Sabbath:

Rest Assured
Come in Curitiba, Parana, Brazil

Observers are welcome at the SDB World Federation Sessions January 19-25, 2003 in Curitiba, Parana, Brazil

More information in next month's SR or contact Dale Thorngate 171 E. Main St. Salem WV 26426 USA (304) 782-1727 sdbw@aol.com

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Have you ever...?

The Sabbath Rally Day message from May 21, 1949

by Victor W. Skaggs

“If Sabbathkeeping is so important, why doesn’t your Church grow?” If Sabbathkeeping is so essential, what real benefits do you as a people receive from it?

These are questions that non-Sabbathkeepers have asked me. I can answer them, at least in part, for myself. But it is not always easy to give an adequate answer for Seventh Day Baptists. A few years ago, the Sabbath Recorder carried an editorial item on the theme “Have you ever...?” The question was applied to the experiences of Christian faith in general. We here apply it to the supposed or intended values of Sabbathkeeping.

Have you ever...?

Have you ever felt the calmness of spirit that settles like a blanket of softly falling snow, covering the ugly and the utilitarian things of life, as the Sabbath approaches?

Have you ever felt as you entered God’s house on a Sabbath morning, in a buoyant yet reverent spirit, that you were lifted close to His throne? The Sabbath not only offers the opportunity for such an experience, but also offers to prepare you for it.

It is yours to have each week if you will have it.

Have you ever experienced the inspiring, preparatory, yet serene activities of the Sabbath eve? Have you ever felt the calmness that God has promised to those who do His will in Sabbathkeeping? These things are yours each week if you will have them.

The wisdom of our heavenly Father is beyond our comprehension. Before our needs arose, He saw them and cared for them. He provided the Sabbath for rest and worship, beginning it in the evening, so that holy thoughts calm our spirits as the sun sinks and the Sabbath dawns. The same evening hours, spent in acknowledgment of Him and His power and will, prepare the great unknown reaches of the subconscious mind for attention to the things of God. The beauty of the activities of the Sabbath day—the emphasis on doing good, doing well the acts of mercy and kindness and devotion in which we are engaged—prevents us to a high level on which all of life may be lived.

We know that the eyes and ears of men have not seen or heard the great things that God has in store for them in His coming kingdom. Neither have men imagined, nor comprehended, nor attained the fulness of the wonderful blessings that God has prepared for His Sabbath for those who do His pleasure on His holy day.

Have you ever experienced the delight in the Lord, the satisfaction of your hungers, the uplift of all life and the living trust in your heart toward God and the thoughts of God’s greatness and goodness and of the activities of the Sabbath may soothe you and bring you to untroubled sleep. It is yours to have each week if you will have it.

Have you ever felt as you entered God’s house on a Sabbath and the utilitarian things of life, as the Sabbath approaches?

When we moved to Brookfield, N.Y., I began 11th grade and stood 6 feet tall. In a school with 400 students K-12, I was asked more than once, “You gonna be on the basketball team?” (Hope, hope!!)! I did play basketball and attended the Tuesday night games, but not the games on Sabbath Eve (Friday night). Other sports had schedules with fewer Sabbath conflicts, so I chose them.

In high school my family sought to aid me in Sabbath observance by helping me find an alternative to each seeming non-negotiable.

The SAT tests were given on Sabbath at the school, but my parents knew enough to ask questions. They discovered that alternative testing times were provided for those who have religious objections to Sabbath testing. (This still is in effect, although the distance you may have to travel has been raised to 100 miles.)

So I took my SATs at a Jewish center in Syracuse on a Sunday. Dad took me up and waited in the lobby. Afterwards he told of having an opportunity to talk with a custodian about Jesus while he was waiting. Not taking a stand for what we believe is what brings our conviction and belief into question.

During my second semester of college, I was interested in radio and TV, so I had a student job in the AV department. I was asked to run a TV camera for a swim meet. It was on a Sabbath afternoon, and my thinking was, “It will be fun, not work.” And it was fun, but I was convicted that it still was work, and that I was supporting the athletic activity and competition on Sabbath. We can be told and taught, but sometimes we still have to learn from our own mistakes. I resolved to be obedient to God and not work on Sabbath.

After my first year I transferred to the University of Denver. Here I had a car and a job. I worked that first summer full-time for the week and saw that there were part-time employees who covered the evenings. When asked, my supervisor said, “Sure you can work part-time during the school year. We need people to work Friday nights and Saturdays.”

He knew I would not work those times, so I reminded him. I asked him to keep me in mind, as I would be going to college during the day-time. During that month or so the situation changed, and about two weeks before school started he asked if I was still interested in part-time work. My reply was “yes, but I won’t work Friday nights or Saturdays.” “That’s okay,” he said. So for over three years I had a flexible part-time job for the school year and full-time work in the summer.

I believe that God graciously provided that employment for me. My direct supervisor was in a military reserve unit and out of town when I was hired by an SDB who was covering for him. Since that SDB would sometimes work on Sabbath, I did not have the option of saying, “This is what my church teaches.” Rather I had to say, “This is what I believe the Bible teaches is God’s will.” It became my conviction, not the conviction of my church, family, or parents.

It is sad but true that Sabbath is not on the list of choices for many people. Furthermore, when we endeavor to educate people about “the Lord’s holy day” (Isaiah 58:13), to get it on the list, we receive the clear impression either that it is not one of the choices they would like to have, or that information about the Biblical Sabbath is “too much information.”

The challenge for many is to have the Sabbath be a day of rest for the body as well as a day of challenge, healing, and rest for the soul.

Pray for your family and neighbors that they will be open to hear and consider the benefits of Sabbath rest.

Excerpted from Gordon’s testimony for the 2002 Sabbath Renewal Day (suggested date, May 18). Check with your pastor or church clerk for the complete text and other helpful materials.
Between Newport and Plainfield

by Don Sanford, historian

It was just 20 years ago, in February of 1982, that the Janesville, Wis., City Council unanimously agreed to the request of Seventh Day Baptists to change the name of Mars Drive to Newport Avenue, and Jupiter Drive to Plainfield Avenue. No other occupants were affected by this change to the two drives that ran east from Kennedy Road.

However, it took more than a single meeting for the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference to establish an administrative center in a newly-built business office on the two-acre plot at 3120 Kennedy Road.

The name "Newport" honored the first Seventh Day Baptist Church in America, founded in Rhode Island in 1671. "Plainfield" recognized the Denominational Building in New Jersey which had served its printing ministry for 60 years, some of its administrative and historical services.

The location met all of the criteria for evaluation. But perhaps the greatest asset was its proximity to Milton and its strong Seventh Day Baptist heritage.

A century later there was a growing sentiment that we could become more efficient with greater unified effort if we had a visible and functional center. Considerable study and effort went into the selection of a suitable site, but in the end, Plainfield, N.J., was chosen because of its proximity to the New York City metropolitan area.

An architecturally beautiful structure was erected giving enhanced visibility and utility to Seventh Day Baptists in a populous area. However, 50 years took its toll on the dream of previous generations.

The building's high ceilings and masonry construction were not energy efficient, and its long flights of stairs made it difficult for visitors and researchers to access resources. Its urban environment also became a matter of concern as break-ins occurred, endangering personnel and property, and parking was limited for both workers and guests. Other factors, such as its drain on denominational personnel for support of the local church, led to considering a possible change in location.

In the mid-1970s, a new center was one of various options for a more effective denominational structure. Churches were invited to scout out possible locations and submit proposals for relocation. Criteria to consider included "public transportation; educational facilities (public schools, colleges, libraries, seminar); availability of a growing, forward-looking Seventh Day Baptist church; health care facilities; cost of living for employees; construction costs; available resources; possibility for future development; growth area; cultural advantages; and recreational facilities." Proposals were received from Denver, Colo.; Battle Creek, Mich.; Columbus, Ohio; Memphis and Nashville Tenn.; and Milton, Wis.

At a business meeting of the Milton Seventh Day Baptist Church in 1981, a committee was appointed to explore possible sites in the local area. (Milton College was still in existence, so none of its facilities were considered.) That committee discovered a two-year-old structure built by a realty firm which was in the process of bankruptcy. The mortgage was held by a friendly bank whose vice-president was a member of the Milton church.

The building appeared adequate for all our needs, with completely furnished offices, an attractive lobby, kitchen, meeting room, basement storage, easy access to three levels, parking lots and high visibility. It would serve all of our foreseeable needs. The fuel-efficient design, with five furnaces and air conditioning units, offered added economy.

Frank Green and Earl Cruzan of Milton were largely responsible for the package presented to General Conference in 1981. When the vote was taken, 235 of the 302 ballots cast (78%) favored the move to Janesville;

67 (22%) were opposed.

The location met all of the criteria for evaluation. But perhaps the greatest asset was its proximity to Milton and its strong Seventh Day Baptist heritage.

Over the course of its history, over 85 SDB ministers had studied at least one year at Milton College. The Milton church was the largest church in the denomination and its biggest giver to the Conference budget.

It had hosted a dozen sessions of General Conference, provided leadership in many areas, and had the potential to house visitors who came for meetings and ministerial training.

The relationship between the Center in Janesville and the churches in Milton and Albin has been two-way. In the past 20 years, the Milton church has received leadership and support from a large number of those who have worked at the Center. Those who have come to Milton and the surrounding area to serve denominational positions include the families of Paul and Denise Green, Dale and Janet Thorngate, Scott and Jeanie Smith, Joel and Doneta Osborn, Dale and Wendy Wheeler, Harmon and Ethel Dickinson, Rod and Camille Henry, and Kevin and Janet Butler.

In addition, it has offered employment to a number who already were area residents: Jean Jorgensen, Ivan Fritz Rdolph, Jill Grocilo,

Leanne Lippert, Jeremy Howard, Nelson Martenly, Rosie Geke, Don Sanford, and Lauri Bonge. The Albin church has also been blessed with the membership of Linda Harris, Paul and Muriel Osborn, Calvin and Melota Babcock, and Mike Burns.

Not all of the expectations have been fully met, but the Center on Kennedy Road—between Newport and Plainfield Avenues—has served the denomination, its agencies, and its churches in many ways. It has given Seventh Day Baptists service and recognition in areas far removed from its physical location and continues to respond to the Great Commission, "Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you."
Plainfield hosts in-service training

by Joe Samuels

I had been burdened in spirit and spent many restless nights concerned for the pastoral care of our churches, especially in the New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania area. After many months of prayerful consideration, God gave me a vision of at least one way to solve this urgent and grave need of our churches and groups.

It was immediately obvious that we didn't have the financial resources to enable our churches to call and employ any of our established ministers. And we couldn't expect to get any significant outside help with funds or personnel.

It’s not prudent or desirable for a congregation to be without a spiritual shepherd for any significant period. The present potential for evangelistic outreach and church growth in our Tri-State area—and in one of the greatest cities of the world, New York—is enormous. We dare not, and must not, let this opportunity slip through our fingers.

In March of 1999, I shared this dream with the Tri-State churches, hoping that each would “Catch the Vision”—the vision to provide trained leadership for the predominantly immigrant churches in our area. I presented the aim, as well as how to achieve it:

**Aim**
To equip potential local leaders in our churches and groups with effective pastoral skills that will enable them to accept the position of pastor with confidence, if called by one of our churches.

- The establishment of a Coordinated Advisory Committee among participating churches, to foster and coordinate church growth, cooperation, and Evangelistic Outreach within the said churches.

**How to meet the need**
- Recruit interested persons who demonstrate abilities for ministry and who are recommended by the church of which he/she is a member—deacons, leaders, others.
- Establish 18-month In-Service Training In Ministry program using seminars, reading assignments and papers, class lectures, and assigned Christian Service.

**Curriculum—“Bare bone” practical subjects:**

- **Church Administration**
  - Organizational structure of the church
  - Proper recordkeeping and reporting
  - The pastor as Shepherd and CEO
  - The role of the church moderator/president
  - The role of the church clerk
  - The role of the treasurer and auditor
  - The role of the deacon

- **SDB Policy**
  - Decision-making process in the church
  - How the church is governed
  - The relationship between the church and its auxiliaries
  - The constitution and bylaws
  - Parliamentary procedures

- **Homiletics (Preaching)**
  - Sermon construction and delivery
  - Biblical interpretation

- **Book Study, Outline, etc.**

**Training in Ministry program**

- **Paid travel expenses for fulfilling preaching and other assigned appointments**
- Establish and maintain quarterly preaching appointments among participating churches. With prayer, cooperation, faith, and the grace of God, we can do it!

Upon graduation, churches would be at liberty to call and employ a graduate as pastor. After a period of satisfactory service to the calling church, they could call him to ordination.

- **Hands-on supervised pastoral practice in administering the following duties in the church.**
  - To carry this out, the church will be requested to cooperate by giving permission for these duties to be done by the trainee.
  - Dedication of babies
  - Preach at communion service
  - Assist in baptismal service
  - Assist and do funeral service
  - Assist as worship leader
  - Present quarterly and annual reports to assigned church

- **English Grammar**
  - Vocabulary, diction, sentence construction, etc.

- **Sarcastic Philosophy**

- **Old and New Testament Theology**

Upon graduation, the church would be at liberty to call and employ a graduate as pastor. After a period of satisfactory service to the calling church, they could call him to ordination.

The happy graduates at the closing ceremony.

The SR
May 2002
Put it all in the basket

by guest author Bill Clark, Riverside, Calif.

Oh, good. Another harangue about tithing...
As you might suspect, this article is about giving. But giving involves more than money. It's also connected with knowing who we are and finding our place with God.

This may seem convoluted thinking, but we must know what our blessings are at a particular time or station in our lives, "So that the Lord your God may bless you in all the work of your hands." Keep in mind that tithing isn't just the act of giving your first "whatever," or converting your work into coins or crisp, neatly folded "greenbacks" to place in the offering plate or secret envelope. First and foremost, tithing is giving from your heart and soul—"Love God with all your heart and soul. "Sound familiar? I grew up in a church where "passing the plate" was unheard of. Instead, we had collection baskets with long handles. I have many fond memories of Dad ushering and taking up the collection.

As a rule, my father was a good man with good intentions. But when his male counterparts in the congregation failed to put something into the collection basket, he would embarrass them right then and there. And it didn't matter whether they had a gift to tithe or not.

Dad would stand there with the basket, hanging onto its handle. If something didn't quickly find its way into the "receptacle," he would thump the giver's chest with the basket. Parishioners would give or get chibbled, all in the name of tithing.

And what about those of us who at the end of the month "come up short" due to unemployment or whatever else drains our wallets? We mustn't make excuses to the pastor or anyone else.

God knows what's up in our lives, as we've learned in the first two chapters of Job. He knows our raging battles, and He's in control.

Giving involves more than money. It's also connected with knowing who we are and finding our place with God.

at all times. Satan may be doing his best to make us miserable, but remember this: making excuses for our feelings of self-pity, embarrassment, or a host of other emotions just won't "cut it" with God. But what about everyone else? If people don't understand or try to make you feel uncomfortable, remember that Job had three well-meaning friends who didn't know what they were talking about. Many well-meaning folks are like that.

In 1 Thessalonians, Paul talked about a very simple fact of life: "Make it your ambition to lead your brothers [or your church] you have done for me."

Tithe from your heart, your hands, whatever. God's will is designed just for you. Open your heart and feel Him leading you. You have talents, resources, time, and a host of other things you can do and thereby give. Tough times come and go, and illness comes and goes. Similarly, your chance to give or "do from the heart" may come and go.

Whatever you tithe, it doesn't have to go into the collection basket. Just do it! And know that God has a blessing waiting for you.

Put it all in the basket

by guest author Bill Clark, Riverside, Calif.

Christ said, "The sabbath was made for man..." (Mark 2:27). He did not say it was exclusively made for the Jews, but it was made for man. And, all the tribes of Israel were instructed to extend this rest o their servants, their beasts of burden, and any stranger within their gates (see Ex. 20:10, Deut. 5:14). They could afford this blessing.

The word "sabbath" comes from the Hebrew word "Shabath," which means to rest, particularly from work. There are various sabbaths mentioned in the Bible, such as the "Lord's passerover" (see Num. 9:1-14, Luke 22:7-20) and "feast of tabernacles" (see Lev. 23 and 25 of Leviticus, and Ex. 23:10-17). For now, let's concentrate on God's seventh-day Sabbath.

The seventh-day Sabbath was established in Genesis after God had finished His work creating the heavens and the earth. (It makes sense. Why start out with resting when there had been no work to rest from or to enjoy? That would be procrastination.)

And God saw every thing that he had made, and behold, it was very good... (Gen. 1:31). And on the seventh day God ended his work and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made. And God bless ed the seventh day, and sanctified it; because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made (Gen. 2:2-3, underlining mine).

This notable distinction was made by God when He created the seventh-day Sabbath. Everything that God creates is "very good" and has its purpose. However, he particularly mindful when God calls blessings, sanctifications, and Commandments to our attention. These things are for our benefit, and it is expedient that we be observant.

The seventh-day Sabbath was important enough to God that He included it with the convenant Ten Commandments that He first spoke to Moses on Mount Sinai and then wrote on the tablets of stone. He gave us specific details concerning it. It is the Fourth Commandment:

"Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: But the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it" (Ex. 20:8-11). This commemorates God the creator.

"Keep the sabbath day to sanctify it [keep it holy], as the Lord thy God hath commanded thee. Six days thou shalt labour, and do all thy work: But the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: that thy manservant and thy maid servant may rest as well as thou. And remember that thou wast a servant in Egypt, and the Lord thy God brought thee out thereon through a mighty hand and by a stretched out arm: therefore the Lord thy God commanded thee to keep [observe] the sabbath day" (Deut 5:12-15). This commemorates God the redeemer.

Note that in this Fourth Commandment, God gives us instructions for the entire week. For the first six days, we are told to "labour, and do all thy work," and then comes the "seventh day, the sabbath of the Lord thy God. " So it specifies a work week, and a further detailed Sabbath rest and memorial. It is important to work just as it is important to remember God's Sabbath.

As a reminder, there is a memorial to the sabbath day itself (Matt. 12:12). Why not keep the Lord's Sabbath as He instructed us? Why not do as the example He set before us—work six days and rest the seventh? Why not remember this day as a memorial of Creation? Why not enjoy it as a blessing, the day God set aside for us to be spiritually and physically refreshed?

This is all good, keeping us in accordance with God's commands and covenant.

As a memorial, as a sign, as a blessing; out of reverence, love, respect and obedience—remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy. Thy will be done. Amen.
When obedience overrides convenience

When the Wisconsin branch of the Women's Missionary Association was organized, Martha became its president and promoted the cause of missions. However, in February 1885, her attention was drawn to the Sabbath question. In a short tract which she wrote nearly a decade later, she recalled her discovery of the Sabbath and the struggle which she had in accepting it.

"I determined upon as thorough an investigation of the subject as my circumstances would permit, with this sole object in view. For, while I saw the possibility that the seventh day of the week might be the one that ought to be kept holy, yet, according to my way of thinking then, it would not make any great change with me, as in my existing circumstances I thought that such a change would be impossible. I afterward saw that that was making circumstances my rule of action instead of God's Word."

She then pondered all the arguments for keeping Sunday rather than the Sabbath of the Bible.

"I soon saw that it was not the mere question of a day, but a question of obedience or disobedience; a question on which rested the very foundation of Christianity; a question of whose authority should be respected, God's or man's? I also saw that one or the other was right and one was wrong."

This struggle continued as she thought of giving up the church in which she was raised, and of the question of whose authority should be treated as having the last word. She finally determined upon accepting it.

When conscience took up the question, Martha was not satisfied with a compromise. Her conscience would not permit her to make any great change as circumstances would permit, with this sole object in view. For, while she saw the possibility that the seventh day of the week might be the one that ought to be kept holy, yet, according to her way of thinking then, it would not make any great change with her, as in her existing circumstances she thought that such a change would be impossible. She afterward saw that that was making circumstances her rule of action instead of God's Word.

She then pondered all the arguments for keeping Sunday rather than the Sabbath of the Bible.

"I soon saw that it was not the mere question of a day, but a question of obedience or disobedience; a question on which rested the very foundation of Christianity; a question of whose authority should be respected, God's or man's? I also saw that one or the other was right and one was wrong."
**Deadline for pre-registration: July 7**

Any registration postmarked after July 7 will require a $10 late registration fee for each adult (12 and up), and $5 for children (5-11). All requests for meals and housing must be processed by the college two weeks prior to Conference. Pre-registration forms are much faster because your required name tag and information packet will be waiting for you.

**On-campus registration:**

in the Campus Center.

**Hours to register:**

- Sunday, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Mon.-Fri., from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and after the evening service.

If you are coming just for Sabbath, August 10, please pre-register. (See "Line 3" on form.)

**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 August 10. Please pre-register. (See "Line 3" on form.)

2. Off-campus Housing: If choosing off-campus housing, please indicate location and phone number.

3. RV Hookups: There are 14 hook-ups with electric and water at a cost of $10 per day per vehicle on campus. Please contact Mae Bottoms (see above) to reserve a site. First come, first served.

**Important Sponsor/Health Form Requirement**

All unmarried young people under the age of 18 will need to have their own parents or a sponsor over 25 years of age in attendance at Conference. It is important that those young people who have a sponsor register early, as all young people will be assigned to rooms on the same floor of the same dorm as their sponsors.

All young people MUST have their name of their sponsor on their registration form—and if their parents are not their sponsors, they MUST have completed the Youth Pre-Con Health Form (page 18) and returned it with their registration form. Any young person trying to register without a sponsor and a Health Form will NOT BE ALLOWED to remain on campus. (NY State requirement)

**SDB General Conference Registration—2002**

**Seventh Day Baptist General Conference Registration—2002**

**Houghton College, Houghton, NY 14744**

August 4–10, 2002

www.sdb2002conference.com

(607) 769-6635; (607) 325-0965 Conf. week only

**Registration Contact, Mae Bottoms**

2810 State Rd. 244

Belmont, NY 14813

(585) 268-3368 / maebl@infoblvd.net

**7. RV Hookups:**

There are 14 hook-ups with electric and water at a cost of $10 per day per vehicle on campus. Please contact Mae Bottoms (see above) to reserve a site. First come, first served.

**Transportation:**

8. Attendees traveling by air will be picked up at the Buffalo International Airport only. Attendees traveling by train should choose Depew, N.Y., as their final destination. If you require transportation to or from the airport, bus, or train, please notify us of arrival and departure times for pre-registration by contacting Mark Kandel at (716) 496-5658 or mkxkandel@gw.dec.state.ny.us. Requests for transportation must be made by July 7th.

**Nursery Services:**

Nursery will be provided throughout Conference. Hours of operation will be posted at the nursery. Parents using the nursery are asked to help for half a day some time during the week.

**Room Keys:**

There will be a refundable deposit of $5 charged for each room key.
YOUTH PRE-CON REGISTRATION

Youth, ages 15-18 (or completed grade 9)
Camp Harley Sutton, Alfred Station, NY
4:00 p.m., July 31 – 1:00 p.m., August 5, 2002

Cost: $100.00 + $20.00 Late Fee
After July 1, 2002
Send Pre-Con Registration, Medical Forms, and fee [but NOT Conference registration forms] to:
SDB Pre-Con, P.O. Box 115
Alfred Station, NY 14803

**Due to New York State laws, campers must have a completely completed medical form (p. 18). Campers who do not meet this requirement will be turned away from Pre-Con without exception. Please bring—Bible, notebook, flashlight, sleeping bag, personal items, one-piece bathing suit, jacket. Please do NOT bring—radios and other electronic entertainment devices.

Name: ________________________________
Address: ________________________________

Home Phone: ___________________________
Home Church: ___________________________

Gender: □ Male □ Female
□ I need transportation to General Conference from Pre-Con.
□ My fee is enclosed.

Age (at Pre-Con start): __________

-Please make known any transportation needs to the transportation person on the Host Committee.
-Please abide by the transportation rules specified by the Host Committee for General Conference.

Camp Harley Sutton ground rules are posted at www.EducatingChristians.org/2002rules.htm

I will make certain that I am in good health before leaving for Pre-Con. I will not unnecessarily risk the welfare of others or myself. I agree to abide by the rules established by the camp and director. My medical form has been completed and signed by my guardian.

Signature: ____________________________
Date: ________________

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YOUNG ADULT PRE-CON REGISTRATION

Young Adults, ages 18-29
Houghton College, Houghton, NY
4:00 p.m., July 31 – 1:00 p.m., August 5, 2002

**There is no SCSC exception this year. Due to an interpretation of NY State laws regarding camping programs in Allegheny County, all Pre-Con campers under age 18 must attend Youth Pre-Con.

Please Bring—Bible, notebook, flashlight, personal items, one-piece bathing suit, jacket. Linens are provided.

Name: ________________________________
Address: ________________________________

Home Phone: ___________________________
Home Church: ___________________________

Gender: □ Male □ Female □ Age (at Pre-Con start): __________ □ My fee is enclosed.

□ I have a medical condition requiring special care. I will bring the appropriate medications and will inform the staff of possible special needs.

-Please make known any transportation needs to the transportation person on the Host Committee.
-Please abide by the transportation rules specified by the Host Committee for General Conference.

I will make certain that I am in good health before leaving for Pre-Con. I will not unnecessarily risk the welfare of others or myself. I agree to abide by the rules established by the camp and director.

Signature: ____________________________
Date: ________________
2002 Youth Pre-Con/Conference

Health Information Form

This form must be completed for all youth (17 and under) who will be attending Youth Pre-Con at Camp Harley Sutton AND all youth attending Conference with a sponsor, not their parent.

Camper’s Name __________________________ Date of Birth __________________________

City __________________________ State/Prov. __________________________ Zip Code __________________________

Each camper will be interviewed at registration for medications and general physical condition.

(Parents, please fill out and sign this form. Need more room? Attach any additional information to this form).

List dates when the Camper was last immunized against:

Measles _______ Mumps _______ Rubella _______ Diphtheria _______ Tetanus _______ Polio _______

Does the Camper wear:

Eye glasses? _______ yes _______ no

Contact lenses? _______ yes _______ no

Check the items to which the Camper is allergic:

★ Bee or insect bites _____________ Poison ivy, sumac, oak _____________ Penicillin _____________

Q Others Specify __________________________

List any dietary restrictions __________________________

For Girls—Has she been instructed in matters of menstruation? _______ yes _______ no

Is the Camper physically permitted to swim? _______ yes _______ no

List any other physical limitations __________________________

Check each that the Camper has had, or been subject to:

★ Asthma or wheezing _____________ Chicken Pox _____________

★ Heart trouble _____________ Measles _____________

★ Diabetes _____________ Mumps _____________

★ Seizures _____________ Rheumatic fever _____________

★ Concussions _____________ Bed wetting _____________

★ Fainting _____________ Bladder/kidney trouble _____________

★ Sleepwalking _____________ Frequent stomach upsets _____________

★ Serious illness (specify) __________________________

Q Serious operations (specify) __________________________

List any medication now being taken __________________________

Is the Camper under care for any illness at present? _______ yes _______ no

If yes, please describe __________________________

List any medication now being taken __________________________

Emergency Treatment Authorization

I/we being the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of the above named minor, do hereby appoint the Camp Harley Sutton Program Directors, Program Health Director, or Conference Health Staff to act in my (our) behalf in authorizing emergency medical, dental, surgical care, and hospitalization for the above named minor while participating at Youth Pre-Con/Conference.

1. Signature __________________________ Phone ( _______ ) _____________ Date _____________

2. Signature __________________________ Phone ( _______ ) _____________ Date _____________

Ground Rules Acceptance

I am willing for my child to live by the ground rules established by Camp Harley Sutton for Youth Pre-Con 2002, and have instructed my child to obey them.

Signature __________________________ Phone ( _______ ) _____________ Date _____________

The SR

May 2002 19
Dear Miriam,

When you were born, your Mother and I never dreamed that you would be attending Houghton College. How could a child born in Boulder, Colorado, and one who was born at Houghton College declare that she was going to UC, ever end up at a college in rural West Virginia? Or: How can a person with a New York upbringing move to Houghton? We can give God the credit (at a time you might have had “blame”).

So it was that we moved to Houghton, in the Seventh Day Baptist Conference. Seventh Day Baptists have a historical connection with Houghton as a Conference site, and the chapel is a beautiful new music building, familiar to many. Now attached to the chapel is a church, providing an option for large or extended families.

Houghton is a wonderful place for the continuation of the SDB Yearly Meeting Anniversary. Why is it a wonderful place? As far as I know we will be the only conference on campus so there will be no distractions or competition for facilities. Houghton is far enough away from what most urban folks would call “civilization,” so that a conscious choice will have to be made to seek a fast food, movies, malls, and the like. Although separated from the hustle of any city and “barbs,” the way to Houghton is the only way to Niagara Falls, which contains many of Western New York’s natural beauties such as Niagara Falls, Allegany State Park, Letchworth State Park, and thatch situated on the top of the exercises everyone will have to attend.

Alfred Andrews said, “If you have to attend church, you will never find a church that you can attend.” The church cannot hold necessary functions such as weddings and funerals. As we have seen in many churches, churches often can’t register with the government without a building. Pastor Julien has no clue how to obtain the necessary funding to acquire a church building, and pleads for help in this area.

“We know that our God has all the necessary resources to be able to assist with the need.” Pastor Andy asserted. “We are praying for the ability to access those resources on behalf of our brothers and sisters in Haiti. It is my humble suggestion that all funds earmarked for Haiti be exchanged towards a building.”

The Missionary Society appreciates the efforts of Pastor Andy, Dr. Honore, and many others in the Miami area on behalf of our brothers and sisters in Haiti. Much time, effort, and prayer has gone into this Haitian trip. We pray with Pastor Andy that God continues to provide for the needs in Haiti.

Love ya,
Dad

By Gordon Lawton

FOCUS on Missions

Pastors visit Haiti in February

by Kirk Looper

During February, Miami Fl., Pastors Andy Samuels and Dr. Romulus Honore traveled to Haiti on an evangelistic mission trip. We recently received a report from Pastor Andy detailing their exciting experiences.

Pastor Andy was alert and interested. Pastor Andy shared, “Of particular appeal to the participants was the fact that we were to meet in the area of our theology of the Sabbath, our relationship to other believers, and on several other matters.”

Evangelistic services were held each night. “The messages emphasized the power possessed by the believers who apply the blood of Jesus to every aspect of life,” Pastor Andy wrote. “We were aware of at least 12 decisions for salvation as a result of the services. There were many more who came to the altar for prayer for healing and other needs.”

We are aware of at least 12 decisions for salvation as a result of the services. There were many more who came to the altar for prayer for healing and other needs.

Testimonies of healings were shared as a result of these prayer times. The services were well attended, with between 80-200 people taking part each evening.

“The worship of the people was enormously inspiring,” Pastor Andy noted. “There was such a simplicity and sincerity about it that must touch the heart of God.”

A keyboard player and worship leader added to the success of the service. Electricity was provided by a generator which had been bought by the Miami SDB Church.

Pastor Andy reported that Pastor Julien continues to operate the school, “Foyer de Bon Berger” (Home of the Good Shepherd).

There is an enrollment of about 250 students in eight classes, ranging from kindergarten through 9th grade,” he wrote. “The school fee is $6.00 per month, which only about 25 percent of the school population can pay consistently. The teachers are paid a salary equivalent to US$40 per month. Pastor Julien struggles to make the monthly payroll, but he doesn’t turn away any child who needs to go to school.”

On a previous trip to Haiti, Pastor Andy contacted five other churches that had expressed an interest in Seventh Day Baptists. Presently, he believes they were more interested in material support and have lost interest because the anticipated assistance was not received.

“As far as we are aware,” Pastor Andy stated, “Pastor Julien’s church is the only one we can confidently declare as Seventh Day Baptist. The group has about 30 people and desperately needs a church building.”

“They are currently worshipping in a temporary structure of bamboo and thatch situated on property loaned to them. It’s Pastor Julien’s firm conviction that not having a ‘respectable’ building is a major hindrance to ministry and prevents people from committing themselves to such an endeavor.”
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

From cheese and brats to fruit and nuts

As I walked among the towering coastal redwoods in Muir Woods, God's majesty and might were almost palpable. The ramrod-straight trees, hundreds of feet high, looked like gigantic poles, erected by divine hands to hold up the azure vault of the daytime sky and the ebony curtain of night.

Touching the weathered bark of those ancient trees reminded me of the brevity of our own lives. ... What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes" (James 4:14, NIV).

Our visit to the Point Reyes National Seashore also revealed God's power. Fuming waves and strong winds rhythmically battered the shoreline, depositing huge piles of driftwood and hundreds of thousands of baby jellyfish onto the sand. At the Point Reyes Light House, I caught a glimpse of a majestic gray whale as it romped in the ocean.

Did one of your ancestors give Jonah the ride of his life? I wanted to ask.

At the top of Mt. Tamalpais, I saw another side of God's Creation. There were no towering trees, no roaring waves. Instead, there was a vast expanse of sky and clouds overhead, and rolling hills and ocean below.

I felt like an eagle, perched on a pile of rocks with a bird's-eye view of the "San Fran" skyline shimmering in the distance. It reminded me of the passage from Revelation: "I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God... (Rev. 21:2). Peace and serenity mingled among the stone crevices beneath my feet. "Be still, and know that I am God... (Psalm 46:10).

Some of the other sites I visited were awe-inspiring as well, but in a less spiritual way—like the gourmet jelly bean factory in Fairfield. I have a hunch that God would declare that creation very good.

I hate March. I mean I really, really hate March.

One wintry evening while cocooned in a blanket in front of my TV, I had an idea. Why not leave this rotten weather behind and visit my brother in the West Coast?

Soon I was packing up my troubles (and my clothes) in an old kit bag and smiling all of the way to the airport. Clasped tightly in my frost-bites (and my clothes) in an old kit bag and smiling all of the way to the airport. Clasped tightly in my frost-bites (and my clothes) in an old kit bag and smiling all of the way to the airport. Clasped tightly in my frost-bites (and my clothes) in an old kit bag and smiling all of the way to the airport. Clasped tightly in my frost-bites (and my clothes) in an old kit bag and smiling all of the way to the airport. Clasped tightly in my frost-bites (and my clothes) in an old kit bag and smiling all of the way to the airport. Clasped tightly in my frost-bites (and my clothes) in an old kit bag and smiling all of the way to the airport. Clasped tightly in my frost-bites (and my clothes) in an old kit bag and smiling all of the way to the airport.

California's San Gabriel SDB Church of Faith has seen its share of changes in its short history. A small circle of believers gathered in the Los Angeles home of Erv and Hilma Gillespie on March 5, 1983. Pastor John M. Peil led that group and continues to shepherd the young flock in the San Gabriel Valley.

"We're looking at the 'third congregation' of the San Gabriel church," Pastor John points out, commenting on the highly mobile culture.

The church celebrated its 10th anniversary on Sabbath, March 9, 2002. Kevin Butler, editor of the Sabbath Recorder, was the guest speaker.

The current congregation is made up of young professionals, most having college degrees and successful positions in accounting, teaching, marketing, and information technology.

Church members Lara Bates and John Benjamin Peil have been granted an annual license which allows them to preach and to officiate in other pastoral functions. "J.B." also leads several outreach Bible studies at a local coffee shop (see "Focus" article in April SR).

More than a few eyebrows were raised when word got out that the San Gabriel group referred to themselves as "Saturday Baptists." They are not trying to start a new denomination.

"After going door-to-door talking about our church, we found that calling ourselves 'Saturday Baptists' took away all the confusion."

The San Gabriel SDB Church of Faith.

The March SR on Bible study was especially thought-provoking.

I must admit that I am one of the many who don't really "study" my Bible. Reading is one thing I never really enjoy. The only two "periodicals" I have are the Sabbath Recorder and the Helping Hand. Being a lone Sabbathkeeper, the Recorder keeps me in touch with SDBs. The Helping Hand is my study guide for Sabbath mornings.

I recall a sermon by a beloved pastor on Bible study. He held up his well-worn Bible with passages underscored with various colored marker pens, and said, "If you haven't worn it out in five years, you're not using it."

I was taught to take good care of my Bible—don't let it get torn or soiled. So I was astonished at the statement until the logic of it hit me. Let's wear out more Bibles.

Thelma E. Stewart
St. Louis, MO

SR Reaction

Opinions do not necessarily reflect the views of the SR or all SDBs.

Letters may be edited according to space and editorial style.

Dear Kevin,

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Thelma E. Stewart
St. Louis, MO

May 2002
Current Giving

2002

$347,554.00

Current Giving for Year
minus $11,969.28

Calvin P. Babcock, Treasurer

Gifts to remember and support
Little Genesees

The First SDB Church of Genesees, N.Y., is celebrating their 175th anniversary with an open house from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. on Sabbath, August 3, 2002.

All are invited to the program which begins at 3:30 p.m., followed by a light supper. Commemorative plates and mugs (priced at $20.00 and $6.00, plus shipping) are being sold. They are decorated with a drawing of the former church building, and the plates have a brief history of the church printed on the back. These mementos may be ordered through the mail, and will also be available at the open house and at the Conference. Proceeds from the sales will be added to the church’s rebuilding fund.

If you’re interested in placing an order, please write to:

Brenda Kline-Kutt
829 Salt Rising Road
Bohemia, NY 11716

or e-mail:
stonekin@hotmail.com

Please mention “175th Anniversary” in subject line.

Obituaries

Gordon.—Bertha Esther (Hall) Gordon, 93, of Rockville, R.I., died peacefully on October 15, 2001, at the home of her daughter, Elsie.

She was born in Sterling, Conn., on September 18, 1898, the daughter of Benjamin S. and Mary E. (Cole) Hall. She was the wife of the late Walter A. Gordon.

Bertha was a life-member of the Rockville, R.I., Seventh Day Baptist Church and a former member of the Paching Grange in Sterling.

Survivors include four sons, Leslie and Robert, both of Rockville, Donald of Richmond, and Edward of Exeter, R.I.; one daughter, Elsie Pendleton-Wilson of Charleston, R.I.; 16 grandchildren, 41 great-grandchildren, two nieces and two nephews, and several great-nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by one sister, Eva Joubert.

Gravesides services were held on October 19, 2001, at the Rockville Cemetery, with Pastor David Taylor officiating.

White.—Emmite L. White Jr., 44, of Brookfield, N.Y., died on December 20, 2001, at St. Elizabeth’s Medical Center in Utica, N.Y., from injuries sustained in a weather-related automobile accident.


Emmited worked for O.W. Hubbell and Sons in New York Mills, N.Y., from 1978 until his death. During 1991, he served as the Highway Superintendent for the Town of Brookfield. Prior to 1978, he worked at Champion Homes of Sangerfield, N.Y. He was a member of the Brookfield Fire Department and was an avid hunter and outdoorsman.

Influenced by his godly mother-in-law, Emmite joined the Leonardsville-Brookfield Seventh Day Baptist Church and served as president of the Men’s Club. Twenty-four hours prior to every meeting, he would faithfully call each member, reminding them of their commitment.

Emmited will be remembered as an intelligent, cheerful, accommodating man. He was always a willing worker and had a smile that lit his entire face.

In addition to his wife, Jeannette, survivors include two daughters, Vicky Gulf of Brookfield and Annemette White of Bridgewater, N.Y.; four sons, William of Bridgewater, and Wayne, Christopher, and Emmite White III, all of Brookfield; and seven grandchildren. He was predeceased by one brother, Tom.

Funeral services were held on December 27, 2001, at the Paul Funeral Home in Brookfield, with the Rev. Ernest Clemens officiating. Internment was in the Brookfield Cemetery.

Gordon.—Donald W. “Zip” Gordon, 72, of Richmond, R.I., died on December 22, 2001, at South County Hospital. He was born in Rockville, R.I., on January 4, 1929, the son of Walter A. and Bertha (Hall) Gordon.

A former employee of Astera Engineering, he went into business for himself in 1954, incorporating as Don Gordon Well Drilling, Plumbing and Heating Services. He was a lifetime member of the Rockville Seventh Day Baptist Church.

Don was noted for his “water witching technique,” never missing water in over 40 years of applying that skill. He was on call 24 hours a day to serve his community.

Zip was a generous, kind man who refused to retire. His beloved wife of 41 years, Marie (Gillan) Gordon, survives. He also leaves behind two sons, Donald of Wakefield, R.I., and Dennis of Hope Valley, R.I.; three brothers—Leslie, Robert, and Edward, all of Rockville; one sister, Elsie Pendleton-Wilson of Charleston, R.I.; eight grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

Graveside services were held on December 27, 2001, at the Rockville Cemetery, with Pastor David Taylor officiating.

Davis.—Gertrude B. Davis, 80, passed away on February 18, 2002, at her home in Lake Elsinore, Calif., following several months of treatment for cancer.

She was born in Shiloh, N.J., on November 27, 1921, the third of five children born to Charles and Edna (Hoffman) Dickinson. She made a profession of faith, was baptized, and joined the Shiloh Seventh Day Baptist Church at a young age.

Gertrude graduated from Bridge­ton, N.J., High School in 1939. She received a B.A. degree from Salem (W.Va.) College in 1943 and taught Home Economics for two years at Swedesboro, N.J. On March 4, 1945, she married Leland E. Davis of Jack­son Center, Ohio.

They lived in New Haven, Conn., for about a year while Leland attended divinity school as a student in the U.S. Naval Reserve Chaplain’s Corps. Following the war, they lived in Shiloh until Leland graduated from seminary.

cont. next page
When obedience overrides, cont. from page 12

of them first? But all of this avail-
ed nothing, for strive as much as
I would, I couldn't get away from
the conviction that I, at least, was
called out... Finally, one evening as
I was sitting with Bible in hand, my
heart lifted to God as never before
for help, and I was directed to Isa.
58:13, 14: "If thou turn away thy
foot from the Sabbath, from doing
thy pleasure on my holy day; and
call the Sabbath thy delight, the holy
of the Lord honorable; and shalt
honor him, not doing thine own
ways, nor finding thine own plea-
sure, nor speaking thine own words;
then shalt thou delight thyself in the
Lord; and I will cause thee to rise
on high places of the earth, and feed
thee with the heritage of Jacob thy
father, for the mouth of the Lord
hath spoken it.'

If you do, act accordingly. I bowed
my head and said: "O Jesus, I yield.
Church or no church, influence
or no influence, darkness or light,
sorrow or joy, I will obey to the best
of my ability, and trust thee to take
care of the rest." Immediately such
a peace filled my heart as I had never
known before. I was resting, sim-
ply resting in Jesus' tender love, and
basking in the smiles of my Heav-
only Father.

"But this was only a foretaste of
what was to follow. When the next
Sabbath came I went to my room,
and what a day I spent there, alone
with Jesus and my Bible! It was the
first Sabbath I had ever known, the
happiest day of my life. But many
happier ones followed."

Martha's obituary in the Sabbath
Recorder records her 1889 marriage
to Nathan Wardner, which lasted
until his death a little more than
four years later. In 1902, ill health
prompted her to move from Milton
Junction, Wis., to Laporte, Ind. She
remained there nearly 13 years, a
lone Sabbathkeeper who became ac-
tively engaged in Christian work with
the First Baptist Church of that city.
She taught a large Bible class for
more than 11 years, and occasional-
ly filled the pulpit in the pastor's
absence. She also wrote articles for
the Sabbath Recorder.

In 1917, her illness forced her
to move to the sanitarium in Battle
Creek. She became an active member
of the SDB church in that city, teach-
ing Sabbath School, serving as Ladies
Aid secretary, and later as its presi-
dent. Even when she was confined
to her bed in the sanitarium annex,
she sickroom remained a bright
spot in the memory of all who call-
ed upon her.

Obituaries, cont. from page 25

For over 54 years, the couple
served SDB churches in Indiana-
apolis, Ind.; Boulder, Colo.; Battle
Creek, Mich.; Guyana, South Amer-
ica; Schenectady, N.Y.; Los Angeles,
Calif.; Washington, D.C.; and Lake
Elsinore, Calif. Their family served
as SDB missionaries in Guyana (for-
merly British Guiana) from January
1962 to July 1966.

Gertrude taught in private
Christian schools in the Los Angel-
es and Washington, D.C., areas be-
fore retiring in 1986. She also taught
children in many SDB Sabbath
Schools.

Gertrude played the piano, and
loved poetry and birds. She was
endowed with qualities that made
her a worthy recipient of the 1991
Women's Society Robe of Achieve-
ment. Her family, church, commu-
nity, and denomination all benefit-
ed from her obedience in serving
the Lord.

In addition to her husband, she
is survived by two sons, Kenneth of
Pennsylvania and Ronald of Indiana;
one daughter, Mary Sue of California;
one brother, Oliver Dickinson of New
Jersey; two sisters, Rachel Bonham
and Anne Richardson, both of New
Jersey; two sisters, Rachel Bonham
and Anne Richardson, both of New
York; 17 grandchildren, and one
great-grandchild. She was preceded
in death by one brother, Everett
Dickinson.

Her "Home-going" service was
held on March 23, 2002, at the Riv-
eride, Calif., SDB Church, with Rev.
Eric Davis officiating. Burial was at
the Evergreen Memorial Park in Riv-
eride, with Rev. Gabriel Bejani offi-
ciating.

Burdick.—Keith Alan Burdick,
60, of Sanger, Texas, passed away
on February 27, 2002, in Denton
Community Hospital in Sanger.
He was born in Edgerton, Wis.,
on June 18, 1941, the son of Robert
and Margaret (Hutchins) Burdick.
On May 9, 1964, he married the
former Mary Mairs in Milton, Wis.
Keith was a U.S. Army veteran and
a former marathon runner. He was
trainer of the Cosmetic Chemist
Organization and the Milton Seventh
Day Baptist Church. He worked as a
technical and regulatory director at
CBI Laboratories in Dallas, Texas.
Survivors include his wife, Mary,
Sanger; one daughter, Andrea
Gage of Gainesville, Texas; one son,
Ian, of Frisco, Texas; two sisters,
Carolyn Payne of Youngstown, Ohio,
and Eleanor Shepherd of West Palm
Beach, Fla.; one brother, Robert
Burdick, of Boulder, Colo.; and four
grandchildren. One brother, Ray
Burdick, preceded him in death.
Funeral services were held on
March 2, 2002, at the Coker Funeral
Home Chapel in Sanger, with Rob
Spencer officiating. Cremation was
scheduled for a later date.

Kevin's Korner

Thankful, or taken for granted?

Receiving a thank-you note in the mail
generally gives me a boost. It's a thoughtful
gesture from a grateful person.

During this spring's Resurrection
season, I had the opportunity to do a dra-
matic reading at the Milton church. One
church member was so moved emotionally
and spiritually that he sent me a thank-you
card to express those feelings. I was encour-
aged to know that the Lord had provided
a blessing through my efforts.

I got two more cards this week. One
was a belated thanks for a Christmas gift.
(Hey, I just mailed a similar note of my own a couple
of weeks ago.)

The other expression came in the form of a "store-
bought" card, all the way from Arizona. I had called an
older gentleman who winters out there after hearing that
his usual springtime return to Wisconsin had to be post-
poned due to a diabetes-related operation.

Our phone conversation lasted less than 10 minutes,
but when I opened that lovely American Greetings card,
you would have thought that I had spent several days in
person at his bedside. He and his wife were so grateful
and thankful to hear from a friend.

God "wrote" into Creation a wondrous, weekly gift:
the Sabbath. Do we express our thanks for His faithful-
ness? Or are we more like what Philip Yancey wrote in
Christianity Today several years ago:

"I remember my first visit to Old Faithful in Yellow-
stone National Park. Rings of Japanese and German
tourists surrounded the geyser, their video cameras
trained like weapons on the famous hole in the ground.
A large, digital clock stood beside the spot, predicting
24 minutes until the next eruption.

"My wife and I passed the countdown in the dining
room of Old Faithful Inn overlooking the geyser. When
the digital clock reached one minute, we, along with every
other diner, left our seats and rushed to the windows
to see the big, wet event.

"I noticed that immediately, as if on signal, a crew
of busboys and waiters descended on the tables to refill
water glasses and clear away dirty dishes. When the
geyser went off, we tourists oohed and aahed and clicked
our cameras; a few spontaneously applauded.

"But, glancing back over my shoulder, I saw that
not a single water or busboy—not even those who had
finished their chores—looked out the huge windows.
Old Faithful, grown entirely too familiar, had
lost its power to impress them."

Are we taking God's weekly gift for
granted?

We can accurately predict—to the
minute—what time Sabbath begins.
(There used to be a toll-free number
where you could punch in your zip
code and a computer voice would tell
you what minute the next Sabbath
was to start in your area.)

Just like Old Faithful, we know
it will come.

His faithful-
ness and love
deserves a
response. Let's
be thoughtful
and grateful,
and send him a thank-you
with our uniring praise,
wonder, and obedience.
Why is Sabbath keeping a significant principle for believers?

What does it mean to keep the Sabbath Holy?

How do we practice Sabbath keeping today?

True to the Sabbath, True to Our God by Rev. Larry Graffius, is a fresh, relevant Bible Study of God's command to “Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.” You will discover new meaning and practical application of this often overlooked principle of Christian living.

God has designed the Sabbath as a day of rest, worship, blessing, and service. As you explore these exciting topics, you will be challenged to a deeper level of consistency and commitment in your spiritual life.

To order your copy, send $11.50 ($9.95 plus $1.55 shipping and handling) to:

Seventh Day Baptist Center
PO Box 1678
Janesville WI 53547

sdbmedia@inwave.com

checks payable to
Tract and Communication Council