



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

Romans 13:1

"Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men."

Acts 5:29

VOLUME 38

OCTOBER 1988

NUMBER 10

NOVEMBER 8, 1988

A DAY OF PRAYER SUPPORT FOR OUR NATION'S LEADERS

"I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions and giving of thanks, be made for all men;

"For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.

"For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior;"

I Timothy 2:1, 2, 3

My Country 'tis of Thee

My country 'tis of thee, Sweet land of liberty, Of thee I sing;
Land where my fathers died Land of the pilgrim's pride, From ev'ry mountain side, Let
freedom ring.

My native country, thee, Land of the noble free Thy name I love;
I love thy rocks and rills, Thy woods and templed hills My heart with rapture thrills, Like that
above.

Let music swell the breeze And ring from all the trees Sweet freedom's song;
Let mortal tongues awake, Let all that breathe partake, Let rocks their silence break The
sound prolong.

Our fathers' God, to Thee, Author of liberty, To Thee we sing;
Long may our land be bright, With freedom's holy light, Protect us by Thy might, Great God,
our King!

S. F. Smith, D.D., 1832

HUNGARIAN TAPES

Two cassette tapes are now available of the singing and playing of the Hungarian churches. The music, performed by choir and orchestra, is from the Zion's Harp, the Heft and other church books used in our church in Hungary. This music is played beautifully and reverently.

The two tapes, "Holy Love," a tape of orchestra, and "Blest Be The Tie," which has both orchestra and singing, are available at \$6.75 for each tape. For shipping cost on orders of 1-5 tapes, add .75 extra for each tape. On orders of 6 tapes or more, add only .30 extra for each tape. All proceeds from these tapes is being donated to the distressed church members in the poor country of Romania.

Tapes may be ordered from:

Al Betz
1244 Washington N. Road
Mansfield, OH 44903
1-419-525-3970

or

Dennis & Beth Feucht
317 N. Third Avenue
Morton, IL 61550
1-309-266-9498

Make checks payable to the person you order from, either Dennis Feucht or Al Betz.

HEFT (LONG BOOK) TAPES

All three volumes of the Long Book Tapes are now available. Bro. Josef Farkasch, of Salzburg, Austria, has made tapes from the old "Long Book," beginning at number one and going straight through the book. He plays the classical guitar and other instruments. There is also singing on a few songs. All proceeds go to our needy brethren living behind the Iron Curtain in Eastern Europe.

Vol. I includes songs 1-11, 13-18

Vol. II includes songs 12, 19-31

Vol. III includes songs 33-48

Each tape costs \$8.00. For shipping costs on orders of 1-5 tapes, add .75 extra for each tape. On Orders of 6 tapes or more, add only .30 extra for each tape. Make checks payable to the Long Book Tape Fund.

For the complete story about these tapes, refer to the May 1987 and the September 1988 Silver Lining issues.

These tapes may be ordered from either:

Don & Lorna Schrock
100 Forest View Road
Morton, IL 61550
(309) 266-6810

or

Dennis & Beth Feucht
317 N. Third Street
Morton, IL 61550
(309) 266-9498

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME

Maxine Sauder

Trust is taking your belief to the point of commitment. How does that apply to your life? Is God asking you to begin putting a puzzle together without revealing all the pieces? Can you trust Him enough to meet your every need as you move forward in the direction He leads -- even if it is different from that of your own choosing?

With the passing of state inspections, Bro. John and Sis. Patsy Stoller have committed themselves to making the new house "home" to their family and six residents. Presently residing with the Stollers are Penny G. (15), Bob W. (15), Jackie F. (11), Rich F. (13) and Robin B. (13), whom we recently welcomed to the ACCH.

Bro. Nathan and Sis. LeAnn Gerber continue to live out their commitment to God and to providing a stable, loving home for our children in the East House. Working together with their new assistant, Sis. Ida Metzger, they strive to meet the needs of Marie H. (18), Lisa S. (16), John W. (18), J.D. B. (15), Mike K. (14), and David K. (12). They also anxiously await the birth of their first child.

Believing it is God's plan for us, we have begun to take steps toward establishing an all-girl's house. Sis. Maxine Sauder has moved into the West House which will soon become "home" to Samantha K. (11) and other teenage girls. As we make this commitment, trusting the Lord to provide, we ask for your continued support and prayers.

Our heartfelt thanks is extended to Becky Aberle, from the Altadena area, who committed herself to ten weeks of service here. She did an excellent job "pinch-hitting" for our office manager, Cindy Baurer, while Cindy journeyed to Japan to visit her sister, Renee.

Recently our ACCH staff and children enjoyed a beautiful day with those of the Toledo, OH, congregation for their annual Sunday school picnic. We wish to thank each of them for making it an enjoyable day.

A friend recently shared the following with me after I had expressed some of my fears and apprehensions:

"I was regretting the past and fearing the future. Suddenly my Lord was speaking. He said,

'My name is I Am.' He paused.

I waited. He continued,

'When you live in the past, with its mistakes and regrets, it is hard. I am not there.

My name is not I Was.

When you live in the future, with its problems and fears, it is hard. I am not there.

My name is not I Will Be.

When you live in this moment it is not hard. I am here.

My name is I Am."

THE SILVER LINING

Grabill, Indiana 46741
USPS 496780

EDITORIAL STAFF:

David Bertsch
Uriel Gehring
Lynn Stieglitz

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

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Counselors: Theo Beer, Loren Stoller,
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IN MEMORY - EDITORS:
HENRY SOUDER
EDWARD SOUDER



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).

Teaching Children to Respect God

"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom" (Prov. 9:10). A proper respect or reverence for God is a key element in developing true faith. This can be nurtured only if those who teach this principle exemplify it by their attitudes and actions.

The mind of a young child is quite subject to being shaped and directed. Believing parents must seize the initiative and make concerted effort to exert godly influences during this time of great potential. Indeed, the Word says, "Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it" (Prov. 22:6).

True respect for God requires understanding of one's relationship to his Creator as well as recognition of God's supreme authority over all of humanity. These concepts cannot be taught as abstract truths. They must be conveyed spontaneously and prayerfully as a part of everyday experiences. They are best understood through simple examples, just as Christ taught by parables and by His own actions. The key to teaching is to reduce the complex to a simple level so that it can be understood. Parents' attitudes toward other authority figures as well as toward those who are subject to themselves should impart to a growing child a beautiful picture of godly order and loving submission. This will be of great help in developing a child's respect for his parents. "Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honor thy father and mother: which is the first commandment with promise: that it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth" (Eph. 6:1-3).

Many today consider man as only a soul-less animal. To such individuals there is no absolute, God-directed moral order; also, the origin of man is mysteriously evolutionary, and man has no eternal destination. Such viewpoints suggest that life is meaningless.

Rather, the Bible teaches that a child should learn to see himself as a special creation of God, uniquely made in His own image (Gen. 1:27). If a child believes that he has been created for the purpose of serving God and someday devoting all his talents for the glorious cause of Christ, his self-concept and reason for existence will take on a special meaning. His sense of self-worth and his awareness that he must submit to God's moral order will add a positive, disciplined quality to his life. It will motivate him to learn to pray and draw close to God, especially as he observes this consistent pattern in his parents.

Children will respect God if they are taught about His power (Ps. 147:5) and His abundant grace (2 Cor. 4:15), as well as His receptiveness to prayer and supplication (Phil. 4:6). Parents' diligent reading of Bible stories and conveying of their own spiritual experiences to their children will enhance their comprehension of the love and mercy of God.

A mother has a special gift of influence over her children. Born with an instinctive bond of love for her offspring, a mother should fully exercise her honorable God-given role as "keeper at home" (Tit. 2:5). "And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up" (Deut. 6:7). It would be far better to adapt to a more modest standard of living than to relegate this golden, one-time opportunity to a "substitute mother" while pursuing a career. It must also be recognized that motherhood is a most demanding role and that parenting should be a mutual responsibility in which husband and wife faithfully support each other.

Children must develop a deep appreciation and respect for the un-

changing Word of God. If the spiritual aspect of a father's life is truly paramount, he will surely strive to place more emphasis upon God's Word which deals with the Eternal than upon material things which will pass away. Jesus said, "Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also" (Matt. 6:21).

Active participation in the church provides many valuable learning experiences for children. Respect for godly order and submission to one another are prominent features of a unified, loving body of believers. As a child observes consistent obedience to truth, he will become aware of the Holy Spirit's work in the lives of the believers. Observance of scripturally based church traditions and common patterns of lifestyle will provide a sense of identity with a loving, trustworthy support group. A most beneficial experience consists of seeing the transforming power of God in the life of an acquaintance who turns to the Lord in repentance. This helps develop respect for God's life-changing power.

Cultivating a child's respect for God is not easy. Our society is ignoring more and more the existence of the laws of God. The insidious forces of Satan are spreading many influential themes (such as evolution, relativism and individualism) which can undermine a child's respect for authority. An alert parent must work diligently to arm a child against these vain philosophies (Col. 2:8).

Sincere efforts to teach children to respect God and love His Word will never be regretted. Such teachings will serve to keep their hearts tender and make them more willing to turn to Christ in true repentance when they come under conviction. Then they will be able to rejoice in the wonderful promise, "Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever" (Ps. 23:6).

**APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN
WORLD RELIEF
WORK PROJECTS — HAITI**

November '88 - March '89

*'...As Ye therefore have opportunity,
let Us do Good unto all Men.....'
Gal. 6:10*



**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**



Geography

Area: 27,750 sq. km. (10,714 sq. mi.); about the size of Maryland.

Cities: Capital - Port-au-Prince (pop. 550,000). Other Cities: - Cap-Haitien (50,000).

Terrain: Mountainous.

Climate: Warm, semi-arid.

Insights into Haiti

Economy: "Poorest nation in Western Hemisphere, plagued with over-population, soil erosion, illiteracy and disease."
— *Operation World*

Land Used for Agriculture: 31% (some people farm only to raise their own food).

Literacy: 12%

— *Reader's Digest 1983 Almanac & Yearbook*

Haiti Work Schedule

PROJECT #	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	DATES	CHURCH AREAS	PROJECT LEADERS
#1	Nursing Home	11/11 to 11/19	#8 Western IL	Mike Finley Box 176 Carlock, IL 61725 (309) 376-7301
#2	Hospital	11/25 to 12/3	#5 Bluffton & Indianapolis	Carl Hackenjoes Monroe, IN 46772 (219) 692-6311
#3	School	12/9 to 12/17	#4 & #6 N. IN, MI, W. OH	Phil Isabel Route 2 Remington, IN 47977 (219) 261-3541 Kurt Bahler P. O. Box 124 A Remington, IN 47977 (219) 261-2877 H (219) 261-2157 B
#4	School	1/6 to 1/14	#11 & #12 CA, AZ, OR, CO	Glen Hackenjoes 10564 Haverly El Monte, CA 91731 (818) 422-4957
#5	School	1/20 to 1/26	#7 E. IL	Jim Walter R #2, Box 3 Chatsworth, IL 60921 (815) 635-3158
#6	School	2/10 to 2/18	#9 & #10 KS, MO, MN, IA, TX, CA	R. Schmidgall 955 Lyon Street Hancock, MN 56244 (612) 392-5241
#7	School	2/24 to 3/4	#1, #2 & #3 CT, E. OH, AL, GA, FL	Leonard Dolce 2550 Crider Road Mansfield, OH 44903 (419) 589-6285

WORLD RELIEF

Designated Geographic Area Map



Craig Emch
11856 Miller Road
Sterling, OH 44276
(216) 939-4591

WORK PROJECTS

School Buildings, Nursing Home and Hospital Additions

SEVEN PROJECTS

Plans are being made this "winter work season" for a more varied list of projects. Five schools, a nursing home addition, and improvements to Hospital Lumier are scheduled.

NEEDS ARE GREAT

Your help is needed as greatly as ever and is deeply appreciated by the poor, but pleasant, and friendly Haitian Christians.

CROSS-CULTURAL EXPERIENCE

Testimonies such as "unforgettable," "life-changing," and "I'll be more appreciative of what I have" are heard from each returning volunteer.

COUPLES

Certain projects may be open for couples. At this time it is hoped that they can be included in project numbers 1 and 2.

TRAVEL CONDITIONS

The U.S. State Department and several missionary advisors tell us Haiti appears peaceful and conditions look good for travel and work this season.

What do I do if I am interested in going on this mission?

Contact the World Relief representative from your local church or one of

the brothers listed as the project representative for your area.

You will receive an information packet which includes:

1) a map, 2) background information on Haiti, 3) a calendar, 4) healthcare form, 5) list of items to take with you, 6) commonly used words in English/Creole, 7) gift suggestions, 8) volunteer form.

What is my church area?

Your church is located in one of the designated areas on the map on page 4.

What are the dates for the project?

See the schedule on page 4. Teams usually leave on a Friday and return nine days later on Saturday.

Do I need a Passport or Visa?

No. Your birth certificate and other proof of U.S. citizenship is all that is required.

Who do I contact?

Your local World Relief representative or the project leader(s) for your area are shown on page 4.

May I choose any date?

Yes. Crossover volunteering with another area team is allowed, even encouraged, to meet with your time schedule or to help fill a team.

What type of skills do I need?

Construction experience is appreciated, but basic handyman talent and a

desire to serve the Lord is all that is required.

What type of projects are done?

Roofs, mostly for schools, made of poured concrete or sheet metal over wood is our part of this shared building program. We also build plain wooden school benches. The Haitian people build the walls and work with us on the roofs.

What will it cost?

A package plan of air travel from Miami to Port-au-Prince and back, food, lodging, transportation, and insurance in Haiti costs \$500.00 per person for the nine days. The trip to Miami and back from your home church would be additional.

WORKS PROJECTS NEEDS FOR HAITI

Items For The Hospitals

If you have:

Wheelchairs, crutches, canes or walkers.

Needed are large serving spoons, blank cassette tapes, 35mm film - black & white - Plus X - Panzo - Kodacolor II - slide film, either 24 or 36 exposure.

Fans - floor or ceiling.

Gift wrap paper (birthday and Christmas), Desk Calendars 1989, Calculators, Water Filters, Incubator, Variety of Construction Tools.

Two Scales for Hospital, Tissue Paper, 8½ x 11, Typewriter - manual or electric, Air conditioner for Operating Room, Sewing Machines - can be small cabinet, electric or portable in good operating condition.

Please take to Material Aid Center at Wing, Bluffton or Leo.

NEEDED:

Lard and tallow for the soap-making process at the Bluffton World Relief Center.

Call 219-565-3257

Stan Isch



APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

As I sit here at my typewriter, the view out of the window is tranquil -- the waterfall is spilling into the courtyard pond, plus Mother Nature is adding a few much needed raindrops. However, indoors there is a lot of activity.

Six more residents have moved to Oakwood: Herb Stieglitz, Gloria Heiniger, Doris Hutchison, Frank Kyburz, Marlene Esslinger and Ed

Getz -- a total of ten residents. By the end of October, we expect Oakwood Estate to be filled.

As our residents moved to Oakwood, new admissions here at the Home for the Handicapped were: Mary Jo Rowles (Rushville, IL), Steven Slagel (Fairbury, IL), and Nancy Theis (Bloomington, IL).

Camping at Little Galilee near Clinton, IL, was a special fun time for 49 residents and 15 employees and volunteers who accompanied them. They swam, fished, and even caught

a turtle. And oh, what ravenous appetites all that exercise and fresh air created.

Another fun time was the Annual Pumpkin Festival in Morton. Two busloads of residents, staff and volunteers accompanied them.

There are lots of birthdays to celebrate in November and each one will have their own birthday cake. Those at the Home for the Handicapped are Susie McGinley (1), Ken Clauss (2), Keith Weyeneth (4), Rhonda Pullen (4), Kathy Knapp (5), Tom Manley (8), Bernice Heiniger (11), Jane Aberle (14) and Dave Metz (20). Those at Oakwood Estate are Lucy Endress (13), Alan Unsicker (15) and Marian Funk (20).

We had the privilege of having guests from Japan and Switzerland to visit the Home.

--NOTICE --

Repair and Distribution of Worn Bibles, Bible Story Books, Hymns of Zion, Tabernacle or Gospel Hymn Books

In 1984 we read in the Guideposts concerning the unfilled need for 10,000 Bibles. We wrote to the organization and started sending some repaired and some new Bibles. Since that time, we have sent over 500 Bibles, much Sunday school materials and song books.

During this past year, Sisters Becky Knapp (Dave) and Jane Huetter (Curtis) from Goodfield, IL, have been helping in this work.

If our churches or individual members have Bibles, Bible story books, Hymns of Zion, Tabernacle or Gospel Hymns that are worn and in need of repair, please let us know or send them to us. We tape and repair the books and obtain names and addresses of people in foreign countries who want and need them, package and mail them in large canvas mailing bags. It costs 55¢ a pound to send books or \$1.10 for printed material of less than 30 pages. On a recent shipment to Africa, the cost to send a Bible was 72¢.

If you have any questions or wish to send material for repair, please call or write:

Jerry and Arlene Banwart
Box 132
Congerville, IL 61729
Phone (309) 448-2416

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
Fifth Year -- August 1987 thru July 1988 -- 25,969

Bibles Distributed -- Sixth Year

	MONTH	TO DATE
August 1988 --	3486	3486
September 1988 --	1365	4851

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

THE MASTER PAINTER

God took the high green mountains
And the quiet valleys, too.
Then painted them with color
In shades of every hue.

There were reds, browns, and yellows,
With orange in between;
The firs and lacy hemlocks
Were touched with shadowed green.

Above, He tinted cloudlets
In dainty pinkish blue
Against the silver heavens
As autumn days were due.

Yes, God who is the artist
And paints the world around
Can bring to us such beauty
With brilliance, profound.
Gertrude Rudberg

THANK YOU

We wish to thank everyone for the great response to our request for used books. We have few requests for hymnals and ask that no more be sent at this time.

We repeatedly get requests for Bibles, dictionaries, Bible dictionaries and Bible story books.

The countries we've been shipping to the most are Africa, India and the Philippines.

Thank You,
Bro. Jerry and Sis. Arlene Banwart

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

We started our new school year August 29. Currently, we have thirty-seven children enrolled. We have been praying that we would get full this year. We need around fifty children in order to have our capacity which is 40 per day.

This year the children are learning a Bible verse for each letter of the alphabet. We are learning one letter each week and doing many activities pertaining to that letter. The four-year-olds are learning the sound, practicing writing each letter, doing an art project and a cooking project for each letter. They are really enjoying it so far.

Our Bible curriculum started with Creation and will continue through the Old Testament until Christmas.

As always, we ask for your prayerful support. We want God's name to be glorified in all we do. There are many souls to touch as we work each day.

**ALABAMA, ATHENS
Marilyn Walder**

"If we walk in the light, as he is in

the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin."

I John 1:7

On Labor Day weekend we enjoyed the visit of about 90 people from eleven different churches, including Mansfield, Smithville, Rittman and Sardis, OH, Gridley, Washington, Forrest, Chicago, Bloomington and Eureka, IL, and Atlanta, GA. We sang together Saturday night. After a potluck dinner at the church on Sunday, we all visited the Bro. George Kelley family in Tennessee. We sat in their front yard and sang and listened to special numbers. To complete the weekend we had a breakfast Monday morning. We all were uplifted by the fellowship and by God's presence and will treasure the memories for a long time.

Bro. Joe Zimmerman (Morton, IL) ministered to us. We thank him and his wife for coming. We also had visitors from Cissna Park, IL.

We express our sympathy to Bro. George Kelley and family at the death of his daughter, Dotsy McGlocklin.

**ARIZONA, PHOENIX
Ron and Ev Hoerr**

"Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing."

Proverbs 18:22

On September 7 the evening wedding ceremony of Sis. Leona (Lee) Messner and Bro. Ernest Siegle (Oakville, IA) was performed. May they continue to honor the Lord in their home as they blend their lives together.

The betrothal of Bro. James Emch and Sis. Gina Huber (Francesville, IN) was announced August 28. May they seek God's direction as they plan their December wedding. Their parents are Bro. Jerry and Sis. Cathy Emch and Bro. Gene and Sis. Barb Huber (Francesville, IN).

Labor Day weekend was Christian fellowship at its finest. Phoenix Sunday school hosted junior and senior high young people from Tucson, AZ, San Diego and Altadena, CA. Elder Bro. Richard Schupbach had services for the students, teachers and parents. Time spent centered around our Lord keeps blooming in spiritual growth and friendship. "A man that hath friends must show himself friendly and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother." Proverbs 18:24.

Sympathy is extended to Bro. Harvey and Sis. Ethel Smith and Roy and Ilse Massner and families on the untimely death of their brother, Ray, and wife, Fern. May they find comfort in the Lord.

Kayla Jo Meyer, the first daughter of Bro. Randy and Sis. LaNae, was born August 28. Kendall and Kevin are her brothers. Grandparents are Bro. Len and Sis. Charlotte Meyer (Chicago, IL) and Bro. Glen and Sis. Joyce Metzger (Lester, IA).

We are happy to report that Bro. John Pulfer (Sis. Wilma) and Rachel Roth (Bro. Harry) have returned home from the hospital.

Let's keep Ed Harmon (Ella) on our prayer list to see what God wills for them. We need the prayers of those we love.

Our visiting ministers came from Elgin, IL, and Portland, OR, during September. We give sincere thanks to Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen and Bro. Garth Steffen.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN:

- Serving the Lord and needy children on a full-time basis?
- Learning more about yourself and others?
- Learning about God's daily provision of grace and strength?
- Learning a Biblical definition of success?

If your heart responded "yes" to the above questions, you may be someone God wants to use, to help meet our need. Please prayerfully consider this opportunity. We presently have an opening for a single sister to serve as a Houseparent in an all-girl house. This is a challenging and rewarding opportunity to work with a dedicated and unified staff of brothers and sisters as they strive to meet the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of troubled children.

Compensation includes a cash salary and living expenses, plus fringe benefits. For more information, please contact either of the brothers listed below.

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

Bro. Tim Sauder
P. O. Box 151
Leo, IN 46765
219/627-2159, office
219/627-2606, home

Elder Bro. David Bertsch
11502 Souder Road
Grabill, IN 46741
219/627-2923

"Count Your Blessings," and we are especially grateful what the Lord has done here in Phoenix. His precious love has touched eleven souls who are building firm foundations for eternal life. To know Him, is to love Him and the happiness of our repentant souls is a joy for all.

'Tis getting a few degrees cooler and though we've enjoyed visitors all summer, we always look forward to our winter residents returning and all visitors.

ARIZONA, PRESCOTT

Harvey Smith

We thank the ministers from Phoenix who have ministered the Word to us. We are thankful for this spiritual manna for which we have such a need. We can look unto the hills from which our blessings flow.

We were all shocked by the deaths of Roy D. Massner and his wife, Fern. They died in a fire which destroyed their home in Cottonwood, AZ, August 15. Roy remodeled our facility in Prescott so that we could have services. He is survived by two daughters, Cathy Fritz (Peoria, IL) and Sis. Shelly Massner (Washington, IL); one brother and five sisters. Memorial services were held August 19, conducted by Bro. Loren Knapp (Tucson).

The beauty of fall is in the air and thus we can discern that the harvest is drawing nigh. May we also be aware that our redemption also draweth nigh.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Apostolic Christian Resthaven in Elgin, IL, is currently seeking an individual to serve as our Director of Environmental Service, overseeing laundry, housekeeping, and maintenance. This is a full-time salaried position with full benefits. Any brother or friend of the Apostolic Christian Church that would be interested in this position should call or write to:

Rick Schmidgall, Administrator
Apostolic Christian Resthaven
2750 W. Highland Avenue
Elgin, IL 60123
Phone 312-741-4543

ARIZONA, TUCSON

Lisa Knapp

We are happy to welcome Sis. Heidi Sinn to Tucson. Sis. Heidi married our Bro. Dean Sinn in Tremont, IL, August 21. May the Lord bless their life together. We are thankful to have them with us in Tucson.

Bro. Greg and Sis. Denise Gramm visited us recently and Bro. Greg shared the Word with us. We always appreciate visits from the Phoenix brethren. May God bless them for remembering us.

We were saddened to hear of the death of Sis. Em Hari, mother and grandmother, respectively, of our friends, Daryle Hari and his daughters, Janeen, Darla and Corinne. We know the Lord will provide strength and grace to the family as they deal with their loss.

Our Sunday school Bible class traveled to Sedona, AZ, where the Phoenix Bible class hosted a weekend of fellowship for us and the California Sunday schools. What a beautiful background we had to our activities. The weather was wonderful and so was the fellowship.

COLORADO, DENVER

Mike Martin - Marlene Leman

When God created the splendor and majesty of His creation, He set man upon it and said, "It is good." The smoke from the fires of Yellowstone have been with us here in the past few weeks. The sun rises and sets in a fiery glow. It brings to mind the power of God. The fires have created much smoke and destruction in the Yellowstone area. But when we think of God's original words that the earth is "good," we think of how soon the grass and the forest with its wildlife will return. Nevertheless, the forest will be changed in some way by the force of the blaze. God often uses fire to change things and we think of the fires we must go through so that we can become "greener" and changed. We think of the smoke which obscured the sun's light and actually made the temperature cooler and how God with a mighty wind can blow it away. In much the same way, He treats sin in our life after He has purged us with the fire of trials. It has been said that "God loves you just the way you are today, but much, too

much, to let you stay that way." May God send a fire to each of our lives.

Having been privileged to attend the conference in Rittman, OH, we feel refreshed, encouraged, and inspired to continue on in this most precious faith. Now we have the opportunity to relive it by hearing the tapes. Oh, that all could hear and retain, that the Spiritual Mind that we so much desire could be evident to all people with whom we come in contact.

Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Sharolyn Hohulin in the death of her sister-in-law, Sis. Elizabeth Metzger (Bro. Duane, West Bend, IA). May the family feel God's love and comfort as they seek to go onward in this life, and look forward to meeting again in heaven where we'll never have to say good-bye.

Again we were blessed by two visiting ministers. Bro. Tom Schrenk (Alto, MI) and Bro. Charles Sinn (Fort Scott, KS) brought us God's Word in love and a way that we couldn't help but understand. May God bless them for their kindly service.

CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE

Martha Hany

The weekend of the brotherhood conference, August 19, was certainly a privileged occasion for Sis. Sue (Johnson) Moser and me as we travelled to the Rittman, OH, area and attended our first conference where we received good counsel and guidance from our shepherds to apply to our daily lives. It is certainly a great blessing for those who can attend and also take advantage of the opportunity to listen to the tapes.

"Joyfully, joyfully onward I move,
Bound for the land of bright spirits
above!

Angelic choristers sing as I come;
Meet me with gladness and welcome
me home . . .

Pilgrim and stranger no more shall I
roam,

Joyfully, Joyfully resting at home!

Hymns of Zion #239

This is the beautiful hymn that Sis. Sally (Alice Kupferschmidt) Reed requested be sung after her death which came after a lengthy illness.

She was laid to rest August 26 - forever with the Lord! She leaves two daughters, Rachael Wood and Evelyn Rice; three brothers, Ernest, Elmer and Julius Kupferschmid; and three sisters, Bertha Farney, Ernestine Aberle and Emily Broucek. Our sympathy is with the family.

A spark of love joined the lives of Fred and Julie (Schneider) Helensky when Jenna Rae, their first child, was born August 22. Grandparents are Mrs. Isabel Helensky and Bro. Wilbur and Sis. Marge Schneider. We surely wish them much joy with their new little daughter.

There are those in nursing homes of whom we often think and include in our prayers; namely, Sisters Frieda Reutter, Rose and Emma Luginbuhl, Lena Ludwig, Liz Hoffman, Helen Lanz, Otto Hany and Bro. Carl Lanz. We also think of the many who so tenderly care for them, among whom is Margaret Capello, who so faithfully and lovingly visits her mother, Sis. Elizabeth Erismann, daily. Our loved ones who were hospitalized were Sis. Ruth (Ludwig) Zahner and Sis. Rose Zahner, both now able to be home again. Our prayers are for their continued well-being as well as others who may have been sick and/or under a physician's care.

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,
WASHINGTON
Catherine Klopfenstein
Doug Germann**

Our congregation here in the suburbs of Washington, D.C. was blessed with many visitors this past month. We sincerely wish to thank Bro. Leland and Sis. Bernice Hirschey and Bro. Dennis and Sis. Esther Warner who travelled many miles to share God's Word with us Sunday, August 21. On September 4, Bro. Paul and Sis. Joyce Gasser and Bro. Homer and Sis. Virginia Blunier spent the weekend here and once again we enjoyed a beautiful day of fellowship around God's Holy Word.

On September 11, we met in the home of Bro. Ralph and Sis. Catherine Klopfenstein for Sunday services as Bro. Bob and Sis. Eleanor Pfleiderer were here. We enjoyed a Bible discussion and singing, followed by a brunch. We want to thank all our

visitors and welcome all who are planning a trip east to join our congregation as we meet the first and third Sunday of each month.

As the summer months pass and school begins, the emphasis is placed on training. Our oldest son stepped on that familiar yellow school bus for the first time this year. Many thoughts flooded our minds as we waved and watched the big yellow bus pull away and head for school. We had to ask ourselves if we had done our part in training him diligently as the Word commands parents in order to prepare him for life. How often we spend more time and energy in training for careers than in the Godly preparation of our children's hearts. How beautifully the Word exhorts parents in Deuteronomy 6:4-25 to train their children. May it be that when our son or daughter asks us in time to come about the meaning of the testimonies and statutes of our God that we can honestly say we have been brought out of bondage. How beautiful it is to have our children around us as we read Bible stories and sing praises together as a family. God's Word, the Bible, will outlast all the fairy tales and fables and shape our children's lives for eternity.

THE ANVIL OF GOD'S WORD

Last eve I paused beside a black
smith's door,
And heard the anvil ring the
vesper chime;
Then looking in, I saw upon the
floor,
Old hammers worn with beating
years of time.
"How many anvils have you had,"
said I,
"To wear and batter all these
hammers so?"
"Just one," said he, and then with
twinkling eye,
"The anvil wears the hammers
out, you know."
"And so," I thought, "The Anvil of
God's Word,
For ages skeptic blows have beat
upon,
Yet, though the noise of falling
blows was heard,
The anvil is unchanged, the
hammers gone."

John Clifford

**FLORIDA, FT. LAUDERDALE
Terri Huber**

It was a pleasure to share Labor Day weekend with visitors from Sarasota. We would like to thank them for making the effort to drive over and spend time fellowshiping with us.

Also on the holiday weekend, a precious bundle joined the household of Bro. Ryan and Sis. Terri Huber. Allen Robert's grandparents are Bro. Kaywin and Sis. Karen Martin (Detroit, MI) and Bro. Bob and Sis. Doris Huber. The birth of a baby is a miracle and we praise God for the opportunity to love and care for our children as God loves and cares for us.

We had a successful clothing drive. The response was much greater than anticipated. The clothes will be distributed to needy persons in Fort Lauderdale. We thank all the local people who contributed.

Bible study is being resumed after a brief summer break. It will be held the first and third Mondays of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the fellowship hall. Our new topic is "The Breakdown of the Home -- The Cause, The Cure."

We are thankful to hear of Amy Sutter's repentance. We rejoice with her family, Bro. Rich and Sis. Kathy, that the door of grace is still open.

Our sympathy is extended to the family of Bro. Jeff and Sis. Char Graf at the passing away of her grandmother, Loretta Gilbert.

**FLORIDA, NORTH FT. MYERS
Kay Eisenmann**

Our small group here in Fort Myers is looking forward to the return of our winter brethren. Many of us were on vacation this past month. Bro. Art and Sis. Marie Keller and their son, Mike, travelled many miles, only to have an accident close to home, just because the other party wasn't watching. We are very thankful their lives were spared. They only had bruises and Mike's hand is in a cast. They want to thank all for their deeds of love during this time. Marie said she could feel the prayer on their behalf, and that's what our faith is all about!

Once again man has missed the mark as to when our King is to return! But, at the same time, we are glad many are starting to realize that this world as we know it will have an

end! We could die and face the final judgment at any time. The key is to be ready, so we can dwell in the house of the Lord. He has gone to prepare a place for us. Rest assured, those who are left will face a martyr's death!

We want to thank the Rittman, OH, church who hosted the conference. They were so kind and loving. May God bless them all. We also had a very special time in Peoria, where we stayed with Bro. Harry and Sis. Lorreta Eisenmann. We visited Dave's folks, Bro. Jesse and Sis. Bertha Eisenmann, in our most beautiful home for our elderly. Dad is contentedly waiting on his Lord, taking a day at a time and leaving all in the hands of God! We are very thankful for those who care for the needs of our loved ones. May God bless them for the little extra things they so lovingly do.

We also enjoyed our visits with our grandchildren. They teach us the simple truths in life and the real joy of living. It's just a taste of heaven to have the trust and faith of a child that "all is in God's hands and He will provide."

Dathan is in the seventh grade and is doing fine. Keep the prayers coming, for we know for sure that prayer works!

FLORIDA, SARASOTA
Suellen Ott

All you may need He will provide,
 God will take care of you;
 Nothing you ask will be denied,
 God will take care of you.

No matter what may be the test,
 God will take care of you;
 Lean, weary one, upon His breast,
 God will take care of you.

Hymns of Zion #138

We are so grateful for God's promise to be ever near our side in time of trial, sickness or despair. We are thankful for each one in our church family who has been again able to assemble with us after being separated for a season. Our prayers continue to go out to our dear Sis. Lydia Vonias as she had been hospitalized again but is now at home recuperating. We are also glad to report that Dathan Eisenmann is home after

having some testing done, and is working hard in school.

We wish to remember the ministering brothers who so earnestly gave of their time and talent to share the gospel message. Our visiting ministers were Bro. Gene Lemman (Wolcott, IN), Bro. David Eisenmann (North Fort Myers) and our Elder Bro. Ben Maibach.

As a congregation, we look forward with anticipation to hear the exhortations given forth at the conference held at Rittman, OH, in August, as we plan to hear the tapes in the coming weeks.

Dear ones,

I appreciate deeply and thank you for the many beautiful cards inscribed with wonderful messages of love and encouragement which I received during my long illness.

Sis. Kathryn Schroeder

GEORGIA, ATLANTA

John Brewer

"But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night . . ." II Peter 3:10. As believers, we look forward to that day when Jesus comes back to take us to our heavenly home. We don't know the hour, but we know the season in which he will return. A certain author recently predicted three dates in September in which the rapture would take place. Even though his intentions were sincere, only God knows the date in which He will send His Son to take us home. It is important that we keep our eyes and minds on the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ (rather than predicted dates) for He is what we are really looking forward to seeing.

On August 28, we were blessed to have Bro. Lynn Stieglitz (Leo, IN) to come and bring us the Word of God. We appreciate the time he took to come and minister to our congregation. We were blessed to also have visitors from Rittman, OH, Smithville, OH, Leo, IN, Francesville, IN, and Cissna Park, IL.

The greatest miracle our God can perform is when He brings another soul into the heavenly fold. We are happy to find out that Peggy Camp (Bauman), originally from the Rittman, OH, area, has given her life to the Lord. Our prayers are with her

as she begins her walk with Jesus.

Our gathering is now meeting every Sunday at the Ramada Renaissance Hotel. The hotel is located just south of the airport off I-85 on the Riverdale Road Exit. The building is on the left. We look forward to visitors on their way to Florida. If you need to contact us call either Bro. Don Sellers 404-923-0721, Sis. Nancy Foltz 404-451-9191, Bro. Linn and Sis. Brenda Stoller 404-631-4554, or myself 404-631-4454.

"And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."

Galatians 6:9

ILLINOIS,
BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL

Karen Brummitt - De Anderson

Allowing themselves to be used in His service this past month were visiting ministers, Elder Bro. Robert Beyer (Naumburg, NY) and Elder Bro. Dan Koch (Tremont). We truly feel their love and concern for each listener as they bring forth the Word.

Many prayers have been uttered in behalf of Sis. Dorie Widmer who was recently a surgical patient. May God grant her patience as she awaits restored health.

Our hearts are overflowing with joy as nine precious souls have heeded their Savior's gentle call. Turning to the Lord in repentance are Herb and Georgia Steffen, Sarah Steffen (Bro. Earl and Sis. Betty), Tami Koehl (Bro. Jerry), Dennis Brummitt (Dave and Sis. Karen), Eric Haefli (Bro. Bob and Sis. Eileen), George and Shirley Stimeiling, and Shelley Hari (Steve). Our prayers are with each one as they make a new beginning in Christ.

"He leadeth me! O blessed tho't! O words with heav'nly comfort fraught!
 What-e'er I do, wher-e'er I be, Still tis God's hand that leadeth me! Lord, I would clasp Thy hand in mine, Nor ever murmur nor repine, Content, whatever lot I see, Since tis my God that leadeth me!"

"He Leadeth Me"
 Hymns of Zion #162

 Give Your New Address
 To Your Reporter

ILLINOIS, BRADFORD**Karen Ringger**

Summer has past, and it was once again time to get our children back in school. May we all have a prayer upon our hearts that our children can learn those things that are necessary for this life and not be influenced to partake in the evils of this world. May we also remember our dear brothers and sisters who teach in the schools of education, that they not only teach their students knowledge, but have a loving way to all their students, especially the ones from a non-Christian background, who need someone to show them they care.

Several months ago, Kevin and Laurie Edelman moved to our area from Fairbury. They have two precious children. We are so thankful God has led them to our church and touched their hearts. On a recent Wednesday night, Laurie became our sister-in-faith after telling of her experience with our Lord. I'm sure the angels in heaven are rejoicing along with Sis. Laurie since Kevin has found the need for repentance. May God be ever near them as they walk together serving the Lord.

Our hearts were deeply saddened when we received word that Tammy Wagenbach passed away. Her husband is Ron Wagenbach from the Tremont area. We have a special place in our hearts for them, as they worshipped with us for a year and a half during their married life. May God be with Ron and his precious five children during this time of sorrow and loneliness and may we all keep this dear family in our prayers.

Hospitalized this past month were Bro. John Endress and Brent Kieser (Bro. Verle and Sis. Vonnie). We are thankful both are home and worshipping with us again.

Our hearts were overjoyed the second week of September, to hear of four dear souls turning their hearts to the Lord. Those repenting are Leann Endress (Bro. Larry and Sis. Becky), Kim Joos (Bro. Robert and Sis. Becky), Kurt Kieser (Bro. Verle and Sis. Vonnie), and Wendell Stahl (Sis. Charlotte). It is so uplifting to our church to see these miracles.

Special thanks are also in the heart of Bro. Ed and Sis. Verla Ehnle as their daughter, Rita, and her husband, Andy Bauman (Goodfield) have

answered God's gentle call to serve Him.

We appreciate the visits of ministering brothers who were willing to come and share the Word of life with us. May God bless Bro. Jim Leman and Bro. Tom Hoffman (Roanoke), Bro. Marshall Heinold (Washington), Bro. Leroy Hartman (Peoria), Bro. Merle Kaisner (Fairbury) and our dear Elder Bro. Joe Stoller (Princeville).

ILLINOIS, CHAMPAIGN**LaRae Dill**

"Then Peter said unto them, 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

Since the beginning of the 88-89 school year, 17 college students have turned to the Lord. The college students are a vital and much appreciated part of our congregation. We rejoice with each one who has sought Christ in repentance. We look forward to fellowshiping with these students and helping them grow in the Lord. We are especially thankful that Sherm Bauer of our congregation has found grace to repent. Sherm's parents are Bro. George and Sis. Isabell Bauer (Cissna Park, IL).

We thank our college students for hosting the annual fall picnic September 7. We also extend thanks to these ministers for visiting and serving our church: Elder Bros. Joe Braker (Morton, IL), Ed Hohulin and Bob Grimm (Goodfield, IL) and Bros. Bob Miller (Portland, OR) and Kenny Dietz (Bradford, IL).

We warmly welcome Bro. Joe and Sis. Sue Aeschleman and sons, Brandon and Trevor, who have moved to our area from Roanoke, IL. Bro. Joe has taken an administrative position at Vermillion County Nursing Home in Danville, IL. It is encouraging to see our church family grow.

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO**Kathy Schlatter**

A colleague of mine was rushing around the other morning, rather harried. She briefly explained to me

that her very young daughter had turned the alarm down, and she had overslept. The sleep, she reported, had felt good, but she would have traded it then for a feeling of peace. I thought of the way the alarm is sounded from our pulpits while in many churches, the members hear quiet concerns, but no warnings, jarrings and awakenings. We have reason to feel more peaceful and prepared as we react appropriately to the sounds of the watchmen on the walls. May we never let Satan cause us to feel irritated at calls to examine ourselves and to walk more closely with His church and our Christ.

We were so thankful to entertain angels in the forms of our many visitors. We were given special blessings through the ministry of Elder Bro. Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO), Bros. Harold Schmidgall and Byron Stoller (Gridley, IL), Dennis Kaufman (Bloomington, IL) and Steve Ringger (Bluffton North, IN). "And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you; And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake." I Thessalonians 5:12-13a.

We as a church have recently been listening to the conference tapes, and one of the exhortations reminds us of the importance of church attendance, including listening to converts' testimonies. We were so blessed Saturday evening, August 27, to listen to the hearts of two dear friends. On Sunday they were baptized and became our Bro. Miki Bozzay and Sis. Debbie Grieco. Elder Bro. Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO) assisted our Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann. The traditional dinner after the baptisms added to a special time of rejoicing and fellowship. We are so happy to greet Bro. Miki and Sis. Debbie. "And the Lord make you to increase and abound in love one toward another, and toward all men . . . To the end he may stablish your hearts unblamable in holiness before God, even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints." I Thessalonians 3:12-13. Yet as the Lord still extends His grace, we yearn and pray for spiritual change in so many.

We are delighted to welcome the bright, shining faces of three single sisters from central Illinois, who are

now students in our midst. Sis. Janet Gudeman (Congerville), a major in biology, has begun at North Central College in Naperville. Sis. Mary Ann Kieser (Bradford) is taking additional training in nursing at the University of Illinois, Chicago campus. Sis. Lynnette Moser (Roanoke) is there also in pharmacy. We look forward to sharing much with them as they fulfill the Lord's purpose for this time in their lives. "Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do." I Thessalonians 5:11.

Now comes the most difficult part of writing. Always I shed tears. We would not stand in the Lord's way, but those who leave are so dear that we must feel some pain. Sis. Elizabeth and Sis. Dorothy Zimmerman have spent so many years in the Chicago area. We realize and appreciate how much they have given of themselves. They are accomplished needleworkers and bakers. Their contributions and love and prayers have warmed the hearts of us all. They have, however, felt the changes age has wrought and are moving to a retirement village in Metamora, IL. Though they have family in the Eureka church, they also hope to attend Washington and Peoria periodically. We will miss their soft smiles and quiet love, their precise example. "The aged women . . . that they be in behavior as becometh holiness . . . teachers of good things . . ." Titus 2:3. We thank Thee, Lord, for the time Thou hast allowed us with our dear Sis. Elizabeth and Sis. Dorothy. May they continue to bless and be blessed in their new home in central Illinois.

We also have said farewell to Bro. John and Sis. Sue (Core) Grusy. Only a few months ago was their wedding, an event we had looked forward to with them: now they are part of the Leo, IN, congregation. We know they will be much appreciated there, and the Lord has many purposes for them. Sis. Sue is now the educational coordinator at the Children's Home, a post which has been vacant for some time. She is bringing her smile, love and expertise to help the children and staff in a special way. Bro. John is working as a computer programmer in insurance for a Fort Wayne firm. His quiet but firm convictions have a place there. Of course, we

would have enjoyed keeping them in our area, but we love the Leo congregation and share in their joy. We wish Bro. John and Sis. Sue "Godspeed" and ask them not to forget us. "Now our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God, even our Father, which hath loved us, and hath given us everlasting consolation and good hope through grace, Comfort your hearts and stablish you in every good word and work." II Thessalonians 2:16-17.

In separating threads for a stitching project, I had a yellow pile, two of green, two of pink, two of blue, a white pile, and so on. But I kept coming back to the larger pink and green piles. Surely enough, when I looked much more carefully, each had two shades combined in it, one darker and one lighter. Only then could I separate the shades, still not an easy task. So it seems is our task of proving the spirits. We must have a clear, keen spiritual eye to rightly follow His path, and we must remain alert to any difference in shades.

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK

Mary Knapp - Elaine Sauder

Elder Bros. Bob Grimm (Goodfield) and Don Sauder (Roanoke) spent a Wednesday evening with us and reported that Elder Bro. Steve Rinkenberger has been granted a one year sabbatical from all church duties. He is home with his family again but is still very ill. Our ordained deacon, Bro. Edward Alt, along with our other ministers are taking care of the church responsibilities. We're thankful Elder Bro. Art Bahler (Fairbury) is willing to serve as our vacancy elder. We're also grateful to the Fairbury congregation for sharing their elder. Let us fervently pray that our churches continue to be blessed with the true Word and supportive hearers so that no one will be burdened with a load heavier than he can bear. May God's will be done in all things.

I NEED THE PRAYERS

I need the prayers of those I love,
While trav'ling o'er life's rugged
way,
That I may true and faithful be,
And live for Jesus every day.

I need the prayers of those I love,

To help me in each trying hour,
To bear my tempted soul to Him,
That He may keep me by His
power.

I want my friends to pray for me.
To hold me up on wings of faith,
That I may walk the narrow way,
Kept by our Father's glorious grace.

Chorus:

I want my friends to pray for me,
To bear my tempted soul above,
And intercede with God for me,
I need the prayers of those I love.

James D. Vaughn

Others on our sick list are Sis. Merna Weerts (Ken), Bro. Bill Maul, Bro. Charles Walder and Sis. Anna Hari. Sis. Anna was hospitalized with a slight stroke, transferred to the Iroquois Residence Home and recently re-admitted to Watseka Iroquois Hospital.

Bro. Joe Clauss has moved to the Parkview Home in Francesville, IN, and on August 30, Sis. Lillie Waldber went to Fairview Haven in Fairbury. In the past years both experienced the loss of their Christian mates and many lonely hours, even though blessed with much love, concern and care from their devoted families. May God provide for them in their new homes.

Sis. Emily Hari Bucher passed away August 22 at Fairview Haven in Fairbury. She leaves three sons, Roger Hari (Cissna Park), Earl Hari (Homewood) and Bro. Daryle Hari (Tucson, AZ); four stepsons, Bro. Gary Bucher (Union Mills, IN), Bro. Nile Bucher (Bluffton, IN), Bro. Steve Bucher (Washington) and Bro. Clint Bucher (Carmel, IN); a stepdaughter, Sis. Rita Furrer (Wolcott, IN); three brothers, Joel Feller (Witseka), Emmanuel Feller (Cissna Park) and Bro. Edward Feller, Jr. (Cissna Park); five sisters, Sis. Ann Lehman (Eureka), Cora Yergler (Witseka), Sis. Helen Zimmerman (Roanoke), Wilma Baier (Paxton) and Arlene Wieland (Plantation, FL); and ten grandchildren. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to this family.

We certainly welcome Bro. Rod and Sis. Beth Steffen and their family to our congregation. They moved here from Alto, MI, and have four

children, Chalise, Gretchen, Brett and Justin. Bro. Rod is employed with Eldon L. Steffen Ins. and they live at 312 N. Fourth Street, Cissna Park, IL 60924.

Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle (Shioda, Japan) ministered to us on a Wednesday evening and Bro. Kevin Knapp (Bloomington) was here for a Sunday service. We always appreciate our visiting ministers and thank them for coming.

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE
Susan Zobrist - Sandy Knapp

"Verily, verily I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God."

John 3:5

We are thankful that two more souls have been born of water and Spirit. Sis. Lanae Schrock (Bro. Byron and Sis. Mary Schrock) and Sis. Janet Gudeman (Bro. Ralph and Sis. Carolyn Gudeman) were baptized and look forward to entering the kingdom of God.

God has blessed the lives of Bro. Mark and Sis. Tammy by giving them a baby girl. Welcoming Shari Ann is her sister, Kristin, and grandparents, Bro. Ralph and Sis. Linda Knapp and Bro. Keith and Sis. Pauline Roth.

Bro. Jerry and Sis. Arlene Banwart's foster child, Sandi Elea, was also welcomed into a new home. Although she will be missed, it is a comfort to know that the Lord is with her.

We can taste of the joy that the angels must feel over one soul that repents. Peg Banwart (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Arlene Banwart) is repenting and has brought this joy to our hearts.

While on this earth, there are sorrows among the joy. Bro. Clarence, husband of Sis. Peninna Miller, no longer feels the sufferings of this life but has gone to rest at Jesus' feet.

Caleb Zobrist (Bro. Michael and Sis. Susan Zobrist) was hospitalized this month, but we are thankful that the Lord's healing hand of love has made him well again.

God has kept His promise that where two or three are gathered together, He will be in the midst of them. We have felt His presence and

power through Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville, IN), Bro. Dale Zeltwanger (Morris, MN), Bro. Marshall Heinold (Washington) and Bro. Kenny Knapp (Taylor, MO).

ILLINOIS, ELGIN
Elizabeth Schambach
Betty Bachtold

Forever be praised,
 God's Spirit of grace,
 That from Thee I learn
 How friendly my Saviour
 To sinners doth turn.

Zion's Harp #141

God has awakened three dear souls. Dan Moser (Bro. Gene and Sis. Libbie), Ann Martin (Bro. Dave and Sis. Jean) and Lorri Cargill (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Kay) have heeded His call and may God help them build a firm foundation of faith upon Jesus Christ.

As a congregation, we extend sympathy to the family of Tammy (Blunier) Wagenbach (Tremont) who recently passed away. We have fond memories of them when they lived in our area and worshipped with us.

Several in our community have laid loved ones to rest this past month. We extend sympathy to Sis. Jeanette Schmidt (Bro. Delbert), Bro. Ken Lindoerfer (Mary) and Ernest Lauber (Margo).

Our dear friend, Dorothy Rinne, who resided at Apostolic Christian Resthaven, was relieved of her pain and suffering and called to the portals of eternity. Her cheerful smile and patient disposition will be missed by those who cared for her. She leaves a stepson, Richard Rinne (Shirley, Nebraska), and a sister, Sarah Foell (Elgin).

Sis. Cecelia Braun spent time in the hospital and we are thankful she was able to return home. May each of us remember those who are confined and suffer afflictions.

At present, we are instructed and encouraged through the brotherhood conference tapes. Many words of wisdom also came from Bros. Art Metz (Silverton, OR), Doug Schock (Pulaski, IA), Walt Steffen (Milford, IN), Willis Wiegand (Goodfield, IL), Robert Miller (Portland, OR) and Alphia Strahm (Bern, KS). May God

help us to appreciate these heavenly blessings.

ILLINOIS, EUREKA

Kathy Leman

With joyful hearts we heard the engagement announcement of Sis. Tina Martin (Bro. Lewis and Sis. Arletta) and Bro. Brian Wiegand (Bro. Elton and Sis. Loretta) on August 28. May God bless them as they plan for their lives together.

We gathered together September 10 to hear how the Lord had worked in the hearts of Debbie Schumacher (Bro. Bob and Sis. Charlene) and Jill Eastman (Bro. Dick and Sis. Nelma). The following day we welcomed them as lambs to His fold and sisters-in-Christ. May they feel His Spirit guiding in all facets of their lives. We thank Elder Bros. Aaron Steffen (Alto, MI) and Ed Frank (LaCrosse, IN) for being with us for this important work and bringing forth the Word on the following Lord's Day.

We are thankful for visiting ministers who came and ministered the Word unto us. May God bless Bros. Lawrence Luthi (Lamar, MO), Wes Knapp (Goodfield) and Mike Rinckenberger (Congerville).

Bro. Sam and Sis. Boni Blunier welcomed Miranda Mary September 1. Miranda's grandparents are Clayton and Sis. Margaret Ott (Congerville) and Bro. Sam and Sis. Elizabeth Blunier (Eureka). We pray God's blessings on this little family circle.

Our loved ones who have been hospitalized or confined to their homes are Bro. George Stoller, Bro. Aaron Moser and Sis. Caroline Leman (Bro. Milton). May God heal and grant restored health according to His will.

We have been privileged to hear the conference tapes the past Wednesday evenings. How encouraging to hear the elder brethren express their love and concern for our souls and for our beloved church. May we be submissive and obedient to His direction and support our elder brethren in their undertakings.

School is again in session and many of our youth have returned to schools and colleges of higher learning. May He be with them in all they do and may the Bible be their greatest Book of instruction.

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY
Jean Bachtold - Crystal Fehr

SCRIPTURAL PARADOXES

He who is the Bread of Life began
 His ministry hungering.
 He who is the Water of Life ended
 His ministry thirsting.
 He was weary, and yet He is our
 rest.
 He paid tribute, and yet He is the
 King.
 He was called a devil, and yet He
 cast out devils.
 He prayed, and yet He hears
 prayers.
 He wept, and He dries our tears.
 He was sold for 30 pieces of silver,
 but He redeemed the world.
 He was led as a lamb to the
 slaughter, and He is the Good
 Shepherd.
 He died and gave His life, and by
 dying destroyed death.

We are so thankful for two souls
 who have opened the doors of their
 hearts. Julie Young (Bro. Norman
 and Sis. Lola) and Keith Schieler
 (Bro. Harvey and Sis. Janice) are
 seeking the Lord in repentance and
 we pray that a rich measure of grace
 will be given to them.

On September 9, Sis. Donna and
 Steve Maurer were blessed with a
 new baby girl, Staci Nicole. Staci has
 two sisters, Jessi and Kati.

Serving faithfully in the work of
 our precious Savior were Bros. Kent
 Mogler (Minneapolis, MN), Dean
 Messner (Winthrop, MN), Jim
 Knoblock (Elgin, IA), Lester Huber
 (Lexington, KY), Earl Kilgus (Remington,
 IN), Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL),
 Wayne Anliker (Forrest) and Elder
 Bro. Sam Anliker (Lamont, KS). Our
 hearts are filled with gratitude and
 thanks for the love and service of
 these faithful brothers.

Our prayers are with Bro. Joe
 Slagel during his illness. May God be
 his constant guide.

We have been hearing the confer-
 ence tape conclusions. The love and
 deep concern of the shepherds for the
 church could certainly be felt while
 listening to the tapes. May we all
 strive to walk closer to God.

I humbly want to thank you all for
 your love, prayers and other kind
 deeds that were extended to me while

I was hospitalized and since return-
 ing home. May God grant you all a
 special blessing.

Sis. Anna Steffen

ILLINOIS, FORREST
Sherri Kelson
Sandra Schneider

We are enjoying the special op-
 portunity of listening to the tapes of
 the brotherhood conference. It is truly
 a blessing to be exhorted and admon-
 ished in our Christian walk of life.

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

Psalm 127:3

On August 17, Kurt Albert was
 born to Bro. Marvin and Sis. Mary
 Bachtold. He joins Marsha, Melodee,
 Ted, Paula, Kristi and Brenda. Grand-
 parents are Sis. Dorothy Bachtold
 and Sis. Nathalia Wenger.

Terry and Deb Nussbaum wel-
 come Tessa Jean into their family.
 Joseph, Abby and Lucas are her broth-
 ers and sister. Bro. Dean and Sis.
 Betty Nussbaum are grandparents.
 Tessa has had a little struggle as she
 was born early, but she seems to be
 doing much better now. May the Lord
 grant both these families grace to
 raise these precious little ones to His
 honor.

August 27 - 28 was the weekend
 we heard the testimonies and wit-
 nessed the baptisms of three dear
 souls. We welcome with open arms
 Bro. James and Sis. Marlene Steid-
 inger and Bro. Dennis Edelman. We
 appreciate Elder Bros. Jesse Beer
 (Milford, IN) and Art Bahler (Fair-
 bury) coming to share in this impor-
 tant work.

We also want to thank Elder Bro.
 Ed Schwartz and Bro. Ron Kipfer
 (Bluffton, IN), Bro. Merrill Laukhuf
 (Latty, OH) and Bro. Jim Byrd
 (Roanoke) for giving of themselves on
 our behalf in the last month.

Five of our loved ones have ex-
 perience sickness, surgery or injury
 recently. Betsi Steidinger (Bro. Glen
 and Sis. Holly), Bro. Roger Honegger
 (Bro. Harold and Sis. Clara), Sis. Alice
 Lehmann, Micki (Rod) Zimmerman
 and Brad Brown (Bro. Gary and Sis.
 Jane) all spent time in the hospital.
 May they each feel God's healing
 power.

"There is beauty all around, when
 there's love at home . . ."

Hymns of Zion #64

Roger Steidinger and Sheila Kaeb
 (Cissna Park) have announced their
 engagement and are planning a
 December 10 wedding. Parents are
 Bro. Steve and Sis. Bonnie Kaeb and
 Bro. Ivan and Sis. Kathryn Steidin-
 ger.

Troy Lanz (Bro. Elmer and Sis.
 Lavonne) and Kathleen Slagel (Dan
 and Mary, Fairbury) were united in
 marriage September 3. We wish both
 these couples the Lord's blessings.

Just as these young ones are start-
 ing their lives together, Bro. Elmer
 and Sis. Wilma Bachtold have reached
 their 50th wedding anniversary. We
 rejoice with them in this blessed event.

May God be with Bro. Craig Rudin
 and Bro. Harlan Knapp as they have
 been chosen to serve in Sunday school.
 It's such a serious duty to bring to the
 hearts of our dear children this won-
 derful plan of salvation.

REPENT YE!

Haste and seek your soul's
 salvation;
 Heed the word of God today!
 Haste to flee His condemnation;
 Seek the straight and narrow way.
 Evil are the worldly pleasures,
 Leading to eternal fire;
 Seek the everlasting treasure,
 Ere the day of grace expire.

Zion's Harp #52

Our congregation is rejoicing as
 six more precious souls are hastening
 to "flee His condemnation." May Rod
 (Micki) Zimmerman, Cindy (Warren)
 Edelman, Terry and Deb Nussbaum,
 Troy (Kathleen) Lanz, and Kathy
 Schneider (Bro. Duane and Sis. Janny)
 find the grace to "seek the straight
 and narrow way" that will lead to
 "the everlasting treasure."

I want to thank my family, friends
 and relatives for the cards, letters,
 food and gifts sent to me during the
 10 weeks I spent in Basic Training at
 Fort Leonard Wood, MO. Your inter-
 est and support was appreciated.

Chris Hamilton

 Give Your New Address
 To Your Reporter

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD Trish Gerber

Children are sweet miracles
Sent by God above.
To fill the world with goodness
And the blessings of His love.
Amanda Bradley

Brian and Sis. Cindy Fogle were blessed with another sweet miracle, Markus Glen, who was born July 29. His two brothers, Michael and Matthew, welcome him into their home. His happy grandparents are Bro. Harold and Sis. Carol Hohulin and Walter and Sharon Fogle (Chicago).

Stacie, Chad, Ali, Blake and Brock Gerber, along with their parents, Bro. Roger and Sis. Trish, are enjoying their new little sister, Cassie Lee. Cassie arrived August 29 and her grandparents are Elder Bro. Bob and Sis. Elna Grimm and Berdina Gerber (Eureka, IL).

Our appreciation is extended to Bro. John Lehman (Bern, KS), Bro. Gary Maibach (Smithville, OH) and Bro. Tom Leman (Denver, CO) who shared God's Word with us. We also thank Elder Bro. Chuck Hemmer (Peoria, IL) and Bro. Gene Metzger (Lester, IA) who were here to assist with the baptism of our two new sisters, Lisa Schieler and Susan Schwenk. We had a very uplifting weekend as we witnessed these two dear souls' testimonies and baptisms.

We pray for Sis. Mary Ellen Wiegand (Bro. Simon), George Knapp, Sr. and Sis. Ruth Hohulin who have been and still are hospitalized.

Sincere sympathy is extended to the children and grandchildren of Sis. Helen Streit on the passing away of their mother and grandmother. Our hearts are sad for the loss of a dear sister, but we rejoice that another soul has won the victory.

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY Perry A. Klopfenstein

Our church has truly been blessed by the many persons -- young and old -- who have turned to the Lord in sincere repentance. By September 19, fourteen souls had sought to become new creatures in Christ Jesus.

If the Lord tarries, several years from now we can look back to the great drought of 1988 -- when crop

yields were down 50 to 80 percent -- a time of wonderful spiritual harvest. Our prayers are that many, many more will be minded to seek the Lord, and to reject a life of sin, exchanging it for a life of devotion to Christ!

On Saturday evening, September 10, our Sunday school teachers gathered together for a potluck. Elder Bro. Bob Grimm (Goodfield) spoke, giving many words of advice and encouragement. He emphasized the important job of teaching Sunday school, and stated the Sunday school's greatest strength is unity of doctrine. He gave encouragement to pass on our wonderful heritage of faith to the coming generation.

Bro. Rollyn and Sis. Brenda Kuntz are the happy parents of a boy, David Wesley, born September 7. He has a brother, Jacob, 3, and a sister, Stephanie, 16 months. Grandparents are Bro. Clyde and Sis. Wilma Kuntz, and Harold and Bev Wells, all of Gridley.

Sis. Martha Schlipf, 88, was laid to rest September 13. Survivors are Bro. Carl and Adam Schlipf (Gridley), Sis. Ida Pfaffman (Eureka) and Esther Schlipf (Portland, OR). She had lived at the Eureka Apostolic Christian Home for seven years.

Bro. Henry Gramm was hospitalized, but is now back home.

We had several visiting ministers. Included were Elder Bro. Robert Beyer (Naumburg, NY), Bro. Robert Miller (Portland, OR), Bro. Tom Hoffman (Roanoke), Bro. Wayne Laubscher (Cissna Park), Bros. Bill Hodel (Roanoke), Marvin Schmidgall (Eureka) and LeRoy Hartman (Peoria).

ILLINOIS, ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY Brenda Huber

Our hearts are in accord with the angels as we truly rejoice with thanksgiving for the many loved ones who are coming eagerly and humbly seeking our Saviour's face. These blessings seem to tenderly draw the body of Christ closer to one another and unto Him whose enduring patience makes our joy possible.

We welcome each one to our Thursday night Bible studies. In the past month Bro. Marvin Leman (Bradford, IL), reminded us of our

precious calling. Bro. Dennis Kaufmann (Bloomington, IL) exhorted us to some specific Godly principles, pointing out that what we build on when we are young will be our foundation when we are old. Speaking of stewardship and giving, Bro. Marshall Heinold (Washington, IL) expressed that God observes how we manage our money because it shows where our priorities are. In like manner, Bro. Byron Stoller (Gridley, IL) pointed out that our actions and our words reveal what is in our inner hearts. Once again, we sincerely thank these brothers, as well as all those who support our endeavors to shine together on ISU campus.

ILLINOIS, MORTON Phyllis Farney - Cheryl Wuthrich

"Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing." Psalms 100:1-2. There are moments in each of our lives when we are truly joyful. We feel like the lame man, who, after Peter had healed, went "walking and leaping and praising God!" Acts 3:8. When God gives us these times of joy, how wonderful it is to review our favorite "rejoicing" verses. "Be glad in the Lord, and rejoice, ye righteous: and shout for joy, all ye that are upright in heart." Psalms 32:11. "Rejoice evermore." I Thessalonians 5:18.

Our congregation certainly had cause for rejoicing August 20 - 21, when we heard the testimonies and witnessed the baptisms of Cindy Boyle (Bro. Merle and Sis. Nancy Sauder, Tremont) and Scott Martin (Bro. Bill and Sis. Jane). The baptisms will be especially memorable because they were held outside. It was a joy to see the children gather close around the baptismal trough as Cindy and Scott made their covenants.

When loved ones die, they are missed and mourned. Yet, we cannot help but rejoice when they die in the Lord. They, like Paul, are able to claim, "For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain." Philippians 1:21. Bro. Emil Roecker has been called home. His funeral was August 28. Our love and sympathy goes to his daughter, Geraldine Wuthrich; and her husband, Lowell; his grandchildren and

great-grandchildren; and to his brother, Otto. We also pray for God's comfort to the family of Sis. Anna Welk. Her funeral was held September 17. Our thoughts are especially with her sister, Sis. Ida.

Sis. Rachel Bauman wishes to thank everyone for their prayers, visits, cards and gifts of love while in the hospital and since she is home. May God bless all who were so kind.

May we all be more mindful to rejoice in the Lord's blessings and to praise Him for His goodness. "Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me bless His holy name." Psalms 103:1.

ILLINOIS, PEORIA

Joe and Jackie Herman

THE AUTUMN OF LIFE

What a wonderful time is life's
autumn

When leaves of the trees are all
gold,

When God fills each day, as He
sends it,

With memories, priceless and
old . . .

What a treasure house filled with
rare jewels

Are the blessings of year upon
year,

When life has been lived as you've
lived it

In a home where God's presence
is dear . . .

And may the deep meaning sur-
rounding this day,

Like the "paintbrush" of God up
above,

Touch your life with wonderful
blessings

And fill your heart brimful with
love!

Helen Steiner Rice

The engagement of Bro. Dean Thomas (Elder Bro. Robert and Sis. Lucille Beyer, Naumburg, NY) and Sis. Teresa Knobloch (Bro. Ed and Sis. Frances, Princeville) was announced. They are planning a December wedding.

We are so very fortunate to have brethren who are willing to come and minister to us. Visitors include Bros. Bob Meyer (Bluffton North, IN), Gerald Suttor (Taylor, MO), John

Rowell (Burlington, IA), Dave Eisenmann (North Fort Myers, FL), Kent Ringger (Bluffton, IN) and Elder Bro. Robert Beyer (Naumburg, NY). We thank these dear brothers for sharing God's Word with us.

On September 9, a precious little girl was born to Bro. Wayne and Sis. Carol Klopfenstein. Their daughters, Carissa and Kyra, welcome Kelsey Joy home.

Bringing special joy to the home of Bro. Doug and Sis. Peggy Hoerr and their son, Chad, is Natalie Sue, born August 28. Grandparents are Bro. Gerald and Sis. Marge Sutter (Taylor, MO) and Bro. Don and Sis. Velma Hoerr.

Bro. Scott and Sis. Brenda Hoerr welcomed Scott Jonathan into their family August 26. Amanda is Scott's big sister. Grandparents are Larry and Sandy Guingrich and Bro. Ken and Sis. Darlene Hoerr.

We need to remember in prayer Sis. Donna Ferrero, Bro. Jeff Hoerr and Bro. Tom and Sis. Jo Ann Rieker, who have been in the hospital. We pray for God's will and His guiding hand in their recovery.

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE

Marjean Lehman

"All scripture 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

Our thanks go to visiting ministers this past month. They were Bro. Wayne Anliker (Forrest), Bro. Jim Rinkenberger (Bluffton, IN), Bro. Jon Schmidgall (Oakville, IA), Bro. Ken Schneider (Remington, IN), Bro. Loren Schrenk (St. Louis, MO) and Elder Bro. Aaron Steffen (Alto, MI). May God bless them for serving us.

"Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance."

Matthew 3:8

On September 11, two souls were announced for giving their testimony and baptism, planned for September 24 - 25. They are Ann Pridemore and

Mark Streitmatter (Bro. Don and Sis. Mary Lou).

"... 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

On August 19, we heard the testimonies of faith of Bro. Jim Gerst (Bro. Dick and Cleo) and on August 20, we witnessed his baptism.

"And the peace of God which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

Philippians 4:7

"I will therefore that the younger women marry, bear children, guide the house, give none occasion to the adversary to speak reproachfully."

I Timothy 5:14

On September 4, we heard the engagement announced of Sis. Teresa Knobloch (Bro. Ed and Sis. Frances) to Bro. Dean Thomas (Elder Bro. Robert and Sis. Lucille Beyer, Naumburg, NY).

On September 4, Sis. Nancy Martin (Bro. Elmer and Sis. Janet Martin) and Bro. Fred Witzig (Bro. Bill and Sis. Mary Witzig, Altadena, CA) were joined in holy matrimony. May God's blessings be with both couples as they walk hand in hand with God.

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

Matthew 19:14

On August 26, little Lanae Nichole came to Sis. Tina and Bro. Fred Christ to be nurtured and loved. Happy to have a little sister are brothers, Nathan and Dane. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Walter and Sis. Doris Christ and Hazel Logsdon. May God bless their family circle.

Two young men, Clint Plattner (Bro. Jim and Sis. Marlene) and Ryan Siebenthal (Bro. Eugene and Sis. Kay) have suffered broken arms.

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

Patsy Kaeb - Judy Luginbuhl

Once again it is harvest time in

central Illinois and we have been vividly reminded how very much we are dependant on our great God for an increase after the seed has been planted. The drought in our area has greatly reduced the yields from the gardens and fields but we are truly thankful for that which He provided. As we reflect over the growing season this year, we realize how fervent our prayers were that God would send the life-giving rains such as we have taken for granted for so long, and how sincerely we thanked Him for every drop of water that fell to the dry earth. It has truly taught us to be more prayerful, more thankful, and to have a stronger faith that God will provide for our needs.

Our congregation has been blessed with visits from Elder Bro. Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO), Bro. Bob Miller (Portland, OR), Bro. Tom Leman (Denver, CO), Bro. Dale Wulf (Lester, IA), Elder Bro. Robert Beyer (Naumburg, NY) and Elder Bro. Eugene Marti who conducted our September Bible study and stayed for Sunday. We pray God will reward them who serve Him so willingly.

We gladly welcome Bro. Rich and Sis. Julie Lindberg back to the Roanoke area. They and their sons recently moved from California and are again assembling with us.

Tim and Kim Getz are the happy parents of a new son, Kirk Andrew, born August 3. Kirk has one brother, Tyler Lee. Bro. Jerry Getz, Bonnie Getz and Lon and Kandy Kupferschmid (Eureka) are his grandparents.

Brett Curtis is the first child of Bro. Curtis and Sis. Jenell Hodel. Brett was born August 19. Bro. Richard and Sis. Rachel Leman and Bro. Jim and Sis. Doris Hodel are Brett's happy grandparents.

Kaitlyn Isaia is excited about her new brother, Landon Barney, born September 1. Bro. Richard and Sis. Deanna Isaia are Landon's parents. His grandparents are Sis. Delores Marti (Gridley) and Dorothy Isaia (Roanoke).

Those spending time in the hospital this past month were Sarah Knepp (Bro. Rich and Sis. Janet), Sis. Ethel Rassi, Judy Magnuson and Sis. Marie Hohulin. We are thankful they are all home and pray God will grant them a complete recovery.

We are rejoicing with Andy Hodel (Bro. Dave and Sis. Maxine) as he has answered the Lord's call to repentance.

Bro. Richard Isaia has been appointed the new administrator of the "Home" here at Roanoke. We pray Bro. Rich and his wife, Sis. Deanna, will feel the love and support of our congregation as he assumes his new duties.

We truly extend our sympathy to the family of Tammy Wagenbach (Tremont) who died August 22. Tammy grew up in our community and church and we have felt the same sense of loss that those in Tremont feel. Her father, Bro. Wally Blunier; her brother, Brad; and her grandparents, Bro. Walter and Sis. Marian Blunier (all of Roanoke), have certainly been in our prayers during this very sad time.

On September 10, our dear Sis. Anna Leman passed away at the "Home" in Roanoke. She is survived by one sister, Sis. Mary Leman; and three brothers, Bro. Joe and Bro. Wilmer (Roanoke) and Bro. Irvin (Morton). Our sincere sympathy is extended to the Leman family.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Rusk (Geneseo, IL) have announced the engagement of their daughter, Melissa Ann, to David Knepp (also of Geneseo). David is the son of Bro. Ken and Sis. Judy Knepp.

Our congratulations are extended to Jill (Onnen) and Jon Fehr who were recently married. We wish them God's richest blessings throughout their life together.

Often times some precious blossom
That we hoped would grow and

flower,
Suddenly begins to wither
And is gone within the hour!
How our heart doth ache within us
For the parting cuts it sore,
Yet we know, although we loved
him

Jesus loves him even more.
Oh that sweet and tender blossom,
That was fragile and so fair --
How the memories of our child
Linger on the summer air.
Oh so soon our arms are empty --
Oh so soon we had to part;
Yet the deepest peace from heaven
Heals our empty aching heart.
After bitter pangs of parting,
We will try to grieve no more --

He has gone a step before us
And has crossed to yonder shore.
Let our hearts be lifted upward
To that joyful land above,
Where God holds His newest angel
In His heavenly home of love!

Anonymous

We humbly thank everyone who was so good to us at the time of our son, Jacob's death. We appreciated so very much all the kind words, loving deeds, and all the gifts of love given in memory of Jacob. We are especially thankful for all the prayers and concern expressed on our behalf. May God bless each and every one of you.

With Christian love,
Brent and Marge Hodel
Sarah and Nathan

ILLINOIS, TREMONT

Marsha Koch - Carolyn Bolliger

August 21 was the wedding day for Sis. Heidi Aberle and Bro. Dean Sinn (Tucson, AZ). Sis. Heidi is the daughter of Bro. Ernie and Sis. Frieda Aberle and Bro. Dean's parents are Otto and Marian Sinn (Silverton, OR).

Another happy occasion was the marriage of Sis. Cathy Baer (Bro. Robert and Sis. Doris Baer) and Bro. Chuck Koch (Bro. Elmon and Sis. Janice Koch) September 18. We wish these young couples God's rich blessings as they start their new lives together.

Our congratulations go out to Bro. Earl and Sis. Marsha Koch on the birth of a baby daughter, Nicole Gail, August 30. Little brother, Craig, welcomes her home. Grandparents are Bro. Paul and Sis. Florence Koch and Bro. Ken and Sis. Arlene Huett, all of Tremont.

We wish to extend our sympathy to Bro. Elmer and Sis. Darlene Kaeb on the death of Sis. Darlene's brother, Orville Barth.

With heavy hearts, we laid to rest our dear Tammy Wagenbach. It is hard for us to understand why God saw fit to take a young mother from her family but we believe it is all in His plan and pray that He will stand by her husband, Ron, and their five children, Paul, Gary, Holly, Lisa and baby Wendy. Our deepest sympathy goes to all of their family. Tammy is also survived by her father, Bro. Walter Blunier (Roanoke); her mother, Olene

McCord (Morton); and two brothers, Brad and Bro. Rod.

It was recently made known to us that Bro. Al Aberle is retiring from the ministry. We wish to thank Bro. Al for his many years of faithful service and wish for him and his wife, Sis. Emma, God's blessings in their years ahead.

We always appreciate the visits of our ministering brothers and this month we say a special thank you to Bro. Noah Herman (Tucson, AZ), Bro. Lloyd Kraft (Gridley, KS), Bro. Duane Kilgus (Fairbury) and Bros. Gene Bertschi and Bruce Leman (Roanoke).

NOTES:

We wish to thank everyone for the cards, food, prayers and all acts of kindness during the illness and death of our brother.

The family of Orville Barth

We are overwhelmed, and would like to express our heartfelt thanks for the many wonderful deeds of love and kindness, prayers offered and help offered, food brought in, and the many love gifts. We pray God will bless and reward each one both now and in all eternity.

Least ones in the Lord,
Ron Wagenbach and family
And all the families of
Tammy Lynn Wagenbach

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON Carol Schick

"Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ."
Acts 2:38

We are so very thankful that God has called six dear souls unto repentance. They are Ken and Laura (Wagner) Wagenbach, Mark and Lisa (Fenner) Schmidtgall, Joy Klaus (John and Betty Klaus, Japan) and Jill Wagenbach (Bro. Don and Sis. Marie). We rejoice with each of them and their families and ask that God richly bless them as they turn their lives over to Him.

Heaven sent two little angels to parents in our congregation recently. Mark Alan was born to Bro. Ron and Sis. Pam Messner. Mark was welcomed home by Daniel and Heather. Grandparents are Sis. Lucile Frank

(Leo, IN) and Bro. Leo and Sis. Georgia Messner (Winthrop, MN). Bro. Jon and Sis. Cheryl Ricketts presented their son, Bradley, with a new brother whom they named Brent Alan. His grandparents are Bro. Wilbur and Sis. Sophia Huber (Phoenix, AZ) and Bro. Meredith and Sis. Leona Ricketts (Forrest).

October 1 is the date set for the wedding of Mark Teubel (Bro. Ed and Sis. Louise) and Marti Bienemann (Mr. and Mrs. Roy Bienemann). We wish this young couple much joy, peace and love in their new life together.

Believing it to be God's will, Sis. Jane Miller has moved to Phoenix, AZ, to be near her family. We miss her cheerful smile and wish her well in her new home and job.

We extend our sympathy to Sis. Ida Pfaffmann for the recent loss of her sister and our sister-in-faith, Martha Schlipf. Sis. Martha was a member of the Gridley congregation and a resident of Eureka Home. May God comfort Sis. Ida and her family at this time of sorrow.

Our visiting minister this past month was Bro. Dale Wulf (Lester, IA). We were blessed by his visit and we pray for a blessing for him and his family as they labor for God.

Hospital patients this past month were Sis. Sue Ruppert, Bro. John Schick and Bro. Marshall Heinold. We pray that God will see fit to heal each one completely and let them take comfort in II Corinthians 12:10, "Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake; for when I am weak, then am I strong."

We all had a great opportunity for many blessings and thought-provoking evenings as we gathered to listen to conference tapes this past month. Praise God for the love and concern of ministers for each member of Christ's flock.

Reminder: October is Washington's month for Silver Lining dues.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON Jean Moser - Becky Isch

"Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honor,

especially they who labor in the word and doctrine."

I Timothy 5:17

On August 21, Elder Bro. Orville Ringger announced to our congregation that he was turning over his responsibilities as elder to Elder Bro. Ed Schwartz and his duties as pulpit minister to the other ministers. We heard the news with very mixed emotions; we were saddened and, yet, happy that Bro. Orv can be relieved of some of his work. He has been God's faithful messenger since April 18, 1954, and was ordained elder January 26, 1975. We gratefully thank him for his wisdom, guidance and love over the past 34 years, and pray that God will continue to bless him and Sis. Naomi for all of the help and kindness shown to all of us. We also wish Elder Bro. Ed Schwartz and Sis. Jeni, Tonya and Rick an abundance of God's grace to carry on this important work.

Bro. Brian Tonner (Bro. Gary and Sis. Diann) and Sis. Joy Baumgartner (Bro. Howard and Sis. Joyce, Bluffton North) were united in marriage August 28. May our heavenly Father bless them as they will now walk life's pathway together.

Sis. Esther Geisel, 78, passed away August 31 after a lengthy illness. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to her husband, Bro. Olen, and her children, Bro. James Geisel (Sis. Dorothy, Bluffton North), Harry, Robert, Sis. Lucille Gerber (Bro. Dwight) and Jayne Gibson. We pray that they can all feel the comfort of our dear Lord.

The engagement of Sis. Lora Kipfer (Bro. Ned and Sis. Dixie) and Bro. Jim Walburn (Mr. and Mrs. Robert Walburn) was announced September 4. We wish them much grace and favor from on high as they make the wedding plans and begin their life together.

Jenny Lynn was born to Bro. Larry and Sis. Deb Reinhard September 15. Rachel, Julie and Curt are her sisters and brother, and Bro. Don and Sis. Mary Gerber and Sarah Reinhard Steffen are her happy grandparents.

John and Sis. Verona Myers are the proud parents of their third son, Andy Ray, born September 16. His big brothers are Eric and Adam. Bro. Dwight and Sis. Bev Troxel are his grandparents.

Our love and congratulations go out to these happy families blessed by God.

Our hospital patients this month were Sis. Alice Schaefer (Bro. Kenneth), Sis. Brenda Kipfer (Bro. Troy), Don Campbell, Bro. Lewis Gerber and Elder Bro. Orville Ringger (Sis. Naomi). We ask that God will grant a good measure of added strength and grace to these loved ones.

Visiting ministers this month were Bro. Harold Schmidgall (Gridley, IL), Bro. Wendell Gerber (Bluffton North), retired Bro. Harry Sutter (Fort Lauderdale, FL), Bro. Lynn Stieglitz (Leo), Bro. Ray Sinn (Latty, OH) and Bro. Nelson Beer (Milford). We appreciate the loving and living Word they shared with us.

This past month three dear couples in our congregation celebrated 50 years of marriage: Elder Bro. Orville and Sis. Naomi Ringger, Bro. Harold and Sis. Virgil Isch, and Bro. Dan and Sis. Gladys Lantz. We wish them many more blessed years together.

We offer our prayers and sympathy to the family of Mrs. Arthur (Betty) Bertsch, who passed away September 14. Bros. Harry and Bill Longenberger are her brothers.

Please Note: Silver Lining dues will be collected in November.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON NORTH

Lois Drayer

Debbie Aeschliman

We are thankful for Elder Bro. Bud Klopfenstein (Fort Lauderdale, FL), Bro. Max Reimschisel (Wichita, KS) and Bro. Uriel Gehring (Leo) who ministered to us this past month. As said many times before, but still as true, we welcome them and their families back.

There is joy in our congregation as we have several who are repenting. Lisa Schladenhaußen (Bro. Gary and Sis. Nancy), Maura Stettner (Elder Bro. Phil and Sis. Maureen), Rachelle Funk (Sam and Sis. Mary Jo Gerber), Grant Frauhiger (Bro. Doyle and Sis. Jane), Ked Moser (Bro. Dwight and Sis. Pat), and Tim and Carol Mock. We wish all of our dear converts much grace as they begin this strait and narrow path of life. Some people might think that the word "strait" has the same meaning as "straight". A minister mentioned

recently that when it talks about "strait and narrow" in the Bible, it does not mean as a straight line, but refers to a narrow and tight pathway. "Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." Matthew 7:13, 14.

Our love and sympathy is extended to Lawrence Cotton in the passing of his dear wife, Viola. Lawrence and Viola attended our church for several years. Viola passed away August 27 after a lengthy illness. Surviving, besides her husband, are a daughter, Phyllis Macon; a stepson, Carl Cotton; one grandson; and two brothers, Manes and Reed Levy. There is a great loss felt in the family of Oscar and June Lopez with the passing of their son, Jeffrey, who died in a motorcycle accident at the age of 23, September 13. Surviving, in addition to the parents, are two brothers, Randy and Daniel; and five sisters, Celia, Leticia, Angelica, Monica and Veronica. We hope the family can feel our prayers. We wish to extend our sympathies to Bro. James Geisel (Sis. Dorothy) in the passing of his mother, Sis. Esther Geisel (Bro. Olen). Our sympathy also is extended to Sis. Esther's brother, Bro. Ervin Kaehr (Irene).

A thousand years is a day,

When earthly life is gone.

Endearing memories, precious,
true,

Will ever linger on

Of him who loved and who was
loved,

Whose passing gives us pain.

Bro. Henry Beer

May God grant each family extra strength at their times of sorrow.

Bro. James Geisel (Sis. Dorothy) and Michelle Wall (Sis. Pat) were hospital patients this month. May the Lord continue to watch over them.

We know that fall is drawing near when we see farmers harvesting crops and the leaves changing colors. Cooler weather is here and it seems a person appreciates the cool weather more because of the hot and humid summer.

Reminder: November is the month

for Bluffton North's collection of dues. The rate is \$7.00. Please pay one of your reporters.

INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE

Lynne Wuethrich

Our congregation had the opportunity to witness the most sacred vows of our dear Sis. Lily Vogt (Bro. Ron and Sis. Dianne) to Bro. Roger Pelsy (Bro. Ellsworth and Sis. Luella) Sunday, September 11. Bro. Roger and Sis. Lily are making their home in the Francesville area. We ask God's continued hand of guidance upon this couple.

We've had 4 couples announce their wedding plans this month. It is so special to see new families being formed. Sis. Donna Gudeman (Bro. Willis and Sis. Margaret) and Bro. Mike Putt (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Paulette) are looking forward to becoming one in the Lord December 4.

Melissa Cook (Herb and Sis. Suzanne) is engaged to Tim Whitaker. Tim's parents are Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kleppe and Mr. Jerry Whitaker of Greenwood, IN. A March wedding is being planned.

Bro. Gene and Sis. Barb Huber are happy for their daughter, Sis. Gina, as she and Bro. James Emch (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Cathy, Phoenix, AZ) plan to marry December 11.

Brent Huber (Bro. Bill and Sis. Betty) is engaged to marry Julia Resch. Julia's parents are Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Resch (Lafayette). They are planning a July 29 wedding.

We rejoice with all 4 of these dear couples and we ask God to bless them with His nearness.

Three dear ones have been hospitalized this month. It seems we all are guilty of taking our good health for granted at times. Ryan Gutwein (Bro. Jeff and Sis. Wendy) underwent surgery but is now home recovering. Sis. Verna Stedman and Bro. Dan Clauss from the Parkview Haven Retirement Home have been hospitalized. Bro. Dan is recovering but Sis. Verna is still in the hospital at this time.

We want to thank Bro. Lester Huber (Lexington, KY) for lending himself to minister the Word of Life unto us.

For those interested, there are cassettes available once again of "Open Your Heart" by the Gospel Choir.

INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS Kathy Freed - Gail Bradford

We wish to thank the following ministers who shared the Word with us this month: Bros. Jack Bollier (Leo), Robert Beebe (South Bend), Earl Ringger (Gridley, IL) and Elder Bros. Jesse Beer (Milford) and Alfred Bahler (Wolcott).

We are happy that Bro. Chuck Neuenschwander has returned home to Bluffton after a long hospitalization. He, Sis. Doris and their family were a light to all of us during this time of recuperation.

We must say a loving farewell to Bro. Jason and Sis. Wendy Williamson and son, Brock, as they transfer to Latty, OH.

Our metropolitan church experiences many such changes, perhaps more than our rural congregations. However, because the Lord blesses our friendship and our fellowship, we can welcome newcomers and say farewell to loved ones with confidence that we will never be really separated. Our oneness with God ties us together. Near or far, we are never apart.

How rich we often feel as we reflect on the blessings of good friends! It often seems that our cup overflows as we think of friends young and old who have been an inspiration and a light to us.

Perhaps right now we should express those feelings of gratitude, first to our Lord, from whom these blessings abundantly flow, and then to those loving friends who may need to hear from us at this very moment!

"Before our Father's throne,
We pour our ardent prayers'
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are
one,
Our comfort and our cares."

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

"Blest Be The Tie"
John Fawcett

INDIANA, LACROSSE Sandy Heinold

"Rejoice with them that do rejoice,
and weep with them that weep."
Romans 12:15. We're rejoicing with

our two new converts, Becky and Duane Gudeman (Bro. Donald and Sis. Mary) and their family. Our prayer and desire is that many more can yet surrender their lives to the Lord and experience the joy of a close walk with Him.

It also brings sorrow to our hearts to see dear ones suffer. Sis. Alice Heinold was hospitalized this month, but is again able to return to the nursing home. Sis. Emma Pfeifer (Bro. Ernest) suffered burns on her upper body while working in her home. Her cheerful spirit is such an encouragement to us all and we're thankful that she is improving.

For their years of dedicated service in Sunday school, we wish to thank Bro. Ed Troxel and Sis. Barb Troxel. New teachers are Bros. Gene and Glen Heinold and Sis. Jo Ann Frank. May all of our teachers seek God's direction and guidance as they sow the precious seed in the hearts of our young people.

We have been privileged to assemble to hear the tapes of the brotherhood conference. As we listened to the many exhortations, encouragements, and warnings given by our elder brethren, it created within us a desire for just a little closer walk with our Lord. "... forgetting those things which are behind, . . . I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:13, 14.

INDIANA, LEO Thelma Schlatter

There are lessons to be learned from such small creatures named in Proverbs 30:24-28. Sometimes little things we see or use remind us of certain Christian attributes. It was suggested that a little postage stamp has these good qualities: It is waiting to be used. It wears the mark of its origin. It does the job for which it has been purchased. It sticks where it is put, and goes where it is sent without grumbling. It never strikes back. Some stamps become precious treasures!

Through the years, many dear people have heard and answered the call to serve Him in various capacities at the Children's Home. Their names have not always been mentioned in an effort to avoid duplication with the Home news; however,

we want each one to know that they have been welcomed, appreciated, and prayed for. He is their rewarder. Recent newcomers are Bro. John and Sis. Patsy Stoller, Candi, Sandi and Kevin (Forrest, IL), Bro. Art and Sis. Ruth Gramm (Gridley, IL), Sisters Carol Kieser (Bradford, IL) and Ida Metzger (Lester, IA), and Bro. John and Sis. Sue Grusy (Chicago, IL). We welcome them to our church family.

In addition to our local ministry, visiting ministers who also delivered messages to challenge and encourage the Christian walk were Bros. Edwin Ringger and Elmer Witzig (Gridley, IL), Robert Beyer (Naumburg, NY), Vernon Leman (Eureka, IL) and Doug Harmon (Toledo, OH). We want to thank each one.

Jason Klopfenstein (Bro. John and Sis. Linda) suffered a broken arm. That has to be hard for a busy young schoolboy, but he is doing well.

The youth group, teachers and sponsors were recent guests of the Toledo, OH, Sunday school. Their thanks go to their kind and generous hosts and hostesses.

Bits and Pieces:

We have committed the Golden Rule to memory; let us now commit it to life.

Wherever there is a human being, there is an opportunity for kindness.

The people you should try to get even with are the people who have helped you.

Apples of Gold

Do we criticize the one thing wrong and fail to see the many, many right things? Catch someone doing something right.

Practice makes perfect, so be careful what you practice.

For a smile -- A tough thing about raising kids is convincing them you have seniority.

INDIANA, MILFORD Sue Schieler Marguerite Hoerr

Those of us who could not go to the wedding of Bill and Judy Loncor in Illinois were privileged to attend an Indiana reception for them, hosted by Bil's parents, Coalter and Kathryn Loncor (Goshen). Bill and Judy are at home south of Milford. We rejoice with them in their new-found happi-

ness, and welcome Judy to our Milford church.

Bob and I felt blessed to have Velma Celiz (Juarez, Mexico) as our house guest for a week. Velma donates her time to one of our World Relief Work Projects as interpreter. When work crews from the States work at the A.M.M.A.R. A.C. project, she's an invaluable member of the team. She also spent time in Remington and Bluffton while visiting us in Indiana.

Esther Weldy has been hospitalized recently. She's released but is still recuperating. She asks for our prayers. We gladly will remember her and ask for God's healing powers in her life.

Our young friend, Mary Cockburn (Bro. Bob and Sis. Sue) had throat surgery for the removal of cysts. We're so thankful to report she's home and doing fine.

Visiting ministers this past month were Bro. Ted Witzig (Morton, IL), Bro. Bob Meyer (Bluffton North), Bro. Vernon Leman (Eureka, IL) and Bro. Harold Emch (Girard, OH). May they feel additional blessings for sharing their time and talents with us.

Heidi Beer (Bro. Phil and Sis. Millie) and Steve Rozow (Syracuse) announced their engagement. We wish them God's richest blessings as they make plans for their lives together. They're both students at Purdue University.

Another daughter, Heather Gutwein, and her husband, Dan, presented Phil and Millie with their third grandchild. Grant Benjamin was born August 25 in Indianapolis, where his mother is a medical student at Indiana University. Paternal grandparents are Eldon and Marilee Gutwein (Francesville).

We're experiencing fountains of blessings as we witness two souls turning to the Lord; Brent Beer (Bro. Bob and Sis. Linda) and Rita Beer (Bro. Nelson and Sis. Shelby).

INDIANA, REMINGTON

Beth Virkler - Susan Getz

On September 4, Bro. Mark and Sis. Benita Bahler, along with their daughters, Joy, Rachel and Melanie, welcomed Valerie Dawn into their home. Grandparents are Bro. Elmer and Sis. Marilyn Bahler and the late

Bro. Ben and the late Sis. Esther Schlatter (Junction, OH).

Our annual summer conference tends to bring traveling ministers into our congregation for which we are always thankful. Visiting us this month were Elder Bro. Lester Hartter (Bern, KS) and Bros. Elmer Schmidt (Winthrop, MN), Dave Eisenmann (North Fort Myers, FL), Don Gudeman and Todd Feller (LaCrosse, IN) and Will Schieler (Milford, IN).

A story was shared with us during a sermon about a man who was seeking more knowledge so he went to a professor and asked him how he could find it. The professor took him to a river and began to hold the man's head underwater for a number of seconds. When he allowed the man to come up out of the water he asked him, "What did you think about while you were underwater?"

The man replied, "AIR . . . all I thought about was air."

"Now," the professor stated, "as soon as you want knowledge as much as you longed for air, you will find it."

What a powerful lesson for us who are seeking God's truth in a society full of ungodliness. When we get to the point where seeking God's wisdom means more to us than anything else in our lives, it will seem as though suddenly we have the time to search and study God's Word and the longing to visit our prayer closet very often because it will have become our "top" priority.

INDIANA, SOUTH BEND

Sue Beebe

As thoughts of harvest time occupy our minds, we can also look forward to a spiritual harvest when our Lord returns to gather in His own. Let us not be as the five foolish virgins in the parable told by Christ in Matthew 25:1-13. When the bridegroom came, they were unprepared and therefore not allowed to enter in with Him to the marriage.

"Therefore be ye ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh."

Matthew 24:44

On September 11, we were blessed by the visit of Elder Bro. Roy Sauder

and his wife, Sis. Gertrude (Peoria, IL).

On Wednesday evenings we have been listening to the tapes from the brotherhood conference. The theme this year was "The Spiritual Mind." Two thoughts expressed were "unless we want the spiritual mind, we will never attain it." And, "The greatest happiness can only be found by submitting to God in all aspects of our life."

INDIANA, WEST LAFAYETTE PURDUE UNIVERSITY

Lynn Martin

Fall, with its cool weather and falling leaves, also means that summer vacation is over and school is beginning. Here at Purdue, we are giving thanks for all our new students. Those starting college for the first time include Jim Bucher (Valparaiso), Trina Bucher (Bluffton North), Bro. Jason Furrer (Francesville), Matt Gudeman (Francesville), Andy Gutwein (Francesville), David Gutwein (Francesville), Jason Gutwein (Francesville), Randy Leman (Francesville), Helen Metz (Francesville), Trent Metzger (Morton, IL), Andrea Neihouser (Francesville), June Ringger (Bluffton), Bro. Craig Schafer (Indianapolis) and Stephen Vogt (Francesville). Other new students include transfer students Brett Huber (Valparaiso) and Bro. Bob Huber (Francesville).

Jesus said, "Repent: for the kingdom of God is at hand."

Matthew 4:17

We rejoice with Helen Metz as she has heard God's call and has turned her life over to the Lord in repentance.

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

Ephesians 5:20

We here at Purdue are thankful that we can gather together every other Thursday to share the Word of God. Visiting ministers who have given of themselves include Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville), Bro. Nile Bucher (Bluffton North), Bro. John Reinhard (Bluffton) and Bro.

Earl Kilgus (Remington). We also want to thank ministering Bro. Edwin Bahler for all the support he has given us by organizing the new student orientation dinner and all our services.

We welcome anyone who wants to come worship and praise the Lord with us every other Thursday evening. The dates for the rest of this year are October 27, November 10 and 27, and December 8. Services are held at the Nazarene Church on Soldiers Home Road at 7:30 E.S.T.

INDIANA, WOLCOTT

Lorna Knapp - Lynell Blume

We were thankful for the inspiring messages of our visiting ministers, Elder Bro. Lester Hartter (Bern, KS) and Bro. Elmer Schmidt (Winthrop, MN). May God richly bless them for their selfless efforts as only He can.

We have been uplifted and renewed in our desire to serve Him more fervently as we recently listened to the brotherhood conference tapes. We thank God there are those who have such a sincere concern for our spiritual welfare.

We have had two dear ones in our congregation to uphold in prayer as they needed to be hospitalized this month. Ed Widmer suffered injuries in a fall and Sis. Madelyn Anker submitted to surgery.

"Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth." St. Luke 15:10. We surely rejoice with the angels as we have five dear souls who have humbled themselves and knelt at the foot of the cross in repentance. They are Erica Furrer (Bro. Irv and Sis. Shirley), Sheri Bahler (Bro. Lowell and Sis. Karla), Diane Mailloux (Scott, daughter of Bro. Richard and Sis. Viola Stoller) and Dave and Merri Schieler (Sis. Marilyn). We pray for them an extra portion of God's grace to dig deep and lay a firm foundation.

IOWA, AMES/DES MOINES

Barb Fehr

Sunday, September 11, was the first service of the 1988 school year in Ames. We want to welcome back all our students from last year and also

welcome new students and invite them to join us. Services will be the second Sunday of each month except: January 22, March 5 and May 7.

We appreciate all the help in preparations which make our services possible. The Christian fellowship each month is a blessing we all enjoy and we are thankful for each of our visitors who travel to be with us. We especially want to thank Bros. Jon Schmidgall (Oakville) and Duane Metzger (West Bend) who ministered to us from the third chapter of St. Matthew: "In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of Heaven is at hand . . ." Matthew 3:1, 2.

IOWA, BURLINGTON

Deyona Massner - Karen Schulz

We were again privileged to have several visiting ministers in our midst this past month. They were Bro. Dave Eisenmann (North Fort Myers, FL), Bro. Elmer Schrenk (Alto, MI), Bro. Jim Knoblock (Elgin, IA) and Bro. Uriel Gehring (Leo, IN). May God richly bless each one.

We extend our sympathy to Bros. Ben Wagler and Paul Wagler (Burlington) and Sis. Tillie Frank (Iowa City) in the passing from this life of their brother, Ulysses. It is a comfort to know he turned to the Lord in repentance in his last months.

Burlington and Oakville were happy to host the Zapata reunion September 10. We had many visitors from across the land. It was a blessed weekend for all.

IOWA, ELGIN Gloria Frieden

"Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counselors there is safety."

Proverbs 11:14

Again we have been privileged to listen to the tapes of the recent brotherhood conference. May we take heed to the wise counsel we received, believing it comes from the heart of God, and not just the lips of man.

Our little flock here at Elgin welcomes Bro. Leo and Sis. Tami Banwart who have recently moved to this area.

It is a joy to have them worship and fellowship with us.

May our Lord's sweet hand square us and hammer us, and strike off all pride, self love, world-worship, and infidelity, so that He can make us stones and pillars in His Father's house.

from Leaves of Gold

IOWA, GARDEN GROVE Glen and Sally Funk

With thankfulness in our hearts, we want to mention our gratefulness to Bro. Pat Zaug (West Bend, IA) for filling in for us while we were gone in August. His willingness to be here on the pulpit alone was appreciated. Our visiting ministers we also want to thank are Bro. Wayne Miller (Fort Scott, KS), Bro. Darrel Stoller (Bern, KS) and Bro. Harold Schmidgal (Gridley, IL). Our Elder Bro. Sam Huber also spent a Sunday with us. We have had a lot of company this summer and appreciate each one who has come. We will especially miss Bro. Clarence Yackley and his wife, Sis. Linda, who spent over a month with us.

For almost a year now, we have been anticipating the move of a family to our congregation. They are not all here yet, but have started moving equipment and a few household items to the farm they bought just down the road from our church. All of you from a large church cannot imagine the joy it gives us and the spiritual lift we all feel with one family joining our church family. Bro. Tom and Sis. Dawn Moser, and precious daughter, Brittany, will soon be filling a few seats in our pews at church. We all welcome them and feel so grateful to God for leading them here.

IOWA, IOWA CITY Bonita Frank

As we enjoy the fall with its changing colors, we can see God's power in completing such an awesome and total change in our surroundings. Isn't it wonderful that He is in control of our lives and the outcome of each decision, if we but ask Him?

Making a beginning in a change of their spiritual lives are Wendy and Lisa Eland, daughters of Bro. Brad and Sis. Joyce Eland. May God be

near them and help them to build on the firm foundation. We are sure the angels in heaven are rejoicing.

We extend our sympathy to Sis. Tillie Frank and Marilyn Anderson in the passing of Ulysses Wagler, their brother and uncle. Even though this is a sad time, we were glad to know that Ulysses found peace with God before he passed away. We pray for God's comfort for them and the rest of Ulysses' family.

Our visiting ministers this past month were Bro. Jim Plattner (Princeville, IL) and Elder Bro. Bob Walder (Congerville, IL). We appreciate the teachings that were brought forth by these faithful brethren.

IOWA, LESTER

Kathy Metzger - Mary Knobloch

"Likewise I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth." St. Luke 15:10. Our hearts rejoice in that Trent Knobloch (Bro. Roger and Sis. Janet), Angie Warner (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Esther), Kevin and Dawn Martin Metzger have surrendered their hearts to the Lord. May God grant them much grace as they work out the salvation of their souls.

On August 28, we witnessed the exchange of marriage vows between Bro. Brad Moser (Bro. Frank and Sis. Verna) and Sis. Gloria Knobloch (Bro. Ezra and Sis. Marie). May God be the head of their newly established home and may they daily look to Him for guidance as they begin their lives together.

On the same day, the betrothal of Bro. Rodney Metzger (Bro. Ernest and Sis. Ella) to Sis. Polly Moser (Lou and Tina) was made known to the congregation. Having the faith to believe God has brought them together, may the same faith continue to lead them together along the road that leads to heaven.

Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr (West Bend), Bro. Jim Plattner (Princeville, IL), Bro. Kent Mogler (Minneapolis, MN) and Bro. Dean Messner (Winthrop, MN) shared God's Word with us on Bro. Brad and Sis. Gloria's wedding day. Also visiting recently for a midweek service was Bro. Marvin Stieglitz (Leo, IN). We received many teachings and pray God will continue to grant brethren the grace to preach

the truth as it comes forth through His Spirit.

God has blest four homes with new babies. On August 23, Landen Paul was born to Bro. Arnie and Sis. Myra Wulf. Grandparents are Elder Bro. Leo and Sis. Leona Moser and Bro. Wilhelm and Sis. Leona Wulf. Paul Henry was born August 30 to Bro. Henry and Sis. Charlene Messner. His grandparents are Bro. Martin and Sis. Zelma Knobloch and Bro. Frank and Sis. Gladys Messner (Morris, MN). A daughter, Cassie Sue, was born to Bro. Tom and Sis. Deb Metzger September 5. Paternal grandparents are Bro. Fred and Sis. Esty Metzger. On September 15, Kara Louise was born to Bro. Wes and Sis. Esther Moser. Her grandparents are Bro. Gus and Sis. Martha Feucht and Elder Bro. Leo and Sis. Leona Moser. May these dear parents look to our heavenly Father for daily and sometimes hourly guidance as they prayerfully raise their children.

Entwined among the joys we experience in life are times of sadness as dear ones leave our area and relocate. Sis. Ida Metzger (Bro. Ernst and Sis. Ella) has felt God's direction to move to Indiana and work at the Children's Home there. May God bless her as she leaves and may God's grace be with her as she follows His will in her life.

Bro. Albert Knobloch submitted to emergency surgery at a Minneapolis, MN, hospital. We are thankful good health is being restored and pray God's nearness and healing powers be with him as he recovers.

"In my Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." St. John 14:2, 3. As God has prepared a home, let us, by the grace of God, continue to prepare our hearts so that our names will be written in the Book of Life!

IOWA, OAKVILLE

Debbie Wagenbach

"When He cometh, when He cometh, to make up His jewels . . ." Tabernacle Hymnal #332. Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to Bro. Bill

and Sis. Karen Schrock in the loss of their first child, a little girl, Erin Louise. We know that Jesus loves the little children and they are precious jewels in His heavenly crown. May God comfort the hearts of Bro. Bill and Sis. Karen and also Erin's grandparents, Bro. Bob and Sis. Edith Schrock and Bro. and Sis. Leonard Menold (Princeville, IL).

"Thus united and in concord . . ." Zion's Harp #237. Bro. Ernie Siegle and Sis. Leona Messner (Phoenix, AZ) were married September 7 in Phoenix. May God grant them many years of happiness as they walk together in faith. On August 27, Kris Lolling (Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Lolling, Wapello, IA) became the bride of Robby Lanz (Bro. Bob and Sis. Emma Jean). The following weekend, September 3, was the wedding day of Valerie Steiner (Bro. John and Sis. Carol) and Sean Gray (Donald and Bonnie Gray). We wish God's blessings upon our newlyweds and may they ever look to Him as the center and stronghold of their union.

We have been blessed to have several visiting ministers recently. Among them have been Bros. Vern Wettstein (Congerville, IL), Paul Eisenmann (Burlington, IA), Carroll Gerber (Bluffton North, IN), Elmer Schrenk (Alto, MI) and Elder Bro. Gene Bertschi (Roanoke, IL). We could certainly feel the Spirit of God as we listened to His inspired wonderful words of life.

We welcome Bro. Dick and Cleo Gerst back into our congregation. It's been many years since they have called Oakville "home" and we are thankful to have them assembling with us again.

Joel Thomas has joined the family circle of Bro. Tom and Sis. JoAnn Steiner. Karen, Laura, Robby, Randy, and Anne are his big sisters and brothers. Bro. Hartzell and Sis. Marian Schmidgall and Bro. Orel and Sis. Rose Steiner are Joel's grandparents. It is interesting to note that little Joel has made Bro. Orel and Sis. Rose grandparents 40 times over.

Burlington and Oakville have recently hosted the Zapata Reunion. It was such a blessing to have so many of our retired brothers and sisters from so many different places assemble with us throughout the weekend.

Note of Thanks:

We wish to thank all who, in any way, through an expression of kindness or prayer, showed their love to us during Elizabeth's illness and in her departure from this life. It was deeply appreciated. May God bless each of you.

Bro. Orttie and Sis. Verna Rocke
Bro. Duane Metzger & children
Doris and Jerry Kuntz & family
Annette and Harold Massner
& family
Carol and Terry Miller & family

IOWA, PULASKI
Ginny Wuthrich
Teresa Schock

Moving into our area from Taylor, MO, are Bro. Ron and Sis. Chris Joos, and their five children. We welcome them and wish them God's grace. They are our third new couple this year and are so appreciated here. Our little church is nice and full, and the Sunday school is alive with little ones.

Jeff Zaugg (West Bend) has also moved into the area. He has a teaching job and home in Centerville, IA, which is about 25 miles to the west. We enjoy having him assemble with us.

We certainly feel blessed to have our congregation increase in quantity. May we all strive to increase in quality.

"Grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ."

II Peter 3:18

IOWA, WEST BEND

Polly Zaugg - Phyllis Banwart

Elder Bro. Harold Messner (Winthrop, MN) and Bro. Wayne Banwart (Champaign, IL) visited our congregation. We appreciate their timely messages.

Our best wishes are extended to Bro. Les (Bro. Larry and Sis. Carole) and Sis. Barb Fehr (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Wilma Kieser), Bradford, who were recently married. A wedding reception was held at the fellowship center August 27 for them.

In behalf of those of us who were privileged to attend the brotherhood conference, we wish to thank the

Smithville, OH, and Rittman, OH, congregations for their efforts of love and hospitality. We are thankful our shepherds so faithfully labor to help us on our heavenward journey. We are thankful that we can hear the tapes now to remind us of our duties.

Hospital patients have been Bro. Nathan Mogler (Sis. Lilly), Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr (Sis. Kathy), Josephine Thomann and April Rongved (Kevin and Julie Jordan). Our thoughts and prayers are in their behalf as well as for those confined to their homes at this time: Bro. Eli Grimm (Sis. Lena) and Sis. Louisa Zaugg. The families who have lost loved ones recently and those who have had misfortune in some way appreciate many expressions of love and kindnesses extended to them in any way.

Many of our loved ones have gone back to school, college and new jobs. May we all depend on the Lord for guidance in our everyday life, no matter where our paths separate, or what our occupation or location is.

Ron and Carolyn Banwart are the parents of a new baby boy born September 9. Alex Richard has a brother, Eric, and a sister, Jodi. Grandparents are Art and Madeline Banwart and Mrs. Annie Childs. Babies are a gift from God and we wish them His blessings.

JAPAN, SHIODA
Kathy Kieser

We're thankful that Elder Bro. Willis and Sis. Lois Ehnle, Bro. Frank, Sis. Kathy and Jonathan Sauder, Sis. Eiko Nozawa, Rie Iijima (Minoru and Sis. Kuniko) and Sis. Kathy Kieser had a safe trip to and from the States this past summer. Special thanks go out to all who opened their hearts and homes for us.

Sis. Renee Baurer's parents, Bro. Edwin and Sis. Carol (Princeville, IL) and her sister, Sis. Cindy Baurer (Leo, IN) visited Japan this past summer. Sis. Renee's kindergarten students were obviously pleased to meet some of their teacher's family members.

We were sad to hear about our dear Sis. Hisayo Shinkai's death. She had been ill for about a month and passed away July 19. Memorial services were held for her July 24 at our church in Tamahata near her home.

May God comfort her family and friends.

JAPAN, TOKYO
Frank and Kathy Sauder

"With the ancient is wisdom: and in length of days understanding."

Job 12:12

September 15 is a national holiday set aside in Japan in honor of the elderly. What a blessing it is to have older brothers and sisters who can share their experiences, so that we who are younger might profit from them.

Elder Bro. Akito Inoue's mother, Sis. Tamino Inoue, wishes to express her thankfulness for all the cards and letters she received from America on her 80th birthday.

Sis. Cindy Baurer (Leo, IN) visited our church with her sister, Sis. Renee, who is one of the teachers in Shioda. We thank God for the rich fellowship we were able to enjoy together.

Shiori-chan, daughter of Mrs. Yukita, underwent brain surgery. We are thankful the operation was successful, and look forward to the time when she will once again be able to assemble with us.

The family of Sis. Shinkai wishes to express their thanks for the kindness shown them with the passing away of their mother.

KANSAS, BERN
Lori Baumgartner
Kathy Strahm

We enjoyed having Bro. Edwin Bahler (Remington, IN) with us this past month and appreciate his efforts put forth to minister God's Holy Word. We also assembled with the Sabetha congregation in the evening where we once again were privileged to sit under the sound of His Word. Bros. Marvin Leman (Bradford, IL) and Bruce Leman (Roanoke, IL) were there along with Bro. Edwin.

As the annual brotherhood conference was once again held, this year at Rittman, OH, we've therefore also had the privilege of listening to the tapes of the conference messages. We've assembled the past four Friday evenings, alternating with Sabetha.

As always, we were renewed in faith as we heard the dear elder brethren exhorting us to greater faithfulness and a spiritual mind. May we ever take to heart and apply to our own individual lives the warnings the brothers bring forth. Let us appreciate more and more our most precious faith.

The time has come for our school children to begin their year of education in the public schools and, after having vacation during the month of August, our Sunday school has also resumed classes Sunday mornings. May the teachers of these dear souls be strengthened by the Spirit of the Lord as they strive to teach the true Word.

Our congregation has reason to rejoice as Adrian Strahm (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Claudia) has made the decision to repent and turn to the Savior. We wish him much grace and the guidance of the Holy Spirit, praying that many more will decide to turn their backs on the world and live a life of faith in Christ Jesus.

KANSAS, FORT SCOTT

Karen Sinn

We were privileged to have several visiting ministers this past month. We thank Bro. Everett Hari (Bloomington, IL) and Bro. Ervin Knecht (Lamar, MO) for their words of encouragement.

On the weekend of September 17 - 18, Elder Bro. Paul Butikofer (Elgin, IA) assisted our Elder Bro. Raymond Banwart in serving holy communion. We were reminded of the suffering and death Christ so willingly endured for us. As we renew our love for Christ and the brethren, let us not forget to be a witness for Him and to keep our lights shining brightly in this dark and sinful world.

**KANSAS,
 KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY
 Camille Strahm**

As a new school year unfolds, we are enjoying the blessings of a larger group of members and friends here at KSU. We welcome five incoming freshmen to campus: Bro. Scott Aberle, Matt Aberle, and Karen Hartter (Sabetha), Marci Strahm (Bern) and Jodi Reimschisel (Wichita). They are

certainly uplifting additions to our small group.

Our annual fall picnic was held August 23. We always appreciate our family and friends who take the time and drive the miles to show their support and encouragement.

We are also grateful to Bros. John Lehman and Alpha Strahm (Bern) who came to share God's Word with us September 7. It's certainly encouraging to see the small chapel, in which we worship on alternate Wednesday nights, filled with brethren and friends of the truth.

On the Wednesday evenings that church is not held here on campus, we get together to either listen to a taped sermon, sing, or have a picnic. God is very gracious in allowing us these hours each week to fellowship and share the concerns that we face on this secular campus.

**KANSAS, KIOWA
 Janice Bahr - Darcy Kisling**

Have Thine own way, Lord! Have
 Thine own way!
 Thou art the Potter; I am the
 clay.

Mould me and make me After Thy
 will,
 While I am waiting, yielded and
 still.

Have Thine own way, Lord! Have
 Thine own way!
 Search me and try me, Master,
 today!
 Whiter than snow, Lord, Wash me
 just now,
 As in Thy presence humbly I
 bow.

Have Thine own way, Lord! Have
 Thine own way!
 Hold o'er my being Absolute
 sway!
 Fill with Thy Spirit Till all shall see
 Christ only always, Living in
 me!

A.A.P.
 Hymns of Zion #113

Do you ever listen to the precious words of the songs we sing? The above song is a prayer to me as are many of our other beautiful hymns. Many times I find myself praying the words to God rather than singing them so I

can truly appreciate their beauty and meaning. May God be praised for the inspiration He has instilled in the hearts of mere men that these words have been penned and handed down to us through the ages to give us light, love and faith to keep going in hard times.

We extend our deepest thanks to Elder Bro. Raymond Banwart (Fort Scott) and his dear wife, Sis. Katherine, for joining us one Lord's Day this past month and sharing God's Word with us. We deeply appreciate every elder, deacon and minister who gives of their time and love to be a watchman to the churches that we may remain steadfast till our Lord's return. I hope we never forget how truly blessed we are.

Our fervent prayers go out to our loved ones who were hospitalized this month in the hope that they all will soon be in our midst again. They include Sheryl Farney, Connie Ott, Bro. Vern Schuster and Sis. Laverne Ott.

Services at the Lifecare Manor were a real blessing again this month due to the tremendous support. May God bless each one!

**KANSAS, LAMONT
 Mary Isch**

Faith of our Fathers! living still,
 In spite of dungeon, fire and sword:
 O how our hearts beat high with joy
 When 'er we hear that glorious word.
 Faith of our Fathers! Holy Faith!
 We will be true to thee till death!
 Frederick W. Faber

"There is only one thing," said a village blacksmith, "that I fear, and that is to be thrown on the scrap heap."

"When I am tempering a piece of steel, I first heat it, hammer it, and then suddenly plunge it into this bucket of cold water. I very soon find whether it will take temper or go to pieces in the process. When I discover after one or two tests that it is not going to allow itself to be tempered, I throw it on the scrap heap and sell it for a cent a pound when the junk man comes around."

So we find the Lord tests us, too, by fire and water and heavy blows of His heavy hammer, and if we are not

willing to stand the test, or are not going to prove a fit subject for His tempering process, we are afraid He may throw us on the scrap heap.

Sainthood springs out of suffering. It takes eleven tons of pressure in a piano to tune it. God will tune you to harmonize with heaven's keynote if you can stand the strain.
Streams in the Desert

Sis. Jill Luthi (Bro. Lloyd and Joann) is taking graduate classes toward her master's degree at E.S.U. Matt Schrader (Bro. Stephen and Sis. Dorothy) is a freshman at E.S.U. Julie Anliker (Bro. Glen and Sis. Lorene) is a freshman at Pittsburg Jr. College.

Bro. Lloyd Luthi was a surgical patient in the Veteran's Hospital in Topeka and we are glad to report he is home and doing fine.

KANSAS, SABETHA

Nita Grimm - Charleen Hartter

"Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,

"Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen."

Ephesians 3:20, 21

Sis. Louise Aberle is assembling with us again after a period of illness. We are so glad to be able to greet her on Sundays and have her among us.

By the wonderful grace of God, John Meyer has made a beginning in repentance and testifies of having peace with God and man. The mercies of God fail not as John is in his high 80's.

Our congregation misses Sis. Thirza Thompson and her daughter, Kacie, as they have moved to Michigan to complete their college education. Sis. Thirza is located at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo. She is assembling with the Alto, MI, congregation. Kacie is studying at Oakland University near Detroit. Our prayers are with them that God will guide them, keep them, and bless them in every way.

Ministering Bros. Alpha Strahm (Bern, KS), Bruce Leman (Roanoke, IL), Marvin Leman (Bradford, IL) and Edwin Bahler (Remington, IN)

visited us. We thank them for their labors. May God's power continue to work through their ministry.

KANSAS, WICHITA

Emma Miller

Kermit Wullschleger and Jeanette Garcia exchanged wedding vows August 20 in Hollywood, CA. Kermit is the son of Bro. Arthur and Sis. Gussie Wullschleger.

We extend our sympathy to Sarah Moore and her family. Sarah's husband, Jim, was tragically killed in an automobile accident. Sarah is the daughter of Bro. Milton and Sis. Lillian Bowers.

Sis. Gussie Wullschleger submitted the following: Bro. Arthur and Sis. Gussie Wullschleger and family wish to humbly thank everyone across the nation in our fellowship of churches for the love and support extended to us in the last year during our stay in the hospital and during our convalescence. We were given gifts, food, flowers, cards and visits, but most important, prayer. What a joy when someone writes or comes up and lets you know you have been on their list for prayer. Then you know why you received God's Grace, Mercy and Strength to Victory! Praise God!

MICHIGAN, ALTO

Juanita Gerst

As the summer ends and we go on to another of God's seasons, I had to think of how fast the summer has gone and how many changes have taken place. It is amazing how God's plan is fulfilled and in what unexpected ways it is molded into shape. I am thankful that such a great God is the molder and maker and not some weak human being.

We are glad to welcome Peter and Evelyn Bossart to our congregation. They are assembling with us while Peter is an intern at a Grand Rapids hospital. It was nice to have them move here this summer. We also enjoy having Sis. Thirza Thompson move to Michigan this fall. Sis. Thirza is working on her master's degree in our area. We always like to add to our congregation.

Babies are such a blessing and once again we were able to add one to our baby room. Kenneth James is the

new son of Ed and Sis. Joyleen Zaagman. Kenneth is welcomed home by Steven, Lisa, Ronald, Gary and Karen.

Another special occasion is a wedding. We wish God's blessings to Nancy Byam and Francis Thirey, Jr. Nancy's parents are Douglas and Marilyn Byam. Also, we wish God's blessings to Jeanine Overhold and Robert Hynes in their recent marriage. Jeanine is the granddaughter of Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Eloise Blough.

Our prayers are with Bro. Ferd and Sis. Jane Grawburg as Bro. Ferd is hospitalized with his diabetes. May Bro. Ferd feel God's help and nearness during this time of hospitalization.

May Sis. Sandra Schutte (Steven) feel our prayers and support during her time of recuperation. Sis. Sandra had foot surgery.

We held our annual Sunday school teacher elections recently. Our sincere thanks go to Bro. Rod Steffen, Sis. Renee Steffen and Sis. Penny Erisman as they finished out their terms. Their services will be missed. The newly elected teachers are Bro. Ron Erisman, Sis. Elizabeth Blough and Sis. Juanita Gerst with Bro. Tom Oesch and Sis. Donna Oesch as substitutes. May each one ask for God's guidance and wisdom as they address their classes so that the truth may go forth unchanged.

A reminder: Dues are due for the Silver Lining in Alto.

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY

Pam Schlatter

"... Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord of hosts." Zechariah 4:6. Several among us are, by this Spirit, turning unto God in repentance. We are thankful for the decisions made by Dave and Wendy Hoag (Bro. Jim and Sis. Marlene Ramseyer), Janel Ramseyer (Bro. Joe and Sis. Dorothy Ramseyer), Tessa Schamback (Bro. Lee and Sis. Carolyn Schamback) and Peggy Waibel (Bro. Bill and Sis. Carol Waibel). We pray that with the foundation that has been laid through Jesus Christ, the mountains in their lives would become as plains.

Bro. Gene and Sis. Carol Meylan, along with Marcie and Gina, welcome little Megan to their home. We are warmed in knowing that this

little one will be reared in an environment where Christian principles are espoused. Grandparents of Megan are Bro. Henry and Sis. Helen Meylan.

We will miss Deanna Pashak's (Bro. Dean and Sis. Connie Pashak) presence in our congregation as she has recently moved to the Phoenix, AZ, congregation. We are, however, happy to hear of the desire she now has to turn to the Lord, and pray for the needed grace in her life.

MICHIGAN, DETROIT

Donna Hartzler

We are thankful Elder Bro. Willis and Sis. Lois Ehnle (Japan) could be with us the weekend of August 21. At our Bible study Sunday evening, Bro. Willis spoke on a very meaningful topic, "Enjoying Prayer." It was a very inspiring and enjoyable day and evening. Our prayer is that God's blessings will be upon us all and inspire us to more firmly dedicate our lives to His service.

On Sunday, September 18, it was announced that Joanne Fortenbacher has repented and believes God has given peace to her heart. She is looking forward to baptism and erecting a covenant with her Lord. What a joy it is to know that God is still calling souls to commit their lives to Him.

We continually need to pray for those who have heavy crosses to bear. Ty Barton, brother of Jim Barton and Sis. Kay Novak, is very ill in the hospital. May he sense the prayers of loved ones and put his faith and trust in God who does all things well.

Note to mission fund contributors:

After more than 35 years at our Fox Road residence in Detroit, Lorene and I are moving. To avoid any confusion, effective immediately, all contributions from individuals and churches for the Mission Fund, Bible Fund and the Budapest, Hungary, Church Building Fund, should be sent to my attention (Ben Maibach) at P.O. Box 5200, Detroit, MI 48235. This is my office address. Sis. Donna Hartzler will generally be there to process the paperwork. We appreciate your support.

Ben Maibach, Chairman and
Assistant Secretary/Treasurer,
Apostolic Christian Mission Fund

MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS Carol Strassheim

"Except the Lord build the house,
they labour in vain that build it."

Psalms 127:1

We are thankful for all who came to be with us for our open house August 28 and the dedication of our new church September 11. Bro. Harold Gramm (Morris) came to bring us God's Word for the open house. On dedication Sunday, we were blessed with Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL), Elder Bro. Joe Stoller (Princeville, IL), Elder Bro. Harold Messner (Winthrop), Bro. Leroy Messner (Winthrop) and Bro. Floyd Schmidgall (Morris). We especially appreciated Bro. Joe as he gave the dedication service.

We acknowledge with thankfulness and gratitude all those who donated time, talents and earthly possessions. The united efforts and prayerful support of the committees, members and friends were greatly appreciated. May God bless all who contributed in any way to build this house for the Lord.

We continue to pray for our dear Bro. Don Esterling as he has been in the hospital here in the cities and has undergone emergency surgery. We continue to believe in the power of prayer and thank God for each step of the way as Don's condition has been critical.

Joanne Hafdahl (Schmidgall) has spent time in the hospital. We continue to pray for strength and recovery for her.

MINNESOTA, MORRIS

Christa Sauder - Ruth Nohl

As the angels in heaven rejoice over one sinner who repenteth, we, too, rejoice with Rick and Julie Gramm (Bro. Harold and Sis. Ila), who are turning to the Lord in repentance. Our prayer is that God will grant them much grace and in time bestow His peace which passeth all understanding upon them.

All to Jesus I surrender,
All to Him I freely give;
I will ever love and trust Him
In His presence daily live.

J. W. Van DeVenter

God is ever blessing us with a little bit of heaven as He blesses families with new little ones. Robert Matthias was born August 12 to Barbara and Paul Lesmeister. He is welcomed home by two sisters, Paula and Joan. Gilbert and Sis. Vicki (Lester, IA) are the grandparents.

Michael Ray is the new little son of Bro. DeWayne and Sis. Janice Nohl. Michael has three brothers and two sisters to welcome him home. Bro. Alvin and Sis. Minnie and Bro. Phil and Sis. Lydia Mogler (Lester, IA) are the grandparents.

This month our visiting ministers included Elder Bro. Leo Moser (Lester, IA), Bro. Myron Knoblock (Lester, IA), Bro. Steve Martin (Eureka, IL), Bro. Jaye Rinkenberger (Goodfield, IL), Bro. John Lehman (Bern, KS), Bro. Kent Mogler (Minneapolis, MN) and Bro. Marvin Stieglitz (Leo, IN). We appreciate their ministry and welcome them back soon.

Hospital patients this month were Bro. Anton Schaefer and Ruth Feuchtnerberger (Bro. Gerald and Sis. Karen). We have two dear brothers, Bro. Bob Reuter and Bro. Don Esterling, in the hospital at this writing. May God add His healing touch and grant them comfort and encouragement. May we continue to pray for these loved ones and all who are ill or shut-in at home.

We will miss Bro. Shawn Metzger who has moved to the Philadelphia, PA, area to seek employment. We will miss him here at Morris. We pray that God will continue to guide and bless him.

We welcome Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Joyce Nohl and their family, Lloyd Henry and Julie, back to our Morris congregation. Bro. Lloyd has found employment in this area.

MINNESOTA, WINTHROP

Ella Mae Schmidt

Georgia Messner

We want to extend our sympathy to Bro. Cornelius Messerli in the death of his sister, Emma Martens (Phoenix, AZ) and to Sis. Gerry Messner (Elder Bro. Harold) in the loss of her brother.

We are so thankful for the ministers and their families who took time to visit us this month. Included were Bro. Ron Schambach (Elgin, IL), Bro.

Earl Kilgus (Remington, IN), Bro. Wayne Grimm, Bro. Pat Zaugg (West Bend, IA) and Bro. Don Miller (Minneapolis). God bless them for the special messages.

We had a blessed day of fellowship at our annual pork chop supper with guests from our neighboring churches.

MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY Linda Ziegenhorn

Psalm 106 recounts the story of the Israelites leaving Egypt. How soon they forgot God and His many miracles performed in their behalf and turned to evil ways. God in His righteous anger wanted to destroy them, but Moses stood in the breach and pleaded for them. In His great love, God heard and relented and did not destroy the Israelites.

When reading this, I thought of our nation. We started out as a God-fearing nation, formed because the Pilgrims wanted the freedom to worship God according to their convictions. Now we find that the country is turning away from God and turning to evil. We, as God's people, need to intercede as Moses did, and plead with God to save our nation.

Our church and grounds are sparkling after a general church cleaning. Thanks to those who worked so hard.

MISSOURI, LAMAR Becky Marti - Carol Braker

As the new season of Autumn comes upon us, we are glad for the cool and invigorating days. We are in the midst of harvest, a special time of the year. May we each be part of the spiritual harvest for the Lord some day.

With great joy we heard of the engagement of Bro. Bill Luthi (Bro. Ray and Sis. Marilyn) to Sis. Kris Kuenzi (Bro. Rich and Sis. Rosa Lee Kuenzi, Silverton, OR). They are planning a December wedding. We wish them God's richest blessings and we will be glad to welcome Sis. Kris into our congregation.

Linda Barton (Bro. Leonard and Sis. Bonnie Braker) was a hospital patient. We're glad she is home again and doing fine.

MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS Jerry and Doreen Leuthold

We want to thank all the ministers who have brought us God's Word the past month. They were Bros. Rick Plattner and Mike Rieker (Peoria, IL), Wayne Banwart (Champaign, IL), Virgil Metzger (Chicago, IL) and Ron Heiniger (Bloomington, IL). It is truly a blessing to have visitors gather with us each Sunday. May God bless them for their efforts.

The St. Louis church was privileged to travel to Princeville, IL, the weekend of September 10 - 11 for their Annual Choir Benefit Dinner. It was a special blessing to listen to the choir raise their voices in praise to God through song. Being such a small congregation, we really enjoyed a weekend of worship and fellowship with a large group of believers. It's a weekend that will long be treasured in our hearts.

MISSOURI, TAYLOR Loida Hodel - Lori Marquart

"Faith when days are bright and sunny/
Faith when hours are dark and long/
Faith when things are going nicely/
Faith when everything goes wrong!
Faith when friendships are a blessing/
Faith when some may prove untrue!
May God grant His special blessing of enduring Faith to you!"

Jon Gilbert

Our thoughts are at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN, with our dear Bro. Jeff and Sis. Louanne (Hoerr) Gramm while Jeff is undergoing treatment for a serious brain tumor. This happened so quickly and we all here at our Church on the Levee are praying for this young couple to put their hope and trust in their Lord, that whatever is in His plan can be accepted. Some day we'll understand why some have these reverses in health while others continue on taking it for granted.

Also, Sis. Louanne's mother, Sis. Ruthie (Bro. Louis), underwent open heart surgery September 12 at Mayo's. So far, we have a good report for which we are thankful.

Phil Wiegand (Bro. Marv and Sis. Joann) and Eugene Joos (Bro. Ron and Sis. Chris) were also hospital

patients in Quincy due to accidents and are improved and home again which we are happy to report.

Bro. Bert Butikofer spent September 4 with us. We always enjoy having "Bert and Beulah" back to spend a weekend.

We miss Bro. Ron, Sis. Chris, Eugene, Tammy, Jenny, Andrew and Jacob Joos who have moved to the Pulaski, IA, area. We know God has directed their move and we are happy for the Pulaski congregation to gain a new family. "The Lord watch between me and thee when we are absent one from another." Genesis 31:49.

Congratulations go out to Bro. Gerald and Sis. Marge Sutter who have a new granddaughter, Natalie Sue, born to Bro. Doug and Sis. Peggy Hoerr (Peoria, IL) August 28. Natalie has a brother, Chad, who is one year old. Also, Kathy (Massner) and Craig Fritz are first-time parents. Samuel Ryan was born September 4 in Peoria. Kathy is a niece of Sisters Ruth and Em Hoerr and the couple recently moved from Quincy to 1707 Viking Court, Apt. 207 in Peoria.

"Come for the feast is spread; Hark to the call!

Come to the Living Bread, Broken for all;

Come to His house of wine, Low on His breast recline,

All that He hath is thine; Come, sinner, come!"

Hymns of Zion #206

"I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance." Luke 15:7. We are rejoicing with the angels in heaven for not only one, but three of our dear young people have accepted this invitation and are making a commitment to live their lives for the Lord. They are Paige Massner (Bro. Allen and Sis. Rosie), Kim Sutter (Bro. James and Sis. Lois) and Vonette Leinweber (Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth Leinweber). May God give them grace, encouragement and the wonderful peace in their hearts, so that the rapture, which we know is coming, will find them and us ready, either as individuals or as the church. Not only may they be found "ready" but may they receive the blessing of happiness in living for

Him. We are wishing for a bountiful spiritual harvest this fall.

Sis. Marie Butikofer wishes to thank everyone for their prayers, visits, cards and gifts received while she was in the hospital. May God bless everyone as it meant so much to be remembered.

"If you can't hear God speaking, check the volume control on your conscience."

NEW JERSEY, UNION CITY
Sally Dotterer

We would like to thank the following visiting ministers and their wives for giving of themselves to come and preach the Word to our small congregation: Bro. Walt and Sis. Sharon Rager (Toledo, OH), Bro. Edward and Sis. Marjorie Alt (Cissna Park, IL), Bro. Lee and Sis. Maxine Bahler (Rockville, CT), Bro. Kevin and Sis. Cheryl Ryan (Rockville, CT), Bro. Earl and Sis. Esther Gerber (Forrest, IL) and Bro. Everett and Sis. Phyllis Gerber (Rockville, CT). We certainly appreciate the necessary effort involved in travelling to our congregation for fellowship and would like to thank all of our other visitors who come to share in our worship service.

NEW YORK, CROGHAN
Alice Virkler

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

Lord lead us then by Thy strong
 hand
 As pilgrims through this desert
 land;
 We are pursued by many foes;
 Deliver us from all our woes,
 For we are Thine.

To Father, Son, and Spirit praise
 For help and guidance on our ways!
 Thou givest power from above,
 Hast chosen us, through Christ, in
 love
 To be Thine own!
 Zion's Harp #220, vs. 5, 6, 7

This beautiful hymn was sung together after we partook of holy communion Sunday, September 11, when we assembled with the Naumburg congregation. We should always be thankful for our redemption which is given to us free through the blood and suffering of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. This service reminds us of His sacrifice for each of us and may we go forward each day serving Him faithfully. May our light shine forth as a good example to those around us of our families and friends in the world. We are grateful for our elders, Bro. Norbert Steiner and Bro. Robert Beyer, who serve us so well throughout the year and on this special day which we shared together.

Steve and Yvonne Virkler have been given an added responsibility through the birth of their son, Ross Michael, who was born August 25. Barry and Sarah are happy for a new little playmate. Their grandparents are Bro. Clyde and Sis. Lois Virkler and Arleigh and Irene Hartley. May God richly bless this family.

NEW YORK, NAUMBURG
Robert Beyer

Hospital patients this month were Sis. Corrine Virkler for tests and Ethel Karcher for hip replacements.

We have assembled with the Croghan congregation several times this month, and they assembled with us September 11 for holy communion. Elder Bro. Robert and Sis. Lucille, who returned home after attending the conference and visiting their children in Illinois, served us, helped by Elder Bro. Norbert Steiner. Together they served eight souls who were not able to attend.

The engagement of Bro. Dean Thomas (Sis. Lucille Beyer) to Sis. Teresa Knobloch (Princeville, IL) was announced.

OHIO, AKRON
Joyce Gasser

In a time of crisis, one turns more into the Word, and we learn we are to share its promises to help others. This was the case with both Samuel and Elijah. In Samuel's crisis of feeling rejected because Israel wanted a king, he began the first Bible school, and it continued on until every major

prophet came out of it. In Elijah's time there were several crises, so Elijah had four Bible schools: At Mt. Carmel, Bethel, Gilgal, and Jericho. In the crises, including his challenge with King Ahab on the Baal worship at Mt. Carmel, God gave Elijah the victories. Elisha is aware of God's power and asked for a double portion of God's Spirit. Before Elijah's ascension, Elisha followed Elijah to each of his Bible schools, keeping his eyes upon the promise of the Word, and upon Elijah's God, and so he received the double portion. There are twice as many miracles recorded for Elisha than for Elijah. At a dinner, it was discovered there was poison in the pot, so Elisha said to throw meal into the pot, and all stayed well. Meal is God's Word. We're thankful for Elisha's example to ask for a double portion of God's Spirit, keep our eyes on the Word, and if we put "meal," God's Word, into our crises, we, too, can have victories.

Tibor Zsoldos has turned to the Lord in repentance. We rejoice and pray He will feel God's grace abundantly.

We were blessed to have the conference in this area, and we appreciated the ministers and guests who gathered with us. At Akron were guest ministers, Elder Bros. Robert Grimm, Joe Stoller, Joe Braker, Sam Anliker, John Klotzle, Bros. Brian Webb, Al Schneider, Randy Gasser, James Ramseyer, Ed Aeschleman, Peter Petrovich, John Steiner, Jim Hoerr, Ron Schambach, Duane Farney and Glenn Riggenschach.

Sis. Theresa Hunyady can observe her four score years, as October 6 is her 80th birthday.

OHIO, COLUMBUS
John Grimm

We want to thank Elder Bro. Loren Stoller (Latty, OH) and Bro. Homer Reineck (Toledo, OH) for ministering God's Word to us. May God bless them and their families.

OHIO, JUNCTION
Les Manz

We thank Bro. Charles Marti (Lamar, MO) for visiting our congregation and for delivering God's Word to us as led by the Holy Spirit.

We share sorrow with our Sis. Betty Manz (Bro. Alvin) whose mother, Maude Slane, slipped from time into eternity. Having worshipped with us for several years, we have all come to know and love her and we will all miss her.

Sis. Laurie Schlatter (Bro. Dennis) was hospitalized for surgery. We share their prayers for a speedy recovery.

We are listening to the tapes of the brotherhood conference held recently in Rittman. As we hear the concerns expressed by our brothers and listen as they base their topic discussions on references from God's Holy Bible, it encourages us to try harder to please our God and heed the instructions He sends to us through His servants.

OHIO, LATTY
Marlene Reinhard
Rhonda Stoller

"... choose you this day whom ye will serve; but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

Joshua 24:15

We rejoice with Tom and Kim Sinn and Roy Klopfenstein (Deb) as they turn their lives to God in repentance. As they take up their cross to follow Christ, may they feel His love, strength and power each day.

We shared in a blessed weekend when Tammy Stoller (Bro. Gary and Sis. Nancy) and Jason Laukhuf (Bro. Rod and Sis. Edith) gave their testimonies and were baptized. We welcome them into our brotherhood and wish them God's blessings and grace.

It is a blessing to know Betty Stoller is recovering well after her time in the hospital.

We give thanks again to our visiting ministers. Those sharing with us were: Elder Bro. Aaron Steffen (Alto, MI), Bro. Jim Ramseyer (Bay City, MI), Bro. Doug Harmon (Toledo, OH), Elder Bro. Arthur Nohl (Morris, MN), Bro. Dale Zeltwanger (Morris, MN) and Bro. Earl Gerber (Forrest, IL).

When upon life's billows you are
 tempest-tossed
 When you are discouraged, thinking
 all is lost,

Count your many blessings, name
 them one by one,
 And it will surprise you what the
 Lord hath done.

Johnson Oatman, Jr.

OHIO, MANSFIELD
Linda Morrison

"Haste and seek your soul's
 salvation;
 Heed the word of God today!
 Haste to flee His condemnation;
 Seek the straight and narrow way.
 Evil are the worldly pleasures,
 Leading to eternal fire;
 Seek the everlasting treasure,
 Ere the day of grace expire."

Zion's Harp #52

Those taking this timely warning seriously are the following members of Bro. Bernie and Sis. Bev Washington's family: Wes, Heather and Tina. Joe and LaVersa Sabo have also heeded God's Word.

With the increased awareness of the nearness of the end time, the story is told of an elderly Christian lady going to the grocery store and some young men trying to give her a hard time about her faith. One young man said, "You believe in Jesus, don't you?" "Yes," was her instant reply. "You believe He is coming again?" "Yes," came her reply. "Then you better get home and get ready!" "I don't have to get ready, young man, I stay ready!" How ready are you? "But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no not the angels of heaven, but my Father only." Matthew 24:36.

"To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: A time to be born and a time to die:..." Our sympathies are extended to Don and Enid Miller with the death of Don's mother.

We rejoice with Bro. Charles and Sis. Marcella Sauder with the birth of their granddaughter, Heather Rachelle, August 21, to Melvin and Carol Sauder.

"But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life." Jude, vs. 20 - 21. Bringing us timely exhortation was

Bro. Don Manz (Junction) September 18.

OHIO, RITTMAN
Stephanie Baltic
Diane Gasser

OBEDIENCE TO THE WORD

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

We appreciate the visiting ministers who so faithfully and humbly proclaim the Word of God unto us. We want to thank Elder Bro. Leo Moser (Lester, IA), Bro. Walter Anliker (Eureka, IL), Bro. John Steiner (Oakville, IA), Bro. Ken Indermuhle (Sardis, OH) and Bro. Randy Gasser (Detroit, MI) for their service.

On August 28, we heard the wedding vows of Bro. Jim Gasser (Bro. Ron and Sis. Hope) and Sis. Janice Hartzler (Bro. John and Sis. Joan).

On September 3, Jim Monahan (Blanche) and Sharon Jenkins (Sis. Clara) became one in marriage.

Also on September 11, Bro. Gary Dotterer (Bro. Henry and Sis. Martha) and Sis. Sandy Maibach, Smithville (Bro. Roy and Sis. Mabel) became husband and wife. We ask the Lord's blessing on each dear couple as they walk this path of life together.

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." I John 1:9. We rejoice with two precious souls who confessed their sins and have decided to follow the Lord. Our converts are Brad Fleming (Mr. and Mrs. Sam, Wooster, OH) and Peggy Camp (Chris), daughter of Sis. Marie Bauman. She attends the Atlanta, GA, congregation.

Julie Lynn is the precious little girl of Bro. Vern and Sis. Deanna Lanz. Happy grandparents are Dick and Sis. Freida Lanz (Rockville, CT) and Bro. Elton and Sis. Velma Rufener.

Those who had afflictions of the body this month were Amy Young (Rex and Carol), Eric Steiner (Bro. Rich and Sis. Pat), Chad Beery (Bro. Walt and Sis. Lynda), Sis. Jenee Rufener (Bro. Steve), Sis. Jenni Bauman, Sis. Ellen Weber (Bro. Ralph)

and Sis. Marie Winkler. May the Lord's healing hand give these dear souls the comfort and strength to endure their afflictions.

THANKS AND PRAYERS

We give Thee thanks, O Lamb of God,
That on the cross beam Thou hast bought

For us salvation, peace and grace
With Thee in heaven's resting place!

We give Thee thanks!

Zion's Harp #199

We could surely feel the Lord's guidance as the elder brothers spoke on the "Spiritual Mind" at the brotherhood conference held here at Rittman. Our many prayers were answered as we were blessed with wonderful teachings on how we should live. May the Lord bless the dear elder brothers who gave us the instructions. At the present time, we are listening to the conference tapes on Wednesday nights.

OHIO, SARDIS

Linda Indermuhle

What an abundance of spiritual blessings were ours as most of our congregation could attend the brotherhood conference. The following weekend we had many visitors and we continued to have good fellowship. We heartily thank each one for coming to visit us. Those who ministered to us were Bros. Roy Ehnle (Bradford, IL), Merle Kaisner (Fairbury, IL), Russell Wuthrich (Pulaski, IA), Carl Wyss (Washington, IL) and Don Wagenbach (Washington, IL). We did not feel worthy of all the blessings received and give all honor and glory to God.

Carla Indermuhle (Bro. Ken and Sis. Linda) spent a day in the hospital for a tonsillectomy. She's glad to be feeling well again.

Our friend, Renee Miller (Bro. Denny and Sis. Doris), has found grace to repent. It was a happy time at Sardis as we spread this good news.

Address Changed ???

Give Your Old and New Address
To Your Reporter

OHIO, SMITHVILLE

Gwen Stoller - Kim Stoller

"How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things."

Romans 10:15

We were truly blessed this past month as we had many visiting ministers who stayed after the conference. On Friday evening, August 19, Bros. Jon Kokanovich (Phoenix, AZ), Marvin Schmidgall (Eureka, IL) and Ron Schambach (Elgin, IL) brought the Word to us and our visiting ministers Sunday, August 21, were Bros. Everett Gerber (Rockville, CT), Doug Grimm (Sabetha, KS), Leland Plattner (Zapata, TX), Jim Vierling (Eureka, IL) and Brian Webb (Fort Lauderdale, FL).

On September 11, ministering Bros. Eugene Fetter (Toledo, OH), Henry Dotterer (Rittman) and our Elder Bro. Joe Ramsier (Rittman) were here for the marriage of Sis. Sandy Maibach (Bro. Roy and Sis. Mabel, Rittman) and Bro. Gary Dotterer (Bro. Henry and Sis. Martha, Rittman). May God bless this newly established Christian home.

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

Psalms 127:3

Bro. Bob and Sis. Shirley Klotzle were blessed with a baby boy August 19. welcoming Ryan John home are Paul, Jeni and Brad, and grandparents, Bro. Irwin and Sis. Jane Klotzle (Rittman) and Sis. Tootie Sinn (Latty, OH).

Hospitalized this month was Sis. Bonnie Maibach (Bro. Dean). May God grant His healing power.

OHIO, TOLEDO

Josephine Rehklau Frances Laidig

"But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

St. Matthew 6:33

Our visiting ministers were Bro. Elmer Witzig (Gridley, IL) and Bro.

Mark Ramsier (Sardis, OH). We thank them for their service of love.

Our recent hospital patients were Sis. Lois Newman and Sis. GERALYN Beard (Bro. David). Both are improving and home again. We wish them the blessings of better health.

September 18 was a nice fall day to have a Sunday school picnic -- especially since the first drops of rain did not fall until we had our closing prayer and were ready to leave for home. We had guests from the Leo, IN, Sunday school and the Children's Home. It was a blessed day and so rewarding to see the love shown within their group toward one another.

"By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another."

St. John 13:35

We welcome the new college students who are coming to the University of Toledo and those who previously attended the university. There is so much to learn in our ever-changing world which is also a reminder that our Bible never changes. As we read it there is always something revealed that somehow we did not notice before. It is a comfort to know we have this ever-living Book to guide us safely through our path of life.

OREGON, PORTLAND

Jane Rocke - Brenda Knobloch

We are thankful for the many visitors who have joined our small family for services this summer. School has begun and the number of out-of-state visitors has really decreased. We thank our brethren at Silverton for coming occasionally to worship with us. We truly appreciated each one. Bro. Clarence Dietrich (Silverton) was our visiting minister this month.

We rejoice with Bro. Ray and Sis. Barbara Moser as their son, Ken, who resides in Florida, is repenting. It really is an encouragement to see unbelievers decide to change their ways and seek salvation. We are also thrilled as there are three converts, Troy, Tresa and Marty Kuenzi, in Silverton. Our churches are close and we feel their joys are our joys.

The difference between catching

men and catching fish: You catch fish that are alive and they die, but you catch men that are dead and they are brought to life.

Author Unknown

We have had two from our congregation in hospitals recently. Bro. Ray Banwart has been battling more complications from his back surgery this summer. Our prayers and support certainly are with these loved ones and we truly wish they can again assemble with us soon.

We wish each of you a refreshing autumn, moments to view the coloring hillsides, enjoy the crisp air, crackling leaves and perhaps a mug of fresh cider. Take time to enjoy each minute . . . as someday time will then stand still.

OREGON, SILVERTON

Rosa Lee Kuenzi

Believing God has brought them together, Bro. Todd Zollinger (Bro. Ed and Sis. Shirley, Phoenix, AZ) and Sis. Michelle Metzger (Bro. Dale and Sis. Chris, Lester, IA) were united in marriage August 14, at Lester, IA. We heartily welcome Sis. Michelle to our congregation and pray that God will bless their home abundantly.

A reception was held for Bro. Todd and Sis. Michelle in Oregon August 27 at the home of Bro. Nick and Sis. Mary Kuenzi.

The summer's harvest was winding down, our summer visitors had come and gone; the various family reunions were planned and attended; and nearly all of the weddings proclaimed on our refrigerator were past. Yes, it was definitely looking like a quiet fall ahead. Then, in less than two weeks time, an engagement was announced and seven new converts have turned to the Lord in repentance. Joy and excitement fills our hearts. What a blessing for our church and each family touched by God's miraculous hand of love.

"There shall be showers of blessings:

This is the promise of love;
There shall be seasons refreshing,
Sent from the Saviour above,
Showers of blessings,
Showers of blessings we need;

Mercy drops round us are falling,
But for the showers we plead."

El. Nathan

This song comes to mind when we hear someone is repenting somewhere, and then we hear of another from somewhere else . . . it is like those "mercy-drops" in the song and is so greatly appreciated. But, in recent weeks we have heard from many different parts of the country of many hearts turning to the Lord. This is the "Shower of Blessing" that we need. This is the shower for which we plead. We pray and plead also for much grace for each and every heart that has made a good beginning and for each heart that is longing to begin.

We rejoice with Sis. Kris Kuenzi (Bro. Rich and Sis. Rosa Lee) and Bro. Bill Luthi (Bro. Ray and Sis. Marilyn, Lamar, MO), whose engagement was announced recently. They are planning a December wedding. May our Lord be a part of every plan that is made and grant His grace and blessings on this young couple and their families.

PENNSYLVANIA, PHILADELPHIA

Jerry Isch

We are glad to welcome Sis. Marcia Troxel to our fellowship. Marcia came to us from LaCrosse, IN. She is living in Allentown, PA, managing the food service program for Wesleyan College.

We also welcome Bro. Shawn Metzger from Morris, MN. Shawn is working for LSL Printers in New Holland, PA.

We give thanks to the brethren who served us in the ministry this month. They were Elder Bro. Corbin Bahler (Rockville, CT), Bro. Charles Marti (Lamar, MO), Bro. Doug Harmon (Toledo, OH), Bro. Roy Luginbuhl (Fort Lauderdale, FL) and Bro. Paul Gasser (Akron, OH).

TEXAS, DALLAS

Sara Getz

Since this is the first article submitted from the Dallas, TX, congregation, I would like to take the opportunity to introduce the individuals who attend our gathering. We are a small group which presently meets on the

first and third Sundays of each month, hence, your prayerful support is greatly appreciated. Attending our services are Bro. Bill and Sis. Betty Zeltwanger, Bro. Howard and Sis. Delores Rapp, Jeff and Sue Neihouser and their two infants, Kendra and Blair, Jerald and Sandra Darlington and their baby, Joseph, Jim Stoller, Bob Gore, and Bro. Greg and Sis. Sara Getz, with their children, April and Matthew. Whether or not you know any of us, we extend an invitation for you to visit us if you find yourself in the Dallas area! We always welcome guests! If you will be in Dallas and would like to contact one of us, call Howard and Delores Rapp at (214) 867-4074 or Greg and Sara Getz at (214) 226-6013.

The past few months we have been blessed with many visiting ministers, and we thank them all. It is an effort to make a trip to the "far south". May the Lord reward each one.

"The great need of the hour among persons spiritually hungry is twofold: first, to know the Scriptures, apart from which no saving truth will be vouchsafed by our Lord, the second, to be enlightened by the Spirit, apart from whom the Scriptures will not be understood."

A. W. Tozer

SILVER THREADS

O for a love that knows no end,
A love that is strong and pure,
A love that reaches both foe and friend;
So deep will will always endure.

I want that love that suffers long;
I want that love that is kind;
I want that love that forgets the wrong,
To faults of all others is blind.

Grant me a love that bears all things,
A love that all things believes;
A love that causes my heart to sing,
Whenever the truth it receives.

May I so love that all can see
My Saviour revealed in me.
This is my prayer, and this is my plea;
Help me, O Lord, to love like Thee!

FOR FRIENDS OF THE AGED

Blessed are they who understand
My faltering steps and palsied
hand.
Blessed are they who know that my
ears today
Must strain to hear the things
they say.
Blessed are they who seem to know
That my eyes are dim and my
wits are slow.
Blessed are they who look away
When coffee is spilled on the
table today.
Blessed are they who never say,
"You've told that story twice
today!"
Blessed are they who know the
ways
To bring back memories of
yesterdays.
Blessed are they who make it
known
That I'm loved, respected, and
not alone.
Blessed are they who know I'm at a
loss
To find the strength to carry the
cross.
Blessed are they who ease the days
Of my journey home in loving
ways.
Submitted by Sis. Marie Butikofer,
Taylor, MO

(The following is reprinted from the
October 1983 issue of the Silver Lin-
ing. The thought presented still seems
to be appropriate for 1988.)

GOD LOVES A CHEERFUL GIVER . . .

II Corinthians 9:7

Giving! At a time when we're
hearing about business losses, bank-
ruptcy, crop failures, lay-offs and wage
cuts, this sure doesn't seem like an
appropriate topic. But let's take a
second look.

God **LOVES** a cheerful giver.
That's a promise! In II Corinthians
9:8 we discover that God is able to
make all grace abound toward us,
that we, having **ALL** sufficiency in
ALL things, may abound to **EVERY**
good work. In the tenth verse we find
that our God not only ministers
(supplies) bread for our food, but He
also multiplies the seed that we sow

and increases our fruits of righteous-
ness. Our giving not only meets needs,
but most of all it brings God thanks,
praise and glory.



But what about when times are
"tough". "Tough times" can offer us
more opportunity for blessing than
times of plenty. In Luke 21, Jesus
commended the widow who, of her
penury (or poverty), had cast in all
she had. Her two mites were proba-
bly a far cry in comparison to the gifts
of the rich men, but she received the
greater blessing. Let's ask ourselves,
is it a true sacrificial gift to give only
out of our abundance? There is a
saying that says, "Give until it hurts,
then keep on giving till it feels good!"
"Tough times" may be discouraging,
but let's use these trials to strengthen
our faith (James 1:2-4). God chal-
lenges us to place our trust in Him. In
Malachi 3:10 He commanded His
people to "Bring ye all the tithes into
the storehouse . . . and **PROVE** me
now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts,
if I will not open you the windows of
heaven, and pour you out a blessing
that there shall not be room enough
to receive it.

So we see that our opportunity to
give cheerfully is not limited in any
way by what we have or how hard the
times are. Let us throw off any inhi-
bitions in this area and allow our God
to use us and multiply that which we
sacrificially offer to Him.

GOOD AND BAD FRUIT

So many things in nature
Which human eyes can see
Oft teach a moral lesson
Of truth and purity.

Today out in the orchard
While picking apples fair
I thought how trees in fruiting
With human life compare.

The unsound fruit had fallen --
And lay upon the ground
All gnarled and worm infested
Corrupt within were found.

The good fruit clings securely
When storm and tempest beat
And ripens sweet and mellow
Through summer's glowing heat.

And when the good fruit ripens
Upon a bearing tree,
It falls -- by touch or breezes
To earth quite easily.

A virtuous man resembles
The fruit on bending tree,
Who walks before his Maker
In true humility.

The good fruit shall be gathered,
The bad is cast aside.
When men in Christ are branches
Their fruit shall e'er abide.

THE BREAKING PLOW

The breaking plow was often used
By pioneers of old
To break the rugged, virgin soil,
And plow the turfy mold.
The breaking plow was built quite
strong
And cut a furrow wide.
The shear and mole-board made of
steel
Were tempered, true and tried.

By means of a similitude
In verse I would unfold
How much some ministers compare
To breaking plows of old.
These messengers are fearless
God's counsel to impart.
And like a plow make furrows
Through cold and sinful hearts.

The plants of pride and self-esteem
Have evil roots, you know;
And when the breaking plow goes
through,
They really cease to grow.
The human heart like dormant
seed
Is stirred from sinful sleep,

When God through man proclaims
the Word,
It cuts both wide and deep.
Hypocrisy and evil works
Have roots like tares concealed,
And by the preaching of God's
Word
They plainly are revealed.
God help the true evangelist
His message to proclaim,
And seek without respect of man
The honor of His name.

A prophet, righteous though he be,
Respect will not command;
Nor will he from his friends and kin
Find honor in his land.
To teach God's will in word and
truth,
To do thy will I vow;
But when it comes to winning
souls,
We need the breaking plow.

SIGNS OF AUTUMN

Golden pumpkins,
Shocks of corn,
Smokey eyes
And frosty morn;
Ripened apples
Bending down,
Milkweed pods
Of silent down;
How fair to see
The forest trees
Arrayed so bright
With gorgeous leaves;
Chrysanthemums
In grand display,
And bittersweet
Along the way --
All these and more
Make Autumn.

All the way my Saviour leads me;
What have I to ask beside?
Can I doubt His tender mercy
Who thro' life has been my guide?
Heav'nly peace, divinest comfort,
Here by faith in Him to dwell!
For I know, whate'er befall me,
Jesus doeth all things well.

Submitted by Rittman, OH

Sermon . . .

(Continued from Page 36)

We should give of ourselves in a
responsible and accountable way, not

in man's wisdom, but in wisdom among
them that are perfect. It is not in our
own perfection, but in His perfection.
Like Elijah said, "I will rejoice ex-
ceedingly in the Lord for He hath
clothed me with a garment of right-
eousness."

We are born in sin, naked, un-
clothed, in shame, doomed for wrath
and judgment. But, in faith in this
testimony of God's love for the world,
His providence as a Saviour, we be-
come clothed with a garment of right-
eousness. It also says that we are
adorned with this garment of right-
eousness. Our garment comes from
the Lord. How humble we should be
and grateful to yield ourselves to His
righteousness and not our own un-
righteousness!

It goes on to say, "But we speak
the wisdom of God in a mystery, even
the hidden wisdom, which God or-
dained before the world unto our
glory." I Corinthians 2:7. Unless we
are willing to submit to Calvary, fol-
low humbly the steps of the Lord
Jesus and be willing to serve, then we
will not be able to understand the
hidden wisdom which God ordained
before the world unto our glory.

He goes on to say, "Which none of
the princes of this world knew: for
had they known it, they would not
have crucified the Lord of glory." I
Corinthians 2:8. We believe that is
true today for those who do not know
the mystery of this hidden treasure.
If they knew, they could not continue
to crucify the Lord of glory.

As unregenerated men, before we
are enlightened by the power of the
Holy Spirit who illuminates our hearts,
we crucified the Lord daily. We are
sympathetic and our prayers go out
for those who are still living in this
unregenerated state in darkness and
have not been illuminated.

The Lord Jesus Christ as the Light
of the world enlightens our hearts.
When light comes into our hearts, it
exposes the darkness. Therefore, we
cannot have darkness in His marvel-
ous light.

He goes on to say, "But God hath
revealed them unto us by his Spirit:
for the Spirit searcheth all things,
yea, the deep things of God." I Corin-
thians 2:10. We need to take time to read
the Bible and search the deep things
of God. None of us will ever be able to
give an excuse for not knowing what

the Bible, the Word of God, says. The
more we search and the more we
tremble at God's Word, the more He
reveals to us.

In the night watches when we are
awake and sleep seems to escape us,
we can just get up and open the Bible.
We can search the Word of God and
let that Word search our hearts and
prove us. The Lord will search us to
see if there is any wicked way in us.

Not only does the Bible reveal, but
the hymn book. We have a heritage
that is often taken for granted. In one
of the darkest hours of my life in the
night when sleep was gone, I sat on
the couch and opened the hymn book.
It fell open to one hundred ninety-
nine and that song was like a breath
from heaven: "To thee, Oh God, do we
sing our thanks and praise." There is
inspiration there as well and we know
that came from this Book. The mys-
tery, the marvel and the wisdom
behind that book by unknown au-
thors is that we can sing these songs
and not know the human element
that bore those thoughts and melo-
dies into existence.

God is able through His Spirit to
reveal Himself to any soul that is
wholeheartedly without reservation
yielded to His will. To anyone who is
not prepared and has not learned to
know the voice of the Spirit, all God is
waiting for is a broken and contrite
spirit to yield and submit without
reservation to the entity of the Word
of God.

The real reason people still do not
find God is because of their reserva-
tions about God, His will and His
Word. We are not here today to add to
or take away from this power and this
Spirit of the Word of God.

Isaiah said, "Fear thou not; for I
am with thee: be not dismayed; for I
am thy God." Isaiah 41:10. When we
think of these words, dismayed means
to diminish the power. When we begin
to fear and not have faith to believe
in the Word of God, we defeat the power.
When we begin to fear and not have
faith to believe in the Word of God, we
defeat the power of God. So we should
not be dismayed. We should be strong
in the Word of God. If it strikes us
down, we would rather be down than
up, if it is the Lord's will in this life.

I often think of those who suffered
physical affliction. We like to think
that people who get well had strong

faith. But who has the strongest faith? The one who gets well, or the one who must endure and actually succumb to affliction? That has often challenged my faith. We don't like to be the one to suffer, but if it's God's will that we yield to His will and not ours, then we are on the path of the cross that leads home.

That was the prayer and experience of our loving Saviour Who has gone before. That was His cup. Are we willing to drink of that cup? Are we willing to suffer for His sake and His cause if it be His will?

These are things that pertain to the flesh, but how much more should we be willing to suffer as you and I are caretakers, as it were, of this bride of another, our Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. We will suffer the afflictions of the Gospel which the Apostle Paul spoke about to Timothy, "Do no be ashamed of me and the afflictions of the gospel." (See II Timothy 1:8).

They may be sufferings we go through to live out the Bible in our lives. May we appear as the Word of God, and as God's people. Then we will have that identity when He reappears . . . and He will know us by the harmony and unity of this beloved Apostle Paul and the rest of God's family.

Last night we were singing in a home with young people. We were singing melodies of praise to God. It was a heavenly sight that you just don't find hardly elsewhere. We might think that is old-fashioned, but it is good to know that the old prophets said that we should ask for the old paths for therein is the good way and then you shall find rest for your souls.

The Bible is not a modernistic book, but we are living in modern times. But, we don't succumb to defeat when it comes to the Word of God. The Word of God will have free course and it will not diminish from us. When a soul finds grace to fall prostrate at the cross of Christ and is willing to give the offering of a broken and contrite heart, then they might still remember where there is an inn that they can share this experience.

We read in the Bible where the Lord requires the past. (See Ecclesiastes 3:15). We cannot shrug our shoulders at the past. We need to realize that when we come to the

Lord, He wants our all. He can't accept partiality. He will not give fellowship with another. Our God is a jealous God and He will not give His glory to another.

God is the same always . . . yesterday, today and forever. He changes not. "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today and forever." Hebrews 13:8. We have a glorious future, a glorious heritage and a glorious faith! We should be positive and never negative about the Word of God! We should never consider alterations or deviations from the Word of God. Then it becomes precious, more significant and more enjoyable than the food we eat. It is more necessary than our daily food.

May God give us grace that when we fellowship around the Word of God and when we sing these great songs of the faith (the great songs of the church), that we know where it is coming from. May we have communication inside and know that it is a reality.

We are not hypocrites speaking lies and hypocrisy. When we get contentious about the Word of God, the first thing you know the devil succeeds in getting us to twist the Word of God. Then we become guilty of speaking lies and hypocrisy, and pretending something to be this way when it is really another way. When we really accept the Word of God for what it says, then we become free. We are then free from sin against the Word of God.

The Bible says we should search the Scriptures (see John 5:39), study the Scriptures (see I Thessalonians 4:11), be accountable servants to God (see Romans 14:12) and be able to rightly divide the Word of God (see II Timothy 2:15).

Let us be thankful today that the grace of God is still present and that the Lord is waiting to see if there would be any yet that would seek the Lord.

To any unbelievers, the Bible is still here. This place of refuge is still current. It is like the market, where you can still sell a bushel of corn and you can still buy a bushel of corn. You can still come and buy this salvation without a price tag, other than your total surrender which He deserves.

He has the right to ask for your heart and mine. He has the right and

the authority to ask for our soul. The Bible says, "All souls are mine." Many times we get burdened about certain friends and we take their souls upon us like they are ours. It is the Lord's business. All souls, even our children, are the Lord's and they belong to Him.

The loving invitation still goes out to whosoever will come and taste and see that the Lord really is good. Though your sins be as red as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow. (See Isaiah 1:18). We don't have to worry how terrible our sins are, because He wants them regardless of how dark they might be. That is what He wants, for us to bring them to light. Let the light come and expose the darkness. It is such a beautiful experience to walk in the light.

The Bible says, "If we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another . . ." I John 1:7. People that you really never knew before, you can come to know. You can have fellowship about the deep things of God.

When we greet one another with a holy kiss, we embrace the kiss of the Saviour. Where can you go and find an example of this? This should humble ourselves in gratitude to God that we can share that kind of relationship on this earth. We can face a Saviour some day, not contentious, but broken and meet for His use.

May God bless His Word in these last days that we will be revived by the things that still remain. As it says in Revelation, "Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain . . ." Revelation 3:2. The church is still here. We should be courageous to stand for the faith of our forefathers. We know that they were not perfect, but they had the record straight. In their weakness, they still knew what they believed, like the Apostle Paul.

We can know, too, what we believe if we are led by the Word of God and the Spirit of God. We worship God in Spirit and in truth. We don't want to worship Him any other way. We want to worship Him in truth so that we will know that we are of truth when He, the Truth, comes back to this earth.

May God give us courage and a willingness. He is able both to make us willing, and enable us to do His will.

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SERMON BY BRO. LESTER HUBER OF LEXINGTON, KY

"God's Word For Today"

Job 14 and I Corinthians 2

The patriarch Job, from his point of view, was under the cloud as it speaks of the church of the children of Israel. They were not permitted to experience the fullness of time when God would send forth His Son, born of a virgin. The law and the prophets were until John. Then grace and truth came with John introducing the testimony of God. Today we are in a very, very fortunate position and relationship as God's family in the world.

We are subject to discouragements, trials and tests that often weigh us down. We become depressed, almost to despair. You and I have in our relationship a gift or a heritage that we should never be discouraged. We should never complain. We should never utter a word of murmuring or complaining. We should never be contentious or disenchanted with what we have in God.

When we read the Word of God, it should revive us and create vitality, causing us to be ashamed of ourselves, fall on our face and ask God for forgiveness. We can accept the Word of God which is filled with promises for faith to be as Paul said, not only conquerors, but more than conquerors! (See Romans 8:37).

When we come together to share this faith, we should encourage and lift up the faith and the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. He suffered so ultimately in such shame and agony for your and my soul. When we die, our soul can live again in Paradise with the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Who gave us His all. He gave Himself!

As Paul said, he thought it not robbery to be equal with God (something to grab at or steal) but made of Himself no reputation, and took upon Himself the form of a servant (a slave) and became obedient unto the cross, even the death of the cross. (See

Philippians 2:6-8). He had to endure this experience for you and me. If we all go back to the day when we were called to repentance, we remember the fears and anxiety. We had no sleep at night and could not rest. We sought the Lord day and night until we could find rest for our soul.

Because of this urgency and relationship, the Spirit of God causes us to come together. "But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God." I Corinthians 2:10. When we found ourselves weighted down with our soul's condemnation for sin, we began to search for something, farther and deeper than we could find here on this earth. We could go and share our concerns with our parents, but we had to go in the spirit to seek the Lord on our own to find the answer to a troubled heart and undying soul.

The Apostle Paul was a chosen vessel for you and me. How we should appreciate that! The Lord Jesus saw fit to call Paul, foreordained before he was even born, to administer the gospel message to the church, the bride of Christ. The message was to be prepared, redeemed, saved and kept spotless and blameless for the return of the Lord Jesus.

He says in verse eighteen of the previous chapter, "For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God." I Corinthians 1:18. The preaching of the cross is seldom preached. I admit that I do not relate to this enough. We think of salvation as something that is a gift that is received lightly, often without real experience or judgment.

The Bible says, "The preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness . . ." I Corinthians 1:18. How

well we know that today. People don't really appreciate the cross as much as they should.

We think of salvation as an escape from the judgment and wrath of God. Job says, "Till this wrath be passed until the day when He will return, and the graves will be opened and the dead in Christ will rise, and those who live will be transformed in the twinkling of an eye."

Our salvation is encompassed in the cross. The way of the cross leads home. Too often we find that we would like to have all heaven and no cross.

The Apostle Paul had to admit and confess that his declaration, his voice and his message were not with human power or man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of the power of God (See I Corinthians 2:4). Since this was Paul's purpose, today it should be yours and mine. We should not seek to present self, but humble ourselves "under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time." I Peter 5:6.

"That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God." I Corinthians 2:5. When we sense we have God's power, the things of this earth will grow strangely dim. If we really embrace and know God's power and God's presence, this world will not have its affect on us.

Paul said, "My speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom . . ." I Corinthians 2:4. We realize that we do not come before you as those of recognition, but as a servant or a slave. The true definition of a servant is a slave. When we stand before God's people, the bride of Christ, we are God's slave to take care of His Son's bride, the church.

(Continued on Page 34)