



Children's children are
the crown of old men: and
the glory of children are
their fathers.
Proverbs 17:6

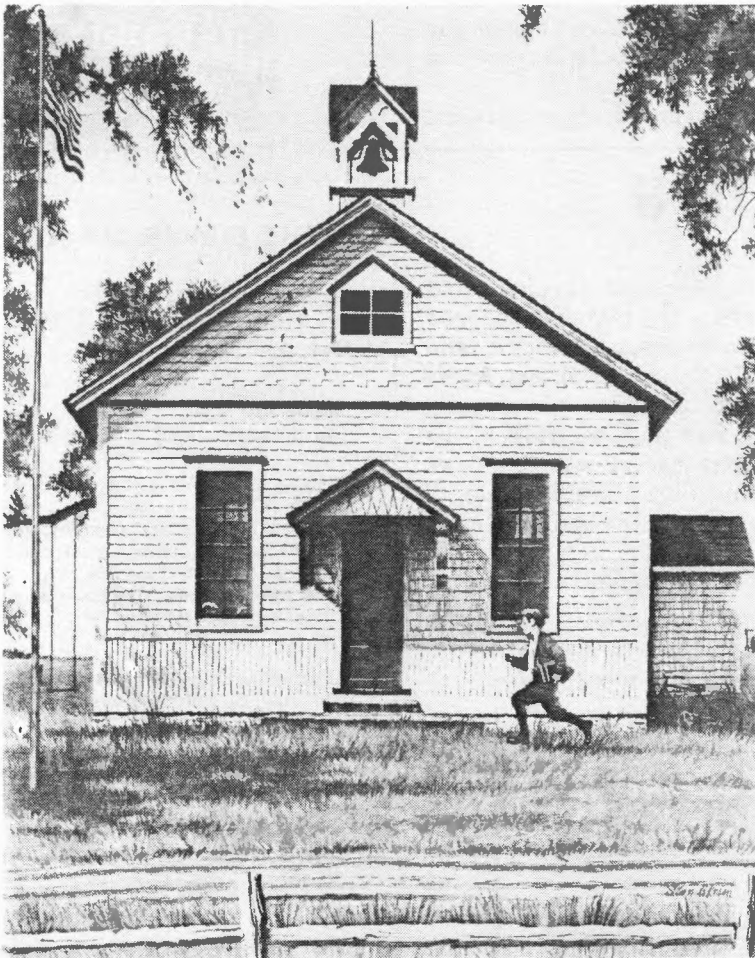
Lo, children are a heri-
tage of the Lord:
Psalm 127:3

VOLUME 35

SEPTEMBER 1985

NUMBER 9

"School Days"



Dear Jesus, bless my little school girl,
As she starts off for school today.
You know all about her, Lord,
Please keep an eye on her, I pray.

With Thy help, I'll do my best
To guide her aright at home.
But she's so little, the world's so big
And temptations are sure to come.

Help her remember, Father,
The lessons she has learned
At home and at Sunday school
And may she quickly to Thee turn.

We know Thy help's just a prayer away
Whether we're young or old.
And if we put our faith in Thee
Thou wilt keep us in Thy fold.

So bless my little school girl, Father,
And keep her in Thy care
And as she looks to Thee for help
Wouldst Thou an extra portion share.

I know you've heard this little prayer
From a mother's heart today,
Her life is in Your hands, dear Lord,
Please shelter her, I pray.

Submitted by
Gloria Frieden, Elgin, IA

"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 THERAPY OF REPENTANCE

Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle — Shioda, Japan

"Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out . . .", is what Peter told the people as recorded in Acts 3:19. The teaching was and remains, that we should not only regret where we have done wrong, but that we should seek and find forgiveness through God's Son, the Lord Jesus Christ.

But what's so good about repentance? Humiliation of a sort, as well as dying to self, is involved, and that is not considered by most people to be a very great experience. Generally speaking, the great experiences are thought to be when people tell you how much they love you, when you are highly respected and when you are achieving. Then, what's so good about repentance?

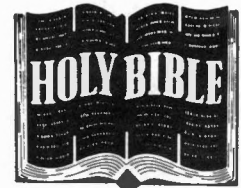
The truth is that repentance is a wonderful therapy, not only when we are seeking our soul's salvation, but for

many ills in life. When we are achieving and are being praised, we sometimes fail to prepare for the head-on collision with disaster which may be just around the corner. When we are achieving and succeeding, we should constantly be in a state of repentance so that when the roof caves in and we are criticized and buffeted, we can just keep right on repenting; it will not be a new state of mind or attitude for us. It is indeed a wonderful therapy for bringing us down off the mountain tops and lifting us up out of the valley.

When you repent, you make yourself of no reputation with nothing to lose. That's different then trying to defend your good reputation, which drains a person. You can relax and say, "I'm dead with Christ so it doesn't make any difference." That should remove the pressure.

Are you concerned about meeting

God? Try repentance. Are you dissatisfied with your church? Try repentance. Are you displeased with your minister? Try repentance. Does your spouse misunderstand you? Try repentance. Are you having financial troubles? Try repentance, which includes a willingness to live cheerfully on a very, very low standard of living. Do you have health problems? Try repentance, telling God that you surrender all. When one repents, he or she quits fighting against circumstances and capitulates or surrenders. This frees a person from his own selfish interests and permits him to concentrate on bearing the fruit of the spirit and on "doing all things heartily as unto the Lord". Are your frustrated or upset about anything whatsoever? Try repentance.



BIBLE DISTRIBUTION

Greetings in our precious Saviour's name.

Many of our brethren from our congregations have been active in giving and distributing the Bible. Many accounts have been heard of the blessings realized in visiting the homes, rest homes, prisons and rescue missions, when inquiry and request has come from someone wishing to have a Bible or Testament. Many requests come from individuals who have sight problems, where a large print Bible or Testament enables them to read again. We now have the KJV of the Bible on cassette tapes for those persons who can no longer see. For the blind, we have sets of braille Bibles in stock, ready for those needing a braille Bible.

During the past two years, 24,702 Bibles and Testaments have been shipped to our congregations for distribution by our brethren.

Contributions to the Bible Fund for Bible distribution can be sent to Elder Bro. Ben Maibach and requests for Bibles and Testaments can be sent to Elder Bro. David Bertsch.

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 — Third Year

	MONTH	TO DATE
August 1985 —	876	876

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.

THE SILVER LINING

Grabill, Indiana 46741
USPS 496780

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

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IN MEMORY — EDITORS:
HENRY SOUDER
EDWARD SOUDER

GLORIFYING GOD

Bro. Jerry Messner, Winthrop, MN

If whatever we do doesn't glorify God's name, then anything we do is in vain.

The only purpose we have in life is to glorify the name of God. By glorifying His name, we can fulfill all of His commandments.

There are innumerable ways to glorify the name of God and the list would be unending. Let's look at but a few, which would certainly get us all on the right track.

Deuteronomy 6:6, 7, "And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart; and thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up."

Most certainly it is very important we teach our children of God's way, not only occasionally, but daily. Perhaps we as parents are too quick to "be careful we don't say too much and drive the children away, rather than bring them close to God." If we are obeying God's command by planting the seed, then God will give the increase in due time. Ah! but we must be careful we don't teach them God's commands in words only . . . action is extremely important.

Are God's words in our heart as the sixth verse says? How can it be unless we read and study His Word? This brings us to another way we can and should glorify God. "Study to shew thyself approved of God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." II Timothy 2:15.

By diligently studying His Word, we can now use it as a sword and shield to fight off Satan. The Psalmist said to hide the word in our hearts. "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee." Psalms 119:11.

Reading, feeding on and studying God's Word should be as essential, even more essential to a believer than eating. Christ in our conversation should be as natural as talking itself. Doesn't the scripture teach us that our tongues will be loosened when Christ is in our lives? That we should "quench not the Spirit". I Thessalonians 5:19. The more we repeat the "good news"

the more we remember. It has been said, "the more you give away, the more you keep".

Sometimes we may feel we don't have the chance to witness for Christ or the opportunity hasn't presented itself. There is an old story of a man sitting by his stove on a cold winter morning saying, "Give me some heat and I'll give you some wood". First we must provide the wood (a willing heart). God creates opportunities for a willing heart!

Brotherly love is certainly a way to glorify God. Jesus Christ glorified God by His death for us. "Greater Love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." John 15:13. Would we be willing to lay down our life for our friends? our brethren? That is the ultimate, the height of love.

God has not asked us, in this present time, to lay down our lives. However, there are ways brotherly love can be manifested; encouraging one another; praying for each other; willingness to forgive; willingness to learn; helping one another grow, and not remain on a milk diet but get into the strong meat. How unfortunate it would be to see a twelve or fourteen year old still sucking on a baby bottle; which is by comparison a Christian of many years existing on a milk diet.

Obviously there are many ways to glorify God, but by far the greatest way to glorify Him is to place our total faith in Jesus Christ as Saviour.

The Bible speaks in many ways of God's plan to save all the people of the world through Jesus Christ the Risen Lord and yet it comes down to this: "And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely." Revelation 22:17d.

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.

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.

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

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

SPECIAL NOTICE Change of Hours

Effective on September 3, 1985, Apostolic Christian Publications will have new store hours. We will no longer be open on Friday evenings. Also, we will not be open in the afternoon anymore, but will instead be open mornings, Monday through Friday from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.

We will be glad to assist you in any way we can. Stop in and see us at the store, or write or call us at the address and telephone number listed below.
Apostolic Christian Publications
524 Valley Court
Eureka, Illinois 61530
Telephone (309) 467-3611

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME

Uriel Gehring

The bells for school are ringing again, the forerunner of the beautiful fall season in the great Midwest. All of our children are enrolled in the East Allen Community Schools, some attending the New Haven Center, and some the Leo Center. They are all picked up by a school bus at the little brown house at the end of the lane. Our youth are all marching to new horizons as they proceed to young adulthood and more responsibilities in life. What an opportunity they have to learn of life around them, and the world over, as they are exposed to educational fields and mingling with their peers in the school setting. The land of the free is still ours to enjoy. "America, America, God shed His grace on thee: and crown

thy good, with brotherhood, from sea to shining sea." This is our heritage; thanks be to God we live in America.

The ninth annual Auction and Sale is now history. It was an interesting, exciting day, as all sale days are. The salecomers began arriving shortly after seven in the morning, full of anticipation for what the day would bring forth. Many states were represented by a cross section of visitors. The auction started shortly after 9:00 a.m. At around 10:30 a.m. we were greeted by a heavy downpour of rain, but thanks to the large tents, everyone found shelter under the big top, and the sale continued, unmolested from the elements. Each auctioneer had a different presentation and a different talent, and variety, being the spice of life, encouraged attention from the bidders and spectators. The bidding was lively and spirited, thanks to the efforts and enthusiasm of the auctioneers and the bidders. On behalf of our children, thanks to all of you for helping make the day a success.

The food tent was a busy place, as appetites have to be satisfied, and what a variety of good food there was. Fresh pies by the dozens were there in almost every flavor imaginable. In the sandwich line, there were sloppy joes, hot dogs, and the specialty, butterfly pork chops, fresh from the grill — almost a meal in itself. If one were on a diet, he had a hard time sticking to it. Along with all the fine food, was the added ingredient of rich fellowship, the precious time when we could pause awhile and be immersed in conversation. How satisfying is the fellowship of God's people.

The recent rains have greened up the children's home complex, and with all the help of volunteers, prior to the sale, everything looks beautiful. We have a new 30 x 48 barn that adds to the "country" look at the Home. We will be getting some livestock for the barn shortly. Thank you to all the volunteers who have helped us during the summer. May God bless you.

Bro. Ken and Sis. Jackie Babin have resigned as houseparents in the West House and have moved back to their home in Morton, IL. They served at the Home for nearly two years. We thank them for their many kind efforts and sacrifices in serving our children here at the Home, and wish them and their family God's richest blessings in the future.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

REMEMBER BENEFIT DAY ON NOVEMBER 15, 1985!

Please plan to be with us then
in Morton.

Occasionally we hear the phrase, "lazy days of summer" (and we remember them fondly), but long gone are those childhood days when we were permitted on occasion just to lie out on the lawn, watch the white fleecy clouds move slowly across the heavenly blue and daydream about both the minuteness and magnitude of all creation. As adults, it seems that duty demands our constant hurried effort to meet our responsibilities, worthy though they be. There are, however, times when the Holy Spirit reminds us to "sit and pause awhile", no matter what the pressures might be. Recently on a very busy day, our attention was attracted to a male cardinal, feeding his young. It was a fascinating sight, for it is usually the mother bird who feeds the offspring. What was even more surprising was the contrast between the color of the parent male bird and the unbecoming, nondescript baby bird! The beautiful color of the adult male was totally absent in the young. In fact, it was ugly. As we thought about it, we concluded that the bright coloring in an immature bird would jeopardize its safety at a time when they were still unable to care for themselves. How wise is our Creator!

Is it possible for us to draw a parallel here at the Home for the Handicapped? Has the physical beauty of some of our special people been reserved for that time when they are safely in heaven? The marked contrast between then and now may well be such as has not "entered into the heart of man". Knowing and loving them here creates within us an anticipation of a glorious wholeness for them in the mansions above.

A new resident, our 99th, is Ed Getz, formerly of Indianapolis, IN. His parents, Eileen and Maurice Getz (Reynolds, IN), one sister, Susan, and one brother, Doug, make up his family. Ed enjoys eating all kinds of food, but hamburgers, French fries, pizza and ice cream are among his favorites. Favorite pastimes include walking and

bike riding. Birthday time for him is July 31. Welcome, Ed! We hope he will be happy here.

Without question, our family is sizable now. Providing for their physical needs is necessarily a concern, but to love them is an even greater one. All things physical will some day cease, but love will remain into the eternal.

During the church conference this year, held at Morton, it was our privilege to host the elders and their wives to a dinner at the Home for the Handicapped. We thank them for coming to visit us.

Until next time, let us remember:

We cannot all play the same part in God's orchestra, but we should all play in harmony.

You will never get a busy signal on the prayer line to heaven.

Instead of putting others in their place, try putting yourself in their place.

Emerson wrote, "All that I have seen teaches me to trust the Creator for all that I have not seen.

Genius begins a great work. Labor finishes it.

An open mind is fine, but we must be careful what we shovel into it.

A truly great man will always be a grateful man.

One mark of a great man is the courtesy and fairness he shows to the little man.

Every Christian occupies some kind of pulpit and preaches some kind of sermon.

ALABAMA, ATHENS

Joan Schrenk

School has started now, and it seems good to be back into a regular schedule again. We had an extremely busy summer here. Because of the different sisters coming to help with the school, we had company every weekend. The Leo Children's Home children and staff were here one weekend and the young people from Forrest, IL and Fairbury, IL were here another.

Our preschool had a big summer. We had about 25 students a day. With the volunteers here to help, our regular teachers were able to get some time off. Now we're back and have more students registered than we've ever had. Sis. Evie Blunier (Eureka, IL) is staying for the year.

We took a van load full of brothers

and sisters to the conference. For many of them, that was their first conference. We had a lovely trip and what a blessing and help and comfort to again be refreshed, and reminded of what the Holy Spirit can and will do for us if we'll only let "Him". We must completely rely on Him and pray for His guiding hand to direct our lives.

ARIZONA, PHOENIX

Ron and Evelyn Hoerr

"To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven." Ecclesiastes 3:1. Thus on Sunday, July 21, we rejoiced with Bro. Randy and Sis. LaNae Meyer at their wedding reception in the Phoenix congregational room. We pray the Lord will bless this couple now and in years to come. We welcome Sis. LaNae and little Kendall into our congregation.

In James 4:14 we read, "Where as ye know not what shall be on the morrow," and so it was with Bro. Glen Martin. Bro. Glen passed away suddenly July 23. The funeral was at the Phoenix church July 26. Elder Bro. Richard Schupbach conducted the services, assisted by Bro. Art Baurer (Princeville, IL) and Bro. John Kokanovich (Phoenix). Survivors include his wife, Sis. Josephine; his daughters, Sis. Elizabeth and Sis. Della; his son, Joe; his mother, Sis. Louise Martin; his sisters, Sis. Wilma, Sis. Adele, Sis. Vera, Sis. Elda and Sis. Mary; and five brothers, Lyle, Bro. Elmer, Bro. Ray, Bro. Dale and Bro. Sam. Interment was in the church section of East Resthaven Park Cemetery.

Bro. Ervan and Sis. Ione Rokey were host to the Rokey family reunion in mid-July. Many enjoyed a church singing on Sunday night.

Elder Bro. Richard and Sis. Barbara Schupbach were able to travel to the elder conference. We are thankful the Lord let granddaughter, Sis. Stefanie Baum, return home from the hospital as they left.

Our youngsters are looking forward to Sunday school starting August 18.

Our sympathy is extended to Elder Bro. Richard and Sis. Barbara Schupbach and Sis. Doris Kokanovich and Bro. Dan and several nieces and nephews in the death of their father, Bro. Sam Schupbach (Kiowa, KS) August 19. "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith." II Timothy 4:7.

CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA Shirley Luthi

"They that know thy name will put their trust in Thee: for Thou, Lord, hast not forsaken them that seek Thee. He forgetteth not the cry of the humble." Psalm 9:10 & 12. We are thankful to report that Bro. Bill Witzig is now home from the hospital after major surgery. Many prayers on his behalf were surely answered. As his strength returns, we anticipate his joining us again to worship together.

"God will redeem my soul from the power of the grave: for He shall receive me." Psalm 49:15. How sweet is the death of a person who has claim to the cleansing power of Jesus' blood. Many of us will miss the visits with Sis. Doris Hecker, who for so long anticipated passing from this life to a better one in heaven with her Savior. Her love and patient suffering has been an inspiration to those who knew her. Our sympathy goes to her son, Richard Hecker, her daughter-in-law, Marian Hecker, and her grandson, John Hecker, as we know she will be missed.

We welcome Sis. Sherrie Stoller (Gridley, IL) whose job has brought her to the west coast. We also welcome the Bro. Elmer and Sis. Ruth Ann Getz family who have moved from Elgin, IL to San Diego. We have enjoyed having Paul Getz (Bro. Elmer and Sis. Ruth Ann) in San Diego for some time and are thankful his family has joined him.

We trust the Lord will bless Bro. Art Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN) and Bro. Marshall Heinold (Washington, IL) for lending themselves to ministering God's Word with us during their recent visits.

COLORADO, DENVER

Mike Martin — Marlene Leman

We wish to welcome Sis. Joy Ringger (Champaign, IL), Sis. Lucinda Scheitlin (Burlington, IA), Sis. Dee Feucht (Lester, IA) and Brent Bruellman (West Bend, IA) to our congregation here in Denver. We trust they will feel at home here as they join our fellowship. Our congregation is really growing in number and we pray that each of us will grow unto greater faithfulness as we go onward in this life.

At the same time we regretfully bid farewell to Sis. Lanette Meyer, Bro. Keith and Sis. Carol Kaufman and son, Philip. Sis. Lanette went back to Kansas for another year of schooling and

the Kaufmans moved to Phoenix, AZ. We trust God's love will hold us close even though many miles separate us.

We also welcome Jacob Andrew Leman, new son of Bro. Mike and Sis. Deb Leman, born July 18. Due to his premature birth he spent several weeks in the hospital but is home now and doing fine. Jacob has one brother, Caleb. Grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Lorene Hodel (Roanoke, IL) and Bro. Tom and Sis. Marlene Leman.

We were blessed with four visiting ministers this month: Elder Bros. Nathan Steffen (Elgin, IL) and Leroy Huber (Eureka, IL) and Bros. Joe Zimmerman (Morton, IL) and John Isch (Indianapolis, IN). We are thankful to God for sending these dear brothers to us and pray that He will bless them.

CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE Michelle Virkler

HIS WAY

God, grant me Your eyes
so I will see
All the earth's beauty
surrounding me.

God, give me Your lips
and I'll express
Your love for all people
with gentleness.

And, Lord, let my hands
be tender, like Yours,
So I will be one who
renews and restores.

God, grant me these things
and then I'll share
Compassion and mercy,
praise and prayer!

"All these", the Lord said
"I already impart:
They're found when You're living
from the heart."

P. Mitchell

On July 27 our dear friends, Ron Bahler (Bro. Ken and Sis. Aline) and Bonnie Schneider (Bro. Wilbur and Marge) were united in holy matrimony. A dinner and reception followed at the Longview Village Retirement Home.

On July 28 Bro. Len (Bro. Emmanuel and Sis. Verona) and Sis. Debbie Stomberg (Bro. Ron and Sis. Judy) were united in marriage.

"What therefore God hath joined together, let man not put asunder."

St. Mark 10:9

August was also a busy month. Bro. Warren and Sis. Bonnie Zahner held a dinner and singing at their home Saturday night. Then on Sunday, August 11, Bro. Greg Gasser (Rittman, OH) and Sis. Sue Ellen Schneider (Bro. Wilbur and Marge) were joined in hand and heart.

"This union of our hearts
Shall stand through grace in Jesus
We walk the path of life
While cheer and trust increases
Where God in truth abides
Where two join hand and heart
We find a threefold cord
Not lightly rent apart."

Zion's Harp #79

We will miss Sis. Sue Ellen and trust she will find joy in her new home in Rittman.

A new bundle of love, Crystal Mae, was born to our precious friends, Ken and Nancy Willis. Grandparents are Bro. Emmanuel and Sis. Verona Schneider and Ken and Helen Willis.

Visiting ministers this past month were Bro. Ken Lawson (Ft. Lauderdale, FL), Bro. Bill Emch (Lamont, KS) and Bro. Ron Schambach (Elgin, IL). We thank God they were able to be in our midst and bring forth the precious Word.

FLORIDA, FT. LAUDERDALE Jeff Graf — Dale Ringger

We are thankful for the visitors who find it worthwhile to come and worship with us. Our visiting ministers this month were Bro. Jim Rinkenberger (Bluffton, IN) and Elder Bro. Steve Rinkenberger (Cissna Park, IL). We thank them for bringing us God's Word. May God bless them for their labors.

Sis. Emma Lach has returned from a trip to Germany. We thank God that He kept her in His care so that she could return to us safely.

Bro. Ken and Sis. Sharon Lawson and their family (Shelly, Tim and Tricia) recently moved to Minneapolis, MN. We are sorry to see them leave us, as is the case when loved ones are separated by the miles. Bro. Ken served the Lord diligently by ministering to us here in Ft. Lauderdale for the past five years. Our prayer is that God will bless them in their new home.

Mike and Sis. Faye Hohulin and their son, Andy; Bro. Ron and Sis. Liz Jones and their son, Lee; and Sis. Sue Gerber have relocated to Ft. Lauderdale. We hope that they can feel our love for them and that they will feel at home here.

FLORIDA, NORTH FORT MYERS
Marie Keller — Edna Meister

Marriage is like a garden
 That two hearts plant with care,
 And what grows in that garden
 Is what they've planted there!
 When seeds of love and kindness
 Are planted row by row,
 Through sunshine and through
 showers,
 In beauty, they will grow,
 And lovely are the memories
 That bloom and blossom there,
 When two hearts keep that garden
 With faith and loving care!

Helen Varries

We rejoice with Bro. Lester and Sis. Edna Meister as they celebrated their golden wedding anniversary August 3 with the family and brethren. A dinner was held in their condominium hall and everyone enjoyed the fellowship and love that was shared with one another.

Visiting ministers this past month were Bro. Doug Sabo (Sarasota) and Bro. Paul Eisenmann (Burlington, IA). May God bless them and their families for coming and sharing the Word with us.

GEORGIA, ATLANTA
Charmin Sellers — Nancy Foltz

Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust in him; and he shall bring it to pass.
 Psalm 37:5

Our Atlanta congregation is blessed to have individuals that have moved to our area and have joined in our fellowship. We thank the Lord for them.

Due to vacation schedules, it was necessary for us to cancel our July worship services. We are back to our regular schedule of meeting every 2nd and 4th Sunday. We invite all that might be traveling in the area to stop and worship with us. For information, contact Don Sellers at 404-923-0721 or Nancy Foltz at 404-451-9191.

Our appreciation is extended to all

our fine ministers who have taken the time to come and minister to us. May God bless them.

ILLINOIS,
BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL
Jan Gudeman — Nancy Kaufmann

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.

August 4 was a special day for Sis. Heather Haerr (Bro. Ray and Sis. Jeanie) as she was united in holy matrimony to Bro. Randy Knapp (Bro. Robert and Sis. Jean, Eureka). Also, Sis. Cindi Vogel (Bro. Stan and Sis. Nate) became the bride of Bro. Phil Witzig (Bro. Harold and Sis. Dorothy, Morton) August 18. May God richly bless these young couples as they begin their lives together.

We were richly blessed this month with many inspiring messages from our visiting ministers: Bros. Duane Kilgus (Fairbury, IL), Jim Byrd (Roanoke, IL), Loren Knapp (Tucson, AZ), Lenny Meyer (Chicago, IL), Dave Wiegand (Urbana, IL), Fred Knapp (Congerville, IL), Steve Martin (Eureka, IL), Paul Gasser (Akron, OH), Bill Waibel (Bay City, MI), Jim Ramseyer (Bay City, MI) and our Elder Bro. Dan Koch (Tremont, IL). May God always be with these brethren as they so willingly give of themselves.

ILLINOIS, BRADFORD
Marilyn Tanner

**PRAYERS CAN'T BE ANSWERED
 UNLESS THEY ARE PRAYED**

Life without purpose
 is barren indeed —
 There can't be a harvest
 unless you plant seed,
 There can't be attainment
 unless there's a goal,
 And man's but a robot
 unless there's a soul . . .
 If we send no ships out,
 no ships will come in,
 And unless there's a contest,
 nobody can win . . .
 For games can't be won
 unless they are played,
 And prayers can't be answered
 unless they are prayed . . .
 So whatever is wrong
 with your life today,

You'll find a solution
 if you kneel down and pray.
 Not just for pleasure,
 enjoyment and health,
 Not just for honors
 and prestige and wealth . . .
 But pray for a purpose
 to make life worth living,
 And pray for the joy
 of unselfish giving,
 For great is your gladness
 and rich your reward
 When you make your life's purpose
 the choice of the Lord.

Helen Steiner Rice

We're thankful for the many efforts and labors of our ministering brethren as they bring us God's true Word. Visiting us this month were Bro. Delbert Indermuhle (Sardis, OH) and Bro. Don Manz (Junction, OH).

May we remember our elders as they gather together once again for the conference. Our support and prayers are with them as they strive to preserve our precious faith.

Our hospital patient this month was Kreg Eberle (Ronnie and Sue). We are thankful for God's healing power.

Bro. Duane and Sis. Doreene Elsass and family will be making Princeville their church. We will miss them, but we wish them God's blessings. Their absence will be deeply felt by all. We want to thank Bro. Duane for his time and love that he shared with our children in Sunday school.

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO
Kathy Schlatter

I went into the bedroom and turned on the lamp. Light appeared, but then it bobbed around — or so it seemed. Actually the lamp was "blinking", off-on, off-on, very quickly and so distractingly. To myself, I thought, "This lamp's light is almost bad enough that we would be better off without any light at all!" Suddenly, illuminatingly, I realized how terribly confusing the light of a "blinking" Christian must be to the unconverted, to the newly converted, to the believer enduring rocky times. If one hears the Word in church, but a loving believer who has reached out to him/her doesn't abide by that Word, does this one see the light of steady truth or the blurry vision of confusion? If another steps forth by the grace of God in repentance, does he/she receive united counsel from the elder, ministers and church body; or does this

dear soul feel torn, trying to decide which "faction" he/she should follow? Does one who has a more difficult road search our churches and note their differences, accenting the discord in his/her life? We are exhorted to submission, obedience and steadfastness. May none of us be a "blinking" Christian, causing uncertainty and division. "I would be true For there are those who trust me," a song says. The Lord is the only perfect example, but if we are truly Christians, our lights should steadily reflect Christ. "Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." Psalm 133:1.

We appreciate the wisdom of Christ reflected in our visitors, Elder Bro. Akito Inoue (Tokyo, Japan) and Bro. Steve Gutwein (Francesville, IN). We were reminded that, as pain is a symptom making one aware of disease so that the person may seek treatment, so is conviction an indication that we have the disease called sin. If such conviction is heeded, the work of salvation can begin and sin's cancer be eradicated. Let us be aware of the Lord's convicting spirit at all times and act, not to cover up the symptoms but instead to treat the disease with His help.

"Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered . . . For this shall every one that is godly pray unto thee in a time when thou mayest be found . . . Thou art my hiding place; thou shalt preserve me from trouble; thou shalt compass me about with songs of deliverance." Psalm 32:1, 6a, 7. Three souls more are now walking upwards on the path to heaven, looking toward the stars and our infinite God. Jaron Grimm, originally from Princeville, and Shannon and Raelynn Stahl, son and daughter of Bro. Norm and Sis. Gloria Stahl, have stopped saying to themselves, "I want to repent someday." They have turned away from sin and Satan within their acceptable time. We joy in their new commitment. We may even show our joy by weeping. Yet part of us always cries for those who have not yet come.

We gratefully welcome Leah Kathryn, beloved daughter of Bro. Tom and Sis. Sandy Neu. This dear gift of God was born August 6 and delivered to them August 10. Leah's grandparents are Bro. Ray and Sis. Nadine Ringger (Gridley, IL) and Mr. and Mrs. Don Herrick (Geneva). "For I will pour water upon him that is thirsty, and

floods upon the dry ground: I will pour my spirit upon thy seed, and my blessing upon thine offering . . ." Isaiah 44:3.

Bro. Randy and Sis. Heather (Haerr) Knapp are newly married. Bro. Randy is originally from Eureka and Sis. Heather originally from Bloomington. We consider ourselves fortunate to be able to add them to our growing group of young couples. Bro. Randy is an electrical engineer at Abbott Labs. Sis. Heather will be helping a mother with newborn triplets, planning in time to return to school (University of Illinois, Chicago campus). May we enjoy fellowship in harmony, one with another. "Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord . . ." Hebrews 12:4.

We are going to miss Sis. Heidi Haerr. She has a job promotion taking her to New York City to work. We wish her the Lord's continued guidance and blessings, knowing she will be an asset to the Union City, NJ church.

Sis. Marge Young has been going through the valley of pain. She recently underwent back surgery again. Our prayers and love are with her and Bro. Ray. We would that, Lord willing, this surgery would bring her relief. Lord, we know she is in Thy keeping. Wouldst Thou cushion her softly with Thy tender mercy.

To Elaine Sohn, her husband, Roy, and children, we extend our deepest sympathies on the death of her mother, Josephine Minnec. We are thankful that her mother could be relieved of her suffering. May we take this opportunity to show Elaine and Roy how much we do care. Yet the Lord alone gives true comfort. "Mercy unto you, and peace, and love, be multiplied." Jude vs 2.

In trying to be on time for the brotherhood conference to get a seat (and being satisfied with just a small corner within hearing range), I thought how much greater are the stakes for us to be "in time" for arranging to get a heavenly place (and again we'll be satisfied with the tiniest spot — as long as we can be just inside the gates)!

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK
Myrna Weerts — Wilma Walder

TRUST AND BELIEVE

Whatever our problems, troubles, and sorrows,

If we trust in the Lord,
There'll be brighter tomorrows,
For there's nothing too much
For the great God to do,
And all that He asks or expects from
you
Is faith that's unshaken
by tribulations and tears,
That keeps growing stronger
along with the years,
Content in the knowledge that God
knows best
And that trouble and sorrow are only a
test —
For without God's testing of our soul,
It never would reach its ultimate goal. . .
So keep on believing, whatever betide
you,
Knowing that God will be with you,
to guide you,
And all that He promised
will be yours to receive
If you trust Him completely
and always believe.

Helen Steiner Rice

Our congregation was saddened by the death of J. Isaac Steiner, 93, who passed away July 16, at the Gilman Nursing Home where he had resided several years. He is survived by his wife, Mary; two sons, Raymond and Laurence, both of Cissna Park; and four daughters, Helen (Raymond) Surber of Pekin, Edna Steiner of Champaign, Velma (Jack) Meyer of Paxton and Lois (Jerry) Vogel of Champaign.

We enjoyed having visiting ministers Bro. Walt Herrmann (Princeville) and Bro. Wayne Anliker (Forrest) with us July 21. A church potluck at the fellowship hall was enjoyed by our congregation. Bro. Leland Plattner (Zapata, TX) was with us for our Wednesday night service. We appreciate the visits and labors of love of all our ministering brothers.

Our minds go to the sick and those on hospital beds. Bro. Willard Rudin, Bro. Alvin Baumgartner and Bro. Urb Bauer, all were surgical patients. Let us remember them in our thoughts and prayers.

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE
Tammy Knapp — Joan Schrock

We welcome two new brothers into our fold at Congerville. It was a very blessed weekend when Bro. Todd and Bro. Troy Schrock gave their testimonies and were baptized. These weekends take us back to when we were brought into the fold and helps us to re-

examine our spiritual life. We must always strive to keep the humility and sincerity of our first love.

We have two couples who have announced their engagement this month. Jill Schrock (Bro. Steve and Sis. Gerri) to Frank Merrit (Frank and Reba, Congerville) and Mark Schrock (Bro. Allen and Sis. Carol) to Terri Cotton (Bill and Amy, Metamora). We wish these couples many blessings and God's guidance as they begin to plan their lives together.

Anna Rose was born to Bro. Jake and Sis. Glenna Rinkenberger. She was welcomed home by her brothers, Isaac, Grant and Alex. The happy grandparents are Bro. Charles and Sis. Martha Rinkenberger and Dave and Lois Marquardt. We pray that God can give this family strength and wisdom to train up their children in the ways of the Lord so that when they grow old they will not depart from it.

We were blessed with many visiting ministers this past month. We are always so thankful for these brothers who lend themselves to bringing forth the Word of God. These brothers were: Elder Bros. Steve Rinkenberger (Cissna Park) and Bob Grimm (Goodfield), retired Elder Bros. Josh Broquard (Fairbury) and Ed Hohulin (Goodfield) and Bros. Marshall Heinold (Washington), Leland Plattner (Zapata, TX), Dale Moore (Elgin, IA), Lloyd Kraft and Tim Zimmerman (Gridley, KS) and Loren Knapp (Tucson, AZ). May God continue to give them much grace and guidance in bringing forth His Word.

ILLINOIS, ELGIN
Elizabeth Schambach
Betty Bachtold

Now it is accomplished! I'm no longer mine;
 Lord, I will forever and always be Thine,
 For Thou hast created and purchased me too,
 Baptized with Thy Spirit, Thou makest me new.

Zion's Harp #209

We were richly blest as we listened to the testimonies of our dear friends who could tell of their repentance and conversion. We rejoice with Sis. Marilyn Kellenberger as three of her sons

and daughter-in-law were baptized and became our dear brothers and sister-in-the-Lord — namely Greg, Jeff and Ken and Vicki Kellenberger. Vicki is the daughter of Wilbur Schmidgall and Marion Conro. Elder brothers who assisted Bro. Nathan were Dale Eisenmann (Chicago) and Dan Koch (Tremont). Ministers visiting were Bros. Marvin Schmidgall (Eureka), Carl Wyss (Washington), Uriel Gehring (Leo, IN), Doug Schrock and Russell Wuthrich (Pulaski, IA). May God bless each one for bringing us His Holy Word.

We were privileged to host the Fort Sam Soldier Reunion the weekend of July 28. "There are friendships that we cherish in our daily walk of life; Friends with whom we meet and labor in our earthly toil and strife." Hymns of Zion #91. We could readily observe how precious these ties of Christian friendship are to the soldier veterans. Visiting ministers who shared the Word included Bros. Fred Domka (Mansfield, OH), Bill Dotterer (Phoenix, AZ), Tim Zimmerman (Gridley, KS), Darrel Stoller (Bern, KS) and Dale Strassheim (Milford, IN).

We welcome Bro. Ernie and Sis. Marcelle Dapper back to Elgin. Even though they will miss the fellowship in Detroit, we trust they will feel the love of God among us.

Timothy Kilgus (Bro. Richard and Sis. Jeanette) and Patricia Randels have announced their engagement and have set November 30 for their wedding date. We wish them God's rich blessings.

We share in the joy of our newlywed couples. Sunday, August 4, was the wedding day of Heidi Schifferer (Bro. Howard and Sis. Pat) and Ted Schock (Bro. Richard and Sis. Lyla). Marriage vows were also spoken August 4 in Remington, IN, by Bro. Fred Wahl (Sis. Ida) and Sis. Libby Bahler (Bro. Edwin and Sis. Lois). We welcome Libby with love into our congregation. May the Lord graciously lead and bless these two dear couples in their new walk of life.

The engagement of Bro. David Steffen (Bro. Nathan and Sis. Marilyn) to Sis. Linda Ramseyer (Bro. Earl and Sis. Mary, Bay City, MI) was made known to the church. May the Lord direct them as they plan their future.

Many of our loved ones have spent time in the hospital and we pray all who must endure bodily afflictions can feel

the undergirding of God's everlasting arms. Surgical patients this month have been Sisters Helen Banwart and Mary Moser, Glen Kellenberger and Bros. Herman Haas, Donald and Leslie Schambach. Also hospitalized were John Foell, Emily Hoppe and Sis. Emily Preiss and Bro. William Wewetzer. We are thankful for each one's improvement; however, Mary and Emily Preiss still remain in the hospital as well as Don, who is in Iowa City and will be there for some time. May our prayers blend together to the heavenly Father for each one. "Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and He shall sustain thee: He shall never suffer the righteous to be moved." Psalm 55:22.

The construction of our new Apostolic Christian Resthaven for the Elderly has been proceeding on schedule. Some labor along with willing hands for clean up is yet to be accomplished. May God bless all labors of love that have been given to bring this Home to fruition, and as we near the beginning of its operation, we entreat God's help and blessings. Admission of residents will begin October 15. Open House for the public is planned for Saturday, November 23.

Our community was saddened as we learned of the sudden death of our dear Sis. Lydia Reber who passed away August 14 at the age of 82. We cherish many precious memories of her gentle and loving way and wish to extend deepest sympathy especially to Sis. Rose with whom she made her home, Emma Heiniger, Sis. Carolyn Levy from Indiana, Fred and Ernest and Bro. William . . .

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want . . .
 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;
 and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever."

Psalm 23

Sunday, August 18, Sis. Lynette Gudeman (Bro. William and Sis. Evelyn) and Bro. Robert Buckheister (Mr. and Mrs. William Buckheister) became as one in the Lord and we share in their joy also. May this union of hearts stand through grace in Jesus. Elder Bros. Perry Zimmerman (Forrest) and Nathan Steffen shared in the marriage ceremony. Others visiting were Elder Bro. Norbert Steiner (Croghan, NY), Bros. Nathan Stoller (Bradford) and Elmer

Schmidt (Winthrop, MN). May God richly bless them for bringing us His Holy Word.

ILLINOIS, EUREKA
Kathy L. Rocke

THE DIFFERENCE

I got up early one morning
and rushed right into the day;
I had so much to accomplish
that I didn't have time to pray.

Problems just tumbled about me,
and heavier came each task.
"Why doesn't God help me?" I
wondered.
He answered, "You didn't ask."

I wanted to see joy and beauty,
but the day toiled on, gray and bleak;
I wondered why God didn't show me,
He said, "But you didn't seek."

I tried to come into God's presence;
I used all my keys at the lock.
God gently and lovingly chided,
"My child, you didn't knock."

I woke up early this morning,
and paused before entering the day;
I had so much to accomplish
that I had to take time to pray.
Unknown

Kurt Blunier and Olivia Grimm have announced their engagement and are making plans for an October 26 wedding. Their parents are Bro. Sam and Sis. Elizabeth Blunier and Elder Bro. Bob and Sis. Elna Grimm (Goodfield). May God be with them as they make their plans for the future.

On August 4, Bro. Randy Knapp and Sis. Heather Haerr (Bloomington) exchanged their wedding vows. Bro. Bob and Sis. Jean Knapp and Bro. Ray and Sis. Jeanie Haerr are their parents. They will reside in Chicago.

"When a Christian dies, Precious is the prize." Hymns of Zion #248. Sis. Marie Siebenthal passed away July 28 at the "Home". Services were held at the Princeville church. She is survived by one sister, Sis. Elizabeth Moser (Tremont) and several nieces and nephews. May they be comforted.

Those having spent some time in the hospital this past month are Audrey Rocke (Steve), Sis. Emma Somerhalter and Bros. Eddie Rocke and Kores Knapp (from the Home).

Bro. Mark and Sis. Cheryl Zimmerman have moved to Urbana, IL. We will miss them, but know they'll be welcomed in our congregation there.

We were thankful that Elder Bro. Lavoyd Moore (Athens, AL), Bros. Leroy Hartman (Peoria), Ervin Knecht (Lamar, MO), Ed Knecht (Silverton, OR), Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville), Harold Emch (Girard, OH), Tom Schrenk (Athens, AL), Elmer Schrenk (Alto, MI) and Ron Palitto (Akron, OH) came and spoke the Word to us this past month. May God bless them for laboring in His service.

"Haste and seek your soul's salvation; Heed the Word of God today!" Zion's Harp #52. How thankful we are that three souls have heeded the Lord's call and have accepted His kind invitation to come and taste and see of His goodness and mercy. Those seeking His guidance are Norman Knapp (Bro. Bob and Sis. Jean), Shelly Kupferschmidt (Bro. Richard and Sis. Maribeth) and Gary Getz (Bro. Allan and Sis. Nathalia).

Soon many of our young people will be returning to schools and universities to continue their education. May God go with them that their learning can lead them to some useful service, but always as unto the Lord.

The family of Brian Keith Martin wishes to express their sincere thanks to their beloved friends, relatives and neighbors for their many deeds of kindness shown during this time of sorrow. The thoughtful cards and visits, the beautiful flowers and plants, the prayers offered on their behalf, and the delicious food were all deeply appreciated. May God bless each one of you for your loving support.

Bro. Lewis and Sis. Arletta Martin
and family
and Debbie Valentine

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY

Carol Bazzell — Joann Zehr

Four homes have been blessed with precious babies. Katie Beth was born August 3 to Steve and Donna Maurer. She has one sister, Jessica. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Sam Hoffman and Betty Collins. Mclane Arthur was born August 6 to Bro. Ted and Sis. Sara Steidinger. Grandparents are Bro. Arthur and Sis. Suzanne Bahler and Bro. Donald and Sis. Alice Steidinger. Clinton Lee was born August 11 to Bro. Randy and Sis. Joy White. He has two sisters, Kelli and Bonni.

Grandparents are Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Viola Bachtold and Mr. and Mrs. Ben White. Brett Alan was born August 17 to Bro. Nathan and Sis. Marsha Fehr. He has one sister, Kyann. Grandparents are Bro. Lloyd and Myrna Moser and Bro. Wayne and Sis. Norma Fehr. May God grant all these parents the grace and wisdom to raise these children in His honor.

On August 4, the engagement was announced of Sis. Bonnie Moser (Bro. Lloyd and Myrna) to Bro. Jerry Waggenbach (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Bonnie, Oakville, IA). May God bless them in their future life.

We welcomed many visitors the weekend of July 20 and 21 as Fairbury hosted one of the Fort Sam Houston Reunions. A special thanks goes to the visiting ministers Bros. Bill Emch (Lamont, KS) and Gary Maibach (Rittman, OH).

ILLINOIS, FORREST

Sharon Adams — Patsy Stoller

"... Therefore, Lord, do Thou care for me! I to Thee bend the knee; Silent, I adore Thee. Zion's Harp #150. Sis. Leona Ricketts (Bro. Meredith), Bro. Frank Honegger, Sis. Carrie Roth, Sis. Lydia Kilgus (Bro. Henry) and Matilda Johnson (Harry) have all been in the hands of a physician or hospitalized during this past month.

We are thankful one more precious soul has opened the door of her heart. Marie Steffen (Bro. Ken and Sis. Janice) is seeking the Lord in repentance and we pray the Lord will grant her a rich measure of grace to build on the solid rock, Jesus Christ.

Once again, our beloved elders gathered in love and unity at the annual conference. Thus we've enjoyed many visitors passing through. Beloved brethren here were Bros. Bill Brake and Delbert Indermuhle (Sardis, OH), Loren Knapp (Tucson, AZ), Al Schneider, Lee Bahler, Kevin Ryan and Everett Gerber (Rockville, CT), Noah Gerber (West Bend, IA), Dale Moore (Elgin, IA), Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH), Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL), John Hartman, Merle Kaisner, Elder Bro. Art Bahler (Fairbury), Doug Sabo (Sarasota, FL), Fred Domka (Mansfield, OH) and Harold Schmidgall (Gridley, IL).

As the Word continues to go forth and we receive the timely exhortations from our elders, may our hearts be conditioned to receive the Word.

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD**Bev Joos**

As if some warm breeze has blown them away, the days of summer are gone. Autumn is fast approaching and one is busily canning or freezing the bountiful harvest of fruits and vegetables God has provided. Preservation of food requires that one choose only good quality, firm, ripe produce. One washes and boils the produce carefully to remove germ-causing bacteria. One packs the produce into clean jars or containers and seals them tightly. This air-tight seal keeps out harmful organisms that cause spoilage.

Preservation of soul requires that one becomes firm and ripe in his conviction. During repentance a deep cleansing and conversion of one's inner being takes place. One must read God's Word and pray sincerely that our hearts might bring forth the fruit of the Spirit. When our hearts are filled, the hands of the elder confirm the Holy Spirit's sealing of our hearts.

We rejoice as two sisters, Cindy Fogel and Jane Baner, have deepened their already close relationship as they are now sisters-in-faith. On the weekend of August 11, both young women admitted their conviction since their high school days. Now they could go no further lacking God's love and peace in their lives.

Scott Heinold and Molly Gries exchanged wedding vows August 17. May their marriage be blessed with faith, tenderness and loving kindness.

Our loving prayers flow to Sis. Bertha Meiss, Bro. Sam Heiniger and Bro. Kores Knapp as they endure the burden of illness.

A precious baby son, Royce Keith, arrived August 8. Gratefully cuddling and caring for this little miracle are his parents, Bro. Brian and Sis. Teresa Schieler. Giving loving kisses to their baby brother are Diana, Kara and Bobby. Delighted grandparents are Bro. Lewis and Sis. Arletta Martin (Eureka) and Bro. Bob and Sis. Marie Schieler.

God has blessed our congregation with many visiting ministers this past month. They were Bro. Don Manz (Junction, OH), Bro. Loren Knapp (Tucson, AZ), Bro. Fred Knapp (Congerville), Elder Bro. Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI), Bro. Ed Knecht (Silverton, OR), Bro. Bill Brake (Sardis, OH), Bro. Roy Wernli (Lamont, KS) and Bro. Leland Plattner (Zapata, TX). We are

quite appreciative of their wonderful labors and pray that those labors will bring forth fruit worthy to be garnered in at that great and final harvest of souls.

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY**Carol Klopfenstein**

"... The love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us."

Romans 5:5

It's a special time of year when our brethren come from near and far to assemble in one accord, knit together in love. Through the inspiration of His faithful servants, the Lord has again stirred up the pure minds of the brethren by way of remembrance as they listened to the meditations on "The Holy Spirit". We can feel the power of the Holy Spirit among us when we feel the love of the brethren as a burning flame in our hearts. How thankful we are for this annual time of refreshing and we especially appreciate the untiring labors of love of our dear elder brothers who watch for our souls.

The Brotherhood Conference in nearby Morton brought many visitors into our area. We were glad for the blessings we received from ministering Bro. Robert Miller (Portland, OR), Bro. Everett Gerber (Rockville, CT), Bro. David Eisenmann (North Fort Myers, FL) and Bro. Tom Leman (Denver, CO).

Sis. Ida Kuerth passed away July 20 at age 93. She had been living in the Apostolic Christian Home in Roanoke. Our sympathy is extended to her eight daughters: Lois Rees (Evanston), Eunice Achen (Van Nuys, CA), Edna Hoobler (Gridley), Doris Ida Kuerth (Chicago), Florence Kelley (Peoria), Anna Lou Kuerth (Newport Beach, CA), Roberta Torry (Chattanooga, TN), Judith Erdman (Virden, IL); her two sons, Bro. Arthur (Gridley) and Henry Jr.; and her brother, Bro. Henry Ringger (Eureka).

Our hospital patients have been Bro. Lewis Yergler and Sis. Frances Funk.

We are glad to have Bro. Dan and Sis. Carol Heinold and their three sons assembling with us. They have come to Gridley from Goodfield.

ILLINOIS, MORTON**Phyllis Farney — JoAnn Roecker**

Bro. Doug, Sis. Lisa and Steven

Schafer welcome into their hearts and homes, Christopher David. Chris was born July 16. His grandparents are George and Linda Selburg and Bro. Maurice and Sis. Alice Schafer.

Hollis Roby was called into eternity after a lengthy illness. His funeral was July 30. May our heavenly Father comfort and bless his wife, Bena, his family and friends.

Anna Kaufman was called into eternity. Graveside services were August 3. May our heavenly Father comfort and bless her husband, Philip, her family and friends.

We wish to welcome into our congregation Bro. John, Sis. Cheryl, Cherise, Shalome, Jay and Heidi Knobloch. They have moved here from Remington, IN, and will be making Morton their home. Welcome, and may our heavenly Father continue to bless you.

The Lord has directed Bro. Ken, Sis. Jackie, Kevin, Kimberly, Jason and Jonathon Babin back home again after serving as houseparents at the Apostolic Christian Children's Home (Leo, IN). Welcome home and may God continue to bless you.

We are thankful that God has called Sheri (Bro. John and Sis. Anna Mae) Getz to work in His vineyard. We heard her testimony of faith August 7 and witnessed her baptism August 11. We welcome Sis. Sheri into our most precious faith as our sister-in-faith. May God continue to lead, guide and direct her as she walks the narrow pathway of life.

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

We wish to thank Bros. Harry Sutter (Ft. Lauderdale, FL), Noah Herman (Tucson, AZ), Glenn Hackenjos (Altadena, CA), Richard Schupbach (Phoenix, AZ), Carl Wyss (Washington, IL), Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI) and Greg Rassi (Chicago, IL) for ministering God's Holy Word unto us. May our heavenly Father richly bless them for their labors of love.

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

A new bundle from heaven has recently brightened the home of Bro. Jim and Sis. Jean Huber. A son, James

Conrad, was born August 9. The happy grandparents are Bro. Chuck and Sis. Marian Hemmer and Bro. Reuben and Sis. Marie Huber (Fairbury).

Little Thomas Alan, Jr. is the new addition to the Tom and Kris Haefli family. His grandparents are Bro. Dick and Sis. Gladys Haefli and Jim and Mary Heid. We rejoice with these families with new babies, as this is God's way of adding laughter and tears to each family circle.

We were blessed this past month by visiting ministers. We were fed abundantly from the Word of God by Bros. Noah Herman (Tucson, AZ), Dave Wiegand (Champaign, IL), Carl Feucht (Lester, IA), Harry Sutter (Ft. Lauderdale, FL), Gene Lehman (Wolcott, IN), Loren Strahm (Gridley, KS) and Roy Wernli (Lamont, KS). May God bless each one for their labors of love.

Hospital patients this month were Bro. Ken Hoerr, Sis. Mary Reiman, Sis. Nettie Zimmerman and Irene Gray. May God continue to be with those loved ones and all who are shut-in or ill at home. May we remember them in our prayers.

The engagement of Angie Schmidgall (Bro. Gary and Sis. Nancy) to John Burkley (Jack Burkley, Chillicothe, and Georgene Melvin, Groveland) was made known to us. We wish them God's blessings as they begin their life together.

We are rejoicing with Sis. Diana Slotter and Bro. Dave Meister as the Lord has drawn them together to walk life's pathway. May God bless them as the "two shall become one".

We rejoice together as the engagement of Bro. Dean Ramseyer (Sis. Lillian) and Sis. Holly Herrmann (Bro. Harold and Sis. Ardith) was announced to us. May they seek God's guidance as they plan their future together in the Lord. They are planning a November 10 wedding.

Our sincere sympathy goes to the families of Eugena Martin (sister to Sis. Emma Woerner), Sis. Lena Asal, Sis. Mary Bertchold and Gerald Stoller (son of Les Stoller). We pray that these families can feel the comfort of our dear Lord in the loss of these loved ones.

It is time for school to start again — where has the summer gone? Our lives really are as a vapor — so quickly this life is over. Have we made each day count and have we done our very best for our neighbor and especially God?

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE Marjean Lehman

There was a man who was an efficient builder. He had worked for years in a large company and had reached the age of retirement. His employer asked him to build one more house; it was to be his last commission.

The builder took the job, but his heart was not involved. He used inferior materials, timber was poor, and he failed to see the many things that should have been clear to him had he shown even his normal interest in the work.

When the house was eventually finished, his employer came to him and said, "The house is yours, here is the key, it is a present from me!" The builder immediately regretted that he had not used the best materials and engaged the most capable workers. If only he had known that the house was for him . . .

We, as God's children, are building our own spiritual houses. Not one of us builds an eternal house for someone else; it is always for ourselves.

"Truly stones could not help crying, If the watchmen's call would cease, And the very rocks about us, Every one a crying witness, Could no longer hold their peace. Truly stones could not help crying, If the watchmen's call would cease!" Zion's Harp #112, The Watchmen's Call. May God's blessings be upon our visiting ministers this past month. They were Bros. Walt Anliker (Eureka), Chuck Hemmer (Peoria), Al Langhofer (Wichita, KS) and Robert Miller (Portland, OR) and Elder Bros. Edwin Ringger (Gridley, IL), Akito Inoue (Tokyo, Japan) and Robert Beyer (Naumburg, NY).

"May now the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, The peace and love of God, The fellowship of His Holy Spirit, Abide with us all, Yea, with us all! Amen." Zion's Harp #213, Parting Hymn.

On July 21 a farewell potluck was held at the fellowship hall for Ed, Connie and Keith Baer. They have moved to the Philadelphia area where Ed has found employment. We will miss them, but we know the Philadelphia church will appreciate having another family to assemble with them. May God's blessings be upon all those who love Him wherever they may assemble to worship Him in truth.

"May they with holy lives adorn, Thy doctrines, Lord, and be, Amid life's

sunshine and its storm, True witnesses for Thee." Hymns of Zion #286, O God of Wisdom.

We witnessed the marriage of Sis. Darlene Graham and Bro. Roger Herrmann July 28. Their parents are Bro. Richard and Sis. Jeanette Graham and Bro. Eugene and Sis. Betty Herrmann (Princeville). We wish them God's rich blessings.

"Rest, my soul, in comfort, Nevermore despair! Thro' distress and darkness Shines the light so fair. Though thy tears fall often Take their silent course, Follow thou thy longing On to heaven's shores! Dost thou seem forsaken. In thy lonely plight? Does the Lord not beckon Thee from yonder height? Sound not words of kindness At thy grave's dark walls? See, the portal opens When thy Saviour calls! Hold His likeness tender Ever in thy breast! Flee all idle splendor! Jesus gives thee rest. Let naught e'er persuade thee From thy Lord to part, Till the angels bear thee To thy Father's heart! Hymn's of Zion #242, Rest, My Soul, In Comfort.

The visit of the death angel has touched many of the hearts of those who assemble with us or are part of the congregation here. Our sincere sympathy goes out to each one who has felt the pain of grief. On July 20 Henry Wieland passed away. His wife preceded him in death. On July 28 Sis. Marie Siebenthal passed from this life. She was a resident of the Eureka home. We extend sympathy to the Sis. Louise Martin family in the death of her son, Bro. Glen Martin (Phoenix, AZ). May Almighty God truly comfort the families of those who have been taken from this life.

Ezra and Lucille Rumbold wish to thank everyone for their love, prayers and gifts during their recent surgery and since returning home. All are deeply appreciated. May God bless each and every one.

A sincere thank you to all my family, friends and neighbors for their prayers, cards, gifts, food and every act of kindness while in the hospital and after returning home. May God bless everyone.

Elizabeth Kieser

"Delayed answers to prayer are not only trials of faith, but opportunities of honoring God by our steadfast confidence in Him under apparent repulses."

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE**Carol Knapp — Marge Leman**

Summer is fast coming to a close and our children will again be going back to school. For some it will be for the first time and for others to perhaps finish their final year in college. Whatever the case, may God be always by their side.

Our Brotherhood Conference that was held in Morton brought us several visiting ministers. Those who served us with the blessed Word were: Elder Bro. Akito Inoue (Tokyo, Japan), Bro. Ed Aeschleman (Philadelphia, PA), Bro. Robert Miller (Portland, OR), Bro. Dale Wulf (Lester, IA), Bro. Tom Leman (Denver, CO) and Bro. Vernon Leman (Eureka). May God bless the brothers for their labor of love.

Those hospitalized recently were Bro. Herman Luginbuhl and Sis. Angie Rassi. They have been able to return to their homes and can again assemble with us.

Bro. Bill and Sis. Helen Leman have been busy grandparents this past month. On July 27, Caleb Daniel was welcomed by his parents, Bro. Dennis and Sis. Marybeth Zimmerman and his big brother, Jacob. Caleb's other grandparents are Gene and Carol Zimmerman (Eureka). Then, on August 8, a daughter was born to Bro. Bill and Sis. Jeanne Leman. Little Laura Ashley was warmly welcomed home by her brother, Drew, and sister, Natalie. Bro. Roy and Sis. Dona Grimm (Taylor, MO) are Laura's other grandparents.

ILLINOIS, TREMONT**Dorothy Wagenbach
Carolyn Bolliger**

On July 27 our fellowship hall was the setting for the lovely wedding of Doug Frank and Cheri Davis. Cheri is the daughter of Don and Kay Davis (Green Valley, IL) and Doug is the son of Bro. Marvin and Sis. Miriam Frank (Tremont). We wish them God's blessings as they begin their life together.

We congratulate Bro. Arnold and Sis. Lydia Rassi, as they recently celebrated their fortieth wedding anniversary with their family and friends at an open house at the fellowship hall August 11.

We are always thankful for our visiting ministers and this month we wish to say a special thank you to Bros. Noah Herman (Tucson, AZ), Dale Frank (Oakville, IA), Marvin Schmidgall (Eureka, IL), Harold Schmidgall (Grid-

ley, IL), Paul Gasser (Akron, OH) and Joe Aberle (Sabetha, KS).

Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Elizabeth Moser on the loss of her sister, Sis. Marie Siebenthal (Eureka).

Hospital patients this month have been Sis. Ella Schweigert, Sis. Ida Schweigert (Bro. Chris) and Sis. Louise Wagenbach (Bro. Simon). We are happy to report all are home again.

It is good to see Sis. Emma Getz back assembling with us again. We are thankful she is feeling better.

Bro. Harlan and Sis. Carolyn Bolliger became the happy grandparents of a sweet little granddaughter, Allison Jane, born August 5 to their daughter, Pat McKey and her husband, John (Gridley, IL).

It is again the time of year when we select a new trustee and two Sunday school teaching brothers. Bro. Ken Huette has been selected as our new trustee and Bros. Mike Meister and Howard Sauder as our new Sunday school teachers.

Note from Sis. Louise Wagenbach: My heartfelt thanks to everyone who remembered me with cards, gifts and food brought in to our home while I was in the hospital and since I have been home. Thank you so much for prayers offered and consolation given me. God bless and reward you all for every deed of love and kindness shown me and all our family.

ILLINOIS, URBANA**Cheryl Mangers**

May Bro. Wayne and Sis. Charlen Banwart, Krista, Kara and Neil continue to feel the love, support and prayers of our congregation that we as a united group of believers could all feel July 28 when Bro. Wayne was placed into the ministry. Here to share this special day with us were Elder Bros. Bob Grimm and Ed Hohulin (Goodfield, IL) and Bro. Virg Metzger (Chicago, IL).

July 28 was also our annual Sunday school picnic at the St. Joseph Park. We offer our thanks and appreciation to our retiring teachers, Sis. Charlen Banwart and Sis. Pam Furrer. We wish Bro. Justin Koch and Sis. Joyce Young grace and direction as they assume the responsibility of teaching our youth when Sunday school resumes September 8.

A special blessing was ours August 12 when Elder Bro. Akito Inoue (Tok-

yo, Japan) was in our midst for a picnic and singing.

Our thanks goes out to Bro. Ken Eisenmann (Cissna Park, IL) for sharing God's Word with us last month.

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON**Ellen Cox — Sally Plattner**

"To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant and a time to pluck up that which is planted."

Ecclesiastes 3:1, 2

At this writing our farmers find themselves getting ready to harvest what they planted in their fields this spring. The children have returned to school and the air is getting crisp. It is hard to believe the summer is gone and autumn is here. May God ever help us remember to redeem our time; it passes so quickly.

We enjoyed having John and Betty Klaus and their family worshipping with us this summer. Their daughters, Sisters Melody, Faith and Grace (Washington) are surely missing them as they have returned to Japan. We welcome to Washington their younger brother, Andy, who is staying here to attend college this fall.

We are very sad to have to say goodbye to Bro. Doug and Sis. Lillian Wagenbach who are moving from our area to live in San Diego, CA. We also miss Bro. John and Sis. Brenda Klein and their family who have moved to Kentucky and are assembling with the Lexington congregation. While it is hard to bid these dear ones farewell, we are sure they are bringing blessings to the Lexington and San Diego congregations. May God be with them as they establish their homes in new surroundings.

We are thankful that Edna Simon escaped injury from a recent car accident.

Ken Wagenbach (Bro. Don and Sis. Marie) and Laura Wagner (Bro. Dave and Sis. Lucille, Gridley, IL) are engaged and an August 31 wedding is planned. May the Lord bless them as they begin their life together.

On Tuesday evening, August 13, Bro. John Reinhard (Bluffton, IN) came to our monthly Bible study and spoke to us about communication. We learned much valuable information and appreciate Bro. John's efforts so

much. May the Lord richly bless him and his dear wife, Sis. Pam, for allowing Him to use them for our benefit.

We express our sincere thanks to our visiting ministers. They were Elder Bros. Don Sauder and Sam Anliker and Bros. Charles Sauder (Tremont, IL), Ed Aeschleman (Philadelphia, PA) and Hartzell Kaisner (Detroit, MI). May God bless these brothers and their wives and families for sharing with us.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON

Eunice Fiechter — Carolyn Meyer

Our congregation has been blessed with several new babies this past month. We welcome a new son, Timothy John, born July 21 to Bro. Tim and Sis. Angela Pfister. Bro. Tom and Sis. Barbara are the grandparents. A girl, Tiffani Michelle, was born July 30 to Bro. Kim and Sis. Lisa Troxel. Bro. Bob and Sis. Evelyn Gerber and Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Joyce Troxel are her grandparents. Jay and Ronda Grube welcomed their first child, Rozanna Marie, August 1. Bro. Dan and Sis. Delores Reinhard and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Grube are the proud grandparents. Bro. Randy and Sis. Lisa Ringger also were blessed with their first child. Her name is Brittany Lee. Bro. Dave and Sis. Maxine Ringger and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Baily are the grandparents. A son, Brian Robert, was born July 30 to Bro. Craig and Sis. Jean Steffen. Grandparents are Bob and Betty Steffen and Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Elizabeth Schwartz. Bro. Doug and Sis. Sue Dailey welcome a new son, Kevin Lynn, into their home. Grandparents are Bro. Paul and Sis. Phyllis Dotterer and Mr. and Mrs. Don Dailey.

Many prayers are with those who have been confined to the hospital recently. They are Tom Fairchild, son-in-law of Bro. Harry Aschliman, Bro. Ray Gerber (Sis. Ida), Sis. Sophia Gerber, Sis. Lucile Gerber (Bro. Dwight) and Jeremy Ringger (Bro. Kendall and Sandy).

Engagements recently announced are Sis. Rachael Ringger (Bro. Gary and Rosetta) to Bro. Sam Beer (Bro. Jesse and Sis. Shirley, Milford); Bro. Jerry Reinhard (Bro. Ezra and Sis. Doris) to Sis. Jodi Ringger (Bro. Dave and Sis. Maxine); Bro. Keith Stoller (Bro. Ray and Sis. Flossie) to Sis. Martha Habegger (Bro. Ben and Sis. Arlene) and Trent Reimchisel (Bro.

Dick and Sis. Elaine) to Tammy Gordon.

On August 11, Sis. Lou Ann Aschliman (Bro. Millard and Sis. Alice) and Bro. Keith Kaehr (Bro. Walter and Sis. Lucile) were united in holy matrimony. Other couples recently united in marriage were Troy Kipfer (Bro. John and Sis. Sue) and Brenda Hess and Keith Fiechter (Sis. Phyllis and Herman) and Cathy Penrod. May God bless each of these marriages and keep them in His care.

The Bluffton church wishes to express their gratefulness to Bro. Tom Leman (Denver, CO), Bro. Glen Hackenjos (Altadena, CA) and Bro. Bill Dotterer (Phoenix, AZ) and their families for their willingness to visit and bring us God's Word in truth.

We also want to thank Bro. Vernon Leman for showing his pictures concerning the world relief food packages.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON NORTH

Cindy Shorb — Sheri Leman

"Now it is accomplished! I'm no longer mine; Lord, I will forever and always be Thine, for Thou has created and purchased me too, Baptized with Thy Spirit, Thou makest me new."

"Now It Is Done"
Zion's Harp #209

We had a blessed evening July 27 when Annette Schulz, Mary Lantz (Bro. Dan and Sis. Gladys), Elaine Steffen (Bro. Ken and Sis. Roberta) and Evelyn Ely (daughter of Bro. Noah Aschliman) shared their testimonies. With joy we greeted them as sisters-in-faith after witnessing their baptisms on Sunday.

During the testimonies, we were reminded again that we are saved by grace, not works. As ministering Bro. Marvin Stieglitz (Leo, IN) said, "Salvation is not of works but salvation works. Works is not the basis of our salvation but a result of our salvation. Our greatest work is the salvation of men. No Christian is exempt from this duty."

Other visiting ministers who have lent themselves are Bros. Lynn Stieglitz (Leo, IN), Glen Hackenjos (Altadena, CA) and Vernon Leman (Eureka, IL). We wish to express our thanks for their willingness to be of service. We welcome them, their wives and families back any time.

We give a special, warm welcome to

Jenna Marie, our new little bundle of joy. Jenna Marie, born July 11, will have her brother, Vincent, to play with and her parents, Len and Mary Francesi, to settle the squabbles! Her happy grandparents are Bro. Howard and Sis. Joyce Baumgartner.

We rejoice with the angels and with Bro. Jim and Sis. Cheryl Zimmer and their daughters, Michelle and Valerie, who have chosen to give their hearts to the Lord. "Grace be with you, mercy, and peace, from God the Father . . ." II John vs. 3.

We would also like to welcome Bro. Jim and Sis. Cheryl and their family, Michelle, Valerie, Brad and Jeremy. They have recently chosen to reside in our community. We hope they readily feel at home in the Bluffton area.

On August 15, many friends and relatives gathered in honor of Bro. John and Sis. Tammy Baumgartner who will be leaving our congregation September 7 to reside in Chicago. We wish them grace and blessings in their new endeavor. We will miss their presence among us.

On June 22 Lona Meyer (Bro. John and Sis. Carolyn) and Doug Grover (Cloyd and Margorie Grover) were united in marriage. May their love for each other grow as they now walk life's path together.

Several of us enjoyed fellowship and slides August 5 with Omar Gava from Argentina at Bro. Sib and Sis. Vi Ringger's home. We pray for blessings to Omar for sharing with us and to Bro. Sib and Sis. Vi for opening their home.

A thought to leave with you: Someone once said, it is not doing the things you like, but liking the things you have to do, that makes life blessed.

INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE

Jacki Huber

THROUGH IT ALL

I've had many tears and sorrows;
I've had questions for tomorrow
There've been times I didn't know
right from wrong —
But in every situation
God gave blessed consolation
That my trials come to only make me
strong.

I thank God for the mountains
And I thank Him for the valleys,
I thank Him for the storms He brought
me through,

For if I'd never had a problem,
I wouldn't know that He could solve
them,
I'd never know what faith in God could
do.

Through it all; Through it all;
Oh, I've learned to trust in Jesus;
I've learned to trust in God;
Through it all; Through it all;
Oh, I've learned to depend upon His
Word.

Andrae Crouch

How beautiful it is to feel God's nearness in all of life's situations, and especially at times when we don't have answers to all of our questions! Knowing "Christ is at the helm" and that God's peace is in our hearts gives us the courage we need to continue in our walk of faith.

We want to express sincere sympathy to Sis. Carol Gutwein (Bro. Phil) at the death of her dear mother, Sis. Marie Schieler (Remington, IN) last month. We will all miss seeing Sis. Marie but are glad that she is "Safe in the Arms of Jesus".

Our thoughts have been with Bro. Dale and Sis. Peg Gudeman, as both their children, Andria and Grant, were hospitalized recently. We're happy to see them home again and doing fine!

Sis. Helen Eshleman was also hospitalized this past month and wishes to thank everyone for their love and prayers, cards and personal visits while in the hospital and since returning home.

On Saturday, August 17, Alexis Gutwein (Bro. Edison and Sis. Chrisann) was united in marriage to John Nold (Dean and Mary Ellen Nold, Fort Wayne, IN). We wish for God's blessings to this newly married couple, both now and throughout their lives.

We've been blessed with many visitors this past month. Among them were the following ministering brethren: Elder Bro. Sam Anliker (Lamont, KS), Bro. Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL), Bro. Elmer Schmidt (Winthrop, MN), Elder Bro. Akito Inoue (Tokyo, Japan) and Bro. Jack Bollier (Leo, IN). Much could be written about the blessings received by God's Spirit through each of them, but since room won't allow it, we just express our heartfelt gratitude by saying, "thank you" and praying God will bless each of them for their use to Him.

INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS

Judy Dubach — Lynn Winslow

No one can live for long by inhaling and never exhaling. No one can stay healthy for long by eating but never exercising. All input and no output makes for a Dead Sea and a dead faith. In the Christian life, the outlet of faith is good works. Although religion does not consist of outward acts, it always produces them. "Whoso hath this world's goods and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? (I John 3:17). The love of God can no more fail to produce obedience to His commands than a mother's love can fail to produce watchfulness and care for her infant.

That person's religion, therefore, is vain which expends itself in exercise that relates exclusively to his own salvation. And doubtless many Christians go halting all their days because they confine their attention too much to themselves.

True religion, as we find it described in the Bible, is a permanent, spontaneous and progressive principle of spiritual life, influencing the whole man and producing all the fruits of righteousness.

You needn't wonder if a tree is alive. Its fruitful or fruitless condition will tell all you need to know. In the same way, a living faith produces the evidences of faith; good works.

In Hebrews 11, that faith is credited with having "subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, escaped the edge of the sword, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens." (Hebrews 11:33-34).

Do you have a faith like that? A faith that translates the promises of God into powerful deeds for God?

We were thankful Bros. Bob Pfloderer (Morton, IL) and Homer Reineck (Toledo, OH) were able to visit and share God's Word with us. We pray God's blessings will be with Bro. Ed Getz (Morris and Eilene Getz, Remington) in his new place of residence, Morton Home for the Handicapped. Bro. Ed has been living with Bro. Steve and Sis. Joyce Fischer and has been a big help for them.

INDIANA, LACROSSE

Connie Knobloch — Debbie Nuest
Our dear friend, Bill Feller (Bro.

Lynn and Sis. Mary Ann Feller), has become aware of the need to surrender his life to the Lord. We are thankful and pray the Lord's continual guidance be upon Bill.

While the day of grace is still so evident, let us evaluate our lives daily in surrenderance to the Lord.

Heavenward, then take your journey;
Let your course in faith be trod;
Face the crafty adversary
Boldly as a man of God.
Go with courage to the conflict
As the sanctified to be;
And retaining still your treasure,
Win a crown of victory.

Zion's Harp #52

We welcomed our visiting ministers, Bro. Ron Heiniger (Bloomington, IL) and Bro. John Hartman (Fairbury, IL). We pray God will bless their labors of love, as well as our home ministers, who are so faithful in their duties.

Our annual Sunday school picnic was this month. The young people enjoyed being with their friends and the old experienced blessed fellowship. All had a nice afternoon.

INDIANA, LAFAYETTE PURDUE UNIVERSITY

Lily Vogt

As it is time for school to start again, we have the assurance that the Lord will be with us as we daily strive to serve Him. It is important for us to simply take one day at a time. "Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficent unto the day is the evil thereof." Matthew 6:34.

Officers for the 1985-86 school year are President - Gene Huber; Vice President - Larry Pfloderer; Treasurer - Charlotte Gutwein; and Secretary - Lily Vogt.

TODAY IS ALL THERE IS

How should we live life? Just as the Lord gives it.
One day at a time - That's how we ought to live it.
Yesterday is memory and yesterday is gone;
Today is ours to live - Then leave the past alone.
For time is parceled out in a day by day measure,
And life, day at a time, grants purpose and pleasure.

The future has its gladness but also its
sorrow,
But it hasn't arrived. Then forget about
tomorrow.
The past is in God's care and the future
is His;
Today is yours for living – Today is all
there is.

Perry Tanksley

INDIANA, LEO
Thelma Schlatter

School days are here again and many
children and young folks are back in
the classrooms; for many others, those
days are only happy memories.

When God makes a lovely thing
The dearest and completest,
He always makes it little,
For little things are sweetest,
The little flowers and the birds,
The diamonds and the pearls,
But the dearest things on earth
Are little boys and girls."

(From *Pride in America*,
Indiana edition)

Remember to pray for them and for
their teachers. Each needs the direc-
tion of the greatest Teacher. May we all
be students of His Book.

Instructing us in His Word recently
were visiting Bros. Bruce Leman
(Roanoke, IL) and Marvin Leman
(Bradford, IL).

We are going to miss Bro. Ken and
Sis. Jackie Babin who moved to Mor-
ton. May His blessings follow them.

Sisters Lavada and Imogene Stieg-
litz had the privilege of visiting the
Holy Land. It is such a spiritually
rewarding journey.

Leo subscribers are reminded that
\$7.00 dues are payable in September.
Promptness is appreciated.

Bits of This and That:

"Religion is no substitute for salva-
tion.

The heavier a vessel is laden, the
steadier its course.

Life is too short to be little.

To err is human; to blame someone
else is more human.

We admire each other's gifts in the
Lord until we get carnal and jealous.

Where man's need is, God's grace is.

A closed hand can neither give nor
receive."

(From various sources)

The following little verses are not

intended for any individual in particu-
lar, but may be light though warning or
chastising thoughts for all of us in
general.

GOSSIP'S WAY

"Gossip should, as I was told
By Father and by Mother
When I was very young, go in
One ear and out the other.

And so perhaps it should; but I,
Who've listened through the years
With studied concentration and
Alert, attentive ears,

Have learned that gossip mostly takes
A detour to the south,
By which I mean that it goes in
One ear and out the mouth."

Richard Armour

Set a watch, O Lord, before my
mouth; keep the door of my lips.

Psalm 141:3

INDIANA, MILFORD

Shelby Beer — Joyce Kaiser

Probably no word is more misunder-
stood in the English language than the
word Love. It is one of the most com-
mon of human experiences and one of
the most difficult to define. True love is
never something one "falls in" to, but a
learned skill that produces genuine
happiness.

Love is more easily described than
defined. I Corinthians 13:4-7 gives us
an incomparable description. "Charity
suffereth long, and is kind; charity
envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself,
is not puffed up, Doth not behave itself
unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not
easily provoked, thinketh no evil; Re-
joiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in
the truth; Beareth all things, believeth
all things, hopeth all things, endureth
all things.

Our special congratulations go to
three couples, each in a different phase
of learning love. Bro. Sam Beer, the son
of Elder Bro. Jesse and Sis. Shirley
Beer, has announced his plans to be
married in January. His bride-to-be is
Sis. Rachel Ringger (Bluffton). Her
parents are Bro. Gary and Sis. Rosetta
Ringger.

On August 10, Gina Hurd became
Mrs. Brian Smith and a new home was
established.

Bro. Theo and Sis. Naoma Beer will
look back over 60 years of sharing life

on October 25 and look forward, to-
gether, to new blessings from a loving
God.

We received encouragement from
three visiting ministers this past
month. We offer our thanks to Bro.
Carroll Gerber (Bluffton North), Bro.
Wayne Lehman (South Bend) and Bro.
Bob Meyer (Bluffton North).

Bro. Elmer Haab, Bro. Jesse Haab
and Bro. Ned Speicher have all experi-
enced illness and hospitalization re-
cently. We wish them the blessing of
full recoveries.

Our special congratulations to first-
time parents, Bob and Eva Hoerr (Bos-
ton, MA) and a warm welcome to their
son, Matthew Jacob, who arrived July
9. Little Matthew's proud grandpar-
ents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Marguerite
Hoerr (Milford) and Joe and Irene Kish
(Indianapolis). Bro. John Hoerr (Peor-
ia, IL) and Bro. Theo and Sis. Naoma
Beer (Milford) welcome their new
great-grandson, too. "Lo, children are
an heritage of the Lord . . ." Psalm
127:3a.

Bro. Alan Wuthrich has asked that
his thanks be extended to all who
remembered him with prayers, cards
and gifts during his surgery and recup-
eration.

"Let God be God – He does not change,
His truth, His love, remain the same;
Exalted in His matchless name,
For God is God – He does not change"

Thot: With God behind you and His
arms beneath you, you can face what-
ever lies ahead of you.

Our Daily Bread

INDIANA, REMINGTON

Beth Virkler — Annette Bahler

SOBERING FACTS ABOUT
THAT CHILD OF YOURS

The Minnesota Crime Commission
came to this frightening and factual
conclusion which young parents might
do well to note as follows:

"Every baby starts life as a little
savage. He is completely selfish and
self-centered. He wants what he wants
when he wants it; his bottle, his moth-
er's attention, his playmate's toy, his
uncle's watch. Deny him these wants,
and he seethes with a rage and aggres-
siveness which would be murderous,
were he not so helpless. He has no
morals, no knowledge, no skills. This

means that all children – not just certain children – are born delinquent. If permitted to continue in the self-centered world of his infancy – given free reign to his sinful, impulsive actions to satisfy his wants, every child would grow up a criminal, a thief, a killer, a rapist.”

Selected

How many men composed this particular Crime Commission we do not know, but it is obvious that they were men that knew the nature of a child. Their observations are truly a summary of what the Bible already tells us about a child's nature. “Behold, I was shaped in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me.” (Psalm 51:5). “The wicked are estranged from the womb; they go astray as soon as they are born, speaking lies.” (Psalm 58:3).

What happens to this child's nature if we ignore it and allow it to take its natural course? “The rod and reproof give wisdom, but a child left to himself bringeth his mother shame.” (Proverbs 29:15). How can we avoid this shame and regret? “Correct thy son, and he shall give thee rest, yea, he shall give delight unto thy soul.” (Proverbs 29:17). May each young mother and father pray for grace to diligently search the scriptures for God's guidance in training their children to know the fear of the Lord.

Another Christian home was established August 4 as Bro. Fred Wahl (Sis. Ida) and Sis. Libby Bahler (Bro Edwin and Sis. Lois) became husband and wife. Ministering Bros. Tom Leman (Denver, CO) and Bill Gudeman (Elgin, IL) shared the day with us.

Also this week, we regretfully said farewell to another Christian home. Bro. John and Sis. Cheryl Knobloch and their four children: Cherise, Shalome, Jay and Heidi, left our congregation to establish a home in Morton, IL. Bro. John and Sis. Cheryl repented in our congregation ten years ago this summer but decided to move closer to their family circles in the central Illinois area.

INDIANA, SOUTH BEND

Pauline Laidig

With the passing of summer and hints of autumn in the air, we are reminded that the vacation season is coming to an end. We view this with regret as we have surely enjoyed the vacationers who have given us the

pleasure of their visits on various Sundays. Among them were ministering Bros. Earl Ringger (Gridley, IL), Robert Meyer (Bluffton North), Al Langhofer (Wichita, KS) and Ted Witzig (Morton, IL). Also ministering Bros. Jack Bollier (Leo) and Dale Strassheim (Milford) willingly came to assist Bro. Wayne Lehman in the absence of Bro. Robert Beebe, who was vacationing with his family. We certainly felt very blessed and inspired by the messages of each one. The many extra miles some drove in order to assemble with us is much appreciated. May the Lord bless you all, and please come again.

We extend our sympathy to Bro. John Schuch as his brother, Dave, 92, passed away recently. Even though Dave endured much suffering in the latter years, the remark was made that he never complained. Could this be said of us?

It is almost school time again. Among those going back to places of higher education are: Karen Lehman (IUSB), Dean Lehman (Ball State) and Karmin and Kip Wieland will return to Wheaton College. We wish them all a good year, from kindergarten through college. Each step of the way is important as it also is in our spiritual growth. Sometimes the going is rather smooth, and again, quite rough, but we must persevere. May we allow the good Lord to be very near us each step of the way.

INDIANA, VALPARAISO

Cheryl Bucher — Patty Bucher

Fall is now upon us. Farmers will be harvesting golden crops soon. The new school year is started. We have several in our congregation who will be continuing their education at Purdue. May God bless each one of them. We are especially grateful to God for David Zeltwanger (Bro. Lyle and Sis. Marilyn) as he has given his life to the Lord. Dave also is a student at Purdue, majoring in veterinary science. May God continue to bless him as he seeks Him for direction.

Our sympathy is with the family of our special friend, Peggy Rassi, as her husband, Greg, recently passed away. We can be assured that our ever-understanding heavenly Father will continue to watch over and protect her in her sorrow.

Just as the Lord has taken a soul, He has also given a brand new life to Sis. Nancy Bunn and her husband, Terry.

Mary and Danny welcome little David as their new brother. Again we can trust the Lord to keep them in His care.

The construction of our new church building seems to be going so rapidly. Many thanks to all who volunteered, including some from Goodfield, IL, Francesville, Bluffton, LaCrosse, Junction, OH, Gridley, IL, Morris, MN and Congerville, IL, along with the many from our own beloved fellowship. The bricklaying is over half completed. Now we're in the process of plumbing and wiring. Thanks to all who have supported our work. All glory and praise belongs to our Lord Jesus Christ.

We wish to thank Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann for again worshipping with and visiting us. Likewise, we thank Bro. Jim Hoerr for ministering God's faithful Word to us.

INDIANA, WOLCOTT

Lorene Furrer — Elaine Bahler

We're thankful for the ministering brothers who have shared the Word with us this past month: Bros. Steve Gutwein (Francesville), Fred Knapp (Congerville, IL), Kenneth Knapp (Taylor, MO) and Loren Knapp (Tucson, AZ).

“And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power:

“That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.”

I Corinthians 2:4-5

IOWA, AMES/DES MOINES

Nancy Teubel

With open arms of love we welcome Pat and Steve Banwart (Philadelphia, PA) and Larry Stoller (Leo, IN) to our area. Pat graduated with medical school and is serving her internship at a local hospital in Des Moines. Larry graduated from Purdue University and is employed in Des Moines. We thank God for directing these loved ones to our area.

Bro. Dennis Warner (Lester, IA) ministered to us this past month. Dennis, we thank you and all visitors for spending the day with us. God bless you for taking the time to travel and be with us.

Summer is over and school has started again. We welcome all new and returning students.

Bro. Gene Metzger (Lester, IA) was

used by God to speak to us. We thank Bro. Gene and all the other visitors for spending the day with us.

The service schedule for 1985/86 has been made. It is as follows:

October 13, 1985
November 10, 1985
December 8, 1985
January 19, 1986
February 9, 1986
March 2, 1986
April 13, 1986
May 4, 1986

Services are held in the basement of the Midland Financial Savings and Loan Building located at 525 Main Street, Ames. We welcome anyone who may be in the area to come and worship with us. Please feel free to contact me if you're in the area — Nancy Teubel, (515) 722-3844. It's always a pleasant surprise to have guests spend the day with us. We gratefully appreciate your support of the Ames/Des Moines gathering.

IOWA, BURLINGTON

Edith Massner — Dixie Messner

We were glad to be hosts for the Fort Sam Reunion the weekend of July 27 and 28. Elder Bro. Bob Walder (Congerville, IL) and Bro. Paul Gasser (Akron, OH) were able to stay for the whole weekend and share God's Word with us. It was a real blessing to see our assembly filled to overflowing that Sunday.

Ye sisters all, start on the way
In service for the Lord,
In watchful striving, fervent prayer,
You'll find a rich reward.

Zion's Harp #43, vs. 5

Wednesday evening, August 7, we bid farewell to Sis. Lucinda Scheitlin who has moved to Denver, CO. We know it will not be easy to be separated from family and friends, but the Lord will provide and help her.

Sis. Rekie Anliker wishes to thank everyone who remembered her with cards and gifts while she was ill. She really appreciated all that was done for her.

IOWA, ELGIN Gloria Frieden

Our annual Sunday school picnic was enjoyed with the usual good attendance. We offer our thanks again to Bro. Paul and Sis. Milly Butikofer for

providing their home and lawn for the occasion.

Once again it is time for our children to return to school. For some it will be a new beginning. We are thankful for our schools and teachers, but it is not without much concern and prayer that we send them off for higher learning. May God help us to realize the importance of the quality of their time at home.

Dear Jesus, bless my little school girl,
As she starts off for school today.
You know all about her, Lord,
Please keep an eye on her, I pray.

With Thy help, I'll do my best
To guide her aright at home.
But she's so little, the world's so big
And temptations are sure to come.

Help her remember, Father,
The lessons she has learned
At home and at Sunday school
And may she quickly to Thee turn.

We know Thy help's just a prayer away
Whether we're young or old.
And if we put our faith in Thee
Thou wilt keep us in Thy fold.

So bless my little school girl, Father,
And keep her in Thy care
And as she looks to Thee for help
Wouldst Thou an extra portion share.

I know you've heard this little prayer
From a mother's heart today,
Her life is in Your hands, dear Lord
Please shelter her, I pray.

IOWA, IOWA CITY Denise Duckworth

Congratulations to our college graduates: Diane Massner (Bro. Ben and Sis. Phyllis Knobloch) and Ruthann Schumacher (Bro. Mike and Sis. Elizabeth). May they seek God's guidance in their search for employment. "In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths." Proverbs 3:6.

We are happy to welcome Trent Meese (Ed and Sis. Barb) to our congregation. Trent is a recent graduate of the University of Illinois and has moved here to work in Cedar Rapids.

How do we become available? First, we have the responsibility to make ourselves able by spending time in prayer and reading God's Word. Then, we must avail ourselves — be of use, help others, and give of ourselves. In these

ways we become available as a vessel through which God can further His kingdom. We are thankful that Bros. Dale Moore (Elgin, IA), Jay Rinkenberger (Goodfield, IL), Dale Frank and John Steiner (Oakville, IA), Earl Banwart (West Bend, IA) and Al Aberle (Tremont, IL) made themselves available to minister God's Word to us.

IOWA, LESTER Alice Metzger

After struggling with illness for several months, Bro. Henry Kellenberger was called 'home' July 26 to be forever without grief or pain, safe in the arms of Jesus. He is survived by Sis. Elaine and nine sons and three daughters: Bro. Ronald, Bro. Dennis, Bro. Orlan, Leroy, Bro. Verlyn, Calvin, Bro. Bradley, Bro. Curtis, Ladell, Sis. Rosella Metzger, Sis. Suzette Messner and Connie Bergstrom. Also sharing their loss are 32 grandchildren as well as many relatives and friends. Sis. Elaine and the family cannot express in words the gratitude they feel for all the cards, kind deeds and expressions of sympathy extended to them during the illness and passing of their loved one. May God bless you.

Elder Bros. Wayne Fehr and Harold Messner took part in the funeral service. Other visiting ministers this past month were Bro. Fred Domka (Mansfield, OH), Bro. Kent Mogler (Minneapolis, MN) and Bro. Vernon Wettstein (Congerville, IL).

The wedding of Joel Moser and Marilyn Knobloch took place July 28. Our prayers are with them as they have begun their walk with the Lord and are seeking the rewards of serving Him. They are the children of Bro. Silas and Sis. Edith Knobloch and Howard and Glenda Moser.

On August 18 Sis. Jackie Wysong (Bro. Jack and Sis. Janet) and Bro. Denis Knobloch (Bro. Nathan and Sis. Irene) were united in holy matrimony by Elder Bro. Leo Moser. We pray the Lord will always be an unseen guest in their home. Visiting ministers for the occasion were Bro. Marvin Stieglitz (Leo, IN) and Bro. Ben Wysong (Sabetha, KS).

Christopher James was born July 22 to Doug and Charlene Leuthold. The grandparents are Bro. Art and Sis. Emily Leuthold and Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Haak.

Hospital patients have been Anna Knobloch (Otto), Lou Moser and Andy

Leuthold. We pray the Lord will grant them health according to His will.

IOWA, OAKVILLE
Debbie Wagenbach

"There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear . . ." I John 4:18. With much joy, we heard of the betrothal of Sis. Bonnie Moser (Bro. Lloyd and Myrna, Fairbury, IL) to Bro. Jerry Wagenbach (Bro. Jerry, Sr. and Sis. Bonnie). May God richly bless them as they plan for their future together as man and wife in His name.

Babies are in full abundance at Oakville. Our two newest additions are Amber Marie Siegle and Kira Brianne White. Amber is the second daughter of Bro. Bob and Sis. LeAnne Siegle. Her oldest sister, Laura, and older brother, Jason, enjoy having a new little baby. Amber's grandparents are Bro. Ernie and Sis. Majoria Siegle and Arnold and Phyllis Anderson (Ames, IA).

Little Kira was surely welcomed home by her mom and dad, Jeff and Lori White. Her older sister, Carman, completes their family circle. Kira's happy grandparents are Bro. Robert and Sis. Emma Jean Lanz and Loren and Maxine White (Carman, IL).

We have been blessed with several visiting ministers recently. Most recent has been Elder Bro. Corbin Bahler (Rockville, CT), Bros. Doug Grimm (Sabetha, KS), Danny Stoller (Rockville, CT) and Duane Farney (Croghan, NY). Bros. Paul Gasser (Akron, OH) and Dale Wulf (Lester, IA) have also recently ministered in our congregation.

I was recently reading through some literature when I came across a verse that really stuck out in my mind. It said, Why pray, when you can worry? To me, it seemed that the words just needed to be reversed. Why worry, when you can pray? Really, even though we often-times doubt, we must keep reminding ourselves that prayer is our spiritual lifeline to God! "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him." James 1:6.

IOWA, PULASKI
Mary Jane Knapp
DeAnn Wuthrich

The beautiful time of the year is upon us when we see all the leaves turning beautiful colors, and this only reminds us of God's magnificent crea-

tion. Let us take time to enjoy this beauty, and also appreciate it, and thank God for it.

We are ever so thankful for visiting Bro. Paul Eisenmann (Burlington, IA) for being with us in the past month, and offering his labors of love. We certainly all were blessed, and appreciate his efforts.

Hospitalized patients this past month have been Bro. Roy Metzger who has just undergone surgery. We hope and pray the Lord will heal and strengthen him so he may return home soon in good health and strength.

IOWA, WEST BEND

Elma Mogler — Polly Zaugg

We had a most blessed weekend when Bro. Vernon and Sis. Viola Le-man (Eureka, IL) favored us with a visit and a presentation of the slides he took during his visit to Europe. We all appreciated our freedom of worship more after hearing about our dear ones in faith over there. May we remember the World Relief Committee in prayer and those they help.

Tami Schmidt (Jim and Sherri) was hospitalized a short time this month and Sis. Edna Mogler, who resides at the Care Center, has been ill with congestive heart failure. Also, Donnie Metzger (Bro. Duane and Sis. Elizabeth) fractured a bone in his leg. "God is our refuge and our strength." Psalm 46:1.

Amy and Bethany Wirtz are happy to welcome home a new little brother, Adam Charles, born July 30. Thankful parents are Bro. Jim and Sis. Joan. Grandparents are Bro. Don and Sis. Verda Bruellman and Bro. Verner and Sis. Beverly Wirtz.

Bro. Mark and Sis. Lori Skogland are the parents of a new son, Ned Louis, born August 7. Ben, Krissa and Molly are anxious to help take care of their brother. Grandparents are Bro. Don and Sis. Verda Bruellman and Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Miller (Mason City). "Children are an heritage of the Lord." Psalm 127:3.

We enjoyed a large group of single brothers and sisters from all the Iowa churches. It is with thankfulness to God that young souls have found their salvation. It was especially heart-warming to listen to them praise the Lord with their voices in singing.

It seems like the summer has swiftly gone by and already we are approaching the harvest season.

HARVEST OF GOLD

See, what a riot of color!
Hark, what a riot of sound!
Golden grain and golden leaves
Rustling to the ground.

Here is the wealth worth hoarding,
Here is the gold of God:
The sun upon the harvest fields,
And the gleam of the goldenrod.

Marion Doyle

JAPAN, SHIODA

Sheila Moser

In the past month we have been certainly blest with visitors from America. Sis. Pam Huber (Washington, IL) spent some time with us while visiting her sister, Sis. Kathie Inoue and family (Tokyo). Bro. Kurt Bahler (Remington, IN) was also with us early in the month. Our more recent visitors have been Bro. Loren and Sis. Betsy Shrenk (Champaign, IL), Sis. Violet Knobloch and Sis. Shirlee DeHaan (Lester, IA) and Robert Maya (Chicago, IL).

We are very thankful that our family and friends can take the time to travel and be with us here. During their visits, they all contributed so much to our small fellowship and hopefully they were able to take a little of the Japanese brotherly love home with them.

Summer is a season of transitions. As the countryside is constantly changing as the crops become ready for harvest, so is there a change in the staff here. On July 3 Sis. Kathy Klotzle (Altadena, CA) and Sis. Kathy Kieser (Bradford, IL) arrived to work two years for the Lord. Sis. Kathy Kieser will be teaching in the kindergarten, while Sis. Kathy Klotzle will be teaching older children in the English School. We want to welcome them and add a prayer that God's grace will supply their every need and that they can rejoice daily serving the Lord.

On August 2, we bid farewell to Sis. Margie Heintz who returned to the States after spending the past two years living and teaching here. We will all miss her consistent smile and love shown to everyone. Sis. Margie's warmth and love has found a special spot in our hearts and will remain there always. Our thoughts and prayers go with her as she begins a new segment in her life, teaching and living in Champaign, IL.

Our summer Shuyokai (fellowship meeting) was held July 29, 30, 31 with

many of the Japanese brethren and American guests attending. The theme verse for this year's meeting was John 13:35, "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." The days were spent in fellowship as well as listening to and discussing God's Word. All that attended surely went away with a feeling of love and unity.

JAPAN, TOKYO

Yoshio Yamazaki — Marie Inoue

We enjoyed our fellowship meeting held the last of July at Gotemba, several hours drive from Tokyo. The Shioda church hosted our meetings, and as they welcomed us, we were encouraged to leave our cares and troubles at the entrance and provide room for the Holy Spirit to teach us of the "Fruit of the Spirit", the theme of our meetings.

As a church we bade farewell to our Sis. Margie Heintz who has shared with us the past two years. We have been blessed by her fellowship and loving ways of preferring others before herself. At the same time, we extend a loving welcome to Margie's replacement, Sis. Kathy Kieser (Bradford, IL) and also to Sis. Kathy Klotzle (Altadena, CA) who also has come as a part of the Apostolic Christian Works Projects Program to assist in the English and Bible class teaching program. We pray God will bless them and their work as they labor in His vineyard and lay up treasures in heaven.

Other special visitors this month were Bro. Loren and Sis. Betsy Schrenk (Champaign-Urbana, IL) and Sisters Violet Knobloch and Shirley DeHaan (Lester, IA). We thank them for their part in our services, fellowship and fine example.

We pray for the upcoming brotherhood conference. May God provide for the speakers and the listeners and also for our local elder and his family as they attend and spend several weeks among the churches there.

KANSAS, BERN

Linda Esslinger

Hospitalized were Bro. Reuben Moser (for minor surgery) and Sis. Katie Grimm.

Bro. Dennis and Sis. Gerty Esslinger are pleased to announce the birth of a son, Austin Richard, July 22. Welcoming him home are two brothers, Anthony (5) and Ashley (3) and one sister,

Ariana (2). Grandparents are Bro. Martin and Sis. Arlene Esslinger (Bern) and Sis. Julia and the late Bro. Jim Messner (Winthrop, MN).

Will Meyer passed away July 24. Surviving are his four children: Elva Lehmann (Hiawatha, KS), Eileen Lehmann, Bro. Harlan Meyer (Sabetha) and Harry Meyer (Bountiful, UT).

A business meeting was held recently. Bro. Morris Edelman was reelected as trustee for the Apostolic Christian Home in Sabetha. In the Sunday school election, Bro. John Baumgartner and Bro. Dean Strahm replaced Bro. Wilfred Strahm and Bro. Jim Kaeb. Sis. Shirley Strahm and Sis. Helen Meyer replaced Sis. Peggy Strahm and Sis. Joann Edelman.

Visiting ministers have been Bro. Gene Marti (Lamar, MO), Bro. Leland Plattner (Zapata, TX), Bro. Loren Strahm (Gridley, KS) and Bro. Don Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN).

Rudy Lehman and Linda McGuire were married June 8. Rudy is the son of Bro. Edward and Sis. Leola Lehman.

Sympathy is expressed to Bro. Edward Lehman and Freida Bauman in the passing of their brother, Jake Lehman (Chillicothe, MO).

Bro. Eldon Plattner, Bro. Fred Edelman (Bern) and Bro. Ben Wysong (Sabetha) hosted a Fort Sam Reunion on the weekend of August 3-4. We enjoyed the many visitors.

GRANDMA'S ROCKING CHAIR

I learned a lot about Jesus
around Grandma's rocking chair.
She would tell a Bible story
then a word of prayer.
She would read the Word while rocking
and never lose her place;
I knew God was alive and well
for I saw Him in her face.
At night while I was sleeping —
or was supposed to be —
I could hear my grandma praying
and she always mentioned me.
She never did have favorites,
she loved us all the same,
But when my grandma prayed,
she called us each by name.
Grandma's gone to heaven now,
but I'll meet her over there,
Because of all those prayers she prayed
in that old rocking chair.

Aubrey W. Curry

Give Your Address Change
To Your Reporter

KANSAS, GRIDLEY Vola Young — Doris Bahr

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

Proverbs 22:6

As believers in God, we truly have a great responsibility to our youth in instructing them in the ways of the Lord. We hope that our attitudes reflect the joy and excitement of living for Christ.

The junior-senior high Sunday school classes enjoyed a weekend of fellowship with other youth from the Lamont and Wichita churches.

Bible school for the Gridley-Lamont children was held in the evening one week at Gridley. A program was presented by the children on a Sunday evening. We thank the brethren and sisters that participated in this endeavor.

We were privileged to have one visiting minister, Bro. Howard Plattner (Wichita).

Sis. Matilda Beyer has moved from Burlington to Gridley. Her new address is: Route 1, Box 16, Gridley, KS 66852.

KANSAS, KIOWA

Janice Bahr — Gay Farney

"God created everything, on earth, and in heaven above. But when He made a little child, then God created love."

When Stephanie Leigh was sent to us 20 months ago by the Lord, we were given, as a gift, a picture with part of the above inscription on it. The joy, trust and simple childlike faith she shows are daily a source of wonder to Jeff and I, and we've come to know how true those words are. When she looks up at us at naptime or mealtime and says, "Pray?" without being told to, we feel truly blessed. Just this past week our blessings were doubled as God sent another baby girl, Tifani Lyn, to live in our home. Bro. Joe and Sis. Mildred Frieden and Bro. Rudy and Sis. Eileen Bahr (Gridley, KS) are her grandparents; and Bro. Jeff and Sis. Frieda Frieden, and Celestina Schifferer (Elgin) are her great-grandparents. Our children may never be rich, famous, or beautiful by this world's standards, but if God grants us the wisdom to rear them to love and serve

Him, then all our prayers will have been answered.

We were so thankful to have Elder Bro. Richard Schupbach (Phoenix, AZ) join us one Lord's day this month after he, his dear wife, Sis. Barbara, and Elder Bro. Ronald Nelson returned from the conference. Praise be to God that the elder body is so concerned for the flock, and that they continually lend themselves to feed us the spiritual truths we cannot live without. While here, Bro. Richard showed us the pictures he took when he and other brothers went to India to visit the mission there. We appreciate his taking the time to share them with us.

The summer has gone so quickly and it's already time for the schools to start again. Our children have so much more to face than we did at their age, that our prayers also need to be doubled on their behalf. We can't always be there, but God, through prayer, is everywhere. What consolation this is for parents.

Our hospital patients this month included Bro. Jeff Frieden, Bro. Sam Schupbach, Sis. Irma Ott and Sis. Janice Bahr. All are out now, and Sis. Irma and Sis. Janice are again in our midst. May God be ever present to those of our loved ones who are facing so much illness. We don't always understand why, but God in His infinite wisdom has a reason for it all. Maybe, like Job, we need testing sometimes to see how strong our faith really is.

Sis. Bea Diel celebrated her 89th birthday this month. Friends and relatives honored her with a card shower on her special day.

KANSAS, LAMONT

Jill K. Luthi

"Teach me thy way, O Lord; I will walk in thy truth: unite my heart to fear thy name."

Psalms 86:11

An 8 lb. 3 oz. bundle from heaven was born to Cheri and Gene Reed July 19. Ryan Neal is the first grandchild of Bro. Jeffrey K. and Sis. Debbie Frieden.

Before the next writing, we know the elders of our churches will be counseling together to discuss that which we face daily. May their meetings with one another be moved and directed by the Spirit of our Lord God. We must heed our Shepherd's warnings!

"Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment."

I Corinthians 1:10

Whether it be our outward appearance, our actions or our conduct; they each need self-examination every day in order to be a "light" and a perfect example to others.

"What I do today is important because I am paying a day of my life for it. What I accomplish must be worthwhile because the price is high."

The season of summer is nearing to a close for 1985. Those nice long days are becoming shorter and the fields are being harvested. Unseasonably cool and wet weather has been with us during July and August, the months we least expect it.

Bro. Tom Knobloch is recovering nicely from a recent surgery. A cartilage was removed from his left knee, and it is a blessing to see that he is back on his feet again.

Returning to higher schools of learning are Wayne and Marvin Anliker (Bro. Glen and Sis. Lorean) and Marla Schrader (Bro. Stephen and Sis. Dorothy), all to Kansas State University at Manhattan, and Sis. Maria Schrader (Bro. Stephen and Sis. Dorothy) to Emporia State University at Emporia. May God be their daily teacher and overseer.

"Where goest Thou, my Saviour kind?
O Jesus, tell Thou me!
I'll follow Thee with heart and mind,
Ne'er to depart from Thee!"

Take me with Thee, forsake me not!
With Thee alone I'd be!
I'll be in darkness without light,
If Thou forsakest me!

Hymns of Zion #260, vs. 1 and 2

KANSAS, SABETHA Charleen Hartter — Nita Grimm

"No matter how the storm may rage
Upon the sea of life,
No matter how the waves may beat,
No matter what the strife;
The Lord is just the same today
As when He walked the sea,
And He can conquer every storm
That life may send to thee.

The waves are raging everywhere
And men are sore distressed,
But all they need is found in Him
Who giveth perfect rest;
So cast your care upon the Lord
Whose strength will never fail,
He calms the waves for your frail bark
His power will e'er prevail."

Author Unknown

Our dear Sis. Marie Hartter had an unfortunate fall and is now recuperating from a broken arm.

As the summer months are gone and the splendors of autumn are before us, the scripture Proverbs 6:6-8 comes to mind, "Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise: Which having no guide, overseer, or ruler, provideth her meat in the summer, and gathereth her food in the harvest." Are we as the wise, little ant gathering, laboring and allowing the Fruit of the Spirit such as holiness, love, temperance and meekness, to sustain us each day?

We have once again enjoyed having visiting brethren in our midst as many gathered in our area for a Soldiers Reunion to fellowship and reminisce of days gone by. How will it be someday in heaven when the soldiers of the cross will be gathered together forevermore? Bros. John Steiner (Oakville, IA), Don Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN) and Mark Bahr (Detroit, MI) have been with us to share God's precious Word.

Sis. Michelle Meyer has been given the duty of teaching Sunday school. Such a great responsibility is upon our teachers to guide the tender, receptive hearts into a more perfect understanding of our Lord and Saviour.

The annual church elder conference was held in late August. Our prayers are with these dear brethren always that Godly wisdom and courage can uphold them in guiding the church in the way of truth.

KANSAS, WICHITA

Laurie Gallatin

The weekend of August 2-4, Bro. Harvey and Sis. Ann Farney celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. In a day of divorce it is certainly special to find a couple who have stayed together and served the Lord together for 50 years. All of their six children, their families and many friends came to rejoice with Harvey and Ann. A reception was held after church Sunday.

May the Lord bless the rest of their years together as He has so far.

Visiting ministers were Bro. Glen Funk (Garden Grove, IA), Bro. Joe Aberle (Sabatha, KS) and Bro. Raymond Roth (Kiowa, KS).

Do you want a challenge? "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." Philippians 4:13. What do you suppose "all" means? Just think of all the things the Lord could do through us if we would be willing and ready and available. I don't think we have even tapped the potential He has for us. Sometimes we let ourselves think "what could I possibly do for the Lord?" But we don't realize our potential in the strength of Jesus Christ. With Him all things are possible and limitless. How exciting it is to think of what God can do through us — all things to His glory!

KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON

Lester Huber

And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain. Matthew 5:41. In many Bibles these words are in red ink. Why? Because they are the words of Jesus spoken when He was teaching us about God's will for our lives (The Beatitudes). It was a compound instruction because He was already telling us how God wants us to serve, then He tells us to act out what He was just saying. So many times we are tried today by all the stress, and soon think someone is asking too much of us. We get impatient with people, our fellow men, our brothers and sisters, and then, worse yet, even God. Many people today resist going the first mile, much less the second mile. They're not willing to worship God a couple of hours on Sunday, even when it's just one day a week. We ought to give two days. For many Christians, the so-called traditions of the church are becoming so burdensome. However, we ought to be like Peter when Jesus tried to wash his feet. When he got the message, he wanted to be washed from top to bottom. The New Testament Gospel is so mild compared to the endless rituals of the Old Testament. "Every single day of the year they had to offer sacrifices for the sins of the day." Think of the time (and the cost of two lambs per day), one each morning and one each evening.

Jesus being "the Way, the Truth, and the Life", asks so little. Our beloved Apostolic Christian Church is

trying so hard to go the "first mile". Isn't that exciting? How we ought to be excited about fulfilling His "Great Commission"; not only to practice God's will, but to take it to the towns and cities that do not know we exist. It's true other churches are there, but are they "Apostle-like" or "Paul-like"? Thus saith the Lord! Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. Jeremiah 6:16. Isn't that a tremendous promise? A soul that lives for endless eternity will find rest. Like the Apostles of our Lord Jesus Himself suffered in delivering and defending the "old paths", the "good way", many of our elders have suffered physically in defense of the Apostolic Church. Let's lend ourselves to communicate our support in all that which is right.

We thank the Lord for visitors and especially our dear ministering brethren, Bro. Arthur Baurer (Princeville, IL), Bro. Larry Weninger (Latty, OH) and Bro. Kenneth Weerts (Cissna Park, IL). We appreciate the faithfulness and the effort put forth in coming each month. May we still express the need here for permanent residents, for Sunday school teachers, song leaders, helpers, etc. For more information, just write us: Lester Huber, Route 1, Becknerville Road, Winchester, KY 40391.

MICHIGAN, ALTO

Liz Blough

The wedding engagement of Sis. Laurie Huber (Bloomington, IL) and Bro. Terry Steffen has been announced. Laurie is the daughter of Bro. Robert and Sis. Doris Huber (Ft. Lauderdale, FL). Terry is the son of Carl and Sis. Myrna Steffen (Alto). We anticipate the joyous occasion with them.

The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ? I Corinthians 10:16. Elder Bro. Andrew Virkler (Bay City, MI) was with us to share holy communion July 20.

Sunday, August 18, our congregation was blessed with a visiting minister, Bro. Carl Feucht (Lester, IA). He and his wife came to Michigan from the brotherhood meeting to spend some time with friends and relatives.

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY

Linda Ramseyer

"Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh." Genesis 2:24. On July 28, Bro. Scott Kent and Sis. Beth Ramseyer were joined together as one. Parents of the couple are Raymond and Marilyn Kent and Bro. Jim and Sis. Marlene Ramseyer. May the Lord bless this couple as they begin their married life.

Our congregation has been privileged to have visiting ministers this month. We are thankful that Bro. Ernest Graf (Akron, OH), Bro. Gary Maibach (Rittman, OH) and Bro. Kenneth Indermuhle (Sardis, OH) were willing to minister the Lord's Word unto us.

"And the Lord God said, It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him." Genesis 2:18. On August 4, the engagement of Bro. David Steffen (Elgin, IL) and Sis. Linda Ramseyer was announced. Parents of the couple are Elder Bro. Nathan and Sis. Marilyn Steffen (Elgin, IL) and Bro. Earl and Sis. Mary Ramseyer.

Thomas and Dianne Wackerle are joyfully welcoming a new little bundle into their home. Their new son is Kyle Thomas. His sister, Lori, and grandparents, Bro. Sam and Sis. Lorraine Wackerle, are also happy to welcome Kyle.

MICHIGAN, DETROIT

Bev Bahr

Visiting our congregation recently was Bro. Marvin Leman and his family (Bradford, IL). We appreciate visiting ministers sharing God's Word with us.

Our Sunday school Bible classes attended Youth Day in Mansfield, OH. We want to extend our gratitude to the brethren in Mansfield who gave of themselves, and also to our Sunday school teachers, their wives and to supportive parents and students. May God bless them all for their part in encouraging our young people to take part in Christian fellowship and worship.

As the time draws near for our college students to depart to their respective colleges, we sincerely wish them the nearness and grace of God as they seek out their goals in life. We always enjoy their visits home and hope to see them often.

Sis. Joanne Kaisner (Bro. Hartzell and Sis. Mary) has moved to the

Bloomington, IL area to attend college there. We surely will miss her. "Blest be the tie that binds, Our hearts in Christian love; The fellowship of kindred minds, Is like to that above." Hymns of Zion #156.

MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS
Barbara Olson

Our visiting ministers were Elder Bro. Harold Messner (Winthrop, MN) and Bros. Nathan Stoller (Bradford, IL) and Ken Lawson (Ft. Lauderdale, FL). We are very thankful to them for bringing us God's message.

As brethren gathered for the annual conference, may God have revealed His will through the Holy Spirit in the way which will lead to the preservation of our precious faith.

Our new Sunday school superintendent is Bro. Perry Virkler. May God guide him in his duties.

**HOLINESS LEADS
TO HAPPINESS**

Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

Matthew 5:6

More holiness give me, more striving within,
More patience in suffering, more sorrow for sin;
More faith in my Saviour, more sense of His care,
More joy in His service, more purpose in prayer.

P. P. Bliss

Thought: Nothing but sin can take away the Christian's joy.

MINNESOTA, MORRIS
Hildegard Koehl
Rhonda Zeltwanger

God is not made greater when you worship Him, but you are made greater when you serve Him. Spend some quiet time contemplating the greatness of God.

The oceans of the world contain more than 340 quintillion gallons of water, yet He holds them in the hollow of His hand. Isaiah 40:12.

The earth weighs six sextillion metric tons, yet to God it represents but dust on the scale. Isaiah 40:12, 15.

The known universe stretches more than 30 billion light years (200 sextillion miles), yet to God that great

expanse represents but a "span". (hand's width) Isaiah 40:12.

That same universe contains at least 100 billion galaxies, each made up of approximately 100 billion stars - yet God knows them all by name. Isaiah 40:26. Yet He cares about each one of us and says, "Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine." Isaiah 43:1.

A violin string, when totally "independent" of the violin for which it was created, is "free" to twist and turn, but not to do what a violin string is designed to do: produce music. By the same token, you are "free" when your life is uncommitted - but not free to be what God intended you to be. We were all so thankful to have two baptisms this month and to see two new souls free to become what God would have them be. They are Bro. Dennis Joos (Bro. Gottlieb and Sis. Edith) and Sis. Cheryl Luthi (Sis. Della and the late Bro. Don). Freedom is a two-sided coin: On one side is privilege, on the other responsibility. May God grant them the grace to be true to Him all of their lives.

We have been blessed with several ministers this month. Elder Bros. Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI), Bob Grimm (Goodfield, IL) and Leo Moser (Lester, IA) and Bros. John Lehman (Bern, KS), Carroll Gerber (Bluffton North, IN), Noah and Don Miller (Minneapolis, MN), Virgil Metzger (Chicago, IL), Dale Wulf (Lester, IA) and Ken Lawson (Ft. Lauderdale, FL). We are always fed by these weak brothers and God always finds a way to provide for our needs.

Bro. Noah Nohl, Sis. Vi Wulf, Sis. Anna Nohl, Sis. Diane Schmidgall, Sis. Emma Schmidgall, Tim Schmidgall (Bro. Keith and Sis. Lois) and Byron Koehl (Bro. Harv and Sis. Wilda) have all needed God's healing powers and our prayers.

Rita Luthi (Harold and Bernice) and Larry Bye were married July 27. May God bless them in their new home together.

Those who accept the responsibility of preaching and teaching God's Word have a staggering responsibility. Bro. Dale Zeltwanger has been chosen as our new minister. "For Ezra had prepared his heart to seek the law of the Lord, and to do it, and to teach in Israel statutes and judgment." (Ezra 7:10). May we all pray for Dale and give him our support as he prepares his heart for

obedient service, seeks the meaning of God's Word, does what he discovers and teaches what God reveals to him. Each of our ministers need our special prayers to continue in His service.

MINNESOTA, WINTHROP
Wanda Messner
Mary Lou Schmidt

GOD IS THE ANSWER

In this restless world of struggle
It is often hard to find
Answers to the questions
That disturb our peace of mind,
And our hearts are lost and lonely
As we search to find the key
To the meaning of all living
And to immortality . . .
But we'll never find the answers
In science, graphs and charts,
For the only real solution
Must be found within our hearts . . .
For the answer to all living,
God holds safely in His keeping,
And only when we know Him
Will we find what we are seeking . . .
And to know Him is to love Him,
And to love Him is to find
The answers to all questions
That fill every troubled mind.

We pray the Lord will give our dear elders answers to their questions. At this time, our annual brotherhood conference is underway and we would like to thank the Morton, IL congregation for hosting it this year. We are so thankful that we can come from across the land, assemble together and listen to our elder brethren without being hindered by our government.

Bro. Don Miller (Minneapolis) and his dear wife spent one Sunday with us. We thank God for the special blessings He sends us and may God bless each one.

Young, old, friends and members of our congregation gathered together, at the home of Bro. Dick Schmidt, to learn and re-learn the art of soap making for world relief. Not only is there a feeling of satisfaction which comes from doing something for others, but it was such a wonderful opportunity for fellowship. We want to thank those from West Bend, IA, who came to help us that evening; it was such a blessing!

Sunday school has started for another season. We pray for God's love and guidance as we teach our precious youth. Not only do we pray for the

teachers, but each member, so that we can be good examples for our Sunday school children. We must remember that actions, sometimes, speak louder than words!

At this time of year the farmer spends so many long hours preparing for harvest. Remember our Father in heaven is also preparing for that "great harvest". Let each of us have our hearts ready so that God will be pleased with His "yield".

Our medical patients this month were: Bros. George, Harold and Bruce Messner. May they feel God's healing touch!

MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY

Anna Lou Mattix

The week of July 29 we had Vacation Bible School for the first time. We had 15 children who came every day for a fun time of learning about God through lessons, songs and crafts. The older children especially enjoyed a treasure hunt where they had to look up Bible verses to find their clues.

The last day we had a picnic at Joel Geran's lake where the children enjoyed swimming together. As spread out as we are, it's important for these little ones to have good times together so they can form lasting friendships with their "special" church friends.

We're looking forward to Bible school again next year. Another first for the Kansas City church was the Sunday school picnic which was held August 11. All the children who were in Bible school presented a program of songs and Bible verses they had learned. It was a wonderful time of fellowship for the whole church.

We certainly will miss Bro. Stan and Sis. Judy Sauder and Katie who have moved to Princeville, IL. It was a tearful farewell for all of us. How we have loved having these three with us while Bro. Stan was in school.

Bro. Don and Sis. Carol Wales and family have moved into their new home near Kansas City. How we welcome this precious family into our church.

Our thanks and appreciation go to the ministers who travel many miles to share God's marvelous love and grace with us. That God will reward each and every one is our prayer.

The following letter was written in 1975 by a dear aunt of mine who was 84 at that time. Her granddaughters were 18 and 19 years old.

My darling granddaughters,

First I'll write my greetings in Christian love. Why this letter? Perhaps it could be the promptings of the Holy Spirit, as I have felt oftentimes I should write either or both of you girls. It might just be that a bit of encouragement might be timely. Being a grandmother, I, too, have been at the place where encouragement was useful.

I, of course, was like both of you and gave my life to Jesus when I was young and I will add, very inexperienced. After living through many years of all kinds of Christian hazards and conflicts, this only do I regret; that I did not exhibit and devote more of my life to greater love and tolerance to others – rather than nurture negative thoughts and ideas about others that I thought might not be just as "I" would like them to be or do. Well after all; are not all of God's children open to temptations? We know, the best thing to bring negative feelings back into line is to love the very ones that we feel we were hurt or offended by and pray; yes, really pray, for them.

So to each of you, never become discouraged and "think what's the use". Life is a struggle and even being a Christian has its share; but that is the very reason Christ left the tomb and now lives and will always be with us, and in us, and we in Him.

I'm in hopes that you will be able to have a nice weekend and perchance can share this letter with each other. Let us remember each other in prayer and love all that pertains to Christ, His own, and those who need yet to come and invite Him into their lives. May many yet learn to accept Him.

Love in Jesus' name
from your grandmother,
Lydia Bahr

Mamie Abshier who was a recent hospital patient is back home recuperating. She wishes to thank her many friends for their concern and prayers during her illness.

With deep regret on the part of the entire church, Bro. Kent Miller is leaving us. He is a trustee and also Sunday school superintendent, a very strong pillar in our church, loved by everyone – young and old alike. We thank God for the time he spent with us. He was a help and blessing to all. We pray God will continue to bless him and keep him in His strong arms of love and protection.

We welcome Greg and Kara (Marti) Snyder and their two sons, Quinton, 6, and Kenton, 4, to Kansas City. We will appreciate having them with us.

MISSOURI, LAMAR

Janice Braker — Becky Marti

In John 14:27 we read, "Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." We wish to offer our sympathy to the families of Bro. Orlan and Sis. Mary Kellenberger and Bro. Curt and Sis. Martha Kellenberger at the passing of their father, Bro. Henry Kellenberger (Lester, IA). May God provide strength and comfort to their hearts.

We rejoice with the angels in heaven that two precious souls, Janel and Janese Kellenberger, have turned to God in repentance. We pray that God will ever be near them to help and sustain them in their new walk of faith.

Another precious bundle has come to live in the home of Tim and Terri Braker. Little Trey Alden was born August 7 and has two brothers that also welcome him home. Grandparents are Bro. Leonard and Sis. Bonnie Braker and Bob and Velma Lauck. May they seek God's guidance in raising their little ones.

MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS

Becky Gudeman

"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."

I Corinthians 15:58

As of this summer, we are no longer holding services here in St. Louis. We want to send out a note of thanks to everyone who helped support these services for the last 3½ years. The Lord has truly blessed us with meeting many wonderful people, making new friendships and hearing the gospel spoken in truth and love. We sincerely appreciate each of you and may God bless you for your efforts.

Dan and Becky Gudeman

MISSOURI, TAYLOR

Loida Hodel — Lori Marquart

"For God hath not given us the Spirit of fear, but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind."

II Timothy 1:7

Hospital patients this month were Bro. Louis Hoerr (Sis. Ruthie), Sis. Charlene Sutter and Benji Knochel (Bro. Eric and Sis. Penny), surgical; and Sis. Peggy Sutter (Bro. Gerald and Sis. Marge), medical.

"Jesus is all the world to me, My life, my joy, my all; He is my strength from day to day, Without Him I would fall."

Thompson

"When I come to the end of the long, long road, And trials will all be past, I'll look in the face of my dearest Friend, Safe home in His heaven at last." We extend our sympathy to the family, Rosella Kolthoff, Sis. Linda Heimer and Sandy Lillard, at the passing of their mother and grandmother, Mary Lindstrom. Grandma Lindstrom was a special person and to know her was to love her. She will be missed by those who so willingly and lovingly cared for her until the end of her life at the age of 98.

"Obey them . . . for they watch for your souls . . . that they may do it with joy." Hebrews 13:17. God showered his blessings upon us at "The Little White Church on the Levee" through several of His servants: Elder Bro. Joe Braker (Morton, IL), Bros. Dave Wie-gand (Champaign, IL), Floyd Schmidgall (Morris, MN), Wayne Miller (Ft. Scott, KS) and Bert Butikofer (Elgin, IA). We thank you all for your services and as we . . .

"Feed upon God's Holy Word/His faithful servants teach;/Let's gladly give encouragement/To those God called to preach."

Anonymous

Bob and Paula Heimer are parents of a new little daughter, Audra Ann. Adrian, Abbey and grandparents, Bro. Rod and Sis. Naomi Moser (Wapello, IA), welcome this little sunbeam. Elder Bro. Roy and Sis. Dona Grimm are spending several days in Roanoke getting acquainted with a new grandchild, Laura Ashley, born to Bro. Bill and Sis. Jeanie Leman. Drew and Natalie complete this little family. Congratulations also go to Bro. Curt and Sis. Sue Heimer on the birth of a son, Seth William, born August 13. Grandparents are Bro. Rod and Sis. Naomi Moser and Bro. Don and Sis. Louann Wieland (Bay City, MI).

Our thoughts and prayers are with the elder brothers and ministers who are at this time meeting at the annual conference at Morton, IL. May God's will be done in all the decisions, large or

small, that have to be made to maintain the welfare of our church.

"And this is the confidence that we have in Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He heareth us . . ."

I John 5:14

NEW JERSEY, UNION CITY Ed Aeschleman

Visiting ministers during the month were Bros. Lee Bahler, Roy Luginbuhl, Kevin Ryan and Dan Stoller (all of Rockville, CT). May God always give our ministering brothers much grace to preach the Word in full power and truth.

Sis. Mary Diggelman spent several days in the hospital undergoing eye surgery. She is now at home convalescing. We pray for her full recovery.

We welcome with love our dear sister-in-faith, Heidi Hoerr, from the Bloomington, IL area. Sis. Heidi has accepted employment in New York City and we are thankful to God to receive her into our small congregation.

NEW YORK, CROGHAN Alice Virkler

Our visiting ministers this month were Bros. Bill Emch (Lamont, KS) and Ron Schambach (Elgin, IL). We thank them and the many others who have taken the time to visit in our area.

John and Mattie Farney have welcomed little Crystal Ann into their home to complete their family circle. She was born July 13 and will also be loved by her grandparents, Bro. Niles and Sis. Polly Farney, and Sherwood and Joan Zehr.

Steve and Yvonne Virkler and Barry have also welcomed a little girl. Sarah Jean was born August 10. Grandparents are Bro. Clyde and Sis. Lois Virkler and Irene Hartley.

Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Loretta (Bro. Floyd) Graves and Margaret Steiner and their families. Their brother, Merrill Farney, was called from this life by our Father and we are thankful that his days in the hospital were short.

Our sympathy also goes out to Bro. Chester O'Brien as his brother, Walter, passed away. May God comfort Bro. Chester and his family in their recent losses.

Sis. Hazel Schneider was a medical patient for a few days this month.

Our annual Sunday school picnic was held Saturday, August 10, at

Happy Hollow Campgrounds and was enjoyed by all.

NEW YORK, NAUMBURG Rachel Snyder

Our visiting ministers this month were Bro. Edward Alt (Cissna Park, IL) July 21, and on August 4, Bros. William Emch (Lamont, KS) and Ronald Schambach (Elgin, IL).

We are remembering the brethren who are in conference and pray for the Lord's guidance in all their undertaking.

Bro. Leland Hirschey and his wife spent the weekend of August 11 at the Philadelphia church.

Sis. Rozella Schulz has been in the hospital for a few days and is now home again.

We are in sympathy with the Clifford Demerest family in the death of their son, Bruce. Sis. Corrine Virkler is his grandmother.

As I make this report, I have just received word that Sis. Pearl Colgrove passed away this morning. Her funeral will be held August 19 in the Naumburg church. Burial will be in the Copenhagan Cemetery. Bros. Leland Hirschey and Floyd Graves will have the services. A dinner will be served after the funeral. She is survived by a daughter, Mrs. Marial (Harold) Hancock (Croghan) and a son, Richard, in Florida.

OHIO, AKRON Joyce Gasser

" . . . His compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness." Lamentations 3. Chapter 3 of Lamentations is the most elaborate in form and sublime in ideas of the 5 poems of Lamentations, which represent deep sufferings. It contains a confession of sin, an acknowledgement of God's justice; and a prayer of faith for forgiveness. It proposes to show how the Jews should behave in their sufferings by showing how the prophet behaved in his tribulation. Each of the 5 chapters of Lamentations are an acrostic dirge in Hebrew. Chapters 1, 2, 4 and 5 each have 22 verses in the Hebrew, beginning with a new letter, using all the Hebrew alphabet. Chapter 3 has three times as many verses, 66 verses. The first letter in each of the first 3 lines used the first letter of the Hebrew alphabet. Each line of the second triplet begins with the second letter of the Hebrew alphabet; and thus

continues until all 22 letters of the alphabet have been used.

We appreciated the inspiring messages of Bro. Roy Luginbuhl and Bro. Tom Leman.

OHIO, COLUMBUS
Desma Klopfenstein

Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn.

Matthew 13:30

The final harvest is coming soon and what a joyous occasion it will be for those who stay rooted in Christ, drinking continuously from the springs of living water. These seeds will have grown strong in the Lord and bear the Fruit of the Spirit. Oh, that we could all be among the wheat and not the tares on that day. But Satan is a crafty foe, planting weeds here and there about the land. Weeds which might appear harmless, but as farmers know, detract from the beauty of the field and often decrease the good yield. Let us be careful not to allow the weeds to grow around us unnoticed. The Lord will cut down evil forces which threaten to choke our spiritual growth, and He will cultivate His will for our lives, if we'll come to Him with a humble heart. Just as the seed is subject to the farmer's plan for it, so should we surrender ourselves to God, knowing He will provide for our every need; that we may bring forth fruit pleasing to Him.

Our visitors last month included Bro. Pete Baltic (Mansfield, OH) and Bro. Walt Rager (Toledo, OH), who brought God's Word to us in sincere Christian love. Both days we enjoyed our fellowship with these brothers, their families, and each one who came. May the Lord richly bless them for their efforts of love.

OHIO, JUNCTION
Les Manz

We extend our thanks to Bro. Tom Leman (Denver, CO), Bro. Ernest Graf and Bro. Ron Palitto (Akron), Bro. Ken Sauder (Mansfield) and Bro. Ray Sinn (Latty) for visiting us and bringing God's Word to us.

We also extend a hearty welcome to our new Sis. Laurie Stoller who exchanged wedding vows with Bro. Den-

nis Schlatter and will now make Junction her home church. We wish Bro. Dennis and Sis. Laurie God's grace and blessings as they establish their home and their lives together. Parents are Bro. Darl and Sis. Iva Stoller (Latty) and Sis. Juliet Schlatter.

We also welcome another addition to our church. Chet David was born August 14 to Bro. David and Sis. Kathy Manz. Chet has four sisters and four brothers who share in the joy of his arrival.

OHIO, LATTY
Marlene Reinhard — Patty Gerber

"O God of wisdom, life and love,
 Thine is the blessed plan
 In holy bonds of love to join
 The twain, created man.

These souls betrothed before Thee
 stand;
 Thy blessing we implore;
 Unite Thou them in heart and hand,
 And guide them evermore."

"O God of Wisdom",
 Hymns of Zion #286

We truly pray for a blessing upon Sis. Laurie Stoller (Bro. Darl and Sis. Iva) and Bro. Dennis Schlatter (Sis. Juliet, Junction) as they were united in marriage July 21. We hope as they walk together in the Lord, their lives will be a glory to Him.

We are glad to see Bro. Ralph Stoller (Sis. Ruth) is home from the hospital after surgery.

"For though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel!"

I Corinthians 9:16

As Paul felt that he should not be glorified for his ministry, we appreciate the same feelings of our own ministers in the faith. We trust the Lord to bless the brothers who willingly proclaim the gospel. Those who visited Latty were: Bro. Henry Dotterer (Rittman), Bro. Eugene Fetter (Toledo), Bros. Bill Schlatter and Sam Schlatter (Junction) and Bro. Ron Schambach (Elgin).

OHIO, MANSFIELD
Linda Morrison

Hospital patients for the past month were: Bro. Ed Beer (Thelma) for surgery; Bro. Dave Beer (Sis. Lena); Jenny Banks (Bro. Larry and Sis. Nancy) for surgery; Sis. Dorothy Gerber

(Wayne); Sis. Dora Sauder (Bro. Ora) and Sis. Ruth Weiss (Carl). As God provides renewed strength and health according to His will, may each realize more fully "... all things work together for good for those who love the Lord." Oftentimes in illness and distress we feel God is far from us. It makes one wonder if God is giving opportunity to those round and about to be used... maybe God is waiting for a brother or sister to reach out in love, to put their arm around the suffering and say, "I love you, I care that you are hurting, I am here if you need me." Have we said that to those near to us either in word or with deed?

We were blessed to have Bro. Ed Aeschleman (Philadelphia, PA) with us for mid-week services. "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth..." Romans 1:16. May God continue to inspire faithful brothers to proclaim salvation through Jesus.

A birthday party was held recently for Sis. Millie Matthes. She celebrated her 96th birthday.

I love the dear aged waiting for their great eternity; They make a very lovely picture... at least it seems so to me; I find such beauty in the lines that touch an aged face, And seek the old with eagerness, that I might grow in grace. Such loveliness I see in hands blue-veined and wrinkled, too; And envision all the tasks those dear hands did, when they were strong and true!

Anonymous

OHIO, RITTMAN
Judy Stoller

**LIFE IS A MIXTURE
 OF SUNSHINE AND RAIN**

Life is a mixture
 of sunshine and rain,
 Laughter and teardrops,
 pleasure and pain —
 Low tides and high tides,
 mountains and plains,
 Triumphs, defeats
 and losses and gains —
 But always in all ways
 God's guiding and leading
 And He alone knows
 the things we're most needing —
 And when He sends sorrow
 or some dreaded affliction,

Be assured that it comes
with God's kind benediction —
And if we accept it
as a gift of His love,
We'll be showered with blessings
from our Father above.

Helen Steiner Rice

We have been reminded that sometimes in our lives as we come in contact with others, we are the only Bible they ever have the opportunity to read. We should, therefore, walk as an example of righteousness. We were also exhorted that the trials in our life show God's love for us. As with the Apostle Paul, who was given a thorn in the flesh, we sometimes need a thorn in the flesh to keep us from becoming too proud. God resists the proud but gives grace to the humble. We should be glad that God loves us so much that He is willing to allow things to come into our lives to keep us humble so that He can work through us better and lead us to our heavenly home some day.

We are always thankful for brothers who are willing to visit our congregation and bring us God's Word. Those visiting us in the past month were Bro. Walter Anliker (Eureka, IL), Bro. Bill Gerst (Alto, MI), Bro. Ron Palitto (Akron, OH), Bro. Ben Manz (Junction, OH) and Bro. Marvin Stieglitz (Leo, IN). We thank each one and wish them continued grace in bringing forth the message of salvation.

We also were privileged to host the Fort Sam Reunion on August 10. We appreciate all those who came and shared a blessed weekend. It is our prayer that they, too, could receive many blessings and will visit us again.

It always saddens us to hear of those who are in pain and distress. Hospitalized last month were Bro. John Steiner (Sis. Wilma), Bro. Harry Gasser (Sis. Marguerite), Sis. Ruth Ingold, Dean Ramsier (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Terri), Joan Gasser (Ralph) and Randy Saylor. May they each one have faith to believe that God's grace is sufficient to see them through these times of adverse conditions and that He will provide their needs.

Blest with the arrival of their second son, Shane Kelly, are Loren and Chris Rufener. Shaun will be glad for a new playmate. Grandparents are Bro. Duane and Sis. Marge Collins (Akron, OH) and Bro. Joe and Sis. Lilas Rufener (Smithville, OH).

On August 11, Bro. Greg Gasser

(Bro. Emmet and Sis. Marie) and Sis. Sue Ellen Schneider (Bro. Wilbur and Sis. Marge, Rockville, CT) were united in holy matrimony. May God continue to guide them in His will even as He did in drawing them together.

Please excuse us if the news for Smithville and Rittman is repetitious. Lynne Uhler, daughter of Dale and Sis. Marilyn and Tammy Hartzler, daughter of Bro. Ken and Sis. Jane, are seeking the Lord. We were still one congregation when they started seeking the Lord; however, they will now be attending the Smithville church.

Although we now have two congregations at Smithville and Rittman, we will still be together on Wednesday nights for our worship services and also for Sunday night song service. The first, third and fifth Wednesday nights of each month, services will be held at the Rittman church. The second and fourth Wednesday nights of each month, the services will be held at the Smithville church. The services will start at 8:00 p.m. at both churches. On the second Sunday evening of each month the song service will be held at the Rittman church at 7:30 p.m. while the fourth Sunday of each month the song service will be held at the Smithville church at 7:30 p.m.

OHIO, SMITHVILLE Verla Stoller

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

Another church has been established. Our first services were held August 4. We thank God for His direction and blessings during the planning and building of it. We pray that each one who assembles with us might feel that same Spirit of unity and love flowing from heart to heart. Our ministering brothers are Bro. Ben Hartzler, Bro. Gary Maibach, Bro. Andy Stoller and Bro. Vic Bauman. Sunday school starts at 9:30, morning services at 10:30, and afternoon services at 1:00. Midweek services are here on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month, and at Rittman on the first, third and fifth Wednesdays, starting at 8:00. Sunday night singing will be at Rittman on the second Sunday and

here on the fourth Sunday, starting at 7:30.

We are thankful for the visiting ministers who have assembled with us. They are Bro. Tom Leman (Denver, CO), Bro. Art Bauer (Princeville, IL) and Bro. Ken Indermuhle (Sardis, OH). May God bless each one of them for being willing to bring us God's Word.

Seeds of goodness we are sowing
In the hearts of man today.
Bless it, Lord, that it may prosper,
And bear fruit for harvest day.

Children come the grain to gather,
While the morning sun doth shine;
And ere long, beloved brethren,
It will be your harvest time.

Now the field is ripe for harvest;
Let us then all garner in;
For if we should stand here idle,
Who would bring the sheaves of grain?
Hymns of Zion #46

We can see in God's creation around us that summer is past and fall is here. Soon the leaves will be turning from green to golds, reds and browns, and the farmers will be gathering in their harvest. We are thankful for the souls who have realized God's harvest time is drawing nearer also, and have given their lives to Him. Our new converts are Lynne Uhler (Dale and Sis. Marilyn), Tammy Hartzler (Bro. Ken and Sis. Jane) and Kathy Dotterer (Bro. Keith and Sis. Linda). We wish each one God's grace and strength to continue, as they experience a true repentance and conversion.

Bro. Mark and Sis. Sue Steiner welcome a new little daughter, Megan Sue. Her brothers and sisters are Marcia, Milan, Sheri, Steve and Sharla. Grandparents are Bro. Jim and Sis. Dorothy Ramsier and Bro. Alvin and Sis. Eldora Steiner.

Dennis and Shari Indermuhle are the parents of a new little son, Jason Edward. His brother, Kyle, is glad for a little playmate. Grandparents are Bro. Darrell and Sis. Janet Indermuhle.

We also have those who have been hospitalized due to sickness this past month. They are Sis. Carolyn Gasser, Sis. Terri Stoller (Bro. Ron) and Aaron Bauman (Bro. Vic and Sis. Brenda). We are thankful to report that all have returned home again.

OHIO, TOLEDO
Frances Laidig
Josephine Rehkla

Now it is accomplished! My soul He
 hath healed;
 A portion in heaven to me He hath
 sealed.
 O, may He direct me through joy and
 through ill;
 I'll never forsake Him, but follow Him
 still.

"Now It Is Done",
 Zion's Harp #209, vs. 5

This was the accomplishment of a joyful weekend when we heard the testimonies and witnessed the baptisms of Bro. Rolland Whittaker and his wife, Sis. Herma. These two precious souls have now become children of the King, heirs of His eternal kingdom and have their names written in the "Book of Life" which is in heaven. "I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth . . ." St. Luke 15:7.

Bro. Walter Rehkla has retired from the ministry because of his health. He has served our congregation faithfully with the help of the Lord for many years. We wish him, his dear wife, Sis. Freda, and his family God's rich blessings.

Bro. Ray Schlatter (Sis. Corrine) is now our new minister. Bro. Walter Rager is our correspondent and Bro. Eugene Fetter is his assistant. We pray that God will always bless and guide them as they work in His service for the preservation of our most precious faith that, through grace, many souls may come to the knowledge of the truth.

Elder Bros. Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI) and Aaron Steffen (Alto, MI) were with us for the administration of this work of the Lord. We truly felt the presence of God in our midst.

We extend our thanks to Bro. Marvin Lehman and his wife, Sis. Jane (Bradford, IL) for sharing their time with us at our Thursday evening service. It was an added blessing to have them with us.

As the time was approaching for the brethren to assemble for the annual conference at Morton, IL, it was our prayer that God would reveal His will in the ways which will lead to love and unity in His body of believers.

Our senior Sunday school class, with their teacher and parents, attended Fellowship Day at Mansfield, OH. We

thank the Mansfield Sunday school for their labor of love in hosting this occasion.

OREGON, PORTLAND
Barbara Moser

If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me.

Luke 9:23

In everyday life we like to take shortcuts, and this is not always bad. Many times it is even advisable. For example, efficiency is desirable, so it is good to buy word processors, microwave ovens and other appliances in order to save time. On the other hand, gambling and purchasing lottery tickets is morally wrong because it is trying to get something for which we have not worked for.

In our relationship to God, all shortcuts are bad. Simon the sorcerer is an example of someone who failed to realize this. He had a selfish desire to gain spiritual authority and power. Very likely he was not truly saved. I'm afraid that today many people, like him, claim to be Christians for the wrong reasons. They may be looking for an easy out from their self-created problems, or perhaps they want instant prosperity. They fall away, however, when they discover that it costs something to follow Christ.

Jesus said that the path of discipleship is one of dying daily to self, to sin, and to the world. That road may be rough and steep, but it will bring heaven into your heart before you get there. You'll rejoice that you didn't try to take a shortcut.

Jesus, I my cross have taken,
 All to leave and follow Thee
 Destitute, despised, forsaken -
 Thou from hence my all shall be.

Lyte

The word "easy" appears only once in the New Testament and then in connection with "yoke".

We have had many summer visitors the past month. It is always a great blessing to be able to meet and greet brothers and sisters-in-faith. Even though some of us have never met before, there is that bond of love that flows from heart to heart. We were able to have Bro. Ron Steiner (Rittman) with us this past Sunday. Thank you for your labor of love.

OREGON, SILVERTON
Rosa Lee Kuenzi

A farewell potluck supper and singing was held in the Silverton Grange recently for Bro. Ron and Sis. Liz Jones and little Lee. A Myrtlewood Clock shaped like the State of Oregon was given to them to remind them that there are many loved ones here who will keep them in their hearts and prayers. Bro. Ron is a Professor of Micro-Biology and Oceanography and will be working at a college near Fort Lauderdale, FL. We wish them God's richest blessings and grace as they settle into their new surroundings.

August 3 was the wedding day for Jack Kuenzi (Bro. Rich and Sis. Rosa Lee) and Janet Rush (LeRoy and Rose). The following words were printed on the cover of their invitation: "Marriage . . . Trust is the start of it, Joy is part of it, Love is the heart of it." We wish them much trust, joy and love and God's blessings on their hearts and home.

Our very much appreciated visiting ministers this past month were Bro. Earl Gerber (Forrest, IL), Bro. Duane Kilgus (Fairbury, IL), Bro. Gene Lehman (Wolcott, IN) and Bro. Ronald Steiner (Rittman, OH). Each of these brothers' dear wives and some of their children accompanied them. We were very pleased that they included Silverton in their travel plans and especially thankful to them for ministering God's Holy Word to us.

Sis. Millie (Bro. Clarence) Dietrich was a hospital patient for a few days this month but is able to assemble with us again, for which we are thankful. May God give her much grace and courage in her continuing battle for health. How many of us take our "wonderfully made", well-functioning bodies for granted? Lord, help us to remember to thank you for all blessings, known and unknown to us. Another dear one spending time in the hospital this month was Sis. Judie (Bro. Ed) Knecht. She, too, is feeling better again. How often we can be encouraged by the courage of others and inspired by the uncomplaining acceptance of God's will that we see in our brothers and sisters. These two sisters and their supportive families have been a light and example to others in facing serious illness with grace.

 Give Your Address Change
 To Your Reporter

**PENNSYLVANIA,
PHILADELPHIA**

Ann Gasser

Our love and best wishes are with Bro. Ron and Sis. Karen Laparo, Michael and Christy as they have moved back to Ohio. We have fond memories of the times we spent together in the past 1½ years.

Bro. John Clough is the new Sunday school superintendent and teacher of the Bible class.

Our visiting minister this month was Bro. Leland Hirschey, who made the trip from New York with his family. We express our appreciation.

SILVER THREADS

THE MAN AND THE PRINTER

And it came to pass that a Man went up to the house of the Printer, and the Printer wrought a work upon his press. And the Man beheld that the Printer was engaged in printing pictures in the full color as they appeared to the eyes of mankind.

And the Man saith unto the Printer, how is it that thou printest so many colors upon the paper? And the Printer replied that he useth but four colors of ink to produce a picture in full color. And the Printer moreover saith that these colors be red, yellow, blue and black. Behold, said the Printer, it is the eye of the camera which separateth these colors so that the picture can be true to life.

As the Man gazed in wonder, he saw first the yellow color only on the white paper, and the image was pale and indistinct. The next color to be printed was black, at which time there became a sharp contrast, but the image was lacking much in beauty, and was not of glorious color. And it was so that the Printer next applied the red color, and once again the image changed and some details seemed as though finished while others were still incomplete. And it came to pass as the Man, standing by, looked on, the Printer applied the blue color, and lo, the image became a completed picture, glorious as in nature herself.

And it came to pass as the Man wended his way homeward, he reflected upon what he had seen, and it came to him that the process of printing in many ways resembled the process of life itself.

In infancy, childhood and early youth, life is as yellow upon white, clean, yet pale and indistinct. When man reaches the age of accountability, the blackness of sin and the experiences of life, entering in, change the image to that of black and yellow, with details discernable to the eye, yet much lacking in perfection and true satisfaction. And behold, thought the Man to himself, it is true that multitudes pass through life never going beyond the state of black and yellow, running the whole course of life without ever experiencing true satisfaction which is the communion with the true and living God.

But lo, saith the Man to himself, our God hath prepared a way whereby we can be redeemed from the curse of sin, and burst forth into newness of life. And it is so that the course of life to follow can finally become a picture in full color. The red is symbolized by the precious shed blood of Jesus Christ, which is applied to a truly repentant heart, cleansing sin and adding grace, which brings forth the blush of redness, which speaketh of Life.

And behold, the experiences of living under God's grace, as the blue of sky is reflected in life day by day, bringeth forth within the heart the full color, and so, at the end of our days, we are a completed image of our Savior.

And the Man perceived that it is the eye of God that separateth the colors, and lo, it is very good.

THE QUESTION OF QUESTIONS

"What think ye of Christ?" is the test,

To try both your state and your scheme

You cannot be right in the rest,

Unless you think rightly of Him:

As Jesus appears in your view —

As He is beloved or not,

So God is disposed to you,

And mercy or wrath is your lot.

Some call Him a Saviour, in word,

But mix their own works with His plan;

And hope He His help will afford,

When they have done all that they can:

If doing prove rather too light

(A little they own they may fail),

They purpose to make up full weight,

By casting His name in the scale.

Some style Him "the Pearl of great price,"

And say, He's the fountain of joys;
Yet feed upon folly and vice,

And cleave to the world and its toys:
Like Judas, the Saviour they kiss,

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

If asked what of Jesus I think,

Though still my best thoughts are
but poor,

I say, He's my meat and my drink,

My life and my strength and my store;
My Shepherd, my trust and my Friend,

My Saviour from sin and from thrall;

My Hope from beginning to end,

My Portion, my Lord and my All.

FRIENDSHIP IS A MATTER OF TIME

Friendship is really a matter of time . . .

The time that it takes to be kind,
The time that it takes to listen and talk,
To help someone find peace of mind.

Friendship is really a matter of time . . .

The time that it takes you to do
A thoughtful and generous favor
That wasn't expected of you.

The time that it takes just to answer a
call,

To let someone know that you're there.

Friendship is really a matter of time . . .

The time that you take when you care.

Amanda Bradley

Sermon . . .

(Continued from Page 32)

Christ said, ". . . that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead." Revelation 3:1. Oh, dear ones, I trust that there are none in our midst who would think as they read this account that they have this name . . . they are living and yet they are dead. What does it really mean? It means to be dead spiritually, not enlivened by the Word of God, and not being a Christian example to other people. It means to be dead, so to speak, spiritually. Yes, living, but dead as far as God is concerned. There is no hope for such a soul.

Yet, what does he tell them? There is always encouragement in the Bible, and certainly this cheers me up, enlightens me, and tells me, "Be of good courage and be of good cheer. Be patient because God is a God of love."

There is a time coming, we know, when He will change from the seat of

love to the judgment seat and then it will be too late. Now is the time, dear ones, to be ready.

The Lord said, "Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die . . ." Revelation 3:2. What are the things ready to die? Are we walking in the precious faith that was handed down by our forefathers? They learned from Paul who said, ". . . shew I unto you a more excellent way." I Corinthians 12:31.

What is that excellent way? It is the way in which the Spirit of God directs our pathways, and we are humbly submissive to it. Then and only then can we feel the presence and nearness of a great God and loving Saviour to direct our pathway.

Dear ones, it continues, ". . . for I have not found thy works perfect before God. Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent." Revelation 3:2, 3. There, again, encouragement was given to the church of Sardis. In other words, the Lord does not give up. The Lord is not slack in his promises, and He will see us to a good and blessed end.

So, if we fail and err, we are taught here in the Bible to repent and come back to being a child of God. That is what Jesus is saying.

What did Jesus do for us, dear ones? Often I am encouraged by thinking that Jesus went all the way. He didn't stop part of the way, did He? He could have come here upon earth and said, "I am the Son of God and I preach the Word." But how many would have believed it, dear ones? There is only a remnant today who believe the true gospel message. Jesus went all the way. He went to the cross to a bitter death for you and for me. We should have been nailed to that cross. I should say, I should have been nailed to the cross. I cannot speak for you, but I was one of the chiefest of sinners, without a hope of entering into the eternal heaven, and God struck me down. How thankful I am that I came to the knowledge of the truth, repented, and will meet the loved ones who have gone on before.

May I share something with you, dear ones? My dear old aunt who is still living in Morton wrote me a beautiful message. I will never forget it. She said, "Harold, keep striving!" That is a beautiful message. I am sure that there are some here whose loved ones have gone into eternity to their great reward.

This aunt I am speaking of is well up in her nineties. She struggled and kept the faith. She has been a dear aunt to me, and what an encouraging letter that was when I was grieving.

Perhaps you do not know this, dear ones, but I never knew my real mother. Nevertheless, I am encouraged by the Word of God to believe that someday I will meet her on yonder shore. To make this come to pass, I have to do something. I have to stay true and faithful. I have to do what the Bible tells me to do. I am encouraged when I read the accounts of what was written to these churches.

The Lord said, "Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard . . ." How have we received, dear ones? We were brought to church as tiny children and were taught in the Sunday school, many of us. Some, perhaps, were not from our precious faith. It doesn't matter how we learned about the holy Bible and the way that we should go. What matters is that we bring ourselves to God and say, "Lord, I need to repent. I need to become one of Your children." Then, it says here, ". . . hold fast." If we have erred along the way, as He told the church at Sardis, "Repent . . . become converted again . . . you still have a chance . . . there is always hope," or words to that effect.

Then He said, "If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee." Revelation 3:3.

Yes, the Bible tells us to watch and pray. We sing that beautiful hymn, "Watch and Pray". In another hymn, we sing, "Trust and obey, For there's no other way To be happy in Jesus".

But here the Lord tells them, "Thou hast a few names even in Sardis which have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with me in white: for they are worthy." Revelation 3:4.

There are those, perhaps, who would like to dispute the Bible and say, "God's grace and love are so wonderful. Certainly we can take along a few things when that time comes. He will be merciful with us." I don't read the Bible that way, dear ones. I feel that the longer we are in the "ship of faith", the more we have a tendency to have something cling to us. You might say it is only our outer garment, but no, it's the soul. It is not the outer part that will defile us. Jesus said (you remember the story), ". . . whatsoever thing from

without entereth into the man, it cannot defile him; . . . That which cometh out of the (heart of) man, that defileth the man." Mark 7:18, 20. As long as we are here on earth, we have an enemy of the soul and he is seeking to destroy us, so we have to fight that good fight of faith.

But the Lord tells us that there are a few who have not defiled their garments. Dear ones, we are encouraged like this precious church that he spoke to. "He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels." Revelation 3:5.

Let us consider the church of Philadelphia which we so often refer to in our household of faith. It is a church of love.

What is love, dear ones? Do you know that the only way that love is effective is to give it away? If we keep it, it doesn't really work, does it? But if we give it away, it is effective. It keeps going and going. Did you ever notice that? If we have a church that is based upon the love of God, that church will stand.

I could speak to you of a particular church that has no youth in it any more. Will that church endure the test of time? No, dear ones, it is going to fail. Why? Because they do not have any youth. We have our young people. We have many young people in the church in Gridley. You have your young people here. Our churches will endure by the grace of God because we have young people who are still coming to the knowledge of the truth. Their parents are teaching them. The Sunday school teachers are telling the doctrines of the truth, the message that they want to hear.

I have never forgotten the time years ago when I was told to go to the university to speak to the young people. I reluctantly tried to refuse because I do not have the ability to speak to young people. There are other brethren who can do this. Do you know what a brother said to me? He said, "Go and tell them the truth. They want the truth." I believe that is true, dear ones. I solemnly believe it. Our youth today want the truth. They want to hear the gospel message.

Here the Lord speaks to the church of Philadelphia. He says, "I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an

open door, and no man can shut it . . ." Revelation 3:8. Dear ones, we have that open door in our beloved church. I would like to refer to it in this way: there is no one barred from our church. Our doors are open. People sometimes say, "You have a nice church, but I've never been in it."

Do you know what I say to them? "You're welcome there. No one is barred from our church. You can come and worship with us. We would appreciate it." I believe that this is in your hearts also.

Here we read, "I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name." Revelation 3:8. Can we rejoice in that, dear ones? It is often said that we have "a little strength", and we are encouraged to continue onward because we have kept the Word. We have not denied Jesus' name.

Oh, dear ones, let us stop and consider that the Lord said, "Whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven." Matthew 10:33. We cannot be ashamed of Jesus Christ. Why? Because He suffered for us. He died for us. He arose victorious. His victory has been achieved. Now we can look forward to victory, if we stay faithful as the church of Philadelphia did.

Jesus said, "Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee. Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth." Revelation 3:9, 10.

In His priestly praying in chapter seventeen of Saint John, the Lord didn't ask that we should be taken from this world, but He said to God the Father, "I pray . . . that thou shouldest keep them from the evil." John 17:15. What did he mean, dear ones? He asked for God's care of His children, even for you and me in the twentieth century, today. That priestly prayer is still in effect.

When we have spiritual problems (or maybe I stand alone), have you found that it is we who are at fault? We fall upon our knees and say, "Lord, Thou knowest all things, and Thou knowest

that I'd like to serve you much better." Then as soon as we have that humble spirit, God pours anew His healing balm into our hearts.

Oh, dear ones, we can rejoice in the Lord that we have the precious heritage which has been given to us; and that we have kept a little faith, even as this church of which He said, ". . . thou hast kept the word of my patience . . . Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown. Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out . . ." Revelation 3:10, 11, 12.

Dear ones, on us will be written the name of the city of God.

Then He tells us that there is a church where there is nothing fruitful in the fellowship that they have. Nothing fruitful . . . they are not bringing forth the fruit that God requires.

The Lord says, "I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spew thee out of my mouth." Revelation 3:15, 16. What a disastrous condition this would be in which to dwell, dear ones, that God would not know us.

They fellowship together; they meet in the church, but according to Scripture, they are lukewarm. They do not have the Spirit of God, the Holy Spirit, to direct them. They do not have a messenger to teach them. Can the blind lead the blind, the Bible asks us? No, because they will both fall into the ditch.

I will relate a little story to you rather quickly, dear ones. When I was placed in the ministry, there was a dear one in our community who was not of our faith. (I do not stand up here to denounce any other faith. When I taught Sunday school, the young people would ask this question, "Harold, do you think the Apostolic Christians are the only ones who are going to heaven?" I said, "Oh, no. It is those who do the will of God." We are not here upon earth to judge.) Anyway, this lady said to my dear wife, "Oh, he is placed in the ministry. He will make a lot of trips to the library, and thus and thus." My dear wife said to her, "No, he is just going to make a few more trips to the Bible."

I believe that the Bible is the Word of God. It is something that we are in need of that we can use every day of our

lives. I look forward to Sundays. I'm sure you do likewise. We have the Bible in our home. We can open the Bible and read it. It is encouraging. I would always advocate that we should read it every day. I try to. I'm not saying that I am always successful.

When we stop and consider, we have one special day to worship God, and then we go out on the battlefield for six days. We have to struggle. Often it is a struggle, is it not, dear ones, in our various occupations and our various walks of life?

I think of the tiller of the soil. What a wonderful occupation. I was brought up on a farm and when I was out on the tractor, it was just me and God. Those who are tillers of the soil certainly have something to rejoice in, just God and you.

But when you are serving the public, you are put to test. I'm sure that there are those here who understand what I am saying. Often we have to be careful, very careful, that we are not misled.

The Lord said, "So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spew thee out of my mouth. Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked." Revelation 3:16, 17.

In other words, they have nothing at all according to this Scripture. They have not prepared, or put on the wedding garment.

Here it says He spewed them out of His mouth because they were lukewarm.

He also said, "As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent. 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. To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne." Revelation 3:19, 20, 21.

We have something wonderful to look forward to. I am sure that every one of us in this afternoon hour has been encouraged by reading about these various churches. We have often referred to the church of Philadelphia as the church of love, and we certainly want to be a church of love, do we not, dear ones? Let us learn from and use this in our daily walk.

FEB 02602
CHARLES WALDER

LK

EAST LYNN

IL 60932

SERMON BY BRO. HAROLD SCHMIDGALL OF GRIDLEY, IL

Text: Revelation 3

Yes, "He that hath an ear (to hear), let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches." Revelation 3:33. I trust, dear ones, that our ears will be open and our hearts receptive to the Word of God. As we read in the Beatitudes, if we hunger and thirst after righteousness, we shall be filled. We shall be nourished according to the will of God and according to our individual needs here upon earth.

It came to mind as I finished reading this chapter, dear ones, "... to him that overcometh . . .". In the twenty-first chapter in Revelation the Bible tells us, "He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son (and daughter)." Revelation 21:7.

Dear ones, we have something to strive for, do we not? A great marriage feast is coming. We read that our time on earth is a time of preparation, a time to put on the wedding garment, a time to prepare for the wedding feast that is going to take place. Chapter nineteen tells of the wedding feast and of the garments that are white and pure. The time of preparation is at hand.

In Revelation we can read the accounts of seven churches. John the divine, while on the isle of Patmos, was taken up in the Spirit and all these things were revealed to him. We do not fully understand or comprehend, perhaps, but John had the privilege of going into the seventh heaven to see what is in store for you and for me, dear ones. He could see into the future, and what a joy it was for John to be able to see and comprehend those things.

When we read what Christ said to the various churches and of the account which was given of the ways in which those churches were walking, I thought, and I am sure you did too, of one church in particular. The church that is named Philadelphia is a church of love. Dear ones, we certainly want to

be a church that has the love of God within us, distributing to the necessity of the saints and to those about us, and living a life that shows others that we are striving to do the will of God.

What is the will of God, dear ones? The will of God is this: "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." Matthew 6:33. So often our hearts are set on material things, but the Bible tells us specifically to be concerned about the soul and its welfare.

When we look back into the time of the book of Genesis, man was created by God and placed in the Garden of Eden, a beautiful place. If we could only visualize how pretty it was there in the garden. There was no evil, but there was a cunning adversary of the soul even then who came to disturb the thoughts of Adam and Eve. God had said that they could partake of the fruit of every tree except that of one tree in the midst of the garden. He told them not to eat its fruit.

We know the story, do we not, dear ones? Then came Satan. He comes today, perhaps not as he did then, but he still comes in a beguiling way to try to destroy what God has planned.

When Satan came to Eve, the conversation went something like this. He said, "Doesn't it look good?" But Eve said, "God told us not to eat it, or else we will die." Satan was cunning, so he said, "No, you won't die," and he told the truth in part as they did not die immediately.

Today Satan still tells us somewhat the truth, does he not? He tells us that we don't have to do thus and thus, and that God is merciful and will bring us to a good and blessed end. I am sure I do not stand alone, dear ones, in this. He often brings such thoughts to us. I know a brother who has been in the ministry for many years and I highly

esteem this brother. He brings forth a wonderful message of God, and his walk of life illustrates that he is a child of God. Not long ago, he said, "Harold, oh, I feel so bad sometimes because of the thoughts I get in my heart." Dear ones, can you see how Satan is working? I'm sure that in this latter time he is working overtime seeking to destroy us.

In the Garden of Eden Satan's work was effective, because it was there that sin entered into the world. You and I were the recipient of this. We were born into this world as sinners, but we can overcome through Jesus' death in our behalf. Jesus' message was to repent for the kingdom of God is at hand. The one who comes in true repentance, becomes converted, and has the blessed peace that the Lord gives has the kingdom of God within him.

Dear ones, can we have that true Spirit of God within our hearts and then cling to the world? We heard this morning that we cannot do this. We have to be a true child of God, faithfully seeking to walk the narrow pathway. This afternoon we have the accounts of the churches. Let us look a little at these.

To the church of Sardis, the Lord said, "These things saith he that hath the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars; I know thy works . . ." Revelation 3:1. We can see, dear ones, that there is nothing hid from God.

There is a time coming when the evil deeds which we have tried to cover up will be "shouted from the housetops". We are taught that we will all have to come to the judgment throne to meet the deeds that we have done, whether they be good or evil. If we are not reconciled to God, we all know the story, do we not? Then we have no promise of life eternal in the heavens above.

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