

Simply Put

The Newsletter for Seventh Day Baptist Women

March 2010

Vol. 1 - No. 3

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2009 Love Gift

The grand total is \$4,212.50!

Thank you for your generosity!

Our September 2009 issue lists those individuals and ministries blessed financially through this gift.

2010 Craft Table

Our annual Love Gift includes the money raised at the women's *craft table*, so it is logical to mention this ministry next. Yes, whether it is making the items to be sold, transporting them to Conference (this year in Springfield, Missouri), or taking time during the week of General Conference "to woman" the table for sales, each of these is ministry, an act of sacrificial service that benefits so many! The next time you're facing weather that keeps you at home, pick up your handiwork and get back to your crafting. We're counting on your help!



Summer Christian Service Corps
SCSC
E-Gifting



Back in 1968 (when those young adults posed for their SCSC picture) SDBs probably could not have imagined how vital this “new” ministry would become. The idea that supporting SCSC financially could someday be done *electronically* would definitely have sounded like science fiction, but that is now a reality through E-Gifting. Any denominational board or agency can be designated for E-gifts, so please consider giving regularly to the SDB Women’s Board to keep SCSC going for years to come. All the details are given at [SDB E-Gifting](#). And, if for any reason you would rather send a financial gift, endorse your check to *Seventh Day Baptist Women’s Society*, put *SCSC* on the memo line, and mail it to: Marcy Kersten, c/o The Seventh Day Baptist Center, P.O. Box 1678, Janesville, WI 53547-1678.

2010 SCSC Information At A Glance

Conditionally Accepted: 17 Students (13 veterans and 4 rookies)

Training Dates: June 16-24

Projects: June 24 – July 18 and July 25-31 *with General Conference*

Sponsor-A-Student: SCSC’s newest support program ☺

The hardworking students who serve in SCSC are expected to pay their own way to General Conference, but now, given the earlier dates of Conference and the fact that this gives less time for their projects, they are also expected to work during that week. Yes, this means that they are *paying* to work! In order to ensure that students can be present at Conference to complete their projects, the Women’s Board has voted up to \$250 per student to help offset Conference expenses for this year. We are asking you to help sponsor a SCSC student for this purpose. Please consider making a monthly contribution or a one-time gift. Send your special financial gifts to our treasurer: Marcy Kersten, c/o The Seventh Day Baptist Center, P.O. Box 1678, Janesville, WI 53547-1678. Write your check to the *Seventh Day Baptist Women’s Society* and write *SCSC-Conference Expenses* on the memo line.

ROBE OF ACHIEVEMENT NOMINATIONS



Each year at General Conference we honor a woman who has had an influence or contributed “beyond the limits of her own community and church” by letting her wear the *Robe of Achievement* for the next Conference year. The recipient of this honor (which does come with a plaque for her to keep) must be a committed Christian, an active member of a local SDB church, active (currently or in the past) as a volunteer in some phase of denominational effort, and someone who has shown special service with her family/community. The selection committee must receive nominations by March 31, 2010, in order to be considered for this year. (If you have submitted a nomination in the past and that woman has not received this honor yet, you may resubmit your nomination.) Send a resume for your nominee to the committee chair: Karen Payne, c/o The Seventh Day Baptist Center, P.O. Box 1678, Janesville, WI 53547-1678. You may also E-mail the resume to her at karen.payne1127@gmail.com. The resume must include the following information (and in this order):

1. Name of Nominee
2. Nominee’s Personal History
 - A. Birthplace
 - B. Church Affiliation & Education
 - C. Service in Her Own Church
 - D. Service in Her Own Community
 - E. Marital Status
 - F. Children
 - G. Employment (Past & Present)
 - H. Honors Received
 - I. Other Achievements & Activities
3. Nominee’s Work as a Denominational Volunteer
 - A. Church Affiliation
 - B. Years of Service
 - C. Department of the Denomination
 - D. Specific Services Rendered the Denomination
4. Description of Nominee’s Qualities / Reasons For Nominating This Woman

Complete information is available on our web site at <http://sdbwomen.org>.

First-Person Reviews

Simply Put asked Dianne Hibbard from Millersville, Maryland, to tell readers about her experiences with a nondenominational Bible study and a Christian women's conference to encourage other Seventh Day Baptist women to participate in these and similar opportunities where they live.



Last year I was introduced to Bible Study Fellowship (BSF International) by Karlene and then 2-year old Annalia while I watched baby Naomi during their Thursday morning classes. It was fun to see how much Annalia learned each week and came back to share with me. She was a sponge of information. So in late August I joined the Monday night study, which is the Gospel of John. I thought it would be easy since I've read and "studied" John so many times. I'm happy to say I've been very blessed but challenged by BSF International's four-fold approach to studying, with daily questions for individual Bible study, discussion groups, challenging lectures, and study notes. I feel like I've become a child sitting at Jesus' feet trying to absorb all His love, teachings, patience, and dealings with those around Him. Just as Annalia was so eager to share with me, I want to share the Good Shepherd with all His sheep. {<http://www.bsfindernational.org/>}



In September, I had the opportunity to attend my second Women of Faith Conference in Philadelphia with other SDB women from this area. What an awesome two days, focusing on God and His love for me and what my response should be to Him. It was filled with music, laughter, and stories that made me laugh and even shed a few tears. I was so blessed by the testimonies and feeling the presence of the Holy Spirit. What better medicine is there? I would encourage every woman given the opportunity to go at least once. I think you would also be blessed. The conferences are held all across the country. {<http://www.womenoffaith.com/>}

Revolve

Women of Faith also has special conferences for teens: *Revolve*. Here is the way Ellen Olson describes it: "...imagine that the speakers, singers, and skits switch up every 20 minutes (and sometimes more frequently). Imagine lights, smoke, jumping, clapping, and screaming during the musical acts, which are a bit more upbeat than the typical Women of Faith musical performers. Imagine that the audience is slightly younger...in the 12-17 year age range. Now you have a good idea of what the *Revolve* Conference looks like. Women of Faith sponsors the *Revolve* conference for teen girls. The year's theme was **Get Real** and speakers focused on what is and what is not real in relationships, always focusing on the all-important relationship with God."

Ellen Olson continued with her description of *Revolve*: This past December was the third time that I have taken a group of young women to a *Revolve* Conference. Tickets run between \$45 and \$65, depending on how early you purchase them and whether or not you have more than ten people. Lunch usually runs \$8, and, as at Women of Faith events, it is worthwhile to purchase the lunch and avoid waiting in lines for snack food substitutions. Events run around 5,000 in terms of attendance, so supervision of your charges is important, and I have generally had one adult for every three or four girls, depending on whether four or five are allowed in a hotel room. I have always managed to find a hotel within driving distance that offers free breakfast to cut down on costs. The cost per girl and per adult attending has generally worked out to about \$90 a piece with church members often stepping up to assist girls who want to attend but cannot afford the entire amount. The conference is very appropriate for girls 6th through 12th grade, but anyone under 6th grade would be uncomfortable during the fairly candid discussions of boy/girl relationships.

She concluded: It is a lot of fun to take a group of girls to this conference. It is also tiring, noisy, and an onslaught to the senses. There is a parent room for those who need a break, but since the venues are so large and so full, I would hesitate to leave a group of girls without a chaperone. It is wonderful to watch a first-time attendee as she sits in awe and takes it all in and then gets up enough courage to dance around (and scream) with everyone else. This is a really great conference, and my two youngest daughters have both thoroughly enjoyed the experience and been impacted by the speakers and the music. Despite the lack of sleep and poor roads on the way home this year, I expect to go again in 2011. *Revolve* is kind of like having children...you forget the fatigue and the noise and remember the best parts of it all.



It has been a tough winter for many throughout our Conference! A way to combat cabin fever or to cope with digging out after one more storm is to enjoy stories and photos from summer and fall. ☺ We thank the SDB women of Berlin, NY, for taking us back to their warm times of fellowship and even sharing a cup of tea with us over the next two pages!



Tea Time for the Ladies Aid of Berlin, NY



Participants pictured are (clockwise from top left): Lexi Stall; Jessica Goodermote, Aileen May, Denise May, Teresa Zema, Melinda Goodermote; Stacey Sicko, Irene Greene, Kathleen Bowman, Becky Bonesteel, Ellen Myers; Alicia Mosher; Loreli Stall, Lexi Stall; Denise May; Emily Olson (upper); Gabby Bink (lower); Paula Dibble, Elaine Michaels, Pam Moore



Annual Potluck, Too! Shared by Ellen Olson

Every year in late July or early August, the Berlin Ladies Aid has a very special meeting. To be honest, it is a meeting only in the sense that we get together as nothing business-oriented actually occurs. Teresa Zema, one of our members who lives out in the country, invites all of the ladies of the church (young and old) out to her house for a potluck. We all bring a picnic dish to share and Teresa (a home economics teacher) cooks way more desserts than the entire church could eat, let alone just the ladies. We eat, we have devotions, we talk, we admire Teresa's gardens, and we just plain enjoy each other's company. The younger girls also enjoy hanging out and have their own little fellowship time without all of their brothers around to get in the way. The potluck is a wonderful mid-summer opportunity to get together and relax. It is also an opportunity to have all of the ladies in the church, not just the regular Ladies Aid attendees, get together for fellowship and support. We have been getting together in the summer for a potluck for several years, and I don't foresee the tradition ending any time soon.

Fall Retreat Shared by Dorothy Stall

The Berlin Seventh Day Baptist women held a Fall Retreat in October at the Brookside Inn in Petersburg, NY. Approximately twenty-five women attended all or part of the weekend retreat. Our theme was “Order My Steps.” We didn’t have a specific theme verse, but a lot of scripture was shared by our session leaders: Cindy Greene, Pam Moore, Maryann Palmer, and Dorothy Stall.



We started the weekend by attending the monthly Friday night Praise and Worship service at the Berlin SDB Church. After the

service we met at the Inn for our opening session. It was a friendly chat about the kind of shoes we sometimes wear or are like.

Running shoes-Do we sometimes run away from what God is calling us to do?

Loafers-Are we loafing when we should be wearing *work* shoes?

Flats-Is your relationship with Christ a little flat?

Our presenter at that first session wore “waders” as she ventured into *deep water* (figuratively) to talk about the “boots” we sometimes wear when we “walk all over” others, sometimes intentionally and sometimes just by being careless with our words or actions.

Our second session presenter wore those waders as well and reminded us to be sensitive to others while not being “overly sensitive” ourselves. We probably all need to take things a little less personally and be quicker to extend love, forgiveness and understanding to our church family.

Our next presenter actually brought a work boot that had been a “planter” in her mother’s garden for a while. She dumped the dirt out of the boot to remind us that Jesus is the one who “dumps the dirt” out of us.

Our Sunday morning closer reviewed the sessions and encouraged us to be more open, honest and Christ-like; to really let Him “order our steps.”

The time not spent in actual sessions was filled with many other activities. Becky Bonesteel provided a great skit. Gerri Greene led us in praise songs. Chantel Bink provided a great craft opportunity as we decorated slipper socks with fabric paint so maybe it will be fun to “watch our steps” as Christ leads us where He would have us go. Sherry Kluck provided foot massages. There was time for a hike on the grounds of the Inn for those who wanted fresh air. Some folks played board games or worked on quilt squares for a baby quilt we’ve been making. Many people provided great food, so I trust we all left the Inn on Sunday morning a little heavier on the scale but lighter in spirit. It was just a great weekend of fellowship. We came to bless and to be blessed, and God came to be in our midst!

From left to right: Alicia Mosher, Sherry Kluck, Melinda Goodermote, Emily Olson (face hidden), Jessica Goodermote, Ellen Myers, and Darlene Shorter

THE NEXT WOMEN'S BANQUET AT GENERAL CONFERENCE

Are you attending General Conference in 2010? You won't want to miss the Women's Banquet! The banquet will be an evening of fellowship and fun. Present programs and vision of the Women's Board will be highlighted. Come early for a casual time of hors d'oeuvres and visiting. During this time Women's Board members will be available as well as computers to demonstrate the new web site and the online version of *Simply Put*. Please join us for this informative and fun gathering and know that the Board is aware of and will honor your and the Conference's time constraints.

More About The 2010 SDB General Conference



How are the *Love Gift* recipients chosen?
Who is allowed to sit at the *Craft Table*?
When will the *Robe of Achievement* be presented?
What will the SCSC presentation be like?
Where will this year's *General Conference* gather?

The Editor's Answers

Attending the Women's Interest Committee will let you help decide how the *Love Gift* can be divided, a decision finalized at the Women's Business Luncheon.

If you want to sit at the *Craft Table* when items are for sale (especially between business sessions and before or after programs), ask Fay Hauber about signing up to help at some specific time(s).

The *Robe of Achievement* will be presented on Sabbath afternoon when other boards and agencies also give their awards.

Every year the SCSC participants tell about their experiences, and every year they do it a bit differently from previous years. There will be music and testimony and humor, but the unique blend is something we will all have to enjoy as it happens. ☺

This year's *General Conference* will gather at Evangel University in Springfield, Missouri, July 25-31. See you there!



Please bookmark our web site {<http://sdbwomen.org/>} and visit there often!

Simply Put is published electronically each quarter.

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