

# The Silver Lining

## A LIGHT FOR BELIEVERS

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### THE NICEST PEOPLE

Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle, Japan

The nicest people, specifically, the nicest brothers or sisters in Christ, may change to be quite unreasonable, evasive, and even belligerent. What happens? Where does that pleasant, forgiving, self-sacrificing personality go? Any analysis may be failing in its accuracy, but we can begin by stating that, to be sure, Satan has had his hand in it. In one way or another, the evil spirit, without any sense of propriety or good manners, has brazenly crowded out the Holy Spirit. It is no small victory for the forces of evil in the great war for the souls of men.

Something happens which makes the individual feel guilty. It may be a trifle, or it may be something of a chronic nature, but it is something which brings a feeling of guilt. Now it is almost impossible to pray normally when you have a feeling of guilt. In fact, it becomes easier and easier to forget to pray. Daily Bible reading, a must for a faithful life in faith, is gradually crowded out, all very legitimately, of course. After all, there are so many other things to occupy one's time—television one's self-gratifying friends, sports, etc.

Slowly, but ever so thoroughly, the devil invades farther into the Holy Spirit's territory. As he "liberates" one town and then another, the individual losses that troublesome characteristic which was so apparent at the outset—guilt. He

or she no longer feels guilty about anything; in fact, the judgement of God is no longer frightening, nor is the Biblical explanation of hell, as a lake of fire, alarming. It is like a dream in the night; it doesn't seem real!

What can be done about such a situation? Like cancer, or any other disease, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. In order to take preventive measures, we must keep track of each other; not that we care to be nosing into other people's business, but we must realize that the spiritual welfare of our brother or sister is our business. If he or she objects to our inquiry or suggestion for a more consecrated, dedicated, and holy life, it only means that something is amiss, and that the battle is on in full fury. If the brother or sister responds to inquiry or suggestion with, "Fine, I'm willing to deny myself anything I shouldn't do, or on the other hand, I'm willing to do anything I should do," you can be certain that the Holy Spirit is still the Governor of that soul. Such a soul is perfectly willing to go with you to those over you in the Lord and to take any precautions which might be necessary. In this, there is safety.

But the disease is often not diagnosed in time. What then? The patient should be put in isolation; that is, isolated from those circumstances and situations where

Satan is in full control. Someone already buffeted and knocked down cannot possibly stand in the enemy's territory, behind the enemy's lines, and survive. He will be put to death, spiritually, or at least be taken captive. Therefore, he or she should be taken, dragged if necessary, out of the enemy's territory into territory fully under the control of the Holy Spirit, into an environment where evil spirits hardly dare to enter, where the all-powerful name of the Lord Jesus Christ is held in deep reverence. He should be taken where family prayer and Bible reading is the norm, and where the stereo beams out the hymns which honor God instead of the music which is so prevalent today. That music, by fine sounding expressions and great swelling words, ushers evil into many homes with grandeur and pomp.

\* One thing we should keep in mind in this warfare where the nicest people sometimes become bewitched (if the individual concerned is still alive) is that it is highly probable that the last battle has not yet been fought. To what extent are we concerned (those of us who are able-bodied soldiers) and willing to sacrifice, willing to deny ourselves, willing to give of ourselves in order to win this war, not only for ourselves, but for our brothers and sisters and those who are still outside of Christ? Only **you** can answer that question.

### TRUE BROTHERHOOD

Bro. Perry A. Klopfenstein (Gridley, IL, Reporter)

Biblical teachings on the concept of brotherhood are a positive force in a believer's life. It is such a joy to meet and greet our brethren in

Christ with a holy kiss each Sunday and to worship together in spirit and in truth.

It is a marvelous experience to

gather in the sanctuary to worship our Lord in godly order. The presence and influence of the Holy Spirit is so evident. In each be-

liever's heart dwells this Holy Spirit of God. Too, the Holy Spirit prompts the speaker to preach those things which are true and beneficial and which become sound doctrine.

The Lord Jesus came and taught a doctrine that was virtually foreign to mankind. "A new command I give unto you that ye love one another." The spirit of fellowship is enriched by the apostle's exhortation, "Be kindly affectionate one to another with brotherly love in honor preferring one another." Further in this vein the Apostle Peter taught, "Yea, all of you be subject one to another." As these teachings are translated into real

life we find both pleasure and delight in doing those things that please our brother.

When our hearts are full of love and honor for our brethren we can find comfort in the verse, "We know we have passed from death unto life, because we love our brethren."

On our pilgrim way we all need each other so much. It is our duty to give mutual encouragement and to speak the things which edify and which promote peace. It is also our duty, in love, to admonish each other, if necessary, for this is a form of love.

May true believers everywhere "let brotherly love continue." The

tonic of love and grace will insure that we exercise an unfeigned love of the brethren" on a continuous basis.

Only as we each become broken in submission to God can we continue in fervent love of the brethren. Let us be wise in this regard.

"The wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy." If we can reflect such virtues in our attitude toward the brethren, then our brotherhood will remain strong and unified in the name of Christ—and we will all be beneficiaries of spiritual edification.

### THE PILGRIM JOURNEY

(Conference notes submitted by the Chicago reporter, Kathy Schlatter)

"And it came to pass, when Moses held up his head that Israel prevailed: and when he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed.

"But Moses' hands were heavy; and they took a stone, and put it under him, and he sat thereon; and Aaron and Hur stayed up his hands, the one on the one side, and the other on the other side; and his hands were steady until the going down of the sun." Exodus 17:11,12

Several elder brothers mentioned this passage, as it may be a lesson to us, and one asked each member: "Are we willing to hold up the arms of our elders, to support them and heed their counsel, not to engage in verbal stonings."

It's not our leisure time: it's the Lord's. We need to be entertained by the Spirit of God.

If we as members are no longer "easy to be entreated," then do we know that our spiritual knowledge has gone away? We have gone out of the way.

The way some of us sacrifice for the Lord is the way some people deny themselves food—by giving up what food they don't like.

Joshua and Caleb entered into Canaan because they were worthy. Thus must we strive to enter into the gates of heaven.

Stewardship can be defined as being in submission one to another. We wish that the more than 10,000 members of our church could be more perfect, fully united, each es-

teeming his brothers and sisters higher than himself.

Many faults we see could be corrected if we 1) first examine ourselves, our thoughts, and conduct and 2) became more of an example in contrast to the error(s) involved. Perhaps no words would be needed.

### APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME

Doug Kellenberger

"And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; there stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying, come over unto Macedonia, and help us. And after he had seen the vision, immediately we endeavored to go into Macedonia, assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us for to preach the Gospel with them." Acts 16:9, 10

We are still in need of house-parents and an administrator. We pray you brethren "come over unto" Leo and help us. If the Lord is calling you to do this work, trust Him and come. It is a joyful and abundant life, though sometimes wearisome to the body and mind. Do not allow any human or earthly barrier to stand in your way. Christ is greater than any of our sins or barriers. Just let Him work. Not only are the children's souls at stake for need of house-parents, but your soul, also, if you are disobeying His call concerning this work.

We witnessed a wonderful work done by our friends and brethren this last week and a half. An entirely new waterway was excavated, constructed, tiled, and seeded.

Brothers came from Latty, Milford, Francesville, Bluffton, and Leo. The Lord blessed it all and sent rain the very next day. We thank all who helped.

### APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

Scripture promises that as long as the earth stands the seasons will follow one another in perfect order; and yet as we witness this development anew, we marvel and feel a deep reverence for Him who holds it all in the hollow of His hand.

The year has turned Octoberwise.  
The rustling corn and deep blue  
skies

Remind us that a God all-wise  
Still reigns upon His throne . . .

Author Unknown

Esther Baldwin York thought deeply when she wrote: "Trees have a way of talking to us—oh, not in so many words. But they tell us things just the same—if we listen and observe and are still. A forest can be both cathedral and classroom to the receptive, and a single tree can furnish enough food for thought for the lifetime of a man."

### NOTICE FOR THE ANNUAL BENEFIT DAY:

Our Annual Benefit Day has been scheduled for November 17, 1978, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The luncheon will start at 11:00 a.m. and will be served until 1:30 p.m.

The cooperation of the many hands which have helped in previous years is so very much appreciated. If you wish to help this

year, please call the Home for the Handicapped at Morton (309-265-9781) by November 1.

The items which you wish to contribute for the sale may be brought any time, but it is to good advantage if they are brought in by November 10 with the suggested price marked on them. If early delivery is not possible, we will still accept your items up to the day of the sale. Baked goods should be brought in on the morning of the sale. Tours of the new addition of the Home will be available all during the day.

This month, let us learn to know our new resident, Kathryn Kay Knapp, who came to live at our Home on June 28 of this year. She is the daughter of Everitt and Lorene Schlupp Knapp of Carterville (Barton County), Missouri. Kathy's dear parents have been very active for years in helping, not only their own children, but many others with crafts and other kind deeds. One of their specialties is craft pictures made from buttons. Samples of this art are on display at various places. Birthday time for Kathy is November 5.

We welcome three more new residents to our Home. They are Betsy Aberle from the Tremont area, David Metz from Fairbury, and Kent Knobloch from Morton.

Summer has lingered a bit longer this year than usual. It is a gift . . . a reprieve from what is sure to come. As these beautiful, crisp, sun-filled days draw to a close, let us take time from our busy schedules to stroll in the twilight for one last loving look at the flowers. Meditatingly, we mentally review the past summer in all its quiet beauty and breathe a prayer of thanks to God for loaning us all this. If the crisp air prompts us to seek the warmth of shelter, let us turn once more to look out the window. With no artificial light to interfere, we have opportunity to drink in the beauty of the outdoor silhouettes, skillfully etched before the rosy glow left behind by the setting sun. And so we close the day . . . the summer . . . and begin now to hope for another promised season of summer beauty—if it is His will.

#### ALABAMA, ATHENS Hazel Vibbert

It is hard for my Bro. Dewey Perry's little children to understand

why their Daddy isn't coming home anymore. He passed away Aug. 23. Funeral services were held by Bro. Lloyd Moore. He is the first to be laid to rest in the new graveyard. He left a wife, Ruby, and five children: Don, Lynn, Bradly, Carolyn, and Brenda. He is also survived by his parents, Bro. Henry and Sis. Anis, and three sisters: Rebecca Dupree, Corrine Thomas, and Hazel Vibbert.

Sis. Shirley Haggermaker was in the hospital, but is home now. Vickie Vibbert, Ervin Kyle, and Shirley Kyle are in Athens Limestone Hospital.

Gary Vibbert has finished his tour of duty in Germany and is now home on leave. He will be in Colorado for the rest of his time in the Army.

An ice cream supper was held at the church. It was well attended, and there were many visitors from other churches.

#### ALABAMA, HUNTSVILLE

John and Ann Wagler

The following poem brings to mind again the wonderful salvation that we have in the Lord Jesus Christ:

#### MY ADVOCATE

I sinned. And straightway, post-haste, Satan flew before the presence of the most High God. And made a railing accusation there.

He said, "This soul, this thing of clay and sod

Has sinned. 'Tis true that he has used Thy name

But I demand his death, for Thou hast said,

"The soul that sinneth, it shall die!" Shall not

Thy sentence be fulfilled? Is justice dead?

Send now this wretched sinner to his doom.

What other thing can a righteous ruler do?"

And thus he did accuse me day and night

And every word he spoke, O God, was true!

Then quickly One rose from God's right hand

Before whose glory angels veiled their eyes;

He spoke. "Each jot and tittle of the law

Must be fulfilled; the guilty sinner dies !

But wait—suppose his guilt were all transferred

To Me, and that I paid his penalty! Behold, My hand, My side, My feet! One day

I was made sin for him, and died that he

Might be presented faultless, at Thy throne.

And Satan fled away. Full well he knew

That he could not prevail against such love

For every word my dear Lord spoke was true.

Martha Snell Nicholson

Gail Gutwein has come to spend a year here at the school. She has returned after a year's leave of absence and is a devoted and faithful worker.

The number of children riding the bus to church has increased and has also encouraged some parents to come and bring their children.

Scott and Tena Pedersen are new additions to the church.

The School enrollment has reached around 180. The building needs to be completed as soon as possible.

The following incident happened recently: The preschool children know where the cookie jar is kept. After services they stand expectantly waiting for someone to give them a cookie. One evening Kate Parrucci came walking with a cookie. Her mother inquired if she had asked for it, and she said she did. Her mother, a little suspicious, inquired from whom she had asked. She said, "I ask myself." She is three years old!

#### THE SILVER LINING

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Editor-News Correspondent: Ed Souder.

Assistants: David Bertsch, Maurice Frank.

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**ARIZONA, PHOENIX****Julie Hoerr**

Sept. 10. we were blessed with a visiting minister, Bro. Loren Knapp (Tucson) who ministered God's Precious Word to us. We thank Bro. Loren for his labors.

"And let the peace of God rule in your hearts . . ." (Col. 3:15) Alan Schmidgall has found this peace and is now awaiting the time for his testimony and baptism. Alan is the son of Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Mary Jo.

"I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." (St. Luke 13:3) Dora Kaufman Cassidy has yielded to God's calling. We wish Dora and her husband, Steve, God's much needed Grace as she undertakes this most important step of preparing herself for eternity. Dora's father is Bro. John Kaufman.

Hospital patients this month have been Sisters Christine Schuester, Clara Zollinger, and Evelyn Hoerr. May the Lord grant them each the patience and grace to overcome any trials as He lays His healing touch upon them.

"Where you go hereafter depends largely on what you go after here." The Sunshine Magazine.

**CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA****Linda Cooper**

Walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God. Col. 1:10

Sis. Helen Klotzle is home from the hospital and is feeling better, though she hasn't regained full strength. Last month she was able to celebrate, with her family, her 80th birthday.

**CALIFORNIA, MAYWOOD****Helen Julien**

One season has gone by and another is beginning as we see the blossoms fading and the leaves turning to beautiful fall colors. We do not have as dramatic a contrast in California as in the east, but our country is beautiful everywhere.

As the summer season passes, we can look back to vacationers who remembered the Maywood Church. We were privileged to have Bros. Wallis Ramsier and Don Sauder serve us during their visit to our state. We haven't had a visiting minister in a number of years, so it was refreshing. We do appreciate our California ministers, but it is

interesting to hear sermons that reflect the difference in the way people live in other parts of the country, just as our seasons differ but are all of or for the same meaning.

Bro. Dale Dapper was able to be with us again while here on business. Eva Furher's family vacationed with her for awhile. She also had two of our former Sunday School children, Patty and Brian Dapper, visit from Minnesota, all grown up after being gone for five years.

Our Elder Bro. Karl Kinsinger and his wife, Sis. Margaret, became grandparents for the first time when their son Doug and Lori were blessed with a beautiful boy. Ministering Bro. John Klotzle's daughter, Heidi, and Tom Luginbuhl of Connecticut brought their granddaughter home to help celebrate her great-grandmother Helen's 80th birthday.

Our two oldest members (in age) have moved to Florida. Mary and Pete Schick's daughter thought it would be best for them to live with her. Since leaving, we have heard that Pete has a heart condition and is in the hospital. Their new address is 88 N. W. Warne St., Port Charlotte, Florida 33952 c/o Mrs. A. H. Hollabrough.

**FLORIDA, FT. LAUDERDALE****Caroline Hejja**

This summer I had the privilege of spending a little over a month-and-a-half with our brothers and sisters in our churches in Hungary. Many asked me to bring greetings back to the brethren in America. It is encouraging to them to hear that we are thinking of them and that they are remembered in our prayers. They also requested that I extend a sincere invitation to anyone who may wish to visit their churches and meet the brethren there. This fellowship means so much to them, and they are very appreciative when somebody comes such a great distance to fellowship with them. This was my third visit to Hungary, and each time the people there have asked me to encourage brethren from our churches to come. If any are planning a vacation trip to Western Europe, I believe that a short trip to visit one of our churches in Hungary might be a blessed experience for the traveler and for the members in that land.

The members of the Ft. Lauderdale church were invited to visit Sarasota during Labor Day weekend. Those who went enjoyed a blessed and encouraging weekend. It was good to meet with our dear brothers and sisters and share in holy fellowship with them.

Bro. Ed Gerber underwent surgery Sept. 14 at the Miami Heart Institute. Our prayers are with him. We also hope that the Lord will hold up and strengthen his family during this time.

**FLORIDA, SARASOTA****Kathryn Schroeder**

Blessed is the man that trusteth in the Lord, and whose hope the Lord is.

For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, and that spreadeth out her roots by the river, and shall not see when the heat cometh, but her leaf shall be green; and shall not be careful in the years of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit. Jeremiah 17:7,8.

This is, in part, the story of Daniel C. Kurchev who lives in Sun City Center, Fla. He has driven forty-seven miles each Sunday for more than a year to worship with us, and has experienced and felt deeply the blessed fellowship in our beloved congregation. Longing to be one of us and partake of communion, he expressed his desire to transfer his membership from a church in Ohio to the Apostolic Christian Church, and, thus, he gave his testimony on Sept. 3. We are happy that he is now a member of our brotherhood.

We have four young converts: Michael Siladie, Jim Furrer and his wife Rowena, and Sharon Rocke. This fills our hearts with gladness.

"But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep.

"To him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear his voice: and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out." St. John 10:2, 3.

Our sympathy is given to our minister, Bro. Phillip Wingeier. His sister, Sis. Kathryn W. Grawburg, died Sept. 11. Bro. Phil attended her funeral in Alto, Mich., Sept. 13.

Bro. Peter and Sis. Mary Schick moved to Port Charlotte, FL, from California. He shortly became ill with pneumonia and died Sept. 16 at the age of 88 after five weeks in the hospital at Punta Gorda. Peter

was born in Austria. The Schicks lived for a period of time in Mansfield, Ohio. Peter is survived by his wife, Mary, a son, James, Youngstown, O., three daughters: Delcene Wright, Youngstown, Irene Hollobaugh, Port Charlotte, and Goldie Hicks, Akron, OH. Sis. Mary and her family wish to express their deep appreciation and gratitude to their brethren for the kindness and helpfulness shown them during Peter's illness, subsequent death, and funeral.

We miss Sis. Emma Lach who worshipped with us for several years. She has returned to Ft. Lauderdale to live with her son. She rejoins well-known brethren and friends there.

Bro. John and Sis. Sylvia Marioncu returned on Aug. 29 from a month's visit in Windsor, Canada, where they renewed old ties and friendships with those dear ones they left behind when they moved to Florida.

Bro. Robert and Sis. Dorothy Norr returned home on Sept. 20 from a very happy sojourn in Leo, IN. They were there during the latter part of July and the month of August enjoying a wonderful reunion with their children and grandchildren.

We welcome Elmer and Sis. Louella Jacob who have become permanent residents of our community in Sarasota, having moved here from Cissna Park, IL.

Jack and Sis. Lois Melendreras, with her son, Bro. Randy Kegler, attended the wedding of her son, Robert D. Kegler, to Lou Ann Mezzaros, Oct. 7, 1978, at the Bethel Church of the Nazarene, Lowville, N.Y. The bride and her parents, Louis and Julia Mezzaros, have friends in the membership of our Croghan, N.Y., church. The couple will reside in Scarborough, Maine, where Robert is a teacher in the Jr. High School. Following the wedding, Jack and Lois visited for a few days with her mother, Alice Mead Cahill, in Rockville, Conn., (Lois' hometown) before they returned to St. Petersburg, FL.

#### ILLINOIS, BRADFORD Jane Leman

Little Stephen Larry joined the family circle of Bro. Larry and Sis. Rebecca Endress, Lavonne, Leann, and Benji. Sis. Mildred Endress (Princeville) and Bro. Orel and Sis. Rose Steiner (Oakville) are

his grandparents.

We thank our visiting ministers for their labors: Bros. Henry Dotterer (Rittman), LeRoy Hartman (Peoria), Robert Walder (Congerville), Harry Sutter (Ft. Lauderdale), Ken Schneider (Remington), and John Steiner (Oakville).

#### ILLINOIS, BLOOMINGTON- NORMAL

##### Holly Stahl

I know that all of us are different, and the feelings we experience are sometimes unique, yet I'm sure that at some time or other we all share a common state of mind—discouragement. When I feel those waves of self-pity and the sense of personal failure creeping into my heart, I've discovered that the best thing to do is to tell Jesus how I feel. When I tell Him how discouraged I am, I never fail to think of how valiant He was as He faced death on the cross; and my problems seem small in comparison. And then I think of the words Jesus said to His disciples when they were discouraged, ". . . Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." John 14:27.

Those words of Jesus promise peace to us, and they give me the strength to face the discouragement that sometimes opposes me.

We were happy to attend the wedding of Sue Maurer and Mark Hinrichson here on Aug. 27. We pray that God will bless them as they begin life together. We were also happy to hear the announcement of the engagement of Bro. Ron Farney to Sis. Ellen Dominick of Morton on Sept. 10.

We were the hosts of Apostolic Christian Youth Fellowship on Sept. 17. It was certainly a blessing to listen to the singing of our young people.

The following is submitted by Sis. Jeanie Haerr:

While we were visiting Switzerland this summer, we spent a day with Fritz and Eva Judt from Ludwigsburg, Germany, who were visiting their daughter, Emmi Gerber, and husband, Hans, at Bern. They asked about the many brothers and friends who visited their home during their Army days in Germany and send a very warm and heartfelt greeting to all of you. The Gerber family purchased a Swiss farmhouse high in the mountains outside of Bern. It was built

in the early 17th century. In the attic of the house is a small secret room where Christians were hidden and baptized during the years of government persecution. The house has remained the same except for a few conveniences in the kitchen. It was very interesting to learn of some of the persecution of the born again believers in the 100 years prior to Bro. Froelich's lifetime. The house will now be used for singings and get-togethers of the young people from the church in the area and for family holidays. There are, sometimes, very lovely meals and accommodations when you travel, but, for us, sharing a bit of soup and bread in this house of Christian friendship will remain one of the most special joys of Switzerland.

#### ILLINOIS, CHAMPAIGN - URBANA

##### Charlen Banwart

"When Autumn flings her banners  
wide upon October air,  
All nature seems to thank God for  
making life so fair . . ."

Margaret E. Sangster

How fortunate we are to be able to enjoy these autumn days in the great outdoors. We are looking forward to the annual fall weiner roast sponsored by the college students at Lake of the Woods.

Ring the bells of heaven! There is joy today, For a soul, returning from the wild; See! the Father meets him out upon the way. Welcoming His weary, wand'ring child." (Gospel Hymns, No. 622) We sang this song at a recent Wednesday evening Bible Class, as we have several friends seeking the Lord in repentance. Bro. Joe Schrock, Congerville, spoke that evening on "The ABC's of Salvation." Elder Bro. Ed Hohulin, Goodfield, Bro. Bob Pflederer, Morton, and Bro. Ed Alt, Cissna, ministered to us recently.

"Let brotherly love continue. Be not forgetful to entertain strangers; for thereby some have entertained angels unawares." (Hebrews 13:1-2) Several of our Sunday School students and their families recently spent a weekend with the Indianapolis Bible Class. Truly the abundant life includes Christian fellowship, and we appreciated that opportunity.

**ILLINOIS, CHICAGO****Kathy Schlatter**

Our greatest weapon is prayer.  
Our greatest enemy is self.

Unknown

May we "look back and give thanks, look forward and take courage, look around and service, look up and rejoice."

Unknown

We praise Him again for a spiritually blessed month just past. Sun., Sept. 10, we welcomed Bro. Russell Rapp from Morton, IL, and Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman and the Francesville choir. We were fed through Word and song. Our fellowship continued at our church supper and afterwards. It was a beautiful day, and the next Sunday continued to be spiritually uplifting. Morris Stedman, long the friend of the Chicago congregation, having attended the church some 40 years, through the grace of God, was proved and baptized and is now our brother in faith. Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen from Elgin, IL, assisted Elder Bro. Dale. Bro. Maurice Frank, Leo, IN, and Bro. Bob Beebe, Bremen, IN, also shared in and added to our spiritual wealth that day. Friends and brethren again shared a meal together following the baptism.

We have other good news. Merle Hodel, whose roots are Roanoke, IL, has found that his own strength was not enough, and, through grace, repentance, and conversion now leans upon the Lord. Two sisters new to our area are Sis. Ruth Rapp and Sis. Jackie Getz, both from Morton, IL. They are in nurses' training at West Suburban Hospital. We are happy to have them with us. Sis. Phyllis Anderson has joined our team of Sunday School teachers. We are most grateful for her help and expertise. Beth Metzger, daughter of Bro. Boyd and Sis. Lois, a June graduate from high school, has just started at Northwestern University. We wish her many good things.

Miklas Bozzay, son of Bro. Miklos and Sis. Sranka Bozzay, was recently hospitalized for an appendectomy. We are glad that he is recovering so quickly. Sis. Olga Laubschure doesn't want publicity, but she broke her leg—not an arm—as I had erroneously reported. We've been glad to have Sis. Olga back in church. She has been so patient about her injury.

I was "helping" at a church meal, putting salt in the salt shakers. But an older sister asked if I was sure. We tasted it—and it didn't matter whether I'd been sure—'twas sugar. She helped me correct my mistake and made it right. She said no one had to know. I was chagrined, but I learned a lot. We are to be the salt of the earth. Salt and sugar look a great deal alike. One must not be too hasty with what we add to our "shakers"—prayer and the Word can prove our "tasting." Yet, lest we err, our elder brothers and sisters have much of value to lend.

Those of us who enjoy creating items, making things with our hands, know how much a kit or design can cost. ("And there's still all that work to go into it," we say.) But the price is so high because of the pattern, the original idea someone thought up and made available for others' use. Remember the plan thought up by our God and made available through our Lord's blood. Quite a price was paid on Calvary—but **not** by us—by Him! Yet there is still "all that work to go into it." We are so blessed.

**ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK****Marilyn Knapp  
Judy Bauer**

We thank God for sending Bros. Robert Beebe (Bremen) and Robert Walder (Congerville) to our congregation.

We are fortunate to have only one patient in the hospital this month. Sis. Blaine Sauder (Bro. Curtis) was in for a short time for tests.

A benefit supper was held at Cissna Park for Bro. Daryl and Sis. Jan Hari. As you may know, the costs of her illness have been almost unbearable. And she recently had more surgery. This family needs our prayers as well as donations.

Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Hulda Schmitt (Bro. Emil) on the passing of her brother, Herman Honnegger.

We have been spending the last few Wednesday evenings listening to the tapes of the last conference. We have been reminded of all the evils in this world and how we can escape them. We thank our elders and ministers for their time and concern for us.

September is the month when our

students are returning to their classrooms—some in high school and some in college. We want to keep them in our prayers.

**ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE****Judy Wettstein  
Gay Knapp**

Thus united And in concord  
Let us walk the path of life;  
Hand in hand, O may love bind us  
For each other's welfare strive.

(Unity—Zion's Harp)

As our Brotherhood sang these beautiful words at the close of our annual conference, so may we live. It is our privilege to walk in love and unity with one another. As our beloved elders were inspired by God to direct us, may we always remember to "Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves, for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy and not with grief. . ." (Heb. 13:17)

On Wednesday evening, prior to the conference, we were privileged to have ministering Bros. Ed Knecht (Silverton, OR), Lloyd Kraft (Gridley, KA), and Ron Heiniger (Normal, IL). Then on Friday evening, we had Bros. John Lehman (Bern, KS), Ken Indermuhle (Sardis, OH), Bill Gerst (Alto, MI), and Noah Gerber (West Bend, IA). On Sunday, Bro. Roy Wernli (Lamont, KS) was with us.

The engagement of Kent Steffen, Bro. Ed and Sis. Mary, to Beth Wagenbach, John and Sis. Marilyn was announced. A November wedding is planned.

**ILLINOIS, ELGIN****Ruth Ann Getz**

"My life-time doth pass away,  
Hourly to the grave I hasten;  
And I know each fleeting day  
My allotted span will lessen.

Think, man, death comes soon or late,  
Tary not, it will not wait!"

Zion's Harp No. 253

To some of us it is given to live a long life, and to others but a few short years; but for each of us our life-time doth pass away. Such is the lot of our dearly beloved Sister in the Lord, Lydia Messerschmidt. Lydia passed away September 1 at the age of 92 after a short illness. The past seven years found

Lydia in a wheel chair at a local nursing home, too crippled from arthritis to walk, but from that vantage point our dear sister radiated the love of God in her constant concern for others and for the church. We will miss her dear face, but how glorious it is when that final victory is won and the Lord calls one of His children home.

We welcome into our midst Garrel and Julie Geiger and their two-year-old son, Jason, who have moved from Congerville, IL, to Sycamore, IL. Garrel has a veterinary practice there. We are grateful to God that Garrel is seeking the Lord in repentance.

Bro. Robert and Sis. Jean Scheitlin have announced the engagement of their daughter Nancy to Randy Greener, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Greener of Denver, Colorado. They plan an Oct. 21 wedding.

Bro. Earl and Sis. Kathryn Steffen announce the engagement of their daughter Linda to David Fehr, son of Bro. Richard and Sis. Madeline of Roanoke. They plan to take their vows in holy matrimony on Nov. 26.

We are waiting to hear the testimony of faith from our friend Bob Buckheister. May God be praised that He still hears the cry and plea of the penitent heart and so graciously bestows His peace on the cleansed and purified hearts.

Hospitalized for surgery on Aug. 29 was Johnny Kinsinger, young son of Bro. Bill and Sis. Sandy. He is now convalescing at home. Also hospitalized for surgery were Sis. Kathrine Kachelmuss and Ben Graf who are also convalescing at their homes. Sis. Mary Weiss is hospitalized for diagnostic tests. Sis. Emma Moser is convalescing in the home of her daughter, Sis. Lois (Bro. Frank) Schrenck.

Our friend, Ben Graf, has found grace to repent. Let us support him in prayer so that the Lord's redemptive work will be completed.

We would like to thank our visiting ministers for traveling to our community and sharing the Holy Scriptures with us. They are: Bro. Maurice Frank (Leo). Bro. Vernon Schwab (Wolcott), and Bro. Harry Sutter (Ft. Lauderdale). Truly, we are strengthened in the spiritual man when we can sit under the sound of the Gospel. Oh, that we would always have grateful and appreciative hearts for this special privilege.

## ILLINOIS, EUREKA

### Melba Mangold

On Friday evening, Aug. 18, we were privileged to have a number of ministers visit us after the conference. On the pulpit were Bros. Ben Maibach, Detroit, Willis Ehnle, Japan, Lloyd Kraft, Gridley, KS. and Mark Bahr, Detroit. We were thankful for the good teachings of Bro. Ehnle and wished that we could have listened to all of them, as well as a number of other ministers in the audience. We appreciated all of our visitors and invite them to come back again.

Bro. Roger and Sis. Wendy Blunier are the parents of a baby girl, Teresa Renee, born Aug. 29. Happy to have a little sister to play with are three brothers, Bruce, Randy, and Merle. The grandparents are Bro. Sam and Sis. Elizabeth Blunier of Eureka and Bro. Dave and Sis. Beulah Ehnle of Princeville.

Bro. Robert Beyer of Naumberg, N. Y., was with us for a Sunday. We thank him for his visit. If only we could remember longer all that we hear, it would be a big help to us in our daily life.

Among our hospital patients have been Bro. Thurman (Bob) Hinrichsen, surgery; Bro. Tom Stoller, medical patient; and, from the Home, Sis. Minnie Martin. Sis. Katie Heinold of the Home had been in and out of the hospital for some time. She was relieved of her suffering on Sept. 16. Funeral services were in Goodfield, her home church.

On a Wed. evening, Bro. Wayne Anliker of Forrest was with us. We thank him for sharing God's Word with us.

Bro. Tom and Sis. Edith Stoller were blessed with a new baby girl, Brenda Mae, on Sept. 16. She joins Rachel and Darrel in their family circle. The grandparents are Bro. Willis and Sis. Wilma Stoller and Henry and Sis. Wilma Blunier of Eureka.

We sympathize with Bro. Merle and Sis. Beverly Rocke who could not bring their baby home from the hospital. Little Angela Marie was taken from this world to be a little bud in her Master's bouquet. Grave side services were held on Mon. Sept. 18. Matthew and Cherry are at home to be a comfort to their parents in this time of sorrow.

ADDRESS CHANGED?  
TELL YOUR REPORTER.

## ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY

### Joyce Huber

Bro. and Sis. Warren Hartman's daughter, Nora, was married to Dale Horine. We wish them God's blessings. They are living at rural Forrest.

Sis. Martha Maier is recovering from having cataracts removed. Bros. Sam and Ezra Steffen and Bro. Ernest Gerber are home after being hospitalized.

We enjoyed messages from the following ministers recently: Bro. Byron Stoller, Bro. Harold Schmidgall, Bro. Joe Schrock, and Bro. Phillip Sauder.

Bro. and Sis. Jacob Stortz came back to Fairbury and are making their home at Fairview Haven.

Sis. Bertha Moser and family wish to thank everyone who remembered them in thoughtful ways at the passing away of Bro. Eli Moser.

## ILLINOIS, FORREST

### Kathryn Steidinger Beverly Eisenmann

It was a very impressive Friday evening after the Brotherhood Conference when we had 14 ministering brothers with us. Bringing the Word to us were Bros. Corbin Bahler (Rockville), Gary Maibach (Rittman), and Ron Steiner (Rittman). We also appreciated the others who were with us: Elder Bro. Sam Anliker and Bro. Roy Wernli (Lamont); Bros. Earl Kilgus, Ed Bahler, and Ken Schneider (Remington); Bro. Vernon Schwab (Wolcott); Bro. Merrill Laukhuf (Latty); and Elder Bro. Jcsh Broquard, Bro. Art Bahler, Merle Kaisner, and Duane Kilgus (Fairbury). The following Sunday we were richly blessed again when God sent us many good teachings through His servant, Bro. Ken Indermuhle of Sardis.

We welcome Kirby Knapp (Bro. Glen and Sis. Laura) and Keith Ifft (Bro. Harvey and Sis. Velma Jean) as our brothers-in-faith. Elder Bros. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott) and Josh Broquard (Fairbury) helped our Elder Bro. Perry Zimmerman in this important work. Also here to witness their rebirth were Bros. Virg Metzger and Dave Wiegand (Champaign), Elmer Witzig (Gridley), Vernon Schwab (Wolcott), and Art Bahler and Duane Kilgus (Fairbury).

May God's blessings be with our three engaged couples—Sis. Sherri



Ifft (Bro. Harvey and Sis. Velma Jean) and Bro. Mark Schlatter (Sis. Juliet, Junction); Mike Zimmerman (Bro. Perry and Sis. Dorothy) and Jeanette Haberkorn; and Bro. Pete Esslinger (Bern, KS) and Sis. Esther Knapp.

Stanley and Peggy Blunier are the happy parents of Kent Stanley. His grandparents are Bro. Homer and Sis. Virginia Blunier.

Our Elder Bro. Perry Zimmerman was unable to be in our midst due to injuries he received from a fall while doing chores. Several stitches were required to close a gash in his head, and he also injured his back. Several others from our congregation had misfortunes. Marsha, the small daughter of Bro. Marvin and Sis. Mary Bachtold escaped serious injury when hit by a car. Also Charles Leman (Bro. Robert and Sis. Donna) was hospitalized for a short time after a car accident. Bro. Richard and Sis. Lou Ida Steffen took Doug to the hospital due to high temperature. Our aged Bro. Roy Metz has been in the hospital several days, and Andy Rieger has gone to Mayos for a check-up and tests.

At this time there is deep concern in our midst for the welfare of our loved ones, Bro. Paul and Sis. Edna Wiegand, who had extensive injuries from a car accident. They were taken to St. Francis Hospital in Peoria, and at this time they are both in intensive care. Karen Huette, the daughter of Bro. Harvey and Sis. Leona Leman, had major surgery.

There is a loving brother missing in our midst lately since David Metz has moved to the home for the Handicapped. We look forward to having him come home soon for a visit. Bro. Ed Bach is now staying at Fairview Haven, and we enjoyed having him assemble with us again after a long illness.

Though I meet with pain and sorrow, oft must feel how hard it be through afflictions here to struggle, yet my God shall faithful be. Thou dost help my burden carry; Should I comfortless then tarry? Guided by Thy hand alone, "Thine and not my will be done."

(Zion's Harp No. 93)

### ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD

Elna Grimm - Verna Hartter

"Serve The Lord with Gladness—  
Come into His Presence with Singing."

These words, sung by the younger children of the Wichita church, opened a very joyous and blessed evening of song by the Wichita Choir (including some from the Fort Scott and Kiowa congregations), on Sept. 2. On the following day, we appreciated the messages given by Bro. Ronald Allenbach of Kiowa, and Bro. Glenn Funk, Wichita. We were also thankful for the presence of our dear retired Bro. George Lambert.

Many good teachings were shared this past month from visiting ministers: Bro. Ed Knecht (Silverton), Bro. Marvin Schmidgall (Eureka), Bro. Bob Pflederer (Morton), Bro. Everett Hari (Bloomington), Bro. Fred Knapp (Congerville), and Bro. Dave Wiegand (Champaign). May these dear ones never tire; we find such teachings very helpful, spiritually, as we go about our daily tasks!

The engagement has been made known of Barbara Knapp (Wilma and the late George Knapp) to Ron Smith, son of the Delmar Smiths, Low Point, Ill. We give many good wishes to both of them.

Melvin and Marilyn Blunier are parents of a new baby girl, Janel Elaine, born Aug. 15. She has two sisters, Thekle and Karen, and a brother, Jeff. The grandparents are the Earl Underwoods of Eureka and Bro. and Sis. Harold and Emma Blunier, Roanoke. Mrs. Eli Hodel is a great-grandmother.

Jena Leigh is now the new adopted daughter of Norman and Sis. Barb Ricketts. She has one brother, Jeremy. The grandparents are Bro. and Sis. Levi and Margaret Ricketts, Morton, and Bro. John Wettstein, Eureka.

A new daughter, Cynthia Lynn, was born to Gary and Elna Wettstein on Sept. 14. The grandparents are Bro. and Sis. Art and Donna Wettstein, Eureka, and Bro. and Sis. Elmer and Mildred Bauman.

Two very dear souls and strong pillars in the church have been called to rest. Bro. Charles Beetchen passed away at his home on Sept. 10. His wife, Sis. Emma, one daughter, Eleanore Knapp, one sister, Lydia Francis of California, three grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren survive. Funeral services were held Sept. 13.

Sis. Katie Heinold passed away at the Eureka Hospital, Sept. 6. Surviving are: two sons, Raymond and Bro. Howard; three brothers.

Bro. George, Eureka, David, Roanoke, and Walter, Secor; three sisters, Sis. Anna Bittner, Eureka, Sis. Helen Hunziker, Peoria, and Sis. Marie Aeschleman, Roanoke; five grandchildren; and twelve great-grandchildren.

Our sincere sympathy goes to each of these families.

### ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY

Mrs. Perry Klopfenstein

We were glad to hear the announcement that six dear souls have repented for their sins and have been washed in the blood of the Lamb of God. Mary Schlipf, Sandy Gramm, Lori Funk, Dave Zehr, Jon Zehr, and Marge Yergler have received the mercy and grace of God to make this all-important step and now have His peace in their cleansed and purified hearts. They are looking forward to giving their testimonies of faith before the congregation in the near future.

Bro. Bob and Sis. LuAnne Gerber have moved from Indiana and are making Gridley their home church. Already we can feel the warmth of their love and the mutual faith we share in our beloved brotherhood across the land. "Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love."

Mike Stoller, son of Bro. Don and Sis. Vira, was in the hospital suffering from head injuries. He is now home again and is doing better.

Sis. Sally Gramm from our congregation is living in Japan. Her address is as follows:

Sally Gramm  
112 Atago-Machi, Kofu-Shi  
Yamanashi-Ken  
400-Japan

### ILLINOIS, ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY

Deanna Marti

"My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness." II Corinthians 12:9

When Paul asked to have his infirmity removed, God didn't grant him his wish, but He did promise him the grace to bear it. So it is in our lives; when trials are sent our way, God doesn't always chose to remove them, but he never gives us more than what, with His help, we can bear. I will always remember something my uncle once told me. He said, "God doesn't send us through deep waters to drown us,



but to cleanse us." So when our lives seem filled with despair, we must cling to His promises, and trust, knowing that in our weaknesses He makes us strong.

We are now settled into another semester of school, ready to tackle any new challenges that come with it. We were pleased with the large crowd we had for our Student Welcome, which was held Sept. 14. We want to thank the families and friends that came to worship, and to welcome the Freshmen and transfer students to our area schools. We were blessed by the inspired Word which was brought forth by Bro. Bob Pflederer of the Morton church. This month we were fortunate to have Bro. Jim Leman, Roanoke, Bro. Joe Schrock, Congerville, and Bro. Dave Wiegand, Champaign, with us. We appreciated the ministers and all those who spent their Thursday evenings at our Bible Study, for they truly made that week complete.

#### ILLINOIS, MORTON

##### Joanne Roecker

Toward the close of World War II, a soldier, who had spent more than three years in the South Pacific, sat in a railway coach with a look of joyous anticipation on his face! The train was speeding toward Chicago. "How fast are we traveling?" asked the soldier of the porter. "This is a good section of track and we are making about 105 miles per hour!" the porter answered. "How far are we from Chicago?" asked the soldier. "A little over a hundred miles, sir." "We can't get there too quickly." said the soldier, as he took his duffel bag and bundles from the overhead rack. "I'm going to be the first one off this train!"

Why was he so eager to reach his destination? His father, mother, brothers, sisters, friends, and one he loved were all waiting, to welcome him!

There was another serviceman in that same coach. His face looked like a blown-out lamp. He was a picture of gloom and dejection. He was in handcuffs and in the charge of military policemen. He was not eager to reach his destination, for only judgment and punishment for crime awaited him there. There would be no friends or loved ones to greet him.

Do you look forward with joy to

your home going? Will you be received "into everlasting habitations" and be for ever with the Lord and with loved ones in glory? Or, do you look forward with craven fear to meeting the One whose love you spurned, and whose mercy and forgiveness you rejected?

Our eternal destination is determined by the answer in action we give to this question: "What shall I do then with Jesus which is called Christ?" (Matt. 27:22).

We were blessed and privileged to hear the following ministers: Bro. Darrel Klopfenstein, Ft. Lauderdale, and Bro. Mark Bahr, Detroit.

The engagement of Bro. Ron Farney of Bloomington and Sis. Ellen Domnick was announced Sept. 10. Ron is the son of Bro. Gerry and Sis. Gerry of Cissna Park. Ellen's parents are Bro. Dale and Sis. Joyce.

Those who were hospitalized were Sis. Edith Getz (who had open-heart surgery), Bro. Sam Dietrich, Bro. Eli Leman, and Geraldine Peters.

Our sympathy is extended to the family of Sis. Rosina Stetzler who died Aug. 17.

Bro. John J. Zimmerman was laid to rest on Aug. 23. He was residing at Restmor and lived 88 years.

Lydia Hauter Watkins, 81, died Sept. 4. Our prayers and sympathy are with her family.

Once again our Sunday School has resumed. Precious little children are learning of Jesus and His love. It is important to include our teachers in our prayers. Sometimes we fail to realize the significant part that they play in helping our children.

#### ILLINOIS, PEORIA

##### Mary Sue Rieker - Diane Ho'aulin

As one can look around at God's creation, the many signs of fall are upon us. When you drive through the countryside, you can see the farmers harvesting the fields, the leaves changing colors, and the shorter, cooler days approaching.

On Aug. 23, Ken and Sis. Pam Ober became the happy parents of a darling boy, Ken Ober II. Angela welcomes her new brother home. The grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Ethel Waibel.

First-time parents are Bro. Mike and Sis. Diane Honegger, whose daughter, Jennifer Sue, was born Sept. 15. The grandparents are Bro.

John and Sis. Wilma Honegger and Bro. Paul and Sis. Rhoda Meister.

Bro. Jim and Sis. Nannette David are the happy parents of a precious baby boy, named Mark Joseph. The grandparents are Wade and Marge Fehr.

We were privileged to have Bro. Joe Aberle from Sabetha, Kansas, minister to us on Aug. 20.

This month we are sorry to hear that so many have been hospitalized: Sis. Ilene Haefli, Sis. Iola Feucht, Sis. Mayme Erkert, Sis. Carrie Stiegele, Sis. Madge O'Moran, Sis. Barbara Stoller, Sis. Frieda Joos, Sis. Sophia Hybarger, Sis. Elmina Rauhaus, Sis. Nettie Zimmerman, Sis. Lauretta Schafer, and Sis. Ruth Yoder. We wish them God's blessings and a quick recovery.

The Peoria congregation was saddened with several deaths this month. Two dear brothers, Bro. Art Suttor and Bro. Ben Hermann, were suddenly taken from this world to their home in heaven. We extend our sympathy to Sis. Dorothy Suttor and her two daughters upon the death of her husband, Bro. Art Suttor. We also extend our sympathy to Sis. Reba Hermann, wife of Bro. Ben Hermann, and to Bro. Joe Hermann, who is Ben's brother.

We extend our sympathy to Sis. Helen Hunziker upon the death of her sister, Sis. Katie Heinold.

Bro. Art Leman passed away September 17. Our sympathy goes to his wife and also to Sis. Lois Leman, his sister.

#### ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE

##### Ruth Ricketts

As I write this, we are enjoying a blessed rain for which we have been waiting. Due to the dry weather, the crops have matured early, and many are in the fields harvesting beans and corn; and, from all indications, we can anticipate another bumper crop. The Lord truly has been good to us.

#### HARVEST OR ETERNITY

One man plowed an open field and planted winter wheat; He labored for some months before the harvest was complete. Another wished his work to last his lifetime through, and so He set a tree of oak, and then with pride he watched it grow. Another planned for eternity with manner true and mild;

He placed a noble thought into the heart stream of a child.

Author Unknown

We have had an abundance of spiritual blessings during the past weeks when a number of visitors from various places were with us. We heartily thank each one, especially the ministering brothers who lent themselves in our behalf. We hardly feel worthy of all the blessings derived; however, we give all honor and glory to our God.

Time was stressed so much when Bros. Glenn Hackenjoes of Altadena, CA, and Al Langhofer of Wichita, KS, spent a Wednesday evening with us. We must utilize our time and draw from the Spirit of God to prepare for eternity. If we do not use the time allotted us to prepare, we are anxious and worried; but, if we prepare and enjoy that blessed peace in our hearts, we need have no fear of meeting our Maker.

On another evening, we were fed with words from Bros. Henry Dotterer, Rittman, Ohio; Eugene Pamer, Akron, Ohio; and Doug Sabo of Sarasota, Fla. Many teachings were given, but one important one was that it is not in knowing the Word of God, but being in obedience to His word that we reap our reward.

On Sunday, Bros. Willis Ehnle of Japan; Norbert Steiner of Crogan, N.Y.; Wallace Ramsier and Kenneth Sauder of Mansfield, Ohio; Doug Sabo of Sarasota, Fla.; and Don Manz of Junction, Ohio, were our guest ministers.

Power and judgment come from God, and no reward is gained by relying on our own judgment. We must be set apart from the world and display a Christian attitude every day in every place. We must cut ourselves off from anything that may be a hindrance to our salvation. We are so thankful to be a part of this body of believers and also for our beloved elders who are concerned for our welfare and cling to the traditions that have proven so beneficial all these years. We ask the Lord's blessings on all who visited us and on those who took part in the ministry, prayers, and singing. Let us all resolve to walk closer to the Lord and help make our elders' crosses easier to bear by being more obedient. We are thankful that they strive to preserve this precious heritage.

Those of our congregation who were on the Heritage Tour in

Europe report many blessed experiences, especially the privilege of standing around the grave of Bro. Froelich in France and singing a hymn together.

Another heart stirring evening was shared by many when our dear friends Melissa Lewis and Lisa Stahl gave their testimonies of their new found faith and peace with God and man. We could all learn from the testimonies of these two young souls. Melissa had been searching for something for some time and didn't know where to turn. She felt burdened and sought relief by partaking of the world. Her life was in pieces, and she was groping in the darkness when she saw the light through a friend who had become converted and told her where to go for help. She began attending our church and became convicted. Being so pressed down, she surrendered her life into God's hands and was led through repentance with the precious grace and love of God. He stripped her of everything material, including her husband, but gave her abundantly of His grace, love, and fellowship of believers. She has found the peace that passeth all understanding and is now one of us. Lisa, too, who is young and still in school, testified that she found love among us and enjoyed attending Sunday School. She, too, became convicted and didn't find relief until she surrendered her life to God. She was searching and waiting for peace in her heart, but was not sure what to expect. One night, she saw the moon shining in her window, and, upon looking at it, saw how a cross was formed by the beams radiating from it. She felt a calm, peaceful feeling come over her and felt the Lord had forgiven her. We were thankful to have Bro. Joe Braker of Morton assist Bro. Dave in conducting the services that evening. It was so beneficial to all. Bro. Kenneth Dietz of Bradford was also with us for Sunday services. The time to repent is when your heart is pricked by His word; don't put it off for we never know if there will be a tomorrow. Bro. Joe reminded us that there are two destinations for Eternity, and, if we ignore the call and do not follow when the Lord calls us, we will be sad; but, if we heed His call, we will have much joy and peace in our hearts. Many witnessed the bap-

tisms of these two dear souls who are now our precious sisters in the Lord.

Labor Day weekend brought visitors from the Kansas, Michigan, and Missouri churches, and various other churches. Inspiring words were spoken by humble young Bros. Mark Bahr, Detroit, and Stephen Rinckenberger, Cissna Park. Fear God and keep His commandments, and be ready for the return of the Lord. "And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely." (Rev. 22:17) Are we ready? The singing was especially beautiful, with so many young voices blending together; it was an inspiration to us.

Sunday School has again started after a recess during August, and our thoughts are with the teachers and the children who gather. We pray the Lord's blessings on them all so all will learn according to the teachings of the Lord. Bros. Steve Stoller and Jim Plattner and Sis. Wilma Martin's terms have expired, and Bros. John Leuthold and Alfred Streitmatter and Sis. Nancy Menold have assumed the responsibility of filling their places. May they receive the needed grace and guidance to instruct these tender hearts about God's love for all. May the Lord further reward those who gave their time in the past.

Our thoughts are with all of our young folks, as school has again resumed, and especially to those who are going away from home to attend schools of higher learning. Let us fervently pray for them so that they will not be overtaken, but that, by the Grace of God, they will remain firm and enjoy His blessings. May they be a light and draw their friends to the way of truth and righteousness.

We could feel God's presence when Bro. Al Aberle and young folks from Tremont and Elgin visited us.

Another day of remembrance was shared by many when Bros. John Bahler of Rockville, Conn.; Leo Moser of Lester, Iowa; Joshua Broquard of Fairbury; and Roy Sauder of Peoria were our guest ministers. Our spiritual table was bountifully laden with much food for us to absorb in the coming days. What the Lord says He means and what He means He says. God is

longsuffering and patient, but He is also a righteous Judge. Let us stay close to Him and appreciate our salvation which was bought at such cost when our dear Lord gave His life on the cross and shed His precious blood for our sins. A beautiful portrayal of Acts 27 was delivered. We were told that if we all abide in the Ship of Faith, not going on our own, trusting the One at the helm, our Lord and Saviour, we will reach a safe end. Obedience is the key to love and harmony, and this was beautifully explained. We are so thankful for the love that all our ministering brothers have shown and feel unworthy of their patience and kindness toward us. May the Lord richly bestow on them His rich blessings.

We are thankful to learn that Bro. Sam Martin is able to be about on crutches. He hopes to be able to return home very soon after having spent eight weeks in the hospital following a tractor accident. His bright countenance and cheery smile have been an inspiration to all who visited him, and he said that he felt the power of prayer of those who were concerned for him. We are thankful that his mother, Sis. Louise Martin, is able to worship with us again after spending a few days in the hospital.

Dean Herrmann, 15-year-old son of Bro. Noah and Sis. Evelyn, spent several days in the hospital for tests, and we are thankful that he, too, is at home again.

Sis. Emma Asal finds comfort in worshipping with us even though she is now totally blind. She still wears her smile and is so grateful when loved ones speak with her. She is hopeful that in a few months her eye will heal and she will be able to distinguish objects again. She is thankful for those who give their time to stay with her and appreciates visits and phone calls.

Kara Sue, born Aug. 28, has brought joy to her parents, Gerald and Louise Martin and sister Marla, and also to her grandparents, Sis. Bessie Martin and William and Bertha Michal.

We ask the Lord's blessings on Bro. Brad Baurer and Sis. Cheryl Rocke who have announced their engagement. Bro. Art and Sis. Joy Baurer are Brad's parents, and Bro. Melvin and Sis. Mae Rocke of Roanoke are Sis. Cheryl's parents.

MOVING? LET US KNOW.

### ILLINOIS, ROANOKE Edith Sauder - Mae K. Hodel

#### OUR CHURCH ON THE PRAIRIE

Here on the prairie  
Stands a refuge of love,  
Where-in dwells God's spirit  
Sent down from above.

For this dear building  
Is the very place,  
Where so many of us  
Were touched by God's grace.

E'en before we can remember  
From town and the farms  
We were lovingly carried here  
In Mom's gentle arms.

It was here that our hearts  
Were implanted with seeds  
Of God's miraculous blessings  
As he recognized our needs.

Little hearts were molded;  
Souls were abundantly filled  
With the warmth of his love,  
As the Father had willed.

But as most of us came  
To a point in our life,  
We were cold and rebellious,  
Filled with turmoil and strife.

How we broke our parents' hearts,  
Not to mention God's on high;  
As He sadly shook His head,  
He did look on us and sigh.

Then finally . . . One day.  
It was a work of His love—  
Our stubborn hearts were broken;  
We turned our thoughts above.

He took us, and loved us,  
Such sinners that we were;  
He did forgive, and did save us—  
Our hearts He made pure.

And, now, as God's family,  
We love to gather here  
In this church on the prairie  
Which we all hold so dear.

Sis. Kathy Leman

Our heartfelt sympathy goes to Bro. Gaylord Blunier and his family on the tragic death of his son, Russel, who was killed when he was thrown from a motorcycle.

Bruce Sauder (Bro. Curtis and Sis. Edna) and Rita Springer (Mr. and Mrs. Roy Springer) were united in marriage Aug. 19. May God richly bless them.

Engagements: John Sauder

(Bro. John and Sis. Esther) and Peg Johann (Mr. and Mrs. Robert Johann, Sr.) of Eureka, plan a June 2, 1979, wedding. JoAnn Sauder (Bro. Howard and Sis. Edith) and Roger Beutel (Bro. David and Sis. Eunice), Tremont, are planning a November 4 wedding. Bro. Gary Blunier (Bro. Walter and Sis. Mirian) and Sis. Cindy Walker (Mr. and Mrs. Donald Walker) are to be married Nov. 12. Sis. Cheryl Rocke (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Mae) and Bro. Brad Baurer (Bro. Art and Sis. Joy), Princeville, are planning a December 17 wedding. David Fehr (Bro. Rich and Sis. Madlyn) and Linda Steffen (Bro. Earl and Sis. Kay), Elgin, Illinois, are planning a November wedding.

Births: Jeremy Ryan Knepp is the second son of Bro. Robert and Sis. Ann Knepp. Jason is happy for a little playmate. Kristy Rae was born to Bro. Dick and Sis. Ann Hoffman. Cheryl and Eric welcome their little sister. Rachel Elizabeth was born to Arnold and Connie Aeschleman. She has a brother, Jeremy, and a sister, Heather.

It was our privilege to hear the testimonies of our three dear friends, Bruce Fischer (Bro. Wilmer and Sis. Clara), Roger Wie-gand (Bro. Morris and Sis. Lena), and Steve Hodel (Bro. Ben and Sis. Ruth Ann). Elder Bros. Leroy Huber (Eureka) and Roy Grimm (Taylor) assisted Bro. Don in this work. We witnessed their baptism the following day and welcomed them into the brotherhood.

Other visiting ministers this month were Bros. Robert Miller (Portland, Ore.), Joe Schrock (Congerville), Raymond Roth (Kiowa, Kansas), Ed Aeschleman (Union City, NJ), Rod Huber (Valparaiso, Ind.), and Bert Butikofer (Elgin, Iowa). We thank these brothers for sharing God's Word with us.

### ILLINOIS, TREMONT Dorothy Wagenbach Lydia Rassi

We received many blessings from visitors this month. Our visiting ministers were Bro. Robert Beyer, Naumburg, N.Y., Bro. Clarence Yackley, Phoenix, Ariz., Bro. Dale Moore, Elgin, Ia., and Bro. Noah Gerber, West Bend, Ia. We thank you, Lord, for spiritual food; Thou hast never left us in want.

It brought joy to our hearts to see so many young brothers and sisters join us in worship and



praise through the Labor Day weekend. They came from Rittman and Akron, Ohio, Lester and West Bend, Iowa, Fairbury and Forrest, Ill., and Indianapolis, Ind.

Our prayers are with Bertha Strunk who has had many shut-in days and is very sick.

We have heard the sad news that our brother and minister, Bro. Al Aberle, met with an accident and is in St. Francis hospital. We pray that his hospital stay will be short. May the Lord comfort and bless our dear ones.

John and Judy Dohman were blessed with a son, Anthony John, Sept. 10. His grandparents are Bro. Jay and Sis. Alma Bolliger and George and Shirley Dohman, Fairbury, IL.

We have joys to tell you that are doubled, as the happiness of one is the happiness of the other. Bro. Ronald Menold, son of Bro. Joseph and Sis. Tillie, Sabetha, Kansas, is engaged to Sis. Lynnette Aberle, daughter of Bro. Walter and Sis. Vera. They plan to be married Nov. 19.

Bro. Herman Laidig is engaged to Sis. Helen Pflederer. Roger Beutel, son of Bro. David and Sis. Eunice, is engaged to JoAnn Sauder, daughter of Bro. Howard and Sis. Edith, Roanoke. They are planning a Nov. 4 wedding. Planning an Apr. 7 wedding is Cindy Sauder, daughter of Bro. Merle and Sis. Nancy, with Jim Boyle, son of Charles and Louise Boyle. Jeff Hangartner, son of Jerry and Sis. Melba is engaged to Nancy Stark, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Stark, Pekin, IL. They are planning an Oct. 14 wedding. May the Lord bless each couple in uniting their hearts and lives.

#### ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

Valerie Kipfer

Linda Ziegenhorn

To reach the port of heaven we must sail, sometimes with the wind and sometimes against it—but we must sail, not drift or lie at anchor.

Oliver Wendell Holmes

We are happy to welcome, into our midst, three new converts. Janet and Gary Rauhaus, son and daughter of Bro. Grant and Sis. Mabelle Rauhaus of Washington and Doug Shacht, son of Sis. Lois and Bro. Frank Shacht of Elgin, were baptized on Aug. 16. We wish them

God's guidance in their new life in Jesus Christ.

Bro. Steve and Sis. Ann Schick are the happy parents of a new son, Jason Allen, born Sept. 5. This is their first child. The grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Dolly Schick and Bro. Kieth and Sis. Pauline Roth.

Sis. Sharon and Bro. Harvey Martin were also blessed with a new son, Andrew Earl, who was named after his grandfathers, Bro. Andrew Martin of Eureka and Bro. Earl Meiss of Morton. Sis. Edith Meiss is his grandmother. Andrew was welcomed home by Darren, Gina, Lisa, Chad, and Dawn.

Visiting ministers this month were: Ken Hoerr, Henry Grimm, Roy Sauder, Richard Schupbach, Nathan Steffen, Robert Miller, Sam Anliker, Herman Kellenberger, and Robert Beyer.

The Washington congregation has been greatly blessed by all the visiting ministers who have so willingly given of their time so that we might hear the Word of God.

God has now given us two brothers to minister to us. They are Bro. Marshall Heinold and Bro. Don Wagenbach. We at Washington feel greatly blessed that God chose two ministers instead of one.

God's will is always the best way if we will just be still and listen to His guidance.

#### INDIANA, BLUFFTON

Connie Troxel

Teresa Fiechter

He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved. (Mark 16:16). On September 16 and 17 we were privileged to hear the testimonies of Gene Gerber (Bro. Bob and Sis. Evie) and Kendall Ringger (husband of Sis. Sandy) and witness their baptisms. It was reassuring to know the Spirit of God is still present.

Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman from Francesville was here to help with baptisms. Other visiting ministers this month were Bros. Harry Sutter from Ft. Lauderdale, Delbert Indermuhle from Sardis, Elmer Hartter from Milford, Elmer Witzig and Harold Schmidgall from Gridley, Ed Alt from Cissna Park, Walter Rehwilau from Toledo, and Ben Hartzler from Rittman. We want to thank all of these brothers for coming.

Bro. Ed Ringger, 93, who was the oldest brother in Bluffton,

passed away. Surviving are his wife, Sis. Emma, his son, Bro. Laverne, and daughter, Sis. Amelia (Bro. Ray) Heyerly. Sincere sympathy is extended to the family.

Our hospital patients for this month are Kent Frauhiger (Bro. Melvin and Sis. Lucille), Stan Heyerly (Bro. Ray and Sis. Amelia), Bro. Tim Fiechter (Bro. John and Sis. Shirley), Bro. Ralph Schwartz (husband of Sis. Leona), Sis. Lillian Gerber, Sis. Cordelia Aschliman (wife of Bro. Harry), Sis. Tillie Bahler, Mrs. Emma Reinhart, Sis. Carolyn Heyerly (wife of Bro. Tom), Bro. Roy Reinhard (husband of Sis. Virgine), Ross Frank (Bro. Herb and Sis. Nancy), Bro. Kenneth Schaeffer (husband of Sis. Alice), Sis. Luella Schladenhauffen (wife of Bro. Everett), and Sis. Esther Geisel (wife of Bro. Olen).

Bro. Kent and Sis. Debbie Fiechter are the parents of a little girl, Brooke.

Sis. Aldulla Reinhard from Bluffton and Bro. Lester Pulver from Leo were married Sept. 20.

#### INDIANA, BREMEN

Norma Leman

Bro. Willis Ehnle from Japan and Bro. Walter Beer from Milford visited us on Aug. 23. We were encouraged to bury the discouraging things of the past and anticipate moving in the right direction. We thank them for bringing God's Word to us.

We had a blessed weekend as many of us attended Camp Mack on Aug. 21. The fellowship and the message of the Living Water was uplifting.

Other visiting ministers this month were Bro. Walt Raeger from Toledo and Bro. Ken Hoerr from Peoria. We also shared a weekend with children from the Leo Children's Home. It was an exciting experience, getting to know them.

Steve and Bridget Johnson are the proud parents, for the first time, of a baby boy, Shawn Christopher.

Hospital patients this past month were Sis. Elizabeth Yackley, Sis. Minnie Zeltwanger, Bro. Ed Germann, and Bro. Dave Johnson. We ask for your prayers for them.

For we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose.

(Romans 8:28)



**INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE**

**Linda Gutwein Sharon Neihouser**

We are thankful to those who came to share the Word of God with us. Bro. Elmer Schmidt (Winthrop), Bro. Homer Reineck (Toledo), Bro. Sam Anliker (Lamont), Bro. Earl Kilgus (Remington), Bro. Wayne Anliker, and Bro. Clarence Kachelmuss (Forrest) visited us this month.

Hospitalized for surgery were Bro. Joe Yaggie and Sis. Sarah Anliker.

Our dear Sis. Anna Banwart passed away on Aug. 26. Surviving are two daughters, Bernice Rogers and Levila O'Neil; also four grandchildren and three great-granddaughters. She was a dear person to many of us, as she cared for us as infants. May God comfort the family in the loss of their loved one.

We welcome Bro. Erik, Sis. Cindy (Huber), and Carmen Langhoffer of Wichita who have moved to our community. May they feel love as they fellowship with us.

We have enjoyed four blessed evenings listening to the conference tapes. May we be obedient and heed the teachings and admonitions which they brought.

On Sat., Sept. 9, dedication and open house was held at Parkview Haven. Services were held by Bro. Gene Lehman (Wolcott), Chairman of the Board of Directors (also the moderator), Bro. Wendell Gudeman, Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott), and Bro. Edward Frank (La Crosse). The goals are that people that reside here (whether patients or residence) might be loved and cared for with kindness and that God might be glorified.

**INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS**

**Lynn Klopfenstein - Pam Frank**

On Sept. 8, Timothy Aaron was born to Bro. Eric and Sis. Ginny Zeller. Little Aaron will also be welcomed home by his sister, Andrea. How important to rear children under God's Word so they, too, will find their salvation in due time. Their lives are so precious and innocent and are influenced by all things.

Our Sunday School classes held their annual picnic, and an enjoyable time was shared among the children and adults.

Many thanks are extended to ministering Bro. Charles Sauder (Tremont) for bringing God's

Word to us. Likewise, we thank our visitors and welcome them back. How wonderful is the love that flows from heart to heart in believing children of God.

**INDIANA, LA CROSSE**

**Grace Heinold - Lois Bucher**

On Aug. 5, Marianne Pearlberg, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Pearlberg, and Scott Rice, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gene Rice. Wanatah, exchanged wedding vows. We wish them many blessings in their life together.

We were privileged to enjoy several visiting ministers this past month. Bros. Lloyd Kraft, Gridley, Kans., Kenneth Weerts, Cissna Park, Ill., and Bill Gudeman, Elgin, Ill., gave us many wonderful teachings and timely warnings, and we thank them for their willingness to serve us.

We are happy to hear that Scott Frank (Bro. Ed and Sis. Lea) has turned to the Lord in repentance. We wish him the needed grace to complete this important work.

Our Sunday School classes have begun again after a month's vacation. May God be with each and every one and also with those who are going away to college.

On Sept. 13, Diana Sheree came to live with Bro. Eugene and Sis. Evelyn Heinold. Her sisters, Christine, Rachel and Kathryn, also welcome her into the family. Bro. Aaron and Sis. Grace Heinold are the grandparents.

**INDIANA, LEO**

**Mrs. Phil Schlatter**

**Mrs. Al Frautschi**

The consecrated Christian can be compared to ripening corn. The ripper it grows, the lower it bends its head.

Our congregation welcomes Mr. and Mrs. Frank Zeoli who have come to work at the Children's Home and Sis. Aldulla Reinhard Pulver, bride of Bro. Lester Pulver.

Visiting ministers expounding His message of Truth were Bros. Jim Hoerr, Peoria, and Joe Schrock, Congerville, Illinois.

The following can be sung to the tune of Jesus Loves Me:

We should help all those in need,  
Showing Christ in word and deed;  
Help us, Lord, to faithful be;  
May we lead someone to Thee.

Author Unknown

Try it thoughtfully and prayerfully!

**INDIANA, MILFORD**

**Sandy Beer**

We were very concerned for Niki Speicher (Ted and Sandy) when she was unfortunately stung by bees. Her condition became critical, and she was hospitalized. We are so thankful that she has recovered. Elmer Rassi has again been worshipping with us after undergoing hospitalization and treatment. Also, we were glad to see Irene Best at church again since her hospitalization. Sis. Wanda Weisser has again been to Mayo Clinic. Her husband, Charles, remains unable to be out and attend services. We wish them an extra measure of God's comforting Spirit and grace.

Sis. Aldine Reimschisel was again hospitalized. Sis. Becky Doll was in the hospital undergoing tests. We are thankful the results were favorable. May all who must undergo such trials and afflictions find much comfort in His promises.

For I, the Lord thy God, will hold thy hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee. Isaiah 41:13

Again Bro. Willis Ehnle has returned to his work in Japan. We appreciated the edifying sermons and thoughts he left with us while visiting.

On Sept. 23, Sue Speicher (Bro. Lewis and Sis. Mim) and Glen Losee plan to begin their life together as they exchange marriage vows. May God add His rich blessing to this union of hearts.

"Thus united and in concord let us walk the path of life; Hand in hand. O may love bind us For each other's welfare strive."

ZION'S HARP

**INDIANA, REMINGTON**

**Amelia Schini**

**Mildred Clauss**

Bro. Harold and Sis. Marie Schieler wish to express their sincere thanks to all who so kindly sent greetings and gifts and remembered them in prayer during their hospital stay. They are now both at home and doing well.

Sis. Eunice Knochel was recently hospitalized but is again able to be in her home with her companion, Sis. Marie Schini.

Russ and Pat Michels are the parents of a baby boy, Ryan Lee. He has a sister, Lisa, and his maternal grandparents are Bro. Carl-

ton and Sis. Mary Ann Beer of Milford.

Mike and Sis. Jane Price have been blessed with their first child, Amanda Jayne. Maternal grandparents are Bro. Herb and Sis. Mary Jo Schieler.

We extend our sympathy to Art Nussbaum and Sis. Eunice Knochel in the recent death of their sister, Clara Woodruff.

#### KNOW EACH OTHER BETTER

The oldest brother in our congregation is Bro. Alva Clauss, who will be 88 years old on Sept. 30.

His parents were Bro. John and Sis. Margaret (Meiss) Clauss, and he was born in Fairbury, Illinois, but moved with his family in 1904 to a farm near Remington.

He repented and became converted as a young man and was married to Sis. Emma Eisenmann of Cissna Park on Feb. 11, 1917. Sis. Emma was called into eternity in 1930, and Bro. Alva has had the responsibility of rearing their three young sons, Marvin, Bob, and Paul.

Bro. Alva was a farmer until his retirement, when he moved to his home in Wolcott. In July of this year he was grieved by the sudden death of his son, Bro. Marvin. But thanks to the blessed hope which we have in Christ Jesus, we look forward to that reunion with our loved ones in Heaven.

Bro. Alva plans to move soon to Parkview Haven in Francesville, and we trust that God will continue to provide His grace for each new day, as He has provided for him throughout his lifetime.

#### INDIANA, VALPARAISO

Marie Heinold

'Tis mid-September, and here in Valparaiso the trees and meadows seem unusually lush and green for this time of year. I wonder if it's the result of all that snow we had last winter. So soon the last day of summer has arrived; school bells are calling children to their classes, telling us that the fall season is here.

We give a thank you to ministering brethren (and their wives) Elmer Hartter, Art Ringger, Todd Feller, and Elder Bros. Wendell Gudeman and Ezra Feller for their visits to Valparaiso. We welcome the vacationers and all who came to worship with us.

#### THE TEMPLE

My body is a temple,, my eyes its windows are; my lips the door which leads without, which often stands ajar.

Each ornament that is within shines through its windows bright; Lord help me keep my temple pure and lovely in Thy sight.

May every word that issues through its doorway just be kind; and may Thy light burn always on the altar of my mind.

May naught unworthy enter to mar the beauty there; Dear Lord, help keep the temple clean, entrusted to my care.

Marie Celter

#### IOWA, BURLINGTON

Mayme Gerst - Judy Gehring

Bro. Ron Heiniger was our visiting minister this month. He said that one of his favorite scriptures fell open, the one which tells of the feeding of five thousand people with two loaves and five fishes. What a miracle that was! Even more important is the miracle of a soul who comes to the Lord in true repentance. We may not see miracles like those done in Christ's day such as healing of the body, making the lame walk, or the blind see, but we can see greater wonders than these when souls turn to their Creator. In the late afternoon there was a picnic at the park. Several couples were here from Oakville to be with the company.

Sis. Sarah Gerst was 88 years old this month. Some of us went to sing songs and have fellowship with her. She is confined to a wheelchair; but her spirits are high, and she always greets us with such a nice smile.

Lord willing, we plan to host the West Bend, Elgin, Ill., and Oakville Bible Classes this weekend.

During a recent Sunday service, Job was meditated upon; it surely proved his great patience to us. Job lost his wealth, sons and daughters, was stricken with a terrible illness, and was abused by those who came as his friends. Through all his trials and tribulations, he still believed in God's goodness and was never angry with God. May we use him as our example as we sojourn here. Let us keep verse 7 of hymn No. 51 from the Zion's Harp in mind.

Cheer up, then, and strive, ye  
ransomed,  
In this toilsome, trying time;

God will comfort and reward us  
With eternal rest sublime!

Only he who is victorious  
Shall the crown of life receive;  
Then prevail in prayerful watching,  
Love, endure, hope and believe.

#### IOWA, ELGIN Eleanor Butikofer

O suns and skies and clouds of June  
And flowers of June together,  
Ye cannot rival for one hour  
October's bright blue weather.

When loud the bumblebees make  
haste,  
Belated, thriftless, vagrant;  
And goldenrod is dying fast,  
And lanes with grapes are  
fragrant—

When on the ground red apples lie  
In piles like jewels shining,  
And redder still on old stone walls  
Are leaves of woodbine twining.

When all the lovely wayside things  
Their white-winged seeds are  
sowing,  
And in the fields, still green and  
fair,  
Late aftermaths are growing.

O suns and skies and flowers of  
June,  
Count all your boasts together;  
Love loveth best of all the year  
October's bright blue weather.  
Jackson

Indeed autumn is filled with many lovely experiences such as the feel of the fresh, nippy air, sighting the panorama of the coloring of the leaves, the farmer's garnering in the golden crop of corn, and the last crop of legume hay. Then, too, one can soon expect our winter birds to make their appearance at their feeding stations. Speaking of birds, we heard a brown thrasher today. His notes were coming from a plum thicket. A couple of days ago the plaintive notes of some passing bluebirds was heard, and, as I listened, a slight feeling of sadness came over me, knowing that they were on their way to their winter quarters. Oh, well, we should look forward to a new springtime when they will again bring happiness to us northerners.

Instead of having our regular mid-week services conducted as



usual, tapes have been played, bringing to us all that transpired at the recent church conference at Tremont.

Our three ministers were able to attend the conference. They are Elder Bro. Paul Butikofer, Bro. Bert Butikefer, and Bro. Dale Moore.

Bro. Lee Plattner from Zapata, Texas, stopped here on his way to the conference and conducted a mid-week church service for us. It was a blessing. His wife, Sis. Mary, and children stayed here and visited her folks and other relatives while her husband went on to the conference.

The ladies who met at Sis. Marie Butikofer's home in the interest of the World Relief work sorted clothes and did other useful work.

We wish to extend our heartfelt sympathy to Mrs. Mabel Hodel who just recently lost her husband in a motorcycle accident. He was Sis. Mildred (Paul) Butikofer's brother-in-law. The Hodel's home is in California.

Bro. Lawrence Butikofer's wife, Sis. Carolyn, just informed us that her brother, Bro. Paul Wiegand, and his wife, Sis. Edna, were in a car accident and are both hospitalized. We hope that they will both recuperate fast. May God bless the care that they receive at the hospital.

My husband, Bro. George, had a birthday on the 23rd. He was born in 1896. The verse on our birthday book for his day reads as follows: Receive my sayings; and the years of thy life shall be many. Prov. 4:10

It's great to have Social Security, but greater far to have spiritual security founded on the Rock for Mr. and Mrs. Whosoever Will. Social Security will soon be past, but spiritual security will always last.

God is so good; His mercy endures forever.

#### IOWA, LESTER Alice Metzger

We have reasons to rejoice, for the waters have been troubled and ten more souls have repented in our congregation. Besides the three that were mentioned last month, they are Lexia Wysong, Beverly Leuthold, Rodney Mogler, Tom Knobloch, Sue Ann Knobloch, Ida Metzger, Esther Feucht, Rick Moser, Polly Moser, and Mavis Wulf. We hope that many more will turn their backs on the world and look to

Jesus. We have many friends who are dear to our hearts.

Visiting ministers have been Bros. Art Gudeman, LaCrosse, Carl Wyss, Washington, Russell Wuthrich, Pulaski, Earl Banwart, West Bend, and Elder Bro. Herman Kellenberger, Elgin, Ill. We are thankful that they were directed into our midst and pray that they will be rewarded for giving of themselves in God's Service.

A little boy, Curtis Joe, was born Aug. 25 to Lynn and Marlys Doorneweerd. He has one sister, and the grandparents are Bro. Elmer and Sis. Mariann Metzger and Sis. Karoline Doorneweerd. A little girl, Amy Louise, was born to Jerry and Mary TerWee on Sept. 10. She has two brothers, and the grandparents are Bro. Art and Sis. Emilie Leuthold and Mr. and Mrs. Gerrit TerWee.

Hospital patients have been Janet Metzger, daughter of Bro. Art and Sis. Kris, Sis. Becky Wulf, Bro. Ed Gerber, and Bro. Art Knobloch, who has been hospitalized for two months with injuries to his foot in an auger accident.

We miss Sis. Marvella Knobloch who has moved to Peoria and attends the Washington church.

After a summer recess, Sunday School has resumed with an enrollment of over 200 students and 21 teachers. Bro. Howard Mogler is superintendent.

#### IOWA, OAKVILLE Phyllis Siegle

THE BEAUTIES OF FALL  
When come the pleasant days of fall,

When trees are on a dress parade  
With garments all by nature made,  
The reddened fruit of apple trees  
Is swaying in the autumn breeze.  
The red Delicious, Jonathan,  
The Greening and the Northern Spy,

We see upon the bending bough,  
Appealing to both heart and eye.  
So come with me, once more look 'round—

Where is such splendor to be found,  
Save in the hand of God, all-wise,  
Whose glory fills the earth and skies.

Author Unknown

The engagement of Beth Wagenbach and Kent Steffen was announced. Beth is the daughter of John and Sis. Marilyn Wagenbach

and Kent is the son of Bro. Jerry and Sis. Mary Steffen from Congerville, Ill. They have our good wishes!

A daughter, Laura Ann, was born to Bro. Tom and Sis. JoAnn Steiner. They also have a daughter, Karen. The grandparents are Bro. Orel and Sis. Rose Steiner and Bro. Hartzel and Sis. Marion Schmidgall.

We were very happy to have Bro. Bill Gerst, Alto, as our guest minister. It is always a pleasure to have Bro. Bill and his family come home!

#### IOWA, PULASKI Mary Jane Knapp Ginny Wuthrich

We enjoyed a blessed weekend when we were able to hear the testimony and witness the baptism of Donna Teubal. Sis. Donna is the daughter of Bro. Richard and Sis. Wilma Teubal. We are thankful to have a dear sister added to the fold. Bro. Ed Lanz of Oakville was here for the important event. Bro. Jerry Kuntz, also of Oakville, was here. We are thankful that we have ministers that are willing to stand up and proclaim the good Word.

Our Sunday School classes have resumed. May God guide our teachers in this important undertaking, and may we have a prayer on our heart for them.

A precious baby girl was born to Robert and Becky Joos. Her name is Amy Rebecca. Amy was welcomed home by Kim, Robbie, and John. Paternal grandparents are Bro. Robert and Sis. Lorraine Joos of Peoria, Ill. Maternal grandparents are Raymond and Jean Roger, also of Peoria.

Sis. Emma Webber of Pella was hospitalized for a short time but is feeling better.

#### IOWA, WEST BEND Mrs. Raymond Anliker Becky Banwart

On Aug. 25 God blessed Bro. Ken and Sis. Ellen Dahlhauser with a new son, Jaylin Aric. The grandparents are Bro. Arnold and Sis. Alice Metzger.

Deb Bruellman and Jerry Larson were united in marriage by Bro. Noah Gerber on Aug. 27. Parents of Deb are Bro. Harley and Sis. Adele. May God bless this union of hearts.

Little Stewart Reker, son of Rhonda and Roger, Louisa (Reuben) Anliker, and Sis. Sue (Gary)

Schnieder remain hospitalized at the time of this writing.

"Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28. Our hearts rejoice with two dear souls who have turned to the Lord in repentance. They are Roger and Rhonda Reker. Rhonda is the daughter of Bro. Victor and Sis. Marilyn Banwart. Let us pray for one another.

On Sept. 9, Elder Bro. Eugene Marti solemnized the wedding of his nephew, Bro. Carl Strahm, and Sis. Ellen Zaugg. The parents of the couple are Richard and Dorothy Zaugg and ministering Bro. Alpha, Jr., and Sis. Mamie Strahm of Bern, Kansas. May the blessings of the Lord go with Bro. Curt and Sis. Ellen.

We were also richly blessed this month with the following visiting ministers: Bro. Leland Plattner of Zapata, Texas; Bro. Art Gudeman of La Crosse, Ind.; Elder Bro. Leroy Huber of Eureka, Ill.; Elder Bro. Herman Kellenberger of Elgin, Ill.; Bro. Virgil Metzger of Champaign-Urbana, Ill.; Bro. Noah Miller of Minneapolis, Minn.; and Bro. Jerry Kuntz of Oakville, Ia. We appreciate their expounding the Word of Life to us.

Our congregation and Bible Class welcome three exchange students into our midst for an eleven-month program. The students are Geir Dingstad of Norway, living with Bro. Victor and Sis. Marilyn Banwart; Dagmar Wohlgemut of Germany, living with Bill and Connie Zaugg; and Seija Korhonen of Finland, living with Bro. Ivan and Sis. Evelyn Schmidt. We pray that they will have a pleasant and memorable stay in the U. S. A.

#### JAPAN, SHIODA Sally Gramm

Moving into a new house involves a lot of work, as many of our congregation seem to be discovering just now. Recently, the American kindergarten teachers, Sis. Sally Buetel and Sis. Jane Weiss, have moved out of their tiny apartment into a comfortable little house about ten minutes' walk from the church. This past weekend, Bro. Toru and Sis. Junko Saegusa hosted the monthly singing in the beautiful new country home which they've just built. Several weeks ago I moved into a house quite near Yamanashi Eiwa, where I teach Eng-

lish. So many of us have been busy washing windows, scrubbing floors, hanging curtains, and pulling weeds. As we worked, we were often hot and tired, and sometimes we wished we'd never decided to make the change, as it involves so much trouble and effort. But when the last window was washed, the last floor was sparkling clean, the last curtain was hung, and the last weed lay sprawled and withered in the sun, how happy we all were with our pleasant surroundings. I was reminded of the time when I repented and became right with my dear Lord Jesus. It was Jesus who scrubbed my heart clean with His own blood, pulled the horrible weeds that I thought looked so formidable, and added all the comfortable finishing touches—joy, peace, and love. Then He was able to move into my heart and abide, daily maintaining the upkeep with patience, and an all-encompassing, all-covering love. What privileged and joyous vessels we are, for we house the King!

#### JAPAN, TOKYO Yoshio Yamazaki

It is very cool weather coming a few days after we had terrible hot summer. According the newspaper, we will have a very big rice harvest this year. We Christians are just like farmers. We just trust in Him for everything and should work hard until the time of harvest. We believe that our Heavenly Father gives us wonderful rewards in the heaven when we as believers stand before the Lord someday.

Now we are working on translations for Zion's Harp song book into Japanese and hope we will be able to use them in future here in our churches in Japan. Several from both our churches are working on them.

We also started to have the singing services every third Sunday of each month. At that time we have several members from our country church, Shioda.

Bro. and Sis. Willis Ehnle and family returned from his visiting in the United States on Aug. 30. We believe that they had real blessed time there in the Lord.

#### KANSAS, BERN Esther and Stella Moser

We have two joy-bundles to report. Robin Rose was born Aug. 18

to Bro. Lee and Sis. Patsy Esslinger. She joins a sister, Fawn, in their home. Maternal grandparents are Bro. Roy and Sis. Evelyn Metzger (Lester) and Bro. Martin and Sis. Arlene Esslinger. Baby Robin arrived on the birthday of her great-grandmother, Sis. Rose Moser (Lester). Louis John was born Aug. 19 to Mr. and Mrs. Louis J. Meyer, Ballwin, Mo. A sister, Nicole, welcomes him. Bro. Louis and Sis. Mavis are the paternal grandparents.

Our best wishes are extended to Bro. Curtis and Sis. Ellen (Zaugg) Strahm who were married Sept. 10. They are at home in Bern. Curtis is engaged in farming.

The engagement of Bro. Pete Esslinger to Sis. Esther Knapp (Forrest) was announced.

Guest ministers we thankfully enjoyed were Bros. Lee Plattner (Zapata) and Willis Ehnle (Japan).

New residents at the A.C. Home are Sis. Lena Strahm (Bro. Alpha) and Sis. Lucy Hartter. Lucy made her home with her daughter, Wilma King, Coffeyville, for several years. Her daughter, Priscilla has an apartment in Sabetha and works part-time at the home. Bro. Andy Locher, Hawthorne, Calif., has moved into one of the A.C. apartments. May each one find contentment in their new surroundings.

The annual meeting of the Apostolic Christian Home Board of Trustees was held Saturday, Sept. 9, 1978, at the Sabetha Fellowship Hall. All trustees were present, as well as Elder Bro. Lester Hartter, Bern, and Bro. Sam Huber, Sabetha.

Bern hosted the Sunday School Bible classes from all Kansas churches. A very enjoyable weekend was spent with our future church.

Sis. Lena Garber, 96, passed away on Sept. 11 at the A. C. Home where she was a resident for the past four years. Lena was our oldest member. She served lunch at the church for 70 years, first with her mother, then with her brother, Bro. Willis. Lena was also her brother's housekeeper for many years until the infirmities of age caught up with her. Always a good visitor, she had many interesting things to relate. Bros. Sam Huber and Lester Hartter conducted services on Sept. 14. Among the survivors are two brothers, Bro. Willis, Sabetha, and Sylvan, St. Joseph, Mo., and some nieces and nephews.



**KANSAS, FORT SCOTT****Jan Kraft**

A group from Fort Scott traveled with the Wichita Choir Sept. 2 and 3 to Goodfield for a weekend of fellowship and singing.

Ministering Bro. Walter Anliker and family (Eureka) were here to share the same weekend with those who remained at home.

"Haste and seek your soul's salvation; Heed the word of God today! Haste to flee his condemnation; Seek the straight and narrow way. Evil are the worldly pleasures. Leading to eternal fire; Seek the everlasting treasure, Ere the day of grace expire.

"Turn your face, take timely warning, To him who alone can save! Now his loving face is shining; Soon comes judgment and the grave. Still he offers you salvation but the time of grace is short. Will you heed the invitation? Come, and harden not your heart."

We are so glad and rejoice that Judy Bahr (Bro. Jim and Sis. Ruth Bahr) has answered God's invitation.

"Heavenward, then take your journey; Let your course in faith be trod; Face the crafty adversary boldly as a man of God. Go with courage to the conflict as the sanctified to be; And retaining still your treasure, Win a crown of victory."

(Zion's Harp, **REPENT YE**)

**KANSAS, GRIDLEY****Julie Strahm - Doris Bahr**

God shared many precious teachings from His Word and concern for His flock through the elder body during The Brotherhood Conference. We were privileged, for the first time, to hear the tapes of the Brotherhood Conference. How much more of a spiritual fulfillment is received when we are privileged to hear how such a meeting is conducted, knowing that each one is so tremendously concerned about our souls' welfare. Let us strive to be more obedient to our God.

On Sept. 10 we were privileged to have our own Elder Bros. Sam Anliker, Lamont, and Raymond Banwart, Lamar, serve us the Lord's Supper. Our countenance truly is lifted and renewed during the remembrance of our Lord's death and suffering. We give thanks to visiting Bro. Al Langhofer, Wichita, for his ministry on that day.

Our dear Sis. Ella Raaf wishes to

express her thanks and deep appreciation for the prayers, cards, gifts, and food that were given during her during her great time of need and illness. When Christ is so lovingly expressed in such ways as these, His presence truly is felt among us.

Hospitalized: Travis Schiesser, three year-old son of Sis. Rose and Terry.

On the evening of Sept. 10, a farewell was held for Bro. Gary Herr who has sought employment in Princeville, Ill. Our thoughts and prayers go with him.

**KANSAS - MISSOURI,****KANSAS CITY****Paula Bahr**

Bros. Wayne Miller and Raymond Banwart, Ft. Scott, and Alphie Strahm, Bern, each spent a Sunday with us, delivering the Lord's message of love and encouragement. Our sincere thanks go to them.

The starting of the fall semester of school brought Sis. Jeanette Truel, Rockville, and Sis. Jeri Luthi, Lamont, to Kansas City. We wish them the Lord's blessings. Friends are gifts from God, and we are thankful that He sent us Jen and Jeri.

The Wichita congregation will soon be receiving a gift, as Jim Hunyadi, Akron, is leaving to complete his education there. We enjoyed a beautiful late summer afternoon, picnic, and singing for Jim's farewell. May the Lord bless Jim and be with him. He was certainly a glowing light in our group.

**KANSAS, KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY****John Baumgartner**

As another school year begins at Manhattan, we welcome our six new students: Judy Bahr of Fort Scott, Mary Wernli of Lamont, Sam Bahr of Gridley, Gayla Grimm and Ramona Meyer of Sabetha, and Martha Grimm of Bern.

LUKE 15:10 "—there is joy in the presence of the angels of God, over one sinner that repenteth."

We all rejoice in that three friends have turned to the Lord in repentance. The three converts are Judy Bahr, Ramona Meyer, and Mary Wernli. I'm sure you'll join me in saying: May God grant them the grace to continue their high calling unto salvation.

We extend many thanks to all who attended our opening picnic

and to the ministering brethren from Bern and Sabetha who conducted the first two Wednesday evening services. Everyone is invited to join us.

**KANSAS, KIOWA****Janice Bahr**

For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith. Rom. 12:3. Humility! What beauty it adds to a child of God, and, yet, this rare virtue is so difficult to retain. Why? Because true humility shines forth in a soul who is completely forgetful of self and where life is fully centered on Christ. Forgetting ourselves is so very hard.

Recently, I read a story of a man, who to me, showed the true spirit of humility. His name was William Carey. In young manhood he had a job repairing shoes. As the years went by, honors were heaped upon him because of his many accomplishments. Yet this unassuming man would only accept positions and appointments that opened the way for him to do more work in Christ's service. Even at the zenith of his popularity, one of his most striking characteristics was his meek and selfless attitude. For instance, at a state dinner given in his honor, a jealous English officer sneeringly asked the host, "Wasn't your guest, Dr. Carey, once just a shoemaker?" Before the host could reply, the renowned man who was near enough to hear the remark, answered with quiet dignity, "No, sir, I was not that skilled. I was only a cobbler." Humility . . . may God help each of us obtain such a rare and crowning grace.

I forgot to mention in our news last month that a new baby girl was born to Gary and Janet Wilson in July. Her name is Sandra Lynne. Bud and Sis. Helen Murrow are her grandparents. Sis. Martha Roth is little Sandra's great-grandmother, and a brother, Robbie, is there to welcome his new sister home. We pray that God will bless Gary and Janet in bringing these precious children up to know and love their Lord.

**KANSAS, LAMONT****Susan Emch**

We are grateful to Elder Bro.



Raymond Banwart, Ft. Scott, and Bro. Al Langhofer, Wichita, for bringing us the Word of Life.

We had the blessed privilege of listening to the tapes of the recent Brotherhood Conference. We should follow the advice that they offer us and should not touch those things which could be a hindrance to our salvation.

We extend our thanks to the Bern Sunday School, along with the entire congregation, for hosting the Kansas Sunday School Fellowship weekend. May their many labors be blessed.

Sis. Carrie Gleichman was in the hospital for surgery. Ed Huber, Sis. Hulda Jacobs, and Sis. Lorean Anliker have also spent time in the hospital. May our loved ones feel God's nearness as they experience bodily afflictions.

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is a gift of God."

Eph. 2:8.

We truly rejoice with our friend, Mary Lynne Wernli, daughter of Bro. Roy and Sis. Betty, as she surrenders her heart to the Lord. In her new walk of life, may she always experience God's help and guidance.

#### KANSAS, SABETHA Mrs. Joe Steiner

The Lord was in our midst the first weekend in September when Bro. Sam Huber was ordained as deacon. Bro. Sam Anliker, Lamont, and Bro. Lester Hartter, Bern, were here to assist Bro. Gene Marti in this important work. We are indeed thankful that there are still brothers who will accept the leadership and oversight of our churches. May God richly bless Bro. Sam as he undertakes his new responsibilities. Also present that day were Bro. Lloyd Kraft, Gridley, Ks., Bro. Wayne Miller, Ft. Scott, and Bro. John Lehman, Bern.

Also ministering to us this past month were Bro. Willis Ehnle, Shida, Japan, and Bro. Loren Strahm, Gridley, Ks.

Announcement was made of the engagement of Sis. Lynette Aberle, Tremont, to Bro. Ronald Menold, Morton. An autumn wedding is being planned. Bro. Ronald was formerly of Sabetha and is the son of Sis. Tillie and Bro. Joe Menold.

Jennifer Lyn is the name given to the daughter born Aug. 16 to Sis. Ada and Bro. Don Plattner. She has

two brothers. Brian and Brandon, to welcome her home.

Sis. Elizabeth Beck, who was a resident of the A. C. Home in Sabetha, passed away Aug. 18 at the age of 97. A prayer service and visitation was held at Popkess Mortuary on Aug. 19. Funeral services were held at the Gridley, KS, church.

The wedding of Sis. Martha Bahr and Bro. Roger Belsley, both of Morton, is to be held Sept. 17. Sis. Martha was formerly of Sabetha and is the daughter of Sis. Eloise and Bro. Willard Bahr. We wish them God's richest blessings as they begin their new home together.

Sis. Louise Hartman has been transferred from St. Francis Hospital in Topeka to the hospital here in Sabetha. Her address is Sabetha Community Hospital, Room 210, Sabetha, Kansas 66534.

#### The following was submitted by the administrator of the A. C. Home at Sabetha, Bro. John Lehmann.

The Apostolic Christian Home of Sabetha was completed in 1961 as a 26 bed personal care home. Ten beds were added in 1966. Federal regulations necessitated spending \$90,000 to remodel in 1977. After reviewing the large number of elderly members and friends of our churches, as well as the declining death rate, the Board of Trustees unanimously approved the hiring of an architect to correct the structural deficiencies cited by the state and federal agencies. They plan a 43 bed addition to accommodate the anticipated future residents. The Home demonstrated to the regulatory agencies that there was a need, and the Certificate of Need was issued in May, 1978. Cost of the addition and remodeling is \$630,000. Any contribution to our project would be gratefully appreciated. Also, any brother, sister, or friend desiring to reside in a church-operated adult care home (when none is available in their immediate area) would be most welcome to share in the Christian love and fellowship of our facility. Contributions should be sent to Roy Rokey, treasurer, Apostolic Christian Home, 511 Paramount, Sabetha, Kansas 66534.

#### KANSAS, WICHITA Judy Langhofer

Jordan Clay is the name chosen by Steve and Jeanne Langhofer for

their fourth son, born Aug. 31.

What is there about choosing a name that seems so important to parents? We should not think this too strange, because God not only at times, told parents what they should name their child, but also, on occasion, a biblical character would be called a different name (from his given name) when he was especially chosen or consecrated for a special work for the Lord.

The name Adam was given to the first man created by God. According to Genesis 5:2, Adam means "of the ground or taken out of the red earth."

Isn't it strange that the name Achan means "trouble"? Achan was responsible for Joshua's losing a very important battle at Ai when he disobeyed God. Joshua 7:1.

Hebrews 1:4 tells us that Jesus, by inheritance, obtained a more excellent name than the angels. The name Jesus means "Jehovah is salvation" or "he shall save his people from their sins."

Simon Barjona became Peter when he gave testimony to the diety of Jesus Christ. In Matthew 16:18 Jesus said that he would be called Peter, which means "rock," signifying that Peter would have a special work in helping in the establishment of the church. This became possible because of his testimony that Christ is the son of the Living God.

Zacharias could not speak because he doubted that he would become a father in his old age. St. Luke 4. He was able to speak when he declared that his son's name would be John, "Jehovah is gracious."

An interesting and provoking thought comes from Revelations 2:7. That scripture speaks of the white stone that will be given to the overcomer. On it will be a new name, known only to the one receiving it. Could this name signify a special reward for faithfulness of the believer?

The name Benjamin David was chosen for the new grandson of Oliver and Glennis Allenbach. The parents are Aaron and Barbara Allenbach of Wichita, Kansas. Benjamin means a "son of the right hand," and David, the "beloved." These are names that are a challenge to live up to.

Our Wichita Church in the last few years has practically lost a generation of faithful workers

through retirement and death. Bro. Ernest Lambert, who had various duties since the founding of our church in the 1930's, recently retired. It was a great loss to us when Bro. Roy Yackley was taken ill two years ago. He was gradually unable to assemble with us and was taken "home" in May, 1978. You recently read about Bro. George Lambert retiring after twenty-five years in the ministry of the Wichita Church. It is strange to be in the middle and see the aged go and the young take over. Certainly it is the plan of God to bring his people into fruition. The nucleus of our church now consists of the young married couples. It is the responsibility of the whole church to pray for the work of the church so that all things may be to the honor and glory of God.

#### MICHIGAN, BAY CITY Patsy Knochel

Recently, ministering Bros. Albert Schneider (Rockville) and Floyd Wieland (Detroit) visited our congregation. Whether the Word of God is brought through those near or far, we always find it remains the same Word . . . a divine blessed assurance!

Sis. Anna Ruessagger has been indoors for a time, not being well and Bro. Ralph Ramseyer has been in the hospital. Though they are absent from the congregation, we hope it will be a strength to them to know that prayers are still with them. It is the discouraging and disappointing times of life when we really face the test of Faith. We must never let go of our trust in God. "For I am persuaded, that neith death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 8:38, 39.

Winter, spring, summer . . . fall approaching again. But no matter the season, Bay City welcomes anyone who may be traveling north to assemble with us.

#### MINNESOTA, MORRIS Pam Sutter - Lili Koehl

"Watch therefore; for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come. Therefore be ye also ready; for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh. Who then

is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season? Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing. Verily I say unto you, That he shall make him ruler over all his goods. But and if that evil servant shall say in his heart, My lord delayeth his coming; And shall begin to smite his fellow-servants, and to eat and drink with the drunken; The lord of that servant shall come in a day when he looketh not for him, and in an hour that he is not aware of, And shall cut him asunder, and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth." (St. Matthew 25:42, 44-51)

The Lord has delayed his coming for Bro. Steve Nuest, and has given all of us a sign to BE READY. Steve was hospitalized for knee surgery after a two-truck accident. As he recalled the accident, Steve said, "There was no time to think about repenting—everything happened so fast." **Are you ready?**

Bev Sauder has decided to make sure she is ready. The angels are rejoicing. Her parents are Virgil and Mildred.

Bro. Wm. Zeltwanger, Sr., underwent surgery and is assembling with us again.

Our visiting ministers have been Bro. Leland Plattner (Zapata, Texas), Bro. Dale Moore (Elgin, Iowa), and Bro. Joe Braker and Bro. Ralph Garber (Morton, Ill.).

Justin Michael is the first bundle of joy for Bro. Greg and Sis. Denise Gramm. He was born Aug. 30. First-time grandparents are Bro. Harold and Sis. Ila Gramm, and Bro. Todd and Sis. Karen Feller, La Crosse, Ind.

Amy Jo was born to Gary and Rita Rose, Aug. 31. Grandparents are Bro. Edward and Sis. Lillian Koehl.

Sept. 3 was the wedding day for Cindy Wulf and Rick Schmidgall. Cindy is the daughter of Bro. Leonard and Sis. Vi. and Rick's parents are Ken and Jean.

Randy Haas was married to Nancy Lindor on Sept. 15. Randy's parents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Carol Haas of Tucson, Ariz. The grandparents are Bro. Carl and Sis. Helen Joos of our congregation.

We wish God's blessings on both of these newlywed couples.

Wm. Zeltwanger expresses a

special thanks for all the prayers, gifts, cards, and visitors during his hospital stay. He asks that God will bless all who thought of him.

#### MINNESOTA, WINTHROP Delores Messerli - Mary Ann Theim

We enjoyed a most blessed weekend of love and fellowship with believing young people from the Eureka, Ill., congregation. May God bless them for their effort in coming to sing and worship with us. Those precious days together will long be remembered.

Elder Bro. Herman Kellenberger and his dear wife, Sis. Della, Elgin, Illinois, were with us for a weekend of renewed spiritual blessings. They lived in our community in the past and spoke of hearing God's Word in the old church building. We feel it is a blessed privilege to have our elder brothers come and share God's Word with us.

Sis. Geri Messner thanks you for your prayers and kindness while she was hospitalized.

"What think ye of Christ?"

On that question dwell;

The answer you give

Means Heaven or Hell!

Author Unknown

#### MISSOURI, LAMAR Janice Braker - Sandra Marti

Our congregation enjoyed and appreciated the visits of two ministers this past month. Bro. Walter Anliker, Eureka, was with us on Sunday night, Sept. 3, and Bro. Marvin Schmidgall, Eureka, on Sept. 10. In one of the sermons our lives were compared to those of horses when they were used as working animals. Until the horses were broken, they balked, tried to run away, and weren't much use to the farmer. At one time, we too, tried to run from God. Until we become broken in heart and spirit, we are of no use to Him.

May each of us remember to pray for our ministering brethren. Let us also pray that our hearts and minds would always be open and ready to receive God's Word.

#### MISSOURI, TAYLOR Lena M. Haerr

But He knoweth the way that I take; when He hath tested me, I shall come forth as gold. Job 23:10.

Our fall meeting was Sept. 6 when Sunday School teachers were changed. Bro. Norman Haerr, Bro.



Kent Heimer, Sis. Lois Sutter and Sis. Sally Haerr retired as Bro. Marvin Wiegand, Bro. Mike Stratton, Sis. Naomi Heimer and Sis. Emma D. Haerr were chosen as new teachers for a two-year term.

The Sunday School picnic was Sept. 10, a day we looked forward to.

Kevin Hodel (son of Henry and Sis. Loida) is going to a junior college at Canton, Ill. Sis. Susan Knapp is in nurses training at Kirksville. Sis. Trudy Knapp is at Culver Stockton College at Canton, Mo. Both girls are daughters of Bro. Mike and Sis. Luann. Vicki Knapp is going to college at Kirksville, Mo. She is the daughter of Bro. Kenny and Sis. Phyllis.

A daughter, Jan Elise, was born Aug. 20 to Bro. Mike and Sis. Cheryl Stratton. Michael, Missy, and Jason welcome their little sister home. Mr. and Mrs. Walter Stratton and Henry and Sis. Lioda Hodel are the grandparents.

Edward Hodel was killed in a traffic accident. He lived at Lockeford. Cal. He was a brother of Henry Hodel and the late Sis. Louise Grimm.

Our visiting ministers were Bros. Charles Marti, Lamar, Bob Pohl, Burlington, Arnie Gerst, Chicago, and Frederick Knapp, Congerville. We thank them for coming.

Are you passing through some deep trial today, not knowing which way to turn? Then memorize Job 23:10 and keep repeating it to yourself UNTIL YOU BELIEVE IT! I've tried it and it works.

God may lead you AROUND, but He will always lead you ARIGHT.

### NEW JERSEY, UNION CITY (and Philadelphia, Pa.)

Ed Aeschleman

It is with great joy and thanks to God that our dear friend Art Cook in Union City saw his need to call upon the Lord for peace and salvation. Bro. Art was baptized on Sept. 9 in his hospital room where he is being treated for a serious heart condition. We trust that God will hear our many prayers for Bro. Art's spiritual growth and for a reasonable recovery from his afflictions. His faithful wife, Sis. Minnie, is also remembered in our prayers.

Our dear friend, Bob Hitz, son of Bro. Len and Sis. Audrey of Detroit, has started his first year at

the Peabody Institute for Music in Baltimore, Md., which is not far from us here in Philadelphia. We enjoyed a visit from Bob and his parents over the Sept. 2 weekend, and we hope to see Bob often.

### NEW YORK, CROGHAN Alice Virkler

Thus united and in concord  
Let us walk the path of life;  
Hand in hand, O may love bind us  
For each other's welfare strive.

With the love of God inspired,  
There is joy for us on earth;  
May the spirit, we've acquired,  
Grant us blessing, peace and mirth.  
ZION'S HARP, Hymn No. 237

The words of this beautiful hymn were sung by our congregations at the close of a blessed weekend together. Truly we can say that these are the words in each of our hearts—that in unity, through God's wonderful love, we may have a full measure of the Spirit's guidance to walk hand in hand in unity.

On Saturday evening and Sunday, Sept. 2 and 3, we gathered with the Naumburg congregation to hear the testimonies and witness the baptisms of our new brother and sister in faith, Ted Herzig and Pearl Colgrove. We rejoice and are thankful that God is still calling loved ones to Him. A covered dish dinner was enjoyed by all.

On Sunday evening we gathered in the Croghan church to hear and witness the ordination of Bros. Robert Beyer (Naumburg) and Norbert Steiner (Croghan) as elders of our flocks. This was a humbling and inspiring evening for each of us. Our prayer is that we may all strive to walk in unity. We thank our Elder Bros. John Bahler, Rudy Graf, Joe Ramsier, and Leo Moser for lending themselves in the Lord's service throughout this blessed weekend. Also present were ministering brethren Al Schneider and Corbin Bahler of Rockville.

Our hospital patients this month were Pernal Virkler (Bro. Howard) and Sis. Lois Virkler (Bro. Clyde). We are glad they can again assemble with us. Also, we are thankful to have Urban and Evelyn Farney, and Sis. Pam Herzig with us again after several weeks of absence because of illnesses.

Funeral services were held for Nina Farney on Aug. 21 at the

Virkler Funeral Home by Bro. John Widrick. On Sept. 5, funeral services were held at the Virkler Funeral Home by Bro. John Widrick and Bro. Norbert Steiner for Ernest Farney.

Bro. Arthur Hirschey was called from this life after several months of failing health. Services were held on Aug. 26 by Bros. John Widrick and Norbert Steiner. Bro. Tom Lehman of Elgin was in our midst. We want to express our appreciation to Bro. Tom and his wife for being with us and ministering to us on Sunday.

Sis. Vera Virkler was taken from this life, and funeral services were held on Sept. 8 by Bros. John Widrick and Norbert Steiner.

Our deepest sympathy is extended to each of the bereft families. May all be comforted by God's Word. Our sympathy is also extended to Bro. Chester and Sis. Kate O'Brien, as Bro. Chet's brother, Stewart, was taken from this life. Also, our sympathy goes to Nat and Sheila Virkler, as Sheila's grandmother, Verda Williams, was taken from this life.

Linette Virkler, daughter of Bro. Lowell and Sis. Celia, is working as a nurse in California. Her new address is 1370 Calle Jules, Apt. 219, Vista, Ca. 92083.

### NEW YORK, NAUMBURG Corrine Virkler

It was heart-warming to have two dear souls, Ted Herzig and Pearl Colgrove, give their testimonies on Saturday evening, Sept. 2. They were baptised on Sunday, Sept. 3. Elder Bros. John Bahler, Rockville, Rudolph Graf, Akron, Leo Moser, Lester, and Joseph Ramsire, Rittman, were with us for the proving and baptism. A dinner was held immediately after the baptism at Naumburg.

On Sunday evening we witnessed a very inspiring and humbling service when our two brothers, Bro. Robert Beyer, Naumburg, and Bro. Norbert Steiner, Croghan, were ordained as elders. This took place at the Croghan church. They have our prayers, and we must now stand behind them and support them in their new responsibilities.

The funeral of Bro. Arthur Hirschey was Aug. 26 at the Croghan church with Bro. Robert Beyer of Naumburg officiating.

On Aug. 27 we welcomed ministering Bro. Tom Lehman, Elgin,



Ill. Union services were held at the Croghan church.

Some from here attended the Brotherhood Conference, held at Tremont, Ill.

Our annual church meeting was held in September. Bro. Theodore Herzig was elected as our new trustee.

Those hospitalized are Sis. Nina Beyer, Bros. Elmer Taube, and Arthur Herzig. On Sat., Sept. 16, our Sunday School picnic was held at Whetstone Gulf.

#### OHIO, AKRON Gail Spangler

The weekend of Sept. 9 and 10 was truly a blessed one as we could hear the testimony and witness the baptisms of Irvin and Evelyn Walker. With joy in our hearts, we welcomed them as our new brother and sister in Christ. Elder Bro. Joseph Ramsier (Rittman) assisted our Elder Bro. Rudy Graf. Also with us were Bros. Merle Laukauf (Latty) and Gary Maibach (Rittman).

Three dear young friends have heeded the kind and loving call of the Lord. They are Brigitte Heib (Bro. Leo and Sis. Elizabeth), Tina Graf (Bro. Leon and Sis. Janet), and Ed Graf (Bro. Carl and Sis. Kathy).

Bro. Norbert Steiner was with us for a Thursday evening service. We truly appreciated his visit.

Sis. Elizabeth Heib had heart surgery recently. It is our prayer that God will touch her with His healing hand and that she will be strengthened each day. Melinda Bako (Bro. Zoltan and Sis. Bonnie) and Dawn Saurer (Bro. Tom and Mary Lou) are wearing casts due to injuries, but both are on the mend, for which we are thankful.

We are very thankful to have Bro. Paul and Sis. Rose Pamer assemble with us again. Bro. Paul has been with us some Sundays, but Sis. Rose was unable to be with us for some time.

#### OHIO, JUNCTION Gwen Manz

We ask God's blessings upon Bro. Mark Schlatter and Sis. Sherri Ifft from Forrest whose engagement was announced Aug. 20. Sis. Juliet is Mark's mother and Sherri's parents are Bro. Harvey and Sis. Velma.

Bro. Adam Manz was hospitalized recently. We are glad he is able to

be home again.

We do appreciate the efforts of the brothers who share the Word with us. Our visiting ministers this month were Bros. Tom Leman, Elgin, IL, Gary Maibach, Rittman, Delbert Indermuhle, Sardis, and Kenneth Sauder and Wallace Ramsier, Mansfield.

#### OHIO, LATTY Karen Klopfenstein - Susie Sinn

"Blessed is he who does not follow  
The ungodly counsel's course,  
Shuns deceitful thoughts and  
actions  
And the way of sin ignores  
Who the mocker's horde does  
spurn  
And whose thoughts to wisdom  
turn."

Zion's Harp

Bill Eisenman (Bro. Lee and Sis. Mary) has chosen to answer the call of God and to follow in His ways. How thankful we are that there are still souls counted among the wise who are seeking to work out their soul's salvation.

We were privileged to have Bro. Don Gudeman (La Crosse), Bro. Earl Gerber (Forrest), Bro. Delbert Indermuhle (Sardis), Bro. Kenneth Wertz (Cissna Park), Bro. Tom Lehman (Elgin), Bro. Gary Maibach (Rittman), and Bro. Bill Schlatter (Junction) in our midst during the past few weeks. We thank them for visiting us and pray that God will bless them richly for their efforts.

Bro. Carl Sinn, Sis. Ollie Laukhuf, Jason Whitman (Bro. Dick and Sis. Eileen), Sis. Sophie Sinn, and LaVonne Stoller (Bro. Gail and Sis. Janet) were our hospital patients during this past month. May the Lord add His healing strength and power where He sees fit.

"So let us journey onward  
To heaven and the blest,  
For after strife and toiling  
We'll reach the land of rest."  
Zion's Harp, No. 136

#### OHIO, MANSFIELD Lucille Groh

And God gave us rain from heaven, and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness. (Acts 14:17)

Harvest time will soon be over for another year. The Lord has again richly blessed the earth with

food. How thankful we are for these many rich blessings that He gives because of His love.

Over the Labor Day weekend, Bro. Henry Beer (Milford) visited our area and proclaimed God's wonderful word to us. We are fortunate to have aged brothers who are nearing the sunset hours of life and are still filled with the Saviour's love and zeal. Our dear aged brothers and sisters are so precious. They are as the ripened grain, full of love, which comes in full measure after being ripened by life's sunshine of faith and being mellowed and moistened with showers of tears. In Bro. Henry's closing remarks he recited the song, "I will meet you in the morning, just inside the Eastern gate, then be ready, faithful pilgrim, lest with you it be too late. Oh, the joy of that glad meeting, with the saints who for us wait! What a blessed happy meeting, just inside the Eastern gate!"

The Eastern Gate  
The Lord of the harvest has chosen to take home a dear sister, Josephine Bucher Sauder, who lived to be 89 years of age. Sis. Josephine has been ill for many years and can now be at rest. She was special to me, because she was my first grade Sunday School teacher. She lovingly taught the children for a number of years. Her husband, Bro. Ezra Sauder, also a former Sunday School teacher and superintendent, preceded her in death. She leaves four daughters, Helen, Clara, Joy, and Geraldine. We hope to meet her in the morning, just inside the Eastern gate.

Loving sympathy is extended to Bro. Aaron Sauder, Bro. Ora Sauder, Noah Sauder, and Sis. Anna Hoffman due to the death of their brother, Herman Sauder.

Sis. Louise Sabo is now recuperating at home from a stroke. We are thankful to report that she is beginning to see a little. She wishes to thank all who remembered her with cards, letters, gifts, and prayers since she is unable to answer everyone. Your kind words of encouragement have meant much to her.

Kind wishes are extended to those who have been stricken with accidents and misfortune. Sis. Sarah Rice broke a bone in her foot. Little Jenny Banks, daughter of Bro. Larry and Sis. Nancy, broke her leg and will have to be confined

to the hospital for several weeks. Sis. Alice Graszl had surgery, but is home again.

God's loving arm of love and protection was over our dear friend, Lori Oesch (Sis. Katherine), when she was recently hospitalized after being hit by a train. Although she sustained severe injuries, we are thankful to report that she is home and able to walk with the aid of crutches.

Why do you think God made the world,

the trees and flowers that bloom?  
Why did He bother to make little birds,

that sing such a beautiful tune?  
And why did He make the sky so blue,

full of stars and moon above?

I know why He made these things—

He did it because of love.

After He sends the winter,  
then why does He turn it to spring?

Why does He bring back the sunshine

after He sent the rain?

And why does He wait to hear my prayer

When He knows what I'm thinking of?

I know why He does these things—  
It's all because of love.

Why does He always send comfort,  
when life brings trouble and sorrow?

Why does He show me that things  
will be a little bit better tomorrow?

Who am I that He should care for me,

as He reigns on a throne above?  
I know exactly why He cares—

He cares because of love.

Why did He make a wonderful plan  
to save me from darkness and sin?

Why did He send down His only Son,

that I might believe on Him?

Oh, why would Christ come down  
to earth

so willing to shed His blood,  
To die on a cross. that I might live?  
He did it because of love.

Author Unknown

#### OHIO, RITTMAN

We sing in our Zion's Harp, No. 187, these words: "Hark the voice of Jesus teaches; all who are not

born again out of water and of spirit shall be lost. 'Tis clear and plain that to enter heaven's portal and inherit life immortal, new creations we must be, on this earth from sin made free . . ." Many of our dear ones have harkened to the call of the Lord, and are turning their backs on Satan and the world. We rejoice with those in repentance: Jim Rufener (Bro. Isaac and Sis. Verna), Dan Stoller (Bro. Dan and Sis. Luzelda), Ann Gasser (Bro. Emmet and Sis. Marie), and Gary and Susan Murray (daughter of Glen and Mary Jane Winkler). The song then goes on to say: "So by love and constant striving man must serve God's holy name; and the worldly sin despising, let perfection be his aim; for God's mercy he is grateful, and to him all things are hateful which his sinful heart had loved and in former times approved." We pray that they will feel the grace of our Lord, and in due time, His perfect peace.

Sis. Josephine Sauder, a resident of Saralee Nursing Home for the past few years passed away after suffering a stroke. Our sympathy is extended to her surviving family and also to her three sisters who are residents in the Apostolic Christian Home. They are Sis. Ella Widmer, Sis. Emma Bucher, and Sis. Elizabeth Dotterer. "Finally from hottest smelter faith receives its seal and shelter as the gold that's purified; for the greatest joy of heaven having suffered much and striven, God's beloved are glorified." Zion's Harp, No. 245. The funeral and burial were in Mansfield.

We are glad to see Ralph Rock (Sis. Dena) back in church again. After having surgery, he went home, and then had to return to the hospital with pneumonia. Dennis Indermuhle (Bro. Darrell and Sis. Janet) had a mishap, injuring his ear. We are thankful for God's healing power.

We pray that the Lord will bless our newly married couples as they start the pathway of life together as man and wife. Robert, Jr., and Joan Graf are living in Wadsworth following their June wedding. Parents of the happy couple are Bro. Robert, Sr., and Sis. Alma Graf of Akron and Sis. Marie Bauman and the late Bro. Ernest. The wedding of Mike Ramsier and Christina Beegle was held on Aug. 26, and they are now living near Sterling. Par-

ents are the Paul Beegles of West Salem and Bro. Jim and Sis. Dorothy Ramsier of Sterling.

Such a blessing are little babies, sent down on earth to gladden many a heart and home. David and Donna Reusser are first-time parents with the birth on Aug. 8 of Amie Elizabeth. Little Amie's grandma is Sis. Mildred Reusser. A son was born to Don and Gail Riggenbach, making Bro. Will and Sis. Martha Riggenbach happy grandparents. Sis. Elizabeth Dotterer, who resides at the A. C. Home, had a pleasant surprise one day. She had a visit with her twin great-grandsons. The little boys are the sons of Bro. Gaylord and Sis. Betty Dotterer of Mansfield.

All the residents enjoy visits from young people, or just anyone who will take the time to stop with a cheery word, a little pat on the hand, or even a smile or two. These residents at the A.C. Home appreciate any little kindness, and it also gives us a good feeling.

#### OHIO, TOLEDO Josephine Rehklau

When we fully believe the words, "Thou art with me" with all our heart, we have already overcome all doubt and fear. We must walk through many dark valleys during our lifetime. Let us not be afraid, for the Lord is with us. He will never forsake or leave us. He promised to be faithful to us all the days of our life.

We were blessed to have Bro. Sam Schlatter from Junction with us. He spoke to us through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit on the life of Christ and the many temptations that confronted Him. We also have trials in our Christian walk of life. It is our prayer that God will give us the grace and strength to overcome temptations.

Our Sunday School enjoyed having as their guests at the annual Sunday School picnic a group from Alto, Rittman, and Junction.

We are very thankful that Sis. Lydia Fetter is able to worship with us again.

Sis. Verena and Rolf Kaeppler have returned from visiting their daughter, Ulla, who temporarily is living in Switzerland. She accompanied them on a trip to East Germany to be with relatives living in that area.

James and Debbie Newman have a daughter, Jennifer Jean. Her

grandparents are Sis. Lois and Warren Newman.

**OREGON, SILVERTON**  
Mildred Dietrich

A hearty welcome was extended to Bro. Andy and Sis. Mary Jane Winkler and family who moved from Rittman to our small Silver-ton congregation. We wish them the Lord's rich blessings in their undertaking.

A blessed weekend was enjoyed and we are thankful to Bro. Earl Banwart from West Bend who came our way to minister God's Word to us. A pot-luck supper and evening services were held at Portland by both congregations.

We thank Sis. Judie Knecht for her faithful service in the Sunday School. Her term has now expired and will be filled by Sis. Ginny Cooper.

**WEST VIRGINIA,**  
**NEW MARTINSVILLE**  
Minnie Weltz

We have had a lot of very dry weather. Trees are beginning to show bright colors which tells us that fall and winter are on their way.

The Witschey reunion was well attended on Aug. 27. The Ches-sie Railroad System ran an excursion train from Pittsburgh to New Martinsville on that afternoon and the railroad runs alongside the City Park so all got a glimpse of a lovely train, an unusual event in this area. Several hundred people came into the park and spent two or three hours until the return trip was made back to Pittsburgh. Several from here went to Wheeling and enjoyed the train ride to New Martinsville. Mr. and Mrs. Glen Frumm of Alexandria, Va., were among the many relatives who attended the Witschey reunion.

The Limestone Homecoming was held at the Country School on Sept. 3 with many pupils and teachers attending.

Miss Della Witschey is quite busy piecing quilts and quilting them, and is very happy to be able to do them. Her health is real good at this time and she has company which pleases her very much.

Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Moser, and Elizabeth and Margaret Witschey recently enjoyed a sightseeing trip through the Mountains into Williamsburg, Va., where many interesting things are to be seen.

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Terry Estep recently. He is a great-grandson of the late Mr. and Mrs. William Witschey. A daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. Larry Thornton on Sept. 15; she is a great-great-granddaughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Albert Riggenbach.

A dinner was held on Sept. 10 in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Nancarrow in Parkersburg for Frank Barth. Many members of his family were present. Those attending from New Martinsville were Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Barth, Mrs. Pat Hanna and son Joey, Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Wade and Mrs. Minnie Weltz.

**OUT OF COMMUNION AND**  
**FELLOWSHIP**  
Bro. Elias Souder  
(Reprinted from the Aug., 1961,  
issue of *The Silver Lining*.)

Ed. Note: Elias Souder was the founder of the Silver Lining and my father.

Was it possible to be out of communion and fellowship in Christ's time? Is it possible in our time?

Let us check a few of Christ's own disciples. Christ had not yet ascended into heaven, but they knew Christ, walked with him, and had many conversations with him. How could they falter and fail?

Let us look briefly at two of these disciples.

When the disciples were assembled together (all but Thomas), Christ appeared to them, saying, "Peace be unto you." Where was Thomas? Was he out of communion with Christ? Was he out of fellowship with the disciples? At least, he was not there. He possibly was somewhere thinking things over by himself.

After he again was in fellowship with the rest of the disciples, they told him, "We have seen Christ." What was his reaction? "I don't believe it."

Remember this, followers of Christ, and friends, Christ knows every move you make, in thought and deed.

Notice, Christ did not appear to Thomas until he found him in fellowship with His disciples. Why didn't Christ commune with Thomas while he was absent and out of communion with the rest? He knew all about Thomas, his very thinking, yet he waited to re-

buke him until they met together, with Thomas present. Christ did not appear to Thomas until he found him with the rest of the disciples. Then Christ appeared.

How mildly He rebuked Thomas, "Come, Thomas. You doubted the words of the other disciples. Reach hither thy fingers, and behold my hands; see the print of the nails, thrust thy hand into my side." Christ answered him word for word in the way that Thomas had told the rest of the disciples.

To every reader, believer and friend: how much more blessed are we if we believe, not seeing, than those who saw Christ and failed to believe? Reach your hand out to Him, whoever you are. He will reach forth his helping, inviting, giving hand to you. Again, He will not break the bruised reed, but as a good shepherd, gather that which was driven away (or went out of communion or fellowship on their own accord). Ezekiel 24:16.

If you have left the fold, Christ may talk to you when you return again. His words are tender. Won't you return, the same as Thomas? He was very happy thereafter, and was satisfied, even though he may have never checked the prints of the nails in his hands or thrust his hand into his side. After he saw, it was sufficient.

Our next disciple that was out of communion with Christ and out of fellowship with His followers: . . . "and Peter."

At this state of Peter's life, there was something wrong with him. He became self-confident. The second trouble was that he followed Christ afar off. That may be the trouble with many. The third, Peter got into bad company.

There are only a few words in the Bible for anyone out of communion with Christ and his followers, and those are, "Come back, come back." Thomas did. Peter did. Will you?

If there is ever a time when anyone needs the word of sympathy, when that one needs the warm clasp of the hand, it is when he steps out of communion with his Lord, his disciples, and the church.

Now notice. The women were at Christ's tomb. They had listened to angels. They received the greatest message of all times. "He is risen, and he goeth over into Galilee,"



and he sent word to his disciples to meet him there.

Where was Peter? He must have felt, "Oh, wretched man that I am." Don't forget, the Lord didn't forget Peter. He had his eye on him every minute, and then the word came, just as the angels had given it and as the Lord gave it to the angels: "Go and tell His disciples." (Now notice, a very special invitation was given to Peter.) Where was Peter? Why a special message? "AND PETER." It was the only name that was mentioned. "And Peter."

The Lord didn't forget Peter. Oh, no, never! He will surely call to everyone that is out of communion, "Come back, come back,"—by name, even.

Thomas and Peter were both reinstated by Christ himself, never again to go out of communion with God or the disciples.

There is a true story about a girl that left home, as the prodigal son did. Her mother lost track of her. She went to someone for help to see if they could find her. Yes, this one said that he could. "Give me all of her pictures you have, and I will find her for you." He wrote "Come Home" on the bottom of every picture. He placed the pictures here and there, wherever he thought the girl might see them.

It wasn't long; the daughter saw her picture. The tears ran down her face so much that she could not see the words below. She brushed the tears away, and then she saw what was written on the bottom: "COME HOME."

She went to her home and put her hand on the latch. The door was open. When she stepped in, her mother, with her arms about her, said, "My dear child, the door has never been fastened since you went away."

This is true for God and His followers. "Come home, Come home. The door has never been closed since you went away. It is wide open."

Dear children, the door is never locked. Come back home. Won't you return, come back, before the door will be closed for ever?

While life prolongs its precious light,  
Mercy is found, and peace is given;  
But soon, ah, soon, approaching night

Shall blot out ev'ry hope of heaven.

In that lone land of deep despair,  
No Sabbath's heavenly light shall rise—

No God regard your bitter prayer,  
No Saviour call you to the skies.

Now God invites; how blest the day!

How sweet the gospel's charming sound!

Come, sinners, haste, O haste away,

While yet a pard'ning God is found.  
Author Unknown

### MARY, HIS MOTHER

By The Late Bro. John Baumgartner, Bluffton

(Reprinted from the Mar. 1944 issue of the Silver Lining.)

The true love of parents and children for each other is nowhere more lovingly and realistically portrayed than in the love of Mary, His mother. We can see it in the preparations she made for His coming to Bethlehem, the concern that she had for Him at the age of twelve, and, when the time of His death came, how she followed Him to the cross, mourning for Him. She had no fear of the soldiers, but kept herself near the cross. Jesus, in His compassion and love, commanded John to provide for her in life. Then came the words, "It is finished!"

His Life of Truth, Love, and Compassion came to an end when He bowed His head and died. Even death lost its power when His appointed time came to arise again. When this darkness came over all the land, and the earth quaked, the people became very much afraid. But we can believe that the wonderful words that Jesus spoke to Mary in life, which she pondered in her heart, comforted her at this time.

He will also comfort us and help us in hours of darkness and gloom if we stay faithful and true to Him.

What parents, as Mary at the cross, would not like to be at the side of their wounded, lonesome, or ill son that is far from home, to bind up his wounds, to comfort him, or to minister to him in sickness or pain?

What child would not do as a daughter did recently. She came from a great distance to be at the bedside of her dying mother and held her hand until she died.

Mary was also at the tomb when

Joseph laid Jesus away, and early Easter morning she went to anoint Him. The stone was rolled away. God's Eternal Youth is shown to us here, as a young man in shining garments spoke comforting words to her. In His kingdom, nothing shall grow old, and there shall be no dark valley there.

When great accomplishments have been achieved in life, man will say, "It is finished." May we, as life's sun is sinking over the horizon, having obeyed our parents and the teachings of Mary's Son, Jesus, then say, "It is finished!" and meet our loved parents in that Eternal Home.

### A TRUE SHEPHERD

By The Late Bro. Otto Norr

(Reprinted from the Mar. 1944 issue of the Silver Lining.)

Experience is a great help to a person, and that is what David had. He is the one that wrote the words found in the 23rd Psalm:

"The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

"Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

"I will fear no evil: for thou art with me."

Dear ones, words are not able to explain the value of such a good Shepherd. The joys received by those who come to the fold of this good Shepherd, to live under His protecting love and blessing, are many.

What will hinder one from coming to His fold: not obeying the teachings of the Lord and living a sinful life. Sin will separate man from God. To be separated from the Lord is a sad condition in many ways. These words mean so much to each one, "Without Christ the Savior, I dare not die."

That is what He did. He died on the old rugged cross so that you and I can be saved (but only by believing and obeying His teachings).

Can we find such a true friend among mankind? No. That is why we sing,

"Ask me what great thing I know,  
That delights and stirs me so?

Jesus Christ the crucified."

### Zion's Harp

How sad it would be if there were no Savior to cheer and comfort the many sad hearts in this time. The helping arm of the dear Lord has not become shorter. It will help their undying souls.

When the time comes for a father or son to be on the battlefield, not knowing what moment life will end, faith as sincere as that which David the Psalmist had will be a great help. He had no fear because he put his trust, not in man, but in the living God.

Can we say, with Paul, the servant of the Lord, "For to me to live is Christ and to die is gain"? His gain will not be temporal. To die in Jesus is the beginning of "rest" after a life of work and worry. If that life has been well spent, there will follow peace and

joy which is found only in Heaven where no pain or sorrow can enter. Let us all try to become worthy of entering into that beautiful home which was built by workmanship divine.

So, wherever you go, take the name of Jesus with you.

## SILVER THREADS

### WHY

Why do we wait 'till a person's  
gone  
Before we tell his worth?  
Why do we wait? Why not tell him  
now  
He's the "finest" man on earth?  
Why do we wait 'till a person's  
gone  
To send him flowers galore,  
When a single rose would have  
meant so much  
If we'd taken it to his door?  
Why do we wait 'till he cannot hear  
The good things that we might  
say?  
Why put it off? Why not tell him  
now  
And share in his joy today?  
Of course—we're busy. That's our  
excuse.  
But why, oh why do we wait  
To tell a person our love for him  
Until it becomes too late?  
Author Unknown

### Our Pilgrimage

This world is like a forest  
That we must travel through;  
There's quicksand, traps, and dan-  
gers  
Hidden from our view.  
Our forefathers walked the same  
path  
And clearly blazed the trail—  
They marked the way to Jesus  
And hoped we wouldn't fail.  
There are wolves who act so very  
meek,  
They lead the lambs astray—  
But all along the streams we find  
God still points out the way  
To wells of living waters that  
Refresh both soul and mind.  
The Lord's advice rings loud and  
clear—  
Seek, and ye shall find.  
Thank you, dear departed ones,  
For faith so tried and true;

If God His mercy still imparts,  
We hope to be with you.  
Louise Ella Akel

This poem was submitted by  
Judy Wettstein. It was published in  
The Silver Lining about thirty  
years ago.

### REPENT (From Chicago)

Oh, Lord, they mock Thy songs  
And slander Thy name,  
And in their ignorance  
They have no shame.

For Satan controls  
All their minds' ways,  
And for their existence  
They give Thee not praise.

Lord, I praise Thee for salvation,  
For redemption of sin,  
For driving Satan out  
And coming within.

Lord, I pray that yet many  
Would turn from their ways,  
And feel the power of Thy peace  
In these grace-filled days . . .

Turn from their ignorance  
Their mocking and mirth,  
And call on Thy name  
For to gain the rebirth—

That through Thy great Spirit  
Thou wilt give them shame,  
That in humble repentance,  
They'll find peace in Thy name.  
Bro. Marvin F. Wieland

### THE GLORY OF THE AUTUMN

Scenic is the view of autumn  
When the leaves their colors show,  
Purple, red, gold, green, and  
crimson.  
All in utmost beauty glow.

Scenic is the view of autumn  
When the sun in early morn,  
Shines with beauty in its splendor,  
On the leaves as gems adorn.

For again a night has vanished,  
And the rising sun so bright,  
Thru its radiance fair has banished  
Gloom and darkness of the night.

In this night of dread and terror,  
Thou: oh God, with watchful eye!  
Thou hast given joyful vision  
Of the light that draweth nigh.

Let our eyes be raised to Heaven  
Where the sun is shining bright,  
And on hill and dale and meadows,  
Is dispensing life and light.

But brighter than the sun in space,  
Beams the Savior's loving face,  
Vice and sin. Oh! may they never  
Mar the joy of Thy rich grace.

Likewise, too, hast Thou created  
All these wondrous autumn leaves,  
Giving them their many colors  
Glowing in the autumn breeze.

Truly, if we live for Jesus,  
We shall view the city fair,  
Where the crystal waters flow,  
Where the leaves of healing glow.  
Lillian E. Walters,  
Sardis, Ohio

### SUCCESS (From Cissna Park)

It's not the amount of gold you  
have,  
Or the many acres that you own;  
It's not the mansions that you may  
have  
That spells success in your home.  
It's the little things you do each  
day . . .  
The kind word you have spoken;  
It's helping the one who is down  
and out  
And healing the heart that is  
broken.  
It's doing the job the best you can,  
It's the loving and giving in life,  
It's keeping your eye on higher  
things  
And your chin up in every strife.  
If you are the kind that wants  
success,

Just try to help those in distress;  
A life that is clean, a heart that is  
true,  
And doing your best . . . that's  
success.

Author Unknown

### THE CLOCK OF LIFE

The Clock of life is wound but once,  
And no man has the power  
To say just when the hands will  
stop—  
At a late or early hour.

To lose one's wealth is sad indeed:  
To lose one's health is more!  
To lose one's soul is such a loss,  
As no man can restore.

Now, only, is the time thine own,  
To live, and love, and toil with a  
will;  
Put no faith in tomorrow,  
For the clock may then be still.

Author Unknown  
Submitted By  
Bro. Walter Gerber

### A THOUGHT TO REMEMBER

"Here is a Man who was born in an obscure village, the child of a peasant woman. He grew up in another obscure village. He worked in a carpenter shop until He was thirty, and then for three years He was an itinerant preacher. He never wrote a book. He never held an office. He never owned a home. He never had a family. He never went to college. He never traveled two hundred miles from the place where He was born. He never did one of the things that usually accompany greatness. He had no credentials but Himself. He had nothing to do with this world except the power of His divine manhood. While still a young man, the tide of popular opinion turned against Him. His friends ran away. One of them denied Him. He was turned over to His enemies. He went through the mockery of a trial. He was nailed upon a cross between two thieves. His executioners gambled for the only piece of property He had on earth while He was dying—His coat. When He was dead He was taken down and laid in a borrowed grave through the pity of a friend. . . . Nineteen wide centuries have come and gone, and today He is the centerpiece of the Human race, the leader of the column of progress; and I am far within the mark when I say that all the armies that ever marched and all the navies

that ever were built, all the parliaments that ever sat, and all the kings that ever reigned, put together, have not affected the life of man upon this earth so powerfully as has that one solitary Life." And is not such a life a source of inspiration, comfort and courage to us all? Author Unknown

### The Sermon . . .

doctors of the law, they tried to remind Him that they were concerned about Him as parents are of their children today. He said, "Wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?" He was showing them the greater relationship that He had with His heavenly Father than with His earthly parents. So Mary, instead of wishing to be exalted, prayed and gave glory to God, taking no glory upon herself.

Truly, God will not share His glory with anybody. We can read of Haman who sought glory for himself. We can read about Herod, the king; when he spoke, the people said that it was the voice of a god. The Lord smote him. He was consumed of worms until he died for not giving God all praise and honor. We can read of Nebuchadnezzar who said, "Is not this great Babylon, that I have built by the might of my power for the honor of my majesty?" Dan. 4:30. While the words were yet in his mouth, a voice came down from heaven telling him that the kingdom was departed from him. He was driven from men and he lived in the fields with the beasts. There, he had to learn humility; he had to learn that the Lord is the one who deserves honor and glory.

The Lord is able to humble and abase those who are proud, and He is able to lift up the humble. This is the way that it has always been. In our day, men with knowledge and wisdom (but not wisdom from God) speak against God, advocating things that are against God's will. We know, beloved ones, that there will come a time of judgment. There will come a time when all the wicked and all their works of abomination shall become as chaff on the summer threshing floor, and the wind will blow them away. Therefore, we should realize, beloved ones, friends, brothers, and sisters, what a great God we have. We want to be found pleasing in His sight, not

in our own sight for that will not suffice.

In the chapter which we read today, Mary said, "He hath regarded the low estate of his handmaiden: for, behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed. For he that is mighty hath done to me great things; and holy is His name. And His mercy is on them that fear Him from generation to generation." This is a promise of God, that God will give mercy even though we do not deserve mercy. It is a gift that we do not deserve.

The Lord shows compassion to us if we have humble hearts, and a hunger for the Word. We have to realize that of ourselves we have no sufficiency. Our sufficiency is in the Lord. As soon as we begin to feel that we are all right by ourselves, we are very close to falling. This is what the Holy Spirit, I believe, taught every one of us at the time of our salvation, during our repentance. It brought us the knowledge that we were nothing, and that we were lost and without hope. The burden of sin pressed hard upon our hearts. For us there was no tomorrow. But it was then, as today, the day of salvation and we sought the Lord. He took us out of the miry clay and set our feet upon a solid rock. We have to realize that we are lost before we can be saved. This we get from the Word, when the Holy Spirit quickens our hearts.

A brother told me of a forefather of his, I believe it was a grandfather, who came to this country from across the ocean. On the journey the wind blew contrarily so that the vessel went backward instead of forward for many days. There was a great storm but he had no fear within his heart. He felt that if he perished in the ocean, all would be well with his soul. But when he reached this country, he came into the assembly of God's people and heard the Word. When he heard the Word of God expounded in truth, he trembled because he knew he was not ready to meet his Creator.

The god of this world makes us feel self-sufficient. makes us feel worthy of getting into heaven. He tells us that we are not as bad as people think, perhaps just as good as the next person; but the Word of God tells us that there are none righteous, no not one. If we try to build our own way to heaven, it is



like building a bridge across a great chasm which doesn't quite reach the other side. Our goodness will not reach God, but His goodness, from the other side, does reach back to us through the Lord Jesus. The Lord Jesus bridged that gulf by offering Himself as a sacrifice for our sins, yours and mine.

The way to the Father's heart, and the only way we can be accepted by God, is to be accepted through the beloved Lord Jesus. He will accept all those who humble themselves and call upon the name of the Lord for salvation. The rich, the self-satisfied, the self-righteous will be sent away empty. The Pharisee who told God how much he went to church, how much he fasted, how much good he did was not justified before God. The Publican pleased God. He would not so much as lift up his eyes to heaven, but smote upon his breast and said, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner." The prodigal, beloved ones, said when he came home, "I'm no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants." Lk. 15:19.

The fruit of repentance is to feel our unworthiness; to feel that we deserve nothing good from the hand of God, and to feel that it would be God's prerogative and right to cast us into Hell because the Bible tells us that the soul that sins shall die. We have all fallen short; we have all sinned; we have all come short of the glory of God. We have no right to have anything but eternal condemnation.

God does not rejoice in the death of a sinner. He rejoices when a sinner turns from his way and finds salvation, which is freely offered in Christ Jesus, who came to earth and was born in a humble stable because there was no place in the inn. In those simple words, we are reminded that, in the world today, there is no place for the Savior in the hearts of those who are of the world. But to those who are eager to know Him, God will make himself free.

If we would read a little bit further, we would read about an old woman named Anna and an old man named Simeon who dwelt in the temple. They were waiting for the Consolation of Israel and, in their simple heartedness and devotedness, they did not leave the

temple day nor night. They waited for the Promise of God. It was revealed to Simeon that he would not see death until he had seen the Messiah, Christ Jesus. So when Mary and Joseph brought Jesus into the temple to be dedicated to God, as was the custom at that time, Simeon took him in his arms and said, "now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace . . . For mine eyes have seen thy salvation . . . A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel." He was then ready to depart.

Beloved ones, it has always been that God speaks to the soul that is hungry. Some whom we have spoken to have come to church prepared by the Holy Spirit and hungry of heart. They have felt a drawing power, a love, and a desire to seek their soul's salvation. They felt a willingness to leave the load behind. They were amazed at how they felt when they began to repent and seek the Lord. Perhaps there were others sitting beside them who had been coming to church all their lives and at that particular time did not feel what those persons felt. Why? Because they were not hungry and not dissatisfied with the things of this life.

This is the only way to God today. We must hunger and thirst after righteousness and then, according to God's will, we will be filled. Often the Lord awakens sinners from the slumber of sin through the Word. He wakens them to the need of salvation. They feel the need of an abiding place when they see the things of this world being shaken, and they feel that there is nothing they can cling to anymore, nothing lasting or enduring. We have hope only if we cling to the Lord.

Therefore, as this Word goes forth, let us seek the Lord while He may be found, and call upon the Lord while He is near. Let the wicked forsake their ways and unrighteousness be done away with. The Lord will have mercy and He will abundantly pardon. What a wonderful invitation we have in the Word of God. The Lord has done all that He could and He stands at the end of the way beckoning us to come to Him, even as God beckoned Moses to come to Him. Both God and the Lord Jesus beckon us to come and find rest for our souls.

There is much spoken about peace

today. There is no peace for the wicked says the Almighty God. They are like the troubled seas that roll and roll and there is no rest, no rest for their souls. But peace can be found through the Saviour and we can find rest for our souls in the midst of turmoil and sorrow. The Apostle Paul said, "sorrowful, yet always rejoicing." Have we not experienced, beloved ones, that often the greatest peace came over our hearts during the greatest trial, cares, or burden? The Lord is able to lift up those who are cast down. Paul said that all men forsook him but the Lord stood by his side. We, too, have experienced that when the Lord stands by our side we are truly blessed.

If we become careless in our faith and think about our former life and the pleasures of sin that we once enjoyed; if we begin to turn this over in our mind and think that just thinking about it won't do any harm; then thoughts become action and sin, when it is conceived and carried out, brings forth death. Samson toyed with sin and exposed himself to the flames of sin, but he found out when he rose to battle the Philistines in the strength of the Lord that the Lord had departed from him. He was taken blind to Gaza, treading corn with the oxen.

So you see, beloved ones, God is not mocked. Whatsoever a man soweth that will he also reap. If we sow in the flesh, we shall of the flesh reap corruption, but if we sow in the spirit we shall reap life everlasting.

At one time the people thronged about the Lord, and His mother and brothers wanted to speak with Him. "One said unto him, Behold, thy mother and thy brethren stand without, desiring to speak with thee." The Lord didn't say that they didn't mean anything to Him, because they meant a lot to Him. But He showed us that the spiritual relationship is greater than the natural relationship. He looked at His disciples and said, ". . . whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother." Mt. 12:47, 50.

We trust that the Lord through His Word and Spirit will help us all realize that in obedience to the Word of God we can be blessed. If we are disobedient, we shall reap the reward of disobedience.

## SERMON SPOKEN BY ELDER BRO. NATHAN STEFFEN, ELGIN, ILLINOIS

(St. Luke, Chapter 1)

The promises of God are the truth and they are faithful for He does not change. Our God is the same yesterday, today, and forever. What is man that He is mindful of us? We are told that we are as the flowers of the field. We flourish in the morning and by noon we wither away; by evening we are cut off and we fly away.

We have no abiding place here, but how thankful we are that, in the time allotted to us, God has made Himself free to us. He has given us His Word and the Holy Spirit, so that we can prepare for that long and never ending eternity. This, beloved ones, takes faith. It takes faith to believe that what God says, He will certainly do. It takes faith to believe in His Word for we know that the Word tells us that he who comes to God must believe first of all that God is, and that He will be the rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

So, as we are gathered together on this Sunday morning and have heard the Word read to us, may we have faith to believe that it is God speaking. God is interested in each one who has found it worth while to gather here this morning.

The children of Israel were promised a Messiah. They were promised that through the seed of Abraham there would be one who would be a blessing to this people, Israel, and to all nations. But it didn't happen immediately, did it? Yet God sees everything.

If we go back a little in the history of the children of Israel, we see that God knew their burden when they were in Egypt. He knew their slavery; He knew their suffering; He knew their sorrow. He sent one to deliver them whom they did not recognize. They thrust Moses from them, and asked who made him to be a ruler and a judge over them. So, for forty years, Moses kept the sheep of his father-in-law, Jethro, on the back side of the desert.

I believe the prophet Jeremiah

said, "blessed is the man whom the Lord tells to come nigh unto Him." We know the familiar story of Moses and the burning bush. The bush was not consumed and this strange happening made Moses leave his path and approach the bush to see what was happening. When the Lord saw that he came near, He said, "Moses." Moses said, "Here am I," and the Lord said, "I am . . . the God of Abraham . . . Isaac and . . . Jacob. Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground." Exodus 3. Then God told Moses that He knew the afflictions of his people, that He knew their sorrow and their disappointment. He knew their anxieties and cares. He told Moses, "Come . . . I will send thee to deliver them."

Now, beloved ones, we realize that we have come into a time such as has never been, a time of rebellion and sin when iniquity and unrighteousness have truly gained the upper hand. If we didn't have faith that the Lord knows our crying, our sighing, and our needs, and if we didn't know that the arm of the Lord is not shortened, we would despair.

In the time of Jeremiah, people were turning from the Lord to idols. They were giving ear to false prophets and to Baal and to that which was out of the way. Jeremiah reminded them to seek the old paths, the tried and proven paths, where there was rest and peace. Jeremiah 6:16.

The hand of the Lord is not shortened that it cannot save . . ." Isaiah 59:1. In this confidence, we believe that we can take a day at a time in our everyday life and can trust in the Lord.

He is the same today as He was in the days of Moses. He sent Moses to deliver his people and, in our dispensation, He sent His only begotten Son. In past times, He spoke to the people through the prophets, but in this latter time, He has spoken to us through His

Son. How thankful we are that the Lord Jesus was willing to humble Himself. It says, "Let this mind be in you, which was in Christ Jesus: Who . . . thought it not robbery to be called equal with God: But made himself of no reputation . . . he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, . . . that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow . . . and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord." Phil. 2:6-11. Oh, we have to learn over and over again that the way of humility is the way that leads to everlasting life. The way to humble ourselves is through the Lord Jesus Who was before all creation. There was nothing created that was not created by Him.

He saw that there was no way that we could redeem ourselves from the bondage of sin, corruption, death, and hell; that there was no way possible that we alone could find salvation. We were doomed to suffer and live in this life with our joys and sorrows, and then experience death without hope, going into that long and never ending eternity where only darkness awaits the soul. The Bible tells us that before we loved Him, He loved us.

He came into this world. How? We have just read how He came. He was not born of a rich family, not born at the king's palace, but born of Mary, a humble soul. We have read here together where Mary, in her praise to God, said, "My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour." She knew that she herself, though she was the mother of the Lord Jesus, needed Him as her Saviour. Whether she understood fully what He would have to go through to redeem her soul, we do not know. When, at the age of twelve, He left his father and mother and, after three days, was found in Jerusalem talking with the

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