

# The Silver Lining

## A LIGHT FOR BELIEVERS

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# THANKSGIVING

Enter into His gates with THANKSGIVING, and into His courts with praise: be THANKFUL unto Him, and bless His name. For the Lord is good; His mercy is everlasting; and His truth endureth to all generation. Psalm 100:4, 5

By Him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving THANKS to His name. Hebrews 13:15

Now therefore, our God, we THANK thee and praise thy glorious name. I Chronicles 29:13

Praise ye the Lord. O give THANKS unto the Lord; for He is good: for His mercy endureth forever. Psalm 106:1

And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye THANKFUL. Col. 3:15

Saying, we give thee THANKS, O Lord God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come . . . Revelations 11:17

O give THANKS unto the Lord; Call upon His name: make known His deeds among the people. Psalm 105:1

I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of THANKS, be made for all men; For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. I Timothy 2:1, 2

And whatsoever ye do in word or in deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving THANKS to God and the Father by Him. Colossians 3:17

It is a good thing to give THANKS unto the Lord, and to sing praises unto thy name, O Most High. Psalm 92:1

THANKS be to God for His unspeakable gift. II Corinthians 9:15

Giving THANKS unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints of light: Col. 1:12

Let us come before His presence with THANKSGIVING, and make a joyful noise unto Him with psalms. Psalm 95:2

In everything give THANKS: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. I Thessalonians 5:18

But THANKS be to God which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. I Corinthians 15:57

Saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and THANKSGIVING, and honor, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen. Revelations 7:12

## HARVEST TIME

Christ taught His disciples, as we read in Matthew, "The harvest truly is plentiful but the laborers are few. Pray ye therefore the lord of the harvest that he will send forth laborers into his harvest."

Again the plea goes forth for at least one certified teaching sister to assist in the Lord's labors in Japan. Sis. Kathy Klotzle completes her second year term in the summer of '82, and we are looking for her replacement. If the Lord is touching your heart and you have the talents for this opportunity, we encourage you to visit with your local elder as it is essential that you have your home church's support in this very important responsibility. Then if you still feel it's in the Lord's will and want to make further inquiry please contact me and I will try to answer your questions.

We also have a very serious request to lay to the heart of some brother and sister. Bro. Willis and Sis. Lois Ehle would like to return to the States for a couple of years to be here while their children are going to college. We are agreed it would be well, if possible, to find a ministering brother and his wife who would be willing to go to Japan and to live in the country at Shioda near the city of Chofu which is the capital of Yamanashi prefecture. Here is the area in which we built

our first church and where we are presently teaching the pre-schoolers and kindergarten children. It is in the midst of a beautiful valley which is especially well known for the excellent peaches and grapes that are harvested there.

Bro. Willis and his family live in a home adjacent to the church and it would be quite comfortable for a couple. Strange as it may seem one does not have to be affluent in Japanese, although obviously it would be helpful. Japanese lessons are available here in the States as well as in the country.

The thought is not so much that a brother would have to minister, but rather to give support to the school and to lend stability to the small band of believers in that community.

Perhaps throughout the land there are some loved ones who will prayerfully consider this request and counsel with their shepherd on this very important matter. We have not definitely established a timeframe but it would not be sooner than the fall of 1982. We have this confidence the Lord will supply a temporary replacement for Bro. Willis and Sis. Lois who have given so conscientiously and faithfully of their time and talents. Here again inquiries should be directed to my attention.

Most sincerely,  
Ben Maibach, Secretary-Treasurer  
Apostolic Christian Mission Fund

to neutral Switzerland. There followed a worldwide economic depression and the Swiss brethren incorporated and formed an agency named "Hilfe A. G.," which interprets in English, "Help Inc." During the 1930's the needs of the believers became so great that "Hilfe" solicited help from our brethren in U.S.A. About 1934 the elders resolved to assist "Hilfe" and appointed Bro. Joe A. Getz to head up an organization and Bro. Ed Kambly, a Swiss immigrant, to receive the contributions. During World War II, there was no contact and no distribution of funds allowed from 1942 to 1945.

After World War II Communist Forces took control of the countries behind the Iron Curtain. All religions were banned, churches and church properties were confiscated. Church leaders were imprisoned, tortured and/or killed. Many members emigrated to the free West. Many of those who remained continued to practice their faith under most severe spiritual and economic conditions. To provide some aid and relief, extensive efforts were made in the U.S.A. and Switzerland and much food, clothing and other necessities were sent to them.

The elders decided, in August, 1974, that it would be proper to hold a special collection, jointly, with the Apostolic Christian Nazarene Church, in response to an appeal to help restore the Romanian churches. Thereafter it was decided that four representatives from U.S.A. would visit Hungary and Romania to proceed with giving the financial aid. Elders John Bahler of Rockville and Rudolph Graf of Akron, and Brother Andrew Hunyady of Columbus and Nazarene Roger P. Mueller of Syracuse, made this trip in March, 1975. The Romanian government did not give permission to use the funds at that time and the funds collected are being held in a savings account, pending approval for disbursement as intended. Some of these funds were used for Romanian earthquake aid in 1977 and some of the income from the funds has been used for current Romanian relief needs.

### BULGARIA

Today only about 10-12 older members remain, being under the care of elders in Czechoslovakia. Financial aid is sent to one

## EUROPEAN RELIEF

### WORLD RELIEF COMMITTEE

The origin of the Eastern European Nazarene Faith dates back to 1839 when two young men from Hungary, Janos Denkel and Janos Kropatschek, traveling through Zurich, Switzerland, heard the teachings of Samuel H. Froehlich. They became acquainted with him, accepted the new faith and as new converts returned to Hungary to teach others. Among the first new converts, Lajos (Louis) Hencsey, and Jozsef Bela (Joseph Bella), were indeed fervent missionaries who carried God's message into the country side. Soon this new faith began to spread throughout

the country. It was reported that at one time the Nazarene membership was approximately 86,000 in about 226 congregations, mostly in the Hungarian Region of the Austro-Hungarian Empire (1867-1918).

Following World War I the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy fell and Hungary was divided among the neighboring countries. Thus, the Nazarenes also were separated and isolated within the new boundaries. The brethren of Switzerland took an active part with other agencies to house and feed homeless refugees who filtered in-

sister by way of Czechoslovakia. Conditions are still strict and meetings forbidden.

#### CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Conditions are strict, with meetings being held in homes. Elders, ministers and some members are under constant surveillance. World Relief is in direct correspondence with one elder. There are about 300 members there and 3 elders, all over 80 years of age. Aid is being sent on a regular basis. Spiritual needs and assistance are given by elders from Hungary.

#### EAST GERMANY

About 20-22 members remain in scattered areas. Their spiritual needs are looked after by German-speaking elders from Hungary.

#### HUNGARY

These Nazarenes may worship and carry on church activities—as long as politics are not involved. On March 16, 1977, 101 years after the first official petition was filed with the Hapsburg Regime, the current Communist government granted full freedom for the Nazarenes. Young men are no longer forced to swear an oath, as an affirmation is accepted, and are no longer required to train with firearms. However, alternate service is compulsory. In 1967 the government granted permission for the printing of 5,000 new Zion's Harp Hymnals on Communist government operated printing presses and a second printing of another 4,000 Hymnals was made in 1978. The first new church building was erected in the city of Pecs and dedicated on September 4, 1977. The church membership is about 4,000, with 35 churches and several small communities, 35 ministers and 8 elders. A steady flow of relief funds support a number of needy elderly brothers and sisters whose names are approved by the local elders.

#### ROMANIA

All of the Nazarenes live in the former Hungarian regions of the country, estimated to be about 60% Hungarian, 35% Romanian and 5% German in nationalities, totaling an estimated 1,800 to 2,000 members, having five elders. Most are poor and the elderly receive very small pensions, about \$16 to \$25 per month. Only one church, a building about 105 years old in the city of Temesvar (Timisoara), is open. Services are held

each Sunday morning and afternoon for separate groups, due to lack of space. In all other communities the members meet in homes. Two elders, registered with the local authorities, are authorized to handle Relief Funds. These funds are deposited into the local branches of the National Bank of Romania and withdrawn as needed to distribute to the needy.

#### USSR

Conditions here are the strictest of all the Communist countries and the believers there are very poor people. They live north of Romania in the Chernovitz region and have an estimated 550-600 members. They meet regularly, despite dangers of arrest, fines, or imprisonment, and are served by two local elders. Services are held in both Russian and Romanian. The Zion's Harp was translated from Romanian to Russian and only a very few are in use as they are **hand-made and hand-written!** Aid cannot be sent there as it is very risky. They have occasional contact with the brethren in Romania and Hungary. According to the latest report, in one community the brethren pay a certain amount of fine each Sunday before their services.

#### YUGOSLAVIA

This was the first of the Communist countries to permit the Nazarenes to open their churches for worship, but due to severe persecutions under Tito, many believers emigrated to the West. The severe military code and laws caused a large number of the brothers to serve 7 to 9 year prison sentences, some serving two and some three terms. Most of the young people have left the country and the membership consists primarily of older people. Once having about 40-45,000 members, now only about 8,000 remain in 80 congregations. Some were visited by Elder Bro. Ben Maibach in July, 1980. At the present only a few members are receiving aid, but a study is being made to determine if others are in need of help.

Many letters have been received expressing the deepest thanks for our Christian love in helping to make their lives somewhat easier and that we really do care for the plight of the believers in Eastern Europe. This has created a stronger spiritual bond between the continents and personal visitation is encouraged. Though it is often in-

convenient and unpleasant, what a blessing it is to meet and greet those who are prisoners within their own country and know not what freedom is.

#### APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

IN MEMORIAM: On Oct. 7, 1981, an angel came to call our Richard Troxel, who has finished his life's mission on this earth. We are grateful to have had a part in caring for Richie, who responded so well to the love which accompanied his care. In beautiful eternity he will be able to convey those things which he could not while here on earth. Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Troxel of

#### THE SILVER LINING

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#### IN MEMORY — EDITORS:

HENRY SOUDER  
EDWARD SOUDER

Gary, IN, and to all of his relatives and friends.

As the Father's hand closes one chapter, another is opened. We welcome Mike Culkin of Forrest, IL, as a member of our family here at the Home. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Culkin, one brother, Thomas, and three sisters, Diane, Hoke, and Teresa (Harn), make up the immediate family. There are two nieces and three nephews. Cheeseburgers, hamburgers, and coke are favorite foods for Mike. Riding a bike, coloring, playing records, and singing are favorite pastimes. Birthday time for Mike is Sept. 10. We love having Mike with us and hope he will be happy here.

By the time this is in print, our planned Benefit Day on Nov. 20 will have come and gone. Being keenly sensitive to the effort put forth in its behalf, we can only say again that we are sincerely grateful to all who contributed in any way and commit each one to the Heavenly Father for a rich blessing.

To help you to learn to know us better, we have been featuring some of the activities which go on inside the Home. This time we will feature the Activity Department, which includes many things. Some of them are:

- A former teacher is teaching some residents numbers, time principles, etc.
- We are finishing some projects for this year's Benefit Day and beginning some for next year's.
- We have made a quilt for this Benefit Day from the girl's Embroidery Hour.
- We are beginning to accomplish some nice finished pieces in our new ceramic efforts. We will take orders for the pieces we are making.
- We are practicing our music three times weekly, due to some requests for our group to sing at our parents' meetings, as well as for praise to our Lord and for our own enjoyment.
- Currently in our weekly Educational Class, we are studying the facts and principles of our nation's emblem—the Stars and Stripes. It is interesting to dig into the beginnings and to learn just what the flag and our country symbolize. Various subjects which relate to our surroundings and what may affect the Home's clientele will be con-

sidered for future discussion.

- One Activity Department staff member helps with individual letter writing and card sending.
- Current bulletin boards and monthly calendar of events are kept. Arrangements are made for volunteers to drive the bus to church, and schedules are set up for the area churches to hold Friday evening services here at the Home. Volunteers are also needed to host these services.
- The Activity Department is responsible for arranging at least one outing per month for the residents. This is a real need and a treat for the residents.
- In Art class, various mediums are used. The theme of the season is often used.
- The weekly Bible Study is carried on by the Activity staff. One group does actual study from the Bible and another group listens to Bible Stories and colors while listening to records.
- Classes on money concepts, math, coin amounts and identification, cost of items, and buying and selling are held.
- For the weekly Story Hour, a volunteer, a retired teacher, comes to read sections of a book to those interested.
- Volunteer planning is a sizeable and important area of this department. Anyone interested in doing volunteer work, please contact us to work in areas of craft items, woodworking, newspaper, art, outings, personal time with residents, sewing, quilting, mending.

Autumn has come again, beautiful in every direction. There are no words sufficient to describe fully a harvest moon or an autumn sunset. This is the sabbath of the seasons. It is then that nature, her summer work accomplished, puts on her richest, most colorful garments and rejoices with man. Mr. Tryon Edwards put it this way: "The leaves in autumn do not change color from the blighting touch of frost, but from the process of natural decay. They fall when the fruit is ripened, and their work is done. And their splendid coloring is but their graceful and beautiful surrender of life when they have finished their summer offering of service to God and man. And one of the great lessons the fall of the leaf teaches is this: Do your work well, and then be

ready to depart when God shall call."

### APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME

Doug Kellenberger

What seemed like a lot of work at first is now paying dividends. We organized limits, procedures and consequences as well as rewards for our children's behaviour. We have implemented our plan and are now seeing the good results. It really takes effort to "train up" our children. The direction of our approach should always be "up" building not down tearing. Little children are very delicate in their spirits. We have to be more careful not to wound them. To those who have been hurt, we have a lot of rebuilding to do.

Our newest girl is Sue Ann. She is 14 and resides at the Wieland home.

### ARIZONA, PHOENIX

Julie Hoerr

We are grateful for our visiting ministers, who so freely lend themselves to the spreading of God's Word. Bros. Loren Knapp (Tucson) and Loren Strahm (Gridley, KS) shared God's Word with us this month.

Oct. 18, Elder Bro. Richard Schupbach and Sis. Barbara traveled to the Denver area, as it was Phoenix's turn to share in the ministry.

Bro. Roy Farney had the misfortune of slipping during a rainy night and suffered a hairline fracture in the hip area. At this time he is hospitalized and further studies are being done as he is having so much pain. Bro. Roy and Sis. Minnie would appreciate your prayers and any words of encouragement. Their address is 4101 E. Highland, Phoenix, AZ 85018. Floren Klopfenstein also remains hospitalized at this time; the family appreciates your prayers.

Bro. Floyd and Sis. Clara Banwart wish to thank each one who remembered them in prayer and with words of encouragement and cards during Bro. Floyd's heart attack and while he is recuperating.

Sunday, Oct. 18, our annual Sunday School picnic was held at Paradise Valley Park.

We wish Joe and Patty Greenbank God's blessings as they start

their life together as husband and wife.

Our weather is beginning to cool down more and we're enjoying cool mornings and evenings with warm sunny days. As our weather changes we look forward to our many winter visitors who will be arriving soon.

### ARIZONA, TUCSON Rose Huette

#### PERFECT PEACE

O Lord, how happy we could be,  
If we would put full trust in  
Thee—

If we from foolish fears would  
rest

And be assured that thou above,  
In perfect wisdom, grace, and love  
Art working for our best.

Lord, make these faithless hearts  
of ours  
God lessons learn from fields of  
flowers;

First, let our worries cease;  
Then, like the flowers, let us be  
still

And leave all things to Thy good  
will

And so find perfect peace.

Marion Schoeberlein

We wish to thank our Elder Bro. Richard Schupbach (Phoenix) who recently ministered God's Holy Word to us. We love it when he comes and, especially to have his wife Barbara, along with Bro. Ervan and Sis. Ione Rokey. It was really a blessed Sunday. May our Heavenly Father richly bless them all.

This fall we have again started our monthly church dinner with fellowship and singing afterwards. We have this the 2nd Sunday of each month. It was enjoyed by all.

### CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA Mary Beth Klotzle

In the beginning of October, our weather took a change and we had quite a thunderstorm not very common to us here in California. There was a lot of lightning and as I saw it flash so quickly in the sky, I had to think of how swiftly the Lord will come to earth. In just a fraction of a second, the time we have been given to work out our soul's salvation will be ended. So often my own thoughts are distracted from God and I earnestly pray that when He does come again, all our thoughts and actions will be accepted as pleas-

ing and not be disappointing to our Lord. As visiting Bro. Loren Strahm reminded us on a Sunday in September, "We have to be Christians everyday, not just on Sundays." May the Lord bless him for sharing with us when he and Sis. Lisitin visited us.

Sis. Marie Knapp has moved back to Illinois after living in California for over 40 years. She was among the first sisters to settle in California. We all miss her quiet example of faith and love. We trust the Lord will bless her in her new home. Her address is now: 5950 N. Knoxville, Peoria, IL 61416.

We are saddened by one's leaving and yet the Lord has uplifted us with the joy of welcoming Bro. Bill, Sis. Gail, Erin, Macy, and Michael Mayo to California. Bro. Bill, who works for Caterpillar, was transferred from Morton, IL. They now live at: 6743 Jadeitte Ave., Alta Loma, CA 91701.

Each addition to our congregation is gratefully and thankfully appreciated.

### COLORADO, DENVER Marlene Leman

Although the numbers gathering together in Denver this fall have been small, God has allowed a full measure of His spirit to be felt. We truly appreciate those who have come to minister. In this past month Bro. Harold Messner (Winthrop), Bro. Henry Beer (Milford), Bro. Alpai Moser (Morris), Bro. Joe Aberle (Sabetha), and Bro. Richard Schupbach (Phoenix) have served in this capacity. May God bless them and add the increase.

We are sorry to report that John O'Conner of Breckenridge was injured in an auto accident, but we are thankful to hear that he is getting along well. John is a son-in-law of Bro. Dan and Sis. Carol Koch of Tremont.

Services are being held the first and third Sundays of each month during the winter. The address of the church is Victory Grange Hall, 2009 Tower Road, Aurora, CO. Services start at 10:30 and 12:30. Again we encourage anyone traveling in the area to plan to spend Sunday assembling with the brethren and friends of the Denver church.

**Address Changed? Give Old and New Address to Your Reporter.**

### CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE Dorothy Viens

We appreciate the efforts of Elder Bros. Sam Anliker and Rudolph Graf, who were here on the Weekend of Sept. 27 to conduct the ordination of Bro. Corbin Bahler as elder. All of the flock, as well as the shepherd, received many serious teachings and admonitions. Also visiting that weekend were Elder Bros. Ed Lanz, Norbert Steiner, and Robert Beyer, and Bros. John Diggelman and Ed Aschleman. We thank all the brothers for being with us and sharing God's precious Word. May God grant grace that we can all retain what we have heard.

Oct. 4 was the wedding date of Sis. Tina Graf (Akron) and Bro. Ralph Schneider in Akron, OH. We are happy to welcome Sis. Tina into our congregation. Parents are Bro. Leon and Sis. Janet Graf and Bro. Al and Sis. Gladys Schneider.

Bro. Simon Wagenbach was with us on a Wednesday evening and on the weekend of Oct. 11. We thank Bro. Simon for the many teachings and the good word he shared with us.

On Oct. 11, the engagement of Bro. Loren Gerber (Bro. Melvin and Sis. Mildred) and Sis. Anne Farney (Bro. Clifford and Sis. Harriet) was announced. We wish them God's rich blessings as they plan the next chapter of their lives.

Many of the Croghan and Naumburg, NY, brethren were with us on the weekend of Oct. 18 for the wedding of Bro. John Virkler (Sis. Charlotte, Croghan) and Sis. Maureen Gerber (Bro. Melvin and Sis. Mildred). Elder Bro. Norbert Steiner shared many good teachings with us as he united them in holy matrimony. We are sorry to see Sis. Maureen leave our congregation, but we know that God knows what is best for His children and we have to trust His guidance. May He richly bless them together.

#### YOUR OWN VERSION

You are writing a Gospel,  
A chapter each day,  
By deeds that you do,  
By words that you say.

Men read what you write,  
Whether faithless or true;  
Say, what is the Gospel  
According to You?

Paul Gilbert

### FLORIDA, FT. LAUDERDALE Sally Gress

We all shared in the sorrow of Bro. Roger and Sis. Judy Sauder on the death of their young son, Daniel. Even though we know he is "Safe in the Arms of Jesus," it is very difficult to part with a child. But we "know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." Romans 8:28

Ministering Bro. Roy Luginbuhl and Sis. Helen have returned to Fort Lauderdale for the winter. We gladly welcome them back.

Tim Lawson, son of Bro. Ken and Sis. Sharon was hospitalized this month. He is now feeling better.

"We would like to thank everyone for the love, prayers, cards, and gifts that were given in our behalf, in the death of our son, Daniel."

Roger and Judy Sauder

### FLORIDA, SARASOTA Doris and Diane Rocke

Bro. Glenn and Sis. Sandee Price wish to thank everyone for the prayers, gifts, and cards in behalf of their daughter Kristine.

Our prayers and thoughts are with Bro. Phil Wingeier as he travels through Switzerland with his children.

We would like to announce a date and time schedule for the Port Charlotte Harbor Church. Service will begin Sunday, Dec. 6, with pulpit services at 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. This will be the same as Sarasota time. For information call Doug Sabo (813-966-2343) or Roland Keller (813-629-2650).

The building committee is finalizing plans for our church addition and Fellowship hall. We hope to begin in the near future.

Our Sis. Dorothy Norr, having recently returned from a visit with her children, has been hospitalized due to a virus infection. May she feel the prayers of loved ones at this time.

"We shall steer safely through every storm as our heart is right, our intention fervent, our courage steadfast, and our trust fixed on God."

Unknown

### GEORGIA, ATLANTA Brenda Stoller

We are now enjoying meeting for church on a routine basis. This

past month we were blessed by having Bro. Virgil Metzger of the Urbana congregation and Elder Bro. Rudy Graf of Akron.

We welcome two new couples to the Atlanta area. Darryl (son of Bro. Edmund and Sis. Lorene) and Sandy Kloter and Chris and Peggy (daughter of Mrs. Marie Bauman) Camp.

Our prayer would be that if it is the Lord's will, He will direct others to this area to worship with us and magnify His name together.

### ILLINOIS

#### BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL Mary Huber - Jean O'Shea

We rejoice with Bro. Dave and Sis. Brenda Kaeb and their children, Chad, Clint, and Chelly as they welcomed little Crista Nicole into their hearts and home on Sept. 13.

We were enriched by a day of fellowship with several couples from the Morton congregation on Sept. 20. We thank ministering Bro. Bob Pfledderer for sharing God's Word with us and for the inspiration and insights we were able to feel and gain throughout the day.

The weekend of Sept. 27 also held many blessings as the students of ISU, IWU and Mennonite School of Nursing and their parents spent the day with our congregation, followed by a supper and evening hymn sing. We appreciated the efforts of Bro. Jim Ramseyer, Bay City, as he expounded the Word to us.

Steve Hari and Shelley McCall were united in marriage on Oct. 10. We wish them God's richest blessings in their life together. Parents are Bro. Everett and Sis. Bev Hari and Mr. and Mrs. Robert McCall, all of Normal.

On Oct. 11, Bro. Everett Hari was prayerfully appointed deacon of our congregation as we felt the need for such a step at this time. Elder Bros. Dan Koch, Gene Marti, and Edwin Ringger were here for the day to assist in this endeavor. We offer our support and prayers to Bro. Everett and his family. Our annual Sunday School picnic was also held later the same evening at Davis Lodge.

On Oct. 25 we were hosts for College Weekend and were able to share the fellowship of many young people from surrounding area churches. We thank the Mortonairees for being here for our

monthly hymn sing the same evening.

### ILLINOIS, BRADFORD Evelyn Endress

We are thankful it was possible for ministering Bro. Bob Meyer of the Bluffton congregation to spend a Sunday with us recently. Elder Bro. Dave Kieser also visited us that day.

At this time, Bro. Mark Ehnle is hospitalized in Peoria. He spent five weeks in Barnes Hospital in St. Louis before being transferred to Peoria. May he and his family continue to "lean on the arms of Jesus" (Tabernacle Hymns #216).

Brock Elsasser was also a hospital patient for a few days. He is the infant son of Bro. Jordan and Sis. Sharon Elsasser.

Announcement was made of the engagement of Bro. Don Knobloch (Bro. Jim and Sis. Helen) and Sis. Jennifer Belsley (Bro. Louis and Sis. Valis) of Morton. Also engaged are Sis. Mary Knobloch (Bro. Clarence and Sis. Emma) and Bro. Ben Tanner, Jr. (Bro. Ben and Sis. Leona) of the Goodfield congregation. We wish both couples God's blessings as they begin their future together.

### ILLINOIS, CHICAGO Kathy Schlatter

Like a new day, the blank page lies before me, and I pray for His grace that what is written may be right in His sight and might be a praise, honor, and glory to His name. May the errors never be willful, nor the ugly pride within me overrule the humble repentance for my sins. May I always recognize my excuses as just that, yet accept the limitations of myself as an individual rather than let Satan get me into the pit of depreciation which leads to despair. For each thought, each moment, may I allow Him to hold my heart, my soul, my sinew, supporting, exhorting, so that Christ within me is seen with true humility and Christian grace.

We were blessed with visitors: Bro. Joe Zimmerman (Morton), Bro. Gene Bertschi (Roanoke), and Bro. Gene Lehman (Wolcott, IN). From each one's lips came words of conviction and truth, spirit and life, hope and peace by His plan, by His grace. For their examples as Christians, for the inspiration of their ministry, and the fellowship of each visitor, we give our

thanks, "upon every remembrance of you." Philippians 1:3

Nathan James arrived Wednesday, Oct. 14, as the newest member of Bro. Greg and Sis. Carla Rassi's special family. Rachel, Matthew, and Andrew welcomed their baby brother excitedly. Bro. Carl and Sis. Rose Vierling and Bro. Eli and Sis. Pearl Rassi, all of Morton, are the delighted grandparents. The Lord also led Lynnette St. George, recently from Dallas, TX, to be with us here in Chicago. She is a system programmer for a firm in Oak Brook. Having prepared her heart even before she came, the Lord has continued His work and she has turned to Him in repentance, earnestly seeking His promises of conversion and salvation. May both our young newcomers grow and blossom in the warmth of His love and the fellowship of His people, their family.

It took a miracle. Not too often do we hear people giving the Lord His due. Perhaps God has created so many miracles that we neglect to see them. We nod our heads, hide a yawn, and say, "Oh, yes (ho hum), that is nice, though I have seen other flowers, birds, scientific developments, recoveries, conversions, just like them." But each is for us to see if we will only observe and be reverent in our onlooking. Both Bro. Tibor Bozzay and Bro. Jim Grivet are living, as I write this. Both have amazed their doctors. Bro. Tibor suffered a severe heart attack Oct. 16. The Lord took care of him, that he might receive oxygen in time, that he would survive the critical period. We are still prayerful and very thankful for His presence at both bedsides. May His purposes be fulfilled. Bro. Jim Grivet has been hospitalized until the end of this week. Because he has expressed such a strong desire to be home, he now is. Sis. Martie will still be involved with much giving of medication and total care but hopes that Bro. Jim's spirits can be rejuvenated by being in homey surroundings. She wishes all who have called or sent flowers, cards, and gifts, would realize her appreciation for their support, love, and prayers, yet not be offended or hurt by her lack of individual response. Especially those from Arizona, Indiana, California, and Ohio, she would wish to thank, but her whole life is de-

voted to Bro. Jim's needs right now. May the Lord who understands all events give Bro. Jim and Bro. Tibor and their beloved spouses and families grace and power, unto recovery, if it be His will.

"If any man come to me; and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple." Luke 14:26 Thus Christ said, and those of us who have answered His call have had to put Him first in our lives, but have we really sacrificed? Mr. Bhagwat from India, a Christian man whose work, since his death, is now overseen by our World Relief committee, had been raised as a Hindu. When he came to believe and follow Christ, he knew that his parents, staunch Hindus, would follow the tradition of their beliefs and fast unto death. Nevertheless, he repented and became converted, rejecting Hinduism, and in his early days of faith watched his parents die of their self-imposed fast and withstood the entreaties and pressure of family and community. Surely Christ would have us all be so steadfast and say with Paul: "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? . . . For I am persuaded that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 8:35, 38, 39

#### ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK Melba Funk - Joan Waldbeser

"When pure and upright hearts, by flames of love ignited . . ." Zion's Harp #79 A blessed Sunday was enjoyed by all on Sept. 20 when wedding vows were exchanged between Sis. Lisa Young and Bro. Wes Kaufmann. Parents of the couple are Harvey and Sis. Kathleen Young and Bro. Walter and Sis. Aldine Kaufmann. We wish them God's richest blessings as they travel through this life hand in hand.

Sept. 27 was our Elder Bro. Ezra Feller's last Sunday in the ministry. He brought to us many words of warning and encourage-

ment, pleading with the friends one more time to heed the call and turn to scripture verses, especially St. Matthew 11:25-30. As he said to us, his voice will no longer be heard from this pulpit. We are thankful for the many years of service for the Lord that Bro. Ezra has given to us. We also want to thank Sis. Ollie for her support to her husband and to the church. His ministry to us has been fulfilled, but will be greatly missed. We wish him God's blessings in his retirement. Bro. Ezra's entire family was here to enjoy with us a potluck supper on their behalf, followed by singing in the assembly room.

During four Wednesday evenings in the month of September we listened to the conference tapes. It behooves us to try to walk closer to God when our elder brethren plead with us to take timely warnings.

Bro. Carl Moser was called home on Sept. 27 after a short illness. His wife, Sis. Lydia, survives along with five daughters, Mrs. Kenneth (Doris) Hofer, Mrs. James (Edythe) Clements, Mrs. Herman (Betty) Beier, Mrs. Jesse (Joann) Keller and Mrs. Michael (Sandy) Mulchey; one son, Richard; two sisters, Sis. Caroline Wiegand and Mrs. Louis (Lydia) Nenkomm; one brother William Moser; 14 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

We sympathize with Bro. Wm. Wyss in the passing of his sister, Sis. Esther Beer of Roanoke; and with Bro. Eugene Hauptli in the passing of his brother, Chester Hauptli of Fond du Lac, WI.

We were greatly blessed with visiting ministers this past month. Bro. Merle Bucher and Bro. Todd Feller (LaCrosse), Bro. Roy Grimm (Taylor), Bro. Joe Braker (Morton), Bro. Art Bahler and Bro. Duane Kilgus (Fairbury), Bro. Earl Gerber and Bro. Clarence Kachelmuss (Forrest), Bro. Bob Beebe (South Bend), and Bro. Bob Walder (Congerville).

Our congregation spent a blessed weekend Oct. 10 and 11 as we heard the testimonies and witnessed the baptisms of two precious souls, Bro. Max and Bro. Hartzell Kaeb, sons of Bro. Elmer and Sis. Mary Lou. We are encouraged every time a sinner turns his back to the world and seeks to serve the one true God.

Bro. Wm. and Sis. Lill Feller

were hospitalized again this month, but are able to be in their own home once more. Bro. Keith Knapp submitted to an emergency appendectomy and is now recovering at home.

Dorothy Rudin was involved in a car accident recently. Her car was hit from behind, causing much damage to the car, but the Lord spared her from serious injury.

A new son was born to Richard and Maria Moser on Friday, Sept. 25. Little Daniel Manuel was welcomed home by a sister, Patty, and a brother, Randy.

On Oct. 16, after a lengthy illness, Bro. Joe Hari went to his rest. He was married Oct. 2, 1912 to Sis. Amy Wittrich who preceded him in death Dec. 16, 1971. He married Sis. Anna Eberhart on Oct. 11, 1973. She survives, along with two sons, Marvin and Gerald; one daughter, Mrs. Anna Mae Frank; three sisters, Mrs. Lillian Foell, Mrs. Martha Lohbauer, both of Elgin, and Mrs. Gladys Winger; six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

#### ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE Shirley Ifft - Mardell Ott

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.

The Union of Hearts  
Zion's Harp

Sept. 20 was the day Sis. Lisa Knapp (Bro. Fredrick and Sis. Marge) and Bro. Clark Leman (Bro. Bruce and Sis. Marjorie) of the Roanoke congregation were united in marriage. On Oct. 4, Sis. Debbie Ott (Bro. Don and Sis. Carolyn) and Bro. Steve Sutter (Bro. Gerald and Sis. Marjorie) of the Taylor, MO congregation gave their vows in the presence of God and many witnesses. We here at Congerville are going to miss these dear sisters, but certainly rejoice with them and wish them much happiness and God's blessings as they established new Christian homes.

Ministering brethren with us for Sis. Lisa and Bro. Clark's wedding were Elder Bro. Don Sauder, Bro. Eugene Bertschi, Bro. Bruce Leman (Roanoke), Bro. Tom Leman (Elgin), Bro. Gene Lehman

(Wolcott, IN) and Bro. Kenny Knapp (Taylor, MO). Bro. Gerald Sutter and Bro. Kent Heimer assembled with us for Sis. Debbie and Bro. Steve's wedding. Bro. Roy Wieland (Bay City, MI) also spent a Sunday with us. Many, many inspiring teachings were shared with us. May God richly bless these dear brothers for being spent in our behalf.

Hospital patients this past month were little Rebekah Zobrist (infant daughter of Bro. Clarence and Sis. LuAnn) and Sis. Margaret Ott (Clayton) who underwent surgery for a hip replacement. Bro. Ralph Knapp has been laid up at home with back problems. May God restore each of these loved ones to a full measure of health if it be His will.

We have been privileged this month to assemble on Wednesday evenings to hear the tapes of our brotherhood conference. As we hear of the many concerns and the kindly admonitions and warnings by our elder brethren, may it inspire us to greater heights spiritually. Only by keeping our eyes on the Lord and laying aside those things that so easily encumber us, will we be able to attain that beautiful heavenly home.

As Thanksgiving approaches we once again find we have many reasons to thank God for the abundance He shares with us, for our fellowship with His children and the freedom to worship our God, for our health, homes, and families, and, most of all, for a Loving Savior who willingly shed His innocent blood in our stead. Indeed, we should be a thankful people.

#### ILLINOIS, ELGIN Ruth Ann Getz

Thanksgiving is, by dictionary definition, "the act of rendering thanks, especially to God, or a public acknowledgement or celebration of divine goodness and mercies." It is not too difficult to give our thanks for a bountiful harvest, good health, sound minds, and our abundance of material things; however, last Sunday in meditating upon Thessalonians 5:18 (which reads "In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."), Bro. Ron Schambach pointed out to us that this verse adds depth to our thankfulness. By way of illustration, Bro. Ron recalled the account of Corrie ten Boom's ex-

perience in the German concentration camp during World War II. Corrie and her sister, Betsie, were newly assigned to a different barracks with overly crowded conditions and flea infestation. Under these conditions Betsie lovingly taught her sister the value of giving thanks in all things. Together that night, after reading the very scripture mentioned above, they gave thanks to the Father for the fleas. Later, Corrie, Betsie, and others realized that being in that barracks gave them more opportunity and freedom to read the scriptures together night after night without being observed by the guards. The guards were avoiding the large dormitory room because of the flea infestation!! . . . "In everything give thanks."

Sis. Elizabeth Anliker has expressed her appreciation and thankfulness for the acts of love in her behalf during this time of illness. She is able to remain at home with the support of her loving family and we are grateful for this.

From time to time we have illustration of how the body of believers all suffer when one member or another suffers. Near the end of September, Bro. John Feucht fell from a tree he was pruning and fractured his cervical spine. He was taken to Northwestern Community Hospital spinal cord unit where he spent a couple of weeks on a Stryker frame with traction to his head. He since has had surgery on his spine and is now at the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago at 345 E. Superior St., Chicago, IL 60610. He very much appreciates communication with brethren and friends through visits, cards, and prayers.

Sis. Minnie Kellenberger also has been hospitalized for surgery and we have had loving concern for her health. We are grateful that the Lord has been merciful and has restored a measure of health.

Little David Strackany, son of Bro. Bill and Sis. Nancy Strackany, spent a few days in the hospital because of lung congestion, but we are happy to report that he, too, is recovered from this episode which caused his parents considerable anxiety.

Rebecca Sue made her appearance on Sept. 28. She is Doug and Melinda Leman's first child and we rejoice with them over the



birth of their darling daughter. Bro. Tom and Sis. Marlene Leman and Elvis and Gail Kellenberger are the grandparents.

### ILLINOIS, EUREKA

#### Melba Mangold

"I will praise Thee, O Lord, among the people: and I will sing praises unto thee among the nations. For thy mercy is great above the heavens: and thy truth reacheth unto the clouds." Psalm 108:3, 4

We need to look outside and see the beauty of God in all the beautiful trees at this time of the year. Then we must say "How Great Thou Art."

Our visitors on the pulpit the past month have been Bro. Clarence Kachelmuss (Forrest), Bro. Willis Wiegand (Goodfield), and Bro. Marshall Heinold (Washington).

Our hospital patients have been Sis. Ruth Martin (Bro. Lester's wife), surgical; Sis. Norma Hantgartner (Bro. Roy's wife), surgical; little Brenda Stoller (daughter of Bro. Tom and Sis. Edith); and Sis. Edith Stoller. All are at home now.

Sis. Della Anliker wishes to express her thanks to all who sent her cards and gifts on her recent birthday.

Bro. Paul and Sis. Sherri Kelson have moved to Fairbury. We will miss them in our congregation.

Sis. Nettie Knapp passed away at the Apostolic Christian Home on Oct. 6 at the age of 79 years. Bro. Kores is her husband. Her funeral was held in the Goodfield Church.

One day at a time,  
and the day is His day;  
He hath numbered its hours,  
though they haste or delay,  
His grace is sufficient;  
we walk not alone;  
As the day, so the strength  
that He giveth His own.

—Selected

### ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY

#### Carol Bazzell - Joann Zehr

On Sept. 18, Bro. Jerry and Sis. Donna Kaisner were blessed with a baby boy, Matthew Walter. He has a sister, Maye Katherine. Grandparents are Bro. Meile and Sis. Marge Kaisner, Fairbury, and Bro. Walter and Sis. Mary Schwind, Roanoke. Brandon Kent was born to Jerry and Carol Vaughan on Sept. 19. He has a brother, Eric,

and his grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Ben Kaisner and Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Vaughan, Sr., Fairbury. Jeff and Lisa Kilgus welcomed their first child, Matthew Jeffery on Sept. 20. Grandparents are Bro. Duane and Sis. Arlene Kilgus and Mrs. Toni Munz, Fairbury.

On Sept. 27, Bro. Larry Hartzler (Bro. Dale and Sis. Joyce) of Rittman and Sis. Lou Ann Steidinger (Bro. Donald and Sis. Alice) were united in marriage. We will miss Sis. Lou Ann as she makes her new home in Rittman.

We welcome and rejoice with our new brother in faith, Derek Rabe, who gave his testimony and was baptized the weekend of Oct. 3 and 4. He is the son of Julia Rabe, Fairbury, and grandson of Bro. Rudy and Sis. Lavina Kilgus, Mor-ton.

Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to Sis. Anna Holmes in the death of her sister, Sis. Tillie Mairer, 85, who passed away Oct. 3. Also surviving is one son, Marvin.

Sis. Louise Sohn fell, broke her hip and is in the hospital. Sis. Minnie Zehr and David Banwart (Bro. Dale and Sis. Donna) have also been in the hospital, but are now home and recuperating.

Bro. Ben and Sis. Minnie Zehr had their 50th wedding anniversary on Sept. 10 and held a reception at the Fellowship Hall on Sept. 20. They have a daughter, Mrs. Ray (Maxine) Yoder, Fairbury; a son, Ronald, deceased; and seven grandchildren. They would like to take this opportunity to extend their sincere thanks to all who remembered them with cards, gifts, etc.

Among our blessings have been the following ministering brothers: Elder Leroy Huber (Eureka), Paul Gasser (Akron), Ben Hartzler (Rittman), Eugene Pamer (Akron), Kenneth Schneider (Remington), Kenneth Eisenmann (Cissna Park), Elder Dale Eisenmann (Chicago), Eugene Bertschi and Bruce Leman (both of Roanoke).

It seems that almost every phase of life has been reflected in our midst during this last month. It is good that God "holds the key" and knows what is the time and season for all things.

Bro. Edward Huber observed his 90th birthday at an open reception on Sept. 20, Sunday afternoon at the home of Bro. and Sis.

John V. Fehr. His daughters, Sis. Katherine Fehr of Fairbury, Sis. Velma Jean Ifft and Sis. Virginia Blunier of Forrest, and Sis. Joyce Gasser of Akron, OH hosted the event. He also has one son, Melvin Huber of Brazil, South America.

He has thirteen grandchildren and sixteen great-grandchildren.

He was born Sept. 24, 1891 at Fairbury and married Lydia Fehr of Fairbury on June 4, 1917. She went to be with the Lord on Feb. 27, 1979. He is a lifelong resident of the Fairbury area.

It was heartwarming to have so many loved ones come to the "Open House," send cards, gifts, and other expressions of kindness in sharing their love and well-wishes for our dear Bro. Ed.

He and his family wish to sincerely thank everyone and ask God's blessings on all who helped make this a blessed occasion.

A loved one, Urban Steidinger, Fairbury, composed the following poem for our dear Bro. Huber's 90th birthday:

"How fast the days of life go by  
It often seems unreal,  
The Lord knows when we are to die  
Regardless how we feel,  
Some pass away in youthful years  
While others linger till its late  
We do not know how it appears  
To those who passed the normal state.

A life that's lived in true Godfear  
Will bring a joyful end  
For all their days the Lord was near  
He is a true and Faithful Friend,  
What matters if the days grow long  
And nights are just the same  
Let's up and sing a joyful song  
To Jesus' precious name.

We know the end cannot be far  
At ninety years of age,  
On wings of Faith they'll Cross the Bar  
Like a bird released from cage  
Look up to Heaven in your flight  
And let all doubting flee  
In Faith you'll see the Golden Light  
In realms of Happy Jubilee."

### ILLINOIS, FORREST

#### Jan Bachtold - Kathy Leman

Thanksgiving is approaching and may we all remember to thank God for His love, His blessings,

and especially for His plan of salvation.

Thankfulness is an attribute,  
A quality of life  
Which can make existence  
sweeter  
And lighten every strife.  
To appreciate is golden  
To say so is divine  
And thankfulness should come  
each day,  
Not wait for a special time.  
Thanksgiving Day is every day  
November brings it near  
Remembering with grateful hearts  
The blessings of all year.

We thank Bros. Charles Sauder and Glenn Dill (Tremont), and Bro. Charles Marti (Lamar, MO), Bro. Earl Kilgus (Remington, IN), and Bro. Leroy Huber (Eureka) for sharing God's Word with us. In these times we need to linger at the feet of Jesus and hear His teachings at every opportunity.

Paul Honegger (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Eleanor) was hospitalized for a short time and is again back home.

The congregation extends a welcome to Bro. Paul and Sis. Sherri, Nathan, and Rachel Kelson who have moved into our area. May they feel God's love and nearness among us.

#### ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD Pam Wiegand

#### THANK GOD FOR LITTLE THINGS

Thank you, God, for little things  
that often come our way—  
The things we take for granted  
but don't mention when we  
pray—  
The unexpected courtesy,  
the thoughtful, kindly deed—  
A hand reached out to help us  
in the time of sudden need—  
Oh, make us more aware, dear  
God,  
of little daily graces  
That come to us with "sweet  
surprise"  
from never-dreamed of places.  
By Helen Steiner Rice

We welcome Bro. Steve and Sis. Vicki Sauder and their four children to our congregation. We are always glad to see our church grow.

On Wednesday nights, Sept. 23 and 30, we were privileged to hear the conference tapes. They re-

minded us once again how important it is to keep our lights shining brightly, and how short our time on earth is.

Visiting ministers were Bro. Harold Schmidgall (Gridley), Elder Bro. Dan Koch (Tremont), Elder Bro. Roy Sauder (Peoria), and Elder Bro. Don Sauder (Roanoke). We thank them for bringing God's precious Word to us.

Our prayers are with Minnie Knapp (Carl) in her illness.

Sis. Margaret Newlin wishes to thank all those who expressed their love and kindness during her hospital stay.

Services were held on Oct. 9 for Sis. Nettie Knapp who passed away at the Eureka home. Surviving are her husband, Kores, and three sons, Gilbert (Normal), Daniel (Eureka), and Bro. Wesley (Goodfield).

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Bro. Kores and his family.

#### ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY Carol Klopfenstein

"I value my Christian life too much," was the response given by one of our converts when she was asked why she no longer wishes to partake of worldly or sinful pleasures. Those who are unconverted may "think it strange that ye run not with them to the same excess of riot," but for the child of God there is a mark toward which he is pressing which is far more precious and valuable than anything the world can offer. The believer desires this prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus, and is willing to lay aside the weights and the sin which would be a hindrance in the race that is set before him.

The weekend of Oct. 18 was a time of rejoicing as we heard the testimonies and witnessed the baptisms of four dear souls: Karen Funk, daughter of Roy and Sis. Bertha; Julie Umland, granddaughter of Bro. Elmer and Sis. Hulda Meiss; Nancy Schlipf, daughter of Bro. John and Sis. Carolyn; and Gary Klopfenstein, son of Sis. Betty and the late Bro. Carlton.

The vibrant, colorful trees of fall and the ensuing blustery winds which are rapidly changing the landscape into the bareness of winter, have impressed us with the symbolic lessons that God can teach us when we observe His

handiwork in the world around us. Since the fall of Adam and Eve and the curse that was placed on the earth because of sin, death has become a natural and common occurrence in all of nature. "For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now." Romans 8:22 "The earth shall wax old like a garment, and they that dwell therein shall die in like manner." Isaiah 51:6 "Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness." 2 Peter 3:13 The scripture teaches us that before the new birth can occur there must be a dying off. This world is decaying and will fade away just as the autumn leaves and the cold death of winter so vividly illustrate. But the glorious wonder is that when this is accomplished, new life will spring forth, and we will once again welcome the warm breezes, the tender buds, and the fresh flowers of spring after the harsh coldness of winter. Likewise how welcome is the gentle, wonderful peace that God gives to the repentant sinner, after he has died to sin by allowing God to work the miracle of conversion in his life. The words of the familiar hymn come to mind: "Dead to the world would I be O Father: Dead unto sin, alive unto Thee. Crucify all the earthly within me, emptied of sin and self may I be. Open the wells of grace and salvation. Pour the rich streams deep into my heart. Cleanse and refine my thought and affection. Make me and keep me pure as Thou art." (Hymns of Zion) Such a death is not without pain and suffering. Painless death is a rare occurrence in nature and it is also rare in the spiritual heart of man. Satan can give us quite a battle, but as another convert reminded us in her testimony, we can tell him to "Get thee behind me!"

We have to marvel in mid October as we look around us, that death can be so beautiful. In the spiritual sense we also can see beauty in the soul who is struggling against the enemy and comes to the foot of the cross with a broken and contrite spirit. For God gives grace to the humble and it is this grace and the peace that follows that is truly lovely. Our perfect example is Jesus who "for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross,

despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God." Hebrews 12:2 We become crucified with Christ, "For if we be dead with him, we shall also live with him." 2 Tim. 2:11 And the joy that was set before Him is also now set before us. Just as the birth of spring follows the death of winter and a new creature in Christ follows the dying off to sin, so the day of the Lord will come when the elements will melt with fervent heat and there will be a new heaven and a new earth. What a day that will be!

Mildred Gramm, 44, passed away Sept. 24 after contacting pneumonia. She was one of heaven's special children who lived her life in innocence, and in her sweet, quiet way was a joy for those who especially loved her. Our sympathy is extended to her mother, Sis. Louise; her sister, Sis. Marjorie Witzig; and her brothers, Bro. Harold of Morris; Bro. Robert; Bro. Herbert and Bro. Don, all of Gridley.

Sis. Louise Gramm and family wish to thank everyone who has so kindly remembered them with prayers and comforting words of love and encouragement since the loss of their loved one. It was greatly appreciated, and may God bless each one.

Steven Ringger, son of Bro. Fred and Sis. Mary, was married to Donna Zehr on Sept. 29. We rejoice that since then they have felt the need to seek the Lord in repentance.

Andrew Carson is the precious new son of Bob and Connie Campbell. He was born Oct. 6 and is the grandson of Bro. Herb and Sis. Jane Gramm of Gridley.

Sis. Barbara and Bro. Michael Prevo welcome their new son, Ryan Michael, who was born Oct. 19. Bro. Robert and Sis. Nola Gramm of Gridley are grandparents.

Bro. Harold Kaupp suffered extensive burns in an accident that occurred while he was burning trash, and he is now in a special hospital burn unit. Sis. Anna Schlipf had foot surgery and is staying at the Eureka Apostolic Christian Home. Alan Miller, son of Bro. Orlan and Sis. Carol, was hospitalized after a farm accident in which he hurt his hand and is now home again. Ollie Rich has also been in the hospital.

We were glad for the visits of Elder Bro. Steve Rinkenberger of Cissna Park, and ministering Bro. Ron Heiniger of Bloomington.

#### ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY Jane Herrmann

We have had a busy month at ISU. On Sept. 17 we had our annual Freshman Welcome. Bro. Edwin Ringger talked on decision making.

Jeannie and Raymond Hoerr invited the ISU group and their parents to attend Bloomington church on Sept. 26. A lunch call was held at Hoerr's home and supper was served at church. In the evening was the monthly hymn singing. The Mennonite nursing students, the ISU group, and the Bloomington choir sang some special numbers.

We are busy with preparations for college weekend, which is being held on Oct. 24 and 25. The theme is "Christian Character Development. To be like Jesus is our goal here on earth and we hope after this weekend we will be able to live a life in closer harmony with Christ, glorifying Him more and more. "All thro' life's journey from earth to glory, all I ask to be like Him." Henry Slaughter

#### ILLINOIS, MORTON

##### Phyllis Farney - JoAnn Roecker

David John Wuthrich was welcomed into the hearts and home of Bro. Mark and Sis. Cheryl Wuthrich. David was born on September 23. Marti Jean, Luke and Daniel also helped to welcome him home. The happy grandparents are Bro. Roy and Sis. Polly Schrock of Congerville, IL, and Bro. Jim and Sis. Eunice Wuthrich.

Si. Alma Glasser has been sweetly called "Home" to be "Forever With The Lord." Her funeral was on Oct. 3. May our Heavenly Father comfort and bless her sister, Sis. Martha, her friends and family.

We are rejoicing with Sis. Jennifer Belsley (Bro. Louis and Sis. Vilas) of our congregation, and Bro. Don Knoblock (Bro. Jim and Sis. Helen) of Bradford, IL, as the Lord has led, guided, and directed them to become one in Christ and to walk life's pathway together. May our Heavenly Father be the head of their home. We wish them grace and blessings of God lifelong.

Bro. Jan and Sis. Glenda Neukomm welcome into their hearts and home their first daughter, Julie Dawn, who was born on Oct. 6. Alex helped to welcome his sister home. Grandparents are Bro. Lester and Sis. Glendoris Huber, Lexington, KY, and Bro. Al and Sis. Gerry Neukomm.

Sis. Lydia Schmidgall was called "Home" to be with our Heavenly Father. Her funeral was on Oct. 11. May God comfort and bless her family and friends.

The following have recently spent some time in the hospital: Sis. Mary Getz, Bro. Bill Aupperle, Sophie (Mrs. Bill) Aupperle, Sis. Doris Bauman, Dorothy Aberle, Henry Rapp, Bro. George Ackerman, Sis. Mae Witzig, Bro. Mark Peters, Louise Krug, and Sis. Joann Rocker. May our Heavenly Father continue to be with them and all those who are ill or shut-in at their homes.

The following have recently visited our congregation and ministered God's Word unto us: Bros. Ken Dietz (Bradford), Walt Anlier and Vernon Leman (Eureka), and Bob Meyers (Bluffton, IN). May God bless them for their labors of love.

On Sunday, Oct. 11, our Bible Class had the Bible Classes of Bradford and Roanoke for the day. It was wonderful to have our young people gather with us for morning church services. They had their Sunday School lesson at our Morton Apostolic Christian Fellowship Hall in the afternoon.

#### ILLINOIS, PEORIA

##### Mary Plattner - Mary Ann Plattner

Because of Thy Great Beauty  
Because I have been given much  
I, too, shall give  
Because of thy great beauty, Lord,  
Each day I live  
I shall divide my gifts from Thee  
With every brother that I see  
Who has the need of help from me.  
Because I have been sheltered, fed  
By Thy good care,  
I cannot see another's lack  
And I not share  
My glowing fire, my loaf of bread,  
My roof's safe shelter overhead,  
That he, too, may be comforted.  
Because love has been lavished so  
Upon me, Lord,  
A wealth I know that was not  
meant  
For me to hoard,  
I shall give love to those in need,

The cold and hungry clothe and  
feed,  
Thus shall I show my thanks  
indeed.

Grace Noll Crowell

As our Thanksgiving Day approaches us let us be always thankful and mindful of the great blessings that our Lord God has given unto each of us. Let us never forget those simple, but meaningful words in our daily prayers—Thank you Lord for Thy Blessings.

How we rejoice in the birth of our children, but how much greater is our joy in their rebirth.

We welcome into our faith ten dear souls. They are Jeff Fehr (Bro. Bud and Sis. Sheri), John Eisenmann (Bro. Harry and Sis. Loretta), Craig Stickling (Bro. Ben and Sis. Sharon), Don and Doug Hoerr (Bro. Don and Sis. Velma), Tonya Guingrich (Larry and Sandy), Adam and Margo (Yergler) Marx, Randy Triplett and Chris Speers. We wish them God's richest blessings.

We were privileged to have several visiting ministers with us this month. They were Elder Bros. Andy Virkler from Bay City, Joe Braker from Morton, Art Bahler from Fairbury, and ministering Bros. Carl Weiss, Marshall Heindold, and Don Wagenbach from Washington; and Paul Eisenmann from Burlington, IA. May the Lord bless each one.

We were happy to hear of the engagement of Sis. Margie Weber (Bro. Pete and Sis. Mabel) and Bro. Stan Schick (Herbert and Sis. Helen) of Washington. They are planning a Dec. 27 wedding.

First time parents are Bro. Mark and Sis. Carolyn Hoerr. Born to them was a son, Nicholas Allen. His grandparents are Bro. Don and Sis. Velma Hoerr and Bro. Joe and Sis. Lavina Dotterer of Phenix.

Cara Suzana was born to Bro. Larry and Sis. Susan Herman. Grandparents are Bro. Howard and Sis. Nancy Herman, and Bro. Dale and Sis. Barbara Hunziker. May they find many blessings and joy as they grow together as a family.

Sept. 18 was the funeral of Bro. John Baurer of the Apostolic Christian Home. Surviving relatives in Peoria are John Baurer, Sis. Lillian Koehl, Sis. Gertrude Sauder, Sis. Eva and Wilhemine Baurer, and Bro. Ben Baurer. We

express our sympathy to his family.

Hospital patients this month were Sis. Louise Martin, Sis. Shirley Triplett, Heidi Reinbeck, Fred Aeschleman, and Leland Swadly.

We will miss two sisters, Sis. Norma Pfaffmann and Sis. Wilma Huber who have moved to Eureka. Also, Bro. Steve and Sis. Vicki Sauder and their children have moved to Goodfield. We wish them God's blessings and happiness in their new home.

Martha Langjahr wishes to thank everyone who remembered her with cards, flowers, and gifts while she was in the hospital. May the Lord bless each one for their kindness and love.

Sis. Donna Ferrero wishes to thank everyone who was so kind to her and her family during her stay at the hospital and since returning home. The cards, prayers, visits, and calls were deeply appreciated. God bless you all.

#### ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE

##### Arlene and Arlys Martin

Peace rules the day when Christ rules the mind. Visiting ministers who encouraged us to live Christ-centered lives have been Bros. Ed Hohulin (Goodfield), Joe Braker (Morton), Marv Leman and Keny Dietz (Bradford).

Princeville hosted the Apostolic Christian Youth Fellowship groups on Sept. 20 and Sept. 27. We appreciate our youth who take time to sing for the Lord.

We were privileged to have the Goodfield choir with us Sunday, Oct. 4. On Sunday evening they sang for us at our Fellowship Hall. We thank them for blessing us with a spirit-filled day.

Congratulations are extended to Bro. Stan Schick of Washington and Sis. Margie Weber of Peoria whose engagement was announced Oct. 4. Bro. Stan's parents are Herb and Sis. Helen Schick of our congregation; Sis. Margie's parents are Bro. Pete and Sis. Mabel Weber of Peoria.

Sunday, Oct. 11, was another happy day. Two of our young couples were baptized. They are Bro. Jay and Sis. Kathy Grimm, whose parents are Bro. Earl and Sis. Anna Lou Grimm of our congregation and Jerry and Kathy Ladd of Metamora; and Bro. Fred and Sis. Tina Christ, whose parents are Bro. Walter and Sis. Doris Christ

of our congregation and Lennie and Hazel Logsdon of Pekin.

#### ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

##### Joyce Hodel - Carol Rumbold

Another Christian home has been established in our congregation and we are thankful. Bro. Clark Leman and Sis. Lisa Knapp became one in Christ on Sept. 20 in Congerville. Bro. Fred and Sis. Marge Knapp and Bro. Bruce and Sis. Marge Leman share this joy.

Craig Dale was welcomed into the family of Bro. Fred and Sis. Cheri Janssen on Sept. 20. Troy and grandparents Bro. Jerry and Sis. Ann Sauder are happy too.

Our deepest sympathy is extended to the family of Sis. Lucy Fischer, 59. God called her to be with Him on Oct. 9. May He comfort her family, Bro. Les, Sis. Pam Isaia, Chuck, and Bro. Russ. Also surviving are her mother, Sis. Anna Leman, her sisters, Sis. Mary Ellen Ringger of Gridley and Liz Yergler of Cisna Park, and her brothers, Chuck of Michigan and Bro. Jim of Roanoke.

On Oct. 11, Sis. Esther Beer, 74, passed from this life into eternity. She is survived by her husband, Ray; her sons, Donald and Jay Dee; her daughters, Colleen Robinson and Lois Martin; four brothers and three sisters. We extend our sympathy to all her loved ones.

Dan and Judy Magnuson are the happy and thankful parents of Kristine Kay, who was born Oct. 12. She is also loved by Cheryl and Danny and grandparents Bro. Walt and Sis. Miriam Blunier.

Hospitalized this month were Sis. Marie Aeschleman, Jim Byrd, Sr., and Sis. Carrie Bowald.

There are friendships that we cherish in our daily walk of life, but I prize the friendship highest of the one whose heart is true. Friends who live by truth and goodness and who live in Him anew, friends whose hearts are up in heaven though their feet traverse this sod, find a place or highest merit in our fellowship with God. Hymns of Zion, #91

#### ILLINOIS, TREMONT

##### Phyllis Lang - Dorothy Wagenbach

At this time of year, our thoughts turn to that first Thanksgiving Day. May we have a thankful heart every day.

Ida Glueck and Larry Bolliger were united in holy matrimony on Sept. 19. Their parents are Bro.

Karl and Sis. Velda Glueck and Gale and Joan Bolliger of Tremont. We wish them much happiness in their life together.

We miss having Bro. Chris and Sis. Alice Rinkenberger in our midst. They have moved to Eureka. May God ever be by their side, as Sis. Alice has been hospitalized and is now recuperating at home.

We continue our prayers for our dear ones, who are sick or in the hospital. Sis. EllaMae Schweigert is home and recuperating nicely after her surgery. She is grateful and wishes to thank all you dear ones for your prayers, cards, food, flowers and other tokens of love. May God bless each one of you.

Bro. Ken Huetten wishes to thank everyone who remembered him with prayers, cards, gifts, and visits while hospitalized and since returning home. May God bless each one.

Bro. Ken and Sis. Amy Koch are the happy parents of a little son named Samuel Jacob, born on Oct. 11. He has two sisters, Jamie Sue and Sarah, and a brother, Joel to welcome him home. Grandparents are Donald and Clarky Holden and Bro. Dave and Sis. Francis Koch.

Our sympathy is extended to the Dan Steiner Sr. family in the loss of Bro. Dan's brother, Art, of Portland, OR.

#### ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

##### Mary and Joan Schick

We especially thank the faithful ministers who visited our congregation this month. They were Bros. Roy Sauder and Leroy Hartman (Peoria), Marvin Schmidgall (Eureka), and Walter Hermann (Princeville).

We rejoice with Bro. Stan Schick (Herb and Sis. Helen Schick of Princeville) and Sis. Margie Weber of Peoria (Bro. Peter and Sis. Mabel) on their engagement. They are planning a Dec. 27 wedding. May God be with them.

We extend a warm welcome to Bro. Russ and Sis. Sally Plattner of Roanoke who have moved to our area. We appreciate all who support our congregation and we thank God for the growth He has given us.

The Goodfield choir was with us for our monthly hymn sing on Sept. 20, and the Joyful Life group sang for us at our hymn sing on Oct. 18. We appreciate the mes-

sage and fellowship these groups brought to us through song.

Many years ago God gave our ancestors a hope of freedom as they came to America. God's will was carried out and through His guidance and our worship and praise to Him, He has brought us this far. We need to thank Him every day for supplying both our spiritual and physical needs, which He has provided so abundantly. He promises to be with us always and never to forsake us. May we each make Thanksgiving special by helping our brothers and sisters in need, even as Christ was so willing and still is to help us in our every need.

#### INDIANA, BLUFFTON

##### Gayla Baumgartner Tammy Gerber

For each new morning with its light,  
Father, we thank Thee,  
For rest and shelter of the night,  
Father, we thank Thee,  
For health and food, for love and friends,  
For everything Thy goodness sends,  
Father, in heaven, we thank Thee.

R. Emerson

As Thanksgiving nears, we are once again reminded of the many blessings we are given. Couples in our congregation received special blessings this month.

Bro. Herman and Sis. Julie Drayer welcomed their first child. His name is Joel Marvin.

Andrew Leonard is the new son of Bro. Fred and Sis. Rhonda Ruppel. "Big" brother Jonathon welcomes his new playmate.

Kameron Gregory is the name given to the first child of Bro. Greg and Sis. Bev Meyer.

Bro. Kris and Sis. Annie Frauhiger welcomes into their hearts and home a second son, Tyson Carl. Traves is happy to have a little brother.

Jodi Bertsch and Jeff Towle were united as one in marriage on Oct. 3. We wish them God's blessings for a happy life together. Jodi's parents are Bro. Walter and Sis. Lillian Bertsch.

"Be not dismayed whate'er betide, God will take care of you; Beneath His wings of love abide, God will take care of you." This is our prayer for those who spent

time in the hospital. They are: Bro. Brent Gerber, Sis. Mabel Kipper, Sis. Ada Gerber (Bro. David), Bro. Herman Steffen, Bro. Homer Clark and Bro. Glen Barger.

We want to thank the ministers who brought us God's word: Bro. Homer Reinick (Toledo), Bro. Larry Weininger (Latty), and Bro. Bud Klopfenstein (Ft. Lauderdale). May God be the rewarder for their labors of love.

#### INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE

##### Wendy Gutwein Jacki Huber

Saved to the Uttermost  
Saved to the uttermost: I am the Lord's  
Jesus my Saviour salvation affords;  
Gives me His Spirit a witness within,  
Whisp'ring of pardon, and saving from sin.

Saved to the uttermost:  
Jesus is near: keeping me safely,  
He casteth out fear;  
Trusting His promises now I am blest:  
Leaning upon Him, how sweet is my rest.

Saved to the uttermost: this I can say,  
"Once all was darkness, but now it is day,"  
Beautiful visions of glory I see,  
Jesus in brightness revealed unto me.

Melodies of Praise #142

These words are a true expression of the testimonies we heard recently of nine precious souls. Many, if not all of the nine expressed how they saw "the light" in other believers, evidenced by the happiness they seemed to possess. Can we truly say we are happy and joyous? To be happy we must have contentment, and true contentment comes only by having peace with our dear Lord.

Our nine new sisters and brother in Christ are: Rhonda and Lori Nuest (Bro. Larry and Sis. Jane), Amy Vogt (Bro. Ron and Sis. Diane), Lisa Pflederer (Bro. Bob and Sis. Norm), Charlotte Gutwein (Edwin and Mary B.) Chris and Kelly Wuethrich (Bro. Chris Lee and Sis. Ruth), Brenda Huber (Bro. Bill and Sis. Betty), and Carla Gutwein (Bro. Carl and Sis. Yvonne).

To assist with the testimonies and baptisms, Elder Bros. David Bertsch (Leo) and Alfred Bahler (Wolcott) were with us. On Sunday Bro. Fred Knapp from Congerville was also with us. We appreciate the time and effort they took to be with us. It was a blessed weekend.

Three of our sisters have been hospitalized this past month. They are sisters Lori Nuest (Bro. Larry and Sis. Jane), Margaret Gudeman and Edith Streitmatter.

It was an enjoyable weekend recently when the young brothers and sisters from Rittman were with us. It is really a privilege to fellowship with others and feel the love and unity.

### INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS

Bobbi Erb

November—a time of Thanksgiving for all the blessings the Lord has given to us. "But thanks be to God, who giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore my beloved brethren be ye steadfast, unmovable, and always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord." I Cor. 15:58

For some time now our church has been praying for a brother to help in the ministry. We feel the Lord has heard our prayers and richly provided for us. Bro. John Isch was appointed to the ministry on Oct. 4. We appreciated Bro. Loren Stoller (Latty), Bro. Orville Ringger (Bluffton), and Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott) for their part in this, and also for their ministry to us during the weekend. Our prayers are with Bro. John, Sis. Mary, Andy, Beth and Katie as the Lord has added this responsibility to their lives.

Other visiting ministers this month included: Bro. Bob Meyer (Bluffton), Bro. Theo Beer (Milford) and Bro. Lenny Meyer (Chicago). We are thankful for their extra efforts put forth to minister to us.

### INDIANA, La CROSSE

Pearl Nuest - Lu Ann Feller

We were privileged to have Bro. Bill Schlatter (Junction) with us for a weekend in September. We were led upon green pastures and instructed that we should be careful that we do not miss the mark and fall short of doing the Lord's will. For as the body without the

spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also James 2:26. For not he that commendeth himself is approved, but whom the Lord commendeth. II Cor. 10:18

We rejoice with Victor and Cheryl Heinold that they have peace in their hearts and are awaiting the day when they can tell us how God led them on this path.

God has led two hearts together with love as Bro. Mark Schwab (Bro. Vernon and Sis. Arlene), Wolcott, and Sis. Shari Bucher (Bro. Merle and Sis. Leona) have announced their engagement. May God bless them as they make their future plans.

### Notice

Sis. Clara Heiniger is unable to maintain her home in Alabama. At present, she is undergoing treatment and staying with her family. She would appreciate mail:

c/o Esther Bucher  
187 E. Bucher Rd.  
Valparaiso, IN 46883

INDIANA, LEO  
Mrs. Phil Schlatter  
Mrs. Al Frautschi

"O Thou whose bounty fills my cup with every blessing meet, I give Thee thanks for every drop—the bitter and the sweet.

I thank Thee for both smile and frown, and for the gain and loss,

I praise Thee for the future crown, and for the present cross.

I bless Thee for the glad increase, and for the waning joy,

And for this strange, this settled peace which nothing can destroy.

—Jane Crewdson

Nov. 26 is designated as a National Day of Thanksgiving. This is good. It is much better to give daily thanks and praise for all His benefits, remembering that all good gifts come from His hand.

This congregation is presently thankful for the privilege of Communion Services, for the ministry of Bro. Wendell Gudeman, Francesville, and his assistance to Bro. David Bertsch, for the information, concerns, and encouragement of the Conference tapes, for the visit and evening of inspirational songs by the Prairie Choristers,

for the recovery and release from the hospital of Baby Adam, son of Bro. Steven and Sis. Carolyn Bollier, and for many, many other blessings.

Honor the Lord with thy substance, and with the first fruits of all thine increase; So shall thy barns be filled with plenty. . . Prov. 3:9, 10

Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal,

But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal;

For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. Matt. 6:19-21

"A Lot of Money is Tainted—

'Taint yours.

'Taint mine.

'Tis God's!"

"If you want to be rich, GIVE,  
If you want to be poor, GRAB,  
If you want abundance,  
SCATTER."

(Apples of Gold)

"You'll never see a hearse pull a U-Haul." (Source Unknown)

PURDUE UNIVERSITY  
WEST LAFAYETTE, INDIANA  
Verene Von Tobel

One of the songs we plan to sing at College Weekend at Illinois State University is "I Walk With His Hand in Mine" by Ira F. Stanphill.

Wherever I may travel,  
Wherever I may roam,  
I know with Christ beside me  
I'll always feel at home;

And if the day be shadowed,  
Or if the sky be grey,  
I know that if He guides me  
I'll never lose my way.

The voice that stilled the waters  
Is speaking in my ear,  
It tells me just to follow  
And never, never fear;

Upon the highest mountain,  
Or in the valley low,  
The hand that made the heavens  
Is with me where I go.

I walk with His hand in mine,  
For each day's a stranger to me;

I'll kneel down and pray  
At each dawn of day,  
And ask Him to care for me.

I know not the way to go,  
I only know He loves me so;  
In sorrow and care  
I know He'll be there  
As I walk with His hand in mine.

This is our prayer, that God will  
always go before us and with us.  
As fall turns to winter, we can  
keep sunshine on our face through  
prayer and meditation. A joyous  
countenance can warm the heart  
of a chilly soul by sharing its glow.

#### INDIANA, REMINGTON Annette Bahler - Beth Virkler

Another month is coming to an  
end. It seems like there is always  
so much to keep us busy. This  
month our minister told us of two  
men getting acquainted with one  
another. The one asked the other  
what he did for a living. The man  
replied, "I'm a Christian." The  
other said, "No, I mean what do  
you do?" He answered, "I'm a  
Christian." Then he paused and  
said, "Oh, and I'm an electrician  
to pay my bills . . ." If we are too  
busy in the affairs of living, how  
is God's strength and His will go-  
ing to get through to us when He  
receives our "busy signal."

This month Bro. Kent Heimer  
(Taylor, MO) visited and minist-  
tered to us. We were thankful for  
the many thoughts and instruc-  
tions he shared from God's Word.

Sis. Anna Waibel had a short  
stay in the hospital. She is home  
again and doing well. We pray God  
will grant her a complete recovery.

#### INDIANA, SOUTH BEND Gayle Bucher

The dedication of our new  
church was held Sept. 20. We  
thank Elder Bros. Wendell Gude-  
man, Loren Stoller, and Ben Mai-  
bach for sharing this special day  
with us. We also thank the many  
brethren and friends who joined  
us in this memorable day of fel-  
lowship and love.

We dedicate, consecrate, all to His  
name:

May fond cherished memories  
ever remain.  
This truth on our hearts be deeply  
impressed:  
Man buildeth the church—God  
doeth the rest!

Henry Beer

On Sept. 26, Don Lehman and  
Jill Meyers exchanged wedding  
vows and dedicated their hearts  
and lives to one another. We wish  
them God's richest blessings as  
they begin their new life together.

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

We thank Elder Bros. Jesse  
Beer, Aaron Steffen, and Ed Frank  
for sharing their ministry with us  
this month. May the Lord bless  
them for their efforts and kind-  
ness on our behalf.

With Thanksgiving approach-  
ing, we are reminded of the im-  
portance of thankfulness. How-  
ever, may each one of us strive to  
be thankful every day, regardless  
of the trials and heartaches that  
may be ours to endure.

Every Day is a Holiday  
to Thank and Praise the Lord  
Special poems for special season's  
are meaningful indeed,  
But DAILY INSPIRATION is still  
man's greatest need—  
For day by day all through the  
year, not just on holidays,  
Man should glorify the Lord in  
deeds and words of praise—  
And when the heart is heavy and  
everything goes wrong,  
May these "Daily Words for Daily  
Needs" be like a cheery song  
Assuring you "HE LOVES YOU"  
and that "YOU NEVER  
WALK ALONE"—  
For in God's all-wise wisdom your  
EVERY NEED IS KNOWN!

H. Steiner Rice

#### INDIANA, VALPARAISO Mary Huber - Claudia Thomas

Bros. Ed Alt (Cissna, IL) and  
Fred Knapp (Congerville) were  
with us in August. Our Elder Bro.  
Ed Frank (LaCrosse), Bro. Ever-  
ett Hari (Bloomington, IL), and  
Bros. Phil Stettner and Jim Rink-  
enberger (Bluffton) ministered to  
us in September. Elder Bro. Nate  
Steffen was our guest in October.  
These dear ministers and those  
who come with them can't be  
thanked enough, nor do they real-  
ize how much their visits mean to  
all of us.

We rejoice with the angels in  
heaven over five souls who have  
recently turned to Jesus for their  
salvation. Praise God for being  
gracious to Joe and Susie Kimer-  
er, Eddie Lester (Ed and Sis. Car-  
oline), Kelly Thomas (Bro. Mike  
and Sis. Claudia), and Candy Hu-  
ber (Bro. Rod and Sis. Mary).  
Their war with Satan has now be-  
gun, but it's so encouraging to  
know Jesus is their Commander  
and Leader. The battle plans are  
all drawn up and laid out. All each  
of us has to do is study them dili-  
gently and follow them as closely  
as possible. We will then receive  
our crown and rewards in heaven.

At this time of Thanksgiving  
it behooves us to take stock of our-  
selves. Is our attitude right? A  
critical-grumbling person is an un-  
thankful person. We have a duty  
to be kind and express our grati-  
tude—not only to God, but also to  
our fellow man.

#### FEELS GOOD TO BE THANKED

"Central" was tired, her head  
ached; she had just succeeded, af-  
ter repeated efforts, in getting the  
number eagerly wanted by a wom-  
an—and here the woman was call-  
ing again! "Can't that woman be  
quiet a minute?" She soliloquized  
while she reiterated, "Number,  
please?" trying not to speak cross-  
ly.

"Central," said a pleasant voice,  
"I want to thank you for taking so  
much trouble to get me that last  
number. You are always very kind  
and obliging, and I do appreciate  
it."

The surprise was so great, so  
overwhelming, that Central could  
only murmur confusedly, "I-oh,  
yes, ma'am." Nothing like this had  
happened before. Suddenly her  
headache was better; suddenly the  
day was brighter; suddenly, too,  
there came a lump in her throat,  
and she reached for her handker-  
chief. It felt so good to be thanked.

The Sunday School Times

#### IOWA, BURLINGTON Judy Gehring - Kim Salek

Sis. Mayme Gerst was back in  
the hospital again. Sis. Rekie An-  
liker has been confined to her  
home.

Bro. John Steiner visited us on  
Sunday afternoon, Sept. 20.

The evening of Oct. 7, Bro. Ed  
Aeschleman of Philadelphia, PA,  
preached the Word of God to us.

Sunday, Oct. 11, we were bless-

ed with a visit by Bro. John Lehman. Truly the church was edified and blessed.

Our monthly singing was well attended.

### IOWA, ELGIN Eleanor Butikofer

There is something about the autumn time of the year which is heart-warming. The colors which the leaves display are spectacular. The dark reds, golds and shades of brown which come to view are gorgeous. We have a white birch on our lawn and more maples that fairly glowed with golden leaves. Our ash tree also was very colorful. I have been hearing some bluebirds warbling near our house. Quite soon they will be moving on to their winter quarters. Wild geese flying and honking have been sighted heading south. I am happy with the thought that as the weather becomes cooler, even though our summer birds leave, we will see more activity at the feeding stations from our winter birds.

Yes indeed, God is so very good to us, may we ever praise Him for His gifts, the greatest being that of the plan of salvation.

We are certainly going to miss Sis. Janet Mogler's presence. She has accepted a new job as superintendent of the nurses at a nursing home located at Fall City, NE. She has been in our area for over four years, in which time she has won the affection of our Christian hearts. May God continue to bless her in all ways. She has worked at the West Union Hospital for quite some time and has been active in our Sunday School showing her love of children.

My sister, Sis. Marie Schneider is at this time in Rochester, MN, in the interest of her health.

We thank our guest ministers for sharing the many timely teachings with us.

In September, they were Bros. Clifford Grimm and Wayne Fehr from West Bend, and Nathan Steffen from Elgin, IL. Their wives accompanied them. All in all we enjoyed a blessed time in their presence.

Our elder, Bro. Paul Butikofer and his wife, Sis. Mildred, who recently visited our Canadian church at Regina, invited my sister, Sis. Marie Schneider, and myself to travel with them, which gave us an opportunity to stop at

our uncle's home, that of Robert Gehring who lives at Kenmore ND. Kenmore is located near the Canadian border.

Needless to say, we had a most enjoyable visit with Uncle Bob who has operated an ice cream and butter making concern for many years. One thought he gave us was that by living right a person can have a sense of heaven even before one leaves this earth. He was speaking of having a peace of mind with no doubt. We thank him for his gracious hospitality.

### IOWA, GARDEN GROVE

"O come let us sing unto the Lord. . . Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto Him with psalms. For He is our God; and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand." Psalm 95:1, 2, 7

At this season we have much to be thankful for: a bountiful harvest, a loving family, good health, and most importantly, our soul's salvation, given by a loving Savior, along with the fellowship and guidance of our church. But do we remember to praise God for the many small gifts He gives every hour of every day to enrich our lives? Think of the beauty of a flower, a child's innocent smile, the sweet taste of honey, the handshake of a friend, and the sun glittering on new snow. Whether we have poverty or wealth in material things, the Lord will certainly give us a rich spiritual life if only we accept His gifts and live for Him. Let us give thanks, then, for these gifts.

We are very thankful to welcome ministering Bro. Glenn Funk and his wife, Sis. Sally, along with their children, Patrick, Derrick, Glenna, Kathleen and Timothy. They make a wonderful addition to our small congregation. I am sure the Wichita church misses them as we certainly gain by their loss. We trust that the Lord our God will richly bless them in their new home in Leon, IA, and in their floral business.

### IOWA, IOWA CITY Susie Gramm

The fall season brings about inward and outward changes in God's creation. So too, He requires a change in the lives and hearts of those individuals who want to serve Him. We must be particular-

ly alert to this as we look forward to partaking in Holy Communion later this month. Thanks be to the Father for His love toward us. This reminds me of a poem by Helen Steiner Rice.

"Love One Another  
As I Have Loved You!"

"Love one another as I have loved you"  
May seem impossible to do—  
But if you will try to trust and believe  
Great are the joys that you will receive. . .  
For love makes us patient, understanding and kind,  
And we judge with our hearts and not with our minds. . .  
For as soon as love enters the heart's open door,  
The faults we once saw are not there anymore,  
And things that seemed wrong begin to look right  
When viewed in the softness of love's gentle light. . .  
For love works in ways that are wondrous and strange,  
And there is nothing in life that love cannot change,  
And all that God promised will someday come true  
When you love one another the way He loves you.

The visiting ministers to our small congregation recently have been Bro. Uriel Gehring (Burlington), Bro. Ken Hoerr (Peoria, IL), Bro. Walt Hermann (Princeville, IL), and Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL). We appreciate their willingness to share God's Word with us. I want to also thank our visitors who come and support us. We love company.

### IOWA, LESTER Alice Metzger

The beautiful season of harvest is with us and we are thankful to God for the abundance we have to gather in. Our rainfall was short and spotty during the growing season but with God's blessing, the stalks and the vines brought forth fruit.

We are grateful to Elder Bros. Gene Marti, Dan Koch and Alfred Bahler who were with us the weekend of Sept. 20. We pray God will bless them and be ever near their side.

Sis. Lexia Wysong and Bro. Deitrich Knobloch were joined in



holy matrimony Sept. 27. Elder Bro. Leo Moser conducted the ceremony assisted by Bro. Ben Wy-song, Sabetha. Both ministers are uncles to Sis. Lexia.

Bro. Roger and Sis. Janet Knoblock have a new baby girl, Trela Dawn, born Sept. 21. She has six brothers and sisters and her grandparents are Bro. Martin and Sis. Zelma Knoblock and Bro. Walter and Sis. Esther Banwart, West Bend. Amber Lee was born Oct. 9 to Bro. Harvey and Sis. Mary Metzger. The little miss has a brother and sister and her grandparents are Bro. Ernie and Sis. Ella Metzger and Bud and Ione Bush.

Our hospital patients, Sis. Shirley Nester and Fawn Esslinger, are now home and doing well.

It has been our privilege to spend our mid-week services listening to the tapes of the recent conference.

Sis. Jayne Metzger has moved to Silverton, OR. We miss her but know she will be welcomed there.

Recent graduates from NITC at Sheldon, IA are Darrel Feucht and Donald Knobloch. We wish them well in their endeavors.

**IOWA, OAKVILLE**  
**Jerilyn Wagenbach**

Thanksgiving is a time when we traditionally stop to "Count our Blessings," yet we should daily be grateful for all God has given us.

**The First Thanksgiving**

So cold the first Thanksgiving came,  
That they who kneeled on earth and stone  
To thank the Lord in freedom's name  
Were nearly frozen to the bone.  
Peril was near, and midnight fear,  
With desolate wind about the door,  
But courage lit a candle flame  
That warmed them to the core.

Candle that burned so staunch and strong,  
Courage that dared so dark a way,  
They light the centuries, clear and strong,  
On each Thanksgiving Day!

So bare the first Thanksgiving fell  
That, counting all the scanty yield,  
They who had sowed and reaped could tell  
Their thanks for scarcely one good field;  
Yet, strangers in a lonely land,

They thanked God for their harvesting,  
And dreamed a dauntless dream,  
and planned  
New sowing for the spring.

For candlelight no wind could shake,  
For sowing rooted far and near,  
For men and dreams like these,  
we make  
Thanksgiving every year!

Nancy Byrd Turner

We enjoyed the recent visit of Bro. Jim Hoerr (Peoria, IL) as he ministered to us from God's Holy Word.

"And the Lord God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him." Genesis 2:18.

The engagement of Bro. Chris Grimm (Bro. Mark and Sis. Margaret) and Sis. MaryLou Kiefer (Bro. Bob and Sis. Delores) has been announced. We wish them God's guidance and blessings.

The following poem can serve as a good reminder to us all. What a shame that it's easier to memorize such a verse than it is to practice these virtues!

**What is Charity?**

It is Silence—when your words would hurt.  
It is Patience—when your neighbor's curt.  
It is Deafness—when a scandal flows.  
It is Thoughtfulness—for others' woes.  
It is Promptness—when stern duty calls.  
It is Courage—when misfortune falls.

Author Unknown

**IOWA, PULASKI**

**Ginny Wuthrich - Mary Wiegand**  
Visiting ministers this past month were Bro. Kenny Knapp (Taylor, MO) and Bro. Bill Funk (Garden Grove). We thank them for bringing us God's Good Word.  
Hospital patients this past month are Sis. Mary Wiegand and Mark Musselman. We wish them both restored strength and health.

**HEARTFELT THANKS**

Thanksgiving Day has come again  
With its golden harvest time.  
Our season's handiwork is blest;  
We enjoy these gifts of Thine.

And in the comfort of our homes  
Happy family circles dine.  
Oh, God! we give Thee thanks.

We live in a land of plenty  
And from childhood have been blest.  
May freedom of worship we cherish  
Continue without molest.  
Jesus, the dearest of blessings,  
Brought hope of eternal rest.  
Oh, God! we give Thee thanks.

Remember those in poverty  
Whose blessings are so few.  
May we with them our bounty share,  
And think of those in sorrow, too.  
For parents who did sacrifice,  
And loved ones dear and true,  
Oh, God! we give Thee thanks.

Bro. Henry Kipfer

**IOWA, WEST BEND**  
**Judy Fehr - Elma Mogler**

We are always glad for visitors and were grateful to have Bro. Sam Anliker in our midst to feed us the Holy Word.

There have been two engagements made known. Blake Banwart, son of James and Becky Banwart is engaged to Vera Struthers, daughter of Mrs. Lavonna and the late Ralph Struthers, all of Ottosen, and Jayne Banwart, daughter of Bro. Vic and Sis. Marilyn Banwart, also of Ottosen; is engaged to Andrew Sauder, son of Bro. Harold and Sis. Edith Sauder of Roanoke, IL. We sincerely hope they will look to God for guidance and help.

Two precious new babies have been sent from Heaven. John Michael was born Sept. 22 to Bro. Pat and Sis. Julie Zaugg. Grandparents are Bro. Oscar and Sis. Frances Zaugg and Bro. Ray and Sis. Louise Anliker. Bro. Mike and Sis. Lila Wirtz are also parents of a son, Josh Harold, born Sept. 26. Grandparents are Bro. Verner and Sis. Beverly Wirtz and Sis. Emma Meyer of Lester.

Leona McCue met with a serious accident at her home and has had to be hospitalized. May her recovery be speedy and complete.

The Bible Class and a few from the Junior Bible Class enjoyed a weekend of fellowship with the Elgin and Chicago youth at Elgin. A special thanks is extended to all who took part.

### THANKSGIVING

Thanksgiving is the harvest of the heart  
After the fruit and grain are stored away,  
The quiet season of remembering,  
The moment when we pause to praise and pray.

Alice Mackenzie Swaim

### JAPAN, SHIODA Kathy Klotzle

"In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." I Thess. 5:18 At Thanksgiving and throughout the year may we strive for the humility and submissiveness to give thanks to God for all things in our lives. It's not easy, but we must remember that it is the will of God. And may we not only have a thankful spirit towards things of the past, but also in our pleas unto the Lord. "Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God." Phil. 4:6

Thanksgiving as we know it in America is, of course, not usually celebrated in Japan. One exception is at our Shioda American Kindergarten; but for most Japanese people, the national thanksgiving holiday is a day of thankfulness for labor. May we all give thanks to God for the occupations He has given us, the callings where He feels we can best serve Him. And may we strive to fulfill Biblical teaching in doing all as unto the Lord.

In September, it was a day of fellowship and the good feeling of working together when we spent a holiday cleaning our church. At this time we are purifying our church in a different way as we look within our hearts and souls, preparing for Holy Communion.

We give thanks for the blessings and spiritual renewal received at our fall fellowship meeting in the Mt. Fuji area. The topic for the gathering of our Shioda and Tokyo brethren was "How to Study the Bible." This was brought about by the exhortations at the recent Brotherhood Conference to spend time with God's Word. It was enlightening to hear each brother and sister express how they are presently reading the Bible. We were encouraged to talk with another brother or sister when we come upon scripture that

is hard to understand or when we have questions on our minds. Our meeting began with the question, "Who can say, 'I read the Bible every day?'" It was a humbling question, and one that we should probably ask in love of our brothers and sisters more often.

### JAPAN, TOKYO

Marie Inoue - Yoshio Yamazaki

In August our church attendance was slim but our faithful brethren attended each Sunday. Several of our assembly visited in the U.S. in August. Sis. Shizuko (Saburo) Utsuki is visiting her daughter Tomoko in New York City until October. Bro. Akito Inoue and family spent a very blessed time visiting and attending the Brotherhood Conference. They also attended a reunion of former teachers (including husbands and families) sent to Japan to teach in the Shioda school. The reunion was held at Gilman, IL, with lunch in a restaurant and then a gathering at a park for more visiting and hymn singing in the Japanese language. Those able to come and share the special tie that continues to bind our hearts were the following nine sisters-in-faith: Nancy (Roth) Pfeifer, Nancy Schrock, Carol (Schrenk) Troxel, Judy Bauer, Sue (Schock) Kellenberger, Kathie (Huber) Inoue, Sally (Beutel) Koch, Evie Blunier, and Marie (Neihouser) Inoue.

The Inoue family wishes to thank everyone for all deeds of love shown to them in many ways during their visit. May God reward each one not only in this life but more so in eternity.

We had a regular church cleaning here in Tokyo the second Tuesday of last month. We could learn something when we cleaned church. We understand how much Jesus loves us and how He did clean our hearts. We believers should work more and love Him more as He loves us. Sis. Vicki Ramseyer spent her first visit here in our Tokyo church the third Sunday of last month since she came from Bay City. We had a real blessed time with her and also very much welcome her in the Lord. We wish her much joy in teaching the children at Shioda and also in fellowship among the church folks.

We plan to have Communion Service after the middle of this month, the Lord willing.

### KANSAS, BERN Esther & Stella Moser

#### A Song of Thanksgiving

Come, let us sing glad praises  
For blessings of the year;  
A special way of thanking God  
For things we hold so dear.

Our land is one of plenty,  
So beautiful and free;  
God's wondrous works are everywhere  
That we in splendor see.

The pilgrims came together  
At harvest time to pray;  
May we in like tradition then,  
Observe Thanksgiving Day.

Author Unknown

By the time this gets to our readers, we will be observing Thanksgiving. And truly, we have much to be thankful for. Among other things, the Lord has blest us with a bountiful grain harvest. After a winter and spring with very little moisture, a short harvest in 1980 due to drought and another drought predicted for this year, many a farmer wondered if it was worth the time and expense to even put out a crop. We never had a great amount of rain, but just enough at the right times. And once again we learn that truly, "The Lord will provide," as we harvest our crops.

We appreciated our guest minister, Bro. Willis Weigand (Goodfield).

Bern and Sabetha enjoyed quite a group of single brothers and sisters from various Illinois churches the weekend of Oct. 10-11.

### KANSAS, FORT SCOTT Teresa Bahr

We appreciated our visiting brothers who ministered God's Word to us. They were: Elder Bro. Sam Huber, Sabetha; Bro. John Lehman, Bern; Elder Bro. Ronnie Nelson, Kiowa; and Bro. Kenny Knapp, Taylor, MO.

The engagement has been announced of Bro. David Sinn to Sis. Jolene Kipfer, Bluffton, IN. Bro. David is the son of Bro. Wayne and Sis. Juanita. A late November wedding is planned.

We welcome our new Sis. Carol Miller into God's family. She gave her testimony and was baptized the weekend of Sept. 27. Her parents are Bro. Wayne and Sis. Pearl.

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

A special meeting was called and held in Chicago this past month by our World Relief and Missionary Committee members. A special concern was upon their hearts as to how to proceed with the distribution of God's money for those with needs much greater than ours.

If a soul is able to receive even a small portion of relief for their spiritual or physical hunger, we pray that the efforts of those dear brethren will be blessed and multiplied. Let us, each one, be always mindful of how important it is to share a portion of our blessings with others.

A special thanks to our only visiting minister this past month, Bro. Bob Walders, Congerville. May the Lord bless him for his effort of love.

We wish to remember in thought and prayer our dear ones who have been subject to misfortune. Bro. Sam (Esther) Kraft, Katherine (Frank) Knapp, and Mike (Sam and Carol) Kraft have all experienced the healing touch of God upon them.

**KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY****Mary Wernli**

"What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?"

For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's." I Corinthians 6:19-20

Elder Bro. Ronald Nelson (Kiowa) brought forth many instructive teachings on "Christian Living" from God's Word at our Bible Study. May we ever take God's Word and apply it to our lives, striving diligently to please the Author and Finisher of our faith.

Also ministering to us this month were Elder Bro. Sam Huber and Bro. Carl Hartman from Sabetha.

**KANSAS, KIOWA****Janice Bahr****WHEN FAITH IS REAL**

He lost his house with all the furniture

But people heard him sing,

"I have my child, my wife, my life,

And I only lost things."

He lost his business and his wealth

But people heard him sing,  
Thank God I still have all my friends

Can love be taken away?

He lost his land, his job, his car,

But still his health remained  
And so he shouted, "Praise The Lord,"

And never once complained.

by Perry Tanksley

As I read the above poem, I had to think, "How real is my Faith? Do I complain about my lot or can I say as is stated in Phillipians 4:11, 'Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.'?"

As Thanksgiving approaches, may we all take time to count our many blessings and in love and praise give thanks to the Lord for His most precious gifts to us, unworthy though we be.

We have truly enjoyed a blessed month in our area: Our loved ones, Sis. Esther Hodel, who underwent surgery, and Bro. Vernon Schueter, who suffered a heart attack, are both out of the hospital. Sis. Esther is not able to be in our midst yet, we are sorry to say, but Bro. Vern is with us again. We praise our Lord that they are better, though.

Ft. Scott hosted a youth Fellowship get-together for the Kansas and Lamar, MO churches, and we extend our deepest thanks for a truly blessed weekend. We realize the time and effort everyone spent that we might enjoy our weekend. And then, to fill our already full cups to overflowing, ministering Bro. Kenneth Knapp (Taylor, MO) was our speaker and, oh, how uplifting were the words he taught to us from God's Word. Praise God for such fellowship.

We held services at the Kiowa Manor, as it was our appointed time, but the blessings of sharing with those dear people far outweigh any efforts on our part.

Wednesday evening services have commenced for the winter months and we had the pleasure of listening to the tapes from the Conference.

To have the privilege of hearing our elder brethren from the tapes is about like being there for those of us who are not able to attend, and the feeling of love and unity is there for us to cherish as it was

on the day it was shared in Roanoke. We truly give God thanks for our shepherds, our watchmen, and we fervently pray that their work of love in contending for the Faith may stand true and sure until the Lord comes for His Bride—The Church.

Thought: Thou hast given us so much, mercifully grant us one thing more—a grateful heart.

**KANSAS, SABETHA****Clara Steiner - Judy Hartter**

Ministers who visited us recently were Bro. Willis Wiegand, Goodfield, Bro. Bruce Leman and Bro. William Hodel, Roanoke. May the Lord bless them in their labors.

Bro. Ted Locher had eye surgery at Sante Fe Memorial Hospital in Topeka. He is now home and doing well.

Hospitalized this month have been Bro. Nathan Grimm, Bro. Harlan Meyer and Brent Meyer.

We are thankful the waters are still being stirred. Michelle Meyer has made a beginning on her journey to Zion. May the Lord grant her grace to continue onward and the true understanding of His Word. Our prayers are that many more will take this important step.

**KANSAS, WICHITA****Priscilla Frank**

Autumn—How awesome is autumn. The majestic hues portray the beauty and serenity of life in completion. Terre cotta, rust, mahogany, pumpkin, yellow-gold, bittersweet red are just a few of the beautiful hues. Have you ever tried to see how many different colors you can identify? It's amazing, you find one and then look for another, as the latter is found you lose sight of the former. You finally give up and just enjoy the full view. It's too beautiful to dissect—they just seem to all mellow together. Such are the experiences of life nearing its end. Those who have had a close walk with the Lord will draw out a beautiful memory, savour it for awhile, then place it back and choose another. Memory by memory they cherish the fulness of life in Christ until heaven comes into view. Then, the purpose of each trial, each victory falls into perspective and they can then appreciate the fullness of their autumn.

In my occupation I have the opportunity to listen as my patients

share their memories during the final hours of life. I feel my life has been so enriched by witnessing the autumn of their lives. It is definitely not a time for idle words. These people have nothing to hide. Their life is almost finished and they want so desperately to save another from the mistakes they have made or to encourage one in activities that will bring lasting contentment.

It's interesting how much of this advice may be found in the book of Proverbs—both by Christian and non-Christians. Just simple remarks like: "Don't waste your life drinking," "Honey, whatever you do, stay true to your man," or "Teach your children to love so when you're old they'll come to see you. Teach them how to touch so they won't be afraid to touch you when your hands are rough and dry. Teach them very well, because then it won't matter." From another, "Whatever you do, hug your children; just hug them and hug them. For there may come a time when you're lying here lonely—you'll remember how good it felt to be needed. That beautiful memory of being needed then makes you feel like life was worthwhile after all."

Still another from a very grand lady, "Teach your child the proper priorities, that God might always be first in their lives and then everything else will just fall in place." With this advice I'd like to encourage our friends, Charles and Lois (daughter of Bro. Milton and Sis. Lillian Bowers) Hallberg, in rearing their new daughter, Kayleen Marie, born Sept. 20.

#### MICHIGAN, ALTO

Jane Grawburg

What a blessing and a joy it was to hear the testimony, and to witness the baptism, of three very precious souls. We pray that Sis. Denise Oesch (Peny), Sis. Deana Price, and Sis. Rhonda Rairigh (Gregg) will have much grace and strength as they make a very special, new, beginning in their lives.

Bro. Wally and Sis. Donna Gerst have been blessed with a new baby boy! Jacob Richard has been warmly welcomed by his sister, Sarah, and by his grandparents, Bro. Richard and Sis. Liberty Gerst from Oakville, IA; and by Bro. Joe and Sis. Elizabeth Waibel from Bay City.

Tom and Carolyn Berry, Mike,

and Andy, have welcomed baby Sarah into their home. Her grandparents are Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Eloise Blough.

Special love and prayers are being offered for Sis. Ellen Oesch (Bro. Ernest) and for Bro. Ferdinand Grawburg (Sis. Jane) who are both in the hospital again. May our Lord bless and keep you, and give you much courage and added strength and grace at this time.

"Pray without ceasing  
God hears what you say  
From the moment you rise  
To the close of the day  
Don't think for a moment  
That He turns a deaf ear  
Trust and have faith  
And you'll never know fear."

H. Parker

We welcome Sis. Elise Bocka to the Alto congregation. Sis. Elise will be with us while she is attending school in Grand Rapids, MI.

Special visitors this month were Bro. Phil Wingeier (Sarasota, FL), Bro. Joe Waibel (Bay City), and Bro. Ben Maibach (Detroit). We sincerely thank these brothers for their special labors of love.

#### MICHIGAN, BAY CITY

Patsy Bragiel - Linda Ramseyer

"It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord. . ." Psalm 92

#### HEARTFELT THANKS

Thanksgiving Day has come again  
With its golden harvest time.  
Our season's handiwork is blest;  
We enjoy these gifts of Thine.  
And in the comfort of our homes  
Happy family circles dine.  
Oh, God! we give Thee thanks.

We live in a land of plenty  
And from childhood have been  
blest.

May freedom of worship we  
cherish

Continue without molest.

Jesus, the dearest of blessings,  
Brought hope of eternal rest.  
Oh, God! we give Thee thanks.

Remember those in poverty  
Whose blessings are so few.  
May we with them our bounty  
share,

And think of those in sorrow too.  
For parents who did sacrifice,  
And loved ones dear and true.  
Oh, God! we give Thee thanks.

Henry Kipfer

Congratulations to Bro. Don and Sis. LuAnn Wieland as they joyfully accept a baby girl, Katie Ann, into their hearts and home. May Katie be the joy of all seasons as she grows up. Grandparents are Bro. Sam and Sis. Ida Wieland and Frank and Sis. Irma Bragiel.

We wish the Lord's comfort to Sis. Lydia Friedinger and Bro. Paul Waibel as they both have been ill.

#### MICHIGAN, DETROIT Helen & Bonnie Popp

"O sing unto the Lord a new song: sing unto the Lord, all the earth."  
Psalm 96:1

It seems there is yet a stirring of young hearts among us, and we are happy that Manuela Denes desires to sing a new song and seeks this through an earnest repentance. Our wish is that she may stay close to God to learn of His will, and we support her in prayer.

Sis. Mary Sabados is home from the hospital following surgery. Tom Moilanen was also hospitalized. Tom had a shoulder injury which required surgery. We hope and pray for a full and speedy recovery for them both.

We extend an expression of sympathy to Bill and Trudy (Schlatter) Schmidt and family. Bill's father, William Patrick, passed away suddenly. The funeral was Thursday, Oct. 15. May it be a comfort at a time such as this to know that many do care.

Sis. Lucille Maibach has moved into a home for the aged very close to our church. Her new address is: 15775 Middlebelt, Livonia, MI 48154. May our Lord be close by her side and bring a special light to all her days.

We surely cannot forget those who are aged or infirm. Each believer in Christ can add to the Church in his or her own way. It is in the proper balance of young or old, minister, Sunday School teacher, or quiet member who cheers you with her smile, that we as a Church can find support. May we appreciate each other for the special gift or talent our brother or sister can lend.

"In the world of darkness  
So we must shine,  
You in your little corner,  
And I in mine."

(Selected from *Inspiring Poems*,  
compiled by C. B. Eavey)

### MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS Deb Tilbury

We are always uplifted when we have visiting ministers in our midst. We would like to extend our thanks to Bro. Alhai Moser (Morris), Bro. Uriel Gehring (Burlington, IA), and Bro. Clarence Yackley (Phoenix, AZ) who were here the past month.

We wish Sis. Martha Blessman God's richest blessings as we say farewell to her. She just returned to her home in Tucson. She spent the summer with her daughter in Wisconsin and worshipped with us on Sundays. May God be with you till we meet again.

Our Wednesday Evening Song Service is held the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month. The time has been changed from 7:30 to 7:00 PM.

### MINNESOTA, MORRIS Jan Schock - Pam Sutter

Down in their hearts, wise men know this truth: the only way to help yourself is to help others.

Elbert Hubbard

Sis. Lizzie Schmidgall wants to thank all who remembered her with cards and gifts when she was hospitalized and while recovering at home.

Bro. Gilbert and Sis. Barbara Schmidgall announce the engagement of their son, Steve, to Debra Wensman. A Nov. 20 wedding is planned. We wish them God's blessings.

Twin girls, Rachel and Renae, were born to Bro. Aldeen and Sis. Charlotte Luthi. Grandparents are Albert and Myrtle Luthi and Virgil and Mildred Sauder. Bro. Tom and Sis. Colleen Dogotch were blessed with a little girl, Maria. Her grandparents are Bro. Leo and Sis. Thelma Dogotch and Bro. Jake and Sis. Alice Wulf of Lester.

### Fill Your Heart With Thanksgiving

Take nothing for granted,  
for whenever you do  
The "joy of enjoying"  
is lessened for you—  
For we rob our own lives  
much more than we know  
When we fail to respond  
or in any way show  
Our thanks for the blessings  
that daily are ours. . .  
The warmth of the sun,  
the fragrance of flowers,  
The beauty of twilight,  
the freshness of dawn,

The coolness of dew  
on a green velvet lawn,  
The kind little deeds  
so thoughtfully done,  
The favors of friends  
and the love that someone  
Unselfishly gives us  
in a myriad of ways,  
Expecting no payment  
and no words of praise—  
Oh, great is our loss  
when we no longer find  
A thankful response  
to things of this kind,  
For the joy of enjoying  
and the fullness of living  
Are found in the heart  
that is filled with Thanksgiving.  
Helen Steiner Rice

We appreciate the visits of ministering Bros. Clarence Yackley, Leo Moser, Roy Grimm, Sam Huber, and Lloyd Kraft. Special thanks go to Bro. Roy for bringing us his pictures from India.

My sincere thanks go to all relatives and friends for their concern and thoughtfulness while I was in Phoenix as a patient, at Douglas County Hospital, Alexandria, and also at Stevens County Hospital in Morris. Thanks for your prayers, beautiful cards, and gifts of love. May God bless you all.

Sis. Tillie Kellenberger

### MINNESOTA, WINTHROP Carol Messner - Mary Lou Schmidt

Our small congregation was blessed with visiting ministers this past month. Bro. Clarence Yackley of Phoenix married to dear Sis. Linda Messner Yackley visited with us several days. It was so good to see them once again. Elder Bro. LeRoy Huber of Eureka and his wife Sis. Clara were here on the weekend also. Many good teachings were gleaned from them both. Our faith in God will deliver us as Rahab and her family were. Or God says in His Word—My grace is sufficient for thee; for my strength is made perfect in weakness. For when I am weak, then am I strong. (2 Cor. 12) We must believe God's way for us is best. May we praise God for these precious blessings of Christian fellowship we share.

Once again the time is here when our country sets aside a special day to remember our blessings and to thank God. Let us thank God, not only on Thanksgiving, but every day. May we count among our richest blessings,

those we love and those who love us.

The engagement of Russel Messner to Teresa Toupal was made known. Parents of the couple are Bro. Mike and Sis. Joyce and the Marvin Toupals of Renville, MN. Bro. Darrel and Sis. Darlene Schmidt announced the engagement of their daughter Denise to Mike Mathison of Hutchinson, MN. We are happy for both couples.

Bro. Mike Messner injured his hand in a silage chopper. We are thankful his hand could be saved. Gene Schmidt fell from a ladder and broke his arm. He will have a cast on for several month.

Bro. Cornelius and Sis. Delores Messerli are happy grandparents of a new granddaughter, Laura Jean. Arlan and Linda Messerli are Laura's parents.

Craig Stresemann was home on furlough. It was good to see his smiling face in our congregation again. He is stationed in Texas. May God ever be near and give protection to him.

### MISSOURI, LAMAR Vera Frieden

A Mother's Love Is A Haven  
in The Storms of Life  
A Mother's love is like an island  
In life's ocean vast and wide,  
A peaceful, quiet shelter  
From the restless, rising tide. . .

A Mother's love is like a fortress  
And we seek protection there  
When the waves of tribulation  
Seem to drown us in despair. . .

A Mother's love's a sanctuary  
Where our souls can find sweet  
rest  
From the struggle and the tension  
Of life's fast and futile quest. . .

A Mother's love is like a tower  
Rising far above the crowd,  
And her smile is like the sunshine  
Breaking through a threatening  
cloud. . .

A Mother's love is like a beacon  
Burning bright with FAITH  
AND PRAYER,  
And through the changing scenes  
of life  
We can find a HAVEN  
THERE. . .

For a Mother's love is fashioned  
After God's enduring love,  
It is endless and unending  
Like the love of Him above. . .

For God knew in HIS great  
wisdom  
That He couldn't be everywhere  
So He put HIS LITTLE  
CHILDREN  
In a LOVING MOTHER'S  
CARE.

Helen Steiner Rice

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to the family of Elda Waldbuesser, who was taken from this life on Oct. 15. She was a dear wife and mother and will be sadly missed by all of us, but especially by her husband William, and her children, John, Helen, Laura and Ted.

Our Sunday School Bible Class enjoyed the Youth Fellowship weekend in Ft. Scott, KS. on Oct. 3 and 4. We appreciate the efforts of the Ft. Scott congregation.

#### MISSOURI, TAYLOR Loida Hodel

##### "Little Privileges"

"Happiness is the art of finding joy in the little privileges of life—a quiet hour in the sun instead of a far away journey, a little outing in the nearby woods instead of long trips away, an hour with a friend instead of an extended visit with relatives, a few pages of a book instead of hours of reading at a time, a flash of sunset, a single beautiful flower, a passing smile, a kindly word, a little gift bestowed anonymously, and a little thoughtfulness here and there as the days slip by. "Those who bring sunshine to others cannot keep it from themselves." James Barrie

We have enjoyed visits with ministering Bros. Clarence Yackley (Phoenix, AZ) and wife, and David Wiegand (Urbana, IL) and family. Both of these brothers lived in our community in the past and were a part of the "Little White Church on the Levee" so it was like homecoming once again. We thank God for this blessing and know that without His will and protection it would not have been possible.

We are glad to report that Steve Riney and Dianne (Riney) Augsburg are home again after medical treatment in the hospital. Steve and Dianne are the son and daughter of Gene and Irene.

We need the prayers of those we love and are so thankful that we will never get a "busy" or "no

answer" signal on the prayer line to Heaven.

"I said a prayer for you today, and know God must have heard, I felt the answer in my heart, altho' He spoke no word! I didn't ask for wealth or fame, (I knew you wouldn't mind), I asked for priceless treasure rare, of a more lasting kind!"

I prayed that He'd be near you, at start of each new day, to grant you health and blessings fair, and friends to share your way! I asked for happiness for you, in all things great and small, But that you'd know His loving care, I prayed that most of all." H. Bosch

Desiring God's will for their lives, and believing that included each other, Sis. Debbie Ott (Bro. Donald and Sis. Carolyn) of Congerville and our Bro. Steve Sutter (Bro. Gerald and Sis. Marge) were united in marriage Oct. 4 at Congerville. We are happy to have another young couple in our church family and welcome Sis. Debbie into our congregation. "A three fold cord is not quickly broken." Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

#### NEW JERSEY, UNION CITY Ed Aeschleman

Good news came from South Korea when Bro. John and Sis. Mary Diggelman received word that Kevin Richard was born on Sept. 26 to Richard and Helga Diggelman. Bro. John and Sis. Mary are grandparents for the first time.

Sad news came from Bob and Sis. Deanne Horn when they announced that they would soon move from the Union City area to Pittsburgh where Bob has accepted a new position. While they will be sorely missed, we wish them God's blessing in their new venture.

We congratulate Bro. Walter Rumpf who has recently retired after many years of service with his company.

Visiting ministers were Bros. Roy Lugcnbuhl and Albert Schneider of Rockville. We are grateful to the brothers who come and lend themselves on our behalf.

We were pleasantly surprised when Sis. Minnie Cook was able to attend church services again after being confined for several months. We trust and pray that God's healing power will continue to strengthen her.

#### NEW YORK, CROGHAN Alice Virkler

On Sunday, Sept. 27, Bro. Joseph Zimmerman of Morton was in our midst and ministered unto us the Word of God. We assembled with the Naumburg congregation. On Wednesday evening, Sept. 30, Elder Bro. Sam Anliker of Lamont, KS, was our visiting minister. We want to thank these dear brothers and their traveling companions for taking the time to share the Word of Truth with us.

On Sun., Oct. 11, we were privileged to witness the baptism of a new brother in faith, Andy Virkler. We gathered together on Saturday evening to hear his testimony. We rejoice that there are still those who find it necessary to change their way of life and serve the Lord even in this troubled time of our world. What a wonderful thought we can enjoy to know that we are purchased by our Lord and can look forward to the time when we will forever be with Him.

Our thoughts and deepest sympathy go out to Bob and Diane Purvines whose infant daughter was taken Home soon after birth on Sunday, Oct. 11. Little Marie Louise was their first child. Her grandparents are Larry and Sis. Louise Purvines and Mr. and Mrs. Lester Grandjean. Her great-grandmother is Sis. Huldah Farny. Graveside services were held by Bro. Norbert Steiner.

Sis. Polly (Bro. Gerald) Grau was a hospital patient in Lowville and Bro. Ted Virkler, Sr., has been a patient at Upstate Medical Center in Syracuse. Our thoughts and prayers also go out to them.

#### NEW YORK, NAUMBURG Rachel Snyder

Sis. Pearl Colgrove has been transferred to the Watertown hospital from Lowville. She has had an operation on a toe.

Our visiting ministers that brought us messages from God's Word were Bro. Joe Zimmerman (Morton, IL) and Bro. Sam Anliker, (Lamont, KS).

Our sympathy goes out to the family in the death of Ruban Herzig. He is a brother of Sis. Isabell Virkler. Bro. Robert Beyer conducted the services.

A blessed Sabbath was spent when the Naumburg congregation assembled with Croghan to hear the testimony and witness the bap-

tism of Andy Virkler, son of Sis. Charlotte Virkler.

### OHIO, AKRON

#### Joyce Gasser

Bro. John and Sis. Emily Rufener were blessed with a new baby girl, Susan Marie, on Sept. 28. The little girl has a sister, Mary Beth. Grandparents are Bro. Wayne and Sis. Nina of Mansfield and Bro. Eli and Sis. Evelyn Manz of Junction. A great-grandfather is Bro. Henry Manz of Junction.

Sis. Tina Graf and Bro. Ralph Schneider were united in holy matrimony Oct. 4. Their parents are Bro. Leon and Sis. Janet Graf and Bro. Albert and Sis. Gladys Schneider of Rockville. They will be making their home in Connecticut; we will miss Sis. Tina, but know that she is lovingly welcomed at Rockville. We pray for God's blessings to be upon their lives together.

Sis. Janet Graf entered the Cleveland Hospital the day after Tina's wedding and had open-heart surgery on Wednesday. She has returned home and we pray for her speedy recovery.

Sis. Kathy Bako had the misfortune of falling and breaking her wrist. Dan Graf, son of Bro. and Sis. Art Graf, had an accident and got a cracked bone in his ankle.

We are sorry that Bro. Jeff and Sis. Charlotte Graf have moved from our midst, as they are now in Florida. Bro. Jeff will continue in his area of carpentry work. They will be a welcome addition to the Ft. Lauderdale congregation.

Visiting ministers recently were Bro. Earl Gerber (Forrest, IL), Bro. Al Schneider (Rockville, CT), and Bro. Ed Bahler (Remington, IN).

### OHIO, LATTY

#### Cheryl Wenninger - Susie Sinn

... But let a man examine himself and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup. I Cor. 11-28

On the weekend of Sept. 26 and 27 we were privileged to partake of Holy Communion. It truly causes each of us to reflect over the past year and think of what the Lord has done for us. May we all strive to walk closer to Him. Bro. Aaron Steffen (Alto) was with us for this solemn occasion.

Also visiting us this month was Bro. Glenn Dill (Tremont). We

thank these brothers for their labors of love and pray that the Lord will richly bless them for their efforts.

Two of our loved ones have met with accidents and both were hospitalized for a time. Stacy Stoller (Wendel and Glenna) fell and broke her wrist and Bro. Larry Wenninger (Sis. Joyce) was involved in a farm mishap. We are thankful that they are both on the road to recovery. May they feel God's nearness.

The engagement of Tom Sinn (Bro. Carl and Sis. Tootie) and Kim Schlatter (John and Sis. Lillian) was made known. May they seek the Lord's guidance in their plans. We wish them the Lord's blessings.

... I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth. . . Lk. 15-7

We are happy to report that Marlene Reinhard (Bro. Dan and Sis. Delores) has found the grace to begin this new walk of life. May she feel God's nearness as she takes this most important step.

"We are going down the valley one by one." We laid to rest a dear sister in faith, Sis. Emma Pfister. We will miss her, but we rejoice in the fact that she is in a better land. We extend our sympathy to her family.

We had a very inspiring and uplifting weekend, when many young folks from Elgin, IL, Eureka, Rittman, and Akron assembled with us. What a privilege we have when we can greet those of like mind and faith from far and near and still feel the love of God flow from heart to heart.

May we never take this blessing for granted, but ever appreciate this precious faith that we have.

As we approach this Thanksgiving season, may each of us be so very thankful for our many blessings and the faith of our fathers.

December is the month for Latty subscribers to pay their dues. Please pay your reporters.

### OHIO, MANSFIELD

#### Lucille Groh

As another Thanksgiving Day approaches, we can truly join in praise with the writer of the hymn #236 in the Zion's Harp:

Now thank we all our God  
With heart and hands and voices  
Who wondrous things has done  
In whom the world rejoices

Who from our mother's arms  
Has blest us on our way  
With countless gifts of love  
And still is ours today.

Recently, I read about a family who had been vacationing at a lake, a father, mother, and a five-year-old son. The father decided to go out on the lake in his boat alone, and after a time, a dense fog came up suddenly on the lake and he became lost. After hours of useless rowing, he was about to give up in despair. Then through the fog, he heard his young son's voice calling, "Father, home is over here. Father, home is over here, steer the ship this way." Following his young son's voice, he was able to guide the boat home. Then, one day his young son said, "Daddy, today, I'm going home to Jesus." The father, an unbeliever, said, "Oh no, son, not today," but by evening it happened, his son was taken from him. In his great grief and bitterness of his soul, he felt life was no more worth living and in his despair and grief was ready to end it all. Then through the midst of the dense fog of his grief, he thought he could hear his young son say, "Father, this way is home. Follow Jesus, this way is home." As his thoughts went back in memory to that day on the lake and the dense fog and how that dear voice guided him home, he turned to the Lord and repented.

What a joy, when all the redeemed can gather at home at the Father's table in the sky and partake of that wonderful last supper and rejoice forevermore with our Saviour and loving Father. What a glorious feast that will be. Let us all strive a little harder to be worthy of that great Thanksgiving Feast, because He led us home.

All praise and thanks to God  
The Father now be given  
The Son and Holy Ghost  
Who dwell in highest heaven  
The one eternal God  
Whom earth and heaven adore  
Who is and shall survive  
Now and forever more.

A number of our loved ones have been hospitalized since last month's writing. They are: Sis. Lena Beer, Sis. Marie Beer, Bro. Robert Beer, Sis. Miriam Bird, Sis. Naomi Cordrey, Sis. Theresa Kissell, Sis. Clara Wahl and our dear friend Freida

Bird. We certainly pray for God's healing touch for each one that they may feel His nearness and our love for them.

It is also a joy to report that Sis. Louise Sabo has again been able to assemble with us after a lengthy stay at the hospital and in the rest home and that she is now able to again make her home with her daughter, Sis. Clara Zimmer and Bro. Jim.

#### OHIO, RITTMAN

##### Janette Blough - Florence Hartzler

We had a most joyous weekend when we gathered to hear the testimonies of four dear ones, who turned their backs on the world, and are now joyfully walking with God. Then on Sunday, we were glad to assemble and hear the Word of God and were privileged to witness the baptisms of these dear ones. We rejoice with Sis. Marilyn (Winkler) Uhler, Sis. Carol (Emch) Powell, Bro. Glenn Ruffener, and Bro. Ben Gasser, as they are now brothers and sisters with Christ. "O sing unto the Lord a new song; for he hath done marvellous things: . . ." Psalms 98:1

The wedding date of Sept. 19 was chosen by Chris Camp and Peggy Bauman as the day they became one. They are making their home in Newman, GA. Peggy is the daughter of Sis. Marie Bauman and the late Bro. Ernest. Sept. 27 was the wedding day of Bro. Larry Hartzler and Sis. Luann Steidinger, held at the church in Fairbury, IL. We want to welcome Sis. Luann to Rittman, and pray the Lord will bless these dear ones as they walk this life together.

The engagement of Sis. Denise Zollinger and Bro. Alpha Maibach was announced recently. Their parents are Bro. Rudy and Sis. Brenda Zollinger, and Bro. Alpha and Sis. Helen Maibach. Another engaged couple is Ann Zollinger and Joe Gerber. The parents of Ann and Joe are Dave and Sis. Mary Ann Zollinger, and Sis. Mary Ellen Gerber and the late Bro. Truman. May the Lord bless them as they make their plans for the future.

We want to say welcome to two new babies. Little Jamie Lee was born to Joe and Sis. Amy Cannon, making them first-time parents. The grandparents for the first time are Bro. Emmett and Sis. Marie Gasser. Little April Michelle is born to Bro. Max and Sis. Di-

ane Miller, and Amber is glad for a playmate. The grandparents are Richard and Sis. Melba Miller and Bro. Robert and Sis. Janetta Koehl, of Forrest, IL. We pray the Lord will bless these families with their precious little souls.

We received many blessings from our visiting ministers this past month, and we want to thank Bro. Simon Wagonbach (Tremont), Bro. Ed Bahler (Remington), Bro. Loren Stoller (Latty), Bro. Rudy Graf and Bro. Gene Pamer (Akron) for their work of love, in bringing us the Word of Life.

Those needing hospital care were Bro. Arthur Gasser, Sis. Minnie Hartzler, Joe Riggenbach, Eric Steiner, and little Crystal Ruffener, who is still confined. The others are home again for which we are thankful.

"For they that have used the office of a deacon well purchase to themselves a good degree, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus. . ." I Tim. 13 Bro. Loren Stoller and Bro. Rudy Graf were with us as we elected a deacon. This work has fallen on Bro. Henry Dotterer. Our prayers are with Bro. Henry and Sis. Martha, that they will always feel the support of the church, and that the Lord's will may be done in all things. May the blessings of the Lord be on them all. "And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into Glory." I Tim. 3:16

THANKSGIVING 1981! Once again our glad thanksgivings rise before our Father's Throne, as we try to count the blessings of the year so swiftly flown; as we trace the wondrous workings of His wisdom, power and love and unite our "Holy! Holy!" with the seraphim above. As we gather round our firesides on this glad Thanksgiving Day time would fail to count the blessings that have followed all our way. Grace sufficient, help and healing, prayer oft answered at our call; and the best of all our blessings, Christ Himself, our All in All. He has blessed our favored country with a free and bounteous hand; peace and plenty in our borders, liberty through all our land. And although our sins and follies oft provoked Him to His face. Mer-

cy still restrains His judgments, and prolongs our day of grace. While we love to count the blessings, grateful for the year that's gone, faith would sweep a wider vision, hope would gaze yet farther on. For the signals all around us seem with one accord to say, "Christ is coming soon to bring us Earth's last, best Thanksgiving Day!"

—A. B. Simpson

#### OHIO, SARDIS

##### Joyce Indermuhle

We give thanks to the visiting ministers who have been with us in the past months. Bros. Joseph Ramsier, Rittman, and Ray Sinn, Latty, finished our Bible school. All who were present received much food for thought.

Special thanks go to Bro. Edwin Bahler, Remington, IN, who visited with us one Monday evening.

Our fall season is fast closing and we will soon see the first day of winter. Let us not let our lives lie dormant as does the earth in winter; but rather let us strive even harder to do that which is God's will.

We have so many reasons to give thanks this Thanksgiving season. Let us never let a day go by where we fail to give thanks for our salvation.

#### OHIO, TOLEDO

##### Josephine Rehklau

God called our dear Sis. Sarah Miller from this life into eternity on Oct. 6. Surviving are her daughters, Mrs. Miriam Reineck and Mrs. Elizabeth Koster, and sisters and brothers. We will miss her presence among us. Our Elder Bro. Ben Maibach was with us for the services.

We are glad that Bro. Joseph Fetter is home again having been in the hospital with pneumonia. Bro. John Fetter has had surgery and is in the hospital. We pray that God's healing power will be with them.

#### OREGON, PORTLAND

##### Connie Steffen

Summer is past and another year is fast coming to a close. The year has been a good one and we can again thank the Lord for being so good to us. The national day of Thanksgiving is very near, and many families are "getting together" for a time of visiting and fellowship. The Bible has quite a few examples of Thanksgiving;



among them are two types. In Amos (chap. 4), the people of Samaria were offering a sacrifice, but not with the right motives, and God was very unhappy with them; but David wrote, "Rejoice in the Lord, ye righteous; and give thanks at the remembrance of His holiness." (Psalms 97:12) How do we approach the "Holiday" season? As the world becomes a darker place year by year, maybe we should look more to Him and remember His holiness.

Bro. Dennis and Sis. Laurie Martin have been blessed with a lovely little daughter. Jamie Marie was born Oct. 8, and was gladly welcomed home by her little brother, Jeremy.

Bro. Paul Rumbold is still experiencing much pain from arthritis, but has been able to assemble with us for half a day nearly every week. He needs our prayers, and greatly appreciates visits and calls.

Sis. Brenda Knobloch was with us this summer on a work program at a local nursery (horticultural). We enjoyed her being with us, and now there is an empty place in our assembly. We miss her smile and the fine example of a young Christian that she lived daily for her Lord. We feel confident the Lord will richly bless her, and now that she is home in Lester we hope she will think fondly of her stay in Oregon.

#### PENNSYLVANIA, PHILADELPHIA Dolores Rapp

Our minister, Bro. Ed Aeschleman, his wife Nancy, and their family visited in Illinois and Indiana this past month. Their son Matt, who lives in Colorado, was able to join them there for a visit.

We are always concerned when someone of our small congregation must undergo surgery. So it was for Phil Aeschleman, younger son of Bro. Ed and Sis. Nancy. Phil injured his knee. We wish him a speedy recovery.

On Oct. 7, Bro. Dan Stoller and his wife, Sis. Diane, of Rockville visited us. Bro. Dan filled in for our minister, Bro. Ed.

A week later, Oct. 11, we were blessed by the ministry of Bro. Byron Stoller who was accompanied by his wife, Carol, from Gridley. Bro. Byron reminded us of the autumnal beauty of God's creation with all the leaves blending together

in wondrous harmonies of reds, yellows, and golds. So in our everyday life as children of God, we should also blend our lives together.

Our visitors this past month were from Akron, Bluffton, Decatur, Eureka, Iowa, Rittman, Rockville and Tremont.

#### TEXAS, ZAPATA Margery Koehl

Sunday, Oct. 11, we were privileged to have with us Bro. Corbin and Sis. Virginia Bahler of Rockville, CN. Bro. Corbin's sermons were enjoyed very much. In the evening we all gathered at the home of Bro. John and Sis. Vi Perdlewitz where we enjoyed our potluck dinner.

Our congregation wishes to express our heartfelt sympathy to the family of Sis. Esther Beer, especially to her husband Ray, who cared for her so lovingly for so long during her illness. She will be missed as one of our winter residents.

#### WEST VIRGINIA, NEW MARTINSVILLE Minnie Weltz - Della Witschey

Frank Berger, a son of the late William and Emma Lohr Berger of Limestone Ridge passed away on Oct. 17 after a long illness. He is survived by his widow, Mary Edwards Berger, five sons, one sister, and one brother. Funeral services and interment took place on Oct. 19 in Canton, OH, where they have lived for several years.

Frank Barth of Parkersburg, formerly of New Martinsville was painfully and seriously injured on Oct. 1 in a tractor accident near his home; he was operating the machine, which was equipped with a Brush Hog attachment, and was pinned beneath it for some time before they were able to release him. He suffered a badly mangled right arm, a broken right leg near the hip, and bad cuts and bruises over most of the body. He is a patient in St. Joseph's Hospital in Parkersburg and it will be a hard, long way back to normal health again.

Lee Cochran is a surgical patient in the local hospital; he is the husband of Wilma Riegenbach Cochran.

Mr. and Mrs. D. B. Hodel (Happy) of Roanoke, IL, and Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Schumacher of Eureka, IL, visited here with local rela-

tives and friends on Oct. 4 and 5, on their way back home after an extended vacation in New York, Pennsylvania, and other points. Mrs. Edna Hart of Brownsville, PA, was a recent guest of Minnie Weltz and Mary Ann Brothers.

Mr. and Mrs. William Murdock spent two weeks in Los Angeles, CA, with their son Tim and wife; upon arriving home they were called and told they were the grandparents of a baby girl born to Tim and Marilyn, whom they named Amanda Kathleen. Mr. and Mrs. Elza Ritz are the maternal great-grandparents.

Mr. and Mrs. William Murdock, Jr. and family of Huntington, WV, were weekend guests of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Murdock, Sr.

Mrs. C. O. Wade is spending several days in Cleveland, OH, with her son, James and family.

Mrs. Don Hanna, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Barth, Mrs. C. O. Wade, Mrs. Elza Ritz, and Mrs. Minnie Weltz visited with their father and brother, Frank Barth, in Parkersburg on Oct. 11.

Our beautiful trees and landscapes have been hit by a heavy frost and freeze on the morning of Oct. 20. The scenery has been lovely.

#### Sermon—

(Continued from page 28)

there were seven thousand men who had not bowed to Baal.

Beloved, the faith of Elijah, Moses, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Isaiah, Peter, Paul, James, and the other apostles and prophets has lasted until today. Satan also continues in making an onslaught against the church of God, and we find that he works in many, many ways.

As we read in the fifteenth chapter of Acts, Satan tried to bring in the deception that the converted Gentiles were bound by the law. The Jewish people, though chosen of God, were not religious by themselves, so God had given His law to Moses upon Mount Sinai, and Moses taught the people God's commandments. We can read in the Old Testament how miserably they failed because they were not converted people.

Then God instituted a new order by sending Christ upon the earth to die upon the cross. The new

order that we are speaking of is the way of repentance and conversion. Friends, you have heard that spoken Sunday after Sunday, many of you from the time you were very small and were carried here to church by your mothers, and yet we find that the same Word is alive today. How did that happen? Has it happened by chance? No, it has not. It has happened because there were brethren who followed the Scripture and who took seriously what it says: "Remove not the ancient landmark, which thy fathers have set." It has taken a lot of effort. It has taken a tremendous resistance against the force of Satan.

We read that Satan came in the form of self righteousness to those people, and he told them that after the Gentiles were converted they were bound to live by the Jewish law. As this decepton crept in, they wondered what to do, and they finally decided to gather the elders and apostles together to talk about this thing. As Paul and Barnabas traveled to meet with the apostles and elders in Jerusalem, they passed through Phenice and Samaria and declared the conversion of the Gentiles which gave great joy to all the brethren. That is really the way it is, isn't it? When we finally become converted and find peace of heart, a great joy comes to us and to our brethren. That is a joy that Satan recognizes and detests. He knows that this joy is a foretaste of heaven above, and so he tries to undermine it.

"When they were come to Jerusalem, they were received of the church, and of the apostles and elders, and they declared all things that God had done with them." Acts 15:4 Then, through Satan's influence, "there rose up certain of the sect of the Pharisees which believed, saying, that it was needful to circumcise them, and to command them to keep the law of Moses." Acts 15:5.

Friends, we cover this chapter many times with our brothers and sisters in faith, because it is one of the most pivotal chapters in the Bible. I really believe that with my whole heart because, and I want you to pay close attention to this, at the time of the apostles when the church was started there were no Bibles that they could read. Much of it was not written until after the time of the Book of Acts. They had to rely upon the

inspiration and the revelation of the Spirit of God.

This question came up: "What should we do about the law?" They could only turn to God in prayer and to His Holy Spirit to guide them; and, when they did that, we find that God provided an answer. When the question first came up, they did not all agree. It says that there was much disputing.

Then "Peter rose up, and said unto them, Men and brethren, ye know how that a good while ago God made choice among us, that the Gentiles by my mouth should hear the word of the gospel and believe. And God, which knoweth the hearts, bare them witness, giving them the Holy Ghost, even as He did unto us; and put no difference between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith. Now therefore why tempt ye God, to put a yoke upon the neck of the disciples, which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear? But we believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved, even as they." Acts 15: 7-11

So you see, dear friends, even in the very beginning Satan mounted an assault against the church. Instead of looking for salvation through grace and the shed blood, he tried to persuade man to go back to the law wherein men would try to be saved by their own good works, which never succeeded from the beginning of time. The children of Israel were supposed to be saved in Old Testament times through their own good works in being obedient to the law, and God was never, ever, satisfied with that. The Word tells us that our own righteousness is as filthy rags in the sight of God.

There is none good, we read, no not one. How contrary that is to the teaching of psychologists. Man's nature is basically evil, and God has in His great love made a way of escape from that evil condition. He sent His son, Jesus Christ, to die upon the cross and shed His blood as an atonement for sin. Through that shed blood we can enter into fellowship with the Lord. How does that come to pass? It happens when we humble ourselves and admit that we are not good.

Dear friends, what is it that keeps us from becoming children of God? Is it in a large part simply pride, an unwillingness to admit,

"Yes, I am a sinner," and "No, I won't go to heaven if I die today?" Isn't that really what it all boils down to? We come up with a lot of excuses, but isn't that really the reason? The Word tells us to humble ourselves before God, and that is not easy to do. It is impossible to do when we are not willing to surrender our all. We must realize our helplessness and the sin and error of our ways, as did the prodigal son when he said that there is food and plenty in his father's house and went to him to confess his sin and beg for help. His father met him upon the road and all was forgiven.

Beloved, that is the way into the Father's favor today. It is not by our own good works. Dear friends, you cannot be good enough to get to the kingdom of Heaven. It is only when we come before God and in humility fall upon our knees, or even upon our faces, and pour out our hearts, admitting that we are sinners and lost with no hope in this world, that we can find grace and favor from God.

Beloved, one function of the church today is to teach from pulpits across the land in accents clear and plain that there is none good enough to enter the kingdom of heaven without repentance and conversion. After souls have become converted, the function of the church is to help those souls continue upon God's way and in His favor.

That is why I am so thankful, dear ones, for the church. By myself I doubt if I could make it. Without the support of our beloved brothers and sisters in the faith we would have a very, very difficult time. With the help and prayers of one another, we lift and carry each other along. That is the function of the church.

I am thankful as I view this Scripture that I don't have any feeling in my heart that the church has deviated today from the way it operated then. We can talk to you, friends, but the Spirit of God can reveal to you the truth of the Scripture and what we are saying.

So often people misunderstand, and they say that the church won't let them do this or the church won't let them do that. Friends, that is the wrong interpretation. We don't do the things we don't do and we do the things we do, not because we have to but because we

love the Lord and we want to. It isn't the church that makes us stay away from certain activities, but it is our inner conviction of heart that tells us, "You don't belong there as a child of God. There is danger there. Satan is there."

The Word of God is kind enough to point out to us what God considers to be sin and what He considers to be something that will be harmful to us. We can read in the book of Galatians where it speaks clearly and plainly of the works of the flesh and fruits of the Spirit. These two things are contrary to each other. We can not serve God and Satan at the same time; it is not possible.

The church has the duty to point out to mankind what God's Word says. I am thankful for this. Since I have been converted, I have always, from the bottom of my heart, appreciated the guidelines of the church and the teachings of the Bible. We confront things today in our lives, dear friends, that no generation has ever seen before, and you and we need a guideline. We need something to instruct us, something that is stable, something that does not change, something that will tell us how to wend our way through a wicked world and arrive at the goal of heaven. That is what we need and that is what we have right here. The work of the church is to look out for each soul, to have a love and concern for one another, and to warn each other of the pitfalls that lie along the path that leads to heaven.

We mentioned before that the apostles had no guidelines to go by, and you know that much of what confronts us today did not exist at the time of the apostle Paul. How could he have ever dreamed of the computer age in which we live? We can read that many times the prophets whose words are recorded in the Old Testament did not understand what they were writing about. They were simply saying or writing what God told them to. Things today are much different from what they were at the time of the apostle Paul, but God's Word is unchanging and unchangeable.

God in His great love has seen that men need help. It is not God's will that any should perish after they are converted, and yet we find that sometimes people lose their first estate. The Word of

God tells us that it is the function of the church to help prevent that from happening.

When the question of doctrine arose in the early church, the apostles considered the matter. After they had reached a conclusion, a letter was written to the churches. It says that "they wrote letters by them after this manner; The apostles and elders and brethren send greeting unto the brethren which are of the Gentiles in Antioch and Syria and Cilicia: Forasmuch as we have heard, that certain which went out from us have troubled you with words, subverting your souls, saying, Ye must be circumcised, and keep the law: to whom we gave no such commandment: It seemed good unto us, being assembled with one accord, to send chosen men unto you with our beloved Barnabas and Paul, Men that have hazarded their lives for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. We have sent therefore Judas and Silas, who shall also tell you the same things by mouth." Acts 15: 23-27

Are you aware, dear friends, that we practise this same thing in the church today. Perhaps you are not. The shepherds meet together twice a year and consider the things by which Satan attacks the church, and the brothers and sisters today. After prayerful consideration, we arrive at conclusions which are sent out in a letter to the church.

We read in the Scriptures that the early church not only sent a letter, but that "they wrote letters", and that they also sent men with them who told them the same things by mouth. Friends, we practise the same thing in the church today and I ask you, what is the reason for that? Is it to make it hard for the believer? Is it to make the path difficult with a lot of dos and don'ts? Absolutely not. The purpose is to point out the pitfalls and the devices that Satan is using today in the world that he did not use many years ago, and to plead with our brothers and sisters to be careful in the wicked world in which we live. Is this done because people have a desire to rule over someone? Absolutely not. It is because of the desire that not one believer would lose what he has found. The love of God is thus manifested toward man in a wonderful way. We are called into His house, but we are helped after

we are in it to remain on the way that leads to heaven.

The things that were laid upon these early Gentile Christians from the old law were to abstain from idolatry, from fornication, from blood, and from things strangled. People might say today, "If that is the case, then we can do anything we want to other than those things." Without serious consideration, someone may be deluded or deceived by Satan to believe that.

The fifth chapter of Galatians, a chapter which I think is outstanding, explains this thoroughly and we are told to "Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage." Gal. 5:1 We are not given license to go out and do anything we want to, not at all. It says, ". . . use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another." Gal. 5:13 You can read the rest at home, but Paul spells out the works of the flesh and then he says this, "I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God." Gal. 5:21.

Certain things cannot be. The Scripture is very clear. When we read through that list and when we consider the practices and the doctrines of the church today, dear friends, you can find every one of them under the concepts outlined there.

We are then told that "the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law." Gal. 5:22, 23. Beloved, we can practice those virtues in our lives. Love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance—those are the things we want; and that is what makes us happy people. The other things make people unhappy because they are sinful. Let us really weigh these things.

Dear friends, we place before you this question, why do you wait? You have nothing to gain by remaining in sin, and everything to gain by serving the Lord. Those of us who have turned around have found it to be so. We read in the Word that His yoke is easy and His burden is light. One of our hymns says, "I found it so; I found it so."

## SERMON BY Bro. STEVE RINKENBERGER, CISSNA PARK, IL

Text: Acts 15

In the Scripture that we read this morning, both in the Old Testament and in the New, the Spirit of God seems to be telling us that we need something that is steadfast and immovable in our lives, something that will not change.

As we have read and prayed together, dear ones, my thoughts have been drawn along that line. As we view the world in which we live, we can certainly see that there is a lot of confusion, a lot of questioning, and a lot of wondering as to what is right and what is wrong. When we analyze it, we find that the reason for that questioning and so on is in a large part due to the fact that men have rejected the teachings of the Bible and have instead turned to their own philosophy and to their own thoughts.

In the book of Proverbs we read a verse that has always been one of my favorites, and which I know has been an encouragement to other parents who have sought to raise children in the fear and admonition of the Lord. We read, "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Prov. 22: 6. It seems to me beloved, that when the Word of God comes into the heart of a young person, it will stay with him as long as he lives, and I believe that the ungodly elements in the world are very much aware of this. We know that Satan is aware of it because we can see that quite an onslaught has been mounted against the family, against rearing children in the fear and admonition of the Lord.

Looking at communist nations with an unbiased view point, we see that through the inspiration of Satan they have removed children from their homes at a very young age and raised them in dormitories and in schools to keep them from the influence of their parents. We read that the children are

taught to turn against their parents and to tattle on them if they worship the Lord. The Word says that in the latter day children will be turned against their parents and parents against their children, and that the Word would cause dissension upon the earth.

I believe that this same thing is happening in our nation today through the day care centers and other types of schools where we are urged to send children as young as three years of age so that the mothers can work. Beloved, from the bottom of my heart I believe that this is a tool of the devil, because I believe that he has no greater desire than to remove children from the influence of Christian parents as early as possible. I am thankful that our Christian mothers and fathers have been wise enough and have been filled enough with the Spirit of God to understand this, and I don't believe that it is much of a problem in the church today; for that I am thankful.

There are a lot of deep truths contained in the Scripture which we read this morning. A second verse that really stands out in the chapter which we read in Proverbs, the twenty-eighth verse, says, "Remove not the ancient landmarks, which thy fathers have set." We know that there is always pressure from Satan to remove the landmarks and to dilute our faith.

The institution that I am most thankful for, and have been since the time of my conversion, beloved ones, is this very church in which we are gathered today. I have found it to be a place where we can, for a time at least, be insulated from the world's influence, and I believe all who are here this morning, friend and brethren alike, will agree.

After the Lord's death and as-

ension to heaven, the Holy Spirit led the disciples to establish a church, but from its very beginning Satan made an assault upon it.

It is interesting to note that in the Lord's ministry upon the earth He gave few instructions about how the church should operate. He did tell us that if we have something against our brother, we should go to him and speak about it; and, if that does not work, we should take two; and, if this does not work, then it should be brought before the church. Other than that, the Lord did not say a great deal about the church and how it should function. It was left to the inspiration of the Spirit, speaking to Peter, Paul, and the other disciples, to set up the order of the church.

I think, dear friends that you, too, are thankful that when you arise on Sunday morning, you can go to a place where you are confident that you will hear the Word of God. That will not always be so, and it has not always been so. You can study the past and find that there were times when the light of God glimmered very, very faintly in the hearts of men. The church, such as it was, had to meet in secret rather than openly as we are doing now.

The early church in the Roman empire met in the catacombs during the day or night. They had to go with lamps to the graveyard underneath Rome. They had to meet in secret and were not free to assemble as we are. Through the dark ages we find that, though the faith never died out, there was a time when it was very weak. Yet, God has always provided a remnant upon the earth. At one time Elijah said to God, "I, even I only, am left," but God said that

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