SABBATH DISCIPLINE

In Exodus 34:21 it is written, "Six days shalt thou work, but on the seventh day thou shalt rest: in earing time and in harvest thou shalt rest."

Why did God find it necessary to emphasize "in earing time and in harvest thou shalt rest"? The answer is rather evident. God knows the inner struggle that takes place in a farmer's mind when the hay is down and Sabbath Day comes along, clear and beautiful. The hay is ready to be brought into the barn. What if it should rain the next day? Shall he work in the hay or go leave it and attend church? Should he let ripe tomatoes go unpicked over the Sabbath Day? What if the contractor says the peas are ready to harvest? Shall he harvest the peas on Sabbath or tell the contractor he will NOT do so, no matter what the cost? What if it is early spring and the sap is flowing in the maple grove? Will he let the maple tree sap flow while he goes to church on Sabbath Day?

We Seventh Day Baptists take quite literally the words of Leviticus 23:32: "From even unto even shall ye celebrate your Sabbath." But do we take literally Ex. 34:21: "in earing time and in harvest thou shalt rest?"

There was a time when our fathers had the faith and courage and spiritual discipline to keep the Sabbath holy unto the Lord, all day — from even unto even. How is it with us today? What do we do if we forgot to fill the gas tank in the car on Friday? Do we give up that trip on Sabbath? What do we do if we forgot to buy a loaf of bread on Friday? Do we go without bread over Sabbath? I think I know the answers. Do you?

The year that is drawing toward its close has been filled with the blessing of fruitful fields and healthful skies ... they are the gracious gifts of the Most High God! —Abraham Lincoln
The Second Beatitude Jesus gave in the Sermon on the Mount seems like too much of a paradox to understand: "Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted." What blessing can be found in mourning? This summer I found a real blessing in mourning.

When one of our senior campers, Jenice Hedge, died as a result of being struck by lightning at Camp Paul Hummel, I requested permission from her parents to retain her Jerusalem Bible, which she had with her at camp. Since I had no idea what to preach, I desired to spend time looking through her Bible to find some of Jenice's favorite verses. As I turned the pages, I truly found a blessing in mourning. Jenice had already marked the 33rd and 34th verses where Jesus said, "This is the hour of temporary absence, so we mourn for our loved ones. But we must not linger at the graveside because of its special significance. It was the passage in Luke 24:44 where angels appeared to the women at Jesus' tomb and said to them, 'Why look among the dead for someone who is alive? He is not here; he is risen.'"

When we are in the presence of the grave we find it needful to mourn, but this passage of Scripture gives us the blessed assurance that our loved one is not in the grave, for she is already with the Lord. We need not and must not linger at the grave for we can claim the promise that just as Jesus was the firstborn in the resurrection, all our loved ones in Christ shall be resurrected also. Through Christ we can claim the blessed comfort of victory over death and the promise of eternal life. Yes, there is a blessing for those who mourn, when they are comforted by the Lord. We need not and must not linger at the graveside because of its special significance...
Just one year has passed since our family began making bread from whole wheat, freshly milled in our electric powered stone mill. The benefits are many, although initially our motive simply was a fun and convenient way to have wholesome bread in our kitchen. All this has led to an exciting discovery of what God's Word has to say about bread.

As early as Genesis 23, bread is the word used by Jacob for necessary food. In Genesis 47:7, "there was no bread in all the land, for the famine was very sore," and later, "Joseph prepared his father and brethren with bread." There can be no doubt that this was whole grain bread.

Further along, God promised blessing for keeping His commandments. In Leviticus 26:26, "Your threshing shall reach unto the vintage and ye shall eat bread till the year of the jubilee." And while it may seem absurd, but still falls into many soil, sunshille, rain, and frost and the earth. The unfragmented wheat kernel, like Jesus, is indestructible. Take for example the wheat found in King Tut's tomb which had been buried for hundreds of years. It germinated! We are told that wheat is planted every week year-round at the University of Kansas. Even in freezing weather, it will simply wait for the ground to warm up and then begin to grow. How like our Savior, who patiently waits for our cold hearts to receive Him!

As we discover that flour when ground becomes stale rapidly, we again see the parallel that Jesus is the One who is the same yesterday, today and forever. He says we should grind only the amount of flour that we need, store it properly, and use it for the purpose for which it was intended. 

There has been a great deal of interest recently on the subject of cereal fiber. Articles and columns in major newspapers and national magazines have reported new scientific observations on food fiber and its possible effect on health. Bran, the outermost layer of the wheat kernel, is one of the richest sources of natural fiber. The bran layers are found large amounts of vitamins, minerals, and proteins of very high quality. Dr. Richard Siegel of Stanford University Medical Center, Dr. Denis Burkitt, and Dr. David Rueden are among those promoting a fiber-enriched diet. They say fiber-depleted diets may cause heart disease, bowel cancer, gallstones, appendicitis, hemorrhoids and varicose veins, diabetes and obesity.

Regarding the perishability of vitamins contained in flour, Dr. Kelly, a cancer specialist in Grapevine, Texas, asserts that nearly all essential vitamins oxidize from the flour within three days. He says we should grind only the amount of flour that we need each day, and refrigerate it as soon as it is separated from the wheat berry, it must be refrigerated, and even then it will not keep long. The same, of course, is true of all whole grain flours. However, if you have a grain grinder, you can store the whole wheat berries or other grains and grind them for flour as you need them.

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Fair Time is Harvest Time

by Jessie Pitts
Member of the Los Angeles Church
living in Ventura, Cali.

"And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left." — Isaiah 30:21

This verse came to life early one morning in May 1975 as I was going about my mundane household tasks. Suddenly the Lord impressed me in a very definite way with the thought "Ventura County Fair! With 150,000 souls entering its gates each year, what a harvest field at our finger tips!" The possibility of reaching so many in so short a time and for so small an investment was exciting and electrifying to me.

Without delay I went to my typewriter to communicate my thoughts to both Leon Lawton and my pastor Leland Davis. By May 29 I had very positive and encouraging letters from both, offering to give their assistance and making suggestions of materials available. At the same time I had written them, without any real authority to do so, I had made application to the fair board for space. After receiving the affirmative letter from Pastor Davis, I sent him another application which he filed with the fair board.

The office staff at the Ventura County Fair had informed me that we could not be considered for space until all of last year's exhibitors had been given the right to space until Aug. 8. The Lord, however, worked a miracle right on the spot. At that moment we noticed a figure of a gentleman passing an open door nearby. Suddenly as though impelled by an unknown force, he quickly turned, came out and said, "What was it you wanted?" We explained the urgency and the essence of time in our request to which he replied, "Why not take care of it right now?" He was the fair manager in person. God had him there at the precise moment! That was no accident! Needless to say Pastor Davis and I went out way really laughing and praising the Lord for the victory over a seemingly doubtful (in the world's view) situation.

Since there was now no doubt that this was God's plan for us, immediately a presentation of the facts, needs and challenge was given to the Los Angeles church body, with urgent emphasis on the need for CONSTANT PRAYER.

Matthew 9:37-38 together with psalms were placed on small prayer reminders, requesting that each member of the church place them on the refrigerator door or any other place as a constant reminder to pray for the work and the laborers. Three points were emphasized in the presentation, namely:

1. The harvest is plentiful.
2. He (Christ) will send forth laborers. — If we pray.
3. It is His harvest. — So if it is His harvest, if He guarantees a plentiful harvest, if we are sent forth by Him.

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which was hung at the back of the booth. This was the "Crowd Stopper" that I do mean crowd stopper. Such looks of curiosity on people's faces! As the people stopped or hesitated, we would approach them with, "Would you like to step in and register for a free Bible?" This was a wonderful opener so that we could then introduce them to Christ if they did not know Him or to acquaint them with our Seventh Day Baptist belief in the Sabbath. What a joy for those of us who were privileged to serve in the booth. We were completely overwhelmed with the warm response that we received from those who visited the booth, so many of them. On the first morning, the doors were to have opened at 10:00 a.m., but someone had opened the door at 9:00 instead. As workers were picking up their materials from the booth to distribute at the parade which preceded the opening of the fair, the crowds began pouring into the booth. Finding ourselves inundated with people, the workers were unable to leave for the parade. Only Mr. Gillispie who had taken his supply in advance was able to distribute tracts on the parade route. Having only 600 he quickly ran out, for additional supply from the booth could not be delivered. For thirteen hours each day for five days we were overwhelmed with the number of persons who were so interested in spiritual matters and who took the many pieces of literature. The no-try-day but very exciting statistics will somewhat convey to the reader how God sent the harvest that he had promised in Matt. 9:27-28, which we had had as the very first meeting and presentation.

RESULTS
21 personal workers manned the booth.
20 persons received Christ as personal savior. — PRAISE THE LORD!
This alone was worth the whole effort.
Hundreds of people were witnessed to each day.
3,000 denominational tracts were distributed.
2,000 denominational tracts given to recipients of tracts.
5 Thompson Chain Reference Bibles awarded from adult drawing.
5 Children's Living Bibles given to winners from youth drawing.
More than 1,000 adults and children registered for free Bible drawing.
1 Strong's Analytical Concordance given away to winner in drawing.
150 enrolled in Bible Correspondence Course, "Light To See" produced by World Home Bible League, taking with them the first book of the series.
35 more indicated they would like to receive a Bible Correspondence lesson sent to them. (information picked up from drawing survey)
25 Bibles given to homes who had no Bibles (grant from World Home Bible League).
205 indicated a desire for Bible studies — total of the three methods to be used.)
As you can see — God did provide the harvest promised in Matt. 9:27-28. Now — here is where you may participate in continuing to harvest the seeds sown at the time we harvested seeds already planted by others. PRAY — PRAY — PRAY — daily for the ongoing work here in Ventura.

God worked another miracle during the fair in that He brought a professional photographer into the booth. As he talked with Jeri Blackwell, he commented on the beautiful cover of the Sabbath Recorder at which time she said to him, "The Lord must have sent you here." She then related to him that the authorized faith photographer would charge $15.00 for each picture and that John Coblentz's camera had been stolen. He immediately offered to do many pictures the following day in exchange for his fair entry fee. The many photos that you see are the result of that conversation with Alma (Grant) Sessions who made approximately twenty photographs for us.

On October 15 approximately 107 follow-up letters were mailed to those expressing interest in a Home Bible study, in which we invited them to attend a Bible study at my home on Sabbath, Nov. 1, 1975. In October another reminder was mailed.

During the week of October 25 a local Baptist church was contacted regarding the sharing of their premises which is an excellent location which could not be secured. The two persons called were very receptive to the idea. Their board meeting to consider our suggestion was held Nov. 6, 1975. We believe that God will work another miracle in behalf of the harvest.

On Nov. 1 the first meeting was held at my home with twelve non-Seventh Day Baptist adults attending. Ten adults and six children from the Los Angeles Seventh Day Baptist Church drove up to assist in the meeting.

Using the Trust, "Be still, and know that I am God" (Ps. 46:10) the Seventh Day Baptist Adult Bible began a Dial-A-Meditation twenty-four hour telephone ministry early in November. Pray that this may become an effective means of reaching people who need the living, healing hand of our Lord in their lives.

—Missionary David C. Pearson, Malawi, was able to visit the Mem­cta SDB Mission Centre, near Gok­wu, Rhodesia, in August. This is where Pastor L. M. Yumah has a bookstore and seeks to extend the witness and work in a large tribal area.

—Houston, TX, has been chosen as the site for the 1978 SDB­NOW (RON) project. Members of the Houston SDB fellowship will have the core group with their minis­ter and teams aiding in the witness and outreach. The goal is to launch a new SDB church organized in Houston. Director of Evangelism Myron G. Soper is the coordinator and George Stallings, the local di­rector. Pray for this RON project.

—Mr. and Mrs. Greg Camacho, Kingston, Jamaica, and the Ma­kapwa (Malawi, Africa) Medical Center continues to present diffi­culties for our missionaries. Thus extra burdens are thrown on them as they seek to carry heavier loads and ponder where needed training is needed. Please pray that your prayers are vital in these situations.

—The Mac/Continental SDB Associa­tion and its Fellowship through October meeting to support a team visit to Mexico early in 1976 to understand better the needs of the SDB in Mexico and to base our growing fel­lowship in their outreach ministry in such knowledge.

—A special anonymous gift of $1,500.00 has been made available here, SBD, India, to make possible the digging of another well. These pro­jects are under the leadership of Executive Secretary Rev. B. John V. Rao of the India SDB Confer­ence. They provide water for irri­gation or for drinking, a vital need in many rural villages.

—Rev. Watson Mwaka, the Central Africa Missionary in Kiti, Kenya, has remained an additional ten day on the field helping in the organization of new congrega­tions, teaching the Bible and SDB beliefs and practice and train­ing spiritual leaders. It is hoped he can return to his family and take up his ministry in Malawi before the end of 1975.

WHERE THERE IS NO VISION THE PEOPLE PERISH
—Psalm 116:1-2
1-Praise God for a New Year and each new day!
2-Menos and Audry Fuller, Mekopwa, Malawi
3-RENEWAL IN AND OUTREACH FROM MY CHURCH/SABBATH SCHOOL
—George Stillman, RON project leader, Lovetown, TX
—The Women's Board in their month­ly meeting sang.
—Dorothy and Jane Mackintosh, CHS, Kingston, Jamaica W1
—For young people considering God's call to ministry
—J. Swai Thongs and other leaders in Buena SBD Conference.
—Director of Evangelism. Mentor G. Soper.
—YOUR PASTOR AS HE OPENS GOD'S WORD
11-Memorial Fund in their quarter­ly meeting.
12-Pastors and association leaders — India SDB Conference.
13 —Pray specifically for one who has worn you.
14-Myra Perez, Reach Out Field Worker, North Central Association.
15-Pastors and leaders in Kerra, Africa, SDB churches.
16—David and Berre Peterson, Blantyre, Malawi, Africa
17—YOUR SABBATH SCHOOL TEACHER AND SUPERINTENDENT
18 —An American Sabbath School Teacher Society meeting tickets.
19—American Sabbath School leaders in Goavis, SA, SDB churches.
20—Rabbi, Director of Jewish Education.
21—For understanding and obedience to God's will for me.
22—Pastors and leaders in Brazil SDB churches.
23 —For youth willing to serve in South America Christian Service Corps.
24—SABBATH SCHOOL MISSION OF FEHINIC BURMA.
25—The Missionary Board members in their quarterly meeting.
26—Praise God for harvest and new churches in the Philippines.
27—Effective outreach and growth in the Philippines.
28—SDB brethren in England, Holland, out.
29—For a filled 1976 OWM budget this year.
30—In Song Kim, SBD leader in Seoul, Korea.
31—FOR NONHESITENT MEMBERS OF MY CHURCH

DECEMBER 1975

PRAYER
A Prayer Reminder for Each Day
JANUARY 1976
Verse for the month:
"I love the Lord because he hears my prayers and answers them, and because he bends down and listens, I will pray as long as I breathe."
Applications for projects and workers:
Write to: Dr. K. D. Hurley
P.O. Box 868
Plainfield, N.J. 07061

Gifts may be sent to: Mrs. Jane Bottoms, 1118 Ravenwood Rd., Boulder, CO 80302

STUDENTS IN SEMINARY

ROBERT BABCOCK
PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY
WIFE: NELTA SOPER BABCOCK
CHILDREN: MATTHEW AND AMANDA
SENIOR STUDENT

LARRY GRAFFIUS
NORTH LOUP, NEBRASKA
WIFE: JANICE WILLIAMS GRAFFIUS
JUNIOR STUDENT

GIVE TO OUR WORLD MISSION

DECEMBER 1975
LET EVERY HOUSE BE BRIGHT!

The time of year when we are looking to the coming of Christmas is one of nostalgia—returning in our minds to our days of childhood. When we were children we spent much time wondering what gifts we would receive, wishing for the “best” gift of all—the thing we most desired. Now, in retrospect, I realize that no matter how much I wished for certain gifts at Christmas, I was always surprised and overjoyed with the ones I would receive. The packages would go far beyond my wildest childish hopes and dreams. At the age of six, I wished for a doll that would cry “mama.” I would have been content with a cloth doll, if it would only be a talking doll. But when I opened my gift on that morning, to my complete amazement I held a most lifelike china doll, with real hair, eyes that opened and shut, pearly teeth as well as a beautiful voice that cried “mama” when I tipped her forward. Like the gifts from God, it was so much more than I had wished for.

God came to the world as a babe, so that the world might know Him. The power of the Holy child of Bethlehem can change us and bring us the peace of which the angels sang. This power can give us far beyond what we dream of in joy...but there is a question we must answer as we stand in expectation of receiving gifts: “What tribute shall we bring to Him?”

A legend tells of a shepherd maiden who watched the Magi placing their rich gifts at the baby’s feet. She was sad because she was so poor and had nothing to give. She did not dare even to enter the stable and stood out in the snow weeping. An angel watched, and as the tears of the poor shepherd girl fell and melted the snow a small bush of roses grew there. In joy and amazement the girl took the flowers in and presented them to the infant. She worshipped truly, because she gave...

True worship involving our minds, hearts, and bodies is the only worthy gift we can give to God. The results will show in our lives. An old hymn tells us:

“Let every house be bright;
Let praises never cease,
With mercies infinite Our Christ hath brought us peace.”

In the home the significance of Christmas is a matter of the gifts we offer to Christ and to our families. Just as it does not matter whether the Magi bring rich gifts or shepherd maidens bring roses, the value of the gift is not in itself. The tribute that we show one another at Christmas is a reflection of love and loyalty shown throughout the year. A house is bright when the spirit of Christ is present among all its members, and sometimes a house is bright when one member of the household catches the secret and passes it on to his unsuspecting family.

Can we give the gift of Christ to our families this year? If we cannot, then He will not be shown to those we love. “He is Light, and in Him is no darkness.” Dwight Bradley has written some words which fit us today:

“We have heard it said that the lights have gone out in the world. Such a thing has happened many times before. It was dark in Bethlehem on a certain night, Yet on that night a new star was shining. Shepherds looked up and saw a glory in the sky; saw a glowing radiance around a mother and her child. The lights had gone out then, in Judea, in Rome. Yet it was bright enough to guide three wise men on their way toward truth, Bright enough to rouse the shepherds to the coming of a prince of peace, Bright enough to fill a cattle shed where human hope was born. There is light enough today to make a track of thought for those who have a mind to hunt for living truth. Enough to show the peoples of the earth the way to build a democratic world in justice and good will, Enough to fill with understanding and courage any room, hall, meeting house, or open square, Where men and women plan good things for the human race. There is light enough for all these things. What if old lights have gone out? Kindle new ones everywhere. Get out your lamp, your candle, or your lantern. Put it in a window, or better still—Take your own light with you and go outdoors into the world. You will be surprised to find so many there ahead of you. You may be even more surprised to find that God, Himself, is there with His newest and brightest star.”

—Isaiah 9:6
And she gave birth to her first-born son; and she wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.
There came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him. —Matt. 2:1-2

Glory to God in the highest and on Earth Peace

DECEMBER 1975
One of the highlights of the October meeting of the denominational Planning Committee was the decision to launch the Reach Out Now (RON) program in Houston, Texas. Some months ago the Planning Committee adopted an overall theme for Seventh Day Baptist outreach called "Extend Now." One part of that thrust is RON — the attempt to establish new Seventh Day Baptist Churches and Fellowships in different sections of the United States.

Each denominational board and agency is cooperating to work out methods whereby finances, resources, and manpower will be made available to a local group to help it launch a high intensity program for growth. General Conference has approved a grant from the Memorial Fund to help finance this project during the coming year. Thus the Reach Out Now program in Houston will have the backing of all the resources and personnel of the denomination.

Houston will be the "pilot project" of the program. The success of the project there will hopefully encourage similar projects across the nation giving Seventh Day Baptists a new vision as we all seek to respond to the Great Commission and "Reach Out Now" for Christ and the church.

HOUSTON FACTS

Houston, the nation's sixth largest city, is located on the upper Gulf Coast prairie. It is actually some fifty miles from the Gulf of Mexico. Founded in 1836 by J. K. and A. C. Allen, it was named for General Sam Houston, commander of the Texas army which won independence from Mexico. Today Houston is a modern city serving a metropolitan population in excess of two million.

Houston is one of the newer industrial cities of the nation and has not experienced the high rate of unemployment found across the nation in recent months. It is an educational mecca with twenty-four colleges and universities and is a major medical research center. It is a religious city with over 1,750 church bodies representing almost every denomination.

S.D.B.'S IN HOUSTON

Since 1959 there has been a small, but active, fellowship in Houston. During the past summer the group voted to apply for the RON project, offering their resources and full support to the project. The fellowship has chosen George Stillman to be the local coordinator and the Rev. Myron Soper will handle the coordination from a denominational level. Thus denominational and local leadership, working together, will plan the program and establish priorities in seeking to establish a strong Seventh Day Baptist witness in this large metropolitan area.

In recent weeks Rev. Myron Soper and Rev. Leon Lawton have spent time in the area seeking to help develop the initial thrust of the project. A program of newspaper advertising has begun and arrangements have been made for the use of facilities at a local Y.M.C.A. for Sabbath Day meetings.

Rev. Soper stated that "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." It is hoped that this RON project in Houston will encourage Seventh Day Baptists across the country to really respond to the task that has been given us as a people and to REACH OUT NOW and share the gospel message with others.

Watch future SABBATH RECORDERS for a continual update of the progress of the Houston project. Be much in prayer that God will guide and bless.
During the first inauguration of the President of the United States on Wall Street in New York, George Washington ceremonially repeated the prescribed words. And then, of his own accord, Washington added, "So help me, God." But he went on. Bending over he reverently kissed the Bible held by the Secretary of State. That illustration and numerous other lead ones to respect the widely held belief that our founding fathers were men of staunch Christian conviction. But be careful! We could overlook Christian ideals in the founding of the United States, the founding fathers, were not always active churchmen, neither of the Philadelphia militiaman greeted July 4, 1776 still sides with the oppressed? It is basic to the desire for freedom that someone lead one.

The change-over from Helping Hand Editor Duane L. Davis to editor "Jinx" Stonestrom has taken place over the last two years. An SBT reader of the Helping Hand in studying the Bible in Uniform Lesson Series have not generally been quite sure when Jinx's first quarter would be in their hands. The change-over really surfaces the last Sabbath of November 1975 when teachers and leaders will be handing out the quarterlies for use in classes on December 6.

Elaine, better known as "Jinx," has brought to her lesson writing that began last winter a rich experience among several Baptist tests and several other Christian groups. Her lessons are developed with methods of personal or group study that are clearly described in her first Helping Handbook and in her Special Instructions for Teachers, which were mailed separately from the applications. We strongly urge that both students and teachers take time to read and make these new edition. Teachers will find suggestions for developing each of the lessons. Suggestive guides for teachers to use as pastors or clerks should be sought by teachers in a few hints by the teacher to students. Write to the 504 Publishing House if you cannot find these teacher guides in your church.  

Jinx grew up in the Weslyan Shaker Church in the 1960's and 1970's. There is a charge that Jinx uses her name as a teacher in any local church. It is a beautiful of experience that put flesh and bone to the "new creation" that was preached and lived out during 1975-76 - or even 1977, when persons seek the experience of persons as they encounter God and lived out their own faith. It will speak to us most clearly when we are deeply involved in experiencing life. For example, Exodus would mean more if one had just experienced some form of slavery, or if one knew a captive.  

A Declaration for Christians

Pointing to a "new creation" for our nation and its citizens, James Armstrong has written a Bicentennial study book for Christians, The Nation Yet To Be (Friendship Press, NYC. Paperback — $2.25.) Rev. Armstrong calls us to a restoration that "is a part of our total life-stance under the sovereignty of God." Subtitled "Christian Mission and the New Patriotism," the book deals with the U.S. Constitution, church and state, religion and citizenship, America's destiny, and interdependence in a deeply thoughtful way. Texts and footnotes tell Armstrong's broad involvement in Christian mission, and encourage study groups or individuals to evaluate theology and practice as Christians and Americans.

Companion book for The Nation Yet To Be is a guide for bringing to the congregational life a series of experience that put Bush and Bicentennial on the beliefs. A Visitor. The Althouse of the Salem Lutheran Church in Philadelphia has prepared a study guide and extensive bibliography "A Process for Creative Celebration" of our nation's Bicentennial, especially in Protestant congregations. Special study guides will be used for observing national holidays, or for retreats, or for weekly study series. Her book The Parish and the Patriot is recommended for use in Seventh Day Baptist churches during 1975-76 — or even 1977, for there are many vital experiences suggested for Christian patriotic maturing.
An exciting and challenging meeting of Planning Committee was held in Plainfield in October. The executives of the various boards and agencies, along with the Conference president and the executive secretary, reviewed the current status of denominational affairs and initiated planning for a specific program of advancement for the last half of the decade for the 70s—our Era of Action.

Keyed to developing positive attitudes, the program visualizes a five-year progression of training and outreach beginning with the ministers and extending through lay leaders in individual churches into association-wide projects where “each one wins one.” The goals will be to enhance spiritual awareness, increase church membership, add churches to the denomination, increase budget income, and improve Christian services to the national-and-world community.

The plan, after further study, is to be reviewed at the next meeting of the Planning Committee in March in preparation for presentation to General Conference in August 1976 as the requested “plan of church growth.”

In the meantime, a “Reach Out Now” (RON) project is being activated in Houston, Texas, in coordination with the Seventh Day Baptist Fellowship there. A definite schedule of activities, utilizing every possible denominational resource, has been outlined. The confidence hope is that the end-result of the effort will be the establishment of a fully-operating church in Houston.

Nothing will generate more enthusiasm among our people, it seems to me, than to get universally involved in projects which culminate in measurable, visible results. It is abundantly evident that there is, among our people, a “divine discontent” with current inadequacies coupled with an urgent desire to make commitments toward denominational growth and development.

There is obviously a need for coordination of effort. Our resources are limited, and we should make the most efficient and effective use of them.

In my report to Planning Committee, I highlighted the importance of good stewardship. In the modern business-oriented society, there is no more important way to express our faith than to operate our church affairs in a businesslike manner.

Planning Committee, in its recent meeting, gave credence to the fact that “This is the time to minimize differences among boards, agencies, churches, and individual Seventh Day Baptists, and maximize the strength of our common purposes.”

This Christmas give that “special” gift that comes each month—the SABBATH RECORDER. The subscription price is still only 60.00. Send your renewal and gift subscriptions to the Editor, P.O. Box 868, Plainfield, NJ 07060.

Fouke Has Outreach Program

FOUKE, ARK.—The Fouke church is now broadcasting over two area radio stations, KOSY in Texarkana and KENA in Metro. The American Sabbath Union Society assisted the radio program with a grant from the Sabbath Promotion Committee.

Attendance and interest is growing at our church youth center. We now have programs in Judo, tumbling for girls, as well as arts and crafts. Over 100 are involved in the center program.

The center is also sponsoring a local newspaper, The Red River Valley Times, Miss Patti Jo Pederson, of Wisconsin, is here helping with this project. Our Youth Fellowship is developing a visitation program at nursing homes. They are also planning a tract distribution program in Fouke, Texarkana, and surrounding communities.

The Youth Choir, under the direction of Steve Crouch, provides music for each Sabbath Service. Pastor Floyd Goodson, as president of the Southwestern Association, plans to visit all the churches and fellowships in the Association during the year. He has led the service at Houston and Ft. Smith and plans to visit the Dallas group soon.

VERONA WELCOMES NEW PASTOR

VERONA, N.Y.—We were very glad to welcome our new Pastor, John Peil and his wife, Ruth Ann, with hope that our time together will be in God’s glory. A welcoming program was held for them at the church, September 6, 1975, with welcomes from various organizations in the church and from the community, followed by refreshments and fellowship. Our annual Lord’s Acre auction was held Sept. 30 with much success thanks to the bountiful year the Lord has given us. We were happy to have the Light Bearers here with us in Verona, Oct. 10, 11, 12, along with Evangelist Charles Griffith. Our Ladies Aid Society has been busy planning dinners, not only for the public along with a bazaar, but also for patients from the Rome Developmental Center. The youth fellowship held election of officers with Bonnie Williams, Pres.; Nancy Davis, Vice-Pres.; Lois Davis, Sec.; Neil Warner, Treas.; and Doris Smedley, Sun-shine Co. A group of our youth people also visited Plainfield and were in New York for the organization of the new church there. We are looking forward to a fruitful year ahead for all our church.

HOUSTON FELLOWSHIP NEWS

The Houston S.D.B. Fellowship has received inspiration and encouragement from recent visits of Rev. and Mrs. Floyd Goodson, Fouke, Ark., and Rev. and Mrs. Lzon Malby, Dayton Beach, Fla. They shared information with us concerning Southwestern Association programs and General Conference highlights.

The Rev. and Mrs. Myron Soper, and daughters spent several days in Houston during May. We enjoyed Rev. Soper’s inspirational messages and the musical talents of his family. He returned in September to discuss the R.O.N. project further. We are making a renewal effort to reach interested Sabbathkeepers in the area.

Camp Miles, held near Conway, Ark., was a highlight of the summer for three members of our fellowship. Pastor John Camaegi, camp director, and a capable staff led about forty campers in a study of the Parables of Jesus. Sabbath afternoon, July 12, following a sing-spiration and testimony service, the campers and visiting families gathered at a nearby lake where Andy and Ben Stillmann, members of the Houston Fellowship, were baptized by Pastor Barry Clapper, assisted by Pastor Camaegi.

—Mrs. George S. Stillmann

THE GIFT THAT FITS

AN OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUTH

WHO ARE WILLING to commit themselves to Serve CHRIST

WANTING to become involved in Outreach MINISTRY

READY to discipline themselves to STUDY and EXPERIENCE

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Those selected will be TRAINED.

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Westerly, RI 02891

subscribe to the SABBATH RECORDER

December 1975

23
OUR church As has been the
share its good news with others across the country.
First I should say how good it is to have a pastor again.
Charles Swigg came with his family in mid April and immediately got into the "swing of things" Everyone in the community gladly welcomed them.
The next important event was in May when the church decided to build an addition on the back of the church to serve as a social room, meeting room, and class rooms. The work will be done by a kitchen and rest room. Work which is all voluntary began almost at once. Soon the foundation of concrete blocks was done. The floor was laid, the frame took shape and the roof was put on. On Sundays, more men were free to help and thus progress really sped. Now even the doors and windows are in place. The stained glass windows are all being installed.

The Riverside, Calif., church shipped over 5,000 pounds, books to Cranford High School in Kingston, Jamaica. The church plans another shipment sometime next year.

* * *

Miss Florence Bowden of the Shiloh, N. J., church conducted a seminar on "The Christian Worldview" in November at the Pawtucket Church in Westerly, R. I.

Home Bible studies are conducted by Rev. Ray Boatman of the Seattle church each week in rural Graham, Washington.

Rev. Paul Osburn is conducting Bible study every Wednesday afternoon at the Annie Wooten Annex.

* * *

In connection with his trip East for Planning Conference, Confer­ence President Gary Cox spoke at the worship services of the Plains­field, N. J., church, the North Jersey and the New England Early Meeting at the Ashwood, R. I., church. He also attended the quarterly meetings of the Tract and Missionary Boards.

"Teen-age Alcoholism" was re­printed from the Sabbath Recorder and published in a recent issue of the Sturmon Builder. A number of greeting sent by your editor was published in the 125th year anniversary issue of the Review and Herald.

Christmas is an ideal time to give the Sabbath Recorder to a friend. $6.00 for a one-year subscription.

---Martha Mills, Correspondent

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MARLBORO NEWS

MARLBORO, N. J. — Our church has decorated the upstairs rooms which are used for our Vacation Bible School, and for our Fall Fellowship. The central room was used for the first time since renovation for the October first-of-the-month All Sabbath School worship at which time the young people and officers were dedicated, using the service prepared by the Rev. Reid for the Committee for Christian Education.

—Mary Clare

YOUTH RETREAT HELD

PAINFIELD, N. J. — Our Youth Fellowship, sponsored by Ronald and Kay Malby, has held two exciting weekend retreats in our church this fall. Six from the Vero­na, N. Y., church joined our young people September 26-28, and the group conducted our Sabbath service with the help of Elder Heber Saunders and Mike and Alice Parker. Their theme was "Friend­ship in Christ" and their program was titled "The Good Samaritan" by Mike Parker. Saturday night was light and special music. On Sabbath after­noon all the young people and a number of adults attended the organization service of the New York City church. At that time our New York City church. At that time our

On October 25, the church held a Family Day recognition and Baby Dedication. The church services a covered-dish dinner was held in the Fellowship Hall. At its conclu­sion a program of music was pre­sented as arranged by Mrs. Martie Hitchner. This included a hymn sung directed by Mrs. Charles F. Harris, songs from the Primary Department, led by Mrs. Richard Dixon, and family groups presenting special selections.

The annual Labor Day dinner, sponsored by the Benevolent Soci­ety, with the A.F.C. class in charge cleared $1,343.

The denominational Planning Conference immediately and sponsors of the congregation were delighted to have the Light Bearers sing at our church. This was re­peated on the following Sunday, October 22. Their evangelineal music and Stan Steiner's testimony was an inspiration to us all.

Worldwide Communion was held on Sabbath noon. In the afternoon all the young people and adults turned to camp at 3:00 p. m. to the theme — "A Past To Remember — A Future To Share". The after­noon was filled with music, prayer, hymns, poems, and Scrip­ture appropriate to the main theme, special music. "New Life" was of­fered by Mrs. Martie Hitchner and Dr. Hitchner and a solo, "How Great Thou Art" was sung by Owen Probstco. The "Bicenten­nial Prayer" was rejected followed by an introduction of an accom­panying study books which are to be used in the home for individ­ual or family devotional study or in various small groups of fellow church members and non-church members in the community. Dis­cussion of the "God Give Us the Freedom To Live"—Charles Harris, leader; (2) "God Give Us the Freedom To Share"—Rev. Charles Harris, leader; (3) "God Give Us the Freedom To See"—Florence Bowden, leader — feedback period proved to be beneficial to those who volunteered to form groups. A Prayer Booklet was concluded the program.

Immediately following, Pastor Bond led in "Building the Church Calendar" where all organizations and classes were asked to provide dates for their various activities for the year. Members of the Junior and Senior High Youth attended their weekly meeting at camp and remained for the weekend under the supervision of RonBond, Phil and Jon Bond, assisted by Bob and Jean Amato.

The ladies of the church served the members of the Tract Board a large lunch in Fellowship Hall at the October Board meeting.

---Marie T. Hitchner

"All printers were determined not to print anything till they were sure it would offend nobody, there would be very little printed."

—Benjamin Franklin

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PASTOR CRUZAN HONORED

MILTON, W. I.—The Rev. Earl Cruzan, pastor of the Milton Seventh Day Baptist Church, was honored Sunday night (Oct. 26) on the occasion of his 35th anniversary in the ministry.

The congregation and friends presented him with several gifts at a dinner at the church, during which highlights of his career were reviewed in slides and narrative.

The Rev. Cruzan, who has served the Milton church since July 1940, began his ministry as pastor of the Waterford, Conn., Seventh Day Baptist Church in June 1940. His pastors since then have been at churches in Boulder, Colo.; Dodge City, Kans.; Adams Center, N. Y.; and Weslaco, R. I.

A graduate of Salem (W. Va.) College, Rev. Cruzan took his theological training at Alfred University School of Theology and Yale Divinity School.

He and his wife, the former Mabel Davis of Marlboro, N. J., are the parents of four children: Mrs. Dale Green, Janesville, E. Wayne Cruzan of Monterey, Calif.; Mrs. David Lippert of Lansing, N. Y.; and Jonathan Cruzan of Milton. They have eight grandchildren.

The Rev. Cruzan has held several denominational posts during his career, including a term as president of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference in 1957.

ACCESSIONS

ALLEGHENY ASSOCIATION MEETS AT HEBRON

The Allegheny Association of Seventh Day Baptist Churches met at Hebron, Pa., on October 17 and 18. | The Rev. Rex Zwiefel, pastor.


Theodore A. H. Smith

DAYTONA BEACH, FLA

Marion Van Hutt, Pastor.

Testimonials were given by Misses Helen L. Tenkle and Mrs. Carol Howard, of the Church Center.

BARNSVILLE, W. VA.

Carol J. Davis, Pastor.

Barney Davis led the music and Minnie Trindal of New Aberdeen, Wis., led the evening's prayer.

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OLIBRURIES

CLEMENT—Raymond Clare (74), son of Corl and Jennie (Redly) Clement, was born on November 30, 1907, in Mira Valley, Valley Coun­ty, Neb., and died at the Good Samari­tan Hospital, Kearney, Neb., on June 25, 1975.

He was married to Bauda Gates on June 9, 1935. Their home was always in Mira Valley. His interests were wide and his influence great in and around the church, camping, conservation and State Fair activ­i­ties. Raymond was known for his great humor, often making us laugh until we cried, but never offensive; he was also well known for his faith, particularly in the area of the sacred music of the church, and for his leadership in the church and the community.

His father, the Rev. Ralph E. Clement, was one of the workers who were held at the internment camps in Japan. He had lived in various places throughout the United States and Canada, and had been active in many organizations throughout his life. He was known for his kind and gentle nature, his love of music and his dedication to his family.

He is survived by his wife, Bauda; his brother, George of Mira Valley; two sis­ters, Mrs. Mary Jane (Redly) Hughes and Mrs. Mildred Evelyn (Redly) Rose; two sons, William and John; and two great-grandchildren. His memory will be cherished by all who knew him.

DAVIS—Neta C. Davis, daughter of the late Martha and First Presbyte­rian, Clarksburg, W. Va., was born April 18, 1918, and died in Clarksburg, W. Va., on Tuesday, July 20, 1976.

She was married to Elmer J. Cox, Sr. (Mrs. John) Davis, who died May 25, 1975, in Clarksburg, W. Va.

She is survived by her husband, two daughters, Mrs. Neva (Cox) Reel, of Elmer, W. Va., and Mrs. Mary Ruth (Cox) Appel, of New Castle, Pa., and a grandson.

She was a member of the Seventh Day Baptist Church and is a graduate of Clarksburg High School. She was a member of the Clarksburg I.O.O.F. Lodge and was a member of the Clarksburg First Presbyterian Church.

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A son, Charles A. Barber.- A son, Wayne Douglas Barber, was born to John and Ethel (Mellin) Barber of Montrose, Ill., on August 8, 1975.

Kazerius.- A son, Mark Daniel, to Owen Dwight and Miriam, Mac (Hila) Kazerius of Bedford, N.Y., was born to John and Ethel (Mellin) Barber on September 26, 1975.

Kazerius.— A daughter, Tracy Renee, to Brian and Sharon (Toms) Kazerius of Racine Springs, Pa., was born on October 13, 1975.

Park.— A daughter, Emma Kari, was born October 17, 1975, to William and Judy Park of Toledo, W. Va., and named for her stepsister, Kari Ann Kazerius.

Perry.— A daughter, Sara Christian, to Christopher and Nancy (Mattaplian) Perry of Verona, N.Y., was born October 19, 1975.

Telephone.— A son, Gary Oege, to LaVerne and Kay (Stauder) Thelma, of Edgerton, Wis., was born on September 29, 1975.

Walker.— A son, Adam Ryan, to William and Michelle (Teed) Walker of Dayton, Ohio, was born September 26, 1975.

Ward.— A daughter, Emily A. Su, to John and Ethel (Mellin) Barber of Montrose, Ill., was born on October 17, 1975.

The Sabbath Recorder
"What I ask you to do is in your own interests. You made a good beginning last year, both in the work you did and in your willingness to undertake it. Now I want you to go on and finish it as eager to complete the scheme as you were to adopt it, and give according to your means. Provided there is an eager desire to give, God accepts what a man has; he does not ask for what he has not." - 2 Cor. 8:10-12 (N.E.B.)
The new Light Bearers singing team is composed of Jerry Van Horn, Pattie Lawton, Dawn Soper, Robert Van Horn, Patty Burdick, and David Davis.

NEW TEAM

The Light Bearers are currently on tour in the eastern part of the country. The present group of six had their first full concert in the Seventh Day Baptist Church at Farina, Ill., as they headed east in September. (A seventh member, Stan Soper, who is the official driver and maintenance man is not shown in the picture). They appear next in the Waterford, Conn., area, having concerts in several churches besides Seventh Day Baptist ones. They worked with the Director of Evangelism, Mynor Soper, in a week long series of evangelistic meetings, in Westerly, R. I., from Sept. 14-21. Again they appeared in a number of churches of that area.

The week of Sept. 22-28 they served with Rev. Charles Graffius, associate evangelist with Light Bearers for Christ, in evangelistic services in Brookfield, N. Y. They are scheduled for many appearances throughout the East until the second week in December, at which time they will return to headquarters in North Loup, Nebr. Beginning January 3, they will be in training at headquarters, along with all other L.B.C. staff for a six week period. During that time they will be having a number of concerts throughout central Nebraska.

The Light Bearers schedule calls for them to begin their western tour the last week in February. At that time they will be going into the southwest, moving on to the west coast, working their way north to Seattle and back down through the Denver area and home about the middle of May. June and July they are scheduled to be going into the North Central Area of the United States.

God has blessed their ministry thus far. Please pray for this fine team of young people as they share Jesus, the Light of the world through their music and testimonies.