



"The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise."

Proverbs 11:30

"And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh."

Jude 23

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Have You Checked Your Fields?

It's time again for the fall harvest. Many farmers have watched their crops and have kept a close eye on them as they ripen. But what about the fields around us? How deep is our concern for the crop that is "ripening" right into eternity? The "fields of the world" are ripe for harvest. Let's remember that this crop isn't headed for storage, but faces eternity in heaven or hell! In the light of scripture, have you checked your fields?

"Therefore said he unto them, The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth laborers into his harvest."

Luke 10:2

"For though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more . . . I am made all things unto men, that I might by all means save some."

I Corinthians 9:19, 22

"And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness, as the stars for ever and ever."

Daniel 12:3

"... My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work . . . Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest. And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal: that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together."

John 4:34-36

"I sent you to reap . . ."

John 4:38



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).

THE AUTHORITY OF GOD'S WORD

In these times of rapid change and instability, it is a great comfort to find the anchor of authority provided by the Word of God. Truly this eternal authority helps us to firmly "grip the solid Rock" and find peace of mind. A humble exercise of and response to godly authority is essential for the household of faith.

The psalmist wrote, "Thy word is true from the beginning; and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth forever" (Psalms 119:160). Further, "The righteousness of thy testimonies is everlasting" (144). It is by the incorruptible Word of God, which liveth and abideth forever, that it is possible for man to be born again (1 Peter 1:23).

All power and authority is from God, "Whose dominion is an everlasting dominion . . ." (Daniel 4:34). The Apostle Paul reiterated, "For there is no power but of God" (Rom. 13:1). The Lord Jesus said to Pilate, "Thou couldest have no power at all, . . . except it were given thee from above" (John 19:11).

The Apostle Paul wrote, "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness" (2 Tim. 3:16). The Scripture teaches its own authority (John 10:34-35). The Bible is inerrant and infallible (Psalms 19:7). The Word also teaches that God is not a man and cannot lie (Num. 23:19, Tit. 1:2).

The everlasting and divine aspect of God's Word is plainly stated, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God" (John 1:1). The Word's enduring quality is reinforced in three of the gospels, "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away" (Matt. 24:35; Mark 13:31; Luke 21:33).

As pilgrim believers we are compelled to submit wholeheartedly to the authority of God's Word. Obedience remains as the cardinal principle of spiritual growth. The Lord said, "If a man love me he will keep

my words: and my father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him" (John 14:23).

The Apostle John underscores adherence to the Word, "But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him" (1 John 2:5). The Apostle James wrote, "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves" (James 1:22). The Lord Jesus also said, "Yea, rather, blessed are they that hear the word of God and keep it" (Luke 11:28).

We are not to exempt ourselves from God's Word, or fail to follow its directions. Our ingrained social and personal habits must bow to eternal truths. Also, obedience to Scriptures should not be qualified by cultural differences between Bible times and modern times. This qualification could sometimes make portions of God's Word appear to be irrelevant to our lives. Rather we must become broken and crucified with Christ, so He can give us the power to conform and adjust our lives to His unchanging Word. The ongoing subjection of our flesh daily provides visible evidence of our conversion.

The Pharisees erred in adding to God's Word and substituting their own commandments for His commandments. This should not in any way be confused with a believer's aspiring to abide by New Testament standards of holiness as defined by godly leaders in today's church.

The Lord admonished the men of His time, who through their human wisdom and fleshly tradition, set aside the commandments of God. "Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men" (Mark 7:7). They honored God with their lips but their heart was far from Him. The Jewish religious leaders of that day had added voluminous complexities to God's law. "Making the word of God of none effect . . ." (Mark 7:13), they handled the Word of God deceitfully. Today, we must take heed not to make the same mis-

take; nor should we pick and choose and follow only what is appealing and does not interfere with our fleshly preferences, but we should adhere to ". . . all the counsel of God" (Acts 20:27). "Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the Scripture is of any private interpretation" (2 Pet. 1:20). Rather, we should interpret the Word as a body of believers, having the same mind and the same judgment (1 Cor. 1:10). A deep sense of oneness and unity will then prevail.

Are all the New Testament Scriptures to be observed, or do we stop with the gospels? Scriptures themselves give us an obvious answer. We are to observe not only the words of Jesus, but the entire New Testament. The writings of the Apostles have divine validity also. The Apostle Paul wrote, ". . . the things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord" (1 Cor. 14:37). Also, ". . . when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the Word of God" (1 Thess. 2:13). This presents clear evidence that the Apostles claimed the absolute authority of God in their writing and teaching.

How we respond to this absolute authority is not a casual matter. The Word of God is not divided into "essentials" and "non-essentials." All the divine directions and high standards of godly living found in the gospels and in the Apostles' writings should be humbly embraced and followed.

The authority of God's Word is the "scripture of truth" (Dan. 10:21). It is through Christ Jesus, our Saviour, who is far above all principality and power and might and dominion, that God's divine authority is most graciously and lovingly expressed.

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

Zion's Harp #142

TRIP TO INDIA — 1987

Elder Bro. Perry Zimmerman, Forrest, IL

Even though time has slipped away for me since we visited India in January and February, 1987, I am willing to share a few comments and observations about the trip. Although I was reluctant to undertake the trip, it remains a pleasant memory to me, because of the mercy of God in caring for us and the enjoyment of traveling with my brothers and because of the people in India whom I met and will long remember. It will be difficult to transmit the true feelings one experiences toward those people after being with them and, since it will be impossible for all to go, I can only say that there are few countries we can go to that will show such a contrast in culture as is evident between our American living and the way of Indian living.

The wish that enters our hearts to somehow improve the standard of living for the poorer people, whether they are in India or Mexico or Haiti or even in our land, is one that can go only so far and accomplish so much. We need to be reminded that they can be happy even in their poverty so long as they aren't starving. I didn't see any starving people this time which was quite different from the other time I was in India during WWII.

We should be thankful for the privilege our children have to be able to go to school and learn. Many in India don't even know what school and learning means but many of those that do long to go to school are unable to do so. I feel sorry for them.

Our greatest concern, though, is for their souls' salvation. I was encouraged by the interest the older ones showed in wanting to learn more of the scripture and about our faith. They are not Apostolic Christians but they have made a tremendous change in turning from idol worship to believing in our Lord. I only hope and pray that they will continue to grow in Him and with the Lord's help become more firmly grounded.

The communication was better than I had expected it to be. Many of those who belong to the Rural Gospel & Medical Missions of India (RGMMI) can speak English, some quite well, both men and women. I was impressed with their understanding of the Bible, especially the pastors, doctors, house-

fathers and some of the evangelists. The two days we spent in the convocation teaching them should have been very beneficial to them. I was glad to see them taking notes as they had requested Bible references to our teachings. We had a reference Bible along and after it was explained to them, they desired such Bibles and they have been sent to them.

The boys at both Khardi and Nasik were given Bibles in their language as they are all able to, or learning to, read. After each service at the various tribal villages a Bible was given to any who could read, usually only two or three.

In no other country did we see as many hair styles and different modes of dress including exposed bodies as we see here in America. In India the women all have long, plain black hair; their sari most always is to the ankle and part of it is brought up over the top of their heads as a covering. The women walk very straight and graceful due to the fact that they carry just about everything on their heads.

We never saw people touching each other, not even husband and wife. When a woman rides as a passenger on a bicycle, scooter or motorcycle they sit sideways and never once did I see one hanging on to the man. The women work very hard and in many instances right along with the men. It would seem to make stronger family ties that way.

The boys at both Khardi and Nasik prove that they are able to learn if only they are given a chance. They recited many Psalms, I Corinthians 13, as well as the Ten Commandments and other scriptures, all by heart. It is hoped that after leaving the boardings (as they are called) at RGMMI they can, after further training work in the RGMMI organization, expand to teaching of others. So far there is no boarding for girls at the Mission compounds, but several are being sponsored by the Mission elsewhere.

Visiting the dispensary at Khardi was an unforgettable experience, seeing a young child that had been scarred so horribly by a village witch doctor in his attempt to cure her. I can believe Dr. Pawar who said those people will come many miles to be cared for by a Christian doctor. We have done well to help them improve the dispensary

there.

We were made to feel welcome and were well treated in every instance. Whatever we can do for them will be appreciated, I believe, and it is certain they cannot accomplish too much without some help. The most touching part was to see the little children and how they live and then to wonder, what does the future have for them?

The help from World Relief and our Missionary Fund has been wisely used I believe and surely must be pleasing to God. Our interceding prayers are needed for those carrying on the work in India as well as in Japan. Every good deed is known of God and He will reward each one. There are times when we are reminded that others seem to be doing so much more than we are. I would like to remind everyone, including myself, to thank God for America and our many blessings. We thank Him for answering our prayers and yours that we could come back home again.

THE SILVER LINING

Grabill, Indiana 46741
USPS 496780

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IN MEMORY — EDITORS:
HENRY SOUDER
EDWARD SOUDER

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN WORK PROJECTS

Mexico City and Mexico

Bro. Richard Beery, Phoenix, AZ

It is with both amazement and sorrow that I reflect back on the opportunities that were afforded the members and friends of the Apostolic Christian Churches of America. I am amazed at how God works in giving us an opportunity to give of ourselves and resources to help a neighboring country, a people who suffered so much damage and are so limited in resources and sorrow with those people who were victims of a major earthquake, with lives lost, families disrupted, jobs lost, and a worsening of an already bad economic situation. I must often reflect also on the lasting thoughts and experiences of working with members and friends. I think also of answered prayer as we were able to contact people who could make the rebuilding of the Vescindads a success. I'm thinking especially of Bro. Marshall and Sis. Jan Heinold. I leaned heavily on Sis. Jan, on her earlier visits to Mexico City, and the Morales Tepito area, and the Proemvi program people as to whether my convictions were really pointed in the right direction, with the language being somewhat of a barrier.

Hearing of the conviction and answered prayer that brought Bro. Rod Huber and his son to Morales Tepito, the tears flowed in appreciation that God is still on the throne and we need only to trust Him and seek His direction. Rod and his son, Rod, Jr., were among the first to be in Morales Tepito.

As the early summer unfolded, so many wonderful revelations of God's guiding hand were felt, especially when learning of Magdalena Boletla. She was such a wonderful addition to Proemni, the managing team, being a devout Christian, with two children, Sandra and Carlos. Magdalene was bilingual and that was such an asset to me. She was such a great help to our work teams. She gave so much of her time to make work teams as comfortable as possible. I think of the times she would go to the airport, day or night, and pick up our people because previous arrangements for pick up, etc. were not kept. This was quite normal for the earlier work teams. We trust God will bless her and her children for the efforts expended.

In late summer and early fall, God

again answered prayers for someone to be there on a full-time basis and Bro. Tim Reinhard (Junction, OH) answered the call. In his quiet, reserved, and yet authoritative way, he was so well liked by the Mexican people and did so much to make the work teams stay comfortable and conditions as enjoyable as possible. May God bless him for his efforts.

I certainly acknowledge my many shortcomings, weaknesses and many mistakes and just hope there are forgiving hearts and sincere prayers to God on my behalf.

We should be thankful that brothers in past years were inspired to organize the World Relief Committee which arranged the Mexican Relief Project. We trust that God will continue to inspire brothers who will lend themselves to such important work. There are so many scripture verses that tell us of our obligation to help those who are victims of circumstances beyond their control and can't help themselves.

As fall and winter of 1986 and spring of 1987 rolled on, there were many rewarding experiences. A total of 188 brethren and friends participated and it would be most interesting to hear of their experiences and convictions.

Because of our involvement in Mexico City, we now have an opportunity to help the poor, poor people in Juarez, Mexico, just across from El Paso, TX. Elder Bros. Nathan Steffen and Roy Grimm, Bros. Vernon Leman and Gerald Feichter, Sis. Marie and myself arrived in El Paso, TX, February 26, 1987, to see the needs in Juarez. This effort is under the direction of Bro. Feichter and Bro. Kurt Bahler. Much could be written about that and another incident in which we could feel the hand of God. Cancellation of a flight that we were to take from Juarez to Mexico City necessitated a later flight, giving us an opportunity to go to Dr. and Mrs. Ramon's house to hear of their work with the poor and, most important of all, their relation with, and their convictions of, God.

Upon arriving in Mexico City, we met Bro. Marshall and Sis. Jan Heinold and Bro. Kurt Bahler. Bro. Marshall and Sis. Jan are working on another project, with the help of God, that will

enable them to help orphaned children, a result of the quake, plus other troubled children and adults.

On Saturday, we went to the Morales Tepito area for the dedication of the first Vicendadas - Pintos 53 - 12 Vicendads that our brothers, sisters and friends supplied the money for and also helped to build. With tears of joy it was so rewarding to be part of giving keys to the occupants.

On Sunday, we assembled in the hotel convention room with approximately 34 others.

On Friday, April 17, I returned again to Mexico City - Morales Tepito, for the dedication of Pelugeos 66 - 12 more units. Funds provided by our church and physical help in building made nice accommodations for them. As I gave the keys to Daniel and his wife, they were so happy and, through an interpreter, I expressed my joy at this dedication and recalled that when I visited them a year earlier, it was on the rubble of their home.

The Proemni director, Elias, said that 128 Vecindads were constructed with various donations and help.

There were so many times when other groups, especially clergy, would ask "How do you motivate your people, professional and all, to come here and work side by side with these people?" Then there were many comments to the extent that just giving would be better - more for your dollar. However, many more stated that there was no substitute - no words to express their personal benefit. No dollar amount could be affixed to being there and working side by side with the Mexican people, and, in some cases, sharing the Word.

Again, with both joy and sorrow, on Sunday, I left Mexico City and the people I learned to respect and love, knowing that Bro. Tim would be leaving also Tuesday with his folks.

The World Relief Committee decided to conclude our participation in Morales Tepito, feeling that our projects were finished, but acknowledged that a great need still exists, here and in other parts of the world.

The streets in Morales Tepito were pretty well cleared of temporary housing and you could again drive on them.

Address Changed . . .

Give Old and New Address
to Your Reporter

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN WORK PROJECTS Church Building Projects

Greetings Brethren and Friends
of the Truth,

The Apostolic Christian Work Projects now has the construction schedule for church buildings at Taylor, MO, and Minneapolis, MN. Both of these congregations welcome volunteers to assist in the construction of their proposed edifices.

TAYLOR, MO

The basement has been excavated and the footings and basement walls have been poured. Tentative construction schedule and skill requirement is as follows:

9/1/87 to 10/1/87 — Concrete finishers and laborers; 10/1/87 - 10/10/87 — Steel joist erectors, welders and laborers; 10/10/87 - 10/17/87 — Concrete finishers and laborers; 10/17/87 - 11/1/87 — Framing carpenters and laborers.

Anyone interested in volunteering, please phone the local volunteer coordinator, Bro. Norman Haerr, Taylor, MO 63471, (314) 393-2175.

MINNEAPOLIS, MN

Tentative work schedule and skill requirements are as follows:

9/8/87 - 9/14/87 — Excavating; 9/15/87 - 10/5/87 — Concrete finishers, block layers and laborers; 10/6/87 - 12/1/87 — Framing carpenters, roof-

ers and laborers; 12/1/87 to Spring — Interior carpenters, finishers and laborers.

Anyone interested in volunteering, please contact the local volunteer coordinator, Bro. Rob Schmidgall, 11303 Xavier Road, Bloomington, MN 55437. His home phone number is (612) 888-4301 and his business phone is (612) 835-4646.

For those who are unable to volunteer time and labor to these worthy endeavors, we ask for your prayers that all may be done to the honor and praise of our Lord and Saviour and not to the glorification of man.

Working in His Vineyard,
Arnold Gerst, Sec./Treas.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME Uriel Gehring

What an exciting and rewarding summer we are enjoying at our Children's Home. We are in His hands; and if we allow Him to mold and make us after His will, we live the abundant life the Saviour spoke of. "You shall have life, and have it more abundantly." We then can "Praise Him with all that within us is." To praise Him with this zeal indicates a close and positive relationship with Him, so close that our lives will radiate the love of God which is the real purpose for our treading this earthly sod for a season. We are His offspring, and through His glorious grace, we, His children, can manifest His love to the

world round about us. Love is to care and to share, to give and help live, to make others happy because we are happy, and "Happy is that people whose God is the Lord."

Each of us has many opportunities every day to let His light shine. Our Home affords our staff, volunteers and visitors many opportunities to be a good example for our children. We trust we are taking advantage of these opportunities. "He that winneth souls is wise." Proverbs 11:30. Our children are very precious to us and to our Creator. True love and kindness seem to have fallen into the category of a lost art in the twentieth century, and in many areas are being replaced with greed. "Men shall be lovers of themselves . . . lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God." According to II Timothy, Chapter 3, these things will occur in the last days and are called perilous times. We seem to be in that time frame.

Recent events of interest at the Home include Bro. Andre Neihouser (Francesville, IN) supplying us with some delicious sweet corn. We froze 146 quarts and had roasting ears for a number of meals. Thanks, Andre.

Bro. Rudy Bahr (Gridley, KS) visited us one Saturday morning and told us how to be effective storytellers by telling us a story. He told us the old favorite of "The Three Bears," but he changed the order of the story. His objective was to get the listener involved in the story. It was a very impressive and interesting program. Thanks, Rudy, for remembering us.

Sis. LeAnn Wulf's Cedar Creek Companions 4-H group won first place in a parade at the Coliseum in Fort Wayne and nine children exhibited projects. These 4-H projects are very meaningful learning experiences and good character-building programs.

Bro. Chuck and Sis. Annie Fehr, houseparents in the East House, are expecting their second child early next spring. Congratulations! Little Bekah will enjoy a new playmate.

Our latest big event was the wedding of Bro. Nathan Gerber (Bluffton) and Sis. LeAnn Wulf (whose home church is Morris, MN) August 23 at Morris. Nearly all the staff and children were present, and it was a most beautiful day. The reception was held on the lawn of LeAnn's parents' farm home. We wish them God's rich blessings and look forward to having them return to

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

the Home as alternate houseparents.

Bro. Nathan and Sis. LeAnn Gerber will be our new alternate houseparents. They have both been employed at the Home, and we are glad they felt directed to continue at the Home, as they both lend such useful service. Welcome aboard, newlyweds, and smooth sailing.

Sis. Colleen Reardon (Sarasota, FL) is our new assistant houseparent in the West House. She will begin working in September. She brings to us the experience of teaching in a day care center and a degree in criminal justice. We look forward to many a pleasant hour with her on our staff. Welcome, Colleen.

Bro. Ross Meyer (Chicago, IL) will be with us during the fall semester as a social work intern working toward his Bachelor's degree. We trust this will be a learning and growing time as he experiences the many facets of residential child care. Welcome, Ross.

We continue to have an opening for the Educational Coordinator position. The Lord is able to convict, lead and provide. That is our prayer.

The Annual Auction and Sale is now history, but what a pleasant piece of history. The week of presale activities was bustling with excitement and action. As items arrived, they were priced and marked. Work was done mainly in the evenings in the West House basement by local people and volunteers from a distance. The tents were put up by 8 - 10 of our local brethren, and things were ready for the Sale Saturday, August 15. The crowd was enthusiastic, the weather lovely, the food delicious and the bidding lively. Following a prayer, the staff and children sang a couple of songs to begin the day.

Then came the groundbreaking ceremonies for a new resident home scheduled to get under construction this fall. The new home will be located east of the basketball court. The first item to be auctioned off was the groundbreaking shovel.

Added features to the Sale this year were increased donations, an increased variety of items, solicitation of businessmen from our churches for merchandise (a new pickup truck was auctioned off), hogs and cattle raised by the children that were put on the auction block, and total gross proceeds that were \$71,100, a 20% increase over our last year's record of \$59,200. It is simply amazing how things fall into perspective on Sale day and everything goes smoothly. The variety of auctioneering expertise (about ten auctioneers) lending their services is always exciting. A sincere "thank you" to everyone who lent of themselves in any way to help make the Sale a success. A special "thanks" goes to the local people who served meals at the church and provided lodging for the visitors. All proceeds of the Sale are used for the Home's operation and expansion.

The Bradford, IL, church hosted the most recent slide presentation about the Home. Thanks to our representatives for making the arrangements. Any church wanting a presentation should contact the Home.

The children are all back in school, an introduction to fall and all its enchanting beauty. See you next month.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

It was Sunday morning, and seven-

teen of our residents were filing into their Sunday school room. It was obvious they had enjoyed their bus ride to church and were happy to attend class. As they were finding their favorite places to sit, two girls chose the same chair and an argument developed. In order to settle the dispute, I told them that neither one could have their chair but that they could choose any other empty one. They did so, but one put her head down and the other sulked. The pupils got quiet as class started and the memory verse for the day was written on the chalk board. When asked what I had written, I replied, "We ought also to love one another." We talked about it a few minutes, and as I turned to put down the chalk the girl who's head was down slipped out of her chair, moved over and gave her sulking friend a hug and said, "I'm sorry!" Their facial expression changed and all was well again. Their childlike attitude taught me a lesson. I wondered — who is teaching who?

The site for our small Group Home has been cleared of cisterns, an old well and tumbled down buildings. Our neighbors, Prairie Village, seem excited and pleased by the progress being made.

Even though August has been humid and hot, we have had many pleasant visitors and outings. We especially want to thank Gridley and Princeville churches for providing our Friday evening services. We appreciate the extra effort that it requires of them.

Farmer Bahr (Gridley, KS) entertained us with his talent of storytelling. We enjoy his visits tremendously and do hope he will stop in again.

Phil Fehr invited 60 residents to a swim party and a delicious fried chicken supper afterwards. A group enjoyed Old Thrashers Day at the Al Beutel farm in Tremont, IL. Other outings were breakfast in the woods, Peoria Air Show and Sunshine Club. Yet to come is our overnight campout at Little Galilee. We pile bed rolls, sleeping bags, food and residents into the buses and away we go! Overnight camping usually signals that summer is drawing to a close.

Please include us in your plans for November. Our annual benefit day will be November 6.

Give Your Address Change
To Your Reporter

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 — Fifth Year

	MONTH	TO DATE
August 1987 —	2538	2538

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.

**APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN
PRESCHOOL OF ATHENS, AL**
Marilyn Walder

We want to thank our many volunteers who have been with us this month. Sis. Karen Unsicker (Peoria, IL), Sis. Jeanne Gramm and Sis. Pam Gramm (Gridley, IL), Sis. Barb Huber (Lexington, KY), Sis. Renee Steffen (Alto, MI), Michelle Neihouser (Francesville, IN), Sis. Mary Steffen, Sis. Laura Moser and Sis. Susan Maynard (Bluffton, IN), Bro. Keith and Sis. Kay Knapp (Cissna Park, IL) and Sis. Bonnie Riggenbach and Sis. Cyndee Stoller (Latty, OH) all volunteered their time to help us. We can't express how much we appreciate their willing attitudes to come and help. We couldn't have gotten through the summer without our volunteers.

We have had a good summer at our Preschool this year. We studied the five senses and did many activities to learn about them. We reviewed Old and New Testament stories for our Bible curriculum. There were 51 different children enrolled during the summer. They enjoyed swimming in two wading pools in the hot afternoons.

Our elementary children will be going back to school next week. We are glad for the opportunity to influence the seed that has been planted in their hearts and to encourage it to grow. Many of them had been previously enrolled in our Preschool or are older siblings of current preschoolers.

ALABAMA, ATHENS
Marilyn Walder

Visitors this month have been from Peoria, Gridley, Cissna Park and Eur-

**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

eka, IL, Lexington, KY, Alto, MI, Francesville and Bluffton, IN, Sabetha and Bern, KS and Latty, OH. We want to thank Bro. Carroll Gerber (Bluffton North, IN) for bringing us the Word. We appreciate our visiting ministers very much. A rotation system has been started for a visiting minister to come once a month to help Bro. Lavoyd. He appreciates the support.

Lately I have been amazed at the power of God. As it says in Isaiah 55:8-9, "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts." So often we think we know God but then He does something to show us His power and we realize how much we limit Him. Our human minds and hearts cannot comprehend God's power or the love He has for us. "... If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth." Mark 9:23. God's plan is really a simple plan — all we have to do is believe and then leave things in God's control and we will live according to His will. We need to do away with our human tendencies and realize that of ourselves we can do nothing. We should be continually thankful for God's love and accept it although we are so undeserving of it.

ARIZONA, PHOENIX
Ron and Ev Hoerr

"The Lord is nigh unto all them that call upon him in truth." Psalms 145:18. We all rejoice when one hears the Lord's call and feels His tender touch on our shoulder or arm. Yet, when He calls yesteryear's Sunday school boy, today's grown man, many prayers are answered. Bob Lemons (Betty) has started laying his foundation on the path to eternal life. May the Lord Jesus be his daily Guide. Bro. Floyd and Sis. Clara Banwart are Bob's parents.

More joy will be shared August 29 and 30 when Joe Greenbank (Sis. Patty) will share his experience of repentance and baptism. Bro. Gordon and Sis. Emily Greenbank are his thankful parents.

Sunday school resumed August 16, for which the youngsters were glad.

We are grateful that the conference in the summer is open to our ministers, brothers and sisters. It takes all of us to keep our faith in close alignment with the Bible's teachings we hold so dear.

"Fill my cup Lord . . ." That is just what visiting ministers Bros. Len Meyer (Chicago, IL), Loren Knapp (Tucson, AZ) and Ted Witzig (Morton, IL) did when visiting Phoenix.

Recently baptized, Sis. Marjorie Rebbec has returned home from the hospital. She, her husband, Bob, and Carol Doolittle enjoyed Sunday services via the phone hook up.

Whether we get news from the paper or radio, the times and weather are concern enough to keep our eyes upon the Lord.

A couple of cool mornings was all it took for a new friend decked out in light gray to show up. Our bird book shows it to be a thrasher. There was also a young cream and beige dove, so delicate it could have been porcelain. Another beauty was a brown-tan solitaire, similar to our white-gray mockingbirds. Our Lord provides all this beauty for us to enjoy. Isn't He great?!

ARIZONA, PRESCOTT

Doug Schmidgall — Ethel Smith

We held services three times in Prescott since our last report. Each time we have been encouraged through God's Word and the support of the brotherhood. We extend our gratitude to brethren who traveled many miles to minister to our spiritual needs.

July 19, Bro. Jim Funk (Tucson) was our minister. We were encouraged in our work and personal lives to set goals and work toward those goals. Bro. Jim reminded us of the goal the Apostle Paul set for himself and for Christians down through the ages when he wrote, "I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 3:14). What higher goal could we have? What better way could we spend our time? We have so much work to do in our Christian lives. We know that, like Paul, we have not yet attained our goal. We are not perfect, but we press forward, working toward that goal, that through Christ we may someday be fashioned like unto His glorious body.

Elder Bro. Richard Schupbach was with us for services August 2. Again God, through the prompting of the Spirit, gave us words of encouragement as we read and meditated on Colossians 2:6, 7. "As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: Rooted and built up in him and stablished in the faith; as ye have been taught, abounding therein

with thanksgiving." We were reminded how important it is to be rooted firmly in the foundation of our faith, that we may grow and abound in the Lord. A plant must have a good root system and must be fed and nourished to produce abundant fruit and foliage. So it is with our Christian lives. We must be nourished through the Word and Spirit that we, too, may produce the proper fruit.

The Tucson Church lent another brother to our service August 16 when Bro. Loren Knapp and his wife, Sis. Evelyn, were with us. We had a beautiful day to worship with mild temperatures and clear skies. The summer rains have greened up the hills and roadsides and God's handiwork seems more obvious. We were encouraged to provide a haven for souls, when a visitor from the Prescott area remarked to one of our group that, once being acquainted with our faith, she had waited and hoped for years that one of our churches would be established in Prescott. May God give us all the strength and grace to do our part.

Services are held the first and third Sunday of each month. For further information, you may call or write Bro. Harvey Smith, 2180 Thumb Butte Road, Prescott, AZ 86301 or call (602) 445-2164 or (602) 778-6130.

ARIZONA, TUCSON

Lisa Knapp — Sandy Bauer

Ministering Bro. Greg Gramm (Phoenix), his wife, Sis. Denise, and their children spent the day with us recently. We were so glad to see them and enjoyed their fellowship. We thank them for their visit to Tucson.

Bro. Jim and Sis. Lou Ann Funk are happy to welcome back their daughter, Sis. Mary Leigh, to Tucson from Illinois. She will be making her home here in Tucson again, along with her friend,

NOTICE

Opportunity To Relocate in a Church Area

For a brother, located in an area lacking job opportunities, Bro. Keith Kellenberger has a need for an electrician or electronics technician for installation and service of fire alarm and security systems. Experience in electrical and electronics is necessary. If interested and qualified, please contact Bro. Keith Kellenberger, 312-695-5990. This work opportunity is by the Elgin, IL, church.

Paula Lane. As a small church, we are always happy to have friends and loved ones join our fellowship. We heartily welcome them.

CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA

Elaine Graf

Visiting ministers to Altadena this month have been Bros. Jon Kokanovich (Phoenix, AZ), Greg Gramm (Phoenix, AZ) and Doug Wagenbach (San Diego, CA). May God bless them for their service.

July 25 was a day with many activities for the younger Sunday school children, including a picnic at a park and swimming later at the home of one of the families in our congregation.

"Therefore shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh."

Genesis 2:24

August 2 was a happy day for Sis. Mary Beth Klotzle. We heard the announcement of her engagement to Bro. Greg Lehman (Wolcott, IN). May God grant them even more joy in the times ahead.

COLORADO, DENVER

Mike Martin — Marlene Leman

Greetings from Denver! We wish to share the news with all that Bro. Mike and Sis. Deb Leman were blessed July 20 with a baby boy, Joel Lucas. Welcoming him home are his two older brothers, Caleb and Jacob. Grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Lorene Hodel (Roanoke, IL) and Bro. Tom and Sis. Marlene Leman.

We welcome Bro. Verne and Sis. Leona Lehman to our little congregation here in Denver. They have moved here from the Champaign-Urbana Church. We thank God for bringing them among us.

Traditionally, spring is the time of marriage. Flowers and trees are blooming and spring is ushering in new things. Yet God has the power to bring about new things at any time of the year. As evidence of this, God has blessed us with two marriages this month and two new Christian homes have been established. Bro. Joe Hohulin and Sis. Lorraine Faustin were married in Bay City, MI, August 2 and are making their home here in Denver. On August 9, Bro. Ben Bauman (Goodfield, IL) and Sis. Kris Leman were married here in

Denver and are making their home in Goodfield. May both couples be a blessing to their respective churches. God bless them with happy unions.

Our visiting ministers this month were Bros. Al Langhofer (Wichita, KS), Wayne Banwart (Champaign, IL) and Elder Bros. Ed Lanz (Oakville, IA) and Nathan Steffen (Elgin, IL). It is always a joy having visiting ministers and we pray that God will bless them for their labors of love.

We say our farewells to our summer residents as they return to their winter homes. Visiting us for an extended stay were Sis. Lanette Meyer (Sabetha, KS), Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Margaret Pflederer (Sarasota, FL), Bro. Harold and Sis. Eleanor Zimmerman (Morton, IL), and Bro. Steve and Sis. Lyn Roeschley and family (Morton, IL). We invite them and many more back next year.

CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE

Martha Hany

"The time flies on and death draws nigh; Unite us, Lord with Thee on high! Prepare us now to live with Thee, Forever in eternity!"

Zion's Harp #188

At the time of this writing how apropos these words are as we in Rockville are prepared and eagerly awaiting the arrival of our elder brethren and ministers. Through their searching of the Scriptures and deliberations thereof, may the Lord once again reveal His will through them to us on how to live as His unified body here on earth. O what rapture awaits the believer! It is incomprehensible to be free of earth's trials, temptations and persecutions which cannot be otherwise in Satan's domain as stated in II Timothy 3:12, "Yea, and all that will live Godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution."

We are thankful that Sis. Jeanne (Schneider) Hany recovered so rapidly from an appendectomy and is able to resume her responsibilities of rearing a Christian family. Also hospitalized and able to be home again is Sis. Joni (Kloter) Moser and Bro. Lester Heintz. Our physical body, made of the earth, is so frail but how thankful we are that all things are possible with God if we believe and our spirit grows stronger, closer to God as time passes.

Bro. Albert and Sis. Emma Alberle (Tremont, IL) visited us enroute to Union City, NJ, and even though he

was not able to be with us Sunday, we experienced the love of God in singing hymns Saturday evening, July 25. Other visiting ministers August 16 were Bro. Ken and Sis. Linda Indermuhle (Sardis, OH) and Bro. Gary and Sis. Edith Anliker (Elgin, IL). It is good once again to have Bro. Roy and Sis. Helen Luginbuhl (Fort Lauderdale, FL) in our midst as they are staying in the area for the month of August. May the Lord bless their labors of love and efforts in proclaiming the Word. Each of us needs to be reminded during our earthly schooling how to live a pure and separated life so that we are prepared when God calls us to our eternal home, forever at peace with Him!

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,
WASHINGTON**

**Catherine Klopfenstein
Rebecca Germann**

We have been blessed with many visitors during the summer months. Our minister in charge, Bro. Ed Aeschleman, his wife, Sis. Nancy, and daughter, Sarah, from Philadelphia worshipped with us August 9. Visitors were in attendance from Illinois, Minnesota, Michigan and Ohio.

On August 16, we were privileged to have two visiting ministers, Bros. John Lehman (Bern, KS) and Paul Eisenmann (Burlington, IA) along with their families. Visitors were also here from Indiana and Illinois. Total attendance was 39, the largest number we've had since the assembly started in early 1986. There were 13 in Sunday school. Following services, we had a picnic at a nearby park with delicious barbecued pork furnished by Bill and Carol Stover.

Services were scheduled three times during August rather than the usual one time in order to accommodate visitors either going to or coming from the annual conference at Rockville, CT. We truly appreciate all visitors and the additional opportunities to assemble. As this is written we are looking forward to Sunday, August 23, as we again expect many visitors.

We welcome Curt Anliker (Francesville, IN), a Purdue University student who is on a cooperative program with IBM in Manassas, VA. Curt is a big help with our singing — always important in a small congregation. His parents, Bro. Ron and Sis. Vickie, and his sister, Sis. Lisa, recently favored us with a visit.

Ken Belsley of our congregation re-

cently visited friends and relatives in the Peoria, Morton, Washington, IL, vicinity. Henrietta Meyer visited two weeks with her mother in Peoria, IL. Bro. Doug and Sis. Rebecca Germann and their family just returned from a two-week trip to Indiana and Illinois.

**FLORIDA, FORT LAUDERDALE
Terri Huber**

This month we continued our Bible study focusing on "prayer". We discussed and were instructed on Where to pray, When to pray and How to pray. Most of us agreed that we need to remember that giving thanks for everything is an important and often neglected element of prayer.

Sunday school is back in session after a short summer break. Most families have returned home from their summer travels and all are eager to resume the normal routine.

We are so fortunate to live in an area that encourages visitors and tourists. We appreciate the fellowship of those who gather with us while vacationing in south Florida, especially in the summer when our home congregation dwindles considerably.

**FLORIDA, NORTH FORT MYERS
Kay Eisenmann**

Our visiting minister was Bro. Brian Webb (Ft. Lauderdale, FL).

We want to keep Sis. Sylvia Marincuin in our prayers as she is to have surgery in October, as well as all those who have been on the sick list. We seem to take so much for granted. May we all strive to be more thankful for reasonable health!

Why is it that with our poor memories we can remember the wrong people do us, but so soon we forget the good in them! We should ever be careful of our actions and how we deal with heartache and disappointments, for we are all ministers of our faith in God! May we except what we cannot change! We, as parents, have joys and heartaches with our children. When we doubt that God will remain faithful in their lives, we are in fact saying that "God doesn't keep His word." We are thankful for obedient children and helpmates. May God give us all more grace to wait on Him and be assured He will take all heartache away!

Dathan was up at Lake Whales to a camp for children with cancer. He was

there a week and he had a great time! Let us be ever thankful for answered prayer!

FLORIDA, SARASOTA

Mary Martin

During the summer months our church gatherings are quite small, as many of our local families are vacationing. We have really appreciated our visiting families and our visiting ministers: Bro. Ron Steiner (Rittman, OH), Bro. Jon Schmidgall (Oakville, IA), Bro. Fred Domka (Mansfield, OH) and our Elder Bro. Ben Maibach who have spent their time and effort sharing God's Word with us.

Bro. Rod Martin has moved to Bloomington, IL. We will miss him in Sarasota but wish him God's blessings and guidance as he makes his home in the Bloomington area.

Our prayers are with our elder brothers and ministers as they meet at Rockville, CT, and return to their respective congregations. We are looking forward to hearing the conclusions of their meeting. We are always refreshed and encouraged to strive forward as we walk along life's pathway to our heavenly goal.

GEORGIA, ATLANTA

John Brewer

Summertime in Atlanta is the busiest time of the year with families vacationing in the area or passing through on their way to Florida. When families and friends take the time to worship and fellowship with us in Atlanta, the blessings and love seem to radiate which makes our worship of the Lord all that much more special.

We appreciate the time the ministers take to travel to be with our congregation. Bro. Larry Wenninger (Latty, OH), Bro. Ron Steiner (Rittman, OH) and Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville, IN) and all their families came during July and August to minister to our gathering.

Our congregation was also blessed by the many visitors that stopped in Atlanta. These visitors included Bro. Ken and Sis. Donna Gehrig (Princeville, IL), Bro. Mike Moore, Sis. Joan Meister, and Sis. Marilyn Walder (Athens, AL), Bro. Tim Schar, Bro. Aaron Beery, Bro. Glen Maibach, Bro. John Bauman and Bro. Steve Maibach (Rittman, OH) and Bro. Sid and Sis. Fern Leman (Francesville, IN).

The Atlanta church meets every

second and fourth Sunday of the month at the Bradbury Suites Best Western. It is located off I-75 on the Windy Hill Road Exit behind the McDonalds in Marietta, GA. For more information call Don Sellers 404-923-0721, Nancy Foltz 404-451-9191 or John Brewer 404-949-7734.

ILLINOIS,

BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL

Donna Hodel — Karen Brummitt

We welcome Bro. Dave and Sis. Debbie Huber and their two children, Jaron and Eric, back to our congregation. They recently moved here from Morton.

On July 19, our Elder Bro. Dan Koch (Tremont) spoke to our Bible class and seventh and eighth grade students. He spoke about the role of an elder. This also gave the students a chance to get acquainted with "our" elder.

Our visiting ministers this month were Bro. Jim Plattner (Princeville), Bro. Wayne Anliker (Forrest) and Elder Bro. Dan Koch. We sincerely appreciate these brethren sharing the Word of God with us.

As a hart for water panteth So my soul cries, Lord, to Thee! Lord, that which can bring me comfort Can I find alone in Thee. In Thee is the living water; Thirsty cries to Thee I utter; O, when shall I by Thy grace See Thee, Saviour, face to face?

Zion's Harp #157

ILLINOIS, BRADFORD

Marilyn Tanner

Follow me, the Saviour calleth;
Come to me, I am the way!
What is lacking I will give you;
Trust in Me and watch and pray!
Follow Me in true submission;
I have borne all your transgression;
Learn of Me; both great and small,
Meekly, humbly hear My call.

Zion's Harp #95

How thankful we are to have three precious souls, Matthew Kieser (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Wilma), Jana Kieser (Bro. David and Sis. Shirley) and Ann Ehnle (Bro. Gary and Sis. Carole) who have heard His call. We rejoice with these dear converts and their families.

On August 14, a precious baby boy was added to the home of Bro. Nathan and Sis. Sherrill Stoller. Loren Ray has a sister, Joanna, and grandparents, Bro. Nathan and Sis. Martha and Lloyd

and Betty Stahl to welcome and give him lots of love.

Our sympathy is extended to Bro. Ben and Sis. Audrey and their family in the death of her father, Neil Reed from Wyoming.

We are thankful for the ministering brethren who were willing to bring unto us the Holy Word of God. They were Bro. Charles Sauder (Tremont), Bro. James Byrd (Roanoke), Bro. Uriel Gehring and Bro. Lynn Stieglitz (Leo, IN). May the Lord bless these brothers for their labors of love.

ILLINOIS, CHAMPAIGN

Cheryl Mangers

Young and old alike enjoyed the Sunday school picnic held July 26 at the St. Joseph Park. Our appreciation goes to Bro. Dewayne Dill and Sisters Mary Greiner and Margie Heintz for their service as their terms are now completed. Both teachers and children are now on vacation break till September.

We will miss Bro. Vern and Sis. Leona Lehman who have assembled with us while living in Terre Haute, IN, as they have moved to Denver, CO.

It is always a pleasure to welcome newcomers. A special welcome is extended to Bro. Dave Huetter who has moved here from Bloomington and to our new family, Bro. Roger and Sis. Marti Belsley, Marcus and Nicole, who have come from the Burlington, IA, area. Bro. Roger is the new administrator of a nursing home in Newman.

August 9 was such a special evening for us as our congregation surprised Bro. Keith and Sis. Joan Hanson with a singing/reception at church for their 25th wedding anniversary. Bro. Keith and Sis. Joan are numbered among the "old timers" here in C-U as they have lived here 21 out of their 25 years of marriage and all four of their children were born here. Children include Brent, a recent ISU graduate, Ethan, a Parkland Jr. College student, Thane, a U of I incoming freshman, and Gretchen, a 7th grader.

We rejoice with Bro. Les and Sis. Patti Marti who have been blessed with a home and new job. They have moved from Champaign to rural route Sibley where Bro. Les will be working as a farm consultant. We are delighted that they will still be able to assemble with us.

Our love and appreciation goes to

Bro. Virg Metzger (Chicago) who ministered to us July 26.

We have two happy first-time parents. Bro. Art and Sis. Kim Walder were blessed with a son, Aaron Christopher, born August 17. Happy grandparents include Bro. Kurt and Sis. Elaine Sauder and Sis. Lucille Walder, all of Cissna Park, IL. Two days later, August 19, Bro. Doug and Sis. Peg Hoerr became parents of a son, Chad Douglas. Chad's grandparents are Bro. Don and Sis. Velma Hoerr (Peoria) and Bro. Gerald and Sis. Marjorie Sutter (Taylor, MO).

We congratulate Bro. Sam Furrer who recently earned his master's degree in Education from Eastern Illinois University. Bro. Sam is a teacher in Potomac.

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO

Kathy Schlatter

On a recent trip the gas gauge sometimes showed below empty. One of the young riders pointed out cars sitting empty and abandoned on the side of the road as warnings of what would happen to us if we did not stop for gas. The thought was not pleasant. Of course shortly thereafter, we stopped and filled up with gas. As a result our journey was smoother and disaster was averted. In spiritual terms let us be aware that when we are warned, the purpose is to promote our eternal well-being. Perhaps harsh-sounding words may be necessary to turn our attention, pierce our lukewarmness, or stab our pride. May we listen humbly, carefully, and prayerfully to those of our brethren who are our watchmen on the walls.

We have been privileged to hear Bros. Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville), Gene Bertschi (Roanoke), Simon Wagenbach (Tremont) and Elder Bro. Joe Stoller (Princeville). We love and appreciate them and the members of their families who live among us. We want our brothers to realize that they cannot visit us too often nor will they ever wear out their welcome. We wish them and their families, in the Chicago area and elsewhere, the Lord's continual mercy and compassion. We give our thanks to Him for them.

Sis. Betty Schlatter has taught Sunday school for a six-year term, but it has been so natural that it seems as though she has always taught. The children gather around her and love her as much as she loves them. We pray that these special relationships will

continue — even as we thank dear Sis. Betty for her dedication and unselfish sacrifice in the Lord's service. We are prayerful, too, for Sis. Kathy Grimm, who will take on these responsibilities as Sunday school teacher. May we who are the brothers and sisters-of-Christ support her, our sister, in all ways in the Lord.

Arlene Ryan has been hospitalized for tests. We extend our love and prayer to her and Mike in their days and decisions, pleading for His wisdom.

We recently visited Mount Vernon, Arlington Cemetery and Washington, D.C. There we saw the tomb of George Washington, the Washington Monument, the Lincoln and Jefferson Memorials and the eternal flame at John F. Kennedy's gravesite, all reminders of the words and deeds of famous men. We also saw the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and row upon precision row of white gravestones at Arlington Cemetery, as well as row upon row of 58,000 individual names engraved on the Vietnam War Memorial. I found these graves and memorials sobering but compelling. I am able to live as I do in this country with the ideals and freedom it has because of those who have gone before. Likewise, and more importantly, because of the steadfastness of those of our faith who have gone before, I have the protection and care of our useful traditions and closeness to the Word preserved within our church. But of utmost importance is the empty tomb, where Christ was buried but from which He rose again. What a hope we have in Jesus! Let us often be reminded, by life in Him, day by day, hour by hour, minute by minute.

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK

Mary Knapp — Elaine Sauder

Several of the residents from Fairview Haven enjoyed July 23 in Cissna Park. A noon lunch was served at the fellowship hall and many of their friends and relatives stopped by for a visit in the afternoon.

We wish to welcome Sis. Elsie Hoffman and her children, Lee, Jenny and Kara, to our congregation. We pray they have experienced many blessings since they made their decision to move to our area.

The first weekend in August was a warm one but incomparable to the warmth and love we felt from the Oakville, Iowa City and Burlington, IA, Alto, MI, Elgin and Chicago, IL, young

members as they gathered with us. We hope each one, including our own young members, returned home with pleasant memories of a spiritually enlightening weekend.

We're always thankful when visiting ministers come and humbly share the precious Word with us. This past month we had the privilege of hearing Bro. Bruce Leman (Roanoke), Bro. Frederick Knapp (Congerville) and Bro. Art Metz (Silverton, OR).

This is the scheduled week for the annual conference. Let us be fervent in prayer.

Denise (Scott) Sims was injured in an auto accident near her home in Hoopeston. We're thankful she is home again and getting out some. Her parents are Bro. Gilbert and Sis. Kathy Stock.

Other hospital patients were Bro. Ezra Feller who became ill in church and was rushed to the hospital and Sis. Priscilla Knapp. They have both returned home again but Sis. Helen Knapp and Bro. Bill Feller remain hospitalized.

We have many loved ones whom we seldom see as they are confined to their homes. Each has his own burden and their families also carry strifes. May each one be granted grace for the day and let us pray that the Lord's will be done.

The children of Bro. Art and Sis. Louella Hari had an open house in honor of their parent's 50th wedding anniversary August 9. Bro. Art and Sis. Louella had 5 children: Dean (Milford, IN), Donna (Wendell) Verkler and Diann (Kevin) Boyce (Cissna Park), Dana (Ken) Kuntz (Hoopeston) and one son, Richard, is deceased. They had a beautiful day and we wish them much joy and many blessings in their future years together.

August 17 was a day of rejoicing for Bro. Art and Sis. Kim Walder (Tolono) as they were blessed with the arrival of a son, Aaron Christopher. He made Bro. Phil and Sis. Anna Sauder first-time great-grandparents, Bro. Curt and Sis. Elaine Sauder first-time grandparents, and he is number "12" for Sis. Lucille Walder.

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE

Susan Knapp — Gail Leman

The summer days are coming to an end. Soon the children will be back to school. As they go into their classrooms, we pray that the Lord will watch

over them and help them remember the things they are taught at home. Even though most of us are not students in school, we are students of God as we read His Word and apply it to our lives. And as we go into the world to work daily, we must remember that which the Lord has taught us.

We are thankful for the mercy and grace of God as He calls to each sinner to come. After answering this call, confessing her sins and then finding peace with God and man, Mary Wettstein has had the opportunity to bring forth her testimony of faith and be baptized in Christ. We are thankful to have Mary as our sister-in-faith even as her days here on earth become short. May the Lord grant her joy as she now lives for Him her remaining days at the Eureka Home.

May God bless Bro. Tim Zimmerman (Gridley, KS) and Bro. Vernon Leman (Eureka) for their labors of love. We appreciate the willingness of these brothers as they stand before us and preach the Word in truth and simplicity.

We are always thankful for the healing hand of God as He stands by those in need. The loved ones in the hospital this month were Bro. Orville Zimmerman, Lorene Schlipf and Ruth Miller.

ILLINOIS, ELGIN Elizabeth Schambach Betty Bachtold

"Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near; Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."

Isaiah 55:6-7

Harvey Schurter (Sis. Ruth) who was confronted with surgery, has yielded to the Lord's loving invitation. Becky Cargill (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Kay) is also seeking His pardon and mercy.

Those who have undergone surgery this past month along with Harvey are Sisters Ida Wahl, Alma Schmidt, Lois Schock, Sarah Kellenberger and Bro. William Wewetzer. We are so thankful when loved ones can again be healed by the hand of God. We ask a special blessing of God's love and graces upon those who must endure great afflictions.

On July 25 many brethren and

friends from Chicago and Elgin gathered at Resthaven to see slides and listen to a presentation by Bro. Tim Sauder, the administrator for the Leo, IN, Children's Home.

It was a very interesting and informative evening as we learned more of the activities, projects, housing and concerns of daily life of those who reside and serve at this facility.

May God bless Bro. Tim and his family for their labors of love and sharing their experiences with us.

We want to extend our sympathy to the family of Emma (Schmidgall) Pflederer who passed away August 10 at the age of 89. She resided in Elgin all her life and was a recent resident of Apostolic Christian Resthaven. Besides her husband and parents, she was preceded in death by two brothers, Christian and Bro. Albert Schmidgall and one sister, Ana Edland. "Lord, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations. The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away." Psalms 90:1-10.

Robert and Eleanor Weiss (E. Dundee) rejoice in the birth of a new grandson, Shawn Patrick, born August 12 to their daughter, Elizabeth, and her husband, Larry Moore (Elgin). Shawn will be welcomed home by his sister, Sara, and grandparents, Barney and Velma Moore (Sparland, IL).

Believing it is the Lord's will, Bro. Anthony and Sis. Patsy Blades have moved to the Cissna Park area. We wish them many blessings.

A number of ministering brethren visited our congregation this past month and through God's inspiration filled our cups to overflowing. These include Bros. William Gerst (Alto, MI), Lenard Meyer (Chicago), Clarence Dietrich and Arthur Metz (Silverton, OR), Dennis Kaufman (Bloomington, IL), Dan Stoller and Ed Bahler (Remington, IN), Garth Steffen (Portland, OR), Walt Steffen (Milford, IN) and Willis Wiegand (Goodfield, IL). May God bless each of them.

May God's Holy Spirit and blessing be upon our beloved elders and brethren as they gather at this time of writing.

ILLINOIS, EUREKA

Kathy L. Rocke

"And how shall they preach, except

they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!" Romans 10:15. We have been richly blessed this past month with brethren who were willing to break the Bread of Life unto us. We thank Bros. Don Gudeman and Todd Feller (LaCrosse, IN), Edwin Bahler (Remington, IN), Lester Huber (Lexington, KY), Ervin Knecht (Lamar, MO), Elmer Witzig (Gridley, IL), Bill Dotterer (Phoenix, AZ), Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL), Greg Rassi (Chicago, IL), Dennis Kaufman (Bloomington, IL) and Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville, IL) for remembering us and trust God will add the increase.

"Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." Acts 2:38. How thankful we were to hear Mike Mangold's (Sis. Mary; and late Bro. Charles) testimony of faith and conversion August 1. We thank Elder Bro. Bob Grimm (Goodfield) for being with us for this important work. The following day we welcomed Mike as our brother-in-Christ into His sheepfold.

Bro. George Stoller, Sis. Jane (Bro. James A.) Stoller and Katie Anliker (Bro. Art and Sis. Carol) were hospital patients this past month, but are thankful they could all return to their homes. May God's healing mercies be upon them.

We are thankful our dear Sis. Della Anliker could lay down her cross and go to her heavenly Father. Sis. Della passed away July 22 and leaves one daughter, Sis. Mildred (Bro. Harold) Hodel, and one son, Bro. Walter. Also one sister, Sis. Edna Martin and one brother, Bro. George Martin remain. "I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you." St. John 14:18.

Bro. Bob and Sis. Marlene Prather, David and Kirk, welcomed Clinton Bates August 10. Grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Helen Wiegand and Bro. Jack and Sis. Millie Prather (all of Eureka). May God bless this little family.

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY

Jean Bachtold — Crystal Fehr

"Come unto Me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28. We have two new converts, Doug and Elaine Steidinger (son and daughter of Bro. Maur-

ice and Sis. Alma). May God grant them grace to build a firm foundation.

The wells of salvation were opened and we were privileged to witness the baptism of three dear souls. Our new brothers and sister-in-faith are Nelson Zehr (Bro. Warren and Sis. Delores), Charles Fehr and Nada Little (son and daughter of Bro. Wayne and Sis. Norma). We are always uplifted and encouraged by these testimonies. Elder Bros. Paul Butikofer (Elgin, IA) and Perry Zimmerman (Forrest) came to assist our own dear Elder Bro. Art Bahler in this sacred work.

Other visiting ministers this month were Bros. Ray Sinn and Larry Weninger (Latty, OH), Earl Kilgus (Remington, IN), Kenneth Dietz (Bradford) and Joseph Gerst (Iowa City, IA).

Sis. Janet Steidinger (Bro. Maurice and Sis. Alma) and Bro. Todd Sinn (Bro. Walt and Sis. Renee, Latty, OH) were led by the Spirit of God to be joined in holy matrimony. We were happy to witness this holy act July 19. May the Lord always be in their heart and home.

July 25 was the wedding day of Linda Eaton (Nancy and the late Sam Eaton) and Alan Walter (Bro. Richard and Sis. Colleen). May God bless their future together.

God has blessed the home of Bro. Ted and Sis. Sara Steidinger with a precious little boy, Tyrel Lee, born July 17. In addition to his parents, he has "big" brother, Mclane, to welcome him. Grandparents are Elder Bro. Art and Sis. Suzanne Bahler and Bro. Donald and Sis. Alice Steidinger.

A dear sister-in-faith has passed from this life into eternity. Sis. Tillie Steffen died July 16. Surviving are one brother, Bro. Ben, and three sisters, Sis. Anna, Sis. Kathryn (Peoria) and Sis. Mary. May God comfort this family with His tenderness.

Loved ones in the hospital this month were Sis. Barb Meiss (Bro. Marion), Sis. Lavina Moser, Sis. Sara Steidinger (Bro. Ted), Sis. Sophie Kellerhals, Bro. Merle Kaisner (Sis. Marge) and Troy Steidinger (Bro. Tom and Sis. Diane). May God, who knows the needs of all, restore health as He wills.

The family of Sis. Tillie Steffen wishes to express their sincere thanks to all who remembered them with prayers, flowers, visits, cards and kind expressions of love and sympathy during the illness and loss of their loved

one. May God bless each one.

I would like to thank everyone who remembered me with cards, flowers and gifts on my 90th birthday.

Bro. George Zimmerman

We all, as a congregation, wish to extend our sympathy to Sis. Juanita and Bro. Jim Walter in the loss of her father, Walter Rasmus. May God comfort them during their time of sorrow.

ILLINOIS, FORREST

Sharon Adams — Patsy Stoller

Word of Life, the fountain flowing, purely from the throne above, . . ."

Zion's Harp #176

We appreciate Bro. Art Metz (Silverton, OR) being with us and bringing us God's Word. May God bless him in his labors. May we also always remember our dear elder brothers in our prayers as they labor and meet again to preserve this precious faith we have.

Hospitalized this past month were Alisa Honegger (Bro. Lloyd and Joyce), Sis. Louise Honegger (Bro. Perry) and Bro. Clarence Kachelmuss (Sis. Laura). We are thankful all are able to return home again.

Several families have been blessed with new bundles from heaven. Dennis and Pam Zimmerman have a new son, Alexander Scott. Alexander has a brother, Jacob. Grandparents are Bro. Glen and Sis. Mildred Zimmerman. Bro. Bob and Sis. Linda Anliker have also been blessed with another son, Corbin Robert. Martin is Corbin's big brother. Grandparents are Bro. Wayne and Sis. Judy Anliker and Bro. Ivan and Sis. Kathryn Steidinger. Another precious daughter, Rebekah Lynn, has been given to Bro. Ed and Sis. Renee Wenger. Her sisters are Sarah, Rachel, Bethany and Emily. Grandmother is Sis. Nathalia Wenger. Our children, God's gift to us, are so precious. May we always look to God for guidance and direction in raising these precious ones.

Stephanie Mueller (Bob and Sis. Elaine) and Eldon Kaeb (John and Adeline) were united in marriage August 16. May God bless their union together.

I thank everyone many times for the cards and gifts I received for my birthday.

Martha Huber

A special thank you to all my friends and relatives who remembered me with cards and gifts on my 80th birth-

day.

Harold Honegger

Notice: A gray "Fashionbuilt" ladies coat has been left at Forrest Church since Emil Sohn's funeral in January.

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD

Trish Gerber

Our church was filled to overflowing on the blessed Sunday we shared with the brothers and their wives who were here to enjoy their Fort Sam Reunion. Among our many visitors were also ministering brothers from across the nation. We thank Bro. Bill Dotterer (Phoenix, AZ), Darrell Stoller (Bern, KS), Ron Heiniger (Bloomington, IL), Gary Brown (Forrest, IL) and Dan Stoller (Rockville, CT) for sharing their fellowship and God's inspiration with us.

Al and Sis. Vikki Krizman are first-time parents to a precious little girl, Brandi Elizabeth, born August 10. Her proud grandparents are Gary Dingle-dine and Norma Millard and Mr. and Mrs. Albert Krizman.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to our dear Sis. Helen Streit who has spent some time in the hospital. May God be ever near her and her family to provide for them the strength they require during this trying time.

Let us go quietly to God

When troubles come to us

Let us never stop to wimper

To complain and fret and fuss,

Let us hide our "thorns" in "roses"

And our sighs in "golden song"

And "our crosses" in a "crown of smiles"

Whenever things go wrong . . .

For no one can really help us

As our troubles we bemoan

For comfort help and inner peace

Must come from God alone.

For there's absolutely nothing

That His mighty hand can't do

And He never is too busy

To help and comfort you.

Helen Steiner Rice

The family of Roland Hartman wishes to express their sincere thanks and appreciation for the prayers, cards and expressions of love in the loss of their brother. May God bless you.

Sis. Viola Wagner, Sis. Loretta Hess and Sis. Shirley DeBolt

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY

Perry A. Klopfenstein

The Word teaches us to be steadfast.

Such a concept is an inspiration for the believer. The Apostle Paul wrote, ". . . be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know your labor is not in vain in the Lord." I Corinthians 15:58.

To be steadfast is to be firm, fixed and constant; not wavering. At times, their "spirit" was not steadfast with God" (Psalms 78:8). Like Ruth, we should be "steadfastly minded" (Ruth 1:18) and thence seek to hold the beginning of our confidence in Christ "steadfast unto the end" (Hebrews 3:14).

Our Gridley congregation was saddened by the passing of our dear Bro. William Gramm, 91, who was a stalwart among us for many years. Respected both in the church and in the community, he contributed his talents to both institutions for many years. He served as a song leader, and was a Sunday school teacher for several decades. A wise teacher, he often reminded his students that "no one achieves a true education until they know and understand the Scriptures". This was a timely reminder in an era when secular knowledge was on the increase, and Apostolic Christian youth were becoming more and more exposed to "higher" educational levels.

He is survived by his wife of 68 years, Sis. Olive. Also surviving are two daughters, Sis. Violet Funk (Morton), and Sherrill Schafer (Peoria); three sons, Bro. Arthur (Chenoa), and Bros. Edward and John (Gridley); one sister, Sis. Nellie Lambert (Wichita, KS); 26 grandchildren and 32 great-grandchildren.

Sis. Carol Stoller (wife of Bro. Larry) was hospitalized this month.

Visiting ministers were Bros. Marvin Stieglitz (Leo, IN) and Wes Knapp (Goodfield).

On August 2, Sis. Kathy Stoller (Bro. Donald and Sis. Vyra) was announced to be married to Bro. Dennis Meyer (Bluffton, IN). His parents are Bro. Harold and Sis. Violet.

On August 9, the marriage engagement of Sis. Kelly Wuethrich (Francisville, IN) to Bro. Brian Steffen was announced. Her parents are Bro. Chris Lee and Sis. Ruth Wuethrich and his parents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Emma Lou Steffen.

We extend our best wishes to both couples as they seek to enter into the sacred bond of matrimony.

Bro. Dennis and Sis. Brenda Hodel are the happy parents of Amanda Jean who was born June 26. She has one brother, Nathan, and her grandparents are Bro. Roy and Sis. Helen Hodel and Bro. Larry and Sis. Carol Stoller, all of Gridley.

ILLINOIS, MORTON

Phyllis Farney — Marcia Kelley

“For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.”

Philippians 1:21

Ida B. Getz was called into eternity. Her funeral was July 27. Our sincere sympathy is extended to her family and friends.

Sis. (Miss) Edith Getz was also taken from this life to a better life. Her funeral was August 17. May the heartfelt sympathy of others bring peace and comfort to her family and friends.

Again this month the death angel touched our congregation. Sis. Lydia Huette was called Home. Her funeral was August 19. We pray that the happy memories of Sis. Lydia will help ease the sorrow of her many loved ones and friends.

We welcome Henry Rapp, Jr., into the family of God. We heard his testimony and witnessed his baptism August 8. How we do rejoice with the angels in heaven!

Our Sunday school assembled together August 16 after a brief vacation. May God richly bless our children, young people and Sunday school teachers with another year of learning God's Word together.

Our love and best wishes go with Bro. David and Sis. Debbie Huber and their children, Jaron and Eric, as they will be moving to Bloomington/Normal. We look forward to their visits.

We were blessed this month with the visits of Bros. Al Langhofer (Wichita, KS) and Greg Rassi (Chicago, IL) who shared God's Word with us. We thank them for their kindness.

ILLINOIS, PEORIA

Kathy Huthmann

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

Zion's Harp #137

August 2 was the wedding day of Bro. Don Hoerr and Sis. Jackie Waibel. Their parents are Bro. Don and Sis. Velma Hoerr and Bro. Bill and Sis. Joyce Waibel. May God bless them and may they seek His guidance as they begin their new home in Lafayette, IN.

After seeking God's will, Bro. Jeff Ginzel and Sis. Angie Schaefer have announced their wedding engagement. Their parents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Mary Ginzel and Bro. Herman and Sis. Eva Jean Schaefer (Morris, MN). We wish them God's blessings.

Those hospitalized this month were: Bro. Sam Eberhardt, Sis. Wilma Honegger, Sis. Martha Schneider and Fred Aeschleman.

We were blessed to have many visiting ministers with us this month. We want to thank these brothers for their inspiring messages: Elder Bros. Lavoyd Moore (Athens, AL), Joe Braker (Morton), Bros. Paul Gasser (Akron, OH), Carroll Gerber (Bluffton North, IN), Walter Herrmann (Princeville), Jim Ramseyer (Bay City, MI), Carl Wyss (Washington) and Floyd Schmidgall (Morris, MN).

We wish to extend our sympathy to Bro. Willis Triplett, Bro. Wilber Triplett and their families as their mother, Sis. Viola Triplett, passed away recently. May God comfort them.

Sis. Martha Schneider would like to thank all for the prayers, cards, gifts and kindness shown to her while in the hospital, and since returning home. May God bless each one.

God blessed the home of Bro. Dan and Sis. Kayla Hoerr August 6. Cori Nicole was welcomed home by her big sister, Miranda. Grandparents are Bro. David and Sis. Harriet Hoerr and Bro. Floyd and Sis. Vila Mae Schmidgall (Morris, MN).

“For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

“Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

“Wherefore comfort one another with these words.”

I Thessalonians 4:16-18

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE
Marjean Lehman

“Thy word, O Lord, forever is the mirror where we see our faults and duties as they are, our likeness unto Thee.”

Obedience to the Word

Visiting ministers have been Elder Bro. Eugene Pamer (Akron, OH), Bro. Harvey Grimm (Bern, KS) and Bro. Steve Martin (Eureka).

“Thou sayest Child give me your heart! O what a sweet request! It shows the way that we must take to life and peace and rest.”

The Covenant of Grace

On August 15 we heard the testimony of faith of three dear souls. On August 16 we witnessed their baptisms. Welcomed into the fold were Bro. John Grimm (Bro. Earl and Sis. Anna Lou), Sis. Cheryl Wagenbach and Sis. Gail Wagenbach (Bro. Lawrence and Sis. Elaine). May they feel God's nearness and blessings every day all through their lives.

“This God made union then shall never more be broken, where faith and love have been the holy cov'nant's token.”

The Union of Hearts

On July 2, we witnessed the marriage of Sis. Doreen Graham and Bro. Jerry Leuthold. Parents are Bro. Dick and Sis. Jeanette Graham and Bro. John and Sis. Shirley Leuthold. May God's blessings be upon their union.

“Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me for of such is the kingdom of heaven.”

Matthew 19:14

On July 26, Kendra Lea Baer was born into the family of Bro. Ray and Sis. Janna Lou Baer. Kerry, Wanda, Cyrena and Robert are thrilled to have such a sweet little sister. Grandparents are Bro. Herman and Sis. Mary Baer and Sis. Marilyn Schieler (Wolcott, IN). May God bless their family circle.

“I wish to die in my dear Jesus, in peace and with great joy consoled, and through His wounds I shall inherit the robe of white He will unfold.”

Death In Jesus

On July 31, Sis. Mary Musselman passed to her eternal rest. Sis. Mary resided at the Peoria Home. Her husband preceded her in death. She leaves one daughter, Judy Scroggs, and two sons, Larry and Rick. Sis. Mary will be missed by our congregation. May God's comforting hand be with those of her family and close friends.

"Rejoice in the Lord, ye righteous; and give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness."

Psalms 96:12

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

Judy Luginbuhl — Marge Leman

September starts the beautiful fall season and is also the time for our children to go back to school. Whatever age they may be, from kindergarten to college, let us ask our heavenly Father to watch over them.

On July 25, Suzanne Luginbuhl and Jeff Thompson were united in marriage. Parents of the couple are Bro. Les and Sis. Judy Luginbuhl, Bill and Lynn Ruder (Eureka) and Ken Thompson (Highland). We wish them God's blessings as they begin their life together.

Those of our loved ones who have spent time in the hospital are Bro. Walter Blunier, Bro. Ori Aeschleman, Jerry Hodel and Elmer Wiedman. May God grant them His healing power.

Our Sis. Olivia Kempf passed away August 9. Surviving are one brother, Dennis D. (Tremont, UT) and one sister, Kathryn (Roanoke) and one nephew and four nieces.

Many thanks go to our visiting ministers, Bro. Art Baurer (Princeville), Bro. Art Metz (Silverton, OR) and Bro. Will Schieler (Milford, IN). May God be their rich rewarder.

ILLINOIS, TREMONT

Carolyn Bolliger

Dorothy Wagenbach

Our thoughts and prayers go with our elder brethren as they gather in Rockville, CT, for their annual conference. We pray the Lord will be mightily by their side in these troubled times.

We extend our sympathy to Bro. Ken and Sis. Arlene Huette and their family in the death of Ken's mother, Sis. Lydia Huette (Morton).

We recently selected two new Sunday school teachers: Bros. Roger Koch

and Maurice Schaefer, and one new trustee, Bro. Earl Sauder. Our retiring Sunday school teachers are Bros. Ken Dill and Jerry Zuercher. Bro. Chris Pflederer, Jr. is our retiring trustee. We thank these brothers for their years of faithful service and pray the Lord will bless them and those who now assume their new responsibilities.

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

Vicki Bucher

With the return of our children to the schools of learning, of utmost importance is our parental responsibilities to teach them according to our heavenly Father's Word.

Proverbs 22:6: "Train up a child in the way he should go and, when he is old, he will not depart from it."

Bro. Max and Sis. Mary Pfaffmann are the loving parents of a daughter, Heidi Ann. Heidi's grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Dolly Schick and Ernest and Sis. Ida Pfaffmann.

"Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is His reward."

Psalms 127:3

We are thankful for the efforts of our visiting ministers as they bring us God's true Word. Bro. Ralph Garber (Morton) and Elder Bro. Don Sauder (Roanoke) shared the Word with us this month.

We are prayerful for those who were hospitalized this month. Bro. Edward Wyss was a patient for a short time. His wife, Sis. Julia, fell and broke her hip and was hospitalized. They are both such dear people, and we hope and pray the Lord will bless them with good health soon.

"O Lord my God, I cried unto thee, and thou has healed me."

INDIANA, BLUFFTON

Lucille Isch — Becky Isch

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

Proverbs 18:22

Sunday, August 2, was a warm, beautiful wedding day for Sis. Teresa Fiechter (Bro. Gerald and Sis. Eunice) and Bro. Todd Earney. May God's blessings be with this couple as they walk the path of life together. Visiting ministers here to share the day with us were Elder Bros. Ed Ringger (Gridley, IL),

Jesse Beer (Milford), Bros. Elmer Witzig (Gridley, IL), Vernon Leman (Eureka, IL), Harold Emch (Girard, OH) and Nelson Beer (Milford).

We rejoice with Bro. Denny Meyer (Bro. Harold and Sis. Violet) as his engagement to Sis. Kathy Stoller (Bro. Don and Sis. Vyra, Gridley, IL) was announced August 2. We wish them joy and pray that God will bless their lives together.

We welcome two more dear souls into our brotherhood. On Saturday evening, August 8, we heard the testimonies of faith of Kent Wolf and Larry Bertsch (Bro. Leonard and Sis. Wava). They were baptized Sunday, August 9. We wish them God's blessings and grace as they walk the narrow path of life. Bros. Bob Meyer (Bluffton North) and Ben Manz (Junction, OH) were with us for this special occasion and we thank them for their precious teachings.

Sis. Emma Ringger, 95, was called to her heavenly home August 9. She has been a resident at Swiss Village for the past 5½ years. We extend our sincere sympathy to her dear family, Bro. LaVerne (Sis. Rose) Ringger and Sis. Amelia (Bro. Ray) Heyerly and her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

We also extend our sympathy and love to Sis. Anita (Bro. Godfrey) Bertsch, whose father, Orlando Lehman, passed away August 12.

Our congregation was blessed with several new babies this month. On July 21, Bro. Brian and Sis. Deb Fiechter welcomed Ashley Marie. Herman and Sis. Phyllis Fiechter and Carl and Betty Macklin are her proud grandparents.

Bro. Duane and Sis. Karen Steffen are thankful to have had Justin Dwight arrive July 22. His grandparents are Bro. Dwight and Sis. Lucille Gerber and Bob and Betty Steffen.

Caleb Andrew Fiechter surprised Bro. Mark and Sis. Shelly Fiechter by arriving early July 29. Bro. Wayne and Sis. Dorothy Fiechter are his grandparents.

Loved ones hospitalized this month were Sis. Elizabeth Kaehr, Sis. Nellie Bertsch, Sis. Lydia Kaehr and Sis. Pat (Bro. Leon) Gerber. We pray for God's will and His guiding hand in their recovery.

Thank you note: We wish to express our sincere appreciation for the many prayers and visits paid to Henry over

the last seven years of his affliction. Also, for the many cards, floral arrangements and loving expressions of sympathy extended unto our family at the time of his departure.

The Henry Stoller Family

INDIANA, BLUFFTON NORTH
Sheri Leman

"Only take heed to thyself, and keep thy soul diligently, lest thou forget the things which thine eyes have seen, and lest they depart from thy heart all the days of thy life: but teach them thy sons and thy son's sons;

"... Gather me the people together and I will make them hear my words, that they may learn to fear me all the days that they shall live upon the earth, and that they may teach their children."

Deuteronomy 4:9, 10

September has come and so begins the time of schooling. As good a thing an education may be, may God remind us all also to be about our Father's business, learning and teaching His ways.

We were taught and reminded of His ways by several visiting ministers this month. With us were Bro. Bill Emch (Lamont, KS), Bro. Gary Maibach (Smithville, OH), Bro. John Hartman (Fairbury, IL) and Bro. Bill Dotterer (Phoenix, AZ). We are always happy to welcome visiting brethren and their families into our congregation.

We also welcome with Christian love, Sis. Elsie Isch (Junction City, NJ). She has felt guided by the Lord to reside in the Bluffton area and to attend the Bluffton North Church.

July 26 was the wedding day for Sis. Susan Troxel (Bro. Bob and Sis. Mary Jo) and Bro. Vince Gerber (Bro. Vernon). May God always be the guiding influence in their life together as He was in their lives separately.

Babies are a special joy — and we congratulate Bro. Dave and Sis. Terri Mueller on their third addition to their family, Kyle David, born August 15. Big brother and sister, Nathan and Jenna, and grandparents, Bro. Lenard and Sis. Ilean Steffen (Bluffton) and Mrs. Anbrose Mueller (Fort Lauderdale, FL) welcome him with love. May they feel God's love and guidance always, as they "teach" their children His ways.

"And not only so, but we glory in

tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; And patience, experience; and experience, hope: And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us."

Romans 5:3-5

Sometimes the best way for us to learn is to experience. Our prayers are always with those who go through times of sorrow, ill health or accident.

Several months back Bro. Craig and Sis. Beth Baumgartner experienced a fire in their home resulting in several burns to themselves. We are thankful that they are doing well again. There is a continual prayer in our hearts for Bro. Brett and Sis. Cindy Shorb and for their son, Daniel, who has had to cope with many physical problems. He spent most of last month in the hospital. Our sympathy and prayers go to Sis. Mayme Getz and Sis. Emma Levy in the passing of their brother, Amos Levy. We trust that God will provide for all their needs.

"The meek will he guide in judgment: and the meek will he teach his way."

Psalms 25:9

INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE
Jacki Huber

"Grace be to you, and peace, from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ."

Ephesians 1:2

Lisa Pedigo rejoices as she has felt the grace and peace of God. We look forward to hearing her testimony of faith in the near future.

Our hearts were filled with joy as we heard the engagement announcement of Sis. Kelly Wuethrich (Bro. Chris Lee and Sis. Ruth) to Bro. Brian Steffen (Bro. Dave and Sis. Emma Lou, Gridley, IL). May their lives throughout their engagement and marriage continue to glorify God.

Bro. Dean (Chip) Topp has felt God's hand guiding him as he has taken employment in Warsaw, IN. His home church will now be Milford, IN. We will miss him here, but hope he'll visit us often, and know he'll be an asset to the Milford congregation.

It's always special to have visitors, and we were blessed with many this past month. We were especially blessed

to have Elder Bro. Akito and Sis. Marie Inoue and their family here from Japan recently. We give thanks to Elder Bro. Akito for ministering to us.

INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS

Kathy Freed — Gail Bradford

A blessed weekend was held in Indianapolis as our dear Craig Schafer gave his testimony and was baptized. His parents, Bro. Bruce and Sis. Laurretta, family, visitors and friends rejoiced and gave thanks on this happy occasion! Bro. Lenny Meyer (Chicago, IL) and Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott) ministered to us.

Other visiting ministers in July and August were appreciated. They included Bros. Elmer Witzig (Gridley), Jack Bollier (Leo), Earl Kilgus (Remington) and Nelson Beer (Milford).

We need the prayers of those we love, and this month our concerns included young Ryan Bucher (Bro. Ardie and Sis. Leann) who underwent major surgery. He is recovering well. Sis. Sherri Cress and her daughters moved to Bluffton where Sherri has a new job. We will miss them! After months of uncertainty due to closing of the Chrysler facility in Indianapolis, Bro. Blake and Sis. Kim Wuethrich will be staying here as he takes a job with Chrysler in Kokomo.

September means the start of the fall school term for many of us. Children and adults will enter classrooms across the land to gain knowledge. Education is seen as the key to "success" and a "successful" life. A degree is the gateway to happiness and prosperity.

Although we need skills and knowledge to earn a livelihood, the confidence placed in knowledge and education today is misplaced. Learning is not a guarantee of happiness nor does knowledge lead to security or peace.

However, the Bible speaks of knowing the Lord's will, of knowing God. This spiritual knowing is different from book learning and far more lasting. The facts in the world change frequently, as new discoveries are made and as new technologies are established. The Lord is consistent and unchanging, and knowing Him creates a peace and security in the believer which surpasses anything worldly knowledge can offer us.

No matter how few or many years of school or how ordinary or advanced the education, a Christian can claim in con-

fidence "I know that my Redeemer liveth!" That's knowledge!

INDIANA, LACROSSE
Sandy Heinold

Summer is reunion time. As we gathered with family and friends to renew old acquaintances and make new ones, we couldn't help but think what a joyful reunion that will be in heaven someday. Our prayer is that many more can yet surrender their lives to Christ, so that none will have to miss that great reunion. Two visiting ministers worshipped with us recently due to a reunion in our area. We thank Elder Bro. Raymond Banwart (Fort Scott, KS) and Bro. Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH) for encouraging us to seek the kingdom of God. We appreciated each and every one of our visitors who traveled the miles to be with us.

On July 26, we enjoyed our annual Sunday school picnic. We watched as the eager children received their rewards for good attendance in Sunday school. We hope that as they grow up they will not neglect this privilege of assembling in God's house.

At the time of this writing, Bro. Enos Cadwalader and Sis. Esther Hitz are in nursing homes in Valparaiso. As their bodies break down with age, we have such an opportunity and duty to visit them, pray for them, and encourage them in their lonely hours.

Our sympathy is extended to Bro. Ralph and Sis. Carolyn Levy due to the recent passing away of Ralph's brother, Amos Levy (Bluffton, IN).

INDIANA, LAFAYETTE
PURDUE UNIVERSITY

Gina Huber

It was good to see everyone again at the two summer Purdue services where our hearts were refreshed as Bro. Edwin Bahler (Remington, IN) and Bro. Neil Widmer (Wolcott, IN) shared God's Word with us. We were reminded of what a blessing it is to be a child of God, and also, that we must be watching for His return.

We who are working here in Lafayette look forward to having the students back as classes will be starting again soon. We wish them all the Lord's blessings as they begin their endeavors. We will miss Bro. Mark Ramseyer and Curt Anliker as they are participating in Co-op programs this first semester. Though miles may separate, it is a

blessing to know that the Spirit of prayer can keep us close.

"We don't know what tomorrow brings but we know Who brings tomorrow."

INDIANA, LEO
Thelma Schlatter

"If God should send two angels into the world, one to sweep streets and another to be king over a nation, both would be equally happy, for both delight to do His will. Are you like God's 'ministering spirits' — perfectly happy in doing God's will, whether it be in a large place or performing an insignificant task?"

(copied, source unknown)

"To know God's will

Is life's greatest treasure.

To do God's will

Is life's greatest pleasure."

Anonymous
Apples of Gold

Our good wishes go with Bro. Nathan and Sis. LeAnn (Wulf) Gerber whose marriage was solemnized August 23 at Morris, MN. Her parents are Bro. Leonard and Sis. Vi Wulf (Morris, MN). His parents are Bro. Paul and Sis. Mary Jo Gerber (Bluffton, IN). May His rich blessings be theirs as together they continue to serve Him at the Children's Home.

Messengers of His Word this month in addition to our home ministers were visiting Bros. Kevin Knapp (Bloomington-Normal, IL), Carl Wyss (Washington, IL), Wallace Ramsier (Mansfield, OH) and Albert Aberle (Tremont, IL). May faithful effort yield fruit for His kingdom.

Bits of This and That:

"When I remember who I am, I say I can't. When I remember who He is, I say I can through Christ who lives in me."

I am but one; But I am one. I cannot do everything, But I can do something. What I can do, I ought to do; And what I ought to do, God helping me, I will do.

True liberty is not the power to live as we please, but to live as we ought.

If all the sleeping folks would wake up, And all the lukewarm would fire up, And all the disgruntled would sweeten up, And all the discouraged would cheer up, And all the depressed would look up, And all the estranged would

make up, And all the gossipers would shut up, Then there might come a revival."

Selected (from various sources)

INDIANA, MILFORD
Marguerite Hoerr — Sue Schieler

Yesterday found many gathered together out at Camp Mack for the annual Youth Fellowship Day. We thank all of you who came to make it a day of blessing. We would like to remind you to mark your calendar for next year's date, August 21, 1988.

We received many good teachings recently from visiting ministers who were Bros. Carroll Gerber and Bob Meyer (Bluffton North), Neal Widmer (Wolcott), Glenn Price, Jr., (Sarasota, FL) and Jim Byrd (Roanoke, IL).

Our congregation welcomes Bro. Dean Topp from Francesville who has found employment in our area.

Bros. Frank Beer, Don Haab and Elmer Haab were hospital patients recently, and we pray they will feel God's nearness and healing.

Barbara Wuthrich (Bro. Alan and Kathy) and Michael Fiedler (Mr. and Mrs. John Fiedler, Akron, OH) were united in marriage July 18, and are now making their home in Delaware.

Bob and Eva Hoerr (Boston, MA) welcome a new little son, Theo Christoph, to their little family, and he has been named after his great-grandfather, Bro. Theo Beer. Big brother, Matthew, welcomes home little Theo, as do the happy grandparents, Bro. Bob and Sis. Marguerite Hoerr.

Bro. John and Sis. Carol Hurd welcome their first grandchild as their son, Blane, and his wife, Kathy, gave birth to a daughter, Danielle Christine.

INDIANA, REMINGTON
Beth Virkler — Susan Getz

Lord, remind us that Your call is not just to the treasured time of worship or to those peaceful moments of prayer, but, because of the resurrection, it is to move with courage into the encounters and arenas of life where many have not heard the Gospel's call. Help us to speak when it is not easy, to act when it is safer to just go along with wrong. Help us to know that in the day of Jesus Christ, His kingdom will come; and let us, O God, be bound by a love amazing and divine, and then go out and embrace a weary and despairing

world and lift that world to You. Amen.
Kenneth Working

We are thankful the Lord brought Bro. Alpha Strahm (Bern, KS) to our congregation this past month.

Doug Getz (Bro. Maurice and Sis. Eileen) is in the Navy stationed at Norfolk, VA. He is on the Saipan, a helicopter carrier, and would appreciate words of encouragement. His address is:

Douglas E. Getz
USS Saipan LHAZ
R. Division
FPO New York 09549-1605

INDIANA, VALPARAISO

Trish Bucher — Peg Huber

"Rejoice with them that do rejoice . . ." Romans 12:15. We have been blessed to add another lamb to our fold. Sis. Cheryl Bucher has experienced the joy of baptism. May God richly bless her in her new walk with Him.

" . . . weep with those who weep." Romans 12:15. Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to Sis. Lavina Schmeckpepper and her family in the loss of her husband, Walter.

Our Vacation Bible School theme this year was "The Battle For Our Soul." The servants who brought us the Word were Bro. John Reinhard (Bluffton), Bro. Lynn Stieglitz (Leo) and Bro. Jim Ramseyer (Bay City, MI). Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL), Bro. Nile Bucher (Bluffton North), Bro. Marshall Heinold (Washington), Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francisville) and Bro. Ron Heiniger (Bloomington, IL) also visited us this month. Our sincere thanks is extended to them for sharing God's Word so unselfishly.

We are thankful that God's healing hand was on the family of Bro. Tim and Sis. Julie Bucher as their son, Benjamin, had a short hospital stay.

Another of God's precious jewels, a little girl named Jessica, spent a few short weeks in the home of Bro. Andy and Sis. Diane Moser. May God bless them for their deeds of love and may it be a reminder to us to pray for those who do not enjoy the blessings that we enjoy so bountifully.

INDIANA, WOLCOTT

Elaine Bahler — Lorene Furrer

Our calendars tell us that fall is here, but we can feel it in the air and see it, too. Fall is a time of beginnings and

endings; and ending of our summer gardens and all that was once green, the beginning of another school year for the children. And this fall is also a new beginning for Bro. Greg Lehman (Bro. Gene and Sis. Verna), as his engagement was announced to Sis. Mary Beth Klotzle (Elder Bro. John and Sis. Lois, Altadena, CA). We wish them God's blessings as they plan their future together.

IOWA, BURLINGTON

Dixie Messner — Karen Schulz

We want to thank Bro. Dan Stoller (Rockville, CT) for being with us this past month and sharing the Word of Life with us.

We extend our sympathy to Ella Reeser in the passing of her dear husband, Esral. May she feel God's nearness during her time of sorrow.

Matt Eisenmann (Bro. Paul and Sis. Elaine) was a surgical patient this month.

Our prayers are with our elder brethren as they meet this week to consider the problems that confront our church in these latter times. May we all seek to live closer to God each day that we may not be found wanting when our time here on earth is finished.

IOWA, ELGIN

Gloria Frieden

How quickly the summer months are passing and the children have returned to their books and daily assignments. Many of us have passed that stage in our lives, . . . or have we? Perhaps we should still be giving ourselves assignments for each tomorrow, such as, be more loving, more patient, more forgiving . . . The list could go on and on, couldn't it? Our text is the Holy Bible. Let's be faithful in our study, remembering that our assignments for tomorrow must be studied today.

Wesley Moore (Gene and Sis. Julie) was a recent hospital patient, surgical.

We were happy for the midweek visit of Bro. Steve Martin and his family (Eureka, IL). May God richly bless Bro. Steve for his service in the Lord.

Our prayers are with our beloved elders as they assemble in Rockville, CT, for the annual church conference. How thankful we are for their love and concern for the faith. May God bless them, each one.

IOWA, GARDEN GROVE

Glen and Sally Funk

What a busy time of the year it is, as we are involved with getting children ready for school, taking care of garden produce, and also getting ready for a trip to the church conference. Without the Lord and His strength, we certainly would be overwhelmed at times, but He is always there with His hand to calm us when we need calming, if we look to Him.

The last two months we have been truly blessed with visiting ministers, and we pray for God's blessings upon them. Bros. Clifford Grimm (West Bend), Howard Plattner (Wichita, KS), Vern Wettstein (Congerville, IL) and John Lehman (Bern, KS) were all very much appreciated. Some came because they were on the list to serve, others just to visit, and we are so thankful for the fellowship they all bring with them.

Elder Bros. Sam Huber and Edwin Ringger were also with us in July to serve holy communion. We had a very blessed day. Our thanks and praise go to God for making communion a commandment, and for the blessings we receive from it.

Court Smith (Bro. Gene and Sis. Rachel Smith) had an accident while burning trash and received second degree burns. We are so thankful that he survived without more harm or injury.

In closing, a song comes to my mind. The first line often, in fact, daily, sings to me and is so strengthening. "My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness! Praise the Lord!"

IOWA, IOWA CITY

Bonita Frank

We rejoice with Sis. Nada (Tom) Little who was baptized August 9 at Fairbury, IL. Nada is the daughter of Bro. Wayne and Sis. Norma Fehr (Fairbury). Those of our congregation who were able to attend the testimony service and baptisms came home feeling blessed, being reminded of God's great power and love for us.

We appreciate our visiting ministers of this past month. They were Bros. Marvin Leman (Bradford, IL), Dale Moore (Elgin, IA), Arnold Gerst (Taylor, MO) and Jim Leman (Roanoke, IL).

We will miss Sis. Nada and Tom Little who are moving to Illinois where

Tom will continue his schooling in the Champaign-Urbana area. We wish them God's guidance and His blessings.

IOWA, LESTER

Kathy Metzger — Mary Knobloch

Our congregation has been blessed this past month with many visitors — some who came specifically to visit at Lester and those en route to and from vacation areas. It is always a privilege to meet brethren for the first time and to share their love for Christ and His family of believers. Among the visitors were ministers of God's Word and we humbly thank God for sending them to preach the truth to us. On July 19 Bro. Wayne Banwart (Champaign-Urbana, IL) was with us. On August 2, Bro. Art Metz (Silverton, OR) ministered to us and Bro. Homer Reineck (Toledo, OH) was visiting Lester August 9.

After much prayer and consideration, Bro. Dean Feucht has felt directed to take up residency and employment in Detroit, MI. May Bro. Dean's light continue to shine among those he works with and in the church at Detroit and our prayer is that God will continue to direct and bless him as he walks the road to Zion.

God has blessed Mike and Kathy Moser with a beautiful baby girl, Tonya Lynn, born July 20. Paternal grandparents are Lou and Tina Moser. May continued blessings be theirs as they rear their precious little family.

Medical hospitalizations this past month were as follows: John DeHaan (Sis. Ione), Angela Knobloch (Linda) and Tonya Moser (Mike and Kathy). Bro. Emil Knobloch was transferred from the hospital to a nursing home. May each feel God's nearness as they recuperate from illness or continue to battle the physical ailments that so often come upon loved ones. What a beautiful day it will be when all burdens and pain and discomfort shall vanish forever!

Our sympathy is extended to Frieda and John Giesel and family in the passing of her brother, Julius Moser. May God comfort their hearts as they bid farewell to a loved one.

The time again is here when our children, youth and young adults return to school and to college. Our hearts go out to them as they battle the problems they encounter. We pray for them often and hope they carry with them teachings from home and Sunday

school and can, with a real love for Christ, "stand up for Jesus!"

IOWA, OAKVILLE

Debbie Wagenbach

We are thankful that Bro. Danny Stoller (Rockville, CT) and his family have recently been able to spend time with us in Oakville. We are thankful to Bro. Danny for lending himself to be used in our congregation.

Our Sunday school picnic was held the end of July. It really is an inspiration to see so many little children of all ages who will be our church of tomorrow, should the Lord tarry His return. Let us strive to be good lights and examples to our youth.

Many will be leaving this week to attend our elder brother conference in Rockville, CT. May we prayerfully support our elder brothers as they discuss church matters, and, more importantly, may we prayerfully and willingly support their conclusions.

IOWA, PULASKI

Sara Teubel — Mary Jane Knapp

Once again the school doors are open for another year. May all teachers ever keep in mind from whom all knowledge and ability is given, and daily ask God for grace to teach according to His will. Teachers of children in the early years often leave a deep impression in a young and tender mind, and in later years can confuse young adults so that the truth becomes clouded in their minds. Therefore, it is our responsibility to continue to pray for our children and their teachers, asking God to lead all of them that His name might be glorified.

Sis. Elizabeth Wuthrich (Bro. Albert) is a medical patient in the hospital at the time of this writing. May God grant her strength according to His will.

IOWA, WEST BEND

Polly Zaugg — Phyllis Banwart

We wish to thank Bro. Wayne Banwart (Champaign, IL) and Elder Bro. Gene Marti (Lamar, MO) for visiting us and bringing us God's teachings.

Recent surgical patients were Bro. Robert Fehr (Sis. Barb) and Sis. Carole Fehr (Bro. Larry). We are thankful they can again assemble with us.

We are pleased to welcome to our community and congregation Bro. Bruce and Sis. Audrey Messner, Jaime and BreAnn, formerly of the Winthrop,

MN, congregation. We pray that God will bless them in their new business and their lives.

Chuck and Trela Wirtz are the parents of their first child, Garrett Joseph, born July 18. Grandparents are Bro. Verner Wirtz and the late Sis. Beverly, Bro. Gene and Sis. Mary Marti (Lamar, MO).

We are thankful that Bro. Eli Grimm, Sr. (Sis. Lena) could observe his 90th birthday with all of their 13 children and many of their grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

JAPAN, TOKYO

Frank and Kathy Sauder

On July 27 and 28 we enjoyed our annual fellowship meeting in the mountains near Mt. Fuji. The theme chosen this year was "The Relationship Between Love and Bearing the Fruit of the Spirit" (I Corinthians 13). Approximately 50 people attended from both congregations in Japan as well as several American guests, including ministering Bro. Vic Beer (North Fort Myers, FL).

Bro. Akito and Sis. Marie Inoue and their children left for America this summer to visit family and to attend the brotherhood conference in Rockville, CT. We greatly miss them and look forward to their return. Our thoughts and prayers have been with the elders and ministers. We pray that God will guide and bless their meeting.

It was a blessing for the believers to renew their fellowship in Christ with two former kindergarten teachers who came to be with us this summer, Sis. Vicki Ramseyer (Bay City, MI) and Bro. Roger and Sis. Sally (Beutel) Koch (Tremont, IL). We appreciated their help at our first Summer Bible Camp for past graduates from our church's kindergarten. It was good for the students to once again hear the truth with their former teachers.

We were thankful to welcome Sis. Renee Baurer (Princeville, IL) to our Tokyo church. We look forward to many times of fellowship ahead as Sis. Renee serves the Lord here in Japan as a kindergarten teacher at our country church in Shioda.

Sis. Horiuchi has had a busy summer with the arrival of two new grandchildren. We pray that their grandmother's faith will leave a lasting imprint on their lives.

KANSAS, BERN
Shirley Strahm
Lori Baumgartner

The mercury in the thermometer slowly edged up to 100 and seemed to just stick there by mid-afternoon. This continued day after day until days had turned into a week and soon three weeks had gone by without a rainfall here in our community. The beautiful lawns, lush gardens and cornfields began to weaken under the stress of the heat and no moisture. Gradually what had been a lush green countryside turned into a weary, dusty, brown. It is hard to imagine how quickly the land, full of moisture from plentiful rains, can dry up so soon when a dry spell hits. So it is with our spiritual lives. If we allow the Lord to continue to water us with His Word, we will live bountifully, as we will have a well of water in us that will spring up into everlasting life. But how sad our condition can become if we begin to reject the spiritual water from on high. We can no longer stand up against the heat of Satan's temptations. Gradually we wither and die. May we all partake of God's Word daily, so we may be prepared for the dry spells in our lives.

Our visiting ministers this month were Bro. Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH) and Bro. Clarence Dietrich (Silverton, OR). We appreciate them bringing us the Word.

We are pleased to announce the birth of Carina Elizabeth Mae, daughter of Don and Sherri Rokey. She is welcomed home by her sister, Angela, and her brother, Levi. Her grandparents are Bro. Melvin and Sis. Florence Rokey.

Sunday school has now resumed after a break during August. May we all pray for the Sunday school teachers as they begin a new year of teaching. We hope that each teacher may realize the big responsibility that lays upon his or her shoulders and that each may seek God's guidance through the coming year. We hope that seeds from God's Word will become imbedded in each little heart.

Teaching our Bible class are Bro. John Baumgartner and Bro. Dean Strahm. Our Junior Bible class is being taught by Bro. Jim Kaeb and Bro. James Menold. Grades four, five and six are being taught by Bro. Wayne Edelman and Bro. Arden Stoller. Sis. Shirley Strahm is teaching third grade, and Sis. Darlene Stoller is teaching

second grade. First grade is being taught by Sis. Heidi Baumgartner. The two kindergarten classes are being taught by Sis. Helen Meyer and Sis. Lori Baumgartner. The preschool class is being taught by Sis. Nancy Rokey.

KANSAS, FORT SCOTT
Teresa Bahr

“. . . whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report . . . think on these things.”

Philippians 4:8

Our recent visiting ministers have been Bro. Wayne Banwart (Champaign, IL) and Bro. Ted Witzig (Morton, IL).

KANSAS, GRIDLEY
Vola Young — Judy Kraft

Congratulations are extended to Gary Beyer (Bro. Ivan and Sis. Ada) and Kara Mudge (Harold and Jane), who were recently married.

Visiting ministers over the past couple of months have included all of the ministering brothers from our neighboring church, Lamont, and Elder Bro. Ronald Nelson (Kiowa).

KANSAS, KIOWA
Darcy Kisling — Janice Bahr

THE PROMISED REST

God's people yet shall take possession
 Of that sweet land of rest so bright;
 Rejoice! From bondage and oppression,
 From service in this earthly night,
 Soon Christ will come and will relieve
 you;
 Your tears will cease, and joy He'll give
 you.
 Your pains and burdens He'll remove,
 Will ease you of distress and sorrow,
 And on that bright and better morrow
 Will bring you to that rest above.

Zion's Harp #211

At a time when many have returned from an earthly vacation from their labors, we can be reminded of the "promised rest" in heaven. May we keep our eyes always on our Lord that He may lead us.

"Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life,

and few there be that find it."

St. Matthew 7:14

The Lord has again blessed us richly with His Word. We would like to thank visiting minister Bro. Wayne Miller (Fort Scott, KS) for lending himself. May the Lord bless him for his service.

In the hospital this month was Lydia Circle who suffered from a stroke and is now recovering. We thank the Lord for His answers to our prayers. May we ever be grateful that he is always "on call".

KANSAS, SABETHA
Charleen Hartter — Nita Grimm

We're taught to "Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep." Romans 2:5. It is our privilege to rejoice with Bro. Ben Aberle as he is united in marriage to Sis. Anna Lou Mattix from the Kansas City congregation. We do wish them many blessings and warmly welcome Sis. Anna Lou into our fellowship.

Sunday school elections were held, and Bro. Steve Knoblock and Sis. Ada Plattner have been elected to serve as teachers. May they feel God's blessing as they endeavor to instruct our youth in the way of truth.

Sisters Florence Meyer and Jennifer Kellenberger have both spent some time hospitalized since our last writing, and we do wish to remember them.

Bro. Elmer and Sis. Phyllis Strahm are the happy grandparents of a little baby girl, Jennifer Elizabeth, born to Tony and Sonia (Strahm) Cole August 2. There is a wondrous beauty when we look into the eyes of a tiny babe and behold God's handiwork!

Sis. Jennifer Kellenberger has moved from our area to Morris, MN. Although we will miss her, our prayers go with her for God's continued blessing and protection. Anywhere with Jesus we can safely go!

KANSAS, WICHITA
Emma Miller

Elder Bro. Ed and Sis. Joan Lanz and two young sons spent the first weekend in August with our congregation. We appreciate their sacrifice of time from their family vacation as well as Bro. Ed's ministry. On August 16, Bro. Noah Herman and his wife spent the day with us. His message, too, was one of encouragement.

The Wichita congregation extends sympathy to Bro. Harvey and Sis. Ann

Farney and their families. On August 1, their son-in-law, Oliver Allenbach, was suddenly called from this life into eternity.

We also extend our sympathy to Sis. Nellie Lambert in the loss of her brother, Bro. Will Gramm.

Sis. Laurie Gallatin has felt a call for change in her life. She is moving to the Chicago, IL, area to pursue her education. Sis. Laurie will be missed by all of us and especially by the Sunday school students. She was such an enthusiastic teacher.

Our small congregation has been heartened to learn of two friends who have moved to our area. Angela Plattner is employed in Hutchinson and we welcome her to assemble with us even though we know of the lengthy drive she must make to do so. Kim Neal, from Kiowa, is employed in Wichita and will be attending Wichita University. We look forward to having her in our church circle.

Bro. Arthur Wullschleger has been seriously ill. He was hospitalized for surgery and has been moved to the Rehabilitation Center at St. Joseph's. He and his family need our prayers for God's will in their lives in this stressful time.

MICHIGAN, ALTO

Juanita Gerst

The summer months are just about gone, but many of us still find time to travel and enjoy the fellowship with those of like mind and faith. We are thankful for all the ministering brothers who have been with us. A hearty thank you goes out to Elder Bro. Sam Anliker (Lamont), Bros. Carl Wyss (Washington, IL), John Steiner (Oakville, IA), Ron Palitto (Akron, OH) and Bro. Vernon Leman (Eureka, IL).

Many times in life joy comes with sadness. It is with sad hearts of love that we bid farewell to Bro. Randy and Sis. Karen Kellenberger and their boys. They are planning to live in Kansas City and we know that Kansas City will enjoy them as much as we will miss them.

Note: Silver Lining dues are due in October for Alto.

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY

Pam Schlatter

Two new babies are welcomed into our congregation. Greg and Lynette Munsel are first-time parents of Carissa Lyn. Bro. Frederick and Sis. Delores

Munsel and Bro. Gary and Sis. Shirley Wright are the happy grandparents. Mike and Cheryl Schmidt are also pleased to have Scott William in their home. Scott is welcomed also by his brother, Michael, and grandparents, Bro. Dave and Sis. Margaret Schlatter.

"And Ruth said, Intreat me not to leave thee, or to return from following after thee: for whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people shall be my people and thy God my God." Ruth 1:16. Although Ruth and Naomi were not in a marriage situation, Ruth demonstrated the kind of commitment so vital in marriage. Pledging their lives to each other have been Bro. Joe Hohulin of Denver (Bro. Melvin and Sis. Shirley, Roanoke, IL) and Sis. Lorraine Faustin (Bob and Joan). Also united in marriage were Matt Arbor and Lori Pashak (Bro. Dean and Sis. Connie Pashak). May God's blessings be upon these couples.

The seed I have scattered in springtime
with weeping,
And watered with tears and with dews
from on high;
Another may shout when the harvester's
reaping,
Shall gather my grain in the "sweet by
and by"

Another may reap what in springtime
I've planted,
Another rejoice in the fruit of my pain—
Not knowing my tears when in summer
I fainted,
While toiling sad-hearted in sunshine
and rain.

The Songs of the Reaper
(Melodies of Praise #24)

We thank visiting ministers Gary Maibach (Smithville, OH) and Ken Schneider (Remington, IN) for scattering the seed among us. We trust the "tears of the sower and the songs of the reaper will mingle together in joy by and by."

Sis. Lois Waibel has been a hospital patient this last month. We are thankful she is now able to assemble with us. Marshall Rylance received a cornea transplant which seems to be progressing quite well. We rejoice with him at having had his spiritual as well as his physical eyes repaired.

MICHIGAN, DETROIT

Donna Hartzler

Our thanks are extended to visiting

ministers of this past month. Elder Bro. Aaron Steffen (Alto, MI) ministered to us Sunday, August 2. We were reminded we are living in a time when we can no more say, "The fathers have eaten a sour grape, and the children's teeth are set on edge." (Jeremiah 31:29). But, as the tree falls, so shall it lie. On Sunday, August 16, we were privileged to have Bro. Roger Aberle (Sabetha) minister to us. We appreciate Bro. Roger and his family remembering us with a visit.

Charles Leman has been on the sick list. He spent time in the hospital in traction, but is now home recuperating. We pray he will be granted a speedy recovery.

Our sympathy is extended to the family of Bro. Paul Sabados who passed away August 19 after a lengthy illness. Surviving are his mother, Sis. Mary; sisters, Maria Kobal, Sis. Suzanne, Sis. Anna, and Pauline; and brothers, Joe and Mike. Bro. Paul will be greatly missed, but we can find comfort in the fact he felt ready to meet the Lord and that he could know, "... that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth." Job 19:25.

We rejoice that the Lord is still working in the hearts of those who wish to become His children. It was announced that Maggie Fortenbacher and Jim Baxter of the Kitchener, Ontario, area have repented, received peace and wish to be baptized. We look forward to the time when they can give their testimony and become part of God's family.

A hearty welcome is extended to Bro. Dean Feucht who has moved here from the Lester, IA, congregation. Bro. Dean has accepted employment in Apostolic Christian Woodhaven. We pray God will bless him in his new job and environment.

On Sunday, August 16, we bid farewell to Sis. Sally Dotterer who has been attending Wayne State University in Detroit for several years. She has accepted a job in the Union City, NJ, area. We are saddened to see her leave, but wish Sis. Sally God's blessings in her career and home.

Apostolic Christian Woodhaven is holding Open House at various times. They have specifically set aside Sunday, October 18, 1987, for Open House for those interested from our churches. Anyone interested is welcome to worship with us and tour our facility. Dedi-

cation services for Woodhaven are scheduled for Sunday, November 15, 1987.

MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS
Barbara Olson

We were filled to overflowing as God's precious Word was delivered to us through the service of man. Visiting ministers have been Elder Bro. Bob Grimm (Goodfield, IL), Elder Bro. Harold Messner (Winthrop, MN) and Bro. Elmer Schmidt (Winthrop, MN). May God grant them the strength and courage to continue ministering His true Word.

Our new Sunday school superintendent is Bro. Jim Tilbury. We wish Bro. Jim God's blessings in this important position.

We rejoice for each soul who is able, by the grace of God, to surrender his heart and mind to Christ in repentance. When we are lowly in heart, the Lord lifts us up and gives us peace. Larry Schmidgall (Bro. Ray and Sis. Millie) has acquired this blessed peace and is looking forward to baptism.

PATIENCE AND PERSEVERANCE

Patience and perseverance are twin virtues that bring God's blessing. Patience means remaining hopeful when our prayers don't seem to get answered and our difficulties pile up. Perseverance is sticking at a task we know we ought to be doing even though we don't see the results we are looking for.

Simeon and Anna exemplify these qualities. Both had anticipated the coming of the Messiah during their lifetime, but the years slipped by and He still had not appeared. Even when they grew old, they kept alive the confidence that He would come. Furthermore, they continued to worship and serve the Lord faithfully as they had always done. Then one day it happened. When the infant Jesus was brought into the temple, Simeon and Anna knew that this Child was the Promised One. At last they saw with their own eyes the long-awaited Messiah!

The 1980's are marked by impatience and a love of ease. People want immediate rewards. They seem unwilling to work hard and wait for financial success. They are drawn instead by the lure of instant riches through lottery tickets or some other get-rich-quick scheme. And in the spiritual realm, people look to leaders who promise

immediate healing and wealth as rewards for faith.

How important that we return to the old-fashioned Christian virtues of patience and perseverance in all we do!

Thought — Consider the postage stamp; its value lies in sticking to one thing until it gets there.

MINNESOTA, MORRIS

Ruth Nohl — Hildegard Koehl

In life's hurried pace we sometimes are slack in the most important part of life and that is our communion with God. Daniel of old is a good example for us — he was successful in countering the strain of life's demanding activities. Three times a day Daniel could be found praying and making supplication before his God. How we do need this quiet and calming time.

The engagement of Sis. Angie Schaefer (Bro. Herman and Sis. Eva Jean) and Bro. Geoffrey Ginzler (Bro. Dave and Sis. Mary, Peoria, IL) was made known to us. We hope they feel God's guiding hand as they plan for their future together. A January wedding is being planned.

We have been privileged to have many ministering brothers among us during this summer season. Elder Bros. Bob Grimm (Goodfield, IL), Joe Braker (Morton, IL), Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL), Bros. Noah Gerber (West Bend, IA), Ken Lawson and Kent Mogler (Minneapolis, MN) and Kenneth Eisenmann (Cissna Park, IL) have all shared God's Word with us. Thanks to them all!

We rejoice with Carter Feuchtenberger as he has sought the Lord through repentance. Bro. Gerald and Sis. Karen are his parents.

Hospital patients have been Bro. Gilbert Schmidgall (surgical), Sis. Madonna Moser (surgical), Bro. Carl Joos, Mildred Sauder and Kate Steffen. May they feel God's healing powers and our prayers for them.

Sis. Helen Joos would like to express her heartfelt "thanks" to everyone who remembered her during her hospitalization and since at home. Thanks to those who came to sing or visit, for thoughtful prayers, cards, flowers, gifts of love and concern. May God bless each and every one.

Bro. Leo and Sis. Thelma Dogotch would like to thank their many relatives and friends for their cards and gifts of money to celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary.

Also a special thanks to their children and grandchildren for their kindness. May God bless and keep you all.

August 8 was the wedding date for Renae Moser (Bro. Dave and Sis. Norene) and Al Schrek. May God's love find a dwelling place in their home and in their lives.

MINNESOTA, WINTHROP

Wanda Messner
Ella Mae Schmidt

August 9, Elder Bro. Art Nohl (Morris), Bro. Don Miller (Minneapolis) and many other visitors were here for the testimony and baptism of Paulette Schmidt (Bro. Elmer and Sis. Hazel). What a foretaste of greater joys to come, as we were able to welcome a new sister into the "family of God". We thank Bros. Art and Don for many teachings and exhortations.

There's a peace in my heart that the world never gave
 A peace it cannot take away;
 Tho' the trials of life may surround
 like a cloud,
 I've a peace that has come there to stay!

All the world seemed to sing of a Savior
 and King,
 When peace sweetly came to my heart;
 Troubles all fled away and my night
 turned to day,
 Blessed Jesus, how glorious thou art!
 Mrs. Will L. Murphy
 Tabernacle Hymns #42

"Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing."
 Proverbs 18:22

Wesley Schmidt, son of Gene and Sis. Ella Mae Schmidt announced his engagement to Rhonda Hartman, daughter of Marilyn Hartman (Winthrop). May the Lord add His blessings to the building of these new homes.

MISSOURI, LAMAR
Carol Braker — Janice Stoller

**CAST YOUR BREAD
 UPON THE WATER**

Cast your bread upon the water
 Though the tide be raging high
 It will reach its destination
 Far beyond the starry sky.

Cast your bread upon the water
 Though the rivers cease to flow

It will reach its destination
When and where we do not know.

The bread you cast upon the water
Will return a hundred fold
Payment may not be in silver
Nor of the finest gold.

But rather in the joy of knowing
That your life was not in vain
That you helped some fellow travelers
Glide across life's rugged plain.

Know ye all that God in Heaven
Credits you not with dollars won
But how oft you helped your neighbors
And how much you loved His Son.

So cast your bread upon the water
Though the tide be high or low
It will reach its destination
When and where we do not know.

W. L. Cordill

How true are these words. Let us
strive each day to put others first, cast
our bread upon the waters, and surely
we will feel blessed.

This month, we were privileged to
have with us ministering Bro. Neil
Widmer (Wolcott, IN). May he be
blessed for submitting to God's will in
his life.

We certainly are thankful for God's
protection over our dear Bro. Roy Braker.
He was hospitalized following an
accident, but is recovering nicely. He
wishes to extend his sincere thanks for
all the many prayers on his behalf and
the cards received as well as the many
visits both in the hospital and since
returning home.

We extend our sympathy to Sis.
Ruth Banwart in the passing of her
brother, Clarence Miller.

We apologize for an oversight in last
month's article. We sincerely offer our
sympathy to the family of Bro. Dean
Marti in the passing of his brother,
Allen.

MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS Loren and Betsy Schrenk

When we are pushed and jostled by
those around us in life, how do we
react? The human tendency is to push
back. Even very small children exhibit
this response. How should we, as Chris-
tians, react?

In the Sermon on the Mount (Mat-
thew 5), Christ taught us to turn the
other cheek (vs. 39) and to love our

enemies (vs. 44). Before His crucifix-
ion, He quietly accepted horrible
abuse by those around Him. He had
taken on humanity and its weaknesses
for Himself, so one can imagine that
meekly accepting the spitting and
slapping did not come naturally.

If we are to achieve our goal of being
Christ-like, we should understand
what Christ taught and how He Him-
self acted. Then we need to pray for the
grace to do likewise.

August 2 we were blessed with hav-
ing two ministers. We thank Bros. Ken
Eisenmann (Cissna Park, IL) and By-
ron Stoller (Gridley) for ministering to
us.

Bro. Ken Knapp (Taylor) was our
minister August 16. Thank you.

Starting in September, we will be
holding services in St. Louis three
Sundays each month; the first, third
and fourth. We appreciate the encour-
agement and support of the elders,
ministering brothers, Mission Com-
mittee, and especially each one who
has attended services with us in St.
Louis.

MISSOURI, TAYLOR Loida Hodel — Lori Marquart

ANOTHER DAY

Lord, thank you for another day
Within this life of mine.
Give me the strength to live it well.
Whatever I may find.
Bestow from your abundance
Whatever I may lack.
To use the hours wisely,
For I cannot have them back.

Lord, thank you for another day
In which to make amends.
For little slights or petty words
Inflicted on my friends.
For sometime losing patience
With problems that I find.
For seeing faults in other lives,
But not the ones in mine.

Lord, thank you for another chance,
In which to try to be
A little more deserving of
The gifts you've given me.
For yesterday is over, and
Tomorrow's far away
And I remain committed
To the good I do today!

Grace E. Easley

Hospital patients this month were

Bro. Ron Joos (Sis. Chris), medical;
Joseph Knochel (Bro. Eric and Sis.
Penny), tonsillectomy; and Gavin
Haab (Bro. Paul and Sis. Kathy), ap-
pendectomy. All are recovering satis-
factorily. "And we know that all things
work together for good to them that
love God, to them who are called ac-
cording to His purpose." Romans 8:28.

We thank visiting ministers, Bros.
Bert Butikofer (Elgin, IA), Roger Aberle
(Sabetha, KS), Roy Ehnle (Bradford,
IL) and their families. "But be ye doers
of the word, and not hearers only,
deceiving our ourselves." James 1:22.

"I've Climbed the Golden Stair"
When I have heard the heavenly choir/
And left this temporal shore,/I'll thrill
with rapture here unknown/As Jesus I
adore./Old friends I've known long
years ago/Will bid me welcome Home;/
Delighted in that bliss I'll rest,/This
earth no more to roam./What joy will
be my portion then,/All free from sin
and pain!/With death forever past for
me,/Don't wish me back again./When
you see this old shell of mine,/Don't
think that I am there;/I've traveled on
to live with God —/I've climbed the
golden stair!". William Heimer, 86,
better known as "Grampa Heimer",
passed away July 19. The Heimers
were residents of Good Samaritan
Home in Quincy, where Mrs. Heimer
will remain. "Grampa Heimer" will be
missed by many. "But I would not have
you to be ignorant, brethren, concern-
ing them which are asleep, that ye
sorrow not, even as others which have
no hope." I Thessalonians 4:13.

"Blessed are they that put their trust
in Him." Psalms 2:12. We are happy
that Tim Sutter (Bro. Gerald and Sis.
Marge) has turned to his Lord in re-
pentance. We wish for him much grace
and support in the days ahead. We
know "Things that are impossible with
man are possible with God." Luke
18:27.

"The Christian faith is never a guar-
antee against trouble — But it is a
guarantee against defeat when troubles
come."

NEW JERSEY, UNION CITY Heidi Haerr

We would like to thank all of our
visitors during the past month. Our
visiting ministers were Bros. Albert
Aberle (Tremont, IL), Marshall Hein-
old (Washington, IL), Glenn Price
(Sarasota, FL), John Klotzle (Altadena,

CA), Jaye Rinkenberger (Goodfield, IL) and Elder Bro. Ed Schwartz (Bluffton, IN). We appreciate having visitors and are thankful that they are willing to travel many miles to worship with us.

Our little congregation is saddened to lose one of our valuable members. Sis. Essie Isch has returned to her home in Bluffton, IN. Essie lived in Union City "for more years than I choose to remember", as she always said. Many soldiers who passed through our area in the 1950's found it a friendlier place because of Essie. She has always been a strong support in our congregation and her gracious spirit will be missed for a long time. However, we pray and trust she will be happy in Bluffton and will continue to bring light and laughter to people wherever she lives.

NEW YORK, CROGHAN Alice Virkler

Our annual business meeting was held July 31. Bro. Andy Virkler will serve as a trustee and new Sunday school teachers are Sis. Louise Purvines and Sis. Mae Virkler. May each of those who have been elected and re-elected be granted the grace necessary to faithfully carry out their duties.

On Sunday, August 2, we gathered in the Croghan church for a song service as we had visitors with us. On Wednesday evening, August 5, we were in the Naumburg church for a covered dish meal before the evening service. We also had many visitors.

Our Sunday school children and their families and the church enjoyed the annual Sunday school picnic which was held at Boonville Park Saturday, August 8.

On Sunday, August 16, we assembled with the Naumburg congregation for church and a covered dish meal. The Word of God was expounded by visiting Elder Bros. Perry Zimmerman (Forrest, IL) and Darrel Klopfenstein (Fort Lauderdale, FL) and Bros. Merle Kaisner (Fairbury, IL) and Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH). The evening services were in the Croghan church. We thank each of these brothers and their families and the many others who were with us for the weekend. We are thankful that God's Word is still being preached by humble brothers.

Joe Bush (Linnette) was a hospital patient a few days.

NEW YORK, NAUMBURG Rachel Snyder

This past weekend of August 16, the Croghan congregation assembled with us and we could feel God's blessings flow upon us abundantly as four elders and ministers were with us and gave us teachings as God directed.

They were Elder Bro. Perry Zimmerman (Forrest, IL), Elder Bro. Darrel Klopfenstein (Fort Lauderdale, FL), Bro. Merle Kaisner (Fairbury, IL) and Bro. William Schlatter (Junction, OH).

Oh, if only we can keep our hearts more clean and pure as God wants them. Let us pray for much needed grace to do so.

There were also many more visitors with us and that added to an already blessed day.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph (Martha) Ciulla (Melrose, MA) are the parents of a little daughter, Brittany Melissa, born July 27. The grandparents are Bro. and Sis. Leland Hirschev.

OHIO, AKRON Joyce Gasser

"... A smoking furnace, and a burning lamp that passed between those pieces... the Lord made a covenant..." Genesis 15:17, 18. God made a covenant of love to restore fallen mankind. God had made the earth so gorgeous for Adam and Eve, and yet after making them in His image and putting them in command, they didn't believe God. So they were separated from God, but love found a way to restore mankind to God's image. Jesus is that smoking furnace and burning lamp that passed between the pieces in making the covenant. Noting love covenants, we find nine points, and how Jesus fulfills our part.

1. Covenant means cutting. They cut an animal in two and laid the pieces one against another and the burning lamp passed between. Two people are becoming one in nature. Jesus cuts open our heart to come in that we can become one nature with Him.

2. They cut their wrist, put their wrists together, saying they are one flesh, one blood.

3. They made a scar from that cut, and when they saw each other after that, they would hold up their scar, meaning they were one. Jesus holds His scars: From thorns on His head, to take our reprobate mind and give us the mind of Christ; from nails in His hands and feet to take our unrighteous

acts and give us a clean act; from stripes on His body to take our sickness and give us health; from a pierced side to forgive our sins and cleanse us.

4. They exchanged robes (I Samuel 18:4) giving each other their covering. Jesus takes our self-righteousness and offers His robe of righteousness.

5. They exchanged swords saying they will protect each other. Jesus offers us His sword, the Word, which will protect us.

6. They exchanged names. God tells us to take the name of Jesus, and calls us Christian.

7. They read the covenant terms. Genesis 31. God offers His Word and certain things belong to us.

8. They ate a meal of bread that they are one flesh; and drank wine of the grapes, they are one blood. God offers communion of bread and wine.

9. They planted a tree for evidence to the world of their love. The cross is called a tree, planted for us in love for all eternity.

We were blessed with visiting ministers: Bros. Bill Gerst, Marvin Leman, Glenn Dill and Elder Bro. Harold Messner. We appreciate their ministry and the fellowship of having them, their families and traveling companions. We welcome all to visit us when there is an opportunity and we look forward to meeting elders, ministers, brothers, sisters and friends from across the land.

Bro. Ernest and Sis. Louise Graf wish to thank all who remembered them for their golden anniversary.

Sis. Juliet Graf had surgery and left this note: I want to thank all who remembered me with cards, gifts and prayers when I was in the hospital. God bless you all.

Juliet Graf

OHIO, JUNCTION Les Manz

God's Word was delivered to us this month by Bro. Vernon Wettstein (Congerville, IL) who stopped Sunday on his way home from the conference in Rockville, CT. As we see our brethren who were able to attend the conference and were refreshed by the Spirit-inspired messages, we look forward to hearing these messages ourselves as the tapes are played in our own churches.

Sis. Mary Manz was hospitalized for a broken hip. She is now out of the hospital and on her way to recovery.

We trust that in His master plan she will have a speedy recovery.

OHIO, LATTY

Patty Gerber — Marlene Reinhard

“Thus united and in concord, let us walk the path of life. Hand in hand, Oh may love bind us, for each other’s welfare strive.”

“Unity”, Zion’s Harp

July 19 was the wedding day of Bro. Todd Sinn (Bro. Walt and Sis. Renee) to Sis. Janet Steidinger (Bro. Maurice and Sis. Alma, Fairbury, IL). We wish them God’s richest blessings in their life together.

Hospitalized this month was Sis. Ollie Laukhuf. May she continue to look to God for strength each day.

August 8 and 9 was a very blessed weekend for all of us here at Latty. Many soldier boys gathered for another Fort Sam Reunion. We received Christian greetings from 26 different churches. Visiting ministers were: Elder Bro. Charles Hemmer (Peoria, IL), Bros. Marvin Stieglitz (Leo, IN), Earl Gerber (Forrest, IL), Bill Hodel (Roanoke, IL), Art Baurer (Princeville, IL) and Bert Butikofer (Elgin, IA). Our cups were filled to overflowing when we left God’s sanctuary Sunday afternoon.

“Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness . . .”

Matthew 6:33

We rejoice with the angels in heaven that Mark Sinn (Bro. Ray and Sis. Ann) has decided to follow Jesus. May he be granted much grace to overcome Satan’s trials and temptations and may the peace of God reign within his heart.

OHIO, MANSFIELD

Linda Morrison

I will greet this day with love in my heart. And how will I speak? I will laud mine enemies and they will become friends; I will encourage my friends and they will become brothers. Always will I dig for reasons to applaud; never will I scratch for excuses to gossip. When I am tempted to criticize I will bite on my tongue; when I am moved to praise I will shout from the roofs. Is it not so that birds, the wind, the sea and all nature speaks with music of praise for their creator? Cannot I speak with the

same music to His children? Henceforth by God’s grace I will remember this secret and it will change my life. I will greet this day with love in my heart.

Og Mandino

Youth Day was held Sunday, July 26. Elder Bro. Andy Virkler (Bay City, MI), Elder Bro. Aaron Steffen (Alto, MI) and Bro. Larry Wenninger (Latty) shared the day with us. The children were reminded that today Christ is passing by just as He passed by Zachaeus. Are we willing to come down from our self-pride, self-righteousness, greed, envy, hate and follow the Lord Jesus and in repentance find peace for our heart and soul?

On August 16, Elder Bro. Edwin Ringger (Gridley, IL) and Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL) ministered to us. We appreciate all of our visitors that stopped on their way to and from the conference.

On Sunday, August 23, Bro. Ron Steiner (Rittman) spent the afternoon with us and ministered God’s Word.

Sis. Wilma Sauder underwent surgery but she is home from the hospital. We trust God will bless her with renewed health and strength as He sees best.

OHIO, RITTMAN

Diane Gasser — Judy Stoller

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

Ecclesiastes 12:13

It seems we have been reminded of this verse often lately. Surely it does sum up the whole reason for man being upon this earth. Bro. Fred Domka (Mansfield, OH) visited us during the past month and meditated upon these words. May God continue to grant him grace to bring forth His Word. May we continue to be blest with the freedom we have in this country and may God’s Word always be brought forth in truth and humility.

As children are born into this world, parents gain the responsibility of teaching these precious little souls of God’s way and the “whole duty of man”. May God grant the parents who have new babies grace to train up their children in the way they should go. Bro. Greg and Sis. Joy Stoller are first-time parents with the birth of Laura Ann. First-

time grandparents are Bro. Dale and Sis. Jeannette Stoller as well as Bro. Ronald and Sis. Hope Gasser.

Bro. Earl and Sis. Susie Beery have another son, Reid Philip. His sisters are Molly and Katie, and his brother is Caleb. Bro. Melvin and Sis. Elizabeth Beery and Bro. Ray and Sis. Ann Sinn (Latty, OH) are Reid’s grandparents.

On August 1, Renee Boltz (Bro. Robert and Sis. Marjorie) and Richard Stahl (Kenneth and Greta) were united in holy matrimony. May God bless the union of their hearts and ever guide them in this life.

As we walk through this life we often experience difficult times as well as good. We must trust God to work all things together for our good and pray that something good will come from the difficult times that we may grow in Him. Those who were confined to the hospital in the past month were Bro. Isaac Rufener, Jr. (Sis. Verna), Bro. Roy Maibach (Sis. Mabel) and Bro. Steve Rufener (Sis. Jenee). May God abide with them and touch their lives with healing.

God holds the key to our future and we often do not know what may lie ahead for us. Time brings many changes in our lives. We welcome Grace and Sis. Ida Fetter to our Rittman congregation as they will be residing in one of our church apartments. May God bless them in their new home.

OHIO, SARDIS

Alice Ramsier

“I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord.”

Psalms 122:1

We are glad and rejoice to be able to go to this new house of the Lord. On August 2, 1987, we held open house services. Many members of the community attended. Elder Bro. Joe Ramsier (Rittman, OH) and Elder Bro. Loren Stoller (Latty, OH) ministered to us during the day. We were reminded that every time we have a worship service, it will be “open house”. We pray that many of the people that came to view our new building will return to worship with us.

August 9 was the day set aside for dedication. Many brethren from many congregations gathered with us for the occasion. To dedicate is to set apart for a sacred or solemn purpose. In addition to dedicating the building to the

Lord, we were also moved by the blessings of the day to rededicate our hearts and lives to the Lord. Many visiting ministers shared the day with us. They were Elder Bro. Don Sauder (Roanoke, IL), Elder Bro. Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI), Elder Bro. Gene Pamer (Akron, OH), Bro. Vic Bauman (Smithville, OH) and Bro. Bill Emch (Lamont, KS). We thank the dear ministering brothers for coming and offering their time and God-given talents.

Our church has been blessed with the addition of a newborn baby, a gift from God. Bro. Gary and Sis. Terri Zollinger welcome their new baby boy, Craig Michael. Bridget, Ben, Joey, Jami and Charla are happy to have a new brother.

Visiting us also this past month was Bro. Ron Steiner (Rittman, OH). We thank him for sharing the Word with us.

August 1 was the wedding day of Ron and Linda Headly Kiestner. We pray that the Lord will guide them as they begin their life together.

OHIO, SMITHVILLE

Ann Maibach — Verla Stoller

July 19 marked a new beginning for Bro. Dan Stoller (Bro. Don and Sis. Luzelda) and Sis. Kim Blough (Bro. Joe and Sis. Lucille, Rittman) as they were united in holy matrimony. We welcome Sis. Kim to our congregation. July 24 was the wedding day for Ruthann Blough (Bro. Elmer and Sis. Lorene) and Scott Anderson (Ralph and Frances Anderson). We wish both couples God's richest blessings as they travel life's pathway together.

The birth of Phillip David has brought joy to the home of Bro. Dave and Sis. Connie Maletich. Anita, Pam and Diane are glad for a little brother. Grandparents are Bro. David and Sis. Mary Maletich (Rittman) and Bro. Bob and Sis. Inez Ramsier. Ken and Sis. Alice Greenbank are thankful for the safe arrival of Kevin Joseph. Alec and Leah are his brother and sister. Sharing in their joy are Bro. Gordon and Sis. Emily Greenbank (Phoenix, AZ).

His love we may not understand,

While trials here increase,
But yet we know His Word is sure,
In me ye shall have peace.

Mrs. E. W. Chapman
Gospel Hymns #493, vs. 3

Those who have suffered afflictions of the body, and had to be hospitalized

this past month are Bro. Jay Maibach (Sis. Marsha), Sis. Shelly Rigenbach (Bro. Glenn and Sis. Lou), and Sis. Terri Stoller (Bro. Ron). We are thankful to report all have returned home.

Our visiting minister this past month was Elder Bro. Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO). May God bless him for his willingness to serve us.

OHIO, TOLEDO Josephine Rehklau Frances Laidig

We are looking forward to the visit of Bro. Edwin Bahler (Remington, IN) at our midweek service and also welcome the other guests who are planning to be with us. Bro. Bahler will be going on to the conference at Rockville, CT, as will some of our congregation. May the Lord be ever near to all of our loved ones who are attending the conference, guiding their thoughts in His service. All of us who wish to serve the Lord benefit from the spiritual teachings received from these meetings that are so prayerfully conducted by our elder brothers.

Our summer Bible school was well attended and enjoyed by the children. It is a special week of interest and added instruction for them. The hope of the teachers and parents is that these teachings will add spiritual guidance to their lives as they journey through life.

We wish to thank Bro. Ray Sinn (Latty, OH) for spending a Sunday with us in the service of the Lord.

Sis. Ida and Grace Fetter have recently moved to Rittman, OH. May God bless them with happiness in their new home. We do miss their presence among us.

Tracy Habig and Andrew Fetter (Bro. Richard and Sis. Betty) have announced their engagement. May God bless them as they begin planning their future together.

Congratulations are extended to Julie Weigele (Bro. Al and Sis. Mary Ann) who has graduated from Bowling Green State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Education and Psychology. We wish her God's blessings as she is looking forward to the future.

PENNSYLVANIA, PHILADELPHIA Jerry Isch

We were shocked and saddened by the sudden death of our dear friend,

Bess Clark Merz, 78. Bess was born in Texas and her family moved to Elgin, IL, many years ago where she met and married Ben Merz. Ben's parents were members of the Elgin Apostolic Christian Church and after Ben and Bess were married, his work took them first to California and then to Philadelphia, PA, where they have lived for more than 40 years. They often attended the Philadelphia Apostolic Christian Church where we learned to know and love them. Funeral services were held Saturday, August 1, at the Methodist Church of Narberth, PA, where Bess was a member. She was a kind, loving and giving person. May God comfort and console her dear husband, Ben, and their two sons, Wesley and Warren, in the loss of their beloved wife and mother.

"O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good: for His mercy endureth forever . . ."
Psalms 107:1

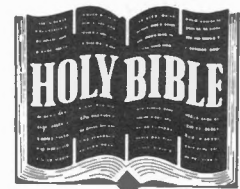
We give thanks for our dear Bro. Lee and Sis. Maxine Bahler for coming and sharing God's precious Word with us.

We welcome Randall and Sis. Joy White and their 3 children to the Philadelphia area. They are making their home in Lebanon, PA.

SILVER THREADS

A Bible that is falling apart usually belongs to someone who isn't.

— Daily Bread



NOTICE

A gray "Fashionbuilt" ladies coat has been left at Forrest, IL, church since Emil Sohn's funeral in January.

Sermon . . .

(Continued from Page 28)

pians 3:10. He says to know Christ is to fellowship with His sufferings.

We talked about Stephen this morning. Stephen didn't say, "Oh, well. I am saved by grace through faith anyway. I don't have to go through this torture. I

don't have to have rocks thrown at me." He suffered because he had true faith, and the Lord was faithful to him.

In Revelation, we read that Jesus will come again with the faithful. If we look up the word 'faithful', we find that 'faithful' means to be obedient and it means to be true to the promises that you have made.

When we stood in the baptismal waters, we promised to be true and faithful until death. The Lord is going to come again with the faithful. I want to be one of the faithful.

Paul is saying, "If I try and do that on my own power, no matter what rules and regulations I follow, I will not be faithful. I won't make it. But if I surrender to the power of the Spirit, I will be faithful, righteous and sanctified."

In Philippians 4:11-13, Paul says, "Not that I speak in respect of want, for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

So if I am failing, not walking like I should be or if I see sin in my life, what does that tell me? It tells me I am not yet surrendered as I should be because when I am really totally surrendered, I will not serve sin. In I Corinthians 10:13, God says, "With every temptation, I have provided a way of escape."

Paul says in verse 12, "Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus. Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended..." Philippians 3:12, 13. He knows that at this point (in his writings) he had not yet reached perfection. He had not yet reached the end. He had not yet been perfected. When I say 'perfected', I mean perfected into the maturity of being in heaven. He is still working at that.

"... but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before." Philippians 3:13. This afternoon, as you and I listen to the Word and feel its chastisement, we can say, "All right, right now I am going to start anew to press toward the mark of the high calling of God." We can attain it if we surrender.

"I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." Philippians 3:14. In I Corinthians 9:24, Paul is talking to believers, "Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain." In a physical race, only one can win. In a corruptible race, only one can win. In the incorruptible, spiritual race, we can all be winners. "And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown..." I Corinthians 9:25. They, the people who spend their time running physical races, do it to obtain a corruptible crown but we (brothers and sisters who look at things in the light of Spiritual terms), we obtain an incorruptible crown.

"I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air: But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway." I Corinthians 9:26, 27. Paul understood that it takes effort on our part to surrender. Paul understood that you have a choice. People today, if they are not careful, want to place all the responsibility on Jesus. That is not fair. That is not the way we were created.

Jesus did His part: He died on the cross for us. He shed His blood for us... and He is available whenever we ask. But we are still required to ask. Don't let anyone deceive you into thinking any differently. We are still required to submit, and if we don't, we are coming up short.

Paul understood that. "I press toward the mark lest I myself after I have preached to others should become a castaway." I Corinthians 9:27. He understood that it is possible to fall away.

People today want to take that responsibility off of their own shoulders and say, "I've done all I've got to do. I accepted Jesus and I am done. No matter what I do, from now on out, I am saved." That is not the Word. The Word says we have security, eternal security as long as we abide in Him.

I don't have time to go into all the references, but there are a lot of them. It is our choice. We do not have to live in fear. We have to live surrendered. We cannot ever take the surrender of our will out of our lives.

"Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye

have us for an ensample." Philippians 3:17. He says, "Look at me. Look at the righteousness that I demonstrate through and because of the power of God." An unrighteous person can't say that.

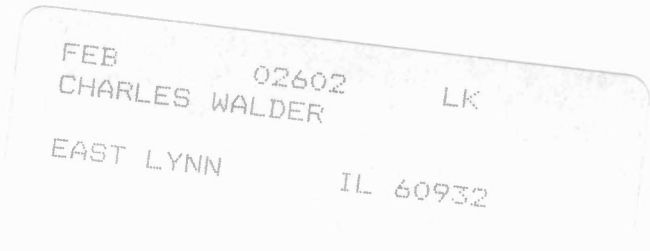
I John says, "A righteous man has confidence in his prayers." The devil comes to you and me if we are living in sin, and says, "No use praying. You are not righteous." The Bible says, "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." James 5:16. You and I then have a great power in prayer, but we need to be righteous! We can be righteous through the power of Almighty God. All we have to do is surrender.

In closing, let us read the last part of I Corinthians 15. This is our goal and what we have to keep thinking about. "So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written. "Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin: and the strength of sin is the law." I Corinthians 15:54-56.

The sting of death is sin. If you live in sin, then you have to worry about death. Romans talks about living victorious unto life or living in sin unto death. That's the choice for every person. The sting of death is sin. The strength of sin is the law. The law tells us what is right and wrong. We know that, but we don't have any power to overcome. "But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." I Corinthians 15:57. What do you think it means when it says 'victory'? I think it means victory over sin. Jesus said, "I came to destroy the works of the devil." That tells me that if I am yielded to God, the works of the devil would be destroyed in my life.

What are the works of the devil? The works of the devil are sin. If I am yielded to Jesus, He will destroy sin in my life. Anyone that tells you that you can live in sin and still be a part of Jesus is confused and deceived.

"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord." I Corinthians 15:58. I think he makes it clear. He gives us the power to overcome. He tells us how to do it, and the choice then is up to us.



SERMON BY BRO. EARL E. RINGGER OF GRIDLEY, IL

Surrender To Jesus Totally

Text: Philippians 3

Teachings are easy to understand when we surrender to them. The Bible is a book that speaks to people. If you are unsundered, the devil can use it. If you are surrendered, the Lord uses it. The devil used scripture to tempt Jesus, and he uses scripture today to tempt unsundered man. They become deceived because they won't take the whole counsel, the whole Bible, and apply it all, knowing that it all works together. "All scripture", Timothy says, "is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." II Timothy 3:16, 17. The Bible, if we follow it and apply it, will fill our lives with good works.

In verse 18, it says, "... they are the enemies (the people he warns them against) of the cross of Christ." Philippians 3:18. The cross of Christ represents brokenness. It represents total surrender. The cross of Christ does not compromise with sin. Christ did everything. He prayed there in the garden, "If it be possible, let this cup pass from me;" What did He say? "... nevertheless, not my will, but thine be done." Matthew 26:39. He meant it... and it was done!

Today there is doctrine that compromises the total surrender of the cross of Christ. There is doctrine that does not talk about the fruit of the Spirit nor stress the validity of works in our life. We are not saved by works. We are saved by true faith and grace, not of our own works, lest any man should boast. Ephesians 2:8, 9. But people get mixed up about that. They don't think it through. The Bible in many different ways and in many different places states that the true faith of God is manifested by our works. James makes it as clear as any: "Show me thy faith

without thy works, and I will show thee my faith by my works."

If you and I are professing Christ and are not living a life that shows it, we are being deceived. We are thinking too much about earthly things, as it says in verse 19. (See Philippians 3:19.). In Matthew 5:16, it says, "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." It goes on to say that Christ came to fulfill the law.

When we totally surrender to God, we fulfill the law. It is automatic because His grace gives us the power to overcome sin: and strong faith in Him gives us the love that we are automatically fulfilling the law.

So when the Bible says you are saved by grace through faith, it means that true grace and true faith bring forth purity. It brings forth righteousness. The Bible says in Galatians 6:7, "Be not deceived: God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." That's pretty clear, isn't it? "That will he also reap."

Paul says to the Philippians, "Beware of the people who try and justify themselves by following the law." There are two sides to the coin. You can say, "I'm saved by faith through grace so I don't have to worry about what to do. I'm saved... praise the Lord. Hallelujah. I'm going to do whatever I want to do." Some people do just that.

Or, you can take the other extreme and you can live a life that is rigid and exactly set up. You can take pride in the way you look, in the darkness of your tie, (I'm just using this as an illustration), the blackness of your suit, the shortness of your hair, or whatever. If you really concentrate on that you'll "miss the boat", too.

Paul said, "I, if anybody, ought to be

able to claim power in the flesh." He was born of the lineage of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of the Hebrews, a Pharisee, full of zeal in the specifics of the law, the "nitty-gritty" of what not to eat, what not to wear, what you can do here, and what you can do there. Philippians 3:4, 5.

"Blameless", he said, but then he found Christ and he put all that aside. He counted it all as loss. Philippians 3:6, 7. He realized it was valueless. Some people will say, "What he is saying there is that you don't have to serve the law. Of your own righteousness, you are not saved. So you don't have to be righteous." That is not what the Scripture says.

You cannot be righteous of yourself. Paul had all the right prerequisites and he was so far wrong that he was persecuting Christians. He was deceived. Then, when he yielded to Jesus, he found righteousness through the power of Jesus. His works were still manifested. It doesn't negate the necessity of works in a person's life.

He goes on to say, in verse 8, "Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ. And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ..." Philippians 3:8, 9.

True righteousness comes from true faith.

"That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection..." Philippians 3:10. That's our goal! To experience the power of the resurrection of Jesus Christ in the new heaven and new earth. That's our goal! "... and the fellowship of his sufferings..." Philippians 3:10.

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