



"... Lift up your eyes,
and look on the fields, for
they are white already to
harvest."

John 4:35

"The harvest truly is
plenteous, but the labor-
ers are few."

Matthew 9:37

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"The HARVEST truly is great, but the laborers are few"

Luke 10:2

Bringing in the Sheaves

Sowing in the morning, Sowing seeds of kindness,
Sowing in the noon-tide and the dewy eve;
Waiting for the harvest and the time of reaping,
We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves.

Sowing in the sunshine, Sowing in the shadows,
Fearing neither clouds nor winter's chilling
breeze;

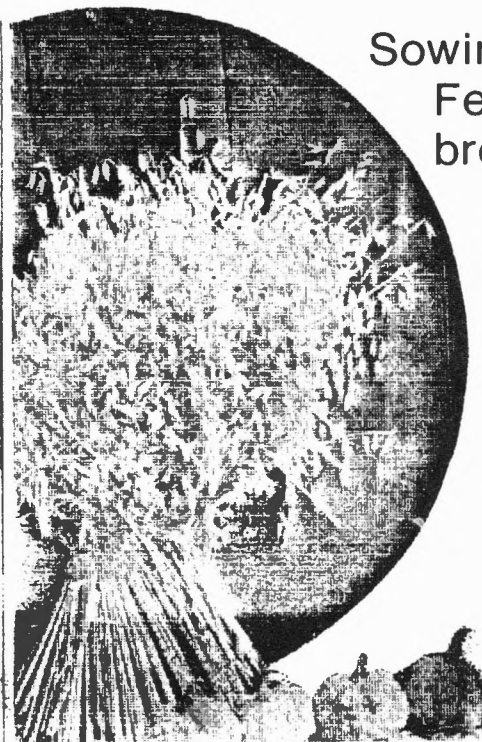
By and by the harvest, and the labors
ended,

We shall come rejoicing, bringing in
the sheaves.

Gospel Hymns #609

**"Pray ye, therefore the LORD of the
HARVEST, that he would send forth
laborers into HIS HARVEST."**

Luke 10:2



APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME

Uriel Gehring

The green of summer is in full blossom at our home, and having been the benefactor of ample rain, the grounds have never looked more beautiful. The flowers around the resident homes present a lovely display of many colors; the dark green of a cornfield in the distance lends a nice contrast to the lighter green shade of the grass being mowed on our premises. The denseness of the trees and foliage in the woods gives a "wall" effect on the north side of our building area like a giant fortress shielding us from danger, reminiscent of the song, "A Mighty Fortress is our God" Who shields us from all danger, and we are secure in Him.

God is our refuge and our strength. If one's spiritual vision is 20/20, everything in nature redounds to the glory of God, and we are in perfect harmony with the words of the hymn writer, "How Great Thou Art". With Him at the helm of our ship of faith, we cannot fail.

Summertime is a time of working together, playing together, staying together and praying together here at the Home. All four activities tend to draw us closer to the reality that we need each other and can benefit from personal interaction. Our mastery in interacting is such a big part of our happiness in youth, adolescence, and adulthood that we must put our "all" into it. If we truly love one another, it becomes easy to be exercised thereby and God's

blessings flow upon us; how much we need His blessings. Close interaction is an integral part of life here, and it can be learned only by putting into action our concerns one for another.

Two of our board members and their wives have graciously lent their time and talent as houseparents while the regular houseparents enjoyed a brief vacation. Bro. Bob and Sis. Karen Indermuhle (Sardis, OH) and two of their children were in the East House; and Bro. Jim and Sis. Kathy Schlatter (Chicago, IL) were in the West House. These houseparenting experiences give them a real sensitivity to the current needs of the Home and make them very effective in their official capacity as board members. We thank them for their efforts.

Our most recent volunteers for the summer program have been Sis. Pam Gramm (Gridley, IL) tutoring in the classroom; Sis. Becky Baumgartner (Bluffton) working with academics and animals; Sis. Susan Getz (Remington) specializing in 4-H projects; and Sis. Sandy Guingrich (Peoria, IL) helping

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
Third Year — August 1985 thru July 1986 — 18,247

Bibles Distributed — Third year

	MONTH	TO DATE
August 1985 —	876	876
September 1985 —	1369	2245
October 1985 —	1259	3504
November 1985 —	1088	4592
December 1985 —	1610	6202
January 1986 —	1068	7270
February 1986 —	1283	8553
March 1986 —	2174	10,727
April 1986 —	1051	11,778
May 1986 —	967	12,745
June 1986 —	4625	17,370
July 1986 —	877	18,247

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. Also, pocket testaments with Psalms and Proverbs are available.

THE SILVER LINING

Grabill, Indiana 46741
USPS 496780

EDITORIAL STAFF:

David Bertsch
Uriel Gehring
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IN MEMORY — EDITORS:
HENRY SOUDER
EDWARD SOUDER

out in many worthwhile areas. Thank you, volunteers. Your efforts have had a positive, profound effect on our children and staff.

The multi-purpose apartment is now being occupied by volunteers for the summer program. It is very cozy and comfortable and lends a very practical addition to the home complex. The woodworking shop has been painted and is semi-equipped with tools and gives our children yet another opportunity to develop their God-given talents. Thanks to all the volunteers who made the two projects a reality.

Paul M., having lived with us for nearly a year, has returned home to live with his mother. We have enjoyed having Paul and wish him well in his new environment. We trust that his time with us has been another step to successful adulthood.

Among the outings our Bible class students have enjoyed this summer was a weekend with the Bible class students from the Indiana churches at the annual Christian Endeavor at Bluffton North. It is a time of good fellowship, renewing old friendships and making new ones. They were accompanied by Bro. Bill and Sis. Joan Schick and Bro. Doug Kellenberger. More recently they spent a weekend in Chicago, IL, doing some sightseeing and attending church in Chicago on Sunday. They were accompanied by Bro. Tim and Sis. Jenny Sauder, Bro. Lynn and Sis. Leonda Stieglitz and Bro. Loren Klopfenstein; another rich learning experience.

As of this writing, we are preparing for the big annual sale Saturday, August 16. We are anticipating another blessed, banner day when we can gather to enjoy rich fellowship and support the endeavor of our Home in helping special children with special needs. It's a day of caring and sharing. "It is more blessed to give than to receive," and "God loveth a cheerful giver". Thank you to everyone who helped in any way with the preparation for the sale.

Remember us in your prayers. Time is and we march on . . .

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

"Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable gift."

II Corinthians 9:15

Time after time we read in our Bible of how our Lord Jesus met the needs of suffering people. Still today, Jesus looks upon human needs with compassion. He has taught us that we are all special objects of His divine creation, not mere accidents of chance. This is why we honor the elderly and infirm, and why we treat them with respect. They should always receive our loving care and attention. All human beings bear the image of God, no matter what their condition or how old they are.

We, at the Home for the Handicapped, are grateful and thankful recipients of this Godly inspired compassion!

"If faith produce no works, I see that faith is not a living tree. Thus faith and works together grow; No separate life they e'er can know; They're soul and body, hand and heart— What God hath joined, let no man part."

Hannah More

This season once again brings an abundance of fresh fruits and vegetables to our Home. The yield of our "backyard garden" plus the generous donation of additional produce from willing volunteers will fill our tables and Home freezer to overflowing. We thank you sincerely, faithful volunteers!

Summertime is in its full glory and many activities have been enjoyed by our residents. July was highlighted by a spectacular display of fireworks bursting in the sky over the banks of the Illinois River. The next day our annual Fourth of July picnic was held in the wooded area behind our Home where approximately 300 friends and relatives gathered for a bountiful feast and warm fellowship!

We would like to call to your attention the date of our annual Benefit Day November 14, 1986, at the Morton fellowship hall. We hope to see many of you there.

Birthdays for our residents are special and anticipated events. Those celebrating August birthdays are: Susan Landis and Peggy Full on the 5th, Martha Clymer on the 6th, Shirley Pfeifer on the 23rd and Barbara Hostetler on the 28th.

Sunshine — Those who bring sunshine to the lives of others cannot keep it from themselves. — James M. Barrie

Perfume — Happiness is a perfume

you cannot pour on others without getting a few drops on yourself.

ALABAMA, ATHENS

Marilyn Walder

Once again we have had many visitors during the past month. Our semi-annual board meeting for the pre-school was held June 28. The board members are Bros. Ed Hohulin (Goodfield, IL), Ted Witzig (Morton, IL), Jim Schlatter (Chicago, IL) and Tom Schrenk and David Haggermaker (Athens, AL). Bro. Ed has been the elder on the pre-school board for the past five years, but is now retiring. Bro. Aaron Steffen (Alto, MI), who will be replacing Bro. Ed, was also with us for the meeting. Sis. Carolyn Rokey (Goodfield, IL) has been doing the bookkeeping for the pre-school. We thank her for her willingness to volunteer her time for us. May God bless her and Bro. Ed for their endless dedication and support. We appreciate their efforts very much as well as that of their spouses, Sis. Elsie and Bro. Ira. Bro. Lavoyd Moore (Athens, AL) is the administrator for the pre-school. We want to thank him, too, for being a willing volunteer. May God bless all those involved with the decision-making of the pre-school. May they continue to use wisdom in discerning the best decisions. Thanks also to the wives of the

CHILDREN'S HOME COUNSELING POSITION

This full-time position in our family/team program offers a challenging and rewarding opportunity to work with a dedicated Christian staff serving abused, neglected, and disturbed adolescents. Responsibilities include individual, group, and family counseling, intake screening, liason work with outside agencies, and consultation to staff.

This position requires that the brother or sister have at least a bachelor's degree in social work, psychology or counseling (includes guidance counseling).

For further information on job description, salary, and benefits, contact Bro. Tim Sauder, Administrator, A.C.C.H., Box 151, Leo, IN 46765; (219) 627-2159.

Your brothers in faith,
The Children's Home
Board of Directors

board members for their advice and support.

We have heard a lot lately about giving. We should want to give without receiving anything. We can give in many ways — our time, money, possessions and talents. We all have been given a talent that God can use if we let Him. We're thankful for Sis. Julie Bauer (Cissna Park, IL) and Sis. Barb Huber (Lexington, KY), who volunteered two weeks of their summer to work at the pre-school. May God bless them!

We enjoyed visitors from Rockville, CT, Forrest and Peoria, IL, and Atlanta, GA. The Cissna Park, IL, young group and some from the Sarasota, FL, young group were with us the weekend of July 4. We had a church supper and singing Saturday evening. We enjoy our visitors so much and look forward to them coming. Christian fellowship and friendship mean so much to me. I appreciate those who make the effort to travel many miles to visit other churches.

We were privileged to hear the testimonies of four friends, Albert Martin, James Massey, Laura Pankey and Harold Hagenmaker (Bro. Carl and Sis. Shirley). They told us what God has done for them and how they love the Lord. We are so thankful that God has called them to His service and that they had the grace to answer the call. We welcome them as brothers and sisters in our family of God. May they continue to feel God's guidance as He directs them along life's pathway.

ARIZONA, PHOENIX

Ron and Ev Hoerr

"Then thou shalt bring her home to thine house . . ."

Deuteronomy 21:12

On June 15 we learned of the betrothal of Sis. Suzy Zollinger to Bro. Stan Warner (Lester, IA). Their parents are Bro. Ed and Sis. Shirley Zollinger and Bro. Dennis and Sis. Esther Warner (Lester, IA). We pray for the Lord's guidance as the happy couple makes plans for a September wedding.

On July 13, the betrothal of Sis. Kelly Emch to Bro. David Zeltwanger (Valparaiso, IN) was announced. Their parents are Bro. Jerry and Sis. Kathy Emch and Bro. Lyle and Sis. Marilyn Zeltwanger (Valparaiso, IN). May the

Lord be their guide as they plan their wedding.

Inspiring messages were brought by visiting ministers: Bro. Loren Knapp (Tucson), Bro. Dennis Warner (Lester, IA) and Bro. Tom Leman (Denver, CO).

Sis. Sherry Getz and Bro. Dennis Frank will exchange wedding vows July 20 in Morton, IL. Our church extends the warmest of congratulations to them. May God bless them as they set up housekeeping to honor Him.

My son, if thine heart be wise, my heart shall rejoice, even mine (Proverbs 23:15). Bro. Joe and Sis. LaVina Dotterer flew to Illinois to meet their new grandson, Blake Hoerr (Bro. Mark and Sis. Carolyn). Nicholas, Brent and Lindsey were very happy to see Grandma and Grandpa, too.

Bro. Wilbur and Sis. Sophie Huber flew to Illinois to meet grandson, Bradley Erin. He is the son of first-time parents, Bro. John and Sis. Cheryl Ricketts.

Kent Joseph Roth was born July 13. His proud parents are Bro. Todd and Sis. Jill. Tarah is his happy sister. Grandparents are Bro. Jim and Sis. Lois Beres and Bro. Earl and Sis. Lorene Roth.

Several loved ones may have uttered the prayer, "Have mercy, Lord, and lift me up." Surgical patients are Bro. Alvin Laukhuf, Sis. Linda Zollinger, Sis. Ora Schrenk and Phyllis Shackelbauer. Floren Klopfenstein is still confined to his home.

Sympathy is extended to Bro. Earl Sanders on the death of his brother-in-law and to Jim Ringger on the death of his father.

Christian fellowship is a delight we all enjoy. Our June 29 church supper and singing truly filled the need for a joyous time.

Peace be to the brethren and love with faith from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

ARIZONA, TUCSON

Sandy Bauer — Lisa Knapp

As is the custom here in Tucson, we have discontinued our Sunday school classes for the summer. Classes will resume in September.

Cindy and Joe McAndrews were blessed with their second son July 17. Phillip Ian is welcomed home by Christopher. Grandparents are Bro. Loren and Sis. Evelyn Knapp and John and Sally McAndrews. May God direct

them as they care for this precious child.

Dean Sinn was announced as having found peace through repentance. He is now eagerly awaiting baptism, Lord willing. May the Lord continue to guide and lead Dean. We all need the Lord's strength to continue our fight of faith.

"Lord, I am fondly, earnestly longing
Into Thy holy likeness to grow;
Thirsting for more and deeper
communion,
Yearning Thy love more fully to know.

Open the wells of grace and salvation,
Pour the rich streams deep into my
heart;
Cleanse and refine my thought and
affection,
Seal me and make me pure as Thou
art."

Hymns of Zion #171

CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA

Brenda Stoller

What a blessing it is to see God's children obey His call! We rejoiced with the angels in heaven as we witnessed the testimonies and baptisms of Bro. Denes and Sis. Joy Fulop and Sis. Rose Jevremov over the July 4th weekend. In addition to these loved ones answering God's call, the entire San Diego congregation felt a call of the Lord to establish full-time services in the San Diego area. Bro. Peter Petrovic and Bro. Doug Wagenbach have likewise yielded themselves to the Lord's work and will serve the San Diego congregation in the ministry. Our prayers are with Bros. Pete and Doug, and their families, as they undertake the responsibility of a new and growing church. The Altadena congregation will miss the frequent visits from our loved ones to the south, but we rejoice in the Lord's provision for another gathering for His own. Elder Bros. Ben Maibach, Joseph Ramsier and Richard Schupbach were with us this busy weekend.

Elder Bro. Carl Kinsinger has felt the need to retire after serving the Lord as our shepherd for many years. We have appreciated his wisdom and counsel and pray that God will continue to bless him in our flock.

Other visiting ministers were Bro. Bill Dotterer (Phoenix, AZ) and Elder Bro. Robert Walder (Congerville, IL). May God richly bless all those who were so willing to serve.

Graduating from high school this year was Fred Witzig. We extend our best wishes and may God's blessings be upon him.

Sis. Mary Witzig was hospitalized and is now recovering at home. We pray that God will bless her with renewed health so that she may gather with us again.

CALIFORNIA, MAYWOOD

Ben Ammann

On Sunday, July 6, Elder Bro. Joe Ramsier (Rittman, OH) ministered God's Word to us from Revelation 20 and 21. We are always thankful to have a visiting minister in our small congregation.

Sorry to report that Bro. Ed Ruehle is back in the hospital.

CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

Sherise Strahm

"And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely. He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son."

Revelation 21:6, 7

Our hearts have been warmed and we have been encouraged with the testimonies and baptisms of three dear souls. We welcome Bro. Denes and Sis. Joy Fulop and Sis. Rose Jevremov into our family of God; continually praying for those who have not yet drunk the water of life.

After much thoughtful prayer and consideration, God has provided a way for an established church in San Diego. Following the baptisms it was revealed to both Altadena and San Diego members that Bro. Pete Petrovic and Bro. Doug Wagenbach have been chosen to watch and feed our flock. Truly God has blessed us in our time of need. It was an evening of joy and sadness! Joy - as we began a new church; sadness - to part with the beloved Altadena congregation.

We are thankful that Sis. Anna Jevremov can assemble with us and is rapidly improving after her hospitalization. We pray that God's divine hand will continue to heal and uplift Sis. Anna.

We had many visiting brethren this past month who add to the zest of our fellowship and spiritual nourishment.

We were thankful the Lord opened the way for the following brothers to be with us, guide and feed our flock: Elder Bros. Bob Walder (Congerville, IL), Joe Ramseyer (Rittman, OH), Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI), Carl Kinsinger (Altadena, CA), Richard Schupbach (Phoenix, AZ) and Bro. John Klotzle (Altadena, CA). As our dear elder body gathers for the annual conference, may our thoughts and prayers be with them that God will grant what is needful to preserve our most precious faith.

COLORADO, DENVER

Mike Martin — Marlene Leman

"And, behold, the angel of the Lord came upon him, and a light shined in the prison: and he smote Peter on the side, and raised him up, saying, Arise up quickly. And his chains fell off from his hands. And the angel said unto him, Gird thyself, and bind on thy sandals. And so he did. And he saith unto him, Cast thy garment about thee, and follow me." Acts 12:7, 8. We are thankful that our new Bro. Joe Hohulin has been released from prison, his chains are broken, he's put on his sandals, was baptized and is now following the Lord. Likewise, Bill and Mary Berg have opened their hearts to the Lord. We further wish to welcome them and their two children, Billy and Kari, as they make their new home in Denver.

When two fond hearts become entwined

By God's direction - So Divine,
A bond is formed - A union made,
With faith so strong, cannot be swayed.

A couple humbled by God's love
Can feel the blessings from above.
Then through this life as one they go
Believing and trusting that God made it so.

And we rejoice with Bro. Tim Roecker (Bro. Ed and Sis. Bobbi, Morton, IL) and Sis. Diane Hohulin (Bro. Vern and Sis. Marie, Peoria, IL) in their engagement. They plan an October 12 wedding. We pray that God will be in their minds as their hearts become further entwined.

We grieve with Sis. Elizabeth Martin and Karl Braun over the tragic loss of their brother, Keith. We pray that God will bless their family in this time of distress.

Our visiting ministers this month were Bro. Ed Aeschleman (Philadel-

phia, PA), Bro. Ron Heiniger (Bloomington, IL), Bro. Chuck Hemmer (Peoria, IL) and Elder Bro. Lester Hartter (Berne, KS). We thank them for their labors of love in our behalf.

Sometimes in life it seems there are things we can do nothing about. And there are some things in God's will that are set. Things such as "Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out." Acts 3:19. "Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God." St. John 3:5. On the other hand we learn that through prayer we have an open access to God's heart and can effect the fulfilling of His will. "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." James 5:16. "Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere? We should never be discouraged, Take it to the Lord in prayer." Hymns of Zion # 161, vs. 2.

CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE

Michelle Virkler

"And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth forever."

I John 2:17

Oftentimes when those that are dear to us are afflicted, we want to question why? Yet, we have God's promise of love, mercy and life eternal. What else can we ask for? Oh, to be in the heavenly mansions above with our Lord and Savior.

The following have been hospitalized during the month of July or in the care of a physician: Sis. Pauline Luginbuhl, Sis. Hulda Luginbuhl and Bro. Art Lanz. We pray for God's healing power where it can be His will.

The Lord has called yet more dear souls unto the fold: Cathy Stomberg (Bro. Ron and Sis. Judy) and Sandy Lanz (Bro. Ed and Sis. Marilyn) have made a new beginning with the Lord.

The summer months are passing by so quickly. Many of those that we love are on vacation and we ask God's love and protection to bring them home safely.

DISTRICT OF COLOMBIA, WASHINGTON

Ed Aeschleman

Services were held in Washington, D.C. July 13 according to schedule

with ministering Bros. Leland Hirschey (Naumburg, NY) and Kevin Ryan (Rockville, CT) in attendance. Thirty-five worshippers were present with about half from the D. C. area.

Services are scheduled in Washington, D.C. on the second Sunday of each month at the Best Western Westpark Hotel, 8401 Westpark Drive, McLean, VA 22102 (Tyson's Corner Exit off of I-495 Beltway - then west on Route 7 about one mile to hotel). Services begin at 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Anyone traveling through the area is invited to attend.

We welcome Bro. Ralph and Sis. Catherine Klopfenstein, who recently moved to Washington from Gridley, IL. Bro. Ralph is working with the Department of Agriculture and we know their presence will be an added blessing to our small congregation here.

FLORIDA, FT. LAUDERDALE Terri Huber

Summer is well upon us, which means two things in Fort Lauderdale: 1) Our visitors are gone, and 2) The members of our own congregation are gone! This is the time of year when we do our traveling - usually up north to visit loved ones (and escape the heat) but also to favorite vacation spots within our region. Disney World, the Florida Keys, the Bahamas, Cypress Gardens and more are within easy reach for fun and relaxing weekend vacations.

"And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;"

Ephesians 4:11

We were blessed by the visit of Elder Bro. Joe Braker and his wife, Sis. Shirley (Morton, IL), who came to assist in the election of Sunday school teachers and other church offices.

It saddens us to hear of the illness and hospitalization of our loved ones who have spent a great deal of time in Fort Lauderdale. We pray that God will bless them through their suffering.

FLORIDA, NORTH FT. MYERS Kay Eisenmann

Greetings! Once again it's that time to tell about our North Ft. Myers congregation. We had Bro. Doug Sabo and family (Sarasota, FL) with us in June. He brought us the beautiful message of God's Strength, and reminded us that

as the Apostle Paul said, "All I know is Jesus Christ and Him crucified!"

How important prayer is for unconverted souls. To have a healthy body is surely a plus, but in itself is not as important as a healthy, humble soul! We are a blessed people to have the grace as it is an undeserved gift from God! Let us not take it for granted!!! Many people tend to follow the trend of the world and say, "After all, this is 1986, and the Bible is old fashion!" We are so thankful that our God is unchanging and steadfast. The final say is in God's hands, as He knows what's best for us! If we let Him take charge, it might not be what we want, but our judgment is not always the best! Keep in mind that life is short and death is sure. There is so much joy in serving the Lord and letting Him be our guide! Life is full of trials for the just and the unjust but we have the promise that God will not let Satan tempt us more than we can bear! With a prayer in our hearts for all who are absent from us now, we pray for help from our heavenly Father till we meet, God willing, again!

Our grandson, Dathan, is doing well after his first chemo treatment. He said, "Grandma, it was rough!" This little guy is such a light to us all, as he is so willing to do his best to make it bearable for us all. Oh, for his faith!! He makes me feel so very weak as he excepts whatever! We are sure he has his days and times! We all feel your love and prayers, as they strengthen our whole family!

Our assembly is still small, so if any are planning a last minute vacation, think of us. God's blessings to all!

FLORIDA, SARASOTA Vera Martin

We welcome Colleen Reardon, to our congregation and rejoice with her in her decision to give her all to the Lord.

Our number in assembling is much smaller now than in the winter, but we still have many visitors, especially families who take time to worship during their vacation. This included visiting brothers to minister the Word unto us. We thank Bro. Ed Schwartz (Bluffton, IN), Bro. Victor Beer (North Ft. Myers, FL) and Bro. John Bollier (Leo, IN) for sharing their time and families with us.

Our friend, Dathan Eisenmann, is again under treatment in Gainesville. It was good to have him with us again for a

month. His happiness is shared with all of us. We pray he will be able to accept whatever the Lord has in His plan.

Several from our congregation were able to visit the Athens, AL, church over the Fourth of July weekend. We were reminded of our duties as citizens to our country, but more important, of our duty and obligation to the Lord.

Let us remember to pray for our leaders and our country.

ILLINOIS, BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL

Donna Hodel - Nancy Kaufmann

A precious little bundle from heaven, Samuel Joseph, was born to Larry and Sandy Kupferschmid July 9. We rejoice with them and their daughter, Sunita. Grandparents are David and Sis. Marg Kupferschmidt (Cissna Park) and Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Pinto (Rock Island).

A reception was held for Art and Helen Bauer as they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. We ask that God would continue to bless them always, even as He has in the past.

Our Bible class children enjoyed the fellowship of the Elgin Bible class children July 12 and 13. We were also privileged to have ministering Bro. Jaye Rinkenberger (Goodfield) here that Sunday to speak to the children. We thank Bro. Jaye for his efforts.

ILLINOIS, BRADFORD Marilyn Tanner

To see God in everything makes life the greatest adventure there is.

Apples of Gold

Our annual meeting was held, with the election of Bros. Kenny Knepp, Nathan Stoller and Sis. Connie Rumbold as Sunday school teachers. We ask the Lord's guidance and direction for them as they teach our children.

July 19 was a special day for Mike Rumbold and Sheila Henderson as they were united as one. Parents are Bro. Elwin and Sis. Loretta Rumbold and Jean Henderson. May God bless them as they begin their lives together.

Our surgical patient this month was Sis. Margaret Tanner. We are thankful God has been with her. She is home and doing well.

We are rejoicing as prayers have been answered, for one more soul has opened the door of her heart. Lori Kieser (Bro. Loris and Sis. Martha) is

seeking the Lord in repentance. We pray that the Lord will grant her a rich measure of grace.

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO

Kathy Schlatter

Driving through the rolling hills of Missouri, I learned a lesson about the cruise control on our car. I had been nudging the accelerator on hills and braking on the way down. I was told that it was better to allow the "cruise" full control, allowing it to go faster on the way down, to go steadily, but not as fast, on the way up. This not only conserves fuel, but is also easier on the car's engine. Isn't it impressive that we have a spiritual control more amazing in its regulation of each of us individually than is a car's cruise control? First of all, the Lord sets our pace at an appropriate level. Certainly, spiritually we are helped up the hills with not too much wear nor too much energy depleted. We are allowed to go faster when appropriate, though never at runaway, unsafe or thoughtless speeds. However, in order for us to respond righteously to this Spirit within us, we must not tamper with the Lord's setting, interfering with either the accelerator ("more quickly, Lord - I'm in a hurry") or the brake ("not this, Lord, not yet"). With Him in control, our engine and fuel will last until we reach home.

As always, we appreciate our visiting ministers, Bros. Ken Eisenmann (Cissna Park), Ralph Garber and Joe Zimmerman (Morton, IL). The ministry of our visitors from the pulpit and of others in fellowship, prayer and song, truly uplifts us in the Lord. Let us never forget how much we mean to each other.

A wedding within the will of the Lord is beautiful. Jeanne Fisher (Bro. Frank and Sis. Gladys Fisher) was married to James Rimmer (Downers Grove) June 28. We are happy for them and pray that they will ever remember their deeply thought-out vows to each other and to the Lord. A marriage kept within the will of the Lord is more than lovely to behold: its touch and fragrance permeate and enrich the lives of all those around. Thus, with thankfulness and joy, the church surprised our Elder Bro. Dale and Sis. Judy Eisenmann at their home in celebration of their 25th wedding anniversary, a work begun June 25, 1961. We pray for their continued love and work in the Lord. May

they be given ever more support and blessings from us, their congregation, and the Lord.

"And God hath set some in the church . . . teachers . . ." I Corinthians 12:28. We pray this gift for Bro. John Baumgartner, Sis. Susie Jones and Sis. Joyce Kaiser as they shoulder the responsibility of being Sunday school teachers, looked to as special lights and examples for our future church. Bro. Matt Strahm will add to his teaching responsibilities that of being superintendent. May the Lord grant them an extra measure of wisdom and patience. Bro. Merle Hodel, Sis. Jeanne Plattner and Sis. Barb Stevig deserve our gratitude for their combined years of love and service. We know the Lord rewards His faithful servants.

Those in our congregation suffering physically include Bro. John Schrenk and Sis. Verna Stedman, who have broken bones, and Sis. Kathy Loos, who had surgery. May we earnestly pray for them, invoking the Lord's compassion to uplift their spirits and heal their bodies.

We believe Bro. Ed Feller (Cissna Park) walks now on heavenly shores. We extend our deepest sympathy for their loss (though Bro. Ed's gain) to his family members from Chicago: Bro. Earl and Sis. Lucille Feller, Sis. Judy and Bro. Dale Eisenmann, Todd and Luann. Always the Lord's timing is right.

It was noon on the first day of a lengthy trip, but the journey seemed more a dream than a reality. At our first stop, the clocks in the truck stop read 10:00 in Los Angeles, 11:00 in Denver and 12:00 in Effingham, IL. Because we plan to visit those cities, I believed - we were on our way! The clocks continued to intrigue me. Being almost 37, I wonder what the hands of my life's clock point to now. Is it 12:40 p.m. in my life, with a count of threescore and ten allowed me? Or is it 5, 8 or 11 o'clock p.m. in my life already? The time zones govern us all in our daily lives, but the lifetime of each one is individually given and individually required of us. Midnight comes to all, though the hands move forward more quickly for some and more slowly for others. But the dawn hereafter, as precious and beautiful as it is, is promised only to ". . . ye (who) have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the spirit . . . Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible,

by the Word of God." I Peter 1:22, 23. Do I realize the reality of the clock ticking away my earthly time? 'Tis not a dream. "Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life." Jude 21.

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK

Myrna Weerts — Elaine Sauder

Sis. Bertha Reineke, Phyllis Enz and Bro. Edward Feller, Sr. were all laid to rest within this past month. We're thankful for Sis. Bertha and Bro. Ed that they have been relieved of their burden of bodily afflictions and can rest at peace with their Lord and Savior. They both lived several years in the Eureka Apostolic Christian Nursing Home. Our congregation extends love and sympathy to all their relatives.

Phyllis Enz died suddenly June 22. She is survived by her mother, Kathryn, and a sister, Evelyn Seymour (Onarga). We pray the Lord will be near unto them and grant courage, especially to Sis. Kate, during her lonely hours.

Seldom do we hear of someone moving on their 81st birthday, but Bro. John Brenner did. He was transferred from his home to Fairview Haven Nursing Home in Fairbury July 10. Sis. Martha faithfully cared for him for many years. We pray the Lord will strengthen them both physically and spiritually as they cross this threshold in life.

We miss dear Sis. Clara Kaufmann as she, too, has moved to Fairview Haven Nursing Home. We wish her comfort and happiness there and may she still be a useful vessel in working for the Lord.

The church picnic was enjoyed in the park pavillion in Cissna Park June 29. A delicious potluck meal was brought in with a singing held afterwards.

Bro. Herbert Hofer and Jill Kaufmann (daughter of Bro. Larry and Sis. Jeannie Kaufmann) were both surgical patients. We are thankful for the Lord's healing and happy to have them assemble with us again.

Bro. Albert Kaufmann observed his 95th birthday last month and is confined to his home. We often think of him and remind you to remember all our shut-in souls in prayer.

Visiting and singing to our shut-in friends and members can be a blessing for both. Several did this after church June 22.

When you ask God for a gift,
be thankful if he sends,
Not diamonds, pearls or riches,
but the love of real, true friends.

Our visiting ministers this past month were: Elder Bro. Perry Zimmerman (Forrest), Bro. Bill Gudeman (Elgin) and Bro. Bob Beebe (South Bend, IN). May God bless these dear brothers for so willingly giving of themselves.

Our young members surely enjoyed their weekend of fellowship in Athens, AL. May the Lord bless that small congregation for the many deeds of love and kindness shown to them.

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE

Joan Schrock — Gail Williamson

"Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord."

Psalm 127:3

Bro. Ken and Sis. Janet Schrock are parents of a new son, Ryan Earl. To welcome him home are his five brothers, Derick, Darin, Kevin, Kurtis and Douglas. Grandparents are Bro. Joe and Sis. Esther Schrock and Bro. Lee and Sis. Velda Overmeyer (Francesville, IN).

"Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it."

Psalm 34:14

We are thankful that Alan and Joanne Roth and Jim and Ree Hartman, have turned their backs to the world and are seeking God's holy will for their lives.

"Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing."

Proverbs 18:22

On June 22, Sis. Kay Roth (Bro. Keith and Sis. Pauline) and Bro. Brent Stoller (Bro. Joe and Sis. Emily, Princeville) joined hand and heart. We will miss Sis. Kay in our congregation, but will know that she will be truly welcomed into the Chicago congregation. On June 28, we witnessed the marriage vows of Jill Schrock (Bro. Steve and Sis. Gerri) and Frank Merritt (Frank and Reba, Congerville). We pray that God will bless their marriage and that love will ever abide in their home. Jeff McClure (Bro. Bob and Sis. Sharon) and Marilyn Hodel (Roger and Elaine, Roanoke) became one July 12.

May these couples look to God for guidance as they take this important step in life.

"... weep with them that weep."

Romans 12:15

We extend our sympathy to Bro. Keith Roth and family in the loss of his brother, Harold Roth (Gridley) and to Bro. Emil Stahl and family in the loss of his brother, Bro. William Stahl (Princeville).

"Bless ye the Lord, all ye hosts; ye ministers of His, that do His pleasure."

Psalm 103:21

We want to extend our thanks to all of our visitors, including ministering brothers Elder Bro. Joe Stoller, Bro. Walt Herrmann (Princeville), Bro. Nathan Stoller (Bradford), Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago), Bro. Gene Lehman (Wolcott, IN), Bro. Lloyd Kraft (Gridley, KS) and Bro. Dale Zeltwanger (Morris, MN). We really appreciate their labors of love that they have shown to us and ask that God will bless them and their families for being with us.

We praise God for His protecting hand as He watched over our Bro. Keith Roth, who was in a car accident this past month. We are thankful that he was not seriously injured and is able to assemble with us.

We are praying for our elder brothers as they assemble for the fall conference. May each one of us remember them in our prayers.

ILLINOIS, ELGIN Elizabeth Schambach Betty Bachtold

We have experienced the uncertainty of life and were saddened as we learned of the tragic drowning of Keith Braun, 18, (Herman and Sis. Sharon), who went for a swim in a nearby pond after a day's labor on the farm. All efforts to revive him were futile and so quickly he passed from this life into eternity. We mourn and sympathize with this dear family and in prayer intercede for their comfort and needs. Besides his parents, he leaves four brothers: Karl (Denver, CO), Kevin, Kent and Kristopher, at home; four sisters, Sis. Beth Ann (Mike) Martin (Denver, CO), Sarah, Naomi and Deborah, at home; his grandparents,

Kenneth and Helen Powelson (Aurora) and Cecelia Braun (Elgin).

"Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort; Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God."

II Corinthians 1:3-4

Retirement and business opportunities have taken two dear couples from our midst. Bro. Adrian and Sis. Dorothy Kellenberger have chosen to retire in the Sabetha, KS, area. Bro. Dale and Sis. Teresa Schock and their two children, Ryan and Jenny, plan to further their greenhouse work and will be located near Pulaski, IA. We will miss their fellowship and entreat God to go before them and bless them in all their endeavors.

Several brothers from here have been willing to lend themselves in helping to provide dwellings for earthquake victims in Mexico City. We trust our God will bless each one who participates in this labor.

Illness and suffering has again been the lot of several of our dear ones and it always creates loving concern for those afflicted. Sisters Jeannete Kilgus and Hilde Schumacher and Bro. Edward Schambach have undergone surgery and we are all grateful for good reports. May it be the Lord's will to restore their health.

We wish the Lord's blessings upon the marriage of Ginny Hoppe to Peter Mills (Wheaton) June 28. Ginny is the daughter of Robert and Beth Hoppe (Bethel Park, PA) and granddaughter of Sis. Della Kellenberger and the late Bro. Herman.

Truly, our hearts can be uplifted and encouraged each time we gather around God's Word. We thank visiting Bros. Tom Leman (Denver, CO) and Kenneth Dietz (Bradford, IL) and their families. May God bless them.

The family of Keith Braun wishes to thank all those who remembered us with deeds of kindness, for all the love shown to us and for the many sustaining prayers during our bereavement.

ILLINOIS, EUREKA Kathy L. Rocke

"Whereas ye know not what shall be

on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor, that appeareth for a little time and then vanisheth away.”

James 4:14

Truly our hearts are saddened by the sudden passing of our dearly beloved Bro. Charles Mangold June 18. God has spoken and we cannot question, but how parting on this earth causes pain! Our prayers and heartfelt sympathy go out to his dear wife, Sis. Mary; daughter, Sis. Charlotte; son, Mike; his brother, Bro. Melvin; and sisters, Sis. Esther Sauder and Sis. Ruth Scherer (all of Roanoke). May we all be prepared to answer His call – it could come in the twinkling of an eye.

Our sympathy is also extended to Sis. Ann Leman (Bro. Dave) in the passing of her father, Bro. Ed Feller (Cissna Park).

God saw the road was getting rough
The hills were hard to climb,
He gently closed those loving eyes,
And whispered “Peace be Thine”.

The weary hours, the days of pain,
The sleepless nights are passed;
The ever patient worn out frame,
Has found sweet rest at last.

We sincerely extend our heartfelt thanks for the many kind deeds rendered to Dad, during his stay here at the “Eureka Home”, the many visits and words of encouragement spoken, and to all who shared in one way or another during visitation and the funeral. God bless you all.

Bro. Dave and Sis. Ann Leman

Bro. Greg and Sis. Lynn Wiegand are thankful for Leah Marie, born June 25. Leah’s grandparents are Bro. Dick and Sis. Nelma Eastman and Bro. Elton “Dietz” and Sis. Loretta Wiegand.

Kary Jean Bradle and Marsha Mae Stoller, cousins, will be sharing the same birthday, July 1.

Kary’s parents are Bro. Roger and Sis. Ila Bradle. Danny, Nathan, Becky, Doug and Tim are anxious to meet their new sister. Grandparents are Elder Bro. Leroy and Sis. Clara Huber and Bro. Chris and Sis. Anna Bradle (Roanoke).

Marsha’s parents are Bro. Stan and Sis. Lola Stoller. Leann, Cheryl, Cindy, Merle and Gary are anxious to meet their new sister. Grandparents are Bro. Vernon Blunier and Elder Bro. Leroy

and Sis. Clara Huber. May God’s blessings rest on these three family circles as they endeavor to raise their children in the fear and admonition of the Lord.

Robert Schmidgall (Bro. Sam and Sis. Gladys) and LeAnn Zoss (Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Zoss) are planning a September wedding. May God bless them as they plan for their life together.

We are thankful to hear that Loren and Mary (Hartman) Zimmerman were announced for baptism. May many more find the way to life eternal while the door is still open to grace.

Our visiting brothers in the ministry this past month were Bros. Ed Knecht (Silverton, OR) and Wayne Laubscher (Cissna Park). We thank them for coming and speaking the Word unto us.

Bro. Leroy Rocke has been a hospital patient this past month. May we remember him in our prayers.

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY

Carol Bazzell — Joann Zehr

We rejoice to have a new brother-in-faith. Ned Bahler, after giving his testimony of faith, was baptized and added to the fold. His parents are Elder Bro. Art and Sis. Suzanne Bahler. Elder Bro. Leroy Huber (Eureka) and Bro. Wayne Anliker (Forrest) assisted in this important work and shared God’s Word with us.

July 5 was the wedding of Teri Slagel and Sam Wenger. May their marriage be blessed and we pray they will have the direction of God in their life together. Their parents are Ron and Sis. June Slagel and Sis. Nathalia Wenger (Forrest).

Our hearts were saddened as two dear brothers were laid to rest. We are thankful for them as their earthly pilgrimage is over and we believe they have kept the faith, so there is a crown awaiting them.

Bro. Walter Moser, 85, died June 19. His wife, Sis. Perceda, survives and his children, Keith, Strawn, Bro. Lloyd (Fairbury), Sis. Joanne Aupperle (Gridley), Thelma Worrell (Vienna), Sis. Colleen Walter (Fairbury), Sis. Sharon Kelson (Hudson) and Marlene (Morton). We remember Bro. Walter’s eagerness and love for God’s Word. May his family be comforted.

Bro. John Wiedman, 84, died July 9 and was laid to rest July 11. His wife, Sis. Lydia (Maier) survives along with four brothers, Edwin (Lacon), Elmer (Roanoke), Bros. Chris and Albert (Morton); also three sisters, Sis. Elsie

Knapp (Mackinaw), Anna Wiedman and Edna Dufelmeier (Morton).

Bro. Lyle and Sis. Helen Huette are leaving our congregation to make Phoenix, AZ, their permanent home. We wish them God’s blessings.

Bro. Doug Greiner met with a serious automobile accident and at this time he is showing some improvement at St. Francis Hospital, Peoria. Our prayers are with him and his wife, Sis. Jean, as we hope his improvement will continue.

The families of our departed ones, the Moser family, and the Wiedman family, wish to thank all who remembered them during this time. The love and kindness shown was very much appreciated. May God bless each one.

ILLINOIS, FORREST

Sharon Adams — Patsy Stoller

“... The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.” Mark 1:15. We rejoice with four precious souls who have given their testimonies and were baptized: Phil and Charlotte Leman, Barb Edelman and Marie Steffen (Bro. Ken and Sis. Janice). Visiting ministers here to share this blessed occasion with us were Bros. Merle Kaisner and Duane Kilgus (Fairbury) and Elder Bros. Art Bahler (Fairbury) and Ed Lanz (Oakville, IA). Also visiting us this month and sharing God’s precious Word with us was Bro. Ken Schneider (Remington, IN). We truly appreciate the efforts of our ministering brethren whose teachings encourage us to put on the whole armour of God and press on toward our heavenly goal.

Loved ones who have been hospitalized are William Schmidt, Sis. Marie Steffen (Bro. Ken and Sis. Janice), Bro. Ben Traub (Sis. Irene) and Sis. Leona Steffen (Bro. Mel). We are thankful to God for restoring health where it is His will and may His love and mercy be with those who must endure bodily affliction.

Several new babies have been welcomed into homes recently. Bro. Rich and Sis. Jill Wenger welcomed a daughter, Jenny Lynn. She has a brother, Ryan, who is happy to have a little sister. Grandparents are Sis. Nathalia Wenger and Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Vi Bachtold (Fairbury).

Bro. Marvin and Sis. Mary Bachtold have been blessed with another daughter, Brenda Elaine. Happy to have a new sister are Marsha, Melodee, Ted, Paula and Kristi. Grandmothers are

Sis. Dorothy Bachtold and Sis. Nathalia Wenger.

Katie Jo is the new daughter born to Bro. Glen and Sis. Holly Steidinger. She has one brother, Craig, to welcome her home. May God bless these families as they strive to raise their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

Sam Wenger and Teri Slagel exchanged wedding vows July 5. May God bless their union of hearts. Parents of the couple are Sis. Nathalia Wenger and Ron and Sis. June Slagel (Fairbury).

We heartily welcome Bro. John and Sis. Sally Schaffer and their children, Clint, Erik, Shanna and Craig, who have moved to our area from Princeville. May they feel the love of God among us.

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD

Bev Joos

"Where has the summer gone?" we ask. Students from the smallest, timid, kindergarten child to the nearly adult college senior are beginning their annual return to their place of instruction. May God be with these students as they explore a new campus, change to larger schools, or just switch to different classrooms. We all recall the nervous excitement that comes with a new experience.

As children huddle together waiting for the bus,
What they need most of all is a prayer from us.

Dear Father please watch them as they travel to school,

And as they learn life's lessons, we pray also the golden rule.

Bless those that teach so that they may convey,

An insight into each child's problems during the busy day.

Excitedly they prepare - toting new crayons, books and shoes,

Late afternoon, they burst thru the door eager with their news.

Watch over them, keep them safe, as they learn what they want to be,

And yes, Lord, thank you for these children who we pray will someday discover Thee.

Arriving July 7 was a sweet baby girl, Kristin Leigh, belonging to Mike and Cheri Tanner. She has a sister, Holly, for a playmate. Happy grandparents are Dick and Helen Rich (Washington)

and Bro. Ben and Sis. Leona Tanner.

We wish to thank Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago) and Bro. Frederick Knapp (Congerville) for sharing and giving scriptural instruction for our benefit.

We do indeed rejoice as we greet our new sister-in-faith, Jenise Zobrist (Bro. Howard and Sis. Phyllis Zobrist). She was baptized into the fold July 6. May she find God's grace ever abundant in her life.

Kitty Roth (Roy and Sis. Corrine Roth) is home from the hospital and assembling with us again. We are so grateful God has restored her health.

Seeking life eternal and desiring God to direct her pathway in life is Heidi Knapp (Bro. George and Sis. Fern Knapp). How thankful we are that she has heeded God's calling.

On June 22, we learned of the love of two hearts that shall be joined as one. Sis. Valerie Martin and Bro. Jerry Mooberry announced their engagement and forthcoming marriage. May God who has brought together these two individuals bless their future years of sharing.

Bro. Russ and Sis. Jane Des Carpentrie and children wish to thank everyone for the love and support given at the time of her dad's death. May God continue to bless each and every one of you.

Sis. Laura Steffen wishes to thank all who came to her aid and helped her in any way, Sunday, July 13. God bless you all.

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY

Carol Klopfenstein

"So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom."

Psalms 90:12

When we see our older brethren pass on into eternity, we are reminded how soon our earthly lives are lived. We feel a renewed eagerness to make our days count, because we know only what is done for Christ will last.

Bro. Henry H. Ringger, 88, passed away June 27 at the Apostolic Christian Home in Eureka, where he had lived eleven years. Our sympathy is extended to his sons, Jake J. (Gridley), Henry (Bell Gardens, CA), James (Mesa, AZ) and Ronald (San Dimas, CA); and his daughter, Dorothy Skaggs (Tucson, AZ).

Bro. Mark and Sis. Kanda Steffen are the happy parents of Jennifer Nicole, born June 20. She has a brother, Justin. Jennifer's grandparents are Bro. Glen and Sis. Laura Knapp (Fairbury) and Bro. Dave and Sis. Emma Lou Steffen (Gridley).

Bro. Gary Klopfenstein (Sis. Betty and the late Bro. Carlton, Gridley) and Sis. Candi Knochel (Detroit, MI) were united in holy matrimony June 22.

Our hospital patients have been Sis. Pauline Witzig (George), Charity Klopfenstein (Bro. Perry and Sis. Carol) and Scott Ringger (Bro. Fred and Sis. Mary). Our Elder Bro. Edwin Ringger met with an accident and is temporarily unable to walk. We are thankful the Lord spared his life and are glad he will soon be able to labour among us once again.

Our very best wishes are extended to Angela Christensen (Jerry and Sis. Ada) who graduated from Minonk High School May 30.

Bro. Dan and Sis. Carol Heinold and their family have moved from Gridley to Cissna Park. We wish them God's continued blessings in their new location.

ILLINOIS, MORTON

Phyllis Farney — Marcia Kelley

Our congregation was saddened by the death of Alfred Heiniger. His funeral was July 1. Our sincere sympathy is extended to his wife, Alice, and to his family and many friends.

There is a vacant spot in the hearts of Bro. Joe and Sis. Emma Seidel caused by the death of their daughter, Lyn Hilton. Her funeral was July 11. We extend our prayers of love and sympathy to her friends, family and two sons, Chris and Brad.

May it ease the sorrow of these two families to know that others understand and care.

Engaged to be married in the near future are Bro. Tim Roecker (Bro. Ed and Sis. Barbara) and Sis. Diane Hohulin (Bro. Vern and Sis. Marie, Peoria, IL). Sis. Diane is originally from the Peoria congregation and Bro. Tim is originally from our Morton congregation. God has allowed their paths to meet at Denver and together they shall walk life's pathway.

Congratulations are also extended to Sis. Marie Milazzo (Sis. Marlene and the late Frank) and Bro. Jeff Hoerr (Bro. John and Sis. Dorothy, Peoria, IL) as their engagement and forth-

coming marriage has been announced. We wish both of these couples the blessings of God as they plan their lives together.

We are happy to report that Gloria Heiniger of the Handicapped Home gave her testimony, was baptized and arose as a new child of God. We wish Gloria God's richest blessings.

July 20 was the beautiful wedding day of Sis. Sheri Getz (Bro. John and Sis. Anna May) and Bro. Dennis Frank (Raymond, Jr. and Shirley). Our love and congratulations will go with them as they plan to make their home in Phoenix, AZ. May God, as a third partner in this marriage, bless this union of hearts.

We are thankful this month for the following visiting ministers: Bros. Roy Wernli (Lamont, KS), Charles Sinn (Ft. Scott, KS) and Lester Huber (Lexington, KY). May God bless them for spreading the Holy Word of God.

ILLINOIS, PEORIA

Susi Herman — Margo Marx

We rejoiced with our dear Bro. Doug Hoerr and Sis. Peggy Sutter (Taylor, MO) as they were united in marriage June 22. May they feel God's love and guidance as they begin their life together in Him. Bro. Doug's parents are Bro. Don and Sis. Velma Hoerr and Sis. Peggy's parents are Bro. Gerald and Sis. Marge Sutter (Taylor, MO).

On June 29, five precious lambs vowed to give their hearts and lives to the Lord. Baptized and welcomed into the brotherhood were Sis. Robin Wieland (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Erma), Bro. Brad Bowald (Bro. Dwayne and Sis. Mary Lu), Bro. Brad Parrish (Faye Parrish), Bro. Ron Herman (Bro. Ron and Sis. Mary Ann) and Sis. Clara Metz. May God continue to guide and direct them in every step of their lives.

A new little bundle of joy from heaven came to the home of Bro. Denny and Sis. Gayle Virkler. Awaiting David Aaron's arrival at home were his big brothers, Benjamin and Jonathan. We rejoice with them at this joyful time!

God has sent a baby son to bless the home of Bro. Mark and Sis. Carolyn Hoerr. Blake Christopher is welcomed home by his big brothers, Nicholas and Brent, and his sister, Lindsay. May they always seek God's help and guidance as they care for him. The happy grandparents are Bro. Joe and Sis. LaVina Dotterer (Phoenix, AZ) and Bro. Don and Sis. Velma Hoerr.

We would like to thank our visiting ministers for bringing us the precious Word. This past month we were privileged to have Elder Bro. Joe Braker (Morton), Bro. Don Wagenbach (Washington) and Bro. Leroy Messner (Winthrop, MN) with us. May God bless them richly for their labors of love.

Our congregation has rejoiced with many as several have announced wedding plans. Our congratulations and best wishes are extended to these loved ones and their families. Sis. Diane Hohulin (Bro. Vern and Sis. Marie) and Bro. Tim Roecker (Bro. Ed and Sis. Barbara, Morton) feel that the Lord has led them together. Bro. Tim and Sis. Diane both attend the Denver, CO, church.

Bro. Jeff Hoerr (Bro. John and Sis. Dorothy) and Sis. Marie Milazzo (Sis. Marlene Milazzo, Morton) have also announced their plans to marry. May the love and grace of God be with them all as they plan their lives together.

May we remember to pray for those who are ill and shut-in and may their health be restored according to His will.

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE Marjean Lehman

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

"... A time to be born,"

Alyssa Lea Leuthold was born June 29 to Sis. Lois and Bro. Steve Leuthold. Thankful grandparents are Sis. Barbara Dill (Tremont) and Bro. John and Sis. Shirley Leuthold (Princeville). May God bless these family circles.

"... A time to die;"

Bro. Willie Stahl passed from this life into eternity June 18. Funeral services were held June 21. Our congregation extends sincere sympathy to his wife, Sis. Marie, and his children, Bro. Lyle, Harvey and Sis. Bernice (Bradford), Sis. Verla Hausman (Bradford) and Bro. Norman (Chicago). He is missed by our congregation. May God truly comfort each heart.

"... A time to heal;"

Sis. Esther Herrmann suffered a broken wrist and Matthew Knobloch was in a farming accident. We are thankful for God's healing blessings and trust they will return to restored health.

"... A time to get, and a time to lose."

Bro. John and Sis. Sally Schaffer and children, Clint, Erik, Shanna and Craig, have relocated to the Forrest area. A farewell potluck was held July 29 at the fellowship hall.

Sis. Nancy Martin is continuing her education at Southern California University. She plans to be away from our area for about one year. Sis. Nancy will be worshipping with the Altadena congregation.

May God's blessings and nearness go with all of these dear ones. Though the miles separate us, we can remember one another in prayer.

"... A time to keep,"

The Sunday school picnic was held July 13 at the Jubilee Park. May the children keep in their hearts the many blessed teachings they have learned in Sunday school.

"... A time to love,"

Bro. Brent and Sis. Kay (Roth) Stoller were united in marriage in Congerville June 22 and Bro. Ron and Sis. Carol (Messner) Christ were married in Peoria June 8. May they look to God for their guidance and strength as they walk life's pathway together.

"... And a time of peace. He hath made every thing beautiful in His time; also He hath set the world in their heart, so that no man can find out the work that God maketh from the beginning to the end."

Ecclesiastes 3:1-11

Thank you note:

We wish to thank everyone for all the prayers, acts of kindness and gifts given our dear beloved husband and father during his illness and death.

Sis. Marie Stahl and family

"Take just one step and then the next—you learn to walk that way. Approach your life in little steps and take it day by day."

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE**Marge Leman — Judy Luginbuhl**

With summer comes vacation time and many brethren are traveling. We have truly been blessed and inspired with messages from the following visiting ministers: Bro. Charles Hemmer (Peoria), Bro. Earl Gerber (Forrest), Elder Bro. Nate Steffen (Elgin, IL), Bro. Ed Aeschleman (Philadelphia, PA), Bro. Walt Steffen (Milford, IN) and Bro. Kenneth Knapp (Taylor, MO). Thank you, brothers, for lending yourselves in God's service on our behalf.

What beautiful testimonies we were privileged to hear June 28 as four precious souls shared their experiences of repentance and conversion with us. On Sunday, June 29, we witnessed the holiness of baptism and welcomed Bro. Joe and Sis. Ann Hohulin (son and daughter of Bro. Melvin and Sis. Shirley Hohulin) and Bro. Marty and Sis. Patty Rebbec into the family of God. We are thankful and treasure such weekends as this and pray God will yet stir many a soul to repentance.

Our congregation has been blessed with three precious babies this month. Bro. Steve and Sis. Linda Pfister are thankful for their first child, Andrew Steven, born June 18. Andrew's grandparents are Bro. Marvin and Sis. Ila Pfister and Carol Zimmerman (Pontiac) and Eugene Zimmerman (Eureka).

Traci Lynne was born to Bro. Jim and Sis. Jan Mueller July 7. Tony and Tim are very happy to welcome home their first sister. Bro. John and Sis. Esther Sauder and William and Hilda Mueller are Traci's grandparents.

Jeanne and Ron Hinrichsen are also the proud parents of a new daughter, Haley Ann, born July 9. Haley has one sister, Heidi. Sis. Ruth Scherer and Bro. Hans and Sis. Arlene Hinrichsen (Goodfield) are Haley's grandparents.

Our congregation was saddened to hear of Bro. Charles Mangold's death. Bro. Charles grew up in our community and it was a special joy when he was here for a visit. We sympathize with his dear wife and children, and also with Bro. Melvin Mangold, Sis. Ruth Scherer and Sis. Esther Sauder of our congregation.

Our dear Sis. Rose Beer died very suddenly after a short illness July 30. Our hearts go out to her dear family, her husband, Roy, and her sons, Derald, John and Richard. Also surviving

are five brothers, Bro. Orie and Bro. Lawrence Aeschleman (Roanoke), David, William and Solomon Aeschleman (Peoria) and one sister, Sis. Lea Frank (Bro. Ed, LaCrosse, IN).

We also extend our sympathy to the family of Bro. Edward Feller and especially to his daughter, Sis. Helen Zimmerman (Richard, Roanoke). We truly enjoyed meeting Bro. Ed when he was able to come and visit our congregation.

Those of our loved ones who have been hospitalized the past month are Sis. Ruth Scherer, Sis. Barb Martin, Bro. Fred Fischer and Bro. Maurice Knapp. We pray our heavenly Father will touch each one with His healing hand.

Our congratulations and best wishes are extended to Marilyn Hodel and Jeff McClure who were married July 12. Roger and Elaine Hodel and Bro. Robert and Sis. Sharon McClure (Congerville) are the happy couple's parents. May God richly bless Marilyn and Jeff as they establish their home in rural Congerville.

ILLINOIS, TREMONT**Dorothy Wagenbach
Carolyn Bolliger**

We all experienced a blessed weekend as three dear souls were added to the fold. We welcome our new sisters, Janet and Joyce Kaiser (Bro. Melvin and Sis. Marlene) and Bro. Jeff Sinn (Dan and Donna). Sharing in this day with us were Elder Bros. Ed Lantz (Oakville, IA) and Steve Rinckenberger (Cissna Park, IL).

We also wish to thank our other visiting ministers this month. Visiting us with their families were Bro. Jon Schmidgall (Oakville, IA), Bro. Steve Martin (Eureka), Bro. Duane Kilgus (Fairbury) and Bro. Noah Gerber (West Bend, IA).

A sweet baby daughter, Marcy Lynn, was born June 30 to Bro. Don and Sis. Sandy Kaiser. Happy grandparents are Bro. Mel and Sis. Marlene Kaiser and Don and Lila Dunlap.

Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Lydia Brunner and Elmer and Dorothy Brunner in the recent passing of their sister, Lillie Oyer.

We are glad our hospital patients are feeling better. Bro. Nelson Musselman and Sis. Carolyn Prather have both been surgical patients this month.

We wish to express our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to everyone

for the love, prayers and many deeds of kindness extended to us during the illness and passing of our beloved one. May God bless each one of you.

The family of
Bro. Benjamin Schmidgall

ILLINOIS, URBANA**Cheryl Mangers**

We wish Sis. Ora Schrenk (Phoenix, AZ) a speedy recovery as she and Bro. Henry are here in our community since her recent surgery.

We are also thankful that Ed Scott is home from the hospital after undergoing tests.

We welcome Bro. Doug and Sis. Peggy Hoerr, who were recently married, into our fellowship.

Our love and appreciation is extended to ministering Bros. Wayne Anliker (Forrest), Roy Enhle (Bradford), Ed Hohulin (Goodfield) and our Elder Bro. Bob Grimm (Goodfield) for bringing us God's Word this last month.

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON**Ellen Cox**

My apologies that the Washington Silver Lining news didn't make it in last month. I will try to combine the June news in this month's issue.

We heard the testimony and witnessed the baptism of our new brother-in-faith, Andy Klaus, June 4. May our heavenly Father lead and direct Bro. Andy throughout his life. Bro. Andy's parents are John and Betty Klaus (Japan). Three of his sisters, Sis. Melody, Sis. Grace and Sis. Faith, are from our Washington congregation.

We want to extend a hearty welcome to Bro. Chris and Sis. Stacy Ledford and their three little boys, Rustin, Shea and Jobie, who have moved here from Francesville, IN.

Our thanks go to Elder Bro. Leroy Huber (Eureka, IL) and Bro. Earl Ringger (Gridley, IL) for sharing the Word with us.

Two precious babies were entrusted to first-time parents in our congregation. Bradley Aaron was born to Bro. Jon and Sis. Cheryl Ricketts and Laurel Shae was born to Bro. Dave and Sis. Malinda Aberle. Bradley's grandparents are Bro. Wilbur and Sis. Sophia Huber (Phoenix, AZ) and Bro. Meredith and Sis. Leona Ricketts (Forrest, IL). Laurel's grandparents are Bro. Ernie and Sis. Eloise Diggelman (Goodfield, IL) and Bro. Walt and Sis. Vera Aberle (Tremont, IL).

Hospitalized this month were Bro. John Schick and Sis. Sue Ruppert. We are thankful that Bro. John is home again. We pray that Sis. Sue can be restored to health soon and again assemble with us. We miss her smiling face!

Our thoughts and prayers are with our dear Bro. Luis Gomez, who is living in his native Mexico City this summer, coordinating work teams who are reconstructing homes destroyed in an earthquake. May he feel the love and support from his brothers and sisters back here in Washington and the guidance of our heavenly Father as he carries out this work.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON

Lucille Isch — Evelyn Ringger

"We'll say good night here and good morning up there."

Our dear Sis. Sophie Gerber could so peacefully leave this earth June 19. We know that she went through much suffering as she had both legs amputated. Her children are Bro. Don G. Gerber (Sis. Justine) and Sis. Phyllis Dotterer (Bro. Paul). We are thankful that her prayer was answered and she could go to be with the Lord.

Hospitalized the past month have been Sis. Marie Kipfer (Bro. Joe), Sis. Gloria Kaehr (Bro. Phil), Bro. Charles Meyer (Sis. Ida), Sis. Pam Reinhard (Bro. John), Sis. Mel Baine, Elward Hirschy and Wayne Reinhard.

A second son, Nick David, was born to Bro. Dave and Sis. June Fiechter June 20. Grandparents are Bro. Charles and Sis. Maxine Fiechter and Bro. Paul and Sis. Mary Jo Gerber.

"A threefold cord — not lightly rent apart." Zion's Harp #79

Bro. Doug Fiechter and Sis. Jill Isch were united in holy matrimony June 22. Parents of the couple are Bro. Gerald and Sis. Eunice Fiechter and Bro. Stan and Sis. Genny Isch.

On July 6, Sis. Janice Steffen (Sis. Irene) and Bro. Stan Ringger (Bro. Gary and Rosetta) were announced to be married. They are planning a September wedding.

We wish all these loved ones much joy in the Lord.

We thank our visiting ministers, Elder Bro. Jesse Beer (Milford), Bro. Carl Wyss (Washington, IL) and Bro. Carroll Gerber (Bluffton North) for sharing God's Word with us.

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."

Psalms 119:105

INDIANA, BLUFFTON NORTH

Cindy Shorb — Sheri Leman

We wish God's blessings on ministering Bro. Carl Wyss (Washington, IL) for lending himself to our congregation. May he and his family feel welcome to return any time.

"The things that are impossible with men are possible with God." Luke 18:27. Praise to God, His grace is still available to bring the sinner to repentance. And praise to God, Dean Van Horn has heard His call, felt His grace and said, "Just as I am, I come." May he feel God's strength and guidance in his new walk.

"To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:" Ecclesiastes 3:1. June 18 marked the arrival of Dustin Ray Reinhard (Bro. Roger and Sis. Maureen) into our hearts and lives. Twelve days later, June 30, marked his passing into the arms of Jesus, forever. In their season of sorrow, our prayers are with Bro. Roger and Sis. Maureen; grandparents, Bro. Wendell and Sis. Wanda Gerber and Bro. Bill and Sis. Sarah Steffen; big brother, Krent, and with each of Dustin's other loved ones.

"Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty."

II Corinthians 3:17

INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE

Lynne Wuethrich

The theme for our Vacation Bible School this year was: "Knowing Christ . . . The Joyful Journey". Everyone enjoyed an uplifting week June 23 - 27.

The topics discussed and ministers for each evening were as follows: Monday — Conforming Pressures, Bro. John Reinhard (Bluffton, IN); Tuesday — The Transforming Experience, Bro. Kevin Knapp (Bloomington, IL); Wednesday — Adventure of the Renewed Mind, Bro. Lynn Stieglitz (Leo, IN); Thursday — Proving the Perfect Will of God, Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville, IN); Friday — Revelations of God's Will, Bro. Chuck Hemmer (Peoria, IL).

On the following Sunday evening, the children shared with us in a program all the teachings they learned during the Bible School week. We want

to thank everyone who helped in making Bible School such a blessing.

Our congratulations go out to Bro. Dave and Sis. Candy Huber, who gave birth to a little girl, Whitney Elysa, July 4. One sister, Tara, welcomes her home with great excitement! Grandparents are Sis. Tillie Nussbaum and Bro. Wayne and Sis. Carol Huber. We wish them God's blessings.

We've had one injury this month as Andy Wuethrich (Bro. Bob and Sis. Phyllis) suffered a broken shoulder blade in a farming accident. We wish him a speedy recovery.

We want to thank Bro. Dan Stoller (Remington, IN) for ministering God's Word unto us. We appreciate his willingness.

INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS

Gail Bradford — Kathy Freed

This month we welcomed Sis. Marlene Steffen (Milford), who has accepted a position at Riley Hospital. Bro. Ken and Sis. Lyn Wuethrich have moved here from Francesville with their children, Heather, Seth and Sean. We are happy that they will be worshipping with our growing church. We said goodbye to Sis. Bonnie Klopfenstein who was temporarily transferred to California. We will miss her!

We are happy for Sis. Joyce Fisher, who completed her medical residency. She and her husband, Bro. Steve, and children, will be remaining in Indianapolis.

Bro. Ed Alt (Cissna Park) visited with us. Our young people joined youth from other Indiana congregations at Christian Endeavor weekend, a time for our high schoolers to get acquainted with each other in Christian fellowship. We planned a church family picnic at a nearby park on a summer afternoon.

Summer is the traditional season for weddings, when a man and a woman join their lives together and promise love and faithfulness for the rest of their lives. How tragic that in our nation one-half of these promises will be broken! A brother spoke about marriage in Detroit last year, and the following thoughts are gratefully taken from his presentation.

Happiness in marriage (and everywhere) comes from obeying God's rule, spelled out clearly in the Bible. Success in marriage is not so much finding the right person, but being the right person. God gives order to married life

by exhorting the husband to love, honor and praise his wife. He exhorts the wife to accept an attitude of submission and reverence, and to love her husband and children.

Biblical guidelines caution against letting the sun set on one's anger (Ephesians 4:26). The Bible encourages contentment and appreciation between spouses (I Timothy 6:6). A beautiful life together depends on having Christ at the center of a marriage, and practicing Christian virtues every day.

These verses may be of special meaning to couples.

"Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous."

I Peter 3:8

"And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."

Ephesians 4:32

With Christ as a partner, glad promises made on the wedding day can be fulfilled.

INDIANA, LACROSSE

Debra Nuest — Sandy Heinold

"In days of youth, seek ye the Lord." "Youth," Hymns of Zion #135. How thankful we are that Karen Nuest has felt the need to seek the Lord in her youthful days. We rejoice with her parents, Bro. Elvin and Sis. Jan, and wish her God's nearness and guidance as she undertakes this most important step in her life.

Bro. Gene and Sis. Evie Heinold welcomed into their home a new baby girl, Sharla Grace, June 27. Also sharing in the joy of her birth are her six sisters and one brother, along with her grandparents, Bro. Aaron and Sis. Grace Heinold.

Our Elder Bro. Edward Frank has again undergone surgery on his hips. We know that he has suffered much pain. We pray that he can feel God's healing hand upon him, so that he will soon be able to assemble with us.

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Sis. Lea Frank (Bro. Edward) on the unexpected death of her sister, Sis. Rose Beer (Roanoke). When we see a loved one taken so suddenly from this life, it should make us all stop and take inventory of our own lives. Are we joyfully looking forward to being with our Lord or do we have reason to fear

eternal condemnation? Today we still have time to prepare our hearts for eternity, but we have no promise for tomorrow.

Recently we received news that Bro. John and Sis. Lucille Heiniger (Sarasota, FL, formerly of LaCrosse) were involved in a car accident. Although they did suffer some injuries, we thank God that their lives were spared and they now are recovering.

"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

Our hearts were inspired as we sang these words on the wedding day of Sis. Jeannie Nuest (Bro. Gene and Sis. Norma) and Bro. Calvin Schneider (Bro. Ken and Sis. Loretta, Remington). With us to share this joyous occasion were Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott) and visiting ministers Bros. Ken Schneider and Dan Stoller (Remington), Ken Weerts (Cissna Park, IL), Nile Bucher (Bluffton North) and Virgil Metzger (Chicago, IL). We were reminded not only of our duties as husbands and wives, but also of our responsibilities as children of God. We thank these brothers for sharing the Word with us.

INDIANA, LEO Thelma Schlatter

The great tragedy of life is not unanswered prayer, but unoffered prayer. Fall on your knees and grow there. There is no burden of the spirit but is lighter by kneeling under it. (Prayer means) not always talking to Him, but waiting before Him till the dust settles and the stream runs clear.

F. B. Meyer

Renewed and strengthened by communion, we are reminded to remember the significance of what He has done for us until He comes again. Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville) assisted our Elder Bro. David Bertsch in this holy rite. Elder Bro. Orville Ringger and our Elder Bro. David Bertsch shared the many teachings from the conference letter of the "Holy Spirit, Faithful Guide — Ever Near the Christian's Side" Hymns of Zion #220.

Other rich blessings received by our congregation this past month were

brought through the ministry of Bros. Kevin Knapp (Bloomington, IL), Edwin Bahler (Remington), Edward Aeschleman (Philadelphia, PA), Darrel Klopfenstein (Ft. Lauderdale, FL) and Elder Bro. Phillip Stettner (Bluffton North).

Sis. Bea Hans attended services in our Leo church faithfully for years even though she could hear little because she was almost totally deaf. She departed this life July 15 at 84 years. How she must have anticipated hearing the heavenly choir!

We welcome Bro. Mark and Sis. Kristie Meyer and children, Jonathan, Cecily and Stephanie, to our church, and hope they will very soon feel at home in our fellowship.

Work took several of our loved ones to other parts of our country the past couple years. It is with pleasure that we welcome back home Bro. Lester Stoller and Bro. Phil and Sis. Stephanie Bollier and son, Tony.

Bro. George Zimmer had surgery recently. We ask our Father to bless and speed his recuperation time.

Bits of This and That:

Too often we give up long range blessings for short term gains.

We trust Him for eternity, and then snatch moments away and fail to trust Him for today.

It isn't necessary to blow out the other person's light to let your own shine.

The closer we live to the Lord, the more we see our own failures.

Count your blessings; don't compare them.

Do we give the Lord what is left of our lives rather than the best of our lives?

There's no joy in knowing God's will unless you do it.

INDIANA, MILFORD

Joyce Kaiser — Shelby Beer

Our congregation, along with Bro. Fred and Sis. Pat Beer, are rejoicing over the birth of a little girl, Jodi Leigh. Holly, Kari, Jeff, Angie, Regg, Bro. Russ and Sis. Marge Plattner (Roanoke, IL) and Bro. Carlton and Sis. Maryann Beer will be sharing that close family love and concern with their new sister and granddaughter. We just pray that all of us parents will continue to seek wisdom from God to help raise our children in this world today.

We were blessed with many visiting

ministers this past month. We want to sincerely thank Elder Bro. Orville and Bro. Kent Ringger (Bluffton), Elder Bro. Phil Stettner (Bluffton North), Bro. John Isch (Indianapolis), Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott), Elder Bro. Loren Stoller (Latty, OH), Bro. Virgil Metzger (Chicago, IL) and Bro. Bob Beebe (South Bend) for taking time to come share with us.

God is our refuge and our strength,
A very present help indeed;
He in the time of trouble sends
His grace to meet our every need.

Hymns of Zion #4

A prayer for God's divine healing goes out for Lorene Stookey, who recently submitted to surgery, and Mike Haab (Bro. Don and Sis. Martha), who has been in the hospital for six weeks now since his accident. Our hearts ache for this fourteen-year-old ambitious farm boy who experienced severe injuries to both his legs. We pray for Mike and his family during these difficult and trying times that they can continue to put everything into God's hands, trusting Him to bring it out right. We know that we can depend upon God - He will not fail us.

A recent minister shared this thought: We should be content with what we have, but never content with who we are.

Please remember that August is collection month for the Silver Lining in Milford (\$7.00).

INDIANA, REMINGTON

Beth Virkler — Susan Getz

DYING TO SELF

When you are forgotten, or neglected, or purposely set at naught, and you don't sting and hurt with the insult or the oversight, but your heart is happy, being counted worthy to suffer for Christ, THAT IS DYING TO SELF.

When your good is evil spoken of, when your wishes are crossed, your advice disregarded, your opinions ridiculed, and you refuse to let anger rise in your heart, or even defend yourself, but take it all in patient loving silence, THAT IS DYING TO SELF.

When you lovingly and patiently bear any disorder, any irregularity, or any annoyance; when you can stand face to face with waste, folly, extravagance, spiritual insensibility, and en-

sure it as Jesus endured it, THAT IS DYING TO SELF.

When you are content with any food, any offering, any raiment, any climate, any society, any solitude, any interruption by the will of God, THAT IS DYING TO SELF.

When you never care to refer to yourself in conversation, or to record your own good works or itch after condemnation, when you can truly love to be unknown, THAT IS DYING TO SELF.

When you can see your brother prosper and have his needs met, and can honestly rejoice with him in spirit and feel no envy nor question God, while your own needs are far greater and in desperate circumstances, THAT IS DYING TO SELF.

When you receive correction and reproof from one of less stature than yourself, and can humbly submit inwardly as well as outwardly, finding no rebellion or resentment rising up within your heart, THAT IS DYING TO SELF.

Am I dead yet? In these last days, the Spirit longs to bring me to the cross. "That I may know Him being made conformable to His death."

Philippians 3:10

Our congregation was visited this month by Bro. Walt Rager and Bro. Ray Schlatter (Toledo, OH) and Bro. Paul Gasser (Akron, OH). Our hearts go out in gratitude towards each minister who sacrifices his time to travel and share the Word with us.

INDIANA, SOUTH BEND

Pauline Laidig — Jill Lehman

This past month we were blest to have visiting ministers Bro. Bob Meyer (Bluffton North) and Bro. Don Gudeman (LaCrosse). We greatly appreciate their coming and sharing the Word with us. May God richly bless them.

It is very easy in our daily walk of life to forget about those who are shut-in or in ill health. May we remember them in our prayers. We are truly thankful for God's healing power as Sis. Marie Germann was hospitalized and is now recuperating at home.

We often think of August as a time when we get our children ready to go back to school. We make sure that they have enough of this, plenty of that, etc. In essence, we also need to daily prepare or ready ourselves for Jesus' return.

"Be not deceived; God is not mocked; for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting."

Galatians 6:7, 8

INDIANA, VALPARAISO

Peg Huber — Cheryl Bucher

God is so good! We are going to be moving into our new church facility within a few weeks. It's so exciting to realize our prayers have been answered. Our old facility was so small and crowded, I think we'll all be able to breathe a little easier. We are so humbled by the help and generosity of so many who gave time and money to help us realize our dream. The real praise and honor, of course, goes to our heavenly Father for His lovingkindness and bountiful blessings. May we always be thankful to God!

Our Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL) was with us recently for the first in a series of Bible studies on The New Evangelical Movement. We realize the time in research and preparation is great, and appreciate his efforts on our behalf.

Our Vacation Bible School will be August 5 - 7. Our speakers will be Elder Bro. Joe Braker (Morton, IL), Bro. Earl Ringger (Gridley, IL) and Bro. Ted Witzig (Morton, IL). Everyone is welcome.

Joyfully, we report the engagement of Bro. David Zeltwanger (Bro. Lyle and Sis. Marilyn) and Sis. Kelly Emch (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Kathy, Phoenix, AZ). We wish them God's blessings during this special time in their lives.

Our friend, Sandra Whitaker, was an emergency surgical patient this last month, with recovery being slow. Our prayers are with her, knowing God is with her, also, and will provide for her every need.

INDIANA, WOLCOTT

Lorene Furrer — Elaine Bahler

What joy it was to welcome three new brothers into the fold June 29. Our new brothers-in-Christ are Mike Minniear (Sis. Glenna), Duane Kyburz (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Nancy) and Bruce Furrer (Bro. Vernon and Sis. Jan). We thank Elder Bros. Ed Frank (LaCrosse), Orville Ringger (Bluffton) and Wendell Gudeman (Francesville) for helping in this special work.

Our thoughts and prayers have been

with Irene Radcliffe (Bob) as she has undergone recent surgery.

We appreciate Bro. Paul Gasser (Akron, OH) sharing the Word with us July 13.

IOWA, BURLINGTON

Dixie Messner — Karen Schulz

The children all enjoyed gathering together for our annual Sunday school picnic. It was a joy for all of us to be together with our future church. We were also privileged to have Sis. Dora and Sis. Sylvia Kovacs (Budapest, Hungary) with us for our picnic.

We were blessed with the visit of Elder Bro. Ed Lanz on a Wednesday evening this past month.

We extend a loving welcome to Bro. Roger and Sis. Marty Belsley, Nicole and Marcus as they begin to worship with us. His job has taken them to Aledo, IL. We wish them a special blessing from above.

We want to thank Bro. Marvin Leman (Bradford, IL) for being with us this past month and bringing to us the Word of Life. May the Lord richly bless him for his labors.

We recently elected new Sunday school teachers. They are Sis. Charity Scheitlin, Sis. Elisabeth Schumacher, Bro. Fred Eberhardt and Bro. John Buster. We want to thank Bro. Kenny Scheitlin, Sis. Donna Teubel and Sis. Ingrid Buster for their years of service and wish our new teachers God's grace as they endeavor to teach these young and tender hearts.

IOWA, ELGIN Gloria Frieden

Anew, Lord we are bound to Thee through Thy blest sacrament, which we partook, that joined in heart and hand; To Zion's realm and holy land We journey on.

Zion's Harp #200, vs. 5

What a blessed, humbling experience it is to share the cup and bread in holy communion as we remember the shed blood of our Lord and Savior and offer our inward prayer of thanks for our salvation. Elder Bro. Raymond Banwart (Ft. Scott, KS) assisted our Elder Bro. Paul Butikofer with this sacred duty and also shared with us many teachings from the Word of God on this blessed day.

Other visiting ministers this past month were Bros. John Rowell (Bur-

lington, IA), Jim Leman (Roanoke, IL) and Bro. Marvin Leman (Bradford, IL). We offer our sincere thanks to each one and to all our visitors who come and worship with us.

Edwin Frieden was a recent hospital patient (medical). We are glad he is home again and doing better.

IOWA, IOWA CITY Janette Schulz

Greetings to all and heartfelt thanks to all of our visitors this month including ministering Bro. John Steiner (Oakville, IA) and our Elder Bro. Paul Butikofer (Elgin, IA). May God bless all who share in our worship services.

As our congregation was exhorted prior to communion, I once again was thankful for not only the opportunity to remember and reflect upon our salvation in Jesus, the "supreme sacrifice", but also for the prompting to examine our lives in the light of the Word. I was asked in one of my classes recently to explain the meaning of "A stitch in time saves nine". How applicable this proverb is to our spiritual lives! May we diligently ask God to show us our problem areas, no matter how small or trivial they seem to be. If we, through His grace, take care of them right away, we can prevent them from becoming bigger problems.

As I contemplated preparing for communion, I was drawn to Zion's Harp #66, "The School of the Cross".

O teach me, Lord, instead of grieving,
And wishing all my burdens moved,
To bear them patiently, perceiving
How Thou hast suffered, borne and loved.

Teach me the art of keeping silent,
That calm, contented I remain;
Crossbearer, Thee, I would resemble.
O change to love my bitterest pain!

Thou knowest how I oft forget Thee,
Though from myself the fact I hide,
How proud I love my strength to measure
When Thou dost not a cross provide.
From overconfidence to save me,
To show me plainly what I am,
Thou must provide a cross to shame me,
For only thus my pride shall wane.

Thou knowest how 'midst earth's confusion
I oft Thy ways almost forsook;

How often I deceiving feelings
For forward steps in faith mistook.
To prove to me my inward damage,
That I was far from Thee astray,
Hast Thou a cross upon me laden
Upon a dark and thorny way.

Thou know'st how oft I come before
Thee
And prize it not that Thou art near
To pray but empty words and phrases
Moved by a sense of duty here.
Is prayer to bring to me a blessing?
Am I to feel that Thou dost hear?
A cross must on my soul be pressing;
Thou to my broken heart art near.

O Lord, Thou knowest every secret
Thou seest, hearest, knowest all.
My sighs and groans, although yet sleeping,
Thou in advance by name dost call.
O grant that Thou, Lord, and Thy purpose
My foremost thought in life may be;
Yea, in Thy silence take and hide me,
Or I shall ne'er from sin be free.

Lord, in Thy presence naught is lacking,
No wish denied, but all is right;
Transformed to love is all my burden,
The yoke is eased, the load seems light.
For in Thy stillness nothing threatens
The soul amidst earth's woe and pain.
To me Thy grace shall be sufficient,
The cross shall be my greatest gain.

No more complaining, no more grieving,
But grateful praise shall be my lot;
Although chastised, amid oppression,
Thy love and grace forsake me not.
The paths that seem to us the darkest
Are blessings rich, although disguised;
All things for good shall work together
To them that love Thee, Jesus Christ.

IOWA, LESTER

Kathy Metzger — Mary Knobloch

Our hearts continue to overflow with thankfulness, knowing another soul has begun the journey to Zion. Lynn Knobloch (Sis. Joyce and Bro. Glen Metzger) has surrendered his heart to the Lord and we pray God will daily and hourly grant him the needed grace to work out the salvation of his soul.

On July 6, we were privileged to have Bro. Jon Schmidgall minister the Word of Life to us. May God continue to bless those who so willingly and unselfishly feed us spiritual manna from Sunday to Sunday.

Sis. Elgeva Knobloch (Bro. Art) recently submitted to surgery and we are thankful to report she is home and recuperating nicely.

The weekend of July 19 - 20, our single group was host to the other Iowa church groups. What a blessing to gather and fellowship with those of like mind and faith. We cherish the Christian friendships God has blessed our lives with.

With conference time approaching, we humbly offer many prayers in behalf of our dear elders as they gather in the interest of our cherished faith. Many years ago God directed faithful brethren to set up church doctrine and order and today let us prayerfully be obedient servants and uphold the faith God has freely given to us. Tomorrow may be our end — it matters what we have done today!

Food for thought — He came to pay a debt he didn't owe, because we owed a debt we couldn't pay.

IOWA, OAKVILLE
Debbie Wagenbach

The summer season is fleeting by and soon harvest season will be upon us. Let us ready our spiritual lives for that great harvest that seems to be so near.

We are thankful for our ministering brothers that feed us from God's holy Word. We especially want to thank Elder Bro. Corbin Bahler (Rockville, CT) and Bros. Dale Zeltwanger (Morris, MN) and Paul Eisenmann (Burlington, IA) for lending themselves in the service of the Lord in our congregation.

The Oakville-Burlington single group hosted the single groups from Iowa City, IA, Bern/Sabetha, KS and Bradford/Princeville, IL July 5 - 6. It is truly a wonderful privilege and blessing to meet and greet brothers and sisters of like mind and faith with the same common bond of our Lord Jesus Christ.

IOWA, WEST BEND

Polly Zaugg — Phyllis Banwart

Among the rich blessings which the Lord has given us, are the many times we can meet and greet loved ones from miles away who have the same faith and walk of life. Our many visiting ministers this month were Bro. Elmer Schmidt (Winthrop, MN), Bro. Kent Mogler (Minneapolis, MN), Bro. Doug Schock (Pulaski), Bro. Dale Wulf (Lester), Bro. Dale Zeltwanger (Morris,

MN), Bro. Joe Gerst (Iowa City), Bro. Dale Moore (Elgin, IA), Bro. Roger Aberle (Sabetha, KS), Bro. Russell Wuthrich (Pulaski), Bro. Wayne Banwart (Champaign, IL), Bro. Edward Aeschleman (Philadelphia, PA), Elder Bro. Sam Anliker (Lamont, KS) and Elder Bro. Corbin Bahler (Rockville, CT). We pray the Lord will bless them as they served us so well.

The weekend of July 21 - 22 was a blessing to us all as we heard the testimony of Patty Banwart (Art and Madeline). We surely welcome her into the fold as a dear sister, with faith that she will be guided by our heavenly Father throughout life's pathway.

We extend sympathy to the family of our dear Bro. Raymond Anliker who passed away June 15 following a lingering illness. He was certainly a faithful soldier of the cross. Bro. Raymond is survived by his wife, Sis. Louise; one son, Kevin; one daughter, Sis. Julie (Bro. Pat) Zaugg; four grandchildren; two brothers and five sisters. Preceding him in death were his parents, two brothers and two sisters.

We are thankful we have only one hospital patient to report this month, Sis. Ella Schneider, who had eye surgery. May God lend His healing hand.

Jerry and Joy Metzger welcomed their second son, Logan Harold, June 15. Big brother, Tyler, is happy as well as grandparents, Bro. Silas and Sis. Della Metzger and the Harold Zimmernans (Whittemore).

God has granted Bro. Fred and Sis. Hulda Wirtz fifty years together, walking down life's pathway as husband and wife. Their children hosted an open house for them in our fellowship center June 29. May God bless them in the years ahead.

JAPAN, SHIODA
Sheila Moser

The annual Sunday school picnic was held July 13. Rain caused the event to be held inside, but children seem to enjoy picnics indoors, as well as out. We spent the afternoon singing, listening to a special story and playing games, a special time for all.

Earlier this spring, the owner of the neighborhood drug store passed away. His wife has, for years, shown interest in Christianity, but was prohibited by him to attend our local church or any Christian church. Since he is gone, her interest and desire seems much deeper. We hope through encouragement and

prayer she will begin to assemble with us and attend to her own soul's salvation. We want to remind you all to remember this woman and so many like her that need the prayers of those who love the Lord and serve Him already.

Sis. Eiko Nozawa and Sis. Vickie Ramseyer (Bay City, MI) have returned to Japan for a visit. It was such a blessing to have them with us. We hope they will take back many good memories as they return home.

JAPAN, TOKYO

Marie Inoue — Yoshio Yamazaki

The rainy season is not over yet and we are having quite a bit of rain most everyday. However, we have much blessings and love from our Father in heaven through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Sis. Vickie Ramseyer and Eiko Nozawa are visiting us and sharing the Lord's blessings and our loving fellowship in the Lord. We are really enjoying fellowship with them here and also the country church.

Deceased Bro. Saburo Utsuki's grandson, Jun Utsuki, will be visiting the United States with Bro. Randy Mogler. They will leave here from the Tokyo International Airport Thursday, July 24, and will stay there about a month. We hope Jun will be enjoying the life in America and see the Lord through our beloved American brothers and sisters in the United States.

Sis. Kathy Inoue and her daughters also will visit in the United States and will stay there about a month and a half. We believe that they will have a really enjoyable and blessed time there in the States.

KANSAS, BERN

Linda Esslinger — Shirley Strahm

Bro. Melvin and Sis. Florence Rokey are happy to have a new granddaughter in their family. Jessica Breanne was born to Dr. Gary and Marty Rokey (Kansas City) April 15. Jessica has three older sisters, Andrea, Megan and Emily, to help care for her at home. Sorry this was not reported sooner.

June 22 was the Sunday chosen by Bro. John Baumgartner (Les and Leora) and Sis. Lori Aberle (Bro. Roger and Sis. LaVonne, Sabetha) to solemnize their marriage vows. We rejoice with them and look forward to having Sis. Lori assemble with us at Bern. We wish them God's richest blessings in their married life. What a

blessing it is to have a heavenly Father who makes these important decisions for us. We, with our finite minds, would surely many times make the wrong choice.

Our visiting minister this past month was Bro. Gene Metzger (Lester, IA). We truly appreciate his efforts in bringing us the true Word of God and pray God will richly bless him and his family.

Surgical patients this month have been Bro. Roy Meyer and Bro. Ephraim Strahm. We are glad to report they both seem to be getting along fine.

"To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: A time to be born, and a time to die . . ." Ecclesiastes 3:1, 2. Our hearts were saddened to hear of the death of our dear Sis. Lena (Burger) Strahm, 92. We will never again, here on earth, see the kind look on her face, as she has laid her earthly cross down and gone on to receive the crown awaiting her in heaven. We extend our prayers of sympathy to her husband, Bro. Amos Strahm, of the Apostolic Christian Home at Sabetha, and her family.

KANSAS, KIOWA

Janice Bahr — Gay Farney

Precious memories, unseen angels
Sent from somewhere to my soul;
How they linger, ever near me,
And the sacred past unfold.

Precious father, loving mother
Fly across the lonely years.
And old home scenes of my childhood,
In fond memory appears.

Gospel Hymns #408A

These were the words from one of the hymns we sang for our dear friend, Simon Allenbach, who passed from this life suddenly this past month. His quick wit and sweet smile will be missed in our community, though he wasn't getting out much of late. For his dear wife, Alice, his son, Ronald, daughter, Jeanean, and their families, our deep and fervent prayer is for God's grace and comfort in their loss.

Vacation Bible School! Isn't it wonderful that children enjoy it so much, and that we, as teachers, have the privilege of leading them to know the Lord, who has made our own lives worthwhile. One mother whose child attended for the week said, "There was only one thing wrong with your Bible

school, as far as my child was concerned. When I asked what that was, she said, "It just didn't last long enough." Thanks to all who helped with our Bible school this year both physically and monetarily. God bless you for your efforts.

Well, it's hard to believe, but summer vacation is almost at an end, and soon our children will be consumed in the ever busy stream of school life again. Parents, hold them up on the wings of prayer every day. There are a lot of temptations facing them and they need God's sustenance. Children, just remember, God is only a prayer away, and He wants to lead, guide and love you if only you will open the door.

KANSAS, LAMONT

Jill K. Luthi

Our best wishes and God's blessings go to Jason Burnham (Bro. Max and Sis. Kathy), Brent Emch (Bro. Bill and Sis. Susan) and Jody Isch (Bro. Ron and Sis. Jane) upon their junior high graduation. As they are yet very tender plants of the Creator, may it be that the Lord will mold them, plant them in His fertile soil, and keep them from the weeds of this world. I hope they will make the most and best of their next four years of high school.

During the last two weekends of May, our joys were doubled as we witnessed two marriages in our small congregation of Lamont. "Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God." . . . "Therefore as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing." (Ephesians 5:21 and 24). On May 18 Sis. Mary Wernli and Bro. Mark Kraft (Gridley, KS) became a "threefold cord" in Christ. Visiting ministers with us on that day were: Bro. Vernon Schwab (Wolcott, IN, an uncle to both of our brides), Al Langhofer (Wichita), Harold Kraft (an uncle of Bro. Mark) and also Howard Plattner (Wichita). Parents of the couple are Bro. Roy and Sis. Betty Wernli and Sammy and Carol Kraft.

"For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh." . . . "Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband." (Ephesians 5:31 and 33). Sis. Maria Schrader and Bro. Jerry Bahr (Ft. Scott, KS) were joined together as one May 25. With us

for this special occasion were Elder Bro. Raymond Banwart, and all of his co-laborers, Bros. Charles Sinn, Wayne Miller and Harold Kraft (all of Ft. Scott). Parents are Bro. Stephen and Sis. Dorothy Schrader and Bro. Jim and Sis. Ruth Bahr (Ft. Scott).

May the Lord bless both couples as they strive together daily to fulfill their Christian walk of life. We miss both Sisters, Mary and Maria. What is our loss is gain to both Gridley and Ft. Scott. Replacing them for primary and primary substitute teachers in Sunday school are Sisters Kathy Burnham and Jeri Knobloch, respectively.

We want to thank the Lord for guiding safely to us some visiting elders in July. With us July 20 were Elder Bros. Ed Lanz (Oakville, IA), Art Bahler (Fairbury, IL) and Gene Marti (Lamar, MO). Let us not take their words of advice and admonishment lightly.

KANSAS, SABETHA

Nita Grimm — Charleen Hartter

"Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:"

Romans 5:1

We rejoice with Brad and Teresa Edelman as they have found peace with God and man.

"For if ye turn again unto the Lord, your brethren and your children shall find compassion before them that lead them captive, so that they shall come again into this land: for the Lord your God is gracious and merciful, and will not turn away his face from you, if ye return unto him."

II Chronicles 30:9

When we seek our God with humble hearts, not only do we receive His great mercy and benefits, but as this verse testifies, our brethren and children also reap God's compassion. Our lives affect others so very much. Do we really care for the souls around us? What are we doing with this great Gospel story?

The impotent man lay beside the pool of Bethesda just needing someone to put him in the pool when the angel troubled the water. It wouldn't have been a hard task. He was so near the source of healing but just needed a little help. Why didn't those who came to the pool help the man as he lay there

possibly year after year? Maybe they ignored his cry or thought his handicaps were beyond the healing powers of the water. Maybe many never went to the pool at all, knowing it was surrounded by the lame, halt and blind. The pool was by the sheep market. Maybe it was a dirty place, a smelly place.

There must be many around us in the same condition as this impotent man. May we pray to God to make us willing and available for His service. Someone in eternity will be so glad we did.

Our gratitude is extended to the ministering brethren and their wives who visited us. With us this past month were Bros. Mark Bahr (Detroit, MI), Charles Sauder (Tremont, IL), Lenard Meyer (Chicago, IL), Bill Emch (Lamont, KS), Edwin Bahler (Remington, IN) and Steve Gutwein (Francesville, IN).

Bro. Adrian and Sis. Dorothy Kellenberger are now worshipping with our congregation since moving from Elgin, IL. We trust they will feel God's love and the fellowship in Christ here. May God be near them through the many changes and uncertainties that life brings.

KANSAS, WICHITA
Judy Langhofer

In a small congregation items of interest to the church readers are not always easy to find, but there is one major item of news that is all-worthy to report. It is such good news that it is reported and recorded in heaven. In Luke 15:7 these are the words of Jesus, "I say unto you that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than ninety and nine righteous persons, who need no repentance."

It is almost impossible to imagine the magnitude of such a rejoicing. Reading in Revelation 5:11, 12, we can somehow get the feeling.

'And I beheld and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the living creatures and the elders, and the number of them as ten thousand time ten thousand, and thousands and thousands, Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honor, and glory and blessing.'

How many repentant sinners did it take to cause such rejoicing in heaven? One hundred thousand, one thousand, one hundred? No, just one.

The good news we have to report is that God is still calling sinners to repentance and that the blood that was shed by the Lamb that was slain, Jesus Christ, can still be applied for the forgiveness of sins for that one who repents. Upon her testimony of faith in this One Jesus, Sondra Todd became the repentant one who participated with Him in this redemptive act and was baptized into the body of believers July 13 in our Wichita church. No wonder the angels look down from heaven and marvel at this manifold grace and wisdom of God in Jesus Christ upon the church. Elder Bro. Joseph Ramsier (Rittman, OH) was the attending elder.

Her grandparents, Bro. Jake and Sis. Anna Beyer (Gridley, KS), as well as her mother, Edith Beyer Todd, did not live to witness this occasion; however, several of her aunts, uncles and cousins were present to rejoice with her. Her father of Winfield, KS, who pastored a church for several years, was also present with her on this day.

While many are still aglow from the July 4th celebration and the refurbishing of the Statue of Liberty, we think with sadness in our hearts of the many white crosses gracing the hillsides of our national cemeteries. The many who have died in battle hoping that our freedom in and through this country could be preserved. It brings a respect to our hearts, a feeling of gratitude to those who have given their lives. It also brings to mind when one stood in the temple in Jerusalem and offered to the lost sheep of the House of Israel His declaration of independence. They refused Him and turned away, declaring His blood would be upon them for generations and isn't it true? It was here that the true principle of freedom was born and is repeated by many, from the youngest to the oldest, out of John 3:16. When a nation regards the individual life as important as God's creation and the welfare of one soul to be the concern of many, then it can be truly a free nation under God.

Blessed is that nation whose God is the Lord
 And the people He hath chosen for an inheritance.

From the place of His habitation He looketh upon all the inhabitants of the earth.

He fashioneth their hearts alike;
 He considereth all their works.

There is no king saved by the multitude of an host,
 A mighty man is not delivered by much strength.

Behold the eye of the Lord is upon those who fear Him,
 Upon those who hope in His mercy.

Psalm 33:12-18

KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON
Lester and Glendoris Huber

"SEEING THE INVISIBLE"

"By faith he (Moses) forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king; for he endured, as seeing Him (the Lord) who is invisible."

Hebrews 11:27

The reason why so many people fail to find the Lord and go to hell is because they fail to find the Lord who is invisible. Colossians 1:15 teaches that Christ is the image of the invisible God. I Peter 1:8 speaks of Jesus, whom having not seen, ye love.

The reasons that motivate the Christian to challenge a world of opposition is not religion, but a vision that is invisible to the carnal man. It takes seeing something invisible that changes lives. Isaiah saw a vision that was invisible to others; yet it changed his life. Stephen, rejoicing, saw the invisible and died a martyr. It took the invisible experience to change the Apostle Paul. It was seeing the invisible that kept the three men in the fiery furnace, and Daniel, in the lion's den, etc.

Unless we can catch a new look at the invisible Lord Jesus Christ each morning, our ship of faith is sure to lose its course. It takes seeing the invisible to endure heartaches, loneliness, reproach and it takes seeing the invisible to conquer life's fiercest foes. It's seeing the invisible that conquers the fears of the visible forces of surrounding circumstances. May this be our prayer for each day:

Open my eyes that I may see,
 Glimpses of truth thou hast for me,

Place in my hands the wonderful key,
That shall unclasp and set me free,
Open my eyes illumine me, Spirit
divine.

We are thankful for our visiting ministers, Elder Bro. Nate Steffen (Elgin, IL), Bro. Steve Martin (Eureka, IL) and Bro. Walter Steffen (Milford, IN). God bless them and all those that came with them. We always appreciate the Christian fellowship we can have together. It was a special time of Christian fellowship, too, when the "Florida Snow Birds" came by bus on a Wednesday evening and worshipped with us in the Word of God and singing songs of praise. We thank each one for the effort put forth in coming.

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY

Pam Schlatter

We were encouraged by the expressed desire of Marshall Rylance to commit his life to the service of the Lord. We wish him grace throughout his conversion as he experiences the fruits of his repentance.

Sis Marian Knochel (Bro. Bob) has been hospitalized during this past month. We are thankful when the body fails that we have a refuge to flee to. "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." Psalm 46:1. May Sis. Marian and her family keenly sense the presence of this help during this time.

"Shall I to please the blinded throng, withhold Thy Word so truthful? Or thus to soothe the ears of men, of their reproach be mindful, . . ." Zion's Harp #113, "The Ministers of the Gospel". We were pleased for the visits of several ministering brethren during the past month: Bro. John Lehman (Bern), Bro. Earl Kilgus (Remington, IN), Bro. Gary Maibach (Smithville, OH) and Bro. John Hartman (Fairbury, IL).

We were privileged to be the host congregation to the Soldier Reunion of those who served in the military during the late 1960's and early 1970's. We observed how these men held a special friendship with each other due to a common cause they had participated in together. So we, as Christians, look forward to the day we can unite with the saints of all ages and enjoy that reunion where all those that contended for the faith will be joined together.

Give Your Address Change
To Your Reporter

MICHIGAN, DETROIT

Bev Bahr

June 22 was the wedding day of Sis. Candi Knochel and Bro. Gary Klopfenstein. Their parents are Sis. Ruth and Bro. Dan Knochel and Sis. Betty and the late Bro. Carlton Klopfenstein (Gridley, IL). As Sis. Candi and Bro. Gary establish their new life and home, may God ever abide with them and bless them.

Our visiting ministers have been Elder Bro. Edwin Ringger, Bro. Elmer Witzig, Bro. Byron Stoller (all from Gridley, IL), Bro. Homer Reineck (Toledo, OH), Bro. Merrill Laukhuf (Latty, OH), Bro. Ron Heiniger (Bloomington, IL) and Bro. Jim Rinkenberger (Bluffton, IN). We are grateful for them all and trust God will bless them for all their labors of love.

Bro. Alex Varga (Sis. Joanne and Bro. Steve) has moved to California and we pray that God will ever lead and direct his path. We look forward to his return visits to his family here.

"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above." James 1:17. Aaron Clayton is the good gift God has given to Sis. Joyce, Bro. Milan and big brother, Adam Germaine July 6. The grandparents are Sis. Helen and Bro. Wally Ramsier (Mansfield, OH) and Lucile and Mike Germaine. As little Aaron grows in years, may their family circle grow ever closer in God's love.

Our Detroit junior and senior high school students spent a memorable weekend, July 21 - 23, in Bay City, along with the Alto Sunday school students. Such weekends as these will be remembered and appreciated more and more as time goes by. We extend our sincere thanks to the teachers, parents and congregations who support these times by the giving of their time, love and prayers.

Bro. Floyd Wieland (Sis. Perseda) had eye surgery and is progressing well. Also, Donna Hellens (Sis. Martha and Bro. Joe Szilagyli) had extensive surgery and is recovering at home. We trust that God will grant them both the blessings of health and strength.

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

MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS

Barbara Olson

June 29 was the birthday of precious

little Alissa Sue, who joined the family of Bro. Doug and Sis. Sue Messner. She was welcomed by her sister, Nicole. Bro. Harold and Sis. Geraldine Messner and Sis. Elaine Kellenberger are the pleased grandparents.

We appreciate our recent visiting ministers and their families. They were Bro. Nathan Stoller (Bradford, IL), Elder Bro. Harold Messner (Winthrop, MN) and Elder Bro. Perry Zimmerman (Forrest, IL).

God hath not promised
Skies always blue,
Flower-strewn pathways
All our lives through;
God hath not promised
Sun without rain,
Joy without sorrow,
Peace without pain.
But God hath promised
Strength for the day,
Rest for the labor,
Light for the way.
Grace for the trials,
Help from above,
Unfailing sympathy
Undying love . . .

Unknown

Thought — The Bible is our only
certainty for this life.

MINNESOTA, MORRIS

Ruth Nohl — Hildegard Koehl

We enjoyed the visit of Sis. Dora and Sis. Szilvia Kovacs (Budapest, Hungary). We thank Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Margaret Pflederer for bringing them to Morris.

"Haste and seek your soul's salvation; Heed the word of God today!" Zion's Harp #52. We are rejoicing as three more souls have heeded the Lord's call. They are Ken and Sally Feuchtenberger (Bro. Wally and Sis. Diane) and Lynette Koehl (Guy). May God grant them the needed grace.

We had the privilege recently of listening to the testimonies of three dear souls, Joan Schmidgall (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Ruby), Angie Schaefer (Bro. Herman and Sis. EvaJean) and Ilene Burnham (Allan). May God continue to grant them the needed guidance as they walk this path of life.

Elder Bro. Bob Grimm (Goodfield, IL) assisted Bro. Art on this blessed occasion. Also visiting were Bro. Dennis Warner (Lester, IA) and Bro. Ken Lawson (Minneapolis). We thank them

for being willing servants in God's services.

Other visiting ministers this month were Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr (West Bend, IA) and Bro. Al Aberle (Tremont, IL). We thank them for bringing God's Word in truth and sincerity.

Our hospital patient this month has been Sis. Louise Mohrman. May God grant her strength that she may attend services with us again. Also in the hospital at this time is Chad Burnham (Sis. Ilene and Allan), who sustained an injury to his back. Kenny Feuchtenberger was down to Abbott-Northwestern Hospital in Minneapolis as an out-patient for therapy for his back. He has shown much improvement and is home again.

We are sorry to bid "farewell" to Bro. Dale, Sis. Lili and Barry Koehl. They have moved to Bern, KS, and will be making Sabetha their home church. We will miss them, but wish them God's richest blessings in this move in their lives.

June 28 was the wedding day for Lori Kruize and Jon Moser (Bro. Dave and Sis. Noreen). Lynette Greiner (Emil and Arlene) and Dan Eystad chose July 12 as their wedding day. May God richly bless both of these couples as they walk down the path of life together.

We are sorry we failed to mention Sis. Angie Schaefer (Bro. Herman and Sis. EvaJean) as being one of our high school graduates.

As we celebrated the Fourth of July, our Independence Day, may we truly thank God for the great gift of freedom we have in our country. We tend to take this for granted and forget the unfortunate people in other countries who do not have these freedoms that we experience.

MINNESOTA, WINTHROP

**Wanda Messner
Ella Mae Schmidt**

We heard from visiting minister Bro. Don Miller (Minneapolis) that the solution to a problem is, "... Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man." Ecclesiastes 12:13). May he and his wife, Sis. Bernadine, find God's grace and strength sufficient for all their needs. We enjoyed having them with us.

"Obey them that have the 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."

Hebrews 13:17

We want to remember our dear elder brothers in prayer as they meet and council together during the annual brotherhood conference.

A blessed time was enjoyed by all, as we gathered together to make soap for Haiti this month. We are thankful that we have these opportunities to help those in need.

Sis. Bernadine Messner (Bro. Ray) was our hospital patient this month and is recuperating well.

God has sent a baby girl, Shaina Leigh, May 19, to bless the home of Mike and Sally Heikkila. She is welcomed by a brother, Seth.

May every parent seek to raise their children "... in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." Ephesians 6:4.

MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY

Linda Ziegenhorn

"Hast thou not known? Hast thou not heard? That the everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth fainteth not, neither is weary? There is no searching of His understanding. He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might He increaseth strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fail: But 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."

Isaiah 40:28 - 31

As we meditate on God's Word daily, He will renew our strength. What a wonderful promise! It is so easy to despair and grow weary when things do not seem to be going well, but if we look to God He promises to give us strength. Daily we must read His Word so that our hearts are prepared to receive His strength when we need it.

The Kansas City church would like to welcome Edwin and Ramona Strahm. Edwin just graduated from Kansas State University at Manhattan, KS, and is now working in Kansas City. We are very glad to have them here.

On May 31 the Bible class spent the weekend in Kiowa with the youth from the other Kansas churches. They all

enjoyed it very much and made new friends.

On June 29, Elder Bro. Sam Huber (Sabetha) joined our Elder Bro. Gene Marti to serve holy communion. It is a time of renewing as we examine our lives and reflect on the sacrifice that Jesus made for us. What wonderful, uncomprehensible love Jesus has for us that He would be willing to die that we might live.

"The love of God is greater far than tongue or pen can ever tell. It goes beyond the highest star, and reaches to the lowest hell."

"The Love of God",
Hymns of Zion #289

MISSOURI, LAMAR

Janice Stoller — Becky Marti

We have had several visitors this summer and always appreciate their visits. We rejoice that our congregation continues to grow. Bro. Jerry and Sis. Carol Braker have been entrusted with a new son. Darin Ray, born June 26, is welcomed home by Mindy. Grandparents are Bro. Leroy and Sis. Clara Huber (Eureka, IL) and Bro. Raymond and Sis. LuEtta Braker.

"And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

'And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart.

"And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up."

Deuteronomy 6:5-7

Even though these were words that God directed Moses to speak unto the children of Israel many years ago, surely they still provide good instructions for us to apply to our lives today. Not only for those who are raising children, but for each of us each day.

MISSOURI, TAYLOR

Loida Hodel — Lori Marquart

"When you wake up to see the sun shining and hear the birds singing, 'Praise Him' —

When you feel the touch of a friend's hand or the warmth of a loved one's smile, 'Thank Him' —

When you are in need of strength or

courage or a little more faith to get through the day, 'Ask Him' —

When you feel sad or lonely, turn to Him, trust Him, love Him — He hears every prayer of your heart for He loves you."

Author Unknown

We miss Becky Huber (Vernon and Judy) who has moved to Morton, IL, and is residing in the Home for the Handicapped. We hope the adjustment into a new environment will be easy for her and that she will soon have many new friends. It isn't a small thing when our children grow up and leave home, no matter which direction they go, and we are thankful for the promise — "I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help." Psalm 121:1.

"If you cherish your 'Love' through laughter and tears, Remembering the 'Joys' not the sorrows . . .

Your hearts will stay young with the passing of years, and you'll share only happy tomorrows."

June 22 was a special day for Sis. Peggy Sutter (Bro. Gerald and Sis. Marge) and Bro. Doug Hoerr (Bro. Don and Sis. Velma, Peoria, IL) when many gathered to witness their marriage ceremony. We will miss "Peg" but we're happy for the Champaign-Urbana, IL, church while Doug is completing his education at the U. of I. We trust the ties with Taylor will always remain "special" and look forward to frequent visits.

" . . . for whither thou goest, I will go, and where thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God."

Ruth 1:16

A sincere thank you is extended to Elder Bros. Joe Braker (Morton, IL) and Sam Huber (Sabetha, KS), and ministering Bros. Jim Hoerr, Ken Hoerr (Peoria, IL), Carl Wyss, Don Wagenbach (Washington, IL), Floyd Schmidgall (Morris, MN) and Kenny Knapp (Taylor, MO) for sharing God's Word with us this month.

Norman Haerr is presently a medical patient in the hospital for tests. Shon Haerr received treatment for injuries to his ankle. "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in

trouble." Psalm 46:1.

"We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love the brethren."

I John 3:4

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
Born of His spirit, washed in His blood.
Crosby

NEW JERSEY, UNION CITY Ed Aeschleman

Visiting ministers were Bros. Al Schnieder, Dan Stoller, Everett Gerber (Rockville, CT) and Bro. Wayne Laubscher (Cissna Park, IL). We could feel the power of the Spirit working through our dear brothers. May God bless them in many ways for their willingness to spend themselves on our behalf.

A group of brothers from Bluffton, IN, and brethren from Rockville, CT, visited Union City during the July 6 weekend. All enjoyed an evening of fellowship and a song service Saturday and worship services Sunday.

We are thankful to God that His work of salvation continues. We certainly welcome Bro. Bill Graf into our congregation and Christian fellowship. Bro. Bill was baptized June 29 in Akron, OH. May God give him, and all of us, continued grace, faith and courage to always keep the vows we made before Him.

NEW YORK, CROGHAN Alice Virkler

Happy first-time parents are Bro. Ed and Sis. Debbie Graf with the birth of Ryan Edward July 1. Ryan is also welcomed by his grandparents, Bro. Jim and Sis. Marlene Ramseyer (Bay City, MI) and Bro. Carl and Sis. Kathy Graf (Akron, OH). May they be led and directed by God as they care for this added blessing to their home and family.

Our Sunday school children, parents and teachers enjoyed our annual weiner roast. This year it was held at the home of Bro. Paul and Sis. Lisa Schamback.

We gathered in the Croghan church Sunday, July 6, and were glad to be taught from the Word by Elder Bro. Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO) and Bro. Jim Ramseyer (Bay City, MI).

Our hospital medical patients this

month were Bro. Chester O'Brien and Sis. Minnie Farney.

NEW YORK, NAUMBURG Rachel Snyder

We had a special blessed Sunday once again with the visit of Elder Bro. Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO) and Bro. Jim Ramseyer (Bay City, MI). May the Lord richly bless them.

Sis. Iva Poling from Kallett Adult Home had to spend a few days in the hospital but we are glad she is able to be back home again.

OHIO, AKRON Joyce Gasser

Ecclesiastes begins with: "The words of the Preacher . . ." Solomon was a king, not a preacher as we think of it, but this Hebrew word means, "one who has a message". Solomon had been taught by his parents, David and Bathsheba, to get wisdom as the most important of life. David realized he missed it with Absalom and Amnon, and so with Solomon to be the next king, David and Bathsheba poured the Word into Solomon that he would get wisdom, the Word of God, above everything, which the first ten chapters of Proverbs reveals. So, Solomon requested wisdom, and with it came many blessings. He walked in grace and love, which has signs following. He walked with friendship, blessing others. He walked in two happinesses, for when the Queen of Sheba said, Happy are you, the word means two happinesses, both an inner and outer happiness. After walking in the Word, Solomon began to get occupied in nine areas of life, but each of the times he received no satisfaction, so he gives us "the message" which we will note next month.

Sis. Monica Grawunder and Bro. Bill Bauman were united in marriage and we wish them the Lord's blessings as they go onward together. Parents are Bro. Fred and Sis. Eva Grawunder and Marion and Sis. Delores Bauman. After their Florida wedding trip the newlyweds are residing at Rittman.

We rejoiced to hear the testimony of Bill Graf of the Union City, NJ, church and he was baptized here at Akron. May he continue following Jesus as his Lord and Saviour.

Bro. John and Sis. Joyce Schamback returned safely from a blessed trip to Europe. They were in a group which toured many places and their two

daughters, Jennifer and Jill, took an extension with part of the group, going into Budapest, Hungary.

Bro. Duane and Sis. Cheryl Collins were blessed with a baby girl, Rachel Lynn, and they have a boy, Joshua. Grandparents are Bro. Duane (Hank) and Sis. Marjorie Collins and Robert Kaufman is the great-grandfather.

Sue Ritzman has recovered extremely well from an accident a year ago and had the rod, plate and screws surgically removed from her leg and ankles. We are thankful with her for the divine healing power manifested with her.

Harold Fritz was hospitalized and we pray he will have a speedy recovery.

We appreciated visitors: Elder Bro. Corbin Bahler, Bro. Gary Maibach, Bro. Ben Manz, Bro. Roy Luginbuhl, Bro. Kevin Ryan, Bro. Eugene Fetter, Bro. Harold Emch and Bro. Henry Dotterer.

OHIO, COLUMBUS Desma Klopfenstein

We'd like to thank Bro. Don Manz for traveling to be with us during the past month and for expounding upon God's Word. We always enjoy our fellowship with the visiting ministers, their families, and all those who come to worship with us.

One Wednesday evening we were happy to have Janos Ombodi, a visiting elder from Budapest, Hungary, in our little gathering and on another Wednesday evening, two young brothers stopped for services while on their way to Rockville, CT. We surely appreciate these times of Christian friendship.

It seems in these days that "becoming a Christian" or "being a Christian" has begun to be a very broadly defined phrase. If people go to church or lead moral lives there is a tendency to feel comfortable about the eternal end. But this is truly a false security and one that the devil seeks to sustain. Accepting Christ is simple; yet, as humans, living the Godly life isn't always easy. One poem that seems to put these thoughts into perspective was written by Helen Steiner Rice, entitled, "Seek the Lord Continuously".

It's not enough to say "I believe",
It's not enough to ask and receive,
It's not enough to repeat the Lord's
prayer,
It's not enough to just say, "I care",

It's not enough to be pleasant and kind,
It's not enough to keep God in your
mind,

It's not enough just to feed the poor,
It's not enough to forbear and endure,
For while these things are all good to do
They cannot insure salvation for you,
For not until you are born anew
Can the spirit of God be alive in you,
For the spirit of God will soon be dead
Unless it is daily nourished and fed.

OHIO, GIRARD Kathryn Emch

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 having communion June 1 when our Elder Bro. Eugene Pamer spent the day with us.

Bro. Merle Hartzler (Smithville) filled our pulpit June 22 while Harold and I attended a wedding in Bluffton, IN.

July 6 we had Bro. Larry Wenninger and his family visit us. We enjoyed his message and thank all of these brothers for serving us.

OHIO, JUNCTION Les Manz

Life began this month for little Beverly Ann Schlatter, the new daughter of Bro. Bill and Sis. Emily. Helping care for her will be brothers, Warren, Kent and Gary, and sisters, Charlene and Melissa. Grandparents include Bro. Aaron and Sis. Grace Heinold (La-Crosse, IN) and Sis. Juliet Schlatter. What a blessing it is when we see the miracle of life starting anew for these little ones.

We also experienced the blessing of death in our congregation. Although we sorrow with our brethren who have lost their loved ones, we rejoice that they both had prepared for death. God gives judgment to His Son, Jesus, and we have faith to believe our departed sisters were ready to meet their Maker.

Sis. Hulda Manz was killed in an auto accident near Paulding, OH. Her brothers and sisters, who will mourn her death, are Bros. Adam and Emmanuel, and Sisters Mary and Anna, all from the Junction church.

Sis. Bea Hans slipped away following a short illness. Her last few years were spent in the Eureka Home. She will be missed by her daughter, Jo Ann (San Jose, CA), sister-in-law, Sis. Tillie

Suttor (Peoria, IL) and several nieces and nephews.

The family of Sis. Bea Hans wishes to thank all who helped in her time of death. God bless you all.

OHIO, LATTY

Marlene Reinhard — Patty Gerber

"If everyone at church would be just like me, what kind of church would this church be?"

We have been reminded recently of our duty to uphold the faith. It is so easy for us to complain and neglect our responsibilities. However, if we used that same energy to uplift one another and work together, the Lord would be glorified and His work would be furthered.

Bro. Ernest Graf (Akron) shared the Word with us at a Wednesday evening service. We were spiritually refreshed and admonished.

"Beloved, thou doest faithfully whatsoever thou doest to the brethren, and to strangers."

III John 1:5

We must remember to bear each others' burdens that we may lighten someone else's load. We have ample opportunity to serve when our loved ones suffer with bodily afflictions. Hospital patients were Sis. Lou Ann Rager (Bro. Bill, Jr.), Sis. Helen Schlatter (Bro. Ben) and Bro. Ephraim Kipfer (Sis. Marilyn).

We extend our sympathy to the family and friends of Sis. Beatrice Hans (Eureka Home) who was recently buried in our cemetery after funeral services at the Junction church.

OHIO, MANSFIELD Linda Morrison

Kristin Clare was born July 2 to Bro. Clare and Sis. Bev Keever. Chad, Jeremy, Steffany, Jessica and Tecca welcome her into their family. May God's love continue to bless each heart. Prayer is the strongest partner in any and every home. May our prayerful support of one another truly make us the family of God.

Hospital patients this month have been: Sis. Sheli Fairchild, illness; Dale Sauder and Bruce Sauder (sons of Bro. Richard and Sis. Carolyn Sauder) were both accident victims. Dale was injured by lightning during a thunderstorm and Bruce was injured in a work-related accident. Injuries happen

quickly and can change lives; an accident can also end a life . . . would you be ready?

"Pain is inevitable, but misery is optional. We cannot avoid pain, but we can avoid joy. God has given us such immense freedom that He will allow us to be as miserable as we want to be. But there is no such thing as cheap joy. Joy often costs pain and suffering. True joy isn't found at the end of a rainbow. It isn't captured at the top of the ladder of success. Its price tag is faithfulness, endurance and perhaps sorrow. It has been suggested that our cup of joy can only be as deep as our cup of sorrow."

Jim Hansel

Elder Bro. Aaron Steffen (Alto, MI) was with us July 20. We are thankful for faithful brothers willing to share God's Word in season and out of season; encouraging us as we walk our pilgrim path . . . there will never be another path for any of us, today we walk in the path, the only path the Lord has set before us; let us put our hand firmly in His and choose to walk our path with joy.

OHIO, RITTMAN

Diane Gasser — Judy Stoller

" . . . Take heed to the ministry which thou hast received in the Lord, that thou fulfill it."

Colossians 4:17

Bro. Don Manz (Junction, OH) and Bro. Walter Anliker (Eureka, IL) ministered God's Word unto us this past month. We appreciate their labors of love and offer them our heartfelt thanks for allowing themselves to be used in God's service on our behalf. May God's blessings be upon them.

This past month Ethan Steiner (Bro. Matthew and Sis. Gail) and Greg Bachman (Liz) were in need of hospitalization. We rejoice when we can observe God's healing powers at work and health is again restored to the sick and injured.

In Christian love we extend a hearty welcome to Bro. Ben and Sis. Dorothy Stavenik who have moved here from the Mansfield area and are now part of the Rittman congregation. We're sure their daughter, Sis. Hope Gasser (Bro. Ron), is happy to have them living nearby.

Bro. Norman Zollinger (Sis. Elverna) and Sis. Betty Hartzler (Bro. Merle and Sis. Bonnie) were joined in mar-

riage July 20. May God's presence ever abide in their home and may He grant them a blessed life together.

Bro. Dan and Sis. Virginia Widmer were blessed with a precious baby girl. Angela Mary's big brother is Robert. Bro. Harold and Sis. Carole Widmer and Mr. and Mrs. Julius Giet are her happy grandparents.

My heavenly home is bright and fair,
Nor pain nor death can enter there;
Its glittering towers the sun outshine;
That heavenly mansion shall be mine.

Hymns of Zion #247

We extend our sympathy to two family circles who have lost a loved one.

Lulu Steiner, the mother of Bro. Ron Steiner (Sis. Ruth) passed from this life into eternity. Her funeral was July 14.

Bro. Joe Gasser also left this life of cares to go on to his heavenly home. His funeral services were held July 19. He leaves behind one son, Ed (Joan) and three grandsons. Also surviving are brothers, Bro. Glenn (Sis. Liz) and Ken; sisters, Sis. Erma Ingold (Bro. Carl), Sis. Mabel Maibach (Bro. Roy), Sis. Alma Graf (Bro. Bob) and Sis. Marie Bauman. May God comfort each one in their time of sorrow and grant them many precious memories of their departed loved one.

The family of Sis. Clara Zollinger wishes to express their sincere thanks to everyone who has shown their love with deeds of kindness. May God bless you.

OHIO, SARDIS

Paula Figel

We enjoyed a blessed weekend June 28 - 29 when we had our memorial services at the New Martinsville, WV, church. We appreciated all those who came to fellowship and worship with us. We especially want to thank those who ministered God's holy Word: Elder Bro. Andrew Virkler (Bay City, MI), Bro. John Steiner (Oakville, IA), Bro. Kenneth Sauder (Mansfield, OH) and Bro. Homer Reineck (Toledo, OH). May God continue to strengthen and inspire all those dear brothers who are called upon to bring forth His holy Word.

Well, it's back to school once again and, as our dear children walk out the door of our love, guidance and protection, let us hold them up in prayer to a

Father who loves them even more than we do. He will care for them more than we ever could. We must ask, and then trust.

OHIO, SMITHVILLE

Ann Maibach — Verla Stoller

"Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord."

Psalm 127:3

We have several loved ones who have been blessed with bundles from heaven. Bro. Steve and Sis. Connie Bauman have welcomed a precious little girl, Janelle June, into their family circle. Krista, Jeremy and Jonathan are happy to have a new sister. Grandparents are Bro. Herb and Sis. Bernice Bauman and Bro. Glenn and Sis. Ede Stoller (Latty, OH).

Bro. Max and Sis. Diane Miller have also been blessed with another daughter, Autumn Jo. Amber and April are glad for another sister. Autumn's grandparents are Richard and Sis. Melba Miller and Bro. Leroy and Sis. Janita Koehl. May God give these dear parents much grace and wisdom to bring up these precious souls in the fear of Him.

"Call and cry, ye watchmen, boldly; Call aloud and spare them not!" Zion's Harp #112. We are thankful to have brothers who are willing to bring us God's Word in its truth and sincerity. May God bless our visiting minister, Bro. Roy Luginbuhl (Ft. Lauderdale, FL) for his willingness to serve us.

Katie Beery (Bro. Norman and Sis. Audrey) was hospitalized this month due to a broken arm. May God heal and restore as only He can do.

OHIO, TOLEDO

**Josephine Rehklau
Francis Laidig**

What a comfort it is when we can place our faith and trust in Jesus. He will help us to carry our burdens.

Our church was deeply saddened the week of July 15 by the sudden death of Warren Newman (Sis. Lois). We will miss Warren's friendly presence along with the ever-willing help and support he gave to the church for the many years he was in our midst. May God comfort and give daily courage to Sis. Lois and her family as these are truly difficult times in their lives.

We think of their daughter, Karen Labadie (Dennis), who is in a Minnea-

polis hospital having undergone recent surgery and could not be with us. We pray that she will make a good recovery.

"I will not leave you comfortless."
St. John 14:18

Elder Bros. Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI) and Loren Stoller (Latty, OH) were with us for the funeral services.

Sis. Karen Breitwieser (Bro. John) has been in the hospital. She is now at home recuperating from surgery. We wish her the blessing of good health in the days to come.

OREGON, SILVERTON Rosa Lee Kuenzi

A new baby boy is welcomed into the home of Mel and Grace Lewis. He arrived July 10. Brother, Brian, and sister, Jamie, are enjoying their new baby brother, Rory Jay, as are his Oregon grandparents, Bro. Ben and Sis. Carolyn Bolliger.

We feel for Sis. Gloria (Lewis) Kuenzi who has been enduring much pain and discomfort from arthritic deterioration of her upper spine. She has been wearing a neck brace until her surgery in early August. We pray that she will feel God's nearness and the prayers of her brethren and friends.

It gives us much joy to share the good news that our dear friends, Jack and Janet Kuenzi, have begun their walk with the Lord. May He give them abundant grace and humility on this pathway to heaven.

It is with mixed feelings of sorrow and understanding that we acknowledge that our dear shepherd, Elder Bro. Carl Kinsinger (Altadena, CA), has laid down his staff of responsibility for the Oregon churches. We pray that as others assume the weight of his responsibilities, his own health can be measurably restored that he and his dear helpmate, Sis. Margaret, can share their twilight years in well-earned peace. May God richly bless them even now and much more in all eternity.

Many prayers have been uttered and many more will continue, that God will direct and strengthen and encourage His willing servant, Elder Bro. Leo Moser (Lester, IA), who has agreed to pick up the shepherd's staff for the Oregon churches. We are so thankful for God's guiding wisdom through our elder brethren's watchful care that even this small flock, though separated

by many miles from the majority of the churches can receive the same good teachings, the same timely warnings and the same much-needed spiritual encouragement. We are indeed thankful for Bro. Leo's recent trip to Oregon. It was a pleasure to have Bro. Leo and Sis. Leona in our area.

In addition to Bro. Leo, the following ministers and their wives were in Silverton during the past several weeks. We are truly grateful to God that there are brothers willing to stand before the people and bring forth the Word in truth and simplicity: Bro. Don and Sis. Mary Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN), Bro. Jim and Sis. Marlene Plattner (Princeville, IL) and Bro. Gene and Sis. Verna Lehman (Wolcott, IN). The efforts of these dear ones are encouragement to brethren, friends and children alike.

It was our privilege to make the journey to Tucson, AZ, recently to witness the testimony and baptism of a dear young soul into the brotherhood of Christ. Since this young man is really an Oregonian, we feel it proper to mention it here. Bro. Dean Sinn (Otto and Marian) was welcomed into the fold at Tucson, AZ, July 20. He finished his college degree work from O.T.I. in December of 1985 and found work with Hughes Aircraft in Tucson in January. In March he realized his true life work was to labor in the Lord's vineyard, and he answered the call. We rejoice with his family that he has chosen "the better part" as a young man. May he always walk close to the Lord and in His grace.

PENNSYLVANIA, PHILADELPHIA

Jason and Wendy Williamson

We are thankful to have another family in our small congregation. We welcome Bro. Scott and Sis. Tonya Wieland and their son, Jesse, from Bay City, MI. Their stay will be temporary, but we appreciate their support and fellowship in Christ.

With our joy over another family, we must also say farewell to Bro. Todd Ernie. Bro. Todd has felt direction to move to the Bluffton, IN, area. We will miss Bro. Todd, but we wish him God's guidance and direction in his life.

We have been blessed with many visiting ministers this past month: Bros. Dan Stoller and Everett Gerber (Rockville, CT), Bro. Floyd Graves (Naumburg, NY) and Bro. Homer Reineck (Toledo, OH). We appreciate

their coming and sharing God's Word with us.

Summer is the time for family vacations. We encourage all to come and visit us and the Philadelphia area. Many job openings wait to be filled in this church area. These openings include: construction, engineering, nursing, marketing, just to name a few. If you have any questions, give our ministering Bro. Ed Aeschleman a call at 1-302-478-7846.

Show me the way,
not to fortune or fame,
Not how to win laurels
or praise for my name —
But show me the way
to spread "The Great Story"
That "Thine is the Kingdom
and Power and Glory".

Helen Steiner Rice

TEXAS, DALLAS-FORT WORTH Sandy Schmidt

"Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat:

"Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it."

St. Matthew 7:13, 14

There have been many happy souls to join us in worship at our gathering in Fort Worth. The recent visiting ministers include: Elder Bro. Ramond Banwart (Ft. Scott, KS), Bro. Arthur Baurer (Princeville, IL), Bro. Leland Plattner (Zapata, TX) on two occasions, and Bro. James W. Leman (Roanoke, IL), Bro. Charles W. Sauder (Tremont, IL) and we expect Elder Bro. Ronald Nelson for our next meeting, July 20.

We appreciate the loving support that has been given to us, and all the visitors that have made an effort to join us. It is a real blessing having a gathering here at the Dallas/Fort Worth area.

We usually have about 20 present.

TEXAS, ZAPATA Mary Plattner

Most of our residents have been traveling north for summer vacations to visit their families. Soon we will be looking forward to our "winter family" returning to Zapata.

Bro. Jim and Sis. Marcy Knobloch are making plans to move to Elgin, IA, the first of August. We will certainly

miss them in our small congregation, but wish them the Lord's richest blessings in their move.

It is nice to have Sis. Lillian Koehl back with us after she had surgery in Illinois. Bro. John Perdelwitz was hospitalized for a short time but he and his wife, Sis. Vi, are now in Colorado visiting their family.

Andy Plattner will be leaving soon for college in Tarkio, MO. He will be making Bern his home church.

SILVER THREADS

THE BEAUTIFUL ATTITUDES OF A RADIANT SINGLE LIFE

Blessed is the single person who turns not down Jesus as his friend and Saviour in preference of an earthly companion who is not a saint but an hireling.

Blessed is the single person who is so satisfied with Jesus that he would not complain if God would not lead him or her to an earthly marriage union!

Blessed is the single person who treasures the joy that God does not turn down any friend, as earthly persons sometimes do in courtship, because of unwanted physical traits, but knows that He accepts each one (just as he is, physically) to be part of Christ's bride, for truly He made each one very good!

Blessed is the single person who radiates the Christ-life in his every action, showing to all that the divine Christ is his perfect example and companion!

Blessed is the single person who wastes not his life in complaining and leaving the Lord's work undone because he is not married!

Blessed is the single person who not only proves by a smile that he is not envious of those married, but also shares his efforts to make their burdens lighter by helping them in physical labor!

Blessed is the person who finds fulfillment in being a spiritual parent and bearing spiritual children from a burdened heart for souls in a decaying world needing spiritual life, good influence and the dear Saviour, too!

Last and best of all — Blessed are the married folk who teach these beautiful attitudes of radiant single life to their children.

J. E. M.

How does a blindman feel when the stars come out at night?
Can he feel the emptiness of that vast unyielding sky?
Does he feel lost when the fog rolls in from the sea?
And why is a man called blind, simply because he has no eyes?

I once knew a blind man who watched the sun rise ev'ry morning yet he thought that the world was flat.

My best friend overdosed on cocaine, because he couldn't see a future.

And the other day my psych professor lectured on evolution . . .

blind men,
blind men,
because they can't see the truth.

The eye is the light of the body.
And if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness.

Sometimes we need to close our eyes to let the sun shine through . . .

Yes, blind men see sunsets, blind men see stars,
A man is only blind when he's blinded from the truth.

Kathleane C. O'Leary

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

To God be the glory — great things He hath done,
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin
And opened the Lifegate that all may go in.

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
To every believer the promise of God;
The vilest offender who truly believes,
Will surely from Jesus a pardon receive.

Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done,
And great our rejoicing thro' Jesus the Son;
But purer and higher and greater will be
Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.

Chorus:
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
Let the earth hear His voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father thro' Jesus the Son,
And give Him the glory, — great things He hath done.

Gospel Hymns #813

Sermon . . .

(Continued from Page 28)

prayer, and I think we all do, let's be diligent in our prayers.

The Lord says, ". . . that men ought always (be willing) to pray, and not to faint." Luke 18:1.

The Apostle Paul said we can "Pray without ceasing." I Thessalonians 5:17.

Let's continue to pray. If we believe with all our heart that the Lord will give what is good for us, we will ask and receive. We will seek and we shall find. We shall knock and it shall be opened. If we believe, we know that our prayer is being heard.

If we have turned away, we must turn again and seek the Father through Jesus Christ and Him crucified. If we approach Him with love and obedience, we can expect our prayers to be answered.

Paul says here that he offers prayer night and day. What strength we can acquire through prayer! What blessing comes from God, and what peace we find. All of us have experienced that. The Apostle Paul found that power. Christ Himself spent many hours in prayer.

"Greatly desiring to see thee, being mindful of thy tears, that I may be filled with joy; When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also. Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands." II Timothy 1:4, 5, 6.

The Lord has provided for His Word to go forth from one generation to the next. Our parents and loved ones have pointed us toward the way of the cross. They took us to church, and instilled in our hearts a desire to do what is right and good.

We rejoice, oftentimes with tears, and are very, very thankful that the true way has been pointed out to us. We wish to do that for our children, for our grandchildren, and for all who follow

after.

Paul said, "I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee . . ." We need faith to please God. A simple faith in God is necessary for our salvation because without it we cannot get going, can we?

Belief that Jesus is seated at the right hand of God interceding for us, belief that Jesus died and shed His blood for our sins, the faith that we have in His name and in the work that He did is the catalyst that brings forth the response, the action and the results.

Jesus was powerful. He could heal anyone who was brought to Him, and yet He once said that He couldn't do many good works where He was because of unbelief. How important it is that we have an unfeigned faith. We desire it. We work on it and hold it precious. This saving faith is most precious to us.

Paul said, "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. When we compare the time before we were converted with the time after we were converted, compare ourselves when we were serving the god of this world by fulfilling our fleshly desires with our attitudes and behavior when we are under the love of Christ and want His will in our lives, then we see the truth of this: "God hath not given us the spirit of fear . . .".

What happens when we give our lives to Christ? We say, "Lord, come in and take over." He can indeed remove all the fear, and He does remove it. There is no question about it. He takes away that fear of hell. He takes away the fear of death which we are subject to when we don't have peace within our hearts.

I was talking with my wife yesterday about the reason we repented. I said that I had never had a fear of death or a fear of hell at any time. I just wanted to get the most out of my life. She told me that she had been plagued with a fear of dying before making preparation. There are different ways in which we are called to God, but indeed we are all called.

I wonder how many in this audience today have not made their preparation and do not feel right in their hearts, how many have that fear. How terrible it is to live with fear! A fear of death, a fear of dying, a fear of tomorrow, a fear of what is going to happen. Only the

Lord and Saviour can take away that fear . . . and He will take it away. He will give us peace so that we don't have to fear death. We don't have to be afraid of dying. We don't have to fear hell because Jesus paid the price.

His way is the only way. Jesus said, "I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved." John 10:9.

"I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch . . . withered . . . and burned." John 15:5, 6.

That's how serious and how important it is. That is how much love there is. It's got to be Christ. Christ is the answer.

Paul said, "Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God; Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began." II Timothy 1:8, 9.

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God." Ephesians 2:8. Think about that. He called us with a holy calling; and by His grace, the undeserved gift of God, He has given us eternal life.

The Lord didn't want us to go through life thinking about what is ahead and preparing for our retirement, and then die and have nothing left. Why did He give His Son? Because He has instilled in us a never-dying soul!

We have rules and regulations, haven't we, in whatever business we are in? We need those to keep order. We need laws in our land to keep order. It is for our own good; it is for the benefit of all. When someone is disobedient, he needs to be corrected, chastised, disciplined and warned. Otherwise there is no substance and no order. There is only confusion.

Have you ever been in a situation where you had to discipline or correct? Sometimes it is hard to do because we feel for those who receive it. We see their weaknesses and yet, if they are disobeying, it must be done.

It is the same with God. God said that His Word is faithful. He cannot

change it. That is why Jesus wept when He cried out to a disobedient people, "How often would I have gathered thy children together as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings (I would protect you), and ye would not!" Matthew 23:37.

Jesus said, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest (for your soul) . . . For my yolk is easy, and my burden is light." Matthew 11:28, 30. Just "come".

The Lord gave us examples of those who followed Him unto the resurrection of life, and of those who were rebellious unto the resurrection of damnation.

We are reminded of the wonderful love of Jesus Christ and of God the Father in heaven. We can only acquire Him as our Father and speak to Him by the spirit of adoption (whereby we cry, Father) through faith in His Son, Jesus Christ. We must cast aside our old self, repenting with a Godly sorrow, and walk in newness of life.

"For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation . . ." the Apostle Paul said. II Corinthians 7:10. That's the only way to salvation.

We realize that we are as grasshoppers before God. He is as a Potter making a vessel. He forms us, He shapes us, and He can do with us what He wills. The very hairs of our head are numbered, and He can put an end to our life whenever He sees fit. That's the kind of God with whom we deal.

Do you remember what Jesus told us? He said, "Fear not, . . . it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." Luke 12:32. Those of us who have made the beginning are still on the way. None of us can enter into heaven without Him; we need Him every day of our lives, don't we?

We are often perplexed by the afflictions and the sufferings that go along with human flesh, by human nature, and by life itself. But we can say, as the Apostle Paul said, "I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I've committed unto him against that day." II Timothy 1:12.

May we be stirred up again this morning, loved ones. May we be reminded that there is a day coming when, looking to Him, we can enter into heaven and enjoy the realm of eternal life with our Lord and Savior.

(As edited by the Silver Lining Staff)

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SERMON BY BRO. BYRON J. STOLLER OF GRIDLEY, IL

Text: II Timothy 1

Paul began his letter with gratitude for the blessing of God and for the faith of Timothy. Then he went on to tell Timothy to endure and to keep the precious faith that was delivered into his heart. Paul told him to hold fast to the precious truth of the gospel. The advice that he gave Timothy applies to us also. That's the magnitude and the power of God.

There are hundreds of people here today in this congregation, and not two of you look alike. There are billions of people in the world and no two people are exactly alike. Yet, we can all take the Word of God and apply it to our hearts and lives. It is the living Word. It is the Word of God that we live by, that we will die by and that we will be judged by.

God is merciful and compassionate. He sent His Son into the world, and the Lord said, "This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent." John 6:29.

It is the will of God that no one who believes upon the Lord Jesus will be eternally lost. It is the will of God to "have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth." I Timothy 2:4.

This letter to Timothy was written by the Apostle Paul who said that he was, "an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God . . ." II Timothy 1:1.

Probably we all know of the calling that the Apostle Paul had from God. It was a very forceful calling. It was most unusual. The Lord spoke to him personally, talked to him and struck him down. Paul responded to that calling. He was a man who had been serving sin and doting the work of the devil, but he was under a cloak. A thought of righteousness was in his heart, and yet he was wrong. The Lord called him, had mercy upon him and drew him.

The Apostle Paul then went forth and was obedient to the Lord. I think

all of us can take a lesson from that. When we are called, when we are told what we need to do, we should not be disobedient to the call.

God specifically points out in the Word that it is His will that all men should be saved. Jesus said, "Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of Man (Jesus), and drink his blood, ye have no life in you." John 6:53.

"Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." John 3:3. That's the message of the gospel of Jesus Christ!

It is not that we wish to threaten or try to force anyone, but God in His love has provided only one way. He said that the way is narrow; He said that it is straight. Loved ones, that means just what it says.

It is a straight and restrictive way. How? In the fact that we have to do what the Father in heaven tells us to do. We have to aspire unto holiness . . . "without which no man shall see the Lord." Hebrews 12:14. That's the Word of God.

Salvation is through Jesus Christ, and that was the calling of the Apostle Paul. That was the word that he preached to all who would listen to him. He said he counted everything that he had before that as dung. Nothing could compare with the word that he needed to preach to the people who were lost in sin, to make them realize their condition and to prepare their souls for eternity.

I was talking with a sister who had in turn been talking with a young man of high school age. He said that he is not going to do anything until he feels the calling of God. He doesn't feel as though he has been called; and until he feels that he has been called, he is not going to do anything about his soul's salvation.

Maybe we have all gone through that

at one time or another, perhaps thinking, "If God is there, why can't He do something to call me and shake me into what I should do, if I need to do something?"

Loved ones, today is the day of salvation. The Lord is calling through His Word. If we have not availed ourselves of what the Lord wants us to do, if we have not repented and been born again, if we have not believed upon and confessed His name, then we are not free before Him, according to the Word of God.

We praise God for the convicting spirit that can go into a heart when he asks the question, "Am I saved?". There is nothing more precious, I believe, than when we ask ourselves that question, "Am I saved? What have I done with Jesus Christ, and Him crucified?"

Many heard the Word, pointed a deaf ear, and walked away in the Apostle Paul's time. There probably will be many today who will hear the Word of God, and walk away with a deaf ear. But we cannot help that. The Word must be preached. The gospel must be preached. Self justification can come into a heart, but that won't stand before an Almighty God.

We must all stand before the judgment seat of Christ and give an account of how we have lived. The Books will be opened. We will not be able to utter one word of self defense. May we be covered by the blood of Jesus Christ.

Paul wrote, "To Timothy, my dearly beloved son: Grace, mercy, and peace, from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. I thank God, whom I serve from my forefathers with pure conscience, that without ceasing I have remembrance of thee in my prayers night and day." II Timothy 1:2, 3.

Let's never underestimate the power of prayer. When we have a need for

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