

The Silver Lining

A LIGHT FOR BELIEVERS

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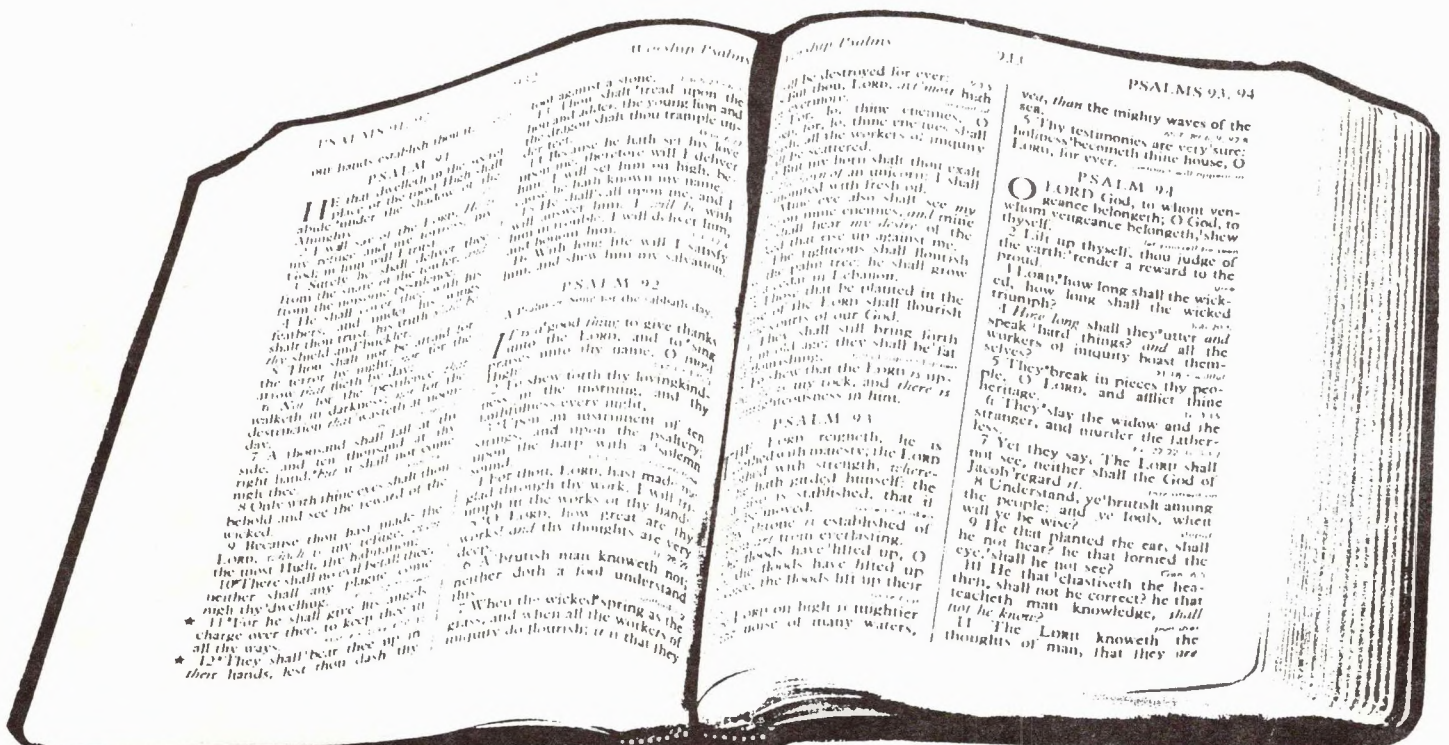
Giving God's Word

Say not ye, there are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? BEHOLD, I say unto you, lift up your eyes, and LOOK on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.

And He that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto LIFE eternal, that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together.

I SENT YOU to reap that on which ye bestowed no labor; other men labored, and YE are entered into their labors.

John 4:35 - 36 - 38



MISSIONARY WORK BIBLE DISTRIBUTION

SPREADING THE GOOD NEWS

For several years there has been a lot of discussion in the brotherhood concerning the vast amount of money our faith has contributed to the various Bible societies and just how effective the results have been in getting the Word distributed to the proper places.

On October 16, 1981, there was a joint meeting of the Apostolic Christian Mission Fund and World Relief Committees in Chicago, Illinois. A charge was given to the Mission Fund Committee to further investigate the activities of the Bible societies and to make a recommendation to the elder body that considerations and guidelines should be given to establish our own Bible distribution system.

Bro. Henry Grimm had been very active for about twenty years in monitoring the collections and making a report on how the money was divided among the various Bible societies. From August 1980 to August 1981, fourteen churches reported contributions in excess of \$39,000. Many other individuals and congregations also forwarded funds of which we have no record. But the American Bible Society reported that from January 2 to July 31, 1981, our churches had contributed in excess of \$20,000 which was immediately identifiable, and we're inclined to think that much more than that was donated.

Our investigation revealed that the Northern Bible Society, which our brotherhood had contributed to regularly for some years in the past, had lost their devoted secretary in November 1978, and they had ceased further distribution of Bibles or Testaments in 1979.

There was further concern as for many years several of our churches had written to the various societies directing them to not use their generous gifts to distribute such translations as "Good News for Modern Man" and other translations which were actually misleading or were an incomplete interpretation of the Word.

Generally, there was favorable response. However, recognizing current trends, it was felt our objectives were not fully being met and that we should seek substitute or alternate methods of distribution which would be more effective.

With the growth of our activities,

especially in World Relief where they have had direct contact with many people who are in great need both materially and spiritually, it was strongly felt that we should exercise as many opportunities as possible to supplement with the Word of God the generous donations of food, clothing, etc.

We are greatly encouraged to see that some of the local congregations have long had an active program in their own communities of sharing the Holy Scriptures with those in nursing homes, hospitals, and other such institutions. It was noticed that many motels and hotels no longer provide Bibles which many of us have used in our travels throughout the world. Here is an opportunity to involve many of our brethren, and particularly our young people, in a most worthwhile pursuit. Some congregations have even gone so far as to advertise in the local media the availability of Bibles upon request. Bibles are then personally delivered by some of our brethren.

Just as an example, on our recent trip to India, the Peoria congregation provided money to buy in India the Word of God printed in the local dialect of the area. The children and loved ones in the homes on the Mission and in the community gladly received these gifts of love.

It is further felt that when our brethren who have been active in World Relief activities have the opportunity, this vehicle should be used to supply the Word of life and light. We can see the possibility of many avenues being opened, and also the answer to the many who inquire, "what can I do to further the Lord's work here upon this earth?" Actually the opportunities are unlimited and we want to encourage them through the proper channels.

We are agreed that, wherever possible within the framework of our own brotherhood, we should lend ourselves in further distributing the Holy Scriptures and also in expressing our beloved faith and doctrine.

Contributions can be sent either by congregations or individuals to the Mission Fund so identified. We intend to diligently pursue all avenues possible to provide Scriptures wherever a need is brought to our attention. We hope that in each congregation, under

the direction of the shepherd and ministers, brethren will be available to share the teachings of our heavenly Father.

Congregations and individuals who still want to make their contributions directly to the various Societies have that privilege, but it is hoped that we will be able to establish the proper network within our own brotherhood to see that we get full value for money donated.

Brethren are available from the Mission Fund Committee to visit the various congregations to explain how this work is being accomplished in many areas. When we have once had the privilege of seeing first hand the thrill and the joy with which this Holy Book is received, we have a much better understanding of why we are encouraging better supervision and control of the vast amount of money being forwarded.

Let's all try to work together to share what we have with those who have not been so fortunate.

Humbly submitted,

Ben Maibach, Secretary-Treasurer
Apostolic Christian Mission Fund

BIBLE FUND

Each local congregation has a brother appointed to care for and administer the funds donated by the congregation for the distribution of Bibles. These funds are to be used for the purchase and distribution of the King James version of the Bible.

The national missionary committee has reviewed the activities and efforts of various organizations that can be approved by our church.

There is a great need to provide and send Bibles to many precious souls hungry for the truth, both overseas and in our own land.

BIBLE DISTRIBUTION — LOCAL AREA

We have found that there is a great need for the Bible in many homes in our own church areas. This can be a missionary work effort in our own church. There are several ways to find these precious souls who need and want, but do not have, a Bible.

1. A good response has come from placing a note in the newspaper, just as Bro. Hartzler of Rittman many years ago placed a note in the Alabama paper. For example: "Do you need a Bible or large print testament? If so, we have

one for you without charge or obligation. Call *****"

Many requests come in. A record is made of the call. Then a follow-up visit in person by two brothers is made, taking the Bible or Testament to them. They visit and ascertain if there are any other needs. Also an invitation to worship with us is given.

2. Placing several large print testaments in an optometrist's office often supplies a Bible for someone who has poor eyesight.
3. A note in the Silver Lining that whoever wants a Bible or knows of a person who wants a Bible should send the name and address to the Silver Lining is effective.
4. For those unfortunate souls in prison, it is good to make a Bible available to them.
5. Send Bibles or testaments with the World Relief grain, food, or clothing shipments. Whenever possible, have brethren accompany the shipments, administering the distribution of the Bibles.
6. A national Bible distribution board, under the direction of the national missionary committee, will purchase and distribute the King James version of the Bible in the United States and in foreign lands.
 - (a) With funds contributed for Bibles, Bibles and New Testaments (King James version) are purchased.
 - (b) The board will accept requests for Bibles and testaments and arrange for packaging and shipment.
 - (c) Where there are requests for large quantities for local church distribution, Bibles will be provided for this need.
 - (d) Follow-up on Bible distributions will be made.

7. Bibles and New Testaments will be placed in hotel and motel rooms when authorized by the management.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH MISSIONARY COMMITTEE BIBLE DISTRIBUTION

With the great need of giving and placing a Bible or testament in the hands and to the heart of many who want a Bible, the Missionary Committee has established and implemented a source of supply for Bibles to our churches.

Purpose:

1. There was great concern that the funds contributed would be used to distribute the King James version of the Bible.
2. As large quantities are purchased, the cost is lower and immediate delivery can be given.
3. The Missionary Committee brochure gave an outline or guide for Bible distribution. As each elder appoints brothers to this work of Bible distribution, the brothers can order Bibles directly from this one source of supply.
4. A package of representative Bibles and testaments available is being mailed to each elder.

The source of supply for Bibles will be:

Leo Apostolic Christian Church
% David Bertsch
R R #2 Box 157A
Grabill, IN 46741

Representative costs plus shipping will be given and all contributions for Bibles ordered, can be forwarded to the Mission Bible Fund.

% Ben Maibach
14726 Fox Rd.
Detroit, MI 48239

Missionary Committee

not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6

The qualification requirements for the alternate houseparents and assistant houseparent are:

1. Must be a brother and/or sister sound in faith, upholding church doctrine and order.
2. Must have the support of his/her home church elder.
3. Must be able to command respect of children, as well as adults.
4. Desirable age between 21 and 60 years. Consideration will be given to all applicants.
5. A resume is required to be sent with your request for an interview.
6. This position is full-time.
7. Training or studies in child care, social work, nursing profession, counseling or teaching would be helpful. We have a staff development program and "on the job" training to help you carry out your duties.
8. Additional information concerning duties, salary, insurance and other compensation, can be obtained by writing or calling:

THE SILVER LINING

Grabill, Indiana 46741
USPS 496780

EDITORIAL STAFF:

Lynn Stieglitz
Albert Frautschi
David Bertsch

The editorial staff wishes to acknowledge and thank all of the volunteers from the Leo Apostolic Christian Church who willingly give of their time to handle the many address changes, help mail the monthly issues and spend hours in editing. May God reward you.

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IN MEMORY — EDITORS:
HENRY SOUDER
EDWARD SOUDER

URGENT NEED FOR TWO MARRIED COUPLES AND A SINGLE SISTER AT CHILDREN'S HOME

To be able to continue the operation of the Children's Home, there is an urgent need for a married couple to serve as houseparents, a married couple to serve as alternate houseparents and a single sister to serve as an assistant houseparent at the Children's Home at Leo, Indiana.

This is an exciting and challenging opportunity for our brothers and sisters to put to use their God-given talents in working with young people and bringing out the best in them.

"Train up a child in the way he should go and, when he is old, he will

Bro. Uriel Gehring
Box 423
Grabill, IN 46741
(219) 627-5468 or (219) 627-5138

Bro. Oliver Stieglitz
Route 3 Box 321
Grabill, IN 46741
(219) 657-5168

Elder Bro. David Bertsch
Route 2
Grabill, IN 46741
(219) 627-2923

All requests and resumes will be promptly and prayerfully answered.

"When my father and my mother forsake me, then the Lord will take me up." (Psalm 27:10) There is an ever increasing great number of children who have been forsaken, and only a small number of Christian homes available to provide for them. The Lord needs willing workers to provide for these young souls.

The Children's Home
Board Members

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME

Uriel Gehring — Jane Stieglitz

With all the anticipation and excitement of preparing for the Sale, there is a calm now with the children back in school. They were thrilled with the prospect of renewing old friendships and making new ones. The school buses come fairly early to transport them, so there has been a revision of schedules here.

After spending one and a half years with us, Wendy Roth has returned to her family in Fairbury, IL. We wish her the best and hope that she will remember all of us.

Our annual Auction and Sale was held Saturday, August 27. It was well-attended (an estimated number of persons attending during the course of the day, about 1,000). The Auction went well, with auctioneers from our brotherhood taking turns auctioning off quilts, clocks, rocking horses, dishes, etc. The food was delicious, especially the dozens of homemade pies, and the sloppy joes. A huge amount of pop and ice cream was consumed because it was a rather warm day. Thank you to the many volunteers who made things go so efficiently. May the Lord bless you. We feel the Lord caused his face to smile on us and blessed us.

We had an extensive summer school program for our children of the Home. We thank all of the teachers who volunteered their services to help out. Most of the older children were involved in a summer work program outside of the Home. The younger children were also able to participate in swimming lessons at a local community swimming pool.

As there is a time for everything, the time came to bid farewell to two sets of our houseparents. Bro. Bob and Sis. Karen Indermuhle left for Sardis, OH on August 13. Bro. Marvin and Sis. Pat Fischer left for Roanoke, IL on August 19. Both brothers will go back to their previous occupations, Bro. Bob to truck driving. We thank them for their dedication to the Home and the children, and wish them God's continued guidance.

Bro. Larry and Sis. Vera Baer, formerly our alternate houseparents are presently serving as the full-time houseparents in the East House. Bro. Paul and Sis. Leanne Fischer, also former alternate houseparents are serving as temporary houseparents for the West House until a full-time couple to replace them can be found. Many of our local couples have lent of themselves to houseparent until full-time replacements answer the call. We greatly appreciate their willingness and all of your prayers.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

Reminder: As was mentioned in the latest issue of the Silver Lining, our Annual Benefit Day is scheduled for November 18. We eagerly look forward to seeing you and the results of your creative talents then.

"Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life..."
James 4:14

So often we hear comments, such as, "Where has the time gone? So soon the year will again be past!" It does almost seem as if we are in a maelstrom without any way to slow the pace. Often we long for a quiet time, alone with God. We wonder: Are we perhaps carrying some unnecessary burdens? Robert Burdette penned his thoughts this way:

"There are two days of the week

upon and about which I never worry... two carefree days kept sacredly free from fear and apprehension. One of these days is yesterday. Yesterday, with all its cares and frets, with all its pains and aches, with all its faults, its mistakes and blunders, has passed forever beyond the reach of my recall. I cannot undo an act that I wrought; I cannot unsay a word that I said on yesterday. All that it holds of my life, of wrongs, regret and sorrow, is in the hands of the Mighty One who can bring honey out of the rocks and sweet waters out of the bitterest desert. Save for the beautiful memories, sweet and tender, that linger like the perfume of roses in the heart of the day that is gone, I have nothing to do with yesterday. It was mine... it is God's.

And the other day that I do not worry about is tomorrow. Tomorrow with all its possible adversities, its burdens, its perils, its larger promise and poor performance, its failures and mistakes, is as far beyond the reach of my mastery as its dead sister, yesterday. It is a day of God's. Its sun will rise in roseate splendor, or behind a mask of weeping clouds. But it will rise. Until then, the same love and patience that held yesterday, will hold tomorrow, shining with tender promise into the heart of today. I have no possession in that unborn day of grace. All else is in the safe keeping of the Infinite One that holds for me the treasure of yesterday. Tomorrow... it is God's day. It will be mine, if He so wills me to meet it.

There is left for myself then, but one day of the week... today. A man can fight the battles of today. Any woman can carry the burden of just one day. Any man can resist the temptations of today. O friend, it is only when to the burdens and cares of today, carefully measured out to us by the Infinite Wisdom and Might of God that gives them with the promise "as thy day so shall thy strength be," we add the burden of those two awful eternities, yesterday and tomorrow, such burdens as only the Mighty God can sustain, that we break down. It isn't the experience of today that drives men mad. It is remorse for something that happened yesterday, the dread of what tomorrow may disclose. These are God's days. Leave them with Him.

Therefore, I journey but one day at a time. That is the easy day. That is our day... God's and mine. While faithfully and dutifully we run our course and

work our appointed task, God the Almighty takes care of yesterday and tomorrow."

The wisdom expressed above is not uncommon among our residents. Much can be learned by observing and listening to our "family" members.

The extreme temperatures of the past summer have curtailed some of the residents' outdoor activities; but now the weather has moderated somewhat, and we see lots of bicycles out in the evenings.

The annual Special Olympics at the local high school has again given our residents the benefit of outdoor exercise and the satisfaction of achievement on their level.

Those who attend Special Education school have spent a part of the summer at day camp. Others have had vacations at home with families.

One additional way to enjoy each day is to let prayer be the key of the morning and the bolt of the evening. It is a shield to the soul, a sacrifice to God and a scourge to Satan.

ARIZONA, PHOENIX

Ron and Ev Hoerr

Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Acts 2:38

On August 6, we heard the testimonies of Harlan and Vivian Ramsier. They both told of their need for a closer walk with Him. Before moving to Phoenix, they attended the Rittman church. We were pleased that Elder Bro. Joe Ramsier came to help Elder Bro. Richard Schupbach with the testimonies and baptisms on Sunday. Several relatives came from Ohio and Tucson to share this time with Bro. Harlan and Sis. Vivian. After a church supper, we enjoyed evening services with Bro. Bill Brake from the Sardis congregation.

James Thomas made Bro. Tom and Sis. Jody Klotzle first-time parents. He was born July 23 in CA. Bro. Herb and Sis. Joanne Knochel and Bro. John and Sis. Lois Klotzle are the happy grandparents.

After a month of vacation, the Sunday School reconvened on Aug. 14. Little Beth Dotterer related that you miss your friends when you are not in Sunday School, but most of all you miss the lessons and your teacher.

On Aug. 14, Bro. Lenard Meyer of the Chicago church was our visiting minister.

Sis. Linda Zollinger was hospitalized for tests. Sis. Martha De Mille is in the hospital (8-14). Bro. Earl Sanders is resting at home from a recent infarct, before returning for more studies.

Bro. Roy and Sis. Minnie Farney have a new address:

3101 W. Charter Oak Road
Phoenix, AZ 85029

Sis. Ruth Baer also has a new address:

Glencroft Retirement Community
6540 W. Butler Drive
Court 3 Apt. 87
Glendale, AZ 85302

We have enjoyed many visitors recently, even though it is monsoon season and winds have gusted to 70 miles per hour and temperature highs have been 89 to 110.

We pray for the Lord's guidance and blessings as our elder brothers meet Aug. 17, 18 and 19 and confer.

Grace be with you, mercy and peace, from God the Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of the Father, in truth and love.

CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA

Mary Beth Klotzle

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God." Eph. 2:8. How blessed we can be with the gifts which God so lovingly and willingly offers us. Elaine Graf (Bro. Virgil and Sis. Marilyn) and Beckie Witzig (Bro. Bill and Sis. Mary) have accepted the grace of God through faith and in repentance have begun their service to Him. We pray and trust God will be by their side each day to teach, strengthen and guide them in their Christian walk.

Not only is mankind saved through faith, but true children of God also live by faith. It is with faith that our Sis. Lillian Jevremov (Bro. Victor and Sis. Anna) and Bro. Doug Wagenbach (Bro. Don and Sis. Marie, Washington, IL) feel it is God's will to become one in Christ. May He prepare them both for this step in their lives.

What joy a newborn baby brings! Bro. Tom and Sis. Jody Klotzle welcome their first child, James Thomas. May the Lord direct all parents to raise their children in a way which they can learn of His great love and plan of salvation. Grandparents are Bro. Herb and Sis. Joanne Knochel (Phoenix) and

Bro. John and Sis. Lois Klotzle (Altadena). Great-grandparents are Bro. Joe and Sis. Elizabeth Waibel (Bay City) and Sis. Emma Hoffman (Rockville). To see the complete trust a child has is a good reminder of how we should always trust in our Heavenly Father who has promised to care and provide for us.

The Lord continues to bless us, and we thank Him for adding to our congregation. Bro. Tom and Sis. Heidi Luginbuhl and their children, Rebecca, Theresa and Kurt John have moved here from the Rockville, CT area. We realize they are missed there, yet we appreciate so much having them with us, representing growth in our little church. May God bless their home here!

We also thank the Lord for sending visitors our way. Bro. Ed Aeschleman (Philadelphia) and Bro. Roy Luginbuhl (Rockville) shared God's Word with us. May He bless all who so willingly lend themselves in His service.

There are many millions of people living in the Southern California area. Among them are a number who have a heritage in the Apostolic Christian Church by virtue of their births and attendance earlier in their lives. We rejoice when occasionally we get to meet them when they share family visitors from "back east" with us on a Sunday. We would like to share a special "Heritage Sunday" with these Southern California residents and their families late in October or early in November this year. We would appreciate it if any of our readers would send the names and addresses of California families or acquaintances to John Klotzle, 1689 Homewood Drive, Altadena, CA 91001 in the very near future. We would like to mail invitations to each of these dear people in advance of our special Sunday providing the details. We pray for God's blessing upon this effort to share His love.

COLORADO, DENVER

Marlene Leman

Traveling through eastern Colorado we can see many windmills standing as mute testimonies of the ever present wind. In conversation with a sister not long ago, she mentioned how the wind reminds her of God's presence in our lives. We can't actually see either but can see and feel the effects of both. Are there "windmills" in our lives to show

the ever present "wind" of God's spirit living in us?

Again God has blessed us with ministers from a distance to speak His word to us: Bros. Ben Wysong (Sabetha), Leland Plattner (Zapata), Clarence Dietrich (Silverton) and Ken Eisenmann (Cissna Park). How we love that sweet story of old, forever new with each repeated telling. May God bless and reward each of these dear brothers for their willing and untiring service to God.

We welcome Sis. Marianne Ringger to our congregation. She comes to us from Gridley, IL. We do so appreciate each dear sister, brother or friend that comes to make their home out here. May God be with you Sis. Marianne as you continue to serve Him in your new location.

It seems that there are changes in everyone's life . . . some move west and other back east. We are sorry to bid farewell to our dear friend, Mark Gerber as his service training ends and he returns to his home in Lester. We enjoyed his stay in our area and hope he comes back to visit often.

There is still some work that needs to be done on our church building, but we have been blessed with workers again this month. Brothers came from Peoria, Roanoke and Silverton to help with some of the work. We pray God's blessing upon each one.

Our new building is located at the corner of Alameda and Revere in Aurora; just ½ mile west of I-225.

CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE Dorothy Viens

We appreciate the many brethren who have visited us in these busy summer months. As we are somewhat isolated, we don't receive much company during the winter months, so we do appreciate our summer visitors. Among the many brethren who visited us this month were ministering Bro. Marvin Leman (Bradford), Elder Bros. Art Bahler (Fairbury), Dale Eisenmann (Chicago), Bros. Sam Schlatter (Junction) and Bob Beebe (South Bend). We thank these brothers for their labors in our behalf and are grateful for the wonderful teachings that we received from the Word of Life.

We are encouraged and uplifted in our faith when we hear of souls who are seeking the Lord in repentance. Doug Schneider (Bro. Roy and Sis. Joyce) and Jeff Gerber (Bro. Everett and Sis.

Phyllis) have forsaken the world of sin and are trying to walk in the footsteps of the One who paid the ransom for their sins. May God grant an abundant measure of grace and sustain them in their every trial.

Two precious baby girls have arrived to gladden the hearts of those who have been awaiting their coming. Little Heidi Jane Ballasy was born August 9 to Bro. Kevin and Sis. Jane, their first child. Heidi's grandparents are Bro. Norman and Sis. Lavina Ballasy and Clayton and Sis. Marion Andrews. Bro. Terry and Sis. Cindy Virkler are the parents of Laura Marie, born August 15. Chad, Carla and Jacob are also glad to welcome their new little sister. Laura's grandparents are Bro. Bernard and Sis. Caroline Virkler (Croghan) and Bro. Richard and Sis. Frieda Lanz. May God abide within these homes, ever instructing and guiding these little souls.

FLORIDA, FT. LAUDERDALE Billie Klopfenstein

Our congregation recently enjoyed the ministry and counsel of our Elder Bro. Joe Braker for two weeks. It is always a joy to have the Braker family in our midst.

We were deeply saddened by the death of Otto Weber. He and his wife Elizabeth had attended our church for several years. Our sympathy goes out to her. Services were conducted in Coral Springs by Bro. Harry Sutter, with burial in New York.

Sis. Faye Gerber volunteered for a few days of "helping out" at the Children's Home in Leo. Washing windows, baking; cooking and basement cleaning were all on the agenda. She will be back in Ft. Lauderdale soon to resume her teaching position.

Bro. Mike Hohulin has returned to school in IL. He is on a college-work program and has spent the summer here. We miss him and hope in the future he will again be part of our fellowship.

The apostle Paul said, "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief." I Timothy 1:15

Recently I read a bumper sticker that said "Christians aren't perfect; they are just forgiven." People we associate with in our daily lives often expect us to be perfect because we profess to be Christians. But we are really only sinners, saved by the grace of God. If we had to be perfect, there would be

no Christians at all. Thank God that we can be assured that through faith in Jesus Christ our sins are forgiven.

FLORIDA, SARASOTA Doris and Diane Rocke

Rodomir and Denise Mrdjanov and children Daniela, Lillian, and Milan have returned to Akron, OH. We pray the Lord will shower his blessings and let them return if it is His will. Their hearts were as saddened as ours to bid farewell. May Denise find her salvation and continue in His grace.

We had many brethren on vacations and attending the Brotherhood Conference at Gridley, IL. We pray for their safe return and uplifted spirits, witnessing the labors of the many elder brothers for all of us. Orval and I attended the meeting last year (after a good many years) and it brought tears of concern as we could see the responsibility. With this fast world around us; it's like an overcast sky on the dangers before us. We have to constantly watch and pray and heed the warnings that we will be prepared on that great day. May our leaders be rewarded for their deep concern and many prayers for us.

The remodeling of the church is progressing rapidly. The walls are all in place and finishing work is begun. Thanks again for all labors of love; only God can truly reward you.

Elder Bro. Ben Maibach (and Sis. Lorene) was our only guest speaker this month. It was a recuperating visit for Bro. Ben this time and we pray his Spirits were lifted by our many concerned prayers as he labored in our behalf. It was a great joy to hear the testimony of Frank Krsogacin and we welcome him as our new brother-in-faith.

Sis. Helen Laparo has returned from CA after sitting at the bedside of her dear sister, Bertha Richardson, who passed away several weeks ago. Her husband joined her for funeral services in Ohio. Our sympathy and prayers go to Charles and Sis. Helen. May they feel the love of others during their sorrow.

Hospital patients this month were Rodomir Mrdjanov, Sis. Lucille Heiniger and Rochelle (Bro. Robert and Sis. Debbie) Lille. They have all returned home. We are happy, but still concerned for each one. May the healing power be the will of our Father in heaven. Carol (Ken) Rocke has recuperated several weeks from a break in her foot.

May God bless her and keep her in His care.

ILLINOIS
BLOOMINGTON - NORMAL

Shirley Denick
Charlene Knobloch

We sang farewell to Bro. Tom and Sis. Jan Keeley as they make their new home in the Cissna Park area. We will miss their ready smiles and their fellowship. We pray for God's blessings in their new home and welcome their return visits.

Bro. Brent Nussbaum will take as his bride Sis. Cheryl Honegger of Bluffton, IN. Their parents are Bro. Keith and Sis. Nancy Honegger and Sis. Tillie and the late Bro. Alden Nussbaum. We wish them much happiness in this special time in their lives. They have chosen Oct. 30 as their wedding date.

Matt and Wendy Kupferschmid have a new joy in their home. Aaron Louis was born July 18. Grandparents are Bro. Louis and Sis. Vilas Belsley of Morton and Bro. Bill and Sis. Sue Kupferschmid of Normal.

Bro. Jerry and Tami Koehl are also first time parents. Little miss Whitney Lynn was born Aug. 13. Sharing their joy are grandparents Bro. Virgil and Sis. Gladys Koehl of Fairbury and Larry and Barb Wenger of Forrest.

We thank our Elder Bro. Dan Koch (Tremont) for his visit. We appreciate his time and his talents in our behalf and pray the Lord will always protect him as he travels in the Lord's service.

ILLINOIS, BRADFORD
Shirley Kieser

May God richly bless the lives of our newly married couple, Donn Ehnle and Tracy Duckworth. Bro. Roy and Sis. Donna Ehnle and the Larry Duckworths are their parents.

Sympathy is extended to Sis. Lois Endress and her family as her mother, Sis. Hattie Miller, passed away rather unexpectedly. I'm sure Sis. Lois is comforted by knowing she has gone to a better place of rest and peace.

A new baby girl, Holly, was welcomed into the Ron Wagenbach family. Congratulations to Ron, Tammy and two little boys. Our prayers go with them as they have moved to Tremont. We'll miss them at Bradford. May God bless them in their new home.

Visiting ministers were Bro. Don Manz (Junction), Bro. Ed Alt (Cissna

Park), and Bro. Joe Schrock (Congerville). Our thanks and appreciation for their labors on our behalf.

We enjoyed the fellowship of those from far and near who make their home in FL in the winter for some months. Bro. Joe Schrock likened this joyful meeting with a similar one in Heaven one day as we stay true and faithful and make it to that blissful, eternal home.

We're happy for Bro. Jim and Sis. Helen Knoboch as their daughter Debbie has been born again. Many of us were privileged to hear her testimony and witness her baptism at Peoria. May God richly bless her new life in Christ.

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO
Kathy Schlatter

"Thou preparest a table before me . . ." Psalm 23:5. I was cross-stitching on a tablecloth for the Children's Home Sale. The pattern was beautiful, though too much of it unfinished — perhaps we think of ourselves. The design was made up of larger and smaller motifs, as our faith is composed of larger and smaller churches. Some motifs were practically entwined, one with another, while others were much more isolated — like our churches. Each pattern had many cross-stitches, with a few varied embroidery stitches. The embroidery drew together the symmetry of the design. Our churches, too, have many members with only a few ministers and other church officials. These elders, ministers and others in offices are a part of our design in godly order. When finished (a true miracle) the tablecloth was breathtaking in its beauty (if I do say so myself). May we all remain part of the Body's beautiful Christian design, doing our utmost to be a cross-stitch going with the uniformity of the rest, that we may not need to be ultimately ripped or cut out.

Visitors enrich our spiritual fare, our conversations and experiences. When those chosen from among us are willing to proclaim His Word, surely we are blessed, for "goodness and mercy follow." Psalm 23:6. We truly thank the Lord and Bros. William Funk (Garden Grove, IA), Delbert Indermuhle (Sardis, OH), Clarence Kachelmuss (Forrest, IL), Bob Pflederer (Morton, IL) and Jim Rinckenberger (Bluffton, IN).

The doors into Adler Planetarium (along Lake Michigan) are many-fac-

eted, prismatic. Sunshine shining through prisms breaks the light up into many rainbows of color. When all our actions are exposed and clear to others around us — the heat is on, we might say — do rainbows result? If the Son is shining through us, rainbows should result, shouldn't they?

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK
Wilma Walder — Joan Waldbeser

July 31 was the date Sis. Julie Baumgartner and Bro. Derek Rabe were joined in holy matrimony. Parents of the couple are Bro. Alvin and Sis. Loretta Baumgartner and Don and Julia Rabe (Fairbury). We rejoice with this couple and wish them God's richest blessings as they make their home in the Fairbury area. We will miss having Sis. Julie in our congregation.

Visiting ministers that day were Bro. Duane Kilgus (Fairbury) and Bro. Everett Hari (Bloomington). May God's Word ever be expounded to us poor and needy pilgrims in its truth and purity.

Many of our loved ones found themselves in the hospital this past month. Surgical patients were Sis. Cora Scharlach, Sis. Lydia Moser, Bro. Jeff Young and Francis Knapp. Other patients were Sis. Anna Hari, Sis. Eulalia Eisenmann, Sis. Jean Knapp and Phyllis Enz.

Several of our folks who are now living in our church homes were also hospitalized. They are Bro. Ed Feller and Sis. Reka Hoerr (Eureka Home) and Bro. Sam Hari (Fairview Haven).

We often think of our many loved ones who have made their homes in various church homes. We would like to take this opportunity to mention their names again as a reminder to us all. Residing at Fairview Haven, Fairbury are Bro. Sam Hari, Bro. Lucien Kuntz, Sis. Ella Scharlach and Ben Merkle.

Residing at the Eureka Home are Sis. Bertha Reineke, Sis. Bertha Meiss, Sis. Reka Hoerr, Sis. Bena Hari, Sis. Kathryn Martin and Bro. Ed Feller. Our thoughts and prayers often go to these loved ones. We wish them God's nearness and blessing as they walk with God in anticipation of a better home in Heaven, leaving behind all their sorrows, griefs and pains.

Our sympathy goes to Sis. Lena Bucher in the death of her sister, Sis. Marie Bucher (LaCrosse).

As our elder brethren gather to-

gether in conference, our prayers are with them. We not only wish to support them in word, but in our very walk of life as we know their warnings come because they are concerned for our spiritual welfare. We are so thankful we have loving shepherds to lead the flocks as they are directed by The Good Shepherd.

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE
Carol Craig — Kay Roth

NO TIME?

I knelt to pray but not for long,
 I had too much to do.
 Must hurry off and get to work,
 For bills would soon be due.

And so I said a hurried prayer,
 Jumped up from off my knees.
 My Christian duty now was done,
 My soul would be at ease.

All through the day I had no time,
 To speak a word of cheer.
 No time to speak of Christ to friends,
 They'd laugh at me I feared.

"No time, no time, too much to do,"
 That was my constant cry.
 No time to give to those in need,
 At last 'twas time to die.

And when before the Lord I came,
 I stood with downcast eyes.
 Within His hand He held a book,
 It was the "Book of Life."

God looked into the book and said,
 Your name I cannot find.
 I once was going to write it down,
 But never found the time.

Author Unknown

We would like to thank Bros. Loren Knapp (Tucson) and Kenneth Knapp (Taylor) for bringing to us the Word of Life. What an encouragement to hear the truth brought forth to us that if we heed the Word, we may find our names written in the Book of Life.

ILLINOIS, ELGIN
Ruth Ann Getz

Students from pre-schoolers to young adults entering universities are returning to the classroom. We know their lives are greatly influenced by teachers and subject matter, and these experiences can be both good and bad.

It behooves us then, as parents, to consider these influences as they are individually affecting our children, and to spend the time to set up Godly homes, teaching and training our children as Deuteronomy 11:18-19 suggests. "Therefore shall ye lay up these words in your heart and in your soul, and bind them for a sign upon your hand, that they may be as frontlets between your eyes. And ye shall teach them your children, speaking of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, when thou liest down, and when thou risest up." Our prayer is with each child that their learning can lead them to useful service, but always as unto the Lord.

Bro. Ernest Dapper has transferred to the Elgin area from Winthrop, MN because of employment. (His wife, Sis. Marcelle, will be joining him here shortly.) We wish to welcome Ernie and Marcelle to the Elgin congregation, hoping that they will feel the love of God here among us.

August 6 marked the wedding date of Sandy Martin (daughter of John and Ella) and Jerry Darlington (son of Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Darlington, Wasco, TX). We wish much happiness for this young couple in their married life together.

Kurt Weiss (son of Bro. Calvin and Sis. Dena) and Lori Michelle Wardlow (daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roland Wardlow, Osceola, IN) exchanged their marriage vows on August 20 in Osceola. May they receive many blessings as they begin life together.

Bro. Steve Scheitlin has left us to spend some time in Honduras with the Peace Corps. We trust that the Lord will bless him in many ways in his efforts there and that this experience will ever help him to grow in the Lord. May he maintain a close communion with his God. His address there (through October) is:

Steve Scheitlin
 Cuerpo de Paz, A. P. C-51
 Tegucigalpa, Honduras
 Central America

Sickness and pain seems to be no respecter of persons and we find that there are dear loved ones who are suffering again this month. In the long hours and severe trials may God visit them that they may know Him to be their comfort. Carol Secrest (daughter of Harvey and Sis. Ruth Schurter) underwent surgery and is recuperating in her home. Esther Batt, Martha Loh-

bauer and Bro. Albert Schambach are presently hospitalized and are in need of our prayers.

ILLINOIS, EUREKA
Kathy L. Rocke

"But Jesus said, Suffer the little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven." Matt. 19:14.

We have two new babies to report this month. July 21 is the birthday of Jonathan Ray, son of Bro. Don and Sis. Jane Wiegand. Alissa welcomes her new brother as do grandparents Bro. Bob and Sis. Helen Wiegand and Bro. Richard and Sis. Edna Leman (Remington, IN).

Jason, Ryan and Janell Carr welcomed their new sister, Brenda Lou on August 8. Thankful parents are Bro. Tim and Sis. Donna Carr. Grandparents are Bro. Lester and Sis. Ruth Martin and Dick and Doris White (El Paso).

"... there shall be showers of blessing." Ezek. 34:26. We are giving best wishes to Sis. Marilyn Wettstein whose engagement was announced to Bro. Craig Martin on August 14. Their parents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Verna Wettstein and Bro. Nelson and Sis. Mary Ellen Martin (all of Eureka).

Also, Lisa Bruellman and Jeff Banwart have announced their engagement. Parents are Bro. Don and Sis. Verda Bruellman (West Bend, IA) and Bro. Joel and Sis. Sonya Banwart (Eureka). An October 22 wedding is being planned. May God bless both of these couples as they plan for their lives together.

We are thankful for the visits of ministering Bros. Jim Leman (Roanoke), Lenard Meyer (Chicago), Ervin Knecht (Lamar, MO), Ron Schambach (Elgin, IL), Harold Schmidgall (Gridley, IL) and Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville). May God bless those brothers who are willing to minister to us through His Word.

All the greatest problems are small to God,
 Yet our smallest problem is great to Him.

Unknown

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY
Carol Bazzell — Joann Zehr
 On July 31, Bro. Derek Rabe (Julia

and Don Rabe) and Sis. Julia Baumgartner (Bro. Alvin and Sis. Loretta, Cissna Park) were united in marriage. We wish them God's richest blessings in their life together and sincerely welcome Sis. Julie into our congregation.

Bro. Don and Sis. Leona Kaisner are first-time parents to Jennifer Marie born August 1. Grandparents are Bro. Merle and Sis. Marge Kaisner and Bro. Glenn and Sis. Kathryn Fehr. Sweet little babies are certainly one of God's blessings.

Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Martha Maier in the death of her brother, Alvin Maier, 75, on August 7. Also surviving is one son, Eugene, Decatur.

Our thanks is extended to Bro. Joe Aberle (Sabetha) who visited and ministered to us.

We are thankful that Willard Walter has been able to return to his home after experiencing a very serious heart attack. We are looking forward to the time when he and Arlene will again be able to assemble with us on Sundays. His mother is Sis. Ruth Walter.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family of Bro. Sam Steffen, as he is very sick and in the hospital at this time, due to a bad heart condition and several strokes.

Our area has experienced an extremely hot and dry July and August. It causes us to stop and think; too many days of sunshine in our lives, spiritual, as well as material, are not good. The cloudy, rainy days help to bring forth the true fruit.

ILLINOIS, FORREST

Jan Bachtold — Kathy Leman

We wish to thank the dear brethren and their families who were with us recently. Sharing their time and talents with us were Bros. Dave Wiegand (Champaign), Loren Knapp (Tucson, AZ), Al Schneider (Rockville, CT), Virgil Metzger (Champaign) and Homer Reineck (Toledo, OH), and Elder Bro. Harold Messner (Winthrop, MN).

We are thankful most of our hospital patients have been dismissed and have recovered. Hospitalized were Sis. Velda Huetter (Bro. Art), Bro. Elmer Stoller (Sis. Rosetta) and Dustin Benway (Doug and Kim). Sis. Jean Martin is a patient at this time.

Jay Nussbaum (Bro. Dean and Sis. Betty) and Ann Orth have announced their engagement. An October wedding is being planned. We wish them

much joy and happiness as they begin their life together.

We are sorry we forgot to mention last month of the new little blessing in the home of Harry and Matilda Johnson. Little Travis Rieger has joined their family circle and will be a playmate for big brother, Trent. Bro. Rich and Sis. Marian Rieger are the grandparents.

Another happy home is that of Bro. Mike and Sis. Jeanette Zimmerman, as little Matthew Perry is the newest member of their household. Brothers, Josh and Ryan, will be mom's "little helpers". Grandparents are Bro. Perry and Sis. Dorothy Zimmerman.

Sis. Leona Ricketts wishes to express her sincere thanks to all who have shown their care through cards, flowers and gifts and most of all for the many prayers offered in her behalf while she was in the hospital and since returning home. She offers her love and wishes God's blessings to each one.

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD

Pam Wiegand

Best wishes to Joanne Hinrichsen and Alan Roth, united in marriage on July 16. Joanne is the daughter of Bro. Hans and Sis. Arlene (Goodfield). Alan is the son of Bro. Keith and Sis. Pauline (Congerville).

Bro. Bruce and Sis. Mary Knapp are the lucky parents of a new baby boy, Brent Cortney. Brent was born on August 9 and was welcomed home by his sister, Angela.

Bro. Josh Nohl was hospitalized recently. We pray the Lord will be near him through his sickness.

Our sincere sympathy is extended to Lena (Babe) Knapp in the death of her husband, Bro. Albert. We are thankful that Bro. Albert was able to be taken into the fold before he was taken to his home above. His brother and sister, George and Sis. Clem Joos, attend our Goodfield congregation. Our prayers are with them and all of his family.

Due to the conference, we had special services Friday evening, August 19. Visiting ministers were: Bro. Clarence Dietrich (Silverton), Bro. Leland Plattner (Zapata), Bro. Gene Metzger (Lester), Bro. Marvin Stieglitz (Leo), Bro. Don Manz (Junction) and Bro. Roy Ehnle (Bradford).

Address Changed . . .

Give Old and New Address
to Your Reporter.

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY

Carol Klopfenstein

The Gridley congregation was privileged to host the annual Elder and Brotherhood conferences August 16 through 19. The blessings we received were innumerable and we are thankful we could have this opportunity to meet so many dear brothers and sisters-in-faith from across the land. We enjoyed having many of these loved ones in our homes for several nights. The ties of faith and love in our dear Savior were indeed strengthened, as we greeted one another, as the many voices were lifted in song and as over a thousand redeemed souls bowed in humble and fervent prayer together.

In the opening prayer the throng assembled was referred to as a "ransomed band". In the welcoming comments, the brethren were reminded that their coming together was a time to "shine their armour" and to "sharpen their swords" in order to combat the arch enemy.

The Spirit that moved among us was gentle and mild as a still small voice, and we could feel the power of God and His wisdom as we absorbed the gracious words of encouragement and exhortation from our elder brethren. We can read in the 15th chapter of the Acts of the Apostles that when problems and questions came up among the brethren in the early church the "apostles and elders came together for to consider of this matter." After much discussion "they wrote letters" and "when they were dismissed, they came to Antioch and when they had gathered the multitude together, they delivered the epistle which when they had read, they rejoiced for the consolation." We also can read in Proverbs 11:14: "Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety."

So we rejoice, that similar to the apostles and elders of old, our elder brothers meet twice each year and the Spirit of God can move over 50 men to find harmony and a common understanding among themselves. As a united group they encourage all of us to press toward that mark of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus and to lay aside every sin and weight that so easily besets us. "Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comforts and our cares." (John Fawcett)

Bro. Richard Kiefer, son of Bro. Dick and Sis. Louise, is our newest member

in the family of God and the body of Christ. He was baptized July 24 after giving his testimony of faith before the church.

Sis. Juli Umland, daughter of Beverly (Meiss) Buckley and Ned Umland, was united in marriage to Bro. Brent Klopfenstein, son of Bro. Dick and Sis. Judy (Elgin) on August 14.

Rollyn Kuntz, son of Bro. Clyde and Sis. Wilma, married Brenda Wells on August 7.

Eric Kiefer, son of Bro. Larry and Sis. Barb, was in the hospital.

We welcome Bro. Steve and Sis. Donna Baner and their two children who have moved to Gridley from Indianapolis.

Our visitors who ministered the Word or offered themselves in prayer are as follows: Elder Bro. Aaron Steffen (Alto, MI), Elder Bro. Robert Beyer (Naumburg, NY), Elder Bro. Norbert Steiner (Croghan, NY), Bro. Robert Miller (Portland, OR), Bro. Willis Wiegand (Goodfield, IL), Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen (Elgin, IL), Bro. Dave Wiegand (Champaign, IL), Bro. Eugene Pamer (Akron, OH), Bro. Ben Hartzler (Rittman, OH) and Bro. Jon Kokanovich (Phoenix, AZ).

ILLINOIS, MORTON

Joann Roecker — Phyllis Farney

The end of summer is close and harvest time will soon be at hand. Our love and prayers go with our children as they return to school or seek their goals and new courses. May God richly bless and protect them.

Many labors of love and long hours are beginning to reveal themselves. We are fast approaching completion of a new canopy and enclosed entrance on the west side of our building. We sincerely extend many thanks to all who had a part in making this project come about. This protective covering will be appreciated by many.

We extend our sympathy to several families during these summer months. Funeral services were held for Andrew Grimm and our ministers officiated. Bro. Samuel Dietrich's funeral was June 27. Bro. Sam will be missed by many. He was such a "light" to all.

The family of Sis. Emma Geiger wishes to thank each of you sincerely. Relatives, ministers, friends and nurses who so kindly remembered Sis. Emma with visits, prayers, cards and care during her illness. Your help and kindness shown us at the time of our sorrow

and loss was really appreciated. Sis. Emma's funeral was July 12.

Our love and prayers have been with our dear Sis. Lilly Kaiser during her time of sorrow. She said "farewell" to her sister, Sis. Marie Bucher.

We hold the Getz family in our prayers after the passing of their loved one, Henry Getz. May they each know we are thinking of them at this time.

August 14, Bro. Bruce Schoenbein (Lydia and the late Bruce) and Sis. Lisa Kaiser (Bro. Lester and Sis. Irene) were united in marriage. We pray God's richest blessings on this dear couple as they begin their walk together. We rejoice with them and with love bid them farewell as they will be making their home in Chicago.

Our visiting ministers were Bro. Greg Rassi (Chicago, IL) and Bro. Earl Banwart (West Bend, IA). Our sincere appreciation is extended to these dear brothers who came and shared the Word with us. May the Lord richly reward them for their efforts.

Daily we go about our busy schedules, not often giving thought of our well-being and ability to simply come and go. We have several dear ones confined and suffering with many afflictions. Let us daily pray for these dear souls who patiently wait upon the Lord and turn to Him for comfort and strength. May we in turn offer a prayer of thanks for all the blessings our Heavenly Father has bestowed on us.

ILLINOIS, PEORIA

Margo Marx — Susi Herman

Now it is accomplished

I'm no longer mine;

Lord, I will forever

And always be Thine.

For Thou hast created

And purchased me too,

Baptized with Thy Spirit,

Thou makest me new.

Zion's Harp #209

The weekend of August 13 was a blessing for all of us as we heard the testimonies and witnessed the baptisms of six dear ones. We rejoice with Sis. Marti Stoller, Sis. Debbie Knobloch, Bro. Carl Ehnle, Bro. Todd Hoerr, Bro. Dean Thomas and Bro. Dwayne Bowald as they begin their new life in the Lord.

What joy little children bring to everyone. Five families were blessed with babies this month.

Bro. Paul and Sis. Susan Plattner (Rochester, MN) are the happy parents of a son, Joshua Paul. Joshua's grandparents are Bro. Wilbur and Sis. Eldora Hoerr and Bro. Jake and Sis. Bernice Plattner (Morton).

A son, Jonathon Edward, was born to Bro. Denny and Sis. Gail Virkler. Benjamin is happy with his new little brother, as were his grandparents, Bro. Andrew and Sis. Maxine Virkler (Bay City) and Ben and Sharon Stickling.

Bro. Larry and Sis. Barb Reinbeck are the elated parents of a daughter, Jennifer Lee. Also welcoming Jennifer home are older brothers, Joe and Adam and older sisters, Carrie and Amanda.

Bro. Scott and Sis. Jan Stickling are excited about their first child, Holly Renee. The grandparents are Bro. Don and Sis. Velma Hoerr and Ben and Sharon Stickling.

Bro. Mark and Sis. Linda Criss are pleased with their new son, Eric Benjamin. He is welcomed home by big sister, Melissa. The happy grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Ilene Haefli and Jim and Cheryl Criss.

We are thankful for the messages brought by our visitors, Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott, IN), Elder Bro. Dave Kieser (Princeville), Bro. Edwin Bahler (Remington, IN), Bro. Elmer Schmidt (Winthrop, MN), Bro. Hartzel Kaisner (Washington), Bro. Joe Stoller (Princeville), Bro. Wallace Ramsier (Mansfield, OH), Bro. Art Baurer (Princeville), Bro. Walt Herrmann (Princeville), Bro. Edmund Kloter (Goodfield) and Bro. Noah Herman (Tucson, AZ).

"Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in truth; beareth all things, believeth all things, endureth all things." I Corinthians 13:4, 5, 6 and 7. It was a joy for all of us as two hearts were joined together in the Lord. On July 24, Bro. Jim Huber (Bro. Reuben and Sis. Marie Huber, Fairbury) and Sis. Jean Hemmer (Bro. Chuck and Sis. Marian Hemmer) were united in marriage by Elder Bro. Roy Sauder and Bro. Chuck Hemmer. We wish them God's blessings as they begin their Christian home together.

We also rejoiced this month in the union of Bro. Keith Herrmann (Prince-

ville) and Sis. Ruth Messner on July 31. Sis. Ruth is the daughter of Bro. Don and Sis. Viola Messner. Bro. Keith's parents are Bro. Noah and Sis. Evalyn Herrmann (Princeville). We also wish them God's blessings in their new life together.

Hospitalized this month were Bro. Walt Bittner, Bro. Ivan Thomas, Sis. Mary Tanner, Carl Pfaffman, Evelyn Thomas, Victor Stickling, Dee Clatt and Juanita Kiefer. We wish all these dear ones God's healing mercy.

Our sincere sympathy goes to the family of Howard Eilers. We pray that they can feel the comfort of our dear Lord in the loss of their loved one.

"My sincere appreciation and thanks to all who remembered me with their prayers, visits, flowers, letters, cards and gifts during my surgery and since returning home. May God richly bless each of you for your love and kindness." Sis. Mary Tanner

ILLINOIS, PRICEVILLE Arlene and Arlys Martin

God never says to a child of His, "Be born again, and again." But He does say, "Grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ." (II Peter 3:18). Growth is possible only when there is life.

July 16 was the wedding date of Mark Herrmann and Tammy Meeks. Their parents are Bro. Walt and Sis. Betty Lou Herrmann of our congregation and Erik and Margie Jensen (Eureka).

On July 31 Bro Keith Herrmann and Sis. Ruth Messner were married in Peoria. Parents are Bro. Noah and Sis. Evalyn Herrmann (Princeville) and Bro. Don and Sis. Viola Messner (Peoria).

Sympathy is given to Gerald and Louise Martin and family. Louise's father, William Michel (Tremont) passed away July 25.

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

Joyce Hodel — Carol Rumbold

With joyful hearts, two couples in our congregation are planning to be united in the Lord. Bro. Dan Schwind and Sis. Donna Pfister, children of Bro. Walt and Sis. Mary Schwind and Bro. Marvin and Sis. Ila Pfister, look forward to walking the path of life together. Bro. Wayne Leman (Bro. Rich and Sis. Rachel) and Sis. Julie Schieler (Bro. Willard and Sis. Sue, Milford) are preparing to take that important step

in life according to God's direction. May both of these young couples confer with the Great Counselor as they make decisions concerning their future together.

Our Sisters Lena Martin and Fran Fischer have been released from the hospital and are convalescing at home, for which we are thankful. Our prayer would be that it could be the will of the Great Physician that the wonderful gift of health might be theirs.

We have been richly taught by our ministers who are so willing to give of themselves, not only in their home congregations, but also as they travel from place to place. We thank God and Bros. Earl Gerber (Forrest), Willis Wiegand (Goodfield), Gene Lehman (Wolcott), Fred Knapp (Congerville), Jon Kokanavich (Phoenix), Jim Funk (Tucson) and Tom Leman (Denver). Two of the nuggets we gleaned from these visits were to not compromise with sin, not to give in even a little, but to stand fast in the faith; and also to compare the value we place on gold to the value God places on it. We sometimes have the acquisition of it high on our list of priorities, while God plans to pave the streets of heaven with it. We will walk on it! What a contrast!

ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY Marcia Metz

We at ISU appreciate the ministers who came to speak to us during the summer months. They were Bros. Walt Anliker (Eureka), Marshall Heinold (Washington), Ken Hoerr (Peoria), Bruce Leman (Roanoke), Chuck Sauder (Tremont), and Kevin Knapp and Ron Heiniger (Bloomington-Normal). May God bless them for their efforts in our behalf.

ISU will be hosting College Weekend this fall semester. Lord willing, it will be held on Oct. 8 and 9. Bible Study will once again be held every Thursday evening at 7:30 p.m. in Schroeder Hall. Anyone is welcome to attend.

ILLINOIS, TREMONT Dorothy Wagenbach Carolyn Bolliger

Visiting us this month were Bros. Merrill Laukhuf (Latty), Marshall Heinold (Washington), Joe Braker (Morton), Don Manz (Junction), Carl Hartman (Sabetha), and Noah Gerber (West Bend). We are always thankful for each visitor, as they minister unto

us, and ask God's blessing be bestowed in fullest measure.

Aug. 7 was the wedding day for Bro. David Huette and Sis. Susan Bolliger. Parents of the couple are Bro. Bill and Sis. Marilyn Huette and Sis. Alma Bolliger. We wish them God's nearness as they start on life's pathway together.

We welcome Ron and Tammy Wagenbach and family back to our congregation, moving from the Bradford area. They also have a new baby daughter, Holly Lyn, born Aug. 6. Brothers Paul and Gary welcomed her home. Grandparents are Bro. Simon and Sis. Louise Wagenbach and Bro. Wally Blunier of Roanoke.

We extend our sympathy to the family of Bill Michel, in his passing. We also send our sympathy to Bro. August Bolliger as his sister, Carrie Unsicker, passed away.

Bros. Jerry Kaiser and David Kaeb are our newly elected Sunday School teachers. Bro. Dale Sauder was chosen as trustee. We wish them the grace of God in their new duties.

Sis. Emma Getz was hospitalized for surgery but is now convalescing at home. Mark Steiner (Bro. Dan Jr. and Sis. Shirley) fell and broke his arm. Karin Holmes (Marshall and Sis. Phyllis) was hospitalized with an appendectomy.

The engagement of Bro. Phil Koch and Sis. Diane Frank was made known to our congregation. Parents of the couple are Bro. Dan and Sis. Carol Koch and Bro. Robert and Rosemary Frank.

ILLINOIS, URBANA Cheryl Joos

GOD'S LOVE

We call it mercy —

It is God's forgiving love.

We call it providence —

It is God's caring love.

We call it kindness —

It is God's understanding love.

We call it Christ's passion and death —

It is God's proven love.

We call it happiness —

It is God's encouraging love.

We call it the will of God —

It is God's unerring love.

We call it heaven —

It is God's rewarding love.

We call it eternity —

It is God's unending love.

Mary Gemma Brunke

It is God's love that we felt as the Sunday School children gathered together again for the Sunday School picnic. They enjoyed homemade ice cream and games organized by our faithful Sunday School teachers.

We thank Bro. Kenny Weertz (Cisna Park), for his love shown as he ministered to us.

Sis. Charlen Banwart is recovering from her surgery and we look forward to having her worship with us again soon. Toni Hartman has been hospitalized and will have hip surgery. May God continue to heal as only He can do.

We thank God for continually supplying our needs. We are glad that a few of our graduates decide to remain in Champaign. Bro. Rod Anliker, (Forrest) and Bro. Sam and Sis. Pam Furrer have taken jobs in our area. Sis. Kathy Stoller (Gridley) has also found employment in Champaign. We heartily welcome them to our congregation and wish them God's blessings as they begin a new path of life.

The college students are returning and Aug. 31 begins our first Wednesday evening Bible Study. We meet in the Student Union on the U. of I. campus. Our services begin at 7:30. If for any reason a room is not available in the Union, we will meet at the church. We are always blessed by those who visit us.

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

Lily Schick

"Ring the bells of heaven! there is joy today . . ." Gospel Hymns #622. Luis Gomez, son of Ehrique and Guillermina of Mexico City, has answered the call of the Lord to repentance and conversion. Truly he is seeking that priceless pearl, leaving all else to obtain it. How we do rejoice with him, and so wish many more would yield themselves to the One who gave for us His all! Luis is residing with Bro. Marshall and Sis. Jan Heinold.

As Luis is taking the most important step in life, two dear ones-in-faith have been lead to take another. Bro. Doug Wagenbach (Washington) and Sis. Lillian Jevremov (Altadena) have announced their engagement. Truly when two souls submit themselves to Him and seek His will, how richly He will bless them, even beyond their comprehension! May our Heavenly Father bind their hearts and minds as they plan their lives together in Him. Their parents are Bro. Don and Sis. Marie

Wagenbach and Bro. Victor and Sis. Anna Jevremov.

Hospitalized this month were Sis. Ida Pfaffman and Bro. Vernie Streitmatter. We are thankful that their health is being restored again, and that they are assembling with us once more.

The Lord has brought several of His servants into our midst. They were ministering Bros. Ralph Garber (Morton), Jim Hoerr (Peoria), Andy Virkler (Bay City), Loren Knapp (Tucson), Jim Byrd (Roanoke) and Fred Knapp (Congerville). We appreciate them more than they'll ever know. May our Heavenly Father be their rich Rewarder for lending themselves in His service!

As time passes in each of our lives, there are many circumstances which affect us. There are the small ones, which don't make a whole lot of difference and are easy to take in stride. And then there are others which really make an impact on our lives. When an undesirable circumstance occurs, we wonder how we can handle it. For people who don't have Christ, it would be difficult. But for those of us who have surrendered our lives to Him, how much easier it is! We don't have to bear our burden alone! "Cast all your cares upon Him for He careth for you." I Peter 5:7. Yes, it's a matter of praying, pouring our hearts out to the Lord; then believing that He will help us. It's the devil that wants to discourage us and tell us the circumstance is more than we can ever surmount. But the Bible is full of God's promises which are sure. There's one which He gave to Noah and all mankind for which we have a symbol yet today - the rainbow. The rest of His promises we must accept by faith. And "Faith is the victory, we know, that overcomes the World." Gospel Hymns #524.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON

Linda Kipfer — Jan Ringger

Our congregation has been richly blessed by the visits and ministry of Bros. Bill Schlatter (Junction) and Marvin Leman (Bradford). We wish to thank them for their labor of love.

Loved ones spending time in the hospital this month include Bro. Everett Geisel, Sis. Martha Moser, Bro. Glennis Steffen, Bro. Joe Steffen and Bro. Martin Kipfer. May their recovery be hastened by the prayers and love of others.

Knowing that they have chosen the Lord's will for their lives, three couples

of our congregation were united in marriage this past month.

Sis. Beth Kipfer (Bro. Ned and Sis. Dixie) and Bro. Craig Baumgartner (Bro. Howard and Sis. Joyce) were married on July 24.

July 31 was the wedding day of Sis. Brenda Steffen (Bro. Ramon and Sis. Lorena) and Bro. Kevin Fiechter (Bro. Dale and Sis. Doris).

The wedding of Sis. Valerie Ringger (Bro. George and Sis. Evelyn) and Bro. Jeff Leman (Wally and Sis. Marilyn) was performed on August 14.

"Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing and obtaineth favor of the Lord". Proverbs 18:22.

Our Elder Bro. Orville and Sis. Naomi Ringger are great-grandparents for the second time, as Jennifer Lynn was born to Steve and Crystal Bogart. Her birth brings joy to little sister, Dianna Kay, and great-great-grandmother, Sis. Leah Ringger.

Mariah Ann was born to Bro. Joe and Sis. Mary Ann Gerber. Her family includes Tina and Mitchell, and grandparents, Bro. Martin and Sis. Marguerite Kipfer and Bro. Henry and Sis. Ada Gerber.

Bro. Gordon and Sis. Kathy Gerber (Lafayette) have become parents of their first child, Karyn Sophia. Bro. Paul and Sis. Phyllis Dotterer and Bro. Frederick and Sis. Margaret Gerber are the happy grandparents. Great-grandparents are Sis. Sophia Gerber and Bro. Lewis Gerber.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON NORTH

Peg Fiechter

Kathy Longenberger

Fulfilling Love: Once in a while someone lives a beautiful and totally unselfish life — "Just for Others". As if their only prayers were "Lord, let me live for others. Let me knock on every door and mend every troubled heart". To them every individual in their life, regardless of relationship or compatibility, is a friend from God. They feel, if they fail to love and serve them, they hurt the GIVER first. Our SAVIOUR gave His ALL upon a rugged cross for others. From "The Greatest of These Is Love".

Our congregation has one engagement to announce. Tim Habegger, son of Bro. Ben and Sis. Arlene, is engaged to Teresa Baughman. A September 17 wedding is planned in our Fellowship Hall. May God bless them both.

As our young people return to

school, may we all remember them in our prayers, and encourage them in every way.

INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE

Arlene Metzger

What a joy it was for our congregation to be hosts to 200 young men and women as they gathered together for Christian Endeavor. May their friendships truly be "friendships that they cherish, friends that live from them apart, as they find for them a place within their hearts". Hymns of Zion #91.

Several from our congregation have been hospitalized this past month for various reasons, including surgery. We are thankful they are able to worship with us again. They were Sis. Ellen (Bro. Harvey) Gutwein, Bro. Ron Vogt (farm accident), Bro. Ben Anliker and Bro. Pierre Neihouser. Bro. Pierre is still confined to his home. We miss him and pray he can soon assemble with us.

With sadness in our hearts, we had to bid farewell to Sis. Kathy Inoue, Rebekah, Heidi and Tami. However, we rejoice with them as they can be reunited with our dear Bro. Hisato in Tokyo, Japan. Even though they won't be worshipping with us, the common bond of God's love will continue to bind our hearts.

"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints." Psalm 116:15. Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to Bro. Albert Bucher, Parkview Haven, over the passing of his dear wife, Sis. Marie. They were 20 days short of celebrating 70 years of married life together. What an example for us all!

We are thankful for the safe arrival of Sis. Marie Inoue and three children from Japan. We are looking forward to Bro. Akito's arrival as he is coming for our Brotherhood Conference. Our prayers are with the elder brothers as they gather together to discuss the needs of our churches. May love and unity ever abide.

Our best wishes go to Jeff Neihouser (Bro. Andre and Sis. Lois) and Sue Zeltwanger (Bro. Bill and Sis. Betty, Morris, MN) as their engagement has been announced. We wish them God's richest blessings as they plan their lives together.

We thank Bro. Elmer Schmidt (Winthrop, MN) for spending the past Wednesday evening with us. May God be his rewarder.

INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS

Judy Dubach — Lynn Winslow

"Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth." Luke 15:10.

On July 24, much rejoicing was evident for Blake Wuethrich, who gave his testimony of his conversion to serve the Lord. We thank our many visitors who were present with us that day and especially Elder Bros. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott) and Wendel Gudeman (Francesville) who conducted the baptismal services.

Other visiting ministers during the month were Bros. Ed Alt (Cissna Park) and Ken Schneider (Remington). We thank them for their efforts and time. A ten year reunion is being planned for anyone who has worked or lived in the Indianapolis area in the last ten years. We invite you to worship with us on September 25. If interested, please contact Sis. Edith Mayer, phone 317-898-4382, or Sis. Suzy Ringger, phone 317-875-0181.

Food for thought: We are the weakest of spendthrifts if we let one friend drop off through inattention, or let one push away another, or if we hold aloof from one for petty jealousy or needless roughness. Would you throw away a diamond because it pricked you? One good friend is not to be weighed against all the jewels of the earth.

INDIANA, LACROSSE

Lu Ann Troxel — Connie Knobloch

"When troubles assail and dangers affright,
Though friends should all fail and foes all unite,
Yet one thing secures us whatever betide,
This promise assures us, The Lord will provide."

Zion's Harp #86

A dear sister went Home July 30. Sis. Marie Bucher, 90, had been a resident of Parkview Haven Retirement Home, Francesville, along with her husband, Bro. Bert. Surviving are her husband; three daughters, Edith Gutwein (Missouri), Sis. Imogene Aeschliman (Bluffton) and Sis. Ella Plattner (Peoria, IL); five sons, Bro. Vernon, Bro. Merle, Bro. Kenneth (all of LaCrosse), Bro. Elmer and Leslie

(both of Francesville); 57 grandchildren and 85 great-grandchildren. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to the family as they feel their loss but rejoice in the confidence that she is resting in Jesus. As she so often said, "The Lord will provide" so He has surely done.

Other hospital patients this month were Tom Nuest (Bro. Rich and Sis. Garnet), Sis. Em Bucher (Bro. Vernon), Sis. Diane Moser (Bro. Andy) and Sis. Alice Heinold. We pray that God will grant that healing power according to His holy will and can be assured that He will provide the grace sufficient to endure all trials.

Friends from the Apostolic Christian Leo Children's Home visited our Sunday School July 30 and 31. What a blessing it was to have the children fellowship with our families! We appreciated Bro. Uriel Gehring's ministry during this weekend. We were also fortunate to have Bro. Ken Weerts (Cissna Park, IL) fellowship with us. May God ever bless our faithful ministers.

Just a reminder to our LaCrosse subscribers: The Silver Lining collection is due in September.

INDIANA, LEO

Thelma Schlatter

Spiritual blessings from His hand were showered upon our congregation again this month through the tireless efforts of His servants. Visiting ministers were Bros. Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL), Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO), Earl Gerber (Forest, IL), Ben Manz (Junction, OH) and Roy Wieland (Bay City, MI). Also, very enlightening presentations on conditions in other parts of this world were made by Bro. Leon Graf and Bro. Shondar Bako (Akron, OH) on countries behind the Iron Curtain; Bro. Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO) and Lazarus Padale of Rural Gospel and Medical Mission on mission work in India; and Genovieva Sfatcu concerning the persecution of Christians in Romania. Compared to all of these, we have such abundance, freedom of worship, the Word, and material goods, etc. As we search our hearts, we are faced with our responsibility to the lost and the suffering.

"Giving is living," the angel said.
"Go feed to the hungry sweet charity's bread."
"And must I keep giving and giving again?"

My selfish and querulous answer ran. "Oh, no," said the angel, his eye piercing me through. "Just give till the Master stops giving to you."

(Author Unknown)

We welcome Bro. Bill Blunier (Champaign-Urbana) to our congregation. His employment brought him to our area.

Sis. Imogene Stieglitz and Sis. Ethelyn Schlatter had a safe and beautiful trip to Switzerland and other countries.

Sis. Frances Bertsch, Sis. Helen Zimmer and Bro. Bill Blunier have been hospital patients. The Great Physician, who created us, knows and cares about our physical problems.

We'll miss Bro. Philip, Sis. Stephanie and baby Anthony Bollier who will be making their home in Florida. We wish them His continuing blessings in their new location.

September is the traditional month of schools' opening. Many of our young people will be off to high school and college; and Christian parents are praying as they go.

Dear reader, do you face discouragement today? "Are you between a rock and a hard place? There is no escape, you say? Then look up to your Heavenly Father. You may be hemmed in by problems all around you, but it's always open above you."

Maybe you can cheer another who's blue; that can help cheer your day a little, too.

Note: Leo Silver Lining readers, your subscription cost of \$6.00 is due this month.

INDIANA, MILFORD

Marcy Haab — Gwen Steffen

Visiting our congregation this month were ministering Bros. John Isch (Indianapolis), Kent Ringger (Bluffton) and Marshall Heinold (Washington) and their families. Humble thanks are extended to these brothers who so faithfully proclaim God's wonderful Word.

We were happy to hear the engagement announcement of Sis. Julie Schieler (daughter of Bro. Will and Sis. Sue) to Bro. Wayne Leman (son of Bro. Richard and Sis. Rachel, Roanoke). We wish them God's richest blessings as they will soon become one.

August 6 was a special day for John Beer (son of Bro. Phil and Sis. Millie)

and Ronda Black (daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Black, North Webster) as they were united in marriage. May their love continue to grow for each other and for Christ.

WEDDING PRAYER

Our Father, our hearts are filled with great happiness. This is our wedding day. We come before you at the altar of love, pledging our lives and our hearts to one another.

Grant that we may be ever true and loving, living together in such a way as to never bring shame or heartbreak into our marriage. Temper our hearts with kindness and understanding and rid them of all pretense or jealousy.

Help us to be sweetheart, helpmate, friend and guide, and together, may we meet the cares and problems of life more bravely. And as time takes away our youthful charm, may we find contentment in the greater joy of rich companionship.

May our home truly be a place of love and harmony where your Spirit is ever present.

Bless our wedding day, we pray, and walk beside us, Father, through all our life together. Amen.

Author Unknown

INDIANA, REMINGTON Beth Virkler — Annette Bahler

No saint, no hero, no discoverer, no prophet, no leader ever did his work cheaply and easily, comfortably and painlessly, and no people was ever great which did not pass through the valley of the shadow of death on its way to greatness in the Lord.

W. Lippmann

Bro. Jim Plattner (Princeville, IL) expounded on the word of God to our congregation on August 7. Have we ever thought about the "valley of the shadow of death" that a minister of God must go through in order to be a broken vessel, fit for the Master's use?

Andria Rene was born to Bro. Ed and Sis. Annette Bahler on August 7. Jenny and Clinton are well satisfied with their baby sister.

Perhaps the most interesting piece of personal advice that I came across in reading lately was this: If you want to be truly great: live so that a blind person would like you. The moral is that lasting greatness depends not on

having good looks or other surface personality traits, but upon inner qualities that somehow communicate themselves to others. Some of these qualities could be: a friendly voice, a warm welcome, a sense of humor, kindness, thoughtfulness of our neighbor's tender ego, sincere praise, gratitude, encouragement, a listening ear, etc. How well would a blind person be attracted to you?

INDIANA, SOUTH BEND

Nancy and Karen Lehman

And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, "that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female," and said, "For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh?"

St. Matthew 19:4, 5

It was such a joyful day when Sis. Annie Greenburg and Bro. Pat Myer were the first to be married in our South Bend Church. We all wish them God's blessing in their lives together.

A daughter, Kimberly Joy, was born to Tim and Monica Steffen. It's always a joy to have a new baby at church and especially to the parents.

Laura Aeschliman from Bluffton, IN has moved to our area. It's nice having her here because we are so small and one more person really makes a difference.

Visiting ministers this month were Bro. Jesse Beer (Milford), Bro. Ken Hoerr (Peoria, IL), Bro. Walt Steffen (Milford) and Bro. Wendell Gerber (Bluffton). We are always so blessed with the brothers visiting us so often.

INDIANA, VALPARAISO

Vera Nuest — Jill Hitz

Greetings to you from Valparaiso.

Time has a way of flying so fast we can hardly catch our breath. Summer is almost gone and for many schools will soon begin.

Three of our young men will be leaving to begin college: Alex Patton will be returning to the Morton area; Jim Paarlberg and David Zeltwanger will be going to Purdue. We ask God's protection over them.

While reading one day, I came across this article. As many are raising children and with school starting, I thought it had a timely message in it for all of us. "After starting for school one morning,

a teenager turned back for a forgotten book. She slipped in the house and overheard her mother praying. She listened and heard, '... and keep my daughter close to you today, guard her from temptation.' Years have passed. The teenager is a mother herself now. Tempted to 'get busy with all the work there is to do,' she recalls her Mother's prayer. She pauses to pray for the daughters in her family. Why? Because she freely admits, 'Many a time when I would have deliberately strayed from the light of the Christian knowledge that I had, my Mother's prayer would echo in my mind.'"

Nothing is more potent than prayer. It works where counsel and instruction have failed. It succeeds where these have only caused resentment. And how far reaching is the effect on a child of hearing a Mother's sincere prayer.

Another mother and father's prayer have been answered when Jim Paarlberg heeded the Saviour's call, asked Jesus into his heart and gave his life to Him. How thankful we are that Jesus is still calling.

It's always a joy to have visitors in our midst. Although we are small in number, we have a lot of love to share with the brethren. Visiting ministers this month have been: Art Ringger, (Indianapolis), Steve Gutwein (Francisville) and Ron Heiniger (Bloomington, IL). How thankful we are that we can fellowship one with another in brotherly love.

Esther Nueffer has been on the sick list. We pray that her health could be restored.

Babies are a gift from God and we are especially happy to welcome David Scott Rice into the lives of his thankful parents, Marianne (Paarlberg) and Scott Rice. Even though he arrived early and spent some time in the hospital, he's doing very well. Sara, almost four, is happy to have a little brother. Our prayers for this family have been answered.

INDIANA, WOLCOTT

Elaine Bahler — Lorene Furrer

Thankful are we for the Word of God and those who proclaim it. We appreciate Bro. Dan Stoller (Remington) sharing the Word with us.

We have been taught and many have experienced that to enjoy the blessings of God, one must also endure tribulations. Sis. Arles Kropf has been hospitalized for several days. Our prayer is

that God will grant renewed health and strength to her.

Bro. Ed and Sis. Viola Kyburz have experienced great sorrow in the passing of their son and grandson. Edward Kyburz, Jr., age 49, passed away July 19 after a lengthy illness. On July 27, his son, Richard, age 17, lost his life in a motorcycle accident. We extend our deepest sympathy to their family circle.

I would like to thank everyone for the prayers, visits, cards and flowers during my stay in the hospital. Also for those who brought food after I returned home. It was greatly appreciated and may God bless each one.

Sis. Edna Kyburz
To all the brethren, friends and relatives of Wolcott church, for all the deeds of kindness, we sincerely thank you. And to many, many more from other areas, for all the love, prayers, cards and gifts, it made our cross easier to carry of the passing of our dear son and grandson. We truly believe it was God's will and we never felt alone. Thanks for all and may God bless each one. It will always be remembered.

In Christian love,
Bro. Ed & Sis. Viola Kyburz

IOWA, BURLINGTON

Kim Salek — Edith Massner

Mary Beth Gehring, daughter of Bro. Uriel and Sis. Judy Gehring, and Darren Giesick, son of Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Giesick, were united in marriage on July 23. We pray that God will bless them and direct them toward heaven.

Because of the wedding, we had some welcomed visitors, including Bros. Dale Strassheim and Uriel Gehring. Bros. Leland Plattner, John Steiner, Bill Gerst and Elder Bro. Ed Lanz also served us in the ministry this month. We always feel appreciative for their efforts. One of these brothers read Romans 4, and from verse 11 paralleled baptism to circumcision, "a seal of the righteousness of the faith."

The Gehring family also rejoiced because of the healthy little boy, Gregory Scott, born to Brad and Gail Gehring. Grandparents are Bro. Uriel and Sis. Judy, and Mr. and Mrs. Burd.

Sis. Augusta Johnson had major surgery, but is doing well enough to go home now. She, with her good attitude and willingness to accept whatever God might send her way, is a real inspiration to all of us.

John 1:12 says, "But as many as

received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name." May we find grace and faith to not only "receive Him," but also to receive His teachings from His Word and from our elders and ministers. We are grateful to God that He is still remembering us with blessings and holy instructions.

IOWA, ELGIN Gloria Frieden

During the past month God has sent down two new precious, innocent bundles of love from above.

April and Jack Hanson welcomed their new little sister, Molly Jane, born on July 25. They are the children of Albert and Trudy Hanson. Grandparents are Bernard and Alma Hanson and Paul and Sis. Evelyn Pulfer.

On August 12, Aaron Lee, son of Bro. Lon and Sis. Sandy Butikofer arrived. Melisa and Jerry helped welcome him home. Grandparents are Bro. Albert and Sis. Betty Banwart (West Bend) and Bro. Bert and Sis. Beulah Butikofer.

Recently at one of our midweek services we were encouraged unto faithfulness till life's end, and were reminded of our Savior's words in Matthew 24, "But he that endures unto the end, the same shall be saved." In Hebrews, we read that "after Abraham endured — he received the promise." The goal is well worth striving for!

IOWA, GARDEN GROVE

Eileen Funk

We were truly blessed with the visit of Bro. Noah and Sis. Lorraine Herman (Tucson, AZ). We could certainly feel the love of God's Spirit while they were with us! Thank you for your visit!

School will be starting shortly. May God bless and go with our children as they start another school year.

To keep marriage brimming
With love in the Loving Cup,
Whenever you're wrong — admit it —
Whenever you're right — shut up!

IOWA, IOWA CITY

Joyce Eland

We held our Iowa City reunion here August 20 and 21. It was really a blessing to have a chance to fellowship with so many old friends and to have our little church filled. Ministers with us for Sunday were Bros. Danny Stoller (Rockville), Bill Emch (Lamont)

and Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL). Bro. Paul Eisenman (Burlington) was among the visitors Saturday evening.

Bro. Jon and Sis. Pat Knapp are now assembling in Elgin, IA, as it is closer to their home. We certainly miss them, but know the Elgin congregation will enjoy having them assemble there.

We do appreciate the support we've received from so many of you. It is our hope and prayer that at some time the Lord would direct more families to move to this area.

IOWA, LESTER

Alice Metzger

Our hearts were lifted the weekend of July 31 when two dear young men brought their testimonies before the church and were baptized after making a covenant with God. We rejoice to greet, as brother-in-faith, Stan Knobloch (Bro. Dale and Sis. Mary Ellen) and Jerry Knobloch (Orvie and Lauretta). Among the many visitors with us for the event were Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr (West Bend) and Bro. Roger Aberle (Sabatha).

Bro. Pete and Sis. Susan Van Wyhe became the parents of Marcie Charlene on July 25. The little miss has two brothers and two sisters and her grandparents are Bro. Martin and Sis. Zelma Knobloch and Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Van Wyhe. On August 14, Bro. Gary and Sis. Jean Heyer became the parents of Casey Lee. He has two brothers and one sister. His grandparents are Sis. Iola Knobloch and Mr. and Mrs. Art Heyer.

Those spending time in the hospital were Allen Leuthold, Matthew Feucht (Bro. Ronnie and Sis. Sandy) and Bro. Albert Knobloch. Carl Knobloch remains very ill in a Sioux Falls hospital.

We are happy to welcome Bro. Henry and Sis. Charlene Messner to our church and community. They have moved here from the Morris area.

We pray for the students returning to school and those leaving home for the first time for college or other higher education. May they take the teachings of their parents and their Sunday School teachers and apply them to their lives.

IOWA, OAKVILLE

Jerilyn Wagenbach

July 18 brought a little girl into the household of Bro. Craig and Sis. Michelle Wagenbach. Kirk and Doug are delighted with their baby sister,

Brenna Kay. Grandparents are Bro. Paul and Sis. Dorothy Wagenbach, and Bro. Al and Sis. Martha Wiegand.

Bro. Kent and Sis. Denise Grimm were pleased with the arrival of their first son, Jordan Jacob, on July 29. He has three sisters, Kory, Kelli and Kayla, and grandparents, Bro. Mark and Sis. Margaret Grimm, and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Heitmeier (Mediapolis, IA).

A number of visitors have again worshipped with us this past month. A Fort Sam reunion held in our midst July 23 and 24 brought brethren from many churches across the land, among them, ministering Bros. Leland Plattner (Zapata), Phil Stettner (Bluffton North), Max Reimschisel (Wichita) and Duane Metzger (West Bend). Other recent visitors were Bro. Uriel Gehring (Leo), Dale Strassheim (Milford), Bill Gerst (Alto), Vernon Schwab (Wolcott) and Paul Eisenmann (Burlington). May the Lord bless each one, and may He guide all our ministers and elders as they gather for the annual conference this August.

HELP ME

Help me to find someone today

Who needs what I have to share —
A kindly word, a thoughtful deed,
A bit of loving care.

Help me to take the time to be

An understanding friend
To someone who needs a helping hand
On which they can depend.

Help me to love as Jesus loves —
That same unselfish way.

Help me to be like Jesus

In all that I do and say.

Vera Beall Parker

Notice: September is Oakville's month for collection of Silver Lining dues.

IOWA, PULASKI

Mary Wiegand — DeAnn Wuthrich

On August 14, we were so thankful to have Bro. Richard Schupbach (Phoenix, AZ) with us. He told us of the importance of praying for God's blessings as we gather together. With God's blessings our cups will be filled to overflowing, but without it, our day would be in vain. He also said we could take a lesson from the lowly ant in our spiritual life. When the ant is preparing for winter and meets obstacles, it doesn't let them slow it down. It would go over

or around them, but keeps going. When we are tempted or tried, we should not get discouraged and give up, but strive onward toward our heavenly goal.

One afternoon, our dear Sis. Hattie Miller, Restmor Home in Morton, went to her room to rest. She laid down and went from her earthly rest to her heavenly rest. She went through many heartaches and hardships here without complaining. Those of us who have known and loved her are so thankful that she could go to her rest so peacefully.

Belatedly, we tell about little Nathan James, blessing the home of Bro. Doug and Sis. Clara Schock. He was born in June and has truly been sunshine in their lives. His grandparents, Bro. Frank and Sis. Lois Schock (Elgin) and Bro. Jake and Sis. Alice Wulf (Lester) think he's pretty special, too.

Sis. Mary Jane Knapp is a surgical patient and we pray for her complete recovery.

IOWA, WEST BEND

Polly Zaugg — Elma Mogler

"But we are bound to give thanks always to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the spirit, and belief of the truth.

Whereunto he called you by our gospel, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Therefore, brethren, stand fast, and hold the traditions which ye have been taught, whether by word, or our epistle."

II Thessalonians 2:13-15

This is our feeling toward our many visiting ministering brethren, who left us with many precious teachings. They were Bro. Gene Marti (Lamar), Bro. Wayne Anliker (Forrest), Bro. Loren Knapp (Tucson), Bro. Wm. Funk (Garden Grove), Bro. Dan Stoller (Remington), Bro. Clarence Kachelmuss (Forrest), Bro. Walter Anliker (Eureka), Bro. Sam Anliker (Lamont, KS) and Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL).

Bro. Philip Fisher recently returned from the hospital. It seems he has had to spend a lot of time in one hospital or the other. Our prayers and best wishes go out to him as well as to Bro. Joe Benninger, admitted as a stroke patient, Josephine Thomman and Bro. Bob Fehr who have also been hospitalized.

"Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." James 5:16.

A wedding reception was held at our Fellowship Center for Jon Lee and Robin (Fain) Schmidt, recently married. We wish them many blessings as they walk this life together.

JAPAN, SHIODA
Judy Luginbuhl

The Kindergarten school year came to a close July 22 for summer vacation. Vicki, with her fifteen precious children performed a special farewell-welcome skit centering on the theme of giving and sharing. The second half of the program included several songs sung by all the children as well as special messages presented by our Kindergarten parents welcoming Sis. Margie and thanking Sis. Vicki for her dedicated love and service.

I was moved by the awareness our mothers showed concerning the Christian teachings their children had received during the past year and a half. Sis. Vicki's life, her Christian example and strong love toward her work and the people here in Japan were evidenced by the deep imprint and effect she had on her children and parents. Our prayers and efforts are directed toward keeping this interest alive wherever the seed appears to be sprouting. May Sis. Vicki feel our love and prayers and God's tender touch in this new chapter of her life back in the United States.

We are thankful for the safe arrival of Sis. Margie Heintz and are looking forward to the days and months ahead working together and receiving the benefits of her gifts and talents with which the Lord has blessed her.

We've also recently enjoyed the company of special loved ones from home: Sis. Betty Luginbuhl, Linda Pfisterer and Nancy Parciak. Sis. Betty and Linda arrived on July 16 with Nancy and Sis. Margie Heintz and returned August 3. Though our time was short and very busy, the opportunity to be together sharing memorable moments, experiences, thoughts and sentiments was very special. During Nancy Parciak's 5½ week stay here, she offered her time, love and help. Her support and encouragement has been uplifting and strengthening to us all.

The final details of preparation for

Jewel Ehnle's move to the States are being concluded. Although Jewel is excited about attending college, there still remains the sadness of leaving family, friends and Japan. Our love and prayers are with her and Bro. Willis and Sis. Lois Ehnle.

"I will lift up my eyes to the hills; From whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord which made heaven and earth . . . The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth and even for evermore." Psalm 121

JAPAN, TOKYO
Marie Inoue

Our annual fellowship meeting was blessed through the messages of our brethren - "Committing all to Christ . . . at the time of repentance, in the life of faith, in joy and in sorrow." Included in these messages were thoughts about the severe testing of Job. Although his three friends who visited him were God-fearing, God was not pleased with them as they were not sympathetic with Job and told him that the reason for his misfortune was that he was not upright. According to Job 1:1, he was . . . "perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil."

We thank Shioda Church for their efforts.

Our visitors from Rockville added a special blessing to our fellowship this month. Among them were two girls whose background was not of our faith. We trust that we may always have enough oil in our lamps to be the proper light and example to them and to everyone who is without Christ.

We warmly welcome Bro. Hisato and Sis. Kathie Inoue and three daughters to our assembly. Although we are small in number, we trust they will feel the love of God among us. Their address is:

Apt. 304
 2 - 5 - 8 Takiyama
 Higashi Kurume
 Tokyo, Japan

KANSAS, BERN
Linda Esslinger

TO THE TEACHER ABOVE

I sat alone
 In the schoolroom today,
 After the children were gone,
 One by one.

I bowed my head
 And thought what to say
 To the Teacher above -
 The Master - the Infinite One.

Lord, teach me to be
 As a child of Thy school,
 That I may be tender
 And kindly and true
 To the highest profession
 And calling and rule
 Thou hast called any mortal
 Humbly to do.

And help me, above all,
 To carefully heed
 My voice, my actions,
 My method, my goal;
 Remembering, I am the book
 That they read,
 And each of my scholars
 Has a mind - and a soul.

D. L. Van Lanen

As we embark upon another Sunday School year, we had our annual election of Sunday School teachers. Bro. Rodney Strahm, who replaces Bro. John Baumgartner, will join Bros. Jim Kaeb, Stephen Hartter and Wilfred Strahm. Sis. Joan Edelman, who replaces Sis. Helen Meyer, will join Sisters Peggy Baumgartner, Shirley Strahm and Janet Meyer. Bro. Leonard Baumgartner was elected as usher with Bros. Harlan Stoller and Paul Grimm. Bro. Morris Edelman was re-elected as a trustee on the Apostolic Christian Home Board.

Mr. and Mrs. Greg Renyer became first-time parents on August 5. They named their first son, Clinton Joseph. Grandparents are Bro. Joseph and Sis. Lila Rokey.

Bro. Clarence Dietrich was a visiting minister during the month.

Our hospital patients have been Sis. Tillie Stoller, Bro. Amos Strahm, Sis. Stella Wenger (cataract surgery) and Curtis Edelman (son of Bro. Morris and Sis. Marjorie) due to an accident while painting a house.

KANSAS, GRIDLEY
Julie Bahr - Doris Bahr

Sis. Matilda Beyer was hospitalized for a while for tests. We missed her assembling with us for several Sundays.

We also miss our dear Sis. Lydia Young so much. Sis. Lydia is unable to care for herself and has aquired a new home. Sis. Lydia's new address is:

Indian Creek Nursing Home
6615 West 103rd
Overland Park, Kansas 66212

It seems that all too quickly, one by one, our little church is growing smaller. In addition to the fact that our older ones are less able to assemble with us, we also are fighting Satan and his evil tactics of "Apathy" among Christians everywhere. It seems that we who are younger must awake out of sleep and once again, with God's grace, strengthen the church pillars. Our church needs to become alive and productive. We need to become more diligent examples of dependability. Let us let the deadly clutch of "Apathy" be our foe and "Victory in Christ" our friend.

This past month we were privileged to have Bro. Bill Brake (Sardis, OH) assemble with us and bring forth God's holy word.

Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to Bro. Loren Strahm and his dear family in the passing of his oldest brother, Clarence Strahm (Hiawatha, KS).

KANSAS, KIOWA
Janice Bahr — Gay Farney

Our love shall not diminish nor fade
nor wax away; Bind us till life we
finish and in the grave we lay.
Our love shall not diminish; It is our
Lord's command, And free us from
all blemish, before our God to stand.
Pure love leads to perfection, Joy of
our soul and guide, Gives us true
satisfaction, and leads to heaven's
light.

Zion's Harp #137

When Bro. Raymond and Sis. Laverne Roth celebrated their 50th anniversary this past month, Sis. Laverne asked our choir plus a few others to sing the above song for her groom of 50 years, Bro. Raymond. In this time of easy divorce, it is truly a joy to see a marriage last 50 years and most of all, to know Christ is the reason for this beautiful, lasting relationship. It was a truly lovely day for all of us.

When we had two visiting ministers and their families join us also, our cup did run over with blessings. Bro. Jon Kokanovich (Phoenix) and his dear family were here to share God's precious Word for morning services, and Bro. Bill Emch and his family were here also for our afternoon services. We are truly thankful for their precious words of encouragement and faith. If it should be His will, may God grant Bro.

Raymond and Sis. Laverne many more years of joy and love together. We pray this also for our dear Bro. John and Sis. Lucy Hoffman who will celebrate 70 years of married life together this coming Sunday. Bro. John and Sis. Lucy are living at the Kiowa Manor, but they are always in church on Sunday and a joy to us all. May the hymn dedicated at the beginning of the page, be dedicated to these dear ones also for all their years of life together, and for their faithfulness to the Lord.

It's hard to believe, but school is starting again and as our children head for those doors of education again, whether college, grade school, junior or high school, I just hope they will take with them this one thought from Proverbs 1:7. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

May our precious Lord be near the families of Bud and Sis. Helen Murrow and Sis. Kathryn Miller at this time of loss. Merle Wallace, brother-in-law to Bud, passed away suddenly this past month, and Pearl M. Boyts, Sis. Kathryn's aunt also was taken from this life. We know not how long God has given us to walk on earth, but we know He is always there, and understands our grief.

Our one hospital patient this month was little Robert Wilson, son of Gary and Sis. Janet Wilson. Robert had to have his tonsils out, and we all hope he is up and around again soon.

KANSAS, LAMONT
Jill Luthi

Faith is to believe what we do not see. Faith's reward is to see and enjoy what we believe.

Golden Prayers by Jo Petty

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."
Hebrews 11:1

It has been a big test of faith and patience, as we see the large deep cracks in the dry earth, and wonder what will come of the grain that is planted. The Lord always does bless us in some way. What we think will not turn out good, ends up far better than man can ever perceive.

We were glad to have visitors during these summer weeks. Among them was Bro. Clarence Dietrich (Silverton). The Lamont congregation was blessed to

be with Gridley as Bro. Bill Brake (Sardis) was in our midst. We thank each visiting minister for his visit. May the Lord ever provide for each one of them as needed.

A new bundle from heaven has arrived for Bro. Tom and Sis. Jeri Knobloch, as Esther Marie was born August 9. Also welcoming her home is Jacob. Grandparents are Bro. Nathan "Bud" and Sis. Irene Knobloch (Lester) and Bro. Lloyd and Joann Luthi of here. Great-grandfather is Bro. Jake Knobloch (Lester). Esther is extra special to one of her aunts as she was born on her aunt's thirtieth birthday.

KANSAS, SABETHA
Clara Steiner — Judy Hartter

And I say unto you, Ask and it shall be given you; seek and ye shall find; knock and it shall be opened unto you. For every one that asketh receiveth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.
Luke 11:9-10

We rejoice with the dear souls who have heeded God's call and turned to Him in repentance. They are Natalie Wysong (Bro. Ben and Sis. Jan), Lori Aberle (Bro. Rog and Sis. Lavonne) and Peggy Strahm (Marvin).

May God's blessings be upon Randy Edelman (Clifford and Sis. Barb) and Cindy Hittle. They were united in marriage on July 23.

Our hospital patients this past month have been, Bro. Ben Aberle, Sis. Lena Steiner, Brent Meyer, Bro. Walter Strahm, Curt (son of Bro. Doug and Sis. Jeryl Grimm) and Kevin (son of Clark and Janet Strahm). We pray that the Lord will strengthen and abide with each one in their time of need.

We appreciated the visits from Bro. Gene Marti (Lamar), Bro. Mark Bahr (Detroit), Bro. Tom Leman (Denver) and Bro. Clarence Dietrich (Silverton). Again we are thankful for the blessed Word the Lord provided through his servants.

Funeral services were held for our dear departed Sis. Fanny Bahr, who passed away from this life on July 30. We rejoice that she is now safe in the arms of Jesus. Survivors include two daughters, Sis. Marie Hartter (Bro. Virgil) and Viola Wenger (Mel) of Mesa, AZ; a son, Bro. Willard; a sister, Sis. Leona Aeschliman; a brother, Walter Aeschliman of Ponca City, OK; 17

grandchildren and 38 great-grandchildren.

KANSAS, WICHITA

Laurie Gallatin

Why do we praise the Lord? David gave two reasons to praise Him in Psalm 150:2, "Praise Him for His mighty acts: praise Him according to His excellent greatness." We are to praise God for all the wonderful things He has done for us — they are too numerous to imagine. We could fill the whole day if we praised God for everything He has done and given to us. But also, and I feel this is very important, we are to praise the Lord just because of who He is. He is the creator and ruler of the whole universe. In His omnipotence He is over all. There is none higher or equal to Him. Even if God hadn't dealt so graciously with us, He would still be so worthy of our praise. There are many ways to praise the Lord — but I think the most thrilling is through song. Singing praises to God is so special — and a deep communion can be found through it. When a song really comes from the heart, you aren't just singing words — but true praises to the Lord, and what a joyous experience that is! It makes your heart burn with love and devotion to Him. A special thing about praise is when we praise God truly and uplift His holy name, He uplifts us and gives a blessing. God is so wonderful — if we could only be more like Him!

On July 31, Sunday evening, we had two Romanian Christian women speak to us. They told of being in prison and persecuted for their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. They really went through a lot. Times when just remembering a Scripture meant so much. They never lost their faith in the Lord. Even when the communists tried to mentally torture them with chemicals and drugs to distort their thinking, they all kept their sound minds. The Holy Spirit and the mind of Christ in them was more powerful than Satan's vilest attacks. They exhorted us to always remember those who are in persecution in our prayers. I had to think while listening to them speak — what do I have to complain about? Nothing.

Our congregation is blessed to have another believer join our fellowship. Sis. Jan Dogotch (Morris, MN) has followed God's direction and moved to Wichita. We pray God will bless her

and we thank Him for directing her here.

We partook of the Lord's body and shed blood on August 6. Bro. Sam Anliker (Lamont, KS) and Bro. Ron Nelson (Kiowa, KS) held the communion service for us. Luke 22:19, 20: "... this is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me. . . this cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you." At that time, the disciples probably didn't fully understand what Jesus was telling them — but to us it means so much. Communion is such a personal experience with Christ — and so humbling. I thank God that He gives us the privilege of renewing and refreshing our commitment to Him through communion.

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY

Pam Wieland

"Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." Rom. 5:1 Scott Kent has experienced this peace with God through faith and now awaits baptism. We rejoice with him and wish him grace to maintain his peace with God and man.

Tammy Knochel, Sis. Naomi Ramseyer and Sis. Sharon Ramseyer have experienced affliction in the flesh. We pray for God's healing touch and the ability for each of them to use this affliction to work for them a far more exceeding glory. "For our light affliction which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal." II Cor. 4:17-18.

Two young couples are sharing a common joy; Girard and Joyce McNally and Mike and Nancy Ruegsegger each welcomed little boys into their homes this month. Jeffrey Joseph McNally and Nicholas Michael Ruegsegger each found a welcome spot in their respective homes. Jeffrey's grandparents are Bro. Floyd and Sis. Marian Knochel and Nicholas' grandfather is Bro. Frederick Ruegsegger. Praise be to God for these new miracles of creation.

On Aug. 14, Bro. Dana Knochel and Sis. Beth Schlatter were united as one in the Lord. We pray for God's Spirit and blessing to rest on them as they

mesh their lives together and establish their family altar. Parents of the couple are Bro. Dan and Sis. Ruth Knochel (Detroit) and Bro. Dave and Sis. Margaret Schlatter.

We thank our visiting ministers for their willing services. Visitors this month include: Elder Bro. Aaron Steffen, Elder Bro. Ben Maibach, Bro. Don Gudeman, Bro. Merrill Laukhuf and Bro. Homer Reineck.

MICHIGAN, DETROIT

Dawn Bahr

"For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh." Ephesians 6:31. Many of us traveled to Bay City August 14 to share the wedding day of Bro. Dana and Sis. Bethany Knochel. It is truly beautiful to see how God can take two hearts, who through faith are willing to ask His guidance and direction for their lives, and can bring them together in His pure and perfect love. Parents of the new couple are Bro. Dan and Sis. Ruth Knochel, and Bro. Dave and Sis. Margaret Schlatter (Bay City, MI).

"Children are an heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is His reward." Psalm 127:3. God has blessed Bro. Tom and Sis. Cindy Hitz with a new daughter, Trisha Marie, born August 1. She is lovingly welcomed into the family by her big sister and brother, Heather and Tommie. Trisha's grandparents are Elder Bro. Ben and Sis. Lorene Maibach, and Bro. Leonard and Sis. Audrey Hitz. Steve and Patti Belsley welcomed their first child, Joshua William Joseph, into their hearts and home on May 31. His grandparents are Bro. Ben and Sis. Lois Belsley and Mr. and Mrs. Art Burr.

Our best wishes go to Tim and Lisa Leman, as they were joined together in marriage on August 6. Their parents are Charles and Dorothy Leman and Mr. and Mrs. Richard Wallace. May God bless their life together.

The fellowship and love we feel among the brethren as we travel among our congregations or welcome visitors into our midst has always been a special blessing. It is something we should never take for granted, for it is rare indeed in this world and time. We appreciated the visits from ministering brothers, Homer Reineck (Toledo, OH), Ron Schambach (Elgin, IL), Jim Leman (Roanoke, IL), Don Gudeman

(LaCrosse, IN) and Hartzell Kaisner (temporarily of Washington, IL).

At the time of this writing, baby Trisha Hitz (Bro. Tom and Sis. Cindy) is hospitalized, apparently due to a virus. We pray that God will heal her and provide strength for her family.

MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS Deb Tilbury

A high school graduate whose name was inadvertently left out last month is Scott Larson, son of Gary and Maxine. Congratulations, and may he allow God to guide him always.

The teachers and Bible Classes express their sincere thanks for the Christian friendship they shared in West Bend, IA at the Youth Fellowship program in June.

The Sunday School superintendent for the coming year will be Bro. Perry Virkler. Sunday school will resume Sept. 11 as we are off the month of Aug. On Sept. 1, newly elected Sunday School teachers and officers assume their duties. May God guide your every need and deed. We thank all of you for the kind acts of labor over the past year or years.

Bro. Marvin Schmidgall (Eureka) brought God's Word to us on Aug. 7. May God bless him for his efforts.

Counting time is not as important as making time count.

MINNESOTA, MORRIS Rhonda Zeltwanger — Jan Schock

Make your life's purpose the choice of the Lord. Our friends, Ted and Wanda Gramm, felt this desire to turn their lives in the right direction. We welcome them as part of the family of God. Elder Bros. Leo Moser and Bob Grimm were here for the blessed week-end.

Also sharing God's Word with us this month were Bros. Loren Knapp, Joe Schrock, Carroll Gerber, Elmer Witzig, and John Lehman. God bless each one of you.

Bro. Alpha Moser was hospitalized in Morris and Minneapolis and now is home again. The power of prayer and concern felt by others has been a comfort to Bro. Alpha. Janell Joos (Bro. Harv and Sis. Deb) underwent surgery and is back home and active, for which we give God credit.

MINNESOTA, WINTHROP Carol Ann Messner Mary Lou Schmidt

I have a companion, a wonderful guide —
A solace and comfort, whatever betide.
A friend never-failing, when others pass by;
Oh, blessed communion, my Bible and I!

Anon.

Farewell hymn, Zions Harp #114, was sung Sunday after church for Bro. Mike and Sis. Joyce Messner, as they undertake a new job at Fargo, ND. This is not a permanent position, but we want to extend our prayers for God's guidance in their new endeavor.

Bro. Ray Messner will submit to tests at Rochester, MN for three weeks. Bro. Walter Messner was once again hospitalized for various causes. We pray the Lord will strengthen and encourage these dear brothers. Sis. Jamie Schmidt was also hospitalized this past month. We hope all will go well for her, too. May God add His wonderful healing touch unto all.

We have been holding singings in various homes to go over unfamiliar hymns in our Zion's Harp and Hymns of Zion. It has certainly been an inspiration for all of us.

Our third campout for our Jr. and Sr. Bible Classes was held at Lake Marion campground. The Sunday School teachers and ministers share in the event.

Sunday School has started once again after summer vacation. The children eagerly look forward to being a part of Sunday School again. We pray the Lord will bless the efforts of our Sunday School teachers, as they help instill the love of Jesus in their young and tender hearts!

Many times the word tradition is mentioned in our faith . . . that too much emphasis is placed on church tradition, and not enough placed upon the Word of God and Christ's love! However, these traditions do help keep us safe within the fold of our Shepherd. Do we ever think of the many or various traditions the world follows which are evil and lead us to destruction? Which traditions would you rather follow?

This is the time of the year for our annual Brotherhood Conference. We pray the Lord will give the needed

wisdom and guidance for this important task of the shepherds of the flocks.

Thought for the month: "Life is fragile, handle with prayer!"

On Saturday, July 30, an explosion occurred in the little town of Lafayette, MN. Lafayette is just seven miles from Winthrop. Only nine people were injured, none critically! Windows in all houses were broken and damaged. Many houses and garages were shaken off of their foundations. Many had to evacuate their homes for a few days. Many of the people thought it was the end of the world. Let us ask ourselves this important question: "Would I have been ready to meet thee, Dear Lord?" If not, let us all take a good look at our lives and do something about it!

My life, my love, I give to thee,
Thou Lamb of God who died for me;
Oh, may I ever faithful be,
My Saviour and my God!

I'll live for Him who died for me,
How happy then my life shall be!
I'll live for Him who died for me,
My Saviour and my God!

Hymns of Zion #30

MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY Janice Lehman

Our hearts were saddened as our dear Bro. Bill Rogers was called from this life on July 19. Even though he had to suffer respiratory problems the past few years, it was so uplifting to observe how much Bill's faith and his church meant to him. Our sympathy goes to his wife, Sis. Cora, and to a brother, John (Independence, MO).

We want to thank all our summer visitors who have assembled with us. Also, a special thanks to the ministering brothers who provide for us each Sunday.

MISSOURI, LAMAR Becky Hohulin — Sandra Marti

A couple of family reunions were recently held here at Lamar. We enjoyed all of the company that came to attend them. Among our visitors this past month were the following ministering brethren: Art Baurer (Princeville, IL), Dale Frank (Oakville, IA), Marshall Heindold (Washington, IL), Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH), Elder Raymond Banwart (Ft. Scott, KS) and Alpha Strahm (Bern, KS). We thank them for their time shared with us and

pray that God will ever grant them His grace to carry out their duties.

Our dear Sis. Marie Stewart is a hospital patient at this time. We are thankful to God that she is feeling better and we hope she can return home soon.

Our prayers are with our dear elder brethren as they are assembled together this week. In Hebrews 13:17, Paul reminds us to "Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you."

MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS
Becky Gudeman

"Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you." I Peter 5:7. The Lord will always provide and care for us — what a promise!

We thank Bro. Kevin Knapp (Bloomington) and Bro. Ken Eisenmann (Cissna Park) for their services this month. We appreciate all those traveling through our area that have stopped to worship with us. May the Lord bless you all.

We are so happy for our Sis. Eleanor Zimmer, as her engagement to Bro. Harold Zimmerman (Morton) has been announced. We will dearly miss her here in St. Louis, but wish them both God's blessings.

Services are held the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month at the Ben Franklin Motel, 4645 N. Lindbergh Blvd. For more information, call Dan and Becky Gudeman at 314-275-2227.

MISSOURI, TAYLOR
Loida Hodel — Lori Marquart

"The smallest life that fills its place well, is far lovelier in God's sight than the largest and most splendidly gifted — yet fails in its divine mission."

Mrs. Chas. E. Cowman

We are happy for Bro. Joe Yackley (Sis. Clara and the late Bro. Perry) and Sis. Jeryllyn Wagenbach (John and Sis. Marilyn, Oakville) whose engagement was announced July 17. May God direct and bless them as they make plans for their wedding September 25.

Eleanor Zimmer (St. Louis) gave her testimony as to her conversion on July

16 and was baptized July 17. We know God will continue to be her Guide and the covenant made in the baptismal waters will become more precious as time goes by.

"Oh come let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker." Psalm 95:6

Many of Sis. Dona Grimm's (Bro. Roy) family visited the weekend of July 24 including ministering Bro. Todd Feller (LaCrosse) and her father, Bro. Ezra Feller (Cissna Park), who left us with much "food for thought".

We also extend a note of appreciation to Bros. Dave Wiegand (Urbana) and Bert Butikofer (Elgin, IA) for sharing God's living word with us.

Bro. Richard (Bro. Gerald and Sis. Marge) and Sis. Kay Sutter are first-time parents of a little son, Caleb Ryan, born August 1. May God guide and direct these new parents to rear their little boy in a way that would be pleasing to Him.

"No burden need be carried alone for God is always near to comfort us and hear our prayers and fill our hearts with cheer." Author Unknown. Clarence Kolthoff passed away August 7 after a long illness. Our sincere sympathy goes to his dear wife, Rosella and daughters, Sis. Linda Heimer, Sandra Lillard and six grandchildren. They stood faithfully by with a special love and devotion which only those who have experienced a terminal illness can understand.

Dale and Roberta Bostrom, and their daughter, Lori, have stated their desire to repent and wish to work out their souls salvation within the circle of our fellowship. May we all reflect God's love to them and be the light and examples that He would want and expect of us. With His grace and help they can follow the steps that a true convert experiences and have that "Peace that passeth all understanding".

We enjoyed the visit of Lazarus Padale from Nosik, India. He serves as a member of the India Managing Board of the Rural Gospel and Medical Missions of India. He is visiting the congregations of our brothers who serve on the U.S. Board of Directors of the Rural Gospel and Medical Missions and have visited India and worked with the orphanages, medical dispensaries and rural congregations of the mission.

Hospital patients this month were Mary Beth Hastings (Greg), medical,

and Sis. Lois Sutter (Bro. James), tests and x-rays. We're glad for the promise in II Cor. 12:9 "My grace is sufficient for thee" — not "shall be" or "may be" but "IS". Streams in the Desert

Our thoughts and prayers are with those who are once again gathering for the annual conference. May God be in their midst and may His will be recognized in all the decisions.

In the June issue of the Silver Lining the author, Ruth Underhill, of the poem "About Goodbyes" was inadvertently omitted — our apologies, Ruth.

NEW JERSEY, UNION CITY
Ed Aeschleman

We thank Bro. Dan Stoller (Rockville) for his visit and support as he brought us good teachings out of the Holy Word of Life.

Richard Diggelman and his family returned to Saudi Arabia, where Richard is employed, after a visit of several weeks with his parents, Bro. John and Sis. Mary and many relatives and friends. May God abide with them in their distant home.

Bro. John Diggelman celebrated his 89th birthday in August as he continues to be active on the pulpit in Union City as the only resident minister there. We thank God for the added measure of strength given to Bro. John and we are appreciative to Bro. John for unselfishly sharing this gift with all of us.

NEW YORK, CROGHAN
Alice Virkler

The Word of God has been brought to us through the lips of our visiting ministers the past month. They were Bros. Marvin Lehman (Bradford), Sam Schlatter (Junction) and Elder Bros. LeRoy Huber (Eureka) and Dale Eisenmann (Chicago). We enjoyed their visits and the fellowship of love we could feel and thank them and their families for their visits and ministering unto us.

Our Sunday School children and parents enjoyed our annual picnic held at Happy Hollow Campgrounds on Saturday, August 13.

Our annual meeting was held on July 29. May each of those who serve for the next year be guided and strengthened to carry out their various duties.

At this time, Sis. Leona Farney and Bro. Arthur Virkler are hospitalized. Also, Sis. Mildred Gerber (Bro. Melvin, Rockville) is a patient in the Low-

ville Hospital. Our thoughts and prayers go out to each of them and their families. We are thankful that Sis. Cora Farney could return home and assemble with us again. Also with us after many months of absence are Sis. Katie Farney and Sis. Pernal (Bro. Arthur) Virkler.

NEW YORK, NAUMBURG

Rachel Snyder

We have been richly blessed with several ministers this past month. May the Lord bless and reward each one for their efforts put forth in coming to us. They were Bros. Marvin Lehman (Bradford), LeRoy Huber (Eureka), Sam Schlatter (Junction) and Dale Eisenmann (Chicago).

Sis. Iva Paling has had to spend a few days in the hospital and Sis. Maude Pelton is in now. May God be with her in her trying hours.

OHIO, AKRON

Joyce Gasser

Sis. Juliet Graf is home from the hospital and wishes to thank everyone that remembered her with gifts, cards and expressions of love.

Bro. Paul and Sis. Elaine Eisenmann visited us and we appreciated Bro. Paul's sermon.

MY CAMEL AND THE NEEDLE'S EYE

I loaded my camel rich and high,
And marched him up to the needle's
eye.

He was laden with riches many fold,
With bales of silk, and sacks of gold.

I urged my camel with angry din,
I pressed my camel to enter in.
But far too large was his loading high,
He could not pass through the needle's
eye.

I rode the camel a night and day,
And sought to enter some other way;
But though I traveled a wearisome
round,
Only the needle's eye way I found.

I groaned because I did not have
enough,
So I took from the camel the bulkier
stuff,
And with gold and gems I would fain
get by
Still the camel stuck at the needle's
eye.

So I left the camel alone outside,
And all by myself the entrance I tried.
But with my pockets stuffed — alas!
The needle still would not let me pass.

So at length I gave all my wealth away,
And sank upon lowly knees to pray,
I begged the Lord to forgive my sin,
And let a poor traveler in.

Lo, the marvelous needle's eye
Grew to an entrance wide and high,
And proud and glad, in a beggar's
dress,

I pressed through the portals of
happiness.

But where the camel decided to go
I did not care and do not know.

Author Unknown

OHIO, GIRARD

Karen Laparo

We have had two visiting ministers
this month; Bro. Gary Maibach (Ritt-
man) and Bro. Vernon Leman
(Eureka).

Other visitors include George and
Phyllis Lance (Sis. Louisa's son, Iowa),
Bro. Keith and Sis. Dorothy Leman
(Eureka), Bro. Ben and Sis. Dorothy
Stavenik (Mansfield), Bro. John and
Sis. Paula Fiegle (Sardis), Bro. Tom
Moser (Elgin), Bro. Art and Bro. Jim
Wettstein (Eureka) and many others
from Rittman and Akron.

On Aug. 14 we enjoyed a special day
as many from the Rittman Young
Group shared the day with us. We were
all uplifted by the love and fellowship
they brought.

We thank all who visit with us, espe-
cially our faithful song leaders, and ask a
special blessing for you all, as we are
blessed by your presence.

OHIO, JUNCTION

Les Manz

This time of the year brings us to
think about harvest. Having planted
the seed and done what was necessary
to nourish the plants and to remove the
weeds, man can only pray to God,
trusting He will bless his labors with a
harvest. So, we plant in faith, trusting
there will be a harvest. Visiting us this
month and planting the spiritual Seed
of God's Word were Bros. Paul Eisen-
mann (Burlington), Bro. Ken Sauder
(Mansfield) and Bro. Ray Sinn (Latty).

Barb Etter (Bro. Eli and Sis. Evelyn
Manz) was hospitalized for a couple
days, as was Esther Davis.

OHIO, LATTY

Laurie Stoller — Patty Riggenschach

O, Sanctify our heart and mind,
That we, Thy chosen ones, may find
The path from this turmoil on earth
To God's bright home of peace and
mirth!

Redeeming Our Time
Zion's Harp # 188, v. 10

One of God's chosen ones from the
Latty congregation has found that
bright home of peace and mirth. Sis.
Marian Zeltwanger passed away fol-
lowing an extended illness. She is sur-
vived by two sisters: Sis. Minnie Fetter
(Bro. John, Toledo) and Sis. Clara Sinn
(Bro. George); and three brothers: Bro.
Fred (Sis. Carolyn), Bro. Albert and
Bro. William (Morris). We express our
sincere condolences to the family. Bro.
Harold Gramm (Morris) assisted with
the funeral services.

Latty was blessed with many babies
in the month of August. One of the
happy couples, Bro. Keith and Sis.
JoAnne Klopfenstein, along with their
children Jay, Jaymee, Joni and Julie
welcomed little Kallie Jo. Bro. Stan
and Sis. JaNahn Sinn also received a
blessed addition to their family. Jacob
John will join Joshua, Jessica and Jo-
hanna. Larisa, Erica and Doug Wen-
ninger were excited to meet Chet An-
drew, the new bundle of joy in their
family. The proud parents are Bro.
Larry and Sis. Joyce Wenninger. Tom
and Bonnie Evans and their daughter,
Elizabeth, felt joy in their home at the
birth of Jennie Alaine. (Bro. Dave and
Sis. Irene Stoller are the maternal
grandparents.) Bro. Rex and Sis. Ann
Plummer happily welcomed another
grandchild, Lisa Michelle. Parents are
Mike and Bev Akerman.

"Train up a child in the way he
should go: and when he is old, he will
not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6.
Having been brought up by believing
parents, Wesley Stoller (Bro. Gale and
Sis. Janet) has begun his conversion
and repentance. We pray for God's
grace upon him during this special
time.

Those who attended the soldiers'
reunion hosted by the Latty brethren,
experienced in part the joy of gathering
with the saints when Jesus returns.
The brothers were glad to meet with
past acquaintances and their families,
and to rekindle old friendships. Bro.
Paul Gasser (Akron), Bro. Paul Eisen-
mann (Burlington) and Bro. Jim Ram-

seyer (Bay City) ministered to us during that weekend.

August 7 was a special day for Dale Stoller and Jodi Brigner as they were united in holy matrimony. Parents of the couple are Bro. Glen and Sis. Ede Stoller, Mr. Mac Brigner and Mrs. Richard Helms. Now that Jodi and Dale are one through marriage, we pray they will also make that step to become one in the Lord.

Visiting ministers for the occasion were Bro. Wayne Fehr (West Bend) and Bro. Dan Stoller (Remington).

We are happy to see that Kyle Stoller (Wendell and Glenna) and Erica Wenninger (Bro. Larry and Sis. Joyce) are recuperating nicely.

OHIO, MANSFIELD

Lucille Groh

The Lord Is My Shepherd — Psalm 23.

Many of our loved ones will be going back to school, college and new jobs. We can depend on the Lord for guidance in our everyday life. We do not comprehend how He guides us, but through His Spirit, our thoughts can be put in order and our path becomes clear as we go forward. Will you through prayer, ask Him to help you follow His leading?

The Lord is my Shepherd,
My teacher, my Guide;
He leads me and feeds me,
He stays by my side.

He leads me in troubles
And comforts my soul;
And over my passions
He gives me control.

Rough paths He doth level,
The way He makes straight
That leads into heaven
And heaven's straight gate.

He shows me a patience
Far greater than mine;
His love is unbounded,
His love is divine.

He teaches me plainly
That faith, hope and love,
Should greatly be cherished
As gifts from above.

My cup runneth over,
My cross becomes light,
The Master has changed
Into day, darkest night.

The miracle Worker
In old Galilee
Still reigns, and is ruling;
He's living in me.

I know He will keep me
(He'll shield and defend)
Till life here shall end,
For He is my Shepherd,
My Saviour, my Friend.

Bro. Charles J. Sauder

Through prayer and the leading of the Lord, Bro. Ed and Sis. Dee Beard and family have moved from Mansfield and have relocated in Toledo. We will miss them in our church circle and fellowship and wish them many blessings as they worship with our brethren in Toledo.

Bro. Rusty Sauder has finished his training in Toledo and has moved to Gainesville, Florida for special training in Pediatrics for a two year period. Anyone wishing to write him, his new address is:

Dr. Rusty Sauder
2601 N.W. 23rd Blvd. Apt. 117
Gainesville, Florida 32605

May he feel God's leading and guidance as he continues to help those in suffering and in need.

Randy and Sherry (Priola) Beer became one on August 6. We trust the Lord will bless them as they walk life's pathway. Randy's parents are Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Pat Beer.

Loving prayers have gone up to the Master who is the great healer and physician. We trust and believe our loved ones felt those prayers this past month. Hospitalized were Sis. Lena Beer (Bro. Dave), Sis. Elda Riggenbach (Bro. Alvin) and Sis. Naomi Cordrey (Bro. Donald). Sis. Elda had surgery and was hospitalized twice this past month. Sis. Naomi Cordrey is now in the Winchester Terrace Nursing Home in Mansfield.

Ohio-Michigan Youth Day was held on July 31. We especially want to thank Elder Brothers Aaron Steffen (Alto) and Loren Stoller (Latty) and ministering brothers, Ben Manz (Junction), Ben Hartzler (Rittman), Bill Gerst (Alto) and Eugene Pamer (Akron) for their support and sharing the precious Word of God with us. We extend our appreciation to all those who helped in any way to make this day possible. May God bless you all.

OHIO, RITTMAN

Florence Hartzler

Janette Blough

"My Lord an offering do I bring, my heart I give to Thee . . ." The weekend of July 23 and 24 found us gathered together to hear the testimony and witness the baptism of ten dear souls. We rejoice with Sis. Donna Calame, Sis. Anita Pope, Sis. Diane Raifsnider, Bro. Dan and Sis. Virginia Widmer, Bro. Brian and Sis. Beverly Indermuhle, Bro. Roger Bauman, Bro. Tim Ramsier and Bro. Ernie Stetz. "I gladly give this heart of mine, which Thou does ask of me." Bro. Ed Frank (La-Crosse) assisted our brethren in this important work. Other visiting ministers this month were Bro. Marvin Lemman (Bradford), Bro. Ray Sinn (Latty), Bro. Paul Eisenmann (Burlington), Bro. Floyd Graves and Bro. Duane Farney (Croghan). We want to thank all these brethren for bringing us the word, and may the Lord bless you for your love shown to us.

Ring the bells of heaven, there is joy today, for a soul returning from the wild . . . We are so happy to tell you of more dear ones who have turned their back on the world: Tom Gerber (Sis. Mary Ellen), Melanie Indermuhle (Bro. Galen and Sis. Cheryl), Karen Maibach (Bro. Gary and Sis. Mary Ann), Sandra Maibach (Bro. Roy and Sis. Mabel), Eric and Steve Stoller (Bro. Everett and Sis. Marjorie), Peggy Tieche (Bro. Andy and Sis. Lillian Maibach), Jim Widmer (Bro. Bob and Sis. Joann) and Laura Widmer (Bro. Harold and Sis. Carole). ". . . See! the father meets them out upon the way, welcoming His weary wand'ring child. Glory, Glory! How the angels sing; Glory, Glory! how the loud harps ring."

Two little bundles of joy have arrived to make two happy homes. A son, their first child, was born to Bro. Bob and Sis. Shirley Klotzle and is named Paul Robert. The grandparents are Bro. Erwin and Sis. Jane Klotzle, and Bro. Carl and Sis. Tootie Sinn (Latty). A little girl was born to Bro. Walt and Sis. Lynda Beery, and her name is Hannah Marie. Glad for a little sister are Laurie and Michelle. The grandparents are Bro. Melvin and Sis. Elizabeth Beery and Bro. Gene and Sis. Eleanor Pamer, Akron.

We are thankful for the healing power of God as Bro. Ralph Weber and Sis. Emma Ramsier have recovered from surgery. Sis. Elizabeth Widmer

(John) and Sis. Margaret Bauman are again able to assemble with us and Sis. Minnie Hartzler is able to come some half days. Jesus I am resting, resting in the joy of what thou art; I am finding out the greatness of Thy loving heart. Thou hast bid me gaze upon Thee, and Thy beauty fills my soul, for by Thy transforming power, Thou hast made me whole.

Blessings from God to our newly-weds! The happy couple are Michael and Robin Miller, who were married on July 31. The parents are Bro. Ron and Sis. Ruth Steiner, and the Gerald Millers.

We wish to say God's blessings to the following couples who have been married 50 years: Bro. Ben and Sis. Clara Hartzler, Howard and Sis. Lucy Beery, Bro. Harry and Sis. Marguerita Gasser and Bro. Rudy and Sis. Betty Graf (Akron). The lives of these dear ones have touched many hearts in the past fifty years. Then I'd ask, dear Father Mine, bless their lives with joy sublime, if they serve Thee all the way, come into their hearts and stay, fill their souls with sacred love, till they live with Thee above.

OHIO, SARDIS

Joyce Indermuhle

It is with open arms and hearts that we welcome Bro. Bob, Sis. Karen, Eric, Trent and Carol Indermuhle home again. In talking with them, they express that the Lord's blessings and the prayers of all were with them always.

John and Sis. Hazel Riggenbach celebrated their fiftieth anniversary this past month. May our Father continue to give them health and strength.

With school again in session, we can all get back into a routine, some of us learning, some teaching and many of us supporting our children and teachers. Let us all lift our children up in prayer that they may be lights in their classrooms. We also need to continue growing and learning in our spiritual school, where we are all teachers and students.

OHIO, TOLEDO

Mary Ann Weigele Josephine Rehklau

Elder Bro. Leroy Huber and his wife from Eureka, IL were with us on Sunday, July 31. We enjoyed his very uplifting and stimulating sermons.

We are happy to welcome Bro. Ed Beard and his wife, Sis. Dee and family

back to Toledo. Their new address is:
5349 Whiteacre
Toledo, OH 43615

OREGON, PORTLAND

Barbara Moser

MY PRAYER

More holiness give me, more strivings within;

More patience in sufferings, more sorrow for sin;

More faith in my Saviour, more sense of His care;

More joy in His Service, more purpose in prayer.

More gratitude give me, more trust in the Lord;

More pride in His glory, More hope in His word;

More tears for His sorrows, More pain at His grief;

More meekness in trial, more praise for relief.

More purity give me, more strength to o'ercome;

More freedom from earth stains, more longings for home;

More fit for the Kingdom, more used would I be;

More blessed and holy, more, Saviour, like Thee.

Gospel Hymns #594

The summer is going so fast. Here in the Pacific Northwest it seems as if summer just arrived; as we have been blessed with cool weather and plenty of moisture. Now that it will soon be time to get loved ones ready for school again, the warm, dry weather has descended upon us.

The Lord has richly blessed us allowing Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen and Sis. Marilyn (Elgin, IL) to be in our midst July 31 and again August 7 for morning services. They then traveled to Silverton for afternoon services. Thank you Bro. Nate for the beautiful words of life you shared with us. May God bless you now and much more in eternity.

A special thank you to all the travelers that have come to the Portland, OR and Seattle, WA area this summer. You have left us with many precious memories and also a longing for the time when we can meet in Heaven and not have to part again. Please, let us all

strive to enter Heaven so that we may have these special blessings.

OREGON, SILVERTON

Rosa Lee Kuenzi

Sis. Joan Dietrich (Bro. Jim) and Sis. Linda Kuenzi (Bro. Bob) each came to the baby shower thinking it was a surprise for the other. But, the shower, planned by Sis. Margene Peasley (Bro. David) and Sis. Liz Snook (Vance) was for both mothers. Baby Mark Dietrich was already five weeks old and baby Kuenzi was not born yet. Baby showers are quite common for first babies, but when it's number six and number eight, it is especially appreciated.

"When we asunder part, It gives us inward pain; But we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet again," Hymns of Zion #156. Many times when we sing these words together, we expect to see each other again at the end of a short trip or we are saying goodbye to dear ones we have just met. When we sang them Sunday, July 24, at the potluck supper in Bro. Ray and Sis. Ginnie Cooper's front yard, we began to see how much "inward pain" it would cause us to say "Farewell" to our dear Sis. Barb Metzger. Sis. Barb made Oregon her home for four years, and has come to the decision to move home to Lester, IA. We trust she will continue to look to the Lord for guidance and wish her God's rich blessings.

The church has chosen Sis. Betty Metz (Bro. Art) to fill the unfinished term of Sunday School teacher left by Sis. Barb Metzger. Sis. Betty will be teaching the 3rd to 5th grade children. May the Lord be her guide in this important work.

We were thankful to have Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen minister God's precious word to us on the last Sunday in July. Bro. Nathan, Sis. Marilyn and many of the Portland brethren were able to fellowship with us at a potluck supper held at the home of Bro. Jim and Sis. Joan Dietrich.

There were not a few tears of parting at the closing of the singing hour as this was Sis. Barb Metzger's last evening in Oregon. Sis. Linda Furre (Bro. Glen and Sis. Eileen) had made it known that she also had made the hard decision to move back to Morris, MN. This was also her last evening here. Sis. Linda had quietly and surely found her way into our hearts in the four months that she made Silverton her home. She will be missed and we wish her God's

blessings and guidance in her future. We will remember each other in our prayers.

Baby Tennille Jane Kuenzi (Bro. Bob and Sis. Linda) came into the world on August 1, 1983. Tennille is welcomed at home by her brothers and sisters: Todd, Troy, Tresha, Trinda, Tanya, Tyrene and Tasha. Yes, all T's, and the family takes a lot of good natured teasing and "advice" when it's time to pick a baby name. Isn't it wonderful, though, when God places another little miracle in our homes and we parents give it a name, how quickly that little one finds a place in our hearts and how soon that name just fits each one so well. We know little Tennille is well loved and we share with Bro. Bob and Sis. Linda, as you parents surely do also, the seriousness of raising our children in a God-fearing home.

We were pleased to have ministering Bro. Rod and Sis. Mary Huber and family (Valparaiso, IN) with us on a recent Wednesday night. It was much appreciated that Bro. Rod was willing to minister to us. We do appreciate the visitors who include us in their vacation plans.

**PENNSYLVANIA,
 PHILADELPHIA**
Ed Aeschleman

We welcome Bro. Glen Greenbank from Akron to our church in Philadelphia. Bro. Glen plans to spend six weeks in our area while attending a training course here with his company.

During August we enjoyed the visit of many brethren who traveled through our part of the country on vacation and business. Numerous churches were represented, all of which sent us their greetings and sincere words of encouragement. We are reminded time and again of the precious faith and fellowship which we so much enjoy as a gift from God.

TEXAS, ZAPATA
Mary Plattner

With summer nearing its end, we in Zapata are looking forward to the return of our winter residents. Within the next month we will have some return for the season.

All of the permanent residents here went north this summer on vacations, but someone always remained here to keep the church doors open.

Bro. Ernest Kellenberger wishes to extend his many thanks:

Thank you dear ones all for your kindness and love so beautifully exemplified in the many cards and phone calls we received during my surgery and convalescence. You surely carried out the commandment of our Savior who taught us, "That we should love one another as I have loved you." May God richly bless you for your kindness and concern.

Silver Threads

**GOD, GRANT US HOPE AND
 FAITH AND LOVE**

Hope for a world grown cynically cold,
 Hungry for power and greedy for gold . .

Faith to believe when within and
 without

There's a nameless fear in a world of
 doubt . . .

Love that is bigger than race or creed,
 To cover the world and fulfill each
 need . . .

God grant these gifts of faith, hope and
 love —

Three things this world has so little of . .
 For only these gifts from our Father
 above

Can turn man's sins from hatred to
 love!

Helen Steiner Rice

THERE'S PLENTY OF TIME

One night I dreamed a confused dream. I was busy. I hurried, yet I couldn't accomplish anything. There were many people in the dream. I wanted to serve and please them all. I pleased none. I was displeased myself.

I awoke, still tired and confused. I knew I was to learn something from the dream. Later that day I sat resting. Suddenly my Teacher was saying, "I am not a slave driver. My yoke is easy. My burden is light." He waited for a long moment, then added, "There will NEVER be enough time, energy, inspiration to do all you want to do, all others want you to do and all I want you to do. BUT there will ALWAYS be plenty of time, energy and inspiration to do what I want you to do. What I want you to do is the only lasting, satisfying work. Wait for Me to instruct. I shall surely let you know."

I have found it so.

THE LITTLE LOST SHEEP

Often and always unexpectedly, my Master speaks to me. One night my mind rambled here and there. I could not control it. I grew weary with thinking — thinking round and round in circles. There were no answers, no solutions. Then came the voice of my Teacher, "This is the little lost sheep. It is always going astray." I thought about that remark. I agreed. It is our lost straying mind that gives us trouble. Again unexpectedly, He added, "But am I not faithful to search it out and bring it back to Myself?"

I was home. There were no questions. There were no wonderings or wanderings. Faith in His faithfulness is the answer and solution. In His faithfulness, He bring us faith.

Another time my mind was wandering to no seeming profit. I found myself speaking with great authority, "Mind, come back here and get into my head, and it is lying right here on my pillow." It was the voice of my Master speaking through me. Immediately my thoughts became reverent and rejoicing, soon I was asleep. Since these two times, almost always, my mind is under control.

LEARNING TO RELAX

It had been a long, fruitful, but tiring journey. Coming home, I became deathly ill. I was so tense that I thought my head would actually explode. My teen-age daughter was there when I arrived home. She massaged my head, neck and shoulders. I was desperate. I said to her, "Honey, what am I going to do?"

She answered calmly. "Mother, you're going to just let it hurt until it gets through." Suddenly I was well. All tension left. I was free and so very grateful to God! I had been too sick and weary to submit, so she had submitted for me.

The next morning as I awoke, the word 'SUBLAXATION' was saying itself within. I could not find the meaning in the dictionary. I found 'LAXATION' meant the ability to relax. I knew the Lord was telling me that my ability to relax was under par. More important, He was saying that He would teach me to relax more completely and perfectly. I have found Him true to His word.

GIFTS OF GOD

I was dreaming. A friend and I were walking up a long hill. Suddenly it became smooth and glistening. At the top, we stepped into a beautiful garden. It was filled with flowering plants and shrubs everywhere. The tree we were standing under was also covered with blossoms. The branches came down near the ground and formed a sort of bower. I looked up toward the top. The farther I looked, the brighter and redder became the trumpet-shaped flowers. I was filled with glorious ecstasy. Then I remembered my friend and his recent trouble and I felt sorry that anyone in all the earth should be unhappy. I reached and touched my friend's shoulder and said, "I'm sorry." Then I knew he, too, had forgotten his troubles, for he asked, "About what?" I answered, "About all the troubles in the world." He said with tender sureness, "It's all right. Everything is all right." Then we continued on down a road toward home. I knew the 'home' was God.

The dream was over. The happiness remained. Several days passed. I became guilty that I should dwell in such happiness when many never in this life know such joy. Then Jesus was saying to me, "Accept this as a gift from Me." I thought about His statement for a minute, then He added, "Accept EVERYTHING as a gift from Me." I knew that everything that comes to us in our life is a gift from God, used for our good.

WALKING WITH GOD

I saw a Father and His child upon a road. The child was about three. The Father held the hand of the child. They walked slowly on. The child didn't want to go. The child was kicking, screaming and dragging his feet. The Father walked on undisturbed. He took the rebellious child with Him.

Days passed. I again saw the Father and the child. They were on the same road. The Father had released the hand of the child, but He kept His eye on him. The child was now perhaps twelve. He was in a hurry. He ran on ahead. The Father walked calmly at an even pace. The child was running more slowly. He was hot, tired and sweaty. The Father caught up with him. He took his hand. They arrived at the same place at the same time.

More days passed. Again I saw the

Father and child on the road. The child was now a young man. He was walking tall and strong by his Father's side. They were conversing. Now and then they would laugh together. The child had grown to maturity. He was no more rebelling at the Path of Life. Neither was he hurried, worried or distressed. He had learned to trust his Father. They were friends. He walked with God.

THE SEASONS

I saw an orchard of small bush-like shrubs. The first rows were as black lifeless sticks. I knew it was their wintertime.

The next several rows were budding. I saw green leaves here and there. Spring had come. The next rows seemed to merge. They were thick with full green foliage. I saw a beautiful pinkish, yellowish white blossom here and there.

Then I saw the last rows filled with fruit. The fruit was only partially ripe. Some was green. The vision was gone. I felt a sadness. "Oh, Lord," I cried, "is there yet no ripe fruit anywhere?"

Again I saw the orchard. I saw it in all its stages. On a bush in the last row I saw, hidden under a cluster of leaves, a ripe fruit.

I reached and plucked the fruit. I held it in my hand. It felt cool and smooth. Its fragrance rose and blessed me. I could almost taste the sweet juiciness I knew it contained. It was almost round in shape — not quite. It was a blend of colors — pink, pale green, yellow and white. I could see the faint lines beginning at the stem and meeting at the bottom. These were segments. I knew each of the segments were a fruit of the Spirit — Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Gentleness, Goodness, Faith, Humility and Balance. I said, "There must be nine segments!"

I heard the Voice behind — the Voice of the Gardener: "No, there are only eight. The whole fruit is LOVE." It was harvesttime.

LAMPLIGHTER

He has taken his bright candle and is gone

Into another room I cannot find,
But anyone can tell where he has been
By all the little lights he leaves
behind.

Unknown

ONE CANDLE

A candle is a small thing.
But one candle can light another.
And as it gives its flames to the others,
see how its own light increases!
Light is the power to dispel darkness.
You have this power to move back the
darkness in yourself and in others
with the birth of light created when
one mind illuminates another, when
one heart kindles another.
And its flame also enlarges within you
as you pass it on.

The Eternal Light

"There is not enough darkness in all
the world to put out the light of one
small candle." Words of Life

TRUSTING GOD

A certain problem in my life was worrying me. I was troubled. I could not forget it. I kept hearing the voice of my Friend saying, "Trust Me. Trust Me." I kept right on fretting and mulling it about in my mind. Hours passed — miserable hours. The Voice of my Friend became the Voice of my Master, "I said to trust Me! I know what I'm doing!" His command brought the ability to obey. Within a very short time the situation worked itself out, far beyond my fondest expectations. Now when troublesome situations arise I remember Him saying, "I KNOW what I'm doing."

GOD IS ENOUGH

I was questioned and was questioning about the so-called 'God-Head-Trinity'. The names Father, Son, Holy Ghost, Church whirled around in my head. Suddenly there was a calm, a stillness. I saw a beautiful young woman. Her hair was long, thick and dark. It flowed over her shoulders and down her back. Her eyes were soft, dark and deep. Her face was beautiful. Upon her lap was a beautiful, healthy, happy baby. He was nursing at her full breast. It was a perfect portrayal of peaceful completeness.

As I looked, I knew the mother was God and the breast was Christ. That which the baby was receiving was the unseen Spirit. It was the health-giving, warm, satisfying, comforting Essence of God.

The baby was humanity, held in the arms of God. God looked down on him

with watchful, loving care. The baby was drawing all that was needed from God, but he was concerned only with the sweetness of the breast — Jesus, the Mediator between God and man. All is God. God is all. He is Love. He is enough.

Sermon . . .

(Continued from Page 28)

ask for is right in God's sight, then things will start going in the right direction. The Word of God says "everything".

We have a wonderful hymn, "What A Friend We Have in Jesus". The words speak of how He will bear all of our burdens, and of the opportunity that we have to take all to Him in prayer. These thoughts are conveyed in the first verse.

I am afraid that much of mankind observes a token esteem, respect, and service to Almighty God, but follow their own desires, their own ways, and their own will.

What Paul is speaking of in this chapter is that there is only one way of life for the Christian. This one way is toward perfection. We will find this perfection when Jesus has called us into that eternal home where all wisdom and knowledge from Almighty God, and happiness and joy have been promised us. We will sing out in our joy.

In the meantime, Paul's exhortation is towards perfection. When we come to worship with one another, we know that God will feed us from His Holy Word, and He will strengthen us, and He will teach us. God has wondrous ways in what He brings to us on each particular Sabbath day.

Today, as we opened in the Psalm, the meekness, lowliness and submissiveness of a Christian heart and mind was spoken of. Following that came a chapter, in which Paul said, "With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love." Eph. 4:2. This is where we often fail. Where there is trouble in this world, you will find that there is a lack of the love of God. Men are seeking their own aims. Strife, wars and rumors of wars aren't prompted by the love of God. They are prompted by man's own corruption, and the promptings of Satan himself.

As we have been taught in this morning hour, you and I need to pray more fervently. Our prayers to God should

be according to His will and not our own. Then things will start going better. They will also start going better for our friends when they are able to take everything to God in prayer.

We all have needs such as for consolation, or for help during illness and affliction. If our need is right in the sight of God, we can pray to God for it. If it is something from our own man or our own mind, then we'd better put it aside, for we'll be unable to pray for it fervently. "Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all." Eph. 4:3-6.

That is the firm foundation, the rock that we need to stand on, this one body in Christ, each and every member so fitted together that we can strengthen one another. "From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love." Eph. 4:16.

There is our strength, brothers and sisters-in-faith, the love of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. This love will cause brother to strengthen the brother next to him, and a sister to support the sister next to her. Each and every one can work in one mind and one body, through one Spirit, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all.

If we can see and understand the wondrous work that God has wrought in this congregation, in this one body in Christ, how wonderfully we are strengthened and are able to go on. Through prayer and supplication to Almighty God, we are comforted and are raised from affliction. How mightily such supplication needs to be applied throughout every life.

The door is now open to those who stand, looking for the time that they will turn to their Lord and Saviour. Today is the time of grace. Salvation through our Lord and Saviour can be found today.

Last Sunday we made a trip to Mansfield. Driving down a highway makes a person think about the direction in which they are traveling, and whether we are concerned about where our soul is traveling.

We had a beautiful morning to travel, and we looked forward to the fellowship and opportunity to meet our brothers and sisters-in-faith. We passed a very large sign that had a saying from God's Almighty Word: "Be prepared to meet thy God." A few words . . . wondrous meaning.

Perhaps a half-mile further, there was a large cemetery. It made us catch our breath, pause and think. How many souls in that cemetery heeded the Word of God and were prepared to meet their God?

I mentioned the other Sunday about two semi-trailers that came together. Wedged between were five teenagers who instantly met their death. The first thing that came to my mind was, "Were they prepared to meet their God?"

The Word of God tells us that now is the day of grace. Now is the time that we can turn to our Lord and Saviour. Now is the time to prepare to meet our God.

We heard of someone who (I think) was seventy-four years old, and had walked all the days of his life rejecting Jesus. He came under affliction, and God in His wondrous work led Him to Jesus. His testimony was how wonderful it was that God in all His love still called him.

In Mansfield the other Sunday, we met a loved one from Indianapolis. Tears in his eyes, he was turning to Jesus, giving his life to Him.

Another instance was spoken of in which someone who was very ill turned to the Lord in the last hours of his life. It doesn't always work that way. Lives are taken in an instant. Jesus is calling today. You still have the opportunity to grasp salvation. We are all traveling towards death's door, whether it be an hour from now, ten years from now, or thirty years from now, unless Jesus comes before that time.

How many souls with five minutes before death would turn away and reject their Lord and Saviour? Not very many. I believe that souls have a longing and a desire to become right with God. Be prepared to meet your God.

You do not know the time and the hour that the angel of God is going to call you from this earth. If Satan can delude you and take that last five minutes away from you, you will be lost throughout all eternity. Give it some thought today. Be prepared to meet thy God.

FEB 02602 LK
CHARLES WALDER
EAST LYNN IL 60932

SERMON BY ELDER BRO. DAVID BERTSCH OF LEO, IN

Text: Psalm 51 and Ephesians 4

Brothers and sisters-in-faith and all of our friends of the truth, how wonderfully the Spirit worked in the mind, in the very soul of Paul, to enable him to write such a wonderful chapter. How clearly it defines the life that you and I should live, the change from the old life to the new. How strong and fervent and firm we should be in our faith.

In our services on the last several Sundays we have read in God's Holy Word prophecy of the latter days. We have heard on a number of occasions what has been prophesied concerning the falling away of mankind, how Satan (the devil) shall deceive man and lead him away from the way of God and the way of our Lord and Saviour. It isn't buried as a deep dark secret. It is before us daily.

Paul wrote of this very thing to the Ephesians, to the Galatians and to the Philippians. Satan was working just as hard at that time as he is today, only today he seems to have more help and to be gaining ground. This is just exactly what was prophesied.

Paul's words of caution and of admonition, these deep and holy teachings about how carefully we should live need to strike deeply into the hearts of Christians. Our friends of the truth shall see the pathway down which they are traveling in the same words.

You and I, brothers and sisters-in-faith, found ourselves in the same lost condition that is spoken of here. Through the Word of God and the promptings of the Holy Spirit, we finally understood how futile it was to continue. We were brought in humility and submission to the realization that we couldn't go ahead one more day in such a sorry state.

Much is said about the decline of morality. You and I hear and see it every day. Our national leaders speak about the downfall of mankind.

This nation that we live in, was begun by men who looked to God's Holy Word for guidance. Because they wanted to worship in freedom, they gave up all and left the lands where they had been living. Today we have freedom of worship, but there are forces that would like to take this blessing away from us.

Paul wrote of what happens when people, individuals, a nation, a country or the entire world, fall away from the Word of God and the teachings of our Lord and Saviour, grieve the Holy Spirit.

"And grieve not the holy spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption. Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice." Eph. 4:30, 31.

How can the Holy Spirit work within souls that haven't given their lives to the service of God and Jesus? When they've reserved a portion of their hearts and efforts for pleasures and desires, for striving for wealth and recognition, the Holy Spirit is grieved and does not find a place in such souls.

Blessings are taken away from a nation that grieves the Holy Spirit. This is evident in the falling away within our own country, and in the fact that there is an atheistic world following communism in the land of Russia. It seems wondrous when we follow the prophecies that have been fulfilled: the falling away of mankind, the unholy spirit that is trying to overcome the world, and the regathering of the children of Israel from all nations to their homeland. This is the latter day and time.

Let us think very deeply and very carefully about what God is telling us in this morning hour. To be worthy of our calling, we should be more humble and more submissive. We should be joined

in unity and in Christian love. This complete body of Christ will then be able to stand strong with the blessings of the Holy Spirit, not grieving Him, able to withstand the plagues that Satan brings upon mankind.

Sometimes mankind, led and prompted by their own desires, and very much unaware, are led away from this closeness to God. We can be caught up in the turmoil and the strife. We can be caught up by what the news media says. We can become disturbed in our spirit by what is going on.

Paul writes to the Ephesians, and to you and me, that it should work the other way in a Christian's life. When conditions are so troubling and events seem to be heading in the wrong direction, brothers and sisters-in-faith, we must become more fervent in our prayers. We must be more faithful in this vocation to which we have been called, followers of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Concerning some of the things a person can become caught up in, I think that we have to examine our wants and our desires, what we're striving for, and the goals that we have set. Are they according to the will of God? This can be found out by turning to God in prayer. This includes everything in a Christian's life. If we feel unable to take part of our desires to God in prayer, we are not going in the right direction.

"Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand. Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God." Phil. 4:5, 6. When we, as Christians, as individual souls, as a nation, find ourselves able to take everything to God in prayer, knowing that what we pray for and that what we

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