



# Seventh Day Baptist World

July 2015

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## Plans on Schedule: Federation Sessions in Brazil, January 2017



*Brazil Host Committee meeting with WF General Secretary Samuels in May 2015*

**World Federation officers and the Host Committee in Brazil** report that arrangements are on schedule for the eighth worldwide session of the Seventh Day Baptist World Federation. It will be held January 22-28, 2017, at Chacara Eperanca, in Curitiba, Parana, Brazil, hosted by the Brazil SDB Conference. President Dale Thorngate has announced the theme, "The Kingdom of God Is...." Letters have gone out to the member conferences and groups; they are naming or have named their official delegates so that official invitation letters, obtaining of airline tickets, visas, etc. can be completed in good time. Fundraising continues for money to cover the costs of the sessions. Observers are invited to attend. Watch for more information!

## Samuels Visits Member Groups: Australia, New Zealand, Brazil



*Australia Association Chairman, Pastor Gabriel Alegre (Center) with Missionary Society Executive Director Clinton Brown and Secretary Andrew Samuels*

**General Secretary Andrew Samuels** traveled far south on two trips this year, to Indonesia, Australia, and New Zealand with SDB Missionary Society Executive Director Clinton Brown in March and to Brazil for another multi-purpose visit in May. In Sydney they met with Australia Association Chairman, Pastor J. Gabriel Alegre and then in Brisbane with WF Vice President Marlo Siolo and other leaders. In New Zealand they shared in a joint worship with the two Auckland churches and also visited Christ Church. For Pastor Samuels' *full report on the trip*, see page 4. In Brazil Samuels met with the Conference Board and the WF Host Committee regarding arrangements for 2017 sessions, and also preached in eight different churches and spoke at the graduation ceremony of the third class to complete the Brazil TIME program (Training in Ministry by Extension), the group from northern churches. *See full report of that trip and more pictures on page 5.*



*Pastor Ian and Trudy Ingoe of Auckland, New Zealand, former Malawi Missionaries, with General Secretary Samuels*



## 50th Anniversary

\$50 each from 1000 people

How much is that?

An inflatable prayer globe?

See General Secretary's Column,  
page 2 and page 4.



**Seventh Day Baptist WORLD** is published periodically to help accomplish the purposes of the Seventh Day Baptist World Federation: to provide increased communication among Seventh Day Baptist groups around the world, to promote projects of mutual interest which will benefit from international cooperation, and to stimulate fellowship among Seventh Day Baptist Christians.

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## General Secretary's Message: **Celebrate 50 Years of Ministry!**

**The year was 1965.** It was the year that Sir Winston Churchill died. It was also the year that Ferdinand Marcos was elected President of the Philippines. And the year that Singapore was admitted as a part of the United Nations. 1965 was also the year that Rhodesia proclaimed independence from Britain. And the year Malcolm X was assassinated. That same year Israel and West Germany began diplomatic relations. And India and Pakistan began engaging in their border fight. And Tibet became an autonomous region of China.

**But for Seventh Day Baptists globally, 1965 was the year the World Federation came into being** with a composition of four conferences, although there are ten charter members, since that distinction was given to any conference becoming a member up to one year after August, 1965. A world consultation of delegates had taken place in Clarksburg, West Virginia, USA in 1964, which furnished the embryo for the birth of the international organization. The primary purpose of the establishment of the Federation was to provide increased communication among Seventh Day Baptist groups throughout the world. Other purposes were added in subsequent years.

**Thus, this year 2015 is the fiftieth anniversary of the Federation.** That is a milestone worth recognizing and celebrating. We are very grateful to the Lord, without whose enabling power none of the above would be possible. We are also appreciative of the current member conferences of the Federation, as well as those who have been

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## President's Message: **My Personal Prayer for the Federation**

*"Teach us to number our days aright that we may gain a heart of wisdom. May the favor of the Lord our God rest upon us; establish the work of our hands for us—yes, establish the work of our hands."*

Psalm 90: 12 & 17. (NIV)

**In my Bible, the scripture passage** quoted above is identified as "a prayer of Moses the man of God." It seems so appropriate for our reflection on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Seventh Day Baptist World Federation.

**Yes, it was 50 years ago, that the SDB World Federation was established in 1965,** after the Consultation of World (SDB) Conferences held in Salem, West Virginia in 1964. It was the brainchild of Everett Harris, then executive for the SDB Missionary Society, and Gerben Zylstra of the SDB Conference in Holland. There is no question in my mind but what those delegates who met in 1964 at the CoWoCo Sessions had been praying to "gain a heart of wisdom" as they began the process of envisioning a viable organization for worldwide Seventh Day Baptist ministry.

**Perhaps the most important action at the first Session** of the new SDB World Federation in 1971 was that the delegates reached consensus on a discussion of Seventh Day Baptist identity:

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## World Federation CALENDAR: 2015-2017

July 12-18, 2015 -- **Jamaica Annual Conference**, Maiden Hall Conference Center, St. Mary, Jamaica

August, 6-9 -- **Guyana Conference** annual meetings

July 26 -- **British Conference** annual meeting

July 26 -- August 1 2015 -- **USA & Canada Annual Conference**, Lancaster, Pennsylvania, USA

July 30 -- **WF Core Executive Committee Meeting**, Lancaster, Pennsylvania, USA

September 25 -- **Australia Association Annual General Meeting**, Sydney (Parramatta), NSW, Australia

September 15-19 -- **Central Africa Conference** annual general meeting, Makapwa, Thyolo, Malawi

January 3-9, 2016 -- **World Federation Week of Prayer** (in all member Conferences)

January 9, 2016 -- **World Federation Sabbath** (in many member Conferences)

January 17, 2016 -- **WF Full Executive Committee** (including all Vice Presidents), Internet Meeting

January 22-28, 2017 -- **World Federation Sessions in Curitiba, Parana, Brazil**

*Note: Please send dates for your Conference sessions to General Secretary Samuels or the editor for inclusion on the calendar here and on the WF website. This helps those traveling, desiring to send greetings, or praying for your work.*

### India



*B. Kishor Kumar,  
Andhra Pradesh  
Conference Treasurer,  
with Clint Brown  
(above). President  
Paul Chukka & family  
with Brown (right)*

**SDB Missionary Society Executive Clinton Brown and Nicholas Solomon**, a member of the church in Salem, West Virginia, traveled to three India states in May spending four days in Andhra Pradesh. They visited leader B. Kishor Kumar in Nellore and the one church there, then traveled four hours south to Guntur, the new capital of Andhra Pradesh, where Pastor Paul Chukka accompanied them on visits to the four small churches. All of the churches are in rural villages outside the main cities. The language is Telegu though some of the people understand at least some English. Solomon, a native of Andhra Pradesh, now an American Citizen, who speaks Hindi and Telegu as well as English, functioned as translator. He notes that the people are very poor. Most of the people attending worship services are women, with the children, since the men work in the fields very long hours, and Saturday is a working day.



### Australia

**Australia Association Chairman J. Gabriel Alegre reports in his Newsletter:** "There is no doubt that the Lord is moving in our denomination: we have consolidated our current groups, opened channels of communication and embarked on a 5-year strategic plan designed to create a purpose and a vision for the Lord's work in Australia. New contacts were made in Perth, Adelaide and Country NSW. SDB Highways and Byways went on another journey along the Eastern seaboard and established face-to-face visits with new and existing contacts. There has been baptisms in Brisbane, Melbourne and Sydney with more proposed for later in the year." *For more on Australia, see pages 1 and 4.*

### President's Message: **My Personal Prayer for the Federation**, *continued from page 2*

**"We are Seventh Day Baptists**, and that very name indicates certain beliefs and practices we hold in common. They are:

- (1) basic belief in God and Jesus Christ,
- (2) the practice of baptism by immersion,
- (3) observation of the seventh day of the week as the Sabbath, ordained by God,
- (4) the goal of congregational polity in all member conferences/conventions, or groups."

Those four principles remain to guide our international work.

**As we prepare for our eighth Session** of the SDB World Federation in 2017, in Curitiba, Brazil, it is my prayer that we too will continue to gain a heart of wisdom as we meditate on the theme "The Kingdom of God is like..." using Jesus' Kingdom parables as the basis for our preaching and Bible study. I ask all Seventh Day Baptists to be praying as we prepare for and as we gather to envision and support each other in God's ministry through Seventh Day Baptists. We number our years at fifty, but we must pray daily that it be God who "establishes the work of our hands" for his Kingdom.

*Pastor Dale*



## Brown, Samuels Visit SDBs in Jakarta, Australia, New Zealand

### *Executive Director Samuels' Trip Report, March 2015*



*Pastor John Goodwin of Auckland, New Zealand (center) with Clinton Brown (right) and Andrew Samuels*



*Pastor Daniel Barrar of Christ Church, New Zealand (center) with Secretary Samuels and Missionary Executive Clinton Brown. Pastor Barrar passed away soon after this visit.*

**In March 2015, I was given the opportunity to accompany** Clinton Brown, Executive Director of the SDB Missionary Society, on a trip to Indonesia, Australia, and New Zealand. I enthusiastically embraced the opportunity since two of those countries (Australia and New Zealand) are member conferences of the SDB World Federation. In my capacity as General Secretary of that organization, I welcomed the occasion to engage in face to face dialogue with leaders of those two conferences in particular, and also to meet the church leaders in Indonesia.

**It was my pleasure and honor** to accompany my colleague Clint, since the Missionary Society and the World Federation have a long and strong historical record of cooperation in ministry, as both groups seek to fulfill their mission and carry out the Great Commission globally. I am particularly grateful to Clint and the Missionary Society, for their cordial and valuable partnership with us.

**Our voyage from Indonesia to Australia** saw us being met at the Sydney airport by Terry and Sue Rudd, parents of Karl Rudd, who is the Secretary of the Australian SDB Association. They showed us around Sydney, then took us to meet with Pastor Gabriel Alegre, Pastor of the Sydney SDB Church and Chairman of the Australian SDB Association. The meeting gave us the chance to understand the Australians' appreciation of their calling to ministry, even in the face of their challenges, such as the need for more training in pastoral leadership, and the great geographical distances between churches and fellowships. We were accommodated by Vicky Kube in her home, and enjoyed the conversations about her many spiritual experiences with her late husband Stefan.

**Brisbane was our next stop**, where we were very ably hosted by Pastor Marlo Siolo, his family, and his church, in ways which exceeded our expectations. Pastor Marlo is the World Federation

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## General Secretary's Message: **Celebrate 50 Years of Ministry**, *continued from page 2*

members in the past, for their support of the organization's work over the years. The current officers who make up the Executive Committee, plus those previous officers also deserve special mention and commendation.

**Since 1965, the Federation has met seven times** - 1971, 1978, 1986, 1992, 1997, 2003, 2008 – in four countries: USA, New Zealand, Jamaica, and Brazil. It has been ably served by six elected Executive or General Secretaries, namely Alton Wheeler, K. Duane Hurley, Dale Thorngate, Frits Nieuwstraten, Jan Lek, and Andrew Samuels. Presidents of the organization have also numbered six in the persons of Loren Osborn, David Pearson, James Skaggs, Gabriel Bejjani, Joe Samuels, and Dale Thorngate. So, to date, Rev. Dr. Dale Thorngate has the distinction of being the only individual to serve the SDB World Federation as both Executive Secretary and President.

**The purposes of the Federation** have been broadened in 50 years, and the facilities for international communication have greatly improved with the development of technology. The Federation's leadership remains committed to positioning us to be world class Seventh Day Baptists, where we change our thinking from local to global, and our perspective is adjusted from self-centered to other-centered.

**As we continue to plan for the next Session** of the World Federation in Brazil, January 22-28, 2017, we want to use this semi-centennial (50<sup>th</sup>) year to give Seventh Day Baptists all over the world, an opportunity to join us in raising funds to ensure that

at least one delegate from each of the member conferences will be able to attend the upcoming Session in Brazil in 2017. The Session is not just a meeting. It is more than simply an event. It is an integral component in the all-important and continuing process of uniting Seventh Day Baptists globally.

**As we celebrate 50 years of existence, we are therefore hereby launching a campaign to raise US\$50,000 by asking 1,000 Seventh Day Baptists to invest the equivalent of US\$50 each.** This drive will continue for the rest of this year, and for your donation you will become a global semi-centennial partner with the World Federation. As a further incentive, the first 500 donors will receive an inflatable globe which can be helpful in locating each of the member conferences in the world, and motivate you to pray for them even more. 1,000 is only 3.3% of the estimated 30,000 SDB's worldwide in our member conferences, so this should not be a difficult goal to reach, even with great disparity in the availability of disposable income among our people. We urge you to view this as an investment, not as an expense.

Of course, this specific fundraising drive does not mean that larger or smaller donations will not be accepted. Nor does it mean that churches and/or other entities may not contribute. We continue to encourage you to be responsive to the leading of the Lord in your stewardship to the Seventh day Baptist World Federation.

**Donations may be sent** directly to the Federation Treasurer, Gavin Fox, at P.O. Box 7755, Silver Spring, MD 20907, USA or by paypal at [treasurer@sdbwf.org](mailto:treasurer@sdbwf.org).

*Pastor Andrew*

## Preached at 8 churches, 2 big meetings, commencement &--

### *General Secretary Samuels' Brazil Trip Report, May 2015*



*Pastor Samuels leads in prayer in the Sao Jose Dos Pinhais Church, one of the eight he visited in Brazil in May*



*Graduates of the third class of Brazil TIME students, this group from churches in the north. Secretary Samuels was one of the featured speakers.*



*Douglas Machado, Chairman of the 2017 Host Committee (left) with his wife Kamilla and Pastor Samuels.*

**I arrived in Brazil on Friday morning, May 29** and was met at the airport by Douglas Machado, Chairman of the World Federation Host Committee for 2017. For my time in Curitiba, I would stay at the home of Douglas and his wife Kamilla. That evening I preached at the **First SDB Church of Curitiba** at a Sabbath welcoming Service. Then on Sabbath morning I preached at the **Sao Jose dos Pinhais SDB Church**, and on Saturday night I preached at the **Araucaria SDB Church**. Douglas translated for me at each of those Services.

**On Sunday morning, I met with the Executive Board of the Brazilian Conference**, where I thanked them for initiating the decision to invite the World Federation Session to Brazil in 2017 and expressed confidence in the Host Committee under the chairmanship of Douglas Machado. The Executive Board will let us know later whether the Brazilian Conference will be able to financially accommodate all World Federation delegates for their Conference the week prior to the World Federation Session in January 2017.

On Sunday night I preached at the **Bocaiuva do Sul SDB Church**. On Monday afternoon, I met with the **Host Committee**. Members present were Douglas Machado, Chairman; Pastor Claudir Oliveira, First Treasurer; Marcelo Negri, Second Treasurer; Pastor Jarbas Joao da Silva, Logistics; Pastor Jonas Sommer, World Federation Vice President for South America.

On Tuesday morning, Douglas Machado, Jonas Sommer and I, visited the **Chacara Eperanca, World Federation Session venue**, to meet with its Director, Josmar Prosaw. On Tuesday night, I preached at the **Mafra SDB Church** and on Wednesday night I preached at the **Second SDB Church of Curitiba**. On Thursday night, Pastor Jonas and I flew to Joao Pessoa, arriving there early on Friday morning.

Friday evening I preached at a Sabbath welcoming Service at the **Bayeaux SDB Church**. On Sabbath morning, I preached at the **Joao Pessoa SDB Church**, and then culminated the trip by **speaking at the commencement service for the TIME graduates** on Saturday night. After the service, we enjoyed dinner at a churrascaria, and within a few hours after that, I was on a plane back to Miami, USA.

**I am thrilled by the enthusiasm of our Brazilian brothers and sisters.** In all the 8 churches I visited, there was spirited worship and an eagerness on the people's part, to hear the Word of God. Regardless of what night of the week it was, they were in attendance and their participation was very encouraging. I was also very moved by the number of young men who were active in their churches, serving on worship teams and playing musical instruments. It was a blessed trip for me, and I hope I was a blessing to someone.

## **Brown, Samuels Visit to SDBs in Australia & New Zealand, continued from page 4**

Vice President for Australia and New Zealand. We were treated to a wonderful evening of fellowship where along with our hosts, we were joined by congregants from the Beenleigh SDB Church, following which, Pastor Marlo's daughter Maureen, took us to see some Brisbane night sights.

**From Australia, we flew to New Zealand.** We were met at the Auckland airport by Jo Devoogd, who along with her husband Bram, would be our hosts in that city. On Sabbath, we attended a Worship Service attended by people from the two SDB groups in Auckland, an occurrence which we understand had not taken place for at least ten years. After the Service, and a delicious lunch, the group was shown pictures by Ian Ingoe, of his recent trip to Malawi, where he had spearheaded the construction of a school for needy children. It was quite an ambitious and essential undertaking, and Ian is still working on raising funds to complete the project.

**We were able also to travel to Christchurch** on the south island of New Zealand, which is where Seventh Day Baptists began in that country. Jill Broadhurst met us; we stayed overnight in the home she shares with her husband Warren, and the following day, engaged in a meeting with Pastor Daniel Barrar, Pastor of the SDB flock at Christchurch, and members of his congregation. That meeting was again very helpful in understanding unique circumstances facing the church, and in strengthening relationships between the local church and the broader, global SDB family.

Clint and I returned from that trip feeling that it was time and money well spent and it fostered the opportunity for significant progress to be made in connecting and re-connecting with our brethren in that part of the world, who do not have the benefit of receiving very often, guests from the North American continent.

## From the Archives: Federation Sessions in Jamaica, 1997

Delegates  
attended  
from  
Australia  
Brazil  
England  
Guyana  
India  
Jamaica



Malawi  
Netherlands  
Philippines  
Poland  
South Africa  
USA &  
Canada  
and a guest  
from Haiti

**Burundi** Seventh Day Baptists around the world continue praying for our brothers and sisters in the Burundi Conference, since their General Secretary Gilbert Nduwayo began reporting dangerous conditions particularly for the churches in Bujumbura Province resulting from civil unrest and violence related to the presidential elections. This month he reports Conference leaders were able to meet July 5 and assess the situation: Most believers of Mutuntu and Nyanza-Lac churches are refugees in Tanzania at Nyarugusu Camp. Some provinces have peace but rebels are active in Bujumbura, yet "leaders of Burundi Conference say that rumors of war haven't power to stop the Gospel in Burundi" and that in four peaceful provinces believers are starting to build their meeting houses in this dry season: two each in Cibotoke and Bubanza Provinces and one in Bujumbura Rural "and we have baptized 15 new believers in Nyanza-Lac last Sabbath by Pastor Alexs at Tanganyika Lake." Contributions for Burundi SDB refugees are being handled through the SDB Missionary Society, Clinton Brown: [director@sdbmissions.org](mailto:director@sdbmissions.org)

## World Federation Member Groups

### Australia Association of SDBs

Karl Rudd, Secretary

### Brazil SDB Conference

Joao Teles, President

### British Conference of SDBs

Owen Lynch, Executive Secretary

### Burundi SDB Conference

Gilbert Nduwayo, General Secretary

### Guyana SDB Conference

Bernice Trotz, General Secretary

### India SDB Conf. (Andhra Pradesh)

B. Kishor Kumar, Secretary/Treas

### India: Malankara SDB Conf. Kerala

K. S. Thankachan, President

### Jamaica SDB Conference

Devon Levy, President

### Kenya SDB Conference

Benard Nyakebere Mose, Bishop

### Central Africa Conference (Malawi)

Patrick Wella, General Secretary

### Netherlands Conf. of SDB Churches

Frits Nieuwstraten, Pastor

### New Zealand SDB Churches

### Nigeria Conference of SDBs

Godfrey Achor, Contact Person

### Philippines United SDB Churches

Al Paypa, President

### Poland, Sabbath Day Christian Ch.

Roman Witek, President

### South Africa SDB Conference

Nyaniso James Siwani, President

### USA & Canada SDB Conference

Robert Appel, Executive Director

### Zambia SDB Conference

Questin Chalwe, Gen. Secretary

*Addresses may be requested from the WF General Secretary.*



**The SDB World Federation is a volunteer organization funded entirely by contributions from individuals and member groups. Contributions are currently sought to fund the 2017 sessions in Brazil but are welcome for country projects or general operating costs.**

***Contributions may be mailed to***

*WF Treasurer, Gavin Fox*

*PO Box 7755 [new box number]*

*Silver Spring MD 20907USA*

*or by Pay Pal on our Web site:*

*<http://www.sdbwf.org>*