



"O that there were such a heart in them, that they would fear me, and keep all my commandments always, that it might be well with them, and with their children forever!"  
Deuteronomy 5:29

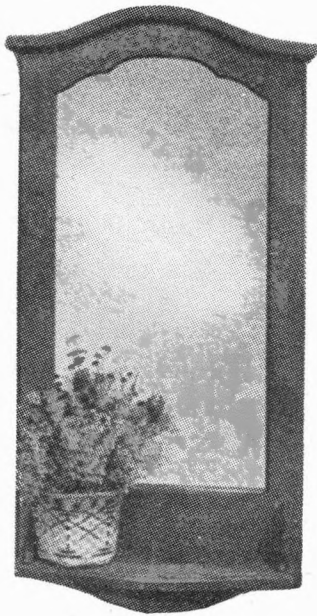
"Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city."  
Revelation 22:14

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## A GLANCE INTO THE MIRROR . . . The Difference Between Hearing & Doing!



*"For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was."*  
James 1:23, 24

Throughout His Word, God has warned men of their tendency to be satisfied with knowing or hearing the truth and approaching with complacency the real issue of "doing" by obedience.

*"And it shall be, when the Lord thy God shall have brought thee into the land which He sware unto thee . . . to give thee great and goodly cities, which thou buildedst not, and houses full of all good things, which thou filledst not, . . . when thou shalt have eaten and be full; Then beware lest thou forget the Lord which brought thee forth . . ."*  
Deuteronomy 6:10-12

*"And they come unto thee as the people cometh, and they sit before thee as my people, and they hear thy words, but they will not do them: for with their mouth they shew much love, but their heart goeth after their covetousness."*  
Ezekiel 33:31

*"Not everyone that saith unto me Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven."*  
Matthew 7:21

May the word of God be not only a "mirror" that we linger before, but a "lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path." May we pray with Psalm 119:18, "Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law". Then may we, "with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord" (II Corinthians 3:18) "commit ourselves to doing," satisfied with nothing less than absolute obedience to God.

*"Thus did Noah; according to all that God commanded him, so did he."*  
Genesis 6:22

"There is no substitute for obedience, not even sacrifice (I Samuel 15:22, Hosea 6:6). Let us recognize with the Apostle Paul that, ". . . what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ . . . I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." Philipians 3:7, 14.

## MEXICO CITY RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT

**Bro. Richard Beery**  
Project Coordinator

Reconstruction of the apartments is moving along nicely and may God bless the 50 brothers, sisters and friends that have given of their time and resources to go to Mexico City and help with the rebuilding. So many have expressed the blessing they have received as a result of being there and they are thankful to God for the blessings at home. The people of the Morales-Tepito area, especially the children that are orphaned, with their pleading eyes, and widowed mothers, have a way of getting to your heart-strings, and cause tears in the eyes of our work teams.

Construction is well underway on Pintora 53, one of the buildings that our church is financing, that will be 3 stories high and provide living accommodations for 12 families. At the other site, Peluguras 66, all of the debris have been cleaned and hauled away and hopefully we will be able to start shortly.

The Morales-Tepito area of Mexico City was poor before the quake, and unfortunately since then many are devastated. The crying and pleading of the people for help to restore their buildings is oftentimes hard to walk away from. The government, many times, gives them a short time to move out, but yet provides no place for them to go except in make-shift shelters.

May the Lord bless all that have given of themselves and may many more brothers and friends answer the call to help a thankful and needy people.

We're thankful that Bro. Tim Reinhard (Latty, OH) has taken advantage of the opportunity to serve as site coor-

dinator for an extended period of time and trust that the Lord will bless him for his efforts.

**John Klotzle**  
Works Project

The Mexico City Rebuilding Work Project got under way the latter part of May with the first Work Projects Volunteers, Bros. Brian and Paul Fehr (Roanoke, IN) and Luis Gomez (Washington, IL) comprising the vanguard. Since that time, over 70 volunteers, representing 17 churches, have participated. This has been an opportunity primarily for men, brothers and friends alike, since the work involves construction and heavy physical labor. However, even willing volunteers in their ninetys (Bros. Sam Bachtold and Nathan Kellenberger) have participated, doing their part for the Lord.

At the onset, the volunteers helped at various sites in the Tepito area until the first of the two sites assigned to the Apostolic Christian Church (53 Pintora and 66 Peluguras) was ready for construction. The slab has been poured and cement block work begun at the first of these.

Lord willing, these Work Projects will last well into the first part of 1987 at least. There will be an ongoing need for volunteers throughout its tenure. As time passes, the work assignments are being refined and better coordinated. Please search your hearts and schedules to see if this might not be a calling from Above to help in bringing much needed love and shelter to the earthquake victims in Mexico City. If you are so moved to volunteer for at least a week or more, please contact your local World Relief Treasurer Representative and/or Bro. Richard Beery (Phoenix, AZ) at 602-266-1517.

## 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 bach-

elor'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

## REPORT ON EASTERN EUROPE

Andy Hunyady

"So I returned, and considered all the oppressions that are done under the sun: and behold the tears of such as were oppressed, and they had no comforter; and on the side of their oppressors there was power; but they had no comforter."

Ecclesiastes 4:1

Greetings Dearly Beloved:

How fortunate and blessed people we are when we consider the welfare of those who are oppressed daily and denied the exercise of their God-given gifts of liberty and justice. We, in our good land, often take these gifts for granted. Because you care and show your concerns by your deeds of love and compassion, many oppressed brethren and friends abroad find great comfort and encouragement, and see and feel the love and goodness of God in you!

### THE SILVER LINING

Grabill, Indiana 46741  
USPS 496780

#### EDITORIAL STAFF:

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

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

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IN MEMORY — EDITORS:  
HENRY SOUDER  
EDWARD SOUDER

We are pleased to learn that the food parcels packaged and shipped from our Bluffton Distribution Center are reaching our beneficiaries in good condition. In addition to letters from a number of families in Romania, we received an official message via the U.S. State Department to verify the facts. As reported in our previous news report, Secretary of State George Shultz has personally interceded to Romanian president, N. Ceausescu, in behalf of the Nazarenes in that country during his visit in December, 1985. In addition, our Ambassador to Bucharest, Roger Kirk, is keeping close contact by sending two Embassy Counselors to interview Nazarene elders and members in their homes in several cities.

Here are some brief excerpts from their report as transmitted from Bucharest to the State Department in Washington, and relayed to us:

#### Contact With Romanian Nazarenes . . .

" . . . using mailing list, on June 3, in the city of T . . . Emb. Off. spent 8 hours contacting several Nazarenes . . . all said their food packages were arriving regularly, without difficulty . . . no one indicated any difficulties regarding customs formalities or loss of items from parcels. There are no payments required of recipients such as handling fees or other."

"We also spoke with Nazarene leader C . . . B . . . in the city of T . . . who is not a parcel recipient and others who are not on the list. Though very guard-

ed, B . . . (and others we spoke with) generally indicated Nazarenes in T . . . are able to practice their religion quietly without current harrassment. The building owned by the congregation and used as a place of worship was confiscated by the government in 1982 and demolished in the course of urban renewal. At that time, the congregation was also fined for its "illegal" religious activities. Since then, B . . . and others confirmed they have generally been able to meet Sundays for prayer in the homes of various members of the congregation without police interference. They hope this situation will continue as long as they are not overly visible."

On June 9 the same embassy officers visited another area where a large number of Nazarene believers live.

"E. O. were successful in contacting Romanian Nazarene leader A. V. . . . June 9. In a one-and-a-half hour conversation, he confirmed that the packages are coming through to Romanian Nazarenes generally without impediment. As in T . . ., he said, the congregation in A . . . currently is able to hold prayer meetings without interference from the authorities. He made clear, however, his view that this resulted from keeping a low profile."

He indicated difficulty in communicating with others of the Nazarene faith outside of Romania, and expressed warm gratitude for offers to assist in this in the future. He gave P. C. more than 50 new names of deserving church members whom he hoped could be added to the list of those receiving food packages. He also had suggestions to improve "mechanism" for receiving food packages . . . There was also some comment on the possibility of changing the contents list, to eliminate some items less appropriate or desirable, in favor of others more needed. This topic was raised only briefly and seemed more in nature of "fine-tuning" the system than a significant need for change. We would appreciate any comment the U. S. donors might have on this and, if it seems useful and possible to the donors, would discuss with V . . . what changes in contents Romanian recipients would like to see made."

(More on this in the next issue)

## BIBLE DISTRIBUTION

Greetings in love and esteem in our dear Saviour's name.

The Lord has surely blessed the labors of our brethren in giving and distributing the Bible and New Testaments this past year, with 18,247 Bibles being shipped to our churches. Many opportunities were found to give and share God's Word. Bibles were given to individuals, placed in prisons, reformatories, rescue missions, the Salvation Army, in motels, doctor and optometrist offices, sent with food and clothing shipments to the needy, sent with mission teams to India, Haiti, Mexico and Central America. Bible tapes and braille Bibles were provided for the blind and for those with poor eyesight. Brethren in several church areas have been able to work together to expand the outreach in giving the Bible.

With many revisions of the Bible being offered to the people today, we have grave concern about the additions, deletions, changes and paraphrase that has changed the thought and meaning of the Word. We remain committed to giving the King James Version and will be providing Bibles, tapes and Testaments of the King James Version.

Listed below is a summary of the Bible distribution on the last three years.

### 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 — Fourth Year

	MONTH	TO DATE
August 1986 —	1729	1729

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.

Listings of Bibles, testaments, tapes and braille Bibles at the Leo, IN, Bible Distribution Center will be sent to each congregation.

We wish to express our thanks for the generous contributions to the Bible Fund, enabling the work to continue and to grow.

David Bertsch,  
 For the Mission Committee

In addition to the State Department's involvement in the welfare of the Nazarenes in Eastern Europe, Congressman Robert H. Michel (Peoria, IL), Republican Leader in the

House of Representatives, has played a significant role since 1974. His family ties with the Apostolic Christian faith dates back to the early days of Bro. Samuel H. Froehlich in Switzerland. We are deeply indebted to him for his untiring efforts in this noble cause.

During our visit last year, we learned that in Yugoslavia there were a number of brethren in prison for refusal to bear arms. One was serving a third and two or three were serving their second terms. Upon our return, we contacted the offices of Congressman Michel and he in turn made contact with the State Department. Within a couple of months, the brethren serving second and third terms were released and sent home to their families.

Very recently we learned from returning visitors to Yugoslavia, that two young brothers were released from prison in June after completing their military duty and upon arrival at the train station near their home, they were immediately picked up by the authorities and returned to prison for their second term. This greatly saddened the entire church community in Yugoslavia and elsewhere.

Beloved, let us continue our pleadings before the throne of grace for these oppressed brethren; perhaps God will hear our united, fervent prayers and will soften the heart of these modern day Pharaohs, to "let His people go".

#### MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS

Services are being started again in St. Louis the first and third Sundays of each month. They will again be held at the Ben Franklin Motel at 10:30 a.m. We cordially invite you to worship with us.

If you have friends or loved ones here, we encourage you to tell them of our services. We will help you in making them feel welcome in assembling with us.

We feel that there is opportunity for growth of the Apostolic Christian Church in our area, and would encourage anyone needing to relocate to prayerfully consider St. Louis. We will be glad to assist you in finding available opportunities in the area.

We have felt and are thankful for the love and support through both words and prayers in this endeavor. Please continue to pray for us.

Bro. Dan and Sis. Becky Gudeman  
14359 Lake Tahoe

Chesterfield, MO 63017  
(314) 275-2227

Bro. Loren and Sis. Betsy Schrenk  
12121 Royal Valley Drive  
Creve Coeur, MO 63141  
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Counseling Elder Bro. Roy Grimm  
(217) 223-5207

#### APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME

Uriel Gehring

There is a tinge of fall in the air in the Hoosier out-of-doors — the nights are nice and cool, affording good sleeping time, and the intense heat of the day is being replaced with a bit of coolness. How exciting are the seasonal changes in the great midwest, the garden of the nation. The weather is always a topic for conversation, and how suddenly one's thoughts change as the seasons change. "School talk" is in the air, and the children are expressing mixed emotions about school starting and getting "back to the books", but a change in their daily routine is always welcome.

Summer has come and gone faster than one likes to think, and the harvest season is upon us. How beautiful it is and how great is our provider, God Almighty, Who doeth all things well. We do a little planting, weeding and watering, but God gives the increase, and to Him goeth all the glory and praise. Our garden has produced well and we have truly enjoyed "the fruits of the earth". Recently some apricots and fresh sweet corn were donated and were frozen for winter usage, as were some green beans, beets and tomatoes from our own garden. The children help out with the preparation process, as do some volunteers. These get-togethers always make for a good time of fellowship — kind of like the good old days when families got together to accomplish what could have been a very tedious task if undertaken alone — glimpses of yesteryear.

Among the things accomplished by our children this summer have been a successful 4-H project program, work in the job training program, learning new things in the tutoring program, working in the garden and doing lawn work, getting to know each other better and growing physically, socially, emotionally and spiritually — these the results of many prayers from our brethren

who are concerned for our special children.

Ray W., who has lived with us for about eight months, has returned home to live with his parents. We have enjoyed having Ray with us and wish him every success as he proceeds into adulthood.

Both houses enjoyed a canoeing trip on a recent Saturday on the Tippecanoe River. They relished the beauty of mother nature from the midst of a stream. The adults who accompanied them also enjoyed the variation from their daily routine.

We have four new girls from the same family as the most recent addition to our family. They are Marie H. (age 16) in the East House, and Kara H. (age 12), Andrea H. (age 11) and Beth H. (age 9) in the West House. We are delighted to have them with us and look forward to many happy days together.

We have been blessed with volunteers for our summer program, the most recent being Sis. Marcie Metz (Bloomington, IL), doing tutoring and computer work; Bro. David Moser (Bluffton), doing tutoring and computer work; Sis. Denise Duckworth (Bradford, IL), helping with 4-H projects; Bro. Curtis Leman (Francesville), doing maintenance and crafts; Bro. Marti Neihsouser (Francesville), doing maintenance and crafts; Sis. Mary Beth Klotzle (Altadena, CA), doing tutoring and helping in the Independent Living Program; Bro. Larry Gramm (Gridley, IL), helping with maintenance and recreation; Bro. Bob Zimmerman (Roanoke, IL), helping with maintenance, recreation and crafts; and Lynette Stoller (Latty, OH), tutoring and helping in the Independent Living Program. Nancy Parciak from the Rockville, CT, area gave us five weeks of her time and talent in the classroom, in the Independent Living Program, in recreation and in nearly every other aspect of the summer program. Bro. Nathan Gerber (Bluffton) spent the entire summer directing the maintenance program and assisting in recreation. Thank you to all the volunteers. May He who loveth a cheerful giver be your reward for your contribution to our children's welfare and the delight of the staff.

Considering our animal populace, we now have three goats, four steers, nine pigs, four rabbits, two dogs, a few cats, and "Dude", the horse. The pres-

ence of these animals lending a "rural" atmosphere to the Children's Home complex teaches the children the responsibilities of caring for animals and gives them a real life introduction to life "down on the farm".

The most recent church presentations about the Home were at Morris, MN; Minneapolis, MN and Elgin, IA. Any church wanting a presentation should contact the Home.

Our Annual Auction and Sale, held Saturday, August 16, was greeted by a lovely day and an enthusiastic crowd. Everything went well. The food was delicious, especially the pork sandwiches, the fresh homemade pies, the muskmelons, and really everything edible for that matter. The children and staff enjoyed the privilege of singing a hymn to the Sale attenders under the big tent. The fellowship was rich in Christian love and warmth, and hearts were moved to purchase sale items, the revenue going for the support of the Children's Home and especially for a new resident home to be built in 1987. The gross proceeds from the Sale were over \$59,200 which exceeds all previous sales. It is simply amazing to view the preparatory work prior to the Sale day and the smooth functioning of the entire endeavor on Sale day. What with volunteers performing with utmost dexterity and effectiveness, it was a banner day. The auctioneers, with their diversified talents in auctioning, lent a pleasant variation in the bidding section. Thanks to all volunteers from far and near who lent of themselves in the areas of site preparation, making and preparing sale items (food, quilts, crafts, etc.), serving of food, cashiering, cleaning up after the Sale, and helping in every aspect of the Sale's success. A special thank you to our local people who served meals at the church and provided lodging for the visitors. May the Great Rewarder reward you as only He can. Praise be to His name!

#### **APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED**

The calendar says it's August already, which means summer is drawing to a close for 1986. Seems like only a few short weeks ago that a mother duck was hatching a nest of eggs in our court yard. Now those ducklings are grown and will soon be preparing for a trip south. The seasons pass so swiftly. It reminds us life truly is like a vapour

that appeareth for a little while, and then vanisheth away.

Our activity director, Sis. Lynn Yordy, planned some really fun events for the residents for the month of August; shopping trips, Sunshine Club, Ice Cream Social; and a ride down the Illinois River on the Julia Belle Swain, which is a steam driven paddle boat. Also, 50 residents were invited to the Karl Glueck farm for a picnic. (Their daughter, Karla, is a kitchen aide.) Phil Fehr's parents, Wade and Marge Fehr (Peoria), extended an invitation to 46 residents for a swim party and lots of good food afterward. The highlight of the month will be our overnight camping trip to Little Galilee. Food, bedrolls and recreation equipment are loaded on the buses along with the residents and away we go. It takes about an hour to reach our destination before the fun begins. We all return home dirty and tired, but happy!

Karen Blunier (Henry and Wilma Blunier, Eureka) will join the 101 other lambs in our fold here August 26. Karen spent several weeks as a vacation here for the past two years, so we feel we are old friends already. As parents of a handicapped person, we understand the facts and feelings that both the resident and their parents encounter in moving to the Home.

A special thank you is extended to the Roanoke and Congerville churches for providing our Friday night services.

We are thankful some of you spent precious time to stop and visit the Home on your way to the church conference at Peoria. Without your prayers and support, we could not provide this happy Christian environment for the residents. Our prayer is that you will continue a Christ-like attitude as you share the burden of the handicapped.

#### **ALABAMA, ATHENS Marilyn Walder**

"Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God."

Philippians 4:6

We have heard many teachings on prayer during our adult Sunday school. During our discussion it was asked if all prayers are answered. We decided they are, according to our needs and to

what God sees as best for us. Sometimes He may answer differently than what we think is best but His is the perfect plan. We should accept the answer with thanksgiving that He cares enough to show us His divine will. We should ask in faith and then leave it in God's hands.

We have had visitors from Goodfield, Peoria, Cissna Park, Washington, Tremont, Princeville, Forrest and Fairbury, IL, Rockville, CT and Atlanta, GA. It is such a joy to fellowship with others and to make friendships that will last forever.

We have had many volunteers in the pre-school throughout the summer. Sisters Jean Meister, Amy Wieland, Kathy Huthman, Julie Herman (Peoria, IL), Renee Steffen (Alto, MI), Audrey Martin (Princeville, IL), Joyce Kaiser (Tremont, IL), Deb Blunier (Eureka, IL), Julie Bauer (Cissna Park, IL) and Bro. Dave Bauer (Cissna Park, IL) have all given of their time and talent to help at the preschool. We appreciate the love they have shown to the children. May God richly bless them all.

Our Sunday school children enjoyed a Saturday playing games at the park followed by a meal at the Dairy Queen. We sang together at the fellowship hall and then the children stayed overnight. The children were well behaved and everyone had a good time.

We are sorry to hear that Robert and Carol Schrenk and their daughter, Maggie, will be leaving our congregation to move to Denver, CO. May God bless them as they adjust to new surroundings. We will miss them very much.

#### **ARIZONA, PHOENIX Ron and Ev Hoerr**

"Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me."

Psalms 51:10

Marie Teubel has found the path to this "right spirit" and is very happy to start her closer walk with the Lord.

On August 10, a reception was held for Bro. Dennis and Sis. Sheri Frank. They were married in Morton, IL, in July.

Ruth 2:16, "Whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest; I will lodge." And thus the Lord has brought together two hearts, Sis. Cheri Zollinger and Bro. John Klotzle. Their parents are Bro. Ed and Sis. Shirley Zollinger

and Bro. Erwin and Sis. Jane Klotzle (Rittman, OH).

May the Lord guide our elders as they gather for the conference and give them wisdom to make their decisions.

How thankful we are Floren Klopfenstein is able to worship with us again. We also welcome back Sis. Martha DeMille who has been ill. Ella Harmon will be missed while recuperating from injuries suffered in a car accident. We pray the Lord will touch her and also Caroline Collins with His healing hand so they can be up and about.

Little Nicole Richardson (granddaughter of Sis. Lucille) is very happy because Sunday school starts August 17. Quite a few others are also glad.

HOT and humid describes our weather (105° - 115°), yet other sections of the United States are really suffering, another prediction of the Bible. Is the Lord giving His people more chances to get their house in order? (II Chronicles 29:35)

#### ARIZONA, TUCSON

##### Lisa Knapp — Sandy Bauer

The Tucson congregation was recently privileged to witness the testimony and baptism of Dean Sinn. Our prayers are with Bro. Dean as he starts his new life as one of God's children. Our Elder Bro. Richard Schupbach was with us for the weekend and we thank him for his efforts. The blessings were certainly abundant for all of us who witnessed Dean's testimony and baptism.

Bro. Chris and Sis. Patty Kummer have moved back to Peoria, IL, with their three children. Although they were with us only a short time, we had grown accustomed to having their family assemble with us. We will miss their fellowship but we hope they will find the Lord's blessing in their life in Peoria.

#### CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA

##### Brenda Stoller

We truly rejoice with Sis. Kathy Klotzle (Bro. John and Sis. Lois) and Bro. Frank Sauder (Elder Bro. Don and Wilma, Roanoke, IL) whose engagement was announced August 3. They have been serving in the mission field in Japan. They plan to marry in the Altadena church, and then return to Japan. May God richly bless them as they magnify His name together.

We were grateful that visiting minis-

ter Bro. John Isch (Indianapolis, IN) could share God's Word with us. May God bless him for proclaiming His truths to us.

#### CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

"The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree; he shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

"Those that be planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God."

Psalm 92:12, 13

We truly feel our gathering in San Diego is flourishing!! Not long ago there were only a few members traveling to Altadena and Maywood for Sunday worship. As time went by, more brothers, sisters and friends came to support us in establishing a church, and with the help of the Altadena elder, and ministers, and visiting ministers, we had started holding services twice a month. We are so thankful to God for the love and support we have received and for the Christian ties and friendships we have made.

In our small congregation God has called two of our brothers into His ministry, Bro. Peter Petrovic and Bro. Doug Wagenbach. This is an answer to many prayers, that the ministry would be provided here in San Diego. We pray that the Spirit would lead them.

Bro. Victor Jevremov, Elmer Getz and Troy Koehl were voted as church trustees, and Bro. Scott Hoerr as Sunday school superintendent.

We welcome Doug (Harley and Marlene Bowers) and Lisa Van't Hof (Bill and Ellie Knobloch) to our congregation. They just moved to California and are from Lester, IA. Doug is stationed in the Marine Corps. Their new address is:

134 Ave. Pelayo  
Apt. B  
San Clemente, CA 92672  
(714) 498-6456

Love of all gifts is the greatest . . .

We rejoice in the engagement of Sis. Sherise Strahm to Bro. Alex Varga. Alex recently moved from Detroit, MI, to Sunny California. Also, believing it is God's will, Sis. Brenda Jevremov (Victor and Anna Jevremov) was announced to Bro. Troy Koehl (Sis. Idalou and Bro. Chris, Washington, IL). We are happy for these four and

wish them God's blessings as they make their homes in San Diego.

We appreciate the efforts of the visiting ministers that came to support us in speaking God's Word this past month. They are Elder Bro. Carl Kinsinger and Bro. John Klotzle.

We are thankful to be holding services at the Meadowbrook Middle School every Sunday. We extend a hearty welcome to all who are coming our way!! For any information call Bro. Peter Petrovic at (619) 789-1504, or Bro. Elmer Getz at (619) 484-2702.

#### COLORADO, DENVER

##### Mike Martin — Marlene Leman

"I make a decree, That in every dominion of my kingdom men tremble and fear before the God of Daniel: for he is the living God, and stedfast forever, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed, and his dominion shall be even unto the end. He delivereth and rescueth, and he worketh signs and wonders in heaven and earth, who hath delivered Daniel from the power of the lions." Daniel 6:26, 27. We thank God that Greg McLaughlin has been spared from that lion who goes to and fro, seeking whom he may devour. We welcome him as a brother to Jesus Christ, our crucified and risen Lord, and may he be found willing to bear the stripes and reproach of our Saviour.

A singing was held at the Craig Rehabilitation Hospital for our dear friend, Jodi Towle, who is repenting. Jodi is from the Bluffton North church and her parents are Bro. Walter and Sis. Lillian Bertsch. She will be here for several weeks as she is recovering from an auto accident.

Our visiting ministers this month were: Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen (Elgin, IL), Bro. Marvin Schmidgall (Eureka, IL) and Bro. Glen Dill (Tremont, IL). May God bless them for their labors of love.

God has blessed Bro. Eric and Sis. Marcel Huber with a sweet little daughter. Little Tara Elizabeth was born August 14. Grandparents are Bro. Eli and Sis. Lois Meyer and Bro. Sam and Sis. Jeannette Huber (all of Sabetha, KS). May God grant them grace and continued blessing as they seek to guide her in this life.

"I have long time holden my peace; I have been still, and refrained myself: now will I cry like a travailling woman: I will destroy and devour at once. I will

make waste mountains and hills, and dry up all their herbs; and I will make the rivers islands, and I will dry up the pools."

Isaiah 42:14, 15

We live in a time that God refrains Himself. It won't be long until His fury breaks forth. He shall deal righteously and with judgment.

-----  
**CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE**  
**Michelle Virkler**

"Lead me Lord as Thou best knowest  
 How before Thee I should live  
 If but Thou my footstep guidest  
 Joy and blessings I receive."

Zion's Harp #93

Bro. Bruce Luginbuhl (Lillian) has trusted in God to choose him a help-mate, Sis. Karen Bahler (Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Aline). We trust that God will be near them and provide peace and joy in their lives together.

"Cheer up, then, and strive, ye ransomed  
 In this toilsome, trying time."

Zion's Harp #51

May God comfort those dear ones who have been in the hospital or in the care of a physician this month (August): Sis. Madeline Zahner, Sis. Ida Welti, Sis. Lydia Lanz, and Sis. Bertha Lanz. Helen Lanz has now been moved to the Vernon Manor Nursing facilities. We rejoice that Sis. Pauline Luginbuhl (Bro. Robert) is able to assemble with us once again. May God continue to watch over these precious loved ones.

We were blessed to have in our midst the following ministers this month: Bro. Bill Gerst (Alto, MI), Bro. Edward Lanz (Oakville, IA) and Bro. Roy Luginbuhl (Ft. Lauderdale, FL).

Jon and Stephanie (Bucher) Beyer, who were recently married, are now settled in Hawaii. Their address is:

98-351 Koauka Loop, Apt. C-130  
 Aiea, HI 96701

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**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,**  
**WASHINGTON**  
**Ed Aeschleman**

We thank God that Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman was willing and able to spend Sunday, August 10, in Washington, D. C., and bring the Word of God to the brethren and friends there. As Bro. Wendell put it, the only problem was

that the meeting room was too small to comfortably accommodate the 27 souls that attended. May the Word of God reach throughout that great city and call many sinners to repentance.

Services are scheduled in Washington 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.

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**FLORIDA, FT. LAUDERDALE**  
**Terri K. Huber**

We have enjoyed the fellowship provided by the Lord as Bro. Dave and Sis. Debbie Huber resided in Ft. Lauderdale over the summer. In August, they returned to their home congregation in Morton, IL. We know they were received with love by those who missed them in their absence. We also said "farewell" to Greg Umland when he moved home to Gridley, IL.

We were recently reminded when we had our elections that the church is a body made up of many members having different gifts, each essential to the body as a whole. Our new Sunday school teachers are Bro. Ron Jones, who will teach the older children, and Sis. Kathy Sutter, kindergarten substitute. Bro. Bill Kuntz is our new Sunday school superintendent. Bro. Rodney Gress will assume the duties of a trustee, and Bro. Dale Ringger will serve as an usher. Bros. Jeff Graf and Rodney Gress will share responsibility for the sound system, and Sis. Judy Sauder will undertake kitchen duties.

"For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another. Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us . . ."

Romans 12:4, 5, 6

May we all experience the blessing of using our talents to serve the Lord.

Sis. Liz Jones was hospitalized briefly during July. We are thankful that she is well and worshipping with us once again.

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 Give Your Address Change  
 To Your Reporter

**FLORIDA, NORTH FORT MYERS**  
**Kay Eisenmann**

Our visitors this past month included Bro. Glenn and Sis. Sandy Price and family. Bro. Glenn ministered on the joy of serving the Lord. We should keep in mind that Jesus is our best friend. We can tell Him all and if we are silent and learn to listen to God, we will be blessed. By praying for others we forget self.

Bro. Vic Beer went to Atlanta, GA, this past month to minister there and attend the Beer reunion. They had a blessed time, but due to a back injury, Sis. Dotty was unable to attend. She is going to have to wear a back brace for about 12 weeks, so keep her in your prayers.

We are happy to have another family to add to our small group. Bro. Ivan and Sis. Maxine Stoller and their two children are making Fort Myers their home. We welcome them and are thankful for answered prayer. We know that moving is not always easy, but when blessed by God it will go well! The Sunday school is having their picnic August 17. We are assured all will go well. It is always a blessing to be with God's children!

Our grandson, Dathan, had his second "chemo" treatment and had to be rehospitalized for dehydration with some fever. Dathan is home again and starting to pick up, for which we are thankful. Please keep him in your prayers!

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**FLORIDA, SARASOTA**  
**Vera Martin**

There have been many peaceful paintings in our evening sunsets this summer and with our daily rains are constant reminders of His promise made with the rainbows which we witness almost daily throughout the summer. We are thankful for the promises of the Holy Spirit which have been brought to us through our ministers and our visiting ministers in the past month. We thank our Elder Bro. Ben Maibach for spending time with us and also the other visiting ministers, Bro. Mark Bahr (Detroit, MI), Bro. Wayne Banwart (Champaign, IL) and Bro. Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL).

We pray for a special blessing on those who are ill and also for those who care for them with such special tender love and patient care. Among the sick and injured is our friend, Sue Alexander (Bro. Steve), who will be needing

several months of rehabilitation after an injury and surgery to her knee. Bro. Jeff Streitmatter, Jr. is scheduled for surgery to his back after many weeks of pain. We pray for relief to all those in pain. We also need to remember Dathan Eisenmann during his extensive treatments which he endures so well and bravely. Bro. Frank Krszogacin is currently a resident in a local nursing home since his discharge from the hospital. We are looking forward to having Bro. John and Sis. Lucille Heiniger back with us at the end of the month if all goes as planned. May we help to fill their painful, long hours with our love, prayers and visits when possible.

May God be a comfort to our friend, Marilyn (Gordon) Bryant, since the passing away of her father, Bro. Otto Stettner (Elgin, IL). We all have wonderful memories of Bro. Otto as he spent many winters living here with Marilyn and Gordon. We are reminded in Job 28: 23, "God understandeth the way . . .".

A day of fellowship to end our summer was spent with the children, parents, teachers and many others along the Alafia River August 9. The children are such an inspiration to all. We enjoy their willingness and happiness to share their time with us.

Song of Solomon 2:4 . . . " . . . and his banner over me was love." August 17 the announcement of engagement for marriage was made known of our Bro. Bill Roscher (Sis. Edna and the late Lester Roscher) to Sis. Beth Trueb (Bro. Ronald and Sis. Adele Trueb, Rockville, CT). We are looking forward to having Sis. Beth as a part of our church family.

My peace I give unto you . . . as he gave unto our friend Colleen Reardon, who has made known to us God's peace in her heart and is anticipating baptism soon.

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**ILLINOIS,  
BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL**

**Donna Hodel — Nancy Kaufmann**

Our Bloomington congregation bid farewell to two families that will relocate to other communities. Bro. Tom and Sis. Jean O'shea, Casey, Aaron and Gretchen will move to the Chicago, IL, area. Bro. Ivan and Sis. Maxine Stoller and their two sons, Chip and Brett, are moving to the Ft. Myers, FL, area. We wish them God's blessings as they settle in their new homes.

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

Hymns of Zion #156, vs. 4

✓ We congratulate Steve and Shelley Hari on their new son, Troy Griffen, born July 31. His big brother, Tyler, welcomed him home. Grandparents are Bro. Everett and Sis. Beverly Hari and Bob and Donna McCall.

On August 10 Bro. Paul Kieser and Sis. Karen Hangartner were united in marriage. We rejoice with them and wish them God's blessings as they walk this life together. Parents of the new couple are Louis and Jean Kieser (Okeechobee, FL) and Bro. Eugene and Sis. Evelyn Hangartner (Roanoke, IL).

This union of our hearts shall stand  
through faith in Jesus  
We walk the path of life, while cheer  
and trust increases.  
Where God in truth abides, where two  
join hand and heart  
We find a threefold cord, not lightly  
rent apart.

Zion's Harp #79, vs. 3

We appreciate God's holy Word brought forth by our Elder Bro. Dan Koch (Tremont, IL), Bro. Jim Leman (Roanoke, IL) and Bro. Marvin Schmiggall (Eureka, IL). We thank them for their willingness to minister to us.

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**ILLINOIS, BRADFORD**  
**Marilyn Tanner**

Ring the bells of heaven! there is joy  
today,  
For a soul, returning from the wild;  
See! the Father meets him out upon  
the way,  
Welcoming His weary wondering child.  
Gospel Hymns #622

We are thankful for three more souls that have been taken into our family of God. Sis. Angie Knobloch (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Dianne), Sis. Susan Kieser (Bro. Loris and Sis. Mart) and Bro. Bill Endress (Sis. Lois).

Mark Rumbold (Bro. Elwin and Sis. Loretta) has turned his heart toward God and is seeking the Lord in repentance. Our prayers are with him and his family.

We are happy for Rita Ehnle (Bro. Ed and Sis. Verla) and Andy Bauman

(Bro. Larry and Sis. Betty) as they have announced their engagement. May God bless them as they plan their lives together.

Welcoming a daughter, Allison Kay, into their hearts and home August 13 were parents, Bro. Gary and Sis. Carole Ehnle, sisters and brothers, Jim, Ann, Joe, Abigail and Jared. Grandparents are Bro. Roy and Sis. Donna and Clarence and Mary Kelley.

We have enjoyed visiting ministers this month as we heard Elder Bros. Joe Braker (Morton) and Joe Stoller (Princeville), Bros. Dave Kieser (Princeville), Everett Hari (Bloomington), Clifford Grimm (West Bend, IA) and Don Manz (Junction, OH). We thank each one for bringing to us God's Word.

Our hospital patient this month was Bro. Larry Endress. We are happy he is back home and feeling much better. May God continue to heal.

I wish to thank all the brothers, sisters, relatives and friends who came to visit me, and especially the ministers for their prayers and efforts; also for cards, gifts and food while I was in the hospital and at home. May God bless you.

Sis. Margaret Tanner

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**ILLINOIS, CHICAGO**  
**Kathy Schlatter**

One of the impressive sights on our long summer trip was Mt. Rushmore. Though this was perhaps our third or fourth time there, we see it ever new and awe-inspiring in its dignity and accomplishment. This time I was amazed as I was reminded of the farsightedness of Gutzon Borglum, who looked at a granite mountain and envisioned a monument to reflect American democracy. Each part of each face was painstakingly sculpted from the rocks, using dynamite first and then hand tools. We were told how carefully Borglum checked even the shadows on the faces to make sure that the eyes looked alive and responsive.

He was a sculptor only of granite, and yet he had such vision. How much more should we marvel at our Master Sculptor who looks at each human being, no matter how hardened, and sees the possibility of a soul dedicated to the cause of Christ, aglow with and responsive to His Spirit. Heaven alone knows what amount of dynamite of circumstance and conviction each one needs. But when one has bowed to His



Lord and God, there are still rough edges to be smoothed by God's hand tools, the Word and His church. Even the shadows that cross our countenances can keep us close to Him. May we realize as we live we are still unfinished masterpieces. May we tolerate another's differences, praying for the Master's work in that one, too, that His likeness may be revealed. For ourselves, may we submit to His finishing tools, from whatever avenue: His sacred Word, our respected elders in their deliberations, our beloved brothers and sisters. "Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen." Hebrews 13:20, 21.

Our visiting ministers were Bro. Lynn Stieglitz (Leo, IN) and Elder Bro. Corbin Bahler (Rockville, CT). Bro. Lynn came when Leo young people were visiting and Bro. Corbin came on his way back after the brotherhood conference. We were privileged to hear them. Are we not blessed that the Spirit travels within? These brethren then ministered to us in the power of the same inspired Spirit with which they do at home, yet they didn't have to pack anything extra.

We welcome back Sis. Jill Leman, who received her bachelor's degree from U. of I., Champaign, in restaurant management. We congratulate her and pray for the Lord's blessing upon her. Her cousin, David Leman (Roanoke), is now also in our area, working in downtown Chicago for an accounting firm. We are happy the Lord has brought him here among us. We also have a new family to enjoy. Bro. Mark and Sis. Pam Hodel and their two children, Rebecca and Benjamin, (also from Roanoke), are living in Cicero. Bro. Mark is going to school in the area. We pray that the spirit and hospitality of our congregation may reflect Christ's welcome to all.

We extend our prayers, tears and love to Karen Labadie and her family. Not only has Karen endured several back surgeries, but her father died suddenly as well. Only our Lord can give her healing for her body and comfort for her soul. We also want to give our sympathy to Sis. Louise Kettner,

who has lost a brother. "Lord above, Thou alone can stanch the flow of internal weeping." May we be ready to share their sorrow and so in some measure lift their burden of grief.

"I pledge my head to clearer thinking, my heart to greater loyalty, my hands to larger service, and my health to better living for my club, my community, my country and my world," is the 4-H pledge. My daughter and her fellow 4-H members just finished filling out their records for the year. One sheet in particular stands out in my mind, being the longest and most important. That white sheet is the cumulative 4-H record. On it the 4-H'ers list every activity and project, year after year, with much emphasis on helping others. One might say the topics on the sheet give general expectations, areas in which a 4-H'er should be serving, should be involved. Have we not made so much greater a pledge, enveloping the use of our head, heart, hands, health, soul and all? And do we not also have a cumulative record, added to as each year goes by — from the Lord's perspective? Where should we be serving? What would He have us do in His name? The guidelines are given. May we abide in His Spirit, and say, "Remind me, O remind me, dear Lord."

#### ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK

##### Elaine Sauder — Myrna Weerts

The Lord has blessed our congregation with two new babies this month. Bro. Bill and Sis. Wanda Maul were blessed with Sarah Nicole August 2. Her sister, Jeannie, and brother, John, helped welcome her home. Grandparents are Norman and Elizabeth Maul and Orville and Mildred Deck. Bro. Eric and Sis. Lou Ann Kaeb welcomed the arrival of their second son, Trent Ryan, August 9. His brother, Chad, and grandparents, Bro. Elmer and Sis. Mary Lou Kaeb and Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Loretta Schneider are other happy family members. May the Lord guide and direct the parents in raising these two precious souls.

Our visiting ministers this month were Bro. Art Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN), Bro. Larry Weninger (Latty, OH), Bros. Jim Ramseyer and Bill Waibel (Bay City, MI). They shared many teachings from the Word with us and we appreciated their labors of love.

We want to express our sympathy to Bro. Bob and Sis. Eileen Greiner, Bro. Howard and Sis. Viola Greiner, and

Bro. Willard and Sis. Tillie Rudin in the passing of their sister and sister-in-law, Mary Moser (Elgin).

Do not question where He leads  
But if you choose to follow,  
The path is straight and sometimes steep  
And you'll find joy and sorrow.

There may be thorns along the way  
But roses bloom there, too,  
There may be cloudy, gloomy days  
Then skies of azure blue.

A happy heart won't always smile  
On this side of the river,  
But promises He'll always keep  
He said, "I'll leave you never."

"Where He Leads",  
Margaret Loyd Rockwood

Our thoughts go to our hospital patients this month who were Sis. Nettie Clauss, Sis. Hulda Schmitt (surgical), Sis. Elsie Peters, Bro. Willard Rudin and Phil Bauer (both surgical patients). May the healing hand of God restore according to His will.

The family of Ed. P. Feller wishes to thank all who remembered Dad in any way during his long stay at the Apostolic Christian Home in Eureka, IL, and at the time of his death. May God bless you for your kindness and thoughtfulness.

#### ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE

##### Joan Schrock — Gail Williamson

Mike Ott (Bro. Don and Sis. Carolyn) has announced his engagement to Michelle Morman (Curt and Annette, Congerville). We wish them God's blessings as they make their future wedding plans.

Those recently hospitalized in our congregation were Bro. Ed and Sis. Bena Steffen, Bro. Mark Roth, Sis. Liz Zobrist, Dave Zimmerman and Ryan Schrock (Bro. Ken and Sis. Janet). We pray that our heavenly Father will be near them and will place His hand of healing upon them.

We wish to thank Bros. Edwin Bahler (Remington, IN), Marvin Stieglitz (Leo, IN) and Ben Manz (Junction, OH) and Elder Bro. Robert Beyer (Naumburg, NY) for coming and sharing God's Word with us. May God bless them for their labors of love.

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**ILLINOIS, ELGIN**  
**Elizabeth Schambach**  
**Betty Bachtold**

"So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory!" I Corinthians 15:54

Our dear Bro. Otto Stettner, 87, after many years of patiently enduring, passed from this life July 29. He is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Gordon (Marilyn) Bryant and Mrs. Fred (Joane) Peaslee; two sons, John and Donald Stettner; 9 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren. The family of Bro. Otto Stettner wishes to thank everyone for their love and kindness during the loss of their dear father.

The death angel came a few days later and relieved our dear Sis. Mary Greiner Moser from her suffering and granted her desire, "I wish to die in my dear Jesus." She is survived by four sisters, Lydia Osmun, Sisters Rose Erich, Tillie Rudin (Cissna Park) and Helen Joos (Morris, MN); and six brothers, John, Otto, Emil and Bro. Ben (Hancock, MN) and Bros. Howard and Robert (Cissna Park). The family of Mary Greiner Moser wishes to express our sincere thanks to those who were so kind to us during the loss of our loved one. The deeds of kindness and comforting words will always be remembered. May God richly bless you.

Ruth Moser and Florence Schneider have also been saddened by the death of their sister, Esther Grams, 84, who resided in Janesville, WI. She was the daughter of Daniel and Fredericka Eckert Moser. Services and burial were in Elgin.

Sis. Sarah Kellenberger also grieved the sudden passing of her nephew's wife, Darlene Mohrman (Morris, MN).

Our love, sympathy and prayers are extended to these beloved families.

Bro. David and Sis. Linda Steffen became first-time parents July 31. Daniel David's grandparents are Elder Bro. Nathan and Sis. Marilyn Steffen and Bro. Earl and Sis. Mary Ramseyer (Bay City, MI).

Little Brienne Janell was happily received by Bro. Tim and Sis. Marcia, Andrea and Krystin Kellenberger August 12. Grandparents are Sis. Marilyn Kellenberger and Bro. Elmer and Sis. Dorothy Ginzel (Eureka).

Sis. Louise Steffen and Lorri Cargill (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Kay) each had the misfortune of ankle injury and had to be treated with a cast. We are thankful both are doing well.

August 2 was the wedding day for Margie Kellenberger (Elvis and Gail) and Brian Johnson (Elgin). His parents are Elmer and Beverly Johnson (Ashland, WI). We wish them much happiness and God's blessings.

Again we were reminded how thankful we should be for our parents who cared for us and taught us of the heavenly way. Bro. Uriel Gehring (Leo, IN) shared with us the mission of the Children's Home in Leo, as well as ministered the Holy Word. May each brother and sister who labor in this home be encouraged and given Godly wisdom and patience as they teach and labor with these dear young people.

We appreciate our shepherds' concern for the spiritual well-being of our souls. Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago) assisted Elder Bro. Nathan in reviewing the conclusions of the last brotherhood conference. May this precious Holy Spirit dwell richly in all God's children.

Also visiting us and sharing God's Word were: Bros. Walter Anliker (Eureka), John Lehman (Bern, KS), Virgil Metzger (Chicago) and Tom Leman (Denver, CO). God bless you all.

**ILLINOIS, EUREKA**  
**Kathy L. Rocke**

**THE WEAVER**

My life is but a weaving  
 Between my Lord and me,  
 I cannot choose the colors  
 He worketh steadily.

Oftimes He weaveth sorrow,  
 And I in foolish pride  
 Forget He sees the upper  
 and I, the underside.

Not till the loom is silent  
 And the shuttles cease to fly  
 Shall God unroll the canvas  
 And explain the reason why.

The dark threads are as needful  
 In the Weaver's skillful hand  
 As the threads of gold and silver  
 In the pattern He has planned.

Author Unknown

Our sympathy is extended to Sis.

Amy Stoller (late Bro. Theo) in the passing of her son, Russell, who resided in California. We pray God will comfort her in her sorrow.

Sis. Sarah Tanner (Bro. Paul) has been a hospital patient this past month. May she find healing strength from our heavenly Father.

First-time parents are Bro. Mike and Sis. Lisa Knecht who welcomed Landon Sean July 18. Grandparents are Bro. Roy and Sis. Wanda Leman and Richard and Janet Knecht.

Also first-time parents are Bro. Kent and Sis. Chris Leman. Danielle Rae was born August 11 and has grandparents, Bro. Ray and Sis. Millie Schmidgall (Minneapolis, MN) and Bro. Roy and Sis. Wanda Leman to welcome her into the family circle.

Bro. Dale and Sis. Lezlee Leman are thankful for Jesse Alan who was born July 21. To help welcome Jesse are Steven, Jeremy, Cory and Missy, as well as grandparents, Jerry and Vonda Reinmann and Bro. Gerald and Sis. Velma Leman.

We were thankful to hear the testimonies of Loren and Mary Zimmerman July 19, and appreciated Elder Bro. Bob Walder (Congerville) being with us. The next day we witnessed their baptisms and welcomed Loren and Mary as our brethren in the Lord. May God grant them much grace to remain steadfast and unmoveable in the faith that they have found. We rejoice with their parents, Bro. Gene and Sis. Carrie Hartman (Congerville) and Bro. Earl and Sis. Elsie Zimmerman.

We also appreciated the ministering efforts of Elder Bro. Bob and Bro. Frederick Knapp (Congerville) Sunday, July 20. May God bless them for serving us.

"Haste and seek your soul's salvation; Heed the Word of God today." Zion's Harp #52. Kurt and Livy Blunier have turned their backs to the world and are seeking their soul's salvation. We are thankful for them as are their parents, Elder Bro. Bob and Sis. Elna Grimm (Goodfield) and Bro. Sam and Sis. Elizabeth Blunier. The door of grace is still open — may many yet find the way.

Our Sunday school is again in full session. May those who have been appointed to "plant the seed" be given much courage and grace to be willing servants of His.

Sis. Delores Martin (Bro. Roland), Bros. Aaron Moser and Leroy Rocke

have been confined to their homes due to afflictions of the body. May we remember them in prayer as they bear their cross, that God will provide for their every need.

"Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh."

James 5:8

### ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY

#### Jean Bachtold — Crystal Fehr

Bro. Derek and Sis. Julie Rabe have been blest with a new little boy, Adrian Loren. He was born July 19, and is welcomed home by one brother, Durrelle. Grandparents are Bro. Alvin and Sis. Loretta Baumgartner (Cissna Park) and Don Rabe and Julia Rabe (Fairbury).

This past month we were fortunate to have visiting minister Bro. Earl Kilgus (Remington, IN) with us. We appreciate all our visiting ministers as well as our home ministers who so willingly lend themselves in His service.

"And the Lord said, It is not good that the man should be alone, I will make him an help meet for him."

Genesis 2:18

On July 26, Nada Fehr and Thomas Little were united in marriage. Parents of the couple are Bro. Wayne and Sis. Norma Fehr (Fairbury) and Dr. Bruce Little and Nancy Little (Arlington Heights). May they ever strive to partake and to feel God's love and guidance as they begin their married walk of life together.

If thus thou'lt overcome thy wishes and let God's will prevail in thee, then thou wilt find peace in thy sufferings; and grace thy great reward will be."

Zion's Harp #171, vs. 10

We are thankful for our heavenly Father's healing hand who has touched the lives of those in our congregation. Our sympathy and prayers go out to the family of Bro. Doug Greiner, son of Sis. Vi and Bro. Howard (Cissna Park). He was hospitalized due to a car accident and is now home recuperating.

Also home recuperating is Charles Fehr (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Norma) who was hospitalized due to a fall while working in the carpentry field.

We are humbled by the overwhelming love and concern shown to us at the time of Doug's accident and hospitalization. The many cards, prayers,

phone calls and gifts were so much appreciated. May our heavenly Father reward each of you for your kindness.

Bro. Doug and Sis. Jean Greiner

Although in this lifetime, we are encountered with bodily afflictions, sorrow and grief, we know it's to help our souls grow. For through the depths of sorrows our souls are strengthened.

### ILLINOIS, FORREST

#### Sharon Adams — Patsy Stoller

"The Lord again has given His counsel and His will; He came to live among us, His promise to fulfill." Zion's Harp #138. Our cups were filled to overflowing once again, as God's holy Word was brought to us through our ministering brothers. Visiting us this month were Bros. Wayne Laubscher, and Kenneth Eisenmann (Cissna Park), Harold Schmidgall (Gridley, IL) and Al Schneider (Rockville, CT). May God ever be with these dear brothers who so faithfully bring us God's Word of life.

Our only hospital patient this month was Bro. Paul Honegger. We are thankful he could return to his home at Fairview Haven once again.

Bro. Alan and Marcia Gerber have added a new precious little one to their family. Aaron Roy is a new brother for Andrew and Jessica. Grandparents are Bro. Earl and Sis. Esther Gerber and Bro. Glen and Sis. Kathryn Fehr (Fairbury).

Once again it is time for our dear elders to gather together in unity from across the lands. As these dear brothers strive to preserve this precious faith for us, let us each one give them our prayerful support, that this precious faith which we have been so privileged to know would continue to grow in unity and closeness to God's holy Word.

### ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD

#### Trish Gerber

Our congregation was honored with the presence of hundreds of brethren who met here for the Fort Sam Reunion. We shared a glimpse of heaven as we felt the love of God and took part in the beautiful singing of His praises. In our afternoon service, Bro. Jerry Mooberry and Sis. Valerie Martin exchanged their wedding vows before an overflowing church to complete a spirit-filled weekend.

We extend our appreciation to the

following brothers, Earl Gerber (Forrest, IL), Marvin Stieglitz (Leo, IN), Edwin Bahler (Remington, IN), Arnold Gerst (Taylor, MO), Ben Manz (Junction, OH) and Elder Bro. Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO) for sharing God's message with us.

Much sympathy and love is extended to Sis. Terry Wettstein (Norm) on the passing away of her father.

A daughter, Amber Nicole, was born to Benjy and Deb Frank. She'll be welcomed by her big brother, Craig. Her grandparents are Jerry and Bev Frank (Eureka) and Bro. Curt and Sis. Melita Hodel (Goodfield).

Hospitalized this past month were Sis. Ruth Rokey (Bro. John), Sis. Suzie Wyss (Bro. Dale) and Joanie Wiegand (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Rosemary). We wish God's protection and healing power for each of them.

We were happy to hear of the engagement of Bro. Matt Hohulin (Bro. Bill and Sis. Lydia) to Sis. Laurie Dill (Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Sandy Dill, Tremont). We pray that they will have a joyous future together in the Lord.

Our new Sis. Heidi Knapp (Bro. George and Sis. Fern) was greeted with much love after we heard her testimony and witnessed her baptism. May God ever be by her side as she continues on by His grace.

### ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY

#### Carol Klopfenstein

"If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed!"

John 8:36

The glorious liberty of Jesus Christ which frees us from the shackles of sin and Satan's bondage, has become the blessed portion of five souls who have turned to Him with a broken and contrite spirit in true repentance and faith. George Witzig, Duane Steidinger, Doug Wettstein (Bro. David and Sis. Gloria), Craig Wettstein (Bro. Lyle and Sis. Linda) and Tim Yergler (the late Bro. Lewis and Sis. Bernice) have felt the forgiveness and peace of God and are looking forward to giving their testimonies and being baptized soon.

We were blessed by the visits of Elder Bro. Lavoyd Moore (Athens, AL) and ministering Bros. Everett Hari (Bloomington), Russell Wuthrich (Pulaski, IA), Jim Funk (Tucson, AZ) and Robert Miller (Portland, OR).

John Aupperle, 94, passed away August 18.

Bro. William Gramm and Karin Kiefer (Bro. Larry and Sis. Barb) have been in the hospital.

Scott Ringger (Bro. Fred and Sis. Mary) is engaged to be married to Becky Ellis (Mr. and Mrs. Larry Ellis), all of Gridley.

Jeff and Debra Dillon are the happy parents of Ashley Nicole, born August 5. She has a brother, Nicholas. Ashley's grandparents are Bro. Don and Sis. Vyra Stoller (Gridley) and Mrs. Helen Dillon (Normal).

Bethany Irene is the new daughter of Bro. Curtis and Sis. Norma Witzig. She was born August 16 and has a sister, Erin. Bethany's grandparents are Bro. Elmer and Sis. Marjorie Witzig and Bro. Roy and Sis. Helen Zimmerman, all of Gridley.

Alan Gramm (Bro. John and Sis. Mary) was married to Pam Boutielle (Mr. and Mrs. Francisco Boutielle, Vina Del Mar, Chili) July 18. Since their wedding was in Chili, South America, they had a reception in Gridley on August 16.

#### ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY Susan Kieser

We are now beginning a new semester here at Illinois State and we gladly welcome all the new smiling faces to our small group. It is such a neat experience to meet new brothers and sisters who were strangers yesterday and friends sharing the same goal in life today. With God's help, may each one of us have another successful semester here at Illinois State — learning more about our individual professions but, more importantly, learning how to better serve our Lord.

This past summer we were blessed to have three brothers speak to us at our Bible studies. On June 26, Bro. Jim Byrd (Roanoke) spoke to us on "Human Suffering". He told us of his experience of suffering painful burns and how it drew him closer to God. We thank him for sharing his experience with us. May God bless him richly in his remaining years here on earth but much more in his heavenly home. Also this summer, July 10, Bro. Vernon Wettstein (Congerville) spoke to us on the beautiful chapter, John 17. May God bless him for his efforts. Finally, on July 24, Bro. Glenn Dill (Tremont) spoke to us about "Dedication and Devotion". We all learned a lot about

how we could improve on dedicating our lives to Christ and devoting time specifically for God's work. Many of us tend to get wrapped up in our studies and/or work and we need to be reminded to give time to God each and every day. May God bless Bro. Glenn for his words of wisdom.

On August 10, Sis. Karen Hangartner (former ISU student) and Bro. Paul Kieser (Bloomington/Normal) exchanged vows and began their lives as one. They will each be missed greatly by each of us who have known them, but the memories we each have of them will be cherished forever. We pray for God's blessings as they begin a new life together.

Bible studies this fall will again be held Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. in 244 Schroeder Hall. We welcome everyone to attend.

#### ILLINOIS, MORTON

##### Phyllis Farney — Marcia Kelley

Summer is quite suddenly drawing to a close. School bells will soon be ringing. May our students never forget to pick up the greatest textbook of all, the Bible.

Harvest time will soon be upon us. As we gather in the grain, may we all be ready to be gathered in on that final great Harvest Day.

Bro. Doug, Sis. Carol, Casey and Staci Getz welcome into their hearts and home, Shane Douglas. Shane was born August 8. His grandparents are Bro. Al and Sis. Gerry Neukomm and Bro. Ken and Sis. Ann Getz, all of Morton.

We are rejoicing with Sis. Wendy Garber (Bro. Ralph and Sis. Lynn) and Bro. Todd Braker (Elder Bro. Joe and Sis. Shirley) who were united in holy matrimony August 17. May our heavenly Father continue to richly bless this precious couple as they have now become "one in Christ Jesus".

We want to thank Bros. Marvin Stieglitz (Leo, IN), Greg Rassi (Chicago, IL) and Elder Bros. Richard Schupbach (Phoenix, AZ), Edwin Ringger (Gridley, IL) and Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL) for ministering God's holy Word to us. May our heavenly Father richly bless them for their labors of love.

We have those loved ones who are in the hospital of shut-in and cannot come and go as you and I. May we continue to uphold them in prayer, with cards or notes of encouragement. May they all

feel our prayers on their behalf.

Sis. Marie Schumacher extends a special thank you for all the prayers, cards and gifts of love she received during her stay in the hospital and the nursing home. God bless all of you.

#### ILLINOIS, PEORIA

##### Susi Herman — Margo Marx

The Peoria congregation was privileged to host the annual elder brotherhood conferences August 19 - 22. We are thankful to have this opportunity to meet so many dear brothers and sisters-in-faith from across the land. The ties of faith and love in our dear Savior were indeed strengthened as we greeted one another. Loving one another is surely wonderful.

Our visiting ministers were Elder Bros. Art Bahler (Fairbury, IL) and Joe Braker (Morton, IL), Bros. Floyd Schmidgall (Morris, MN) and Noah Herman (Tucson, AZ). Our sincere appreciation is extended to these dear brothers who came and shared the Word with us. May the Lord richly bless them for their efforts.

We sorrow with Sis. Carolee Unsicker and her family in the passing away of Bro. Mel Unsicker. May the Lord comfort them.

May we always remember to pray for those who are shut-in or hospitalized. May our prayers ascend to our heavenly Father for their returning health.

#### ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE Marjean Lehman

"Little flock in haste assemble and to Zion's mount repair!  
Lo, the prince of world and darkness for the conflict does prepare.  
See, the judgment day is coming, as a thief in darkest night;  
Then awake and watch, ye righteous; walk as children of the light!"  
"Encouragement To Faith's Battle",  
Zion's Harp #51

We offer sincere thanks to Bro. Lee Bahler (Rockville, CT) and Bro. Al Langhofer (Wichita, KS) for ministering God's living Word to us recently. May God bless them.

"Though our tears oft flow with sadness and in sorrow oft we sigh,  
They shall change to songs of gladness, bitter cup to wine of joy.  
Though we often see them gleaming,  
Satan's arrows, sword and spear,

Yet we need not lose our courage,  
Heaven's host is drawing near."  
"Encouragement To Faith's Battle"

Our combined prayers go out to Bro. Ray Martin who recently underwent surgery. He had to return again to the hospital a short time later. Sis. Elsa Christ suffered a broken wrist. Scott Eberle (Marvin and Sharon) spent some time in the hospital. May God heal and restore according to His will.

"Spirits of the just made perfect bid us to be strong and brave,  
Saying 'Brethren, in His service be ye faithful to the grave.  
Hallelujah! Stand in union, to the end of earthly strife,  
Till you sing the song of triumph with us in eternal life'."  
"Encouragement To Faith's Battle"

Three dear friends have turned their backs to the world and taken up their cross for the Lord. They are Doug Herrmann (Bro. Walt and Sis. Betty), Doug Streitmatter (Bro. Alf and Sis. Ginny) and Kevin Wagenbach (Bro. Lawrence and Sis. Elaine). Testimony services and baptisms are planned for August 30 and 31. The angels in heaven are rejoicing with us.

"Here indeed the tearful sowing is our watchword and our fate;  
Toil and strife befall the Christian till he enters heaven's gate  
O, then let our tears be given to the lamb who came in tears,  
Till we sing our praise in heaven in those happy, endless years."  
"Encouragement To Faith's Battle"

Our congregation extends sincere sympathy to Sis. Mary Baer and Sis. Bertie Kieser in the death of their mother, Sis. Emma Sauder (West Bend, IA). Also we sympathize with Cordelia Musselman in the death of her sister, Lena Woertz.

"Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not; for of such is the kingdom of God."

"Verily I say unto you, whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein. And he took them up in his arms, put his hands upon them, and blessed them."

Mark 10:14 - 16

Shane Alan Martin was born August 11 to Bro. Alan and Sis. Janice. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Nate and Sis. Esther Martin and Bro. Eugene and Sis. Betty Herrmann. May God bless their family circle.

"Love of all gifts is the greatest."  
Karen Menold (Bro. Leonard and Sis. Marie, Princeville) and Bill Schrock (Bro. Bob and Sis. Edith, Oakville, IA) have made known their engagement. They are planning to be married October 18. May God's blessings be upon them.

Our congregation held its first Vacation Bible School the week of August 4 - 8. We especially thank Bro. David Wiegand (Urbana) and Bro. Byron Stoller (Gridley) who lent themselves in teaching.

#### ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

##### Judy Luginbuhl — Marge Leman

The fall season is fast arriving and our children are now in school. May God always be near them.

Hospital patients this month were Sis. Margaret Leman, Sis. Lena Martin, Irma Moser and Courtney Funk (Bro. Keith and Sis. Kathy).

Our thoughts and prayers are with Bro. Brent and Sis. Marge Hodel in the loss of their infant son, Brian Robert. He was stillborn July 20, following an accident in which Sis. Marge was also injured. We are so thankful that Sis. Marge is now able to assemble with us and may God give them a special measure of grace during this time of sadness.

Sympathy is also extended to Bro. Rich Stoller in the loss of his brother, Russell, who died at his home in Santa Ana, CA, after a long illness.

We extend sympathy to the family of Bro. Mel Unsicker (Peoria) and especially to his two daughters, Sis. Linda (Tim) Martin and Sis. Margie (Steve) Sauder of our congregation.

Our congratulations and best wishes are given to Bro. Frank Sauder (Bro. Don and Sis. Wilma) and Sis. Kathy Klotzle (Bro. John and Sis. Lois) as their engagement has been announced.

August 10 was the wedding day for Sis. Karen Hangartner and Bro. Paul Kieser (Bloomington-Normal). Parents are Bro. Eugene and Sis. Evelyn Hangartner and Mr. and Mrs. Louis Kieser (Florida). May God's blessing be upon them as they walk life's pathway together.

We truly are rejoicing as two young

souls have heeded the Lord's invitation. May God grant much grace to Barbie Hodel (Bro. Bill and Sis. Betty) and Kris Martin (Bro. Lyle and Sis. Mary Lou) as they seek their soul's salvation.

We express our sincere thanks to the ministers who visited us recently. They are Elder Bro. Steve Rinckenberger (Cissna Park), Bros. Harold Schmidgall (Gridley), Duane Kilgus (Fairbury), Marshall Heinold (Washington), Everett Hari and Dennis Kaufmann (Bloomington-Normal).

#### ILLINOIS, TREMONT

##### Dorothy Wagenbach

##### Carolyn Bolliger

We are glad several of our hospital patients are now mending at home. Bro. Les Schweigert (Sis. Betty) and Bro. Dan Steiner, Sr. were both surgical patients. Little Melissa Zuercher (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Kathy) had major heart surgery. Carol Aberle (Bro. Walter and Sis. Vera) was in for tests and is now improving at home. Bro. Mahlon Frank had the misfortune of being accidentally burned and we are happy he is also recuperating at home. We are sorry Bro. Ernest Schaefer (Sis. Frieda) is still hospitalized. Bro. Ernie had a fall at his home several weeks ago. We know his hours are long and pray his recovery will be soon.

Our sympathy is extended to Madeline Hermann and her family in the recent loss of her sister, Josephine Kinsey.

A happy occasion is the announcement of the engagement of our Sis. Laurie Dill (Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Sandy) to Bro. Matt Hohulin (Bro. Bill and Sis. Lydia, Goodfield). A November 2 wedding is being planned by the young couple. We surely wish them God's richest blessings in this undertaking.

Another happy event was the birth of the first grandchild of Bro. Vernon and Sis. Merna Koch. A little daughter, Eleanor Jean, was born August 8 to their daughter, Jill, and her husband, Greg Wagner (Deer Creek).

We recently voted for two new Sunday school teachers and a trustee. Bro. Paul Michel has been selected to replace Bro. Nelson Musselman as our new trustee and Steve Sauder and Roger Beutel are our new Sunday school teachers. Bros. Marvin Sauder and Curt Rassi have now rotated out. We realize all these brothers must give

much of themselves to our church and our youth and we thank them for their efforts.

We all felt the Lord's blessings this past weekend as we added two new brothers to our fold. We welcome Bro. Mike Oswald (Don, Jr. and Marcelle). Sis. Lila Moser is Mike's grandmother. Our second new brother is Marvin Wagenbach (Bro. Bob and Sis. Dorothy). We rejoice with these new brothers and their families.

We thank Elder Bro. Andy Virkler (Bay City, MI) as he assisted our Elder Bro. Dan Koch on this occasion. Also, we thank our other visiting ministers this month: Bro. John Steiner (Oakville, IA), Bro. Vernon Wettstein (Congerville, IL), Bro. Don Wagenbach (Washington), Bro. Kenneth Schneider (Remington, IN) and Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott, IN).

Bertha Michel would like to thank everyone who sent her cards and gifts for her recent 80th birthday. It was very much appreciated.

Sis. Viola Schweigert has moved from her home in Tremont to Maple Lawn Apartments in Eureka. Her new address is Maple Lawn Apartments, #285, 700 North Main, Eureka, IL 61530. We are sorry Sis. Vi has moved and hope she will be happy in her new home.

### ILLINOIS, URBANA

#### Cheryl Mangers

July 27 found us at the St. Joseph Park for our annual Sunday school picnic which we all always enjoy so much.

We will always have a special place in our hearts for ministering Bro. Ken and Sis. Phyllis Knapp who we were privileged to have in our area for just over a year. We will really miss them as they have now moved back home to Taylor, MO. Bro. Ken's willingness to help serve our small flock during a time of change and need and their love and support was appreciated more than words can ever express.

Bidding farewell to Bro. Loren and Sis. Betsy Schrenk, Nathan, Rachael, Peter and Matthew August 3, as they left our congregation for their new home in St. Louis, was most difficult for all of us. Bro. Loren and Sis. Betsy have so lovingly and unselfishly served this congregation in countless ways, the most recent being their vital role in the construction of our new church. We love them and will miss them but know we will always be joined in heart

and mind and know that they will always be a "part of us". Their new address is 12121 Royal Valley Drive, Creve Coeur, MO 63141.

We thank ministering Bro. Gerald Sutter (Taylor, MO) for his service this past month.

Our new church building is undergoing the final touches. Lord willing, we will hold our first service at 1401 Devonshire Drive, Champaign (located between Prospect and Mattis, south of Kirby) very soon.

### ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

#### Ellen Cox

Little Tricia Laurel was born to Bro. Russ and Sis. Sally Plattner August 1. She is welcomed home by big brother, Troy, four years old.

We are happy to have Sis. Sue Ruppert assembling with us again after a recent hospital stay.

We are grateful to the following ministering brothers for sharing the Word of Life with us: Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville, IL), Gene Metzger (Lester, IA), Doug Wagenbach (San Diego, CA), Homer Reineck (Toledo, OH), Clarence Dietrich (Silverton, OR) and Steve Gutwein (Francesville, IN). May God richly bless these brothers for their labors of love.

Recently, in the midst of a hectic day at work, a chalkboard caught my eye. On it was written the following scripture verses: "It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness." Lamentations 3:22, 23. After reading them the day seemed much brighter. Isn't our God wonderful?!

### INDIANA, BLUFFTON

#### Evelyn Ringger — Lucille Isch

"This is the day which the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it."

Psalms 118:24

Bro. Matt Sutter and Sis. Cammy Steffen were united in marriage August 10 by Elder Bro. Orville Ringger. Their parents are Bro. Robert and Sis. Janice Sutter and Bro. Ramon and Sis. Lorena Steffen. We wish them God's rich blessings.

Our recent visiting ministers were Bro. Bill Dotterer (Phoenix, AZ) and Bro. Art Ringger (Indianapolis). We truly appreciate our freedom of speech and worship in this country and thank

the brothers for the Word spoken in love.

Hospital patients were Sis. Joyce Gehring (Bro. Claren), Sis. Marcia Steffen (Bro. Robert), Sis. Hulda Steffen, Nathan Yergler, Trent Tonner and Bro. Jack Bertsch.

There are two new babies added to the church family. Bro. Joe and Sis. Julie Stroup are the happy parents of their first child and son, Jordan David. The grandparents are Bro. David and Sis. Maxine Ringger and John and Betty Stroup. Steve and Sis. Arlene Stump are the parents of their fourth baby, Jennifer Lynn. They now have two boys and two girls. Bro. and Sis. Roy Aschliman and Russell and Violet Stump are the grandparents.

We have just packaged the 6th shipment for Romania. Bro. Andy Hunyady told us on packaging night that he has been receiving many letters. Apparently the boxes have been arriving complete. We are thankful the Lord is watching over this project.

Presently several from Bluffton are going to Mexico with a semi load of clothing, blankets and food. Bro. Richard Beery (Phoenix, AZ) is helping coordinate the project with a group of Christians in El Paso, TX.

Recently several brothers took our first batches of soap to a mission in inner city Fort Wayne. They were excited to receive it and distributed it quickly.

We appreciate all of the prayers and the time spent on behalf of these projects. We trust that God will be glorified through them.

### INDIANA, BLUFFTON NORTH

#### Cindy Shorb — Sheri Leman

"... The Lord will hear when I call unto Him."

Psalm 4:3

Tim Franklin (Rowena Reinhard Franklin) and Todd Gerber (Bro. Dale and Sis. Carol) have called unto the Lord; He has heard, and has given them the grace to repent. May He continue to hear them and be with them on their new path of life.

We were all reminded of the importance of total commitment and yielding to God through ministering Bro. Earl Ringger (Gridley, IL). Other ministering brothers visiting us this past month were Bros. Noah Gerber (West Bend, IA), Bill Dotterer (Phoenix, AZ) and

Elder Bros. Eugene Bertschi (Roanoke, IL) and Richard Schupbach (Phoenix, AZ). Again, the Lord heard our calls and we all benefited from each of their services. We welcome them and their families to come again anytime.

As summer ends and the beauty of autumn begins, we are reminded of the greatness of our Almighty God. Let us take time in our busy day to appreciate it.

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**INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE**  
**Jacki Huber**

It isn't the thing you do, dear,  
 It's the thing you leave undone,  
 Which gives you the bitter heartache  
 At the setting of the sun;  
 The tender word unspoken,  
 The letter you did not write,  
 The flower you might have sent, dear,  
 Are your haunting ghosts at night.

The stone you might have lifted  
 Out of your brother's way  
 The bit of heartsome counsel  
 You were hurried too much to say;  
 The loving touch of the hand, dear,  
 The gentle and winsome tone,  
 That you had no time or thought for,  
 With troubles enough of your own.

These little acts of kindness,  
 So easily out of mind,  
 These chances to be angels,  
 Which even mortals find —  
 They come in night and silence,  
 Each chill reproachful wraith,  
 When hope is faint and flagging,  
 And a blight has dropped on faith.

For life is all too short, dear,  
 And sorrow is all too great,  
 To suffer our slow compasson  
 That tarries until too late.  
 And it's not the thing you do, dear,  
 It's the thing you leave undone,  
 Which gives you the bitter heartache,  
 At the setting of the sun.

Adelaide Proctor

We enjoyed special summer months with many visitors, and quite a few visiting ministers. Our heartfelt thanks to each of the following ministers who blessed us by allowing God's spirit to speak through them: Bros. Gary Brown (Forrest, IL), Kenny Dietz (Bradford, IL), Virgil Metzger (Chicago, IL), Jim Plattner (Princeville, IL), Earl Ringger (Gridley, IL) and Elder Bro. Willis

Ehnle (Shioda, Japan).

Bro. Otto and Sis. Donna Wuethrich are grandparents to Nicholas Alexander Hart, born July 30 to Dennis and Diane (Wuethrich) Carson (West Lafayette, IN). We wish them God's blessings as they raise their precious little one.

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**INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS**  
**Kathy Freed — Gail Bradford**

We welcome Bro. Rob and Sis. Karen Parker and their children, Robby and Teresa, who have moved to nearby Tipton.

We enjoyed summer picnics on two Sunday afternoons. These informal times encourage us and bind us together. We were also given opportunities for service and fellowship at the Leo Children's Home Auction and at the youth day, Camp Mack, in Milford.

We appreciate Bro. Homer Reinick (Toledo, OH) bringing us the Word recently. Are we aware of the many servants among us?

As the elders and brethren meet this month, and consider the many matters before them, we are reminded of the Apostle Paul and his loving concern for the churches. In his letter to the Colossians, Paul reminded the new Christians that Christ is the head of the church, and exhorted them to constancy in Christ.

"For though I be absent in the flesh, yet am I with you in the spirit, joying and beholding your order, and the steadfastness of your faith in Christ. As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in Him.

"Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving."

Colossians 2:5-7

Subject as we are to the daily challenges of living in our modern world, we can lean on our Lord for protection and guidance. If we remain steadfast, he will ever be by our side. Our brothers and sisters, ministers and elders share this walk of faith with us. Christ is the tie that binds us together.

Our hymn of "Unity" expresses the blessings of fellowship and love which enrich our earthly lives:

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

As we visit in our churches throughout the land, we can experience the constancy of God's Word, and witness the love shown for one another. This precious heritage calls us to careful stewardship and prayerful commitment.

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**INDIANA, LACROSSE**

**Debra Nuest — Sandy Heinold**

We are living in a world where there is so much unrest and discontentment. As believers, we find it comforting to sit in church and be able to hear the refreshing Word of God.

We have been blessed to have Bros. Marshall Heinold (Washington, IL), Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH) and Kevin Ryan (Rockville, CT) worship with us. We count it a privilege to have these faithful brethren give of their time and efforts in sharing the Word with us.

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**INDIANA, LEO**  
**Thelma Schlatter**

Rich blessings came our way this month through the ministry of visiting Bros. Kent Ringger (Bluffton) and Wally Ramsier (Mansfield, OH) and Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle (Japan).

Bro. Nick Knobloch (Princeville, IL) shared in testimony and explanation of work and help for the needy in far-flung places. He presented a sincere and worthy challenge.

Bro. Oliver Stieglitz recently volunteered time and talent in Mexico.

Bro. Robert and Sis. Dorothy Norr observed their golden wedding anniversary with a family dinner. We thank Him for thus blessing them, and we are grateful for the blessing they have been to us.

Bro. Eugene Stoller had back surgery recently at Mayo's and Sis. Elda Steiner had eye surgery. We're thankful both are home again and trust the Lord to give healing and renewed strength according to His will.

We remind Leo Silver Lining readers that dues (\$7.00) should be paid in September.

Bits of This and That:

"Let me so live as though Jesus had died for me yesterday, arose this morning and is coming back tomorrow.

"The Bible was not divided into chapters until in the 1200's and was not divided into verses until the 1500's; the numbers were not inspired.

"When God puts a tear in your eye,

it's because He wants to put a rainbow in your heart.

"Cultivate good habits; the bad ones grow wild.

"The other fellow's sins like the other fellow's headlights are more glowing than your own.

"Three gates speech should pass through: Is it true? Is it necessary? Is it kind?

"Every one of us — each imperfect — will be recalled by the Maker."

### INDIANA, MILFORD

Shelby Beer — Joyce Kaiser

"Peace my soul for God is near . . .

I've no cause to doubt or fear.

I can look to Him and see

His strong hand reaching out to me."

B. J. Hoff

What a sweet assurance for the believer to know that God is with us in all things! How often do we let circumstances distract us and then lose sight of His promises? Let's remind ourselves daily, "And behold, I am with thee and will keep thee in all places." Genesis 28:15.

Sis. Ruth (Bro. Frank) Beer and Bro. Jesse Haab are back in their homes following hospitalization. Bro. Matthew and Sis. Karen Pamer's daughter, Emily, was a day-surgery patient. We're grateful for God's healing touch.

Our visiting ministers have been Bros. Jack Bollier (Leo), Harold Emch (Girard, OH), Carroll Gerber (Bluffton North), Vernon Leman (Eureka, IL), Bob Meyer (Bluffton North), Kent Ringger (Bluffton), Karl Westfall (Francesville) and Ben Wysong (Sabetha, KS). We offer our thanks to each one for bringing God's good Word.

Susie Hoover became Mrs. Tony Folker July 26. The parents of the newlyweds are Don and Sis. Ginny Hoover and Mr. and Mrs. Ron Folker (Goshen). Our wish for Susie and Tony is a home where Jesus is the Head and we know He can give them His blessing of a happy marriage.

Bro. Dick and Sis. Clara Kaiser have welcomed two granddaughters into their family this summer. Kelli Lynn was born to John and Toni Kaiser May 20. Lynn and Phil Garber became parents with the arrival of Janel Kay August 16. Our love and congratulations go out to these happy families, blessed by God.

### HAND IN HAND

She placed her hand in mine  
Pudgy, tender and small . . .  
Expecting that the size of my hand  
Might prevent a serious fall.

She yielded her life to my guidance . . .  
Trusting, depending, and sure,  
That whatever the plight or danger  
With me she would be secure.

The responsibility, O Lord, is  
frightening!

To have a task so divine!

For assurance of the right direction,  
Let me place my hand in Thine.

James C. Barry

### INDIANA, REMINGTON

Beth Virkler — Susan Getz

### GOD, MAKE ME BRAVE

God, make me brave for life: oh, braver  
than this.

Let me straighten after pain, as a tree  
straightens after the rain,  
Shining and lovely again.

God make me brave for life; much  
braver than this.

As the blown grass lifts, let me rise.

From sorrow with quiet eyes,

Knowing Thy way is wise.

God, make me brave, life brings

Such blinding things.

Help me to keep my sight;

Help me to see aright

That out of dark comes light.

Author Unknown

"Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and everyone that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God." I John 4:7. The hearts of Bro. Calvin Schneider (Bro. Ken and Sis. Loretta) and Sis. Jeanne Nuest (Bro. Gene and Sis. Norma) were united in holy matrimony July 20 at LaCrosse. May the blessings of the Lord be upon them as their hearts blend together.

We welcomed Sis. Sue Waibel (Bro. Ralph and Sis. Helen) into the fold of believers July 27. The Lord reminds us to seek and we shall find. Luke 11:9. We are thankful Sue has found the truth.

Bro. Harold Schieler had surgery recently but is recovering quickly. He would like to express his thanks toward everyone who sent him cards and offered prayers for him during his surgery and hospital stay. Every deed of

kindness was truly appreciated.

For those who fight bravely and not yield, there is triumphant victory over all the dark things of life.

James Allen

### INDIANA, SOUTH BEND

Pauline Laidig — Jill Lehman

"Faith of our fathers, holy faith."

Hymns of Zion #85

One of our ministering brothers recently expounded on the "Faith Chapter", Hebrews 11. Hearing again of the great faith of Abraham, Noah and others, created a desire to be more faithful ourselves even though our tests and trials may not be as great as theirs. May the Lord grant us grace to be faithful in small trials so we will endure when the greater ones come.

We appreciated the ministry of Elder Bro. Leroy Huber (Eureka, IL) as he and Sis. Clara spent a recent Wednesday evening with us.

The Lord has graciously taken our dear Sis. Marie Germann, 91, to be with Him. After being privileged to spend more than 69 years together, she will be missed by her loving husband, Bro. Ernest, and by her four children, Edna Grise, Esther Gordon and Eldon (Bremen, IN) and Walter (Wyatt, IN), who so faithfully cared for her during her declining years. Precious memories will be theirs.

There is beauty all around,  
When there's love at home;  
There is joy in every sound,  
When there's love at home.

This is our wish for the home of Mike and Renee (Cole) Mangold who were recently married.

Our annual Sunday school sponsored church picnic is to be held this week. We always enjoy these "whole family" outings, and appreciate the efforts of those who make them possible.

### INDIANA, VALPARAISO

Cheryl Bucher — Peg Huber

Because of God's faithfulness first of all, and then faithful brethren throughout our congregations volunteering talent, monies and prayerful support, it is now possible for us to assemble in our new church. "Where there is no vision, the people perish: . . ." Proverbs 29:18. May our vision always be focused on



Him and His faithfulness in continuing to call souls, that this edifice will be a place where "One generation shall praise His works to another, and shall declare His mighty acts." Psalm 145:4.

Our dear friend, Maria Latorre, has returned to her home in Puerto Rico. Even though Marie could not express herself easily in English, she often spoke the universal language we all understand — a smile, and a love for our Lord! We will miss her faithful fellowshiping with us. The Holy Spirit mysteriously eliminates language barriers in instructing those that thirst after righteousness! Through Him every need can be met!

Our Vacation Bible School theme song expresses our feelings so well: "To God Be the Glory" — great things He hath done! We could never name all these great things, but may we be more faithful in praising Him that the earth might hear His voice. Someone said, "Praise is simply letting off esteem!" We thank Elder Bro. Joe Braker (Morton, IL), Bros. Earl Ringger (Gridley, IL) and Ted Witzig (Morton, IL) for sharing with us in our Vacation Bible School study of "Why Me Lord?"

Bros. Ken Hoerr (Peoria, IL) and Nile Bucher (Bluffton North) and Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville) graciously shared His love and Word with us this month. Also, Bros. Lennie Meyer and Virgil Metzger (Chicago, IL) led us in timely Bible studies on "Doctrinal Unity" and "Spiritual Growth". We were reminded that liberty is not license, but "Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: . . ." II Peter 1:10, and that the standard for measurement of spiritual growth is Matthew 7:16, "Ye shall know them by their fruits." We know that God will remember these servants' efforts for I Corinthians 15:58 says, ". . . ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."

Sis. Judy Paarlberg and Sandra Whitaker can say with the Psalmist, "O Lord my God, I cried unto thee, and thou has healed me." Psalm 30:2. We are grateful that their hospital stays were short, and that God again has been faithful in restoring their health.

#### INDIANA, WOLCOTT

**Lorene Furrer — Elaine Bahler**

A precious baby boy was born to Chris and Sis. Teresa Bahler July 27. Eric Joseph has one sister, Renae, who

eagerly waits to play with him. Grandparents are Bro. Alfred and Sis. Frances Bahler and Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Lank (Templeton, IN).

Sharing the Word with us this month were visiting ministers, Bro. Noah Herman (Tucson, AZ) and Bro. Ken Schneider (Remington, IN). We thank these brothers for their visits and trust that God will bless them for their willingness to serve Him.

Our congregation was saddened by the sudden passing of Bro. Ed Kyburz, age 77, July 17. We extend our deepest sympathy to his wife, Sis. Viola; son, Paul; and their family circle. Sis. Viola has had much sorrow in her life having laid to rest her husband, a daughter, a son and a grandson. It is our prayer that God will greatly comfort and strengthen her in her time of need.

#### SAFELY HOME

I am home in heaven dear ones;  
Oh so happy and so bright  
There is perfect joy and beauty  
In this everlasting light.

All the pain and grief is over  
Every restless tossing passed.  
I am now at peace forever  
Safely home in heaven at last.

Did you wonder if I calmly  
Trod the valley of the shade?  
Oh, but Jesus' love illumined  
Every dark and fearful glade.

And He came Himself to meet me  
In that way so hard to tread;  
And with Jesus' arm to lean on  
Could I have one doubt or dread?

When that work is all completed,  
He will gently call you Home;  
Oh the rapture of that meeting,  
Oh the joy to see you come!

One cannot find words to express our appreciation for the many cards, prayers, memorials, phone calls and food. Also for the many comforting words and concerns during the recent loss of our husband, father and grandfather, Bro. Ed Kyburz. May God bless each one!

Sis. Viola Kyburz, Paul Kyburz  
and families

#### IOWA, BURLINGTON

**Karen Schultz — Dixie Messner**

We were pleasantly surprised when

the pews were filled in church yesterday. We don't very often fill our church unless something special is planned. Along with our many visitors were ministering Bros. Gary Maibach (Smithville, OH), Bill Gerst (Alto, MI) and Duane Metzger (West Bend).

Bro. Mark Bahr (Detroit, MI), Elder Bro. Ed Lanz, Bro. John Steiner and Bro. Dale Frank (Oakville) also shared God's Word with us this past month.

Sis. Donna Tuebel has moved to Iowa City to further her education. She will be missed by all of us, but especially by the elderly brothers and sisters. Sis. Donna was a faithful visitor to each and every one.

At this time Bro. Ken Buehler is hospitalized, Bro. Mike Schumacher had surgery but is home, and Sis. Minnie Siegle suffered from a fall but was fortunate not to break any bones.

#### IOWA, ELGIN Gloria Frieden

A builder builded a temple;  
He wrought with care and skill; —  
Pillars and groins and arches  
Were fashioned to meet his will;  
And men said when they saw its beauty:  
"It shall never know decay.  
Great is thy skill, O builder,  
Thy fame shall endure for aye."

A teacher builded a temple;  
She wrought with skill and care; —  
Forming each pillar with patience,  
Laying each stone with prayer.  
None saw the unceasing effort;  
None knew of the marvelous plan;  
For the temple the teacher builded  
Was unseen by the eyes of man.

Gone is the builder's temple; —  
Crumbled into the dust, —  
Pillar and groin and arches  
Food for consuming rust;  
But the temple the teacher builded  
Shall endure while the ages roll; —  
For that beautiful unseen temple  
Was a child's immortal soul.

Leaves of Gold

Again our children are returning to school, perhaps, with great anticipation of seeing their friends. Along with this anticipation may there also be a desire to learn. Let's remember that education is a blessed privilege that many children around the world are denied.

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

Another entry to our collection of precious memories was gathered when an evening of Christian fellowship was shared by the congregation at our annual Sunday school picnic. Our thanks go to Bro. Paul and Sis. Milly Butikofer for again hosting this annual event.

With open arms we welcome Bro. Jim and Sis. Marcy Knobloch into our little flock here at Elgin. May God richly bless them as they worship and fellowship with us.

It is much easier to welcome than to bid farewell, but we wish Kelly, Marion, Jennifer and Jason God's guidance and blessings in their new home in Buffalo, IL, and we trust they will return to visit often.

We would like to thank Bro. Uriel Gehring (Leo, IN) and Bro. Noah Gerber (West Bend, IA) for visiting us with their families, and for sharing the Word of God with us.

### IOWA, GARDEN GROVE Glen and Sally Funk

We have had a very busy summer with lots of company and wonderful fellowship. We say thanks from all of us to all of you who remembered us and spent time here. A special thanks goes to the ministers also; Bros. Harold Schmidgall, Doug Schock, Art Bauer, Roy Wernli and Harvey Heiniger.

Sis. Bertha Moser, Grandma to all of us here, has had a hard summer and not felt good. We miss her so much when she is not able to assemble with us. We pray God will be with her and give her strength.

Every year, we all hear everyone exclaim, "I can't believe how fast this summer has gone by!" Or, "Where has the time gone this summer?" My thoughts are always on how quickly the children are back in school, and it seems to get harder and harder to let them go. This year all of our children will be going to school. I'm sure there are many mothers that can relate to this experience, feeling the loneliness that I feel, and yet knowing you have to let go. May we all pray for all the children of Christian parents, that they can grow stronger and resist temptations that surround them, and that the teachings from their home and church will stay with them.

### IOWA, IOWA CITY Janette Schulz

Our congregation was blessed this month with many visitors, including Elder Bros. Paul Butikofer (Elgin, IA) and Raymond Banwart (Fort Scott, KS) and ministering Bros. Paul Eisenmann (Burlington, IA), Jaye Rinkenberger (Goodfield, IL), Jon Schmidgall (Oakville, IA) and Art Baurer (Princeville, IL). May God richly bless all of our visitors for assembling with us.

Our growing congregation welcomes four new people this fall. Angie Johnson, a recent convert from Oakville, IA, has found employment in the Iowa City area. We wish her well in her new job and home. Three new students will also be starting at the University of Iowa this fall; Valerie Schambach (Elgin, IL), Sis. Donna Teubel (Burlington, IA) and Sis. Karen Staker (Morton, IL). We look forward to getting to know them all and wish them well in their studies.

Many of us had the privilege to go to Lester, IA, and witness the testimony and baptism of our new sister, Melody Knobloch. What a blessing to see her and the other new sisters' firm faith, joyful countenance and perfect peace!

While each of us cherishes the memory of giving our own testimony, when the entire congregation stood as a token of love and acceptance, we know our real "proving" is in our daily walk of life.

"I stood once in the test room of a great steel mill. All around me were little partitions and compartments. Steel had been tested to the limit, and marked with figures that showed its breaking point. Some pieces had been twisted until they broke, and the strength of torsion was marked on them. Some had been stretched to the breaking point and also marked. The master of the steel mill knew just what these pieces of steel would stand under strain. He knew just what they would bear if placed in the great ship, building or bridge. He knew this because his testing room revealed it.

"It is often so with God's children. God does not want us to be like vases of glass or procelain. He would have us like these toughened pieces of steel, able to bear twisting and crushing to the uttermost without collapse.

"He wants us to be, not hothouse plants, but storm-beaten oaks; not sand dunes driven with every gust of

wind, but granite rocks withstanding the fiercest storms. To make us such, He must needs to bring us into His testing room of suffering. Many of us need no other argument than our own experiences to prove that suffering is indeed God's testing room of faith."

J. H. McC.

Streams in the Desert

Be true; be true! The Lord is by thee standing;  
Joyful with Him at last will be the ending!  
Tho' hard the strife and long the conflict be,  
Through faithfulness the Lord will honored be!

Be true; be true! Those who in all temptation  
Have proven true, deserve our commendation.

Were there no test, how should it proven be.  
Who weak, who strong, who true or untrue be?

O, faithful Lord, Thy love and truth sincerely  
Thou dost bestow on us each day so clearly,  
So grant that we also each day anew  
Become more faithful, loving, kind and true!

Zion's Harp #172

### IOWA, LESTER

**Kathy Metzger — Mary Knobloch**

We rejoice to hear God has called another soul into his service. Joy Feucht (Bro. Alfred and Sis. Marie) has humbly petitioned God's help as she begins her repentance. What comfort when we can lean upon His everlasting promises!

Our cups were filled to overflowing as we listened to the testimonies of three dear souls August 16 and witnessed their baptisms on Sunday. They included Melody Knobloch (Bro. Ezra and Sis. Marie), Jill Metzger (Bro. Gene and Sis. Dolores) and Dawn Meyer (Bro. Raymond and Sis. Twyla). Elder Bro. Art Nohl (Morris, MN) assisted Bro. Leo in this holy work. Once again we were assured the door of grace remains open and God's peace has been instilled in tender hearts.

We have been blessed with many visitors this past month and God's holy Word has been brought forth by visiting ministers. On July 20, Bro. Carl

Wyss (Washington, IL) and Bro. Russell Wuthrich (Pulaski, IA) were with us. Bro. Clarence Dietrich (Silverton, OR) ministered to us July 27 and on August 3, Bro. Doug Schock (Pulaski, IA) and Bro. Marvin Schmidgall (Eureka, IL) expounded the Word. Bro. Joe Gerst (Iowa City) spent August 10 here. May God continue to bless our ministers as they come with empty vessels and then God provides the spiritual manna.

Bro. Leo performed the marriage ceremony of Lisa Knobloch (Bro. Bill and Sis. Eleanor) and Douglas Van't Hof July 19. We pray for God's blessings upon this young couple as they establish their home in California.

Surgical patients have been Bro. Blair Metzger (Bro. Gene and Sis. Dolores), Bro. Alvin Leuthold and Katie Kellenberger (Bro. Verlyn and Sis. Linda). Bro. Jake Metzger was hospitalized with medical problems. God has again answered prayers and restored the ill to reasonable health.

#### IOWA, OAKVILLE

##### Debbie Wagenbach

We gladly welcome Bro. Marc Wagenbach (Bro. Paul and Sis. Dorothy) and Sis. Heidi Wagenbach (John and Sis. Marilyn) into the precious brotherhood of faith. Elder Bro. Aaron Steffen (Alto, MI) assisted Elder Bro. Ed with the testimonies and baptism of Bro. Marc and Sis. Heidi. Bro. Simon Wagenbach (Tremont, IL) was also in Oakville to share the weekend.

We rejoice with those who rejoice and we weep with those who weep. We certainly extend our heartfelt sympathy to Bro. Norman and Sis. Mary Ann Frank in the tragic death of their son, Craig. We know that Bro. Norman and Sis. Mary Ann and Craig's sister, Carol, and brother, Cory, will always feel a void, but we know that God has comforted them in their loss and he will continue to help them through their struggles of grief.

Note: Words cannot express the true feeling of our hearts for all the love, the prayers and deeds of kindness shown to us during the loss of our Craig. We are deeply appreciative.

Bro. Norman, Sis. Mary Ann,  
Carol and Cory Frank

We so much appreciated having ministering Bro. Dan Stoller (Rockville, CT) with us August 7.

A truly blessed weekend was had by the singles group from Oakville and

Burlington as we recently hosted the singles groups from Morton and Washington, IL, and Iowa City, IA.

Note: Silver Lining dues are due this month. Please pay Sis. Debbie or Sis. Bonnie Wagenbach the \$7.00 renewal fee if you wish to continue receiving the Silver Lining.

#### IOWA, PULASKI

##### Sarah Teubel — Mary Jane Knapp

We feel especially blest to have Bro. Dale and Sis. Teresa Schock, Ryan and Jenny move to our community after prayerful consideration to establish their home and business. We know they will be missed in the Elgin, IL, congregation, but hope and pray that God will bless them as He sees best for their needs.

Bro. Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville, IL) and Bro. Gerald Sutter (Taylor, MO) each spent a Sunday with us recently. One of the brothers reminded us that we must examine ourselves to be sure we truly have a love for our brethren as God would want us to have. As he asked, do we honestly rejoice when a brother or sister has good fortune or does it cause us to feel jealousy within our hearts? If feelings of jealousy or resentment are present, then we have work to do.

Several have been hospitalized since last reporting. Medical patients were Sis. Elizabeth Wuthrich and Bro. Roger Musselman, while Bro. Doug and Darin Wiegand (both Bro. Dave and Sis. Mary) were surgical patients. As of this writing, all four are at home but we continue to pray for the healing hand of God on each of them.

Bro. Dave and Sis. Mary Wiegand and Bro. Doug and Darin want to thank everyone who remembered them with cards during their recent hospitalizations and since returning home.

#### IOWA, WEST BEND

##### Polly Zaugg — Phyllis Banwart

The July 27th weekend we enjoyed many visitors for a Fort Sam reunion. Included in the guests were the following visiting ministers, Bros. Bill Dotterer (Phoenix, AZ), Ron Heiniger (Bloomington, IL), Charles Sinn (Ft. Scott, KS), Gary Brown (Forrest, IL) and Tim Zimmerman (Gridley, KS).

We laid to rest one of our dear old faithful sisters, Emma Sauder. Sis. Emma passed away July 22 at the age of 88. She is survived by her husband, Bro. George, and the following chil-

dren: Ellis and Elmer (Fredricksburg, VA), Sis. Bertha Kieser (Peoria, IL), Virgil (Hancock, MN), Mrs. Joseph (Mildred) Siepka (Chicago, IL), Sis. Mary Ann Baer (Bro. Herman, Princeville, IL), Mrs. Richard (Dorothy) Zaugg (West Bend), George, Jr. (St. Paul, MN), Sis. Joyce Nohl (Bro. Lloyd, McAllen, TX); 27 grandchildren and 44 great-grandchildren. Sis. Emma was preceded in death by two sons, Donald and Richard.

We do not walk alone through sorrow...  
God is by our side  
So may you gather courage  
From the strength He will provide.

We pray for the loved ones who are hospitalized and those who have returned home: Sis. Tami Banwart (Bro. Leo), Sis. Beverly Wirtz (Bro. Verner), Bro. George Bruellman. May God's loving care provide for them.

A wedding reception was held August 10 at our fellowship center for Bradley and Marlene Chalfant. Marlene is the daughter of Eldon and Verdell Fehr. May God bless their marriage.

#### JAPAN, SHIODA

##### Kathy Kieser

"Praise God from whom all blessings flow!" We are thankful that God has blessed our Shioda congregation over the years. We chose Sunday, July 20, as the special day to commemorate the 30th anniversary of our Shioda church dedication. Some of our brothers shared memories of the past, and we were encouraged to go onward and forward in the fear and joy of the Lord. We received new inspiration to strive to draw others to Him and the love and salvation that we have found.

Our summer fellowship meeting was held July 27 - 29. What an uplift it was to sing, to study the Word, and to share our conversion experiences together as a close-knit family of the living God.

Our Japan congregations were thrilled to hear the engagement announcement of Bro. Frank Sauder and Sis. Kathy Klotzle, two of our staff members here in Japan. Their parents are Elder Bro. Don and Sis. Wilma Sauder (Roanoke, IL) and Bro. John and Sis. Lois Klotzle (Altadena, CA). May the blessings of our Lord be theirs as they walk together in the light and promises of His Word. They plan to return to Japan after a fall wedding.

Bro. Randy Mogler, with friend Jan Utsuki, and Sis. Sheila Moser left for the States July 24, and Bro. Willis and Sis. Lois Ehnle departed August 4. They all plan to return to Japan at the end of August. We are thankful that Bro. Randy and Sis. Sheila have prayerfully decided to stay a third year in Japan.

Our guests this month were my parents, Bro. David and Sis. Shirley Kieser (Bradford, IL). It was a blessing to receive their encouragement and support, and to share the love of our brethren, friends and little kindergarten students as well as the beauty of this country with them. We thank the Lord for special weeks together and, now, for the power of the Spirit and prayer that holds us close to one another even when we are apart.

Kindergarten summer vacation began July 24 and extends through the end of August. September 1 will be a happy day as students and teachers are reunited!

#### JAPAN, TOKYO

##### Marie Inoue — Yoshio Yamazaki

We had our summer fellowship meeting at the Gotemba YMCA from July 27 - 29. Bro. David and Sis. Shirley Kieser (Bradford), parents of Sis. Kathy Jo, were our special guests. The scenery of Lake Ashi and the mountains were beautiful. The singing and Godly-inspired meetings were a real blessing along with precious fellowship. We thank Bro. David for being a willing servant and teacher in our meetings which concerned "God-Fearing Families".

On August 3, our dear Sis. Kathy Klotzle (Bro. John and Sis. Lois Klotzle, Altadena, CA) was announced to be married to Bro. Frank Sauder (Elder Bro. Don and Sis. Wilma Sauder, Roanoke, IL). We rejoice with them and pray that God's special guidance will be with them as they plan for their marriage and life's pathway together in the Lord.

#### KANSAS, BERN

##### Linda Esslinger — Shirley Strahm

Bro. Alvin Strahm, 72, passed away July 25 and services were held July 28. Surviving are his wife, Sis. Mildred; two sons, Ronald (Blue Springs, MO) and Elwin (Sabetha); two daughters, Dana Tegtmeier (Bern) and Barbara Beethe (Topeka); two brothers, Glen Strahm (Topeka) and Bro. Loren

Strahm (Gridley, KS); one sister, Sis. Cordelia Locher (Sabetha). We extend our sincere sympathy.

A daughter, Whitney Loree, was born to Laurie and Warren L. Wilson August 7. Happy grandparents are Bro. Glenn and Sis. Loa Luthi.

Visiting ministers were Elder Bro. Gene Marti (Lamar, MO), Bro. Dale Wulf (Lester, IA) and Bro. Terry Farney (Wichita).

Tara Rokey (infant daughter of Bro. Joe David and Sis. Kathy) was hospitalized.

On August 12, we had a hailstorm. Our church received damage.

#### KANSAS, GRIDLEY

##### Vola Young — Judy Kraft

"I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live. And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die."

John 11:25-26

Sympathy is extended to Bro. Loren Strahm and family in the recent death of his brother, Bro. Alvin Strahm (Bern, KS). We are thankful that we are not left comfortless, but in time of sorrow, God's love can sustain us and His power and faith can renew us.

Sis. Wilma Young was hospitalized for several days for tests - observation.

A week was set aside for Bible school. We have to feel that the Lord worked through the brothers and sisters that lent themselves in this endeavor. The children were enthusiastic, eager to return each evening and really seemed to enjoy themselves. Surely a blessing was received by both the children and teachers.

The Gridley-Lamont junior-senior Sunday school classes were host, one weekend, to the Wichita junior-senior Sunday school classes.

We, as a body of believers, have been blessed by the teachings of several visiting ministers: Bros. Glen Funk (Garden Grove, IA), Howard Plattner (Wichita, KS), Clarence Dietrich (Silverton, OR) and Elder Bros. Edward Lanz (Oakville, IA), Eugene Marti (Lamar, MO) and Arthur Bahler (Fairbury, IL).

As Christians we have a duty to go to church, not only for what we can get out of it, but also for what we can contribute. We can lend our voices to give praise to the Lord, add our prayers,

add our strength in beseeching the Lord's blessings, be a light and example, showing the way to salvation through the Lord Jesus Christ. We go to worship God and to consider his boundless love and mercy. We also go for the needed companionship and fellowship of other believers. If we are not actively involved in our church, we can become like a coal that is removed from the bed of glowing coals. The coal cools and the flame dies!!

#### KANSAS, LAMONT

##### Jill K. Luthi

The season of summer has quickly gone by and the new season of autumn is setting in. Days are becoming shorter and the school bells have rung for us to return from our summer recess. Returning to higher schools of learning are Marvin Anliker (Kansas State University, Manhattan) and Sis. Jill K. Luthi (Emporia State University, Emporia). We also want to welcome Sis. Loretta Edelman (Sabetha, KS) to our area, as she will be attending the Flint Hills Area Vo-Tech School in Emporia. This correspondent must confess that she is now going onto the third year of college, while having these responsibilities also. Due to other conflicts (tests, term papers, group assignments, quizzes and reading assignments), I have missed several issues of the Silver Lining. My apologies to all, for it certainly was not done deliberately, nor forgotten. We are all going to school for our heavenly Father, with His Word as our daily and hourly teacher. It is an expensive school for God to be teaching, but one that is free for every one of us on earth.

"God keeps a costly school. Many of its lessons are spelled out through tears. We must each thank God for the bodily discipline that He gives us, no matter how young or how old we may be; and He is not the only One who has turned a trouble into triumph.

This school of our heavenly Father will soon close for us; the term time is shortening every day. Let us not shrink from a hard lesson or wince under any rod of chastisement. The richer will be the crown, and the sweeter will be heaven, if we endure cheerfully to the end and graduate in glory."

Theodore L. Cuyler

Several from our congregation were able to attend the wedding services of Wayne Anliker (Bro. Glen and Sis. Lorean) and Dawn Loechler (Bill and

Carol Loechler, Overland Park, KS) August 9. Our best wishes and God's directive and protective wings are extended to them as they make their home in Houston, TX. I am sure they would welcome letters and phone calls. Their new address and phone number are: 9201 Clarewood, #98, Houston, TX 77036 and (713) 777-2725.

To this date, 1986 has been a very beautiful year with more precipitation than we're use to, cool, summer days and nights, and the lush color of green lawns. "In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." I Thessalonians 5:18.

### KANSAS, SABETHA

**Charleen Hartter — Nita Grimm**

"Go your way into the village over against you; and as soon as ye be entered into it, ye shall find a colt tied, whereon never man sat; loose him, and bring him." St. Mark 11:2. A minister once mentioned that normally, a young colt is very spirited and wild by nature. It has to be trained and worked with to allow a man to ride it. Christ, sat upon a colt, whereon never man sat; and the colt calmly bore the Saviour into Jerusalem. Our human spirit within us is often found to be spirited and untame by nature, even as a colt; but how easily can Christ enter in and calm us if we only come to Him, listen and allow Him to lead us.

We rejoice with the angels in heaven as four precious souls have repented and expressed their faith in experiencing a true conversion and rebirth in Christ Jesus! How thankful we are to have Brad and Teresa Edelman, Loren Edelman and Loretta Edelman as our brothers and sisters-in-the-Lord!

Ministering Elder Bros. Gene Marti (Lamar, MO) and Lester Hartter (Bern, KS) and Bros. Dale Zeltwanger (Morris, MN) and Kent Mogler (Minneapolis, MN) have worshipped with us this past month, laying God's precious truth into our hearts! May God's blessing be upon our local ministers as well and all of them across the land as they untiringly give of themselves in God's service.

Selena Bailey (Larry and Sis. Linda) was recently hospitalized and released. May God's will be done in all things, and His healing power given to all who are in need.

"Behold, how good and how pleasant

it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!"

Psalm 133:1

### KANSAS, WICHITA

**Judy Langhofer**

Is anything too hard for God? Sis. Nellie Lambert, who is now in her golden years, says, "there is not". She says that if you live long enough you will taste a bit of everything: hate and love, joy and sorrow, tragedy and ecstasy. With each experience she knows that "tears are for the night but joy cometh in the morning".

Sis. Nellie can be claimed by anyone who needs a friend, a sympathetic ear, a helping hand; but for the most part she has the welfare of her grandchildren and great-grandchildren on her daily list. When obstacles crowd upon her, she says to herself, "Hang in there, Nellie. Have faith in God! For this too shall pass."

I find it a great joy to share with women of faith, of the Word. It is one of my greatest treasures, one of my greatest pleasures. They know, they understand. They are full, they are blessed and this too shall pass.

### MICHIGAN, ALTO

**Liz Blough**

Here we are again towards the fall of '86 . . . how time flies. The brotherhood conference is now being held, and in attendance by many. We are prayerful for our elder brothers who are serving at the conference, speaking on the many subjects of interest to us all. One of the goals of the conference is to perfect our church, which includes all of us, and to give God the glory and praise He so deserves.

### THE PERFECT CHURCH

I think that I shall never see  
A church that's all it ought to be:  
A church whose members never stray  
Beyond the straight and narrow way;  
A church that has no empty pews,  
Whose pastor never has the blues;  
A church whose deacons always seek,  
And none is proud, and all are meek;  
Where gossips never peddle lies,  
Or make complaints, or criticize;  
Where all are always sweet and kind,  
And all to others' faults are blind.  
Such perfect churches there may be,  
But none are known to me.  
But still, we'll work, and pray, and plan  
To make our own the best we can.

### CLEAN AND WHITE

In some coal-mining areas a little white flower is often found which has a peculiar characteristic. Although coal dust settles upon it constantly, it remains perfectly white. It gives off a secretion which causes the dust to slide off as fast as it settles. Likewise, the soul who is rooted in Christ, and filled with the Holy Spirit, has the power to remain unsullied in the midst of the blackest surroundings.

Anyone wishing to continue receiving the Silver Lining, please have your dues in to me by October 1. Thank you.

### MICHIGAN, BAY CITY

**Pam Schlatter**

Visiting our congregation this past month were Bro. Carroll Gerber (Bluffton North, IN) and Bro. Paul Gasser (Akron, OH). We thank them for being sowers of the seed and trust that God would bless it so it would prosper and return fruitful.

Funeral services were held for Ernie Wieland who passed from this life. We extend our sympathy to his family members and friends.

I once read that it is very common for students to spend a sleepless or at least a restless night prior to the first day of school. Even though the students may be anxious to return to their friends and routine, there is an element of apprehension. The school classroom is not so very different from our lives. We meet with constant change and adjustment follows adjustment with lessons to be learned every day. One major difference exists between our school lessons and the lessons of life. In life we look to just one teacher, Jesus. That single element of having the same teacher year after year should relieve some of the anxiety that we experience in new learning situations. At least we know we'll have the best teacher! May God bless each of our returning students to obtain the most out of their education.

### MICHIGAN, DETROIT

**Bev Bahr**

God again has led two of His children together in His love. The engagement of Bro. Alex Varga and Sis. Sherise Strahm was announced. Both Bro. Alex and Sis. Sherise attend the Altadena, CA, church; however, Bro. Alex's parents are Bro. Steve and Sis. Joanne

Varga from our congregation. May they feel God's guidance and love as they plan for a November 16 wedding.

August 2 was the wedding day for Rick Burgos and Cathy Foley. Their parents are Gabriel and Marianne Burgos and Mr. and Mrs. Tim Foley. August 9 was the wedding day for Aaron Fortenbacher and Tammie McCarty. Their parents are Bro. Walter and Sis. Margaret Fortenbacher and William and Shirley McCarty. We wish both couples much happiness and pray that they will look to God and feel His love as they begin their life together.

Steve and Patti Belsley are the parents of a new baby girl, Amanda Katherine, born July 23. She is also welcomed home by big brother, Joshua. Amanda's grandparents are Bro. Ben and Sis. Lois Belsley. May God bless their family with love and health.

Sis. Dawn Bahr (Bro. Phil) was hospitalized but is home now and feeling better. Bro. Bill Kugawa (Sis. Darlene) has been experiencing chronic back pain and was hospitalized for a few days. Our prayers are with both families, trusting that the blessings of health and strength can be theirs.

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

#### MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS Barbara Olson

The season of summer is drawing to a close for 1986. Those nice long days are becoming shorter and the fields are being harvested. June, July and August were lovely months here in Minneapolis and we were very thankful.

After a month of vacation, the Sunday school reconvened September 7. May He grant grace and courage to the brothers and sisters as the lessons are taught to our Sunday school children from the youngest to the Bible class.

Our children, young men and young women are returning to schools and universities. Our prayer for each one is that their learning can lead them to some useful service, and always unto the Lord.

Our new Sunday school superintendent is Bro. Ken Schmidt. We wish him God's blessings.

Our annual Sunday school picnic was held July 27 at the Highland Park

Reserve. A fine afternoon was enjoyed by all.

Mid-week services brought Bro. Uriel Gehring (Leo, IN) and his family, as well as Elder Bro. Harold Messner (Winthrop, MN). We certainly all were blessed and especially appreciated an update on the Children's Home.

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

Thought: He who walks close to God leaves no room for anything to come between.

#### MINNESOTA, MORRIS

##### Ruth Nohl — Hildegard Koehl

"Today if ye will hear his voice, harden not your heart." Psalm 95:7-8. Those who have heeded the Saviour's voice are Betty Noordmans, Jennifer Kellenberger (Mark and Sis. Diane), Shawn Nohl (Bro. Dave and Sis. Eileen), Beth Schmidgall (Bro. Neil and Sis. Linda) and Doug Feuchtenberger (Bro. Gerald and Sis. Karen). We rejoice with these dear converts and their families, realizing that the joy and thankfulness they feel in their hearts are heaven sent.

In Psalms 92, the scripture relates to us the security we find in Jesus. If we strive to serve Him faithfully, it states that no evil or plague will befall us, because He gives His angels charge over us. What a precious thought that the angels of heaven are watching over us and the Holy Spirit guides us each step of the way.

Visiting ministers who have shared the Word of Life with us have been Elder Bro. Bob Grimm (Goodfield, IL) and Bros. Uriel Gehring (Leo, IN), Ken Lawson (Minneapolis, MN), Jaye Rinkenberger (Goodfield, IL), Tom Leman (Denver, CO) and Dave Eisenmann (North Fort Myers, FL). We appreciated the inspiring messages these brothers brought to us and invite them back whenever the opportunity would avail itself.

The death angel has come and touched many families in our congregation with sorrow. When death comes, it leaves a vacancy to adjust to, so we hope these dear families have felt our prayers and the loving mercies of our heavenly Father.

Minnie Schlupp met with the loss of her sister, Rose Jensen.

We extend our sympathy to Virgil

Sauder and family in the loss of his mother, Sis. Emma Sauder (West Bend, IA).

Bro. Floyd Schmidgall held the funeral services for Darlene Mohrman. Darlene leaves to mourn, her husband, Ed, three daughters and a son.

Bro. Ben Greiner, Sis. Helen Joos, John, Emil and Otto Greiner have been bereaved of their sister, Sis. Mary Moser (Elgin, IL).

Ray and Tracy Nohl laid to rest their infant son, Tyler Ray. May they take comfort in knowing their little one rests "Safe In the Arms of Jesus".

Sis. Angie Schaefer (Bro. Herman and Sis. Eva Jean) will be leaving us to attend college at ISU in Normal, IL. We wish Sis. Angie God's protection and care and will be looking forward to her visits home.

Our new convert, Jennifer Kellenberger, has found employment in Sabetha, KS, so she will be leaving the Morris area. Our special prayers are with her as she makes these new beginnings in her life.

Troy Wiese and Patti Schmidgall (Bro. Gene and Sis. Dorothy) were recently united in marriage. They will be making their new home in Phoenix, AZ.

Penny Fehr (Bro. LeRoy and Sis. Judy) and Terry Meierding have announced their engagement and are planning a June, 1987, wedding.

Our hospital patients this month include Dorothy Durkee (Lloyd), Bro. Joe Feuchtenberger, Sis. Dorothy Zeltwanger, Sis. Tillie Kellenberger, Sis. Lillian Koehl, Bro. Dave Moser and Tracy Nohl. Special prayers have made requests for speedy recoveries for these loved ones.

Craig and Joenne Schmidgall have welcomed a little boy, Adam James, into their home. Sis. Mabel Schmidgall is the grandmother.

Steve and Deann Heintzelman have been blessed with their second child, a son, Tony. Big brother, Jerrod, welcomes him also, along with grandparents, Wilbert and Ruth Spohr.

Bro. Ernest Kellenberger extends a heartfelt "thank you" for the love shown to him on his 80th birthday. He received many nice gifts, cards and good wishes.

#### MINNESOTA, WINTHROP Wanda Messner Ella Mae Schmidt

August 17 was a special day for our

congregation when Sis. Lila Schmidt (Eugene and Sis. Ella Mae Schmidt) was wed to Bro. Anthony Fehr (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Norma, Fairbury, IL). Our Elder Bro. Harold Messner and Bro. Elmer Schmidt had the marriage service. Visiting ministers were Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr (West Bend, IA) and Bros. Don Miller (Minneapolis) and Duane Kilgus (Fairbury, IL). We wish them God's blessings as they establish their home in Fairbury. We thank everyone who shared this beautiful day with us and may God be glorified by it!

Elder Bro. Leo Moser was with us recently. He instructed us to build our "ship of faith" according to all of God's directions given to us in His Word, so that we all reach those "golden shores" without having a shipwreck.

We welcome little Cassandra Lyn, who was born to Vernon and Vicki Messner. Her two brothers are Jeremy and Josh. Grandparents are Bro. Harold and Sis. Gerry Messner.

We thank the Peoria, IL, congregation for hosting the annual brotherhood conference. May God bless you for all your efforts.

Hospital patients this month were Ann Marie Schmidt (Bro. Mark and Sis. Linda) and Sis. Carrie Messner. May God be with them both.

### MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY Linda Ziegenhorn

Just as my child brings his broken toys  
to me to mend  
I took all my broken dreams to God  
because he was my friend.  
But then, instead of leaving Him in  
peace to work alone,  
I hung around and I tried to help with  
ways that were my own.  
At last I snatched them back and cried,  
"How could you be so slow?"  
"What could I do my child?" He said,  
"You never did let go."

Anabel Gilham

Do you let go of the things you pray  
about? Or do you continue to worry?

On August 17 we celebrated Ed and Louise Wreath's 50th wedding anniversary with a surprise picnic. We congratulate them on their many years together and ask God's blessing on their future years together.

We would like to thank all the ministers who give their time to serve the Kansas City church, especially Elder

Bro. Gene Marti. We appreciate their faithfulness.

### MISSOURI, LAMAR Becky Marti — Janice Stoller

Come, children, let us journey; the  
evening draweth near;  
Our path is full of danger; the desert,  
dark and drear!  
Encourage now your heart to future  
life to wander,  
Grow strong, until up yonder all grief  
and woe depart.

We shall not be regretting we chose  
this pilgrim's way;  
We know the One, so faithful, Who  
leads us day by day.  
Believe and serve ye Him, each one  
his face directing,  
The narrow way selecting, straight  
to Jerusalem!

Zion's Harp #185

We were happy to have three visiting ministers with us this month to encourage us on this narrow way. They were Bro. Bill Emch (Lamont, KS), Bro. Dale Frank (Oakville, IA) and Elder Bro. Raymond Banwart (Ft. Scott, KS). May God bless each of them for their efforts.

A baby girl, Kelsey Marie, was born to Jerold and Connie Lehman August 7. Maternal grandparents are Bro. Dean and Sis. Arlene Mari. Little Kelsey has an older brother, Brandon, to welcome her home.

On August 8, Terry Braker and Jayne Stahl were united in marriage. Terry is the son of Bro. Leonard and Sis. Bonnie Braker. May they place God in the center of the home they have now established.

Sis. Charlotte Banwart was a hospital patient this past month. We continue to uphold our beloved sister in prayer, and hope she can find strength to continue one day at a time.

### MISSOURI, TAYLOR Loida Hodel — Lori Marquart

#### THE BEST PART OF A VACATION!

The best part of vacation,  
Though far and wide we roam,  
Is when it's time to travel back  
The trail that leads to home.  
Strange roads and ways are thrilling  
And mighty fine to see,

But when vacation's over  
At home we long to be.  
It's fine to see the north land,  
The mountains of the west,  
The great southern plantations,  
But, somehow, I love best  
Of all the towns and cities,  
Though far and wide we roam,  
That little rambling village  
At trail's end we call — home!

O. Ridenour

Summer is almost over and along with the coming of fall we wish to recognize those from our area who will be going into fields of higher education. Grant Haab (Bro. Paul and Sis. Kathy) and Sis. Lori Bostrom (Sis. Roberta) to U. of I at Champaign, IL; Shannon Haerr (Bro. Norman and Sis. Sallie) and Mark Wiegand (Bro. Marv and Sis. Joann) to Quincy College; and John Gerst (Bro. Arnie and Sis. Marge) to W.I.U. at Macomb, IL. May God be with these young people and may they realize that "education without application is of little value".

Sunday school "vacation" is in session during the month of August, but classes are open and taught by substitute teachers. Beginning in September, Bros. Richard Sutter and Jeff Gramm and Sisters Roberta Bostrom, Penny Knochel and Amy Adrian will assume duties as the new teachers.

We're glad to have ministering Bro. Kenny and Sis. Phyllis Knapp back in our midst again after being away for a season. We're also very grateful to God for restoring Bro. Kenny back to reasonable health after spending several days in a St. Louis hospital as a medical patient.

We are remembering our elder brethren as they gather together for the annual conference. May God direct the decisions that are made at this time and may we support the conclusions as being God's will.

We enjoyed having Bro. Dave Wiegand as our visiting minister one Wednesday evening this month. "Taylor" being home to the Wiegand family several years ago, makes the tie of Christian friendship a bit more special. We thank Bro. Dave, Sis. Ethel and traveling companions, Bro. Melvin and Sis. Leona Wiegand Steffen for being with us.

Pam Riney (Gene and Irene) and David Hoenes exchanged marriage vows August 16 in Palmyra, MO. May God bless this couple with health and

happiness and may His presence be felt in their home.

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**NEW JERSEY, UNION CITY**  
**Ed Aeschleman**

Visiting ministers were Bros. Al Schneider, Kevin Ryan, Dan Stoller (Rockville, CT) and William Gerst (Alto, MI). God was willing to send His servants to us and they were willing to come for which we are very thankful. It is a blessing to know that the Holy Word continues to go forth without fear or favor of man and to the salvation of all who will hear and heed.

We have thoroughly enjoyed having our dear friend, Nelson Haerr, with us during the summer. Nelson is Sis. Heidi's brother and he spent most of the summer working in Union City. He plans to go back to school in the fall.

We thank God for giving long life to our dear Bro. John Diggelman who continues to serve in the ministry at Union City. Bro. John was 92 years old August 11.

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**NEW YORK, CROGHAN**  
**Alice Virkler**

Our annual church meeting was held July 31. May God grant necessary strength and grace to those who have assumed new positions. Bro. Clyde Virkler will serve as trustee and Sunday school teachers will be Bro. Ted Virkler, superintendent; Bro. Ronald Herzig, assistant superintendent; Bro. Floyd Graves, Jr., Sis. Polly Farney and Sis. Eleanor Herzig.

On Sunday, August 3, we assembled with the Naumburg congregation for services. We also enjoyed the invitation to attend their annual Sunday school and church picnic held in the afternoon at Whitaker Park.

We were taught from God's Word on Wednesday evening, August 6, through the lips of Elder Bro. Eugene Pamer (Akron, OH) and Bro. Henry Dotterer (Rittman, OH). We thank them for their visit to serve us.

The Sunday school children, teachers and parents enjoyed our annual Sunday school picnic held Saturday, August 9 at Happy Hollow.

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**NEW YORK, NAUMBURG**  
**Rachel Snyder**

On the weekend of July 13, Bro. Leland and Sis. Berniece Hirschey were in Washington, D.C., where a group had gathered for services. Bro. Leland had the service.

On August 3 we had our Sunday school and church picnic at Whitaker Falls. We invited the Croghan congregation to be with us and also had company from several places. A very nice time was spent.

On August 6, we were blessed to have two ministers from Ohio with us. They were Bro. Henry Dotterer (Rittman) and Elder Bro. Eugene Pamer (Akron). It was so nice they came and may they come again.

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**OHIO, AKRON**  
**Joyce Gasser**

King Solomon begins Ecclesiastes with "The words of the Preacher . . ." and as we noted last month, he was a king, not a preacher, but the word preacher here means "one who has a message". Solomon's message is that he walked in the Word, and then got occupied in nine areas of life: Chapter 1 reveals his being occupied with education, which is good, but the Word is to be first in our lives. Second, is seeking pleasure, but leaves us shallow. Third, is emphasis on building and creativity, but it should be a sideline with the Word as the mainline. Fourth is possessions and servants, but that was vanity. Fifth is in 2:21, which is inheritors, but even Rehoboam split the kingdom. Sixth, is philosophy and even humanism. Seventh, in Chapter 5 is money, which can be used, but the Word is to be first. Eighth, in 7:1 is a reputation, but the Word is to be above it. Ninth is the physical life. After he let the Word slip from being first, in Ecclesiastes 11:10 he wanted to put away this evil way, and in Ecclesiastes 12:9-11 he became wise and was occupied with the Word again and then had a revelation of Jesus, the "One Shepherd". So, the Preacher, or "one who has a message" gives the message of saying, don't do as he did, but always keep wholly occupied in the Word.

Susan and Gyongyi Bako, daughters of Bro. and Sis. Sandor Bako, are spending several weeks in Hungary with their grandparents and relatives.

Sis. Bonnie Bako is home from being hospitalized. Sis. Alma Curie has been hospitalized.

Bro. Merrill Laukhuf blessed us with inspiring messages.

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**OHIO, JUNCTION**  
**Les Manz**

Visiting brothers who brought us the Word of Life were Bro. Don Gudeman

(LaCrosse, IN) and Bro. Larry Weninger (Latty). Are we not as those who sit at meat, while those bringing us His Word are as those who serve?

The family of Sis. Hulda Manz and the family of Sis. Beatrice Hans each want to thank all who remembered their loved one and family during their recent deaths. As David said in the loss of his young son in II Samuel 12:23, "I shall go to him but he shall not return to me." So we believe that as they have made it home to heaven, with the Lord's blessings and if we are ready when He calls us home, they will not come back to us, but we can go to them.

Chad, Kari and Kevin Manz are delighted with their new little sister, Tami Jo. Tami's grandparents are Bro. Marvin and Sis. Mary Klopfenstein (Latty) and Bro. Eli and Sis. Evelyn Manz. Her parents are Bro. Les and Sis. Karen Manz. To think, that God trusts this little soul to such weak mortals. We pray for His wisdom in raising each of them and His blessings that we will all meet one day in heaven.

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**OHIO, LATTY**  
**Patty Gerber — Marlene Reinhard**

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

Believing that it is God's will for their lives, we were privileged to witness the wedding vows of Bro. Eli Schlatter (Bro. Joe and Sis. Elsie) and Sis. Janel Price (Robert and Aldean). Rick Plummer (Bro. Rex and Sis. Ann) and Denise Meyer (Mr. and Mrs. Robert Meyer) were also united in marriage. We wish both couples God's richest blessings upon their lives.

We sympathize with the family of Sis. Naomi Metzger in her recent passing away from this life into life everlasting in the heavens above. Surviving are three sisters, Sis. Mary Stoller and Sis. Bena DeLong (Latty) and Sis. Matilda Suttor (Peoria, IL).

Hospitalized this month were Bro. Justus Stoller (Sis. Ruby) and Sis. Mary Stoller. May God grant them an extra measure of grace to climb the path back to good health.

**I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH  
 AND THE LIFE**

I am the Way  
 so just follow Me



Though the way be rough  
and you cannot see . . .

I am the Truth  
which all men seek  
So heed not "false prophets"  
nor the words that they speak . . .

I am the Life  
and I hold the key  
That opens the door  
to eternity . . .

And in this dark world  
I am the Light  
To the promised land  
where there is no night!

Helen Steiner Rice

### OHIO, MANSFIELD Linda Morrison

Sunday, July 27, was the annual Ohio-Michigan Youth Day. Bro. Paul Gasser (Akron) and Bro. Andy Stoller (Smithville) spent the day with us. The young people were reminded that Christ shed His blood to save their souls, laying down His earthly life for them and the brothers and sisters-in-Christ lovingly lay down their carnal lives, dying to self, in order to live a life by God's grace that exemplifies the life of Jesus.

Corbin James chose August 5 as his birthday. Bro. Mark and Sis. Jeannine Masters are the happy new parents. Bro. James and Sis. Clara Zimmer are the grandparents and Sis. Louise Sabo is the great-grandmother. Elizabeth, Deana and Aaron are taking turns holding their new brother. May we all support them in prayer . . . there is power in prayer. Have you tried it lately?

Sunday, August 10, was the wedding day for Bro. Marvin Beer (Bro. Rex and Sis. Marilyn) and Sis. Robin Washington (Bro. Barnie and Sis. Bev). "Our love shall not diminish nor fade nor wax away . . ." what a beautiful promise. May God bless Marvin and Robin as they walk life's path together. With loving parents for their examples, God as their heavenly Father, and Christian brothers and sisters to prayerfully support them, Robin and Marvin have a very blessed beginning.

We extend our sympathies to Sis. Carolyn Sauder (Bro. Richard) with the death of her father. Sis. Carolyn now is "fatherless"; in Timothy we are exhorted to visit the fatherless.

### OHIO, RITTMAN Diane Gasser — Judy Stoller

Hear the words of exhortation  
From the Master of creation.  
We can feel His love for all.  
Heed, obey His tender call.  
Zion's Harp #126, vs. 2

Those who visited us this month and brought us "words of exhortation" were Bro. Ray Sinn (Latty, OH) and Bro. Paul Eisenmann (Burlington, IA). Exhort means to urge or advise earnestly and truly our ministering brothers do just that.

We are told that "Love, of all gifts, is the greatest which the Spirit does bestow." Zion's Harp #37. We truly wish those who have been united in marriage this past month and those who have announced their forthcoming marriage much love in their lives.

On August 2, Peggy Saylor (Bro. Bill and Sis. Norma) and James Cogar (Robert and Martha Cogar) were united in holy matrimony.

Believing it is the Lord's will that they be united in holy matrimony, Bro. John Klotzle (Bro. Irwin and Sis. Jane) and Sis. Cheri Zollinger (Bro. Ed and Sis. Shirley, Phoenix, AZ) had their engagement announced. May God bless both of these couples.

"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, . . .

"Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us."

Romans 8:35-37

May those who must suffer bodily afflictions ever feel the love of God supporting them in their times of need. Those who were hospitalized this month were Mabel Goodwin, Sis. Jennie Bauman, Dan Steiner and Sis. Betty Winkler.

### OHIO, SARDIS Paula Figel

"Knowing this that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that we may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing."  
James 1:3-4

It seems our patience has been tried and rewarded, as the construction has finally begun this month. The filling

and the footer have been put in and the block laid. Bro. Dennis Miller and Bro. Mark Ramsier are in charge of the construction. We appreciate all the support and the help from our brethren, children and friends in helping to get our church started.

Today we still have trials to go through and must continue to encourage one another. Our thoughts and prayers are with those who are ill. Sis. Terry Zollinger (Gary) underwent surgery recently and we are sincerely thankful for sufficient recovery to enable her to return home.

What a joy it is to sit in God's house and hear the Word brought to us from different areas. We want to thank the following brothers for bringing us these good tidings: Bro. Henry Dotterer (Rittman), Elder Bros. Leroy Huber (Eureka, IL), Wendell Gudeman (Francesville, IN) and Bro. Larry Wenninger (Latty). May God continue to bless them in this work of love.

Jason Alan Brake arrived into the family of Bro. Bill and Sis. Miriam Brake August 9. Cliff, Lisa, Laura, Julia, Sheila, Matt, Sara and Doug welcome him home. Each child has a special place in our heart. May God bless this family.

Sis. Terry Zollinger (Bro. Gary) would like to express her gratitude for the prayers, cards, gifts and visits while in the hospital for surgery. She also appreciated the care for the children while recuperating.

### OHIO, SMITHVILLE

#### Ann Maibach — Verla Stoller

"Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God . . ." Hebrews 12:7. This past month we were blest with four visiting ministers: Bro. Paul Eisenmann (Burlington, IA), Bro. Bill Gerst (Alto, MI), Bro. Bill Schlatter (Junction) and Bro. Eugene Fetter (Toledo). We surely appreciate these brothers who so willingly brought us the Word. May God bless them.

"Remember them that are in bonds, as bound with them; and them which suffer adversity, as being yourselves also in the body." Hebrews 13:3. Those who have suffered afflictions of the body, and have been hospitalized are Bro. Ron and Sis. Terri Stoller, Brian Gasser (Ed and Joan) and Bro. Ben Hartzler (Sis. Clara). We are thankful that all have returned home and are able to assemble with us again.

We'll never say good-bye in heav'n,  
We'll never say good-bye,  
For in that land of joy and song  
We'll never say good-bye.

Hymns of Zion #122

Our dear Bro. Joe Gasser passed from time into eternity. His funeral was held at Rittman. Our sympathy is extended to his son and daughter-in-law, Ed and Joan, and his three grandsons. What a comfort to know that we don't have to fear death, but can have a hope of eternal life if we strive to walk according to our Savior's will.

**OHIO, TOLEDO**  
**Josephine Rehlau**  
**Frances Laidig**

As the brethren gathered for the annual conference, our prayers were with them. May God grant to them the wisdom needed to preserve our most precious faith.

Sis. Dee Beard (Bro. Ed) is at home recuperating from recent surgery. We wish her God's blessing of renewed health.

We enjoy having visitors stay to worship with us when they are passing through our area.

**OREGON, SILVERTON**  
**Rosa Lee Kuenzi**

It was a joy for those adults who recently were part of the Sunday school campout held in July at a nearby farm. By all appearances the youngsters also enjoyed the opportunity for outdoor activities like hiking, volleyball, rafting and swimming in the pond. Special thanks go to all who donated cans and bottles for their fundraiser and to those of the Silverton young group who joined in for singing and s'mores around the campfire. These experiences of Christian fellowship are surely the raindrops that make up our showers of blessings.

More of the blessings of the month were provided through the hearing of the Word. Our hearty thanks to ministering Bro. Gene Lehman (Wolcott, IN) for sharing the Word to us. May God bless him and his family.

"And the Lord God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him." Genesis 2:18. On August 16, Brian Kuenzi (Bro. Rich and Sis. Rosa Lee) and Mona Mindschigl made their vows to cleave to each other all the days of

their lives, in holy matrimony. May these promises made before God and many witnesses be ever sacred to them, and may they look to God for guidance in their future.

There were two bridal showers for Mona; one at the home of Sis. Linda Hari (Harold) and one at the home of Sis. Linda Kuenzi (Bro. Bob). The love and generosity of everyone is much appreciated by Brian and Mona.

The Silverton Park was the setting for a Saturday morning baby shower hosted by Sis. Liz Snook (Vance) for Grace and baby Rory Lewis (Mel). Rory's sister, Jami, seemed more interested in the shallow Silver Creek trickling nearby. Grandma, Sis. Carolyn Bolliger (Bro. Ben) was able to keep an eye on her and the joyful proceedings.

Joy here is indeed mixed with woe but we can truly say "many precious hours have gone by". With heavy hearts, but trusting the future to the Lord, we said our farewells to Bro. David, Sis. Margene and Elizabeth Peasley, who are moving back to the Midwest. They plan to live near Hills, MN and will again be part of the Lester, IA, congregation. We pray that they will continue in nearness to the Lord and may God be with us all until we meet again.

And so, although this is the dry season in Oregon with no measurable precipitation for weeks and weeks; we have had our showers. There have been bridal showers, baby showers, showers of blessings and even the teardrops of fond farewells.

**PENNSYLVANIA,**  
**PHILADELPHIA**  
**Jason and Wendy Williamson**

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

Ephesians 5:20

We are thankful on the good days and when everything is going our way. But what about when things don't go our way or it just simply wasn't a good day? Let's keep our thoughts, attitudes and lifestyles after the only perfect pattern, Jesus Christ.

August was a month of travelers to our church. We are thankful for the following ministering brothers: Elder Bros. Leroy Huber (Eureka, IL), Eugene Pamer (Akron, OH), Wendell

Gudeman (Francesville, IN), Bros. Charles Sauder (Tremont, IL) and Henry Dotterer (Rittman, OH).

Many family members of those in our congregation visited us also. We are thankful for their support.

Bro. Walter Gasser (Elgin, IL) showed us slides of India and the work our church is doing in the country. That same night Bro. Jason Williamson showed us his slides of the World Relief work done in Haiti. After seeing these slides, it made each one of us realize how fortunate we are and to count our many blessings.

As school and college will soon begin, we think of those in our congregation and others that will soon turn back to the classroom. May God watch over them and guide them in their education.

**TEXAS, DALLAS/FORT WORTH**  
**Sandy Schmidt**

It is a real pleasure to give a record of our service here at Dallas/Fort Worth.

I'm happy to welcome a young couple to our area from Central Illinois. Bro. Randy and Sis. Heather Knapp, Randy from Eureka, and Heather from Bloomington. They have been married just 1 year and plan to stay with us until the end of December. Welcome!

Today Bern, KS, brought us the Word by sending Bro. Harvey Grimm and his wife, Sis. Marie.

The first of the month Elgin, IL, served with Bro. William Gudeman coming, along with his wife, Sis. Evelyn. Also, Bro. Leland Plattner and family joined us from Zapata, TX.

With much warm weather upon us, it keeps most of us indoors. We plan a trip to Zapata, TX, Lord willing, next weekend for our off Sunday. In planning, around 10 wish to go.

**Sermon . . .**

(Continued from Page 28)  
tiles by my mouth should hear the word of the gospel, and believe". How wonderful it is that we can sit here today as Gentiles and have that opportunity We can believe by faith alone, having never seen Jesus or the apostles, through the Word of God that has been handed down in the scriptures which are here before us.

What good does it do us if the scriptures are laid before us and we do not read therein for ourselves? If we do not see the glory that we can receive, all the glory that God has prepared for us?

Or, if we do not believe, to see the

terrible things that God has in store for us, to learn that someday God will say, "Depart from Me, for I know not thee." We will have to serve Satan throughout eternity as a live soul if we do not believe in God and have this faith, just as the unbelieving are serving him now.

That might sound strange. Maybe we've never quite thought this out, that we have to serve one or the other. If we are not serving God to the best of our ability and in every way possible that we can serve Him every day of our life, then we are serving Satan. We glorify Satan because we cannot be in the middle of the fence. Whenever we are not serving God, we are serving Satan.

"And God, which knoweth the hearts, bare them witness, giving them the Holy Ghost, as he did unto us." Acts 15:8. Much is said about the Holy Ghost. Much is said across the pulpit and in the Sunday school rooms about the Holy Ghost. Yet we do not use the power of the Holy Ghost to His fullest. We do not rely upon Him because we do not wait upon Him.

In a world that is moving so fast around us, we think too much of time. We think more about going somewhere this minute or doing something right now than we think about eternity. If we would wait on the Lord to speak to us through the Holy Ghost, we would be so much better off. Then our souls would be happy because God's decision was made.

"And put no difference between us and then, purifying their hearts by faith. Now therefore why tempt ye God, to put a yoke upon the neck of the disciples, which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear?" Acts 15:9, 10.

As I think back about my youth, about my younger days as an adult, I never thought I'd be able to bear the yoke of being a member in a church, the yoke of carrying God's Word with me wherever I went. I was afraid that when I would be with my friends, I would become like them again. I thought I could possibly be a Sunday Christian, but that the yoke of Christianity would be too hard to bear. I could feel so many lusts inside, the desire to do so many things that I knew I had to give up.

We can all look back and remember how much certain things meant to us. But if we are truly converted, we can now see how small those things are that people cling to. We realize that whatever we grasp and hold on to is going to

burn with us, if we do not make a commitment to the Lord and separate ourselves.

We should grab hold of the Silver Cord that the songwriter writes about. Oh, to think about being severed from that Silver Cord in a way other than being in paradise.

"But we believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved, even as they. Then all the multitude kept silence, and gave audience to Barnabas and Paul, declaring what miracles and wonders God had wrought among the Gentiles by them." Acts 15:11, 12. They heard about the wonderful miracles and they could see lives being changed. They probably had many questions in their minds, but they could see the beauty of it.

"And after they had held their peace, James answered, saying, Men and brethren, hearken unto me: Simeon hath declared how God at the first did visit the Gentiles, to take out of them a people for his name. And to this agree the words of the prophets: as it is written . . ." Acts 15:13, 14, 15.

We all know that the Israelite people were chosen to bring God's Word down through the ages, giving us those wonderful stories of old and telling how God worked in their lives. We also learn how Satan could work in the hearts of those people who were chosen by God, leading many of them to destruction.

Many of the people could see the mighty things that God did right before their very eyes. God chose those people to bring His Word to us today so that we might learn and live our lives accordingly. Now we can look back and see their mistakes as well as their triumphs.

Then God sent Jesus, and we have His Word before us today. We know exactly what He did for each one of us. We've seen the miracles that He has performed in each one who has been converted. We see how beautiful it is when a soul comes to us with the message of what Jesus has done for him or her.

Today, too, some fall back as many of the Israelite people did. We fall away from God, and then He has to chastise us and bring us back, but we can be so thankful for that chastisement. If the Holy Spirit does not move us to bring us back, then it is forever too late. If we do not feel moved inside to again serve the Lord, if we do not feel wrong, if we

are living in sin, then we are in trouble. God might have given us up. God might only give us a few more days in this world . . . we do not know how long we may live. If we can't feel the Holy Spirit working in us, saying, "You'd better go back to the foot of the cross," then God might have given us up.

I believe that that is happening to many souls. I believe that there are many who, even if they were once converted and had that beautiful feeling of peace inside, are slipping away. They don't even feel the Holy Spirit anymore because they rationalized themselves right out of the Christian realm. God is just letting them fill out their lives, and someday will take them. Someday their lives, and ours, will be finished. But what is their future? If we can't feel the Holy Spirit moving us, then we can't feel close to God.

"Known unto God are all his works from the beginning of the world. Wherefore my sentence is, that we trouble not them, which from among the Gentiles are turned to God: But that we write unto them, that they abstain from pollutions of idols, and from fornication, and from things strangled, and from blood. For Moses of old time hath in every city them that preach him, being read in the synagogues every sabbath day. Then pleased it the apostles and elders, with the whole church, to send chosen men of their own company to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; namely, Judas surnamed Barsabas, and Silas, chief men among the brethren: And they wrote letters by them after this manner: The apostles and elders and brethren send greeting unto the brethren which are of the Gentiles in Antioch and Syria and Cilicia." Acts 15:18-23.

Those dear brothers of years ago sent these greetings to churches all over the land. They sent these letters with guidance from God. Now we can sit here today and enjoy the beautiful greetings and learn from the beautiful contents. We can weigh them in our minds, and apply them to our lives today.

They could have been written yesterday. It is just as though Paul were walking this earth today. The concerns are the same, and the problems were basically the same. If we look at it in that light, then the solutions, too, can be the same.

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## SERMON BY BRO. RALPH E. GARBER OF MORTON, IL

Text: Joshua 20 & Acts 15:1-23

Our first reading this afternoon told of Joshua, a man who had to be strong in faith to obey God in every command that was given to him. We know that Joshua was so strong in his faith that he was one of the great leaders of the Israelite people.

One of God's commands was to designate certain cities, called the "cities of the avenger of blood," to be a place of refuge to those people who had sinned, but who had done it without wrath in their hearts.

Today God has also given us refuge for the sins that we commit, not only for those that we do without wrath, but for all of our sins, even though we do them thinking in our minds what has to be done in order to receive the forgiveness (or refuge) that Jesus Christ has provided.

We read in the second scripture opening this afternoon: "And certain men which came down from Judea taught the brethren, and said, Except ye be circumcised after the manner of Moses, ye cannot be saved." Acts 15:1. (We all know that this was not meant for us.) A decision was then made.

"When therefore Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and disputation with them, they determined that Paul and Barnabas, and certain other of them, should go up to Jerusalem unto the apostles and elders about this question." Acts 15:2. We see that there was "no small dissension" in those times about the question of circumcision. Some men said that it had to be done, and some said that it did not have to be done.

As they gathered in those days, they, too, had trials amongst themselves. They, too, had dissension about whether certain things were right or certain things were wrong. Down through the ages, our churches have had this. As long as men live on this earth, there will be questions about what is right and what is wrong.

As we read, we think of the Apostle Paul, and Barnabas, and those men. They knew that they were doing the will of God, because they were sent to minister to the people of that time. Then we question in our minds, do we not, why they had this dissension, why they had this argument amongst themselves. Why couldn't this thing be worked out?

We ask ourselves, "Why do these things pop up? Why do we have trouble making decisions, especially in our church when we are a God-fearing people?" We have the Holy Spirit's guidance as the early Christians did. We wonder about this, knowing that all things come from God and knowing that we should be thankful for all things.

We have to approach these differences with the right frame of mind. If we are so determined that our own will be done that we will not listen to reason, that we will not open the Word of God and read the scriptures, and then search earnestly to determine God's will, many souls will be hurt.

We cannot come into the sanctuary or into any discussion with a mind that is already made up. We cannot come into a discussion knowing that the other person is wrong, and we're right. We have to approach this with a humble attitude, and if pride is present, the right decision cannot be made.

"And being brought on their way by the church, they passed through Phenice and Samaria, declaring the conversion of the Gentiles; and they caused great joy unto all the brethren. And when they were come to Jerusalem, they were received of the church, and of the apostles and elders, and they declared all things that God had done with them." Acts 15:3, 4.

Isn't this something that we can do today? Wherever we go, to whatever city, to whomever we work with, can we not declare what God has done for us?

These people spoke to others so that they, too, could have faith and believe.

In this world there is so much sin, so much sorrow, so much sickness, and we know that not only believers but non-believers are afflicted. Death and suffering come to all.

A person who is humble and has an open mind, who professes to be a Christian, is still respected today. Sometimes we may not think so, but just walk into a group of non-believers and see how the conversation changes if we are different. If we ourselves stand on the commitment that we have made, then the conversation does change. If we do not stand fast upon it, then maybe the conversation will go on just as it was. We know which it should be.

"But there rose up certain of the sect of the Pharisees which believed, saying, That it was needful to circumcise them, and to command them to keep the law of Moses was no longer in affect. They did not realize that when Jesus hung on the cross and shed His blood that the veil of the temple was rent and things were changed. There was no longer any difference between the Jews and the Gentiles. The high priest no longer had to intercede because each one of us now has direct access to God through Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ took away the veil that separated the people from God.

"And the apostles and elders came together for to consider of this matter. And when there had been much disputing, Peter rose up, and said unto them, Men and brethren, ye know how that a good while ago God made choice among us, that the Gentiles by my mouth should hear the word of the gospel, and believe." Acts 15:6, 7. We know what Jesus said to Peter, that he would be a solid rock and would build His church.

Peter said here, ". . . that the Gen-  
(Continued on Page 26)