

The Silver Lining

For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse.
Romans 1:20

A LIGHT FOR BELIEVERS

Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.
Romans 8:21

VOLUME 35

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NUMBER 10

Autumn Leaves . . .

What Can They Teach Us?

Can we learn from the beauty of Autumn? Are there lessons that autumn leaves can teach us? Absolutely!

Autumn is a sign of the end of the "life" span of the leaf. The leaves and foliage in the fall are a result of the nourishment, blessings and protection of God throughout the spring and summer. Likewise, our lives should testify of the hand of God upon us and over us. I Thessalonians 3:12.

We can pick up a leaf and admire it for its unique features and colors. However, we seem to appreciate the beauty of the leaves the most as we stand back and view a wooded area. It is then that we can see the blending of the colors and the beautiful way in which the individual trees and leaves compliment each other. So, too, as the body of Christ, we admire the unique and individual qualities and characteristics of each member of the body. Yet, the body of Christ may very well present its most glorious picture when love and unity binds us together and the Holy Spirit uses our individuality to bring out the beauty in those around us. I Corinthians 12:18.

Another lesson that can be learned is in the way that God plans for His creation to "go out in a blaze of glory!". In the beauty of autumn, one can find no hint of the death of winter. Instead, we are reminded of new life to come in the spring. We, as believers, face an end to this life as we know it. May the beauty and majesty of God in our present lives testify, not of an uncertain end, but of the promise of a glorious resurrection to a new life and body.

"Knowing that He which raised up the Lord Jesus shall raise up us also by Jesus, and shall present us with you."

II Corinthians 4:14

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

— OPEN HOUSE —

Apostolic Christian Resthaven
2750 West Highland Avenue
Elgin, Illinois

Apostolic Christian Resthaven is a not-for-profit, skilled/intermediate long-term care facility. Established by the Apostolic Christian Church of Elgin, IL, the mission is two fold in nature, religious and charitable. To achieve the mission, the residents' self worth and dignity will be established by encouraging and assisting them in retaining or reacquiring their independence.

Apostolic Christian Resthaven is committed toward providing a loving, Christian, home-like atmosphere where high quality health care services

are provided. We will strive to provide services to residents in accordance with God's Word, through prayer and deed.

Apostolic Christian Resthaven was spiritually dedicated to our Lord on Sunday, October 6, 1985. A luncheon/orientation for professionals occurred Wednesday, October 9. Resident admittance is planned to begin between October 21 and November 1.

An official open house for the local community and others is scheduled for Saturday, November 23 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend.

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



THE SILVER LINING

Grabill, Indiana 46741
USPS 496780

EDITORIAL STAFF:

Lynn Stieglitz
Albert Frautschi
David Bertsch

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

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Counselors: Theo Beer, Loren Stoller,
David Bertsch, Phillip Stettner

SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO:

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IN MEMORY — EDITORS:
HENRY SOUDER
EDWARD SOUDER

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
September 1985 —	1369	2245

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

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.

TEACHING POSITION AVAILABLE IN ATHENS, AL

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

For additional information call or write:

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

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

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME

Uriel Gehring

Autumn is here, along with all the beauty and exciting times that accompany the fall season. Beauty manifests itself in God's great artistry in painting the leaves of the trees in their various fall colors, reminding us there is but one master painter. The corn fields are ripe for harvest, and ours is a bounteous one this year. They testify of the reproduction process. The ripe orange pumpkins that dot certain fields are also evidence of His beauty. The exciting times we look forward to are campfires with wiener and marshmallow roasts and hymn singing, hikes in the woods, bicycle rides and just enjoying the crisp fall air. How invigorating it is after summer's blazing heat.

The children are now acclimated to their school routine and are generally enthused about it. The challenge of learning new things is always exciting. Some of the children, if they are interested, partake in extracurricular activities. Their homework, for the most part, is done in the lovely classroom in the lower level of the new administration building right after school during their assigned time slot. When they gather round the table for the evening meal, they are finished with their homework which creates a relaxed atmosphere for enjoying the last meal of the day. After supper they have some assigned tasks such as cleaning the table, doing the dishes or vacuuming the floor until bedtime which is 9:00 - 9:30. They usually have some free time to relax or whatever before going to

bed. By 10:00 all is generally quiet. The next morning at 6:00 activity starts again and everyone bursts into a new day. The first school bus leaves at 7:15 a.m.

Our new barn has two occupants, a gilt due to farrow in late October, and Dude, a horse owned by a staff member. We are getting a more "countrified" look. We have also acquired two little puppies, and already a friendship between the children and them has been established. Having to feed and take care of a pet teaches the child responsibility. It also teaches them the importance and the reward for being kind to all living things.

We were recent Sunday guests of the Toledo, OH church. How pleasant was the drive along the mighty Maumee River as the sun was rising. Its bright rays were reflected upward as they danced on the rippling water. The fellowship was warm and friendly as we shared the love of God with our Toledo brethren. Love becomes meaningful only when it is shared, so let's share it often. Love binds us together, and God's love knows no bounds. It is greater far than tongue or pen can ever tell. Thank you, Toledo church, for your sharing with us.

----- APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

ANNUAL BENEFIT DAY

November 15, 1985
9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

GIFTS

CRAFTS

BAKED GOODS

PLANTS

LUNCHEON 10:30 - 1:00

Mark your calendars! We hope to see you then!

Butter-soft and mellow autumn is with us. Wild geese are penciling their notes of music across the sky, and the blackbirds are holding their annual pre-flight consultation and chorus practice before winging their way southward for the fourteenth time since our Home began its operation in October of 1971. Memories, many of them beautiful, lay indelibly inscribed.

The expressions of grateful parents; finally succeeding in achieving a specific goal with a resident; remembering how members of the nursing staff wept at the death of a resident, (Behold, how

He loved him . . . John 11:36) and also remembering the ongoing encouragement given by residents to each other, are never-to-be-forgotten soul-stretching memories of the Home.

While these poignant, internal glimpses of life here are precious to relate, they are no more important to us than those from outside the Home. We think of the volunteers who have served so faithfully year after year and of those many brethren and friends who have quietly supported us with financial assistance and with their effective prayers. Though they may be numerous, our heavenly Father knows each of them and knows the various sacrifices which they might have made. Need we doubt their promised rewards?

Looking ahead, we expect both shadow and sunshine in the tapestry of life, but we will remember that service to a just cause rewards the worker with more real happiness than any other venture in life. We are well aware that we cannot accomplish service to these beloved, special people on our own; we need the "prayers of those we love . . ." Hymns of Zion #201.

Our annual overnight camping trip for residents and a trip to Lincoln Zoo in Chicago are recent highlights of summer excursions. Efforts? Yes! Worthwhile? Also, yes!

"Come, my dear, take a walk with me
Down a colorful autumn lane -"
With eyes alight, she was eager to see
The Heavenly Painter's scene.

But her steps were slow, and she
faltered a bit.

With effort she stayed by my side.
Then I took her hand, (for she mustn't
quit)

And I gave her a loving smile.

Some Glorious Day, when all will be
well,

And her steps will falter no more;
'Twill be Jesus Himself who will
lovingly smile,
So happy the lame to restore.

Until then, dear ones, 'tis for you and
for me

To smile and encourage them on.
For their greatest need, as we know it
to be,

Is to love and be loved by someone.

ARIZONA, PHOENIX

Ron and Ev Hoerr

"Who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth."
Romans 8:33

On September 7 we learned of the deaths of Bro. Roy and Sis. Minnie Farney. The family and the Phoenix congregation received much comfort when 8 ministers came to assist Elder Bro. Richard Schupbach. They were Elder Bros. Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI), Ronald Nelson (Kiowa, KS), Roy Sauder (Peoria, IL), Ed Lanz (Oakville, IA), Bros. Dave Kieser (Princeville, IL), John Steiner (Oakville, IA) and Roy Wernli (Lamont, KS). Elder Bro. Ben Maibach used Romans, chapter 8 and Psalms 103 as text for his sermon. Others who labored with Bro. Roy as an elder and helped with the funeral service were Bros. Roy Sauder, Ronald Nelson, Ed Lanz and Dave Kieser.

They are survived by a son, Bob (Janet); a daughter, Sis. Rolita (Bro. Conrad) Gerst (Mediapolis, IA); 10 grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild.

Bro. Roy is also survived by Sis. Emma (Bro. Earl) Sanders, Bro. Harvey and Louis Farney. Sis. Minnie is also survived by Sis. Laverne Roth, Erma Wood, Julia Hobbs, Esther Hood and Bros. Arnold and Marvin Ott.

Interment was in the church section of East Resthaven Cemetery, Phoenix.

We rejoice in the Lord that we have 4 souls in repentance. They are Jenny Zollinger Hand (Dennis), Kelly Emch (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Cathy), Nancy Dotterer (Bro. Bill and Sis. Sharon) and Steve Miracle. We pray they will build on Christ, the firm foundation, and soon be baptized.

We will surely miss Bro. Matt Edelman as he returns to Sabetha, KS, to be with his family.

We are thankful Roy Gerst (Bro. Conrad and Sis. Rolita) will be able to worship with us as he is now stationed at Luke Air Force Base.

On Labor Day weekend the Junior and Senior Sunday school classes and teachers journeyed to California for a great weekend of Christian fellowship.

Surgical hospital patients have been Bro. Ed Frautschi and Bro. Harry Roth. Sis. Stefanie Baum was in for treatment, Sis. Ora Schrenk for tests, and Sis. Penny Schuster was in E.R.

We received rain this past week and

temperatures ranged from 57° to 106° during the week.

The Lord continues to send special visitors to brighten up our lives. The delightful hummingbirds share their feeder with the wrens and sparrows. The downey woodpeckers and catbirds fly in for a quick hello. Lizards, all sizes, slither across the patio looking up to be noticed. Can you imagine our delight when a roadrunner strolls through our back yard? Yes, dear ones, there is much delight in the things of the Lord.

Thank you: The family of Bro. Roy and Sis. Minnie Farney wish to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, flowers, gifts and the many kindnesses in their time of sorrow.

Bro. Richard and Sis. Barbara Schupbach, Sis. Doris and Bro. Dan Kokanovich wish to thank everyone for the prayers, cards and gifts on the passing of their dear Father, Bro. Sam Schupbach.

‘Peace be to the brethren, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Grace be with all them that love the Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity. Amen.’

Ephesians 6:23-24

ARIZONA, TUCSON

Lisa Knapp — Sandy Bauer

We were saddened to hear the news of the deaths of retired Elder Bro. Roy Farney and his wife, Sis. Minnie. Bro. Roy was the elder over the Tucson church for many years and provided loving support and guidance to many of us over the years. Bro. Roy and Sis. Minnie will certainly be missed by the Tucson people as we were often privileged to greet them upon our visits to Phoenix. Our sympathy goes out to their children and grandchildren in this time of sadness.

Our Sunday school students and teachers were once again blessed with a safe trip to Altadena, CA for a weekend of fellowship with the California and Phoenix Bible classes. Weekends such as these must be pleasing to the Lord as blessings always seem to abound. Teachers and students alike reported a very special time together along with much gratitude for the efforts of the Altadena congregation to make the weekend such a blessing.

Our monthly fellowship suppers and our Sunday school classes have started up again after a two month vacation over the summer.

CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA

Shirley Luthi

We recently enjoyed a barbeque and evening of fellowship and singing hymns at the Doug Aberle home. It was to welcome the new families who have relocated here in California. How blessed our little flock is by our new families.

Sis. Martha Slenker has joined us again after recovering from surgery. We are thankful to have her back among us since she experienced the Lord's healing touch.

Bro. Bill Witzig extends a sincere thanks to all who remembered him with cards, gifts, visits and prayers as he recovered from surgery. The love and support was deeply appreciated.

CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

Marian Petrovic

Our small congregation here received many rich blessings from visiting ministers this past month. Bro. Tom Luginbuhl and Bro. Carl Kinsinger (both from Altadena) fed us from the Holy Scriptures. How grateful we are for dear brethren who give of themselves so willingly.

We extend a heartfelt welcome to Bro. Doug and Sis. Lillian Wagenbach. By putting their trust in the Lord, they have found it to be His will to relocate in San Diego. They will surely be missed by the congregation in Washington, but we are thankful God has directed them here. May the Lord richly bless this dear couple.

To whatever area we move we will find that in every place there is much work to be done in God's vineyard. May we all by the grace of God diligently do our part.

Our Master has taken His journey to a country far away,
And has left us the care of the vineyard,
To work for Him day by day.

In this "little while," doth it matter,
As we work, and we watch, as we wait,
If we're filling the place He assigns us,
Be its service small or great.

There's only one thing should concern us,

To find just the task that is ours,
And then having found it to do it,
With all our God-given powers.

Our Master is coming most surely,
To reckon with every one;

Shall we then, count our toil or our sorrow,

If His sentence be, "Well done."

There's a work for me and a work for you.

Something for each of us to do;
Yes, a work for me and a work for you,
Something for each of us now to do.

Gospel Hymns #161

COLORADO, DENVER

Mike Martin — Marlene Leman

We are most thankful to the many who came out and shared in our Labor Day weekend. We hope that they were all blessed as we were. We further wish to thank the four ministers who helped to make it so: Bro. Jaye Rinkenberger (Goodfield, IL), Bro. Kevin Knapp (Bloomington, IL) and our local ministers, Bro. Tom and Bro. Mike Leman. The topic discussed was discipleship. We learned that a disciple is one who teaches others. We learned, too, that not only are we to be disciplers, but that we also need to be disciplined. May we with meekness of spirit and humbleness of heart be willing to fulfill both parts.

Bro. Wayne Banwart (Champaign, IL) was in Colorado on business and took time from his busy schedule to spend a Wednesday evening with us at Bible class. May God bless you for sharing, Bro. Wayne.

CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE

Michelle Virkler

... This new birth must be accomplished

Thro' baptism and God's word . . .
Zion's Harp #187

Our hearts rejoiced as we heard the testimonies Saturday, August 31, and witnessed the baptisms Sunday, September 1, of five dear precious souls who have buried their old life and have arisen to a new life in Christ. Our new converts are Diane Andrews, Nancy and Ken Willis, Dan Crohan and Sandy Conner. Elder Bros. Alfred Bahler and Wendell Gudeman assisted during this inspirational weekend.

... Whose souls find joy and pasture
In His ways and mercies kind . . .
Zion's Harp #82

Our dear and precious friend, Valerie Luginbuhl (Bro. Ron and Sis. Kay) is

finding joy in her new walk with Him.

Our dear Bro. Richard and Sis. Lanae Aberle (children: Becky, Debra, Benjamin, Sarah) have moved to California. We will miss them and trust they will always feel the love we hold dear, and that God will be near them in their new undertaking.

Bro. Richard and Sis. Lanae's address is: 982 Chalet Circle, Thousand Oaks, CA 91360.

Bro. Steve Bahler (Bro. Lee and Sis. Maxine) has been announced to Sis. Laurie Gerber (Bro. Edwin and Sis. Beverly). An October wedding is planned.

Bro. Ken and Sis. Jan Boynton have a new little addition, Kristyn Sarah, in their family. Our dear friends, David and Lynn Luginbuhl, also have a new little bundle, Justin David.

We trust the Lord will restore those who have been in the care of a physician this month (September); Sis. Eunice Bahler and Sis. Joanne Eleiott.

Our dear brother, Ted Scheitlin, passed away Saturday, September 15. May the Lord comfort his family and keep them all in His tender care.

FLORIDA, FT. LAUDERDALE

Jeff Graf — Dale Ringger

"Blessed are ye that hunger now; for ye shall be filled." Luke 6:21. Are we blessed with the hunger that Jesus Christ speaks of in this verse? He promises to fill us. Our need could be salvation; the fruit of the Spirit; or any other good and perfect gift. All we have to do is be hungry! In heaven, God's children shall hunger and thirst no more. Revelation 7:16. May dwelling on the joys of heaven encourage us to be hungry for God's spiritual food.

FLORIDA, NORTH FORT MYERS

Marie Keller — Edna Meister

We thank our faithful minister, Bro. Dave Eisenmann, who labors in our vineyard every Sunday to bring us the Word of God. We also appreciate the labors of love Bro. Doug Sabo (Sarasota) has shown by sharing the Word with us September 8. He expressed our need to encourage one another in the faith, as well as others we know, to lift them up by acts of kindness, by writing a letter, or calling them on the telephone. We were reminded that we should make use of our opportunities to help others in need.

"This is my commandment, that ye

love one another, as I have loved you." St. John 16:12

On Wednesday evenings we have been listening to the conference tapes this past month. The conference tapes are very strengthening and encouraging to us to go forward in our Christian walk of life with a hope of eternal salvation someday if we remain true and faithful unto God.

FLORIDA, SARASOTA

Elaine Gudeman — Elda Martin

The race is complete, and the crown and victory is won for Sis. Teena Aberle (Sabetha, KS). We are thankful for her, but our hearts go out to Bro. Ben and all those so near and dear to her, for we shall miss her. We are confident that the Lord will comfort and guide each one.

Jesus knows thy sorrow, knows thine every care;
Knows thy deep contrition, Hears thy feeble prayers;
Do not fear to trust Him, Tell Him all thy grief;
Cast on Him thy burden He will bring relief.
Trust the heart of Jesus, Thou art precious there;
Surely He would shield thee from the tempter's snare;
Safely He would lead thee By His own sweet way,
Out into the glory of a brighter day.
Jesus knows thy conflict, Hears thy burdened sigh;
When thy heart is wounded, Hears thy plaintive cry;
He thy soul will strengthen, Overcome thy fears;
He will send thee comfort, Wipe away thy tears.

Hymns of Zion #74

This reporter wishes to apologize for the omission of the following from her June report:

"After sharing her beautiful testimony of faith on Sunday afternoon, we lovingly welcomed Sis. Pauline Geary to our little congregation, and to the family of God. Her testimony gave each of us encouragement to renew our own faith and vows to God and to strive to walk closer with our Lord each day."

We are thankful that George Siladie is now back with us after having had surgery. We rejoice that the Lord has

once again stretched forth His hand of healing to a loved one.

Sis. Pauline Geary has been unable to gather with us for some time now as she is being cared for at home under doctor's care. We remember her and her family in prayer and pray the Lord will grant grace for each day's trials and cares.

I cannot tell why there should come to me,
A thought of someone miles and miles away.
In swift insistence on the memory,
Unless a need there be that I should pray.
Too hurried oft are we to spare the thought
For days together of some friends away,
Perhaps God does it for us and we ought
To read His signal as a call to pray.
Perhaps just then my friend has a fiercer fight
And more appalling weakness and decay,
Of courage, darkness and some lost sense of right.
And so, in case he needs my prayer, I pray.
Friend do the same for me, if I intrude,
Unasked upon you, on some crowded day,
Give me a moment's prayer as interlude,
Be very sure I need it, therefore pray.
Author Unknown

We have such a wonderful Lord. Not only does He promise to be there in our hours of need, He also asks others to pray for us and encourage us. So, in your busy days or even as you finally rest at night, if you think of the single brethren, or a lonely older person, or a father with many responsibilities, lift them up on wings of prayer as the Lord is asking of you. Through the soft reminders of our Lord, we can strive together to reach our heavenly goal.

YOUR MISSION

If you cannot on the ocean
Sail among the swiftest fleet,
Rocking on the highest billows,
Laughing at the storms you meet,
You can stand among the sailors
Anchored yet within the bay.
You can lend a hand to help them
As they launch their boat away.
If you are too weak to journey
Up the mountains, steep and high,

You can stand within the valley
 While the multitudes go by,
 You can chant in happy measure
 As they slowly pass along;
 Though they may forget the singer
 They will not forget the song.
 If you cannot toward the needy
 Reach an ever helping hand,
 You can reach the afflicted,
 O'er the erring you can weep;
 You can be a true disciple,
 Sitting at the Saviour's feet.
 If you cannot in the harvest
 Garner up the richest sheave,
 Many a grain, both ripe and golden,
 Which the careless reapers leave;
 Go and glean among the briers
 Growing rank against the wall,
 For it may be that the shadows
 Hide the heaviest wheat of all.
 If you cannot in the conflict
 Prove yourself a soldier true;
 If where fire and smoke are thickest
 There's no work for you to do,
 When the battlefield is silent
 You can go with careful tread —
 You can bear away the wounded,
 You can cover up the dead.
 Do not, then, stand idly waiting
 For some greater work to do;
 Fortune is a lazy goddess,
 She will never come to you.
 Go and toil in My vineyard,
 Do not fear to do or dare;
 If you want a field of labor,
 You can find it anywhere.

Ellen M. Gates

How thankful we should be, that our Lord counts us worthy to labor in His vineyard. We need not have a college education, or a lot of money to give . . . just a heart full of love that is ready and willing to be spent wherever He sees fit. We do not have to travel a lot of miles to find a field to labor in, it may be just around the corner, a neighbor or a friend. It may be that stranger that you smiled at today, or a prayer you silently whispered.

Let us each one strive to serve our Lord in our own small ways, that collectively as a whole, our Lord's vineyard may grow, in quality and quantity.

We were once again blessed with a visiting minister and we thank Bro. Mark Bahr (Detroit, MI) for the refreshing message he brought us. May the seeds that were sown that day bring forth good fruit.

 Give Your Address Change
 To Your Reporter

ILLINOIS, BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL

Jan Gudeman — Nancy Kaufmann

We were privileged to hear from many visiting ministers this past month and we always appreciate their labors of love. Serving us were Bros. Fred Knapp (Congerville), Ken Knapp (Taylor, MO), Duane Kilgus (Fairbury) and Ken Weertz (Cissna Park). Our own Elder Bro. Dan Koch should be mentioned, also, as he comes over from Tremont to serve us so willingly.

We were privileged to witness a baptism of a dear soul this past month, which is always so uplifting to all of us. We know the Spirit is working in those who seek God's way. Paul Kieser (Louis and Jean Kieser, Okeechobee, FL) was baptized and we welcome him into the fold. We pray for special blessings and guidance from God for Paul.

We are in the process of listening to the tapes of the brotherhood conference which was held in August. We certainly appreciate the diligence of our elder body and all of our ministers as they work so hard to keep our precious faith in unity and help us all prepare for eternity.

ILLINOIS, BRADFORD

Marilyn Tanner

Bro. Gary and Sis. Carole Ehnlé welcomed a precious baby boy named Jarred Mark into their family August 23. His brothers and sisters are Jim, Joe, Ann and Abigail and his grandparents are Bro. Roy and Sis. Donna Ehnlé and Clarence and Mary Kelley.

This past month we have been very fortunate to have many visiting ministers to bring us God's Word. They are Bro. Ken Schneider (Remington, IN), Bro. John Steiner (Oakville, IA), Bro. Hartzell Kaisner (Detroit, MI), Bro. Steve Martin (Eureka, IL), Bro. Sam Schlatter (Junction, OH), Bro. Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL) and Bro. Joe Gerst (Iowa City, IA). We thank them and their families.

PLOWING STRAIGHT

As a farm boy weary
 At the setting of the sun,
 I occasionally pondered
 How well I'd tilled the farm.
 I'd ask myself if I
 Had plowed the furrow true,
 And if the row was straight
 As Dad had taught me to.
 I left the farm when grown

And now years like a weight
 Impress on me one question,
 "Have I been plowing straight?"
 In life, God wants thru labor,
 So when He calls our names.
 Our finished row at sunset
 Will find us unashamed.

Selected

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO

Kathy Schlatter

Do we worship "in spirit and in truth?" (John 4:23). We were instructed that listening to the Spirit gives us what we "should do" but until we act on that internal prompting, we are not worshiping in truth. Let us not be like the "Christians" in the following anecdote. I read about a very young Christian who became destitute and was mocked by others, who jeered, "Why doesn't your God tell Christians who have more to share it with you?" The ragged Christian humbly, sorrowfully replied, "I think He is telling them, but they're not listening." A brother involved in a World Relief effort was concerned and spoke to one in a foreign land: "Why do we have so much and you so little?" The one from far away was given the grace to answer, "The Lord wanted it that way, so that you can share much with us." Let us listen to the Word and act on its applications, that we may indeed be true worshippers of God.

"How precious also are thy thoughts unto me, O God! how great is the sum of them!" Psalm 139:17. May our visitors know we appreciate their coming. They were Bro. Byron Stoller (Gridley), Bro. Ralph Garber (Morton), Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville, IN) and Bro. Ray Schlatter (Toledo, OH). Bro. Dave Weigand (Champaign-Urbana) made a special trip to share thoughts about family worship with us, and Bro. Wendell also spoke at the annual Sunday school teachers' meeting. May we always support our ministers across the land (and more so at home) in prayer, in love, in fellowship and in obedience.

We seem no longer to be a small church. Lest we appear, ungrateful, let us hasten to say that we are delighted to have our newcomers coming from without and from within. To bring you (and us) up-to-date, we welcome Bro. Keith and Sis. Tammy Hinrichsen and their infant son, Joseph, originally from the Goodfield church. They are living in the Milwaukee area, where

Bro. Keith is in training in watch repair and gemology. Bro. Andy and Sis. Chris Aberle have moved from the Tremont church to Willowbrook. Bro. Andy has a job as an auditor for an accounting firm downtown, and Sis. Chris, an L.P.N., is working at a nursing home in Hinsdale. Bro. John and Sis. Tammy Baumgartner have just moved to the Lisle area from Bluffton, IN. Bro. John is working downtown in the advertising field. May we enjoy sweet fellowship with each other as our bond of Christian love expands to include them all within our family circle.

The beauty of a soul in repentance seems to come first from our hope for heaven for that one but also from the peace and teachableness of his conversation. We rejoice that Martin Hodel, son of Bro. Merle and Gayle Hodel, has found the right path, the one he has been searching for. We pray ever more earnestly that as he repents, he may be firmly grounded in this, the beginning of wisdom.

Two other newcomers share in this month of church growth. Bro. Chuck and Sis. Annie Fehr were blessed with their first child, a daughter, Rebekah Leigh, September 8. Her grandparents are Bro. Richard and Sis. Madelyn Fehr and Bro. Eugene and Sis. Evelyn Hangartner (Roanoke, IL). Bro. Andy and Sis. Kathy Pflederer also received the gift of their first child, a son, Zachary Samuel, September 14. His grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Elie Pflederer (Morton) and John and Sis. Sarah Diggle (Roanoke). May the Lord continue to guide all three generations in both families. "And the Lord thy God will circumcise thine heart, and the heart of thy seed, to love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, that thou mayest live." Deuteronomy 30:6.

Then there is the hard part. Bro. Sam and Bella Slagel have left our Chicago area to live in Sarasota, FL. We've had to share them in the winter months for a number of years. Now, though they may spend summers around Fairbury, for health reasons, we must bid them farewell. Others who have known Bro. Sam and Bella longer and have better memories than I, have told me that Bro. Sam repented and was baptized in the Chicago church. He worked in the real estate business with Baird and Warner for many years. He was valuable to the church in that capacity, especially when he served on

the building committee for our present church. One brother remembered the special brotherly love and companionship of that group, of which Bro. Sam was a part. He was a faithful contributor, easy to get along with, giving input with sound professional opinions. Bro. Sam was an active person when he was well, outgoing and very friendly. He was faithful and devout and always showed every consideration for his wife and others. Bella also was considerate of Bro. Sam and those who visited in their home. I remember well a time when she not only allowed our young daughter to play with a windup bear beating a drum — but then insisted she take the toy home as a gift.

Each one I talked to about Bro. Sam also mentioned his wisdom and wit, his sense of humor. He always had a smile and a firm handshake for each one. He was alert and thoughtful — and collected anecdotes and wise sayings to provoke thought in others, too. He contributed to a special Sunday school Christmas program some years ago, and the luncheons and potlucks at Mr. Peter's won't be the same without his inputs. This month Bro. Sam and Bella left their apartment of twenty-five years. We now say of them, as Bro. Sam said some years ago of others who were leaving then, "The scent of the roses remains in the vase long after they are gone." We'll miss Bro. Sam and Bella. May the Lord grant them life and strength as long as He wills — abundantly!

Why was I sitting there with my daughter in this pizza place waiting for our late lunch? I wasn't sure. The establishment had on a radio, but I wasn't listening until an ad for a skin care product said: "If you take care of the inside of your body, it will show on the outside." I heard that and was struck by its relevance to us in another way. If the man had been talking from a spiritual viewpoint, I would have thought the statement had come from the pulpit: If one's heart is spiritually in tune with the Lord's will, the believer's appearance outside will reflect that inside "rightness". Isn't it amazing how the Lord can bring us to an awareness of His message at any time if we are available and ready to listen?

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK
Myrna Weerts — Wilma Walder

May blessings be ours in the morning,

May gladness be ours in the night.
May the breezes but gently caress us,
And the sun give us softly its light.

In stress and in doubt and in danger
True courage and faith may we know,
And the Home Lights of God be our
beacon

Wherever we stay or we go.
Brian O'Higgins

We have felt the nearness and blessings of our heavenly Father often in the past weeks and are thankful for His continued leading and guiding.

The evening of August 6 our congregation gathered together at our fellowship hall to watch the slides of our Bro. Vernon Leman of his recent trip to four communist countries, Romania, Hungary, Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia. It makes us more thankful for the freedom we have and the blessings we can enjoy in this bountiful land we live in and mindful of those who have not as we. We thank Bro. Vernon and Sis. Viola for coming to be with us.

We have been listening to the tapes of our recent conference in Morton and appreciate the many teachings and kind admonitions of our elder brothers. It gives us much to think about and a new zeal in striving earnestly to serve our God.

Haste and seek your soul's salvation;
Heed the word of God today!
Haste to flee His condemnation;
Seek the straight and narrow way.
Evil are the worldly pleasures,
Leading to eternal fire;
Seek the everlasting treasure,
Ere the day of grace expire.

Zion's Harp #52

With this hymn in mind, our friends Bill and Wanda Maul made a beginning in faith and were baptized September 15 and welcomed as our new brother and sister-in-faith. With us for this blessed day were Elder Bros. Perry Zimmerman (Forrest), Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO) and Bob Grimm (Goodfield), Bro. Vernon Wettstein (Congerville), Bro. Fred Knapp (Congerville) and Bro. Todd Feller (LaCrosse).

Other visiting ministers during this past month were Bro. Jim Leman (Roanoke), Bro. Jim Byrd (Roanoke) and Bro. Ron Schambach (Elgin). With grateful hearts we express our appreciation for the love and effort put forth in their coming and worshipping with us.

We think often of our loved ones who are sick and unable to assemble with us. We hope they can feel our love and prayers for them. In the hospital recently were Bro. Ed Alt and Sis. Lil Feller, both surgical. Our prayer is that each will have a speedy recovery.

"Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long-suffering and doctrine."

II Timothy 4:3

Our prayers arise for Bro. Wayne Laubscher who has been entrusted with the duties of ministering the Word of God to us. We wish him the grace and guidance of God, much courage and faith and trust and may he and Sis. Gloria feel our love, support and prayers for them. May God continually inspire and strengthen our brothers who are called upon to bring forth His Holy Word and may His Word always be spoken in truth and sincerity, in season and out of season.

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE

Tammy Knapp — Joan Schrock

Having first surrendered their lives to God, Bro. Mark Roth (Bro. Keith and Sis. Pauline) and Sis. Tammy Knapp (Bro. Ralph and Sis. Linda) have the faith to believe that it is His holy will that they be united in holy matrimony. May God richly bless their lives together as they establish another Christian home where the love of God prevails.

Our prayers were with Bro. Kim Craig (Sis. Carol) and Diane Schrock (Chuck) as they were in the hospital this month. We are thankful that God has restored their health and that they are able to assemble with us.

Visiting brothers who brought us the Word were Bro. Roger Aberle (Sabetha, KS) and Bro. Bill Brake (Sardis, OH). We appreciate their willingness to lend themselves so that the Spirit of God could come forth. May God give them the strength and grace to continue in His vineyard.

A thought for the day: If your day is hemmed with prayer, it is less likely to unravel.

ILLINOIS, ELGIN

Elizabeth Schambach

Betty Bachtold

Fall is upon us and as our children and young women and men return to

their classrooms and schools of higher learning to enlighten their minds, we pray that the simple and eternal truths of God will prevail in their hearts.

Bro. Vernon Leman (Eureka) shared with us pictures of his recent trip to Eastern Europe. May God inspire us to diligently help those who are not so abundantly blest, and also to be more appreciative of His rich blessings to us.

We thank Bro. Vernon for his labors of ministry in our behalf. Also, Bros. Edwin Bahler (Remington, IN) and Willis Wiegand (Goodfield) shared the Word with us this month. May they feel God's enabling grace and strength to continue in the Lord's service.

We heartily thank the dear Rittman, OH, brothers who spent time here in our community and so ably and willingly laid the linoleum in our new Rest Home. May God bless each of them. It is a privilege and joy to work together in the final stages of completion in the Home. We anticipate admissions of loved ones to begin mid-October. Open House will follow on Saturday, November 23, from 1:30 to 4:00 p.m.

Jim Jepson (Bro. Dave and Sis. Millie) and Carlene Fehr (Bro. Larry and Sis. Carol, West Bend, IA) have announced their engagement and have set November 9 for their wedding day. May God bless these dear ones as they plan their future.

Our hospital patients this month have been Sis. Cecelia Braun, Bro. Albert Schambach, who underwent hip surgery, and Bro. Calvin Weiss, who suffered the misfortune of falling out of a tree and submitted to surgery also. Calvin is still hospitalized. Bro. Don Schambach, who received a kidney implant from his brother, Bro. Les, returned to the hospital in Iowa City for further treatment. We are thankful for God's healing hand and may it be His will to restore each one to good health.

We are privileged to listen to the tapes of the brotherhood meeting in Morton and are encouraged to pick up our cross and follow in the Lord's footsteps. May the unity of the Holy Spirit and the love of God dwell richly in all our hearts.

The family of Lydia Reber would like to thank everyone for their love, prayers, cards and many deeds of kindness. May God bless each one.

Our sincere thanks to brethren and friends for prayers, cards, gifts and deeds of love extended to us during our

recent surgeries. May God bless each one.

In Christian love,
Bros. Les, Don and Albert Schambach

ILLINOIS, EUREKA

Kathy L. Rocke

When I gaze upon a sunrise
Illuminating autumn leaves,
And then look up and see the sky
Its rainbow of color weaves.
I need no further evidence
Of God's love for you and me;
As nature lauds his sovereignty
For all the world to see.

F. P. Smith

As summer ends and fall brings forth its beauty, surely we can say that God has made everything beautiful.

We were again blessed with those who were willing to come and break the Bread of Life unto us. We ask God's blessings on Bros. Bill Funk (Garden Grove, IA), Lenard Meyer (Chicago, IL) and Merril Laukhuf (Latty, OH) for giving of themselves in His service.

Bro. Kores Knapp from the "Home" passed away August 24. Services were held at his home church in Goodfield.

Lois Martin and Greg Oltman exchanged wedding vows September 7. Their parents are Bro. Roland and Sis. Delores Martin and John and Rosemary Oltman. May God be with them as they establish their home.

Bro. Vernon Blunier and Sisters Judie Knecht (Bro. Ernie), Clara Neukomm and Anna Thomas were hospital patients this past month. May we remember our loved ones who must spend time on beds of affliction.

On September 8 we resumed our monthly hymn singings. This is a blessed way to end the Lord's Day — young and old singing praises to our heavenly Father.

We have been able to listen to the conference tapes on Wednesday evenings. How wonderful to hear the love, concern and kind admonitions from our dear elder brothers. May we support them in prayer and obedience that we all may reach those heavenly mansions prepared for the true and faithful.

On September 15 we heard the engagement announcement of Bro. Bob Stoller (Elder Bro. Leroy and Sis. Clara Huber) and Sis. Janice Braker. May God bless them as they make plans for their wedding in Lamar, MO.

Patience is bitter, but its fruit is sweet.

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY**Carol Bazzell — Joann Zehr**

A day of joy was experienced by all as three dear souls were added to the fold of Jesus. We welcome our brothers, Doug Moser and Anthony Fehr, and our sister, Crystal Fehr. Their parents are Bro. Lloyd and Myrna Moser and Bro. Wayne and Sis. Norma Fehr. Bro. Ed Lanz (Oakville, IA) assisted Bro. Art in this important work. Also this month, we appreciated the efforts of visiting brothers, Elder Bro. Corbin Bahler (Rockville, CT), Bro. Earl Gerber and Elder Bro. Perry Zimmerman (Forrest).

September 7 was the wedding date of Laurie Bazzell and Keith Schweigert. We wish them the guidance and blessings of God in their life together. Their parents are Bro. Don and Sis. Carol Bazzell and Wayne and Alma Schweigert (Kankakee). The new couple will be making their home in Bourbonnais, IL.

Among those who have suffered affliction recently is Sis. Lydia Eisenmann, who wishes to thank everyone for the cards, prayers and many deeds of kindness offered her while in the hospital both times and since returning home. May God bless each one.

The past month we have enjoyed the blessing of listening to the tapes of the annual brotherhood conference. Surely we should count this a privilege and appreciate the love and concern our beloved elders have for their flocks. May we all realize they are trying to help us all reach that heavenly home.

ILLINOIS, FORREST**Sharon Adams — Patsy Stoller**

"Word of Life, the fountain flowing, purely from the throne above, . . ." (Zion's Harp #176). We thank Bro. Virgil Metzger (Chicago) for bringing us God's precious Word. May we adhere to the teachings these dear brothers so faithfully bring us.

Our hospital patients this month have been Tanya Farney (Dale and Harriet), Sis. Marie Hohulin, Sis. Louise Anliker (Bro. Emil), Sis. Irene Traub (Bro. Ben) and Bro. Frank Honegger. May God continue to send His healing strength on each one as they bear these afflictions.

Amanda Kaye has been welcomed home by her brother, Benji, and parents, Marvin and Rita Wenger. Grandparents are Sis. Nathalia Wenger and Bro. Harvey and Sis. Leona Leman.

We have been so richly reminded and instructed of our duties as God's children as we have heard the tapes of the elder conference held recently. Let us each strive to walk closer each step of the way, as we walk together toward that heavenly home.

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD**Pam Wiegand**

Our sympathy is extended to the Kores Knapp family in the recent death of Bro. Kores, their father and grandfather. We are thankful that he was prepared and ready to meet his maker. How wonderful it must be to meet his wife, granddaughter, and so many other friends once again. May we all strive to do the Lord's will and enter those pearly gates, also.

There is so much we can do to help others here on earth. Here, in Goodfield, we have quite a few families, some with small children and new babies, some are moving and have small children, while others have loved ones who are ill or hurt. How I wish I had the time to take them all a meal and help watch some of the children for the day, or just go help them with some of their labors. Since Art hurt his knee this past summer, I realize more fully how welcome that extra meal or help is. I only hope all of you who are needing that help will receive it through our many dear brothers and sisters.

Sis. Elizabeth Hartman is hospitalized, as well as Sis. Frieda Grusy and Sis. Marg Newlin. May the Lord grant them grace and strength in their daily trials.

John and Linda Rokey each had a bad foot injury. Our prayers are with them both, wishing them a thorough and speedy recovery.

We extend best wishes to Rich Schieler (Bro. Bob and Sis. Marcella) and Lisa Moore (Mr. and Mrs. Don McWilliams) in their recent marriage. May the Lord bless you in your life together.

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY**Carol Klopfenstein**

"Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven."

Matthew 18:3

When the cares of life press down on us and we face disappointments, frus-

trations or worrisome concerns that disturb the peace of God that rules in our hearts, may we then have the grace of God to remember that we must be like little children. With a child-like attitude of trusting acceptance, we can feel confident in our Savior's care even though we may lack understanding and see through a glass darkly. The true joy and peace that the Lord gives His children is not only felt in tranquil and pleasing circumstances. We can also rejoice and have inner peace amid great conflict or trying times when we keep that precious child-like faith and humble attitude.

Sis. Mary Witzig, Sis. Jill Schlipf, Sis. Marilyn Schieler and Sis. Esther Yergler were hospital patients.

Gail Gramm (Anna Louise and the late Bro. Willis) was united in marriage to Kurt Karnes (Groveland) August 17.

ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY**Kathy S. Rocke**

This year we welcome many new students to ISU, including: Don Endress (Mildred, Princeville), Mike Freehill (Jim and Jan, Gridley), Jim Hari (Everett and Beverly, Bloomington), Teresa Hodel (Irvin and Sharon, Peoria), Sis. Joanne Kaisner (Hartzel and Mary, Detroit, MI), Darin Martin (Dennis and Carol, Goodfield), Curt Meiss (Pete and Jan, Gridley), Gail Rocke (Eldon and Ida Mae, Eureka), Eric Kiefer (Larry and Barb, Gridley), Kurt Kieser (Verle and Vonnie, Princeville), Daryl Knobloch (Marvin and Diane, Bradford), Don Schweigert (Willard and Della, Tremont), Weston Stahl (Charlotte, Bradford), Dirk Steffen (Jerry and Ailene, Goodfield), Tom Vogel (Stan and Nate, Bloomington), Jo Walter (Margaret and Harvey, Bloomington) and Eric Zehr (Paul and Wilma, Gridley). Sis. Joan Schrock (Steve and Gerri, Congerville) and Sis. Janine Wettstein (Harold and Loretta, Eureka) are now attending Mennonite College of Nursing. We hope the new students will soon feel at home here in Bloomington-Normal.

"Overcoming In Troubled Times As Illustrated In The Life Of Daniel" is the topic for College Weekend this fall. As we make plans for hosting this event October 12 and 13, we are praying for the Lord's guidance.

Bro. Art Baurer (Princeville) led the first Bible study of the school year on "Beginnings". He discussed with us how important it is to make a good start

in all we do. Bro. Jaye Rinkenberger (Goodfield) talked about keeping our bodies holy, for they are the temples of God.

At his last Bible study as our sponsor, Bro. Ken Hoerr (Peoria) spoke on overcoming fear. Bro. Everett Hari (Bloomington) will now be taking over the responsibility of our Bible study. We will miss Bro. Ken's regular attendance but are thankful for his past seven years of service to our group. We know the Lord will bless him for his work.

Bible study continues to be held in Schroeder 244 on Thursday evenings at 7:30. We welcome all to come and worship with us.

ILLINOIS, MORTON

Phyllis Farney — Marcia Kelley

School bells have begun ringing for our children and young people. May we be prayerful for them. As they study, may they remember to keep God first in their life. May they feel our prayers.

We, of the Morton congregation, just want to thank our heavenly Father for being with us during the conference. We want to thank everyone for their prayers. It was wonderful to feel God's closeness and nearness throughout the conference week.

Sis. Anna Yates was called "home". Her funeral was September 11. May our heavenly Father comfort and bless her family and friends.

We wish to thank Bro. John Klotzle (Altadena, CA) for ministering God's Holy Word unto us. May our heavenly Father richly bless him for his labors of love.

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

I am pleased to report that a dear sister has found time to share of herself to help prepare our news. I feel very blessed and privileged to welcome Sis. Marcia Kelley. We shall strive to do our best. We also wish to thank Sis. Joann Roecker for so willingly sharing of herself in preparing our news in the past.

ILLINOIS, PEORIA

Margo Marx — Susi Herman

A son, Jeremy Scott, was born to Bro. Scott and Sis. Jan Stickling. He has a sister, Holly, who welcomes him home. Grandparents are Ben and

Sharon Stickling and Bro. Don and Sis. Velma Hoerr.

We were fortunate to have three ministers visit us this past month: Bro. Noah Herman (Tucson, AZ), Bro. Roy Wernli (Lamont, KS) and Bro. Wayne Anliker (Forrest). We are very grateful to them for feeding us with the Holy Word. We wish to thank them for their willingness to serve.

Those hospitalized were Bro. Walter Knepp, Carl Pfaffmann, Fred Scharrer, Joe Kemmer and Sis. Margaret Fisher. We humbly ask that God will grant a good measure of added grace and strength, and we pray that all will be well with these dear ones.

Sincere sympathy is extended to the family of Martha Altorfer who passed away.

"I wish to thank those who sent me cards and gifts and meals that were brought into our home during my recovery from surgery. My words of kindness and thankfulness could never express the appreciation to all those who remembered me in their thoughts and prayers. May God bless each one of you for the love you sent my way."

Sis. Mary Plattner

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE

Marjean Lehman

"Full redemption is the promise made to him who heeds the Word. They, who in their hearts retain Thee shall receive the great reward . . ."

We were richly blessed with willing ministers of God's Word. Serving us were: Bros. Bill Gerst (Alto, MI), Chuck Hemmer (Peoria), Bob Pflederer (Morton), Wally Ramsier (Mansfield, OH), Don Sauder (Roanoke) and Loren Strahm (Gridley, KS). We thank these brothers for their labor of love.

"He that refuseth instruction despiseth his own soul: but he that heareth reproof getteth understanding."

Proverbs 15:32

The past four Wednesday evenings we have been listening to the tapes of the conference held in Morton. Truly our elders were inspired by the Holy Spirit.

Little bundles of joy have been received by the following four families: Omitted from the list of June births was Kristen Robin, daughter of Jim and Sherrie Gerst. Kristen was born

June 16, Father's Day. Grandparents are: Bro. Dick and Cleo Gerst (Princeville) and Bob and Ellie Hanning (Bradford).

Kenny and Karen Elsasser are first-time parents. Jason Duane was born August 25. The happy grandparents are Bro. Duane and Sis. Dorene Elsasser (Princeville), and Bro. Ray and Sis. Betty Wagenbach (Princeville).

Bro. Dean and Sis. Dawn Hermann are first-time parents also. Kimberly Anne was born September 4. Grandparents, Bro. Marvin and Sis. Jane Leman (Bradford) and Bro. Noah and Sis. Evalyn Herrmann (Princeville) are rejoicing too.

Bro. Dennis and Sis. Cindy Aupperle and Jonathan welcome little Erin Lynn into their hearts and home. Erin was born September 11. Grandparents are Elias and Greta Aupperle (Fairbury) and Bro. Nick and Sis. Gladys Knobloch (Princeville).

We wish these families the blessings of the Lord as they nurture these little ones with God's love. "Jesus loves the little children."

Marian Riley was confined to her home for some weeks as she suffered the afflictions of the flesh. We are thankful she is able to assemble with us again.

"For I will restore health unto thee, and I will heal thee of thy wounds."

Jeremiah 30:17

Brandon Graham was a hospital patient as he had the misfortune of being in an accident. We are thankful to report he is doing fine.

Note of Thanks: We would like to thank everyone for remembering Brandon after his accident. Thank you for all the food made for our family. May God bless you each for your love and kindness.

Dick, Jeanette and Brandon Graham We extend a warm welcome to Bro. Stan and Sis. Judy (Hemmer) Sauder and Katie. They have moved to our area and will be assembling with us here.

Count your blessings: We may not have everything that we would like, but there are a lot of things that we don't have that we wouldn't want!

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

Marge Leman — Carol Knapp

Three special little babies have come to bless the homes of our loved ones. Rick and Sis. Raylene Zimmerman welcomed Ashley Lynne into their

family circle August 25. Much tender loving care is showered upon her by her brother, Jeremy, and sisters, Robin, Joni, Heidi and Holly. Bro. Rich and Sis. Helen Zimmerman (Roanoke) and Bro. Ray and Sis. Betty Wagenbach (Princeville) are the happy grandparents.

A sweet little girl, Rebekah Leigh, is the first born of Bro. Chuck and Sis. Annie Fehr. Her birthday is September 8, and her welcoming grandparents are Bro. Rich and Sis. Madelyn Fehr and Bro. Gene and Sis. Evie Hangartner (all of Roanoke).

Bro. Wayne and Sis. Julie Leman also welcomed with joy their first baby, Ryan Richard. He was born September 11, the grandson of Bro. Rich and Sis. Rachel Leman (Roanoke) and Bro. Will and Sis. Sue Schieler (Milford, IN).

Bro. Walt Anliker (Eureka) was our visiting minister this past month. We are ever grateful to God that He provides brothers willing and able to preach and teach His Word.

In selecting a birthday card for a very special grandfather this thought-provoking message was found, "I am so thankful for the Godly heritage I have because of your love for Him." If we have been blessed with faithful Christian grandparents, let us thank God for them. And then, as parents and grandparents, may we ponder the heritage our children will receive. "Yea, I have a goodly heritage." Psalm 16:6.

ILLINOIS, TREMONT
Dorothy Wagenbach
Carolyn Bolliger

August 24 was the wedding day for Doris Pulfer and Kendall Miller (Pe-kin, IL). Parents are Bro. Leslie and Sis. Wilma Pulfer and Ed and Shirley Miller (Hennepin, IL). We wish this young couple God's blessings as they start their new life together.

We extend our sympathy to Cleda and Ray Rinkenberger on the death of her father, George Farris (Fairfield).

A new baby son, Jed Kurtis, was born August 29 to Larry and Ida Bolliger. Grandparents are Bro. Karl and Sis. Velda Glueck and Gale and Joan Bolliger. Little Jed has one brother, Gregory.

Bro. Chris and Sis. Wilmina Woerner have a new grandson, Austin Waarich, born September 4 to their son, Richard, and his wife, Dierdre, (Marshfield, MA).

An exciting event was the birth of twin sons September 4 to Bro. Nelson and Sis. Kathy Rocke. The little boys, Dean Edward and Doug Alan, have two brothers, Eric and Galen, and two sisters, Brenda and Janet, to welcome them home. Grandparents are Bro. Simon and Sis. Louise Wagenbach and Bro. Virgil and Sis. Pauline Rocke (Eureka).

Hospital patients this month have been Bro. Daniel Steiner, Sr. (Sis. Sophia) and Sis. Doris Staker (Bro. Weldon). Glenn Steiner (Bro. Joe and Sis. Marcella) also suffered a hand injury.

ILLINOIS, URBANA
Cheryl Mangers

We are so thankful to have Sis. Margie Heintz back home with us after spending two years in Japan. May God richly bless her for her labors of love in Japan and grant direction as she re-establishes herself here in Champaign.

We extend a hearty welcome to 25 new students who come from 12 different churches this '85 - '86 school year. We had the opportunity to meet many of these students along with their parents at our New Student Fall Picnic August 25. Fellowship with our students is a special blessing afforded to us here in Champaign-Urbana.

On September 5 we accepted a finalized building plan and are proceeding with construction plans for our new church. We have been richly blessed in many different ways. This was so apparent to me as I walked into church that next Sunday, heard the beautiful singing and saw the chairs lined up across the back.

We bid farewell to Bro. Dean and Sis. Dawn Herrmann and "brand new" daughter, Kimberly Anne, born September 4, as they leave our congregation to make Williamsfield their new home.

Bro. Rod Anliker and Bro. Rich Fischer have been appointed to fill the unexpired terms of trustee.

We share in the joy and happiness experienced by Bro. Rod and Sis. Anne Anliker in the birth of their twin sons, Lucas John and Lane David, September 12.

We had the biggest turnout ever to fall house clean the church on Saturday, the 14th, thanks to a big group of hard working students.

We offer a special thank you to Bros. Lenny Meyer (Chicago), Marvin

Schmidgall (Eureka), Edwin Bahler (Remington, IN) and Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago) for their labors of love here in Urbana.

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON
Sally Plattner — Ellen Cox

We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed; Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body.

II Corinthians 4:8-10

Believers in the risen Christ will be persecuted. They will encounter opposition on every side if they are living as our Lord lived, following His Spirit's guidance. We are in the world, but separated from it by the presence of the Holy Spirit. Our lives and words should be radically different from those of the non-believer's, yet they should carry the mark of the Christian, love.

We will be opposed, cast down, but not destroyed. We will hurt, get wounded, and sometimes the scars will last a lifetime. But the love of the Lord Jesus will heal the open wounds. Often it's the soldier on the front lines that gets hit the hardest and the most frequently. Let's not, as fellow soldiers, hurl more stones at those that are "cast down and troubled on every side". We should keep in mind that if they were on the front, Satan and his forces attacked with all their might.

Let's dress the injuries of the wounded, that the "life of Jesus might be made manifest in our body". Let's not let those wounded soldiers die.

Our Elder Bro. Don Sauder was with us again this month. We appreciate his consistent effort and amount of time he spends here.

Congratulations and best wishes to Ken Wagenbach and Laura Wagner who were married August 31. We welcome them and hope for many good years together for them.

We are rejoicing with Sis. Lynette Heinold (Marshall and Jan) as her engagement to Bro. Tim Bahler (Elmer and Marilyn, Remington, IN) was announced. We'll miss her when she leaves for her new home in December, but want to wish them, also, many

wonderful years together, serving our Lord.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON

Carolyn Meyer — Eunice Fiechter

How often we lose sight of the fact that God has a plan for our lives. We fret and worry, forgetting to Whom we belong. What is this? It is a lack of trusting and abiding faith. We pray for grace for each day just as the children of Israel were to gather manna for each day, and it is good to pray each day that God would increase our faith and trust in Him. Psalm 55:17 says: "Evening, and morning, and at noon, will I pray, and cry aloud: and he shall hear my voice." This verse promises that He will hear us.

Spending time in the hospital this month were Bro. Walter Kaehr (Sis. Lucille), Sis. Frieda Kipfer and Bro. Charles Meyer (Sis. Ida).

Our community was saddened by the death of four young men who were all juniors in the Adams Central High School. They were killed in an automobile accident upon returning from a class they had attended in a nearby school. One of these young folks attended our church and had been in church on Sunday before he was killed on Wednesday. Funeral services were held in our church Saturday, September 14, for Danny Grube, 17. He is survived by his parents, Paul and Jane Ann Grube; two sisters, Teresa and Misty; and two brothers, Jay and Lonnie. Our lifetime can be so short.

On August 15, Sonya Rae joined the family of Gordon and Kathy Gerber. She has a "big" sister, Karyn. Grandparents are Bro. Paul and Sis. Phyllis Dotterer and Bro. Frederick and Sis. Margaret Gerber. First-time parents are Bro. Hal and Sis. Janean Kipfer, as they received Benjamin David into their hearts and home September 14. Grandparents are Bro. Ken and Sis. Carolyne Isch and Bro. Ken and Sis. Judy Kipfer.

We were blessed when visiting ministers of the Word came to share the pulpit with our own ministers whom we love and support. Visiting us recently were Bro. Lynn Stieglitz (Leo), Elder Bro. Ed Ringger (Gridley, IL), Bro. Earl Ringger (Gridley, IL) and Bro. Harold Emch (Girard, OH).

On Labor Day weekend, our Bluffton area churches were hosts to a number of visitors when the brothers gathered together to sing and record.

They sang some of the selections they practiced at the Bluffton church following afternoon worship. It was a time of praise to God and enjoyment for those who heard them sing.

Rejoicing in God's plan for them, Sis. Shari Beer (Milford) and Bro. Mike Fiechter announced their engagement August 25. Sis. Shari is the daughter of Sis. Dorothy Kaehr and the late Charles Kaehr and Bro. Mike is the son of Bro. Gerald and Sis. Eunice Fiechter.

As we read over this account of the news of our area, we find that there are joys, sicknesses and sorrow. These things are all in God's plan for us to temper us and prepare us for eternity. May we trust Him more.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON NORTH

Cindy Shorb — Sheri Leman

If you were to choose the happiest person in the congregation, it would be someone who is very merciful and forgiving. That's the way it works. Oft times we see handicapped persons whose happiness shows in their faces and attitudes. Why? Not because they are handicapped, but because they have learned to trust the Lord. They have truly accepted their ailment and hold no grudges because of it. So important it is that we forgive and forget all hurts and mistakes of others. How beautifully we were reminded of this by Bro. Ben Manz (Junction, OH).

Other ministering brothers who have spent time with us this past month were Bro. Darrell "Bud" Klopfenstein (Ft. Lauderdale, FL), Bro. Elmer Witzig (Gridley, IL), Bro. Homer Reineck (Toledo, OH), Bro. Jim Plattner (Bradford, IL) and Bro. Ron Heiniger (Bloomington, IL). We thank each one for their presence and each part they contributed to our services. May God's blessings be on them and their families. We hope they feel welcome to return any time.

Many of our youth traveled to Camp Mack Sunday, August 18. We hope they all enjoyed the fellowship and received a special blessing for participating. Thanks to all who gave of their time and love to make this day possible.

"And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity." I Corinthians 13:13. With love in their hearts, Sis. Connie Troxel (Bro. Ralph and Sis. Elsie) and Bro. Paul Vidrine (Wolcott, IN) announced their engagement. They plan to be married October 6. We are so

happy for them and wish them much joy in their lives together.

Our thoughts and prayers were with Bro. Elmer Gerber and Sis. Soph Gerber who have been hospitalized this past month. Even when their bodies are weak may they stay strong and healthy in spirit. We continue to pray for the return of their health.

Sis. Rachel Gerber (Bro. Vernon) and Bro. Jim Isch (Bro. Ken and Sis. Carolyne, Bluffton) were blessed with a beautiful Lord's day, September 15, as they were united in holy matrimony. We wish them an abundance of happiness and may the Lord always be their guide as they journey down life's path as one.

An ending thought:

"Don't look for the flaws as you go thru life

And, even when you find them,
It's wise and kind to be somewhat blind
and search for the light behind them."

Author Unknown

INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE

Lynne Wuthrich

Upon remembering our aged believers who dwell in their homes or care centers, we want them to know we pray for and love them. Psalm 71:17-18, "O God, thou hast taught me from my youth: and hitherto have I declared thy wondrous works. Now also when I am old and greyheaded, O God, forsake me not; until I have shewed thy strength unto this generation, and thy power to every one that is to come."

We extend our congratulations to Salli Cook and Anthony Ray Morris who were united in marriage August 24. Their parents are Herb and Sis. Sue Cook and Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Hancock. We pray for God's blessings upon them as they make a home together.

We are happy to announce the engagement of Loren Gutwein (Edwin and Mary B.) to Sandra Mochel (Mr. and Mrs. James Mochel). We want to wish them God's guidance and blessings as they make plans for a lifetime together.

Our congregation was saddened at the death of Sidney F. Gudeman, 78, who passed away August 19 in the Winimac hospital. We extend our sympathy to his dear family, especially Sis. Ruth Rapp (Morton), Mrs. Don (Elsie) Geef (Peoria) and Sis. Louise Onken (Edward, Francesville). May God be with them.

Our church again experienced another loss. On September 5 our dear sister-in-faith, Laretta Wuethrich, passed away at the Parkview Haven Retirement Home. Sis. Laretta was 74 years old and is survived by one son, Otto Wuethrich (Francesville) and four daughters, Sis. Chrisann Gutwein (Bro. Edison) and Mary B. Gutwein (Edwin), both of Francesville, and Mrs. Norman (Karen) Kuhn (Laporte) and Mrs. Charles (Betty) Lyons (Wabash). May God comfort them as a dear mother will be missed. We also want to mention that Sis. Laretta wrote the Francesville news for the Silver Lining very faithfully and willingly.

We're very thankful to the visiting ministers we had this month. Bro. Gene Lehman (Wolcott) and Bro. Wayne Lehman (South Bend) prayerfully shared God's Word unto us. We appreciate their willingness.

We regret we failed to report the happy occasion of a new baby born to Bruce and Colleen Westfall. Born July 22 in Stuttgart, Germany, Whitney Cole has two sets of thrilled grandparents, Bill and Alma Long and Bro. Karl and Sis. Mary Westfall. Congratulations to all of them.

The Lord has blessed another dear couple with a new baby. Sonya Rae was born to Bro. Gordon and Sis. Kathy Gerber August 15. Grandparents are Bro. Paul and Sis. Phyllis Dotterer and Bro. Frederick and Sis. Margaret Gerber, all of Bluffton. Karyn, Sonya's older sister, is happy to have a new baby sister!

Hospital patients this month were Rex Onken (Sis. Louise) and Benjie Masten (Bro. Virgil and Sis. Viola Von Tobel), both of whom are home and feeling better. We pray for God's healing hand upon them.

"A SPECIAL GRANDMA"

Grandmothers are special – this is so true,
and you, Grandma, dear
are no exception to the rule.

As the "strawberry lady" you are well-known,
but even more so, for the love and kindness you've shown.

We treasure memories of many an after-school snack –
When it came to treats, Grandma, you sure had a knack!

Of chocolate-covered raisins there was a never-ending supply.

And, of course, the strawberry pop and peanuts
upon which we could always rely.

Oh, the stories you would tell of the "olden days"
how things were different then, in many different ways.

A favorite is how you cleverly stretched your dollar
by changing the look of a dress,
with more than one collar.

So many things of life we've learned from you;
Your faith and trust in God shines through and through.

You've always an uplifting word, a kind thought and deed,
Not thinking of yourself, but of those in need.

Dear Grandma, you are so loved – it could never be told how much;
You have a special way; a special smile, a special touch.

I only hope that someday
if I become a grandmother, too,
I could be a Special grandma –
a grandma just like you.

By Suzanne Schieler,
Granddaughter of
Sis. Laretta Wuethrich

INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS

Judy Dubach — Lynn Winslow

I cannot say "our" if I live in a watertight spiritual compartment. I cannot say "Father" if I do not demonstrate that relationship in daily life. I cannot say "which art in heaven" if I am so occupied with the earth that I am laying up no treasure there. I cannot say "hallowed be thy name" if I, who am called by His name, am not holy. I cannot say "thy kingdom come" if I am not doing all in my power to hasten its coming. I cannot say "thy will be done" if I am questioning, resentful of, or disobedient to His will for me.

I cannot say "in earth, as it is in heaven" if I am not prepared to devote my life to His service. I cannot say "give us this day our daily bread" if I am living on past experience or if I am an under-the-counter shopper. I cannot say "forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us"

if I harbor a grudge against anyone. I cannot say "lead us not into temptation" if I deliberately place myself in a position to be tempted. I cannot say "deliver us from evil" if I am not prepared to fight it in the spiritual realm with the weapon of prayer. I cannot say "thine is the kingdom" if I do not accord the King the disciplined obedience of a loyal subject. I cannot say "thine is the power" if I fear what men may do or what my neighbors may think. I cannot say "thine is the glory" if I am seeking glory for myself. I cannot say, "forever" if my horizon is bounded by the things of time.

The annual Sunday school fall picnic was held Sunday afternoon September 15. This event seems to mark the end of summertime and the beginning of a new school year.

We pray God's rich blessings will be with Sis. Sue Gerber as she has relocated to the Ft. Lauderdale, FL, area. We will miss her so much, but know Ft. Lauderdale will be blessed by her presence and love. When both congregations are small – each church feels their "gain or loss", because you depend on each other as well as God.

We thank Bro. Tom Speicher (Milford) and Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott) for sharing God's Word with us.

We anticipate seeing more of these proud grandparents: Bro. Jack and Sis. Velma Bollier (Leo) and Bro. Elmer and Sis. Marge Witzig (Gridley, IL). Their new granddaughter, Emily Nicole, was born September 8. Her sister, Sarah, and parents, Bro. Ron and Sis. Edie Bollier, are just as proud and excited with their beautiful daughter. Again God has given us another miracle.

INDIANA, LACROSSE

Connie Knobloch — Debbie Nuest

We were privileged to hear the testimony and witness the baptism of our Bro. Enos Cadwalader.

Dead to sin, I am now buried,
From its curse forever free;
Buried with Thee in baptism,
Saviour, let me rest with Thee.

Lead me through the vale of shadows,
Bear me o'er life's fitful sea;
Then the gate of life eternal,
May I enter, Lord, with Thee.

Hymns of Zion #223

Let us be ever so thankful for the precious gift of salvation, which is yet available today.

Our visiting ministers this month were Elder Bros. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville), Phil Stettner (Bluffton North), Bros. Nile Bucher (Bluffton North), Marshall Heinold (Washington, IL), Marvin Lemman (Bradford, IL), Art Ringger (Indianapolis), Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville, IL), Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH) and Dan Stoller (Rockville, CT).

We so appreciate the sincere Word of God which we have heard.

Those hospitalized were Michael Gudeman (Bro. Bob and Sis. Diana Gudeman) who has met with an unfortunate foot injury, Carol Ailes and Sis. Mary Gudeman (Mrs. Art Gudeman).

We wish them God's healing power, which the body has been blessed with.

Our new Sunday school teachers will be Sis. Judy Gudeman and Bro. Don Nuest.

Paul and Karen Heiniger were blessed with their first child, a precious little girl named Paula Jean. Happiness and joy are also with grandparents, Bro. John and Sis. Lucille Heiniger (Sarasota, FL).

INDIANA, LEO

Thelma Schlatter

Appreciation is expressed to Elder Bro. Edwin Ringger (Gridley, IL), Bros. James Hoerr (Peoria, IL), William Gerst (Alto, MI) and Walter Steffen (Milford) for their ministry and visits.

Called to serve Him as Sunday school teachers are Sis. Maxine Sauder and Bro. John Klopfenstein.

Victor Stavenik passed away at the age of 85. Sympathy is extended to his surviving family, his wife, Gladys (Fort Wayne); his son, Robert (Michigan); two daughters, Betty Buck (California) and Arlene Schnurr (Fort Wayne); three sisters, Sis. Mildred Schlatter and Sis. Helen Norr (Leo) and Sis. Evelyn Wysong (Sabetha, KS); two brothers, Steve Stuart (Elkhart) and Bro. Ben Stavenik (Mansfield, OH). Services were conducted September 9 by Bros. Marvin and Lynn Stieglitz.

Our sympathy also goes to Sisters Marie Bertsch, Katherine Norr and Velma Bollier and Bro. Robert Norr of this congregation in the loss of their sister, Sis. Lauretta Wuethrich, 74, (Francesville). In my Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I

would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. John 14:2. The divine Carpenter is still building homes! Is He preparing one for you?

A challenging description in word and pictures of the need in Uganda was given by Sisters Emily Stoller and Bonnie Riggenbach (Latty, OH) who gave time as nurses there.

Bits of This and That to ponder:

"The person who tugs on the oars hasn't time to rock the boat.

Back-sliding begins where knee-bending stops.

Satan has many wives; a favorite is, 'Wait awhile'.

Pay no attention to ill-natured remarks about you; simply live so nobody will believe them.

Many who expect to be saved at the 11th hour, die at ten-thirty!

Why are people willing to pay a high price for being lost when salvation is free?

God, the greatest giver; His Son, the greatest gift; Eternal life, the greatest possession."

On Wednesday evening we have experienced a blessing listening to the brotherhood conference tapes. We heard many precious teachings concerning the Holy Spirit's leading, guiding, comforting and cautioning God's children throughout life's journey.

INDIANA, MILFORD

Joyce Kaiser — Shelby Beer

"The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved." Jeremiah 8:20. The summer is almost ended and God is calling yet, let's not wait till our life is past.

Believing it is the Lord's will, Sis. Shari Beer and Bro. Mike Feichter (Bluffton) have announced their engagement. They are planning a December 8 wedding. Their parents are Sis. Dorothy Kaehr and the late Bro. Chad, and Bro. Gerald and Sis. Eunice Fiechter (Bluffton). We rejoice with them during this special time of their lives.

We were grateful for a midweek visit by Bro. Al Langhofer (Wichita, KS). There is a special sharing in assembling around God's Word with a visiting minister.

A little bundle of joy was sent to the home of Jim and Marla Simpson (Spirit Lake, IA). Don and Sis. Ginny Hoover welcome their new grandson, Doug.

God has not promised us skies always blue. We want to remember our

loved ones who have suffered afflictions. Lynn Hively, Bro. Steve and Bro. Jesse Haab have spent time in the hospital. Penny Hoover (Don and Sis. Ginny) and Bethany Cockburn (Bro. Bob and Sis. Sue) sustained injuries. We miss each one when they are unable to assemble and pray God will grant healing according to His will.

If in life we must weather many storms and trials, we should try to be encouraged with this thought: It is in the valley that we find the rich, fertile soil where the most growth in our lives can take place.

INDIANA, REMINGTON

Beth Virkler — Annette Bahler

This month we've appreciated visiting ministers, Bro. Marvin and Sis. Dorothy Schmidgall (Eureka, IL), Bro. John and Sis. Pam Reinhard (Bluffton, IN) and Bro. Kent and Sis. Jan Ringger (Bluffton, IN). When we spend the Lord's Day opening His Word, applying it to our lives, we all walk away with rich instruction to become more effective, as His children. "He that hath My commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth Me, and he that loveth Me shall be loved of My Father, and I will love him, and manifest Myself to him." (John 14:21).

We share in the joy of Bro. Tim Bahler (Bro. Elmer and Sis. Marilyn) who announced his engagement to Lynnette Heinold (Bro. Marshall and Sis. Jan. Washington). It's a blessing to welcome the fellowship of another Christian couple. May they feel our prayers of support in their engagement. They are planning a December 22 wedding.

It always amazes me that no matter what the deep waters are in a believer's life — sin, loneliness, pain, envy, temptation or deception — Christ has experienced it also. He knows our trouble, He chose to go through it for us. "Call unto Me, and I will answer thee and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not." Jeremiah 33:33.

INDIANA, SOUTH BEND

Pauline Laidig

We were privileged this month to have our Elder Bro. Jesse Beer (Milford) and Bros. Darrel Klopfenstein (Ft. Lauderdale) and Bob Meyer (Bluffton North) bless us with their inspiring messages. It also was a pleas-

ure to fellowship with them and their wives.

Bro. Ernest and Sis. Marie Germann have certainly passed the allotted years of "three score and ten" as Ernest had his 92nd birthday last week, and Marie, Lord willing, will be 91 soon. Since they are no longer able to assemble with us, we held services in their home on Wednesday evening. They enjoy the fellowship and singing of hymns very much, too.

It is with sadness that we think of Bro. Randy and Sis. Karen Kellenberger and their three sons needing to leave us so soon. The course Randy was to take at Watervliet, MI, has been terminated, so he will be taking it at Grand Rapids. Our loss will be the Alto congregation's gain. Even in their short stay here, they found time to host a wiener roast for our congregation. A good time of fellowship was enjoyed. May the Lord bless them wherever they need to go.

INDIANA, VALPARAISO

Cheryl Bucher — Pat Bucher

Valparaiso recently opened their new year of Sunday school with their annual Sunday school picnic held at the school cafeteria.

Our visiting ministers this month have been Bros. Chris Huber (Francesville), Bro. John Isch (Indianapolis) and our Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL). Bro. John Isch spoke to us on the "Extra-Biblical Beliefs" (cults) of today. We must remember to "keep the defense of our faith simple, always and only centered upon the crucified and resurrected Christ". We do always thank God for our ministers who so willingly give of their time and efforts for God's use and glory, in our behalf.

Bro. Chris Huber and his work crew were here for two days to do dry-walling on our new church edifice.

We appreciate their generous giving of time for our new church, knowing God will also repay generously.

INDIANA, WEST LAFAYETTE PURDUE UNIVERSITY

Lily Vogt

On August 29, the annual supper was held for 18 new brethren and friends who have moved to the area for schooling or employment. We welcome each one, praying that we will all grow in God's love. Following the supper, Bro. Gene Lehman (Wolcott) brought

forth the Word in truth and simplicity. Our spirits were refreshed as he stated, "Each of us starts the year with a new slate which, at the end of the year, should be free from blemishes."

Bro. Nile Bucher (Bluffton North) came to minister to us September 5. He spoke on the need to take time for people with whom we come in contact. There are so many who don't know the joy and peace as we know it.

Lead me to some soul today.
Teach me, Lord, just what to say;
Friends of mine are lost in sin
And cannot find their way.

Houghton

INDIANA, WOLCOTT

Lorene Furrer — Elaine Bahler

"Thy word have I hid in my heart,
that I might not sin against thee."

Psalm 119:11

How thankful we are for the Word and those who minister to us. Visiting ministers this month were Bro. Corbin Bahler (Rockville, CT), Bro. Karl Westfall (Francesville) and Bro. Paul Butikofer (Elgin, IA). We thank these brothers for sharing the Word with us.

Believing it is the Lord's will, the engagement was announced of Bro. Paul Vidrine and Sis. Connie Troxel (Bluffton North). We extend our best wishes and pray that God will richly bless them.

IOWA, BURLINGTON

Dixie Messner — Edith Massner

We want to offer a special word of thanks to Elder Bro. Corbin Bahler (Rockville, CT) and our Elder Bro. Ed Lanz for sharing God's Word with us on Sunday afternoon. The story of Peter walking on the water took on new depth as we listened to the message sent from heaven.

Ruth Ann Schumacher (Bro. Mike and Sis. Elisabeth) graduated from nurses' training. She is presently looking for employment in the Denver, CO, area. We wish her God's many blessings.

We are listening to the tapes of the brotherhood conference. A word of thanks to all our dear elders is surely due when we think of their efforts on our behalf and especially as we listen and can be so encouraged and renewed in faith. Thanks again, and may God

continue to sustain you with His grace and power.

Perhaps we have failed to mention that our friend Hettie Baker is residing at the Klein Unit of Burlington Medical Center. We miss seeing you, Hettie, and hope you are well taken care of there.

IOWA, ELGIN Gloria Frieden

We have been privileged to listen to the conference tapes and what an inspiration they have been. May God bless our elders for their loving care and concern for the flock.

Our special thanks goes to Bro. Marvin Stieglitz (Leo, IN) for expounding unto us the scriptures during a recent midweek service.

Kids need moms and dads each day
To see they're brought up right,
But God gave children grandparents
For times of pure delight.

Laverne and Kathryn Schneider and Ervin and Sis. Ruth Metzger welcome their new grandson, Johnathan David (David and Carolyn Metzger) into their family circle. Also welcoming Johnathan is his big brother, Matthew.

IOWA, LESTER Alice Metzger

It was a blessing and a privilege to have a large group of single members as our guests on Labor Day weekend. Among our many visitors were the young groups from Morton, Elgin, Chicago and Gridley, IL and Burlington, Pulaski and Oakville, IA, as well as Silverton, OR. It lifts our faith to see sincere and upright young folks.

Sis. Delores Feucht has moved to Denver. We miss her in our congregation and pray her move will be a blessing to her and to the church in Colorado.

On August 24 Kevin Metzger (Bro. Freddie and Sis. Esty) and Dawn Martin (Eddie and Judy) were united in marriage by Bro. Dennis Warner. Elder Bro. Leo Moser conducted the marriage ceremony for Dean Meyer (Bro. Raymond and Sis. Twyla) and Linda VanWyhe (Wayne and Jenny) on August 31. Sis. Denise Warner and Bro. Rodney Schaefer made their marriage vows September 8. Their parents are Bro. Dennis and Sis. Esther Warner and Bro. Anton and Sis. Verna Schaefer (Morris, MN). We will surely

miss Sis. Denise in our church, but believe it is God's will that she make her home in Morris. We pray for God's blessings on all the young married couples.

Funeral services for Sis. Edna Mogler were held August 27. She passed away at a nursing home in West Bend but had lived most of her life here in Lester. Among her survivors is Bro. Andy Mogler of our congregation. Among our visitors was Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr (West Bend).

We did appreciate the presence of visiting ministers, Elder Bro. Art Nohl and Bro. Dale Zeltwanger (Morris, MN) September 8.

Lou Moser is recuperating at home after undergoing bypass surgery in a Minneapolis hospital. We pray he will continue to improve.

IOWA, OAKVILLE Debbie Wagenbach

Jessica Lynee Schaer is the second daughter of Bro. Dave and Sis. Sandy Schaer. Jaclyn now has a little sister for a playmate. Bro. Vernon and Sis. Wilma Stoller and Bro. Bernard and Sis. Leah Schaer (Pulaski, IA) are Jessica's grandparents.

Bro. Dale Strassheim (Milford, IN) has recently ministered unto our congregation.

Labor Day weekend was special for the Oakville single group. We travelled to Lester, IA, and shared the weekend with brothers and sisters from several of our churches across the Midwest. We could certainly feel God's indwelling in our worship and fellowship throughout the weekend. We are so thankful and appreciative for the hospitality that was extended to us by the Lester congregation.

September 7, 1985, is a day which Tammy Wagenbach and Gary Sharp will remember throughout their lifetime, as on that day, they became husband and wife. We wish them God's richest blessings for a long and happy married life. May they ever realize that God will lead their lives throughout the good days and the bad days if they will put their complete trust in Him. Tammy's parents are Bro. Jerry and Sis. Bonnie Wagenbach and Gary's parents are Dorothy and the late Reeves Sharp. Tammy and Gary will be residing at 928 SW 52nd Street in Oklahoma City, OK.

We have again been able to hear the brotherhood conference tapes. What

deep concerns and weighty matters our elder brethren are confronted with? Let us each examine ourselves and do our part to ease their burden!

Thought: A good example is the best sermon.

Ben Franklin

IOWA, PULASKI DeAnn Wuthrich Mary Jane Knapp

The Lord has again bountifully provided for ministering brothers to come to us from far and near. We were blest with visits from Elder Bros. Carl Kinsinger (Altadena, CA) and Harold Messner (Winthrop, MN) and Bros. Roger Aberle and Doug Grimm (Sabetha, KS). Many teachings and admonitions were kindly brought forth in love and humility, and if we do not apply them to our daily lives, we will lose sight of the heavenly goal for which we are striving.

Jesus loves me! this I know
For the Bible tells me so;
Little ones to Him belong;
They are weak, but He is strong.

Hymns of Zion #176

Our love and sympathy goes out to Bro. Doug and Sis. Clara Schock in the loss of their infant daughter, Faith Ann, who was stillborn August 22. Truly they know they have a little angel in heaven waiting for them to join her someday. Also surviving is two-year-old Nathan and grandparents, Bro. Jake and Sis. Alice Wulf (Lester, IA) and Bro. Frank and Sis. Lois Schock (Elgin, IL).

We also extend our sympathy to Sis. Leah (Bro. Bernard) Schaer and her family in the loss of her mother, Sis. Edna Mogler (West Bend, IA). May God fill the vacancies in both of these families with His ever present love.

At this writing, Sis. Leah Schaer is a surgical patient in the hospital. We pray for God's healing hand over her and hope she can soon assemble with us again.

Thank you: The family of Bro. Doug and Sis. Clara Schock wishes to thank all for their cards, prayers and love shown them in their loss of baby Faith Ann.

IOWA, WEST BEND Polly Zaugg — Elma Mogler

We spent a blessed weekend when Elder Bro. Art Nohl (Morris, MN),

Bros. Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH) and John Steiner (Oakville) were here to enjoy hearing the testimony and witness the baptism of a dear soul, Sis. Sara Metzger (Bro. Duane and Sis. Elizabeth). Since then, Sis. Sara has submitted to hip surgery in Minneapolis. Our prayers and best wishes go out to her and we know Jesus will walk with her all the way.

We enjoyed a visit from Bro. Larry Wenninger this month. On September 9 we had many visitors here. Among them were ministering Bros. Elmer Schrenk (Alto, MI), Harvey Heiniger (Burlington) and Leroy Messner (Winthrop, MN). A reunion was held here of all people who winter in Zapata, TX. We thank all, especially the visiting ministers, who have visited us.

It seems we always have some hospital patients. This month Sis. Corrine Traub is seriously ill in the hospital. Her son, Fred Traub, Jr., is also gravely ill in the same hospital. Sis. Lena Grimm has not been able to assemble with us for some time. Clinton Metzger (Bro. Harlan and Sis. Shirley) had a tonsilectomy; Cory Fehr (Bro. Dan and Sis. Eunice) and Andy Fehr (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Charlotte) both have broken arms. May the blessings of the Lord be with each one.

Bro. George and Sis. Clara Bruellman have been blessed with 60 years of married life. May the Good Lord continue to be with them as they continue on life's pathway.

Sunday school has again started after a three week vacation. New teachers are Sis. Doris Zaugg replacing Sis. Eula Mogler, Sis. Twyla Schmidt replacing Sis. Beth Banwart, and Bro. Manuel Gerber replacing Bro. Norman Zaugg. We surely appreciate the many hours they spend teaching the young hearts of our children.

Blake and Vera Banwart are first-time parents. Brandon Brice was born August 28 and his grandparents are James and Becky Banwart and Lavona Christenson. Bill and Mary Berg are the thankful parents of Kerry Ellen born August 21. Her brother, Billy, along with grandparents, Sis. Betty Schmidt and Mr. and Mrs. Berg, welcome her. Penny Lee has been entrusted to Bro. Norm and Sis. Polly Zaugg. She was born August 29. Nick, Paul and Nancy welcomed her along with grandparents, Bro. Oscar and Sis. Francis Zaugg and Sis. Emma Meyer (Lester).

Our congratulations and prayer for God's blessings are offered for a new couple, Terry and Linda Fehr. Parents are Bro. Larry and Sis. Carole Fehr and Mr. and Mrs. Baxter.

Carlene Fehr (Bro. Larry and Sis. Carole) and Jim Jepsen (Bro. Dave and Sis. Milly, Elgin, IL) have announced their engagement and approaching marriage in November. We wish them God's blessings.

We extend our heartfelt sympathies to two families this past month. The death angel has come and taken two sisters-in-faith from our congregation. Our dear Sis. Edna Mogler, 92, passed away August 26 and our dear Sis. Katie Dogotch, 91, August 28.

Sis. Edna was a resident of our local care center for 9 years, after living at Lester most of her life. She is survived by her sons, August (Eureka, IL), Bro. Ervin and Bro. Nathan from our congregation, and Bro. Andy (Lester); daughters, Sis. Leah Schaefer (Pulaski), Rachel Park and Lorene Farrell (Davenport), 32 grandchildren and 43 great-grandchildren. A prayer service was held at West Bend and funeral services were held in Lester. Sis. Katie was a resident of our care center and is survived by sons, Bro. Leo (Morris, MN), Delbert and Frank, Jr. (Whittemore); one daughter, Dorothy Mergen (Esterville), 26 grandchildren and 33 great-grandchildren. We treasure many fond memories of Sis. Edna and Sis. Katie. They both lived a faithful, dedicated life for the Lord. Both were inspirations to our congregation as pillars of faith with a love for everyone.

You never have to walk alone
 However dark the night,
 Within each precious child of God
 There burns a lasting light.
 You never have to bear alone
 Despair or pain or sorrow
 Through smiles and tears
 God lights the years
 And guides us toward tomorrow.

Unknown

JAPAN, SHIODA Sheila Moser

The fall season is very near and with it brings the anticipation of the beautiful autumn colors. When we gaze at the splendor of the mountains and the always changing vegetation that grows on them, we are reminded just how great the Almighty Creator really is.

This time of year also brings the students back to S.A.K. following the summer vacation. Shortly after their return on September 13, our students put on a short program in honor of their visiting grandparents.

We are very thankful for Bro. Akito, Sis. Marie and family's safe return from the States following their month visit there. Since their return we have had the opportunity to begin listening to the conference tapes. We count it a blessed privilege to be able to listen to those conclusions.

JAPAN, TOKYO

Marie Inoue — Yoshio Yamazaki

As you know, a large JAL jetliner crashed into the heavily forested mountains of Gumma-Ken, not a great distance from Shioda church. It was a very sad situation and over 500 people lost their lives. It also educated us in many spiritual ways. Nowadays most people put too much trust in human's power and the machines which they invent, instead of the power and might of our Almighty God. News media reported that the pilots tried hard and did all they could, but still could not control the plane. It reminds us of Noah's time; how the people ate, drank, with no thought of our heavenly Father until it was too late. It is a solemn reminder to all of us.

We remember all students as they return to the classrooms. We commit them to the Lord's keeping and trust they will make wise use of their time. We learned recently in our Bible class from Matthew 20:1-16 that we who have begun our walk heavenward must be diligent workers and that our work patterns are influenced by those around us. May we be a Christ-like example in the classroom or wherever we might be employed.

Bro. Saburo Utsuki was able to assemble with us last Sunday after a long series of treatments. We pray that God will be especially near him and his family as he continues on toward his heavenly goal.

KANSAS, BERN Linda Esslinger

We enjoyed a blessed Sunday when visiting ministers, Bro. Jon Schmidgall (Oakville, IA) and Bro. Terry Farney (Wichita, KS) spoke God's Word.

Steve and Kaye Meyer are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Kari Jo, August 17. Welcoming her

home is a brother, Clinton. Grandparents are Sis. Lois and Bro. Eli Meyer (Sabetha) and Sis. Phyllis and Bro. Alvin Banwart (West Bend, IA).

On September 16, a daughter, Brenna Lee, was born to Bro. Rodney and Sis. Cynthia Strahm. She is welcomed home by one brother, Vance. Grandparents are Bro. Alpha and Sis. Mamie Strahm (Bern) and Bro. Eli and Sis. Lois Meyer (Sabetha).

DEEPER

Let me try a little harder,
 Let me pray a little more,
 Let me go a little farther
 Than I've ever gone before.

Let me sing instead of sighing
 As I pass beneath the rod
 Let my life burn out for others
 Less of self and more of God.

Let me see the ones about me
 Hungry for the peace I know,
 And the spirit of my Savior
 Father let me ever show.

Let me lift the one who's fallen
 Help the lame upon the way
 Soothe the weary, calm the suffering
 Knowing thou wilt come someday.

Others, Lord, yes others
 Let this my motto be,
 Help me to live for others
 That I may be like Thee.

Nellie Martin

KANSAS, FORT SCOTT Judy Bahr

September 7 and 8 was the weekend for the Kansas Youth Fellowship. Fort Scott was the host. Bro. Carl Kipfer (Bluffton, IN) was the guest speaker. We thank all the youth and sponsors who came to help make a blessed weekend.

Hospital patients have been Bro. Wayne Miller and Larry Bahr. Both are doing fine and we pray that God's healing hand will continue to be with them.

We thank our visiting ministers for sharing God's Word with us. Elder Bro. Sam Anliker (Lamont, KS) and Bro. Bill Dotterer (Phoenix, AZ) were in our presence.

If you want to be happy,
 Begin where you are,

Don't wait for some rapture
That's future and far.
Begin to be joyous, begin to be glad
And soon you'll forget
That you ever were sad.

Apples of Gold

KANSAS, GRIDLEY

Vola Young — Doris Bahr

The Gridley-Lamont congregations were privileged to gather on a Friday evening to hear a portion of the brotherhood conference tapes. May we always possess an attitude of willing submission to God's will and ways. We surely want to preserve the purity of the church by upholding the beliefs and traditions.

Sis. Lena Strahm fell and injured a knee, requiring a brief stay in the hospital. We're thankful she has been able to assemble with us since the fall.

We have missed Sis. Hannah Grimm and Sis. Dorothy Young the past few Sundays. They have been absent due to illness.

A child born is a priceless gift, miracle and masterpiece from God. There is one great insurance policy that parents can take out in order to guarantee the unity and happiness of their home and family. It is simple: make Christ the center of the home!

Kendon Scott was born August 27 to Bro. Brian and Sis. Julie Bahr. He has a sister, Kayla, and a brother, Brock. Grandparents are Bro. Loren and Sis. Liseten Strahm and Bro. Roy and Sis. Doris Bahr. Sis. Dora Young (Wichita, KS) and Sis. Ada Hartman (Fairbury, IL) are great-grandmothers.

Bro. Rudy and Sis. Eileen Bahr are again grandparents. Tifani Lyn was born to Bro. Jeff and Sis. Janice Bahr, (Kiowa).

We were blest to have visiting ministers Bro. Earl Gerber (Forrest, IL) and Bro. Roy Wernli (Lamont, KS) with us.

KANSAS, KIOWA

Gay Lee Farney — Janice Bahr

Our prayers this month have been for the families of Bro. Sam Schupbach and Bro. Jeff Frieden. Bro. Sam passed away August 22 and Bro. Jeff passed away September 3. These two brothers were brothers-in-law and lived in close association with one another. They truly possessed Christian love for each other. They both became ill within two weeks of the other, and they died within two weeks of each other. Both of these dear brothers walked many years

with the Lord in this earthly life, and can now enjoy eternity with Jesus.

Along with many other friends and families visiting over Labor Day weekend was Bro. Joe Aberle (Sabetha, KS) who ministered to us on Sunday.

We are thankful Sis. Erma Ott is home from the hospital. Remember her and her family in your prayers.

Doug and Pam Ott and children (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Erma) have moved to Lawrence, KS, where Doug will be studying law. May the Lord bless them and guide them in their endeavors.

KANSAS, LAMONT

Jill K. Luthi

Summer is gone with all its roses,
Its sun and perfumes and sweet flowers,
Gone, gone, summer is gone.

Summer is gone, its warm air and
refreshing showers

Summer is gone, summer is gone
Gone, gone, summer is gone.

Song lyrics from Bitter for Sweet by
John Chorbajian.

As autumn sets in and summer departs, another master painting is taking place with the various shades of gold, red and orange leaves. This past summer is one in which we have really been blessed with rain, sunshine and refreshing cool breezes.

Our sympathy is extended to Bro. Jeff (Sis. Debbie) Frieden upon the death of his father. Even if it is a great loss, it is a comfort to know that the loved one is now safe in the arms of Jesus, and gone from this world of cares.

KANSAS, MANHATTAN

Heidi Baumgartner — Kim Meyer

Greetings from Kansas State! As another year is in progress, we welcome the new faces to Manhattan. Those that are first-time students here are Sis. Heidi Baumgartner (Bro. Leonard and Sis. Nancy, Bern), Deann Edelman (Nathan and Marlene, Sabetha), Bro. Rocky Giltner (Sis. Melinda, Witchita), Sis. Kim Meyer (Bro. Robert and Sis. Janet, Bern), Lisa Steiner (Lyle, San Marino, CA) and Sis. Natalie Wysong (Bro. Ben and Sis. Janice, Sabetha).

We held our first singing at the apartment of Sis. Lori Aberle, Sis. Patti Knobloch, Christy Meyer and Sis. Natalie Wysong.

A large crowd attended the fall picnic at Turtle Creek Reservoir. We thank those who traveled a distance to spend the evening with us.

Every other Wednesday, services are held at the Danforth Chapel on campus. On September 11, Elder Bro. Lester Hartter and Bro. Alpha Strahm brought us the inspirational message about seeking your soul's salvation while it is yet day and time of grace. We sincerely appreciate them for bringing us the Word.

Our second hosts for singing were Bro. Rocky and Sis. Melinda Giltner.

KANSAS, SABETHA

Nita Grimm — Charleen hartter

Face to face with Christ, my Savior,
Face to face — what will it be?
When with rapture I behold Him,
Jesus Christ who died for me.

Chorus:

Face to face I shall behold Him,
Far beyond the starry sky;
Face to face in all His glory,
I shall see Him by and by.

Gospel Hymns #349, vs. 1

We who are Christ's have this hope of seeing Him face to face someday. Our sister-in-faith, Liseten Aberle, was granted this privilege September 8, as she silently left this life to be with her Savior. Her light, love and smile will be missed by her husband, Bro. Ben Aberle, and her children, Ramon Aberle (Panama City, FL), Sis. Janice Wysong, Kenneth, Bro. Fred, Bro. John and James Aberle (all of Sabetha).

Sadness touched the homes of other loved ones in our congregation as Loren Steiner passed away after a long illness. We remember in prayer his parents, Bro. Joe and Sis. Clara Steiner, and his sisters, Sis. Lois Meyer (Bro. Eli) and Sis. Florence Meyer (Bro. Harlan). May Christ be their refuge and comfort.

We are very thankful to have willing brethren bring us the truth. With us this month were Bro. Jon Schmidgall (Oakville, IA) and Elder Bro. Eugene Marti (Lamar, MO).

KANSAS, WICHITA

Laurie Gallatin

A baby shower was given for Cheri Reed who is the daughter of Bro. Jeff and Sis. Debbie Frieden (Lamont, KS).

Cheri, her husband, Gene, and their baby, Ryan, recently moved to Wichita.

Bro. Sam Anliker (Lamont, KS) was here September 8 and played part of the conference tapes. Bro. Wendell Gudeman spoke on "Spiritual Structure of the Church" mentioning that unity can only come when everyone submits to God's Word - not man's. Bro. Loren Stoller spoke on stress and how it can hinder us. He gave us some suggestions, which were very practical and useful, on how to avert harmful stress.

We are sorrowed with Bro. Harvey and Sis. Ann Farney in the death of Bro. Harvey's brother and sister-in-law, Bro. Roy and Sis. Minnie Farney (Phoenix, AZ). May the Lord comfort them.

We have begun Bible study again and are studying the first part of the Book of Acts. This is a very exciting part of the history of the church as the church makes its beginning after Jesus' ascension and the receiving of the Holy Spirit. What a special and important message the disciples had to share with a world in great need of hearing the Gospel. Just as we today have such a vital and urgent message to give out to a lost and dying world.

KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON Lester Huber

And He (Jesus) spake many things unto them in parables saying, "Behold a sower went forth to sow and when he sowed, some fell among thorns, and the thorns sprung up and choked them. He also that received seed among thorns is he that heareth the Word: and the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches choke the Word and he becometh unfruitful. Matthew 13.

Many people die each year choking, from food or in swallowing a foreign object. Choking occurs when food or an object becomes lodged at the back of the throat or at the opening of the windpipe. The victim cannot breathe or speak. He may turn pale or blue before collapsing. Death can occur in four to five minutes. Of all the parable warnings, it seems as though the choking parable seems so horrifying. If you have ever witnessed a person choking, either personally or otherwise, you surely learned the deadly peril of the situation. The individual is helpless and death is inevitable if help does not come quickly.

Why? Why did Jesus set forth these

terrifying examples? When He was asked why He spoke in such parables, He said: Therefore speak I to them in parables, because they seeing, see not; and hearing, hear not, neither do they understand. Matthew 13:13.

When we think of the Word, we think of the Word of Life or the Life Giving Word. Philippians 2:16. When we live spiritually we live the Word as "breath of life". Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God. Jesus indicated that other things obstruct or lodge in the way of our spiritual windpipe and choke the very life-giving Word out of our existence and we suffer the inevitable consequences. First the paleness of color, then the blueness before the fatal collapse and death in minutes.

Jesus, who created man's physical body, knew man's physical limitations. He knew whereof He spoke and used this illustration for you and me to read slowly from the One Source, to take time to breath it in deeply, without the obstruction of worldly cares and matters. We must let God be God in all His claims on and for us.

Isaiah said: "Shall the axe boast itself against him that heweth therewith?" We are God's workmanship for His cause and purpose and cannot reply back differently from His Word. Jesus' warning is not to those who have not had the Word sown in their hearts but to those of us who have. Let's not be choked by the care about this life instead of eternal life. The world's problems are increasing by leaps and bounds, but heaven's joys can cover it all. Do you get the message? Do I get the message? Let's let nothing, no, nothing choke the life-giving Word which says, "A man's life consisteth not of the things he possesseth (money, home, family or self)." He who was slain for us is worthy of our all.

If we are experiencing a choking experience, let's be warned and repent, and ask God for mercy. Let the Word jar and shake the obstruction loose from our spiritual windpipe before the inevitable collapse and death for eternity. Oh, what amazing grace we receive when God sees us repent of our past. God will blink at it if we repent and forsake sin.

With heartfelt appreciation, we thank our ministering Bros. Rod Huber (Valparaiso, IN), Steve Gutwein (Francisville, IN) and Carl Wyss (Washington, IL) who came and shared God's

Word with us. May God bless them and their families and all who came with them. We continue to pray for the need of permanent residents here. May God manifest His will.

MICHIGAN, ALTO Liz Blough

Autumn . . . What a beautiful time of the year; I believe it is my favorite. Here in Michigan we enjoy the fall colors to their fullest. God blessed our state with many varieties of trees, lakes and streams, that add to this beautiful season. Harvest time comes hand-in-hand with autumn. The farmers are anxious to see what their yield will be for their hard work all year.

THE GOLDEN HARVEST

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?
He who gathers not at harvest, Will a beggar be at last.
Therefore rise today and labor,
gathring golden sheaves with haste!
Hasten gladly to the labor. Consecrate to God your heart.
Say this day unto your Saviour, "Lord, I'll gladly do my part."

We were again blessed this past month with visiting ministers who brought us God's Word in truth and light. Bro. Ed Schwartz (Bluffton, IN) was with us September 9 and September 15 Elder Bro. Joe Waibel (Bay City, MI) shared the Word with us. These are blessed times we are all thankful for and wish God's richest blessings on these who labor so diligently for us.

Our turn came up this month to visit Kitchener, Canada, to have worship services with the Fortenbacher family. It is amazing and truly wonderful to know that there are those who are so far away that share the same precious faith that we do. May God bless this family who is so far from church and church family.

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY**Linda Ramseyer**

This past month, our congregation has been privileged to hear the tapes of our brotherhood conference. We gathered together four Wednesday evenings to listen to our dear elders speak and to be uplifted in spirit.

Our annual Sunday school picnic was held recently. A wonderful day of fellowship was enjoyed by our Sunday school students and all those who gathered for the meal and singing in the evening.

Our thoughts and prayers have been with those who have been hospitalized this past month. Sis. Mae Guenzel recently had surgery, but we are thankful the Lord has shown His healing hand upon her and she is once again able to attend church. Sis. Pam (Bro. Ken) Schlatter was also in the hospital and we are glad to know that she has returned home.

We are thankful for those who are willing to come and minister the Lord's Word to us. Our visiting ministers have been Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen (Elgin, IL) and Bro. Floyd Wieland (Detroit, MI).

MICHIGAN, DETROIT**Bev Bahr**

"As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in Him: rooted and built up in Him, and established in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving."

Colossians 2:6-7

On the weekend of August 24 and 25 we enjoyed the fellowship of many visitors and the blessing of sharing in testimonies given and baptisms. We welcome Sis. Carole and Bro. Doug Maibach in the fold of our Redeemer. Their parents are Michael and Janet Basford and Bro. Ben and Sis. Lorene Maibach. May God always be at their sides to lovingly guide and keep them. Elder Bros. Akito Inoue and Aaron Steffen were with us for the special occasion.

John and Linda Reardon have been announced for peace and are looking forward to fully establishing their covenant of faith in the waters of baptism. Their parents are Bro. Ben and Sis. Lois Belsley and George and Sis. Marie Reardon. John's father, George, is a convert in Sarasota, FL. What a bless-

ing it is to share God's love in the miracle of conversion within our family circles. We truly are happy for all of them. May God ever guide them and keep them in His grace.

Little Tommie Hitz (Bro. Tom and Sis. Cindy) was hospitalized for a few days due to asthma complications, but is doing much better now. Sis. Ruth Gudeman had surgery and is recovering at home. She will need further treatments in the future. We appreciate her support and love at church and pray that God's blessings of strength and health can be hers.

The Alto and Bay City junior and Bible Sunday school classes spent a weekend of fellowship in Detroit September 15 and 16. Such weekends as these will be remembered and appreciated more and more as time goes by. We give many thanks to the teachers, their wives, parents and whole congregations who support these times by giving their love, time and prayers. Sharing God's Word with us that weekend were Bro. Steve Gutwein (Francesville, IN) and Bro. Homer Reineck (Toledo, OH).

Sis. Sally Dotterer (Bro. Paul and Sis. Phyllis, Bluffton, IN) has moved here to further her studies of chemistry at Wayne State University. Also, Bro. Clay Ramseyer (Bro. Joe and Sis. Dorothy, Bay City) has moved here for employment at Ford Motor Company. We are happy to have them here and hope they can feel the blessings of God in their new homes.

MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS**Barbara Olson**

We were blessed with visits this month from Elder Bro. Harold Messner (Winthrop, MN), Bro. Floyd Schmidgall (Morris, MN), Bro. Alphai Moser (Morris, MN) and Bro. Vernon Leman (Eureka, IL). We thank these dear brethren and their wives for visiting us and for the precious teachings brought forth.

We want to heartily welcome back into our congregation Bro. Ken and Sis. Sharon Lawson and their three children, who, after residing in Ft. Lauderdale, FL for four years, have moved back to Minneapolis. May God, through the Holy Spirit, guide Bro. Ken as he once again ministers to us.

All enjoyed our annual Sunday school picnic September 8. Our young folks are growing up so rapidly! The little boys and girls of yesterday are

young men and women today. We hope that this precious seed will grow in their hearts and that they will become the future church.

May every sermon that I preach

Flow from a heart of love,

And every lesson that I teach

Point souls to God above.

Author - P. J. D.

On Sunday, September 15, many friends, relatives and visitors joined our congregation to share in Bro. Noah Miller's last sermon. We all enjoyed a delicious supper and good fellowship as well. We want to truly thank Bro. Noah for his many years of service in the Lord's work. We also want to thank his wife, Sis. Laura, for her unfailing support to him. May God richly bless them both with many, many wonderful years of retirement.

The Bible clearly teaches that preaching is God's primary way of conveying His truth. Because His Word is quick and powerful, any message based on that truth will help us grow, if received with the proper attitude.

Thought: If the sermon pricks your conscience, it must have had some good points.

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

And ye shall teach them your children, speaking of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

Deuteronomy 11:19

These are the instructions that we as parents are to teach our children who God has entrusted to us.

Terry and Peggy Nohl are the happy parents of their first child, Joshua Allen. Joshua's grandparents are Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Joyce Nohl (McAllen, TX). We are sure this new little member of the family will be loved by all.

Craig and Joenne Schmidgall are rejoicing over their new little daughter, Ashley Rose. Sis. Mabel Schmidgall is the grandmother.

Bro. Dennis Warner (Lester, IA) was able to be with us and refresh us with the Word of Life. Bro. Dennis spoke on the fruit of the Spirit and the works of the flesh. May we pray daily for grace

to walk in the ways of the Lord and not in the ways of the flesh. We thank Bro. Dennis and his family for coming to be with us.

We have been listening to the conference tapes. We are thankful to have our elder brethren speak on topics that are so important to our spiritual walk of life. May we all appreciate the grace it takes for these dear brothers to stand before us and sound the warning to us all.

Recently we sang a farewell hymn for our convert, David Zeltwanger. David will be returning to Indiana to continue his education. May God provide for David each day anew.

Our hospital patients have been Sis. Emma Feuchtenberger, Sis. Hildegard Koehl and Echo Fehr (Bro. Paul, Jr. and Sis. Pam). May our prayers ascend to our heavenly Father for returning health to these loved ones.

Our sympathy goes out to Bro. Leo and Sis. Thelma Dogotch and family in the loss of Bro. Leo's mother, Sis. Katie Dogotch (West Bend, IA). May the Lord provide His almighty hand of love and compassion to these loved ones in their loss.

MINNESOTA, WINTHROP

Wanda Messner

Mary Lou Schmidt

On September 15, Winthrop hosted their annual pork chop supper. We were privileged to have many visitors assemble with us. Among the visitors, we were fortunate to have ministering Bros. Gene Metzger (Lester, IA) and Harold Gramm (Morris, MN). Everyone was entreated by the verses in Matthew 11:29, 30. "Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." We certainly enjoyed the fellowship and love of all! Our special thanks go out to all who made this day a blessed one!

We have been listening to the tapes of the annual brotherhood conference. Truly it touches our hearts to hear the deep concerns and needed exhortations our dear loving elders expound unto us. May we all take heed to their words of wisdom, and by God's grace, let us all strive to do better!

Lloyd and Sis. Dorothy Jacobson would like to announce the engagement of their daughter, Melissa, to Jerry Isaacson (Winthrop). An October 12 wedding is being planned.

Our medical patients this past month were Sis. Carrie Messner, Sis. Rosie Howk, Bro. George Messner, Bro. Leo Messner and Sam Miller. May God strengthen and comfort them as they recover.

A special thought: Fear God, and you will have nothing else to fear!

MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY

Anna Lou Mattix

Ministering brothers serving us the past month were Elder Bro. Raymond Banwart (Ft. Scott, KS), Bro. John Lehman (Bern, KS), Roger Aberle (Sabetha, KS), Russell Wuthrich (Pulaski, IA) and our Elder Bro. Gene Marti (Lamar, MO). We appreciate so much the love, admonition and encouragement the brothers bring to us each Sunday. We were also thankful to have Bro. Gene and Sis. Mary with us for a Wednesday evening service.

Our Bible class students and teachers enjoyed a blessed weekend of fellowship at Ft. Scott September 7 and 8. Much planning and effort is required to accommodate so many people, and we thank the Ft. Scott congregation for their love. "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." Matthew 25:40.

MISSOURI, LAMAR

Janice Braker — Becky Marti

"There shall be showers of blessing: This is the promise of love; There shall be seasons refreshing, sent from the Saviour above." (There Shall Be Showers of Blessing", Gospel Hymns #315). We are happy to welcome Sis. Mary Probert (Jim) into our family of believers. We were privileged to hear her testimony and then witness her baptism September 1. We pray that she will rely on our heavenly Father for grace each day to walk this narrow path of life. Sis. Mary's parents are Bro. Dale and Sis. Corrine Marti.

We rejoice that three of our dear friends have answered God's call. Seeking Him in repentance are Michelle, Melinda and Denise Knecht (Bro. Ervin and Sis. Sandy). We pray that they can build upon that solid rock which is Christ our Lord.

We sing the beautiful hymn, "The Lord Will Provide" (Zion's Harp #86). God, in His infinite wisdom and love, has provided helpmates for two loved ones in our congregation. The engagement of Sis. Janice Braker (Sis. Mabel

Springer, Ft. Scott, KS) and Bro. Bob Stoller (Elder Bro. Leroy and Sis. Clara Huber, Eureka, IL) was recently announced. Sis. Janice's children, Robin, Phil, Kristen, Greg and Dana, are excited about getting a new dad. We wish them all God's blessings and guidance as they plan their new life together.

We have enjoyed many visitors this past month. We especially thank Bros. Earl Banwart (West Bend, IA) and Max Reimschisel (Wichita, KS) for their visits and for being willing to minister God's Holy Word unto us.

MISSOURI, TAYLOR

Loida Hodel — Lori Marquart

"Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer."

Psalm 19:14

THE BEST REMEDY

"The best remedy for those who are afraid, lonely or unhappy is to go outside, somewhere where they can be quite alone with the heavens, nature and God. Because only then does one feel that all is as it should be and that God wishes to see people happy, amidst the simple beauty of nature. As long as this exists, and it certainly always will, I know that there will always be comfort for every sorrow, whatever the circumstances may be."

Anne Frank

We appreciate our visiting ministers, namely, Elder Bro. Paul Butikofer (Elgin, IA) and Bros. Jim Rinkenberger (Bluffton, IN), Clarence Yackley (Phoenix, AZ) and Kenny Dietz (Bradford, IL). May God bless the efforts put forth by these brothers and their families.

A sweet baby girl, Sarah Elizabeth, was born August 31 to Bro. Rusty and Sis. Amy (Hoerr) Adrian. First-time grandparents are Bro. Robert and Sis. Emma Dee Hoerr and Rusty's mother is Genevieve Adrian (Hannibal). May God grant wisdom and knowledge to raise this little sunbeam to know of His ways and "when she is old she will not depart from it" Proverbs 22:6.

The annual business meeting was held Wednesday evening, September 11. Along with routine business was the election of Sunday school teachers. Bro. Steve Kiefaber will teach the

Bible class, replacing Bro. Norman Haerr; Bro. Don Scott, third and fourth grades, replacing Bro. Joe Yackley and Sis. Louanne Gramm will take Sis. Pam Kiefaber's place in teaching first and second grades. Our thanks to those whose terms have expired and we extend our continuing support to the new teachers.

"The Christian faith is never a guarantee against trouble; but it is a guarantee against defeat when trouble comes."

Anonymous

NEW JERSEY, UNION CITY Ed Aeschleman

Visiting ministers during the past month were Bros. Dan Stoller and Al Schnieder (Rockville, CT), Wayne Anliker (Forrest, IL), Leland Hirschey (Naumburg, NY) and Floyd Graves (Croghan, NY). We thank God for the Word and the willing services of our dear brothers, their wives and families, and others that come with them in support of our small church.

We also thank the Lord for sending Nancy Belsley to us from Oakville, IA. She is attending school in Hoboken, NJ and is a most welcomed addition to our congregation.

NEW YORK, CROGHAN Alice Virkler

As I write these lines, my thoughts turn to God and the wonderful plan He has for each of us. Especially at this time of the year we think of the beauty that He places before us in the changing of the seasons. This morning as the sun arises, we see a light ground fog rising against the beautiful green of the fields which is a result of the abundant rain we have been blessed with in recent days. We can also see the beginning of the fall season when the trees are starting to change colors as if God takes a paint brush in His hands to color each of them to perfection. May each of us examine ourselves to be sure that we are living as God has planned for our lives. May we follow His wishes for us each day as the earth before us moves from season to season by His guiding.

Mary Widrick and Brian Benton exchanged wedding vows August 17. Their parents are Gilbert and Betty Widrick and Alvin and Barbara Benton (Marietta, GA). Our congratulations go to Mary and Brian as they begin their life together.

Allen and Kathy Farney have welcomed little Marcy Lynn to complete their family. Marcy was born September 15. She will also be loved by her grandmother, Shirley Steria.

NEW YORK, NAUMBURG Rachel Snyder

We are sorry to hear that Sis. Betty Herzig still has to be confined in her home because of a back injury she received in a fall at her home. May God give her help and strength through these trying days.

Sis. Natalie Herzig is also confined at her home, recovering from an injury to her foot she received when she fell. May God be with her also.

OHIO, AKRON Joyce Gasser

"The Lord said unto Joshua . . ." Joshua 7:10. Throughout the Bible God spoke to individuals. In this example, Joshua had misfortune, and in verses 7 and 8 Joshua asked God the "wherefore" and "what" or why. Joshua heard God give the reason it happened and the solution of what to do. Since Joshua is an example, we also can ask God the "why", and God will give us the solution.

Mark Palitto testified of "a vivid dream of people rushing to hide as if there was a tornado, and Jesus coming in the clouds". Mark heard a voice saying, "Prepare yourself for the Lord thy God returneth." Mark prepared himself and testified of his personal saving faith in Jesus, and was baptized. We rejoice to have Mark welcomed into the fold.

Carol, daughter of our Elder Bro. Eugene and Sis. Eleanor Pamer, was a beautiful bride in a wedding ceremony performed by her father, when Carol and her groom, Marvin Indermuhle, became one. Marvin is the son of Bro. and Sis. Lloyd Indermuhle. The newlyweds are residing in Akron while Marvin is attending Akron University.

Bro. and Sis. Don Gasser's son, Tim, graduated from Akron University with a Bachelors's degree in Mechanical Engineering. He is commissioned in the Air Force as Second Lieutenant.

For Robert Kaufman, October means having reached four score years, as he will be 80 years old October 11.

Sis. Kathryn Novotny was able to come to church after having been hospitalized.

We enjoyed having Bro. James Ram-

seyer and family here Labor Day weekend and appreciated Jim's inspiring messages.

OHIO, COLUMBUS Desma Klopfenstein

This past month has certainly been a joyous one for us. We extend our thanks and Christian love to Bro. Mark Bahr (Detroit, MI) for traveling to be with us and expound upon God's Word. We appreciated our time of fellowship with his family and those loved ones who journeyed with them.

Bro. Ron and Sis. Karen Laparo, along with their children, Mike and Christy, recently moved back to Columbus from the Philadelphia area. We feel blessed in welcoming this dear family, and thank our heavenly Father for increasing His little flock here.

We're so grateful to have children in our midst again. Their enthusiasm and simplistic faith are a lesson for each of us. Recently, during a Sunday school class, the children were answering questions about the Bible stories they had just heard. As we are few in number, there is only one class for all ages; but the younger children are encouraged to participate as much as possible. When asked any questions about the various stories, one little girl would always reply "Jesus". With the bit of knowledge she has learned thus far, she already knows who should be most important to us. It's an unwavering faith that turns neither to the right nor the left. One that we can strive to develop further in our Christian walk of life.

OHIO, GIRARD Kathy Emch

We thank Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Sue Sauder (Mansfield, OH) for serving our congregation the Sunday Harold and I spent in Bluffton, IN. We really appreciate our brothers who fill in for us so that we can get away on occasion.

We had a sizable group of visitors September 15 as Bro. Perry Klopfenstein and his family worshipped with us. He spoke briefly of his experience of writing his book "Marching to Zion". We had Bro. Kenneth Indermuhle as our minister, Bro. John Schambach as our song leader, and numerous others to make the day special. Sis. Joyce Schambach and Sis. Hope Gasser even had 17 pupils in Sunday school. May God's blessings rest on each one of them.

OHIO, JUNCTION**Les Manz**

Our Elder Bro. Loren Stoller was with us as we listened to the first set of tapes of the recent conference in Morton. In Proverbs 3:12 we read, "For whom the Lord loveth he correcteth; even as a father the son in whom he delighteth." As we heard the kind exhortations, some of which no doubt were hard to deliver, we can realize the love our Lord (and our elders) have for us and we are humbled and encouraged to try harder to attain our goal in heaven.

OHIO, LATTY**Marlene Reinhard — Patty Gerber****THE STORMS OF LIFE**

When upon the sea of life

The storms around me roll,
I look to God, my sovereign Lord,
No breathtaking miracle,
To break my battle's toll.

But from my God I ask one thing:

To provide my daily bread,
That I may be a miracle
To those around instead.

And who receives the glory

For this wondrous work of grace?
God and God alone, I say;
He alone deserves the praise!

Brent R. Davis

As we spend our time on earth awaiting our future in eternity, we often experience "storms" in our life. We are encouraged to remember God's promise that our trials only come to make us stronger, more fit for His kingdom. He is always with us to help us through them.

Several from our congregation who have experienced the "storm" of ill health or hospitalization are Sis. Bena Delong, Sis. Mary Stoller, Bro. Ed Wenninger (Sis. Alice), Alisha Rager (Bro. Curt and Sis. Denise), Sis. Anna Rager and Sis. Katie Breitwieser (Bro. Henry). We realize that God does not promise physical healing, but a spiritual strengthening and comfort. We trust that these brethren have already felt His comfort.

We appreciate Bro. Gary and Sis. Peg Ift (Bloomington, IL) for sharing with us their experiences and slides from a recent trip to Europe. We were informed of the struggles that our

brethren experience in foreign lands and also that they are praying for us to overcome what we consider to be our "blessings" (material goods, freedoms). We must remember that although we are free to worship as we choose, we should not let our freedom keep us from worshipping as we should.

We express our sympathy to Sis. Bena Delong, Sis. Mary Stoller, Sis. Naomi Metzger and Sis. Matilda Sutter (Eureka, IL) in the loss of their sister, Katie Metzger (Orlando, FL). May the Lord continue to touch them with His love.

Bro. Duane Farney (Croghan, NY), Bro. Robert Beyer (Naumburg, NY) and Bro. Ernest Graf (Akron, OH) shared with us some encouraging words as they ministered to us. We thank the Lord for giving men the gift of listening to His Spirit, and then being able to share what they hear to many others.

OHIO, MANSFIELD**Linda Morrison**

"... The Lord make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee" Numbers 6:25. "I know it doesn't seem like much to some people, but more than anything I want so desperately to be able to smile." ... exercise the unique human gift of smiling today and every day. And here's a little secret about smiling. Even when you don't feel like it, go ahead and smile anyway. By the time you get one or two in return, the magical thing is that you will feel like smiling. Today I'm going to try to give more smiles than I get.

Ruth Stafford Peale

Bro. Clarence Pfister (Sis. Ruth) had eye surgery but is able to again assemble with us for which we are thankful. Still on our sick list and our prayer list is Sis. Dorothy Gerber (Wayne) and Jenny Banks (daughter of Bro. Larry and Sis. Nancy). When we pray for God's will in an illness or any situation, we must have faith that no matter what the outcome, it is God's will. Then we must pray for His grace to accept His will even if the outcome was not our choice.

We were blessed to have Bro. Doug Sabo (Sarasota, FL) visit us. Elder Bro. Joe Ramsier (Rittman) also spent a Sunday with us. "Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long-

suffering and doctrine." II Timothy 4:2.

Availability. What an important word! It should head the list of good parenting. Without it, all others would be like Paul's "tinkling cymbals". Meaningless. The importance of availability applies to more than parenthood, of course. We need to avail ourselves to our family, yes, but also to our friends, neighbors, those strangers in need, and, most of all, to our Master. Here am I, Lord, send me!

OHIO, RITTMAN**Judy Stoller**

"Men and brethren, children of the stock of Abraham, and whosoever among you feareth God, to you is the word of this salvation sent."

Acts 13:26

We are ever thankful that God's Word is sent to us not only by our own ministers in each church but also by those who visit us from time to time. Visiting ministers this month were Elder Bro. Eugene Marti (Lamar, MO), Bro. Ken Sauder (Mansfield, OH) and Bro. Walter Anliker (Eureka, IL). May God bless each one and the Word which they have spoken.

"I will feed my flock, and I will cause them to lie down, saith the Lord God.

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

Ezekiel 34:15-16

Those who were hospitalized this month were John Ben Maibach, John Calame III (Bro. John and Sis. Jody) and Bro. Elmer Zollinger (Sis. Clara).

Rose Bauman (Bro. Allan) has allowed the Lord to seek her out and has answered His call by turning to Him in repentance.

"Marriage is honourable in all," Hebrews 13:4.

Gregory Bachman (Bro. Eugene and Sis. Kathryn) and Elizabeth Taylor were united in holy matrimony August 24. Brian Bauman (Richard and Gladys) and Peggy Manz (Bro. Eli and Sis. Evelyn, Junction, OH) have decided to join their hands in marriage also. May God bless each one as they are united in marriage and also as they prepare to become united as one.

Bro. Ken and Sis. Lori Stoller rejoice at the birth of their first child. A son,

Matthew David, was born to them August 22. Bro. Don and Sis. Luzelda Stoller share the joy of a grandchild with Bro. Carl and Sis. Carol Steiner. May this child be a special blessing to them all.

OHIO, SARDIS

Paula Figel

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?
 Hasten gladly to the labor,
 Consecrate to God your heart.
 Say this day unto your Saviour,
 "Lord, I'll gladly do my part."

Hymns of Zion #46

As the harvest draws nigh, and we
 take a look at ourselves, are we ready
 for the day of harvest when our Lord
 God calls unto us?

OHIO, SMITHVILLE

Verla Stoller

Open house for our new church was
 held August 18 and the dedication
 August 25. Elder Bros. Eugene Marti
 (Lamar, MO) and Loren Stoller (Latty)
 assisted our Elder Bro. Joe Ramsier in
 the dedication services. As Solomon
 said in his prayer at the dedication of
 the temple:

"I have surely built thee an house to
 dwell in, a settled place for thee to
 abide in forever . . .

But will God indeed dwell on the
 earth? behold, the heaven and heaven
 of heavens cannot contain thee; how
 much less this house that I have
 builded?

Yet have thou respect unto the
 prayer of thy servant, and to his suppli-
 cation, O Lord my God, to hearken
 unto the cry and to the prayer, which
 thy servant prayeth before thee today:

That thine eyes may be open toward
 this house night and day, even toward
 the place of which thou hast said, My
 name shall be there . . ."

I Kings 8:13, 27-29

We also pray that every time we
 would gather in His house, we could
 feel His presence.

Other visiting ministers this past
 month have been Bro. Walt Anliker
 (Eureka, IL), Bros. Delbert Inder-
 mühle and Bill Brake (Sardis), and
 Elder Bro. Eugene Pamer and Bro.
 Ron Palitto (Akron).

"Now it is accomplished! I'm no
 longer mine . . ." Zion's Harp #209. On
 September 1 our first baptism was
 held as we welcomed our new sister,
 Darlene Indermühle (Bro. Darrell and
 Sis. Janet) into the fold.

"When pure and upright hearts, By
 flames of love ignited, Are by the bond
 of faith, More firmly yet united . . ." Zion's Harp #79.

Bro. Bill Hartzler (Bro. Ken and Sis.
 Jane) and Sis. Pam McIntire were
 united as one in the Lord September
 15. May God be with them as they
 begin this walk of life together.

On Wednesday evenings, we have
 been listening to the conference tapes.
 Let us strive to apply the teachings we
 have heard, and seek the guidance of
 the Holy Spirit in each step we take.

OREGON, SILVERTON

Rosa Lee Kuenzi

When our people poured out the
 double doors into the parking lot to
 meet the big impressive tour bus, sing-
 ing, "Greetings be to you, our brethren,
 To our sisters in the Lord, Welcome,
 welcome, all ye loved ones . . ." Hymns
 of Zion #7, we had only a glimmer of
 understanding of the beloved fellow-
 ship and ties of Christian friendship
 that awaited us in this Labor Day
 weekend with the Snowbirds. The
 1985 Snowbird Bus Tour to Oregon
 consisted of 46 dear brothers and sis-
 ters and one very able and amiable bus
 driver, plus about a half-dozen who
 arrived via other transportation for the
 weekend. All were very welcome.
 Enough can't be said, in this space,
 how we enjoyed having them in our
 homes, in our church and involved in
 the various activities. These activities
 included a morning tour of a hop farm-
 ing operation; a tour of a green bean
 processing plant (highlighted by the
 hilarity of everyone donning large,
 white hair nets); hiking at Silver Creek
 Falls State Park; singings; and of
 course, buffets and potlucks. We sin-
 cerely hope our dear visitors enjoyed
 being here even half as much as we
 enjoyed having them. It seemed like a
 good idea, just as the bus was loaded
 and ready to leave Monday morning,
 when someone suggested we, who were
 staying behind, sing "Blest Be the Tie"
 (Hymns of Zion #156). We had ex-
 changed hugs and hearty farewells,
 surely we could give them a melodious
 sendoff. If the words were too muffled
 by the eye wipes and the lumps in the

throats, we will repeat them . . . "But we
 shall still be joined in heart, and hope
 to meet again."

A singing and small reception was
 held at the home of Bro. David and Sis.
 Margene Peasley to celebrate the
 graduation of Sis. Jane Metzger from
 the Clackamas Community College
 Nurse's Training Program. Now that
 Sis. Jane is a graduate nurse, she has
 our continued prayers and support as
 she awaits the State Board exams for
 her RN degree in February, 1986.

**PENNSYLVANIA,
 PHILADELPHIA**

Ann Gasser

The annual Sunday school picnic
 was held at a park near the church. The
 children enjoyed games and paddle-
 boating. We have eleven children in our
 Sunday school.

Don and Janice Witt and their son,
 Timothy, have moved from California
 to a suburb of Washington, D.C., where
 Don will be continuing his education.
 As they are only two hours from her
 parents, Bro. Ed and Sis. Nancy
 Aeschleman, we look forward to seeing
 them more often.

SILVER THREADS

THE SUMMER FADES

The summer fades and autumn comes
 too soon,
 And I who ran with such a quickened
 pace,
 Walk slower now, for it is long past
 noon;
 And I have miles to travel in the race.
 There is much work to do before the
 night,
 And every moment must be made to
 count,
 For there are songs I must find time to
 write.
 And there are hilltops that I long to
 mount.
 The evening bells ring softly o'er the
 air,
 And lamps are lighted all along the way.
 And it is time to talk to God in prayer,
 For now there is a waning of the day.
 Like leaves that fall upon the cold
 brown earth;
 The summer fades and memories pile
 high.
 One starts his journey when he's given
 birth;
 There is a time to live, and a time to die!

Anonymous

THE PADDED CROSS

Well, here I am, Lord. You said, "Take up your cross," and I'm here to do it. It's not easy, you know, this self-denial thing. I mean to go through with it though — yes, sir. I'll bet you wish more people were willing to be disciples like me. I've counted the cost and surrendered my life, and it's not an easy road.

You mind if I look over these crosses? I'd kind of like a new one. I'm not fussy, You understand; but a disciple has to be relevant these days.

I was wondering — are there any that are vinyl padded? I am thinking of attracting others — see? And if I could show them a comfortable cross, I'm sure I could win a lot more.

And I need something durable so I can treasure it always. Oh, is there one that's sort of flat so it could fit under my coat? One shouldn't be too obvious.

Funny, there doesn't seem to be much choice here — just that coarse, rough wood. I mean that could hurt. Don't You have something more distinctive, Lord? I can tell You right now, none of my friends are going to be impressed by this shoddy workmanship. They'll think I'm a nut or something. And my family will be just mortified. What's that? It's either one of these or forget the whole thing? But, Lord. I want to be Your disciple. I mean, just being with You, that's all that counts; but life has to have a balance, too. But You don't understand — nobody lives that way today! Who's going to be attracted by this self-denial bit? I mean, I want to; but let's not overdo it. Start getting radical like this, and they'll have me off to the funny farm. Know what I mean?

I mean being a disciple is challenging and exciting and I want to do it: but I do have some rights, You know. Now let's see — no blood, OK? I just can't stand the thought of that Lord . . . Lord?

Jesus, Now where do you suppose He went?



Sermon . . .

(Continued from Page 28)

The Bible is so simple that it almost confuses us when we try to be wise. To follow the Christ, we must leave the world. It is just that simple. If I wanted

to follow you, or you, and you were going in different directions, I could not. I am not made that way. So life is made simple for a believer.

"And when he had thus spoken, he went before, ascending up to Jerusalem." Luke 19:28. A believer has footsteps to follow. How did Jesus walk? He walked as a servant of all men. He "took upon him the form of a servant . . . became obedient unto death." Philippians 2:7, 8. Service . . . obedience . . . and He was loving. He said, "I love you . . . I will die for you. Follow Me and you can have this life . . . a life like Mine."

He created everything. We can read in this Book, in Psalms, "For he spake, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast." Psalm 33:9. When we go out at night and look up, we can see stars, moon and everything. He just spoke and there it was.

In today's reading Jesus sent two people, two anonymous people, to get something for Him to ride on. He asks our help. He comes as the Lord, saying, "I have need of your help." Can you imagine that? He can do anything. Yet, He says to you and me in humility (we cannot understand . . . I cannot), "I want your help."

He has great confidence in us. Notice! He went before, and had confidence that we would follow, that we would see His love and want to fill our lives with it.

We don't know the names of the two who procured the colt, but they were doing something for the Lord. That is the way He gives us things to do, anonymously. We should serve Him quietly, and the light will shine; and our Father will receive the glory. It may be something little, like going to get an animal.

There are ways to serve which we would count as little, like not forgetting to pray with our children at the table, or kneeling down with them when they are young.

Father or mother, if you have little children at home, the father should speak as a father. If the little boy is two and a half or three, he is old enough to pray. When he goes to bed, don't just tuck him in. Kneel beside him and say, "Will you pray tonight?"

In the morning when the little girl wakes up, the mother should go in and lift her out and say, "Don't forget to pray." Ask them to help you not to forget. It is kind of like going to get the

colt. Or, at the table never be too busy to read. Never be too busy to sit long with one whom you love, because He is sending you . . . He has need of you. How will the little children know, if we do not, by God's grace, let them know that the Lord has need of them? Of such is the kingdom of heaven.

We should become more childlike and more willing to follow, more desirous of doing small things anonymously that no one knows about. No one may know, except a little child, or perhaps someone you meet whom you may not see again. The Lord can use us.

How much of your time, believers, has been spent in anticipating doing something great? A week, a month, or a lifetime may pass, and all the time we were hoping to do something great. We live in a family, we go to a church, we meet brothers, sisters and friends, but we are waiting to do something great. We forget to tell our wives, "I love you. Thanks for the breakfast." We forget to tell our sons, "It is so nice that you are so good to us, mom and me." We forget to tell one another in church, "It's so good to see you," and "I feel so good when I see you." This morning as we came in the back here, a brother whom I have known for many years said, "It's so good you are here." That means a lot.

Don't wait to do something big, like making a million dollars and giving it to someone. Do you have some love? The Lord has need of it. Brighten the corner where you are. You can't tell, He might have a bigger need further down the way, but if we do not learn to do the things which are little, we will not be ready for the things which are bigger. There will be too much of us and not enough room for His light.

Notice that when He told the two (I'm so thankful we don't know their names) it could have been anyone. It could be anyone here who will say the kind words, do the kind things, speak to their aged parents, or talk to the young.

He told the two who were sent for the colt exactly what to do. Do you ever wonder how you should do something? The Lord tells us in His Word. He gives us a good outline of how we should deal with one another.

What shall I do with others? He said, "Love them." How about the people I see at work? "Love them." How about the man who gets in the way at the corner when I am in a hurry to get to

church, as I was this morning? He said, "Love them." He gives us an outline by which we can live right. Inside of that framework, then, the words become different. We are not in such a hurry. There are pleasing words, like, "You can go first at the corner."

Yesterday at our meeting with the young people, we learned that we can find out a lot about ourselves at stop lights. That is one time when we may lose our tempers and get in a hurry. In church, we are prepared, and here we want to love one another. In the atmosphere of the combined love of the church and the presence of the Spirit of God, I don't think that I could be angry if I tried. Maybe I could, because I am kind of stubborn, but hardly. But how am I tomorrow when I am in a hurry? Then I find out how I am.

Young people, does anyone ever ask you in school, "Why do you repent?" This is a good answer: "The Lord says in His Word that I should repent." Why do you conduct yourself in a certain way? "I have instructions in God's Word to go that way." Then life is delightful and simple. We do not have to know the answers anymore of ourselves, or work up a great explanation.

Why don't you go to certain places? Or do certain things? "The Lord told me not to. You can go and check with Him. He has a Book, and He has it all written down. He can tell you much better than I could." It makes life so simple for us. We make our lives so hard, or I do. I am speaking a lot about myself this morning. But we should have this easy life. His yoke is easy and His burden is light.

Whenever we are following Him, whenever I am following Him, His yoke is easy and His burden is light. Once in a while I find life tough and hard. I am complaining at home, and kicking and scrambling around in life. Do you know when that is? It is when I am trying to carry the load myself. But when I allow Him to carry it, and I am in that yoke, then life is easy. Anything that we have and give to Him is in good hands.

There was once a woman at a well. She was talking with Jesus about different things and He told her to bring her husband to Him. That's what He wants. He wants us to bring all things to Him. Then we can see their true worth.

Did you ever count your money in His presence? Did you ever figure your income tax in His presence and say, "This is Yours. Tell me what it really

means."? It looks a lot different that way. When you just figure your income tax, it is a terrible burden. "Why are we supporting these people?", we say. "I work so hard and some people don't."

But when you do it in His presence, then what happens? Here is an opportunity to follow God's Word. Be obedient to those who have the authority over you. Here is a chance to give custom to whom custom is due. This is not a burden. Life is easy and delightful when things are right.

Did you ever look at your children that way . . . in His presence? You may say, "Oh, these teenagers are terrible. I don't know what we are going to do with them." Isn't that the way it is, when you talk to others? "Isn't it a job raising teenagers? It is just a terrible burden."

Then, when you look at them in the light of the Lord, how is it that you and I have this privilege to raise children? He trusts us so much that He gives children to us. He says, "I trust you. These are yours to raise." Then a great privilege is laid on us, for example, when we sit at the table with them.

Yesterday (this is very personal . . . if it shouldn't be said, I am sorry, forgive me; but I want to say it as it comes to me), yesterday I had the privilege of going over two hundred miles with some of my family. It was a privilege. That is the way it is in our lives.

When we see them in the presence of God, and when we see you . . . when I can look out and see you in His presence, isn't it wonderful? There is nothing between us save His love! He loved you enough that Jesus died for you. He loved me enough that He died for me! Things are good when looked at in His presence.

Anything that we give to Him is given back a hundred-fold. We might not notice it, and we might use the wrong measure in trying to count it, saying, "I gave Him a dollar and I don't have a hundred," but that isn't the way to measure. Give Him a minute, and you have a lifetime to enjoy.

Has anyone here ever given anything to Him from your heart? Your life? Your soul? After being submissive and obedient to Him, and following in His way, didn't you say, "Oh, I wish I had come to Him sooner?"

"When he was come nigh, even now at the descent of the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God . . .

Saying, Blessed be the King that cometh in the name of the Lord: peace in heaven, and glory in the highest." Luke 19:37, 38. This is His desire, that there would be a reconciliation between us upon earth and our Father who is in heaven, that there would be peace between us, and that the glory would be given to God.

Jesus said that God will be praised. If men would not perform their function, stones would perform it. He will not be left without their witness.

As we came into town this morning, at the south end we saw stones on the right side of the road that are calling out, "While it is still the time of visitation, find out what brings peace in your life." We call them gravestones, but they have a big message on them for every one of us.

"And when he was come near, he beheld the city, and wept over it." Luke 19:41. Why? Because, for one thing, they didn't know what they were missing. Though He wept, judgment is not to be set aside by His compassion. They go together. He said that Jerusalem would be overthrown.

We haven't reached that time when He will say, "If you had only known what will give you peace, but now it is too late." Today is the day of grace.

To all of us He offers this new sheet, this completely new page. It is given to us by His grace, not because we deserve it, but because in repentance and faith, we reach out to receive it as a gift. He says, "This is yours. Write on it what you wish."

It is given to us this morning, to all of us. Let us write on it at the top, "Jesus is my Saviour." And underneath, "I will follow Thee. Where You go, I will go. If it leads to Calvary, if it leads to suffering for me, Your way is best. Wherever You go, I will go. I will follow You closely."

Does it sound too plain and too simple for anyone? He spoke like that because that is what we need. "Follow Me," the Saviour calleth. "Come to Me; I am the Way. What is lacking, I will give you. Trust in Me. Watch and Pray."

This morning, He says to me, to you, and to anyone who will listen, "If you follow Me, I will lead you to heaven. I will help you every step of the way."

Let us not miss out on this. Let us use the time that is given to us to stay close to Him and follow Him, because His way leads to heaven.

FEB 02602 LK
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SERMON BY BRO. DAVID WIEGAND OF URBANA, IL

Text: Job 1:1-3 and Luke 19:28-48

We find a connection between the opening songs that we sang, the first reading, the intermediate song, and now our second reading. All told of a life lived in the presence of God. Bro. Perry's opening words were about following and taking steps. That seems like a good place, if God will be gracious to us and direct our thoughts, for us to begin this morning.

We read, "And when he had thus spoken, he went before . . ." Luke 19:28. There is a life with a lofty goal laid out for each one who desires it. It is a life like that of Christ, for we are to be conformed to the image of Christ. A death was required for us to be able to achieve it.

We read here of Christ's coming into Jerusalem, but we know from Sunday school and from our reading that He was coming to Jerusalem to die, to die so that He could be born again; so that He could come forth from the grave and be resurrected a new person in you and me.

If Christ had not died and been resurrected from the grave, would you and I be here this morning? No. It would be a waste of time if we were here. But because He has gained this victory and has died for us, we can die with Him.

When He goes before us, our Lord and Saviour gives us this invitation: "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me." Matthew 16:24. To follow Him is not a casual or a light step to take.

At first glance and looking with the mind of man, who would want to take up the cross? But we sang, "We walk by a life of faith." As we think of it that way, we find that this is a tremendous privilege. All of the things which we have accumulated through years of our living here upon this earth will be left behind. We have a new life offered to

us. It is offered to everyone here this morning, to anyone who desires it, to me, to you, to all.

Did you notice our early songs this morning, "Awake" and "Oh, How Lovely is the Morning"? Did you notice that they spoke to us of beginnings? This morning each one of us has an opportunity. Everyone here. God is not a respecter of persons. We have a new opportunity, a new page to write upon.

How can we have a new life? We can have it if we follow the Lord. It happens naturally if we follow Him, because then we lose ourselves. We deny ourselves, and the old is left behind. As we all know and are taught in Scripture, there are steps to take: repentance, confession, restitution. In a Christian's life, in the washing of the water of the Word, the old is left behind.

How much of your life do you think you waste by hanging on to old things? We older ones have made a few steps in life. How much of your life and mine do we waste by hanging on to and dragging in things from yesterday and last year; from two, five and ten years back?

Did anyone here ever find himself carrying a grudge? Did you notice that it takes all of your energy and all of your time? While doing so, you cannot follow the Lord, because His steps are steps of peace. How hard we often make our lives by not following in the footsteps of the Lord.

Yesterday I was privileged to be in a group of young people. In our conversation, some thoughts came out which I would like to share with you.

Someone had this thought for the use of spare time. How should we use our spare time? We often have some extra time given to us by God; perhaps waiting at a stop light which won't turn green so that we can go, or waiting for a train. How should we use it? Someone said that when we have time like that given to us, we shouldn't waste it. Do

you have someone you haven't prayed for? Use that time properly.

Christ's life was given for others. As we have these opportunities given to us, let us use the new sheet, the new page, so that our life can be one of following the Lord.

If any man follows the Lord, he is going to the cross. Kneel at the cross, and there you will meet Him. But before we can pick up our own cross, we need to deny ourself. Why? Because He is giving us something much better to carry than our old self. He is giving us a life wherein we can live a life like His, a life of self-sacrifice and love.

Has anyone here ever given himself up for one moment that was not a privilege and a pleasure? Has anyone here ever saved a moment selfishly for himself, and found that it was something that he wished he hadn't done?

There are only two ways to go. One way is to follow our Saviour to Calvary, enter Jerusalem with Him, and hear the crowd calling, "Hosanna! Hosanna!" There we cast our garment (our old self) down and have Him ride over it, never to be seen again.

Or there is another way, our own way. There is no neutral ground upon earth. There is no neutral ground at all. Every square inch, every split second is either given to Christ and claimed by Him, or it is stolen by the evil one who would like to take it away from us. In that case, the delightful life of which we sang is something wished for but not given. Did you notice that I involuntarily used the word, "given". No one earns it. It is a gift. You can have this life if you'll take it.

"Come unto me . . . and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28. "For by grace are ye saved . . . it is the gift of God: Not of works . . ." Ephesians 2:8, 9. To receive this, we must have an empty, open heart.

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