

The Silver Lining

A LIGHT FOR BELIEVERS

VOLUME 31

SEPTEMBER 1981

NUMBER 9

W I S D O M

With the return of our children and youth to the schools of learning, of utmost importance is our parental responsibilities to teach them according to our Heavenly Father's Word:

PROVERBS 22:6—Train up a child in the way he should go and, when he is old, he will not depart from it.

PROVERBS 4:1—Hear ye children, the instruction of a father, and attend to know understanding.

PROVERBS 5:1-2—My son, attend unto my wisdom and bow thine ear to my understanding, that thou mayest regard discretion and that thy lips may keep knowledge.

PROVERBS 8:11—For wisdom is better than rubies; and all the things that may be desired are not to be compared to it.

PROVERBS 3:13—Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding.

A CONDENSED OUTLINE OF THE LIFE OF ELDER BRO. S. H. FROELICH

(Continued from Aug. Issue)

Chronology (Beginning in 1827)

The first period in the conversion of S. H. Froelich was one of an awakening (in April 1825), the second, one of being brought from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God (in October of the same year). There was an interim of seven years from the time of his conversion to his baptism in 1832.

On May 27, 1827, Froelich was confirmed for the Ministry in the Protestant state church after repeated examinations. Of this acceptance he wrote that it was brought about through no fault of his. After waiting for some time he became parish administrator of the congregation Leutwil (Aargau). There was still no thought of a position and his suffering continued for another year, inwardly and outwardly, until Easter 1828, when he received an assignment as tutor in a private family near Schaffhausen.

It was not until his transfer to

the vicariate of the Probstei Wagenthausen (Thurgau) in August 1828, that an essential change in him took place. There his spirit became a thing of life and he felt in his element.

In December 1828, he accepted a call as vicar to the congregation at Leutwil. The hand of the Lord was with him and gave his word such power that the testimony of the Crucified Savior pierced the hearts of the hearers like a two-edged sword and called forth a great awakening in the congregation of 1,800 souls and the once poorly attended church was now crowded. The evil one could no longer look on passively. He was accused of attracting members from neighboring parishes, but he remained for two years without taking fright at the threatenings. The adversaries of the Gospel however sought after reasons to put away this new preacher who was in their path.

At Easter 1830, the church coun-

(Continued on Page 2)

MEDITATIONS ON THE EPISTLES OF JOHN

(Continued from Aug. Issue)

Chapter II

The Perfect Revelation

Our present knowledge of God, in comparison to the future one, is like the age of a child in comparison to the age of an adult (I Corinthians 13); all is still incomplete and piecemeal, even in the case of the most perfected ones. The perfect revelation for the believing and humble children of God is held in safe-keeping for eternity, but they must now become prepared for it and be advanced to such a degree in the knowledge of God and in the fellowship with Him and in His spiritual way of viewing things, that they may later enter the opened portals of the city of God and kingdom of the glory of Christ.

The Son of God came to the world and appeared in the flesh so as to take sin away—destroy the works of the devil—and, in place thereof raise up in us the righteousness of God, and by faith in this mystery (of the Gospel)

(Continued on Page 2)

Condensed . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

cil introduced, in place of the old Heidelberg Catechism, a new rationalistic one for the instruction of children. After examination of the book, Froehlich could not persuade himself to use it because, instead of a positive faith in Christ, it laid a foundation for nature- or reason-religion. Because of this and other trumped up charges of arbitrariness he was haled before the church council on September 27, 1830. He defended himself and held his ground on the basis of his conviction and was, for the time being, being dismissed without a decision from the hearing.

Removal from Ministry of Protestant State Church

As two Basel divines, who had been sent privately to investigate and persuade him, could achieve nothing, the church council recognized the futility of its efforts. With reference to his removal, Froehlich wrote (to his beloved congregation in Leutwil): "My deposal was revealed to me by the church council without further ado on October 22, 1830, and, in fact so quickly that I had no opportunity to preach a real farewell sermon. Accompanied by many thousand tears and good wishes I went my way on October 25th." A teaching which demanded regeneration through repentance, faith and baptism, was bound to call forth opposition from the consistory, which suffered from dead formalism.

to be continued)

Meditations . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

we attain unto that knowledge wherein eternal life is found (John 17). But the unconverted, the unenlightened, the soulful man understands and grasps nothing of this mystery. It is foolishness to him in his own blindness and darkness, which he considers wisdom and in which he despises God in His wisdom and crucifies the Son of God because He declared Himself to be what He is and the world with its false wisdom, what it is, namely of the devil (James 3:15 ff.; John 8):

"This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish.

"For where envying and strife

is, there is confusion and every evil work.

"But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy."

for it is the nature of all human wisdom to be speculative only and it makes men's minds conceited, puffed up, haughty and lets their hearts remain in sin. It can rise no higher than the old heathenish question, "What shall we eat, drink, wear?" and those who obtain the most of these things are praised (or envied) by all and looked upon in astonishment as if they were filled with wisdom. Yes, even Seneca a respectable heathen man, censures the schools because they turn out nothing but speculative minds and no righteous men. And although we preach the true, divine wisdom (Christ) to men, they will not have it and they do not understand it.

(to be continued)

NOTICE

To all subscribers of the Silver Lining: Be sure to send in your change of address. If the Post Office sends us a notice "No Forwarding Address," we have no way of sending The Silver Lining to you.

Notice:

Sister Clara Heiniger, who has labored many years, helping many in the Alabama Churches and in the community, has moved and is living at Valparaiso, Indiana.

All mail, letters, packages and 4th Class mail should be sent to:

Clara Heiniger
c/o Orville Bucher
458 Chicago St.
Valparaiso, IN 46383

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME

Doug Kellenberger

With a lot of children, come a lot of various questions; likewise, with many adults come the increase of different opinions. We have had a lot of people volunteer their services this summer. More was accomplished than ever before, but our responsibility to work together in harmony also increased. Extended activity with numerous people can only be accomplished successfully when we have the spirit of cooperation and

respect for one another and then the openness to allow things to be done through God's Spirit.

Evidently, the Lord is looking more for the attitude of submission with one another rather than the exact agreement on every specific action. Since one man regardeth a day and another man regardeth it not, and one man eats but another does not (Romans 14:6), it is evident there is something else beneath the surface that constitutes Christian unity. For through Him (Christ) we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father (Eph. 2:18). Let us endeavor to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. (Eph. 4:3)

Thank you, beloved friends and brethren for helping us this summer. Our "thank yous" sometimes don't seem like enough, but the Lord will reward you for the work done for Him. It would be very beneficial to have many more of these service projects available in our fellowship so that more brethren could also have the opportunity to work together and enjoy these valuable spiritual experiences.

The Lord has drawn some of our children unto Himself, as well as others in our community. Thank you for your prayers for them. Please continue to pray that they could overcome the need to be accepted by their visible friends and instead see and yield to the strength of their Invisible Friend in heaven.

All of this summer's activity seems to have culminated into the day of our annual Quilt Sale. This year's organization was better than ever. More people volunteered and those who had been here before knew just what to do. Everything ran very smoothly. With our auction tents set up in a new location this year, and weather conditions as they were, I was impressed with the ingenuity of the workers to adapt in the existing conditions. Those in charge appreciated your help very much. There was a larger crowd this year and new faces were present. It was a beautiful day, even though rain threatened through-out the weekend. The outcome of the sale was profitable from both the financial and brotherhood standpoint. Thank you to all who contributed.

Our number of children is increasing. The Kellenberger house just received two new girls: Dawn

(8) and Angela (6). Jay P. (16) also has returned to live with us. Bro. Bob Cockburn has had other calls for the placement of more children.

Gary Lee and Jay have both received birthday cards from people in and out of the state; some as far as Taylor, MO and others from Bluffton. That really warmed my heart. It may not seem very significant, but it is. These children say, "I don't even know who these people are," but that gives us a golden opportunity to give them a positive response about the love of God. To those who put forth the effort to send those cards, please accept our appreciation.

Our Sis. Kandy Bruellman has left us to return to her home in West Bend, IA. We have enjoyed her happy attitude and the help she has given with our younger children. The following letter is from her: I would like to express my thanks to everybody who helped make my two years at the Home enjoyable. It had a lot of good experiences there. Special thanks go to Doug and Sue for being my houseparents these past two years; also to all of the Children's Home Board. I sure am going to miss Leo and all of the people. I really enjoyed it there.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

PLEASE REMEMBER TO MARK YOUR CALENDARS ON NOVEMBER 20, as this is the date of our annual 1981 BENEFIT DAY, the hours being from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., with luncheon served at noon. As before, hand-made articles, linens, quilts, children's clothing and toys, baby items, home furnishings, baked goods (brought in on the morning of November 20) are only a few suggestions. Your creativity will add much interest to our day. Many items are needed. We shall look forward to seeing you then.

In Isaiah 35:5, 6, we read, "Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing: . . ." There will come a day when this is true; but until then, "Christ has no hands but our hands to do His work today; He has no feet but our feet to lead men in His way; He has no tongue but our tongue. . ."

. . . excerpts from

Annie Johnson Flint

What if our hands are busy with other work than His? These directives weigh heavily on us here, for we are responsible to a Heavenly Father who has spoken, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." (Matthew 25:40)

Further insight as to what takes place at our Home includes a visit to the Educational Class which is under the auspices of the Activity Department. Each unit of study lasts approximately six weeks and deals with a wide variety of subjects in geography and history. The thrust of this is to make our residents aware of the world around them. Examples of one unit's work might include research on a certain subject of interest to their level of thinking. Then they might be assigned the responsibility of looking up answers to questions in an encyclopedia. They might also be shown slides or a movie about the subject. Another phase of the Educational Class might be a unit on Nature Study, during which they might choose an animal or class of insects and study their habits. Specimens of insects are sometimes on display in the Activity Department.

Our Know Each Other Better feature this month introduces Rosemarie Finlay, who originates from the Burlington, OK and Kiawa, KS area. Her parents are Marie Ann (Kisling) and Vernon Schurter who still reside in that area. Two brothers, Dale and Sam, and two sisters, Doris and Darlene, complete the Schurter family. Rosemarie's husband is King Finlay, who is presently working out of Horshan, PA, and who often comes to visit. Children of the Finlays include Gene, David, Tony, John, Gary, Diana, Stephanie and Debbie. Her favorite pastime is music and singing. With such a dear family, there was afforded much opportunity to live a full and active life, which she so much enjoyed. Birthday time for Rosemarie is Feb. 23.

A trip to the Peoria zoo, various day and/or all-night campouts, a ride on a local houseboat and a local Special Olympics are some of the current summer activities which have taken place here.

Please remember the date of NOVEMBER 20 and plan to spend

the day with us. Until then let us remember:

Alone our work is of little worth,
Together we are the "salt of the earth";

So it's all for each and each for all,

United we stand, divided we fall!

Anonymous

ARIZONA, PHOENIX

Julie Hoerr

After much prayerful consideration, our congregation has certainly felt the Lord's direction in calling Bro. Jon Kokanovich into the ministry. On July 19, Elder Bro. Richard Schupbach reminded us of the duties of the ministry and prayed for His guidance and blessings for Bro. Jon and his family as he undertakes this most im-

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IN MEMORY — EDITORS:

HENRY SOUDER
EDWARD SOUDER

portant responsibility in the ministry of God's Word.

"Follow me, the Saviour called: Come to me, I am the way!"

Zion's Harp #95

Tim Sutton has heard the Saviour's call and has turned to Him in repentance. Truly, we are grateful God is still calling souls unto Him. May Tim feel God's nearness and direction in his new walk of life.

Bro. Steve and Sis. Jill Roth welcomed little Michael Steven on July 12. Erica, Matthew, and Amy enjoy brother Michael's arrival also. Grandparents are Bro. Roger and Sis. Vi Isch, Bluffton, and Bro. Earl and Sis. Lorene Roth, Phoenix.

"O, death where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?" I Cor. 15:55. On Aug. 2, after several months of suffering, Bro. Alphi Fisher was called to his heavenly home. We pray Sis. Gladys may take comfort in the knowledge that Bro. Alphi no longer suffers any afflictions of this world, but is free from all sorrow and pain. Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Gladys and sons Don and Rodney. May they take comfort from Hymns of Zion #74, "Jesus knows thy sorrow, Knows thine every care: Knows thy deep contrition, Hears thy feeblest pray'rs;"

Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle, Japan, was our visiting minister Aug. 9. We thank him for sharing God's precious teachings with us.

Bro. John Dotterer has been chosen to complete the term of Sunday School Superintendent vacated by Bro. Jon Kokanovich.

At this time, our elder brothers are gathering for the annual Brotherhood Conference. We pray God's direction and blessings for them, as they undertake this most important duty.

Bro. Floyd Banwart suffered a heart attack while he and Sis. Clare were vacationing back East. At this time, Aug. 15, he is hospitalized in Veteran's Hospital, Dayton, OH, in stable condition. We trust that by the time this issue is mailed, the Lord willing, he may be able to return home. I'm sure Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Clara would appreciate your prayers and any words of encouragement. Their address is 906 E. Seldon Lane, Phoenix, AZ 85020.

We have been reminded several times this month: If you don't

feel close to God, who do you think moved?

ARIZONA, TUCSON

Rose Huette

On Aug. 5 we were blessed to have our Elder Bro. Richard Schupbach from Phoenix, AZ along with Bro. Harry Roth. It was really an enjoyable evening. After the services, we enjoyed a lunch and just being together and visiting. We want to thank them for coming and hope they will come back soon.

We were saddened this past Sunday, Aug. 16, when Bro. Raymond Cooper announced that he, his wife, Sis. Ginny, and their son, Gary are moving back to Silverton, OR. He expressed how they had given it much thought and prayer and felt led by the Lord to move there at this time. Things just opened up for them. We will miss them but are happy for them, as it is what they have been wanting to do for a long time. We hope they will come back and visit us often. The little farm with all the beautiful trees and water across the road sounds so neat and peaceful.

We are saddened also to know that Sis. Dawn Luginbuhl from Rockville, CT, will be moving back there this week. She has been living here this summer and has been a joy and blessing to have around. We will really miss her but hope she will visit often. She is going back to school and will soon be a nurse.

LOVE . . .

is patient and kind; love is not jealous or conceited, or proud or provoked; love does not keep record of wrongs; love is not happy with evil, but is pleased with the truth. Love never gives up; its faith, hope and patience never fail.

I Corinthians 13

CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA

Shirley Witzig

We thank the following visiting ministers for their labor in feeding the flock: Bro. Gary Maibach (Rittman), Bro. Willis Ehnle (Japan), and Bro. Bill Dotterer (Phoenix).

Fall is just around the corner, and for many it brings with it the start of another school year, with its hours of study. Towards the end of the last school year when I was finishing my studies, my

father read after supper from Ecclesiastes Chapter 12: "And further, by these, my son, be admonished: of making many books there is no end; and much study is a weariness of the flesh. Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgement, with every secret thing whether it be good, or whither it be evil." (verses 12-14) This scripture is a great reminder of where our top priority should be. Yes, we should work as unto the Lord, yet we shall be blessed if we keep the balance. I think many people, myself included, find it easy to buy Satan's excuse, "I can walk closer to God when I'm out of school . . . then I can really spend quality time in the scripture." Aren't we limiting God though? No matter what our occupation—studies, career, or both, let's believe God can bless our other work if we use some of our precious time in His Word. It is amazing to find how wonderfully everything can improve if we truly put God first.

CALIFORNIA, MAYWOOD

Ben Ammann

Sunday, Aug. 30 was a blessed day for us. Bro. Richard Schupbach, Bro. Carl Feucht (Lester, IA), and our Elder Bro. Carl Kinsinger served us God's Holy Word.

In the afternoon, the Altadena members met with us and we heard the testimony of Ed Ruele and witnessed his baptism. We are happy to have Bro. Ed in our fold. Bro. Ed's sisters were present for the baptism. We hope some of the friends will repent and give the Lord control of their life.

COLORADO, DENVER

Marlene Leman

After spending a very blessed summer in the Denver area, we are now home again in Elgin, IL. We spent many very enjoyable hours with loved ones who live in the area and with loved ones who visited there. The wonderful memories we have are among the many blessings that are ours as a result of our summer in Colorado. We sincerely appreciate the interest, support, and prayers we could feel from our brethren and friends across the land. Your continued prayerful support is so necessary to further this effort.

We are happy to report that Orville Romersberger is home from the hospital and recovering nicely from his knee surgery.

Sis. Katherine Ries was laid up several weeks at home with arthritis and unable to attend services. Her absence was keenly felt and we are thankful she was able to again assemble with us. We pray that God will grant her strength and grace to bear her burden.

Our visiting ministers this month were Bro. Al Langhofer (Wichita), Bro. Ron Schambach (Elgin), Bro. Roy Wernli (Lamont), Bro. John Lehman (Berne) and Bro. Robert Miller (Portland). We truly appreciate their labors of love and pray that God will bless them and add the increase.

Lord willing, services will be held during the winter. Services are planned for each Sunday through September and the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month through May 1982.

CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE Dorothy Viens

"When pure and upright hearts,
by flames of love ignited
Are by the bonds of faith more
firmly yet united.
The light of hope beams forth
in radiance far and nigh
Invites us to partake the blessings
from on high."

Zion's Harp #79

On July 5, Sis. Carole Kloter (Bro. Emanuel and Sis. Helen) and Bro. Daniel Bahler (Bro. Corbin and Sis. Virginia) were united in holy matrimony, becoming one in the Lord. May He continually shower blessings upon them as they set up their household together.

On Saturday, Aug. 1, we gathered to hear the testimony of our dear friend, Loren Gerber (Bro. Melvin and Sis. Mildred) and on Sunday, Aug. 2, witnessed his baptism. We rejoice that the Lord is still extending His call to souls that will hear and heed that call. We are very thankful that Elder Bros. Leo Moser (Lester, IA) and Dan Koch (Tremont, IL) were here to assist in this most important work. We appreciate their many teachings and their labors of love in our behalf. Also visiting us recently were Elder Bros. Loren Stoller (Latty) and Dale Eisenmann (Chicago) and Bros. John Klotzle (Al-

tadena) and Ken Schneider (Remington). We thank these brothers for being willing to bring God's Word to us.

On Sunday, Aug. 2, two engagements were made known. Bro. Ralph Schneider (Bro. Al and Sis. Gladys) is engaged to Sis. Tina Graf (Bro. Leon and Sis. Janet, Akron, OH) and Bro. John Virkler (Sis. Charlotte) from Croghan, NY, to Sis. Maureen Gerber (Bro. Melvin and Sis. Mildred). We rejoice with them and pray for God's blessings upon them as they seek to follow where He leads. October weddings are being planned.

Sis. Lena Luginbuhl, wife of Bro. John, passed from this life on Aug. 6 after a long illness. We sympathize with Bro. John and all the family. "I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth." Psalm 121:1-2. We know that God is near to hear our every prayer and will comfort all who put their trust in Him.

FLORIDA, SARASOTA Doris and Diane Roche

We enjoyed the visit of Bro. Darrel and Sis. Billie Klopfenstein of the Ft. Lauderdale church. May God reward the efforts of Bro. Darrel in proclaiming the Word and giving of himself through the power of the Spirit. We have been so blessed by the love of our ministers.

Our only graduate was Katrine Streitmatter. She plans to attend Duke University in the Carolinas. We wish her the guidance and protection of the Higher Power, that her wishes may be according to His plan.

Kristine, daughter of Bro. Glenn and Sis. Sandy Price, has a hair-line pelvic fracture from a fall. After her confinement she is now able to be about on crutches. We pray that God will bless her with His healing power.

We welcome Bro. Tom Gudeman, Francesville, IN, to our area. May God bless him in his new venture. He will be employed by Bro. Glenn Price.

We have been having lots of rain after a very dry spell, and the blossoms and greenery seem so much more beautiful.

GEORGIA, ATLANTA Linn and Brenda Stoller

"I will bless the Lord at all

times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul shall make her boast in the Lord: the humble shall hear thereof and be glad. O magnify the Lord with me and let us exalt his name together." Psalm 34:1-3

Our hearts have been blessed by the love we have felt from our friends and loved ones who have made this gathering possible.

There are around eight church affiliated families in the area for which we are so thankful. We have been blessed with precious teachings from visiting ministers the past few months. They include Bros. Harvey Heiniger (Burlington, IA), Walt Anliker (Eureka), Wendell Gudeman (Francesville), Tom Leman (Elgin), Art Ringger (Indianapolis), Ron Heiniger (Bloomington), Glenn Price (Sarasota), Alfred Bahler (Wolcott), Earl Kilgus (Remington), Chuck Hemmer (Peoria), and Gene Lehman (Wolcott). "Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled." (Matt. 5:6)

We invite and encourage anyone coming through the area to attend the worship services here. Visitors are greatly appreciated.

ILLINOIS BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL Mary Huber - Jean O'Shea

We are thankful for our visiting ministers this month as they visited and shared God's Holy Word. Bro. Jim Leman, Roanoke, was here July 19, Bro. Bob Meyer, Bluffton, on Aug. 16, and Bros. Homer Reineck, Toledo, and Rod Huber, Valparaiso, on Aug. 21. We were reminded of the beauty of true "Christian fellowship" as we heard of the blessings felt on Friday, Aug. 21 at the Brotherhood Conference. How glorious it will surely be to sit together in Heaven!

We welcomed Sis. Emily Kieser into the fold on July 29. We certainly wish her God's love and blessings as she takes her place in the family of God.

Little Clayton Daily, son of Ben and Mary (Koehl) Daily, was struck by a car and is in a body cast. We are thankful he is home and recuperating.

In this extremely hectic summer season it is good to remember the words in this verse:

"One of the greatest mistakes a Christian can make is to imagine

that increased social or spiritual activity can be compensation for the lack of secret communion with God."

ILLINOIS, BRADFORD

Evelyn Endress

On July 19, Brock Nathan El-sasser was born to Bro. Jordan and Sis. Sharon. He is welcomed home by two sisters and four brothers. Bro. Simon and Sis. Louise Wagenbach (Tremont) and Sis. Leila El-sasser (Princeville) are the grandparents.

We believe the Lord's will was revealed to us when Bro. Marvin Leman was chosen to serve in the ministry. May God grant much grace and strength to Bro. Marv, his wife, Sis. Jane (Kieser), and their family. We appreciated the counsel and guidance of Elder Bros. Dave Kieser, Dan Koch (Tremont), and Roy Sauder (Peoria) in this weighty matter.

We wish to welcome Bro. Jack and Sis. Nancy Knobloch and their family to our congregation. They moved from the Lamar, MO area to a farm near Galva.

The weekend of Aug. 15 and 16 was a special one for Dawn Leman (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Jane) and Lynne Elsasser (Bro. Duane and Sis. Doreen). On Saturday evening, they testified before a cloud of witnesses how God has worked in their hearts and given them peace. Then next day, their desire to be baptized was fulfilled. May God richly bless Elder Bros. Dave Kieser and Joe Braker (Morton) for lending themselves in these labors of love. Other ministers with us for the weekend were Bros. Bruce Leman (Roanoke), Bob Pfloderer (Morton), and Glenn Dill (Tremont).

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO

Kathy Schlatter

"Please be patient with me. God isn't finished with me yet." (a needlework saying) More likely we wish God would be patient with us because we have so many unfinished projects—undone gifts of love, volunteer work we just can't do now (maybe next week, month, year. . .). He has brought so much to our attention that we can't seem to get everything done. And we, at least, seem to be always behind. Perhaps we would be wise to think of our elder brothers and realize how their lives basically involve one kind of activity: that

of Christ and His church. Though we know the Lord has chosen them for special responsibilities, does He really expect less of us? 'Tis not because we have so much to offer (rather that He can provide every need), that our earthly clay pot can become an heavenly offering. But, perhaps you, as I, need to ask the Lord to help shave off some distracting gingerbread.

Surely it was good for us to hear Bro. John Steiner (Oakville, IA) on Sunday, July 26, as he was willing to be spent by the Spirit. We hope his considerable responsibility will not be to him a burden, nor merely an obligation, but rather a privilege sweetened by the Lord's shower of blessings.

On vacation, we observed many, many fields of sunflowers. Always, they were directly turned to face the sun, and always they followed it in its turning. May our church so follow the Son, that all may count no other influence worthy of attention, that all may keep a fixed glance upon Him. May those in the pulpit and those in the Sunday School and those in the pews and in the kitchen, every one works together, faces glowing with Sonshine, daily.

Bro. Greg Rassi has been chosen as the new Sunday School superintendent. New teachers will be Bro. Gary Knepp and Sis. Betty Schlatter. May their sacrifices and work be acceptable in the Lord's sight, and may His grace and blessings flow from on high so that students, parents, and the church may be richly benefited. Bro. Jim and Sis. Kathy Schlatter have finished their terms as Sunday School teachers. The Lord blessed us with much love, laughter, and learning during that time. It was our privilege to serve. If we would have misused our title or abilities or inadvertently offended any one, we would beg forgiveness.

A card I recently purchased said, "Babies take us on a special journey into the land of love." So Christopher Gary Halfer arrived Tuesday, Aug. 18, to add that new dimension of love and family to his parents, Diana (Hauter) and Gary Halfer. Chris's thrilled grandparents are Bro. Ralph and Sis. Lydia Hauter, Morton, and Gary's father is from the suburban Chicago area. May the Lord give bountifully all good things to Chris and his special family.

Lately our newcomers seem to be old friends coming back. Bro. Ben and Sis. Jackie Pfloderer are returning to our area, he to attend the U. of I. medical school (as his father was up here doing a generation ago, when Ben was born), she to complete her nurse's training at West Suburban Hospital, started before her marriage. We wish Bro. Ben and Sis. Jackie many more blessed years in Chicago. No matter how long they stay, we're delighted for all those who enrich our Chicago church with their love and fellowship. We thank the Lord and all of you who have been here.

Two of our dear ones have had surgery. Sis. Minnie Lehman is now home and doing as well as can be expected. Bro. Earl Feller's surgery was also successful, and he will, we hope, soon be able to be home. We pray that the faith and courage that Bro. Earl and Sis. Minnie, through Christ, show us week by week, will continue to sustain them as, by His Presence, He holds up their weakened arms. We continue our prayers and requests for His mercy in their behalf.

How like a parent (albeit always wise and all-knowing—don't we wish we could be such?) our God is. He has loving expectations and merciful firmness in just the right proportions, for how can we accomplish except we have goals and expectations? Unless we have the loving support, however, we get discouraged. We always need limitations, not wishy-washy ones, but ones that are clear. Yet we often fail, so we need to know the quality of mercy. Then when we know we have erred but are given undeserved forgiveness, we are given strength to return to our task.

Have you ever found it difficult to know what to do with criticism? What to do with compliments? I have trouble with both, though obviously for different reasons. I think it has been said that criticism can be considered the pruning of the soul. Though it is not pleasant, pruning can shape the plant and improve the quality of the fruit, and I am sure we all want to be as productive as we can be for the Lord. Words of comfort, like a soothing ointment, a balm, may be a protective coating on that sore spot, until we can see past the pain to His Providence and our growth. Compliments are easier to

take but can be more dangerous since sometimes a person wants to wear them like gems in a crown, showing off a bit and bowing to the left and to the right. More likely we should consider compliments akin to fertilizer (generally not something displayed), which is returned to the soil to enrich and encourage it to bring forth more fruit.

Perhaps this pointed description will also urge us toward other specific areas of "clean-up." Faith Baldwin suggests that, as we work towards Christ's discipline in our lives, we diet, giving up: "the sweetness of revenge, the bitter herbs of resentment, the sharp spices of gossip, the bland puddings of complacency, the ego-building proteins of vanity, the strong stimulant of prejudice—whether religious, racial, or intellectual—the heavy bread which nourishes unkindness, and the drugging wine of self-pity."

I look at my house so differently when I am getting ready to have company. Most of the time, I consider it a comfortable home, a haven, a place of real contentment and pleasure, family love, and privacy. When company is to come, I look more closely and get discontented: there's a crack in the plaster, the unsightly furnace, the crummy windows, the "growing-out" hedge, and that's not so good. On the other hand, we were recently on vacation with very dear family members, and on a day when I was "out of sorts," I started listening to myself (perhaps with more sensitivity towards how they heard me). I was appalled—and that was good. The Lord shook me up, and, I hope, sweetened not only my words, but that oh-so-acidic tone.

When we were shopping (same vacation), I happened to see a wooden pouting chair. This was for a young child, but even so, the seat was set extra low and close to the ground. It had an extra high back, at least five or six times the height of from the seat to the ground and wing-type sides. I was stopped in my tracks to see such a curiosity, but it made me think about "pouting," not always done, in my experience, only by children. Are we not responding to the "lowness" of Satan's motivation, withdrawing from the people around us, hiding our faces but letting our stiff "back" speak for us, when we pout?

I have mentioned our vacation. We saw mountains and the plains, the hills and the valleys, the forested and the barren, the "boonies" and the cities. God is so good. But His creation is not restricted to nature: it includes people. And we saw the healthy, the sick, and thought of the dying. We saw those who had losses and those who had gains, physically, emotionally, financially, spiritually. We met those who were single and those who were married, male and female. We would commit them all and ourselves unto each of you in prayer. We need one another. The night my brother and I were to give our testimonies, Elder Bro. Leroy Huber (Eureka), (who proved me), greeted me and asked, "Have you prayed for me?" I was taken aback, for in my need, I had prayed only for myself. God truly met both of our needs; but may this point out how we lean on one another. At the recent conference our elder brothers made a special plea for our prayers for them and their families. May we all pray more diligently for one another, God knowing each individual's need, and may we pray for each other's children.

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK

Mary Anderson - Melba Funk

The announcement was made of the engagement of Sis. Barbara Walder to Bro. Larry Stevig. Parents of the couple are Bro. Keith and Sis. Alice Stevig of Morton and Bro. Dale and Sis. Dorothy Walder.

On July 19, twin sons were born to Sis. Sharon and Bro. Dennis Walder. They have been named Joshua Luke and Jesse Lee. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Mann Feller and Sis. Lucille Walder.

Our Elder Bro. Ezra Feller is presently hospitalized as the result of a fall in which he fractured several ribs. Other hospital patients have been Sis. Helen Lackey, surgery; Sis. Mabel Vogel, medical; Betty Hari, medical; Sis. Mary Bauer, medical; and Jim Bauer, medical. Sis. Sophia Funk was also admitted after she suffered a fractured arm in a fall at her home.

We are always thankful for visiting ministers who come to share the Good Word with us. Visiting us recently were Bros. Loren Knapp, Tucson; Frederick Knapp, Congerville; and Raymond Roth, Kiowa.

My heartfelt thanks is extend-

ed to my friends and relatives for the prayers, cards, visits and gifts while in the hospital and after my return home. A special thanks go to the ministers for their visits and to my family for their help. May God richly bless all these kind deeds.

Helen Knebler

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE

Mardell Ott - Shirley Ifft

As we look forward to the Brotherhood Conference, our prayers go out to our dear elder brethren. May they feel God's presence clearly in their midst and His Guiding Hand in each decision—that the church may grow in true humility, faith, and obedience to the Word.

Hospital patients were Bro. Richard Hasty, Ruth Miller (Elmer), and Kristi Ifft (Bro. Larry and Sis. Shirley). We are thankful all are able to be home again.

We read in Hebrews 13:4: "Marriage is honourable in all. . ." Our congregation rejoices with Sis. Debbie Ott (Bro. Don and Sis. Carolyn) and Bro. Steve Sutter (Bro. Gerald and Sis. Marjorie) of Taylor, MO, whose engagement was announced. May they feel many blessings and a deep gratitude to the Lord as they look forward to their marriage.

We are so thankful we are privileged to sit under the sound of God's Word and feel His encouragement, admonition, and direction through ministering brethren such as we enjoyed this past month when Elder Bro. Josh Broquard, Elder Bro. Perry Zimmerman (Forrest), Bro. Loren Knapp (Tucson, AZ), Bro. Kenneth Knapp (Taylor, MO), and Bro. Edmund Kloter (Goodfield) visited us. May we remember to support our ministering brethren in prayer.

Bro. Clarence and Sis. LuAnn Zobrist are the happy parents of a sweet baby girl, Rebecca Lou. Enjoying her are Jeremy, Beth, and Brian—along with grandparents Bro. Frederick and Sis. Marg Knapp of our congregation and Bro. Howard and Sis. Phyllis Zobrist (Goodfield).

We read of the joy in Heaven over every sinner that repents and we truly rejoice with Bro. Don and Sis. Carolyn Ott, since their daughter, Susie, has given her heart to the Lord. May she seek to build on the Solid Rock and soon feel

the beautiful peace God gives to His own.

ILLINOIS, ELGIN

Ruth Ann Getz

Thankfulness fills our hearts at the goodness of our God as we reflect on the summer that is fast completing its course. He has shared many blessings with us, both spiritually and physically, for which we feel unworthy.

With the ending of summer and the beginning of fall, our school children are returning to school and our college students are returning to college. These young people are faced with many choices and situations (often in ungodly settings) that can have profound effects upon their lives. Let us not forget to hold them up before the Lord in prayer that these young people may seek the Lord's will in their lives.

Lori Schock (daughter of Bro. Norman and Sis. Virginia) and Jerome Dwornik were united in marriage July 25. They are making their home in Lynwood, IL.

Gregory Gudeman (son of Bro. William and Sis. Evelyn) and Brenda Glover (daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Glover) were united in marriage Aug. 1. May these two young couples look to the Lord to direct their lives as they now walk together as husband and wife.

We are happy to have Bro. Tom and Sis. Marlene Leman and their family back in Elgin with us. They returned home Aug. 12 after spending the summer in Colorado helping to establish a church in Aurora.

Little Keith Loren was born July 31 to Bro. Les and Sis. Alison Schambach (Erica and Mark complete their little family). Bro. Albert and Sis. Dorothy Schambach and Henry and Marian Brown are the grandparents. At the present time this little one is hospitalized awaiting surgery for a hernia. We can appreciate the concern on the part of the mother and father and commit them to the Lord that He may place His healing hand on one so small.

Sis. Elizabeth Anliker has been hospitalized the past four weeks with heart failure. She is slowly gaining some strength but still is very weak and in the need of prayer. We are thankful that she can feel the prayers of loved ones.

Bro. Art Mueller found it nec-

essary to return to Mayo Clinic for his fungus infection (Blastomycosis). The dosage level of his medication had to be decreased to a more tolerable level thus extending his treatment time to three months. He is now able to receive this treatment on an outpatient basis at Beloit Hospital. Bro. Art has been through much suffering and must look forward to more in the next three months. We pray that the Lord will make it tolerable for him and that He will continue to provide for their family as He sees fit.

Martha Lohbauer returned to the hospital to bring her blood sugar back under control, but is able to be home again. Sis. Sue Braun and Jacob Leuthold were also hospital patients but are home again. Jacob is presently staying with his daughter, Doris Bangert in Algonquin, IL.

Jim and Ginger Moser, Madison, MO, have become the parents of Jason Imanuel, born Aug. 8. Bro. Earl and Sis. Jeanette Moser are the grandparents.

We are grateful that the Lord has called Tim Wenninger (son of Harold and Sis. Ramona) to repentance for his past deeds. It is our prayer that he can come to a full understanding of his soul's need and will grow in grace to do the Lord's will.

Bro. Bob Walder (Congerville) shared the Word of God with us and we thank him sincerely for giving of himself to be used of the Lord.

ILLINOIS, EUREKA

Melba Mangold

We welcome Sisters Norma Pfaffman, formerly of Peoria, and Fanny Wiegand of Gridley who have moved to Eureka. We are glad to have them with us and hope they will be happy in their new homes.

Bro. Daryl and Sis. Lucy Blunier are the parents of a second daughter, Abby Christine, who was born July 17. She has a little sister, Jenny, and her grandparents are Bro. Lewis and Sis. Clara Lou Blunier and Bro. Richard and Sis. Verna Hartter (Goodfield).

Also on July 17 Bro. Neil and Sis. Leesa Gerber welcomed their second son, Andrew Scott. Andrew's little brother is Joshua and his grandparents are Roger and Sis. Eunice Gerber (Latty).

Bro. Dale and Sis. Lezlee Leman

also had a second son born July 28. His name is Jeremy Dale, a brother to Stephen. His grandparents are Bro. Gerald and Sis. Velma Leman and Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Reinman.

Joni Marie was born Aug. 1 to Bro. Steve and Sis. Vickie Martin. She has a little sister Shari to help take care of her. Her grandparents are Bro. Nelson and Sis. Mary Ellen Martin and Bro. Howard and Sis. Vera Heinold (Goodfield).

Bro. Terry and Sis. Shirley Leman are the happy parents of a little girl, Jill Christine, born Aug. 3. She has a little brother Brian. Jill's grandparents are Bro. Milton and Sis. Caroline Leman and Bro. Carl and Sis. Freda Knepp.

We give our sympathy to Sis. Sara Blunier whose sister, Sis. Eunice Waibel (Remington), was taken so suddenly from this life.

We are thankful for the visit Sunday, July 19, of Bro. Wayne and Sis. Judy Anliker of Forrest. We heard many good teachings from Bro. Wayne.

During the weekend of July 26, a Fort Sam Reunion was held in Eureka. Among our many visitors were a number of ministering brothers. They were Bros. Paul Gasser (Akron), Jim Ramseyer (Bay City), Carroll Gerber (Bluffton), Walter Herrmann (Princeville), and Paul Eiseman (Burlington). We enjoyed all of our guests and especially thank the brothers who shared God's Word with us.

We are thankful that there is still grace and mercy given to souls who turn to the Lord in repentance. Lynn Eastman, daughter of Bro. Dick and Sis. Nelma, and Randy Knapp, son of Bro. Bob and Sis. Jean, have chosen to walk the narrow way. We pray God will guide them.

"By faith I view my Savior dying,
on the tree, on the tree,
To every nation He is crying,
look to me, look to me,
He bids the guilty now draw near,
Repent, believe, dismiss their fear,
Hark, Hark, what precious words
I hear, Mercy's free, Mercy's
free!"

No. 734, Gospel Hymns

On Sunday, Aug. 8, another lamb was added to the flock. She is Sis. Jackie Zobrist, daughter of Bro. Gene and Sis. Carol Zobrist. We rejoice with her as she begins her new life.

We are happy and thankful to have Sis. Evelyn Blunier return home from Japan. She had been there for two years as a teacher. The little flock there became very dear to her; love for God's people is indeed everywhere.

Sis. Bertha Reineke of the Home and Sis. Gladys (Bro. Sam) Schmidgall have had surgery and both are doing quite well, thanks to God's healing power.

We thank Bro. Irvin Knecht of Lamar who along with his family spent Sunday, Aug. 16, with us. We always enjoy visits from brothers willing to be spent in our behalf.

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY

Carol Bazzell - Joann Zehr

The engagement of our Sis. Jane Broquard (Bro. Donald and Sis. Ione) to Bro. Jay Luthi (Bro. Lloyd and Joann) of Lamont, KS, was announced on July 26. They are planning to be married Nov. 29.

On Aug. 9, Sis. Diane Walter (Bro. Jim and Sis. Juanita) and Bro. Jim Koehl (Bro. Virgil and Sis. Gladys) of Forrest were united in marriage. We wish each of these couples God's richest blessings in their future lives.

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Sis. Darlene Steidinger (Mrs. Eldon) and Deann Steidinger (Mrs. David) in the recent death of their father, Lloyd Lovell of Phoenix, AZ. May God be near to them and be their Comforter.

Our visiting ministers this month have been Bros. Kenneth Weerts (Cissna Park), Ron Heininger (Bloomington), Earl Banwart (West Bend), Ed Kloter (Goodfield), and Clarence Kachelmuss and Wayne Anliker (Forrest). We enjoyed having each one.

ILLINOIS, FORREST

Jan Bachtold - Kathy Leman

We offer our heartfelt thanks to Bros. Robert Beebe (South Bend, IN), Tim Zimmerman (Gridley, KS), Charles Sinn (Ft. Scott, KS), Ron Heininger (Bloomington, KS), and Bro. Earl Banwart (West Bend, IA), who so willingly gave of themselves to bring us the precious Word of Life. May we always remember to prayerfully support our ministering brethren.

We also want to remember those who have been hospitalized. Our dear Sis. Esther Honegger remains

a patient at this time. Others who have been recent patients were Sis. Pauline Wiegand, Julie Rickets (Bro. Nick and Sis. Jean), Sis. Louella Sohn, and Kim Nussbaum (Bro. Byron and Sis. Neola).

Little Trisha Jo is our newest bundle from Heaven who was joyfully welcomed into the hearts and home of Bro. Terry and Sis. Peggy Young. Her brother, Tommy, is also happy with a new little sister. Grandparents are Bro. Elmer and Sis. Rosetta Stoller and Bill and Sis. Donna Young (Rittman, OH).

Bro. Jim Koehl (Bro. Virg and Sis. Gladys) and Sis. Diane Walter (Bro. Jim and Sis. Juanita) were united in marriage in Fairbury Aug. 9. They will be making their home in the Forrest area. We welcome Sis. Diane and ask that God will add His blessings to this union of hearts.

Bro. Perry Zimmerman conducted the funeral services for Laura Haab who passed away recently. We offer our sympathy to her husband, Ed, who remains behind, and to the other loved ones in the family circle.

"Tears are often the telescope through which men see far into Heaven." —Beecher

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD

Pam Wiegand

Teach me, Father when I pray,

Not to ask for more,

But rather let me give my thanks

For what is at my door

For food and drink, for gentle rain,

For sunny skies above,

For home and friends, for peace and joy,

But most of all for love.

Author Unknown

Our congregation was blessed once again with the birth of three babies, and the rebirth of two souls. Andrew David, who was born on July 26, is the son of Bro. Alfred and Sis. Marie Kieser. His grandparents are Carl Kieser of Peoria, and Bro. Herbert and Sis. Rose Fehr of Fairbury.

Bro. Bruce and Sis. Mary Knapp are the proud parents of a baby girl, Angela Joy, born Aug. 3. Her grandparents are Sis. Wilma Knapp, and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Zook of Washburn.

A little girl, Marti Andrea, was born to Bro. Mike and Sis. Gerri Hinrichsen on Aug. 4. Grandpar-

ents are Bro. Hans and Sis. Arlene Hinrichsen, and Roy and Sis. Corrine Roth.

We enjoyed hearing the testimonies of Lori Brenkman and Kenneth Hohulin and are happy to welcome them as a new sister and brother in faith.

Our thanks is extended to Bro. Jim Byrd of Roanoke who brought us the Word of God on Aug. 8.

Hospitalized this month are Sis. Margaret Newlin and Bro. Kenneth Rokey. Sis. Clara Hunzicker and Mark Wiegand were hospitalized and are now home. Our prayers are with all of our loved ones.

Our sincere sympathy is extended to Bro. Wilbur and Sis. Mildred Heinold in the loss of their daughter Linda Melton. The Heinold family wishes to express their thanks for all the love and kindness shown to them.

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY

Carol Klopfenstein

"At home tis well." These beautiful and comforting words of assurance gave us a peaceful joy in our hearts as we sang this hymn together in our assembly with thoughts of our dear brother, Philip Moser who was being laid to rest many miles away in Oakville, IA. The death of a believer is precious in God's sight. Singing descriptive and meaningful hymns such as this one, helps to make our heavenly goal seem a little closer, and it gives us a fresh perspective on our temporary residence here on earth. This world is not our home, we're just passing through. What a glorious day that will be when we see our Lord and Savior and can meet our loved ones who have passed on. Bro. Philip died July 16 at age 84. We sympathize with his surviving wife, Sis. Bertha, his sons, Bro. Roger of Wapello, IA and Arnold of Taylors, SC, and his daughters, Sis. Beulah Ehle of Princeville, Sis. Verl Funk of Garden Grove, IA, Sis. Ruth Gramm of Gridley, Sis. Marvel Knobloch of Morton, and Sis. Gelene Haerr of Bloomington.

Aug. 16 was the wedding day of Bro. Curtis Witzig, son of Bro. Elmer and Sis. Marjorie, and Sis. Norma Zimmerman, daughter of Bro. Roy and Sis. Helen, all of Gridley. Unlike the marriage feast that Jesus spoke of, where so many who were invited found excuses not to come, we had a full house in church. Many witnesses heard the

sacred vows that were made and wished them well as they began their married life. We were glad to have ministering brothers Harold Gramm of Morris and Albert Aberle of Tremont with us for the occasion.

Our other visiting ministers were: Bro. Loren Knapp (Tucson), Bro. Don Waggenbach (Washington), Bro. Jack Bollier (Leo), Bro. Everett Hari (Bloomington), Bro. Raymond Roth (Kiowa), Bro. Ron Heiniger (Bloomington), and Bro. Robert Miller (Portland).

Steven Ringger, son of Bro. Fred and Sis. Mary, is engaged to be married to Donna Zehr, both of Gridley.

Sis. Judy Zimmerman, daughter of Bro. Roy and Sis. Helen, was announced to be married to Bro. Scott Sinn of Tremont.

Sis. Pat Ringger was in the hospital and is home again. Bro. Raymond Meiss is now home from the hospital and has been able to assemble with us.

ILLINOIS, MORTON

JoAnn Roecker - Phyllis Farney

Jennifer Lynn Frank, infant daughter of David and Debra Frank, was stillborn on July 19. Graveside services were held on July 21. May our Heavenly Father comfort and bless her parents and family.

Bro. Greg and Sis. Sara Getz welcome their first son, Matthew Douglas, into their hearts and home. Matthew was born on July 21. April Ann is happy for a little brother. Grandparents are Bro. Ken and Sis. Ann Getz and Bro. Al and Sis. Gerry Neukomm, all of Morton.

We rejoice with Mark Nelson as he gave his testimony of faith on Aug. 1 and we witnessed his baptism on Aug. 2. May God richly bless him as he walks the narrow path of life. Mark's parents are Darryl and Sis. Sandra Nelson.

Our sincere sympathy is extended to our convert Leslie Hick's family in the passing of her father, Bobby Jo Hicks. May God comfort and bless his family and friends.

It is with much joy that the engagement of Bro. Larry Stevig, son of Bro. Keith and Sis. Alice Stevig, and Sis. Barbara Walder, daughter of Bro. Dale and Sis. Dorothy Walder, Cissna Park, IL, was announced on Sunday, Aug. 9. May God richly bless them as they

establish a Christian home and walk life's pathway together.

We have had the following spend some time recently in the hospital: Sis. Hannah Strunk, Janet Simpson, Louise Krug, and Frank Milazzo. May God continue to be with them and all who are shut-in or sick at home.

Bro. Richard Schupbach, Phoenix, AZ, and Bro. Ron Allenbach, Kiowa, KS, have recently visited us and ministered God's Holy Word unto us. May our Heavenly Father richly bless them for their labors of love.

ILLINOIS, PEORIA

Mary Plattner - Mary Ann Plattner

I met God in the morning

When the day was at its best,
And His presence came like glory
Of the sunrise in my breast.

All day long the Presence lingered,
All day long He stayed with me,
And we sailed in perfect calmness
O'er a very troubled sea.

Other ships were blown and
battered,
Other ships were sore distressed.
But the winds that seemed to
drive them,
Brought to us a peace and rest.

Then I thought of other mornings,
With a keen remorse of mind.
When I too, had loosed the
moorings
With the Presence left behind.

And I think I know the secret,
Learned from many a troubled
way:
You must seek God in the morning
If you want Him through the
day.

Ralph Cushman

July 20 was the funeral of Evelyn Langjahr. She is survived by her husband, Ben, and son Thomas of Missouri.

The funeral service of Wesley Aeschleman was held on July 24. Surviving are his wife, Mae, son Keith, his mother, Mary, and brothers and sisters. We express our prayers and sympathy to those dear families who have lost a loved one.

Hospital patients this month were Bro. Ezra Hohuln, Bro. Ken Ober, Bro. Bill Reed, Ralph Joos, Sis. Donna Ferrero, and Sis. Dorothy Haefli. May God give strength

to each one according to His will.

Visiting ministers this month were Elder Bro. Steve Rinkenberger (Cissna Park), Bro. Clarence Kachelmuss (Forrest), Bro. Gene Lehman (Wolcott), Bro. Ralph Garber (Morton), Bro. Dave Wiegand (Urbana), Bro. Bert Butikofer (Elgin, IA), Bro. Don Waggenbach (Washington), and Bro. Bob Walder (Congerville). May God bless them for sharing unto us the inspirations of the Holy Spirit.

O God of wisdom, life and love
Thine is the blessed plan
In holy bonds of love to join
The twain created man.

Hymns of Zion #286

Aug. 9 was the wedding of Bro. Max Hoerr II (Bro. Max and Sis. Katie) and Sis. Suzanne Lehman (Bro. Gene and Sis. Verna) from Wolcott.

On Aug. 16, Sis. Louise Unsicker (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Lukie) and Bro. Ron Walder (Bro. Dale and Sis. Dorothy) from Cissna Park were united in holy matrimony. We wish them God's blessings as they together walk life's pathway.

Our congregation has been blessed with two dear little souls. Amanda Kay was born to Bro. Larry and Sis. Barbara Reinbeck. She is welcomed home by Joseph, Heidi, Carrie, and Adam.

First time parents are Bro. David and Sis. Kathy Oberghel. They were blessed with a son, Jonathan David. Grandparents are Bro. Wilbur and Sis. Eldora Hoerr and Bro. Matt and Sis. Betty Oberghel of Cissna Park. May the Lord guide and watch over His little children throughout each day.

We welcome home Steve Hoerr, and his wife, Kathy, and their daughter, Kristen. May they find love and new friendships with us here in Peoria.

I would like to thank all my friends and relatives for the cards, flowers, and gifts that were sent to me while I was in the hospital. May God bless you for your love and kindness.

Marie (Otto) Hoerr

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE

Arlene and Arlys Martin

FIVE "FAITHFUL SAYINGS":

1. Life's salvation—I Tim. 1:15
2. Life's service—I Tim. 3:1

3. Life's suffering—I Tim. 4:9,10
4. Life's secret—II Tim. 2:11
5. Life's sanctification—Titus 3:8
—H. K. Downie

Visiting ministers have been Bros. Josh Broquard (Fairbury), Frederick Knapp (Congerville), Harvey Grimm (Bern, KS), Pete Baltic (Mansfield, OH), Duane Metzger (West Bend, IA), John Steiner (Oakville, IA), Ben Wy-song (Sabetha, KS), Max Reimschisel (Wichita, KS), Earl Gerber (Forrest), Clifford Grimm (West Bend, IA), Leroy Huber (Eureka), and Marvin Leman (Bradford).

On July 18 and 19 we heard the testimonies and witnessed the baptisms of Sis. Audrey Martin and Sis. Deanne Herrmann. Their parents are Bro. Ray and Sis. Edna Martin and Bro. Howard and Sis. Mary Ann Herrmann.

Hospital patients have been Bro. Harold Streitmatter and Hilda Streitmatter. We think of them often and wish them God's blessings.

Our sympathy is given to Bro. Dave and Sis. Beulah Ehnle. Sis. Beulah's father, Bro. Philip Moser of Gridley, passed away July 16.

Our sympathy is also given to the family of Sis. Elise Stahl. Sis. Elise passed away Aug. 13. She was born on Apr. 11, 1899, to Bro. Karl and Sis. Wihelmina Stickling. Her husband, Bro. Emil, passed away June 30, 1975. She is survived by a son and a daughter, Richard and Sis. Anna; five brothers; one sister; five half brothers; and five half sisters.

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

Joyce Hodel - Carol Rumbold

Again our congregation shared joy with the Congerville congregation. The engagement of Sis. Lisa Knapp and Bro. Clark Leman was announced. Their parents are Bro. Fred and Sis. Marge Knapp and Bro. Bruce and Sis. Marge Leman.

Keth and Phyllis (Fischer) Brown are first time parents to Jessica Denise, born Aug. 8. Bro. Marvin and Sis. Pat Fischer are her grandparents.

Services were held here for Wesley Aeschleman, 62, of Peoria, who passed away July 21. He is survived by his wife, Mae, a son, Keith, his mother, Sis. Mary Aeschleman, five brothers, Fred Harold, Bro. Ed, Bro. Joe, Richard,

and a sister, Sis. Mary Lou Martin. We extend our sympathy to all his loved ones.

Hospitalized this month were Bro. Bob Luginbuhl, Sis. Marie Aeschleman, and little Leigh Getz. We are thankful they are all home again enjoying improved health. Sis. Martha Martin, who was living at our church home, has returned again to her own home.

We are always thankful there are willing brothers to serve the Lord for our benefit. Bros. Chuck Hemmer and Jim Hoerr of Peoria, Marvin Stieglitz of Leo, and Loren Knapp of Tucson shared the Word of Life with us.

Bro. Paul and Sis. Leanne Fischer have left our congregation to make their home at our Children's Home in Leo. We will miss them in our congregation, but we know they are working for the Lord.

At this writing, the Roanoke congregation finds themselves on the eve of hosting the Brotherhood Conference. It is our prayer that we may work together in Christian love, that the Church may be strengthened, and that God may be pleased. As we open our hearts and our homes to our brothers and sisters across the land, may we remember, "As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith." Gal. 6:10

ILLINOIS, TREMONT

Dorothy Wagenbach - Phyllis Lang

Visiting ministers this past month were Bro. Steve Rinkenberger and Bro. Ken Eisenman, both of Cissna Park. We thank them for expounding the true and living Word.

Tom Bolliger and Jane Baer were united in holy matrimony on July 12. Parents of the couple are Bro. Robert and Sis. Doris Baer and Bro. Harlan and Sis. Carolyn Bolliger. We wish them God's blessings in their life together.

On July 19, five more converts gave their testimonies and were baptized the following day. They are Marsha and Rita Huette (Bro. Ken and Sis. Arlene), Ann and David Huette (Bro. Bill and Sis. Marilyn), and Diane Steiner (Bro. Dan Jr. and Sis. Shirley). We welcome them into our brotherhood.

Bertha Michel had surgery and we are happy to say she is recuperating nicely. We hope she can soon assemble with us again.

Bro. Nelson and Kathy Rocke are the happy parents of Galen Eugene, born July 23. He has two sisters, Brenda and Janet, and a brother, Eric, to play with.

We rejoice with Bro. Scott Sinn and Sis. Judy Zimmerman in their recent engagement. Parents are Bro. Carl and Mary Ellen Sinn and Bro. Roy and Sis. Helen Zimmerman of Gridley.

ILLINOIS, URBANA

Charlen Banwart

MARKS OF AN EDUCATED MAN

1. Has your education made you a friend of good causes?
2. Has your education made you a brother to the weak?
3. Do you see anything to love in a little child?
4. Would a lost dog follow you in the street?
5. Do you enjoy being alone?
6. Do you believe in the dignity of labor?
7. Can you look into a mud puddle and see a blue sky?
8. Can you go out in the night, look up in the sky, and see beyond the stars?
9. Is your life linked with the Infinite?

(The Treasure Chest)

These are questions each of us might ask ourselves as another school year begins. We welcome the new and returning students to our area. The New Student Welcome for students and their families is planned for Aug. 30. Student officers for the coming year are: President—Bro. Larry Stevig (Morton); Vice-President—Bro. Jeff Hoerr (Peoria); Secretary—Sis. LaRae Zehr (Fairbury). "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." II Timothy 2:15

Sis. Georgia Wiegand was hospitalized for an emergency appendectomy. We are thankful she made a rapid recovery.

"Our souls have been united in sweet union And many precious hours gone by." We sang Zion's Harp #114 on Bro. Ben and Sis. Jackie Pflederer's last Sunday with us. They are moving to Chicago where Ben will enter medical school and Jackie will complete her last year of nurses' training. While here, Ben served as one of our song-leaders, so this stanza is

particularly fitting: "We sang our songs of praise unto the Father, For He is worthy of our praise and honor." (Our Wish in Parting—Zion's Harp).

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

Mary and Joan Schick

On July 26, our congregation enjoyed our annual Sunday School picnic. Because of rain we ate at a nearby school, but the fellowship was enjoyed by all. Sunday School will resume in September.

We are sorry to hear of Bro. Mike Fritz's transfer to Lafayette, IN. We enjoyed the fellowship we shared and pray God's blessings as he leaves.

Our thanks go to visiting minister Bro. Carl Feucht from Lester, IA, who was with us on Aug. 9.

Keep Up the Song of Faith
Keep up the song of faith,
However dark the night;
And as you praise, the Lord will
work

To change your faith to sight.

Keep up the song of faith,
And let your heart be strong,
For God delights when faith can
praise

Though dark the night and long.

Keep up the song of faith,
The foe will hear and flee;
Oh, let not Satan hush your song
For praise is victory.

Keep up the song of faith,
The dawn will break ere long,
And we shall go to meet the Lord,
And join the endless song.

M. E. Barber

As the students and teachers return to school and summer break is ended, we pray that the Lord will supply all grace and strength for all to be shining lights in the world.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON

Tammy Gerber

Gayla Baumgartner

A little daughter, Rachelle Suzanne, was born to Bro. Todd and Sis. Lori Reimschisel on July 24. She is their first child. Her grandparents are Bro. Harry and Sis. Betty Steffen and Bro. Richard and Sis. Eileen Reimschisel.

Bro. Gene and Sis. Joni Longenberger were blessed with their first child, Abby Jo. She was born

on July 30. Grandparents are Bro. Wayne and Sis. Dorothy Fiechter and Bro. Bill and Sis. Betty Longenberger.

William Donald is the new son of Bro. Doug and Sis. Ruby Gerber. He was born on July 31, and his grandparents are Bro. Ben and Sis. Arlene Habegger and Bro. Don and Sis. Justine Gerber.

Bro. Kevin and Sis. Beth Aeshliman welcome into their hearts and home their first child, Mitchell K. Grandparents are Bro. Harry and Sis. Betty Steffen and Bro. Bob and Sis. Ida Aschliman.

"Be not dismayed what-e'er betide
Beneath his wings of love abide
All you may need he will provide
Nothing you ask will be denied
No matter what may be the test,
Lean, weary one, upon His breast.
God will take care of you,
Thru every day, o'er all the way;
He will take care of you,
God will take care of you."

Hymns of Zion #138

May God ever care for the dear ones who have spent time in the hospital: Bro. Bill Moser, Sis. Kathy Longenberger, Bro. Ted Kipfer, Bro. Roger Kaehr, Bro. Glen Barger, Sis. Clarabelle Baumgartner, and Sis. Saloma Fiechter.

June 27 was the wedding day of Sharolyn Reinhard and Walter Snodgrass, Jr. The couple is residing in Wathene, KS. The bride's parents are Bro. Dan and Sis. Delores Reinhard. Her grandparents are Bro. Lewis and Sis. Lucinda Sauder of Bluffton.

"But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." Matt. 6:33. May the Lord add His blessings to the marriage of Bro. Duane Steffen and Sis. Karen Gerber. They became one in the Lord on Aug. 16. Their parents are Bro. Robert Steffen and Bro. Dwight and Sis. Lucille Gerber.

Angela Hunt and Tim Pfister were united in marriage on Aug. 22. Tim's parents are Bro. Tom and Sis. Barb Pfister. We wish them many blessings as they start their life together.

Also on Aug. 22, Tonya Frauhiiger and Gary Lewis vowed their lives to one another. The bride's parents are Bro. Melvin and Sis. Lucille Frauhiiger.

The engagement of Jodi Bertsch and Jeff Towle has been an-

nounced. Jodi's parents are Bro. Walter and Sis. Lillian Bertsch. May God bless and guide them as they plan their life together.

"Full redemption is the promise
Made to him who heeds the Word.
They who in their hearts retain

Thee,

Shall receive the great reward.

In my heart I'll strive to keep

Thee,

Word of truth, and strength, and
love,

Conquering as a sword in battle,
Then I'll wear the crown above."

Zion's Harp #176

The Word of Life was brought to us this month by Bro. Max Reimschisel, Wichita, and Bro. Merle Laukhuf, Latty. We thank them for sharing the Word with us.

INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE

Jacki Huber

"Grant us Brotherhood, not only for this day but for all our years—A brotherhood not of words but of acts and deeds."

Stephen Vincent Benet

True brotherhood is such a blessing. This past month we felt a foretaste of Heaven with many visiting brothers and sisters here.

Ministering Bros. Walter Anliker and Marvin Schmidgall, both of the Eureka congregation, visited us one Sunday. We thank them so much for their labors of love and pray that God will richly bless them.

The Fort Sam reunion was held in Francesville this past month also. It was such a blessing to meet and greet so many from so many areas! Well over twenty churches were represented. We felt fortunate to have five visiting ministers present among those visiting. They were Bros. Bill Hodel (Roanoke), Ben Manz (Junction), Chuch Hemmer (Peoria), Earl Gerber (Forrest), and Marvin Stieglitz (Leo). We were reminded so beautifully of the responsibility we have to let our lights shine in the world.

We felt so blessed to have Elder Bro. Ezra Feller (Cissna Park) and ministering Bro. Todd Feller (LaCrosse) with us recently on a Wednesday evening. May God continue to work His great power through our ministers preaching the Word.

Our prayers are with Sis. Lor-

etta Wuethrich as she has recently been hospitalized for tests. May God's grace and strength sustain her.

On Sunday evening, Aug. 16, the annual Sunday School picnic was held at the Fellowship Center. Our prayer is that these times of fellowship for the children can be the basis of later years in fellowship as brothers and sisters in Christ.

"Christ in Your Marriage" was the topic presented on a Friday evening to many friends and brethren by Bro. Bob Pflederer (Morton) who was here to share with us. Much well-worded instruction was given and we all really appreciate the time and effort he took in being with us.

INDIANA, La CROSSE
Pearl Nuest - Lu Ann Feller

This union of our hearts
Shall stand through grace in
Jesus;

We walk the path of life,
While cheer and trust increases,
Where God in truth abides,
Where two join hand and heart,
We find a three-fold cord,
Not lightly rent apart.

Zion's Harp #79

On Aug. 2, Bro. Joe Feller (Bro. Lynn and Sis. Mary Ann) and Sis. Jackie Jacobs (Mr. and Mrs. Norman Jacobs) made their wedding vows. Elder Bro. Edward Frank performed the marriage, assisted by Elder Bro. Roy Grimm (Taylor), uncle of the groom. Other visiting ministers were Elder Bro. Ezra Feller (Cissna Park) and Bro. Bob Grimm (Goodfield).

We rejoice with Lynne Bucher that she has peace in her heart and is looking forward to her baptism.

Many of the Sunday School students received awards on the day of the picnic, which was enjoyed by many.

Bro. Marshall Heinold (Washington) expounded the Word of Truth to us on Aug. 9. May God ever be near our brothers.

Two hearts have been brought together in love as we make known the engagement of Duane Bucher (Sis. Gwen) and Teri Ann Liedtkey (Mr. and Mrs. Edward Krietul).

Bro. Doyme and Sis. Dorothy Stewart are happy to announce the arrival of a new great-grand-

daughter, Kimberly Kay, on July 24. Her parents are John and Debbie Kuehl.

Dale and Mary Ann Fischer have a new daughter, Sara Jean, born July 19. Her grandparents are Bro. Phil and Sis. Mary Troxel.

Bro. Bert and Sis. Marie Bucher, whose hair has turned to silver and steps have begun to falter, have moved to Parkview Haven, Francesville. Their presence will be greatly missed in our congregation.

INDIANA, LEO
Mrs. Phil Schlatter
Mrs. Al Frautschi

Following is a definition of charity given by an anonymous writer:

CHARITY

is SILENCE
when words would hurt,
is PATIENCE
when your neighbor's curt,
is DEAFNESS
when a scandal flows,
is THOUGHTFULNESS
for other's woes,
is PROMPTNESS
when stern duty calls,
is COURAGE
when misfortune falls.

Hospital patients during this month were Wm. Jerop, Sis. Mary Lantz, and Bro. Aaron Schwartz. May God bless each with a good recovery.

Brent A. Klopfenstein and Judy Lynn Averitt were married Aug. 15 at the Ridgecrest Baptist Church, Greenville, Texas. Brent is the son of Bro. William and Sis. Nancy Klopfenstein. A reception in honor of the newlyweds was given at the Leo Apostolic Christian Fellowship Hall on Aug. 22.

We thank our visiting ministers, Bros. Philip Stettner (Bluffton), James Hoerr (Peoria), Robert Meyer (Bluffton), Joseph Waibel and Roy Weiland (Bay City), for allowing themselves to be used of the Lord to minister to the Leo congregation.

We welcome Bro. George and Sis. Helen Zimmer who have recently moved here from the South Bend Church.

Sis. Mary Souder, 82, passed away Aug. 7. She was the widow of the late Bro. Joel Souder. Mary was a long time leader of our Sew-

ing Group. She is survived by a brother, Alf Levy.

Called Home, Aug. 9, was Odie Schlatter, 91, sister of this writer's husband, Phil Schlatter. Two sisters, Maggie and Mary, also survive.

"There's a happier world than
this,
Where all our sorrows shall be
over,
Where no parting and no pain
E'er shall grieve our spirits more;
Where through the blissful years
Not a sigh shall vex our ears.
God shall wipe away all tears
In that happier world to come."
(Taken from the poem, "A
Happier World" by Annie
Johnson Flint)

INDIANA, MILFORD
Connie Beer - Marcy Haab

Faith came singing into my room
and other guests took flight.
Grief and anxiety; fear and gloom
Sped out into the night.
I wondered that such peace
could be
But Faith said gently "Don't
you see
That they can never live with
me?"

Elizabeth Cheney

Bro. Walt Steffen was hospitalized for tests and we are so thankful he is able to again minister to our congregation. Sis. Julie Schieler (Bro. Will and Sis. Sue) has recovered following surgery. Bro. John Martin, Jr. is hospitalized suffering from a back condition.

. . . whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest I will lodge: Thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God. . . Ruth 1:16

Amy Speicher (Bro. Lew and Sis. Mim) became the bride of Tom Kroh Sept. 15, with Bro. Jesse Beer performing the ceremony. Tom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Kroh of Syracuse. May God's richest blessings be theirs as they establish their home in Indianapolis where Tom is a student.

The angels from their realm on
high
Look down on us with wondering
eyes
That while here, as passing
guests,
We build such strong and sturdy
nests

And where we'll spend most our days
Scarcely have time one stone to lay.

Unknown

Bro. Willis Ehnle (Shioda, Japan), Bro. Glenn Price, Jr. (Sarasota), and Bro. Marvin Stieglitz (Leo) and their families visited our Lord's House and the brothers proclaimed His fulfilling Word to us. Each of these dear brothers reminded us to focus on things pertaining to God and our constant and continued service to Him, not on our own materialistic and human desires.

Only one life; will soon be past
Only what's done for Christ will last.

Anonymous

**PURDUE UNIVERSITY
WEST LAFAYETTE, INDIANA**
Verene Von Tobel

Before we start a new semester of school, or start getting anxious about our work or studies, we need to remind ourselves to take one day at a time:

Forever is a long, long time;
Eternity is mine.
I cannot comprehend it all,
Just one day at a time.

If I could see beyond today,
How anxious I would be:
The heartaches and the cares
today
Are quite enough for me.

My Father measures out each day
With pleasure, pain and woe.
That I may learn to trust His
grace
And in His likeness grow.

God graciously sends one day at a time;
This is God's perfect design.
So why should I borrow the cares
of tomorrow?
He lovingly sends me one day
at a time.

Eugene L. Clark

The officers nominated at the spring picnic for the 1981-82 school year were:

Bro. Max Hoerr II—President
Bro. Bob Feller—Vice President
Sis. Susan Getz—Treasurer
Sis. Verene Von Tobel—Secretary
The get-acquainted supper for

ministers, officers, and new brethren and friends will be held prior to our first meeting of the year on Thursday, Aug. 27. We are all looking forward to having services again and meeting with many brethren and friends from far and near.

INDIANA, REMINGTON

Annette Bahler - Beth Virkler

We were grateful to be able to assemble together and hear the testimony of Kristine Bahler (Bro. Walter and Sis. Esther Bahler) and then witness her baptism the following day. Her face radiated the contentment that only the true peace of God can give to a soul. Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville) shared with us on this special weekend. Bro. Chris Huber (Francesville) also visited us this month. There was a blessing for everyone.

"Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, . . . for with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again." Luke 6:38. Several months ago, our church undertook with much prayer to appoint a new minister. The outcome of this endeavor was made known this month. We feel an answer to our prayers as Bro. Dan Stoller takes his place in the ministry with the support of the church. Please remember him in prayer that God may use him to His honor and glory. With what measure Dan gives, many blessings in measure will be given to him in return.

Other joys have arrived in our congregation. Bro. John and Sis. Caroline Hejja are thrilled with their new son, Michael Jonathan. Little sister Christine welcomes him home. A son, Nathan David, has arrived in the home of Bro. Stan and Sis. Beth Virkler. Their son, Paul, is anxiously waiting for baby brother to grow so he has someone to play with. We wish the families God's guidance and blessings. Little boys of today all too soon are the men of our faith tomorrow.

One will be greatly missed as we fellowship together in our little church. A place will surely be empty where once stood a willing soul for the Lord. It is with tear-filled eyes we look beyond this life to the words of our Lord . . . "I go and prepare a place for you." Sis.

Eunice Waibel passed away suddenly on July 23. She had been living with two of her sisters, Anna and Louise, and a brother, Paul, in Remington. Although her fellowship will be missed, what a joy we should feel for her, for Christ has promised, "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." John 14:3

INDIANA, SOUTH BEND

Gayle Bucher

"Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing." Psalm 100:2

We were richly blessed by the beautiful songs shared with us by the Prairie Choristers recently. An inspiring day of fellowship and love was enjoyed by all.

A potluck supper and singing were held in honor of Bro. George and Sis. Helen Zimmer who are moving to Leo. We will surely miss them in our little congregation and wish them God's blessings in their new home.

We want to thank Bros. Uriel Gehring, Henry Beer, Wendell Gerber, and Walt Steffen for ministering the Word to us this month. May the Lord richly bless them for sharing their time and talents with us.

For those who would like to visit our church, we have changed our morning worship time. Song service now begins promptly at 10:00 A.M. We encourage you to visit us soon. Our Open House is scheduled for Sept. 6 and Dedication for Sept. 20. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Sis. Hazel Clauss has been released from the hospital. May the Lord grant His healing power to her. We are hoping she will be able to worship with us again soon.

As summer has hurriedly come to a close and vacations are past, we again become entangled in our busy lives. With this in mind, I would like to share these thoughts with you.

SLOW ME DOWN, LORD

Slow me down, Lord. Ease the pounding of my heart by the quieting of my mind.

Steady my hurried pace with a vision of the eternal reach of time.

Give me, amid the confusion of the day, the calmness of the everlasting hills.

Break the tensions of my nerves and muscles with the soothing music of the singing streams that live in my memory.

Teach me the art of taking minute vacations—of slowing down to look at a flower, to chat with a friend, to pat a dog, to smile at a child, to read a few lines from a good book.

Slow me down, Lord, and inspire me to send my roots deep into the soil of life's enduring values, that I may grow toward my greater destiny.

Remind me each day that the race is not always to the swift; that there is more to life than increasing its speed.

Let me look upward to the towering oak and know that it grew great and strong because it grew slowly and well.

Orin L. Grain

INDIANA, VALPARAISO

Mary Huber - Claudia Thomas

The Bible and Christianity have stood since their conception. No matter what Satan has tried, God has triumphed. Christians are the salt of the earth and have made this world a better place in which to live.

What Do Atheists Build?

Have you ever heard of an Atheist Hospital, or an Atheist Children's Home, or an Atheist's committee for the Relief of the Starving? They are supposed to be pretty smart and cultured but we have never known them to do any great organized good in the world. We never hear of atheists doing anything creative or constructive. Instead, we hear of their organizing to get prayer and Bible out of schools, and Bible reading out of space. History is not going to record a very thrilling chapter about their existence.

Christian Victory

We have been taught this month by Bros. Elmer Hartter, Milford; Ed Bahler, Remington; and Joe Schrock, Congerville.

INDIANA, WOLCOTT

Suzanne Hoerr

Kris and Laurel Widmer

Bro. Ed Kyburg has been hospitalized with a leg ulcer for about two weeks. We hope he will soon be back on his feet and assembling with us again.

... wilt thou go with this man? And she said, I will go." Genesis

24:58. Sis. Suzanne Lehman, daughter of Bro. Gene and Sis. Verna, and Bro. Max Hoerr II, son of Bro. Max and Sis. Katie (Peoria, IL) were united as one on Aug. 9. Bro. Frederick Knapp (Congerville) and Elder Bro. Roy Sauder (Peoria) came to share this special occasion with us.

IOWA, BURLINGTON

Judy Gehring - Kim Salek

Bro. Jon Schmidgall spent a Sunday afternoon with us July 31. May God richly bless him. He meditated on Rev. 3, and was inspired, mentioning each of the seven churches and then meditating on them.

Our Burlington Sunday School hosted Taylor, Pulaski, and Oakville Bible Classes on July 31.

Tonya Taeger, daughter of Bro. Richard and Sis. Dorothy, was baptized Aug. 9. We welcome Sis. Tonya into the fold.

IOWA, ELGIN

Eleanor Butikofer

Christian greetings to all of you. What a delight to behold the gorgeous creations of God. Since we are at the threshold of the autumn season, we are not surprised to see myriad of the yellow butterflies flitting here and there, alighting on the ground in a cluster, closely resembling a group of sailboats resting on a placid lake area. In addition to the butterflies we are enjoying the various autumn wild flowers flourishing along our roadsides and meadows. In this area we see the purple wort, the crimson of the sumac and the wild carrot. The goldenrods are just beginning to show their gold. Our blackberries and currants have been attracting catbirds and brown thrashers for quite some time. With their keen vision there's little that escapes their eyes. I read that the vision of a bird is twenty times that of a human being. When we stop to realize how they travel thousands of miles during their migrations, one can't help but stand in awe of God's loving concern for His creations. May we keep in mind His great love and mercy for us.

A Saviour has been provided so that we can inherit a home in a heavenly place if we accept His plan of salvation. We have been blessed with many visitors from various states sharing in our church services. They came from

Illinois, Minnesota, Ohio and also Canada. The last group of visitors was a family who lived in Regina, Canada. They were Bro. Keith and Sis. Myrna Shipley and their six children, Lila, Danny, Darla, Charlene, Kelly, and Scott.

We wish to thank all of our visitors, for we do appreciate all of their efforts necessary to travel the respective miles and to meet with us personally.

Our salvation is grounded in the very Being of God. No better foundation could be laid for it. Those who believe have a firm assurance.

"As the sculptor devotes himself to wood and stone, I would devote myself to my soul."

T. Kagawa

IOWA, IOWA CITY

Sharolyn Metzger

As we watch God's creation grow and mature around us, as He provides the increase, we are reminded that our spiritual beings, too, need to grow. Just as He provides the sunshine and rain for the crops on earth, He provides us with trials, encouragement, chastisement and whatever else we need to grow.

We are thankful for our visiting ministers who have allowed themselves to be used to feed us here in our flock. They include: Bro. Harvey Heiniger (Burlington, IA) Bro. Al Aberle (Tremont, IL), and Bro. Bob Grimm (Goodfield, IL). These brothers and their families travel quite a distance to serve us and we appreciate this.

This month Audrey Plotz was a surgical patient. Sis. Barb Virkler is a medical patient here and, at this time, is in critical condition. We know that God will ever be near those who call upon Him.

IOWA, LESTER

Alice Metzger

Although our church has grown in numbers in recent years, we feel a void when someone is missing or moves away. Two families have recently left our area to make their homes elsewhere. Bro. Roy and Sis. Evelyn Metzger and their family are now living in the Pulaski area and are a welcome addition to the church there. Calvin and Marion Knobloch and their family have moved to the Elgin, IA, area. We wish them God's nearness in their endeavors.

Sis. Chris Schmidgall recently graduated from LPN training and is now employed in a Sioux Falls hospital.

The engagement of Sis. Lexia Wysong and Bro. Dietrich Knobloch was announced. The couple's parents are Bro. Jack and Sis. Janet Wysong and Bro. Wilbert and Sis. Helen Knobloch, all from here. We wish them God's blessings.

On July 30, Tammy Jean was born to ministering Bro. Dale and Sis. Becky Wulf. Tammy has two sisters and her grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Leona Wulf and Bro. Paul and Sis. Betty Jean Leuthold. Lyle and Sis. Peg Snyders became the parents of Stephen James on Aug. 11. The maternal grandparents are Gilbert and Sis. Vicki Knobloch. Bro. Rolyce and Sis. Lori Scheitlin and two brothers welcomed Angela Dawn into their family on Aug. 19. Angela's grandparents are Bro. Dale and Sis. Mary Ellen Knobloch and Bro. and Sis. Kenneth Scheitlin (Oakville).

We pray for the sick and hospitalized. Recent surgery patients were Bro. Rodney Metzger and Linda Stark. Both loved ones are again assembling in church with us.

IOWA, OAKVILLE Jerilyn Wagenbach

"Teach me Thy way, O Lord,
and lead me in a plain path."
Psalm 27:11.

Lead, kindly Light, amid the en-
circling gloom,
Lead Thou me on;
The night is dark, and I am far
from home,
Lead Thou me on.
Keep Thou my feet; I do not ask
to see
The distant scene; one step enough
for me.

J. H. Newman

"God only is holy: He alone
knows how to lead His children in
the paths of holiness. He knows
every aspect of your soul, every
thought of your heart, every se-
cret of your character, its diffi-
culties and hindrances; He knows
how to mould you to His will and
lead you onward to perfect sanc-
tification; He knows exactly how

each event, each trial, each temp-
tation, will tell upon you, and He
disposes all things accordingly. The
consequences of this belief, if fully
grasped, will influence your whole
life. You will seek to give yourself
up to God more and more unre-
servedly, asking nothing, refusing
nothing, wishing nothing, but
what He wills; not seeking to bring
things about for yourself, taking
all He sends joyfully, and believ-
ing the "one step" set before you
to be enough for you. You will be
satisfied that even though there
are clouds around, and your way
seems dark, He is directing all,
and that what seems a hindrance
will prove a blessing, since He
wills it."

Jean Nicholas Grou

REMINDER: September is Oak-
ville's month for collection of Sil-
ver Lining dues.

IOWA, PULASKI

Mary Wiegand - Ginny Wuthrich

Our small church has had nu-
merous visitors the past few weeks
and we appreciate them all for
their support. We are especially
thankful to the visiting ministers
who come to lend themselves to
the service of the Lord. Visiting
ministers come many miles to help
and we want to thank each one.
Bros. Charles Marti (LaMar), Ken-
ny Knapp (Taylor), Earl Kilgus
(Remington), Jon Schmidgall
(Oakville), Arnie Gerst (Chicago),
Akito Inoue (Tokyo), Vernon Le-
man (Eureka), and Robert Miller
(Portland) have visited us. Many
times their families came with
them and we pray a blessing on
them for their efforts.

We are thankful that our church
is growing as Bro. Roy and Sis.
Evelyn Metzger and their family,
Sis. Debra, Dan, Angela, and Lana
have moved here from Lester. We
pray that the Lord will bless them
all in their new home.

Sis. Elizabeth Wuthrich was
hospitalized for a short time but
is home and doing fine. Don
Schaer was also hospitalized when
he was hurt in a farm accident.

Fellowship is such a precious
part of our faith and we all were
thankful that the single brothers
and sisters from Iowa were able
to be with us. How thankful we
can be that we have the opportuni-
ty to travel many miles and still
find the same faith and love that
we have at home.

IOWA, WEST BEND

Elma Mogler - Judy Fehr

On July 25, the lawn wedding of
Roy Metzger and Angie Chris-
chilles was held at the home of his
parents, Bro. Silas and Sis. Della.
Her parents are Ronald and Verda
Chrischilles. May the Lord guide
their every footstep as they walk
side by side.

This past weekend ministering
Bros. Carl Wysz (Washington)
and Joe Gerst (Iowa City) were
in our midst. We were grateful to
be fed of the Bread of Life.

God makes so many babies
And every now and then
He seems to want some specially
We don't know why or when.

God does so love those babies
Whose souls are never dim;
And how He loves those parents
Who give them back to Him.

Author Unknown

This was the lot of Bro. Roger
and Sis. Rhonda (Banwart) Re-
ker as their little three-year-old
Stewart was laid to rest on Aug.
10. He was born July 6, 1978, and
was very lovingly cared for by
his parents. Though Stewart could
not speak, he brought forth a
"special sermon" with a purpose
for all of us. Services were held by
the local ministers assisted at the
cemetery by Bro. John Schmidgall
(Oakville).

Heaven's Very Special Child
A meeting was held quite far from
earth

"It's time again for another
birth,"
Said the Angels to the Lord above,
"This special child will need
much love."

His progress may seem very slow
Accomplishments he may not
show

And he'll require extra care
From the folks he meets way
down there.

He may not run or laugh or play
His thoughts may seem quite
far away

In many ways he won't adapt
And he'll be known as handi-
capped.

So let's be careful where he's sent
We want his life to be content

Please, Lord, find the parents who
Will do a special job for You.

They will not realize right away
The leading role they're asked
to play
But with this child sent from
above
Comes stronger faith and richer
love.

And soon they'll know the privi-
lege given
In caring for this gift from
heaven
Their precious charge, so meek and
mild
Is heaven's very special child.
(Author Unknown)

Bro. Joe Benninger has had
cataract surgery and is getting
along real well. Bro. Edwin Wirtz
was hospitalized because of his
back. Ade Knobloch was also hos-
pitalized for his back. We hope re-
covery is speedy and complete for
each of them.

We have also learned of the sur-
gery performed at Rochester on
Kyle Schafer, the 11-year-old son
of Ron and Rosemary, to remove
a brain tumor. At this time he
seems to be doing very well. Our
prayers certainly go out to him
and his family.

"Rare is the person who, when
weighing other's faults, doesn't
put his thumb on the scale."

Unknown Author

JAPAN, SHIODA Kathy Klotzle

"To every thing there is a sea-
son, and a time to every purpose
under the heaven:" Ecc. 3:1 This
month has been filled with many
blessings, and along with them,
joyous welcomes and sad fare-
wells. Though many are now apart
from us, we are still joined in
heart and hope to meet again.

"... Be strong and of a good
courage; be not afraid, neither be
thou dismayed: for the Lord thy
God is with thee whithersoever thou
goest." Josh 1:9 This verse gave
Sis. Vicki Ramseyer encouragement
in America as she prayed about
coming to Japan for two years.
Now that she is here with us as a
part of our fellowship and as the
new kindergarten teacher, we pray
that she will feel the fulfillment
of this promise. We rejoice that
God has brought this privilege of
coming to Japan into her life, and

trust God will be with her and her
loved ones at home as she shares
in the blessings of living and
teaching in Japan.

On the same evening that we
welcomed Sis. Vicki to Japan, we
also welcomed Bro. Leon, Sis. Jan-
et, Bro. Eric, and Sis. Tina Graf,
Bro. Earl Beery, and Sis. Barb
Baer. We shared in precious fel-
lowship in Christ and hope that
they were able to take with them
blessings and encouragement from
their time in Japan, as we were
able to reap while they were here.

We thank Bro. Leon for partici-
pating in our afternoon meeting on
the twenty-fifth anniversary of
the dedication of our Shioda
church, reminiscing on his first
days in Japan some twenty-eight
years ago. Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle
spoke an inspired message in the
morning on St. Matthew 13, the
parable of the sower, the same
chapter he meditated on twenty-
five years ago.

Our visiting brothers also par-
ticipated in the annual summer
Fellowship Meeting of our two
Japanese congregations, which is
greatly anticipated each year by
the brethren here. We gathered
together in the Mt. Fuji area, and
received instruction and scrip-
tural reference on the topic of the
fruits of the Spirit and our
thought life, and on the topic of
prayer. It was hard to say fare-
well, leave the gathering of breth-
ren and go our own ways into the
different places that the Lord
feels are best for us, and yet we
were strengthened and refreshed,
and also made aware that there
is much to be done.

"And whatsoever ye do, do it
heartily as unto the Lord, and
not unto men;" Colossians 3:23
Soon after our Fellowship Meet-
ing, it was time for Sis. Evie Blu-
nier to leave Japan after her two
years of dedicated service. We
thank her for giving wholly of
herself to the work and all of us
here, and now pray that God will
bless her labors and help them to
bear fruit, and that all glory and
honor may be to God. During the
year we shared together, Sis. Evie
had two Bible verses on small
cards up in our home that spoke
of God being with us and strength-
ening us wherever we might go.
Our prayers are with our sister
now and we hope God is fulfilling

these verses in her return home
as He did in her coming.

We also said good-bye to Tony
and Tom Ehnle as they left Japan
to continue their education in
America. Our small group will
miss them, and we pray for God's
guidance and protection upon
them. Tony will be living and stu-
dying in Phoenix and Tom in
Kansas City. May they both feel
God's presence and draw nigh to
Him as they face this new phase
in their lives.

God has extended His protecting
hand over many travellers this
summer. Bro. and Sis. Uchida's
home was blessed by a visit from
their daughter from California,
Hatsune-san. Our Elder Bro. Willis
Ehnle and Sis. Lois accompanied
their sons to the States, and our
Sis. Tamino Inoue and her two
grandchildren, So Saegusa and
Yoko Kasai, are spending a month
in America. May God return our
loved ones safely to us, having re-
ceived rich blessings from their
travels.

Elder Bro. Akito Inoue came to
Shioda from Tokyo to minister
unto us in Bro. Willis' absence. We
thank him for coming to serve us,
and we enjoyed the fellowship we
shared. The same evening, Sis.
Kido, her husband, and five child-
ren arrived from Kyushu, Japan's
southern island, to spend two days
in Shioda. Truly, in this month,
we have been richly blessed.

KANSAS, BERN Esther & Stella Moser

Does a neighbor help a little
As along the way you go—
Help to make your burden lighter?
Then why not tell him so!

Does a handclasp seem to lift you
From the depth of grief and woe,
When an old friend shares your
sorrow?
Then why not tell him so!

Does your Heavenly Father give
you
Many blessings here below?
Then on bended knee before Him,
Frankly, gladly, tell Him so!
Author Unknown

A new resident, Gregg David,
born Aug. 11, was welcomed into
the home of Bro. Dean and Sis.
Jan Strahm. A sister, Gina, is

happy for a playmate. Grandparents are Bro. Alpha and Sis. Mammie and Bro. Henry and Sis. Loree Plattner (Sabetha).

We enjoyed our guest ministers recently. We extend our thanks and appreciation to Bros. Gary Maibach (Rittman), Bill Emch (Lamont), Ben Maibach and Mark Bahr (Detroit) and Ben Wysong (Sabetha).

Aug. 16 was the wedding date chosen by Bro. Edwin Strahm and Sis. Ramona Meyer (Sabetha). We wish them much happiness, as they start their married life.

New Sunday School teachers selected are Bro. Wilfred Strahm, along with Bros. Dean Strahm (Superintendent), John Baumgartner, Darrel Stoller, Sis. Shirley Strahm (new), Sisters Helen Meyer, Claudia Strahm and Janet Meyer. May the Lord add His blessings to their labors.

At the same time, Bro. Morris Edelman was selected to take the place vacated by Bro. Roy Rokey on the Board of Trustees for the Apostolic Home. Bro. Leonard Baumgartner will serve on the Personal Aid with Bros. Melvin Rokey and Robert Meyer.

Hospital patients at this time are Bro. Joe Rokey (tests), Bro. Pete Esslinger with back problems and Reuben Bauman who is in critical condition. May the Lord extend His healing hand to each one.

KANSAS, GRIDLEY

Julie Strahm - Doris Bahr

Our sympathy is extended to our dear Bro. Jake Beyer and his dear family, in the loss of his daughter, Edith (Beyer) Todd. As time passes, we see God's Love as a "Harbor", a place where our souls can find sweet rest.

Our hospital patients have been Kathryn (Frank), Knapp, Bro. Edwin Metzger, and Sis. Lena Strahm. May God give them a heart that sings and turn their burdens to "silver wings."

An infant son, Bryden Lee, was born July 28 to Mary and Dana Burdick, of Frankfurt, Germany, where Dana is stationed in the armed services. Their 2-year-old daughter, Crystal, welcomed her new brother home. Grandparents are Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Nadine Kraft and Mr. and Mrs. Frances Burdick. Great-grandparents are Bro. Sam and Sis. Esther Kraft.

KANSAS, KIOWA

Janice Bahr

The little cares that fretted me,
I lost them yesterday,
Among the fields above the sea,
Among the winds at play,
Among the lowing of the herds,
The rustling of the trees,
Among the singing of the birds,
The humming of the bees.

The foolish fears of what might pass

I cast them all away
Among the clover-scented grass,
Among the new-mown hay,
Among the rustling of the corn
Where drowsy puppies nod.
Where ill thoughts die and good
are born—

Out in the fields with God!

Elizabeth Barrett Browning

The beautiful thoughts in this poem struck a familiar chord for me when I read them. So many times, I've come home from a hustle, bustle, hurry, scurry, trying day at work, out of sorts with my day, my job, myself, and anything else that comes my way. So, I go outside for a time, and then the miracle occurs. Suddenly, I'm surrounded by God's work of art. I see His handiwork everywhere. The sky above, the earth below, the grass so green, and trees so tall, the flowers clothed in all different colors, and the quiet rustlings of a multitude of animals, big and small. And as I look, and listen, and breathe in the beauty all around, somehow the peace and beauty of God's world settles also in my heart, and my burdens fade away as if they never existed in the first place. Oh, 'tis true! My ill thoughts die and good are born out in the fields with God!!!

It is hard to believe, but school is starting already, and as our children begin another year of education, may we hold them before our Lord with fervent prayer for guidance; for they face decisions that we didn't have to face in school, and as we can't be there to show the way with our love, God can and will, through our prayers, be there to care for and love our precious children.

We are so thrilled to report that a precious baby boy, Tyson Jay, was born to Stan and Judy Tucker this month. Tyson is welcomed

home by a brother, Matthew, and sister, Brooke. Paternal grandparents are Dale and Sis. Marie Tucker and Tyson's maternal grandparent is Wilfred Allen, Hardtner. It is our fervent prayer that God will bless Stan and Judy and grant His grace to them in raising these precious children.

We are also thankful to report that Tillie Diel is again in our midst after undergoing surgery, and Sis. Esther Miller, though not able to come to church, is at least home. We miss our loved ones when they are gone and praise the Lord when they are well and a part of us once more.

KANSAS, LAMONT

Mary Isch

We were privileged to have Bro. Gary Maibach (Rittman) and Bro. Raymond Roth (Kiowa) visit us during the month of July. We heard many good teachings through His humble servants. May they be richly blest for their labor in the Lord.

The engagement of Bro. Jay Luthi (Bro. Lloyd and Joan) and Sis. Jane Broquard (Bro. Don and Sis. Ione) was made known. We wish them God's divine guidance and direction in their life together. They plan a November wedding.

Sis. Matilda Emch would like to thank all those who remembered her with cards, visits, and prayers when she was in the hospital and since being moved to the Flinthalls Manor.

The Joy of Unselfish Giving

Time is not measured
by the years that you live
But by the deeds that you do
and the joy that you give.
And each day as it comes
brings a chance to each one
To love to the fullest,
leaving nothing undone
That would brighten the life
or lighten the load
Of some weary traveler
lost on Life's Road.
So what does it matter
how long we may live
If as long as we live
we unselfishly give.

Helen Steiner Rice

"Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down,

and shaken together, and running over . . ."

Luke 6:38

KANSAS, SABETHA

Clara Steiner - Judy Hartter

Sis. Carrie Aberle, 88, passed away July 24, 1981. She is survived by three sisters and one brother, Sis. Tillie Aberle, Sis. Louise Aberle, Sis. Susie Brunner and George Aberle, all of Sabetha. Memorial services were held July 27 with burial in Sabetha Cemetery.

Hospitalized this month were Jaron Kellenberger (Bro. Jay and Sis. Marilyn), Sis. Fanny Bahr, Cliff Edelman, and Carla Hartter (Bro. Roger and Sis. Ilene).

Visiting ministers have been Bro. Ben Maibach and Bro. Mark Bahr, both of Detroit, Bro. Gene Marti, Lamar, Bro. Lester Hartter and Bro. Alpha Strahm, both of Bern. We thank them for bringing us His Word.

Bro. Gene Marti had wedding ceremonies for De Vere Meyer and Michelle Trayford on July 25, and for Sis. Ramona Meyer and Bro. Edwin Strahm on Aug. 16. Michelle's parents are Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Trayford of Overland Park, KS. Bro. Harlan and Sis. Florence Meyer are the parents of both, De Vere and Sis. Ramona. Bro. Edwin's parents are Bro. Alpha and Sis. Mamie Strahm, Bern. We wish both couples God's richest blessings.

Bro. Dennis and Sis. Beth Hartter have a new daughter, born Aug. 12. She has been named Rita Rae and is welcomed home by her sister, Sally.

Sis. Lydia (Sol) Wenger and Sis. Tillie Aberle are now residing at the Apostolic Christian Home.

Our Sunday School is having vacation for the month of August. It will begin again the Sunday after Labor Day.

KANSAS, WICHITA

Judy Langhofer

We welcomed the visiting Elders who came to serve our church. The Apostle Paul often wrote his epistles to the churches, encouraging them in faith, and even at times rejoicing with them because of the faith he found among them. Bro. Alfred Baylor meditated on I John 3:1 reminding us of the "manner of love which the Father hath bestowed on us that we

should be called the sons of God." It is with the ministry of these words that a church can go forward, carrying this same love one for the other.

Our visiting brethren from out of state sometimes register surprise at the fresh, mid-western modern view of our city. Although it does not have the majesty of the mountains as a backdrop, it has the glory of the plains to sustain it. In the spring it is surrounded by the rich greenness of the wheat fields which soon turn to golden fields of grain which help feed the entire world. Just to the northeast, the Flint Hills provide some of the best grazing land in the world where many cattle feed on the glory of the hills to provide much beef for the markets. Surrounding Wichita can be seen huge white tanks that store the black oil pumped by the iron men of the prairie day and night.

Wichita is located at the meeting of two rivers which join to flow on to the south. At the fork of the river stands a large metal sculpture of an Indian with his arms extending together towards the heavens. He is called, by his artist-maker, "The Keeper of the Plains." Although the artist claims no thought of an Eternal God in the work he did nor in the name he chose for his sculpture, even after the untimely death of the creator it stands to many who pass by that we do not live in a God-forsaken country, but on the bountiful plains whose Maker and Keeper is the "Eternal God."

Bro. Glen and Sis. Sally Funk felt they were directed by the Lord to move to Leon, IA, where they will take up residence and establish a business. They will be attending the church at Garden Grove, IA. Bro. Glen will be missed in the ministry, where he has served for three years, as will be Sally and their five small children. We do not take lightly their departure but wish them God's blessings in their new endeavors. Our congregation bid them farewell after Wednesday evening service and presented them with a gift from the church where he served.

We are all rejoicing that Laurie Galatin, daughter of Joe and Sis. Kathleen, has expressed her intent and desire to seek the Lord while He yet may be found. In the light of world developments, how much time is there left for those who

tarry? Some predict, some set times, but salvation is of the Lord and we are told "today is the day of salvation." Tomorrow may never come for any one of us.

MICHIGAN, ALTO

Jane Grawburg

"Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace; where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; and where there is sadness, joy.

"O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood, as to understand; to be loved, as to love; for it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life."

. . . St. Francis of Assisi

Each and every one of us in the Alto congregation wishes to extend special love and sympathy to the family of our very dear Sis. Anna Wingeier, who recently passed away. She will be missed by all of us.

We want to welcome Christopher Neal Blough to the Alto congregation. He came here a few weeks ago with his new parents, Bro. Marvin and Sis. Liz Blough. His grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Lester Dawson and Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Eloise Blough.

At the same time, we want to congratulate Dave and Bonnie Stauffer on their new arrival, William (Billy). Richy and David are very happy to have their new brother at home with them. Bro. Joe and Sis. Melva Oesch and Mr. and Mrs. William Stauffer are the new grandparents.

Sis. Ellen (Bro. Ernest) Oesch was hospitalized again for a short time. We pray that everything goes well for her.

Visiting ministers this month were Bro. Joe Waibel from Bay City and Bro. Ben Maibach from Detroit. We sincerely thank these dear ones for their labors of love and for the loving support and kindness they have shared.

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY

Patsy Bragiel - Linda Ramseyer

What more can we ask of the SAVIOUR
Than to know we are never alone—

That HIS MERCY and LOVE are
unfailing
And HE makes all our problems
HIS OWN.

Helen Steiner Rice

We hope this has been in the minds of the dear ones who have been hospitalized in the past month. They are: Ronald Wackerle, Sis. Kathryn Wieland and Sis. Louise Lambert as medical patients; Bro. Erwin Erismann and Sis. Lois Waibel as surgical patients. Our prayers and support have been with them during this time.

We were privileged to have Bro. Don Wagenbach from Washington with us to minister God's Word. We can always be thankful for brothers who are willing to work in the service of the Lord.

Our church has been blessed with many visitors during the summer months. We had many visitors here one weekend to attend the Frank reunion. We are always pleased to see extra faces.

The annual Sunday School picnic was held on Aug. 15. The children and adults were able to be together for a wonderful day and a blessed evening of singing songs of praise to our Lord.

MICHIGAN, DETROIT

Helen & Bonie Popp

"Blessed are they that keep his testimonies, and that seek him with the whole heart."

Psalm 119:2

Such a beautiful and special weekend was ours Aug. 15-16 as we heard the testimony of three dear souls, and welcomed them as brothers and sister in Christ: Keith Gudeman, Joanne Kaisner, and George Popp.

Our church was filled, and our hearts were filled to overflowing as well. We are grateful above all to God for this most special time. We also ask His blessings upon those who lent themselves in so many ways: all those who visited for their presence; all those who lent themselves to make goodly order of the work at hand; and we especially remember those ministering and elder brethren who lent themselves in prayerful support of the Word of Truth. Those who visited with us are: Bros. Ed Frank Akito Inoue, Joe Aberle, Roy Ehnle, Eugene Fetter, Art Gudeman, Don Gudeman, Steve Gutwein, Merle Kaisner, Homer Reinbeck, and Larry Wenniger. May

each one of us who was present remember this time, and may these three souls find a new light upon their pathway of life and a song of joy in their hearts each day.

We appreciated the visit of Bro. Edwin Bahler and his family the weekend of Aug. 2. We are glad for his time with us and also that he was able to share the Word with us.

We remember Louise Polk in prayer. Louise was hospitalized and is now home.

Dale and Wendy Belsley welcome a daughter, Jennifer Anne, into their hearts and home. Jennifer was born July 22. Grandparents are Bro. Willard and Sis. Arlene Belsley.

We wish God's blessings and guidance upon Sis. Terri Martin as she begins her schooling at Illinois State University. We will miss her among us, but we want to support her in our thoughts and prayers.

May our new converts, Sis. Terri, and each of us find these words ever true in our lives:

The Lord is My Shepherd
The Lord has e'er my Shepherd
been, my keeper in the night;
'Tis He who leads me step by step,
who guides me in the light,
When I am lost and darkness falls,
when steep the rocky way,
'Tis Christ, the Shepherd of my
Soul, who seeks me when I
stray.
I shall not want, for He is mine,
He satisfies each plea,
And though I through the valley
walk, I know He's there with
me.
He leadeth me O, blessed thought,
beside the waters still,
The wondrous peace of knowing
Him, my hungry soul doth fill.
I shall not fear though waters
deep, through valleys I must
roam,
For Christ my Shepherd e'er shall
be, until He leads me home.
Conie Calenberg

MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS Carol Virkler

May the Lord richly bless the brothers who lend themselves in preaching God's Word. This past month, our visiting ministers were Bro. Nathan Stoller (Bradford) on July 12 and Aug. 9; Bro. Leroy Messner (Winthrop) on July 19; and Bro. Joe Stoller (Princeville) on Aug. 16. We thank all of them

for coming as we truly enjoyed their fellowship and that of their families.

A bundle of joy arrived at the home of Bill and Barbar Holbert on Aug. 7. Their third daughter, Lila Georgia, will be a new playmate for her sisters Margaux and Cherisse. The grandparents are Bro. Howard and Sis. Vi Greiner of Cissna Park and Mrs. Bernice McBride of Rancho Bernardo, CA.

THE ART OF LOVE

LOVE is the "affirmative of affirmatives", it enlarges the vision, expands the heart.

LOVE is the dynamic motivation behind every worthy purpose; it is the upward thrust that lifts men to heights.

LOVE is the creative fire, the inspiration that keeps the torch of progress aflame.

LOVE is the dove of peace, the spirit of brotherhood; it is tenderness and compassion, forgiveness and tolerance.

LOVE is the supreme good; it is the overflowing life; the giving of ourselves to noble ends and causes.

LOVE is down to earth and it reaches to the highest star; it is the valley of humility and the mountaintop of ecstasy.

LOVE is the perfect antidote that floods the mind to wash away hatred, jealousy, resentment, anxiety and fear.

LOVE, in the words of the Master, is the shining commandment;

LOVE ONE ANOTHER. THE
ART OF LOVE IS GOD AT
WORK THROUGH YOU.

W. A. Peterson

MINNESOTA, MORRIS

Jan Schock - Pam Sutter

Vacation time brings many visitors to Minnesota and we thank everyone who has assembled with us. Among the ministers were Bros. Gene Bertschi, Bob Grimm, Todd Feller, Carl Wyss, Carroll Gerber, and Noah Gerber.

Our friends Jodi Schmidgall and Brian Moser gave their testimonies and were baptized on Aug. 8 and 9. Helping to make the event a blessed one were ministering Bros. Leo Moser, Joe Braker, Rod Huber, Don Miller, Uriel Gehring, and Joe Stoller.

Bro. Jim and Sis. Carolyn Reuter are the parents of a son, Gregory Dean. Their family includes Amy, Brian, Mark and Grandpar-

ents Bro. Bob and Sis. Lena Lou, and Virgil and Mildred Sauder. Bro. Tim and Sis. Jeanne Esterling are the excited parents of their first child, a son, Zachary John. Grandparents are Bro. Don and Sis. Josie, and Bro. Bob and Sis. Ilene Haefli.

Hospitalized this month were Sis. Tillie Kellenberger, who underwent surgery, and Bro. Lloyd Fehr, for a back injury. Both are recuperating at home.

I'M FREE

So long I had searched for life's meaning,
Enslaved by the world and my greed;
Then the door of my prison was opened by love,
For the ransom was paid, I was freed.

I'm free from the guilt that I carried,
From the dull empty life I'm set free;
For when I met Jesus He made me complete—
He forgot how foolish I used to be.

I'm free from the fear of tomorrow;
I'm free from the guilt of the past;
For I've traded my shackles for a glorious song—
I'm free! Praise the Lord! Free at last!

Bill Gaither

These are thoughts expressed by Bro. Brian and Sis. Jodi and they are words we wish every dear friend could say. Let God share your burden and sorrow—He's only a prayer away!

MINNESOTA, WINTHROP

Carol Messner - Mary Lou Schmidt

FOOTPRINTS

One night a man had a dream. He dreamed he was walking along the beach with the Lord. Across the sky flashed scenes from his life. For each scene, he noticed two sets of footprints in the sand; one belonging to him, and the other to the Lord.

When the last scene of his life flashed before him, he looked back at the footprints in the sand. He noticed that many times along the path of his life there was only one set of footprints. He also noticed that happened at the very lowest and saddest times in his life.

This really bothered him and he questioned the Lord about it. "Lord, you said that once I decided to follow you, you'd walk with me all the way. But I have noticed that during the most troublesome times in my life, there is only one set of footprints. I don't understand why when I needed you most you would leave me."

The Lord replied, "My precious, precious child; I love you and I would never leave you. During your times of trial and suffering, when you see only one set of footprints, it was then that I carried you."

Author Unknown

The last Sunday of July groundbreaking ceremony took place for the construction of our new fellowship hall to be built directly north of our church. "Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it. . . Psalm 127:1

We were thankful to have Bro. Carroll Gerber and his family of Bluffton, IN here, along with many others one weekend in August. There were several thoughts about children and parents which touched the hearts of many.

May the Lord richly bless all of our precious ministers: who with God's wonderful grace and love, try so hard to do God's Holy Will.

Sunday School has started for another season. As God told the children of Israel when teaching their children the commandments of the Lord, He spoke these special words: "And thou shalt teach them (commandments) diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up." Deut. 6: 6.

Doreen Schmidt, daughter of Bro. Darrel and Sis. Darlene, was hospitalized for a tonsillectomy. May God ever stand by her side and give her grace and strength to make a speedy recovery.

MISSOURI, LAMAR

Vera Marie Frieden

Vera Mae Frieden

This past month we have enjoyed having visitors. We hope God has blessed each one for taking time to worship with us, as we are blessed in the love and unity through Christ.

There seems to be little news

this time so we decided to share a thought we read.

"Grant me, O Lord," said a humble soul, "that I may pass unnoticed through the world."

This should be the wish, or rather the aim of all true devotion.

Small virtues require the praise of man to sustain them, just as little children require encouragement to walk or stand alone.

But true virtue goes quietly through the world, scattering good around, and performing noble deeds, without even the knowledge that what it does is heroic."

Gold Dust (Charlotte M. Young)

As we read this we thought of our older brothers and sisters who have supported and kept the faith for years. If they would have tried to take the easy way out would our faith be as it is today? Many say the closer we get to our goal the harder Satan tries to keep us from obtaining it. Most of us could share Christ's love and fellowship with ones who are not able to come to church and fellowship as they would like to.

MISSOURI, TAYLOR

Loida Hodel

"Prayer is the door to God's treasury,
Faith is the key which opens it."

The engagement of Bro. Steve Sutter (Bro. Gerald and Sis. Marge) to Sis. Debbie Ott (Bro. Don and Sis. Carolyn) of Congerville, IL, was announced on July 26. May God bless this young couple as they make plans for their wedding day.

Our congregation has been richly blessed with four new babies. Bro. Kent and Sis. Jan (Hodel) Heimer are first time parents of a little girl, Amber Nicole, born on July 24. Bro. Rod and Sis. Naomi Moser (Wapello, IL) and Bro. Ben and Ruth Ann Hodel (Roanoke, IL) are grandparents. Jim and Sally (Riney) Gottmann, welcomed a baby boy born on July 28. Jay Richard has a brother, Jeff. His grandparents are Gene and Irene (Hoerr) Riney. Jim and Virginia (Brueggemann) Moser had a little boy on Aug. 8. Jason Emmanuel has a brother, Brad, and his grandparents are Bro. Earl and Sis. Janette Moser (Elgin, IL). Tom and Theresa (Page) Cottrell had a little son born Aug. 14. Troy Mat-

thew has a brother, Travis, and a sister, Tonya, and his grandparents are Bro. William and Sis. Ruth Cottrell. May all these families enjoy their little sunbeams and realize they are a gift directly from our Heavenly Father; therefore the responsibility to bring them up in a way that would be pleasing to Him is so important.

The "Tie of Christian Friendship" was greatly strengthened when we were privileged to have Elder Bro. Akito Inoue from Japan in our midst on Aug. 13. Most of us relate to our Japanese brethren and churches as far away places that we only hear and read about. It brings a very deep and closer feeling when we can witness personally how God is using some of these brothers to preach His Word in and out of season and that they are willing to be used in His service. May we all strive to that feeling of "appreciation and love" for our God and the salvation He has provided which Bro. Akito so emphatically expressed. It was in 1960 that our late Elder Bro. Fred Grimm visited Japan and it was at this time that Bro. Akito and several others were awakened and convicted as to their lost condition. We are thankful to God that after all these years Bro. Akito was permitted to accept the invitation to visit "The Little White Church on the Levee" and share with us his feelings of love and appreciation for those who have gone on and now to their posterity.

"The path that leads to happiness is so narrow that two cannot walk in it unless they become one." Bro. Richard Sutter (Bro. Gerald and Sis. Marge) and Sis. Kay Miles were united in Holy Matrimony on Aug. 16. by Elder Bro. Roy Grimm. May God bless this dear couple as they begin life together and establish their home in our community.

"And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity (love)."

I Cor. 13:13

NEW JERSEY, UNION CITY

Ed Aeschleman

Elder Bro. John Bahler and Bro. Lee Bahler of Rockville visited Union City on July 19 and fed our small flock with food for the spirit. That was the last Sun-

day that our dear Sis. Marie Walch would be a part of the Union City congregation before moving permanently to her home in Switzerland the following week. A special dinner and fellowship hour in her behalf followed regular services. After having made Union City her church home for many years, it was a sad farewell for all, but Sis. Marie took many good wishes and the prayers of loved ones with her.

NEW YORK, CROGHAN

Alice Virkler

Here in Northern New York it seems that visiting ministers sometimes bypass us, but we were indeed fortunate to have visitors for three Sundays. Elder Bro. Andy Virkler of Bay City was with us on July 26. The Naumburg congregation assembled with us. We assembled in the Naumburg Church on Sunday, Aug. 2, when Bro. Ken Schneider from Remington was here. On August 9 the Naumburg congregation again assembled with us to hear the Word spoken by Bro. Leland Plattner of Zapata. It is surely inspiring to hear ministers from these different areas speak the same Word of Life. May God richly bless each of them and their families.

Two young couples have begun their lives together. Roger Farney and Laurie Mowers were married on July 18. Roger's parents are Bro. Don and Sis. Alice, and Laurie's parents are Bob and Margaret Mowers of Glenfield. Steve Virkler and Yvonne Hartley were united in marriage on Aug. 15. Steve is the son of Bro. Clyde and Sis. Lois, and Yvonne is the daughter of Arleigh and Irene Hartley of Lyons Falls. May God richly bless these couples as they begin their new lives together.

The engagement of Sis. Maureen Gerber of Rockville and Bro. John Virkler of our congregation was announced on Aug. 2. Maureen's parents are Bro. Marvin and Sis. Millie, and John's parents are Sis. Charlotte and the late Bro. Clifton. May they look further to God for guidance as they begin plans for their new life together. An October wedding is planned.

Our annual business meeting was held on July 31. May God lead and direct each one who was elected and re-elected to an office for

the coming year.

Our Sunday School children, parents, and teachers enjoyed the annual Sunday School picnic held at Happy Hollow Campgrounds on Saturday, Aug. 8.

Sis. Pearl Lehman has returned home and is progressing satisfactorily after having been hospitalized for surgery on both eyes. Sis. Sarah Virkler was a medical patient for a few days and has returned to the Extended Care of the Hospital. Lori Schneider was also a medical patient a few days. At this time, Sis. Barb Virkler remains a patient in Intensive Care at Iowa City with complications following her surgery. It is our duty to remember each of our loved ones daily in prayer that God may strengthen and sustain them in their hour of need.

We welcome Bro. Don and Sis. Alice Farney and their family back to our congregation. After having moved to the Rittman area for about a year, they have returned to New York and are operating a farm at R. D., Lowville.

NEW YORK, NAUMBURG

Rachel Snyder

How close we are drawn to the Lord and to one another in the partaking of communion. Bros. Robert Beyer and Norbert Steiner served us at the Croghan church.

We wish to thank the dear brothers who came to proclaim God's word to us this month. They were Bros. Andrew Virkler (Bay City, MI), Kenneth Schneider (Remington, IN) and Leland Plattner (Zapata, TX).

We are thankful that Sisters Pearl Colgrove and Maude Pelton were able to return home.

OHIO, AKRON

Joyce Gasser

Sis. Tina Graf, daughter of Bro. Leon and Sis. Janet Graf is engaged to Bro. Ralph Schneider, son of Bro. and Sis. Al Schneider of Rockville. We wish them God's blessings in their lives together.

We appreciated the visit of Bro. Dale Eisenman and his family, and were edified by Bro. Dale's inspirational messages.

We are sorry that Bro. Duane Collins has been hospitalized, and pray for his speedy recovery.

Bro. Leon and Sis. Janet Graf, with two of their children, Bro.

Eric and Sis. Tina, visited the Japanese brothers and sisters from July 14 to July 31. They were accompanied by Bro. Earl Beery of Rittman and Sis. Barbara Baer of Princeville. The trip was a very blessed one and they encourage others to prayerfully consider making such a trip.

After spending several precious days in the Altadena-Ventura, CA area, their first week in the Tokyo area was spent primarily with Elder Bro. Akito Inoue's family and the Tokyo church members. During that week they took a two-day trip to Hiroshima and were deeply impressed while visiting the Peace Museum and seeing a 30-minute film showing the devastating effects of the first atomic bomb ever used during war. The suffering and deprivation seems indescribable, an example of the worst form of brute force to settle international conflicts.

The second week was spent in the Shioda area, with two days being spent with the members of both churches during their annual fellowship meeting at Lake Shaju, near Mt. Fuji. It was a wonderful opportunity to get to know each other better and the spiritual blessings were very great. They also visited our church-sponsored kindergarten in Shioda and were deeply impressed by the love of the children and the American teachers' efforts to teach basic Christian concepts to the children as they learn and understand some English.

The six express heartfelt thanks to all the Japanese brothers, sisters and friends for the many acts of kindness given during their visit, including providing places to sleep, many meals, gifts, and for the love shown. They also want our brethren in USA to remember the good spiritual work in Japan and support them with prayer and missionary contributions as God may direct us all to do.

OHIO, JUNCTION

Les Manz

Ministering Bros. Ken Sauder, Ben Hartzler, Henry Dotterer, Paul Gasser, and Loren Stoller were all present for the wedding of Bro. Roger Gasser and Sis. Sue Manz. All present were reminded of the responsibilities and opportunities in establishing a Christian

Home. Bro. Arthur and Sis. Bertha Gasser (Rittman) and Bro. Eli and Sis. Evelyn Manz are the parents.

Scott Neil Manz was born to Bro. Don and Sis. Connie on Aug. 14. Happy for another playmate are brothers Chris and Sam.

OHIO, LATTY

Cheryl Wenninger - Susie Sinn

"AT DAY'S END"

Is anybody happier because you passed his way? Does anyone remember that you spoke to him today? The day is almost over, and its toiling time is through; Is there anyone to utter now a kindly word of you? Can you say tonight, in parting with the day that's slipping fast, That you helped a single brother of the many that you passed? Is a single heart rejoicing over what you did or said? Does the man whose hopes are fading, now with courage look ahead? Did you waste the day, or lose it? Was it well or sorely spent? Did you leave a trail of kindness, or a scar of discontent? As you close your eyes in slumber, do you think that God will say, "You have earned one more tomorrow by the work you did today?"

— John Hall

We've had opportunities to show kindness as some from our congregation have been hospitalized. They are Sis. Louise Sinn, Bro. George Keysor (Sis. Sharon), and Bill Jerep (Suzanne). We hope they can feel the prayers offered in their behalf.

Bro. Don Manz (Junction) ministered to us during our mid-week service. We pray the Lord will bless him for his efforts.

OHIO, MANSFIELD

Lucille Groh

Jesus said concerning children, "Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones." There are many children who would like to go to Sunday School and are not permitted because no one will take them. The following poem is an example of the end result.

ATTENTION FATHERS

Daddy had a little boy,
His soul was white as snow.
He never went to Sunday School,
'Cause Daddy wouldn't go.

He never heard the Word of God,
That thrills the childish mind.
While other children went to class,
This child was left behind.

As he grew from babe to youth,
Dad saw to his dismay,
A soul that once was snowy white,
Became a dingy grey.

Realizing that his son was lost,
Dad tried to win him back;
But now the soul that once was white
Had turned an ugly black.

Dad even started back to church
And Bible study too;
He begged the preacher, "Isn't there
A thing that you can do?"

The preacher tried, failed and said,
"We're just too far behind,
I tried to tell you years ago,
But you wouldn't pay no mind."

And so another soul was lost,
That once was white as snow;
Sunday School would have helped
But Daddy wouldn't go.

Author unknown

How thankful we are that there are those who do care for our youth. July 26 was Ohio-Michigan Youth Day. The weather was nice and we want to thank everyone who participated in any way; first, to our ministers and elders, Bro. Aaron Steffen (Alto), Bro. Rudy Graf (Akron), Bro. Homer Reinek (Toledo), Bro. Delbert Indermuhle (Sardis), and Bro. Kenneth Sauder (Mansfield). A special thanks to Bro. Charles and Sis. Marcella Sauder and family who have so willingly and unselfishly worked with our Youth these many years. Sis. Marcella has managed the meals and so often we forget to say thank you.

We pray the Lord will bless the efforts of all and that good seed has been sown.

On July 23, 1981, a new baby boy named Archie Thomas was born to Dan and Sis. Barbara Tucker. Bro. Jim and Sis. Clara (Sabo) Zimmers are the maternal grandparents.

July 30 was the 70th wedding anniversary of Bro. Aaron and Sis. Katie Sauder. They enjoyed the happy occasion with their family

and an Open House was observed on Saturday, Aug. 1. We wish them many more happy days together.

On Aug. 9 Bro. Charles and Sis. Marian Hemmer (Peoria) visited our church. We thank Bro. Charles for his labor of love and words of encouragement and advice.

Sis. Kate Oesch has been busy in preparation of two weddings which will take place in her family. Daughter, Sara, is engaged to Charles Jones and they plan an Aug. 28 wedding and daughter, Nancy Lynn, is engaged to Paul Dorinsky and they plan to be married Aug. 29. We wish both couples much happiness.

Loved ones who have been hospitalized are: Sis. Louise Sabo, Bro. Wayne Rufener, John Them, Jerry Roberts, and Enid (Cordrey) Miller. Sis. Naomi Cordrey has been released from Ohio State University and is home again and is slowly improving. May God be near each one and grant renewed health if it is according to His will. Remember, "your present burden is but the weight of the Potter's hand forming you for His eternal purpose."

On Sunday, Aug. 16, our congregation sang a farewell hymn for Sis. Elise Bocka as she intends to move to Alto to continue her education. We will miss her and although we are separated by many miles, our prayers will be with her and as the hymn writer wrote, "Prayer as a chain binds us in God together, And when we part, unites each heart in Jesus' name forever." Zion's Harp 195.

OHIO, RITTMAN Florence Hartzler Janette Blough

You cannot say, you must not say that he is dead. He is just away! With a cheery smile and a wave of the hand he has wandered into an unknown land . . . Our dear Bro. Herb Hilty age 59, passed away very suddenly, and has gone to his eternal rest. He will be missed by his family, and our sympathy is extended to his wife Sis. Ruth, and children, Sis. Miriam Brake, Sis. Martha Steele, Sam, Frank, Roscoe, and Rose. Also surviving are his sisters, Ola, Sis. Mary and Sis. Freda Winkler, Sis. Lillian Zollinger, and Sis. Pauline Hartzler. We pray the Lord will

be near them in the days ahead.

We want to thank our visiting ministers who brought us the Word of God. Thanks go to Bro. Hartzell Kaisner, Detroit; Bro. Eugene Fetter, Toledo; Bro. Ken Schneider, Remington; Bro. Bill Brake, Sardis. The preacher sought to find acceptable words: and that which was written was upright, even words of truth. Eccls. 12:10.

Those of our loved ones needing hospital care, and submitting to surgery were Joel Steiner (Bro. Matt and Sis. Gail), Sis. Irma Ingold, Sis. Mary Winkler, and David Marty. We are thankful for God's healing power.

Jeff and Ann Beery are parents of a baby girl, Leah Amanda. At home to welcome a little sister are Suzanne, Amy, and Regina. The grandparents are Ted and Sis. Rhea Beery. A little girl, Crystal Irene, was born to Bro. Ike and Sis. Verna Rufener. Her sisters and brothers are Judy, Suzanne, Sheila, Bro. Jim, Steve, and Matt. The grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Elda Hartzler, and Sis. Myrle Rufener. A girl, their first child, was born to Bro. Jeff and Sis. Bev Hartzler. Her name is Julie Renee, and her grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Joan Hartzler, and Bro. Dave and Sis. Eileen Emch. Mark Richard, is the name given to the first son of Bro. Rick and Sis. Dawn Dotterer. At home to welcome her brother is Jody. The grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Joanne Widmer, and Bro. Henry and Sis. Martha Dotterer. Bro. Henry and Sis. Bertha Kiser have a new grandson with the birth of Lonnie Dean to Lonnie and Sheila Kiser. We pray the Lord will bless these families with their new bundles from heaven.

Our best wishes and God's blessings are extended to Bro. Ken and Sis. Becky (Manz) Zollinger, who were married in Junction. We want to welcome Sis. Becky to Rittman. Dan and Virginia (Giet) Widmer were married on Aug. 8 by Bro. Joe Ramsier. May they feel the presence of God in their homes they have now started.

Our best wishes are also extended to a newly engaged couple, Carol Dotterer and Ken Rupp. The parents are Bro. Henry and Sis. Martha Dotterer, and Ken and Lillian Rupp.

Got any rivers you think are uncrossable?
Got any mountains you can't tunnel thru?
God specializes in things tho't impossible,
And He can do what no other pow'r can do!

OHIO, TOLEDO Josephine Rehklau

UNITY

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

It was with prayerful hearts that we appreciate the time for our annual Conference. It was our prayer that God would reveal to our shepherds that which would lead to the preservation of our precious and holy faith. May we in one accord give them our faithful support. Standing united in the strong cord which binds us together gives to us the much needed strength to remain true and faithful to our Saviour, Jesus Christ, in these deceptive times.

Our Vacation Bible classes were held the week of June 22-26.

Bro. Mark Masters is in the hospital having had surgery. It is our prayer that he may have a good recovery.

OREGON, PORTLAND Connie Steffen

Many things have happened in our area since the last article was submitted. Summer has brought us some hot weather, and we can see how the Lord God in his great wisdom is making up for our late spring.

Elder Bro. Akito Inoue (Tokyo) was with us Wednesday evening, Aug. 12. We greatly appreciate his taking the extra time to come visit us and minister the Word to us. He had many exhortations given to us in love, and one which seems especially applicable to the lives of each person present was, "We must all pay for our sins, and often the stain of sin follows us. We could never pay for our sin, but "Thanks be to God" who sent our Dear Saviour to pay the price! He also stated that Satan has never told the truth, but only lies; at first he told Eve,

"Thou shalt not surely die," and now he is telling people, "Thou shalt not surely live."

Nichole Marie has come to gladden the hearts and home of David and Debbie Rumbold. She was born June 28, the first child of this happy family. Her dear grandparents are Bro. Paul and Sis. Anne Rumbold.

Our dear aged brother, Martin Reuter, gently laid aside his armor and entered into his eternal rest on July 26. He was a dear soldier in the Lord's army and longed to be with the Lord's people, and nearly every Sunday he would ask if we could sing "Safely Through Another Week" (Hymns of Zion No. 183). He especially liked the part that says, "... day of all the week the best, emblem of Eternal rest . . ." and it seems as though our Heavenly Father had respect toward him, as it was on a Sunday morning, at the time he had for a number of years left for church, that our Heavenly Father took him to his eternal rest. Bro. Martin is survived by three daughters, Sis. Anne Rumbold (with whom he lived), Bertha Miller (Sun City, AZ), Sue Ellington (Chillecothe, IL), and Oneeta Reuter (his daughter-in-law); one brother, George (Warren, WI), one sister, Susan Zeller (Peoria), and numerous grandchildren to the fifth generation.

Hospital patients this past month were Bro. Paul Rumbold for an arthritis treatment, and this reporter for treatment of lead poisoning. We have both been released and are feeling better.

The family of Martin Reuter wishes to thank everyone for all the expressions of love and sympathy shown to them at the time of his illness and passing. "By this shall all men know ye are my disciples, if ye love one another." (John 13:35)

OREGON, SILVERTON

Rosa Lee Kuenzi

"Farewell, mortality; Jesus is mine. Welcome, eternity; Jesus is mine. Welcome, O loved and blest; Welcome, sweet scenes of rest, Welcome, my Saviour's breast; Jesus is mine." (Hymns of Zion, No. 281, v. 4) We listened to these beautiful words as we gathered together in memory of our dear Bro. Martin Reuter, who, on Sun-

day morning, July 26, entered into that blessed rest that awaits a true believer. Our love and sympathy go out to his family, especially Bro. Paul and Sis. Anne Rumbold, Portland, and Bro. Ed and Sis. Julie, Sandy, Teresa, Alan, and Kenny Knecht, Silverton, who spent countless hours caring for Bro. Martin in his last years.

We have been pleased to be able to gather together on three of the past four Sundays for potluck supper and singings. The fellowship and good food were enjoyed by all and thanks go to the three families whose efforts and planning made it possible. The Jim Dietrich family, the Rich Kuenzi family and the Nick Kuenzi family each took a turn as host family. Each family attending brings a hot dish and a salad or dessert and there is always plenty to eat.

Our hearty thanks go to Bro. Duane Kilgus, Fairbury, IL for lending himself to share the Word of God with us. Bro. Duane, Sis. Arlene and their family were in Oregon for the marriage of their son, Kent, to Teresa Mallorie, daughter of Bob and Juanita Mallorie of Silverton. Kent's grandmother, Sis. Marie Kilgus, Fairbury, was also able to be here for the occasion.

Sis. Judie Knecht and her daughters recently gave a baby shower for Debbie Rumbold (Dave). Women from both Silverton and Portland attended. Sis. Mary Kuenzi thought she was just another guest but was surprised to find out she was also a guest of honor . . . the shower was also for her. Everyone except Mary knew that the shower was for both Debbie and Mary.

Silverton congregation joined the Portland congregation for mid-week services last week. We were richly blessed as ministering Bro. Akito Inoue, Tokyo, Japan, brought forth the Word with much love and contagious enthusiasm. Our prayers go with this dear brother and with all the elders, ministers and brethren who will be attending the Brotherhood Conference.

PENNSYLVANIA, PHILADELPHIA

Delores Rapp

The month of August brought

several visiting ministers, Bros. Leland Plattner (Zapata), Loren Stoller (Latty), and Leonard Meyer (Chicago), who shared God's Word with our small congregation. We have been blessed by these brothers and by the many other visitors who joined us this past month from Akron, Rittman, Rockville, and Oakville.

Sermon . . .

(Continued from page 28)

We want to dedicate this building to the service and the use for which it was built, and we don't want to forget how the Lord provided. He gave the wisdom, understanding and knowledge that is necessary to build any building that is to stand. The Lord provided willing helpers.

The brothers here were concerned about the financial undertaking. Many things were required in this project, but where would you or where would any of us end with our own projections? As David told Solomon, these things are provided after all, not by people but by the Lord. Everyone who was with you in prayer, labor, or whatever it have been, did it for the Lord.

We want to give the praise and the honor to the Lord the Giver, so that He might be well pleased and bless this church.

Dedicating a church and saying some nice words isn't altogether what pleases the Lord. The Lord Himself spoke to us this morning in the parable of the vineyard in the fifth chapter of Isaiah.

A dedicated church needs a hedge around it. We heard that God built a hedge around his vineyard (the house of Israel). The hedge had been put there for a protection, but there was disappointment when the choice vine yielded wild grapes.

What is the hedge of a church of God? It is Jesus Christ in this dispensation. It is the faith that the Lord has given to us. The hedge is our protection. It is the doctrine and creed. It is those things that the Lord establishes in His truth and righteousness so that we might not only be a planted vineyard, but that the enemy and destroyer cannot come in and cause it finally to yield wild grapes.

Our prayers, I believe, have been going on for hours because I know that many of us last evening had that on our minds and surely have had again today. Then, when the Lord plainly tells us how He had a burdened heart, so to say, about those for whom He had built such a wonderful vineyard and had even provided a hedge for protection against the enemy, we consider it carefully.

Let us not be a disappointment and burden His heart, dear brothers and sisters. Let us not forget that the Lord, according to the word of the prophet Isaiah, has also built a hedge around us.

If we forget, can we hope to have fruit of value? Would good fruit come forth after the hedge was pushed aside, perhaps after the enemy had destroyed it? But let us rather live according to God's will. Each church wants to grow in numbers and I hope and trust that we will always want to grow in faithfulness and in good works as well.

I was so happy to hear an adage spoken yesterday by one of the brother's. It went: What builds a church? (Or, how do you build a church?) Brick upon brick, stone upon stone, and soul upon soul. We hope that it will be the same here. You have laid your bricks; you have laid your stones; and now may souls be added. Perhaps some are seeking and longing, hardly even realized by the individuals themselves. Surely God knows, and as souls turn to Him, you will be building the church continually.

This edifice has been completed and we want to dedicate it in God's name.

Why did the Lord God tell us that He builds a hedge? Why does He want us to note the use and need of a hedge? We have no reason to condemn or even to find fault with anyone, but we would be negligent if we were careless and indifferent to the doctrine and creed that are verified and blest by the Word of Truth.

Dear ones, we want each of our churches to pray for the others, to pray that the Lord will increase our faith. Even the disciples said to their Saviour, "Lord, increase our faith." Luke 17:5. It is no less that way now. Had you, brothers and sisters, not had faith, perhaps nothing would have been

accomplished here. You have brought forth, in the name of the Lord, a quiet place where the Word of God can be spoken and where you will be blest.

When I was young in faith, it seemed to me that our older brothers were somewhat critical of us younger ones. That wasn't the truth at all. They felt that the hedge had been built around the heritage of God, the house of God and the work of God, and that if we are not careful, watchful and aware of what could happen, there would be no harvest. There would be wild grapes as in the parable.

Let us, rather, pray for one another. You know, tonight or tomorrow we go our way; the loved ones at home here will abide. But don't we owe each other fervent prayer and supplication? We live in a busy world and time, it's true, but we surely have time to humbly ask the Lord not only for our well being but for that of others.

In past springs, just this time of year, we boys (I was unconverted at the time) would say, "We will plant or sow this much, put forth this and that effort, and then, if the Lord provides good weather, we will have a bountiful harvest.

Our father was a leader in the church. He struck us down once when he said, "I would call it a good harvest if some of my children would repent." That stopped us right there. We were thinking of material things. Father took everything right away from us just by telling us the truth. That is the way it is in the house of God.

We don't always hear things that elate us, but today we have heard words that remind us of our calling, that remind us that we don't dedicate only buildings. Every time a converted soul makes his covenant in the waters of baptism, he is dedicating his life to the service of his Master. You and I are dedicated people as we have at one time promised the Lord that we would fulfill our obligations to Him.

We know that this building is completed, but the Lord's work is not yet completed because there are many souls that should be gathered in. I know that the home folks here will do their utmost, but they will also need to be re-

membered, perhaps we could say with weak effort because we are weak.

Let us pray that the Lord will multiply our faith, and that we as dedicated people can congregate in dedicated churches and bring forth fruit. We would not want to say, "This many and that many people have now been converted, but we will leave that to the Lord and just pray fervently.

Influencing souls is not done only by prayer, however. From our youth, we were reminded how the Lord God out of love and mercy redeemed our souls so that we could be called children of God.

Our salvation must be worked out. How can we serve God? We serve Him by grace. How can we have grace? By being humble. How can we serve Him if the actions of our lives are contrary to Scripture?

We had better humble ourselves as David did. We should bring ourselves into this frame of mind with effort from deep within our souls. After all, we only have a hope of eternal life through the death and suffering of our dear Lord and Saviour.

To some, perhaps, it wouldn't seem necessary to speak of these things at a dedication service, but we evidently are entering into times when faith will be tried far more than it has in my time or your time until today.

Let that be in the hands of the Lord and may it be that the service we render to Him shall be for a day at a time; not that we have in mind only serving Him one day. Oh, no!

We heard this morning that the Lord always provides a place where a willing helper can labor. I myself had personal experience hiring young school boys in the summertime. Standing out in my mind is a young man who worked for me. He would walk into the farm (into the little place where we made our living) with his sleeves rolled up and he would say, "Rudy, what's for today? What is our work today?" I knew right away that that boy would earn his wages. He wouldn't be satisfied until he had earned his wages. Those who came in sleepy, wishing that they weren't there, scarcely earned a day's wages.

Considering this in a spiritual

sense, we might be lazy, or neglectful, but the Lord does not want it that way. He wants us to be diligent.

I was taken back lately when a visiting minister said, "We should never neglect the Lord's day." Well, I couldn't remember a day when I had worked on Sunday in recent years, but he went farther than that. He told us that the Jewish people started their Lord's day on Saturday night. He spoke of how busy people get on Saturday. They want to crowd in everything that they can, Perhaps some things are neglected or put aside, and then by Saturday night, everything piles up. The Jew's Sabbath (as they call it) starts at sundown on Saturday. This brother wasn't scolding or chiding, but he told the truth.

Let's get ourselves in shape for the Lord's day. Let's lay aside some of the things that crowd the Word of God and the will of God aside. Let us pray that the Lord will help us to be prepared in heart and mind and spirit so that when He blesses us as He has this morning, we are able to partake of it.

Yet, there are a lot of things that should be done on Saturday night. Look how much the folks did for us here last night. We don't want to find fault; we just want to remind each other that we are a fortunate people and we owe much. Whom do we owe? We owe the One to whom and for whom we celebrate the Lord's day.

When I say celebrate, I mean to gather and assemble in His name, and today to dedicate this church that we want sanctioned by prayer by one of the brothers. Also, we want to meet the challenge of the Word of God. The Word has been so clear and plain today that not one of us should have failed or missed it.

Think of those who are with us in prayer at this very moment. I believe it is safe to say that throughout this land where we have more than seventy meeting places, assembly places, others are in prayer with us today. I believe that the Lord will hear their prayers and that we can be blessed by them.

The same Lord that gave you dear ones here such courage for many years, and who has proved

that He was with you by the building of this church, has given other brethren understanding and willingness to help in this good cause. May the Lord bless everyone and may He bless this house as He has promised to do.

David couldn't build the temple. It wasn't the Lord's will. My speaking here does not necessarily dedicate your church. You will, perhaps, feel the richest blessings when one of the elder brothers kneels down and asks the Lord to sanction this dedication. But remember, dear ones, that it isn't just a matter of speaking words. We should dedicate ourselves. We should put all in the Lord's hand and be humble enough to say, "Lord, if you will give me the grace, give me the strength, and show me where I can do better, I will praise Thee and I will likewise serve Thee." We know that the Word promises the blessing.

Dear ones, never let the love of our Lord and Saviour get away from you. Of the churches in foreign countries which some of us have seen, those which suffered hardship stayed true and faithful and were blessed by the Lord.

When in Europe, I was touched when the people said that there was a time when evil-minded people behind the Iron Curtain took their Bibles away from them and burned them. Here we have Bibles with us and before us. (But the persecutors thought that there couldn't be much harm in the Zion's Harps, so they left them.)

Through the years when they were without Bibles, except what they could somehow quietly get hold of, one brother told me personally that it seemed to him that the Zion's Harp supplied their need at that time. After they had endured, Bibles were again permitted in their land.

In this land of the free, I sometimes feel that we have got it almost too nice. We don't realize what true tests of believers there might be, if the Lord would so ordain it.

In the meantime, while we are here and have the opportunity, may our dedication be from all of our heart and may it be a joy to come to the house of God. Where would we go and what would we be if we didn't have houses of assembly, places where we can pray

together, where we can read together, and where we listen with open ears and hearts to that which the Lord provides for us.

Perhaps this is a weak dedication service, but it comes from the heart. We want to encourage each other and to stay true and faithful. Once, we promised in the presence of our Lord to be faithful and true and to accept His guidance as His will. If we continue in this we will be like David. We don't expect the Lord to bring on a thunderstorm tonight or anything like that, but the Lord is still all powerful. He who spoke in that manner at that time still looks to see how we are doing and whether we take our calling seriously, whether we are humble enough to leave our lives and our very station in life in His hands. He also can take away those things that we do not appreciate.

The most important thing that we have dearly beloved, is our soul's salvation which came to us as a free gift. True, we felt condemnation and guilt, the weight of repentance. Still, as a brother lately said to a friend as they heard his testimony, "Repentance is a privilege!"

What if we couldn't repent? What if we couldn't have the Word of God to remind us? What if faith were denied us because we had grown careless and slothful?

On the other hand, how thankful and glad we are that we can meet, greet and embrace each other, that we can encourage each other to good works and deeds. That is, after all the true dedication of the people of God to their Lord and Saviour, who so loved the world that He gave His Son as a sacrifice in our behalf. Let us never forget that.

May we all grow in self-denial, holiness and willingness. May we all find grace so that the Lord can further the cause. We think of our own children who are of an age when they should repent and come to the house of God more often than they do. We hope and trust that they will see in those who are believers that it is well worthwhile.

The Lord's blessing counts more than anything else in all this world. One of the brothers should speak further. May God bless His good word and bless you.

Sermon by ELDER BRO. RUDOLPH GRAF of Akron, OH

Text: I Chronicles 28 and 29 - 2 Chronicles 6:1-14

The following is the dedication service at the Philadelphia (De-vault), Pennsylvania church, May 3, 1981.

During the first reading we saw that with God's blessing David had prepared with all his might to build the temple, but the Lord God denied David his fondest hope. Still, the Lord was good to David. He informed him that Solomon, his son, was to carry out the work that David had hoped to do.

We read that the Lord God said that David was a man of war and his hands had shed blood. Much blood had indeed been shed and many lives had been sacrificed. Solomon, however, was a peace-loving man.

Nevertheless, we learn throughout the Scriptures that David was a man after the heart of God. It doesn't say that David was a perfect man; it doesn't say that his intentions and undertakings were always pleasing to God; but the fact that he surrendered to the Lord's will was pleasing.

It seems to me that Solomon, who to carry on his father's work, must have appreciated his commission. David said that all the treasures for the building of the temple were only what the Lord had give them in the first place.

In consecrating and in dedicating a wonderful building like this, David's example is a good guide for us.

We had little or no part except to pray for you dear ones. But as you went about your work and others came to your assistance, I believe that within the heart of each one was the thought that he was doing the Lord's will.

As David relinquished his desire and thanked God, I was impressed by what he said. "But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able to offer so willingly after this sort? for all things come

of thee, and of thine own have we given thee." 1 Chr. 29:14.

That is our life's story, is it not? Being human, clothed with flesh and blood, we may think that we are tired and deserve a harvest, a gain, that we should have what we desire. But we, as these men of old who were entrusted with such wonderful work, must submit to the will of God.

For my part I think that to dedicate a house to the honor of God for the benefit of man, a place where the Word of God can be spoken, is a privilege. Some of us brothers traveled behind the Iron Curtain where an assembly of over five people is denied. The thought of building a place where ten or a dozen or twenty-five might assemble is out of the question. In years gone by believers were also persecuted. We have evidence in the Word of God, how those who believed in the Lord Jesus Christ suffered for it. Those who became Christians or believers in Christ often suffered death.

Although David was king and had much power and authority, it was when he became humble before the Lord that he prospered and the cause prospered.

It has often come to my mind how you dear ones here in this locality have fondly hoped and wished that you might have a place of assembly. Apparently it had to wait until the proper time quite as it went for Solomon. The assignment came. David spoke the truth when he said that all the preparation cometh of thine hand, and is all thine alone. He then advised the people to stay close to the Lord so that they would be blessed.

I believe that you shall be blessed, dear ones. We who have come from a distance to be with you for this day feel in our hearts that we have a blessing from your good fellowship, your love, and your kindness to us one and all.

We are here to dedicate this church, but those of us who are believers have also dedicated our lives and our souls to the Lord. We understand that of our own strength and desire we could not repent or be useful to the Lord in His service. We had to humbly submit ourselves to Him even as did those of whom we read.

Now then, we have the freedom to do as we wish; but, dear ones, we all agree that we want to work together especially for those things that are to the honor of God and for the well being of God's people, including brothers, sisters and believing friends.

We have read here that God was with His people. If we were to read a little farther, we would find that when Solomon had finished his wonderful prayer, which is quite lengthy, ". . . fire came down from heaven, and consumed the burnt-offering and the sacrifices; and the glory of the Lord filled the house." II Chr. 7:1.

Isn't that what we all hope today, that the glory of the Lord will fill this house? When the brothers began to speak this morning, I thought to myself (I didn't have direct reference to this sixth chapter of Second Chronicles), "The Lord surely filled the house today." It was not in numbers but with His presence, inasmuch as we all felt the Lord was speaking to us. True, we heard the voice of man, but it was the Spirit of the Lord that was speaking.

Building the temple at Jerusalem must have given the people renewed and dedicated hearts. I would think for my part, had I been present, that I would have felt as though the Lord might expect far more of me than I could bring forth in service to Him. But he isn't like that. He just wants us to see and to understand that He is the giver of all good and perfect gifts.

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