



That I may make known
with the voice of **Thanks-
giving** and tell of all thy
wondrous works.
Psalm 26:7

Be anxious for nothing,
but in everything, by pray-
er and supplication with
Thanksgiving let your re-
quests be made known
unto God.

Phillipians 4:6

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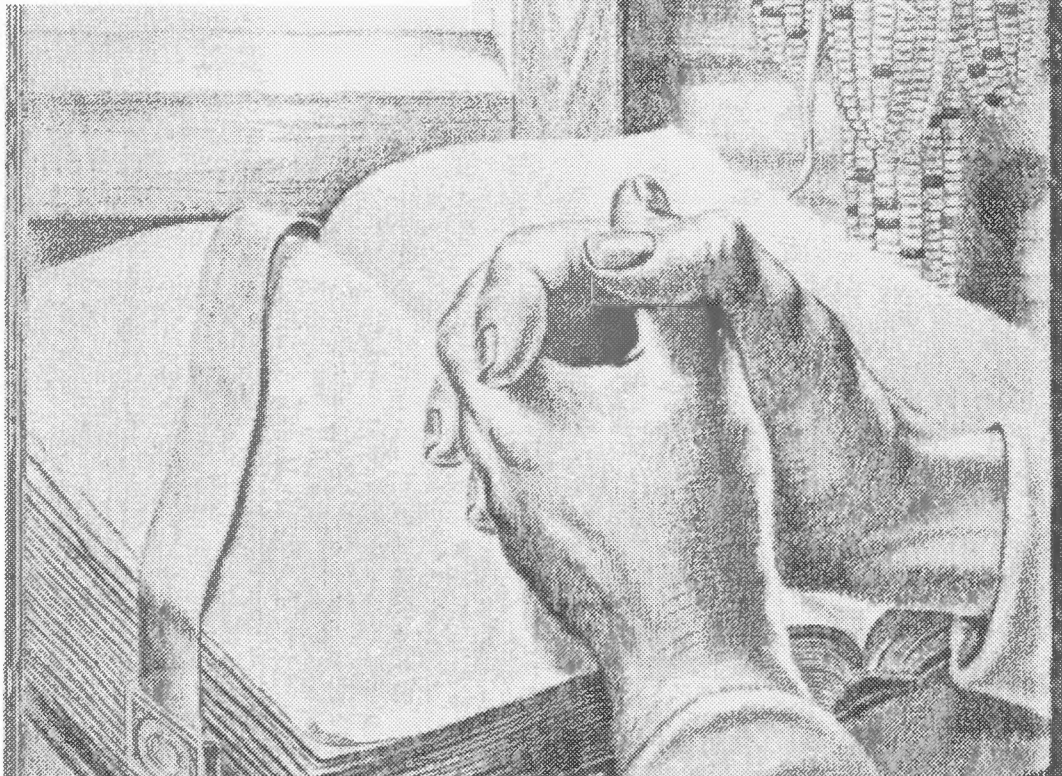
NUMBER 11

ALL COME AND THANK THE LORD

Now thank we all our God
With heart and hands, and voices,
Who wondrous things has done,
In Whom the world rejoices,
Who from our Mother's arms
Has blest us on our way
With countless gifts of love,
And still is ours today.

All praise and thanks to God
The Father now be given,
The Son and Holy Ghost,
Who dwell in highest heaven.
The one eternal God,
Whom earth and heaven adore,
Who is and shall survive,
Now and forever more.

Zion's Harp #236



APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN BROTHERHOOD

Bro. Jerry Messner, Winthrop, MN

The story I am about to write in all probability could be written a thousand different ways over many, many years by thousands of different people; not just plain, ordinary people, but special people; special because they are my brothers and sisters-in-Christ.

They are people who have taken their burdens and cares, trials and tribulations, worries, woes and sins to the foot of the cross. They have taken them to the foot of the cross through prayer, faith, love, compassion and grace, and a compassionate Christ has lifted, and still does lift, the burdens.

As I was walking this evening, it seemed necessary for me to return home, sit down with pen and paper, and express my thoughts about a close knit, loving brotherhood.

I would like to tell the story of my journeys of love to the annual brotherhood conferences and the beautiful, loving, God-fearing, Christian people, brothers and sisters-in-Christ, whom I have been privileged to meet.

Morris, MN (1971), Gridley, IL (1972), Morton, IL (1973), Bluffton, IN (1974) . . .

Even now, names and faces come to mind; beloved elder brethren whom I have met; some who have labored in God's vineyard for many years. Yes, and some who have now gone on to meet the Chief Shepherd in the eternal heavens.

Peoria, IL (1975), Cissna Park, IL (1976), Rittman, OH (1977), Tremont, IL (1978), Fairbury, IL (1979), Eureka, IL (1980) . . .

The trips by car to all of the conferences have been a real joy. Good Christian conversation with people who have found the precious pearl and have sold all else to purchase the one which will last through eternity.

Roanoke, IL (1981), Princeville, IL (1982), Gridley, IL (1983), Lester, IA (1984), Morton, IL (1985).

I remember with fond, loving memories the faces (not always the names) of beloved brothers and sisters-in-Christ, and yes, I feel compelled to mention this, with friends (Rittman, OH) who have taken me in for lodging and meals, sometimes for three days and nights.

We shared, over the years, hours and hours of good Christian conversation.

We discussed our repentance, our conversion and our walk with Christ. Yes, we shared our problems and promised to pray for each other. We comforted and encouraged each other. We expressed our eternal gratitude for what Jesus did for us, and we expressed our love for each other.

I remember the churches we visited going to and coming from the host church. Again, we found more brothers, sisters and friends to meet (names to forget) but never to forget the fond memories and blessings.

We remember the Children's Home in Leo, IN and the Home for the Handicapped at Morton, IL and the beloved brothers and sisters-in-Christ (and others) who serve and labor in these places of compassion.

There is the Book Store in Eureka, IL (I love that place), and the Home for the Aged in Eureka. We always had a beloved older brother-in-Christ to visit there, until our heavenly Father took him Home.

I am very mindful of the World Relief meetings and those who have dedicated so much of their time to serving Christ not only in the spiritual sense, but also in the physical way. I remember those who donate their time and talents to make some unfortunate lives a little more comfortable. They have given more than a cup of cold water, they have given of their abundance and of their talents. They have given what Christ has asked . . . of themselves; and that without praise or glory.

Above all, I remember the general conferences. I can hear the voices, sometimes 1,000 or more strong, singing praises to a Great Loving God, and songs of thanksgiving to a bleeding, suffering, resurrected Christ. Even now chills run through my body and a lump rises in my throat, because I love Jesus Christ.

The shepherds, in humbleness and humility, in strong voices, quiet voices, and oft times in tears, warn, exhort, encourage and plead with the gathered flock to be obedient to the Word, to be prayerful and to be watchful, lest our adversary overtake us.

I would encourage any brother or sister-in-Christ, who has not yet taken the opportunity to attend a conference, to do so and feel the love of Jesus

Christ and the presence of the Holy Spirit among His people.

I would also encourage those who have not yet taken the time to work out their salvation to hasten to do so, so they can share in this blessed peace and joy that we as God's children have on this earth.

I truly believe that those larger congregations that are able to host a conference share in a special blessing that we of small congregations are not able to enjoy; nevertheless we encourage visitors to come and worship and visit with us.



THE SILVER LINING

Grabill, Indiana 46741
USPS 496780

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IN MEMORY — EDITORS:
HENRY SOUDER
EDWARD SOUDER

THE SUNNY GLADE IN THE DEEP, DARK FOREST

A PARABLE

Bro. Gene Lehman, Wolcott, IN

Once upon a time a man cleared an area in the midst of a deep, dark forest. In the sunny glade, he placed a family of bears, and built a strong house for them to live in. He fenced the homestead with a sturdy stockade, and he placed inside everything that any family of bears could ever need. Peace and security reigned within the walls, and no enemy was strong enough to break and enter.

The man told the bears that all of these comforts were theirs to enjoy, but he warned them that out in the deep, dark forest lived wild wolves who would not allow themselves to be confined in a stockade, preferring to follow their own desires and feed upon that which could not truly satisfy them. He knew it would be necessary for the bear family to venture out into the forest from time to time, and he promised them his protection if they would always be obedient and return at night to the safety of their own house. The wolves, he said, would try to entice the bear family to join them in their way of life, but to do so would cause the bears to lose the security he had provided for them.

The bear family was happy and content with their lot as the man kept every promise and cared for them. One day, however, they began to look outside their walls, wondering what there was to be found in the deep, dark forest. Little by little they ventured forth, and some of the boldest began talking to the wolves and going with them to their places of enjoyment. The wolves welcomed them, but mocked their modest way of life, telling them they were missing many things that would give them pleasure. The older bears remembered what the man had said, and warned against the growing friendship with the wolves. Some bears listened, but the bolder ones found that they actually enjoyed many of the things the wolves did, and they really

didn't think it would hurt anything to join in.

As time went on, in spite of the warnings, more and more of the bears became more conformed to the ways of the wolves, casting away, one at a time, the priceless gifts that the man had blessed them with. Soon they began to take on so many of the wolves' ways that it was hard to tell the bears from the wolves.

As this process slowly evolved, things changed in the sunny glade. The bears who were running with the wolves began to make the other bears unhappy with their plain and simple ways. Those inside the house saw that those in the forest seemed to enjoy themselves so much that they tried the ways of the forest also. While this was happening, the old bears warned and warned, but they were regarded as just old folks who didn't know how to enjoy life. The stockade began to decay, and the house began to suffer from neglect. As the old bears passed out of life, other generations saw no value in holding up the fence or fixing the roof of the house. The old fashioned place didn't suit the bears any more, so they gradually made changes and remodeled the structure to be more like the beautiful houses the wolves lived in. They didn't sing the old songs any more, preferring more lively music. The things that were important to the old bears were slowly forgotten.

While all this was going on, the foundation of the house was crumbling, but no one seemed to care. With the stockade gone, the sunny glade began to fill in with trees. No one cut them out; it didn't seem to hurt anything. There came a day when the bear family and the wolves were all the same, and about that time, the house fell in.

Now in the place where there was once a sunny glade, there is only a deep, dark forest.

goal, the farmer began to form an organization that would provide live animals to help people produce food and income for themselves, and to expand livestock production to help overcome worldwide protein malnutrition. HPI is a non-profit, inter-faith organization and will respond to requests from indigenous groups, whether it be for national or international concern. Each proposed project is locally managed and reflects the self-defined goals of participants.

The thought of using animals to promote peace throughout the world did not begin with HPI. The first story or record was that of Jacob and Esau in Genesis, chapters 32 & 33. In that record, Jacob tricked Esau out of his rightful inheritance and then had to flee for his life. For twenty years, Jacob lived in exile and during this time he became quite wealthy, owning much in land and livestock. The day came that Jacob was not welcome any longer in his new land and returned home to attempt making amends with his brother. As he traveled homeward, Jacob heard that Esau was on his way to meet him with an army of 400 men. Jacob then decided to send a peace offering to his brother of 550 head of various animals. Jacob's gift had the desired effect and the brothers met with embracing, making peace with each other.

The Apostolic Christian Church has, in the past, helped Heifer Project out mainly with dairy, beef cattle, swine, hay and financial aid. These were all donated by the members and friends of the Apostolic Christian Churches of America and are greatly appreciated. The World Relief Committee would also like to extend a special thanks to all that were involved in securing the needed Holstein heifers for shipment to Jordan this fall.

At this time, there is a need for 13 Suffolk ewes and rams, between 7-12 months old. If you are interested in helping out with this need, please contact: HPI, Midwest Office, P.O. Box 767, Goshen, Indiana 46526.

In conclusion, I would like to convey to you the devastation of war, famine, sickness, and disease that has ravaged our world for centuries, and seems to be escalating. So many people look in vain to idol gods and false hopes, and yet poverty holds them in a deadly grip. In the face of such misery and need, what are we to do? How are we to

WORLD RELIEF REPORT

Heifer Project International

Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give, not grudgingly, or of necessity; For God loveth a cheerful giver.

II Corinthians 9:7

What is HPI? Heifer Project International was founded in 1937 by an Indiana farmer during the Spanish Civil War, who felt that a helping hand is better than a handout. This being the

respond to such a need? There is an answer. By looking at Christ's example as He walked on earth, we see Him caring for people in a personal way, stressing time and again the importance that His followers meet the physical as well as the spiritual needs of those around them. Today, Jesus still pleads with Christians everywhere to reach out in His name, to find a way of loving and caring.

Please lay this burden to your heart and pray for the World Relief work and Heifer Project International. This may be a way that you can share some of the blessing that the Lord has bestowed on you.

"Let there be showers of blessings!!!"

Submitted by:
Bro. Loren Strahm
World Relief Committee Member
Gridley, KS

* ATTENTION *

The Apostolic Christian Church History — Volume 1

The Church History Volume 1, which has been out of print for over two years, has recently been printed in a new edition and should be available by December 1.

You may want to consider this book in your Christmas giving.

This second edition in English will be available for a short time at the pre-publication price of \$6.50. Send order to the:

Apostolic Christian Publications
Inc.

524 Valley Court
Eureka, IL 61530

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.

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

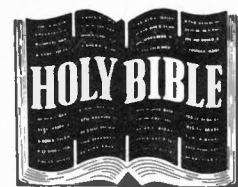
First Year — August 1983 thru July 1984 — 13,890

Second Year — August 1984 thru July 1985 — 10,812

Bibles Distributed — Third Year

	MONTH	TO DATE
August 1985 —	876	876
September 1985 —	1369	2245
October 1985 —	1259	3504

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 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

and look forward to many hours of rich fellowship.

Bro. Uriel Gehring, who preceded Bro. Tim as administrator, will serve the home part time as a Public Relations Coordinator to our churches. He will keep them abreast of the home's progress, its present and future needs, and the opportunity for all to share in the growth and effectiveness of the home in helping to mold the lives of the young people who live at the home.

As I gaze out the window, what a panorama of intrinsic beauty meets the eye; looking up, the azure of the sky with tufts of white clouds floating rather aimlessly into the distant horizon, and then fading from mortal view into the great unknown; looking straight ahead, amidst the yet green grass and shrubbery, is the crimson foliage of the burning bush (*euonymus atroparpureus*) stretching her branches upward where old glory is flashing her red, white, and blue colors; looking to the left, a resident house, the new barn, and the woods pretty much stripped of her blazing array of many colored leaves (fall is upon us) and to the right, a harvested bean field with yellow clay soil covering the inclined slope. What meaneth these sights? "The earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof."

Our "countrified" look is getting more that way, as we now have five calves occupying the new barn, in addition to the horse, and a gilt with 12 piglets.

Some new trees and shrubbery have been added to the administration building area, giving the complex a more finished look. Some shrubbery in the area around the buildings adds to the completeness of the setting. Trees and shrubbery add so much to any home site, a touch of the Master's hand. We can wholeheartedly agree with the poet, Kilmer, who said, "Poems are made by fools like me, but only God can make a tree." Only God can create life and life giving things. It is our privilege to serve this God.

Very recently one of our residents completed a Nursing Assistant Training Program and now has certification from the Health Aid Program. This qualifies her for employment in nursing homes, homes for the handicapped, private homes, etc.; a step toward independent living in adult life.

SPECIAL NOTICE

Change of Hours

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

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

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME

Uriel Gehring

Our new administrator, Bro. Tim Sauder, and his wife, Sis. Jenny, arrived in Fort Wayne, IN September 30. Their present address is 2601 Kensington, Fort Wayne, IN 46805. This is a 15-20 minute drive from the home. Bro. Tim comes to us with a rich background of over 10 years experience in working with children in various settings; his most recent position being that of a social worker in a children's home in Urbana, IL. Welcome aboard, Bro. Tim, and we wish for you much success in your calling as the administrator of the home. May you always feel the directive of His spirit. As a couple in His service, we welcome you to the Leo Church family,

We have enjoyed outings, including a wiener roast in the backyard. Roasting wieners around a fire is exhilarating and warms one up on a crisp evening. After the wiener roast come the marsh-mallow roast; always exciting.

Our national celebration of Thanksgiving is upon us again, and how much we have to be thankful for here at the Home, in our homes, in our church, and in our nation. Our appreciation for His mercies upon us should be manifested in the love we have one for another. The children and staff are making plans for the Thanksgiving Holidays.

The anxious waiting for the arrival of little Schick number two, the second child of Bro. Bill and Sis. Joan Schick (house-parents in the East House) ended October 30, when Ryan Daniel was born. The Gehrings, Bro. Uriel and Sis. Judy, have also become grand-parents for the second time as their son, Brad, and his wife, Gale, became the parents of a second son; he joins big brother, Gregory Scott, 2 years old.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

It is the season of Thanksgiving. Only an All-Knowing Heavenly Father knows the gratitude which fills our hearts to overflowing, and to Him we turn:

Heavenly Father, we humbly ask Thee to bow Thine ear and hear us as we open our hearts. Thy Holy Word tells us that Thou hast created us, and we know what Thou doest is perfectly done. Here on earth we are lovingly classified as the "handicapped". Perhaps we are, for we observe that we are indeed different, so far as our minds and bodies are concerned. But, Father, our hearts are like anyone else's. We love, we hurt, we cry, we feel compassion for another, we laugh sometimes, but most of all, we have an inner longing someday to return to Thee. However, because of our handicaps, we cannot tell it to others here on earth as we long to do, but we are so grateful; for Thou, who made us as we are, hast also provided for our care. Thou hast placed us here and hast sent those who dedicate themselves to be feet to the lame, hands to those of us who need to be fed, eyes for those of us who cannot see well, ears for those who cannot hear and help of various kinds for those of us who cannot speak. Most important of all, Thou hast provided Love. We are

made to feel special, showr we can be useful and needed and that our love to them is important. We thank Thee, Father, for all of this. Because we cannot thank them as we would like, we beseech Thee on their behalf that Thou in Thy perfect way will convey to them that encouragement which they need to carry on when our minds and bodies do not cooperate as they should. Bless them all with renewed strength when they feel "burned out", and yet duty calls them to continue. Keep them safe from harm and from those outside elements which would put obstacles into their paths. Let them be united in their desire to serve that which is right.

Then, too, there is that host of dear ones, known as volunteers. They give so much and ask so little. Surely the eternal reward for them is assured, as they serve as unto Thee. And as Thou hast blessed some with ability to give of their time, so hast Thou blessed some with the heart and ability to share of their earthly possessions. As stewards of what Thou hast provided, they have generously shared; and we know it was not always out of their abundance. For those who have made sacrifices for this cause, grant a special blessing.

We intercede, also, for those governing bodies who make the laws which profoundly affect our Home. Always provide Thou those people who will be concerned for our welfare and our civil protection.

Bless, encourage and grant wisdom in abundant measure that all will be accomplished to Thy honor,

In Jesus' name, we pray.

The Ninety and Nine who
call this their home

By the time you read this, our annual Benefit Day will again be recorded in history. Please accept our most heartfelt thanks for all donations of time, money and support.

Many of our residents are eagerly anticipating the Thanksgiving holiday when they can spend time with family and friends. May it be an especially blessed time for one and all.

ARIZONA, PHOENIX Ron and Ev Hoerr

On October 13 we heard the engagement of Bro. Steve Freed to Sis. Kelly Kraft. Their parents are Richard and Sis. Dorothy Kraft and Bro. Allen

and Sis. Edith Freed. May the Lord be with them as they make their wedding plans.

The joy and peace in believing (Romans 15:13) has filled the hearts of converts Jenny Zollinger Hand (Dennis), Steve Miracle and Kelly Emch. They are looking forward to giving their testimonies and being baptized the weekend of November 16 and 17.

Congratulations are extended to Bro. Joe and Sis. La Vina Dotterer on their 45th Wedding Anniversary. Their children invited their friends to spend an evening with them. May the Lord bless them with many more years together.

We were privileged to hear the conference tapes over several Wednesday evenings.

Bros. Jerry Emch, James Emch, John Kaufman, Ted Knochel and Jeff Fischer are answering the call to volunteer their skills and help to do some construction work in Haiti. We pray the Lord will be with them on this mission.

A Thank You: We regret this didn't make the last issue. Sis. Josephine Marti and family sincerely wish to thank everyone for the many prayers, cards, gifts and flowers they received at the time of the sudden death of their father and husband, Bro. Glen Martin.

Sympathy is extended to Bro. Earl and Sis. Emma Sanders on the death of their uncle, Bro. Rueben Farney.

We extend Season's Greetings to everyone and welcome your visits to our warmer climate.

Grace, Mercy, and Peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Titus 1:4.

ARIZONA, TUCSON Sandy Bauer — Lisa Knapp

Our annual Sunday School picnic was held September 29 at Ft. Lowell Park. We were blessed with a lovely day, and are thankful that so many were able to attend.

Temperatures lately have been averaging in the high 70's. We are thankful to have so many warm, sunny days which should be a constant reminder to us to let our lights also shine.

"Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid.

Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

St. Matthew 5:14-16

CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

Marian Petrovic — Sherise Strahm

Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

Psalms 95:2-3

There are many, many reasons for which to be thankful this Thanksgiving season, but we should be especially thankful for God's wonderful plan of salvation. Our God has given us the best, His precious Son, through whom we can be set free. We also thank God for leading our forefathers to America many years ago so that we may have spiritual freedom to worship Him freely without fear of persecution.

In today's society, many families gather around the table laden with food and perhaps offer their first "thanks" of the year. As the day draws to a close, many forget why they have gathered, but vividly recall the bright and awesome floats, and who won the football game. May we, as believers in Christ, take the joyous opportunity to praise our Father each moment of the day, each day of the week and throughout the entire year! Both great and small, we have so much to be thankful for. We once were great sinners and Christ has made us whole, pulling us, one by one, out of complete darkness and setting us in the light of the righteous. All our sins were forgiven and buried forever more. Even more so, the precious invitation of Salvation is open to all!

Each trial set forth during our walk results in increased faith and trust in our dear Saviour. Our trials were brought upon us for a purpose. Although it fulfills His divine plan for us, it also builds our Christian character and even reveals our spiritual weak areas. "...and every branch that beareth fruit, He purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit." (John 15:2) We can be very thankful that, while each of us carry our own burden, He will not send more than we can bear. "For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." (Matthew 11:30)

Our small congregation welcomes Bro. Brad Geyer (Morton) to the San

Diego area. We pray that Bro. Brad will find God's peace and contentment here among our brethren.

We are grateful for the dear ministers who labored in our behalf this past month. God's Word was brought to us through Bro. Dale Strassheim (Milford) and Bro. Tom Luginbuhl (Altadena).

COLORADO, DENVER

Lee Ruegsegger — Marlene Leman

We are so thankful that the Lord has drawn another soul to labor in His vineyard. Our friend, Morgan Dillard, has answered our Saviour's call to repentance. We pray, and ask also that you pray, that the Lord will be with him and guide him in this most important step of his pilgrim walk.

"If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit."

Galatians 5:25

Our friend, Ed Leman, through grace, has found peace with God and man and has been announced for baptism. His testimony and baptism will be November 9 & 10, God willing.

Bro. Mike Martin has sincerely prayed and felt that it is God's will that he should go to Haiti with the World Team work crew. They will be gone about ten days, so we pray that there will be many prayers for those who labor for the Lord in Haiti.

We have been privileged to listen to the conference tapes. We thank our Lord for using our elders as tools to help us mold our Christian walk of life.

Have Thine own way, Lord,

Have Thine own way.

Thou are the potter,

I am the clay.

Mold me and make me after Thy will
While I am waiting

Yielded and still.

Hymns of Zion #113

Bro. Ron Palito (Akron) visited us on a Wednesday evening. May God bless him for his words of encouragement and His labors in the Lord.

We've had a lot of young people come out to our area and find jobs. For this we are thankful. We'd also like to encourage older people, perhaps folks of retirement age to consider Denver. Our climate is mild, compared to the midwest, and humidity low, making it a very comfortable place to live.

CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE

Michelle Virkler

THANKSGIVING... SHOWERS OF BLESSINGS

There shall be showers of blessing
This is the promise of love
There shall be seasons refreshing
Sent from the Savior above

Gospel Hymns No. 315

As we read in the above-mentioned hymn, there shall be seasons refreshing, sent from our Savior above.

With the recent hurricane that hit Connecticut with winds up to 85 miles per hour, we were reminded of all that we take for granted daily: food, water, electricity, warm food and warm showers. Perhaps this is the time of year to review our lives and not only count our blessings, but also take inventory of our bountiful harvest which is a gift from God. For, our blessings are in abundance. Sometimes it's difficult to set aside time for appreciation until we are cut off from these daily gifts. This is such a beautiful time of year to witness God's creation, the changing of season and vibrant colors of the leaves turning before they shed their coat for winter's return.

"The apostles and elders and brethren send greeting unto the Brethren."

Acts 15:23

The last three Sunday evenings we have gathered together to receive guidance, direction and wisdom from the Annual Brotherhood Conference.

Daniel Ezra was born September 16 to Luanne (Mangold) and Michael Hoffman. Maternal grandparents are Bro. Clarence and Sis. Martha, and paternal grandparents are Bro. Edwin and Sis. Elsa.

We have been privileged to have the following ministers during October: Elder Bro. Aaron Steffen (Alto, MI) and Bro. John Klotzle (Altadena, CA).

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

St. Mark 10:9

Bro. Steve (Bro. Lee and Sis. Maxine) Bahler and Sis. Lori (Bro. Edwin and Sis. Beverly) Gerber were married Sunday, October 13. We trust God will bless them in their new life together.

Our dear friends, Dana Moser (Bro. Jim and Sis. Jane) and Tim Schneider (Bro. Wilbur and Sis. Marge) were

united in Holy Matrimony on October 19. May God richly bless their lives together.

Our love and sympathy is extended to the family of Sis. Lucy Wuthrich, widow of Bro. John Wuthrich, who passed from this life on October 13, at the age of 88.

FLORIDA, FORT LAUDERDALE Dale Ringger — Jeff Graf

Bro. Bud and Sis. Billie Klopfenstein have announced the marriage of their son, Daniel J., to Sally Lee Powers of Miami Lakes, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Powers of Miami. The couple was married September 3, at the Miami Lakes Congregational Church.

We welcome home Bro. Roy and Sis. Helen Luginbuhl after their extensive travels here and abroad this past summer. They both have expressed they are thankful to be back home safely.

The Fort Lauderdale congregation wishes to extend sympathy to the family of Lydia Wieland, Bay City, MI. She was a winter resident here for many years.

"But as touching Brotherly Love, ye need not that I write unto you; for ye yourselves are taught of God to love one another."

I Thessalonians 4:9

FLORIDA, NORTH FORT MYERS Marie Keller — Edna Meister

A TIME FOR ALL THINGS

Autumn is the season to harvest and be proud.

Autumn is the reason the fertile earth was plowed.

God made a time for planting and a time in which to reap,

So man might learn through labor that giving is to keep.

He gave us time to study and time to understand,

And time to ease the pain we see and lend a helping hand.

We have the time for kindness and time to plant a smile,

And there is always time enough to walk the second mile.

God made a world of beauty and set it in our hand;

He bade us work to tend it as we would till the land.

Have we made earnest effort? Do we our duties see?
And in the proper season what will our harvest be?

Author Unknown

"In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."

I Thessalonians 5:18

May we again be thankful for all God has done for us and for giving us the freedom to worship Him as our Saviour.

We welcome new residents previously from the Ft. Lauderdale area to our Naples area. Bela and Monika Tars have moved here recently to this area and we hope that they will feel welcome and at home with us here at the North Fort Myers Church.

We have been blessed with visiting ministers this past month from our congregations across the state: Bro. Harry Sutter (Ft. Lauderdale), Bro. Glen Price (Sarasota), and our Elder Bro. Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI). We welcome any visitors who are in our area travelling to come and worship with us. There are two services on Sunday: 10:30 A.M. (E.S.T.) and 12:30 P.M., and Wednesday evening service at 7:30 P.M. (E.S.T.) each week. Take I-75 South to Exit #27, go right to U.S. Highway 41. Turn left, follow Hwy. 41 South 10 miles to Del Tura Mobile Home Estates. Turn left onto Trail Dairy Circle. Follow road to the first street. Turn left 2 blocks to church entrance.

Coming from 41 South, go approximately 2 miles north of the Shell Factory on Hwy. 41 to Del Tura Mobile Home Estates. Turn right onto Trail Dairy Circle. The church telephone number is (813) 656-3800.

FLORIDA, SARASOTA Elaine Gudeman — Elda Martin

ALL COME AND THANK THE LORD

Now thank we all our God
With heart, and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things has done,
In whom the world rejoices,
Who from our Mother's arms
Has blest us on our way
With countless gifts of love
And still is ours today.
All praise and thanks to God

The Father now be given,
The Son and Holy Ghost,
Who dwell in highest heaven.
The one eternal God,
Whom earth and heaven adore
Who is and shall survive,
Now and forever more.

Zion's Harp #236

As the thanksgiving season is upon us we can truly count our blessings which the Lord has so freely given to us in the past year. Truly we are a fortunate people.

We were blessed with visiting ministers this month, and truly thank them for laboring on our behalf. They were Bros. Mark Bahr (Detroit), Harold Schmidgall (Gridley), and Darrel (Bud) Klopfenstein (Ft. Lauderdale).

The weekend of October 12 we were especially blessed when the Ft. Lauderdale church came to visit with us. We know it took a special effort for those who traveled and put the weekend together. The weekend was filled with unity and blessed fellowship for all who gathered together. A special thanks is given to all involved.

That same weekend we were privileged to hear the testimony of Bro. George Reardon. We thank God for the grace extended to each of us that we could find our salvation. We rejoice with Bro. George that he is now a part of God's family and a real asset to the Sarasota Church.

"Faithful until death remain" describes Sis. Pauline Geary. We are thankful for her that her battle is over and the victory and crown have been won. We now pray for God to grant His grace and strength to the family and loved ones who will greatly miss her.

ILLINOIS BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL

Jan Gudeman — Nancy Kaufmann

Our congregation was truly blessed this past month as we were privileged to have so many of our young ISU and IWU students fellowship with us. On September 22, we hosted the students and their families here. It is such a joy to have so many young people in our community and we want to welcome everyone of you to worship with us as often as you can. Visiting ministers that day were Bros. Hartzell Kaisner (Detroit) and Joe Braker (Morton). We extend our appreciation to them for giving so willingly of themselves.

We were also privileged on October 13 to host College Weekend here in our congregation. The church was filled with so many glowing young faces and such beautiful singing. Surely it is only a taste of what is in store for us in heaven. Sharing in our blessed day were ministering Bros. Jim Plattner (Princeville) and Ken Hoerr (Peoria). We thank them both for their inspiring messages.

Hospitalized this past month was Sis. Marie Keiser. We pray for her quick recovery.

ILLINOIS, BRADFORD

Marilyn Tanner

May we be reminded of the bounty of God's wonderful love and blessings as we once again approach this Thanksgiving season.

We want to thank Elder Bro. Joe Stoller (Princeville) and Bro. Walt Herrmann (Princeville) for ministering God's Holy Word unto us. May our Heavenly Father richly bless them for their labors of love.

We will certainly miss Bro. Darel and Sis. Mary Alyce Hofsen and their two precious children, Julie and Alisa, as they have moved to Lewistown and are making Tremont their home church. We wish them God's blessings in their new home and employment.

Rachel Jean is the newest addition to Randy and Leisa Rumbold's family. Welcoming her home is brother Ryan; grandparents, Raymond and Joan Rumbold and Mr. and Mrs. Orville Mahnesmith; and great-grandmother, Anna Rumbold. We wish them all many blessings with their new bundle of joy.

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO

Kathy Schlatter

"The hill of Zion yields
A thousand sacred sweets
Before we reach the heav'nly fields
Or walk the golden streets."

#204, v. 3, Tabernacle

The words of His servants in their humility and desire to serve Him are some of those "sacred sweets". We thank Bros. Al Aberle (Tremont, IL), Ralph Garber (Morton, IL), Arnie Gerst (Taylor, MO) and Ken Schneider (Remington, IN); for their willing service for the Lord, for us.

Another "sweet" the Lord grants us is sharing the joy of two souls whom the Lord has brought together. Bro. Mike

Kaiser of our church family (originally from Morton) and Sis. Joyce Young, Champaign (originally from Cissna Park) are engaged. They anticipate a February wedding. And we of the family get tears in our eyes, thrilled once again at what God hath wrought. We wish Bro. Mike and Sis. Joyce continued spiritual growth during these months of precious preparation for marriage. May the Lord be with them as they get to know each other and his/her family. Many are the blessings of the Lord!

"Oh Thou who hast given us so very much, grant us one thing more — a grateful heart." This thought-provoking verse is written on a favorite gift of mine. Being grateful and thankful promotes a P.H.M.A. (that's a "praising Him" mental attitude). Our praising will also lead us to praying. We won't be so quick to condemn when we concentrate on His praises. When we hear something about a brother or sister, about something that happened at one of our church homes, or a situation involving the expenditure of church funds, we won't rush in to speak foolishly. Instead, we'll pray and we will be supportive, knowing how misleading our thoughts and reactions can be. Let us be thankful for the abilities of prayer and praise and start immediately to try to overuse them!

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK

Myrna Weerts — Wilma Walder

Our love shall not diminish
Nor fade nor wax away;
Bind us till life we finish
And in the grave we lay

Zion's Harp #137

On September 22, Sis. Deloris Walder and Bro. Alton Maibach were united in marriage. The parents of the couple are Bro. Henry and Sis. Dora Walder and Bro. Ben and Sis. Della Maibach, all of whom are deceased. We are saddened to have Sis. Deloris leave our congregation but wish her many blessings in her married life and new home in Rittman.

This month we were blessed with several visiting ministers: Elder Bro. Robert Walder (Congerville), Bro. Kevin Knapp (Bloomington) Bro. Everett Hari (Bloomington), Bro. Gene Lehman (Wolcott), Bro. Wendell Gerber (Bluffton North), and Bro. Bob Meyer (Bluffton North). Our sincere

appreciation is extended to these dear brothers who came and shared the Word with us.

Out of water and of Spirit
Thou, O Child, art born today;
You've escaped the old oppressor,
In God's covenant you'll stay.
Zion's Harp #34, vs. 3

The weekend of October 5 and 6 was a joyful occasion as Sis. Clara Hofer was baptized and welcomed into the brotherhood. We wish her God's blessings in her new walk of life.

Once again we have loved ones who have suffered injuries, undergone surgery and tests. These include Bro. Willard Rudin, Bro. Ed. Alt, Sis. Mattie Bauer, Bro. Bill Rinkenberger, Bro. Howard Greiner, Jason Knapp, Sis. Naomi Knapp, and Bro. Kenneth Weerts. We hope and pray that all will be blessed with a full recovery.

On October 13, the engagement of Sis. Joyce Young and Bro. Mike Kaiser was announced. The parents are Roland and Mary Anne Young and Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Lorraine Kaiser. May the Lord's blessings be with them in their approaching marriage.

As Thanksgiving Day is approaching, our thoughts go back through the past year of the many blessings the Lord has given. Let us always have thankful hearts.

Because I have been given much,
I, too, shall give;
Because of Thy great bounty, Lord,
Each day I live
I shall divide my gifts from Thee
With every brother that I see
Who has the need of help from me.

Because I have been sheltered, fed,
By Thy good care,
I cannot see another's lack
And I not share
My glowing fire, my loaf of bread,
My roof's safe shelter overhead,
That he too, may be comforted.

Because love has been lavished so
Upon me Lord,
A wealth I know that was not meant
For me to hoard,
I shall give love to those in need,
The cold and hungry clothe and feed,
Thus shall I show my thanks indeed.

Grace Noll Crowell

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

Even though we set aside a special day of Thanksgiving, we should be thankful every day of our life for all that God has blessed us with. We are truly a blessed people and take so much for granted. May we always remember to thank God for even the smallest of gifts, such as a smile or a helping hand.

Love is of a friendly nature,
Does no selfish thought possess;
Love is not a sin partaker,
And is free from bitterness.
Love is truthful, not deceitful,
Does here every burden bear;
And, enduring, is so fruitful
In all trials joy to share.

Zion's Harp #37

On October 12, Mark Schrock and Terri Cotton were united in marriage. May their love continue to grow as they begin their walk of life together as one. The parents of this new couple are Bro. Allen and Sis. Carol Schrock, and Bill and Amy Cotton, Metamora.

A little ray of sunshine, Andrew, has come into the lives of Ken and Jane Studebaker. Benjamin, Becky, Rachel, and Daniel are excited to have another brother to play with. Happy grandparents are Bro. Ed and Sis. Mary Steffen, and Paul and Shirley Studebaker, Eureka.

We extend our sympathy to Jim and Elda Mae Craig and their family in the loss of their son-in-law/brother-in-law, Roy Chrisman. It is in times like these that we especially need the prayers of those we love.

Our prayers are with those who are hospitalized this month. Sis. Francis Schumacher and Bro. Glenn Knapp are both home and recuperating. Benjy Knapp (Bro. Ralph and Sis. Linda) is still in the hospital following a farm accident. We hope that each one of them can feel God's healing hand in their lives. May we all find the needed strength from God to endure each trial as it comes.

ILLINOIS, ELGIN
Elizabeth Schambach
Betty Bachtold

WE THANK THEE

We thank Thee, Lord, on this recurring day,
For liberty to worship as we will;

We thank Thee for the heroes of old
Who dared wild seas their mission to fulfill.

O, gird our hearts with stalwart faith
in good.

Give us new trust in Thy providing
hand,

And may a spirit born of brotherhood
Inspire our hearts and bless our native
land.

T.C. Clark

As we approach the time of Thanksgiving, we have special reasons to "All Come and Thank the Lord." Zion's Harp #236. On Sunday, October 6, many brethren and families from Chicago and Elgin gathered to dedicate our new RestHaven to our Lord. It was an impressive moment for all of us as we recollected the beginning, how God gave the vision many years ago, and provisions for a facility were designated to care for the sick and aged. Countless efforts have been put forth to bring this project to fulfillment. May grace and wisdom prevail to make this Home a blessing, not only for those who reside here, but all those who enter.

After a tour of the Home, a potluck supper was enjoyed by all. Open House for the public is scheduled for Saturday, November 23rd.

Joy alternates with sorrow. Our beloved Sis. Beth Kachelmuss Leman Anliker, 83, became ill very suddenly and suffered a massive stroke. After lingering several days in the hospital, she was relieved of this earthly pilgrimage and could go to sleep in Jesus. We believe she experienced many sorrows in her lifetime and was acquainted with grief, but her faith in God was a living testimony to all. Surviving are two daughters, Mrs. Richard (Carolyn) Ahle, Mrs. Robert (Lucille) Peters; five sons, Bro. Robert Leman, Willis and LeRoy Leman, Melvin and Richard Anliker; and 37 grandchildren; five sisters, Sisters Esther, Katherine, Gertrude Kachelmuss, Cecelia Braun, all of Elgin, and Martha (Ben) Greiner of Hancock, MN; and one brother, Bro. Clarence Kachelmuss, (Forrest). She was preceded in death by her first husband, Bro. Ernest Leman in 1935, and her second husband, Bro. Joseph Anliker, in 1972.

We also remember in sympathy other bereaved families in our congregation. Bros. Art and Delbert

Schmidt and Sis. Sarah Kellenberger experienced the passing of their aunt and sister-in-law, Sis. Esther Messner (Winthrop, MN). Bro. Ernie and Sis. Marcelle Dapper suffered the loss of Ernie's mother; Sis. Julia Dapper, who resided in the Eureka Home. May God comfort their hearts.

Bro. Calvin Weiss, who has spent seven weeks in the hospital, was able to return home. We are thankful for God's healing powers. Sisters Martha Zierke and Leah Kinsinger were also hospitalized this month.

Scott and Vicki (Weiss) Samelson welcomed their first child, Bret Karl, October 7. Bro. Cal and Sis. Dena Weiss and Mrs. Jeanne Moese are the happy grandparents.

"Our hearts are yet in close communion beating; In Jesus' name we bid the farewell greeting." Zion's Harp #114. Bro. Larry and Sis. Bea Metzger, daughter Sis. Terry and granddaughter Kim (Laurence) Byrne have left our vicinity to make their home in Michigan, and will be attending church in Detroit. May God be with them as they establish their home in new surroundings.

Bro. Perry Klopfenstein (Gridley, IL) presented the history and establishment of our faith and informed how through much suffering our forefathers have left us our precious spiritual heritage. We thank him and his dear family. May it create in all our hearts a deeper love and devotion to God. The question was asked "Would we be so willing to suffer that the future generations would have such freedoms as we enjoy?"

Visiting ministers this past month were: Bros. Dale Frank (Oakville, IA), Earl Banwart (West Bend, IA), Elder Bros. Perry Zimmerman (Forrest, IL), Sam Anliker (Lamont, KS), and Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL). We thank each one for lending themselves in the service of our great God.

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

ILLINOIS, EUREKA
Kathy L. Rocke

This Book contains the Word of God, the state of man, the way of salvation, the doom of sinners, and the happiness of believers.

Its doctrines are holy, its precepts are binding,
its histories are true, and its decisions are immutable.

Read it to be wise, believe it to be safe,
and practice it to be holy.

It contains light to direct you, food to support you,
and comfort to cheer you.

Christ is its grand object, our good its design,
and the glory of God its end.

It should fill the memory, rule the heart,
and guide the feet.

Read it slowly, frequently,
prayerfully. It is given you in life,
will be opened at judgement, and be remembered forever!

Author Unknown

We are thankful that Janet Zimmerman (Tom) has heeded the Lord's call and turned her back to the world and sought the Lord in repentance. We wish her the Lord's grace and blessings. Her parents are Sis. Lula and the late Bro. Ralph Fehr.

Visiting us this month were Bros. Bill Gudeman (Elgin, IL), Nate Stoller (Bradford, IL), Earl Kilgus (Remington, IN) and Duane Kilgus (Fairbury, IL). We thank them for their efforts and willingness to labor that the Word can go forth freely.

We extend our sympathy to the family of Sis. Julia Dapper who passed away October 5. Services were held for her at the Princeville church.

Bro. Craig and Sis. Marilyn Martin welcomed Bethany Rose into their hearts and home September 22. Grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Verna Wettstein and Bro. Nelson and Sis. MaryEllen Martin. May God bless this little family.

Our best wishes for God's blessing are extended to Sis. Claribel Walters and Bro. Walter Anliker as they exchanged wedding vows at Rittman, OH, October 6. We welcome Sis. Claribel to our congregation and hope she will soon feel at home with us.

Sis. Marie Klaus and Sis. Sheri Martin (Bro. Bruce) were hospital patients this month. How thankful we are that they are improving and re-

gaining health. Surely this is a blessing from God!

"Never take on more work than you have time to pray about."

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY

Carol Bazzell — Joann Zehr

The engagement of Sis. Marie Bahler (Bro. Arthur and Sis. Suzanne) was announced to Bro. Joe Koehl (Bro. Virgil and Sis. Gladys). They are planning to be married November 24. May God bless them as they make their future plans.

Sis. Bonnie Moser (Bro. Lloyd and Myrna) and Bro. Jerry Wagenbach (Bro. Jerry, Sr. and Sis. Bonnie, Oakville, IA) were married Sunday, October 13. We wish both of them God's richest blessings as they establish their home together. We thank Bros. John Steiner (Oakville) and Walter Herrmann (Princeville) who visited us on this Sunday and shared God's Word with us.

Margaret Sohn, 84, passed away October 1. Sympathy is extended to her husband, Phil; a son, Paul (Memphis, TN); a daughter, Phyllis Alport (Chicago, IL); and one sister, Louise Hibschi; and one brother, Fred Aellig.

We have various ones from our congregation who have undergone surgery in the last few months or who have been quite sick. May God be near them, and we hope they will soon be back to good health.

Other visiting ministers were Bros. Marvin Lemman (Bradford) and Ron Heiniger (Bloomington) and Elder Bro. Joe Ramsier (Rittman), and we sincerely thank them for ministering to us.

As Thanksgiving Day approaches, the following seemed so fitting:

On the First Thanksgiving Day
Pilgrims went to church to pray,
Thanked the Lord for sun and rain,
Thanked Him for the fields of grain.
Now Thanksgiving comes again;
Praise the Lord as they did then,
Thank Him for the sun and rain,
Thank Him for the fields of grain.

Author Unknown

ILLINOIS, FORREST

Sharon Adams — Patsy Stoller

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

Who wondrous things has done,

In whom the world rejoices,
Who from our mother's arms has blest
us on our way

With countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.

Zion's Harp #236

As we near the Thanksgiving season, it reminds us to give thanks for the blessings we have received throughout the year. May we thank Him each day for His loving care.

We were richly blest the evening of October 5 as we listened to the testimonies of our friends, Allen Ricketts (Bro. Nick and Sis. Jean) and Brian Waibel (Eldon and Marge), as they told of their repentance and conversion. We rejoice with them and welcome them into our brotherhood. Elder Bro. Art Bahler (Fairbury) was here to assist and visiting ministers were Bro. Dave Wiegand (Champaign), Bros. Duane Kilgus and John Hartman (Fairbury). We thank them for coming and sharing God's Word with us all.

"Haste and seek your soul's salvation; Heed the Word of God today!" Zion's Harp #52. How joyful and thankful we are that we have more souls who have answered His call and are surrendering to His will. May our loved ones, Harlan and Jean Knapp, Julie Ricketts (Bro. Nick and Sis. Jean) and Matilda Johnson (Harry) surrender all to Him and build on the solid rock, Jesus Christ.

We extend our sympathy to Bro. Bob and Sis. Donna Lemman in the passing away of his mother, Sis. Beth Anliker of Elgin.

We are thankful Bro. Frank Honegger has returned home from the hospital.

"The Sunday School is our delight. We love it more and more. 'Tis here we learn to do the right and live forever more. We hear the truth, so pure and clear, of Jesus' love so sweet and dear;" Hymns of Zion #73. Bros. Marvin Dotterer and Mike Zimmerman and Sis. Beverly Eisenmann have been called upon to teach our children in Sunday School. May God be with them as they bring forth the message of Jesus Christ.

The engagement of Bro. Joe Koehl (Bro. Virg and Sis. Gladys) and Sis. Marie Bahler (Bro. Art and Sis. Suzanne, Fairbury) was made known recently. May God direct them as they plan their future.

Bro. Bob and Sis. Linda Anliker were blessed with their first child, Martin Leon, on September 18. Grandparents are Bro. Wayne and Sis. Judy Anliker and Bro. Ivan and Sis. Kathryn Steidinger.

We extend our sympathy to the family of Sis. Ella Honegger who passed away October 10. May God comfort the hearts of our loved ones, Bros. Frank, Sam and Paul Honegger and Sisters Kathryn, Nathalia, and Perceda Honegger.

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD Bev Joos

Hundreds of years ago our forefathers did recognize the need to set aside a national day of worship and giving thanks for blessings received. This long cherished tradition is one that reunites families and loved ones nationwide as they render thanks unto the Lord. This same thankful attitude and amount of effort should flow from us daily, not just once a year.

For lovely things you see around you,
For tree and flower upon the sod,
For all the blessings that surround
you
Give daily thanks and praise to God.
Katherine Edelman

We do know that each day we are allowed the breath of life and the strength to raise our head from our pillow, we are indebted to our Creator. Though we are ever appreciative of all the material blessings God has given us, we realize the most important gift He has bestowed upon us is life eternal. Thankfulness for His Plan and His abundant grace is expressed in this beautiful hymn:

We give Thee thanks, O Lamb of God,
That on the cross beam Thou hast
bought
For us salvation, peace and grace
With Thee in heaven's resting place!
We give Thee thanks!
Zion's Harp #199

Even in times of sorrow, we can find reasons to be thankful. Although our congregation was deeply saddened September 25 by the death of our Sis. Elizabeth Hartman, we are grateful that she lived her life for God. We extend heartfelt sympathy to her entire family — especially Sis. Viola Wagner,

Sis. Loretta Hess, Sis. Shirley Debolt, and Sis. Margaret Newlin.

We were thankful for the special privilege of listening to young voices praising God in song on Sunday, September 29 and Sunday, October 6 as Goodfield hosted ACYF. It is our prayer that those who participated received as great a blessing as did those who enjoyed listening.

The benefits were plentiful as God shared His word with us through Bro. Alphai Moser (Morris, MN), Bro. Earl Ringger (Gridley, IL), and Bro. James Plattner (Princeville, IL).

We are thankful for three new additions to our congregation. A precious baby boy brought special joy to Gary and Patti Musselman on September 23. Little Curt Frederick is a baby brother to Jenell and Jessica. Excited grandparents are Mrs. Barbara Granning, Bloomington, and Bro. Norm and Sis. Eileen Musselman of Deer Creek.

A darling baby girl, Jennica Nicole, blessed the home of Loren and Elise Joos on September 27. Cuddling their new sister are Julie, Nate and Joni. Happy grandparents are Elmer and Dorothy Brunner, Tremont, and Bro. Bill and Sis. Clem Joos, Deer Creek.

Joe and Sally Zimmerman's lives were brightened on October 19 by Chelsea Kathleen. She is getting hugs from her brother, Joshua. Delighted grandparents are Ann Quast and Bro. Morris and Sis. Kathy Zimmerman, all of Eureka.

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY Carol Klopfenstein

STEPS TO HAPPINESS

Humility: "Let nothing be done through strife or vain glory but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves."
Philemon 2:3

Appreciation for the blessings of God: "Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God."
Philemon 4:6

Paceableness: "Great peace have them which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them."
Psalm 119:165

Patience: "In your patience possess ye your souls."
Luke 21:19

Interest in others: "Let no man seek his own way, but every man another's wealth."
I Corinthians 10:24

Neatness and orderliness: "Let all things be done decently and in order."
I Corinthians 14:40

Entertaining positive thinking: "The Lord is on my side; I will not fear: what can men do unto me?"
Psalm 118:6

Submission: "Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God."
Ephesians 5:21

Stability: "But the God of all grace...make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you."
I Peter 5:10

Bro. Mike and Sis. Sandra Zimmerman are the happy parents of a son, Andrew Michael, born September 20. His grandparents are Bro. Wayne and Sis. Judy Anliker (Forrest) and Bro. Roy and Sis. Helen Zimmerman (Gridley).

Kaleigh Joelle Schlipf is the precious new daughter of Bro. Art and Sis. Twyla. She was born September 21 and has two sisters, Janelle and Carissa and a brother, Jeremy. Her grandparents are Adam and Lulu Schlipf (Gridley) and Bro. Herman and Sis. Oleda Menold (Morton).

Bro. Stan and Sis. Colleen Ringger welcome their new daughter, Jennifer Jean, who was born October 1. She has a brother, Jamin. Jennifer's grandparents are Bro. Fred and Sis. Mary Ringger and Bro. Roy and Sis. Helen Schlipf (all of Gridley).

The marriage engagement was announced of Bro. Gary Klopfenstein, Gridley, (Sis. Betty and the late Bro. Carlton) to Sis. Candy Knochel, Detroit, (Bro. Dan and Sis. Ruth).

We appreciated the visit of ministering Bro. Marvin Schmidgall (Eureka).

Sis. Ella Cargill has been in the hospital. Bro. Eli and Sis. Lorene Kiefer have also been hospital patients and are now staying in the Meadows Home.

ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY
Kathy S. Rocke

Lead me in thy truth, and teach me...
 Psalm 25:5

We are thankful for the many valuable teachings we received at College Weekend this fall. We want to express our appreciation to the ministering brothers who were willing to come and share with us. Surely the time was well spent, for we learned many beneficial applications from the life of Daniel. Much additional unity was gained in our young group by planning for College Weekend. We praise the Lord for this, for it will make the rest of the year extra special.

We have also received many teachings this past month at Bible Study. Bro. Marshall Heinold (Washington) spoke on a Biblical approach to personal financial planning. As God's stewards, we should be cheerful givers and willingly share our blessings with others. Bro. Ralph Garber (Morton) discussed Romans 8:35, "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?" We also learned about prayer. Bro. Dave Kieser (Princeville) spoke on the Lord's Prayer, and Bro. Don Sauder (Roanoke) spoke on the Intercessory Prayer. It was interesting to take a closer look at these important prayers of our Lord.

Please join us at Schroeder 244 for Bible study on Thursday evenings at 7:30. We appreciate all who come.

ILLINOIS, MORTON

Phyllis Farney — Marcia Kelley

Sis. Ollie Rein wishes to thank everyone for their prayers, cards and gifts of love. May God bless all who were so kind.

The family of Sis. Anna Yentes wish to express their sincere thanks to all for their many deeds of kindness shown to them during their time of sorrow. May God bless all who were so kind.

Bro. Mike and Sis. Theresa Kelson welcome into their hearts and home, Ashley Danese. She was born September 25. Her happy grandparents are Clara Cange and Bro. Bud and Sis. Sharon Kelson.

We are rejoicing with Bro. Mike Kaiser (Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Lorraine) and Sis. Joyce Young (Mr. and Mrs. Rolland Young, Cissna Park, IL). May the Lord bless them as they will walk life's pathway together.

We wish to thank Bro. Everett Hari (Bloomington-Normal, IL) for sharing so graciously about the will of God in our lives. May God 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 and remember them with a card and/or a telephone call. May they continue to feel our prayers.

We wish to thank our Bible Class for inviting the Peoria and Tremont Bible Classes to Morton on Sunday, October 13. It was wonderful to have our young people with us for the morning service. Bro. Ted Witzig shared the Word of God with them in the afternoon at our Fellowship Hall. May God richly bless our young people for being with us.

ILLINOIS, PEORIA

Margo Marx — Susi Herman

"Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."

I Thessalonians 5:16-18

If we could only find ourselves continually calling upon the Lord with words of praise, prayer, and thankfulness — how the Lord would bless us! This is the season for thanksgiving. We think of our families, homes, food, and other blessings and we are grateful. But how often do we give thanks for the things we do not have, the things the Lord withholds because this is not the season they are to be provided. This holiday season it's important to get back to the basics and rejoice in our salvation in the blood of Jesus.

Weddings in the Lord are beautiful! On October 16, Bro. Dave Meister, Jr. and Sis. Diana Slotter exchanged wedding vows. We pray that their lives will continue to radiate God's love as they now walk through life together.

Angie Schmidgall and John Burkley were united in marriage. Angie is the daughter of Bro. Gary and Sis. Nancy Schmidgall and John's parents are Jean Melvin and Jack Burkley. May the Lord fill their home with His love and blessings.

We are privileged again to listen to the tapes of the conference where our elders have discussed important guidelines to help us in our Christian walk. May we all strive to be faithful in all aspects of true Christian living.

If ye love me, keep my commandments. John 14:15

Visiting ministers this month were: Bro. Joe Aberle (Sabetha, KS), Bro. Wayne Anliker (Forrest, IL), and Bro. Noah Herman (Tucson). May God richly bless these brothers for their labors of love.

Those who spent time in the hospital this month were: Sis. Emily Tanner, Sis. Rosalie Edelman, Sis. Nettie Zimmerman, Sis. Aldine Waibel, and Bro. Ray Wiegand. May prayers and messages of cheer continue for those who are ill.

Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Julie Dapper on the death of her mother, Sis. Julie Dapper, of Eureka.

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE
Marjean Lehman

"Lord Jesus, honor, thanks and praise Be to Thy goodness all our days. Thy people in Thy grace rejoice, In comfort they lift up their voice: Thou shalt remain in all eternity! Thus we repose in blest security."

"In loving care stay by our side, For none except Thee can provide. Convert all who know not Thy name, All evil workers put to shame! And let the tempted feel Thy wondrous might, That in the darkness they may see the light."

"The raging wolves, Lord, from us keep; A lion's courage give Thy sheep. All those who foreign ways have learned Be speedily to Thee returned. So draw and bind us closely unto Thee, Till in one flock we all united be."

Zion's Harp #14

This hymn expresses the prayer on our hearts at Thanksgiving!

We are thankful Elder Bro. Ed Ringger, and Bro. Byron Stoller (Gridley, IL) were willing to come and minister to us. May God bless the labors and gather in a good harvest!

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

Proverbs 22:6

First time parents, Bro. Craig and Sis. Terri Martin, welcomed little Clint

Matthew into their hearts and home October 4. Thankful grandparents are: Bro. Nate and Sis. Esther Martin and Bro. Vernon and Sis. Bernice Stoller. May God bless their family circle.

"Love of all gifts, is the greatest which the Spirit does bestow..."
Zion's Harp #37

On September 22, Bro. Kyle Scholl (Bro. Bob and Sis. Arlene) and Sis. Jane Herrmann (Bro. Eugene and Sis. Betty) were united in holy matrimony. We wish them God's richest blessings in their new life together.

"How joyful is the hope that lingers,
When loved ones cross death's sea,
That we, when all earth's toils are ended,
With them shall ever be!
We'll never say good-bye in Heaven,
We'll never say good-bye...
For in that land of joy and song
We'll never say good-bye."
Hymns of Zion #122

Our dear sister-in-faith Julia Dapper laid her armour down October 5. She was born September 5, 1903. She was a resident of the Eureka Home and was preceded in death by her husband, Bro. John. Our congregation expresses sincere sympathy to her daughter, Sis. Julia, of Princeville. We know Sis. Julia will be missed by her family and friends.

"In sorrow and pain thy trust do retain in Jesus the merciful Saviour. When burdened with care, when thou wouldst despair, then call on thy loving Redeemer."
Zion's Harp #46

Hospital patients this past month were: Sis. Mary Martin, Sis. Helen Schick and Sis. Grace Strietmatter. May God's healing hand be upon them.

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."
Hebrews 11:1

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

Carol Knapp — Marge Leman

After a bountiful harvest and the time of Thanksgiving is near, may we always look to God and remember it is only through Him that these blessings come to us.

HOW TO OBSERVE THANKSGIVING

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

Recently Bro. Louis and Sis. Fannie Zimmerman celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. May God continue to bless them and be near to them for many more years.

On October 2, little Samuel Frederick arrived to bless the home of Bro. Tom and Sis. Mary Sauder. Also giving him a special welcome are his brother, Tommy, and his grandparents, Sis. Dorothy Sauder (Roanoke) and Fred and Sis. Norma Rieker (Peoria).

Many prayers are with those who have been in the hospital recently. They are Sis. Pat Sauder and Sis. Velma Leman.

We express our sincere thanks to our visiting ministers. They were Elder Bro. Orville Ringger and Bro. Kent Ringger (Bluffton, IN), and Bro. Frederick Knapp (Congerville, IL). May God bless these brothers and their wives and families for sharing with us.

ILLINOIS, TREMONT Dorothy Wagenbach Caroline Bolliger

MAKE EVERY DAY THANKSGIVING

Thank you, God, for everything—
the big things and the small,
For every good gift comes from God—
the giver of them all.
Too often we accept,
without any thanks or praise;
The gifts God sends as blessing,
each day in many ways.

Oh make us more aware, dear God,
of little daily graces;
That come to us with sweet surprise,
from never-dreamed-of places,
And help us to remember,
that the key to life and living;
Is to make each prayer a prayer of
thanks, and every day Thanksgiving.
Helen Steiner Rice

Soon we will observe the day set aside by our government as Thanksgiving Day. Let's remember to thank God every day, not only on Thanksgiving.

We have been privileged to hear the conference tapes. We could feel the love and concern of our dear elder brothers as they exhorted us. May we each go forth with a true dedication to heed these warnings.

This month many of our loved ones had bodily afflictions but are back assembling with us again. Requiring hospitalization were Sis. Anna Lehman (A. C. Restmor, Morton), Lester Staker (Beverly), Ben Schmidgall (Helen), Sis. Doris Staker (Bro. Weldon), and Joy Staker (Bro. Weldon and Sis. Doris).

Sis. Elizabeth Moser has been afflicted with shingles and is recuperating at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Don Noffsinger.

At this writing Bro. George Frank (Sis. Ruth) is in the hospital. May God be with him and we hope he can return home soon.

First-time parents are Steve and Sarah Gorman, as Zachariah Raymond was born September 24. Grandparents are Bro. Clyde and Sis. Wilma Kuntz (Gridley) and Vernon and Helen Gorman (Manito).

Also first-time parents are Todd and Rita Kilgus. Little Nichole Marie was born October 5. Grandparents are Bro. Karl and Sis. Velda Glueck and Bro. Duane and Sis. Arlene Kilgus (Fairbury).

Bro. Roger and Sis. Joann Beutel are the happy parents of Carrie Lynn, born October 17. Helping take care of her are her sister and brother, Ann and Benjamin. Grandparents are Bro. Howard and Sis. Edith Sauder (Roanoke) and Bro. Dave and Sis. Eunice Beutel. We are happy that God has blessed these dear families with their "little bundles from heaven".

Our hearts were saddened as we bid Bro. Dale and Sis. Mary Wagenbach (Zuercher) and their son Phillip fare-

well. They will be assembling with the Rockville congregation. May God bless this move and ever be near them.

ILLINOIS, URBANA

Cheryl Mangers

Saying goodbye to Bro. Tim and Sis. Jenny Sauder was not easy for us as their lives have taught us so much about love. It was this love for others that has led Bro. Tim to accept the position as Administrator of our Children's Home in Leo, Indiana. They will be making their home in Fort Wayne. Our love and prayers are certainly with them.

We are thankful that Sis. Dorothy Fischer is back in our midst after eye surgery.

We rejoice with Dave and Karen Yergler and daughter Genae in the arrival of Macah Rae born October 4.

Memories of the blessed weekend of October 12-13 will linger in our minds for a long time. October 12 was our annual Sunday School weiner roast and hay rack ride to beautiful Homer Lake. It had rained all week and rain was predicted throughout the weekend which dampened our spirits as we prepared for the event. When my 8 year old son jumped eagerly out of bed that morning and saw the sun shining, he said, "Mommy, did you pray?" There was no doubt in his mind, nor those of us that gathered together for a special time of fellowship that evening, who had given us the beautiful day. What made it so special was the return of loved ones who formerly had been such an integral part of our Sunday School — Bro. Rick and Sis. Marla Ringger and family (Morton), Bro. Harold and Sis. Cherri Fritz and family (Lexington, KY), Bro. Virg and Sis. Mary Metzger and family (Chicago) and Bro. Bill and Sis. Cheryl Blunier (Leo, IN).

It was another special blessing that ground breaking services were held that next day as the two events were not deliberately planned together. Bro. Harold Fritz and Bro. Virg Metzger were so instrumental and supportive in the initial phases of our building project which made their presence inspirational and special to us all. Bro. Dave Wiegand gave a brief history of our church here in Urbana, which was followed by singing "God's Glory Magnified by His Works" and then the prayer by our dear Elder Bro. Bob Grimm. After the initial ground break-

ing by our minister Bros. Dave Wiegand and Wayne Banwart (also our Building Committee Chairman), our eldest member, Bro. Conrad Kaufman, and our four remaining Committee members, Bros. Loren Schrenk, Keith Hanson, Rich Fischer and Ben Blunier, we each, young and old, had a chance to turn over the sod. God's presence that Sunday on the corner of Devonshire and O'Donnel in Champaign was truly felt by us all. We are humbled by the many blessings already afforded us as a congregation.

Our appreciation is expressed to ministering Bros. Arnold Gerst (Taylor, MO), Earl Banwart (West Bend, IA), Virg Metzger (Chicago, IL), Jay Rinkenberger (Goodfield, IL) and our Elder Bro. Bob Grimm for bringing God's word to our congregation this past month.

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

Ellen Cox — Sally Plattner

On the weekend of October 19 and 20 we heard the testimonies and witnessed the baptisms of two dear souls. We welcome into the fold of Christ Bro. Greg Schumacher and Sis. Edna Mae Simon and rejoice with their families. Bro. Greg's parents are Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Betty Schumacher and Sis. Edna's sisters are Sis. Emily and Sis. Martha Simon, all of our Washington congregation. We wish to extend our thanks to Elder Bro. Bob Grimm (Goodfield) and our Elder Bro. Don Sauder for sharing the weekend with us.

Bro. Tom and Sis. Carol Schick were blessed by the arrival of a son, Joshua David, born October 10. Little Joshua is welcomed home by Jessica, Nathan, Lindsay and Jacob. Grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Dolly Schick (Washington) and Gene and Helen Boswell (Peoria).

THANKSGIVING SONG

This is the day that the Lord has made;

Be glad, give thanks, rejoice;
Stand in His presence unafraid,

In praise lift up your voice.
All perfect gifts are from above,
And all our blessings show

The amplitude of God's dear love
Which every heart may know.

The Lord will hear before we call,
And every need supply;

Good things are freely given to all

Who on this word rely.
We come today to bring Him praise,
Not for such gifts alone,
But for the higher, deeper ways
In which His love is shown.

For sin destroyed, for sorrow healed,
For health and peace restored;
For life and love by truth revealed,
We thank and bless the Lord.

This is the day the Lord hath made,
In praise lift up your voice.
In shining robes of joy arrayed,
Be glad, give thanks, rejoice!

Laura Lee Randall

Can't we identify with the poet as she wrote these verses? Reflecting on the year past we can indeed see where God has destroyed sin, healed sorrows, and given peace and love to our lives. This Thanksgiving season, may we witness to the world that we are grateful to our God for giving us countless reasons to "be glad, give thanks, and rejoice!"

INDIANA, BLUFFTON

Eunice Fiechter — Carolyn Meyer

We praise God in everyday life as we live thankfully. Especially this time of year, our thoughts turn toward God, thanking Him for all things.

We congratulate Bro. Ezra and Sis. Tillie Kaehr as they celebrated their 50th anniversary. Also Bro. Theo and Sis. Naoma Beer of the Milford congregation soon will be celebrating their 60th anniversary. Sis. Naoma was from the Bluffton church and we want to extend our love and congratulations to them as well.

The engagement of Sis. Chris Gerber (Sis. Justine and Bro. Don) and Bro. Sam Steffen (Sis. Eileen and Bro. Leonard) was announced recently. Our prayers are with them as they make plans to be united in marriage.

Our fellowship hall was the scene as Trent Reimschisel (Sis. Elaine and Bro. Richard) and Tammy Gordon (Mrs. Martha Bracht) were married October 12. Our prayer is that God will bless their new life as one.

Thankfulness fills our hearts as seven souls have repented, given their testimony and have been baptized. We welcome as brothers and sisters in the faith; Allen and Arlene Steffen (Sis. Dee and Bro. Elmer), Connie Macklin (Betty and Carl), Angie Gerber (Sis. Ann and Bro. Jerry), Gwen Kipfer (Sis.

Judy and Bro. Ken), Stacy Decker (Mr. and Mrs. Rex Decker) and Dave Imel (Sis. Sharon).

Our hospital patients this month were Sis. Minnie Aschliman (Bro. Homer), Sis. Marie Kipfer (Bro. Joe), Bro. Kim Yergler (Sis. Susie), Sis. Justine Baumgartner (Bro. Paul), Sis. Evelyn Pease and Levi Ginsel.

The Bluffton congregation is always glad and thankful to those ministering brothers who come to share the Word of God. They were Bro. Art Gudeman (LaCrosse), Bro. Bob Meyer and Bro. Phil Stettner (Bluffton North). We thank them for their visits and love as they ministered in truth.

Again, the sewing group for World Relief has started meeting the first and third Thursday of the month (daytime and evening).

INDIANA, BLUFFTON NORTH Cindy Shorb — Sheri Leman

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

I Thessalonians 5:18

How simple to say and yet, so hard to do. It is easy to count our many blessings and be thankful. In this month of Thanksgiving let us strive to be truly thankful for even the trials, temptations and burdens we bear, for we know that God's wisdom is the greatest and all things have a purpose in his plan.

Giving thanks is easy when a dear soul turns his life to the Lord. Our new convert is Darlene Gerber (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Pauline). May she receive abundant grace in her new walk of life.

We rejoiced together in hearing the testimonies of Lesley Baumgartner (Bro. Galen and Sis. Joyce), Kim Moser (Bro. Dwight "Butch" and Sis. Pat), Michelle Zimmer (Bro. Jim and Sis. Cheryl), and Kathy Neuenschwander (Bro. Walter, Jr. and Sis. Joyce) October 12 and in witnessing their baptisms October 13. May they always keep on the armor of God and continue to grow in their spiritual walk with him.

Ministering brothers visiting us in the past month were Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott), Bro. Homer Reineck (Toledo, OH), Bro. Wally Ramsier (Manfield, OH) and Elder Bro. Aaron Steffen (Alto, MI). We wish them God's blessings for their service to the Lord.

We gladly welcome them and their families back any time.

"...for whither thou goest I will go..." Ruth 1:16. Three couples recently joined their hearts in marriage. On September 22 Bro. Andy Shively (Bro. Charles and Sis. Sally) and Sis. Cindy LeMaster said their wedding vows. Mark Middaugh and Jill Gerber (Bro. Linus and Sis. Nancy) were married October 5. October 6 was the wedding date for Bro. Paul Vidrine (Wolcott) and Sis. Connie Troxel (Bro. Ralph and Sis. Elsie). May God's blessings be abundant in each of these couples' married lives.

Bro. Brent and Sis. Ann Gerber are the happy parents of Stephanie Anne, born September 13. Stephanie is welcomed by her brother, Joshua, and her grandparents, Bro. Carroll and Sis. Louise Gerber and Bro. Norman and Sis. Mary Schulz (Namburg, NY).

In closing, "...and whoso trusteth in the Lord, happy is he."

Proverbs 16:20

INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE Jacki Huber

A CALL TO SERVICE

The voice of the Saviour is pleading,
Tenderly calling, "give heed,
don't delay!

Lay aside the sin that so easily
besets you,

Take my cross and walk in my way."

He speaks to the worn and the weary
"Come to me and your burdens
grow light;

As you journey thro' life to
that homeland

You must walk by faith, not by sight."

When earth's cares and temptations
oppress us

And, we at His throne pause on
bended knee

How encouraging to hear from
the Master

"My grace is sufficient for^o thee."

We know this earth's not our homeland
But as Abraham, faithful, of old
We seek that city not made with hands
Whose streets are paved with pure
gold.

'Twill be worth all our striving
and effort

Having unto Him life and all offered

Then one day reach Zion's homeland
fair

And be known as His sons and His
daughters.

Sis. Clara Nohl (Goodfield, IL)

We're so thankful that Brian Putt (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Paulette) has answered God's "Call to Service" and has found peace with our Lord. We're looking forward to hearing his testimony in the near future.

A blessed day was experienced on September 29 as Sis. Rhonda Nuest (Bro. Larry and Sis. Jane) and Bro. Jeff Gerber (Bro. Leon and Sis. Mary Kay, Bluffton, IN) exchanged marriage vows. Bro. Jim Rinkenberger (Bluffton, IN) assisted Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman with the marriage ceremony. Also visiting us on this special day were Bros. Nile Bucher (Bluffton North, IN), John Isch (Indianapolis, IN), and Gene Lehman (Wolcott, IN). We offer our thanks to each of them for their service to us.

We thank Bro. Vernon Schwab (Wolcott, IN) for recently visiting and proclaiming God's word to us.

On Saturday, October 5, Sandra Mochel (Mr. and Mrs. Jim Mochel of Wakarusa, IN) was wed to Loren Gutwein (Edwin and Mary B.). We wish both of these newly married couples the blessings of a happy marriage.

A precious baby boy was born to Bro. Chris and Sis. Sharon Huber September 20. Adam Wesley was welcomed home by a big brother, Chris, Jr., and three older sisters, Shannon, Angela and Tonya. Grandparents are Bro. Eugene and Sis. Mildred Huber.

Another little boy was born October 14. Darin Reid is the "new" son of Bro. Dale and Sis. Peg Gudeman. Andria and Grant, his older sister and brother, are glad to have a baby brother. Grandparents are Bro. Harold and Sis. Ila Gramm of Morris, MN and Bro. Willis and Sis. Margaret Gudeman of Francesville.

Hospital patients at the time of this writing are Bros. Chris Huber and Jerry Gutwein and little Kara Wuethrich (Kevin and Connie). Our prayer is that they will soon be back with us and enjoying complete health.

As Thanksgiving opens the door to the Holiday Season, may we have thankful hearts for all our blessings —

especially God's priceless gift to us — His Dear Son!

INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS
Judy Dubach — Lynn Winslow

Pray without ceasing.

I Thessalonians 5:17

A number of ministers were assembled for the discussion of the difficult question, "How to pray without ceasing." Various suppositions were started and at length one of the ministers was appointed to write an essay on it to be read at the next meeting. This being overheard by a young servant, she exclaimed, "What, a whole month to tell the meaning of that verse? It's one of the easiest and best texts in the Bible." "Well, well, Mary," said an old minister, "What can you say about it? Let us know how you understand it. Can you pray all the time?" "Oh yes, Sir," she replied. "What, when you have so many things to do?" "Why Sir, the more I have to do the more I can pray." "Well Mary, do let us know how that is. Most of us think otherwise." "Well Sir," said the girl, "When I first open my eyes in the morning I pray Lord, open the eyes of my understanding; and while I am dressing I pray that I may be clothed with the robe of righteousness; when I wash I ask for the washing of regeneration; as I work I pray that I may have strength equal to my day; when I begin to kindle the fire, I pray that God's work may revive my soul; as I sweep the house I pray that my heart may be cleansed from all impurities; while preparing and partaking of meals I pray to be fed with the hidden manna and sincere milk of the Word; as I am busy with the little children I look up to God as my Father and pray for the spirit of adoption, that I may be His obedient child and so on all day. Everything I do furnishes me with a thought for prayer." "Enough! Enough!" cried the minister. "These things are revealed to babes and hid from the wise and prudent. Go on, Mary," said he, "Pray without ceasing, and as for us, my brethren, let us bless the Lord for this insight, and remember that He said, 'The meek will He guide in judgement: and the meek will He teach His ways.' Watch ye and pray always. Luke 21:36.

The lives of the "Neuenschwander twins" (as they are known to the Indianapolis group) have undergone

some changes. They are the sons of Bro. Chuck and Sis. Doris. Danny's work has been transferred to the Fort Wayne area but he and his wife, Tammy, and their son, Jonathan, will attend the Bluffton church. We know God has started His change in their lives and pray the work will be completed at Bluffton. Denny and his fiancée, Cathy Hargraves, are making plans for their wedding on December 21.

Our heartfelt thanks are extended to ministering Bros. Kenneth Knapp (Taylor, MO) and John Reinhard (Bluffton) for their efforts in sharing God's work with us.

INDIANA, LACROSSE

Connie Knobloch — Deb Nuest

We have been privileged to listen to the tapes of the Morton Brotherhood Conference. We truly thank our dear elders for their efforts on our behalf as we listen and are encouraged and renewed in faith.

We want to thank Bro. Perry Klopfenstein (Gridley, IN) for spending an evening with us talking to us about our church history. We appreciate that our faith has been preserved as we know it today.

Visiting ministers this month were Elder Bros. Loren Stoller (Latty) and Wendell Gudeman (Francesville). We thank these brothers for their love and pray God will bless them for their efforts.

Hospital patients have been Art Luthi and Emily Frank (Bro. Scott and Sis. Elaine). We pray for God's healing powers.

We want to thank each and every one for all the prayers, cards and gifts of love during my long hospital stay and since returning home. A special thank you for the Sunshine Box which meant so much to me. Words cannot express our appreciation for all the love and support shown to us all.

Michael Gudeman and family

INDIANA, LEO
Thelma Schlatter

"O Thou who has given us so much, mercifully grant us one thing more — a grateful heart." (Herbert)

"He who thanks with the lips thanks but in part; the full, the true Thanksgiving comes from the heart." (Shedd)

Let us count our blessings lest Thanksgiving Day finds us more full than thankful!

One of our many blessings is freedom of worship, a freedom not enjoyed by all peoples. Our church doors are open with a welcome for all. The Word is brought in clarity regularly by our home ministry. A visiting minister, Bro. Walter Steffen (Milford) is thanked for sharing. Those who accompanied him were also appreciated.

We are grateful for the safe return of Bro. George and Sis. Helen Zimmer after enjoying His magnificent creation in Switzerland.

Sis. Anna Steiner testified of His faithfulness through her 96 years. Many helped honor her birthday at a dinner at the Fellowship Center recently.

Congratulations go to some pleased grandparents. Dwight and Sis. Betty Souder have a new grandson, Ashton Andrew, son of Larry and Beth Hurlinger. Bro. Jack and Sis. Velma have a new granddaughter, Emily Nicole, daughter of Bro. Ron and Sis. Edie Bollier.

Our congregation welcomes two couples, Bro. Jeff and Sis. Carla Fritz and Bro. Tim and Sis. Jenny Sauder. We trust they feel this welcome and will very soon feel at home.

Bits of This and That:

"Confidence is the feeling you sometimes have before you fully understand the situation."

"Other books were given for information; but the Bible was given for transformation."

"Treasures in Heaven are laid up only as treasures on earth are laid down."

"A testament in a boy's pocket is as good a recommendation as he can get."
 (From various sources)

INDIANA, REMINGTON
Beth Virkler — Annette Bahler

IT FEELS GOOD TO BE THANKED

"Central" was tired, her head ached; she had just succeeded, after repeated efforts, in getting the number eagerly wanted by a woman — and here the woman was calling again! "Can't that woman be quiet a minute?" she soliloquized while she reiterated, "Number, please?" trying not to speak crossly.

"Central," said a pleasant voice, "I

want to thank you for taking so much trouble to get me that last number. You are always very kind and obliging, and I do appreciate it."

The surprise as so great, so overwhelming, that Central could only murmur confusedly, "I-oh, yes, ma'am." Nothing like this had happened before. Suddenly her headache was better; suddenly the day was brighter; suddenly, too, there came a lump in her throat, and she reached for her handkerchief. It felt so good to be thanked.

Selected

How must my Heavenly Father feel after I ask Him for several requests in a row or go about my day murmuring to Him in a subconscious way...without even thinking to thank Him for present blessings? What an opportunity we have at this Thanksgiving season to renew our motives and habits of personal thanksgiving to our eternal God.

Bro. Marshall Heinold (Washington, IL), Elder Bro. Dan Koch (Tremont, IL) and Bro. Sam Schlatter (Junction, OH) worshipped with us Sunday, October 13, to witness and take part in the testimony service and baptism of Bro. Jerry Bahler (Bro. Elmer and Sis. Marilyn).

Sis. Diane Isabell spent a week in the hospital this month with gall bladder surgery. Our prayers have been answered for a safe surgery and recovery.

INDIANA, SOUTH BEND Pauline Laidig

THANKFUL

We cannot help but thankful be,
As all around us we do see
The gathering in from garden,
orchard and field,
Of the precious bounty they
did yield.

'Tis truly a miracle to behold,
How tiny seeds and grains unfold,
And grow into perfect food for man;
According to God's almighty plan.

We are looking forward to the Harvest Program the Sunday School children plan to present to us soon. The efforts of their teachers are much appreciated. May we all receive a blessing.

This month Bro. Homer Reineck (Toledo) and Bro. Ed Schwartz (Bluffton) visited us, and we were uplifted by their inspiring messages. We also enjoyed, very much, the fellowship of those who accompanied each one.

When we asunder part,
It gives us inward pain;
But we shall still be joined in heart,
And hope to meet again.

Gospel Hymns #712

Feeling it is the Lord's leading, Bro. Clint and Sis. Gayle Bucher and daughters, Rochelle and Jessica, plan to move to Carmel, IN. Clint will be employed in Indianapolis. We are sorry to have them leave, and we shall miss them very much. May the Lord bless them as they seek to do His will.

Two of our sisters were hospitalized recently. Sis. Rosena Hueni had knee surgery and Sis. Helen Martin needed further work done on a former hip surgery. Both are recuperating, and are thankful for the Lord's healing power.

Dale Lehman (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Shirley) is now employed in Indianapolis. We miss him, but wish him well in his new job.

INDIANA, WEST LAFAYETTE PURDUE UNIVERSITY

Lily Vogt

It is such a privilege and a blessing to go to church services every other Thursday evening. We would like to thank Bro. Bob Beebe (South Bend) and Bro. Todd Feller (LaCrosse) for coming to proclaim God's word to us.

On October 12 and 13 the ISU young group held college weekend. It was truly a blessing for all. We heard that God wants His children to be humble so He can work in us for His glory. We must be loyal both to God and our church in order for God to totally use us for His perfect will.

SELF-SACRIFICE

Let your whole life be an offering
To God and to Christ the Lord.
None who here to Him surrender
Will regret it, for His Word
Gives us peace, and release
Sweet rest after battles cease.
Oh, if we are every ready
To serve Jesus day by day,
Sacrifice our soul and body,
Bear each burden by the way,

We shall fear, Nothing here,
For the Lord is always near.

Zion's Harp #159
vs. 1 and 6

INDIANA, WOLCOTT

Lorene Furrer — Elaine Bahler

A new precious life has joined our world in the home of Robert and Nancy Bryant. Robert Landon was born September 19 and is loved by big sister and brother, Nicole and Austin. Proud great-grandparents are Bro. Ed and Sis. Vi Kyburz.

As one is born, one life has passed away. Many of us have lost a dear friend and aunt in the passing of Aldine Furrer (Herman) on October 2.

Farewells of any kind are not always easy. For the past year our congregation has enjoyed getting to know and fellowshiping with Bro. Tim and Sis. Kathy Butikofer and daughters, Amy and Meg. They are soon to be moving back "home" to Elgin, IA, where Bro. Tim will be working. We will all miss them and wish them God's continued blessings.

For all the blessings of the year
For all the friends we hold so dear
For peace on earth, both far and near,
We thank Thee, Lord.

For life and health, those common
things,
Which ev'ry day and hour brings,
For home, where our affection clings,
We thank Thee, Lord.

For love of thine, which never tires,
Which all our better thought inspires,
And warms our lives with heavenly
fires,
We thank Thee, Lord.

Albert H. Hutchinson

IOWA, BURLINGTON

Edith Massner — Dixie Messner

We want to express our gratitude to Bros. Jon Schmidgall and Ed Lanz (Oakville) and their families who visited us on Wednesday evenings.

Sis. Esther Wagler had eye surgery; we're thankful she can be back in church again.

Our friend Landan Rowell (Bro. John and Sis. Nelda) was announced to give his testimony and be baptized. We wish him much grace to continue in the Savior's way.

Wednesday evening we bid a fond farewell to Bro. Jesse and Sis. Bertha Eisenmann. They are moving to the

Peoria Home. We will truly miss them, but know it is another milestone along life's pathway.

And so, farewell to you,
beloved brother,
As now we part and say our
fond "farewell!"
Should we, again be meeting
one another,
Then may we find that in you
still doth dwell
The love of Christ, that first and
dearest treasure,
That always fills our hearts with
grateful pleasure.

Zion's Harp #114, vs. 4

IOWA, ELGIN
Gloria Frieden

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

Ephesians 5:20

As the Thanksgiving season approaches, we perhaps, find ourselves spending more time thinking about our many blessings and offering prayers of thanksgiving for God's bountiful love and provisions, but let us remember to be thankful always, not just during the Thanksgiving season.

On September 29, the engagement of Sis. Marcy Banwart (Bro. Alvin and Sis. Phyllis, West Bend) and Bro. Jim Knobloch, Zapata, TX (Gib and Sis. Vickie Knobloch, Lester) was announced. Marcy has made Elgin her home church for the past four years and we will surely miss her, but wish them both God's blessings.

IOWA, IOWA CITY
Denise Duckworth

We are delighted to welcome two newcomers to our congregation. Susan Grimm (Arlo and Marilyn, West Bend) and Melody Knobloch (Bro. Ezra and Sis. Marie, Lester) have moved here to attend college. May God continually guide them throughout their college careers. "I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go;" Psalm 32:8.

Again we extend our thanks and a special prayer for God's richest blessings on our visiting ministers: Bros. Harvey Heiniger (Burlington), Leroy Hartman (Peoria), Carl Wyss (Washington), and Earl Banwart (West Bend).

"It is not His cross that is heavy;
It is those that our hands have made
that hinder us on our journey,
On our aching shoulders laid;
There is strength for the load He gives
us
And balm for the thorn He sends,
But none for the needless burdens,
And none for our selfish ends.

For His yoke is easy to carry
And His burden is light in weight;
He will do His share of the labor,
For He is a true yoke-mate.
Are we weary and heavy-laden?
Are we anxious and full of care?
That is not the cross of His giving
But the one we make and bear."

Author Unknown

IOWA, LESTER
Alice Metzger

Partake of the Word even if you do not immediately savor it; remember, the taste for the most exquisite delicacies often must be cultivated.

It has been our privilege to hear the tapes of the Morton conference the past few weeks. We are thankful for the elders who so diligently explain, and warn and encourage us in our walk of life. Just think of the reward you will receive if you diligently strive for obedience.

We are thankful for Bro. Doug Schock (Pulaski) sharing the Word with us recently. We welcome visiting ministers.

The betrothal announcement was made for Bro. Jim Knobloch (Zapata) and Sis. Marcy Banwart (Elgin, IA). We pray for God's blessing on them in this special time in their lives.

We have so much to be thankful for in this Thanksgiving season. Most of all, we are thankful for our hope of salvation. The gift is there for all to partake of. Hardening of the heart ages people more quickly than hardening of the arteries.

IOWA, OAKVILLE
Debbie Wagenbach

"Wouldst thou such a heart attain?
Fear the Lord, His good word keeping!
For the time thou shalt remain,
Here on earth is in God's keeping.
Thus thy death thou wilt not fear,
But in welcome hold it dear."

Zion's Harp #253

Certainly our Bro. Leo Rothlisberger need have no fear of meeting his Lord. It was such a blessed evening as we gathered in the Lord's house to hear the testimony of Bro. Leo. We could again be strengthened to hear of God's unbounded mercy expressed from our dear brother, who even in the evening hours of his life heeded the loving call of our Lord. We rejoice with his wife, Sis. Nettie, as God has answered her fervent prayers in behalf of her husband. Elder Bro. Paul Butikofer (Elgin, IA) assisted Elder Bro. Ed with the testimony service of Bro. Leo.

Our dear Sis. Anna Lanz was relieved of her earthly burdens as God called her home September 22. Sis. Anna had out-lived her three score and ten years by 22 years. We extend sympathy to her sons, Elder Bro. Edward and Bro. Robert Lanz and her brother, Bro. John Bahler (Rockville, CT). May God comfort their hearts in their loss.

Steve and Paula Stoller are the parents of a little boy, Nathan Richard. Little Nathan has two sisters, Stephanie and Nicole. Grandparents are Bro. Earl and Sis. Ione Stoller and Paul and Mary Mack (Burlington, IA).

Believing it is God's good will, Bro. Jerry Wagenbach and Sis. Bonnie Moser (Fairbury, IL) were married October 13. May God bless their union and may they always seek His divine direction in all things throughout their lifetime. Bro. Lloyd and Myrna Moser (Fairbury, IL) and Bro. Jerry and Sis. Bonnie Wagenbach are their parents.

Recently, I read a letter to the Editor in our local newspaper. It had to do with the sinking of the Titanic. I'm not sure where her information came from; however, the author of the article commented that inside the hull of the great ship were inscribed the words, "Not even God can sink this ship." Surely if this is true, it is no wonder that it sank! We are instructed in God's Word, not to tempt the Lord, our God. We can certainly apply this statement to our spiritual life. When we think we are doing fine and we become lax in prayer and reading the Word, we better take careful heed, because our ship of faith may be sinking and that is just what the enemy of our soul wants. Let us Watch and Pray!

Give Your Address Change
To Your Reporter

IOWA, PULASKI
DeAnn Wuthrich
Mary Jane Knapp

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Sis. Debra Metzger (Bro. Roy and Sis. Evelyn) who was in an automobile accident and suffered several injuries. She is presently at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics in Iowa City, IA. We trust and pray that God will ever heal and strengthen her. We are also thankful to have Sis. Leah Schaer home from the hospital and able to assemble with us again.

We are glad to have Dan Metzger (Bro. Roy and Sis. Evelyn) home from the Army, and pray that God may direct and help him.

IOWA, WEST BEND

Polly Zaugg — Elma Mogler

Bro. Joe Gerst (Iowa City) was our visiting minister this month. While he was speaking, he refreshed our minds that we must not put off repentance until tomorrow. He told of the soul who wanted to repent and delayed doing so and lost her life in the Chicago fire that very night. Sharing the Word of God with us was Elder Bro. Paul Butikofer (Elgin, IA), Bros. Jim Plattner (Princeville) and Bro. Dale Frank (Oakville). Our minds and spirits were surely encouraged and at times perhaps we felt admonished as we listened to the conference tapes this past month. We do truly appreciate the concerns of our elder brethren and, with humble hearts, may we do better each day.

With thankfulness, we rejoice with the loved ones that are in repentance. Six souls have made a beginning in the Lord. Our love and prayers are with them.

On September 24 we gathered at our church to pay our last tribute to Fred Traub, Jr., who passed away at 50 years of age. He was one who knew what real pain and anguish were for many months. We are so thankful that during this very trying time he found the grace to repent and felt a real need for prayer and the Lord's spiritual guidance. May the Good Lord stand by his wife and family, who so patiently stood by his side and did all that they could for him.

Fred was the son of Sis. Corrine Traub and the late Bro. Fred Traub, and the father of Michael Traub of Helenville, WI, Marcia Traub, Sioux Falls, SD, and Jerry and Leslie from here.

"A kindly deed can lift a load
 From weary shoulders on the road,
 Or a gentle word like summer rain
 May soothe some heart and banish
 pain.

Willa Hoey

Our sincere sympathy goes to the family of Bro. Ephraim Koehl of Morris, MN. Three of his daughters, Sis. Marilyn Banwart (Bro. Victor), Becky Banwart (James), and Sis. Kathy Fehr (Bro. Wayne) are from our congregation.

We rejoice with two couples who have announced their betrothal this month. They are Sis. Marcie Banwart (Bro. Alvin and Sis. Phyllis) to Bro. James Knobloch, Zapata (Gilbert and Sis. Vickie), and Sis. Karen Metzger (Bro. Arnold and Sis. Alice) to Bro. Eldon Banwart (Bro. Earl and Sis. Edna). May God bless them each step of the way.

Keith and Beth Grimm were recently married. We wish them the best of everything. Parents of the young couple are Bro. Clifford and Sis. Rosene Grimm and Eugene and Jean Wagner.

Bro. George and Sis. Emma (Traub) Sauder will be observing their 65th wedding anniversary this week. They are able to attend church every Sunday and enjoy reasonable health. We are thankful for these dear old soldiers. May God continue to bless and provide for them.

Bro. Kent and Sis. Beth Banwart are the first time parents of a special little boy, Kyle Joseph, born September 15. Bro. Ivan and Sis. Evelyn Schmidt and Bro. Alvin and Sis. Phyllis Banwart, are the grandparents.

Louis and Joni Schneider have been blessed with a little girl, Mallory Jo, born September 20. Leslie, Doug, Traci, Julia and Robert are happy to welcome her home. Bro. Lawrence and Sis. Ella Schneider (West Bend) and Bill and Florence Mauck of Vancouver, WA are the grandparents.

We can surely say, "We never know what the morrow can bring." Many of our congregation have been hospitalized by accidents or illness. They include Bro. Noah Anliker, Arlie Banwart, Judy Gates (Don), Marilyn Banwart (Mike), Matt Fehr, Justin Mogler (Tim and Gloria), and Eric Mogler. Michael Banwart (Mike and Marilyn), Sis. Ida Fehr, Edwin Wirtz, and Sis. Emma Luthi had the mis-

fortune of fracturing bones. May we look to the "rainbow" in an overcast sky to recognize that God didn't send burdens or accidents to distress us; but strengthen our faith and redeem us and bless us.

"Praise God from whom all blessings flow," comes to mind as we approach this Thanksgiving season.

JAPAN, TOKYO

Marie Inoue — Yoshio Yamazaki

It is harvest time here and with this season come festivals of thanksgiving for the first fruits. The people meet in one place together and thank their own gods with wine and the new harvest grain. From the beginning to the end of the Holy Scriptures we notice there are references to harvest. As believers in the true and living God we are truly thankful for the material harvest and the many hands that labor therein. Even so much more lies our concern for the harvest of many souls as mentioned in Luke 10:2.

We "labored" together recently at our annual church housecleaning.

Sis. Yoshiko Sakuta had minor surgery and is recuperating at home. We remember her and her family in our prayers.

We enjoyed a one-day fellowship meeting together on October 10, a national holiday. The theme was "Christian Fellowship," and several brothers read and meditated on this subject. We learned that Christian fellowship is a gift of God, and it is good if we take the "servant attitude" toward our brother. Christian fellowship provides opportunities for us to speak openly to our brethren on personal matters as we have complete trust and confidence in them. It also increases our conversation of spiritual matters.

As we look forward to Holy Communion, we were exhorted that this holy act relates our love not only to Christ, but to our brothers and sisters. How different our life would be without them. It is a good time to search our hearts and remove grudges as we share the cup and loaf together.

KANSAS, BERN

Linda Esslinger

Sis. Tillie Hartter Stoller passed away on October 12, 1985 at the age of 89. Surviving are one daughter, Sis. Lila (Joseph) Rokey; three sons, Bro. Harlan, George, and Leon; and one sister, Sis. Lena (Alphia) Strahm.

Services were held on October 16, 1985. Deepest sympathy is expressed to the loved ones.

We were happy to have Bro. Al Langhofer (Wichita) share God's Word with us.

We have enjoyed listening to the tapes of the conference with Sabetha.

KANSAS, FORT SCOTT

Judy Bahr

October 6, 1985 was a beautiful fall Sunday. The weather was lovely, the singing made the rafters ring and two Christians were joined together as one in the Lord. Sis. Cheryl Miller, daughter of Bro. Wayne and Sis. Pearl and Bro. Jim Schrader, son of Bro. Steve and Sis. Dorothy, Lamont, KS, were united in marriage by Elder Bro. Sam Huber, Sabetha, KS. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the peace and love of God, the fellowship of His Holy Spirit abide with them forever. Elder Bros. Sam Anliker, Lamont, KS, and Lester Hartter, Bern, KS, were also here to share the beautiful weekend.

Reuben Banwart and Nicole Smith, daughter of Joyce Sinn, were hospital patients.

KANSAS, GRIDLEY

Vola Young — Doris Bahr

To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven.

Ecclesiastes 3:1

Angela Kay Zimmerman was born September 23, to Bro. Tim and Sis. Barbara Zimmerman. She has two older sisters, Staci and Heidi, that welcome her with joy and enthusiasm. Grandparents are Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Nadine Kraft and Bro. Orville and Sis. Lula Zimmerman. Great-grandparents are Bro. Sam Kraft and Blanche Donohoe.

Sis. Lydia Young is in Newman Hospital, Emporia. She is seriously ill with congestive heart failure. May there be consolation in knowing that she doesn't have to bear her suffering alone.

KANSAS, KIOWA

Janice Bahr — Gay Farney

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that

whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

John 3:16

And oh how our loved ones did believe!! Last month Bro. Sam Schupbach and Bro. Jeff Frieden were called Home; this month Bro. Reuben Farney and Sis. Irma Ott have joined them on that Blessed shore. Four shining lights have been taken from us in a very short space of time, but their lights are not dimmed, because the inspiration they were will live on in our hearts, and in our memories. Our fervent prayers of love go out to their families, because, though we know they are at peace in the arms of our Lord, the separation is so hard for those left behind. We wish God's comfort for these loved ones.

In the midst of sorrow this past couple months, God has also sent us Joy. Our dear friends, Kent and Darcj Kisling, sought grace for repentance, found peace with God and man, and one Saturday evening this month, shared their testimony of faith with us. On Sunday then, they were baptized and became our dear brother and sister in faith. We held services at the Rest Home that same day, had supper and Bible Study and singing in the Fellowship Hall, and our cup was truly full to running over.

Our hospital patients this month included: Sis. Helen Farney and Sis. Dorothy Brown who both underwent surgery; Sis. Helen Murrow, who also underwent surgery for a broken leg; and Sis. Mildred Frieden and Bro. Henry and Sis. Esther Hodel who underwent tests. We know that God is our Great Physician, and pray that His healing power will work in each of these lives, if it be His precious will.

From the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same the Lord's name is to be praised."

Psalms 113:3

This scripture is on a lovely picture in our home, and when Thanksgiving Day came to mind, so did this verse. We owe so much thanks to God and it would take all day, every day, for the remainder of our lives, to be able to truly thank Him for all He has given us, and even then we couldn't show forth the Praise He deserves. But we can be so thankful to live in a nation that sets a day aside for this purpose, and may we

all spend Thanksgiving Day just praising His name.

KANSAS, LAMONT

Jill K. Luthi

"Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the Lord."

Proverbs 18:22

Almost all of our congregation traveled to Ft. Scott to be witnesses and to rejoice in the important duty that God performed in the hearts of Bro. Jim Schrader and Sis. Cheryl Miller. Parents of the couple are Bro. Wayne and Sis. Pearl Miller (Ft. Scott) and Bro. Stephen and Sis. Dorothy Schrader. We pray that God may cast His blessings upon them as He sees fit. Their address at this time is: 3732 W. 29th, Box 237, Topeka, KS 66614.

Visiting ministers in the past weeks have been Bros. Walter Anliker (Eureka, IL) and Roger Aberle (Sabetha). We want to thank them both for remembering us, and taking the effort in coming to be with us. Since the last writing, we have also heard the tapes of the Elder's Conference, alternating with the Gridley congregation. Let not their words be in vain, nor to itching ears. Unless we are in the shoes, none of us can or will ever know the heavy burdens they bear upon their shoulders, or the many sleepless nights our dear elders have, all because of their concern, their love, and their duty.

Hospital patients since the last writing have been Sis. Dena Emch and Ester Knobloch (Bro. Tom and Sis. Jeri). Sis. Dena was absent from us for a short time after suffering a stroke; we are glad to have her back assembling with us. She wishes to extend special thanks to all for visits, cards, flowers, and prayers while she was in the hospital. Ester, at this writing, has undergone another surgery. Surely, the Lord is testing her strength, as this makes the fourth surgery she has had since birth — just over two years young and full of vigor, never behind her brother, Jacob.

"THOUGHTS"

Some things never come back.
Make them count while you have
the chance.

The Spoken Word.
The Sped Arrow.

Time Wasted.
An opportunity lost.
The chance to say "I Love You."

KANSAS, MANHATTAN

Heidi Baumgartner — Kim Meyer

Here on the KS-State campus, fall can create a very beautiful scene. Some of God's great works are shown through an abundance of trees that are shedding their warm-colored leaves.

We're thankful for those "small things" that remind us of home. Bro. Ben Wyson (Sabetha) was our minister. He exhorted on the coming of the perilous end times.

Bro. Edwin and Sis. Ramona Strahm showed their hospitality by hosting a singing.

Traveling from Gridley, KS, were three ministers: Bros. Lloyd Kraft, Loren Strahm, and Tim Zimmerman. We are very appreciative of those who travel the miles to assemble here with us.

Our most recent singing was held at the apartment of Sis. Lanette Meyer, Sis. Heidi Baumgartner, and Sis. Kim Meyer.

May you all have a blessed Thanksgiving.

KANSAS, SABETHA

Charleen Hartter — Nita Grimm

We always feel so richly blest when loved ones come to worship in our midst. Throughout this past month, ministering Bros. Edwin Bahler (Remington, IN), Clarence Dietrich (Silverton, OR), and John Lehman (Bern, KS) came to share God's Word with us.

The family of Sis. Teen Aberle wishes to express gratitude to all for the out-pouring of love and sympathy during her sickness and at the time of her passing. The cards, phone calls, and memorial contributions were very deeply appreciated. A special thanks to the "snowbirds" for their generous gift which was divided between the two memorials in her name.

CONSOLATION

For those I love and those who love me:

When I am gone, release me — let me go,
I have so many things to see and do.
You must not tie yourself to me with tears,
Be happy that we had so many years.
I gave my love, you can only guess

How much you gave to me happiness.
I thank you for the love we each have shown
But now it's time, I travel on alone.

So grieve awhile for me, if grieve you must,
Then let your grief be comforted by trust.
It's only for awhile that we must part
So bless now, the memories within your heart.

I won't be far away, for life goes on;
So if you need me — Call — and I will come.
Though you can't see me, or touch me, I'll be near
And if you listen with your heart, you'll hear
All my love around you, soft and clear,
And then when you must come this way alone,
I'll greet you with a smile and "Welcome Home."

Author Unknown

As Walt and Sherry Snodgrass have left our congregation recently and now reside near Bluffton, IN, we want to extend to them our "well wishes" in establishing their home there.

Hospitalized this month has been John Meyer. May God's healing touch be upon him.

KANSAS, WICHITA

Laurie Gallatin

"The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ?"

I Corinthians 10:16

We had the privilege of partaking of the Lord's body and blood September 22. Communion is always a special renewing time when we feel a real closeness with the Lord and are so aware of His sacrifice for us so we can partake in such abundant life of salvation.

As the Israelites partook of the Passover feast, before leaving Egypt for the strengthening of their bodies, so we must partake of Jesus daily for the strengthening of our spiritual man.

Visiting ministers were Elder Bro. Sam Anliker (Lamont, KS) and Bro. Ron Allenbach (Kiowa, KS). After

communion we had a dinner for Elder Bro. Sam and Sis. Clara as he is retiring from the eldership duties of our Wichita church. May the Lord bless him for his service to us.

Jesus is so dedicated to us and has such concern for every area of our lives, but He wants us to trust Him and to wait on Him. Mary at the Cana wedding (John 2:2-11) gives us a good example of trusting in Jesus. She had a need, even an urgent need, and like we should do, she brought her need to Jesus and told Him of it in full confidence of His ability to help her. But after voicing her need, she stepped back and deferred to His judgment, His will, His wisdom, His timing, His choice. She knew that He knew best and would do the right thing.

We, like Mary, need to step back after bringing a need, desire or concern to Jesus and trust Him to provide in His way and timing — with full confidence in His capabilities. And, as Mary, we can bring small, everyday, seemingly trivial things to Him because He is interested and wants to help us. How special and assuring it is to know we have such a caring and concerned Lord who really wants us to know Him in that aspect. What will you bring to Him today, trusting He will provide and will get involved in your daily life in the big and small things?

Fall is here again and how beautiful the changing leaves are! Also, Thanksgiving is coming, and we surely have so much to be thankful for!

KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON

Lester Huber

A PSALM OF PRAISE

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord,
all ye lands.
Serve the Lord with gladness: come before His presence with singing.
Know ye that the Lord, He is God;
It is He that hath made us, and not we ourselves;
We are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.
Enter into His gates with thanksgiving,
And into His courts with praise;
Be thankful unto Him, and bless His name.
For the Lord is good; His mercy is everlasting; and His truth endureth to all generations.

Psalm 100

We all have so many, many things to always thank the Lord for, don't we? We could never number all His many blessings.

We of our small congregation enjoy a church picnic once a month. This last month we had a wiener roast out on our farm. It was a lot of fun for the children and enjoyment for us all as we sat around the fire and sang songs of praise to God.

We are grateful to have with us Bro. John and Sis. Brenda Klein and their three children, Tammy, Heidi, and Ryan from Washington, IL church. They have come to live in Lexington, as Bro. John is now employed at I.B.M. We pray that God will bless and keep them in His loving care, as we all know that relocating with a family takes special grace. Let's not forget to remember each other in our prayers. Let's remember to pray for our dear Bro. Emery Deak, who is in failing health with Parkinsons disease.

We again express appreciation to our beloved brothers and sisters and their families who came from Congerville, IL, Valparaiso, IN, and Cissna Park, IL, to visit and worship with us on October 6. Also, on October 13, a blessed day was enjoyed when Elder Bro. Joe Braker and his wife Sis. Shirley (Morton, IL) came and lovingly ministered God's Word to us. May God bless all who come and share with us for the effort put forth in coming to our small congregation.

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY

Pam Schlatter

Thanksgiving provides us the opportunity to reflect on our present state and to consider all that has happened in our lives to work for good. While some experiences in life may lend themselves more readily to a heart of thanksgiving, we can be assured in every situation there will be something to be thankful for. "In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." I Thessalonians 5:18. We in Bay City have found many things to be thankful for as a congregation. Among them...we have been blessed by faithful brethren inspired by God's spirit. Included among our visiting ministers are Bro. Lynn Stieglitz (Leo, IN), Bro. John Klotzle (Altadena, CA), Elder Bro. Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI), Elder Bro. Leroy Huber (Eureka, IL), Bro. Joe Zimmerman (Morton, IL), Elder Bro.

Nathan Steffen (Elgin, IL), Bro. Walter Steffen (Milford, IN), Bro. Homer Reineck (Toledo, OH), and Bro. Ray Schlatter (Toledo, OH).

We have seen a soldier of the Lord promoted to glory. Sis. Lydia Wieland passed from this life to eternity. While we are thankful for her victory, we remember those whose lives will be changed because of her absence.

We witnessed the exchange of wedding vows by Bro. David Steffen (Elgin, IL) and Sis. Linda Ramseyer. We are confident they will establish the type of home where thankful hearts will be exercised. We wish them God's guiding hand as they mesh their lives together. Parents of the couple are Elder Bro. Nathan and Sis. Marilyn Steffen (Elgin, IL) and Bro. Earl and Sis. Mary Ramseyer.

Our church baby room has welcomed a new addition. Bob and Mary Goddard celebrated the birth of their daughter, Cortney Elizabeth. Grandparents are Bro. Victor and Elinor Knochel.

MICHIGAN, DETROIT

Bev Bahr

Believing it is God's will for their lives, the engagement of Sis. Candy Knochel and Bro. Gary Klopfenstein (Normal, IL) has been announced. Their parents are Bro. Dan and Sis. Ruth Knochel and the late Bro. Carlton and Sis. Betty Klopfenstein (Gridley, IL). We pray that the Lord will ever bless them with His love and guidance throughout all their days ahead.

"Sing forth the honour of His name; make His praise glorious." Psalm 66:2. The weekend of October 5 and 6, our choir traveled to Peoria, IL, for a time of inspirational singing and Christian fellowship. It was a time enjoyed by many and our gratitude reaches out to all in Peoria who extended the invitation and gave of themselves so generously.

MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS

Barbara Olson

We were very thankful to be able to listen to the conference tapes this month. They were very edifying and uplifting, filled with the Holy Spirit, as the Lord truly wants us to be. May we adhere and put into practice the message given.

"Let us give thanks!" Did you ever notice what a warm glow real thankfulness imparts, both to the giver and

to the receiver? All of us have so much to be thankful for in this life, that we surely should be happy all the time. In this season of Thanksgiving, let us count our personal blessings, material and intangible, and give, from overflowing hearts, that gratitude which we owe to God and our fellow men.

Thought: God's giving deserves our thanks-living.

MINNESOTA, MORRIS

Hildegard Koehl

Rhonda Zeltwanger

In my Bible, thankfulness is defined as gratitude for blessings. Our nation has set aside a special day for Thanksgiving. May we each remember to thank God for His unlimited love to us and especially for that priceless gift, our salvation.

Bro. Ephraim Koehl passed away September 18. He was 77 years old and led a very active life in the church and at home until the last few weeks. We will all miss this dear brother who cared so much about our precious faith and about his family. He is survived by his wife, Sis. Eunice, and sons, Bro. Jacob, Bro. Douglas, and Bro. Arnold all of Hancock, and his daughters, Sis. Marilyn (Bro. Victor) Banwart (West Bend, IA), Rebecca (Jim) Banwart (West Bend, IA), Charlotte (Ward) Werpy (Tucson, AZ) and Sis. Kathy (Elder Bro. Wayne) Fehr (West Bend, IA). We extend our love and sympathy to each of them and their families.

Sis. Anna Nohl, Alan Schmidgall (Bro. Neil and Sis. Linda), and Ken Feuchtenberger (Bro. Wally and Sis. Diane) have been hospitalized this month. God has extended His healing mercies to each of them for which we are all thankful.

Sis. Paula Kellenberger (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Shirley, Lester, IA) has started college at UMM-Morris and is assembling with us. We enjoy her smiling face and fellowship and hope she feels a warm welcome.

Bro. Joseph Aberle (Sabetha, KS), Bro. Ken Lawson (Minneapolis, MN), and Bro. Doug Grimm (Sabetha, KS) each spent a Sunday visiting with us and sharing their labors in the ministry. We thank each of them and their families and we thank God for knowing our every need and satisfying each of us in our own way.

A card of thanks to everyone for the many cards and gifts of money at the time of our mother and grandmother's

death. May God bless you all for the kindness you have shown.

Bro. Leo and Sis. Thelma
Dogatch
Delbert and Norma Dogatch
Frank and Jo Dogatch
Clem and Dorothy Mergen
and families

The family of Bro. Eph Koehl would like to thank each and everyone who showed their love and kind deeds during the illness and death of their beloved husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather. May God bless each one.

Bro. Tim and Sis. Jeanne Esterling are very happy to have a baby daughter, Brittany Jo. Big brothers Zachary and Christopher, and grandparents Bro. Don and Sis. Josephine Esterling (Minneapolis, MN) and Bro. Robert and Sis. Ilene Haefli (Peoria, IL) all think she's a pretty special little girl, too.

MINNESOTA, WINTHROP

Wanda Messner
Mary Lou Schmidt

Our congregation was saddened at the passing away of our precious Sis. Esther Messner. She was a light and an inspiration to all who were privileged to meet her.

IN MEMORY

How sweet are the memories
remaining,
Of our sister so loved and so dear.
Her life was a true inspiration,
To all who have known her here.

Not only to those of her household,
But to brothers, sisters, neighbors,
and friends,
She has shown a true mother devotion,
And kindness and love to the end.

Long years she has carried Christ's
banner,
She has served her Redeemer and
Lord.
The meek shall inherit earth's
blessings,
And Heaven shall be their reward.

How quickly she passed through
the Jordan,
To the city of jasper and gold.
Long years she has planned for this
meeting,
Her Savior's blessed face to behold.

The cross she has borne in life's
journey
At the dear Savior's feet she'll lay
down.
What joy at this blessed coronation,
To receive from her Master a crown.

May the words she has spoken in
her lifetime,
May her prayers, tears, and each sigh;
Be felt by her children and grand-
children more keenly,
Since she lives with her Savior on high.

For her sake, since her lips are now
silent,
We would speak, as she did in true
love.
May you seek Him, and serve Him, and
love Him;
If you'd dwell with your mother and
grandmother above.

Henry Baer

We want to extend our sympathy to her husband, Bro. George; two sons, Bro. LeRoy and his wife, JoAnn, and Duane and his wife, Mona; and eight grandchildren. Also surviving are two brothers, Bro. Noah Miller and Richard Miller, both of Minneapolis; and three sisters, Sis. Pearl Lienemann (Archie), Sis. Carrie Messner, and Sis. Florence Messner, all of Winthrop. Bros. Floyd Schmidgall, Elmer Schmidt, and Harvey Heiniger conducted the funeral service for our dear sister.

George Messner and family wish to express sincere gratitude and thanks to all who remembered them with prayers, deeds of kindness, words of encouragement and expressions of sympathy and understanding during the illness and death of their loving wife, mother and grandmother, Esther Messner. The prayers and thoughtfulness of so many people will long be remembered.

Ministering Bro. Floyd Schmidgall and Elder Bro. Leo Moser (Lester, IA) both expressed how we must wait upon the Lord as the prophet Isaiah proclaimed (40:31) "...they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint." We thank these brothers for laboring in our behalf during this past month.

If God wouldn't give breath, there wouldn't be life! We rejoice with our dear loved ones, Rick and Sis. Brenda

Messner, on the arrival of their precious new bundle of joy — a son, Tyler Chase. May they feel God's guiding hand as they raise their son. Proud grandparents are Bill and Sis. Marilyn Messner.

Troy Messner (Bill and Sis. Marilyn) is engaged to Amy Roepke of Gaylord. A November wedding is being planned.

On October 12, Melissa Jacobson, (John and Sis. Dorothy) became the bride of Jerry Isaacson. We wish them God's blessings in the future.

It was with bended knees, bowed heads, and humbled hearts that we came unto the Lord in prayer, asking our Almighty and all-knowing God in Heaven to reveal unto us a brother for the ministry. This sacred duty fell upon Bro. Dean Messner. We must support our blessed ministers so that the church might be able to stand for our children and our children's children. May God lighten the burdens that all of our precious ministers must bear from time to time. We know the weight which must now lie upon the hearts of Bro. Dean and Sis. Wanda, but we pray that God will ever stand by their sides.

MISSOURI, LAMAR

Janice Stoller — Becky Marti

We enjoyed a blessed day September 29 when we witnessed the uniting of our Bro. Bob Stoller (Elder Bro. Leroy and Sis. Clara Huber, Eureka, IL) and Sis. Janice Braker (Sis. Mabel Springer, Ft. Scott, KS) in holy matrimony. We pray that God will continue to be their guide and richly bless their life together. "Where God in truth abides, Where two join hand and heart, We find a threefold cord, Not lightly rent apart." ("The Union of Hearts", Zion's Harp #79). We were thankful to have Elder Bros. Leroy Huber (Eureka, IL), Bob Walder (Congerville, IL) and Raymond Banwart (Ft. Scott, KS) with us for this special occasion.

"Holy Spirit, Faithful Guide, Ever near the Christian's side" ("Holy Spirit, Faithful Guide", Hymns of Zion #220). We were recently reminded of the importance and power that this Holy Spirit should have in each of our lives as we heard the memorandum from the recent brotherhood conference. We thank Elder Bro. Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO) for assisting our Elder Bro. Gene Marti in sharing it with us. Let us strive each day to do as the Apostle Paul instructed: "Obey them that have rule over you, and submit

yourselves; for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief; for that is unprofitable for you." Hebrews 13:17. Our dear elder brothers fulfill their duties by watching for our souls and by warning us of the dangers they see. It is up to each one of us to fulfill our duties, and thus inherit eternal life, by heeding these loving warnings and staying true and faithful unto our Lord and to the vows we have made.

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Bro. Noah Schlupp in the death of his sister, Esther Spohr, of the Morris, MN, congregation.

MISSOURI, TAYLOR

Loida Hodel — Lori Marquart

THANKSGIVING

I'm thankful for all good with which I've been blessed throughout life.
For hardships and for heartaches, too,
For failures, trials and strife.
I'm thankful for each little prayer
Someone has said for me;
For loving thoughts, for friendliness,
For all good will I see.

My thanks for hands with which I could
Serve someone on life's way;
For all small deeds of kindness
I'm allowed to do each day.
I'm thankful for all happiness,
Each long hour of deep sorrow;
God thus in His great mercy gives
More wisdom for tomorrow.

A. R. Grouros

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet,
and a light unto my path." Psalm
119:105. We enjoyed Bro. Bert Butikofer
(Elgin, IA) as our visiting minister
September 22. It is a real privilege to
hear the "Old, Old Story" as it is
revealed to each of God's servants.

We have been richly blessed with
three new babies in our community.
Brandy Marie is the first grandchild of
Vernon and Judy Huber and was born
October 1. Parents are Brenda and
Danny Winget. Nathan Archer, also a
first child, was born October 2 to
Connie and John Miller, making Bar-
bara and Buddy Plank proud grand-
parents. Bro. Jim and Sis. Kris Sutter,
Brian and Jimmy welcome a little boy,
Shane William, who was born October
5. Grandparents are Bro. James and
Sis. Lois Sutter. May God bless these

parents as they assume the responsi-
bility of their little ones and may they
never forget to acknowledge the source
of these blessings. "Children are an
heritage of the Lord." Psalm 127:3.

Sis. Kathy Haab (Bro. Paul) was a
hospital patient this month for tests
and x-rays.

If we work on marble, it will perish;
Is we work upon brass, time will efface
it;

If we rear temples, they will crumble
into dust;

But if we work upon immortal souls,
If we imbue them with principles,
With the just fear of the Creator and
love of fellow men, we engrave on those
tablets something which will brighten
all eternity.

Daniel Webster

"O give thanks unto the Lord; for He
is good; for His mercy endureth for
ever." I Chronicles 16:34

NEW JERSEY, UNION CITY

Ed Aeschleman

Visiting ministers during the month
were Elder Bros. Eugene Pamer (Ak-
ron, OH), Corbin Bahler (Rockville,
CT) and Bros. Nile Bucher (Bluffton
North, IN), Kevin Ryan (Rockville,
CT) and Ed Aeschleman (Philadel-
phia, PA). There were also many other
visitors to our church from various
places and we are very thankful for
both the good and holy Word brought
to us by the ministers and the fellow-
ship of love brought by everyone who
came to us.

We welcome Bros. Jeff Bertsch and
Gary Fiechter who have moved to the
Union City church. God has surely
blessed us with their presence and we
pray He will also bless their efforts to
support His will and work here in
Union City.

Sunday, September 29, was a day of
blessing as our dear Elder Bros. Cor-
bin Bahler and Eugene Pamer spoke
God's Word and then explained the
Lord's suffering on the cross and our
duty and need to remember all He did
for us. The Lord's Supper was then
offered in a solemn ceremony to com-
memorate the death of our Lord.

NEW YORK, CROGHAN

Alice Virkler

Lord God, we honor Thee
And praise Thy mild compassion,

That Thou so gracefully
Does hear our supplication!
Thy love is truly great;
Thy mercies are untold;
Thou givest food and drink
For Spirit, flesh and soul.

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

Zion's Harp #13

As we approach the Thanksgiving
season of the year, our hearts and
minds should turn unto God in Thanks-
giving for all that He provides for us
each day of our lives. We are thankful
for all that He provides for our daily
sustenance and especially for the spir-
itual food that is provided for our daily
use. We are reminded of His goodness
each time we read the Word in our
home or hear it read and proclaimed by
our ministers.

Wayne and Rhonda Farney and little
James are thankful for the little daugh-
ter and sister that was born October 2.
Shauna Marie will also be loved by her
grandparents, Bro. Clifton and Sis.
Bessie Farney, and Duane and Elaine
Brouty.

Also, congratulations are offered to
Joe Farney and Donna Bush who were
united in marriage October 5. Their
parents are Bro. Don and Sis. Alice
Farney, and Paul and Cindy Bush. May
they look to God for guidance as they
begin their home together.

On October 6, we assembled with the
Naumburg congregation when we had
several visitors in our midst. We en-
joyed a covered dish meal together and
a song service in the Croghan church in
the evening.

Sympathy is extended to Sis. Amelia
Belle Virkler and her family. Her
brother-in-law, Gerald Brown, was
taken from this life.

NEW YORK, NAUMBURG

Rachel Snyder

The Croghan congregation spent the
day with us September 29, expecting
Bro. John Klotzle (Altadena, CA) to be
with us, but he was unable to come. We
were sorry he couldn't come and hope
he can come some other time. We had a
covered dish dinner after services.

Sis. Connie Virkler had to spend a few days in the hospital due to a fall she had in her home.

OHIO, AKRON
Joyce Gasser

Psalm 103 gives benefits of the Lord, including: "Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's." As an eagle grows older, his sight may grow dim, and he may separate himself from other birds. He will pluck out his feathers. He will beat his beak against a rocky wall until it comes off. This forces him to fast and it looks like the eagle is going to die, but his beak and feathers grow back and his youth is renewed. Jesus offers renewed life to those in Him, and Jesus offers eternal life with Him.

Bro. Eric Graf (Bro. Leon and Sis. Janet Graf) is a pharmacist and has been working in a pharmacy, and now the Lord has prepared the way for Bro. Eric to further his education. He is enrolled in Administration in Pharmacy at Ohio State University at Columbus and doing very well.

Sis. Bethi Graf has obtained her four score years as she is blessed to be having her 80th birthday, November 5.

On November 13, Bro. Sandor and Sis. Kathy Bako will have their silver anniversary, being blessed with 25 years together. They have five girls: Rose Yah, Esther Zsoldos, Erika, Susan and Gyongyi.

Dan Graf (Bro. and Sis. Art Graf) had a short hospital stay.

We appreciated messages from visiting ministers: Bro. John Klotzle, Elder Bro. Leroy Huber and Bro. Andy Stoller.

OHIO, COLUMBUS
Desma Klopfenstein

We were visited this month by Bro. Don Manz (Junction) and Bro. Paul Gasser (Akron) who expounded upon God's precious Word. They brought their families and we so appreciated our time with each one. Also, we welcome back our students and among these is Bro. Eric Graf (Akron) who will be continuing his pharmacy education at Ohio State University. It is our prayer that every student will have a blessed, productive year, and that God can use each as an instrument for His purpose.

THE ART OF THANKSGIVING

The art of Thanksgiving is thanksgiving. It is gratitude in action . . .

It is thanking God for the gift of life, by living it triumphantly.

It is thanking God for your talents, by accepting them as obligations to be used for common good.

It is thanking God for all that has been done for you, by doing things for others.

It is thanking God for opportunities, by accepting them as challenges to achievement.

It is thanking God for beauty, by helping to make the world more beautiful.

It is thanking God for health and strength by the care and reverence you show your body.

It is thanking God for each new day by living it to its fullest.

It is thanking God by giving hands, arms, legs and voice to your thankful spirit.

It is adding to your prayers of thanksgiving, acts of thanksgiving.

Wilfred A. Peterson

OHIO, JUNCTION
Les Manz

Bro. Ken Schneider (Remington, IN) and Elder Bro. Loren Stoller shared a blessed weekend with us as we heard the testimony and witnessed the baptism of our new Bro. John Rose. Knowing he has given his life fully to Christ, and experienced repentance, conversion and now baptism, it is a joy to greet him as a new brother-in-Christ and we wish him God's grace to keep his vows of faithfulness till death. Sharing our joys for Bro. John are his wife, Trish, son, Jonathon and parents, Bro. Alvin and Sis. Betty Manz.

Also, visiting us and bringing us God's Word this month was Bro. Delbert Indermuhle (Sardis).

OHIO, LATTY
Marlene Reinhard — Patty Gerber

RAPPORT

Today I am in tune with God;

My way is sure, my path is plain.

There are no tensions deep within,

Nor frictions there to pull and strain.

Today I hear God's voice within

Speak quietly, "Be still and know";

He tells me to proceed with faith,
And lights the path that I should go!
Nora Keen Duffy

Each day we should reflect to make sure we are in tune with God and that we are pure. Much more, as we approach the time of communion with brethren and the Lord, we should ask God to search our hearts to reveal any "overlooked or unknown" sins. We want to know how to please Him and to be obedient. The brethren at Latty just experienced again the peaceful feeling of knowing that all was taken care of in preparation to sup with the Lord as they shared in communion services. Bro. Edwin Ringger (Gridley, IL) helped in ministering on this special weekend.

Jerry Klopfenstein (Bro. Raymond and Sis. Catherine) is also undergoing a cleansing and searching for God's will in his life as he has begun a time of repentance. We pray for grace that he can make a complete change in his life and be assured of that peace which passes all understanding.

God showers His blessings upon us in many forms; one being a precious little baby. Born to Ravi and Shirley Venkataraman (Smithville, TN) were three girls: Alecia Vimala, Anjoli Bianca and Andrea Priya. Maternal grandparents are Bro. Dick and Sis. Viola Schlatter. Also, first-time parents, Dale and Jodi Stoller, are enjoying Dustin Alan who was born October 2. Bro. Glen and Sis. Ede Stoller are sharing in their joy as paternal grandparents. We also congratulate Bro. Gale and Sis. Janet Stoller as maternal grandparents to Bro. Doug and Sis. Lanna Harmon's (Toledo) first son, Benjamin. We trust that each of these parents will train up their children in the knowledge and admonition of the Lord.

Bro. Delbert Indermuhle (Sardis) visited us on a Wednesday evening. We appreciate his ministering to us.

We are happy to see Sis. Marie Stoller is out of the hospital and doing better.

"Cares and worries soon depart when Thanksgiving comes into the heart." Kay Andrews

Let's remember to give our thanks to the Lord in this season of thankfulness and every day of the year.

Give Your Address Change
To Your Reporter

OHIO, MANSFIELD**Linda Morrison**

On Thursday, October 3, 1985 Sis. Dorothy Gerber was relieved of her pain and suffering. Her life of faith and dignity lived to the very end was a true example. "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind." II Timothy 1:7. May God's grace comfort Dorothy's loved ones who will miss her dearly: her husband, Wayne; daughter, Jenny, and sons: Grant, Craig and Clark. Our sympathy is also extended to her mother, Sis. Louise Sabo and her sisters: Sis. Ruth Domka and Sis. Clara Zimmer.

The following lines are excerpts from a poem written by Dorothy's son, Grant during the wee hours of a night when Dorothy was feeling the distress of her illness. At the time, the family still didn't want to accept that she may be leaving them.

TO MOTHER

When I was young you told me what was right and what was wrong and how life always goes on.

When I was young you helped me through school; how to read and how to write.

Mother, I love you more than life itself. Mother, I think of you more than anybody else. Mother, you make life fun and you make me feel bright as the sun.

When I was a teenager you showed me how to live life to its fullest. . .you helped me to drive, to sing. . .and be happy to be alive.

When I was a teenager you told me how to eat, sleep and be merry. . .

Mother, I love you more than life itself. Mother, I think of you more than anybody else. Mother you make life fun and you make me feel as bright as the sun.

The future holds a lot of promises--marriage, children and success in life, and I want you to enjoy them as much as my wife.

Mother, you were the spectator of my growing up. Mother, I need you to add life to my cup.

Mother, I think you're so fine it's hard to believe that you were always mine.

Mother, I think you're the greatest and to watch me grow up, you had to be the bravest.

Mother, I love you more than life itself. Mother, I think of you more than anybody else. Mother, you make life fun, and you make me feel as bright as the sun.

Mother, please don't leave so soon, because for your smiles, your laughter and the good times you bring--In my heart, there is always room for more.

Grant Gerber

May God bless Bro. Doug Sabo (Sarasota) for his words of comfort. What a blessing to have the support of family; in times of grief it truly is easier to look down than up. We find so much comfort in the 23rd Psalm: "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death...." (Note the word, THROUGH!)

OHIO, RITTMAN
Judy Stoller

Autumn calls to harvesttime
When gold and yellow fruits of field
And garden plot reflect the love
Of God amid her lavish yield.

Autumn calls each thankful heart
To kneel in thankful prayer and praise,
And sing a psalm of gratitude
For life's happy thanksgiving days.

Harold A. Schulz

A little girl in Ireland once wrote —
"God must listen to the prayers of
Americans real close, Because He has
given them so much to be thankful for
..."

Taken from Ideals

How often do we really stop to count our blessings in this land with all of its freedoms and where we are bountifully provided for physically? Is it only once a year at Thanksgiving or do we live every day with thankful living?

We are thankful for ministers who bring God's Holy Word to us each Sunday. How often do we stop to thank them for their service to us? We are also thankful for those who come to visit us. Visiting brothers who brought us God's message this month were Del-

bert Indermuhle (Sardis), Elder Bro. Leroy Huber and Vernon Leman (Eureka, IL).

When a little babe is born into the world it fills our hearts with thanksgiving to hear that all is well both with mother and child. Twins, Ethan Carl and Andrew Fred, were born to Bro. Matthew and Sis. Gail Steiner. Nathan, Joel, Luke, Aaron and Mary will enjoy two more brothers. Grandparents are Bro. Alvin and Sis. Eldora Steiner and Sis. Doris Gasser. Another son was also born to Bro. Robin and Sis. Joanne Stoller. Tony, Audrey and Troy, as well as grandparents Bro. Russell and Sis. Melvne Stoller (Latty) and Bro. Don and Sis. Martha Walder, will enjoy little Benjamin Glenn.

When we hear of those who from time to time must suffer in the flesh it always makes us sad; but, when we hear they are recovering it makes us thankful. Those in the hospital this month were Matthew Stoller (Bro. Ken and Sis. Lori), Sis. Martha Jane Rigenbach (Vernon) and Bro. Dave Maletich (Sis. Mary). We wish each one God's healing hand.

Thus united And in concord
Let us walk the path of life;
Hand in hand, O may love bind us
For each other's welfare strive.

Zion's Harp #237

Those united in holy matrimony this month were Bro. Jack Maibach and Sis. Delores Walder (Cissna Park, IL), Bro. Eric Stoller (Bro. Everett and Sis. Marjorie) and Sis. Melanie Indermuhle (Bro. Galen and Sis. Cheryl), Bro. Walter Anliker (Eureka, IL) and Sis. Claribel Walters (Sis. Jennie Bauman), Jon Gasser (Bro. Emmet and Sis. Marie) and Diana Artrip, and Ken Everhard (Bro. Dale and Sis. Margaret) and Sarah Walters. May God add His blessing to each of these marriages.

OHIO, SARDIS**Paula Figel**

As this is the time of year we celebrate the thanksgiving season, we have many things to be thankful for in our country. The one thing that should enter our mind is to be thankful for God's Word, which goes out in its purity, and our salvation, which is free for the asking.

Ministers visiting us this month have been Bros. Homer Reinick and Eugene Fetter (Toledo). May God bless them

for their efforts. "For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, that the Lord Jesus the same night in which He was betrayed took bread: and when He had given thanks, He brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. After the same manner also He took the cup, when He had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me. I Corinthians 11:23-25.

On October 12, our dear Elder Bros. Joe Ramsier (Rittman, OH) and Eugene Pamer (Akron, OH) were here to serve us holy communion.

OHIO, SMITHVILLE Verla Stoller

Now thank we all our God
With heart, and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things has done,
In whom the world rejoices,
Who from our mother's arms
Has blest us on our way
With countless gifts of love,
And still is ours today.

Zion's Harp #236

This is the month when our country sets aside a day to celebrate "Thanksgiving". But even though we have a special day to celebrate it, we should be thankful each day of our lives for all that God has blest us with.

Thankful for the safe arrival of their little son, Michael Robert, are first-time parents, Bro. Ron and Sis. Terri Stoller. Bro. Bob and Sis. Eileen Stoller rejoice over their first grandchild.

Jonathan David has brought happiness to the home of Bro. Ken and Sis. Becky Zollinger. Laura and Tim are glad for a new little brother. Sharing the joy of this new grandson are Bro. John and Sis. Marge Zollinger, and Bro. Eli and Sis. Evelyn Manz (Junction).

Hospitalized this past month was Hannah Rufener (Bro. Larry and Sis. Susan). We are thankful to report she is home again.

Last month, I neglected to report the wedding of Marvin Indermuhle (Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Vera) and Carol Pamer (Bro. Eugene and Sis. Eleanor, Akron) on August 31. We wish them God's richest blessings as they travel this path of life together.

OHIO, TOLEDO

Frances Laidig
Josephine Rehklau

This is such a beautiful time of the year with all the lovely colors of nature. It makes me want to drive through the country for a couple of days. Not being able to do this, I decided to drive around our own city. It, too, was lovely, but when I came home and sat looking out of the window with the sunset shining through the oaks, the golden maples and other trees, I was impressed to see it was just as pretty here. It seemed a gentle reminder from the Lord that there is beauty and love around us wherever we are if we but look for it. As Thanksgiving Day arrives, we can also add our thanks for this special gift from God.

Our Thursday evening services have been devoted to listening to the tapes from the annual brotherhood conference. It is a blessing that we share these messages of truth.

Our Sunday picnic was held this past month. This is something the children always look forward to. Inviting others to join us and having them here makes it even more interesting and pleasant — a day of love and fellowship. Our guests were from the Children's Home and Sardis, Ohio. We want to thank Bro. Uriel Gehring (Leo, IN) for being with us on this day. He told us of God's great creation and His love for us.

My word created the earth and the heavens.

Ye know me by my works and fame.
'Tis I, thy Creator, thy God and thy Father

Today as yesterday the same.

"The Heavens Are Praising",
Hymns of Zion #49, vs. 5

The Lord has blessed Bro. Douglas and Sis. Lanna Harmon with their first baby, Benjamin Howard. We welcome this precious little one in our church.

Attending our schools of higher learning this fall are Amy Stoller and Wesley Stoller (Latty, OH) and Lyn Uhler (Smithville, OH). We invite them to assemble with us whenever possible. We look forward to students coming to Toledo.

OREGON, SILVERTON

Rosa Lee Kuenzi

The annual Sunday school picnic, held last month at the Evergreen Wayside Park, south of Silverton, was again

a huge success. It surely gives almost as much enjoyment to the rest of us as it does to the Sunday school children themselves. Many thanks to the Sunday school teachers for their efforts and to all the parents for the food and enthusiasm that they brought.

If it is true that Thanksgiving helps out the turkey market, and Easter gives a boost to ham sales . . . surely fall must bring profitable marks on the sales charts of hot dog companies. We have enjoyed several good wiener roasts lately, some with accompanying hay rides and one with apple cider making as a first course. All, of course, have a bonfire for cooking, keeping warm and singing around.

The family of Bro. Rich and Sis. Rosa Lee Kuenzi wish to thank all the dear ones who remembered us with their prayers and sympathy at the recent death of Rose Lee's father, Larry Darnell (Carson City, NV). How much we rely on the love and support of our brethren is especially clear to us in times of sorrow or trouble.

For the last several Wednesday evenings we have been listening (and trying to absorb as much as possible) to the tapes of the brotherhood conference of 1985. The love and compassion and wisdom never fail to be impressive and humbling. We pray we can take to heart what we hear and put it to use.

We heard recently how the news of a new convert here and there has been compared to going out to the vineyard after the harvest and finding fruit here or there that was missed. Now that the grapes have been harvested for the year it brings to mind the thought: What joy we would feel today to hear that new "fruit" had been found for the Lord's vineyard. Can you imagine the look of joy on someone's face if that good news were about you?

TEXAS, ZAPATA Mary Plattner

Our winter season is underway as several of our winter residents have now returned. We will all assemble at church for Thanksgiving services, followed by our annual Thanksgiving dinner as we reflect on the many blessings bestowed on us. Anyone coming south over the holidays is most welcome to assemble with us.

The engagement of Bro. Jim Knobloch (Zapata) and Sis. Marcie Banwart (Elgin, IA, formerly of West Bend) was announced. We certainly wish

them God's richest blessings in their life together.

SILVER THREADS

"WHAT DOES GOD KNOW . . .?"

At the end of time, billions of people were scattered on a great plain before God's throne. Some of the groups near the front talked heatedly — not with cringing shame, but with belligerence.

"How can God judge us? How can he know about suffering?" snapped a woman with a tattooed number from a Nazi concentration camp. "We endured terror, beatings, torture, death!"

In another group, a black man lowered his collar. "What about this?" he demanded, showing an ugly rope burn. "Lynched for no crime other than being born black!"

Spread far across the plains were hundreds of such groups. Each had a complaint against God for the evil and suffering He permitted in His world. How lucky God was to live in heaven where all was sweetness and light, with no weeping, no fear, no hunger and no hatred. Indeed, what did God know about what man had been forced to endure in this world. "After all, God leads a pretty sheltered life," they said.

So, each group sent out a leader, chosen because he had suffered the most. There was a Jew, a black, an untouchable from India, an illegitimate, a person from Hiroshima and one from a Siberian slave camp. After consulting with each other, they were ready to present their case. It was rather simple:

Before God would be qualified to be their judge, He must endure what they had endured. Their decision was that God . . . "Should be sentenced to live on earth . . . as a man!"

But . . . because He was God, they set certain safeguards to be sure He could not use His divine powers to help Himself:

- Let Him be born a Jew.
- Let the illegitimacy of His birth be doubted, so that none will know who is really His Father.
- Let Him champion a cause so just, but so radical, that it brings down upon Him the hate, condemnation, and eliminating efforts of every major traditional, established religious authority.

- Let Him try to describe what no man has ever seen, tasted, heard or smelled — let Him try to communicate God to men.
- Let Him be betrayed by His dearest friends.
- Let Him be indicted on false charges, tried before a prejudiced jury, and convicted by a cowardly judge.
- Let Him see what it is to be terribly alone and completely abandoned by every living being.
- Let Him be tortured and let Him die the most humiliating death — with common thieves.

As each leader announced his portion of the sentence, loud murmurs of approval went up from the great throng of people. When the last had finished pronouncing sentence, there was an awkward silence. No one uttered a word. No one moved. For suddenly all knew . . .

God had already served His sentence.

Harold A. Seven

SONGS OF PRAISE & THANKSGIVING

NOW THANK WE ALL OUR GOD

Now thank we all our God With heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things hath done, In whom His world rejoices;
Who, from our mothers' arms Hath blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love, And still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God Through all our life be near us,
With every joyful hearts And blessed peace to cheer us;
And keep us in His grace, And guide us when perplexed,
And free us from all ills In this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God, The Father, now be given,
The Son, and Him who reigns With Them in highest heaven,
The one eternal God, Whom earth and heav'n adore;
For thus it was, is now, And shall be evermore.

Gospel Hymns #757

ALL PEOPLE THAT ON EARTH

All people that on earth do dwell,
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;
Him serve with mirth, His praise forth tell,
Come ye before Him and rejoice.

Know that the Lord is God indeed;
Without our aid He did us make:
We are His flock, He doth us feed,
And for His sheep He doth us take.

O enter then His gates with praise,
Approach with joy His courts unto:
Praise, laud, and bless His name
always,
For it is seemly so to do.

For why? the Lord our God is good,
His mercy is for ever sure;
His truth at all times firmly stood,
And shall from age to age endure.
Gospel Hymns #1

O WORSHIP THE KING

O worship the King all glorious above,
And gratefully sing His wonderful love;
Our Shield and Defender, the Ancient of days,
Pavilion'd in splendor, and girded with praise.

O tell of His might, and sing of His grace,
Whose robe is the light, whose canopy space;
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,
And dark is His path on the wings of the storm.

Thy bountiful care what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;
It streams from the hills, It descends to the plain,
And sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
In Thee do we trust nor find Thee to fail;
Thy mercies, how tender! How firm to the end,
Our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend.

Gospel Hymns #442

HOLY, HOLY!
LORD GOD ALMIGHTY!

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty.
Early in the morning our song shall rise
to Thee;

Holy, Holy, Holy! Merciful and Mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, Holy, Holy! all the saints adore
Thee,

Casting down their golden crowns
around the glassy sea;

Cherubim and Seraphim falling down
before Thee,

Which wert and art, and evermore shall
be.

Holy, Holy, Holy! tho' the darkness
hide Thee,

Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory
may not see,

Only Thou art Holy, there is none
beside Thee

Perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy name in
earth, and sky, and sea;

Holy, Holy, Holy! Merciful and Mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!
Gospel Hymns #118

WE GATHER TOGETHER

We gather together to ask the Lord's
blessing;

He chastens and hastens his will to
make known;

The wicked oppressing now cease from
distressing,

Sing praises to his name: He forgets
not his own.

Beside us to guide us, our God with us
joining,

Ordaining, maintaining his kingdom
divine;

So from the beginning the fight we
were winning;

Thou, Lord, wast at our side, All glory
be thine!

We all do extol thee, thou leader
triumphant,

And pray that thou still our defender
wilt be.

Let thy congregation escape
tribulation;

Thy name be ever praised! O Lord,
make us free!

Gospel Hymns #473

WONDERFUL GRACE OF JESUS

Wonderful grace of Jesus, Greater
than all my sin;

How shall my tongue describe it,
Where shall its praise begin?

Taking away my burden, Setting my
spirit free;

For the wonderful grace of Jesus
reaches me.

Wonderful grace of Jesus, Reaching to
all the lost,

By it I have been pardoned, Saved to
the uttermost,

Chains have been torn asunder, Giving
me liberty;

For the wonderful grace of Jesus
reaches me.

Wonderful grace of Jesus, Reaching
the most defiled,

By its transforming power, Making him
God's dear child,

Purchasing peace and heaven, For all
eternity;

And the wonderful grace of Jesus
reaches me.

Chorus:

Wonderful the matchless grace of
Jesus,

Deeper than the mighty rolling sea;

Wonderful grace, all sufficient for me,
for even me,

Broader than the scope of my
transgressions,

Greater far than all my sin and shame,
O magnify the precious name of Jesus,

Praise His name!

Gospel Hymns #115

THANKFUL

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Gospel Hymns #480



Sermon . . .

(Continued from Page 32)

We read what the unclean spirit had done to this man. It says, "For oftentimes it had caught him: and he was kept bound with chains and in fetters; and he brake the bands, and was driven of the devil into the wilderness." Luke 8:29.

The unclean spirit drives people. It doesn't draw them . . . it drives them. Have you ever observed someone who seemed to have been driven to destruction? Driven to do evil? Driven to curse, to swear, to take the name of God in vain? Driven to all manner of evil? Here we see the power of God working through Christ to rescue men from the unclean spirits that are abroad upon the face of the earth. Christ came to rescue us. He came to redeem us. He came to reveal to us the invisible power of God.

"Jesus asked him, saying, What is thy name? And he said, Legion: because many devils were entered into him." Luke 8:30. What a deplorable state! What a deplorable standing! But shouldn't it give us hope and courage to know that this man was released from a legion of devils? There is not one upon the face of the earth that is too great for God to overcome. There is no spirit of evil or darkness too great for our God to deal with, to cast out and to drive forth so that man can be healed. This gives us hope, and the courage to place our confidence in God.

After Jesus had asked, "What is thy name?" and the demon had replied, "Legion," the devils "besought him (Christ) that he would not command them to go out into the deep." Luke 8:31.

There are things in the Holy Word of God that we may wonder about until we reach the glory and beauty of heaven, where God will reveal all things to us.

In this account, the spirits of evil and darkness did not want to go to their

destruction and to their doom.

On the day of God's judgment the forces of evil will be destroyed, but perhaps they wanted to be spared as long as they could. Christ permitted them that request. It says, "There was there an herd of many swine feeding on the mountain: and they besought him that he would suffer them to enter into them. And he suffered them." Luke 8:32. He granted the request; He allowed it to take place.

"Then went the devils out of the man, and entered into the swine: and the herd ran violently down a steep place into the lake, and were choked." Luke 8:33. Can you imagine what it would have been like to have been one of the observers, to have been one of those standing there witnessing what was taking place?

Suppose that you and I would go to a farm that had many animals, and someone would be there who had an unclean spirit, this Legion, and would make the same request. When the power of Christ had them out, we would see the herd suddenly become violent and go wild before our eyes. Would we not also become fearful as these people were?

When we read the stories of Jesus and His mighty works, we see them only from afar. We are not standing there. Sometimes it is difficult to picture ourselves right there witnessing it all. We only view it from afar, but if we try to place ourselves in the position that those people were in, we can better understand their fears, their cares and their concerns.

"When they that fed them saw what was done, they fled . . ." (I believe that we would also want to run away.) ". . . and went and told it in the city and in the country. Then they went out to see what was done; and came to Jesus, and found the man, out of whom the devils were departed, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed, and in his right mind: and they were afraid." Luke 34, 35.

We might ask, witnessing it from afar, why were they afraid? Couldn't they see the wonder, the beauty, the glory, the power of God, and all that was good? Here was a man who had been possessed by a legion of devils, and now he was clothed and in his right mind. We think only of the wonder of it all.

But they were wondering what manner of man He was. Who was this Jesus of Nazareth? Who was this Man that the Legion called Jesus, Son of God

most high? "Who is He?" or "What is He doing in our land?" They were indeed afraid.

Christ speaks to us today through His Spirit. There are times in our lives when we become afraid. We become frightened, and Christ calms and comforts us through His Spirit.

We can read of another time when there was a storm at sea, but Christ was not in the boat with His disciples. He came to them walking upon the waters; and when they saw Him walking, they thought that it must be a spirit, and they were afraid. But Jesus said, "Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid." Matthew 14:27.

We are not to be afraid, beloved, of the grace and goodness of God. We ought rather to be afraid of the power of the enemy. We ought to be afraid of him who would destroy us. We should have such a concern and fear of him, that we would place all our trust and confidence in God.

We must place our trust and confidence where it rightly belongs. Jesus still says, "It is I . . . be not afraid."

With Christ in our ship, we don't need to be afraid of the storm or of the raging sea. We don't need to be afraid of the winds and storms of doubt that will pass over us in this lifetime. We can trust that the Master of life and creation, the Master of our ship of faith is with us in the ship, and He has promised He will never leave us or forsake us.

This is the message that Jesus was trying to teach: "You can trust in Me. You need not be afraid of Me. Simply believe. Believe on Me. Witness the power of My Father. See what He will do for you. Be not afraid."

But the people were afraid. "They also, which saw it, told them by what means he that was possessed of the devils was healed. Then the whole multitude of the country of the Gadarenes round about besought him to depart from them; for they were taken with great fear: and he went up into the ship, and returned back again." Luke 36, 37.

Then we have the reaction of the man who was healed. "Now the man out of whom the devils were departed besought him that he might be with him: but Jesus sent him away, saying, Return to thine own house, and shew how great things God hath done unto thee." Luke 8:38, 39.

Sometimes it is said, "Wouldn't it be a beautiful thing if on the day we are baptized, when we have found peace,

pardon and forgiveness, when our heart has been cleansed and purified, when we have been freed from the power of the enemy, when the shackles and the chains of darkness and unbelief have all been broken, when we stand clothed and, so to speak, in our right mind for the first time in our life, when we really understand God and begin to know Him, when we have come to know ourself, when we have come to know ourself, when we have come to know the enemy of all righteousness, and when we are standing there in the beauty and glory and are rejoicing in the hope of eternal life," we say, "wouldn't it be beautiful if those souls could fly away to be forever with the Lord?"

What a joy and what a blessing! No more cares! No more concerns! No more trials!

But, beloved, if that happened, what would happen to the message of Christ? What would happen to the message of salvation? What would happen to the plan that God has for the rest of mankind, for all of those whom He loves and longs to gather into His embrace? He wants others within His sheepfold so that they might also know the joy and blessing that He alone can give.

So He speaks to each one today, to everyone who has been converted, "Return to thine own house and show how great things God hath done unto thee."

Let us tell the old, old story. Let our family and our friends and our neighbors be apprised of the grace and goodness of God. Let mankind know that the work of God that we behold with our mortal eye, the visible handiwork of God, is not as great as the marvel of the inner work of redemption and salvation.

We see the beauty of God's creation in a child born into this life. The older we become, the more we marvel at the physical birth that God has given.

But, beloved, when we see the conversion of a grown person or a young adult who has become blackened with sin, darkness and unbelief, when we see such a one transformed by the grace, mercy and power of Almighty God and restored to the state of innocence, being born again out of water and Spirit, it is a greater miracle.

It is a greater miracle to return to innocence than to be physically born as a tiny babe.

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SERMON BY BRO. DONALD F. SAUDER OF ROANOKE, IL

Text: Luke 8:22-40

The beautiful story that we have before us this day demonstrates the wonderful power of Almighty God. It brings to our attention, beloved, that our great God was indeed the Creator. There should be no doubt or question within any heart or any mind in all of this assembly that God created the heaven and the earth.

Men today, through learning and education, are striving to find out how this earth came into being. How did it all happen? Where did it come from? How did life begin? You and I, beloved, though we might be less educated, have the answer. We found it in the Word of God. No one can take it from us.

We marvel that men become so foolish that they seek the answers through human reasoning. They even become so foolish as to think that it did not take any wisdom to create heaven and earth, that the marvel of this creation came about by an accident, that there wasn't a plan. It just happened, they say.

Is it really wise to believe that something marvelous that you and I can behold with our mortal eyes is here because of some accident that took place millions and millions of years ago? Or, is it wise to believe that we have a Creator, the God of heaven and earth, Who, out of such infinite wisdom that the mind of man can never begin to match or to understand it brought all into being by the power of His Word?

Scripture tells us that wisdom was always with God. He is without beginning and without end, a God of wisdom and a God of order. He is a God of almighty power that we cannot begin to comprehend or understand.

The people in Biblical times also needed to understand that Jesus Christ, Who was speaking to them, was indeed the Son of the living God. They beheld the power that He exercised in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye,

when He commanded the winds and the water, and they obeyed Him. We read of that.

The voice of God speaking from the counsels and courts of heaven created the earth, brought water and light to the earth and created life in the seas and upon the earth. He brought into being every green thing that we see bud forth. He brought into being every form of life that we see upon the earth.

Where is there an eye so dim of vision that by the work that it beholds cannot begin to know the workman? By their work we know the workmen. By the things that are visible to our mortal eyes, we understand that there is a God and a Creator of heaven and earth.

Jesus Christ came to show you and me, as He showed the people of His time, something even greater than the visible creation. Christ came to show us an invisible work of God that no eye can see. No eye is able to behold it, but the invisible work is even greater and mightier and more of a wonder than the visible works of creation.

We read two stories of Jesus' power which was demonstrated on earth. The first reveals His power over the physical things which we can see. The second reveals His power over those things which are invisible. That power is more of a wonder to the spiritual eyes, ears and heart of man. It is a greater wonder than the things that we see.

This story ended beautifully. "They arrived at the country of the Gadarenes, which is over against Galilee. And when he went forth to land, there met him out of the city a certain man, which had devils long time, and wore no clothes, neither abode in any house, but in the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he cried out, and fell down before him, and with a loud voice said, What have I to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God most high?" Luke 8:26, 27, 28.

Beloved, we are reminded that there are two kinds of spirits. "God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth." John 4:24.

But there is also the spirit of darkness, the spirit of unbelief, the spirit of evil. That spirit also is able to recognize God. That spirit of evil and darkness recognizes that it is subject to the Creator of heaven and earth. That spirit was also subject to Christ and acknowledged, even before other men, that the Man before him was Jesus, the Son of God.

Are there any here today who do not recognize Jesus? Is there anyone here who doesn't realize that Jesus is indeed the Son of God, Who came down from heaven and walked upon the earth; that God sent His wisdom and His power and His glory to the earth in the form of flesh and blood?

Satan does not wish us to realize that Christ, the Son of God, indeed came in flesh and blood. The devil speaks against this, and tries to teach men that Jesus was only a great teacher and not really the Son of God, that there are many Christs, that even Moses was a Christ. He wants people to believe that Jesus was only a man and not really the Son of the Almighty God.

We need to realize, beloved, if we would follow Him, that He is indeed Jesus the Christ, the Saviour of mankind, the Foundation of salvation, and the Rock upon which we can build our lives and never be brought to shame or confusion.

The spirit of darkness and evil that was within this man, spoke with Christ. He said, "What have I to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God most high? I beseech thee, torment me not." Luke 8:28. It explains that Christ had commanded the unclean spirits to come out of the man.

(Continued on Page 30)