



Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Eph. 5:20

In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

I Thess. 5:18

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Thanksgiving: A Time To Remember . . .

A Time To Remember . . .

Our Dependance on God

Give us this day our daily bread. Matt. 6:11

Our Natural State and Need for Deliverance

There is none righteous, no not one. Rom. 3:10

O wretched man that I am!

Who shall deliver me from the body of this death? Rom. 7:24



The Paycheck We Deserve

For the wages of sin is death . . . Rom. 6:23

Our Provider

But my God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus. Phil. 4:19

Our Saviour

For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures. I Cor. 15:3

Our Hope

. . . Christ in you, the hope of glory. Col. 1:27

Our Goal

I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. Phil. 3:14

Our Reasonable Service

I beseech you therefore brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. Rom. 12:1

Yes, to truly give thanks, one needs to take time to remember. May we be reminded again, that the true test of thanksgiving is more often proven by our lives, not just our lips.

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



A WORK OPPORTUNITY PROJECT FOR APOSTOLIC BRETHREN OR FRIENDS

A work project in Honduras to build a two-room school has been approved by the Work Opportunity and World Relief Committees.

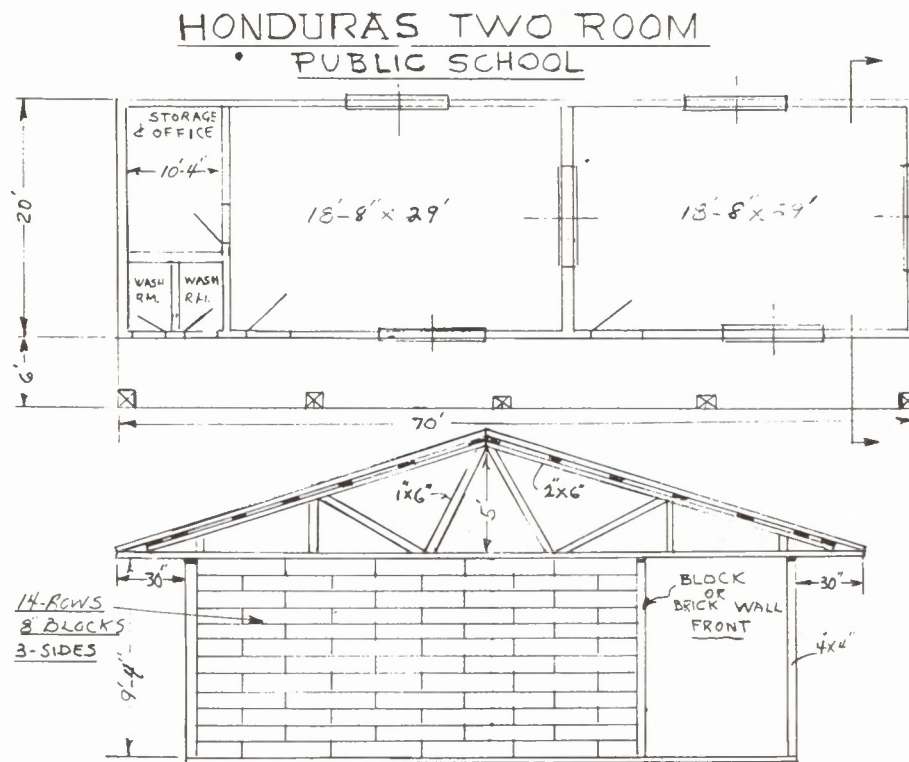
Volunteer help to build this school is needed. It is estimated that 4 or 5 masons and 4 or 5 skilled carpenters should build this in nine days.

Plans are to leave January 16, 1985 and return January 25, providing that there is interest in this project. Anyone interested should contact Jack Krantz or myself for details. Wives can also accompany their husbands on this trip. This would be an excellent opportunity to spend a vacation in a warm climate, and visit a Central American country.

We would appreciate a firm decision from those planning to go by Thanksgiving Day. Passports will be required.

Bro. Francis Rother, Phone (309) 266-7853

Bro. Jack Krantz, Phone (309) 266-5516



The following article was written by Bro. Willis Ehnlé with the hope that we can "... be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear." (I Peter 3:15). We are entering into a time when the world is espousing humanism, where Christ is viewed only as a man. It is no longer sufficient to say: "I believe Christ was the Son of God." We must be able to articulate why we believe. We must strive to become as the Apostle Paul who was able to reason with the unbeliever (Acts 17:2).

THE DIVINITY OF CHRIST

The significant characteristic of the human being known as Jesus Christ is that He was divine. Take that away from Him and He is simply another human being and we do not worship anyone who is only a human being. In fact, we are cautioned against trusting in human beings beyond what is prop-

er. The Scriptures teach us: "Power belongeth unto God." (Psalm 62:11)

Why then, do we worship Jesus Christ who was a human being? Because He was divine, that is, He housed the Spirit of the Son of God, who is equal with God, in His human body. We do not worship that human body;

we worship the Christ who lived in that human body.

Christ was born of a virgin, conceived by the Holy Spirit, according to the Scriptures which we believe and embrace. This is an important truth which made Christ divine, God living in a human body.

The concept that God was in Christ is taught in II Corinthians 5:19, "To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself . . ." It is important, at least for me, to understand and believe this in order to unhesitatingly lift up Christ without being concerned about lifting up man.

After the resurrection, Christ's body was no longer a human body — it had no blood, but it did have flesh and bones of a non-material nature. It was clearly a body from another world because Christ could pass through closed doors without opening them. Christ's spirit had a new house to live in although His Spirit was that of the Son of God, whether He lived in His human body or His resurrected body. The idea of the human body being a house to live

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IN MEMORY — EDITORS:
HENRY SOUDER
EDWARD SOUDER

in is taught in II Corinthians 5:1, "For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens."

The proof of Christ's divinity is in the resurrection. Witnesses usually constitute proof and His conception by the Holy Spirit could not be verified by witnesses in the same way His resurrection was verified. Paul writes of the risen Christ in I Corinthians 15:6, "He was seen of about five hundred brethren at once . . ." In verse 14, Paul further writes, "And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain . . ." The resurrection clinches the verdict that Christ is divine.

There is within the human heart a desire to know and worship the true and living God. Why then do we worship Jesus Christ? Because He was divine and to worship Christ is not a departure from worshipping God. Christ is a revelation of God.

ELGIN COOKBOOKS FOR NURSING HOME PROJECT

Early in 1983, our Elgin congregation published a cookbook. The proceeds from the sale of these cookbooks are benefitting our Apostolic Christian Resthaven Nursing Home in Elgin. After ordering 3,000 cookbooks, we still have 800 available. Since construction is now beginning on our new nursing home, we would like to sell most of these books before the year's end. If anyone would like to purchase one of these cookbooks, please contact Sis. Teresa Gudeman, 22 S. Alfred, Elgin, IL 60120, or you may phone her at (312) 697-5236. The price of our cookbook is \$11.00 plus \$2.00 for postage and handling. If you have a multiple order, please contact her prior to ordering. May the Lord bless each of you for your charity.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME

Uriel Gehring — Judy Luginbuhl

"While the earth remaineth, seed-time and harvest, cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease". Genesis 8:22. Also it is written "To everything there is a season; and a time to every purpose under the heaven: A time to be born, and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to

pluck up that which is planted". Ecclesiastes 3:1-2.

It is harvest time in Indiana, and the tillers of the soil are plucking up that which is planted. How beautiful is God's creative plan for the crops; man can plant and water, but only God can give the increase. In our spiritual life, God, too, must give the increase, and how many times we cry out, Lord increase our faith, for faith is the victory that overcometh the world. The longer we know Him as our heavenly Father, the more precious He becomes to us, and we love Him more and more. He is an ever present help in time of need.

We have been experiencing some extremely foggy weather here of late, especially in the early morning. The school buses have been running late in the morning, and sometimes school has been closed all day. The denseness of the fog reminds us of the impossibility of seeing things in a spiritual sense until the fog (sin nature) is removed from our life. Thanks be to God, that through the blood of His Son, Jesus, we can find forgiveness of sin and can see clearly.

Thoughts and scenes of Thanksgiving are manifesting themselves in many ways. How thankful we should be to have been born in this great nation of ours that affords us so many freedoms. We are informed in the Word, "I exhort therefore, that first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions and giving of thanks be made for all men; for kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty." I Timothy 2:1-2. At this point and time, we have been able to do things without persecution, one of our many Thanksgiving blessings.

Sis. Jane Stieglitz, who was a "faithful steward" at the home for nearly four years, is now a full-time housewife. Her husband is Bro. Steve Stieglitz and their address is Woodburn, IN. Her dedication to children has not ceased as she and Steve are presently fostering two young children. Thank you Jane, for all you have done for the children and the Home.

A former staff member, Sis. Judy Luginbuhl (Rockville, CT) has returned to "the Home" as our Educational Coordinator. We welcome her back and anticipate many pleasant hours working together in our "work of faith and labor of love".

Along with all the seasonal changes of autumn, our home is also experiencing many changes of people coming and going. So clearly put by some of our children, recently reflecting their thoughts of feelings. "I'm sad because so many people are leaving," That's enough. I don't want anybody else to leave" and "I'm going to miss her a lot but it is time to move on in our lives". Sometimes that moving on means we are going to hurt, struggle or feel unsettled and a little unstable for awhile. Part of our job is to try to help our children to recognize, talk about and cope with their thoughts and feelings as they pass through these difficult times. Probably many of us in our own individual busy lives don't need to look too far before we encounter someone who is hurting. Much comfort can be found through a sensitive, understanding, listening soul. We pray for these qualities of sensitivity as we try to meet the challenges of each new day, and thank many of you for your support and prayers.

Our first marking period of this school year is coming to a close. Along with the anxiety of anticipating grade evaluations, our children here are being encouraged to look ahead to a new quarter. This provides us a fresh opportunity to learn from the past, pick up, move on and be ready to meet new goals. Our daily life, as well as academic life can reap countless benefits with this approach built into it.

As the present time we are all looking forward to a four-day weekend of no school. We hope to be spending a lot of positive, productive time together, raking leaves and preparing for a weiner roast and a sing fest.

Very soon we will also be preparing for Thanksgiving break and begin working out approved placements for our children. If there is anyone who has been state approved for foster care or child care and is interested in offering a break placement for one of our children, please contact us. This type of break placement has received favorable consideration by the Indiana State Department of Public Welfare.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

Imagine how THANKFUL we would be if we lost everything we had (Remember Job!) and then got it all back again!!

Those at our Home who can no

longer walk would leap for joy if that ability were restored to them; those who cannot speak would sing and shout their thankfulness; those who cannot hear the beautiful music or the softly spoken word of affection would be peacefully quiet so as not to let any of it escape; and those who cannot see would surely enjoy, first of all, the beautiful countenance of the heavens. Then together they would create a most magnificent harmony of praise to God, for deep within is the knowledge of the source of all blessings.

For all of us, let us be thankful that we are still about, by God's grace, and are able to give thanks day by day. Let us be thankful that there is still time left to add to the happiness and well-being of others.

Among many others, there is one group here at the Home, for which we are sincerely thankful, for they add much to the well-being of our residents. They are our staff of trained, efficient nurses' aides. Poet Allen Mack says it well:

They also serve who do the lesser things,
The never-ending work that each day brings —
The bathing, feeding, helping with the trays,
And changing beds, and all the hundred ways
They ease the work of other busy hands;
They can be sure the Master understands
That all they do is service in His name,
And, though it leads to neither wealth nor fame,
Yet carries in itself a rich reward:
The love of God, the blessing of our Lord.

New to our family of residents is Gloria Heiniger (Peoria, IL). Her mother and father (both deceased) were Hulda Kellenberger Heiniger and Albert Heiniger. A brother, Vernon, and a sister, Eldora Young, complete the family. Pizza, chicken and ice cream are favorites of Gloria's. She enjoys spending time doing embroidery. Birthday time for Gloria is July 26. We welcome Gloria and hope she will feel that this is indeed her home.

"When a Christian dies, precious is the prize..." And precious must surely be the prize of our dear, departed Bro.

Henry Grimm. He fought a good fight and has now finished his beautiful course. Many were the hours that he spent with our residents, and his fatherly counsel helped to enrich their lives. His influence will linger long among us.

Renewed gratitude reigns in our hearts toward all who helped in any way to make our Benefit Day a success. Please know that we realize, too, that "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto the least of these . . . , ye have done it unto Me . . ." (Mt. 25:40) Your efforts are not merely volunteer hours in our minds. We often try to think of you in your individual situations and what sacrifices you might be making to help us. Many times we have felt your loving sacrifice. As poet Elizabeth Bollman wrote:

Shall I give thanks while other
thousands starve?
Give thanks that I, at least, am fed and
well,
And have escaped the bitter scars of
war,
While millions die,
No less beloved than I?
Can we take comfort in the sheltered
thought,
"Against the winter winds we are
prepared;
Our crops are good, the ripened fruit
now fills
That bulging bin;
The harvest's gathered in"?

O let me rather thank Thee, Lord, that
I
Have heart and hands with which to
share the store
Of its abundant treasure, since the
earth
Has laid once more
Its bounty by my door!

Let me be one to grant new life, new
health,
To hungering children, to my fellow
men,
And let them say with me, "I thank
Thee, Lord."
The harvest then
Is gathered in again.

So, dear Father in heaven, bless each one out of Thy great storehouse of blessings.

ARIZONA, PHOENIX

Ron and Ev Hoerr

September 22 was a day of joyful Christian fellowship as many traveled to Prescott for the Sunday School picnic. Everyone was grateful to those who planned this day of activity and fellowship, honoring the Lord.

"O death, where is thy sting?" (I Cor. 15:55) During this last month, Sis. Edith and Bro. Allan Freed received word of the death of her beloved mother, Sis. Rose Funk and his sister-in-law, Lois Freed. They were able to attend both funeral services when they flew back to Illinois. Sincere sympathy is extended to both the Freed and Funk families.

Our beloved Elder Bro. Richard Schupbach will be traveling to India with the elder representatives on Friday, October 17, and will be returning, Lord willing, on November 16. We pray the Lord will prosper the work there and provide a safe return. We will miss his council and presence while he is absent. May the Lord provide grace and added peace to the wives of the brethren while they are separated.

It has been our privilege to hear the conference tapes and to again renew our appreciation for our faith found through Christ in our beloved church. May we continue to support and pray for our elders in the work that they must carry out and for the Lord's preeminence in our beloved church.

We miss Sis. Martha DeMille and Sis. Sherry Roth and pray the Lord will give them added strength day by day.

And the Lord said, "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make an help meet for him." Genesis 2:18. On October 14 we heard the engagement of Sis. Nancy Knoblock to Bro. Leon Baumgartner. Their parents are Sis. Iola Knoblock (Lester, IA) and Bro. Glen and Sis. Alice Baumgartner (Phoenix, AZ).

We are looking forward to winter visitors and to those who reside here in the winter months.

May we all strive to hold fast to that which is good that the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ will continue to be with us all.

ARIZONA, TUCSON

Sandy Bauer — Lisa Knapp

We are thankful that Orville Schmidt is able to assemble with us again after his hospitalization.

Life's setting sun came for Sis. Tillie

Aldrich on September 22 at the age of 80 years. After a long illness, the Lord called her to her eternal rest. We wish to extend our sympathy to her family for we know she was very dear to them as she was to us all.

Our annual Sunday school picnic was held October 7. The Lord could not have provided a more beautiful day. Everyone who came was richly blessed by the fellowship.

We thank our Elder Bro. Richard Schupbach and his wife, Barbara, for their recent visit. May the Lord continue to watch over them as they travel in the Lord's service.

There were many of us who were able to gather together for our fall cleaning of the Lord's house. How wonderful it is when there are those who work and labor together in the temple of God. May God bless their efforts of love.

CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA

Mary Beth Klotzle

"That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved." Romans 10:9

On October 7, we were blessed to hear the testimony of Fred Witzig (Bro. Bill and Sis. Mary) and witness his baptism as his old sinful life was buried away. What joy and peace is felt when one is walking hand in hand with God! We trust God will continue to bless and lead Bro. Fred each day of his life.

We appreciated the willingness of Bro. Ron Palitto (Akron, OH) to share God's Word with us, and wish him the Lord's blessings.

The Lord again opened doors and led the way for another trip to be made to India. Elder Bros. Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO), Richard Schupbach (Phoenix, AZ) and Bro. John Klotzle will be visiting the congregations and orphanages/boardings which seek and have asked for spiritual guidance and counsel. There is a great need for prayers for the dear souls in India and for the medical work that is also a part of the Rural Gospel and Medical Missions of India. May our Father keep these dear brothers safe on their journey and grant them much love, patience and understanding as they meet with the various needs and decisions that must be made.

Sis. Annabelle Messer (Bro. Carrol) has suffered an injury and is confined to her home. How comforting in times of pain that the Lord cares and will help to endure all things. We miss her and pray that she'll soon be able to come to church again.

"Praise ye in His sanctuary
Him who does such wondrous deeds!
Who to His eternal glory
All His ransomed children leads!

Laud ye Him with tears of gladness,
Praise Him now with harp and song!
Let us crown Him highest ruler,
Sound the chorus loud and long!

Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah,
Amen!

Then rejoice ye in His glory
Who from death to life arose!
Who a white and glorious garment
And rich gifts on you bestows!"
Hymns of Zion #235

Daily the Lord continues to bless us and to give us His rich gifts of love and grace. He constantly provides for our every need if we are willing to accept His way and will. May our hearts ever be filled with joy and thanksgiving for all the dear Lord gives us! May we ever be willing to give of ourselves to share the gifts He's granted us so that others, too, may learn and rejoice in the blessings of our Father.

COLORADO, DENVER

Mike Martin — Marlene Leman

As the beautiful snow drifts begin to form from all the snowflakes God has allowed to fall, so is He forming the Denver church. We welcome Sis. Lavonne Fischer and Sis. Kathy Knapp (Roanoke, IL) and Curt and Lori Weiss (Buffalo, WY).

Now that the number of visitors have slowed down, so have the number of visiting ministers. We were thankful for Elder Bro. Sam Huber (Sabetha, KS) and Bro. Ralph Garber (Morton, IL). May God bless them for their labors of love in our behalf.

Those of us who weren't able to attend the conference and those who did were blessed by hearing the tapes. "And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not the chastening of our Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of Him: For whom the

Lord loveth He chasteneth." Hebrews 12:5, 6.

With mixed emotions we bid farewell to Sis. Lois Metzger as she leaves us to go to West Bend, IA to prepare for her marriage to Bro. Gary Steffen of Elgin, IL.

CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE

Michelle Virkler

"Beyond the sunset, O glad reunion
With our dear loved ones who've gone
before
In that fair homeland we'll know no
parting
Beyond the sunset forever more."

Hymns of Zion #172

Our hearts were saddened in the passing of Sis. Martha Gerber, 92. She was the widow of Bro. Ernest Gerber. She leaves a son, Ralph (Sarasota, FL); a daughter, Ethel (Vernon); three brothers, Albert Strahm (Coldwater, MI), Aden Strahm (Craigville, IN) and Nelson Strahm (Bluffton, IN); a sister, Aldine Metzger (Ridgefield, CT); five grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. For Martha, her victory is won and the Lord has called another precious soul from this life.

The Lord blesses us so abundantly. Once again, we have had the privilege of visiting ministers in our midst: Elder Bro. Joe Braker (Morton, IL) and Bro. Earl Gerber (Forrest, IL) left us with such inspirational teachings of love.

"It seemed good unto us, being assembled with one accord." Acts 15:25. After the Elder Conference was held, we gathered several evenings to hear the tapes. As we listened with prayerful hearts, we asked God to be in our midst and help us apply those teachings to our every day walk of life.

Bro. Vern Lanz has been hospitalized recently. Sis. Elsie Lanz has been able to assemble with us again. May God touch the hearts of those who have been afflicted and embrace them with His arms of love.

". . . the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance." Romans 2:4. God has called yet another soul, Jeffrey Hunt (Bro. Harry and Sis. Joyce) to love and serve Him.

As we witness the changing of the season, we marvel at God's wondrous works. THANKSGIVING is a time to reflect upon the blessings bestowed upon us and how thankful we are for our heavenly Father, our families and our salvation.

FLORIDA, FT. LAUDERDALE Billie Klopfenstein

"The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein." Psalm 24:1.

It is nearing the time when we celebrate Thanksgiving. Most of us have an abundance of food, clothing and all material things. We want to remember that everything we possess is on loan from our Lord. It pleases Him when we share with those in need. Man does not live by bread alone, so as we share our earthly belongings we want to remember to also give of our storehouse of love and compassion. The most wonderful thing we can share with anyone is our knowledge of Christ, and Him crucified.

On December 7 and 8, Ft. Lauderdale is hosting the World Relief Committee and the elders who act as advisors to the Committee. We are looking forward to having each of them spend time in our midst.

Bro. Roy Luginbuhl had microscopic surgery on one of his knees and is making very good progress. He and Sis. Helen will spend at least ten months of the year in Ft. Lauderdale. They are now really "official" residents as they sold their townhouse in Connecticut.

FLORIDA, NORTH FORT MYERS Marie Keller — Elsie Troxel

Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord; and the people whom He hath chosen for His own inheritance.

Psalm 33:12

With Thanksgiving Day approaching, we have so many things to be thankful for and blessings bestowed upon us daily through our Lord and our Savior, Jesus Christ. We are especially thankful for the continuous progress of our North Fort Myers church. We were blessed with many willing brethren and friends who gave of themselves so unselfishly in many different ways to help complete our church edifice by the winter season. If the Lord wills, we plan to hold our first church services on December 2. The first service will begin at 10:30 a.m. and the second service will begin at 12:30 p.m. We welcome anyone who is in the area to come and worship with us.

The North Fort Myers church is located south of Punta Gorda. Take exit #27 off Interstate 75, go west one mile to Route 41 and turn left. Go

south on Route 41 for about 10 miles. Make a left turn across from the Dul Tura entrance. Then make another left at the first road. You can see the church on the left side of the road. Phone numbers to contact: Doug Sabo 813-966-2343; Art Gudeman 813-426-3156; Dave Eisenmann, Sr. 813-426-7769; or Roland Keller 813-629-2650.

THE CORNERSTONE

Almighty Builder, bless, we pray,
The cornerstone that here we lay;
And fair above it may we see
A house to serve mankind and Thee!

In truth be these foundations laid,
Each ordered course in wisdom made,
That firm these rising walls may stand
Thy witness in a waiting land.

So shall Thy people honor yet
The sure foundation Thou has set,
In prophets and apostles known,
With Jesus Christ the Cornerstone.

Eternal One, to Thee we raise
This house of service and of praise;
Thy love and glory shall not fade
When all earth's temples low are laid.

Edward A. Church

FLORIDA, SARASOTA Doris and Diane Rocke

The most astonishing coloring has spread upon the New England states. One "ah's" at the beauty of God's creation. We will soon return to Florida after spending a blessed weekend in Illinois, witnessing our granddaughter's (Jennifer Sauder) testimony and baptism. There is such beauty in the holiness and faith of youth finding God as their personal Savior. The Lord speaks to us as He did to others long ago when He said, "Whosoever shall seek to save his life shall lose it; and whosoever shall lose his life shall preserve it." Luke 17:33. If we are willing to subjugate our lives to His will, the same will save it. When the Lord separates those who are ready from those who are not and seals it forever, there will be no more time to repent and turn to the Lord. These young souls are golden treasures to our Lord with their humble spirit and contrite hearts. May we all obtain the true treasure of gold that can stand the test of time, that we may attain that heavenly mansion.

We are again overjoyed with Bro. Tom and Sis. Elaine Gudeman on the

arrival, September 24, of their first bundle from heaven. Little Jennifer Jenelle weighed 6 lbs. 15 oz. and was greeted by the proud grandparents, Bro. Bill and Sis. Cora Schambach (Elgin, IL) and Bro. Wendell and Sis. Marcella Gudeman (Francesville, IN). May this home talk of God (Psalm 71:24), His wondrous works (Psalm 105:2), His power (Psalm 145:11) that some day fruit of these spirits will guide this child back to the heavenly Father.

Sisters Helen Laparo and Elsie Lanz have been able to attend services and we are so grateful to see their improved health.

Bro. Harry Sutter (Fort Lauderdale, FL) visited us with words of love this month. May he be blessed for his efforts in proclaiming the gospel.

We extend our sympathy to Sis. Ethel Gerber in the passing of Sis. Martha. We feel the loss of another loved one who visited us, remembering her late stay this year in Florida. Our faithful Bro. Henry Grimm was another most welcome instrumental brother whose love was immeasurable among the young and old. We offer a prayer of patience for Sis. Katherine as she awaits that great reunion when families unite again. May God be near her and all her family.

ILLINOIS, BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL Shirley Denick — Jan Gudeman

We welcome all the college students who've come from near and far to attend schools in the area. We had the blessed opportunity of meeting many students and their parents recently on our college weekend Sunday. We appreciate the efforts of Bro. Marshall Heinold (Washington, IL) as he expounded the Word on this day.

God sends us many precious gifts —

But none that can compare
With the wonder of a baby
Who's so tiny and so fair . . .

I'm sure these thoughts are shared by Bro. John and Sis. Emily Maurer as they welcome a new little boy into their home. His name is Andrew John, born September 15. He has a big brother, Aaron. Grandparents are Bro. Roy and Sis. Ann Maurer and Lois and Jean Kieser, all from here.

On Sunday, October 7, we were privileged to witness the baptism of a

new brother-in-faith, David Huette. We rejoice with David, being reminded again that our precious Lord answers to all who truly call on His name. Our Elder Bro. Dan Koch served us for this occasion. We always appreciate his unending labors of love in our behalf.

ILLINOIS, BRADFORD

Shirley Kieser

We thank Thee that still we live in a land bountifully able to supply all our needs, a land which still by Thy providence knows peace, whose skies are not darkened by the machines of the enemy, whose fields and woodlands are still unblasted by the flames of war, a land with peaceful valleys and smiling meadows still serene.

O help us to appreciate all that we have, to be content with it, to be grateful for it, to be proud of it – not an arrogant pride that boasts, but in a grateful pride that strives to be more worthy.

Peter Marshall

We were grateful for the visit of Bro. Joe Stoller (Princeville, IL) and his wife, Emily. May God bless him and be his refuge and strength. May he feel our prayers, love and support as he takes on the duties of an elder. God alone can bless and provide for our retiring Elder Bro. Dave Kieser and his wife, Ruth. As the deep love of God was felt in his patient and kind service to us, may it be returned to him in fullest measure.

Not now, but in the coming years, it may be in a better land, we'll read the meaning of our tears, and there, sometime, we'll understand.

Hymns of Zion

Our sympathy is extended to Marjie Sturm and her family, Bro. Elwin and Sis. Loretta Rumbold in the tragic death of Marjie's husband, Cliff. Our love and prayers go out to Marjie as she lay in the hospital with serious injuries. God can heal and comfort and this we pray for her.

Sympathy is also extended to Bro. Richard Frank in the death of his mother, Sis. Nathalia Frank (Eureka, IL).

May God richly bless Russell and Terrie Ehnle as they walk life's pathway together. We wish them well as they establish their new home in Tremont. Bro. Ed and Sis. Verla and Ellie Hanning are the parents.

We wish for God's blessings on Greg and Glenda Petty as they are newly

married. Glenda is the daughter of Ken and Deloris Stoller.

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO

Kathy Schlatter

At this thanksgiving season, for myself, I need to consider what I am now able to do that I am not guaranteed a lifetime of doing. I need to appreciate the ability to see, hear, touch, taste, smell, move freely and even feel pain. When I can sing, I need to realize that age and stress may change my voice. The face I see in the mirror may not only change with the years, but disease or accident may also mar it. But nothing need I be more grateful for than that "God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16. And "I am persuaded that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 8:38, 39.

Bro. Gene Lehman (Wolcott, IN) and Bro. Willis Wiegand (Goodfield, IL) were our visiting laborers. We were warned by Bro. Gene's topical Bible study about the signs and hazards of compromise with sin, and Bro. Willis brought so many teachings as well. One of my favorites was probably in the first words he spoke, reminding us of putting behind us the fortunes and misfortunes of the past week and pushing away those of the week ahead, that we in the present might be listeners, drinking in the full impact of the Word. May the Lord reward His workers and gather in much harvest.

Michael James has already brought many joys, responsibilities and adjustments to Bro. James and Sis. Lynnette Lang since his birth October 8. Truly the Lord has lent them a precious jewel. We wish them God's divine guidance as they train up their "child in the way he should go". Proverbs 22:6. Loving grandparents are Bro. George and Sis. Phyllis Lang (Tremont, IL) and Helen and Walter Ripple (Dallas, TX).

We are overwhelmed and delighted by our growing congregation. Charles and Ella Mae Stoller come to us from Minneapolis, MN and Bro. Chuck and Sis. Annie Fehr via the Roanoke

church. We look forward to adding them to our circle of love.

How many of us have ever wanted – or bought for another – an all-purpose screwdriver, wrench or kitchen tool? Does it work? Well, somehow, the tool always falls far short of being all-purpose. In a sermon, that "non" all-purpose tool was compared to "knowledge". Knowledge, of course, tends to make one become puffed up, to seem bigger than he/she really is. The point was made that knowledge actually can separate us from brethren and friends. Instead, the "all-purpose" commodity suggested for every situation was charity, with its gentle, soothing sharing and warmth. The Bible is the only "catalog" with a panacea: Christlike love.

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK

Myrna Weerts — Wilma Walder

Thanksgiving Day has come again
With its golden harvest time.

Our season's handiwork is blest;
We enjoy these gifts of Thine.

And in the comfort of our homes
Happy family circles dine.

Oh, God! we give Thee thanks.

We live in a land of plenty
And from childhood have been blest.
May freedom of worship we cherish
Continue without molest.

Jesus, the dearest of blessings,
Brought hope of eternal rest.

Oh, God! we give Thee thanks.

Remember those in poverty
Whose blessings are so few.

May we with them our bounty share,
And think of those in sorrow, too.

For parents who did sacrifice,
And loved ones dear and true,

Oh, God! we give Thee thanks.

Henry Kipfer

The first national day of Thanksgiving was Thursday, November 26, 1789. It was proclaimed by President Washington. The second national Thanksgiving proclamation was issued by President Lincoln, in 1863, designating that the last Thursday in November would be set aside for the entire nation to give thanks together that despite the Civil War things were not so bad for the country as they might have been. Every president since Lincoln has continued the practice of proclaiming a day of Thanksgiving. Let us

be thankful for all our blessings which include living in a country which gives us the freedom to worship as we please.

On October 7 our Bible class was privileged to have the Goodfield and Francesville Bible classes join them for a day of fellowship. We appreciated the efforts of Bro. Lenard Meyer (Chicago, IL) and Bro. Jay Rinkenberger (Goodfield, IL) who came to speak to the youth and spend the day with our congregation. Bro. Bob Beebe also spent a Sunday with us. May the Lord bless them for their time and effort spent on our behalf.

We often think of those who are unable to assemble with us due to illness. Our hospital patients this month were Sis. Nettie Clauss, Sis. Anna Hari, Greg Martin, Bro. Lynn Young and Bro. Emil Schmitt.

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE Kay Roth — Tammy Knapp

THANKSGIVING

- Count your blessings instead of your crosses;
- Count your gains instead of your losses;
- Count your joys instead of your woes;
- Count your friends instead of your foes;
- Count your smiles instead of your tears;
- Count your courage instead of your fears;
- Count your full years instead of your lean;
- Count your kind deeds instead of your mean;
- Count your health instead of your wealth;
- Count on God instead of yourself.

Author Unknown

We are very thankful for all the ministers who labored in our behalf this month. We can receive such a blessing from God's Word through His faithful. These were Elder Bros. Sam Anliker (Lamont, KS), Steve Rinkenberger (Cissna Park, IL), retired Elder Bro. Josh Broquard (Fairbury, IL), Bros. John Schmidgall (Oakville, IA), Bill Gerst (Alto, MI), Ed Bahler (Remington, IN), Byron Stoller (Gridley, IL), Kenny Knapp (Taylor, MO), Ed Alt (Cissna Park, IL).

Marie Miller (Bro. Jake and Sis. Marion) and Charles Naylor were united in marriage September 22. We

wish God's blessings on their lives together.

Sis. Judy Wettstein (Bro. Vernon) was hospitalized this month. We are glad she is home and doing well. How we appreciate God's healing hand when our health is taken from us.

ILLINOIS, ELGIN

Ruth Ann Getz

Revelation 3:20 says, "Behold I stand at the door and knock: If any man hear My voice and open the door, I will come in to him and will sup with him, and he with me." No doubt we can recall from very early childhood the artist drawing of Christ standing at the door and knocking and because of it we had a vague imagery that Christ apparently had desire to commune with us. As a child there seemed to be no barrier, no conflict with that drawing and the verse that it depicted. We loved to gaze upon it and in childlike understanding were warmed with the thought of it. Then we grew to the age of accountability (we began to know our sin) and then we were aware of the thickness of that door. We wanted it barred so there would be no intrusion. Content were we that the latch was on our side and we were in control; but finally, one day when our sins weighted us down so that we could go no farther, we reached for the latch to that door. To our amazement the door had grown exceedingly heavy and thick and, indeed, we could not have even unlatched it had not the gentle Savior on the other side extended His arm of love.

And so, for the first time in many years, we came before the Father in submission with confession and petitions for His forgiveness. We realized that we needed the atoning blood to cover our sins, too.

Finally, after a given time, we began to understand about the Lord coming in and supping with us, because, as we felt forgiveness, peace began to flood our souls and then there came the sweet communion, adoration, thanksgiving and, yes, even intercession to our prayers. So simply the Lord says, "Behold, I stand at the door and knock" . . . we must let Him in!

We are so thankful for one more soul who has opened the door of his heart. Jeff Cargill (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Kay) is seeking the Lord in repentance and we pray that a very rich measure of grace

from the Lord will be given him to unburden his past life at the cross. What glory it brings to God the Father when a sinner finds his salvation and willingly takes up the cross of Christ to follow after Him.

Bro. Joe Schmidgall, a long time veteran in the army of the Lord, laid down his armor on September 26 at age 85. Joe has been a bedridden patient for several years and we can rejoice that he is at rest with the Lord, but hearts of sympathy still go out to his widow, Sis. Anna, and his family who so lovingly cared for him through his illness.

On October 1, Harold Vick, 75, passed away very suddenly leaving his dear family, Katherine (Foell) Vick; daughter, Judy Olson (Chapel Hill, NC); and son, Tom (Freeport, IL) to grieve his death. We wish to undergird them in any manner that is needed at this time. We, too, will miss his gentle, quiet spirit.

Anna Carius, 88, who had been a resident at Apostolic Christian Resthaven (which is now Countryside Manor) since 1979, passed away October 9. She was taken to her home town of Tremont, IL for burial, and to all of her family there we extend our sympathy. She will be missed by us here, especially by her nephew, Bro. Elmer Getz.

Sis. Jeannette Schmidt is also bereaved in the death of her aunt, Helen Schuman, who passed away October 16. We wish to extend our sympathy to her.

On October 18, some sixty of our brethren and friends who have passed their seventieth birthdays were served at a special dinner held in the church basement. This is done annually and it is always a special privilege and opportunity to be able to serve them.

Sis. Lucille Knupper is recuperating at her daughter's (Margaret Heaton) home since she has had knee surgery. We know she has had much discomfort and our prayers go out that the Lord will heal her speedily.

Keith Schambach (small son of Bro. Les and Sis. Alison) was also hospitalized for a brief stay, but is home again and doing well.

We wish to be a support to Sis. Mary Moser as she is presently hospitalized. May she be blessed with returning good health.

Apostolic Christian Resthaven has a supply of cookbooks available. Please

note the article concerning them in the front section of this issue.

ILLINOIS, EUREKA

Kathy L. Roche

In sorrow and pain
Thy trust do retain
In Jesus the merciful Saviour.

When burdened with care
When thou wouldst despair,
Then call on thy loving Redeemer.
Zion's Harp #46

The death angel has been in our midst and left many of our loved ones in our congregation with sorrow in their hearts.

Bro. George Wagenbach passed away at the "Home". Our sympathy goes to Sis. Maryellen Martin of our congregation in the passing of her father. Services were held at Princeville.

Our sympathy is extended to Bro. Sam Schmidgall and Sis. Ruth Martin (Bro. Lester) in the passing of their brother, William Schmidgall.

Our hearts go out to the Melvin Martin family in the passing of their wife, mother and grandmother, Benita Martin. Services were held at the Washington church.

Our dear sister-in-faith, Nathalia Frank, was suddenly taken out of this life on October 4. We pray a special blessing of comfort on her dear husband, Bro. Richard, who is confined to his home much of the time, and her sons and daughter, Bro. Richard, Jr., Donald and Linda Frank. We will certainly miss Sis. Nathalia in our congregation, but thankfully she had made preparation for this time.

Having reached the age of 96, Sis. Elizabeth Hodel was able to lay her cross down on October 10. Surviving are two sons, Bro. Harold (Eureka, IL) and Bro. Robert (Roanoke, IL); and three daughters, Sis. Marie Goetzinger (Goodfield, IL), Ann Wagler (Roanoke, IL) and Sis. Florence Wuthrich (Eureka, IL). May the Lord's nearness be with these dear ones.

Sis. Bena Mae Roche (Bro. Leroy) has a foot injury due to a fall. We are thankful she is able to be home and hope her recuperation will be short.

Sis. Verda Blunier (Bro. Vernon) wants to express her sincere appreciation and thanks to all who sent her cards, gifts, flowers and remembered her in prayer while at Mayo Clinic and

since returning home. They have meant so much to her. She asks that you continue to remember her in your prayers.

We welcome Sis. Clara Bach to our congregation. She has moved into the "Valley" from the Forrest congregation. May she feel at home with us, and feel God's nearness in her new residence.

We are thankful Bro. Ed Knecht (Silverton, OR) and Bro. Marvin Leman (Bradford, IL) were willing to come and minister to us. May God bless them in the duties that have been placed upon them.

Seth David Roche is the new son of Steve and Audrey Roche. Seth was born October 10 and has two brothers, Shannon and Shane to welcome him home. Grandparents are Bro. Richard and Sis. Marge Roche and Kaywin and Kay Hodel.

Bro. Steve and Sis. Vicki Martin welcomed Kelli Jean into their hearts and home on October 12. Shari and Joni are eager to meet their new sister. Bro. Nelson and Sis. Maryellen Martin and Bro. Howard and Sis. Vera Heindold (Goodfield, IL) are Kelli's grandparents. May God smile down on these dear families and bless them.

"It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord." Psalm 92:1. We have so much to be thankful for! As Thanksgiving Day approaches, let us give thanks unto the Lord for He has been so good to us. And, since we have been so blessed, let us remember others who may be in sickness or lonely, for in giving of ourselves, we are truly blessed.

We cannot direct the wind, but we can adjust our sails.

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY

Carol Bazzell — Joann Zehr

Bro. Derek and Sis. Julie Rabe were blessed with a baby boy, Durelle Alan, on October 1. Grandparents are Bro. Alvin and Sis. Loretta Baumgartner (Cissna Park, IL) and Julia Rabe and Don Rabe (Fairbury, IL).

Funeral services were held for Sis. Clara Zehr, 85, who passed away on September 23, 1984. Sympathy is extended to her brother and sisters, Bro. Ben Zehr, Sis. Lena Zehr, Sis. Mary Traub and Sis. Anna, Sis. Ida, Fannie and Sis. Aldine Steffen, all of Fairbury.

We appreciate our visiting ministers, Bro. Ed Knecht (Silverton, OR) and

Jim Byrd (Roanoke, IL) and Elder Bro. Sam Anliker (Lamont, KS).

As we again approach the annual Thanksgiving Day observed by our nation, the following verse seemed appropriate:

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

ILLINOIS, FORREST

Kathy Leman — Sharon Adams

Our visiting ministers were Bro. Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL), Bro. Elmer Witzig and Bro. Harold Schmidgall (Gridley, IL) and Bro. Albert Aberle (Tremont, IL). We thank these brothers for their efforts in serving us with God's Word.

Hospital patients were Bro. Emil Anliker (Sis. Louise) who is now recuperating at home and Joseph Rudin (Bro. Craig and Sis. Trudy). May God be with each one in time of need.

Sis. Sandy Anliker (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Judy) and Bro. Mike Zimmerman (Bro. Roy and Sis. Helen, Gridley, IL) were united in holy matrimony on September 30. May God be in their home as they start this new walk of life together.

Bro. Ernie and Sis. Carol Leman were happy parents of Jason Todd. Little Jodi welcomes him home. Grandparents are Bro. Robert and Sis. Donna Leman and Bro. John and Sis. Beverly Eisenmann.

We extend our sympathy to Bro. Dave and Sis. Alma Jean Schmidgall in the passing of his father, Bro. Joe Schmidgall (Elgin, IL).

Our Sis. Martha Koehl, who resided at Fairview Haven, has been called to her eternal rest. Her funeral was held October 11. Surviving are four daughters, Sis. Bernice Cox, Sis. Edith Miess (Morton, IL), Sis. Velda Huette and Sis. Eldora Hoerr (Peoria, IL); four sons, Bro. Clarence, Bro. Virgil, Bro. Leroy and Maurice. Also surviving are one brother, Bro. Sam Zimmerman (Fairview Haven), and one sister, Sis. Lillian Zimmerman (Fairview Haven).

We have many reasons to be thankful this Thanksgiving season but we should be especially thankful for God's

plan of salvation and the freedom to worship our Lord in this land of America. Let us thank God for opening the way to our forefathers many years ago to this land of freedom.

Bro. Emil Anliker would like to express his thanks for all the love shown to him during his illness. It was done through words, cards, gifts, calls and many ways. May God bless each one.

On October 20 and 21, our friends, Brian Ricketts (Bro. Nick and Sis. Jean) and Todd Kupferschmidt (Bro. Dean and Sis. Robin) gave their testimony and were baptized into the fold. May God go with them in this walk of life. Sharing Sunday with us were Bros. Loren Strahm (Gridley, KS) and Bro. Art Bahler (Fairbury, IL).

Bro. Alan and Sis. Marcia Gerber welcomed little Jessica Lynn into their hearts and home on October 22. Her little brother, Andrew, also welcomes her home. Grandparents are Bro. Glen and Sis. Kathryn Fehr (Fairbury, IL) and Bro. Earl and Sis. Esther Gerber.

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD Pam Wiegand

We were pleased to witness the testimonies and baptisms of three dear souls, Bro. Dale and Sis. Susie Wyss and Sis. Jennifer Sauder. May the Lord be with them throughout their new walk of life.

We thank our many visiting ministers this past month: Bro. Carl Wyss (Washington, IL), Elder Bro. Edwin Ringger (Gridley, IL), Bro. Marshall Heinold (Washington, IL), Elder Bro. Roy Sauder (Peoria, IL) and Bro. Dave Wiegand (Urbana, IL).

Sis. Hilda Leman and little Kurt Freidinger (Duane and Vermeda) both underwent surgery. This has been a trying time for both families and our prayers are with all of them.

Also, to sadden our hearts were the deaths of three dear souls: Benita Martin (Eureka, IL), mother of Sis. Melita Hodel and Linda Rhoades; Sis. Elizabeth Hodel (Eureka, IL), mother of Marie Goetzinger; and Bro. Henry Grimm (Morton, IL) father of Bro. Bob Grimm.

Bro. Henry is also my own dear grandfather. He lived such an active life in the Lord, always ready to lend a hand or go the "extra mile" for someone. It makes me want to strive harder to be a better person, especially when we heard at his funeral services how he prayed so fervently for his grandchild-

ren and the church before his departure.

IN MEMORY OF MY MOTHER — SIS. OLLIE FELLER

I stood upon the shores of time
And gazed across the sea
And there I had a tiny glimpse
Into Eternity.
I saw the clear and sparkling brooks
With flowers blooming near
And there a kingly lion stood
Beside a fragile deer.

The birds were singing in the trees
And children played nearby
Angels hovered here and there
Beneath the brilliant sky.
I saw the dazzling paths of gold
That ribboned through the trees
Reflecting shimmering leaves of green
There in the quiet breeze.

Ah, there was love and peace and joy
Transcending all I'd known
And thousands gathered there to sing
Around His glorious throne.
My heart stood still as I beheld
The splendor of this place
And as I gazed in muted awe
I saw my mother's face.

Yes, she was there, and she was strong
And beautiful . . . and free
Her cares were gone . . . she smiled
And then, she beckoned there to me
I cried "Dear Lord, I want to go
Across that mighty sea
But it's so wide and tempest tossed
Oh won't you please help me?"

He answered me with tenderness
Dear Child, there's but one way
The Ship of Faith will take you there
But you must watch and pray.
I bought your ticket long ago
Out there on Calvary
My precious blood I shed for you
And died to set you free.

But one thing more you must possess
To enter heaven's gate
And you alone must purchase it
So pray, dear child, don't wait.
A passport you must carry
In your heart and in your hand
All self must be forgotten
As with God you take your stand.

So if you really wish to go
To that fair land some day
Then come confessing all your sins
And from them turn away.

You must repent, the Bible says
And be converted, too.
Then you will live forever
In that home prepared for you.

By Elna E. Grimm

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY Carol Klopfenstein

"Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another." Romans 12:10

Recently we have heard the twelfth chapter of the Apostle Paul's letter to the Romans read and expounded upon several times. When he opened to it again, a ministering brother commented that he was almost reluctant to read it since we've heard it so much. Nevertheless, he felt that it has so much to teach us, that he meditated upon it once again. Just as before, our hearts were stirred anew with appreciation for this beautiful description of godly living. It begins with the exhortation that we present our bodies a living sacrifice and be not conformed to the world, but rather be transformed. We are told that this separation is the key we must use if we are to prove or understand the perfect will of God. Then we are encouraged to use our sanctified living as a means of service to our fellow man and in particular to the church of Christ. Our love is to be pure and without any pretense or hypocrisy. In humility we esteem each other above ourselves and we condescend to men of low estate.

Then as the chapter concludes we are taught to understand the meekness and nonresistance of the mind of Christ. Whatever evil should come our way, whatever injustice or unfair treatment we may receive, we are not to resent it or to retaliate. The human desire for revenge is natural. But as beloved children of God, we who are partakers of the divine nature are called upon to live a life that is supernatural. We are not like those of the world who would seek to demand their rights. The power of Christ enables us to return good for evil, to avenge not ourselves, to love our enemies, to overcome evil with good and to forgive "seventy times seven" asking God as Stephen did, "Lord, lay not this sin to their charge". When we use our spiritual eyes to get a glimpse of heaven and the glory that will soon be ours, we can have no bitterness or ill-will toward

anyone. We are willing to suffer for righteousness' sake and we even rejoice as the apostles did, that we are "counted worthy to suffer shame for His name". (Acts 5:41) "For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds." (Hebrews 12:3)

The precious joy and responsibility of parenthood has again enriched the lives of Bro. Steve and Sis. Donna Ringger with the birth of their second child, Kate Elizabeth. She was born October 11 and has a sister, Rebecca Jo. Kate's grandparents are Bro. Fred and Sis. Mary Ringger and Howard and Loretta Zehr, all of Gridley.

The precious joy and responsibility of marriage has enriched the lives of Bro. Michael Zimmerman (Bro. Roy and Sis. Helen, Gridley, IL) and Sis. Sandra Anliker (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Judy, Forrest, IL) since their wedding September 30.

September 23, Tina Marti (Bro. Allen and Sis. Delores, Gridley, IL) and Don Jackson (Bro. Richard and Sis. Yolanda, Bay City, MI) also united their lives in holy matrimony.

Three souls have found their solace in the Lord Jesus Christ after realizing their lost condition and confessing and forsaking their sins. With peaceful hearts Richard Gramm (Bro. Ed and Sis. Lucille), Cassie Ringger (Bro. Earl and Sis. Dixie) and Amy Witzig (Bro. Jerome and Sis. Mary) are looking forward to the opportunity to give their testimonies of faith and be baptized.

Sis. Ruth Gramm and Jake Ringger have been hospital patients.

We were glad to have Bro. William Funk (Garden Grove, IA) and Bro. Everett Hari (Bloomington, IL) minister to us from the precious Word of Life.

ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY Audrey Martin

"MY HOUSE IS FULL (BUT MY FIELD IS EMPTY)"

There is peace and contentment in the
Father's house today;
Lots of food on His table and no one is
turned away;
There is singing and laughter as the
hours pass by,
But a hush calms the singing as the
Father sadly cries:

"My house is full, but my field is empty:
Who will go and work for me today?
It seems my children all want to stay
around my table,
But no one wants to work in my field,
No one wants to work in my field!"

Push away from the table, look out thro'
the window pane;
Just beyond the house of plenty lies
a field of golden grain;
And it's white unto harvest, but the
reapers, where are they?
In the house, oh, can't the children
hear the Father sadly say:

"My house is full, but my field is empty;
Who will go and work for me today?
It seems my children all want to stay
around my table,
But no one wants to work in my field,
No one wants to work in my field!"

Lanny Wolfe

It is that time of the year when many people take the time to be especially thankful for the many blessings they have enjoyed throughout the year. We truly appreciate all of the love He has shown us, including the many spiritual and material blessings. But have we all been working hard in God's field? There are so many opportunities to help with the harvest, and it is so important that we take the time to go out into the field and bear the heat and stress of the day. It is not that God doesn't want us to enjoy the feast, but only that He wants us to be workers in His field, also.

But where is the field in which we should work? So many would be very willing to work if God would send them on some missionary journey across the seas or to do some other big deed which would make them feel useful and important. But we need to be gleaners. We need to collect the little sheaves along the way. We need to take the opportunities we have to smile at a despondent soul, or visit the lonely widow down the street, or bend a listening ear to a heavy heart. We need to pray. We can't forget nor underestimate this marvelous power we have at our fingertips. Prayer is perhaps the single most important thing we can do to help with God's harvest. Have you sincerely prayed for someone who needed God's help today?

We would like to give a special thanks to the ministers who have visited us and helped with Bible study.

We heard Bro. Don Wagenbach (Washington, IL) speak on James 4 and why we shouldn't speak evil of our brother. Bro. Charles Sauder (Tremont, IL) talked about Psalm 1 and how we are blessed if we do not walk in the counsel of the ungodly but delight in the law of the Lord. Bro. Byron Stoller (Gridley, IL) taught us about the many spiritual gifts which we are given, and Bro. Ron Heiniger talked to us about why we should not bear arms in wartime. We pray that God will bless them for their efforts.

ILLINOIS, MORTON

Phyllis Farney — JoAnn Roecker

We are rejoicing with Sis. Stephanie Zimmerman (Bro. Bruce and Sis. Myrna) and Bro. Greg Hunziker (Bro. Willis and Sis. Gloria, Peoria, IL) as the Lord has drawn them together. May God bless them.

We have had many families who have lost loved ones. May they continue to feel our prayers and may God comfort and bless each family.

Sis. Chris Knobloch (Bro. Robert and Sis. Marvel) and Bro. Andy Aberle (Bro. Ernie and Sis. Frieda) exchanged their wedding vows before God and many witnesses on October 14. May our heavenly Father truly be the head of their home and continue to lead, guide and direct them as they are now "one in Christ Jesus".

Our retired ministering Bro. Henry Grimm was called Home. His funeral was held October 15. May our heavenly Father comfort and bless his wife, Sis. Kathryn, his family and friends. We will certainly miss Bro. Henry's ready smile and his wise, Godly wisdom.

Lola Kaufan was called into Eternity. Her funeral was October 16. May God comfort and bless her husband, Clifford, her family and friends.

We continue to have those who are ill, shut-in or in the hospital. May they continue to feel our prayers.

We wish to thank Bros. Ed Knecht (Silverton, OR), David Kieser (Princeville, IL), Dan Koch (Tremont, IL) and Al Aberle (Tremont, IL) for ministering God's holy Word unto us. May our heavenly Father richly bless them for their labors of love.

Thanksgiving Day will soon be here. May we, as God's children, continue to thank our heavenly Father for the many blessings He has bestowed upon us.

ILLINOIS, PEORIA**Margo Marx — Susi Herman**

The engagement of Bro. Greg Hunziker and Sis. Stephanie Zimmerman was announced. Their parents are Bro. Willis and Sis. Gloria Hunziker and Bro. Bruce and Sis. Myrna Zimmerman. We know that God has led them together, and it is our prayer that He will continue to guide them.

Abby Rose made her arrival on October 1 to bless the home of Bro. Carl and Sis. Debbie Hoerr. Abby's two sisters, Cassy and Kary, and her brother, Ryan, also welcome her home. The grandparents are Bro. Carl and Sis. Evie Hoerr and Bro. Bill and Sis. Joyce Waibel.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Sis. Becky Hoerr, Sis. Barbara Herman, Sis. Rachael Hoerr, Sis. Mary Tanner, Kathryn Knapp, Bro. Walter Witzig and Fred Scherer who have been in the hospital.

We appreciated the visiting ministers this past month. They were Bros. Merle Bucher (LaCrosse, IN) and Gene Leman (Wolcott, IN).

"I would like to express my thanks for the visits, cards and prayers during my recent hospitalization. Your thoughtfulness is much appreciated."

Bro. Bob Plattner

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

**FILL YOUR HEART
WITH THANKSGIVING**

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

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

**ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE
Arlene and Arlys Martin**

It has been said that when you listen to your own prayers, you will find out what you think of God.

Visiting ministers have been Bros. Al Langhofer (Wichita, KS) and Bob Meyer (Bluffton North, IN).

On September 30, Bro. Keith Knobloch and Sis. Lisa Pflederer (Francisville, IN) announced their engagement. Parents are Bro. Nick and Sis. Gladys Knobloch of our congregation and Bro. Bob and Sis. Norma Pflederer (Francisville, IN).

On October 7, Bethany Anne was born to Bro. Daryl and Sis. Julie Wagenbach. Rodney welcomes his sister home.

Our choir had a benefit dinner and musical program on September 22. Many blessings were received. The purpose of the program was to glorify God, and the benefit went to the Peoria Apostolic Christian Home.

John Rumbold had surgery and is recovering at home.

Sympathy is given to the family of Bro. Ezra Rumbold. Their grandson, Clifford Sturm, 25, of Wyoming was killed in an automobile accident on September 30.

Bro. George Wagenbach, 88, passed away October 2 at the Eureka Apostolic Christian Home where he had lived for the past 10 years. We give our sympathy to his family. Surviving are two sons, Bro. Raymond and Bro. Lawrence of our congregation; two daughters, Sis. Bernice (Vernon) Stoller (Princeville, IL) and Sis. Mary Ellen (Nelson) Martin (Eureka, IL); two brothers, Bro. Simon (Tremont, IL) and Bro. Lester (Peoria, IL); 20 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren.

We also express our sympathy to Bro. Fred and Sis. Nancy Menold and

Bro. Dana and Sis. Martha Kay Regier. Sis. Nancy and Bro. Dana's mother, Helen Regier (Princeville, IL), 60, passed away October 5.

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE**Joyce Hodel — Carol Rumbold**

We extend our sympathy to the family of Sis. Rose Funk, who passed away September 26 at the age of 94. We know her children are thankful for having a good mother for so many years. They are Bro. Jim (Tucson, AZ), Sis. Sarah Diggie (Roanoke, IL) and Sis. Edith Freed (Phoenix, AZ).

October 6 was the wedding day of Jeff and Eva Fehr, and we wish them a happy union. Their parents are Bro. Ben and Sis. Helen Fehr and the William Wards, both of Roanoke.

Two families have been blessed with healthy babies, and they are thankful. Bro. Tim and Sis. Linda Martin welcomed Emily Esther on October 9. Emily's sister is Abby, and her grandparents are Bro. Jim and Sis. Helen Martin (Eureka, IL) and Bro. Mel and Sis. Carolee Unsicker (Peoria, IL). Jeremy John Hodel arrived on October 12 (his brother Jeff's birthday) to join the family of Bro. Kenny and Sis. Kathy and children Jeff, Jill, Jason and Jamie. Grandparents are Bro. Glenn and Sis. Margaret Hodel and Bro. Ira and Sis. Doris Farney, all of our congregation.

Thank you, Bro. Ed Aeschleman and family, for your visit. You are always welcome in Roanoke.

Bro. Happy Hodel and Sis. Helen Zimmerman are still hospital patients. They are thankful for the prayers offered for them.

**ILLINOIS, TREMONT
Dorothy Wagenbach
Carolyn Bolliger**

Now that the harvest season is rapidly drawing to a close, we will soon be thinking of the Thanksgiving holiday. May we ever have a "thankful" attitude every day of our life and not just once a year.

Ron and Tammy Wagenbach are the parents of a precious little bundle named Lisa Marie, born September 24. She has brothers, Paul and Gary, and a sister, Holly, to help take care of her. Grandparents are Bro. Simon and Sis. Louise Wagenbach and Bro. Wally Blunier (Roanoke, IL) and Olene McCord (Morton, IL).

We extend our sympathy to Bro.

Simon Wagenbach and family in the loss of his brother, Bro. George Wagenbach (Princeville, IL).

Also our sympathy goes out to Halo Koch (Bro. Cleo) and family in the loss of her mother, Mary Moushon (East Peoria, IL).

We offer a word of sympathy to Sis. Joann Sauder (Bro. Dale) as her father, Bro. Joe Schmidgall (Elgin, IL) passed away.

Kurth Koch (Sarasota, FL) formerly of Peoria, passed away. He was a brother-in-law of Bro. Merle and Sis. Iva Getz and Sisters Edna and Barbara Getz. May God comfort the hearts of our dear ones in their time of sorrow.

Sis. Royaldean Hodel (Bro. Bob) had the misfortune of falling and breaking her hand. We wish her a speedy recovery.

Our Sunday school hosted the Bible classes of Forrest and Princeville. Bro. Gary Maibach (Rittman, OH) was guest minister. We thank him for giving us the "Word of Life" and also for speaking to our youth.

The engagement of Bro. David Dill and Sis. Ann Huette was made known. Parents of the couple are Bro. Bill and Sis. Marilyn Huette and Bro. Glenn and Sis. Marilyn Dill. We wish them God's blessings.

We extend a word of welcome to Russell and Terrie Ehnle, as they assemble with us. They are from the Bradford area.

"We sincerely thank everyone for the cards, gifts, prayers and acts of kindness during the recovery from our accident. May God bless you all."

In Love,
The Maurice Schaefer Family

ILLINOIS, URBANA Cheryl Mangers

We welcome Jim and Ginger Moser, Jason and Carl into our fellowship as they have moved into our area from Taylor, MO.

Jerry and Lois Vogel were "surprised" for their 25th wedding anniversary. May God continue to bless their life together.

The weekend of October 13 was filled with tradition for us here in Champaign-Urbana. Friday and Saturday were the days for our 3rd annual garage and bake sale to raise money for our building fund. Sunday was our 5th annual Sunday school weiner roast and hay rack ride. With rain all day Saturday and 70% chance predicted on Sun-

day, we felt richly blessed in that we had a beautiful day to witness the beauty of God's creation in the fall colors at Homer Lake Forrest Preserve. We thought of Bro. Frank Sauder and Sis. Margie Heintz in Japan. This was always a special time for them when they were in our fellowship as it is for children, parents and teachers.

Visiting ministers this past month have included Bro. Ed Alt (Cissna Park, IL), Bro. Bob Meyer (Bluffton North, IN), Bro. Marshall Heindold (Washington, IL), Bro. Bob Pfloderer (Morton, IL), Bro. Marvin Leman (Bradford, IL) and Bro. John Hartman (Fairbury, IL). May God richly bless their labors of love.

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

Lily Pfaffmann — Sally Plattner

"The time flies on and death draws nigh . . ." There is a time for each of us when the Lord says our life is over and He sends His death angel. None of us know just when this is; are we ready at any time? ". . . Prepare us now to live with Thee, forever in eternity." (Zion's Harp #188) A soul, Benita Martin, was taken from our midst recently. She attended our church with her husband, Melvin.

Sis. Valerie Kipfer (Bro. Lynn) is in the hospital following an accident. She is recovering from a badly broken arm. When the traction is taken off, she'll be able to go home again. How thankful we are that when it's completely healed, she'll have normal function of it once more.

We are so grateful to have so many willing servants of our heavenly Father to proclaim the inspired Word from the pulpit. This month we had several visitors: Elder Bros. Roy Sauder (Peoria, IL), Don Sauder (Roanoke, IL) and Dan Koch (Tremont, IL) and ministering Bros. Hartzel Kaisner (Detroit, MI), Ed Knecht (Silverton, OR), Roy Wernli (Gridley, KS) and Vernon Schwab (Wolcott, IN). May He bless them for lending themselves.

Elder Bro. Roy Sauder has been the shepherd of our church in Washington since its beginning. We have so appreciated his love and guidance through the years. With the permission of the elder body, he has now given the duty and responsibility of this leadership to Elder Bro. Don Sauder. We will miss Bro. Roy, but pray that God will richly bless him for all he has given on our behalf.

May Bro. Don ever feel our love and prayerful support as he carries on.

As you pray, thanking the Lord for His blessings and trying to enumerate them as you do, how many do you come up with? It seems so often we just take so much that He has given us for granted. We poor mortals have such a tendency to feel sorry for ourselves in one way or another when life doesn't treat us as we think it should. How it must grieve Him when He gave His all for us, and then so many spiritual and material blessings besides.

A ministering brother once told us that we should take time to kneel at our bedside and pray, asking nothing of Him, only thanking and praising Him for all the blessings He has bestowed on us. How that would please our Father's heart and improve our relationship with Him. Just think how much happier we would be if we walked through life counting our blessings and praising Him for being so gracious to us! The rugged path wouldn't seem so steep and the darkness would hold no fear for our trust and confidence would be in Him, who has carried us safe thus far and blessed us so abundantly. "Count your many blessing, every doubt will fly. And you will be singing as the days go by." Hymns of Zion #116. Let's strive to keep Thanksgiving in our hearts every day.

We are rejoicing as prayers have been answered. Troy Koehl (Bro. Chris and Sis. Ida Lu) has found grace for repentance and has begun his life anew in Christ Jesus. May the peace of God fill his heart and give him joy in serving Christ.

Just a kindly reminder to those who did not pay their Silver Lining dues in October: Please see your correspondents and they will take care of sending them in for you.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON NORTH Virginia Rauch — Cindy Geisel

Thanksgiving is upon us once again and most of us will be sitting down to a table laden with more food than we can eat. Let us ever be appreciative and thankful for all our spiritual and material blessings and at the same time not fail to remember those in lands of starvation and behind the iron curtain, especially the Christians, who would be thrilled to have a meal of uneaten food left on our plates or our Thanksgiving leftovers, often thrown away.

God has blessed our congregation

with three little bundles from heaven. On September 17, Luke Aaron was born to Bro. Dale and Sis. Beth Aeschliman. Brothers Benjamin and Joseph welcome him home as do grandparents, Bro. Walt and Sis. Jean Aeschliman. On September 22, a daughter, Alicia Marie, was born to Bro. Joe and Sis. Jan Schwartz. Brad and Heather are pleased to have her as their sister. Happy grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Mildred Neuenschwander. First-time happy parents are Bro. Kelly and Sis. Lisa Aschliman. A son, Lance Kelly, came to live with them on October 13. Proud grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Ida Aschliman and Bro. Charles and Sis. Sally Shively.

Each for the other and both for the Lord, was the commitment made October 7 by Bro. Dean Gerber (Bro. Harry and Sis. Lois) and Sis. Jaci Ringger (Bro. Dave and Sis. Maxine, Bluffton, IN) as they were united in marriage. We wish them God's blessings.

We are happy that two more dear souls found grace to repent and to live for Jesus. They are Rod Bucher (Bro. Nile and Sis. Phyl) and Joy Baumgartner (Bro. Howard and Sis. Joyce). Let us continue to remember our new converts in prayer.

A September 28 picnic was enjoyed by choir members and their families from both Bluffton churches. An evening of fellowship and singing was enjoyed by all.

Sis. Gladys Fiechter and Bro. Joseph Meyer were hospitalized this past month. We pray for them a speedy recovery.

We're always glad to have visiting ministers in our midst, as we were very privileged to have with us Bro. Karl Westfall (Francesville, IN), Bro. Merle Bucher (LaCrosse, IN) and their wives.

This is the final reminder that all Silver Lining dues are to be turned in to Sis. Cindy Geisel or Sis. Virginia Rauch by the end of November. Thank you for your cooperation.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON

Etta Steffen

Sue Neuenschwander

Our hospital patients have been Jennifer Steffen (Bro. Craig and Sis. Jean), Tanya Frauigher (Bro. Chris and Sis. Ann), Sue Ellen Gerber (Bro. Lee and Sis. Jennie), Sis. Imogene (Bro. Barry) Isch and Sis. Alice (Bro. Everett) Gei-

sel. We pray that these loved ones will have a speedy recovery and join us again in our congregation real soon.

October 7 was the wedding day of Sis. Jaci Ringger (Bro. Dave and Sis. Maxine) and Bro. Dean Gerber (Bro. Harry and Sis. Lois, Bluffton North, IN).

The wedding of Sis. Janean Isch (Bro. Ken and Sis. Carolyn) and Bro. Hal Kipfer (Bro. Ken and Sis. Judy) was performed on October 14. "Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing and obtained favor of the Lord." Proverbs 18:22.

Our visiting ministers this month were Bro. Pete Baltic (Mansfield, OH), Bro. Fred Domka (Mansfield, OH) and Bro. Vernon Wettstein (Congerville, IL). We wish to thank them for their labor of love.

Precious little bundles add so much joy to a home. We would like to share the happy news with you. First-time parents are Bro. Duane and Sis. Karen Steffen. They have named their daughter, Jessica Marie. Grandparents are Bro. Dwight and Sis. Lucille Gerber and Bob and Betty Steffen.

Also first-time parents are Bro. Jeff and Sis. Val Leman. Joseph David has been welcomed into their home. Grandparents are Bro. George and Sis. Evelyn Ringger and Wallace and Sis. Marilyn Leman (Bluffton North, IN).

A daughter, Beverly Mae, was born to Stan and Delilah Biberstein. Grandparents are Bro. Roy and Sis. Ida Aschliman.

Bro. Jim and Sis. Jenny Fiechter are happy parents of a son, James Michael. Grandparents are Bro. Les and Sis. Rosemary Gerber and Bro. Carl and Sis. Mary Fiechter.

Bro. Dennis and Sis. Becky Caffee are parents of their third son, Brian Robert. Grandparents are Bro. Godfrey and Sis. Anita Bertsch.

A son was welcomed by Bro. Larry and Sis. Sharon Stoller, first-time parents. He has been named Adam Ray. Grandparents are Bro. Ramon and Sis. Flossie Stoller and Richard and Phyllis Green.

Reminder: November is collection month for all those who wish to continue to receive the Silver Lining. The fee is \$7.00 and will be collected Sunday noon or is to be mailed to your reporters.

As Thanksgiving is upon us, let us always be thankful.

The pilgrims marked the Plymouth Rock

Where they had knelt to pray.
And still it stands memorial of
That first Thanksgiving Day.

INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE

Jacki Huber

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

At Thanksgiving time it seems natural to thank God for the bounty, the food, clothing, shelter (which none of us lack), our churches, family and friends. Surely God is pleased when we thank Him for these, but "in everything" must mean to thank Him for sickness, sorrow, the neighbor that's less than friendly and our inner struggles, because if we let Him, God can teach us as much or more through our trials than through days when all goes well.

On a recent Saturday evening, Elder Bro. Phil Stettner (Bluffton North, IN) aided Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman in serving Holy Communion. It was a wonderful and inspirational evening. Bro. Phil was also with us for Sunday and we extend heartfelt thanks to him for coming.

We also wish to thank Bro. Ken Schneider (Remington, IN) for ministering to us on a recent Wednesday evening.

It is with joy that we relate the forthcoming wedding of our dear Sis. Lisa Pfloderer (Bro. Bob and Sis. Norma) to Bro. Keith Knobloch (Bro. Nick and Sis. Gladys, Princeville, IL).

The engagement was also announced of Alexis Gutwein (Bro. Edison and Sis. Chrisann) to John P. Nold. We wish these couples God's abundant love in their lives together.

Our prayers are with Bro. Al and Sis. Pearl Getz, as Bro. Al has been hospitalized this month.

A TRIBUTE TO GRANDPA

(The late Bro. Henry Grimm
of Morton, IL)

As I think about dear Grandpa
Resting from His earthly care,
I can't help but think of heaven
And rejoice that he is there.

Here on earth he walked so humbly
 Serving God each day anew
 Ever thinking more of others
 In the tasks he chose to do.

Jesus said if we want greatness
 We should minister each day,
 Grandpa's life was spent in serving
 As he walked the narrow way.

I can see him smiling kindly
 Always there to lend a hand
 Helping all who needed comfort
 With a heart to understand.

It's with joy I think of Grandpa,
 Shining as the stars above
 Waiting for us all to join him
 Filled with peace and joy and love.

If he had some words to tell us,
 One more message to impart,
 He would ask us to be certain
 We have peace within our hearts.

He would beg us to be ready
 To meet him there on high
 At that joyous, grand reunion
 With our Saviour in the sky.

By Jacki Huber

INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS

Judy Dubach — Lynn Winslow

A farmer plows his field, sows the seed and fertilizes and cultivates, all the while knowing that in the end, he is utterly dependent on forces outside of himself. He knows he cannot cause the seed to germinate, nor can he produce the rain and sunshine for growing and harvesting the crop. For a successful harvest, he is dependent on these things from God.

Yet the farmer knows that unless he diligently pursues his responsibilities to plow, plant, fertilize and cultivate, he cannot expect a harvest at the end of the season. In a sense, he is in a partnership with God, and he will reap its benefits only when he has fulfilled his own responsibilities.

Farming is a joint venture between God and the farmer. The farmer cannot do what God must do, and God will not do what the farmer should do. We can say just as accurately that the pursuit of holiness is a joint venture between God and the Christian. No one can attain any degree of holiness (which means morally blameless or separated from sin) without God working in his life, but just as surely no one will attain it without effort on his part. God has

made it possible for us to walk in holiness. But He has given to us the responsibility of doing the walking; He does not do that for us.

"Pursue holiness for without holiness no one will see God." The word pursue suggests two thoughts. First, that diligence and effort are required; second, that it is a lifelong task. While seeking to set forth clearly and accurately God's provision for our holiness, our responsibility is stressed, feeling that this is an emphasis sorely needed among Christians today. We need to remember that holiness is a process, something we never completely attain in this life. Rather, as we begin to conform to the will of God in one area of life, He reveals to us our need in another area. This is why we will always be pursuing, as opposed to attaining, holiness in this life.

From Pursuit of Holiness

On October 27, the church plans to hear the memorandum and hopefully select a brother to serve as a deacon as announced by Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler. He also encouraged the church to be prayerful of the Lord's will in our selection of a new minister, then to be thoughtful of the responsibilities as outlined in I and II Timothy. We thank Bro. Alfred for spending time to talk with the members as well as sharing God's Word. Bro. Jack Bollier and his wife, Sis. Velma, spent a few days with their families and also shared God's Word with us. Sis. Marie Schieler (Bro. Harold, Remington, IN) was recently hospitalized at St. Vincent, but is now home again with her family.

INDIANA, LACROSSE

Connie Knobloch

FAITH OF OUR FATHERS

Faith of our fathers living still in spite
 of dungeon, fire and sword,
 O how our hearts beat high with joy
 whene'er we hear the glorious word!
 Faith of our fathers holy faith! We will
 be true to thee till death!

Our fathers, chained in prisons dark,
 Were still in heart and conscience
 free:
 How sweet would be their children's
 fate, if they, like them, could die for
 thee!
 Faith of our fathers holy faith! We will
 be true to thee till death!

Faith of our fathers! We will love both
 friend and foe in all our strife:
 And preach thee, too, as love knows
 how, by kindly words and virtuous
 life.

Faith of our fathers holy faith! We will
 be true to thee till death!

Hymns of Zion # 85

How thankful we are that God has preserved this precious faith of our fathers so all who seek can come and find His priceless gift of salvation.

Our dear friend, Dawn Ailes, has professed peace with God and man, and is waiting for the day when she can give her testimony. We are thankful for Dawn and want to encourage her as she continues down the path of righteousness.

Bro. Tom and Sis. Lu Ann Troxel are the thankful parents of Rudy James, born on September 24. His happy grandparents are Bro. Phil and Sis. Mary Troxel and Bro. Lynn and Sis. Mary Ann Feller. They are all enjoying this bundle of joy God has given them. We wish them God's blessings.

Bro. Harold and Sis. Margaret Heindold are the happy grandparents of Brendan Cale born to Ann and Dan Hanson (Bozeman, MT). We wish this little family many blessings.

We are thankful Sis. Lizzie Pflederer, is able to assemble with us again, after spending time in the hospital.

We are thankful for the following brothers who were willing to lend themselves in the Lord's service so our souls could be nourished and strengthened: Bros. Dennis Warner and Gene Metzger (Lester, IA), Bro. Hartzell Kaisner (Detroit, MI) and Bro. Kenneth Weertz (Cissna Park, IL).

INDIANA, LEO

Thelma Schlatter

The changing color of the fall landscape made us think the Master Painter had excelled every previous year in beauty, but that's because we forget so soon. We forget that last year, and others before, were just as beautiful.

"I find, as I'm sure you do, that we also forget, so quickly, the faithfulness and blessings of God in the past. It is so easy, in times of trial, to become discouraged. The immediate circumstances so easily cloud our minds, and we forget. We need that, 'Hitherto hath the Lord helped us.' We are no

different from the children of Israel, and in our pilgrimage, we find God needing to also remind us of His greatness.

It's so good to dwell on the faithfulness of God and, as the songwriter wrote, 'Count your blessings, name them one by one.' In the naming of them, our spirits are lifted, and our faith strengthened."

(exerpts from a letter by M. Melvin Wyma)

The Word of God clearly instructs us to be thankful for God's blessing and provision daily: Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Ephesians 5:20.

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

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

Recently hospitalized were Sis. Janice Pfister and Bro. Dean Allen Stoller. The Great Physician knows, cares and is able to help as loved ones go through times of illness.

Following a term of service in Japan, Sis. Judy Luginbuhl has returned to give of her time and talent at the Children's Home. We welcome her back.

Thought for the Day: "When God seems far away, guess who moved."

INDIANA, MILFORD

Gwen Steffen — Shelby Beer

Bro. Art Ringger (Indianapolis, IN) recently spent a Sunday with us. We thank him for his service of love in bringing to us the gospel of salvation.

Sis. Rose Rapp had to spend some time in the hospital and recuperating at home. We are thankful to God for His healing powers as Sis. Rose has been permitted to assemble with us again.

Mike Sumpter (Jim and Sis. Irene) and Loretta Miller (Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Miller) are planning a November 3 wedding. May God bless this couple as they take this important step in life.

The Psalmist David says, "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and FORGET NOT ALL HIS BENEFITS." Psalm 103:1, 2.

David realizes how easy it is to forget the marvelous things the Lord has done for us in days gone by. So he

exhorts himself to not forget "all His benefits".

David lists the "benefits" that God gives that we should not forget. "Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases. Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with loving-kindness and tender mercies; who satisfieth thy mouth with good things so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's." Psalm 103:3-5.

How long has it been since we've spent an hour or two thanking the Lord for all these "benefits"? When we feel like complaining or doubting, may we always have this song upon our lips:

"Thank you, Lord, for saving my soul; Thank you, Lord, for making me whole. Thank you, Lord, for giving to me Thy great salvation so rich and free."

INDIANA, REMINGTON

Beth Virkler — Annette Bahler

"And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works... exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching." Hebrews 10:24, 25. We are grateful for the upliftment of visiting ministers. Our thanks go to Bros. Joe Stoller (Princeville, IL) and Carl Wyss (Washington, IL). Bro. Joe also shared, along with Sis. Emily, Sis. Alta and Sis. Mary Kilgus, their slides from the Holy Land. We thank them for their efforts, which brought forth many blessings.

"In Thee, oh Lord, do I put my trust... for Thou art my hope Oh Lord God: Thou art my trust from my youth." (Psalm 71:1, 5). Our friend, Calvin Schnieder (Bro. Ken and Sis. Loretta), thankfully shared with us the peace he's found with God, and man. We look forward to supporting him in baptism, Lord willing.

Bro. George Waibel has passed away. He was 83 years old and was a resident at Parkview Haven Home the last three years. His wife, Anna (Gruber) preceeded him in death. When we see a brother struggling in health, the final ties to this life seem to fade, and we're thankful for the wings of faith that take a faithful brother home.

Bro. Harold Schieler was hospitalized, along with his wife, Sis. Marie. Our prayers go with these dear souls that God be near them through their recovery. Bro. Harold is temporarily in the Parkview Haven Home. He can be reached at the number, 219-567-2658.

The Scheiler family wishes to thank everyone for the support in prayers, cards and food, so generously given over this long period of illness.

"The main guilt of a man are not his sins. Temptation is powerful and his strength is weak. The main guilt of a man is that he can turn any moment to God and neglects to do that."

Boenam

INDIANA, SOUTH BEND Pauline Laidig

WHERE THE GATES SWING OUTWARD NEVER

Just a few more days to be filled with praise,
And to tell the old, old story.
Then when twilight falls, and my Savior calls,
I shall go to Him in glory.

Hymns of Zion #173

A group of us spent a Sunday evening with Bro. Ernest and Sis. Marie Germann, and sang this song in memory of Sis. Matilda (Schuch) Aldrich, as it was a favorite of hers. Tillie, who passed away recently in Tucson, was accompanied back "home" by her daughter, Arlene, and sons, Billie, Donald and Devon. Her funeral services were conducted here, and she was laid to rest near other members of her family in the Bremen cemetery. She was a sister of Bro. John Schuch of our congregation. May the Lord comfort those who will miss her. We always enjoyed having Tillie in our midst when she would come for occasional visits.

It was a pleasure to have Bro. Jesse Beer (Milford, IN) fill the pulpit one Sunday afternoon in the absence of our ministers. As always, we were blessed with a spirit-filled message and food for our souls.

We indeed should be thankful, in this season of the year, for the bountiful harvest our country, as a whole, has been blessed with. May we not forget to share with the less fortunate ones. We're certainly thankful for the freedoms our government provides for us, and pray we may continue to have them. Most of all, no matter what may happen, we should be thankful that the Lord has promised never to leave us nor forsake us. It's up to us to stay in touch with Him.

INDIANA, VALPARAISO**Jill Hitz — Patty Bucher**

Generations ago, people used the term gentleness to mean tame, as in a tame horse. For the Christian, too, gentleness reflects a taming through God's Holy Spirit. A gentle person can be mild towards others in difficult circumstances — considerate when others are inconsiderate, tender when others are rough, and quiet and kind when others are loud and course.

For Jesus Christ, gentleness was a life experience. In every situation, kindness was His spiritual reflex. Even while on the cross, He recognized His mother's need for care and safety. (John 19:26, 27). In completing God's purpose — a shameful death for our salvation — Christ displayed His gentle spirit.

As decisively as our Savior chose gentleness, let us follow His example by using gentleness in conflict, gentleness in conversation and gentleness in conduct.

Gentle words are tasteful, appropriate and edifying. They reflect a heart filled with God's presence. To choose gentleness shows how profoundly Christ has defined His will in our lives.

We at Valparaiso have been so blessed recently. We have had Bro. John Isch (Indianapolis, IN) minister to us God's good and faithful Word. Our Elder Bro. Dale has been with us ministering on Sunday and also on Wednesday night to share a Bible study with us on the gifts of the Holy Spirit. May the Lord bless you and your families as you have traveled to be with us at Valpo.

We recently enjoyed our annual harvest supper. It is such an opportunity for fellowship with our brothers and sisters. It is a special treat for all the ladies as the men assume all the kitchen responsibilities.

We praise the Lord as our church is continuing to grow. May we all set our eyes upon Jesus Christ at all times and in all situations.

**INDIANA, WEST LAFAYETTE
PURDUE UNIVERSITY****Jody Getz**

On October 4 we were blessed with a message by Bro. Todd Feller (La-Crosse, IN) at our bi-weekly services. He spoke on Matthew 19, explaining how Christianity is the highest school, and we need to have a goal in our spiritual walk of life. Bro. Gene Leh-

man (Wolcott, IN) closed the services with the reminder that we all need to "be faithful where we are". We thank the Lord for giving us such caring Christian brothers.

INDIANA, WOLCOTT**Elaine Bahler — Lorene Furrer**

Thanksgiving Day, according to Webster, is "a day appointed for giving thanks for divine goodness". This is all well and good; however, shouldn't every day be considered "Thanksgiving Day" for the believer?

While on the subject of giving thanks, we wish to extend our thanks to Bro. John Hartman (Fairbury, IL) for sharing the Word with us. May the Lord richly bless him for his efforts.

Our sympathy is extended to Bro. Leon and Sis. Reva Waibel and their family in the passing of Bro. Leon's father, Bro. George Waibel (Remington, IN). May they be comforted by the promises of God.

Our thoughts and prayers have been with Leroy and Frances Farney who were involved in a car-truck accident. May the Lord be near them and heal their injuries.

IOWA, AMES-DES MOINES**Janice Webber**

It was wonderful to begin our services for the 1984-85 school year with so much loving support from all sides. Close to a dozen students were present, along with many families and friends. Special gratitude is due Bros. Jon Schmidgall (Oakville, IA) and Bill Funk (Garden Grove, IA) for their ministry of the Word.

We probably achieved a record attendance, with about 80 persons present. More importantly, we cherish the chance to show our love to the brothers, sisters and friends who form this wonderful nucleus for our monthly services. May God richly bless all who support and encourage our outreach efforts.

Our October services were blessed by the ministry of Bros. Glen Funk (Garden Grove, IA) and Duane Metzger and Clifford Grimm (West Bend, IA).

Just about every congregation in Iowa was represented, as well as one or two from out of state. We rejoice at the support given to brethren and friends working and studying in our area. Remember us and all our smaller assemblies in your prayers. It will be cher-

ished as we try to grow in the spirit of Christian fellowship.

Best wishes to Bro. Phil and Sis. Sandra Hamilton as they move their small family back to Oklahoma. We shall miss their loyal efforts, and pray that the Lord will continue to shower His blessings on them.

We extend a cordial welcome to all who wish to worship in the Ames/Des Moines area. Our new location is the basement/community room of the Midland Financial Savings and Loan Building, 550 Main Street, in Ames. Services are held the second Sunday of the month, during the school year, except for those months when the semester calendar makes a change necessary. The dates and supporting congregations for the rest of this year are: West Bend, IA - December 9, 1984, Oakville, IA - January 20, 1985, Garden Grove, IA - February 10, 1985, Lester, IA - March 3, 1985, West Bend, IA - April 14, 1985 and Oakville, IA - May 5, 1985.

Coming from either direction on I-35, exit at 13th Street (Ames), and go west to Grand. Go south on Grand to 9th; at 9th, go east to Walnut; at Walnut, south to Main. The bank is on Main between Walnut and Grand. (Using these directions will avoid problems with one-way and non-thru streets.)

Song service begins at 1:00, worship at 1:30. We hope to make every possible effort to provide Sunday School. Services will be followed by light refreshments.

IOWA, BURLINGTON**Dixie Messner — Edith Massner**

With the Thanksgiving season upon us, we want to remember to be thankful for all things; but more importantly, we want to be thankful each and every day of our lives.

We offer our sincerest sympathy to Cora Ater and her family in the loss of her father, Bro. Alvin Rechkemmer.

Bro. Uriel Gehring (Leo, IN) and Elder Bro. Ed Lanz (Oakville, IA) were with us this past month. We thank them for remembering us once again, and hope they will come again soon.

**IOWA, ELGIN
Gloria Frieden**

Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,

Who wondrous things has done, In
whom the world rejoices,
Who from our mothers arms has blest
us on our way
With countless gifts of love, and still
is ours today.

Zion's Harp #236

May God grant us truly thankful hearts for all our blessings. No matter how many trials and tests we face each day, our hearts will be lifted when we just take a little time to really count our blessings.

Once again the autumn is leaving us as the leaves are rapidly falling to the ground and we are reminded of another of God's handiworks, snow! Although it isn't my favorite season of the year, I must admit when the hills and valleys are covered with fresh pure white snow, it is indeed beautiful.

Hospital patients since our last writing have been Sis. Esther Braker (surgical), George Schupbach (surgical) and Jeramiah Moore (Gene and Sis. Julie) (medical).

Our thanks to Bro. Dave and Sis. Ruth Kieser (Princeville, IN) for spending a Sunday with us. A special thanks to Bro. Dave for serving us with God's Word, the bread of life.

IOWA, GARDEN GROVE Eileen Funk

Sis. Willa Clark (Don) was hospitalized for surgery. May God give her a speedy recovery.

We had a delicious dinner and a wonderful evening of fellowship as we held our monthly potluck at ministering Bro. Glen and Sis. Sally Funk's house. Our potluck is usually held at church, however, we had a small group since a number of our congregation went to Gridley, IL for Ann Baily (Bro. Sam and Sis. Louise Witzig) and Scott Rhoton's wedding.

Loaded with benefits daily,
Sent from the Father above;
Mercies and blessings abounding,
Gifts of His marvelous love.

Daily the Lord is my Keeper,
Daily He's taking my part,
Daily for me interceding,
Bearing my cause on His heart.

Strength for the day He supplieth,
Daily He meets every need;
Bears every burden arising,
He is a Shepherd indeed.

Worthy is He of our worship,
Worthy is He of our praise,
Magnify Him with thanksgiving,
Gladly our voices we raise.

Selected

IOWA, IOWA CITY Connie Gerst

"November... the month of Thanksgiving. What a wonderful opportunity this time of year gives us to count our blessings. Of course, I'm sure not everything has been exactly as we would have wished this past year. Life isn't like that. But if we take the time to sit down and ponder a bit, I'm sure we can all find something to be thankful for. Perhaps we need to examine our lives to get our priorities in the right order. First, and most importantly, we have a God in heaven who cares about us, a Saviour who died for us and a Holy Spirit to guide and comfort us each day if we avail ourselves of the precious promise of salvation. Then we move on to health, food, shelter and clothes to wear. When we stop to think about what is really necessary, that about takes care of our needs. Anything more is just the love of God showered on us from above in extra portions. If perhaps some are struggling under one kind of a burden or another, remember to cling to the promise that God will take care of you "one day at a time".

This past month we held our annual meeting to fill necessary positions in our little church. We wish grace and guidance to those who assumed new duties for this next year. They are: Bro. Brian Moser, trustee and substitute Sunday school teacher; Sisters Bonita Frank, calendar scheduling and substitute Sunday school teacher; Beverly Mogler, Sunday school teacher; Joyce Eland, women's committee; and Denise Duckworth, Silver Lining reporter.

Visiting ministers this past month have been Bros. Jon Schmidgall and John Steiner (Oakville, IL), Dale Moore and our Elder Bro. Paul Butikoffer (Elgin, IA) and James Plattner (Princeville, IL). May God bless them for taking the time to be with us.

IOWA, LESTER Alice Metzger

The beautiful fall season gives us many things to be thankful for. As I write this, we have been experiencing very wet conditions which are slowing the harvest. However there is a beautiful harvest out there and God has

always provided a way to gather it in. As we wait on the Lord and seek to do His will, we are blest. We pray for thankful hearts in this Thanksgiving season.

We are thankful for five new babies who have been added to our church family in the past month. Traci Sue was born on September 24 to Bro. Roger and Sis. Janet Knoblock. She has four brothers and three sisters and her grandparents are Bro. Martin and Sis. Zelma Knoblock and Bro. Walter and Sis. Esther Banwart (West Bend, IA). On September 26, Jesse Dean was born to Dennis and Diane Leuthold. His grandparents are Bro. Alvin and Sis. Estelle Leuthold and Mr. and Mrs. Earl Schlotman. On October 2, Bro. Ray and Kathy Metzger became the parents of Tyson James. His grandparents are Bro. Elmer and Sis. Marianne Metzger and Mr. and Mrs. Rex Leubecker. He has one sister and two brothers. First-time parents are Bro. Rodney and Sis. Lois Mogler. Mark Alan was born October 7. His grandparents are Bro. Silas and Sis. Edith Knobloch and first-time grandparents, Bro. Howard and Sis. Lollie Mogler. On October 17, Tanya Beth was born to Bro. Arnie and Sis. Myra Wulf. She has a sister to welcome her home and her grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Leona Wulf and Elder Bro. Leo and Sis. Leona Moser.

In His great love, God has brought two souls together. Engaged are Sis. Nancy Knobloch (Sis. Iola) and Bro. Leon Baumgartner, both of Phoenix, AZ.

Hospitalized for surgery were Sis. June Knobloch, Sis. Betty Jean Leuthold and Bro. Dave Teubel. We pray for God's healing touch.

IOWA, OAKVILLE Debbie Wagenbach

The weekend of September 22 and 23, our singles group enjoyed traveling and assembling in Winthrop, MN. It was a wonderful weekend of fellowship!

We appreciate the presence of ministering Bro. David Wiegand (Urbana, IL) recently.

On October 10 we laid to rest our dear brother-in-faith, Alvin Rechkemmer. As we recently heard in a sermon, it is certainly a victory when a true believer can go to meet their Lord. Bro. Alvin had many bodily afflictions which can no longer trouble him, yet we

know there is sorrow to his loved ones that remain. We extend our sympathy to his daughter, Cora Ater and his sons, James, Kenneth, Melvin, Russell, Carl and Elwood. We pray that God will comfort them in their loss.

The weekend of October 13 and 14 was certainly a joyful weekend in Oakville. We welcome two new sisters into the precious fold of Jesus. Sis. Stefanie Marti (Bro. Ervin and Sis. Teresa) and Sis. Melody Steiner (Bro. John and Sis. Carol) gave their testimonies of faith and were baptized. "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the spirit. For the law of the spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death." Romans 8:1, 2. We wish to thank Elder Bro. Sam Huber (Sabetha, KS) and Bros. Simon Wagenbach (Tremont, IL), Vernon Wettstein (Congerville, IL) and Paul Eisenmann (Burlington, IA) for being with us for the weekend.

IOWA, PULASKI
Mary Jane Knapp
DeAnn Wuthrich

With Thanksgiving upon us, let us "count our many blessings and name them one by one". So many times we get so caught up in our busy daily lives and forget to thank God for all He has blessed us with. Don't forget to thank Him, not only at Thanksgiving time, but every day of the year.

What a blessed weekend it was September 29-30, when we were able to hear the testimony of Matt Musselman on Saturday night and witness his baptism on Sunday. We also want to especially thank Bro. Leo Moser (Lester, IA), Bro. Edward Lanz (Oakville, IA) and Bro. Dale Strassheim (Milford, IN) for being here on that weekend and helping carry out the necessary duties.

We were glad to have Dan Metzger (Bro. Roy and Sis. Evelyn) home for a visit from the service. We trust and pray that the Lord may watch over him each and every day. His address is as follows:

Dan Metzger
AT Company 6 - 31st
Ft. Irwin, CA 92310

Hospitalized patients this past month have been Bro. Kenny Wuthrich and Sue Ann Schaer. They are both home now and doing better.

IOWA, WEST BEND

Elma Mogler — Polly Zaugg

We thank the Lord for sending Bro. Norbert and Sis. Doris Steiner (Crogan, NY) into our midst to bring us God's Word. Although we are many miles apart, we appreciate the same love and faith.

Bro. Noah Anliker and his family were saddened by the sudden death of his son, Paul, 48. Our sympathy goes out to his family. "Faith is a wonderful key to every situation where we come to God in prayer." (Streams in the Desert). Our sincere prayers have been with 13-year-old Darren Fehr and his parents, Bro. Dennis and Sis. Judy and family. Darren was seriously injured in a farm accident, losing his leg. May we all use this key of faith and prayer to strengthen us in times of special need. Sis. Ida Fehr has returned home after a lengthy hospital stay. Bro. George Bruellman is home, too, after having a heart attack while in the hospital for surgery. Reuben Anliker, Verdell Fehr and Sis. Anna Schmidt were hospital patients. Sis. Emilie Bruellman is hospitalized at this time after having surgery. Jimmy Wirtz, son of Mr. and Mrs. Eli Wirtz (Des Moines, IA), grandson of Bro. Fred and Sis. Hulda Wirtz, is hospitalized and seriously ill after a life-long battle of M.D. Many times over the years Jimmy attended our Sunday school. Our love and prayers go to this family.

We thank Bro. Duane Metzger for submitting an article on Thanksgiving.

**My Cup — An Emblem
Of Thankfulness**

Or is it? Could it be otherwise? When thinking of Thanksgiving, we can easily see it as an attitude of mind, spirit and of the heart, one of appreciation.

On a certain Sunday about a month ago, our Silver Lining reporters asked for an article pertaining to Thanksgiving. That same evening, quite by coincidence, we hosted in our home two total strangers, students from Harvard University. One of them was born and raised in Boston and the other in New York City. These two were traveling through Iowa because of the personal interest of the one for the way of life found in the Midwest.

After breakfast the next morning, a discussion of values that we hold dear to us in worship and raising our family became a topic of conversation. The one young man quite freely confessed

that he was brought up to be an intellect, which he found to be in conflict with accepting the teachings of the Holy Word. Yet when viewing the Master's creation, our dependence on His providence and our trust in One who cares, he could sense an appreciation in those who leaned on the One above.

It was then that he shared with me a saying that a very close aunt of his would remind him of when he was discouraged and depressed. "Andrew, Is your cup half full or is it half empty?" What a vast area for provocative thinking and self evaluation. Those words brought conviction to my heart. I believe too many times these days, in our trying lives, we see our cup as half empty. What a contrast to view our cup as half full or even fuller, for in so doing we can be thankful, a key ingredient to pleasing God.

The volume in the cup is quite the same, but what a world of difference in the attitude of our appreciation. To view our cup as half empty certainly could cause us to be of a selfish nature, trying, on our own power, to retain what is left in that cup of ours. To observe our cup as half full and to the point of being full and running over, we can be thankful and ready to share as God had shared with us. It would lead to patience, realizing that we ourselves really didn't deserve what was found in it anyway. We are taught in God's Word that all have a talent to some extent, the key is to use it wisely with God's help.

Yes, with our cup half full we can suffer many things and still rejoice. We can lose loved ones and yet rejoice that they are safe in the arms of Jesus. We can lose worldly possessions and thank God for His spirit of love which no man can take from us. We can grow older and thank God for the hills and valleys crossed, the experiences that brighten our hope in that eternal home. We can as sinners repent and be thankful that God is still on His mercy seat, answering prayer, sharing grace to the humble and forgiving burdened hearts. This truly is the greatest gift a soul can receive on earth, peace with God and man. At that point, just a cup thoroughly clean and ready to receive. "Oh, to be nothing, nothing; just for the Master's use made meet." Gospel Hymn #48.

Finally, I believe there is a difference perhaps in substance, relative to the attitude of the person whose cup is half

empty to the one who finds his cup half full. A brother related a saying years ago which brings this into focus. "There's a Golden Stream at whose brink - many die of thirst while others stoop to drink." Being of a thankful nature, we will drink from the Fountain of Life.

We can be thankful for the various hindrances we meet in life, for they serve many times to fill our cup.

We do have a precious faith and a land in which to worship as God directs from His Word. We have the right and privilege to help each other in Christian love. We have families and friends we appreciate. Yes, truly our Cup is full and pressed down to the extent of running over. Let's be thankful.

JAPAN, SHIODA

Margie Heintz — Sheila Moser

Early in September we enthusiastically welcomed Bro. Willis and Sis. Lois back from their stay in America. We spent many special hours together in the first few days after their return, sharing the many events which had occurred in Shioda in their absence and listening eagerly to the reports from "home". Their visit was a blessing to their families and to the many brothers, sisters and friends with whom they shared. Their return to Shioda strengthened and encouraged the little group of believers here.

A special national holiday is set aside in September in Japan to honor elderly people. To coordinate with that holiday, SAK celebrates Grandparents Day. The grandparents of our students are invited to attend SAK to give them the opportunity to observe their grandchildren in their school setting. The morning was planned so that the grandparents could see a variety of activities in which the children are involved. We especially wanted to share with them the Christian message which goes out to the children every day. We trust that the love of the Lord which we feel, and the joy and blessings which we receive from working with the children were conveyed to the many grandparents who came.

"I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." John 14:6. With that verse in mind, we began to study the divinity of Christ during the fall fellowship (Shuyokai) meeting. The meeting was held in the Mt. Fuji area with some of the brethren going on the evening of Octo-

ber 9 and the others coming for the day on the 10th.

The morning session concentrated on Christ's divinity during His life on earth. Many examples of His divinity were brought out. One example was Christ's willingness to go to the cross, as is shown when He prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane; ". . . O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt." Matthew 26:39. In the afternoon session it was brought out that the final proof of Christ's divinity was His resurrection from the grave. This was emphasized by references to many scriptures that gave accounts of that event.

It was a blessed time of fellowship for the brethren and families of both the Japanese churches. Before leaving to get back to busy schedules, we all took time to enjoy God's beautiful creation and left with a feeling of peace and comfort.

The fall season is upon us. This is very evident with the crispness of the morning air and the changing colors of vegetation. We are looking forward to sharing this beautiful time of year with some American visitors. On October 20 we are anticipating the visit of ministering brothers enroute to India. While they are with us we hope to share communion together.

Paul Knobloch (Gib and Sis. Vickie, Lester, IA), a serviceman stationed at Yokota Air Force Base, was a recent visitor to church. We hope that he will be able to come again. His address is:

Airman Knobloch, Paul
Yokota Air Force Base
PSC Box 256
APT S.F. 96328

All of us in Japan appreciate the thoughtfulness of our brethren, families and friends in the States. We are very thankful for the efforts that are made to correspond with us. It is our hope that you will continue to remember us in thought and prayer as we often do think and pray for those in America. We all truly need the prayers of those we love.

JAPAN, TOKYO

Yoshio Yamazaki — Marie Inoue

We had our annual church cleaning on September 22 and appreciated everyone who could help. There is something special about working together in the Lord's house. For those who could

stay we enjoyed a carry-in evening meal together.

Bro. Saburo Utsuki spent 10 days in the hospital and we're glad to report he is home again and in fair condition.

Several of us spent an evening meal and fellowship with Warren and Sis. Carol Gottier (Rockville, CT) a few days ago as they were on a Far East tour and gave us a call. How precious is our faith that extends through lands and oceans.

Next weekend we eagerly await the visit of the brothers who will stop here on their way to India. We especially asked God to be in our midst and prepare our hearts for Holy Communion at that time.

This past Wednesday was a national holiday and a group of us joined the Shioda brethren at Gotemba for our fall fellowship meeting. Several brothers spoke about the "Divinity of Christ". Among the many Bible references made on this subject the following were included as proof that Christ was divine:

1. Miracles performed
2. Prophecy
3. Attitude in life's situations
4. Transfiguration
5. Willingness to go to the Cross
6. Birth
7. The final dependency - the glorious resurrection

It was a blessed day of fellowship and enjoying lovely scenery for old and young. We especially thank the Shioda brethren for planning the event and those who taught the children.

KANSAS, BERN

Linda Esslinger

Diana Deaver and Meryl Stoller have announced their engagement. Meryl is the son of Bro. Harlan and Sis. Pearl Stoller. A spring wedding is being planned.

Sis. Eva Herrmann Hohulin passed away on September 18 at the age of 78. Surviving are four brothers, Bro. John (Morton, IL), Alvin, Ralph and Raymond (all of Sabetha, KS); two sisters, Emma Schrock (Hazelton, KS) and Irene Isch (Sabetha, KS).

Visiting minister was Bro. Clarence Dietrich (Silverton, OR). We appreciate his visit.

On October 12, Sis. Emma Hanni passed away at the age of 90. Surviving is one sister, Sis. Mary Maurer (Sabetha, KS).

Sis. Julia Metzger was hospitalized for a knee replacement surgery.

BE THANKFUL

"Twas this the mother said:
 'Be thankful for your daily bread
 And thankful for your strength to bear
 Whatever come of hurt and care.

'Make every day Thanksgiving day!
 At table bow your heads and pray
 And give your hearts to God above
 In gratitude for all His love.

'Be thankful for the loveliness
 Of earth in every season's dress;
 The springtime green, the summer rose,
 And autumn's glorious, golden close.

'Be thankful for your blessings all:
 The happy memories you recall;
 For time, which every heartache mends,
 And, oh, be thankful for your friends!"

Edgar A. Guest

KANSAS, FORT SCOTT

Judy Bahr

Recently we had the pleasure of seeing the slides from Elder Bro. Roy Grimm's (Taylor, MO) trip to India. Many visitors came from surrounding churches (Gridley, KS, Lamont, KS and Lamar, MO). What a wonderful evening of fellowship and what a contrast it was to the lifestyles shown in the slides of India. We can never be thankful enough for our life in America. On Sunday, Bro. Roy and Bro. Lloyd Kraft (Gridley, KS) ministered unto us. A church potluck was held for the visiting guests.

KANSAS, KIOWA

Janice Bahr — Gay Farney

"Faith of our Fathers" renew us again
 And make us a nation of God-fearing
 men
 Seeking Thy guidance, Thy love and
 Thy will,
 For we are but pilgrims in need of Thee
 still —
 And, gathered together on Thanks-
 giving Day,
 May we lift up our hearts and our hands
 as we pray
 To thank You for blessings we so little
 merit
 And grant us Thy love and teach us to
 share it.

Helen Steiner Rice

With Thanksgiving here, we sometimes need to be reminded of all the blessings God has bestowed upon us. We seem to get so wrapped up in "turkey and dressing", that we forget what Thanksgiving is really all about. Thanks to God, we live in a free nation where we can work, speak, think and most important, worship as we please. And if these are not enough to make us thankful, God's gift of His only Son, Jesus, on that cruel cross, to buy our freedom from sin and eternal death should bring us humbly to our knees. May we all have a lovely Thanksgiving, and may our "thanks" be to God.

Our hospital patients this month included John Farney, Sis. Laverne Roth and Sis. Myrtle Rathgeber. We are so grateful they are all home now and hope to have them in our midst soon. Sis. Esther Hodel was also a hospital patient, but is unable as yet to come home from Mayo's. We do hope and pray that it won't be long before she is able to be up and around again.

Elder Bro. Ronald and Sis. Shirley Nelson became grandparents this month when God sent a new baby boy, Jonathan Kirk, to brighten the home of their daughter, Rhonda, and her husband, Kirk Reidel (Texas). We pray that God will richly bless their home, so that little Jonathan may grow up knowing and loving Jesus.

We enjoyed holding services at the Manor again this month, sharing a few moments of our time with the shut-ins. We appreciated those who came to help.

Life and death in the Lord. We experienced both this past month, and in each gained a blessing. Gary Willson, through a true repentance and conversion, found peace with God and brought his testimony before the brotherhood one Saturday evening recently. What joy and warmth in the Spirit we felt when Gary rejoiced over what the Lord has done in his life. We all felt renewed, and when he stepped from the watery grave of baptism on Sunday as our brother-in-faith, our cup of love and peace and joy was filled to overflowing. A covered dish supper was held in the Fellowship Hall to close a perfect day and mark the new life in Christ for Bro. Gary.

Sis. Minnie Schrock is the loved one whose death I spoke of. Is there a blessing in death? Sis. Minnie was 91 years old, and had lived in the Manor for the past four years. The day before

her passing, she told the aide who fed her that she was going to die. When the aide questioned her further, Sis. Minnie said she knew where her husband, Bro. Sam Schrock was (Bro. Sam had passed away 1½ years earlier) and she was going to be with him. The aide then asked where Sam was, and Sis. Minnie motioned out the window and said, "Oh, out there, just over the river". Early the next morning our precious Sis. Minnie gently passed from this life to be forever with her Lord. Though we extend our deepest love and sympathy to her family in their loss, we also rejoice in her vision which gives all true believers a glimpse of that beautiful land that awaits someday. Life and death in the Lord? Yes, they are both blessings in their own way.

KANSAS, LAMONT

Jill K. Luthi

We are having those beautiful Indian summer days of warmth in the daytime and crisp coolness at night accompanied by dew and fog. The trees in the Painter's hand appear in all shades of red, yellow and orange.

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

Visiting ministers from late August to present have been Bros. Noah Gerber (West Bend, IA) Harold Schmidgall (Gridley, IL) and Joe Aberle (Sabetha, KS). We thank them each for remembering us and being with us. May God bless them each for their labor of love and their efforts in coming.

The Lamont and Gridley churches alternated at playing the conference tapes on three Fridays in September. We really do not realize until hearing the tapes, our elders deep concern for us as individuals and as a whole. In turn we must show concern for our elders and ministers, as they are the overseers of us all.

Our small congregation is saddened in the loss of one of our flock. God has found another place of duty and stay for Bro. Steve Schrader (Bro. Stephen and Sis. Dorothy). We bid him farewell as we had our last supper together and enjoyed feasting on wild game of pheasant, quail and venison on October 12. Bro. Steve has moved to Cambridge, IL and has a place of vocation at the Iowa Beef Packers (I.B.P.), Inc. plant at Joslin, IL. The congregations of Bradford, IL and Oakville, IA (closest ones to Joslin) have gained what we have

lost . . . so much! We wish Bro. Steve all of God's sufficient grace to overcome evil with good. He is always in our daily prayers. Bro. Steve's address is:

Steve Schrader
101 N. Ridge
Cambridge, IL 61238

KANSAS, MANHATTAN
Lori Aberle — Patti Knobloch

THANKFUL

Thankful for health, thankful for life,
Thankful for guidance in sorrow and
strife.

Thankful for food and ripe golden grain,
For all that is needful our life to sustain.

Thankful for friends who just stand by,
Upon whose help we can rely.

Thankful for home with comforts blest,
Where peace abides with love and rest.

Thankful for those who daily impart,
Strength for the journey, cheer for the
heart

Thankful for work in rich moist soil,
Where roses bloom, to compensate toil.

Thankful to hear the still small voice,
Making our heart in life's sorrows
rejoice.

Henry Beer
Gospel Hymns, p. 480

As the hymn implies, we truly have so much to be thankful for. May we always be thankful for the blessings that God does so richly bestow upon us and never take them for granted.

On September 19, Bro. Roger Aberle and Bro. Carl Hartman (Sabetha, KS) came and ministered unto us. We greatly appreciated their efforts, as well as the many visitors that share the evening with us.

On September 26, Bro. Jim Schrader (Bro. Steve and Sis. Dorothy), Tim Moore and Mike Strahm (Bro. Alpha, Jr. and Sis. Mamie) hosted a singing at their home.

The following two Wednesdays, October 3 and 10, Sis. Lori Aberle (Bro. Roger and Sis. LaVonne), Sis. Patti Knobloch (Bro. Dale and Sis. Mary, Lester, IA) and Christy Meyer (Bro. Harlan and Sis. Florence) opened their apartment to all for listening to a tape of Bro. Phil Stettner (Bluffton North,

IN) and hosted a singing the following week.

We pray that each of you will have a blessed Thanksgiving season.

KANSAS, SABETHA
Clara Steiner

During the last four weeks we assembled together with Bern on Wednesday evenings to listen to the tapes of the Conference. We heard many good teachings and exhortations. May God richly bless our elder brethren who so willingly give of their time.

Our thanks of appreciation go to Bro. Carl Hartman as he has retired from the ministry after serving the congregation for thirty years. May the Lord richly reward him.

Adam Christopher was born to Beth and Jere Derold on September 25. He is welcomed home by Shawn, Tara, Andrea and Amanda. His maternal grandparents are Sis. Vila and Bro. Velmer Meyer.

Bro. Tim and Sis. Charleen Hartter are the parents of their first child, a son, Seth Edwin, born October 16. Grandparents are Sis. Lois and Bro. Edwin Bahler (Remington, IN) and Sis. Marie and Bro. Virgil Hartter.

Hospitalized were Sis. Lena Wenger, Sis. Jan Mogler (surgery) and Bro. Joe Steiner. Sis. Lois Grimm had surgery on her hand. All are home again and doing well.

KANSAS, WICHITA
Laurie Gallatin

Visiting ministers this month were Bro. Sam Anliker (Lamont, KS), Bro. Raymond Banwart (Ft. Scott, KS) and Bro. Wayne Miller (Ft. Scott, KS).

Mark Kraft (Gridley, KS) has taken up temporary residence in Wichita while attending school here. We welcome him into our fellowship.

Now as fall is here, we once again get to see God's creativity in the beautiful changing leaves. Also, as Thanksgiving is approaching, we reflect on the many blessings we have to be thankful for. "Surely the righteous shall give thanks unto thy name: the upright shall dwell in thy presence." Psalm 140:13. The Psalmist says "surely" we will give thanks. I have to think, how many times a day do I thank the Lord? I know it isn't enough. I think we tend to take so many things for granted which the Lord has provided . . . a free nation to worship in, the Bible available and freely obtained, our country at peace,

food and clothing, our jobs, good health and protection from harm and evil, etc. that no one will break into our house, and that we won't be in a car accident. I think the Lord wants to hear our specific thanks for the every day things we tend to take for granted. He is so very gracious to us and blesses us so much more than we deserve or need. "O give thanks unto the Lord; for He is good: because His mercy endureth forever." Psalm 118:1.

MICHIGAN, ALTO
Liz Blough

Everyone is probably getting ready for winter. Autumn is in its fullest splendor here in Michigan. The farmers are busy with harvest and the kids are all settled in a new year of school. The beauty of this season reminds us of God's creative handiwork.

EVERYWHERE I LOOK

Everywhere I look I find
Some wondrous handiwork of Thine,
Every single day I see

Some lovely thing You've given me.
My heart almost overflows,

At the sight of velvet rose,
Lacy fern, and birds that sing,

Lord, You give me everything.

As the early morning breeze

Softly stirs through leafy trees,
Comes the dawn all steeped in gold,

More than my two arms can hold.
Silver stars throughout the night,

Purple shadows, pale moonlight,
Turn my thoughts again to Thee,

Lord, I fear You're spoiling me.

Everywhere I look I find

Beauty of the richest kind.

Little joys throughout the day,

Almost take my breath away.

How very precious I must be,

That you should have such love for
me,

And in each cranny,, smallest nook,

I find You, everywhere I look.

Grace E. Easley

Without the darkness of winter, there would be no spring. Our Elder Bro. Aaron Steffen in a recent sermon related a parallel to us of a tree. It is beautiful in the summer as it is covered with plush green leaves. As fall sets in, the green leaves turn to a beautiful golden hue, and eventually fall to the ground for the winter; but, in spring the tree comes to life again and is once

again covered with the beauty of its green leaves.

As young Christians we are in our fullest splendor and as we age our lives show more beauty. In the winter of our lives we all must meet with the grave, but the Bible promises us that spring will come again and we also shall be resurrected to a new life with our Lord Jesus Christ. Praise His name.

This past weekend some from our Alto church traveled to Morton, IL to the Home for the Handicapped to give a little surprise birthday party for our Sis. Carol Fahrni. I'm sure it was a pleasant surprise for her.

Bro. Perry Klopfenstein was with us this past month to share the story behind our church history book, "Marching to Zion". It was very interesting and we all enjoyed hearing the many encounters Bro. Perry experienced through his three years of research. We pray the Lord will richly repay Bro. Perry for all his hard work in preparing this nice book for us all.

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY

Linda Ramseyer

The Lord has blessed Jack and Debbie Knochel with a new baby girl. Jennifer Ann is welcomed home by her three sisters, Lisa, Ashley and Jaclyn. Grandparents are Bro. Victor and Elinor Knochel.

Our prayers have been with Clara Mudge as she was hospitalized recently. We are thankful that she has been able to return home.

We were privileged to have visiting ministers with us this past month. We thank Bro. Edwin Bahler (Remington, IN), Bro. William Gudeman (Elgin, IL) and Bro. Floyd Wieland (Detroit, MI) for coming and ministering the Lord's Word to us.

The Lord has taken Sis. Kathryn Wieland to her rest. May the Lord be with her family at this time. She is survived by one sister, Clara Mudge (Bay City, MI) and three brothers, Elmer Wieland (Detroit, MI) and Harvey and Bro. Erwin Wieland (both of Bay City, MI).

If one should give me a dish of sand, and tell me there were particles of iron in it, I might look for them with my clumsy fingers, and be unable to detect them; but let me take a magnet and sweep through it, and it would draw to itself the almost invisible particles. The unthankful heart, like my finger in the sand, discovers no mercies; but let

the thankful heart sweep through the day, and as the magnet finds the iron, so it will find some heavenly blessings.

Henry Ward Beecher

During this Thanksgiving season and always, may our hearts be like the thankful heart, so we can find some blessings from the Lord.

MICHIGAN, DETROIT

Dawn Bahr

"There is a calm beyond life's fitful fever, a deep repose, an everlasting rest; Where white-robed angels welcome the believer among the blest." (Gospel Hymns #383). Bro. Willard Belsley was taken to be with his Savior on October 8. May God's comforting hand be upon his wife, Sis. Arlene, and his children, brothers, sister and loved ones as they face a time of separation in the hope of one day meeting again in the heavenly realm.

"And the Lord God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him." (Genesis 2:18). We were recently reminded that God did not take woman from the man's head, that she would be above him, nor from his feet, that he would trample her; but he took woman from man's side, near to his heart, that he would walk beside her; and love and cherish her. On October 13, Doug and Carole Maibach began their walk together, hand in hand, to be a help and strength to one another. Parents of our new couple are Elder Bro. Ben Maibach and Sis. Lorene, and Mr. and Mrs. Michael Basford.

"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6. What a beautiful promise this is to those who face the responsibility of parenthood. Bro. Milan and Sis. Joyce Germaine are delighted to be first-time parents with the birth of their son, Adam Garrett, born October 19. As they look forward to both joys and challenges, may they look to their heavenly Father for guidance in all things. Little Adam's grandparents are Mike and Lucille Germaine and Bro. Wallace and Sis. Helen Ramsier (Mansfield, OH).

We enjoyed the visit of ministering Bros. Merril Laukhuf (Latty, OH), Andrew Virkler (Bay City, MI) and Homer Reineck (Toledo, OH).

As we look forward to the Thanksgiving holiday, may we thank our Father in heaven for all of our many, many

blessings, remembering that He alone is the giver of all good and perfect gifts. "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose." Romans 8:28.

MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS

Leslie Schmidgall

"This is a true saying, if a man desires the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work. A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behavior, given to hospitality, apt to teach; not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous; one that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how can he take care of the church of God?). Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil." I Timothy 3:1-6.

Bro. Kent Mogler has been led to the ministry of our small flock upon Bro. Noah Miller's decision to step down after many years of faithful service. We trust that God will provide the guidance and direction needed to lead our congregation.

We thank Bro. Alphai Moser (Morris, MN), Bro. Bill Emsch (Lamont, KS) and Elder Bros. Leo Moser (Lester, IA) and Harold Messner (Winthrop, MN) for sharing the Word with us this month. We also thank Bros. Leo and Harold for reading the Memorandum and expounding upon it.

We welcome the return of Sis. Diane Olson after spending one month in Europe.

MINNESOTA, MORRIS

Hildegard Koehl

Rhonda Zeltwanger

We were very glad to have Elder Bro. Bob Grimm (Goodfield, IL) with us on a Wednesday evening this month. He reminded us to LEARN to be thankful for and to accept our blessings. Sometimes we don't even recognize our blessings at the time, but later look back and understand the good in it.

Bro. Leo Dogatch, Sis. Betty Zeltwanger, Tom and Kari Koehl (children of Bro. Karl and Sis. Marilyn) have been among those who needed our special prayers this month as they have been hospitalized. May God grant His healing powers and care for each one.

Our sympathy and prayers go to Bro.

Joe and Sis. Hazel Moser and family. Her brother passed away unexpectedly of a heart attack.

In Matthew 8:22 and Matthew 10:46 we read two accounts of Jesus healing blind men. In the case of the blind man of Bethsaida, Jesus led the man out of town, spit on his eyes, and placed His hands on the man's face twice before his sight was restored. With Bartimaeus of Jericho, full healing came with but the speaking of a word. So it is with the spiritual lessons of God. God may teach dependence through financial problems or you may learn the same lesson through illness. One Christian learns to walk by faith in affluence and you may learn it in poverty. One person learns patience through being single and another through being married or in having children. The danger is in comparing. Use God's perfect plan to be the Christian He wants YOU to be.

MINNESOTA, WINTHROP

**Wanda Messner
Mary Lou Schmidt**

**MAKE EVERY DAY
THANKSGIVING**

Thank you, God, for everything —
the big things and the small,
For every good gift comes from God —
the giver of them all.

Too often we accept,
without any thanks or praise;
The gifts God sends as blessing,
each day in many ways.
Oh make us more aware, dear God,
of little daily graces;
That come to us with sweet surprise,
from never-dreamed-of places.
And help us to remember,
that the key to life and living;
Is to make each prayer a prayer of
thanks,
and every day Thanksgiving!

Helen Steiner Rice

Soon we will all be observing the day set aside by our government as Thanksgiving Day. May we always be thankful and grateful for all the Lord does for us! Let's remember to thank God every day; not only on Thanksgiving.

We were privileged to have ministering Bro. Bill Emch (Lamont, KS) and his dear family spend some time with us here at Winthrop. We would personally like to thank Bro. Bill for sharing

the Word with us. May God be ever near and dear to them. We truly cherish the love and fellowship they shared with us!

The Oakville young group also spent one weekend with us in October. We enjoyed singing and praising God's name together. May God richly bless each and every one. It truly fills our hearts when we can meet and greet dear loved ones whom we have never met, and feel the love and deep concern our brothers and sisters have for each other. We would also like to extend a special thank you to Sis. Dixie Messner (Burlington, IA) for all her help in making this weekend possible!

Best wishes are in order for our newlyweds, Dan and Karla Luhman. Karla is the daughter of Bro. Jerry and Millie Messner. Dan is the son of Stan Luhman and Mrs. Marlin Schauer. May God ever light their path and direct their lives!

A very special blessing has come to the home of Dale and Paulette Messerli. They are the proud parents of triplets! They had three healthy boys! Brian Lee, Steven Joseph and Thomas Dale are their names. Big brother, Milan, welcomes home his three new brothers. Bro. Cornelius and Sis. Delores Messerli and Mr. and Mrs. Eli Tieg are the excited grandparents. We are thankful that all are healthy, and that all went well with God's help.

MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY

Janice Lehman

We welcome several families into our assembly. Bro. Roger and Sis. Linda Ziegenhorn and their three children have moved here from Washington, IL.

Bro. Don Wales (Congerville, IL) has accepted employment in this area and has been here several months. We are all looking forward to having his wife and children move here in the future.

We thank all the visiting ministers who have made every Sunday a special blessing for us.

MISSOURI, LAMAR

Sandra Luthi — Becky Marti

We were recently privileged to have Elder Bros. Leroy Huber (Eureka, IL) and Raymond Banwart (Ft. Scott, KS) assemble with us. We thank them for their visits and for being willing to minister God's Holy Word unto us.

During this past month, our congregation has been blessed with two baby

girls. Bro. Jay and Sis. Sharon Braker have named their first child, Nicole Lyn. Grandparents are Sis. Cecile Braker and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Borghardt. Bro. Kevin and Sis. Denise Kilgus have named their first child, Amber Nicole. Grandparents are Bro. Dick and Sis. Jeanette Kilgus (Elgin, IL) and Bro. Leland and Sis. Laurene Zimmerman (Eureka, IL). May every parent seek God's guidance as they care for their precious children.

Our Sis. Anna Frieden was called out of this life on October 5. She had long been a familiar face in our congregation, but had spent the last few years in the Sabetha Home. We are thankful that her suffering is over. We also extend our sympathy to Jackie (Schlupp) Hinton in the death of her husband, Dee, on September 26. Our prayer is that God will be the comforter of these families who have lost a loved one.

Hospital patients this past month were Sis. Fern Braker and Joie Marti. We are thankful that they have both been released from the hospital now.

MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS

Becky Gudeman

"And seek not ye what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink, neither be ye of doubtful mind. For all these things do the nations of the world seek after: and your Father knoweth that ye have need of these things. But rather seek ye the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you." Luke 12:29-31.

We thank the Lord for providing those who are willing to preach the Word and worship with us on Sundays of fellowship here in St. Louis. We sincerely appreciate Bro. Kenneth Hoerr (Peoria, IL) and Bro. Roy Ehnle (Bradford, IL) for speaking to us this past month. May God bless them and their families for this effort.

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

Please note that services will not be held the 4th Sundays of November and December because of holiday travel.

MISSOURI, TAYLOR

Loida Hodel — Lori Marquart

Praise and Thanks for God's Blessings — Zion's Harp #13

1. Lord God, we honor Thee, And praise Thy mild compassion, That Thou so gracefully Dost hear our supplication. Thy love is truly great, Thy mercies are untold, Thou givest food and drink For Spirit, flesh and soul.

3. Thy living Word is sent Our souls to feed and nourish. Thou wilt that in our hearts Thy love and praise we cherish. Thou sheddest light and pow'r Upon our pilgrim way, And lead'st us by Thy hand To heaven day by day.

A carry-in supper was held October 7 in honor of Jim and Ginger Moser and their sons who are moving to the Champaign, IL area. We wish them God's blessings, both spiritual and material wise.

We are happy to have Kevin Braker and Walt Murphy from Roanoke in our area while they are students at Quincy Technical School. May they experience a warm welcome to worship with us at the "Little White Church on the Levee" and feel a special love extended to those "away from home" for a season.

"Wherever you see happiness, pride and special joy —
Wherever you see tenderness and care
Wherever two hearts beat as one, And
two lives blend together . . .
A warm and very special love is there."

Our congratulations and best wishes to Bonnie Plank (Buddy and Barbara) and Gary Lutener who were united in marriage September 22.

The Joos family, Bro. Ron, Sis. Chris, Eugene, Tammy, Jennifer and Andrew, welcome a baby boy, Jacob Benjamin, born October 1, to their family circle. Bro. Bob and Sis. Lorene Joos (Peoria, IL) and the John Slinkards (Florissant, MO) are the grandparents.

May the common bonds of love unite us one and all as our Elder Bro. Roy and his companions travel to India to oversee the duties of those on the Mission Committee. We trust God will watch over them, their families and all of us and hasten the time for their return and that this endeavor will prove to be a blessing to all concerned.

Josh Redd (Gaye and Dean) experienced a broken arm and Sis. Rose Hoerr is having knee surgery and is a patient in Blessing Hospital at this time.

"The Lord is my light and my salva-

tion; Whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid." Psalm 27:1.

NEW JERSEY, UNION CITY Ed Aeschleman

Our visiting ministers were Bro. Al Schneider and Bro. Everett Gerber (Rockville, CT). Even though we are few in number, the Word goes forth in truth and power to feed all who will come to hear. We thank our brothers for their sincere support.

Our church building is approaching 100 years of age and needs some special maintenance and repairs from time to time. Bro. Dimitrie Liuba recently made some repairs to the lower level floor and Bro. Robert Luginbuhl came from Rockville, CT to fix a leak in the roof.

NEW YORK, CROGHAN Alice Virkler

Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.

Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery.

Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all.

Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.

I Timothy, 4:13-16

These words penned by the Apostle Paul to Timothy are so important yet today in our lives. We were privileged to listen to the tapes of the recent brotherhood conference. As we have listened to the love of our dear elder brothers for us which was shown forth so brightly in their exhortations, may we each go forth with a true dedication to heed the warnings of these brothers who are so directed by our God. How truly blessed we are to have those who are called and are willing to lead the flocks and minister unto our every need in this life. May it be that we are all willing to follow in their ways and serve our God faithfully each day.

Our dear Sis. Irene Farney was called out of this life on September 22 at the age of 93 years. Sis. Irene was truly an example to each of us of the love of God showing through and will

be missed in our assembly. Our deepest sympathy is extended to her children, Leonard (Massachusetts), Gladys Welling (Glenfield, NY), Frederick (Texas) and Muriel Dekin (Lowville, NY). Funeral services were held by Elder Bro. Robert Beyer and Bro. Floyd Graves.

As loved ones are called home our loving Father blesses homes with new life. Bro. John and Sis. Maureen Virkler have welcomed little Joshua Kurt who was born on October 15. His big sister, Deanna, age 2, welcomes her new little playmate. Their grandparents are Sis. Charlotte Virkler and Bro. Melvin and Sis. Millie Gerber (Rockville, CT).

Also receiving a new bundle from heaven are Joel and Debra Church (Monroe, MI). Willie and Amelia Belle welcome their new sister Francisca Leigh born on October 3. Their grandparents are Donald and Sis. Rita Petzoldt (Beaver Falls, NY) and William and Margaret Church (Binghamton, NY). These little ones also have a great-grandmother, Sis. Amelia Belle Virkler and a great-great-grandmother, Tina B. Farney (both of Lowville, NY).

We have been privileged to have three visiting ministers in our midst during the past month. We wish to thank each of them, their families and traveling companions for taking the time to be with us and so lovingly share what the Lord has given to them.

On Saturday evening, September 22, we enjoyed a covered dish meal and singing in the Croghan church, and on Sunday assembled with the Naumburg congregation when Bro. Dan Stoller (Rockville, CT) taught us from God's holy Word.

At our Wednesday evening service at the Naumburg church on October 3, Elder Bro. Joe Braker (Morton, IL) was our loving teacher.

Elder Bro. Loren Stoller (Latty, OH) was with us on the weekend of October 13. We had a covered dish meal at the Croghan church on Saturday evening followed by a song service. On Sunday we assembled with the Naumburg congregation and also enjoyed a meal together, as we had many others visiting who left for their homes on Sunday.

On Sunday, September 30, 31 from the Croghan and Naumburg congregations traveled by chartered bus to attend services at the Philadelphia church. We received many blessings

and wish to thank them for the love and hospitality shown unto us.

Bro. Chester and Sis. Kate O'Brien are both hospitalized at this writing. On Sunday, October 21, they will be celebrating their 69th wedding anniversary. May they be blessed with good health to enjoy more days together in this life if it be God's will for them. Also hospitalized this month was Bro. Clyde Virkler who had surgery on his foot. Bro. Clyde is missed in our Sunday school and we all hope he can return to assemble with us soon. Also, his wife, Sis. Lois, has been at home a few Sundays. We are glad they are both feeling better and may they be granted a measure of good health in the days ahead.

NEW YORK, NAUMBURG
Rachel Snyder

Several evenings have been well spent here at Naumburg and Croghan churches, listening to the conference tapes. How wonderful it is that the Lord's work can be carried out through these elder brethren, giving us teachings and instructions. Oh, that we may take these all to heart and be obedient.

Our visitors this month have included Elder Bros. Joe Braker (Morton, IL) and Loren Stoller (Latty, OH). Thank you, brothers, for coming to us. We know it was the Lord leading you to come and give of yourselves in our service.

Becky (Rebecca) Hirschey's wedding date was September 22. Becky is the daughter of Bro. Leland and Sis. Bernice. She was married to Martin Hirmelstein.

OHIO, AKRON
Joyce Gasser

"A gift is as a precious stone in the eyes of him that hath it; whithersoever it turneth, it prospereth." Proverbs 17:8. A gift from God is His Word, very precious and powerful to prosper whithersoever direction it is allowed to be turned. The Hebrew word is a very expensive and valuable gem, and literally here it means a stone or gem of grace. In His Word are "... precious promises that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature ..." II Peter 1:4. God says in His Word, "... shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it." Isaiah 55:11. So, whithersoever circumstances we want to prosper, we can send or turn a precious promise from His Word into the situation.

Our hearts rejoice that Joanne Graf has turned to the Lord in repentance. She is the daughter of Bro. Art and Sis. Audrey Graf. We know that as she seeks the Lord Jesus, He gives His grace.

Bro. Rod Huber (Valparaiso, IN), his wife, parents and sister blessed us with a weekend visit, along with Bro. Rod's sermons.

Bro. Paul Pamer, age 91, passed away just several weeks after his wife, Sis. Rose, was laid to rest. Their children are: our Elder Bro. Eugene, a daughter, Alice Graf; and eight grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren. Bro. Pamer was born in Hungary and lived in Akron most of his life.

Bro. Daniel Kurchev, age 73, passed away. He is considered a life resident of Akron, although he spent some time in Florida. He moved back this spring, and recently had a hip replacement. Bro. Dan is survived by his wife, Kathryn and stepdaughters.

A car failed to stop, hitting Sis. Esther Zsoldos' car and she received an injury of a cracked sternum. We pray for her speedy recovery from the unfortunate accident.

OHIO, COLUMBUS
Andy Hunyady

We are always grateful to God for His daily gifts and many benefits; the sunshine of His love that warms our hearts and the power and truth of His Word. We were privileged to have dear ministering brothers in our midst to serve us and to sow the good seed. We thank Bros. Homer Reinick (Toledo, OH) and Kent Ringger (Bluffton, IN country church) for their labors of love, and the many visitors, who strengthened us. We experienced an unexpected, yet a very heart warming day on Sunday, October 14, as 68-70 (including children) attended our meeting. Our thanks to the Sunday school teachers who cared for and gave instruction to the tender, young hearts. We pray that God, our merciful Father, adds His special blessings of sun and rainfall upon the seed that was sown into the hearts of attentive hearers that it might bring forth fruit of repentance, to the honor and glory to God and redemption to many souls!

We also wish to extend a hearty invitation to our Wednesday evening, 7:30 meetings, held in our homes, as we listen to taped services and fellowship together.

"I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called. With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; Endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all." Ephesians 4:1-6.

OHIO, GIRARD
Kathryn Emch

We are thankful to our government for setting aside a special day for Thanksgiving. We are much more thankful to the Lord for the many blessings for which we give thanks daily and even hourly. God is so Good!

We had a blessed day as our Elder Bro. Eugene Pamer, his wife and others from Akron, OH visited us. We appreciate our elders being spent for us. We enjoy the fellowship of those who travel to be here for worship services.

Sis. Mini Emch was in church after a long absence. Sis. Ella Deislinger is recovering nicely from her broken hip.

OHIO, JUNCTION
Les Manz

As we approach the Thanksgiving season, we are reminded, even by our government, of what we should remember to do each day: take time to count our blessings. We have many reasons, just as the pilgrims, to thank God for blessing our earthly labors. However, we have even more reasons to thank Him for the spiritual blessings in our lives. God has blessed our church with some spiritual harvest this past year. We thank Him for that and beg for His Spirit to guide our young converts. Yet, as we look over the "fields", we see indeed they are "white already to harvest". (St. John 4:35). What a real blessing it would be if all our loved ones could prepare for His coming.

OHIO, LATTY
Laurie Stoller — Patty Gerber

November is the month that Americans give thanks. Even if at no other time of the year, people pause for a day and gather with their families, representative of their thankfulness.

As Christians, we should give thanks many times a day for our innumerable

blessings. Most of all we should be thankful for God's gift of salvation, Jesus Christ. We rejoice with two souls who have accepted that gift from God. Dale and Jodi Stoller have begun their repentance and conversion. With thankful hearts, they prepare themselves for a life devoted to God.

Our congregation was privileged to take part in communion services. Elder Bro. Phil Stettner (Bluffton North, IN) reminded us of the blood of Jesus Christ shed for us and the body broken for us as we partook of the wine and bread. We appreciate Bro. Phil's ministering to us, but most of all we cherish the institution and sanctity of the communion services.

Thankful for God's directing Spirit in their lives are Bro. Byron Dunham (Bro. Charles and Sis. Laura) and Sis. Jody Williamson (Bob and Sis. Janet). They have been led together and are planning to be married soon. We pray that they will continue to call upon the Holy Spirit's direction as they prepare for life together.

God has given each of us gifts. We are thankful for doctors and nurses who use their gifts of discernment and compassion to help those in need. Several from our congregation have benefited from their services. Those thankful for healing from injury or illness were Pam Stoller (Bro. Millard and Sis. Irma), Sis. Josephine Wenninger (Bro. Don), Sis. Pauline Stoller, Doug Gordon (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Connie), Sis. Betty Laukhuf, Bro. Ken Laukhuf (Sis. Marge), Sis. Dolores Rigenbach (Harlan) and Deb Klopfenstein (Roy). All thanks to God.

OHIO, MANSFIELD

Lucille Groh

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

Thanksgiving . . . giving thanks. How much the word says!

The frosty days of November are here . . . the leafless trees silhouette the lifeless gray sky . . . the hot logs crackle from the fireplaces . . . church lights beckon to come and give thanks to our Creator for all the blessings received throughout the year . . . tables are laden from the bountiful harvest . . . and then . . . the pumpkin pie which our mothers and grandmothers make . . . It's here . . . Thanksgiving Day!

As one really starts to think about

the pumpkin pie, it's really not the pumpkin that makes the pie is it? By itself it is really quite tasteless, but it's the spices that make the pie!

The Queen of Sheba brought to King Solomon the rarest and best spices of all the world. (II Chronicles 9:9)

We, too, must come with the spices of spiritual grace like she did. Like pumpkin, we by ourselves are flat and useless; to us must be added the spices of the Word and Spirit in order to live refreshing, stimulating lives for Christ. Here is the recipe from God's own "cookbook". "Add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; and to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; and to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity. For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. (II Peter 1:5-8)

With thankful hearts we report that Chuck Beer (Bro. Joel and Sis. Sue) has found peace with God and is awaiting the day when he can be baptized.

On October 6, the Lord granted us rich blessings as we could partake of Holy Communion and be reminded of our dear Saviour's great love for us. We want to thank Elder Bros. Perry Zimmerman (Forrest, IL) and Joseph Ramsier (Rittman, OH) for serving us that evening and the entire weekend. May God be your rich rewarder.

Loving prayers have been said on behalf of the following loved ones who have been hospitalized this past month: Bro. Dave Beer, Sis. Martha Mayer, Faye Sauder (Don) and Richard Rigenbach. We are also pleased to report that Sis. Freda Beer is again able to attend since her heart surgery as well as Sis. Christine Dotterer who also recently submitted to surgery. May our heavenly Father strengthen each one.

Our congratulations to Steve and Lori Sauder who are the happy new parents of a son, born October 12, named Tyler James. Paternal grandparents are Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Sue Sauder.

Good wishes are extended to Judy Oesch and Dennis Witt who were united in marriage on September 29. Judy's mother is Sis. Katherine Oesch and Dennis's parents are Mr. and Mrs. Frank Witt. We also congratulate Diana Beer and Bob Malone. Diana's

parents are Bro. Ben and Sis. Freda Beer.

On October 14, the engagement of Sis. Pam Martin (Rittman, OH) and Bro. Dan Sauder (Mansfield, OH) was announced. Everett and Dorothy Martin are Pam's parents and Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Sue Sauder are Dan's parents. We wish them much joy as they pledge their lives to each other and in serving their Lord.

OHIO, RITTMAN

Judy Stoller — Verla Stoller

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

It is truly a joy to report seven more souls are seeking the Lord in repentance. They are Rochelle Steiner (Bro. Ron and Sis. Ruth), Bill Hartzler (Bro. Ken and Sis. Jane), Tim Schar (Bro. Rowan and Sis. Judy), Pam McIntire, Jeff Stoller (Bro. Bob and Sis. Eileen), Wayne Hartzler (Bro. Dale and Sis. Joyce) and Bill Bauman (Marion and Sis. Delores). We pray that as they experience a true repentance and conversion, God will grant them the peace that passes all understanding.

We also were blest to hear the testimonies of eight souls who have found this peace, and on September 23, we witnessed their baptisms. Our new brothers and sisters are Sis. Heidi Trent (Bro. Ed and Sis. Marilyn), Sis. Sandy Zollinger (Bro. Rudy and Sis. Brenda), Sis. Suzanne Rufener (Bro. Isaac and Sis. Verna), Bro. Aaron Beery (Bro. Everett and Sis. Carol), Sis. Sarah Winkler (Bro. Andy and Sis. Mary Jane), Bro. John Kipfer (Bro. Ephraim and Sis. Marilyn), Bro. Gary Dotterer (Bro. Henry and Sis. Martha) and Bro. Lee Rufener (Bro. Joe and Sis. Lilas). Aiding Bro. Joe and Bro. Henry in this important work were Elder Bros. Loren Stoller (Latty, OH) and Gene Pamer (Akron, OH).

"When pure and upright hearts, By flames of love ignited, Are by the bond of faith more firmly yet united . . ." Zion's Harp #79. On October 14, Bro. Dan Sauder (Bro. Ken and Sis. Suzanne, Mansfield, OH) and Sis. Pam Martin (Everett and Dorothy) announced their engagement. We will miss Sis. Pam, but we wish them God's richest blessings in their new life together. Also, on September 29, Mike Zollinger and Helen Taylor were united in holy matrimony. "What there-

fore God hath joined together, let no man put asunder." Matthew 19:6.

We also have been blest with many little bundles from heaven. Bro. Randy and Sis. Sue Gasser rejoice in being first-time parents with the birth of their son, Brady Randall. Brady's grandparents are Sis. Doris Gasser and Bro. Oliver and Sis. Emma Jean Stieglitz (Leo, IN). Bro. Denny and Sis. Kay Nieman are also thankful for another baby boy. Doug, Dana and Darla are glad for a new brother, Derek Charles. Grandparents are Bro. Charles and Sis. Delphine Nieman and Sis. Mildred Endress (Princeville, IL). Terry and Suzanne Hanzie welcome home a little son, Adam Paul. Grandmother is Florence Hanzie. Kevin and Janette are glad for a little daughter, Janelle Faith. Grandparents are Larry and Janet Hanzie. Brooke Shanelle has made Jeff and Debbie Gasser first-time parents with her arrival. Grandparents are Bro. Leroy and Sis. Juanita Koehl (Forrest, IL).

Often our joys are mingled with sorrows and hardships. Those who have met with accident or sickness in the past month are Sherri Ramsier (Bro. Mark and Sis. Sue), Sis. Jane Hartzler (Bro. Ken), Bro. Fred Widmer, Bro. Bob Klotzle (Sis. Shirley), Sis. Mary Ellen Bauman, Sis. Karen Riegenbach (Joe), Stacey Jaquet (Dale and Marilyn), Sis. Nina Gasser (Bro. Joe), Jamie Bauman (Daryl and Ivy) and Sis. Terri Stoller (Bro. Ron). We are thankful when each one can assemble with us again.

"How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!" Romans 10:15.

We are thankful to each of our ministers who lend themselves to bring God's Word to us. We offer special thanks to those who have travelled many miles to serve us. Visiting ministers this month have been Bro. Eugene Fetter (Toledo, OH), Bro. Loren Stoller (Latty, OH), Bro. Ken Indermuhle (Sardis, OH), Bro. Sam Schlatter (Junction, OH), Bro. Eugene Pamer (Akron, OH), Bro. Wayne Anliker (Forrest, IL) and Bro. Ron Palitto (Akron, OH). May God bless each of these brethren for their labors of love.

Once again, as we celebrate Thanksgiving, we must look back over the past year and stop and consider all that God has done for us. Truly we have been richly blest as we think of the

bountiful harvest, the new converts, the new little babies, the opportunities we have had to travel, health and God's protection over the past year. As I read this poem, I had to think. Am I truly thankful, or do my complaints and wants outweigh my thanksgiving? It is something each of us should stop and consider.

A THANKSGIVING POEM

Two angels, so the legend ran,
Came to each as day began;
One carried a basket deep and wide,
The other a small one by his side.

Thus spoke one of the heavenly pair,
"Oh, but the world is wondrously fair!
If it weren't for heaven, I'd be content
To dwell on earth 'neath the firmament;
My basket is large so I'll soon begin
To gather men's thanks and pack them
in.

Said the other, I'll help you when I get
done;
I'm to gather their wants in this little
one.
And the sighs and murmurs of those
who pout
But it's large enough without a doubt.
God's beauties are scattered on every
side
You'll need your basket deep and
wide."

Away they sped and as darkness came
They met again but not the same:
Both were weary, both were sad:
They'd found so little to make them
glad.

Said he with the basket wide and deep,
My heart is heavy, it makes me weep.
Look in my basket, you'll discover
The thanksgivings scarcely the bottom
cover.

"While I," said the other, have made
three trips,
With the wants and complaints from
people's lips!
Only a legend, yes . . . and yet . . .
If angels came to you what would they
get?

Author Unknown

OHIO, SARDIS Joyce Indermuhle

Our fall weather is slowly giving way
to colder weather. As fall slows every-
thing down, we are reminded how for-

tunate we have been the past few months. With Thanksgiving coming up, we are even more aware of all we have to be thankful for. Bro. Gary and Sis. Terry Zollinger wish to thank everyone for their support, love, prayers, cards and gifts this summer while their Joey was laid up with a broken leg. We are all thankful to see him running around and enjoying life.

Bro. Denny and Sis. Doris Miller are thankful that they have a new little daughter. Kristina Diane is loved and cherished by all, especially the rest of the family, Renee, Valerie and Steve. Kristina's grandparents are Glenn and Sis. Ella Miller (Rittman, OH) and Bro. Delbert and Sis. Martha Indermuhle.

As our lives slow down with the coming of cold weather, and we have more time on our hands, may we strive to spend it more in prayer and praising of our Lord and Savior. May our spiritual life speed up as we observe nature slowing down.

OHIO, TOLEDO Josephine Rehklau Frances Laidig

In the midst of the beautiful colors of the fall leaves, we are again reminded that God is almighty. No artist, however talented, could begin to paint them as we see them in their natural beauty.

At this time of the year, Thanksgiving Day has been set aside to give special thanks to God for the blessings of an abundant harvest. Although we live in the city and growing various crops is not our source of income, we also are thankful for a good harvest. It is important to everyone, affecting our lives in many ways. In God's plan there is an occupation for each one of us. That should give us a feeling of unity and in unity there is love.

Gina Mae is the little blessing added to the home of Bro. Ray and Sis. Corrine Schlatter. She was born October 10. She has a sister, Loral Rae. Her grandfather is Bro. Howard Wieland (Bay City, MI).

Sis. Lydia Schlatter is moving into her new home. Her address is: 5825 D. Woodside Trail, Toledo, OH 43623. We wish her the Lord's blessings.

OREGON, SILVERTON Rosa Lee Kuenzi

Sis. Gloria Kuenzi (Bro. Lewis) is recovering from corrective surgery on her wrist and hand for arthritis. After

several days in the hospital and weeks in a cast, she will begin physical therapy this week to regain the use of her left hand. We can all understand the normal inconvenience of doing our daily work one-handed, but Sis. Gloria is deaf and her hands (with the use of sign language) are her communication, so this is especially frustrating for her. Bro. Lewis and Sis. Gloria are very thankful for "all that our people have done for them" and appreciate our continued prayers.

We wish to thank Bro. Garth Steffen (Portland, OR) for coming to share the Word with us twice in the past few weeks. May the Lord bless his willingness to serve. We thank Bro. Garth and Sis. Connie for their abundant love.

Harold and Sis. Linda Hari and Ryan have moved this month. They didn't move many miles, but moving is a big job, no matter how few miles are involved. They will now live about 7 miles northwest of Silverton on the Hari home place, which should be more convenient and centrally located for their agricultural chemical and fertilizer application business. We pray that God's blessings will be upon their new home and their lives.

**PENNSYLVANIA,
 PHILADELPHIA**
Ann Gasser

Holy Communion was observed by our congregation late in September. Elder Bro. Corbin Bahler, his wife, and daughters accompanied him that weekend as he came to serve us. Bro. Ed Aeschleman assisted with the service. Again we were reminded of the fulfillment of God's plan for our salvation and the ultimate sacrifice He made so that abundant and eternal life is available for us.

Our prayers are with Franz Soni as he seeks his salvation. He has been traveling from Northern New Jersey to worship with us for the past several months.

Brethren and friends from Croghan and Naumburg, NY showed their care for us by traveling to spend a Sunday with us. Ministers among the New York group who expounded God's Word to us were Bros. Leland Hirschev and John Wedrick.

"Young groups" from Rittman, OH and Rockville, CT were with us for their annual fall visit. We enjoyed fellowship with them and with all who attended services here in Philadelphia.

SILVER THREADS

I THANK THEE, DEAR LORD

I thank Thee, dear Lord,
 for so many nice things,
 For the beauty of sunlight
 that many a day brings.
 For the sky so blue
 and trees so green,
 For the mountains so tall
 and the deep shining sea.
 I thank Thee for my family
 and the dear friends I love,
 For the caring and the kindness
 which comes from Thee above.
 Thanks for the grace and mercy
 Thou to me hast given
 I have been so blest the truth
 of the one way unto heaven.
 I thank Thee for my brothers
 and my sisters in Thee, dear Lord;
 For being able to worship and sing
 praises together in one accord.
 For the church and the precious faith
 that I have been taught in,
 For the free gift of salvation
 and escape from all the world's sins.
 I thank Thee for the strength
 when to temptations I must say no,
 For the humbling times I so need
 when my tongue starts to boast.
 I thank Thee, dear Lord, for all
 of nature and its ways,
 For the birds which sing so sweetly
 and the horses which do graze.
 For the beauty of the rain
 and the twinkling of a star,
 For the winds which cause the clouds
 to drift from near to far.
 I thank Thee for all the colors
 which a rainbow does display,
 For the sunshine in the winter,
 a cool breeze on a summer day.
 For the deep peace and joy within
 which serving Thee does bring,
 Yes, I thank Thee, dear Lord,
 for all Thy precious blessings.

S.S.

THE MUSIC OF PRAYER

Once there was a violinist who played in an enormous symphony orchestra. There was nothing he loved better than hearing the beautiful sounds of the orchestra's music. But the man was discouraged and felt very insignificant in the midst of so many instruments.

"What difference does it make if I

play or not?" he thought. "No one could possibly hear my single violin among all the other great musicians in the orchestra."

Then one day, the violinist missed rehearsal. The conductor called him aside the next day and said, "We missed you yesterday. Something didn't sound quite right when the orchestra began, and it was then that I noticed you were gone. You play so beautifully - and I want you to know that it's truly a pleasure to have you in the orchestra."

The violinist was astounded. "Do you mean that you can distinguish my instrument from all the others?"

"Of course," the conductor answered him. "How else would I be able to advise each musician to play louder or softer, slower or faster?"

And so it is when we pray. Though many of God's faithful may lift their prayers to Him at one time, we can be confident that He hears our prayers individually, and answers each one's need with love and guidance.

THE SHEPHERD

The brother whom God has chosen to be your shepherd is a man, a being who has the same spiritual and material needs as you and I. He suffers the same pains in his body like all human beings. He carries the same responsibilities as husband and family father as every man who has formed his own household. Often he feels tired, and sometimes exhausted, through his mind go his problems, those of his family, his material labor, those of his church; and also those with which you entrusted him, or carry to him.

Therefore, don't let it seem strange to you if sometimes you see him tired, if he does not pay the attention to you as you think he should; or should have listened to you; or have reacted as you expected he would have. Then, try to understand him, don't judge him. Remember that he carries excessive responsibilities. Pray to God for him that He may strengthen and enable him every day to carry out his ministry with efficiency. Above all, bear in mind that he is a man, not a superman. This yes, he is your shepherd! Recognize him as such. God has put him in that place. God bless you brother, or sister, that you may be able to understand this message.

Thanksgiving Tapestry

Special Thoughts
about Thanksgiving
from Ideals Magazine

LET US GIVE THANKS

Did you ever notice what a warm glow real thankfulness imparts, both to the giver and to the receiver? All of us have so much to be thankful for in this life, that we surely should be happy most of the time. In this season of Thanksgiving, let us count up our personal blessings, material and intangible, and give, from overflowing hearts, that gratitude which we owe to God and our fellow men.

Esther Baldwin York

In fall
November pulls
Her golden mantle close,
Then pillows her head on autumn's
leaves
And sleeps.

Emily Carey Alleman

THANKSGIVING DAY

Thanksgiving Day has come again;
We bow our heads in prayer
And thank God for His blessings
And His love that's everywhere.

Isla Paschal Richardson

Gratitude takes three forms:
a feeling in the heart,
an expression in words,
and a giving in return.

Author Unknown

The bright leaves have fallen,
and late autumn has come.
On the farmlands the harvest
has been gathered in,
safe from the winter storms,
and in the roadside and city markets
the stalls are colorful
with fall fruits and vegetables.
November is the month
to appreciate and share
the bounty that is ours,
not forgetting those in want.

Esther York Burkholder

Let us give thanks to God
on Thanksgiving Day.
Nature is beautiful
and fellow men are dear
and duty is close beside us
and God is over us
and in us.

Phillips Brooks

THIS DAY OF CHEER

As we look up and thank the Lord
For peace again this year,
Let's give Him thanks for people
Who brought this day of cheer.

D. A. Hoover

We thank Thee, then, O Father,
For all things bright and good,
The seed-time and the harvest,
Our life, our health, our food.

Matthias Claudias

THANKS AND LOVE

We have many things to be thankful for;
Many blessings the Lord has sent.
Let us give thanks on this Thanks-
giving Day,
Keep love as a daily event.

Raymond W. Eberhardt

GATHER IN THE HARVEST

As we gather in the harvest,
Lord, we thank Thee for the yield
Of heavily laden fruit trees
And of every bounteous field.
Now is the time of plenty
As we fill the cellar and haymow.
Each bin is overflowing;
Dear Lord, we thank Thee now.

Thelma Hice Moeller

DEAR FATHER

In Heaven, for Your tender care, for
our food, and home, and loved ones,
too, we bow our heads to honor You.
From deep in our hearts comes this
thankful prayer for all that we have,
because we know life would be grace-
less without Your glow.

Amen
Patricia Clafford

THANKFUL HEARTS

Now our hearts are truly thankful
As we view the blessings given,
And we breathe a deep thanksgiving
To our Father, God in Heaven.

Addie Lincoln Jones

HARVEST

This the proof of God's provision:
Faith has known each tiny seed,
Bringing forth the fruit in season;
Love has met man's every need.

J. Evans Anderson

COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS

Thanksgiving comes to us each year.
Some pray, some feast, some rest.
I fold my hands and bow my head
And count the ways I'm blest.

Lucille Crumley

STUBBLE

I like a field of stubble where the wheat
Is in the shock and heavy with its yield,
For then the earth seems resting and
replete
With peace; and yet there plainly is
revealed
In some strange manner by the quiet
soil
That man has gained reward for faith
and toil.

Margaret E. Bruner

Autumn . . . the year's last, loveliest smile.
William Cullen Bryant

Sermon . . .

(Continued from Page 32)

It was Bro. Wendell Gudeman's first trip to India, and he told us so vividly after a visit in one of those little tribal villages, that he could see so clearly the difference between the Christians and the non-Christians. The Christians had a look of peace on their faces. Also, they looked neater and cleaner. They didn't have any more money than the others, but they took care of themselves better. They seemed to have more pride in themselves after they

found joy and peace in their hearts.

Many of them were subjected to persecutions when they became converted and believed on Jesus Christ. Witch doctors tried to dissuade them. Some had their huts burned. People suffer persecutions not only in India. Bro. Leon Graf told us yesterday of the persecutions of our brethren in Eastern Europe. Many have to suffer for their faith.

We are free to come here and worship the Lord today. No one had to pass through a point where we had to check our credentials and prove where we were going. We had no fear that the officials might come in today to arrest us for being here. We should appreciate this freedom.

Bro. LaVoyd pointed out this morning the open invitation the Lord gives and how He calls us from all walks of life. What a remarkable calling Bro. LaVoyd had. He was not raised in our faith; yet he saw that the way was open and a warm welcome was given. Many of us, who have been raised in this faith and have access to it, come and warm ourselves around the Word week after week and don't avail ourselves of it. I believe, in the light of God's Word, that we have a lot to answer for.

We have had much instruction here today that should be an encouragement to us. Bro. LaVoyd also pointed out that we who are believers must not only begin this pilgrim pathway, but we must continue on in it. We should not become overconfident; accept admonishment, but take encouragement.

In this chapter we read, "Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall." I Cor. 10:12. We should not be overconfident and think that we can't fall from the way, because we might become complacent, weak and lax. Then Satan can come in. If we stay on guard, we will be able to withstand and not fall.

The Word, inspired by God, encourages us. "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it." I Cor. 10:13.

The Lord will always offer us a way of escape, but we must have the determination and the courage to take that avenue of escape. If we do not take advantage of the way that the Lord gives us, we will not be able to stand.

However, we are encouraged to know that He will give us a way.

We must stay close to the Lord. Being close to the Lord can be accomplished in two important ways. One is by praying. Begin each day with prayer and continue throughout the day. The second is by looking into His Word.

When we counsel with those who say that they have fallen from the way, they invariably tell us that this didn't happen by one false move. First they became negligent in reading the Word and in praying. Then they fell from God's grace. They didn't seek the Lord's help and pray that He would give them grace for each day. Then, without grace, they weren't able to withstand.

Paul says that the Lord will give us help to overcome. Then he tells us that we should flee from idolatry. We are thankful that we have a way to flee from the idolatry that tempts us.

As we said, our idolatry isn't the temptation to worship a man-made image, but to put our possessions or anything ahead of worshiping the Lord and Saviour who came and loved us so much that He died for us.

Paul told us that Jesus Christ shed His blood so that we could have this hope of salvation. We are commanded to remember it as we observe communion by breaking bread which is a symbol of His broken body, and in drinking from the cup in remembrance of His shed blood.

Then Paul tells us that we cannot serve two masters. We can't have divided allegiance. We can't serve both the devil and God. God expects our total loyalty. The Lord, as He has throughout all the ages, expects us to love and serve Him with our whole heart and mind. He gives us the way to do this.

Consider the time in which we live. We read in the forereading of the days when the nations of the north will gather their armies in great numbers against the land of Israel. We feel that events which are now taking place foreshadow this. It certainly seems that we are living in the end times.

We are told in one of the prophecies that in the last days men's hearts will fail them for fear. When have we seen a time when people (even among our own) have fear about what the future holds? Never before, at least in the times that I can remember. That should make us all take stock of the

time we are living in. Each of us should look at his own life. Are we availing ourselves of what the Lord has done? Are those of us who have turned to the Lord still walking close and true to Him? Are we watching and praying as His Word tells us?

If any of you have not yet become reconciled with the Lord, we plead and pray that you will take advantage of His simple plan. It has been made available to each one without cost on our part, but by a great price paid by Jesus Christ. Turn to Him in true repentance and confess your sins.

As Bro. LaVoyd said this morning, go to your shepherds and they will be more than glad to help you. Invariably, people both young and old say, "This isn't as hard as we thought." Satan seemed to make it hard; he had put a barrier there. However, once people are willing to overcome the barrier that Satan puts up, they find that it is not nearly as hard to make this most important step in their life as they had anticipated. They were making it so difficult that they had blown it all out of proportion.

We realize how privileged we are in this land to have such easy access to the Word. We should be warned by the Scriptures and by the advice that we have had that to whom much is given, much will be expected or required. To whom little is given, little will be required.

When we consider how much we have been given, I don't believe that the Lord is going to overlook it if we have not availed ourselves of His shed blood and have not turned to Him. When we realize that many have had to find Him through much suffering and that some have never even had the privilege to know of Him, we think that those will be the ones with whom the Lord will have patience and forbearance.

Let us all realize that the times in which we live certainly are the end times of which our forefathers spoke and which have been prophesied in the Scriptures. We read of this where we opened up, unselected, this afternoon.

Let us always keep the thought in mind that if this were our last day here on earth, would we do the things that we were going to do? Or would we do something a little differently?

Our last breath may be next week, or the Lord may come and take His own. Let us live so that we will be ready.

FEB 02602 LK
CHARLES WALDER

EAST LYNN IL 60932

SERMON BY ELDER BRO. ROY GRIMM OF TAYLOR, MO

Text: Ezekiel 38 and I Corinthians 10

In the same way that the Lord often spoke in parables to make the message something that all could relate to, here we find that the apostle Paul brought a common thread into his message. His listeners knew the history of their forefathers. They knew that there had been many troublesome times and many good times during the history of the Jewish nation. Good or bad always seemed to reflect on how closely the people were abiding in the will of God.

Paul reminded them of the time when Moses had led the people out of their bondage in Egypt. Many of them, when they went through the wilderness, murmured and complained when things didn't go well. This displeased God.

We should examine ourselves and try to profit from the mistakes that other people have made. Paul was warning the believers of his day that they should learn from the history of those who had gone on before them, and not make the same mistakes.

Paul pointed out that many of the Israelites did not please God and were overthrown in the wilderness. They lusted after things that they should not have. Many of them became idolaters. We know how displeasing it was to God to see them worshipping images made by the hands of men.

We probably think that we are not tempted to worship an idol. I imagine that that ranks pretty low on things that might be a temptation for any of us, when we think of an idol in the aspect that Paul spoke of. However, if we look at the broad overall meaning of an idol, I think that each of us has things that we are putting too much emphasis on, and, in a sense, it might be deemed that we are worshipping them. For example, it could be our possessions. We should not make anything an idol, letting it take precedence to God. Nothing should take prece-

dence over our love and devotion in service to our Lord and God.

As we mentioned, idols as images, aren't that prevalent in most of our Christian nations. Yet, we know that in other parts of the world there are more people who worship idols as gods than there are those who worship the true living God. We were able to witness this. The thought of idol worship never sank in much until we visited in India, Japan, Thailand and some of the rest of the Far Eastern nations and saw people worship idols.

They often seem uncertain even about the idol that they worship. Sometimes there is more than one, a whole series of idols, and they go from one to the other to worship.

We had the opportunity just a few weeks ago to visit a leper colony. It was by a river. It wasn't a colony that was operated by the government. At first when we heard about it and heard that they were in need, we thought it might be a project that we could help with; but we found it was not a project, but just an area where they were forced to go off by themselves because they were shunned. It was just like we read of in the Bible times when those who had leprosy had to call out, "unclean".

To get there, we went down by a river that was deemed a holy river by the Hindu people. Here we saw things which we had only seen in books and pictures. Some people were carrying a Hindu priest on a make-shift ark on sticks across their shoulders. They carried him in a sort of sling with a fancy umbrella over his head. They were taking him to bathe in the "holy" water.

Other people carried many kinds of fruit on platters, or had various articles to sacrifice or worship or whatever they were planning to do.

As we walked on through this area, we saw some people by a little building

containing a monkey god. In another one was an idol that looked like the body of a man with six arms and the head of an elephant. The next one was a stone ox.

We noticed that the people would go from one to the other. They would put down a few coins and say a few chants. Some would put down some flower petals. It seemed to be very commercialized. There were always people selling the flower petals and various paraphernalia that were needed for their worship.

We inquired of the Indian who was with us why the people went from one kind of god to the other. This Indian was a Christian, and he said, "It is so sad. They are uncertain as to what the true God is, so they worship all of these various gods, plus the sun and the moon and any other thing that they don't understand or know much about, hoping that they cover all the bases so that they don't miss out but make sure that they worship the right god."

It is distressing to realize that there are more people in the world who have been raised in such ways than there are those like us, who have been raised to know that Jesus Christ is the true and living God.

In our Bibles, the heading here says, "Christians must flee idolatry". We have things that might, as we have said, become our idols. They might keep us from serving the Lord. There may be some in India who just hear the Word once and are willing to turn their backs on those gods that they worshiped before. Or perhaps in some of the tribal villages where they weren't sophisticated enough to know of the Hindu religion but were under the influence of witch doctors, the aboriginal people would have a deep and abiding faith when they heard of the love of the true God.

(Continued on Page 30)