



"Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God." Romans 13:1

"For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil..." Romans 13:3

Romans 13:3

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Constitution of the United States of America

— PREAMBLE —

We the People of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

America, The Beautiful

O beautiful for spacious skies,
 For amber waves of grain,
 For purple mountain majesties
 Above the fruited plain.
 America! America!
 God shed His grace on thee,
 And crown thy good with brotherhood
 From sea to shining sea.

O beautiful for pilgrim feet
 Whose stern impassion'd stress
 A thoroughfare for freedom beat
 Across the wilderness.
 America! America!
 God mend thine ev'ry flaw,
 Confirm thy soul in self-control,
 Thy liberty in law.

O beautiful for heroes prov'd
 In liberating strife,
 Who more than self their country loved,
 And mercy more than life.
 America! America!
 May God thy gold refine
 Till all success be nobleness,
 And ev'ry gain divine.

O beautiful for patriot dream
 That sees beyond the years
 Thine alabaster cities gleam
 Undimmed by human tears.
 America! America!
 God shed His grace on thee,
 And crown thy good with brotherhood
 From sea to shining sea.

Katherine Lee Bates

"Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God, the things that are God's."
 Matthew 22:21



Writings based
on God's Word

Light From The Word

"The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple" (Ps. 119:130).

NONCONFORMITY TO THE WORLD

The doctrine of nonconformity finds root in the Word of God, "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God" (Rom. 12:2). It is also written, "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him" (1 John 2:15).

The understanding of nonconformity is furthered by considering the scriptural definition of a believer. He is one who has come out from the world (2 Cor. 6:17). He is termed a pilgrim and stranger (1 Pet. 2:11) with no continuing city here on earth (Heb. 13:14). He recognizes that "the friendship of the world is enmity with God" (James 4:4). He realizes that the church and the world are two distinct entities, and that by visible nonconformity to the world, he can show that he is one with those who constitute the body of Christ.

Christian nonconformity is based on the fact that God calls His children to a life of holiness and transformation to the ways of Christ, who has delivered them "from this present evil world" (Gal. 1:4). The believer must avoid being pressed into the pattern of the world and hardened by its deceptive philosophies. He must be continuously aware that tremendous forces are exerted by Satan, who is the prince of this world.

Discernment of God's perfect will is dependent upon being transformed, by the renewing of one's mind. This involves putting off the old man which is conformed to the world, and putting on the new man created in righteousness and true holiness (Eph. 4:22-24). If one would allow himself to again conform to the world, how could he expect to discern accurately the perfect will of God?

There are two related aspects of nonconformity: inward and outward. Inward nonconformity to the world is centered within the thoughts and intents of the heart. It consists of attitudes, basic values and a general outlook on life. Some examples are: loving God's truth rather than the wisdom of man; valuing submission to

one another over individualism; defining success in terms of a life of godliness and contentment instead of wealth, status, and the praise of men. Outward nonconformity to the world is visible, and it gives a message which distinguishes the true believer from the unconverted. It consists of all aspects of lifestyle including outward adornment of the body. The child of God is to be a vessel of honor (2 Tim. 2:21), whose body is a temple of the living God (1 Cor. 3:16).

There is misunderstanding about the scriptural teaching, "man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart" (1 Sam. 16:17). Jesus condemned the hypocrisy of the Pharisees who were "beautiful outward but within full of . . . all uncleanness" (Matt. 23:27). Indeed, we must take seriously the warning that the outward things can be a false pretense, which is despised by God who sees directly into the heart of man. However, these teachings are sometimes misconstrued to justify the conclusion that the outward appearance is unimportant as long as the heart is right. Conversion, based on true faith, begins with a change of one's innermost attitudes and beliefs. Perhaps the most significant initial changes are truthfulness, humility and submissiveness. If the conversion is genuine, there will be profound, visible changes in all aspects of one's life (1 Pet. 4:1-4). It is undeniable scriptural truth that there must be consistency between what is in the heart and what is manifested visibly, and both are for the glory of God. "For ye are bought with a price, therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's" (1 Cor. 6:20).

There are several basic principles of nonconformity in outward appearance which are taught in the Holy Scriptures: distinction between male and female, modesty or chastity and humility or simplicity.

In Old Testament times God considered it an abomination when a person dressed in that which pertained to the opposite sex (Deut. 22:5). The New Testament teaches that for a man to be effeminate (unmanly) is sinful (1 Cor. 6:9). No doubt the opposite

is also true for a woman. God's distinctive order of creation is to be honored. ". . . the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man . . ." (1 Cor. 11:3). Thus a Christian man should appear as a man with clothing that equates with his masculine gender. It is also unnatural and shameful for him to have long hair (1 Cor. 11:14). Likewise, a Christian woman should appear as a woman with apparel that reflects the feminine gender. God has also ordained that long hair is given to her as part of her feminine glory (1 Cor. 11:15).

The New Testament also provides instructions regarding proper manifestation of modesty and simplicity in outward appearance. These virtues are not exemplified in fashionable hair arrangements, jewelry, costly array or "putting on," that is, adding artificial glamor to the natural beauty which God has given (1 Tim. 2:9, 1 Pet. 3:3). Rather it is a "meek and quiet spirit" which is described as an incorruptible, priceless ornament in the sight of God (1 Pet. 3:4).

Special emphasis on scriptural principles of nonconformity is especially needful today. A generation ago, and before, society's standards of outward attire were more distinctly masculine and feminine and more in accord with scriptural ideals of modesty, humility and restraint. Today, few of these basic standards remain. Rather, there is a spirit of liberality and individualism which is flaunted as immodesty, sensuality, glamor, and a blurring of the distinctions between male and female.

Believers should not lower their standards of dress by conforming to the unbiblical trends of the times. They should not allow themselves to be drawn into the lure of worldly entertainments or indulgent living. If they do, they are conforming themselves to the world.

Nonconformity is biblical. The outward and visible manifestation of this doctrine might be the only message of spirituality some unbelievers will ever witness. Thus, practical holiness must be upheld for the glorious cause of Christ.

WORK PROJECTS—HAITI SCHOOL BUILDINGS

"Please pray for Haiti." This was the appeal of church leaders during a meeting with them in February of a survey committee of World Relief.

Only the Lord knows the extent of agony for this poorest of nations in our hemisphere as they seek this November to peacefully elect a democratic government to replace the provisional government placed in authority after the dictator was deposed last year. A new constitution was quietly approved this spring.

Recent demonstrations were not unexpected. Yet there is a great resolve among thinking Haitians to make the most of this opportunity to bring about a new era, a new hope for Haiti. The U. S. State Department said, "we expect the election process to go ahead as planned in November and the inauguration of a duly elected governing body to take place in February."

Value of Projects

Those who have participated in Apostolic Christian Church Work Team projects in the past testify to the apparent value and appreciation of our church's literacy aid in the form of roofs for schools run by Haitian Christians, as well as the blessedness of fellowship among the team members and Haitians. All recommended a continuation and possibly a broadening of our Apostolic Christian involvement there as conditions in Haiti permit. This was also the finding of the World Relief survey committee, as the Lord directs and with the unity of our brotherhood.

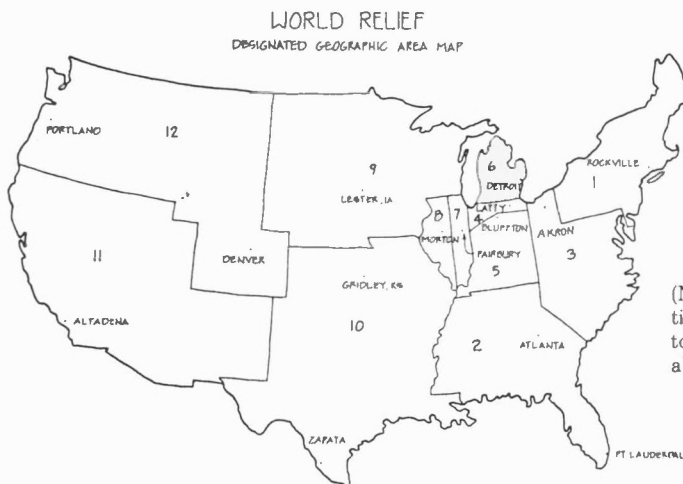
1987-1988 Project Season

All projects this year are again in the same area of lower Haiti. Six projects are under leadership of the same supervisor Bob Stewart, working through the association of over 270 churches of the Mission of Evangelical Churches of Southern Haiti (MEBSH). The seventh project will be in conjunction with missionary Eris Labady of the Palm Grove Mission, where Apostolic Christian Work Teams have completed other projects.

Travel costs are expected to be similar to other years, which is approxi-

Foreign Work Projects Haiti Work Teams (School Roof Building Projects)

MISSION	PROJECTS	DATES 1987	CHURCH AREAS	PROJECT LEADERS
MEBSH	#1	11/13 to 11/21	#8 Western IL	Mike Finley Box 176 Carlock, IL 61725 (309) 376-7301
MEBSH	#2	11/27 to 12/5	#4 & #6 N IN, MI, W OH	Phil Isabell Route 2 Remington, IN 47977 (219) 261-3541 Kurt Bahler Box 124A Remington, IN 47977 (219) 261-2877 H (219) 261-2157 B
MEBSH	#3	12/11 to 12/19	#5 Bluffton & Indianapolis	Carl Hackenjoes Monroe, IN 46772 (219) 692-6311
Palm Grove	#4	1/15 to 1/23	#9 & #10 KS, MO, MN, IA, TX, CA	R. Schmidgall 955 Lyon Street Hancock, MN 56244 (612) 392-5241
MEBSH	#5	2/6 to 2/13	#7 East IL	Tom Moser 37 W. 507 Big Timber Road Elgin, IL 60123 (312) 695-4711
MEBSH	#6	2/20 to 2/27	#11 & #12 CA, AZ, OR, CO	Glen Hackenjoes 10564 Haverly El Monte, CA 91731 (818) 442-4957
MEBSH	#7	3/4 to 3/12	CT, E. OH, AL, GA, FL	Leonard Dolce 2550 Crider Road Mansfield, OH 44903 (419) 589-6285
				Craig Emsch 11856 Miller Road Sterling, OH 44276 (216) 939-4591



(Note: Volunteers may participate outside their areas to accommodate their availability.)

mately \$750.00 from northern U. S. This includes plane fare, food, lodging, travel in Haiti, project supervision, etc., all worked out through area representatives (see page 3) for Work Projects division of World Relief and the Haitian mission leadership. All is tax deductible.

If you feel moved to be part of a project team, please make it known to your local church or area World Relief representative for Haiti projects. Detailed printed information and in some areas, informational meetings may be held. It would be appreciated if you would also fill out a volunteer form expressing your interest in this and any other opportunities as they become available.

Certain projects may be open for couples. At this time it is hoped that they can be included in project numbers 4, 5 and 6.

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.

Bro. Harold Witzig,
Haiti Works Projects Coordinator

NEWS FROM EASTERN EUROPE Bro. Andy Hunyady

It was a great privilege and blessing to join Elder Bros. Joseph Ramsier (Rittman, OH) and Donald Sauder (Roanoke, IL) and Bro. George Hunyady (Akron, OH) on a special mission to Budapest, Hungary, and Novi Sad, Yugoslavia. We arrived at Budapest Airport on Friday, May 22, and a number of brethren met us. We all rejoiced to meet and greet some again and some for the first time.

A tightly scheduled program was set up by the Hungarian elders that kept us busy every day. At our first meeting we had the blessing of meeting with brethren from Austria, West Germany, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Yugoslavia and later, visitors from Switzerland and Canada. (Details of Hungarian and Yugoslavian meetings and activities are reported separately.) Following the conclusion of our meetings, Bros. Ramsier and Sauder returned June 1, to the States.

My wife, Sis. Theresa, and I remained for another 10 days to visit our relatives in Hungary and Romania. This was Theresa's first visit since 1934. This time we entered Romania by train and found entering at the

border rather normal, with no problem at all, as compared with our previous visit two years ago, when we were delayed more than 3½ hours and thoroughly searched, etc.

We were met at the station by Elder Brother A. Sz., whom I have known since my youth. He is a very faithful worker in the Lord's vineyard and is, of course, under the watchful eyes of the Security. During the five days we spent in the country, we encountered no major problems. We had some difficulty in traveling after a two days rain, as many areas were so muddy that we could not get in with the car. We had very nice visits with my sister, Margit, and a large number of relatives, among them my 93-year-old uncle and his two younger sisters, 92 and 90 years old, respectively. On Sunday, June 7, the day of Pentecost was observed as we assembled for worship in the home of Elder Bro. A. Sz., thankful to God for His marvelous love and divine providence! The meeting was well attended, mostly by elderly. The brethren are

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
Fourth Year — August 1986 thru July 1987 — 23,048

Bibles Distributed — Fourth Year

	MONTH	TO DATE
August 1986 —	1729	1729
September 1986 —	865	2594
October 1986 —	1667	4261
November 1986 —	1565	5826
December 1986 —	2651	8477
January 1987 —	1113	9590
February 1987 —	1785	11375
March 1987 —	3135	14510
April 1987 —	2005	16515
May 1987 —	2023	18538
June 1987 —	3544	22082
July 1987 —	966	23048

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

THE SILVER LINING

Grabill, Indiana 46741
USPS 496780

EDITORIAL STAFF:

David Bertsch
Uriel Gehring
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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Christian Church of America.

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

SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO:

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c/o David Bertsch
Route 2, Box 157A
Grabill, IN 46741

Second class postage paid at Grabill, IN 46741. The subscription rate is \$7.00 per year. Send zip number with address. Remember to send changes of address. Send both old and new addresses (with both zips).

IN MEMORY — EDITORS:
HENRY SOUDER
EDWARD SOUDER

happy to be able to assemble, no harassment or interference by the authorities have been reported lately. Of course, the brethren are careful about their conduct, so as not to create any suspicion that might jeopardize their good standing.

Economic conditions are still worsening. There is no sign in sight that would indicate a return to normal. Food, fuel and other sources of energy are still in short supply. Most daily essentials are rationed and in most cases just not available. While we were there, a store keeper refused to sell bread for money and asked that the buyer bring in an egg and she will get the bread. Of course, eggs are very scarce and highly valued. So is coffee — worth more than money when it comes to getting medical services or other necessary services.

The Chernobyl nuclear fallout of April 1986 is still causing a lot of serious problems. Eggs, for example, are sterile and only 3 or 4 chicks hatch out of about 10-12 eggs. Other household animals are not developing normally. People are ill and the death rate is much higher than normal among people of all ages. It is reported that a number of newborn are born blind or with other birth defects, as the result of nuclear radiation. Medical care and medical supplies are unavailable and the government makes no effort to help. People are in constant fear and uncertainty as to the future. Their hope

is in the Lord, that somehow, something will happen soon.

There are a number of charitable organizations in other western countries who are getting involved in sending food and medical supplies to the families in need. Food packages shipped from our Bluffton Distribution Center are appreciated more and more as the shortages continue. I am happy to report, that according to contacts with several brethren in three different areas, the parcels arrive in relatively good condition. A few instances were reported that some coffee and aspirins were removed from the parcels. After investigation by the local authorities, it was discovered, that in certain isolated railroad station warehouses, while waiting to be claimed, the boxes were tampered with, while no guards were around. (?) Because of the large increase in shipments from the western countries, some deliveries were delayed at the distribution center, but these conditions have been corrected and shipments are being handled more efficiently. Though arrangements were made for me to visit the Distribution Center in Oradea, due to rainy weather and the illness of my wife, this visit was cancelled.

Confirmation cards, filled out and signed by our beneficiaries are being returned to me and enables me to verify the receipt of the food packages. In addition we receive letters from individuals to express their appreci-

ation for the gifts of love. Sadly, I must report, that a careful check of our list with Romanian brethren revealed a few abuses, such as families receiving 2 or 3 packages by using husband's and wife's name and different addresses, though not in dire need. Such names were removed from the list. A careful check is being conducted by these brethren to filter out such unworthy ones. (Tares among the wheat.)

It is our endeavor to keep the work of charity going and great care is being exercised to make sure, as much as humanly possible, to see that these gifts of love, given in the name of the Lord, are not wasted, but used according to His will.

We bring many sincere Christian greetings from needy, less fortunate, but faithful brethren, who do appreciate your love and faithfulness in reaching out and sharing your God given substance with them.

May our great God and faithful Saviour continue to bless the hands, the hearts, and the lives of all those, who so diligently labor in His vineyard! We thank you for your support and prayers, as so often we could feel His nearness and the power of His guiding Spirit.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME Uriel Gehring

The peaceful era of mid-summer is upon Hoosierland, and it is a peaceful scene that meets the eye at our Children's Home. The children are adjusted to the summer routine.

We have a new boy, Jon B., in the East House. He is fourteen years old, from the Leo area, and will be in the eighth grade this fall. We are looking forward to having Jon in our family.

Mike K's baseball team won first place in minor league play this summer. Mike helped the team effort by hitting a few home runs.

The Leo Bible class, which included John W., Penny G., Denise C. and Bertha W., and two former residents (Jerry F. and Ayne J.) attended the annual Christian Endeavor weekend at Francesville, IN. They were accompanied by Bro. Loren Klopfenstein and his wife and Bro. Les Stoller. Thank you, brothers, for lending yourselves in this worthwhile program for our youth; it is a great time of fellowship and worship for them. All eleven Indiana

EDUCATIONAL COORDINATOR

At the Children's Home

There is an immediate opening at the Children's Home for a brother or sister with a degree in education or a related field to serve full time as the coordinator of the Home's educational and vocational programs.

Responsibilities include individual tutoring, liaison work with the public schools and development of summer educational and work programs.

Sis. Judy Luginbuhl will soon assume her new position as Counselor, and it is our hope to have the resulting vacancy in the Educational Coordinator position filled by the beginning of the school year.

Your servants in Christ,
The Children's Home
Board of Directors

For further information about responsibilities, salary and benefits, please call or write:

Bro. Tim Sauder
Box 151
Leo, IN 46765
219/627-2159 or
219/627-2606

Bro. Phil Gutwein
Box 55, Route 1
Medaryville, IN 47957
219/843-1761

Elder Bro. David Bertsch
Route 2
Grabill, IN 46741
219/627-2923

church Bible classes are invited to this event, and about 150 students were in attendance. The students this reporter visited with about the weekend reported a good time.

It is so nice to have our veteran volunteer from Connecticut, Nancy Parciak, back with us again. She lends her expertise in the Independent Living Program, with the computer, in the schoolroom, and wherever else she is needed — Miss Versatility. Thank you, Nancy, for everything you do on our children's behalf.

The first ever Staff Reunion was held Saturday, July 18, right in our own back yard. The weather cooperated beautifully, and everyone enjoyed themselves, renewing old acquaintances and making new ones. Former staffers returning for the weekend were the Terry Farney family (Wichita, KS), Bro. Marvin and Sis. Pat Fischer (Columbus, OH), Bro. Bill and Sis. Joan Schick and family (Washington, IL), Bro. Brace and Sis. Brenda Wieland (Leo, IN), Bro. Bob and Sis. Karen Indermuhle and family (Sardis, OH), Bro. Steve and Sis. Jane Stieglitz and family (Leo, IN), Bro. Doug and Sis. Sue Kellenberger and family (Leo, IN), Bruce Knapp (Bloomington, IL), Sis. Helen Schuon (Morton, IL), and a special guest, Bro. Kurt Bahler (Remington, IN), our newest Board member. The afternoon and evening program included some outdoor games, supper

in the fireside area behind the utility building, hymn singing, skits by staff and former staff, ACCH trivia (reminiscing about bygone days at the Home) and slides and movies of former staff and resident activities. We sensed the Lord smiling on the proceedings and adding His blessing. All of our guests stayed for Sunday services and a potluck supper for the entire church at the fellowship hall — the finale to a blessed weekend together.

At the present time we are continuing to seek Assistant Houseparents, Alternate Houseparents (married or single, male or female) and an Educational Coordinator to complete our staff. We are trusting God to work in the hearts of our brothers and sisters to respond to His call.

The Congerville, IL, congregation hosted the most recent slide presentation about the Home July 11. The presentation was preceded by a delicious supper and hymn singing. Elgin, IL, hosted a similar presentation July 25. We thank our representatives for making these arrangements. Any church wanting a presentation should contact us. Presentations can be given in the sanctuary after the afternoon service or a slide presentation is available for other settings.

The annual Recognition Dinner for retiring Board members was held July 17. The retiring Board members are Bros. Dan Knochel (Detroit, MI) and

Lynn Feller (LaCrosse, IN). New Board members are Bros. Tom Schrenk (Alto, MI), Bob Hohulin (Roanoke, IL) and Kurt Bahler.

We are all excited about our Annual Auction and Sale — hope to see you Saturday, August 15.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

Often, while caring for our residents, many of whom cannot even walk or speak, the thought comes — "Some-day these dear souls will walk the streets of gold on strong legs, and raise flawless voices in beautiful melodies of praise to our heavenly Father." Truly they are God's special little ones.

On July 7 we welcomed Jacqueline (Jackie) Barton, who came to us from Farmington, MI. She lived with her parents, James and Helen Barton.

Jackie has a brother, Brian, and three sisters, Gail Gasser, Charlotte and Holly Barton. She is also an aunt to one niece and one nephew.

Tacos are a favorite food of Jackie's, although she likes most foods. She enjoys doing latch hook, walking and biking for pastimes. She also likes to read. May 26 was her thirteenth birthday. We are happy to have Jackie with us!

The fireworks July 3 were certainly enjoyed, and then on July 4 the family picnic was well attended, and much good food was consumed. An unexpected "bonus" at the picnic — almost everyone was drenched before they could take cover, when it started pouring!

Quite a few residents made a trip to Six Flags July 9. A tired, but happy busload of people got home rather late that evening.

Besides the usual activities, a fishing trip, bowling and a picnic at Wildlife Prairie Park are planned for July.

We have five birthday girls coming up in August; Susan Landis, August 5; Peggy Full, also August 5; Martha Clymer, August 6; Shirley Pfeifer, August 23 and Barb Hostettler, August 28. August also brings a camping trip, and possibly a trip to the State Fair.

An "early" reminder of Benefit Day — it is planned for November 6 this year, which is earlier than usual.

The tasty baked goods and food donated for the luncheon, plus all the other beautiful and useful items donated for the sale, are very much appreciated.

AN OPEN LETTER FROM THE CHILDREN'S HOME

Opportunity For Single Brothers or Sisters

Greetings Brothers and Sisters-in-the-Lord:

From its inception, our goal at the Apostolic Christian Children's Home has been to provide a Christian family setting to care for needy children and youth. We believe that this is God's ideal plan for raising children. However, at several times during the history of our Home, we have gone for extended periods without a full staff as we looked and waited for qualified couples to serve as Alternate Houseparents.

For the past six months we have been seeking an Alternate Houseparent couple to complete our staff. Because of a lack of response, along with a need to adequately care for our children and responsibly meet state standards, we now have openings for two single brothers or two single sisters as Alternate Houseparents. We also have a recent opening for an Assistant Houseparent in one of our houses.

Your servants in Christ,
The Children's Home
Board of Directors

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APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL OF ATHENS, AL Marilyn Walder

We had our semi-annual board meeting June 27. We made many decisions that will be effective for the new school year. God has truly blessed our Preschool and we are so thankful for His guiding hand. We thank our board members for their volunteer time, prayers, and support. May God bless them for their willingness to serve Him by using their talents.

Cari Mann (Mansfield, OH), Sis. Amy Wieland, Serena Sauder, and Beth Unsicker (all from Peoria), Sis. Becky Isbell (Morton, IL) and Sis. Deb Blunier (Eureka, IL) have all volunteered many hours of their time to help at our Preschool. Each has different talents and each was used in her own way. We thank each of them for their support and pray that God will bless them.

We still have a need for a teacher for this fall. If anyone has thought or prayed about it, please let us know. You can contact me at (205) 233-0591 anytime. I know that God will provide for our need. We are praying that God's will be done and are trusting Him for future blessings.

ALABAMA, ATHENS Marilyn Walder

We enjoyed the messages that were brought to us by Bros. Tom Schrenk (Alto, MI), Ted Witzig (Morton, IL), and Earl Kilgus (Remington, IN). We appreciate their efforts and thank them for their visit.

Our visitors this month were from

TEACHER NEEDED AT ATHENS, AL PRESCHOOL

There is a need for a teacher at the Athens, AL, Preschool. Any sister interested should first discuss the need with her local church elder. The next contact would be the Athens Preschool Administration, Elder Bro. Lavoyd Moore, for further details. It is preferred that the sister be a certified teacher; however, any sister with teaching training or experience would be considered. We want to express our thanks to Sis. Evie Blunier for her labor of love in working with the preschool children of Athens for these 2½ years.

Athens Pre-School Board

Alto, MI, Remington and Valparaiso, IN, Rittman, Mansfield, and Junction, OH, and Roanoke, Elgin, Peoria, Morton, Chicago, Princeville, and Eureka, IL. We enjoyed each one and invite them back again.

Nineteen of us were privileged to travel to Alto, MI, for the 4th of July weekend. We enjoyed the fellowship and the love we felt from the Alto congregation. May God bless y'all for your love. We enjoyed the fellowship we had with each other in the vans traveling to Alto and back. The more we do together as a church family the better we can get to know each other and share what God has done in our lives. Christian fellowship is a blessing!

We were saddened at the death of Sis. Ora Massey. She died June 13 at the age of 78. Our sympathy is extended to her family. Surviving are her sons, Laurance, Billy, Jessie, and Leon; and daughters Sis. Ruby Massey, Lena Mae Bell, and Bobbie Bracken. Sis. Ora had been sick for quite some time and was longing to go to her eternal home. Our prayers are with her family. May God continue to comfort them as they seek His strength.

ARIZONA, PHOENIX Ron and Ev Hoerr

Repent ye--be converted, that your sins be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord.

Acts 3:19

Marjorie (Bob) Rebbec has repented, has peace and was baptized July 15. Their children came for the happy occasion. Sis. Marg and Bob have worshipped with us over the years. We are so grateful she is able to fully enjoy and receive the love bestowed on them and walk the path of believers.

Joe and Sis. Patty Greenbank welcomed Katie Melinda July 16. Joel and Amber are excited to share in taking care of their little sister. Bro. Gordon and Sis. Emily Greenbank are the grandparents. With the arrival of their new baby, Joe's baptism should be taking place soon.

Our last church supper of the season was June 28. After good fellowship and dining, there was singing in the congregational room. Arriving at the church building that morning, we noticed many birds were feasting on the saguaro cactus blooms.

Praises be to God for restoring health to Bro. Ted Knochel who is able to come to worship services again. Bro. George Schuster had ear surgery and Sis. Lindy Schambach had foot surgery. Justin Roth (Bro. Dan and Sis. Patty) is looking forward to getting the cast off his broken arm soon.

Do you recall singing "Oh, how I love Jesus" in Bible school? Everyone was to give a reason, other than the necessary food, clothing and shelter for why they loved Him. Take time to list your reasons.

We're glad to report our temperatures do not keep visitors away.

ARIZONA, PRESCOTT

Doug Schmidgall—Ethel Smith

The summer rainy season has arrived in the mountains of Arizona and we are thankful to God for the refreshing rainfall. For the rest of July and August and into September, we can expect a daily thunderstorm in the Prescott vicinity which will keep the weather cool and the vegetation green.

We thank our visiting ministers during the last month. On June 21, Bro. Noah Herman (Tucson) brought us the word and reminded us that as we pass through this life, we do leave our footprints in the sands of time and we should be very mindful of what kind of footprints we leave. The day was saddened by the news that awaited Bro. Noah and Sis. Lorraine when they arrived in Prescott that Sis. Lorraine's brother, Clarence Sutter (Peoria, IL), had passed away. We extend our sympathy to them and their family.

Bro. Jon Kokanovich (Phoenix) was our minister July 5. We enjoyed a blessed weekend which included several visitors from Phoenix and Tucson. A 4th of July picnic was held at Thumb Butte Park on Saturday. We should be thankful for the freedom we enjoy and should use these freedoms wisely.

Bro. Kent Miller has moved from Prescott to Tucson to continue college work at the University of Arizona. Bro. Kent has lived in the Prescott area for a year and a half, sharing a Chiropractic practice with his uncle, Ray Massner. We will sorely miss Kent from our small group. We want to thank Bro. Kent for all his help and we extend to him our wish for God's continued blessings in his life.

We welcome visitors. Services are held the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month with ministers from the Phoenix

and Tucson churches. For more information, you may call or write to Bro. Harvey Smith, 2180 Thumb Butte Road, or phone (602) 445-2164 or 778-6390.

ARIZONA, TUCSON

Sandy Bauer — Lisa Knapp

We were thankful to have Bro. Greg and Sis. Denise Gramm (Phoenix) and their family visit us July 19. Everyone was uplifted by the messages Bro. Greg brought us inspired by the Holy Spirit.

Then, later in the day, Bro. Loren and Sis. Evelyn Knapp hosted a barbecue at their home for all the friends and brethren. We fellowshiped together over dinner and then sang praises to God. How fortunate we are to be able to gather freely and have happy times with each other, knowing that He is also in our midst!

"Be ye kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love."

Romans 12:10

CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA

Elaine Graf

A year ago this July, the congregation from the San Diego region began meeting full time in their area. On July 11, the Altadena and San Diego congregations met at a national forest between San Diego and Altadena for a picnic. It was nice to be together again.

On July 12 we were blessed with many visitors. Among them were ministering Bros. Bill Dotterer (Phoenix, AZ), Doug Wagenbach (San Diego), Floyd Schmidgall (Morris, MN), and Ken Hoerr (Peoria, IL). May God bless them for their service.

COLORADO, DENVER

Mike Martin — Marlene Leman

This summer, as is the case most summers, we have had close to ideal weather. The cool temperatures have made it a pleasant place to be. Out here enjoying the summer with us are Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Margaret Plederer (Sarasota) and Sis. Lanette Meyer (Sabetha). We encourage others to come for a summer or perhaps an even longer stay.

God has blessed the home of Eric and Bridgette Virkler with a baby girl, Nicole. First time grandparents are Bro. Perry and Sis. Carol Virkler (Minneapolis).

Our dear Sis. Katherine Ries has had her prayers answered. She had been

waiting for quite some time to be accepted into the Myron Stratton Home and now she has moved into a cottage there. Her new address is: 2525 Highway 115 South, Colorado Springs, CO 80906. Her phone number is (303) 576-3157.

"And when ye reap the harvest of your land, thou shalt not wholly reap the corners of thy field, neither shalt thou gather the gleanings of thy harvest. And thou shalt not glean thy vineyard, neither shalt thou gather every grape of thy vineyard; thou shalt leave them for the poor and stranger: I am the Lord your God."

Lev. 19:9-10

So often in life we become so fully enveloped in this world and "getting ahead" that we pick the fields clean and all the grapes, too, and we forget to save some for those who are really in need. The Lord said to bring unto him the first fruits on the first day of the week and what is left over use for ourselves. There would be less need and fewer lonely people in this world if we would all live in this way.

CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE

Martha Hany

"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."

Eccl. 12

Surely, we can reflect upon these words when we think of our dear Sis. Bertha Moser, 85, who died in the hospital July 15. She turned from the world to the Lord early in her teens and later in life when she had a long struggle with illness, her faith sustained her through those evil days and now she has attained the victory. She leaves a sister, Marie Hany, and several nieces and nephews.

Life continues on since the beginning of time with the birth of two new babies. Nathan Eric was born June 17 to Bro. Rick and Sis. Sue (Jackson) Luginbuhl. His two older brothers are Douglas and Kevin. The happy grandparents are Bro. Len and Sis. Irma Luginbuhl and Bro. Richard and Sis. Yolande Jackson (Bay City). On June 22, Richard and Sis. Joanne (Luginbuhl) Eleiott welcomed a second little

daughter, Rachel Louise, into their home to be a companion to Zachary and Annaleise. John and Vivian Robertson from Nova Scotia are paternal grandparents and Bro. Emanuel and Sis. Florine Luginbuhl are the maternal grandparents. In rearing these innocent souls and attending to their many physical needs, may the happy parents continue to look above for Godly wisdom to guide their children spiritually.

We will miss Bro. Vern and Sis. Deanna Lanz as they intend to leave Rockville and make their home in Rittman, OH, but the tie that binds will forever remain.

Sis. Elizabeth Erismann has not been able to assemble with us for quite some time but is being lovingly cared for at the home of her daughter, Margaret. The days are long as she is visually impaired and unable to read the Word, but our prayer is that her faith and love will sustain her in patience while awaiting the Father's call home eternally — what a blessed thought!

We in Rockville are looking forward to hosting the Brotherhood Conference in August. At that time, we hope to adequately meet the physical needs of our Shepherds as they seek guidance and direction from God in their deliberations to lead His flock in this stressful and often perplexing time in which we live.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, WASHINGTON

Catherine Klopfenstein Rebecca Germann

This time of year brings many vacationers to our beautiful countryside. We heartily welcome all who might be in the area to contact one of our local families. We currently meet the second Sunday of each month at the Westpark Best Western Hotel off I-495 and Route 7 (Leesburg Pike) at Tyson's Corner. Plans are being made to increase services to twice a month as our attendance continues to grow.

Sunday, July 12, we were fed from God's holy Word by Bro. Andy Stoller (Smithville, OH). We sincerely thank Bro. Andy, his wife, Sis. Roberta, and three children for visiting and sharing with us. Our meeting room was filled with no room to spare as many assembled to hear God's Word. Visitors were from Rockville, CT, Sabetha, KS, and Eureka, IL.

In addition, we were fortunate enough to have our first mid-week gathering July 15. We met at the home of Bro. Doug and Sis. Rebecca Germann for a picnic dinner and had services following. What a blessed evening was enjoyed as we sang hymns together and Bro. Andy Stoller shared God's Word with us from Proverbs 30. For many months our congregation here has not had the privilege of a regular mid-week gathering and this opportunity was a real treat for all. In many churches across the land, mid-week services are not always enthusiastically attended. The work day is long with many activities for the children, and by supper time the entire family is exhausted. Often our family found ourselves in this same predicament when we had the opportunity to attend weekly scheduled services. We recall how thankful we were as we drove out of the church yard on a Wednesday evening, tired, yet with hearts filled to overflowing because of a blessing we nearly missed. In our present situation we do not have this opportunity to assemble so frequently. We have learned in a new way what a special privilege it is to gather around God's holy Word with the brethren when the "doors" are open and when at all possible.

O, bind together fully
With love's devotion holy
Thy people, dearest Lord,
For whom Thy blood was given
To ransom them for heaven.
O, hallow them and keep them, Lord!
Zion's Harp, Assembly Hymn

July 12 was a special day for Ken and Roberta Belsley who celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary. May God continue to richly bless this couple with His love in the years to come.

For information concerning our congregation here, please contact Bro. Ralph Klopfenstein (703) 979-3476 or Bro. Doug Germann (703) 481-5163.

FLORIDA, FT. LAUDERDALE Terri Huber

Our visiting minister this month was Bro. Gary Maibach (Smithville, OH). We are especially encouraged by visiting ministers and brethren in these summer months. It is the time of year when the local families take vacations, and we have had a very small congregation the past two Sundays!

The Sunday school (and many of the parents) traveled across the state to spend a day at Busch Gardens with the Sarasota Sunday school and young group. The next day we attended church at Sarasota. It was a blessing to get together with our "neighboring church". We thank the Sarasota brethren for inviting us over!

Sis. Florence Sutter (Bro. Harry) fell, suffering a cut on her forehead which required stitches. We pray for her speedy recovery.

FLORIDA, NORTH FT. MYERS Kay Eisenmann

This past week we went with thankful, but heavy hearts, to lay our dear Bro. Odel Pitman (Remington, IN) to rest. These are the times the world doesn't know how to handle. We felt love and concern for Sis. Marge and their children. May we ever keep them in our prayers, as we have such beautiful memories of our loved one! Bro. Bill Gudeman (Elgin, IL) shared the Word with us, for which we are thankful. Jesus tells us of division even in the family, so when it happens, why are we surprised? Illness, hunger and stress of the body we seem to understand! But what of those troubled of the mind! Is it not one of the biggest tools of Satan? What does a murderer, thief or a liar look like? Do we really think anyone intended to become a thief, a murderer or to be known as a liar? They shall, as God's Word tells, take part in the lake of fire! Isn't it good to know that God will judge us righteously, not considering who pays the highest price!

If we do not read the Word, we don't have the spiritual strength to fight Satan. Just as we must eat for our physical strength, let us look to God's Word for spiritual food, so we don't become sick in soul. Let us not be deceived! We soon fall into Satan's hands when we begin to put self first! May God give us all prayerful hearts to be overcomers! Let's all ask ourselves, "what is our goal after death?" Where do we want to spend eternity? When we stand beside the casket of a loved one, let's not forget we also will have our turn! Thanks be to God His Word does not change with the times. It is something we can count on. With the help of God, let our death be a reunion with the Lord, as overcomers!

Dathan Eisenmann and his family were in Iowa. He seemed to enjoy his

vacation and his blood tests were normal at this time. We are thankful for the many prayers.

FLORIDA, SARASOTA Mary Martin

As we enter our warmer months in Sarasota, our church gatherings become much smaller. We appreciate our visitors and especially are grateful for the visiting ministers that come to serve us. Recently we were privileged to have the Ft. Lauderdale Sunday School children and their families spend a weekend of fellowship. Bro. Brian Webb ministered to our spiritual needs on Sunday, as well as Bro. Bill Gudeman and his wife (Elgin, IL). May God bless them for their efforts.

We enjoyed having Elder Bro. Ben Maibach, his wife and many of his family members gather with us. We always look forward to the time that they spend with us.

We do appreciate the efforts of our home ministers as they expound the Word to us. Recently they expressed the importance of constantly working at keeping an ample supply of oil in our lamps as in the parable of the ten virgins. All ten started out with a supply of oil but only five had enough oil in their lamps when they went out to meet the bridegroom. May we strive daily to gather oil. As the world becomes darker, our lights must shine brighter and as Jesus tells us in St. Matthew 24:13, "Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh".

Our prayers are with Bro. Sam Slagel as he struggles with his afflictions and may God continue to guide him as he returns to his family in Fairbury, IL.

ILLINOIS, BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL Donna Hodel — Karen Brummitt

"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths."

Proverbs 3:5, 6

Sis. Tillie Nussbaum is home from the hospital after undergoing surgery. May God strengthen and comfort her as she recovers.

Lyle and Sis. Lois Stoller announced the engagement of their daughter, Kathy, to Nelson Kaupp (Bro. Marvin

and Sis. Annette Kaupp, Gridley). An October 23 wedding is planned. May God bless them with much happiness.

We extend a warm welcome to Sis. Joan Schrock and Bro. Tim and Sis. Beth Leman to our Bloomington congregation.

A special "Student Welcome" is planned for all college students attending schools in the area. For a complete list of students, we invite you to notify Sis. Mary Huber (309) 728-2899 if you will attend or if you know of someone that plans to attend school this fall in Bloomington-Normal.

Our new Sunday school teachers are Bro. Ron Farney, Bro. Jim Kellenberger, Bro. Dave Kaeb, Sis. Diane Steiner, Sis. Carol Hany, Sis. Cheryl Nussbaum and Sis. Bonnie Traub. We thank Bro. Ray Bauer, Bro. Ken Rinkenberger, Bro. Jim Kaufmann, Sis. Peg Ifft, Sis. Jeanie Haerr, Sis. Brenda Kaeb and Sis. Deann Anderson for their dedication in teaching our children the love of Jesus.

We bid farewell to two loved ones that are leaving the Bloomington area. Sis. Renee Baurer has answered the call to share her talents in Japan. Bro. David Huette will continue his education at Champaign. We wish them God's blessing as they serve the Lord.

ILLINOIS, BRADFORD Marilyn Tanner

KEEPING VICTORY

Meet your Savior in the morning
In the secret place of prayer,
And obtain the strength and courage
You shall need for ev'ry care.
Meet your loved ones and your neighbors,
Meet your friends and meet your foes;
Meet the sinners and the Christians
With sweet peace that overflows.
Meet your trials and your problems,
Meet your heartaches and your sighs;
Meet your many disappointments,
and whatever sorely tries,
With a heart of love and kindness
And with faith that reaches God,
Knowing that His hand will lead you
Up the way that saints have trod.

Walter E. Isenhour

Once again, we enjoyed our annual Sunday school picnic. What a blessing

it is to fellowship with all the families and hear our children sing praises to our Lord.

As the angels in heaven rejoice over one sinner that repenteth, we also rejoice with Pam Fritzenmeier (Bro. David and Sis. Shirley Kieser), who, by the grace of God, could come out of this world of sin and darkness. May she find that peace that passes all understanding.

We welcome our new brother, Barry Dietz (Bro. Kenny and Sis. Mardell) into our fellowship. He was baptized July 19 and we wish him much grace as he begins to work in the vineyard of the Lord. Elder Bro. Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO), Elder Bro. Joe Stoller and Bro. Walter Herrmann (Princeville) were here for the joyous occasion.

Bro. Marvin Knobloch and Sis. Lois Endress were our hospital patients this month.

ILLINOIS, CHAMPAIGN Cheryl Mangers

Unintentionally omitted last month was Sis. Wilma Simpson from the list of Vacation Bible School helpers. Every year Sis. Wilma spends many hours organizing the singing part of the program, adding her own special touch.

Visiting ministers this past month included Bros. Ken Knapp and Gerald Sutter (Taylor, MO) and Jaye Rinkenberger and Elder Bro. Bob Grimm (Goodfield, IL). We appreciate their love and willingness to serve.

We extend our sympathy to Bro. Dave and Sis. Ethel Wiegand in the loss of his mother and to Bro. Les and Sis. Patti Marti in the sudden death of his father.

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO Kathy Schlatter

Has your house been condemned? Ours has. The DuPage County Water Commission plans to put an underground water reservoir and pumping station where the house now stands. Since the middle of February, I have been wondering where, when, how, and even why, we were to go. I was sure the Lord wanted us to move; after all, condemnation is one way to get two teachers to change their lodgings. I did a lot of praying — and, I must confess, a great deal of stewing. First I would be content with the change, but I would get angry again and have to gain peace all over. Finally, we took some action and looked with a realtor. In the Chi-

cago area there are not large numbers of properties with over an acre of ground within a reasonable area. The first one certainly wasn't really in our price range, didn't have a house that would fit our lifestyle (no place for company), and wasn't close enough to our work. But the realtor gave us a few other places. Only one sounded great — because of the acreage and the relative closeness of the area. We went and we liked it. We went back again and made an offer. The owners countered very reasonably and we settled. Pending financial settlements with our property, we have a new home, over twice as big as the one we have now, and over twice the land as well. It is much better land for gardening because the previous owners built the clay soil up so that it is rich and black now. It is farther away from traffic, on higher ground with a better view. Even though it doesn't have everything we think we want, we now are looking forward to leaving our old one. We can always add later. We have, of course, had to make a greater financial commitment, but we are grateful for the Lord's hand in finding us such a lovely home to replace our condemned one.

In thinking about our new earthly home, I thought back to sixteen years ago this summer in my life. My "house" was certainly condemned. I had known that for over eight years, but I had felt the condemnation more and more strongly in the last year than ever. When would I look for another "house"? Would I wait for the end of this one and be lost with nowhere to turn? Finally, a cousin of mine (my "realtor") asked me what I was going to do, and I said, "Repent," but I needed direction in how to go about it. He told me some key points, including praying, telling my parents, and seeing my elder. I had to be ready to put more of a commitment into this "house," it is true, but let me tell you how much better my spiritual house is now. It is so much more spacious and roomy and better taken care of. I share it now with Him. Not only does it sit on higher ground than before, but the view is better as well. He also encourages me to stay away from the traffic as much as possible. The quality of the land is better because He has brought in the mulch necessary to raise the best quality of spiritual fruit. Thus the Lord can change condemnation and sorrow into love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentle-

ness, goodness, temperance, meekness and faith — and promise of heaven when our earthly life's foundation crumbles. "It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness." Lamentations 3:22, 23.

Bro. Jim Plattner (Princeville) visited us Wednesday evening. His message, reminding us that we do not want to cut off a driver on the road or even steal someone's happiness or peace, was sobering and relevant to us all. May the Lord reward him for his willingness to be used for our benefit.

Bro. Kevin Rocke and Sis. Janine Wettstein were married in Eureka Sunday, June 21. Their union in the Lord was compared to the mystery of our union with the Lord, as His Bride. They are living in Westmont. Bro. Kevin works as a mechanical engineer for J. I. Case in the area, and Sis. Janine expects to use her B.S. in nursing. We rejoice in His goodness and pray that He will lead them in joyous pastures together.

Reluctantly we bid our farewells. Sis. Ida Laubscher has moved back to the Cissna Park area to an apartment closer to her family. She has always been one to turn the spotlight away from herself to someone else, but I must tell you what a positive Christian she has been, loving, caring and letting people know. For many, many years she has been a pillar in our Chicago church and we would have been glad to keep her among us. Nevertheless, the Lord has called her back to her home area; thus we wish her Godspeed — "... The Lord watch between me and thee, when we are absent one from another." Genesis 31:49.

We also must say our farewells to Bro. Andy and Sis. Chris Aberle who are returning to the Tremont congregation. Bro. Andy will be an accountant with Caterpillar in Peoria. Sis. Chris has worked at a nursing home in our area as an L.P.N. and will undoubtedly also find work. They have not been in our area long, but they gathered with us and worked and supported our church family so well that their energy and joy will be sorely missed. We are sorry to see them go, but we are so blessed by their time with us. Our love and our prayers go with them.

The Lord has others who will lend us their time and talents, we believe. We welcome Bros. Craig and Doug Wett-

stein (Gridley, IL) and Brad Parris (Peoria, IL) who are living in the Woodridge area and attending DeVry Institute of Technology in Lombard. Heidi Hausman (Bradford, IL) is living in the DesPlaines area and working as an actuary in a bank. We are grateful that the Lord has blessed us by sending them to our congregation. May we gather them into our family that they may feel the Lord's blessings in being in our Chicago area.

At Bible study the other evening, the corner lamp light went out. It was on a timer, of course, but we knew it was a reminder of what time it was for us, time to start saying our goodbyes. We are not always given such reminders, but sometimes one knows for sure that life is slipping away. At least there is a little time to say goodbye. We want to express our love and sympathy to Bro. Greg and Sis. Carla Rassi and their children at the death of Carla's dad and their grandfather.

Young musicians were recently told by their conductor, "You have satisfied your instructor." May we each one strive ever more diligently that whenever our course of instruction is over, we will, by the grace of God, have satisfied our instructor.

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK

Elaine Sauder — Mary Knapp

At this time in our area we are having extreme heat and humidity — which makes me feel so grateful to be living in the age of air conditioning and fans. How often do we think of those before us who labored long in the heat and sun to do that which needed to be done "by the sweat of their brow"? The gentle rains have produced lovely fields of corn, beans and other crops as well as bountiful gardens and flowers of such beauty. We need to slow down and really "see" what is at our fingertips. We take much for granted.

Topics exhorted on at our evening Bible Class were Suicide, Humanism, Eternal Security and also Guilt and Conviction which were shared with all by Bro. Wayne Anliker (Forrest), Bro. Edwin Bahler (Remington, IN) and Bro. Bob Grimm (Goodfield).

Other visiting ministers this month were Bro. Vernon Wettstein (Congerville) and Bro. Ken Schneider (Remington, IN). We extend our thanks to these brothers who shared of their time with us.

The first Sunday evening of each

month is the monthly Hymn sing at the Fellowship Hall and is well received.

Sunday afternoon, July 12, the annual all church picnic was held in the local park. Even with stormy skies threatening, it was well attended.

Sis. Elaine Sauder had wrist surgery and is progressing quite well. Bro. Gerald Rudin is still a shut-in recovering from back surgery.

We extend our sympathy to Bro. John Conrad on the sudden death of his father, Freeman Conrad (Bremen, IN).

Bill and Judy Drayer observed their 25th wedding anniversary with an open house Sunday, July 12. Many shared this event with Bill and Judy.

July 12 was an eventful day in many ways as the engagement was announced of Sis. Kathy Kaufman (Ileane) to Bro. Steve Walder (Bro. Melvin and Sis. Irma). They have our prayers as they plan their life together and may they seek God's direction in this most special step.

July is the time to reorganize the Revolving Potluck. There is much enjoyment as we gather bi-monthly in groups of 10-12 and fellowship for an evening. Our nourishment is fulfilling--both spiritually and for our mortal bodies.

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE

Gail Leman — Susan Knapp

Touching young hearts in His wonderful way, the Lord has called two more souls into repentance. Janet Gude-man (Bro. Ralph and Sis. Carolyn) and Deb Dietrich (Bro. Bill and Sis. Sherri) having heard His loving call, submit their lives into His protecting hands.

We wish to congratulate our high school graduates, Jeff Leman (Bro. Dale and Sis. Mary), Peg Wettstein (Bro. Vernon and Sis. Judy), and Rob Dietrich (Bro. Bill and Sis. Sherri). We also wish to congratulate Sis. Joan Schrock (Bro. Steve and Sis. Gerri) who has graduated from Mennonite College of Nursing. As they travel along life's pathways, may the Lord ever be near to guide them each step of the way.

Our congregation would like to thank Bro. Uriel Gehring for sharing the slides on the Children's Home in Leo Saturday evening and then for sharing God's Word with us Sunday. May God bless him for his efforts of love.

Our special prayers went to several loved ones in our congregation who

were hospitalized. Bro. Merion and Sis. Esther Miller, Bro. Joe Schrock and Alex Rinckenberger (Bro. Jake and Sis. Glenna). We hope that the Lord's healing hand of care will be with them.

Looking forward to a life blessed with love together, Crystal McClure (Bro. Bob and Sis. Sharon) and Kent Remmert (Waldo Remmert) were joined together in heart and hand July 18. May God bless their union of marriage.

God be with you till we meet again;
When life's perils thick confound you,
Put His arms unfailing round you;
God be with you till we meet again.

J.E. Rankin

We truly miss Sis. Suellen Ott who, believing it to be God's will, has moved to Sarasota, FL. May our Lord be ever near to guide her and may she be a blessing in the Sarasota congregation as she was to us.

ILLINOIS, ELGIN
Elizabeth Schambach
Betty Bachtold

We're thankful for God's mercies and restoration upon our loved ones who recently had surgery. These include Shaena Schambach and her mother, Sis. Leann, Sisters Gertrude Kachelmuss and Marie Hugh, and Bro. Delbert Schmidt. Others who spent time in the hospital are Bro. William Banwart and his brother, Sam, who was visiting from Tucson, AZ, Gail Hallead, Harvey Schurter, Joni Schambach (Bro. Bob and Sis. Jeanne) and Bro. Gary Steffen.

Bro. Jim and Sis. Carlene Jepson happily welcome their first child, Eric James, born June 18. Grandparents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Millie Jepson (Elgin) and Bro. Larry and Sis. Carol Fehr (West Bend, IA).

Also first-time parents are Dean and Susan Schifferer as Zachariah Dean was born June 24. Bro. Howard and Sis. Pat Schifferer (Elgin) and Bob and Judy Chapman of Lombard are the happy grandparents.

On July 8, Alan Nathan was born and made the family of Bro. Chuck and Sis. Debbie Kellenberger rejoice. Little helpers include Bryan, David and Diana. Grandparents are Sis. Marilyn Kellenberger, and Bro. John and Sis. Wava Steffen.

Bro. Ken and Mary Lindoerfer are especially grateful to receive a new grandson as their daughter, Lynne, and

her husband, John Thelan, have adopted little Christopher Kenneth, born July 7. This happy family resides in LaJolla, CA.

May God bless each of these families.

We offer our sympathy to Bros. Earl and Gene Moser, and Sisters Lois Schock and Marie Hugh in the passing of their aunt, Sis. Caroline (Moser) Wiegand of Fairview Haven (Fairbury). We sympathize also with Caroline and Verena Wieland whose brother, Benjamin (Morton, IL) passed away July 2.

Magdalena and her two children from Mexico visited us July 5. Slides of the earthquake disaster were shown, and it was a blessing to see the restoration of their dwelling places. Magdalena told us how it encouraged the Mexican people when willing workers from the Apostolic Churches gave of their time and efforts.

Special thanks go to Bro. Earl Banwart (West Bend, IA) who visited our congregation and faithfully ministered God's precious Word to us this past month.

We anticipate our second annual Benefit Day at RestHaven Saturday, September 12, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Lunch will be served from 11:00 - 1:00 and everyone is welcome.

ILLINOIS, EUREKA
Kathy L. Rocke

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

Zion's Harp #237

Sis. Janine Wettstein and Bro. Kevin Rocke were united in holy matrimony June 21. Their parents are Harold and Loretta Wettstein and Bro. Norman and Sis. Doris Rocke. We wish them God's blessings as they make their home in the Chicago area and assemble with the brethren there.

We thank Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago) and Bros. Mike Rinckenberger and Vernon Wettstein (both of Congerville) for being with us on this important day and bringing the message of salvation.

Bro. Scott and Sis. Elaine Frank welcomed Lainey Suzanne June 21. Emily and Kate are happy for a new sister. Grandparents are Bro. Earl and Sis. Elsie Zimmerman and Elder Bro. Ed and Sis. Lea Frank (LaCrosse, IN).

May God bless this precious little family.

We rejoiced to hear the engagement announcement of Sis. Marlene Wettstein (Bro. Bob and Sis. Verna) and Bro. Chris Leman (Bro. Bruce and Sis. Marge, Roanoke). May God be with them as they make plans for a September wedding and their lives together.

Do not put off till tomorrow
Your repentance; come today!

Zion's Harp #52

We are thankful another soul has turned her back to the world, and answered God's tender call, "Follow me." May God grant sufficient grace to Ruth Zimmerman (Bro. Earl and Sis. Elsie) as she seeks her Lord in repentance. How we pray that many would take of the grace that He offers freely and make preparation for their never-dying soul.

We pray for our beloved elders as they gather together in Rockville, CT. May God's wisdom be granted to them as they meet to discuss and uphold our precious faith in these end times and may we be obedient to their guidance and warnings.

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY
Jean Bachtold — Crystal Fehr

We are thankful to Bro. Ben Manz (Junction, OH) for lending himself in God's service. May we always take these teachings and apply them to our individual lives.

May God's blessings rest on the newly married couple, Bro. Keith Steidinger (Bro. Maurice and Sis. Alma) and Sis. Kristine Bahler (Bro. Walt and Sis. Esther). They were united in holy matrimony in Remington, IN, June 28. The Fairbury congregation extends a warm welcome to Sis. Kristine.

Our annual Sunday school picnic was held at the fellowship hall June 28. We all enjoyed the hamburger fry.

JESUS LOVES
THE LITTLE CHILDREN

Jesus loves the little children,
All the children of the world;
Red and yellow, black and white,
They are precious in His sight;
Jesus loves the little children of the world.

Author Unknown

Surgery patients this month were

Sis. Dawn Huber (Bro. Richard) and Sis. Anna Lou VanAntwerp. May our heavenly Father heal, comfort and bless them according to His good and holy will.

Reminder: August is collection month for the Silver Lining in Fairbury.

ILLINOIS, FORREST

Sharon Adams — Patsy Stoller

We have been richly blessed by recent visits of many visiting ministers. Those who shared God's precious Word with us were Elder Bro. Sam Anliker (Lamont, KS), Bros. Merrill Laukhuf (Latty, OH), Kenneth Weerts and Ed Alt (Cissna Park), Willis Wiegand (Goodfield), Virgil Metzger (Chicago), Earl Kilgus (Remington, IN), Marvin Schmidgall and Walt Anliker (Eureka), Jim Plattner (Princeville), Bill Hodel (Roanoke), Gary Anliker (Elgin) and Ben Manz (Junction, OH). We thank each one for visiting us and ask God to bless them for their labors on our behalf and extend a welcome to all to come and visit us again.

Those who have spent time in the hospital are Bro. Emil Anliker (Sis. Louise), Sis. Gloria Drayer (Bro. Wayne), Bro. Rich Rieger (Sis. Marian), Doug Steffen (Bro. Rich and Sis. Lou Ida) and Marv Wenger (Rita). We miss our loved ones when they are absent from us and thank God for restoring health to them.

We extend our sympathy to Sis. Leona Steffen (Bro. Mel), Sis. Virginia Hilti, Sis. Caroline Butikofer (Elgin, IA), Sis. Edith and Benjamin Zimmerman (Morton), Bros. Paul and Wilbur (Forrest), Bro. Dave (Champaign), Lester (Quincy) and Joe (Colfax) who recently laid to rest their mother, Sis. Carrie Wiegand. We are thankful Sis. Carrie's wishes could be fulfilled and she could pass from this life into eternity so peacefully. May God comfort our loved ones.

Two lives were joined as one when Mary Schmidgall (Bro. Dave and Sis. Alma Jean) became the wife of John Tewell. We wish them God's blessings as they begin their new life together.

On June 28 our congregation gathered at the Forrest Park to enjoy our annual Sunday school picnic.

We wish to express our sincere appreciation to all for your prayers, kindness and love shown to us during the loss of our dear Mother. May God bless you.

Caroline Wiegand Family

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD Trish Gerber

It is hard to believe that summer will soon be over and our children will be off to school again. As we fill our shelves and freezers with fresh produce from our gardens, we are in awe once again of the generous blessings our Lord bestows on us.

It's such a wonderful feeling

To look on our shelves and find,
Beans, tomatoes and pie fillings
It is a joy sublime!

And when we sit down to the table
Piled high with fresh foods raised by us,
We can't thank enough, such a generous God;
He's given us so very much!

But even more precious than any of this
Is the dearest gift from God above;
Gathered 'round our table in joy and good health
Are the five special children we love.

Each one is unique and special
God sent them down one by one
For us to love and to nurture
And to teach them of Him and His Son.

They are each such "tender flowers".
We must handle them with great care.
We'll try to soften their "hard knocks" in life;
When they need us, we have to be there.

For all too soon, those chubby little arms
That 'round our hearts are entwined,
Will grow long and slender; they'll be on their own
So we must strengthen the "tie that binds".

We pray with God's help we can teach them,
Of His perfect and divine plan.
So that on that glad day, when His trumpet shall sound,
We'll all meet on that golden strand.

Our congregation was honored with the presence of several visiting ministers. They were Bros. Harold Schmidgall (Gridley, IL), Walter Herrmann (Princeville, IL), Marvin Stieglitz and Lynn Stieglitz (Leo, IN). May they and

their families be blessed for sharing God's Word with us.

We are happy to see that Sis. Susie Wyss and Sis. Hilda Leman are both recovering after their brief stays in the hospital.

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY Perry Klopfenstein

The uncertainty of life was made very vivid in our church and community with the sudden and unexpected passing of two dear brothers in faith from our congregation, Bro. Allen Marti, 55, and Bro. Harold Kaupp, 47. Bro. Allen expired July 3 while delivering a recreational vehicle in Alberton, MT. Bro. Harold succumbed while working in his garden the morning of July 4. Large visitations and funerals provided testimony of the community's affection for these brothers and should serve as an ongoing support for the wives and families left behind. Certainly, we rejoice that both men had made preparation for eternity while it was time and day of grace.

Bro. Harold is survived by his wife of 19 years, Sis. Wava. Also surviving are his parents, Bro. Walter and Sis. Esther Kaupp (Fairbury); four sons, Tony (Chenoa), Bro. Tim (Gridley), Troy and Trent at home; one daughter, Tiffney, at home; two brothers, Bro. Marvin (Gridley) and John (Eureka); two sisters, Evelyn Wright, (Susanville, CA) and Carolyn Yoder (Gridley); and five grandchildren. A son and a daughter preceded him in death.

Bro. Allen is survived by his wife of 33 years, Sis. Delores; and by his mother, Sis. Olive Marti (Eureka). Also surviving are four daughters, Donita Marti and Darleta Gramm (both of Gridley), Deanna Isaia (Roanoke) and Tena Jackson (Chesaning, MI); two sons, Les (Champaign) and Tim (Bloomington); five brothers, Edward, Bro. Dean, Donald and Ronald (Lamar, MO); and Bro. Charles (Liberal, MO); three sisters, Sis. Eunice Martin (East Peoria), Sis. Polly Schrock (Congerville) and Rosemary Degnan (Bloomington). His father, two brothers and one sister preceded him in death.

Despite the loss of these two dear brothers, our congregation has many reasons to rejoice. On Wednesday evening, July 1, three souls were added to the fold after giving their testimony and being baptized. They were Aline Stortz, Lulu Schlipf and her grand-

daughter, Carla Miller (Bro. Orlan and Sis. Carol). Elder Bro. Joe Braker (Morton) was here for this blessed occasion.

On Sunday, July 5, three more souls were baptized following testimony services the previous evening. They were Eric Zehr (Bro. Paul and Sis. Wilma), Becky Wettstein (Bro. Dave and Sis. Gloria) and Christa Gramm (Bro. Mike and Sis. Rosie). Elder Bro. Chuck Hemmer (Peoria) helped with this work.

It is our hope and continual prayer that many more souls can find their way out of the shackles of sin and darkness, and, by the Saviour's marvelous grace, find the humility to seek Him, and yield to Him in true repentance.

Sis. Matilda Alt was a hospital patient this month.

ILLINOIS, MORTON

Phyllis Farney — Marcia Kelley

Blessed fellowship was enjoyed by all who attended our annual Sunday school picnic which was held June 28 at the fellowship hall.

Benjamin Wieland was called into eternity and his funeral was July 4. We pray our heavenly Father will comfort and bless his family and friends.

Bro. Carl Vierling was called to his eternal rest. His funeral was July 6. Our hearts and prayers go out to his wife, Sis. Rose, his family and friends, and we hope they will take courage in God's promise to comfort them in their time of sorrow.

The family of Sis. Emma Herman would like to thank all who were so kind and thoughtful during the illness and death of their dear wife and mother.

We wish to welcome four more dear souls into the family of God. We heard their testimonies of faith July 11 and with joy witnessed their baptisms July 12. They are Lisa Peterson (Steve and Joyce), Lonnie Klein (Linda), Mark Moser (Bro. Bob and Sis. Barb) and Randy Schrock (Bro. Don and Sis. Lorna). We trust the Lord will continue to lead, guide and direct them as they walk life's narrow pathway.

This past month we enjoyed and were appreciative for the visits of the following ministering brothers and their families: Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen (Elgin, IL), Bros. David Eisenmann (North Fort Myers, FL), Greg Rassi (Chicago, IL), John Rowell (Burlington, IA), Jim Hoerr (Peoria, IL) and

Ron Heiniger (Bloomington-Normal, IL). We thank them for proclaiming the true Word.

ILLINOIS, PEORIA

Kathy Huthmann

Two homes have been blessed with bundles from heaven. Sis. Sallie and Bro. Todd Hoerr are the first-time parents of a new baby girl, Alyssa Rosa, born Friday, June 26. Grandparents are Bro. Louis and Sis. Vilas Belsley (Morton) and Bro. Wilbur and Sis. Eldora Hoerr.

Bro. Brian and Sis. Diane Hoerr (Lexington, KY) welcome a little girl, Katie Marie, born Saturday, May 16. Grandparents are William and Mary Lu Falls (Phoenix, AZ) and Bro. Wilbur and Sis. Eldora Hoerr. Katie Marie has a big brother, Andrew Charles.

"I thank all you dear people for your prayers, visits at the hospital, lovely cards and gifts. I deeply appreciate your love and kindness to me. I thank you every one."

Bro. Lester Bittner

We extend our sympathy to Bro. Joe Thomas as his mother, Helen Thomas, passed away recently. Our sympathy is also extended to our Sis. Anna Sutter as her husband, Bro. Clarence Sutter, passed away.

We thank Bro. Noah Herman (Tucson, AZ) and Bro. Duane Metzger (West Bend, IA) for visiting us and sharing God's holy Word with us.

Hospital patients this past month were John Woerner, Bro. Harlan Thomas and Sis. Emily Schumacher. May God grant them strength and good health, according to His will.

Many of us traveled to Remington, IN, June 28 to witness the wedding of Sis. Kristine Bahler and Bro. Keith Steidinger (Fairbury). We pray that they will keep Christ the center of their new life together and wish them God's richest blessings.

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE

Marjean Lehman

"This is a day of blessing and rejoicing; on gospel pastures Thou Thy flock art leading. From fountains clear and living water flowing, good fruits are growing." Visiting ministers this month were: Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott, IN), Elder Bro. David Bertsch (Leo, IN) and Bro. Howard Plattner (Wichita, KS). Special thanks go again to these brothers for lending themselves in our behalf.

"But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine:" Titus 2:1. On June 17, two new Sunday school teachers were appointed. They are Bro. Duane Elsasser and Bro. Keith Herrmann. Those brothers whose term is completed are Bro. Earl Feucht and Bro. Steve Streitmatter. May God bless the fruits of all their labors.

"... let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband." Ephesians 5:33. On June 21, Sis. Angie Knobloch and Bro. Doug Herrmann were united in marriage in Bradford. Parents are Bro. Marvin and Sis. Dianne Knobloch (Bradford) and Bro. Walt and Sis. Betty Lou Herrmann. On June 27, Terri Hulen and Jim Streitmatter were united in marriage at the fellowship hall. Jim is the son of Bro. Don and Sis. Mary Lou Streitmatter. May God's blessings be with both couples as they seek Him to guide their union.

"Now it is accomplished! My soul He hath healed; a portion in heaven to me He has sealed. O, may He direct me through joy and through ill; I'll never forsake Him, but follow Him still." Now It Is Done, Zion's Harp.

On June 27, we heard the testimony of faith of three dear souls. On June 28 we witness the baptism of Bro. David Berchtold, Bro. Brian Rumbold and Bro. Tim Rumbold. Parents are Bro. Lavern and Sis. Joan Berchtold and Bro. Ronnie and Sis. Jackie Rumbold. May these dear brothers walk close to the Lord each step along life's way.

Herb Schick was a hospital patient. Dennis Wagenbach had foot surgery. May they feel God's healing touch and blessings.

Sis. Renee Baurer (Bro. Ed and Sis. Carol) has been prompted by God's call to lend herself for God's service in Japan. Sis. Renee will be missed by our congregation, but we pray she will be a blessing to the brethren and children in Japan.

"The will of God will not lead us where the grace of God cannot keep us!"

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

Judy Luginbuhl — Marge Leman

On June 27, we gathered together to hear the testimonies of Kirk Hoffman (Bro. Tim and Sis. Jean) and Peggy Leman (Bro. Bruce and Sis. Marge). May they always feel God's boundless mercy, grace and strength.

We are thankful to the following ministers who shared God's Word with us. They were Bro. Everett Hari (Bloomington-Normal), Bro. Ed Aeschleman (Philadelphia, PA), Bro. Fred Knapp (Congerville) and Bro. Wes Knapp (Goodfield).

June 21 was a special day for Bro. Chris Leman and Sis. Marlene Wettstein (Eureka) as their engagement was made known. Their parents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Verna Wettstein and Bro. Bruce and Sis. Marge Leman.

What special news it is when we hear of dear ones turning to the Lord in repentance. Our prayers are with Karel Braker (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Michaleen), Nathan Hoffman (Bro. Tim and Sis. Jean) and Tami Zimmerman (Bro. Bob and Sis. Madlyn).

Those of our loved ones who have spent time in the hospital are Karen Presley and Wanda Edwards. May God grant them His healing power.

Our sympathy is extended to Bro. Rich and Sis. Deanna Isaia in the sudden passing of her father, Bro. Allen Marti (Gridley). May God's comforting nearness be felt by his loved ones.

We rejoice with our new sister-in-faith, Olivia Kempf, who found peace with God and was baptized. She is a resident at the Americana Nursing Home in Bloomington-Normal.

During this time of month our thoughts are with those attending the brotherhood conference. May God give our elder brothers much wisdom and grace as they strive to keep our faith pure and holy.

ILLINOIS, TREMONT

**Dorothy Wagenbach
Carolyn Bolliger**

June 20 was the wedding date of Sharon Bolliger and Royce Risinger. Parents of the couple are Sis. Alma Bolliger and the late Bro. Jay Bolliger and Harold and Sandy Risinger. We wish them much happiness and God's blessings.

We extend our sympathy to Bro. Herman Laidig in the death of his brother, Heinrich Laidig (Berg, Germany).

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

Vicki Bucher

Our hearts can be uplifted and encouraged each time we gather around God's Word. Our sincere thanks is extended to Elder Bro. Don Sauder

(Roanoke, IL) and Bros. Hartzell Kaiser (Detroit, MI) and Russell Wuthrich (Pulaski, IA) for sharing the Word with us. We are thankful that God has allowed Bro. Don to return safely from his trip to Hungary. He shared with us some of his experiences during his visit over there.

Summer vacation is almost at an end and soon our children will be consumed in the ever busy stream of school life again. Much preparation is necessary before that first day of school. We also need to daily prepare or ready ourselves for Jesus' return.

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

Galatians 6:7, 8

INDIANA, BLUFFTON

Lucille Isch — Becky Isch

We are taught from God's Word to rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep, Romans 12:15. This is how it has been the past month with two weddings and two funerals. Sis. Tonia Tonner (Bro. Bill and Sis. Diana) and Bro. Steve Price (Bro. Tom and Becky, Milford) were joined together as one June 21. Visiting ministers here for this happy occasion were Elder Bro. Jesse Beer and Bro. Walt Steffen.

On July 12, Sis. Connie Macklin (Carl and Betty) and Bro. Rodney Bucher (Bro. Nile and Sis. Phyllis, Bluffton North) were united in holy matrimony. We wish to thank Bro. Bob Meyer for sharing many good teachings on love and marriage.

Sis. Doris Reinhard, wife of Bro. Ezra, passed away at the age of 63. She had been ill the past 1½ years. Her children are Wayne, Bro. Jerry (Sis. Jodi), Mona and Tony. It was comforting to hear in the message 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.

Ill the past 7½ years, Bro. Henry Stoller, 83, passed away at Swiss Village. Surviving are his dear wife, Sis. Helen; a son, Bro. Ramon (Sis. Flossie); a daughter, Sis. Evelyn (Bro. Bob); eight grandchildren and fifteen great-grandchildren. Words from the hymn "Sunset" were beautifully sung. "The

burdens I've carried were heavy, I've prayed in the garden alone, But there'll be no crosses up yonder, It's sunset and I'm going home.

Engaged June 28 were Sis. Becky Baumgartner (Bro. Harry and Sis. Lula) and Bro. Rex Neuenschwander (Bro. William and Sis. Mildred). May the Lord guide them as they make their future plans.

Our loved ones who have been in the hospital are Kurt Reinhard (Bro. Larry and Sis. Debra), Sis. Emma Ringger, Marie Anderson (Clifton), Sis. Emma Steffen, Bro. Russell Moser (Sis. Dorothy), Bro. Russell Steffen (Sis. Alice), Sis. Lydia Kaehr, Sis. Amelia Baine and Sis. Marty Moser. "Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart." Psalms 27:14.

A special thanks goes to Bro. Vernon Wettstein (Congerville) and Bro. John Hartman (Fairbury) who ministered to us. Bro. John was here for the Fort Sam Reunion which was held at Bluffton July 18 and 19.

Their second daughter, Jami Rae, was born to Randy and Sis. Lisa Ringger July 17. Happy grandparents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Maxine Ringger and Bud and Crystal Bailey.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON NORTH

Sheri Leman

"If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you."

John 15:7

We were blessed with several visiting ministers this month and, as we had prayed, we were filled. We thank Elder Bro. Edwin Ringger (Gridley, IL), Bro. Roy Luginbuhl (Ft. Lauderdale, FL) and Bro. Ben Manz (Junction, OH) for being of service to our congregation. May they always feel welcome to return.

We offer best wishes and prayers for a happy marriage to Bro. Elmer Gerber and Sis. Henrietta Manz (Junction, OH) who were married June 7 and to Bro. Rod Bucher (Bro. Nile and Sis. (Phyllis) and Sis. Connie Macklin (Carl and Betty, Bluffton North) who were married July 12. We rejoice with them in God's plan for their lives.

Congratulations go out to brand-new parents, Bro. Dan and Sis. Lora (Meyer) Kieser, on the June 3 addition to their family, Jerod Michael. Bro. John and Sis. Carolyn Meyer, his Bluffton

North grandparents, share in their joy, too.

Best wishes are extended also to grandparents, Bro. Everett and Sis. Luella Schladenhauffen on their new granddaughter, Kara Anne (Mark and Sue), born July 6 and to Bro. Max and Sis. Eunice Steffen on their grandson, Isaac Daniel (Dan and Jane), born July 9.

On July 18 and 19 our Sunday school youth, grades nine through twelve, were encouraged to participate in Christian Endeavor hosted at Francesville. We want to thank all, here and at Francesville, whose efforts made this possible.

We'd also like to express appreciation for all those whose help and participation in the supper for widows, widowers and singles held July 5 allowed for a successful, edifying evening.

This past month Bro. Obed Gerber (Sis. Leona) has spent time in the hospital and convalescing at home. We send prayers for his return to good health and that we may all always be able to say, "It is well with my soul." (H. G. Stafford).

INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE

Lynne Wuethrich

The theme for our Vacation Bible School this year was: "Timeless Foundation". Laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life. I Timothy 6:19. Everyone enjoyed the blessings of an uplifting week June 22 - 26.

The topics discussed and ministers for each evening were as follows: Monday - Turmoils of the Times, Bro. Bob Pflederer (Morton, IL); Tuesday - Invitation From Satan, Elder Bro. Edwin Ringger (Gridley, IL); Wednesday - Man-Made Foundations, Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL); Thursday - End Times, Elder Bro. Lavoyd Moore (Athens, AL); and Friday - Salvation and the Solid Rock, Bro. Don Wagenbach (Washington, IL).

On the following Sunday evening, the children shared with us in a program all the teachings they learned during the Bible school week. We want to thank everyone who took part in this special week.

Joy Vogt (Bro. Ron and Sis. Dianne) is looking forward to being baptized as she can testify of peace in her heart. We ask God's continued blessings and direction in her life so she may remain

faithful until life's end.

Our hearts rejoice to know that Bro. Doug and Sis. Margaret Leman have a new baby boy. Thomas Michael was born July 10 and will be welcomed home by his sister, Tanessa, and brothers, Philip, Bart and Alex. Happy grandparents are Frank and Ruth Tanner (Medaryville) and Bro. Sid and Sis. Fern Leman (Francesville).

Our heartfelt thanks go to our visiting ministers, Bro. Ken Wuethrich (Indianapolis) and Bro. Neal Widmer (Wolcott). We thank them for their willingness to minister God's Word unto us this month.

INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS

Kathy Freed — Gail Bradford

We continue to be thankful for our many visitors and the ministering brothers who shared God's Word with us! This month we listened to messages from Bros. Bob Meyer (Bluffton North), Uriel Gehring (Leo), David Wiegand (Champaign, IL), Merrill Laukhuf (Latty, OH) and Elder Bro. David Bertsch (Leo).

Warren and Kay Rauhe and their 3 children have moved to new work in the Ann Arbor area. We will miss them! Cole Meyer (Bro. Greg and Sis. Bev Meyer) spent time in the hospital and is now doing well at home.

We rejoice that Dennis and Cathy Neuenschwander have found peace. How thankful we are that the door of grace is still open and souls still hear the Lord's call!

In an afternoon program, we heard and watched students share their experiences, songs and projects learned during Vacation Bible School "Growing God's Way in the Sunshine Patch."

When we think of idol worshippers, what image do we see? Perhaps we see Athenians, calling on so many gods, they even named one, "The Unknown". Perhaps we see the Israelites, fashioning the golden calf when Moses was away. Perhaps we see forgotten tribes in a tropical land, bowing to carved images. But do we ever see ourselves?

What would you call a game that keeps you away from church on Sunday morning? What would you call a job that brings you home late every night? What would you call the car that you went too deep into debt to buy? What would you call the pastime that keeps you from calling a friend or hugging your child?

The Word helps us identify the idols

of today and tells us they can overtake our lives and keep us separated from God.

"Take heed to yourselves, that your heart be not deceived, and ye turn aside, and serve other gods, and worship them."

Deuteronomy 16:22

INDIANA, LACROSSE

Sandy Heinold

We rejoice with the angels in heaven that a precious lamb has been added to the fold. On June 28, we welcomed Karen Nuest (Bro. Elvin and Sis. Janet) as a sister-in-the-Lord and are thankful that she chose to seek the Lord in her days of youth. It was a joy to have Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville, IN) here to share the weekend with us and may God bless his labors.

Bro. Dan Stoller (Remington, IN) was our other visiting minister this month. We appreciate his willingness to visit us and teach us in ways of truth and righteousness.

On July 4, the engagement of Bro. Lee Nuest (Bro. Gene and Sis. Norma) and Sis. Paula Perl (Latty, OH) was announced. We wish them many blessings as together they look to God to direct their lives. They are both presently employed in Fort Wayne. A September 20 wedding is planned.

INDIANA, LEO

Thelma Schlatter

"It was Sunday morning at the breakfast table, and my host asked Mrs. Host, meaning his wife, if she was going to church. And I thought that was funny (if that's the right word); strange is better maybe, or tragic, or unfortunate. I couldn't see why it should be a matter for debate because she was in good health and they were members of the church. Your children don't ask if they are going to school today. They know they are if they aren't sick (or can't make you think they are). I was wondering why going to church isn't taken for granted. How many fires would get put out if only the chief got there, and the volunteers came when they felt like it?"

(Silent Evangelist)

Our young people enjoyed Christian Endeavor at Francesville, reporting a good day.

Bro. John and Sis. Linda Klopfen-

stein and family were blessed by the arrival of a dear baby girl, Kami Jo. Her grandparents are Bro. Curtis and Sis. Jeanette Tonner (Bluffton) and Bro. William and Sis. Nancy Klopfenstein.

Sis. Julia Simon was a hospital patient recently. Loved ones are remembering her in prayer.

Bro. Kevin Knapp (Bloomington, IL) developed the challenging Bible topic, "Personal Accountability to God" on a Saturday evening and ministered on Sunday which was also appreciated. We thank him and those who accompanied him.

Bro. Kent Ringger (Bluffton) devoted an evening of Bible study for men only. Grandpas to young men attended, reported a very worthwhile time, and were grateful for this special opportunity.

Bits of This and That:

Always do right. This will gratify some people and astonish the rest. —

— Mark Twain

If the deal isn't good for the other party, it isn't good for you.

The measure of real character is what we would do if we knew no one would ever find out.

Your character is what God knows you to be. Your reputation is what others think you are. — Apples of Gold
"If our primary concern were fishing for men as it was with Jesus and the early Christians, then our times of fellowship would be more significant."

If relationship with God is right, other relationships will be good.

You may whitewash yourself but only God can wash you white!

May our prayer support be with the elder brethren as they gather at the Rockville, CT, church for the annual conference.

INDIANA, MILFORD

Sue Schieler — Marguerite Hoerr

We were saddened to lose another member of our congregation, but we know he is in his heavenly home. Bro. Theodore Brooks went to be with the Lord July 8. He was a resident of Lakeland Loving Care in Milford. Prior to moving there, he and his wife, Inez (who went to be with the Lord three years ago), lived with their family in the house nearest to our church home. They moved their family to Milford from Alabama and have been part of the Milford church for 35 years. Elder

Bro. Jesse Beer conducted the services. Bro. "Ted's" sons, Ted, James, Robert and Kenneth all live in our Milford community. His daughter, Mrs. Scott (Susan) Crist and her family live in Gettysburg, OH. There are eight grandchildren. We extend our loving sympathy to his family.

Communion services were observed Saturday evening, June 27. Assisting our Elder Bro. Jesse Beer in serving this holy rite was Bro. Ed Schwartz (Bluffton).

Visiting ministers this past month were Bro. Carroll Gerber (Bluffton North) and Bro. Tom Hoffman (Roanoke). We trust they felt the welcome in our hearts as they visited with us.

It was full joy to have Bro. Dale and Sis. Carol Strassheim and their family "back home again in Indiana" for a short period of time. Their absence has been keenly felt in our church home since their move to the Minneapolis, MN, area.

INDIANA, REMINGTON

Beth Virkler — Susan Getz

A dear old Christian woman, distinguished for her youthful appearance, was asked what she used to preserve her appearance. She replied sweetly, "I use for the lips, truth; for the voice, prayer; for the eyes, pity; for the hand, charity; for the figure, uprightness; and for the heart, love."

J. Fleishman

Our Christian brother, Odell Pitman, 66, passed away June 26 while gaining victory of being true to the end. Bro. Odell spent the last several weeks of his life in the hospital while struggling with bone cancer and one of the nurses who tenderly cared for him observed his quiet manner and commented, "I believe that Jesus is in your heart as you are able to face death so calmly." Surviving with his wife, Sis. Marjorie, is a son, Larry (Brownsburg, IN) and a daughter, Linda Pherson (Monticello, IN). Bro. Dave Eisenmann (North Ft. Myers, FL), a close friend of Bro. Odell, was with us to conduct the funeral services.

On June 28, a full assembly room witnessed the wedding vows of Sis. Kristine Bahler (Bro. Walt and Sis. Esther) and Bro. Keith Steidinger (Bro. Maurice and Sis. Alma, Fairbury, IL). Elder Bro. Art Bahler and Bro. Duane Kilgus shared the day with us.

They will be setting up a home in Fairbury, IL.

Bro. Andy Stoller (Smithville, OH) ministered to our congregation July 5.

On Saturday afternoon, July 11, it was discovered that a section of the ceiling in our assembly room had fallen down. Presently we are meeting for church in our fellowship hall and many words of thankfulness have been expressed that this didn't happen during a church service.

INDIANA, SOUTH BEND

Jill Lehman — Annie Meyer

Visiting ministers this month were Bros. Todd Feller (LaCrosse, IN) and Art Baurer (Princeville, IL). We are sincerely thankful for those who come and share the day with us. May God richly bless them.

Those hospitalized this past month were Sis. Mae Schumacher, Sis. Ernestine Meister and Nerys Lightner. We pray for God's healing hand upon them.

On July 10, Kyle Andrew Lehman was a welcome addition to the home of Bro. Don and Sis. Jill Lehman and brother, Ben. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Wayne and Sis. Shirley Lehman and Cathy Kantorowski (South Bend, IN) and Jack Myers (Hemet, CA).

INDIANA, VALPARAISO

Trish Bucher — Peg Huber

"The just man walketh in his integrity: his children are blessed after him."

Proverbs 20:7

As we commemorated Father's Day, may the memories be a constant reminder of the sacrifice our heavenly Father made in sending His Son for our salvation and may we appreciate the blessing of earthly fathers who have put their faith and trust in Him and have set examples for us who come after them.

Our prayers go out to Bro. Eric Aeschliman and Sis. Norma as Sis. Norma is in the hospital. May God's tender healing bring her a speedy recovery.

We give thanks to Bro. Chris Huber (Francesville) and Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL) for sharing God's Word with us this month.

"... These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation." Acts 16:17

INDIANA, WOLCOTT**Lorene Furrer — Elaine Bahler**

We were blessed to have Bro. Jon Schmidgall (Oakville, IA) minister the Word to us. May the Lord bless him for his efforts.

Funeral services were held June 23 for Maude Farney (Tucson, AZ). She was a sister-in-law of Sis. Josephine Farney and Sis. Grace Stoller (Bro. Walter). We extend our sympathy to the family.

IOWA, BURLINGTON**Karen Schulz — Dixie Messner**

Many gathered together for our annual Sunday school picnic. It is always a blessing when we can gather together as one big family and enjoy God's love flowing through each and every heart.

Our sympathy is extended to the family of Sis. Marjoria Siegle who passed away. We especially want to remember Sis. Marjoria's sisters, Sis. Leola Heiniger, Sis. Betty Baker, Sis. Marty Buehler and Sis. Esther Peterson of our congregation.

We are so thankful that God continues to bless our congregation with additions. Randy and Sis. Juanita Gerst and their children, Jesse, Becky and Mandy, are assembling with us. We want to welcome them to our growing congregation.

We recently selected new Sunday school teachers. They are Bro. Henry Beyer and Sis. Carolyn Massner. We wish them God's grace as they teach these young and tender hearts. A special thank you is expressed to those who have served in the past.

This past month we have had several visiting ministers. They were Bro. Dave Eisenmann (North Ft. Myers, FL), Bro. Uriel Gehring (Leo) and Elder Bro. Ed Lanz and Bro. John Steiner (Oakville). We want to thank them for sharing the Word of Life with us and also give special thanks to our home ministers for being willing to be used in the Lord's service each time we gather together.

Our ministering Bro. Harvey Heiniger had an accident. We are thankful he wasn't hurt too bad and is again assembling with us.

**IOWA, ELGIN
Gloria Frieden**

How pleasant thus to dwell below,
in fellowship of love,

And though we part, 'tis bliss to know
the good shall meet above;

Yes happy tho't when we are free
from earthly grief and pain,
In heaven we shall each other see
and never part again;

We wish to extend our sympathy to Sis. Caroline Butikofer (Bro. Lawrence) in the death of her mother, Sis. Carrie Wiegand (Forrest, IL). How thankful we are that Sis. Carrie had made preparation and was ready to meet her maker.

While we appreciate so much our home ministers, it's an added blessing when visiting ministers come to spend some time with us and share with us the Word of God. Our thanks goes to Bro. LeRoy Messner (Winthrop, MN), our visiting minister this past month.

IOWA, IOWA CITY**Bonita Frank**

This past Sunday in a sermon we were reminded that God hasn't promised us an easy road, perhaps, but He has promised to always be near us and help us. So, if we do His will, even if it is against our will, and the way is thorny and steep, He will ever be there, holding our hand, having encouraging words for us. Is it not during these "rough times" in our lives that we remember feeling His closeness the best? When the rest of humanity is unable to help us, He is especially close and lovingly cares for us.

We sincerely thank our visiting ministers this month. They were Bro. Leonard Meyer (Chicago, IL), Bro. Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL), Bro. Marvin Leman (Bradford, IL) and Bro. Fred Domka (Mansfield, OH).

IOWA, LESTER**Kathy Metzger — Mary Knobloch**

God has richly supplied our spiritual needs by sending visiting ministers our way. On June 21, Bro. Virgil Metzger (Chicago, IL) Bro. Carl Wyss (Washington, IL) and Bro. Russell Wuthrich (Pulaski) ministered to us. The following Sunday, June 28, Bro. Roger Aberle (Sabetha, KS) was among us and on July 5 Bro. John Steiner (Oakville), Bro. Charles Sauder (Tremont, IL), Bro. Nelson Beer (Milford, IN), Bro. Duane Metzger (West Bend, IA), Bro. Max Reimschisel (Wichita, KS), Bro. Kent Mogler (Minneapolis, MN), Bro. Dean Messner (Winthrop, MN)

and Bro. Ben Wysong (Sabetha, KS) fed us from God's Word. Not only do we appreciate an edifice to worship in and a family of God to worship with, but more importantly the words of our Lord and Savior to live by. Through the lips of His servants, we are fed and our thirst is quenched by wells of living water that shall never run dry.

We are thankful, too, for many brethren who attended the Fort Sam Reunion and the single's group visitors from Congerville, IL, Sabetha and Bern, KS, and Morris and Minneapolis, MN. Fellowship with His brothers and sisters is only a foretaste of greater joys that await us in eternity.

On June 28, a son, Todd Silas, was born to Bro. Donn and Sis. Joyce Moser. Maternal grandparents are Bro. Silas and Sis. Edith Knobloch. Paternal grandparents are Bro. Jake and Sis. Donna Metzger. Daniel Lee arrived June 21 to Bro. Henry and Sis. Charlene Messner. Maternal grandparents are Bro. Martin and Sis. Zelma Knobloch and paternal grandparents are Bro. Frank and Sis. Gladys Messner (Morris, MN). May God richly bless these dear families as they lean upon God for parental guidance and direction in rearing their children.

Surgical patients were Sis. Dolores Metzger (Bro. Gene) and Sis. Emily Leuthold (Bro. Art). Medical patients were Jessica Moser (Bro. Wes and Sis. Esther), Jim Cunningham, Sis. Sue Knobloch (Bro. August and Sis. Florence), Bro. Jake Metzger and Bro. Emil Knobloch. When we hear the news that illness came upon a dear one, our hearts are heavy and we often wonder "why". God has promised that He will never leave nor forsake us so we pray that each one afflicted with a disease or healing process can find much comfort in this promise. May God bless and encourage even those whose physical and emotional burdens are unknown to man.

Our deepest sympathy and our love is shared with Sis. Deb Metzger (Bro. Tom) and her family as they mourn the death of her father, Marvin Kramer. May our heavenly Father comfort their saddened hearts and may memories of their loved one bring peace in the days ahead.

Soon our elder brothers will gather in the interest of our precious faith and we humbly offer prayers in their behalf. May we each one prayerfully consider our duty in upholding the faith that

God directed through faithful brethren so many years ago.

IOWA, OAKVILLE
Debbie Wagenbach

We have recently laid to rest two dear loved ones. Sis. Marjoria Siegle passed away June 17. Sis. Marjoria had been suffering from great bodily afflictions and we know that even though parting is so hard on this earth, her family can be comforted to know that she is without pain in heaven. We extend our deepest sympathy to Sis. Marjoria's family; her husband, Bro. Ernie; son, Bro. Robert; and sisters, Sisters Esther Peterson, Martha Buehler, Leola Heiniger, Betty Baker and Liberty Gerst. Bro. Joe Eberhardt, Sr. passed away in July. Bro. Joe had lived a long life for the Lord and we sympathize with his family in their loss. Sis. Emma is Bro. Joe's widow and also surviving is his son, Bro. Joe, Jr. May God grant a reassuring peace to the families of our departed loved ones.

We have three new births to report in Oakville. Bro. Curt and Sis. Kathy Frank have a new little boy, Travis Edward. Ryan, Christie, Lanae and Aaron can be glad for a new little brother. Bro. Ernie and Sis. Bernice Frank and Elder Bro. Ed and Sis. Joan Lanz are the happy grandparents. Bro. Colin and Sis. Barb Wagenbach are the happy parents of their first little girl, Alicen Faye. Big brother, Reilly, welcomes home his little sister along with grandparents, Bro. Paul and Sis. Dorothy Wagenbach and Sis. Hilda Gerst (late Bro. Carl). Bro. Monte and Sis. Kelli Lanz are first-time parents of a little boy, Orrin Ryan. Bro. Robert and Sis. Emma Jean Lanz and Marvin and Dorothy Austin are little Orrin's grandparents. May God grant wisdom to our young couples raising children in these evil days.

We are happy for Bro. Mark Larson and Sis. Rosemary Eisenmann (Latty, OH) on their engagement. They are planning their wedding for Labor Day weekend. May they seek God's direction as they plan their lives together.

IOWA, PULASKI

Mary Jane Knapp — Sarah Teubel
Pulaski had a truly blessed weekend July 11 and 12. We had many young couples visit us from various churches. We received many blessings from all of the friendships that we made.

There's a tie of noble kinship
In a soul who loves the Lord,
There's a friendship warm and lasting
If he heeds the Master's Word,
There is mutual understanding
And a sympathy so kind,
In the tie of Christian friendship,
As on earth we oft times find.

Hymns of Zion #91

We look forward to the testimony and baptism of our dear friend Sue Ann Shaer (Elmer and Mildred Holy-cross, Floris).

"... Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

Matthew 4:17

IOWA, WEST BEND

Polly Zaugg — Phyllis Banwart

We are so thankful for brethren who are willing to share God's love and teachings with us. Elder Bro. Gene Marti (Lamar, MO), Bro. James Plattner (Princeville, IL), Elder Bro. Harold Messner (Winthrop, MN), Bros. Dean Messner and Elmer Schmidt (Winthrop, MN), Bro. Dale Moore (Elgin, IA) and Bro. Leroy Messner (Winthrop, MN) were our visitors the past month.

Bro. Pat and Sis. Julie Zaugg were blessed with a precious baby, Kurt Ray, born July 10. He is welcomed home by Elizabeth, Karen, Sarah and John. Grandparents are Bro. Oscar and Sis. Frances Zaugg and Sis. Louise Anliker. We pray God will help them to teach and nurture their children in God's ways.

We enjoyed many young adults the June 14 weekend for Youth Fellowship. Morris, Winthrop and Minneapolis, MN, Lester and Elgin, IA, were represented.

Some of our loved ones who have spent some time in the hospital are Bro. Jerry Schmidt, Bro. Nathan Mogler and Sis. Louisa Zaugg.

Craig Banwart (Bro. Vic and Sis. Marilyn) and Tina Miller (Lannie and Charlene) announced their engagement and approaching marriage, August 29. On June 28, Bro. Verner Wirtz and Sis. Betty Schmidt also made known their engagement. May the Lord bless these two couples as they plan for their future together.

In Loving Memory of Ray Anliker:

SAFELY HOME

I am home in Heaven, dear ones;

Oh, so happy and so bright!
There is perfect joy and beauty
In this everlasting light.

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

Did you wonder I so calmly
Trode the valley of the shade?
Oh! but Jesus' love illumined
Every dark and fearful glade.

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

Then you must not grieve so sorely,
For I love you dearly still:
Try to look beyond earth's shadows,
Pray to trust our Father's will.

There is work still waiting for you,
So you must not idly stand;
Do it now, while life remaineth —
You shall rest in Jesus' land.

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

Author Unknown

Louise Anliker,
Pat and Julie Zaugg & family,
Kevin Anliker

JAPAN, SHIODA
Kathy Kieser

We are thankful for the assurance that our God is a never-changing solid rock. No matter what the outward circumstances may be, our inward peace endures based on God's many promises. "Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, and today, and forever." (Hebrews 13:8) is particularly meaningful to us now as we experience many changes.

Sis. Sheila Moser and Bro. Randy Mogler plan to return to the States after three years of service here in Japan. May God bless them richly for all that they have done in His name and go with them through each step in life. They will certainly be missed by many whose lives have been touched by their Christian love and friendship.

We welcome Sis. Renee Baurer (Princeville, IL) as our new kindergarten teacher to replace Sis. Sheila. May God bless Sis. Renee for her

willingness to offer her talents for His glory. "Give and it shall be given unto you." (Luke 6:38). May He provide for her and her family and friends while they are apart.

After completing a two-year teaching term, Sis. Kathy Kieser plans to return to the States for a month before returning to Japan for a third year of teaching. Yukiko Moria, a 20-year-old college woman, plans to travel with her. She has been attending church services in Shioda for over a year. We pray for her, that God will continue to work in her heart and draw her to Him.

Hiroki Satoyoshi, a 13-year-old boy, also plans to travel with them. Bro. Jim and Sis. Marlene Plattner (Princeville, IL) welcome him as part of their family for a month. Hiroki attended our church kindergarten and has continued to study English at our English School. Because of his continued exposure to Bible stories, he believes in the living God. We ask you to join us in praying for him, that his trip to Illinois, an area of many Christians, may touch his heart as he observes the powerful Spirit of God manifested in the lives of the believers. We pray that he may continue to be among the few who believe in Jesus Christ in Japan, and that he may someday commit his life to God.

Bro. Tibor Ga'l from our Budapest, Hungary, church visited Japan. Sis. Vicki Ramseyer (Bay City, MI) arrived here in June and plans to stay until mid-August. We are thankful for our refreshing, inspiring visitors.

JAPAN, TOKYO

Frank and Kathy Sauder

"Make a joyful noise to the Lord all ye lands."

Psalms 100:1

This past month, Bro. Tibor Gal from Hungary visited us. His gift of music was used by God to touch the lives of the unbelievers and to strengthen the believers. What a blessing to enjoy fellowship as believers from three continents of the world (Asia, Europe and America). Although outwardly we are different people, more importantly, inwardly we are the same, for ". . . we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture." Psalms 100:3.

"Serve the Lord with gladness." Psalms 100:2. For three years, Bro. Randy Mogler and Sis. Sheila Moser

faithfully served our Lord in Japan. Sunday, July 5, was their last time to worship with us in the Tokyo Church before returning to America. Bro. Randy spent much time in fellowship and reaching out to the families of the Tokyo Church. Sis. Sheila's fellowship was appreciated here on the third Sunday of each month when she traveled from Shioda to be with us. We are thankful to God for their service and pray that God will bless them in America. We will miss them greatly.

KANSAS, BERN Lori Baumgartner Shirley Strahm

Our prayer is that God's healing hand may touch those who have had sickness or injury. Hospitalized this past month were Matt Meyer (Bro. Robert and Sis. Janet) and Sis. Lila Rokey (Bro. Joe). Also hospitalized was Sis. Lucy Rokey (Bro. Roy) for a broken hip. "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." Psalms 46:1.

We extend our sympathy to Bro. Pete Esslinger at the passing of his brother, Lester Esslinger. May Bro. Pete feel God's comfort and love.

OVERHEARD IN AN ORCHARD

Said the Robin to the Sparrow,
"I should really like to know
Why these anxious human beings
Rush about and worry so."
Said the Sparrow to the Robin,
"Friend, I think that it must be
That they have no Heavenly Father
Such as cares for you and me."

Elizabeth Cheney

We do have a heavenly Father who cares for us. WHY do we rush about and worry so?

KANSAS, FORT SCOTT Teresa Bahr

Precious little Kimberly Sue was born to Tom and Jan Byler June 4. Bro. Harold and Sis. Wanda Kraft are happy grandparents.

Hospital patients recently were Nicole C. Smith (Joyce Sinn) and Sis. Ella Banwart. We're thankful both are on the road to recovery.

KANSAS, KIOWA Janice Bahr — Darcy Kisling

Oh, for the peace of a perfect trust,

My loving God, in thee;
Unwavering faith, that never doubts
Thou chooseth best for me!
But, though my plans be all upset;
Best, though the way be rough;
Best, though my earthly store be scant;
In Thee I have enough.
Best, though my health and strength be gone;
Though weary days be mine,
Shut out from much that others have;
Not my will, Lord, but Thine!
Oh, for the peace of a perfect trust
That looks away from all;
That sees Thy hand in everything;
In great events or small!

Author Unknown

This beautiful poem seemed so perfect for our part of the country lately: The freeze on the wheat, the damaging winds and storms, the losses of loved ones and failing health of others. It sometimes seems like there is so much to face, and yet, if we could just have that perfect trust, our burdens would be so much lighter. If we think it over for a moment, God's never failed us; we've never gone without. He's always provided at just the moment our need was greatest. His hand "is" in everything and all we need is the faith to lay our burdens at His feet and in doing so, say "Thy will be done"! Then forget it and praise His name! He will take care of everything; we just have to let Him with perfect trust.

We are very thankful that Sis. Edna Reed and Sis. Dorothy Brown are home again after their hospital stays, and we hope John Farney, who underwent back surgery will also be home soon. We know they have all suffered a great deal of pain, and pray that God will be ever near in their suffering.

Soon, vacation will be over and school will again have precedence in our lives and that of our children. May we every day hold them up on the wings of prayer that God may guide, direct and keep them in His loving care as they leave us to face a world that might try to lead them where we would rather they would not go. As the Word says in St. Matthew 21:22, "And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive."

KANSAS, LAMONT Mary Isch

"The earth is the Lord's, and the

fulness thereof; the world and they that dwelleth therein.”

Psalms 24:1

IT'S A WONDERFUL WORLD

In spite of the fact we complain and lament
And view this old world with much discontent,
Deploring conditions and grumbling because
There's so much injustice and so many flaws,
It's a wonderful world and it's people like you
Who make it that way by the things that they do —
For a warm, ready smile or a kind, thoughtful deed,
Or a hand outstretched in an hour of need
Can change our whole outlook and make the world bright
Where a minute before just nothing seemed right —
It's a wonderful world and it always will be
If we keep our eyes open and focused to see
The wonderful things man is capable of
When he opens his heart to God and His love.

Helen Steiner Rice

Bro. Bernie Emch has been a medical patient in the hospital.

August is Lamont's collection month for the Silver Lining.

KANSAS, SABETHA

Nita Grimm — Charleen Hartter

A rather vivid story about the stark reality of nature was related by a visitor to Niagara Falls. As the observer looked down into the roaring chasm, he glanced up the river and saw what appeared to be a large bird on one of the many chunks of ice floating rapidly toward the falls. As the piece of ice carrying the bird came nearer, the man noticed that it was a huge eagle feeding on a dead sheep. Evidently the lamb had tried to go out on the ice to get a drink of water, and the ice broke off. In the zero temperature, with water splashing over the small iceberg, the sheep froze to death. As the man watched, the eagle continued to feed on the animal until the ice carrying it was only a few hundred feet from the roaring cataract. The eagle was in no great hurry to leave off from stuffing itself, because, with

one giant sweep of its wings, it could lift up and fly away even as the carcass of the sheep plunged over the falls. About a hundred feet from the edge, the eagle decided to leave a certain margin for safety, and it spread its powerful wings to fly away. As the visitor turned to look once again at the awesome spectacle below, his ears were pierced by the eagle's terrified scream. The poor creature had waited too long. The water spray had iced its feet to the fleece of the sheep, and it plunged to destruction.

This tragic, but true, story of nature has a vital application for the world today. Many people know that a catastrophe of world proportions is approaching. They also know that the only way of escape is by receiving Jesus Christ, the only Saviour from sin. Yet they linger over the delights of this rotting world system, and put off the most important and far reaching decision they will ever make.

(Dr. David Weber and
N. W. Hutchings)

This story reminds me of the parable of the seed sown among thorns. Jesus said these seeds were they who heard the word but the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entered in and choked the word. (Luke 4:19) May we prayerfully and humbly do as we were exhorted in a recent sermon from II Corinthians 13:5: "Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves."

Bro. Mark Bahr (Detroit, MI) visited us, bringing the Word of truth. We pray that God will strengthen our ministering brethren in these last days to reprove, rebuke and exhort that we may be kept spotless from sin.

As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth. Psalms 127:4. Doug and Sue Plattner, along with big sister, Asha, welcomed Broc Koltun June 30. Clayton and Marian Strahm (Bern, KS) and Bro. Henry and Sis. Loree Plattner are the grandparents.

Renee Marie arrived July 13 into the family of Bro. Kevin and Sis. Nita Grimm and son, Ryan. Grandparents are Otto and Eleanor Baer (Princeville, IL) and Bro. Nathan and Sis. Lois Grimm.

Clemens and Sis. Marjorie Edelman announced the engagement of their daughter, Jana, to Todd Gruber (Mor-

rill, KS). They will be joined as husband and wife August 1. We pray that they may seek the grace of God to establish a strong and joyous union.

KANSAS, WICHITA

Emma Miller

Sunday, June 28, was a special day for Bro. Howard and Sis. Ann Warner. Their children honored them with a family reunion and reception to recognize several special events in their lives, including Howard and Ann's forty-fifth wedding anniversary and Bro. Howard's retirement from Cessna Aircraft in Hutchinson.

Bro. Harvey Farney was hospitalized in late June. After undergoing tests, Bro. Harvey is able to resume his normal duties.

Bro. Max and Sis. Judy Reimschisel and daughters, Jodi, Annie, Jenny and Shawnda had a unique opportunity to witness for the grassroots-American-family concept. They spent two and a half weeks hosting Carol Martin from Scotland in their home. Carol, a member of Young Farmers, the Scottish equivalent to 4-H, is spending her time in the United States with various host families. A potluck supper was held for Carol at the church so she could experience a variety of culinary delights. Carol showed slides of her beautiful homeland. In the discussion that followed, she expressed surprise and delight at the warm, friendly reception she has received in our country and relief for not finding the violence she expected to find. Those of us who met her were impressed by her poise, respect and reverence.

MICHIGAN, ALTO

Juanita Gerst

We are thankful that another soul has felt God's call and heeded. Our prayers are with Carolyn Berry as she begins her new life.

Alto has a new addition to be thankful for. Bro. Tom and Sis. Joan Schrenk have felt it is the Lord's will that they adopt a daughter. The special girl is Melea. Melea was originally from India. We pray that she will enjoy her new home and church.

There is a new addition in the Kellenberger home also. Bro. Randy and Sis. Karen and sons, Brent, Galen and Neal welcome little Scott Edward into their home.

"Thus United and in Concord . . ."
Zion's Harp #237

On July 12 we were happy to witness the wedding of Bro. Dale Wieland (Bro. Lawrence and Sis. Lena, Bay City, MI) to our Sis. Carol Schlatter (Bro. Otto and Sis. Pat, Alto, MI). We wish them God's richest blessings as they make their house a home in Bay City.

We have had several visiting ministers this past month and would like to thank them for lending themselves to us. They were Elder Bro. Phil Stettner (Bluffton North, IN), Bro. Marvin Stieglitz and Bro. Lynn Stieglitz (Leo, IN), Elder Bro. Lavoyd Moore (Athens, AL) and Elder Bro. Andy Virkler and Bro. Jim Ramseyer (Bay City, MI). May God bless them for their efforts.

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY
Pam Schlatter

The clock of life is wound but once,
 And no man has the power
 To tell just where the hands will stop—
 At late or early hour.

The present only is our own;
 Live, love, toil with a will.
 Place no faith in tomorrow,
 For the clock may then be still.

Author Unknown

The hands of life's clock have been stilled for several of our loved ones. Sis. Eula Maibach, Wayne Meylan (son of Sis. Anna) and Bro. Paul Waibel (Sis. Esther) have all met their appointment with death. We pray for God's consoling hand on those that grieve their passing.

We were privileged to have Bro. Don Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN) and Bro. Hartzell Kaisner (Detroit) share the Word with us. May God grant an increase to their labor of love.

July 12 marked the wedding of Bro. Dale Wieland (Bro. Lawrence and Sis. Lena) and Sis. Carol Schlatter (Bro. Ott and Sis. Pat, Alto). We welcome Sis. Carol to our congregation and wish them God's guiding hand in their marriage.

We pray for God's direction in Rob Wardynski's life as he begins the conversion process. May God gently teach him precept upon precept, line upon line, here a little and there a little. (Isaiah 28:10)

MICHIGAN, DETROIT
Donna Hartzler

"One thing have I desired of the

Lord, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to enquire in his temple."

We rejoice that souls are still seeking their salvation. Kim Flannery and Kenneth Martin (Bro. Kaywin and Sis. Karen) have made known their desire to repent and allow the Lord Jesus to reign in their lives.

On Sunday, July 5, we bid farewell to Sis. Jackie Barton (Bro. Jim and Sis. Vi). Our prayer is that God will bless Sis. Jackie as she adjusts to her new surroundings at the Home for the Handicapped at Morton, IL.

The Detroit Sunday school hosted the Bible classes from Alto, Bay City and Toledo, OH, the weekend of July 18 and 19. We appreciate all the efforts put forth to make the weekend an enjoyable one with an opportunity to learn more of what our main purpose in life should be, to serve our Lord and Creator. We especially appreciate the efforts of Bro. Ted Witzig (Morton, IL) for ministering to us and speaking to the Bible classes.

Construction on Apostolic Christian Woodhaven is nearing completion. We feel so blessed to see the evidence of God adding His increase to our efforts. We are also very thankful for all the volunteer support we have had over the past weeks. We are especially grateful to Bro. Jim Hoerr and his crew from Peoria for bringing truck loads of gorgeous landscaping materials and for providing direction and assistance with the planting thereof.

Our survey for licensure is currently scheduled for August 10, 1987, and Lord willing, we hope to open August 17, 1987.

We deeply appreciate those of you who have prayed for God's blessings on this project and we urge you to continue praying.

We invite anyone interested in seeing the Home to come for a visit. Anyone who would like a brochure can receive one by writing to Apostolic Woodhaven, 29667 Wentworth Avenue, Livonia, MI 48154-3256 or by calling (313) 261-9000.

MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS
Barbara Olson

GOD'S LOVE

There's a wideness in God's mercy

Like the wideness of the sea;
 There's a kindness in His justice,
 Which is more than liberty.
 There is no place where earth sorrows
 Are more felt than up in heaven:
 There is no place where earth's failings
 Have such kind judgment given.
 For the love of God is broader
 Than the measures of man's mind.
 And the heart of the Eternal
 Is most wonderfully kind.
 But we make His love too narrow
 By false limits of our own;
 And we magnify His strictness
 With a zeal He will not own.
 If our love were but more simple.
 We should take Him at His word.
 And our lives would be all sunshine
 In the sweetness of our Lord.

Faber

We want to thank Elder Bro. Perry Zimmerman (Forrest, IL) for sharing with us this month. May the Lord richly reward him for his efforts.

Congratulations are extended to Bro. Perry and Sis. Carol Virkler on the arrival of their first grandchild, Nicole Ashley, born June 16 to their son and his wife, Eric and Bridget Virkler (Lakewood, CO). Maternal grandparents are Jerry Morris (Denver, CO) and Sandy Morris (Lakewood, CO). Great-grandparents are Elmer and Vivian Virkler (Eagle River, WI).

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Doug and Connie Bergstrom and their family on the unexpected death of Doug's mother, Hazel Bergstrom. Our thoughts and prayers are truly with them.

Thought — God loves everyone as though there were but one of us to love!

MINNESOTA, MORRIS

Ruth Nohl — Hildegard Koehl

We were privileged to have Elder Bro. Sam Huber (Sabetha, KS), Elder Bro. Leo Moser (Lester, IA), Bro. Elmer Schmidt (Winthrop, MN), Bro. Ken Lawson (Minneapolis, MN), Bro. Ken Wuethrich (Indianapolis, IN), Bro. Nathan Stoller (Bradford, IL) and Bro. Fred Domka (Mansfield, OH) minister unto us this month. May the Lord richly bless them for their efforts on our behalf.

Sis. Clara Miller was a hospital patient this month. We trust the Lord will grant full recovery unto her.

June 20 was the wedding day of Penny Fehr (Bro. LeRoy and Sis. Judy) and Terry Meirding. We wish them

many blessings from this day forward.

Our Bible classes enjoyed a blessing at the Sunday school fellowship weekend at West Bend, IA. We would like to thank everyone for the time, efforts and prayers that went into the planning.

MINNESOTA, WINTHROP

**Wanda Messner
Ella Mae Schmidt**

We thank God and our ministering brothers, who are so willing to give of themselves, not only in their home congregation, but also as they travel. We should be so grateful that they do not take a vacation from the cross given them as we take vacations from our work.

July 12, Bro. Albert Aberle (Tremont, IL) and Bro. Don Miller (Minneapolis), along with their wives and family, visited our congregation. May our heavenly Father be their rewarder for lending themselves in His service.

JOY

There's no joy on earth
Quite so precious to me,
And my heart has no greater reward
Than the wonderful joy
That comes into my heart
When I go to the house of the Lord.

Catherine Plumb

We appreciate our brethren who serve so faithfully within the offices of our church. We thank Bro. Marlyn Messner for accepting the position of Sunday school superintendent. Our Sunday school will resume August 2. Our special prayers are for the teachers and song leaders as they plant the Word of God in the tender hearts of our dear children, our church of tomorrow.

MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY

Linda Ziegenhorn

Joel Geran (Carolyn and Mike Geran) was hit by a car. We are so thankful that his only injuries were lots of bruises and scrapes and a fractured clavicle.

We thank God that we were able to witness the baptisms of Don and Eileen Braker and their daughter, Sheri.

It was truly a blessed day. We were honored to have many visitors, including Elder Bros. Raymond Banwart (Ft. Scott, KS) and Joe Braker (Morton, IL) who assisted with the services.

MISSOURI, LAMAR

Janice Stoller — Carol Braker

Another month has passed so quickly, and with it has come both joy and sadness.

We are happy for Troy Luthi (Bro. Ray and Sis. Marilyn) and Vanessa Zartman as they plan to be married July 18 and begin their lives together. We wish them God's blessings in their marriage.

Sis. Marie Banwart was a hospital patient this month but is now able to assemble with us once again.

We extend our sympathy to the family of Bro. Charles Marti in the passing of his brother, Bro. Allen, and also to Kathy and Kevin Marti in the passing of her father. May God give His comfort and grace.

MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS

Loren and Betsy Schrenk

Services in St. Louis August 16 will be held at Henry VIII Hotel in the Crown Room, directly across Lindbergh from our usual meeting site of the Ben Franklin Motel. Singing begins at 10:15 a.m.

Starting in September we will be having services in St. Louis three Sundays each month — the first, third and fourth Sundays. Our group of residents is growing. We extend a warm welcome to Sis. Joyce Martin (Princeville, IL) who began a career here in July following graduation from the University of Illinois. We wish her God's blessing and protection in this new phase of her life.

Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville, IN) and Bro. Don Wagenbach (Washington, IL) were our ministers in July. How we appreciate their willingness to come. We have enjoyed having so many visitors this summer.

We were reminded of the necessity of each generation "passing on the torch" of Christianity to the next generation. How tragic it is for each broken link in the chain! It can mean the loss of a family's children, grandchildren and the future generations. How essential for us all to be converted, so we in turn can bring up our children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord (Ephesians 6:4).

Address Changed . . .
Give Old and New Address
to Your Reporter

MISSOURI, TAYLOR

Loida Hodel — Lori Marquart

TOUCH THE BEAUTY

Reach out and touch the beauty of a lovely summer day . . . breathe in the fragrance of the flowers and fields of new-cut hay . . . look all around you and you'll see God's handiwork so fair . . . and when you do, you'll feel just like a happy millionaire . . . for money cannot buy this wealth of beauty that you see . . . for God so loved us that He made it all for you and me . . . so, when you touch the beauty that surrounds you every day, your soul will be refreshed, and you'll go singing on your way.

Dorothy E. Smith

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

II Timothy 4:2

A big "thank you" goes to Bro. Edwin Bahler (Remington, IN) for the God-inspired message brought to us June 23. A sermon is not any argument; a sermon is a piece of bread.

In the tiny petal of a tiny flower that grew from a tiny pod . . . Is the miracle and the mystery of All Creation and God!

Helen Steiner Rice

Three "little miracles" are part of our news this month. Ashley and Diane Augspurg are parents of their first baby, Casey Marie, born June 28; Bro. Rusty and Sis. Amy Adrian had their second child and first son, Adam, born June 30; and Bro. Scott and Sis. Anna Hoerr of the San Diego, CA, congregation, welcomed their first baby, Ashley Nicole, born July 12. Grandparents of Casey Marie are Gene and Irene Riney and Bro. Robert and Sis. Em Hoerr are grandparents of Adam and Ashley. Sis. Rose is the great-grandma to these three little ones plus Steve and Marsha Riney's little girl, who was born May 16, and announced in last month's news. May God bless and direct these young parents to "train up their children in the way they should go: and when they are old, they will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6.

We all enjoyed our children's Vacation Bible School projects and songs along with the regular annual Sunday school picnic and program June 28. It's a special treat to see and hear the

progress from the pre-schoolers up through the Bible class and we sincerely appreciate being able to sit back for a few short minutes to be entertained with songs, such as "Jesus Paid It All," etc. We thank all who had a part in the busy week of preparation.

Gary Butikofer, who, with his wife and children from Red Lake, Ontario, are visiting his parents, Edward and Winona Butikofer, and grandmother, Sis. Marie Butikofer, was a hospital-medical patient. At this time he is recovering satisfactorily. Jason Stratton (Bro. Mike and Sis. Cheryl) had "oral surgery" and is also on the mend.

Little five-year-old Sandra has found a home with foster family, Bro. Don, Sis. Elaine, Stacy, Lisa and John Hoerr. Hopefully the time spent together will be a blessing to all involved. "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to His purpose." Romans 8:28.

Olav Skinnes of Norway, along with his wife and daughter, is visiting with Gene and Irene Riney and family. Olav was a foreign exchange student several years ago and at that time spent a year with the Riney's. May God bless their happy reunion.

Wednesday evening, July 15, will have a special memory for many of us who gathered near our present "Little White Church on the Levee", joined hands to form a line around the sanctuary of our proposed new church building while each participated in the "ground breaking" ceremony of the project. May the symbol of unity be foremost in each and everyone's minds and may God bless the efforts of all who are part of this — a great challenge with lots of work involved.

"Whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him."

Colossians 3:17

NEW JERSEY, UNION CITY Heidi Haerr

Our little congregation is grateful and thankful for visits from the ministering brothers and their families who travelled many miles to worship with us. They included Elder Bro. Bob Walder (Congerville, IL), Bro. Jim Leman (Roanoke, IL), Elder Bro. Corbin Bahler and Bros. Lee Bahler and Everett Gerber (Rockville, CT).

In addition, we would like to express a warm and sincere welcome to Sis. Sally Dotterer who will be moving to our area at the end of August. Each addition to our tiny congregation is an answer to prayer in our efforts to maintain an active fellowship in the New York metropolitan area. The additional support provided by even one individual makes a significant difference to a church which has an average attendance on Sunday of 20 people. We are thankful to be gaining another supporter for our group.

NEW YORK, CROGHAN Alice Virkler

Bro. Jim and Sis. Marlene Ramseyer (Bay City, MI) spent Sunday, June 28, with us. We are thankful to them for their visits and the teachings we received from God's Word.

Bro. Ed Graf has been transferred from his work in Massena to Ohio. We will surely miss Bro. Ed, Sis. Deb and little Ryan in our congregation and wish them well in this new move in their life.

On Monday evening, June 29, our Sunday school children and families enjoyed a wiener roast at Happy Hollow Campgrounds.

John, Mattie and Crystal Farney have welcomed a new son and playmate into their hearts and family. Jacob Andrew was born June 21. Grandparents are Bro. Niles and Sis. Polly Farney and Sherwood and Joan Zehr.

OHIO, AKRON Joyce Gasser

Hyssop, an unusual plant with important qualities, springs out of the wall. I Kings 4:33. Hyssop was used by the Israelites in Egypt to dip in the blood of the slain lamb and strike the lintel and the two side posts. Hyssop was used to offer a bitter drink to Jesus on the cross. Hyssop was used at times of blood sacrifice, because it is a watery plant. When they would sprinkle or strike it against anything, water came out! So, each time it was dipped in blood and sprinkled on something, there came out water and blood. From Jesus' side, forthwith came out water and blood. "This is he that came by water and blood, even Jesus Christ..." I John 5:6. When Jesus died, His blood was shed for sin. But, Jesus rose from the dead to give us life. The water is the Word, or Life. Jesus said He came to

give us life more abundantly. As hyssop was used in the past, through Jesus, we can sprinkle the blood as forgiveness for our sins, and sprinkle the Word to guide all our steps for life more abundantly.

Sis. Juliet Graf had out-patient surgery and is doing very well. She moved into an apartment by the nursing home, and her new address is: 10710 Steiner Road, Rittman, OH 44270.

We thank our visiting ministers, Bro. Roy Luginbuhl, Bro. Gary Maibach and Bro. Glenn Riggerbach.

OHIO, LATTY

Patty Gerber — Marlene Reinhard

Magdalena Botollo, a special friend to our brotherhood and especially to Bro. Tim Reinhard during his stay in Mexico City, visited our congregation and shared slides of her homeland. We were pleased to see the accomplishments of our brethren as they labored together in love for our Lord.

Two ministers who are very dear to our hearts again visited us. Bro. Arthur Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN) visited on Father's Day and Bro. Dan Stoller (Remington, IN) was with us for the Fourth of July weekend. We are glad for the family ties that keep bringing these brothers back to their second "home church".

Father's Day also brought with it the engagement announcement of Sis. Paula Perl to Bro. Lee Nuest (LaCrosse, IN). Also planning for a September wedding is Sis. Rosemary Eisenmann (Bro. Lee and Sis. Mary) and Bro. Mark Larson (Oakville, IA). We ask the Lord's guidance as these couples prepare for marriage and life as one.

Hospital patients this month were Sis. Sadie Riggerbach and Bro. Ken Laukhuf (Sis. Marge). We trust the Lord's presence is felt even nearer when illness slows our lives down.

We extend our sympathy to Sis. June Rager (Bro. Roy) and her family in the loss of her father, Homer Price. May the peace of God comfort them in their grief.

OHIO, MANSFIELD Linda Morrison

Bro. Byron Rice (Sis. Sarah) has been in the hospital. Our prayers support him as we trust God to bless him and keep him, knowing God will not lay on us more than we can bear.

The Sunday school picnic was held

Sunday, July 12, at the home of Sis. Catherine Morrison. God blessed us with a beautiful, sunny day. "Oh, God is good; Oh, God is good, God is good to me!" May our lives praise God for His goodness and trust His goodness to carry us through our trials.

On Sunday, July 19, we enjoyed the ministry of Bro. Doug Sabo (Sarasota, FL). As God has promised a seed time and harvest time, so with His Word may our ministering brothers be encouraged to know there is a seed time and by faithfulness and prayerful support of all there shall be a harvest of souls.

OHIO, RITTMAN

Diane Gasser — Judy Stoller

Word of Life, the fountain flowing
Purely from the throne above,
Life and strength to him imparting,
Who accepts the Word in love.

Zion's Harp #176

We appreciate the visiting ministers who brought us teachings from the Word of Life. May God bless Elder Bros. Eugene Pamer (Akron, OH) and Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI) and Bros. Homer Reineck (Toledo, OH), Ray Sinn (Latty, OH), Harold Emch (Girard, OH), Paul Gasser (Akron, OH), Bill Brake (Sardis, OH), Fred Knapp (Congerville, IL) and Ernest Graf (Akron, OH).

Bro. Glen Rufener (Sis. Myrle) and Sis. Beverly Babin (Bro. Emanuel and Sis. Helen) were united in holy matrimony June 28. We trust God will bestow His richest blessings on this union.

On July 11 we listened to the testimonies of six dear friends and witnessed their baptisms the following day. Our new brothers and sisters-in-faith are Sis. Clara Jenkins, Sis. Alice Greenbank (Ken, Smithville), Bro. Ron Pertee (Mr. and Mrs. Everett Pertee), Bro. Heinz Zierau (Tanya), Bro. Jonathan Hartzler (Bro. Vince and Sis. Jane) and Bro. Roscoe Hilty (Sis. Ruth). We are thankful to Elder Bro. Eugene Pamer for assisting our Elder Bro. Joe Ramsier and Bro. Henry Dotterer in this important work for the Lord. It was truly an inspiring and blessed weekend. May God's grace and guidance ever abide with these six souls.

Frank Weber passed from this earthly life June 27. We will miss Frank and extend our sympathy to his wife, Sis.

Marjorie; son, Myron; brothers, Bro. Ralph, Alton, Merle, Edsel, Roger; sister, Mrs. Grace DeVoe; and two grandchildren.

Those in need of hospitalization this past month were Troy Stoller (Bro. Rob and Sis. Joanne), Bro. Dave Maletich (Sis. Mary), Sis. Neva Gasser (Bro. Bob), Sis. Elizabeth Musser, Craig Saurer (Dan and Sis. Brenda) and Joshua Calame (Sis. Jody and Bro. John). May God's healing touch continue to restore health and strength to those who suffer.

The engagement of Jim Bauman (Sis. Marie) and Joy Mueller (Mr. and Mrs. William Mueller) was made known. May God direct them as they make plans for their marriage and future together.

July 19 was the wedding day of Bro. Dan Stoller (Bro. Don and Sis. Luzelda, Smithville) and Sis. Kim Blough (Bro. Joe and Sis. Lucille). May God's blessings rest upon this union and may His presence ever be felt in their home.

OHIO, SARDIS

Alice Ramsier

The weekend of June 27 and 28 we had our annual West Virginia services. Brothers, sisters and friends from far and near gathered with us Saturday night as we worshipped together for the first time in our new church building. Bro. Wallace Ramsier (Mansfield, OH) reminded us of our rich heritage as he ministered to us Saturday evening. Sunday the Lord blessed us with a beautiful day at the old West Virginia church. In the morning we sang praises to God, and in the afternoon visiting Bro. Don Manz (Junction, OH) brought us the Word.

Also, this past month we had a surprise visit from Bro. Edward Aeschleman (Philadelphia, PA). We thank him for spending a Wednesday evening with us.

July 16 was the evening we gathered to listen to the reading of the memorandum. Elder Bro. Gene Pamer (Akron, OH) and Elder Bro. Joe Ramsier (Rittman, OH) shared this task, giving us many words of encouragement from the letter and the Bible. We pray the Lord will bless them for their efforts.

OHIO, SMITHVILLE

Ann Maibach — Verla Stoller

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.

Zion's Harp #41

We were privileged to gather together with our Rittman brethren July 11 and 12 to hear the testimonies of six precious souls and then witness their baptisms. One of the six, Sis. Alice Greenbank (Ken) has been coming to Smithville and we were thankful she was able to be with the others as they all were brought into the flock and fold. We wish them all God's grace and blessings as they walk this narrow pathway of life close to Him.

We are thankful for ministering brothers who bring us sacred teachings from God's holy Word. Visiting us this past month were Elder Bro. Ben Maibach and Bro. Bruce Leman. May God bless them for their willingness to serve us.

Little Nathan Elias was welcomed into the hearts and home of Bro. Ken and Sis. Becky Zollinger. Laurie, Timothy and Jonathan are excited to have a new brother. Happy grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Marge Zollinger and Bro. Eli and Sis. Evelyn Manz (Junction, OH).

Hospitalized this month was Sis. Terri Stoller. We are thankful she is able to assemble with us again and pray that God will give her renewed strength and courage.

OHIO, TOLEDO

**Frances Laidig
Josephine Rehkla**

Today is the important day in our life. Yesterday is gone, never to return, and tomorrow is surrounded by many uncertainties. The most important thing is living today. We should take this precious gift and make the most of it. Open the book of life and write a new page. Make today a good day. If we did not fully trust God yesterday, we can do it today. Jesus is familiar with life and He said, "Take therefore no thought for the morrow; for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof." St. Matthew 6:34.

When we take time to be still and receive God's wisdom, we learn to trust our entire life to His guidance. We are often disturbed by the many plans we make for ourselves. Let us ask Him, through prayer, what His plans are for

us. This can be a helpful and uplifting discovery. Let us, with the help of God, learn to live one day at a time and be happy in it. In this way He can help to lay aside our fears concerning the future.

Elder Bros. Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI) and Andrew Virkler (Bay City, MI) spent a Sunday with us in July. We thank them for this service of love.

We regret that Sis. Carma Stoller will be leaving us. She has accepted the opportunity to work near her home in Latty, OH. May God bless her in her new duties.

OREGON, SILVERTON

Rosa Lee Kuenzi

A farewell singing and potluck supper was held for Bro. Gus and Sis. Dorothy Dietrich and children, Rosy, Sam and Amy. It was a hot Sunday afternoon but the shade offered by the grove of fir trees in Bro. Jim and Sis. Joan Dietrich's back yard was a very pleasant setting. This dear family will certainly be missed in our small congregation but we truly hope and pray that God will bless them, each one, as they relocate in the Junction, OH, area.

Our best wishes to the new Mr. and Mrs. Barry Bolliger who were united in marriage July 5. Barry is the son of Bro. Ben and Sis. Carolyn and his bride, Lisa, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Jepson (Keizer, OR). They will be making their first home at Oak Harbor, WA, where Barry is serving in the U.S. Navy.

We gladly welcome two young brothers to our area: Bro. Herb Leman (Bro. Jim and Sis. Myra, Roanoke, IL) and Bro. Matt Edelman (Bro. Fred and Sis. Joanne, Bern, KS). Both have found employment and are a welcome addition to our congregation and to the growing Portland/Silverton Young Group.

"This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." These words no doubt astonished the bystanders at Jesus' baptism in the waters of the Jordan River. It almost astonishes us to think, as we were recently reminded, that if we are truly Christ-like children of God, our Father in heaven could say these same words about us. That gives us much work to do especially when we consider the alternative . . . What if He could not say these words?? We thank God for His true ministers who have brought us many good teachings this past month. May God richly reward

Elder Bro. Leroy Huber (Eureka, IL), ministering Bro. Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH) and our own dear Elder Bro. Leo Moser (Lester, IA). Our heartfelt thanks to them and to each one of you dear brethren who remember us in your prayers.

PENNSYLVANIA, PHILADELPHIA

Jerry Isch

Our congregation welcomes Bro. Brad Geyer who transferred here from San Diego, CA. We welcome him and appreciate his presence, wishing him God's blessings as he lives here.

Through wisdom is a house builded; and by understanding it is established: (Proverbs 24:3). We are thankful that Ed and Connie Baer have purchased a house in our area, establishing roots. May the Lord guide them as they establish their new home. They welcome visitors.

Four dear brothers, Elder Bros. Robert Beyer (Naumburg, NY), Bob Walder (Congerville, IL) and Bros. Leland Hirschey (Naumburg, NY) and Duane Farney (Croghan, NY) served us in the ministry. May God bless them for their labors of love.

WEST VIRGINIA, NEW MARTINSVILLE

Minnie Weltz

Frnd Edward Barth, 89, of Rosemar Road, Parkersburg, WV, died Saturday, July 4, in the New Martinsville Health Care Center where he had been a patient for two years. He was born on Limestone Ridge July 19, 1897, a son of John Edward and Emma Riggenbach Barth. He was preceded in death by his wife, Blance Powell Barth in 1976; a son, Ernest; and a daughter, Norma Jean; and two sisters. Surviving are two sons, Raymond E. (New Martinsville) and Dale (Parkersburg); two daughters, Mrs. Charles (Jane) Nancarrow (Parkersburg) and Mrs. Donald (Patt) Hanna (New Martinsville); four sisters, Minnie Weltz, Elda Ritz, Lillie Wade (New Martinsville) and Mrs. Ray (Carrie) Williams (Akron, OH); 15 grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews. He was an employee of Ohio River Sand and Gravel Company of New Martinsville and the Atlass Towing Company in Parkersburg. Friends were received at the Grisell Funeral Home where services were held July 6 with interment in Green Lawn Memorial Park.

Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Williams and daughter, Norma (Akron, OH), visited recently with the Barth families.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Indermuhle and sons (Sardis, OH) visited with relatives July 12.

Mary Ann Brothers is recovering nicely from injuries she received in a fall from her mother's arm May 10. She wore a cast for six weeks and made several trips to the hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. William Murdock visited recently with their son in Bixby, OK.

At this time our weather is very pleasant and we have had several good rains.

SILVER THREADS

TODAY IS A GIFT

Today is a gift;
A package filled with time,
Beauty, and love.
Inside are thousands of seconds
Waiting to be shared
With family, friends,
Co-workers, one's self.

Today is a gift
Filled with sunshine,
Smiles from strangers
Tears of goodbye, and
Touches of love.

Today is a gift freely given
To you and to me
With no conditions,
Only that we cherish
And use it well.

Unknown - Ideals

Sermon . . .

(Continued from Page 28)

they are ravening wolves. (Matthew 7:15).

"Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world." I John 4:4. I believe so often we fail to recognize and realize the power of God. We have a tendency to go back into the old ruts that we were once drawn out of by God Almighty. Because the Word says that we are not going to be tempted except when we are drawn away of our own lust. (James 1:14). Why is it a temptation? Because we are not feeding the Spirit as we should and grow weak.

A physical body cannot live, gain strength and survive if we don't keep feeding and nourishing it as it grows into maturity. For a babe, we start with the milk. It says in the Scripture, that a babe in Christ will feed on the milk. (I Peter 2:2). But, dearly beloved, as we grow, we should partake not only of milk, but of the meat of the Word. We are weak and poor spiritual beings if we do not get to the point that we can partake of the meat of the Word of God.

That is why we are here, dearly beloved. We can never get too strong in Christ, but we must watch that we do not go ahead of Christ. Christ says, "Follow Me." He doesn't say, "Go ahead." He says, "Follow Me." Those to whom He spoke were willing to drop everything they had and follow the Saviour. They were dedicated soldiers of the cross, determined to do nothing but serve Jesus Christ and satisfy the Lord. That should be your obligation, and mine also.

There are so many times that the blessings of God seem to flow in so freely that I believe we forget to feed our Spirit as we should. Think of all who are battling in foreign countries where they cannot assemble together.

Just a short time ago, over the media, it was said that the powers of this world today are going to try to stop large assemblies of worship. They are going to try to tax religious organizations to the point that they cannot afford. What is that telling you? What is that telling me? What do the last prophecies in Revelation of this Scripture say? They are saying that the one world government could soon be here. If I err not, about fifty some nations have already signed up in support of it.

We are told in the last prophecies of this Scripture that the time is going to come, when believers are going to be martyred. It wouldn't surprise me if some of us would see that time. I believe these credit cards that we are using are leading to the mark of the beast. Watch them, do a little checking and see what is happening.

Do you think the Lord is warning us just to spend our time and fill our ears. No. With the evil that is taking place and the morals of humans today, I can't see how God can tolerate this earth much longer. The love of God is very great, but I believe His creation is trying Him just a little too far. God tells us that these times are going to come.

He says that there will not come an end until there is a falling away. (II Thessalonians 2:3).

I think it is time that we look into the Word of God, get serious with reading, meditating upon the Word, and praying. We are not only, as a child of God, obligated to pray for ourself, but we are obligated to pray for the rulers, the government and for sinners. We have the opportunity and the power because God says there is power in prayer. He tells Christians, "Pray at all times." (I Thessalonians 5:17). He doesn't say just pray once in a while or when you have time.

We must remember the riches of this world are fallible and going to waste away. Job said, "Naked I came into this world, and naked am I going to go." (Job 1:21). What you have attained in your heart, the treasures that you have laid up in heaven are what you will reap. If you have no treasure in heaven, you are going to taste the pangs of hell, and there is no escape.

Sometimes, it seems that the warnings are very severe. I'm just thankful that the Lord doesn't leave anything out. He doesn't "flower" it. He doesn't camouflage it with "frosting". He tells it as it is. It seems that human beings don't want to believe it. He says that there are going to be those who are not going to taste of it until they witness it, and then it is going to be too late. Do you see how precious the soul of a child of God is? Shouldn't we take care of it? Shouldn't we feed it? Shouldn't we protect it with the armour of God, and the shield of faith?

"We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error. Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God." I John 4:6, 7.

What is love? Love of God is a deep, lasting love. God said to visit the widows, widowers and those who are troubled. He said to weep with those who weep and rejoice with those who rejoice. In other words, place yourself in their shoes and walk with them. Help them along life's pathway.

If we love someone, we are going to do everything we can for them, aren't we? Do you love those who are sitting beside you? Do you love those whom you can see? We should. The Word of God says to love your enemies. (Luke

6:27). It's rather difficult for a human mind and heart to do that, isn't it? That is a commandment of God. He doesn't say, "I wish you would." He says, "Love them."

What about those who have strayed from the narrow way? James says to love them, help them and if you bring an erring soul back to Christ, then you "cover a multitude of sins." So you see a child of God has so much to do. We don't have any time to lose or squander whatsoever. We are to be busy in the Lord.

"He that loveth not knoweth not God: for God is love. In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him. Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another." I John 4:8-11.

God sent the Example. The Example that He sent us taught us and ministered the Word of God. We are to look to Him, and to Him only.

"Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God. And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him. Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world." I John 4:15-17.

Isn't that wonderful? If we have the love of God in us, then we are going to have boldness at the judgment. We are not going to fear. Love casteth out fear. See what the Lord has done for us!

Doesn't it give you new courage to go onward in the week to come. If the Lord allows us to live, we, with joy in Christ, can go and face the battles and fight against the devil? He is powerful, but we can overcome. Jesus Christ proved it. Many of the disciples proved it.

There was a brother in this assembly who has gone to rest many years ago. I understand the last words he said were, "I never knew it was so beautiful." That has remained with me. I believe often God gives a soul a foretaste before they leave to confess with their mouth the joys of heaven to encourage us who still tread this pathway of life.

Let's never minimize the beauties of heaven, and use every effort to do our duty as a servant of Jesus Christ.

FEB 02602 LK
CHARLES WALDER
EAST LYNN IL 60932

SERMON BY BRO. E. HARTZELL KAISNER OF DETROIT, MI

The Love of God

Text: I John 4

Have you ever stopped and considered how important this heart is? This heart is the central or main station of our life, and also of our Spiritual man. If our "heart" is not in Christ, we are dead in the Spirit, and there is no Spiritual life. It is so important that we watch with careful eye what we feed this "heart" of ours by the thoughts we entertain in our life.

We read here, "Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world. Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God." I John 4:1, 2.

There are many false prophets in this life. There are many spirits that are traveling to and fro. I believe we are all encountering them, and we are tempted to "toy" with them. Whether we want to admit it or not, I believe we do to a certain extent. Many of these persuasive spirits have a tendency to appear to make the spiritual pathway easier.

Can it be easier? If we are fully in Christ and dedicated as the apostles and disciples were to do the will of God, we are going to be able to prove the spirits and we are not going to "toy" with the spirits so freely offered today.

It is human nature to take the easy route on anything. Water takes the easy route. It's going to go the way of least resistance. So is the tendency of man. But what does God say in His Word? He says, "Steep and thorny is the way." (Proverbs 15:19, 22:5). We have to climb pretty hard sometimes, and sometimes those thorns trying to persuade us to go some other direction are pretty sharp.

Dearly beloved, we are acquainted with the Great Physician, the Builder of our soul, the Builder of the Temple of God, and He has laid out the direc-

tions and specifications that we are to follow in order to fill our place in that Temple. Don't forget, dearly beloved, God has called us, and when He called us He had a place in that Temple for us to fill.

He says, "You be the clay. You be submissive. Don't be contrary. Don't be stubborn." He says, "You submit yourself and let Me take you and mold you to fit and fill that place that I have for you in that Temple." It is up to us to surrender to God, let Him take us and say, "Lord, here I am. Do with me whatever You see necessary. Take me and mold me."

I have prayed to God many times, "Lord, if there is anything that separates me from Thee, reveal it to me." I don't want to be found short. Then some may say, "You are a minister. You stand and preach the Word." What are you? If you are a child of God, you are a minister of God's Word. Don't forget that! We are going to be held accountable if we have neglected to minister the Word of God. That's why God sends us out in this world. Your pathway goes one way and mine goes another. He brings us to the assemblies. He takes you to the Word of God in your own home. I do not believe that there is one who does not have from one to three, four or five Bibles in their home. God is giving us the opportunity to purchase the oil for our lamps. Let's make sure that we are not going to be as the five foolish virgins in the Parables of the Ten Virgins. Those five had a chance to purchase the oil, but did not. When the bridegroom came, they found out that they were short.

The Word of God says to make sure that you don't only think you have salvation. We are to look into the mirror of the Word of God, and let it reflect on ourselves. Not on others, but on

ourselves to see how we stand before God. Dearly beloved, let's let that Word reflect. Let's let the mirror of God's Word show us. The Word warns those who stand before the mirror, look into the mirror, then turn around and go away and forget what kind of a man they were. (James 1:22, 23). If we have that attitude as we look into the mirror of God's Word, I am afraid we are going to find ourselves standing on sinking sand, and we are going to lose our soul. (Matthew 7:26, 27).

John said, "... many false prophets are gone out into the world." I John 4:1. How many types of persecutions do we face? The devil had made it very easy for us to tune into almost any kind of conversation we want to hear. The devil is working against the Spirit of God. They absolutely cannot mix, as oil and water cannot mix. God has enlightened us who have been reconciled and found peace with Him, that we can prove the spirits and know them. He said, "Stand as a watchman upon the wall. Watch your heart. Control your thoughts." You can't help it if a bird flies over your head, but you can certainly make sure it doesn't build a nest there. We are to get rid of those thoughts, that are not building up the Spiritual man.

"And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of anti-Christ, whereof ye have heard that it should come: and even now already is it in the world." I John 4:3. Also, as we read, the true Spirit confesses that Jesus Christ is of God. But, dearly beloved, to confess Jesus Christ we have to be in Him, don't we? We have to do the works of God. Otherwise, we are as a hypocrite. The Word says that there will be those that will come in sheep's clothing, but inwardly

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