Hanging on for God's next move!

A look at career changes in ministry
Anyone know of creationist information in Spanish? 

(Calls to the Marketplace—
Examples of Christians who live out their faith at work. (Two tapes with two 1/2 hour parts.)

1) Being a Witness. How to share faith with co-workers by building relationships and being bold in testimony.

2) Making Right Choices. Explore moral and ethical reasons for living out your faith at work. (Two tapes with two 1/2 hour parts.)

3) Building the Kingdom. How God uses marketplace Christians to help build His kingdom.

4) Following and Leading. How to follow and lead by serving others.

Other new titles:

The Search: New Age in a New Light. (25 min.) New Agers describe their personal beliefs. Christian experts analyze New Age claims. Our quest for spiritual reality is answered only in Jesus Christ.

The God Makers. (56 min.) Accounts of families and lives destroyed by the Mormon church. Dramatizes temple rituals that even most Mormons have not seen.

Jerusalem Throughout the Ages. (Five-part series, 30-47 min. each)

• Christians and Christianity in Jerusalem
• A Walk in Crusader Jerusalem
• "Within Thy Gates"—The City and the Temple
• Turning; Jerusalem of the 19th Century
• Jerusalem Today

Wednesday: Christine Wyrtenz Concert

Thursday: Bernie Wethington

"The Secret" of a Happy Life

(2 Cor. 5:11-15)

Friday: Gene Smith

Praise and testimony service

Sabbath: George Callhoun

"Getting Back to Basics" (Acts 2:41-47)

Kevin Butler

Editor

Leanne Lippincott

Assistant Editor

1991 Conference Speakers Aug. 11-17

Sunday: Joe Samuels

"Faith: A Prerequisite for Obedience" (Luke 5:1-11)

Monday: David Taylor

"Keeping in Step" (Gal. 5:16, 24-25)

Tuesday: Bill Shobe

"Be Reconciled" (Gen. 50:15-21)

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The Sabbath Recorder

July-Aug. 1991

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Who are Seventh Day Baptists?

If you've never read The Sabbath Recorder before, you might be wondering who Seventh Day Baptists are. Like other Baptists, we believe it:

• the saving and forgiveness of Jesus Christ,

• the Bible as the inspired word of God and a record of God's will for man. The Bible is our authority both for our faith and our daily conduct.

• freedom of thought under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

• the congregational form of church government. Every member of the church has the right to participate in the decision making process of the church.

The seventh day

God commanded that the seventh day (Saturday) be holy. Jesus agreed by keeping it as a day of worship. We observe the seventh day of the week (Saturday) as God's Holy Day as an act of loving obedience—not as a means of salvation. Salvation is the free gift of God through Jesus Christ.

It is the joy of the Sabbath that makes Seventh Day Baptists just a little bit different. If you were like me, you would like more information, write: Seventh Day Baptist Center, 3120 Kennedy Road, PO Box 1678, Janesville, WI 53547-1678. Phone (608) 752-5055; FAX (608) 752-7711.
Me? Behind the pulpit?

by Gene Smith

As I sat contemplating the topic for this month's SR, I remembered the theme of our Conference President Althea Rood, "Called to Obedience." Not too many years ago, that particular call came as a rather frightening event in my life.

Now, that may not seem very clear to you, so allow me to explain why a call to obedience could be unsettling, to say the least.

But in Clarksburg, W. Va., attending the Salem Seventh Day Baptist Church, working at a job that was the answer to prayer and, what I believed, the end of "job hunting" for the rest of my life.

Let me explain. Previously, I had enough experience in different jobs to make me a "jack of all trades." But in Clarksburg, I had finally found a job that seemed to fit me to a tee. I was working in an outpatient mental health center, and it felt like the best job I'd ever had. Starting out as a bus driver, I cared for children and adults to and from the center each day. After three years, my supervisor retired and left an opening in the supervisory capacity.

To make this story a little shorter, I was given the opportunity and took it. It was great. Good pay, excellent working conditions. I was "set for life."

Friend, never take such a situation for granted—not when you are putting your faith and life in the hands of our Lord Jesus Christ. The Lord had different plans for my life, and this is where the "unsettling" came in.

I had been there seven years, loving my work and most everything about it, when the Lord called me to obedience to His will. He knew how much I liked what I was doing, and so, to get my attention, it was necessary for Him to close a door in order to get me to go through the one He was opening. Little by little, I began to dislike what I was doing. After all those years of security, I was willing to listen to God's voice to pastoral ministry—a calling that I had only observed while sitting in the pew on Sabbath morning. Now I was called to change everything in my life, and this is where Christ entered.

You are putting your faith and life in the Lord, and He may call you to a "country road" as was the case with my high school sweetheart, (and future wife), who had told me that she would not marry me if I became a minister. However, a seed was planted that would finally germinate 40 years later.

I was called to change everything and do something in an area where I had no experience.

As I observed while sitting in the pew on Sabbath morning, Now I was thankful for that. I learned people skills. The transfer from the pew to the pulpit has been easier because of it. I learned people skills.

Pastor Gene Smith leads a grateful flock of SDB congregants in Adams Center, N.Y.

I was called to change everything and do something in an area where I had no experience.

As I was called to change everything and do something in an area where I had no experience, the Holy Spirit perhaps I have found my calling. My calling came much later in life than most, perhaps to my advantage. I had a few years of "hands on" experience in the ministry and took it.

I was called to change everything and do something in an area where I had no experience.
What kind of ministry training did you find in secular employment? Any advantages? Any disadvantages? 

Bob: My experience in secular employment taught me that even though I am as a pastor have no "boss" to whom I report, I need to keep very close tabs on what I do with my time in ministry. The church employs me to serve the congregation other than on Sabbath morning. That puts pastoral visitation high on my priority list. The disadvantage I have is that the strength of youth has left me, and I don’t have as much energy to spend on my ministry.

What strengths could you draw from your real-life experiences? 

Often a pastor’s world revolves around the “church people” in his or her congregation. My secular employment gave me an opportunity to rub shoulders with jail inmates, victims of Alzheimer’s disease and the suffering of their families went through, and the mentally handicapped and some of their struggles in trying to adjust to the real world. These real-life experiences helped me better see the strength of youth has left me, and I don’t have as much energy to spend on my ministry.

Serving a God of second chances

by Harold King

It felt like the end of the world on that cloudy, cold day in February 1973. Angry and confused, my world seemed to be tumbling down all around me as I walked out of a church business meeting, vowing to leave the pastorate. Pride, lack of patience, and a gradual drifting from the Lord’s leading had culminated in my downfall after only five years in the pastorate.

It would be eight long, lonely years before God worked it out for me to return to school and start on the road back.

I had become a pastor at a very young age, with only two years of college education and few “real life” experiences to draw from.

When things went well, I let pride control me. I dropped out of college feeling that it was a waste of time. Because there was no

needed to work out before returning to the pastorate.

Coming to a church as warm, friendly, and loving as the Hortonville congregation helped me bridge a lot of gaps that didn’t get bridged when I lived in Janesville. Gaps like feeling all alone, wondering if the SDB leadership really cared what happened to me, feeling inferior among my colleagues in ministry.

And how about switching back to behind the pulpit again?

When the call came from Hortonville, I was ready for all the challenges being a pastor brings. This is where I am the happiest—serving the Lord and His people. The prayer support of many people helped me in adjusting.

We gave up and realized that God calls all of us to minister in whatever we do, where we are.

by Robert Harris

see that God had a plan and a reason for all that was going to happen.

I was surprised to find a job, and it wasn’t long before I was advancing up the corporate ladder. With each move—and there were many during those years—there came

more prestige and worldly success. (Most of the time, we weren’t in areas which had Seventh Day Baptist churches, so we did a lot of “chuch hopping,” trying to find a comfortable place to worship.)

Thankfully, it became apparent that God wasn’t going to zap me dead. Before long, I started to realize that ministry could—and did—take place outside the pastorate. People came and shared their problems and concerns; more than

me some very valuable lessons.

Many times during that lonely period, we thought of my returning to the pastorate. I wrote to the denomination several times, but the reply was usually the same: go back to college, get your education, and then we’ll get serious about you. Toward the end of those eight years, we were even silly enough to place a notice in The Sabbath Recorder stating that we were interested in serving a church again.

There were no takers. We felt hurt and unwanted; nobody seemed to care.

We felt there was no way that God would let me become a pastor again, so we gave up and realized that God calls all of us to minister in whatever we do, where we are. It was at that point—when I humili my pride and came to accept the fact that I couldn’t force the issue—that God opened doors and worked in ways that enabled me to get that much-needed education and return to my calling as a pastor.

Having been out of school for so long, I found that I had to learn how to study all over again. I also came to find out that although the Gospel message never changes, and that the love of Christ is still desperately needed by so very many, the methods of presenting it do change in our rapidly moving world.

Yes, God taught me a lot of lessons during those years out of the pastorate. He showed me the need to be humble and let Him be in control. He helped me understand the need for a good education and allowed me to gain some necessary “real life” experiences.

He has taught me to allow things to happen at His pace and in His way.

He has also helped me to understand that people did care for us, and that while they might not have known what to say or do to help, they uplifted us in prayer. That was—and still is—so very, very important.

Maybe most importantly of all, He has helped me to realize that He is a God of second chances. We may stumble and fail, but He still loves and cares and guides us through it all.

Rev. Harold King ministers at the First Hopkinton SDB Church in Ashaway, R.I.
Get that career moving!

by Jeff Trautman

Since over 50% of your waking hours will be spent in work-related activity, the employment and career choices you make are significant. Unfortunately, many of us spend more time working out our vacations than working on our career.

In Romans 12:1-2, Paul exhorts us to "...offer our bodies as living sacrifices... do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world." Matthew 25:14-28 reminds us of our responsibility to be good stewards of our time and talents.

What does responsible career stewardship involve? Here are five basic career building blocks you should know and incorporate into your career activity.

Get God’s perspective on work

Work is not a curse. God invented work. It's a good idea!

The Bible portrays a three dimensional view of work. In Genesis, work is portrayed as creativity, toil, and reconciliation. The story of Noah expresses each of these dimensions of work. God gave Noah the creative task of building an ark. The project would require much toil in gathering and preparing materials. Yet in the midst of this activity, Noah was involved in a reconciling work, preparing a vessel God would use to give的生命. This side of heaven, work is to be a blend of creativity, toil, and reconciliation.

Aligning your career expectations with biblical truth is the first step in career building.

Know yourself

The world tells us that with the right knowledge and experience, we can excel in anything. Scripture reveals that we are "fearfully and splendidly" made.

God has created us with unique talents and abilities. Knowledge and experience can enhance these God-given abilities, but can never replace them. Do you think that your unique talents and abilities played a central role in your career thinking? Knowing, affirming, and then pursuing career opportunities in line with these strengths is the second step in career building.

Exploring the marketplace

How many times have you asked the question, "What else could I do?" only to draw a blank? The world of work is a vast, unexplored territory for most of us. With so little exposure to industries, fields, companies, and specific job titles, it's natural to feel closed in and skeptical about your options.

Taking the time to explore the marketplace can make your next job search more of a treasure hunt than a wild goose chase.

The more you learn about today's marketplace, the more possibilities you'll see.

Marketing yourself

The hardest job you'll ever have is looking for a job! The most qualified individual is rarely hired for an opening. The job seeker who best markets his or her qualifications is usually the one hired.

Marketing involves targeting companies, networking, writing effective resumes and letters, interviewing and responding to job offers. Since few of us enjoy these activities, we don't exert the effort required to build effective marketing skills. So, we spend more time waiting for a job to come our way than we spend actively pursuing opportunities.

Career stewardship means doing our part in initiating activity and trusting God to work through these efforts in directing our steps.

Conducting check-ups

Career transition is a reality of life. You should anticipate that the job you currently hold may not last forever.

Conducting regular career check-ups can keep you more tuned in to the winds of change that will inevitably blow through your work life. Signs that a change could be coming can be as obvious as a recent merger or buy out. Or the signs may be subtle—like long-term dissatisfaction, problems at home that get traced back to work, or a nagging sense that there is something more for you to pursue. A healthy work life demands periodic check-ups. This is the fifth and final step in career building.

In a convenience-centered culture, it's common to look for a quick fix to all of life's tensions and frustrations. There are many Christians who, when confronted with career transition or unemployment, wait patiently for a "burning bush" or "Damascus road experience" to provide motivation, direction, or confidence in God's leading. There are times when God's involvement in our lives takes on a clear and specific expression. However, these times seem to be the exception and not the rule.

To passively wait for the Lord to answer your career questions is more convenient than biblical. God told Abraham to leave the comfort and convenience of Ur and Haran and get moving! Abraham didn't have all the answers, but he did get moving.

Career stewardship involves moving when all the answers are not clear. It's in the movement, the journeying, that direction and guidance are discovered. Don't miss your journey in the marketplace by seeking the safe, convenient, or comfortable. Use these five career building steps to get you moving. ❧

Jeff Trautman is director of the InterCrieto Placement Network.
The Sabbath and the Ten Commandments

by Rodney Henry

(Lesson 3 of Rod Henry's study, "The Sabbath: God's Creation for Man's Benefit.")

God had delivered the Children of Israel from the slavery of Egypt. But they were a people who did not know God. Though they had witnessed God work many miracles in delivering them from Egypt, they did not know the character of their God. God so desired that His people know Him that He revealed part of His character in the Ten Commandments. These ten words of law were God's desire for the Children of Israel and for all mankind. This law showed the people what kind of a God they served by revealing the desires of God's heart. God desires that His people should love Him, worship only Him, not use His name in vain, and keep His Sabbath holy (Exodus 20:3-11). God's other desires are that people should live in harmony with others by not murdering, committing adultery, stealing, bearing false witness, or coveting (Exodus 20:12-17). God, in love, gave the law to mankind to show the way to spiritual health. Medical doctors give prescriptions which are designed to bring physical health, if they are followed. God intended the law to be a prescription for spiritual health—a prescription signed by the finger of the Great Physician, God Himself. God designed it so that it was necessary to have faith in its writer. This prescription for spiritual health, called the Ten Commandments, was to be taken as a whole with all ten of its parts. Though God's prescription regarding the Sabbath was rather specific, most Christians have thought they could improve it by changing it.

The Sabbath has its origin in creation

The Fourth Commandment points back to creation as the origin of the Sabbath. The reason that God can command us to keep the Sabbath is that He, Himself, kept the Sabbath at creation. God blessed the Sixth day and made it holy by setting the example for all mankind to rest on that day. "Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your manservant or maidservant, nor your animals, nor the alien within your gates. For six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day, and made it holy" (Exodus 20:8-11).

God's prescription regarding the Sabbath is rather specific. God said that people should rest and remember—not one day a week, but a specific day of the week—the seventh day. God specifically said that the "seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God" (Exodus 20:10). The seventh day Sabbath belongs to God. One may do what one wishes on the first day of the week, or Sunday, but it is the seventh day Sabbath which is the Lord's day, according to Exodus 20:10. Many in the Christian Church today make a distinction between what they call the "Jewish Sabbath" (Saturday) and the "Christian Sabbath" (Sunday). But according to Scripture, the Sabbath does not belong to either the Christians or the Jews; the Sabbath belongs to God. "The seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God" (Exodus 20:10).

The Sabbath created for all mankind

God did not create the Sabbath specifically for the Jews. God created the Sabbath for all mankind. "The Sabbath was made for man," Jesus said (Mark 2:27). It was created when God blessed and sanctified that day resting on the final day of creation week. "And God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done in six days" (Genesis 2:3). Since the Sabbath is sacred time, we are to make the day special by turning away from the routines of our everyday life and focusing our attention on Him.

First, God commands us to keep the Sabbath holy. We are to keep the Sabbath holy because God created the Sabbath to be holy (Genesis 2:3). Since the Sabbath is sacred time, we are to make the day special by turning away from the routines of our everyday life and focusing our attention on Him.

Second, God commands us to rest on the Sabbath. The Sabbath is set apart as a holy and special day in which we are not to do work. The other six days of the week are for our work.

Third, "a Sabbath to the Lord" is a day dedicated to Him. Not just any day, but our attention on Him.

This Fourth Commandment about keeping the Sabbath holy is a commandment that has a reason attached to it. Why should we keep the Sabbath holy? The Fourth Commandment goes on to tell us why. "For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he..." (Exodus 20:11).
When God said “No” by Don A. Sanford, historian

His great-grandfather was a captain in the Revolutionary War, his grandfather died in the War of 1812, and his early dream was to go to West Point and become an officer in the army. He was an avid student of logic and next wanted to become a lawyer, enter politics and serve in Congress.

About midpoint in the 19th century, he came under the influence of a brilliant skeptic and dabbed in spiritualism, even to the point of saying that his name be dropped from the membership of the church. But his church refused his request and nurtured him with Christian love and concern. At age 19 before he had any college education, he was certified as a thresher, sifting out the chaff from the wheat. He was invited to present to our views. Did some stranger wish to help us? If so, he was told to write to A.H. Lewis. Were we invited to present our views and positions as a denomination before a body or organization of men, why, we sent A.H. Lewis. Were we asked, “Who is at the head of your denomination?” we answered, “We have no head but Jesus Christ. But very likely A.H. Lewis is the leading man among us.”

A farmer boy, the son of a farmer, like David of old, God took him from the sheep-cote, from following the sheep, to become the leader among his people. He wanted to go to West Point; but God said, “No,” and sent him to Milton Academy. He wanted to go to Congress, but God said, “No,” and sent him to theological seminary and to the work of the gospel ministry. Thus early in life he learned when God said “No,” to be content and follow in the way God led, step by step, and in his continued following God led him to his work and to his place, the representative Seventh Day Baptist of this generation.

When God said, “No,” to this man, it turned out for our good. When God said, “Yes,” to the Lord, the Lord came and made their way perfect.

One year ago—July-Aug. 1990

Features by Don Graffius, Manfred Holck, and Don Sanford highlight theme of stewardship.

Details of Hurricane Hugo’s damage in South Carolina, and ensuing help from the United Relief Fund.

Jean Albion displays her banner to represent SDBs at the Baptist World Alliance in Seoul, Korea.

Russell Johnson begins as Director of Extension.

Board of Christian Education prints resolution of appreciation to Linda Harris for her years of service as Helping Hands editor.

More details of emotional move to new church facility in Riverside, Calif.

Five years ago—July-Aug. 1986

Residents of Westerly, R.I., gearing up for SDB World Federation meetings in August. Conferences featured in the SR include England, Jamaica, Mexico, USA and Canada.

Matt Olson, from Milton, Wis., appointed as Director of Youth Ministry.

Miami Herald carries feature article “SDBs take root in Miami”: an interview with Pastor William Vis.

Pastoral moves: Harold King to Nortonville, Kan.; George Calhoun to Battle Creek, Mich.

Observe the many behind-the-scene workers at a ministers’ workshop, Edgar Wheeler has readers consider, “Who are the ministers?”

10 years ago—July-Aug. 1981

Jan and Ruth Le, SDBs from the Netherlands, visit Sebastianian brethren in Czechoslovakia.

Nortonville members purchase house just north of the church for their parsonage.

Herbert Saunders shares, “Reaching a Pluralistic Society with the Sabbath Truth.”

Baptist World Alliance announces theme for next five years: “Jesus Christ... for the Healing of All Peoples.”

Summer Institute students include Janet Thorn, Verne Wright, Leon Wheeler, Don Chroniger, Worth Wilson, and Jerry Vaught.

Sites considered for new SDB Center: Denver, Colo.; Milton, Wis.; Memphis, Tenn.; and Columbus, Ohio.

25 years ago—July-Aug. 1966

Tract Board calls for all denominational representatives to consult on a more centralized ministry of printing and mailing.

Kansas City, Mo., church calls Philip and Harriet Burrows to discontinue.

Surprise party honors Harmon and Ethel Dickinson on their 25th wedding anniversary.

Mid-July issue focuses on Summer Institute and ministerial education.

New arts and crafts building completed just in time for Lewis Camp sessions.

Marion Van Horn called to pastor in Daytona Beach, Fla.

50 years ago—July-Aug. 1941

Devotional time at Conference anticipated “with two of our outstanding young pastors, Rev. Albert N. Rogers and Rev. Everett T. Harris, teaming up each day to lead us in praise, preaching and prayer.”

Dr. J. Nelson Norwood, president of Alfred University, and Rev. Samuel McCrea Cavert, featured in “Who’s Who.”

Wayne Crandall presents talk at Western Association, “Keeping the Young Men on the Farm.” He states, “The farm is more than a place to make a living; it is a way of living.”

Rev. O.S. Mille passes away at the home of his son, Rev.Neal Mills, in DeRuyter, N.Y.

Denver church prepares to host General Conference.

Those planning to attend asked to state type of housing desired—a private home, tourist cabin, or hotel.

...where are we headed?

Pray...

• for committed stewardship toward denominational concerns

• for our churches’ building programs

• for Russell Johnson’s ministry of extension

• that each SDB discover God’s calling

• for our brethren in Eastern Europe and Russia

• that our Summer Institutes continue to train strong leaders

• for a successful Conference gathering in Houghton...
Obeying the call to move on

"The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside quiet waters. He restores my soul; He guides me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake" (Psalm 23:1-3 NASB).

It was a hot summer day in June. Our family had been on the road for two days. We had left our friends and church family in Wisconsin to begin a new ministry in New Jersey. With all of our worldly belongings in the back of a rental truck, we were tired and hot and weary of traveling.

That night in the motel room (which seemed so small even after being in the station wagon for two days), our two young sons started fighting over who would get which church and new neighbors, Jordan, Tyler, and Bethany stopped talking about "going back home" to Wisconsin. They became comfortable and secure in their new surroundings, made friends, and adjusted to the move.

Every pastor and family has experienced the difficulties and joys of moving to a new pastor-ribbon. We now have another loving and caring congregation with which to share. Our children have new friends, new experiences, new places to enjoy. Don and I have no doubts that Shiloh is where we are supposed to be. The Lord has confirmed the fact often for us. He continues to lead us to quiet waters, restoring our souls as we seek His guidance and direction.

Members and officers of the Women's Board are seeking the Shepherd's leading and guiding as we undertake new responsibilities and challenges after the Board's move from California to New Jersey. We are learning, we are experimenting, we are seeking ways to serve you.

We're very excited about all the blessings you women can experience as you come to Conference in Houghton, N.Y., in August. You will have a chance to fellowship with others, share joys and concerns, and make decisions that reflect our corporate decision to serve the Lord.

Plan now to participate in the Women's Interest Committee, chaired by Linda Camenga; Women's Luncheon on Monday; Women's Banquet on Wednesday; Conference Nursery (donate some time to help); Craft Sale (bring your items to sell for SCSC); and Women's Love Gift Offering (bring your ideas of possible recipients).

Please support the SCSC teams and programs. We really need your financial support as the bills begin coming in—send your check to Treasurer Marie Davia. Plan to witness the presentation of the Rode of Achievement—for your nominations. We hope to see many of you in Houghton!

God blessed my life by giving me Christian parents. As a matter of fact, I received nearly double the Christian training because I frequently went to church on both Sabbath and Sunday. It was a special joy to have my mom join the SDB church along with me.

As a teenager, I had the ability to do many things well. Although I received many athletic and academic awards, they didn't satisfy. I felt appreciated for what I could do and not for who I was.

God was faithful, and He sent Linda Bingham (Hayes) to me at Houghton.

The President's Page

The President's Page

Reflecting His image—a testimony

by Althea Rood

Himself to me through the life of Delmer Van Horn. Suddenly, I realized that I knew God was real! During our first pastorate, I had a tremendous desire for "more" in my Christian life. God sent Alton Wheeler. Alton shared how to color code a Bible. The Scriptures came alive to me, and in six months I literally "wore out a Bible." It was like a gift from God saying, "I want you to know that you're really mine!"

Soon after that time, I remember telling God that I didn't want to know any more about Him but that I wanted to experience Him. I wanted to know how to apply His Word in my life. God started me on the adventure of small group Bible study—an experience which has continued to spur my growth.

At the same time, God used one of my greatest joys—softball—to bring me to the end of my self-sufficiency. I played on a women's fast-pitch softball team, with and against several semi-pro women. However, I still batted "clean-up;" I guess due to my farm-girl strength.

God used one of my greatest joys—softball—to bring me to the end of my self-sufficiency.

One night, I didn't get a hit in any time at bat and struck out three times in the process. I felt worthless. And for the first time in my life, I knew that without Him, I could literally do nothing!

For the past two years, I feel that I have been in God's "boat camp" of faith. I have been learning to trust Him in a new way for His provision—for not only physical needs but relationships as well. We have also been experiencing in a new way His power poured through to do what He's called me to do. What I have been experiencing repeatedly is God's faithfulness. "If we are faithful, He will remain faithful" (2 Tim. 2:19).

A verse which means a lot to me is Philippians 2:13—"For God is at work within you, helping you do what He wants" (TLB). I am so grateful for such a wonderful God, one who not only gives us the desire but the power to do what He asks.

I've especially been amazed at God's timing. This past year, just when I have desperately needed a day home to prepare, God has allowed me to stay home rather than substitute teach. "The steps of a good man (woman) are ordered by the Lord!" God is in control!

He has been challenging me recently to be aware of His presence in all areas of my life and to be available for Him to use. I haven't arrived, but I am confident that "He who began a good work in [me] will carry it on to completion" (Philippians 1:6).
We join 44 million Bible students around the world who study the same Scripture lesson.

Bible Lessons began in 1872. They are arranged in a six-year cycle outline which attempts to cover the entire Bible during those six years. Each new six-year cycle attempts to avoid duplication of the previous cycle's Scripture passages. The themes include biographical, topical, and book studies.

The Committee on Uniform Series develops lesson suggestions from the outlines. The Helping Hand editor, who is a member of the Committee, utilizes this material during the writing of the student lessons. When Seventh Day Baptists study The Helping Hand each weekend, we join 44 million Bible students around the world who study the same Scripture lesson.

The Sabbath School Committee of the Board of Christian Education suggests that teachers using The Helping Hand consider using lesson preparation resources. Many publishers offer International Bible Lesson commentaries. Your local Bible bookstore will be able to assist you. You may wish to consider two which are available now and will be helpful as you prepare to teach The Helping Hand this coming school year.

The International Lesson Annual, 1991-1992, edited by Horace Weaver, has been used for 38 years by International Bible Lesson Teachers. The Annual features detailed explanations of the Bible text, parallel columns of the King James Version and New Revised Standard Version texts, lesson analysis, and creative teaching suggestions. The entire year's lesson commentary (9/1/91 through 8/31/92) is available in paper cover from your favorite bookstore or Cokesbury, 201 Eighth Ave. South, P.O. Box 501, Nashville, TN 37202-0801 (Phone: 1-800-672-1789).

After the Exile

Central New York, USA
A seminar and rally was held at the San Miguel, Zamboanga del Sur, SDB Church with the report, "We praise and thank the Lord for the result of our evangelistic meeting and Bible study. Many accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Savior, and soon they will have baptism there. Another accomplishment is the ordination of three pastors—Yentce S. Onkhieng of Kalawit, Ernesto O. Estender of San Miguel, and Rufino G. Timagos of Iatay."

Guayana, South America
Good News Clubs are functioning at the Parika, Kitty, and Uwitlugs SDB churches where Pastor D. Thomas serves. Camp this year was divided into Junior and Senior levels. The young people hosted concerts at Pomegranate and Charley to raise funds for the next Convention. The annual retreat was held at the Dartmouth SDB church on Resurrection weekend with the theme, "Steadfastly Abounding in Good Works" (1 Cor. 15:58).
Praise the Lord!
How are all the youth groups getting along out there? Last time I talked to you was at Conference last year. That was really fun, and I cannot wait until August.

Last Conference, some of the youth, with the help of MaryJo Johnson and Pastor Andrew Samuel, talked about all the youth keeping in touch through The Beacon. We really haven't fulfilled that goal, but it's not too late to start. The youth were going to keep in touch about how we are doing and things that the YF's were doing. Well, here's a start!

**Notice!**

**National YF Officers Ballot Change**

*President—*
Tanzy Henry

*Vice President—*
Kory Geske

*Secretary—*
Lisa Call

*Treasurer—*
Erik Henry

*Members at large—*
Jay Lippincott
Tanzy Bonser

*changes*

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**Washington, D.C. youth fellowship report**

YF Leader: Diane Andries
YF Assistant: Zulema Wilson (Zu)

Number of members: Four

Topics of Interest: Four

How to handle peer pressure

Friends

Who we are in Christ

God's promises

Where we gain our strength

Recent activities:
YF meeting on "Friends"
Began YF Highlights with April edition
Roller-skating—4/21/91

Upcoming events:
Guest speaker—Janiee Wilson
Garage clean-out
to make YF headquarters
YF Retreat in July
Establish YF for guys

We only have a few youth, but we will bring more youth in during Vacation Bible School sessions. If you have any suggestions or would like to recommend some of your YF's past activities, write through The Beacon. Hear from you soon!

In Christ,
Zu

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**Pastor Profile**

**Name:** Leland Warren Bond

**Birthdate and place:** May 1, 1925, Clarksburg, W.Va.

**Current pastorate:** Bradenton, Fla.

**Family:**
Wife—Lettie
Daughters—Laura and Linda
Six grandchildren

**Education:**
- Salem College, Salem, W.Va.
- B.S.—West Virginia University
- M.S.—West Virginia University
- Training in Ministry and Extension (T.I.M.E. program)—1989

**Former pastorates/employment:**
- Pastorates:
  - St. Petersburg, Fla.
  - Okeechobee, Fla.
- Employment:
  - Vo-Ag teacher, Weston, W.Va., five years
  - Sales representative, Lederle Labs, Ind. and W.Va., 28 years

**My first job was:**
- with the U.S. Navy (1943-1946).
- Teacher of Vocational Agriculture (1949).

**Personal hero:**
- My father, O.B. Bond

**Favorite childhood memory:**
- Purchasing and training a team of sorrel horses. I plowed gardens to help pay for them. I was proud that I could control them by voice command. My father kept them for me until I returned from WWII and entered college.

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**Favorite Bible passage:**
- Isaiah 41:10

**Favorite author:**
- Charles Swindoll

**If given an all-expense paid vacation:**
- We would go back and visit the islands of the South Pacific where I spent my World War II years.

**A great answer to prayer was:**
- When the war in the Persian Gulf ended in 100 hours.

**A church project I'm excited about:**
- The establishment of a growing church in Bradenton.

**My vision for SDBs:**
- That we will grow and have churches in every part of the country. Then, when people ask us what church we belong to, they will not be surprised when we say, "Seventh Day Baptist."
Families in focus at Semi-Annual
by Seili Bond

The Semi-Annual meetings between the Dodge Center, Minn., and New Auburn, Wis., SBBC churches were held at Dodge Center on April 19-21. President Doug Payne chose the theme, "Take Time for Families." Scriptures for the theme were taken from Deut. 6:4-7; 31:13, and Eph. 5:22-23; 6:1-4.

On Sabbath eve, Pastor Dale Smalley gave a very challenging message on "The Husband-Wife Relationship: Key for a Stable Marriage." Beth Wallstrom and Karen Payne shared their own family histories. Both women were raised in Christian homes and related their joy and acceptance in their homes. Beth shared a very special album her mother made for her.

On Sabbath day, we enjoyed a duet by Ruthie and John Ryachon. Pastor Dale Rod's sermon, "Take Time to be Family," emphasized the importance of taking time to teach God's Word and to impart our faith, to honor our parents, to discipline our children, and—most important of all—to take time for love. After a noon meal served to over 80, we met in small groups to discuss topics relating to families. Topics included: Family and Sabbath Day, Vacations, Family Celebrations, Devotions, Activities, and Handling Family Schedules. After interesting discussions, we shared our thoughts with the other groups.

The Ryachon family presented a family concert on Saturday night. The singing was interspersed with John's comments on how the Lord Jesus Christ influenced all areas of their family life. The message in song and the spoken word was an inspiration to all who heard it. Following the concert, the Dodge Center Youth Fellowship hosted a ski and game night for everyone.

Prior to the Sunday morning business meeting, Larry Green had a challenging message on "Family Responsibilities." He talked about the responsibility of the head of the household to provide for his relatives, and especially the immediate family. If he doesn't, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever—as stated in 1 Tim. 5:6. Also, we are not to worry about our provision, as Matt. 6:25-34 states. He emphasized the importance of training a child in the way he should go, as in Prov. 22.

Doug Payne led the business meeting. Following the Sunday noon meal, our New Auburn friends headed for home. We thank God for all who took part in the Semi-Annual meetings. We were blessed!

Snippets from the Southeast

Lost Creek, WV
Jerry Garrett makes tape of 10 songs with Shooting Star Studio. Donations (cash or books) needed for church library.

Columbus, OH
$200 gift given to a high school graduate. Sabbath tapes aired on television. Spring Retreat held May 3-5 to kick off National Family week, and provide renewal.

Paint Rock, AL
Pastor John Bevis conducted revival services at Texarkana, Ark., church and reports having received a special blessing there. He also continues in physical therapy (following a handgun accident). Even though he can move the fingers and has some use of the hand, it is still weak and at times painful.

Key careers targeted for Christians

Most young Christians today choose their careers for the money, security, or emotional satisfaction they hope to receive. Counselors have long known that few choose an occupation merely because it gives them the greatest possible opportunity to impact the world for Christ. In fact, Christians may shy away from most highly influential jobs, often leaving them to be filled by militant non-Christians. All that may begin to change within two years.

Early this year, a representative task force of a dozen leaders from evangelical, charismatic, and fundamental churches and groups met in Chicago to lay the groundwork for a major effort to encourage believers to enter secular fields that sorely need more Christians.

Examples included journalism, university teaching, government/foreign service, the arts, and numerous types of "tentmaking."

The presence of the Holy Spirit was evident throughout the weekend.

so a man's heart reflects the man" (Proverbs 27:19).

On Sabbath eve, Conference President Althea Rood led in hymns and in Bible study on the theme "Reflecting God's Image Through Obedience," with examples from the life of Moses.

Wiley, shared the children's message. Over 100 were present, including nearly 70 from other churches in the Association.

Sabbath afternoon, a dea ministry group, "The Tenth Coin," shared through drama, sign language, music, and testimony. All were blessed by their ministry!

Following a rousing hymn and chorus sing on Sabbath night, Mary Jane McPherson led in a discussion of Christian education. Each church in the Association shared stories or materials that have been useful in their local Sabbath School. Althea Rood then shared slides, Conference plans, information about new churches/leadership, and updates from each denominational board or agency.

Sunday morning, Howard Ellis (First Vice President) led the business meeting. The closing worship service was led by Rev. and Mrs. Melvin Stephan.

The meals were great, the fellowship superb, and the presence of the Holy Spirit was evident throughout the weekend.

Eastern Association reflects his image
by Irene B. Greene

Eastern Association was held in Berlin, N.Y., under the leadership of Gerri Greene. The theme, "Reflecting God's Image," had as its key verse, "As water reflects a face," (Proverbs 27:19.)

Sabbath morning worship was led by Rev. Harold King, Rev. David Taylor brought the message, "Living in the Image of God." Central Association delegate, William Seili led the message on how the Lord Jesus Christ influenced all areas of their family life. The message in song and the spoken word was an inspiration to all who heard it.

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Ed and Cathy Cruzan of White Cloud, Mich., are crusader on their way to a larger family with the adoption of two girls: Anna, age 3, and Jeannie, age 2. Big sister Jackie, 4, is also very excited!

July-Aug. 1991/ 21
Dear Kevin,

I have just completed reading the April SR (on war and peace) and am compelled to write. This is a hard subject for many of us to reconcile ourselves with, but having just returned from the Persian Gulf, where I served, it was a timely issue.

In Christ,
Jeffery S. Crandall
Staff Representative
USA

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Alfred Bruce Hill Jr., was called to the Gulf on December 1. He has served nearly 20 years as Chaplain since he left home, wife, family, and a new grandson to help in that sand-filled area of the world.

"If we come to the Bundes and services to be openly held in this country, if not the first in recent history."

In Christ,
Jeffery S. Crandall
Staff Representative
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Dear Sir,

Since the "Soville Chamberlains" of the USSR church have been heard from, I thought that a reply was in order.

Those people sit firmly ensconced on their Bibles and preach something which seems to say, "Nothing is worth fighting for."

Saddam Hussein was gassing the Kurds and marauding indiscriminately into Kuwait long before we ever came on the scene. Were the Kurds and Muslims fleeing from our troops? I think not! We did not cause the refugee problem - Saddam did; we did not cause the starvation - Saddam did. We sat safe in his German-built bunker and ate well while plotting who he'd take over next. Kuwait was easy!

Gen. H. Norman Schwarzkopf was unknown to most of us but was given command of the Allied forces fighting to free Kuwait. I have not forgotten that God gave us the technology which produced the Patriot missiles, the Stealth fighters, and so on. All of these things, plus the men and women of the combined forces, saved the lives of thousands of people, including my son's.

My son, Chief Petty Officer

Alfred Bruce Hill Jr., was called to the Gulf on December 1. He has served nearly 20 years as Chaplain since he left home, wife, family, and a new grandson to help in that sand-filled area of the world. When I arrived at the Bundes Park and services to be openly held in this country, if not the first in recent history.

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Respectfully Submitted,
E. Keith Davis, M.D.
St. James City, FL

Dear Kevin,

The following are some thoughts upon reading the Pro-Life Resolution of the 1990 Conference, and the June Life Resolution of the SDB Baptist Association, which is well worth the reading.

"And the Lord formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul" (Gen. 2:7).

Many people believe that a fetus becomes a living soul with his first breath, and until capable of independent life, is part of the body which sustains it. This is one religious view of life. A woman's decision to end a pregnancy is a religious one, and therefore her right to make that decision is guaranteed by the First Amendment to the Constitution.

Baptists, especially Seventh Day Baptists, have historically supported individual choice in religion and conscience, which is equal to and as well as Constitutional. An SDB request for governmental enforcement of religious views is therefore unconstitutional.

If we advocate the Golden Rule, Matt. 7:12, we cannot insist upon adherence to our religious views, which will be AIS-infected or drug dependent.

Human overpopulation is a major threat to humanity and the very earth. To Cairo, Egypt's "City of the Dead," or the slums of other major population centers, and tell us about the "Sanctity of Life." The U.S. is one nation presently absorbing much of the world's excess population, but cannot continue to do so indefinitely.

When you give a child for adoption, you may be committing him to terror or abuse. Current news substantiates this. A woman faced with the decision is the person most likely to have the facts to assess her capability of providing an acceptable, nurturing home. Not all people should be parents.

The issue of opposition in the Nancy Cruzan case probably had convinced themselves that they were supporting human life; while actually making a general nuisance of themselves and creating problems for those who are concerned with the tough decisions.

If we feel we must do something, wouldn't we be more likely to help those around us who are walking the edge, rather than petitioning government for its religious views, making life more difficult for those besieged by circumstances?

Sincerely,

Harrist Spencer Hill
New Smyrna Beach, FL

---

Dear Mr. Butler:

Let's set the record straight. The article, "Remember the Sabbath Day" by Summer Holmes, published in the May SR, promulgates a common myth regarding the Old Testament Sabbath transition. The question is asked: "So when did the day of worship change from Saturday to Sunday?"

"Emperor Constantine, the first Christian Emperor of the Roman Empire, the Emperor Constantine was called to the Gulf on December 1. He has served nearly 20 years as Chaplain since he left home, wife, family, and attended an Easter Sunrise Service, with close to 150 in attendance. This was probably one of the few Christian church services to be openly held in this country, if not the first in recent history.

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**Encouraging Words**

To repeat last month's call:

“Our church has a monthly fellowship dinner. No matter what you call it—potluck, dish-to-pass, meal of sharing—it brings a tableful of surprises and good eatin'.

“How about printing some of those sure-fire winning recipes that have people asking for more?”

We received these two mouth-watering entries:

**Sabbath Rest Salad**

Gladys S. Randolph
Englewood, CO

No cooking; just layers

In a large bowl which can be covered, put—
1) Head lettuce, broken into bite-size pieces
2) Green peas, 10 oz. frozen pkg., cooked and cooled
3) Bermuda onion, small, sliced thin
4) Hellman's or Best Foods mayo, 1 cup
5) Sugar, 2 tsp. sprinkled over first four layers
6) Parmesan cheese, 1 cup sprinkled over first five
7) Bacon flavored bits, 4 oz., crumbled over first six

Do not stir until ready to serve some 24 hours later. It has “rested,” and its seven layers are seasoned to renew our strength and spirits.

**Peanut Slaw**

Vivian Looper
Leavenworth, KS

Dressing:
1/2 cup Miracle Whip
2 tbsp. vinegar
2 tbsp. sugar
Mix together and let stand two hours

Pour over:
4 cups chopped or shredded cabbage
1 cup chopped Spanish peanuts

To repeat last month's call:

Please send your dish-to-pass recipe (limit one) to:
SDB Center
P.O. Box 1678
Janesville, WI 53547

Or give us a call:
(608) 752-5055

You can even FAX your recipe!!
(608) 752-7711

**Sabbath and Commandments**, (cont. from page 11)

rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy” (Ex. 20:11).

Mankind is to keep the Sabbath holy and rest, because God kept the Sabbath holy and rested on that day. The Sabbath is holy because God “made it holy” at creation. Mankind is to rest on the Sabbath because God set the example for Sabbath rest at creation.

Can we keep any day holy and rest, and still be keeping the Fourth Commandment? It says that there is only one day per week that is holy to the Lord. The only day that is holy to the Lord is the one that He made holy, the seventh day Sabbath.

God wrote the Ten Commandments with His own finger as a prescription for spiritual health.

The Fourth Commandment is part of that law.

We see from this commandment that the focus is once again on God.

We are told that the “seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God” (Exodus 20:10). The Sabbath belongs to God because He created it.

In verse 11, we see that the Sabbath is a call to remember God as the Creator.

The Fourth Commandment is also a call to rest from the work of the world. But, even this prohibition on work becomes a focus on God.

We are called to stop our work in order that we can give to God our undivided attention.

Questions
1. What is the purpose of the Ten Commandment law?

Wasil.—A daughter, Leah Michelle Wasil, was born to Gregory and Kathy Wasil of Englewood, CO, on March 23, 1991.

Carpenter.—A son, Trevor Douglas Carpenter, was born to Richard and Angi (Smith) Carpenter at Loring Air Force Base, ME, on April 15, 1991.

Ayars.—A daughter, Lindsay Nicole Ayars, was born to David and Kerry Ayars of Bensalem, PA, on May 9, 1991.

**Obituaries**

Severe.—Luella B. Severe, 96, of Littleton, Colo., died at home on March 23, 1991.

She was born on March 23, 1895, in Milton, Wis., the daughter of David and Effie (Mossor) Baker.

On June 21, 1922, she married Claude Milton Severe in Riverside, Calif. He died in 1970.

In addition to being a homemaker, Elia taught grammar schools in California for 38 years.

She received Christ as her Savior and Lord as a teenager and became a member of the Riverside Seventh Day Baptist Church. Although she was a charter member of the San Gabriel (Calif.) SDB Church and later became a member of the Denver (Colo.) SDB Church, she retained an associate membership in the Riverside church.

In January 1972, Elia moved to South Pasadena, Calif., to live with...
Obituaries, cont.

26 /The SR

her daughter, Beth Burdick, and family. In September 1989, she moved with Victor and Beth to Littletown.

Survivors include two daughters, Dorothy Whitlock of Riverside and Beth Burdick of Littletown; one son, David, of Boulevard, Calif.; eight grandchildren, and 11 great-grandchildren. In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by one son, Claude Milton Jr., in 1978.

Funeral services were held on April 1, 1991, in the Riverside SDB Church, with the Rev. John Poul and the Rev. Gabriel Bejjani officiating. Burial was in Olive-wood Cemetery.

Gray.—Don Vincent Gray, 78, of rural Clayton, Del., died on March 28, 1991, at Kent General Hospital, Dover, Del., following a heart attack. He was born on April 6, 1912, the son of Carl B. and Anna Belle V. Gray. He married Caroline Estella Frits Randolph on June 16, 1933, in Milton Junction, Wis. He was a member of the Milton (Wis.) Baptist Church.

Don Vincent Gray

Seventh Day Baptist Church at the time of his death. A graduate of Milton Union High School, Don was also a graduate of the Milton College School of Music and attended the Alfred School of Theology at Alfred, N.Y. He was licensed to preach and served at least one church of the SDB denomination as pastor. For several years, he was a member of the diaconate of the Milton church. He had several opportunities to preach and render service as Field Coordinator of the North Central Association, a position he held for seven years. He also served on the Commission of General Conference.

Don was a retiree of the Parker Pen Company of Janesville, Wis., where he supervised the tool room Inspection Department. His love of music was fulfilled in part there when he organized and directed the Parker Pen Chorus. While employed at Parker, he and Caroline operated a printing business in Milton, the Mighty Oak Print Shop. Anyone who knew Don, knew of his love of the English language. Out of that love came a book of poetry and word sketches in 1945 entitled, "With Eyes Half Closed." More recent writings are known to the family as the "Pegasus Collection." He also had an insatiable craving for information in a wide variety of fields. Books were a constant companion, and he accumulated a significant library. Don was an incurable punster, had a ready wit, and enjoyed the art of "playing with words."

Survivors include four daughters, Donna Monen of Marysville, Calif., Nola Clavio of Downs Chapel, Del., Louise Harris of Pennsville, N.J., and Marietta Bielew of Little Geneseo, N.Y.; one sister, Leora Hartman of Milton; 15 grandchildren, and 20 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his wife, Caroline, and two sisters, Lillian Tucker and Evelyn Rahola. Services were held in the Milton SDB Church on April 2, 1991, conducted by the Rev. George Calhoun and the Rev. Edward Sutton. Burial was in the Milton Union Cemetery, Milton.

Norstog.—Marguerite Jean Norstog, 67, of Lakewood, Cola., died at home on April 15, 1991, after a long illness. She was born on July 31, 1923, to Presbyterian missionary parents in Cameroon, French Equatorial Africa. She was married to Rolf Norstog in 1947.

"Peg" had a great love for music and attended Berea College, graduating in 1944 as a music major, with the violin as her primary instrument. As an accomplished violinist, she played with symphony orchestras in Topeka, Kan., and Lakeview.

She attended the Francis Payne Bolton School of Nursing in Cleveland, Ohio, graduating with her R.N. in 1947. She worked as a nurse in Des Moines, Iowa; Topeka and Wichita, Kan.; and Norman, Okla. In 1955, the Norstogs moved to Colorado, where Peg continued her nursing career. She was an outstanding caregiver, putting the patients' needs above the petty politics of the nursing staff, and always pushing for higher standards and levels of competence. She eventually became a shift supervisor and was instrumental in setting up the first G.I. Lab at Lutheran Hospital in West Ridge, Colo. She retired from nursing in 1985.

Peg adopted an orphan in Mexico through a Christian care organization, patiently taught illiterate adults to read, and refurbished old dolls and toys for children of poor families. She was uncommonly patient, caring, and tolerant, and somehow was able to see the potential good in others. She was a big help in establishing the present Denver church library. Peg loved the Bible and rejoiced in its teachings.

Survivors include her husband, Rolf; two daughters, Kari Norstog of Silverthorne, Colo., and Tracey Fulton of Germany; and one very devoted sister, Betty. Services were held at the Crown Hill Cemetery in Lakewood, with the Rev. Tom Warne and Pastor Ralph Gasser officiating.

Kevin's

My Kornor in March jumped right into the middle of a story.

The topic was our Conference theme, "Called to Obedience." Jan and I had just said "yes" to our call to seminary. Two important cycles had come to an end; two other cycles would soon begin.

A cycle of cycles

After breathing through most of my first year at a community college, I said "yes" to a call to attend a private and more challenging Christian college, to pursue vocational ministry. I transferred from comfortable commuting to an oasis of learning and isolation at Houghton.

Many things needed adjusting—especially my grade point average. Good-bye 3.8—hello 2.1!! Much more challenging.

Three-year cycle #1 had begun.

My desire to enter the pastoral life faded with each college year, so the business world would have to succumb to my wishes. Three-year cycle #2. Definitely the longest. Three different "careers," a taste of unemployment (in education itself), a new baby, lots of rewards and frustrations.

Soon, it was "good-bye" gainful employment, and "hello" seminary training and three-year cycle #3.

Accepting the new pastorate in Madison, Wis., began three-year cycle #4. Do you see a pattern? Maybe that's the reason for the roller coaster and briefcase on the cover...

Each cycle there was for a reason. I'm positive that the Lord "called" me to every one of those situations.

In the next Sr:

With this year's Conference sessions starting a week later than usual, that makes our September issue deadline just one day after we return.

To do justice to our Conference coverage, we'll make that the theme for October. September will feature a variety of topics.

Enjoy your summer, and I hope to see many of you at Houghton.

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R. R.--------

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Thank you for responding!!

Good issues—good editorial work.  
W.Va.

I like to read letters that show and encourage Baptist independence of thought and diversity.  
N.Y.

Interesting variety of news and issues.  
Mich.

I really enjoy the Recorder. I would miss not getting it!  
N.J.

A publication we can be proud to show or give to anyone. Keep up the good work.  
W.Va.

It's good to see that we have articles on issues that are current, even if controversial.  
Mich.

We love it! We're so thankful it goes to our four "offspring," even though they're no longer SDBs.  
N.Y.

Great job! Love your format.  
Wis.

Thanks for the issue on death; came just when I needed it.  
W.Va.

I really enjoy each issue.  
Calif.

Appreciated warnings of New Age. Thanks, too, for some identification of contributors whose names are new or unfamiliar. Always love Kevin's Korner!  
N.Y.

Keep up the great work! I know you guys work hard!!  
Calif.

Keeps me in touch with SDB churches.  
Calif.

I am pleased with the progressive development of the SR over the years and the quality of its articles.  
Fla.

Continue to face the issues "head on" that SDBs tend to want to push aside. 'We don't talk about them!'  
Colo.

Look forward to each publication.  
W.Va.

Really enjoy the letters from readers. Keep up the excellent work!  
Minn.

You are doing a fantastic job. God bless you as you serve Him, and us!  
Kan.

And thank you for your suggestions and gifts. The Sabbath Recorder, now in its 147th year, is one of the oldest continuous magazines in the country. Our ministry is supported by the donations of our readers. Can we count on your support today?

Yes! I would like to help

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