

The Silver Lining

A LIGHT FOR BELIEVERS

VOLUME 34

AUGUST 1984

NUMBER 8

Humility

But He giveth more grace. Wherefore He saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace to the humble.

James 4:6

Mirror of the Soul

Humility makes a man peaceable among the brethren, fruitful in doing good, joyful in suffering, and constant in holy living. Humility makes us fit for the highest service that we owe to Christ and at the same time is not negligent of the lowliest service to the humblest saint. Humility can be content with the most modest table and yet will enjoy the most precious delicacies as with God, with Christ, and in glory. Humility makes a man willing and ready to bless him who curses him and to pray for him who persecutes him; a humble heart is an abode of God, a disciple of Christ, a companion of angels, a preserving-vessel for grace, and is prepared for glory. Humility is the faithful nurse of our graces and gifts and the mighty impulse to sacred exercises in duty.

Bro. Samuel H. Froehlich

1) Meekness is the noblest virtue,
Every Christian's honor bright;
It adorns the youthful member
And the aged with its might.
Though it does not stand in favor
With those of a proud behavior,
Yet 'tis more than precious gold,
More than fame and wealth untold.

2) Behold Jesus, He was humble
He exalted not Himself;
He was gracious, loving, gentle,
Asked no honor and no wealth;
In Him dwelt no vain ambition,
Nor a boasting disposition;
So He calls to me and thee:
Learn humility from Me.

Zion's Harp #186

REPORT ON EASTERN EUROPE

Andy Hunyady

Dearly Beloved:

We received a record amount of mail from our brethren in Romania who are the beneficiaries of our food package program. I just wish there was a way to share the contents of each letter with everyone who made it all possible! I am trying to present a few which typically express their gratitude and thanks to our great God, Lord and to you, our beloved. Here are a few excerpts:

"Beloved Brother, . . . I am writing with the help of our Lord, as I cannot fully express myself in the Hungarian language. I received your letter today and I want to thank you for your words of encouragement and strength which the Lord had directed to us. I recognize that we have the same spirit and mutual feelings and that love knows no boundaries.

"As you have reported earlier, the packages continue to arrive regularly. The Lord helped me to travel into some villages to visit the brethren. I found some old brothers and sisters of whom I had not known before. I do not want to add to your burden, but I enclose their names and addresses as follow:" (Three names are listed.) "Dear brother, if it is possible, please send food packages to these poor brethren as soon as you can.

"May our good God inscribe your names into His Book for the work of love and grace done in our behalf and in the name of our Lord. We send our love and greetings to you and the beloved brethren there.

Ioan B. (deacon)

P.S. I wish to make it known that the following have completed their earthly pilgrimage and send no more packages to their addresses: (Four names are listed.)

"Beloved Brethren, May the love and sustaining grace of our Lord direct us in this earthly pilgrimage and grant us strength to endure to the end, and be found worthy to be accounted among His chosen ones, where we can rejoice on the day of judgment. First I want to thank our Lord and you, beloved, for your kindness towards me and all the beloved brothers and sisters here. May our God reward you richly here in this earthly life and much more in the life eternal! I am thankful to God that I can still be up and able to manage as it is hard to be alone. The weight of

our times is heavy upon us, but we learned to be content with shelter and clothing. We dare not complain, but must accept it. May it be according to the will of our Lord.

"We are greatly saddened as (Elder) Brother Dumbrava left us very unexpectedly after a very short illness. I close now, may the peace and blessings of God be with you. We greet you all. There members at Tenke and Belfir also greet you.

Your least worthy brother,
Sandor B. (Minister)"

"Beloved and unforgettable brethren in the Lord: . . . May these lines find you in the fullness of joy in our Lord. We received your gifts of love and your letter. Your words did so much to comfort our hearts. We cannot properly thank our Lord and you for counting us worthy to increase our joy! We thank you and everyone who had part in this labor of charity. The Lord recompense you richly, is our prayer. Accept our heartfelt greetings in the name of our Lord.

Janos B."

Some families asked us that during the summer months we should hold back on their packages as they hope to have gardens to raise some vegetables and perhaps some poultry. However, this may not be possible with many as grain is extremely hard to obtain and is barely enough to feed the population let alone poultry and livestock.

The number of packages for June and July have been reduced with the hope that it will not create too much hardship on certain families. Official news reports reaching us by way of the neighboring countries, indicate that the Romanian government has implemented some strict rules and regulations to increase farm production (grain and beef). Much of the blame for recent failures and shortages were put on the farm workers by the officials. Strangely, these officials do not want to admit that shortages exist. As of now there is no sign of early improvement in the economic scene. May the good Lord continue to lay upon our hearts the welfare and future needs of our people there.

Before her return to Hungary, we were pleased to have Sis. Jolan Szabados of Budapest, visit us in our home. Sis. Jolan is highly instrumental

SPECIAL NOTE

A change in mailing address for ALL sermon tape requests and returns should be sent to:

Apostolic Christian Church
Recording Service
P. O. Box 990
Bluffton, IN 46714

NOTE: Our Annual Donated Children's Home Sale is coming up on August 25 — as soon as you can, we would appreciate it if you would drop us a line and tell of your welcome donations, so we can put it on the Sale Bill. We need this information so we can tell the people what we have, and create the needed interest for a big attendance.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Write to:

Apostolic Christian Children's Home
P. O. Box 151
Leo, IN 46765

THE SILVER LINING

Grabill, Indiana 46741
USPS 496780

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Lynn Stieglitz
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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

in keeping our contact and providing aid to brethren living in the eastern countries, where travel is difficult and poverty and suppression are common. Our conversations centered around the best ways and methods of providing help to our needy without provoking their respective governments and jeopardizing the lives of loved ones. Sis. Jolan made several trips to neighboring countries, speaks several languages and is well acquainted with the overall conditions. Her counsel and recommendations are most useful and a great help to us.

Though most of our attention recently focused on providing food aid for brethren in Romania, it should be noted that our Apostolic Christian World Relief Committee continued to send a steady flow of aid to many elderly and needy in the other East European countries, such as Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Hungary, Romania and Yugoslavia.

In addition, the Missionary Committee is involved in providing financial support to certain congregations to repair, renovate or build new churches in these countries. Most church buildings are old, a number of them over 100 years old and the upkeep is very costly. Some of the buildings in villages were built with compacted clay or mud walls that require repairs each year.

In 1977, the first new church building in more than 30 years was dedicated in Pecs, Hungary. This was the first new church built since the communist take-over. The local elder told me on the day of dedication that if it weren't for the generous support from America, this church could not have been built. In 1982-83, additional funds were given to renovate and enlarge the small church in Dunavecse, Hungary.

Currently negotiations are going on to renovate and enlarge the church in Budapest. Because of rigid controls by the state and the city, work has been delayed for more than a year. A sizeable sum is set aside by the Missionary Committee for the Budapest project and is held here until it is needed.

The latest request came from Yugoslavia. The small congregation in Zenta started to have their more-than-a-hundred-year-old building repaired. The funds raised locally and through their national church treasury was insufficient to complete the extensive repair work to save the building. Their re-

quest was carefully examined and approved by the brethren at their July meeting. Funds sufficient to complete the work is on the way. Generally low income, meager pensions for the elderly, high building material costs and inflation contributed to their hardship. In spite of it all, their hopes and spirits are high! Their thanks and appreciation is expressed in every letter we receive.

MEMORANDUM

To: Church History Correspondents

We are asking that you inform us at once of any history books you received that were defective. That is, cover upside down, missing pages or poor inking. Please write me giving me the number, if any, of books that were not up to par.

Of the 10,000 books ordered, there may be a few that are defective and we must give this information to our printer.

I will appreciate your prompt cooperation on this matter, and would ask that you report to me no later than August 1, 1984.

We really appreciate your cooperation, and we offer our most sincere best wishes in the dear Lord.

Perry A. Klopfenstein
Box A,
Gridley, IL 61744
309-747-2803

P.S. Approximately 1,000 books remain in our hands. We very likely will begin considering a reprint, and we will keep you advised. It is our hope to always keep an adequate supply on hand for future requests.

Also, we are asking you to notify us of any errors you may note in the book regarding misspelled words, errors of fact, wrong addresses, or omissions. Please let me know right away on this.

"MARCHING TO ZION" Apostolic Christian Church History Book NOTICE

Regarding the church history books, this is to inform you that plenty of books remain in our warehouse. If you wish to re-order, please feel free to do so. We have a surplus of more than 1,000 books. Please advise your congregations that surplus books are on

hand. Thus, there need be no concern that books are not available.

To re-order, write to me at Box A, Gridley, IL 61744. Please enclose a check. Books sell for \$12.50 each.

Perry A. Klopfenstein

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME

Uriel Gehring — Jane Stieglitz

July 17 was the date of the first "digging" for our new administration building. We are all awaiting its progress and completion. Something new always gives a new inspiration to the "home" environment. As I drove to work this morning, the foundation wall was being poured for the new building — exciting times at our place.

At the time of this writing, the lawns would take on a "new" look if we had a nice rain shower. The rains in this area have been very scattered and spotted. How thankful we are that God is in control of even the elements.

We are looking forward to the Annual Auction and Sale scheduled for August 25. Articles are coming to the Home already. The day of the Sale is a special day of fellowship for all who attend. "Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." Ps. 133:1.

The third Sunday of each month, our church is scheduled for an evening church service at the Ft. Wayne Rescue Mission. About thirty of us gathered with the residents last Sunday night, including a number of the children from the Home. The children presented the songs they sang at Vacation Bible School as part of the service. Our ministers take turns having a Bible reading and meditation.

We extend our love and sympathy to Sis. Jackie Babin and her family upon the passing of her sister, Sandy Gasper (Tremont, IL). We are thankful for the hope of eternal life. May God comfort all of them in this time of sorrow.

As I read the eager anticipation on the faces of the kids as they pack and load up their suitcases for Summer Break, my heart swells with joy for them. A break from the routine is always refreshing. They are very privileged to do many special things here, but, in spite of all that, their inmost desire is still that they be reunited with their families. As we think and pray for these kids who have become so very precious to us, may we also remember to pray for the family units in our

country, that they may be the supportive, loving homes God intended them to be.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

Though on June 30, the weather was so cool that a previously planned residents' swimming outing had to be cancelled, today - a few short weeks later - we are knee-deep in summer, complete with hot, humid, corn-stretching weather and an abundance of luscious fruits and vegetables. Perhaps as you eat a piece of watermelon this summer, it would be interesting to consider this small manifestation of the Creator's power. It has been estimated that it takes perhaps five thousand watermelon seeds to weigh a pound. Yet when one little seed is planted into the ground and is given the right conditions, it takes off its little coat and goes to work to produce about two hundred thousand times its own weight in fruit, which contains within itself enough seeds to duplicate this phenomena many times over. How is this possible? What architect drew the plan that this could be? The most learned man cannot fully explain the watermelon, but with faith in the Almighty all of us can realize that He has no limits in what He can do.

The annual Fourth of July Family Picnic was well attended again this year, some traveling many miles to come. The residents' program depicted American history, complete with costumes, from the time of the Indians.

At a recent Resident Council meeting, Dave Wegman showed slides of a Work Team trip to Haiti, where a number of area brethren put up a block building which is to be used for a schoolhouse. Many heart-warming memories remain.

Because time passes so quickly, it would be wise if we already would reserve time for the Home's annual Benefit Day, November 16. Memories of the beautiful articles which have been donated in past years makes us realize that there is an abundance of talent among all of you. Hope for another successful event brings both gratitude and enthusiasm.

As has been touched upon in a previous article, it is good to get to know our residents better. To do so fully would require "walking in his moccasins", but suffice it to say that we have

one resident who has limited ability to walk independently and spends most of his time in a wheelchair. Each morning, he, along with others, is transported to the area Workshop near Tremont, where he is gainfully occupied. Thinking of his friends everywhere and being concerned for them prompts him to spend some of his free time in correspondence with them. Often when he cannot find the right greeting card, he is grateful when someone purchases one for him elsewhere. Occasionally going out to eat with family and friends is a very special time. Having a sister and a twin brother in a neighboring state, he finds it the highlight of the year when he can spend a vacation there. We often observe him as he sings during Friday evening church services and at church on Sunday. How we wish for him the beautiful Fruit of the Spirit until such time when he can join in a Heavenly chorus some day.

Being summer vacation time, we extend an invitation to all to come and to visit this facility when you are in the area.

ALABAMA, ATHENS

Joan Schrenk

We have had many visitors this past month. We wish to thank them for their gifts of love shared with us.

We just had our school board meeting, and all went well. We feel very good about how our school has progressed the last couple of years. Thanks to everyone for the support and help we have received.

I would like to ask everyone to spend a few minutes reading Matthew 5, "The Beatitudes". Think about it, are these your attitudes? They should be. With much prayer, we can make this our goal to put on this type of attitude.

ARIZONA, PHOENIX

Ron and Ev Hoerr

"They preached the Word of God." Acts 13:5. Our visiting ministers this past month have been Elder Bro. Ben Maibach, Bro. Todd Feller, Bro. Eugene Fetter, Bro. Rod Huber and Bro. Al Langhoffer. We do appreciate their visits and timely teachings.

We enjoyed our monthly potluck and singing June 24. The fellowship is always an extra blessing.

On June 26, our dear Sis. Gladys Fisher celebrated her 80th birthday as

the recipient of a card shower. May the Lord bless her.

Bro. Keith Kaufman was engaged to Sis. Carol Leman (Denver). Keith's parents are Bro. John Kaufman and Betty Hari. Carol's parents are Bro. Tom and Sis. Marlene Leman (Denver).

Sunday School has been on vacation since July 1 and already these little darlings are looking forward to their classes.

On July 18, a reception was held for the 25th wedding anniversary of Bro. Glen and Sis. Josephine Martin. May the Lord continue to bless them in their years ahead.

ARIZONA, TUCSON

Lisa Knapp — Sandy Bauer

Our love and thoughts travel to Holland these days as news was heard of the arrival of Christopher Sean McAndrews. He is the brand new baby boy of Joe and Cindy McAndrews. Christopher is the newest grandchild of Bro. Loren and Sis. Evelyn Knapp. Joe and Cindy are stationed in Holland through the Air Force.

Our Elder Bro. Richard Schupbach and Bro. Bill Dotterer (both of Phoenix) were visiting ministers this month. We always appreciate their efforts to be with us. May the Lord bestow many blessings upon them.

Our friend Orville Schmidt is still hospitalized and we need to remember him in our prayers. He is slowly, but surely, progressing.

Also our Sis. Tillie Aldrich needs our prayers as her illness is lingering. We pray the Lord will grant her much endurance.

CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA

Mary Beth Klotzle

"And He spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint." Luke 18:1.

What a blessing it is to be able to go to God in prayer and to know He hears each prayer and answers them all in the timing He feels is best. Recently we were encouraged in a sermon to take more time to pray. If we continually go to God in sincere prayer, then we will remain in close communion with Him. Our schedules may be busy, but is there anything as important as a close walk with our Lord?

We were also blessed as Bro. Don Wagenbach (Washington) shared God's Word with us. Every message

that God inspires is so full of encouragement, advice and counsel . . . the Lord certainly provides for our every need. May He bless those who are willing to minister upon His Word.

NOTE: August is the collection month for Altadena. Please pay your correspondent the \$7.00 subscription dues.

COLORADO, DENVER

Marlene Leman

We have been blessed with many visitors this summer and each one is so special and so welcome. Among our visitors have been ministering Bros. Ernest Graf (Akron, OH), Byron Stoller (Gridley, IL), Charles Sauder (Tremont, IL) and Elder Bro. Don Sauder (Roanoke, IL). May God bless each one for sharing His precious teachings with us.

"Fulfill ye my joy, that ye be like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind." Phil. 2:2. Believing that God put this oneness in their hearts, Bro. Keith Kaufman (Bro. John Kaufman and Betty Hari, Phoenix) and Sis. Carol Leman (Bro. Tom and Sis. Marlene, Denver) have promised their lives to one another. "Live joyfully with the wife whom thou lovest all the days of the life . . ." Eccl. 9:9. We pray for God's blessings upon them as they begin their life together August 12.

CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE

Michelle Virkler

" . . . Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me." Psalm 51:10.

We have been blessed once more in our congregation by having another soul turn to the Lord. Dave Bahler (Bro. Owen and Sis. Lois Ann) has made the decision to walk with our Lord and seek His guidance and direction.

"Lead me Lord, as Thou best knowest . . ." (Zion's Harp #93). Sis. Beth Schneider has been announced to Bro. Guy Gottier. Sis. Beth's parents are Bro. Roy and Sis. Joyce Schneider and Guy's are Warren and Sis. Carol Gottier. An August wedding is planned.

"Come, come sweet rest, us from distress

From cross and sorrow to deliver
Eternity where we shall be
United with eternal joys forever . . ."
Zion's Harp #147

Our congregation was deeply saddened by the passing of Sis. Anna Gottier, 80. She leaves two sisters, Sis. Emma Moser and Sis. Ida Welti (Ellington) and several nieces and nephews. We trust the Lord will enfold them with love and compassion.

" . . . Though I must endure affliction, Yet I feel my Lord's affection . . ." (Zion's Harp #137). Debbie Crary, Robert Luginbuhl, Warren Zahner, Becky Ellert and Lora Zahner have all been in the hands of a physician or hospitalized during this past month. May the Lord grant all those recovering an extra measure of health and strength.

We were blessed with visits this month from Bro. Alfred Bahler and Sis. Frances (Wolcott, IN) on July 3. Bro. John Isch and Sis. Mary (Indianapolis, IN) visited Rockville on July 15. We thank these dear brethren and their wives for visiting us and for the precious teachings brought forth.

"Let us hear and give attention, God's own teaching to embrace."
(Zion's Harp #217).

FLORIDA, FT. LAUDERDALE

Billie Klopfenstein

"Cast thy burden upon the Lord . . ."
Psalm 55:22

Recently I read a story about a little girl who arrived home with a stray dog. When her mother told her to take it back where she had found it, she obediently left the house to do as her mother asked. But when she got there, she could not leave the animal. She tied a string around his neck, and the dog "followed" her back home.

Just as the little child could not leave the dog, many times we cannot leave our burdens with the Lord. We take them to God in prayer, tie a string on them, and then bring them away with us. The Lord cannot take them if we choose to bundle them up and bring them back "home". We must take responsibility to do what we can about our problems. Yet, we must let go of unnecessary worry and leave it with the Lord, God is more than willing to take

the worry from us. It is up to us to untie the string.

Bro. Vic and Sis. Dot Beer have a new grandson. The baby's parents are Brian and Brenda Beer (LaBelle).

Many of our local congregation are vacationing but we in turn have had a good share of visitors from the north. We are glad for each person who comes to worship with us.

FLORIDA, NORTH FT. MYERS

Marie Keller — Elsie Troxel

We rejoice with the angels in heaven over the news that Louise Moser (wife of Roy Moser) has found peace with God and awaits baptism. "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." Romans 5:1.

Along with the good news, we have the sad news of Roy Moser (Louise) taken suddenly ill and was hospitalized for treatment and tests in July. Our prayers are with him and his wife and may God's loving arms be around him as he goes through this illness and comfort them both.

We are still waiting to begin construction on our church building in North Fort Myers, FL. Prayerfully it will be soon.

FLORIDA, SARASOTA

Doris and Diane Roche

Greetings to all from Cape Neddick, ME, where we are spending several months. The natural scenes of the world renew our love for the great creation of God's world.

We were happy to be able to hear the message June 10, by Elder Bro. Lavoyd Moore (Athens, AL). May all who heard the Word prepare for His coming. We extend our love and God's blessing to Bro. Lavoyd and his wife, Doris, who accompanied him.

Sis. Elsie Lanz is still recuperating at Sis. Edna Roscher's. May she soon be able to stay in her home.

We are so thankful to let you know Louise Moser has testified of peace in her heart. She was announced for baptism and is patiently waiting to greet her family of God. Roy Moser (husband of Louise) has been a hospital patient this month. He is now at home taking radium treatments. He needs the prayers of his friends for the mercies of God.

GEORGIA, ATLANTA
Charmin Sellers — Nancy Foltz

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
 and a light unto my path.

Psalm 119:105

Bro. Ben Manz (Junction, OH) and Bro. Arthur Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN) were our visiting ministers in June. We sincerely appreciate their traveling to share the Word with us. May God bless them for their efforts and dedication.

Due to the majority of our congregation being out of town during the past month, we have had to cancel some of our services. We trust and pray that we will be back on schedule in August.

Our services are each 2nd and 4th Sunday at the Ramada Inn, I-75, Marietta, GA. For information, contact Don Sellers at 404-923-0721 or Nancy Foltz at 404-451-9191.

ILLINOIS,
BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL
Shirley Denick — Jan Gudeman

Three new baby girls have joined welcoming and joyous parents. On June 21, Amy Jo Huette was born to Kevin and Toni. She has one big brother, Andrew. Amy's grandparents are Bro. Art and Sis. Velda Huette and Tom and Aldine Lynch (all of Forrest, IL). June 26 was little Karen Jane's date to be born to Bob and Laura Kieser. She joins four brothers and two sisters. Grandparents are Louis and Jean Kieser (Bloomington, IL) and Lee and Louise Kuenzi (Silverton, OR). Steve and Lori Stock became first-time parents of Marissa Lynn, born July 8. Marissa is the granddaughter of Bro. Les and Sis. Arlene Stock (Cissna Park, IL) and Jim and Maxine Kingery (Neoga, IL). May God truly bless these precious little ones and parents with every happiness.

We were recently privileged on a Wednesday evening to listen to Bro. Perry Klopfenstein (Gridley) give us an introduction to his new book, "Marching to Zion". It was a special blessing to sit back and listen to some history of our precious faith. Hopefully, we will appreciate it even more when we learn of the trials of our forefathers in pursuit of the true way.

We're happy to have Sis. Peggy Ifft back in our midst after a surgery and recuperation period. We thank the Lord for the healing power that only He can give.

On July 1 we had the privilege of hosting a 10-year reunion of the building of our church. We enjoyed the fellowship of many who have worshipped with us during the last 10 years.

Our annual Sunday School picnic was again enjoyed by all, hopefully, especially by our Sunday School youth. A very pleasant day and delicious food (which we so often take for granted) was provided.

Visiting ministers this month were Bro. Eugene Bertschi (Roanoke), Bro. Ken Eisenmann (Cissna Park) and Bro. Ed Alt (Cissna Park). We appreciate these brothers laboring in our behalf.

ILLINOIS, BRADFORD

Another Christian home has had its beginning, as the marriage of Sis. Dawn Lemman and Bro. Dean Herrmann was solemnized on July 15. May God's blessings be theirs as they walk together along life's pathway. Bro. Marv and Sis. June Lemman and Bro. Noah and Sis. Evalyn Herrmann (Princeville) are their parents.

We thank Elder Bro. Dave Kieser and Bros. Joe Stoller and Art Baurer (Princeville) for their efforts on this special day. Also, we are grateful to Elder Bro. Don Sauder (Roanoke), Bros. Francis Rother (Morton) and Don Manz (Junction) for their visits and messages.

The miracle of God's healing power through the prayers of many loved ones was clearly evident as Davey Kieser is home with his family, Bro. David and Sis. Shirley, and doing well. He was hospitalized for a time with a head injury. The many prayers offered on his behalf, as well as the visits, cards, gifts and love shown were all humbly appreciated.

Another little boy, Joe Ehnle and his parents, Bro. Gary and Sis. Carol, have experienced a heart rending time as Joe, who was bitten by a squirrel, has been hospitalized and is suffering much pain. His welfare is uppermost in our hearts and prayers at this time.

Our annual meeting was held with the election of Bros. Gary Endress, Jordon Elsasser, Verle Kieser and Sis. Charlene Dietz as Sunday School teachers. Our prayers are with them as they point our youth to the Lord's way of life.

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO
Kathy Schlatter

As the story goes, two men applied to the lady of the house for the position of gardener. The one with patches on his knees got the job. The other one had patches on his seat. Suppose both were Christians. Which one would reflect a Christ-like attitude and which one the "Let-George-do-it" syndrome developed by Satan to discourage and confound?

Bros. John Klotzle (Altadena, CA) and Joe Schrock (Congerville, IL) sacrificed their time to travel and be with us. Their ministry was a blessing and joy. Bro. Joe's visit was a part of Vacation Bible School. V.B.S. has been a special Bible treat for students and teachers alike, where lessons occur closer together - somewhat more intensive that way, but in other ways more relaxed. Children and parents often arrange sleep-overs a little more easily during V.B.S., from our scattered regions, so that "kidship" (pre-fellowship) can continue. It's a happy time.

We are also glad for new brothers and a family joining our flock: Bro. Dean and Sis. Karen Beutel and their two young children (Tremont), Bro. Brent Stoller (Princeville) and Bro. Scott Gerber (Latty, OH). Each member and friend is precious to us. We are encouraged that these would come to our area when family and perhaps even their own inclination would be to say, "Oh, Lord, not there." The Lord has more places for Christians than we let ourselves consider, and we are delighted to have more workers in the vineyard area in which we have been placed. May the Lord continue to guide the adjustment of our loved ones to living in the Chicago area and use us to aid them in quickly feeling a close part of our church family.

Bro. Guy Gottier (Warren and Sis. Carol Gottier) and Sis. Beth Schneider (Bro. Roy and Sis. Joyce Schneider, Rockville, CT), have become engaged, each having sought the Lord concerning a helpmate. They have planned a late August wedding, after which we will be fortunate to have them both with us during Bro. Guy's last year at the National College of Chiropractic. We rejoice in the Lord's continued work of love!

Sis. Gladys Fisher was briefly hospitalized but is now home recuperating. We pray that her recovery will be

swift, Lord willing.

On our recent visit to Mammoth Cave, we discovered that the temperature within was a constant 54 degrees, despite obvious surface fluctuations. Even on our Green River cruise, when we went past cave openings, we felt the coolness out on the boat. We as Christians, with Christ within, should be as steadfast and even in temperament as the caves are in temperature. We also learned that the Echo River runs through Mammoth Cave, gradually carving through the rock underground. So within us, we have an echo of Christ, His spring of salvation working within us, creating and gradually forming a more mature Christian. Let us realize each of us is a work in process, as the cave, and be gentle with one another's weaknesses.

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK
Myrna Weerts — Wilma Walder

Thy word, O Lord, Draws us together
In mutual fellowship to stand;
It kindles in our hearts forever
The flames of faith and love's sweet
band.
The word of grace, which brought
salvation
And fellowship with Thy great throng,
Who praise the Lamb with harp and
song,
Extends to all its invitation.
Zion's Harp #63

Bringing us the word of the Lord and drawing our hearts together in our precious faith this month were Bros. Joe Gerst (Iowa City), Bill Gerst (Alto), Kenny Schneider (Remington), Kevin Knapp (Bloomington) and Arthur Gudeman (LaCrosse). We are thankful for the visits of these dear brothers and trust God will bless them for their labors.

Sometimes it helps a little when skies
are overcast
To remember that tomorrow this day's
troubles will be past.
And tomorrow always brings new
strength, new courage, too,
For each dawn's a bright beginning,
And each day's a brand-new day.
Author Unknown

Remembering our loved ones in the hospital this month and wishing them new strength and courage each day . . . may they know they are in our thoughts

and prayers and that we do miss them. They are Bro. Bill Beer, Bro. Howard Greiner, Dinah Wilkening, Bro. Jeff Young (surgical) and Sis. Helen Knapp (surgical). Bro. Jeff is recuperating in the Iroquois Residence Home in Watseka and Sis. Helen Knapp in our Peoria Apostolic Christian Nursing Home. We hope each one will be able to assemble with us again soon.

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE
Kay Roth — Tammy Knapp

From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. St. Matthew 4:17. We are so thankful for our new converts. They are Mark Roth (Bro. Keith and Sis. Pauline), Jay Steffen (Bro. Duane and Sis. Lois) and James Knapp (Bro. Ralph and Sis. Linda). We wish these dear souls much needed grace to establish a firm foundation.

Once again we enjoyed our annual Sunday School picnic. What a blessing it is to be able to fellowship with dear brothers and sisters-in-faith. The Sunday School children were presented their awards and several classes gave special presentations on teachings they had learned throughout the year.

Our visiting minister this month was Bro. Gene Lehman (Wolcott, IN). He brought out in his sermon how much our forefathers did in establishing our church, and the duty we have to keep the faith pure. It is good for us to be reminded of our duty we have to the generations to come. May God bless Bro. Gene for his service to our congregation.

Our thoughts and prayers are with those who were in the hospital this past month. These loved ones were Bro. Joe Schrock, Sis. Erma Miller and Sis. Peninna Miller. We should all thank God for the health we have.

Ken and Jane Studebaker have welcomed into their home Daniel Joseph. Benji, Becky and Rachel are happy to have a new playmate. Grandparents are Bro. Ed and Sis. Mary Steffen and Paul and Shirley Studebaker.

I want to thank everyone for all the kind deeds, prayers, gifts of food, flowers, etc. that was given me during my illness. May you be blessed for your thoughtfulness.

In Christian love,
Erma Miller

ILLINOIS, ELGIN
Ruth Ann Getz

"Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children; And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given Himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling savour." Ephesians 5:1, 2.

"Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children" . . . When we become a follower of God, do we not wish to become like Him and take on His character? If this is so (and surely it must be) then we cannot lightly read the words "Be ye therefore followers of God", because becoming like God is an awesome task and, indeed, it would be utterly impossible without His abundant supply of grace. Then we see we should be as "dear children". When we consider ourselves in the "child" nature, we can see that the Lord has much molding, shaping and training to do.

As we know from experience that repetition is a useful learning tool, the Lord knows more thoroughly that His children need to repeatedly come to the Word, to study with a meditative spirit, and to drink from the well of living water in order to gain understanding of the character of God. He has provided His Word in abundance in this country and He would desire that all men would become His "dear children". Let us walk in holiness with earnest commitment and conviction (always with dependence on the spirit) to serve our great God.

As our brethren gather for the Annual Brotherhood Conference, may they, with dependence on the spirit, look to the Holy Scriptures as their benchmark so that the church can be purified and continue in holiness.

June 20 marked the birthdate of Jacquelyn Marie Kellenberger. She is the first child of Ken and Vicki and they are rejoicing over her arrival. Grandparents are Sis. Marilyn Kellenberger, Will Schmidgall and Marion Conro.

We wish to bid a fond farewell to Bro. Tom and Sis. Diane Ebert and their children (Jeremy, Jennifer and Amy Jo) as they leave the Elgin congregation and take up new residence in the Denver, CO area. May the Lord go before them and direct all their pathways.

Likewise, we bid a fond farewell to Bro. Ernest Dapper as his work will be

taking him and his wife, Sis. Marcelle, to the Detroit area. We have enjoyed Ernie's short one-year stay in Elgin and only regret that it was not possible for Marcelle to be here with him during this transitional period.

On July 8, Bro. Tom Moser presented his slides from his trip to Haiti this past spring. The pictures told stories of poverty and oppressive government. Yet, among these adversities there were people who were attempting to serve God. In all of our abundance, let us never forget those who suffer adversities that we know nothing of.

We are thankful to God that He has kept those who have suffered injury and illness during this past month, and that each one has been restored to a measure of health. Those who have had need of hospitalization were: Sis. Nina Willaert, Sis. Dena Weiss, Robbie Kellenberger, Sis. Mary Spohr and Bro. Bill Wewetzer.

ILLINOIS, EUREKA

Kathy L. Rocke

"Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord" Psalm 127:3. On June 25, Melissa Jo was welcomed into the hearts and home of Bro. Dale and Sis. Lezlee Leman. Steven, Jeremy and Cory are Melissa's brothers. Grandparents are Bro. Gerald and Sis. Velma Leman and Jerry and Vonda Reinmann.

Gary Ray Stoller is the new son of Bro. Stan and Sis. Lola Stoller. Gary's sisters and brother are Leann, Cheryl, Cindy and Merle. Grandparents are Bro. Vernon and Sis. Verda Blunier and Elder Bro. Leroy and Sis. Clara Huber. May God bless both these families and grant them wisdom to "bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord". Ephesians 6:4.

"Haste and seek your soul's salvation; Heed the word of God today!" Zion's Harp #52. We are thankful that Linda Frank (Bro. Richard and Sis. Nathalia) has heeded the Lord's call. We wish her God's grace and direction as she seeks His guidance.

Bro. Ron Knapp has found employment in Detroit, MI. May God bless him as he assembles with the brethren there.

We have been blessed so richly by ministering brothers who are willing to travel to minister to us: Elder Bro. Art Nohl (Morris, MN), Bros. Marshall Heinold (Washington), Lenny Meyer

(Chicago) and Ervin Knecht (Lamar, MO). May God richly bless them.

July 7, Tom Kupferschmid (Sis. Laura) and Sherri Kirby were united in holy matrimony.

July 14, Sam Knecht (Richard and Janet) exchanged wedding vows with Julie Laible. May God bless both of these couples as they walk this earthly pathway together.

Take one step toward God, and He will take two steps toward you.

Wings of Silver

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY

Carol Bazzell — Joann Zehr

God has blessed the home of Jerry and Carol Vaughan. On June 15, a new little son, Trevor Michael, was born. He has two brothers to welcome him, Eric and Brandon. His grandparents are Ben and Kathryn Kaisner and the Jerold Vaughans. On July 26, a daughter, Hope Ollie, brought happiness into the family of Bro. Dennis and Sis. Jane Steidinger. She has one sister, Joy, and five brothers, Michael, Philip, Matthew, Timothy and Mark. Grandparents are Bro. Reuben and Sis. Carolyn Fehr and Urban and Ollie Steidinger. Little Hope is the 80th grandchild for the Steidingers.

As the angels in heaven rejoice over one sinner that repenteth, we also rejoice with Donna Maurer, who by the grace of God, could come out of this world of sin and darkness. May she find that peace that passes all understanding.

We have appreciated the efforts of visiting brethren the past month. They are Bros. Carroll Gerber (Bluffton North, IN) and Clarence Kachelmuss (Forrest, IL).

Our sympathy is extended to the family of Chris Haab, 95, who passed away July 4. Surviving are two sons, Lewis and Floyd (Forrest) and Helen Rapp and Elva Mae Sutter (Fairbury).

We always miss those who are absent from us. After a recent surgery, Bro. Reuben Fehr is improving and hopes to be home soon. Sis. Louise Sohn is also improving after heart surgery. May we remember to pray for those who suffer affliction.

ILLINOIS, FORREST

Kathy Leman — Sharon Adams

We have enjoyed having Bro. Ron Heiniger (Bloomington) and Bro. Virgil Metzger (Champaign) with us for a Sunday. We pray that God will bless all

his willing laborers for their efforts in bringing forth His Word.

Hospital patients were Bro. Frank Honegger, who has now made his home at Fairview Haven, Sis. Ida Kaisner and Julie Shambrook, daughter of Bro. Art and Sis. Velda Huette.

Amy Jo has been welcomed into the home of Kevin and Toni Huette. The happy grandparents are Bro. Art and Sis. Velda Huette.

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD

Bev Joos

"Just a minute", "No, not yet", "Wait", "Be patient". We repeat these phrases to our children many times each day. Patience is truly a most wonderful virtue — highly prized by the saints and sought after by the mortal. Patience is definitely a learned virtue — babies are not born with patience. It takes years of work teaching children to "wait" and to "take your turn". If one loses his patience, his cranky attitude can be very catchy. One's fellow workers, one's family or one's mate just might react in the very same way. One good flare-up can ignite a whole bonfire! Patience is calmness in times of delay, quietness over those petty every day annoyances, enduring hardship and even suffering without complaint. Although "The patience of Job" seems well beyond our grasp, one must daily strive to improve one's attitude and outlook. The saying, "Be patient, God is not finished with me yet!" holds great truth for each day is a new opportunity to improve. A decision to swallow one complaint each day would certainly brighten our world. Someone who has just experienced a crisis in his life knows well that "tribulation worketh patience". Romans 5:3.

Our congregation is growing as we have four new babies to enjoy. Sweet little Brooke Suzanne was born May 15 to Rich and Karen Harminson. She gets held a lot by her two big brothers, Jim and Brad. Her grandparents are Bro. Elmer and Sis. Mildred Bauman and Mrs. Dorothy Harminson of Decatur.

Bro. Wayne and Sis. Rosemary Wiegand have a darling daughter named Joy Miriam. She arrived on June 20 and gets much love from her brothers, Rudy and Fred, and her sister, Joan. Joy's happy grandparents are Bro. Willis and Sis. Betty Wiegand and Bro. Joe and Sis. Ida Mae Klaus (Eureka).

Phil and Kris Zobrist are delighted

with their new son, Brandon Phillip, who arrived June 28. Pleased grandparents are Bill and Verna Hartmann (Dunlap) and Bro. Howard and Sis. Phyllis Zobrist.

June 30 was the birthday of precious little Robert Brian who joined the family of Bro. Brian and Sis. Teresa Schieler. He is welcomed by two sisters, Diana and Kara. Bro. Robert and Sis. Marcie Schieler and Bro. Lewis and Sis. Arletta Martin (El Paso) are the excited grandparents.

May God grant these families with their tiny new members an extra measure of patience.

In June we were quite privileged to have an adult Bible School along with our regular Vacation Bible School. We are grateful for these ministers who so graciously taught us God's Word: Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville), Bro. Bob Pflederer (Morton) and Elder Bro. Steve Rinckenberger (Cissna Park).

We do wish to share congratulations with Greg and Jill (Koch) Wagner who were married June 30. May God bless their marriage with joy and patience as they live for one another.

Three young men have learned a great deal about patience as they awaited the day they could erect a covenant with God. Dan and Ben Bauman, sons of Bro. Larry and Sis. Betty Bauman, were baptized May 20 and Matt Kieser, son of Bro. Alfred and Sis. Marie Kieser, on July 15.

It is always our desire to pray for those in ill health. We remember Sis. Shirley Debolt who is at the Mayo Clinic and Bro. Sam Schieler who was hospitalized.

Our congregation was very fortunate this past month to have these visiting ministers: Bros. Harold Schmidgall (Gridley), Walter Anliker (Eureka), Wayne Miller (Ft. Scott, KS) and John Lehman (Bern, KS).

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY Carol Klopfenstein

"Wherefore, be ye not unwise but understanding what the will of the Lord is." Eph. 5:17

"For this is the will of God, even your sanctification." I Thes. 4:3

"In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God." I Thes. 5:18

Sometimes we find it hard to discern God's will when we have difficult deci-

sions to make. At times like these, we pray earnestly and entreat the Lord to direct us and help us understand what He would have us to do.

In some things, however, we do know God's will because the Bible tells us plainly. We don't have to wonder and pray for an answer when He has already told us through His Word.

"The will of God" is mentioned a number of times in the New Testament and it is clear that His will does not change. God's will for our lives in terms of our attitude and the fruit He wants us to produce is the same for all of us. He wants the same devotion in our lives as He wanted for the church of the apostles and also for our forefathers. He gives us differing gifts, but He requires all of us to possess the same meek and quiet spirit as we exercise these talents to His honor and glory. Love, patience, yieldedness, gratitude, humility, kindness and being fervent in spirit are timeless qualities that will always adorn the true child of God.

We rejoice with Sis. Nancy Schlipf (Bro. John and Sis. Carolyn) and Bro. Joe Schweigert (Bro. Chris and Sis. Ida, Tremont) since they have sought the will of God and feel His leading to unite their lives in marriage.

The joy of a precious new life has brightened the home of Bro. Clark and Sis. Cindy Stoller. They are the parents of Leah Jean who was born June 27. Leah has a sister, Katrina, and her grandparents are Bro. Roy Hodel and Sis. Lucile Stoller, both of Gridley.

Bro. Stan and Sis. Colleen Ringger have also been blessed by the birth of Jamin Dale who was born July 2. His grandparents are Bro. Roy Hodel and Bro. Fred and Sis. Mary Ringger, all of Gridley.

Elise Danae is the welcome arrival in the home of Bro. Tim and Sis. Betty Kaupp. She was born July 11 and has a sister, Lindsey. Elise's grandparents are Bro. George and Sis. Isabelle Bauer (Cissna Park) and Bro. Harold and Sis. Wava Kaupp (Gridley).

Sis. Lucille Hoffman has been a hospital patient.

We were glad for the visit of ministering Bro. Glen Funk (Garden Grove).

ILLINOIS, MORTON

Phyllis Farney — JoAnn Roecker

We are thankful that our Heavenly Father has called Todd (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Barbara) Stoller to work in His vineyard. We heard his testimony of

faith on June 24 and witnessed his baptism on June 25. May God continue to lead, guide and direct Bro. Todd down the straight and narrow pathway of life.

Our Sunday School picnic was held on June 25 at our Morton Apostolic Christian Fellowship Hall. Everyone enjoyed delicious food and fellowship was abundant.

Bro. Randy, Sis. Jane, Keith, Jeff, Kim, Julie and Kirk Schick welcome into their hearts and home, Jodi Marlene. Jodi was born on June 25. Her grandparents are Ray and Ellen Kamp and Bro. Carl and Sis. Marie Schick.

Bro. Mike, Sis. Sue, Megan and Amanda Zimmerman welcome into their hearts and home, Jon Michael. Jon was born June 29. His grandparents are Bro. Earl and Sis. Kathryn Steffen (Elgin, IL) and Bro. Russell and Sis. Alvina Zimmerman.

Bro. Sam J. Getz was called Home. His funeral was held on June 30. May our Heavenly Father comfort and bless his family and friends.

We are rejoicing with Sis. Becky (Bro. Ralph and Sis. Lynn) Garber and Bro. Brent (Elder Bro. Joe and Sis. Shirley) Braker. They exchanged their wedding vows on July 8. May our Heavenly Father bless them and be the head of their home.

Bro. Charles Schwenk was called Home. His funeral was held on July 10. May the Lord comfort and bless his wife, Sis. Velma, his family and friends.

Sis. Christine Herrmann wishes to thank all who remembered her with prayers, visits, cards and gifts of love while in the hospital and since coming home. May God bless all who were so kind.

We witnessed the wedding vows of Sis. Sue (Bro. Don and Sis. Lorna) Schrock and Bro. Steve (Gene and Sis. Sherrill) Jones on July 15. We wish them God's blessings as they will now walk life's pathway together. May our Heavenly Father truly be the head of their home.

Bro. Marten and Sis. Jamie Zimmerman welcome into their hearts and home, Erin Lynn. Erin was born on July 12. Her grandparents are Bro. Ken and Sis. Darlene Hoerr (Peoria, IL) and Bro. Bruce and Sis. Myrna Zimmerman.

We want to wish Sisters Nancy Bollegar, Mary Farney, Bros. Brad Braker, Steve Dietrich, Dennis Mott, Rick Ringger and Roger Spangler God's

richest blessings as they have been chosen to teach our children and young people in Sunday School. Our prayers are with them as they plant the seed into young and tender hearts.

Let us continue to be prayerful for those who are shut-in and/or ill. May we continue to hold them up in prayer, telephone call and/or note in the mail.

We wish to thank Bros. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL), Nathan Steffen (Elgin, IL) and Willis Wiegand (Goodfield, IL) for ministering God's Holy Word unto us. May our Heavenly Father richly bless them for their labors of love.

ILLINOIS, PEORIA

Margo Marx — Susi Herman

The Lord has blessed our congregation by adding five more to His fold. Our hearts rejoice each time we greet a new member of like faith, whether they be young or old. Our new members are Bro. Leland Swadley, Bro. Greg Hunziker, Bro. John Hoerr, Jr., Sis. Julie Herman and Sis. Kathy Huthman.

The home of Bro. Marten and Sis. Jamie Zimmerman has been blessed with a bundle from Heaven. Little Erin Lynn was born July 12 and is a granddaughter of Bro. Ken and Sis. Darlene Hoerr and Bro. Bruce and Sis. Myrna Zimmerman (Morton, IL).

June 10 was a very joyous day for Marcia Rumbold and Chris Stickling as they were joined in holy matrimony. We pray God's richest blessings on this dear couple as they begin their walk together.

This month our visiting ministers were Elder Bros. Lavoyd Moore (Athens, AL), Gene Marti (Lamar, MO), Bros. Noah Herman (Tucson, AZ), Earl Kilgus (Remington, IN), Willis Wiegand (Goodfield, IL) and Floyd Schmidgall (Morris, MN). We appreciate their coming and sharing the Word with us.

Bro. Jesse Schrock received over 100 cards on his 90th birthday on June 19. He sincerely thanks all who sent the cards.

The family of Sis. Pearl Rumbold wishes to express their heartfelt thanks for the sympathy shown through the many cards, gifts and prayers during the time of their bereavement. May God bless each and every one.

Hospitalized were Bro. Ray Martin, Bro. Bob Plattner, Bro. Walt Plattner, Bro. Al Kiefer, Bro. John Woerner, Sis.

Barbara Herman and Eldora Young. May God heal all their infirmities according to His will.

Our sympathy is extended to the family of our dear Sis. Anna Hoerr who has passed away.

"Blessed is every one that feareth the Lord; that walketh in His ways." Psalm 128:1.

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE

Arlene and Arlys Martin

At the close of life, the question will not be, "How much have you gotten?", but "How much have you given?". Not "How much have you won?", but "How much have you done?"

Nathan C. Schaeffer

Visiting ministers have been Elder Bros. Ed Ringger (Gridley), Leroy Huber (Eureka) and Bros. Steve Martin (Eureka), Al Langhofer (Wichita, KS), Nate Stoller and Kenneth Dietz (Bradford) and Chuck Hemmer (Peoria).

Congratulations to our recently married couples. They are Bro. Craig and Sis. Terri Martin, married on June 24. Their parents are Bro. Nate and Sis. Esther Martin and Bro. Gene and Sis. Betty Herrmann of our congregation.

Bro. Alan and Sis. Janice Martin were married on July 8. Their parents are Bro. Nate and Sis. Esther Martin and Bro. Gene and Sis. Betty Herrmann of our congregation.

Bro. Dean and Sis. Dawn Herrmann were married in Bradford on July 15. Their parents are Bro. Noah and Sis. Evalyn Herrmann of our congregation and Bro. Marvin and Sis. Jane Leman (Bradford).

On June 25, Sarah Marie Streitmatter was born to Bro. Alan and Sis. Janet Streitmatter. Laura welcomes her sister home. Grandparents are Bro. Alf and Sis. Ginny Streitmatter (Princeville) and Bro. Bob and Sis. Helen Wiegand (Eureka).

On July 1 we enjoyed our annual Sunday School picnic at Jubilee State Park.

Those who were on the sick list and are recovering are Sis. Ruth Kieser, Sis. Edith Martin, Sis. Joyce Blunier, Bro. Ike Martin and Bro. Carl Ehnlé.

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

Carol Rumbold — Joyce Hodel

Julie Diane Fehr was the fourth child born to Bro. Dan and Sis. Diane. Her brother and sisters are June, Jerome and Jena. Each child adds more joy to a

home and God's extra attention and care for that little soul. Grandparents are Bro. Carl and Sis. Louise Fehr and Mr. and Mrs. Lester Whited (Benson).

Bro. Roger and Sis. Kathy Wiegand are happy first-time parents of Nicole Renae born June 22. Nicole's grandparents are Sis. Lena Wiegand and Bro. Rich and Sis. Rachel Leman. Children are indeed a "heritage of the Lord" and may God bless this little family as they enter a new phase of life.

Eddie Gerber and Karen Phillips were united in marriage and we wish them many blessings in their new home. Parents are Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Melinda Gerber and Mr. and Mrs. Don Phillips (Roanoke).

The Peoria Fellowship Hall was the setting for the wedding of Steve Sauder and Margie Unsicker. Parents of the new couple are Bro. John and Sis. Ester Sauder and Bro. Melvin and Sis. Carolee Unsicker (Peoria). May God's wisdom be with them as they build their "home" together.

Hospital patients this month were Bro. Lou Zimmerman and Sis. Norene Herbst. We are thankful they are healing at home. Lindsay DesCarpentrie, daughter of Bro. Russ and Sis. Jane had a foot injury from a bicycle accident. May God take care of each one.

It was a joy to have so many visiting ministers. They were Bros. Marvin Leman (Bradford), Andy Virkler (Bay City), Kent Heimer (Taylor), Jaye Rinkenberger (Goodfield) and Marshall Hienold (Washington). Thanks for sharing the Word with us.

I wish to express my sincere thanks to each and every one for all the thoughtful expressions of kindness, cards, visits, and prayers during my recent stays in the Eureka and Methodist hospitals and since returning home.

Wishing you God's blessings,
Norene Herbst

ILLINOIS, TREMONT

Dorothy Wagenbach Carolyn Bolliger

We recently gathered for our annual Sunday School picnic in our local park. It was a lovely evening as we fellowshiped together.

Our congratulations to Tom and Dianne Endress on the birth of their first child, a dear little son, Kyle Marc, born June 25. Happy grandparents are Fred and Ruth Endress (Tremont) and Mr. and Mrs. Joe Basso (Pekin).

We have had two weddings this month - Jill Koch, daughter of Bro. Vernon and Sis. Merna, and Greg Wagner, son of Ray and Sis. Vi Wagner (Deer Creek) were married on June 30 in our Fellowship Hall.

July 1 was the wedding day of Sis. Marsha Huette and Bro. Earl Koch. Their parents are Bro. Ken and Sis. Arlene Huette and Bro. Paul and Sis. Florence Koch. We wish both these young couples God's blessings as they start their lives together.

We are happy for Bro. Joe Schweigert and Sis. Nancy Schlipf whose engagement was recently announced. They plan an October 28 wedding. Their parents are Bro. Chris and Sis. Ida Schweigert and Bro. John and Sis. Carolyn Schlipf (Gridley, IL).

Our hospital patients this month have been Fern Glueck, Sis. Mary Baurer, Sis. Priscilla Schmid and Willard Schweigert. Sis. Priscilla has since been moved to Restmor in Morton for recuperation. We hope she will be able to be home soon again with her sisters.

We are sorry to see one of our young families move from our congregation. Bro. Dean and Sis. Karen Beutel and children, Stephanie and Greg, have moved to Darien, IL and will be attending church in Chicago. May God be with them as they begin this new era in their lives.

Our thanks to our visiting ministers this month. They are Bro. Joe Schrock (Congerville) and Bro. John Steiner (Oakville).

A note from Sis. Mary Baurer - I wish to express my heartfelt thanks to all for prayers, gifts and cards I received while in the hospital and at home. It was very much appreciated. God bless you all. Thanks again.

Mary Baurer

ILLINOIS, URBANA Cheryl Mangers

On July 1 our little church was filled to overflowing as friends and family gathered to witness the marriage of Sis. Cheryl Joos (Urbana) and Bro. Bill Blunier (Leo, IN). We wish them God's richest blessings as they start their married life together in Grabill, IN. Elder Bros. Ed Hohulin (Goodfield) and David Bertsch (Leo) assisted Bro. David Wiegand in the services that day.

Elder Bro. Ed Hohulin (Goodfield) also ministered to us on June 24 and Elder Bro. Bob Grimm (Goodfield) on

July 11. We appreciate more than words can ever express Bro. Bob and Bro. Ed's labors of love and willingness to serve our little congregation.

We thank God that after submitting to surgery, Ed Scott is already assembling with us again.

After much prayer and thought, our congregation has purchased land and formed a building committee consisting of Bros. Wayne Banwart, Ben Blunier, Loren Schrenk, Rich Fischer and Keith Hanson. The new lot is located on Devonshire Drive between Prospect and Mattis in Champaign. We are proceeding slowly, taking a step at a time, continually seeking God's direction.

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

Lily Pfaffmann - Elaine Winkler

Here it is the midst of summer again. Time flies on, and God continues to shower His blessings upon us in one form or another.

We have been privileged to have three visiting ministers, our own dear Elder Bro. Roy Sauder (Peoria) and Bros. Art Ringger (Indianapolis) and Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville). May we appreciate them and support them with our prayers.

July 8 was the date of our annual Sunday School picnic. We were blessed with food and fellowship. It's such a special event when our whole congregation spends an evening together as a family. Times like these are long remembered and help strengthen the bond of love we experience through our Lord.

Elmer Knapp, father of Sis. Ida Lou Koehl, is seriously ill in the hospital. Our prayer is that the Heavenly Father will restore health to him in accordance to His will.

A dear couple in our church has proven out God's will for their lives, further dedicating themselves to His service. Bro. Bill and Sis. Joan Schick and their little son, Billie, will be moving to Leo, IN in August to serve as alternate houseparents at the Children's Home. Truly their absence will be felt! Though we will miss them, we pray that His peace and love will continue to radiate and bless their lives.

We, here in central Illinois, have had nice weather, including wonderful rains in adequate proportions. Yet there are many areas of the country which haven't been as fortunate. No doubt, at times, your cross weighs

heavy and you wonder, "Why me?". We shall not know this side of heaven, but the Lord told us afflictions must come. We don't know what tomorrow may bring. In a life of faith, "The Lord Will Provide". (Zion's Harp #86).

Each of us must go through the valleys and over the mountains, while if we had our choice, life would be as Eden. Yet we know adversities, of whatever nature, humble us and cause us to lean on our Lord for strength. Whenever we resign our all at His feet, He promises to carry us through. He never fails and will richly reward true submission. Then we will be an honor and glory to our Heavenly Father. We know that tribulations are blessings in disguise, for they make us more perfect. Remember, through the fire the gold is purified. God has not revealed to us when He will return, but when He does, we will be most thankful for the cross we bore.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON

Etta Steffen

Sue Neuenschwander

We enjoyed the two-week visit with two sisters from Hungary. Sis. Jolan Szabados from Budapest and Sis. Angela Koszo from Rozsa. They were guests of Bro. Chris Pfister (Bro. Ted and Sis. Rose) and family. Bro. Chris met them last December in Romania. The sisters witnessed the testimonies and baptisms of Bro. Courtney Pfister and six others. They enjoyed being with our "young group" and traveled with the Pfister family to points of interest in some of our nearby states. We trust they had a safe trip home.

We were very richly blessed when Bros. Perry Zimmerman (Forrest, IL), Everett Hari (Bloomington-Normal) and William Gudeman (Elgin, IL) were with us June 24. We wish to thank these loved ones for making the effort to be among us and imparting unto us the many precious teachings.

Four new babies have entered the world and are a special joy to each of their families. Bro. Gene and Sis. Darlene Reinhard welcome their second son, Ryan Daniel, born June 21. Grandparents are Bro. Alphie and Sis. Lucille Reinhard and Bro. Ernie and Sis. Lucy Isch, Bro. Herman and Sis. Marie Drayer and Marvin and Jane Bahler. First-time parents are Bro. Robert and Sis. Marcia Steffen. Their son has been named Jamin Dean, born June 28. Grandparents are Sis. Marie

Steffen and Bro. Don and Sis. Sarah Reinhard. Bro. Vic and Sis. Peg Reinhard, along with their two daughters, Nichole and Mindy, welcome into their home, Kelly Jo, born July 9. Grandparents are Bro. Alphonse and Sis. Lucille Reinhard and Bro. Ken and Sis. Joyce Troxel (Ft. Lauderdale, FL).

We have had several hospital patients this month. They are Sis. Pat Maller (Bro. Rod), Sis. Marjorie Ringger, Bro. Jay Gerber, Bro. Walter Speheger, Richard Fiechter and Ron Macklin (Carl and Betty).

Our sympathy goes out to Bro. Herman and Sis. Effie Bertsch in the passing of their son, Roger, who died June 13. Surviving are the wife, Patty, one daughter and one son.

The death angel looked down over our flock and plucked another rose for the Master's bouquet. Sis. Mary Kipfer went home to be with the Lord on July 7. Surviving are two sons, Bro. Joe and Bro. Aaron and two daughters, Sis. Dorothy (Bro. Harold) Schladenhauffen and Sis. Eunice (Max) Steffen.

Believing it is the Lord's will, two engagements were announced. On June 17 Bro. Dean Gerber (Bro. Harry and Sis. Lois, Bluffton North) and Sis. Jaci Ringger (Bro. Dave and Sis. Maxine) were announced. They plan to be married October 7. On July 15, Bro. Hal Kipfer (Bro. Ken and Sis. Judy) and Sis. Janean Isch (Bro. Ken and Sis. Carolyn) announced their engagement. They are planning an October 14 wedding.

We have three weddings to announce this month. On June 23 Tami Landrum (Sis. Colleen) and Traci Schwartz (Bro. Ervin and Sis. Alice) were united in marriage. July 1 was the wedding of Bro. Bob Maller (Bro. Bob and Sis. Gladys) and Sis. Kim Baumgartner (Bro. Ralph and Sis. Jean). July 8 we witnessed the marriage of Bro. Lynn Fiechter (Bro. Carl and Sis. Mary) and Sis. Ronda Meyer (Bro. Harold and Sis. Violet). We wish God's blessings on these couples as they begin their life together.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON NORTH Virginia Rauch — Cindy Geisel

Our retired Elder John Yergler once said our lives are like a ball of string. When you first unwind it, it seems to go slow, but when you get to the halfway point the rest of it unwinds rather quickly. He likened this to the life we live. At first it seems to go slow but the

older we get, the faster time goes. Will we do something useful with the string once unwound or just let it be a tangled mess? Will we do something useful with our lives, so we have a hope of eternal life in Heaven, or will we remain tangled in the cares of this world? It's up to each of us to make that choice.

We're so thankful that two dear souls have made their choice. We're happy for Scott DeHoff and Susan Troxel as they have taken this most important step in their lives. We wish them God's grace.

Dear little Abigail Lyn was born June 17 to Bro. Sam and Sis. Becky Ringger. One sister, Mary Jo, welcomes her home. Happy grandparents are Bro. Sib and Sis. Vi Ringger. On June 26, Jamie Lyn came to live with her parents, Bro. Steve and Sis. Kathy Longenberger, and little sister, Jessie. Happy grandparents are Bro. Vernon and Sis. Mary Ann Kaehr and Bro. Harry and Sis. Devona Longenberger. Also Bro. Steve and Sis. Gayla Baumgartner are the first-time parents of little Landon Ray, born on July 6. Joyful grandparents are Bro. Galen and Sis. Joyce Baumgartner and Bro. Harry and Sis. Lois Gerber.

We're happy to announce the engagement of Bro. Dean Gerber (Bro. Harry and Sis. Lois) to Sis. Jackie Ringger (Bro. Dave and Sis. Maxine, Bluffton). We wish them God's blessings as they look forward to their wedding date of October 7.

On June 24, the Bluffton and Bluffton North churches enjoyed a family hymn sing at the Fellowship Hall. Choir members from both churches also joined together to sing a few songs of praise. A blessed evening of song and fellowship was enjoyed by all.

Visiting ministers with inspiring messages have been Elder Bro. Ben Maibach (Detroit) and Bro. John Isch (Indianapolis). We thank them and their wives for visiting us and welcome them back any time.

Shut-ins for the past month were Bro. Sam Ringger, Bro. Everett Schladenhauffen, Bro. Vernon Meyer and Bro. Jerome Rauch. We pray that good health will be restored to them in a speedy recovery.

We express belated sympathy to the family of the late Sis. Aldine Schaefer, who passed away last April at the age of 85. Survivors include Sis. Dulla, Sis. Nora Gilliom, Sis. Violet (Roger) Isch, Sis. Lucy (Roy) Haab and Bro. Lewis

Gilliom. We're sorry this was unintentionally omitted from the past Silver Linings.

INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE

Jacki Huber

"I find the doing of the will of God leaves me no time for disputing about His plans." MacDonald

The theme for our Vacation Bible School this year was "Finding God's Will for Our Lives". We enjoyed an uplifting week June 25 through July 1.

The subjects expounded upon and ministers for each evening were as follows: Monday - Growing Up (What's It All About?), Bro. Jim Rinkenberger (Bluffton, IN); Tuesday - Partnerships and Relationships (Home, Church, Business), Bro. John Isch (Indianapolis, IN); Wednesday - Stress and Attitudes (Depression), Bro. Loren Stoller (Latty, OH); Thursday - Success (How Do We Measure It?), Bro. Ron Heinger (Bloomington, IL); Friday - Victory In Jesus, Bro. Harold Gramm (Morris, MN).

On Sunday evening, July 1, the children shared with us in a program, truths they learned at Bible School throughout the week.

Many thanks to everyone who took part in making the week a blessed one.

Three couples are beginning lives together after being joined in holy matrimony.

On Saturday, June 23, Cheri Erb (Bro. George and Sis. Elaine) was married to Bill Delph (Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Delph) at the Fellowship Center.

Also married at the Fellowship Center one week later on June 30 were Colleen Onken (granddaughter of Rex and Sis. Louise Onken) and Scott Wuethrich (Bro. Otto and Sis. Donna).

Sis. Debbie Gudeman (Bro. Willis and Sis. Margaret) and Bro. Don Nuest (Bro. Gene and Sis. Norma, LaCrosse) were married on Sunday, July 15. We'll miss Sis. Deb, but hope they'll visit us often.

Our heartfelt thanks to the visiting ministers we enjoyed having this past month. They were Bros. Elmer Schmidt (Winthrop, MN), Harold Gramm (Morris, MN), Merle Bucher and Art Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN), Ken Weertz (Cissna Park, IL) and Elder Bro. Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO).

Our congratulations to Jose and Cathy Cervantes (Tecate, Mexico) who gave birth to a baby girl, Crystal Joy on

May 22. Cathy is the daughter of Bro. Art and Sis. Maxine Novotny.

Sis. Tillie Heinold, who resided at the Parkview Haven Retirement Home, passed away on June 4 at 90 years of age after a two-week illness. Services were held in Valparaiso where she formerly attended church. She was the wife of the late Bro. John Heinold.

Hospital patients this past month were Shawna Gutwein (Bro. Jeff and Sis. Wendy) and Bro. Eli Anliker. We're glad they're both home again.

INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS

Judy Dubach — Lynn Winslow

The Bible is all one story. The last part of the last book (Revelation) in the Bible reads like the close of the story begun in the first part of the first book (Genesis).

(The first words in Genesis:) "In the beginning God created the Heavens and Earth" (Gen. 1:1). (Almost the last words in Revelation:) "I saw a New Heaven and a New Earth" (Rev. 21:1).

The gathering together of waters He called the Sea" (Gen. 1:10) "And the Sea is no more" (Rev. 21:1).

"The darkness He called Night" (Gen. 1:5) "There shall be no Night there" (Rev. 21:25).

"God made the two Great Lights (Sun and Moon)" (Gen. 1:16) "The city has no need of the Sun nor the Moon" (Rev. 21:23).

"In the day you eat thereof you shall surely die" (Gen. 2:17) "Death shall be no more" (Rev. 21:4).

"I will greatly multiply your pain (Gen. 3:16) "Neither shall there be pain any more" (Rev. 21:4).

"Cursed is the ground for your sake" (Gen. 3:17) "There shall be no more curse" (Rev. 22:3).

"Satan appears as deceiver of mankind" (Gen. 3:1, 4) "Satan disappears forever" (Rev. 20:10).

"They were driven from the Tree of Life" (Gen. 3:22-24) "The Tree of Life reappears" (Rev. 22:4).

"They were driven from God's presence" (Gen. 3:24) "They shall see His Face" (Rev. 22:4).

"Man's primeval home was by a river" (Gen. 3:24) "Man's eternal home will be beside a river" (Rev. 22:1).

Yes, the Bible is one continuous story, and how we choose to live our lives today will determine where we will go tomorrow when life is over.

It has been noted, "Your life may be the only Bible some folks will ever

read". Are you living and sharing this "eternal story" with your friends and neighbors? Can you witness the (Genesis and Revelation) or beginning and end in their lives? We thank Bros. Jack Bollier (Leo) and Earl Kilgus (Remington) for sharing Words of Life with us.

On June 18, Jason Robert Stoller was born to first-time parents, Sis. Pat and Bro. Wade. We are delighted they have returned from their one-year stay in Germany and can fellowship with us. Jason's grandparents are Bro. Eugene and Sis. Minerva Stoller (Leo) and Bro. Walt and Sis. Dorothy Steffen (Milford).

INDIANA, LACROSSE

Connie Knobloch — Cheryl Bucher

On July 1, Sis. Amy Bucher and Bro. Jim Paarlberg were united in marriage by Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott). Parents are Sis. Gwen Bucher and Bro. Conrad and Sis. Donna Paarlberg (Valparaiso). On July 15, Bro. Don Nuest and Sis. Debbie Gudeman were also united in marriage by Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman at Francesville. Parents are Bro. Gene and Sis. Norma Nuest and Bro. Willis and Sis. Margaret Gudeman. We wish both couples God's richest blessings and extend a warm welcome to Sis. Debbie as she joins our LaCrosse congregation.

We are thankful that our Elder Bro. Ed Frank is again able to attend church after spending some time in the hospital. Our thoughts have been with him and pray that he will have a full recovery.

We have been richly blessed with many visitors this month. Among them were Elder Bro. Bob Grimm (Goodfield), Bro. Bob Meyers (Bluffton North), Bro. Rod Huber (Valparaiso), Bro. Bill Schlatter (Junction), Bro. Marshall Heinold (Washington), Bro. Chris Huber (Francesville) and Bro. Hartzel Kaisner (Detroit). May God richly bless them for their labors of love.

INDIANA, LEO

Thelma Schlatter

Joy and sorrow, health and illness, work and rest; life moves on. Someone has said that life is what happens while you are making other plans. Regardless of how that may be, there is refuge and there is peace if we know God as Lord and Master of our lives.

Bro. Dean Allen, son of Bro. Ernest and Sis. Dean Stoller, has moved from

the Home of the Handicapped (Morton) to Parnell Park Nursing Home (Ft. Wayne), near the loving presence of his parents.

Sheri, daughter of Bro. John and Sis. Linda Klopfenstein, had the misfortune of breaking her foot. Bro. Tim Stoller has had foot surgery. Through the lesser and larger annoyances, He gives patience and help.

Distant travelers were Sis. Beth Stieglitz and Sis. Imogene Stieglitz on a Holy Land tour, and Bro. David Stieglitz on a study time in Germany.

We share in the joy of our newlywed couples. Bro. Bill and Sis. Cheryl Joos Blunier were married on July 1. We welcome Cheryl to our congregation, and hope she will enjoy living in our Leo-Grabill area.

James Bollier, son of Bro. John and Sis. Velma Bollier, and Rhonda Conway, daughter of Ron and Nancy Conway, were married July 7, and are at home in Indianapolis. We wish both couples God's blessing on their future.

We share in the sorrow of partings recently experienced by loved ones. Our sympathy goes to Bro. Ken and Sis. Jackie Babin and her family in the passing of her dear sister, Sandra Gasper.

Menno Steiner, 77, went from this life to the eternal, following a short illness. He was a friend to many. Those who will miss him most keenly are his wife, Bess, and his sisters, Anna, Elda, Esther and Sylvia Steiner, Rhoda Schlatter and Mary Getz. Christians never say goodbye for the last time.

The Sunday School children shared some of their Vacation Bible School songs with the people at the Rescue Mission, a blessing to both singers and hearers.

While children have endless lessons to learn, adults can learn many from children also. A touching story is told of a little girl who was to undergo surgery. The physician said to her, "Before we can make you well, we must put you to sleep."

The little girl looked up and smilingly said, "If you are going to put me to sleep, I must say my prayers first, and she proceeded with "Now I lay me down to sleep." Perhaps that surgeon remembered to pray, too, that night.

Lord, help us to count our blessings! A little child looked into Helen Keller's face and asked, "Isn't it awful not to have two good eyes?" Helen replied quietly, speaking with her fingers

through Miss Sullivan, "Not half so bad as having two good eyes and not being able to see."

A Sunday School teacher remarked that he who buys truth makes a good bargain, and asked if anyone could recall an instance in Scripture of someone making a bad bargain.

"I do," replied a boy. "Esau made a bad bargain when he sold his birthright for a mess of pottage."

A second said, "Judas made a bad bargain when he sold his Lord for thirty pieces of silver."

A third replied, "Ananias and Sapphira made a bad bargain when they sold their land and then told a falsehood about it."

A fourth observed, "The Lord tells us that he makes a bad bargain, who, to gain the whole world, loses his own soul."

Selected

INDIANA, MILFORD

Shelby Beer — Gwen Steffen

Even after the Easter season is past it is good for us to reflect back to that Last Supper which Jesus so lovingly shared with His disciples. On Saturday evening, June 23, we were able to partake of Holy Communion. Elder Bro. Ed Frank (LaCrosse) was willing to give of himself in assisting our Elder Bro. Jesse Beer in this most precious work.

It was the desire of the church after a time of prayerful consideration to seek a brother to help in the ministry. Sharing this special day (June 24) with us were Elder Bros. Ed Frank (LaCrosse) and Wendell Gudeman (Francesville). The Lord chose as His servant Bro. Tom Speicher. Our love, support and prayers go out to Bro. Tom, Sis. Tammy and their family as they begin this most important work for the Lord. Taking this opportunity, we want to thank Elder Bros. Ed and Wendell for their love and time they have given the Milford congregation.

We were grateful for the visit of two Bluffton ministers, Bros. Bob Meyer and Carroll Gerber. Surely it must thrill Jesus' heart to have such willing, loving servants.

Joyfully we share in the happiness of the engagement of Blain Hurd (son of Bro. John and Sis. Carol) and Kathryn Hendershot (daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Hendershot, Goshen). Plans are being made for their December

wedding. May God bless them richly as they soon will become one.

God has been so gracious in supplying divine healing to part of our church family. Hospitalized this month were Glen Losee, Irene Best, Everett Price, and Bro. John Martin, Sr. Bro. Howard Beer is presently recuperating at South Bend Memorial following open heart surgery. Surely God has given these loved ones an extra measure of strength and encouragement as they have recently faced difficult times. Our love and prayers are with them.

Our sympathy is extended to Bro. Arthur Baumgartner and Sis. Edith Baumgartner in the passing of their sister-in-law, Gladys (Andrews) Baumgartner (Cleveland, OH).

We humbly thank the Lord for another soul who has repented and found that precious gift of peace. Looking forward to sharing his testimony and being baptized is Steve Price (son of Bro. Tom and Becky).

Graduating this month is Jill Haab (daughter of Bro. Ray and Sis. Paula). Jill received her degree in ultrasound technology from Butler University.

INDIANA, REMINGTON

Beth Virkler — Annette Bahler

A CLOSED EARTH — AN OPENED HEAVEN

Cyprian, a Christian martyr in A.D. 250, said, "In persecution, earth is shut up, but heaven is opened. Antichrist is threatening, but Christ is protecting. Death is brought in, but immorality follows. The world is taken away from him that is slain, but paradise is set forth to him restored. The life is extinguished, but the life of eternity is realized."

"Ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky and of the earth; but how is it that ye do not discern this time?"

Now let us do some comparing with persecution and prosperity. Unprecedented in our time, the golden age in Solomon's time was, no doubt, much the same as we are experiencing. But we should not forget that age ended in disaster. What are we expecting to happen to this age?

In prosperity, earth is opened. The encouragement is to enjoy life and take all you can get. But heaven is receding, lightly esteemed by many. Antichrist is promising everything. "You can even serve two masters and be blameless,"

he says. He is the biggest liar on earth.

Christ is still requiring judgment for every idle word. Physical death is still with us, but spiritual death, which we need to be afraid of, is deeply buried in a multitude of earthly cares and lightly regarded by many. By these, immorality is lost forever.

The world and Satan still promise temporal pleasures, luxuries and in short, the pleasures of sin for a season. This we pay for by losing paradise. If in the life of time, we follow the pleasures of sin for a season, our hopes for eternity in heaven will not be realized, but extinguished in outer darkness where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

T. Bauman

On July 22, marriage vows were made before a host of witnesses between Sis. LuAnn Schneider (Bro. Ken and Sis. Loretta) and Bro. Eric Kaeb (Bro. Elmer and Sis. Mary Lou, Cissna Park). This day also meant a farewell to Sis. LuAnn as they will make their home in Cissna Park. Visiting ministers that were here for that day were: Bro. Steve Rinkenberger and Bro. Ken Weertz (Cissna Park, IL), Bro. Virgil Metzger (Champaign, IL) and Bro. Vernon Schwab (Wolcott, IN).

Bro. Harold Schieler and family wish to thank all you dear ones for your prayers, love, kindness and cards during Sis. Marie's illness. It was all very much appreciated. We are thankful God has granted a reasonable recovery.

On July 15, our congregation sang, "God Be With You Til We Meet Again" (Hymns of Zion #216) as we said farewell to Russ and Pat (Beer) Mikels and their little family as they moved back to Milford, IN which is home to both of them. We will surely miss them but understand their desire to be among their family and are thankful that God provided this opportunity for them.

INDIANA, SOUTH BEND

Pauline Laidig

Vacation Bible School was indeed a blessing to the old as well as to the young. During the week of June 18th through the 22nd, the children were taught, "How To Run The Christian Race". May their dedicated teachers some day be rewarded by seeing these same children actually running the Christian race.

The following week, during the adult meeting, Bro. Jim Rinkenberger (Bluffton) very appropriately brought to our attention, "The Many Weights That So Easily Beset Us", as we run the spiritual race. A natural runner will dress as lightly as possible and carry nothing, so we, as Christians, should not be weighted down with such things as pride, gossip, partiality, suspicion, deception and many more hindrances that were brought to our attention. It really gave us something to think and pray about. The next evening, Bro. Gene Leman (Wolcott) spoke to us on "Living The Victorious Life", pointing out how slyly and slowly Satan will try to entice believers from walking close to the Lord. We were advised to avoid temptations and to go to the Word for guidance and strength. The previous Sunday we were also privileged to have Bro. Gene minister to us. May God reward each one for their endeavors in His service.

After suffering several very painful attacks, Tim Steffen submitted to having gall bladder surgery. We are happy to report that he is recuperating at home now. God's healing power is to be much appreciated.

On a recent Wednesday evening, our faithful Shepherds, Elder Bros. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville), Alfred Bahler (Wolcott) and Jesse Beer (Milford) served communion to our little flock. It was a time of bringing to remembrance what our Savior endured that mankind might be redeemed from his sinful state. It was humbling, and gave one a desire to walk closer to the Lord.

We are glad to see summer visitors again, some who are at their summer homes and others who are traveling in the area.

INDIANA, VALPARAISO

Jill Hitz — Patty Bucher

What is a "good man"? Good is one of the most common words in our language, yet so vague it defies easy explanation. Of all the Fruit of the Spirit, this may be the most difficult to define. Webster's New World Dictionary lists 17 categories with three or four meanings each.

The definitions, in either Greek or English, include such words as: genuine, uncontaminated, honorable, healthy, generous, desirable, pleasant, dependable, honest, loyal . . .

Given those definitions, who could

qualify as good? Of course, based on the word's biblical significance, God Himself is the essence of goodness. In Scripture, His goodness is clearly defined.

The Psalmist spoke of God's goodness in provision for physical or spiritual needs (Psalm 68:10; 107:9). "Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to Thy lovingkindness remember Thou me, for Thy goodness' sake O Lord." (Psalm 25:7). "I would have despaired unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living." (27:13).

Other times, the psalmists emphasized God's goodness in protection. "How great is Thy goodness, which Thou hast stored up for those who fear Thee, which Thou has wrought for those who take refuge in Thee, before the sons of men." (31:19).

And in the climax to one of the most beautiful psalms, David extols God's goodness in His presence: "Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever." (23:6).

But as Fruit of the Spirit, goodness must also be manifested in the life of every believer. It must demonstrate itself in action.

As God's children, filled with His Holy Spirit, we must provide for, forgive, deliver, protect and stand beside those who need us.

It was our blessed joy to witness the marriage of Bro. Jim Paarlberg (Bro. Con and Sis. Donna) to Sis. Amy Bucher (Sis. Gwen, LaCrosse). To us who are married, it always strengthens our own vows, and makes us appreciate our mate more than ever.

INDIANA, WOLCOTT

Lorene Furrer — Elaine Bahler

The beautiful sunny day of June 23 was the wedding day of David Kyburz and Shellie Meier. Parents of David and Shellie are Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Pat Kyburz and Lawrence and Nancy Meier. We wish them much happiness as they make their home in Salem, OR.

Good food and fellowship were enjoyed by all at our annual Sunday School picnic on June 24.

We sincerely welcome Bro. Tim and Sis. Kathy Butikofer and daughters, Amy and Meg (Elgin, IA). How encouraging it is to have our church fellowship strengthen and grow in the Lord.

A special thank you goes to Bro. Dan

Stoller (Remington) for sharing the Word with us.

Sis. Edna (LeRoy) Kyburz has been a hospital patient. May God's healing strength be with her. How nice it is to have Sis. Ada Abersoll worship with us again. We pray that Sis. Marilyn Schieler may continue to feel God's nearness and strength.

"I would like to express my thanks and appreciation for the many prayers, calls, visits, and gifts of love extended to me while in the hospital and since returning home. May God bless each one of you.

Sis. Marilyn Schieler

IOWA, BURLINGTON

Dixie Messner — Edith Massner

Our new Sunday School teachers are Sis. Gail Massner and Bro. Dale Massner. We offer our thanks to those who have fulfilled their years of service. Surely God will provide the necessary grace and courage for the new teachers.

We extend our thanks to Bro. Dale Strassheim (Milford) and family for their visit. May God continue to provide His "traveling mercies" to him as well as to all who travel this summer.

We also wish to express gratitude to all who helped reshingle our church roof, particularly the Oakville brothers, and especially those who so ably supervised the job. There seemed to be a special blessing in laboring together.

Bill Frank, beloved husband of Lenora, was laid to rest on July 12. We know we cannot comprehend her loss, but we express our deepest sympathy. We pray that God will find ways to comfort her as well as all the family.

IOWA, ELGIN

Gloria Frieden

At Home, 'tis well! There shall the pilgrim tarry,
When tired and worn by sorrow, grief and strife,
In Heav'n, when the hard race of earthly life is run,
The long-borne load no more he'll carry.

At Home, 'tis well! With God in close relation,
The soul forgets the sorrow it has borne,
With pains o'er-come on that bright, golden morn,
Rejoices in our God's sublime salvation.

On June 30, Sis. Lena Schupbach passed away at the age of 105. It has been her prayer and desire for many years that she "could just die and go to heaven". We are going to miss Sis. Lena, but her Christian example will live on. Sis. Lena never married but our sympathy goes to her many nieces and nephews, especially Sis. Ruth Schupbach, who has lived with her and tenderly cared for her in recent years.

Bro. Lon Butikofer was a surgical patient this past month.

Recent visiting ministers here have been Bros. Earl Banwart (West Bend), Merle Kaisner (Fairbury), Perry Zimmerman (Forrest) and David Weigand (Champaign). Our thanks to each one for visiting us and sharing the gospel of our Lord and Savior.

IOWA, GARDEN GROVE Eileen Funk

On July 17 we had our Bible School Day Camp. There was good attendance and we enjoyed singing, Bible stories and crafts. The day ended with a hamburger fry in the evening when the parents came to fellowship and see what the children had learned and made. It was truly a blessed day!

The new address for Bro. Roger and Sis. Rhonda Reker is: 1011 7th Street, Nevada, IA 50201. Telephone 515-382-6129. They are a nice addition to our little church.

Our Elder Bros. Sam Huber (Sabetha) and Lester Hartter (Berne) and their wives shared a Sunday with us. We had a blessed Sunday and appreciate their labors of love in serving us Holy Communion. It was a reminder of God's love and that He sent His Son to redeem us from our sins!

IOWA, IOWA CITY Connie Gerst

Our small congregation here at Iowa City wishes to extend a heart-warming welcome to Eric Haefli. Eric, originally from Peoria, recently moved here from Texas. We wish him well in his employment with an architectural firm in our area.

The Lord has richly blessed us again this month with many visitors. Among them were ministering Bros. Jim Le-man (Roanoke), Dale Frank and Jon Schmidgall (Oakville), Nathan Steffen (Elgin, IL), Paul Butikofer and Dale Moore (Elgin, IA), Dan Stoller (Rock-

ville) and Harvey Heiniger (Burlington).

IOWA, LESTER Alice Metzger

A farewell song was sung for Bro. Randy Mogler and Sis. Sheila Moser as they left to begin their duties in Japan. We pray they will be watched over and blessed in their new experience.

We appreciate our recent visiting ministers and their families. They were Bros. Don Miller (Minneapolis, MN), Russell Wuthrich (Pulaski, IA) and Duane Metzger (West Bend, IA).

On July 8, Rejean Metzger (Bro. Bob and Sis. Rosella) and Dan Knobloch (Sis. Iola) were united in marriage. The setting for the ceremony was the lawn of the bride's grandparents.

Eric Benjamin was born July 10 to Sis. Gayle and Bro. Jerome Hartter. His grandparents are Bro. Martin and Sis. Zelma Knobloch and Bro. Virgil and Sis. Marie Hartter (Sabetha). He has a brother and a sister to welcome him home.

IOWA, OAKVILLE Debbie Wagenbach

Collin Jay is the newest little addition to Jeff and Sis. Ruth Gerst's family. Collin was welcomed home by his brother, Josh and his sister, Minda. His grandparents are Bro. Rich and Sis. Liberty Gerst and Mr. and Mrs. Howard Gieselman.

Our congregation was recently saddened by the death of our friend William Frank. We extend our sincere sympathy to his family and pray that God will comfort them in their loss.

We wish to extend a thank you to our recent visiting ministers: Bros. Duane Metzger (West Bend, IA), Paul Eisenmann (Burlington, IA), Danny Stoller (Rockville, CT) and Arnie Gerst (Taylor, MO).

June 24 we conducted our annual Sunday School election. Replacing our outgoing teachers are Sis. Marian Pflum, Bros. Bob Siegle, Joe Eberhardt and Paul Wagenbach, Sis. Susan Gerst, Sis. LeAnne Siegle, Sis. Norma Massner, Bro. Curtis Frank, Bro. Tom Steiner and Bro. Ronnie Massner. We extend our prayerful support and encouragement to our newly-elected teachers and thank our outgoing ones for faithfully serving their terms.

Thought: If I fail to prepare, I prepare to fail.

IOWA, PULASKI DeAnn Wuthrich Mary Jane Knapp

Once again we were given the opportunity to partake of the blessed sacrament of Holy Communion when Elder Bros. Leo Moser and Ed Lanz spent a recent weekend with us. Do we take for granted the price our Lord and Savior paid for our salvation or do we thank Him in every prayer, as we should?

We want to thank the Bible Class and teachers from Washington, Taylor, Burlington and Oakville for putting forth the effort to be with us on June 24. Young and old alike received many blessings when Bro. Jim Byrd (Roanoke) humbly brought forth the Word of God. May the teachings he brought forth be implanted deep into the hearts of all who were present so that in proper time the Fruit of the Holy Spirit can be manifest.

Bro. Carl Feucht (Lester) lent himself in God's service when he ministered to us on July 15. We sincerely want to thank all these brothers for their love and efforts on our behalf. May God be their rich rewarder.

Don and Sue Schaer were blest with a precious little daughter, Esther Marie, on July 6. A brother, Brian, also welcomes her home. Bro. Bernard and Sis. Leah Schaer and Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Holycross are her grandparents.

IOWA, WEST BEND Elma Mogler — Polly Zaugg

Our congregation was blessed again with visiting ministers. Bro. Sam Anliker (Lamont), Bro. Dale Wulf (Lester) and Bro. Carroll Gerber (Bluffton North) lent themselves in the service of the Lord. May our heavenly Father be their rich rewarder.

God's blessings went to Brad and Julie Banwart, first-time parents of a new baby boy, Joshua James, who was born June 24. Grandparents are James and Becky Banwart and John and Janine Berte.

We offer our sympathy to John and Cindy Bruellman in the loss of her father, Albert Harms. He passed away after a lingering illness.

Bro. Silas Banwart had the misfortune of breaking his collar bone. May God's hand of love be with him.

We feel that the protecting hand of the Lord was with Bro. Marvin and Sis. Charlotte Fehr and their family. They are so thankful, first to God for His protection, and to friends, neighbors,

brothers and sisters-in-faith for their kind prayers, support and help. The sky darkened. Those in the field hurried home. Just as they parked in the shed, windows were blown out and the building began to shake. The lad who had been out doing chores ran to the house and barely closed the door when a large steel bin hit the house right behind him. In a few minutes, two silos and all the other buildings were damaged or scattered throughout the fields.

JAPAN, SHIODA
Margie Heintz

"... Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest."
St. John 4:35

On the evening of July 3, our new workers arrived in Shioda. We rejoice and thank the Lord for bringing Sis. Sheila Moser (Lester, IA) and Bros. Randy Mogler (Bloomington, IL) and Frank Sauder (Champaign-Urbana/Roanoke, IL) safely to Japan!. Their presence has already been a great encouragement to all of us.

They have quickly become an integral part of the working force at SAK and the Shioda church. They are busy with Japanese lessons, activities at SAK, English class instruction, as well as the usual tasks associated with moving into a new environment.

Seeing their smooth adjustments and the warm enthusiastic receptions which they have received from the brothers and sisters in Shioda and Tokyo (as well as from the SAK parents) it is evident that they have come on the power of many prayers. Truly the brothers and sisters in Japan have prayed fervently that more workers would be sent, and now that they are here, it is exciting to see the mutual enthusiasm. Their primary desire is to strengthen the fellowship here and to share the love of Jesus with others, and it is all of our prayers that this mission can be carried out.

On Friday, July 6, a welcoming program was presented at SAK by the children and PTA mothers. The mothers sang a lovely Japanese song, and everyone joined in singing, "Jesus Loves Me" in English as a gesture of unity. It provided an excellent opportunity for everyone to share and to begin to make acquaintances which

may lead to a desire to know more about God's love.

Recently the Sunday School picnic was held, and due to rain, the "picnic" became an indoor event. In spite of the change in plans, it was an afternoon filled with blessings. The Sunday School children sang Bible songs and pantomimed several of Jesus' miracles and parables as part of the program. It was impressive to observe the children as they intently watched their friends "act out" the stories of Jesus; and it was even more exciting as they quickly recognized them and retold each story to the parents and other children who were watching. Our prayer is that, as these children grow older, they will continue to come to Sunday School and to learn more of Jesus and His truth.

We are grateful to all of you who have given your support in prayer and counsel and countless other ways to Sis. Sheila and Bros. Frank and Randy as they departed from America and now begin this new work here in Japan. Your love and prayers continue to be felt and needed, and we likewise remember to hold you, our faithful brothers and sisters-in-Christ, up to our Lord Jesus in thankful prayer.

"... The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest."
Matthew 9:37-38

JAPAN, TOKYO

Yoshio Yamazaki — Marie Inoue

The rainy season here in Tokyo is almost over, and after that we will have very hot summer season. As you know, Japan is a very small country without any resources. However, the Lord has blessed us through the rainy season and typhoon, and they bring us fresh water for necessity of the 130,000,000 people.

We were sorry Sis. Yoshiko Sakuta had a bicycle accident and we are glad she is recovering.

We are busy planning for our fellowship meeting at the end of July. We trust in the Lord to bless our feeble efforts.

We have heard the new teachers have arrived safely from the States and are looking forward to meeting them this weekend.

KANSAS, BERN

Linda Esslinger

A blessed weekend was enjoyed June 23-24 when Janie Edelman (Bro. Fred and Sis. Joann) and Camille Strahm (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Claudie) were baptized and joined our precious faith. Visiting ministers were Elder Bro. Gene Marti (Lamar, MO) and Bro. Ben Wysong (Sabetha).

Bro. James and Sis. Diane Kaeb announce the birth of a baby boy, Derek James, born June 25. He is welcomed home by one sister, Jody. Grandparents are Bro. Elmer and Sis. Maryann Kaeb (Cissna Park, IL) and Bro. Don and Sis. Ione Broquard (Fairbury, IL).

KANSAS, FORT SCOTT

Judy Bahr

A potluck was held after church on Sunday, July 8, for Debbie Johnson and her two little girls, Adina and Erica. They moved to Phoenix, AZ. They will be missed by our little church but we wish them God's peace and blessings as they start a new life in Phoenix.

We certainly want to thank all who come to our Sunday evening singings that are held on the third Sunday of the month at 7 o'clock. It's such a blessing to glorify God through songs and fellowship with brothers and sisters.

KANSAS, GRIDLEY

Julie Bahr — Doris Bahr

We're going to do some sowing
In a fertile field today
The tender hearts of children
The Lord has sent our way.
We're glad to leave our housework
For we know these chores can wait.
But with little ones so precious
It soon will be "too late".
We're going to teach of Jesus
And as we teach, we'll pray
Some little soul will find Him
In Bible School today.

Hazel Carlson

Our Vacation Bible School week, July 23 - 27, was such an inspiring blessing to all who attended. We had approximately 42 students from Gridley and Lamont churches and community. It is so heart warming to see the eagerness on the faces of the little ones as they asked each night, "What is it we're going to do tonight?" We can hardly express our gratitude and grate-

fulness to the dear brothers and sisters who put forth the loving efforts in preparation and willingly helped wherever they were needed. May God reward each one.

Hospitalized this past month were Bro. Kip Edelman (Bro. Albert and Sis. Jeanie) and ministering Bro. Lloyd Kraft. Both were hospitalized for surgery. Bro. Kip required an emergency appendectomy and Bro. Lloyd suffered from a tractor mower accident. We pray for their continued healing by God's almighty hand.

Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Nadine Kraft wish to express their sincere thanks to each and everyone for their many prayers, cards and gifts since the time of Bro. Lloyd's accident. "I really can't find words to thank you as I would like, but I know our great God, who is the rewarder of all good gifts, will bless and reward you for every deed of kindness."

Bro. Kip Edelman also asked that his sincere thanks be expressed to each one for their many deeds done in Christian love. He is truly grateful.

KANSAS, KIOWA

Gay Lee Farney — Janice Bahr

On July 1 our small group gathered at the Kiowa Manor to sing praises to God and minister the Word to the elderly who have made their home there.

Jamie Marie Johnson is the name given to a beautiful new child born to Lynn and Shawn Johnson on July 14. Those welcoming Jamie home are her sister, Sara, and grandparents, Bud and Sis. Helen Murrow. May God bless this young family and keep His loving hand over them.

KANSAS, SABETHA

Clara Steiner

We offer our sympathy to Sis. Evelyn Wyson and her family on the death of her sister, Sis. Louise Stavenik. Sis. Louise passed away June 20 at the age of 86 years. Services were held at 10:00 a.m. Thursday, June 21 at the Popkess Mortuary Chapel in Sabetha. Services were also held at 3:30 p.m. Friday, June 22 at the Wappner Funeral Home in Ontario, Ohio. Interment was in the Mansfield Memorial Park Cemetery of Ontario, Ohio.

Lisa (Edelman) Meyer gave her testimony on Saturday evening and on Sunday was baptized into the fold. We welcome Sis. Lisa into our precious

fellowship. May the Lord grant her much grace so she can be a strong light.

KANSAS, WICHITA

Laurie Gallatin

Bro. Glen Funk (Garden Grove, IA) was a visiting minister on July 8. God bless him for his service.

On July 15, Elder Bro. Sam Anliker visited our congregation and ministered the Word to us. He also officially confirmed our two new ministers, Bros. Terry Farney and Howard Plattner, so now they may preach at other congregations. We are thankful for these two new ministers, and for the refreshing way the Spirit speaks to us through them.

Also on July 15, after services we had a reception for Bro. Jim and Sis. Marsha (Wieland) Bowers, who were married in Bay City, MI in May.

For our Bible study this summer, we have been studying prayer. So far we have covered the purpose, process and hindrances of prayer. It has been a very good topic to study. I think many of us have discovered ways we are lacking in our prayer life. We learned of several hindrances to prayer which I would like to share with you because this is important and helpful. They are unconfessed sin (Isaiah 59:1-2, Psalm 66:18); selfish purpose (James 4:3, 6); unbelief (James 1:5-6); unforgiving spirit (Mark 11:25-26); discord in family life (I Peter 3:7) and stinginess toward God (Zechariah 7:13). To realize these, there must be a self-examination (Psalm 139:23-24). Prayer is such a vital part of our relationship with God, and something to be taken very seriously and thought of as a great privilege. You know, it is really amazing to be able to speak directly with Someone Who is supreme over us, and Whom we cannot see. We just have to thank You, Lord, for the great opportunity we have to communicate directly with You, and for the promise that You listen and hear us.

MICHIGAN, ALTO

Liz Blough

Time is drawing near for the quilt sale in Leo. Our ladies have been busy preparing a lovely quilt for the sale. I feel the Lord will greatly bless these ladies for lending themselves in this way of love.

This past month Bro. Ferd Grawburg and myself have been hospitalized. The prayers and cards are much

appreciated. Thank you all for your kindness.

One evening as I lay in my hospital bed I could hear the black lady in the room next door praying. I had overheard a visitor in her room earlier reading the Bible to her. Things were quieting down; visitors had thinned out on our floor; but as I lay there listening to her, a complete stranger praying to the Lord to save her from her sins, I also felt myself closing my eyes and breathing a prayer for this dear lady. Negative thoughts entered my head. Why should I care about her, she's a stranger. I knew Satan was trying to intervene. The Lord doesn't care what color we are or what our past lives have been filled with. He loves us ALL just as we are. My mind started to clear and a gentle love sifted into my heart for this lady and again I prayed for her new life in Christ — that it would be as happy and fulfilling as mine has been. I also thought of the struggles a newborn Christian has. Just as a newborn creature has trouble taking those first few steps, we also stumble and fall — but praise the Lord He gives us grace to stand tall and walk straight on the pathway of eternal life.

Kindness — is one commodity of which you should spend more than you earn.

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY

Linda Ramseyer

"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 5:31. On June 24, Sis. Sue Wieland and Bro. Curt Heimer exchanged wedding vows. Parents of the couple are Bro. Don and Sis. LouAnn Wieland and Bro. Rod and Sis. Naomi Moser (Oakville, IA). May the Lord bless these dear ones through the days ahead. Bro. Curt and Sis. Sue will be making their home in the Taylor, MO area.

The Lord has blessed our congregation with visiting ministers this month. Bro. Kent Heimer (Taylor, MO) and Bro. Art Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN) ministered the Lord's Word to us. We are thankful for brothers who are willing to give of themselves.

Sis. Anna Magyar was hospitalized recently for surgery. The Lord has been with her, as she has returned home and is once again assembling with us.

MICHIGAN, DETROIT**Dawn Bahr**

"They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; . . . they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint." Isaiah 40:31. Sis. Ruth Gudeman has undergone major surgery, and is now home and recovering. Bro. Louis Varga was also hospitalized for a short while. We pray that each of these loved ones will continue to be blessed with God's strength and healing.

We appreciated visits from ministering Bros. Rod Huber (Valparaiso, IN) and Don Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN). May God richly bless them and their families for their willingness to serve their Lord.

MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS**Deb Tilbury**

We are thankful that Bro. Charles Sauder (Tremont) and Elder Bro. Perry Zimmerman (Forrest) ministered unto us this month. We also appreciate all the visitors who stop to worship with us during the summer.

Congratulations to Bev and Tom Broms on the birth of their second son. Byron Ray was born June 18.

August is Silver Lining collection for Minneapolis. Dues are \$7.00.

MINNESOTA, MORRIS**Hildegard Koehl****Rhonda Zeltwanger**

During this summertime season we have been blessed with many visitors and also many visiting ministers. Among those who have traveled to share God's Word with us have been Elder Bros. Harold Messner (Winthrop, MN), Sam Huber (Sabetha, KS), Bob Grimm (Goodfield, IL), Bros. Dale Wulf (Lester, IA), Dennis Warner (Lester, IA), Noah Miller (Minneapolis, MN) and Earl Banwart (West Bend, IA). We thank these brothers for their efforts.

On June 17, Sis. Mary Koehl and Bro. Kent Mogler (Minneapolis, MN) were joined together in holy matrimony. Their parents are Bro. Ernest and Sis. Gladys Koehl and Bro. Howard and Sis. Lollie Mogler (Lester, IA). Sis. Mary will be missed in our Morris congregation as Bro. Kent and Sis. Mary will be living in Minneapolis. We wish them God's guidance and the contentment we receive from God as we strive to be faithful servants of our Lord Jesus Christ.

July 14 was the wedding date for Betty Nohl (Bro. Noah and Sis. Shirley) and Dale Noordmans (Sidney and Esther Noordmans, Morris). We wish for them God's blessings throughout this life.

We extend our sympathy to the family of Elder Bro. Art and Sis. Sandra Nohl in the death of her father, Clarence Rose. Sis. Louise Mohrman has felt the loss of her brother, Bro. Walter Messner (Winthrop, MN). We pray these loved ones have felt the prayers offered on their behalf.

Troy Leonard is a newcomer to the home of Bro. Steve and Sis. Cathy Backman. Troy will be happy to know that he has two big brothers, Coby and Eric, to help him get settled in. Happy grandparents are Bro. Leonard and Sis. Violet Wulf.

Bro. Randy and Sis. Shirley Koehl have also experienced the joy of a new life that has been entrusted to them. Andrea Rae will be welcomed home by Mitchell and Alexis. Grandparents are Bro. Charles and Sis. Esther Koehl and Bro. Leonard and Sis. Violet Wulf. May we pray daily for wisdom to raise these precious little souls.

Our hospital patient this month has been Bro. Ted Gramm. We pray God has been near him and will renew his strength once again.

Sis. Maxine Sauder has accepted employment at the Leo Children's Home. May God watch over her as she lends herself as a willing servant.

Bro. Perry Klopfenstein (Gridley, IL) recently shared with us many interesting facts about the Apostolic Christian Church of America. It certainly helps us to appreciate our precious faith as we learn how much suffering and torture our forefathers endured before coming to America. May we ever be more thankful for the freedom of worship and assembly. We also want to thank Bro. Perry for his visit.

MINNESOTA, WINTHROP**Carol Ann Messner****Mary Lou Schmidt****LOVE ALWAYS REMEMBERS**

May tender memories soften your grief,
May fond recollection bring you relief,

And may you find comfort and peace in
the thought

Of the joy that knowing your loved one
brought -

For time and space can never divide,
Or keep your loved one from your side;
When memory paints in colors true,
The happy hours that belonged to you!

Helen Steiner Rice

Our congregation here at Winthrop was saddened by the loss of our dear Bro. Walter Messner. He is survived by his wife, Sis. Florence; three sons, Bro. Kenneth, Bro. John and Bob (all of Hutchinson, MN); and two daughters, Sis. Dorothy (Lloyd) Jacobson (Winthrop) and Mrs. Mary Ann (Bill) Ohland (Kalamazoo, MI). One son, Bro. James, preceded him in death. Also surviving are two sisters, Sis. Louise Mohrman (Hancock, MN) and Sis. Sarah Kellenberger (Elgin, IL); and one brother, Bro. George Messner (Gaylord, MN). Two sisters, Emma and Ida Schmidt, and three brothers, Fred, Ben and Levi, also preceded him in death.

Many gathered together on July 7 for the Dan Messner Family Reunion at Winthrop. We think of the many reunions held every summer and the joy of seeing many we often do not see; and it touches our hearts! How will it be in Heaven, when we can see our dear loved ones who have gone on before? Our minds cannot comprehend the happiness and joy it will bring!

A precious baby son made his appearance in the home of Jason and Nancy Messner. Joshua was born July 18. Joshua's grandparents are the Glen Schuellers (Vesta, MN) and Sis. Carol Ann Messner and the late Bro. Dennis Messner (Gibbon, MN).

Bro. Marvin and Sis. Geri Messner would like to announce the engagement of their daughter, Kim, to Todd Moser, son of Bro. Carl and Sis. Noreen Moser (Morris, MN). A November 17 wedding is being planned. We wish them God's direction and blessings!

Sis. Mary Lou Schmidt (Dick) and Sis. Bernadine Messner (Ray) were hospital patients this past month.

MISSOURI, LAMAR**Becky Marti — Sandra Luthi**

We have enjoyed the fellowship with several visitors this past month. It warms our hearts and encourages us when we can meet those of like-mind

and faith from various places. We're especially thankful that Bro. Charles Sinn and his family (Ft. Scott, KS) could be with us on July 15. May we ever pray for our ministering brethren and also pray that each of our hearts will be ready to receive God's Holy Word.

Sis. Bertha Rouleau and Sis. Charlotte Banwart were hospital patients this past month. We pray that all who endure bodily afflictions can feel God's nearness. Do we remember to thank God when he blesses us with good health? All too often we take it for granted.

MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS

Becky Gudeman

"So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God." Romans 10:17. We were reminded to daily read the Word of God so that our faith can remain strong in the Lord.

We thank Bro. Jaye Rinkenberger (Goodfield) and Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville) for bringing the Word of God to us.

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

MISSOURI, TAYLOR

Loida Hodel — Lori Marquart

TOUCH THE BEAUTY

Reach out and touch the beauty of a lovely summer day
Breath in the fragrance of the flowers and fields of new-cut hay
Look all around you and you'll see God's handiwork so fair
And when you do, you'll feel just like a happy millionaire
For money cannot buy this wealth of beauty that you see
For God so loved us that He made it all for you and me
So, when you touch the beauty that surrounds you every day,
Your soul will be refreshed, and you'll go singing on your way.

Dorothy E. Smith

June 24 was the date Bro. Curt Heimer (Bro. Rod and Sis. Naomi Moser, Wapello, IA) and Sis. Sue Wieland (Bro. Don and Sis. Luann, Bay City, MI) chose for their wedding day. We welcome this new couple into our

fellowship and trust that Sis. Sue will feel the love we have for her.

"There's no stronger bond between husband and wife, to insure and secure a blessed married life.

Than to daily seek guidance from our Father above

and to meet what life brings, with Faith, Trust and Love.

Helen Steiner Rice

Shannon Haerr (Bro. Norman and Sis. Sally) received a serious foot injury in a swimming accident and has been on crutches for several weeks. Little Jackie Heimer (Bro. Kent and Sis. Jan) had to have stitches due to a fall. Accidents happen so fast and often the recuperation takes so long and requires much patience.

Bro. Kenny Dietz (Bradford) and family were our visitors this month which we all do enjoy and appreciate. "If the sermon pricks your conscience, it must have had some good 'points'."

Bro. Jim, Sis. Kris and little Brian Sutter welcome a new baby boy, James William, born July 12. Grandparents are Bro. James and Sis. Lois Sutter, Jerry and Nina Davis and William Miles. May God bless this young family and help them to bring up their children in a way that is pleasing to Him.

Let Us Remember To —
"Visit The Sick"

When someone's sick or sick at heart
And has steep hills to climb,
The nicest get-well present
Is the gift of giving time . . .
Time to write a little note
That says you understand.
Time to sit and chat a bit,
Time to hold a hand.
Time to bring a smile, a word
Perhaps a hand-picked flower —
Little blessings, gifts of time,
And all have healing power.

Alice Davidson

NEW JERSEY, UNION CITY

Ed Aeschleman

We are pleased to report that Sis. Mary Diggelman, who has been confined to her home since surgery for a fractured hip, is making a good recovery. God has surely heard many prayers and we trust His healing grace will give Sis. Mary a recovery that will allow

her to resume normal activities in due time.

The services of dear ministering brothers from Rockville have been a great help and especially appreciated by Bro. John Diggelman during his wife's convalescence. May God add His blessings for the kind deeds and consideration shown by many.

NEW YORK, CROGHAN

Alice Virkler

We received many teachings and were richly blessed and reminded of God's Word and promises Wednesday evening, June 20, when we could assemble with the Naumburg congregation. We were taught through the lips of visiting Elder Bro. Andy Virkler (Bay City, MI) and ministering Bros. Elmer Schmidt (Winthrop, MN) and Paul Gasser (Akron, OH).

On Monday evening, June 25, our Sunday School children, teachers and parents enjoyed our annual wiener roast at Whitaker Falls Park.

We are happy to report the birth of two little girls. On May 29, Gretchen Marie was born to Joseph Jr. and Shelly Anderson. This is their first child and her grandparents are Joseph Sr. and Norma Anderson and Duane and Aletha Streeter. Her great-grandparents are ministering Bro. John and Sis. Berdena Widrick.

Bro. Floyd Jr. and Sis. Linda Graves welcome little Buffy June on July 6. Holly, Hope and Brian are happy with a new playmate. Their grandparents are ministering Bro. Floyd Sr. and Sis. Loretta Graves, and Bro. Lowell and Sis. Celia Virkler. Her great-grandmother is Harriet Lasher.

Sis. Lena Virkler was unable to assemble with us several Sundays after she fell on the street. We are glad her injuries were only bruises and that she is back with us on Sundays.

NEW YORK, NAUMBURG

Rachel Snyder

It was a blessed evening to have visiting ministers with us for Wednesday evening service. Elder Bro. Andy Virkler (Bay City, MI) and Bros. Paul Gasser (Akron, OH) and Elmer Schmidt (Winthrop, MN).

Roy Sturtz was able to return home from the hospital and Ethel Karcher was able to go from the hospital to her son, Urban's, home.

Sis. Rosella Schulz had to return to Cross Irving Hospital in Syracuse. We

pray the Lord to be with her and strengthen her.

A PRAYER

Did I forget to thank Thee, Lord,
For things that may seem small;
A flower by the wayside,
A wild bird's lonely call -
For all the daily happenings
That we call commonplace;
For summer and for sunset,
And a neighbor's smiling face?

For life is made of little things
So let me not forget
And count my smallest blessings
And before the sun is set
To thank Thee, Lord, for everyone
That adds a note of cheer,
And our blessings will be multiplied
Before another year.

Author Unknown

OHIO, AKRON Joyce Gasser

Jehoshaphat, whose name means, "Jehovah judges" was a good king of Judah. Here are some of his divine moral attributes: (1) He walked in the ways of David, a man after God's own heart; (2) He lifted his heart to God's ways; (3) He took idol worship out of Judah; (4) He taught his nation God's Word, and (5) He dwelt among his people. Was he perfect? No. At times he had problems with compromise, and even though his name means Jehovah judges, in the end he judged himself and repented of it, leaving us an example of judging ourselves and repenting.

Don and Sis. Ruth Taylor will have the happy occasion of a golden wedding anniversary this month, as 50 years ago, July 24, Don and Ruth (Kaufman) were married. Their son, Fred, and his wife, Nancy, live in the Akron area also. Fred and Nancy have two sons.

Bro. Duane and Sis. Cheryl Collins were blessed with a baby boy, named Joshua Dennis. Grandparents are Bro. Duane (Hank) and Sis. Marjorie Collins. Robert Kaufman is the great-grandfather.

Bro. Marvin and Sis. Joan Stieglitz and some of Joan's family spent a weekend with us. We were blessed with Bro. Marvin's message. We were also blessed in having Bro. Bill Brake (Sardis, OH) as guest minister. Retired Elder Bro. Joshua Broquard, and a

group from the Fairbury congregation also spent a weekend with us.

Bro. Ed and Sis. Connie Frautschi and their children, Heather, Christopher and Stephanie, moved to Phoenix, AZ. We pray for God's blessings to be upon them in their new environment.

Some of our Sunday School students accompanied by parents and teachers, spent an enjoyable weekend at Toledo, OH.

OHIO, COLUMBUS Andy Hunyady

We thank our God for faithful brethren who are so willing to travel and serve in the ministry. Bros. Ed Schwartz (Bluffton, IN), Ron Palitto (Akron, OH), William Schlatter (Junction, OH), Paul Gasser (Akron, OH), their dear wives and a number of visitors joined our small fellowship in worship. May our Lord reward each of you for your love and kindness.

Our heartfelt sympathy goes to Carlton Schlatter (O.S.U.), whose mother passed away suddenly in Junction, OH. May he find comfort and consolation in the tender love of Christ, our Lord and Saviour.

We welcome Bro. Lee and Sis. Desma Klopfenstein. Bro. Lee, originally from Latty, OH, came from Bloomington-Normal, where he attended Illinois State University and now continues his studies at the College of Medicine, (O.S.U.). Sis. Desma lived in Morton, IL and was working in the Home for the Handicapped. Our best wishes and God's blessings are upon their new step in life!

OHIO, JUNCTION Les Manz

Erica Lynn Bauer is the newborn daughter of Scott and Deb. Her little brother is Benji. Grandparents are Bro. Ben and Sis. Carolyn Manz.

Visiting and bringing God's Word to us this month were Bro. Ernest Graf (Akron) and Bro. Eugene Fetter (Toledo). We need to thank God that we have such blessings that our brethren can travel openly in this land and spread His Word.

A thank you is extended to all of you who remembered Sis. Madeline Manz with prayers, cards and gifts while she was ill. God has answered prayer and she has recovered to a great extent.

Want to keep in touch? Kevin and Judy McKay, 308 Gatewater Court, #102, Glen Burnie, MD 21061.

OHIO, LATTY Patty Gerber - Laurie Stoller

"I wish to die in my dear Jesus,
In peace and with great joy consoled,
And through His wounds I shall inherit
The robe of white He will unfold.
In Jesus I will trust always;
In Him I live and pass away."

Zion's Harp #247

Sis. Leah L. Stoller passed away June 22, following a lengthy illness. Her husband, Bro. Herbert preceded her in death in 1942. Surviving are four sons, Nelson (Paulding, OH), Bro. Justus and Bro. Willis (Latty, OH) and Bro. Ernest (Leo, IN); three daughters, Velma Williams (Ft. Wayne, IN), Sis. Pauline (Latty, OH) and Sis. Ruth Reinhard (Bluffton, IN). Also surviving are one brother, Bro. George Laukhuf (Latty, OH); one sister, Sis. Emma Pflederer (Tremont, IL); 22 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

We congratulate Cindy Laukhuf (Larry and Charlotte) as she graduates from college. May God direct her as she proceeds into this new phase of her life.

"For our light affliction which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; . . ." (II Corinthians 4:17). Our prayers are with our hospital patients this month, which include: Sis. Nettie Ringger, Bro. Bill Eisenmann (Sis. Lillian), Sis. Gloria Grant (Bro. Phil) and Douglas Gordon (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Connie).

Bro. Todd and Sis. Pam Stoller welcome Heather Lynn into their family. Heidi and Ryan will certainly enjoy a new playmate. Grandparents are Bro. Russ and Sis. Melvine Stoller (Latty) and Sis. Mary Ellen Gerber (Rittman). Samuel Edward is a happy addition to the family of Bro. Don and Sis. Karen Steffen. Siblings are Amanda and Nicole. Proud grandparents of Samuel include Bro. Elmer and Sis. Dee Steffen (Bluffton) and Bro. Herb and Sis. Jane Gramm (Gridley). May God exceedingly bless these new bundles of joy.

Our congregation rejoiced in the marriage ceremony of two dear couples. On July 1, Sis. Lanna Stoller (Latty) and Bro. Doug Harmon (Toledo) were united as one in the Lord. Parents of the bride and groom are Bro. Gale and Sis. Janet Stoller and Bro. Howard and Sis. Colette Harmon. We welcomed ministering Bros. Homer Rei-

neck and Eugene Fetter (Toledo). July 15 was the wedding day of Sis. Patty Rigenbach (Harlen and Sis. Delores) and Bro. David Gerber (Bro. Roger and Sis. Eunice), both of Latty. Also worshipping with us that day was Bro. Walter Steffen (Milford). "What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder." St. Mark 10:9.

OHIO, MANSFIELD Lucille Groh

"He that keepeth thee will not slumber.
Psalm 121:3

A little girl upon retiring inquired of her mother one moonlit night, "Mommy, is the moon God's lantern?" The lamp had just been put out and the only light in the room came through the window from the moon. "Yes, darling," replied the mother, "that is God's light up in the sky." After a pause the little girl asked trembling, "Will God turn off the light and go to sleep, too?" "No, my child," said the mother, "God's lights are always burning." The little girl replied as she turned over to go to sleep, "Then Momma, while God's awake, I am not afraid." Oh, for the faith of a little child. Remember, today your Heavenly Father watches over you.

As I look back over the years, I am reminded of a little orphan girl and her younger brother. Lee Yung Bai and her brother, Lee Yung Kook, were born in Korea. Their mother could no longer support them and had no other choice than to take them to an orphanage and leave them under another's care. Lee Yung Bai can so well remember being taken there, with the promise that someday her mother would again come to the orphanage and reclaim her dear children. Lee Yung Bai's mother only visited one time during the year she and her brother were there.

However, God in His all-wise plan had another path for Lee Yung Bai to walk although, at the time, she could not see His leading. In fact, she did not even know much about God.

Meanwhile, in another part of the world, Bro. Ora and Sis. Dora Sauder, who then lived in California, wanted so very much to adopt a child. One day, while attending a meeting, Dora heard about the Holt Korean Orphanage and the method whereby they could make application to adopt a Korean child. Through much prayer and a great deal

of faith, eventually they were told they could adopt two children, a brother and a sister. Before the approval, however, there was much "red tape" as Sis. Dora explained, that had to be gone through. First of all, applicants for adoptive children had to be reborn Christians. This created no problem for them, for they had found the Lord and knew of His love. Other requirements were that they had to be financially able as well as physically able. The neighbors had to agree that they would not object to foreign children in their community and many other requirements. They also needed encouragement and assurance from the Lord. Because we have a living God and one who answers prayers, one Sunday God used Bro. Joe Klotzle (Altadena). Bro. Joe was speaking about Jacob and the ladder he saw. He then said very emphatically, "If you have something good hold on to it." These were the words the Sauders needed.

Finally the day came that they could make the trip to Korea a reality. They left the U.S.A. on April 20, 1964 on a chartered plane called the "Flying Tyger Airlines". It carried only the American parents who were going to Korea to adopt children from the orphanage. Therefore, they all had much in common. When they arrived in Korea, they stayed in a hotel near the embassy where the final adoption papers were to be completed.

The beautiful part of this story is that Ora and Dora had signed the papers and the adoption was completed before they saw the children. They said that they believed God had led them and they knew without a doubt that the children would be just what they wanted. They were then transported to the orphanage via bus. The roads were so rough that as they approached the orphanage some distance away, the bus could no longer proceed, so it was necessary that they walk the rest of the way. It was a very moving experience for the Sauder parents as they waited for each name to be called and they could be united with their new children.

When Lee Yung Bai (age 9) saw her new-found parents, immediately, although very shy, she was happy to come to the United States. Then a very sobering thought struck her and she began to cry and said she wanted her brother, age 6, to go with her. She was then informed that he was going with

her. How happy she was. Then they told the children that their new names would be Mary Ann and Randy Sauder.

However, before leaving for the States, it should be added that a tragic occurrence happened. Mr. and Mrs. Holt, who had already adopted 8 Korean children for their own, tried to run the orphanage with very little funds. Mr. Holt received a call that there were two abandoned children in town and he should come and get them. So he took an old truck and went to town to get them and on the way home had a flat tire and had to change it. He managed to get home and came through the door carrying the two small children, one in each arm. His last words were "please take care of my children, then collapsed and died. Ora and Dora both said it was so sad to leave the 700 children at the orphanage as so many of them held up their little arms for parents and affection.

Next came the tremendous task of teaching the little ones many things, including the English language, but they learned quickly.

As time passed, even as a little girl, Mary Ann said she prayed to the Lord that if he would find her a husband from the Apostolic Christian faith she would repent and serve Him throughout her life.

Again, because the Lord does everything so perfectly, Bro. Ora and Sis. Dora decided to move back to Mansfield where the children could fellowship with more children, since our churches were far apart out west. So when the move was completed, Mary Ann and her brother, Randy, attended the Mansfield Sunday School and soon made new friendships. We who know Mary Ann can describe her as a very quiet, friendly person, always giving a beautiful smile wherever she goes.

The Lord heard her prayers and as time marched on, Dan Domka appeared on the scene and the spark of love began to kindle during Ohio-Michigan Youth Day and to make a long story short, they became engaged and then were married on March 22, 1975. After their marriage, Mary Ann then began to have a conflict for she remembered a promise she had made with her Lord. He had given her two wonderful Christian adoptive parents, a good husband and now what about the promise she had made. So, as we who have gone down that Valley of

Decision know, she had a conflict, but the Lord who is so kind and good gave her the necessary grace to say, "Just as I am . . . Oh Lord, I come". So on October 7, 1977, Mary Ann and Dan were baptized and became our beloved sister and brother-in-the-Lord. Now her joy became complete. At present, they now have four precious children, Stephen, Stephanie, Matthew and Douglas, who are now attending the same Sunday School. Sis. Mary Ann learned to love.

At this writing we want to mention that Bro. Ora and Sis. Dora Sauder have a new address which is 793 Maple Street, Mansfield, OH.

July 7 - 8 our congregation could feel the love and concerns of our Elder Bros., Dan Koch, Alfred Bahler, Loren Stoller, Ben Maibach and Joseph Ramsier. How fortunate to have such loving, caring brothers. May God bless them and continue to give wisdom and counsel as they work in His vineyard.

Loving sympathy is extended to Bro. Ben Stavenik in the death of his sister, Sis. Louise Stavenik (Sabetha, KS) on June 20. Bro. David Bertsch (Leo, IN) had the memorial services here.

In my Father's house are many mansions, the blessed Master said. And to prepare this blessed place, He traveled on ahead. Your loved one, too, has journeyed on and free from every care, within God's many mansions, is waiting for you there.

OHIO, RITTMAN
Janette Blough
Florence Hartzler

Funeral services were held for our dear old Sis. Emma Ramsier who was laid to rest at the age of 93. She is survived by three daughters, Sis. Marie Gasser, Sis. Rowene Howell and Sis. Eldora Steiner; and three sons, Bro. Nelson, Ed and Ivan Ramsier.

After much suffering, our Sis. Clara Maibach closed her eyes in death. Funeral services were held July 19. She is survived by her husband, Bro. Jack; and her sons, Jeff and Roger. We wish our dear ones who have lost loved ones much comfort and consolation.

We thank Bro. Bob Walder (Congerville) for visiting us and bringing us God's Word.

We pray for healing and the return to good health of several in our congregation who have had to be hospitalized. They are Bro. Glen Rufener, Sis. Ellen

Weber, Randy Saylor, Sis. Martha Bauman Beery, Bro. Jack Maibach, Sis. Bertha Kiser and Sis. Esther Saylor. Sis. Helen Babin has been confined to her home suffering from ill health for several months.

July 14 was the wedding day of Sharon Indermuhle and Brad Oliver. Sharon is the daughter of Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Vera Indermuhle. We are so happy to report that Sharon and Brad have turned to our Lord in repentance. We pray His love and guidance will be with them in their lives.

Sherry and Dennis Indermuhle are first-time parents with the birth of Kyle Leroy. His grandparents are Bro. Darrell and Sis. Janet Indermuhle.

Bro. Dan and Sis. Karen Rufener welcome Myles Philip into their home. Myles has one brother, Benjamin, and his grandparents are Bro. Ed and Anita Riggerbach and Bro. Orin and Sis. Anna Rufener.

Sarah Marie is the new little daughter of Greg and Sis. Peggy Teiche. Sarah's sister, Kelly, is a big help in caring for her. Sarah's grandparents are Bro. Andy and Sis. Lil Maibach.

Bro. Ralph and Sis. Marie Marty are first-time parents with the birth of a little boy, Aaron Eugene. Aaron's grandparents are Bro. Don and Sis. Luzelda Stoller and Bro. Dean and Sis. Martha Lou Marty.

Gerald Alan is the new son of Bro. Ken and Sis. Jane Hartzler. Gerald's brothers and sisters are Keith, Bill, Bob, Tammy, Sharon, Debbie and Cindy. Grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Neva Gasser and Bro. Ernest and Sis. Pauline Hartzler.

Bro. Dale and Janet Gasser have a new little girl, Heidi Lynn. Heidi has two brothers, Jason and Brant. Grandparents are Bro. Glen and Sis. Liz Gasser.

Groundbreaking ceremonies were held July 18 for the new church to be erected between Smithville and Sterling. We pray for God's blessing and guidance in this undertaking.

OHIO, TOLEDO
Josephine Rehklau
Frances Laidig

Humility makes a man willing and ready to bless him who curses him and to pray for him who persecutes him; a humble heart is an abode of God, a disciple of Christ, a companion of angels, a preserving vessel for grace, and is prepared for glory. Humility is the

faithful nurse of our graces and gifts and the mighty impulse to sacred exercises in duty.

Samuel H. Froehlich

Sis. Lydia Schlatter is in the hospital. Many prayers are being offered to God on her behalf.

Another Christian home, that of Bro. Doug and Sis. Lanna Harmon, is being established with us here in Toledo. We wish them God's grace in their new walk of life together. Their address is 5449 Gay Street, Toledo, OH 43613.

Bro. Robert and Sis. Sharon Harris and family welcome a new son and brother, Lance Allen. His grandmother is Sis. Frances Laidig.

The Toledo Sunday School hosted the Akron Sunday School on the weekend of July 14 - 15.

OREGON, PORTLAND
Barbara Moser

There are moments in our lives when it becomes a necessity to be alone with God; when nothing will meet our spiritual requirements except silent communion with the Father. There are moments when, without this intimate and tender relationship with Him, the path of duty would be lost, and we would wander in the darkness without a guide.

The highest revelations come to us in those moments when we are alone with God. The presence of others sometimes appears to break the spell of sweetness that seems to exist around the spirit that seeks communion with Him. Even the presence of a very dear friend might cast a shadow between the seeking soul and God. God never fails of meeting the one that seeks for the divine influence of His Spirit, whether it be in the glowing morning, the bright noontide, or in the holy hush of night.

When the human heart is full of cares and crushed almost to the earth by heavy sorrows; when every nerve and fiber groans with agony, there is no sweeter and surer relief than to fly to the sacred presence of Him who never fails to lift the load of sorrow from the suffering one. If the path of duty is lost to the tear-blinded eyes; if the wanderer is bewildered amid the shadows of the way, how oft has all been made plain by the sweet soul-communion with Jesus!

O ye who are weak and heavy burdened; ye who are sick and wounded in life's great battle; ye who with bleeding

feet are journeying up life's rocky steep, seek God's blessed Spirit, and He will bear the burden for you.

"Come ye yourselves apart and rest awhile,
Weary, I know it, of the press and throng,
Wipe from your brow the sweat and dust and toil,
And in My quiet strength again be strong."

We have been enjoying fellowship with the Silverton brethren the past few Sundays with potluck and many visitors.

OREGON, SILVERTON Rosa Lee Kuenzi

Now that summer is finally here in Oregon, many have taken advantage of the opportunity to host large amounts of people at Sunday afternoon potluck suppers. Some have been held in picturesque parks and some in the backyards of homes. There is always an abundance and variety of food (though the menu is seldom planned) and plenty of cheerful chatter as brethren, and friends from both Silverton and Portland, plus any visitors who might be here, catch up on each others latest activities and news. Later on, after the appetites are satisfied and the picnic baskets have been packed away, the song books are passed and our hearts and voices blend in melody to the Lord. These pleasant times refresh us to begin our busy work week again on Monday.

Typical conversations recently overheard: "Where are you by now? Still in Sardis, Ohio?" "No, I'm 'Lighting A Candle' in Europe." "Oh, I've been real busy with harvest but I got to Mansfield last night." What are they talking about? If you haven't realized by now, they, like thousands more across this nation are "Marching To Zion" through the interesting and inspiring pages of the recently released publication, "A History of the Apostolic Christian Church of America 1847-1982". This welcome volume is all we anticipated and more. It is easy to see and feel the love and enthusiasm of the author for his church and for the project itself. Our only regret is that we didn't order more copies in the first place so we needn't "stand in line" in an evening to read it.

PENNSYLVANIA, PHILADELPHIA Ann Gasser

We are happy to have Bro. David, Sis. Gail, Valerie and Nathan Gasser with us. They recently returned from a year's stay in Massachusetts and are again settled into their home near Philadelphia. Currently there are five families who regularly assemble at the Philadelphia church. With ten children in the Sunday School, another class has been added.

Visiting ministers have been Elder Bro. Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO), Bro. Kevin Ryan (Rockville, CT) and Bro. Roy Luginbuhl (Rockville, CT). We

appreciate their service in our behalf and each one who has come to worship with us.

TEXAS, ZAPATA Mary Plattner

We have enjoyed having Sis. Carol Kellenberger (Elgin, IL) and her children assemble with us this summer. They come to Zapata every summer for an extended vacation. We are sorry that Bro. Ernie cannot stay away from his work that long.

Our small congregation has gained another summer resident as Sis. Lillian Koehl (Peoria, IL) has stayed this summer with us. It is vacation time, but

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there is always someone here. Anyone coming to South Texas is most welcome to come and worship with us.

We are glad to hear that Bro. John Bahler is doing well after having heart surgery in San Antonio this spring while living in Zapata. It won't be long and our winter family will be returning, the first ones arriving in September.

**WEST VIRGINIA,
 NEW MARTINSVILLE**
Minnie Weltz

The annual all-day meeting at the Country Church on June 24 was very well attended with many coming from distant points to enjoy the day and fellowship. Bro. David Bertsch was the main speaker for the day, assisted by Bro. Delbert and Bro. Kenneth Indermuhle.

The Sardis church recently received a shipment of plates commemorating the old Country Church in New Martinsville. The plates are multicolor and have a brief history of the church on the back. The plates are \$15.00 each. Anyone desiring a plate should contact Bro. John Figel, Jr., Route 1, Box 2, Sardis, OH 43946.

Sis. Anna Steffen and daughter, Sis. Louise Furrer (Fairbury, IL) visited with the Emma Barth families here on July 1 and 2.

Miss Mabel Barth (Denver, CO) returned on July 17 after a two-week vacation spent with relatives in Sistersville and New Martinsville. Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Williams and daughter, Norma Brandle (Akron, OH) spent a few days with the Emma Barth family on June 23 and 24.

SILVER THREADS

SLEEPING AT HARVEST

Too long I've lain me down to sleep
 And prayed the Lord my soul to keep.
 I should awake before I die
 And realize time is passing by
 And rise and go and tell the lost,
 Despite my plans, despite the cost.

Too long I've laid me down to sleep,
 While multitudes about me weep
 And utter cries of dark despair,
 For no one ever seems to care.
 My life is short and soon I'll stand
 With sinners' blood upon my hands
 Unless I wake before I die
 And realize time is passing by.

A SUMMER CREED

I believe in the flowers and their glorious indifference to the changes of the morrow.

I believe in the birds, and their implicit trust in the loving Providence that feeds them.

I believe in the prayer-chanting brooks, as they murmur a sweet hope of finding the far-distant sea to which they patiently run.

I believe in the whispering winds, for they teach me to listen to the still small voice within my feverish soul.

I believe in the vagrant clouds, as they remind me that life, like a summer day, must have some darkness to reveal its hidden meaning.

I believe in the soft-speaking rains, accented with warm tears, telling me that nothing will grow save it be fertilized with tears.

I believe in the golden hush of the sunsets, reflecting a momentary glory of that great world beyond my little horizon.

I believe in the soft-falling dew, revealing the infinite spring of living waters for everything parched and withered.

I believe in the holiness of twilight, as it gives me sense of the presence of God, and I know I am not alone. And whatever else I believe is enshrined in those abiding feelings that lie too deep for words.

W. W. Argow

Life is like a mountain railroad,
 With an engineer that's brave;
 We must make the run successful,
 From the cradle to the grave;
 Watch the curves, the fills, the tunnels;
 Never falter, never quail;
 Keep your hand upon the throttle,
 and your eye upon the rail.
 Blessed Saviour, Thou wilt guide us,
 Till we reach that blissful shore;
 Where the angels wait to join us
 In Thy praise for evermore.

You will roll up grades of trial;
 You will cross the bridge of strife;
 See that Christ is your conductor
 On this light'ning train of life;
 Always mindful of obstruction,
 Do your duty, never fail;
 Keep your hand upon the throttle,
 and your eye upon the rail.

You will often find obstructions;
 Look for storms of wind and rain;
 On a fill, or curve, or trestle,
 They will almost ditch your train;
 Put your trust alone in Jesus;
 Never falter, never fail;
 Keep your hand upon the throttle,
 And your eye upon the rail.

As you roll across the trestle,
 Spanning Jordan's swelling tide,
 You behold the Union depot
 Into which your train will glide;
 There you'll meet the Superintendent,
 God the Father, God the Son,
 With the hearty, joyous plaudit,
 "Weary pilgrim, welcome home!"
 Blessed Saviour, Thou wilt guide us,
 Till we reach that blissful shore;
 Where the angels wait to join us
 In Thy praise for evermore.

M. E. Abbey

THE QUESTION OF QUESTIONS

"What think ye of Christ?" is the test,
 To try both your state and your scheme
 You cannot be right in the rest,
 Unless you think rightly of Him:
 As Jesus appears in your view —
 As He is beloved or not,
 So God is disposed to you,
 And mercy or wrath is your lot.

Some call Him a Saviour, in a word,
 But mix their own works with His plan;
 And hope He His help will afford,
 When they have done all that they can:
 If doings prove rather too light
 (A little they own they may fail),
 They purpose to make up full weight,
 By casting His name in the scale.

Some style Him "the Pearl of great price,"
 And say, He's the fountain of joys;
 Yet feed upon folly and vice,
 And cleave to the world and its toys:

Like Judas, the Saviour they kiss,
And while they salute Him, betray:
Oh! what will profession like this
Avail in His terrible day?

If asked what of Jesus I think,
Though still my best thoughts are
but poor,
I say, He's my meat and my drink,
My life and my strength and my
store;
My Shepherd, my trust and my Friend,
My Saviour from sin and from thrall;
My Hope from beginning to end,
My Portion, my Lord and my All.

TO TRUST IN YOU

That trial I had last week, Lord
You know . . . the one that caused me
pain?
I never thought to find in it what
ground I could have gained
I only looked down at the rising waves
as Peter did of old
Forgetting that it's my eyes on You
That truly makes me whole.

So I sunk a little more each time
I tried alone to work it out
Until I heard your loving voice
Say "That's not what life is all about"
My Father does not send these
deepest trials to cause regret
He wants you to draw nigh unto Me for
help - did you forget?"

I did, Oh Lord, as I sometimes do
Forget how much You care
You know my weakness and my need
and I know that you'll be there.
And with each and every test I find
I learn a lesson new
How very much You want to show me
Just how to trust in You.

That trial I had today, Lord
You know . . . the one that caused me
pain
Well, because of Your patience, mercy
and grace
I found in it great gain
I let You take me by my hand
And gently lead me through
I learned from all the ones before
To keep my eyes on You.

Sis. Becky Ellert

LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING

Lift every voice and sing
Till earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise
High as the listening skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith
That the dark past has taught us,
Sing a song full of the hope
That the present has brought us.
Facing the rising sun of our new day
begun,
Let us march on till victory is won.
Stony the road we trod,
Bitter the chastening rod,
Felt in the days when hope unborn had
died;
Yet with a steady beat, have not our
weary feet
Come to the place for which our
father's sighed?
We have come over a way that with
tears have been watered,
We have come, treading our path
through the blood of the slaughtered,
Out from the gloomy past till now we
stand at last
Where the white gleam of our bright
star is cast.
God of our weary years, God of our
silent tears,
Thou who hast brought us thus far on
the way;
Thou who hast by Thy might led us into
the light,
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places,
Our God, where we met Thee,
Lest our hearts drunk with the wine
Of the world, we forget Thee;
Shadowed beneath Thy hand,
May we forever stand.
True to our God, True to our native
land.

James Weldon Johnson

IS YOUR ALL ON THE ALTAR?

You have longed for sweet peace, and
for faith to increase,
And have earnestly, fervently prayed;
But you cannot have rest or be
perfectly blest
Until all on the altar is laid.

Is your all on the altar of sacrifice laid?
Your heart, does the Spirit control?
You can only be blest and have peace
and sweet rest,
As you yield Him your body and soul.

Gospel Hymns #810

SIMPLE BEAUTY

Lord, everywhere I turn I am assaulted
by beautiful people - on television, in
magazines, in advertisements for ev-
erything from mattresses to tractors.
Yet this beauty is only an outer layer.
It's gone so quickly. I want a beauty
that instead of fading with age will grow
only more vibrant. Let Your Spirit
shine through me today with Your
beauty.

Sermon . . .

(continued from Page 28)

cleansed, so that the good and Holy
Spirit can come in.

Some would like to hold back this or
that, but we have to make a clean slate.
Make a good beginning, and be
founded on that Rock which is Jesus
Christ and Him crucified. That is all
that we have to preach to you today.

This man, Cornelius, always prayed
to God. The Lord Himself prayed
many, many times all through the
night. Prayer is very essential. In an-
other place we can read that men
should always pray and not faint.

The Lord presented a parable about
a woman who repeatedly beseeched a
judge. She was disturbed because of an
adversary, and she wanted to be
avenged. She knew that judge could do
it. Did she give up? Oh, no! She kept
going back, back, back, back and back
until finally the judge said, "I will
avenge her, lest by her continual com-
ing she weary me." Luke 18:5.

The Word says, "Shall not God
avenge His own elect, which cry day
and night unto Him . . .?" (Or, who pray
day and night?) Luke 18:7. Beloved,
God will hear. He is going to answer the
prayer in some way, somehow. Some-
times we can't understand it, but He
does it in His own way. That is what we
really want.

We are told that "Two men went up
into the temple to pray; the one a
Pharisee, and the other a publican."
Luke 18:13. The Pharisee was self-
righteous. He reminded God of every-
thing which he had done, this and that.

But ". . . the publican . . . would not
lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven,
but smote upon his breast, saying, God
be merciful to me a sinner." Luke
18:13. He brought out just what was in
his heart. That is the way we should be,
open and honest with the Lord.

Cornelius was guided by God because he was always praying and pleading. Then one day "He saw in a vision . . . about the ninth hour . . . an angel of God coming in to him, and saying unto him, Cornelius." Acts 10:3.

He is speaking to you and to me today individually. Are we listening to what God has to tell us? Or are we brushing it off and saying, "Well, we don't have to take that so seriously." Then, do we loosen up a little bit, and let it roll off of our shoulders?

Beloved, let's take it seriously. Let us not leave anything undone that we should do. May God give us the grace to be more diligent and sincere. When God speaks to us in accents clear and plain through His Word and through His Spirit, let us listen.

The angel came to Cornelius. Cornelius was afraid, astonished. He did not know what was coming. He said, "What is it, Lord? And he said unto him, Thy prayers and thine alms are come up for a memorial before God." Acts 4. See? God hears prayer. God knew that Cornelius was trying to do all that he could, but more was needed for salvation.

Salvation is necessary, and God saw that Cornelius was sincere. He needed salvation, and God provided it. God did this in His own way. This was not of man; this was of God. The angel said, "Now send men to Joppa, and call for one Simon, whose surname is Peter . . . whose house is by the sea side: he shall tell thee what thou oughtest to do." Acts 10:5, 6.

Cornelius could have brushed that off and said, "That doesn't sound just right; maybe I'll wait a little while longer." But, no. He didn't wait. He immediately "called two of his household servants, and a devout soldier of them that waited on him continually," the Word tells us. Acts 10:7.

He told them what had happened, and then he sent them to Joppa. (See how things are synchronized by God Himself.) Peter was on the housetop about the sixth hour to pray. Wonderful, wasn't it? He was praying.

"And he became very hungry, and would have eaten: but while they made ready, he fell into a trance. And saw heaven opened, and a certain vessel descending unto him, as it had been a great sheet knit at the four corners, and let down to the earth: Wherein were all manner of four-footed beasts of the earth, and wild beasts, and creeping

things, and fowls of the air. And there came a voice to him, Rise, Peter; kill, and eat. But Peter said, Not so, Lord; for I have never eaten anything that is common or unclean. And the voice spake unto him again the second time, What God hath cleansed, that call not thou common." Acts 10:10-15.

This was done three times, and Peter was disturbed. However, almost simultaneously, we find that the men sent by Cornelius came to inquire about Peter. They asked if Peter lived there. Yes, he was there.

So Peter went down to see what they wanted. They told Peter about Cornelius, what he had seen, and what had happened. They stayed over night there and on the next day Peter accompanied them to Caesarea.

When Peter met Cornelius, what did Cornelius do? He fell down at Peter's feet to worship him. Peter said, "Don't give me any credit!" (in common language). "Stand up; I myself also am a man." Acts 10:26.

Peter talked with Cornelius, and then went into his house. Who do you think was there? Not only his family, but all his friends and neighbors! He wanted them also to hear what God had to tell them. Cornelius said that he did exactly what God wanted. "Now therefore are we all here present before God, to hear all things that are commanded thee of God." Acts 10:33.

Peter then delivered a tremendous sermon, the result of which was, beloved, that those present were moved in spirit and in heart. They all believed. The gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out upon them. They begged that they could be baptized, and receive the Holy Ghost. It was granted them.

You may think that this was very sudden. It may have been, but sometimes things work this way. We believe that God had prepared their hearts, and that they were ready to be taken into the fold.

Here we find that God is no respecter of persons. It doesn't matter whether we are rich or poor, or what our race or color is. God loves everyone.

Sometimes we must be witnesses of our faith. We come in contact with many people. Years ago many of our forefathers worked on farms and didn't contact too many people, but many of our lifestyles have changed. We come in contact with a lot of people today.

When there is a proper time, it is

necessary that we speak a few words to cause others to think about this salvation which God has given.

I am reminded of a certain dear sister who was going to the southland a number of years ago. She got on a plane with a man and his wife who were very plainly dressed. They were very modest in their attire and resembled our people. The man and wife boarded the same plane as this dear sister did, and she knew that they were watching her. She became very nervous. Finally they arrived at Tampa and had to change planes there. Then she met them again, and she just smiled.

The man came up to her and said, "We noticed that there is something a little different about you." She said, "Where are you going?" They said, "We are going to Sarasota." "Well, so am I. Are you going to church there?" And she named our church. They said, "No, but we are going to another church."

They asked her, "What makes you look a little bit different from others? You are so plain and so respectable, and especially that smile!" They got into quite a conversation about faith and about salvation. This young sister wasn't ashamed. She told them about our faith and she said, "Well, it's time to get on the plane now. Perhaps I won't be bothering you anymore."

She got on the plane and sat down in the back. Who sat beside her but the same man again! They talked more about salvation, and he wondered where she came from. She told him who she was.

After talking a little, she said, "I know somebody from your area." She said, "I knew your grandfather. They used to be of the Apostolic Christian Church. We knew it as the Evangelic Church."

She said, "I belong to that church," and made 'no bones' about it. He said, "We always respected them. There is no church there now." "But," she said, "there is one not too far from there, and that is where I go."

Finally they got off the plane, and he said, "I have always respected those people." Then she invited them to come to church. A few months later, that man and his wife came to church. They were very impressed with the simplicity of our faith.

Wherever we go, there is someone watching. "God is no respecter of persons." Acts 10:34.

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SERMON BY BRO. WALTER REHKLAU OF TOLEDO, OH

Text: Acts 10:1-23

There are many things in this passage to be considered. We find that a major change took place. The Almighty God made known to Peter that He was no respecter of persons, and that salvation was available to all, both Jew and Gentile.

We are told about a man who was an officer in the Roman army, "a centurion of the band called the Italian band" Acts 10:1. The man was devout. He was serious minded, and he "feared God with all his house" Acts 10:2. What does the Bible say about this? It says, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge." Prov. 1:7.

When I was young, the German language was prevalent. My father read in German to us at the table. Even in Sunday School, we heard German. But mother always seemed to come through in English and explain a lot of those things that we could not understand.

Still, in talking with a friend (we went to Sunday School together), he said, "We really enjoyed those days. We didn't understand too much sometimes, but we observed the brothers and sisters, and especially the brothers who brought the services to us."

He said, "They were serious. We could see it in their lives. We could just feel it. This left a deep impression on us, didn't it?" I said, "It sure did!" Their faith was shown in their manner of life and in the way they conducted themselves. Even though we didn't understand the German as well as we should have, there was something clearly there. I believe that the Spirit of God directed us in comprehending the seriousness of life, and even a portion of the great salvation that God had given to humanity.

We read that the centurion, Cornelius, was "A devout man, and one that feared God with all his house . . ." So there were probably children in his

home, and perhaps servants, other soldiers and relatives. It says here that they feared God. In other words, they had a devotion to God.

It continues, ". . . which gave much alms to the people, and prayed to God always." Acts 10:2. Now, he did a lot of good. Today, many people give much to different causes, but that doesn't give them salvation although it is commendable. It's good to share and to give alms.

One thing here has always impressed me, ". . . and prayed to God always." Cornelius was a praying man. He was a man who came to God many times on his knees, as we all do, I believe.

Prayer is very powerful! There is more power in prayer, beloved, than in all the atomic bombs, missiles or whatever we have today in nuclear power. When we pray, we commune with God. We commune with a power that is so tremendous that we cannot measure it. God is all-powerful! When we pray sincerely, God doesn't let us down.

I want to tell you a little something. One time a brother, a farmer, came to me and said, "The other night I went to bed rather late. I knelt down to pray, and in the morning I was still kneeling there." He asked, "Do you think that was right?" I said, "I think that was good."

He said, "I was just so tired. I was ashamed of myself." But he was praying, even though he fell asleep. Our forefathers prayed often. Prayer was made in such unusual places. Let's look at Jonah. Where did he pray? In the belly of that fish! You might think that is a little odd, but he prayed there . . . the Bible tells us he did. God heard his prayer. Isn't that something?

As we read about Daniel, we see that he didn't neglect prayer. Even though there was a threat of death if he should pray to any God except the king for a

certain length of time, that didn't stop him from praying to his God. He was dedicated.

Those men were wise. We can read how often prayer was used. We need it today. Prayer is something that we should exercise ourselves in continually.

Sometimes I may get too personal, but I hope you will bear with me. One New Year's morning, during our regular service, we read about Hezekiah, where it was told him that he was sick and nigh unto death. He was told that he should get his house in order because he was going to die.

Did you know what happened? A certain friend who was in church that morning heard those few words, "Set thy house in order." II Kings 20:1.

This friend had intended to clean out her drawers and to get things in better shape for the new year, but the whole thing faded away. She went home weeping. She went to her parents and said, "I've got to get 'my house' in order first. I want to repent. I want to be converted."

Those few words left a great impact upon that friend. I was amazed how God calls each one in a little different way because He knows what each soul needs. He is able to give words from the Holy Scripture through those who teach, or by parents or others. Each of us has a duty and a commitment to speak for our God.

That soul of whom we spoke repented. She cleaned the "dirt" out of her heart to become ready for the Spirit of God to come in.

Dear friends, the time may be short, but we still have a wonderful opportunity. You have a wonderful opportunity to seek the Lord. Many times we have a lot of "dirt" in our lives when we are unconverted. We've got to get that all out. We have to be purified and

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