



*Not to be served, but to serve.*  
— Matthew 20:28

## 2015-2016 Annual Report



**Women's Board Business Highlights**, by Jenni Wangsness, President ([womenssociety@seventhdaybaptist.org](mailto:womenssociety@seventhdaybaptist.org)) & Stephanie Sholtz, Vice President ([smilesds@gmail.com](mailto:smilesds@gmail.com))

- We held our Society Business Meeting on Sunday evening, July 26th of Conference 2015. It was well attended. Althea Rood gave an overview of the opportunities for women at Conference. The slate of officers was approved and sent to Nominations, and the Society once again voted to match up to \$2000 for donations to the Dorothea Shettel Fund, which will help SCSC Students pay for Conference expenses.
- Our new board is geographically diverse, so we met via Fuze, an online meeting application, on 9.20.15, 11.1.15, 12.6.15, 1.24.16, 3.13.16, 5.15.16, and 7.10.16. As we are beginning to work as a new board, we have been using the Leading from The Sandbox book to bring further clarity to our ministries. We look forward to diving further into the Sandbox next year!
- **Recommendation #1:**  
***We recommend that the Women's Board reevaluate having the craft table again and consider additional promotional items to sell for SCSC support.*** As recommended by the Women's Interest Committee, we re-instated the craft table for Conference 2016. We made this known through the Sabbath Recorder and on our Facebook page. We encouraged women to bring hand-crafted items to this year's sale. The money raised will be used to fund our SCSC program. *We will have a suggestion box at this year's craft table. Ideas for promotional items can be put in the box for consideration.*
- **Recommendation #2:**  
***We recommend that the Women's Board website provide a resource area for appropriate materials for devotions, and a list of women and their home churches that could be resources for encouragement of new or developing women's groups.*** At our meeting on Sept. 20<sup>th</sup>, we added a Media Committee to our Board. The goal of the media committee is to help us better communicate the vision, goals, and ministries of the Society to the greater SDB population across a variety of media platforms. Katrina Goodrich, as well as being our Sabbath Recorder page editor, is the chair of this committee. Gabriella Alonzo joined the committee as well. We have begun a Women's Society Pinterest page with resources for Women's Fellowship. *We appreciate the idea of connecting women and churches with other women's groups, but have not yet determined the best way to obtain and compile this information. We would welcome any suggestions that the Society or Interest Committee has in this regard.*
- We thank Jeremiah Owen, Director of Communications, for his help in getting all of our current information included on the denominational website. This has been invaluable. A new phone system in place at the SDB Center in Janesville, WI also allows Women's Society calls to be directed to the Society President's cell phone.
- We voted to sell the 2000 Excursion that was used by Stained Glass. The sale took place in April, and money from the sale will be used to subsidize Conference costs for SCSC students, since we are still building the Dorothea Shettel Fund. We thank our Executive Director Rob Appel for handling the sale for us.
- We would like to thank Glen Warner for donating copies of his book to benefit SCSC last year. He donated 150 copies of his book [Meeting the WORD in the World](#) to SDB people who each donated \$20 to SCSC. This totaled over \$3,000. This was a very generous addition to our funds.
- This year marks the completion of service for Madelyn Neher as our Secretary. She has been in this position since the Board relocated in 2009. We thank her for 7 years of faithful service.

### Travel

#### **Coordinating Leadership Team and General Council Meetings ~March 3-5 2016~Miami, FL**

I (Jenni) traveled with my husband Erik. Thursday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> was a CLT meeting. It was nice to sit face-to-face with the other Directors and Executives and return some of the support that they have given us during this year of transition for the Board. Friday,

March 4<sup>th</sup> was a meeting with CLT and GC, giving the GC updates on our work thus far. They challenged us to answer 7 questions about our area of ministry. On March 5<sup>th</sup>, we were able to join in celebrating Sabbath with our Brothers and Sisters of the Miami church. The day concluded with a Question and Answer Roundtable.

#### **North American Baptist Women's Union Executive Board Meetings~ March 30- April 2 2016~Orlando, FL**

Katrina Goodrich was our representative to the Executive Board Meetings of NABWU. The main focus of these meetings was intergenerational ministry and how to encourage participation in women's Baptist groups from younger generations in particular. John Chandler of the Spence Network provided seminars Thursday morning and afternoon regarding intergenerational ministry and how to involve and encourage younger leaders in and into positions of leadership. There also was a 4 member focus group of young women, all leaders in different Baptist unions (ages 23-30) who were called together by the Executive Board of NABWU to help develop ideas to foster intergenerational ministry between Baptist Women's organizations and younger generations. The focus group presented their ideas in large group round table and small groups for more in depth Q&A sessions. Many good ideas were presented and questions answered. A good summary of the discussion can be found in NABWU's publication "The Tie's" spring issue. President of NABWU Maureen Sharp also held a NABWU orientation for new attendees of the meetings. NABWU has recently developed a mission statement which is to "**encourage women to live out kingdom life, especially in the area of helping the vulnerable.**" Their vision going forward is to act out the mission statement through addressing physical and emotional needs of women as well as providing information and solutions to issues facing Baptist women. NABWU General Assembly is to be held in Toronto, ON October 19-22, 2017. All Baptist women are invited to attend for a weekend of worship, networking, business and of course, fun. More details can be found in the latest issue of "The Tie".

#### **Women's Society Office at SDB Center~June 10-12, 2016~Janesville, WI**

Helen Goodrich, SCSC Committee chair, and I (Jenni) traveled to Janesville to do some much needed organizing in preparation of the coming summer of SCSC and Conference. Teamwork makes the dream work!

***Please read our committee reports to see the great ministry work that your women have been doing this year.  
This is where much of the action of the Society takes place.***

#### **The Banquet Committee**, chaired by Stephanie Sholtz ([smilesds@gmail.com](mailto:smilesds@gmail.com))

The Women's Banquet was held at Lancaster Bible College, Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Pastor Liz Green was chair of the committee at that time and Marian van Dalen-Anderson served as emcee for the evening. Attendees were encouraged to write notes on cards to our SDB sisters who could not be at Conference in 2015 and to turn in their contributions for the annual love gift. Favors were wooden spoons painted by Nadine Lawton, Sarah Uhlich, Julianne Grove, and Beth Brown in the colors of the flags of countries where members of the Society are currently ministering: Laura Sutton in Haiti; Shirley Morgan in Nicaragua; Judith Houts in Puerto Rico; and Patty Peterson in the US. This was to remind us to pray for them and their ministries. Althea Rood was honored and presented with a gift for her service as the Women's Board President. Incoming President, Jenni Wangsness, shared some of the ways that Althea's vision and leadership have inspired and had an impact on the Women's Society and the Board. Others who were stepping down after years of service to the Women's Society were also recognized. These women include: Linda Lawton, SCSC committee chair; Marian van Dalen-Anderson, Stained Glass committee chair and banquet committee member; Janet Butler, SCSC committee member; and Jane Mackintosh, SCSC training director. Attendees were asked to consider making quilts that can be used during SCSC training and women were able to sign up to make a quilt and pick up special quilt squares to be included in the projects as they left the banquet.



**Love Gift 2015**, reported by Margot Harris, treasurer ([margotharris26@gmail.com](mailto:margotharris26@gmail.com))

**\$3930.72 collected and distributed as directed by the 2015 Women's Interest Committee:**

Uganda families to adopt orphans- \$500

Joel & Laura Sutton, missionaries to Haiti- \$500

Zambia TIME training- \$500

camp facilities in Guyana- \$500

Dorothea Shettel fund- \$500

Lydia's Home- a home for abused girls in W. Palm Beach, Jennifer Dixon-website [lydiahomepb.org](http://lydiahomepb.org)- \$250

Patty Peterson, evangelism- \$250

food, medicine, mosquito netting, etc... \$250

Divide any remaining funds equally among:

Joel & Judith Houts- missionaries to Puerto Rico-226.90

Shirley Morgan, pastor in Nicaragua-226.90

Helping Hands overseas-226.90

#### **The Media Committee & Sabbath Recorder Women's Page Editor**, Katrina Goodrich

([kgoodthehurricane21@gmail.com](mailto:kgoodthehurricane21@gmail.com)) The Women's Society page covered a variety of different topics this year including articles on: The Robe of Achievement, Being the Evidence, Team VESSEL 2015, Unavoidable, Blessings of



the Love Gift, Being Precision Made to Work Together, Steps of Faith, SCSC Jamaica, SCSC 2016, Rhythm, and Faith, Family, and Education. Contributions were made by Dorothy Noel, Nadine Lawton, and members of SCSC 2015 Team VESSEL. Thank you to all who contributed to the page and for the support of the readers. The Board established a Media Committee in October, which will encompass print and social media.



**The Robe of Achievement Committee**, chaired by Karen Payne ([karenpayne@hotmail.com](mailto:karenpayne@hotmail.com))

The 2015 Robe of Achievement was awarded to Ruth Ayars Probasco. The committee chose Ruth for her many years of service to the Seventh Day Baptist Women’s Society, Shiloh and Daytona Beach churches and her communities. Ruth served in several offices of the society including president. During her time as president she also served on the North American Baptist Women’s Union Board. She finds ways to serve wherever she is, like serving as camp nurse or volunteering for the American Red Cross blood drives. She is focused on her family, but always willing to help the community. Congratulations to this very deserving lady.

**The Summer Christian Service Corps Committee**, chaired by Helen Goodrich ([helengrace12@hotmail.com](mailto:helengrace12@hotmail.com))

Seventeen students participated in the SCSC program for the summer of 2015, including the six students who comprised Stained Glass. They selected 2 Timothy 2:21 (ESV) for their Team Verse: Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from what is dishonorable, he will be a vessel for honorable use, set apart as holy, useful to the master of the house, ready for every good work. They called themselves **Team VESSEL**. Camp Harley Sutton, Alfred Station, NY, was secured as the training site for our second year. Training took place from June 16th – June 25th. Project Directors were on site from the evening of June 16th – 21st. Students were on site from June 17th – 25th.



Jane Mackintosh served as Training Director. Andrew Camenga, Helen Goodrich, and Wayne North served on staff. Marian van Dalen-Anderson served as cook. We thank the staff and other volunteers who gave of their time to make training a success, especially those who ran errands and those who made the long drive to the Rochester Airport to pick up and deliver students, PDs and Staff. We want to thank Jane Mackintosh for five years of faithful service to SCSC. She retired from her Training Director position at the end of the season.

We thank the Allegheny Association, the Alfred Station Seventh Day Baptist Church and Pastor Ken Chroniger for helping to plan and execute our Commissioning Service, and for live streaming and then archiving that service on the Alfred Station Church website so that family, friends, home churches and project churches were able to join with us in praying for these young adults as they embarked on their summer of ministry. We also thank Madge Chroniger, for sharing her gift of photography with us, and Peggy Chroniger for all of her work to help make Camp Harley a great Training location.

### SCSC Team VESSEL 2015

**Team Valiant** served at Ashaway, Rhode Island.

Nadine Lawton, Project Director

Elisabeth Lawson (1)-Colton, CA, Jonathan Lyons (2)-Toronto, Canada

Joshua 1:9 Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous.

Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged,

for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.



**Team Ember** served at Bay Area, California.

Rebecca and Lindsay Crouch, Project Directors

Rebekah Hargett (3)-Metro Atlanta, GA, Michaela Osborn (1)-Boulder, CO,

and Karissa St. Clair (3)-Milton, WI

Isaiah 43:2 When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;

and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you.

When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned;

the flames will not set you ablaze.

**Team Storm** served at the Seventh Day Baptist Center in Janesville, Wisconsin

Nick Kersten, Project Director

Elianna Chroniger (1)-Alfred Station, NY, Josiah Lynch (2)-Toronto, Canada

Mark 4:39 He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, “Quiet! Be still!”

Then the wind died down and it was completely calm.





**Team Serendipitous** served at New Auburn, Wisconsin.  
 Steve Shackleton, Project Director  
 Jayson Dailey(1)-Southeast Atlanta, GA, Willy Villalpando(3)-Colton, CA  
 Joshua 1:9 Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous.  
 Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged,  
 for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

**Team Enlightened** served at South East Atlanta, Georgia.  
 Sharon Dailey, Project Director  
 Nathan Crowder(5)-Boulder, CO, Bethany Rihn(1)-New Auburn, WI  
 Ephesians 1:18-20 I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of his mighty strength, which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms.



**Team Legati (Ambassadors)**, Stained Glass traveled throughout Eastern states in 2015.  
 Gretchen Zwiebel, Project Director  
 Brandon Marteny, Tim Lawton, Road Managers  
 Jennifer Brown(1)-Texarkana, AR, Zach Floyd(1)-Grand Rapids, MI,  
 Devon Merz(1)-New Auburn, WI, Brandon Gumness(1)-New Auburn, WI,  
 Hunter North(1)-New Auburn, WI, Seth Osborn(2)-Boulder, CO  
 2 Corinthians 5:20 We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God.

**SCSC Committee Highlights**

- The committee worked tirelessly to prepare new forms for the Missions Focus project as well as Traditional Projects. They were made available online by the promised deadlines, on both the Women's Society website and the Conference Website, with the help of Jeremiah Owen.
- Our new Training Director announced his Training Staff for 2016. It was published on the SDBlog, as well as the SCSC and Women's Society Facebook pages. See Box Below.
- The Committee Reviewed applications for 4 Students for the Missions Focus, and all were accepted. We reviewed applications for 16 students, and all were accepted. One student needed to leave training before embarking on his project due to health reasons. We reviewed 8 applications for project, and 7 were accepted.
- SCSC 2016 Teams & Projects-3<sup>rd</sup> year @ Camp Harley Sutton- June 13-23, Alfred Station, NY -PDs onsite June 14-18, Students onsite June 15-23.

**Ashaway, RI**  
 PD: Beth Brown  
 Randi Gammons, Texarkana, AR (1st yr)  
 Dustin Tio, New Auburn, WI (1st yr)

**Bay Area, CA**  
 PDS: Becky and Lindsay Crouch  
 Moses Lyons, Toronto, Ontario (1st yr)  
 Bethany Rihn, New Auburn, WI (2nd yr)

**Colton, CA**  
 PD: Pastor George Lawson  
 Casey Greene, Berlin, NY (1st yr)

**Jamaica-Mission Focus**  
 PD: Pastor Garfield Miller  
 Jennifer Brown, Texarkana, AR (4th yr)  
 Elisabeth Lawson, Colton, CA (2nd yr),  
 Josiah Lynch, Toronto, Ontario (3rd yr)  
 Michaela Osborn, Boulder, CO (2nd yr)

**Mid-Continent Association**  
 PD: Linda Harris  
 Brandon Gumness, New Auburn, WI (2nd yr)  
 Sarina Villalpando, Colton, CA (1st yr)

**New Auburn, WI**  
 PD: Steve Shackleton  
 Caleb Gammons, Texarkana, AR (4th yr)  
 Conor Green, Milton, WI (1st yr)

**Shiloh, NJ**  
 PD: Philip Lawton  
 Jacqueline Murray, Toronto, Ontario (1st yr)  
 Willy Villalpando, Colton, CA (4th yr)

- A new SCSC logo and shirts are appearing at this year's Conference! Time to get retired SCSC collectibles at a great price! Stained Glass CD's, shirts, and posters are also available for a great price!

The Summer Christian Service Corp is pleased to announce the 2016 training staff. They will be responsible for creating a training environment that develops servant leadership in participating Young Adults as the students prepare for particular summer ministry assignments. Please keep the training staff in prayer through the coming months. Ask that God will provide a spirit of unity, clarity for the program, and an extraordinary ability to build up the SCSC students in their walk with God.

This year's training staff includes:

Andrew Camenga, pastor of the German Seventh Day Baptist Church, Salemville, PA, is the new training director. In addition to the experience gained while serving the General Conference as executive director of the Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education, Andrew has served in a variety of capacities on the SCSC training staff during the last eight years. He enjoys discovering ways to help people learn new things and to help people think about encouraging others.

Kristin Camenga is a member of the German Seventh Day Baptist Church, Salemville, PA. She is a 3-year veteran of SCSC and a former Project Director and SCSC staff member. She brings her educational training as a college math professor and her love for music to the staff.

Bethany Chroniger is a member of the Shiloh Seventh Day Baptist Church, Shiloh, NJ. She has served as Recording Secretary for the World Federation and currently serves on the Board of the Missionary Society. She has served as an SCSC volunteer in the past and is excited to be a part of equipping and encouraging new and future leaders in the SCSC program.

Helen Goodrich is a member of the North Loup Seventh Day Baptist Church, North Loup, NE, teaches 3rd grade, and currently serves as the chair of the SCSC Committee. She has served with SCSC as a PD, and on staff for several years; working with Project Directors to develop their Project calendars, and with the Christian Education portion of training for students.

David Stall is pastor of the First Hopkinton Seventh Day Baptist Church, Ashaway, RI. Dave served in SCSC and Stained Glass as a young adult. He now has a wonderful wife and five children. His education is in business, theology, Church development, and Christian leadership. He applies that training in local church revitalization, working with the SDB Missionary Society, and working with Seventh Day Baptists in Ethiopia.

Nick Kersten is a member of the Milton Seventh Day Baptist Church, Milton, WI, and serves as the Director of Education and History for the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference. Nick has been involved in ministry by and with young adults since 2003, including staffing Young Adult Pre-Con and serving as an instructor at SCSC training. He is devoted to encouraging individuals to make their faith manifest in their everyday lives through careful thought and generous and graceful Gospel-centered action.



**The Women in Ministry Tuition Fund Committee, chaired by Cathy Jara ([catiya22@gmail.com](mailto:catiya22@gmail.com))**

The committee reviewed and accepted two applications for Tuition Funds this year. One application was from Brenda Rankhorn, and the \$200 enabled her to attend a retreat for Pastor's wives in her area. She shared the following with us about her experience there:

I want to thank you for paying for me to attend the Pastor's spouse retreat at Fairhaven. The title of the retreat was "Waiting on God for Renewal". The speaker used Isaiah 40 to focus on the themes of Exile and Exhaustion: Are You There? Do You Care? & Are You Able? As I was thinking of what waiting on God entailed I came up with an acrostic for WAITING. I made connections with several women who prayed for me and our family as we went through losing our little granddaughter about a month later.

Willingly  
Adjusting  
Impatience  
To  
INvite  
God's Will

**Closing Thoughts,** Jenni Wangsness, President & Stephanie Sholtz, Vice President

This has been an exciting year of transition for the board, as several members have taken on new roles and we added new people. We have felt a strong sense of camaraderie and are grateful for those who embarked on this journey with us. This camaraderie has extended to the CLT & GC. As we are becoming more aware of their needs, we are looking for ways that we can better support their ministries. Two ideas that we will be pursuing are ways to encourage fundraising for Conference ministries, and, facilitate Love Gift opportunities and giving throughout the year. We look forward to working with the board, CLT, & GC on these and other endeavors in the coming year!

Our desire as your Women's Board is to serve our LORD, the SDB Denomination, and SDB Women in particular. We welcome additional ideas for ministry that fit within our Ministry Focus: Developing gifts, growth, generosity, and corporate gathering in order to foster healthy relationships and sustain them among local congregations and the larger body of Seventh Day Baptists.

Websites & Contact Information: e-mail [womenssociety@seventhdaybaptist.org](mailto:womenssociety@seventhdaybaptist.org), [www.seventhdaybaptist.org](http://www.seventhdaybaptist.org) (look under ministries), [www.sdbwomen.org](http://www.sdbwomen.org), or [www.sdbwomen.com](http://www.sdbwomen.com). Individual contact information can be found on our Proposed Slate of Officers.

## **Proposed Slate of Officers for SDB Women's Board (2016-2017)**

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