



And the peace of God,
which passeth all under-
standing, shall keep your
hearts and minds through
Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:7

Great peace have they
which love thy law: and
nothing shall offend them.

Psalms 119:165

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Peacefulness, Is It Possible?

As we near the end of another busy summer, many of us may be asking ourselves this question. The answer is a resounding **yes!** However, we as believers must recognize that true peace or peacefulness is ours, not because of a peaceful world around us, but due to the inner peace from Christ alone. Peace from Christ is not so much in having Him calm the storm around us, but in realizing that He will keep us through the storm.

"Peace I leave you, my peace I give unto you; not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid . . ."

John 14:27



Yes, true peace and peacefulness is found through the assurance that we are walking with Christ. The more that we are aware of His presence and the more we commune with Him, the greater will be our sense of His presence and peace . . . His peace, not ours! The peace that He gives is not dependent on our feelings, emotions, environment or circum-

stances faced in life. Praise God for peace within!

"These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulations: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world."

John 16:33

QUIET, LORD, MY FROWARD HEART

Quiet, Lord, my froward heart,
Make me teachable and mild,
Upright, simple, free from art;
Make me as a little child —
From distrust and envy free,
Pleased with all that pleases
Thee.

What Thou shalt today provide,
Let me as a child receive;
What tomorrow may betide,
Calmly to Thy wisdom leave;
'Tis enough that Thou wilt care;
Why should I the burden bear?

As a little child relies
On a care beyond its own,
Being neither strong nor wise,
Fears to take a step alone —
Let me thus with Thee abide,
As my Father, Friend and Guide.

Gospel Hymns #466

MEMORIES OF JAPAN AND INDIA

Elder Bro. David Bertsch

(Last article on the visits to Balhana, Nasik and the journey home. Continued From the July Issue.)

We stayed at the Government Station overnight. I had mosquito netting over my cot, but Bros. John and Jim and Sisters Lois and Virginia had no protection and the mosquito bites were numerous. Pastor Dougre and Aghamkar slept in the same room where I slept and arose at 4:30. We had many opportunities to share together the many blessed truths and teachings from God's Holy Word. Joseph John, the cook, always took good care of us with the many meals he prepared. We packed all the luggage and supplies on top of the van and set out for Balhana. We saw many villages along the way, including one village with tepee-type dwellings, like those of the North American Indians. We saw threshing floors with the oxen treading out the grain. It was just like a vast panoramic picture of life and times some several thousand years ago. We met Dr. Shantwan along the way and he accompanied us to Balhana. On Saturday afternoon, we met many Christians and shared together their concerns and needs. The church at Balhana was built in 1976 with help from the brethren through World Relief efforts. On Sunday the church was filled and we enjoyed a very blessed service. They sang hymns and we shared the Word of God together through an interpreter. After services, the entire church walked down a winding path to the river to witness the baptism of 19 precious souls. There in a pool, Pastor's Dougre and Agham heard the converts make their covenant with God and baptized them in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

After the baptismal service, the two pastors laid hands on the heads of the converts and offered a prayer of consecration and ensembling of the Holy Spirit. It was a very touching service. The members asked for teaching from the Holy Word of the laying on of hands.

On the other side of the river there was a large gathering of Hindus, watching and listening intently. How we do pray for them, that they can believe on

the Lord Jesus Christ and His shed blood there on the Cross at Calvary.

I can still picture Pastor Dougre walking in his sandals, with his Bible in a carrying sack on his side, winding his way back to the church. I'm left with impressions of his Christian love and compassion for the Indian believers and think of the many miles the pastors and evangelists have walked to bring the truth and way of salvation to many precious souls.

As we started our journey south, our next stop was at the Nasik Mission Compound. We were joyously welcomed by the orphan boys, the believers and mission workers. We were taken on a tour to see the orphan boys' living quarters, the cooking and dining area, the dispensary and the church. They had a program prepared, with the orphan boys singing hymns for us. We held a worship service and sang some hymns in English for them. How thankful we are for the interpreters who so faithfully helped during the services in Japan and India.

From Nasik we journeyed back to Bombay. There we boarded the plane for the journey home making stops at Hong Kong and Tokyo. It was truly a memorable experience that has profoundly affected my Christian life, seeing the poverty, hunger and many thousands of souls in need of a Saviour. I had to struggle with the sight of this great need the first three days in Bombay. Then the answer to prayer came, "Do all you can".

We can be so thankful for the opportunity we have, as a church, as brothers and sisters, to help in this work for the Rural Gospel and Medical Mission. The church and Christians in India are pleading for us to teach them of our faith and belief. Linger in my heart and mind are the farewells at the end of the journey and how evangelist Tayde came to the van windows and said, "Please don't forget me".

Arriving back at Los Angeles, the family of Bro. John and Sis. Lois were there with a joyous welcome. Arriving home in Fort Wayne, I had a joyous meeting with my wife and family and I thank the Lord for His guiding hand and protection.

I have within me a continuing fervent

hope to someday, as the Lord would open the way, once again visit the brothers and sisters in Japan and the pastors, ministers and Christians in India.

TEACHING POSITION AVAILABLE IN ATHENS, AL

There is a need for a sister (a certified teacher or a sister interested in taking additional training toward certification) to work in the Athens Christian School. The need is for the school term starting in September 1985.

For additional information call or write:

Elder Bro. Edwin Hohulin
Box 73
Goodfield, IL 61742
(309) 965-2251

Elder Bro. Lavoyd Moore
Route 5, Box 75A
Athens, AL 35611
(205) 232-2035

THE SILVER LINING

Grabill, Indiana 46741
USPS 496780

EDITORIAL STAFF:

Lynn Stieglitz
Albert Frautschi
David Bertsch

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Grabill, IN 46741

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IN MEMORY — EDITORS:
HENRY SOUDER
EDWARD SOUDER

URGENT NEED FOR A MARRIED COUPLE AT CHILDREN'S HOME

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

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

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

The qualification requirements for the alternate houseparents are:

1. Must be a brother and/or sister sound in faith, upholding church doctrine and order.
2. Must have the support of his/her home church elder.
3. Must be able to command respect of children, as well as adults.
4. Desirable age between 21 and 60 years. Consideration will be given to all applicants.
5. A resume is required to be sent with your request for an interview.
6. This position is full-time.

7. Training or studies in child care, social work, nursing profession, counseling or teaching would be helpful. We have a staff development program and "on-the-job" training to help you carry out your duties.

8. Additional information concerning duties, salary, insurance and other compensation can be obtained by writing or calling:

Bro. Dan Knochel
30449 Barkley
Livonia, MI 48154
(313) 421-0711

Bro. Brace Wieland
13034 Cherry Street
Leo, IN 46765
(219) 627-5167

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

All requests and resumes will be promptly and prayerfully answered.
"When my father and my mother forsake me, then the Lord will take me

up." (Psalm 27:10). There is an ever increasingly great number of children who have been forsaken, and only a small number of Christian homes available to provide for them. The Lord needs willing workers to provide for these young souls.

The Children's Home
Board Members

NEED FOR NURSING HOME ADMINISTRATOR

The churches in Michigan, along with Toledo, OH, are in the process of constructing a 66-bed nursing home adjacent to our new church on property acquired in Livonia, MI, just outside Detroit.

We have a very attractive wooded site that should provide a very beautiful environment for the occupants of this home.

We have a certificate of need for shelter care, and we have an application to upgrade this certificate to acute nursing care. In constructing the facility, we are making provision for both.

We are in need of a nursing home administrator. Inasmuch as it is a fairly large home and we have no experience, the Board and the selection committee are of the belief that the administrator must have had some experience in the nursing care field. We have received some applications for this position and are very grateful for them; but upon review we feel it would be unfair to thrust an individual into this very responsible position without having some prior experience.

Therefore, if any of our brethren are interested or are aware of someone with the proper qualifications, we would sincerely appreciate your forwarding a resume to either Bro. Phil Bahr, 17366 Westbrook, Livonia, MI 48152 or to myself, Ben Maibach, Jr., 14726 Fox, Redford, MI 48239.

We also will be in need of a nursing supervisor and nurses or aids. Here again applications may be forwarded to the above brethren.

We are grateful for the support we have received, and believe it is a privilege to provide help for brethren and friends who are no longer able to care for themselves.

Respectfully submitted,
Ben Maibach, Jr.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN BIBLE DISTRIBUTION

Bibles Distributed by our Churches

First Year — August 1983 thru July 1984 — 13,890
Second Year — August 1984 thru July 1985 — 10,812

Bibles Distributed — Second Year

	MONTH	TO DATE
August 1984 —	909	909
September 1984 —	749	1658
October 1984 —	686	2344
November 1984 —	1246	3590
December 1984 —	944	4534
January 1985 —	850	5384
February 1985 —	505	5889
March 1985 —	1077	6966
April 1985 —	825	7791
May 1985 —	1052	8843
June 1985 —	1104	9947
July 1985 —	865	10812

NOTE: Sets of Braille Bibles are available to give to the blind and KJV on cassette tapes for those who can no longer read the large print.

PARKVIEW HAVEN

Parkview Haven is a planned retirement center designed to give comfort, shelter, safety and care to those who have reached the Golden Years of their lives. Our goal is to make the love of God in Christ Jesus visible through caring for our residents and sharing with them in His marvelous grace. Do you know of someone who would enjoy retiring in this Christian atmosphere? At the present time, we have a number of comfortable residential apartments available. Information is available through any of the sponsoring churches at Francesville, LaCrosse, Remington, Wolcott and Valparaiso, IN. You may also write to Parkview Haven, Box 797, Francesville, IN 47946.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME

Uriel Gehring — Judy Luginbuhl

We have been taking advantage of our summer traveling weather to visit some of our churches. The 4th of July weekend, 3 vans and 30 people drove down to Athens, AL. The countryside was simply beautiful as we drove through our own state, Kentucky, Tennessee and the northern part of Alabama. It was a little over 500 miles. We had interstate highway right to Athens. Modern modes of transportation have shortened the travel time between places.

Friday night, July 5, we had a fish fry (blue cat) in the fellowship hall. After supper we had a congregational hymn sing in the fellowship hall with some special numbers. We immensely en-

joyed the singing, which seemed so much a part of the life-style in Alabama. Saturday we went to the Space Center in Huntsville, AL, where we saw the machinery and data used in space flight. It is amazing what man has accomplished in outer space discovery and travel. How much more intriguing is the creation of man by our great Creator, wonder of wonders of all ages! Saturday night another delicious dinner was served on the lawn area of the fellowship hall, and, you guessed it, back to the fellowship hall for more singing and simply praising the Lord. Sunday we all went to church and enjoyed the service and fellowship very much. A delicious potluck dinner was served before we left for home about 2:30 p.m. We drove all the way home that night. We were a bit weary when we arrived home, but were filled with pleasant memories of our fellowship with our brethren and friends. This was a first visit to Alabama for most of us. Thank you all at Athens.

On a recent weekend we went to Francesville, IN for the Annual Christian Endeavor. All the Indiana Bible Classes were invited and an enjoyable time was had by all. There were about 170 students present. We had three delicious meals served at the fellowship hall plus a late evening wiener roast behind the hall in the great outdoors. Thank you, Francesville Church, for hosting us. How sweet is our fellowship, all because of what He has done for us.

Our children attend services every Sunday and Wednesday evening. These are two special times of fellowship. The third Sunday of every month our church has a service in the evening at the Fort Wayne Rescue Mission. Some of the children are generally there, too.

Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: by whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; and patience, experience; and experience, hope: and hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us. Romans 5:1-5. Paul seems to be referring to spiritual struggles in these verses as a means to character development, experience,



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and hope, yet these very same principles are equally applicable to all facets of everyday living.

It is amazing how comfortable it is to justify actions, in ourselves and others, in not persevering, in not sticking to it through trials and difficult situations. Children, especially, tend to think of their own comforts, desires and feelings first. They want the easy way, the quick way and the least risky way. So often, they react to unpleasant or difficult situations with: "I don't want to!"; "It's too hard!"; "I'm bored!!"; "That's okay, I'll just quit and do something different."; "I want it but I want to do it MY way!"

As adults and parents, it is not only our responsibility to develop patience and perseverance within ourselves, but to teach these traits to our children. If we want character to grow, it is not through the cushy path, the easy way out, but through facing those situations and seeing them through to the end.

Yes, it is natural for us as parents and adults to want to protect our children from all that is hurtful and evil. And that is our duty, but children sometimes look to their parents or significant adults to change the reality of the situation and this is when we must be strong and encourage them to stand, face the situation and work it through. We are there to counsel and to support them but we must insist that they take the steps themselves.

In the end, as painful as the experience might be, they are better for it. Their confidence and character are stronger and the experience will bring wisdom into their lives. Character built on perseverance and patience develops inner strength (hope) that we want developed in our children so that ultimately they will be able to stand strong in their Christian convictions. In the end, it can be said, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith." II Timothy 4:7.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

The swift passage of time suggests that we call your attention to the date of our annual Benefit Day on November 15, 1985, at the Morton Fellowship Hall adjacent to our Home. Your talents, time and efforts have made Benefit Day in the past a success, and we look forward to another such occasion. May we plan to see you then?

The genuine sincerity of residents is

refreshing. Recently one of them was caught out-of-doors when a light sun shower passed through. He stood quietly for a moment, enjoying the sensation. Then he raised both arms toward heaven in obvious delight and looked upward with a smile. It was not difficult to decipher his understanding that it is God from whom all blessings flow.

Being at the pinnacle of summer with all of its lush beauty brings with it the knowledge that before long summer will begin to fade, and we would be wise to enjoy it while we can. The experience of observing the star-studded heavens on a clear summer night brings to mind Habakkuk 2:20: "... the Lord is in his holy temple. Let all the earth keep silence before him." How small and insignificant we are in comparison to an Almighty God who provides so much beauty for us to enjoy during our appointed time between birth and death! And it is a gift! There is no price tag attached. What if, in our daily mail among all the bills we receive, there would be one from our Heavenly Father, charging us for all the beauty which surrounds us? Would it make us more appreciative? And perhaps, more contented?

If there is ever any doubt that our many volunteers are thought to be valuable, please doubt no more. They are a very important part of the whole operation here. During the past months, we have mentioned a number of things which have been accomplished by them. Another area of worth is all the time given in the laundry department ever since the Home was opened almost fourteen years ago. Some have faithfully driven many miles to spend a day cleaning soiled laundry for our large family. Another faithful volunteer does the never-ending task of mending. To them and to all, we can only say a sincere thanks with a prayer for God's blessings.

Our thanks, too, go to those who have shared their abundance of fruits and vegetables, and to those groups of people who have spent hours processing them for the Home's freezer. It is all appreciated more than we can say. We take comfort, knowing that Christ said, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto the least of these, . . . ye have done it unto me."

"I will sing unto the Lord, because he hath dealt bountifully with me." Psalm 13:6.

ARIZONA, PHOENIX

Ron and Ev Hoerr

Bro. Randy Meyer traveled to Lester, IA for his July 7 wedding to Sis. LaNae Knobloch. Bro. Randy's parents are Bro. Len and Sis. Charlotte Meyer (Chicago, IL). We pray the Lord will bless them as they start their new life together.

Despite our unreasonable temperatures (110-115 degrees), we have been blessed with visiting ministers preaching on love and repentance.

On July 7, Bro. Glenn Price, Jr. (Sarasota, FL) and Bro. Todd Feller (LaCrosse, IN) were our visiting ministers. The Price family was traveling on vacation and Fellers were visiting their daughter and family. Bro. Art Gude-man and Bro. Eugene Metzger also ministered unto us. We are truly blessed, as many of our members have relatives in the ministry.

Our congregation extends sympathy to Esther Harmon on the passing of her son, Jim Reeves. He was laid to rest in Phoenix. Graveside services were conducted by our ministers.

We also extend our sympathy to Bro. Ted and Bro. Herb Knochel on the death of their sister, Sis. Marie Schieler (Remington, IN), Sis. Madeline and Sis. JoAnn traveled with their husbands to Indiana.

Sis. Stefanie Baum was hospitalized for tests and studies. Ella Harmon has been confined to home.

"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to his purpose." Romans 8:28.

ARIZONA, TUCSON

Lisa Knapp — Sandy Bauer

Our Elder Bro. Richard Schupbach visited us for a Wednesday night church service this month. We are very thankful for Bro. Richard's visit. It is always a blessing to meet and greet our brethren from the Phoenix congregation and to have their ministering brothers share the Word with us.

Joe and Cindy McAndrews and little Christopher have come to Tucson to make their home now that Joe is out of the Air Force. Cindy's parents are Bro. Loren and Sis. Evelyn Knapp (Tucson) and they, along with the rest of the Tucson church, are very happy indeed to have Joe, Cindy and Christopher assembling with us. Just their small family of three seems to make such a difference in our little church!

The Tucson congregation wishes to extend its heartfelt sympathy to Dorothy Ringger Skaggs whose husband, Jim, passed away recently. We would also like to extend our sympathy to other members of Jim's family and all those who were close to him in this time of sorrow. These are the times we realize how much we need to lean on the Lord for comfort and strength.

Our friend, Norman Knapp, and his son, Randy, have been joined in Tucson by Norman's wife, Pat, and his two daughters, Diane and Tracy. We wish to welcome the rest of Norman's family here. Norman and Randy have been here for some time assembling with our congregation.

Our Bible class will take a vacation during the month of August and we will not be having our monthly fellowship supper or Youth Bible Study during the months of July and August.

CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA

Shirley Luthi

The weekend of June 30 was filled with warm fellowship and joy as many of our congregation and visitors gathered in San Diego to witness the marriage of Bro. Scott Hoerr to Sis. Anna Jevremov. We wish them God's best as they serve Him as one.

Sis. Kathy Klotzle has once again left for Japan to assist in teaching English and aide in sharing God's love and hope with the Japanese people. We already miss her but rejoice with our brothers and sisters there as she will be appreciated in their small fellowship. Let's remember to pray daily that the labors in Japan may be fruitful and honorable to God.

How richly blessed we are to welcome new families into our California fellowship. Bro. Richard and Sis. LaNae Aberle and family (Rockville, CT), Bro. Linn and Sis. Brenda Stoller and family (northern California) and Bro. Richard and Sis. Julie Lindberg and family (Roanoke, IL) have all joined our Altadena congregation. We warmly and heartily welcome these dear families.

Sis. Doris Hecker and Bro. Bill Witzig have been our recent hospital patients. We are thankful they have experienced the Lord's strengthening hand and have returned home.

On June 23 many of us helped Bro. Bill and Sis. Mary Witzig celebrate their 35th wedding anniversary at a reception held in their honor. In a

world of crumbling commitments, their marriage is a testimony of God's power against Satan's attack against the home.

Our June graduates are Sis. Elaine Graff (Bro. Virgil and Sis. Marilyn) and David Klotzle (Bro. John and Sis. Lois). May God bless and direct them on their new paths.

We want to thank Bro. Arthur Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN) for his willingness to share God's Word with us during his and Sis. Mary's recent visit.

CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO Sherise Strahm — Marian Petrovic

Each step I take my Saviour goes before me, and with His loving hand He leads the way. And with each breath I whisper "I adore Thee;" Oh what joy to walk with Him each day. Each step I take I know that He will guide me; To higher ground He ever leads me on. Until some day the last step will be taken. Each step I take just leads me closer home.

Gospel Hymns #364

"... and I will cause the shower to come down in His season: there shall be showers of blessing."

Ezekiel 34:26

Completely relying by faith in our Lord, this month we welcomed two families into our midst. Bro. Scott Hoerr (Bro. Robert and Sis. Emma Dee, Taylor, MO), and Sis. Anna Jevremov (Bro. Victor and Sis. Anna, San Diego) were united in holy matrimony June 30. We rejoice with them as they establish a Christian home in our community.

Wonderful news reached our homes as well as our hearts when Bro. Elmer, Sis. Ruth Ann and Evan Getz (Elgin, IL) relocated in the San Diego area. May the grace and peace of God be upon both families. Faith in God will be richly rewarded. "And Jesus answering saith, 'Have faith in God.'" Mark 11:22.

Singing! What a beautiful way to praise our Heavenly Father! On June 29, a large number of brothers, sisters and friends from various states and churches gathered here for an evening of song worship. Many thanks are given to all who were able to come.

We were uplifted by the Word which was spoken through ministering Bros. Glen Hackenjoes and Jon Kokanovich. We are very grateful for all our visitors

and their continuous support. With such a strong bond of unity, we are continually reminded that each one of us is striving for the same goal; that one day we will see our Saviour face to face, and reside with Him forever.

Services are held the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month. For those who may need more information, please contact Peter Petrovic or Victor Jevremov at 489-5165 or 755-3341.

COLORADO, DENVER

Mike Martin — Marlene Leman

"For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba Father. The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God." Romans 8:14-16. May God be praised when another soul can be brought in. We wish to welcome our new brother-in-faith, Rod Schmidt (Sis. Betty, West Bend, IA) and may he walk closely along with God as he goes through this life.

"And thinkest thou this, O man, that judgest them which do such things, and doest the same, that thou shalt escape the judgment of God? Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?" Our prayers go with Ed Leman (Bro. Tom and Sis. Marlene) as he begins his walk in the footsteps of Jesus.

We sincerely wish to thank all the brethren who came and labored on our behalf. The visiting brothers were: Elder Bros. Wayne Fehr, Sam Huber, Don Sauder and Bros. Doug Grimm, Elmer Schmidt and Clarence Dietrich.

Just a note for those who might not remember, we are in our own church building now. The address is 280 S. Revere, Aurora. It is located on the corner of Alameda and Revere, just one-half mile west of I-225 on Alameda. The address in the minister book is NOT where we are now located. Thanks for making a note of this.

CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE

Michelle Virkler

"When the cares of life are pressing
Let us in Thee find relief."

Zion's Harp #161

May our Lord and Saviour protect

our loved ones who have been hospitalized this month (July): Bro. Harold Lanz and Sis. Amy Cone. They are now home recuperating.

The Lord has granted more blessings of little ones for our congregation: Jennifer Hoffman, born to Bro. Arlo and Sis. Lynn (Moser). Grandparents are Bro. James and Sis. Jane Moser and Bro. Edwin and Sis. Elsie Hoffman. Travis Lanz was born to Bro. John and Sis. Kay (Schneider). Grandparents are Bro. Wilbur and Marge Schneider and Bro. Edwin and Sis. Marilyn Lanz.

Oftentimes Rockville is visited as many are on their way passing through New England. This month we were blessed to have Bro. Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH), Bro. Lloyd Kraft (Gridley, KS) and Bro. Ed Alt (Cissna Park, IL). We thank God they were able to be in our midst and spend a few days with us. We truly appreciate their wisdom and teachings and may we always apply it to our hearts.

Bro. Ed Alt spoke on I John 3:8, "He that loveth not, knoweth not God, for God is love." I John 3:18, "There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear; because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love." This part of scripture has such meaning for all who want to love and serve our Savior.

"The goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance." Romans 2:4. Our dear and precious friend, Cindy Stomberg (Bro. Ron and Sis. Judy), has decided to walk in His goodness and follow Him.

FLORIDA, FT. LAUDERDALE Billie Klopfenstein

It's the rainy summer season in South Florida and this year there seems to be more than normal. It's also been a time of fierce electrical storms. In our home we have a book with "Storm on the Sea of Galilee" depicted. This is a famous painting by Rembrandt and the scripture that goes along with the picture is Mark 4:40. "Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith?" Faith overcomes fear, suggests our Lord. If we just remember how Jesus calmed the stormy sea, we can remember also what He can do to "calm the storms" that sometimes invade our lives.

Bro. Bob and Sis. Doris Huber have announced the engagement of their daughter, Sis. Laurie Huber (Bloom-

ington-Normal, IL) to Bro. Terry Steffen (Alto, MI).

FLORIDA, NORTH FORT MYERS Marie Keller — Edna Meister

"Wilt thou follow Me?"
The Saviour asked.
The road looked bright and fair,
And filled with youthful hope and zeal
I answered, "Anywhere."

"Wilt thou follow Me?"
Again He asked.
The road looked dim ahead;
But I gave one glance at His glowing
face
"To the end, dear Lord," I said.

"Wilt thou follow Me?"
I almost blanched,
For the road was rough and new,
But I felt the grip of His steady hand,
And it thrilled me through and through.

"Still followest thou?"
'Twas a tender tone,
And it thrilled my inmost heart.
I answered not, but He drew me close,
And I knew we would never part.

Selected

We thank our Elder Bro. Ben Maibach and his wife, Sis. Lorene (Detroit, MI) for coming and ministering the Word to us during this past month. We also enjoyed the warm fellowship of visitors and friends who were with us.

We welcome Bro. Tom Cholak (formerly from the Ft. Lauderdale congregation) to assemble with us here. Bro. Tom is presently living with his father, Lazar Cholak, at Warm Mineral Springs, FL. May they feel welcome here with us.

We wish to extend our sympathy to Louise and William Heckel and the family in the death of Louise's brother, Paul Sauder (Mansfield, OH) this past month.

"Whoso draws nigh to God one step
Through doubtings dim,
God will advance a mile
In blazing light to him."

Author Unknown

FLORIDA, SARASOTA Elaine Gudeman — Elda Martin

The Lord's servants are asked by Him to "Feed My Sheep". Truly we have been most richly blessed if we

have come with open hearts and minds to hear God's teachings. We thank our own ministering brethren and offer a special thank you to Bro. John Schmiggall (Oakville, IA) for laboring on our behalf.

It is always a special time to rejoice when we add souls, not only to our little congregation, but also to the family of God. We lovingly welcome Bro. Greg and Sis. Sharon Sabo and Sis. Biserka Krstec to our congregation. Each one has already been such a blessing.

Shortly after a little child was tucked into bed, prayers said and good-night kisses given, there was a thud. The mother returned to find the little one on the floor. When asked what happened, the child answered, "I stayed too close to where I go in!"

In our spiritual life, have we, as the child, "stayed too close to where we got in?", or have we daily applied our Lord's teachings? Have we learned to stay in the middle where it is safe? Or do we challenge, and stay near the edge where accidents can happen. Let us each one strive to grow spiritually in faith and in service for our Lord and Master.

Hospital patients this month were Emmanuel Krstec and Jim Cambern, both with hand injuries. We wish them both speedy recoveries, and patience to wait for the healing process.

ILLINOIS, BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL Nancy Kaufmann — Jan Gudeman

We rejoice with Bro. Jeff and Sis. Brenda Thames as they welcome little David Phillip into their home. David was born June 29. Grandparents are Robert and Delores Kiefer (Oakville, IA); and Phil and Kay Thames (Mackinaw, IL). Bro. Jeff and Sis. Brenda have just recently relocated in this area so Jeff could continue his education at ISU. We welcome this new little family into our congregation.

Our annual summer Sunday school picnic was enjoyed by all. It is so good to enjoy Christian fellowship with one another.

We sympathize with Tom and Sis. Deann Anderson in the recent loss of Tom's father, Jay Anderson.

We rejoice with Sis. Laurie Huber and Bro. Terry Steffen as their engagement has been announced. Bro. Terry is from Alto, MI and is the son of Bro. Carl and Sis. Myrna Steffen. Laurie's parents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Doris

Huber (Ft. Lauderdale, FL). May the Lord guide these two dear ones as they plan their lives together.

ILLINOIS, BRADFORD
Marilyn Tanner

And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me.

Likewise also the cup after supper, saying. This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you.

Luke 22:19, 20

What a solemn hour of communion we spent with our Lord. We thank Elder Bro. Eugene Marti and his wife who came from Lamar, MO to spend the weekend with us. We also thank our Elder Bro. Joe Stoller for serving holy communion to us.

Also ministering to us this past month were Bro. Bill Gudeman (Elgin, IL), Bro. Vernon Wettstein (Congerville, IL) and Bro. Don Manz (Junction, OH). We heard many good teachings and sincerely thank each one for lending themselves on our behalf.

Kim Joos (Bro. Robert and Sis. Becky) and Sis. Sharon Bruell were our surgical patients this month. The Lord was surely watching over Bill Endress (Sis. Lois) when he had an accident with a lawn mower. We are thankful they are all home and recuperating. May God add His healing touch.

CLOSED CHAPTER

When he marched off to school
 I knew I had no choice,
 But afterthoughts left me
 Unable to rejoice.
 And though I kissed his cheek,
 Yet how could I be glad?
 For he was only six —
 The last small child I had.
 'Twas then I sensed somehow,
 As I waved to my son,
 A chapter in life's book
 For me was nearly done.

Perry Tanksley

Each year is a new chapter in our lives. Only God knows when the last chapter will be written.

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO
Kathy Schlatter

"Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!" Hymns of Zion #149. I find

that a song which sends shivers through me, reminding me of His glory and power, of my need for having a healthy fear of the Lord. Thus I need to be more prayerful and careful at all times, heeding the Spirit, using discernment (which looks inward), not judgment (which points fingers outward at someone else).

Because of unique circumstances this summer, we owe a special vote of thanks to our visiting ministers. Elder Bro. Nate Steffen (Elgin, IL) and Bro. Mike Thomas (Valparaiso, IN) came July 7 when all four of our home ministers were gone. We are also indebted to Bro. Fred Knapp (Congerville, IL) and Bro. Jim Rinkenberger (Bluffton, IN) for lending themselves in the Lord's service.

Bro. Jim spoke during one of our Vacation Bible School meetings. We appreciate his extra effort on a week night, and the children and their parents are also grateful to their VBS teachers for all six week nights! "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handiwork." Psalm 19:1.

Originally from Princeville and Champaign, IL, respectively, Sis. Deonne Baurer and Sis. Rita Richardson have joined our Chicago circle. They have an apartment together on the north side and both work in the Loop. Bro. Steve and Sis. Sue Jones, on the other hand, have moved to the western suburbs, and he commutes to Caterpillar in Joliet. They are formerly from Morton, IL. We rejoice at the faith of these loved ones in their coming to the "big city" and look forward to true fellowship and more sharing with each of them.

Bro. Randy Meyer (Bro. Lenny and Sis. Charlotte, Chicago) and Sis. LaNae Knobloch (Bro. Glenn and Sis. Joyce Metzger) were united in marriage July 7 in her home church of Lester, IA. The new couple will be at home in Phoenix, where Randy has lived and worked for several years. "And the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God, and into the patient waiting for Christ." II Thessalonians 3:5.

Sis. Sara Adam had surgery and is recuperating at her sister's in Columbus, OH, and Bro. Sam Slagel was briefly hospitalized while visiting family in Fairbury, IL. May our prayers and hopes for the Lord's improvement for their health rise up to Him! Sis. Peggy

Klaus has also had surgery but appears to be doing so very well. We are thankful for her progress. May Thou be ever near each one, especially when time seems long and recovery slower than they think it should be. May we be used by Thee to give encouragement and cheerful thoughts.

A ministering brother was talking of heavy duty construction machines that receive expensive and intensive maintenance every 150 hours, whether they "need" it or not, in order to prevent breakdowns and difficulties later. This, he pointed out, corresponds pretty well to our 164 hours from Sunday to Sunday maintenance for our worship and fellowship, with extra lubrication available on Wednesday evenings, a special privilege. Christ, our employer, doesn't want us "burning out" on the job. We were also given the information that on a double-engined machine, a front engine has a life-expectancy four times that of a rear engine, even though the machines are only separated by fifty feet.

The reason given for the rear engine succumbing earlier was the continued contamination and dirt it received being that far behind. It was noted that the closer we walk to our Savior the less chance there is for interference and filth clinging to us, clouding our vision, and hindering our steps heavenward. "Pressing more closely to Him who is leading" increases our eternal life-expectancy. (Quote from "Stepping in the Light", Tabernacle #160, vs. 2).

We perceive it on every hand, the eroding of regard for authority and order. I, of course, know too many examples from the classroom. The newspapers scream at us concerning terrorism and hostages. When respect is gone, its crumbling invites chaos and disorder. Our daughter recently mentioned her high regard for our ministers, and I remember from my childhood days my deep respect for our Tremont ministers. Shouldn't we members be reminded by our children of our ever-growing responsibility? We are to esteem each one more highly than ourselves (paraphrasing Philipians 2:3), so surely those who preach the Word in season and out of season deserve our highest respect and utmost support. If our Lord cannot expect good order in His church, then where?

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK**Myrna Weerts — Wilma Walder**

The weekend of June 29 and 30 was an enjoyable one as we welcomed the children, their houseparents and Bro. Uriel and Sis. Judy Gehring from the Leo Children's Home (Leo, IN). A picnic and evening of fellowship was held on Saturday. Then our annual Sunday school picnic Sunday afternoon to which they were all invited helped us to become better acquainted with them. We appreciated the efforts of Bro. Uriel in bringing the living Word to us and his summary of the activities of the Home and the responsibilities and duties of those who labor there. We are mindful of these dear children, remember them in prayer and trust the Lord will bless them and those who labor in love to care for them.

Others who came to visit us this month and labored in the ministry were Bro. Fred Knapp (Congerville, IL) and Bro. Gene Lehman (Wolcott, IN). May God bless them and may they know we appreciate their efforts.

We were saddened to hear of the passing of our dear Bro. John Wahl July 7 but thankful he could be relieved of his earthly pain and suffering. He is survived by a son, Tom Wahl (Elgin) and stepchildren, William Brenner (Onarga), Elmer Brenner (Watska), Donald Brenner (Kankakee), Anna Cruse (Cissna Park), Viola Campbell (Newton, NC), Gladys Chase (Gilman) and Mary Antolik (Magnolia) and one sister, Clara Wahl (Mansfield, OH).

Having experienced the love of God in their hearts and having faith to share this love and their lives in the years ahead are our Sis. Deloris Walder and Bro. Alton Maibach (Rittman, OH). The deceased parents are Bro. Henry and Sis. Dora Walder and Bro. Ben and Sis. Ella Maibach.

"In the months past we really found out what Christian friendship means. We've had some rough times since Lynn's back injury last September and my illness, but we were truly blessed through all of you loved ones who helped us out in many ways. We can't thank you enough but pray that God's blessings be upon each of you."

Lynn and Anna Marie Young

Our only hospital patient this month was Sis. Clara Vogel. We are thankful she is home and able to assemble with us again. May God continue to strengthen and be with her.

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE**Joan Schrock — Tammy Knapp**

"You are writing a gospel,
A chapter each day,
By deeds that you do,
By words that you say.
Men read what you write,
Whether faithless or true,
Say, what is the gospel according to you?"

We must each start each day by asking God to help us be a proper light and example to the others round about us. This will help others and help us to lead a life more pleasing to God. Let's just remember that our lives may be the only Bible someone reads.

Our annual Sunday school picnic was this month. Now, all of the children will move up to a higher class to learn more about our Saviour and what He did for us.

ILLINOIS, ELGIN
Elizabeth Schambach
Betty Bachtold

We'll learn and we'll labor in cheerful accord,
And do what we can in the strength of the Lord.
O blessed is he,
When the summer is gone,
Who harvests the fruit from good seed he has sown.

Zion's Harp #165

Once again we have loved ones who have suffered injuries and undergone surgery and tests. These include Sisters Helen Banwart, Lucile Knupper, Frances Kaptain, Ernestine Gudeman and Bro. William Wewetzer. Gail Kellenberger (Elvis) also had surgery. We thank the Lord that each one has improved and trust He will continue to bless with returning health.

A dear family from our congregation has been led by the inspiration of God to relocate in San Diego, CA. We will miss Bro. Elmer and Sis. Ruth Ann Getz and their children, Bro. Brad, Paul and Evan. We wish to heartily thank them for loving deeds in our behalf, and even though miles separate us, may prayers ascend to our Heavenly Father for each other. We want to extend our sympathy to them in the death of Elmer's mother, Sis. Mary Getz, 93, who passed away at Restmor in Morton, IL. She formerly resided at the Apostolic Christian Resthaven

(Elgin). "O Come, angel band, Come and around me stand; O bear me away on your snowy wings To my immortal home."

We are so grateful to God for His great love and mercy. Greg, Jeff and Ken and Vicky Kellenberger (Sis. Marilyn) have felt the Lord's forgiveness and peace, and wish to bring their testimonies before the congregation. We look forward to this blessed event.

Jim and Mary Krueger were blest with a precious baby, Derek Jon. He was welcomed home by Scottie. Grandparents are Bro. Gene and Sis. Libby Moser and Kenneth and Ora Mae Krueger (Elgin). We pray God will help them to teach and nurture their children in God's ways.

Our dear Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen and Sis. Marilyn were able to commemorate their 35th wedding anniversary in June with all of their dear children, relatives and friends. We trust the Lord will continue to bless them with health and Godly wisdom.

We cannot appreciate enough the labors of love of our visiting and home ministers who proclaim the Word to fill our cups to overflowing. Visiting us this month were Bro. John Lehman (Bern, KS) and Bro. Edwin Bahler (Remington, IN). "His wholesome word accepting, May we His likeness bear. By works and deeds confessing, His righteousness we'd share." Zion's Harp #138.

To Sis. Marie Hugh, we extend our sincere sympathy in the passing of her brother, Perry, July 12. He was the son of Sis. Martha (Wiegand) and Alfred Hugh.

We welcome Sis. Jan Mogler of Sabetha, KS (formerly of West Bend, IA) who has accepted the duties of Director of Nursing Services in our new Rest Home. May she feel the love of God within our brotherhood as we worship and labor together.

The Albert Scheitlin, Sr. family wishes to thank everyone for their love and kindness during the illness and passing of their beloved one.

ILLINOIS, EUREKA
Kathy L. Rocke

"... they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ." Acts 5:42. We have truly been blessed with visiting ministers this past month. We thank Bros. John Hartman (Fairbury, IL), Marvin Leman (Bradford, IL), Glen Funk (Garden Grove, IA), Howard

Plattner (Wichita, KS), Clarence Kachelmuss (Forrest, IL), John Lehman (Bern, KS), Bill Hodel (Roanoke, IL), Wayne Anliker (Forrest, IL) and Glenn Dill (Tremont, IL) for coming and breaking the Bread of Life unto us. May God be their rich rewarder.

We welcome Bro. Gary and Sis. Nancy Knepp, along with their children, Doug and Keith, back "home" to Eureka. They surely will be missed in the Chicago congregation, but we are thankful God has directed them to relocate in our area.

Crystal Lynn is the new daughter of Bro. Duane and Sis. Eileen Blunier. Marc, Beth and Becky complete this family. Bro. Bob and Sis. Marie Hohulin (Roanoke, IL) and Bro. Sam and Sis. Elizabeth Blunier are the grandparents. Crystal's birthday is July 5.

Douglas Ryan, born July 12, made Bro. Jeff and Sis. Lisa Banwart first-time parents. Bro. Don and Sis. Verda Bruellman (West Bend, IA) and Bro. Joel and Sis. Sonia Banwart are the grandparents. May God give these families much wisdom and guidance in raising these precious children.

"The Lord Will Provide" Zion's Harp #86. On July 14, with joy in our hearts, we heard the wedding engagement of Bro. Walter Anliker and Sis. Claribel Walters (Rittman, OH). As the Lord has led them together, may He guide them as they make plans to walk this earthly path together.

Our sympathy goes to Sis. Lula Fehr as her sister, Sis. Lydia Sever (Salt Lake City, UT) was taken from this life suddenly. May Lydia's husband, Rudy, be comforted.

Brian Martin, 23, was quickly taken from this life Sunday morning, July 14, in a car accident. Our hearts are deeply saddened and our heartfelt sympathy goes to his parents, Bro. Lewis and Sis. Arletta (Joos) Martin; his brother, Bro. Bruce; and sisters, Sis. Teresa Schieler (Goodfield, IL), Sis. Tina, Sis. Tami, Teri and Tarla. May the Holy Spirit truly comfort this dear family and provide the healing balm. "I, even I, am he that comforteth you." Isaiah 51:12.

Never put a question mark where God puts a period.

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY

Carol Bazzell — Joann Zehr

Three families have been blessed with the miracle of life. Bro. Ivan and Sis. Cinda Fehr have a new little

daughter, Tracy Louise, born June 26. She has a sister, Shannon, and her grandparents are Bro. Al and Sis. Carolyn Zimmerman (Forrest) and Bro. Glenn and Sis. Kathryn Fehr. First-time parents are Bro. Quinn and Sis. Joan Zehr. A little son, Blake Thomas, was born July 6. His grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Carol Waldbeser (Cissna Park) and Bro. Warren and Sis. Dolores Zehr. Also experiencing the birth of their first child are Bro. Kirby and Sis. Gwen Knapp. Little Lenae Brianna came into this world July 10. Grandparents are Bro. Merle and Sis. Marge Kaisner and Bro. Glenn and Sis. Laura Knapp. May the blessings of God be upon each of these families.

Our visiting ministers this month were Bros. Edwin Bahler (Remington, IN) and Earl Gerber (Forrest). Their efforts were appreciated and we trust God will bless them.

Our sympathy is extended to the family of Sis. Caroline Woodward. Our Sis. Caroline, 81, passed away June 18 and is survived by two sons, Lloyd and William (Fairbury), and three daughters, Irene Sandusky (South Bend, IN), Lillianne Carpenter (Oklahoma City, OK) and Bonnie Schroeder (Pontiac, IL). Also surviving is a brother, Fred Genzel (Goodland, IN).

ILLINOIS, FORREST

Sharon Adams — Patsy Stoller

We thank our visiting ministers who have so willingly brought us God's precious Word. Visiting us this month were Bros. Edwin Bahler (Remington, IN), Elmer Witzig (Gridley, IL) and Jim Byrd (Roanoke).

Hospital patients this month were Sis. Helen Leman (Bro. Sidney), Bro. Frank Honegger and Bro. Paul Honegger (Sis. Martha). We are thankful to report all are home again.

We rejoice with the angels in heaven as Aaron Masters (Bro. Bill and Sis. Mary) has heard God's call and turned his back to the world in repentance. May he build on the solid rock, Jesus Christ.

Sis. Anita Sohn (Bro. Emil) is now residing at Fairview Haven Nursing Home in Fairbury.

Sis. Josephine Schlatter wishes to thank each one for their many cards, prayers and expressions of love during her illness. May God bless each one.

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD

Pam Wiegand

Though at times he flips his halo,
Or may sometimes park his wings —
He always makes life heavenly
With all the joys he brings!

Matthew Wayne, son of Brian and Cindy Fogel, was born June 19. He has one older brother, Michael. Grandparents are Bro. Harold and Sis. Carol Hohulin (Goodfield) and Sharon and Walter Fogel (Carlock).

Bro. Keith and Sis. Tammy Hinrichsen were blessed with a little boy July 11. Little Joseph Robert's grandparents are Bro. Ralph and Sis. Lynn Garber (Morton) and Bro. Hans and Sis. Arlene Hinrichsen (Goodfield).

Two dear souls have found peace with their Lord and plan to give their testimonies soon. Our prayers are with Cindy Fogel (Hohulin) and Jane Baner (Hohulin).

Along with our blessings and happiness, we are not without sorrow and trials. May the Lord be with our dear Sis. Teresa Schieler and Bro. William and Sis. Clem Joos in the recent loss of their dear brother and grandson, Brian Martin (Eureka). May God give them the strength to carry through.

Hospital patients this month were George C. Knapp, Bro. Jaye Rinckenberger and Bro. Sam Schieler. We pray for God's help and guidance in their daily trials.

Many thanks go to Elder Bro. Loren Stoller (Latty, OH), Bro. Don Manz (Junction, OH) and Bro. Harold Schmidgall (Gridley) for their recent visits.

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY

Carol Klopfenstein

"I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger, and he that believeth on me shall never thirst." John 6:35. When we sought the Lord in true repentance we felt a great hunger and thirst after righteousness. As we became broken and truly humble, the grace of God became abundant in us and we were filled with the righteousness of Christ and His Spirit. Then we knew God had truly forgiven us and had accepted us as His child. His peace became a special treasure in our cleansed and purified heart.

"For he satisfieth the longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness." Psalm 107:9. "The meek shall

eat and be satisfied." Psalm 22:26. No longer do we hunger and thirst when we are walking in the Spirit. We are satisfied and content to be obedient children and we have experienced that "godliness with contentment is great gain." I Timothy 6:14. "The fear of the Lord tendeth to life: and he that hath it shall abide satisfied." Proverbs 19:23.

We were blessed by the visits of several ministering brothers: Bros. Glenn Dill (Tremont, IL), Bob Pfloderer (Morton, IL), Kevin Knapp (Bloomington, IL), Howard Plattner (Wichita, KS), Glenn Funk (Garden Grove, IA) and Russel Wuthrich (Pulaski, IA).

Sis. Mary Witzig has been a hospital patient.

Bro. Byron and Sis. Carol Stoller are the happy parents of Lucas Benjamin who was born July 16. Lucas has a sister, Danielle, and a brother, Nicolas. His grandparents are: Bro. Ed and Sis. Marie Stoller and Bro. Ray and Sis. Nadine Ringger (all of Gridley).

Sis. Sarah Yoder (Devon and Sis. Lavielle) was united in marriage to Bro. Kenneth Teubal (Bro. Richard and Sis. Wilma, Pulaski, IA) July 14.

Russell Kuntz (Bro. Clyde and Sis. Wilma) was united in marriage to Sherrie Vitzthum (Mr. and Mrs. Clair Vitzthum) June 22.

On July 7, a wedding reception was held in Gridley for ministering Bro. Harold Schmidgall and Sis. Ethel Gerber (Rockville, CT).

ILLINOIS, MORTON

Phyllis Farney — JoAnn Roecker

We are thankful that Bro. Tim and Sis. Georgia Pfloderer have moved into our area and will be making Morton their home church. We welcome them and may God continue to bless them.

Sis. Lillian Kaiser wishes to thank all who remembered her with cards and gifts of love on her 90th birthday. May God bless all who were so kind.

Our annual Sunday school picnic was held June 30 at our fellowship hall. There was delicious food and precious fellowship with our children and young people.

Our hearts were saddened to have to say "farewell" to Bro. Steve and Sis. Sue Jones. Bro. Steve's work has transferred him and they will be making Chicago, IL, their home church. May God continue to bless them. Morton's loss is Chicago's gain.

We thank our Heavenly Father that He has called Melissa Joos (Bro.

Robert and Sis. Peggy), Matthew Ackerman (Bro. Roger and Sis. Marge), Janice Staker (Bro. Ted and Sis. Mary) and Renee Leman (Bro. Howard and Sis. Gloria) to work in His vineyard. We heard their testimonies of faith July 6 and witnessed their baptisms July 7. We welcome them as our sisters and brothers-in-faith. May God continue to lead, guide, direct and bless them as they walk the narrow pathway of life.

Bro. Rick, Sis. Marla, Amy, Allison and Erica Ringger welcome into their hearts and home, Lindsey Rae. Lindsey was born July 13. Her happy grandparents are Gene and Mary Ann Witzig (Morton, IL) and Bro. Ray and Sis. Nadine Ringger (Gridley, IL).

Albert Rapp was called into eternity. His funeral was July 15. May our Heavenly Father comfort and bless his family and friends.

We wish to thank Elder Bro. Dan Koch (Tremont, IL), Bros. Charles Sauder (Tremont, IL), Greg Rassi (Chicago, IL) and Bill Emch (Lamont, KS) for ministering God's Holy Word unto us. May our Heavenly Father richly bless them for their labors of love.

We have loved ones who are in the hospital, sick and/or shut-in. May we continue to uphold them in prayer, with a card and/or telephone call. May they continue to feel our prayers.

May all of us continue to pray that our Brotherhood Conference may be in Godly order. May our Heavenly Father manifest Himself through our beloved elder brothers. May we ever uphold them in prayer. It is Morton's privilege to host the conference this summer. We are thankful to be able to do this. May all be done to His name's praise, glory and honor.

ILLINOIS, PEORIA

Susi Herman — Margo Marx

Our congregation rejoices with several souls who have hearkened to our Lord's call. We wish all of them God's grace as they walk this path of life in Christ. We can only pray that many more souls will heed His loving call.

We extend our sympathy to the family of Sis. Emelia Dallinger. We pray that they can feel the comfort of our dear Lord in the loss of their loved one.

Our visiting ministers were Elder Bro. Carl Kinsinger (Altadena, CA), Bro. Ed Alt (Cissna Park, IL), Bro. Noah Herman (Tucson, AZ), Bro. Har-

ry Sutter (Ft. Lauderdale, FL), Bro. Carl Feucht (Lester, IA) and Bro. Don Wagenbach (Washington, IL). Our sincere appreciation is extended to these dear brothers who came and shared the Word with us. May the Lord richly reward them for their efforts.

Hospital patients this month were Sis. Ruth Yoder and Jean Martin. May the healing power be the will of our Father in heaven.

A precious little girl was born to Sis. Suzanne and Bro. Max Hoerr, Jr. Their daughters, Sarah and Rebekah, welcome little Rose Marie, their new sister, home. The happy grandparents are Bro. Gene and Sis. Verna Lehman (Wolcott, IN) and Bro. Max and Sis. Katy Hoerr.

"Baptized into Thy name most holy,
O Father, Son and Holy Ghost,
I claim a place, though weak and lowly
Among Thy seed, Thy chosen host.
Immersed with Christ, I'm dead to sin;
Thy Spirit now shall live within."

Zion's Harp #41

Another soul may make this claim with the Lord as Sis. Amy Unsicker declared her vows in the baptismal waters July 7. Bro. Don Wagenbach (Washington, IL), Bro. Carl Feucht (Lester, IA) and Bro. Harry Sutter (Ft. Lauderdale, FL) were with us as we heard her testimony and witnessed her baptism. Sis. Amy's parents are Bro. Mel and Sis. Carolee Unsicker. We truly rejoice when another soul can lay aside his old sinful life and find a new and joyous walk with the Lord.

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE Marjean Lehman

"As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God."

"If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as the ability which God giveth; that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen."

I Peter 4:10, 11

We truly appreciated and again we want to thank our visiting ministers this past month. We were encouraged to go onward toward our heavenly goal by Bro. Dale Frank, Elder Bro. Ed

Lanz (Oakville, IA), Bros. Harvey Grimm (Bern, KS), Dan Stoller (Remington, IN) and Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville, IL). May God bless them for their labors in our behalf.

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

Proverbs 22:6

On June 30 many attended our annual Sunday school picnic at Jubilee Park. The children told us in song of God's love for us all.

"I will seek that which was lost, and bring again that which was driven away, and will bind up that which was broken, and will strengthen that which was sick . . ."

Ezekiel 34:16

Hospital patients this month were: Sis. Elizabeth Kieser, Bro. Herman Stahl, Jr. (foster child of Bro. Jim and Sis. Marlene Plattner), Dustin Herrmann (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Brenda), Marla Knobloch (Bro. Loris and Sis. Pat).

"Though outwardly they all in Adam are brothers,
Who carry his likeness by nature indeed;
They suffer the illness of flesh as all others;
They eat and they drink, as they daily have need;
In each undertaking, in sleeping and walking,
They do as all others, and nothing neglecting
Save that the world's folly they all are rejecting."

The Inner Life of A Christian,
Zion's Harp #58

Our love and prayers go with Sis. Mary Scholl as she makes herself at home in the Peoria Home.

God does not comfort us to make us comfortable, but to make us comforters.

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

Marge Leman — Carol Knapp

"Blessed is the man who trusteth in the Lord, and whose hope the Lord is. For he shall be like a tree planted by the waters, and that spreadeth out her roots by the river, and shall not see when heat cometh, but her leaf shall be

green; and shall not be careful in the year of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit." Jeremiah 17:7, 8. How encouraging is the realization that despite difficult circumstances we can flourish and bear the blessed fruit of the Spirit! This is a precious promise to those who trust completely in the Lord.

Many good teachings were shared with us by our visiting ministers, Elder Bro. Joe Braker (Morton) and Bro. Kenny Dietz (Bradford).

We are so thankful to welcome into the brotherhood Bro. Rich and Sis. Janet Knepp and Sis. Laura Braker (Bro. Harland and Sis. Martha). It is refreshing to witness those we love committing their lives unto the Lord.

Bro. Mark and Sis. Pam Hodel are happy to welcome Benjamin Roger into their family. He was born July 1 and is a brother to Rebecca. The little fellow was named after his grandpas. The glad grandparents are Bro. Ben and Ruth Ann Hodel and Bro. Roger and Sis. Naomi Moser (Oakville, IA).

Those who have required hospital care are Bros. Rollie Leman, Jim Hodel, Sisters Angela Rassi, Annabelle Blunier, Rose Minger and Pat Sauder. We hope and pray that each of them will again soon be blessed with good health.

We miss Bro. Rich and Sis. Julie Lindberg since they have recently moved to the Altadena, CA area, but we are thankful the Lord has provided employment for Bro. Rich. May God ever bless and keep them and their little boys in His loving care.

As our family was pulling weeds out of the bean field it was a good time to consider the weeds that crop up in our human lives. The weeds we pulled certainly marred the beauty of the field to those who passed by and would most likely adversely affect the yield of the harvest. Let's pull those ugly weeds of envy, selfishness, bitterness and doubt that threaten to diminish the quality of our spiritual fruit and detract from the beauty of our life in Christ Jesus.

ILLINOIS, TREMONT

**Dorothy Wagenbach
Carolyn Bolliger**

Visiting us this month were Bros. John Steiner (Oakville, IA), Willis Wiegand (Goodfield, IL) and Dave Wiegand (Champaign, IL). We thank them for their efforts and willingness to labor that the Word can go forth freely.

June 22 was the wedding day of Curt

Bolliger and Kerrie Prather. Parents of the couple are Sis. Alma Bolliger and Bro. Jerry and Sis. Carolyn Prather. We wish them God's blessings in their married life.

Our annual Sunday school picnic was held June 23 with good attendance.

We mourn the passing of Sis. Mary Getz. Our sympathy is extended to her family.

Bro. Don Kaiser and Sis. Sandy Sundstrom were united in holy matrimony June 30. Parents of the couple are Bro. Mel and Sis. Marlene Kaiser and Don and Lila Dunlap. May God bestow His blessings on them as they establish their new home.

Sis. Louise Wagenbach (Bro. Simon) and Della Schweigert (Willard) were both hospital patients and Sis. Vera Aberle (Bro. Walt) had surgery. We hope that they will all be assembling with us soon.

We are happy that Sis. Hanna Koch could return to her home after staying at Apostolic Christian Restmor Nursing Home in Morton. We are thankful she can again assemble with us.

ILLINOIS, URBANA

Cheryl Mangers

We have been richly blessed this summer with the presence of a visiting minister every Sunday to support Bro. Dave Wiegand. Words cannot express our appreciation and love felt for each one of the brothers who have lent themselves in God's service here in Urbana. Ministering brothers this past month have included Marshall Heinold (Washington, IL), Joe Schrock (Congerville, IL), Jim Leman and Jim Byrd (Roanoke, IL) and Ed Hohulin (Goodfield, IL).

Amidst vacation schedules, gardening, picnics and the other summer happenings, we here in Champaign-Urbana continue to make progress in our building plans. Committees have been formed and each one of us are involved in some capacity or another. The chairmen of the committees include Sis. Pam Furrer (kitchen and dining room), Sis. Betsy Schrenk (interior), Bro. Dewayne Dill (Sunday school and baby rooms) and Bro. Bob Simpson (landscape).

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

Sally Plattner — Ellen Cox

"Behold, I go forward, but he is not

there; and backward, but I cannot perceive him: on the left hand, where he doth work, but I cannot behold him: he hideth himself on the right hand, that I cannot see him: but he knoweth the way that I take: when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold."

Job 23:8-10

In every Christian's life there are periods when he can identify with Job's words.

Daniel must have felt them in the lion's den. Moses felt them in Egypt. And Jesus felt them as he carried the sin of all time on the cross.

These words in Job 23 were recorded to help us hang on when we're deep in the valleys and are having a hard time recalling the mountaintops.

They are indicative of a faith that is solid as a rock, when everything around us is sand. Jesus, the Risen Redeemer, is our rock, our all, when all else fails. The fact of His resurrection lays at the bottom of our basis for living with God. It is our comfort in the valley, our inspiration on the mountaintop, and message to the lost cries of our fellow man.

"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

Sis. Martha Fritz had to rely on her faith during a valley as she underwent surgery in Elgin this month. We hope to have her well and back to worship with us soon.

Bro. Chris Koehl had to undergo open heart surgery in Peoria. Many prayers were answered when we heard he is coming along well, and we look forward to seeing him again.

Our Elder Bro. Don Sauder was with us again this month. We appreciate his positive efforts to guide us in the Lord Jesus.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON

Carolyn Meyer — Eunice Fiechter

Have you ever consulted the dictionary on the meaning of the word luck? What does it really mean? According to the dictionary, the meaning is: that which seems to happen or come to one by chance. As we think of this, do Christians have luck or do the happenings in their lives come about by the

direction of the Lord? Proverbs 16:9 says, "A man's heart deviseth (or plans) his way: but the Lord directeth his steps." We can see that luck is not a proper word; our lives are directed by the Lord. His leading will take us into paths where He wants us to be at a specific time for a specific purpose. As Christians, we do not experience good luck or bad luck. Our lives are in the Lord's hands and where He leads we must follow.

Our dear Sis. Leah Ringger, age 94, was called home by the Lord. Surviving are nine children, Bros. Raymond, Orville, Sylvan, William, George and Alvin, and Sisters Mary Frauhiger, Ida Aschliman (Bro. Robert) and Lillian Yergler (Bro. Richard).

The Lord has blessed several of our young couple's homes with precious babies. Bro. Darryl and Sis. Ginny Gerber welcomed their first child, Aaron Michael. Grandparents are Bro. Wilmer and Sis. Clara Gerber and Bro. Edison and Sis. Chrisann Gutwein (Francesville). Also a first child is Douglas Neil, born to Bro. Jeff and Sis. Roxanne Roop. His grandparents are Bro. Godfrey and Sis. Anita Bertsch and Lawrence and Caralee Roop. Lisa and Doyle Weil also welcomed their first child, Justin Wayne. Justin's grandparents are Herman and Sis. Phyllis Fiechter. Rodney Lee was born to Bro. Todd and Sis. Lori Reimschisel. His grandparents are Bro. Richard and Sis. Elaine Reimschisel and Bro. Harry and Sis. Betty Steffen.

Some of our loved ones spent time in the hospital. They were Miriam Isch (Bro. Barry and Sis. Imogene), Sis. Frances Dubach and Bro. Noah Aschliman (Sis. Esther).

Paul told the Corinthian believers, "Now if Timothy come, see that he may be with you without fear: for he worketh the work of the Lord, as I also do." I Corinthians 16:10. We trust that our ministers feel a warm welcome and prayerful support as they visit the various churches. Visiting us recently were Bro. Art Ringger (Indianapolis), Bro. Mike Thomas (Valparaiso), Bro. Vernon Wettstein (Congerville, IL), Bro. Harry Sutter (Ft. Lauderdale, FL) and Bro. John Isch (Indianapolis). They are working the work of the Lord.

We welcome a new family into our area. They are Bro. Jim and Sis. Cheryl Zimmer and family (formerly from Mansfield, OH). We trust they will feel that they are a part of our church family

and feel at home no matter which of the Bluffton churches they are led to attend.

Often we use the expression, farewell, without much thought of what we are saying. It is really an expression of good wishes at parting, and so we say farewell to all the readers of the Silver Lining, until we meet again.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON NORTH Sheri Leman — Cindy Shorb

"Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6. August means for many of us that summer vacation will soon be over and school will begin again. Let us all say a special prayer for our children and young adults as they begin a new year. We wish for them a desire to learn what is right and good and to seek the Lord's help through the many trials and temptations they encounter.

We wish an abundance of God's grace to our three new converts. They are Kim Moser (Bro. Butch and Sis. Pat), Kathy Neuenschwander (Bro. Walter, Jr. and Sis. Joyce) and Leslie Baumgartner (Bro. Galen and Sis. Joyce). We rejoice with them.

Happy are our hearts, too, to welcome Cindy LeMaster (Doug and Anita) and Andy Shively (Bro. Charles and Sis. Sally) who gave us their testimonies and were baptized June 23. May they both continue to walk daily in peace with God.

It was in God's design for us to say goodbye to two of our beloved elderly this month. Bro. Eli Gerber (Sis. Ida) and Sis. Emma Gerber (Bro. Elmer) are now safe in the arms of Jesus. Our heartfelt sympathy is with Bro. Elmer and Sis. Ida and their families. May they feel the Lord's loving presence as they press on toward the day that they will be reunited with their loved ones.

Three couples have recently announced their engagements and are busy planning for their wedding day. Bro. Chris Honegger (Bro. Keith and Sis. Nancy) and Sis. Beth Flieckiger (Jerry and Bonnie) plan to marry November 3. Bro. Keith Stoller (Bro. Ramon and Sis. Flossie) and Sis. Martha Habegger (Bro. Ben and Sis. Arlene) will be wed October 26. September 22 is the day chosen by Bro. Andy Shively (Bro. Charles and Sis. Sally) and Sis. Cindy LeMaster (Doug and Anita) to be united. We pray for all of these couples and wish them much

happiness as they look forward to being united in holy matrimony. It is such a joy when we seek the Lord's will in choosing our helpmate.

Bro. Trent Bucher (Bro. Nile and Sis. Phyllis) and Sis. Kelli Moser (Bro. Butch and Sis. Pat) celebrated their wedding day June 30. Thus united July 14 were Bro. Dave Bertsch (Sis. Fran and the late Bro. Harvey) and Sis. Kim Aeschliman (Bro. Walter and Sis. Imogene). We share their joy and may the Lord always be present in the homes of these two new families.

Our thanks to the ministering brothers who spent time with us in the past month. We were pleased to hear Bro. Rod Huber (Valparaiso, IN), Bro. John Isch (Indianapolis, IN), Elder Bro. Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI), Bro. Mark Bahr (Detroit, MI), Bro. Homer Reineck (Toledo, OH), Bro. Marvin Stieglitz (Leo, IN) and Bro. Dale Strassheim (Milford, IN). They and their families are so welcome anytime.

On July 12 we enjoyed a church picnic in Berne. We are so thankful for the blessing of Christian fellowship.

Our youth traveled to Francesville July 13 and 14 for Christian Endeavor. We wish God's blessings on all who help make these trips possible. It is so important to share our love of Jesus and our time with our young people. We never know when our light will be the beacon that reaches across the darkness to one more precious soul.

INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE

Lynne Wuethrich

"Are You Living To Die, or Dying To Live?" Everyone must ask themselves this question and many did as this was the topic of our Vacation Bible School, June 24 - 28.

The subjects expounded upon and ministers for each evening were as follows: Monday - Making Choices - Bro. Jay Rinkenberger (Goodfield, IL); Tuesday - Humanism - Elder Bro. Steve Rinkenberger (Cissna Park, IL); Wednesday - Christianity - Bro. Earl Ringger (Gridley, IL); Thursday - Why Make a Choice? - Bro. Kent Ringger (Bluffton, IN); Friday - Living To Die or Dying To Live - Bro. Kent Heimer (Taylor, MO).

The following Sunday, after this blessed week, the children told us all they learned in a program of song and poem. It was a blessing to hear the truths of Jesus' love from precious children.

On behalf of the Francesville congregation, we want to thank all those who put together and took part in such a blessed week.

We share in the sorrow of partings recently experienced by loved ones. Sis. Kathryn A. Gudeman, 92, passed away July 2 at the Parkview Haven Retirement Home. We are going to miss Sis. Kathryn but her Christian example will live on.

Joseph B. Gudeman, grandfather of Bro. Mike and Sis. Melody Gutwein, passed away July 2. We want to extend our sympathy to them.

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

On July 6 and 7, Francesville hosted the Camp Pickett Reunion. The meeting was blessed with good attendance. Many came from all over and we thank them for their efforts. We want to extend our thanks to the visiting ministers in this group: Bro. Ray Sinn (Latty, OH), Bro. Ben Manz (Junction, OH) and Bro. Art Baurer (Princeville, IL). May God bless them.

Also on July 6 and 7, the JOY potluck group had the privilege of hosting a weekend with families from Oakville, IA. A picnic supper was held Saturday evening and afterwards we all sang hymns together. It was very uplifting. We want to thank the ministers from Oakville, Bro. Jon Schmidgall and Bro. Dale Frank. It was a blessing to have them. We are all thankful for the committee who put together such a nice weekend.

Our congregation has again been blessed with a new baby boy, Andrew Dustin. Born June 7, he brings happiness to his parents, David and Sherry Overmyer. Grandparents are Bro. Danny and Sis. Carol Overmyer and Mr. and Mrs. Howard Firkins.

Bro. Jerry Overmyer has been in and out of the hospital. Loving prayers have been said for him and his family. We pray for God's healing hand upon him.

Christian Endeavor was held at Francesville July 13 and 14 and the students really seemed to have a nice time. It was a special joy to see so many young people fellowshiping together. Bro. Uriel Gehring (Leo, IN) was with

us this weekend and we want to thank him for his labors. A special thank you goes to the committee in charge of this event.

The weekend of July 20 and 21 was such a joy as we welcomed Bro. Bob Dooley (Gene and Burla Ralph), Bro. Randy Wuethrich (Bro. Rich and Sis. Nola) and Bro. Jason Furrer (Bro. Alvin and Sis. Phyllis) into our fellowship. It was a true privilege for us all to renew our covenant with our Lord and realize the seriousness we need to have. We wish them God's guidance as they walk life's journey. We want to thank Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott) and Bro. Rod Huber (Valparaiso) for lending themselves unto God's service and for doing so willingly.

Walter Gudeman passed away July 20. It is a joy to know he was at peace with God and has the wonderful hope of eternal life. We want to extend our sympathy to his family circle.

INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS

Judy Dubach — Lynn Winslow

James calls God's Word "the engrafted word" which means "the implanted word". Borrowing from our Lord's parable of the sower in Matthew, He compares God's Word to seed and the human heart to soil. In His parable, Jesus describes four kinds of hearts: the hard heart, which did not understand or receive the Word and therefore bore no fruit; the shallow heart, which was very emotional but had no depth, and bore no fruit; the crowded heart, which lacked repentance and permitted sin to crowd out the Word; and the fruitful heart, which received the Word, allowed it to take root and produced a bountiful harvest of fruit. The final test of salvation is fruit. This means a changed life, Christian character and conduct and ministry to others for the glory of God. This fruit might be winning souls to Christ (Romans 1:16), growing in holy living (Romans 6:22), sharing our material possessions (Romans 15:28), spiritual character (Galatians 5:23), good works (Colossians 1:10), and praising the Lord (Hebrews 13:15). But the Word of God cannot work in our lives unless we receive it in the right way. Jesus said, "Whosoever hath ears to hear let him hear". Too many people are in tragic condition in which "hearing they hear not, neither do they understand," Matthew 13:13. They attend Bible classes and church services and never

seem to grow. Is it the fault of the preacher or the teacher? Perhaps it may be the fault of the hearer. It is possible to be "dull of hearing" because of decay of the spiritual life.

If the seed of the Word is to be planted in our hearts, then we must obey the instruction of James. We are to be "swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath, and have a prepared heart. It is not the hearing but the doing that brings the blessings.

We welcome to our congregation newlyweds, Bro. Jeff (Bluffton) and Sis. Robin (Wuethrich, Francesville) Steffen. We thank Bro. Jack Bollier (Leo) and Bro. Carrol Gerber (Bluffton North) for their efforts of sharing God's Word with us. We often take for granted and don't express our appreciation for their time so freely given to accomplish God's work. Remember we each need to be "ministers" in our walk with the Lord.

INDIANA, LACROSSE

Connie Knobloch — Debbie Nuest

Two homes have been blessed with the arrival of new sons. On June 26 Kent Michael was born to Sis. Sue and Bro. Roger Levy. Welcoming him home were his brother, Scott, and sister, Melanie, and grandparents, Bro. John and Sis. Edith Mayer (Indianapolis) and Bro. Ralph and Sis. Carolyn Levy. Joel Eli has come to add joy and blessings to the home of Sis. Carol and Bro. Ed Troxel. His family includes Timmy, Ben, Kerina, and grandparents, Bro. John and Sis. Pauline (Chicago, IL) and Bro. Phil and Sis. Mary Troxel.

Our love and appreciation is extended to Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville) who so willingly spent a Sunday afternoon with us. May the Lord be his rich rewarder.

Our health is something we so often take for granted, but it is certainly a blessing from above. Sis. Ann and Bro. Lester Nuest have been absent for some time due to health problems. We pray they can get relief very soon and will be able to assemble with us again. Our Elder Bro. Ed Frank had surgery and is still in the hospital at this time. May the Lord grant him a full and quick recovery.

A reminder to the LaCrosse congregation that the Silver Lining dues of \$7.00 will be due in September.

INDIANA, LEO Thelma Schlatter

"Now there was a castle, called Doubting Castle, the owner whereof was Giant Despair. Getting up in the morning early, he caught Christian and Hopeful asleep in his grounds. The giant drove them and put them into his castle, in a very dark dungeon, nasty and stinking to the spirits of these two men.

"Brother", said Christian, 'What shall we do? The life that we now lead is miserable . . . the grave is more easy than this dungeon! Shall we be ruled by the Giant?'

"In the morning, the giant took them into the castle-yard. 'These said he (pointing to the bones and skulls before them), were once pilgrims as you are. I tore them into pieces, and so will I do to you.'

"What a fool,' quoth Christian, 'am I to lie in a stinking dungeon, when I may as well walk at liberty! I have a key in my bosom, called Promise, that will, I am persuaded, open any lock in Doubting Castle.'

"Then Christian pulled it out, and tried the dungeon door, whose bolt, as he turned the key, gave back, and the door flew open with ease, and Christian and Hopeful came out."

Selected portions
from John Bunyan's
"Pilgrim's Progress"

How often do we live with doubts and fears when we should be claiming His promises?

The ministry of visiting Bro. Dale Strassheim (Milford) was a special blessing.

We welcome Sis. Mattie Clauss who recently moved from Eureka, IL to our new retirement complex. We trust she will find her home pleasant and our fellowship warm.

The following two quotes were sent in a letter to reporters by the late Silver Lining editor, Ed Souder:

Too many people don't care what happens so long as it doesn't happen to them.

William Howard Taft

Those who bring sunshine to the lives of others cannot keep it from themselves.

Give Your Address Change
To Your Reporter

INDIANA, MILFORD

Joyce Kaiser — Shelby Beer

"For as often as ye eat this bread and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come." I Corinthians 11:26. Elder Bro. Dave Bertsch (Leo) assisted our Elder Bro. Jesse Beer in sharing holy communion on Saturday evening. It was a refreshing experience spiritually for all of us. Bro. Dave spent the following Sunday with us. We appreciated Bro. Harold Emch (Girard, OH), Bro. Bob Meyer (Bluffton North) and Bro. Vernon Leman (Eureka, IL) who also labored in our behalf. On Sunday evening, Bro. Vernon shared his slides with us and told about his trip to Europe on behalf of the World Relief.

"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." Revelation 3:20. We are thankful for two souls that have heard that knock and opened their heart's door and invited the loving Saviour into their hearts and lives.

Bro. Fred Schori was in the hospital but is now residing in the Lakeland Loving Care Center. His sister, Sis. Marie Reuter, has been so faithful in caring for him. Sis. Marguerite Hoerr and Irene Best have been hospital patients along with Sis. Helen Baumgartner. Sis. Helen is in a South Bend hospital taking four weeks of therapy. We pray for each one that they will continue to feel God's nearness throughout these difficult times in their lives.

We all, as a congregation, wish to extend our sympathy to Bro. Will and Sis. Sue Schieler and their family in the loss of their mother, Sis. Marie Schieler (Remington). We will miss her visits at church here in Milford.

"And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them." Revelation 14:13. The Lord has seen fit to give our dear Sis. Frieda Haab that rest from her labors. We have lost a real pillar in our church; and oh, how we miss her abundant love and many acts of kindness that she was daily sharing with so many. Even though she and Bro. Jesse weren't blessed with any children of their own, they have unselfishly given of themselves and left a tremendous

impact on so many lives. It was evident by the many that came to pay their last respects. Truly her works do follow after her. Sis. Frieda has two sisters and two brothers living: Sis. Christina Lehman, Anna Logan, Albert and Chris Kammerer. We pray for Bro. Jesse that he will continue to feel God's comforting Spirit upon him throughout these difficult days ahead.

INDIANA, REMINGTON

Beth Virkler — Annette Bahler

IN MEMORY OF OUR MOTHER

One more day, please, Jesus, was my prayer that day.
 But by the time I got there, Mother had slept away.
 Away to be with Jesus, from pain and sorrow free.
 Where a mansion He prepared for her, so very lovingly.

A kindly word, a gentle smile, the love shone in her face.

Now all of these and still much more are precious memories to embrace. You left so much good behind you in all that you have done.

We know for you the victory of eternal life is won.

We lift our hands and hearts to heaven. On Jesus we rely.
 And when death's angel comes for us. You'll be waiting in the sky.

Diane Isabell

Friends and relatives gathered in our church building, filling it to capacity, for the funeral of Sis. Marie Knochel Schieler. She passed away July 5 at 69 years of age after a year's illness with a poor heart condition. Sis. Marie taught many of us about courage. She knew her death was imminent and yet remained joyful and submissive to the Lord's will till He called her home. Her family circle includes her husband, Bro. Harold Schieler; a son, Bro. Willard Schieler (Milford, IN); two daughters, Mrs. Carol Gutwein (Francesville, IN), Mrs. Diane Isabell (Remington, IN); and eight grandchildren. Sis. Marie wanted her thoughts expressed also and she left this poem for us:

When I must leave you for a little while,
 Please do not grieve and shed wild tears.
 And hug your sorrow to you through the years,

But start out bravely with a gallant smile;

And for my sake and in my name
 Live on and do all things the same.

Feed not your loneliness on empty days,

But fill each waking hour in useful ways,
 Reach out your hand in comfort and in cheer

And I in turn will comfort you and hold you near,

And never, never be afraid to die,
 For I am waiting for you in the sky!

Helen Steiner Rice

The family of Sis. Marie Schieler would like to extend their heartfelt thanks to our many friends and loved ones for their kind expressions of sympathy and for all the prayers on our behalf at the passing of our dear wife and mother. May God bless and reward each of you as only He can.

Bro. Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL) ministered to our congregation this month.

INDIANA, SOUTH BEND

Pauline Laidig

GIVE ME THINE HEART!

Wherever we may go, by night or day,
 A loving voice within doth gently say:
 My son, from ev'ry way of sin depart;
 Be Satan's slave no more, "Give Me thy heart!"

Slight not that voice so kind, but gladly hear,

And choose the Lord today, while He is near;

He will His pard'ning love to thee impart;

Oh, hear Him calling still, "Give Me thy heart!"

Gospel Hymns #286

We are so happy that Tim Steffen has heeded the call of the Lord, and pray he may experience the joy of a fully surrendered heart.

It was a pleasure to listen to the ministry of Bro. Carl Wyss (Washington, IL) when he, Sis. Lydiann and their family came to help their son-in-law and daughter, Bro. Randy and Sis. Karen Kellenberger and sons, Brent, Galen and Neil, move into our area. Randy is furthering his studies at Watervliet, MI. We certainly welcome them into our church family, and hope they stay a long time.

Also giving of himself in the Lord's

work, in our behalf, was Bro. Walter Rager (Toledo, OH). May the Lord bless the brothers for serving us so willingly.

Our last Adult V.B.S. meeting was conducted by Bro. Steve Gutwein (Francesville, IN) who, with referring to passages from the Bible, very plainly explained what Family Priorities (the topic for the evening) should be, and if adhered to, should make our homes truly more happy and stable.

There were just two Sunday school classes whose teacher's terms were to expire in September. As a result of voting, Bro. Pat Meyer, Intermediate, and Sis. Karen Aeschliman, Nursery, were asked to continue teaching their classes. Bro. Bert Aeschliman is the superintendent, Bro. Clint Bucher has the Bible Class and Sis. Annie Meyer has the Primary Class. We thank them for being willing to serve in this capacity and pray God will bless them as they do so.

INDIANA, VALPARAISO

Cheryl Bucher — Patty Bucher

As I opened my Bible one morning, my eyes fell upon the verse, "And He did not many mighty works there because of unbelief." St. Matthew 13:58. Sometimes, we wonder in our own unbelief, how God can really understand us and know how we feel. We do know He knows all and sees all . . . Psalm 139:1, 2, 3, "O Lord thou hast searched me and know me . . . and art acquainted with all my ways." We are told in St. Matthew 6, "Ask and it shall be given you . . ." But, before we can ask, we must first have the faith to believe God. Hebrews 11:6, "but without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him." May we continually give God the praise and honor due Him by our faith in Him, and then the "mighty works" He can do will be done.

Bro. Greg Rassi (Chicago, IL) and his family recently spent a day with us. It was a privilege to sit and listen as he lent himself, a vessel for God's praise and honor.

A very interesting and informative evening was enjoyed by very young and old alike as Bro. Kent Ringer (Bluffton) came to speak to us on music, with emphasis on Gospel Music. He begged each of us to pray for a discerning spirit that what we listen to is to the edifying

of ourselves and the church. We appreciate being the beneficiaries of all his research. God will surely bless Bro. Kent and his family.

Bro. Conrad Paarlberg is home now following back surgery for a chronic back problem. His total recovery will take time but we rejoice with him that he's back home. We continue to pray for them that God will provide strength and patience during the seemingly long convalescence time.

Our new church edifice is coming along nicely, thanks to so many loving brothers who've willingly given of their time and equipment to help. Several from the Bluffton and Francesville area have been with us recently. God knows each one and we know He'll richly bless them.

INDIANA, WOLCOTT

Lorene Furrer — Elaine Bahler

"Tell the joyful tidings!
Bear it far away!
For a precious soul
Is born again."

Gospel Hymns #622

We received with joy our new brothers-in-faith, Dave and John Lehman (Harold and June) and Paul Vidrine. Sharing in this special weekend were Elder Bros. Jesse Beer (Milford) and Wendell Gudeman (Francesville) and ministering Bro. Wayne Lehman (South Bend).

Bro. Gerry and Sis. Marcia Waibel are the parents of Austin James born July 4. Kelli and Nicholas also welcome their new brother. Grandparents are Bro. Leon and Sis. Reva Waibel and Bro. Roy and Sis. Shirley Wyss (Goodfield, IL).

It is our prayer that God will grant returning health and strength to Robin Blume (Kent) and Sis. Glenna Minniear (Mike) who were recently hospitalized.

IOWA, BURLINGTON

Dixie Messner — Edith Massner

We were thankful for the visits of Bros. Ron Heiniger (Normal, IL), Bill Gerst (Alto, MI) and Dale Frank (Oakville). Since our dear ministers also 'labor with their hands', they can make interesting comparisons, such as the light that 'reads' the computer cards as compared to the spiritual Light by which we comprehend His will.

Sisters Bertha Eisenmann and

Rekie Anliker were able to be back in church with us after several weeks. I am sure they were especially appreciative again of this privilege to be in church; we tend to take it for granted.

With prayerful hearts, we selected new Sunday school teachers: Bros. Gary Schulz, LaVerne Salek and Sis. Donna Teubel; substitutes are Bro. Richard Taeger and Sis. Edith Massner. We are always grateful for those who have served in the past.

IOWA, ELGIN Gloria Frieden

How precious is the book divine, By inspiration given!
Bright as a lamp its doctrines shine, to guide our souls to heaven.
It shows to man his wand'ring ways, and where his feet have trod;
And brings to view the matchless grace of a forgiving God.
It sweetly cheers our fainting hearts in this dark vale of tears;
Life, Light and comfort it imparts, and calms our anxious fears.

Hymns of Zion #12

WHERE TO LOOK

If you are facing a crisis, read Psalm 46.

When you are discouraged, think over Psalms 23 and 24.

When you are lonely or fearful, read Psalm 27.

To live successfully with your fellow men, follow Romans 12.

If you are sick or in pain, read Psalm 91.

When you are very weary, seek Matthew 11:28-30 or Romans 8:31-39.

When everything seems to be going from bad to worse, try II Timothy 3.

The best investment is described in Matthew's gospel, chapter 6.

When your friends seem to go back on you, hold fast to I Corinthians 13.

For an inward peace, consider St. John, chapter 14.

When thinking about the care of the body — I Corinthians 6:9-20.

How to avoid misfortune, St. Matthew 7:24-27.

If you have been bereaved, there is a message in I Corinthians 15 and Revelation 21.

For a stirring record of what trust in God can do, turn to the 11th chapter of Hebrews.

If you are having to put up a stiff

fight, there is fine equipment listed at the end of Ephesians.

When you have sinned, read I John, chapter 1 and St. John 3:1-21 and make Psalm 51 your prayer.

Our Elder Bro. Paul Butikofer and his wife, Sis. Milly, are presently with the brethren in Canada. Our prayers are with them and we wish them a safe return.

We were blessed with a visiting minister this past month. Our thanks go to Bro. Noah Gerber (West Bend) for coming and ministering to us.

IOWA, IOWA CITY Denise Duckworth

"Thus united, and in concord
Let us walk the path of life;
Hand in hand, O may love bind us
For each other's welfare strive."
Zion's Harp #237

Dale Fehr (Eldon and Verdell, West Bend) and Shelli Thomason (Ron and Sharon) were united in marriage June 29. We wish them God's richest blessings as they walk life's pathway together.

Please note a slight change in directions to our church. Highway 218 has been changed to 965, so directions should read: turn off I-80 at Highway 965, north 3 miles, and turn right at Casey's Store. Having a small congregation, we always deeply appreciate visitors, and extend our warm welcome to all of you to come worship with us!

IOWA, LESTER Alice Metzger

We were uplifted spiritually the weekend of June 22 and 23 when we heard the testimony of four souls who have repented and found a joy and peace that the world does not understand. They are Sis. Diane Larson, Bro. Jim Knobloch (Zapata, TX) and Bro. Greg and Sis. Lori Popkes. After making a covenant with God they were baptized before many witnesses. We were so grateful that Elder Bro. Steve Rinkenberger was here to assist in this holy work. Bro. Harvey Grimm also shared the weekend with us and brought us many good teachings.

Sis. LaNae Knobloch and Bro. Randy Meyer were united in marriage July 7. They will make their home in Phoenix and we trust that Sis. LaNae will soon feel at home in the church and

community. Among the many visitors here for the occasion were Elder Dale Eisenmann, Bros. Lenard Meyer, Virgil Metzger, Roger Aberle, Duane Metzger, Loren Strahm, Jim Plattner and their helpmates. We appreciate their presence and pray God will bless them for their efforts.

After much prayer and consideration, two young couples are betrothed and planning weddings in the near future. Sis. Denise Warner (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Esther) and Bro. Rodney Schafer (Bro. Anton and Sis. Verna, Morris, MN) are planning a September wedding. Sis. Beverly Leuthold (Bro. Paul and Sis. Betty Jean) and Bro. Brian Mogler (Bro. Howard and Sis. Lollie) also plan to be married in September.

Bro. Curt and Sis. Martha Kellenberger and their two children have moved to Lamar, MO. We miss seeing them in church but we pray they will be blest in their new home.

Hospitalized, but now at home were Bro. Henry Kellenberger and Bro. Dave Teubel. Andy Leuthold is hospitalized after undergoing lung surgery. May God add His healing power.

A pint of good example is worth a gallon of advice.

IOWA, OAKVILLE
Debbie Wagenbach

"No earthly joys could bring more pleasure than a little child to love and treasure." Author Unknown. Bro. Ron and Sis. Donna Massner are third-time parents with the birth of their first son, Dustin Wayne. Nichole and Amy now have a little brother to love. Dustin's grandparents are Bro. Eric and Sis. Norma Massner and Bro. Jim and Sis. Eunice Wuthrich (Morton, IL).

We are thankful that Bro. Paul Eisenmann (Burlington, IA) and Bro. Bert Butikofer (Elgin, IA) have ministered to us recently.

July 14 was Oakville's annual Sunday school election. Outgoing teachers are Bros. Jack Larson, Galen Metzger, Ervin Marti and Sis. Diane Eberhardt. We appreciate their efforts over the past four years and trust that God will reward them for their willingness to teach the children. The new teachers are Sis. Ruby Eberhardt and Sis. Peggy Schulz and Bros. Ed Stoller, Don Schmidgall and Dan Anliker. We offer our prayerful support to the new teachers and have confidence that God

will provide assistance in their position.

Note: Silver Lining dues are \$7.00 and are due in September. Please pay your correspondent promptly if you wish to renew your subscription.

IOWA, PULASKI
DeAnn Wuthrich
Mary Jane Knapp

Another summer swiftly slipped by with the children soon to return to school. As we pause to reflect back over these few short months, can we say that we lived them to the honor and glory of our Heavenly Father or were they spent seeking our own way and pleasure?

Again this is the time of year our dear elders and brethren travel many miles to meet and plead for God's direction in leading His children. Let us not forget that our prayerful support is needed even if we cannot all be there with them.

We were blessed to have Elder Bro. Ed Lanz (Oakville) in our midst June 7 to share with us many precious teachings and kindly admonitions. May God reward him for his labors.

Sis. Elizabeth Wuthrich is again able to assemble with us after spending a brief stay in the hospital.

A sincere welcome goes out to Sis. Sarah (Yoder) Teubel as she and Bro. Ken have been joined together in marriage. We pray for the Lord's blessings on this union, as we know they have taken this step in faith.

IOWA, WEST BEND
Polly Zaugg — Elma Mogler

We can almost feel the thankfulness in the hearts of our ministering brothers when they have visiting brothers on the pulpit to help them. We all appreciated the visits from Bro. Glen Funk (Garden Grove) and Bro. Sam Anliker (Lamont, KS) this month. May God continue to bless all of our ministers.

Little Pamela Sue, first child of Ralph and Melanie Bormann, was born July 5. Her grandparents are Bro. Nate and Sis. Lilly Mogler and Mrs. Lorenz Bormann. May this babe continue to be a special blessing in this home.

We want to wish several young couples God's blessings as they face the great responsibility of a marriage union. Their marriage vows are made as solemn promises. Marla Bruellman (Bro. Gene and Sis. Evie) was married to Bill Berg (Morris and Belle, Barron,

WI). They are at home in Rochester, MN. Karen Grimm (Bro. Clifford and Sis. Rosene) is married to Ken Schirm (Bill and Maxine, Des Moines). They are at home near Des Moines. Gayle Schmidt (Bro. Dwaine and Sis. Lucille) has been united with Darrin MacAffee (Ray and Evelyn, Algona). They will be at home in Charles City. Dale Fehr (Eldon and Verdell) is now joined to Shelli Thomasen (Ron and Sharon, Monroe). They are at home in Iowa City. Fred Wirtz, Jr. (Bro. Fred and Sis. Hulda) plans to marry Patsy Banwart (Ralph and Dorothy) this Saturday. They will be living on a farm near West Bend. May all these couples find life ever filled with a deeper harmony and learn more perfectly to share it together through the years.

At this time we have several loved ones who are seriously ill. Perhaps this poem could have a special meaning for them.

THE BEND IN THE ROAD

When we feel we have nothing left to give
 And we are sure that the "song is ended" —
 When our day seems over and the shadows fall
 And the darkness of night has descended.

Where can we go to find the strength
 To valiantly keep on trying,
 Where can we find the hand that will dry
 The tears that the heart is crying —

There's but one place to go and that is to God
 And dropping all pretense and pride,
 We can pour out our problems without restraint
 And gain strength with Him at our side —

And together we stand at life's cross-roads
 And view what we think is the end,
 But God has a much bigger vision
 And He tells us it is only a bend —

For the road goes on and is smoother,
 And the "pause in the song" is a "rest",
 And the part that's unsung and unfinished
 Is the sweetest and richest and best —
 So rest and relax and grow stronger,

Let go and let God share your load,
Your work is not finished or ended,
You've just come to "a bend in the
road".

Helen Steiner Rice

Those hospitalized include Bro. Paul Banwart, Sr. Sis. Beverly Wirtz has had major surgery and will have to submit to treatments. Bro. Ray Anliker is also taking treatments at this time. Matt Fehr and Fred Traub, Jr. have both suffered long from their afflictions in the hospital and at home.

JAPAN, TOKYO

Yoshio Yamazaki — Marie Inoue

We are almost through the rainy season and soon it will be hot here in Tokyo. We had quite a lot more rain than in past years. It rained almost every day during the whole month of June. However, the Lord blessed us in that the rain brought much water to us. We do not want to complain. We always can learn something from God's creations.

We had several guests from America: Sis. Pam Huber (Washington, IL), Bro. Kurt Bahler (Remington, IN) and Mr. Fred Hass (Wheaton, IL). We appreciated their visits so much.

We were reminded recently through our local ministry in I Chronicle 17 how David consulted in God and with the prophet Nathan of his desire to build a house for God. How wonderful it is today for us when we likewise consult God, His Word, and those over us in the Lord of our desires to see if they be of God.

A visiting brother commented, "If our thoughts and goals are toward heaven, our earthly desires will be satisfied."

In June a business meeting was held for our church's financial matters. We are thankful for the Lord's blessings.

The following thought came via a letter from the ministry of one of our Illinois churches. 1985 is already half over. What have we done to show our Lord we truly love Him and will stay with Him no matter what comes our way? It's not until the trials come, that the true colors of our faith are shown.

KANSAS, BERN

Linda Esslinger

IT MUST BE EARNED

The things that make life most worthwhile

Amidst life's give and take,
Are not the things that we may get,
But friendships that we make.

You've got to learn to sympathize,
And try to understand
The problems that each one may have;
To lend a helping hand.

You've got to try to spread some cheer,
Relieve someone's heartache;
And help make someone happier,
If you true friends would make.

A true friend knows all faults,
But loves you just the same.
He also knows your weaknesses,
But helps defend your name.

And though he'll maybe chide some-
times,
If he's a real true friend,
He'll see you through your troubles —
Stand by you till the end.

We may not have much property —
Some few small odds and ends —
But no one can be really poor
If he has many friends.

And as we gather wisdom from
The lessons we have learned,
We find that real true friendship is
A thing that must be earned.
Thomas Simpkin

Anthony Esslinger (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Gerty) was hospitalized for a tonsillectomy.

Sis. Lydia Meyer is a new resident of Apostolic Christian Home.

KANSAS, FORT SCOTT

Judy Bahr

Sis. Lillian Fischer was hospitalized. Our prayer is that she will recover quickly and be able to assemble with us again. We all "need the prayers of those we love".

We appreciated the ministry of Bro. Don Manz (Junction, OH). May the Lord bless him and his family.

Laugh a little — sing a little
As you go your way!
Work a little — play a little,
Do this every day!

Give a little — take a little,
Never mind a frown —
Make your smile a welcomed thing
All around the town!

Laugh a little — love a little,
Skies are always blue!
Every cloud has silver linings,
But it's up to you!

Apples of Gold

KANSAS, GRIDLEY

Vola Young — Doris Bahr

We are so thankful for brethren who are willing to share God's love and teachings with those whose spiritual needs are great. We, in turn, as believers need to keep ourselves hungry for the Word of God. Visiting ministers were Bro. Roger Aberle (Sabetha, KS) and Elder Bro. Samuel Anliker (Lamont, KS).

The family of Bro. Lewis Somerhalder wish to extend a thank you to those remembering Lewis with a card shower on his recent birthday. Bro. Lewis resides in the Apostolic Christian Nursing Home in Sabetha. This expression of love meant a great deal to him.

Jarom Smith, grandson of Bro. Joe and Sis. Edna Somerhalder, was hospitalized for a few days as a medical patient.

KANSAS, KIOWA

Gay Lee Farney — Janice Bahr

The week of July 8 - 13, we enjoyed working with our children at Bible School, learning of our wonderful Lord and Saviour Jesus. It is so important to teach them the ways Christ would have us to live, so they can apply these principles in everyday life, and live in His teachings.

Our dear friend, Edna Tucker, celebrated her 80th birthday this month. Her family honored her with a reception Sunday, July 7. Edna is the mother of Dale and Sis. Marie Tucker. Edna also has another son, several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Hospital patients this month have been Bro. Sam Schupbach (still in the hospital), Sis. Erma Ott and Sis. Matilda Schupbach. Please remember each of these brothers and sisters in your daily prayers.

KANSAS, SABETHA

Nita Grimm — Charleen Hartter

It is nearing the time for our Sunday school vacation during the month of August. In June we voted on teachers who will be beginning their duties when Sunday school resumes. They are Bros. John Aberle, Gordon Huber and Tim Hartter. Substitute teachers are

Bros. Jay Kellenberger, Rodney Grimm and Kevin Grimm. May these brothers be a means by which God can speak to our dear children.

We've had many from our congregation who for various reasons were hospitalized recently. Whether they are now home and doing fine or under continuing medical care, we trust God will be merciful in every need. Hospitalized were Bro. Velmer Meyer (Sis. Vila), Sis. Liseten Aberle (Bro. Ben), Sis. Irene Lehman (Bro. Andy), Bro. Joe Steiner (Sis. Clara) and Sis. Janice Wysong (Bro. Ben).

We are sorry to see Sis. Jan Mogler leaving our congregation, but are thankful God is still leading and guiding His own. Sis. Jan will be making Elgin, IL, her new home as she will be the Director of Nursing for the nursing home facility being built there. May God bless Sis. Jan for the love she has given our congregation and in the new position that is before her.

On May 23, Teresa Goodman and Brad Edelman (Cliff and Sis. Barb) were united as one in marriage by Elder Bro. Eugene Marti (Lamar, MO). We pray that as they travel through life their love for one another and for their God may grow and abound.

"Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect." Matthew 5:48. This verse was read on a recent Sunday during a service. The word "perfect" may sound unattainable to us, and Satan can use a verse like this to cast us down. The following are two explanations of perfection in Christ that are comforting and enlightening.

"Christian perfection is not that rigorous, tedious, cramping thing that many imagine. It demands only an entire surrender of everything to God from the depths of the soul, and the moment this takes place whatever is done for him becomes easy. They who are God's without reserve are in every state content; for they will only what he wills, and desire to do for him whatever he desires them to do; they strip themselves of everything and in this nakedness find all things restored a hundred-fold."

Francois Fenelon

"Christian perfection does not imply (as some seem to have imagined) an exemption either from ignorance, or mistake, or infirmities, or temptations. Indeed, it is only another term for

holiness. The essential part... is giving the heart wholly to God.

John Wesley

KANSAS, WICHITA

Laurie Gallatin

Our annual business meeting was held June 23. Newly-elected are: Sis. Mary Farney as Sunday school teacher; Sis. Marsha Bowers to the kitchen committee; Bro. Jonathon Long as secretary and Bro. Charlie Grimm as chairman of the board.

Sis. Dora Young, who fell several weeks ago and broke her hipbone, is now recuperating at her daughter's home (Sis. Gussie Wullschlegler). Our prayers are with Dora for a fast recovery.

KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON

Lester Huber

The Harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He will send forth labourers into His harvest.

Matthew 9:37, 38

May God bless those who have come to share the Word of God with us the past month. Our ministering brethren were Bro. Walter Steffen (Milford, IN) and Bro. Arthur Baurer (Princeville, IL) and the Francesville Youth Group came and spent the weekend with us also. We look forward to the Lord's providence for labourers to join this little flock. The following is a copy of an article in our local paper for anyone considering employment in this area.

(The Army has lifted a hold on the electronics maintenance and repair program planned for the Lexington-Blue Grass Army Depot at Avon, KY., U.S. Rep. Larry Hopkins, R-Lexington, said yesterday, adding that the project initially would create 300 jobs. Eventually, he said, the program could employ 2,000 people with an annual payroll of \$60 million.) Anyone interested in this employment would need to make application at our Winchester employment office.

MICHIGAN, ALTO

Liz Blough

Our sympathy is extended to the Dave Wingeier family at the passing of Dave's brother, Fred Wingeier, this past month... Their soul shall be as a watered garden; and they shall not

sorrow any more at all. For I will turn their mourning into joy, and will comfort them, and make them rejoice from their sorrow.

Jeremiah 31:12, 13

"LONGING"

Yes, I'm longing for Christ's second coming!
When there will never be need of money!
Jesus will provide in every detail,
If we do His will He will never fail.
Oh! to live in that land of corn and wine!
Where the beauties of the earth will be mine!

To sit or stroll by the flowing river!
No pollution will be there forever!
To eat of the fruit of the Tree of Life!
And to live forever in that world of Light!
For darkness there, will never be found!
And all manner of fruit will there abound!

We'll never worry, for what we will need!
Our Creator will His creation feed!
He will lead us by ever fruitful fields!
Show us how His land abundantly yields!
How could we miss the Glories of that Land?
We're longing to be there with all our band!

Rena M. Morgan

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY

Linda Ramseyer

Our congregation recently said farewell to a dear sister. Sis. Eiko Nozawa has left our area to go back to her home in Japan. We are saddened to see her leave, but know she is happy to be with her family again.

Sis. Mildred (Bro. Jesse) Hodder has been hospitalized this past month. Our prayers are that the Lord's healing hand is upon her.

"For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh." Ephesians 5:31. July 14 was the day Bro. Ken Schlatter and Sis. Pam Wieland became husband and wife. Parents of the couple are Bro. David and Sis. Margaret Schlatter and Bro. Howard Wieland. May the Lord bless this couple as they begin their life as one.

We are always thankful for brothers

who are willing to minister the Lord's Word. Our visiting ministers have been Bro. Bill Gudeman (Elgin, IL), Bro. Don Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN), Bro. Larry Wenninger (Latty, OH), Bro. Sam Schlatter (Junction, OH) and Bro. Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH). We thank each one for being with us.

MICHIGAN, DETROIT

Bev Bahr

"Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: Because he trusteth in thee." Isaiah 26:3. Doug and Carole Maibach are rejoicing in their newly found peace and are looking forward to fully establishing their covenant of faith in the waters of baptism. The steps within God's miracle of conversion are always an inspiration to behold, and we are thankful for them. Our recent Bible study is on scriptural guidelines for spiritual growth. It is encouraging to see this growth in our converts and our brethren.

Bro. Vernon Schwab (Wolcott, IN) shared with us in the ministry. We are grateful for all the visitors we have had this past month, in particular those who give of themselves spiritually.

Our sympathy is extended to Bro. John Orcsik and his family. While they were visiting in Hungary, they received word that his son, Gabriel, in Canada passed away. We trust that the comforting hand of God can be with them all.

"Many are the afflictions of the righteous; but the Lord delivers him out of them all. Psalm 34:19. One of our converts, John Reardon was injured at work recently. We are thankful God spared him from greater harm and pray for John's strength and recovery. Also, Sis. Ruth Gudeman completed a year of chemotherapy and anticipates surgery in the near future. May they feel the nearness of God easing their load and blessing them with peace and health.

MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS

Barbara Olson

This month three visiting ministers came to share the inspired Word of God with us. We want to thank each one for their service toward us. May we always appreciate our ready accessibility to the Word and recognize that it is surely the richness of God's mercy that allows it to be so. Those who visited us were Elder Bro. Perry Zim-

merman (Forrest, IL), Bro. Merle Kaisner (Fairbury, IL) and Bro. Nathan Stoller (Bradford, IL).

With summertime drawing to a close, school will soon be starting. Regardless what age a student may be, there is still exposure to things not found in Christian homes. What an opportunity for believing students to walk as bright lights for God!

Our deepest sympathy goes out to Joe and Sis. Ethel Bednarski in the death of their son-in-law and grandson June 20. May God truly comfort them and heal their sorrow. Joe and Sis. Ethel want to thank everyone who remembered them with cards and prayers.

MINNESOTA, MORRIS

Hildegard Koehl

Rhonda Zeltwanger

There was rejoicing here as we heard the good news that our friend David Zeltwanger (Bro. Lyle and Sis. Marilyn, Valparaiso, IN) has decided to walk in the ways of the Lord! God truly is our refuge and strength.

We have also been blessed by the teachings of several visiting ministering brothers. Those who have shared God's Word with us have been Elder Bro. Sam Huber (Sabetha, KS), Bros. Ted Witzig (Morton, IL), Clarence Kachelmuss (Forrest, IL), Ken Lawson (Ft. Lauderdale, FL), Fred Domka (Mansfield, OH) and Al Aberle (Tremont, IL). We thank these brothers and their families for visiting us.

Dale Brown and Michelle Kallhoff were recently married. Bro. Vernard and Sis. Barbara are Dale's parents.

Mark Brown (Bro. Vernard and Sis. Barbara) and Tami Hennen have also joined hand and heart to walk this life together. We wish much happiness for these two couples.

Sis. Ann Huber has left our congregation and moved to Bloomington, IL where she has been employed. We will miss Sis. Ann but we know the Lord will be by her side and care for her.

We have had several additions to families here. God's loving miracles are evident in these precious little souls.

Richard and Cheryl Meiss are the parents of William Douglas. Catherine is excited to have a little playmate. Bro. Harold and Sis. Ann are his grandparents.

Bro. Roy and Sis. Jenell Koehl have been blessed with the birth of their second son, Kurtis Jacob. Lucas wel-

comes him home along with grandparents, Bro. Jake and Sis. Alice Wulf (Lester, IA) and Bro. Ernest and Sis. Gladys Koehl.

Julie Koehl was born to Keith and Coleen June 27. Julie has a brother, Ryan, and grandparents, Bro. Ernest and Sis. Gladys Koehl.

Bro. Tom and Sis. Jill Furrer have had their second child, Jilaine. Little brother Benjamin is eager to get acquainted with his new little sister. Bro. Glenn and Sis. Eileen Furrer are the grandparents.

Andrew Furrer has been entrusted to Bro. James and Sis. Rowena. Bethany, April and Timothy are the rest of the family. Bro. Glenn and Sis. Eileen Furrer have received double joy with their two new grandchildren.

Lucy Wulf was born July 4 to Bro. Dave and Sis. Nancy Wulf. Ginny, Kara and Brent are all happy for a new healthy little sister. Bro. Roy and Sis. Helen Zimmerman (Gridley, IL) and Bro. Leonard and Sis. Vi Wulf are also thankful for a healthy grandchild.

Our sympathy is extended to the family of Fred Spohr. Fred was suddenly taken from this life at the age of 55. This should sound a warning to all of us to be ready to meet our Creator.

Jeremy Schmidgall (Bro. Keith and Sis. Lois), Sis. Lizzie Schmidgall and Bro. Ernest Koehl have all been hospital patients. Our prayers have been with these loved ones.

MINNESOTA, WINTHROP

Wanda Messner

Mary Lou Schmidt

In remembrance of our dear loving Saviour and His willingness to have His body broken and His blood shed for our sins, we partook of holy communion! Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr (West Bend) assisted our Elder Bro. Harold Messner in this precious and sacred rite.

In his sermon, Bro. Wayne reminded us about the young man mentioned in the subheading of the song, "Must I Go and Empty Handed?" (Gospel Hymn #174). After only a month of Christian life, nearly all of it upon a sick bed, a young man of almost thirty years lay dying. Suddenly a look of sadness crossed his face, and to the query of a friend exclaimed, "No, I am not afraid. Jesus saves me now; but oh, must I go and empty handed?" This young man was so saddened by the thought of all the years he had wasted in sin. He only

wished that he could have given more of them to his Saviour!

We are also very thankful to Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann and his dear wife who spent one weekend with us this past month. May the Lord dearly bless all of our precious elders.

It was truly a blessing to travel to Denver, CO (by bus) with many of our dear loved ones! We witnessed the testimonies and baptism of Rodney Schmidt. I must add, "our cup runneth over, and our hearts were overwhelmed!" We are certainly happy for Bro. Rodney, and wish him God's wonderful blessings.

On our homeward journey, the Lord sent another blessing upon us! One of our dear friends, Paulette Schmidt, started repenting. It was such a privilege, just being a part of that special weekend!

We rejoice with our young converts and pray that by God's grace they will have many years in His service. May they not meet Him empty-handed! We now have two dear souls seeking His will: Paulette Schmidt (daughter of ministering Bro. Elmer and Sis. Hazel Schmidt) and Lila Schmidt (Gene and Sis. Ella Mae). We welcome Lila back home as she recently moved from Fairbury, IL).

God has blessed Joe and Kim Messner with a most precious gift: a baby boy, Cody Johannes. Grandparents are Bro. Marlyn and Sis. Lois Messner and Dick and Leah Doorneweerd (Lester, IA). His sister, Kylee, welcomes him home.

MISSOURI, LAMAR

Janice Braker — Becky Marti

"Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine." II Timothy 4:3. Among our visitors this past month were ministering Bros. Don Manz (Junction, OH), Charles Sinn and Raymond Banwart (Ft. Scott, KS). We thank them for their visits. May God continually inspire and strengthen our brothers who are called upon to bring forth His Holy Word and may His Word always be spoken in its truth and sincerity, in season and out of season.

Our Bro. Dean Marti was hospitalized for a time, but we are thankful that he has been able to return home and assemble with us again.

We extend a warm welcome to Bro. Curt and Sis. Martha Kellenberger

who have moved here from Lester, IA. Keith and Kayla (who was born June 20) complete their family. We pray that they can feel God's nearness as they assemble with our congregation.

MISSOURI, TAYLOR

Loida Hodel — Lori Marquart

"Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue and if there be any praise, think on these things." Philippians 4:8.

Bro. James and Sis. Lois (Wuthrich) Sutter celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary June 23 with a reception at the fellowship center hosted by their children.

We're glad to report that little Jacob Joos (Bro. Ron and Sis. Christy) has recovered from a bout with spinal meningitis. "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. Bro. Richard Sutter received emergency treatment for burns.

"And the Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him." Our Bro. Scott Hoerr (Bro. Robert and Sis. Em) and Sis. Anna Jevremov (Bro. Victor and Sis. Anna) were united in marriage June 30 in San Diego, CA. A reception was held here July 7. We wish God's blessings on this new couple as they establish their home in California and we look forward to their visits "back home".

The marriage bond that joins two hearts

No power on earth can break.
If they join hands and heart in prayer
And of Christ's love partake.

D.J.D.

"Study the Bible to be wise/Believe it to be safe/Practice it to be holy." Visiting ministers this month were Bros. Bill Gerst (Alto, MI), Don Waggenbach (Washington, IL), Walt Steffen (Milford, IN) and Roy Wernli (Lamont, KS). We are grateful for the services proclaimed and may God bless these brothers and their families for the efforts put forth.

There are no accidents in God's purpose. The slightest incident may be a "prime factor".

Apples of Gold

NEW JERSEY, UNION CITY Ed Aeschleman

Visiting ministers this month were Bros. Albert Schneider and Everett Gerber (Rockville, CT). May God bless their efforts to bring us the Word and also bless those that came with them in support of our small congregation.

Renovations to our beautiful old church building were completed through the efforts of many brothers, sisters and friends from the churches at Rockville, CT; Croghan, NY; Philadelphia, PA and Union City. Bro. John Diggelman, who has ministered at Union City for many years, expressed himself as follows: "We extend our sincere thanks to the sisters and brothers and friends who took part and those who by their financial help, helped to make our little church so beautiful. In behalf of our small congregation we wish our dear Father's rich blessings on their families and their grandchildren.

"We do hope and pray that a dear brother and sister will be found who will take over this dear old church, God willing. In the mean time, may He give us His wonderful grace to carry on for our loving Lord Jesus, the One who made it possible for us to become God's people by His precious blood."

NEW YORK, CROGHAN Alice Virkler

During the past month we have had several visiting ministers. We were richly blessed by the Word of Truth which was spoken through the lips of these brothers and want to thank them and their traveling companions for being with us. They were Bros. Ed Aeschleman (Philadelphia, PA), Kevin Ryan (Rockville, CT), Lloyd Kraft (Gridley, KS), Harvey Heiniger (Burlington, IA) and Delbert and Kenneth Indermuhle (Sardis, OH). We also enjoyed a covered dish dinner in the Croghan church Sunday, June 23, and at the Naumburg church Sunday, July 14, when we had several visitors in our midst. What a privilege we have to travel from place to place and enjoy the precious fellowship of brothers and sisters of like mind and faith.

Our Sunday school children, their parents and teachers enjoyed the annual wiener roast at Whitaker Falls Park Monday evening, June 24, after the close of our school year.

We are thankful that Bro. Chester O'Brien has been able to assemble with

us again after a few days of hospitalization.

Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Amelia Belle Virkler and her family, as her mother, Christina B. Farney, was called from this life. Funeral services were conducted by Bro. John Widrick Sunday, June 23, at the funeral home.

Our sympathy is also extended to Sis. Berdena (Bro. John) Widrick and her family. Her sister, Beatrice Pominville, was also called from this life. May each of these families be comforted during their time of sorrow.

Thoughts and prayers are surely with our elder brethren this month as they will be traveling to the Annual Brotherhood Conference. May they each be protected on their journeys and may they feel God's love and guidance as they meet together. We also remember the many brethren who will be traveling to the conference. May we all be blessed by the concern and efforts of our beloved elder brethren.

Silver Lining subscriptions are due during the month of August. They may be paid to your reporter.

NEW YORK, NAUMBURG

Rachel Snyder

On June 16 we were blessed to have Bro. Harold Schmidgall (Gridley, IL) and his brother, Bro. Marvin Schmidgall (Eureka, IL) with us for services.

On June 19 we were again privileged to have three visiting ministers, Bros. Kevin Ryan (Rockville, CT), Ed Aeschliman (Philadelphia, PA) and Lloyd Kraft (Gridley, KS) with us for the evening.

On Sunday, June 23, we assembled with the Croghan congregation in the afternoon. Bro. Harvey Heiniger (Burlington, IA) was visiting and brought us a message from God's Word. A covered dish dinner was enjoyed after services.

This past Lord's Day, we could again sit under the sound of the Word as it was brought forth by two visiting ministers, Bros. Delbert and Kenneth Indermuhle (Sardis, OH). A covered dish dinner was again enjoyed after services.

We surely wish to thank each of the brethren who so kindly gave of themselves to bring us the Word. May God bless each one and may we meet again, if not on earth, in heaven.

OHIO, AKRON

Joyce Gasser

Proverbs 24:3, 4: "Through wisdom

is an house builded: and by understanding it is established: And by knowledge shall the chambers be filled with all precious and pleasant riches." Matthew 13:52 is an example to fill the chambers of our house with the precious riches, as Jesus said: "Every scribe which is instructed unto the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which bringeth forth out of his treasure things new and old." A scribe writes scripture and, being instructed in the kingdom as he is studying and writing the Word, is filling the chambers of his house, and areas of his life, with the riches of the knowledge of the Word, so that he gets filled with understanding to be established as a householder. A wealthy householder has treasures old and new — we can draw from precious old studies and there is always something pleasant that is new to us in the Word that we need for a new situation.

We're sorry that two of our sisters had bones broken: Sis. Edna VonGuntten broke a foot and Sis. Margaret Gruenig broke an arm. May God grant speedy recoveries.

Sis. Esther Graf is home from having been on the Heritage Tour in some European countries. She met a distant relative in Budapest who expressed surprise at seeing so many young people in our church group because over there if the young people have faith in God, it is difficult for them to find employment. Sis. Esther expressed that it was nice to spend some time with the church groups there, but is thankful to return home where we can assemble unhindered and freely worship God as our hearts desire.

We recently enjoyed a visit by retired Elder Bro. Theo Beer and his wife, Sis. Naomi (Milford, IN). Even though our retired elders are not active on the pulpit as they formerly were, we appreciate their kindly counsel and the encouragement of their welcome presence among us, as we do also our retired Elder Bro. Rudy Graf.

OHIO, COLUMBUS

Desma Klopfenstein

Psalm 147:5, "Great is our Lord, and of great power: his understanding is infinite."

It is comforting to be able to lean upon the Lord's understanding when ours fails (as it so often does). Jesus is our Great Teacher, and from His text-

book, the Bible, we can learn life's most valuable lessons. Everything we need to know about handling situations that arise from day to day is contained within those sacred pages. Now, we might not find a verse which addresses our particular subject by name; but through earnest prayer and the Holy Spirit's guidance, we can discern God's advice to us on any given question or for any area of our lives. All we have to do as pupils, is listen and follow His instructions. Simple? Yes. Easy? Not always. If this is to be our earthly schooling, let us become diligent students, looking forward to the year ahead with anticipation and to a successful graduation on that final judgment day. II Timothy 2:15.

It was a blessing to have Bro. Ray Sinn (Latty) and Bro. Ron Steiner (Rittman) to share God's teachings with us last month. We appreciated the fellowship of these brothers, their families and all who joined us for services.

We welcome everyone to come and worship with us. Services are now held on the first, third and fifth Sunday of each month.

OHIO, GIRARD

Kathryn Emch

Since we last visited, Harold and I spent a weekend in Milford where we enjoyed a reunion with my family. We give special thanks to Bro. Ben Hartzler for ministering to our congregation in our absence.

June 30 we had the privilege of having Elder Bro. Eugene Pamer here to serve us communion. After church, we visited Sis. Mini Emch so that she, too, could partake of the Lord's supper. She always enjoys having company.

We truly appreciate those who come to worship with us. We especially thank the song leaders.

OHIO, JUNCTION

Les Manz

Bro. Gary Maibach (Rittman) and Bro. Marvin Stieglitz (Leo, IN) assisted our local brethren in bringing us God's Word this month.

Gregory John Gasser was born June 23 to Bro. Roger and Sis. Sue. Greg has a brother, Brad. Of all the possessions we can acquire in life, what can be more valuable than such a dear little soul to care for? What more can we do for such a dear little soul than to teach him by word and by deed the ways of the Lord?

We believe young Greg will hear about God's ways through his parents and grandparents, Bro. Art and Sis. Bertha Gasser (Rittman) and Bro. Eli and Sis. Evelyn Manz.

OHIO, LATTY

Laurie Stoller — Patty Gerber

Filled with joy over the arrival of their first child, Bro. Leon and Sis. Debbie Klopfenstein welcomed their son, Brett Edward, with open arms. We congratulate first-time paternal grandparents, Bro. Raymond and Sis. Catherine, and maternal grandparents, Bro. Herman and Sis. Mary Baer (Princeville, IL).

We were privileged to learn firsthand of the work projects being done in Haiti by a Haitian minister and his family. They told us of their country and sang songs in their native language. Also, some brothers who visited Haiti to help with these work projects shared their experiences and some slides with us. May we ever remember to support these work projects, first of all in prayer, then also by sharing our over-abundance of material blessings with those who struggle for even the basic necessities of life.

Bros. Kent Ringger and John Reinhard (Bluffton, IN) and Bro. Rudy Graf (Akron) visited us this month. We always appreciate the ministers' willingness to serve us, including our own ministers whom we fully support.

We were thankful Bro. Leon Klopfenstein (Sis. Debbie) was our only hospital patient and that he is up and about following a farming accident.

The weekend of June 22 was special for Jackie Gerber (Jack and Mary) and Tim Yenser (Russell and Suzanne) as they vowed their commitment to each other. Also promising faithfulness to their partner were Karen Stoller (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Dorothy) and Ron Hofactor (Charles and Betty). We pray God's love and guidance for each of these couples.

OHIO, MANSFIELD

Linda Morrison

"The Lord also will be a refuge for the oppressed, a refuge in times of trouble. And they that know thy name will put their trust in thee: for thou, Lord, hast not forsaken them that seek thee." Psalm 9:9, 10. Those finding refuge in the Lord during illness and hospitalization are: Bro. Ed Beer (Thelma), Bro. Byron Rice (Sis.

Sarah), Bro. Ken Sauder (Sis. Sue), Sis. Alice Graszl (Bro. Frank), Sis. Ruth Weiss (Carl) and Sis. Kate Deturk. Sis. Kate has a new address: Lexington Court, 250 Delaware Avenue, Lexington, OH 44904. She would appreciate your expressions of encouragement as she adjusts to her home in a care center. Sis. Clara Wahl is to have eye surgery July 26 in Columbus and plans to move into the Rittman Home then. She will find Marie Beer (of our congregation) already to welcome her and help her feel at home in Rittman.

Ron and Sheli Fairchild are first-time parents. Katie Marie was born June 28. Bro. Richard and Sis. Mabel Banks are the happy, prayerful grandparents. Let us all prayerfully support parents and children as the dangers and snares are so numerous.

On Sunday, July 14, the annual Sunday school picnic was held at the home of Bro. Ken and Sis. Sue Sauder. God provided beautiful weather and the spirit of love and fellowship prevailed.

On July 22, Sis. Frances Gage was quietly called home by her Lord. Our sympathies are extended to her sisters: Sis. Martha Mayer and Esther Zody. "To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die;" Ecclesiastes 3:1, 2. Are you ready?

Summer is vacation time instead of study time, right? II Timothy 2:15 says, "Study to show thyself approved unto God . . ." I Thessalonians 4:11 says, "And that ye study to be quiet . . ." Is God always pleased with our use of time, especially our "study" time?

OHIO, RITTMAN

Judy Stoller — Verla Stoller

"To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven: A time to be born, . . ." Ecclesiastes 3:1-2. Amanda Jewelene was born to Gary and Sis. Susan Murray. Alicia, Melissa and Brent welcome her into the family. Grandparents, Glen and Mary Jane Winkler, are glad for another granddaughter.

Also welcoming another daughter, Sarah Eileen, were Bro. Jerry and Sis. Martha Bauman. Matthew and Mary will enjoy a little sister. Sarah's grandmother is Sis. Marie Bauman.

Brian and Wendy Fetty were blest with a son, Taylor Christian-Daniel. Brienne will enjoy having a brother to

play with. Roy and Sis. Wilda Fetty are Taylor's grandparents.

... and a time to die . . ." Ecclesiastes 3:2. We mourn with those who have laid their loved ones to rest. Viola Winkler, a sister of Sis. Mary and Sis. Freda Winkler, Sis. Lillian (Bro. Charles) Zollinger and Sis. Pauline (Bro. Ernest) Hartzler, has gone to be with her Creator. Ola was a special child who lived to be 80 years old. Now she is safe in the arms of Jesus.

Bro. Herman (Harry) Riggenbach laid down his armor after living many years on earth and now can rest with his Saviour in heaven. We extend our sympathy to his wife, Sis. Rhoda; his son, Dana; and his daughter, Sis. Luzelda (Bro. Don) Stoller. "Those who in all temptation have proven true deserve our commendation." Zion's Harp #172.

It is always especially sad when infants are taken from us. Steven and Sue Zollinger experienced the loss of a daughter, Steffanie Ann, at birth. They are thankful for their sons, Jeremiah and Charles. Also sharing their loss are grandparents, Bro. Rudy and Sis. Brenda Zollinger.

As it says further in Ecclesiastes 3, "a time to heal," so we wish this time of healing upon all those who were hospitalized. Bro. Harry Gasser and his wife, Sis. Marguerite, were both hospitalized, although at different times. Bro. Ron Christian (Joann), Sis. Esther Saylor and Joe Zollinger were also hospitalized.

We are thankful for all our visitors and welcome all who visit us. We appreciate the brothers in the ministry who visit us and encourage us through God's Word. Ministers who visited us this month were Elder Bro. Perry Zimmerman (Forrest, IL), Bro. Jim Rinkenberger (Bluffton, IN) and Elder Bro. Eugene Pamer (Akron, OH). We often call upon Bro. Eugene to labor for us and we thank him for his willingness to serve us.

Bro. Bill Hartzler (Bro. Ken and Sis. Jane) and Sis. Pam McIntire believe the Lord desires them to walk together in His service; therefore, they had their engagement and forthcoming marriage announced.

On July 14, three more engagements were announced. Believing the Lord has drawn them together are Bro. Eric Stoller (Bro. Everett and Sis. Marjorie) and Sis. Melanie Indermuhle (Bro. Galen and Sis. Cheryl); Bro. Walter

Anliker (Eureka, IL) and Sis. Claribel Walters (Sis. Jennie Bauman); and Bro. Jack (Alton) Maibach and Sis. Delores Walder (Cissna Park, IL).

As we near the completion of the Apostolic Christian Church of Smithville and the time of parting, we feel God is very near showing us His power and providing many blessings. He has chosen two humble brothers to serve in His ministry. Our prayers are with Bro. Merle Hartzler (Sis. Bonnie) and Bro. Vic Bauman (Sis. Brenda) who had these labors placed upon them. Our prayers are with all the brothers who serve in God's ministry.

Bros. Vince Hartzler and Denny Nieman were chosen as Sunday school superintendents; and, Bro. Dean Hartzler was chosen as trustee.

Lord willing, the church in Smithville will be completed by the end of July and services there will start in August.

Praised be the Lord who gives us strength,
Who leads and gives direction.
My brethren, when you kneel in pray'r,
For me make intercession.
'Twill not be vain; Pray'r as a chain
Binds us in God together,
And when we part,
Unites each heart
In Jesus' name forever.

Zion's Harp #195, verse 8

OHIO, SARDIS Paula Figel

The weekend of June 29-30 will long remain in our memories. We had the privilege of attending the memorial services of the church in New Martinsville, WV. It was an experience that should have been enjoyed by all.

Evening services were held on Saturday at Sardis with Bro. Lloyd Kraft (Gridley, KS), Bro. Earl Kilgus (Remington, IN) and Bro. Paul Gasser (Akron, OH). Sunday morning we joined many cars winding their way seven miles up the mountainside to the little wooden church sitting high on a mountaintop overlooking valleys and peaks for miles around.

About 225 brethren and friends from Akron, OH, Bluffton, IN, Fairbury, IL, Mansfield, OH, Rittman, OH, Rockville, CT and Sardis, OH, filled the church to overflowing. Many of us sat on chairs outside under the protection of a canvas, while others chose to sit on the hillside. The children on

blankets, found shelter from the sun under trees in the little cemetery.

We sang for almost one hour and I thought, "Surely our voices blending in praise to the Lord must be carrying many miles over the valleys. Hopefully, some needy soul would hear and find comfort in the singing".

Some special thoughts were shared that weekend. It was a blessing to learn that we don't go to annual memorial church services to worship the church building. We go because we love Jesus Christ and are living in His love.

OHIO, TOLEDO Frances Laidig Josephine Rehlau

HAPPINESS OF THE GODLY

Those whose hearts delight and pleasure
In God's law and teaching find,
And whose souls find joy and pasture
In His ways and mercies kind;
All such lives a true light show,
And no falt'ring weakness know.

For their faith takes root, is grounded
Deep in God's true Word and light,
Where its life's support is founded
And love's flame becomes more bright.
Where their hope does bloom and grow
And the light of life does glow.

Zion's Harp #82, vs. 2 & 4

Rolland and Herma Whittaker, through repentance, have found peace with man and God. They are now looking forward to baptism which is the burying of the old man which is of a sinful nature and arising to a new life in Christ Jesus. It was with the grace of God that they could reach this most important milestone in life.

Paul Fetter (Bonnie) has been ill and is recuperating at home. Our prayers are with Paul that he may experience a good recovery.

OREGON, PORTLAND Barbara Moser

MARY'S THOUGHTS AT THE CROSS

"My Son, my Son, why hang you there
Upon the cruel tree?
For you have done no wrong I know,
Then why this agony?
Why should I ask? I know full well.
You are the Christ indeed,

The Son of God come down in flesh
To save us in our need.

"I thank you, Son, for letting me
Be part of that great plan
To bring salvation to the earth,
To rescue fallen man"
Then Mary thought of years gone by -
When first the angel came
And told her this was God's own Son,
And Jesus was His name.
And though misunderstood by some,
She knew within her heart
A miracle from God had come,
And she would have a part.
And then she thought of Bethlehem -
The stable and the stall,
The manger bed where shepherds
came

And on their knees did fall.
They told her how the light came down
And an angel brought the word,
Proclaiming God had sent to earth
A Saviour, Christ the Lord!
Then later on the Wise Men came
And precious gifts did bring,
Of Gold and Frankincense and Myrrh,
To worship this new King.
She thought of all the years she
watched

This child become a man,
Until at Cana's marriage feast
His ministry began.
Those precious, private years were
gone.
Her mother heart must share
Her God-born Son with all the world;
His work He must declare.
He healed the sick and raised the dead;
He made the blind to see
And proved by words and deeds of love
That God's own Son was He.

Through tear-filled eyes she watched
Him there,
While thinking of the past;
His earthly life was nearly gone.
His work complete at last.
Yet in her grief her heart was full,
For she had been the one
Whom God the Father chose to be
The mother of His Son.

Eugene L. Clark

We, here in the Portland church, have been blessed so much recently with visiting ministers: Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL), Bro. Wayne Miller (Ft. Scott, KS) and Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr (West Bend, IA). We thank them for their labors of love and pray that God will bless them richly.

Give Your Address Change
to Your Reporter

OREGON, SILVERTON**Rosa Lee Kuenzi**

We have been thoroughly enjoying our summer visitors. The beautiful summer weather encourages the outdoor bar-b-ques, picnics, potlucks, singings and sightseeing. The latter can be seen out the window of a car or van if time and health don't allow the more adventurous "on the spot" observations. The "sights" can be anything from God's majestic handiworks like the pounding Pacific surf; the cool, green Cascade Mountains; volcanic Mt. St. Helens; the crystal clear waters of hundreds of lakes, rivers, creeks and waterfalls; to the harvesting of the many different farm crops. Oregon is probably not like anywhere else that you may have been. This comes as quite a surprise to some people. After riding past miles and miles of tall, green fir trees near our Silver Falls State Park, one midwest farmer reportedly said, "Yes, it's beautiful, but can you grow corn here?"

It was our precious privilege last weekend to participate in the blessed sacrament of holy communion. We sincerely thank our dear Elder Bro. Carl Kinsinger (Altadena, CA) and Elder Bro. Richard Schupbach (Phoenix, AZ) for the reading of the memorandum, which is always timely and appreciated. We sang together in the fifth verse of our Zion's Harp #200 . . . "To Zion's realm and holy land . . . we journey on".

We also want to express the heartfelt thanks of the Silverton congregation for our other visiting ministers this past month: Elder Bro. Wayne and Sis. Kathy Fehr and family (West Bend, IA) and Bro. Art and Sis. Mary Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN). The fellowship we share is what precious memories are made of.

**PENNSYLVANIA,
PHILADELPHIA****Ann Gasser**

As our congregation has increased, we felt it a good time to begin mid-week services at the church. Services are scheduled for 8:00 p.m. every other Wednesday. Our Elder Bro. Corbin Bahler (Rockville, CT) and his wife were with us this past Wednesday evening. Other visiting ministers this month were Bro. Kevin Ryan (Rockville, CT) and Bro. Ed Alt (Cissna Park, IL). Our thanks goes out to them for their loving service.

Hospitalized this month was Bess Merz, who underwent surgery. Bess is very dear to us and we wish her God's nearness.

August is Silver Lining subscription renewal month for Philadelphia.

TEXAS, FORT WORTH-DALLAS**Mary Plattner**

Elder Bro. Bob Walder (Congerville, IL) and Elder Ronald Nelson (Kiowa, KS) have been our visiting ministers. Their efforts have certainly been appreciated. There are several families in the Ft. Worth-Dallas area.

Services are held in the Fort Worth Holiday Inn with services in the morning and afternoon. Anyone wishing more information can contact Leland Plattner, P. O. Box 1374, Zapata, TX 78076 or call (512) 765-5612.

TEXAS, ZAPATA**Mary Plattner**

We welcome Bro. Jim Knobloch into our fold. He has been employed in Zapata for several months and returned to Lester, IA for his baptism.

Most of our families have returned from their summer vacations to the north and we now anticipate the return of our winter congregation.

This summer we have started having a monthly singing at church. We gather to sing on the 3rd Sunday of each month. Anyone coming to South Texas is most welcome to assemble with us.

SILVER THREADS**GOD'S LOVE**

There's a wideness in God's mercy
Like the wideness of the sea;
There's a kindness in His justice,
Which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earth's sorrows
Are more felt than up in heaven:
There is no place where earth's failings
Have such kind judgment given.
For the love of God is broader
Than the measures of man's mind.
And the heart of the Eternal
Is most wonderfully kind.
But we make His love to narrow
By false limits of our own;
And we magnify His strictness
With a zeal He will not own.
If our love were but more simple.
We should take Him at His word.
And our lives would be all sunshine
In the sweetness of our Lord.

Faber

**ALL THINGS WORK TOGETHER
FOR GOOD TO THEM
THAT LOVE GOD**

Romans 8:28

Just how this statement can be true,
Perhaps has often puzzled you.
You've wondered how that "all things"
could
Work out for your Eternal good.

How trouble, sorrow and unrest,
Could work together for the best.
How this could be you did not know
And yet you felt it must be so.

Now "all things" mean both good and
bad
Yes, things that really make you sad.
It means your sickness and your health,
Your poverty as well as wealth.

Of trouble you will have your share
While in this world of toil and care.
But rest assured you have a Friend
Who knows your life from start to end.

Should God permit dark clouds some
day
To cast a gloom across your way,
Just take it as your Father's will;
You're in His care, He loves you still.

Be not alarmed, nor be cast down,
'Tis through these trials you win a
crown,
All earthly sorrow soon shall cease
While joys Eternal shall increase.

There's much we do not understand,
But "all things" are within His hand.
Remember God's mysterious plan
Cannot be solved by mortal man.

But when we reach the land of rest
We then shall see that He knew best.
The things we had not understood
We realize were all for our good.

Selected

Sermon . . .

(continued from Page 28)

to cost you something. It is going to cost you some time, beloved brethren. Christ Himself, according to Mark 1:35, got up early in the morning before the sun was up, and was in prayer with His God. Are you giving Him time? Are you paying the price of willingness to get involved in the Word?

Another point really needs to be made; sometimes we get so confused.

It says, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God . . ." II Timothy 2:15. Sometimes we think that when we study the Word of God, we are automatically approved of God. That is not what it says. It says to study the Word so that you can apply it to your life, and then you are approved to God.

You don't study the Word, and after your study sessions look up at God and say, "My, aren't you proud of me, dear Lord? Didn't I really do good this morning? I read six chapters and I've done it a whole week in a row." That's not the point. The point is that you study so that you can apply this Word to your heart, and then you will show yourself approved before God.

"Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ: Even as it is meet for me to think this of you all, because I have you in my heart; inasmuch as both in my bonds, and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel, ye all are partakers of my grace." Philippians 1:6, 7.

When we talk about the confirmation of the gospel, we are talking about contending for the faith. We are talking about truth. Go into the latter part of Galatians, chapter 2. Truth is laid out for you so very, very clearly.

It talks about justification; it talks about sanctification. Sometimes some of us don't even know what those words mean. How can you understand the scriptures if you don't even know what justification means? How can you read the scriptures and understand what it means, if you don't have a dictionary and dig up some of the words like sanctification and justification?

It costs, brethren. It costs some effort. It is a challenge that God lays out for us right here.

"For God is my record, how greatly I long after you all in the bowels of Jesus Christ." Philippians 1:8. That means in the emotions of Jesus Christ.

Paul said that he prayed for them, and his prayer is beautiful. "This I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment." Philippians 1:9. You see, with knowledge we also need discernment.

We look to those who are older. We look to those with whom we can counsel to clarify some of these things. This is our duty, day in and day out, to help and to be willing to receive help.

"That ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ." Philippians 1:10.

When Paul said, "I pray that your love may abound," he meant that they should work together. I often think of Peter and John. In the Acts, as they first went out, Peter and John walked side by side in the temple. They took time to heal the man along the wayside, working together hand in hand.

If you study the scriptures, you find that Peter and John were two completely different types of people. Peter was strong and bold; he wanted to walk on the water. When Christ asked, "Whom say ye that I am?" Oh, Peter had a testimony. "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the Living God!" Matthew 16:15, 16. He was bold.

John was characterized as being the loving disciple, one who was caring. He showed flashes to total independence as when he wanted to bring fire down on the Samaritans, but generally, he was a man of love.

These two men worked side by side within the church. They had totally different personalities, but they worked together in love. That is really strengthening and exciting. In Galatians, chapter 2, when Paul was contending with Peter (it was 14 years later), whom did Paul go to see? He went back to Jerusalem to the great council where they were dealing with the whole concept of legalism within the early church. Whom did he go back and see? Peter and John, who were still working together in unity.

It is laid out so very, very clearly to us, brethren, that we need to be able to work with one another. We need to be able to accept God's gifts in other men.

"Being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God." Philippians 1:11. We don't stand up here for our own recognition. We don't stand up here for our own righteousness. We don't stand up here for any glory. We stand up here because we love Jesus Christ and His righteousness, for we recognize that therein is the only hope that we have.

After Paul's prayer, he says, so to speak, "Look, I want you to understand something."

"But I would ye should understand, brethren, that the things which happened unto me have fallen out rather unto the furtherance of the gospel; So

that my bonds in Christ are manifest in all the palace, and in all other places; And many of the brethren in the Lord, waxing confident are my bonds, are much more bold to speak the word without fear. Some indeed preach Christ even of envy and strife; and some also of good will: The one preach Christ of contention, not sincerely, supposing to add affliction to my bonds: But the other of love, knowing that I am set for the defense of the gospel." Philippians 1:12-17.

What you had here, brethren, was ministers preaching and contending with other ministers. This is not unity. That is not love. True, we need to lay out the truth as it is, very, very clearly. We need to do it in sincerity.

But Paul is saying, "Do you understand? Do you understand that even our persecution, or whatever it might be, will be for the furtherance of the gospel if we stand in the truth?" The church needs to stand for that which is right and that which is truth above everything else.

Then Paul gets into the whole aspect of living and dying. I visited with my grandma this past week. She is ninety-three years old. She wants to die so badly. She said, "Oh, do you think you could just pray for me that I could die tonight? Would you do that for me?"

I said, "No way, grandma. You've got work to do. As long as you are living, as long as you have breath, God has work for you; and that applies to both you and me."

She said, "Okay. We'll go another day. One more day." That is all you need. Take one day at a time, working for the Lord.

But notice, "For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain." Philippians 1:21. You understand that Christians are dispensable. You are not indispensable, brothers and sisters. You are not indispensable.

If Christ causes you to have a burden upon your heart, you must pay the price. Whatever the price might be, whatever He tells you to do, you have to do it.

When it came to preaching, I had said, "Dear Lord, I won't and I can't." That was my perspective. And the Good Lord said, "You will and you can."

Whatever the price may be, your attitude will determine the outcome. "For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain."

FEB 02602 LK
CHARLES WALDER
EAST LYNN IL 60932

SERMON BY BRO. KENT RINGGER OF BLUFFTON, IN

Text: Philippians 1

Paul had a purpose. Did you gather that as we read? He had a very, very clear purpose in mind. One of the beautiful revelations in the scripture is that Jesus Christ has a purpose for every person upon the face of the earth.

Oftentimes I have people come to me and say, "I'm really struggling with the will of God. I'm really struggling with what God wants me to do. I can't understand what He wants of me." I say, "I can understand that. I think we all struggle with that."

My response is: "What are you doing with the things that you know that He wants you to do? What are you doing with some of the instructions that He tells us, when He says, 'Be pure'? What are you doing with some of the instructions when He says, 'Be holy'? How do you handle, 'Study to shew thyself approved'? II Timothy 2:15. Are you doing that? How do you respond to the scriptures when it says, '... be filled with all the fullness of God.'? Ephesians 3:19."

Do you even know what that means? You see, so often we are looking outside of God's will. We are not even within the realm of being pure. We are not even within the realm of being Spirit-filled, and we are not even willing to suffer one bit for the sake of Christ.

We are sitting out there farming our farms, working out businesses and running our schools. Yet we want Christ to lead us in some very special way.

Think of what Jesus Christ is telling us. Let's get within the will of God. Get your purity straight. Get your spirit Spirit-filled. Make sure it is filled. Be willing to suffer. Once you are within those realms, the Spirit of God will be with you. Then you are going to know where He wants you.

Certainly Paul, in this scripture, starts beautifully by telling the Philippians that he is praying for them. He

doesn't come out fighting... he comes out with prayer. He comes out very gently.

He says, "... in every prayer of mine for you all making requests with joy..." Philippians 1:4. Or, "I want you to be joyful. I want you to be happy." But understand, brethren, that the joy is within. We are not dealing with externals (we talked about that a little bit this morning), we are dealing with the internals, with confidence in the Holy Spirit and confidence in the gospel.

Very, very clearly in I John, the Word says, "These things have I written unto you... that ye may know that ye have eternal life." I John 5:13. It doesn't say, "I write this to you so that you might think that you have it." It says, "... that ye may know." You can cling to that. You have it as a promise in your heart. You don't have to live in fear!

The other request that Paul was making was for "fellowship in the gospel. Are you sharing the gospel with your family? Grandmothers and grandfathers, are you willing to share the gospel with your grandchildren when they come to visit? We parents look to our parents, if they are living, to share the gospel with our children in many ways.

In Hebrews, chapter five, we are given guidance for our Christian growth. It says in chapter five, starting with verse eleven, "Of whom we have many things to say, and hard to be uttered, seeing ye are dull of hearing." Now those are straightforward words. He is talking to Christians and saying, "Look, you don't even have the spirit of listening. You can't even hear. You are so hung up on who you are that you are not willing to listen!"

"For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of

strong meat." Hebrews 5:12.

What Paul is saying is that he had a church that was filled with a bunch of Christian spiritual babies. They might have been old, they might have been aged, but they never grew.

In I John, the Word talks about being little children... "ye have known the Father." He talks about young men, and says, "Ye have overcome the wicked one." I John 2:13. How did they do that? It says because they fed on the Word, and "... the word of God abideth in you." I John 2:14.

We need to be in the Word. I do not see any way that a Christian can grow without being in the Word, without being grounded in the Word. We can stand up here and preach to you Sunday after Sunday, week after week, but unless you are committed to some personal Christian growth through the Word, you are simply going to be spiritual babies.

What does a baby do? A baby is totally reliant upon someone else for his nourishment. A baby is totally committed to his own welfare, concerned for his own good. When things don't go his way, he cries and moans. Babies are totally dependent on others for their care.

Paul said, "... ye ought to be teachers." Hebrews 5:12. In I Timothy he says to teach others. When you grow in the Word, you have a commitment. You have a responsibility to teach others.

"For every one that useth milk is unskillful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe." Hebrews 5:13. This is not us up here talking. This is the Word of God. The Word of God is saying, "Some of you have been in the Christian faith for a long time and you are spiritual babies."

Others are willing to pay the cost. You see if you want to grow, it is going

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