After the Fall(s)
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:

- salvation by grace through faith in Jesus Christ.
- the Bible as the inspired word of God. The Bible is our authority for our faith and daily conduct.
- baptism of believers, by immersion, witnessing to our acceptance of Christ as Savior and Lord.
- freedom of thought under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.
- the congregational form of church government.

Every church member 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, as our Lord 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 SDBs just a little bit different.

Who are Seventh Day Baptists?

It is the joy of the Seventh Day Baptist to be a part of a pillar of the Christian Church. The SDB Church-Butler is considered one of the oldest churches in America. The SDB Church-Butler is located in Janesville, WI, and is affiliated with the SDB Church. The SDB Church-Butler is a member of the Associated Church Press. The Seventh Day Baptist Recorder does not necessarily endorse or oppose any article that appears in this publication. Paid advertising is not accepted.

Departmental Dateline

October

7-8 Baptist Joint Committee, Washington, D.C.—Kevin Butler
8-11 Evangelical Development Ministry Institute, Dallas, Texas—Andrew Camenga
11-13 Mid-Continent Association, North Loup, Neb.—Peter May
11-13 North Central Association, Milton, Wis.
18-19 Pacific Coast Association, Riverside, Calif.
19 Diaconate Ordination, Daytona Beach, Fla., SDB Church—Butler
19 Rockville, R.I.—Kirk Looper
19-20 Diaconate Workshop, Ashaway, R.I.—Camenga
19-20 Seventh Day Baptist Memorial Fund Meeting, North Loup—Calvin Babcock
26 Rockville—Looper
27 SDB Missionary Society Quarterly Meeting, Westerly, R.I.—Looper, Ron Elston
27 BCE Annual Corporation Meeting, Alfred Station, N.Y.—Camenga

November

8-10 South Atlantic Association, West Palm Beach, Fla.
9-10 TCC Annual Meeting, SDB Center, Janesville, Wis.—Butler
15-17 New York City, N.Y.—May

Thank you!

We give praise to God for all of our readers who support this ministry. Your gifts—large and small—help so much.

A gift of $125 will sponsor a page and keep the presses rolling. Send your tax-deductible donation to the address above. Thank you!

Features

After the Fall(s) .................................................. 4
by Harold King
Why are SDBs still around? An analogy of four brothers swept down a raging river may help answer that question.

Lessons from the Van ........................................ 8
by Crystal Butler
A Christian musical group spends the summer touring the country and learns valuable life-lessons.

The General Council "Pre-Con" .................................. 9
by Andrew Camenga
How can something be both tiring and refreshing?

Life's relay for Righteousness: (part 2) .......................... 10
by Dennis L. Palmer
Both the Israelites and Gentiles strove to be perfect before God. An examination of works vs. faith.

Delegates prepare for Brazil sessions ................................ 11
by Janet Thorngate
Representatives from 11 SDB Conferences will meet in February.

Church pioneer awarded Robe ...................................... 12
Toronto, Canada, church member honored posthumously.

Departments

Women's Society 13
Shaping God's Love

Pearls from the Past 14
A legacy from the past

SR Almanac 15
Looking back 5, 10, 25... years

Christian Education 16
2002 Scripture Program

Focus 17
Churches around the world

The Beacon 18
The 4-11 on Conference

Reflections 19
Remotely controlled

Kevin's Korner 27
Another Conference program

President's Page 20
I am in Christ

Pete's Prescriptions 21
Always believe

Local News 22
Little Geneva, NY

SR Reaction 22

The Paraclete 23
You choose, I paint

Family flux 24
New members, births, marriage, obituaries
After the Fall(s)

Conference sermon by Pastor Harold King

As we Seventh Day Baptists celebrate our 200th anniversary of being a General Conference, God has prompted me to ask, “Why are we still here?”

SDBs have never been a large group of believers. In fact, our numbers have declined. So why are we here?

Is it because we are Baptists? There are a lot of other Baptist groups with Baptist policies and principles. It must be because of the Sabbath. But there are other Sabbath groups, and they are larger than we are. So why are we here?

Is it because we are family? We do so well as “family,” but other groups do as well. Why are we here?

Allow me to tell a story:

A man had five sons. They lived in a beautiful home by a rapidly running river, which was full of boulders and rapids. It even sported a waterfall. The river swept deep into a forest where no one dared to go.

The father pleaded with his sons, “Please, please stay away from the river. Its waters run so fast that it will carry you down through the rapids, and on and on they went, trying desperately to stop. They reached out for the large boulders, frantically attempting to get their hands on anything they could. But they kept going.

After nearly drowning, they came to a place in the river where the current wasn’t as swift. Battered and bruised, they wearily climbed out of the water and built a fire to dry off. When they finally looked at their surroundings, they realized that they had gone far, far from home. So they sat around the fire and said, “Surely our father and our eldest brother will come and find us.

So the four youths waited... and waited.

As the days drew on, they explored the area and discovered that they weren’t alone. The people they found were rather strange. They had a different language, and they did a lot of different things.

The lost brothers were afraid to try to go home through the forest, and the water was too rapid to go back up the river. So they continued to wait.

Finally, the oldest of the four announced, “I’m going to go and get acquainted with some of the people who live here. I’m going to try to get to know them and see if they can help us.”

He had a good visit with the people. In spite of the language barrier, he figured out what they were saying to him: “We can’t help you get home, but you’re welcome to stay with us.”

He went back and told his siblings about the offer. But they replied, “No, we won’t go with you. We’re going to stay right here and wait for our oldest brother and father.”

So, the “explorer” went off on his own and lived with his new friends. They helped him build a little house, he learned their language, and started becoming more and more like them.

One day, the next older brother said, “I’m worried about our big brother. I’m going to go see what he’s up to.”

And so he went to the little house and looked through the window. His brother was having a wild party. There were women inside, and everyone was singing, drinking, and dancing.

This is terrible! the younger one thought. How could my brother do this? He’s living in sin!

He tried to confront his older brother, but he shot back, “I’m having a good time. Forget it!”

So the younger brother reported back to his other siblings: “Our brother’s a sinner; he’s terrible. I’m going to go and watch him some more, to check out what he’s doing.”

So off he went, to keep his eye on his brother. He watched and watched, and he criticized. “Oh, look there; him. That crazy brother of ours is doing things that aren’t right!”

The lost brothers were afraid to try to go near the river. Because we have sinned, we’re not going to be forgiven. Father will not come back for us unless we do something to prove ourselves.

“I know what to do. I’m going out in the middle of the river to pick up stones so I can build a bridge that goes all the way back to our father. After I’ve done that, and gotten back home, father will see how good I am, and I need to love and accept me.”

But the other remaining brother responded, “No, I can’t help you do that. I’m sure that our father and eldest brother will come back.”

And so things went on this way. The oldest of the four stranded brothers continued to party and have a good time. In fact, he was having a great time. He totally forgot about his father and his past life.

The second brother to leave the camp site was still standing around and criticizing his older brother. He built a little hut on a hillside above his brother’s house, so that he could keep a constant eye on him and check up on his lifestyle, day and night. He even made a pair of binoculars to help with his spying.

Back at the camp site, the “stone-laying brother” was busy picking up rocks and putting them down, still attempting to build a pathway back up the river.

The youngest of them all was beginning to have serious doubts. What if our father isn’t coming to get us? he thought. But then he remembered how much his father loved him, “I always need to stay here. I need to stay here, because my father or my brother will come and get us.”

Sure enough, one day, the eldest brother came walking out of the forest and greeted his lost sibling. There was great rejoicing. When things calmed down, the younger brother blurted, “I’ve sinned against Father!”

The older brother said, “That’s all right; you’re forgiven. Father loves you. I’ve come to bring you back home, so get go the others.”

He ran to the river bank, shouting, “Our oldest brother is here! Come, come! We can go back home! Father wants to see us!”

But the stone-laying brother yelled back, “No! I’m a terrible sinner! I can’t be forgiven! I have to earn my way back into my father’s love.”

He went back to picking up stones to build a path home.

The youngest then went to the brother who had built the little hut on the hill. “I’m going to come for us!” he excitedly announced. “Our father loves us, and he wants us to come home.”

His sibling replied, “Do you know what your brother is doing down there? No, I can’t come with you. I’m going to stay here and keep an eye on him. That crazy brother of ours is doing things that aren’t right!”

The youngest brother climbed down the hillside to talk to his remaining brother—the one who had built a house to party in.

“Our oldest brother is here, and he knows the way back home. Father still cares about all of us and forgives us.”

But his sibling responded, “Nah, man. I’m having too much fun here. I mean, it’s so cool and so neat to be here. I’m not going to go.”

The youngest brother returned to the camp and told his eldest brother what the others had said. “They don’t want to come,” he reported.

Unfazed, the oldest brother directed his youngest sibling to pick up his few belongings. “We’re going,” he announced. “The invitation is there; it’s open. I want us, and he’s not going to force any of his sons to come back home.”

And so, the oldest son and the youngest son returned home, and their father met them with outstretched arms. He immediately accepted the youngest son, and forgave him for ignoring his command against playing near the river.

That’s grace; that’s God’s grace. That’s God’s wonderful and loving grace.

Psalm 95 says, “Let us sing for joy to the Lord. Let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before him with thanksgiving, extol him with music and song. Let us go to the Lord our God. Let us go to him with outstretched arms. He has redeemed us from our enemies, He has delivered us from our hands.”

The people of His pasture, the flock under His care. God loves us so much that He’s there with open arms. He wants us all to come back, but He doesn’t force us to do so. He wants us to come willingly.

Cont. next page
The Sabbath. This is one of the reasons we are here. We're here because we're Seventh Day Baptists, because we're good Sabbathkeepers, because we're good people who have a great love for the Lord. We believe in the Bible, we believe in the Sabbath, we believe in Christ as Lord and Savior. And we're here to celebrate God's love and do His will, and to be obedient to His commands. Remember, His commands are not burdensome. We're here to give thanks to God for His love and His grace. And when they see us, they see Him, and they say, "Wow, these people really love the Lord."

We don't just go our own way and do whatever we want. We don't have to be critical of others and think that they have to be exactly like us. We don't have to work our way into God's wonderful grace. We give this grace and freedom. Colossians 2:16 reads, "Therefore, do not let anyone judge you by what you eat or drink, or regarding a religious festival, a New Moon celebration, or a Sabbath day. These are shadows of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ."

Many of us say, "Maybe that verse is talking about ceremonial things." We don't like to think about the Sabbath or get judged by it. Colossians was written by Paul for a very special purpose—to help people realize that they didn't have to fall for heresy. They didn't have to work for their salvation. They didn't have to be accountable to God's commands, and keep God's commands. But His commands are not burdensome.

And what would the four brothers have said about the Sabbath? The one who built the house would say, "Well, you don't need to keep the Sabbath at all. God has set us free! God's Laws are no longer important. I can do whatever I want to do." The son who was critical would say, "You shall not do this on the Sabbath. Thou shalt not do that on the Sabbath." "Thou shalt not do this in your life; Thou shalt not do that." The son who wanted to work his way to his father would say, "You have to keep the Sabbath for salvation. You have to do something. You've got to keep that Sabbath."

The story is telling us, "Don't let anyone judge you. You're free in Jesus Christ.

And if you're free in Jesus Christ, you're going to be able to keep the Sabbath in a free way. God's going to give you that ability; He's going to allow you to do that. You're going to know what's right and then do what's right.

The Sabbath is merely a shadow. Just as it pointed to the Israelites—to remind them that they had freedom from Egypt—the Sabbath, today, is a shadow, reminding us of what Jesus Christ has done for us. He has set us free from sin. We are free in Jesus Christ! That's the only way to salvation—by God's wonderful grace.

If you haven't accepted Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, I challenge you to do so now. But don't do it lightly. Really think about it. And I would challenge each one of you to take another step in faith as churches, as individuals, as Seventh Day Baptists: To be willing to do whatever God calls you to do.

It may be that God wants you to take your family and move somewhere else. He may want five or six families to get together and plant a church in another city, or in another area of the country. He may say, "Give up your job, give up everything you have—your security—and move. Are we willing to do things like that? God calls each and every one of us. He has a purpose, a plan. That purpose may be as simple as praying. When you tell someone, "I'll pray for you," do you really? I challenge you to pray! If you say you'll pray for someone, then pray for them! Get down on your knees and pray with your whole heart. We need prayer warriors. We should be praying for each other every day. God may be calling you right now. It really doesn't matter whether you're a pastor or a layperson, whether you're young or old. God has a plan for you. And you need to be open to that plan. SDBs are here for a purpose: to celebrate God's love and do His will, and to be obedient to His commands. Remember, His commands are not burdensome. They're a joy when we do it in the freedom of Christ.
Lessons from the van
by Crystal Butler
(Reprinted from The Conference Crier)

Riding in a van with eight other people, and being with them each day for three months, really teaches you things you would never learn elsewhere. Yet Stained Glass 2002 was an amazing period of my life. I feel that I have grown and matured so much in my relationship with Christ, my Lord and Savior.

The theme of this summer's tour was "Crossroads." We struggle each day to choose which path to follow to succeed in life, and it's not always easy to see which ones are in God's will.

During devotion times this summer, we learned that no matter where we are in our relationship with God, He sees us all the same. He uses all of us in special ways to further His Kingdom. We have to seek God with our whole heart and chase after Him daily. I learned that it's okay to start where I am and not be afraid to do so! Come boldly to the Father because you can't lead people where you haven't gone. Constantly run after Him.

Since we were with each other every day, unity played a major role. Unity was our main focus during prayer times. We knew that if we fell apart, Satan could gain a foothold. We had to die daily to our sins and forgive each other. For anything "crossroad-filled" lives, it wasn't always easy to speak heart-to-heart with God, knowing that there were crowds of people watching and listening to us. But God definitely had a purpose for each of us saying what we did.

We did almost 50 concerts in two months, and I wasn't ready to stop this truly amazing summer. Although the tour came to an end, I pray that God will continue to guide my every decision at each crossroad in my life.

Unity was our main focus during prayer times. We knew that if we fell apart, Satan could gain a foothold.

The General Council "Pre-Con"
by Andrew Camenga
(From the Conference Crier)

The Youth and Young Adult Pre-Conference Retreats are not the only gatherings of Seventh Day Baptists that occur during the week before General Conference. Even as youth and young adults were arriving at their retreat sites, the Seventh Day Baptist General Council had already begun to meet in the basement of the Alfred Station, N.Y., SDB Church. The activities of the Council can be compared to the Pre-Con retreats because of the housing arrangements, planned program, regular schedule, shared meals, devotions, times of prayer, frequent discussions about the plans God has for Seventh Day Baptists as a people, and the planning of a presentation to be shared with the General Conference. The similarities, however, do end.

The General Council consists of 12 voting members entrusted with reviewing, enacting, and reporting on the overall work and direction of the General Conference, its personnel, and its boards and agencies. In addition to the voting members, the denomination's Executive Secretary and other invited consultants participate in the meetings.

The agenda usually includes updates on the preparation for future Conference sites, plans for the upcoming Conference, reports from various boards and agencies, discussions of budgets, evaluation of the current work of Seventh Day Baptists, dreams and plans for the future, and additional important items that occasionally arise. From this sharing, share the ways in which God is working, discuss the frustrating situations in which God's hand is harder to see, and strive to figure out ways to help all Seventh Day Baptists be more effective servants in the overall work of God.

Just as many who attend Pre-Con leave the Conference sessions utterly exhausted and simultaneously (and remarkably) rejuvenated from their glimpse of the marvelous work God is doing, so General Council members frequently leave Conference tired, and simultaneously ready to take on the challenges that God places before them. The Council meetings are not a retreat, but they, too, can bring a refreshing glimpse of God's work to the participants.
Life's relay for Righteousness: Losers and winners (part 2)
by Dennis L. Palmer, Lake Elsinore, Calif.

Editor's note: In last month's SR, Pastor Palmer introduced the idea that athletes need hard work and determination to reach their goals. Do Christians need to do the same?

In discussing the Olympic games, he talked about "another type of race, 2,000 years ago"—the one involving the Israelites and Gentiles as they strove to be perfect (righteous) before God. Using Romans 9:30–10:7 as his guide, Dennis pictured this "race for righteousness" as a 4 × 400-meter relay, with each "leg" explaining why Israel lost.

The Israelites lost the first leg of the race because they pursued righteousness through their works. While they tried to obey the Law to achieve a right standing with God, the Gentiles relied on faith.

During the second leg of the race, the nation of Israel stumbled over Christ. She refused to trust Him and instead put her confidence in Jewish pride and works. Israel eventually killed the very One who could have given her people life.

The article below details the two remaining legs of this race.

The third leg of Israel's defeat

Their zeal for God was not matched by a true knowledge of God's righteousness.

Romans 10:2–3 underscores Israel's predicament: "For I bear witness that they have a zeal for God, but not in accordance with knowledge. For not knowing about God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own, they did not subject themselves to the righteousness of God."

Israel's problem was not that she lacked diligence or sincerity, but her spiritual zeal was misdirected—it fell short of salvation.

The Apostle Paul also had zeal—a zeal for the Law and for observing the practices of Judaism. In fact, he had so much zeal for his religion that he persecuted the Church. But all that energy was misdirected. He had a zeal for religion, not for Christ.

That's one of the problems in church today: there is too much room for religion and busy work, and too little room for Christ.

Israel was spiritually blind. Romans 10:3 says, "For not knowing about God's righteousness... they did not subject themselves to the righteousness of God."

What Israel lacked was a true knowledge and understanding of how a sinner receives the righteousness of God.

Do you lack that knowledge? If you don't know, just mentally answer this question: If you died today and God asked you, "Why should I let you into heaven?"—what would you reply? In other words, what do you think is the basis of your salvation?

When I ask that question about heaven, many people respond that God would never ask such a thing. Others give a theological objection: "I cannot be certain of my salvation."

But all of these questions raise the real issue: How does one become a Christian? This is answered in Romans 9:33b: "And he who believes will not be disappointed."

We will not get God's Kingdom by good works. Instead, Christ's perfect life and death have been reckoned to our accounts. In other words, by grace, faith has appropriated the righteousness of Christ. So now we stand, by God's grace, no longer clothed with garments of sin, but girded with the robe of Christ's righteousness.

You can sponsor a delegate!

For South Africa, Rev. Leonildo Lebkuchen, their president and chairman of the Host Committee; Pastor Eli de Souza Rangel, their Conference executive, who will also serve as sessions pastor; Luciano Barreto Nogueira Moura, and Jozene de Queiroz Letão.

Delegates from the Australasian Conference, Canaan R. P. Khiiri has been named, as well as their corresponding secretary, Pastor L. G. Namtuna. Both are from Malawi.

Goyana—Rev. Ewart Caesar and Mrs. Karthyn Henry are delegates from Brazil, with Rev. Jacob N. Tyrell, Dooodnouth Dwarka, and Amy Damion planning to go as observers.

India—From India, Mrs. Sosamama Philip and Ravi T. Sairiah are named delegates from the Malanlara Conference in Kerela. Executive Secretary; Treasurer, B. Kishor Kumar, who was unable to attend either the sessions in New Zealand or Jamaica, hopes to get there to represent the Conference in Andhra Pradesh.

Jamaica—They plan to send Pastor Allen A. Chambers, as well as Prudence E. Robinson and Naval W. Harley, who have represented their Conference previously.

The Netherlands—Rev. Frits Nieuwstraten will again represent the Netherlands Conference, this time with his wife, Manolo.

Nigeria—They have named two delegates: Rev. Lawrence O. Uchegbueno and Mrs. Monica A. Obinna.

The Philippines—Pastor Al B. Payapa will represent the Philippine Convention. Bernardo Agudera hopes to attend as fraternal delegate from the Conference.

South Africa—For South Africa, Rev. Nynas Italiani Siwani will again attend, hoping to also bring his wife, Miriam.

USA & Canada—Delegates from the USA and Canada Conference are Andrea Davis; recording secretary for the Federation; Lanu Ellis, treasurer; Rev. Joe Samuels; Nathansel Lawton; and Rev. Dale Thorngate, executive secretary. Ex-officio attendees will be Rev. Gabriel Bejani, president, and G. Kirk Looper representing the Missionary Society.

Australia—Although no delegates are expected from the Australasian Conference, Dorothy d’Alpuget and Vicki Kube hope to go as observers.

If you would like to help sponsor a delegate or make a contribution toward the sessions' costs, please mail your tax-deductible, SDBWF contribution to: Treasurer Luan Ellis, 14 Pleasant Valley Rd., Alfred Station, NY 14803 USA.

Delegates welcome

If you would like to consider attending as a delegate but do not yet have information and registration forms, contact:

Rev. Dale D. Thorngate
173 E. Main St.
Salem WI 54656

Phone: (304) 782-1727
E-mail: sdbwf@aol.com
Fax: (304) 782-4792

Pastor Eli de Souza Rangel, General Coordinator of the Brazil Conference, will be sessions pastor when the World Federation meets in Curitiba next February.
Church pioneer awarded Robe

For the Robe of Achievement this year, we have a lady who was loved for her compassionate and understanding nature. She was devoted to her family and six children, as well as to her church and community. But, above all, she was devoted to her Savior, Jesus Christ.

In her community, she was a faithful, door-to-door Christian witness. She conducted Bible studies in different homes, and ministered at the Senior Citizen Center and nursing homes. The 4-H Community Service Club honored her with a special commendation. She was a "mother to all"—young and old, relatives and strangers, immigrants, the homeless, everyone.

In her church, she was an active member of the Evangelism Committee. She was also a Prayer-Band and Bible study leader, and a counselor to all. Serving as a deaconess until her death, she was always pledging to give to church projects, even though she had little money of her own. She expected God to provide for her so that she could fulfill her pledges.

She moved to Toronto, Canada, in the early '70s, becoming one of the pioneers of the First Seventh Day Baptist church there.

She moved to Toronto, Canada, in the early '70s, becoming one of the pioneers of the First Seventh Day Baptist church there. Even during her terminal illness, her spirit remained undaunted. She saw her failing health as an opportunity to witness to doctors, nurses, or anyone who came into her room. One daughter recalls that her mother sent her to the rooms of other patients, to check up on them or pray with them.

After she went home to her Lord, the nurses remembered her singing at 5:00 a.m. She prayed that God would give them strength to do their stressful jobs.

She was born in Clarendon, Jamaica, and served the Jamaican Post Roads BDB Church as treasurer, clerk, and hospital visitor. For a number of years, she worked as secretary to the Prime Minister of Jamaica.

Her pastor said of her, "She was most generous in giving of her time and whatever resources she had, whenever or wherever there was a need. She related exceptionally well with all age groups, and everyone loved to be around her. She was 'fun loving and young' in her interactions with people in general, and with young people in particular. 'In spite of her sensitivity to the feelings of others, she never compromised her Christian principles. She was well-loved by all and was held in high esteem by those both inside and outside the church.'"

Her name? Mrs. Sylvia Lindo—or "Sister Lindo"—of the Toronto Seventh Day Baptist Church. Sister Lindo went to her heavenly reward in 1992.

One of the many important items on the agenda of the Women's Interest Committee at Conference was the distribution of the Love Gift.

The majority of the Love Gift was given at the Women's Banquet on Wednesday evening. In addition to individual giving at the gathering, many local women's societies sent funds.

The 2002 Love Gift will be distributed as follows:

- Little Genesee church for nursery and sound equipment—$400
- Miriam Lawton and Karlene Neher, expenses for mission trip to Zambia—$300
- The Gaff family whose house was destroyed by fire on August 4, 2002—$300

The balance of the Love Gift to be distributed as follows:

- 45% for medical supplies and food in African nations where the Missionary Society sees the greatest need
- 25% for Summer Christian Service Corps (SCSC), USA and Canada
- 15% for SCSC to Australia in January 2003
- 10% for children's Bibles where the Missionary Society sees the greatest need
- 5% for keyboards or other musical instruments where the Missionary Society sees the greatest need

The Love Gift total after the Women's Banquet was $4,257. Thank you for sharing the Lord's love in this tangible way.

Marie Ward and Endi Nobles did the math for this year's Love Gift.
A legacy from the past

On August 3, 2002, members, former members, and friends of the First Geneese Seventh Day Baptist Church gathered to help celebrate its 175th Anniversary this year. They met just prior to arriving at Houghton (N.Y.) College to attend General Conference, which was marking its 200th Anniversary this year.

The time in Little Geneese, N.Y., was nostalgic, tinged with the realization that the church structure which had stood in the center of town for 165 of those years had been reduced to ashes a little over 13 months before. In 1942, while I was still in high school, the old Community Hall burned to the ground. Although it was owned by the church, it had been the center of the community for years, hosting such things as the Collins Festival (providing rural America with entertainment before television), a gymnasmium, church dinners, Grange meetings, Boy Scout meetings, Bible School classes, family reunions, and receptions. For a time, it even served as the town's public library.

In the midst of World War II, with its various restrictions, how could the hall be replaced? Well, "Where there's a will, there's a way." The old, outdated Crandall horse barn—which stood on the very site of the 175th anniversary celebration—provided the nucleus for a new Community Center. Its 20 x 40-foot frame made up the main room. A similar structure (a 36 x 48-foot barn) some 20 miles away in Fullner Valley was donated, but had to be dismantled.

As I recall, the disassembly of that building resembled an old-fashioned barn raising, but in reverse. Boards were removed and nails withdrawn. The framing was carefully dismantled and trucked to Little Geneese, where it became the framework for the Center's smaller meeting room. (The entrance was on the south side; the stage, kitchen, and restrooms were on the north side.)

An old building—the Community Hall—might have been destroyed, but the will of the people remained. Even residents of Little Geneese who weren't members of the SDB church recognized that it was the heart of the community. So they pitched in and helped rebuild the hall.

A second legacy from the past is the marble plaque now at the entrance of the Community Center. As far back as I can remember, I understood Rev. Brown's importance to our denomination. Raised in the heart of the Bible, urging them to speaketh. He being dead yet speaketh.

It wasn't until years later that I recognized that it was the heart of the Baptist World Alliance and our Conference, held in Lindsborg, Kan.

First responses in the September 11 terrorist attacks come from the Baptist World Alliance and our Conference's Christian Action Committee. Obituary lists August 7th passing of Dr. K.D. Hurley, former SDB Executive Secretary and Salem (W.Va.) College president.

Kirk Looper reports on his visit with members, family, and restrooms were on the north side. (The entrance was located in the center of the building.)

Pray—
- for those suffering from the terrorist attacks
- for lasting results from Conference
- for your Sabbath School staff
- that decisions made at camp would last
- for Conference President George Cruzan's health
- for our Fall Association meetings to go well
- for a renewed vision in our churches

SR Almanac

A look at where we have been from the pages of The Sabbath Recorder

One year ago—October 2001
Conference sermons presented: Steve Osborn's "Who 'da' theology, and Rex Burdick's message on commitment and integrity.
More photos recall the activities and workshops from Conference, held in Lindsborg, Kan.
First responses in the September 11 terrorist attacks come from the Baptist World Alliance and our Conference's Christian Social Action Committee.
Obituary lists August 7th passing of Dr. K.D. Hurley, former SDB Executive Secretary and Salem (W.Va.) College president.
Kirk Looper reports on his visit with members, family, and restrooms were on the north side. (The entrance was located in the center of the building.)

Five years ago—October 1997
Full coverage offered from General Conference in Lindsborg, President Owen Probascus' theme was, "Tuned In, Turned On, and Triumphant."
Jeanne Yurke provides a recap of the business sessions.
Historical Society presents Gold-headed Cane to Janet Thorngate.
Former missionary and teacher, Beth Severe Burdick, receives the Rabe of Achievement.
SDBs in Zambia, Africa, move toward growth and self-reliance.
The first Seventh Day Baptist "Deep South Camp" held in Defarry, Fla.

10 years ago—October 1992
Conference held at Carroll College in Waukesha, Wis. Visitors from other Conferences include Prudence Robinson (Jamaica), and the Rosalio Camachos from Mexico.
Delegates approve a denominational statement on gay and lesbian issues.
Conference President Richard Shepard expands on his new theme, "Bearing the Fruit."
Editor John Bevis announces new developments in equipment and personnel at the SDB Publishing House in Plainfield, N.J.
The "Open Forum" question under consideration: "Should all salaried executives' offices be located at 'headquarters'?" Eleventh annual Conference of British SDBs held in London.

50 years ago—October 1952
New students welcomed to Alfred (N.Y.) School of Theology: Donald Richards and Delmer Van Horn. Other students for full term include Darrell Barber, Duane Davis (in Nortonville, Kan.), and Oscar Burdick (in Berkeley, Calif.).
Lost Creek, W.Va., is featured in series called "Our Churches and What They Are Doing."
Rev. Wayne Road's Conference sermon presented, "Experience with God, the Worth of the Sabbath."
Interchurch services held to commemorate publication of the Revised Standard Version of the Bible, with a million copies going on sale.
On October 7, residents of Alfred awoke to 4.4 inches of snow covering their brightly colored leaves still on the trees.

...where are we headed?

25 years ago—October 1977
Pastor Dale Thorngate writes on the spiritual fruit of going deep.
Pastor Rex Burdick shares the Sabbath morning Conference sermon, "Daring the Impossible as a Servant People."
Conference President Richard Shepard expands on his new theme, "Bearing the Fruit."
Editor John Bevis announces new developments in equipment and personnel at the SDB Publishing House in Plainfield, N.J.

"The Open Forum" question under consideration: "Should all salaried executives' offices be located at 'headquarters'?" Twelfth annual Conference of British SDBs held in London.

50 years ago—October 1952
New students welcomed to Alfred (N.Y.) School of Theology: Donald Richards and Delmer Van Horn. Other students for full term include Darrell Barber, Duane Davis (in Nortonville, Kan.), and Oscar Burdick (in Berkeley, Calif.).
Lost Creek, W.Va., is featured in series called "Our Churches and What They Are Doing."
Rev. Wayne Road's Conference sermon presented, "Experience with God, the Worth of the Sabbath."
Interchurch services held to commemorate publication of the Revised Standard Version of the Bible, with a million copies going on sale.
On October 7, residents of Alfred awoke to 4.4 inches of snow covering their brightly colored leaves still on the trees.

...where are we headed?

Pray—
- for those suffering from the terrorist attacks
- for lasting results from Conference
- for your Sabbath School staff
- that decisions made at camp would last
- for Conference President George Cruzan's health
- for our Fall Association meetings to go well
- for a renewed vision in our churches

October 2002 15
2002 Scripture Memorization Program

The 2001–2002 Scripture Memory Program featured the theme of Conference President Gordon Lawton, “What Do These Stones Mean?” Participants who completed the program were presented certificates at the General Conference sessions in Hudspeth, NY. (The 2001–2002 memorization program was listed in last year’s SR. Copies are available from the Board of Christian Education at 607-587-8527.)

As I travel around the United States speaking to church groups and individuals, I’m often surprised by how little people know about the work that SDBs support in the mission field. Many have no idea where Seventh Day Baptists have organized or where they meet. I often find myself asking, “Why don’t they read the information that’s sent to their churches or printed in the Sabbath Recorder?” In these articles, I speak about the different countries that Seventh Day Baptists inhabit. Maybe we need to give our readers more information about our many Conferences.

For a long time, the number of countries with active Seventh Day Baptist churches did not change. These included Australia, Brazil, Burma, The Cameroons, China, England, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Goyana, Holland, India, Jamaica, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, New Zealand, The Philippines, and South Africa.

Our Conference sent long-term missionaries into some of these countries. New SDBs sent missionaries to Malawi, who in turn visited surrounding countries. Holland sent a missionary into Ghana (then called the Gold Coast), but no substantial church was organized to carry on the ministry. China was a very active mission field before and after part of World War II. In numbers, the China field was probably the largest.

During these years, we have found that a church has been organized and that the Gospel is being preached. We pray that I have been able to direct you in your fellowship with SDBs doesn’t bother us. We praise God that a church has been organized and that the Gospel is being preached. I pray that I have been able to direct you in your prayers for our sister Conferences and churches. Most of them have a difficult time in their work and outreach. Financing isn’t easily obtained, and governments aren’t always willing to work with their organizations. We praise God for His leadership and encourage them not to give up. We should always strive to work independently. Their decision not to be associated with SDBs doesn’t bother us. We praise God that a church has been organized and that the Gospel is being preached.

I pray that I have been able to direct you in your prayer requests for our sister Conferences and churches. Most of them have a difficult time in their work and outreach. Financing isn’t easily obtained, and governments aren’t always willing to work with their organizations. We praise God for His leadership and encourage them not to give up. We should always strive to work independently. Their decision not to be associated with SDBs doesn’t bother us. We praise God that a church has been organized and that the Gospel is being preached.
1. Sleep more, work less.
2. Pizza can be life-sustaining.
3. Don’t always listen to David Fox.
4. Take the stairs one at a time.
5. Avoid the Lambein dorm elevator.
6. Heckle the crowd.
7. Always insinuate you want something—Phillip Lawton will do it for you.
8. Not a morning person.
9. Play with Kevin, Gabe, or Josh’s hair.
10. Corduroy is cool. Microfiber, not so much.
11. Curfew what?
12. When riding in a school bus full of small children, sit in the back with five friends and sing loudly.
13. Stopping a descending elevator will cause a jolt.
14. Buy your Bicentennial Pen Set from Kevin, not Dave.
15. Listen to Andrew Camenga, or you’ll tell him a story.
16. 12 a.m. seems early for the first time since high school started.
17. If you offer to write one article for the Critic, you’ll end up writing four.

The 4-1-1 on Conference
by Eowyn Driscoll

18. Use the official book of praise songs; you know the keys will be right.
19. Always bring duct tape.
20. Make a documentary of places you go. Mock them.
21. Fall down a lot.
22. Houghton College has bathtubs in the dorms!
23. Learn to play the guitar—for real this time.
24. Make time to contemplate the obvious.
25. Kory Geske, Pastor Nate, Steve-0, and Pastor Chris are cool.
26. Don’t wear makeup to the youth banquet.
27. Be nice to the sound-guy.
28. Take as many pictures as possible.
29. Running for hours will succeed in making you tired.
30. Go to the Stained Glass concert, buy the CD, picture, and poster—make the band sign all of them.
32. Watch Preston roller-skate.
33. Make Ben Harris sing.
34. Sit in the balcony. Don’t go to sleep.
35. You can’t make everyone happy—ever.
36. Apologize if you make everyone sick.
37. Go to the meetings.
38. Movies can wait until after vespers.
39. Participate with the intent of having fun.
39a. Don’t use your crutches if you can get away with it.
40. Learn sign language.
41. Bible Study is fun.
42. Thank people for what they do.
43. Laugh often, love much.
44. Be nice to people, even if they are shorter than you are.
45. Dream the impossible dream.
46. Command your hands to PTL.
47. Prayer works.
48. Smile at least five times daily.
49. Never underestimate the power of God.
50. When praying: Talk less, listen more.
51. Give it up to God; it’s easier that way.
52. For anyone counting, that was P.S. For anyone counting, that was S2. But that’s why I’m an English major and not a Mathematics major!

Reflections
by Leanne Lippincott

"Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face."—1 Cor. 13:12

The world we live in today is light years beyond the one that our grandparents—or even our parents—knew when they were growing up. Instead of chopping firewood and stoking a cast-iron stove, we now toss our potatoes into a microwave and eat them five minutes later. The goats grazing in the back yard have been replaced by kitchen garbage disposals. Instead of hollering over a fence to a neighbor, we grab a cell phone and talk to a friend in Timbuktu. We toss flour and yeast into a bread machine and leave the house.

I certainly enjoy today’s conveniences. (How did I ever live without an automatic washer?!) Still, I occasionally come down with that strange but widespread disease known as "muchotechnical drivuinitis." Which translated means, "Too much technology can drive you nuts."

I currently have seven remote controls in my house. (I gave the eighth one to friends, along with a TV.)

Does a person really need seven remote controls? Well, yes and no. Some of my remotes have overlapping functions, but I still use all of them. They run my stereo, VCR, my new DVD player, a small TV in the kitchen, an old TV downstairs, and my new wide-screen TV in the living room. By switching to a digital cable service, I now have a brand new, super-duper remote that does everything except cook dinner. (The next remote will probably do that, too.)

Instead of getting up to turn channels, I can now lay against a pillow, stuff my mouth with potato chips and bonbons, and "channel surf" without breaking into a sweat.

Sometimes, we can have too much of a good thing. And that’s how I’m beginning to feel about all of my remotes. Owning seven means that I have more things to confuse me, and more things to misplace. Now where did I put my VCR remote? Is it under the coffee table? Behind the couch? In my fish pond? (Don’t laugh. That’s where I found my eyeglasses a few months ago.)

In addition to complicating lives, remote controls can promote laziness and expand waistlines.

Instead of getting up to turn channels, I can now lay against a pillow, stuff my mouth with potato chips and bonbons, and "channel surf" without breaking into a sweat.

Remotely controlled

For anyone counting, that was one with a few nicks and scratches to remind me that, as good as life is, it’s not without struggles. I need someone else—outside of myself and "higher up"—to be in charge. Smack dab in the middle of that remote is the biggest button of all—the one labeled "God." The whole remote doesn’t work without it; in fact, it doesn’t even turn on unless that button is hit first. God first in our lives; God first everywhere.

Lord, help me not to simply ‘surf’ through life. I give you the control, and glory.
I would like to suggest that there isn’t room for Christ in your life. You don’t have time for Him in your life—as long as it is YOUR life, there will be no room for Christ. In business management terms, we need a “different paradigm,” a different way of operating.

The issue is not “How do we fit God into OUR lives?” but, “How do we live in Christ?”

In the upcoming months, I will share some of my thoughts (and, hopefully, some contributions of others) on living in Christ. You can begin by studying Colossians 2 and 3. I encourage you to begin planning your trip to George Fox University in Newberg, Ore. Conference dates are August 3-9, 2003. I also plan to tell you about some of the exciting SDB ministries that you can be a part of.

As a Christian I had accepted God’s gift of forgiveness, not from my works, but from His mercy. I was very busy leading a Christian life.

How many of you have a busy life? Whose life is “too busy”? Who has enough time in their life for God? What takes up our time? Job, eating, sleeping, children, school, leisure, community work, etc. We find that all of these essential activities take 26 or more hours a day. The Bible tells us that all of them are important, but where do we have room to fit Christ into our lives?

Within our Statement of Beliefs, Seventh Day Baptists agree that “salvation from sin and death is the gift of God by redeeming love accomplished by Christ’s death and resurrection, and is received only by repentance and faith in Him.”

The Tract and Communication Council wants to share this message in a new Gospel tract. We need your gifts to help us present this eternal gift to others. Your $100 could provide up to 1,000 tracts. Thank you!

Send your check to:
AST&CC (memo: Gospel tract)
PO Box 1678
Janesville WI 53547

Always believe in the special abilities God has created within you...

After Conference this year, Nancy and I received many “thank-you” cards. One of them read:

“I want to always do His will wherever I am.
Whatever He asks me to do.
I want to use my voice to share
His words of hope and forgiveness.
I want to use my hands to heal
those who are hurting.
I want to use my life to show
others His way.
I want to always do His will
because He has promised
He will always be with me.”

People really do appreciate feeling better physically. I’m always “the doctor” everywhere I go. But there are other talented people, too.

Did Clayton Pinder get a thank-you for all of his financial know-how for the denomination and his “Try God” Conference theme?

Did Jeanne Yurke get a thank-you for all of her insight and contribution to General Council?

We thank all of them. This thank-you list could go on all year. And it should!

Think of all of the people in the past who said, “I want to always do His will wherever I am.” Then, look to the future of SDBs. This year’s Conference at Houghton had many young adults and kids with special abilities. Praise the Lord! I hope all learn to say “thank you” to those who give, and give, and give. Always believe in the special abilities God has created within each of you. And thanks, Carolyn Weber, for the inspirational card! 

Thank of all the people in the past who said, “I want to always do His will wherever I am.” Then, look to the future of SDBs.

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!
Little Genesee church turns 175

August 3, 2002, was a warm and sunny Sabbath day in Little Genesee, N.Y., a perfect time to celebrate the 175th anniversary of the First SDB Church of Genesee.

The church was founded on July 9, 1827, composed of members from the Ashaway, R.I., and Berlin, N.Y., SDB churches.

Anniversary services were held in the church's Community Center. In June 2001, the church meeting house (built in 1837) was destroyed by fire.

Special music came from the Little Genesee church choir and a ladies' trio of Miriam Lawton, Linda Lawton, and Kristin Rood. Many grateful visitors could attend as they were on their way to General Conference in nearby Houghton.

Former pastors sent letters of remembrance or brought their greetings in person. The congregation was then surprised with the unveiling of proposed plans for a new church structure. In the evening, an outdoor concert by the SDB group "Stained Glass" rounded out a powerful day of memories and celebration.

SR Reaction

Dear Kevin,

Just received our September SR and really enjoyed all the Conference news! How we miss being at Conference!!

But times change for us as we grow older (as Leanne said in her article), Ed has been in a nursing home a year now. We've sold our house, and I am in an apartment two blocks from the nursing home—convenient! Thank you so much for changing our address in your files.

Edwin and June Johnson
Nortonville, KS

You choose, I paint

Since we bought our house a number of years ago, Gladys and I have enjoyed the continual task of remodeling and redecorating it. I do the remodeling if it isn't too difficult, and we hire out the rest. The redecorating we do together.

When we paint a room, for example, she chooses the color. Then I move and cover the furniture, do some scraping and sanding, and patch up holes. I get the brushes and rollers ready and do some priming. Then comes the main task—first cutting in and then finishing the job. Afterward, I clean up and replace the furniture.

We're both happy with our division of labor and agree it's been one of the ways we have bonded in our marriage.

When we painted the living room a few years ago, there was an interesting twist. Gladys had a certain tone of blue she wanted. The clerk at the paint store tinted the paint and suggested we put a swatch on the wall. If it was not what she wanted, she could return it and we would keep trying until it was right.

Well, it wasn't right the first time so we tried again. It was still not quite right. (Here our memories clash a little. Gladys says we went back to the store three more times. I say it was five. Let's leave it at "quite a few.")

When we applied a strip for the fifth time (I still say seventh), Gladys stepped back and said, "That's perfect!" I knew what she meant. What she had in mind was exactly what was on the wall. The color she picked was now reality. (I must say I liked her choice.)

The Christian life compares to our experience with paint. We are in the process of becoming perfect. In James 1:4 (KJV) we read, "But let patience have her perfect work that ye may be perfect ["mature"—NIV] and entire, wanting nothing."

The word refers to God's desire that we become what He has in mind for us. He is continually shaping us so that we reach the full potential He desires for us. God's mental picture is becoming reality.

Much of the shaping process takes place in the ordinary experiences of life. As we make choices, as we interact with people, as we do our work, as we go through happy times—and difficult times—God is molding us into the image of Jesus.

How good it is to know that God is in all that happens to us and in all we do. He is concerned not only with what He can do through us, but also what He does in us. We may wonder how we get out of a painful situation. God cares just as much about what we get out of it. What a blessing it is to know as we travel the road of life, He is leading us to perfection.

In the love of God who "guides us by His hand" (Psalm 139:10).

Dr. Sidney Draayer is director of Paraklesis Ministries, an evangelical agency of clergy encouragement. A paraklete is an advocate and intercessor, and the Greek term for Holy Spirit. You may e-mail Sid at parakles@iserv.net.

The Christian life compares to our experience with paint. We are in the process of becoming perfect. In James 1:4 (KJV) we read, "But let patience have her perfect work that ye may be perfect ["mature"—NIV] and entire, wanting nothing."

The word refers to God's desire that we become what He has in mind for us. He is continually shaping us so that we reach the full potential He desires for us. God's mental picture is becoming reality.

Much of the shaping process takes place in the ordinary experiences of life. As we make choices, as we interact with people, as we do our work, as we go through happy times—and difficult times—God is molding us into the image of Jesus.

How good it is to know that God is in all that happens to us and in all we do. He is concerned not only with what He can do through us, but also what He does in us. We may wonder how we get out of a painful situation. God cares just as much about what we get out of it. What a blessing it is to know as we travel the road of life, He is leading us to perfection.

In the love of God who "guides us by His hand" (Psalm 139:10).

Dr. Sidney Draayer is director of Paraklesis Ministries, an evangelical agency of clergy encouragement. A paraklete is an advocate and intercessor, and the Greek term for Holy Spirit. You may e-mail Sid at parakles@iserv.net.
**Births**

Staple.—A son, Jayden Staple, was born to Jay and Bonnie Staple of Taberg, NY, on February 20, 2002.

O’Buckley.—A son, Ryan Patrick O’Buckley, was born to Kevin and Coral (Wheeler) O’Buckley of Essex Junction, VT, on March 17, 2002.

Roed.—A son, Jayden Micah Roed, was born to Tim and Kelly Roed of Colorado Springs, CO, on April 5, 2002.

Lombardi.—A son, Luke Peter Lombardi, was born to Pete and Sandy Lombardi of Verona, NY, on April 29, 2002.

Lovelace.—A son, Jonathan Edward Lovelace, was born to Pastor Luis and Joanna (Pearson) Lovelace of Dallas, GA, on July 18, 2002.

**Marriage**

Falkenmeyer—Miller.—Adam Falkenmeyer and Carly Miller were united in marriage on June 1, 2002, at the Verona, NY, Seventh Day Baptist Church, with Pastor Steven James officiating.

**Obituary**

Dickinson.—Oliver C. Dickinson, 84, died unexpectedly on August 16, 2002, following a brief stay at South Jersey Hospital in Bridgeton, N.J.

For not knowing about God’s righteousness, and seeking to establish their own, they did not subject themselves to the righteousness of God.

**Current Giving 2002**

- **Current Giving Budget for 2002**: $347,254.00
- **Current Giving for Year plus $5,008.82**: $352,362.82

**Relay for Righteousness, cont. from page 10**

Fourth leg of Israel’s defeat

They attempted to establish their own righteousness rather than submitting to God’s righteousness.

Having failed to receive Christ’s imputed righteousness, Israel went about establishing their own righteousness.

Romans 10:3 gives us this sad picture:

“For not knowing about God’s righteousness, and seeking to establish their own, they did not subject themselves to the righteousness of God.

Israel refused to “submit to God’s righteousness” (Rom. 10:3). They were devoid of God’s special grace and the righteousness of Christ. Consequently, the Scribes and Pharisees went about creating their own righteousness by lengthening the fringes of their garments, boasting in circumcision and their Jewish pedigree, touting their own accomplishments before God, rejecting Christ’s life and death, not because of his righteousness. Romans 10:3-4 states:

Have you submitted to God’s righteousness?" Have we sought to establish our own right standing with God by keeping the Law? Is tithing, Sabbathkeeping, and attending General Conference your way of achieving righteousness? If it is, your life is in ruins until you know Christ.

We have salvation because of Christ’s life and death, not because of our own righteousness. Like Israel, we will lose the race if we try to establish our own righteousness.

Like Israel, Martin Luther tried to live a righteous life based on works. He joined the Augustinian Cloister in Erfurt and sought peace through his works—fasting, depriving himself of sleep, praying and confessing his sins humbly to God and receiving Christ’s robe of righteousness.

**Conclusion**

Are you like the Jew, clothed with your own righteousness? Or have you confessed your sins and allowed Christ to clothe you with His perfect robe of righteousness? Are you like the Jew, clothed with your own righteousness? Or have you confessed your sins and allowed Christ to clothe you with His perfect robe of righteousness? Are you like the Jew, clothed with your own righteousness? Or have you confessed your sins and allowed Christ to clothe you with His perfect robe of righteousness?

Satan, wanting to confuse us, entices us to believe that we can make ourselves worthy before God. But our best efforts do not avail before an all-knowing and an all-caring and loving God. They are like confetti eggs: prettiest on the outside, but empty on the inside.

What will avail before God? Nothing but the grace of God. Justification is by grace alone, through faith alone, because of Christ’s perfect life and atoning death. That work will be worthy before God.

We don’t even have to run in the relay. Christ has already run it for us. He has kept all of the Commandments for us and crossed the finish line when He died on the cross and rose for our justification.

The Gentiles, who ran naked in the ancient running events, left their “rags of sin” behind. They won the relay for righteousness because, instead of “clothing” themselves with garments of good works, they confessed their sins humbly to God and received Christ’s robe of righteousness.

The Jews, on the other hand, who were steeped in tradition and pride, refused to give up even one fringe on their “garments of works.”

Are you like the Jew, clothed with your own righteousness? Or have you confessed your sins and allowed Christ to clothe you with His perfect robe of righteousness? Are you like the Jew, clothed with your own righteousness? Or have you confessed your sins and allowed Christ to clothe you with His perfect robe of righteousness? Are you like the Jew, clothed with your own righteousness? Or have you confessed your sins and allowed Christ to clothe you with His perfect robe of righteousness?
A legacy from the past, cont. from page 14

Adventist historians acknowledge its influence in their denominations' acceptance of the Biblical Sabbath. For health reasons, Brown's doctor advised him to leave the urban area he was living in. So he moved to Little Genesee and became the pastor there. He also became involved in the Educational Society and Alfred (N.Y.) University. He was serving as a trustee when the university founded its School of Theology.

As I thought back on the hours I had spent as a youth in my father's workshop, I recalled a remark by my boyhood pastor, Harley Sutton. He was in the process of moving from Little Genesee to Lost Creek, W.Va.

Rev. Sutton noted that a pastor has an advantage over a church's laity, since he can always move and start fresh in a new parish. But the real strength of any church is in the laity-like my dad and mother, who gave everyone their lives to their home church through every changing situation.

As some of my ministerial colleagues who had served the First Genesee SDB Church reminded us about it, I thought of the families that had been the real strength of the church. In addition to my father and mother, my brother, Gordon, knew a master blacksmith who was able to reheat the metal and use his anvil to hammer out the distortions. It reminded me how, similarly, the Master Craftsman can take a mangled life and reform it to His specifications.

As some of my ministerial colleagues who had served the First Genesee SDB Church reminded us about it, I thought of the families that had been the real strength of the church. In addition to my father and mother, my brother, Gordon, knew a master blacksmith who was able to reheat the metal and use his anvil to hammer out the distortions. It reminded me how, similarly, the Master Craftsman can take a mangled life and reform it to His specifications.

Scripture Memorization, cont. from page 16

Kendria Scotland
Sharla Shorter
Shayla Shorter
Harold Smith Jr.
Joshua Smith
Rachel Smith
Samara Sterling
Samuel Sterling
Sheena Sterling
Anthony Stewart
Shanee Skeggs
Deidre Watkins
Tamiko Watkins
Shane West
Xavier West
Blanche Williams
Olivia Williams
Selena Williams
Sharilynn Wong
North Loup, NE
Ron Cargill
Shelley Cargill
Floyd Cargill
Beth Dutcher
Sydney Looper
Eric Severance
Orel Severance
Frances Von Horn
Raritan Valley,
Bridgewater, NJ
Pastor Jeanne Yurke
Riverside, CA
Leona Cobb
Elizabeth Lawson
Matthew Lawson
Lori Huskins
Seattle Area,
Auburn, WA
Bobby Burdick
Annie Cairnes
Carl Cairnes
Carl Noyes
Melodie Noyes
Maude Posey
Bob Speedborough
Katharine
Speedborough
Shiloh, NJ
Elizabeth Bidwell
Jan Bond
Bethany Chroniger
Jessica Chroniger
Nancy Davis
Ariel DuBois
Lauren DuBois
Matthew Layton
Cheryl Mufley
Texarkana, AR
Amanda Brown
Katie Brown
Merline Lewis
Lena Mae Dalton
Morey Shepard III
Toronto, Canada
Kayla Anderson
Norma Anderson
Merline Condens
Tamica Lewis-Vu
Tristan Lewis-Vu
Allan London
Godfrey London
Winston London
Charlene Louis Lyons
Neville George Lyons
Evelyn Taylor
Toneisha Taylor
Latanya Turner
Everton Williams
Ezra Williams
Teneika Williams
Adrian Wright
Avenia Wright
Verona, NY
Pastor Steven James
Vision Fellowship, Pucatuck, CT
Cassandra Nadia Lawton
Sarah M. Lawton
Timothy W. Lawton
Nathaniel L. Mills
Brittany J. Tassias
Kyle A. Taylor

There once was an SDB Board
Which every year had to look toward
A new program in summer
That could not be a bummer,
Where the audience wouldn't get bored.

The Tract gang played "Jeopardy" one time;
Some "celebrities" once guessed, "What's
My Line?"
"We've had "Larry Kink,"
"Editor, let me think---
Let "David's Letter, man" finish this rhyme.

From "Tract Smarts" to slide presentation,
We've "spread it real thick" o'er the nation.
Our job is to tell
the things we do well,
And spice it with imagination.

For a new show we needed a hint
What to do for this summer's stint;
We could rip off "Survivor,"
And call it "Schoolsby." To eat, outplay, and outprint...

There's an old show that's seen a revival;
Based on telling the truth, not survival!
We gathered our cast
And dregged up the past,
And Barbie Doll soon met her rival.
Oh, "Bobby," and Steve-O, and Jeanne (Gene?);
Your performance was ever so keen.
We'll have nothing to fear
as we gather next year,
at that far western Oregon scene.

The celebrity panel for "To Tract the Truth" (l. to r.): Jim Skaggs, Luan Ellis, Paul Manuel, and Rob Appel as Barbie Doll's brother, Bobby.

The three "Jeanne Yurkes" (l. to r.): the real one, impostor Gretchen Zwiebel, and Steve "Gone OSboro."
New tract reprint ready!

What the Bible Teaches about the Sabbath

This 12-page full color booklet presents common questions about the Sabbath, answered directly from Scripture. The striking new design (by Pat Cruzan) costs less than the previous 3-color four-fold. Now only 12 cents each.

Order yours today or ask for a free sample:

Seventh Day Baptist Center
PO Box 1678
Janesville WI 53547

E-mail: sdbmedia@inwave.com