also serve who only stand and wait.”

The Lord leads each of us individually. His advice to Peter (John 21:15-22) is most enlightening.

When Peter wanted to know what John should do in the future our Lord replied, “What is that to thee? Follow thee me.” Or in other words, “Don’t worry about John’s business, Peter. You follow Me. I will decide what I want John to do.”

The point made here should be clear to all of us.

But how can we best use the wisdom of our years? And how can we know God’s will? The answer is for each of us to follow the way the Lord leads. And this will be in patterns He has always used. Some of these are: the voice of the Spirit, the teaching of God’s Word, our sensitivities to spiritual situations, the nature of events and what we feel is the right response.

In addition, a great number of God’s callings are recorded in Scripture. We may study these to determine if any of them apply to us. It is most important for us to get the spiritual feel of God’s calling. And this must come to us from the maturity the Golden Years have brought us.

Our Golden Years can be rich and rewarding. A sense of humor helps, and a love for the Lord and people should be a high priority. We are better equipped than ever to serve our wonderful Lord, always remembering that every venture is one of faith. “We walk by faith, not by sight” (2 Corinthians 5:7).

Life is one of constant adjustments. Transitions from childhood to adolescence to marriage to parenthood and to retirement have brought problems. But His grace has always been sufficient.

The Lord’s calling is in the range of our personalities, gifts and how He leads will enrich our lives and add to our Christian maturity. Our Christian maturity is a priceless asset that will help us follow in the path of the millions who have made this successful journey to the new year.

This article was reprinted from The Alliance Weekly, used by permission.

The Summer Christian Service Corps has been a steadily growing asset to the denomination for several years now. The only limits it has are your visions.

There are so many ways in which to serve. If you wish to be a worker think of all the talents you have. Perhaps you can type, or paint, or would like to work with senior citizens, as well as youth groups, perhaps you are good at repairs, gardening, tutoring. Do consider all your talents if you are hesitant about applying.

If your church is considering calling a team this summer, use the full talents and potentials of your young people. Perhaps you need teachers for camps, or Vacation Bible School, or perhaps you have wanted to print an every member directory, but have needed more help to complete it. The SCSC Committee is asking for a complete outline of your program. If we send teams we wish to have them used to their full potential. You must have a project director and comprehensive program before you will be considered.

We appreciate all the efforts that go into making SCSC successful year after year.

The dedication of our youth is most heartening. Financial support from churches, women’s societies, and individuals gives us continual encouragement.

May God be with you as you plan for this exciting year.

—Gerry Van Dyke

SCSC Chairman

April, 1974
Filipinos Stress Unity and Love

Welcome to Leyte!

While the Republic of the Philippines includes some 7,000 islands, the present witness for Christ by Seventh Day Baptists is primarily on two of them—Leyte and Cebu.

Ambassadors for Christ Leon Lawton and Alton Wheeler acting in behalf of the Seventh Day Baptist World Federation joined in vowing to make maximum use of six precious days (January 23-29) laboring for the Lord with the brothers and sisters in the spiritual harvest there.

They were royally welcomed at the Tacloban airport by a party of ten persons including ordained leaders Olimpo Isoto and Eleazar Ferraren. Warmly stated greetings, sweetly scented leis, and a welcoming"—the warm smiles and hearty handshakes at the Rangoon Airport. The Rev. John Thetgyi, director of Christian Service for the Burma Christian Council was one and he provided transportation in his VW bus the fifteen miles into town.

Bro. L. Sawi Thanga, secretary, and President Lian Ngura of the Burma Christian Council introduced us to the eight other Conference leaders, including a representative of the women, who had journeyed to meet and have fellowship with the ambassadors. Time and travel restrictions did not allow a visit to the Chin Hills. Later we learned it took six to seven days by rail, bus, and foot.

Our Sabbath morning and afternoon, time included sharing a gospel message. Bible studies dedicated toward articulating doctrinal statements of belief and practice, and discussion of numerous questions as the leading of the Holy Spirit was sought. Two baptismal services were conducted following studies in each situation with the candidates, eighteen persons so testifying of the commitment of their lives to Christ—fifteen youth and three adults.

At Curidad, Brothers Isoto and Lawton joined in conducting services. Baptemism included a dozen including the laying on of hands, and the serving of the Lord's Supper. (Since grape juice was not available, coconut water was substituted.)

At Cebu City Sabbath morning and afternoon, time included sharing a gospel message. Bible studies dedicated toward articulating doctrinal statements of belief and practice, and discussion of numerous questions as the leading of the Holy Spirit was sought.

Two baptismal services were conducted following studies in each situation with the candidates, eighteen persons so testifying of the commitment of their lives to Christ—fifteen youth and three adults.

At Curidad nine were baptized on Sabbath afternoon in a nearby stream by Leon Lawton assisted by Olimpo Isoto.

At Cebu City the baptismal service was conducted by Alton Wheeler assisted by Eleazar Ferraren at a beach immediately following the arrival of Brothers Lawton and Isoto by boat Monday noon.

Passages frequently alluded to were Psalm 133:1—"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!" and Matt. 28:18-20—"Go ye therefore into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. . . ."

Return journeys were made to the Albuera and Cebu, respectively. There we felt the dynamic of love, fellowship, and zeal which broadened and deepened throughout their brief stay.

The island Jeepney served well to transport the party of twelve persons including food, baggage, extra cans of gasoline, and two spare tires. The six-hour trip to Cebu City included horn-tooting travel through hot and humid sunny rice paddies in lowlands and climbing a winding rocky mountain road where intermission showers proved drenching and refreshing! Paved highways were outnumbered in kilometers by rough, pitted, winding gravel roads, streams to ford, and numerous narrow one-way island bridges. The trek led to the home of Brother and Sister Olimpo Isoto and family in Albuera where the ambassadors were most cordially hosted.

Beginning with the first day of arrival, four nightly open-air evangelistic services were conducted—two in the Albuera town plaza and two on the Curidad high school grounds.

On the weekend including the Sabbath of January 26, Leon Lawton remained in the Albuera and Curidad communities on Leyte Island while Alton Wheeler left Friday night on a six-hour boat trip to Cebu arriving at early dawn on Sabbath morning. There he joined Brother Eleazar Ferraren and other dedicated persons including Brother and Sister Elieco Guilan and family as his genial hosts.

On the Sabbath some thirty persons, including several from Albuera, attended services in the Curidad edifice and approximately forty-five in Cebu City.

The Sabbath Recorder

Several choirs and smaller groups gave musical numbers. These included the Zomi Baptist Fellowship, the Methodist Church, Baptist Bible Seminary, and the Lushai speaking worship service.

On Sunday our ambassadors participated in the 1:00 p.m. service at Christ Church (Baptist) attended mainly by seminary and university students. That night the Burma Christian Council honored us at the Baptist Student Center for dinner.

Though much understanding and Christian love were the results of the open discussion periods, a highlight was the request for us to participate in an ordination council. Some years ago Rev. C. Khawawethang (now blind) was ordained by Dr. Charles (now deceased) of St. Gabriel's Church. He, in turn, has ordained Rev. Kekaguma and Rev. Nguru's wife. With the growth of the churches and the need for more trained leadership, Bro. Lian Ngura and L. Sawi Thanga were called to ordination.

The council convoked Monday afternoon and after prayerful consideration of the candidates voted that the ordination service follow. All four ordained ministers present took part in the laying on of hands and welcoming Rev. Lian Ngura and Rev. L. Sawi Thanga into the gospel ministry.

Our last night we gathered at the Central YMCA in Rangoon for a dinner given in our honor. Present were the SDB's from the Chin Hills, the newly ordained pastors and representatives from the Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian, Indian, and other congregations as well as leaders in the Burma Christian Council.

This was the first personal contact with SDB's outside Burma by these brethren. Fellowship by correspondence is most limited. God bless hearts and minds were opened, problems and questions freely discussed, and the unity of faith in the Holy Spirit's power experienced. We praise the Lord for these brethren in Christ and their desire to be obedient to God's Word as they understand it. Pray for them.

The call to ordination and possible full-time service as a trained pastor (he had Bible and some theology in his training) came suddenly as the brethren met in Rangoon. It was no doubt contemplated by many for some time, but shared openly only then.

One could see the inward struggle. Yet as he gave his statement of Christian experience and decision to serve, if ordained, you could not doubt his sense of the Lord's calling and his ready response.

Where and how will he serve? There is much to be worked out by our brethren in Burma. Bro. Ngura's wife will, it is expected by those who know her, support her husband in his new role. He also asks the support of Seventh Day Baptists in other lands. Will you do so in your prayers?

BurmeSE Leaders MEET

openness fellowship decision

Rev. Leon R. Lawton

Burma, a land of many tribal peoples, many languages, many more dialects, and many religions, is the land where in the last decade a Seventh Day Baptist witness has been established. This has grown to thirteen churches or groups that are located in the Chin Hills over 600 miles north and west of Rangoon. The largest and first (mother) church is at Tahan.

A large group of individuals greeted Ambassadors Alton L. Wheeler and Leon R. Lawton with broad smiles and hearty handshakes at the Rangoon Airport. The Rev. John Thetgyi, director of Christian Service for the Burma Christian Council was one and he provided transportation in his VW bus the fifteen miles into town.

Bro. L. Sawi Thanga, secretary, and President Lian Ngura of the Burma Christian Council introduced us to the eight other Conference leaders, including a representative of the women, who had journeyed to meet and have fellowship with the ambassadors. Time and travel restrictions did not allow a visit to the Chin Hills. Later we learned it took six to seven days by rail, bus, and foot.

The planned schedule was a busy one yet allowed time for rest, reflection, and seeing the many interesting sights in Rangoon. Our "base" was the Thamada Hotel and it was only a short ride to most places.

Our first day—Friday—was spent in fellowship and discussion with the brethren. A room in the Burma Bible Society building was made available for the larger afternoon meeting. Sabbath morning worship was held in the Thamada building, a small room on the fourth floor of a large building. There we felt the presence of the Lord. Both Bro. Ngura and Thanga were translators from English and Lushai.

At 5:30 p.m. Sabbath a special public worship service (of the Seventh Day Baptist Church) was held at St. Gabriel's (Congregational) Church. Over 200 attended while

Burmese S. D. B. Leaders

Miss Su Ki represented the S. D. B. Women of Burma.

April 1974

The Sabbath Recorder
BURMA SDB
CONFERENCE LEADERS
ordained on February 4, 1974

L. SAWI THANGA

"My aim is to be the most prolific writer and translator of Christian literature in the Lushai language in Burma." Thus spoke L. Sawi Thanga, secretary of the Burma Seventh Day Baptist Conference. Six titles are already published and listed by the local university and a larger topical concordance to the Bible is to be released in March.

The published books include, "You and Your Church," "God's Holy Day," and "Seventh Day Baptist Beliefs," translated from the English. "The Blessed Hope," a study of Christ's return, has been used by other churches for their classes. A small price is put on these books to recover publication costs, but hundreds are given freely to those who cannot afford them. In addition, mimeographed booklets of Sabbath School lessons are regularly written, edited and personally published.

Bro. Thanga was an employee of the largest library in Rangoon for some years but since about 1968 has given his time to the Seventh Day Baptist work. Tracts and small booklets have also been translated and published in Lushai, many with limited support by the American Sabbath Tract Society.

LIAN NGURA

The president of the Burma Seventh Day Baptist Conference is U (Mr.) Lian Ngura, a medical-surgical nurse in the hospital at Polo Myo, Monywa district. A young man in his thirties, with five children, this pleasant way and flashing smile speak of his depth of character.

Trained in a former SDA Sunday School (all schools are now nationalized in Burma) he speaks English with an accent grown from lack of opportunity to use it regularly. In understanding and translating to the brethren in Lushai, there seemed to be no hesitation, however.

Late one October afternoon, I stumbled into my academic advisor's office at Salem College. Doctor William Stroud, professor of philosophy, was seated securely back in his chair with his feet on his desk. He was conversing with several other students of philosophy, so I ambled over to a chair in the corner of the office and proceeded to make myself comfortable. As usual, I was hoping to glean from the discussion some profound, impressingly heavy philosophical statements to include in my Student Philosopher's Notebook of Nonessential Knowledge."To Be Mediated Upon While Dying of Thirst in the Sahara Desert."

It was a bad day for that. The discussion ranged from Dr. Stroud's goat, which was guarding Dr. Stroud's newly purchased farm, with his "one-two" head-butt-to-the-rear, to the possibility of buying Summer's Store in Salem, which inhabits the oldest building in the business district, to be maintained as a historical tourist attraction. In the midst of the conversation, Dr. Stroud looked over at me and said something to the effect of, "Do you know that the Richie County Seventh Day Baptist Church is going to buy a pastor soon? I think you're capable of taking it on as a student intern pastor. You've had enough experience to start doing some things like this. I'll be willing to recommend you."

It was then that I snapped out of my stupor and very intelligently uttered the question, "Huh?" After repeating himself and explaining further, I was finally able to grasp the situation. When our conversation came to a close, I floated out of the office dreaming of seeing a massive neon sign bearing the message, "Richie County Seventh Day Baptist Church Presents Pastor Roger Chenoweth." I could see it all — the church packed to the point of standing room only as I victoriously strode to the pulpit.

Of course, I knew that the average attendance at the church in Berea, West Virginia, was anywhere from four to fifteen. But I saw myself as God's chosen servant, the anointed one who was to save the church from desolation. I had to do was to live a spotless life, talk piously and buy a book of prayers for every situation. I knew that, upon doing all these things, I would fill the church. Wouldn't I deserve it?

I contacted Doctor Melvin Nida. He got in touch with the church clerk, Mrs. Myrna Cox, whom I also called later. Before confirmation was given, I was sure that I was going to Berea. Several weeks later, I received a communication from the church clerk informing me that the church had "called" me for one year of service.

Then it hit me. This was not a game. No longer was I playing preacher in the sandbox at my grandfather's house. I had been called to serve in a real church with real people. I had been given real responsibility.

In the short time that I have been at Berea, God has been instructing me in the art of humbly facing reality. My superficial pious phrases and canned prayers have echoed and died in this real position which demands a real understanding of God. I am seeking this understanding and Jesus has promised that I will find it.

In the weeks ahead, I'm looking forward with excitement to the opportunities for personal growth that I will be experiencing. But my most earnest hope is that I may, in some way, be of service to the most loving and patient people in God's creation, the saints of Berea! In God's grace have I put my trust.
The year 1974 marks the one hundred and thirty-ninth year of service to Seventh Day Baptists by the American Sabbath Tract Society. The society through the years has been dedicated to serving the denomination and to the dissemination of the word of God with special emphasis on the Sabbath truth. No doubt many of our readers would profit by learning more about the work of the society.

Much of this work is done by committees of dedicated laymen. These people give unselfishly of their time and talents to advance the cause of Christ and the witness of Seventh Day Baptists through the ministry of the printed page. A layman, Charles H. North, serves as president of the society and is now in his eighth year of service in this position.

The Advisory Committee
This committee is chaired by John L. Harris. It is comprised of ten members whose main function is to advise and assist the editor of the Sabbath Recorder. This committee led in the planning for the new monthly format and continues to seek ways to improve our denominational journal.

The Publications Committee
This committee is in charge of all publications of the society. It makes the studies which produce new tracts and books. The committee has adopted a goal of four new tracts per year as it seeks ways to extend our literature ministry. The committee recently voted that all tracts reprinted would have new and more colorful covers. Mrs. George Cruzan has designed new covers for three tracts to be released in April. The three are: "Word of God or Traditions of Men?" which has proved to be the most popular tract of 1973, "The Seventh Day of the Bible Is the Seventh Day of the Calendar," and the bookmark tract "What Do You Find?" This committee has recently sponsored the publication of a complete directory of churches in the U. S. which is free upon request. The Publications Committee welcomes suggestions. It is under the capable direction of Mrs. Anita North, chairperson.

Sabbath Promotion Committee
This committee, chaired by Ms. Sharon Ayars, is concerned with Sabbath promotion both within and without our denomination. It assists local churches and associations in promotion through fair booths and in other ways. It promotes Sabbath Rally Day in the churches and frequently sponsors advertisements in national magazines.

Audiovisual Services Committee
This committee has accomplished much in the past year. The S.D.B. sound studio has been completed and is currently serving the entire AV program of the denomination. A large supply of filmstrips, tapes, and recordings is maintained in the library for use by churches and individuals. Gordon Lawton is working for the committee under the direction of Chairman Phillip Van Horn.

Supervisory Committee
This committee, under the chairmanship of Albert N. Rogers, works with the Director of Publications to manage the publishing house. The committee works hard to face the ever increasing costs that face it each month. It is their desire to offer the best possible service to the denominational agencies at the lowest cost. The committee has spent much time over the past few months in studying the entire publishing house operation and in the purchase of new equipment to make possible new and improved methods of spreading the gospel through the printed page.

The financial support for the American Sabbath Tract Society comes from some investments and the Our World Mission budget. The society appreciates very much those churches and individuals who designate funds for the publishing work through Our World Mission. The work of the society is an ever-growing and challenging one. It is limited only by our lack of support and vision.

—John D. Bevis

"And when they were come to the place, which is called Calvary, there they crucified him."
—Luke 23:33
The happiest event that has occurred in all history is the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead. His resurrection meant that the power of the grave was forever broken. And our faith today rests on the truth of Christ's resurrection.

Indeed, the resurrection of Jesus Christ is the primary truth of the Christian faith. It lies at the very foundation of the gospel.

"And if Christ was not raised then neither our preaching nor your faith has any meaning at all."

—1 Cor. 15:14, 20 J. B. Phillips

This can be said of no other religious leader in the history of the world. As Seventy Seventh Baptist preachers we hold that the resurrection of Jesus Christ is a reality. We believe it to be an unshakable fact. There is a seventh evidence of Christ's bodily resurrection, all in the twentieth chapter of John's Gospel.

1. Circumstantial Evidence: The open tomb, and the orderly way in which it was left.

2. Documentary Evidence: Romans 1: 5, 6, quoting the Septuagint: "And the resurrection of Jesus was declared to the Jews in God's name: and the apostles confirmed it."


7. Conclusive Evidence: It was given by the "star witnesses" for the defense, (doubting Thomas). His motto was, "Seeing is believing." He did see, and he did believe. Hear his wonderful confession: "My Lord and my God!" Jn. 20:24-28.

How did this resurrection truth lie at the foundation of the gospel? Because through belief in it our faith is not in vain. Does it make any difference what you believe? Listen, without a belief in the resurrection of Christ, there can be no personal salvation! The Bible tells us this: "If you openly admit by your own mouth that Jesus Christ is the Lord, and if you believe in your own heart, that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."—Romans 10: 9 J. B. Phillips

Notice here all things that we must believe in the fact of His resurrection, or we can never be saved. On the third day from His death Jesus Christ was raised from the dead, walked out of the tomb, and appeared to the discouraged and amazed disciples. This is a historic fact. This is the greatest victory of all time, for it was a victory over death, a victory that no other human being had ever been able to conquer. But it was not only a victory for Jesus Christ himself, but because of His victory, there is also an evidentiary victory for every other human being who lives or who will live on this earth. The promise of God's Word is that everyone who confesses Christ, with a belief in Christ's resurrection, will likewise be raised from the dead nevermore to die again.

The hatred of the Jewish leaders for the Person of Jesus was so intense that they tried to disbelieve in His resurrection. They did everything they could to suppress this victory, and to suppress the story of this victory. You can read about this in Matthew 27: 62-66 and 28: 2-11. The witness of the resurrection, the soldier guard, who could have sold a tremendous message, were bribed by the chief priests into silence about it.

There were some in old Corinth who could not bring themselves to believe in life after death. They mocked at the idea of a resurrection. They couldn't see how, if a man disintegrated completely, in time there could be a resurrection. They couldn't ever be put together again.

"How is the resurrection achieved? With what sort of body do the dead arrive?"—1 Cor. 15:35 Phillips. The apostle Paul replies: "Now that is talking without using your minds! In your own experience you know that a seed does not germinate without itself 'dying.' When you sow a seed you do not sow the 'body' that will eventually be produced, but bare grain, of which, for example, or one of the other seeds. God gives the seed a 'body' according to his laws—a 'human body' to each kind of seed.

"There are illustrations here of raising the dead. The body is 'sown' in corruption; it is raised beyond the reach of corruption. It is 'sown' in dishonour; it is raised in splendour. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power. It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. As there is a natural body so will there be a spiritual body."—1 Cor. 15: 36-38, 42-44. J. B. Phillips.

Paul wanted to reassure the philosophical Corinthians that it would not be one bit harder for God to re-create us, with even greater bodies in the resurrection, than it was for Him to have made us in the first place. Both the first and the second creations are equally the result of the creative power of God. Our first bodies are mortal, subject to weakness, disease, aging and death. Our second bodies will be immortal; suffering neither aging nor death. We will have bodies that will never die — this is what eternal life means. Furthermore, our second bodies will be just as real as these our first bodies, with flesh and bones, eyes, ears, hands, feet and everything.

I do not at all believe the Bible gives us the idea of the saved being vague, ghost-spirits, fleeting about from pink cloud to cloudless. This idea is gained from comic-strip theology and should be quickly dismissed as an entirely false concept and one not worthy of our God and Christ. The one short phrase in Scripture about appearing "like the angels in the Lord" (Mt. 22:30) is far overplayed and taken out of context by popular and careless thinkers.

Let us take a deeper study of several pertinent Scriptures and put these down in the form of a comparative chart.

All the above passages clearly tell us that, with this mortal flesh, in this present life, we could not inherit the future kingdom of God. The above phrase in v. 50: "and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God" means just as much as the above verse in v. 20: "And flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God." We shall all be changed; but we shall all be changed.

For the trump shall sound—raised imperishable, and we shall be changed.

We shall all be just as real a person in the future kingdom of God, with just as real bodies as we are and have, now. We shall be gloriously changed in body, to be sure, but well, we shall be ourselves. We shall know each other, embrace our loved ones and friends, talk, laugh, walk, run, eat. We'll even keep every Sabbath perfectly; which we find hard to do here. We'll study and learn so much about many things, the scientific plan of salvation, the sciences and mathematics.

(Continued on page 22)
It is life.

For example, what kind of faith do you think John Hus had, to be able to approach the stake, to see the wood and straw prepared for his funeral pyre, and still refuse to recant? Knowing full well at that moment what his end would be, he could still kneel and pray the Thirty-first Psalm and the Fifty-first Psalm, and end them both by saying, “Lord Jesus Christ, this cruel and terrible punishment I will cheerfully and humbly bear for the sake of Thy Holy Gospel and of the preaching of Thy Blessed Word.” And then as the torch was applied, seeing the flames engulfing his body, he began to chant, “Christ, Thou Son of God, have mercy upon us.”

Do we understand this kind of faith? How many of us possess it? Perhaps only a few can boast we have the kind of faith as found in Hebrews 11:1-from memory the Bible definition of faith as we are of our own existence.”

It involves in it a real participation in the daily life of the child of God.

One of the results of Ulrich Zwingli’s reformation in Switzerland, the Baptist cry was, “It is not by words alone, but by your works.” Convicting faith has only one outlet, and that is in works.

For instance, what kind of faith did Zwingli possess? He was not able to come to any conclusion as to whether or not he had this kind of faith. And, if there is any doubt, there should be a deep soul-searching.

The Bible states, “So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by reading, either by spiritual powers or temporal powers, would our faith sustain us? Can we genuinely say that whether we live or whether we die, our conviction is such that nothing can separate us from God or the truths we hold? In other words, is ours an intellectual, or is it faith part and parcel of our lives?

Beck’s translation of this verse says, “Faith is being sure of the things we hope for, being convinced of the things we can’t see.”

Certainly the kind of faith which makes one willing to die, must of necessity be the kind of which one is both sure and convinced. The question is, to whether or not one has this kind of faith is a very personal one. Nevertheless, it is good to ask one’s self repeatedly whether or not he has this kind of faith. And, if there is any doubt, there should be a deep soul-searching.

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EVERONE

NEEDS A MEASURE

Challenge? Who needs them? We all do! Success? Who needs it? We all do! Each of us needs enough of it to build sufficient confidence to meet life head on and to have the excitement of living. Why "cop out" just because life isn’t what it should be? Change it! There’s tons of room for improvement.

If ever anyone was shy and bashful, I was. Then, during my high school junior year, one of my teachers discovered (for me) that I could sing. Through long and painful processes, involving “stage fright” and a fear of forgetting the words, I began to realize that perhaps I could sing as well as the average person. Years later, thanks to a fine teacher, I discovered that mine was a God-given talent and I had better use it for the benefit of others. If not for myself. It was this “measure of success” which gave me the confidence I so desperately needed. So I set out on life’s little enterprise.

Growing up through the years of the Great Depression of the thirties gave many of us an appreciation for the “value of a dollar.” Frugality, paying instead of charging-

through the years, they have provided an outlet and excellent therapy when it was needed.

Talent is given to be used and shared with others, but it must be developed. That development comes only through controlled hard work. As one of my colleagues said years ago, “Of all the great values, aside from spiritual ones, there is probably none greater than work itself.”

While there are some people today who question the value of labor of any kind, fortunately there are still those who do recognize its value.

Kindness toward others is so important and really it takes so little
to express it, if one gets in the habit of seizing the opportunity.

My fourth grade teacher was a specialist at sarcasm. That year I vowed that if ever I taught school I would not be sarcastic. I’m glad I had that teacher because by example she taught me the contrast between sarcasm and kindness.

An eminent scholar once said, “If you have difficulty with a particular subject, that is the very one you should take.” One of my most difficult courses was Ear Training and Sight Singing, yet that subject matter ultimately became the most valued tool of my twelve years of public school music teaching.

My major professor used to say to me, “Kenneth, you will not be able to sing that song until you have lived longer.” Living can be an effective teacher and one becomes almost transparent, revealing his soul, when he sings. My serious problems with stage fright were largely resolved when this same teacher confronted me with the realization that stage fright is really conceit. Immediately I was on the defensive. I’m not conceited! Unpossible! I’m scared to death! Wait a minute! Not so. You are too concerned about how you look—your clothes, your hair, your tie. Think about the message of your song and you won’t have time to worry about impressions you are making.

Give of your self. “If you aren’t physically exhausted at the close of a concert, you haven’t given enough.” Right again. Enunciation, articulation, purity of vowels sustained, and crisp consonants between the vowels are the key to this problem. Before this realization people couldn’t understand my words.

Twelve years of public school music teaching resulted in using and refining those tools which had little meaning until I was confronted with having to know and apply, if I was going to lead others.

In 1947 I was urged to consider “selling” a college choir as its manager, securing concerts in Wisconsin, Illinois, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, and Washington, D. C. I left public school teaching and became a “salesman.” During those years I learned that I had better have an answer to one primary question—Why would anyone want to hear your choir? Because you people like good music and this is what we have to offer! At the same time (to provide me with a full-time job) I was asked to seek support for the college from our alumni. So, “Two hats were worn; one is

OF SUCCESS

by Kenneth A. Balcock

Choir Manager and one as Alumni Secretary.

The next move was a natural one—trying to secure monies from corporations for the entire college. The next seventeen years were spent seeking financial support for my alma mater.

In 1970 another opportunity came, but it would be necessary to carve out a new life in a new community. Pella and I accepted the challenge. So here we are with the greatest “product” in the world to sell—educational opportunity for young people.

Backward glances stimulate a number of ideas and so I’ll mention a few of them just by using a sentence or two at a time. In dealing with people, take your ears along and be willing to listen much of the time. Be kindly, but if you have a conviction be persistent until you are told “No.” There is still no room for sarcasm, if you wish to win friends and influence people. Be patient, learning to wait. There is still room for one more, if it is a good one, and ours is a good one.

(Continued on page 17)
President of the National SDB Youth Fellowship, Larry Graffius, second year Salem College student, plans to take a leadership role in the international gathering of Baptist Youth at Portland, Oregon, July 31 - Aug. 4, 1974. He has been asked by the Youth Program Committee to plan on spending the summer visiting Associational camps, local Youth Fellowships and church groups, before moving into the Baptist World Alliance training program for the World Conference.

Besides Larry and Secretary David Clarke, SDB's have been asked to provide three other adult leaders for units of the conference. Clarke has been seeking available leaders to nominate to the Program Committee. Interested persons could contact the board office, though openings are filling fast.

The Baptist World Youth Conference is programmed for much direct personal encounter across denominational and national lines in the Portland meetings. "Communities" of college dorms, hotels, or neighborhood housing will group the youth for close residential association. "Core groups" will subdivide the youth into discussion or action groups, while "Clusters" will bring core groups together for special projects. The program is put into orbit in "Satellites" on such concerns as evangelism, prayer, world-community-building, the arts, etc.

The theme, "Christ, Our Challenge To Live," moves through these group experiences as well as total conference meetings to be held in the Portland Coliseum each night.

Details on costs for the conference are being published in Baptist materials but you're invited to write the Board of Christian Education if you desire direct SDB contact.

The SDB Women's Board has been asked to relate the Summer Christian Service Corps program to the BWA Conference, and they have planned for the Colorado SDB's to program for this, if possible.

All the above concerns were part of the "Rap" between the National SDBYF officers and the Board's Committee on Youth Program, held at Salemville, Pa., Nov. 18, 1973.

At that Rap Retreat, the new policy on Beacon distribution was established in detail. This group-planning meeting process was described in the December 5, 1973 Sabbath Recorder. The National officers and M. Clarke, W. Va., SDBYF will edit the next three quarterly issues of the SDB youth magazine. Local churches and their YFs are more responsible than in the past for the successful distribution to all interested members and friends, and also for support of the Beacon and National Youth Fellowship. Previously, membership by personal payment supported Beacon production which always cost more than YF dues provided. The Board budgeted such costs and will continue to underwrite the Beacon's production and distribution. As most of you know, National membership has been broadened to include all local YF members, so that support comes from groups rather than from individuals.

The January '74 issue of the Beacon has been distributed by our circulation manager, Paul Osborn, pastor of the Nortonville church.

Send back the reply postal he sent before having to edit the new board office, then held an Executive Committee meeting at 12:30 as they are box watches at the Alfreth Parish House, and bit into several messy questions for SDB Christian education. At 2 p.m. the rest of the directors gathered for the Quarterly Meeting of the board.

Twenty-one persons joined their spirits for almost two hours of corporate response to their commission to lead in quality Christian education for S. D. B.'s.

President Mary Clare conducted the session which opened with prayer. The treasurer reported for the year 1973 total receipts and balances of $36,004.91. Payments of $29,015.29 left a balance of $7,270.31 in the General Fund against continuing major costs of publishing the Helping Hand, Sabbath Bulletin, Beacon, and programming among churches. Balances in other funds anticipate costs for Pre-Con Retreats, youth field program, and other administration.

The executive secretary reported on the settling of the office with considerable correspondence and field work. Several committee meetings have already been held in the new suite. He reported on denominational projects in which he has participated, on his nomination by Commission to be fraternal delegate to the Governing Board of the National Council of Churches of Christ, and on various publicity concerns. He has attended several working conferences: the New York State Council's Representative Assembly and its Amenity Conference in Syracuse, N. Y. (for the State S.D.B. Council), the Children's Bible Series "Discovering the Bible with Children" in Valley Forge, Pa.; national SDBYF officers' retreat in Salemville, Pa.; Family Ministry Staff Conference in Indianapolis, Ind.

Developing workshop materials for contacts with churches, camps, and Sabbath schools demanded much time. He has corresponded and programmed for each of the board's committees as indicated by needs, local church or board requests. He is convener for the North American Baptist Fellowship's youth ministry consultation, at the request of the NABF Executive Committee. He reported collaboration with the Women's Society in preparation for SCSC training and activity, in development of a devotional booklet, and in implementing continuing education for wives of ministers (and other S. D. B. women).

The Program Committee presented results of its searching during the quarter. Primary focus has been on a Laity-Based Bible Project proposed by Emo Randolph and Glen Warner to the Memorial Fund trustees, and referred to our board for coordination. Certain definitions of program and timing were outlined in the committee report. The committee delegated Executive Secretary Clarke to work out details with Elmo Randolph and Clarence Rogers at the national American Camping Association Convention, Feb. 20-24, at Atlanta, Ga. The committee, in collaboration with Randolph and Rogers, will be sending invitations to selected laitymen across the nation to become involved in a search for creative skills and experience in outdoor Christian education at the "CCP 74" to be held at Camp Paul Hammel, July 4-15.

The Committee also recommended that the board take "conference membership" in the Christian Camping International organization. This will bring their resources, along with those of American Camping Association, more easily available to S.D.B. camp leaders.

Edith Dickinson, chairperson, reported on Resource Development concerns dealt with during the quarter: development of Sabbath teaching materials, scheduling and quality of productions, recommendations of resources, cooperative efforts with the Teen Society, etc. She reported the 1975 resignation of Deanne L. Davis as editor-writer of the Helping Hand. The board reluctantly accepted his resignation and empowered the committee to search or employ a successor to begin March 1, 1975, on preparation of the Dec. 75 - Feb. 76 Helping Hand. The directors enthusiastically encouraged the committee to assign writers for the Children's Page of the Recorder.

Interests of the Church School Program Committee have centered in the "Discovering the Bible with Children" series in which Florence Bowden and Secretary Clarke are consulting partners with representatives from several "free church" sponsors. The directors voted to remain participants, since the series promises to meet several needs of our churches for children's curriculum close to our outlook, though we're unable to publish our own. (Our own Junior Quartlies in certain units are still available on request from this board. Write for details.)
MISSIONS—Leon R. Lawton

REVIEW OF MISSIONARY BOARD MEETING

The quarterly meeting of the Board of Managers of the Seventh Day Baptist Missionary Society was held Sunday afternoon, January 27, 1974, at the Pawcatuck Seventh Day Baptist Church in Westerly, R. I. President Loren Ostrom called the meeting to order and prayer was offered by the Rev. Paul Tockick following the reading of a resolution of respect and tribute to the late Rev. Harrold R. Crandall. There were fifteen members and one visitor, Miss Gaye Vaughn, in attendance.

Reports on the officers and standing committees were heard and accepted. Executive Vice-President Leon Lawton's report was read in his absence. We were asked to stand for prayer. We were asked to stand for prayer.

His absence. We were asked to stand for prayer.

among items of particular interest by action of the board are the following:

1) The basic policy for home field work was received and certain requirements in order to be a registered school.

2) A new science classroom for Cran­dall High School, Kingston, Jamai­ca, thus meeting government requirements in order to be a registered school. Principal Wayne Cran­dall told of the support being given by the Jamaiicans. It is hoped to complete this building project before Mr. Crandall's term of service ends in July 1974. A Memorial Fund grant of $3,000 has been received—$2,000 of which is marked “New Opportunities Fund.”

The Sabbath Recorder

AN AREA OF CONCERN . . .

REVITALIZING THE LOCAL WOMEN’S CIRCLE

by Madeline Fitz Randolph

1. Make the group meeting schedule more flexible.
2. Accept the person’s own self-prescribed limits. (Don’t argue.)
3. Accept differences. (We don’t fully understand all of the needs of others.)
4. Counteract apathy with your own enthusiasm and patience.
5. Emphasize the importance of your own group’s activity.
6. Be ready with information concerning all phases of the work your group does.

I Heard the Owl Call My Name.

By Margaret Craven, Doubleday and Co., Inc. $4.95

This story was on television recently. It is a moving book. A book wherein ever-rippling tragedy becomes a triumph. A young vicar, ignorant of the fact he has only about two years to live, is sent by his understanding bishop to work with the coastal Indians of Canada. The young minister learns from the old culture of the Indians while in turn he brings them truths of Christianity. His love pre­serves the tribe for the inevitable future when it shall cease to exist in its old ways and traditions. In their turn, the tribe prepares the minis­ter for the day when “The Owl (death) Calls His Name.”

—N. L. Hersey

Library Corner

April 1974
MINISTERIAL EDUCATION—Rex E. Zwiebel

"MIAMI, PAN-AM—PLAINFIELD, GREYHOUND"

A letter written in Portuguese with a given date and the above schedule arrived on Friday in our office, and a week later a hand-done slender lad rang the door bell of 510 Watchung Avenue — our denominational headquarters in Plainfield, New Jersey — April 15-17, 1974. Those who plan to participate include the chairman, the Rev. Earl Crazan, Mr. James Skaggs, Dr. Kenneth E. Smith, Dr. K. Duane Hurley, Miss Florence Bowden, and the Rev. Glen Warner.

ADDITIONAL STUDENTS

As of the spring term Miss Linda Smith and Mrs. Elaine "Jim" Stonestrom are participating in the denominational ministerial training program. Miss Smith is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth E. Smith of Roslyn Harbor, N. Y. She is a junior at the Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, California. A graduate of Milton College, she had been employed in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Mrs. Stonestrom is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Kuehn of Orange, Connecticut, and the wife of Mr. Peter Stonestrom, a doctoral candidate at Stanford University. She is a senior at the Pacific School of Religion and will graduate in June. She was a participant in our program while in her junior year at Union Theological Seminary in New York City.

The entrance of these two ladies brings the total of students in the Center for Ministerial Education program to six.

COUNCIL ON MINISTRY

MEETING

The Seventh Day Baptist Council on Ministry will meet at the denominational headquarters in Plainfield, New Jersey, April 15-17, 1974. Those who plan to participate include the chairman, the Rev. Earl Crazan, Mr. James Skaggs, Dr. Kenneth E. Smith, Dr. K. Duane Hurley, Miss Florence Bowden, and the Rev. Glen Warner.

NEWS NOTES

The Rev. John H. Camenga has resigned as pastor of the Dodge Center, Minnesota, Seventh Day Baptist Church and will become the pastor of the Little Rock, Ark., Seventh Day Baptist Church early this spring. He has been in Dodge Center since May of 1971, and prior to that served the Salemville, Pa., Seventh Day Baptist Church. He and his wife, Linda (Van Horn), have two children.

The Rev. Rex E. Zwiebel has accepted the call to become the pastor of the Alfred Street, New York, Seventh Day Baptist Church. Mr. Zwiebel has served as dean of the Center for Ministerial Education of the denomination since October 1970. From 1956 to 1970, he was the executive secretary of the Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education.

The time has not been determined when the move from Plainfield to the western New York community will be made.

NEWS from the Churches...

NEW FELLOWSHIP

SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA

That's right, of all places — a new S. D. B. fellowship has put down roots and begun worshipping together in Sioux Falls, South Dakota! Sioux Falls, a growing river-port community with 80,000 people, four colleges, major industrial growth, and lots of room, make this an ideal community for this new outreach attempt.

The group is presently meeting regularly on Sabbath mornings for worship and fellowship together. An ad has been started in a local newspaper to advertise our meetings and determine any interest in the area. Plans in the process for the summer include door-to-door witnessing, a midweek Bible study and camping evangelism.

A new Seventh Day Baptist witness has recently been established in Toronto, Canada. Leaders of the group are Mr. and Mrs. Herbert H. Condison formerly of Jamaica. The group was visited by the Rev. Leon Lawton in December 1973, at which time arrangements were made for a place of worship.

Sabbath services are held at 10:00 a.m. in the Temple Baptist Church, 414 Delaware Blvd. (off Danforth Avenue), in the east end of Metropolitan Toronto. Seventh Day Baptists who are in the Toronto area are invited to call Mr. Condison at (416) 694-3728 or Mrs. Isolyn Sinclair (416) 783-2639.

Mr. Condison asks: "Please pray for us as we seek to establish a Seventh Day Baptist witness here in this city of three million people. We are few and weak but we seek to establish us."

This group makes the fourth new Seventh Day Baptist witness established in the past three months. Praise the Lord — Seventh Day Baptists are "Reaching Out Now."

WASHINGTON CALLS PETTWAY

The Rev. John P. Pettway, Sr., has accepted the call to be pastor of the Washington D. C., Seventh Day Baptist Church. An installation ceremony was held during the Sabbath morning service on March 9. Those attending and taking part in the service included the Rev. Charles Graffius, pastor of the Salemville German Church, representing the Southeastern Association; the Rev. Rex Zwiebel, dean of the Seventh Day Baptist Center for Ministerial Education, where Pastor Pettway has been continuing his studies; and former pastor, the Rev. Delmar Van Horn, now serving the Lost Creek, West Virginia, Church.

For the past two years Rev. Pettway has served the Washington Church as assistant to the pastor and then as assistant pastor.

Residents of Washington, D.C., for over twenty years, the Pettways now live across the street from the church at 4705 16th St., NW (Phone 829-9294).

SOUTHWESTERN ASSOCIATION

The Southwestern Seventh Day Baptist Association will hold its eighty-third session with the church at Fouke, Ark., July 4-7, 1974. Russell Davis of Fouke is president.

Camp Mikes will be held the following week with Pastor Leslie A. Welch as director. It will be in a new location — Camp Beaver Fork, a Freewill Baptist Camp between Conway and Greenwood, Ark.

The group is presently meeting regularly on Sabbath mornings for worship and fellowship together. An ad has been started in a local newspaper to advertise our meetings and determine any interest in the area. Plans in the process for the summer include door-to-door witnessing, a midweek Bible study and camping evangelism.

We here in Sioux Falls, though yet small in numbers, are excited about the possibilities for S.D.B.'s and what God can do in our community. What we need to get started is you: whether you are a student, parents looking for a good school, people looking for a healthy atmosphere to raise your family in, or someone just looking for an explicit opportunity where you can do something specific for the Lord.

We are praying that God will rejuvenate a desire within you to be actively involved in building His Kingdom here on earth. If you are interested in helping in Sioux Falls, contact Phil Burrows, 1605 Crestview Drive, Sioux Falls, S.D. 57103.

—Robert Babcock

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SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST GENERAL CONFERENCE

August 11-17, 1974
Salem College
Salem, West Virginia
Make your plans now to attend

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—Counsellors Committee

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MARLBORO, N. J. — The Marlboro Seventh Day Baptist Church is looking forward to the New Year. Several of our youth attended the Wapenier Youth Retreat in Washington D.C. Others took part in a Lay Witness Mission. The West District Hymning was held in Marlboro October 15. The box Social-Talent Night provided an interesting and fun evening. The ladies also packed fruit boxes for the sick and shut-ins at Christmas. Jonathan A. Davis had charge of the white Christmas program. Mrs. Jonathan B. Davis beautified the church with decorations.

January 5 was joint Communion at Marlboro with Shiloh joining with us and Pastor Charles Bond delivering the message "Jesus, the Giver of Life." John 10:7-15. Pastor Don Richards visited his mother in Riverside, California, for nine days. The young people did an excellent job during his absence on the theme, "Pastors Are Not Perfect." January 6 was the annual church business meeting and dinner. The Rev. Parker Correspondent, Mr. and Mrs. Mark with Marlboro participating. A Boy Scout dinner was served January 9 in the Marlboro dining area. A large group of church friends gathered in the evening to remember the days of their lives. Praise the Lord!

The Sabbath Sentinel

SALEMVILLE, PA. (English) — It has been many months since we've written about our favorite church event, "Faith in Action Through Christ's Appointment." Conference activities featured missionary and other guest speakers, who included the following: the Honorable Jennings Randolph, Senator from West Virginia; Rev. Dale E. Reed, Seventh Day Baptist Missionary Society representative; Mrs. John Bibb, Secretary of the Prince George's Chapter of Child Evangelism Foundation; J. Grant of the Wycliffe Translators; Stan Green, area representative of the National Council of Navigators; Robert Hancock, International Students representative; Daniel Rigney of the American Board of Missions to the Jews; Joe Younglove of WCTN (a Christian radio station in Potomac, Md.); Harry Prince and Bob Highland, representatives of Full Gospel Businessmen.

The several days of the Conference were entitled Day of the Genesis, Day of the Psalms, Day of the Ephesians and Day of the Judges, respectively. The richly rewarding events of these days included splendid and inspiring messages from our speakers, worship in song, teaching and demonstrations of films and Scriptures. The fellowship meals, literature evangelism, relevant screening activities, testi­ monies, and vital communications, and the Holy Communion are expected to be included as a daily part of the Conference and as a service which provided an ideal beginning for the new year.

Evaluation: The entire Spiritual Life Conference was a definite blessing to all who attended.

-Congressional Church Committee

DUNDEE, Mich. — The Church of God (Seventh Day) at Petersburg, Mich., hosted a fellowship meeting in which three Sabbathkeeping denominations were represented. The Church of God, Lord Our Righteousness, and Seventh Day Baptist Church were present. Guest speaker for the service was Rev. Mr. Kennedy, pastor of the Battle Creek Seventh Day Baptist Church, who spoke on, "The Value of the Sabbath and True Sabbathkeeping."

There were some 125 present for the fellowship meeting. Quartets and choirs from the local churches rendered musical presentations. More than likely, such meetings are planned for the future. William H. McCann is pastor of the host church.

—The Sabbath Sentinel

Our minister, Mel Stephan, has worked to reach young people who haven't had a chance to learn about the glory of God. There are now nine who come regularly. We pray that all young people in the church will be carried home, and through God's Word and time, their parents will see this too.

We pray that 1974 will help us all grow spiritually within ourselves and as a church, and that we will continue to grow. We believe that we are Christians and Seventh Day Baptists.

—Correspondent

PLAINFIELD, N. J. — Twelve couples and Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Saunders reaffirmed their wedding vows at the end of the church service, February 9. The sermon, "Because We Care," emphasized the day-by-day initiatives necessary to create a happy marriage.

The Women's Society sponsored an open house for Mrs. John Bivins and Mrs. Betty Wolfe at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Bevis on Sunday afternoon, February 10. A large group of church friends gathered in the evening to remember the days of their lives. Praise the Lord!

Sabbath School is held every Wednesday afternoon, the women of the church and the Holy Community welcome everyone. They said, "come better acquainted, a short time, a sharing of the book of Job, a discussion of the philosophy of church leadership, and a light supper."

The Rev. David S. Clarke, executive secretary for the Board of Christian Education, directed the LeaderLab.

It is the consensus of opinion of those attending that everyone having the opportunity to attend meetings directed by Mr. Clarke should be urged to attend.

—Mary Clare

LOS ANGELES, Calif.—The fellowship here has been greatly blessed in the past quarter. In early October, the women of the church and the Holy Community met to reorganize the Rosa Palmberg Missionary Society in response to the expressed need for a closer fellowship. The response of the monthly meetings has been strong and the fellowship good. It was decided, at the first meeting, that there was a need to know who are and be more involved in our SDM boards, thus the programs consist of: the presence of related re­sources, and projects to aid our missionaries on the field in their work.

After the women decided to re­organize, the men decided there was a definite need among themselves for more involvement in our church. So they began meeting once a month for dinner at a restaurant in the area, and the ship has been blessed as they eat together and as each shares with the group what his occupation is. The response to this group has been very good also, and God is certainly blessing us in D.C. We have a definite need at this time in an, "I'd like to get to know you better" atmosphere.

—Janie Mackintosh

CORRESPONDENT

D. O. and Frank Snyder, church president, gave charges to them and the service of laying on of hands by the elders, deacons, and deaconesses of the church completed the ordination service.

There was a reception for the new deacons following the busi­ness meeting on Sunday, January 13.

On Sunday, January 27, the Al­fred Committee for Christian Edu­cation sponsored a highly successful six hour LeaderLab area church leaders. Representatives of four churches met for a most help­ful time of sharing activities to be come better acquainted, a short time in the session of the book of Job, a discussion of the philosophy of church leadership, and a light supper. The Rev. David S. Clarke, executive secretary for the Board of Christian Education, directed the LeaderLab.

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CORRESPONDENT

The Sabbath Recorder
NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING
April 28, 1974

The Annual Meeting of the voting members of the Seventh Day Baptist Church at theArk of Prayer, to be held at the Pawcatuck Seventh Day Baptist Church in Westerly, R.I., on Sunday, April 28, 1974, at 2:00 p.m. for the following purposes:

1. To elect Voting Members, a Board of Managers and Officers to hold office until the next Annual Meeting and until their successors are elected.

2. To hear and act upon the reports of the Board of Managers and Officers for the fiscal year ended December 31, 1973.

3. To ratify the appointment of independent public accountants for the current fiscal year.

4. To consider and act upon other matters as may properly come before said meeting or any adjournment thereof.

The Board of Managers has fixed the close of business on February 26, 1974 as the time at which members may vote.
Christ "when he saw the multitudes that came together, he was moved with compassion because of their fasting, and of their tears." —Matthew 9:36

When Jesus was here on earth He ministered the villages and cities of His country. The people of the cities were neglected in those days as they are often today. Christ did what He could by taking a personal interest in the unhappy people. Jerusalem was the largest city of His country and He was so moved by the challenge there that "when He came in sight of the city, He wept over it." (Luke 19:41 NEB)

The city went into the cities of His day to share the gospel message. Today, we are His representatives should also enter the cities with His message of hope, joy, peace, and love. Varner J. Johns in his book, Christ in the Concrete City, describes the physical and spiritual needs of our great cities. He discusses what Christians are doing and what they can do to reach the millions who live in what he calls the "Concrete Jungle.

Seventh Day Baptists, as a rule, are rural people. In this country we have seen a national movement from the farm to the cities. Unfortunately, we have not followed our people into the cities and thus we have suffered a substantial decline in membership. Seventh Day Baptist churches and fellowships are found in only twenty-five of the fifty largest cities in the United States. This same movement to the city has weakened or destroyed many of our rural churches. But this is not a time to dwell with the past. We are responsible for today. The urban and rural areas of our nation constitute our responsibility as Seventh Day Baptists in 1974. What will we do about it?

A vision without a task is a dream; a task without a vision is a dream. When the Lord, over our modern cities — the "concrete jungle." He urges, He pleads, He commands, but He does not force man to accept His better way. God works for each of us. He wants us to have a part in the sharing of His better way with others.

It seems that Seventh Day Baptists are becoming more and more concerned about their witness to the world. We are thrilled as we hear of new churches and fellowships being organized, and of new life in some of our older churches. It is time for us to truly "Reach Out" as we seek to fulfill our task in the "Concrete Jungle" and the rural areas of our nation.

William Ward Beecher wrote that "when God wanted sponges and oysters, He made them, and put one on a rock, and the other in the mud. When He made man, He did not make him to be a sponge or oyster; He made him with a soul and heart, and gave him vital blood, and a place to use them, and He said to him, 'Go Work.'"

Christ said to His disciples: "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; pray therefore the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest."
When man first landed on the moon his first words were recorded for posterity and have since been frequently repeated: "One small step for man; one giant leap for mankind." Whether or not one agrees with the thinking, reasoning, and expense behind the space program, yet we have to acknowledge that before that moon landing became a reality, someone had to have the vision that it could be accomplished. Then they had to believe in the vision to the point where they were willing to do something about it. It paid off!

RON (Reach Out Now) is a vision on the part of the Planning Committee of what can happen among Seventh Day Baptists. We have dared to envision many new fellowships and churches emerging in communities where there are presently a few of our people living—maybe as few as one or two dedicated families. We believe, with the new moving of God's Spirit among our people, that many who have in the past been satisfied to do nothing about starting a Seventh Day Baptist church in their area are now ready to take some step toward having a church. If you are one who has been dreaming of someday having a church in your area, but thought it impossible, why not take the small step of sending in an application for help? R O N is a program designed to help fulfill such visions.

Your boards are prepared to (1) help you make a study of your opportunities, (2) help plan a concerted effort to reach any others in your area who might be interested, (3) conduct a campaign of evangelism to help reach out for Christ, and finally (4) help follow through once the outreach effort has been made.

It is only fair to say that this program is not just for the purpose of starting new churches, but to help churches desiring to Reach Out Now in their areas. Who knows what it can mean for mankind in your area if you take that small step and apply for help to Reach Out Now for Christ? The Bible says, "Where there is no vision, the people perish." If you have a vision of outreach but have done nothing about it, we would urge you not to put it off any longer. Don't allow the challenge of Reach Out Now (RON) to become Reach Out Tomorrow. Write to the General Secretary for further information.

-Rev. Mynor Soper