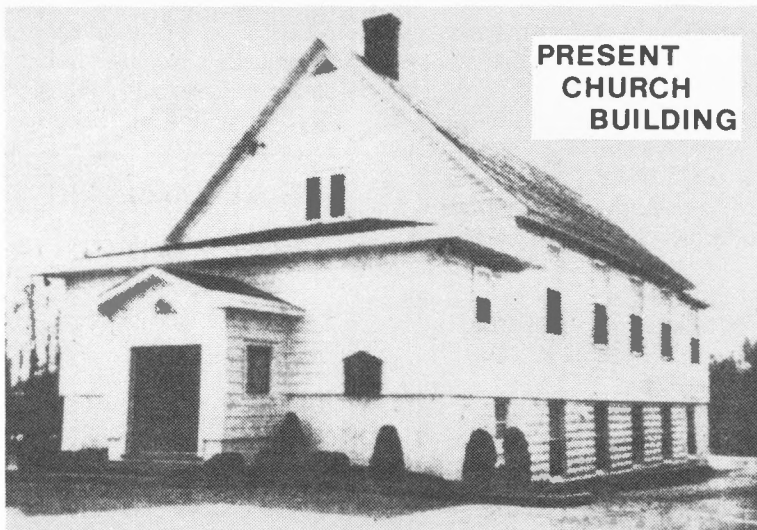




"And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this **rock** I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." Matthew 16:18

"And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual **Rock** that followed them: and that **Rock** was **Christ**." I Corinthians 10:4

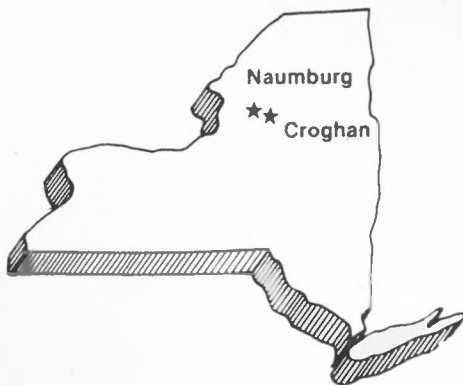
FIRST APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA 1850



**PRESENT
CHURCH
BUILDING**

THE CHURCH BEAUTIFUL

- (I) How beautiful that church must be,
Where Watchful is the Porter;
While Purdence has the Oversight
And Patience the Exhorter.
Where Harmony conducts the Praise,
And Reverence the Worship;
While Loyalty ascribes to Christ
The undisputed Lordship.
- (II) Humility prevades the place
And Piety sweet smileth;
While Purity her fragrance breathes,
And Gentleness bequieteth;
Simplicity adorns the walls,
And Grace all captivating;
Benevolence is prominent
While Zeal is operating.
- (III) Here mercy wears her diadem, And meekness conquers friction
While Truth exerts its influence, Joy adds her benediction;
Here Righteousness is placed on guard, and Faith is ever active
While Goodness evermore abounds, And Christ is all attractive.
- (IV) Oh Lord restore thy church to this Her primitive position;
And let us taste on Earth the bliss of this divine condition.



CROGHAN, NEW YORK
Lowville, New York

2 miles south of Croghan on Route 812

A Scottish Poem, Author Unknown
From "A Legacy in Song", by Henry Beer

WORKS PROJECT — SCHOOL BUILDING IN HAITI

Because of continuing great need for aid by our neighbors in Haiti, World Relief has approved, funded and scheduled school building work projects in Haiti during the next 6 months.

From four to eight volunteer brothers and friends are being sought for each team at the following dates:

Team #1 — October 17 - 25, '86

Area Representative — Mike Finley
Box 176

Carlock, IL 61725

Phone: (309) 376-7301

Team #2 — November 14 - 22, '86

Area Representative — Glen Hackenjós
10564 Haverly

El Monte, CA 91831

Phone: (818) 442-4957

Team #3 — December 5 - 13, '86

Area Representative — Phil Isabell
Route 2

Remington, IN 47977

Phone: (219) 261-3541

Team #4 — January 9 - 17, '87

Area Representative — Tom Moser
Elgin, IL

Phone: (312) 645-4711

Team #5 — February 6 - 14, '87

Area Representative — Leonard Dolce
Mansfield, OH

Phone: (419) 589-6255

Team #6 — March 6 - 14, '87

Area Representative — Carl Hackenjós
Monroe, IN (Bluffton congregation)

Phone: (219) 692-6311

Team #7 — March 20 - 28, '87

Area Representative — Richard
Schmidgall

Hancock, MN

Phone: (612) 392-5241

The work will consist of construction of rural schools operated by Haitian Christians. The goal is to lend support to an enduring literacy program so that children who otherwise may have no opportunity of schooling will be educated as well as learn of the Gospel.

Travel arrangements, food, lodging, insurance, project supervision, etc., will be made again this year through the same World Team people as in previous years.

If you have an interest in this work, or know of someone who may, please contact your local church World Relief representative or your area representative as designated by geographical boundaries. Though there will be an attempt to send teams made up from within each area, crossover volunteering will be allowed, even encouraged, in order to fill a team where necessary. May the Lord continue to bless this and every good work done in His name.

“And let us consider one another, to provoke unto love and to good works.”

Hebrews 10:24

Bro. Harold Witzig,
Works Projects Coordinator

“After over an hour of searching, P... S. and accompanying G... S on June 9 were able to locate the residence of A... V..., one of the leaders of the Nazarene Church here in Romania. There was no answer at the solid, neatly-kept house near the end of the dirt road, but Em...’s presence drew many curious stares from behind neighbor’s curtains. One of these onlookers proved to be V...’s retired brother, Ion. He approached the visitors cautiously, but warmed considerably once he learned who they were and the purpose of their visit. He said his brother would be home at about 3 p.m., after work, and insisted Em...s to remain. He took them next door to A...’s house, where his sister-in-law had been present all along but, as she explained, was reluctant to answer the door for strangers. Em...s were then treated to some of the most delicious strawberries they have seen in Romania, from the V...’s garden, and to general if guarded remarks about the status of the congregation in A... .

A... V... arrived shortly thereafter,

THE SILVER LINING

Grabill, Indiana 46741
USPS 496780

EDITORIAL STAFF:

David Bertsch
Uriel Gehring
Lynn Stieglitz

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

NEWS FROM EASTERN EUROPE

Andy Hunyady

Greetings Dearly Beloved:

The outlook again looks rather gloomy as plague after plague in the past few years cause much suffering for the people of Romania. The severe earthquakes of 1977; four continuous years of hot and dry summers; the Chernobyl nuclear fall out contamination; dry creeks and wells without waters; and the latest earthquake September 1 and 2 should serve as a message to the ungodly rulers as signs of Divine displeasure and punishment upon their land.

On September 12 a phone conversation with an elder brother in Romania confirmed that since the first of the year only 2 food parcels had reached them, (the December '85 and February '86 shipments). The third, shipped in

April from our Bluffton, IN, Distribution Center, was held up in Naples, Italy, as the shipping company went bankrupt and the creditors had the shipments tied up. (Arrangements are being made to have another company take it over and deliver it to its destination.) The June shipment should, hopefully, get there in the second half of September and others to follow regularly thereafter each month.

“Contact With Romanian Nazarenes”

This is the second part of the report by U.S. Embassy counselors in Bucharest who visited and interviewed several Nazarenes in their homes. This report was relayed to us by the State Department in Washington, D. C.

and greeted Em . . . s equally warmly. He said he had been informed of their earlier visits to T . . . and had hoped they would come to A . . . He confirmed the existence of several new cases of needy Nazarenes in T . . . (50+ names were transmitted to us and added to our list to receive parcels).

"Like other Nazarenes we spoke with (and members of "recognized churches here), V . . . welcomed our visit warmly, even though contact with foreigners technically is prohibited without prior permission. Nevertheless, V . . . , like most others, was extremely prudent in the discussion.

"the group in the city of A . . . , some 65 full members of the officially un-

recognized faith, plus 25 other "believers" . . . is able to meet regularly for prayer meetings in private homes without interference from the authorities. There are about 1900 - 2000 Nazarenes in total throughout Romania V . . . said, and a larger number in Hungary with whom he apparently has some contact.

"Though V . . . did not amplify, we got the impression the situation for Nazarenes throughout Romania has improved gradually . . . he seemed cautiously confident this situation would continue, so long as nothing was done locally (or nationally) to cause local authorities to have to take note of the Nazarenes' activities officially. He

indicated he believed there was currently little chance of gaining official approval for the church, though he did rebut official charges regarding some points of Nazarene Doctrine which the State claims brings the members of the church in conflict with the authorities. For example, he noted, Nazarenes can serve in the armed forces, in noncombatant positions; their religion simply forbids them from taking life.

"His relations with the authorities, apparently, is one of a number of "controversial subjects". We presume he would not wish to tell Securitate interviewers he discussed with us . . . Another vignette illustrates the environment in which he operates: V . . . gave us his list of additional names to forward to H . . . with strong words of caution since, as he told us, "If they find it, it could cause great difficulties for you." Thinking we must have understood, we asked why we should trouble to keep his church members' names from coming to the attention of the authorities, who would quickly learn them in any case when food parcels began coming. "No, no," V . . . explained, "they will make trouble for you if they discover you carrying this list." Em . . . s explained that their diplomatic immunity effectively precluded any such embarrassment, causing V . . . visible relief.

"Overall, Em . . . s were greatly impressed with the Nazarene church members they met here. While some were obviously in difficult financial straits, they all show evident sign of deep faith, non-Nazarene family members, e.g., the grown son of one elderly member of the faith gave no evidence of displeasure or intolerance over the fact that a practitioner of an "illegal church" in their household might cause them trouble with the authorities. Many of those we met, notably church elder B . . . in T . . . and others there, including one with five strapping boys and a low-paid factory worker, as well as the V . . . families themselves, occupy solid, well-repaired and spotlessly-clean dwellings surrounded by small, but richly producing gardens, all showing much evidence of hard, but rewarding, effort. We were pleased, even flattered, by the contacts and though aware of the official attention it would inevitably draw on them, un-intimidated by the prospect. All seem determined to pursue their faith. With such an attitude, such faith and such

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
September 1986 —	865	2594

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

demonstrated husbandry, we would venture that absent some shift by the authorities, the Nazarene community in Romania will continue to do well as it seems to be doing now."

Kirk

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME

Uriel Gehring

Fall has officially arrived, and how exciting it is for the tiller of the soil (the backbone of our nation's heritage) to see his labors being blessed by the Almighty with a bountiful harvest. They have planted and weeded, and the Lord gave the increase. How heartwarming for our staff to see their labors being blessed by the Almighty as the children progress through school and each develop their own God-given talents. As we observe and sense His blessing on our labors at the Home, we are encouraged in our "Work of Faith and Labor of Love," knowing that "your labor is not in vain in the Lord." How enhancing to our spiritual lives as we sense the staff working harmoniously with our special children in oneness of spirit, thus fulfilling the words of Jesus, "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your father which is in heaven." "To God be the glory, great things He hath done."

The children are all back in school, adjusting well to their schedules, and things are going well in our own learning center where children do their homework and receive individual tutoring. They all ride the school buses and board them on the premises. How fortunate are our children to have access to all the educational advantages offered them — another "extra" while for living in our great land of America.

We have a new boy in the East House, Javon S., 15, from the Fort Wayne area. We welcome him to our family and look forward to many good things happening during his stay here.

Just before school started, a trip to the east coast was earned by six children for good behavior during the summer. They were Daleen C., Mike T., Jeff J., Ayne J., Marie H., and John W. Each child paid his or her own way from summer work savings. The trip was planned and directed by volunteer Bro. Justin Koch (Champaign, IL). Accompanying him were volunteers, Bro. Nathan Gerber, Sis. Sue Blunier and Sis. Marcia Stieglitz, and our alternate

houseparents, Bro. Chuck and Sis. Annie Fehr. We thank Bro. Justin for his kind interest in the children's welfare and the rest of the volunteers who helped make the trip a success. Their travels took them to the Rockville, CT, area, Boston and Washington, D.C., and the Columbus, OH, church on the way home. Thanks to our church people in these areas for opening their heart and home to our group. They felt at home away from home, another experience in Christian fellowship. At Washington, D.C., some of the group stayed with Bro. Mark Souder, formerly of Leo. The sight of the mighty Atlantic Ocean; visiting the White House, the Washington Monument, the U.S. Mint and the F.B.I. building in D.C. were interesting and awe-inspiring. These experiences gave our children and adults a greater appreciation and thanksgiving for our great nation and the liberties we enjoy in God.

At Grabill Days this year, some of our children won awards: Beth H. for the most unusual pet (a goat); Bertha W. for homemade cinnamon rolls; and Daleen C. for embroidery work. Some of the children helped clear tables at the main food tent. All these experiences enhanced their feeling of being a part of their community and contributing to its function.

Rebekah, daughter of alternate houseparents Bro. Chuck and Sis. Annie Fehr, celebrated her first birthday with a party at the West House September 8. May she have many more happy ones and bring much joy to her parents.

Sunday afternoon, September 7, we had a wiener roast on the Home grounds in honor of about 25 of Bro. Bill Blunier's cousins and their mates. They spent the weekend in our church community for the annual Blunier Cousins' Reunion. In the evening we sang songs around the fire to end a blessed day. Thanks, Bill and Cheri, for inviting them and us; how sweet is our fellowship!

At a recent staff meeting, we were greeted by some little peeps that sounded like little chickens, and they were — 100 future fryers given us by Bro. Marvin Nussbaum (Remington, IN). Thanks, Marv. You'll have to have some country fried chicken with us in a few months.

Our administrator, Bro. Tim Sauder, and his wife, Sis. Jenny, became first-time parents September 9 at 6:54 p.m.

at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne, when little Erica Rose, 7 lb. 2 oz. and 20 inches long, arrived on earth's scene. She is a fortunate child to be born to God-fearing parents. May she bring much joy and happiness to them. The staff and children all say "Welcome, Erica, and congratulations to Mom and Dad. Thanks be to God, a child is born." Grandparents are Bro. Art and Sis. Ruth Gramm (Gridley, IL) and Bro. Jack and Sis. Marlis Sauder (Roanoke, IL).

What a time and land of opportunity we live in; we can please God and bring joy to His Father heart by helping "the least of these". "In as much as ye have done it to the least of these, ye have done it unto me." Let's avail ourselves of every opportunity we have to glorify God. We can then "Praise God from Whom all blessings flow; praise Him ye creatures here below; Praise Him all heavenly hosts; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost!"

In September a former resident, Ray Workinger, passed away. He was living with his parents in the Berne, IN, area. Our prayers and sympathy are with his family.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

I love to see the autumn come
And touch the wooded hill.
With flaming torch she lights the trees;
Above, the haze stands still.
The world is caught in peace today;
All time has stopped to greet
This moment of bright splendor
When fall and summer meet.

Beulah Fenderson Smith

Autumn is certainly in the air! The trees are beginning to change their colors. In art class, the girls painted beautiful colored trees, using orange, red, yellow and green. They were all amazed at the beautiful results they had.

A large number of residents enjoyed getting out to see the Pumpkin Parade Saturday, September 13. We have had quite a few outings, including picnics, shopping, ice cream social, a ride on the Julia Belle, a swimming party and an overnight camping trip. All these outings were enjoyed by those who participated. Now, we are looking forward to our Halloween Party, an event that is most exciting to our residents.

We welcome Karen Blunier, who

came to live with us August 27. She is the daughter of Henry and Sis. Wilma Blunier (Eureka, IL). We enjoy having Karen as our 102nd family member.

Those who have birthdays in October are: Carol Fahrni, October 5; Kent Knobloch, October 14; and Barbara Shaw, October 17.

Here at the Home, our residents have been very busy in the ceramic classes. They are painting a number of things, including darling little pumpkins, little pilgrim figurines, pumpkin plates and poinsettia plates, as well as little potpourri baskets and nativity sets. Some of these items will be on sale Benefit Day.

We hope you will keep our Benefit Day marked on your calendar and plan to attend. It is Friday, November 14. It will be held at the Morton fellowship hall. These times are as follows: Gift Shop, Craft Shop and Bake Sale — 9:30 to 2:30; luncheon from 10:30 to 1:00. We welcome any items you plan to bring for this sale. Some items that have gone well in the past are baked goods, handmade quilts, pillows, pillow cases and towels, knitted and crocheted items, or any other unique items you feel will be appreciated by those attending that day. We also would welcome any antique items you would be willing to donate. We would appreciate that all items (except baked goods) be brought to the Home by November 10. Should you have a resale price in mind, please tag each of your items.

The fellowship enjoyed at these events and the good feeling received from giving to others, makes the trip to Morton a blessed day. We hope to see you November 14.

May God bless each of you who support our Home in prayer, volunteer time and financially. All is appreciated!

ALABAMA, ATHENS Marilyn Walder

"But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin."

I John 1:7

Five of us from Athens were privileged to travel to Sarasota, FL, for Labor Day weekend. We enjoyed the fellowship very much as we made and renewed Christian friendships. The love extended to us made us feel wel-

come and at home with their congregation. We want to thank them again for their love and hospitality. May God continue to bless their lives.

On September 6, Sis. Laura Pankey (Lewis and Freda) and Bro. Harold Haggemmaker (Bro. Carl and Sis. Shirley) were united in marriage. We pray that God will bless their marriage. "... What God hath joined together, let not man put asunder." Matthew 19:6. Elder Bro. David Bertsch (Leo, IN) was with us for the wedding. We heard many good teachings from James 2. We were instructed that faith without works is dead and that we should show our faith by our works. We all have God-given talents and it is our duty as Christians to find out what they are and use them. May God give us wisdom to discern what our talents are and the strength and grace to use them to glorify His name.

We have had visitors from Bloomington, Peoria, Princeville, Goodfield and Morton, IL. May God bless them for their Christian fellowship.

"Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love . . . 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 #56. It was hard to say goodbye to Bro. Tom and Sis. Joan Schrenk. They feel God's direction to return to Alto, MI. Bro. Tom has been ministering to our congregation for three years. We appreciate the love and support they have extended to us and the extra effort it has been to travel the 90 miles from Birmingham to assemble with us. We will miss them very much and pray that God will richly bless them. We also appreciate prayers for our congregation concerning guidance for the future. With Bro. Tom leaving, Bro. Lavoyd Moore is our only minister. We extend a hearty welcome to anyone who would like to visit us: especially ministering brethren.

The young members and friends have been having a Bible study once a month. We have studied Forgiveness, Witnessing, Pride, Knowing God's Will and Temptation. We enjoy the fellowship with each other and the privilege of openly studying God's Word together. We pray for God's blessings as we seek to know Him better.

Let's keep our eyes on our goal, heaven, and not get bogged down with the frustrations of life on this earth.

ARIZONA, PHOENIX

Ron and Ev Hoerr

"The woman whom the Lord hath pointed out for my master's son." Genesis 24:44. On a beautiful September 7, Bro. Stan Warner and Sis. Susan Zollinger exchanged wedding vows. The services were conducted by Elder Bro. Richard Schupbach and deacon Bro. Dennis Warner. Their parents are Bro. Ed and Sis. Shirley Zollinger and Bro. Dennis and Sis. Esther Warner. Though we will miss Sis. Suzy, we pray the Lord's blessings upon her and Bro. Stan as they set up housekeeping in the Lester, IA, area. A buffet reception was held in the congregational room following the ceremony.

We were blessed with wonderful sermons when Bro. Ron and Sis. Ruth Steiner (Rittman, OH), Elder Bro. Willis and Sis. Lois Ehnle (Japan), Bro. Loren and Sis. Evelyn Knapp (Tucson, AZ), Bro. James and Sis. Louann Funk (Tucson, AZ) visited between August 14 and September 14.

Equally inspiring was a prayer offered by Bro. Larry Bocka while visiting from Mansfield, OH.

Joe Greenbank (Sis. Patty) answered the knock on his heart's door and has found a joyous new way of life. We pray the Lord will guide him daily to build on the strong foundation he has respected all his life.

Marie Teubel has found peace through faith as the Lord wills (Isaiah 26:3) and is awaiting baptism.

Bro. Ted Knochel wishes to thank everyone who remembered him with prayers, cards and gifts during his recent illness.

Sympathy is extended to Bro. Paul and Sis. Irene Emch and Sis. Ida Froelich upon the sudden death of their brother, Mel Emch. They flew to Ohio for funeral services.

Condolences are extended to Bro. Barry and Sis. Shirley Fleming on the recent death of his brother after a lengthy illness.

Many of our church family traveled to Prescott for a picnic Saturday, September 13. Many stayed over for church services on Sunday.

We will gather to hear the first of the conference tapes Wednesday, September 17.

ARIZONA, TUCSON

Sandy Bauer — Lisa Knapp

Our congregation was thrilled to hear the engagement announcement of

Bro. Fred Funk to Sis. Diane Fischer (Morton, IL). Parents of the couple are Bro. Jim and Sis. LouAnn Funk (of our congregation) and Bro. Jim and Sis. Joanne Fischer (Morton, IL). We are looking forward to a December 14 wedding. What a blessed way it will be for this young couple to end the year! "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." Matthew 6:33.

Our Sunday school Bible class traveled to Altadena, CA, over the Labor Day weekend for the annual ACYF that is hosted there. Our thanks goes to all those who worked to make the weekend a special time of fellowship and learning.

Now that fall is here our monthly fellowship suppers and Sunday school classes have resumed. We are thankful that the heat of the summer is over and that we can now enjoy cooler temperatures.

CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA
Brenda Stoller

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead."

I Peter 1:3

We were thankful to God and want to offer encouragement to Louise Erhart, who has made known her desire to surrender her life to God through repentance and conversion.

On Labor Day, we were privileged to have the Sunday schools of Tucson, AZ, San Diego, CA, and Phoenix, AZ join us for a weekend of fellowship. It is always a blessing to visit with those of neighboring churches and we pray that they could feel God's love for them.

We welcome Sis. Mary Witzig back to church with us and thank God for His healing hand upon her.

CALIFORNIA, MAYWOOD
Ben Ammann

We rejoice in our congregation that Louise Erhart has heard the call of the Lord and is repenting. May God bestow His grace upon her.

CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO
Scott and Anna Hoerr

As summer turns to autumn and

school bells ring out, we wish our students, Yasmin and Phillip Petrovic (Bro. Pete and Sis. Marian), an exciting learning adventure.

We want to confirm the wedding dates of Bro. Troy and Sis. Brenda for October 26 and Bro. Alex and Sis. Sherise for November 16. We look forward to these occasions and welcome all visitors.

Services continue to be held at Meadowbrook Middle School. All are welcome. Please call Pete Petrovic at (619) 789-1504 or Elmer Getz (619) 484-2702.

GIVING

"Giving is living", the angel said.
 "Go feed the hungry sweet charity's bread."
 "Must I keep giving and giving again?"
 My selfish and querulous answer ran.
 "Oh no," said the angel, his eyes
 pierced me through,
 "Just give till the Master stops giving
 to you!"

Author Unknown

COLORADO, DENVER

Mike Martin — Marlene Leman

Just as long ago in the days of the Apostles Paul and Peter, the elders got together to consider the matters that concerned the Church (Acts 15), our beloved elders have just met together to discuss the matters that are of concern to the Church today. We do so look forward to hearing the tapes. We ask a special blessing upon the dear brothers who allow themselves to be such useful instruments in God's hands.

Our congregation is an ever changing one. We welcome into our midst Robert and Carol Schrenk and little daughter, Maggie. They came to us from our church in Athens, AL. At about the same time, we had to bid farewell to our dear Sis. Sue Esterling as she has moved to the San Diego, CA, area. Sis. Sue was one of the very first members to live in the Denver area and has done much to help get our little church started. We pray that God will go with her and continue to direct every facet of her life.

Bro. Paul Butikofer (Elgin, IA) visited us this month and shared God's precious Word. We appreciate his thinking of us and pray that God will bless him.

Two dear sisters spent time in the

hospital this month. Sis. Elizabeth Jivan and Sis. Katie Hasty. We are thankful that both have been able to assemble with us again and we pray that they can continue to feel God's power in their lives.

Labor Day weekend we were blessed by the gathering of quite a number of our young brothers and sisters. To meet and greet them, to see God's love shine forth from them, to hear the beautiful singing, and to feel the sincerity and sense their desire to do God's will are truly all foretastes of heaven. We sincerely hope that all felt the blessing from the gathering that we, here in Denver, felt.

CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE
Michelle Virkler

"Trust not in oppression and become not vain in robbery; if riches increase, set not your heart upon them. . . . power belongeth to God."

Psalm 62:10, 11

As our days move on, we realize more and more that in loving our Lord and Savior and serving Him, we may attain the glories of our heavenly home. All the material possessions and riches of this earth cannot ensure our entrance into the heavenly mansions above. May we strive willingly and lovingly to serve Him.

"This union of our hearts
 Shall stand through grace in Jesus."
 Zion's Harp #79

Bro. Bill Roscher (Sis. Edna, Sarasota, FL) has been announced to Sis. Beth Trueb (Bro. Ron and Sis. Adele). We wish them God's love and protection.

"Thy love it was which sought me;
 Thou wast unsought by me,
 And to the haven brought me,
 Where I would gladly be;
 The things which once distressed me
 My heart no longer move,
 Since this sweet truth impressed me.
 That I possess Thy love."

Zion's Harp #79

We rejoice with our dearly loved friends who have been redeemed by the Lord's shed blood and have risen to a new life in Christ, as Christ was raised from the dead. It was such a joy to greet Bro. Ron Bahler (Bro. Ken and Sis.

Aline) and Sis. Bonnie Bahler (Bro. Wilbur and Sis. Marge) as our dear brother and sister-in-faith. May the Lord keep them close, always granting them peace and joy in our Lord and may they hold fast to their "first love".

"Bless me now, loving Jesus, bless me now!

Do anoint me with Thy pardon

On life's pathway be my guardian . . ."
Zion's Harp #152

We rejoice with Bro. Bob and Sis. Kim Schneider on the birth of their daughter, Alison.

As the fall season approaches and the leaves transform to their beauty of colors, may our hearts be transformed also:

For the friends, although the mountain looks high, the Lord will, through His mercy and love, help you climb over the mountain to walk with Him forever.

As members, we need to stay close, love each other, forgive one another, overlook each other's faults and weaknesses and strive to stay true. May this be our constant prayer for love and unity.

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,
WASHINGTON
Ed Aeschleman**

Services were held September 14 in Washington, D.C. Ministers attending were Elder Bro. Corbin Bahler (Rockville, CT), Bro. Jon Kokanovich (Phoenix, AZ) and Bro. Ed Aeschleman (Philadelphia, PA). It was a blessed and worthwhile day for all who attended.

For details on when and where services are held in Washington, D.C., please see last month's "Silver Lining".

God blessed Bro. Paul and Sis. Connie Vidrine (Newport News, VA) with a new baby girl, Elise Renae, and we share in their joy. We all enjoyed their support and fellowship since the Washington effort began in May. However, Paul was recently discharged from the service and they have relocated in the Toledo area. May God's blessing go with them and their new family.

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

Bro. Mike and Sis. Faye Hohulin were blessed with the birth of their

daughter, Tara Sue. Tara was welcomed to the family by big brother, Andy, and also grandparents, Bro. Ed and Sis. Vi Gerber and Bro. Bob and Sis. Marie Hohulin (Roanoke, IL). Bro. Bob and Sis. Marie are spending some time in Florida with two of their other grandchildren, Brian and Angie Hohulin, while parents, Keith and Connie, are in Germany.

We join Bro. George and Sis. Katherine Fulop in welcoming their daughter and her family back to Ft. Lauderdale. Larry and Mary Storrer and son, Joey, moved here from Baltimore in September.

We were blessed by a group of Sarasota singles who spent the weekend in Ft. Lauderdale. The potluck group honored them with a Mexican Fiesta. Traveling is truly a special privilege we enjoy in this country and we are always glad when loved ones visit us.

Several months ago I neglected to mention that Frank Fulop (Bro. George and Sis. Katherine) graduated from high school this spring.

**FLORIDA, NORTH FORT MYERS
Kay Eisenmann**

Our group is quite small as some of the home folks are on vacation. Elder Bro. Ben Maibach spent a Sunday with us. We are always thankful for visiting ministers. May God's blessings be with them all as they do the work of our Lord!

We wish to give our sincere sympathy to Sis. Dotty Beer at the passing on of her brother. Sis. Dotty still is not able to attend church since her accident. May God comfort her as only He can. Bro. Roland Keller is having hip surgery at this writing and we pray all will go well. Our little Dathan has had a tough month in and out of the hospital with more surgery. Sis. Rosemary Eisenmann, R.N., is coming to stay for three months or so to help in his care. Please keep all our sick in your loving prayers!

Jesus asked this question in Matthew 16:26, "What shall a man give in exchange for his soul?". Our nation is becoming spiritually bankrupt. All around us we see the decay of the family unit with God as the head. We heard at the general conference that we must learn to listen to God and He can make the right choice for the best of our never-dying soul! Jesus worked a miracle with the loaves and fishes, and as the food fills and comforts the body,

doing the will of God satisfies our souls.

God has promised that He will never forsake us or leave us in want! It might not be just what we want, but we must be thankful to our God. It we are overcomers we have the joy of heaven. A heaven without Satan means more to me than the streets of gold!

**FLORIDA, SARASOTA
Lucille Heiniger**

"Thou turnest man to destruction; and sayest return, ye children of men. For a thousand years in Thy sight are but as yesterday when it is past, and as a watch in the night."

Psalm 90:3, 4

These are some of the things we heard spoken by the elder brethren at the conference at Peoria, IL:

A heart filled with God has no room for evil or love of money.

The love of God extends to everyone.

Godliness with contentment is great gain.

It is our duty to serve God faithfully. Be hungry for the Word of God when going to church.

Give homage to God at all times.

Lose our Will in the Will of the Lord.

Serve God truthfully, willingly and lovingly.

God loves light and hates darkness.

Be ambassadors for Christ.

Spread Goodwill.

The downfall of Christianity is when one cannot tell right from wrong.

Labor Day weekend was enjoyed with fellowship, a dinner and Christian love with the folks from the Athens, AL, church. We hope each one enjoyed their visits here with us.

A singing shower was held one evening for Sis. Beth Trueb and Bro. Bill Roscher who are planning a November 2 wedding. We wish them God's blessings as they plan for their Christian home.

The North Fort Myers Sunday school and our Sunday school children and their families enjoyed a picnic together.

We welcome Sis. Mary Martin to our church group. She is from Princeville, IL and is a sister to Sisters Elda and Vera Martin.

Our dear Sis. Colleen Reardon, who has turned to the Lord, gave her testimony at the Detroit, MI, church this past Sunday. Detroit had been her

home church, but she is living here now with her parents, Bro. George and Sis. Marie Reardon. Welcome, Sis. Colleen.

Our sick this past month were Bro. Doug Sabo and Bro. Jeff Streitmatter, Jr.

Bro. Frank Krsogacin has been moved to the Fairbury, IL, home as he is unable to be alone. Bro. Frank was in the hospital in Fairbury, but has returned to the home.

Dathan Eisenmann had to return to the hospital for a week of treatment. We wish God's healing mercies on all those who are ill.

Our Elder Bro. Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI) was our visiting minister this month.

Bro. John and I have returned to our home here after an extended stay in Indiana due to the serious accident we encountered in Kentucky on our way to visit our boys and other relatives and friends in the northern states. It was through God's healing mercies and everyone's prayers given in our behalf that we are able to be back home.

We wish to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, gifts and flowers we received while in the hospital, in Parkview Haven in Francesville, IN, and while we were at the boys' homes recuperating. May God bless each one for their love shown to us at this time.

Bro. John and Sis. Lucille Heiniger

GEORGIA, ATLANTA Nancy Foltz

As we go into the fall season, we can thank God for all the beautiful nature — the changing of the leaves and our magnificent surroundings. Nothing can be more beautiful than our natural surrounding created by God.

We wish to thank all the ministers who have come to share the Word of God with us. We appreciate the time and effort of all these people and thank God for their dedication. May they be richly blessed for their deeds.

Our congregation has been fortunate to have many visitors to stop by and worship with us during the past months. Bro. Lynn and Sis. Brenda Stoller were able to visit during the summer and it was a joy to have them. Bro. Lynn and Sis. Brenda were instrumental in getting our congregation started in Atlanta.

There has been a change in our meeting location. We are now meeting at Bradbury Suites — Best Western, 4500 Circle 75 Parkway, Marietta, off

I-75 at Windy Hill Road, Exit 110. Our services are each second and fourth Sunday at 10:30 a.m. You may call either Don Sellers at 404-923-0721 or Nancy Foltz at 404-451-9191 for information.

ILLINOIS, BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL Donna Hodel — Nancy Kaufmann

With much sadness, we said farewell to Bro. Steve and Sis. Bonnie Kaeb and their two children, Sheila and Greg, as they leave our congregation to move to the Cissna Park area. Our love and prayers go with them.

On September 7 we had our annual student welcome. It was a very blessed day to have all of our area students and their families with us. We really enjoy having the young students worship with us and extend a warm invitation to you and your families to come back often.

Our visiting ministers this past month were our Elder Bro. Dan Koch (Tremont, IL), Bro. Loren Strahm (Gridley, KS) and Elder Bro. Edwin Ringger (Gridley, IL). We thank them for their inspiring messages and for giving of themselves so willingly.

ILLINOIS, BRADFORD Marilyn Tanner

There was a new little addition to the home of Donn and Tracy Ehnle. Melissa Marie was born September 14. One brother, Daniel, is happy to have a baby sister. Grandparents, are Bro. Roy and Sis. Donna Ehnle and Mr. and Mrs. Larry Duckworth.

We were blessed with visiting ministers, Elder Bros. Willis Ehnle (Shioda, Japan) and Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO), Bros. Gary Maibach (Smithville, OH), Lloyd Kraft (Gridley, KS), Jim Hoerr (Peoria, IL), John Klotzle (Altadena, CA), Robert Miller (Portland, OR), and Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL). We wish to thank them and their families for their visit and wish God's blessings to be with them always for lending themselves.

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO Kathy Schlatter

At a potluck the other evening our conversation turned to some of the problems of home owners: ants, crickets, mice and snakes! Several of us were aghast hearing about a couple's awful experience with snakes in the house. However, a brother mentioned

how much better the snakes were than termites. When one realizes the presence of termites, he said, there might not be enough time left to save the house. A sister then suggested the snakes and termites might have a spiritual lesson for us. Once Satan did appear in the more frightening form of a serpent — and he was successful. Now, perhaps we would characterize his work and that of his legions as more subtle, less alarming (it may seem), like the unseen destruction of the termites. Is Satan more successful in this way today? How many spiritual houses are crumbling from the inside?! We should actually be grateful for the times we recognize the snakes of evil.

The Lord has captured and drawn to Himself two more dear souls. Tom Waldbesser gave his testimony and was baptized the weekend of September 6 - 7 in Cissna Park. Judy Snyder gave her testimony Saturday, the 13th and was baptized Sunday, the 14th here at home. Our beloved new sister and brother-in-faith are, like we, now servants of the Lord, bound to His Word and work. Yet, since we are no longer slaves to sin and Satan, we rejoice in the new cords that bind us now in the liberty of peace. We pray for Bro. Tom and Sis. Judy that the Lord's mighty arms enfold and uphold them, both now and forever.

We have enjoyed the visits of many brethren. However, many of the ministers we have heard were those who spoke and were taped at the August brotherhood conference in Peoria. Truly such technology can be used for the furtherance of the Lord's blessings. We are ever thankful that He watches over us individually and collectively, through the watchmen of our church, our elder body. Also, for Sis. Judy's baptism, we were privileged that Bro. Gene Bertschi (her father from Roanoke, IL), Elder Bro. David Bertsch (her uncle, Leo, IN) and Bro. Walt Anliker (Eureka, IL) were present, for each contributed to the spiritual benefits of the weekend. Bro. Wayne Lehman (South Bend, IN) ministered to us the next Sunday, having come for his aunt and uncle's 50th wedding celebration. We are so thankful to them and to the Lord for His insights. Let us be more sacrificial in our love and our lives, striving always to be more holy.

Rick Meyer, son of Bro. Lenard and Sis. Charlotte, is beginning a new phase of his earthly education at the U.

of I., Champaign, this fall. He is also enrolling in the spiritual course the Lord has been calling him to. He is taking the steps set forth in the Scriptures of repentance and confession. May we pray and rejoice in the conversion work of the Lord, made possible by His unchanging blood and sacrifice. We are overjoyed by Rick's new pathway.

Sis. Jean Hoerr has agreed to take the important responsibilities of teaching Sunday school. We are grateful for her willingness and enthusiasm and wish her the Lord's direction in teaching our children.

Our numbers are increasing. Alan Schaefer (son of Bro. Bruce and Sis. Lauretta, Indianapolis, IN) has come to our area to attend the University of Chicago. Since his parents have both been in Chicago some years ago, we welcome him "home". Sis. Jane Lang (Tremont, IL) is working on her degree in elementary education at the U. of I. (Chicago). She joins her brother, Bro. Jim, and twin, Sis. Jean Hoerr, and their families in our fellowship. We look forward to sharing our love together. Bro. Tom and Sis. Jean O'Shea and their children, Casey, Aaron and Gretchen, are coming from the Bloomington-Normal area, returning to Bro. Tom's home area. They are living in Naperville. Bro. Tom is working for a large accounting firm in downtown Chicago. We are delighted that they will be worshipping with us. May we be supportive and encouraging to all in their adjustments and concerns.

Our numbers have increased: yet we continue to say reluctant farewells. Bro. Scott Gerber will be worshipping in Toledo, OH, as he leaves us to earn his M.S. in Electrical Engineering there. Bro. Dan and Sis. Donna Haggartner are returning to downstate Illinois. He will be working for Caterpillar in Mossville. They will be living in Eureka and plan to worship with the brethren there. We wish Bro. Scott new challenges, blessed fellowship and the same precious peace in Toledo. For Bro. Dan and Sis. Donna and their soon-to-be new addition, we wish the Lord's grace and guidance and continued blessings. To all three, we say, remember us sometimes and visit, for you take a bit of each of us with you. Godspeed!

Bro. Morris and Sis. Verna Stedman have been married 49 years now, and the Lord has been good to them.

Though we will sorely miss them as they move to an apartment in Parkview Haven, Francesville, IN, we know the Lord has need of them there and will be with them there, too. But I wonder who will make sure I know about my fellow left-handers when Bro. Morris is gone? And who will be so glad to meet me twice rather than once? 'Twill be sad for us to be without his firm handshake and twinkling eyes. I think of Sis. Verna as the epitome of patience and caring. She has endured much so patiently, and she often would rather listen to another's troubles than explain her own. "... but God is the strength of my heart..." Psalm 73:26. We are saying farewell, but through our tears (inside or out), we give our thanks to the Lord for Bro. Morris and Sis. Verna and their many years of attendance to Him and to His church. May they be mightily blessed forever.

Gene and La Virra Lehman were married September 28, 1936. We were privileged to celebrate with them the fifty precious years together the Lord has given them. They have always been so helpful to us. La Virra has often taken the time to craft special remembrances for one person after another. Their monthly luncheons are a treat for many. And they have, as well, faithfully printed our Chicago church directory year after year. Our hearts are full of love and prayers for them that they may taste more and more of the goodness and blessings of the Lord in their continued years together.

Originally, I had planned to write something different here. I do believe it also was given of the Lord, but it wasn't as painful to me as what I have to share. At that same potluck I mentioned earlier, I was shocked to hear about the suicide of a young boy - man I had known and cared about. Tears coursed down my cheeks, but all my brothers and sisters were supportive. I didn't even feel self-conscious. That's on a positive note. But let me explain the extent of the pain. Besides missing him, reacting to the waste of his life and being concerned about his soul, there is another big question. What did I, Kathy Schlatter, do to point him towards Christ? The responsibility and exclusive importance of that question had better bring me to increased zeal and commitment to perform His will alone, as well as to a rich measure of humility, of the losing of my life within His. Even a cup of cold water can be

given in a spiritual manner. Lord, forgive me my sins of commission and sins of omission. I tremble in the presence of Thy almighty holiness.

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK

Myran Weerts — Elaine Sauder

How thankful we are when visiting ministers come. This past month Elder Bros. Bob Grimm (Goodfield), Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO), Dale Eisenmann (Chicago) and Edwin Ringger (Gridley), ministering Bros. Kenneth Schneider (Remington, IN), Dennis Kaufmann and Kevin Knapp (Bloomington), Jaye Rinkenberger (Goodfield), Kenneth Dietz (Bradford), Todd Feller (LaCrosse, IN) and Elmer Witzig (Gridley) all shared many good teachings with us. Some had sermons, some prayers and some held testimony services, but all were proclaimed through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. Do we appreciate the gift of the Spirit and these humble brethren enough?

On September 6 - 7, we were privileged to hear the testimony of Tom Waldbeser and witness his baptism. We are encouraged every time a sinner turns his back on the world and seeks the Lord.

YESTERDAY

When I recall the yesterdays
The rubble, storm and strife;
I thank my precious Lord again
For giving me new life.
There was a time of darkness and
I'd surely lost my way.
My life was empty, meaningless;
I could not even pray.

Rejection heightened feelings of
My lack of self-esteem;
Failure ate my peace of mind,
Destroyed my every dream.
The mornings that I wakened to
Held nothing more than dread;
My hope for happiness dissolved,
I wished that I were dead.

But then, one single word "forgive"
Was spoken from His throne,
And in my spirit beamed a light...
He beckoned, "Child, come home".

I died to self that He might live
Within the heart of me:
I chose the certain route to peace.
My Shepherd, now is He.

I'm walking in His victory,
A child of Christ, my King,
In Him I find fulfillment and
To Him my praise I sing!

Anna Lee Edwards McAlpin

We extend our sympathy to the Scharlach and Greiner families. Our ministers conducted a graveside service for Lois Scharlach (Clyde, Houston, TX) September 12. She was a sister-in-law to Sisters Mary Anderson, Cora, Nettie and Clara Scharlach. Bro. Willard and Sis. Tillie Rudin, Bro. Howard and Sis. Vi Greiner and Bro. Bob and Sis. Eileen Greiner received word of the passing of their brother and brother-in-law, John Greiner (Minnesota). May of us didn't know these souls well, but it is always a reminder to us that we have no promise for tomorrow.

We've been listening to the conference tapes on Wednesday evenings. May the Lord grant grace to help us support our elders and ministering brethren more faithfully and spiritually retain what is most important and beneficial for each individual in the faith.

Sis. Helen Kuebler and Sis. Anna Marie Reutter (Bill) have been hospital patients. May the Lord bless both of them with renewed health real soon.

To each believer and friend who remembered me in any way during my hospitalization and recovery at home, I say a special "thank you". May God be your rewarder.

Sis. Anna Marie Reutter

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE

Joan Schrock — Gail Williamson

Now it is accomplished! I'm no longer mine;

Lord, I will forever and always be Thine

For Thou hast created and purchased me too,

Baptized with Thy Spirit, Thou makest me new.

Zion's Harp #209

God again gave us a joyful weekend as a precious soul became a child of God. On August 23 and 24, we heard the testimony and witnessed the baptism of Bro. Ben Walder (Elder Bro. Bob and Sis. Gloria). We pray that many more will heed to the call while it is still day of grace.

How thankful we truly are that our

heavenly Father is still talking to us through His humble servants. Visiting ministers this past month have been Bro. John Kokanovich (Phoenix, AZ), Bro. Tim Zimmerman, Bro. Lloyd Kraft (Gridley, KS), Elder Bro. Norbert Steiner, Bro. Duane Farney (Croghan, NY), Bro. Ron Palitto (Akron, OH), Bro. Clarence Dietrich (Silverton, OR), Bro. Roy Wernli (Lamont, KS), Bro. Bruce Leman (Roanoke), Bro. Kenneth Weerts (Cissna Park), Bro. Dan Stoller (Remington, IN), Elder Leroy Huber (Eureka) and Elder Bro. Joe Stoller (Princeville). May God richly bless them for their labors of love.

Hospitalized this month was Sis. Suellen Ott (Bro. Don and Sis. Carolyn). Our thoughts and prayers are with her. We trust that God will place His hand of healing upon her and that she will soon be back to assembling with us.

How shall it be when we at last
returning
From weary wand'rings and from toil
and strife,
Shall reach the home for which our
heart is yearning
And enter into everlasting life?
When from our feet the dust of earth
has vanished,
The last sweat from our brow is wiped
away,
Our eyes behold what oft earth's care
has banished
And gave to us new courage on our way.
Zion's Harp #146

Our hearts were saddened when we heard of the passing away of our dear Bro. Sam Zimmerman (Sis. Luella). We will surely miss him and our heartfelt prayers go out to his family.

ILLINOIS, ELGIN

Elizabeth Schambach

Betty Bachtold

"I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth..." St. Luke 15:7. Such has been our blessed joy as Jim and Carlene (Fehr) Jepson have turned their backs to the world and are seeking the Lord's mercies through true repentance. "Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace my fears relieved; How precious did that grace appear The hour I first believed." Hymns of Zion #97.

God blessed the home of Jeff and

Sara Dietz with a precious baby girl, Natalie Lynn, September 7. Grandparents are Bro. Mel and Sis. Ada Mae Schrock and Bro. Ken and Sis. Mardell Dietz (Bradford). May God continue to bless this family circle.

Mary Lindoerfer (Bro. Kenneth) mourns the loss of her mother, Mary Thums, who passed away August 27. Bereavement has again come to our dear ones, Lydia Osmun and Sis. Rose Eurich, in the sudden death of their brother, John Greiner (Hancock, MN). Our sympathy is extended to each of them. "Jesus knows thy sorrow, Knows thine every care: Knows thy deep contrition, Hears thy feeblest prayers..."

Sisters Anna Schmidgall and Pam Steinbis have been hospitalized this past month. Let us continue to pray for those who are afflicted.

The Word of Life from the living fountain above has again encouraged us each time we avail ourselves. Visiting brethren include: Bros. Walt Steffen (Milford, IN), Carroll Gerber (Bluffton North, IN), Willis Wiegand (Goodfield), Garth Steffen (Portland, OR), Clarence Dietrich (Silverton, OR) and Elder Bro. Sam Anliker (Lamont, KS).

ILLINOIS, EUREKA

Kathy L. Rocke

"Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest." St. John 4:35. In the earthly way, we are enjoying a bountiful harvest for which we give God thanks, but how we long for a spiritual harvest of souls!

The Word has again gone forth and the kind invitation was extended through many visiting ministers. We pray God's blessings on Elder Bros. Norbert Steiner (Croghan, NY) and Raymond Banwart (Fort Scott, KS) and Bros. John Klotzle (Altadena, CA), Harold Emch (Girard, OH), Ed Knecht (Silverton, OR), Ervin Knecht (Lamar, MO), Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH), Larry Wenninger (Latty, OH), Gary Brown (Forrest, IL), Earl Ringger (Gridley, IL) and Jaye Rinkenberger (Goodfield, IL).

Sis. Linda Frank, Sis. Aldine Leman (Bro. Sam), Bros. Richard Frank and Elmer Ginzler and Ernie Wiegand (Dale and Sis. Freidora Wiegand) have been hospital patients this month. May God truly heal and bless as He knows and sees best.

Karen Blunier (Hank and Sis. Wilma) has moved to the Apostolic Christian Home of the Handicapped (Morton). We miss her assembling with us, but hope she can visit us from time to time, and that she can soon feel at home in her new surroundings. May God bless her.

Bro. Jon and Sis. Rita Wettstein welcomed Jodi Lynn September 5. Jacki and Boni are Jodi's sisters. Grandparents are Bro. Ken and Sis. Arlene Huetter (Tremont) and Harold and Loretta Wettstein. May God bless this little family circle.

Bob Schmidgall and LeAnn Zoss exchanged wedding vows September 6. Their parents are Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Zoss and Bro. Sam and Sis. Gladys Schmidgall. "For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and cleave to his wife." St. Mark 10:7.

We have enjoyed listening to the conference tapes the past few Wednesday evenings. Our Shepherds have sounded the warning. May we be granted the Spirit of truth and God's grace to be obedient to His will, and truly be on guard to the evils around us. May we remember our dear elder brethren in prayer as they endeavor to lead their flocks as they are directed from above.

"Trust ye in the Lord for ever: for in the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength."

Isaiah 26:4

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY

Jean Bachtold — Crystal Fehr

At this time of year we can see the fields ready for harvest. God has again provided for His people.

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

Zion's Harp #236, vs. 1

Bro. Anthony Fehr (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Norma) and Sis. Lila Schmidt (Gene and Sis. Ella Mae) were united in holy matrimony August 17 in Winthrop, MN. We welcome Sis. Lila to our congregation.

Joyce Schmid and Frank Nestor exchanged vows September 6. Parents of the couple are Mr. and Mrs. David Schmid (Chenoa) and Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Nestor (Chicago).

Jim Farley and Carla Gray began

their life together September 6. Their parents are Mr. and Mrs. Charles Farley and Mr. and Mrs. William Gray (Hamilton).

May God bless the three couples as they start their new lives together.

Matthew Kilgus welcomed his new playmate, Michael Perry, September 3. The happy parents are Jeff and Lisa Kilgus. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Duane and Sis. Arlene Kilgus and Mrs. Toni Munz.

We extend our sympathy to Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Helen Zimmerman over the loss of his brother, Eugene Zimmerman. We also extend sympathy to his wife, Mildred, and his family.

The single group from Fairbury/Forrest hosted an Illinois Central singing Saturday, September 13.

Sing unto the Lord, O ye saints of His, sing, sing, Sing unto the Lord, And at the remembrance of His holiness, O give thanks unto the Lord.

Gospel Hymns #497

This month we were thankful for the following visiting ministers who gave us kind instructions: Elder Bro. Corbin Bahler (Rockville, CT), Bros. Dave Wiegand (Champaign), Fred Domka (Mansfield, OH), Jim Ramseyer (Bay City, MI) and Earl Banwart (West Bend, IA). May God bless each one for their efforts.

ILLINOIS, FORREST

Sharon Adams — Patsy Stoller

Our cups were filled to overflowing as God's holy Word was brought to us in its fullness. Visiting us this past month were Bros. Kevin Ryan, Al Schneider and Everett Gerber (Rockville, CT), Elder Bro. Sam Anliker (Lamont, KS), Bros. Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH), Clifford Grimm (West Bend, IA), Merle Kaisner, Duane Kilgus and John Hartman (Fairbury). May God bless these dear brethren for their labors.

Hospital patients this month were Bro. Meredith and Sis. Leona Ricketts. Once again God has healed the sick and we are thankful they are able to gather with us again.

Bro. Mark and Sis. LaVerne Aberle have been blessed with a new little bundle of love. Marcus William is a brother of Jamie, Shelly, Shane, Shawn and Bryan. Grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Jean Aberle.

September 6 was the wedding day for Lisa Masters (Bro. Bill and Sis.

Mary) and David Doran. May God bless them in their new life together.

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD

Trish Gerber

With autumn approaching, we are drawn outside to enjoy the brilliant colors that our Creator so masterfully displays. It gives us a good feeling to see the silhouette of a combine bringing in the crops as the sun sinks into the west; or to gather with loved ones around crackling bonfires with a star-studded sky overhead. This is indeed a time to draw nearer to God and enjoy the blessings He has given us.

I remember as a teenager

When my problems brought me down,

I'd take a walk out in the woods
And talk with God alone.

The leaves in the trees seemed to whisper

As they sheltered me from above.

It was always so peaceful and quiet,
I could feel the warmth of God's love.

God was my closest and dearest friend.

I'd share with Him all of my cares.

He listened to me and provided the comfort

Of knowing He always was there.

And now I'm a mother, and still I can feel

That encouraging boost from above,

When I quietly walk outside - in the midst

Of God's nature - that I truly love.

I pray that my children will find this same peace

As earth's trials they learn to endure.

For God is the rock that we all must lean on

To attain a true faith that's secure.

Two young families welcome a new member to their homes. Greg and Jill Wagner have a baby girl named Eleanor Jean. Her grandparents are Ray and Sis. Vi Wagner and Bro. Vernon and Sis. Merna Koch.

Eli Edwin is the little boy sent to be loved by Rich and Lisa Schieler. Bro. Bob and Sis. Marci Schieler and Mr. and Mrs. Don McWilliams are the happy grandparents.

With the elder conference being held in this area, we were blessed with the presence of visiting ministers from

across the nation. We wish to thank Bros. Paul Gasser (Akron, OH), Leland Plattner (Zapata, TX), Harold Schmidgall (Gridley, IL) and Elder Bros. Willis Ehnle (Shioda, Japan), Robert Beyer (Naumburg, NY) and Lavoyd Moore (Athens, AL) for lending themselves.

Hospitalized this past month were Sis. Allene Steffen (Bro. Jerry), Floyd "Shorty" Hofmann (Sis. Evelyn), Sis. Carol Hohulin (Bro. Harold) and Aaron Hohulin (Bro. Bruce and Sis. Charlene). We pray for God's hand of love to restore their health.

We were all encouraged once again to stay close to our God as we listened to Patti Musselman's moving testimony and witnessed her baptism. The love of God radiates from her smiling face as she greets her new brothers and sisters-in-the-Lord.

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY Carol Klopfenstein

"He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least, is unjust also in much."

Luke 16:10

A ministering brother recently reminded us not to neglect the small matters of faithfulness. God often uses seemingly small things to prove our faith and sincerity. It is not up to us to decide that anything God says is trivial and unnecessary. We take Him at His Word in childlike faith and humble obedience.

August 31 was a blessed occasion when five souls were baptized into the death of Christ and symbolically rose from the grave as new creatures in Him. Bro. George Witzig, Bro. Duane Steidinger, Bro. Tim Yergler (the late Bro. Lewis and Sis. Bernice), Bro. Doug Wettstein (Bro. David and Sis. Gloria) and Bro. Craig Wettstein (Bro. Lyle and Sis. Linda) are now members of the body of Christ and part of the family of God. We were glad to have Elder Bro. Art Bahler (Fairbury) and Elder Bro. Bob Grimm (Goodfield) with us for this special event.

The union between a husband and wife is described as a symbol of the union between Christ and His Bride, the Church. As Christ loved the church and gave Himself for it, so the husband is to love and cherish his wife. As the church is subject to Christ and devoted to Him, so the wife is to reverence and

love her husband. As wedding preparations are made for earthly weddings, we can think of the greatest wedding feast of all which will occur in heaven. "Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb." Revelation 19:9.

We rejoice with Bro. Jim Lavallier (Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Lavallier, Chenoa) and Sis. Jeanette Zimmerman (Bro. Roy and Sis. Helen) who are engaged to be married. May they continue to enjoy the beautiful and perfect love that God gives them for each other.

ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY Susan Kieser

The semester is in full swing, giving us students plenty of reasons to spend time in the library researching for papers, writing papers and studying for tests. But the biggest and most important test of all is living life according to God's plan, even though surrounded by many temptations of this world. With God's never-ending love and grace and through our submissiveness to Him, each one of us is able to be a light in this dark world. This point was emphasized by Bro. Marvin Leman (Bradford) as he spoke to us on "Getting Our Priorities Together". He warned us about our two greatest enemies, Satan and the flesh, and how we must always be on guard to overcome their temptations.

The following Bible study, Bro. Wayne Laubscher (Cissna Park) spoke about prayer and the purpose of it. "Are we praying for what we want for our own personal good or are we asking for God's will to be done?" is one question he gave us to think about. He also explained that the length of a prayer means nothing. The value of prayer depends on the sincerity of it and whether or not it comes from the heart.

The next two weeks we learned about our church history. Bro. Ron Heiniger (Bloomington-Normal) spoke about how the early believers were persecuted and how it all fit into God's plan. It made the church pure because only those who were willing to die for their faith and were therefore sincere, became a part of the early church. It also caused the believers to spread out; thus spreading the truth as they went to areas of less persecution. Bro. Perry Klopfenstein (Gridley) spoke about his book, "Marching To Zion" and the

history of our church in America. He related many interesting and inspiring stories about how the early Apostolic Christian Churches got started in America.

We, here at ISU, sincerely thank each of our brothers who come and speak God's Word to us. It is a real encouragement to hear what God has to say to us through His servants after a week of listening to lectures in our classes. May God bless each and every one who has spoken to us in the past and who will speak to us in the future as God allows this world to remain.

Our Bible studies are held each Thursday evening in 244 Schroeder Hall at 7:30 p.m. All are welcome to join us.

ILLINOIS, MORTON

Phyllis Farney — Marcia Kelley

We wish to thank Elder Bros. Richard Schupbach (Phoenix, AZ), Ronald Nelson (Kiowa, KS) and Nathan Steffen (Elgin, IL) and ministering Bros. Edward Aeschleman (Philadelphia, PA), Bryan Webb (Ft. Lauderdale, FL), Tom Luginbuhl (Altadena, CA), Paul Gasser (Akron, OH) and Garth Steffen (Portland, OR) for ministering God's holy Word unto us. May our heavenly Father richly bless them for their labors of love.

Bro. Tim and Sis. Georgia Pflederer welcome into their hearts and home their new baby daughter. Brittany Lea. Brittany was born August 27. Her happy grandparents are Bro. Al and Sis. Martha Wiegand (Oakville, IA) and Bro. Bob and Sis. Eleanor Pflederer (Morton, IL).

A happy occasion is the announcement of the engagement of our Sis. Diane Fischer (Bro. Jim and Sis. Joann) and Bro. Fred Funk (Bro. Jim and Sis. Luann, Tucson, AZ). We wish them God's richest blessings.

We are also rejoicing with Sis. Karen Staker (Bro. Ted and Sis. Mary) and Bro. Dave Wegman (Bro. Sam and Sis. Rosemary) as the Lord has drawn them together and they soon shall walk life's pathway together. Bro. Dave's home church is Washington, IL, and his parent's home church is Oakville, IA. May God continue to richly bless them.

We are saddened to have to say "farewell" to Bro. Jan, Sis. Glenda, Alex, Julie and Andrea Neukomm. They have moved to Lexington, KY, and will be making Lexington their home church. Our love and prayers go

with them. Morton's loss is Lexington's gain.

We have had loved ones who have been sick or in the hospital and we have had those who have lost loved ones. May they continue to feel our love, comfort and prayers.

According to statistics, one person in every 100,000 reaches the age of 100. Our Bro. George Rein celebrated his 100th birthday with a church potluck Saturday, September 13. Bro. George and his son, Melvin, would like to thank all who sent cards and gifts of love to make this such a blessed and special birthday.

ILLINOIS, PEORIA

Susi Herman — Margo Marx

One of our dear sisters from the Home was relieved of her suffering and is now in the gentle arms of our precious Savior. Sis. Barbara Herman is survived by her husband, Reuben. We pray that the Lord could be his strength in this time of sorrow.

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to the family of Bro. Mel Unsicker. May God bless and comfort his beloved wife, Carolee, and their children.

Bro. Walt Witzig passed from this life into eternity recently. We think of him now in heaven, relieved of all past suffering. We pray that the Lord could extend His loving arm to comfort his beloved wife, Kathryn, and his children.

Sis. Kathryn Witzig wishes to express her heartfelt appreciation for the many prayers and cards, words of comfort and kind deeds given since her husband's death. May God bless them all.

Sis. Katherine Schmidtgall wishes to thank everyone who remembered her birthday with cards, gifts and visits. May God bless each one!

We were blessed by the visits of these ministers: Elder Bro. Lavoyd Moore (Athens, AL), Bro. Jim Funk (Tucson, AZ), Bro. Noah Herman (Tucson, AZ), Bro. John Steiner (Oakville, IA) and Bro. Merle Kaisner (Fairbury). May God bless them for their labors of love.

We had a blessed evening Wednesday, September 17, as two sisters were added to our congregation. We welcome Sis. Heather Harrison and Sis. Elsie Gees. It is always inspiring to hear how each one feels the need to turn to God. It helps us gain new courage and strength on our pilgrim way.

Our prayers are with those who have been hospitalized the past month. May God heal them according to His will.

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE Marjean Lehman

"Baptized into Thy name most holy, O Father, Son and Holy Ghost, I claim a place, though weak and lowly among Thy seed, Thy chosen host. Immersed with Christ, I'm dead to sin; Thy spirit now shall live within."

"Now I have vowed to fear and love Thee. And to obey Thee, Lord, alone; I feel Thy Holy Spirit move me and freely pledge myself Thine own, Renouncing sin to keep the faith and war with evil unto death."

The Baptismal Covenant

On August 31, three precious souls made this baptismal covenant with Almighty God. Our new brothers-in-faith are Doug Herrmann (Bro. Walt and Sis. Betty Lou), Doug Streitmatter (Bro. Alf and Sis. Ginny) and Kevin Wagenbach (Bro. Lawrence and Sis. Elaine). May they each one contend for the faith as God leads them on life's pathway one step at a time.

The engagement of Sis. Crystal Herrmann and Bro. David Streitmatter was made known to our congregation August 31. Parents are Bro. Harry and Sis. Bertha Jean Herrmann and Bro. Norman and Sis. Joyce Streitmatter (all of Princeville).

May God bless them as they seek His guidance in all their plans.

"Awake, Thou soul's first inspiration;
Let watchmen stand before the
temple door!

With constant zeal and firm devotion,
Against the enemy they do implore.
Their pealing calls throughout the
world resound;
Salvation, Lord, in Thee alone is
found."

"The promise of true pastors given,
Hearts like Thine own do Thou in
them instill.

The holy Word was never broken;
We know that Thou this promise
wilt fulfill.

The enemies before Thy hand shall
fall;
Thou art forever King and Lord
of all."

The Call For Laborers

Visiting ministers this month were Bro. Ed Aeschleman (Philadelphia, PA), Elder Bro. Sam Anliker (Lamont, KS), Bro. Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL), Elder Bro. Corbin Bahler (Rockville, CT), Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle (Shioda, Japan), Bro. Bill Hodel (Roanoke), Elder Bro. Leroy Huber (Eureka), Bro. Tom Leman (Denver, CO), Bro. Bob Meyer (Bluffton North, IN), Bro. Jim Rinkenberger (Bluffton, IN), Bro. Marvin Schmidgall (Eureka), Bro. Andy Stoller (Smithville, OH) and Elder Bro. Joe Waibel (Bay City, MI). We received many blessed teachings. We thank each of them again for their labors in our behalf. May they be richly blessed for their willingness to speak the Word in truth and with love.

Tim Wagenbach (Bro. Lawrence and Sis. Elaine) suffered a foot injury and his sister, Kristal, broke her arm. May they enjoy restored health soon.

"Thou art my hiding place; thou shalt preserve me from trouble; thou shalt compass me about with songs of deliverance."

Psalms 32:7

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

Marge Leman — Judy Luginbuhl

Many beloved ministering brethren were in the central Illinois area this past month to attend the annual brotherhood conference hosted by the Peoria congregation. Those visiting us here at Roanoke were Elder Bro. Robert Beyer (Naumburg, NY), Bro. Dale Wulf (Lester, IA), Bro. Mike Leman (Denver, CO), Elder Bro. David Bertsch (Leo, IN), Bro. Roy Luginbuhl (Ft. Lauderdale, FL), Bro. Ed Aeschleman (Philadelphia, PA), Bro. Robert Miller (Portland, OR), Bro. Ed Alt (Cissna Park), Bro. Nathan Stoller and Bro. Marvin Leman (Bradford). One of these brothers brought to our attention that they are truly our servants. Our loved ones can only serve us God's Word and His truths, but unless we make the effort to partake and eat what has been set before us, we will not be fed. How true. We thank the brothers for taking the time to be in our midst and for serving us well.

Our Sunday school resumed classes September 7, after a summer recess. It is our prayer that the teachers will be inspired of the Holy Spirit and that the students will have a real desire to learn about the Bible and all its many teachings.

Hospital patients this past month have been Amy Schwind (Bro. David and Sis. Barb), Bro. Jim Hodel, Sis. Angela Rassi and Dan Oltman (Boni (Getz) Oltman). All of these dear ones have returned home. May God continue to watch over them and heal them at home.

Ellen Sauder and Eric Bachman have announced their engagement and are planning a November 29 wedding. Sis. Dorothy and the late Bro. Willard Sauder and Mary and Ken Bachman (all of Roanoke) are the parents of the happy couple.

Kenneth and Ann Fischer (Peoria) are the first-time parents of a new son, Jesse David, born August 10. Bro. Dave Fischer (Roanoke) and Mr. and Mrs. Chuck Hausam (Sunnyland) are Jesse's grandparents.

Bro. Richard and Sis. Janet Knepp have a new son, Alex Michael, born August 31. Marc, Adam and Sarah are excited to have a new brother at home. Sis. Ruth and Bro. Ralph Knepp and Viola and Bud Hinthorne (El Paso) are the grandparents.

Kyle and Margie Hodel are the happy parents of their first son, Adam Michael, born September 12. Adam's big sisters are Cassie and Bethany. Betty and Jerry Hodel (Roanoke) and Pat and Ken Snider (Washburn) are the grandparents.

Bro. Dick and Sis. Ann Hoffman are moving to the Rockville, CT, area where Bro. Dick is starting a new job. Our congregation will truly miss Bro. Dick and Sis. Ann and their three children, but we want to wish them God's richest blessings in their new home and new church.

We sincerely thank all our family, friends and neighbors for all the cards, flowers, gifts, food and especially the support and prayers during our time of sorrow. May God bless you all for your love and kindness.

With Christian Love,
Brent and Marge Hodel

ILLINOIS, TREMONT

**Dorothy Wagenbach
Carolyn Bolliger**

Our visiting ministers this month were Elder Bro. Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI), Bros. Greg Rassi (Chicago) and Everett Hari (Bloomington-Normal). We received many timely instructions and thank the brothers for their works of love.

Our hearts were saddened by the

death of Sis. Emma Getz. Our sympathy goes out to Sis. Alma and Betty of our congregation and their brother, Bill Getz (Peoria).

Little Rollyn Jacob is the new son of Bro. Pete and Sis. Debbie Aberle, born September 5. He has brothers, Randy, Ryan and Rodney to help take care of him. Grandparents are Bro. Vernon and Sis. Bernice Stoller (Princeville) and Bro. Ernie and Sis. Frieda Aberle.

Trent Stuber, young son of Bro. Todd and Sis. Beth, broke his arm. Carla Leuthold (Bro. Dean and Sis. Mary Jane) was a hospital patient but is better again.

Sis. Hanna Koch is a hospital patient at this writing. We hope she can soon be dismissed.

We extend our sympathy to Sis. Dorothy Stuber (Bro. Glenn) in the death of her brother, Jim Hill (Richmond, VA).

Sis. Lila Moser had eye surgery and is getting along nicely. We are happy those that were ill are all back assembling with us again.

I want to thank everyone who visited me, prayed for me, and sent me get-well cards and gifts. It was greatly appreciated.

Bro. Ernest Schaefer

ILLINOIS, URBANA

Cheryl Mangers

Mark and Mary Jo (Aberle) Rieger are the proud first-time parents of little Jenna Marie born August 24.

August 24 was our New Student Welcome and picnic for the incoming freshmen and parents. What a blessed day we had. We had about 190 people in our small little church which may have been a record. We have listed 38 new students and a total of 73 students. Represented are 18 churches, the most being from Forrest, with Morton, Roanoke, Fairbury and Princeville close behind. As I watched the sandwiches rapidly disappear from the trays at lunch time, I marvelled at God's timing and plan for us. This fall brings us the largest college freshman class ever into our fellowship. This fall, we moved into our new "bigger" church. Bringing us God's Word and a special message for the students and parents were Elder Bro. Steve Rinkenberger (Cissna Park) and Bro. Ken Dietz (Bradford).

What a beautiful sight it was August 29 to see so many brethren from many congregations all working together in

the landscaping of our new church. Our love and appreciation to each of you for so unselfishly giving of your time and yourself.

Our appreciation to Bro. Virg Metzger (Chicago) for lending himself in God's service here in Champaign recently.

Many of us have very special memories of 702 E. Mumford, where on September 14, the last church services were held. How special it was for us to have Elder Bro. Ed and Sis. Elsie Hohulin with us, who have been with us each step of the way. As Bro. Ed reminded us, whether we were standing up drinking our coffee and eating a roll while trying to shake hands while at the YMCA or whether we are in our new edifice, the fellowship and love stay the same. Each step of the way we have felt God's direction and guidance. May we always remember to be thankful for all the blessings afforded to us.

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

Vicki Bucher

We extend our sincere thanks to the following ministers who were willing to share God's Word with us: Bros. Doug Wagenbach (San Diego, CA), Gene Metzger (Lester, IA), Homer Reineck (Toledo, OH), Clarence Dietrich (Silverton, OR), Glen Dill (Tremont), Duane Kilgus (Fairbury) and Edwin Bahler (Remington, IN). We trust God will richly bless them for their efforts.

We have two engagements to announce. Bro. Troy Koehl (Bro. Chris and Ida Lu Koehl, Washington) is engaged to Sis. Brenda Jevremov (Bro. Victor and Sis. Anna Jevremov, San Diego, CA). Troy and Brenda are attending the San Diego church. Also engaged are Bro. Dave Wegman (Washington), son of Bro. Sam and Sis. Rosemary Wegman (Oakville, IA) to Sis. Karen Staker (Morton). Karen's parents are Bro. Ted and Sis. Mary Staker. We wish them God's blessings and guidance, and pray that they will put God at the head of their new home.

In the past couple of months, two families have moved from our area. Bro. Jim and Sis. Eloise Howell and their children, Andrew and Arianne, have moved to the Chicago area and are attending the Valparaiso church. Herb and Joyce Blunier and their children, Beth and Joey, have moved to Roanoke. We really miss them and wish them the best in their new locations.

We are thankful that Marie Teubel (Bro. Ed and Sis. Louise Teubel, Washington) has turned to the Lord in repentance and faith. She is looking forward to baptism since she now has the peace of God in her heart. Marie is employed in Phoenix, AZ, but will be returning to Washington for her baptism.

Just a reminder to the Washington subscribers that October is the month to collect for the Silver Lining. Thank you!

INDIANA, BLUFFTON

Lucille Isch — Evelyn Ringger

It has been very good to hear the tapes of the conference. We read in Hebrews 13:17 to "Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy and not with grief."

Many places in the Bible tell us to fear the Lord. Proverbs 8:13 tells us, "The fear of the Lord is to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate". "Ye that fear the Lord, trust in the Lord: He is their help and their shield." Psalm 115:11. "They that fear thee will be glad when they see me." Psalm 119:74.

We had as our guest ministers Bros. Ernest Graf and Ron Palitto (Akron, OH) and Bro. Ben Manz (Junction, OH). We thank them for coming and sharing God's Word with us.

"And great earthquakes shall be in divers places . . ." Luke 21:11. Two different groups of men went to Mexico to help on the rebuilding projects from earthquake damages. Also, brothers went to help clean up from the twister just north of here which struck several farms. May God bless these brothers who took time out to help those in need.

Our loved ones hospitalized have been Bro. Phil Kaehr (Sis. Gloria), Sis. Esther Geisel (Bro. Olen), Marie Anderson (Clifton), Bro. Jacob Graber, Sis. Marguerite Kipfer (Bro. Martin) and Sis. Shari Snodgrass (Walt).

The marriage of Troy Heyerly (Sis. Carolyn) and Linda Sue Williams took place August 16 at the fellowship hall. We wish them much happiness.

Believing God has brought them together, Bro. Stan Ringger (Bro. Gary and Rosetta) and Sis. Janice Steffen (Sis. Irene) joined heart and hand in holy matrimony September 14.

THE MEANING OF TRUE LOVE

It is sharing and caring,
Giving and forgiving,
Loving and being loved,
Walking hand in hand,
Talking heart to heart,
Seeing through each other's eyes,
Laughing together,
Weeping together,
Praying together,
And always trusting
And believing
And thanking GOD
For each other . . .

For love that is shared
is a beautiful thing —
It enriches the soul
and makes the heart sing!

Helen Steiner Rice

INDIANA, BLUFFTON NORTH

Cindy Shorb — Sheri Leman

"I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvellous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well."

Psalms 139:14

How this truth is impressed upon us each time our lives are blessed with a new little 'marvelous work of God'. August 22 marks the birthday of Elise Renae Vidrine and we rejoice with the happy parents, Bro. Paul and Sis. Connie, and grandparents, Bro. Ralph and Sis. Elsie Troxel.

We have been missing Sis. Marcia (Bro. Larry) Belsley, who has been seriously ill at home for several weeks. Our thoughts and prayers are with her that she may soon return to good health.

We extend our sympathy and prayers to several who have lost a loved one recently. God took home the father of Sis. Dee (Bro. Elmer) Steffen, Bro. Edward Freidinger (Bay City, MI) August 22. Ervin Rauch (Berne) passed away August 31. He was brother and uncle to Sis. Hilda Steffen, Bro. Jay and Sis. Mavel Rauch and Bro. Jerome and Sis. Virginia Rauch. Bro. Dan and Sis. Priscilla Steffen said goodbye to their sister-in-law, Mabel Baumgartner (Conneautville, PA) September 5. May they all be lifted up by our shared concern and sorrow.

"Oh, blessed thought . . . sweet rest will come,
when all our earthly toil is done.

These heavy burdens we'll lay down,
when we receive our heavenly crown.
Our suffering, too, will soon be passed,
when we shall find sweet rest at last.
All war and strife will soon be o'er,
We'll find sweet peace on heaven's shore.

Some glad day after while,
there'll come a glad day after while."
"Some Glad Day" (condensed)
by Will M. Ramsey

INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE

Lynne Wuethrich

Our congregation had the joy of hearing the testimonies and seeing the baptisms of seven friends. We heard two of the testimonies Wednesday, September 3 and the other five Saturday, September 6. The following Sunday, Sis. Mary Putt (Norm), Bro. Jan Gutwein (Bro. Harold and Sis. Maxine), Sis. Lisa Anliker (Bro. Ron and Sis. Vicky), Sis. Carolyn Gutwein (Edwin and Mary B.), Sis. Cami Vogt (Bro. Ron and Sis. Diane), Sis. Valerie Metzger (Bro. Ben and Sis. Miriam), Bro. Roger Pelsy (Bro. Ellsworth and Sis. Luella) were baptized and made their covenant with God. We pray that God will continue to grant them His grace and guidance throughout their lives. Elder Bros. Bob Walder (Congerville, IL) and Sam Anliker (Lamont, KS) and Alfred Bahler (Wolcott) were here to share the duties with Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman. We give thanks to them for lending themselves.

Our sympathy goes to Bro. Rod and Sis. Donna Gutwein and their family as Sis. Donna's father passed away unexpectedly September 11. Homer Steele was in his 70's and lived in Medaryville. We pray God will comfort all those suffering this loss.

Sadness also touched the homes of loved ones in our congregation as Bro. Jim Gutwein passed away September 17. We remember in prayer his dear wife, Sis. Marian, and their children, Sis. Diane Vogt (Ron, Francesville), Janet Hertzler (Dean, Virginia), Mark Gutwein (Francesville), Marcia Schegel (Paul, Indianapolis), Gail Gutwein (Argentina), Barry Gutwein (Denver, CO) and Bro. Brent Gutwein (Francesville). May God continue to comfort them.

We've had two hospital patients this month. Bro. Dave and Sis. Arlene Metzger's little girl, Abbie, is in the hospital. We pray that God will strengthen Abbie so that she can come

home soon. Also, Sis. Emma Boehning underwent surgery August 26. Sis. Emma is home now and recovering well.

Our congregation is sad to see Bro. Dave and Sis. Cindy Huber move. They are going to live in the Bloomington, IL, area due to a job opportunity. They have two girls, Tara and Whitney. We hope they'll come back to see us often.

Bro. Stanley and Sis. Maxine Boehning are happy grandparents. Their daughter, Kim, and son-in-law, Mark Davidson, had a baby girl September 16. Shanna Rae has another set of grandparents, Warner and Ninalee Davidson (Crawfordsville). Sis. Emma Boehning is a great-grandmother to Shanna.

Three families have had weddings lately. Brian Boehning (Bro. Stanley and Sis. Maxine Boehning) was married to Rae Jeanne Dickinson August 30. Rae Jeannes' parents are Roger and LeAnne Dickinson (Francesville). We pray God will bless these loved ones as they journey through this life together.

Rod Erb (Don Erb and the late Marlene (Levy) Erb) was united in marriage to Tamie Yates September 6. Tamie's parents are Jim and Delores Yates (Delphi). We pray God's blessing on this union.

Bro. Fred and Sis. Madeleine Gutwein's son, Fredrick Charles, Jr., married Darlene Lewark September 10. Darlene's parents are Bill and Carmen Lewark (Knoxville, TN). May God keep them in His care.

Bro. Wayne Lehman (South Bend) ministered God's Word unto us. We want to thank him for visiting us.

INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS

Kathy Freed — Gail Bradford

Our college students, Alan Schafer, Jane Bradford and Matt and Luz Gutwein began their fall studies. We would appreciate knowing about any students attending Indiana University this year, as it is only an hour away and we want to encourage them to worship with us.

Our prayers are with Dave and Sis. Becky Pearson as their young Stephanie undergoes medical tests. She is very courageous as she waits for a diagnosis.

Are we hurting? Are loved ones enduring pain? How do we respond? Do we ask, "why me?" Or do we ask, as the

Bible directs, "How do I act now that this has happened?"

First we need to put our whole trust in God. If our hope is in Him, suffering can work for good in our lives.

Suffering can refine our faith. (I Peter 1:5-7). It can allow us to display the works of God (John 9:1-3). It can increase our wisdom (James 1:2-4). It can make us more Christlike (Romans 8:28-29). Suffering can build character (Romans 5:3-5). It can humble us before God (I Peter 5:6-7).

Casting our cares upon Him, we must trust God as a child trusts a parent. Then our suffering can turn us toward God; our pain can draw us closer to Him as we commit ourselves to His loving arms. Our response to pain can make such a difference!

"Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God for all comfort;

"Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God."

II Corinthians 1:3-4

With this trusting, obedient attitude we can also encourage and uplift our hurting ones. Our deeds of kindness will reflect the Spirit within us. Think of those who suffer, as if you shared their pain.

"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

INDIANA, LACROSSE

Debbie Nuest — Sandy Heinold

The engagement of our Sis. Gwen Bucher to Bro. Elmer Bucher (Valparaiso) was announced. We wish Sis. Gwen and Bro. Elmer God's guidance and blessings as they share their lives together.

Bro. Dan Stoller (Remington) shared the Word with us this month along with our faithful home ministers. May God bless His Word and His servants.

Bro. Ed Frank wishes to thank everyone who so kindly remembered him with prayers, cards and gifts during his hospitalization and recovery since returning home. It was very much

appreciated and may God bless you for your love and kindness.

We are thankful that our shepherd Bro. Ed has recovered so well and that his pain and suffering, for the majority, is behind him.

INDIANA, LAFAYETTE PURDUE UNIVERSITY

Charlotte Gutwein

It's that time of year again when Purdue is back in session and our group expands. We would like to welcome to the Lafayette area Curt Anliker, Heidi Gutwein, Gina Huber, Michelle Neihouser, Dynelle Pelsy, Barb Putt (Francesville), Greg Baumgartner (Bluffton), Heidi Beer (Milford), Larry Bucher (LaCrosse), Rod Huber (Valparaiso), Jennifer Hopkins (Wolcott), Kent Rager (Toledo, OH), Mark Ramseyer (Bay City, MI) and Sue Waibel (Remington).

Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville) hosted our first service. We were reminded that our number one priority is with our spiritual life. Many of us are gaining knowledge through a higher education, but we must not forget that God's wisdom from above is so much more valuable and important (James 3:17). We are also thankful for Bro. Ed Schwartz (Bluffton) for sharing God's Word with us.

Purdue services are held every other Thursday at 7:30 E.S.T. at the Church of the Nazarene, 3290 Soldiers Home Road, West Lafayette. Everyone is welcome to come and worship with us. We appreciate the continual prayers and support of Bros. Edwin Bahler (Remington) and Gene Lehman (Wolcott).

INDIANA, LEO Thelma Schlatter

Recently called to serve Him as Sunday school teachers are Sis. Linda Klopfenstein and Bro. Brace Wieland.

Appreciation is expressed for the visit and ministry of Elder Bro. Edwin Ringger (Gridley, IL).

God blessed the home of Bro. Tim and Sis. Jenny Sauder with a baby girl. She is Erica Rose and was born September 9. Delighted grandparents are Bro. Art and Sis. Ruth Gramm (Gridley, IL) and Bro. Jack and Sis. Marlise Sauder (Roanoke, IL).

Bits of This and That:

Where you stand on an issue depends on where you sit.

Everything done in the name of Jesus Christ ought to have **QUALITY** stamped all over it.

A smile improves your face value. You meet your biggest problem each morning — in your mirror.

It is destructive to make debatable absolutes. The real issue is winning souls to Christ — not issues that change from culture to culture and generation to generation.

A pointed question: How many people are following Christ because of you?

No man can avoid his own company, so he had best make it as good as possible.

God doesn't want us to be rich for 70 or 80 years, then poverty stricken for eternity. "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: for where your treasure is, there will your heart be also . . ." Matthew 6:19-21.

INDIANA, MILFORD

Joyce Kaiser — Shelby Beer

Now the field is ripe for harvest
Let us then all garner in;
For if we should stand here idle,
Who would bring the sheaves of grain?
Hasten gladly to the labor,
Consecrate to God your heart.
Say this day unto your Savior,
"Lord, I'll gladly do my part."

Hymns of Zion #46

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

"For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword . . ." Hebrews 4:12. We have been showered with rich blessings from God through the willing visits of several ministers and their families: Bro. Gary Maibach (Smithville, OH), Bro. Ted Witzig (Morton, IL), Elder Bro. Loren Stoller (Latty, OH), Elder Bro. Orville Ringger (Bluffton), Elder Bro. Phil Stettner (Bluffton North) and Bro. Ray Sinn (Latty, OH). May God bless and strengthen those who are called upon to speak His Word.

Our hospital patients this month

have been Edna Graff, Sis. Anna Rassi, and Sis. Connie (Bro. Steve) Beer. We thank God for His healing power.

Services were held September 10 for our departed Sis. Matilda Rassi, 96. She was preceded in death by eleven brothers and four sisters. A number of nieces and nephews have many blessed memories of their aunt.

WHICH WAY

Tonight as you lay on your pillow, my friend,
Just think for a minute for two;
If Jesus would gather the souls He has called,
Would there be a dawning for you?

We know that a mansion awaits all the blest,
All those who have heeded God's voice,
And through true repentance and faith in God's Word,
Made Christ the Redeemer their choice.

But suffering and pain in a ne'er-ending fire
Will be the sad plight of each soul
Who does not make use of the time he is given
To be, by the Saviour, made whole.

There's no way of knowing when Jesus will come,
And death is a surety we know,
And if you be summoned tonight, my dear friend,
I ask you, "Which way would you go?"
EJB

INDIANA, REMINGTON

Beth Virkler — Susan Getz

Matthew Getz, 13, (Bro. Eldon and Sis. Charlene) was involved in an accident which left his leg seriously broken in several places. He missed several weeks of school and will be in a cast for approximately four to five months. His address is Rural Route 1, Wolcott, IN 47995.

Do any of us ever lack motivation when it comes time to read God's Word? Deep down my conscience tells me that this shouldn't be so, yet this happens in my life and the guilt often surrounds me. In this "computer" generation that we are living in, it seems that the bombardment of "information overload" often boggles our minds to the extent that we find it rather difficult to discipline our minds to concen-

trate on implanting the Word of God into our lives. With the proliferation of reading material (books, magazines, newsletters, business reports, etc.) constantly grabbing for our attention, I find that it is a continual struggle for me to give the Bible top priority of my reading attention amid the many other tempting sources of reading enjoyment. So how can we read the Bible more effectively? In my search, I found these encouraging suggestions:

"Read your Bible — not as a newspaper, but as a letter from home.

"If a cluster of heavenly fruit hangs within reach, gather it.

"If a promise lies upon the page as a blank check, cash it.

"If a prayer is recorded, appropriate it and launch it as a feathered arrow from the bow of your desire.

"If a truth is revealed in all its intrinsic splendor, entreat that its brilliance may ever irradiate the hemisphere of your life like a star.

"Entwine the climbing creepers of holy desire round the lattice work of Scripture. So shall you come to say with the Psalmist, "O how I love thy law! It is my meditation all the day." (Psalm 119:97).

F. B. Meyer

INDIANA, SOUTH BEND

Pauline Laidig — Jill Lehman

We were truly blessed by the inspired messages from God's Word, which were brought to us by Bro. Wayne Laubscher (Cissna Park). It was also a pleasure to meet and fellowship with his wife, Sis. Gloria, and family, as well as with others who spent the weekend here with relatives. Bro. Robert and Sis. Sue Beebe graciously provided for an outdoor get-together Saturday evening, which was enjoyed by all. We especially enjoyed gathering around the campfire to sing awhile before leaving.

Even though the vacation season is over, we welcome anyone to come and worship with us anytime.

It is our desire to hold this midweek service at Bro. Ernest Germann's home, especially since he recently reached his 93rd birthday. It is hoped that he may be able to attend a service now and then on Sundays. We were happy that he was able to visit his aged sister, Sis. Martha Stortz, at Fairview Haven, Fairbury, IL.

We are sorry to have two families leave our area. Bro. Eric and Sis.

Norma Aeschliman, and little Jenny, have moved to Valparaiso; and Bro. Bert, Sis. Karen, Erika, Shannon and Jason Aeschliman will soon be moving to Fort Wayne, where Bert has been employed for some months. They will be missed very much. We sincerely thank them for their faithfulness in serving our congregation in various capacities. May God watch over all of them.

INDIANA, VALPARAISO

Cheryl Bucher — Peg Huber

In John 5, we read of a certain man which had an infirmity thirty-eight years, but he still clung to the hope of healing by some day being the first to step into the pool called Bethesda after an angel had troubled the water. He lamented to our Lord, "I have no man, when the water is troubled, to put me into the pool: but while I am coming, another steppeth down before me." Christ met his need with only a word: "Rise, take up thy bed, and walk. And immediately the man was made whole, and took up his bed, and walked".

Through the ages, Christ continues to meet the needs of every soul that cries to Him as we've witnessed in the life of our precious friend, Lucy McManes. Loved ones helped her from her wheelchair into the baptismal waters to arise — not without the continued need of a wheelchair — but in newness of life, without the guilt and burden of sin — the ultimate in healing! Because of her faith, the fruit of repentance, and the promises of our God that cannot lie, we have the hope that someday Lucy will be walking those streets of gold! Lucy is Sis. Sheryl Heinold's mother, and lives at Parkview Haven, Francesville. We are grateful to Elder Bros. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville), Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL) and Bro. Lynn Stieglitz (Leo) for sharing this day of rejoicing with us.

"And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it . . ." Isaiah 30:21. "I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye." Psalms 32:8. Bro. Elmer Bucher and Sis. Gwen Bucher (LaCrosse) have felt His authoritative, trustworthy direction in their lives as their engagement was recently announced. As He unfolds His will, we need not fear — "As for God, His way is perfect." Psalms 18:30.

We're glad to have Bro. Con Paarl-

burg out of the hospital, and we're trusting Him for complete healing.

INDIANA, WOLCOTT

Lorene Furrer — Elaine Bahler

In Galatians 6:10 we read, "As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith." Surely the Apostle Paul knew of the spiritual blessings the giver receives, no matter how small or large their part may be. In August many of our brothers and friends took part in cutting, baling and trucking hay to South Carolina. Also, in August, a group of brothers and friends went to Mexico City for a week to work on the building project there.

As our harvest season has begun earlier this year, we have already had the opportunity to listen to our brotherhood conference tapes, together with the Remington congregation.

The summer's end has also brought changes with loved ones going back to school and college. Bro. Bob and Sis. Marcia Feller have moved to the Boston area for Bro. Bob to attend Harvard University, and are assembling with the Rockville, CT, congregation. We wish them God's nearness and blessings in their new surroundings.

We have also had a welcome addition as Sis. Pam Kyburz (Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Pat) has returned "home" after living in Salem, OR, and worshipping with the Silverton congregation for several years.

On September 3, Krystal Brooks was a welcome addition in the home of Bro. Brian and Sis. Lorna Knapp and brothers, Jordan, Kyle and Trevor. Her grandparents are Bro. Jerry and Sis. Nancy Knapp (Taylor, MO) and Bro. Myron and Sis. Dorothy Schulz (Oakville, IA).

We thank Bro. Nile Bucher (Bluffton North) for spending the day and sharing the Word with us September 7.

IOWA, BURLINGTON

Karen Schulz — Dixie Messner

August 31 was a special day for Sis. Jean, Bro. Curt and Seth Eberhardt as they welcomed Kate Laurel into their family. Kate's grandparents are Bro. Joel and Sis. Shirley Wuthrich (Pulaski) and Bro. Joe and Sis. Ruby Eberhardt (Oakville).

Bro. Dave Eisenman (North Fort Myers, FL), Bro. Dale Moore (Elgin, IA) and Bro. Dale Funk (Oakville) were

our visiting ministering brothers. May God richly bless them for lending themselves to serve us.

Our dear Bro. Ken Buehler passed away September 16. We will miss his quiet example but are thankful that he could be relieved of his earthly suffering. May his dear wife, Sis. Martha, feel the Lord's comfort and nearness at this time.

Those in the hospital this month are Ella Reeser and Sis. Lulu Landes. We pray that they will feel the Lord's healing power.

IOWA, ELGIN

Gloria Frieden

Once again the leaves are turning shades of reds and orange in an array of beauty, but this beauty lasts for such a short time and soon the leaves begin to fall and winter follows. May we not murmur as we think of the cold weather ahead but thank God for the beauty that comes with each season of the year. Likewise, with the season of life as we travel from babyhood to adulthood, may we not murmur about our slowing pace, dimming vision or our greying hairs, but rejoice in the nearness of God that seems to increase as we enter each new threshold.

EVENTIDE

God loves the Aged.
He gives them greater visions than the young;
He puts the words of wisdom on their tongue;
And keeps His presence ever by their side,
From dawn to dusk, and on through eventide.

God helps the Aged.
Within their home His Spirit ever dwells;
Their mellow hearts are touched like chiming bells;
He calms their fears, then worries disappear,
Because they know His help is always near.

God keeps the Aged.
With hearts of gold, and silver-tinted hair,
And earnestness, and greater faith in prayer;
He keeps them as a shepherd guards his sheep,
'Til in His fold they gently fall asleep.
Leaves of Gold

On Labor Day weekend our Bible class hosted the Bible class from Wolcott, IN. It appeared a blessed weekend was shared by all.

We welcome Anita Nester (Bro. Gene and Sis. Shirley, Lester) as she continues her education in Child Development at NITI in Calmar.

We thank Bro. Paul and Sis. Joyce Gasser (Akron, OH) for their mid-week visit. We appreciate all our visiting ministers and welcome more.

IOWA, GARDEN GROVE

Glen and Sally Funk

After an unusually cool August, we are now having a warm September. Everything is beautiful, with a lot of color. Flower gardens have had a wonderful show of color this year.

On Sunday, September 7, the Garden Grove church met with the Pulaski congregation in Centerville, IA, for a picnic. The children had a wonderful time, and the adults enjoyed an afternoon of fellowship. Our thanks go to everyone at Pulaski that helped make the arrangements.

Our Sunday school children, 6th grade and up, were invited for a weekend with the Kansas churches at Bern. Those weekends are very special to us as parents, and we pray the children will enjoy the opportunity of meeting church friends. We have only four children here that are in that age group, but we are thankful for them. They are Jeremy and Eric Smith, Dawn Clark and Patrick Funk. They all had a wonderful visit and we certainly thank Bern for the invitation. I feel especially thankful to the family that gave Patrick a bed and breakfast, and wish he could remember their name.

Many thanks go to ministering Bro. Max Reimscheisel and his wife, Judy, for surprising us and stopping to spend a Sunday with us on their way home from the conference. It is wonderful how the Lord directs others and our needs are met. We also thank ministering Bro. Walter Herrmann (Princeville, IL) and his wife and son for a wonderful Sunday spent here.

A SPECIAL PRAYER REQUEST

Dear brothers, sisters and friends,

Fifteen years ago I was living in Phoenix, AZ, with a friend from Wichita, KS, when I repented and became a sister in the church. My friend's name was Shelly Chism and I was then Sally

Wullschleger. She had grown up around my family so the church was not completely new to her. She came to church with me and for the most part supported me in my new life. She enjoyed going with the young group and meeting the many visitors that would come from all our other churches. All who got to know Shelly learned to love her and I am sure have never forgotten her. Through the years many have asked about her. Our lives went in different directions, but we always stayed in touch. Shelly has not had it easy and has endured a lot of hard times. I am writing to ask that you pray for her as she lies in a coma now, dying of cancer. I also thought there would be many people that would want to know about her that I could not reach or remember.

Please pray for Shelly, that she may have peace with God and that her family and children can find comfort in God, as well as their salvation.

Love in Christ,
Sally Funk
Leon, IA

IOWA, IOWA CITY

Janette Schulz

We want to extend our thanks to all of our visitors this month, including ministering Bros. Ron Schambach (Elgin, IL), Ken Eisenmann (Cissna Park, IL), Albert Aberle (Tremont, IL) and Bruce Lemman (Roanoke, IL). May God bless them for their efforts on our behalf.

We gladly welcome two new additions to our congregation. Andy and Jayne Sauder, along with Mendi and Adam, welcomed Greg Darren into their family July 21. Sis. Karen Staker's engagement was announced to Bro. Dave Wegman (Washington, IL). He plans to seek employment in the Iowa City area while she continues her studies here. May God bless these loved ones and their families.

At our last Bible study, we were discussing the value and necessity of watching. I Corinthians 2:10-11, "But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.

"For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God."

We were reminded that the Spirit can see things we cannot comprehend at the time. If we are in tune with the

Spirit, we may be able to avoid problems or temptations altogether. Sometimes it comes as a "sixth sense" or a feeling we can't explain and it requires faith to follow that prompting.

We were also reminded that we should "watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." Matthew 26:41. We are to use God's help and direction in self-examination.

Thy word, O Lord, forever is
The mirror where we see
Our faults and duties as they are,
Our likeness unto Thee.

Can we our imperfections see
Without a humble sigh?
Should we neglect God's precious
word.
And lightly pass it by?

His word obey and warning take;
His wisdom will prevail.
For if we know, and heed it not,
It is of no avail.

Zion's Harp #142

If we find we have failed, we should have Godly sorrow. But if we feel God has forgiven us for our failings, we need to also forgive ourselves. Surely when God told Peter "What God hath cleansed, that call not thou common," Acts 10:15, He meant for us to apply it to ourselves as well as to others.

IOWA, LESTER

Kathy Metzger — Mary Knobloch

"Except a man be born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." John 3:3. God has called another soul to repentance and we pray His grace will be with Anita Nester (Bro. Gene and Sis. Shirley Nester) as she begins a new "birth" in Christ.

Several visiting ministers have been among us this past month. Bro. Roger Aberle (Sabetha, KS), Bro. Jim Plattner (Princeville, IL), Bro. Kent Mogler (Minneapolis, MN), Bro. John Lehman (Sabetha, KS) and Bro. Dale Zeltwanger (Morris, MN) brought to us the Word of Life. "How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring tidings of good things." Romans 10:15.

Labor Day weekend our single group was blest with approximately 100 brothers and sisters from Rockville, CT, Bluffton North and Bluffton, IN, Smithville, Latty and Junction, OH,

Phoenix, AZ, Eureka, IL, West Bend, IA and Morris, MN. Bro. John and Bro. Dale brought forth many words of encouragement as we gathered to renew Christian friendships and begin new acquaintances.

God has blest three homes with new babies. A daughter, Elyse Marie, was born August 20 to Denis and Jill Meyer. Paternal grandparents are Bro. Raymond and Sis. Twyla Meyer. A son, Austin Algo, was born August 27 to Denis and Jackie Knobloch. Paternal grandparents are Bro. Nathan and Sis. Irene Knobloch and maternal grandparents are Bro. Jack and Sis. Janet Wysong. Levi and Vicki Knobloch welcome a son, Cody Lee, September 4. His paternal grandparents are Bro. Nathan and Sis. Irene Knobloch.

Bro. Emil and Sis. Frieda Knobloch were recently honored at an open house as they celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. All of their children were able to enjoy this special time with them. May God continue to bless their marriage as they live each day together serving their God faithfully.

A wedding reception was held for Bro. Stan and Sis. Sue Zollinger Warner Saturday, September 13. They exchanged wedding vows in Phoenix, AZ, September 7. We warmly welcome Sis. Sue to this area. With Christ as the head of their home, may they feel His nearness as they begin their life together.

Surgical patients this past month were Barb Moser (David) and Bro. Elmer Metzger. We are thankful the worst days of pain and suffering are over and they are both home and recuperating. May God continue to support the ill and grant recovery as He sees best.

Our hearts were saddened as we bid farewell to Bro. Brad and Sis. Teresa Kellenberger and their three children, Tiffany, Brett and Megan. They plan to take up residency in Sabetha, KS. We know they feel God's will is to leave and we remember them in prayer as they follow His direction. What a comfort to know we can remember each other in prayer over the many miles between!

IOWA, OAKVILLE
Debbie Wagenbach

We have two new babies in our congregation. Bill and Cindy Marshall welcomed their third son into their hearts and home. Brian David has big

brothers, Jason and Aaron to help look after him. Bro. Ben and Sis. Phyllis Knobloch and Bill and Wanda Marshall are the happy grandparents. Bro. Keith and Sis. Tonya Lanz are parents of Kelly Anne, their second little girl. Heidi will be happy for a little sister to play with. Elder Bro. Ed and Sis. Joan Lanz and Bro. Dick and Sis. Dorothy Taeger (Burlington) are Kelly Anne's grandparents.

Bros. Bill Gerst (Alto, MI), Gary Maibach (Rittman, OH), Arnie Gerst (Taylor, MO), Elmer Schmidt and Dean Messner (Winthrop, MN) have recently brought forth the Word of Life in our Oakville congregation.

On September 14, Kelly Austin (Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Austin, Wapello) became the bride of Monte Lanz (Bro. Rob and Sis. Emma Jean). We wish them God's richest blessings and guidance throughout their life's journey as husband and wife.

Thought: Who goes to bed, and doth not pray, Maketh two nights to every day!

Herbert

IOWA, PULASKI
Mary Jane Knapp — Sarah Teubel

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

Hymns of Zion #46

With autumn now upon us, the farmers are busy in the field gathering grain. So also in a spiritual sense we, too, should be gathering sheaves of grain for Jesus. Truly the fields are white for harvest but the laborers are few.

We were blessed by the ministry of visiting minister Bro. Mike Leman (Denver, CO) August 31. He brought us the message on how Christ loves us as much as we do our own children; but when we don't follow His will, we must be disciplined.

"My son, despise not the chastening of the Lord; neither be weary of his correction: For whom the Lord loveth he correcteth; even as the father the son in whom he delighteth."

Proverbs 3:11-12

IOWA, WEST BEND
Polly Zaugg — Phyllis Banwart

Just as I am without one plea,

But that Thy blood was shed for me,
 And that Thou bidd'st me come to
 Thee,

O Lamb of God, I come! I come!
 Hymns of Zion #105

The words of this hymn, "Just As I Am," were one of our dear departed Bro. George Bruellman's favorites. Bro. George led our congregation in singing for many years. On August 18, Bro. George, 86, passed away following a lingering illness. Surviving are his dear wife, Sis. Clara, and children, Bro. Harley and Bro. Donald (West Bend), Bro. Eugene (Des Moines), Elaine Wichtendahl (Bernard, Livermore), 21 grandchildren and 28 great-grandchildren. Preceding him in death were one son, Melvin, one grandson and two great-grandchildren. Our sincere sympathy and prayers are with them.

On Saturday, September 6, funeral services were held for Anita Meyers, 85, who passed away, the result of a heart attack Wednesday evening. Anita has assembled with us since returning to West Bend five years ago. She had lived and worked in Washington, D.C. for many years. She is survived by the following brothers and sisters: Sis. Celina Schmidt (Winthrop, MN), Lena Montag (Paul, Hutchins, IA), Bro. Edwin Wirtz (Mallard, IA), Bro. Fred Wirtz (West Bend), Alfred (West Bend), Lydia Edwards (Russell, West Bend), Adeline Spencer (Ellsworth, Hanlontown, IA), Paul (Crystal Lake, IA) and Bro. Verner (Whittemore).

The families who lost loved ones this past summer surely appreciated the many prayers and love extended to them over the many months.

This month we have several hospital patients to report. Those who have been in recently are Sis. Jackie Mogler, Todd Kellenberger (Joel and Teresa), Arlie Banwart (Eva), Sis. Emma Luthi and Sis. Beverly Wirtz (Bro. Verner). Also, we have had several loved ones who have been seriously ill in their homes. For those who have recovered, we are thankful and hope and pray that health and strength will be restored to the others. May we always remember then in our prayers.

On August 17, we were privileged to have Bro. Joe Gerst (Iowa City) in our midst. May God bless our ministers for their labors.

Several of our congregation were privileged to attend our annual broth-

erhood conference in Peoria, IL. Now we are assembling an evening a week to listen to the tapes and are thankful for our elder brethren who strive to uphold the true faith. We trust that we'll all support them and strive to be more Christ-like.

JAPAN, SHIODA
Sheila Moser

September is time for school to start again following summer vacation. The first day of school usually is an emotion-filled day for students and teachers alike. Watching our students return that first day caused me to realize the seriousness of our duty as God-loving and fearing adults to allow His light to shine through us as examples for all children to learn from.

August was a time for many of us here to travel to the States to visit loved ones. We are thankful that Bro. Willis and Sis. Lois Ehnle, Bro. Randy Mogler, Jun Utsuki and Sis. Sheila Moser could return safely after enjoying the month with family and friends. We want to thank all who were so gracious and kind to them during that time. Bro. Willis and Bro. Randy attended the conference in Peoria, IL, and we are looking forward to listening to the teachings of the elder body.

After spending several months with his parents here, Tom Ehnle left to attend a University in California. He goes with our prayers and hope that he will have success at college.

JAPAN, TOKYO

Yoshio Yamazaki — Marie Inoue

This year, 1986, is nine months old already, as time passes so quickly. However, it will not be as good as we thought. "All flesh is like grass and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls, but the word of the Lord abides forever." I Peter 1:24. The Lord gave us another commandment as this, "Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we are not contending against flesh and blood, but against the principalities, against the powers, against the world rulers of this present darkness, against the spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places." Ephesians 6:11, 12. "Pray at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints," Ephesians 6:18.

With joy we welcome home our summer travelers, Jun Utsuki, Bro. Randy Mogler and Sis. Kathie Inoue and girls. The Lord blessed each one with His goodness and traveling mercies.

Several attended the "Japanese Reunion" for returning teachers and others hosted by Bro. Roger and Sis. Sally Beutel (Tremont, IL).

Our special visitors this past month were Bro. Russ Fischer (Champaign-Urbana, IL) and Bro. Nick Gutwein (Detroit, MI). Both spent a short time here on business. Blessed hours were spent with each one.

KANSAS, BERN

Linda Esslinger — Shirley Strahm

We have been privileged to have a number of visiting ministers with us this past month. They are Bro. Roger Aberle (Sabetha), Bro. Vernon Leman (Eureka, IL), Bro. Elmer Schrenk (Alto, MI), Bro. Harvey Heiniger (Burlington, IA), Bro. Bruce Leman (Roanoke, IL) and Bro. Terry Farney (Wichita). We thank each one for being willing to stand before us and bring the Word of God in its truth and simplicity.

Bro. Amos Strahm, 96, passed on from this earthly life September 14. His wife, Sis. Lena, preceded him in death by only a few months. Our sincere sympathy is extended to his family. Surviving are a son, Allen Strahm; two daughters, Edith McNary and Erma Wenger (all of Sabetha).

As the Apostle Paul said, "For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain." Philippians 1:21. What a great gain that will be for those who are found faithful and not wanting at this life's end. When we gain something for our good here on this earth, it brings happiness to us. But we soon forget the satisfaction it brought and want something else. After gaining life eternal there will be no more wanting for we will have gained everything.

Stacy Hartter (Bro. Steve and Sis. Lois) was hospitalized for minor surgery. We are glad to report she has made a full recovery.

We rejoice with Judd Meyer (Bro. Louis and Sis. Mavis) and Carol Visser (Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Visser, Goff) as they were united in marriage September 13. May God bestow upon them his richest blessings as they take this important step in life.

It is always a joy and pleasure to assemble with the Sabetha congrega-

tion. We have been alternating between Sabetha and Bern the last few Friday evenings to listen to the tapes of the brotherhood conference. It is so much easier to keep our priorities in order, just being reminded our lives should always exemplify our "Life in the Son". How blessed we are to have elder brethren who are willing to take the time to bring us these words of encouragement, chastisement, comfort and correction. We are, above all, thankful for a God in heaven who loves and cares for us. May we say as David said, "Teach me, O Lord, the way of thy statutes; and I shall keep it unto the end. Give me understanding, and I shall keep thy law; yea, I shall observe it with my whole heart." Psalms 119:33-34.

KANSAS, GRIDLEY

Vola Young — Judy Kraft

"I know not how the Spirit moves, Convincing men of sin, Revealing Jesus thro' the word, Creating faith in Him." "I Know Whom I Have Believed", Hymns of Zion 109. We truly rejoice with Shawn Metzger (son of Bro. Eldon and Sis. Doreen) who has felt the need and expressed the desire to surrender all to Christ. We know that God commands repentance and it is imperative to our soul's salvation, lest we perish. "I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance." Luke 15:7.

A number of women gathered one evening at the home of Matilda Beyer, to warm her new home with their love.

KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

Natalie Wysong

Although we have a small group this semester, gathering together still affords a great blessing; where only two or three are gathered, God is indeed in the midst.

The first week of school, Sis. Patti Knobloch, Sis. Kim Meyer and Sis. Lanette Meyer hosted a gathering. The following week was the annual fall picnic at scenic Tuttle Creek. Many parents, grandparents and friends were there to enjoy the evening with us. We appreciate everyone who remembers us during the week.

On September 10, Bro. Lester Hartter (Bern) came down to share God's Word with us. It is a great blessing to

take time off in the middle of the week to hear the Word spoken.

KANSAS, KIOWA

Janice Bahr — Gay Farney

I feel God in the sunshine
And I feel Him in the rain
I know that He remains with me
In good health or in pain.

No matter what the weather
Or the mood within my soul
I know that God is always there
His love to make me whole.

Dolores Karides

Our fervent prayers go out to Bro. Ulysses Farney, who suffered a severe stroke, and is going through a slow time of recuperation. We pray God's strength will sustain his dear family as they care for him with love, for we know this physical body grows so tires and only God's strength can endure.

Our Sunday school was invited to Bern, KS, for the biannual Youth Fellowship Weekend. As the youth filed out of church, tears came to my eyes because I'm so thankful for each one of them, and for the adults that care enough for the future of our church to back the teachers in the effort they put forth. May God bless everyone for the trouble they went to to have us all there for the weekend.

In our area, the wheat sowing is under way. I love it when the new little shoots come up and there is a glimmer of green as you look across the fields. It reminds me of a hymn, "The Golden Harvest", Hymns of Zion #46.

Seeds of goodness we are sowing
In the hearts of man today.
Bless it, Lord, that it may prosper,
And bear fruit for harvest day.
Hasten gladly to the labor.
Consecrate to God your heart.
Say this day unto your Savior.
"Lord, I'll gladly do my part."

KANSAS, LAMONT

Jill K. Luthi

"Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever: for wisdom and might are his: And he changeth the times and the seasons: he removeth kings, and setteth up kings: he giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding: He revealeth the deep and secret things: he knoweth

what is in darkness, and the light dwelleth with him."

Daniel 2:20-22

I am reminded of the deep, inspiring and thought-provoking book, "The Fall of Freddie the Leaf", by Le Buscaglia. It is a warm, wise, yet simple story about a leaf named Freddie:

Spring had passed, so had summer. Freddie, the leaf, had grown large. His mid-section was wide and strong, and his five extensions were firm and pointed.

He had first appeared in spring as a small sprout on a rather large branch near the top of a tall tree.

Freddie was surrounded by hundreds of leaves, just like himself, or so it seemed. Soon he discovered that no two leaves were alike, even though they were on the same tree. Alfred was the leaf next to him. Ben was the leaf on his right side, and Clare was the lovely leaf overhead. They had all grown up together. They had all learned to dance in the spring breezes, bask lazily in the summer sun and wash off in the cooling rains.

But it was Daniel who was Freddie's best friend. He was the largest leaf on the limb and seemed to have been there before anyone else. It appeared to Freddie that Daniel was also the wisest among them. It was Daniel who told them that they were part of a tree. It was Daniel who explained that they were growing in a public park. It was Daniel who told them that the tree had strong roots which were hidden in the ground below. He explained about the birds who came to sit on their branch and sing morning songs. He explained about the sun, the moon, the stars and the seasons.

Freddie loved being a leaf. He loved his branch, his light leafy friends, his place high in the sky, the wind that jostled him about, the sun rays that warmed him, the moon that covered him with soft white shadows.

Summer had been especially nice. The long, hot days felt good and the warm nights were peaceful and dreamy.

There were many people in the park that summer. They often came and sat under Freddie's tree. Daniel told him that giving shade was part of his purpose.

"What's a purpose?" Freddie had asked.

"A reason for being," Daniel had answered. "To make things more pleas-

ant for others is a reason for being. To make shade for old people who come to escape the heat of their homes is a reason for being. To provide a cool place for children to come and play. To fan with our leaves the picnickers who come to eat on checkered tablecloths. These are all reasons for being."

Freddie especially like the old people. They sat so quietly on the cool grass and hardly ever moved. They talked in whispers of times past.

The children were fun, too, even though they sometimes tore holes in the bark of the tree or carved their names into it. Still, it was fun to watch them move so fast and to laugh so much.

But Freddie's summer soon passed.

It vanished on an October night. He had never felt it so cold. All the leaves shivered with the cold. They were coated with a thin layer of white which quickly melted and left them dew-drenched and sparkling in the morning sun.

Again, it was Daniel who explained that they had experienced their first frost, the sign that it was fall and that winter would come soon.

Almost at once, the whole tree, in fact, the whole park was transformed into a blaze of color. There was hardly a green leaf left. Alfred had turned a deep yellow. Ben had become a bright orange. Clare had become a blazing red, Daniel a deep purple and Freddie was red and gold and blue. How beautiful they all looked. Freddie and his friends had made their tree a rainbow.

"Why did we turn different colors," Freddie asked, "when we are on the same tree?"

"Each of us is different. We have had different experiences. We have faced the sun differently. We have cast shade differently. Why should we not have different colors?" Daniel said matter-of-factly. Daniel told Freddie that this wonderful season was called fall.

One day a very strange thing happened. The same breezes that, in the past, had made them dance, began to push and pull at their stems, almost as if they were angry. This caused some of the leaves to be torn from their branches and swept up in the wind, tossed about and dropped softly to the ground.

All the leaves became frightened.

"What's happening?" they asked each other in whispers.

"It's what happens in fall," Daniel

told them. "It's the time for leaves to change their home. Some people call it to die."

"Will we all die?" Freddie asked.

"Yes," Daniel answered. "Everything dies. No matter how big or small, how weak or strong. We first do our joy. We experience the sun and the moon, the wind and the rain. We learn to dance and to laugh. Then we die."

"I won't die!" said Freddie with determination. "Will you, Daniel?"

"Yes," answered Daniel, "when it's my time."

"When is that?" asked Freddie.

"No one knows for sure," Daniel responded.

Freddie noticed that the other leaves continued to fall. He thought, "It must be their time." He saw that some of the leaves lashed back at the wind before they fell, others simple let go and dropped quietly. Soon the tree was almost bare.

"I'm afraid to die," Freddie told Daniel. "I don't know what's down there."

"We all fear what we don't know, Freddie. It's natural," Daniel reassured him. "Yet, you were not afraid when spring became summer. You were not afraid when summer became fall. They were natural changes. Why should you be afraid of the season of death?"

"Does the tree die, too?" Freddie asked.

"Someday. But there is something stronger than the tree. It is life. That lasts forever and we are all a part of life."

"Where will we go when we die?"

"No one knows for sure. That's the great mystery!"

"Will we return in the spring?"

"We may not, but life will."

"Then what has been the reason for all of this?" Freddie continued to question. "Why were we here at all if we only have to fall and die?"

Daniel answered in his matter-of-fact way, "It's been about the sun and the moon. It's been about the happy times together. It's been about the shade and the old people and the children. It's been about colors in the fall. It's been about seasons. Isn't that enough?"

That afternoon, in the golden light of dusk, Daniel let go. He fell effortlessly. He seemed to smile peacefully as he fell. "Goodbye for now, Freddie," he said. Then Freddie was alone, the only

leaf on his branch.

The first snow fell the following morning. It was soft, white and gentle; but it was bitter cold. There was hardly any sun that day, and the day was very short. Freddie found himself losing his color, becoming brittle. It was constantly cold and the snow weighed heavily up him.

At dawn the wind came that took Freddie from his branch. It didn't hurt at all. He felt himself float quietly, gently and softly downward.

As he fell, he saw the whole tree for the first time. How strong and firm it was! He was sure that it would live for a long time and he knew that he had been a part of its life and it made him proud.

Freddie landed on a clump of snow. It somehow felt soft and even warm. In this new position he was more comfortable than he had ever been. He closed his eyes and fell asleep. He did not know that spring would follow winter and that the snow would melt into water. He did not know that what appeared to be his useless dried self would join with the water and serve to make the tree stronger. Most of all, he did not know that there, asleep in the tree and the ground, were already plans for new leaves in the spring.

What a touching and loving story about life and it pertains to every one of us! We may live our lives to the fullest and utmost, or waste it. Let not one of us feel that life is not worth living, for life is that of giving! Think of what our Lord and Saviour gave — His whole life, so that we could be free from the world of sins! Let's place ourselves in "Freddie's" character.

My greatest apologies to Marla Schrader (Bro. Stephen and Sis. Dorothy) in the omission of her name in the last writing. Marla is a college student at Kansas State University (Manhattan) for the final semester.

KANSAS, SABETHA
Nita Grimm — Charleen Hartter

"In the early morning hours,
"Twixt the night and day,
While from earth the darkness passes
Silently away;

"Then 'tis sweet to talk with Jesus

In thy chamber still —
For the coming day and duties
Ask to know His will.

"Then He'll lead the way before you,
Mountains laying low;

Making desert places blossom,
Sweet'ning Marah's flow.

"Would you know this life of triumph,
Victory all the way?

Then put God in the beginning
Of each coming day."

Author Unknown

There are examples in the Scriptures of those who rose early in the morning to meet with God. Other verses show the victories won or blessings received by arising early to attend to God's service.

Abraham rose early the following morning after God commanded him to offer his son, Isaac. Genesis 22:3.

Joshua and the children of Israel rose early the days of three great miracles and victories: the crossing of the Jordan (Joshua 3:1), the crumbling of Jericho (Joshua 6:15) and the defeat of Ai (Joshua 8:10).

Psalms 5:3 shows David's desire: My voice shalt thou hear in the morning, O Lord; in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee, and will look up.

And very early in the morning the first day of the week, they came unto the sepulchre at the rising of the sun. (Mark 16:2) What a blessing Mary Magdalene, Mary, the mother of Jesus, and Salome received in seeing the empty tomb and hearing the angel say, "He is risen".

The greatest of all examples is our Lord Jesus whose life radiated the Father's great love, perfection and glory. Mark writes of Jesus in the first chapter, the 35th verse: And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, he went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed.

Oh to be like Jesus in thought, deed and word. Can we attain this without being like Jesus in prayer? What a challenge to us all!

We thank ministering brethren Mark Bahr (Detroit, MI), Carroll Gerber (Bluffton North, IN) and Dean Messner (Winthrop, MN) for teaching us out of the Holy Scriptures.

We welcome those who have recently moved to Sabetha. Jennifer Kellenberger (Sis. Diane, Morris, MN) and Bro. Brad and Sis. Teresa Kellenberger, Tiffany, Brett and Megan, formerly of Lester, IA, are gathering with our congregation. May they feel God's nearness as they make new acquaintances and become adjusted to their new homes.

The reunion of those who have win-

tered in Zapata, TX, was held here September 6 - 7. We were happy to meet loved ones from many places.

The weekend of September 13 - 14, the Sunday school children from Kansas, Lamar, MO and Garden Grove, IA, gathered at Bern, KS. We deeply appreciate the efforts of the Bern congregation and are thankful to God for the blessings we received. We humbly pray that these children can seek God in their tender youth and escape the scars and pain that sin brings. "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them." Ecclesiastes 12:1.

Wedding plans are being made by Selena Bailey (Larry and Sis. Linda) and Steve Brownlee (Mr. and Mrs. Jim Brownlee, Sabetha). May their hearts and minds turn to God who instituted marriage and who is the strength of a loving relationship.

KANSAS, WICHITA Judy Langhofer

Did not God promise after the great flood that there would always be seasons as long as this earth remains? Do we hurry them along by becoming weary of their unique beauty and purpose? As the seasons pass, do we say, "Oh, I am so glad summer is past and fall is here?" Is there not beauty to be seen and enjoyed in each season? Can we not see the evidence that God is, and that He visits us in magnificent ways?

The Psalmist invites us to "Come and see the works of God. He is awesome in His doing towards the children of men." Psalms 66. Do we listen for the enchanting call of the Whippoorwill, the Meadow Lark or the Mocking Bird? Do we catch the rustling of the leaves and see the dance of the blue bells? Does not the beauty of God's creation transcend all that man could or can do even in his best imitation? This simple poem conveys in a rather simple way what the eyes of this beholder saw in a passing summer.

Another summer has floated by
On that voiceless stream of years

I kissed the wet lips of April
Held close the violets of May
Was fanned by feathery June breezes
And slept warm in July all day.

But September signals a parting
Ripe seeds break from their stalks
Green leaves learn they are mortal
Languid days shorten their walks.

Another summer has floated by
On that voiceless stream of years
And, dear God, it was wonderful.

Fred Baurer

Life also has its seasons . . . Do we welcome them with anticipation as God unfolds His plans for each of us? Have we opened up our eyes to behold the beauty of His holiness and the greatness of His majesty as He shapes and molds us for eternity? What greater preparation for eternity with God than to be in His presence now and to know Him in every season of life? Heaven should not be something new but a continuation of a greater revelation of His glory.

We have just commenced our ten-week study of a selected group of Psalms. It was mentioned that the Psalms is the heart of the scriptures, the center of the Bible. It is here we expect to find ourselves many times over and learn to bow before this magnificent Creator.

KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON Sherry Fritz

Summer vacations have brought many guests to visit Lexington. We have been richly blessed by this opportunity of fellowship. We thank our visiting ministers, Bro. Walt Steffen (Milford, IN), Bro. David Wiegand (Urbana, IL) and Bro. Jim Plattner (Princeville, IL) for their support of our small congregation this summer.

Bro. Emory Deaks, originally of Toledo, OH, has been called to rest after a lingering illness. We extend our sympathy to his wife, Sis. Katherine, and his family. We will always remember his steadfast spirit and the encouragement he gave unto us whenever we visited him.

We are very thankful that our Lord's directive spirit has led Bro. Jan and Sis. Glenda Neukomm to move from Morton, IL, to Lexington. We welcome them and their children, Alex, Julie and Andrea to our congregation.

Jerrell Huber (Bro. Lester and Sis. Glendoris) and Kim Brewer (Mr. and Mrs. William Brewer, Lexington) were united in marriage September 6. We wish them God's blessings as they

begin their life together as husband and wife.

Now as the summer vacation ends and the young people are returning to school, we are reminded by the wisdom of Solomon that "A wise man will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels." Proverbs 1:5. Even when the students have good teachers, they will not gain adequately unless they study to increase their knowledge. Likewise we should endeavor to study God's Word to increase our knowledge of Him. Let's take the reminder of the season to continue in His classroom to strive toward wisdom.

MICHIGAN, ALTO Liz Blough

No weddings to report; no baptisms; no deaths, . . . births? Yes! Gordon and Trisha Blough have a new baby boy. Gavin Lee was born September 6, weighing seven pounds ten ounces. Grandma and Grandpa are Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Elouise Blough. Little Gavin has a brother, Eric, at home.

From a recent Reader's Digest:

A church-affiliated senior citizen's apartment complex in Winter Park, FL, serves its meals cafeteria-style. There are two lines: one for those in wheelchairs and walkers, and another for those without handicaps. Residents call the lines, "Cane" and "Able".

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY Pam Schlatter

We oftentimes find ourselves having to go through an unpleasant situation or period in order to reach a more pleasant or desirable condition. When we experience problems in our physical bodies we go to a physician who oftentimes prescribes a remedy such as surgery that will temporarily put us in more distress. We are willing to endure that unpleasant situation to reach the desired condition of good health. So it is with our spiritual bodies. While we live, we engage in constant conflict with the enemy of our soul. We desire a state of harmony and a life of bliss. In order to attain this we pass through the final and ultimate trial of death. Death will at last permit us the means whereby we attain the perfection we strive for. Bro. Ed Freidinger (Sis. Minnie), Sis. Freda Knochel and Sis. Marian Knochel (Bro. Bob) have overcome the last enemy of death and

now live in victory. "Death is swallowed up in victory." I Corinthians 15:54. We pray God will fill the void their absence leaves in their family circles as well as the void that is left in our church family.

Those brothers ministering to us during the past month were Bro. Wendell Gerber (Bluffton North, IN), Elder Bro. Ben Maibach (Detroit), Bro. Don Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN) and Bro. Gary Maibach (Smithville, OH). We appreciate their willing services.

We are pleased to report a new young couple in our area! Bro. Curt and Sis. Sue Heimer are setting up residency in the Bay City area. We welcome them along with little Seth to our fellowship.

On Saturday, August 30, we enjoyed observing the children and teachers involved in their Sunday school activities. I am convinced there is no teaching situation that offers more of a reward than that of teaching the way of salvation. It's always heartwarming to see the relationship that develops between student and teacher. May God grant the increase in these young hearts in which the seeds have been planted.

Hospitalized this month was Al Wieland. He has returned home again and we wish him a complete recovery.

MICHIGAN, DETROIT

Bev Bahr

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

Colossians 2:6-7

On the weekend of September 13 - 14, we enjoyed the fellowship of many visitors and the blessings of sharing in the testimony services and baptisms of three precious souls. We welcome Sis. Colleen Reardon (Bro. George and Sis. Marie), Sis. Helen Varga (Bro. Steve and Sis. Joanne) and Bro. David Fortenbacher (Bro. Walter and Sis. Margaret) into the fold of our Redeemer. May their desire to serve their God always be a strength in the church.

"... I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren." Luke 22:32.

We have been blessed to have our

friend, Jim Baxter, turn his heart and life unto the Lord. We pray that God's guidance and grace can be Jim's as he begins his walk of faith.

With gratitude to God for answered prayer, the Woodhaven Nursing Home Board of Directors has chosen Bro. Randy Gasser (Rittman, OH) as Administrator for our Woodhaven Nursing Home. Along with the Board of Directors, our Detroit brethren welcome Bro. Randy, Sis. Sue and their children, Brady and Alexis, to our church and fellowship. We sincerely pray that God will continue to direct and bless Bro. Randy and his family in this important responsibility.

Our heartfelt sympathy reaches out to Sis. Audrey Hitz (Bro. Leonard) in the passing of her father, Bro. Ed Freidinger (Bay City) and to Sis. Arlene Belsley and Bro. Dan Knochel (Sis. Ruth) in the passing of their mother, Sis. Freida Knochel (Bay City). May God bless them and their families with His comfort and peace.

Sis. Perseda Wieland (Bro. Floyd) has broken her foot and is recovering at home. We pray that God will bless her with strength and health in the days ahead.

We are grateful for our visiting ministers this past month; Bro. Dale Frank (Oakville, IA), Elder Bro. Phil Stettner and Bro. Carroll Gerber (Bluffton North, IN). May they and their families be blessed for lending themselves in His service.

We welcome Bro. Randy Kellenberger (Sis. Karen) to our Detroit church and vicinity. He will be spending a few months as an emergency physician training at one of our hospital trauma centers.

MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS

Barbara Olson

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

Autumn... what a beautiful time of year! Here in Minnesota we enjoy the fall colors to their fullest. God blessed our state with many varieties of trees, lakes and streams, that add to this beautiful season. Harvest time comes

hand-in-hand with autumn. The farmers are anxious to see what their yield will be for their hard work all year.

Visiting ministers during the past month were Elder Bro. Harold Messner (Winthrop, MN), Bro. Leroy Messner (Winthrop, MN), Elder Bro. David Kieser (Princeville, IL) and Bro. Elmer Schmidt (Winthrop, MN). We thank God for the Word and the willing services of our dear brothers, their wives and families, and others that come with them in support of our small church.

On August 30, Diane Olson (Sis. Kathryn) and David Stewart (Mr. and Mrs. Philip Stewart) were united in holy matrimony. We pray God will bless them as they begin their lives together. May their love continue to grow for each other and for Christ.

Thought — Earth changes, but thy soul and God stand sure.

MINNESOTA, MORRIS

Ruth Nohl — Hildegard Koehl

We have had several visitors this summer and always appreciate their visits.

We are rejoicing as Guy Koehl (Bro. Edward and Sis. Lois) has found grace for repentance and has begun his life anew in Christ Jesus. May the peace of God fill his heart and give him joy in serving God.

Our visiting ministers were Elder Bros. Wayne Fehr (West Bend, IA) and Leo Moser (Lester, IA). We thank these brothers for their efforts in serving us with God's Word.

Hospitalized were Jeremy Schmidgall (Bro. Keith and Sis. Lois) and Tracy Nohl (Ray). Both are home again.

Bradley Allen is the new son of Dave and LuAnne Horning. Bradley was born August 19 and has a sister, Anna, to welcome him home. Grandparents are Bro. Anton and Sis. Verna Schaefer.

John Greiner, 80, passed away suddenly at his home September 12. Surviving him are his five brothers, Bro. Ben, Otto and Emil (Morris), Bro. Howard and Bro. Robert (Cissna Park, IL) and four sisters, Sis. Rose Eurick and Lydia Osmun (Elgin, IL), Sis. Tillie Rudin (Williard, Cissna Park, IL) and Sis. Helen Joos (Carl, Morris). Our sympathy and prayers go out to his family. May God comfort them in their time of sorrow.

We have been having the privilege of hearing the conference tapes and to again renew our appreciation for our faith found through Christ in our be-

loved church. May we continue to support and pray for our elders in the work they must carry out in our beloved church.

NEVER BE DISCOURAGED

There is really nothing we need know
or even try to understand
If we refuse to be discouraged
and trust God's guiding hand . . .
So take heart and meet each minute
with faith in God's great love,
Aware that every day of life
is controlled by God above . . .
And never dread tomorrow
or what the future brings,
Just pray for strength and courage
and trust God in all things . . .
And never grow discouraged
be patient and just wait,
For "God never comes too early,
and He never comes too late!"

Helen Steiner Rice

MINNESOTA, WINTHROP

Wanda Messner
Ella Mae Schmidt

A PLAN FOR YOU

Who walks with Christ need never fear,
For His strong arm is ever near;
He's there to lift you when you fall,
And He listens for each loved one's
call.

Who can doubt His tender care,
For can't you feel His presence there?
The love that suffered on the cross,
Will minimize your every loss.

He placed you in this wondrous world,
Trees, and grass, and flowers dew-
pearled,
And He Who heeds the sparrow's fall,
Will not abandon you at all.

His highest creation, you, a man,
Are at the center of His plan;
He's watched mankind for a million
years,
Held his hand, and dried his tears.

He gives you joy for every pain,
And sends the sunshine after rain;
He died so you could conquer sin,
With a plan for Eternal Life to win.

If you sang His praise for a million
years,
And shed a million grateful tears,

The debt you owe could not be paid,
He only asks you walk with Him —
unafraid!

W. R. Goodman

This poem ties in well with the theme of the brotherhood conference, "Our Life in the Son". We are so privileged to be able to hear the tapes from the conference for they contain many good teachings and warnings for each of us! "... love brings new meaning to life." Paul Messner (Bro. Don and Sis. Viola, Peoria, IL) was wed to Janet Daigger September 13. We wish them much joy and happiness in their new life together.

Bro. Mike Messner was in the hospital this month, and is now doing well.

MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY

Linda Ziegenhorn

We deeply appreciate the Kansas and Missouri ministers who faithfully minister to us each Sunday. They have to drive several hours, but they always come anyway and we thank them for it. Our Elder Bro. Gene Marti was with us last Wednesday night for services which we all enjoyed.

God asks many things of us, such as being kind when someone is not being kind to us, or giving a loving word to someone who is angry, or forgiving people when they hurt or mistreat us. It's so easy to say, "I can't do that," and hold on to our anger. But wait! We don't have to do that; God does! We have to put it in His hands daily, hourly, minute by minute, at the very time we don't want to. The Bible says, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." Philippians 4:13. So, the next time someone makes me angry and I want to give a sharp reply, I must stop and ask God to give me strength to give a loving answer instead, for if I trust Him, He will make it possible.

MISSOURI, LAMAR

Janice Stoller — Becky Marti

God has sent a baby daughter to bless the home of Bro. Bob and Sis. Janice Stoller. Lisa Lanae was born August 28 and was lovingly welcomed home by Robin, Phil, Kristen, Greg and Dana. Grandparents are Sis. Mabel Springer (Ft. Scott, KS) and Elder Bro. Leroy and Sis. Clara Huber (Eureka, IL).

Several from our congregation have been hospitalized recently. They are

Bro. Willie Stefan, Sr., Sis. Fern Braker and Brandi Barton (Rick and Linda). We are thankful that they have all been able to return home now and pray that God will continue to heal them.

MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS Loren and Betsy Schrenk

"My foot standeth in an even place:
in the congregations will I bless the
Lord."

Psalms 26:12

We felt it was so September 7 when the first Sunday services were reinstated in St. Louis. Eighteen were present as Bro. Kenny Knapp spoke the Word. What a blessing it was to come together for worship and praise with brothers and sisters-in-the-Lord in this large city.

Services are scheduled for the first and third Sundays of each month in the Ben Franklin Motel on Lindbergh Road, one block north of I-170, near the airport. We hope you will assemble with us if you find yourself in our area. Singing starts at 10:15.

MISSOURI, TAYLOR

Loida Hodel — Lori Marquart

"TAKE TIME TO BE KIND"

Kindness is a virtue
Given by the Lord
It pays dividends in happiness
And joy is its reward.
For if you practice kindness
In all you say and do,
The Lord will wrap His kindness
Around your heart and you.
And wrapped within His kindness
You are sheltered and secure
And under His direction
Your way is safe and sure.

Helen Steiner Rice

David Foote (Sis. Marijane) has recovered from an injury he received at work which required several days of hospitalization. Michael Stratton (Bro. Mike and Sis. Cheryl) suffered a fractured foot while playing football and will be on crutches several weeks. Sis. Penny Knochel (Bro. Eric) was a surgical patient this month. May we all have more faith to believe in the ability of our heavenly Father to supply every need and to meet every emergency and then place each tomorrow in His hands.

After five grandsons, Bro. Jerry and Sis. Nancy Knapp have been blessed with a little granddaughter. Krystal Brooke was born September 3 to their son, Bro. Brian, and Sis. Lorna Knapp (Wolcott, IN). "Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord." Psalm 127:3.

"But the word of the Lord endureth forever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you." I Peter 1:25. We give thanks to Bro. Loren Strahm (Gridley, KS) for sharing God's Word with us August 24.

September 6 was the wedding date for Roger Sutter (Sis. Charlene and the late Bro. Dick) and Dianne Scott (Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Scott, Palmyra, MO). May their marriage be blessed with faith: faith in each other and faith in the Lord. May it be blessed with joy: joy that gives meaning to their days and memories to their years, and may it be blessed with love: love that endures, and brings them together in a perfect union of hearts and lives. "Two are better than one . . ." Ecclesiastes 4:9.

"Blest be the tie that binds
Our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds
Is like to that above.

"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, vs. 1 & 4

Bro. Curt, Sis. Sue and little Seth Heimer have moved to Michigan and Bro. Jeff and Sis. Louanne Gramm have moved to the Lexington, IL, area. May the congregations with whom they will be assembling be blessed with their presence as we have been in the past. We look forward to their visits as this has been home for Bro. Curt and Sis. Louanne.

"Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man."

Ecclesiastes 12:13

NEW JERSEY, UNION CITY

Ed Aeschleman

Visiting ministers during the past month included Bros. Everett Gerber and Lee Bahler (Rockville, CT), Bro. Mark Bahr (Detroit, MI) and Bro. Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH). We were again richly blessed with God's holy

Word offered through His humble servants. Other visitors were Bros. Len Hitz and Kaywin Martin and their wives from Detroit, MI. Both families made Union City their church home for several years when they lived in this area some time ago and it was an added blessing to have them worship with us once again.

We gladly welcome Bro. Russell Fisher from Roanoke, IL into our small congregation. Bro. Russell is employed by AT & T and will be working and living in the New York area for the foreseeable future. Once again we are thankful to God for hearing our prayers.

NEW YORK, CROGHAN

Alice Virkler

As the beauty of the fall season of the year is beginning to unfold, our thoughts turn to God and His wonderful plan for each of us in this life and the life hereafter. With the change of seasons we are reminded of His goodness to each as we can see the fulfillment of the summer's labors in the fields and gardens. May we be true and faithful to our great God for all He provides for us each day.

We see God's plan fulfilled each day. On September 19, Gary and Jody Widrick (Rockville, MD) welcomed little Emily Mahalyi into their lives. She is their first child and will also be loved by her grandparents, Gilbert and Betty Widrick, and Duke and Helen Mahalyi.

Also first-time parents are John and Lori Farney. Little Daniel John was born September 20 and will also be welcomed and loved by his grandparents, Richard and Lila Altmire. His paternal grandparents were the late Urban and Sis. Evelyn Farney. Sis. Lovina Farney is little Daniel's great-grandmother, and great-grandparents of both Emily and Daniel are ministering Bro. John and Sis. Berdina Widrick.

Our sympathy is extended to Bruce and Betty Richie as Bruce's father was called from this life.

On Wednesday evening, September 17, after our mid-week service, we gathered in the church basement where the family of Roy and Sis. Edna Sturze provided refreshments to celebrate the 60th wedding anniversary of their parents. They both enjoy good health and our congratulations and best wishes were extended to them for many more happy years together. Their children are Barbara (Jack) Nortz (Lowville), Robert (Watertown)

and Virgil (Castorland). They have nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

As was experienced by our congregation this month, we see God's plan for birth, death and marriage. May we each have the necessary strength each day to carry on under whatever conditions He grants for us.

NEW YORK, NAUMBURG

Rachel Snyder

Clark O. Karcher (Sandy Hook, CT) died September 3 and his funeral was held in our church September 9. Services were conducted by Elder Bro. Robert Beyer. Burial was in the church cemetery. He leaves his wife, Dorothy, son, David, daughters, Susan and Kathryn. Also surviving are his parents, Bro. Jesse (Lowville Extended Care), Ethel (Castorland) and a brother, Urban (Castorland). Our sympathy is especially extended to this family as Dorothy's mother died the same day as her husband.

A surprise celebration was arranged for Roy and Sis. Edna Sturtz one evening following our midweek service. It was their 60th wedding anniversary. Refreshments of ice cream and cake were furnished by their family.

OHIO, AKRON

Joyce Gasser

"Ye are the salt of the earth . . ." Matthew 5:13. Salt is a seasoning and preservative that changes things. It will change the flavor of food, help to preserve it, retain water, cause ice to melt, and help a wound to heal. We are to be that salt that changes circumstances accordingly. Abraham is an early example, in Genesis 14, when King Chedorlaomer carried off all the goods of Sodom and Gomorrah including Lot and his goods. Abraham, dwelling in a different area, instead of not getting involved or making contact, he as one person got 318 of his own servants and went against five armies. He changed the situation and restored not only Lot and his goods, but the women and the people. Salt in the shaker doesn't do any good. It is not until it makes contact that it will bring the change.

Bro. Steve and Sis. Arliss Pamer were blessed with a baby boy and they named him Matthew Edward. They have two other children, Daniel and Beth. Grandparents are Elder Bro. Gene Pamer and Bro. and Sis. Donald Walder.

We were blessed to have visiting ministers Bro. Duane Farney (New York) and Bro. Jim Rinkenberger (Bluffton, IN).

An annual church picnic with the Sunday school was well-attended and enjoyed in a beautiful setting and with nice weather.

OHIO, COLUMBUS Desma Klopfenstein

During August we were visited by Bro. Delbert Indermuhle (Sardis), Bro. Hartzell Kaisner (Detroit, MI) and Bro. Larry Wenninger (Latty). We're thankful for these ministers who expounded upon God's Word and fellowshiped with us. Also, we'd like to take this opportunity to welcome back our students at Ohio State University. May the Lord direct and bless them in their time of training. Just as the college student needs to study, so can and should each of us in this earthly course. Our text? The Bible . . . written by an omnipotent, all-knowing author. I Timothy 2:15.

We'd once again like to invite everyone to come worship with us here in Columbus. Our services are being held every Sunday and we welcome the opportunity to fellowship with brethren and friends. Last Sunday, Elder Bro. Eugene Pamer (Akron) shared God's Word with us. We're grateful for all the brothers who support our gathering and thank them, along with their families, for coming to encourage this congregation.

Sometimes we don't understand God's messages to us. During crisis times we might think God cruel or uncaring, not perceiving the lesson we're to learn . . . And not comprehending that God's motives are always out of love or concern for our spiritual welfare. It's like the little boy who was heard singing, "God will wash my ears away, in the land of endless day". He was corrected by his amused mother. "God will wash my tears away," she explained, "which means there will be no crying in heaven." Her son went on singing, seemingly relieved that God wasn't going to get hold of Him and wash his ears away. He was getting the wrong message and, as adults, we can become hard of hearing in difficult situations, too. But, God, the righteous judge does not provoke us. He loves and wants to nurture us, as a parent does their child. We just need to be listening for His message.

OHIO, JUNCTION

Les Manz

Bro. Ed and Sis. Cheryl (Wenninger) Schlatter joined hands and heart in holy matrimony in Latty September 14. Having first committed their lives to God, they have now established another Christian home from which His love can radiate. Parents are Bro. Don and Sis. Josephine Wenninger and Sis. Juliet Schlatter.

Bro. Ben and Sis. Carolyn Manz became grandparents again when Laura Ann was born to Deb Bauer.

Get well prayers were needed this month by Sis. Lizzie Spangler (Bro. Oliver) and Sis. Madeline Manz who spent time in the hospital.

OHIO, LATTY

Marlene Reinhard — Patty Gerber

I am Thine, O Lord, I have heard Thy voice,

And it told Thy love to me;
But I long to rise in the arms of faith,
And be closer drawn to Thee.

Consecrate me now to Thy service,

Lord,
By the power or grace divine;
Let my soul look up with a steadfast hope,
And my will be lost in Thee.

Draw me nearer, nearer, blessed Lord,
To the cross where Thou hast died;
Draw me nearer, nearer, nearer blessed Lord,
To Thy precious, bleeding side.

"I Am Thine, O Lord,"
by Fanny Crosby

Hearing the gentle call from the Lord and desiring to be drawn closer to Him, Doug Reinhard (Bro. Dan and Sis. Dolores) has begun his repentance. We trust that Doug will daily feel closer to God as he gives up his own will and yields totally to the Lord's.

We rejoice with Sis. Cheryl Wenninger (Bro. Don and Sis. Josephine) and Bro. Ed Schlatter (Sis. Juliet, Junction) as they were united in holy matrimony in September. Several visiting ministers were with us for the occasion: Bros. Bill and Sam Schlatter (Junction), Bros. Gene Fetter and Ray Schlatter (Toledo) and Bro. Art Gude-man (LaCrosse, IN). We received many uplifting insights from God's Word through these brethren and trust it will be beneficial to our spiritual walk. We

also trust that Bro. Ed and Sis. Cheryl will direct their home life based on these same important principles.

Sis. Hilda Wenninger and Sis. Melvane Stoller (Bro. Russell) suffered from bodily afflictions. We commit their healing to the Lord.

Our sympathy is extended to Bro. Roy and Sis. Beulah Stoller in the loss of their grandson, Randal Stoller. We know that words cannot fill the void felt after losing a loved one, but only the Lord can fill these voids.

OHIO, RITTMAN

Diane Gasser — Judy Stoller

"Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest."

John 4:35

As harvest season is upon us once again, we look forward to a bountiful harvest. The Lord surely has blessed us in this area but as we all know, the spiritual harvest is of far greater importance. We are thankful that Dorrance Gabbard has yielded his heart to our heavenly Father who has beckoned him. We wish Dorrance much grace and guidance from above to build a firm foundation on Christ, the solid Rock.

Rejoicing over the birth of their new son are Bro. Tom and Sis. Diane Hartzler. Tobin Wayne is the new brother of Trudie and Tyson. Grandparents are Bro. Joe and Sis. Marian Hartzler and Bro. Russell and Sis. Melvane Stoller (Latty, OH).

We are always happy and thankful when those who have been ill or injured are again able to enjoy a measure of health and strength. Those who suffered illness or accident this past month are Sis. Helen Babin (Bro. Emmanuel), Sis. Carole Steiner (Bro. Dave), Bro. Karl Beery (Sis. Ruth), Sis. Alma Curie, Bro. Don Walder (Sis. Martha), Gary Murray (Sis. Susan) and Tony Indermuhle (Bro. Dwaine and Sis. Joan).

Funeral services were held here at our Rittman church for Melvin Emch, who passed from this life September 6. He is survived by his wife, Martha; and sons, Dennis and Ronald. Also surviving are brothers, Everett (Rittman) and Bro. Paul (Phoenix, AZ); sisters,

Sis. Ida Froelich and Ella Weber (Phoenix, AZ).

Sis. Minnie Hartzler, a resident of our nursing home, passed away September 17, her 85th birthday. She is survived by brothers, Bro. Reuben and Bro. Homer (Rittman), Bro. Ben and Bro. Vernon, and a sister, Sis. Bertha Gasser (Smithville). We extend our sympathy to both of these family circles. May God bring comfort to each in their time of sorrow.

Mary Emch (Bro. Dave and Sis. Eileen) recently graduated from LPN training from the Wayne Adult School of Practical Nursing. May Mary find blessings and enjoyment in her occupation in nursing.

We bid farewell to Bro. Randy and Sis. Sue Gasser and their children, Brady and Alexis. We will miss them here as they are moving to the Detroit, MI, area where Bro. Randy is assuming the duties of administrator of the Apostolic Christian Woodhaven Home being constructed in Livonia, MI. May God's blessings be upon them and may they know our love and prayers are with them.

We have been listening to the conference tapes Wednesday evenings. We appreciate all the Godly instruction, admonition and encouragement we have been hearing. We are so thankful for our elder brothers who have such love and concern for us, their flocks. May we ever give them our support through our obedience and prayers.

OHIO, SARDIS

Paula Figel

We are exhorted in I Thessalonians 4:11-12, "And that ye study to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you; That ye may walk honestly toward them that are without, and that ye may have lack of nothing."

In accordance with the scripture the brothers and friends have made a good beginning on our new church building. The roof is shingled, the floors are poured and most of the framework is done. We appreciate all the donated labor that has been given thus far.

As we look at the changing colors around us, we realize another harvest time is here. How wise our heavenly Father was to give us the changing seasons. We have spring, a refreshing rebirth, when all becomes alive and bursting with color; summer, a time of

growing, when we nurture our crops along; autumn, a time of hustle and bustle to garner in the produce; and last, winter, a time of rest, for both man and the land we work. How closely this pattern fits into our spiritual lives as we begin with a rebirth in Christ. Of course, God then decides when we are ready for harvest and the great eternal rest that follows. May we strive to produce an abundant harvest for the Lord.

OHIO, SMITHVILLE

Ann Maibach — Verla Stoller

"Blessed, holy is the hour When we, Jesus, think of Thee, And thy word in godly power Hear and in our hearts receive." Zion's Harp #218. What a precious privilege it is to assemble in God's house and be uplifted and strengthened in our faith through the humble preaching of our ministering brothers. We are thankful for visiting ministers, Bro. Ed Aeschleman (Philadelphia, PA) and Bro. Kenneth Sauder (Mansfield) who brought us many teachings from God's holy Word. May God bless them for their labors of love.

Our dear Sis. Dorothy Ramsier met with an accident in the past week and was hospitalized. We pray that God will heal and restore good health to her.

Loved ones who were blessed with a bundle from heaven are Dave and Teresa Marty. Welcoming their new little brother, Benjamin Dean, are a sister, Amber, and a brother, John. Happy grandparents are Bro. Dean and Sis. Martha Lou Marty.

OHIO, TOLEDO

**Josephine Rehklau
Frances Laidig**

"The Lord is my shepherd; . . ." Psalms 23:1

The Lord has again called one of His own, Sis. Elizabeth Fetter, 82, into eternity. She lived in the Apostolic Christian Nursing Home (Rittman, OH) for one year. We think of Becky living on the farm on Reynolds Road. We extend our sympathy to her sisters, Ida, Mary and Grace and Mrs. Herma Whittaker; brothers, John, Aaron, Paul, Richard and Eugene Fetter.

Fall is here and already darkness comes so much earlier than in the summer. So often we hear how people dread the long, dark nights. To the elderly, the lonely and to those who

must live alone, may it be a comfort to know that the Lord never sleeps and to Him there is no night.

" . . . ; he that keepeth thee will not slumber."

Psalms 121:3

" . . . ; the darkness and the light are both alike to thee."

Psalms 139:12

We extend our sincere sympathy to Sis. Dorothy Reineck (Bro. Homer) in the recent passing away of her aged mother, Sis. Freida Knochel. Regardless of the age of a mother, somehow they bring to us the thought of "home"! What a blessing, too, when they have lived close to the Lord and are ready to enter their heavenly home.

We welcome Bro. Scott Gerber back into our congregation.

PENNSYLVANIA, PHILADELPHIA

Jason and Wendy Williamson

We need small harbors in our soul
Where we can slip out of the sea
To wait a moment and be whole.
A book, a poem, a song may be
Enough, some exercise, a walk,
A time of solitary labor,
A dog, a cat, a garden, talk
Shared with a passing friend or
neighbor,
Sometimes the merest human touch;
A silent prayer is such a place —
Small harbors may be nothing much,
But ah, they have a saving grace.

James Dillet Freeman

We have enjoyed an abundance of visitors this past summer and we are thankful for your support. This past month we have enjoyed ministering Bros. Lee Bahler (Rockville, CT), Kevin Ryan (Rockville, CT) and Lynn Stieglitz (Leo, IN). May their efforts be richly rewarded.

Our Sunday school picnic was held September 20. We enjoyed watching our future church, the Sunday school, spend a very rewarding afternoon together.

Our prayers will be with Sis. Mary Ann Kieser as her work here is finished. We have deeply appreciated her fellowship during her stay, and we ask God's guidance for her, wherever her work may lead her.

TEXAS, DALLAS/FORT WORTH
Sandy Schmidt

"Grace be with all them that love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity. Amen."
Ephesians 6:24

What a wonderful blessing we have been given in our little church here at Dallas/Fort Worth.

Visiting ministers this month include Bro. Roy Ehnle (Bradford, IL) and Lord willing, Elder Bro. Leroy Huber (Eureka, IL).

We, as a small group, have been traveling some. In August, one week-end, five of us traveled down to Giddings, TX, to visit Bro. Bill and Sis. Betty Zeltwanger (Morris, MN). Labor Day weekend three of us traveled to Sabetha, KS, visiting friends and relatives.

We meet Wednesday evenings to listen to the conference tapes and welcome all to attend. All interested friends and brethren may contact me at (214) 594-1344.

I'd like to encourage all visitors traveling through or that might be living in the area now, to join us, by contacting me or our Elder Bro. Ronald Nelson.

Sermon . . .

(Continued from Page 32)

be compared with what is to come. Consider the Apostle Paul who was a good example. We also look about us, and we know souls, dear brothers and sisters-in-faith, who might have given up or despaired, but they have pressed on. Then we look within ourselves; and we look at them and say, "By the grace of God, they have overcome, and so can I."

Yes, the sufferings of this life are not worthy to be compared with the glory to come. It is just like comparing oranges and apples. There is no way to compare. They are different. Suffering in this life is one thing, and the glory is clearly something else. What little we know of it is enough to drive us on. Heaven will surely, as the writer said, be worth all the sorrows that befall us here. "For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God." Romans 8:19.

This Scripture has opened to me so many times in the last weeks that I don't even have to search for it anymore: "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions:

**APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN
HOME FOR THE
HANDICAPPED**

BENEFIT DAY

Friday, November 14

Gift, Craft & Bake Sale

9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Luncheon

10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

(See this month's Home for the Handicapped article for further information.)

if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you . . . that where I am, there ye may be also." John 14:1-3.

"For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God. For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope." Romans 8:19, 20. In other words, as the apostle said in another place, "We have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us." II Corinthians 4:7.

Brethren, we are talking about victory here and discussing our hopes and our fears. The sweetness is knowing that in Jesus Christ we shall have victory, having felt that from the time we began our repentance through all the time we have lived the precious life of faith.

Young people, sixty-nine percent of my life has been in this life of faith. I wouldn't trade you a day of it . . . not one! It's been a great life! It's a wonderful way to walk! It is not just a means to an end, not just a way to get to heaven. In this life we can know the power of Jesus Christ, His will and His love as He leads and guides us along.

Young people, I didn't know the Scripture from the front to the back. I couldn't recite all the commandments. I was thirteen, but God loves His children, young and old. If we are true and faithful, if we watch and pray, you will see that God is full of love. He brought



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me this far, and He is going to take me the rest of the way. You can come along.

"We are troubled on every side . . ." II Corinthians 4:8. But we are housed in earthen vessels. There is a reason for this, "for the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly." It is the way it was planned. We have enough trouble patting ourselves on the back on many occasions, straining our arms to reach that position.

There had to be a way by which, through His grace and love, even in our unconverted state, we would recognize that we have to have Jesus. Some avail themselves of it, and some do not. We are housed in these mortal shells that the power might be of God and not of man. We have nothing to say. Who are we? The Scripture says that by taking thought we cannot add even one cubit to our stature.

Paul went on to say, "We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed . . ." Well, sometimes I wonder about that, but faith and hope bridge the gap. ". . . we are perplexed, but not in despair; Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed." II Corinthians 4:8, 9. That's the "yoyo" of life . . . up and down, up and down, and God is watching. Jesus Christ is looking. We go along our path of life, and we learn over and over again about victory. There is nothing wrong with battle, although sometimes it wearies us, as long as we have victory.

"For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now." Romans 8:22. In the fifth chapter of II Corinthians, Paul reminds us of how we groan, yearn, and long for our redemption. Deep down inside, yes, that is really the way it is.

"And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body." Romans 8:23. The nature of the human being has always been to look for a way of escape. Yet isn't it amazing that the plan of salvation provides the ultimate escape, the ultimate gift that you will not find in a Sears, Roebuck catalog or Neiman Marcus, or Bonwit Teller in New York City, or Lord and Taylor in Chicago. We are offered the gift of life eternal, the ultimate and perfect way of escape.

We are told that there is no temptation that is not common to man, but Jesus Christ has provided a way of escape for those who choose to use it. We groan. We know that all humanity groans even in the firstfruits of the Spirit. We ourselves groan within ourselves.

"For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for? Romans 8:24. The Apostle Paul was very logical. He was practical. It was very obvious to him that we are saved by hope. Hope that is seen is not hope. If we have it, we don't have to hope for it. "... for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for?"

As we walk through life with Jesus Christ through His Word and through prayer, can we bring ourselves out of the technicalities of doctrine and come back to the foundation and some simple logic? Faith in Jesus Christ is our foundation.

"But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it." Romans 8:25. I like that. "Then we with patience wait for it." I don't know about you, but I get a little anxious once in a while. Things I want, I want. There is a difference between needs and wants, and we just can't quite wait. It seems as though the time doesn't pass fast enough. But here Paul said, "... with patience wait for it."

"Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us

with groanings which cannot be uttered." Romans 8:26. I love this portion of the Scripture. "And it came to pass," Luke says, "that, as he was praying in a certain place, when he ceased, one of his disciples said unto him, Lord, teach us to pray..." Luke 11:1.

"... for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered." "Lord, teach us to pray." How do we pray? How should we pray, loved ones, so earnestly that our Lord cannot resist, for His will and for His way.

My dear wife knows of times when words didn't come at all, but God heard. "Lord, teach us to pray." What a lovely request! What a wonderful hope! And He taught them. Our prayers are a learning school... every one of them.

Isn't it true that we oftentimes don't know what to pray? But the Spirit leads us, and the Spirit makes intercession for us. Jesus Christ, our Lord, our High Priest, and our Intercessor goes before the throne of the heavenly Father as He did in His high-priestly prayer in John. How many times did He say so lovingly and so kindly, "O Holy Father, keep them."

Prayer is the key to heaven, we know. Paul reminded us that faith unlocks the door. Another writer once said, "I dropped my heavy load of care when in prayer I touched the heart of God." O, may we be steadfast although we may not know quite what to ask, in faith coming boldly unto the throne of grace. Why? Because He is touched with our infirmities. God cares. God wants to hear.

Satan may tell us that we ask too much; or, "You're not satisfied. You don't give enough thanksgiving. The Lord is going to be discouraged with your thoughts and prayers. Why do you need so many things? God can't help you with all of those things."

A dear friend came to me some Sundays ago in another congregation (he was an old man), and he said, "Young man, I have to tell you something. You can take it however you wish. If the Lord answers everything you've asked for, He is going to be awfully busy." Let's keep asking anyway, because God and Jesus Christ, our Lord, really like to hear how we feel and what we have to say. It is not that They don't know, but They like to hear it said.

"And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God. And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." Romans 8:27, 28

That's the final analysis. We can look at it one way or another. We can dissect from the top and the bottom. We can send it to a lawyer to see if there is another way to interpret it. But the final analysis is that if we look at our lives today, at this hour, at this moment, all things have worked together for good.

They did for Job. He didn't know about God's conversation with Satan, but things worked together for good. They work together for us. It's not always easy to see it that way, is it?

"What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?" Romans 8:31. Time is short, beloved. The message of victory is there for each one of us every day if we look for it, if we don't bury ourselves in despair. Sometimes we feel ourselves sliding down the chute, so to speak, and we have probably all experienced that awful feeling. We may fall into depression or despair, and we feel ourselves grappling for the sides to hang on. It is kind of like going down the slide backwards. Remember when you did that as a kid?

But God who is rich in mercy, reminds us through the inspiration of His precious Word of the victories. "If God be for us, who can be against us?"

"For I am persuaded..." Romans 8:38. What are we persuaded of? What were the victorious words? If the brethren feel moved, they are welcome to expound. But I want to close, for my portion, with these beautiful words again: "If God be for us, who can be against us?"

Why? "For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 8:38, 39.

We want to be included in the "us" of that verse. Let us be like the writer who said, "I place myself in Jesus' hands, and there abide forever."

(As edited by the Silver Lining Staff)

FEB 02602 LK
CHARLES WALDER
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SERMON BY BRO. WILLIAM D. GERST OF ALTO, MICHIGAN

Text: Romans 8:18 - 39

In Corinthians we are told, "For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. 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. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?" I Corinthians 15:53-55. That's for you and for me . . . the opportunity to walk the path of life in the victorious awareness of what Jesus Christ has done and will do for us.

We can let Satan know that we are a step ahead of him because Jesus Christ is our Leader. We know that we are free, and that the chains of sin, death and love of this world will not hold us. Instead, we will be propelled to immortality, and we can know that death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting?

"For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us." Romans 8:18. How can we make such a comparison? I don't know what I am going to be like when I get to heaven. We are told that we are going to have a new body, and we believe it.

We are told that we are going to sing a new song. I often wonder what they will be like. I like the ones we have. But there is going to be a new song. Our songs now are songs of prayer, intercession and pleading. It will all change. This life shall pass and its chains, whatever they are in your life and mine, will fall away.

We live in a blessed land. We have the blessed privilege to fellowship together. We are blessed above all peoples of the world, even though we don't think so sometimes. We are thankful, and we should be. We are grateful, and we ought to be. Thanksgiving should

reign in our hearts daily, no matter what the test.

We should be able to see through the fog of life. We should be able to perceive as through a dark glass, as the apostle Paul said, and then someday face to face with the Lord, we will understand better. But now, by faith we walk and not by sight.

We are happy here for the most part, and in the overall. Down within our hearts we always find, throughout the day, reasons for thanksgiving. But that doesn't mean we like it enough to stay. That doesn't mean our goal is to stay.

Consider for a moment "The sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us."

This gives us the proper perspective. Isn't it true that if everything always went well, we would probably want to stay here? But when hard trials come, we don't want to stay. It's a nice place, but not nice enough. We have the promise of something greater, and that is what we want.

John, in the last chapter of the Scripture, pleaded, "Even so, come, Lord Jesus." Revelation 22:20. Yet, are we really ready? Deep within our hearts we are, but we are also human, and we have loved ones around us. We tussle with those feelings.

Something happened awhile back that made me think about it. I was traveling by air, and the plane started down the runway. We got over halfway, and suddenly the pilot shut the whole thing down. We came to a screeching halt, and pulled off to the side. We sat there for ten or fifteen minutes, and then went back to the beginning, and turned around. The pilot headed down the runway again and after three quarters of the way, he shut it down again. I thought of my family and of the church people I love. I have to admit, brethren, I wasn't sure I was ready. I

am ready for Jesus Christ, but not eager to leave.

The pilot, after the second try, had decided that rather than trust himself, he would believe what his instruments said. His instrument said that the fuel was not getting to the engines properly. he decided to believe his gauges. That's what he explained to us. He said, "We will go back to the terminal. I'm very sorry, but I feel safer leaving you here."

The sufferings of this time are not worthy to be compared with future glories. We wish to fly on. In our lives there are many tears, are there not? And trials and tests and things that disturb us? There are times when we throw up our hands, and we cannot go on.

I see older brothers and sisters here, and I am sure that more than once, twice or ten times in their lives there has been the despairing cry to the Lord Jesus Christ, "Lord, I just can't go on!" But they sit here today in faith and in hope that the sufferings of this time are not worthy to be compared. Somehow, as we walk this path of life, we keep the perspective that allows us to be just like these old soldiers of the cross sitting here. We know that our burdens are not worthy of being compared with joys to come, but they do mold and shape us.

We just keep pressing on, pressing on toward the mark of our high calling that is in Christ Jesus, extolling the profession of our faith without wavering. The Apostle Paul said to ". . . run with patience the race that is set before us." Hebrews 12:1. Or, as he wrote to the Philippians, "My brethren dearly beloved and longed for, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord." Philippians 4:1.

By faith we take the fact that the sufferings of this life are not worthy to

(Continued on Page 30)