Sixth Day Night

Sweet to the soul the parting ray,
Which ushers placid evening in,
When with the still expiring day,
The Sabbath's peaceful hours begin;
How grateful to the anxious breast,
The sacred hours of heavenly rest!

What though involved in lurid sight,
The loveliest forms in nature fade,
Yet mid the gloom shall heavenly light
With joy the contrite heart pervade;
O Thou great source of light divine,
With beams ethereal gladden mine.

I love the blush of vernal bloom,
When morning gilds night's sullen tear;
And dear to me the mournful gloom
Of autumn—Sabbath of the year;
But purer pleasures, joy sublime—
Awaits the dawn of holy time.

Hush'd in the tumult of the day,
And worldly cares, and business cease,
While soft the vesper breezes play,
To hymn the glad return of peace;
O season blest; while soft the vesper breezes play,
Hush'd in the tumult of the day,
Awaits the dawn of holy time. Till the last gleam of life decay
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When with the still expiring day,
A Sabbath Romance?

by Edward A. Hansen

I recently began a new time schedule at my work. When most of you are demonstrating your sanity by sleeping soundly, I am pulling myself out of peaceful slumber to be at work by 5:30 in the morning.

Five-thirty is an awful time to begin work. My new schedule has me working four 10-hour shifts. It is not as easy adjustment.

The good news is that I am off on Tuesdays in addition to the weekends. Having Tuesday off is great. Last Monday night, as I was beginning to drift off into a full night’s sleep, I thought about how I would have to go to work, but instead have some quality time with the Lord.

Tuesday morning, after helping Peggy with the kids, and making her some coffee before they left for the day, I went to my neighborhood McDonalds, had a so-so breakfast, and began some time with the Lord. While I usually get up early on the weekdays to spend time with Him, my time at “Macs” is more relaxed and more in depth.

Are you enjoying the romance of the Sabbath? If Sabbath is going to be the day God intended it to be, we must simplify our Sabbath activities.

Peggy’s comment started my mind to thinking: why is Tuesday more of a time of romance with Jesus than the Sabbath? Why indeed?

For one thing, I knew I needed to make some changes in my life to make God’s Holy Day more what it should be. With Peggy’s input and experience (having lived in Jewish homes), we have begun to make our Sabbath more of a time set apart to the Lord, worshiping Him, praising Him, resting.

However, I am convinced more needs to be done. I have a friend who remarked that the romance of the Sabbath left him, in large part, because of the way our church body spends Sabbath together week by week. Are you enjoying the romance of the Sabbath?

What I am going to suggest is contrary to what I have advocated in the past. Yet, if the Sabbath experience is truly going to be a “romance” with our Lord God Almighty, I believe some changes are in order.

Sabbath days in the Denver church are not restful. Countless times I or someone else has said out loud as we got into our cars to return home mid or late Sabbath afternoon, “My, wasn’t that a restful Sabbath?” (Meaning, of course, that it was not.)

Very simply, if Sabbath is going to be the day God intended it to be, we must simplify our Sabbath activities. The church is guilty of doing things on Sabbath Day that can be done on other days of the week.

Perhaps what is most detrimental to true Sabbath Romance is our conducting business meetings and department meetings on Sabbath. This practice, which I have long advocated, needs to be reversed! I do not believe the Lord looks at these things as being conducive to having a worshipful and restful Sabbath experience—a Sabbath Romance, if you will.

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Extending our time at church for “business” reduces the time we could potentially spend with our families or others; it takes away time that could be better spent reading the Scriptures, praying, fellowshipping, or relaxing.

The preparation required for our fellowship times and our fellowship meals are not conducive to a Sabbath Romance. It is often much too much work! (Perhaps some do remain for the meals because it is so much work.) Sabbath time would be better spent reading one’s heart for worship rather than being concerned about what needs to be done or prepared for a church meal.

Some of our choir members need to leave their homes by 8:00 a.m. or earlier to make choir practice on time. Could this, in part, be the reason few with children participate in the choir? We need choir members right now. Would a mid-week practice allow more to participate without the hassle of getting an entire family out the door in time for 9:00 a.m. practice?

Do we desire a Sabbath Romance? Are we willing to make changes to stir that romance?

Let us hope so.

Edward Hansen is associate editor of The Messenger, newsletter of the Denver, Colo., SDB Church, where this article first appeared.

Edward A. Hansen is associate editor of The Messenger, newsletter of the Denver, Colo., SDB Church, where this article first appeared.
What people say about the Sabbath and...

From the April 22, 1946, Sabbath Rally issue of The Sabbath Recorder.

Lone Sabbath keeping

We put too much stress on rural living; that has been my opinion for some time. It is true there are more temptations in the city than in the country, but many people cannot stand the rigors of farming.

The trades offer much in the way of a livelihood to those who are honest about their Sabbath observance to their customers. Men in high places have said to me, "I try never to interfere with a man's religious life because I have some definite convictions on that score myself." If it is mutually understood from the start, it will cause no embarrassment but will tend rather to leave a feeling of trust in each other.

The opportunity for a Sabbath-keeping Christian in the sign painting trade, for example, is excellent. A five-day week is possible; and if one contracts, he can demand any time he wishes. The work is pleasant and requires only a small investment. A general understanding of advertising and some ability are the essential, initial qualifications.

—O.A. Davis
Phoenix, Ariz.

Missions

First generation Christians are striving to build an indigenous church on Christ's teachings. They ask for Bibles but have no desire to inherit our mistakes or those creeds and forms that are the outgrowth of our peculiar histories, quarrels, and compromises. They haven't the slightest interest in being Roman Catholics, Scotch Presbyterians, or Southern Methodists. It is the unique privilege of Seventh Day Baptists to point out to these new churches the spiritual value of the Bible Sabbath and its observance as a principle of Christian living. The challenge calls for immediate and decisive action.

—Miriam Shaw
Alfred, N.Y.

Social service

I am keenly aware of the advantages of living in this country with socially conscious Christians. In some countries, comparatively little has been done by native religious sects to correct the evils of ignorance, pestilence, and starvation. These conditions should be the immediate concern of Seventh Day Baptists. Seldom will we have such an opportunity to demonstrate the social teachings of Jesus.

—H.O. Burdick
Alfred, N.Y.

The ministry

The Sabbath was instituted for man's good. Its occurrence every week is a reminder to man of God. Jesus honored the Sabbath and used it for worship, and to proclaim the good tidings of the kingdom. Paul preached both to Jews and Gentiles on the Sabbath. It still affords opportunity for worship and the spread of the Gospel of Christ.

—Verney A. Wilson
Nortonville, Kan.

Vocations

"He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he is that loveth me" John 14:21.

It gives me joy to testify to the thrill that keeping Sabbath has given me through the years. One of the prime contributing factors to the share of success that has been mine in the business world is to be accredited to Sabbathkeeping.

One phase of my experience is illustrated in the story of two friends of mine, Jacob Wright and Lee Abbey. They decided to keep Sabbath at about the same time and were both working for the Canadian Pacific Railway as mechanics. Jacob went to his superior and requested that if it were possible, he would like to refrain from work on Saturdays. His lack of confidence and lack of determination to live what he claimed to believe caused him soon to be without a job.

Lee also went to his superior and told him about his religious experience and beliefs, and ended by stating that in the future he would not be at work on Saturdays. His forthright sincerity impressed the foreman and he was soon promoted. Today he is chief master mechanic in that district.

—Albyn Mackintosh
Los Angeles, Calif.

Farming

The Sabbath should be dear to the farmer because he is working in partnership with God. He sows the seeds and works the soil, but only God can give the increase. The farmer can plan his work to his utmost ability, but only God can give the increase. The farmer because he is working in partnership with God. He sows the seeds and works the soil, but only God can give the increase.

The home

Because homes and circumstances are never alike, we can only strive to reach a common goal of "love and reverence for God's holy day." No two people can observe the Sabbath in the same manner, but children and parents together can make it a day of joy, peace, and worship—a day different from any other day in the week, a day to be desired and loved, a day set apart.

—Maleta Curtis
Riverside, Calif.

its satisfactions

I would like to testify to the real satisfaction and joy and rest which is ours.

After a day filled with worship and leading a class in Bible study, and possibly visiting a sick friend, we can enjoy the rest which He alone can give. Isaiah 58:13-14 give promise of just such delights and pleasure, which alone is enough compensation for all the effort put forth.

The preparation for the Sabbath and the Sabbath eve prayer meeting sets up a glad anticipation for the receptions and duties of the Sabbath, and we feel that we are riding upon the high places of the earth. We are claiming the promises and receiving the rewards even though what we do is commonplace and often times crude.

—R.C. Brewer
Riverside, Calif.

From the April 22, 1946, Sabbath Rally issue of The Sabbath Recorder.

May 1946/
Share Sabbath blessings

by Rev. Kenneth Chroniger

felt compelled, as an imperious duty, to speak to their generation concerning the Sabbath. It is also our imperious duty to speak to our generation as clearly.

First, we must believe that the Sabbath is something serious. If a person makes an idol, takes the Lord's name in vain, steals, bears false witness, murders, or commits adultery, this is serious. However, if they do not observe the Sabbath, is it just a matter of opinion?

Sharing what God has given us in the Sabbath is not an option. The Sabbath is a blessing that God has provided to us. Because we observe the Sabbath, this blessing is ours. Therefore, we are responsible for allowing others the privilege of knowing this blessing.

Some say, "I'm not prepared to tell others why I know the Sabbath is right. I can tell them what I feel about the Sabbath, but how do I show them from the Bible?" Here are some steps you can take to learn the biblical foundation for your faith.

- Read and study our Seventh Day Baptist tracts and pamphlets concerning the Sabbath.
- Examine tracts like "Pro and Con," "Remember," "If it was good enough for Paul..." "By What Authority?" and "The Seventh Day of the Bible." Study booklets like "God's Holy Day."
- Look up the word Sabbath in a Bible concordance. Read every Scripture that talks about the Sabbath, and write any questions that the Scripture presents.
- Some mark their Bibles with a presentation of the salvation plan to help others find a personal relationship with God, the Father through the Lord Christ. Do the same with the Sabbath—create a "marked path" to explain to others why Sabbath observance is God's will for humankind today.

From The Quest, newsletter of the Alfred Station, N.Y., SDB Church.

"And so the whole universe was completed. By the seventh day God finished what he had been doing and stopped working. He blessed the seventh day and set it apart as a special day, because by that day he had completed his creation and stopped working" (Genesis 2:1-3 TEV).

Observe the Sabbath, and keep it holy (Exodus 20:8-11 TEV).

Recently I had a Sunday keeping person ask me about the difference between our church and her church.

"What about this Saturday, seventh day stuff?" was her question. I told her that, like other Baptists, Seventh Day Baptists believe in salvation through faith in Jesus. We practice baptism by immersion for believers. Our main difference is the day of worship.

We believe that God's resting on the seventh day following creation and the fourth of the Ten Commandments are the examples we are to follow. The seventh-day Sabbath is Saturday, or more accurately, sundown Friday to sundown Saturday.

As we talked more about our beliefs, it occurred to me that our choice to keep the Sabbath holy is not based on pages and pages of theological doctrine. It is based on God's example in creation and God's Law for His people—two very simple facts.

And yet many people have difficulty accepting the Sabbath teaching. Is it because it is too simple a concept; to believe in something so simple because God said it was right?

The Bible tells us that sometimes the simple things confuse the wise. Sometimes the simple concepts are difficult to understand or believe.

It is not always easy being a Sabbathkeeper. It is not always easy to keep sundown Friday to sundown Saturday as a holy time.

Some churches provide youth groups, Bible studies, or worship services on Friday evenings to help families begin the Sabbath in a special way. Other churches have a special activity to close the Sabbath, while all of our churches provide worship and Sabbath School experiences on Sabbath day. What does your church do to help families have a blessed Sabbath experience?

Besides having a conviction about the Sabbath, we need to consciously make choices that will affect our Sabbathkeeping. The world will continue to force us to make choices about our Sabbath activities. But as we remember Who has instructed us to keep the Sabbath, we can be assured that He will guide and help us to be faithful in our Sabbathkeeping.

P.S. Praise the Lord for His day of Sabbath rest! But we still have six other days to work for His kingdom. Can you use one of those days to begin making craft items for the Summer Christian Service Corps (SCSC) craft table at Conference?

Because of the large number of SCSC workers this year, we will need additional funds to carry out the training and transportation of our wonderful young people. You could sponsor a fund raiser for SCSC. How about a Soup, Cracker, Sandwich, and Cookie supper? How about making a financial gift to the SCSC program in memory or in honor of someone?

Your investment in the lives of Seventh Day Baptist young people will bring you great dividends—and great blessings. Send your special gifts to Marie Davis, SCSC, 38 Cook Road, Bridgeton, NJ 08302.
Pearls from the Past by Don A. Sanford, historian

"New" Sabbath notions

In 1994 Yoshio Murakami, a Japanese student at Drew University in New Jersey, completed his doctoral thesis on the topic: Ellen G. White’s Views of the Sabbath in the Historical, Religious, and Social Context of 19th Century America. In his conclusion (p. 344), he stated:

"Ellen White’s views of the Sabbath took shape within the context of mid-nineteenth century American culture. Seventh-day Adventism was born when Millerism met Seventh-day Baptist teachings. Joseph Bates was the founder of Seventh-day Adventist Sabbath theology. Based upon the teachings of Seventh-day Baptists, Bates originated eschatology-oriented Sabbath doctrine. Ellen White basically took over his views of the Sabbath and 'canonicalized' them through 'visions' in the later 1850s.

It is generally recognized by both Seventh-day Baptists and Seventh-day Adventists that it was through Rachel Oakes (later Preston), a member of the Verona, N.Y., SDB Church, that the seventh-day Sabbath was introduced to a group of followers of William Miller in Washington, N.Y. She had moved there to be near her daughter. What is sometimes missed in this account is the fact that it was not so much her personal witness, but the material that she shared.

The period from 1820 to 1850 was a time of extensive publication among SDBs. A mass of tracts and books were written and widely circulated. Among the writers who appeared to have been most influential in promoting the Sabbath was William Elias Maxson (1785-1865). In 1835, Maxson wrote "A Treatise on the Institution, Perpetuity, and Unchangeable Nature of the Weekly Sabbath." This tract was divided into seven sections, each asking and answering a specific question.

The answer to the third question ("Has the Sabbath ever been abolished, or the Sabbatical law repealed?") is characteristic of his approach. He wrote in part:

1. It is absolutely against every mode of correct reasoning, to suppose the observation of a weekly day rest... should ever be abolished by the same authority which at first enjoined it.

"Seventh-day Adventism was born when Millerism met Seventh Day Baptist teachings."

2. The Sabbath is evidently declared by St. Paul, Heb. iv. 9, to be a type of "rest for sabbatism" that remains for the people of God. "This is acknowledged on all hands to refer to the future rest of the saints. 3. As the law of the Sabbath originated in paradise, it must be perpetual and universal obligation. It contains no limitations, and therefore it can never expire.

4. We conclude that the weekly sabbath is not a mere ceremony, but a moral institution of perpetual obligation, from being inserted in the very heart of the decalogue.

Bates and other early Adventists were influenced by the Sabbath teachings of the Seventh Day Baptists, but combined it with the eschatology (or end time doctrine) preached by William Miller. Using the prophecies of Daniel, Miller predicted the return of Jesus on October 22, 1844. When the "Great Disappointment" passed, there was a readjustment of the expectation—not so much as to the time, but to the action involving the cleansing of the heavenly sanctuary and what came to be known as "investigative judgment" to prepare a cleansed people. LeRoy Edwin Froom, in his four volume history, The Prophetic Faith (Review and Herald Publishing Assoc. 1946-56), wrote:

Although the seventh-day Sabbath came to the attention of a group of Adventists through the Seventh Day Baptists, it was the light on the sanctuary and

One year ago—May 1995

"Sabbath has meaning for the world today," reprinted from 1977, features former Conference President Ted Horsley and pastors Alton Wheeler, Herbert Saunders, and Duane Davis.

Conference President Myrna Cox shares her Sabbath testimony.

Don and Linda Graffius answer questions of how the Sabbath is a special day for their family.

New sign and plaque identifies Max Hall in Berlin, N.Y., honoring longtime servants Paul and Ruby Maxson.

Five years ago—May 1991

Sabbath emphasis issue features testimonies by high school students Kristin Rood and Tim Johnson.

Rod Henry’s new Sabbath study series begins.

"Pearls" column lists many recent books which note items of SDB history.

New Sunner Youth Director, Andrew Camenga, announced.

Pastor Andrew Samuels ordained in Miami, Fla.

Report of recent “marriage” merges the Texarkana and Fouke, Ark., SDB churches.

10 years ago—May 1986

Summer Institute paper, “The Sabbath as a Relationship,” presented by Sharon Waals.

Executive Secretary Dale Thonggabe proposes that "Leaders must have vision."

World Federation Conferences featured in "Getting acquainted" column: the Philippines and Australia.

B. John V. Rao sends extended report on the SDB Conference of India.

Iloa Sanford writes of the Van Horn “Dutch connection.”

25 years ago—May 1971

Either "jinx"? Kuehn guest edits special issue on current topics. Other writers include: Barbara Hays, Rose Davis, Jere Van Horn, and Dennis Cox.

Detailed church news comes from White Cloud, Mich., and Riverside, Calif.

Mid-Continent youth hold retreat in North Loup, Neb.

U.S. President Richard Nixon calls on nation’s religious leaders to help solve drug abuse crisis.

New SDB fellowship organizes in central Ohio area.

Recent seminary graduate Russell Johnson accepts call to pastor Alfred, N.Y., church.

50 years ago—May 1946

National Family Week observed.


New series, “Randolph speaking” begins this month.

Congressman Jennings Randolph informs readers of church-related legislative happenings from Washington, D.C.

Don Sanford’s essay for Youth Week wins second place in New York state. Contest sponsored by United Christian Youth Movement.

Former and present SDB editors, Herbert Van Horn and K. Duane Hurley, attend Associated Church Press meeting in nation’s capital.

...where are we headed?

Pray—

• for renewed Sabbath convictions
• with thanks for faithful church leaders
• for our youth and young adults
• that the Sabbath of the Bible rings clear
• for our new fellowships and branch churches
• for a stronger kinship system
• for our leaders in government service

May 1996/ 11
A Sabbath testimony
by Pastor John M. Peil

I was raised in a Christian family that attended church on the seventh day Sabbath. The Sabbath has always been a part of my life. When I was a child, the Sabbath was a day to attend church and then, in the afternoon, to beg my parents to let me play while they napped. It took time, but if I was diligent, I could play with my friends. My parents decided they would never be able to sleep if they did not let me out of the house.

As an adolescent, the issues began to change. All the high school sports in the Nebraska town where I was raised were played on Friday night or Sabbath day. The 24-hour Sabbath was a reality that I had to deal with each school year.

All the high school sports in the Nebraska town where I was raised were played on Friday night or Sabbath day. The 24-hour Sabbath was a reality that I had to deal with each school year. At first, I played on Friday nights, but it was always a problem. Then, in between the 11th and 12th grades, my 3-year-old brother was hit by a car and died. That was a life-changing event.

I rededicated my life to Jesus Christ and then informed my coach that I was going to quit the team since I could not play on Friday nights or Saturdays. In the end, I was able to skip the 24-hour Sabbath games and play in the others. From that day on, the Sabbath has not been something I struggle with. It is a reality that is a part of my life.

As a young adult, one of the questions raised while looking for work or attending college was whether I could keep the Sabbath. The Sabbath had become a part of my life. When I married, I married a Sabbathkeeper from the Riverside, Calif., Seventh Day Baptist Church. (A good church, but not as good as the Los Angeles Seventh Day Baptist Church!) We decided, first, to attend church on the Sabbath and, secondly, to raise our children to keep the Sabbath. Whenever we moved, the issue was always whether a Seventh Day Baptist church was near enough to attend each weekend. Then I felt the call of God to become a Seventh Day Baptist minister. From then on, no matter where we moved, we could keep the Sabbath.

I feel blessed of God. I have a career where I can keep the Sabbath, a marriage where both of us agree and attend church on the Sabbath, and children who attend church with us each week, even after marriage. My daughter and her husband, Dave, and their 7-month-old child attend church on the Sabbath.

Last year, my son tried out for a singing group in his high school. It was very difficult to get in, but his first statement to the leader was that he could not attend competition on Saturday because it was his Sabbath. My son is still in the group, and he still foregoes the Sabbath competitions.

Each stage of my life has meant something different for keeping the Sabbath. This next stage—working to put children through college and watching while they begin their careers—is exciting, but up ahead is retirement. As husband and wife, we have agreed that when that time comes, we will live near a Seventh Day Baptist church.

I believe that the last years will be as full of blessings as the previous years. Although there will be trials to overcome, the years ahead will be full of Sabbath rest and salvation from Jesus Christ.

letters and photos continue to come into our missionary society office, telling us of exciting activities overseas. The following are updates from our sister conferences in Africa.

More wells dug, more wells needed
Shallow wells are a mainstay in the Central Africa region. Water from the wells is used for both animal and human consumption, and for the gardens. Some garden owners will carry water several miles to water their garden.

The bigger farm crops are watered from larger and deeper sources.

Our African brethren express appreciation for the funds used to hire people to dig wells, both shallow and deep. The deep wells are better for two reasons: they do not lose the water table as quickly in dry weather, and the water is less apt to get contaminated.

Zambia baptizes many
Pictured is the well-used baptismal pool at the annual Conference meetings held in Zambia. Many believers came forward for baptism. The evangelism potential during these meetings is tremendous because many of the people attending are not members of any church. Some of them attend the meetings because they have very little else to do. It is not unusual to have several dozen people come forward to dedicate their life to Christ or announce a rededication.

It is so encouraging to hear about the new members who have joined the Seventh Day Baptist churches around the world. They thank you for the used clothing, Bibles, and tracts that are sent to aid in the evangelism process. Work continues to aid the orphans and widows.

Uniforms unite and identify
Cloth sent to Zambia was used in sewing uniforms for the Seventh Day Baptist churches. The ladies wear skirts made of blue print material and white blouses. The women on the right wearing a light blue blouse and dark blue skirt indicate she is a leader in the Zambia church. All of the material was sent to Zambia by individuals from different conferences such as England and the United States. There is great meaning in being identified with a specific group. This is easily done by wearing a uniform. Most countries outside of the United States use uniforms to designate that students attend a particular school.
Deadline for pre-registration: July 15

Any registration postmarked after July 15 will require a $10 late registration fee per family.

- Hours to register:
  Registration will begin on Sunday, August 4, at 2:00 p.m. and will continue until after the evening service. Hours Monday-Friday will be 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. and again after the evening service. If you are coming just for Sabbath, August 10, please pre-register.

- About the registration form:
  1. Please list all names as you want them to appear on the official name tags, last name first. Ages must be given for those under 18, as well as last school grade completed as of June, 1996. In order to give special recognition to first-time Conference attendees, please identify yourself.

There is no charge for children through 5 years of age. However, all names must be listed to ensure that everyone attending is covered by insurance.

2 & 3. Full week or per day:
  Registration fee: Everyone attending Conference, either full or part-time, is required to pay the registration fee. It covers the cost of college facilities, materials that are produced and circulated, and insurance on each individual attendee. Conference and related activities. It also gives an accurate count of the total number of people in attendance.

Meals: Meal tickets for the entire week include dinner Sunday, August 4, through breakfast Sunday, August 11. There is no charge for children under 5.

Meals will be served two ways during the entire Conference: the traditional cafeteria style, and a soup/salad/sandwich bar will be available during lunch and dinner hours.

- If you buy a meal ticket, you will not be charged the 8% sales tax.
- Individual meals may be purchased at the following prices, which include sales tax:
  - Breakfast $4.30
  - Lunch $7.00
  - Dinner $8.65

- Rooms: Costs are the same for adults and children living in beds. Children are allowed on the floor at no charge. Lodging is limited on campus, so get your registration in early!

There are two types of rooms available, the traditional dorm style room and family style 4plex:
- The traditional dorm has 2 single beds per room with a community bathroom down the hall.
- The family style lodging is a 4plex of bedrooms with two bathrooms between each set of two bedrooms and has a common living room in the center of the 4 bedrooms. Each bedroom has 2 single beds.

Please indicate room and/or roommate preference under "special requests" section of registration form.

LINEN SERVICE: Towels, sheets, blankets, and pillows will be provided.

Lost key charge: There will be a $25 charge for each key not returned.

RV Hookups: There are 24 RV Hookups with power and water available for $7.00 per site per day.

There is also space available for open field dry camping (no water or power) for $2.00 per site per day.

Restrooms and showers in the nearby conference center may be used.

- 4 & 5. Banquet tickets:
  Please register for the Women's and/or Youth Banquets so we know how many to plan on. Banquet prices are discounted with meal tickets.

6. Totals:
  Transfer the combined totals to page 2 of the registration form and complete the totals box. Make checks payable to "SDB Host Committee 96."

7. Off-campus housing:
  Attendees choosing off-campus housing, please indicate your location on the back of the registration form.

8. Transportation:
  Attendees traveling by air will be picked up at Sea-Tac International Airport. The bus depot is in Olympia. The Amtrak depot is in Lacey. If you require transportation, please notify us at your arrival and departure times, either by pre-registration, or by contacting transportation chairman, Dave Aldredge (206) 854-4766. Requests for transportation must be made by July 15.

Nursery services:
  A Nursery room will be provided throughout the week of Conference. Parents using the nursery are asked to help for half a day sometime during the week. Volunteers are always welcome!

Send completed form to:
Dave & Debbie Aldredge
26004 - 108th Avenue SE
Kent, WA 98031
(206) 854-4766
Guidelines for Christian Conduct at General Conference

SDB General Conference Regulations and Rules:

1. All unmarried young people under 18 years of age in attendance shall have their own parents or a sponsor over 25 years of age who are also in attendance at Conference.
2. Parents or sponsors assume full responsibility at all times for the conduct and discipline of the young people whose sponsorship they accept. Such responsibility does not extend to direct supervision when youth are engaged in a scheduled Conference activity. But the sponsor’s responsibility does cover necessary transportation to and from any activity if not provided. This responsibility includes actions day and night in the dorms.
3. Local rules of the school and facility are binding on all Conference attendees unless changed by the Host Committee or the General Council.
4. Curfew hours will be established for the consideration of others, for health reasons, and will mean that each individual will be in his own assigned room and quiet at that time. Such consideration should be the sign of a maturing Christian.
5. Socializing between boys and girls is to be limited to public areas so that no one may have reason to question even the most innocent of intentions.
6. A Disciplinary Council composed of two National Youth Ministries Committee members, two Host Committee members, and a member of the General Council shall be established before Conference convenes. The General Council member shall be chairman.
7. The Disciplinary Council shall meet at the call of the chairman to deal with infractions of the Guidelines for Christian Conduct. Discussion shall be confidential and shall include input from the person(s) involved (and their adult sponsor(s) in the case of youth). Action requiring discipline may result in the person(s) being required to leave the Conference facility (under the supervision of the adult sponsor) at their own expense.

Attention Youth!

We, the undersigned, have read the General Conference rules and regulations and agree to comply with them during the 1996 Seventh Day Baptist General Conference.

As the parent of ____________________________, I further agree that my child is legally responsible to the undersigned sponsor, and that said sponsor may also make any necessary decisions regarding medical services.

Parent ____________________________ Date ________ Youth ____________________________ Date ________

Sponsor ____________________________ Date ________
1996 YOUTH PRE-CON MEDICAL FORM
CAMP MCCULLOUGH, Kent, Washington

Medical Form must be returned with registration by July 10, 1996. Please type or print.

Camper's Name________________ Date of Birth__________
Address________________________ State________________ Zip Code__________

Emergency Phone Number________________________________________________

(Parents must fill out and sign this form)

Date Camper was immunized against: Rubella_________ Pertussis_____
Small Pox_________ Polio_________ Last Tetanus Toxoid_________

Does the Camper wear eyeglasses? ______ Is the Camper under a doctor's care for any illness? ______ What medication, if any, is now being taken? ______

Will this medication be sent to camp? ______
Please do not send medications other than those ordered by your doctor. All medications sent with a camper must be accompanied by your doctor's signature on written orders indicating dosage and frequency. Camp McCullough will provide a trained First Aid person who will dispense any and all medications.

Is the Camper allergic to: Bee or insect bites? ______ Poison Ivy, Sumac, or Oak? ______ Penicillin? ______ Other Mediations? ______ Specify__________

Are there any dietary restrictions? ______ Is the Camper physically permitted to swim? ______ Explain any physical limitations? ______

Name of Family Doctor________________________ Ph.#__________
Has the Camper had: Chicken Pox? ______ Measles? ______
Measles Vaccine? ______ Mumps? ______ Mumps Vaccine? ______

Has the Camper had or been subject to: Heart trouble? ______
Convulsions or fainting spells? ______ Rheumatic fever? ______
Stomach cramping? ______ Bladder or kidney trouble? ______
Arthritis or rheumatism? ______ Frequent stomach upsets? ______
Serious illness (specify) ______
Serious operations (specify) ______

EMERGENCY TREATMENT AUTHORIZATION
In case of emergency I hereby give permission to the Physician selected by the camp director to hospitalize, secure proper treatment for, and order injections, medications, anesthesia or surgery for my child as named above.

Signed________________ Dated__________

Seeking Spiritual Maturity: BIBLE STUDY

Looking for direction?
Try "Intersections" Group Series

Augsburg Fortress announces Intersections, an adult small group series that connects faith and life by combining everyday, personal experience with basic biblical truths. Twelve theme-based studies get at the heart of what people are questioning, struggling with, and celebrating every day.

One in four adults is involved in some type of church-based small group. Small groups offer an opportunity for personal growth, growing in faith, and connecting with others.

Intersections Small Group Series encourages an informal, conversational atmosphere that helps group members build a stronger community, providing an avenue for them to get to know and support one another as they grow in faith.

Some of the topics include prayer, peace, divorce, and communication. Eight resources are geared toward active discipleship through Bible study. Four resources will help support people through common life experiences and crisis—making them ideal for reaching out to the unchurched.

In addition, the 144-page, step-by-step guide, Starting Small Groups—and Keeping Them Going, will be useful for starting or continuing successful small group ministry. This comprehensive guide offers practical steps for beginning small group ministry, training leaders, and supporting leaders and groups.

Order Intersections and Starting Small Groups from Augsburg Fortress, by calling (800) 328-4648.

Bible Q & A:
When does God refuse to hear our prayers?

God sees, hears, and knows everything—including our prayers. Nothing escapes His attention. Why then did God say He would not listen to the people's cries for help? There are several possible reasons.

In this case, God did not respond because judgment was unavoidable. Judah had disobeyed God's laws and ignored His pleas for so long that judgment was in effect, already on the way. Their cries were too little, too late. God even told Jeremiah not to pray for the people (11:16; 14:11-12)—that not even Moses and Samuel could have persuaded Him to offer further compassion to them (15:1).

It's also possible that people sometimes sabotage their own prayers. The Bible mentions several attitudes and actions that can short-circuit our prayers:

sin (Deut. 1:45; Psalm 66:18; Isaiah 59:2; Jer. 14:10-12), disobedience (Prov. 28:9), hypocrisy and insincerity (Isaiah 29:13; Mal. 1:7-9), wrong motives (Matt. 6:5-6; Luke 18:11-14; James 4:3), lack of faith (Heb. 2:1-3), and even marital problems (1 Peter 3:7).

Finally, what sometimes appears to be no answer to prayer may actually be a delayed answer (Daniel 10:12-13). Other times, God may deny our request in order to give us something better than what we know to ask for.

Taken from The Quest Study Bible, NIV (Zondervan Publishing House, 1994), available at your local bookstore or by calling (800) 727-3480.
Youth lead worship,
Voices of Praise in concert

The youth, assisted by their adviser, Susan Butts, led in worship at the Alfred Station, N.Y., Seventh Day Baptist Church on Sabbath, February 10.

Rachel Chroniger presented the morning message, expressing what the Bible means to her. Other youth who assisted in worship were Tim Palmiter and Kim John-son. Stephanie Sholtis, a senior at Nazareth College in Rochester, N.Y., presented the children's message on God's faithfulness.

Worship began with the prelude played by the Chione Choir, "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands." At the end of the service, a 25-voice Gospel choir from Toronto, Canada, SDB Church, "Voices of Praise," presented two songs: "Near to the Heart of God," and "I'll Rise Again.

The choir and others from Toronto joined us for a fellowship dinner. They also were served supper at the church prior to their concert that evening at Alfred University's Nevin's Theater.

A "Thank You" is extended to those who made the outreach a success.

You're watching S.D.N.

by Donna S. Bond

Youth Sabbath in Shiloh, N.J., gets better every year, and 1996 was no exception! Even the proverbial "couch potatoes" found their way to Shiloh. The annual "For the Youth" program was presented on February 10 as eight youth staged their own version of a live TV program to raise money for the youth group to spend some time at Shiloh. Please write or call:

Shiloh Church
653 W. Nickerson
Seattle, WA 98119
(206) 284-1650

Youth Sabbath in Shiloh.

At the first "pledge break," the program director entreated viewers to open their wallets to ensure the continuation of such excellent programming.

The morning line-up of fine shows concluded with a moment of prayer and then a commercial for a brand new album, proudly displayed by the program director and entitled, "Shiloh Church Live." To demonstrate the unequal music-ship of the Shiloh church, we were asked to raise the rollers with "Isn't the Love of Jesus Something Wonderful?"

First in the line-up for the afternoon was a rerun entitled, "Gillian Finds a New Way Off the Island." Following the familiar theme song, the scene opened with the Professor rigging a telephone from a banana, and the Skipper chattering away to those who prayed, who brought extra food to the fellowship meal, who shared in hosting our brothers and sisters from Toronto overnight, who attended the concert, and who invited others.

The concert attracted SDBs from area churches, community people, college and university students and professors—some 180 persons. The choir presented not only music but also a clear message of God's love and caring.

Reprinted from The Quest, newsletter of the Alfred Station SDB Church.

You're watching S.D.N. (SDB Day Network) Program Director Bill Probasco.

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Old Stonefort turns 125
by Jeanette Appel
The Old Stonefort, Ill., Seventh Day Baptist Church will celebrate its 125th year on Friday and Sabbath, May 17-18, 1996.

Eight charter members organized the church on March 5, 1871: Matthew Bracewell, James H. McSparin, Pleasant Kirby, Robert Lewis, Eliza Wood, Jane Cook, Narcissa Kirby, and Minerva Lewis. A detailed account of the organization will be presented by Desson Leland Lewis on Friday evening.

A pioneer home/og schoolhouse served as the first meeting house. It stood in Little Saline Cemetery less than one-half mile from the present church. The second meeting place was the home of Aunt Louisa Johnson, just across the road from us. With few exceptions, services have been held regularly throughout the years.

Ministers over the years have been: Robert Lewis, the first pastor James Bailey F.P. Van Cleve M.B. Kelly F.P. Johnson

W.A. Blackman J.A. Davidson Ellis R. Lewis Verna Wilson Oliver Lewis A. Addison Appol Charles E. Lewis Carlos L. McSparin (Joseph Lewis, assistant pastor) George McCclusky Lacey Joiner John Carpenter (Rev. Claude Hill made many trips from Farina, Ill., during the 1940s and ’50s to minister, also.)

To celebrate the anniversary, Sabbath day activities will include special singing, a sermon, and communion, with a basket dinner at noon. The afternoon service will have a time for reminiscing and group pictures, plus the Echoes of Calvary quartet. Pictures of pastors and former congregations will be on display.

We extend a cordial welcome to everyone to help us celebrate this anniversary, and pray God will keep our church functioning in His service.

General Council meets at SDB Center
General Council met March 21-24, 1996, at the SDB Center in Janesville, Wis. Those attending included:


Ex-officio Members:
C. W. Babcock, Executive Secretary, General Services Administration
Ernest K. Bee Jr., Executive Director of the SDB Board of Christian Education
Donna S. Bond, President of SDB Women’s Society
Kevin J. Butler, Director of Communications, Tract and Communication Council
Rodney L. Henry, Director of Pastoral Services
G. Kirk Loop, Executive Director, SDB Missionary Society

Pearsils, cont. from page 10

“Mrs. White’s” Sabbath views meant to her the test of loyalty to God and the determiner of salvation. Her Sabbath views covered a cosmic scale, unseen, but a real and fierce battle, imminent eschatological climax of history and the remnant-identity. Mostly because of such urgent, wartime Sabbath views, Ellen White was peculiar among contemporary Sabbatarians in not advocating ‘the Sabbath as a foretaste of heaven’ idea or Sabbath-benefits arguments.

Three children of the late U.S. President Bill Clinton. Michelle Macrae was the grand champion, defeating Pastor Don Croninger and Cindy DuBois. Everyone in the house undoubtedly could have been the final Jeopardy round in the “Shiloh Church History” category: “Football team most often mentioned in church. (Who are the Seattle Seahawks?)” Thanks, Bill!

Yet another pledge break (Does Bill ever get enough money?) and another popular TV theme song led us into prime time, featuring “Church Time.” A furry-chinned, plaid-clad “Al Borland” (Levi) tried to prevent “Tim the Tool Man” (Bill) from ruining yet another project—a wooden Bible rack.

As Tim disappeared behind a screen, the music of a power saw was heard as scraps of paper flew onstage. (“I’ve heard of ‘spreading the Word,’ but not with chunks of wood attached!”) Jesus appeared, admonishing Al and Tim to use their Bibles everyday instead of putting them on a shelf. (“If the disciples forgot their Bibles, did they just have Paul write a quick letter?”) Jesus was then invited to come back next week to help Al and Tim convert a coffeemaker into a communion dispenser.

The evening programs were sponsored by a squirt-bottle cleanser dubbed “God’s Forgiveness”—the only product that could remove “S-I-N” from the backdrop, far exceeding its look-alike competitors, “Lies” and “Denial.”

Following the final commercial was the “Late Night” talk show, “Biblically Correct with Ron Campbell.” Mr. Campbell, substantially better covered them in his previous role as Adam, challenged us to consider whether we are really church members with such items as: “If your pew conforms to your back, then what is that one who sits in a pew...?”

“If your pastor’s phone number is programmed into your telephone memory, ...” “If you sing hymns in the shower, ...” “If you have one waist in and you know it is one of the Dickinson girls, ...” “If you associate Memorial Day with chicken pot pie, ...” you might be a church member!

In signing off at day’s end, (Thank you, Ward Bond, for mentioning the sound/lighting systems), all worshipers joined hands in a friendship circle around the sanctuary and sang the S.D.N. theme song, “The Young People’s Rally Song.” As we promised to encourage, inspire, and watch over our young people and each other, we were all very much aware of something else we in Shiloh do in our fellowship: Enjoy!

Old SRs wanted in Australia
Back issues of The Sabbath Recorder (1970s and ’80s especially, or older) eagerly sought in Australia. Small or large collections of any issues will be greatly appreciated. Send today to:

T. Butter
1/35 Bird St.
Westinbo NSW 2830
AUSTRALIA

Muriel I. Osborne, SDB Center secretary, took the minutes.

Update given
The Council’s agenda included an update on Seeking Spiritual Maturity. Ernest Bee reported on the 1996 theme, “Faithful in Bible Study,” and the executives reported on their participation in keeping with that theme.

Other business
• It was recommended that the Conference Kids’ Campfire program be continued under the auspices of the Associated Conference program.

Information updates were given by the Conference President, President-Elect, the Executive Secretary, and the various boards and agencies.

• It was voted to send a letter of appreciation to Daryl and Barbara White for their dedicated service with the NET (Natural Evangelism Training) program.

• Arrangements are to be made for the General Council to meet with the Pre-Con campers (youth and young adult) on the Sabbath afternoon before Conference.

• Council members agreed to send a letter of thanks to the family of Dr. Paul Green Sr. for the Turner’s Male Choir books, given as a memorial gift to General Conference.

• Beginning in 1997, a line item for Associated Conference expenses will be added to the Host Committee budget.

• The Council voted to renew the contract of the Executive Secretary/General Services Administrator, Calvin Babcock, for three years, effective June 1996.

• The Executive Secretary was authorized to purchase a copy machine to replace the one now in use at the Center. (Parts are no longer available for the current machine.)

• A paper on the “Seventh Day Baptist Kinship System” was discussed. (The paper was written by John Peil and Rod Henry.)

Reprinted from the Lead-Line.

Births
Fink—A son, Paul Jacob Fink, was born to Rodny and Dale Fink of Verona, NY, on March 6, 1996.

Worden—A daughter, Courtney Marie Worden, was born to Chris and Crystal (Williams) Worden of Burwell, NE, on March 10, 1996.

Buchanan—A son, Blake Jordan Buchanan, was born to Mike and Kim (Bethel) Buchanan of Tunnel Hill, Il., on March 12, 1996.
Obituaries

**Sutton.**—F. Brady Sutton, 85, of New Milton, W.Va., Doddridge County, died on December 9, 1995, at the Veteran's Hospital in Clarksburg, W.Va.

Mr. Brady was born on April 13, 1910, at the family farm on Likck Run, Doddridge County, to Samuel "Brady" and Ivtel Elizabeth (Willis) Sutton. He married Nancy "Helen" Fitzpatrick of Williamson, W.Va. Brady was a retired equipment operator and enjoyed working on the family farm where he lived. He delighted family and friends with stories about his colorful and varied life experiences, including playing semi-professional football, his military service, "hoo-ho-ing" during the Depression, and hunting.

He was a member of the Middle Island Seventh Day Baptist Church, New Milton, and a member-at-large of the "Snake State" chapter of the DAV.

Survivors include his wife, Helen, of New Milton; three sons, John Brady of Fairmont, W.Va.; Joel T. of Wheeling, W.Va.; and James F. of Bethel Park, Pa.; two brothers, Walter Glen of New Milton, and George Edwin of Youngstown, Ohio; nine grandchildren, three step-grandchildren, and one great-granddaughter. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Earline (Main) Ayars, who died in 1995. 

**Rood.**—Irene Rood of Boulder, Colo., went to meet the Lord on November 10, 1995, at her home, surrounded by family and friends. She was 45.

Irene was born on October 4, 1950, in Boulder, the third daughter of Joseph and Beth (Wheelier) Lederer. She graduated from Boulder High School in 1968 and completed two years of college—once at Milton College in Wisconsin, and the other at Colorado University. Several years later, Irene went back to school at Boulder Valley VOTEC to train as a medical assistant, graduating in March of 1985. From then until February of 1993, she worked as a medical assistant and medical transcriptionist.

Irene had a strong faith in Jesus Christ and was an active member of the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Boulder. In the summer of 1989, while serving the denomination as a volunteer, she met her future husband, Philip Rood, who was also in volunteer service. They were married on August 1, 1990. After a brief sojourn in Chicago, they moved back to Boulder to stay.

Next to her faith, being a wife and mother was of primary importance to Irene. Her first son, Christopher, was born in March of 1974. Her second son, Timothy, arrived in November of 1975. Cooking was her joy, and wonderful foods filled her kitchen, especially on Jewish holy days.

Birds and flowers were among Irene's special interests, particularly the mountain varieties. Every hike in the mountains with her was punctuated with pauses to identify a bird or check a flower. The mountains themselves held special beauty for Irene, especially Wheeler Basin, where her grandfather had built a cabin. Other special places included Rocky Mountain National Park, Yellowstone Park, Alaska, and Israel.

Music was also a big part of Irene's life. She played the organ at church, and played for many years in the church bell choir. She sang in many choral groups, including the church choir and the Boulder Messiah Chorale. Her favorite group was the praise band, Halie, from the Boulder SDB Church, where she played lead guitar.

Praise music and contemporary Christian music held an important place in her life.

In addition to her husband, Phil, and sons Chris and Tim, survivors include her mother, Beth; and two sisters, Helen and Wanda.

We all look forward to meeting her again when we join her in our Father's Kingdom.

**Ayars.**—Rev. V. Ayars, 81, of Shiloh, N.J., died on November 11, 1995, at the Cumberland County Medical Center, where he had been a patient for the past five years.

He was born in Roadstown, the son of E. Mulford and Irene (Davis) Ayars. A graduate of Bridgeton, N.J., High School, he was retired from Farm-Rite, where he had been a bookkeeper for many years.

Rev. was the husband of Lois (Brown) Ayars, and had been a resident of Shiloh most of his life. He was a member of the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Shiloh, where he served as deacon and church treasurer for many years.

In addition to his wife, Lois, survivors include two sons, David and Paul; one daughter, Sharon McBride; and four grandchildren. He was predeceased by his first wife, Earline (Main) Ayars, who died in 1971.

Memorial services were held on November 13, 1995, at the Shiloh SDB Church, with Rev. Donald Chroniger officiating. Cremation and interment was at Laurel Lawn Crematory in Bridgeton.

**Stephan.**—Melvin Stephan, 78, of Lafayette, Colo., died at Boul-
Melvin worked as a building inspector for VA Commissions Inspecting for about 10 years, retiring in 1986. He was a life member of the VFW and American Legion Post in Louisville, Colo., and the DAV.

Forte.-William J. Forte, born in Bridgeton, N.J., the son of Marvin, of Junction Station, N.J., and one brother, Marvin, of Junction City, Kan.; 10 grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by two brothers and one sister.

Oakley.—Mildred P. Oakley, 97, died on March 3, 1996, at the Leader Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Madison, Wis. She was born on November 26, 1938, in Albin (Wis.) Township, of Claude and Rosa (DeLand) Heinemann; one son, William Jr. of Ashaway; three daughters, Jean M. Heinemann of Carolina, R.I., Lois E. Betty of Wyoming, R.I., and Sandi White of North Somington, Conn.; two brothers, Horace B. Durfee Jr. of Pawcatuck, and Harold L. Durfee of Westerly; three sisters, Ethel L. Durfee of Ashaway, Ethel A. Saunders of Florida, and Ruth A. Mitchell of Westerly; 17 grandchildren, and 12 great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by two brothers, Clarence J. and William B. Durfee.

Interment site is the Shiloh Cemetery.

While reading Ed Hansen's "Romance" article (page 4) in the Denver church newsletter for the first time—and knowing the theme for this month's Recorder—I kept thinking, "I wanna reprint this!"

Each successive topic hit home for me. "I wanna reprint this!"

This could easily be talking about me and my church. "I wanna reprint this!"

Then the article got very church-specific and somewhat inducing. I thought, "Can I really reprint this? How did the Denver church react to it?"

To find out, I called Pastor Jim Galanaugh. After rubbing my face into the fact that it was 70° and he had played a great round of golf that early March week (as I looked out at our remaining snow banks), we got down to business.

While I expected to hear that Ed was hoping for tar and feathers to be in-fashion again, Pastor Jim announced that the church had accepted Ed's article quite favorably. The timing and atmosphere was just right for this word of admonition. And members had started taking appropriate moves to clear up the Day of all the busyness. Jim also got excited because this new direction was fitting in closely with his desire for the Denver church.

"We have 40 other churches on this street, and I wondered why in the world people would want to come here!" Jim confessed. In his quiet time, God reminded him of how many people call and visit each week searching for a seventh-day Sabbath church.

"It was right there in front of me all the time. We have got to quit hiding behind the Sabbath and make it a High Day as it should be.

"I want to create an atmosphere of joy and rest—to make the Sabbath a pattern, an attitude. We need to fall in love with it again!

"Let's feature what the Lord has given to us!"

For the past two years, the Coordinating Leadership Team has highlighted a spiritual discipline as together we Seek Spiritual Maturity. The Sabbath is not scheduled to be featured until 1999.

Well, let's get a head start and focus on the Sabbath discipline (and gift) every week. Let's rekindle our romance with the Day that not only sets us apart from many believers, but remember the Day the Lord set apart for everyone's benefit.

"Let's feature what the Lord has given to us!"

The complete Bible on audio-cassette tapes, King James version, read by Alexander Scourby. Free to anyone who can make good use of them. I will ship.

Please contact:
Thelma Stewart
385 S. Taylor Ave. #315
St. Louis, MO 63122-6135

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Important Memo:

TO: FRIENDS OF THE SABBATH RECORDER
FROM: EDITOR KEVIN BUTLER

DID YOU KNOW THAT THE SABBATH RECORDER IS FUNDED BY YOUR GIFTS? YOUR DONATION TO THE SABBATH RECORDER IS PART OF THE TOTAL SDB DENOMINATIONAL BUDGET.

I HOPE THAT YOU HAVE BEEN ENJOYING THE MAGAZINE DURING THIS PAST YEAR AND WILL BE ABLE TO MAKE A TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATION TO THIS PART OF OUR SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST CONNECTION AND OUTREACH. MAY GOD BLESS YOU AND THANK YOU.

GRACE AND PEACE,

Kevin

YES! I want to help the ministry of The Sabbath Recorder!

☐ Please CHANGE my address to:

☐ Please REMOVE my name from the mailing list

☐ Enclosed is my GIFT for The Sabbath Recorder

Name: __________________________________________

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Send form to: The Sabbath Recorder, PO Box 1678, Janesville WI 53547-1678