NEXT MONTH

Winners of The Sabbath Recorder Youth Writing Contest

Youth Writing Contest Winners
August 1983

Nature is an amazing thing that grow tree that grow and require care. Nature is one of the places that we should respect and care for. We should be the stewards of the earth and take care of what we have been given. It is important to be mindful of the impact we have on the environment and take steps to protect it for future generations.

The Seventh Day Baptist Sabbath Recorder

Inns of The Sabbath Recorder Youth Writing Contest

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The Sabbath Recorder
August 1983
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D. Scott Smith
Editor

Leanne Lippincott
Art Director

Contributing Editors

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The Eyes of a Life Once Lived
by Deanna Wright

When I look into your eyes,
I see something that's no surprise:
Courage, determination, ideas that are wise.

You take those ideas and mold them together,
They're strong, hard, yet as light as a feather.

They're your life, what you have lived for,
I see accomplishment, yet desire for more.

As you lie there in your bed,
I think of the great times we had,
Most are good, some are bad, some sad.

Your eyes say yes, but your heart said no.
It's been a long worthwhile life, but now you have to go.

My face is wet with tears as I think of those precious years.
I'll never forget this day or any other...
A daughter never forgets her mother.
He Is Your Refuge

by Kelli LeCroy

Be strong in the Lord
and in the power of His might,
For He is your refuge
He is your light.
He leadeth you home
at the end of the day.
So always give thanks
always pray.
Because He forgives you
for what you do wrong
Make a joyful noise
with your song.
I'll say it again
please understand,
It's not for God or Jesus Christ
It's for you, because you are man.
Be strong in the Lord
and in the power of His might,
For He is your refuge,
He is your light.
A Child's Prayer

Thank you, Jesus, for this day,
Lead me; guide me; in every way,
Teach me to learn, teach me to be:
The Christian child we both wish to see.

Amen

by Jill Martin

Mountains

by Dana Taylor

It looms, it towers,
it's covered with flowers.
It's many or one,
they're lots of fun.

It protects, it hides,
it hurts, it chides.
It's nice or rough,
it's hard or tough.

They block our way
where they always lay,
they twist and wind
and are easy to find.

The Sabbath Recorder

August 1983
The Seasons

by Dina Taylor

As I sit here on my rock the sound of running water comes to my ears. The sweet music it plays has always touched my heart. Summer has just begun and already the downtown mowers are preparing to take on the jobs of parenthood as the little eggs get ready to break and bring forth a new life. Now exciting! All of the little chipmunks, groundhogs, squirrels and rabbits come out in the sun to see the bright, glaring light warm the earth. These, along with the laughter and joyful shouts of children, are the sounds of summer.

Then as the months pass the summer sounds die down. No longer can the children play in their shorts or swimsuits in the pool. Autumn has come. The sounds of the town mowers turn to the sound of rakes gathering the leaves that children will soon be bounding through. The squirrels and chipmunks become busy as they gather their nuts for winter storage. A few family picnics fill the air with the last scent of the warmer months.

Autumn has ended. Snow, now filling the sky with its glistening flakes, takes the place of all the leaves. Instead of rakes, shovels go to work. Children all get out their winter jackets, snow pants, boots, hats, mittens, and scarves and prepare to build their own version of Frosty the Snowman. The brooks are now frozen over so skaters can enjoy their winter activities. Most of the animals are either down south or in hibernation.

Horses now take their stand as they are hitched for the ever loved sleigh rides. Then the Christmas bells and carols that are sincerely sung, sound in the streets at night. Christmas trees and lights glow in the windows. Presents flood the floor in the living room as they are stacked in neat piles under the Christmas tree. Anticipation and excitement on Christmas morning fill all the hearts and homes of America.

Spring comes in full color with the budding of flowers and leaves. Bicycles come out of their winter hiding places and begin long treks to and fro. The mud puddles so frequently found attractive by small kids, sound warnings to mother. Animals come out from their long winter nap and birds find their way back to the old, familiar tree. Picnics are back in season with the birds attending as uninvited guests. Baseball equipment finds its way back into the hearts of teenagers in the neighborhood. Spring cleaning and the airing out of all the bedrooms occupy the hours of a mother's busy day. This is spring, but as months pass, the seasons change and repeat the cycle again, and again.

The Sabbath Recorder

August 1983
In The Year Of Ministry...

A Challenging Vocation

by Jim Goodrich

Seven years ago my wife and I began careers in education with little notion of the real vocation to which we had been called. The paths our work have taken are quite different in many respects, but the calling and the goal are the same — to provide care and training for children in such a way as to glorify God and help them see him in us, and through us, and sometimes in spite of us.

At first we both taught in rural elementary schools, and though I was in a school in town we both had children of several grades age span. It was a good place for us to be at the time, because it was where God had placed us through circumstances that we did not understand nor really appreciate at first. Looking back we can see that God was looking out for our best interests through it all and even then we knew that he was in control. While we weren’t sure of the plan, we knew he had one.

I continue to teach, now in a larger school where I have a room full of sixth graders. The opportunities are many, but we never knew that we had any love for this work. We have a joint effort in this vocation. Our children at home provide us with a completeness in our work that we might not otherwise have been able to experience. We rejoice for each other. Mike has been a family member for nearly four years. He and Brian, who was ours for only a month, came to us through adoption about three years ago. And now we have Amy who came more conventionally, but none the less as miraculously as the others. From each of these we have learned, and will continue to learn. But that is only one of the side benefits of living up to God’s expectations. None of these would be part of our family and its calling without it being part of the Master’s plan.

I hope this all sounds like the results of God’s leading and not the words of someone boasting in his own accomplishments. We have not done anything to deserve acclaim. Those who think otherwise just don’t understand how God works. God could have used anyone to do what he has done through us, but he made it possible by making us people who enjoy this work. Without his active part we could have done little.

I have made a personal paraphrase of Deuteronomy 6:7 a guide for my own efforts toward our vocation. It is: “You shall teach God’s ways diligently to the children in your care, both in word and by example, and shall do so at home and away, from the time you get up until you retire at night.” It is a goal that leaves room for much improvement, and a high standard. I am confident that it follows Jesus’ example. Whatever God expects of us in years to come we rejoice that he gives us the desire to carry it out and the capability to perform it. We depend on him for all that we need, and he will not let us down.

God has made His guidance prominent

we began to doubt or wonder at our situation. God would lead just the right little one to our care. Each time we are amazed, but not really surprised at, how well God has planned for us. We also have a joint effort in this vocation. Our children at home provide us with a completeness in our work that we might not otherwise have been able to experience. We rejoice for each other. Mike has been a family member for nearly four years. He and Brian, who was ours for only a month, came to us through adoption about three years ago. And now we have Amy who came more conventionally, but none the less as miraculously as the others. From each of these we have learned, and will continue to learn. But that is only one of the side benefits of living up to God’s expectations. None of these would be part of our family and its calling without it being part of the Master’s plan.

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From Sewing Baskets To Saints
by Harjorie Goodrich et. al.

1. Pattern: Pattern your life after Jesus’ perfect example. When you look to men they will let you down. Only Jesus never fails. Ps. 89:33 — I will never completely take my loving kindness from you nor let my promises fail.

2. Scissors: Cut away all unkind criticism, gossip, fault finding and cutting remarks. Prov. 18:21 — Deceit and life are in the power of the tongue and those who love it will eat the fruit thereof.

3. Yarn: Many yarns aren’t true but we know for sure that salvation is. Rom. 6:23 — The wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus.

4. Lip Zipper: Lord, fill my mouth with proper stuff and nudge me when I’ve said enough! Prov. 17:1 — A dry crust eaten in peace is better than steak every day along with argument and strife.

5. Elastic: Be open and flexible to things and not narrow and close-minded. Prov. 16:2 — We can always ‘prove’ that we are right, but is the Lord convinced?

6. Bobbin: Try not to keep bobbin’ around, drifting from one thing to another. James 1:6 — When you ask, be sure you really expect God to tell you, for a double mind is as unsettled as the wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind and every decision you make will be uncertain as you turn first this way, then that. If you don’t ask with faith, don’t expect the Lord to give you a solid answer.

7. Pin: You can pin your hopes on salvation. John 6:37 — Jesus said, All that the Father giveth shall come to me and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.

8. Facing: Face the tasks of life. Phil. 4:13 — I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.


You can pin your hopes on salvation.

For Sewing Baskets
To Saints

by Harjorie Goodrich et. al.

Marjorie Goodrich, from North Loup, Neb., recently sent me a letter with an idea that she used during an installation of officers service. She gave each person present a numbered slip then passed a basket filled with sewing items and asked each participant to choose something from the basket. Everyone was then asked to use the item she had chosen to illustrate a truth about her walk with the Lord. The order of sharing was determined by the number on the slip each had received. Marjorie wrote down some examples of the thoughts shared as well as some scripture verses to illustrate them.

We love because God first loved us.
1 John 4:19

August 1983
Helping Hand Preview

Faith And Practice — 1880

Seventh Day Baptists have always held to an Evangelical doctrine. Their statement of faith has been gradually developed as each age restates its understanding of that faith. Because we are about to study the present Statement of Beliefs (Helping Hand, September-November, 1983), it is of interest to examine the Faith and Practice adopted by General Conference, 1880.

I. Of God — We believe in one God, self-existent, infinite in wisdom, power, justice, and goodness; the Creator and Governor of all things. Deut. 33:27; Psa. 90:2; Isa. 44:6; I Tim. 1:17.

II. Of Christ — We believe that Christ possessed both a divine and a human nature, and was therefore both the Son of God and the Son of Man. Matt. 1:1-11; Psa. 2:7; Luke 1:35; Rom. 1:3, 4; Gal. 4:4; 1 Cor. 15:19; John 1:1.

III. Of The Holy Spirit — We believe in the Holy Spirit, whose office was to inspire the prophets and apostles, and to sanctify and comfort all men, with a knowledge of the mind of God, and who is the regenerator and sanctifier of men through the truth. John 14:26; II Peter 1:21; Acts 2:4, 5; John 3:5; Rom. 8:2; Gal. 5:22.

IV. Of The Holy Scriptures — We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were inspired by the Holy Spirit, and that they are a perfect rule of faith and practice. Heb. 1:1, 2; II Peter 1:21; II Tim. 3:16, 17.

V. Of Man — We believe that man possessed a two-fold nature — physical and spiritual; that he was created holy, but that by transgression he fell, and so came under condemnation; that in order to be saved he must be born again, and that this salvation is the gift of God. II Cor. 4:16; Rom. 7:23; Eph. 2:16; Col. 2:10; I Peter 3:4; Gen. 1:26; Ps. 5:12; John 3:5, 33; Eph. 2:5; Rom. 3:24, 25; 4:16; Eph. 2:8.

VI. Of Heirship and Eternal Life — We believe that when one is constituted a child of God, he becomes heir of eternal life. Acts 26:17, 18; Rom. 8:14-18; Gal. 3:29, 4:7.

VII. Of Repentance, Faith and Practice — We believe it to be the duty of all men to repent, believe in Christ the Saviour and be baptized. Matt. 28:19; Luke 24:47; Acts 2:38, 41; 8:12, 10:47; 16:15, 33; 18:6; Mark 16:16; Rom. 6:4; Col. 2:12.

VIII. Of The Lord’s Supper — We believe the Lord’s Supper is an ordinance of religion, to be perpetuated in the church. Matt. 26:26; I Cor. 11:23-26.

IX. Of The Sabbath — We believe the seventh day to be the Sabbath of Jehovah, and that it should be kept holy as a memorial of creation and as a type of the saint’s rest in heaven. Gen. 2:2, 3; Exod. 20:8-11; Heb. 4:9, 11.

X. Of The Resurrection Of The Dead, And The Eternal Judge-ment — We believe there will be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust; that the righteous will be eternally justified, and the wicked eternally condemned. Dan. 12, 2; Acts 4:15, 17, 31; Matt. 25:46; John 5:25, 26, 28, 29; Rom. 2:7, 9-16.

XI. Of The Resurrection — Body Of Saints — We believe the saints will be raised with incorruptible bodies. I Cor. 15:52-54.

It will be seen that each point in the foregoing statement is supported by direct reference to the Scriptures. Seventh Day Baptists recognize the Bible as the only authority in matters of faith and practice. The foregoing expose indicates their understanding of what the Scriptures teach, upon the points noted. It is only suggested that such a creed gives comparatively in character. It will be noted that this latitude is with reference, rather than concerning matters of practical obedience and holy living. The people whom it represents define Christianity as a life and character, rather than a creed, although they recognize the fact that what men believe is a determining factor in character. At the Session of the General Conference, held at Milton, Wis., in 1866, the following resolutions were adopted relative to certain questions concerning which an expression seemed to be demanded: the Second Coming of the Lord, and the coming of the New Heaven and the New Earth.

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Religion in the News

Religious Liberty Conference To Be Held

Bill Moyers, CBS television news analyst and producer, his wife Judith Moyers, an education specialist, and Charles Z. Smith, low school dean and former president of ABC-USA, are the latest to confirm their participation in the 1983 National Religious Liberty Conference on October 3-4 in Washington, D.C.

A biennial event of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, this 1983 conference theme will focus on Affirming Baptist Identity. Seventh Day Baptists are one of the eight U.S. Baptist national bodies which cooperate through the BJCA in the nation’s capital on religious liberty issues and church-state relations.

Others on the program include Harvey Cox, Harvard theologian; James Antony, author of Better Homes and Gardens and William R. Estep, church historian.

‘Year of the Bible’ Stirs Debate

The American Civil Liberties Union has entered a suit against the "Year of the Bible," a project authorized by the U.S. Senate. In response to Senate urging, President Reagan has encouraged all Americans "to reexamine and rediscover" the message of the Bible.

In the suit, the ACLU claims that the proclamation violates the separation of church and state, and uses the Bible for "political rather than religious purposes."

Colleges Found "More Religious"

A Gallup survey of college life indicates that students report stronger religious commitment as a result of their college experiences. Over 500 students were interviewed and more than 80% reported that their religious beliefs were important to them.

The survey appears to confirm reports from colleges and universities that courses in religion have assumed greater popularity. Michigan State University reported an increase of 60% in its religion courses. Ninety six campuses were involved in the Gallup study.

Religious Leaders Oppose Gene-Alteration

Congress has received an appeal from 59 religious leaders opposed to the alteration of human genetic material. Representing a wide spectrum of theological viewpoints, including the Moral Majority and twenty-one Catholic bishops, the statement holds that no one has the right “to make decisions on behalf of the rest of the species alive today, or for future generations.”

The petition has been chal­lenge­d by scientists and re­searchers as a block to progress in areas of human pathology.

Bahai Persecution In Iran

The U.S. State Department has confirmed reports of renewed violence against the Bahai sect in Iran. In addition to reports of government-directed murders, there have been public hangings in recent months. Children of Bahai families are now not allowed to attend school, and reports indicate more than 4,000 Bahais have fled as refugees within Iran.

Bahai is regarded as a heresy with historic roots in Islam.

Nun Responds to Papal Directive

Sister Agnes Mary Mansour has elected with “deep regret” to seek a dispensation from her vows as a Sister of Mercy. Until last month, the five-nun Catholic director of Michigan’s social services had held the post with approval of both her religious superiors, but she became the focus of a right-to-life debate.

A papal directive required that she resign from her government position, or be dismissed from her religious community. Sister Mansour elected to continue in her position while seeking a release from her vows.

John MacKay Dies

John Alexander MacKay, longtime president of Princeton Theological Seminary and founder of the quarterly, Theology Today, died in June at the age of 94. Dr. MacKay was a leading Presbyterian scholar, and a conservative theologian.

August 1983
Baptist Youth Will Meet In Buenos Aires

from Baptist World

More than 6,000 young people are expected to make Buenos Aires their home for five days in August 1984. From July 11-15, 1984, youth from about 60 countries will attend the 10th Baptist Youth World Conference, to explore the theme: "Jesus - The Truth: Our Faith, Our Commitment, Our Peace."

"This Youth Conference will be a significant conference for Baptist youth from around the world," said Denton Lotz, Baptist World Alliance youth director. "Young people will have an opportunity to profess their faith as Lord and Saviour."

"It is a great opportunity to profess their faith as Lord and Saviour," said Denton Lotz, Baptist World Alliance youth director. "Young people will have an opportunity to profess their faith as Lord and Saviour."

The 10th Baptist Youth World Conference will have a program of great variety. Daily lectures, workshops and discussion groups will deal with various aspects of Christian living. There will be concerts and drama, plenary sessions and a city wide rally.

"The goal of the program is to demonstrate unity through diversity," states Beverly Sutton, program chairperson. "We hope the program will show the message of peace is not just the absence of war between nations but an energizing personal peace available through Christ."

Argentine Baptists are very enthusiastic about the opportunities of hosting a worldwide Baptist conference in their country, which is 98 percent Catholic. It will give Baptists there tremendous visibility and a positive witness to people with whom they otherwise would have no contact. Because of varying economic situations around the world, registration fees vary accordingly. Registration will be $50 per person for the USA, Canada, Europe, Japan, New Zealand and Australia. The fee will be $20 per person for Latin America, South America, Central America, Mexico, the Caribbean, Asia and the Middle East. On October 1, 1983, registration fees will increase to $70 and $25 respectively.

Hebron Plans Sesquicentennial Celebration And Reunion

On the 10th day of February, 1833, a community of believers covenanted together in Potter County, Pennsylvania, to form first Seventh Day Baptist Church of Christ in Hebron. This year, 150 years later, a commemorative celebration and re-consecration will be celebrated on Sabbath prior to General Conference, August 6. A covenant service similar to one held periodically over the years will be part of the morning worship led by Rev. Steven Crouch, Pastor (11:30 a.m.). A dish-to-pass luncheon will follow at the community building.

The afternoon service beginning at 2:30 will commemorate the 150th anniversary. Rev. Dan A. Sanford of Milton, Wisconsin will be keynote speaker. Former pastors and others connected to the church and denominations will share in the service. It is hoped that many will come to share in the celebration as a prelude to General Conference sessions at Houghton, N.Y.

Judge Strikes Down 'Baby Doe' Rule

Federal district judge, Gerhard Gesell has struck down a ruling that required hospitals to post a notice that stated that failure to nourish handicapped infants is against the law. Gesell struck down the regulation on procedural grounds but concluded that it would not produce higher quality care for infants.

Infant "Baby Doe," was born with multiple problems including Down's Syndrome. The parents, doctors and the Indiana courts requested that food and treatment be withheld from the baby, who died during the appeals process.

After Conference...What?

Cont. from page 11

no such thing as a passive Christian. Each person must respond and be accountable.

Life is filled with many demands and many distractions. There are multitudes of ways for us to be distracted. T.V., radio, newspapers, magazines, telephone and church communications. We are limited in our responses only by our choices.

We cannot do everything. Therefore, priorities must be set. We cannot afford to take our religious convictions for granted. We are judged by our deeds not by our intentions.

Our faith must be measured by the Holy Spirit's power we will follow the Spirit's leading.

This idea is certainly adaptable to many situations. The first one that enters my mind aside from regular Women's Society meetings is bridal or baby showers. Using different or the same items participants could share advice or wishes for future brides or future mothers about God's best for their new experiences. Adaptations of the idea are certainly plentiful. Thank you, Marjorie and the North Loup women for this fruitful idea.

Helping Hand

Cont. from page 14

and the resurrection..."Whereas, there are many who misunderstand, and therefore misrepresent, our attitude in reference to the second coming of Christ and the resurrection of the dead; and"..."Whereas, we deem it important that we define anew our position on these Scriptural questions; therefore..."

"1. RESOLVED, That, while a few of our people may dissent from the doctrine, it is nevertheless the general belief of our denomination that our Lord Jesus Christ, according to the Scriptures, will certainly and personally come again "without sin unto salvation."

"2. RESOLVED, That, while a few of our people may hold differing opinions, it is nevertheless the general belief of our denomination that there will be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and the unjust, as set forth in the Scriptures."

"3. RESOLVED, That, while we know not the day nor the hour when either of these great events shall transpire, we nevertheless believe that God has appointed a time for each of them, and that they will certainly occur in his own appointed time."

"You And Your Church, the Board of Christian Education, 1981, is a good reference to accompany the Helping Hand, Fall 1983."

The Sabbath Recorder August 1983
Pacific Northwest Day Held In Seattle

Sabbath, May 14, is a day we'll long remember, as 88 people joined at the Christ’s Training Center — Seventh Day Baptist church in Seattle for Pacific Northwest Day — the north part of the Pacific Coast Association. Representatives were present from all four active church groups here, and Miss Harriet Saunders from Alfred, N.Y. There were 16 from Portland, Ore., area church, 11 from Central, Wash., and five from Spokane Area Fellowship.

It was a musical treat with the Portland choir providing five a cappella numbers for the morning service, and special music provided by Sandy Bowen, Sue Garrity, Kerri Sanford, Eric Davis, Jeff Inabinett, Maudie Posey, and Gwen Ballah throughout the day. Wayne Grounds, Leader of the Spokane Fellowship, brought the Sabbath morning message, speaking on Perseverance. In the afternoon, six representatives of the Seattle Youth Fellowship presented a play, Janah, and churches reported on the Lord's business in their areas, interspersed with the musical numbers.

Two bounteous meals were served at church, headed by a committee made up of Ruth Rossi and Rexanna Inabinett, and a host of good cooks! In the evening, a Pacific Firs Camp reunion party was held at the Davis' by the youth. Seattle Deacons Dave Inabinett and Larry Sanford took the church bus and took a bushload of out-of-towners for a tour of Seattle sights. It was a wonderful day of Christian fellowship. And inspiration for all.

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Fouke Academy Holds Graduation

Three students graduated from Fouke Academy, Fouke, Ark., on May 20, 1983. The three were Alex Landrum, Bobby Cooper, and Everett Jones.

Alex was a full-time transfer student from Arkansas High at Texarkana. He has already enlisted in the Air Force and is to be called to active duty in August of this year. Bobby Cooper dropped out of Fouke High School as a senior in 1979. He married Wanda Wilson and went to work at Cooper Tire, but felt the need to earn his diploma. Everett Jones dropped out of school after the eighth grade and enlisted in the Navy during the Korean Conflict. He began to study with Dr. Goodson last September and passed the GED Examinations with high scores. He plans to enroll in Texarkana Community College in August.

The Commencement Address was given by Dr. Glenn Cunningham, one of America's greatest athletes. He recovered from severe and crippling burns suffered when he was seven. He not only learned to walk again but also to run. He ran in the 1922 and 1928 Olympics and was the Sullivan Award winner in 1933. At one time, he held seven world records in the middle-distance races.

The school's enrollment grew from 10 in 1982 to 15 in 1983. "We want to thank all the SDBs and others who made donations to the school," said Dr. Lloyd L. Goodson. "The school could not have operated without the support received in prayer and financial gifts."

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Plant A Tree! Sew Seeds!

Need a fund-raising project for your Youth Fellowship or Men's Group? Plant a tree or a light pole!

The General Conference Trustees are suggesting a special gift campaign to fund several improvements in the SDB Center property. Major concern is for landscaping work to prevent erosion and to provide an attractive wind-break on the property border. $993 for plantings on the lawn and $400 for grading and seeding. Additional projects are: outside lighting ($500) and remodel of the room being used as a mailing center ($500 for cabinet work). Also needed is a lawn tractor with 48" snowblower or blade.

Contributions should be sent to Treasurer Ivan Fritz-Kandel, SDB Center, P.O. Box 1678, Jonesville, WI 53547, designated for "Center Improvements" or for an individual project.

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A Frontline Report From India

The Annual General Body meeting of the Seventh Day Baptist Conference of India (SDBC) was held in Neilalore, April 24. Secretary B. John V. Rao reported 413 baptisms during the previous year. Action was taken to open a new church in Bangalore City in 1983.

The completion of 11 irrigation wells (two with pumps) and two drinking water wells (with costs from Seventh Day Baptist United Relief Fund (SDBURF), Baptist World Aid (BWAid) and local contributed work) began the larger project of providing wells for many arid needy areas. A second major project is the establishment of three SDB Housing Colonies under special Trust Boards with "beneficiaries as members," with funds possibly raised by BWAid over a period of several years. The first was designed at Uyyalawada, Siddur, Prakasam District.

In May, Rev. B. John V. Rao visited at least 18 places holding special meetings, counselling with pastors and leaders, and raising funds in support of their Conference ministries. One of these revival services was at Cherapapelle.

At the Executive Committee of the Seventh Day Baptist Conference of India on June 5, the distribution of Relief Funds for the needy following the cyclone early this year was confirmed. These came through BWAid and were in part also from SDBURF. Two more irrigation wells were authorized (when funds were received) and Rev. Rao was appointed their observer at the Baptist Union of India meetings in Dimapur, Nagaland in March 1984.

Seventh Day Baptists in the USA join in ministries with the SDBs of India through regular monthly support, as a part of Your World Mission. In June a special grant was voted, from funds unexpectedly received by the Missionary Society, to provide a motorcycle that will make possible expanded travel and field witness.

Rev. Rao, taking leave of the elders, left Cherapapelle. Seen off at the airport by officials and members for a little distance.

The Sabbath Recorder

August 1983
Did God Make A Mistake?

from The Pilgrim

The name which men and women must be saved is Jesus Christ, and there is no other. There is nothing "holy" in the statement St. Peter made to the religious and political leaders whom he was addressing. It was bold. It was dogmatic. It was positive. Jesus Christ, and only Jesus Christ, is able to save a soul eternally.

If there were some other person who could redeem his fellows, if there were any other way for sins to be atoned for and forgiven, then why the cross and the statement St. Peter made to his followers to be witnesses concerning him, his command, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15), was not only unnecessary but also completely empty. Why should believers in Christ proclaim the following?

**Was God mistaken when he sent his Son into the world...?**

Gospel to all nations if those nations do not need the message at all?

Was Peter a liar? If any kind of leader or god, if any religion is enough to save men's souls, then the apostle, although he is reported to have been "filled with the Holy Ghost" when he insisted that only one, the Lord Jesus Christ, is able to save, was not telling the truth but talking nonsense.

God did not err when "he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life" (John 3:16), for God never makes a mistake. The Lord Jesus did not give a vain order when he instructed his disciples to tell all mankind of his redeeming love. Peter did not speak a falsehood when he stated that there is no other name on earth whereby we must be saved.

There is no righteous person in the world, not even one, for, as Scripture declares, "all have sinned and come short of the glory of God" (Rom. 3:23). Through sin, both inherent and deliberate, men and women have been separated from God and need to be reconciled to him. God has made this reconciliation possible. "All things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given unto us the ministry of reconciliation, to wit, that God was in Christ reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them, and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. Now then we are ambassadors for Christ" (II Cor. 5:18-20).

An ambassador is appointed and dispatched to carry out his leader's mission. The message of reconciliation between God and man has been committed to us, as Christ's ambassadors — to proclaim the Gospel in all the world. That is what missions is all about.

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A Prayer Reminder for Each Day

September 1983

Verse for the month: "First of all, then, I urge that petitions, prayers, intercessions and thanksgiving be offered for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, in order that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity. This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires that all men be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth." 1 Tim. 2:1-4

Pray For:

1. Those entering school and college from my church
2. William Shoffner, newly ordained pastor in Memphis, Tenn.
3. New Sabbath School students from summer outreach
4. Our national leaders
5. Leon Lawson and the work of the Missionary Society
6. George Colhoun, new student at Bethel Seminary, St. Paul
7. My pastor
8. Christians in Communist countries
9. Polish SOBs, beginning their 2nd half century of witness
10. Churches without pastors

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MOVING?

Please clip this change of address form and mail it to:

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The Sabbath Recorder
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Answering Christ's Call ... To Teach

A dynamic Christian faith is the most important attribute to sustain and direct a person above the ordinary evils that we face day to day. It is one of the great hopes in the world that stands against forces which will make us less than we ought to be. Therefore, teaching the gospel of Christ is the most important vocation or avocation in the world.

If we agree that teaching is important, then every person ought to set the example by preparing to teach and offering to teach. Robert Breth, one time Executive of Christian Education for the New York Council of Churches, stated that he could make a good teacher of any committed Christian. This suggests that every person in the church dedicated to spreading the gospel should attend teacher education seminars and become ready and willing to teach when invited to do so.

The person who says, "I don't know how to teach," and doesn't take the time to learn how, is actually saying that teaching the gospel is unimportant.

There would be no shortage of Sabbath School teachers if every family provided a teacher for two years, for each child in the family. There are special rewards which come from teaching. We will know and understand the Bible better through teaching. We will understand children and adults better. Teaching will help us to begin to live more creatively. We may have the joy of seeing persons learn a new way of living by committing their lives to Christ.

Our prayer should be that more people become aware of the importance of teaching the gospel and that more individuals enter into training and teaching.

In teaching, we are answering Christ's call. Is there anything more important? ☐

Worship Him In Spirit And In Truth

God is a Spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth.

John 4:24 (KJV)

True worship is more than reading a few verses from the Bible and praying often repeated phrases. True worship is a joyful celebration, an act of love, doing for each other as well as talking about, or to, God. As the day is started with a planned period of praise and prayer, each family member will be reminded that he or she is God's child and will be better able to withstand the pressures of society.

The key word is planned - a time given to anticipating the joys of the day and praising God for them. Each person in the family should have an opportunity to plan and participate in this celebration. From this moment of togetherness, the family will continue to worship as they go about the business of living, sharing each other's work, problems, joys and sorrows.

Sacred moments may be spread throughout the day as the family gathers for lunch or dinner, just before leaving for evening activities or at bedtime. If a family member is to be absent from any one of these times he or she could be aware of the celebration and that he or she is to be remembered in a special way.

The Sabbath Recorder

The Sabbath Recorder
Discovering God’s Word

by Beth Dutcher

In our Youth Fellowship meetings we have been studying a book called, Omega years by Christian Ed. Publishers. In this study we examined a section on Discovering God’s Word. In the following paragraphs I would like to share with you some of what we learned.

What’s In It For Me?
The Bible is an amazingly compiled book. The Old Testament is composed of five general divisions. Each division was recorded independently of the others; yet, all divisions are connected. The New Testament has three general divisions. The Bible is also a unified book. Forty distinct human authors, who were spread out over 15 long centuries, managed to come up with 66 books that fit together. The only way they could do this was through the communication each of them had from their Creator. God spoke through them, and continues to speak every time you open His Word.

How We Do It?
Was there a need for the Old and New Testaments? The Old Testament was needed to keep the Jews together as one people, as they were scattered all over the earth. Also with the spread of Christianity, the people needed the Old Testament to distinguish from Christian writings. Some groups were spreading false teachings and using false writings. The New Testament was necessary to tell true books from false books.

How Do We Know It’s True?
Some people say that the Bible is misleading. They believe that it isn’t reliable. However, there is evidence that it is dependable. According to the most recently discovered evidence (the Dead Sea Scrolls), the Old Testament is reliable. The Bible itself says that it is not out of date, and that it can never be destroyed. The Bible is remarkably accurate. Both internal evidence (what the Bible says about itself) and external evidence (what history says about the Bible) supports its absolute trustworthiness. “The whole Bible” is given to us by inspiration from God and is useful to teach us all about what is right.” (II Timothy 3:16)

This month’s Beacon is by the members of the North Loup, Neb. Youth Fellowship

Don’t Wait

by Mike Goodrich

Don’t wait until someone is nice to you before you are nice to someone else.

Don’t wait until the Bible seems perfectly clear before you start to read it.

Don’t wait until you understand God completely before you ask Him into your heart.

For it is time to ask Jesus into your heart.

Don’t wait.

North Loup, Neb. YF Activities

by Nora Kay Dutcher & Loretta Cargill

This summer our Y.F. plans to keep real busy. We are painting a shed on the corner of the church lot as a service project. We already have the primer on; it was messy but we had fun, even though it was a little chilly. We are planning to go to Grand Island to Mini-gold and see a movie in celebration of school getting out and getting the shed painted. We also plan to go canoeing or inner-tubing or both if we have time this summer. We may also go to our former Y.F. leader’s home for a weiner roast and some volleyball. We now have 13 members including the leader, having just recently gained one. We hope to get all these things done but don’t know if we can fit them in. Hope your summer is as great as ours promises to be!

Hey Kids!

Do you have suggestions, articles, artwork or photographs for The Beacon? Send submissions to:
Youth Ministries Committee
Board of Christian Education
15 South Main Street
Alfred, NY 14802

I Am A Promise

by Vonnie Williams

“...There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men. Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he gives them to each one, just as he determines.” I Cor. 12:4-7,11

God has given to each of us specific gifts to use according to his purpose. He has a special plan for each of our lives and has given these gifts to us to use for him. Use your gifts in the name of the Lord, for he will reward you greatly.

Have Courage!

Romans 8:35-39

‘What can separate us from the love of Christ? Can affliction or hardship? Can persecution, hunger, nakedness, peril, or the sword? We are being made ready for that by the sacrifice – the one for all. He who loved us even while we were sinners.’ — Romans 5:8, and yet, in spite of all, overwhelming victory is ours through him who loved us. For I am convinced that there is nothing in death or life, in the realm of spirits or superhuman powers, in the world as it is or the world as it shall be, in the forces of the universe, in heights or depths – nothing in all creation that can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Our Belief In The Sabbath

by Chris Soverance

Our beliefs about the Sabbath should be very precious to us. A noted historian is quoted as saying: "...Just why Christians chose another day rather than the Jewish Sabbath as their special day is hidden in the mists of history. Probably they did so in order to distinguish themselves more clearly from the Jews who observed Saturday as their holy day."

The Sabbath should be a special day of worship dedicated to God. It is also a symbol of the presence of God in our world and in time. To set it apart from the other days of the week, holding it to be more sacred than other days, is to acknowledge our belief in God and in a moral universe.

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God — The Creator

God — We believe in God, the one personal, perfect, and eternal Spirit; Creator and sustainer of the universe, our Father, who manifests a holy redeeming love toward all men.

God is the creator of all good things. Where did you see his handiwork today?

Genos — I am thinking of a name for God that begins with S or C, etc.

or

I spy something God made, it is green, etc.

Close eyes and pass around seeds, leaves, spices, etc., have individuals identify. May use peanuts, popcorn, other edible seeds and use as snack after game is finished.

Bible Reading by child (help if necessary)

Genesis 1:1, 1:31, 1 Timothy 1:17

Sing — He Has The Whole World in His Hands

(Use motions)

Read — Genesis story from favorite book or tell the story with Bible open.

Discussion — Review each day’s happening, why in that sequence, what does that mean in our lives?

Learn — After you discuss, Psalm 136:1

Activity — Have large piece of paper and crayons ready. Draw a creation picture together. One person draws, others give directions where, what and what color is drawn.

Prayer — Each one shares thankfulness for one thing God made.

Where can each person see God this week — this month. Talk about it at meals — tell God “Thank You” for it.

An alternative for a person alone or older couples; listen to quiet music, read Genesis 1. Write in notebook or to the Board of Christian Education, your response or feelings about the passage. Additional scripture for study: Isaiah 44:1-26, 18:19, John 1:1-5.

The Sabbath Recorder

Obituaries

Munro — Florence Ada Scribner, daughter of Isaac Jost and Georgie Scribner, was born in Philadelphia on July 6, 1886 and died in Long Beach, Calif., on February 10, 1983.

Florence’s parents were Seventh Day Baptists whose history is traced back to the colonial days. Florence was baptized in the Plainfield, N.J. Seventh Day Baptist Church. She attended Cooper Union Art School and became a commercial artist in New York. In the early 1900s she worked as a suffragist to gain the right to vote for women.

She was married to James Gordon Munro in April of 1917. They were married for 47 years before he was called home in 1964. They moved to California where their children were born and raised. Florence is survived by a daughter, Alice Munro Isaac; a son, Arthur Scribner Munro; five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Burdick — Elma L. Burdick of Janesville, Wis., died March 21, 1983, at the Janesville Health Care Center, at the age of 84.

The former Elma Dudley was born August 18, 1899, in Hartland, Wis. She married William D. Burdick in June of 1920. He died March 21, 1971. Most of her married years were spent in Milton, Wis., where her husband taught for 43 years at Milton College.

An avid gardener, Mrs. Burdick was one of Milton’s first 4-H leaders. She was a member of the Milton Seventh Day Baptist Church, its Women’s Circle, Milton Women’s Club and Milton Historical Society.

Surviving are a son, Dr. William L. Burdick of Hollywood, Calif.; a daughter, Ida Jean Burdick of Milwaukee, Wis.; two granddaughters and two great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Rev. Herbert E. Saunders at the Milton Seventh Day Baptist Church on March 24, 1983.

Frederick — Carrie Nelson Frederick of Janesville, Wis., died May 4, 1983 at the Cedar Crest Nursing Home at the age of 104.

She married Louis Frederick in 1934. A 20 year resident of Milton, Wis., Mrs. Frederick taught school in Arkansas, Janesville, Wis., and Berne Creek, Mich. She attended the Seventh Day Baptist Church in Milton.

She was preceded in death by her husband Louis. Surviving are nieces and nephews.

Memorial services were conducted by Rev. Herbert E. Saunders at the Milton Seventh Day Baptist Church on May 7, 1983.

Breckkreutz — Aaron Breckkreutz of Janesville, Wis., died March 29, 1983 at the Edgerton Community Nursing Health Care Center, at the age of 87.

Born December 28, 1905, in Lake Mills, Wis., he married Ruby Ferguson on July 1, 1929, in Illinois. He worked for A.C. Olsens and T.S. Wilts for 51 years as a carpenter.

He was a member of the Milton Seventh Day Baptist Church. Surviving is his wife Ruby.

Memorial services were conducted by Rev. Herbert E. Saunders at the Milton Seventh Day Baptist Church on April 1, 1983.

Sandors — Doris Bliven Sandors of Albion, Wis., died May 30, 1983 in Sargusen, Wis., at the age of 81.

She was born January 17, 1902 in Albion, the daughter of John and Jessie Von Horn Bliven.

Doris was a lifetime member of the Albion Historical Society, serving as an officer at its beginning. She was a long time member of the Home Benefit Society, part of the church. She was preceded in death by her husband, Raymond, who died in 1964. They were married March 15, 1924. To this union were born two daughters, Mrs. Jane Algren of Milton, Wis., and Mrs. Joan Rache of Rockford, Ill. She is also survived by a brother, Horace, three grandchildren, several nieces and nephews and a number of good friends who loved her very much.

Memorial services were conducted by her pastor, Robert E. Harris, at the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Albion on June 2, 1983.
Green. -- Ralph H. Green of Milton, Wis., died June 2, 1983 at his home in Milton at the age of 75.

Born January 11, 1908, in Farina, III., he married Pansy Scovill on October 13, 1933, in Faukse, Ark. Green attended Milton College and the University of Illinois. He farmed in Faukse until 1946, when he moved to Milton and became self-employed as a dairy farmer. He was a Milton 4-H leader, a member of the Milton Seventh Day Baptist Church and a former member of the school board.

Surviving are his wife, two sons, Edwin of Milton and Dale of Janesville, Wis.; 10 grandchildren; three brothers, George of Monticello, Ill.; Maurice of Soground, Ill.; and Clark of Alton, Ill.; three sisters, Sue Messam of Milton, Marion Lewis of Riverside, Calif., and Mildred Harvard of Hartford, N.Y.

Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Herbert E. Saunders and Rev. Earl Crossen at the Milton Seventh Day Baptist Church on June 6, 1983.

Stillman. -- Rose H. Stillman of Milton, Wis., died June 11, 1983 at her home in Milton at the age of 88. She was born on August 8, 1902 in Norterville, Kan., the second daughter of Adelma and Mary Coon Stillman.

A 1926 graduate of Milton College, Miss Stillman also was a graduate of the University of Wisconsin - Madison, School of Nursing. She was formerly employed by the Salvation Army Martha Washington Home, Milwaukee. Returning to Milton in 1933, she was employed by Drs. Crosby, Davis and Burdick, from which she retired. She was a member of the Milton Seventh Day Baptist Church, the Milton Historical Society, the Women's Club and was named Citizen of the Year in 1974 by the Milton Kiwanis Club.

Surviving are nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Herbert E. Saunders at the Milton Seventh Day Baptist Church on June 14, 1983.

Lippincott. -- Dennis C. Lippincott of Janesville, Wis., died in an airplane crash in West Virginia on June 20, 1983 of the age of 38. He was born on November 21, 1944 in Oconomowoc, Minn., the eldest son of Darwin and Dorothy Lippincott.

After high school, he spent four years with the Air Force Strategic Air Command stationed at Drexel Air Force Base in France. He received his associate degree and his federal Aviation Administration Aircraft and Power Plant license after attending Glendale College in Glendale, Calif. He worked in evangelism with Arthur Blessitt on the Sunset Strip for several years.

On May 20, 1970, Denny married Leanne Martinson of Milton, Wis., the daughter of Bob and Bernice Martinson. To this union were born two children, Jennifer Robin in 1972 and Jay Darwin in 1975.

From 1970 to 1976 Denny and Leanne lived in Dodge Center, Minn. He worked in Austin, Minn., for one year as an airplane mechanic before beginning his own aircraft maintenance and pilot service, Lippincott Aviation, at the Dodge Center Airport. For a time he also acted as airport manager.

In 1976, they moved to Swea City, Iowa, where Denny worked as a corporate pilot for Dugdale, Incorporated. They arrived in Janesville, Wisconsin in March of 1979 and Denny became a pilot for Blackhawk Airways. He was on duty, doing what he loved most when he died. He was a member of the Milton Seventh Day Baptist Church.

Surviving are his wife; two sons, Jay, a pilot, Jennifer, both at home; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Darwin Lippincott of Janesville, Wis.; two brothers, George of Janesville and Don of Lincoln, Neb.; and three sisters, Diane Merchant of Jacksonville, Ill.; Dawn Davis of Larsonie, Wis., and Darcy Buckick of Loma Linda, Calif.

Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Herbert E. Saunders at the Milton Seventh Day Baptist Church on July 5, 1983.

The Annual Meeting of the American Sabbath Tract Society will be held on September 18, 1983 at the SDB Center, 3120 Kennedy Road, Janesville, Wis. 53547 at 9:00 a.m.

The Sabbath Recorder

August 1983
### Births

- **Adams.** - A son, Gregory Paul Adams was born to Richard I. and Pamela (Spells) Adams of Bottle Creek, Mich., on Feb. 17, 1983.
- **Morrill.** - A daughter, Sophia Grace, was born to Peter and Sue Morris of Los Angeles, Calif., on February 25, 1983.
- **Smith.** - A daughter, Kristen Ashley Smith, was born to Todd and Wando Smith on June 10, 1983.
- **Bryles.** - A daughter, Amanda Lee Bryles, was born to Doug and Leah Bryles on June 14, 1983.
- **Rice.** - A daughter, Noelle Lynn Rice was born to David and Esther (Gosey) Rice of Bend, Ore., on June 15, 1983.
- **Johnson.** - Twin sons, Andrew Christopher Johnson and Christopher Andrew Johnson were born to Richard D. and Koren L. (Von Gemert) Johnson of Woonsocket, R.I.

### Marriages

- **Brennan-Wheeler.** - Kenneth D. Brennan, son of Mr. and Mrs. Warren Brennan of Freeville, N.Y., and Helen F. Wheeler, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Edgar Wheeler of Nortonville, Kan., were united in marriage by the bride’s father in the Nortonville Seventh Day Baptist Church, on May 21, 1983.
- **Thorngate-Carpenter.** - Jeffery E. Thorngate, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wendell L. Thorngate of Battle Creek, Mich., and Terrie Sue Carpenter, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dennis D. Carpenter of Athens, Mich., were united in marriage on June 5, 1983, at the Battle Creek Seventh Day Baptist Church by the Rev. S. Kenneth Davis.
- **Billings-Owen.** - George James Billings, III, and Paula Claudette Owen were united in marriage on July 9, 1983. Pastor Charles Grafius of the Los Angeles SDB Church, officiated.

### Accessions

- **Alfred, N.Y.**
  - Baptism: Sue Burgess
  - Ken Golfe
  - Testimony: Nancy Holm
  - Peter Still
  - Cora Link
  - Dotte Hasting
  - James Inserro
  - Sue Inserro
  - Letter: Craig Mix
  - Donald Mix
  - Associate Membership: Judy Jones

- **Dallas, Ft. Worth, Texas**
  - Dennis Palmer, Pastor
  - Letter: Phillip Osborn

- **Los Angeles, Calif.**
  - Baptism: Shelley Talbot
  - Danielle Herrera
  - Testimony: Oscar Godoy
  - Letter: Julius Henry
  - Helen Henry
  - Randy Henry
  - Carmen Henry
  - Al Huntington
  - June Huntington
  - Betty Wear
  - Steve Williams
  - Robin Williams
  - Letter: Beverly Thorngate
  - Stephen Thorngate

### Retreat

- **Retreat presented by Media Project**
  - Sept. 2-5, 1983

- **Movies:**
  - Chariots of Fire
  - Jesus of Nazareth

- **Video Tapes:**
  - SCSC Training,
  - Problem Solving in the Church,
  - Lay Mobilization

- **Fun, Games, Exercise**

- **Cost:**
  - $25.00 per person
  - $40.00 per couple

- **Information:** 814-766-3414

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### A Stepping-Stone

by Marcelle Waite Willmuth

I thought, in youth when ignorance was bliss,
That some day I could tell the Good News fluently.
But, like Moses, I have no voice with which to speak
And there is no Aaron to be a mouth for me.
So, until I acquire the eloquence I seek,
I am just a stepping-stone to Jesus.

Some say, "they serve who only stand and wait."
But, to me, dull and unrewarding seemed this part
Until I read that Jesus washed His helper’s feet.
Then, in shame, I asked God to change my earing heart.
And now, although obscure the part, I find it sweet
To be just a stepping-stone to Jesus.
Special Conference Offering 1983

The special Conference Offering for Our World Mission will be Sabbath, August 6, in local churches and Sabbath, August 13, at the Houghton, N.Y. sessions of Conference.

Give generously to Our World Mission
The unified SDB Budget