



"Children's children are the crown of old men; and the glory of children are their fathers."

Proverbs 17:6

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

Psalms 127:3

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## To Raise A Child

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

Proverbs 22:6



It takes a bit of wisdom  
With an understanding smile,  
A patience that's unending  
And a tender heart worthwhile,  
A faith and hope to treasure  
And a gentleness supreme,  
A touch of rich forbearance  
With a bright and shining dream.

It takes a bit of helping  
And a listener from the start,  
Ever kindly -- ever loving  
With a warm believing heart,  
A blessedness and trusting  
Giving more than you would ask,  
A home where God is present  
And where doing is no task.

It takes a Dad and Mother  
And cooperation too,  
If a child would live in beauty  
And to everyone be true,  
Goodly deeds and sweet togetherness  
Worthwhile things that parents teach,  
To raise a child in glory  
It takes a bit of each.

By Garnett Ann Schultz

*"Children, obey your parents in all things: for this is well-pleasing unto the Lord."*

Colossians 3:20

## MISSION -- WORLD RELIEF -- WORKS PROJECTS

### TEACHER TO SERVE IN JAPAN

We are grateful for the response from our plea for a teacher to serve, God willing, for a term of two years at our nursery and kindergarten school "Under the Vine" in Yamanashi Prefecture, Japan.

God continues to move hearts and to touch souls. Sis. Terri Gramm (Gridley, IL) has expressed a willingness to lend herself in this very important endeavor. She has the support of her shepherd and local congregation, has been interviewed by the Missionary Committee, and has received their unanimous support.

It is not easy to make this sacrifice, but we are confident God will bless Sis. Terri for her expression of love, and provide consolation to her family who obviously will miss her, not only because Japan is so far away, but also because of the length of time she possibly will be gone.

When I was first invited by the elders to go to Japan back in the 1950's, I shared with my father the distance factor, although the plans were to be gone only about a month. My father very thoughtfully and kindly reminded me that it was really not as far from home and family then as it

was when his father, as a young man, accompanied Bro. Virkler from New York State to Oregon. That was one of the early missionary journeys our brethren in the United States took when the first church was established at Silverton, Oregon in 1879. My father's point was that although the distance was not as far back in those pioneer days, communication was much more difficult and the time factor greater than my trip to the Orient. It really caused me to think.

Those of us who have made the long journey to Japan understand the need of prayer and the blessings that follow when we, sent by the Lord through his church, are obedient. We commend Sis. Terri to the grace of God. We should be mindful of all our dear brethren who unselfishly lend themselves in these many important labors of love.

Sis. Kathy Kieser (Bradford, IL) is returning home after graciously serving and teaching the dear children in Japan for four years. We also deeply appreciate that Sis. Renee Baurer has consented to remain in Japan for an additional year. This will certainly alleviate the problems that would have been generated had both sisters left the school at the same time. We

thank God for her consideration in this very important matter.

There is a possibility that in the not-too-distant future we may terminate the nursery and kindergarten school. If we terminate the school, however, we are agreed it will require notice to the community of at least a couple of years. No definite decision has been made, so a year from now there will quite possibly be a need for a sister to fill a vacancy there. We will await the direction of the Lord through his holy spirit.

Most gratefully,  
your needy servant,  
Elder Bro. Ben Maibach

## OFFICE MANAGER OPENING AT THE CHILDREN'S HOME

There is an immediate opening for an Office Manager at the Children's Home.

This position would offer opportunity to work in a Christian office environment with a wide variety of responsibilities. Required skills include:

- \* "Executive secretarial" skills
- \* Communication skills (oral and written)
- \* Basic understanding of bookkeeping and finances
- \* Organizational skills
- \* Computer experience (helpful but not required)
- \* Pleasant personality

Salary and benefits would be commensurate with experience. If you are interested or know of someone who might be, please contact either of the brothers listed below.

Bro. Tim Sauder, Administrator  
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

### THE SILVER LINING

Grabill, Indiana 46741  
USPS 496780

#### EDITORIAL STAFF:

David Bertsch  
Uriel Gehring  
Lester Stoller

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

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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).*

## CONTENTMENT

*"But godliness with contentment is great gain" (1 Tim. 6:6).* The beautiful state of contentment is one of the highest goals of every human being. Though many exhortations and instructions are given on becoming godly, nowhere in the Bible does it tell specifically how to become more content. Contentment is not something individuals can simply produce themselves. Instead, if a soul wants to be content, he must exercise himself in godliness, pursuing the scriptural attributes of this great virtue.

First of all we must love the Word of God and make full use of its divine wisdom. *"The testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple. The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes" (Ps. 19:7-8).* Another part of our growing in godliness is to practice humility. *"For I say, through the grace given unto me, of every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith" (Rom. 12:3).* This attribute of godliness is essential for inner peace. Satan would cause us to focus on a bit of pride. Further, discontent is often characterized by offense taking. Perhaps we have not been fairly dealt with and we feel hurt or mistreated. If we are striving for our rights or dwelling on what we deserve, we cannot be content. *"Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them" (Ps. 119:165).*

Another important aspect of godliness is to *"lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us . . ." (Heb. 12:1).* We must pray earnestly for grace to acknowledge our errors and remove these weights. We need to say humbly to our Lord and to all, *"I have failed, please forgive me and help me to do better. I need strength and courage and the grace of God to overcome."* Likewise, we also need to forgive others. If we are harboring a grudge, we can

never be content (Jam. 5:9). *"And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you" (Eph. 4:32).*

We must learn to walk in unity, content in the fellowship wherein God has called us. This blending of hearts and nurturing of common beliefs is very important. The Apostle Paul writes: *"walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called . . . endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace" (Eph. 4:1,3).* *"Fulfill ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind" (Phil. 2:2).* If we focus on ourselves, our individual opinions, we do not contribute to the unity of the brotherhood. In such selfishness, we become more and more discontented with our lot. However, as we direct our prayers and actions toward the needs of the brethren, we become more godly and thus more content.

Being godly also requires that we be faithful, consistent and obedient. True faith is manifested by obedience to the Word of God. Employers look for consistency of effort and responsibility. We cannot rest on last year's or even yesterday's worthwhile performance. *"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord" (1 Cor. 15:58).*

We must also be aware of potential distractions to our contentment. Being jealous or covetous will definitely work to destroy our godliness. In Luke 12 the rich fool had his soul required of him. In 2 Timothy 3:2-5 the covetous are listed as people to turn away from. We are not to become distressed by looking on others and desiring to possess what they have. One of the surest ways to become discontent is to desire something that is not rightfully ours. How many of us are troubled with trying to be what we cannot and should not be? *"Let your conversation be*

*without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have" (Heb. 13:5).*

Desire for riches can be a great disadvantage to being content. In the Proverbs many verses remind us of this. *"He that is greedy of gain troubleth his own house" (Prov. 15:27).* *"Better is a little with righteousness than great revenues without right" (Prov. 16:8).* *"A faithful man shall abound with blessings: but he that maketh haste to be rich shall not be innocent" (Prov. 28:20).*

A desire for immediate gratification can also be a drawback and lead to restlessness. There is a splendid analogy in the Word: *"Surely I have behaved and quieted myself, as a child that is weaned of his mother: my soul is even as a weaned child" (Ps. 131:2).* Thus we must learn to be patient, allowing our souls to be as weaned, contented children, willing to wait on the Lord for our fulfillment. We must remember our peace is not dependent on circumstances. Despite life's pressures, frustrating situations, or perplexing decisions, we can be at peace; for we know our Lord is always present and has an unconditional love for us. Paul described one of the beautiful results of many of the lessons of his life: *" . . . for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content" (Phi. 4:11).*

Contentment brings the great gain of peace, joy, happiness and fulfillment. There is inner abundance to be found for the believer in this life and even greater joy to be anticipated in eternity: *"Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in Heaven" (Matt. 5:12).* There is a natural desire in all of us to enjoy life. The only way to achieve this in its fullness is to practice all aspects of godliness, leading to contentment and great gain on both sides of the grave. Then we can experience true peace and even bring pleasure to our beloved Savior.



**HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED**

The Home for the Handicapped will NOT be having a benefit sale this year. Thank you for your past support.

**--NOTICE --**

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

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

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

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

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

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

**APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN BIBLE DISTRIBUTION****Bibles Distributed By Our Churches**

First Year -- August 1983 thru July 1984 -- 13,890  
Second Year -- August 1984 thru July 1985 -- 10,812  
Third Year -- August 1985 thru July 1986 -- 18,247  
Fourth Year -- August 1986 thru July 1987 -- 23,048  
Fifth Year -- August 1987 thru July 1988 -- 25,969  
Sixth Year -- August 1988 thru July 1989 -- 25,509

**Bibles Distributed -- Sixth Year**

	MONTH	TO DATE
August 1988 --	3486	3486
September 1988 --	1365	4851
October 1988 --	1762	6613
November 1988 --	2655	9268
December 1988 --	1637	10,905
January 1989 --	2070	12,975
February 1989 --	2562	15,537
March 1989 --	2017	17,554
April 1989 --	2386	19,940
May 1989 --	2075	22,015
June 1989 --	1478	23,493
July 1989 --	2016	25,509

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.

**LOCAL WORLD RELIEF  
HARDSHIP****Bro. Vernon Leman**

Charity begins at home, therefore our helping needy brethren and friends, becomes a priority with our World Relief Organization. With God's help, we try to follow His guidelines and to love our neighbor as ourselves. The Bible gives us other exhortations as in Galatians we read, "as we have opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith."

These needs were formerly taken care of through the Alms Fund in each church, however, because of the high cost of living and especially high doctor, hospital and medical bills, it became quite evident that it was proper for the World Relief Fund to help. The total of one yearly report, conference to conference, amounted to \$63,081.31 for one year. If local funds are insufficient to assist those in need, the local church's treasurer representative should, after consulting with the local church's elder, advice the nearest committee member. Then arrangements can be made to disburse money from the National World Relief Fund. In God's Word (Philippians 4:10) we read how the apostle Paul commends the Philippians for the contributing to his need, but ye lacked opportunity. So now the opportunity is provided to all the churches to help in this worthy cause through the World Relief Organization.

We solicit the help and prayers of all in this work and would especially encourage the treasurer representatives to forward any knowledge of such cases to the committee.

Our rule for giving, according to II Corinthians 9:7 reads, "Every man, according as he proposeth in his heart, so let him give, not grudgingly, or of necessity; for God loveth a cheerful giver."

It is with deep appreciation and esteem for the efforts of the Pioneer brethren who established the World Relief Committee that we acknowledge their efforts as directed by God to the establishment of this most worthy work. The many brothers and sisters also friends who have supported this work are to be commended to the Lord for His richest blessings. May God continue to place His hand

of divine guidance upon all those of the past, present and future who have so served and supported this work.

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**NEWS FROM  
 EASTERN EUROPE**  
**Bro. Andy Hunyady**  
**Columbus, OH**

Greetings Beloved:

On Tuesday, June 6, 1989, a 48 foot long by 8 1/2 foot wide mobile medical clinic was placed on public display at the Metro Center, in Dublin, OH, a Columbus suburb. The following inscription was painted on the entrance side in red letters:

"Donated to the People of Armenia  
 By  
 the Citizens of Columbus, Ohio,  
 the Cambridge Yerevan Society,  
 the Apostolic Christian  
 World Relief"

While on display, this event was given highly favorable publicity by the area TV, radio and newspapers. "Area residents contributed \$20,000 and the Hospital Association of Central Ohio provided \$6,000. The World Relief National Committee for the Apostolic Christian Church contributed \$20,000. An Armenian Society, called the Yerevan Society, based in Cambridge, MA, gave \$30,000 and will monitor the operation of the unit

in Armenia," reported the Columbus dispatch.

In addition, the area hospitals donated a number of medical equipment and later, after similar public display in Cambridge, the Yerevan Society will fully equip the unit so it will be ready for operation when it arrives in Armenia.

It is an entirely self-contained unit, with two examining rooms, a laboratory, intake room, reception area and closets; electric generator, heating and cooling unit, etc . . . It can be easily moved from one area to another.

This clinic will serve the medical needs of infants and children in the Leninakan area, which was seriously devastated by the December earthquake.

After the unit is fully equipped and sealed, it will be transported from Philadelphia by a Soviet ship to Leningrad, and from there by special railroad car to Leninakan. The Soviet Government will assume the transportation costs.

It was reported that a long list of volunteer doctors have registered with the state department, who are willing to go and serve with the native medics. Dr. Carolann S. Najarian (Lincoln, MA), a native of Armenia, will serve as the co-ordinator of the project.

Letters of thanks were received from Dana Reinhart, Mayor of Columbus, and Dr. Thomas Helmuth, medical director for Riverside Methodist Hospital who served as chairman of the Mayor's Task Force on Armenian relief. I was invited to attend the committee meetings and each of the members were deeply impressed with the generous contribution made by the committee of the Apostolic Christian Church. May it all resound to the honor and glory of God, our heavenly Father and His Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ!

The arrival of food parcels sent to our beneficiaries in Romania is very erratic. According to latest reports, the families were required to pay duty, or tax of 175 Lei per parcel, which is the equivalent of U.S. \$22 - \$25. Most families are not able to pay such an amount. We were advised to send money vouchers instead, so they can buy whatever food is available from the government operated "dollar shops." Indeed, it is hard to believe, that a government can sink that low that it has no respect and concern for the welfare of its people. One brighter side of the picture is, that despite the religious persecutions and demolishing of churches, there is an increase in the number of those who attend worship services, and of new converts. The three elder brothers are in need of help in order to properly care for the spiritual needs of the church. They see an urgent need for additional elders.

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## OPENING FOR HOUSEPARENT COUPLE AT THE CHILDREN'S HOME

We are very thankful for the many generous ways that our brothers and sisters throughout the land support the Children's Home. Here is yet another opportunity that goes to the very heart of our work.

There is an immediate opening at the Children's Home for a married couple to serve as Houseparents for troubled children, ages 11 - 18 years old. We encourage mature couples with a heart for young people to seriously and prayerfully consider this calling to serve the Lord, the church and children. There are children waiting who desperately need and desire the stability, security and love of a Christian home.

For more information on responsibilities, salary and benefits, please contact either of the brothers listed below.

Bro. Tim Sauder  
 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

We solicit your support in praying that our brethren will respond to the Lord's call to fill this important position.

"The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the Harvest, that He will send forth laborers into the harvest." (Matthew 9:37 - 38)

On Sunday, July 2, two brothers, 24 and 26, who fled from Romania, were baptized in the Budapest Church. Two Romanian elders from Yugoslavia assisted the local elder brothers in the baptismal ceremony. The parents of the two young brothers are living in Romania and are in the faith. Hungarian officials place the number of such refugees from Romania at about 30,000, most of whom are applying for emigration into one of the western countries. This process is very slow and it creates a heavy burden upon the Hungarians. Relief funds



are being sent from many of the western countries to help these homeless people. The \$10,000 contributed by the World Relief Committee was received by the brethren in Budapest and channelled to the proper local agencies who look after the needs of the refugees.

In June, 1988, while visiting in Eastern Europe with Elder Bros. Ben Maibach and Wendell Gudeman and their dear wives, we had the opportunity to meet and get acquainted with Elder Bro. Peter Karcsa from the Ukraine, USSR, who was visiting in Hungary. During the week we travelled together and visited several cities and churches.

This past June, Bro. Karcsa and his dear wife, Sis. Ileana, came to visit friends and brethren in California, Ohio and Michigan. We also had the privilege to have them for a few days and so, we attended church services in Smithville, OH, on Wednesday evening, June 14. Next day, we travelled to Detroit, at the invitation of Bro. Ben and Sis. Lorene Maibach. Bro. Karcsa delivered the evening sermon through an interpreter. Immediately after the services, Bro. Peter spoke to us about the churches and conditions in his homeland and answered the several questions that was directed to him. On both evenings, the churches were filled with many brethren and friends attending from the area churches who came to hear and meet him.

This can be regarded as a historical event, for the first time ever, that an elder of our faith in the Soviet Union visited our churches in the United States. It is our regret, that his time was very limited and we could not visit other churches as we had hoped to.

While in Michigan, Bro. Karcsa had a meeting with the brethren from Windsor, Ontario, who are working on the translation and preparation for printing of the Zion's Harp Hymnal into the Ukrainian language. When printed, the books will be shipped to Austria and distribution into the Ukraine will be made from there as needed. This has been a monumental task, requiring a lot of time, hard work and some expense, which is worthy of our support through the mission fund.

We thank our God for His marvel-

ous love and ways He brings believers of like-faith together from far corners of the earth. Despite our differences in language or geographical locations, we find that there is oneness in the spirit and faith through Jesus Christ, our Lord!

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#### WORLD RELIEF UPDATE AND NEEDS LIST

##### Jerome Witzig - World Relief

As reported at the annual Eastern World Relief Meeting, held at Fairbury, IL, the following items are now being collected. Some are new items, others are high priority items:

1. Used hearing aids - needed in Argentina so Christians can hear sermons.

2. Used eyeglasses - considered a miracle in Haiti, where the blind can now see.

3. Used cooking and baking utensils - for Jamaica

4. Used file cabinets, typewriters, and calculators.

5. Maternity, infants and childrens clothing, we fail a little here.

6. Electric and treadle sewing machines - electricity is coming to Haiti. We can now send electric sewing machines. This project helps people help themselves.

7. Used Bibles and song books - we are a collection point for Bro. Jerry and Sis. Arlene Banwart.

Send any of the above items to:  
Wing Material Aid Center, Wing, IL  
Bluffton Distribution Center  
Leo Distribution Center  
Athens Distribution Center

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#### ADDRESS CHANGE

##### Apostolic Christian Mission Fund & Bible Fund

Effective September 1, 1989, Bro. Eugene Marti will assume full responsibility as secretary/treasurer of the Apostolic Christian Mission Fund and Bible Fund.

There is still some confusion about where to send funds when obtaining Bibles distributed by our brotherhood and warehoused in Leo, IN, under the direction of Elder Bro. David Bertsch. Orders only for Bibles (not payment) are to be forwarded to Elder Bro. David Bertsch, 11520 Grabill Road, Grabill, IN 46741.

**Please be advised that any**

**donations to the Mission Fund or any of its activities and all donations and payment for Bibles are to be sent to the attention of Bro. Eugene Marti, Apostolic Christian Mission Fund, P. O. Box 23356, Overland Park, KS 66223-0356.**

Please do not forward any checks to my attention in Detroit, but any questions or recommendations to the Mission Committee for their consideration can be forwarded either to Bro. Eugene or myself, as I for the interim at least will continue as chairman of the Mission Committee.

May God bless and keep you.  
Most sincerely, your needy servant,  
Bro. Ben Maibach, Jr., Chairman  
Apostolic Christian Mission Fund  
P. O. Box 5200  
Detroit, MI 48235

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#### APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME -- EUREKA, IL

There is a need for a night nurse at the Apostolic Christian Home for the Aged. If you are an R.N. or an L.P.N. and willing to work part-time or full-time, please contact Sis. Jane Stoller, Director of Nursing, at (309) 467-2311, or write to Sis. Jane at 610 W. Cruger, Eureka, IL 61530.

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#### APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME Ida Metzger

Dear Mom:

My memory's little faded  
as it was years ago,  
When you couldn't take care of me,  
a stranger told me so.

The stranger said she'd be my mother  
and would love me for all time,  
But she left me like you did.  
Did I commit a crime?

Today we learned in school  
how to make a family tree.  
I didn't know what to write,  
it was very sad for me.

I've had a lot of mothers  
since you went away.  
But none of them could keep me,  
for I was in their way

They said my behavior was  
often out of line

How I wish I had a mother  
that was really, really mine.

She would come to see my teacher  
and hear my teacher say,  
Be proud of little Joey,  
for he was good today.

She would be at home waiting  
to play with me out back.  
She'd help me with my homework  
and fix a little snack.

She would pour the bubbles in my  
bath  
and let me play awhile.  
She would help me clean my room  
when I left things in a pile.

She would read to me  
and hear my prayers before I went  
to sleep.

And would be there in the morning  
for she was really mine to keep.

I am happy here at the Children's  
Home  
and I wanted you to know,  
That no matter why you left me,  
I will always love you so.

Your son, Joey

Most of us will never understand how Joey feels. We have so much to be thankful for and may we each appreciate the Christian homes in which we were raised. It is also good to remind ourselves that God has placed us each in a special position and that we should not forget that we, too, could have been "Joeys," but for the mercy of God.

Our need for houseparents continues. Our hope is that each of you would let God work in your hearts and let yourselves be willing to follow if He asks you to do this work. We are in a position to attempt to fill needs in childrens' lives that only a mother or father can. (See ad in this issue on page 6)

We welcome Valarie, who has recently joined the East House family. In addition, Sis. Shay Nelson has taken her position as assistant in the new house and we welcome her. July was also a time of farewells as Sis. Colleen Reardon returned to Sarasota, FL, and Wendy Evans moved

back home with her family. They will both be missed.

We would like to thank the brothers and sisters who so willingly gave of their time to help us this past month. They include Bro. Larry Gramm (Gridley, IL) and Sis. Marci Metz (Francesville). Our hearts are filled with gratitude for all the help and support we have received throughout the summer from volunteers. May God bless them all.

Our kids have been especially busy lately with work. Several have found full-time jobs in the community including Wayne S. and Bob W. at a truck wash, Lisa S. and Mike K. at a nursing home, and Rich F. and David K. detassling corn. Our high energy, over-achiever is Penny G. with three restaurant jobs! Learning to cooperate with peers and to satisfy supervisors with a quality job are some of the most important things our teens can learn.

A recent trip to Francesville for the Christian Endeavor weekend provided an exciting opportunity for our high schoolers to meet other teens from across the state and to enjoy fellowship and fun.

The time for school is fast approaching and we ask your prayers as the children return to a more regular, but exciting routine.

We have several birthdays this month and we wish each one a special day. Mareen Moraski 8/22, Sisters Marie Hersey 8/5, Velma Bollier 8/9, Ruth Gramm 8/18, and Bro. Jack Bollier 8/27.

We are looking forward to being with many of you at our Thirteenth Annual Auction and Sale. Check with your representative about buses from your area. See you August 19.

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### APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

Summer may be busy, but it doesn't stop us from wanting to take time to thank the many wonderful brothers, sisters and friends who've made special efforts to share some time with us. Hoping to, in a small way, show our appreciation for the many hours of volunteer help, we served a noon and an evening meal Saturday, June 10, to approximately 450 people. After each meal, many of the residents

put on a singing program for our guests.

In June, the Floran Streitmatters (Princeville), and many from their congregation generously treated us to our "annual" visit to the farm. Thank you to all who helped.

Several from Oakwood Estate and Apostolic Christian Home for the Handicapped made a recent week-end trip to Chicago. After a day of enjoying the sights of the city, the congregation welcomed us for a week-end of beautiful fellowship.

Another much anticipated event was our annual trip to Forrest. As always, it was a blessed weekend seeing all our beloved brethren.

September birthdays at ACHH are: Angie Massner and Marta Graber (9), Mike Culkin (10), David Taylor (13), Janet Christensen and Lester Miller (16), Lois Elgli (19), David Maupin and Glenn Getz (20), Jim Maupin (24), Nancy Theis (25), Marsha Miller (26), and Ethel Borinstein (29). At Oakwood Estate, Marlene Esslinger is the only September birthday (8).

Oakwood Estate had been hosting monthly singings. Princeville, Tremont and Gridley groups have already joined them at Oakwood, and they look forward to more starting this coming fall.

The Special Olympic team at ACHH enjoyed three beautiful days of sunshine at ISU in June. We met many new friends and renewed acquaintances from all over the state of Illinois.

We certainly enjoyed our annual Fourth of July picnic. Being with families is a unanimous favorite and this year was no exception.

Biking, hiking, going to fairs, shopping, bingo, swimming, singing, camping, picnicking, swinging and vacationing, continue to enhance our summer fun.

Can we ever be thankful enough for all our God has given? Doubtful, but trying keeps us on our knees, and our thoughts heavenward.

The Home for the Handicapped will not be having a benefit sale this year. Thank you for your past support.

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Give Your Address Changes  
To Your Reporter



**APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN  
PRESCHOOL OF ATHENS, AL**  
**Julie Bauer**

We've been having quite a wet summer in Alabama, so we're extra thankful for the sunshine we've been blessed with for the last couple of days. The nice weather has allowed us to get the swimming pools out again. Swimming is always a favorite pastime and our preschoolers are no exception. Water activities seem to hold a special fascination for them and are a great way to cool off on hot days.

We appreciate the willingness of Sisters Kathy Huthmann and Rachel Geyer (Peoria, IL) to come down and help us out for a week. The children enjoy having new faces around and making new friends. The teachers enjoy the fresh ideas, the fellowship and the time off that the volunteers give us. We thank the Lord for every willing heart He provides.

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**ALABAMA, ATHENS**  
**Pamela Moore**

Last Sunday, parents and children were both pleased, as those children with perfect attendance in Sunday school were called to the front of the church and given awards. From three years old to high school age, these children attended Sunday school every Sunday during the past three months. Not only does the child play a significant part, so also do their parents. To bring them to church each Sunday and to pray with them and talk with them about God every day in-between. Children begin at an early age to "model" their parents, are they learning to model a Christian's behavior or otherwise?

We are so pleased to welcome Ben and Sis. Mary Ann Link into our area. They will be living in Cullman, AL, and attending church in Athens. We are very thankful to have their family become a part of our congregation.

We appreciate our many visitors this past month. Some of the churches represented were: Sabetha, KS, Atlanta, GA, Roanoke, Peoria and Tremont, IL, Francesville, IN, and Sarasota and Fort Lauderdale, FL.

Construction is almost completed on the new addition to our World

Reliefbuilding. We want to thank the volunteers from the Illinois and Indiana churches who came and shared their talents and skills in this project.

Sis. Dessie Siniard and Bertha Barnett were hospital patients this month, they are both at home now recovering. Little Kendra Coulter, infant daughter of Bro. David and Sis. Barbara Coulter, has also been hospitalized. We ask your prayers as she undergoes tests and hospitalization, both for her and her family.

We are thankful to have Sis. Kathy Huthmann and Rachel Geyer (Peoria, IL) here to volunteer at the Preschool. This allows our regular teachers to have vacation time during the summer months.

We always welcome anyone and everyone to visit us in Athens, whether it's included as part of your vacation, or as a special trip!

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**ARIZONA, PHOENIX**  
**Ron and Ev Hoerr**

Many encouraging teachings are spoken to us twice a week. We are grateful for our four home ministering brothers, yet did appreciate the messages brought by visiting ministers: Bros. Tom Leman (Denver, CO), Gary Maibach (Smithville, OH), Curtis Kaufman (Tucson) and Jim Plattner (Princeville, IL). Our thanks to each of you, come again.

On June 25, we heard the engagement of Bro. Shawn Maurer to Sis. Shelly Lawson. Their parents are Bro. Howard and Sis. Eileen Maurer and Bro. Ken and Sis. Sharon Lawson (Minneapolis, MN). They are planning an August 27 wedding.

The engagement of Bro. Alan Knochel and Sis. Lindy Schambach was announced July 9. Their parents are Bro. Ted and Sis. Madeline Knochel and Bro. Ed and Sis. Jenny Schambach. We trust both couples know they need the Lord as they plan for their special day.

On June 16 baby Kalsey Ann opened her eyes to see her parents, Danny and Beth Cooke. Aaron is her brother.

Congratulations to Bro. Wilbur and Sis. Sophie Huber on new grandson, Thomas James. His parents are Kirk and Lilly Huber.

Our sympathy to Evelyn Howley on the death of her stepmother, Sis.

Freida (Bro. Carl) Gasser. Evelyn spent time with them during Sis. Freida's final days before flying back again for the funeral in Rittman, OH.

We are very happy to see Bob and Sis. Marge Rebbec back in church.

Our prayer list includes "get wells" for Bro. Joe Dotterer, surgical; Sis. Carol Kaufman, hospital medical; Sis. Martha DeMille, bedrest at home; Robin Sharley was hospitalized and is okay now. We miss Sis. Frances Schrenk and Carol Doolittle who are not feeling well enough to assemble on Sundays.

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**ARIZONA, TUCSON**  
**Lisa Knapp**

Communion services were held June 25. Elder Bro. Richard Schupbach conducted the services along with our deacon, Bro. Noah Herman. As always, these services were a blessing and an encouragement.

Our visiting minister this month was Bro. Gary Maibach (Smithville, OH). We appreciate his visit to Tucson and his service on the pulpit.

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**CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA**  
**Lisa Steiner**

"He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved . . ." (Mark 16:16). On July 2, our congregation was blessed to witness the baptisms of two dear souls, Ben Aberle (Bro. Richard and Sis. LaNae) and Doug Aberle (Sis. Sandy). We were pleased to have Elder Bro. Richard Schupbach with us for the occasion as well as many visitors. We were also thankful to have had ministering Bro. Gary Maibach (Smithville, OH) with us during this past month to bring us God's Word.

We were saddened by the loss of our dear Sis. Melva Alexander to cancer. We take comfort, however, in knowing that she was ready to meet the Lord.

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**COLORADO, DENVER**  
**Marlene Leman**

At this time our thoughts and prayers have been with Bro. Verne (Sis. Leona) Lehman as he has undergone open heart surgery in somewhat emergency circumstances. May God strengthen and restore Bro. Verne



as He sees fit and may He also be with Sis. Leona and their family.

We welcome another new baby. Abdallah and Delores Elhabassi are happy parents of Abdulcarter Batma, born July 5. May God be with them as they raise their little son. Grandparents are Bro. Ray and Sis. Marge Feucht (Lester, IA).

We welcome Sarah Braun (Elgin, IL) into our midst. May God give her guidance in her life.

Ministers vacationing out here and favoring us with a visit were Bro. Charlie Sinn (Fort Scott, KS), Bro. Neil Widmer (Wolcott, IN) and Bro. Dale Moore (Elgin, IA). May God bless them for bringing His good Word to us.

Our thoughts and prayers turn to our elder brethren as they do meet together to seek the counsel and wisdom of God. May He be with them and may we each do our part that they may fulfill their responsibilities with joy.

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### CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE Martha Hany

We bid Bro. Dick and Sis. Ann Hoffman farewell as they return to Roanoke, IL. We enjoyed their fellowship the last three years and with them God's continued grace in their new endeavors.

A daughter, Amber Kay, was born to Bro. Steve and Sis. Joan Hoffman June 26. Their only son, Alan, welcomes another sister, along with Alice and AnnMarie and we wish them the Lord's blessings. Grandparents are Bro. Ed and Sis. Elsa Hoffman and Bro. Lenny and Sis. Irma Luginbuhl.

On July 8, a son, Matthew David, was born to Bro. Duane and Sis. Kay Reutter. Sis. Kay, however, experienced serious complications during and after the birth of their son and presently is in the intensive care unit. We are all praying for her and Duane and, even though there is so much we do not understand, may the Lord's will prevail. At home, eagerly awaiting the arrival of their mother and brother are Nathan, Derek, Kirby, Amber and Ashley. Grandparents are Bill and Sis. Ann Marie Reutter and Bro. Alvin and Sis. Loretta Baumgartner.

We always welcome visiting ministers and are thankful they make it a point to stop in Rockville to share the Word with us, namely: Bro. Steve Ringger (Bluffton North, IN), Bro. Glen Rigenbach (Smithville, OH) and Elder Bros. Andy Virkler (Bay City, MI) and Andy Stoller (Smithville, OH). May the Lord be their reward.

"Behold, the days come, saith the Lord God, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord:"

Amos 8:11

It was encouraging and edifying to the brotherhood the weekend of July 9 to hear two dear, young souls who, after seeking and finding peace with the Lord through a true repentance, could testify of their experience of conversion. We rejoice with Sis. Brenda Rady (Walter and Florence - N.H.) and Bro. Philip Bahler (Bro. Lee and Sis. Maxine) as they had faith to be baptized. We thank Elder Bro. Andy Virkler (Bay City, MI) for being here and allowing himself to be used as an instrument in the Lord's plan of salvation.

Those that have been or are in the hospital are Walt Welti, Shirley Lanz, Bro. Melvin Gerber and Sisters Alma Luginbuhl, Glenna Moser, Marie Kloter and Carole Crohan. No matter what their situation is, may they ever look up to the Lord for help and guidance. We also are mindful of and pray daily for those who must be confined in nursing homes, namely: Hazel Ludwig and Sisters Lena Ludwig, Liz Hoffman, Esther Heintz, Elizabeth Erismann, Emma and Rose Luginbuhl. May the Lord grant them much patience awaiting His call to a better and eternal home.

Sis. Julie Edelmann (Sabetha, KS) has moved to our area and we welcome her into our fellowship. Sis. Julie has made a commitment for one year as a nanny for triplets, 3 1/2 years old, and we sincerely wish her God's blessings in this undertaking.

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### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, WASHINGTON Catherine Klopfenstein

Our ministers the past month were Bro. Bob Grimm (Goodfield, IL) and

Bro. Harold Schmidgall (Gridley, IL). Each was accompanied by his wife and their efforts in travelling a long distance to bring us the inspired Word of God are sincerely appreciated.

We've had guests from Rockville, CT, Union City, NJ, Philadelphia, PA, Smithville, OH, and Gridley, Peoria and Morton, IL. Visitors are always welcome.

Ken Belsley, his daughter and granddaughter recently flew to Illinois where they attended a reunion of Ken's old country school (which is no longer standing) and attended church in Washington, IL.

Bro. Phil and Sis. Gail Strahm and 2 children, who have lived in Virginia since January of this year, recently moved back to their home in Emporia, KS (Gridley, KS, church). Our congregation will miss them very much although we knew their stay here was temporary. We will especially miss Phil as a song leader as we are without one again. We wish them God's blessings as they enter new endeavors.

On Sunday morning, July 2, we all gathered early at the hotel for a buffet breakfast, after which Elder Bro. Bob Grimm spoke to us on, "The Church, It's Foundation, Doctrine, History and Traditions." There were 23 in attendance and there was intense interest as his talk, along with questions and discussion, lasted an hour and 20 minutes. It was followed by regular church services.

Sis. Crystal Klopfenstein and Shelley Knobloch spent 10 days with their grandparents, Ralph and Catherine Klopfenstein. Ralph and Catherine accompanied them back to Illinois and spent a week's vacation there.

Services are held the first and third Sundays of each month at the Westpark Hotel, on Route 7, one mile west of I-495, beginning at 10:30 a.m. The tourist season is in full swing now -- if you're in the area, please call Ralph Klopfenstein for information at 703-979-3476.

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### FLORIDA, FT. LAUDERDALE Terri Huber

Summer is here! We are enjoying hot, sunny days. Usually, we can expect it to rain briefly at least once a day; however, this year it is dryer than normal. No matter how hot it is,

it seems that there is always a breeze at the beach, so it is quite pleasant to have church suppers at the picnic area.

We are glad that Bro. Ed Aeschleman and Sis. Nancy (Philadelphia, PA) were able to spend a Sunday worshipping with us. We have had many visitors over the past month, and we welcome every one of them.

It is also nice to see Larry Storer joining us on Sundays after a lengthy illness and hospitalization.

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### FLORIDA, NORTH FT. MYERS

**Kay Eisenmann**

Marvin and Rhea Steffen

welcome into their home a precious bundle from heaven, Lindsey Rhea, on July 14. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Willard Simmons (Ft. Hermon, LA) and Bro. Eldon and Sis. Melba Steffen (Cissna Park, IL). Whenever a new life is brought into a family, it brings so much happiness and joy, along with the responsibility of teaching them of their heavenly Father!

We have been having some visitors with children this summer. We are so happy that they include our little Fort Myers church in their vacation plans, for we truly need each other. There is much to learn from the young and the old, as they say old folks are just children with wrinkles.

Visiting ministers this month were Bros. Earl Kilgus (Remington, IN) and Brian Webb (Fort Lauderdale, FL).

Dathan is still making his trips to the children's hospital in St. Petersburg for his treatments. Keep those prayers coming!

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### FLORIDA, SARASOTA

**Suellen Ott**

Our congregation rejoices with Bro. Phil Schlatter and Sis. Judy Barr (Fort Scott, KS) as they became one-in-Christ July 9 in Kansas. We are grateful that they will be establishing their Christian home in Sarasota and we want to welcome Sis. Judy here.

Bringing joy to the Siladie family is a new baby girl, Jenna Elizabeth, born May 11. She is given much love

by her big sister, Alyssa. Her proud parents are Bro. Mike and Sis. Jeanette.

Our friend Bobby Cochran is in our prayers as he had emergency eye surgery and is home recuperating now.

We were privileged to have Bro. Homer Reineck here to share God's Holy Word with us. Sis. Dorothy and Bro. Homer are winter residents, so it is nice to have them here in the summer months.

### Our Heartfelt Thanks

Thank you for the expression of Christian love and concern that was shown to Sis. Marie during her illness.

The Seidel family is eternally grateful for all who shared and cared with us since her death, while rejoicing in her victory in Jesus.

Bro. Richard Seidel  
Bro. Jim & Sis. Jean Metzger  
Ralph & Rita Seward  
Dave & Shirley Bauman  
Karen Fletcher

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### ILLINOIS, BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL

**De Anderson - Marcia Bauer**

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

Psalms 127:3

God has blessed our congregation with the arrival of two precious babes this month. Little Kaitlin was born into the family of Bro. Dave and Sis. Candy Huber June 21. Completing the family circle are her big sisters, Tara and Whitney. Grandparents are Bro. Wayne and Sis. Carol Huber (Francesville, IN) and Sis. Tillie Nussbaum (Bloomington).

June 22, Jason Paul Kieser entered into this world. Happy parents are Bro. Paul and Sis. Karen Kieser. His grandparents are Louis and Jean Kieser (Garden Grove, IA) and Bro. Eugene and Sis. Evelyn Hangartner (Roanoke).

Our special thanks are extended to the following visiting ministers for sharing the Word with us, Elder Bros. Leo Moser (Lester, IA), Edwin Ringger (Gridley, IL), Dan Koch (Tremont, IL) and Bro. Byron Stoller (Gridley, IL).

### ILLINOIS, BRADFORD

**Karen Ringger**

July 5, 1964, was the first service held in our Bradford church building. Many loved ones have attended our church during this time, but for one reason or another, some loved ones have moved from our area. On July 2, we had a church potluck and all were invited to come, who once worshipped with us regularly, during the past twenty-five years. It was a blessed day to be with the dear ones who were a part of us. God has truly been good to us over the years and we pray He will continue to bless our congregation, not only in quantity, but also quality.

Daryl Knobloch (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Dianne) and Debbie Gudeman (Bro. Ralph and Sis. Carolyn, Congerville) will always remember July 8, when they took their wedding vows. We certainly are thankful to have them worship with us and we wish them God's blessings as they start their life together.

"I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, . . ."

Luke 15:7

We welcome our new Bro. Fred Hauseman (Bro. Alfred and Sis. Verla) into our brotherhood. It is always so refreshing to hear the testimony and witness the baptism of a humble soul. May God keep Bro. Fred in His wonderful care. We thank our Elder Bro. Joe Stoller and Bro. Wayne Anliker for their love and efforts they brought forth to us.

Our congregation was happy to hear the two engagements July 16. They were Bro. Bill Endress (Sis. Lois) to Sis. Renee Grimm, Taylor, MO, (Bro. Roy and Sis. Donna) and Bro. Mark Knobloch, Morris, MN, (Bro. Jack and Sis. Nancy) to Sis. Brenda Schmidgall, Morris, MN, (Bro. Richard and Sis. Corinne). We wish both couples God's nearness as they plan their future lives together.

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### ILLINOIS, CHAMPAIGN

**LaRae Dill**

On June 25, our congregation held a farewell picnic for Bro. Rich and Sis. Dorothy Fischer. During their 16



years in Champaign, they have been a valuable part of our congregation. Bro. Rich has served as a trustee, building committee member and as a "fix-it" man for our church building, while Dorothy has spent much time helping in the kitchen and stitching beautiful remembrances for babies in our congregation. All of us thank Rich and Dorothy for their years of service to our congregation, and pray God will bless them as they serve him in their new home in Bluffton, IN. The Fischers are the parents of three children, Bro. Steve Fischer (Bluffton North, IN), Shirley Willard (Mahomet, IL) and Sonja Buchanan (Charleston, IL).

We're thankful Sis. Marilyn Walder (Athens, AL) and Sis. Judy Walder (Cissna Park, IL) are assembling with our congregation. Sis. Marilyn previously served as director of the Apostolic Christian Preschool in Athens, AL, and is now the director of a child care center in Urbana. Sis. Judy is working as a pediatric nurse at Carle Hospital (Urbana).

Lori Bowald and Victor Zimmerman were married June 24 in Eureka, IL. Both are teachers in the Mahomet-Seymour School District. We appreciate their fellowship.

A housewarming was held for Bro. Joe and Sis. Sue Aeschleman at their new home in Danville, IL. We're thankful they, and their sons, Brandon and Trevor, are part of our church family.

Bro. Conrad Kaufman was hospitalized recently. We're glad he is well and is again assembling with us.

We have enjoyed the ministry of two visiting ministers this past month, Bro. Ken Knapp (Taylor, MO) and Bro. Dennis Kaufman (Bloomington, IL). May God bless them for sharing His Word with us.

## ILLINOIS, CHICAGO

### Kathy Schlatter

On a canoeing trip to Sugar Creek, IN, with the Bible class, I learned a great deal. The most impressive lesson I learned dealt with the presence of evil. Let me explain. We had never canoed in any quickly-flowing water, so I had never realized the effects of the underlying rocks on the stream's current. We inexperienced canoers found out very soon that when there

were extra ripples, it meant a rock lurking underneath the surface. The churning bits of white-water indicated many rocks. We found it wise to avoid as many ripples as possible and to allow the water to maneuver us rapidly through the multiple-rock areas. The rocks, of course, seem symbolic of evil, and if one is alert, the rocks emanate warnings before one reaches them. The effects of evil, then can be foreseen, and contact with it avoided. And even if a situation does not seem to be "obvious evil" to us, we are prudent to stay away from it whether we see it ourselves or are warned by others. The rushing water was valuable in protecting us and our canoe from the rocks below as the Spirit of Living Water shields and guides us through the rocks that threaten to hurt us. His Spirit can help us so much. If we do hit a rock and it crinkles our canoe, He can help us straighten it out. If we work so hard, it turns out to be counter-productive, and we crash on the rocks, He will help us up from the rocky bottom. He alone can give us the humility to empty our canoe, get back in, and continue paddling (with His confidence). May we ever be watchful for hidden evils along the stream of life, for we don't know how much contact with rocks will ultimately founder a canoe, nor how much contact with evil could lead us into deadly difficulties. We are assured, however, that, although our canoes will not last forever, through our Lord and Savior, our canoes will get us to our destination of heaven.

Visiting ministers have once again been a special blessing to us. We are so grateful to our five ministering brothers from five states on Sun., July 16. They were Bros. Art Baurer (Princeville), Arnie Gerst (Taylor, MO), Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH), Ken Schneider (Remington, IN), and John Steiner (Oakville, IA). We also appreciate the recent visit of Bro. Chris Huber (Francesville, IN), who spoke to the church and our 4th - 12th grade Sunday School students in Vacation Bible School. May the Lord continue to grant these brothers His grace and desire for Him.

Not only do we want to thank our S.S. teachers for their efforts in our night of Vacation Bible School, but also for our annual all-church S.S.

picnic. We owe them so much for their dedication. We especially want to thank Bro. Phil Feldman and Sis. Cindy Eisenmann for their labor in the Lord to bring His Word to our children. Bro. Phil has also been superintendent in this past year. May the Lord reward their efforts. We want to welcome Bro. Kenny Rinkenger and Sis. Lynette Lang for their willingness to serve as S.S. teachers. Bro. Miklos Bozzay will be S.S. superintendent for the year. We pledge them all our support and prayers.

We must say farewell to two active members of our young group. Dana Tumbower, after spending her summer in Israel, will be working in Pennsylvania. She hopes to attend the Philadelphia church. Sis. Shay Nelson has left our area to become the assistant houseparent, aiding Bro. John and Sis. Patsy Stoller at the Children's Home in Leo, IN. We wish both of them joy and blessings in their new areas with their new ways to serve the Lord. We are thankful for their time with us. Though they have taken a part of us with them, we prayerfully support their departures as part of His will.

We have two aging vehicles, in neither of them does the horn work. I really hadn't missed the horn until I was going through a place in Oakbrook where several construction zones intersect with entrance and exit ramps -- in the rain. There was a close call, which was, fortunately, no worse, but in that moment I realized the importance of the lowly car noisemaker. First of all, the horn can get someone's attention. In a small town or even on the highway when one recognizes a friend or relative, the horn can signal it. In the case of a truck, blowing the horn can give attention. Children and young teens think it's pretty special to be saluted that way. Secondly, the horn can blast one's disappointment at someone else's actions. Though this may sound un-Christian, sometimes it's reasonable to let another fellow know he's daydreaming on a green light with others stuck behind him. Thirdly, the horn can warn of danger, which was what originally concerned me. Spiritually, there are several ways to think of the horn. As the first example, think of the Spirit, day after day, working to get people's atten-



tion. Sometimes it needs to be pretty loud. And weren't we overwhelmed when we first came to church after we started repenting, to see the spiritual salutations of the brethren. Our ears had been opened. Again we who are spiritual are bound to sound the horn for any brother or sister the Lord brings to mind who might be wavering, floundering, or sinning. Lastly our brethren who speak the Word from the pulpit are to want us as specifically as possible of danger around us -- and we are in the midst of many downpours. May we be spiritually aware of the purposes of the horn, as it applies to the Spirit, to ourselves, and to our elders and ministers. May we sound the horn as it is appropriate in His name: may we always be willing to learn from the trumpet sound as well.

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**ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK**  
**Mary Knapp - Karol Stock**

In memory of Charles L. Walder:

Our dear Bro. Charles has gone to his rest

Free now from his pain and distress  
Though our hearts are aching, and  
our eyes fill with tears,  
We know what God doeth is best.

His poor weakened heart would no longer respond,  
Though the doctors, their help tried to give,  
The Lord gave him courage to meet every test  
As he struggled, his life here to live.

As days turned to years, his faith never failed  
An example for all here to see;  
His goal was not here, but in heaven  
It was there, he was longing to be.

His family to him was so precious  
Their souls were his greatest concern.  
He pleaded and prayed for his children  
That Jesus, they all would yet turn.

They faithfully stood beside him  
By day and by night showed him love,  
Encouragement, comfort, and solace.  
One day they will meet him above.

Yes, God whom he loved, in mercy reached down  
And took his weary pilgrim home,  
No more here to suffer life's trials and pains;  
No more on this earth, must the tired feet roam.

May we who now have been bereft  
Of one so kind and true;  
Look unto God for help and strength  
With better days in view.

When the roll is called up yonder  
And the book is opened wide;  
May He find us watching, ready  
To be with Charles, at Jesus' side.  
-- written by a relative  
of Charles Walder

Our congregation has once again experienced loss as Bro. Ben Yergler, age 79, passed away July 2 at the Fairview Haven Nursing Home in Fairbury. Services were held July 5 at Cissna Park. He was preceded in death by his wife, Sis. Arvilla, in December 1983. Surviving are one daughter, Joy Rae Hari (Roger, Cissna Park); three sons, Don and Bro. Max (Hoopeston), and Bruce (Greensboro, NC); two brothers, Elmer (Peoria) and Willis (Fairbury); one sister, Anna Marie Brosseau (King City, CA); 13 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Vernon Gholson, Sr. (Hoopeston), age 90, passed away at Heartland Health Care in Paxton. Surviving are five daughters, Sis. Mary Knapp (Bro. Earl, Cissna Park), Betty Boehme (Wayne, Hoopeston), Alice Butts (Larry, Phoenix, AZ), Shirley Sondgerath (Weimer, Ambia, IN) and Patricia Lockhart (Joe, Fort Wayne, IN). Also four sons, Vernon, Jr. and Bill (Hoopeston), Earl (Waukegan) and Bob (Phoenix, AZ); 36 grandchildren and 37 great-grandchildren.

We extend our sympathy to these families as well as to Sis. Anne Marie Young (Bro. Lynn) in the loss of her sister-in-law, Kathleen Maurer (Peeter).

Hospital patients this month were, surgical, Bro. Aaron Bauer (Sis. Marguerite) and medical, Sis. Esther Vogel, Sis. Clara Vogel, Sis. Ellen Hofbauer, and Bro. Herbert and Sis. Clara Hofer.

Several in our congregation welcome new grandchildren. Eileen

Kaufman welcomes Kelsey Ann, born June 16 to Danny and Beth Cooke (Glendale, AZ). Bro. Eldon and Sis. Melba Steffen welcome Clarisa Ann, born May 15 to Craig and Terri Fair (Lakekwood, CO). Bro. Alvin and Sis. Loretta Baumgartner, and Bill and Sis. Anna Marie Reutter welcome Matthew David, born July 8 to Bro. Duane and Sis. Kay Reutter (Tolland, CT).

Visiting ministers this month were Elder Bros. Loren Stoller (Latty, OH), Art Bahler (Fairbury), Bros. Frederick Knapp (Congerville), Joe Gerst (Iowa City, IA), Jaye Rinkenberger (Goodfield) and Merle Kaisner (Fairbury). We certainly want to thank each one for coming and sharing the Word with us.

We had a nice day July 9 for our church picnic in the Cissna Park pavilion. We all enjoyed a delicious potluck meal and afternoon of fellowship together.

The Charles Walder family expresses their sincere and humble thanks for the love and many kindnesses shown them during his years of illness and again at the time of his passing. May God bless each of you.

Our thanks and appreciation for all the kind expressions of sympathy shown to us during the recent loss of our father and grandfather. May God bless each one.

The Ben Yergler family

Note: Over a year ago, a coat was left in the Cissna Park church. If you are missing a ladies plum trench coat, please contact Karol Stock, 815/457-2065.

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**ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE**  
**Sandy Knapp - Deb Dietrich**

"You will notice we say brother and sister around here,  
It's because we're a family and these folks are so near,  
When one has a heartache, we all share the tears,  
And rejoice in each victory in this family so dear."

Family of God

We rejoice with the two souls who found victory over death and sin. Bro. Jim Dietrich (Bro. Bill and Sis. Sheri) and Sis. Peg Banwart (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Arlene) were baptized and welcomed into the family of God.



We are thankful to our brothers who serve God by ministering to us from His Word. Our visiting ministers were Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago), Bro. Gene Lehman (Wolcott, IN), Bro. Gary Maibach (Smithville, OH) and Bro Gary Anliker (Elgin).

We are thankful that God watches over us, and continues to remind us of our responsibility to prepare ourselves for eternity. Our prayers went out to Scot Zobrist (Bro. Ralph and Sis. Joyce) after his truck accident and hospitalization. He is now home and well.

Bro. Jerry and Sis. Arlene Banwart and their family, welcome a new foster child into their home. May Jennifer be a special blessing to the Banwarts, as they will surely be to her.

#### "TO ALL PARENTS"

"I'll lend you for a little while, a child of Mine," He said.

"For you to love, the while he lives and mourn when he is dead.

It may be six or seven years, or twenty-two or three

But will you, till I call him back, take care of him for Me?

He'll bring his charms to gladden you, and tho his stay be brief

You will have lovely memories, as solace for your grief.

"I cannot promise he will stay, since all from earth return,

But there are lessons taught down there, I want this child to learn.

I looked the wide world over in My search for teacher true,

And from the throngs that crowd life's lanes, I have selected you.

Now will you give him all your love, nor think the labor vain,

Nor hate Me when I come to call, to take him back again?"

"I fancied that I heard them say, 'Dear Lord, Thy Will Be Done

For all the joy Thy child shall bring, the risk of grief we'll run,

We'll shelter him with tenderness, We'll love him while we may

And for the happiness we've known, for ever grateful stay.

But will the angels call for him much sooner than we've planned

We'll brave the bitter grief that comes and try to understand."

Author Unknown

Bro. Bill and Sis. Sheri Dietrich's son, Robert James Dietrich, was killed in a motorcycle accident. We are so grateful for God's loving mercy and His comfort that he has provided to the loved ones that Robert has left behind. Through the heartaches that the Dietrich family has experienced, the family of God at Congerville has shed many tears, prayed many prayers, and has been drawn closer to God and to one another. Words can not express our love and care for this grieving family.

We wish to extend our heartfelt thanks and appreciation for the acts of kindness, messages of sympathy, and beautiful floral arrangements received from everyone during our recent bereavement in the loss of our beloved son, Robert.

The family of Robert Dietrich

#### ILLINOIS, ELGIN Elizabeth Schambach Betty Bachtold

The Indian Mission Board met in the Chicago area recently. After Wednesday evening services, we were privileged to hear about Christianity in India from Mr. Kolhatkar, the highest ranking Christian in the Indian government. He expressed appreciation of our brotherhood's efforts and encouraged each of us to pray for the Indian believers. We were thankful to have Elder Bros. David Bertsch (Leo, IN), Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI), Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO), Joe Braker (Morton, IL), John Klotzle (Altadena, CA), and Bro. Jim Hoerr (Peoria, IL) with us, and we pray for God's continued guidance for the Mission Board.

St. Luke 15:10, "Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth." Renee Anliker (Bro. Gary and Sis. Edie) has yielded to the loving invitation of our Lord and has begun this narrow way. We, too, rejoice and wish for her much grace.

Believing it is the Lord's will, Sis. Lindy Schambach (Bro. Edward and Sis. Jenny, Phoenix, AZ) and Bro. Alan Knochel (Bro. Ted and Sis. Madeline, Phoenix) have made their engagement known.

Also planning their wedding are two area couples. These include Barbara Beth Haas (Edwin and Sis. Carolyn) and Paul Leclerc (Chicago),

and Brenda Klopfenstein (Bro. Dick and Sis. Judy) and Rick Reilly (Oak Forest, IL). May God bless each undertaking.

Let us continue to pray for God's healing powers upon Sis. Jeanette Schmidt (Bro. Delbert) and Sis. Mary Gasser (Bro. Walt) who have had surgery and much suffering this past month.

May God's love be upon David and Lori Lodge and newborn, Courtney Lynn, born July 8. Grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Sandra Kinsinger, and LeRoy and June Lodge.

#### ILLINOIS, EUREKA

##### Kathy Leman

Janet Lehman and Darel Walker chose May 20 as their wedding day. Their parents are Bro. Clarence "Mitz" and Sis. Wilma Lehman and Marianna Walker (Carthage).

Gail Roche and Steven McCane were united in marriage June 17. Their parents are Bro. Eldon and Sis. Ida Mae Roche and Ron and Jean McCane (Decatur). May God bless these two dear couples as they set up their homes.

Our sympathy goes to Sis. Caroline Moser in the passing of her husband, Bro. Aaron, July 10. Also surviving are a son, Howard; and two sisters, Sis. Emma Hodel (Roanoke) and Sis. Ada Grusy (Eureka). We also extend our sympathy to Sis. Caroline in the passing of her brother, Bro. Walter Kaupp (Gridley). May God comfort these dear ones.

Kevin Kupferschmid (Bro. Ed and Sis. Donna) and Bro. Gene Zobrist (Sis. Caroll) were hospital patients this past month. Thankful that Sis. Lula Fehr, Sis. Doris Fehr, Sis. Cathryn Wettstein and Shannon Zimmerman were spared serious injury in an automobile accident out West. They only required some outpatient treatment, and did not need to be hospitalized.

We are thankful for the many visiting ministers we had this past month: Elder Bros. Don Sauder (Roanoke), Dan Koch (Tremont) and Art Bahler (Fairbury), and Bro. Loren Schrenk (St. Louis, MO).

Elder Bro. Leroy Huber has made it known that he is retiring as elder and from the ministry. We are so



thankful that he was willing to be used in this capacity for many years and for his God-given wisdom and guidance in our lives. We certainly appreciate his many kind admonitions and warnings. We pray that God will richly reward him and his dear wife, Sis. Clara, in the days and years ahead.

Bro. Steve and Sis. Vickie Martin welcomed Bonni Ellen into their hearts and home July 11. Bonnie has three sisters, Shari, Joni and Kelli, and one brother, Kevin, to take care of her. Grandparents are Bro. Howard and Sis. Vera Martin (Eureka). May God's blessings rest upon this precious family circle.

NOTE: There is a need for a night nurse at the Apostolic Christian Home for the Aged. If you are an R.N. or an L.P.N. and willing to work part-time or full-time, please contact Sis. Jane Stoller, Director of Nursing, at (309) 467-2311, or write to her at 610 W. Cruger, Eureka, IL 61530.

#### ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY

##### Jean Bachtold - Crystal Fehr

Bros. Ed Fritz (Washington, IL) and Ron Heiniger (Bloomington, IL) were willing to lend themselves in speaking God's Word to us. We thank them and hope they will visit us again.

Our church family has been blest with two new babies. Bro. Don and Sis. Leona Kaisner welcomed Valerie Jo into their hearts and home June 27. Jennifer and Travis are eager to meet their new sister. Bro. Glenn and Sis. Kathryn Fehr and Bro. Merle and Sis. Marge Kaisner are Valerie's grandparents.

Bro. Walt and Sis. Rosie Edelman rejoice with their new baby boy, Jason Lee, born July 9. Mark, Dean, Lisa, Lori, Walter, Jr., and Russell are made happy with their new brother. Grandparents are Helen Walter and Levi Edelman, Sr. May God smile on these two dear families and bless them.

The engagement of Sis. LeAnn Kaisner and Bro. Leon Kaeb (Cissna Park) was announced. Their parents are Bro. Merle and Sis. Marge Kaisner and Bro. Elmer and Sis. Mary Lou Kaeb (Cissna Park). They are planning a September 3 wedding.

This past month we held our annual meeting to fill necessary positions in

our church. We wish grace and guidance to those who assumed new duties. They are Bro. Ivan Fehr (Sis. Cinda), Fellowship Hall Board member; Vernon Hartman (Sis. Pat), Silver Lining correspondent; Sis. Donna Banwart (Bro. Dale), Sunday School teacher.

"In Jesus I will trust always; In Him I live and pass away."

Zion's Harp #247

We wish to extend sincere sympathy to Sis. Viola and Bro. Lloyd Bachtold in the loss of her father, Bro. Paul Honegger (Forrest). May they be comforted by the promise of God.

On June 25, the Sunday school children had their annual Sunday school picnic. We hope that they will long remember not only the enjoyment of the activities, but also the precious seed that is sown in their tender hearts. For we know they are our future church.

Hospital patients this month were Bro. Don Kaisner, Sis. Dorothy Steffen, Sis. Lollie Young, Sis. Lydia Wiedman and Dana Banwart. May they feel God's presence. "... I was strengthened as the hand of the Lord my God was upon me..." (Ezra 7:28)

A special thought: He who walks with God, will be out of step with the world.

Reminder: August is the month for the Fairbury Silver Lining collection. (\$7.00)

#### ILLINOIS, FORREST

##### Sherri Kelson

##### Sandra Schneider

Our dear Bro. Paul Honegger was laid to rest Tuesday, June 27. He is survived by five daughters, Sis. Mildred Zimmerman, Sis. Eileen Getz (Remington, IN), Evelyn Zorn (Bloomington), Sis. Viola Bachtold (Fairbury), Sis. Nancy Honegger; and two sons, Bro. Wayne and Gary. Also surviving are two brothers, Bro. Frank and Bro. Sam; and two sisters, Sis. Nathalia and Sis. Kathryn. It is a blessing to be able to go home when we have made preparation for eternity. May God comfort each one.

Dawn Green and Joe Kilgus have announced their engagement. Evelyn Vest (Decatur) and John and Barb

Kilgus are their parents. They plan to be married August 5.

July 15 was the wedding day of Michael Kupferschmid and Tracey Jones. Their parents are Bro. Dean and Sis. Robin Kupferschmid and Mr. and Mrs. David Jones (DePue).

We appreciate Bros. Elmer Schmidt (Winthrop, MN), Art Ingold (Rittman, OH), Fred Domka (Mansfield, OH), Pat Zaugg (West Bend, IA), and Gary Anliker (Elgin) visiting our congregation and ministering to us. We trust God will bless their efforts.

Bro. Eldon and Sis. Stephanie Kaeb welcome Krystle Renee into their hearts and home. Happy grandparents are Bob and Sis. Elaine Mueller and John and Adeline Kaeb (Arrowsmith).

Sis. Louise (Bro. Perry) Honegger, Henry (Sis. Virginia) Hilti, and Julie (Mark) Shambrook needed to spend time in the hospital. Let us always keep a prayer on our hearts for those that must endure affliction.

Sis. Martha Stoller has moved to Gridley to share a home with her sister, Sis. Lola Schlipf. We will miss her quiet deeds of love and wish her God's continued blessings.

A busload of residents from the Home for the Handicapped spent Sunday, July 16, with us. We appreciated the many efforts put forth to visit us.

Soon many of our children will be returning to schools and universities. May God go with them that their learning can lead to useful service, but always as unto the Lord.

The Paul Honegger family wishes to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, gifts, food, flowers, memorials, and expressions of sympathy in the loss of their dear Dad. They sincerely appreciated every deed of love shown to them. May God bless each one.

#### ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD

##### Trish Gerber

After much prayerful consideration, our congregation appointed Bro. Bruce Hohulin to the ministry. Our thoughts and prayers are with Bruce and his wife, Sis. Charlene, and their children, as they strive to fulfill this new duty God had entrusted them with. May God bless them and encourage them as they labor in His name.



Goodfield was privileged to host the Fort Sam Reunion this month and we enjoyed the fellowship of all of our visitors. We appreciated the ministers who shared that special Sunday with us. Those brothers are Glen Price, Jr. (Sarasota, FL), John Hartman (Fairbury, IL), and Gary Maibach (Smithville, OH).

Other ministers we enjoyed were Bros. Eugene Metzger (Lester, IA), Don Sauder (Roanoke, IL), and Greg Gramm (Phoenix, AZ).

Hospital patients this month were Amy Knobloch (Bro. Dean and Sis. Jacki), Bro. Ira Rokey and Sis. Pam Heinold (Bro. Mike).

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### ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY

#### Perry Klopfenstein

Our congregation was blessed by the union of hearts on two occasions recently as God joined together two couples who had sought His will in prayer. Similar to Isaac (in Genesis 24), these brothers in faith sought a wife from their own spiritual kindred (verse 40, and trusted God for His direction as he "sent an angel before them" (verse 7). Indeed, God's perfect ability to bring a brother and sister together in holy matrimony and bind them into a lasting three-fold cord is a wonderful method that gives a firm foundation to marriage, which is life's second-most important step.

On June 18, Sis. Mindy Meiss became the wife of Bro. Eric Zehr. Her parents are Bro. Pete and Sis. Jan Meiss. His parents are Bro. Paul and Sis. Wilma Zehr.

Sis. Amy Witzig was married to Bro. Jake Schlipf July 9. She is the daughter of Bro. Jerome and Sis. Mary Witzig. His parents are Sis. Lola and the late Bro. Carl Schlipf.

Our congregation was saddened by the passing of dear Bro. Walter Kaupp, 88, who died suddenly at his apartment in Fairbury June 28. He is survived by his dear wife of 51 years, Sis. Esther (Fairbury). Others surviving are two sons, Bro. Marvin (Gridley) and John (Eureka); two daughters, Sis. Carolyn Yoder (Gridley) and Evelyn Wright (Susanville, CA); and five sisters, Emma Bessler, Sis. Marie Kaupp, and Sis. Louise Kaupp (Peoria), Sis. Caroline Moser (Eureka) and Sis. Ida Alt (Las Vegas, NV).

Among Bro. Walter's most notable

attributes were his gentleness, quietness, and low-key friendliness. He was never one to exalt himself and his content manner was a light to many, and endeared him to the brethren. His passing joins him with several other older brothers from our church who have gone on to their reward. Surely time is swiftly passing on! Those of us in mid-life are seeing the older generation fade away. Too, we are witnessing a new generation rising up behind us. Such an ongoing dynamic ignites in us a deep sense of responsibility to maintain a strong spiritual stewardship, to lift the torch high, and "to keep the faith."

Time itself is one of our greatest assets. Our Bible lesson in July centered on the wise use of time. We were encouraged to redeem the time because the days are evil. We were reminded that "the reward for doing good is the opportunity to do more good." As we serve God, we were taught to reflect often on His greatness as described in I Chronicles 29:11, "Thine, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty; for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine. Thine is the kingdom, O Lord, and thou art exalted as head over all."

Our recent visiting ministers were Bro. Bob Pflederer (Morton), June 18, and Bro. Gregg Gramm (Phoenix, AZ), July 5.

April Moore of our congregation became the mother of Tyler Peyton, June 11. John and Sis. Caroly Yoder (Gridley) are the grandparents.

Sis. Mary Martin entered the hospital July 17 for hip surgery. Bro. Henry Gramm has been confined to his home and was unable to attend church due to a lingering illness.

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### ILLINOIS, MORTON

#### Phyllis Farney Cheryl Wuthrich

Many of our church children will be returning to school within a few weeks. Let each and everyone of us be prayerful that they may be able to overcome the sinful influences of our world today. Satan, our adversary, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour. (I Peter 5:8) Evil and sin is proliferating under many guises and titles. We, as par-

ents and as Christians in our community, should be informed and involved in our schools. The degree and area of our personal involvement should be prayerfully considered. It may be God wants us primarily to pray for our schools. It may be He wants us to demonstrate a God-centered family by welcoming our children's friends into our home. It may be He wants us to provide a Godly influence by volunteering in the schools. It may be He wants us to serve on the School Board, review curriculum for New Age and Humanistic philosophies, monitor state legislation, work for establishing drug free schools, monitor library books and audio visual materials, or in any number of other areas. Then if God directs, be willing to stand in the front lines and uphold Godly principles.

Although fighting evil defensively is important, it is more important to fight it offensively. If we teach our children the Truth, then they will be able to recognize and shun the deception. Our Sunday school teachers are one important way through which our children are taught the Truth. We have elected new Sunday school teachers to help instill God's Word in them. They are Sis. Marcy Feucht, Sis. Cindy Witzig, and Bros. Gary Rassi and Jim Steffen. We wish them much Godly wisdom and direction. May we continue to uphold all of our Sunday school teachers in prayer. Our annual Sunday school picnic was held at our fellowship hall July 9. It was another opportunity for the students, parents, teachers, and all to fellowship together.

We are rejoicing that another soul has overcome the deceiver and has surrendered his life to the Lord. Manuel Stetzler's testimony and baptism was witnessed Wednesday, June 28. Great are the promises to all who are overcomers. "To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcome, and set down with my Father in His throne." (Revelation 3:21)

We shared in the joy of Sis. Sharilyn Schwenk and Bro. Sol Rassi as they were united in holy matrimony Wednesday, July 5. How wonderful a marriage is when the threefold chord is evident.

We always appreciate the message, love, and fellowship that visit-



ing ministers bring to our congregation. We thank Bro. Ron Heiniger (Bloomington, IL) and Greg Rassi (Chicago, IL) for ministering God's living Word to us. May they continue to hunger and thirst for God's Word and continue to convey it so meaningfully to their congregations.

The family of John Barth wishes to thank all who were so kind during his passing. May God bless each one of you for your kindness.

We have those loved ones who are hospitalized and shut-in at their homes. We also have those grieving and suffering for various reasons. May we continue to uphold them in prayer, and remember them with a card, note, phone call or visit.

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**ILLINOIS, PEORIA**  
**Joe and Jackie Herman**

**REFLECTIONS**

Dear God,  
 I've noticed  
 a peculiar thing  
 about mirrors.  
 How I see myself  
 depends upon the light  
 in which I view myself --  
 the brighter the light,  
 the truer the image.

Dear God,  
 to see my inner self,  
 let me view myself in Your light  
 so the image will be true,  
 and I can see what I need to do  
 to be a better person --  
 to be a reflection  
 of You!

"... old things are passed away;  
 behold, all things are become new."  
 II Corinthians 5:17

Recent hospital patients were Sis. Laura Koehl and Bro. Howard Muselman. We wish them continuing recovery of health and strength.

Bro. Clifford Grimm (West Bend, IA) visited our congregation this month. May God's blessings be added to his words and to him.

**Notes of Thanks**

Thank you for all your gifts of love and prayers. I feel so richly blessed.  
 Sis. Maria Graham

**ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE**  
**Marjean Lehman**

"God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."  
 John 3:16

Bro. Howard Plattner (Wichita, KS) came to minister to us of the Word of Life. Our Vacation Bible School was held the week of June 19. Ministers who served us during that week were: Bro. Ed Bahler (Remington, IN), Bro. Bruce Leman (Roanoke), and Bro. Marvin Leman (Bradford). We would wish to again thank each one and pray that God will bless them richly.

Leah Mae Baer was born June 19 to Sis. Vera and Bro. Larry Baer. Leah was welcomed home by Mark, Sarah and Adam. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Virgil and Sis. Bernice Frieden (Lamar, MO) and Otto and Eleanor Baer (Princeville). May God bless little Leah and her family circle.

Ryan Siebenthal (Bro. Eugene and Sis. Kay) was hospitalized for surgery and has returned home.

Bro. Fred and Sis. Esther Schafer were able to rejoice with family and friends as they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

On June 17, Sis. Marie Seidel passed from this life into eternity. Funeral services were held June 19. Our congregation will miss Sis. Marie and we wish to express sincere sympathy to Bro. Dick and their daughters, Sis. Jean Metzger, Rita Seward, Shirley Bauman and Karen Fletcher. We also express sympathy to her brothers Bro. John Elsasser, Bro. Bill Elsasser (Bradford), and her sisters: Sis. Anna Streitmatter, and Sis. Emma Knobloch (Bradford). May they truly continue to feel God's nearness and comfort as they take new courage and reflect often on their "precious memories." Many prayers have been and will continue to be offered in their behalf, what a wonderful fellowship of love when we share each other's sorrows.

**Thank You Note:**

Thank you for the expression of Christian love and concern that was shown to Sis. Marie during her ill-

ness. The Seidel family is eternally grateful for all who shared and cared with us since her death, while rejoicing in her victory in Jesus.

Bro. Richard Seidel,  
 Bro. Jim and Sis. Jean Metzger,  
 Ralph and Rita Seward,  
 Dave and Shirley Bauman,  
 Karen Fletcher

"Weeping may endure for a night,  
 but joy cometh in the morning."  
 Psalm 30:5

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**ILLINOIS, ROANOKE**  
**Patsy Kaeb - Sandy Leman**

We were blessed during the past month to hear from two visiting ministers, Bro. Paul Gasser (Akron, OH) and Bro. Kent Heimer (Taylor, MO). May the Lord bless them for their efforts and add the increase.

On July 14, the young group had a Bible Study on loving and appreciating each other. We were given several suggestions to help us appreciate the positive and overlook the negative traits in the people we relate to. Elder Bros. Chuck Hemmer (Peoria) and Bob Grimm (Goodfield) helped Bro. Don and Bro. Bill conduct the meeting. We appreciate their taking time to teach us.

We have several happy grandparents in our congregation. Bro. Bob and Sis. Lorene Hodel have a new grandson, Daniel James Leman. He was born May 20 to Bro. Mike and Sis. Deb Leman (Denver).

Bro. Chris and Sis. Anna Bradle were also blessed with a new grandson, Gregory William Bradle. He was born May 23 to Bro. Roger and Sis. Ila Bradle of the Eureka congregation.

Bro. Sam and Sis. Anna Leman's new granddaughter, Olivia Rose Leman, was born June 2 to Bro. Ben and Sis. Janet (Goodfield).

Bro. Marvin and Sis. Michaleen are also new grandparents. Jonathon Ray Braker was born to Kevin and Janice Braker, June 9.

We extend our sympathy to Sis. Helen Fehr (Bro. Ben), whose brother, Wilmer, died June 18. May God comfort her in her loss.

Hospital patients this past month were Sis. Margaret Leman, Bro. Ralph Knepp (Sis. Ruth), and Bro. Alvin Farney. We are thankful that all have



returned home, and we pray for continued recovery of their health and strength.

Note of Thanks: I want to express my sincere thanks and appreciation to all for your love, prayers, and visits when I was in the hospital, also for cards, gifts, and food since I am home. It was very much appreciated. May God bless you all.

In Christian Love,  
Sis. Margaret Leman

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**ILLINOIS, TREMONT**  
**Carolyn Bolliger**  
**Marsha Koch**

June 24 was the wedding day for Kyle Dill and Tanya Martin. Kyle's parents are Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Sandy Dill (Delavan) and Tanya is the daughter of Archie and Jackie Martin (Hopdale). We wish God's blessings on this young couple as they begin their new life together.

We enjoyed having Bro. Greg Rassi (Chicago) as our visiting minister this month. We thank him and his family for spending a day with us.

Our hospital patient this month has been Bro. John Greiner (Sis. Emma). We pray for his early recovery and that he will soon be back worshipping with us again.

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**ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON**  
**Carol Schick**

Greetings from Washington! Although everyone here has been busy as usual, I don't seem to have a lot to report this month. They say that "no news is good news," so we'll count our blessings.

July 16th marked the end of this year's Sunday school term and the whole congregation helped to make our annual Sunday school picnic a success. It would seem that our precious young souls spend a lot of time in Sunday school but with four weeks vacation and only an hour per week that totals only 48 weeks per year. Precious few hours for such important life saving lessons. Let us keep our teachers in our prayers and may we all remember that every member of the congregation is leaving an impression on our young people as they seem to observe all things and learn mostly by our example.

Our April news never made it to the press because this correspondent was late so, better late than never. We want to congratulate Bro. Robert and Sis. Lily Pfaffmann on the birth of a bouncing baby boy born April 15. Joshua David was welcomed home by Caleb and Elise. Grandparents are Sis. Ida Pfaffmann (Washington) and Henry and Elizabeth Schick (Deer Creek).

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**INDIANA, BLUFFTON**  
**Jean Moser - Shari Fiechter**

"A new commandment I give unto you. That ye love one another, as I have loved you, that ye also love one another."

John 13:34

Visiting ministers this month were Bro. Bob Meyer (Bluffton North), Bro. William Hodel (Roanoke, IL), and Bro. Ray Sinn (Latty, OH). We thank each visiting minister for their labor of love and all our visitors for fellowshiping with us.

We have two precious babies added to our congregation this month. Rachel Leigh, born June 27 to Bro. Terry and Sis. Jean Neuenschwander, joins a sister, Bethany, and two brothers, Alex and Kip. Grandparents are Bro. William and Sis. Mildred Neuenschwander and Bro. Don and Sis. Justine Gerber.

Bro. Brian and Sis. Deb Fiechter rejoice over the birth of their son, Ethan Wayne, born July 16. He is welcomed by two sisters, Nichole and Ashley, and grandparents, Herman and Sis. Phyllis Fiechter and Carl and Betty Macklin.

"Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me."

Psalms 51:10

How we rejoice when we see those turning to the Lord for repentance. Our new converts are LaNae Reinhard, John Beeks, Sharlene Steffen, Shelly Tonner, Lori Shady, Laurie Hackenjosh, Mary Jo Isch, Dawn Sutter, Roger and Tara Steffen and Jenny Schlatter. We pray that each one will put their hand in God's hand and trust Him to lead their lives.

Our sincere sympathy is extended to the family of Sis. Emma Steffen, 81, who passed away July 2. She is survived by one son, John (Sis. Etta) Steffen; and one daughter, Sis. Diane (Bro. Jack) Schwartz; one brother, Bro. Ervin Kaehr; and two sisters, Mrs. Harold (Sara) Barger and Mrs. Amos (Ida) Moser; five grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

The following loved ones have been hospitalized recently: Sis. Ida (Wilmer) Steffen, Cammy Frauhofer (Bro. Les and Sis. Ann), Bro. Tim (Sis. Marlene) Ringger, Sis. Frances Dubach, Sis. Teresa (Bro. Todd) Farney, Bro. Kenneth (Sis. Ann) Reinhard, Sis. Mary Steffen, Sis. Delores (Bro. Simon) Heyerly, Todd Anthony Steffen (Mr. and Mrs. Todd Steffen) and Lyle Isch (Bro. Stan and Sis. Genny). Lyle was burned last month and has gone through the painful process of skin grafting. We pray for God's sustaining hand on each of them.

On June 24, Scott Longenberger and Julie Lundeen were united in marriage. Parents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Betty Longenberger and Mrs. Donald Smith and Jerry Lundeen.

Roger Steffen (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Della) and Tara Lehman (Mr. and Mrs. Ted (Elaine) Liechty and Mrs. and Mrs. Brice (Jan) Lehman) were united in marriage July 1.

Bro. Chris Steffen (John and Sis. Etta) and Sis. Tracy Salyers (Amos and Elizabeth) were united as one-in-the-Lord July 1. Our best wishes for happiness together, and for the blessings of the Lord are extended to these couples.

"Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost."

Acts 2:38

Wednesday evening, July 19, we gathered to hear the testimony and witness the baptism of our new brother-in-faith, Bro. Ron Macklin (Carl and Betty). Elder Bro. Phil Stettner and Bro. Bob Meyer assisted Elder Bro. Ed Schwartz on this special occasion. Bro. Ron is in the Air Force and was home on leave. He is stationed at Tucson, AZ, and worships with believers there. We wish him God's grace and blessings in his new walk with Him.



**INDIANA, BLUFFTON NORTH****Lois Drayer****Debbie Aeschliman**

This past month we were truly blessed with visiting ministers: Bro. Homer Reineck (Toledo, OH), Elder Bro. Jesse Beer and Bro. Walter Steffen (Milford), Bro. Ben Manz (Junction, OH), and Bro. Wayne Lehman (South Bend). We thank the ministers and their families for coming and welcome them back anytime.

Taylor Shane was born July 5 to Bro. Dave and Sis. Deanna Brineman making them first-time parents and Bro. Mike and Sis. Linda Dubach first-time grandparents. We wish them God's blessings.

On June 25, Jason Troxel (Bro. Robert and Sis. Mary Jo) and Amanda Burke (William and Karen) became husband and wife. Bro. Dean Lehman (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Shirley, South Bend) and Sis. Mary Steffen (Bro. Leroy and Sis. Elizabeth) were united in marriage July 2. July 15 was the wedding date for Terri Troxel (Bro. Dick and Sis. Patti) and Kirk Fiechter (Rick and Sandi Mendenhall and the late Ted Fiechter). "And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity." I Corinthians 13:13

Sis. Mary Moser and Bro. Floyd Groh (Sis. Virginia) spent time in the hospital. "God knows all our needs and He hears every prayer and He keeps all His children always safe in His care." Helen Steiner Rice.

We warmly want to welcome Bro. Richard and Sis. Dorothy Fischer to our congregation. They have moved here from Champaign, IL, and we hope they will feel at home here in our church and community.

Summer is almost gone and before we know it, school will be starting. We hope and pray that our children will have the strength to weed out the bad in any problems and search for the good.

**INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE****Lynn Wuehrich**

"The Heart of Man, God's Temple, or the Devil's Workshop." This was the theme for our Vacation Bible School which took place June 19 - 23. Each night we gathered together and were taught by the Holy Spirit until our cup was overflowing. "God's Creation

- The Heart of Man," Bro. Ken Schneider (Remington, IN); "Approval and Security - Real or False," Bro. Ken Wuethrich (Indianapolis, IN); "Deceitful Dilutions to the Heart of Man," Bro. Dennis Kaufmann (Bloomington, IL); "The Call of God - How and Why Does He," Bro. Marshall Heinold (Washington, IL); "Triumphant Transformation or Timeless Tribulation," Elder Bro. Phil Stettner (Bluffton North, IN). The following Sunday evening, we gathered together again to listen to the children tell us all they had learned in verse and song. May God bless each and every one who so lovingly labored to make this special week so precious.

Our congregation is rejoicing with Bro. Gene Huber (Bro. Gene and Sis. Barb) and Sis. Sherri Beer (Bro. Bob and Sis. Linda, Milford) as they have announced their engagement. May God be near them at this time of planning for their September wedding and for the many decisions to be made.

A precious new baby boy was welcomed into the home of Joe and Sis. Kathy Lee. Adam John was born June 15 and has two brothers, Aaron and Nathan, and one sister, Hannah. Happy grandparents are Mr. and Mr. David Stanton (DeMotte) and Mr. and Mrs. James Lee (Ft. Wayne).

Our hearts were touched when we heard that Jeff and Sue Neihouser (Dallas, TX) have found peace with God. We are looking forward to hearing their testimony and witnessing their baptism here at Francesville in the months to come. May God continue to lead them. Bro. Andre and Sis. Lois Neihouser (Francesville) and Bro. Bill Jr. and Sis. Betty Zeltwanger (Dallas, TX) are Jeff and Sue's parents.

We are going to miss Bro. Frank and Sis. Jill Getwein as they will be leaving our Francesville congregation. After both graduate from Purdue University, Bro. Frank and Sis. Jill are going to settle in the Peoria, IL, area. We hope they'll come back and visit us often.

Christian Endeavor was held at Francesville July 15 and 16. It was a big and blessed weekend for everyone. A special thanks is in order for all those including the students who helped to make it a success.

A special thank you goes to our

visiting ministers this month. Bro. Glen Price, Jr. (Sarasota, FL), Bro. Greg Gramm (Phoenix, AZ), and Bro. Todd Feller (LaCrosse, IN) offered their services to let the Holy Spirit speak through them.

Recently Karen Eide and her sons, Jason and Jon, were in an automobile accident. All were hospitalized with Jason still in the hospital at this time. Jason does seem to be recovering. Our prayers are truly with them.

Bro. Joe Gray (Sis. Esther) wishes to thank everyone for the prayers and cards he received after his accident.

I want to thank each one who has sent cards, for the prayers in my behalf and for those who have come to visit me while I was in the hospital and since I have been here in the home. Each one is special and I appreciate it all very much. May God bless each and every one.

Bro. Daniel E. Clauss

**INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS**  
**Miriam Gudeman - Kathy Freed**

We rejoice with Bro. Dennis and Sis. Cathy Neuenschwander on the birth of their son, Brandon Charles, born July 4th. Brandon's grandparents are Bro. Chuck and Sis. Doris Neuenschwander (Bluffton) and Kathy Hargraves (Indianapolis). Congratulations are also extended to our dear friend Amy Harper on the birth of her new baby girl, Cali, born on July 6th. Cali's grandparents are Bro. Alvin and Sis. Carol Beutal (Tremont, IL). We wish God's blessings on these dear little souls and their family circles.

Our visiting ministers this past month were Bros. Nile Bucher, and Doyle Frauhiger (Bluffton-North), Bro. Jim Rinkenberger (Bluffton), Bro. Wayne Lehman (S. Bend), Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler, and Bro. Vernon Schwab (Wolcott). Our thanks and appreciation go to these selfless individuals who put forth their time and efforts in bringing us God's Word.

We appreciate our visitors who come to share and fellowship with us, and we want to extend a warm welcome to everyone. It was a blessing to see Bro. Jim and Sis. Candy Meiss (Phoenix, AZ) and to visit with them and their families.

A few of our brothers traveled to



Leo, IN, to help at the Children's Home. It's a privilege to be able to offer what help we can to our fellow brethren and to share in the blessings that are received from that effort.

"Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this: to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world."

James 1:27

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**INDIANA, LACROSSE**  
**Mary Lynn Massner**

"Ring the bells of heaven! There is joy today,

For a soul, returning from the wild;  
See! The Father meets him out upon the way,  
Welcoming His weary, wandering child."

Gospel Hymns

We rejoice that we have a new convert at LaCrosse, Tony Herbert. May the Lord be with him during his repentance.

Chris Frank, son of Bro. Curt and Sis. Lyla, was once again hospitalized due to a complication from heart surgery. He is now home and doing well, and we hope he can once again enjoy good health.

"All Nature help to swell the song  
And chant the same refrain;  
July and June have slipped away  
And August's here again."

Helen Maria Winslow

August is the month when most of our children return to school and our graduates go off to college. May the Lord bless all our children, and be with them in the new school year.

Just a reminder to our LaCrosse congregation, September is Silver Lining collection month.

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**INDIANA, LEO**  
**Thelma Schlatter**

Study the Bible to be wise.  
Believe it to be safe.  
Practice it to be holy.

"The Bible contains the mind of

God, the state of man, the way of salvation, the doom of sinners, and the happiness of believers. Its doctrines are holy, its precepts are binding, its histories are true, and its decisions are unchangeable. Read it to be wise, believe it to be safe, and practice it to be holy. It contains light to direct you, food to support you, and comfort to cheer you. It is the traveler's map, the pilgrim's staff, the pilot's compass, the soldier's sword and the Christian's charter. Here paradise is restored, Heaven opened, and Hell disclosed. Christ is its grand subject, our good its design, and the glory of God its end. It should fill the memory, rule the heart and guide the feet. Read it slowly, frequently and prayerfully . . ."

Sermons on the living Word were recently delivered by guest ministers, Bros. Michael Thomas (Valparaiso), Randy Gasser (Detroit, MI), and Elder Bro. Aaron Steffen (Alto, MI).

Bro. William Klopfenstein has a hurting hand due to accidental injury. Prayer is for good healing.

Bits of This and That:

"The Bible is not a dull book to those who know the Author.

Every prophesy of the Bible is on target. No one can find one that wasn't on time.

While we are praying for sinners to come to Christ, He is pleading with us to go to them.

When we do what we can, God will do what we can't.

All too often we're satisfied by going to church, walk in and listen, get up and leave, and return to our own business. May He help us if this our perspective or goal!

For a smile: I never pray for a good garden unless I have a hoe in my hand."

(Copied from various sources)

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**INDIANA, MILFORD**  
**Sue Schieler**  
**Marguerite Hoerr**

Our congregation has been blessed in many ways in this past month; but concern has also been part of our experience, as several of our small group have been hospitalized.

We do express sincere congratulations to Bro. Dean and Sis. Mary

Lehman who were married in Bluffton this past month. Dean is the son of ministering Bro. Wayne and Sis. Shirley Lehman of the South Bend congregation. Mary's parents are Bro. Leroy and Sis. Elizabeth Steffen. We extend a sincere invitation to this lovely young couple to worship with us whenever possible.

September wedding plans are in the making for Sis. Sherri Beer, daughter of Bro. Bob and Sis. Linda; and for Bro. Gene Huber (Francisville), son of Bro. Gene and Sis. Barbara. Having found faith to promise their lives to each other, we wish them the richest blessings of God as they make their plans for a future together.

Sis. Linda Wuthrich was one who was hospitalized. She submitted to surgery and thankfully is fully recovered and back worshipping with us.

Mike Haab, son of Bro. Don and Sis. Martha, had secondary orthopedic surgery as the result of a previous accident, in DuPont Institute, Wilmington, Delaware. The latest report stated he is enroute home, and we're thankful to report, the surgery was very successful. It's back to crutches for a time, but Mike has been courageous, and will adjust to those limitations. We ask for continued prayers for Simon Beer, son of Bro. Steve and Sis. Connie. Simon spent 10 days in the hospital again recently, with a lung infection. He's making another trip to Indianapolis with his parents for more tests to hopefully identify the source of his health problems. He's been given such a plucky, cheerful personality and it's a lesson in life to the rest of us to see this young man's acceptance and courage in the light of numerous hospitalizations.

Sis. Aldine Reimchisel is back in her daughter Phyllis's home, after another hospital stay. We thank God as we hear reports that she's feeling better than she has for a long time.

Bro. Ted Baumgartner fell and had necessary hip surgery as the result of that fall. He's being released to Lakeland Loving Care, where his wife and our dear Sis. Helen also reside.

Sis. Flossie Hartter was recently moved to Lakeland Loving Care, also, from Greencroft Home in Goshen. This move will make her closer to her

loving family, especially Bro. Elmer who has been faithfully by her side during her extended illness.

We've been favored with ministering brothers' visits in full measure. Bro. Glen Price, Jr. (Fort Myers, FL), Bros. Carrol Gerber and Bob Meyer (Bluffton North), Bro. Greg Rassi (Chicago, IL), Bro. Ron Kipfer and retired Elder Bro. Orville Ringger (Bluffton). They all blessed us with their words of encouragement and by their loving visits. We ask God to bless them for their kindnesses.

### INDIANA, REMINGTON Beth Virkler

Empires fall . . .  
Mansions crumble . . .  
Cattle die . . .  
Machinery rusts away . . .  
Earthly pleasures fade in  
a moment . . .

But a child lives on and on in the lives  
of descendants and in  
those he influences all the way  
into eternity.

What is the value of a child?

Bro. Will Schieler (Milford, IN) was our guest minister at the Remington/Wolcott bi-monthly topical Bible study which takes place on Wednesday night. He spoke on Psalm 1 which contrasts the life of the righteous and the unrighteous. "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the Lord: and in his law does he meditate day and night . . . The ungodly are not so; but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away. Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment . . ." (Psalm 1: 1, 3).

Art Nussbaum was in the hospital for several days and we extend our sympathy to Sis. Eileen Getz in the passing of her father, Bro. Paul Honegger (Forrest, IL).

One Sunday evening, we had the prime opportunity to learn more about the vision taking place at our church-supported Children's Home as Bro. Tim Sauder, the administrator, was with us to share a slide presentation and to answer questions. The understanding that can be gained from being involved in this presentation

and discussion is well worth anyone's time who might have this opportunity in the future.

### INDIANA, SOUTH BEND Sue Beebe

The power of prayer was impressed upon us in many ways during the past month. One ministering brother told how thankful he is that he preaches before a congregation who prays for him and for the Word before he gets up to speak. Another brother mentioned that when we get old, we shouldn't feel that all we can do is pray, as if it is a small thing. It isn't. Another mentioned that a mother on her knees has great power in battling powers and principalities. And lastly, a dear brother prayed, "But what good would it do if our knees are bent and our hands are folded, but our hearts are hardened?" Much food for thought.

On June 25, we held our annual church picnic at Potato Creek State Park. It is sponsored by the Sunday school and we all appreciate the effort put forth in planning and preparing for it. It is a special time of fellowship which all enjoy.

On June 26 and 28, we held our adult Vacation Bible School. Bro. Curt Rassi (Tremont, IL) spoke to us on "Serving One Another in Love", and Elder Bro. Joe Braker (Morton, IL) on "The Joy of Giving and Receiving."

Other visiting ministers this past month have been Bros. Ted Witzig (Morton, IL) and Tom Troxel (La-Crosse). We pray these brothers have felt a blessing for serving us in love.

Many from our congregation travelled to Bluffton North July 2 for the marriage of Bro. Dean Lehman and Sis. Mary Steffen. Bro. Dean's parents are Bro. Wayne and Sis. Shirley, and Sis. Mary's parents are Bro. Leroy and Sis. Elizabeth. We wish them God's richest blessings.

Upon arriving at church July 9, we found we had a power outage following a storm which had passed through earlier in the morning. It was decided to go ahead with the morning service, and then to go to Milford for the afternoon service. I had to think that this day was typical of our lives. We make our plans for the day, but often things don't go as

we planned. However, we can always feel a joy and blessing if we realize that God is in control, and His plans are so much better than ours. Thank you, Milford brethren, for your love shown to us!

Also on July 9, many of us visited and sang for Sis. Rosena Hueni and Bro. John Schuch, and some of the other residents at the Bremen Healthcare Center.

Our Sunday school election was held with the following teachers given a new responsibility beginning in September: Bro. Don Lehman, Jr. - Sr. High class; and Sis. Sue Beebe, Nursery class.

Bro. Wayne and Sis. Shirley Lehman wish to thank everyone for their cards and prayers following the death of Sis. Shirley's brother, Eugene Wagner (Lafayette, IN). All was appreciated.

A final thought given by a recent visiting minister - "If we wait to believe until we see with our eyes, it will be too late, for the Lord will return in the twinkling of an eye."

### INDIANA, VALPARAISO Beth Heinold - Anjie Heinold

The Valparaiso congregation is a small fellowship of believers, which makes it easy to appreciate all new growth in our church. We rejoice with Stacy Miller and her family (Bro. Terry and Sis. Bev Miller) as she starts her repentance, and begins a fulfilling life serving God.

Our church grew in numbers this month as Dick and Tracy Bucher received their first child (Bethany Brook) into their lives. With this precious birth we are reminded of our responsibility to be Christian examples to the young ones in our congregations, and to continue to pray that they, too, will heed the Father's call. "And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely." Revelation 22:17

We were again thankful to have our Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL) visit our congregation. We thank God for speaking through our ministering brothers, and we thank the brothers for yielding to God's will.



**INDIANA, WOLCOTT****Lorna Knapp - Lynell Blume**

We are thankful that God protected Sis. Gladys Widmer (Ed) in recent surgery. We pray He will continue to add His healing touch and renewed strength in coming days.

We appreciate Bro. Ken Schneider (Remington) coming to proclaim the Word of God in our midst. May God bless each minister with an extra portion of His wisdom and spirit.

On June 25th, we held our annual Sunday school picnic. Then on July 11th, the Sunday school, and anyone else who cared to, spent the day at Turkey Run. On these special occasions, may the children feel the warmth of Christian fellowship and kindle a desire in their hearts to someday be a part of the body of Christ.

Bro. Willard Scheiler (Milford) recently lead a Bible study with many good thoughts from Psalms chapter 1. Bro. Tim Sauder (Leo) gave us a short slide presentation about the Children's Home, on July 16. We thank these brothers for their time.

We rejoice with Bro. Mark and Sis. Shari Schwab in the birth of their sweet baby boy, Marcus Allen, born July 12. Their two daughters, Stephanie and Marissa, will be glad to be mommy's helpers. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Vernon and Sis. Arlene Schwab (Wolcott) and Bro. Merle and Sis. Leona Bucher (Valparaiso).

**IOWA, BURLINGTON****Deyona Massner - Karen Schulz**

July 15 was the funeral for Sis. Sophia Mellinger. May God comfort the hearts of her children, Richard, Bill, Loretta, and Marge; brothers, John and Bro. Walter Stoller; a sister, Sis. Nettie Owens. We will always remember Sis. Sophia's ready smile and willingness to lend a hand when there was something to do.

We rejoice with the angels in heaven as the our dear friend, Rachel Massner (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Gail), was announced as having peace with God and man after repenting and becoming converted. We look forward to her testimony and baptism in the near future.

Elder Bro. Ed Lanz (Oakville) was with us on a recent Wednesday night.

**IOWA, ELGIN****Gloria Frieden**

Jesus knows thy sorrow,  
Knows thine every care;  
Knows thy deep contrition,  
Hears thy feeblest prayer;  
Do not fear to trust Him,  
Tell Him all thy grief;  
Last on Him thy burden,  
He will bring relief.

We want to extend our sympathy to Mark and Ruth Zupke and their family in the passing of Ruth's father, John Gerber. Also to Sheryl Schroeder and Bro. Lawrence and Sis. Carolyn Butikofer in the death of their husband and son-in-law, Marvin Schroeder.

"I will not leave you comfortless,  
I'll come to you."

St. John 14:18

We are happy that our three hospital patients are home again and gaining strength daily. Ida Frieden, Mildren Schupbach (George) and Lydia Butikofer (Bro. Elmer) were all surgical patients.

Our dear friends Mark and Ruth Zupke and their children, Matthew, Miriam and Timothy, are moving to Minnesota. We will certainly miss them here and wish them God's blessings in their new home.

**IOWA, IOWA CITY****Janette Schulz**

After weeks without rain, it is a joy to see cloudy skies, to wake to the sound of raindrops on the roof, to walk outside and feel the dampness and smell the cleansed air!

It isn't raining rain for me,  
it's raining daffodils,  
In every dimpling drip I see  
wild flowers upon the hills.  
A cloud of gray engulfs the day,  
and overwhelms the town;  
It isn't raining rain for me:  
it's raining roses down.

Oh, if only God can grant us the wisdom to see the roses when our spiritual life seems besieged by storms! When we pine for the sunshine and the warmth, may we remember the parched grass, the wilted flowers,

and the stifling heat that would result without the blessing of rain.

"For, if you will but believe your Father's Word, under that beating rain are springing up spiritual flowers of such fragrance and beauty as never before grew in that stormless, unchastened life of yours.

You indeed see the rain. But do you see also the flowers? You are pained by the testings, but God sees the sweet flower of faith which is upspringing in your life under those very trials.

It isn't raining afflictions for you. It is raining tenderness, love, compassion, patience, and a thousand other flowers and fruits of the blessed Spirit, which are bringing into life such a spiritual enrichment as all the fullness of worldly prosperity and ease was never able to beget in your innermost soul."

Streams in the Desert

With many of our families taking vacations this past month, we have really appreciated our visitors, including ministering Bro. Harvey Heiniger (Burlington, IA), Neal Widmer (Wolcott, IN), and Pat Zaugg (West Bend, IA). May God richly bless all who make the effort to assemble with us.

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

This past month we were privileged to have the following visiting ministers among us: Bro. Harvey Grimm (Bern, KS), Doug Schock (Pulaski), Carl Wyss (Washington, IL), Virgil Metzger (Chicago, IL), Jim Plattner (Princeville, IL), Curt Frank (LaCrosse, IN), Roger Aberle (Sabetha, KS), and Jim Knobloch (Elgin). We appreciate the brethren and the efforts they put forth in expounding God's Word to us.

One weekend we were blest by the presence of a group of brethren from our church in Princeville, IL, and were able to worship our heavenly Father through song services. "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. (Colossians 3:16)

Believing children are an heritage of the Lord, we rejoice that God has blest Bro. Art and Sis. Kris Metzger with a baby girl. Jeena Ranae was born July 13. Paternal grandparents are Bro. Ernst and Sis. Ella Metzger. May God richly bless their family.

On Saturday, July 15, Lloyd Metzger (Bro. Don and Sis. Mary Jane) and Dawn Van Surksun exchanged marriage vows. May God's blessings be upon this young couple as they together establish a home.

We extend a warm welcome to Bro. Chuck and Sis. CoraLee Knobloch and family. They have recently moved "home" from Zapata, TX. May they feel God's will being fulfilled in their lives as they once again take up residence in our area.

Illness has befallen several from our congregation. Pat Mrylie (Roger) was hospitalized for medical reasons and Sis. Mary Metzger (Bro. Jeka and Sis. Donna) submitted to surgery. May God's healing powers be with them and enable them to be restored to good health again.

We apologize for omitting Terri Cordray from our list of high school graduates. Terri is the daughter of Bro. Ray and Sis. Carol. May God be her guide as she embarks on new horizons.

#### **IOWA, OAKVILLE** **Debbie Wagenbach**

Bro. Larry and Sis. Bev Moser welcomed their second little boy into their family circle. Grant Joseph is also welcomed home by big brother, Lane, and his grandparents, Bro. Rod and Sis. Naomi Moser and Bro. Marvin and Sis. Verna Woodward.

Bro. Joe Gerst (Iowa City, IA) has recently spent a Wednesday evening in Oakville.

July 16th, we had our annual Sunday school picnic. What a blessing it is to see the children grow up and yet what a concern we have for them as they get older and begin choosing their pathways. It behooves each and every one of us to let the love of God radiate from our very being, that there might be no question who is leading our life.

Note: September is collection month for the Silver Lining in Oakville.

#### **IOWA, PULASKI** **Teresa Schock** **Ginny Wuthrich**

Summertime here in the Pulaski area finds us again in a severe drought condition.

As the Lord knows every hair upon our head, so He knows the need of every blade of grass. Though we long for rain, we pray that His will be done, for surely He knows our every need and what is best for us.

On July 6, Peter Alan was born to Robert and Janice Johnson. He has one sister and one brother. Grandparents are Bro. Richard and Sis. Wilma Teubel. May we all, who are parents, strive to bring up our children in the fear of the Lord.

Hopital patient this month was Andy Joos (Bro. Ron and Sis. Chris). We are thankful he is back home and doing well.

#### **IOWA, WEST BEND**

##### **Phyllis Banwart - Mary Gerber**

We were blessed to have a number of visiting ministers in our midst the past month. We certainly appreciate the efforts of each one and thank them for their visits. Our visitors were: Elder Bro. Harold Messner (Winthrop, MN), Bros. Rog Aberle (Sabetha, KS), Dean Messner (Winthrop, MN), Don Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN), Lee Plattner (Zapata, TX), Dale Wulf (Lester), Sam Anliker (Lamont, KS), Dale Moore (Elgin, IA), and Daryl Stoller (Bern, KS).

June 24th was the wedding of Susan Fehr (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Charolette), and Mike Rokey (Bro. Joe and Sis. Lila, Bern, KS). Elder Bro. John Leman (Bern, KS) assisted Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr with the marriage ceremony at the fellowship center in West Bend. We wish Mike and Susan God's blessings as they establish their home in Sabetha.

We bid farewell to Sis. Melody Knobloch who made her home here in West Bend for a time. May she find the blessings of the Lord as she continues her education and worships with the brethren in Minneapolis, MN.

We are thankful Sis. Clara Bruellman has recovered from a short stay in the hospital.

"A child comes, A child goes, he

takes a little bit of my heart with him, I imagine my heart must look like a piece of lace by now."

Bro. Gary and Sis. Sue Schneider, Samantha, Mike, and Clinton welcome two-year-old twins, Robert and Joshua into their hearts and home. May God give them the grace and strength to provide as He sees best while they are in their care. Bro. Manuel and Sis. Mary Gerber and Luann welcome two-month-old Bradley James. May the joy these innocent young children bring to the home, whether the stay be long or short, be a blessing from God.

#### **JAPAN, SHIODA**

##### **Kathy Kieser**

To motivate our kindergarten graduates to continue to attend Sunday school and read Bible stories, we have formed a group. Some students study English with us once a week after they graduate from our kindergarten and enter the public schools. These students are eligible to earn a certain number of points in order to attend our group activities. They earn points by coming to Sunday school, reading the Bible story at home with their mothers before coming to English class where the Bible lesson is taught, memorizing Bible verses in Japanese and English, and writing a Bible sentence in English. Our first group activity is planned for Sunday, July 23. We hope to make ice cream and watch a Bible story film and another inspiring film. We are pleased that many have worked hard to earn points to attend our first activity. We pray that God will continue to bless every effort to teach His Word and way and that He'll work in the hearts of many to draw them to Him.

Once again, Elder Bro. Akito Inoue travelled to Shioda to minister to us. May the Lord ever bless and provide for him and his family.

We will miss Bro. Hisato and Sis. Kathie Inoue and their children who have moved to the United States. They plan to make their home in Bloomington, IL. Although they usually assembled in Tokyo, we too will miss their fellowship and hope that we can remain close in heart through prayer and God's love that unite us across the miles.



Sis. Vicky Ramseyer (Bay City, MI) was once again able to spend a good part of the summer with us. Her fellowship and love are uplifting to our congregation.

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### JAPAN, TOKYO

#### Frank and Kathy Sauder

"God is my strength and power: and he maketh my way perfect." II Samuel 22:33. For four years, Sis. Kathy Kieser has shared the strength and power of the Lord in her life with us, and with others here in Japan and with whom she's come in contact. Now God is leading her on in His perfect path to return to the States. The Tokyo congregation will greatly miss her monthly visits, her fellowship and her support. May God bless you for your faithful service, Kathy, and give you the strength and power to continue to be a bold witness and light for Him.

Bro. Andy Klaus is here in Tokyo working for the summer, and his gathering with us has been a joy and encouragement. We appreciate his willingness to share the musical gift that God has blessed him with.

We anticipate the upcoming annual summer fellowship meeting that will be hosted at the end of July by the Shioda Church. "Come ye yourselves apart . . . and rest a while." Mark 6:31. May this time give us rest from our daily cares and concerns, but quicken us in the Spirit.

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### KANSAS, BERN

#### Lori Baumgartner Kathy Strahm

Jack Abshier (Mission, KS) passed away at a Kansas City area hospital June 20. Graveside services were held here at our Bern church cemetery Friday afternoon, June 23. Sympathy is extended to Jack's wife, Mamie (Baumgartner) Abshier.

Michael Rokey, son of Bro. Joe Rokey, Jr. and Sis. Lila Rokey (Bern), was united in marriage to Susan Fehr, daughter of Bro. Marvin and Sis. Charlotte Fehr (West Bend), June 24 at the West Bend fellowship center. A reception was held for the couple here at the fellowship center in Sabetha July 9. We welcome Sue to our Bern congregation and wish them

God's blessings in their new life together.

Elder Bro. Lavoyd Moore (Athens, AL) was in our Bern/Sabetha area, June 24-25. We appreciate Bro. Lavoyd's willingness to serve, as he shared the Word at both Sabetha and Bern churches Saturday evening and Sunday. May he ever feel God's spirit in his ministry.

Bro. Andrew Locher has again been hospitalized and has not been able to return to his apartment, rather has become a resident of our Apostolic Christian Home for the Aged in Sabetha.

Enjoyed by all involved was a potluck weekend when Bern families invited guest families to fellowship together Saturday evening and Sunday, July 1 and 2. Among those visiting, we were thankful to have Bros. Gary Brown (Forrest, IL) and Jon Schmidgall (Oakville, IA) ministering brothers who expounded the gospel.

Elder Bro. Sam Huber (Sabetha) was with us Sunday, July 16, as he shared the pulpit with our Elder Bro. John Lehman for the wedding service of Bro. Jeff Baumgartner and Sis. Kim Meyer, both of Bern. We wish Bro. Jeff and Sis. Kim God's richest blessings and His presence in their newly established home. Their parents are Bro. Leonard and Sis. Nancy Baumgartner and Bro. Robert and Sis. Janet Meyer.

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### KANSAS, FORT SCOTT

#### Karen Sinn

"What God hath joined together, let not man put asunder."  
Mark 10:9

On July 9, our church was filled to overflowing as we witnessed the marriage vows of Bro. Phil Schlatter (Sarasota, FL) and Sis. Judy Bahr. We will miss Sis. Judy, but wish them God's blessings as they establish their home in Sarasota.

With sadness, we bid farewell to John, Sis. Paula, David and Carrie Read, as they move to the Phoenix, AZ, area. Our small congregation will miss them very much.

Our visiting ministers this month were Bro. Dean Steffen (Elgin, IL), Elder Bro. Eugene Marti (Lamar, MO),

Bro. Sam Schlatter and Bro. Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH), Bro. Glen Price and Bro. Homer Reineck (Sarasota, FL) and Bro. Eugene Fetter (Toledo, OH).

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### KANSAS, GRIDLEY

#### Vola Young - Judy Kraft

We are thankful for our ministering brethren, who so unselfishly give of themselves to feed the flock, that sustaining spiritual food. Bro. Al Langhofer (Wichita) was our only visiting minister. We also were spiritually fed by visiting brethren, Dale Moore (Elgin, IA) and William Schlatter (Junction, OH) on a Wednesday night service at Lamont.

We know Christ came here on earth and died that we might be spiritually healed. We pray for our loved ones who have need for physical healing. Sis. Leona Kraft is hospitalized for medical problems. Javan Strahm, infant son of Bro. Phil and Sis. Gail, is undergoing surgical procedures to hopefully restore vision.

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### KANSAS, KIOWA

#### Janice Bahr - Darcy Kisling

Blessings come in many guises  
That God alone in love devises,  
And sickness which we dread so much  
Can bring a very "healing touch" -  
For often on the "wings of pain"  
The peace we sought before in vain  
Will come to us with "sweet surprise"  
For God is merciful and wise -  
And through long hours of tribulation

God gives us time for meditation,  
And no sickness can be counted loss  
That teaches us to "bear our cross."  
Helen Steiner Rice

When I read the above, I couldn't help thinking of several of our loved ones who are going through tribulation and sickness right now, so these lovely words are dedicated to: Bro. Vern and Sis. Marie Schwartz, Sis. Frieda Frieden, Sis. Kathryn Miller, Sis. Laverne Roth, and to any others I may not know of at this time. May God bless them, and help them in their tribulation.

Back to school already!! So let's get ready, parents, and make sure our children don't leave home with-

out the armor of our prayers and our love as a guide for their feet as they step away from us into the world.

Thought: Sometimes we are so busy adding up our trouble that we forget to count our blessings.

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**KANSAS, LAMONT**  
**Mary Isch**

Lord make me an instrument of thy peace;  
 Where there is hatred, let me sow love;  
 Where there is doubt, faith;  
 Where there is despair, hope;  
 Where there is darkness, light;  
 And where there is sadness, joy;  
 O Divine Master, grant that I may  
 Not so much seek to be consoled, as to console;  
 To be understood, as to understand;  
 To be loved, as to love,  
 For it is in giving that we receive,  
 It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
 And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Bros. Bill Schlatter and family (Junction, OH) and Dale Moore and family (Elgin, IA) were our visiting ministers this month. Gridley congregation assembled with us and we enjoyed a basket dinner July 12 before services.

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**KANSAS, SABETHA**  
**Beth Hartter**

The summer is swiftly passing by, and it is again that time when we think of our young people returning to school. For those who will be attending schools of higher education, may this poem be an encouragement to you.

Dear brothers, sisters, and our friends  
 Who "on campus" now do dwell,  
 May you know our prayers are with you  
 And we daily wish you well.

Keep those lamps all trimmed and burning  
 As to your classes you do go;  
 May your lives shine forth with brightness  
 And a Christian witness ever show.

Shun the evils that surround you;  
 Master only what is good.  
 Keep your eyes on Heaven's glory  
 As a Christian soldier should.

Never yield unto temptation,  
 Then your learning will be blest.  
 Forward go, beneath Christ's banner;  
 Then you'll be ready for any test.  
 Author Unknown

We are thankful help was close by for Bro. Ben Aberle when he became ill during a trip to Kansas City. It is good to have Bro. Ben assembling with us again. Our prayers have been with Bro. Joe and Sis. Tillie Menold. Sis. Tillie was just recovering from surgery when Bro. Joe became quite ill. We appreciate their faith and thankful attitudes they've shared with us. Ben Rokey has also been a hospital patient this month. We are always happy to hear when our loved ones are home again and enjoying improved health. Our thoughts go to Sis. Lydia Wenger who is occasionally hospitalized for ongoing treatment.

Visiting us this month on the pulpit have been Bros. Mark Bahr (Detroit, MI), Steve Gutwein (Francesville, IN), Alpha Strahm (Bern, KS) and Elder Bro. Lavoyd Moore (Athens, AL). We are thankful for the kind messages of salvation they have shared with us.

It brings joy to our hearts when we see that God is yet calling souls. "The father of the righteous shall greatly rejoice; and he that begetteth a wise child shall have joy of him." (Proverbs 23:24) Klinton Beyer is now seeking the Lord in repentance. We rejoice with him and his parents, Bro. Martin and Sis. Karen Beyer.

It will soon be time to say goodbye to our German exchange student, Ingo Salvmann, who has been living with the Martin Beyer family. We have enjoyed having Ingo in our church and wish him God's blessings on his return home.

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**KANSAS, WICHITA**  
**Emma Miller**

Bro. Howard and Sis. Kristen Plattner hosted the Sunday school picnic at their home June 26. In our small congregation, we cannot segregate ourselves into age groups, thus we benefit from mingling with all

ages and have a delightful concept of fellowship. It did my grandmotherly heart good to be sought out by a five-year-old (not a member of my Sunday school class) to join him in a game.

Bro. Al Longhofer has recovered from his surgery. We rejoice with him that he can resume his activities, including serving in the ministry.

There will be two weddings in our church families during August. On August 5, Sis. Roseann and Dwaine Reeves' daughter, Sandy, will become the bride of Craig Smith. On August 12, Sis. Gussie Wullschleger and the late Bro. Art's son, Bruce, will marry Wanda Wooten. We wish God's blessings on the homes they are establishing.

Mark Reimschisel, son of Bro. Max and Sis. Judy, has completed his tour of military duty. His final two years were spent in Germany. We pray God's direction on the choices he must make as he returns to civilian life.

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**KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON**  
**Barbara Huber**

Summer is a wonderful time of year when we can observe the handiwork of God's creation everywhere. As God's children we not only witness His beauty in the outdoors, but also, in His plan for our daily lives. It is glory just to walk with Him.

God knows our needs and answers our prayers. Jeremiah 33:3 says, "Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not."

One of the many blessings which we are recipients of is Christian fellowship. We are so thankful for the visiting ministers who so faithfully have come to share God's Word this past month. They were Bro. Earl Gerber (Forrest, IL), Bro. Steve Sauder (Tremont, IL), and Bro. Kevin Knapp (Bloomington, IL). May the Lord bless and reward them now and much more in the realms above. We have also appreciated other visitors travelling through on vacation represented from the following churches: Gridley, IL; Valparaiso and LaCrosse, IN; Sarasota, FL. Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love.

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**MICHIGAN, BAY CITY**  
**Pam Schlatter**

We are so pleased that two more souls have heeded the kind call to salvation: Andre Broquard (Bro. Duane and Sis. Carol) and Jeff Waibel (Bro. Bill and Sis. Carol) have expressed their desire to walk in the Master's footsteps. May they daily experience a rich measure of grace to build a firm foundation in Christ.

Sis. Leonore Knochel (Bro. Norman) and Chris Mehl (Sis. Alice) have been hospitalized in the past month. May they each feel God's comforting hand in their time of trial.

**MICHIGAN, DETROIT**  
**Sue Gasser**

Children spend so much time with their parents and are so impressionable that they often pick up our habits and quote comments they've heard us make. Do we, as God's children, spend enough time in His Word to absorb His thoughts and attitudes and quote His Words?

There's always a special joy in a congregation when they can experience a baptism. We rejoice with Sis. Barb Fortenbacher (Bro. Walter and Sis. Margaret, Kitchener, Ontario) as she gave her testimony and was baptized. We pray that God will grant her continued grace to fulfill her commitment to serve Him as long as she lives. Without grace, all of our promises would surely be in vain!

Bro. Nick Gutwein was recently appointed as Sunday school superintendent. We offer him our support.

We're always thankful for our visiting ministers. Bro. Doyle Frauhiger (Bluffton North, IN) recently visited us and reminded us that even when we can't trace God's hand, we can always trust His heart.

Our prayers are with Bro. Joe Szilagyi who is hospitalized at this time. Millie Wieland was also hospitalized but is back at the Home again. We trust God's healing power to be with you both.

Alto, MI, will host services at Apostolic Christian Woodhaven Tuesday evening, September 12 at 7:30 p.m. All are welcome.

Alto, MI, will host services in Kitchener, Ontario, September 17. For directions or additional informa-

tion, please call Bro. Walter Fortenbacher at (519) 699-4233.

**MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS**  
**Carol Strassheim**

We are thankful every time the Word is brought to us. Visiting ministers this month were Elder Bro. Perry Zimmerman (Forrest, IL), Elder Bro. Harold Messner (Winthrop, MN), Bro. Nathan Stoller (Bradford, IL) and Bro. John Schmidgall (Oakville, IA).

The engagement of Sis. Shelly Lawson (daughter of Bro. Ken and Sis. Sharon) to Bro. Shawn Maurer (son of Bro. Howard and Sis. Eileen of Phoenix) has been announced. May God bless them as they plan for an August wedding.

Please note the collection for the Silver Lining is this month.

**MINNESOTA, MORRIS**  
**Christa Sauder - Ruth Nohl**

Our thanks we again want to extend to our visiting ministers this past month. They were Elder Bros. Bob Grimm (Goodfield, IL) and Joe Braker (Morton, IL) and Bros. Don Miller (Minneapolis, MN), Ed Fritz (Washington, IL), Ted Witzig (Morton, IL), Charles Sauder (Tremont, IL) and Dale Wulf (Lester, IA). May God bless them for their willingness to serve us.

God has blessed three families with new babies.

Congratulations to Bro. Randy and Sis. Shirly Koehl on the arrival of a new daughter, Alissa Rae, June 20th. She has two sisters and a brother to welcome her home. Grandparents are Sis. Esther Koehl and Bro. Leonard and Sis. Vi Wulf.

Bro. Shane and Sis. Ruth Jones welcome another daughter, Katie Lydia, born July 2. She has two sisters. Bro. Ernest and Sis. Gladys are the grandparents.

First-time parents, Doug and Dawn Moser were blessed with a son, Brandon Douglas, born July 3. The happy grandparents are Bro. Alpha and Sis. Pearl Moser and Bro. David and Sis. Eileen Nahl.

There is joy in our midst because another soul, Mike Domnick (Bro. Gary and Sis. Velma), is repenting. We wish him much grace in his new walk of life.

Our long time faithful and precious sister-in-faith, Sis. Emma Schmidgall passed away July 7. Our deepest sympathy goes out to her family. Bro. Wayne and Sis. Dorothy, Sis. Gladys and Bro. Frank Messner, Sis. Stella Moser, Bro. Richard and Sis. Corrine, Bro. Hartzell and Sis. Marvin, Bro. Don and Sis. Virginia, Bro. Gilbert and Sis. Barbara, Bro. Gene and Sis. Dorothy, Sis. Mabel (Bro. Frances) and Darlene Carlton. She also was survived by 45 grandchildren and 87 great-grandchildren. May you all feel God's nearness and strength in your time of sorrow.

On July 16, the announcement was made of the upcoming marriage of Sis. Brenda Schmidgall to Bro. Mark Knobloch, both of Morris. We wish them God's richest blessing in the second most important step in life. Parents of the couple are Bro. Richard and Sis. Corrine Schmidgall and Bro. Jack and Sis. Nancy Knobloch (Blackford, IL).

**MINNESOTA, WINTHROP**  
**Georgia Messner**  
**Ella Mae Schmidt**

Hospitalized this month was Archie Lienemann (Sis. Pearl). He is now a resident of the Winthrop Care Center. Bro. George Messner is back home again and doing fair. Our prayers and thoughts are for the patients and their families.

With fall near our schools and Sunday school will be starting. We certainly pray for all our teachers. God bless them for their efforts.

Let's remember our elders in prayer as they travel and for their concern for our undying souls as conference time nears.

**MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY**  
**Carole Kellenberger**

Twenty children attended our Vacation Bible School, June 26 - 30. We thank all those who donated snacks and volunteered their time to teach and help with crafts. Special thanks to Elder Bro. John Lehman (Bern, KS) for speaking to the adults Wednesday evening and to Bro. Roger Aberle (Sabetha, KS) for teaching the older children. Our prayers are that the children learned more of God's won-

derful plan of salvation as they sang and worked together.

Other visiting ministers last month were Bro. Raymond Banwart (Fort Scott, KS), Bro. Howard Plattner (Wichita, KS) and Bro. Lawrence Luthi (Lamar). How thankful we are for these brothers and their families who visit and serve us.

Our congregation was deeply saddened as Jack Abshier lost his battle with cancer. We extend our sympathy to his dear wife, Mamie, and hope she will feel God's presence and our love as she continues to assemble with us. Jack was always so helpful in the clean-up after our noon meal and we greatly miss his cheerful presence.

We rejoice with LuAnn Richardson-Gramm (Brad) as she has decided to follow Jesus. "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." Romans 10:9, 10

We welcome our Elder Bro. Gene and Sis. Mary Marti who have moved to our area from Springfield, MO. Bro. Gene has guided our congregation since its first meetings in 1975, and we are thankful that they have settled here. We hope God will richly bless them in their new home.

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**MISSOURI, LAMAR**  
**Carol Braker**

Love to each of you across the miles. We are rejoicing with the blessing of rainfall; and spiritually, we can rejoice in the blessings of visiting ministers. Bro. Don Braker (Kansas City, MO) and Bro. Ken Wuethrich (Indianapolis, IN) shared with us and may God bless their efforts.

Our little church must bid several of our dear ones farewell this month. We hope they'll still come back to visit us often. Our Elder Bro. Gene Marti and his wife, Sis. Mary, will now be residing in Kansas City. He will continue as our elder brother but will now make the Kansas City church his home congregation. We appreciate all he does for us! Also, our ministering Bro. Ervin Knecht, his wife, Sis. Sandy, and his family will be

relocating in Eureka, IL. He has been a faithful minister of God's Word for us for several years and we will miss him! Sis. Caroline Banwart has made the decision to move to the Sabetha Rest Home. I'm sure she'll enjoy being there while yet in good health, able to enjoy the friends and fellowship. Although we don't wish to lose so many from our congregation, we wish each of them God's blessings and guidance in their lives ahead.

Bro. Troy and Sis. Vannessa Luthi welcome a new son, Jordan Lane, into their home. His sister, Maranda, will enjoy a playmate when he gets bigger. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Howard Zartman and Bro. Ray and Sis. Marilyn Luthi. May God give us the wisdom to raise our children as He wills.

Sis. Marilyn Luthi wishes to thank all of you for your love, prayers, cards, gifts and phone calls during her sickness. May God bless you for your kindness shown to Marilyn and her family.

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**MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS**  
**Kathy Knapp**

We are thankful for all the visitors we had over the past month, especially our ministering brothers, Gerald Sutter (Taylor, MO), Jaye Rinkenberger (Goodfield, IL), Karl Westfall (Francesville, IN), Neal Widmer (Wolcott, IN), Earl Ringger (Gridley, IL) and Walt Herrmann (Princeville, IL).

If you are traveling in the St. Louis area this summer, we invite you to join us for services. We meet every Sunday at the Ben Franklin Motel at 10:15 a.m.

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**MISSOURI, TAYLOR**  
**Loida Hodel - Lori Marquart**

**A DAY WORTHWHILE**

I count that day as wisely spent  
In which I do some good  
For someone who is far away  
Or shares my neighborhood.  
A day devoted to the deed  
That lends a helping hand  
And demonstrates a willingness  
To care and understand.

I long to be of usefulness  
In little ways and large  
Without a selfish motive  
And without the slightest charge.  
Because in my philosophy  
There never is a doubt  
That all of us here on earth  
Must help each other out.  
I feel that day is fruitful  
And the time is worth the while  
When I promote the happiness  
Of one enduring smile.

Anonymous

June 25 was a special day for Bro. Kim Sutter (Bro. James and Sis. Lois) and Sis. Vonette Leinweber (Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth Leinweber) as they were united in marriage by Elder Bro. Roy Grimm. "For better or for worse, we pledge, through sickness and through strife/And with God's never failing love, A friendship grows for life." D.J.D. May God bless Kim and Vonette as they establish their home here and become a new family in our church.

"Word of life, the fountain flowing/Purely from the throne above." ... was once again enjoyed when visiting ministers, Bros. Floyd Schmidgall (Morris, MN), Bert Butikofer (Elgin, IA) and Merle Kaisner (Fairbury, IL) shared the pulpit on various Sundays. Thank you for your visits and may God bless you for your services as well as our local ministers who we depend on and often take for granted.

Becky Huber (Vernon and Sis. Judy) who makes her home in Morton, IL, has answered God's loving invitation to "come for the feast is spread." We wish Becky much grace and understanding and happiness in her desire to serve her Lord.

A successful auction was held Saturday, July 15 for the materials salvaged from our former church building. Thank you to all who helped with this undertaking.

"Life is a flower of which love is the honey." Congratulations to Sis. Renee Grimm (Bro. Roy and Sis. Dona) and Bro. Bill Endress (Sis. Lois and the late Bro. Dan, Bradford) whose engagement was announced July 16. May God bless and direct this young couple as they plan their fall wedding.

"Keep us, our God, for your ocean is so wide and our boat is so small."



**NEW YORK,  
CROGHAN/NAUMBURG  
Alice Virkler**

Our Sunday school children, teachers, parents and many others enjoyed the annual wiener roast held at Whitaker Park June 26. The evening was beautiful for this event and it is a pleasure to be able to enjoy the fellowship of our children.

Elder Bro. Robert Beyer had surgery on his hand and we are happy to report that it is healing well. Sis. Pernal Virkler is a hospital patient at this time.

Two families have welcomed new baby boys this month. John Michael Purvines was born July 1. His parents are Michael and Susan and he has two sisters, Jackie and Kelly, to help care for him. Grandparents are Bro. Larry and Sis. Louise Purvines and William and Ann Hornig.

Joe and Donna Farney have been blessed with their first baby, Tory Joseph, born July 2. Grandparents are Bro. Don and Sis. Alice Farney, and Paul and Cynthia Bush. May these families be granted the necessary strength to love and nourish their children.

We are glad that God's Word is still going forth in its truth and purity and that there are still souls willing to answer the call and follow Him. Amber Herzig (daughter of Bro. Ronald and Sis. Eleanor) has begun on the path to eternal life. Our prayer is that she will also be granted much strength and encouragement as she embarks on this important change in her life.

**OHIO, AKRON  
Joyce Gasser**

The Lord is my Shepherd. Psalm 23 gives us a picture of a shepherd and of sheep. The Lord Jesus is symbolized by both a shepherd and sheep. Some animals are valuable only when they are alive, like a dog; some only when they are dead, like a pig; but sheep are valuable alive and dead. Live sheep provide wool for clothing, and in death they provide meat for food, and their skin for parchment. Jesus in life gave us a robe of righteousness to clothe us, and in death His "flesh is meat indeed." (John 6:55). His blood is for our sins, and His parchment is the Word of God. In

Jesus we have everything. The shepherd leads his sheep to rest in green pastures, as sheep chew and chew their cud again. Jesus leads us to rest in His Word and chew on it to help us. He restoreth my soul. We cannot restore ourselves, but we are restored in Jesus. He leads us through the valley of the shadow of death into the presence of the Father at the table in His banqueting house, with our head anointed with oil, and goodness and mercy following us. We're thankful our Shepherd leads us from faith to faith, strength to strength, glory to glory, to victory.

We are rejoicing that Jill Schamback (daughter of Bro. John and Sis. Joyce Schamback) has turned to the Lord in repentance. The Lord will pour out His Spirit upon her.

Sis. Audrey Graf recovered quickly from surgery, Jodi Grawunder had a tonsillectomy and Elder Bro. Gene Pamer had a cataract removed.

We were blessed to have Bro. Glenn Rigenbach visit us and minister to us.

From Sis. Julie Graf: I wish to thank all who remembered me with prayers, visits, cards and gifts while I was in the hospital and since.

**OHIO, COLUMBUS  
John Grimm**

We are thankful for our visiting ministers this past month. They were Bro. Mark Bahr (Detroit, MI), Bro. Dwight Stoller (Latty, OH), Bro. Larry Wenninger (Latty, OH) and Elder Bro. Ken Sauder (Mansfield, OH). May God bless them and their families in this special work to minister the gospel.

The Columbus church said farewell to Bro. Steven Hofstetter after our July 12, Wednesday night service. We have enjoyed Bro. Steven being with us for over a year and he will be returning to the Washington, IL, congregation. Our prayer for Bro. Steven is the same as the Apostle Paul's prayer for the church at Colosse, Colossians 1:9-12. Bro. Steven will be especially missed from the young group which lost half its size.

Currently, plans are being made for our second annual college student welcome day. All students, who plan to attend institutions of higher learning in the Columbus area this fall, are

invited to attend our services Sunday, September 24. A picnic in a local park will follow the afternoon service. For more information, please contact Bro. John Grimm at 614-442-1541.

**OHIO, JUNCTION  
Laurie Schlatter**

"I love them that love me; and those that seek me early shall find me."

Proverbs 8:17

Bro. Ken and Sis. Gwen Manz are the proud parents of James Leslie. Brothers and sisters include Marvin, Tony, Larry, Cindy, Willie, Janice and Beth. Bro. Eli and Sis. Evelyn Manz and Bro. Orel and Sis. Rose Steiner (Oakville, IA) are the happy grandparents.

Bro. Phil Schlatter (Sarasota, FL) and Sis. Judy Bahr (Fort Scott, KS) were married July 9. Bro. Phil's parents are the late Bro. Ben and Sis. Esther Schlatter. Sis. Judy's parents are Bro. Jim and Sis. Ruth Bahr. Bro. Phil and Sis. Judy will be making their home in the Sarasota area. We wish them many blessings and love.

**OHIO, LATTY  
Rhonda Stoller  
Marlene Reinhard**

A farming accident disabled Bro. Justus Stoller (Sis. Ruby) for a few weeks. Sis. Viola Schlatter (Bro. Herman) was also hospitalized from a car accident a month ago. We wish them both a speedy recovery and thank our heavenly Father they weren't hurt more seriously.

We greatly appreciate having Bro. Jim Ramseyer (Bay City, MI) minister the true Word of God. We are thankful the sermons we are filled with in church are the same our parents, grandparents and great-grandparents were blessed with when they walked for miles and rode their horse and buggies to church.

Summer will soon be gone and it seems like it only just begun. As we wake up each morning, let us remember that only what's done for Christ will last and all earthly cares and pleasures shall pass away.



### OHIO, MANSFIELD Linda Morrison

"How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!" (Isaiah 52:7) Bringing God's Word was Bro. Ron Kipfer (Bluffton, IN) and Elder Bro. Aaron Steffen (Alto, MI). We were reminded that God's Word brings comfort to the afflicted and afflicts the comfortable. May God bless the brethren as they proclaim His Word faithfully.

"The Lord will strengthen him upon the bed of languishing . . . (Psalm 41:3) Bro. Alvin Riggenbach (Sis. Elda) has been hospitalized; Bro. Frank (Sis. Peg) Graszl, Sis. Katie Bocka, Sis. Francelia Beer, and Kimberly Fairchild (Bro. Ron and Sis. Shelly) need are prayerful support for renewed health and strength according to God's will.

"Children's children are the crow of old men; and the glory of children are their fathers." (Proverbs 17:6) Rejoicing in their children's children are Elder Bro. Ken and Sis. Sue Sauder as Dave and Joy Sauder welcome into their family Andrew Lee. Benjamin and Adam are happy to have a new brother. Also Bro. Jim and Sis. Clara Zimmer rejoice with their children Dan and Sis. Barb Tucker as they welcome Luke Daniel into their hearts and home. Tammy, Christy, Archie and Maria are baby Luke's big sisters and big brother. May God bless each heart with love which will grow and flourish.

The annual Sunday School picnic was held at the home of Bro. Larry and Sis. Nancy Banks. May God bless them for their hospitality as they opened their hearts and home to all. In Romans 12:13 ". . . given to hospitality." Have you exercised the gift of hospitality recently? Have you invited to your home the elderly, the lonely, the hurting . . . we have them within our brotherhood. "And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water . . ." (Matthew 10:42)

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### OHIO, RITTMAN Diane Gasser - Lois Stoller

When we walk with the Lord  
In the light of His Word  
What a glory He sheds on our way!  
When we do His good will  
He abides with us still,  
And with all who will trust and obey.  
Hymns of Zion #186

We are thankful that Linda Ramsier (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Terri) has turned her back on the world and begun this walk with the Lord. May she be granted much grace throughout her repentance and as she walks with the Lord all her life.

Sis. Marie Bauman was blessed twice with two new grandchildren during this past month. Kristen Elizabeth is the name chosen for the daughter of Bob and Sis. Joan Graf (Latty, OH). Welcoming her home are Mindy and Michael. Paternal grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Alma Graf (Akron, OH). May God bless Bob, Sis. Joan and their children in the move they're planning to make in the near future to the South Bend, IN, area.

Kelly Marie is the new daughter of Chris and Sis. Peg Camp (Atlanta, GA) and granddaughter of Sis. Marie Bauman and Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Camp. Brian is her big brother.

Greg and Sis. Peg Tieche, along with Kelly, Gerri, Sarah, Rachel and Ruth, welcome a new little girl, Abigail Marie, into their hearts and home. Grandparents are Bro. Andrew and Sis. Lillian Maibach and Miriam Tieche.

Happy first-time parents are Bro. Jim and Sis. Janice Gasser. Their little son has been named Gregory James. Pleased grandparents are Bro. Ron and Sis. Hope Gasser and Bro. John and Sis. Joan Hartzler.

We are always happy when health, at least to some extent, is again restored to those who have been ill. Hospitalized this past month have been Dawn Young (Rex and Carol), Sis. Helen Hartzler, Audrey Baltic (Bro. Dand and Sis. Betty) and Bro. Lester Riggenbach (Sis. Lorena).

We extend our sympathy to the family of Sis. Frieda Gasser who passed from this life into eternity June 26. She is survived by her husband, Bro. Carl; daughter, Evelyn Howley (Phoenix, AZ); 14 grandchildren; 25 great-

grandchildren; and two sisters, Sis. Marian Klotzle and Leah Jamison (Paradise, CA). May our heavenly Father comfort those who are in sorrow.

### OHIO, SARDIS Paula Figel

The Lord's servants are asked by Him to "Feed My Sheep." Truly we can be richly blessed if we have come with open hearts and minds to hear God's teachings. We want to thank our visiting ministers who labored this past month on our behalf, Bro. Uriel Gehring (Leo, IN), Bro. Walter Anliker (Eureka, IL) and Bro. Clarence Dietrich (Silverton, OR).

There are moments in our lives when it becomes a necessity to be alone with God; when nothing will meet our spiritual requirements except silent communion with the Father. When the human heart is full of cares and crushed almost to the earth by heavy sorrows; when every nerve groans with agony, there is no sweeter and surer relief than to fly to the sacred presence of Him who never fails to lift the load of sorrow from the suffering one.

O ye who are weak and heavy laden; ye who are sick and wounded in life's great battle; ye who with bleeding feet are journeying up life's rocky steep, seek God's blessed spirit and He will help you bear the burden.

Matthew 5 - 16, "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

Our annual soldier reunion was held in Goodfield, IL, this year. We left home planning to take a couple of days to get there. While traveling on I-74, a car passed us and we exchanged glances. They were conservatively dressed. The lady in the back seat wore her hair up on her head. We smiled. Were they Apostolic Christians? We decided to pass them again with a note hastily written in the car window "Apostolic Christian Church?" They responded with a big smile and a positive yes. By this time we were traveling side by side with windows down exchanging information on our destination and home churches. May God give us the grace to let our light shine that wherever we are, we are



recognized as brothers and sisters in faith.

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**OHIO, SMITHVILLE**

**Gwen Stoller - Kim Stoller**

We rejoice with Bro. Vic and Sis. Brenda Bauman on the arrival of their daughter, Kelsey Sue, born July 11. Kelsey's sisters and brothers are Kim, Kara, Kori and Aaro n. Grandparents are Bro. Herb and Sis. Berniece Bauman.

Those who suffered afflictions of the body this month are Sis. Helen Hartzler and Bro. Vic Bauman (Sis. Brenda). We are thankful to have Bro. Vic back in our assembly again. We continue to pray for Sis. Helen.

"Shall I to please the blinded throug  
 Withhold Thy word so truthful?  
 Or thus to sooth the ears of men  
 Of their reproach be mindful,  
 To gain earth's gilded joys, or flee  
 The cross endured, my Lord, by Thee?"  
 Zion's Harp #113

We are so thankful to have ministers who are willing to preach God's truth. Our visiting ministers this month were Elder Bro. John Klotzle (Altadena, CA), Bros. Ken Indermuhle (Sardis, OH), Paul Gasser (Akron, OH) and Doug Harmon (Toledo, OH). May God bless each one for their labors.

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**OHIO, TOLEDO**  
**Josephine Rehklau**  
**Frances Laidig**

Bro. Mark Ramsier (Sardis, OH) and family spent a Sunday with us in July. In his message, Bro. Mark brought this question to us; "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God and that the spirit of God dwelleth in you?"

I Corinthians 3:16

Three of our loved ones who have been in the hospital are now recuperating at home; Bro. Rolland Whittaker (Sis. Herma), Sis. Anna Weigele and Bro. Walter Rehklau (Sis. Freda). We pray that they may enjoy a measure of good health again.

**Values**

The real values in life, what are these things?

First is religious faith - be convinced that there is a power higher than our own, the Higher Power who created the

world in the beginning and is in control of the very largest and smallest details today.

Second of importance in this modern life is sincerity with one's self and others.

Then, there is generosity as a value in life. We are to love God and to love our neighbor as ourself.

Love God. Love our fellowmen. In all our relationships, be sincere.

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**OREGON, PORTLAND**  
**Hone Rocke - Brenda**  
**Knobloch**

We are very joyful and grateful for the privilege of witnessing 8 testimonies and baptisms with the Silverton congregation on the weekend of July 1. What an encouragement for all believers, whether "babes" or "adults" in Christ, to listen to others tell how they found salvation. It truly was a weekend we will long remember, as many visitors came to share the blessings with us.

The following weekend of July 9, our dear Elder Bros. Leo Moser and Art Nohl and their wives spent the day in Portland with our small flock. We appreciate their ministry so very much. As well as the fellowship from all our visitors.

During this vacation and travel season, let us remember:

A Christian life is like an airplane; when you stop, you drop.

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**OREGON, SILVERTON**  
**Rosa Lee Kuenzi**

On the last weekend in June, our Bible class welcomed visitors from the Wolcott, IN, Bible class for several days of fellowship and activities. There were our usual coastal activities and a day that included Mt. Hood and the Columbia River Gorge are plus ample opportunities for swimming, volleyball, bon-fires and talking throughout the weekend. Saturday was the day of the annual Sunday school picnic for the whole Sunday school and both Silverton and Portland congregations. The picnic meal was provided by the parents of the students and the Sunday school teachers and included a delicious whole roasted

pig. Many thanks to all the Sunday school teachers and the brothers' wives and especially Bro. Steve and Sis. Elaine Bahler (Wolcott, IN) for all their efforts to make this project successful.

The two youngest Sunday school classes and the single member group had a scenic and enjoyable sunny day together riding the special Mt. Hood Railroad, one Saturday in June. The train's four-hour round trip starts at the Columbia River Gorge at Hood River and climbs up through apple orchards and rolling hills to the base of Mt. Hood. Each brother and sister was assigned one or two youngsters for the day's companionship, which included packing their sack lunch and sharing a seat on the train ride. When listening to their enthusiastic descriptions of the day's activities it was difficult to determine which age group had the most fun.

On July 1, we listened to the testimonies of eight dear souls and joyfully welcomed them into our church family after the baptisms on Sunday. It is truly a privilege to be able to greet one another as a brother or a sister in the Lord. The new members are: Bro. Todd and Sis. Melissa Kuenzi; Bro. Troy and Sis. Tresa Kuenzi (Bro. Bob and Sis. Linda); Sis. Amy Metz (Bro. Art and Sis. Betty); Bro. Barry Butler; and Bro. Charles and Sis. Karen Walter. Our heartfelt thanks to the following ministering brothers who were with us for this special weekend: Elder Bros. Leo Moser (Lester, IA); Art Nohl (Morris, MN); and Wayne Fehr (West Bend, IA); Minister Bros. Duane Kilgus (Fairbury, IL); Lloyd Kraft (Gridley, KS); Gene Leman (Wolcott, IN); Wes Moser (Lester, IA); and Garth Steffen and Robert Miller (Portland, OR).

In the middle of July, a potluck supper was held at the Molalla Senior Center for both the Silverton and Portland congregations. After supper, Bro. Vernon Lehman (Eureka, IL) and Bro. Noah Hermann (Princeville, IL) explained some of the activities of the various World Relief projects and showed some slides of the brethren in Eastern Europe. The scenes we saw in Hungary, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, and especially Rumania were very interesting and not a little humbling. And it is more humbling still to know that they are



earnestly praying for us . . . praying that our abundance does not prevent us from living a humble Christian walk of life.

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**PENNSYLVANIA,  
 PHILADELPHIA**  
**Franz Soni**

"Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth."

III John 2

Jonathan Meister (Bro. Mark and Sis. Rebekah) was injured in a lawn mowing accident and spent time in the hospital. We thank God for his speedy recovery and are thankful he is able to worship with us.

Sis. Joleen Messner (Winthrop, MN) has found summer employment in the Philadelphia area. We welcome her in worshipping with us.

Bro. Al Schneider (Rockville, CT) brought us God's Word this month. May God richly reward him for his efforts.

"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

The Philadelphia congregation shared a special weekend July 29 and 30 when Bro. Phil and Sis. Jan Weber and family visited us from Iowa. They had previously worshipped with us thirteen years ago.

A potluck dinner was held July 30. A young group from Rockville, CT, joined us that day. It is uplifting when we are able to share Christian fellowship with brothers and sisters-in-Christ.

We thank Bro. Duane Farney (Croghan/Naumburg, NY) in sharing God's Word with us. May the Lord bless him and his family for his labor of love.

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**SILVER THREADS**

**LIFE**

Do not ask to have your life's load  
 lightened,  
 But for courage to endure,

Do not ask for fulfillment in all your  
 life,  
 But for patience to accept  
 frustrations.

Do not ask for perfection in all you do,  
 But for wisdom not to repeat  
 mistakes,

And finally, do not ask for more,  
 Before saying "thank you" for what  
 you have already received.

B. Short

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**Sermon . . .**

(Continued From Page 32)

this good seed, the Word of God, in the hearts of men and that this planting shall also from time to time be watered. And then the master of the vineyard, He may also come, then, to add His blessing and increase. It is indeed the desire of every true servant that though he is only called to work as he might be able to do for the Lord, that the Lord might then come with bountiful increase.

Is it not true also here in your vicinity, how does it move the heart when we see that friends are yet moved by the Word of God and also brought into conviction where we see that the Word of God still has its power, as in times of old, and eventually has a way in the hearts and souls of upright people to the extent that they finally break down and say, "I too must repent," that the Kingdom of God has come nigh unto them and that they are now willing to let the Lord God work in their hearts to the extent that they come into conviction and judgment; and this judgment, dear friends, is only a bearable judgment. It is only for a short time that this soul, this heart, is afflicted. It is only so that ye may also, as we in the day when we were in repentance, might then realize how sinful sin is and how lost we are, and how without God in the world. Do we not remember, dear brothers and sisters, that day and time when it seemed so dark and gloomy all about us that the sun would surely never shine again, and we were prostrate at the feet of Jesus, and we were there begging for mercy; and He who looked upon our lost estate in such love and kindness and pity, He who had also, then, in His time while here on earth, looked upon those poor souls and had also suffered, pitied and had compassion on them. How did He say unto them,

even though some would not believe? He said there of Jerusalem, "Oh Jerusalem, Jerusalem, how would I have longed to gather Thee even as a hen would gather her brood," but, He said, "Ye would not." May it not be said of us, any of us, or even our dear friends, that the Lord had spoken unto them and moved and touched their hearts but would finally have to say He had wished to gather them unto Him, but they would not. And those days then which we often think back -- to me, often when we see friends come into repentance it brings us back to the very days when the Lord took us in hand and we could almost go through repentance with them again. Yea, our hearts and souls are indeed with them.

And we would say unto every upright friend that they should allow the Lord to work in them and though they are brought low and humble even to the very depth, yet it is good and cleansing for the soul. Oh that is the reason that the Lord would convict and condemn us for a short time -- that we might then also be humbled to the extent where we realize how much we have need of this, our Saviour. And so likewise then, dear brothers and sisters, let us never forget the cleansing of our former sins for after we have started upon the straight and narrow pathway, when the evil one comes again. Perhaps to many of us he came, as we read in one place, and brought seven more spirits with him that he would again take possession of this heart now cleansed; and we find that if he were allowed, then, to enter in and take possession again, that the state of that heart would be worse than the former.

And so let us remember that he comes unto us one and all and would mislead us. It is not that we have our soul's salvation worked out when we have started upon the straight and narrow pathway. It is rather that we are still in conflict and must battle against the wiles and the evils which Satan brings to us. Likewise, let us remember how that the Lord, how that He was able, Himself; to turn back this evil one. When He was tempted there in the desert, how did He say, even with the final statement there when He said, "Get Thee behind me Satan." We ourselves or many of us, I believe, have already been in



such trials and in such temptations that we just had to do the same as Jesus and speak out loud and say, "Get Thee behind me Satan," lest he would also have overpowered us and destroyed in us that which the Lord had brought. And remember, then, if we are called even into trials and tribulations and must often work out our soul's salvation with fear and trembling, that even those who have gone before likewise had to suffer.

We read how John the Baptist, one whom Jesus Himself recommended and spoke unto those people there in the land of Judea of this John the Baptist, what a prophet he was, but now here he had to give his life even where he was beheaded by those unrighteous people of old. And we are not called to bear so much; rather it is only a little that is asked of us, and we should indeed be willing to give the same for our Lord and for His name's sake. It is true, we have many examples in the Word of God which should encourage us.

We read of Joseph in the forereading, and Joseph was indeed an unfortunate lad, so to say, looking at it from the outward standpoint. Not knowing, perhaps, that God had so in mind that He would be led into Egypt to save those, even of the kindred of Jacob of old. And yet God had a purpose; but to Joseph, who had to live through these dark days, it must not have been so pleasant. Rather we find that when he came into Egypt, the Lord blessed him indeed, there in the house of Potiphar, but we find how that through evil reports he was put into prison. It must have been hard for Joseph to languish in prison, knowing that he was innocent and was falsely accused. But the Lord had not forsaken him; even in prison there we find that favor was granted him, and the Lord blessed him in his every work and endeavor. Now do we see the glorious deliverance of Joseph. Have we ever in our reading of history, or ever in the time that we have read of, heard of a man that in one day's time came from the depths of the prison, even out of a cell, unto the second in the kingdom? And yet God restored Joseph just that way, for one morning there was a morning when he was still in prison and by the time of evening we find that he was next to Pharaoh in the kingdom.

And now sometimes we often groan under the afflictions that often wish to depress us and to imprison us, and we think that perhaps we are of all people the most miserable and sign and groan even for relief. And then when we read how those men of old did suffer and willingly, without murmuring, it brings us to shame, does it not?

Then, therefore, dear ones, let us ever be willing to be of those who remember and to learn by the teachings which we have of the old patriarchs that also we might be, then, faithful and true in our calling. For we have indeed a high and a holy calling; but it is a nice calling, is it not? The Lord has called us to save us. It is not that we are laboring or putting forth an effort only for another; it is, then, for our own self, that wherein we labor faithfully and true, as servants of the Master, that will bring unto us a reward. For we do not only labor for the reward. Indeed, the good servant -- even as those whom we have when we hire laborers to assist us in our work -- we do not count that man that always talks and thinks of pay day as one that is a good servant, rather we love to see our help come in the morning with their sleeves rolled up and a brisk step and ask what they might do that day. Those men, then, we call good servants. How must it be with the Father in Heaven when He looks upon us here below and sees us as we are? Are we, then, of those who ask in the morning what is there to be done, Lord, or are we those who then would shirk our duty, or would be of those who hang back and only do that which we must? Let us consider these things. We speak not one to another to chide or rebuke but rather to remind each other of how things must be in the sight of the Lord God when He looks down here on earth to see those who are, and profess to be, His willing servants. And so may the Lord give us grace that when we begin the day, though it often seems dark and heavy unto us; many things often burden our hearts, those things which come over us in these the times that we live; indeed causes pain. Perhaps many of us have arisen in the morning hour and have thought we must face again the day, not knowing what we shall meet. Perhaps had been in heart

heavy, but yet when we had fallen upon our knees and had prayed the Lord again that He might give us grace and strengthen, and how could we feel the nearness and the help of the Lord for that day.

And so we see our Lord is indeed merciful and kind, does for us and wishes to do for us only that which might be good. But yet He wishes us to be faithful and true and to be deserving of His blessings. And so as we have Him on our side, so to say, then we will also seek to be of those who shall in faith, believing, work out their soul's salvation; and finally we shall also see how that He will lead us unto our full redemption -- that day will surely come, it shall come -- and thus follow for all those who are called from this life and time.

We look upon those of our loved ones who have passed on before; we remember and think of their faithful life and their service to the Lord. Is there not a longing in every one of our hearts when we lay away such dear old souls, that we also might be found true and faithful, as we believe the have finished their course? And is it not true that, when we see our loved ones lying cold in death, it is a testimony unto everyone of us that we also should be up and doing and working for our Master. And they who have gone on before, they are now waiting for that day and time, also, when the Lord will give a just reward; and we know that they are waiting for us, we believe they are. Oh we often receive testimonies even in our own hearts that they are waiting there and longing for that time when we may be reunited. I recall one time being overseas and on returning home, word came that our loved ones were waiting in the harbor to welcome us back home; and so the thought came to me at that time, what a wonderful thing it must be for those who have reached that peaceful harbor and haven of rest, how they are now longing and waiting. And from time to time we surely get messages from them that they are waiting for us, and that encourages us and strengthens us.

And so may the Lord give us grace, then, to every good work, that we realize that it is important how we live here on earth, so that it might be well with our souls in all eternity.

FEB 02602 LK  
CHARLES WALDER  
EAST LYNN IL 60932

## SERMON BY RETIRED ELDER BRO. RUDOLPH GRAF OF AKRON, OH

Spoken in Roanoke, IL, on Sunday, February 24, 1946  
"The Gospel of St. Mark - Chapter 6"

Dear brothers, sisters and friends, the way of our Lord Jesus while here on earth was not an easy one, as we have read, though He did much good among all who could use Him for such and who could believe in Him and unto that which He had come that He might do miracles and wonders among those who would heed and who would follow Him, or those who would gather when they heard that He was in their neighborhood. So, likewise, then there were such who ever and again would cast Him aside and cause that He would be mocked and also have to feel where He was unwelcome among men.

When we consider His mission on earth, how that the love of the Father in Heaven toward all mankind had so caused and brought about that the Father had decided that for an offering for an atonement of lost mankind that even Jesus, the Son of God, should now leave His right hand in the kingdom and majesty above and should come here upon earth to make that last bid, to seek and to save that which was lost. And yet when He came here, we find that He was not welcome, even to the extent, as we know, when He was born on earth, as it was the will of the Father that He not only be the Son of God but be also the Son of man born unto flesh and blood, even as we, so that He might also experience the life of living in the flesh here on earth. And when the proper time had come when He was now to make His appearance and we find there at Bethlehem, there was not even as much as a comfortable and a nice place or that wherein He might be born in, a house or under shelter as we were born, but rather

had to be born there in a stable. Evidently, the purpose was that He should make the beginning here on earth in humblest of manner and fashion, to prove even unto mankind that through humbleness and by humility that man may also be near unto his God and receive the blessings from on high.

And though He had a start, as we read there in the early accounts of the Gospels, yet we find that soon He was about the business of His Father, doing that which He knew was His calling to do; and these, then, among whom He dwelt, even as a lad and in His youth, we find in these early verses of this chapter that He was not welcome. They looked down upon Him and said, "This is the son of Mary, the brother of James and Joseph," and said, "Do we not know His sisters that are here with us?" And they were offended in Him. We think of those folks there in His home town as very unthankful people, but we need not look far around about us 'til we see the very same type, where people become offended in our Lord and Saviour, even as though He were nothing and not to be cared or thought of, even as a Holy One. While too, we who have received and tasted of the grace which He offers and gives unto us, have known Him in His love and kindness toward all mankind, we respect and honor Him above all things. To us the Saviour is near and dear, and we should and do cherish Him as the most Holy One, the gift from the Father unto all mankind.

And so even though He could do no wonders and works among His own, He said that "A prophet is not

without honor, but in his own country and among his own kin." We find, though, that even among the children of God, converted and now believers in our Lord, they do appreciate their home servants; it is not even as Jesus had to suffer, that the ministers of the home churches must feel. Rather we do trust and honor, do we not, that those who are to be our leaders and those who serve us with the Gospel are brethren who have the welfare of our souls at heart; and then we as the children should also look up unto those of our fathers to honor and to respect and obey them in all. It is very important, dear brothers and sisters, that in this day and time that we live -- that we ever and again humble ourselves to the extent that we see the utter need that we are in, that we need counsel and advice from godly and wise men, who only work in that direction that it might be well with our every soul.

And may the Lord give us grace, then, that the work of true servants might not be in vain but rather that we might in faith, believing, seek to walk the straight and narrow way. Even as Jesus had to marvel here because of the unbelief, may it not be said of us in our time that we have not believed, but rather that we had believed and obeyed. Jesus sent out His servants to go even two by two as we read here and gave them power over unclean spirits. True, today it seems the servants of the Lord have not much of that power where we may go out then to heal unclean spirits as it were, but we have a mission and a calling and that is that we shall plant  
(Continued on Page 30)