

The Silver Lining

"As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye with him: Rooted and built up in him, and established in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving." Colossians 2:6-7

A LIGHT FOR BELIEVERS

"Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God." Philippians 4:6

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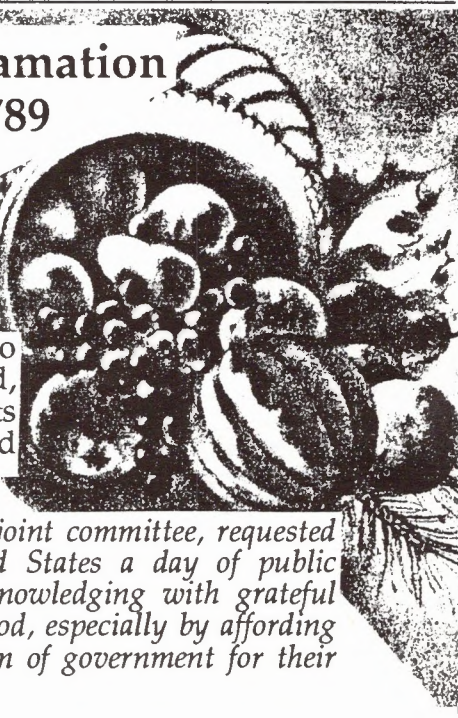


The First Thanksgiving Proclamation of the United States -- 1789

Issued by President Washington

Whereas, it is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits and humbly to implore His protection and favor: and

Whereas, both houses of Congress have, by their joint committee, requested me "to recommend to the people of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer, to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many and signal favors of Almighty God, especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness;"



Now, therefore, I do recommend and assign Thursday, the twenty-sixth day of November next to be devoted by the people of these States to the service of that great and glorious Being who is the beneficent author of all good that was, that is, or that will be; that we may then all unite in rendering unto Him our service and humble thanks for His kind care and protection of the people this country previous to their becoming a nation; for the signal and manifold mercies and the favorable interpositions of His providence in the course and conclusion of the late war; for the great degree of tranquility, union and plenty which we have since enjoyed; for the peaceable and rational manner in which we have been established constitutions of government for our safety and happiness, and particularly the national one now lately instituted; for the civil and religious liberty with which we are blessed, and the means we have of acquiring and diffusing useful knowledge; and, in general, for all the great and various favors which He has been pleased to confer upon us.

And also that we may then unite in most humbly offering our prayers and supplications to the great Lord and Ruler of Nations, and beseech Him to pardon our national and other transgressions, to enable us all, whether in public or private stations, to perform our several and relative duties properly and punctually; to render our National Government a blessing to all the people by constantly being a government of wise, just and constitutional laws, discreetly and faithfully executed and obeyed; to protect and guide all sovereigns and nations (especially such as have shown kindness to us), and to bless them with good governments, peace and concord; to promote the knowledge and practice of true religion and virtue, and the increase of science among them and us; and, generally, to grant unto all mankind such a degree of temporal prosperity as He alone knows to be best.

Given under my hand, at the city of New York, the third day of October, A.D. 1789.

George Washington

VISITING THE BELIEVERS IN HUNGARY, ROMANIA, RUSSIA AND YUGOSLAVIA

Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman
Francesville, IN, congregation

After one year of prayerful consideration, it was revealed to Bro. Ben and Sis. Lorene Maibach and to my wife, Marcella, and I, that together we make a trip to Europe. With the encouragement and support of the elder body, Missionary Committee, World Relief Committee, our family and local congregations, we spent June of 1988 in Europe. Our mission was to observe and assist the Budapest Church building project, visit churches, and counsel with the elders and ministers. We wanted to observe the spiritual and physical conditions among believers in Hungary, Yugoslavia, Romania and Russia. Also, we wished to observe the World Relief Program that has been implemented in Europe for many years.

As a result of God's grace and the prayers of the church, our mission was completed with even greater success than we had ever anticipated.

Our trip began on June 1, 1988. Because of a severe storm, TWA flight 766 from Detroit did not arrive in (JFK) New York, with Bro. Ben and Sis. Lorene. Within two hours, we four were to leave for Stuttgart, Germany, but at departure time we still had had no contact from Bro. Ben and Sis. Lorene. We were advised by TWA to leave for Stuttgart and were informed that Bro. Ben and Sis. Lorene would be put on another flight. With calm assurance, Marcella and I left on flight 766 feeling the prayers of the church.

During the flight my thoughts and prayers could be summarized with: "Let my eyes see, my heart feel and my mind grasp what Thou Lord would have us to see, to hear, and understand. And then grant us grace to tell the story that Thou would have to be told to glorify Thy Name."

As we circled Stuttgart, we became a bit anxious, wondering if we would be able to communicate and if we would make contact with the person or persons there to meet us. Upon stepping out of the 747 we were engulfed in people, customs, and strange

languages. After a short time, a tall gentleman stepped up to me and asked in broken English, "Are you Bro. Gudeman?" His eyes and smile spoke the same language as our hearts felt. He was Hans Heer, a fellow believer in Jesus Christ. Soon we were in the midst of other believers who cared for our every need. About six hours later Bro. Ben and Sis. Lorene arrived in Stuttgart, and together we spent twenty-nine days of precious fellowship and joy, mixed with occasional tears that will be in our memory for a lifetime.

For various reasons, I will omit listing personal names of believers we visited, but will try to convey the depth of their love and esteem for us who were privileged to visit them.

The Home for the Aged in Neuhausen, Germany, reminded us we were only walking in the steps of our brethren from America, who thirty-five years ago had the vision to assist in building this large Home for the Aged. Today it stands as a memorial of our love and care for the aged believers in Europe, just as our Homes here in America show our esteem and love for our aged here. It is a work of faith, a labor of love.

In Ludwigshafen - Oggersheim area, we attended a worship service with believers with whom our spirits blended. The elder brother's home has a large adjoining room which serves as the church. The crowded room proved the sincerity of their love. At the present time, they are prayerfully seeking a larger building in which to worship. We encouraged their efforts. The elder's son is also a beloved minister who speaks English very well. It was in this area that many of our boys in military service, from our churches in America, were cared for physically, and spiritually, during their time of duty after World War II. While in this area, we personally observed medical supplies purchased and sent to Hungary with funds provided through our World Relief.

The men of the church related

many accounts of how they were spared during World War II and how they later repented and experienced a conversion.

We drove through the area where American bombs were released, meant to destroy an intelligence stronghold, but fell instead on a village, taking the lives of 8,000 inhabitants in one night. A large mound marks the mass grave where women, children, aged, and military men, await a resurrection day. Each year a memorial is held of that fateful night of destruction. Today, because of Calvary, we, with tears of love, embrace the believers in the love of Jesus Christ. Our eyes saw, our ears heard, and our hearts felt compassion. We left Germany with the hymns of the Heft and Zion's Harp in our minds and with respect for the believers who are ambitious, making use of every opportunity both in body and soul. Shepherds lovingly care for the flocks of God in many churches.

(Continued on Page 29)

THE SILVER LINING

Grabill, Indiana 46741
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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).

Offense and Judging

The New Testament gives specific instructions for dealing with many aspects of life. There are also decisions which must be made by believers in areas which the Scriptures do not address directly. Romans 14 and 1 Corinthians 8 are devoted to several important principles which are to guide us in meeting these situations, both with regard to our own personal choices as well as our reactions to choices made by others, which may differ from ours. These two chapters deal with some of the greatest tests of true love within the brotherhood. We are instructed to adhere to three basic principles as we make such decisions: 1) we must "do all to the glory of God" (1 Cor. 10:31); 2) we must esteem our brother so highly that we will seek to please him in our actions and likewise respect his opinion (1 Cor. 10:33; Rom. 14:3,10); and 3) we must strive for the things which keep peace in the church (Rom. 14:19).

It is clear that there will be some variation in what is considered acceptable within a group of believers. "For one believeth that he may eat all things: another, who is weak, eateth herbs." "One man esteemeth one day above another: another esteemeth every day alike." (Rom. 14:2,5) However, this is not a license to abandon the principle of likemindedness! These teachings refer to areas where no doctrinal position exists in the Scriptures and no specific standard has been established in the church.

The Holy Spirit revealed to the Apostles and elders that positions were to be established on certain issues and these were communicated to the churches (Acts 15), just as occurs in our brotherhood today. This is for the purpose of maintaining peace and good order in the church and to assist the believer in applying the truth of God's Word to everyday life (1 Tim. 3:15). This submission to godly order will help keep us from again becoming "a friend of the world" (James 4:4).

When the Apostle Paul wrote, "

... there is nothing unclean of itself: but to him that esteemeth anything to be unclean, to him it is unclean" (Rom. 14:14), he was obviously referring to those areas of life where the Scriptures are silent and no church standard exists. He certainly was not declaring that any act is all right if so viewed by the individual. This would be condoning relativism, a great deception of our time in which individuals establish their own personal moral standards based upon circumstances and their own thinking, rather than on the Word of God (Prov. 14:12).

"Weakness" in these chapters refers to a sensitivity of conscience about a certain matter which is not defined in the Scriptures as either right or wrong. It sometimes includes a feeling of need to have clear-cut universal patterns on such matters. "Strength" implies a faith that it is acceptable to participate in such a matter; and this should always be accompanied by a heartfelt attitude of charity and humility (1 Cor. 8:1-2). The Word does not praise or criticize either the weakness or the strength if each approach honors the Lord (Rom. 14:6). All of us experience both qualities to varying degrees, but when strong, we are to be very considerate and supportive of the weak (Rom. 14:21-23; 15:1-3).

The test of true love among brethren consists of the ability to deal with these areas of life without judging, grieving or offending each other, all of which are displeasing to God. Judging is determining on a personal basis that another has erred; this is especially serious when a person's motives are faulted. Grieving someone is to cause him severe distress. Offending is bringing spiritual harm to another person by causing him to stumble. The directives in these chapters clearly involve more than just minor annoyances or hurt feelings.

Individuals can misuse their weakness or strength about an issue as they relate to one another within the church. One who feels freedom

of conscience on a matter may assume a superior or condescending attitude toward the weak. This attitude will make it very hard for him to defer to another's conscience, even when offense is involved (1 Cor. 10:29-33). "Knowledge puffeth up, but charity edifieth" (1 Cor. 8:1). The brother who feels he must abstain may demand that others defer to his convictions simply because he wants to have his own way. He might also conclude that anyone who doesn't share his opinion on a matter is in error, which then becomes a form of judging (Rom. 14:13).

Humble obedience to God's Word will keep the love of Christ flowing within the body of believers. Exhortations are given against extremes in observance of unnecessary restrictions (Rom. 14:17; Heb. 13:9) as well as for the need to keep one's "conscience void of offense toward God, and toward men," (Acts 24:16). Leaders were given to the house of Israel and to the church to provide guidance and help resolve conflicts. Of the priests it is written: "And they shall teach my people the difference between the holy and profane . . . and in controversy they shall stand in judgment . . ." (Ezek. 44:23-24). Of the New Testament leaders it is written that they should "rule well" and "labor in the word and doctrine" (1 Tim. 5:17), but never as "lords" who might lay unnecessary burdens upon the people (1 Pet. 5:3; Acts 15:28). No presumed strengths on the part of an individual should ever justify exemption from church-defined, biblically-based standards of godliness.

Offense and judging are easily avoided if we adopt the "mind of Christ" (Phil. 2:5). Unspeakable joy on earth and eternal rewards in Heaven await those peacemakers who are motivated by genuine, sacrificial, Christ-like love, and who always esteem their brethren higher than themselves (Matt. 5:9; Rom. 12:10; Phil. 2:3).

HUNGARIAN TAPES

Two cassette tapes are now available of the singing and playing of the Hungarian churches. The music, performed by choir and 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
455 Logan Road, Apt. A-2
Mansfield, OH 44907
(419) 756-2756

or

Dennis & Beth Feucht
317 N. Third Avenue
Morton, IL 61550
(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

Tim Sauder

A staff member gave me a note today that said, "There are no hopeless situations, only people who have lost hope about them." Satan would love to discourage us and get us to focus on the failures of the past, and the road blocks of the future. He would like to convince us that our efforts are in vain and have no real lasting effect. Discouragement is something that threatens the missionary on the foreign field, the parents of a rebellious teen, the barren woman, the abandoned child, and the weary Sunday school teacher. When fruit doesn't appear, Satan is right there to accuse and say, "See, it doesn't work." At times it seems that Satan is so mighty. But we must be reminded that our God is almighty.

There isn't anything that seems to bring about as much hope and excitement as birth and rebirth. And we've had both here at the Home recently. In the past week two staff couples have welcomed baby girls into their families. First, Sarah Lee Gerber was born to houseparents, Bro. Nathan and Sis. LeAnn. Secondly, Kirsten Marie Sauder was born to our administrator, Bro. Tim, and his wife, Sis. Jenny. There is a special "softening" effect that newborns seem to have on even the toughest teens. It's neat to see how God works even through babes.

On a recent Saturday evening we had the privilege and thrill of hearing the conversion testimony of one of our dear residents, Marie Hersey. Her faith and patience have been examples to us all. The following day we rejoiced to witness her covenant and baptism, and to welcome her into our family of faith. Joy was added to joy because Sis. Marie's younger sister, Kara, has also found grace to repent in the past month. God is alive and there is hope!

We also have added to our population in another way as Wendy (15) from Fort Wayne was welcomed to the West House family. We look forward to working together with her and wish her God's blessings during her stay.

We are glad to announce that Sis. Susan Getz (Remington, IN) has answered God's call and will join our

SINGLE SISTERS 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

staff as the assistant in the West House. She is planning to begin her duties in early January. We continue to have an additional opening for a single sister to serve in a houseparenting role.

As winter approaches, our maintenance focus is redirected to many indoor and some outdoor tasks. We welcome willing volunteers to help in these responsibilities. Please contact the Home if you have time and talent to share.

At this Thanksgiving season, may we each praise God for His almighty

power and perfect provision, and then with hope in our hearts "... let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith." Hebrews 12:1-2.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

As the brilliance of autumn recedes into the shadows of November we contemplate this Thanksgiving season. God has been so good to us

here at the Home for the Handicapped and our greatest thanks go to Him. God's protecting arms are felt around us, and His guiding Spirit leads us. As we express our thanks to God, we would also like to say "thanks" to each one who supports the Home, whether it be in time as a volunteer, the donations of goods, monetary contributions or prayer.

This fall we had some perfect weather for picking pumpkins out of the field, and displaying them in front of the home. Many of us enjoyed a wiener roast and campfire singing at the Blunier barn. The language class took a trip to Lincoln's New Salem, and found the renovated village of Abe Lincoln's youth very interesting. Eureka Apostolic Christian Home is hosting our Sunshine Club and it will be nice to make some new acquaintances, and perhaps renew some old friendships.

An evening of games and music is planned for our Fall Festival October 31, and in November we plan to hold our annual residents' talent show.

December is birthday time for: Bryan Streid (8); Dianne Baltic (10); Lisa Menold (15); Delores Wieland (15); Nancy Wernli (17); and Phil Fehr (18).

There have been many changes at the Home, as four more have moved to Oakwood Estate. Harold Miller, Alan Unsicker, Mike Bodtke, and Anna Eberhard are pleased with their new home. The Oakwood people and several of the Home's residents are invited guests of the Remington, IN, church for a weekend, hosted by Ed Getz's family. How special! Topics at the first Oakwood resident council meeting included SSI checks and kitchen details.

As these people have moved out of the Home for the Handicapped, we welcome, as new residents, Nancy Eschman, Lois Baumgartner, Dave Maupin and Marsha Miller. We are glad to have them here!

--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 Huette (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.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL OF ATHENS, AL Marilyn Walder

The school year is progressing well. The children are so fun to work with. Many times I feel that they are teaching me much more than I am teaching them. They have been pretty well

behaved. We have little fusses and squabbles almost every day, but that is expected. Little children are so quick to forgive and forget and continue playing as if nothing happened. That is a lesson for us as adults. How easy is it for us to say "I'm sorry" and forget about it and go on as if nothing ever happened? They also are so loving and kind. Often during the day one of them will tell one of us that they love us and will give us a hug. We receive many rewards every day. That helps balance out the things that are not so fun about handling preschoolers.

We are looking forward to our Board meeting in November. We are planning to do a Christmas play again

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

this year, and are starting to work on that.

Our prayer is that we can plant a seed in these children's hearts. We may never know if being at Apostolic Christian Preschool made any difference in any of their lives. But, if someday one song, Bible story or verse comes back to one child in time of trouble and helps them remember there is a God who loves them, then it is worth it all. We pray that we can be useful to God and a witness to the parents. Please keep us in your prayers.

ALABAMA, ATHENS Marilyn Walder

We enjoyed the messages brought to us by our visiting ministers. Bros. Steve Gutwein (Francesville, IN), Tom Schrenk (Alto, MI), Elder Bro. David Bertsch (Leo, IN) and Bro. Steve Ringger (Bluffton, IN) were all with us. We thank them and their families for traveling to be with us.

Other visitors this month were from Francesville, Leo and Bluffton, IN; Alto, MI; West Bend, IA; Peoria, Cissna Park and Bloomington, IL; Latty, OH; and Winthrop, MN. The fellowship is inspiring!

Bro. David Coulter was elected to be our new trustee. He will replace Bro. Jr. Hall. We thank Bro. Jr. for his willingness to serve our church.

Elaine Perry and Sis. Tammy Aldridge have been hospitalized but are both home doing well.

We have three new converts: Naomi Hall, Izora Cooley and Ole Mae Barnes. We are rejoicing with them as they make a commitment to their God and seek to do His will.

ATTENTION: SKILLED MASONS

There is still a need for four men (especially two who are skilled in masonry) to fill out a Works Project team traveling to Ecuador. The project is the construction of a jungle school in Borbon, Ecuador, scheduled for February 20, 1989 to March 9, 1989. If anyone feels led of the Lord to participate in this project, please contact:

Bro. Kent Heimer
R.R. Box 20
Taylor, MO 63471
(314) 393-2440

We have heard several teachings about temptation recently and how to deal with it. One Sunday school lesson was about Christ's temptation. It was brought out that if Satan approached Jesus, the Son of God and tempted Him, what will he do to us? We should be determined to do what's right and not yield to temptation. Don't underestimate Satan's power. He knows when and in what area we are the weakest and that's when he tempts us. We also heard that we should "watch and pray, lest ye enter into temptation. The spirit truly is ready, but the flesh is weak." Mark 14:38. We have to battle with Satan daily because we are human and weak, but that's how God created us. Jesus asked His disciples to watch and pray but they fell asleep. They didn't feel the burden that Jesus felt. We need to feel the burden in order to be motivated to work for God. If we spend time reading and praying, we will have the vision God wants us to have and we will feel the burden. Let's be useful to God. Arm yourself for the battle with Satan and God will help us win. He is most powerful!

ARIZONA, PHOENIX Ron and Ev Hoerr

Elder Bros. Ben Maibach, Ronald Nelson and John Klotzle came to Phoenix, October 16, to assist Elder Bro. Richard Schupbach in ordaining Bro. Jon Kokanovich as our deacon. We pray the Lord's blessings on Bro. Jon and Sis. Nancy as they take on the additional responsibility in service to the Lord.

Late in the evening we enjoyed a fellowship dinner and evening service.

Bro. Bob and Sis. Betty Lemons escorted 33 hikers into Havasupi Canyon. All were in awe of the spectacular falls and scenery that only God could make. Bro. Loren Knapp was the "backpacking" minister this year. Services were held before all returned to the canyon rim and then homeward.

We gathered the evenings of October 2, 5 and 9 to hear the elder conference topics. How thankful we are there are those who take time to help us use the Bible as the foundation for our guide to eternal life.

Our church extends sympathy to

Aquilla Barna on the passing of his mother, Sis. Elizabeth Barna. During a visit just two weeks before dying, our 98-year-old sister told her children, she's wanting to go "home."

Bro. Wilbur and Sis. Sophie Huber are recent grandparents. Brent Allen Ricketts was welcomed home by Bro. Jon, Sis. Cheryl and his brother, Bradley.

Hospital patients were Bro. Ervan (Sis. Ione) Rokey, Sis. Doris (Bro. Dan) Kokanovich and Bro. Kim Huber. Bertha (Melvin) Miller had eye surgery. Bro. John (Sis. Wilma) Pulfer is progressing nicely at home.

Happy holiday greetings to all and a good measure of His love.

ARIZONA, TUCSON

Lisa Knapp

The Lord has touched the hearts of three friends recently. Lucy Knapp, Janeen Hari and Ron Mackland have found the grace to repent and we are so happy for them. It is so encouraging to know that sinners are still able to gain the hope of salvation. We are praying for them that they can grow in grace daily and someday be baptized.

Bro. Bill Dotterer (Phoenix) and Sis. Sharon, his wife, recently visited Tucson and Bro. Bill shared the Word with us. We are so grateful for their efforts.

As Thanksgiving approaches, I have to think how quickly my mind can find so many things for which to be thankful. Yet, I know there are many, many people who have to think a lot longer than I to find the blessings in their life. May we all be able to see the wonders and joy all around us every day during the coming season.

CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA

Elaine Graf

On September 4, Bro. Fred and Sis. Nancy Witzig were married at Princeville, IL. Bro. Fred's parents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Mary Witzig and Sis. Nancy's parents are Bro. Elmer and Sis. Janet Martin (Princeville, IL). We welcome Sis. Nancy to our congregation.

On September 15, a new baby daughter was born to Bro. Jeff and Sis. Shirley Luthi. Lydian Adele has an older brother, Daniel. Her grand-

parents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Mary Witzig and Bro. Reuben and Sis. Chrystal Luthi (Morris, MN).

September 25 was the birth date of another new baby girl. Mark and Louisa Gallup are the parents of little Dana Bernice.

Bro. Bill and Sis. Mary Witzig have another new grandchild. Stacy May, 8 years old, has joined the family of their daughter and son-in-law, Ken and Linda Cooper. Her brothers and sister are Tim, Sarah and Andrew. Stacy's paternal grandparents are Bro. Ray and Sis. Ginny Cooper (Portland, OR).

Sis. Martha Slenker was able to worship with us again after a long absence due to ill health.

We have new converts in our congregation. May God grant them grace and blessings while they begin their new way of life.

The weekend of October 8 and 9 brought many visitors to our area from Phoenix, AZ, and San Diego. That weekend we heard the testimony and witnessed the baptism of Chris Cisneros. Elder Bro. Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI) was here to assist our Elder Bro. John Klotzle.

Other visiting ministers have been Peter Petrovic (San Diego, CA), Ed Knecht (Silverton, OR) and Lenny Meyer (Chicago, IL). May God's blessings be upon them.

COLORADO, DENVER

Mike Martin

A baby girl was born September 26 to Karl and Mitzi Braun. Grandparents are Sis. Sharon and Herman Braun (Elgin, IL). Karl is serving in the army and is stationed at Fort Hood. Their address is 2814 Tucker, Apt. 362, Killeen, TX 76545. May God bless them with their new addition.

Our congratulations go to Bro. Eric Huber as he has graduated from ITT. Bro. Eric has already found employment in his chosen field. May God continue to guide him and his family in all their needs.

Our visiting minister this month was Bro. Charlie Sinn (Fort Scott, KS). May God bless him for his labor of love. Bro. Charlie's son, Chuckie, is still receiving asthma treatment at National Jewish Hospital. May God be with Chuckie that he can soon return home.

Our hearts are always saddened with the passing of loved ones; yet we rejoice when the victory has been won and a loved one can go home. Our sympathy goes out to Bro. Tom and Sis. Marlene in the loss of his aunt, Sis. Anna Lemman (Roanoke, IL) and Sis. Marlene's father, Bro. Ezra Stoller (Gridley, IL). Our sympathy also goes to Bro. Joe Wagler who has suffered the loss of two of his brothers, Eulie and Bro. Ben Wagler (Burlington, IA). We grieve with Sis. LaVonne McLaughlin in the passing of her grandmother, Sis. Alice Stoller (Latty, OH). Our love and condolences are extended to each family member in their time of need.

We're caught up in ourselves

So often it seems

With our wants, our desires,

Our hopes and our dreams;

While others lie in the street

With no clothes on their back,

Many have no food to eat,

For some, it is shelter they lack.

To the fields said the Lord

As he gave us his call.

There is work to be done,

Come give it your all.

The call is the same today as then and the need is still great. We pray that many would support the church in its upcoming projects whether it be in Haiti, in Mexico, in India or here in the States. Let us give of our time, money and talents in the support of the Lord's ministry.

CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE

Martha Hany

We welcome Bro. John and Sis. Mary Diggelman to Rockville where they are now living in our congregational living "Longview Village". Bro. John, 94, has ministered for many years in Union City, NJ, and we wish them both well as we are happy to have them in our fellowship.

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

Proverbs 3:5, 6

Surely the following couples must have thought and leaned upon the

Lord as their engagements were made known to us. We rejoice and share in the happiness of Bro. Steve Maibach (Smithville, OH), Bro. Roy and Sis. Mabel, Rittman, OH) and Sis. Dawn Luginbuhl (Sis. Charlotte) whose engagement was announced October 2. Bro. Alfred Reutter and Sis. Barbara Metzger (Lester, IA) were announced October 9 along with Bro. Doug Schneider (Bro. Roy and Sis. Joyce) and Sis. Jane Gerber (Bro. Everett and Sis. Phyllis). How happy we are for them and pray that the Lord will continue to guide and direct their lives as they now prepare to walk that path together.

Our visiting ministers were Bro. Duane Farney (Croghan, NY) on September 28 and Elder Bro. Bob Grimm (Goodfield, IL) and Bro. Brian Webb (Fort Lauderdale, FL) on Sunday, October 9. What a blessing to meet and hear faithful ministering brethren from throughout the land, each with a unique and individual personality through which the Lord can reveal Himself! We give thanks to these brethren and their wives for remembering us in their travels.

Our thoughts and prayers accompany Sis. Huldah (Lanz) Luginbuhl as she enters a home to receive the extra care which she requires at this point in her life. Surely, thoughts of her husband, Bro. Ernest, who gently ministered to us for many years and died in 1981 will sustain her until she, too, can join him.

Our best wishes go to two couples who were united in holy matrimony Saturday, October 8. They were Eric Gottier (Warren and Sis. Carol) and Daryl Kunz (Russell and Nancy) and Ross Luginbuhl (Sis. Charlotte) and Robyn Latzis (Mr. and Mrs. Robert Latzis).

On September 26, Sis. Pauline Gerber, 93, was laid to her eternal rest. Sis. Pauline was the last of her generation and made her home with her niece, Sis. Charlotte (Lanz) Luginbuhl. Our sympathy is extended to her as well as the many remaining nephews and nieces.

"I have seen all the works that are done under the sun; and, behold, all is vanity and vexation of spirit."

Ecclesiastes 1:14

Even as the wise preacher Solo-

mon stated, two dear souls apparently have come to the same conclusion and have sought and found a higher calling by faith through their repentance. Keith Luginbuhl (Bro. Mannie and Sis. Florine) and Mark Luginbuhl (Bro. Eric and Sis. Sharon) have been spiritually reborn and were baptized in compliance with the Word October 16. On Saturday evening, we heard their strong testimony how God worked in their hearts transforming their thought process from that which is natural to that which is spiritual. Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL) shared God's work with Elder Bro. Corbin and we sincerely thank him and Sis. Judy for being here.

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

Visiting ministers the past month have been Bro. Bob Meyer (Bluffton North, IN) and Elder Bro. Kenneth Sauder (Mansfield, OH). Visitors also attended from Peoria, IL, and Philadelphia, PA.

Elder Bros. Wendell Gudeman and Ben Maibach, and Bro. Andrew Hunyady were in Washington, D.C. recently where they met with Rep. Robert Michel of Illinois and other congressional and State Department officials concerning aid to Eastern Europe. Bros. Wendell and Ben stayed overnight and our local members enjoyed a long visit and dinner with them.

Our attendance continues to be good, although it has fallen off somewhat since the peak of the tourist season. Visitors are always welcome. Call Bro. Ralph Klopfenstein at 703-979-3476 or Bro. Doug Germann at 703-481-5163.

Services are the first and third Sundays of each month at 10:30 a.m., eastern time, at the Westpark Hotel (Best Western) located on Route 7, about one mile west of I-495.

Bro. Ralph Klopfenstein was recently hospitalized for 4 days for surgery but is now apparently recovering.

Give Your New Address
To Your Reporter

FLORIDA, FT. LAUDERDALE
Terri K. Huber

Visiting ministers this month were Elder Bro. Joe Braker (Morton, IL) and Bro. Dennis Kaufmann (Bloomington, IL). We are thankful for their services and we enjoyed fellowshiping with Joe, Denny and their wives.

I am sad to report that Ken Moser has moved home to Oregon. While living in Fort Lauderdale this year, Ken gave his life to the Lord. We will miss his presence and cheerful smile at our gatherings.

Church cleaning was held last month. How thankful we are to have the privilege of caring for God's house, and the ability to worship there without persecution or interference.

We have been listening to the tapes of the conference on Wednesday evenings. When we finish, evening services will begin for the winter season at 7:30 p.m. each week.

FLORIDA, NORTH FT. MYERS
Kay Eisenmann

Our welcome visiting ministers this month were: Bros. Carroll Gerber (Bluffton North, IN), Roy Luginbuhl (Fort Lauderdale, FL) and Doug Sabo (Sarasota, FL). May God bless them and their families!

Now is the time of decision for our nation. We pray that our leaders will be strong believers in asking God for help! But like so many, we want to have control. God is ever so willing to take our problems and change them into promises if we but have the grace to let Him!

Our winter family is starting to return and are so very welcome! The church is to have a picnic this Sunday. We sure look forward to the fellowship and thank each and every one for their efforts.

Dave and I flew up to Gridley, IL, to lay to rest a most beloved uncle, Bro. Fred Miller. We surely know at a time like this, the certainty of death. May we all be ready and waiting when the death angel comes to us. God's plan is so easy and beautiful and it's not a monthly lease, but for eternity. Where do you want to spend eternity? We all must spend it one place or the other. Let's all think who is our spiritual guide? May we all have more grace to listen, and then do His will!

Dathan in doing fine. At this time there are still a lot of trips to St. Petersburg for check-ups, etc. We offer our thanks again for the prayers. Keep them coming for "we truly are our brother's keeper."

FLORIDA, SARASOTA
Suellen Ott

"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!"

Psalms 133:1

Unity and its relationship in the church was the topic of discussion for our September Bible study. Bro. Ed Bahler shared in our study and he likened the Christian's life to that of a wagon wheel -- Christ being the hub and we as brothers and sisters as the spokes. The closer we become to Christ, the hub, the closer we become to our brother, the spoke. We can truly see how important it is for us, as God's children, to stay close as the day of Christ's return draws nigh.

In Hebrews, we are encouraged to not forsake the assembling of ourselves together. We realize this is so important in our Christian walk, and we in Sarasota have been richly blessed with visiting brethren. We wish God's blessings on the following ministers, Bro. Ed Bahler (Remington, IN), Bro. Carroll Gerber (Bluffton North, IN), Bro. Harold Schmidtgal (Gridley, IL) and Bro. Will Schieler (Milford, IN).

As the angels in heaven rejoice over one sinner that repents, we, too, rejoice in hearing that our friend, Katrine Streitmatter, has found peace with God and wishes to share her testimony with the congregation. Isaiah 1:18 "... though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be white as snow ..."

GEORGIA, ATLANTA
John Brewer

In September and October, the Atlanta church was blessed by many visiting ministers and brethren. On September 25, Bro. Raymond Banwart (Fort Scott, KS) came to visit our congregation. On October 9, Bro. Merle Hartzler (Rittman, OH) and on October 23, Bro. Don Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN) came to minister the Word to us.

We were also blessed with visitors from Toledo and Rittman, OH; Franceseville, IN; and Princeville, IL. We appreciate the time visitors take to worship and fellowship with us.

During the past several months we have been holding services every Sunday here in the Atlanta area. On the Sundays we do not have a visiting minister, a Bible study is prepared with study materials provided by Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman. This has been beneficial to us here in Atlanta and for the visitors passing through. The regular meetings allow for us to take care of the spiritual needs as we face the trials set before us. It is encouraging to know that Christ promised in Matthew 18:20, "Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

Our congregation is meeting at the Ramada Renaissance Hotel which is located off I-85 on Riverdale Road, just south of the Atlanta Hartsfield International Airport. You can contact either Bro. Don Sellers 404-923-0721, Sis. Nancy Foltz 404-451-9191 or Bro. Linn and Sis. Brenda Stoller 404-631-4554. Please contact us if you are planning to visit Atlanta.

ILLINOIS,
BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL
Karen Brummitt - De Anderson

"And he gave some apostles; and some prophets; and some, evangelists, and some, pastors and teachers;

"For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:"

Ephesians 4:11, 12

We are thankful for the visit of ministering Bro. Earl Ringger (Gridley). We are also happy to welcome Bro. Kenneth Knapp (Taylor, MO) and his wife, Sis. Phyllis, as they will be spending some time in the Bloomington-Normal area.

"Either what woman having ten pieces of silver, if she lose one piece, doth not light a candle, and sweep the house, and seek diligently till she find it?"

"And when she hath found it, she calleth her friends and her neighbors together, saying, Rejoice with me; for

I have found the piece which I had lost.

"Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth."

St. Luke 15:8-10

There is joy in our congregation as Janice Horner (Albert) is seeking her soul's salvation. May God grant her sufficient grace in the coming days.

Our fall picnic was held October 16 at Lake Bloomington.

ILLINOIS, BRADFORD
Karen Ringger

As we gathered in our grain during this harvest season, we found it somewhat lacking from the years before. But it has been such an uplifting time to go to church and see several dear friends turning their backs to the world and wanting to live for Jesus. They are Stephanie Rumbold (Bro. Mark), Mike and Sheila Rumbold, Alan and Mary Ann Knobloch, John Ehnle and Cheryl Ringger. Their parents are Bro. Elvin and Sis. Loretta Rumbold, Bro. Ed and Sis. Francis Knobloch (Princeville), Bro. Ed and Sis. Verla Ehnle, Bro. Roy and Sis. Donna Ehnle and Bro. Bill and Sis. Karen Ringger.

Two families have been blessed with the births of new little ones. Mike and Deonna Buckman are the happy parents of Monica Lynn, their first child, born September 23. Grandparents are Bro. Don and Sis. Delores Duckworth and John and Betty Buckman (Buda). On September 24 Chad Joshua joined the family of Ralph and Jenny Joos. He was welcomed home by Tyler, Jeb and Sandi. Grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Lorene Joos (Peoria) and Norman and Hilda Rouse (Bradford).

We were thankful to have our Elder Bro. Joe Stoller and Bro. Kenny Knapp (Taylor, MO) minister to us this month. May God bless them and their dear helpmates.

God's guardian angel was surely with Jim Ehnle (Bro. Gary and Sis. Carole) in a recent car accident. We were so thankful he only needed to be in the hospital overnight.

As Thanksgiving time draws near, let us all stop to count our many blessings that the Lord has given us.

ILLINOIS, CHAMPAIGN LaRae Dill

October 8 was a beautiful autumn day and perfect for our annual Sunday school hayride/wiener roast. Denny and Sis. Cheryl Mangers were, as always, our most gracious hosts. We all enjoyed the fellowship and good food.

Henrietta Waldbeser, a Champaign - Urbana resident for a number of years has moved to California. We know Henrietta will enjoy being near her daughter, but will be missed by our congregation.

Our sympathy is extended to Bro. Dan and Sis. Sandy Guingrich due to the death of Sis. Sandy's father, Bro. John Schick. We know that Bryce, Traevor, Blake and Torey will also miss Grandpa Schick. We pray God will comfort this family.

It is good to see Sis. Dorothy Fisher again assembling with us. Sis. Dorothy was hospitalized for a short time following a fall. Our congregation is also pleased to again have Bro. Kenny and Sis. Phyllis Knapp assembling with us. Bro. Kenny's work has moved him to our area for a time.

As always, we appreciate Bro. Kenny's ministry as well as the ministry of other visiting brothers: Dennis Kaufman (Bloomington, IL), Ed Alt (Cissna Park, IL) and Elder Bros. Roy Sauder (Peoria, IL) and Art Bahler (Fairbury, IL).

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO Kathy Schlatter

Every day at work I am bombarded by those who are demanding and ungrateful. They are not always teenagers either. I cringe and react -- often too extremely, too sarcastically. Day by day I do pray that I will pour forth the Lord's compassion -- not ever holding back, regardless what the return. But I fail again and again. It seems so much easier to be good to those who are nice to me, to return evil for evil. Yet the Lord died for me, and I had rejected Him a long time. And what are my prayers like now? Do I not expect a great deal? How much time do I spend in asking compared to the amount of time I spend in praising and thanking Him? Ouch! Instead of being worn down by others, I need to give more, more willingly, more mercifully. For my Lord

and Savior has not ceased from pouring out His abundance to me even when I must seem like a bottomless canyon of petitions, e.g. "Please, Lord, give me this that I ask and this and this ... if it be Thy will." Lord, I am rebuked. At this season set aside for Thanksgiving, may I be humbled but become more joyful by praising and thanking Thee. "Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:6, 7.

The Lord brought Bro. Nelson Beer (Milford, IN) to minister to us. We are grateful to the Lord and to him. We also appreciated our other visitors -- brothers, sisters and friends -- who have enhanced our worship as well.

We welcome Ron Ehman, originally from Cissna Park. He is living in our area and working as an accountant. As we enjoy meeting new people and look forward to meeting them often, we hope to get to know Ron more and more as the months pass.

Some of us were very careful in counting the cost of salvation found in the Apostolic Christian Church. I, for example, thought I could not find Christ as my Savior in a church where one didn't have to "give up" so much or be so totally and humbly committed. God was so merciful to me and taught me otherwise. Or is it God is so merciful to me and is teaching me otherwise? We need to stay in present tense, I think. At a recent gathering we were singing hymns in a banquet hall. To the side of us we could hear a very forceful drumbeat, quite ill-matched to our praise. 'Twas not easy to stay with our leader's timing, not easy to avoid getting caught up in "the beat." The world we live in and its head assault our ears and hearts with a variety of beats and timings, all worthless to us, the children of the King. We must remain teachable in His Spirit so that we may strive, by His grace alone, to bypass such strange muses. We must aim to bring forth ... "one hundredfold ..." Matthew 13:8. Can we ever give enough to outgive our Lord? Never; however, neither can we make the most use of our talents by compla-

gency. What would be the cost of following a "different drummer," for those of us who are saved by His blood and holiness. "Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." Philippians 3:13, 14.

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK Elaine Sauder - Mary Knapp

This past month, three of our senior citizens were honored for their birthdays. On September 24, Bro. Sam Hari was guest at an open house, given by his family, at Fairview Haven, Fairbury, in observance of his 100th birthday. He has six living children, one of whom is Bro. Art Hari (Cissna Park).

The family of Sis. Priscilla Knapp held an open house October 16 in honor of her 90th birthday, also at Fairview Haven. Sis. Priscilla also has six living children, two locally, a daughter, Mary Ann Mann (Rossville, IL) and Bro. Lynn Knapp (Hoopeston, IL).

Also, Joe Neukomm was honored with a family gathering for his 90th birthday. Eileen Kaufmann (Cissna Park) is one of his four children.

Both Bro. Sam and Sis. Priscilla reside at Fairview Haven and Joe lives in his own home in Cissna Park.

Sis. Kate Enz is now a resident of Fairview Haven.

The weekend of September 24 and 25, we witnessed the testimony and baptism of Doug Walder (Bro. Les and Sis. Dorothy). We welcome Bro. Doug and know his choice is a very important one.

We were saddened with the death September 22 of Sis. Lillie Waldbeser, 89, who had resided at Fairview Haven only a few short weeks. She leaves two sons, Bros. John and Fred (Cissna Park); seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Also surviving are two brothers, Bros. John and Fred (both of Morton); and a step-sister, Sis. Dorothy Martin (Milford, IN).

Word was also received of the death of Martha (Hari) Lohbauer (Elgin) who was a sister of Gladys Winger. We extend our sympathies to these families as well as to Bro. Phil and

Sis. Anna Sauder on the death of his sister, Sis. Lena Sauder (Peoria).

Our Bible class gathered with several other churches September 18 for ACYF at Goodfield. The local Bible class was again guests of Goodfield October 16. We pray they retain many good memories of these gatherings.

An all-family potluck was held Sunday eve, October 9, at the fellowship hall to meet, welcome and become acquainted with Elder Bro. Art Bahler and Sis. Suzanne. Bro. Art will be serving as our vacancy elder in the absence of Elder Bro. Steve Rinkenberger, who has been ill.

Visiting ministers this past month were Elder Bros. Art Bahler (Fairbury) and Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO) and Bros. Walter Anliker (Eureka), Art Bauer (Princeville), Dennis Kaufmann (Bloomington), Todd Feller (LaCrosse, IN) and Tom Troxel (LaCrosse, IN).

On the sick list have been Sis. Nettie Scharlach, Sis. Lydia Mosar, Bros. Charles Walder, Harry Walder and Bill Maul. Surgical patients have been Bros. Randy Martin, Aaron Bauer, Ken Bauer and Howard Greiner. It's good to see them out and around again and we are glad Bro. Steve has been able to be with us several times. We wish them all Godspeed.

Thank You

We want to extend a sincere thank you to each and every one who remembered us with a prayer, a card, a thought or a gift since my illness. May God truly bless you all.

Bro. Steve & Sis. Velma
Rinkenberger

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE Sandy Knapp - Susan Zobrist

"For this child I prayed; and the Lord hath given me my petition which I asked of him: Therefore also I have lent him to the Lord;"

I Samuel 1:27-28

Bro. Max and Sis. Susanne Hoerr's prayers were answered when their healthy baby girl, Martha Lynne, was born. She was welcomed by three sisters, Sarah, Rebekah and Rosie, and her grandparents, Bro. Max and Sis. Katherine Hoerr (Peoria) and

Bro. Gene and Sis. Verna Lehman (Wolcott, IN).

Prayers were answered again as Bro. Larry and Sis. Shirley Ifft welcomed Lori Elaine into their family. Her brothers and sisters are Bro. Bent, Kristi, Jennifer, Jodi, Rachel and Wesley, and her grandparents are Bro. Elmer and Sis. Emma Ifft (Forrest) and Bro. Noah and Sis. Emma Gerber (West Bend, IA).

"Someone cried 'Where must the seed be sown,
To bring the most fruit when it is grown?"

The Master heard as He said and smiled,
'Go plant it for Me in the heart of a child.'"

Anonymous

We are thankful that the seeds were sown in the hearts of Bro. Jeff and Sis. Marilyn McClure as children and now they have been baptized and are bringing forth fruit for the Master. Their parents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Sharron McClure (Congerville) and Rog and Elaine Hodel (Roanoke).

Where would we be without our faithful ministers who willingly and humbly sew the seeds of God's Word? Our visiting ministers were Elder Bro. Ed Frank (LaCrosse, IN), Elder Bro. Don Sauder (Roanoke), Bro. Bill Hodel (Roanoke), Bro. Gene Lehman (Wolcott, IA) and Bro. Jim Knoblock (Elgin, IA).

ILLINOIS, ELGIN Elizabeth Schambach Betty Bachtold

Our beloved Martha (Hari) Lohbauer, 84, was stricken ill quite suddenly and, with patience, endured much anguish and bodily affliction. Thanks be to God, who in His infinite wisdom and love, relieved her and called her into eternity. Her loving countenance will be missed by all who knew her. Surviving are two daughters, Valerie Sprinker (Jack, Bloomington, IL) and Phyllis Hulke (Duane, Elgin); two sons, Kenneth Lohbauer (Janice, Japan) and John Lohbauer (Karen, Glen Ellyn, IL); 12 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. Two sisters, Gladys Winger

(Cissna Park, IL) and Sis. Lillian Foell (Elgin) also survive.

"SHALL WE MEET?"

"Shall we meet with Christ our Saviour,
When He comes to claim His own?
Shall we know His blessed favor,
And sit down upon His throne?"
H. L. Hastings

Sis. Jeannette (Bro. Richard) Kilgus was hospitalized while visiting her daughter and family in Phoenix, AZ.

Our congregation wishes to extend sympathy to Sis. Marlene and Bro. Tom Leman (Denver, CO) in the passing of her father, Bro. Ezra Stoller (Gridley, IL).

We appreciate the love and efforts of Bro. Marvin Schmidgall (Eureka, IL) who visited and filled our hungry souls. Likewise, we are grateful for our home ministers who serve us untiringly. Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen presented a Bible to each of our seventh grade students in Sunday school.

THANKSGIVING

Our hearts are truly thankful
As we lovingly recall
The gifts and blessings the year has
brought us
And the Giver of them all.

ILLINOIS, EUREKA Kathy Leman

"Preach the word, be instant in season, out of season, reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine." II Timothy 4:2. We thank Bro. Ron Schambach (Elgin, IL) for bringing us the Word of Life this past month.

We were thankful to hear the engagement announcement of Bro. Vernon Blunier and Sis. Kathryn Olson (Minneapolis, MN). The Lord does provide for His people.

Mike Zimmerman (Bro. Leland and Sis. Laurene) was united in marriage to Gretchen Vietti (Jim and Lois). May God bless them.

We welcome Sis. Dorothy and Sis. Elizabeth Zimmerman to our congregation. They recently moved from

Chicago to Snyder Village. May they feel at home with us.

Sis. Gladys Schmidgall (Bro. Sam) has been a hospital patient this month.

We extend our sympathy to Bro. Elmer Ginzel in the passing of his sister, Sis. Alice Stoller (Latty, OH). Also, Bro. Vernon Leman has our sympathy in the passing of his brother, Bro. Rouland Leman (Roanoke). Janet Hodel (Kent) recently lost her father, Harold Zobrist. May God comfort each heart that has felt the sting of death in their families.

"We'll now depart, ye faithful friends, and from this place we'll go; the Lord in whom our spirits blend, will lead us on the road." Zion's Harp #143. Bro. Dale and Sis. Lezlee Leman, Steven, Jeremy, Cory, Melissa and Jesse recently moved to the West Bend, IA, area. May they feel our love and prayers for God's nearness and peace in their new home and community.

"Haste and seek your soul's salvation, Heed the word of God today." Zion's Harp #52. We are thankful that God is still calling souls and granting grace unto repentance. May He grant much grace to Doug Knepp (Bro. Gary and Sis. Nancy), Dave Rocke (Bro. Richard and Sis. Marge) and Gloria Zimmerman (Bro. Earl and Sis. Elsie). May many more yet find the way before it is forever too late.

"Count your many blessings, name them one by one." Thanksgiving Day is soon to be celebrated, but may we count our many blessings daily that the Lord so graciously bestows on us, especially the plan of salvation that He offers so freely to all who will come and taste and see.

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY

Jean Bachtold - Crystal Fehr

MAKE EVERY DAY THANKSGIVING

Thank you, God, for everything --
the big things and the small,
For every good gift comes from
God

-- the giver of them all.
Too often we accept,
without any thanks or praise;
The gifts God sends as blessings,
each day in many ways.

Oh make us more aware, dear God,
of little daily graces;
That come to us with sweet
surprise,

from never-dreamed-of places,
And help us to remember,
that the key to life and living;
Is to make each prayer a prayer of
thanks,
and every day Thanksgiving.

Helen Steiner Rice

As Thanksgiving season is upon us, we should truly count our blessings that the Lord has given so freely to us. Let's remember to thank God every day for we truly are a fortunate people.

We are thankful to God that another soul has heeded the call to repentance. Darwin Steidinger (Bro. Donald and Sis. Alice) has found grace to follow the Lord. May he surrender his all and build upon Jesus Christ, the Solid Rock.

Bro. Kirby and Sis. Gwen Knapp and Lanae welcome home Natasha Janelle, born September 26. Grandparents are Glenn and Sis. Laura Knapp (Forrest) and Bro. Merle and Sis. Marge Kaisner. We wish them God's grace as they raise their "little blessing" in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to the family of Phil Sohn, 94, who passed away Saturday, September 17, at Fairview Haven. Funeral services were held Tuesday, September 20. May we all prepare for that time when we, too, must close our eyes in death.

"We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord."

II Corinthians 5:8

Called to rest on October 9 was our brother, Joe Slagel, 71. Funeral services were held Wednesday, October 12. May the Lord comfort and bless his dear wife, Sis. Thelma, and his family and friends.

Our prayers are with Sis. Margaret Zimmerman, who had the misfortune of breaking her hip. May God grant her the gift of renewed health and strength.

Once again we are thankful for the ministering brothers who have visited us this month. May God bless

Bro. Earl Gerber (Forrest) and Elder Bro. Leroy Huber (Eureka).

ILLINOIS, FORREST Sherri Kelson Sandra Schneider

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

Zion's Harp #236

With the angels in heaven we rejoice, for Jenny Adams (Sis. Sharon and the late Bro. Terry) has turned her back on the world. As each day comes, may she find that the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ is sufficient for the day.

We thank Bro. Bill Gudeman (Elgin) for ministering to our congregation. May God reward him for his labor of love.

The Lord has called Bro. Sam Zimmerman to his eternal home. His funeral was held September 22. Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Sis. Louise; his son, Bro. Les (Sis. Edith); and daughter, Sis. Doris (Ray) Steffen, as they continue on life's pathway.

We also extend our sympathy to Sis. Renee (Bro. Ed) Wenger as her mother, Rosilla Taylor-Casey, has passed away. May she feel the Lord's comfort at this time.

Sis. Alisa Hamilton (Tom and Sis. Earlene) and Bro. Dean (Sis. Betty) Nussbaum spent some time in the hospital. Both of them are home again and we pray their recovery will continue.

Troy John is welcomed into the home of Bro. Gary and Sis. Jane Brown. Brad, Lori, Joel and Tami will enjoy a baby brother. Bro. Wayne and Sis. Eleanor Honegger and Allan and Ella Brown are his grandparents. May Bro. Gary and Sis. Jane feel the help of the Lord as they raise their precious family.

Bro. Roger Honegger wishes to thank everyone for the prayers, cards, gifts and visits at the time of his hospitalization. May God bless each one.

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD Trish Gerber

It's Thanksgiving time again . . . and aren't we a blessed people? Even though our great country has suffered a drought, we still have an abundance of everything we need. And most important, we still have freedom to worship as we please . . . and there are still souls taking advantage of God's generous gift of grace.

Our Bible class students enjoyed a beautiful autumn day with students from Eureka, Cissna Park and Congerville. Bro. Mike Rieker (Peoria) shared God's Word with us to help make a very inspirational morning. The afternoon and evening were spent playing games and having a wiener roast. We're glad these students were able to spend the day with us.

Our sympathy is extended to Bro. Lawrence and Sis. Laura Hohulin, Bro. Bruce and Sis. Charlene Hohulin, and Bro. Mark and Sis. Joan Steffen on the passing away of their brother and uncle, Bro. Rollie Leman (Roanoke).

It is our prayer and hope that Sis. Ruth Hohulin and Sis. Becky Knapp will recover from their hospital stays.

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY Perry Klopfenstein

During the second week of October our congregation was saddened by the passing of two elderly brothers in faith, Bro. Ezra Stoller and Bro. Fred Miller. Both brothers were gifted with engaging personalities and were always at ease in visiting. Recollections of both brothers displaying a graceful friendliness will linger long in the minds of those who knew them.

Bro. Ezra Stoller, 82, passed away October 10. He is survived by his dear wife of 52 years, Sis. Martha. Other survivors include Sis. Dorothy Ringger (Meadows), Sis. Marge Meiss (Gridley), Sis. Marlene Leman (Denver, CO), Sis. Doris Meiss (Peoria) and Bro. Herbert Stoller (Germantown Hills). One brother, Robert, (Van Wert, OH) and two sisters, Sis. Juliet Graf (Rittman, OH) and Sis. Louise Graf (Akron, OH), also survive.

One of Bro. Ezra's greatest joys was knowing that all five of his children were converted. He will be remembered for his duties "at the mill", serving on various community

boards, serving with the fire department and his deep appreciation for his beloved church.

The reporter will never forget an incident with Bro. Ezra. In the late afternoon of the day he began his repentance in 1968, he noted Bro. Ezra walking home from work. He stopped the car and offered to drive him home. When he entered the car he informed him that he was repenting. The tears that streamed from Ezra's eyes on hearing that news were a very vivid message of encouragement to a first-day convert that is still remembered to this day.

Bro. Fred Miller, 85, died October 11, after a brief illness. His death came somewhat unexpectedly. He is survived by his dear wife, Sis. Mabel, to whom he was married for 28 years. Theirs was a happy life together on a farm just north of Gridley and for nearly a year in the church's new Sunrise Manor apartments.

Other survivors include Bro. Rudy Miller, Sisters Anna and Mary Miller, and Sis. Aline Stortz, all of Gridley. Again, it is worthy of mentioning the deep affection Bro. Fred felt for his brothers and sisters-in-faith. Rarely did he miss attending a church service or function. His love for and interest in brethren, relatives and friends is a vivid testimony of the Christ-like spirit that resided in his heart.

Note of thanks: The family of Ezra Stoller wishes to thank all who remembered them with cards, gifts and prayers during the past year while he was at the Home and at the time of his death.

ILLINOIS, ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY Brenda Huber

"One of the two which heard John speak and followed him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first findeth his own brother Simon, and saith unto him, We have found the Messiah, which is, being interpreted, the Christ."

John 1:40-41

A child left his half-eaten candy bar lying on the table. Along came an ant, and upon tasting its sweetness he rushed off to tell his ant friends. Within minutes he returned with a

long trail of ants following behind him. Andrew understood the illustration of this little creature. The Word tells us that he went "first" to share with his brother, implying that he didn't stop there but continued bringing souls to Jesus. We express our appreciation to ministering Bro. Wes Knapp (Goodfield, IL) and Elder Bros. Chuck Hemmer (Peoria, IL) and Edwin Ringger (Gridley, IL) for following our Lord's directive and the clear and precious example set by Andrew. In this season as we gratefully rejoice for the sweetness of His gifts to us, let us each diligently bear witness, persevering in the work of the Lord.

ILLINOIS, MORTON Phyllis Farney - Cheryl Wuthrich

As Thanksgiving Day draws near, it gives us a special opportunity to reflect on our many blessings. Let us take time to truly thank God for all he has done for us. Psalms 68:19, "Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits, even the God of our salvation. Selah."

We not only express our thanks to God, but also to our friends who minister to us with their many deeds of kindness. The family of Sis. Ann Welk wishes to thank all who were so kind during her illness and stay at Apostolic Restmor. They wish to thank everyone for their prayers, gifts and love shown.

We thank the Lord that, for many years now, Friela Zeiler, has been prepared to meet her maker. Her funeral was October 4. May our heavenly Father comfort her son, Walter; her grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and her friends.

As we are thanking God for our many blessings, let us remember those who are bearing heavy burdens at this time. We have loved ones who have been shut-in and/or ill at home, those in hospitals and those who have lost loved ones. May we remember them in prayer and encourage them with notes, cards, gifts and acts of kindness, etc. May our heavenly Father heal according to His will and comfort where man cannot.

We wish to thank Bro. Jim Plattner (Princeville, IL) for coming to speak at our Topical Bible Study. His mes-

sage was on prophesy fulfilled in Israel in the last 40 years. Many exciting facts convinced us that we are living in the end times. May God bless Bro. Jim for having the diligence to study these prophecies and to research current events.

Harvest time has come and gone. The Lord was again good to us and has blessed us. Although many of us had lower yields this year, we were thankful for the yield received. Sometimes we forget that they are not our crops, but the Lord's crops. We are just the caretakers. May we remember to be thankful each day and not just on Thanksgiving Day.

ILLINOIS, PEORIA
Joe and Jackie Herman

**A HEART FULL OF
THANKSGIVING**

Everyone needs someone,
to be thankful for
And each day of life
we are aware of this more.
For the joy of enjoying
and the fullness of living
Are found only in hearts
that are filled with
thanksgiving!

Helen Steiner Rice

We're always glad to welcome visiting ministers to our congregation. This past month Bros. Marshall Heinold (Washington, IL) and Floyd Schmidgall (Morris, MN) brought us the Word of God. Our thanks go to these brothers for their efforts.

Each one of us has a mission field in our own hometown -- our brothers and sisters in the hospital. This past month Sis. Emma Eberhard, Bernice Hartman and Donna Ferrero had hospital stays. Our prayers are with them for their recovery and continued strength.

We extend the sympathy of our congregation to Bro. Roy Sauder in the passing of his stepmother, Sis. Lena Sauder. We know she will be missed by her family, and her friends at the "Home" in Peoria where she resided for many years.

Note of Thanks:

Thank you for your prayers, cards and gifts of food and flowers. Your

visits and many other acts of kindness were appreciated while I was in the hospital and recovering at home.

Sis. Ella Musselman

"Jesus Christ is no security against storms,
but He is perfect security in storms.
He has never promised you an easy passage,
only a safe landing."

Anonymous

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE
Marjean Lehman

"The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple."

Psalms 19:7

We extend our thanks to visiting ministers, Bro. Ken Dietz (Bradford), Elder Bro. Leroy Huber (Eureka), Elder Bro. John Klotzle (Altadena, CA), Bro. John Rowell (Burlington, IA), Bro. Russell Wuthrich (Pulaski, IA) and Bro. Carl Wyss (Washington). We wish them God's blessings.

"... the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus."

II Timothy 3:15, 16

On September 24 and 25, we heard the testimony of faith and then witnessed the baptisms of our Bro. Mark Streitmatter (Bro. Don and Sis. Mary Lou) and Sis. Ann Pridemore. May each of them trust and obey as they walk life's pathway with their Lord.

Our congregation rejoices with these souls as well as with other converts who are turning their hearts and lives over to their Creator. We look forward to hearing each of their testimonies of faith and hope to welcome them, as our new sister or brother-in-faith. May they build on a firm foundation. "Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen."

Two recent engagements were made known. Becky Martin has become engaged to Troy Varvil and they are planning a February wed-

ding. Their parents are Bro. Ellsworth and Sis. Donna Martin and Tom and Lois Varvil (Dunlap).

Rodney Stahl has become engaged to Cathy Cable and they are planning an October wedding. Bro. Lyle and Sis. Betty Stahl and James Cable and Janice Grayson are their parents. We wish them God's blessings.

Hospital patients have been; Tracy White who had the misfortune of a car accident and spent time in the hospital; Bro. John Joos who was a hospital patient and is now residing in the Parkhill Home; and Sis. Frances Knobloch who suffered a broken arm. May God's blessings of healing be theirs.

"From the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same the Lord's name is to be praised."

Psalm 113:3

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE
Judy Luginbuhl - Patsy Kaeb

We are soon approaching a time of year when we reflect upon the blessings our great God has bestowed upon us. May we be thankful every day, not only for our material riches but also our spiritual heritage we enjoy. We are truly a richly blessed people.

Our congregation has been blessed with many visiting ministers this month. They were Bro. Mike Leman (Denver, CO), Elder Bro. Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI), Bro. Ted Witzig (Morton), Bro. Will Schieler (Milford, IN), Bro. Ed Aeschleman (Philadelphia, PA), Bro. Fred Knapp (Congerville) and Bro. Earl Ringger (Gridley), who conducted our October Bible study. We thank these brothers for giving their time to share God's Word with us.

Our monthly hymn sing was held September 25. We enjoyed having a group from Gridley and Washington along with a group of our Sunday school children with us. May God bless them all.

Hospital patients this month were Sis. Anna Leman, Leah Bertschi (daughter of Bro. Rich and Sis. Bev), Jan Reckhammer and Sis. Minnie Hodel. We pray for God's healing power upon them all.

We extend our sincere sympathy to the family of Bro. Rollie Leman, who will be missed by many people in

the Roanoke area. He was a very giving man and will never be forgotten. His surviving wife, Sis. Verla, and children, Sue Zobrist, Roger, Bro. Steven, Rita Kneezel, Deb Kinkade and Curtis, and their families, will be remembered in our prayers.

ILLINOIS, TREMONT

Carolyn Bolliger - Marsha Koch

We are happy to report the birth of two new babies this month. Born to Bro. Roger and Sis. Sally Koch October 13 was little Susan Marie. Sharon and Bobby welcome home their new little sister. Grandparents are Bro. David and Sis. Frances Koch and Bro. David and Sis. Eunice Beutel (all of Tremont).

First-time parents are Bro. Andy and Sis. Christine Aberle. Little Andrew August II was born October 14. His grandparents are Bro. Ernie and Sis. Frieda Aberle (Tremont) and Bro. Bob and Sis. Marvel Knobloch (Morton).

We say a special thank you to our visiting ministers this month, Bros. Kent Heimer (Taylor, MO) and Lynn Stieglitz (Leo, IN). We do appreciate the efforts of these brothers and their families.

Scott Sauder (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Mary Ann) had an overnight stay in the hospital undergoing surgery for a broken elbow.

Sis. Becky Schweigert (Bro. Roger) had the misfortune to fall and badly break her wrist. She is in the hospital at this time awaiting surgery. We pray the Lord will heal and strengthen her in the days ahead.

It is again the time of year when we, as a nation, thank God for His many blessings. We agree with the words of Helen Steiner Rice in her poem entitled, "Thank You, God, For Everything" --

Thank you, God, for everything --
the big things and the small,
For "every good gift comes from
God" --
the giver of them all --
And all too often we accept
without any thanks or praise
The gifts God sends as blessings
each day in many ways,
And so at this Thanksgiving time
we offer up a prayer

To thank you, God, for giving us
a lot more than our share . . .
First, thank you for the little things
that often come our way,
The things we take for granted
but don't mention when we
pray,
The unexpected courtesy,
the thoughtful, kindly deed,
A hand reached out to help us
in the time of sudden need . . .
Oh, make us more aware, dear God,
of little daily graces
That come to us with "sweet
surprise"
from never-dreamed-of places --
Then, thank you for the "Miracles"
we are much too blind to see,
And give us new awareness
of our many gifts from Thee,
And help us to remember
that the Key to Life and Living
Is to make each prayer a Prayer of
Thanks
and every day Thanksgiving.

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

Carl Schick

We wish to thank our visiting minister, Bro. Doug Wagenbach (San Diego, CA) for sharing God's Word with us two Sundays this past month. We are always glad for visitors in our congregation and hope they will return often.

This past month has been a long and trying time for Sis. Sue Ruppert and her family. Sis. Sue has been confined to the hospital bed and endured much suffering. Many times when we pray so diligently for healing we are tempted to question why God doesn't answer our pitiful plea. At times like this I think we must remember that the little saying on so many plaques we see is really true, "Every person God puts into our lives, every experience He gives us is the perfect preparation for the future that only He can see." God is all knowing and we just need to trust and obey.

Another soul has turned from the world and is seeking God in repentance. May God richly bless Rachele Gudeman (Don and Cathy Engst) as she begins to walk with the Lord.

Bro. Ed and Sis. Kathy Wyss were blessed with a healthy baby boy. Jacob Carl was welcomed home by Jennifer and Matthew. Grandparents are Bro. Elmer and Sis. Marjorie Schlipf

(Gridley) and Bro. Carl and Sis. Lydiann Wyss (Washington).

We are all very sorrowful as we have said goodbye to our dear Bro. John Schick who was called home to his reward October 18. Our prayers are with his wife, Sis. Dolly, and his family and friends, both of which are too numerous to mention in this small newsletter. Surely all can attest to the love Bro. John had for all people and especially God. We will all miss him greatly but look forward to that day when we can all be reunited as the joint heirs with Christ.

This year when we bow our heads at the Thanksgiving feast, let us remember what it must have been like when the pilgrims first celebrated. How little they had in material blessings compared with us today. Yet, they were thrilled to have the freedom to openly worship and thank God for all they had. Many people worry and fret about our food supply in the face of the drought. We must not forget Christ's words in Matthew 6:25-33 where He tells us to take no thought for those things, but seek the kingdom of heaven and He will supply our needs. May each and every one have a blessed Thanksgiving Day.

Thank You Note:

We want to thank you for your prayers, cards and gifts during my recent hospital stay and recovery. May God bless you for your prayers and labors of love.

Your least ones in faith,
Edward Teubel and family

INDIANA, BLUFFTON

Jean Moser - Becky Isch

"Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life."

John 8:12

We rejoice that five dear souls have forsaken this world of vanity and through repentance and faith in Jesus Christ have had their feet set on higher ground. We warmly welcome into our fellowship Eric Olson, Pam and Randy Holocher and their son, Mark, and Michael Gerber (Bro. Bill and Sis. Carolyn). They gave

their testimonies September 25 and were baptized September 26. We wish them the peace that passes understanding and God's richest blessings and abundant grace as they take up the cross and follow Him.

Ball State University and Indiana-Purdue at Fort Wayne hosted College Weekend October 8 and 9. The topic was "Commitment to God and Christ." The ministers presented very challenging and motivating topics for thought and discussion. It was truly an inspiring weekend to see so many of our single members and friends meeting to help each other strengthen their commitments to church, family, devotions, vocation and to the world. A special thanks goes out to the brothers who spoke on the various topics and to all who assisted with the planning and helped do the work that made the weekend a success. The blessings received made it well worth it all.

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

II Timothy 4:2

Our visiting ministers this month have shared God's Word and love with us. We wish to thank Bros. Ben Manz (Junction, OH), Nile Bucher (Bluffton North), Everett Hari (Bloomington-Normal, IL), Earl Ringger (Gridley, IL) and Glenn Hackenjos (Altadena, CA) and their families for being willing servants of our Lord.

Our congregation has three new babies this month. On September 11, Bro. Stan and Sis. Lori Fiechter became the proud, first-time parents of Derek Alan and Brandon Lee. The twins' happy grandparents are Bro. Dick and Sis. Beulah Clark and Herman and Sis. Phyllis Fiechter.

Little Lance Matthew was born September 25 to Bro. Rick and Sis. Beth Fiechter. Todd, Rachel and Kurt are his brothers and sister, and Bro. Carl and Sis. Mary Fiechter and Elder Bro. Jess and Sis. Shirley Beer (Milford) are his loving grandparents.

We wish both families the Lord's guidance to do His will in caring for these precious little ones entrusted to their care.

Our congratulations go to Bro.

Paul and Sis. Mary Jo Gerber on the arrival of their first granddaughter, Sarah Lee. Her proud parents are Bro. Nathan and Sis. Leann Gerber (Leo).

Bro. Joel Fiechter, 96, passed away October 7. We pray that God's comforting arms might enfold the loved ones he left behind; especially his dear wife, Sis. Lucinda, and his children, Bros. Melvin (Sis. Doris), Homer (Sis. Clara), Alvin (Sis. Bernice), Wayne (Sis. Dorothy); and his daughters, Sis. Gladys Maller (Bro. Bob), Sis. Devona Gerber (Bro. Ralph), Sis. Justine Gerber (Bro. Don) and Sis. Ellen Stoller (Bro. Willis, Latty, OH).

We also extend our prayers and sympathy to Sis. Pat Gerber (Bro. Earl) in the loss of her mother, Sis. Alice Stoller (Latty, OH).

Our hospital patients this month were Bro. Ken Aschliman, Paul Aschliman (Bro. Skip and Sis. Connie), Sis. Clarabelle Baumgartner (Bro. Milo) and Sis. Mabel Moser (Bro. Fred). May the Lord bless each one with a full recovery, according to His will.

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

In loving memory of our daughter, Ruth Ann Schwartz, who died two years ago, November 12, 1986.

So grieve a while for me, if grieve you must,
Then let your grief be comforted by trust,
It's only for a time that we must part,
So bless the memories within your heart.
I won't be far away, for life goes on,
So if you need me, call and I will come.
Though you can't see or touch me,
I'll be near
And if you'll listen with your heart,
you'll hear
All my love around you soft and clear.
And then, when you must come this way alone,
I'll greet you with a smile.
And say: "WELCOME HOME"!

Our love and memories linger on,
Sadly missed by her family

INDIANA, BLUFFTON NORTH Lois Drayer Debbie Aeschliman

As this time of year, as always, we have so much to be thankful for. With Thanksgiving fast approaching, this poem seems fitting.

REASONS FOR THANKSGIVING

To have food enough and a place to dwell,
To have work to do and to do it well . . .
To find the comfort when things go wrong
In a bit of prayer or a snatch of song . . .
To know the pleasure a kind act brings,
To see the beauty in simple things . . .
To know good books and share their worth,
To plant bright flowers in rich brown earth . . .
To have true friends . . . this is living
And reason enough for Thanksgiving.

Edith Shaw Butler

We wish to extend our love and gratitude to Elder Bro. Orville and Sis. Naomi Ringger for all their years of faithful service. Bro. Orville has retired from the ministry at the Bluffton church. Their generosity and time has filled the lives of many people with hope and consolation. May God touch their lives with peace, hope and love.

On October 8 and 9, our congregation was host for college weekend. What a blessing it was for everyone to gather together. The visiting ministers who came to share the weekend with us were Bro. Rod Huber (Valparaiso) and Bro. Ted Witzig (Morton, IL). We thank everyone for showing their support in coming, and hope many will come back soon.

God is still stirring the troubled waters, and we are thankful to have two more dear souls, Kurt Ifer and Matt Markley, repenting. May God grant them much grace and strength.

We extend our sympathy to Bro. Alvin and Sis. Bernice Fiechter in the loss of his father, Bro. Joel Fiechter (Sis. Lucinda), who passed away at the age of 96.

Our prayers are with little Lucus Gerber (Bro. Steve and Sis. Gayla), who has been in the hospital. We are sure Bro. Leroy Steffen missed his wife, Sis. Elizabeth, as she was in the hospital and is glad to have her home again. We wish Lucus and Sis. Elizabeth a speedy recovery.

Our congregation feels the absence of Bro. Dave and Sis. Terri Mueller and their three children, Nathan, Jenna and Kyle. They have relocated in the Angola area and plan to attend the Leo church.

Every sunrise is a new message from God, and every sunset His signature.

William Arthur Ward

INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE

Jacki Huber

We have so much to thank God for in this Thanksgiving season! Most of all, we rejoice with the angels over each person that has turned their life over to the Lord in true repentance. May God continually be praised for His love and grace to each of us.

We also rejoice with Sis. Kelly Wuethrich (Bro. Chris Lee and Sis. Ruth) as her engagement to Bro. Mark Ramseyer (Bro. Joe and Sis. Dort, Bay City, MI) was recently announced. We wish them God's nearness and blessings in this special time.

Congratulations go to Bro. Elden and Sis. Mary Lee Gutwein in the birth of a grandson, Grant Benjamin, born August 25 to Dan and Heather Gutwein (Indianapolis). Bro. Phil and Sis. Millie Beer (Milford) are also Grant's grandparents.

Mark and Tammy Seward gave birth to a little boy, Nile Zacchaeus, October 14. Nile has one big brother, Brock.

We wish both of these families God's blessings in their homes.

Hospital patients this month have been Nicholas Wuethrich (Bro. Mark and Sis. Lynne) who is home again and doing fine, for which we're thankful, and Sis. Verna Stedman (Bro. Morris) who is still in the hospital. Our prayers continue to be with her and Bro. Morris.

Bro. Morris and Sis. Verna Stedman wish to thank everyone who has remembered them in many kind ways during Verna's lengthy hospital stay.

They especially thank the Francesville congregation for being so gracious and also the Chicago congregation where they worshipped for so many years. They wish God's blessing to each of you and ask for your continued prayers.

INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS

Gail Bradford - Kathy Freed

We continue to be blessed by the many visitors who stop in Indianapolis on their way to and fro. We encourage you to call ahead so that opportunities aren't missed for fellowship and sharing.

We were thankful to see Bro. Chuck Neuenschwander and Sis. Doris worshipping with us. Chuck has been a source of inspiration to us as he recovers from heart surgery. Our strongest Christian witness is often at a time of greatest hardship. If someone observed us today, would they be encouraged in their Christian walk?

Our "exterior" reflects our "interior." Our "inside" affects our "outside." Our behavior reflects our values. We are what we believe.

"They'll know we are Christians by our deeds," says the hymn. Inside our fellowship, it's not difficult to recognize each other as Christians. But how about elsewhere? At school? At work? In the neighborhood? Are we reflecting our convictions as we move through our week? Did our light shine last Tuesday? How about last Saturday? Was anyone watching?

"And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him. He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked."

I John 2:3-6

What an opportunity we have! Let's encourage one another to seize it!

Give Your New Address
To Your Repoerter

INDIANA, LACROSSE

Sandy Heinold

Out of water and of Spirit
Thou, O child, art born today;
You've escaped the old oppressor,
In God's covenant you'll stay.

"The New Birth From Above"

Zion's Harp #34

October 1 was a joyful occasion as we welcomed Ron Nuest (Bro. Elvin and Sis. Janet) and Owen Gudeman (Bro. Donald and Sis. Mary) as new brothers-in-faith. As these two dear souls have now taken this most important step in their lives, may they continue to trust God to supply their every need.

We're thankful for the many visitors who came to share this blessed occasion with us. We especially appreciate the efforts of Elder Bros. Andy Virkler (Bay City, MI) and Wendell Gudeman (Francesville, IN) and visiting ministers, Bro. Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH), Bro. Gene Lehman (Wolcott, IN), Bro. Frederick Knapp (Congerville, IL), Bro. Larry Wenninger (Latty, OH) and Bro. Dan Stoller (Remington, IN) for their labors of love. Also ministering to our needs in this past month was Bro. Harold Schmidgall (Gridley, IL). Let's be careful not to take these blessings for granted, but remember to pray for our ministers and their families.

A precious son, Zachary Jordan, joined the family of Drue and Diane McClanahan October 6. Jenny, Sarah, Tara and Benjamin are quite happy with their new brother. Zachary's grandparents are John and Carol Ailes and Dean McClanahan (Valparaiso) and great-grandparents are Bro. Ben and Sis. Lena Hitz.

Due to a change of employment, Bro. Calvin, Sis. Jeannie and Lindsey Schneider have moved to our area. We extend a hearty welcome to them and hope they will experience a blessing as they worship with us.

INDIANA, LEO

Thelma Schlatter

"Make a joyful noise unto the Lord,
all ye lands. Serve the Lord with
gladness: come before His presence
with singing. Know ye that the Lord
He is God: it is He that hath made us,

and not we ourselves; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture. Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise: be thankful unto Him, and bless His name. For the Lord is good; His mercy is everlasting; and His truth endureth to all generations."

Psalms 100

Let our lives be our Thanksgiving
To our Father up above;
Let us worship Him with kindness;
Let us praise Him with our love.

Let us honor Him with virtue;
Let good deeds become our
prayer;
Let our lives be our Thanksgiving
For the bounty that we share.

With a testimony of her faith in the Lord Jesus, Marie Hersey stepped into the baptismal water, a happy child of His. Elder Bro. Lavoyd Moore (Athens, AL) assisted Elder Bro. David Bertsch in this service.

Bros. Wallace Ramsier (Mansfield, OH), Jim Rinkenberger (Bluffton), Tom Schrenk (Alto, MI) and Wayne Lehman (South Bend) were also welcomed in their ministry to our Leo congregation this month.

Elder Bro. David Bertsch recently returned from a survey trip of needs in Haiti. Projects for the coming year are hospital and rest home additions, five school building projects and well drilling projects.

Sisters Helen Norr and Mary Lantz have been hospital patients with the special need of all the ailing -- His blessing of comfort and healing.

A wee bundle in pink is in the loving arms of parents, Bro. Nathan and Sis. LeAnn Gerber. Her name is Sarah Lee. Pleased grandparents are Bro. Leonard and Sis. Vi Wulf (Morris, MN) and Bro. Paul and Sis. Mary Jo Gerber (Bluffton).

In a reverent and partially German ceremony, Timothy Stoller (Bro. Ernest and Sis. Dean Stoller) claimed his bride, Michaela Nolte from Germany. They are wished His abiding presence and blessing as they establish their home in Wheaton, IL.

Announcement is made of the engagement of Bro. David Stieglitz and Sis. Sandra Nuest. Her parents are Bro. Elvin and Sis. Jan Nuest (LaCrosse, IN). His parents are Bro.

Marvin and Sis. Joan Stieglitz. His blessings are asked for them in the happy planning for their wedding.

There is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth. (See Luke 15:7 and 10). There is joy, too, among His people on earth as we see precious souls coming to Him.

Are you twice born? "Except a man be born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." St. John 3:3.

Bits of This and That:

Where we go hereafter depends upon what we go after here.

We may not always see eye to eye, but we can try to see heart to heart.

A kind word is never lost. It keeps going on, from one person to another, until it comes back to you.

Just think how happy you would be if you lost everything you have right now -- and then found it again. (Some day when you may be feeling depressed, try this. It works!)

God will supply, but we must apply. For a smile: You can't have everything. Where would you put it?

INDIANA, MILFORD

**Marguerite Hoerr
Sue Schieler**

Our congregation has had several hospitalized recently and our prayers are for the complete recovery of Sis. Mary Ann Beer, Sis. Flossie Hartter, Bro. Ted Baumgartner and little Simon Beer (Bro. Steve and Sis. Connie). Bro. Carlton Beer recently escaped serious injury in a truck/train accident. We surely find it true that when one suffers, we all suffer.

We rejoice with Bro. Theo and Sis. Naoma Beer as their grandson, Brad Beer, was married September 24 to Elizabeth McCrea. Bernie and Peg Beer and Mr. and Mrs. Roger McCrea (Pleasant Hills, PA) are the couple's parents.

We also rejoice with the angels in heaven as Bro. Dean and Sis. Debbie Lehman, son and daughter of Bro. Wayne and Sis. Shirley (South Bend) gave their testimonies and were baptized. Bro. Dean has attended our church often and many of our congregation were present to share in their joy. May God richly bless the lives of these two young people.

We have had two more souls turn

their lives to God: Trisha Wuthrich (Bro. Stan and Sis. Linda) and Jenny Beer (Bro. Dan and Sis. Deb). What a blessing this is for our whole congregation. We pray God will be especially near all our young converts.

INDIANA, REMINGTON

Beth Virkler

A ringing phone jolts you up from your sleep. Your experiences remind you that middle-of-the-night news is rarely welcome. Yes, the voice on the other end of the line confirms that God's will has taken place by ending the earthly life of a loved one in our brotherhood.

To Bro. Art Wasner, the end of the world came for him October 2 with little warning. But the lesson of God's sovereign will towards the "determined time appointed" and the "bounds of our habitation" (Acts 17:26) for each soul can still ring out for every one of us to listen to.

His wife, Sis. Norma, suffered a heart attack shortly after his death and was unable to attend her husband's funeral. His daughters, Mrs. Barb (Roger) Sigo and Mrs. Marcella (Dale) Tyler, along with two grandchildren, all reside in Remington.

The family wishes to express their heart-felt gratitude for all the thoughts and prayers voiced to them through the multitude of cards that were sent during their loss and also during Sis. Norma's recovery.

Why does the news of a new baby bring such joy? Perhaps we see it as a fresh hope of God's gift of life to us -- another chance to rise up and train this innocent mind to fit into the plan that God has chosen for its life. Bro. Tim and Sis. Lynette Bahler joyously received Dave Austin into their home September 20. His brother, Trenton, welcomes him home along with grandparents, Bro. Elmer and Sis. Marilyn Bahler and Bro. Marshall and Sis. Jan Heinold (Washington, IL).

On October 2, we said farewell to Bro. Calvin and Sis. Jeannie Schneider as they are making their new home in LaCrosse, IN. Their address is 3659 State Road 49, Valparaiso, IN 46383.

In memory of Hollis May who passed away October 29, 1987, submitted by his wife, Sis. Angie.

MY DAILY PRAYER

Lord, help me through the lonely
hours
To believe the sun will rise
And that dawn will come on silent
feet
Before my trusting eyes
Help me through the troubled
hours
To feel Your presence near
To realize the storm will pass
And that the skies will clear
Help me through the hours of doubt
To keep my faith and trust
And give me strength to know Your
will
To do the things I must . . .
Then help me through the shining
hours
So I'll be mindful of
The fact that all life's finest things
Are mine through Your great love.
Jean Kyler McManus

INDIANA, SOUTH BEND
Sue Beebe

"To be content with little is
difficult.
To be content with much --
impossible."
Such is the thought of the author,
Ebner-Eschenbach.

In Ecclesiastes 4:6 we read, "He that loveth silver shall not be satisfied with silver; nor he that loveth abundance with increase." And yet, God's Word teaches us that godliness with contentment is great gain. I Timothy 6:6. If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. Colossians 3:1-2. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts . . . and be ye thankful. Colossians 3:15. A thankful heart should be a content heart.

On October 2, our congregation was privileged to share in song with our dear Sis. Rosena Hueni at the Bremen Health Care Center.

On October 15 we listened to the testimonies of Dean and Debbie Lehman (children of Bro. Wayne and Sis. Shirley) and joyfully welcomed them into our church family following their baptisms October 16. What

a privilege it is to be able to greet one another as a brother or a sister in the Lord.

"As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in Him: Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving." Colossians 2:6-7. Elder Bros. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville, IN), Jesse Beer (Milford, IN) and Bros. Gene Lehman (Wolcott, IN) and Ken Hoerr (Peoria, IL) were with us on that weekend.

Also bringing the Word to us this month have been Bros. Jim Plattner (Princeville, IL), Uriel Gehring (Leo, IN) and Elder Bro. Chuck Hemmer (Peoria, IL). We heartily thank each one.

INDIANA, VALPARAISO
Beth Heinold - Trish Bucher

As the seasons change, we are reminded once again of the beauty and magnitude of God's glory. We had the opportunity to enjoy a harvest dinner and program with the message that we need to be thankful for the many blessings that God has shared with us. When He comes to us in search of fruit, may we bring Him more than just leaves . . .

NOTHING BUT LEAVES?

The farmer was weary at evening
time,
His work for the day now was past.
With anticipation he had started
the day

To gather the harvest, but alas --

He found many plants that were
barren and frail
As he set out to bring in the
sheaves
Few plants had come to fruition
And many had nothing but leaves.

From spring through the summer
he provided these plants
With his all, he had nourished with
care.

And now at the time of ingathering
Precious few of those plants, fruits
did bear.

He was physically tired,
emotionally drained,

His countenance sad and grieved,
As with fond expectation to reap of
the harvest
And many had nothing but leaves.

Now think of our Saviour, and our
Father above,
And we as their plants here below,
They have planted us, watered us,
tended with care,
So we plants of honor may grow.

Think of the Saviour who died on
the cross
Think, too, how His loving heart
grieved,
Would anyone here want to add to
His burden
By bringing Him nothing but
leaves?

Remember the fig tree in St.
Matthew's gospel,
As the Lord came, some fruit to
receive,
How He cursed it and said "Let no
fruit grow thereon"
Because He found nothing but
leaves?

The disciples looked on at the now
withered fig tree,
Their eyes they could scarcely
believe,
As the Master said henceforth no
fruit grow thereon,
Because it had nothing but leaves.

Unlike the fig tree, let's come to
fruition,
Be it thirty, sixty or one hundred
fold.
We then, when we come to that
great harvest supper
Will walk on streets of pure gold.

How happy we'll be then, to be with
the Saviour
Of His blessings our hearts can't
conceive,
Forever and ever to share in His
glory,
'Cause we brought Him more than
just leaves.
submitted by Bro. Merle Bucher

Bro. Andy and Sis. Diane Moser have once again been given the opportunity to take two more of God's precious lambs, Jordan and Gretchen, into their home to share God's love with them. May God's grace be with

them as they strive to nurture these precious souls.

Our visiting ministers this month were Bro. Bob Meyer (Bluffton North, IN), Bro. Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL), Bro. Nile Bucher (Bluffton North, IN), Bro. Doyle Frauhiger (Bluffton North, IN) and Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL). We would like to thank them for giving of themselves to be used in the Lord's service.

INDIANA, WEST LAFAYETTE PURDUE UNIVERSITY

Lynn Martin

"Commit thy works unto the Lord, and thy thoughts shall be established." Proverbs 16:3. The act of devoting oneself to an activity or cause is commitment. We, as Christians, need to realize our commitment to our church, our devotions, our family, the world and to our vocations. We thank our brothers and sisters from the Northeast Indiana colleges for hosting College Weekend where we learned more about commitment.

"Therefore shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh." Genesis 2:24. Bro. Mark Ramseyer (Bay City, MI) and Sis. Kelli Wuethrich (Francesville) feel that the Lord has brought their lives together and have announced their engagement. May God bless their lives as they follow His will and become one.

We also rejoice with Barb Putt (Francesville) who has committed her life to the Lord in repentance.

Visiting ministers who so willingly gave of themselves at Thursday night services include Bro. Tom Troxel (LaCrosse) and Bro. Wayne Banwart (Champaign, IL). We thank all of those who travel the miles to worship our precious Lord with us here at Purdue and welcome anyone who wants to come. Services are held every other Thursday at the Nazarene Church on Soldier's Home Road at 7:30 E.S.T.

INDIANA, WOLCOTT

Lynell Blume - Lorna Knapp

We warmly welcome Bro. Darl and Sis. Cindy Schieler and their four children, Jeremy, Rachel, Marla and Matthew, back into our congrega-

tion. We look forward to having them among our fellowship. May they feel the Lord's nearness and may He continue to direct their pathway.

Bro. Wayne Lehman (South Bend, IN) was our visiting minister this month. We are thankful that the Spirit works through each of our brothers who bring us the Word.

Our thoughts and prayers have been with Sis. Jean Kyburz who has not been able to worship with us. We miss her and wish her God's nearness and comfort.

We are thankful the Lord is providing for Sis. Emma Furrer who has moved to Parkview Haven in Francesville, IN. We are happy she can still assemble with us. May the Lord continue to provide for her every need.

IOWA, AMES-DES MOINES

Barb Fehr

We had our regular Sunday service October 9. Our little building was full and we are extremely thankful to our many visitors who travel to fellowship with us, bring us the Word, and to teach our Sunday school. Our ministers were Bros. Wes Moser and Myron Knobloch (Lester, IA) and Duane Metzger (West Bend). Our sermon was from St. Matthew 16: "For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?"

Neil Knobloch has answered the call and is now repenting. We rejoice with his parents, Ezra and Marie Knobloch (Lester, IA). We have tentatively started a midweek gathering to spend time listening to sermon tapes and to enjoy the fellowship of those of like mind and faith. Anyone traveling through Ames is welcome to join us Wednesday evenings at 6:30. We hope this will work out. Please call 292-6824 for information on the location of these meetings.

IOWA, BURLINGTON

Karen Schulz - Deyona Massner

We extend our sincere sympathy to Sis. Esther Wagler and all her family in the loss of her husband, Bro. Ben Wagler, September 29, at the hospital. We are thankful he could be relieved of his earthly sufferings and be at rest.

As the season of Thanksgiving approaches, may we all be reminded of and think upon our many blessings being sent abundantly from our heavenly Father. "Count your blessings, name them one by one, count your many blessings, see what God hath done." Hymns of Zion #116.

IOWA, ELGIN Gloria Frieden

"In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."

I Thessalonians 5:18

No doubt we have all experienced situations that we found very hard to be thankful for or even willing to accept. But if we can find the grace to trust and believe that God knows our deepest needs and how to meet them, then we can have the faith to trust in Him. Let us not be discouraged if tribulations come to us when we pray earnestly for patience. We read in Romans 5:3 that we should glory in our tribulations knowing that tribulation worketh patience. If we pray to be more humble, let us rejoice and be thankful when we are brought low and made to see our failings and nothingness.

As we approach another Thanksgiving Day and are counting our blessings, let's not forget to be thankful for our trials and temptations. They can prove to be our greatest blessings as they draw us closer to our loving Lord and Savior.

As we look back over this past month, we find ourselves thankful for many visitors who have come to worship with us. May God bless you all for that "extra bit of sunshine" you brought to us. A special thanks to Elder Bro. LeRoy Huber who shared with us from the Word of God.

We are also thankful that Bro. Lawrence Butikofer's hospital stay was only for a brief time.

IOWA, GARDEN GROVE Glen and Sally Funk

We are experiencing beautiful fall weather. Everyone comments that the leaves have never been more beautiful. Isn't it wonderful that we can always feel so very blessed with

each season? Even though the leaves are almost gone and the thought of winter and its surprises is on our mind, we can rest assured that the first snow will be beautiful and also enjoyed.

We wish to express many thanks to the Gridley, KS, congregation for all the work put into the weekend planned for the Sunday school children. They all had a wonderful time and felt a lot of love and concern showered upon them.

Bro. Gerald Sutter (Taylor, MO) and his wife came for the month of October and ministered to our congregation. It was a blessed day for all.

IOWA, LESTER

Kathy Metzger - Mary Knobloch

"Ring the bells of Heaven, there is joy today." We rejoice that Neil Knobloch (Bro. Ezra and Sis. Marie) has heeded God's call and is working out his soul's salvation. May we continue to remember Neil and all our converts in our daily prayers.

A wedding reception was held for Bro. Blair and Sis. Julie Fehr Metzger Saturday, October 16. Bro. Blair and Sis. Julie exchanged wedding vows in Morris, MN, October 2. May God bless their newly established home as they begin their life together.

Two betrothals have recently been announced to our congregation. Bro. Alfred Reutter (Rockville, CT) and Sis. Barbara Metzger (Bro. Jake and Sis. Donna) have felt it God's will that they be joined as husband and wife. Bro. Wayne Klotzle from Sardis, OH, (Bro. Irwin and Sis. Jane, Rittman, OH) and Sis. Jane Metzger (Bro. Jake and Sis. Donna) also have followed God's direction towards bringing their lives together in holy matrimony. May God's blessings continue to abide with each one as they make future plans for their weddings.

Submitting to surgery were Bro. Alvin Leuthold and Sis. Barb Metzger (Bro. Jake and Sis. Donna) and hospitalized for medical reasons was Bro. Albert Knobloch. May God's healing powers be upon these dear ones as they recuperate.

As the harvest season draws to an end, we thank our Lord for the blessings he has once again granted to us. Though we had a season of little rain,

He has provided blessings in accordance with His will.

A THANKSGIVING DAY PRAYER

"Faith of our Fathers" renew us again
And make us a nation of
God-fearing men
Seeking Thy guidance, Thy love
and Thy will
For we are but Pilgrims in need of
Thee still.
And, gathered together on
Thanksgiving Day,
May we lift up our hearts and our
hands as we pray
To thank You for blessings we so
little merit
And grant us Thy love and teach us
to SHARE IT.

Helen Steiner Rice

IOWA, OAKVILLE

Debbie Wagenbach

Bros. Jim Hoerr (Peoria, IL) and John Rowell (Burlington, IA) have recently brought forth the Word of life in our Oakville congregation. May God richly bless them for their untiring efforts in His service.

"Hear, O Lord, and have mercy upon me: Lord, be thou my helper. Thou hast turned for me my mourning into dancing: thou hast put off my sackcloth, and girded me with gladness; To the end that my glory may sing praise to thee, and not be silent. O Lord my God, I will give thanks unto thee forever." Psalms 30:10-12. This precious psalm was such a comfort to our dear Bro. Leon and Sis. Doris Kuntz during the grief they experienced in the loss of their only son, Terry. It will be one year on October 24 that Terry was called from this life at the young age of 16. The following was written in memory of Terry.

God gave to us a precious baby boy,
At 5 1/2 days old, anyone could
enjoy.

He was given to us till his work on
earth was done,
As parents we questioned how long
till his feet no more would run.
We watched him thru his growing
years,
As many Mothers and Fathers, we
had happiness and a few shed
tears.

He loved life as all children do;
Many times saying, "I want to go to
Heaven too."

Time came when school days
began;
Many hours away from us, under a
teacher's firm hand.

The hands of time for Terry were
going too fast;
His life on earth would soon be
past.

We prayed many times to our
Father of love,
This child you lent us, watch over
him from above.

Call him when his heart is right,
Out of our control, He called him to
his heavenly home one night.

I crept downstairs in the early
morning hours,
To find comfort in God, in His
Heavenly bowers.

I prayed and asked God, to tell me
about Terry;
And He guided my hand to Psalm
30.

Not only did God open it to me,
But also to other members of the
family.

As the morning came upon us to
tell Terry our last goodbye,
It came to us, he not only sleeps,
but his soul is with God on high.

IOWA, PULASKI

Teresa Schock

Ginny Wuthrich

When we count our blessings of
the past month, among them are the
blessings brought to us by Bro. Walt
Anliker (Eureka, IL) and Elder Bro.
Ed Lanz (Oakville, IA).

We are thankful the Princeville
Bible class teachers were able to bring
their Bible class students to be with
our Bible class. We hope they will
treasure the memories of being with
others of this faith.

IOWA, WEST BEND

Polly Zaugg - Phyllis Banwart

Visiting ministers recently have
been Bro. Harvey Grimm (Bern, KS)
and Bro. Bruce Leman (Roanoke, IL).
We always appreciate the messages
brought to us by our ministering
brethren.

"The Lord hath comforted His

people and will have mercy upon His afflicted."

Isaiah 49:13

Many times we find comfort from the precious Word of God. Several of our congregation have been hospitalized and we pray they may find comfort with these words: Gloria Mogler (Tim), Reuben Anliker (Louisa), Konni Haverman (Don and Mona), Sis. Tillie Mogler (Sam), Sis. Florence Banwart and Angie Schneider (Bro. Gary and Sis. Sue).

We extend sympathy to Reuben and Louisa Anliker, Elmer and Agnes Anliker and families in the loss of their brother, Carl Anliker (Algona, IA).

Come, ye thankful people, come,
Raise the song of harvest home:
All is safely gathered in,
Ere the winter storms begin:
God, our Maker, doth provide
For our wants to be supplied.
Come to God's own temple, come,
Raise the song of harvest home.

Henry Alford

JAPAN, SHIODA

Kathy Kieser

October 10 was a holiday here in Japan, so Tokyo and Shioda brethren and friends gathered together for our annual fall fellowship meeting at Tozanso Resort in the picturesque area of Mt. Fuji. We discussed how to love the Lord our God with our whole heart, soul, strength and mind, and how to love our neighbor as ourself. (Luke 10:27).

Bro. Toshio Uchida has not been able to worship with us regularly because of illness.

JAPAN, TOKYO

Frank and Kathy Sauder

"The Great Commandment" was the theme of our fall fellowship meeting October 10. We gathered together with the Shioda congregation in the Mt. Fuji area to ponder the true meaning and applications of loving God with all our heart, with all our soul, with all our strength and with all our mind. What is the difference between these four words? Is it possible to love God in one or some of these ways and not all four? Can we

think of people in the Bible who exemplify one or more of these ways of loving God? What does it mean to love our neighbor as ourself? These are questions that inspired our study and discussion. An afternoon hike to a summit with a view of Lake Ashi was an enjoyable end to our time together.

"... a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise." Psalm 51:17. We were reminded to pray for this type of heart as sixteen of us gathered together to partake of holy communion served by Elder Bros. Akito Inoue and Willis Ehnle. Christ was portrayed as our perfect example of a broken heart as He prayed, "nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt" (Matthew 26:39), and then willingly died for us. May we fulfill the other exhortations we heard in the days ahead by presenting our bodies a living sacrifice and by remembering that falling upon Christ makes us broken.

KANSAS, BERN
Lori Baumgartner
Kathy Strahm

"Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him and bless his name."

Psalms 100:4

May we all have thankful hearts, not only on Thanksgiving Day, but throughout the entire year. For the Lord truly does bestow on us many blessings for which we feel so unworthy.

We, from the Bern congregation, assembled with the Sabetha congregation in Sabetha October 2 as there was a visiting minister, Elder Bro. Ed Schwartz (Bluffton, IN). We appreciated other visiting ministers to our congregation this past month: Elder Bro. Raymond Banwart (Fort Scott, KS) and Bro. Doug Grimm (Sabetha, KS). May the Lord reward the brothers, as only He can, for their labors in His service.

Our Sunday school (grades 6 - 12) traveled to Gridley, KS, this past month for the semi-annual Kansas Youth Fellowship weekend.

Sincere sympathy is given to Bro. Vernon and Sis. Lillian Esslinger in

the passing of their son, Jerome Esslinger (Miami, FL).

After Thanksgiving, we will discontinue having our Sunday evening singings. We will then begin our Wednesday evening services, alternating with Sabetha.

KANSAS, FORT SCOTT
Karen Sinn

I'M THANKFUL

I'm thankful for the happiness that
brightens up my way . . .
For life's made up of happy things
that come to me each day . . .
For little ones who smile at me, and
offer me their hand . . .
For birds outside my window, that
chirp melodies so grand . . .
For home, for garden, and for
friends.
For loved ones who are dear . . .
For church, for music, and for love
that fill my day with cheer.
I can't begin to name them all --
these happy things that come. . .
I know 'tis God who sends these
joys, and I thank Him for each
one.

Dorothy E. Smith

Our older Sunday school classes enjoyed a weekend of fellowship with other Kansas churches at Gridley. We thank them for their efforts and labors on behalf of our children.

We are enjoying listening to the conference tapes on Wednesday evenings. We are thankful for our elder brothers' love and concern for each one of us. May we be willing to obey and support their admonitions.

KANSAS, GRIDLEY
Vola Young - Judy Kraft

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

Ephesians 5:20

"Enter into his gates with thanksgiving and into his courts with praise! be thankful unto him, and bless his name.

"For the Lord is good; his mercy is

everlasting and his truth endureth to all generations."

Psalms 100:4-5

Our thanks and praise to God should be felt in our hearts and expressed to our Lord through our actions and through prayer.

We are thankful that another soul has heeded the call and wishes to surrender all to Christ. We offer encouragement and prayer to Dora Edelman (Bro. Albert and Sis. Mara Jean) as she experiences repentance.

The Gridley church had the privilege of hosting youth fellowship for several churches. It would be our hope that this event was spiritually fruitful and awakening to these young individuals. Special visiting minister for that weekend was Elder Bro. Aaron Steffen (Alto, MI).

KANSAS, KIOWA

Darcy Kisling - Janice Bahr

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

Galatians 6:7, 8

In our community, we can look in every direction and see small sprouts of wheat burst forth from the rich soil. As this season of wheat sowing comes to a close, we can be reminded not to neglect our spiritual sowing. As humans, we can sometimes grow impatient when we don't see immediate results of our spiritual work.

"And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith."

Galatians 6:9, 10

We had three hospital patients this month. Sis. Frieda Frieden is now at home feeling better. Surgical patients were Sis. Lydia Circle and Stephanie Bahr (Bro. Jeff and Sis. Janice). In addition to these patients, we also need to keep Bro. Vern Schurter in our prayers. He has also been

unable to attend services because of illness. We have missed the presence of these loved ones at church and pray for the Lord's healing power for them.

KANSAS, SABETHA

Charleen Hartter - Nita Grimm

"What glorious state to be a lamb of Jesus!" We rejoice with our new brother-in-faith, John Meyer, as he has sought the Lord in repentance, and was baptized October 2. Even at the age of eighty-some years, Bro. John recognized his need for a living Saviour! Visiting Elder Bro. Ed Schwartz (Bluffton, IN) assisted our flock with this holy work of God!

We're also very grateful to have had Bro. Marvin Stieglitz (Leo, IN) and Elder Bros. Gene Marti (Lamar, MO) and Sam Anliker (Lamont, KS) feed us from the Bread of Life, the Bible, in this past month.

Our hearts were saddened at the sudden death of our dear friend, Anna Dobson. May God comfort her dear husband, Ellsworth, and her family during these lonely hours of life.

Elder Bro. Sam Huber spent time hospitalized this month.

We wish everyone a happy Thanksgiving filled with thankfulness unto the Creator of all mankind!

KANSAS, WICHITA

Emma Miller

Since mid-summer, Sis. Dora Young has taken up residence at the Sand Piper Bay Health Care, 5808 West 8th, Wichita, KS 67212. I would invite you to remember her with cards and prayers. Sis. Dora is able to assemble with us nearly every Sunday.

Bro. Ray Steffen, formerly of Bluffton, is employed in Ponca City, OK, as a research chemist for Conoco. We appreciate the effort it takes for him to make the one and a half hour drive to Wichita, and we certainly rejoice to have him worship with us.

Choir members from Fort Scott and Kiowa met with us in Wichita to renew our commitment to sing praises in Jesus' name. It is refreshing to blend our hearts and voices for this purpose.

KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON

Glendoris Huber

"The Lord gave the Word: great was the company of those that published it."

Psalms 68:11

It has been a humbling experience to us all and we most gratefully express our deep appreciation to all our beloved churches, ministers and families who have come, and shared the Word with us here at Lexington. We are most grateful to you all for crossing the miles and dangers of the highway for the cause of Psalms 68:11. Truly the Word of God is most precious. How we need not only to publish the same but to preserve it in our hearts as The Old Paths which will give rest to our undying souls. (Jeremiah 6:16). May the Lord reward you all.

As Thanksgiving Day is approaching, our thoughts go back through the past year of the many blessings God has given us. No matter how many tests and trials we encounter, our hearts can rejoice when we take a moment to count our blessings. Let us always have thankful hearts.

PSALM 100

(A Psalm of Praise)

"Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness: Come before His presence with singing. Know ye that the Lord He is God: It is He that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture. Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise: be thankful unto Him, and bless His name. For the Lord is good: His mercy is everlasting; and His truth endureth to all generations."

MICHIGAN, ALTO

Juanita Gerst

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

Ephesians 5:20

Thanksgiving is almost here and each year we have more and more for which to thank God. As each of us

reflects on this Thanksgiving, we might find things in our life this past year that don't really seem like something to be thankful for. As we come across these items, let us take the time to turn to God's Word and remember that He said "in everything give thanks" (I Thessalonians 5:18) for "all things work together for good to them that love God" (Romans 8:28).

We are always thankful to have visiting ministers. We would like to extend a warm thank you to Bros. Marvin Leman (Bradford, IL) and Gary Maibach (Smithville, OH) for their efforts through the Holy Spirit.

Bro. Tom, Sis. Michelle and Tommy, Matthew and Ruthann Oesch had a special blessing added to their family. Little Andrew has been given to them to care for here on this earth. "Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is his reward." Psalms 127:3.

Our prayers are with Sis. Joan Schrenk (Bro. Tom) as she recovers from a recent surgery. We thank God for leading the hands of the surgeons and ask for His healing power.

As the Thanksgiving holiday approaches, let's take extra time to count our blessings. Let's remember that Thanksgiving should come more than once a year and that it is more than turkey and pumpkin pie.

"My heartfelt thanks I bring Thee;
Salvation I have found.
As Thou has suffered for me,
In love to Thee I'm bound.
And what Thou, Lord,
Hast given I consecrate to Thee.
O, Lead us, Lord, to heaven,
Where we Thy glory see!"

Zion's Harp #154

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY
Pam Schlatter

Several in our congregation have been unable to attend with us due to physical conditions. Sisters Elsie Pashak, Elizabeth Waibel and Pauline Wieland have been on our sick list. Bro. Dale and Sis. Carol Wieland suffered injuries from a car accident. We're pleased to report that everyone's condition seems to be improving.

After many years of faithful service in the ministry, Bro. Joe Waibel has been relieved of his pulpit duties.

We wish Bro. Joe happy, healthy times ahead and give special thanks to him for the services he has rendered both to our congregation and the Apostolic Christian fellowship.

On October 9 we heard of the engagement of Bro. Mark Ramseyer (Bro. Joe and Sis. Dorothy) and Sis. Kelly Wuethrich (Bro. Chris Lee and Sis. Ruth, Francesville, IN). We rejoice with them during this special time, and wish them God's guidance as they plan their wedding and life together.

MICHIGAN, DETROIT
Donna Hartzler

OUR PRAYER
OF THANKSGIVING

We thank our Heavenly Father
Who supplies our every need,
Such as our bountiful
Sprouting life from a tiny seed.
We thank our Heavenly Father
For His gift of life and health,
For our freedom as a people
And for our spiritual wealth.
We thank our Heavenly Father
That all His blessings we might
share,
With all others throughout the
world
In honor of His loving care.

Grace Rhinebeck
(Sunshine Magazine)

"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." (Romans 8:28). We are thankful for faithful brethren who are called to minister God's Word, and want to especially thank our visiting ministers of the past month, Bros. Larry Wenninger (Latty, OH), Homer Reineck (Toledo, OH) and Steve Gutwein (Francesville, IN). May God's blessings rest upon them.

Our sympathy is extended to the family of Ty Barton who became critically ill while visiting in the Detroit area and passed away September 29. Ty's brother and sister are Bro. Jim Barton and Sis. Kay Novak from our congregation. A memorial service was held Monday evening, October 3.

It was a real blessing having the "Snowbirds" (a group of folks who winter in Florida) in Detroit for

Wednesday evening services, September 28. It was the first stop of their trip to the northeastern United States and Canada. We enjoyed the fellowship, and trust they had a blessed trip.

The Detroit Choir spent the weekend of October 15 & 16 in Wolcott and Remington, IN. We extend a sincere thank you to all who helped make the weekend a blessed one. We recognize that God is the author of all such blessings, and pray that His name can be praised in all things.

We continue to have those who are in ill health and not able to attend church. Included in those is Bro. Louis Varga who is in the hospital. May God bless and comfort those who are sick and in ill health, and heal where it is His will.

MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS
Carol Strassheim

We have been very thankful that Bro. Don Esterling has felt the healing touch of Jesus during surgery and hospitalization. We pray that God will continue to bless Don and Josie and bring health and healing according to His will as Don recovers at home.

It was a joyful announcement to hear of the engagement of Sis. Kathryn Olson to Bro. Vernon Blunier (Eureka). May God be near them during this time as He draws them near to each other and to Him.

We have enjoyed many visitors this month including several visiting ministers: Bro. Harold Gramm (Morris), Bro. Elmer Schmidt (Winthrop), Bro. Walt Herrmann (Princeville, IL), Elder Bro. Joe Stoller (Princeville, IL) and Elder Bro. Art Nohl (Morris).

MINNESOTA, MORRIS
Christa Sauder - Ruth Nohl

October 2 was a beautiful autumn day, and it was also the day chosen by Bro. Blair Metzger (Lester, IA) and Sis. Julie Fehr as their wedding day. May God's blessings rest upon this union of hearts. Parents of the couple are Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Diane Fehr and Bro. Eugene and Sis. Dolores Metzger (Lester, IA). We enjoyed many visitors who came to share in the joy of this day with Bro. Blair and Sis.

Julie. Those ministering brethren in our midst were Bro. Dennis Warner (Lester, IA), Bro. Eugene Metzger (Lester, IA), Bro. Ken Lawson (Minneapolis, MN), Bro. Kent Mogler (Minneapolis, MN) and Bro. Don Miller (Minneapolis, MN).

Little Darren Lee Schaefer was born to Bro. Rodney and Sis. Denise Schaefer October 11. Stephanie is happy to have a playmate. Grandparents are Bro. Dennis and Sis. Esther Warner (Lester, IA) and Bro. Anton and Sis. Verna Schaefer.

It seems in the past few months we've had several young people move from our congregation. This month Sis. Jodi Schmidgall moved to Peoria, IL.

There are always those who experience sickness and bodily afflictions. Bro. Alvin Nohl and Bro. Wayne Schmidgall were hospital patients. We apologize for omitting Bro. Gottlieb Joos last month as he was in the hospital, but we're thankful he is able to worship with us again.

Thank You Notes:

I would like to thank all those who remembered me with cards, gifts, flowers and visits while I was in the hospital and after I returned home. May God bless you.

Bro. Gottlieb Joos

We wish to thank every one who made our 25th anniversary so memorable with all the cards and gifts we received. We especially thank all who worked a quilt block for our surprise quilt. We will long remember our friends and relatives for their kindness. May God bless you all and keep you in His love.

In Christian love,
Bro. David and Sis. Eileen Nohl

MINNESOTA, WINTHROP

**Ella Mae Schmidt
Georgia Messner**

May God bless Kathy Messerli (Bro. Cornelius and Sis. Delores) and John Mehukens (Minneapolis) as they announced their engagement.

Sis. Gerry Messner (Elder Bro. Harold) is recovering from eye surgery for which we are thankful.

Joy can be real only if people look upon their life as a service to others and have a definite objective in life

outside themselves and their personal happiness.

We want to thank Bro. Dale Zeltwanger (Morris), his family and those traveling with him, for sharing with us.

Remembering to be thankful not only at Thanksgiving, but each day of our lives, let us be . . .

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

Ephesians 5:20

MISSOURI, LAMAR

Carol Braker - Becky Marti

We are enjoying beautiful fall weather. God's hand is surely evident in the trees as they turn their lovely fall colors. We are thankful to God for a bountiful harvest. We feel very blessed, especially as we realize that many of our brethren across the land have suffered a severe drought this year.

Our spiritual cups were filled to overflowing as we enjoyed the visits of Elder Bros. Dan Koch (Tremont, IL) and Don Sauder (Roanoke, IL) and their wives the weekend of October 1 - 2. We thank them for serving us and ministering His Holy Word. May our heavenly Father be their rewarder.

We extend our sympathy to Bro. Troy and Sis. Vannessa Luthi due to the death of her grandmother, Anna Zartman. May they feel His nearness and comfort in this time.

MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS

Jerry and Doreen Leuthold

We want to sincerely thank each of the following ministers who so willingly came and shared God's Word with us. They were Bros. Vernon Leman (Eureka, IL), Ken Hoerr and Mike Rieker (Peoria, IL) and Clarence Kachelmuss (Forrest, IL).

We have been blessed with several visitors over the past months and we thank each one for visiting our small congregation.

Church services will not be held in St. Louis November 20 and December 25.

Have A Happy Thanksgiving!

MISSOURI, TAYLOR Loida Hodel - Lori Marquart

NO DAY IS LOST

Sometimes you feel discouraged
When evening shadows come
And you look back, regretting
The "little" that you've done.
Apparently the losses
Far outweigh the gain,
And wearily you question,
"Have I lived this day in vain?"

Remember this -- No day is lost
In which you've tried to share
The blessed news that Jesus saves,
And spent some time in prayer
For others. Your Father knows
Your heart. He paid the cost.
Remember -- If you've done your
best
For Him -- No day is lost!
Alice Hansche Mortenson

May the blessings of the Lord be with Buddy and Barbara (Hoerr) Plank who recently celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary.

We welcome Chad Getz (Bro. Merlyn and Sis. Jan) from Roanoke who is a student at Quincy Technical School.

We are happy to have Bro. Jeff and Sis. Louanne Gramm back with us after Jeff's treatments at Mayos. He will be going back to Rochester in November for a check-up and we are hoping and praying for a good report. "God does not shield us from life's storms; He shelters us in life's storms."

Bro. Richard and Sis. Kay (Miles) Sutter are parents of a new little boy, Cole Richard, born October 3. Caleb and Colby welcome their little brother as well as paternal grandparents, Bro. Gerald and Sis. Marge Sutter. "He shall gather the lambs with His arms and carry them in His bosom." Isaiah 40:11.

"Don't wait until the 11th hour to put your house in order -- you may die at 10:30."

NEW YORK, CROGHAN

Alice Virkler

Now thank we all our God
With heart, and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things has done,

In whom the world rejoices,
Who from our mother's arms
Has blest us on our way
With countless gifts of love,
And still is ours today.

Zion's Harp #236

At this time of the year we think of Thanksgiving and all that God has so richly provided for us in this lifetime. May we not only think of it during this special season, but throughout the whole year. May we be thankful for each day that is granted to us and the many blessings given through His life and example for us.

We have two special weekends to be thankful for in our small churches. On the weekend of October 1 - 2, we were privileged to have the busload of "Snowbirds" in our midst. On Saturday evening we enjoyed a meal and song service in the Croghan church. We entertained them in our homes overnight and on Sunday assembled in the Naumburg church for services. As the bus pulled out of the parking lot in a light rain my little nephew began to cry and when we asked him what the trouble was, he answered, "My company has gone away. I want them to come back." This thought of a little child shows how much we can enjoy the love and fellowship when we travel and then receive loved ones into our homes for fellowship.

On the weekend of October 7 - 8, we were again blessed when loved ones from Kitchener, Ontario, Rockville, CT, Ohio and Illinois, were with us. We enjoyed a meal in the Naumburg church Saturday evening followed by a song service. On Sunday we assembled in the Croghan church for services and a meal together before some of the visitors left. May the love and fellowship we enjoyed on these two weekends when the house of the Lord was nearly filled long linger in our memories. We thank all who have visited us.

We also received many blessings when we have gathered together to listen to the tapes of the recent brotherhood conference. May we take these messages and warnings seriously and heed them as we travel this pilgrim pathway. We need to rely on the love and concerns of our dear elder brothers, and ask for God's richest blessings for them.

Our hospital patients have been

Bro. Chester O'Brien, Sis. Amelia Belle Virkler and Sis. Lovina Farney. May God be a constant comfort and healer for each of them.

NEW YORK, NAUMBURG

Rachel Snyder

The Lord certainly blessed us with two wonderful weekends this month. On October 2, the "snowbirds" made a visit. They were with us for supper at the Croghan church and on Sunday we assembled at Naumburg. Then on the weekend of October 9, the Fortenbachers and many other visitors came to be with us. Saturday night dinner was at Naumburg and Sunday worship service and dinner were at Croghan. May God richly bless them all for coming to visit us.

We have greatly missed Ethel Karcher the past few weeks. She had to be hospitalized for surgery, but thankfully she is able to be home again.

OHIO, AKRON

Joyce Gasser

"David inquired at the Lord . . ." I Samuel 30:8. Saul went to a person saying: "Divine unto me by the familiar spirit . . ." I Samuel 28:8. Both David and Saul had been anointed as king, they both wanted counsel, but the difference was that David inquired at the Lord; and Saul inquired at a person for Samuel to come up from the dead. They could not raise Samuel, because Job 3:17 states: "There the wicked cease from troubling, and there the weary be at rest." So, they could not bother or disquiet Samuel, as Samuel is at rest; but by the familiar spirit that was familiar with Samuel, could imitate Samuel, and spoke partly true, but said "tomorrow" Saul would die, but it was not until three days that Saul died. How thankful that as we need counsel, we can take David's example and inquire at the Lord, as His answer came wholly true.

We welcome Sis. Dora Smith of Altadena in our area to gather with us. Also, we extend a welcome to Sue Stoller, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Millard Stoller (Latty) as she is attending Akron University.

OHIO, COLUMBUS

John Grimm

On September 25, we had a blessed day as the Columbus church welcomed our university students. Twelve students and their families attended our Sunday worship services and a picnic in a local park. Bro. Randy Gasser (Detroit, MI) was our visiting minister for this special day.

Also, Bro. Doyle Frauhiger (Bluffton North, IN) visited us this past month. May God bless these brothers for their willingness to minister God's Word.

OHIO, JUNCTION

Les Manz

We give our thanks to Bros. Wendell Gerber and Steve Ringger (Bluffton North, IN) for visiting us and bringing us the wonderful Word of Life. God loves us enough that He sends His Spirit to His servants to feed His lambs and His sheep and to beckon to those who have not yet become a part of His flock.

Sis. Della Manz was hospitalized this month. Our prayers are expressed for her and her loving family for God's grace to patiently endure.

Bro. Oliver Spangler and Sis. Annabell Manz (Sis. Della) have exchanged wedding vows before God and our congregation as witnesses promising to be true to each other until death parts them. Having faith that God has brought them together, we believe they will by His grace be able to keep this holy promise. We trust God's blessings will be upon their union.

OHIO, LATTY

Rhonda Stoller

Marlene Reinhard

Hospitalized this month was Sis. Elsie Schlatter (Bro. Joe). We also wish to remember Ashley Wenninger (Bro. Ed and Sis. Alice) as he had a slight mishap when falling from a tree. He is now in a body cast, but with much patience and prayer, time will pass pleasantly and quickly for him and his family. May God's healing hand pass upon these two dear people and restore them back to health once again.

We sympathize with Bro. Russell Stoller (Sis. Melvane), Bro. Ralph

Stoller (Sis. Ruth) and their families in the passing of their mother, Sis. Alice Stoller. May God comfort the hearts of those who loved her and continue to bless their lives.

Our prayers also go out to Sis. Ellen Stoller (Bro. Willis) and family in the death of her father, Bro. Joel Fiechter (Sis. Lucinda, Bluffton, IN). May they feel God's presence and comforting spirit.

We were privileged to have Bro. Bill Schlatter (Junction) minister the truth of God's Word unto us. May the gospel continue to be brought forth and fall upon fruitful ground.

We rejoice with Bro. Leon and Sis. Debbie Klopfenstein and boys, Brett and Phillip, in the arrival of little Ann Marie. Grandparents are Bro. Raymond and Sis. Catherine Klopfenstein and Bro. Herman and Sis. Mary Baer (Princeville, IL). May God bless their lives with much joy and happiness.

We wish God's blessings upon Annette Hackenjos (Bro. Myron and Sis. Lorine) and Doug Nygarde as they were united in marriage October 15.

"But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen."

II Peter 3:18

OHIO, MANSFIELD
Linda Morrison

"The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise." Psalms 51:17. Coming to God with the acceptable sacrifice of a broken and contrite heart in repentance is Wilma (Sauder) McCutchen. May our prayers support her in this life-changing step.

Hospitalized is Bro. Ed Beer for knee surgery. May God's love bless him.

A farewell dinner was held for Sis. JoAnn Garrison as she is moving to the Rittman area and will be attending church there. We are encouraged to know God is with us and will keep us in all places. May Sis. JoAnn be encouraged to know God's love and presence in her new home.

"But he that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord. For not he that commen-

deth himself is approved, but whom the Lord commendeth." II Corinthians 10:17-18. We have a storybook at school about "Petunia the Silly Goose." Petunia finds a book in the barnyard and carries it under her wing thinking it makes her very wise. Petunia gives "advice" to the animals creating havoc in the barnyard. Finally one day the book opens and Petunia realizes true wisdom comes from reading the book, not just carrying it under her wing. What about God's Word? Do we own Bibles, thinking we are wise or do we read God's Word daily and apply it to our lives as well as share it with others?

OHIO, RITTMAN
Stephanie Baltic - Diane Gasser

"Let me die the death of the righteous . . ."

Numbers 23:10

We feel this past month two dear sisters have died the death of the righteous.

Sis. Elizabeth Barna left this life of cares September 18 to go on to her eternal home. We extend our sympathy to Sis. Joan Hartzler (Bro. John) in the loss of her mother. Also surviving Sis. Elizabeth are children, Carl, Benjamin, Aquilla, Ruben, Priscilla Sagadencky, Sis. Esther Fritz, Ruth Sobel, Irene Albrecht and Lydia Nowak; 25 grandchildren; 29 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild. May God comfort each one who grieves.

Death came suddenly to Sis. Helen Gasser October 11. We will miss Sis. Helen and her generous and loving ways. May her family be comforted with sweet memories and the thought of her in those heavenly mansions above. She is survived by two children, Bro. Ron (Sis. Hope) and Sis. Betty Steiner (Bro. Bob); seven grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; one brother, Bro. Joe Ramsier (Sis. Elizabeth); and three sisters, Sis. Minnie Riegenbach (Bro. George), Sis. Anna Blough and Sis. Esther Saurer (Bro. Harry).

On October 2 our Rittman congregation assembled in the afternoon at Smithville to witness as Bro. Andy Stoller was ordained elder of the Smithville congregation. We were

thankful we could share in this blessed day. May Bro. Andy feel the love and support of us all. May God be his constant source of guidance in this great responsibility and may He richly bless Bro. Andy, Sis. Roberta and their family.

We extend a warm and loving welcome to Sis. JoAnn Garrison as she has moved here from the Mansfield area and will be attending our Rittman congregation.

October 15 was the wedding day of Jill Miller (Bro. Mike and Sis. Norene) and Mark Gasser (Sis. Doris). We wish them much happiness and God's blessings in their married life.

Joe and Ann Gerber became parents with the arrival of a precious little girl, Roxanne Leigh. Happy grandparents are Sis. Mary Ellen Gerber and Bro. Dave and Sis. Mary Ann Zollinger (Smithville).

"Bless ye the Lord, all ye his hosts; ye ministers of his, that do his pleasure."

Psalms 103:21

We are thankful to Bro. Randy Gasser (Detroit, MI) for sharing God's Word with us. Surely our heavenly Father must be pleased when He sees the sincerity and love with which a young brother in the ministry brings forth His Word of Life. May God continually bless Bro. Randy, Sis. Sue and their family.

Those who have experienced hospital stays and days of convalescence recently are: Sis. Martha Dotterer (Bro. Henry), Martha Koehler and Sis. Caroline Emch. We are thankful when God restores moderate health and strength again to those who have been ill.

As Thanksgiving Day approaches, may we all think on the many blessings we all have and give our heartfelt thanks to our heavenly Father for His goodness towards us.

OHIO, SARDIS
Linda Indermuhle

For All The Things
We Take For Granted
LET US GIVE THANKS

Let's be grateful now for small and simple blessings that brighten daily

lives. The smell of coffee. The sound of laughter. A cloudless autumn sky. Fireplaces and favorite books. Mittens. Mufflers. Good warm socks. Crunchy apples. Purring cats. Work to do and time to rest. Things to care about and share. Loved ones with which to share them.

We thank Elder Bro. Eugene Pamer (Akron, OH), Bros. Doug Harmon (Toledo, OH) and Ronald Palitto (Akron, OH) who served us through the Word.

"And pray one for another" (James 5:16). We remember Allen Indermuhle (Bro. Delbert and Sis. Martha) and Sisters Terry Zollinger (Bro. Gary) and Miriam Brake (Bro. Bill) who were hospital patients.

It was a day of joy for us when we learned of the engagement of Bro. Wayne Klotzle (Bro. Irwin and Sis. Jane) to Sis. Jane Metzger (Bro. Jake and Sis. Donna, Lester, IA). May God bless their lives together with love and happiness. "The Lord make you to increase and abound in love one toward another." I Thessalonians 3:12.

A baby boy named Nathan Paul was born October 17 to Bro. Mark and Sis. Alice Ramsier. Welcoming him home is brother, Joshua. Grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Inez Ramsier (Smithville, OH) and Bro. Howard and Sis. Colette Harmon (Toledo, OH). We think of the promise in Proverbs 22:6, "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it."

OHIO, SMITHVILLE

Kim Stoller - Gwen Stoller

This Shepherd ne'er forsakes his fold

In joy nor yet in sorrow,
But shares to us his love untold
Each day and each tomorrow.
Then let us follow to the end
And with Him enter heaven's land.

"The Faithful Shepherd,
Jesus Christ"
Zion's Harp #116

Bro. Andy Stoller was ordained elder of our congregation October 2. Elder Bros. Loren Stoller (Latty), Ken Sauder (Mansfield) and Gene Pamer (Akron) assisted Bro. Joe Ramsier (Rittman) in this labor. Bro. Andy was reminded of his duty to "feed the

flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; . . ." I Peter 5:2. In the fifth verse of the same chapter are instructions for the congregation, to be submissive unto the elder. May our lives be such that would make Bro. Andy's job easier and may he feel our full support. Ministering Bros. Ken Indermuhle and Bill Brake (Sardis) also shared in the day.

When pure and upright hearts,
By flames of love ignited,
Are by the bonds of faith
More firmly yet united, . . .

The Union of Hearts
Zion's Harp #79

The engagement of Bro. Steve Maibach and Sis. Dawn Luginbuhl (Rockville, CT) was made known October 3. We wish this couple God's richest blessings as their lives become one in the Lord.

Sheri Steiner (Bro. Mark and Sis. Sue) and Bro. John Dotterer (Sis. Betty) have both spent time in the hospital. May the Lord restore complete health to each one.

OHIO, TOLEDO

**Josephine Rehklaue
Frances Laidig**

We were blessed by having Bro. Victor Bauman (Smithville, OH) with us Sunday, October 16. May God bless him for his service of love.

"Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness; Come before his presence with singing. Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise; be thankful unto him and bless his name. For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations."
Psalms 100

Abraham Lincoln once said, "I cannot conceive how a man could look up into heaven and say there is no God." As we look out at the beautiful coloring in the fall leaves, we know this beauty, too, could only be possible by the hand of God. Even on a rainy, cloudy, fall day, the lovely colors show through and the trees look beautiful. There is a similarity

here with our lives. We, too, have clouds overshadowing us but there is still beauty and love if we have the faith and trust in God to seek it.

OREGON, PORTLAND

Jane Rocke - Brenda Knobloch

His call we obey as Abram of old,
Not knowing our way,
But faith makes us bold;
Where e'er He shall lead us,
The way He doth guide'
He knows best who rules us,
"The Lord will provide!"

Zion's Harp #86

The message of faith through the example of Abraham's life was shared with us by Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr (West Bend, IA). To those of us who have moved to Portland over the years, it brought back memories when God spoke to us as He did to Abraham when He told him to:

"Get thee out of thy country and from thy kindred, and come into the land which I shall show thee."

Acts 7:3

At this Thanksgiving season our hearts are filled with gratitude for the support and encouragement of loved ones across the land who remember our small flock in their prayers.

We are thankful for Bros. Earl Kilgus (Remington, IN), Clarence Dietrich and Ed Knecht (Silverton) who shared God's Word with us.

Paul and David Rumbold are recovering from surgery. We pray for their return to good health.

OREGON, SILVERTON

Rosa Lee Kuenzi

We gladly welcome Ken Moser (Bro. Ray and Sis. Barb) to our area. Ken has been living in the Fort Lauderdale, FL, area near his sister and brother-in-law, Bro. Ron and Sis. Liz Jones and recently moved back to Oregon. We rejoice to see a change in Ken and encourage him in his repentance, praying that God will grant him much grace in this most important endeavor of life.

We give sincere thanks to Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr (West Bend, IA) for

sharing the Word of Life with us on several occasions this month. Bro. Wayne and Sis. Kathy were able to join with the Silverton congregation in surprising their son-in-law and daughter, Todd and Melissa Kuenzi with a housewarming/singing. We pray that God will bless Todd and Melissa in their new home and in their newly chosen walk of life with the Lord.

We are enjoying beautiful fall weather and it is certainly the season for apple cider, pumpkin pie, raking leaves, hay rides and wiener roasts around the bonfire and our fall church clean-up day. But it is always "in season" to be thankful to our Lord and is especially brought to mind as we are reminded of the Pilgrim's first Thanksgiving celebration in America. May America never forget her humble beginnings and her ready thanks to the God who had protected and blessed this nation.

**PENNSYLVANIA,
PHILADELPHIA**

Jerry Isch

We extend our thanks to the Rittman and Smithville, OH, and Rockville, CT, single brothers and sisters who came and shared their love through fellowship and song. It was a very special weekend.

We also thank Bro. Lee Bahler and Bro. Kevin Ryan (Rockville, CT) for lending themselves to bring us God's Word while Bro. Ed Aeschleman was away.

TEXAS, ZAPATA

Mary Plattner

It was with heavy hearts that we bid Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Joyce Nohl and their family farewell as they moved to Morris, MN. We will certainly miss their gathering with us. The winter visitors in the McAllen area will certainly miss all of their hospitality that they showed to them. We wish them God's richest blessings in their new home. We will have many fond memories of the 12 years that they lived here.

Our winter family is beginning to return and it is always nice to see a new but familiar face in church on Sunday. Bro. John and Sis. Vi Perdelwitz are usually the first ones to

return in the fall, and they are now here. Our town is beginning to become busy as the winter visitors are beginning to return to the area. We look forward to seeing our winter family return.

Trip To Eastern Europe . . .

(Continued from Page 2)

From Germany, we traveled to Switzerland. Again we were received with much love and respect. The home of Paul Apprecht, a faithful believer in Jesus Christ, provided many hours of precious fellowship. A tour of the University of Zurich with an elder in Zurich, revealed to us that the nation of Switzerland has specific goals. Only 3% or less of their college students are "dropouts."

The true faith in Switzerland is being severely attacked by Satan using the New Age Movement, and various other tactics. The believers are being "sifted as wheat." We, in America, need to pray for the preservation of their true faith. Spending several days in Switzerland exemplified to us the beauty of God's creation. We enjoyed the Swiss Alps, the Matterhorn mountain with its majestic view, a special Swiss meal (rolett), but most of all, the fellowship of many believers whom we have confidence we shall meet in the resurrection.

On June 9, we drove through Austria on our way to Hungary. Travel was a little more difficult, especially through Innsbrook, Austria, where we stayed overnight. While in Innsbrook, our wives were able to purchase more articles for the believers in Yugoslavia such as coffee, oil, flour, sugar, soap, towels, etc. We had a packed car. We also learned that earth has no sorrow that heaven cannot heal" as several times, because of the lack of detail on the map we had, we lost our direction. One time a car pulled up beside us and asked in broken English, "Where you go?" We answered, "Auto Bahn." He told us to "just go straight, don't turn right or left." After traveling for what seemed to be a long time, we began to doubt his instructions. Then a policeman on a motorcycle pulled up beside us. He led us out of the city of Innsbrook to the Auto Bahn, headed for Budapest, Hungary. Do you get the spiritual connection of this account? "Go

straight, don't turn to the right or left," don't doubt. In Genesis, an angel led Lot out of the city -- today the Holy Spirit and the Word will lead the church out of this world if we follow.

Dear church, many times we felt the protection of your prayers.

The speed of driving on the Auto Bahn brought back memories of my teenage years. A believer in the Lord Jesus cannot pray, "lead me not into temptation," and then personally tempt the Lord with excessive high speed that may be lawful on the Auto Bahn but does not edify the driver or those with him. We drove in moderation.

As we entered Hungary, we became aware of a different government. The Soviet Block of Nations, by God's permission, are permitted to rule, and we are to respect their order and authority as the Bible directs us.

When we stopped at the border of Hungary, we were courteously treated. We observed the large fields with very fertile soil that God had blessed with bountiful rain. The corn and wheat were a beautiful sight to behold -- just the opposite from the drought-stricken corn and bean fields we left on our farm in Francesville, Indiana. As we observed these thousands of acres of good crops, we became thankful for the people of Hungary. Could the Lord use this blessing to cause them to see and know there is a living God who alone can give rain and bountiful crops?

But more glorious than the beautiful crops was our first stop in Hungary, the meeting place at a truck stop, where we saw from a distance our beloved Bro. Andy Hunyady, and his brother, George, along with believers from Budapest. Our meeting was meaningful because now Bro. Andrew and his brother, George, would be used of the Lord in many ways to accomplish God's will in our mission. By their translation, we were able to communicate with believers, governmental authorities and at the Embassy.

Our first view of Budapest was not as we expected. We saw beauty, an old city of beautiful sculpture, and with the beautiful river Danube flowing through its center. The buildings spoke a silent language of over 1000 years of war and conflict dating back to the Roman age. In 1945, when the

last bomb was dropped and the last shot fired, Budapest was a city of the homeless, a city with no bridges to cross the beautiful Danube, a city where our brethren kneeled to pray, a city where many unmarked graves of children, mothers, fathers and friends rest. It is a city where the Word of God could not be quenched. As the new bridges were built over the Danube, the remnant of true believers were building spiritual homes and bridges. With tearful sowing, they are seeing a glad harvest.

(To be continued in the December Issue of the Silver Lining)

Sermon . . .

(Continued from Page 32)

of God." Luke 9:20. Peter was bringing his confession and his faith. He was confessing his faith in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, that he, himself, recognized that Jesus was the Son of God.

In another portion of Scripture, based on Peter's confession and on Peter's faith, the Lord said, "That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church." Matthew 16:18. The faith that Peter had in Jesus Christ was on the Solid Rock, which is Jesus Christ. Jesus said, "I am going to build My church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." Matthew 16:18.

Beloved, how thankful we can be for the many promises and words of our Lord and Saviour Himself. We know that He is not going to go back on His Word. He is a faithful Lord and Saviour. He will fulfill those things that He has spoken.

He said the gates of hell will not prevail against the church that is built upon the Solid Rock, and that is Jesus Christ. so we know, beloved, that we have to come through the Door to the sheepfold, which is Jesus Christ. If we come in some other way, the Word tells us that we are thieves or robbers. We must come through Jesus Christ, the Door to this holy church.

Then we build our spiritual house, anchored upon that Solid Rock, that the foundation will not crumble in the time of trials and adversity. May the house of faith that you and I are building today stand firm and steadfast when the storms of life blow upon

us.

Sometimes I wonder why He said to the disciples, "Don't tell anybody this right now." (See Luke 9:21). But He said, "The Son of Man must suffer many things, and be rejected of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be slain, and be raised the third day." (See Luke 9:21, 22). This then was going to complete the mission that His Father had given Him to carry out the wonderful plan of salvation.

Because of a faithful Lord and Saviour, you and I are sitting here today with a clear conscience. We have been cleansed by the blood of Jesus Christ. You and I are sitting here today not feeling condemnation, but rather feeling and entertaining within ourselves a hope of eternal life. Our Lord and Saviour was not ashamed to walk here upon this earth, speak of why He was here and then go to the cross. He was not afraid but believed that God would be with Him.

Jesus went to that cross and took your sins and my sins with Him and nailed them to the cross, so that you and I might now have this wonderful hope and this longing to be with our Lord in all eternity. But there are certain requirements that we must meet in order to enter through the Door into the sheepfold.

] Our Lord and Saviour lovingly laid some of them out in this chapter. We can be thankful that He thought enough of God's creation that He was willing to instruct at that time, and said to them all, "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me." Luke 9:23. That doesn't sound too hard, does it? When we sit down and rally analyze the things of this life, is there anything in this life that we would not want to deny ourselves of?

We know that Satan is so crafty. He is not satisfied with those that he has in his clutches, but when one escapes his prison cells that he holds them in, he is right back out there trying to get them back. He is never satisfied. He knows where he is going to end up and he wants others to be with him.

But here the Lord said, "If any man will come after me . . ." Our Lord and Saviour has gone out and is calling souls. How thankful we are that

we have evidence from time to time that there are hearts that are touched and answer His call. He said that those who would come after Him should deny themselves. He didn't say the things of the world, did He? He said to deny himself. So we look at ourself and we wonder, "What did the Lord mean?" I believe every one of us knows it is the lusts of the flesh, the pride of life and the lusts of the eye. I believe that every one of us knows of the desires of the flesh. To the flesh, the things of the world seem to sparkle and they seem to draw us.

That is why the Lord said to deny yourself. We have to deny the things that this flesh looks after. The way, beloved, to keep that flesh in subjection, is to see it nailed to the cross. This old fleshly body has to be nailed to the cross of Jesus Christ. This flesh has to die to those things that it lusted after, ran after, and was pursuing after. Then we will be willing to deny ourselves, take up our cross daily and follow Him.

. . . Take up our cross daily . . . I believe that every soul that is born into this world has a cross. We can look out over the whole wide world and see people that seemingly don't have a cross, but we don't know what is going on inside. We don't know the struggle that that person has in their mind, in their heart or in their walk of life. There are many different crosses that come upon mankind and so we don't know the cross that everyone has to bear. I believe that everyone has a cross.

We don't have to feel that when we take up our cross daily that we are doing anything different from anyone else in the world. I believe, beloved, that the Lord wants us to take what He gives to us and to bear it patiently. Then it says, ". . . follow Me." Luke 9:23.

When we willingly take up the cross of our Lord and Saviour, then we put our will into His will. We know as we sing in that song, that the beams lie across each other. But it tells us when they lie parallel, then it is easier to carry. When we can submit our will to His will, how much easier it is to carry that cross!

We can be thankful that the Lord has said that He would help us to carry that cross. He will help us to endure all things but He wants us to

prove our love by our obedience to Him. He tells us here, "Take up your cross daily and follow Me." (Luke 9:23).

So we take up our cross in patience and in love for our Lord and Saviour and for one another. Even in this spiritual walk of life, if we see one that has a cross a little heavier than we think we have, we try to help them bear it, don't we?

How many times have things come into our lives that seem to make the cross a little heavier. It almost seems like we would stumble under the weight of that cross. When we are submissive and commit ourselves to God, we know that somehow He helps us through he trying times.

God brings it to our minds that we have no promise of tomorrow. We heard of the tragedy just east of us of a young man being killed. The sorrow and the hurt that that family must endure, the cross must be heavy. Then, to the west of us, another young man, twenty-two years old, his life was taken in an instant. How heavy the cross must be. God alone is the judge, but this young man was raised in the faith. he was taught in Sunday school and I'm sure his parents taught him at home. It leaves a question mark in our minds, doesn't it? How much better we would feel, if one like that could have confessed before hand that he had a hope. We only can pray that God, as His is always merciful, was merciful to him.

We often think of the thief on the cross. It puts a fear into my heart that anyone would ever wait until that time as the thief did on the cross. He did have time to look to the Saviour. His eyes turned to the Saviour and said, "Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom." The Lord said to him, "Today shalt thou be with me in paradise." Luke 23:42, 43.

If we put too much trust in "that is the way it is going to happen to me," we might be disappointed someday. God gives us the opportunity today and He said, "Today when ye hear My voice, harden not your hearts." Hebrews 4:7.

In Galatians we read, "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." Galatians 6:7. If we think we can toy with salvation, if we think we can toy with our never-

dying soul, if we think we can take the gamble of waiting and waiting, God is not mocked. Let us remember this. God is a righteous God. God is a loving God. God is a merciful God. But, just remember, He is not going to be mocked.

"For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it." Luke 9:24. Whosoever shall save his life, will lose it. We think that we enjoy ourselves. I'm speaking now for myself when I was unconverted. I don't want to speak for anybody else because I don't know what is in their hearts, but I know what was in mine. I thought I was enjoying myself in beggarly elements of the world, entertainment, movies, sports, and being caught up in those things. I thought I was enjoying myself and was trying to save that life.

It tells us that if we try to save that life, we are going to lose it. We will also lose eternal life. But if we put away and lose that life, then we are going to save life eternal. We will be ready when our Lord comes. I believe everyone here realizes that the Lord is going to come again.

He tells us here, "For what is a man advantaged, if he gain the whole world, and lose himself, or be cast away?" Luke 9:25. Why would God cast anybody away when He is such a God of love? Because of sin. He gave that which was the dearest to Him . . . His Son. If man continually rejects our Lord and Saviour and continues in sin and unrighteousness; if man doesn't even recognize what God has done for him, then God has no choice but to cast him away.

It tells us here, "For what is a man advantaged, if he gain the whole world, and lose himself . . ." Luke 9:25. We can be out there striving, and enjoying the things of this world. I remember a brother today, who was out in the world . . . and didn't come to church any more. Then all of a sudden out there in the world, the Lord convicted him. He said it puts fear in him yet today to realize how far out in the world he was. The Lord could have cast him away, but the Lord was merciful. He said it puts a fear in his heart today to realize how far away from the truth, how far away from the Lord and from what he was taught, that he had travelled. He is so thank-

ful that the Lord brought him back.

Here it tells us, "If we gain the whole world . . ." Is it to our advantage to gain the whole world, then lose ourselves for eternity? Remember that rich man? He had a lot. He had so much that he had to tear down his old barns and build new bigger barns so that they could hold all his possessions and the crops that he harvested. He didn't think of anything else. He didn't think of the soul that he had been given. He thought of this life, and he thought perhaps he had gained the whole world.

He said, "Now I've got all this and I'm just going to take it easy and enjoy myself." What were the words? "Thou fool . . . Thou fool, this night thy souls shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?" Luke 12:20.

"For whosoever shall be ashamed of me and of my words, of him shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he shall come in his own glory, and in his Father's, and of the holy angels." Luke 9:26. That speaks to every one of us. If we are going to be ashamed of the Lord, or of His words, then He is going to be ashamed of us on that day when He comes in His own glory. He is going to come and rapture His church. He is going to come as a Judge someday. We are going to have to give an account of how we have lived here upon this earth.

"But I tell you of a truth, there be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, till they see the kingdom of God." Luke 9:27. Perhaps that is a little harder to understand or know just exactly what the Lord is talking about. Perhaps there are different interpretations of that. Maybe the Lord was trying to tell some of those people there that they were going to miss the plan of salvation because they didn't want to believe or because they put it off too long. There were some standing there that would not taste of death, eternal death, until the Lord comes again.

May it be, that each one of us here are worthy to escape that eternal death; and that we would be worthy to be with our Lord and Saviour. As He has gone to the Father and sits there on His right hand, may you and I be of those that will sit at the feet of Jesus.

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SERMON BY BRO. EARL GERBER OF FORREST, IL

"God Keeps His Promises"

Genesis 55:1-7 and Luke 9:18-45

In the first reading Jacob was instructed to go to Bethel and build an altar to God. Jacob said unto his household and all that were with him, "Put away the strange gods that are among you, and be clean, and change your garments." Genesis 35:2. They were obedient. We did not find that there was an argument or that they became contentious. They were all willing to give up those things and go with Jacob because he was instructed by God to go to Bethel to build an altar. They put the strange gods out of their lives.

I had to think as we read those words, of our lives. When we were yet in our unconverted state, we were instructed to come out of the bondage of sin and Satan and the slavery that we were in. We were to come out from that and put away those things of this world. Then we were to put on a clean garment.

That garment, beloved, is the garment of righteousness, the imputed righteousness of Christ, our Lord. As we could go through the shed blood and were cleansed from our sins and iniquities and those things that we had committed that were an abomination in the sight of God, God could take those things because we confessed them.

We knew that we were sinners. We knew that the sin in our heart separated us from an Almighty God. Then we went through the blood and had our hearts cleansed and those sins were cast into the sea of forgetfulness.

We then had the new garment put on. We had to take that old garment off, the garment that was stained with sin. Christ then clothed us with a garment of righteousness.

I am so thankful that we have these instructions and these examples

of people in the time of the children of Israel, in the time of Jacob, that were obedient to the commands of an Almighty God. They were willing to follow and they had a faith to know that God would be with them. They were willing to put off those things.

We are thankful today there are yet people who are also willing to put off that old garment and put away the things that are gods in their life, gods like those in our life before we were converted.

We should put these gods away and turn to the Living God, the One and the Only One that can give us salvation. He's the Only One that can help us to attain that goal of heaven that we have set out for.

We also read of those that were following our Lord and Saviour many, many years later. Our Lord and Saviour was born here upon earth, grew up and started His ministry. He had a following and instructed the people at that time.

It tells us here, "And it came to pass, as He was alone praying . . ." Luke 9:18. I have to think of prayer, beloved. There was an old brother in Rockville, CT, that always used to say, "What a wonderful occupation to pray."

We can feel the power of prayer. I know that is why the Lord so often had to go up the mountain to be alone. It says here that He was alone praying. In the stillness of day or night, in the stillness, He would slip away and would pray to God. Then He could gather His thoughts and His mind together to talk with His Father in heaven.

The Son of God was alone praying. If we realize that Jesus, the Son of God, felt a need of prayer, how much more you and I should steal away often and pray in quietness to our

Lord and Saviour, our heavenly Father. We need His help.

Here was the Son of God knowing what was before Him, yet knowing that the power was in prayer. He was communing with His heavenly Father and knew that He would then help Him.

"... his disciples were with him: and he asked them, saying, Whom say the people that I am?" Luke 9:18. He had been here upon earth for some time and knew that His time was growing short. He wondered just what kind of, shall we say, "feedback," the disciples were getting from the people. I believe our Lord and Saviour could see into the hearts of every man then as He can today. But He wanted to know what the disciples thought as the people talked to them about Him (Jesus). "They answering said, John the Baptist; but some say, Elias; and others say, that one of the old prophets is risen again." Luke 9:19.

We can see that the people realized that Jesus had something that was special. They knew of John the Baptist, Elias, and many of the prophets of old. They knew that many of those things that were prophesied had been fulfilled. They knew that what the prophets had spoken was truth and, I believe, realized what our Lord and Saviour was speaking also must be truth. They classified Jesus with Elias, John the Baptist and the prophets of old.

Then "He said unto them, But whom say ye that I am?" Luke 9:20. He wanted this confession from His disciples; who did they think He was? Did they truly think that He was the Son of God? So He asked them, "Who do you say that I am?"

"Peter answeringsaid, The Christ
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