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## Life in the 'Burb'

### Reflections from the Stained Glass Soundman

By Tim Lawton

Most young people dream of one day playing in a famous rock band. I, in partial, achieved this dream over the past 7ish weeks. However, few people, including myself, realize how much work goes into a band. Stained Glass "Carried by Faith" tour was organized last conference, and the members immediately started writing and practicing songs. From there, two different times throughout the year, members of the band collected in one location to write and record. For more information on this time period, talk to one of the on-stage members.

I came in during SCSC training, late even. Since Stained Glass has been grafted into the SCSC program, it only seemed correct for us to experience training like normal SCSC people. See, I just graduated high school and my graduation ceremony was on the first Friday of training. I was willing to skip the ceremony, just receive my diploma in the mail, but my mother would have none of that. Thus, Sabbath morning, after attending most of the all-night graduation party Friday night/Sabbath morning, I found myself on a plane for Wisconsin to join up with the rest of the group. Training worked very well in the task of assimilating me into the rest of the group, who had been working together for almost a year.

After a "dress rehearsal" for SCSC and select members of the Milton/Janesville, WI community, Stained Glass "hit the road" by staying in Milton for another few nights. The official tour started off with a concert in the Milton church. Then we packed our Suburban, or the 'Burb,' and went north to... I forgot where. Over the next few days, I quickly lost track of where we were, where we were going, and which time zone we currently resided in. The best I can do is what states we hit. In no particular order, Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota, Indiana, Ohio, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, New York, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Jersey, and Washington D.C. (even though it isn't a state). More details can be wrenched from members of the band, as this article is not long enough to catalog an entire summer.

Now, back to the burb. A Suburban is an eight passenger vehicle, produced by Chevrolet, produced from 1935 to the present, thank you Wikipedia. What is generally thought of when the name "suburban" crops up did not start until the 60's. Ours was newer. I could give you more details, but some of you probably would stop reading. So this eight person vehicle had to hold the seven of us (sometimes eight, ask a band member), all of the gear for the band, and some fresh clothes and the like so none of the band members would smell bad. Needless to say, all seven of us became very well acquainted.

Members of the band include, in alphabetical order by last letter of first name, Jessica Chroniger, Lena Parrish, David Pottinger, Lance Greene, Aaron Andries, and Jackson Butler. Oh yeah, myself, Tim Lawton. Being with the same group of people without much private space for a stretch of time inevitably leads to conflict, none of us are perfect. But by the grace of God, conflicts were resolved fairly quickly.

Throughout the tour, some concerts were more attended than others. But in everyone, the presence of God was felt. I could say more, but I would have trouble stopping. Again, if you want to hear stories, ask a band member. We have plenty. If you want to find us all in the same spot, come to the concert, Sabbath night at 9 pm in the Haworth ballroom, after the new president installation. Forget refreshments, come to the concert. No cookie or cake can compare to Stained Glass. Just please, don't eat the band members.