The Parable of the Gift
Resolution of Appreciation

To

C. Rex Burdick
Editor

The Helping Hand
September 1991 — November 1993

The Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education, Inc.
is grateful to C. Rex Burdick for over two years of service as editor and writer
of our adult and youth Sabbath School quarterly, The Helping Hand.

We appreciate Rex's commitment to Christ's Church, his emphasis on the application of Christian
principles in our daily experiences, and his advocacy of Bible study in the Christian's life.

On behalf of the Board of Christian Education, we express our high regard
for Rex's educational ministry among Seventh Day Baptists.

—The Sabbath School Committee
David S. Clarke, Chairman

Thanks for caring

I had the privilege of serving for 37 years
as a Seventh Day Baptist pastor, before re-
tiring in January, 1986. Since that time, I
served three more years as pastor of church-es that were seeking full-time pastoral lead-
ership. I can say that these were satisfying
years, and that, almost without exception,
I received the respect and honor due the offi-
cers.

Since retirement, a large part of our in-
come has come through the pastoral retire-
ment plan. From time to time, there have
been increases in those retirement pay-
ments. I want to express my deepest appreci-
ation to the COSAR committee for promot-
ing contributions to augment the retirement allowance of pastors who, like myself, were
under the old retirement plan. I also want to
thank our SDB friends who have shown that they appreciate the work of pastoral
ministry and care for those who have serv-
ed. The inspiration is of God; the response
is from you. Thank you!

Edgar F. Wheeler
Wake Forest, NC

Board of Christian Education

The annual meeting of the members of the Seventh Day Baptist Board of
Christian Education, Inc. will be held at the Van Horn Building, 892 Route 244,
Alfred Station, N.Y., on Sunday, October 24, 1993, at 2:00 p.m.

The purpose of this meeting shall be
to hear and act upon the 1992 annual report of the Board of Directors, to elect
members of the Board of Directors, and to consider and act upon such matters
that may properly come before said meeting.

Members of Seventh Day Baptist
churches entitled to representation in the
Seventh Day Baptist General Con-
ference are members of the corporation.
Accredited delegates attending the 1993
General Conference sessions in Red-
lands, Calif., are entitled to vote at this
annual meeting.

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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 in:
- the saving love of Jesus Christ,
- the Bible as the inspired word of God and a record of God's will for man. The Bible
  is the 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 kept 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
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

September 1993/ 3
The Parable of the Gift

I had a dream last night! We all received a wonderful gift. The card stated simply: "For You—From God, the giver of every good and perfect gift."

Imagine that! A gift of love from the One to whom we owe all that we are and all that we have—our loving God. It came in one of the most exquisitely wrapped packages I had ever seen. The gilded gold paper with a floral motif was a nice touch. And the bright hand-tied golden ribbon and bow, which seemed to cover the entire top of the present, gave it an important "this is something special" look.

When we asked God why He was giving us this present, He answered, "For no special reason; just because I love you."

"What is it?" one of us asked.

"It's the Sabbath, and I give it to you to keep for me," was His gracious reply. "There are no restrictions." He added, "I only ask that you receive it with joy and use it for your own blessing."

Without hesitation we received it with thanksgiving and carried it into our home—with care. What a wonderful gift! What a precious thought! How blessed we are to have a God who cares enough to give us of Himself, and of His bounty and blessing!

We took our gift and placed it with "oh so much" care on the mantle, next to other precious gifts we had received from His hand. It sat upon, had a plaque engraved with the words "Remember the Sabbath Day to keep it holy," and placed it in the center of the room. The room became a special place for all of us.

As time went on, the other furniture was removed so that our gift would stand alone—a symbol of God's gracious giving. More and more people asked us about our gift, and often the room was filled with people pressing about our package.

We soon realized that we needed to find a more permanent place to keep our gift; to make it available for viewing, but to protect it from what others might do to it. We gathered together—all of us who believed in the gift's power and witness and blessing—and pondered just how we might make it accessible, but still keep it safe.

It was decided! Our gift needed its own building. We laid out plans for the construction—it would be magnificent! And we had a name for it. "Museum?" No, we agreed. Not "museum." "Sanctuary."

Then we went right to work, for time was of the essence. The package, in spite of all we had done to protect it, was beginning to fade. With haste we completed our task, carefully removing the gift from our home and placing it where it had always belonged, in its own sanctuary. It now had its own place of refuge, its own sanctuary.

As we completed our task, carelessness diminished. We set up an elaborate protection system with security devices, cameras, and "keepers." People came from miles around to see our new gift. "Museum?" No, we agreed. "Sanctuary."

"The Gift." Plaques on the walls told the stories, and pictures everywhere identified believers whose lives had been witness to "The Gift's" power and influence and blessing.

Every year, hundreds would congregate at the site and praise God for having given us such a special gift. "The Gift."

The crowds grew larger and larger, and it became increasingly obvious that something might happen to damage the glass dome protecting the gift. Or perhaps the gift itself might be desecrated.

A bulletproof shelter was recommended, so we hastily contracted to have a sealed compartment built to house our precious gift. The temperature inside was regulated to help diminish further deterioration of the wrapping and bow, both of which were becoming dulled with age. It was obvious that the gift would never quite have its original luster again.

It was cleaned one more time, damage sections were sealed, and then it was carefully placed in its new environment. Word spread, and people continued to flock to the sanctuary. Once a year, we all gathered together to consider again what steps might be taken to keep our gift holy and to protect it from outside forces.

It wasn't long before it became necessary to erect, on adjacent property, a convention center for the throngs of people who came to study the gift and its blessing, sing hymns and spiritual songs, and renew old acquaintances and meet new friends. The center was built with love, and the halls were filled with banners and relics bearing the image of what was now called "The Gift." Plaques on the walls,告诉 the stories, and pictures everywhere identified believers whose lives had been witness to "The Gift's" power and influence and blessing.

Education and mission societies were established so that no one would miss an opportunity to study the meaning of "The Gift" and share its attendant blessing.

A massive library was established, as books and archives from all over the world, donated by believers in "The Gift," crowded its shelves. Theological treatises, genealogical charts, biblical studies on "The Gift," hymnbooks, practical guides for proper
“How sad,” we expressed to each other, “that others don’t know the blessings we have received from ‘The Gift.’”

“Hush!” said one of the keepers as she rushed over. “This is God’s house! We must maintain a reverent and quiet manner.”

“But,” said the lad, “I want to know what’s in the package.”

“It’s the Sabbath,” came the startled reply. “Didn’t you bother to read the sign outside that said ‘Come in and see the gift of God?’ that would protect ‘The Gift’; all the while trying to provide some logical answer to what was now called “the Question.”

After considerable debate, it was decided that in order to maintain the holiness of ‘The Gift’ and the sanctity of the sanctuary, it was necessary to seal it off—seal the windows, and close it to the public.

Four hundred plus years had passed since ‘The Gift’ had been entrusted to the believers’ care—to our care. Somehow it became increasingly obvious that the ultimate Question had never been asked seriously. And since the ‘Question’ had never been asked, no one expected an answer.

Off and on, attempts were made to delve into the meaning of ‘The Gift,’ but the teachers and the preachers and the lawyers and the musicians could not agree. The convention center remained abuzz with activity and study and debate. But the true nature of ‘The Gift’ and the answer to ‘the Question’ remained a mystery.

Some of us joined a small group of believers which began meeting in secret outside the convention center—believers who wanted something more out of their belief in ‘The Gift’ than what they had previously experienced. We dared to pose the question outright, and we asked it without fear. “What’s in the package?”

“It’s what is inside that is the gift,” said one, “not the package. Not the elaborate protective devices, not the security measures, not the sanctuary, not the conferences in the convention center, not even the keepers. What is inside is the question. ‘The Gift’ is ours! ‘The Gift’ was given to us. We must see what is in the package. We want to be free!”

But we must!” responded the crowd. “‘The Gift’ is ours! ‘The Gift’ was given to us. We must see what is in the package. We want to be free!”

It wasn’t easy breaking into the sealed vault, unwrapped ‘The Gift,’ and appropriated what was inside the package, or if it would be forever lost behind closed doors, barred windows, bulletproof glass, and closed hearts—only to be seen in televised images.

It was a large, determined group that descended that day upon the keepers of ‘The Gift’. They tried to hold the crowd back. “No,” cried one keeper as the door was broken down and the sanctuary entered.

“No, please! No!” screamed another as he began to weep uncontrollably, failing his arms wildly in a desperate attempt to free himself from the grasp of those who held him.

“I’m frightened,” said another. “Yes, it’s time!” echoed another, too terrified to go further.

“But we must open the box,” said the first. “We’ve come this far. We’ve destroyed the wrapping. We must see what’s in the package.”

Carefully, the box was removed from the stand, and the weaished lid was lifted. All waited, both in anticipation and fear.

Open it,” came the collective sigh of the multitude. “We must see what’s inside!”

Together the believers looked into the box.

And Behold! The Giver! Behold! God!!!

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6/The SR
Seventh Day Baptists and Seventh-day Adventists Compared

Seventh Day Baptists and Seventh-day Adventists are frequently mistaken for each other. Historically, Seventh Day Baptists are a much older group, dating back to the 1650s in England and to 1671 in America. The Seventh-day Adventist denomination resulted from the Millerite Movement of the 1840s with the addition of the Sabbath truth through contact with Seventh Day Baptists.

The two denominations are alike in the following ways:
1. Both are Christian bodies.
2. Both practice baptism of believers by immersion.
3. Both practice open communion.
4. Both observe the only Biblical Sabbath—the seventh day of the week—Saturday.
5. Both express a free form of doctrine that the Bible—and only the Bible—is the authoritative source of our faith.
6. Both believe in the separation of church and state.

Important points of difference are:
1. Seventh Day Baptists hold to the historic Protestant principle that the Bible—and only the Bible—is the authoritative source of our faith. Seventh-day Adventists hold that Mrs. Ellen G. White was an inspired prophetess and that her writings are to be received as authoritative in the church. This unique doctrine is called by Adventists “The Spirit of Prophecy.” Seventh Day Baptists believe that Jesus gave the Holy Spirit to guide his followers into all truth.
2. Seventh Day Baptists are a covenant people, bound together by loving relationships with God and with each other. They covenant together, agreeing to strengthen these relationships. Doctrinal differences are tolerated within the church family because it is love that holds Seventh Day Baptists together, and not doctrinal uniformity. Seventh-day Adventists are a creedal people, bound together by their doctrinal uniformity. Doctrinal differences cannot be tolerated because uniformity holds them together.
3. Seventh Day Baptists believe in individual interpretation of the Scriptures under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. For this reason they allow for differences of belief and understanding of the Scriptures. Seventh-day Adventists have a denominational set of beliefs, which serves as a creed. Their regimentation in doctrinal belief and their test of doctrinal position by Mrs. White’s writings discourage personal search for God’s continuing revelation and inhibit personal religious liberty.
4. Seventh-day Adventists lay great stress on “The Third Angel’s Message” (Rev. 14:9-13); consider that Christ entered the Holy of Holies in 1844 to cleanse the Heavenly sanctuary; that “The Investigative Judgment” of human lives is now going on in heaven. Seventh Day Baptists reject this interpretation and agree with other Protestants that Christ’s atoning work on the cross accomplished our salvation. This present gift of eternal life assures us of a future free from condemnation.
5. Seventh Day Baptists do not believe they are the only true church nor the only door to salvation. Seventh-day Adventists believe they compose God’s remnant church and are the only true church. They teach that they are to call others from “Babylon” (other denominations) into the true church. They believe that when they have completed their task throughout the world the second coming of Christ will occur.
6. Seventh Day Baptist churches are autonomous. They are congregational in organization. Boards, the General Conference and its committees exercise only delegated or advisory powers to effect the will of the church membership. Seventh-day Adventists are much more authoritarian in church organization; local churches and individual members are to a large degree directed by and responsible to the national and regional organizations.

This article is available in tract form from the SDB Center, P.O. Box 176, Jonesboro, WI 53577. The glossy, 4" x 7" tracts are only 8¢ each.

The bride
by Mayola Warner

Do you get emotional at weddings? I do. Recently, I attended one that was especially meaningful to me, and God taught me an important lesson!

Let me set the stage: I happened to know that this was a “Christian” couple in every sense of the word, and so my heart was thankful, peaceful, and very happy as we waited for the ceremony to begin.

The organ processional was very stately, as one-by-one the attendants came down the aisle. The bridegroom, standing straight and tall, was smiling and waiting eagerly for his bride.

Finally, the organ swelled into a full crescendo as the bride and her father appeared at the doorway. They hesitated on the threshold for a brief moment, while everyone’s eyes focused upon the bride.

How perfectly lovely she looked! A long list of positive adjectives could not adequately describe her overall beauty. “Lovely,” “pure,” “strong,” “joyful,” “beautiful,” and “submissive” all came to mind.

“I am now forming you and preparing you—sometimes through trials—to be My beautiful bride, without spot or blemish.”

It was at that moment (with my eyes full of tears) that the Lord spoke to me and said, “That’s what I’m waiting for. You and all the true believers are My bride: the Church. I am your bridegroom. I am now forming you and preparing you—sometimes through trials—to be My beautiful bride, without spot or blemish” (see Eph. 5:25-27).

What an effect this can have on our lives as we ponder the dynamics of this very real parallel! The Bible confirms this to be so. Isaiah 54:5 tells us that “He [Jesus] will be your husband.” And in Rev. 21:2, it says that someday He will descend from Heaven as a bridegroom to take to Himself a pure bride. After that there will be a marriage feast like we cannot begin to fathom (Rev. 19:7).

Does this make you emotional? It should! But more than that, the reality of it should cause us to do our part in preparing ourselves and encouraging others to be “ready.” It should cause us to submit now to the nudgings of the Holy Spirit concerning our lifestyle, our priorities, the use of our many resources and spiritual gifts, etc.

It is true that this wedding day is set. The invitations are out. The Groom is ready, and I believe that His bride is almost ready. But only the Father knows the date and hour.

How does this affect you?

Mayola Warner is a member of the Verona, N.Y., SDB Church. She has witnessed numerous weddings, including those of her four children.
The boy grew up

As we moved from Ohio to southwestern Arkansas, we made a stop at a cafe in Hope, Ark., now a city of about 9,000. In the years between 1952 and 1955, we often passed through Hope while traveling to and from Little Rock.

At the time, living in that community was an elementary school boy called "Bill." He was known by his family and at school, but probably little known elsewhere.

On January 20, 1993, that boy, now 48, was sworn in as "William Jefferson Clinton, 42nd President of the United States of America." His name is now known the world over.

As I watch the children of our community go to and from school, I wonder who they are. Some I know personally. Who will they be 10, 20, or even 40 years from now? With millions of children in the United States, the chances are slim that some child we know will become President.

Looking ahead, there will be job openings in government, education, law, religion, and many types of trades and occupations. And they will need educated, honest, truthful people—\[\text{clean in mind and body}\]—to fill these positions. So the child we see today is not just a "kid," but a potential good citizen to be trained cooperatively by those in the home, school, church, and youth organizations.

Many evil influences face children today, so we need to build up their immunity against evil. We must clothe them with that which is good, educate and train them for the life ahead, and try to rescue any who have been led astray.

Trevah Sutton, a retired SDB pastor, lives in Aztec, N.M. He remains active in the Senior Citizens Writing Club; members call themselves "Senior Free-lancers." This article was published in their monthly paper, "Pages from the Ages."

Missing the "recharging"

Airman Duane Taylor, son of Pastor Dave and Margaret Taylor, is stationed in Germany. Because of that, he missed his first Conference in a long time.

Duane sent the SR this letter, intended to encourage young Conference attendees at the California gathering. Since it arrived too late for the July issue, perhaps his words could be applied to your local church attendance.

Well friends, here I sit in Germany, thousands of miles from home and, for the first time in many years, unable to join you at Conference. Not even for just a weekend, like last year. I will truly miss this time of fellowship and fun that I know you will be having. Though my body may not be with you, believe me, my heart will be! I pray that this time of gathering, however short it may seem some years, will be a time of new friendships, renewing of old ones, and bonding in the spirit we all share—our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

We all face trials in the world around us; at school, at our work, even when out with friends. Being a Christian is sometimes very difficult in a world where a good share of society finds it "uncool" to be so. Take this time to "recharge" those spiritual batteries. Enjoy each other and the freedom to be who you are without feeling you're not accepted for it. Then take that freedom home with you, knowing that you are indeed accepted—no matter where you are. Jesus Christ accepts you (Romans 8:35-39), and so do I.

Take care, my friends, and enjoy this Conference season.

In Christ's Love,
Ann. Duane B. Taylor
FSC10 Box 1312
APO AE 09130-1312

Six "nevers" of buying a church piano

by Richard K. McDonald

The funds have been provided and the need is certainly there for a new piano. No problem. We'll just dash out and buy a piano this week, right?

Don't be so hasty. Buying a piano is like buying a car with one exception: most people know little or nothing about pianos.

While there are many ways to approach this subject, start with the fact that the money appropriated for a piano did not come easily. Second, stewardship demands that we be careful with funds entrusted to us and not "go bananas." We need to buy the best piano to meet our needs within the financial limitations given us.

Rather than go in depth into piano construction and the current market, let's summarize the subject into six "nevers."

1. Never go alone to buy the piano. The cliché that "two heads are better than one" is certainly appropriate here.

A salesman will have a harder time pressuring a whole committee to buy a particular piano. Though a committee will take longer to come to an agreement, diversity of thought will prevent mistakes, and the responsibility of the ultimate decision will be shared. Be smart; elect a committee.

Assuming that a committee approach is taken, make certain that four people are on it. The music director should be on this committee because of his or her position. So should the pianist; after all, the pianist will play this instrument and will come closest to selecting the instrument intelligently. Also include the organist. A financial representative would be a wise addition. (Any other additions might make the committee too large.)

Whoever is on the committee, DO NOT include the pastor! This is usually not his area of expertise (of course, there are notable exceptions to this rule of thumb), and he does not need the added responsibility. The above-mentioned people were elected to leading positions in the church and should be trusted in this area as well. Relieve the pastor of mundane duties so that he can remain in his area of expertise—spiritual leadership. Your church will notice the difference.

2. Never buy without consulting a professional. Spend some of that hard-earned money now to avoid a poor choice later. Assuming that you already have a tuner/technician servicing your piano, you would do well to pay him a fee to help you look for a piano. His job is to know pianos, and he will continue to tune whatever instrument you have anyway. He will be objective, since he has nothing to lose or gain in this venture. He can give you an idea how much models cost, and probably knows your church's need better than you think.

After narrowing the field to several choices, ask the tuner what his choice would be. Have your committee examine his findings and then, in light of their research, make a decision. Remember, the final decision is yours, not his. The tuner is only an advisor. Make it worth his
while, and he will do a good job for you.

3. Never buy the cheapest piano.
When a list of possible choices has been compiled, resist the temptation to choose the least expensive. It may not be the best value. A more expensive model may be a better choice if it will last longer, give greater service, and better meet the needs of your congregation.
Ask yourself, "Ten years from now, which will have been the better choice?" Always buy with the idea of someday saying, "I am glad that we did this," instead of, "I wish that we had done it differently!"

4. Never buy an upright when you can afford a grand piano.
If the two choices were almost the same price, and the quality nearly the same, for me there may not be the best value. A more expensive model will last longer, give greater service, and better meet the needs of your congregation.

A more expensive model may be a better choice if it will last longer, give greater service, and better meet the needs of your congregation.

A musician can create music on a grand instead of pounding out chords on an upright. Who knows what future musicians may be challenged to greater heights because of a fine instrument that they have had the privilege to play at church.

Ask your pianist which they would rather have. If you can, buy a grand piano.

5. Never buy a new piano without first checking the used market.
Before you buy a new piano, check out the used piano market. Again, use your friendly tuner for help. Most tuners that I know are glad to help, and when offered pay for their services will bend over backwards to assist you.
A slightly used piano can give you service comparable to a new one, for less money—if there is one available. The key here is, how long can you wait for the right buy to come along? If you are in a rush (and most feel that they are), you might not have much success with this approach.

6. Never buy a piano and then not maintain it.
Whether you have new or used pianos, it makes no sense to invest a fair sum of money into fine instruments and then not maintain them. Unfortunately, that happens all too often. By all means, get into speaking terms with a good piano tuner.

Several factors affect the tuning of a piano. Humidity changes, temperature changes, amount of playing time, and moving the piano are four of the main causes of tuning deterioration. Though the last two factors are not major considerations in a church, it's still little short of amazing that a piano stays in tune as well as it does, considering the humidity and temperature changes in the average church building.

Have a good tuner service your instruments twice a year. Make sure that his price is within the range of the average tuning. (Check his references if there is any doubt.) About every two years or so, have him adjust the action to keep it in tune as well. In the end, you will be satisfied with a sound purchase that will serve your congregation for many years to come.

There are many aspects to consider when buying a piano. Its looks (most people view it as a piece of furniture rather than a musical instrument), its sound, and its touch are the three most important aspects, apart from the price. A grand piano is the best in all three areas, but costs more.

The final decision is up to you. For my money, Japanese pianos are the best combination of value and quality on the market. Plan well, and make a good decision.

Richard K. McDonald is the music director at Calvary Free Will Baptist Church in Oklahoma City, Okla. Reprinted by permission from Contact magazine.

"Commit your works to the Lord, and your plans will be established" (Proverbs 16:3 NASB).

It seems that much of my life lately is centered around "busyness." There are always things to do, places to go, people to see. I carry lists to remember me of things that need to get done.

Each morning, Don and I discuss what is happening that day, or what needs to be accomplished that day. At times, we seem to fly from one thing to the next. We complete one task, breathe a sigh of relief, and then begin something else.

Like many others, I am often working on several things at once! As I approached the end of the school year this past June, I was especially aware of the busyness of my life.

First, I was busy working on the finishing touches for our spring concert, with "I Love America" as the theme. There were last minute rehearsals, stage props, and costumeing to deal with. The concert came and went.

Then I turned my attention to preparations for the 8th grade graduation. Once graduation zipped by, we started working on Bible School and camp preparations. And once Bible School week was over, we turned our focus on our three weeks of camp.

In the midst of all this hustle and bustle, I need to commit my works to the Lord.
Quite an Experience!

by Don A. Sanford, historian

From the time of Tacy Hubbard, the first known SDB pastor, to the Sabbath in the New World in 1665, to the present time, women have played an important role in Seventh Day Baptist history. They have been prominent in education, in missions, and in nurturing families of preachers.

Some, such as Martha Hall, sister of four prominent pastors, filled the pulpit with considerable success. But it remained for the oldest child of Asa and Marvel (Maxson) Corliss to earn the name by this name all of her life. Known for everyday use. She was known convert to the SDB Church. When she was a pupil of Preston F. Randolph, a recent graduate of Alfred (N.Y.) University, she taught school before going on to college, where she was fired with an ambition for further education. She and her sister, Calphurnia, both entered Alfred University in 1874, and Perie earned her degree in 1879. She taught school in Alfred but had to return to West Virginia because of sickness in the family. During this period of teaching in New Milton, she gave thought to the decision to enter the Gospel ministry. As a student, she was accepted equal terms with the other students—except for one factor. At her own request, she did not participate in the division of funds from the Missionary Board and other sources for the support of young men preparing for the ministry. Although faculty and other students insisted upon financial assistance, cont. on page 23

In 1906, shortly before her death, Perie wrote of her decision: "No church helped me to decide the vital question; for my home church, during my girlhood and early womanhood, was in West Virginia, where the people felt that women as pastors do not succeed, and it is unwise to encourage young women to prepare themselves for the ministry. The church of which I was a member felt more strongly, and believed it would be wicked for a woman to try to preach."

However, when that church heard that she had decided to enter the School of Theology at Alfred, they "resolved to most heartily approve of her decision and pray over her sympathies and prayers." On July 7, 1883, they licensed her to preach.

As a student, she was accepted equal terms with the other students—except for one factor. At her own request, she did not participate in the division of funds from the Missionary Board and other sources for the support of young men preparing for the ministry. Although faculty and other students insisted upon financial assistance, cont. on page 23

10 years ago—September 1983
SDB "Proclaim the Word" at Conference in Houghton, N.Y. Hebron, Pa., church celebrates 150 years. Dorothy Parrott accepts the Robe of Achievement. "Growingest Church" award goes to the Central Church in Upper Marlboro, Md.; Kenneth Croniger, pastor. Alfred Station, N.Y., church welcomes new pastor Melvin Stephan. Pastor Gordon and Linda Lawton prepare "Family Worship" for Conference and the SR.

25 years ago—September 1968
SR Editor Leon Malby returns home following a nine-week hospital stay due to leg surgery, complicated by an infection.

New Conference President Leland Bond announces 1969 theme, "Sensitive in His Service."

John Bevis, recently licensed to preach by the Paint Rock, Ala., church, leads to Salem College to teach history.

Conference in Kearney, Neb., judged "a great success" and "harmonious." Rev. David Clarke presided.

Team "Wreck". All five Plainfield, N.J., Summer Christian Service Corps (SCSC) workers involved in three separate auto accidents; no one seriously hurt. Vandals strike the SDB church in Metro, La., causing $500 in damage.

50 years ago—September 1943

"Missions" column lists the many activities evident in all the Associations.

"Conference in Salem," celebrated in local churches because of the war-time cancellation of General Conference meetings.

SDB pastors Wayne Rood and Leon Malby prepare to become military chaplains.

Albert N. Rogers named new Conference President.

...where are we headed?

Pray—
• with thanks for our rich heritage
• for all of our "Senior Saints"
• for those ministering to the downtrodden
• for our branch church groups
• that Conference meetings make a difference in our churches and individuals
• for our SCSC workers and leaders
• for our men and women in the military
1993 Scripture Memorization Program

The Scripture Memorization Program for the 1992-93 year featured Conference President James Skaggs' theme, "A Firm Foundation." The Sabbath School Committee of the Board of Christian Education selected monthly Scripture verses for Primary, Junior, and Youth/Adult age groups. Sabbath School students who completed the program were presented certificates at the General Conference sessions in Redlands, Calif.

Adams Center, NY
Nellie Barbour
Delberta Greene
Colleen Hatch
Beatrice Malby
Catherine Roberts
Mildred Sweeney
Pastor Grace Smith
Amanda Sweet
Nicole Sweet

Alfred Station, NY
Susie Butts

All Nations, CA
Sharon DeLeon
Benny Panabon
Gerrard Panabon

Atlanta, Metro, GA
Bethany Thompson-Gordon
Patrick Thompson-Gordon

Berlin, NY
Juliet Olson

Boulder, CO
Pastor Eino Pitz Randolph
Medeline Pitz Randolph
Brian Heath
Kelly Ketteman
Chris Rood
Doris Rood
Tim Rood
Amy Skaggs

Bradenton FL
Edith Harker
Jean Davis
Pastor S. Kenneth Davis
Evelyn Mendenhall
Polly Petelli
Martha Stull
Libby Upham

Dodge Center, MN
Selli Bond
Linda Greene
Cathy Payne
Karen Payne
Marcy Payne
Althea Rood
Pastor Dale Rood
Jeff Rood
Kristin Rood
Teresa Yagulak

Hebron, PA
Casey Bridges
Pearl Brock
Edna Gaines
Kandice Hill
Rachel Kenyon

Hopkinson, First, RI
Dollie Allen
Virginia Crudland
Kathi King
Vivian Leopar
Lois Park
Thelma Tarbox

Lost Creek, WV
Margaret B. Allen
Stanley K. Allen
Adrienne Ash
Justin Ash
Robert Ash
Brittany Bond
Nicoel Bodd
Susan D. Bond
Tiffany Bond
Alex Boyajian
Jennifer Boyajian
Natalie Boyajian
Becky Boyajian
Bobby Curry
Johnny Curry
Amy Davis
Carrie Fenstermacher
Jerry Garrett
Susan Garrett
Jan Graffius
Pastor Larry Graffius
Scott Graffius
Steven Graffius
Bridget Lawrence
Cindy Lawrence
Larry Lawrence
Luke Lawrence
Mary Beth Lawrence
Lorna Perry
Lena Podor
Phyllis Randolph
Reid Randolph

Madison, WI
Barbara Saunders
Lila Saunders

Marlboro, NJ
Diane Crusan

Ruth Crusan
Mary C. Davis
Sharon Davis
Cindy Dickinson
Holly Miller

Milwaukee, WI
Melod B. Crusan
Carolee Marinaske
Chrisi Marinaske
Stacie Marinaske
Mary Ann Michel

Nortonville, KS
George Graves
Benjamin Harris
Jeana Harris
Aaron Smith
Kevin Smith

Pawcatuck, RI
Helen Brayman
Barbara Grove
Julianne Grove
Barbara Nugent
Pastor David Taylor
Margaret Taylor

Pine Street Gospel, CT
Gwen Bowyer
Pastor William Bowyer
Irene Giaucl

Raritan Valley, NJ
Pastor Jeanne Yurke

Rutland, VT
Amanda Bland
Ruthanne Cain
Season Corathers
Lydia Davis
Jennie Gooden
Marie Martin
Susy Mills
Julie Sias
Vivia Zinn

Seattle, WA
Grace Elaine Dolly
Charlie Noyes
Melodie Noyes
Maudene Pierce
Larry Sanford
Len Sanford

Sunshine Mountain, MS
Betty Albertis
Willie Ray Grace
Robert Hartley
Jack Hayes
Linda Hays
Pastor Ralph Hays
Bonna Hinkkon
Ruby Kelley
Stephanie Lee
Jackie Miller
Eugene Roehl
Stacey Walker

Texarkana, AR
Edith Pack
Laura Richards
Marie Wagner

Toronto, Canada
Julie Cross
Sharut Puffe
Sajja Pyke
Nichole Gilmore
Anaka Norgul
Nataasha Reynolds
Paula Reynolds
Ruth Reynolds
Omayah Roden
Oniaka Roden
Jeffrey Sinclair

Verona, NY
Joyce Burdick
Pastor Steven James
Michelle Leube
Maya Warner

Washington, DC
Brenda Harris
Don Harris
Pastor Bill Shobe
Nora Sparks
Dana Taylor

White Cloud, MI
Anna Crusan
Cathy Crusan
Ed Crusan
Jackie Crusan
Jeanne Crusan
Christopher Watt
Donny Watt
Emily Watt
Tina Watt

In the past few months, I have included an updated report on the India Orphanage Project in the "Missions" portion of the Lead-Line.

Construction is a race against time as the monsoon season of October and November approaches.

Since that report, I have received more pictures and information. The pictures on the right show the progress that has been made since the March SR. Construction is on schedule and going smoothly. It is a race against time as the monsoon season of October and November approaches.

All of the funds needed to erect the main building have come in, and construction should be completed no later than the middle of September. Work on the project will be halted during the monsoon season, and the other structures will be built early next year.

Please continue to pray for the project, and give as God leads. Additional funds are needed for future incidental expenses. Thank you all for helping to get us this far. If you would like more information and copies of the blueprint, drop me a note. My mailing address is Kirk Looper, Missionary Society, 119 Main Street, Westerly, RI 02891.

We received confirmation reports on the trips taken by Pastor Royal Mkandawire of Malawi. He states that many other trips will be necessary to assist in church organization and education in other African countries. Money to finance travel is still needed. So far, most of the expenses have been paid by the Central Africa Conference. However, because of last year's budget problems and hardships with food, they can barely meet present expenses. Nevertheless, the Conference is willing to sacrifice to insure that the Gospel is spread to those around them.

Because Pastor Mkandawire is doing the traveling and investigative work in these new fields, the Missionary Society's travel budget is not drained. This allows us to follow through with the projects we have started.

Please pray that the Holy Spirit will lead people to donate funds if they cannot do the work.

(left) The office and hailin rooms of the 20th orphanage in India.

(below) Construction continues on the India Orphanage Project.
Let your light shine
by Susie Butts

If I were a color I think I would be the mixed colors of a sunset, blue and yellow coming together to create a splash of different combinations and shades.

If I were an animal I think I would be a ferret that gets excited and dances back and forth, surprised and intrigued by all that is around.

If I were a season I think I would be summer, during the comfortable lazy warm days, where the warmth just soaks into your skin and you feel sleepy and content.

If I were a body of water I think I would be a fresh water spring, bubbling, and gurgling from sources unknown, but flowing along just the same.

If I were an animal I think I would be a warm contented sunbeam of His joy and grace. But most of all, I want to be a bubbling and gurgling messenger to carry His gift of eternal life to anyone who flows along.

Your Bible library

Your Bible is like a library, where books of the same subject are together on shelves. If you get to know the layout of your Bible library, it will be easier to find answers to your questions and to learn from God's Word. Look at the Table of Contents in the front of a Bible. Try to fill in the names of the missing books.

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Responding to growing needs

Headline: Challenged to build their needed addition, members of the Dayton (Fla.) Seventh Day Baptist Church responded, and ground breaking is now!

A person with a vision for the future of the Dayton Beach church came forward with a "Matching Fund Offer" in December, 1992. The offer stated, "Every dollar given between now and March 31, 1993, designated for new facilities, will become two dollars! Cash gifts, and pledges paid within 24 months, will be honored with matching funds."

As reported on March 31, the donor matched the first $25,000 given or pledged. Plans were drawn up for the expansion, and the legal details have been met. The addition will be named "Rogers Hall," as voted at the annual meeting.

Sabbath School classrooms, handicapped-accessible bathrooms, a Fellowship Hall, and a nursery are included in the plans. The May 31st church bulletin listed the Building Fund total as $56,699.60.

The Lord has blessed us with a gift of the house just west of the parsonage. Much work has been done, and this building has already housed guests who attended the lovely weddings in December and January. Recently, it has provided an apartment for visitors from other SDB churches who are vacationing in Daytona.

God has blessed the church as our outreach into the community continues with several programs. A support group for prisoners' families meets on Wednesday evenings, and church members conduct Vespers at Clyatt Geriatric Center.

Horn was mentioned as a "Good and Faithful Servant," having served 25 years or more as church clerk.

We invite all SDB families to add the denomination's Florida churches to their list of "attractions" when they plan their Florida vacation. Worship with us on your vacation Sabbath!

130 years in Nortonville

The Nortonville, Kan., Seventh Day Baptist Church celebrated its 130th anniversary on July 3, 1993. Eighty people attended the morning worship celebration.

The day's services were planned by the Rev. Robert Harris. During the worship time, Chaplain Clifford Bond led the responsive reading: "It was a wonderful day for reminding each of us that what we say, do, and live is an example for those who follow."

and gave a message to the children. The Rev. Oscar Scott, a former member and pastor of the church, shared the sermon, "Family Gathering," and assisted with the communion service.

Before communion, the congregation, led by Rev. Harris, renewed their covenant with God and the church. Our deacons and deaconesses served the elements.

During Sabbath School, the adults met for a lesson concerning "Covenants," prepared and led by Scott Smith. Children's classes were held as usual. Seventy-one people enjoyed a bountiful basket dinner in the church basement at noon. Afternoon services began with Edwin Johnson leading a "Sing-along" of familiar hymns.

Pastor Harris presented a book he had prepared from early newspaper articles about people and events in our church. He also presented a hedgewood cross that Jim Noll made for the sanctuary.

Six women were presented corsages as "Honorees" of the church in 1904:

Alma Maris Davis—our oldest member at 96. She is a descendent of Alma Buten Maris, one of our first settlers.

Mary Ellerman—age 90, a grand-daughter of Mel and Chrysanthia Stillman, who were also among the first settlers on the SDB Lane.

Nellie Van Horn—89, came to Kansas in 1904. Her parents were George and Mettie Van Horn. Naomi Stephán—our oldest active church member. She was married to the late Hatfield Stephens, and has been active in the church choir and Women's Missionary Society.

Kathryn Nieman—Church Historian for 17 years. She is a descendant of Clark Kenyon, and George and Mettie Van Horn. Zella Babcock—honored for the beautiful bouquet she prepares for the sanctuary every week. She descends from John Smol­lie Babcock and Oscar Scott. Babcock, early settlers. Her parents were Herman and Alcena Babcock.

Only Alma and Zella were able to attend.

Linda Harris read a poem written by Margaret LaMont entitled, "The Saga of Seventh Day Lane." Pastor Harris led the special memories of former ministers of the church.

C. Samuel Wheeler (a great, great-grandson of Joshua Wheeler and namesake of the Rev. Samuel Wheeler, one of our early ministers) prepared and presented a "130-year history of the church."

At the close of his review, he asked people to stand who had attended different celebrations throughout the history of the church.


A short trip to the SDB Historical Marker ended the celebration. Rev. Harris chose Colossians 1:3-12 as his Scripture and gave an excellent message, "Where We Have Been, Where We Will Go!"

The Rev. Kenneth Smith gave a tribute to Nannie Grelley, who had given the plaque for the marker in 1952. At that time, a dedication service was held honoring the early settlers who came to Kansas to start a Sabbathkeeping church on the prairie and to assist in keeping Kansas a "free" state.

"Rock of Ages" and "Amazing Grace" were sung, and Pastor Harris dismissed us with prayer. It was a wonderful day for remembering, and for reminding each of us that what we say, do, and live is an example for those who follow.

We "oldsters" had a good example to follow. May we strive to be an even better example for our descendants.

50th Wedding Anniversary

Norris and Darlene Wheeler, Nortonville, Kan., celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on May 9, 1983, with a reception hosted by their children and families. It was held in the Seventh Day Baptist Church basement at Nortonville.

Norris and Darlene Smith were married on May 14, 1943, at Lawrence, Kan. They farmed north of Lawrence until 12 years ago, when they built a new home on the old Joshua Wheeler farm north of Nortonville. They keep busy raising and caring for livestock.

They have four children: Phillip of Prairie Village, Kan.; Warren and Martha, both of Lawrence; and Dale of Eudora, Kan. They also have eight grandchildren.

September 1993 / 21
A first for Charleston

by Janet Thorngate

More than 70 people attended Southeastern Association sessions, June 26-29, hosted for the first time by the Low Country SDB Church in Charleston, S.C. Host pastor, the Rev. W.H. Wimborne, welcomed delegates from 12 churches and three other associations (Allegheny, Central New York, and Eastern). Letters of greeting came from six other churches and branch groups in the association, which stretches from Ohio and Pennsylvania, to Alabama and Florida.

Program moderator, the Rev. S.

From youth choirs to radio

Members of the All Nations SDB Church, Chino Hills, Calif., were delighted to have their youth choir represent them at the 85th Children’s Choir Festival. Leadership was provided by Sisters Viviane Lynch and Urline Tabor.

The festival was held on March 7, 1983, at the Glendale Presbyterian Church. It was a lovely way to spend an evening. Music is an important part of worship; it can inspire one to become more dedicated to our Father. More than 200 guests attended, with 18 churches participating from 10 different denominations.

In the May 1993 issue of The Sabbath Recorder, it was stated that a radio ministry was in the making. We sincerely thank our Lord Jesus for making this ministry possible. He answers our prayers! It is our hope that many souls will be led to Christ and be blessed by this ministry.

All Nations currently broadcasts from KGER radio 1360, on Saturday evenings from 8:15 to 8:30. We encourage those of you who live in the Los Angeles area to join us and listen to “Ye Shall Know the Truth” broadcast. And please pray for us! —Phyllis Harmon

Quite an Experience!, cont. from page 14

she steadfastly refused. She felt that the original donors of the funds did not contemplate any distribution other than among men, as the terms of the gift stated.

She later wrote, “From my earliest memory I had an intense longing to tell people about the Saviour and his love, and I was always belligerent because I was not a boy, for then I could preach. These feelings never left me entirely.” Even while in seminary, pressure was placed upon her to enter the foreign mission field—an area where women played a vital role.

Before the close of her academic training, she received a call to become pastor of the Lincklaen and Otsego churches. The day after her graduation in 1885, she was ordained by the Hornellsville church of Miami, Fla., on April 16.

During her pastorate at Lincklaen and Otsego, she married one of her parishioners, Leon Burdick, who had courageously decided to prepare for the ministry. From that point on, much of her work centered on making her husband’s ministry a success. She did continue her pastorate during much of her husband’s schooling, and was in much demand as an evangelist.

While her husband was pastor at Garwin, Iowa, Perie was called to attend to church renovation. Her presence resulted in “the spiritual quickening of nearly the entire membership, the strengthening up of difficulties—some of which were of many years standing; voices that had been silent in the house of the Lord were heard again in testimony, wanderers were reclaimed, and fifteen began the Christian life.”

In 1898, just before going to Marboro for his pastorate, the couple was invited to return to Otsego. It was reported that “Brother Burdick preached an appropriate and interesting sermon in the morning, and Sister Burdick, with her usual vivacity and clearness, preached in the evening. Of one sermon it was reported that the analysis was excellent and the application practical and personal.”

During Leon’s pastorate at Marboro, Perie was elected president of the Ladies’ Aid, but continued to serve as an evangelist and often appeared on the Women’s Board program. In 1904-05, they returned to control New York where they worked in the Verona church.

Her final pastorate was in New Auburn, Wis., during the final year of her life. Her husband had accepted the pastorate of the church at New Auburn, Minn., some 150 miles away.

She lived at their Minnesota charge, but at stated periods she spent several days with the Wisconsin charge on visitation. She spent Thanksgiving Day, November 29, 1906, she passed from earth to eternal rest and was buried in New Auburn, Minn.

Perie’s records show that she had conducted 500 preachings, 50 fund raising, and had performed a host of other tasks. In 1907, she was the president of the Wisconsin Board.

She left a legacy to be remembered, and at stated periods she spent several days with the Wisconsin charge on visitation. She spent Thanksgiving Day, November 29, 1906, she passed from earth to eternal rest and was buried in New Auburn, Minn.

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She left a legacy to be remembered, and at stated periods she spent several days with the Wisconsin charge on visitation. She spent Thanksgiving Day, November 29, 1906, she passed from earth to eternal rest and was buried in New Auburn, Minn.

Included is the story of the women who served on the Women’s Board. In 1899, when the first conference of the Board was organized, it was stated that the original donors of the funds did not contemplate any distribution other than among men, as the terms of the gift stated.

Dear Kevin:

Thanks for doing an outstanding job as the editor of The Sabbath Recorder.

Please continue publishing the updates from the Baptist News service. Our people should be kept informed in all current activities taking place in Congress and across our nation.

Sincerely,

Helen and Ernest Bond

Dear Kevin:

Congratulations on your special, June 1993 issue. It’s very attractive—colorful and well designed. And it gives good information about the Seventh Day Baptists. I hope it serves you and your church well.

This is an idea that might well serve other ACP publications, particularly those associated with lesser-known denominations. I’ll commend this in a future Newsline.

Cordially,

John Stapert, Exec. Director
The Associated Church Press

Editor’s note: We have had many encouraging comments following the June special issue. Former SR Editor Scott Smith provided the layout design; this was first done as the SR’s 140th anniversary issue. We thank Scott for his expertise, and look forward to many people reading it as they respond to our promotional film.
### Accessions

- **December**
  - Denver, CO
    - Tom Warner, pastor
    - Joining after testimony
    - Mark Miller
    - Nancy Miller
  - Marlboro, NJ
    - Melvin Stephon,
      pastor
    - Joined after testimony
    - Eric Henry
    - Wilhelmina Powell
  - Miam, FL
    - Andrew Samuels,
      pastor
    - Joined after testimony
    - Danny Shea
    - Terri Shea
  - Weserly, RI
    - David Taylor, pastor
    - Joined by letter
    - Lena Rose

### Births

- Cunningham
  - A daughter, Kayla Elizabeth Cunningham, was born to Den and Cathy (White) Cunningham of Grand Junction, CO, on February 10, 1993.

### Marriages

- Crouch - Thomas
  - Nathan Crouch and Leigh Anne Thomas were united in marriage on December 27, 1992, at the Seventh Day Baptist Church in Daytona Beach, FL. The Rev. John H. Camenga officiated.

- Buchanan - Bethel
  - Mike Buchanan and Kim Bethel were united in marriage on June 6, 1993, at McKinley Baptist Church in Harrisburg, IL. Pastor Lacey joined of the Old Stonefort 7th Day Baptist Church officiated.

- Green - Camenga
  - Mark Green and Faith Camenga were united in marriage on January 2, 1993, in Daytona Beach, FL. The bride's father, Pastor John Camenga, officiated.

- Taylor - Bozarth
  - Dan Taylor and Stacey Bozarth were united in marriage on June 19, 1993, at the Paint Rock, AL, Seventh Day Baptist Church. The Rev. John D. Bevis officiated.

- Cox - Broms
  - Greg Cox and Michaeila Broms of Denver, CO, were united in marriage on February 13, 1993.

### Obituaries

- Regal
  - Katherine M. Regal, 68, of Intercession City, Fla., died on June 6, 1992, at her daughter's home in Ocala, Fla.

- Severance
  - Francis Willard Severance, 94, died on May 8, 1993, in Klamath Falls, Ore.

- Thorn gate

### Financial Information

- 1993 income needed—$760,698
  - Per month gift income needed—$72,763
  - Total needed each month—$60,391.50

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*Source: The SR*
and Sharon Cunningham of Copenhagen, Denmark; 17 grandchildren, and 18 great-grandchildren. In addition to his wife, Rosa, he was preceded in death by three brothers and three sisters.

Services were held on June 1, 1993, in the Nortonville SDB Church, with the Rev. Robert Harris officiating. He was buried in the Nortonville Cemetery.

Davis.—Beulah (Allen) Davis, 79, of Stow Creek Township, N.J., died on June 1, 1986. A lifelong area resident, she lived at the farm address since 1942.

Beulah was a graduate of Bridgeton (N.J.) High School, and took teaching courses at Glassboro (N.J.) State College. She substituted in area grade schools. She was an active member of the Shiloh Seventh Day Baptist Church, where she served as clerk and historian, sang in the choir, and was a member of the Benevolent Society. Beulah was also a life member and volunteer of the Cumberland Historical Society.

Survivors include three daughters, Arah Mae Sheppard; three sons, W. Allen, Philip, and Stephen; one brother, Wilmer W. Allen of Salem; 11 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren, four nieces, and one nephew.

Services were held on June 4, 1986, in the Shiloh SDB Church, with the Rev. Donald Chroninger officiating.

Flanagan.—Bernice (Pierce) Flanagan, 81, died on June 5, 1993, at Little Rock, Ark.

She was born on November 1, 1911, in Pouke, Ark., the daughter of James Newton and Ennietta (Babcock) Pierce. She attended the Seventh Day Baptist Mission School in Pouke, Pouke High School, and became a member of the Pouke SDB Church.

Bernice attended Milton (Wis.) College from 1929-30, and then turned to Texarkana, Ark., to complete her RN degree at Wadley Nursing School. In 1933, she went to Barnes Hospital in St. Louis, Mo., to complete specialty training in surgical nursing. During World War II, she served as a nurse in the U.S. Army, and worked with the American Red Cross. Her life was dedicated to helping others, and she worked in several hospitals in Texas before moving to Little Rock.

In Little Rock, Bernice nursed in St. Vincent Infirmary and the University of Arkansas Medical Center until emphysema forced her to retire.

Survivors include one sister, Mona Seager of Little Rock, and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by two brothers, Paul and Alphonse, and by two sisters, Bertha Fite Randolph and Lauren Gardner.

She was a member of Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church, where a memorial service was held on June 12, 1993. The Rev. Michael Morey and the Rev. Victor Nixon officiated.

Fallon.—Edward Fallon, 66, of Pawcatuck, Conn., died on June 11, 1993, at the Westerly (R.I.) Hospital after a long illness.

He was born on February 4, 1927, in Pawcatuck, the son of Harold and Rose Ida (Giroix) Fallon. He married Doris Martin on February 4, 1948, in Westerly. Edward worked as a model maker and production controller in New London and Groton, Conn. He was an Army veteran of World War II, serving with the A.M.G. in the Free Territory of Trieste.

He was a member of the Pawcatuck Seventh Day Baptist Church in Westerly.

In addition to his wife, Doris, survivors include three sons, Mark of Pawcatuck, Eric of Westerly, and David of Groswold, Conn.; three daughters, Mary Fisher of Pawcatuck, Ruth Fallon of Jewett City, Conn., and Diane Barber of Preston, Conn.; one brother, James of Wakefield, R.I.; one sister, Claire Smith of Foster, R.I.; seven grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews.

A graveside service was held on June 14, 1993, in Riverbend Cemetery, Westerly, with the Rev. David Taylor officiating.

Randolph.—Ashby F. Randolph, 81, of Belmont, died on June 10, 1993, following an extended illness.

He was born on January 24, 1912, in Berea, Va., the son of Preston F. and Jennie (Sutton) Randolph. He married Ruth Bond on December 23, 1935.

Ashby was an elementary education who taught in several schools before retiring in 1979. He was a 1936 graduate of Salem (Va.) College, a member of the National Education Association, and the Lost Creek (Va.) Seventh Day Baptist Church. He was also active in the Boy Scouts, 4-H, and church youth camps.

In addition to Ruth, his wife of 67 years, survivors include three sons, Ashby of Clarksburg, W.Va., Alois of Columbus, Ohio, and Rex of Bristol; three daughters, Xenia Wheeler of Wake Forest, N.C., Mae Bottoms of Belmont, and Elizabeth Boyd of New Enterprise, Pa.; one brother, the Rev. Elmo Fitz Randolph of Boulder, Colo.; 38 grandchildren, 72 great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandson. He was preceded in death by one daughter, Edna Ruth Richards; one brother, Brady; and one sister, Avis Swiger.

Services were held on June 23, 1993, at Greathearth Funeral Home, Salem. The Rev. Edgar Wheeler and the Rev. Larry Grossnisse officiated. Burial was in Coplin Cemetery.
The Rev. Rex Edward Zwiebel, 77, of Rochester, N.Y., went to be with the Lord on June 25, 1993. He was born on October 31, 1915, in Jackson Center, Ohio, the son of George Michael Nicholas and Althea (Hughes) Zwiebel. On March 17, 1939, he married Juanita Stutler of Salem, W.Va.

The culmination of his early spiritual experience came during a revival meeting in 1933, of which he wrote, "I took my stand as a Christian, and later was baptized in the Great Miami River by Reverend Verney A. Wilson."

He accepted the call of God to pastoral ministry, serving Seventh Day Baptist churches in Jackson Center; Hebron and Hebron Center, Pa.; Lost Creek and Roanoke, W.Va.; and Buffalo and Alfred Station, N.Y. Pastor Zwiebel was personally committed to an educated ministry. A graduate of Jackson Center High School, he received a B.A. from Salem College, a B.D. from Alfred University School of Theology, and an M.A. from Syracuse (N.Y.) University.

It was in the field of Christian Education that Rex would find service in the Kingdom of God. He served as pastor, Sabbath School teacher and superintendent, and as a member of the YMCA Chorus and Gospel team. His service was given beyond the local church as a director of the SDB Board of Christian Education. He also served the Board as chairman of its Youth Committee, Executive from 1956-1970, and President from 1978-1981.

Pastor Zwiebel was an instructor of Religious Education, first at Salem College and then at Alfred University School of Theology from 1951-1963. From 1970-1974, he served as Dean of the SDB Center on Ministry. Outside the denomination, his influence was known as a member of the Executive Committee of the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ. He was also chairman of the Leadership Education Commission of the New York Council of Churches. Internationally, he served as recording secretary of the SDB World Federation.

Survivors include his wife, Juanita; two daughters, Marcia of Rochester, N.Y., and Gretchen of Lafayette, Colo.; and two sisters, Nadine Horvath of Agra, Okla., and Sandra Mintchell of Jackson Center. He was preceded in death by one son, Michael; two brothers, Doyle and Carl; and one sister, Phyllis Judy.

A service of remembrance was held at the Alfred Station Seventh Day Baptist Church on July 2, 1993. Rex had participated in a covenant relationship with Alfred Station since October 1974.