

Sabbath Recorder

Tell me
about
Sabbath!



The people brought children to Jesus,
hoping he might touch them.
The disciples shooed them off.
But Jesus was irate and let them know it:
“Don’t push these children away.
Don’t ever get between them and me.
These children are at the very
center of life in the kingdom.
Mark this:
Unless you accept God’s kingdom in
the simplicity of a child, you’ll never get in.”
Then, gathering the children up in his arms,
he laid his hands of blessing on them.

— Mark 10:13-16 MSG

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Steadfast

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Patricia Cruzan

Interim Editor

sdbsr@seventhdaybaptist.org

Contributing Editors:

Rob Appel, Clinton R. Brown, Elianna Chroniger, Katrina Goodrich, Barb Green, Nicholas J. Kersten, Rebecca Olson, John J. Pethtel, Bill Probasco, William Villalpando

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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 Christ Jesus.
- 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. 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 our Lord. It is the joy of the Sabbath that makes SDBs a people with a difference.

For more information, write: The Seventh Day Baptist Center, 3120 Kennedy Road, PO Box 1678, Janesville, WI 53547-1678. Phone: (608) 752-5055; FAX: (608) 752-7711
E-mail: contact@seventhdaybaptist.org
SDB Web site: www.seventhdaybaptist.org

Director of Communications

Jeremiah Owen
jowen@seventhdaybaptist.org
cell: (818)-468-9077

Where to Find Seventh Day Baptists Online:

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Tell me about Sabbath!

We decided to ask children from some of our churches to tell us about the Sabbath. Unfortunately, there is not room to list all the many wonderful answers we received. We hope you enjoy reading what our kids have to say about Sabbath.

Our church is called Seventh Day Baptist...what does that mean?

- Aidan: SDB means that we worship God on the Sabbath/seventh day.
- Alex: we worship on the seventh day
- Ben: they do a baptising every 7 days
- Brynn: Seventh day of the week and we go to church the 7th day of the week.
- Colleen: on the seventh day you rest in God and go to church
- Eva: It means we worship on the seventh day.
- Ezra: We are baptised on the 7th day.
- Frank: It means that we go to church on the seventh day and go home and rest.
- Genna: Churches are called Seventh Day Baptists because we go to church on the seventh day of the week which is called Saturday.
- Hunter: We praise on the seventh day, which is Saturday. And people get baptized.

Jaden: It means you get baptized there and every seven days you go to church.

Jonah: that we keep the sabbath holy

Josh: It means we worship on the seventh day (Saturday).

Julianna: It means we worship on the 7th day, and we believe the 7th day is Saturday.

Luke: it is open for church on the seventh day

Natalie: I think it has to do with the title.

We go to Church on the seventh day of the week. I'm pretty sure Baptists are people who think the Bible is true and that we should be Baptized once we know Jesus. It's a special part of service where people are dunked in the serving pool. The pastor asks "are you ready to accept Jesus as your savior?" and the person is dunked.

Ryan: that the day of baptist is on the 7 day of the week

Sawyer: we worship on the seventh day

Scott: We go to church on Saturday

Sean, Paige: I don't know

Wesley: We are Baptists that worship on the 7th day of the week.

Zoe: That we worship on the seventh day

What does Sabbath mean?

Aidan: Sabbath means the day of rest.

Alex: 7th day of the week

Annelise: Saturday

Ben: It means learn about God

Brynn: Sabbath means it time to go to church

Colleen: seventh day

Eva: It means Holy Day and the day we rest.

Ezra: church service

Frank: it means the seventh day

Genna: Sabbath means Saturday.

Hunter: The day that we rest

Jaden: Saturday

Continued...

Tell me

What does Sabbath mean?

Jonah: rest

Josh: It means the holy seventh day

Julianna: It means the day we rest on,
because God rested on the 7th day.

Lindsey: It's a day you worship God.

Luke: worship Jesus on the seventh day

Paige: To go on a date

Ryan: a holy day

Sawyer: day of rest

Scott: The day that we rest or worship

Silas: It's a day you rest from your work.

Wesley: the day of rest

Zoe: The Sabbath means the day of rest
and worship

When did Saturday become a day to rest? Do you know what that means?

Aidan: It became the day of rest when
God rested on the seventh day.

Annelise: When God rested, that was the
seventh day

Ben: It became the day of rest because
that was when God rested because
he created the world

Brynn: In the Bible times. We have the
time off to praise the Lord at church
and praise Him anytime we want.

Colleen: when God created the earth He
rested; taking a rest from cleaning
and working and doing all that you
do to rest in Him and talk about Him
and praise Him

Eva: When God finished making the
world and He rested.

Ezra: when God was done creating the
world

Frank: When God first created the world.
And Yes. I know what it means.

Genna: Saturday became the day of rest
when God created the earth, because

on the seventh day (Saturday) God
rested when he was done creating the
earth.

Jonah: about 2,000 B.C.

Josh: Saturday was a day of rest first
when God rested during creation. It
means we should follow him.

Julianna: When God rested on the 7th
day, and the 7th day is Saturday.

Hunter, Sean: When God rested on the
seventh day when He created the
world

Paige: When mommy and daddy got
married.

Ryan: When God rested on the 7 day.

Sawyer: during the creation

Silas: At creation. God worked six days
and rested on the seventh.

Scott: On the seventh day of creation
when God rested

Wesley: I don't know

Zoe: Saturday first became the day of
rest when God made the world.

Is there a rule that says everybody should rest?

Aidan: Yes, because in the Bible they
have a story about Jesus breaking
the rule to save someone.

Annelise: There's not a law, the police
won't send you to jail. But there is the
10 Commandments.

Alex, Brynn, JCB, Ryan: Yes

Colleen: no; not that I know of

Eva: Yes there is.

Ezra: Yes.

Frank: Yes on the ten commandments

Genna: Yes, there is a rule that says you
should rest on the Sabbath.

Hunter: No

Jaden: Its in the commandments.

Josh: In the Bible, it says to rest on the
Sabbath.

Julianna: Yes, but sometimes I work on
the Sabbath when I have to, and in
the Bible there is a story about how
people should work if they have to.

Luke: Probably

Paige: You have to take a rest because
you are tired.

Sawyer: yes and no

Scott: I think so

Sean: The 10 Commandments

Wesley: yes, because

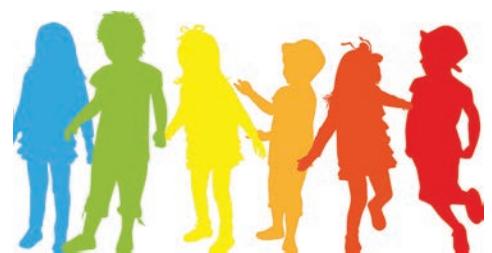
Zoe: Yes its in the ten comaments
because God was done creating the
Earth.

Do you think your parents rest on Saturday?

Yes: Aidan (because they let them-
selves, my brothers and me not have
to do homework), Alex, Annelise,
Colleen, Brynn, Ezra, Hunter, Jaden
(Yes, he does it alot.), Jonah, Josh,
Lily (Yes. Daddy sleeps.), Luke,
Julianna (Yes, they have naps and
sleep all afternoon!) Paige, Scott (Oh
yeah, they take big naps), Sawyer,
Sean, Wesley, Zoe (they go out for
dinner with friends)

No: Ryan

Sometimes: Frank, Lindsey (Sometimes
my parents rest on Sundays because
work only gives my daddy so many
days off.) Eva (It depends. Sometimes
they do), Genna (some days we are
busy)



about Sabbath!

Why is it important to rest?

Aidan: It's important to rest because

God said to do it and we all need a day to rest and relax.

Alex: because God rested after his work

Annelise: Because all the other days you worked

Brynn: It's important to relax and praise the Lord.

Colleen: all that you've taken to work, you need to take time to spend time with God since you are usually busy doing errands and working

Eva: So you get energy for the week.

Ezra: So you don't over work your self

Frank: to sleep and read

Genna: It is important to rest because you need sleep.

Jaden: To worship the Lord.

Jonah, Hunter: because God rested

Josh: If you do not rest, you will become fatigued and will not be able to function right.

Julianna: Because, well I'm not sure.

Maybe because God rested, but I'm not sure.

Lily: Because you get tired.

Lindsey: We shouldn't rest for too long.

Someone told me if you sit too long that something bad will happen...

Luke: I won't get cranky

Paige: So you can get healthy and strong.

Sawyer: to stay healthy

Scott, Sean: I don't really know

Zoe: So you can be happy and **energized**

What is the best thing about going to church?

Aidan: singing songs during worships and Sabbath School. P.S. David is a good teacher.

Alex, Annelise: Learning about God.

Brynn: The best thing about going to church is to praise the Lord.

Colleen: to learn about God and listening to people asking for prayers and praying for them

Frank: I pray and go home and rest.

Genna: The best part of going to church is worshipping God and seeing my friends.

Eva: We get to learn about Jesus and God.

Ezra: worshipping

Hunter: We get to praise God

Jaden: Going outside in spring.

Josh: Learning about God and being with fellow Christians.

Julianna: I feel like I can be me, and be seen, like people actually care, instead of being invisible.

Lily: Playing downstairs in the nursery.

Lindsey: The whole thing!

Luke: I get to see my friends

Natalie: I like it all.

Paige: Playing with somebody

Ryan, Scott: Sabbath School

Sawyer: learning about God

Sean: Snack time

Silas: Games!

Wesley: singing/worship

Zoe: The sermon is the best part of church

What is the worst thing about going to church?

Aidan: basement.

Alex: can't sleep

Annelise: Sitting

Brynn: Nothing!

Colleen: having to sit down quietly

Eva: Nothing. Except the bats.

Ezra: sermon takes along time

Frank: you have to get dressed at

8:00 A.M.

Genna: I don't like it when bats fly around during the church service.

Hunter: Miss out on things we could be doing at home.

Jaden: I like everything about church.

JCB: being bored

Josh: the length

Julianna: Sometimes I see people picking on each other, and it makes me sad because church is supposed to be where people can be themselves.

Lily: I Like church.

Lindsey: I didn't used to like standing up to sing during church. My legs got really tired. But I'm used to it now.

Natalie: I used to dislike the sermon, but I'm trying to pay attention now.

Paige: I don't like singing

Sawyer: the bats upstairs.

Scott: I'm not allowed to play with my Kindle until children's message.

Sean: Waiting, not enough free time

Silas: The sermon... It's SO LONG!

Wesley: leaving

Zoe: Its to early, and its to dark at some points. SR



SABBATH

It was the annual church camping trip. The Sabbath afternoon weather was beautiful: the lake water glistening in the sun; the temperature, over 100° F, was unusually warm for Northern Idaho. I was part of a group of men sitting on the beach discussing how God was working in our lives. Soon we became very uncomfortable and the discussion quickly changed to where we should move to cool off and continue our talk. About 25 feet from shore there was a ski dock. One of the group suggested we go to the dock where we could sit and dangle our feet in the water, keep cool, and continue our discussion. The group liked the suggestion and so we did.

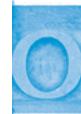
That evening, just before vespers, the men who sat on the dock that afternoon were asked to come to the pastor's tent where the pastor asked why we were on the dock. After explaining our activity, the pastor disciplined the men for being poor examples to the youth. He said by swimming to the ski dock we were breaking the Sabbath. The pastor counselled us to be sure to pray for forgiveness of our sin and to apologize before the group at Vespers.

This is the event that caused me to question my Sabbath belief and to look to God for understanding of what Sabbath was really about. All my life I have been told Sabbath was to be a joy, something to look forward to. But where was this joy? The reality was Sabbath was a day of "Thou Shalt Not." The focus was almost entirely on what you were not allowed to do. As I was seeking God for the real understanding of Sabbath, one word —joy— kept coming to my mind. Joy: as we were taught in Sabbath School, singing we had it deep down in our hearts. Joy: as we were taught "Jesus, Others, You." It finally became clear to me: Sabbath Joy is about Jesus, Others and You.

J JESUS

Imagine being present in the beginning when God created the Heavens and Earth. How awesome it would be to see it, to experience His power. It would be exhausting just to watch. When the Lord finished His creation, He declared the Sabbath in Genesis 2:1-3, as a blessed day of rest. Do you think it was because He was tired from His labor? I don't think so. From the very beginning God loved us His children. His desire is to be in communion with us, to be with us. He loves us so much; He created a special day set

aside for us to be with him in a special way all day long. What a blessing it is to know God loves me so much He has set aside Sabbath as that special day to be with Him.



OTHERS

If having a day set aside to be with the Lord is not enough, Sabbath with my brothers and sisters is a bonus. What a joy it is to meet together each Sabbath morning to lift up on high the name of Jesus. It's the joy of opening God's word together and learning how to be more like Him; the joy of fellowship and friendship through sharing a meal together. Very few people from my church live in the neighborhood where our building is located. For most of us, Sabbath is the only time we see each other. We have fellowship lunch every Sabbath and many stay there most of the day. God knew we would need this bond with our fellow Christians and instructed us not to neglect meeting together in Hebrews 10:24-25.



YOU

As our creator, God knew we are ambitious people and would need a special day to set aside our normal daily activities and focus on Him. I believe this is why God gave the one Sabbath "Thou Shalt Not." As part of the Ten Commandments, Exodus 20:8-11, God commands that neither we nor anyone in our household is to work. Unlike the Lord, we do need this physical rest. The older I get the more I come to love this Sabbath Joy. How wonderful to know each Friday evening I get 24 hours to set aside all the busyness of life and focus on God and Family. The blessedness of this physical rest prepares us to face the challenges of the new week.

I must admit it was a real shock the day the pastor called us men on the carpet for "breaking the Sabbath". However, I praise God for that day. It caused me to set aside all I was taught by man and focus on God's Sabbath Joy. I pray everyone looks forward to Sabbath each week as a special day to be with Jesus, Others and You. SR

*“A soul tired from the efforts of life,
needs a Sabbath, a refuge
that gives meaning to existence.”*

El alma cansada de los afanes de la vida, necesita un Sabbath, un refugio que de sentido a su existencia. Una torre fuerte, donde podamos ir y descansar de nuestros miedos y ansiedades.

Descansar de las preocupaciones cotidianas que marchitan el espíritu. Necesitamos un oasis espiritual, donde encontremos reposo divino, para la inquietud humana. En su misericordia Dios estableció un reposo, físico, espiritual y emocional. Un reposo que está al alcance de todos, sin importar nuestra condición social y económica, que va más allá de nuestro origen étnico o escolaridad. Es gratuito, todo aquel lo puede tener. Es el Sabbath semanal que estableció desde la creación del mundo, su Palabra dice: Y acabó Dios en el día séptimo la obra que hizo; y reposó el día séptimo de toda la obra que hizo. Y bendijo Dios al día séptimo, y lo santificó, porque en él reposó de toda la obra que había hecho en la creación. Génesis 2:2-3. El Sabbath, es un día de renovación, de restauración, es un tiempo para recordar que Dios es nuestro creador, y que todo el universo es obra de sus manos. Cuando el ser humano recobra su origen, puede vivir sin temor y sin angustia, puede esperar el futuro sin ansiedad, porque está seguro de su pasado.

El Sabbath es un prototipo de Cristo, significa que descansamos de nuestras obras para ser justificados y confiamos en las obras de Cristo para ser justificados. El Sabbath no sólo es la oportunidad del ser humano de recordar que Dios el creador sino también la oportunidad de recordar que Cristo es nuestro Salvador. Es el reposo divino para la inquietud humana. Jesús dijo: "Venid a mí todos los que estáis trabajados y cargados, y yo os haré descansar. S. Mateo 11:28 Jesús es el verdadero reposo, El es único que puede dar sentido y paz a nuestra existencia, El propósito del Sabbath es señalar al Cordero Divino como el verdadero reposo, para el alma cansada, es recordarnos que en Cristo tenemos total descanso. Es un recordatorio de que en Cristo cesan nuestros esfuerzos para ser salvos, y de que sólo en Jesús hay verdadera paz y tranquilidad. En Jesús podemos descansar plenamente de nuestras cotidianas preocupaciones, de nuestros miedos y aflicciones, El Sabbath es la invitación que Dios nos hace para recordarle a El como Creador y Salvador. Disfrutemos pues felices del descanso que Dios ha provisto para la humanidad. [SR](#)

— *Paulino Márquez,*
Redemption Evangelical Fellowship
Riverside, CA



Top Ten Words

STOP! – Remember the Sabbath Day

Sermon Series by Pastor Dusty Mackintosh, Next Step Christian Church, Thornton, CO

Whenever someone yells “Stop!” I am torn. I never know what it is. Is it “Hammer Time”? Is it time to “Collaborate and Listen”? Or is it “In the name of love”? This is one of the great questions of life. (More about that later.) This sermon is all about Sabbath. But “Sabbath” is a church word. It’s actually a transliterated Hebrew word “Shabat” with its roots in the idea of “STOP!” So every time they discuss “Sabbath” in Hebrew, everyone knows they are talking about “STOPPY” time. “Ceasing time.” We call it “weekend” or how about “work-end.” So mentally, whenever I say Sabbath, you can replace it with your favorite of “closing time,” “work-end,” or, my favorite, just “STOP!”

God’s Day

Exodus 20:8-11

⁸ “Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. ⁹ Six days you shall labor and do all your work, ¹⁰ but the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your male or female servant, nor your animals, nor any foreigner residing in your towns. ¹¹ For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.”

Very simple and very familiar concept. Six days of work,

the seventh day is a Sabbath, a “STOP” day. It is holy, or set apart, in distinction to the activity, the work, of all the other days. This applies to everybody within your sphere of influence, your whole family, anyone who works for you, any guests in your care – no loopholes. This is actually pretty remarkable. God cuts right across gender lines, generational lines, class lines, and racial lines. This Sabbath thing applies to everyone.

Rooted in Creation – Shared with His People

This holy day is not a recent invention of God, though it is possible the Israelites were ignorant of it prior to God teaching it to them through the manna...but it is actually rooted in Creation. We know that because God, speaking to all the people of Israel, writing it in stone with His finger, says this:

¹¹ “For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.”

Well, that’s pretty clear. Very specific. A specific blessing, an act of Creation, even, on the Sabbath day. Clearly intentional, for God did not need to rest. God lays down a model of Sabbath at the very root of Creation.

He blessed it...and He made it holy.

To bless it is to fill it with good things, to make it goodly, favorable, full of great and desirable stuff. To make it holy. To make something **holy is to set it apart**. God takes an arbitrary slice of time. It is arbitrary before He does something with it. At this stage, He has created all the cosmos; it is ready for life; He has created mankind, men and women; and **then** He slices off a portion of time. This seventh part, this bit at the end, "I am going to set this apart." It is now considered holy. It is important, to me, both that humans were around for this and that it comes at the end. We will get to that later.

But first, He made it holy. He did something special about this day. I think Adam and Eve knew all about this, but humanity lost this knowledge and this experience. But God held on to this slice of time...and He waited. He waited until He could share it with people again. Then, having *delivered* the people of Israel out of slavery, in the context of His relationship as Savior to the saved (*you will be my people, I will be your God*)... He shares the Sabbath with them. To share it with them requires that they too set the day apart. So step 1 is STOP.

Stopping is only step 1

You have to STOP! You have to interrupt the cycle of work: it is the tyranny of the urgent. It will consume your attention.

Have you ever run until you were gasping for breath, until your lungs were starving for air, and then, you finished...you got to stop? How beautiful was that? Or at the end of a day that is just too long, dragging on and on, and you are stumbling around – finally, you get to the end and you collapse into bed and you get to just stop. It is a truly beautiful thing.

The people of Israel were slaves. What is the work week for a slave? All of the days, all of the hours it is possible to work. Why not? No labor laws, no Department of Labor to mandate 40 hour work weeks. **Here...God literally invents the weekend.** Yes, because here He makes *Saturdays off* a thing.

That's not all. The people of Israel were slaves; now they are barely subsistent migrant desert wanderers...not a life of leisure. They are eking out life, living day to day on miraculous mystery scrapings off the desert ground in the morning. Ridiculous. Soon they will be fighting superior armed and trained forces, then waging war. So we have as our contexts: slavery, wilderness survival and war. None of these are excellent contexts for a day off. There is a tyranny of the urgent here. Everyone could say, "If we don't work hard, every day, we will die." So they need permission, a command even, to STOP! Cease from your labors. I know they are important and urgent, but you have permission and a command to stop for this one day.

There is refuge in this command that removes or transfers all the guilt for the consequences of stopping. I remember going through seminary while working, for awhile, a couple of jobs. There was more to do than could ever be done, added to the responsibility of being a husband and father. To be able, on Sabbath, to set it all aside: I have permission and a command from on high to just STOP. And it feels so good.

We have this command to STOP. It is at the root of what the word *Sabbath* means. By STOPPING, by ceasing our work, in distinction to the other six days, we set the day apart as something special – as something holy. We keep it holy in response to His command and in echo of Him making it holy.

Invited Into Holiness

But our STOP is not the point of Sabbath. As beautiful as the break and the rest and the calm and peace and restoration of it...that is not what Sabbath is all about. It is a Sabbath to something: Yahweh, YOUR God. You remember it and keep it holy – in echo of the holiness of the first three commandments. Those commandments establish the holiness of God, the set-apartness, the eminence and transcendence of God. God cannot be replaced, controlled, or used for your purposes. God is above and beyond, incomprehensible. We use this word **transcendent** to say He is simply too high, too lofty for us

continued on page 24

EXPERIENCING SABBATH

by Dr. Charles E. Bowie

There are several debates concerning the Sabbath with respect to days; namely, is the seventh day Sabbath, Saturday or Sunday? Such a debate is not the concern here. What I am concerned with here is the lived meaning of *sabbath*.

As we approach any biblical text, what is present to us are forms of life that are tied to lived experiences from which those forms may have their origins. The term *Sabbath* puts us in contact with the lived experiences of early Israelite communities. In this article, I want to reflect on three dimensions of the lived experience of Sabbath as highlighted in Exodus 20:8-11. They are lived place, lived time, and lived relation to others.

Place

When we think of place we usually think in terms of memories, positive and negative events that have occurred in our lives that bring us to specific places. Many will remember the place of their first kiss. Married couples often reminisce about the place where they made the ultimate commitment to each other, the place of proposal. War veterans remember places of battle; athletes remember places of sweet victory and bitter defeat. Place is an aspect of memory. In fact, one may say that place is one of the grounds of memory. Place, however, is not simply a foundation for memory. Our present is already and always constituted by place. I inhabit a place as I type this article. You are situated in a place as you read this article. Thus, place ties past and present. For, even when we remember a place, we inhabit a place as we remember it.

What does this understanding of place have to do with our understanding of Sabbath? Our churches are regarded as sacred places and spaces in which we worship and praise God. The unique dimension of the Sabbath under the dimensions of place and space is that the Sabbath has its place in time and eternity. Returning to the text, the writer turns us back to the account of creation as the basis for the Sabbath. *“For in six Days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and consecrated it.”* In the grand scheme of things the Sabbath has its place in eternity. However, if it has a place in eternity it also has a place in time. This leads me to the second dimension of lived experience.

Time

The Sabbath marks a boundary in time of our lived experience of the world. It marks a distinction between ordinary time (clock time) and sacred time. In ordinary time we

spend our lives consuming and doing what it takes to consume (work). However, it is not just consumption, it is also our propensity to control that is a dimension of the fragmentary nature of our daily lives. The Sabbath is a “break” in our daily patterns. The writer of Exodus paints it as both historical (tied to creation) and as sacred moment(s) in time. The Sabbath is thus marked by time as we experience it and not necessarily regulated by clock time (ordinary time). The key here is on sacred moments, that is, moments in our lives that we experience as sacred.

Lived Relation

The Sabbath is a moment of lived relation in which we transcend ourselves and extend ourselves to others as neighbors. The Sabbath places believers in a moral position to free others from bondage. Returning to the text, *“But the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work — you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns.”* The text discloses a form of life in which consumption and control are standard practices of living, even for believers. But the Sabbath, as a sacred moment calls believers to stand in a moral position and suspend their practices and reorient themselves and others with the universe.

The text discloses that our relations in our standard practices of living are relationships grounded in utility. In such relationships others are often regarded as objects, things, an “it” to be controlled and serve a particular purpose, namely, to meet our ends and goals. The Sabbath, as sacred moment, is a suspension and return to the doctrine of the *Imago Dei*. In this moment, we rise above what Jewish philosopher and theologian Martin Buber calls the “I-It” relation into an “I-thou” relation, in which our relationships with one another are grounded in faith in one another, hope for one another, and love of one another. And as the apostle Paul has informed us, the greatest of these is love. Thus the Sabbath, as a sacred moment, is a reorientation and reformation of our human constitution and disposition with the universe. It connects us with eternity where the eternal love of God reigns supreme.

The Sabbath has a place and space in eternity. As a space in eternity, the Sabbath is a boundary marker of time — sacred time. The Sabbath situations believers in a moral position to reorient and reform our relationships from “I-it” to “I-Thou.” SR

Originally published on May 7, 2011 at the Ministry Matters Blog (www.ministrymatters.com). Reprinted with permission from Dr. Charles Bowie.

Dr. Charles E. Bowie is Instructor of Ethics at American Baptist College in Nashville, TN. Dr. Bowie is a Pensacola, Florida native. Charles moved to Nashville in 1998 to complete a Master's of Theological Studies program. In 2002, he continued his education in the Graduate Department of Religion at Vanderbilt with a focus in Ethics and Society and Cultural Studies. In his spare time, he loves watching and participating in sports, reading novels, movie going, walking dogs, and most of all playing with kids.



Friday afternoon at Conference

a trip to Sight and Sound

to see the live performance of "Joseph."

Sight and Sound produces Bible-based live shows that are amazing. The host committee has a block of tickets reserved for the Friday afternoon show.

Tickets: children ages 3-12...\$21.00
ages 13 to adult...\$49.00.

If you would like to attend this production, please send your check made out to the Shiloh SDB Church to Stephen Moncrief 385 Jericho Rd. Bridgeton, NJ 08302.

We must have your reservations by June 15th to be sure you have a seat reserved. After the 15th we cannot guarantee a seat.

Host Committee

Chairman: Steve Moncrief.....856-455-4419
after 7/17 use 609-805-1547
sdmoncrief@yahoo.com

Registrar: Sandy Layton.....609-364-2071
slayton16@aol.com

Treasurer: Tom Davis.....856-451-3824
tdavis2@mindspring.com

Transportation: Ward Bond.....856-451-5681
wdbond@rocketmail.com

Nursery: Joanna Bond.....856-455-5139
chrisjo416@gmail.com

Medical: Sharon Campbell.....856-451-5136
rlcmpll@comcast.net

Exhibits: Bethany Chroniger.....609-364-2904
b.m.chroniger@gmail.com

Receptions/Banquets: Cathy Dixon.....856-455-2071
csd@hotmail.com

Stage Manager: Frank Mazza.....856-455-6269
frank.a.mazza@boeing.com

Facilities: See Steve Moncrief

Expected Conduct at General Conference

*This must be read, then noted
on-line or at the end of the paper form on p. 16*

We desire to maintain our witness for Christ. Part of this witness is our ability to live as a community that recognizes the responsibility to think of others. One such responsibility is a demonstration of respect for those who need a good night's sleep. We also want to spare our people from social pressures that might encourage inappropriate activity.

1. Local rules of the school and facility are binding on all who attend Conference unless changed by the Host Committee or the General Council.

2. All socializing between males and females (except husband and wife) shall be limited to public areas, or personal rooms (except during quiet hours) in which the doors are completely open.

3. Quiet hours are from 12 midnight to 6 a.m. each night of Conference. During quiet hours no excessive noise will be permitted. No talking will be allowed in hallways, and no music (such as instrumental, vocal, or from a stereo) will be permitted except where used with personal headphones. Quiet talking will be permitted in lounges, or in personal rooms with the doors closed (same gender only and spouses).

4. A Disciplinary Council shall be established before Conference convenes.

5. The Disciplinary Council shall meet at the call of the chairman to deal with infractions of these conduct guidelines. Discussion shall be confidential and shall include input from the person(s) involved.

- A first offense of the rules will result in a written notice of warning. In the case of a youth being in violation, copies of the warning shall be delivered to both the youth and sponsor.

- A second offense of the rules will require that a violator (and sponsor, if appropriate) meet with the Disciplinary Council to work out an agreement of what type of service or restitution would be an appropriate consequence for the violation. In the case of youth offenders, the sponsor will also monitor the service of the youth.

- A third offense is punishable by a fine of \$50. In the case of a youth offender who is unable to pay, the youth's sponsor will be responsible for the fine.

- If the offense warrants, the violator will be sent home at their own expense (or the sponsor's expense in the case of a youth).

6. All unmarried young people under 18 years of age will need to have their own parents, or a sponsor over 25 years of age, attend the Conference. ALL YOUNG PEOPLE will be assigned to rooms on the same floor of the same dorm as their sponsors.

7. Parents or sponsors assume full responsibility for the conduct and discipline of the young people whose sponsorship they accept. Such responsibility does not extend to direct supervision when youth are engaged in a scheduled Conference activity.

PLEASE SIGN this understanding on the on-line form or on p. 16 of the paper form in this issue.

2015 CONFERENCE

July 26 – August 1

Registration Instructions

Lancaster Bible College
901 Eden Road
Lancaster, PA 17601
(717) 569-7071

Registrar: Sandy Layton

(609) 364-2071

registrar@seventhdaybaptist.org

Forms to: Sandy Layton

177 Old Cohansey Road
Bridgeton, NJ 08302

• **ONLINE REGISTRATION ends**

June 30! Go to www.seventhdaybaptist.org to register on-line.

You may pay now or upon arrival. It's very helpful if you can pay early, either mailing a check or using PayPal. (Paying by check or cash gets you a discount; see the TOTALS box!) You may also use PayPal or credit card on campus. Just bring your sign-in information.

• **On-Campus Registration**

Follow the signs to the lobby of the **Good Shepherd Chapel** on Sunday July 26, from 12 noon to late evening. If arriving after 10:00 p.m., please call the Registrar ahead to make arrangements.

• **Registration** Mon.-Fri. is 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. & after the evening service in the lobby of Good Shepherd Chapel.

• **If you are coming just for Sabbath, Aug. 1**, please pre-register if you can. We will ask you to register on-site with a donation, so you will be covered by Conference insurance, and we can have an accurate count.

• **About the Form** ~ One family per form ~ One form per family.

(1) Please list **all names** as you want them to appear on the official name tags, last name first. Ages must be given for those under 18, as well as last school grade completed as of June 2015. First-time Conference attendees, please identify yourself. There is **no charge** for children 0-3 years. However, **ALL NAMES must be listed** to ensure that everyone is covered by insurance.

(2a) & (2b) FULL WEEK RATES:

On Campus or Off Campus

(3a) & (3b) DAILY RATES:

On Campus or Off Campus

On-Campus packages **include** the registration fee. For daily rates, please indicate days attending.

• **Registration:** Everyone attending (ages 4 & up), full- or part-time, is required to pay the registration fee. It covers facilities, materials, and insurance at Conference activities.

• **Housing:** On-campus housing will be at a premium. Please consider joining with family and friends so we can utilize available space. All beds are single beds. The Host Committee will provide 85 mattresses for use on the floor on a first-come, first-served basis. 'On-floor' rooms are in Peterson Hall only.

• **Two children** (ages 12 and under) **are allowed to sleep on the floor** at no charge if there is a paying adult family member for each child.

Adults (ages 13 and up) may sleep on the floor at a reduced rate; one adult allowed on floor per 2 paid beds.

All dorms are air-conditioned and have **free washers**.

• **Suites** feature four rooms, 2 beds per room. There are 2 full bathrooms per suite and one lounge area per suite.

• **Dorms** have 2 beds per room. Shared bathrooms for each wing of dorm hall. One common area per wing, one lounge per floor.

• **Linens:** The college **does NOT supply** linens. The Host Committee can provide 2 sheets, pillow/ pillow-case, and a light blanket for a cost of \$25. (**NO TOWELS** included.) Price without blanket is \$15. We can guarantee these prices only until July 1st. After Conference, you can either keep the linens, or give them to the Host Committee. The linens will be washed and donated to a charity.

• There are **elevators in ALL dorms and Conference buildings**.

• **Everything is handicapped accessible**—some dorm rooms designed to provide for handicapped needs.

• **Special Requests:** e.g., if need handicapped access; willing to be in "higher tolerance" dorm; preference for who occupies same suite or is in suite nearby.

• **All unmarried young people under the age of 18**, if not attending with a parent, must have a sponsor over 25 years of age in attendance at Conference. Sponsor must be listed

on the Registration form; young people will be assigned to same dorm and close to the sponsor.

• **KEYS:** All keys not returned upon checkout will be considered lost and will result in a \$50 replacement fee.

• **Meals:** Meal tickets for the entire week include supper Sunday, July 26, through breakfast Sunday, Aug. 2. "Lunch & Supper" meal tickets include supper on Sunday, July 26, through supper Sabbath, August 1. **Children ages 3 & under are free.**

Individual meals (Adult/Child 4-12) may be purchased in the meal line at the cafeteria: Breakfast \$6.00/3.00; Lunch \$7.00/3.50; and Dinner \$9.00/4.50. **Bennee's Bistro (in TLC)** will be open all week.

*** **PLEASE INDICATE any and all food allergies for the LBC staff.*****

(4) & (5) Banquet Tickets

Please register for Banquets so we know how many to plan for. Prices are discounted with meal tickets.

Indicate if you prefer vegetarian.

(6) Off-campus Housing: Please indicate a phone number (cell or other) where you can be reached.

(7) Transportation: Attendees will be picked up at the Harrisburg Int'l Airport only & the Lancaster Amtrak/Bus Station. Please indicate arrival and departure times by pre-registering by June 30. There is no fee for pick-ups from specified locations.

• **NOTE: NO RV spaces on campus.**

• **Nursery Services:** Will be in Good Shepherd Chapel. Hours will be posted. **Parents using the nursery are asked to help for half a day** some time during the week.

• **Internet Access:** LBC has open internet access for all on campus.

• **NO SMOKING or Alcohol** allowed on LBC campus

• **ALL ATTENDEES** should read and sign the Expected Conduct Statement on p. 13. Those registering online will mark a box indicating that they have read it and agree to abide by it.

2015 SDB Conference Registration — Lancaster (Pa.) Bible College July 26 – August 1

(1) NAME: LAST	INIT. G	SEX	AGE	1st	(Information for your name tag) SDB CHURCH (or Organization representing)		CITY/STATE if different from below
Need more room? Use another sheet					Mark if your first Conference		
Address _____					Phone () _____		
E-mail _____					Name of Sponsor (All youth under 18) _____		

Spec. Requests (**Higher tolerance** dorm; _____
 suite/mate request) _____

Fees: Adults (Age 13 and over); Children (Ages 4-12); [Children, 3 and under, FREE—please list ALL names above]

	How many?	Rate	Amount	(2b)	OFF CAMPUS	How many?	Rate	Amount
--	-----------	------	--------	------	------------	-----------	------	--------

•**Adults** (age 13 and up)
 Room (bed), All Meals _____ x \$385 = _____
 Room (bed), Lunch/Supper only _____ x \$343 = _____
 Room (bed), No Meals _____ x \$238 = _____
[Below: Adult on floor only if beds full]

Room (floor), All Meals _____ x \$322 = _____
 Room (floor), Lunch/Supper only _____ x \$280 = _____
 Room (floor), No Meals _____ x \$175 = _____

•**Children** (age 4-12)
 Room (bed), All Meals _____ x \$192.50 = _____
 Room (bed), Lunch/Supper only _____ x \$171.50 = _____
 Room (bed), No Meals _____ x \$119.00 = _____
[For children on floor, must have one adult family member per child on floor]

Room (floor), All Meals _____ x \$126 = _____
 Room (floor), Lunch/Supper only _____ x \$105 = _____
 Room (floor), No Meals _____ x \$45.50 = _____

•**Linens:** (with blanket) _____ x \$25 = _____
 (w/out blanket) _____ x \$15 = _____

•**Children** (3 and under) _____ x FREE = _____

TOTAL (2a) _____

TOTAL (2b) _____

•**BANQUETS**
 (4) Women's _____ x \$10.00 w/meal tkt _____ x \$20.00 w/out tkt
 _____ # of Vegetarian meals (4)
 (5) Youth _____ x \$6.00 w/meal tkt _____ x \$16.00 w/out tkt
 (will be a buffet) (5)

*(On-campus rates incl. registration) **TOTAL** (2a) _____

All attendees **MUST** be registered or listed!
 Please read the "**Expected Conduct**" statement on page 13
 and sign the statement at the bottom of the next page

[You may register on-line at www.seventhdaybaptist.org]

PER DAY RATE ON CAMPUS *

How many? # days Rate Amount

(3a)

•Adults (age 13 and up)
 Room (bed), All Meals _____ x _____ x \$55.00 = _____
 [Circle days: M T W Th F Sa]
 Room (bed), Lunch/Supper only _____ x _____ x \$49.00 = _____
 [Circle days: M T W Th F Sa]
 Room (bed), No Meals _____ x _____ x \$34.00 = _____
 Room (floor), All Meals _____ x _____ x \$46.00 = _____
 [Circle days: M T W Th F Sa]
 Room (floor), Lunch/Supper only _____ x _____ x \$40.00 = _____
 [Circle days: M T W Th F Sa]
 Room (floor), No Meals _____ x _____ x \$27.50 = _____
 [Circle days: M T W Th F Sa]
 Room (bed), Lunch/Supper only _____ x _____ x \$24.50 = _____
 [Circle days: M T W Th F Sa]
 Room (bed), No Meals _____ x _____ x \$17.00 = _____
 Room (floor), All Meals _____ x _____ x \$18.00 = _____
 [Circle days: M T W Th F Sa]
 Room (floor), Lunch/Supper only _____ x _____ x \$15.00 = _____
 [Circle days: M T W Th F Sa]
 Room (floor), No Meals _____ x _____ x \$6.50 = _____
 •Children (3 and under) _____ x _____ x FREE = _____
 *(On-campus rates incl. registration) **TOTAL (3a)** _____

PER DAY RATE OFF CAMPUS

How many? # days Rate Amount

•Adults (age 13 and up)
 Registration, All Meals _____ x _____ x \$36.00 = _____
 [Circle days: M T W Th F Sa]
 Registration, Lunch/Supper only _____ x _____ x \$30.00 = _____
 [Circle days: M T W Th F Sa]
 Registration, No Meals _____ x _____ x \$15.00 = _____
 •Children (age 4-12)
 Registration, All Meals _____ x _____ x \$18.00 = _____
 [Circle days: M T W Th F Sa]
 Registration, Lunch/Supper only _____ x _____ x \$15.00 = _____
 [Circle days: M T W Th F Sa]
 Registration, No Meals _____ x _____ x \$6.50 = _____
 •Children (3 and under) _____ x _____ x FREE = _____

TOTAL (3b) _____

TOTALS

Regis., Housing, Meals, etc = _____
Pay by cash/check discount = _____
 (___ Adults x \$14, ___ Children x \$7)
Less amount prepaid = _____
Balance Due = _____
 Checks to: "SDB Host Committee"
 Send form to: **Sandy Layton**
177 Old Cohansey Rd
Bridgeton NJ 08302
(registrar@seventhdaybaptist.org)
 Sandy Layton (609) 364-2071

(6) If housing off-campus, Location: _____ Phone: _____
(7) Transportation assistance needed between Harrisburg, Pa., and the campus.
 Arrive: Air # _____ Bus # _____ Train # _____ date _____ time _____
 (a.m.) (p.m.) (a.m.) (p.m.) (Carrier)
 Depart: Air # _____ Bus # _____ Train # _____ date _____ time _____
 (a.m.) (p.m.)
 Pick-up needs (no charge): One way: # persons = _____ Round trip: # persons = _____

Expected Conduct document on p. 13

I/we, the undersigned, have read and do understand the "Expected Conduct at General Conference."
 Signed _____ Date: _____
 Parent _____ Date: _____
 Sponsor _____ Date: _____
 Youth _____ Date: _____

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

2015 YOUTH PRE-CON CAMP REGISTRATION

Forms and On-Line Registr. forms available at:
<http://bit.ly/SDBPreCon15>

**Youth, ages 15 (or completed grade 9) – 18
Camp Jersey Oaks, Shiloh, NJ**

4:00 p.m., July 22 – 1:00 p.m., July 26, 2015

--FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED! SPACE IS LIMITED!--

Please Bring—Bible, notebook, flashlight, sleeping bag,
personal items, one-piece bathing suit, towel, jacket.

Cost: \$130.00 on or before June 30, 2015

\$150.00 after June 30, 2015

(Register by deadline. Please pay on-line or at camp.)

Send Pre-Con registration and medical form
[but NOT Conference registration forms] to:

SDB Christian Ed Council, PO Box 1678

Janesville, WI 53547

Fax: (608) 752-7711

Name: _____ Parent
E-Mail: _____

Parent Phone: _____ Home Church: _____

Gender: Male / Female Age (at Pre-Con end): _____ Planning to fly.*

Any Food allergies/Restrictions? Yes No Please list: _____

***If you plan to fly, and expect transportation to Pre-Con,
please follow the directions provided at <http://bit.ly/SDBPreCon15>
----Additional Health/Medical must be submitted prior to arrival at camp.----**

*Forms may be downloaded at Web address above, or be requested by
e-mail (nkersten@seventhdaybaptist.org) or by phone (608-752-5055).*

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

YOUNG ADULT PRE-CON RETREAT REGISTRATION

Forms and On-Line Registr. forms available at:
<http://bit.ly/SDBPreCon15>

Young Adults, ages 18-29

Lancaster Bible College, Lancaster, PA

4:00 p.m., July 22 – 1:00 p.m., July 26, 2015

**** must be at least 18 to attend ****

Please Bring—Bible, notebook, personal items, bathing
suit, and jacket. **Linens are NOT provided.***

Cost: \$210.00 on or before June 30, 2015

\$230.00 after June 30, 2015

(Register by deadline. Please pay on-line or at Retreat.)

Send Pre-Con registration

[but NOT Conference registration forms] to:

SDB Christian Ed Council, PO Box 1678

Janesville, WI 53547

Fax: (608) 752-7711

Name: _____ E-Mail: _____

Contact Phone: _____ Home Church: _____

Gender: Male Female Age (at Pre-Con end): _____ Planning to fly.**

Any Food allergies/Restrictions? Yes No Please list: _____

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

***For linens, rental of sheets and pillow w/case is available for \$15 from the Host Committee.**

Same items plus a blanket available for \$25. _____ \$15 option _____ \$25 option

****If you fly, and expect transportation to Pre-Con, follow directions at <http://bit.ly/SDBPreCon15>**

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 college and director. I give permission to the SDB General Conference USA and Canada, Ltd., for photographs and recordings of me to be used for news, publicity, and promotional purposes.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Sabbath School Teacher of the Year Award

The Seventh Day Baptist Christian Education Council invites your Seventh Day Baptist church to nominate one Sabbath School teacher for the Crystal Apple Award. The Council seeks nominees whose outstanding teaching skills have contributed to the Christian nurture of our people. Because only one person is selected, not every one worthy of recognition will be identified and honored. Nevertheless, we seek to honor one teacher on behalf of the many who have shared Christ and His teachings. Member and branch churches of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference USA & Canada, Ltd., may nominate a Sabbath School teacher.

ELIGIBILITY AND NOMINATION:

Nominee:

- is a member in good standing of the nominating church
- exhibits the quality of faith and teaching found in the life and teachings of Christ
- he or she CURRENTLY serves as a Sabbath School teacher

Local Church:

- is a member or branch church of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference USA & Canada, Ltd.
- certifies the nominee's church membership, present Sabbath School teaching position, previous Sabbath

School teaching experience, unique teaching skills or practices, and other Christian Education service

- attaches the nomination comments from student or parents (in the cases of teachers of children) in support of the nominee's teaching effectiveness
- the local pastor and superintendent will submit the nomination to the Christian Education Council by e-mail or post by the deadline of May 31, 2015. The date of submission is determined by date the document arrives to the Council.
- churches from whose membership a person has received the Sabbath School Teacher of the Year Award shall be ineligible for the next three years. For 2015, nominees will not be considered from the Salemville, PA (Bud Claycomb); Riverside, CA (Kurt Berg) and Salem, WV (Jo Rogers) churches.

NOMINATION FORMS:

• Forms are available by e-mailing the Director of Education and History, Nick Kersten (nkersten@seventhdaybaptist.org).

• As long as all of the information requested on the nomination form is provided in an easily identified manner, the church may substitute its own format for the nomination.

Conference Hotel Special

A block of rooms has been secured at the Days Inn & Suites located at 1492 Lititz Pike in Lancaster. It is the second closest hotel to the campus.

- 27 Rooms with Double Queen beds
- 20 Single Rooms with a King sized bed.

The special rate is \$69.99/night!

The rooms are booked for arrival on Sunday, July 26 and checkout on Sunday, August 2, 2015.

The confirmation number for our group is blocked under the name: ROB APPEL

The Confirmation number is 438-224148

To book your room call **717-293-8400**.

Give them the confirmation number and your credit card number. They will give you a new confirmation number for your personal transaction.

These rooms are on a first come, first served basis.

Conference Tee Shirts

Steadfast Tee Shirts Available:

\$13.00 — Youth sizes: M(10-12), Large(14-16), XL(18-20) and Adult sizes S-XL.

\$15.00 — Adult 2XL and 3XL



Send your sizes with your check made out to the Shiloh SDB Church to Stephen Moncrief, 385 Jericho Rd., Bridgeton, NJ 08302. You can pick the tee shirts up at Conference.

If you were unable to order earlier we apologize. The person that we were working with became very sick and was unable to properly complete the process. She is now better and ready to proceed with the project.

I have been privileged to be involved with the Summer Christian Service Corps (SCSC) program since a very young age. My mom was a project director (most summers that I can remember) and then she was on training staff. I participated four years as a student and two years as a project director. SCSC is a program I've participated in. It's a program I believe in.

SCSC is a labor of love for the Women's Society and Women's Board because it changes lives. It changes not only the lives of people who are served by the students each summer but changes many of the students as well. Even though SCSC is a relatively short-term mission program, its goals are long term. SCSC is an opportunity to help develop leaders by giving them knowledge, skills, and experience. Once you've served, you know SCSC doesn't end after four weeks of project.

SCSC starts well before project with an application process by both students and participating churches. Once all applications are accepted, there is a prayerful process by the SCSC Committee to put teams and projects together. Then the students complete pre-training assignments on different topics to help give them a base to grow and develop before the summer. Training is the week before project. It is an intense set of courses to help the students and project directors prepare for the projects. Next is the actual service part of the project. After the project ends, there are evaluations. Students attend Conference and then go back home — that's where SCSC really begins.

Although it has summer in the name, SCSC is not just a summer affair — summer is just the beginning. It is a time to grow and develop skills through opportunities that may not be given otherwise. Once those skills and opportunities are gained, it becomes much easier to translate them back into your home life. How many pastors and teachers have begun their training in SCSC? I know quite a few of them. Sometimes the change is as small as gaining confidence in unfamiliar situations.

With that in mind, I encourage you to pray for this year's teams — that they may receive even as they serve. Pray for them to open up, be poured out, and continue to develop as the leaders God intends them to be. SR

SCSC: An Opportunity to Grow

PLEASE PRAY FOR —

SCSC 2015

Ashaway, RI

Nadine Lawton, Project Director
Elisabeth Lawson – Colton, CA (1st yr)
Jonathan Lyons – Toronto, Canada (2nd yr)

Bay Area, CA

Rebecca and Lindsey Crouch,
Co-Project Directors
Rebekah Hargett – Metro Atlanta, GA (3rd yr)
Michaela Osborn – Boulder, CO (1st yr)
Karissa St. Clair – Milton, WI
(3rd yr – 1 yr in Stained Glass)

Janesville, WI

Nick Kersten, Project Director
Elianna Chroniger – Alfred Station, NY (1st yr)
Josiah Lynch – Toronto, Canada (2nd yr)

New Auburn, WI

Steve Shackleton, Project Director
Jayson Dailey – South East Atlanta, GA (1st yr)
Willy Villalpando – Colton, CA (3rd yr)

South East Atlanta, GA

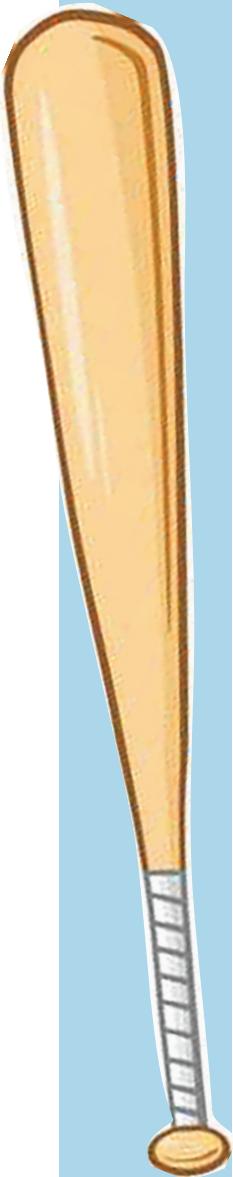
Sharon Dailey, Project Director
Nathan Crowder – Boulder, CO
(5th yr – 1 yr in Stained Glass)
Bethany Rihn – New Auburn, WI (1st yr)

Stained Glass 2015

Hunter North – New Auburn, WI (1st yr)
Jennifer Brown – Texarkana, AR (2nd yr, 1 yr SCSC)
Devon Merz – New Auburn, WI (1st yr, 1 yr SCSC)
Seth Osborn – Boulder, CO (1st yr, 1 yr SCSC)
Brandon Gumness – New Auburn, WI (1st yr)
Zach Floyd – Grand Rapids, WI (1st yr)

Women's Society page
Katrina Goodrich
www.sdbwomen.org





Spring is a wonderful time of the year. This particular winter seemed to keep going and going...it was almost as if the Groundhog saw two shadows! But finally warmer weather has come. Flowers bloom. Trees bud. And spring sports return. Many of you know that I coach a couple of sports. Every spring for the last decade I've coached softball, and this year is no different. With any new season, teams gather to practice, go over schedules, evaluate talent, learn plays or signs, and generally get ready for that first game as best they can. The school team I'm coaching meets after school three or four days a week. I have them play some catch, field some grounders, do some base-running, etc. I do this to determine who would be best at each position, and to help build team chemistry. One day I arrived at practice and realized that between switching cars, unloading groceries, and living the hectic family life, I had not put my softball equipment in the car. I try to be prepared for each practice — I'm the coach after all — but this time I had slipped up. My theme came to mind. Steadfast means to hold to a belief or stand firm to a principle. My desire to be a prepared coach ready to work with my players was still there, but the execution had failed. My forgetting my gear for practice doesn't mean I didn't want to have it with me. I hadn't purposely forgotten it, but I had forgotten it just the same.

I was able to run practice with the girls anyway. Fortunately, they had gloves and bats. The school had softballs and bases. They were prepared. However, between forgetting my equipment and trying to borrow a left-handed glove, I was not able to focus fully. Now as I sit back and think about it, this was not an entirely new experience.

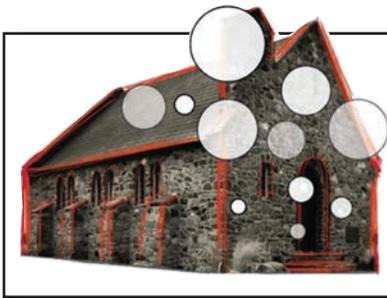
I was surprised to realize I've had this happen at church before. Sometimes I will show up at church and I haven't prepared properly for the upcoming Sabbath School lesson. Or maybe I have had difficulty forgetting some event that happened at

work during the week. Church still goes on. Others are able to praise and worship just fine. But I'm not 100% focused because I'm thinking about these things or realizing I've forgotten something. If I'm not fully focused, then I'm not fully engaged in the service. It's sort of "cat-napping" on Sabbath, instead of resting fully in God. It's not that I don't want to be — it's just I've let other things distract me, or delay me, or cause me to not be prepared.

What if God dealt with us in such a manner? Would the scriptures read "*lo, I am with you mostly, maybe until the end of the age*"? Would our children sing "*Jesus loves me this I think*"? That whole "*What Would Jesus Do*" (WWJD) campaign would just not have been as catchy with "*What Might Jesus Do* (WMJD)"! I'm thankful Christ never shows up half-prepared. He is the embodiment of being steadfast. We aren't. He is. Why? He loves us. We've just come out of the Easter season and are headed into Pentecost. This is the time of year when Christ shed his blood to atone for our short-comings (whether that be our transgressions or even our lack of focus), and the Holy Spirit was poured out on His followers. God does not show up late, lost, or unprepared. He can't. He won't. He's too invested in all of us...in each of us...in you. He's that STEADFAST.

Our Lord holds fast to the principle of loving His children. John 3:16 spells it out clearly. He *so loved the world — so loved us, you and me* — He sent Christ. Christ came and "stood fast" as our substitute. Now, He's our example. We, too, can be steadfast in getting others saved.

There may be days where we forget our "glove and bat," but with God's steadfast support, we can still practice our faith and fellowship with others. Then, hopefully, as our team grows — as His team grows — we are more likely to be prepared each and every time for whatever opportunities arise. SR



Announcing the
**MULTIPLY Church
 Development Conference**
 October 22-26, 2015
 Colorado Springs, CO

there will be a variety of topics and options of learning available, through the main sessions and breakouts, to speak to you where your ministry is currently. During the rest of Saturday and Sunday morning,

Director of Church Development & Pastoral Services, John Pethtel, our Church Planting Task Force, and the Council on Ministry have been working to help provide an opportunity for those who are seeking to start new SDB expressions of faith or revitalizing the ministry that God has called them to.

we will meet together again as SDBs to worship and talk about SDB-specific challenges in our ministries and to pray for one another.

We are partnering with Frontline Church Planting and their annual MULTIPLY Conference to serve SDBs. Leaders and speakers from around the country will gather for this weekend to share stories, knowledge, and strategies with one another. SDBs will have their own sessions as a cohort before and after to discuss specifically SDB related challenges.

The MULTIPLY Church Development Conference is open to all SDBs who are interested in breathing new life into their local church or our family of churches. There will be no cost for registration or for lodging (although this option is limited). The only cost is your food, time, and travel to Colorado Springs (There might even be a scholarship available for travel.) More information will come as we get closer to the date. We are looking forward to seeing you or someone from your church there!

We believe that there is great traction in advancing God's Kingdom when mission-minded leaders gather to connect, reflect, and dream about what God is doing in our midst. There will be great content but we also believe that there will be great relationships built. It is our hope that by gathering leaders who dare to dream, that God can and will do something fresh among SDBs — that He will allow His work to be done among ordinary folks like us.

If you are interested in attending or have more questions, please don't hesitate to contact Director of Church Development & Pastoral Services, John Pethtel.

The weekend will start Thursday, October 22 after dinner time, with an introductory session with just SDBs. Friday and Saturday morning, we will join with others attending the MULTIPLY Conference where

Testimonial:

"MULTIPLY was a gathering of leaders who are pushing into new territory while attempting to encourage other pioneers with shared tools, experiences, prayer, testimony, and vision. I believe this is the kind of wineskin that God will use to shape the church in for years to come."

— Marcus Robinson, Church Planter



July 26 - August 1, 2015
SDB General Conference Sessions

Lancaster Bible College
 Lancaster, Pennsylvania

President Bill Probasco



I recently finished up the musical season at school. Our high school put on the show “Mary Poppins” during the second weekend in March. I played the role of the much loved nanny, Mary Poppins. In this role I was tasked with the job of learning lines, songs, blocking, and choreography for a lot of scenes. As we read through the script for the first time, my costar and I were joking about how the director must have type-casted our lead roles. In the Broadway version of the musical, Mary Poppins sings a song about being practically perfect in every way to the Banks children. As I read through the words I realized that the absolutely perfect character of Mary Poppins was going to be an extremely difficult one to fulfill. After a week of rehearsals I was entirely overwhelmed. I cried to my guidance counselor almost daily about how I was going to ruin the show, and about how I couldn’t be practically perfect. I became so stressed out that eventually I was on the verge of quitting. I went to my director with every intention of telling her that I couldn’t handle the part and needed to step back from the role. I walked into the room to find a frazzled Miss Karr. I sat down and words started flowing out of her mouth. Things like “the accompanist quit” and “I need a Miss Andrew” were among the steady stream of words. I realized that if I were to give up on her at this point in time, there would be no show for not only me, but the entire cast. My director is a devout Christian and was glad to have another sister in Christ to talk to. We both called on the verse found in Philippians 4:13. It reminded us that we can do all things through Christ who gives us the strength. That



I’m Practically Perfect in every way!

verse gave me the daily strength to pursue the practically perfect character of Mary Poppins. The show ended up being a smashing success. Each night something small went wrong, but we

Just a spoonful of sugar



pressed on and have received raving reviews. Every teacher at school refers to me as Mary Poppins. I have new-found fans of all ages. Every time I see the joy on one of their faces, I remember that

day of meltdowns. I remember that I could only have gotten through the chaos of a musical with the grace and peace that Jesus Christ gives to us daily. In the words of my beloved character, “Anything can happen if you let it, sometimes things are difficult, but you can bet it doesn’t have to be so, changes can be made. You can move a mountain if you use a larger spade.” In the words of my creator, “All things are possible through Christ who gives us strength.” SR

— Elainna Chroniger



“Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious”

Photos are courtesy of Kristin Jackson, Dragonfly Images

The Beacon

Produced by the Youth Committee of
the Board of Christian Education for
and by members of SDB Youth Fellowship

Peace and Unity

Last month I wrote: “We all need to accept the people who came before us, and who are coming behind us. In unity and understanding, encourage those who do things differently in a positive way (even though things are not being done my way). And I also left you with “how we all can work together in maintaining our UNITY.”

The first thing we must do is agree on maintaining unity. This takes work — sometimes a lot of work! We have many different kinds of SDB Churches: traditional, contemporary, country/western, incarnation, West Indies, and whatever evolving congregations there may be. The interesting part is that each of these churches, in the style of its choosing, feels like it is obeying God and serving its community in its mission. But how can that be when they are all doing it differently? It’s the culture. But we still have to maintain the peace.

Paul wrote in Ephesians 4:3, “Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.” Allow me to suggest some things that can help keep the peace:

Avoid Arrogant Attitudes

Don’t criticize those that came before you and expect to have peace with them. Don’t wag your finger in a younger person’s nose and expect him to respect you. Chances are that someone before you did a lot to shape you into who you are today. And also, you have that opportunity to do the same for the next generation.

If we are honest about it, those who came before us weren’t always thrilled with how we did things. But some of them invested in us and trusted God was doing something new — and we respected them for that!

When everyone avoids making insensitive and offensive statements, peace and unity has a better chance to grow.

Respect God’s Many Ministry Opportunities

The local church or the denomination is not a battlefield for your pet peeve issues! Do not divide

the family of God over petty matters, many that are not even Biblical.

It is a wonderful thing when we have a mutual respect for God’s ministry opportunities from generation to generation!

Support a Culture of Peace and Unity

Did you know that peace is not achieved with silence? If you want a culture of peace between the generations, it will need to be communicated clearly and often. Unstated ideals are just wishful thinking.

Creating a culture of unity and peace takes an understanding of what supports or rejects unity and peace. Positive reinforcement after a good interaction supports peace and creates unity. Taking a practical approach towards a behavior is the right approach, especially before something bad happens. Criticizing someone in order to make yourself look good does not promote peace or unity. Patting yourself on the back, or causing others to look at what you have done in order to get praise from them, is self-serving and does not encourage unity.

To establish a culture of peace, you must communicate it wherever and however often and whenever necessary.

Finally...

If you are going to be in a family, value what the family values. Many churches and denominations have a common belief with diversity in ethnicity, language, and culture. But it is hard for some to see that diversity across generations. Make it a goal to work at unity and peace with those you minister with.

For you see, I do believe that Seventh Day Baptists are truly the most caring, compassionate, helpful, friendly, and kind people towards others. Sometimes we just have a hard time getting along with ourselves. [SR](#)



Executive Director
Rob Appel



Top Ten Words

continued from page 11

to attain. Now He invites us into his holiness. He creates space, literally sets apart a moment in time. He slices off this particular seventh of time, and He reserves it. And here, he is going to invite us into relationship. It is a Sabbath to Yahweh, YOUR God.

He is going to teach us what that means. He is going to teach the people of Israel what it means to stop. First, in the desert, by way of the manna, He will make it impossible to gather food on that day. Second, in the coming ritual and civil laws, He will outline what that looks like in the daily life of an Israelite, sketching out what “stopping” looks like. But better than that, He is going to teach His people to worship on His holy day. To gather together and worship. To bring sacrifices in offering to Him. To sing songs and to pray. It starts with a manual of procedures, like worship training wheels...but He is ultimately teaching them to worship in spirit and in truth. He invites them into His holiness.

God invites us into His holiness. And so, in Sabbath, we have the invitation to God’s imminence. That is His closeness, His self-revelation, His revealing of Himself and who He is to us: *Spend a day with me. Get to know me, learn to love me.*

The Beginning and End of Sabbath

Perhaps we should take a look at the origins and ultimate end of Sabbath. Man was made on the sixth day, so on the first Sabbath, man and woman were there. We only get the play-by-play on the day of the fall, but I imagine Sabbath days, even the first Sabbath day, before that: walking with God in the cool of the day; spending time, talking, connected, and discovering Him as Person and worshiping, discovering more and more. We recognize in Sabbath the intent of Creation – God inviting us into His holiness.

Then at the end of the book: Sabbath as a type of the Eternity with God, the fulfilled REST, and the ushering into His holiness. Sabbath at the end of time – even as we practice Sabbath at the end of the week – the summa-

tion of all creation. God invites us into His holiness. Jesus corrects and teaches how Sabbath is to be practiced (Why spend so much time correcting a practice if you are about to abolish it in a few weeks?) He corrects Sabbath practice...He calls himself Lord of the Sabbath. What a beautiful name! Jesus has the authority to teach, correct and model Sabbath-keeping. Even as the Sabbath is God’s invitation to get to know Him, His invitation to love, His invitation to Holiness – so Jesus is everything that Sabbath hinted at. This is where some see this as a present fulfillment of Sabbath in Jesus, the rest that we find in Him. I disagree. I have one powerful life reason. It is pretty obvious that I am still in the cycle of labors. Not in the “striving for moral purity” sense, but the literal, “working for a living in a fallen, sinful world” sense. I still desperately need that slice of divine rest, that “Aaaah... Stop.” And I still need the simple time spent with God. A Sabbath to Him, in response to His invitation: I am invited into His holiness.

The Relational Issue

How does Sabbath teach me to love God with all my heart, mind and soul? Sabbath is the school of love. It is where we create and set aside time to meet Him. It is our appointed time, our day together, our date together. It is full of good things, blessed and set aside for this purpose from the very beginning. There can be no guilt for setting aside the time – it is the command of God, so He takes responsibility for all that. I have more to do than I can ever get done, everything is urgent, and I am afraid everything will fall apart... But it’s Sabbath. So I set all of that aside. I “STOP, in the name of love.” In our fellowship, in our worship, in our prayers, in our sermons, in our afternoon naps, in our meals, in our activities, echoing from evening to evening even as God’s people have done for millennia: we **remember**. We have to remember and remind ourselves, and remind each other, that everything we do on Sabbath day is about Him, is for Him, is worship. We **remember the Sabbath day, and keep it holy**. We **STOP** our labors, all of us, and all those we are responsible for. We set it all aside for the LORD, Yahweh, our God that we might learn to love Him with all our heart, mind and strength. God invites us into His holiness on His Sabbath. Let’s accept the invitation. [SR](#)

OBITUARIES

WILLIAMS — Luella Jane Williams, 95, died Saturday, February 7, 2015 at Ashley Manor in Fort Lupton, Colorado.

Luella lived the first 90 years of her life in Valley County, NE, until she moved with her husband to Colorado in 2009 to be close to family. Her husband, Udell "Bud" Williams passed away October 13, 2014. Before his passing, they celebrated 73 years of marriage.

Luella was born August 24, 1919, to Arthur and Anna (Dishaw) Smith. She grew up on a farm near Ord, NE, graduating from Ord High School at age 16. She took some college training and taught country school for several years. Luella met her husband on a double date with her sister and Bud's cousin in January of 1941. They were married on October 4 of that year. They purchased a farm in Maiden Valley, living there from 1948 to 1966 while raising their four children. In 1966, they moved to North Loup. Luella's faith in God and family were the two most important things in her life. She was baptized, along with her husband, and joined the North Loup Seventh Day Baptist Church where her membership remained for some 65 years, serving many of those years as a deaconess. While living in Colorado, they attended the Boulder Seventh Day Baptist Church. She enjoyed spending her time quilting, crocheting, cooking and doing word puzzles; family and friends were often recipients of her works of art. She was second mother or grandmother, and friend to many over the years.

Survivors in the immediate family are son and daughter-in-law, Ron and Deborah Williams of Pocatello, ID; two daughters, Pat Williams of Frederick, CO and Jan Graffius of Holly Hill, FL; 8 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her son, Allen Williams, son-in-law, Larry Graffius, and a granddaughter, Anne Williams; also three brothers and three sisters. She is survived by two sisters, Wilma Keown of Grand Island, NE and Phyllis Elshof of Longmont, CO.

A Memorial Service was held Saturday, February 14 at the Seventh Day Baptist Church in Boulder, CO. Inurnment will be at the Hillside Cemetery in North Loup, NE, tentatively set for June 27, 2015.

CONFERENCE BIBLE QUIZ TEAM

Are you ready for the QUIZ competition about the book of Philippians (KJV) at Conference? You need to be familiar with the book as well as be able to cite verses.

SPENCER — Frederick A. Spencer Jr., MD, of Salem, WV, passed away peacefully at his home on Friday, February 27, 2015 at age eighty-three. He was born January 6, 1932.

Fred "Doc" Spencer received his medical degree from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock and then practiced medicine for over forty years, first in the US Navy as a flight surgeon. After completing his service he settled his family in Salem, WV, where he had earned his Bachelor's degree at Salem College in 1954. He opened a family practice clinic there in January 1967. Doc was an old-school country doctor who made house calls, delivered over one thousand babies (including all of his grandchildren), and never turned a patient away. For many years he served as team physician for the Salem College Athletic Department.

"Doctor Fred," as his church family knew him, served as a deacon in the Salem Seventh Day Baptist Church from the time of his ordination in 1977. He had grown up in Middletown, CT, in the Pine Street Gospel Chapel (at that time an independent Sabbathkeeping church, later to join the SDB General Conference). He joined the Salem church in 1951 while in college. While in medical school in Little Rock, he became one of the founding members of the Little Rock SDB Church along with other SDB medical students and Dr. Lloyd Seager, one of their professors. It was there he met his wife Mary Jo. Back in Salem, he again sang in the church choir and served as first chairman of the board of Randolph Terrace, a low-cost housing complex owned and operated by the church. He was several times elected moderator of the church. Dr. Fred shared his terrific sense of humor, endlessly entertaining stories, and prized dahlias from his garden.

He was preceded in death by his wife Mary Jo; two sisters Caroline (Mrs. C.M. Jennings Jr.) and Ruth (Mrs. Richard Stewart); two half brothers, Sydney S. Spencer and Roger D. Spencer; his son Frederick A. Spencer III; daughter-in-law Dixie Lee Spencer; and granddaughter Patience Josette Spencer. He is survived by his sister, Harriet Hill; two daughters Kristianna Venderlic and Kathleen Miller; two sons-in-law Dennis Venderlic and Randall Miller; eight grandchildren: Kirk Venderlic and wife Tessah, Cody Venderlic and wife Samantha, Ryan Venderlic, Logan Venderlic and fiancé Sophia Greco, Abigail Miller, Miranda Miller and partner Joe White, Elisabeth and Ian Spencer; one great-grandchild Jude Venderlic and numerous nieces and nephews. He is also survived by a "second son" Grant Smith and his "angel" caregiver Tammy Eddy.

Church family and community shared in a memorial service conducted by Rev. Brent Hannah in the Salem SDB Church on Sabbath afternoon, March 7.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL MTG.
MAY 17, 2015 at 2:00 p.m.
SDB Center, Janesville, WI

SEEKING CAMP DIRECTOR

Rancho Ybarra, a Christian camp and conference center located in the Angeles National Forest just outside of Los Angeles is seeking a full-time camp director to manage the camp which is open year round.

For more details please contact:

Rocky Peterson
(818) 353-2423

Contact Information for Directors:

Jeremiah Owen

Director of Communications
jowen@seventhdaybaptist.org
cell: (818)-468-9077

Rev. John J. Pethtel

Director of Church Development & Pastoral Services
jpethtel@seventhdaybaptist.org
cell: (304) 629-9823

Rev. Nicholas J. Kersten

Director of Education & History
nkersten@seventhdaybaptist.org
office: (608) 752-5055
cell: (608) 201-4850

How to contact General Council:

Email address to all of the General Council members:

sdbgeneralcouncil@seventhdaybaptist.org

Regular mail can be sent to:

Susie Fox, General Council Chair
1722 Taylor Station Road, Blacklick, OH 43004.

NEW MEMBERS

FIRST SDB CHURCH OF TORONTO

Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Pastor Herlitz Condison

Received by testimony
Zelmur Lyons
Debrenique Matthews
Debra-Lee Gooden-Matthews

HEBRON SDB CHURCH

Coudersport, PA
Carl P. Greene, pastor

Joined by testimony
Linda Swift
Casey Bridges
Luke Greene

BELL SDB CHURCH

Salemville, PA
Rev. Ed Sutton

Joined by baptism
Tony Ott



Youth/Adult

I have set the LORD always before me.
Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken. Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices ...
– Psalm 16:8-9

Junior

I have set the LORD always before me.
Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken. Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices ...
– Psalm 16:8-9

Primary

My heart is glad and my tongue rejoices.
– Psalm 16:9a

TO ORDER SDB PUBLICATIONS:

Online at SDB Website: www.seventhdaybaptist.org
Phone: (608) 752-5055

God's Personal Gift

God gave to me the Sabbath Day
To worship Him and to obey.
To praise His name and laugh and pray;
God gave to me the Sabbath Day.

Before there was a Jewish race,
God put the week-days in their place.
The seventh day was His day of grace;
Before there was a Jewish race.

The seventh day He set aside
That He might thus be glorified
And in His Word I'm satisfied;
The seventh day He set aside.

Yes, God gave me a Sabbath rest;
A special day that he hath blest;
I keep it now at His request!
Yes, God gave me a Sabbath rest.

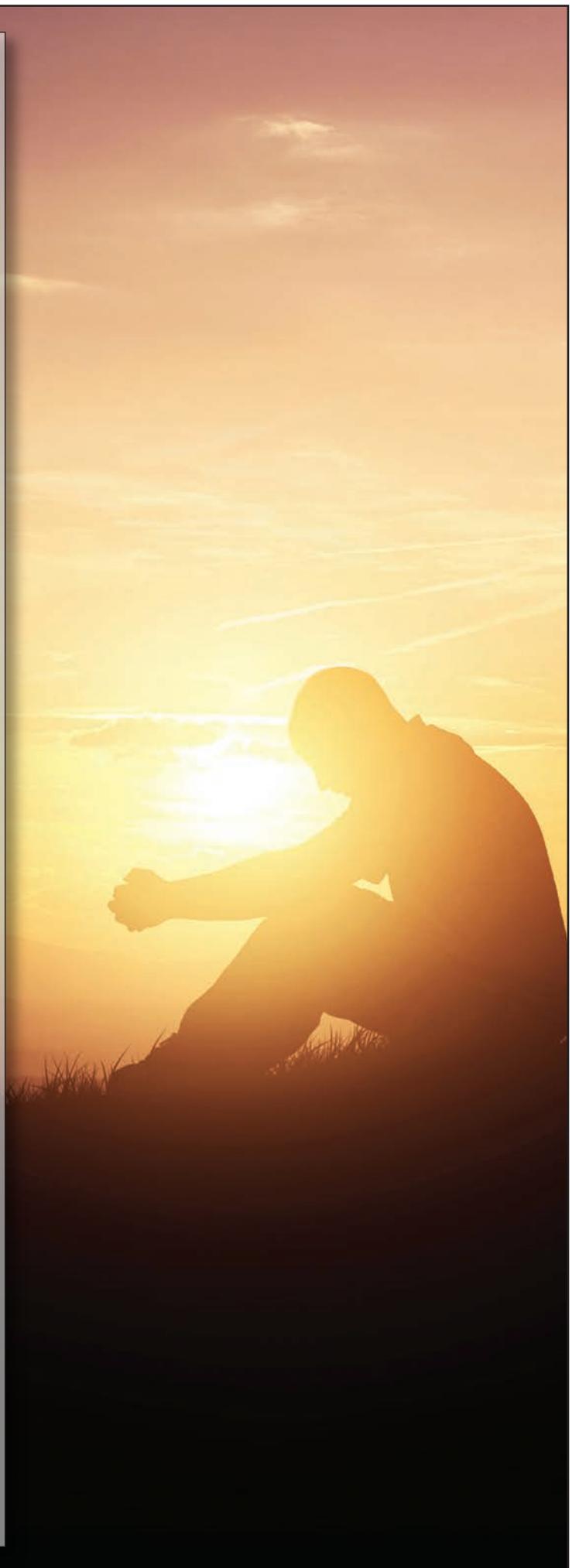
The Bible states it loud and clear!
I find it ringing in my ear;
It's plain enough for all to hear,
The Bible states it loud and clear.

It doesn't speak of Sunday peace
Nor does the Sabbath ever cease!
The Word of God in its release
It doesn't speak of Sunday peace.

The Bible is both Old and New
No matter what my point of view!
God blessed the seventh day it's true;
The Bible is both Old and New.

Yes, God gave me a Sabbath rest
A special day my Lord hath blest.
I keep it now at His request!
Yes, God gave a Sabbath rest.

—Owen H. Probasco



We hope you like the changes that you are seeing in the *Sabbath Recorder* since September 2014. Our Editor, Patricia Cruzan, has been working diligently to produce a magazine that you will be proud of and share with your friends.

If you like what you have seen, please consider giving a donation to the *Sabbath Recorder* through the work of the American Sabbath Tract and Communication Council:

The Seventh Day Baptist Center,
3120 Kennedy Road, PO Box 1678,
Janesville, WI 53547-1678.

Thank you for your support!

Jeremiah Owen
Director of Communications

Please
Donate



Batter up!



Learn a lesson from Bill! (see page 20) Don't come to Conference unprepared! Pack your favorite softball glove and plan on playing some church softball this summer at Conference. Got a team from your church or Association? Sign up! Don't quite have enough for your own team? Pack the glove anyway. If you want to play, we'll find you a team. Let's enjoy our summer in Lancaster with some good ol' church softball. And who knows, at this conference, God may be waiting for you to "step up to the plate"!

See you in July!



Conference Registration Forms Inside!

pages 13-17