Your Will

Does it reflect God’s will?

You have the opportunity during your lifetime to determine the proper disposition of your assets. Take advantage of this privilege! There is no better way than to express your wishes in a properly prepared will, drawn up with the help of your attorney.

Your will may be simple but it must be proper. It must comply with the laws of your particular state.

Without such a will, your property—all the possessions you leave behind at death—will be distributed according to the laws of the state where you lived at the time of your death.

Without a will, a considerable amount of your estate may go unnecessarily for federal and state taxes. But a properly prepared will can reduce such taxation tremendously.

Without a will, valuable real estate and other property may have to be sold at a sacrifice to pay creditors and tax collectors. But a properly prepared will can anticipate such a problem.

Without a will, the court will appoint an administrator to settle the affairs of your estate according to rules and regulations that are completely impersonal. The various needs of your loved ones will not be considered. A properly prepared will allows you to choose a personal representative (plus an alternate if the personal representative is unable to serve) on whom you can depend to dispose of your estate according to your wishes.

Without a will, no gifts of cash or real property can go from your estate to those not related to you. But a properly prepared will can include such a disposition.

Don’t forget to review your will periodically! An outdated will might be as bad as having no will at all. Attorneys recommend that they should be reviewed at least once every five years.

What constitutes a need for a review and possible revision of your will?

1. Changes in the existing income tax, estate tax, inheritance tax and gift tax laws.
2. Changes in the status of charitable organizations named in the will (some may no longer exist).
3. Changes in the amount allotted to testamentary trusts.
4. Changes in personal representative or trustee or guardian.
5. Changes in beneficiaries (some may have died).
6. Changes in the financial conditions of some of the beneficiaries may suggest a change in the amount bequeathed to them.
7. Changes in value of securities or real property involved.
8. Changes in place of residence—if the testator (person making the will) moves to another state.

John D. Cox

Your Love Lives on

Attorneys, Donald M. Griffin will be at General Conference at Houghton (Aug. 6-12, 1973) to assist individuals who want to plan to make "deferred" contributions for denominational work: wills, bequests, gift annuities, etc.

The gifts of life are yours to share!
You have the opportunity during your lifetime to determine the proper disposition of your assets. Take advantage of this privilege!

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Your will may be simple, but it must be proper. It must comply with the laws of your particular state.

Without such a will, your property—all the possessions you leave behind at death—will be distributed according to the laws of the state where you lived at the time of your death.

Without a will, a considerable amount of your estate may go unappropriated for federal and state taxes. But a properly prepared will can reduce such taxation tremendously.

Without a will, valuable real estate and other property may be left to a surviving spouse, children, and tax collectors. But a properly prepared will can anticipate such a problem.

Without a will, the court will appoint an administrator to settle the affairs of your estate according to rules and regulations that are completely impersonal. The interests of your loved ones will not be considered. A properly prepared will allows you to choose a personal representative, an alternate if the personal representative is unable to serve, or whom you desire to dispose of your estate according to your wishes.

Without a will, no gifts of cash or real property can go from your estate to those not related by blood. But a properly prepared will can include such a disposition.

Don't forget to review your will periodically. An outdated will might be as bad as having no will at all. Attorneys recommend that they should be reviewed at least once every four years.

What constitutes a need for a review and possible revision of your will?

• Changes in the existing income tax, estate tax, inheritance tax and gift tax laws
• Changes in the status of charitable organizations named in the will (some may no longer exist)
• Changes in the amount allowed to testamentary trusts
• Changes in personal representation or trustees of guardian
• Changes in beneficiaries (some may have died)
• Changes in the financial conditions of some of the beneficiaries (may suggest a change in the amount bequeathed to them)
• Changes in value of securities or real property involved
• Changes in place of residence if the testator person making the will moves to another state

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The gifts of life are yours to share!
The Sabbath Recorder

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JOHN D. BEVIS, EDITOR

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

HEADQUARTERS LOCATION RESEARCH COMMITTEE

The Seventh Day Baptist Headquarters Research Committee has been analyzing desirable features for denominational headquarters facilities and location. A “points to ponder” opinion survey among church members nationwide has been completed, according to committee chairman, Dr. E. Keith Davis.

About 4 percent of the questionnaires were returned, some of them reflecting the thinking of churches as groups. Chairman Davis indicates that probably no conclusive trends can be determined on the basis of the return this year. However, a good sampling of opinions is now available.

The results are currently being reviewed by committee members, and a preliminary report will soon be forwarded to Commission.

It is anticipated that Commission will release a report to the denomination at large at General Conference time.

The Sabbath Recorder

July 1978

Volume 200, No. 7
White No. 6,632

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

GODD NEWS FOR EVERYONE EVERYWHERE

The one hundred sixty-sixth annual meeting of the American Bible Society was held May 11, 1978 at the Pierre Hotel in New York City. Seventh Day Baptists were represented by editor John D. Bevis who is the denominational representative to the society serving on the advisory council. The society reported “Good News for Everyone - Everywhere” as Scripture distribution multiplied greatly over the past year. During 1977 a lot of emphasis was placed on increasing the circulation of the Good News Bible. It is reported that the great majority of Americans who received the new translation greeted it with enthusiasm. President Carter received the symbolic five millionth copy, specially bound and inscribed for the occasion, at a White House ceremony in September. We are happy to note that many Seventh Day Baptist churches have helped to promote distribution of the Good News Bible. Especially commendable is the work of the Boulder, CO, church under the direction of its pastor, Rev. Elmo Fitz Randolph.

VOLUNTEERS AID WORK

Some of the happiest people in the United States must be the 30,774 ABS Volunteers. A woman from New Jersey reported, “I represented ABS in my church and received such a blessing. I just have to do more!” And a volunteer in Michigan noted: “God is blessing the distribution of Bibles through our Scripture Courtyard Center. It is a joy to be a volunteer worker in the vast ministry of spreading the Good News!” There should be a volunteer worker for Bible distribution in every community. If you are interested in such a mission you may write directly to the Bible Society or to John Bevis for more information.

GIFTS FROM THE CHURCHES

More than 80 denominations, churches, and agencies contributed a total of $1,545,634.41 to the American Bible Society in 1977. We are extremely happy to note that Seventh Day Baptists more than doubled their reported giving over the previous year. Our reported contributions amounted to $1,179.07 which is an average of $227 per member. This places us in the top seven of denominational giving on a per member basis. The highest per member giving was by the Apostolic Christian Churches of America with $1,428 per member. We should seek to raise at least $1,500 this year to assist in the wonderful work of sharing God’s message of love and peace with the world.

As you give to the American Bible Society in 1978 who may send your gift through your local church treasurer or mark it “ABS” and send it directly to Mr. Gordon Sanford, Our World Mission Treasurer, Little Genesee, NY. 14754.

Dr. Arthur Borden, director of Church Relations for the society, will be present at General Conference at Houghton to report on society work and to discuss how we can participate more in Bible distribution.

July 1978

HIGHLIGHTS OF 1977

• The total Scripture distribution throughout the world reached 410 million copies in 1977, an all-time record. This was an increase of 80 million over 1976.

• The American Bible Society, through thousands of contributions from individual donors and churches, was responsible for 246 million of these.

• 114 million Scriptures were distributed in the United States and 99 million in Latin America.

• 170 million Scriptures were distributed in the Asia-Pacific region, an increase of 50 million over 1976.

• At least one book of the Bible has been published in 1,631 languages and distinct dialects.

• Bible distribution work continues in areas of political strife and turmoil, including Ethiopia, Uganda, Rhodesia, Lebanon and elsewhere.

• Baptists, Methodists and Lutherans were the leading denominations in terms of annual donations to the American Bible Society.

FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS

Here are some of the up and coming projects planned by the American Bible Society for 1978 and 1979. We’ll let you know when they are ready.

• The complete Bible in Today’s Spanish, the Version Popular

• Advent Scripture Cards

• 1978 Christmas Selection

• Special Selections for Hospital Patients

• Special Selections for the Terminally Ill and Their Families

• Scripture Cards for Roman Catholic Parish Rites

• Portion of Scripture for the Bereaved

• Portion of Scripture for Seamen’s Ministries

• Scripture Workbooks for Children

• Scriptures for Children To Coincide with the International Year of the Child
The more I see of the world and learn of its history, the more I am impressed with the universality of the spiritual laws of God. One can no more break the law of love with immunity than he can break the law of gravity. And the more I study the Old Testament the more I see it as a progressive preparation for the New Testament. Slowly, step by step, God reveals Himself to mankind through human experience.

The Israelites slew, pillaged, and burned as they invaded Canaan. A stern and jealous God demanded it, so they thought. In First Kings 10:15-20 we find Elijah, the prophet of the old order, finishing off the priests of Baal in a bloody lynching party. But it didn’t stamp out Baalism. In Second Kings 9 we see that Elisha appointed Jehu, the hard-fighting, hard-driving charioteer, as king, and Jehu, the promoter of Baalism was murdered in cold blood. Then a new order of followers of God began to take root in the land.

Three children went to their mother one morning and said, “Mother, I love you.” The mother gave each one a task to do. The first refused and said, “You do it.” The second said, “You must requisition me.” The third took the task on and said, “What are you waiting for?” He who loses his life for my sake will find it. Only as we give of our substance can we receive.

Jesus described in detail some of the fruits of love in the Beatitudes: “Blessed are the poor in spirit...Blessed are those who mourn...Blessed are the merciful...Blessed are the pure in heart...Blessed are the peace makers...Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness sake.”

Jesus asked, “Do you love me?” three times. The third time Peter denied his Lord three times; now he must declare his love three times.

Jesus might have asked other questions of Peter, such as, Do you believe in me? Many people think that if they believe thus and so, they will be sure of a front seat in heaven. But He might have asked, Do you consider me as Son of God or Savior? Or Will you serve me? Will you fight for me, suffer and die for me? But all these are included and implied in the one all-encompassing, vital question, “Do you love me?”

Jesus knew that if He had Peter’s love He had Peter.

We must face the same question today, its answer is the first step in the proper solution of every human problem. If God has our love and massed them there (2 Kings 10:18-20). Could that be where Hitler got his idea? Well, this was all a bloody surgery to cure Israel of Baalism and idolatry. What was the result? Baalism lived on! The wild zeal of “the sons of the prophets” with brute force and bloodshed failed. A new kind of prophet was needed.

Then Amos, Hosea and Isaiah came upon the scene preaching, teaching, and writing. Blood gives way to brains; force must yield to persuasion; fighting must cease in the face of love. “So you, by the help of your God, return, hold fast to love and mercy, and wait continually for your God,” pleaded Hosea (12:6).

“When the first fruit came to the law and the God of love, He has us, and our dedicated service to Him. The world shews away from that vital question and is paying the consequences. It is trying to solve its problems on some other basis and it doesn’t work.”

Jesus expects certain things in all of us: repentance, acceptance of Him as Savior, growth in Christian grace and service. The expectations are declared in His preaching. “Repent for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

“Unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

“Must you be born again?” “If any man is born of man, his birth is of man, and if any man is born of God, he is born of God.”

“Love is patient and kind; love is not jealous or envious; it is not arrogant or rude. Love does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrong, but rejoices in the right. Love is kind and love is not wretchedly wicked lives have been converted by the love of a mother, or wife or a friend.”

Love bears fruit in character and also in service. We are responsible for ourselves and for others. God can say that and mean it, the kingdom with all its blessings is ours. It will show in our character and in our service as we tend God’s other sheep with love.

We have dedicated ourselves to love and follow Christ, we must go out to the sheep that need tending. We must let our love flow out to them in the most appropriate and helpful ways. There are many challenging problems in our society. All of them can be solved with love and in no other way. But the world is today attacking its problems by means of violence. The repressed seek to gain freedom by violence; minority groups seek to gain their civil rights by violence; reformers seek to change the establishment by violence; and those given authority and charged with responsibility for maintaining order and justice, all too often resort to violence. Violence is self-destructive. We need no further proof that “Those who take the sword shall perish by the sword.”

We Christians must lead the world to freedom, understanding and peace by seeking with love, and with zeal and determination, for the wise and just solutions of our problems. And we need to be on the action front putting the right solutions into practice. This is our answer to that vital question that Jesus puts to each of us, “Do you love me?”

The Sabbath Recorder
AVON PARK, Fla. — The couple had been crying when they came into day time at Avon Park Correctional Institute.

He looked older than his 55; she than her 53. He was wearing the drab uniform of an inmate; she was dressed in an outfit that had seen better days.

"They had a look of horror on their faces," said Flo Wall. "Their eyes were red...you could tell they had been weeping. They had that look that said, 'This is not real...this can't be happening ...

Aven Park Correctional Institute, on an Air Force bombing range, is unusual in that families of inmates are allowed to worship in the chapel twice each Sunday. Families may visit each weekend, on Saturday or Sunday.

Until recently, families could visit on both Saturday and Sunday, but that policy has changed. When the Walls’ ministry began, they opened their home to feed and house the families over the weekend. The home, a converted barracks building, is small, but on one recent Saturday night 25 persons slept wherever there was space. Wall set up a tent camper to help house some of the overflow.

With the changing of the policy, the space crunch eased, but many of the families still come on Saturday afternoon — driving long distances to get there — so they can visit Sunday morning. Sunday now is a time of fellowship and food, Bible study, prayer time and ministering.

Recently, the Walls obtained a large home near the prison which has two cottages and "lots of space." They are currently remodeling and refurbishing the "villa" to make it both their home and central place for their ministry. "The ministry has just grown from putting another chicken in the pot to the Spanish Villa on Lake Letta," Mrs. Wall says. "It has been so beautiful...the Lord has added and provided. It has been the simplest thing; just taking one step at a time with the Lord."
A real program of aid to our brothers in Mexico is in full advance, and enthusiastically so, throughout the Mid-Continent Association. Led by the officers of the Association and motivated through the dedicated work of Deacon Daryl White and Deaconess Barbara White of the Boulder church, the member churches are cooperating in raising money which they have pledged toward the building of the Matamoros Church and Education Center. This work was dedicated April 23, 1978 and named officially The Education Center of the Light Bearers, "Centro Educativo Portado de Luz." The Association was represented by Barbara and Daryl White. The name originated with Pastor Elias Camacho, the "Father" of the Mexico Seventh Day Baptist Churches. He was inspired by the name "Light Bearers," and was acquainted with Patricia Lawton, who was with the group by that name.

It was a joy to the Mid-Continent churches to have such a close working relationship with these "Bearers of the Light," our neighbors in Mexico. The actual work was initiated by the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Denver, Colorado, several years ago. At one time the Association was blessed by a visit from Pastor Eugenio Aldave and his son David, of the Torreon church, during a regular Association meeting of the churches. This occasion served to generate a wonderfully warm feeling for our brethren of the border, and the interest has not faded during ensuing months and years. In fact, the churches of the Association have entered into an agreement with our Seventh Day Baptist Missionary Society to produce matching funds amounting to $1,500.00, which will assure the amount of $3,000.00 for the purpose of finishing the building in Matamoros.

To witness the enthusiasm of the people we have sent from the Boulder Seventh Day Baptist Church Miss Patty Burdick and the August family, Jim, Frances, Scott and Jamie, who have dedicated their skills as workers to this project. There are others who are considering a similar undertaking.

There can certainly be no doubt in the minds of those who labor for Christ in our neighboring country, that we have faith in Him and His work in Mexico. Our prayers and our pledges of money are proving daily that we are behind the project. We quote from Brother Camacho, "I am a Mexican, yes, but I am an American also, and this is what Americans do for the love of our Lord Jesus Christ for Mexico." We answer "Amen" to that statement, and also pray that we are more than these things, we are Christians working for the same Lord Jesus Christ, through the witness of Seventh Day Baptists.

-Madeline Fitz Randolph

Un plan real para dar ayuda a nuestros hermanos en Mexico avanza entusiasticamente por la Asociacion Mid-Continent. Dirigida por los oficiales de la asociacion y fomentada por el dedicado labor de Decon Daryl White y Deconesa Barbara White de la Iglesia Boulder, las iglesias de la asociacion estan cooperando en reunir dinero que han prometido para la construccion de la Iglesia y Centro Educativo de Matamoros. Esta obra fue dedicada Abril 23, 1978 y llamada oficialmente "Centro Educativo Portado de Luz." La asociacion fue representada por Barbara y Daryl White. El nombre origina con el Pastor Elias Camacho, el "Padre" de las Iglesias Bautistas Del Septimo Dia. El recibio la inspiracion del nombre "Portadores de Luz," y conocio a Patricia Lawton, que pertenece al grupo con ese nombre.

Es una alegria muy grande para las iglesias de Mid-Continent poder relacionarse y trabajar con los "Portadores de Luz," nuestros vecinos en Mexico. La obra actual fue iniciado por la Iglesia Bautista de Denver, Colorado, hace ya unos anos. Una vez la Asociacion fue bendecida con la visita del Pastor Eugenio Aldave y su hijo David, de la Iglesia de Torreon, durante una asamblea regular de la Asociacion de Iglesias. Esta ocasión produjo una cordialidad pese con nuestros hermanos a la frontera del sur, y el interes no ha desanunciado en todos estos meses y anos. De esta manera, las Iglesias de la Asociacion han tenido un acuerdo con la Sociedad Misionera Bautista del Septimo Dia, para asignar fondos de $1,500.00 que aseguren la suma de $3,000.00, con el propoiso de terminar el edificio en Matamoros.

De la Iglesia Bautista del Septimo Dia Boulder hemos mandado como testigos del entusiasmo de nuestra gente a la Sra. Patty Burdick y a la familia August, Jim, Frances, Scott y Jamie, que han dedicado sus trvalidades como trabajadores en esta obra. Otras personas estan considerando comprometerse de la misma manera.

No existe la menor duda en la mente de los que trabajan por Cristo en nuestro pais vecino, que tenemos fe en El y en su obra en Mexico. Nuestras oraciones y promesas monetarias comprueban diariamente que estamos respaldando esta obra. Como dice el Hermano Camacho, "Soy Mexicano, si, pero tambien soy Americano, y esto es loque los Americanos hacen por el amor a Nuestro Senor Jesu-Cristo por Mexico." Nosotros decimos "Amen" a este dicho, y en nuestras obras tratamos de ser mas que eso, seremos Cristianos trabajando por Nuestro Senor Jesu-Cristo a traves de los testigos Bautistas del Septimo Dia.

The translation of this article into Spanish is for the benefit of our Mexican brethren who will also receive this issue of the Recorder.

July 1978

translation by Diane Merchani
**NATIONAL AMERICAN BAPTIST WOMEN'S UNION CONVENTION**

The week of May 15 was a memorable time for your editor. Tuesday and Wednesday were spent in meeting with the Executive Committee of N.A.B.W.U. President of our Women's Board, Ada Davis and I were present and we experienced a very pleasant and enriching time with these wonderful women who made up our committee. There were many things to be learned about the way the committee functions, and a great deal of our time those two days was spent in learning about each other and telling of the activities and goals of our women's groups.

For two short days, we were together constantly (except for sleeping) and there was a great deal of Christian camaraderie. We learned to know each other quite well, and each of us had an opportunity to speak before the group. It was a humbling experience, since your editor was, in a very real sense, representing all of Seventh Day Baptist women. As I listened to each of those women who was representing her own convention, it was a real prayer that I would do well for all of our women. They were all very receptive to each other.

So many wonderful thoughts were shared; so much real love shown; such a real desire to be friends together in our common cause; it was an unforgettable experience.

One of the committee members brought to us an adaptation of 'The Lord's Prayer.' Here it is:

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

You cannot say "Our..." if your life has but little space for other people and their needs.
You cannot say "Our Father..." if you do not demonstrate this relationship convincingly in daily living habits.
You cannot say "Who art in Heaven..." if all your interest and pursuits are based on earthly comforts and material things.
You cannot say "Hallowed be Thy name..." if you are satisfied with things as they are.
You cannot say "Thy will be done..." if you are unwilling or resentful of having it change your life.

*By Madeline Fitz Randolph*

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**MISSION NOTES**

**PRAYER CORNER**

**A Prayer Reminder for Each Day!**

**AUGUST 1978**

**PRAYER FOR**

1. Safe travel for the SDBWF delegates who are to enter the USA.
2. 1978 Session of the SDB World Federation.
3. Participants in the Youth Prix Con.
4. Staff and campers meeting for the Young Adult Fish Camp.
5. The Blessings of a quiet Sabbath in preparation for General Conference.
6. The 16th Session of SDB General Conference.
7. Chairmen of the committees of General Conference and the members of the committees.
8. Special speakers and musicians who have a part on the Conference program.
9. The directors of the Associated Conferences — thank Him for their dedication.
10. The love of Jesus to shine through in all of the deliberations.
11. The Conference president for strength to make it through the rest of the week.
12. Pray for God's day of rest.
13. Safe journey home from General Conference.
14. The SDBWF delegates for strength.
15. The new Conference president and his family.
16. Those who will be sharing their experience at Conference with their local churches.
17. The new board at Cran dall High School.
18. The SDBWF delegates who will be sharing the Sabbath with our churches in the USA.
19. The love to make an extra effort to share the blessings of the Sabbath with our church.
20. Pastor Street Gospel Chapel, Middletown, CT.
21. The Lord to lead the brethren in Jesus as they search for a new principal for the church.
22. Pastor and Mrs. Larry Graffius, White Cloud, MI.
23. The children who have been reached by YWB and summer camps.
24. Pastor and Mrs. Justin Cantera, Portland, OR.
25. Menzo and Audrey Fuller as they share their experiences and prepare to go to Malawi.
26. Thank God for freedom in worship. Pray you enjoy that freedom to its fullest.
27. Doug and Jane Mackintosh and their home in West Union, IA.
28. The people who will be the Lord in our churches.
29. The dedicated service worker in the church in Oklahoma.
30. Those listening for God's calling — Be He called you to serve Him?
31. The executive of our denominational boards and agencies.

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**The Sabbath Recorder**

**July 1978**

Verse for the month: “Let everyone bless God and sing His praises, for He holds our lives in His hands, and He holds our feet to the path. Blessed be God who didn’t turn away from me when I was praying, and didn’t refuse me His kindness and love.” —Psalm 66:8, 9, 20

- **MOZAMBIQUE** — Pastor A. L. Beneshe reports twelve baptized in June in the province of Nampula at Malena. He writes: “The church here in Mozambique is sending many greetings to all the brothers over there.”

- **JAMAICA** — Missionaries Doug and Jane Mackintosh were on furlough in mid-July. A new Cran dall High School is in the process of formation and the appointment of a new Jamaican principal is anticipated. Though the economic situation in Jamaica worsens, the leadership there is seeking to increase SDB students, the local support of CHS through the Jamaican Conference, and set realistic goals for the immediate future. They ask your prayers.

- **U.S.A.** — Open doors are being entered by local churches and Associations to establish new groups in new areas — extension growth! Eastern Association placed $500 in its budget to help establish a group in the Boston, MA, area. An initial meeting has already been held. The new Christ SDB Church, All Rock, AR, is working with new contacts in Memphis, TN, and regular meetings are planned with visiting and personal contacts.

- **WORLD FEDERATION** — Representatives from ten sister Conferences around the world are expected to participate in the '78 SESSION, August 2-6, at Alfred, NY. Designated gifts are coming in for this special event! If you, or your church (or group) have not yet contributed, such funds can be sent to the treasurer, Darlene J. McCull, 401 Washington Trl. Bldg., Westerly, RI 02891.

- **U.S.A.** — Two new missionary pastors began service July 1 — Dale D. Thornogate in Columbus, OH, and William J. Zaremba in Bay Area, CA. Both graduated from seminary this spring. Other new graduates that are also serving under the same plan are Ken Chroniger, Central SDB Church in Maryland; Kenneth Burkard at North Jersey SDB, NJ; and Larry E. Griffin at White Cloud, MI.

- **KENYA** — Annual Camp Meeting is scheduled for August 22-26. Joel L. O. Ouma writes: “The people enrolled for Bible Correspondence are doing good. I was home last holiday (from school in Nairobi) and I went around to meet people from different churches and teach them the Word. I enjoyed to be with them, but the problem is that it was raining very much so it was not easy to do the work of the Lord as we like.”

- **JAMAICA** — "Summer Crusades" are planned again for August, with meetings scheduled for the weaker churches. Training for workers will be at Maidin Hall where camps are also scheduled following Conference sessions at Luna SDB Church in mid-July. Pray for these outreach ministries!

- **U.S.A.** — On Sabbath, June 17, a meeting was held in Chehalis, WA to share with the public information regarding the beliefs of SDB’S. The Seattle church is sponsoring the meeting patterning it after similar meetings held in the Northwest. Sarah Becker, former missionary to Malawi and Clayton and Sandra Baumel are in charge of arrangements. Other area informational seminars are planned for the Fall.
SPECIAL CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES PLANNED

Plans for Pre-Cons, Associated Conferences, and Sabbath School classes at General Conference in Houghton are being finalized. Your experience at Conference will be enriched if you plan to attend the activity planned for your age group.

PRE-CONS

FAMILY CAMP August 3-6, 1978
Place: Camp Harley Sutton, Alfred Station, N.Y.
Theme: THE CHRISTIAN FAMILY: "GOD'S GOOD NEWS!"
Staff: Directors - Donald and Jean Pierce
Lecturer and Discussion Leader: Rev. Victor Shags
Devotions: Mrs. Madge Sutton
Recreation: Ronald and Luan Ellis
Sabbath School Lesson: Rev. Albert Rogers
fee: Adults (19 and older) $18.00
Youth (12-18) 14.00
Children (2-11) 10.00

THE ADULT SABBATH SCHOOL CLASS will be divided into thirteen sections, each section discussing the relationship of an Interest Committee in relation to the Conference theme.

THE YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S CLASSES will be organized and located by Associated Conference groups.

Associated Conferences for Children

Kindergarten — Earl and Dianne Hibbard, directors
theme: “The Basic Fruit: LOVE”

Primary — Socrates Thompson, director
theme: “God Loves”

Junior — Susie Pinder, director
Junior High — Robert Van Horn

Associated Conferences will have a sharing time Sabbath afternoon.

YOUTH CONCERNS

In response to needs expressed by Youth at the 1977 Conference, a Senior High Associated Conference for ages 15-18 will be held at Houghton this summer.

Joyce Lyons, the director, has planned an interesting and varied program around the theme, “In Everything We Do, Give Thanks.” This program includes Bible study, learning activities, attending interest groups and an all-day visit to Letchworth Park, returning in time to attend the special feature program in the evening.

The National Youth Fellowship officers have worked with special staff at Houghton to provide recreation after the evening meetings:

Sunday: Business meeting
Monday: Sports night
Tuesday: 6:00 Banquet and speaker
Hike and bonfire
Wednesday: All day trip to Letchworth Park
Evening speaker — sports figure — Coffee House
Thursday: to be announced
Friday: Youth prepare for the Sabbath
AFTER THE SABBATH NIGHT:
YOUTH CELEBRATION

The Adult Sabbath School Class

There was a house to be built.
All agreed.
The need.
The location.
The resources.
Even the builder.

But, he had no real experience in building. True, he had books on the subject. True, he had talked with others about such a job.

But he had never done it.

Yet, he did sense the need and wanted, as much as anyone else, to see it done. Thus he had bought some tools—hammer, saw, even a power saw (in spite of the fact that there was no electric power "on site"). He shared his vision, his interest, his committal to see that house built. But...

A young man joined into these group discussions one day. He was "new" and many hardly knew his name. Few knew his background, his family. But he was welcomed, to a point. As interest, theory and sharing of how others had built filled the hour this young man was receptive and strangely silent. Then, just before the set time for closing, he asked, "And when do you plan to begin?" Each looked to the other for someone to answer.

"I'm ready," he said. "Can I meet someone? I'm willing to help." But, all without exception made excuse. Previous plans. No experience. Did not fully agree on the plan. They thanked the young man, invited him back to their next regular meeting, and adjourned.

Could this really have happened?

Perhaps. Several churches have small groups called "Growth Forces." They have met for some time to review needs, possibilities, sites, types of "buildings," methods of "construction," and how others are doing it. Some, like the young man express their commitment, "I'm ready." But what then?

These are days of real opportunity! These are days when eyes have been opened. Expectations are there. Even the need(s) have been identified. "Tools" are in hand. But...

Many God grant that Church Growth -- a viable and working plan in countless churches across our land and around the world -- will not be just another "unworkable program" (in some people's thought). It can be the beginning of a NEW YOU! A NEW MINISTRY! A NEW CHURCH! AND OTHER NEW CHURCHES TOO! Is this your prayer? Your commitment? Your working experience? It can be...
ADVENTURE IN GROWTH

by K. O. Hurley

Exciting! Rewarding! Spiritually invigorating! These and many other adjectives are being used to describe an encouraging new "adventure in growth" among Seventh Day Baptists.

Within the past months, there have been —
— more fellowsformed,
— more churches established,
— more students studying the ministry,
— more pastors ordained
than at any other comparable period of time since the turn of the century.

There is evidence, through the growth studies in our churches, that more and more people are actively engaged in searching the Scriptures; are earnestly seeking to discover and utilize their God-given "gifts"; and are experiencing spiritual renewal. Underlying such developments is certain to be — and must continue to be — a strong pastoral leadership and devoted lay participation.

Skepticism regarding our denomination’s ability to grow is slowly, but surely, being dispelled. How do we now capture the spirit of bold new adventure and really capitalize on our growth potentials? By reviewing the experiences of other groups, some revealing hints can be discovered.

Dr. O. D. Emery, general secretary of Church Education in the Wesleyan Church, recently conducted a survey of the 50 fastest growing churches in that denomination and reported his findings in the March/April issue of CHURCH GROWTH: AMERICA.

Three basic areas of strength, he indicated, appear consistently in churches experiencing growth. These are attitudes, leadership, and work for growth.

In these categories, he emphasizes the following points:

ATTITUDE STRENGTHS: "A good congregational climate is much more important than eloquent preaching or an attractive building. ... A growing congregation understands that God's church is a place where Christ can be reached with the gospel ... We desperately need a growth conscience."

LEADERSHIP STRENGTHS: "Growing churches have purposeful, goal-directed, achievement-oriented leadership. Some of this leadership must necessarily be found in the pastor. However, all growing churches have strong lay leadership, as well. As the leadership nucleus seeks to know what God intends for their church, they find themselves extended in vision, humbled by grace, and committed to serve as stimuli for the entire congregational body in their efforts to be effective stewards of Christ's Great Commission."

OUTREACH STRENGTHS: "In a growing church the method is never considered as important as the task. Under God, a healthy church possesses a growth conscience which prompts it to 'Outreach at all costs,' and then find the methods that will be most successful. ... A growing church does not content itself to sing 'Rescue the perishing, care for the dying ...' as a prayer to God, but rather as instruction and challenge to itself with God's guidance, concerning its own sacred duty."

With reference to the fastest growing churches, Dr. Emery highlighted the discovery "that they vary greatly in size, location, facilities, and approaches ... it means that churches are growing in size in rural areas as well as large cities, in the South and in the North, in the West and the East. Growing churches are comprised of business executive as well as farmers, high income as well as low income laity. There are white churches, as well as minority churches experiencing growth."

"We also discovered," he concluded, "that doctrine does not, in and of itself, either contribute to or hinder growth at the local church level. Growth seems to be more related to the broader issue of evangelism and the application of principles of growth by the local church constituencies."

All of this should be encouraging to Seventh Day Baptists and helps to validate the growth principles we have been learning and putting into practice.

Equally confirming are "common denominators for both church and individual growth" as revealed in an extensive study made by Seventh-day Adventists among 3,217 members in 28 of their churches. Six rapidly growing churches in the study all had "a deeply consecrated and committed laity." The writer of the report, Dr. Gottfried Oosterwal, professor of Mission and of Comparative Religion at Andrews University, in the June 1978 issue of MINISTRY indicates that "contrary to the general belief that these lay members should be involved in the 'official' program of the church in order to make the church grow, the findings show that the success of the laity as a factor in soul winning comes through spontaneous witnessing — believers giving an account of their faith in their daily lives and contacts with people at work and in society.

"One of the most urgent tasks of the church, therefore, is to stimulate and to prepare the church membership for this roll of spontaneous witnessing, according to their particular spiritual gifts, interests, and special talents. 'Training should be built on the diversity of the gifts that characterize each local church.'"

"All the growing churches," Dr. Oosterwal concludes, "were, indeed, churches with a very warm fellowship, stimulated by both the minister and the believers."

Of course, not all churches in any denomination — nor all individuals within those churches — are growing. But most Seventh Day Baptists, along with many other Christians, I believe, really "have a deep desire to serve God and to use their many spiritual gifts, their talents, and their funds to accomplish the task for which God has called them together."

So, it behooves us to continue to organize workshops in church growth; to establish growth forces in our churches; to utilize our trained and experienced growth force leaders; to set realistic growth goals; and to pray and work for growth.

If we devote proper attention to it, utilizing our talents, our energies, and our resources effectively, our adventure in growth will surely continue. We will set new records and be inspired to shout out, even more joyfully, our praises to the Lord.

Hallelujah!

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You shall be witnesses for me in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. Acts 1:8 TEV

The Commission of Jesus Christ comes to me even as it comes to you as a disciple of Jesus Christ.

How do I fulfill this commission?

1. I fulfill this commission first of all by the life that I live. This is the most important witness that I can make. I can also share with others what Jesus means to me.

2. I can share in the fellowship and witness of the local church. Our gathering together in worship shares our faith. The love which I share with members of the church is a fulfillment of the Commission of Jesus Christ. As I support the local church with my time, my talent and my substance I help fulfill this commission.

3. There is a wider aspect to this commission, an aspect wider than I am able to personally attend to. Yet working with others this part of the Commission of our Lord can be met also. God gives different gifts to different persons. I cannot do everything by myself. Working through Seventh Day Baptists and through the support of Our World Mission, I can print materials for witness and study, I can support leadership in various areas: new churches, small churches, other lands, I can provide training for Christian service. I can do this because you are working with me, and together with God and the Holy Spirit we can fulfill the commission of Jesus Christ.

In fulfillment of Christ's Great Commission, I return to God what I can do through my own personal witness; through the use of my time, talent and material possessions. The Commission extends to the ends of the earth, and I am limited by the time and ability to be in many places. Yet I have a part in the wider ministry by my commitment and my willingness to give of that which God has prospered me in fulfilling this part of Christ's Commission.

My support of the Seventh Day Baptists' OUR WORLD MISSION extends my witness, my response in service.

We have the joy of fellowship and filling at Conference time. In response to the joy that I know in Christ and Christian fellowship, I am going to give an extra offering in August which says THIS IS MY LOVE OFFERING TO CHRIST AND HIS WORK!

WON'T YOU JOIN ME? Together we will feed the roots so that an abundance of good fruit will be borne.
In 1976 the General Conference met in session at Houghton College, N.Y., at which time the "Commitment to Growth" program was introduced. Once again, we are meeting at Houghton and it is evident that the Lord has blessed in these past two years as we see spiritual and numerical growth among our people. A listing of the new churches and groups reveal that much has been accomplished and that a new day for Seventh Day Baptists has dawned.

NEW CHURCHES — 1976
North Jersey
Basking Ridge, NJ
New York City
Bronx, NY

NEW CHURCHES — 1977
Columbus, Ohio
Sunshine Mountain
Chatawa, MS

NEW CHURCHES — 1978
Central Church
Upper Marlboro, MD
Christ Church
Little Rock, AR
Dallas - Ft. Worth, TX
Houston, TX
Middletown, CT
Portland, OR
Upper East Tennessee
Blountville, TN

NEW GROUPS — 1978
Boston, MA
Memphis, TN

Share God's vision for growth that the world might be saved.
New registration forms are being used this year which can be used either by individuals or by families. It is no longer necessary for each person in a family to fill out a registration form, but one family can use just one form. In the case of family registrations, the number of people taking advantage of a particular package (room and board) arrangement should be written in the appropriate box.

There is real advantage to PRE-REGISTERING and PRE-PAYING before getting to Conference. This will greatly speed up the registration process for you, shortening what could be an hour plus of waiting in line to a short process of having your pre-registration confirmed and receiving a packet already prepared for you. This packet will contain your room assignment, meal ticket, and other materials you will be needing for Conference. BE SURE TO PRE-REGISTER EARLY.

There are a limited number of camping spots available on the Houghton campus. These are offered on a first-come first-served basis. As of this writing, three of these spots have already been requested. Additional camping off the campus is also available, but arrangements there must be made by the camper directly with the desired camping facility.

No confirmation of pre-registration will be done unless specifically requested. If you wish a confirmation, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Confirmation will only be made prior to July 15.

When you pre-register, pay special attention to these points:
1) The registration fee is NOT included in the package deal. Be sure to add it in.
2) Registration and package deal costs for youth 11-16 are less and for children under 10 are considerably less. There will be nursery services available the major portion of each day. Don’t be afraid to bring your family and enjoy Conference.
3) You don’t have to worry about whether you managed to get one of the air-conditioned rooms or not. All rooms are comfortable and none are air-conditioned.
4) Conference registration costs for those attending Pre-Con are less.
5) Be sure to include your check made out to "SDB GENERAL CONFERENCE HOST COMMITTEE."
6) Be sure to add correctly and send the correct amount. This is a common mistake in pre-registering, and will add to your time of registration when you arrive at Conference. Double check your addition. 

Attention — parents of young children — come and enjoy taking part in Conference this year! Yes, you can take part, because your little ones can be cared for. They’ll be in good hands. There will be two staff members to care for infants in one room. Right across the hall there will be two more staff members to care for the older children (1-4). The hours for the nursery are: 9-12, 1:30-4:30, and 7-9.

This committee is also making arrangements for the President’s Reception on Sunday evening and coffee hours for the other nights. All physical arrangements are being made for the week’s meetings.

**Otherwise known as "Herb’s Blurbs"**

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**CHILDREN — RECEPTIONS**

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**SELECT ONE OF THESE FOUR LOGOS TO REPRESENT SEVENTH DAY BAPTISTS**

The open Bible expresses SDBs’ reliance on Scripture as the infallible source of all truth and wisdom. Undergirding the whole structure is the Cross of Christ. From that foundation, the enterprise expands ever upward and outward in witness for Christ. The rising sun indicates the beginning of growth; the arching rays represent the outreach of evangelistic influence into society at large. The sun is also reminiscent of Creation and the recurring Sabbath cycle taught which links Seventh Day Baptists with the Biblical base for Sabbath observance.

The empty cross stands for Christianity and the central place of Jesus Christ in the Christian faith. The dove symbolized the peace that the cross will bring by the gift of the Holy Spirit. The sunrise represents the new dawn for Seventh Day Baptists and is reminiscent of Creation and the recurring Sabbath cycle taught in the Scriptures. The circle represents God’s love — without beginning or end, and is large enough to include all who respond in life-giving faith in Jesus Christ.

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**GOD’S BLESSINGS ON THE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE!**

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The seven-sided polygon symbolizes the seven days of the week with the “Creator's Sabbath” as the base, as well as of the Christian shield of faith. The leaning cross represents Christ (His life, death, resurrection and coming again with power and glory), and the forward action of evangelism and missionary growth, and personal development.

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**SEE YOU AT HOUGHTON AUGUST 6-12**

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**BE PREPARED TO OFFICIALLY ADOPT A LOGO AT THE 1978 SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST GENERAL CONFERENCE MEETING IN HOUGHTON, NY, AUGUST 6-12**

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**SEE YOU AT HOUGHTON AUGUST 6-12**

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The Sabbath Recorder

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July 1978
On May 6, Mr. Leigh Stewart, moderator of the chairman for the day, held on June 17 during the SCSC training program. The church is being installed in the social hall, Congoleum and Mrs. Saunders brought the room and wiring. Without them, these improvements would not have been possible. The church Aid had carpeting installed in the social hall, Congoleum in the kitchen and restroom, and Astro-turf type carpeting at the entrances. The Church Aid sponsored a holiday bazaar and a spring rummage sale.

Many participated in the annual Homecoming events in March. Color slides of the fifty-first Homecoming were shown, with the people present standing up in front of the church. For Sabbath worship included Shiloh (10), Verona (9), Brookfield (9), Salem (7), Fouke, Milton, and North Loup (6 each). Daytona Beach seems to be the melting pot of our denomination. Various people have written the advertising in the local papers and churches and beliefs. The Communication Committee sponsors this outreach. The church members and friends gathered. They have been a busy winter for the Daytona Beach seems to be the melting pot of our denomination. Various people have written the advertising in the local papers and churches and beliefs. The Communication Committee sponsors this outreach. The church members and friends gathered. They have been a busy winter for the Daytona Beach seems to be the melting pot of our denomination. Various people have written the advertising in the local papers and churches and beliefs. The Communication Committee sponsors this outreach. The church members and friends gathered. They have been a busy winter for the Daytona Beach seems to be the melting pot of our denomination. Various people have written the advertising in the local papers and churches and beliefs. The Communication Committee sponsors this outreach. The church members and friends gathered. They have been a busy winter for the Daytona Beach seems to be the melting pot of our denomination. Various people have written the advertising in the local papers and churches and beliefs. The Communication Committee sponsors this outreach. The church members and friends gathered. They have been a busy winter for the Daytona Beach seems to be the melting pot of our denomination. Various people have written the advertising in the local papers and churches and beliefs. The Communication Committee sponsors this outreach. The church members and friends gathered. They have been a busy winter for the Daytona Beach seems to be the melting pot of our denomination. Various people have written the advertising in the local papers and churches and beliefs. The Communication Committee sponsors this outreach. The church members and friends gathered. They have been a busy winter for the Daytona Beach seems to be the melting pot of our denomination. Various people have written the advertising in the local papers and churches and beliefs. The Communication Committee sponsors this outreach. The church members and friends gathered. They have been a busy winter for the Daytona Beach seems to be the melting pot of our denomination. Various people have written the advertising in the local papers and churches and beliefs. The Communication Committee sponsors this outreach. The church members and friends gathered. They have been a busy winter for the Daytona Beach seems to be the melting pot of our denomination. Various people have written the advertising in the local papers and churches and beliefs. The Communication Committee sponsors this outreach. The church members and friends gathered. They have been a busy winter for the Daytona Beach seems to be the melting pot of our denomination. Various people have written the advertising in the local papers and churches and beliefs. The Communication Committee sponsors this outreach. The church members and friends gathered. They have been a busy winter for the Daytona Beach seems to be the melting pot of our denomination. Various people have written the advertising in the local papers and churches and beliefs. The Communication Committee sponsors this outreach. The church members and friends gathered. They have been a busy winter for the Daytona Beach seems to be the melting pot of our denomination. Various people have written the advertising in the local papers and churches and beliefs. The Communication Committee sponsors this outreach. The church members and friends gathered. They have been a busy winter for the Daytona Beach seems to be the melting pot of our denomination. Various people have written the advertising in the local papers and churches and beliefs. The Communication Committee sponsors this outreach. The church members and friends gathered. They have been a busy winter for the Daytona Beach seems to be the melting pot of our denomin
CHURCH ORGANIZED — PASTOR CAMENGA ORDAINED

A “Double-Feature Sabbath” was the exciting experience of Seventh Day Baptist Church members in the area of Portland, Oregon, on June 3, to formally organize a new church and to ordain its pastor, C. Justin Camenga.

Justin and Sue Camenga and their two children came from Wisconsin to Portland, Oregon, in the fall of 1970. After several years of attending area churches, and public school teaching in special education, Justin enrolled in graduate studies at Portland State University. Graduating in 1975 the group found more stability and moved to Portland, Oregon, in the fall of 1975.

After a fellowship hour, Justin Camenga led in a devotional worship service, and the formal organization of the Portland Area Seventh Day Baptist Church took place. Richard Steele, formerly a deacon of the Denver church, spoke, with a history of the formation of the group and its development to this decision to form a church and ordain a pastor. Larry Sanford, president of the Seattle Area church, told of the endorsement of this decision from the “mother church” and Pastor Alton Wheeler and others reported the support of the Pacific Coast Association and the greetings from denominational leaders. The church has prepared its statement of beliefs and covenant, and plans to leave its Charter Membership list open for several weeks to see if others would like to unite with the new church. The following eight people signed the Covenant on June 3: Claud Burson, Letha Burson, C. Justin Camenga, Eric Camenga, Steve Garris, Susan Garris, Richard Steele and Virginia Steele. (Justin and the Steeles will be joining by letter from the Seattle Area church; the rest have not been members of other SDB churches.)

Following the church’s organization, a council to consider the ordination of C. Justin Camenga was formed, including the members of the Portland Area Seventh Day Baptist Church. Present Richard Steele was chosen chairman and Letha Burson, clerk, for the day. Mr. Camenga gave a statement of his Christian conversion and experience and the factors in his life leading up to this time. After a bountiful fellowship dinner provided by the Portland Area church, the council returned to hear the candidate’s statement of Belief. After the Statement of Belief was given and questions were asked and discussed, the council retired to reach a decision in private. They soon returned to announce to the assembly that they had voted unanimously for ordination. They are to proceed with the ordination at once.

The Service of Ordination was conducted by Dean Herbert E. Saunders, who gave a Charge to the Candidate. A Charge to the Church was presented by Dr. Alton L. Wheeler, and the prayer with laying on of hands was given by Rev. John M. Peil. Pastor Duane L. Davis then gave a Welcome to the Ministry, after which the Rev. Justin Camenga pronounced the benediction prayer.

Portland, Oregon, is one of the five major cities of the United States West Coast, and with its suburbs has over three-quarters of a million people. The members of the new church are enthusiastic about their opportunities for outreach and growth, and believe God has given them a fertile field for the gospel of Christ as understood and practiced by Seventh Day Baptists. The four families now regularly represent their region. They have presented a thought-provoking Sabbath Morning service; held a youth retreat, attended a basketball game; an Anything Goes Party, and an April Fool’s Day Baptist General Conference, as they taught their region. All the youth groups from three-year-olds to teens meet for an hour on Friday night and from this have grown many additional activities for each level.

We are thankful for the many life-enriching experiences that the church provides and for God’s continuing guidance. —Cathy Dixon

 ATTENTION YOUTH

SHILOH, NC — Our Shiloh SDB Church has been blessed with so many special events added to our regular busy schedule that finding time to write about them is sometimes difficult. Spiritually, we were lifted up at Easter by our choir’s performance of Gaither’s and Huff’s “Alleluia!” led by John Easley. John led the Easter sunrise service, despite the rain storm; and especially by the addition of four other events to the usual – eleven by baptism, one by testimony and two by letter. Christian Family Day saw seven babies and youngsters dedicated to God.


Musically, we have been inspired by presentations, mostly at Friday evening services, by vocalist Dan Croninger, by Marietta Gray Fansler with original songs and her own paintings to illustrate each, by the Bees, and by the Joy Singers, a group sponsored by South Jersey Youth for Christ.

Socially, barbershop music was enjoyed at the Men’s Fellowship Sweetheart’s Night for Valentine’s Day. Exercise was available at the church skating party; and Pastor Camenga and his fiance, Christina Rogers, at the All Church Social.

Physically, we have not been neglected. Besides four Sabbath Emphasis dinners, our bodies have been sustained by a Mother-Daughter Banquet cooked and served by the Men’s Fellowship, a Sports Banquet for those who participated in the Basketball League, a spaghetti dinner, a dixie-drip dinner, and a soup supper.

The young people, not to be outdone, have presented a thought-provoking Sabbath Morning service, held a youth retreat, attended a Phillies ball game, an Anything Goes Party, and an April Fool’s Day. All the youth groups from three-year-olds to teens meet for an hour on Friday night and from this have grown many additional activities for each level.

We are thankful for the many life-enriching experiences that the church provides and for God’s continuing guidance. —Cathy Dixon

SUMMER CHRISTIAN SERVICE CORPS 1978

“For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, they are plans for good, not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.” Jer. 29:11.

1978 Workers
JoAnne Burdick Boulder, CO
John Lima Milton, WI
Christina Boyd New Enterprise, PA
Lori Mans Chetek, WI
Donata Richards Bridgetown, NJ
Doreen Sanford Milton, WI
Rachel Drake Shinglehouse, PA
Lauree Horton Alfred Station, NY
Mark Jacob Pomona Park, FL
Karen Seager Little Rock, AR
David Tresser Columbus, OH
Annmarie Johnson Milton, WI
Lisa Williams North Loup, NE

1978 Projects
S.D.B. Church New Auburn, WI
S.D.B. Church Battle Creek, MI
S.D.B. Church Peotocock, IA
S.D.B. Church Tucson, AZ
S.D.B. Church Champaign, IL
S.D.B. Churches Vermont, NY
DeRuyter, NY

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S.D.B. Church Tucson, AZ
S.D.B. Church Champaign, IL
S.D.B. Churches Vermont, NY
DeRuyter, NY

ATTENTION YOUTH

Suggested topics for Youth Fellowship Study for August

Bearing the Fruit Scripture—John 15:1-18
Matt. 5:3-48
Gal. 5:23-24

July 1978
HAVENS ORDAINED NEW CHURCH WELCOMED

The 140th Annual Meeting of the Eastern Association of Seventh Day Baptists convened in Westerly, Rhode Island, May 19-21. Rev. Leon R. Lawton, Association president, called the meeting to order and presided over its various functions, including the business meeting which was held on Sunday, May 21. A large number of members and friends were in attendance from throughout the Northeast, plus delegates and visitors from other areas of the country.

Theme for the Association was, “Disciples—Chosen To Know, Committed To Grow, Commissioned To Show.” At the opening service, Rev. Herbert Saunders, dean of the Center on Ministry, spoke. On Sabbath morning, Rev. Charles Bond, pastor of the Shilo, NJ, SDB Church, presented the message. Sunday morning, following the business session, Rev. David Pearson, pastor of the Plainfield SDB Church, concluded the weekend by speaking on the third aspect of the theme.

Three special events highlighted the Association. Pastor Russell W. Havens, pastor of the host church, was ordained to the office of elder in the ministry of the church. Pastor Havens presented his statement of inquiry of the candidate. Following their questions and approval, he was ordained at 3:30 PM, Sabbath afternoon, May 20. Rev. Everett T. Harris offered the invocation. Rev. Donald Richards read 2 Timothy 4:1-8. Rev. Elmo Fitz Randolph, chairman of the Council on Ministry, preached the sermon. Rev. Rex Bardick presented the candidate. Rev. Herbert Saunders presented the Charge to the Candidate. Deacon Maurice Young made inquiry of the candidate. Hiram W. Barber, III, president of the local congregation, made inquiry of the congregation. Rev. Charles Bond presented the Charge to the Church. Rev. Leon Lawton, joined by a large number of ordained persons, offered the prayer of ordination. Rev. Dale Rood presented the Charge to the Ministry. Mrs. Paula Havens sang two hymns chosen by Pastor Havens, “Children of the Heavenly Father” and “Amazing Grace.” Mrs. Kathy Miller was the organist.

The special event of the weekend was a concert of sacred music presented by the Senior Choir of Victory Tabernacle Seventh Day Christian Church of New York City, directed by Mrs. Myrtle G. Phillips. The choir presented a variety of music which thrilled the congregations and brought it to its feet with a standing ovation at the conclusion.

Earl Stocking, Howard McAuliffe, and Paul Gawlik, officers of the Pine Street Gospel Chapel of Middletown, CT, were welcomed as representatives of the new member church in the Eastern Association by President Leon R. Lawton. The Pine Street Chapel has been an independent Sabbatarian church for over fifty years.

The third special event was the welcoming of a new church into the Association. Messrs. Paul Gawlik, moderator; Howard McAuliffe, secretary; and Earl Stocking, treasurer, of the Pine Street Gospel Chapel of Middletown, CT, were present and introduced themselves to the meeting. The moderator presented a letter of request from the Chapel for membership in the Eastern Association, and the request was granted by an unanimous rising vote with a round of applause. President Leon Lawton welcomed the three representatives and extended to them the right hand of fellowship in behalf of the Association.

A singspiration was led by Rev. Dale Rood and Mrs. Kathy Miller on Sabbath afternoon. In addition, various group meetings convened in the afternoon.

The entire weekend was filled with an air of expectancy, and as the Association concluded its business and worship it was felt that God had blessed in a “more abundant” manner than had been expected. Discipleship had taken on deeper meaning.

BATTLE CREEK INVITES CONFERENCE-BOUND TO VISIT

Check out I-94 through southern Michigan and 401 and 2 through Canada as the shortest, quickest, most scenic, least expensive route (no tolls except the bridge or tunnel into and out of Canada).

Spend the Sabbath before Conference begins as guests of the Battle Creek church at camp Holston on beautiful Cotton Lake just three miles south of I-94. The camp has been reserved for your FREE use. (Please bring your own bedclothes and pillow cases.) Battle Creek to Houghton is eight hours driving time according to AAA.

Write ahead to the Battle Creek Seventh Day Baptist Church, 196 N. Washington Avenue, Battle Creek, MI 49017 to insure your reservation or leave I-94 at Battle Creek’s Capital Avenue exit, Exit 97, and call the church office (964-3124 day or night) or Arnold Davis, camp custodian (964-2800). Please indicate if you have your own travel trailer or tent that you plan to use or if you wish beds in the dorms and how many.

Join us for Sabbath Creek worship and our meal of sharing following the worship service. Sabbath School is at 9:45, Church at 11:00.

PACIFIC COAST ASSOCIATION

RIVERSIDE, CA — The Pacific Coast Association convened at the Riverside SDB Church April 21-23 using the theme “Ye Shall Be Witnesses” which was a continuation of the Commitment to Growth program. It was a time when as an association we considered our commitment to growth and discussed the question, “Where do we go from here?”

Secretary K. Duane Hurley and his wife Shireen attended and shared denominational matters, music, and good fellowship with us. Representatives from Seattle, Portland, the Bay Area, and Portland PCA were available for a lively, inspirational weekend enjoyed by all.

In the Sunday morning business meeting, the following programs and ideas were agreed upon:

1) The PCA is entering into the Missionary Pastor plan of the Bay Area Church by providing $3,500 each year for three years.
2) In anticipation of hosting General Conference in 1982, a conference committee will be selected.
3) The Portland Area Branch Church will become a member church of PCA at the same time it organizes as a church. (This was accomplished June 3, at which time there was an ordination service for Justin Camenga.)
4) It was agreed that the PCA endorse and encourage home mission endeavors helping with support to persons feeling the call of the Lord to serve in new areas of witness and service. A committee was appointed to establish guidelines, promote funds, and publicize this evangelistic approach.

More Than a Name

For many years TV viewers have enjoyed the game “To Tell the Truth.” Interesting individuals are identified, but not before the puzzle of their being with two contenders. Will the real ... please stand up!... brings the revelation.

The second meeting of the Seventh Day Baptist World Federation (SDBWF) at Houghton College, the opportunity to meet face to face, SDB leaders from other countries. We can see, talk with, and better understand their lives, ministers, and the works of the Lord in other SDB conferences. What an opportunity!

In this way, Christian brethren from Guiana, Malaia, the Philippines, Holland, Jamaica, England, and other lands will become more than names.

Note: The SDBWF '78 Session budget is being supported through a special appeal. You and your church can have the joy of vital participation in this great event. Most SDB’s live in economic poverty compared to the USA. Your response is needed.

-Rev. Leon Lawton

Scripture Gems

Favorite Bible texts selected by pastors and ministerial students.

Rev. Francis D. Saunders
Berea, W. Va.

-Be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God.

(Romans 12:2)

-Through the years this verse has come to mean more and more to me; perhaps because I am aware of our natural tendency to mold the image of our Christian experience into that of the world in which we live. We are prone to pattern our witness to the standards set by the world. Our voices join in the chorus of its language! We bounce to the beat of its rhythm! Somehow the level we thus reach conforms to that of the society in which we live when we really could and should be transformed in the likeness of His dear Son.

The “renewing of our minds” should lift us high above the level of the world and its passions, proving what is that “good and acceptable and perfect will of God.” That proving can be taking place daily in our lives as we continue in the process of “being perfect, even as your Father in Heaven is perfect.” This doesn’t take place by conforming our standards to those of the world around us. When we finally face to face with Him, we shall be like Him, not because He has changed and conforms to the world, but because we have been “transformed by the renewing of our minds.”
The June 4 meeting of the Historical Society trustees endorsed proposed revisions of the General Conference by approving a resolution in favor of the new proposal at a Conference to replace the Commission and Planning Committee. The resolution, signed by Mr. and Mrs. Roger, President of Alfred State, N.Y., said the proposals recognize the Historical Society as one of several agencies related to General Conference.

Thomas L. Market, historian, compared the new plan to the federal government in which there are allocations of responsibilities, representation, etc. Mr. Market pointed out, as well as our basic loyalty. Concern was expressed for mutual respect across the denomination and flexibility in future structure changes which may be necessary.

Frederic J. Bakker was recognized for his twenty-five years of service as a trustee of the Society. He and Mrs. Bakker also celebrated with a special cake at the buffet luncheon at the Orange R.I., and the Rev. Victor W. Skaggs, N. J., secretary, and the Rev. Jennie W. Skaggs, North Loup, NE, were honored for five years of service. The Historical Society conference continued, from 1937 to 1965, during which time he assumed ever-increasing responsibilities, including the office of President, and

10 years as Trustee and Secretary of the Historical Society Conference, from 1968 to the present; and

Whereas these many years of their concurrent service total more than 50 years of voluntary labor on behalf of the Seventh Day Baptist Denomination; therefore

Be it resolved, that the Seventh Day Baptist Historical Society, in appreciation of the opportunity of its annual meeting to express its profound gratitude to FREDERICK J. RAHR.

For the 4th day of June, 1978,

Albert N. Rogers, Pres.

BOULDER, CO
Elmo F. Randolph, Pastor

By Baptism:
Carol L. (Mary) Heusser
Bruce Buchanan
Carrie Wilson
Jerome (Mrs. Calvin) Walker

ACCESSIONS

From Houghton to the Buffalo Airport is roughly 65 miles. It is a long walk, and I hate to think of a taxi fare for such a trip. So if you are not a marathon runner (or walker) and you have money to spend on a taxi let me know your arrival time and I will give you money to OWM.

BOURKE, P.O. Box 238

By Baptism:
Cambria L. (Mrs. Wm. E.) Schiffer
William E. Schiffer
William E. Schiffer, III

VOCATIONS BULLETIN BOARD

We invite our readers to share job opportunities, desires, items of interest, etc., through our Vocations Bulletin Board.

The Sabbath Recorder

JULY 1978
The sun was up and so was Petey. From his top bunk he looked down at Clarence on the bottom. Clarence was wide-awake too. They grinned at each other and hopped out of bed. “One-Two-Three! Let’s go!” exclaimed Petey. ZOOM! The two boys got dressed, made their beds, brushed their hair, and washed their faces in four minutes and twenty-seven seconds. (At least Petey did. Clarence had trouble getting his socks on right so he was just a few seconds slower.) They were excited because today was the first day of their vacation and they were going to Salt Lake in Utah.

When they arrived at the lake, Petey and Clarence could hardly wait to get wet. Neither of the boys had learned how to swim yet. Were they surprised to find themselves floating with ease this lake! The salt in the water lifted them up. In the other lakes and pools the boys had been to, their feet always sank to the bottom. They really liked it here in Salt Lake.

On the way home that evening the boys talked and talked about how they loved to swim and how the salt lifted them up. Clarence said, “Boy, I’m glad God decided to make salt. It does two things I like. It makes corn on the cob soft enough to eat and it makes me tall!”

“Tall?” asked Petey. “Why?”

Clarence said, “Boy, you know boys, there’s a verse in the Bible that means that salt of the earth: but if the salt has lost its savor, where­ever it is sown it will never produce good things.”

Petey replied, “Boy, that’s a funny verse. It means people should be cheerful and helpful.”

“Right,” said Clarence. “When we have Jesus in our hearts, we can be cheerful and helpful too. Just like salt can make corn on the cob soft enough to eat, salt makes our lives better.”

“Petey,” exclaimed Clarence, “if we don’t keep Jesus in our hearts, we won’t be able to share Him with others. We are like salt when we have Jesus in our lives. Just like salt of the earth: but if the salt has lost its savor, wherever it is sown it will never produce good things.”

Petey smiled, “Boy, I’m going to keep Jesus in my heart so my salt will always be full.”

—Susan Bond

THE POWERFUL LITTLE FLY

The fly had just finished feasting on the carcass of a millipede. His tummy felt so full and good he wanted to fine someone to tease. Suddenly he spied Mr. Hippopotamus basking on a sunny sandbank. He buzzed past the lazy hippo’s head, tickled his ear, and said, “Do you know I’m stronger than you are?”

The sleepy hippo answered, “Don’t be ridiculous. Go away and leave me alone.”

“If you don’t believe it,” teased the fly, “just wait around awhile and you’ll see.”

He buzzed into the hippo’s ear. He tickled his nostrils. The hippo twitched his ears, tossed his head, sneered, and finally got up and lumbered lazily off into the water where the fly couldn’t bother him anymore.

“See. What did I tell you?” boasted the little fly, as he circled over the hippo a last time and headed back toward the forest. He was so happy he’d been born a strong little fly, and not a lazy hippo. All of a sudden BANG! He ran into a wall he couldn’t see. It was springy and sticky. His feet got caught in it. He tried every way to get unstuck but couldn’t. It was a spider’s web.

Sometimes we feel quite proud of ourselves and boast about the big things we can do and the wonderful plans we have. Yet we never know what lies ahead of us. The Bible says, “Don’t brag about your plans for tomorrow - wait and see what happens!” (Proverbs 27:1)

By ourselves we have nothing to brag about. Every day of our life is a gift from God. 


Seventh Day Baptist Ministries and Outreach

THINKING ABOUT GIVING...

The financial support of Christ’s Kingdom upon this earth depends upon you and me. Jesus gave us a Commission “to go and make disciples.” Jesus sent laborers out to share the message of the Kingdom and gave them instructions. Among the instructions He gave, He also made this statement found in Luke 10:7, “the laborer is worthy of his hire.” He depends upon each one of us to support the laborers who serve His Kingdom as a vocation.

As Seventh Day Baptists, we do not demand a tithe for the work of God. This is not a prerequisite for being a member of the church or the denomination. Paul speaks about giving in 2 Cor. 9:6-15. A key thought in this passage is, “Each one should give, then, as he has decided, not with regret or out of a sense of duty; for God loves the one who gives gladly.”

He also writes to Corinth another time: 1 Cor. 16:2, “Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.”

We hold up the tithe as a Biblical principle which also has the sanction of Jesus Christ, who says that our giving of the tithe should be coupled with living a life of justice, mercy, and honesty.

LET’S DREAM A LITTLE: 

As we dream, let us ask: What greater ministry could my church render if we all tithe our income? What areas of service could be entered into by our churches working together through Our World Mission? You do the dreaming. What do you come up with?

“Bring the full amount of your tithes to the Temple, so that there will be plenty of food there. Put me to the test and you will see that I will open the windows of heaven and pour out on you in abundance all kinds of good things.”

If we all tithe and all of our tithe was given through the Church, how greatly could we enlarge the ministry of Jesus Christ through Seventh Day Baptists? We are not limited to a tithe. We may want to give special offerings as we become enthused about the work of the church.

We may want to continue to support the work of Christ through Seventh Day Baptists after we have been called to our heavenly home. We can do this through “Deferred Giving,” directing the use of some of our assets for the work of the Kingdom of Christ after our death. Don Graffius will be at Conference and would be glad to talk to you about this.

God depends upon each one of us in the work of His Kingdom on earth. We are called to serve, each in the way that God calls us. We are also called to support the work and workers of the Kingdom through our giving. GOD DEPENDS UPON US. He loves a cheerful giver.
FEDERAL WORKERS PROTECTED BY NEW SABBATH LEGISLATION

WASHINGTON (BP) — Federal employees whose religious obligations require them occasionally to miss work would be allowed to work overtime under a provision of the Federal Employees Flexible and Compressed Work Schedule Act of 1978, which has passed the House of Representatives.

Present policy does not allow such compensatory time because of the time-and-a-half pay rate for overtime is too expensive. Under the new law the overtime pay for work to make up time lost for religious obligations would be at the normal pay rate.

Rep. Stephen J. Solarz (D.-N.Y.), who has introduced the amendments, added: "members of minority faiths must either choose between reduced incomes or diminished annual leaves if they are to abstain from work during certain periods of time, as they are required to do by their religion."

The Solarz amendment would allow employees to provide overtime work at a normal pay rate on days when an employee has no religious obligations — but would not require that such overtime be provided.

Rep. Robert F. Drinan (D.-Mass.), a Roman Catholic priest, introduced a bill last year which would have provided much more sweeping protection of minority groups' religious rights. That measure would have required an employer to respect religious beliefs, practices, and observances of employees unless such an accommodation would cause "severe inconvenience or other material loss" to the employer.

Drinan's bill has not been acted on by the House. In the meantime, Solarz' more limited measure will go next to the Senate. - Carol Franklin

THE ANGLO-ISRAEL THEORY PAPER AVAILABLE

We are happy to offer our readers a paper written by Mrs. Lenore Crosse of Arthur, NE entitled: The Anglo-Israel Theory. Students of prophecy will find the paper interesting and helpful in a study of the so-called "lost tribes." To request your copy of this study write to the Editor, P.O. Box 868, Plainfield, N.J. 07061. 0

LOS ANGELES, CALIF. — The launching of a mercy ship to assist hundreds of Vietnamese boat refugees has been announced by Dr. Sean Mooneyham, president of World Vision International. Called "Operation Seaweed," the relief effort will be carried out by a 345-ton, 188-foot-long, LST-type transport vessel bound for Thailand. The ship will cruise the South China Sea and the Gulf of Thailand and give aid to the boat people.

"Our relief help is certainly not a cure-all," Mooneyham said. "It is just a first step to keep these people alive until the various governments can resolve the resettlement issue and allow them to find a permanent home."

He explained that the mercy ship will provide the refugees with packages of food, water, medicines, clothing and personal hygiene items. In addition to the normal crew, a medical doctor, two nurses and two mechanics will be on board. The mechanics will handle engine and boat repairs when needed and a limited number of boats will be available to replace those badly damaged.

According to reliable estimates, about 1,500 people are leaving Vietnam each month via small fishing boats. As many as can resolve the resettlement issue and allow them to find a permanent home.

Christians should show an interest in efforts to bring about better living conditions in the world, peace and the lessening of hostilities everywhere. We observed with keen interest the recent special session and pray that God's will may be accomplished.

THE BAPTIST WORLD ALLIANCE

The Baptist World Alliance calls upon the statesmen who are striving for a just and peaceful solution to the problems in all troubled areas.

We commit ourselves anew to pray and to work with all others who cherish the achievement of this goal.

We pledge ourselves to work with a sense of urgency for all things that make for peace, remembering the words of Christ, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God." - Submitted by: Robert S. Denny General Secretary Baptist World Alliance

SWORDS INTO PLOUGHSHARES

In recent weeks the United Nations General Assembly has convened a historic special session to consider world disarmament. It is the largest disarmament conference in history — and the first since 1932 that has brought virtually all the nations of the world together.

Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim said: "Unless an end is put to the arms race and unless a vigorous process of disarmament is initiated, there can be no guarantee that relations among states would be based on the principles of national independence and sovereignty."

Elsewhere in this issue we have shared with you the Baptist World Alliance (BWA) resolution regarding disarmament. The BWA desk at the UN is maintained very capably by Mrs. Eleanor Schnurr. Your editor appreciates her recent conference with Mrs. Schnurr and tours of the UN Church Center. Mrs. Schnurr supplies information to all Baptist publications regarding developments in all areas at the UN.

The idea for a study on world disarmament has taken seventeen years to bring to light. The session will not actually conduct any negotiations. It is, in effect, an international town meeting that can only mobilize government and world public opinion. As Winston Churchill once said: 'It's better to jaw, jaw; than to war, war.'

There follow excerpts from some recent statements on disarmament.

From a 1970 Resolution on World Peace and Reconciliation

We reaffirm the deep devotion of Baptists to peace and reconciliation for all humanity on this earth under God;

We call upon the statesmen of the world to intensify their efforts and to take initiatives for peaceful and just solutions of international disputes and differences, and toward that end, to:

- strengthen and improve the United Nations;
- seek agreements for the limitations of both offensive and defensive strategic weapons;
- seek immediate agreements to suspend the further deployment of all offensive and defensive nuclear strategic weapon systems, subject to national verification or such other measures of observation and inspection as may be appropriate;
- encourage all efforts for peace by way of international conferences;
- strive for justice and fullness of life for all people of all races;
- contribute toward the progress of all peoples in overcoming hunger and disease and poverty.

From a 1975 Resolution on World Peace

We are encouraged by some contemporary improvements in international relations including conferences on arms limitation, control of nuclear weapons, arbitration efforts, and the current detente; yet we deplore the violence and armed conflict persisting in many parts of the world...

In the face of world hunger and massive human need on every hand, we call upon governments to abandon the evil acceleration of the fantastically costly armaments race, to turn away from national greed in the sale of armaments, and to cooperate in the removal of economic, and political incentives to war.

From a 1977 Resolution on World Peace

We commend all national leaders who are striving for a just and peaceful solution to the problems in all troubled areas.

We commit ourselves anew to pray and to work with all others who cherish the achievement of this goal.

We pledge ourselves to work with a sense of urgency for all things that make for peace, remembering the words of Christ, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God." - Submitted by: Robert S. Denny General Secretary Baptist World Alliance.
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SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST GENERAL CONFERENCE

1978 Annual Conference

Houghton College
Houghton, New York

BEARING THE FRUIT

SPEAKERS

DATES AUGUST 6-12, 1978

Monday evening's speaker is Dr. Edward Horsley, a member of the Denver, CO, church. He will be discussing preparation of the soil/planting the seed.

He waters the earth to make it fertile.
The rivers of God will not run dry!
He prepares the earth for His people and sends them rich harvests of grain.
Psalm 65:9 LB