



"The fear of the Lord is
the beginning of wisdom: a
good understanding have
all they that do his com-
mandments: . . ."
Psalms 111:10

"Happy is the man that
findeth wisdom, and the
man that getteth under-
standing."
Proverbs 3:13

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Jesus Loves the Little Children

Jesus loves the little children,
All the children of the world;
Red and yellow, black and white,
They are precious in His sight;
Jesus loves the little children of the world.
Gospel Hymns #166

PARENTS

". . . To Love

"And these words,
which I command
thee this day, shall be
in thy **heart**: And thou
shalt **teach** them dili-
gently unto thy **chil-
dren** . . ."
Deuteronomy 6:6 & 7



"Their Children."

Titus 2:4

". . . that they may
learn to fear me all the
days that they shall live
upon the earth, and
that they may **teach**
their **children**."

Deuteronomy 4:10

"Back To School With A Bouquet Of Flowers For The Teacher"

With the new school year starting, may our prayerful support be with the school administration, teachers, youth and children.

MISSION -- WORLD RELIEF -- WORKS PROJECTS

**by Bro. Perry A. Klopfenstein
Gridley, IL, Congregation**

On August 18, a capacity crowd of brothers and sisters from coast to coast gathered in Bluffton, IN, for our church's general conference. The large host had come, not to hear anything new, but to listen to a re-enforcing of that which is proven and enduring. They had come "to confer" and to support the precious teachings of the Word.

We, as brethren, the various currents of the church, came together to be taught and shaped that we might fit more uniformly and purposely into the same yoke, and pull more diligently in the same direction for the glorious cause of Christ. In doing so, we will benefit ourselves, our beloved brethren across the land, and our posterity so long as the Lord tarries.

On awakening early on conference morning, there is always the special glow of God's presence. Whether at breakfast with local hosts or on the highway, a warm feeling of being "in the faith" comes over us as this great "coming together" is anticipated. As one drives into the church parking lot, a deep sense of brotherly love wells up within the heart. This is a day we truly feel the richness of our heritage in the Lord.

As one sat amid the huge throng at Bluffton's country church, he had to reflect back to 1858, when Elder Joseph Bella of Sardis, Ohio, came to a spot across the road from the Bluffton church and baptized 18 souls. These dear pilgrims had felt a need of salvation, experienced a Biblical new birth, and were baptized in a nearby pond. Little could these sincere forefathers have comprehended that 131 years hence a doctrinally-unified council of elders, together with a record number of brethren, would gather in a huge edifice for a day of ringing exhortations.

Simplicity comprised one of the beauties of the day. The Reformation cry of "Sola Scriptura" (only Scriptures) of the early 1500's enshrouded the meeting as the Bible was upheld as true, inerrant and infallible, and the only literal guide for faith and life. Thanks be to God, Bro. Samuel Froehlich had abandoned complicated theologies and founded a church based on the Word. Added to the emphasis of the Word as our only guide was the special fact that our servant leaders poured forth inspirational exhortation with purity of heart and mind. Their remarks were not corrupted with worldly wisdom, secular scholarship, or seminary falsehoods.

Our dutiful elders, neither emphasizing or groomed in "excellency of speech", but rather moved by the Holy Spirit to "excel to the edifying of the church" (I Corinthians 14:12), spoke with a clear and unified voice - and each soul who heard clearly was ready to "prepare himself for battle" (I Corinthians 14:8).

Indeed, loving exhortations were given to hold to the Biblical precepts of submission and humility. Under-scored was the doctrine of a threefold obedience: to Christ, to the Word, and to the Church. One speaker advised, "We, as believers, can't walk with the world because God doesn't walk with the world." All in attendance searched their hearts when challenged if they had maintained or lost their "first love".

(Continued on Page 4)

THE SILVER LINING

Grabill, Indiana 46741
USPS 496780

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IN MEMORY -- EDITORS:
HENRY SOUDER
EDWARD SOUDER

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.



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).

Strife, conflict, and selfishness are the everyday hallmarks of our time. How do God's children react to these powerful influences which surround them? How can converted souls who are in the world but not of the world (John 17:15), best reflect the image of Christ? Does Christ's light shine brighter when the believer takes up earthly weapons of warfare and conflict, even for a so-called just cause?

Many contemporary professing Christians embrace a doctrine which permits bearing arms and taking human life in circumstances such as defending a free nation against an evil enemy. This writing seeks to present the scriptural basis for our belief that this doctrine is unsound. Christ came to bring peace and love to the hearts of mankind through the salvation of lost sinners, not by establishing an earthly kingdom or by violently resisting oppressive governments.

Since its inception, the Apostolic Christian Church has practiced refraining from bearing arms with the intent to kill another human being. This has stemmed from the belief that the New Testament teaches it is wrong to kill or injure one's enemy. Perhaps the greatest sin of all lies in the fact that taking the life of a human being terminates forever his chances to find salvation.

The Lord Jesus left no doubt about a Christian's attitude toward an adversary. "Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbor, and hate thine enemy. But I say unto you, love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you" (Matt. 5:43,44).

Further, Jesus exhorts, ". . . I say unto you that ye resist not evil, but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also" (Matt. 5:39). John the Baptist told the soldiers, "Do violence to no man" (Luke 3:14). The Lord rebuked a follower for cutting off the ear of the high priest's servant: "Put up again thy sword into place, for all they that take the sword shall perish

NONRESISTANCE

with the sword" (Matt. 26:52).

The Apostle Paul writes: "Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not. Recompense to no man evil for evil . . . if it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men. Dearly beloved avenge not yourselves but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord. Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire upon his head." (Romans 12:14, 17-21).

"For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds;) Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ" (2 Cor. 10:3-5).

Sometimes the texts found in Romans 13:1-2 are used to support taking life in warfare: "Let every soul be subject to the higher powers. For there is no power but of God; the powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever, therefore, resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God." It should be noted that this directive is written to Christians about those who govern. The church and the state are separate entities. The former is spiritual and is the body of Christ; the latter is a secular entity and exists for the physical well-being of the citizens, believer and unbeliever alike. However, the Christian's primary citizenship is in Heaven (Phil. 3:20). He is a pilgrim and stranger on this earth (I Pet. 2:11). His devotion to a higher entity prohibits him from engaging in ungodliness. His rendering to Caesar the things that are Caesar's is not a blind allegiance whereby he is justified in breaking one of God's commandments. If the state's edict contradicts God's teachings, then as practiced by Peter and other Apostles, "We ought

to obey God rather than men" (Acts 5:29).

It is nothing new for godly men to resist peacefully an impure edict of the state. Daniel and his three friends resisted the Kings' decrees and humbly submitted to the lion's den and the fiery furnace (Dan. 3:16-18; 6:10-17). Peter and John were forbidden to preach or teach in the name of the Lord Jesus, but they "spoke the word of God with boldness" (Acts 4:18,31). As a result of their actions, the Apostles were often cast into prison. In the 16th century the Anabaptist forefathers refused to obey the state's commandment to baptize their infant children, and many paid with their life for their refusal to follow a falsehood. All of these brave forefathers of faith exemplified Christ's peaceful way of nonresistance, which resulted in powerful testimonies to the unbelievers.

The state exists to maintain order and to protect its citizens. While God grants it power, its principles are usually earthly in nature. The believer's ultimate allegiance is to the ways of God and the Word, not to the state. We must not disobey a commandment of God in order to fulfill an edict or law of the state, even in the name of preserving a benevolent government. God is the only sovereign power who can grant or withdraw the authority to govern (Rom. 13:1).

Our church should be deeply grateful to God and to our nation for allowing us to serve in a noncombatant status, not carrying arms for the purpose of taking human life. In this way, a brother can render proper obedience to both entities, the church and the state. Many brethren in years gone by have found themselves in the thick of battle, armed only with their medical supplies for use in the saving of life (whether friend or foe). They humbly dared to be Daniels and portrayed Christ's message of faith and love even in the most trying of circumstances.

The multitude fed on the constant reminders that the battle for true spirituality is fierce -- and that the Lord's army is weakened when it faces the enemy in disarray, in confusion, with reluctance, and without unity. The clarion call was to rally around the Word, to agree to strategy, and to hold up the standards of faithfulness as God's people march into the fray!!

At the end of the day, a stunning summary was made. A dearly beloved elder from across the seas -- and

from both a trans-national and trans-cultural perspective -- quietly defined the feelings of the day to a hushed audience: "Oh Lord, I have been so privileged to sit here today and hear these teachings". All present could say, "Amen", and wished that each one of their fellow brothers and sisters-in-Christ across the land could have been present. We all look forward to August 10, 1990 at Cissna Park, Illinois when, Lord willing, the next general conference will be held.

--NOTICE--

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

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

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

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

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

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

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN BIBLE DISTRIBUTION

Bibles Distributed By Our Churches

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

Bibles Distributed -- Seventh Year

MONTH	TO DATE
August 1989 --	2210

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.

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

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE AGED 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.

HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

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

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME

Jeff Thames

It's hard to believe that seven months have passed since I began working as a counselor at A.C.C.H. I remember when God first convicted me about His work at the Children's Home over seven years ago after coming to volunteer during a semester break. God used that experience to plant a seed that He would someday bring to harvest in my life. The call to harvest took place last November after learning about the counselor opening here at the Home. There were many prayers said and many tears shed as God's will was sought, but through it all, He was faithful and His guidance was clear.

Brenda and I, along with our dear children, loaded the last of our material belongings into our station wagon and said goodbye to our families and friends on a cold January day. Our eyes were moistened by the many memories we were leaving behind and yet our hearts were waiting in peaceful expectation of the new life God was leading us to. There have been struggles, adjustments, blessings and joys, and I can say that God has richly rewarded us with new friends and "family" within the wonderful fellowship of the Leo church.

The work at the Children's Home is challenging and yet the love and unity of the staff help to encourage us as we deal with the wounded hearts we serve. It's hard to describe the peace that comes from obeying God in a step such as the one He led us to take, but I want to tell anyone who may be considering our current openings to remember that the God who calls us is more than abundantly able to sustain us.

We have an immediate need for a couple to come and serve as Houseparents. This position involves providing love, care and supervision for young people in need of a nurturing environment. We also have an opening for a single sister to join the sisters serving as Houseparents in the West House which is an all-girl house. We pray that our brothers and sisters would take some time in sincere prayer asking God if He would like to use them in meeting these needs.

There are several newsworthy

items to share with you all as August was a very busy month. Sis. Maxine Sauder announced her intention to leave the Home after five years on the staff, as she has been led by God to move on in her life of service for Him. We trust the Lord to bless her for her labor at the Home. Sis. Cindy Bauer has taken over the Transitional Living Program as Sis. Colleen Reardon moved to Florida to take work in the Sarasota, FL, area. We look forward to welcoming Sis. Rhonda Stoller (Latty, OH), when she assumes Sis. Cindy's Office Manager position in early October.

Our thirteenth annual auction and sale was a big success in many ways and we were overwhelmed by God's abundant blessings on that day. The brotherhood conference allowed many to attend the sale for the very first time. It was exciting to see over 2,500 assembled on our campus for food and fellowship, while the generosity of those who donated and bought allowed us to generate \$136,000 in proceeds. We thank God for all who organized, donated, attended, helped and bought in order that God's work could continue in powerful ways. Next year's sale is Saturday, August 18.

As the summer concludes, we ask God to reward the many volunteers who came and helped throughout the summer. We welcome you back in the future. The end of summer brought with it an honors trip for six of our kids and we pray that God will bless the Detroit congregation for their warmth and hospitality. May God be with you all.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

Our summer weather has been beautiful lately -- with a rain shower now and then, and lovely cool nights. And as usual, there have been many interesting things going on for our residents.

A large group made an overnight trip to Six Flags by St. Louis, MO. They enjoyed it so much. They also made good use of the pool at the Holidome.

Last week, "Farmer Bahr" (Gridley, KS) visited us and entertained

(and taught!) us with his old-time stories. Young and old enjoy him.

Quite a number of us have been going on camping trips, a really enjoyable summer treat! An overnight trip is planned for August 22 and 23.

We welcome our new resident, Sam Sigulas. He came to live here from Glasford, IL, August 15. Sam's birthday is November 13. We are happy to have him, and hope he soon feels "at home".

Besides having Sunday school here at the "Home" Sunday mornings, we have three different groups that meet monthly for Bible study. The residents look forward to these meetings.

Recently, the firemen made a "false alarm" trip to the Home, and it was a coincidence that a tour was planned to the fire station shortly after. Yes, it did make it more exciting!

We still are making shopping trips, going to "Sunshine Club," and soon will be starting horseback riding therapy again. That is certainly a highlight of Saturday mornings. Our October birthday people are: Lois Baumgartner (4); Carol Fahrni (5); Anita Schuon (13); Kent Knobloch (14); Bryan Tiezzi (30). There are no birthdays at Oakwood Estate for this month.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL OF ATHENS, AL Julie Bauer

The end of summer is quickly bringing us up to a new school year at the preschool. Our school-agers have left to go back to "big" school, and the smaller ones are excited to move up to a "different" room. We'll also be adding some new faces to our group, and we welcome them.

All of the children spend only a very small portion of their lives with us. It's an impressionable time, and I pray that they will remember the love that they felt here and know that love comes from God.

We were blessed with many volunteers this month. Sis. Debra Blunier (Eureka, IL) spent two weeks with us. We love to listen when she tells us stories! Sis. Joellen Wettstein (Eureka, IL) and Sis. Doris Fischer (Roanoke, IL) spent a week, as did Sis Joyce Bauer and Rachel Conrad (Cissna Park, IL). We very much appreciate their help and hard work.

ALABAMA, ATHENS

Pamela Moore

Already, we find ourselves in September of 1989! With summer coming to an end, and it seems it just begun. In God's timing, where are we in His plan for our life? Are we where God wants us to be, following His timetable, or our own?

Summer brings many visitors to Athens, as many include us in their vacation plans, we are thankful. This past month, we've enjoyed visitors from Washington, Goodfield, Bradford and Eureka, IL, also, Nashville, TN, Fort Wayne, IN and Toledo, OH. We thank three of our visitors for volunteering time at the Preschool; Sis. Joy Ellen Wettstein and Sis. Deb Blunier (Eureka, IL) and Sis. Doris Fischer (Roanoke, IL).

On Sunday, July 22, at 9:00 a.m., services were held at a local nursing home, bringing to those who are unable to attend church, the Word of God. These services are held once monthly and anyone is welcome to attend. This was also the day for our monthly potluck dinner at church, a time everyone enjoys being together.

As the summer comes to a close, so does the stay of someone very special to us in Athens. Sis. Lisa Huette (Goodfield, IL), has returned home to Illinois after spending her entire summer here in Athens. We appreciated the love, joy and care she shared while here. May God bless her as she returns to school in Illinois.

Little Kendra Coulter has spent more time in the hospital this month, however, has returned home again and is doing well. We continue to ask for your prayers for Kendra and her family.

ARIZONA, PHOENIX

Ron and Ev Hoerr

"Faith comes from hearing the Word." "How or what is your attitude to God? He knows!" "It's in times of persecution we feel close to God, not in the good times." Are you using your God-given talent? He gave us all at least one. Yours is as important as the next persons."

The above remarks were just a few from the many sermons we heard since our last visit here, some from

our home ministers, others from visiting brothers.

We have enjoyed many visitors this summer. Included among them have been travelling ministers and families: Bro. Dale Frank (Oakville, IA), Bro. Ken Lawson (Minneapolis, MN), Bro. Don Braker (Kansas City, MO) and Bro. Ron Joos (Pulaski, IA).

Correction: Bro. Dan Roth was not listed among Sis. Lorene Roth's survivors. However this omission occurred, we are sorry. Bro. Dan is very much a part of Bro. Earl Roth's family. He and Sis. Patty have four children.

Evelyn Howley (late Lou) became a first-time grandmother July 27, when Karen Christeen was born. Happy parents are Richard and Chris Howley.

Abby LeAnn Freed arrived August 2. She is Bro. Steve and Sis. Kelly's second daughter. Alyse is glad to share the grandparents' love. They are Richard and Sis. Dorothy Kraft and Bro. Allan and Sis. Edith Freed.

Bro. Bob and Sis. Betty Lemons welcomed their first grandson, Westin Joseph, July 6. Westin lives in Colorado with his parents, Brad and Faith Carey.

We are grateful Bro. Joe Dotterer is able to worship at church after his second knee operation. Bro. Dan and Sis. Doris Kokanovich and Sis. Carol Kaufman are also back. Sis. Martha DeMille and Sis. Esther Harmon still need our prayers. Bro. George Schuster has a severe sprain of his left hand from a mishap at work. Sis. Ione Rokey is hospitalized because of a car accident.

May the Lord guide our elders as they gather at the general conference to help us all travel a safe journey to life eternal with God Almighty.

As we say "bye" to Bro. Randy and Sis. Lanae, Kendall, Kevin and Kayla Meyer, who are moving to Taylor, MO, we welcome John, Sis. Paula, Carrie and David Reed.

God loves us, let us love one another.

HE LIVES . . . HE LIVES

I see God in the morning light . . .
in a far-away evening star.
But closer . . . and dearer yet,
I see Him in the light of your eyes
and the warmth of your smile.

I feel Him tender in your touch . . .
And in your loving, encouraging
words,
He speaks, oh so softly, to my
heart.
Somehow God knew I needed
you . . .
Someone so understanding,
So caring . . . to show me His love.

Glenna Oldham

ARIZONA, TUCSON

Lisa Knapp

We are pleased to announce that we have a new brother-in-faith. Bro. Ron Macklin was baptized in Indiana July 19. Bro. Ron lives in Tucson and we are happy to be able to greet him as a brother.

Bro. Bob and Sis. Carole Haas are happy to report the birth of a new granddaughter. Carly Jo Haas was born July 3 to Randy and Nancy Haas. Jamie, Casey and Justin welcome their sister home.

Our building project is progressing nicely. We are now ready for interior and exterior plastering. We wish to express our sincere thanks to everyone who has supported us financially and prayerfully as we work on this project.

CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA

Lisa Steiner

We were again blessed to have visitors with us this past month. Among them were Elder Bro. Ed Lanz (Oakville, IA) and Bro. Don Wagenbach (Washington, IL), who brought us God's Word.

We bid farewell to Bro. Steve and Sis. Kelly Freed and daughters, Alyse and Abby, as they have moved back to Phoenix, AZ. Little Abby was born just a few weeks before. They will be greatly missed.

Elder Bro. John and Sis. Lois Klotzle are pleased to have a new grandchild in the family. Stephen Donald was born in August to Bro. Frank and Sis. Kathy Sauder in Japan. Welcoming Stephen home is his brother, Jonathan.

Many of us in the Altadena and San Diego congregations gathered to witness the wedding of our dear friends, Becky (Bro. Richard and Sis. LaNae Aberle) and Jeff Bailey, July

29. May God be with them in their new life together.

CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

Nella Varga

What a happy Sunday. We were so glad to see Sis. Anna Jevremov in church again. We are thankful that our prayers for her recovery are being heard by God and the spirit of healing is with her. She is out of the hospital and at home now. Bro. Victor and family appreciate all the cards, visits and words of encouragement they have received.

As always, it's so great to have visiting ministers in San Diego. Speaking the truth to us were Bro. Greg Gramm, Bro. Jon Kokanovich (Phoenix, AZ) and Bro. Don Wagenbach (Washington, IL).

Bro. Steve and Sis. Joanne Varga are grandparents yet again -- what a joy! Rachael Joanna Manz was born August 9 to their daughter, Sis. Vera and Bro. Russell Manz (Junction, OH).

Children are back in school already. Summer vacation is over and the school life begins again; One year wiser than twelve months ago. How the time passes so quickly. My niece, Patricia, started kindergarten. I think of all the new challenges she will face; the new faces she will be introduced to; and introduced knowledge she will be challenged with. They are so young. And like a new Christian, we just want to take them in our arms and protect them from the world, as we did when they were babies. But they grow. And thank God that they do. They need to learn in order to gain knowledge, in order to gain wisdom. They need to learn discipline -- to know God's will. They need to learn priority -- for time keeps speeding ahead (It seems we just don't have the time to do all that we want to do in a day). They need to learn to study. For in studying God's Word, we find that we gain in knowledge and wisdom. We'll have more strength to discipline ourselves against the evils in the world. We'll know that God is our number one priority.

"... Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and everything else shall be added unto you."

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love,

joy, peace, long suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance:..."

Galatians 5:22-23

love (luv) n: (1) strong affection for another arising out of kinship or personal ties; (2) unselfish loyal and benevolent concern for the good of another; (a) the fatherly concern of God for man; (b) brotherly concern for others; (c) a person's adoration of God.

COLORADO, DENVER

Marlene Leman

Michael David is the name chosen by David and Kim Stevens for their new son born August 9. He is welcomed home by big brother, Andrew, and sister, Lauren. Bro. Richard and Sis. Kathe Hasty are Michael's grandparents. May God direct David and Kim as they bring up their children.

We were blessed with many visiting ministers this month, some even midweek for our Wednesday evening Bible class. Our thanks to them and our prayers for God's blessings upon Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr (West Bend, IA), Bro. Dale Moore (Elgin, IA), Bro. Al Langhofer (Wichita, KS), Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL), Elder Bro. John Lehman (Bern, KS), Bro. Ron Palitto (Akron, OH), Bro. Steve Sauder (Tremont, IL), Bro. Dwight Stoller (Latty, OH), Bro. Jim Vierling (Eureka, IL), Bro. Wayne Grimm (West Bend, IA) and a special thanks to Bro. Roger Aberle (Sabetha, KS) for taking charge of services here when both our ministers had to be gone.

How thankful we are to see God's healing hand outstretched and touching one of our loved ones. Bro. Verne Lehman is able to be back in church again and is progressing in his recovery from heart surgery. It is truly a modern day miracle.

We extend a welcome to Sis. Sharon Braun and her children, Naomi, Kent, Debra and Kristopher, who have moved here from Elgin, IL. May God ever watch over them.

How encouraging it was to see so many brothers and sister at the brotherhood conference at Bluffton, IN. We are so thankful that the prayers of the brotherhood were answered as our elder brethren met together and

then spoke to us. May we now show our faith in our prayers through our acceptance of their exhortations and their decisions.

CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE

Martha Hany

Bro. Dan and Sis. Carol Croghan are thankful that their first child, Sean Daniel, born prematurely July 16, is doing just fine and mother and son are now home again. Pleased grandparents are Jan and Dan Croghan and Bro. Mannie and Sis. Florine Luginbuhl.

Michael Zahner, 14-year-old son of Bro. Warren and Sis. Bonnie, had a serious accident when he was hit by a car while bicycling and suffered extensive injuries to his face and body. He is now home and Bro. Warren and Sis. Bonnie want to express their thanks for all the prayers offered in their behalf as they felt the power of the Spirit through the prayers of the brotherhood which sustained them during their time of anxiety and stress.

The Word was brought to us by several visiting ministers who were willing to lend themselves to exhort and encourage each of us in this latter time to remember and be true to our vows. Our appreciation and thanks to Bros. Tom Luginbuhl (Altadena, CA), Bill Dotterer (Phoenix, AZ), Ray Sinn (Latty, OH), Roy Luginbuhl (Fort Lauderdale, FL), Harold Schmidgall (Gridley, IL) and Jim Knobloch (Elgin, IA).

Sis. Kay Keutter had been home but is still experiencing complications and had to be readmitted for a short stay. Many prayers have arisen heavenward for her well-being, including Bro. Duane's and their parents who have come to stay with the family. Our hearts go out to them and may we never tire of praying for those who are in the valley of adversity. Margaret (Eismann) Capello is home again after having surgery and is regaining her strength.

"Forsake this world of vanity and all its lewd deception! Invite the Prince of Peace to thee, Give Him a true reception, Approach Him humbly, low and meek, Childlike, His grace and mercy seek, For surely He first loved thee."

Zion's Harp #107, vs. 1

Three dear souls, Michelle Behling, Sue Ouellet and John Shaw are seeking to free themselves by a true repentance and conversion from the turmoil and sin created by Satan in the world. May the Lord grant them faith to believe His Word, and grace to forsake this world of vanity as they take up their cross to follow Him -- even as sheep quietly and obediently follow their shepherd who can safely lead them through the dangers ahead. Parents are Richard and Lorraine Behling, Louis Andre and Annette Ouellet and John Shaw, Sr.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA WASHINGTON, D.C. **Catherine Klopfenstein**

Our ministers in August were Elder Bro. Joe Braker (Morton, IL), Bro. Wayne Banwart (Champaign, IL), Bro. Leland Hirschey (Croghan/Naumburg, NY) and Bro. Walter Herrmann (Princeville, IL). Each was accompanied by his wife, and their efforts in bringing us the inspired Word of God are sincerely appreciated. Attendance on August 6 was 18 and on August 20, 35.

Recent visitors were from Minneapolis, MN, Rittman and Latty, OH, Rockville, CT, Champaign, Morton, Princeville and Bloomington-Normal, IL, and Croghan/Naumburg, NY.

Marvin Hartzler (Rittman, OH) is back in the D.C. area for several months training and we look forward to his being with us. Kurt Anliker has completed another segment of his training and has returned to Purdue University. Lane Stoller (Latty, OH) is in nearby Maryland on temporary duty as a travelling nurse. She recently attended services with us and we look forward to her further attendance and fellowship. The Klopfensteins spent a weekend in Gridley, IL, to attend the testimony and baptism of their granddaughter, Shelley Knobloch. Henrietta Meyer vacationed in the Peoria, IL, area and in Minnesota. Bro. Jeff Fischer's work has taken him to Richmond, VA, but he plans to continue attending services here in Washington.

Services are held the first and third Sunday of each month at the Westpark (Best Western) Hotel, beginning at 10:30 a.m., E.S.T. The

hotel is located on U.S. Rt. 7, 1 mile west of I-495. For further information, call Ralph Klopfenstein at 703-979-3476. Visitors are always welcome and encouraged to assemble with us.

FLORIDA, FT. LAUDERDALE **Terri K. Huber**

We are very sad to bid farewell to Viktoria (Vicki) Fulop, as she returns home to Hungary. Vicki spent about a year in Ft. Lauderdale and we really enjoyed her bright smile and presence at our gatherings. It was fun to encourage her as her mastery of the English language grew. We'll miss her, but we know she must be anxious to see her family again.

I am sorry to report that Ilinka Okrainov was killed in a car accident. Our sympathy is extended to her husband, Duson. It can be no easy matter to lose a mate of so many years. Our prayer is that God will comfort Duson in his time of sorrow. Duson and Ilinka spent their winters in a condominium in Ft. Lauderdale and faithfully attended our small church.

The Lord worked through Bro. Jim Rinkenberger (Bluffton, IN) as he brought the message to our congregation in late July. It is a blessing to know that when one of our ministers stands at the pulpit, God's Word will come forth as we lift him up in prayer.

The Sunday school kids (and parents!) are glad that Sunday school is in session again after our traditional summer break. Is it wishful thinking on my part, or are they singing praises to God with renewed enthusiasm? Maybe we could each say a special prayer this month for the brothers and sisters who teach our children, that through them many little lives will be touched.

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

We have commitments in our job and the more we commit ourselves, it shows in our paycheck if we have a fair boss. We have commitments in our friendship and a true friend is a treasure above measure.

The commitment we make when we marry is priceless! How is it now

that man has decided this sacrament is not necessary?

We think living "in" without a commitment is easier to walk away from if it doesn't work out! The Bible say in St. John, verses 16 thru 18, where Jesus tells the woman, the man she is now living with is not her husband. He was very unhappy for without the sacrament of marriage, how can God bless what he is not invited to bind. That's what a real marriage is. For He who created us knows best how to help us.

But how many of us really want to be helped? We all have problems. If we would read in God's Word for our help He gives us very easy guidelines where in we can be very happy and still be able to live with him in eternity! May God give us all the grace to be more willing to listen to Him and search in His Word.

We were able to hear the testimony of Gordy Bryant (Sarasota). It is so uplifting to us all to witness the miracle of conversion.

Visiting minister was Elder Bro. Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI).

FLORIDA, SARASOTA **Suellen Ott**

Our small flock was increased as we were able to hear the testimony of Gordon Bryant and witness the symbolic burial of his old life and the arising of a new life in Christ. It takes each of us back to the day we stood in the baptismal waters and erected a covenant with God. May God ever be near the Bryant family and may Sis. Marilyn find even more joy to walk the path that leads to heaven with her dear husband. Elder Bro. Phil Stettner was here to take part in this holy occasion. We wish to thank Bro. Phil and wish him God's grace in his life.

We have had several families vacationing in Florida this month and want to thank them for making Sarasota a part of their plans.

GEORGIA, ATLANTA **John Brewer**

On July 30, Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman conducted communion services here. In the Word, it tells us to practice the Lord's Supper in remembrance of Jesus and what He

did for us. It was refreshing to remember and realize what God has done for us and how much He really loves us. This in turn wants us to praise and love Him even more. We thank Wendell and his wife, Marcella, for the time they spent with us that Sunday and sharing this occasion with us.

We were also blessed to have ministers Bro. Hartzell Kaisner (Detroit, MI) and Bro. Neal Widmer (Wolcott, IN). We appreciate the time they took with us to share and minister the Word to us.

In July, Chris and Sis. Peggy Camp and their son, Brian, were blessed with a new addition to their family, little Kelly Marie. Her grandparents are Sis. Marie Bauman (Rittman, OH) and Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Camp. Our prayer is that the Lord will bless this family and their little girl.

We always look forward to visitors stopping in the Atlanta area to worship with us. Our congregation meets every Sunday at The Ramada Renaissance by the Atlanta Airport off I-85 on Riverdale Road. Our meeting time is 10:30. For more information, contact either Bro. Linn Stoller 404-631-4554, Bro. Don Sellers 404-923-0721 or myself 404-254-1664.

ILLINOIS, BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL Marcia Bauer - De Anderson

THE CHRISTIAN HOME

There is beauty all around,
when there's love at home;
There is joy in every sound,
when there's love at home.
Peace and plenty here abide,
smiling sweet on every side,
Time doth softly, sweetly glide,
when there's love at home.

Hymns of Zion

A "Christian Home" is being established by Bro. Dennis Brummitt and Sis. Sarah Steffen as they were united in marriage July 30. It was a special day for our congregation as many of us have known them since they were small and now witness their union of hearts. Their parents are Bro. Earl and Sis. Betty Steffen and Dave and Sis. Karen Brummitt. Our love and prayers to them both.

Elder Bro. Lavoyd Moore (Athens, AL) was here for the day and helped Bro. Everett Hari in the marriage service. We thank Bro. Lavoyd for his labor of love.

We want to get to know the students in our area better, so we have an adoptive student program within our church. On Sunday, September 10, we will have a Student Welcome Day. All students at I.S.U., Wesleyan, Mennonite School of Nursing and ones employed in this area and their parents are invited that day. If you know someone we have missed, please contact Bro. Alex and Sis. Diane Paton at (309) 454-3558.

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

Matthew 6:33

What a wonderful promise! We are happy to say that Becky Pierce and Craig Kachelmuss (Sis. Ann) have made that decision to put Christ first in their lives and receive that wonderful promise. We rejoice with them.

Kendra Knapp (Bro. Charlie and Sis. Paula) is recovering from surgery on her hip. Our prayers are with her on her 6 weeks of being off her leg. This is a long time for an active 10-year-old!

We want to thank Bro. Wayne Anliker (Forrest), Bro. Ken Schneider (Remington, IN) and our Elder Bro. Dan Koch for ministering to us this past month.

ILLINOIS, BRADFORD Karen Ringger

The time of harvest is once again upon us. May God watch over all the reapers as they return to the fields to reap what God has blessed them with.

Ring the bells of heaven; there is joy today, for a soul returning from the wild, so ably reflects the feeling of our congregation in recent days. Harold and Imogene Tanner have begun their new walk of life and we trust the Lord will grant them the grace to stay close to His side. Bro. John and Sis. Margaret Tanner are very thankful for their son and his dear wife.

David and Joni Rumbold became first-time parents of Whitney Marie, born June 28. Happy grandparents

are Bro. Elwin and Sis. Loretta Rumbold and Dean and Veronica (Maher) Heinz.

We were very grateful to have Bro. Don Manz (Junction, OH) minister to us on a Wednesday evening this past month.

ILLINOIS, CHAMPAIGN Larae Dill

Our Sunday school picnic was held Sunday, July 23, at the park in St. Joseph. Students, teachers, parents and many others in our congregation enjoyed a delicious potluck meal, homemade ice cream, game, and fellowship. Thanks to the Sunday school teachers for organizing the picnic and for the love and care they show our children throughout the year.

A son, Dustin Paul, joined Steve and Mary Hohulin's family July 24. Dustin received a loving welcome from his sister, Lindsey, as well as his grandparents, Bro. Sam and Sis. Sandy Hohulin (Goodfield, IL) and Bob and Deanna Graham (Brookings, OR).

During mid-August, 23 new college students moved from their homes to Champaign-Urbana. Our congregation welcomes them, as well as students returning for the '89-'90 school year. Our prayer is that our church can serve as their family away from home; a source of security among many changes. The annual New Student Welcome picnic was held Sunday, August 20. The efforts of the students in organizing this event was appreciated. Officers serving the U. of I. student group this year are Bro. Troy Schrock, Bro. Mark Waldbeser and Sis. Christine Kaufman.

We appreciate ministers visiting us and teaching us more of God's Word and its application to our lives. Thanks to Bro. Wayne Anliker (Forrest, IL), Marvin Leman (Bradford, IL) and John Harman (Fairbury, IL).

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO Kathy Schlatter

The staff and children at Gateway Woods (Apostolic Christian Children's Home) are very close to our hearts, so I hope I may share some of my experience from the sale August 19. Before we left, I felt bogged down and depressed and actually said I chose

not to go if I hadn't had certain obligations. Yet working on Friday went smoothly -- and Saturday was even more incredible. There were more people present, and more activities were going on than ever. More people were more generous, but the most beautiful of all was cooperative effort. In fact, that's what my soul had needed: to see and to be uplifted in working together heartily unto the Lord. What I can contribute is necessary for my well-being, and the Lord can bring so much out of the working together of many. One makes, another sells, another buys. I wish my students could see such teamwork -- not for personal glory but for His sake alone. Truly "what the world needs now is love, sweet love" -- in action, working together in the joy of His blending. I am thankful that I had the chance to be there.

We appreciated the visits of Bro. Carl Wyss (Washington, IL), Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville, IN) and Bro. Randy Kellenberger (Kansas City, MO). We gratefully praise our spiritual nourishment along life's path. We are fortunate also in His travelling mercies upon our ministering brethren and all who journey from one congregation to another.

The Lord has done another marvelous work. Bro. Luis Gomez has trusted in the Lord to provide for him a helpmate, and the Lord has given the faith to Sis. Cindy Witzig (Morton, IL) to believe that she should be engaged to Bro. Luis and become his wife. Both are teachers. We know that in a Christian marriage much teaching and learning goes on, but we are the learners and Christ our Headmaster. We wish this dear couple special joys and conversations as they await their marriage in the Lord.

Greg Bradley Eisenmann chose a perfect day to be born, August 8. His parents are Bro. Brad and Sis. Cindy Eisenmann. His excited grandparents are Bro. Harry and Sis. Bertha Jean Herrmann (Princeville, IL) and Elder Bro. Dale and Sis. Judy Eisenmann at home here. Greg has great-grandparents, too: Sis. Lucille Feller, here; Sis. Lydia Eisenmann (Fairbury) and Bro. Sam and Sis. Lucille Kieser (Princeville). We are thankful as a church for this new member of the third generation in Chicago, born

healthy and already blessed by his Christian heritage. May we all do everything we can, in thought, word, and deed, that Greg may see us dwell together in unity, centered in the Lord's will.

Janell Hofstetter has moved to Chicago's north side from the Wolcott, IN, church. She is doing auditing for a major C.P.A. firm downtown, which involves some traveling. Bro. Marvin Wieland has returned to us from Washington, IL, and 9 years in Central Illinois. He is going to the Chicago School of Osteopathic Medicine and living in Clarendon Hills. We are delighted to have them both in our area. We trust that being here is God's will for both of them and pray that He will continue to guide them. May we be supportive in any struggles or adjustments they may have.

Bro. Darrell and Sis. Cindy Gerber, Shaun and Kyle, have returned to the Bluffton, IN, area and church. Darrell's work hours are much better at his new position at ITT in Ft. Wayne, IN. Though we will miss their love and smiling contributions to our Chicago church, we are glad for them -- and hope they keep their promise to visit! We wish them the Lord's richest blessings and grace in their new home.

Leah Steffen has undergone surgery and is now recuperating. We miss her dear face and pray that our Great Physician may grant her speedy recovery.

On our way home (fairly late) after the sale in Leo, I was driving and the rest were asleep. I came up behind a car pulling a boat, not an uncommon summer sight. But I really chuckled at the boat's name, "Blessing in Disguise." I am sure the owner is glad to have his boat, but sometimes he may have to remind himself. I sometimes get the impression that many blessings look like lots of work. Perhaps the work is what sin brought when Adam and Eve fell. The Lord still blesses us richly, but it takes the sweat of our brow and often pain, too. Our country and its freedom count among our blessings, but we must not stand idly by. Our homes are blessings, but they require much labor. Our jobs are blessings, but they involve much of our thought, time, and effort. Our abilities are blessings, too, but they must be extended and used.

Friends and families are blessings, but they take our hearts and our choices away from us many times. Our marriages are to be a blessing, but we must submit and love in spite of faults, not natural reactions. Our salvation is our foremost blessing, paid for by Christ's blood, given freely, yet we owe our lives to Him for it. I don't know about you, but sometimes I almost complain about my blessings in disguise. I would be better off chuckling and remembering my blessings are what give my life purpose and what He gives and expects is well done.

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK Karol Stock - Mary Knapp

Saturday, August 12, our Bible classes spent the day at Turkey Run State Park for an outing together.

Bro. Anthony and Sis. Patsy Blades and children have left our congregation and moved where Bro. Anthony's work has led them. They will be attending Elgin, IA, church. We will miss them and wish them well in their new surroundings.

Visiting ministers have been Bro. Bob Beebe (South Bend, IN), and Elder Bros. Art Bahler (Fairbury), Alfred Bahler (Wolcott, IN), Dan Kock (Tremont), Don Sauder (Roanoke), Leo Moser (Lester, IA) and Eugene Marti (Lamar, MO). We do appreciate their presence.

The sick list has included Bros. Harry Bauer and Melvin Knapp and Sis. Jean Knapp, all hospital medical patients.

Bro. Eldon and Sis. Melba Steffen are grandparents again to little Lindsey Steffen. Her parents are Marvin and Rhea (Naples, FL).

Dave Kupferschmid, age 75, passed away August 13. Services were at Cissna Park Church with burial in our church cemetery. He leaves his wife, Sis. Margaret; a son, Larry (Bloomington, IL); and three daughters, Becky Higgins (Waterloo, IA), Sis Sue (Bob) Beebe (Breman, IN), and Sis. Sally (Bob) Rinkenberger (Rankin). Also 16 grandchildren, five sisters and four brothers. We extend our sympathies to them all.

Let us be mindful of our ministers and elders as they attend the annual church conference at Bluffton, IN.

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE

Sandy Knapp - Deb Dietrich

The Lord has again blessed our congregation with two precious bundles from heaven. Katelin Ann was born to Bro. Myron and Sis. Lori Rumbold. Grandparents are Bro. Ron and Sis. Jackie Rumbold (Princeville) and Bro. Allen and Sis. Carol Schrock. Rex Robert was born to Bro. Larry and Sis. Marilyn Wettstein. Welcoming him home is his sister, Janelle, and grandparents, Bro. Bob and Sis. Verna Wettstein (Eureka) and Bro. Duane and Sis. Lois Steffen.

Announcing their engagement are Jim Ott (Bro. Don and Sis. Carolyn) and Lorna Robinson (Bro. Merlin and Sis. Jan Getz, Roanoke). We wish them God's blessings and guidance.

We give our humble thanks to our ministering brothers who visited us, for the spiritual blessings we received. They were Bros. Tom Leman (Denver, CO), Ken Eisenmann (Cissna Park), Gene Lehman (Wolcott, IN), Harold Schmidgall (Gridley, IL), Ken Indermuhle (Sardis, OH) and Tim Zimmerman (Gridley, KS).

ILLINOIS, ELGIN

Elizabeth Schambach Betty Bachtold

At this time of year, we think of our children and many students who are returning to the classroom and schools of higher learning. "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge: . . ." Proverbs 1:7. We trust the love and simple truths of our omnipotent God will be their shield and buckler.

We also remember our shepherds and brethren as they meet for the annual brotherhood conference. May it serve for the preservation of our precious faith and beloved church.

Sis. Sharon Braun and children left our vicinity and will be residing in the Denver, CO, area. Together, we besought the Lord's blessings and protection upon them. "We'll never say goodbye in heaven, . . . For in that land of joy and song We'll never say goodbye." Mrs. E. W. Chapman (Hymns of Zion #122)

There are two very happy little girls in our congregation. One is Monica Strahm, who is delighted in the birth of a new baby brother, Brady Joseph, born July 31. Thankful par-

ents are Bro. Ed and Sis. Ramona Strahm, as well as grandparents, Bro. Alphia and Sis. Mamie Strahm (Bern, KS) and Bro. Harlan and Sis. Florence Meyer (Sabetha, KS).

Little Natalie Dietz is also filled with joy as Jeff and Sara happily received newborn, Tonya Sue, into their family August 4. Grandparents include Bro. Ken and Sis. Mardell Dietz (Bradford, IL) and Bro. Mel and Sis. Ada Mae Schrock (Elgin). May God bless these young family circles.

Again, we are grateful to God for visiting ministers. These include Bros. Kevin Knapp (Bloomington-Normal, IL), Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville, IL), Ed Bahler (Remington, IN), Ken Dietz (Bradford, IL) and Garth Steffen (Portland, OR).

May our heavenly Father, who is rich in love and mercy, remember all who are in need and call upon Him. Our hospital patients this month were: Bro. Ben Graf (Viola), Sis. Rose Steffen and Gail Hallead (Ron), daughter of Bro. Bill and Sis. Evelyn Gudeman.

ILLINOIS, EUREKA

Kathy Leman

Bonni Ellen Martin, new daughter of Bro. Steve and Sis. Vicki Martin, is the granddaughter of Bro. Nelson and Sis. Mary Ellen Martin (Eureka) and Bro. Howard and Sis. Vera Heinold (Goodfield). This was omitted in the last Silver Lining.

Those having spent time in the hospital this past month were Bros. Sam Leman (Sis. Aldine) and Elmer Ginzel (Sis. Dorothy). We are thankful they are both home again.

We are thankful for visiting minister, Bro. Tom Leman (Denver, CO) for coming and sharing the Word with us this past month.

Feeling it is the Lord's will that they walk hand in hand together, we heard of the wedding engagement of Sis. Vicki Knecht (Bro. Ernie and Sis. Judy) and Bro. Andy Wiegand (Bro. Bob and Sis. Helen). May God be in their midst as they plan a fall wedding.

To the family, nurses and friends of Aaron B. Moser: Thanks for all you've done to make his last years as happy as could possibly be. No one could have done better to help keep

him in the home he loved during his illness. Special thanks to the ministers whose visits sustained him."

Caroline and Howard Moser

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY

Jean Bachtold - Crystal Fehr

HE LOVES YOU!

It's amazing and incredible,
But it's as true as it can be,
God loves and understands us all
And that means you and me --

His grace is all sufficient
For both the young and old,
For the lonely and the timid,
For the brash and for the bold --

His love knows no exceptions,
So never feel excluded,
No matter who or what you are
Your name has been included --

And no matter what your past has
been
Trust God to understand,
And no matter what your problem is
Just place it in His hand --

For in all of our unloveliness
This great God loves us still,
He loved us since the world began
And what's more, He always will!

Helen Steiner Rice

Mark and Elaine Davis welcome a new little one to their family. Craig and Tara are also excited about their new brother, Clint Slagel. Clint was born June 29. Grandparents are Wayne and Verla Davis and Dan and Mary Slagel.

Bro. James and Sis. Brenda Fehr are first-time parents. Larissa Beth was born July 21. Happy grandparents are Bro. Glenn and Sis. Kathryn Fehr and Bro. Duane and Sis. Arlene Kilgus.

We are thankful to God that Jacki Fehr (Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Linda) has come to seek her salvation. May God give her abundant grace to follow in His footsteps.

We have a few hospital patients this month: Mark Hartman, Bros. Manny Steffen and Martin Steidinger, Sisters Emily Miller, Dona Schiebler, Barb Meiss and Colleen Walter.

God knows each one of their needs and hears every prayer.

Bros. Bruce Leman (Roanoke), Jay Luthi (Lamont, KS) and Charles Marti and Lawrence Luthi (Lamor, MI) visited us with inspiring words directed by the Holy Spirit. May God richly reward them for their labors.

"Preach the Word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine."

II Timothy 4:2

ILLINOIS, FORREST

Sherri Kelson
Sandra Schneider

August 5 was the wedding day of Dawn Green and Joe Kilgus. Evelyn West (Decatur) and John and Barb Kilgus are their parents. We wish them the best for their future.

We want to thank the ministers who came and visited this past month. We enjoyed Elder Bro. Ed Frank (LaCrosse, IN) and Bros. Marvin Schmidgall (Eureka), Fred Knapp (Congerville), Ev Gerber (Rockville, CT) and Elmer Schmidt (Winthrop, MN). May God continue to give all our ministers grace to stand and preach the truth.

Lori Dotterer (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Nancy), Sis. Lou Ida Steffen (Bro. Rich) and Bro. Joe Metz all spent time in the hospital. We are thankful they could feel God's healing power.

Three little babies have brought joy to their homes. Amanda Marie is welcomed by Brad and Teresa Caron (Choctaw, OK). Grandparents, Tom and Sis. Earlene Hamilton, welcome her too.

Mark and Dawn Bolliger, along with their two sons, Adam and Nicholas, are happy to have a baby girl, Danielle Marie, added to their family. Grandparents are Harvey and Betty Baer (Fairbury) and Bro. John and Sis. Alma Bolliger.

Bro. David and Sis. Jacki Eisenmann are first-time parents with the arrival of their baby daughter, Sydney Ann. Grandparents are Mary Lynn Hoffman (Winona, MN), Sam Hoffman (St. Augustine Shores, FL) and Bro. John and Sis. Bev Eisenmann. We wish each of these couples God's help and grace in raising these little ones.

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY

Perry A. Klopfenstein

When August 2, 1989 arrived, it marked the end of a one-year period during which a total of 27 persons had turned to the Lord in repentance at Gridley. It has been a wonderful blessing for our congregation and we truly thank and praise God that His tender call is still being heard.

While most of our converts have been young people, the age range has extended from 13 to over 80. Without exception, these souls have confessed to the joy of salvation, and how happy they are that they turned to the Lord. Especially encouraging is that our high school converts display such happiness and contentment.

On May 21, Carolyn Yoder and Phil Kiefer become our new sister and brother-in-faith. On July 26, Sharon Kaupp was baptized and united with the church.

Three more souls were baptized August 13: Shelley Knobloch, Christine Romersberger and Elizabeth Klopfenstein. It was heartening to hear the contentment displayed by these high school girls. We sing, "In days of youth, seek ye the Lord." This is wise advice! After accountability, the sooner one turns to the Lord, it seems, the easier it is. The longer a soul hesitates, the higher the risk of hardness of heart, corruption of mind, and nurturing a love of the world which is then often difficult to relinquish.

L. Scott Kiefer was married to Lisa Williamson July 2. He is the son of Bro. Larry D. and Sis. Barb Kiefer. Her parents are Mr. and Mrs. Mark Williamson (Lexington, KY).

Sis. Sandy Gramm was wed to Bro. Timothy Yergler July 23. Her parents are Bro. Don and Sis. Rosie Gramm. He is the son of Sis. Bernice and the late Bro. Lewis "Knute" Yergler.

Our recent visiting ministers have been Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler and Bro. Gene Lehman (Wolcott, IN), Bro. Robert Miller (Portland, OR) and Bros. Kevin Knapp and Ron Heiniger (Bloomington).

Bro. Henry Gramm remains confined to his home with illness. Sis. Mary Martin was hospitalized for hip surgery in early August and continues to be seriously ill.

HAVE A NICE DAY!

ILLINOIS, MORTON

Phyllis Farney
Cheryl Wuthrich

"Preach the Word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine." II Timothy 4:2 Believing, after much prayer, that our heavenly Father has revealed His will to us, we have selected Bro. Jon Zeller to become our new minister. We fervently pray for Bro. Jon, Sis. Christie, and their four sons as they undertake this new responsibility. We thank Elder Bros. Bob Grimm (Goodfield) and Dan Koch (Tremont) for assisting in carrying out this work.

Eli Wuthrich was called into all eternity. His funeral was held July 29. May God comfort and bless his two daughters, Louise Pici and Sis. Shirley Grimm; his two sons, Richard and Edward; his brother, Walter; his grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and his friends.

Sis. Marie Schumacher was called home after a lengthy illness. Her funeral was held July 29. May God comfort and bless her two brothers, Pete Hoerr and Bro. Edward Hoerr; her many nieces, nephews and friends.

Bro. Joe Hauter wishes to thank all his relatives and friends for the many cards and gifts of love he received for his 100th birthday. He wishes God's rich blessings for you all.

ILLINOIS, PEORIA

Joe and Jackie Herman

FORGIVE OTHERS

God gave a tough assignment
For all of us to do --
To pray for all those who hurt us,
And to love our enemies, too . . .
So, when other people wrong you,
Instead of striking back,
Say a little prayer for them.
For qualities they lack . . .
Ask the Lord to give them
An extra portion of
Insight and compassion --
And to bless them with His love.

Alice Joyce Davidson

July 1 was the wedding day of Rebecca Stoller and Don Mercer. Parents are Sis. Evie Stoller and

Don and Bert Mercer (Spring Arbor, MN). Rebecca and Don will be teaching another year in Santiago, Dominican Republic. We wish them the Lord's blessings wherever He may lead them.

Bro. Mark Hohulin and Sis. Jan Domnick were united in holy matrimony July 30, in Morton. Their parents are Sis. Joyce Domnick (Morton) and Bro. Vernon and Sis. Marie Hohulin. We wish them God's richest blessings as they walk the path of life together.

Through faith in God, Bro. Matt Moser and Sis. Aimee Hoerr were united in marriage August 20. Parents are Bro. Ken and Sis. Darlene Hoerr and Bro. Robert and Sis. Barbara (Morton). May God grant unto them many days of happiness.

A daughter, Cassidy Ann, was born to Jeff and Peggy (Thomas) Cooke of Rochester, MI, August 28. Grandparents are Bro. Harlan and Sis. Mazie Thomas and Joe and Regina Cooke (Troy, MI).

Bro. Marten and Sis. Jamie Zimmerman rejoice over the birth of their son, Steven Marten, born June 21. He is welcomed by three sisters, Erin, Shana and Abbe, and grandparents, Bro. Ken and Sis. Darlene Hoerr and Bro. Bruce and Sis. Merna Zimmerman (Morton).

The following loved ones have been hospitalized recently: Art Hermann, Sis. Nancy Schmidgall, Sis. Caroline Schmidtgall and Sis. Lena Schwab.

Our congregation has been deeply appreciative of visits by visiting ministers. They include Elder Bro. Joe Braker (Morton, IL), Bro. Ed Aeschleman (Philadelphia, PA), Bro. Gerald Sutter (Taylor, MO), Elder Bro. Robert Beyer (Naumburg, NY), Bro. Marshall Heinold (Washington, IL) and Bro. Noah Herman (Tucson, AZ).

Our sympathy goes out to Sis. Ella Marie and Sis. Rosalie Edelman in the loss of their father, Levi Edelman, Sr. (Fairbury, IL).

will direct their paths and they will hold fast to the teachings from home.

We are so thankful to have another dear soul answer the Lord's call. Harvey Pfister has surrendered his heart to the Lord and we pray for the Lord's blessings in his life.

Our congregation was blessed to have several visiting ministers this month, Bro. Carl Wyss (Washington), Elder Bro. Eugene Marti (Kansas City, MO), Bro. Mike Leman (Denver, CO), Bro. Art Bauer (Princetonville), Bro. Ben Manz (Junction, OH) and Bro. Marvin Stieglitz (Leo, IN). May the Lord bless them and their families.

Hospital patients this month were Sis. Ann Wagler, Sis. Marie Blunier and Sis. Velda Schlipf. We pray for God's healing strength and power for our loved ones.

Our sympathy to Sis. Emma Hodel in the death of her brother, Bro. Aaron Moser (Eureka).

Also our entire congregation will certainly miss our dear Bro. David "Happy" Hodel who passed away August 1. Bro. Happy was a real inspiration and strength to our church. We extend our sympathy to his wife, Sis. Jane, and his son, Bro. Stan, and two daughters, Sis. Mary Hoffman (Rudie) and Sis. Helen Leman (Bill) and the many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE Marjean Lehman

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works."

II Timothy 3:16, 17

Thank you to our visiting ministers this past month. May they truly feel God's blessings for their willing service. They were Bros. Ralph Garber (Morton), Wesley Knapp (Goodfield), Virgil Metzger (Chicago), Bob Pflederer (Morton) and Wally Ramsier (Mansfield, OH).

"Ask, and it shall be given you: seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he

that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened."

Matthew 7:7, 8

On July 24, we heard the engagement announcement of Sis. Cheryl Wagenbach (Bro. Lawrence and Sis. Elaine) to Bro. John Grassi (Mr. and Mrs. Salvatore Grassi). May they be blessed as they plan their future life together.

On July 24, Laurie Knotts and Todd Martin were joined in holy matrimony. Parents are William and Lynne Knotts (Frankfort, IL) and Bro. Ellsworth and Sis. Donna Martin. May they walk hand in hand asking God to lead their pathway.

On July 27, Matthew James Braker was born to Sis. Audrey and Bro. Glen Braker. Little Matthew was welcomed home by big brother, Nathan. Thankful grandparents are Sis. Edna and the late Bro. Ray Martin and Sis. Clara and Bro. Ben Braker (Roanoke). May God bless their family circle as they nurture this little soul.

"The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in him, and I am helped: therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth; and with my song will I praise him."

Psalm 28:7

Hospital patients have been Sis. Leila Elsasser, Sis. Lucille Rumbold, Sis. Linda Siebenthal and Sis. Crystal Streitmatter. May God's healing be granted to each according to His will.

Our congregation expresses sincere sympathy to Hilda and Helen Streitmatter in the death of their brother, Earl. "What a Friend we have in Jesus."

"The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God; and if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together."

Romans 8:16, 17

ILLINOIS, TREMONT Carolyn Bolliger Marsha Koch

We would like to thank Bro. Wil-

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

Sandy Leman - Patsy Kaeb

As summer draws to a close and our children go back to school, or possibly leave home for the first time to go to college, we pray that the Lord

liam Dotterer (Phoenix, AZ) for sending forth God's message to us. May the Lord be his rich rewarder.

Our sympathy goes to Bro. Glenn and Sis. Dorothy Stuber and to Bro. Todd and Sis. Beth Stuber on the passing of their brother and uncle, Peter Stuber.

Sis. Royaldine Hodel (Bro. Bob) has not been able to assemble with us for some time. We pray she will be able to in the near future.

Bro. Doug and Sis. Cheri Frank, along with their daughter, Emily, welcomed Sarah Katherine, July 20. Grandparents are Bro. Marvin and Sis. Miriam Frank and Don and Kay Davis (Green Valley). Nikita Sue was born July 22 to Steve and Sis. Sara Garman. Her two big brothers welcomed her home. Grandparents are Vernon and Helen Garman (Manito) and Bro. Clyde and Sis. Wilma Kuntz (Gridley). Grandparents, Ed and Shirley Miller (Hennepin) and Bro. Leslie and Sis. Wilma Pulfer (Pekin), welcomed their new grandson, Matthew Ryan, born to Kendall and Doris Miller (Jamesville, WI). Bro. Jeff and Sis. Gail Sinn welcomed their first child, Brooklyn Craig, August 14. Happy grandparents are Dan and Donna Sinn and Bro. Carl and Sis. Velda Glueck. Courtney Lyn, born August 15, was welcomed by first-time parents Si, III and Dana Wagenbach. Grandparents are Si and Sis. LaVonne Wagenbach. Dear Sis. Lynne Pfleiderer had a baby boy. Eric Keith was born August 19. Big brother, Neil, is anxious to have a playmate. Eric's daddy, Keith, passed away in April of this year. Grandparents are Bro. Chris and Sis. Ruth Pfleiderer and Bro. Duane and Sis. Dorene Elsasser (Princeville). We wish these parents guidance in rearing their little ones.

Our congratulations to Sam Bedwell (Indianapolis, IN) and Sandy Bolliger (Indianapolis, IN) as they were united in marriage August 19. Parents are Jack and Mary Bedwell (Indianapolis, IN) and Bro. Harlan and Sis. Carolyn (Tremont). We wish this couple a lifetime full of happiness and blessing.

The engagement of Ed King (Pekin) and Nancy Koch (Bro. Paul and Sis. Florence) is to be made known. A November 11 wedding is being planned.

We recently selected a new trustee: Bro. Bill Huette, and two Sunday school teachers, Bros. Marvin Sauder and Jerry Kaiser. Those who are finished with their terms are Bro. Dale Sauder, trustee, and Bros. Bruce Saucer and Randy Schmidgall, Sunday school teachers. We thank these brothers for their service and pray for those who have these new responsibilities.

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

Carol Schick

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

Psalm 127:3

A healthy new son was rewarded to Bro. Chris and Sis. Stacey Ledford in August. Bo Jordan was welcomed home by Rustin, Shea, Jobie and Ebony. His grandparents are Bob and Barb Ulbricht (Francesville, IN) and Bob and Margaret Ledford (Winamac, IN).

Our congregation is sad to report that Bro. Lynn and Sis. Val Kipfer, along with their children, Arlo, Abby and Laura, will be moving to Bluffton to be closer to their families. Also, Bro. Marvin Wieland has moved to the Chicago area to begin medical school this fall. We will miss all of them and pray that the mighty hand of God will be with each one as they get set up in their new lives.

Bro. Everett Hari (Bloomington) shared God's Word with us this past month. We thank him and want him to know we appreciate his service to God. May God richly bless him and keep him.

Our prayers are with Phillip Fritz as he recovers from a recent accident and plastic surgery. We are thankful he is at home and doing well with his parents, Bro. Ed and Sis. Sally.

REMINDER: October is Silver Lining month for Washington.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON
Jean Moser - Shari Fiechter

"It is more blessed to give than to receive."

Acts 20:35

Jesus said these words many years ago and our congregation found them to be especially true during the annual brotherhood conference August 15 - 18. What a privilege it was to have so many brothers and sisters-in-the-Lord come to spend such meaningful time together.

We had all prayed that the Holy Spirit would be among us during the conference and our prayers were answered. In talking with those who attended the elder meetings, minister meeting and World Relief meeting, we were assured that the Holy Spirit worked mightily. We felt the Spirit as the topics were discussed by the elder brothers. We felt it also as we visited with believers from churches all over our nation and Japan. The Holy Spirit was evident during the Thursday evening singing at Bluffton North and during the general conference Friday. The singing was so beautiful and our hearts rejoiced. When the Holy Spirit is present, it is difficult to put the inner feelings of our heart in mere human words and so it seems hard to describe the blessings felt during the conference.

We served approximately 1625 during the noon lunch break on Friday and we thank each elder brother, ministering brother, each brother and sister for being with us in Bluffton. Our congregation received so many blessings during the conference. We received in spirit much more than we gave of ourselves.

We want to thank those that visited with us this past month and delivered the Word to us that we could be fed. We thank Elder Bros. Lavoyd Moore (Athens, AL), Leo Moser (Lester, IA), Bud Klopfenstein (Fort Lauderdale, FL) and Bros. Paul Eisenmann (Burlington, IA), Walt Herrmann (Princeville), Mark Bahr (Detroit, MI), Bill Dotterer (Phoenix, AZ), Ken Indermuhle (Sardis, OH), Leland Plattner (Zapata, TX), Art Metz (Silverton, OR), Bill Waibel (Bay City, MI) and Al Schneider (Rockville, CT).

"There is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth."

Luke 15:10

We rejoice as do the angels with

Joy Steffen as she has turned her heart to the Lord in repentance. We wish Joy much peace, joy and contentment in her new walk of life.

Our congratulations to grandparents, Bro. Chuck and Sis. Doris Neuenschwander, on the birth of Brandon Charles Neuenschwander. Bro. Dennis and Sis. Cathy (Indianapolis, IN) are Brandon's pleased parents.

Bro. Roger and Sis. Mildred Baumgartner have been privileged to celebrate 50 years of married life. In a day when so many couples are divorcing, it is encouraging to be able to look to couples who have enjoyed their walk with the Lord and with each other so much.

It would be so nice if each month there would not be hospital patients to report. If there would be no pain or troubles in our lives. But, we know that as long as we trod this earthly path on our journey toward heaven, there will be difficult and painful times. We wish much courage to our hospital patients, Bro. Myron Kaehr (Rita), Bro. Terry Neuenschwander (Sis. Jean), Sis. Mary (Bro. Walter) Speheger, Sis. Rachel (Bro. Jim) Isch, Sis. Marilyn (Bro. Tom) Baumgartner and Sis. Leona (Bro. Ralph) Schwartz.

Our dear Sis. Katie Gerber finished her journey to heaven August 20 at the age of 92. The day of Sis. Katie's funeral would have been her 93rd birthday. Sis. Katie will have no more pain or suffering as she has claimed her heavenly reward for being such a faithful sister-in-Christ while walking on this earth. We extend our sympathy to her family which includes Sis. Luella (Bro. Everett) Schladenau, Bro. Roger (Sis. Eunice, Latty, OH), Bro. Charles (Sis. Marilyn), Sis. Marguerite (Bro. Delmer) Stoller (Latty, OH), Sis. Shirley (Bro. John) Fiechter, Dale (Rose, Fort Wayne, IN) and Sis. Nancy (Bro. Keith) Honegger. Our sympathy also goes to Sis. Katie's many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Our school children have returned to their classrooms and as always, it seems as if the summer break has gone too quickly. We pray that our children will shine as lights and examples to their classmates and teachers and that they will be protected from harm and evil each day.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON NORTH

Lois Drayer

Debbie Aeschliman

Now that school is in progress, our children are studying hard to make good grades. As they study in school, their reward for all of their hard work is good grades on their report cards. When we, as Christians, use our talents and work hard to do that which is good, we do so hoping that someday we may get good marks up in heaven. Our reward is eternal life when we enter heaven.

This past month Bluffton had the fall conference meeting. We are thankful for the ministers, elders and their families who assemble with us, as well as many other brethren from our churches all across the States and Japan.

God is still stirring the troubled waters and we are thankful for one more precious soul, Don Harris, who is repenting.

Sis. Elaine Steffen (Bro. Ken and Sis. Roberta) and Bro. Eric Olson (Bluffton) were united in marriage July 23. Mary Lynn Pfister (Bro. Dave and Sis. Sharon) and Lance Clark (Doyle and Janet) became husband and wife August 5. On August 13, Sis. JoAnn Frauhiger (Bro. Doyle and Sis. Jane) and Bro. Keith Gudeman (Sis. Ruth, Detroit, MI) were married. We wish God's blessing upon these couples.

Congratulations to first time grandparents, Bro. Jim and Sis. Cheryl Zimmer, with the birth of Blaine Mitchell, born July 21, to Tim and Valerie Werling. Congratulations are also extended to Bro. Vernon and Sis. Mary Ann Kaehr with the birth of their granddaughter, Megan Brianne, born July 30 to Jeff and Jenni Milholand.

We wish to extend our sympathy to Bro. Bill Frauhiger (Sis. Betty) in the loss of his sister, Rosa Scott (Paul).

Two loved ones from our congregation were hospitalized this month, Bro. James Geisel (Sis. Dorothy), and Sis. Lucille Borror.

We warmly welcome Bro. Paul, Sis. Conie, and Elise Vidrine to our congregation. They have moved here from Toledo, OH. We say goodbye to Arlan and Roxanne Heyerly and their children, Amber and Ryan, as they relocate in Ohio. We pray that God will watch over them.

INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE

Jacki Huber

Have you any room for Jesus?
He who bore your load of sins?
As He knocks and asks admission,
Sinner, won't you let Him in?
Room for Jesus, King of Glory!
Hasten now His Word obey;
 Swing the heart's door widely open,
 Bid Him enter while you may.

Page 193, Hymns of Zion

We're thankful that God is still calling and some are answering His loving call, and pray that many, many more will know the fullness of His love!

One of the Fort Sam Army reunions was held in Francesville August 5 and 6. Among those here for the reunion, six were ministering brethren. They were Bros. Gary Brown (Forrest, IL), Fred Domka (Mansfield, OH), Bill Dotterer (Phoenix, AZ), Ron Heiniger (Bloomington, IL), and Tom Schambach (Elgin, IL).

Also visiting that day and sharing God's Word that evening was Bro. Jim Ramseyer (Bay City, MI). We extend our thanks to each of these brothers and their wives.

Other visiting ministers this month have been Bro. Uriel Gehring (Leo, IN), Elder Bro. Akito Inoue (Tokyo, Japan), Elder Bro. Joe Stoller (Princeton, IL) and Bro. Nate Stoller (Bradford, IL). We praise God for His Word and for these ministers who willingly expounded upon it to us.

United in marriage July 29, Brent Huber (Bro. Bill and Sis. Betty) and Julia Resch (Steve and Lucia Resch of Lafayette, IN) are residing in Bloomington, IN. We pray for God's guidance and nearness throughout their lives together.

Our prayers continue to be with our dear Sis. Ad Gutwein (Bro. Nate) as she has been hospitalized.

INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS

Miriam Gudeman - Kathy Freed

"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

II Timothy 2:15

It's time to open the books, again!

We are excited to have such a large group of college students in Indy this year! Wendy Smeltzer (daughter of Bro. Dave and Sis. Betty) is beginning her studies at I.U.P.U.-Indianapolis. Alan and Bro. Craig Schafer (sons of Bro. Bruce and Sis. Lauretta) are attending the University of Chicago and Purdue University, with Lane and Bill Bradford (daughter and son of Bro. Bill and Sis. Gail) are studying at I.U.P.U.-Indianapolis and Ball State, respectively. Tobi Cox (daughter of Tom and Cindy) is attending Franklin College. Dawn Speicher (daughter of Ned and Deb, Milford) is studying at Butler University, along with her cousin, Missy Speicher (daughter of Ted and Sandy, Milford). Missy Huber (daughter of Bro. Gene and Sis. Barb, Francesville) is studying at ZU Dental School. Jeremy and Don Vote (sons of Bro. Don and Sis. Pam, Francesville) and Michelle Leman (daughter of Bro. Dennis and Sis. Linda, Francesville) are attending Marion College. In Terra Haute, Andy Wuethrich (son of Bro. Bob and Sis. Phyllis, Francesville) is studying at Rose Hulmann, while Travis Gutwein (son of Sis. Donna, Francesville) and Kirby Wuethrich (son of Bro. Chris Lee and Sis. Ruth, Francesville) are attending Indiana State.

If there is anyone that we should include in our list of students, please let us know. You may contact Bro. Ken Wuethrich or Sis. Mim Gudemann.

May all of our students who are either beginning, continuing, or finishing their education seek God's guidance and direction, for only He can inspire!

We would like to thank our visiting ministers this past month, Bro. Merril Laukhuf (Latty, OH), Bro. Will Schieler (Milford), Bro. Kent Heimer (Taylor, MO), and Bro. Uriel Gehring (Leo). God's inspiration is truly shown through their efforts.

INDIANA, LACROSSE

Mary Lynn Massner

"Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

Matthew 11:28

On Labor Day many of us take the day off and get a break, but of course, all the work is still there and must be done later. Not so with salvation. Christ has paid the price and has given us His promise. We can lay our burdens at His feet and He will go with us till the end, giving our souls rest from sin and eternal rest to all those who remain true. "Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls." Matthew 11:29. Oh, what a Savior!

We want to extend special thanks to ministering Bros. Rick Plattner (Peoria, IL) and Russell Wuthrich (Pulaski, IA), for giving of themselves this past month to bring God's Word to us.

If anyone in our congregation has not renewed their Silver Lining subscription, please do so before the end of September.

INDIANA, LEO

Doug Kellenberger

Jesus Christ in the flesh was actually God contained in a human being. The Spirit within Him was God, and that Spirit was seen by the life that came forth from His body.

I Timothy 3:16

The commission of showing God to the world has now passed on to us; and the procedure is the same -through Christ's body. Jesus said, all will know by how we interact with each other. John 13:35 No wonder love, forbearance and the fruit of His Spirit are at the top of God's list!

On Wednesday evening, Bro. Wally Ramsier (Mansfield, OH) talked about the body working together, as he observed the people preparing the Children's Home Quilt Sale. Everyone had a different gift, but they were all unified by the same Spirit.

There were many new visitors that weekend including a number of elders and ministers. Those brothers participating with messages and services were: Elder Bros. Ed Ringger (Gridley, IL); Paul Butikofer (Elgin, IA); Harold Messner (Winthrop, MN); and Bros. Russell Wuthrich (Pulaski, IA); and Carl Wyss (Washington, IL).

On Saturday evening, "The Voices of Praise" edified us with song. They

are a group of single brothers and sisters from central Illinois. The lyrics of one song said, "There is no problem so big, He cannot solve it. If He carried the weight of the world upon His shoulders, I know, my brother, that He will carry you." That reminds me of Isaiah 9:6. The government of our life is upon Christ's shoulders, not ours.

Last week, Dwight Souder passed from among us. He was a brother to Henry and Ed, and is now survived by his wife, Sis. Betty, and their three children. We are thankful that he turned his heart to Jesus as Elder Bro. David Bertsch testified during the funeral service. God's grace and comfort be to the family.

Congratulations for the birth of Cecily Rae to Bro. Steve and Sis. Jane Stieglitz.

INDIANA, MILFORD

Marguerite Hoerr

Sue Schieler

We appreciate and welcome the ministering brothers who came this past month and we thank Bro. Tom Hoffman (Roanoke, IL), Bro. Curt Rassi (Tremont, IL), Bro. Steve Ringger (Bluffton North), Bro. Vic Beer (Fort Myers, FL) and Bro. Garth Steffen (Portland, OR) for bringing God's Word to us.

Heidi Beer and Steve Rozow exchanged wedding vows August 13. Parents of the couple are Bro. Phil and Sis. Millie, and Mr. and Mrs. Steve Rozow (North Webster). July 29 was the wedding day of Kristi Steffen and Niles Miller. Their parents are Bro. Walt and Sis. Dorothy and Mr. and Mrs. Norm Miller (Millersburg). May God's blessings be upon these two couples.

Little Mary Cockburn (Bro. Bob and Sis. Sue) was a surgery patient this month as well as Sis. Mary Ann Haab. We are glad to see them both back in church.

Our sympathy goes to Walter Wuthrich who lost his brother, Eli (Morton, IL), recently.

INDIANA, SOUTH BEND

Sue Beebe

We extend a warm welcome to several new families who have re-

cently moved to our area. Bro. Bill Feller (son of Bro. Lynn and Sis. Mary Ann, LaCrosse) is a recent Purdue graduate who now works in South Bend. Our dear Sis. Mattie Clauss, who was a part of our congregation several years ago, has returned to Bremen. Bob and Sis. Joan Graf, Mindy, Michael and Kristen, have recently moved here. Bob is working in the neighboring town of Niles, MI.

Bro. Dean and Sis. Mary Lehman (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Shirley Lehman, South Bend and Bro. LeRoy and Sis. Elisabeth Steffen, Bluffton North) were united in marriage July 2, at Bluffton North. We rejoice with them as they begin their new life together. "Where God in truth abides, where two join hand and heart, we find a three-fold cord, not lightly rent apart." (The Union of Hearts, Zion's Harp #79)

Our cup has been filled to overflowing in the past few weeks, as many ministering brothers and their families have assembled with us. They were: Bros. Robert Meyer (Bluffton North), Curt Rassi (Tremont, IL), Tom Hoffman (Roanoke, IL), Walt Rager (Toledo, OH), Ken Hoerr (Peoria, IL), Michael Ricker (Peoria, IL), Uriel Gehring (Leo), and our own Elder Bro. Jesse Beer (Milford). We're grateful for the efforts they put forth on our behalf.

The general church conference, August 18 at Bluffton, is a precious time to recall our heritage and reaffirm our commitment that those who come behind us will find us faithful. May we each strive to do our part. "Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!" Psalm 133:1)

INDIANA, REMINGTON

Beth Virkler

Every bench in our assembly room was filled to capacity August 6 to witness the baptismal vows of Bro. Greg Schneider (Bro. Ken and Sis. Loretta). Little faces lined our balcony as they peered over the railing to get a better look at the scene below. Baptisms seem to bring a prime time opportunity to touch the spirit of a child and build on instilling the "fear of the Lord" into their hearts. During my youth, I recall being convicted the most to repent and seek the Saviour

during baptismal services. Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL) assisted our Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler. Other ministers attending that day were Bro. Elmer Witzig (Gridley, IL), Bro. Marvin Stieglitz (Leo, IN), Bro. Clarence Kachelmuss (Forrest, IL) and Bro. Virgil Metzger (Chicago, IL). Other ministers visiting this month were Bro. Jim Plattner (Princetonville, IL) and Bro. Darrel Stoller (Bern, KS).

On August 19, Norma Schini (Bro. Albert and Sis. Amelia) and Tom Goepfrich were united in marriage. The wedding took place in South Bend, IN.

Bro. Dan and Sis. Deb Stoller moved from in-town out to the rural area to be closer to their farm. Their new address is R. R. #1, Box 43, Kentland, IN 47951 and telephone 474-3115 for those who want to make this change in the minister's directory.

INDIANA, VALPARAISO

Beth Heinold - Anjie Heinold

This month we enjoyed the blessings of our Vacation Bible School. We're so thankful for our visiting brethren, Bro. Ken Wuethrich (Indianapolis, IN), Bro. Jaye Rinkenberger (Goodfield, IL) and Bro. John Reinhard (Bluffton, IN), who helped to make our Vacation Bible School a blessing. Also visiting us this month was our Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL). May God richly bless these brothers for their willingness to minister God's message.

INDIANA, WOLCOTT

Lynell Blume - Lorna Knapp

Our thoughts were with our dear brothers at the conference this past week. We pray they could feel the Holy Spirit in their midst as they discussed their concerns and matters that pertain to our precious faith. May we all strive for unity by being more obedient to our shepherds and the Lord's teachings.

We were privileged to have several visiting ministers this past month. We thank Bro. John Hartman and Bro. Merle Kaisner (Fairbury, IL), Bro. Jim Plattner (Princetonville, IL) and Bro. Darrel Stoller (Bern, KS).

IOWA, ELGIN

Gloria Frieden

This week our children are being registered for another year of school. For some, it will be their first year and for others it will be their last. May our prayers go with them that they might be able to withstand the trials and temptations that they will face.

A blessed evening was again shared at our yearly Sunday school picnic. Our thanks to the Sunday school teachers for all their planning and labors. These are truly precious times of fellowship as the young and old share an evening together.

Again this week, I'm sure many thoughts and prayers are with our brethren at the annual brotherhood conference. May God's Spirit and direction truly be felt and may our churches across the land be edified.

We welcome all our newcomers who have recently moved to this area and are now worshipping with us. Bro. Anthony and Sis. Patsy Blades and their children, Landon and Emma Rose, recently moved from Cissna Park, IL, to the Fennimore, WI, area where Bro. Anthony is employed with the visually impaired. Also Bro. Byron Fehr (Elder Bro. Wayne and Sis. Kathy) and Bro. Mark Fehr (Bro Jim and Sis. Sharon) both from West Bend are making their home in Elgin while attending NITI (Northeast Iowa Technical Institute) in Calmar. We truly appreciate their presence and support.

IOWA, GARDEN GROVE

Dawn Moser

Our thanks to Elder Bros. Sam Huber (Sabetha, KS) and Ed Lanz (Oakville, IA) for spending Sunday, July 9, with us. We were reminded of our Lord and Saviour's life, suffering and sacrifice to atone for our sins by taking holy communion. What a joy and privilege it is to be partakers of something so great.

Our other visiting ministers were Bros. Howard Plattner (Wichita, KS) and Kent Heimer (Taylor, MO). We also would like to thank our many visitors who came to spend a day or two with us. A special thanks to the brothers from the Princetonville and Bradford, IL, churches who came and helped us paint our church. We are

overwhelmed by all the love and support we feel from each of you.

Our love and prayers go with Bro. Gene and Sis. Evie Bruellman as they now make Sarasota, FL, their home church. We love them and will miss them but hope that their travels will often bring them "home".

Sis. Verle Funk was a hospital - surgical patient this month. Although the road ahead of her looks difficult and her physical body is weak, her spiritual mind is growing stronger. What a comfort and witness she is to us! Our prayers are with her that God's will be done and that she is given strength through Him to endure the hardships life is bringing her at this time.

Our children have begun a new school year. We pray that they will have a blessed year of learning and that they will be able to face the challenges that it will bring them.

IOWA, IOWA CITY Janette Schulz

Rejoicing with our young converts as they grow in grace and in the knowledge of the Lord Jesus, and praying for those who still stand in the Valley of Decision, I was impressed by Annie Clarke's perception of both the cost and the reward involved in making this crucial choice:

He said: "Wilt thou go with Me where shadows eclipse the light?"
And she answered: "My Lord, I will follow thee far, under the stars at night."
But He said: "No starlight pierces the gloom of the valley thy feet must tread;
But it leads thee on to a cross and tomb --" "But I go with Thee," she said.

"Count the cost; canst thou pay the price -- Be a dumb thing lead;
Laid on an altar of sacrifice?" "Bind me there, my Lord," she said.
"Bind me that I may not fail -- Or hold with Thy wounded hand;
For I fear the knife and the piercing nail, And I shrink from the burning brand.
Yet whither Thou goest I will go,
Though the way be lone and dread --"

His voice was tender, and sweet, and low -- "Thou shalt go with Me," He said.

And none knew the anguish sore
Or the night of the way she came;
Alone, alone with the cross she bore,
Alone in her grief and shame.
Brought to the altar of sacrifice,
There as a dumb thing slain:
Was the guerdon more than the bitter price?
Was it worth the loss and pain?

Ask the seed-corn, when the grain
Ripples its ripened gold;
Ask the sower when, after toil and pain,
He garners the hundred-fold.
He said (and His voice was glad and sweet):
"Was it worth the cost, My own?"
And she answered, Low at His pierced feet,
"I found at the end of the pathway lone,
NOT DEATH, BUT LIFE ON A THRONE!"

Springs in the Valley, August 26

We again thank our many visitors, including Bro. Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL) for assembling with us this month.

IOWA, LESTER Kathy Metzger - Mary Metzger

We are thankful that brethren are willing to serve us the Word of Life. Bro. Doug Schock was with us recently and shared many blessed teachings. "Preach the word, be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long-suffering and doctrine." II Timothy 4:2

On August 5, Albert Wulf (Bro. Jake and Sis. Alice) and Juli McCarty were united in marriage. May God bless this union as they together establish their home.

Another home has been touched by God's love. Mitchell Lynn was born August 9 to Mike and Donna Barber. Maternal grandparents are Bro. Art and Sis. Elgeva Knobloch.

Surgical patients this past month were Bro. Fred Metzger Jr., and Trista Van Wyhe (Leroy and Shelly). Sis. Linda Moser (Jim) was hospitalized but has returned home again. So many

times each day our thoughts and prayers are with and for these who are confined to their homes. May God fill each one's needs as they endure the afflictions of the flesh.

School bells will soon ring as students resume their classes. Sunday school will again start here at Lester and as the many tiny seeds are planted in tender hearts, our prayer is that God will grant the increase.

We extend our sympathy to Sis. Zelma Knobloch and Sis. Iola Knobloch in the loss of their brother, Wilmer Metzger.

THE PATHWAY

When I came to the foot of the cross,
dear Lord,
I was beaten and worn and tired;
You lifted me with Your loving arms
and left me encouraged, inspired . . .

When I longed to give up by the side
of the road,
You taught me to love, and to pray . . .
To live and have faith in Your
wonderful grace

In a strangely sweet infinite way . . .
And, Oh, how I praise Thee, my Savior
and Lord,
For the tears and the heartache I
knew;
The pain and the sorrows were all
part of a plan,
And the pathway that led me . . . to
You!

Veronica Joan Jeslyn

IOWA, OAKVILLE Debbie Wagenbach

Bros. Don Manz (Junction, OH), Peter Petovic (San Diego, CA), and Ken Schneider (Remington, IN) have recently brought forth the Gospel message in our Oakville church. We appreciate their willingness to serve and trust that God will reward them.

Clinton Lee is the second addition to Bro. Jerry and Sis. Bonnie Wagenbach's little family. Clinton was born August 6 and is welcomed home by big brother, Kyle. Bro. Jerry and Sis. Bonnie Wagenbach Sr. and Bro. Lloyd and Myrna Moser (Fairbury, IL) are glad for a new grandson.

As I write the news this month, it is the week before the brotherhood conference. We are truly blessed to be a part of this precious fellowship. So

let us hear and give attention to our elder's concerns and teachings.

We have had several of our loved ones in the hospital for various treatments and ailments. We pray that God will stand mightily by their side in their hour of trial.

IOWA, WEST BEND

Phyllis Banwart - Mary Gerber

On August 6, we welcomed Kevin Fehr (Bro. Melvin and Sis. Glenagene) as our brother-in-faith. It is so uplifting to the heart to hear the testimonies of each dear soul. We want to express our thanks to Elder Bro. Art Nohl (Morris, MN) for being in our midst for this blessed event.

We have enjoyed many visiting ministers in the month gone by. Those lending themselves in God's service were: Bros. Wayne Banwart (Champaign, IL), Joe Gerst (Iowa City), Gene Metzger (Lester), Wes Knapp (Goodfield, IL), Dale Zeltwanger (Morris, MN) and Vernon Wettstein (Congerville, IL).

We were sorry that Ervin Gerber (Helen), Frank Schmidt (Bro. Ivan and Sis. Evelyn), and Bro. Nate Mogler (Sis. Lilly) all required hospitalization recently, but thankful to report that all are assembling with us again. We're thankful also that Nick Zaugg (Bro. Norm and Sis. Polly) and Michael Banwart (Mike and Marilyn) are recovering from their recent injuries. At this time, Sis. Florence Banwart is in for tests.

Our congratulations go to Jim and Sherry Schmidt on the birth of their first granddaughter, Mandy Marie Hoch, born to Doug and Tammy Hoch July 19.

Our sincere sympathy we extend to Sis. Marie and Darlene Metzger, Bernard Metzger, Bros. Silas and Arnold Metzger and their families in the loss of their brother, Wilmer, who passed away August 9.

JAPAN, SHIODA

Renee Bauer

Tears streamed down a kindergarten mother's face as she spoke of the memories she and many of us have had with Sis. Kathy Kieser (Bradford, IL) here in Japan. Mothers from classes which Sis. Kathy taught for the past four years gath-

ered to say goodbye on our last day of kindergarten for the summer. We are thankful that Sis. Kathy has been a part of our lives, and pray that God will lead and guide her as she continues to serve Him in another place. "Thank you for shining your light, Miss Kieser, we miss you!"

Living in a country where the majority of the people's religion is Buddhism or Shintoism helps to make those of us who are Christians really appreciate the dedication and zeal the early Christians had in holding true to the teachings of Jesus Christ.

We learned more about the dedication of those Christians at our summer fellowship meeting this year. Bro. Frank Souder spoke to us about the history of Christianity and Bro. Willis Ehrnle spoke about the history of the Apostolic Christian Church in America and Japan. This time that we were able to spend with the Tokyo church believers is special to us and we appreciate the opportunity to fellowship with them.

We also appreciate the visitors who have been with us this summer. They have included Bro. Mark and Sis. Stephanie Rumbold (Bradford, IL), Sis. Lois Klotyle (Altadena, CA), Bro. Phil and Jill Baurer (Princeville, IL), Joel and Sally Kaufman and Bro. Andy Klaus who has a summer internship in the Tokyo area.

On September 1, kindergarten will begin again and the children are eagerly waiting to meet Sis. Terri Gramm (Gridley, IL) who will be their new teacher. Although they have not met her yet, it is touching to hear them say "I like Miss Gramm" with their cute Japanese accent.

We welcome Sis. Terri and pray that she will continue to feel God's peace and guidance as she serves Him here in Japan.

KANSAS, BERN

Kathy Strahm

Lori Baumgartner

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

Luke 15:10

Not only is there joy in heaven, but there is joy among the brethren over three souls in our congregation

who have turned their backs on sin and Satan and surrendered to their Lord and Saviour. Diane Menold (Bro. James and Sis. Lou), Heidi Menold (Bro. Joe and Sis. Kathy Rokey), and Faron Strahm (Clayton and Miriam Strahm) have turned to the Lord in repentance. It is our prayer that they will build a firm foundation.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Bro. Pete Esslinger who is suffering great pain from his illness of cancer. May he feel the nearness of God each and every moment of the day. The following poem is dedicated to Bro. Pete.

I NEEDED THE QUIET

I needed the quiet so He drew me aside.
Into the shadows where we could confide.
Away from the bustle where all the day long
I hurried and worried when active and strong.

I needed the quiet tho at first I rebelled
But gently, so gently, my cross He upheld
And whispered so sweetly of spiritual things
Tho weakened in body, my spirit took wings
To height never dreamed of when active and gay.
He loved me so greatly He drew me away.

I needed the quiet. No prison my bed,
But a beautiful valley of blessings instead--
A place to grow richer in Jesus to hide.
I needed the quite so He drew me aside.

Alice Hansche Mortenson

KANSAS, FORT SCOTT

Karen Sinn

We have been blessed with several visitors this past month. Among them were Elder Bro. Andy Virkler (Bay City, MI) and Bro. Marvin Schmidgall (Eureka, IL). We thank them for bringing God's Word to us.

Hospitalized this month was Chuck Sinn. We are thankful his stay was

short and he recovered quickly from an asthma attack.

Our thoughts and prayers are with our beloved elder brothers as they meet this week for our church conference. May we be supportive of their conclusion that we might be able to keep the true faith.

"Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves; for they watch for your souls . . ."

Hebrews 13:17

KANSAS, KIOWA

Darcy Kisling - Janice Bahr

"Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you:

But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy."

I Peter 4:12, 13

Sometimes we may wonder at the strange angles our lives take. We may feel one burden after another. Let us continue always in faith and stand fast on the promises of God.

"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

Romans 8:28

We sang and heard God's Word at the rest home this month. We were glad to have many families returning from vacations. We miss that fellowship and love when anyone is absent.

KANSAS, LAMONT

Mary Isch

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

Genesis 2:24

Marvin Anliker (Bro. Glen and Sis. Lorene) and Jeana Kleysteuber were married August 12 at Garden City, KS.

Bro. Bernie and Sis. Dena Emch are now making their home at the Apostolic Christian Home in Sabetha. Sis. Dena is recovering from a recent stroke. May they look up to Him who can bring joy in affliction. For we know all things work for good unto those who love the Lord and look forward to His reappearing.

We want to thank each and every one for your prayers and cards while Dena was in the hospital and now that we are in the Apostolic Christian Home at Sabetha. We sincerely appreciate every deed of love shown to us. May God richly bless you for your kindness.

Bernie and Dena Emch

KANSAS, SABETHA

Beth Hartter - Sharon Strahm

As summer draws to a close and we reflect on the past season, many of us have been made more aware of our dependency on the Lord to provide. We have viewed our crops withering and cannot look forward to a bountiful harvest. The heat of the day and lack of moisture are apparent. It is satisfying just to recognize that God knows our wants and our needs, and He will decide and supply what is best for us.

It is a joy to report that we have several young souls desiring to change the course of their lives to serve the Lord. Those who have made it their choice to follow in Jesus' footsteps include Jeanne Aberle (Bro. John and Sis. Cornelia), Brian Plattner (Bro. Don and Sis. Ada), Lance Meyer (Bro. Daryl and Sis. Sue), Keith Beyer (Bro. Martin and Sis. Karen), and Gale Kellenberger (Bro. Gene and Sis. Marian). May God supply courage, strength, grace and wisdom to our new converts.

Sis. Caroline Banwart has moved here from Lamar, MO, and has taken up residence at our apartment complex. We welcome Sis. Caroline to the Sabetha church.

Maria Kay is the new arrival in the home of Bro. Tim and Sis. Charleen Hartter. Seth, John and Heidi are happy for a sister. Grandparents include Bro. Virgil and Sis. Marie Hartter and Bro. Edwin and Sis. Lois Bahler. Bro. Edwin and Sis. Lois came

to visit their new granddaughter, and we want to thank Bro. Edwin for ministering to us at this time.

A new Sunday school season is upon us and changes have again been made as to those teaching. The expired terms of Bros. Tim Hartter and Kevin Grimm, and Sisters Cornelia Aberle and Sharon Strahm, have been filled by Bros. Gordon Huber and John Aberle and Sisters Jana Meyer and Karen Huber. The seriousness of these duties cannot be over-emphasized and we trust that our children will always be able to say that "the Sunday school is their delight." Our thanks to all who give of themselves for the benefit of our youth.

Sometimes God allows things to happen in our lives that give us reason to wonder and weep. Jesus has chosen a little flower for His heavenly bouquet. A graveside service was held for little Mary Anne Huber, infant daughter of Bro. Gordon and Sis. Sharlyn Huber. May the saddened parents find comfort in the promises of God's Word and remember that Jesus knows their sorrows and cares.

KANSAS, WICHITA

Emma Miller

Bro. Glen Funk was our visiting minister August 13. When Bro. Glen, Sis. Sally and family come to worship with us, we have a deep sense of homecoming. Bro. Glen related how as a child he could sense the love of God in his parents and close relatives. He could see a difference in those who loved God and those who loved the things of the world. He also remembered going through a stage of considering a Christian's life boring before he realized the truth in I John 5:3, "For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments: and His commandments are not grievous."

By the time this is in print, the Lord willing, we should be engaged in another school year. Summer jobs will be finished and students will be back in the routine for whatever level of education they are in. Sara Galatin will begin her first year as a math instructor at middle school level in the Wichita Public Schools. We wish her God's guidance in this important undertaking.

MICHIGAN, ALTO
Michelle Oesch
Denise Oesch

"Thy works of the Lord are great, sought out all them that have pleasure there in"

Psalm 3:2

This verse is befitting to us who have traveled to different places and states and marvel at God's handiwork and the beauty He does give us to sample if we only open our eyes wide to see.

Our families were all able to take vacations these past months and see God's handiwork and relax and enjoy it. So we will catch up on the summer happenings here in Alto.

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

In June, we had our Vacation Bible School. It always gives a heart such a thrill to see innocent children come everyday with an open heart and leave with their arms filled not with just their crafts and verses but new found joy in the Lord.

We also had visiting ministers sharing their joy in the Lord with us; Bro. Steve Gutwein (Francesville, IN), Bro. Jim Ramseyer (Bay City, MI) and Bro. Mark Bahr (Detroit) and visiting his family here in Alto, Bro. Tom Schrenk (Athen, AL).

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY
Pam Schlatter

Nicholas David is the welcome addition in the home of Dave and Wendy Hoag. We wish Dave and Wendy many precious moments with their firstborn. Maternal grandparents of Nicholas are Bro. Jim and Sis. Marlene Ramseyer.

We are thankful for the recent visit of Bro. Dale Wulf (Lester, IA). May God grant strength and courage to our ministering brethren to preach the Word in season and out of season.

MICHIGAN, DETROIT
Sue Gasser

Our congregation along with many visitors extended our love and best wishes to Bro. Hartzell and Sis. Mary

Kaisner as they celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary.

August 13 was a beautiful wedding day for Bro. Keith Gudeman (Sis. Ruth) and Sis. JoAnn Frauhiger (Bro. Doyle and Sis. Jane, Bluffton North, IN). We welcome Sis. JoAnn to our congregation and pray that God will bless their lives together with many joys.

We appreciate our visiting ministers, Bro. Bill Gerst (Alto, MI), Bro. Don Wagenbach (Washington, IL), and Elder Bro. Akito Inoue (Tokyo, Japan). We're always thankful for the exhortations and encouragement you share with us.

We enjoyed a few days' visit from some of the children from the Leo Children's Home and those who accompanied them. We pray that God would continue to bless the work there.

Our prayers are with Sis. Mary Pentek who suffered a fall and required some stitches. We're thankful that she seems to be doing well.

Our prayers also go with or children as they go off to school - some close to home, some miles away. God bless and keep you all in His care.

Mansfield, OH, will host services in Kitchener, Ontario, October 15.

MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS
Carol Strassheim

Our church held a Sunday school picnic for our children at a park in the cities. It is always a blessing when we can get together with our families and share in God's love.

We welcomed Bro. Dennis Warner (Lester, IA), Bro. Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville, IL), Bro. Randy Kellenberger (Kansas City, MO) as they ministered to us. We are thankful for their service.

Now assuming duties in September are Bro. Doug Messner, Sunday school superintendent and Bro. Jim Tilbury as the assistant, Bro. Ray Schmidgall, trustee, Bro. Ken Schmidt as usher with Bro. Larry Schmidgall as assistant, Sis. Carol Strassheim as assistant to the food committee and Carol Virkler as alternate, Sis. Carol Virkler, Sunday school teacher with Sis. Carol Strassheim as substitute teacher, Bro. Rob Schmidgall as secretary/treasurer assistant, Bro. Jim Tilbury as Children's Home correspondent, Sis. Millie Schmidgall for

World Relief sewing and Sis. Renee Messner for craft night. We thank those who have served and encourage those who are new.

I greatly appreciated everyone's prayers, cards, gifts, visits, and many deeds of kindness while I was in the hospital and since returning home. With the Lord's help, I am healing more each day and have returned to work. Thank you very much and may God richly bless each of you.

Sis. Arletta Bragg.

MINNESOTA, MORRIS
Christa Sauder - Ruth Nohl

So swiftly the summer months are passing, and we have begun to feel the change in the air, which is the sign that the autumn season is close at hand. The Master Creator designed the seasons in our northern country to have special characteristics and qualities which we enjoy. We have experienced showers of blessings throughout the summer, both in the physical and spiritual aspects of our lives. We are so thankful for the blessed showers of rain which have fallen from the heavens and watered the dry earth. So likewise, we are grateful for the Word of the Lord which is the living water the soul needs to survive in this dry barren world. We have enjoyed visiting brethren from time to time throughout the summer, and we thank all for their visits. It's truly a blessing to meet those who may come from many miles but have the same love and concerns for our faith.

Our congregation received with joy the announcements of the engagement of Sis. Sara Feuchtenberger (Bro. Wally and Sis. Diane) and Bro. Kevin Wagenbach (Bro. Lawrence and Sis. Elaine, Princeville, IL). May God richly bless them and be their guide as they plan for their future together.

Several have been hospital patients this month. We are thankful that Bro. Ben Greiner (Sis. Martha) and Amanda Fehr (Bro. Gary and Sis Sandy) are able to assemble with us again. Our thought and prayers are with Ruby Luthi as she is recuperating from surgery.

NOTE OF THANKS: The family of Sis. Emma Schmidgall wishes to express their heartfelt thanks and appreciation for the prayers, love,

cards, and kind deeds that were offered to them on their behalf, upon the passing of their dear mother. May our dear God bless you all.

MINNESOTA, WINTHROP
Ella Mae Schmidt
Georgia Messner

Our patients recovering from surgery are Sis. Joyce Messner (Bro. Mike), Gene Schmidt (Sis. Ella Mae), Sis. Marilyn Messner (Bill). God has so graciously blessed them with His healing power and they have resumed their activities.

Visiting us on the pulpit this month were Bro. Earl Gerber (Forrest, IL) and Bro. Floyd Schmidgall (Morris, MN). We are so thankful for their precious messages.

"You can preach a better sermon with your life than with your lips."

MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY
Carole Kellenberger

"Lo, children are an heritage from the Lord; and the fruit of the womb is his reward."

Psalms 127:3

Bro. Dennis and Sis. April Miller, Benjamin, Mark and Christy, welcomed Michael Jared to their home July 22. Grandparents are Bro. Wayne and Sis. Pearl Miller (Fort Scott, KS) and Bro. Al and Sis. Martha Wiegand (Oakville, IA).

As we rejoiced with Bro. Dennis and Sis. April, our thoughts and prayers were also with Ron and Sis. Diane Smith. Little Rebekah suffered a broken arm in a fall in June. As a result of the injury, her parents were investigated for child abuse, and six month old Rebekah was removed from their home. After a court appearance, thankfully Rebekah was allowed to stay at her grandparents, Bro. Martin and Sis. Arlene Esslinger at Bern. After a second court date July 26, their family was finally reunited. Ron and Sis. Diane, Matthias, Nathanael and Rebekah wish to thank their parents and everyone who supported and prayed for them throughout this ordeal. In times of helpless despair we find comfort in Psalm 27:1, "The Lord is my light and my

salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?"

We were so thankful to have many visitors last month, including the following brothers who brought us the glorious Gospel; Bro. Wayne Miller (Fort Scott, KS) and Bro. Doug Grimm (Sabetha, KS) July 30, and Bro. Jim Vierling (Eureka, IL) and Bro. Darrel Stoller (Bern, KS) August 6.

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Barbara Wernli Hummel (Bro. Roy and Sis. Betty Wernli, Lamont, KS) in the death of her husband of two months, Dale Hummel. May God's presence and His Word be much comfort to her.

MISSOURI, LAMAR
Carol Braker - Becky Marti

We have had several reunions in this area this past month and have been blessed with many visitors. We enjoy and appreciate each one of them. We especially want to thank the brothers who were willing to minister God's Holy Word to us. They included Elder Bros. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL), Perry Zimmerman (Forrest, IL), Edwin Ringger (Gridley, IL), Raymond Banwart (Fort Scott, KS), and Bros. Roy Ehnle (Bradford, IL), Don Braker (Kansas City, MO), Russell Wuthrich (Pulaski, IA), Don Manz (Junction, OH), Wallace Ramsier (Mansfield, OH), and Robert Miller (Portland, OR). May the Lord ever inspire and bless all our ministering brothers as they carry out His work.

Bro. Dean (Sis. Arline) Marti was hospitalized recently for surgery. Bro. Troy (Sis. Vanessa) Luthi was injured in an explosion at work. May they feel the comfort of the Holy Spirit in this difficult time.

MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS
Kathy Knapp

We would like to thank each minister who came to share the Word with us this past month. They were Elder Bro. Bob Walder (Congerville, IL), Bro. Ed Fritz (Washington, IL) and Bro. Greg Rassi (Chicago, IL). May God bless them and all our other visitors for coming to support our small congregation.

We rejoice with Bro. Kevin and Sis. Liz Leman in the arrival of their

first child, Richard Alex. Grandparents are Bro. Howard and Sis. Gloria Leman (Morton, IL) and Helene and the late Richard Schleiter (Chicago, IL). We pray that God will bless the new little addition to their family.

MISSOURI, TAYLOR
Loida Hodel - Lori Marquart

GOD'S PLAN

God's plans are like the ocean,
Varied as the winds that fall
All are products of His wisdom,
All are subject to His call.
Not a breeze that stirs the tempest,
Or a sparrow down doth fall,
But our Heavenly Father knoweth,
For He watches over all.

E. Williams

It was a special eve July 19 when we received a blessing through the ministry of Bro. Dave Wiegand (Champaign, IL). It is "homecoming" in a sense for Bro. Dave spent his boyhood here and we thank him and Sis. Ethel for their visit.

Our annual Sunday school picnic was enjoyed by one and all. Again, thank you to both teachers and students.

Many brethren and friends and neighbors gathered July 30 for an Open House at our new church. Among them were Bros. Walter Anliker (Eureka, IL), William Hodel (Roanoke, IL), Willis Wiegand (Goodfield, IL), Russell Wuthrich and Ron Joos (Pulaski, IA).

On August 6, we were privileged to again host many guests who came to share in the dedication service of our new church on the levee. May God bless this new edifice, those who minister here and all of us who come to worship here. Many "precious memories" were shared by Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen (Elgin) who spends vacation visiting aunts, uncles, cousins and children here. Other special guests were Elder Bro. Robert Grimm (Goodfield, IL), Donald Sauder (Roanoke, IL), Paul Butikofer (Elgin, IA) and ministering Bros. Garth Steffen (Portland, OR), Peter Petrovic (San Diego, CA), William Gerst (Alto, MI), Leonard Meyer (Chicago, IL), James Hoerr (Peoria, IL), John Rowell (Burlington, IA), Kenneth

Dietz (Bradford, IL), Loren Schrenk (St. Louis, MO) and Dean Steffen (Elgin, IL).

Special appreciation to our "retired" elder brothers who also shared this day with us, Roy Souder (Peoria, IL) who was Taylor's shepherd for a period of time, Ezra Feller (Cissna Park, IL) and LeRoy Huber (Eureka, IL). May God grant them reasonable good health, peace and contentment during these golden years and may good leadership and counsel continue on with the generations to follow.

We are remembering the brethren who will take part in the fall conference and may God be the unseen guest in every decision and concern that will be met.

"A 'Special Day' marked by the passing of time, when you gave me your heart, and I gave you mine ---" Henry and Sis. Loida (Walter) Hodel were remembered by their children and grandchildren at a dinner and reception August 12 in honor of their 50th wedding anniversary. They are parents of seven children, 16 grandchildren and two great-grandsons, all being present for this happy occasion.

"We are thankful to have been part of the few who are granted this privilege and will treasure the memories and thanks to all who made this day special for us."

Love, Loida and Henry

"Be of good courage, and He shall strengthen your heart, all ye that hope in the Lord."

Psalm 31:24

NEW JERSEY, UNION CITY

Sally Dotterer

We appreciate the efforts put forward by the following visiting ministers and their families who travelled to Union City to share the Word and enjoy a time of fellowship: Bro. Everett and Sis. Phyllis Gerber (Rockville, CT), Bro. Ronald and Sis. Lynell Palitta (Akron, OH), Bro. Donald and Sis. Connie Manz (Junction, OH), and Bro. Ray and Sis. Ann Sinn (Latty, OH).

We also were blessed with a weekend of fellowship June 23-25, when we entertained several visitors from the Bluffton Young Group. The weekend was certainly busy as we tried to

get in as much sight-seeing, visiting and fellowship as possible.

Over the weekend of August 5-6, the Union City church was invited to Philadelphia, PA, for a Saturday night supper and singing. On Sunday, communion services were held with Elder Bros. Corbin Bahler (Rockville, CT), Eugene Pamer (Akron, OH) and Robert Beyer (Naumburg, NY) serving the sacraments. It was certainly good to be reminded of the sacrifice our dear Lord and Savior Jesus made in order that we could be saved by faith and not remain under the law.

We were sorry to say goodbye to Grant Haab and Sis. Lori Bostrom, who were serving summer internships in the area. It was nice to have a few more attending church on Sundays. We would certainly like to welcome them to come to spend time with us again, if the Lord so leads.

NEW YORK, CROGHAN/NAUMBURG

Alice Virkler

On the weekend of July 30, Elder Bros. Loren Stoller (Latty, OH), Joseph Ramseyer (Rittman, OH) and Eugene Pamer (Akron, OH) were in our assembly again. We thank these brothers for their service to us at this time.

Our annual meeting was held July 31. May God be near each of those who were elected or re-elected to serve us in our church order. Bro. Larry Purvines will serve as trustee and Bro. Ted Virkler and Sis. Alice Virkler will teach our children in the Sunday school.

The annual Sunday school picnic was enjoyed by all Saturday, August 12, at Boonville Park. The day was rainy but we all enjoyed the fellowship together with our children.

On Sunday, August 6, we had several visitors in our midst. We enjoyed a covered dish meal at the Naumburg Church and a song service in the evening.

On Sunday, August 20, Bro. Everett Gerber (Rockville, CT) was our visiting minister. We want to thank these brothers for remembering us in their traveling schedules. We are glad that the true Word of God still goes forth in truth for all those who come to listen.

Sis. Ella Einbeck has returned to

her home after being hospitalized for surgery following a broken hip. Bro. John Widrick has been able to assemble with us for three Sundays. We miss him on the pulpit and pray that God will give him a measure of good health and strength to be able to assemble with us soon. We were happy to see Sis. Hazel Schneider assemble with us one Sunday following several weeks of absence.

Martin and Linda Hirshey are the parents of their first son, Richard Martin. Marissa is happy for a new little playmate. Grandparents are Bro. Leland and Sis. Bernice Hirshey and Richard and Emeranciana Plana. May God grant Martin and Linda the necessary strength and guidance to bring their children up in this changing world.

OHIO, AKRON Joyce Gasser

Hosea is the root name of Jesus. Hosea is the head of a home, the husband that portrays an example of Jesus, the head of the church. God asks Hosea to be visual to the people, to take Gomer, an immoral woman, for his wife; and she bare him a son, which they called Jezreel, meaning planted by God. Then Gomer has two more children, which were called Loruhamah and Lo-ammi. "Lo" in front of the name means, "no, you are not mine." They were not Hosea's children. Hosea's love takes them, drops the "lo", claiming them as his. Gomer leaves Hosea and her children. She becomes nothing, and sold on the slave block to be someone's slave. Hosea buys her, paying for her, so he could have been her Master and had her work for him, but Hosea's love was for her to call him "Ishi", meaning "my Husband", and not "baali", meaning "my master." We're thankful that God had Hosea be an example of the Head, and that we have the love of Jesus as Hosea portrayed.

We rejoice for the conversions and baptisms of three precious souls: Tibor Zsoldos, and Todd and Dan Graf, sons of Bro. Art and Sis. Audrey Graf. We know God has given them the Holy Spirit and will direct their paths. Elder Bros. Joe Ramsier and Andy Stoller were with us for the occasion, and also Bro. Lee Bahler, Bro. Mark Ramsier, and Bro. Glenn Rigganbach.

Previous to this weekend, we appreciated Bro. Ron Steiner ministering to us.

Don Taylor had surgery and we wish for him a speedy recovery.

Sis. Margaret Gangel will have attained her four score years, as she will have her 80th birthday October 19.

Bro. Zoltan and Sis. Bonnie Bako will be observing their silver anniversary as they will have been married 25 years October 18. They were blessed with three girls, Melinda, Sherri and Sandra.

OHIO, COLUMBUS

John Grimm

Elder Bro. Andy Stoller (Smithville, OH) ministered God's Word for us this past month. May God richly reward him and his family.

We have especially enjoyed Bro. Lee and Sis. Desma Klopfenstein (Latty) being with us again. Bro. Lee had a residency assignment for the month of August in Columbus. As we say farewell, may God bless and guide you each day.

OHIO, JUNCTION

Laurie Schlatter

We rejoice with Bro. Russ and Sis. Vera Manz as they welcomed Rachael JoAnna into their hearts and home. Randy, Patricia, Vicky and Richard also welcome a new sister. Happy grandparents are Bro. Eli and Sis. Evelyn Manz and Bro. Steve & Sis. JoAnne Varga (San Diego).

Visiting us this month were ministering Bros. Clarence Dietrich (Silverton, OR), Dan Stoller (Rockville, CT), Lee Bahler (Rockville, CT), Duane Farney (Croghan/Naumburg, NY), Ray Sinn (Latty) and Mark Ramsier (Sardis). How we appreciate these brothers and the words they brought unto us.

OHIO, LATTY

Marlene Reinhard
Rhonda Stoller

If on earth we meet no more,
Let us meet at God's right hand,
Where we shall each other greet,
'Mid the glories of that land.

Gospel Hymns #774

With great feelings in our hearts, our congregation said goodbye to Bob and Sis. Joan Graf and their family. Bob and Sis. Joan will be joining the South Bend, IN, church. We wish you the best and will miss you all. God be near your family.

We are so thankful that Sis. Rosa Laukhuf is doing better after her stay in the hospital. We love you, Sis. Rosa, and miss your warm smile each Sunday in church. May God continue to be near you.

Our hearts are lightened by the fact that Sis. Viola Schlatter (Bro. Dick) is doing much better after her surgery. Our prayers will continue to be with you and your family. We find so often when a loved one is ill and has to miss church for a time, that there is a missing friendship on Sundays. We love you, Sis. Viola.

Higher than the highest heavens,
Deeper than the deepest sea,
Lord, Thy love at last has conquered
"None of self, and all of Thee."

Gospel Hymns #149

Tears in our eyes and joy in our hearts best describes the way each of us felt when Doug Nygaard (Annette) gave his heart to the Lord. We welcome you, Doug, into God's family. May God's love and blessings be with you and Annette.

Bro. Todd and Sis. Pam Stoller received Hannah Marie as a blessing from God. Heidi, Ryan, Heather and Holly have been a big help in making their new sister feel loved and welcomed. The joyous grandparents are Bro. Russell and Sis. Melvene Stoller and Sis. Mary Ellen Gerber (Rittman, OH).

Our congregation always feels so richly blessed when God sends His servants to proclaim His Word. Those sharing with us have been: Bros. Marvin Schmidgall (Eureka, IL), Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville, IL), Kevin Ryan (Rockville, CT), Duane Farney (Croghan, NY), Curt Rassi (Tremont, IL), Earl Gerber (Forrest, IL), Alphia Strahm, Jr. (Bern, KS), Clarence A. Dietrich (Silverton, OR), Arthur Metz (Silverton, OR), Earl Beery (Rittman, OH), Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH) and Ben Manz (Junction, OH).

This sacred vow I make to you
Does not contain an "if"

Though I'm aware that trials lie ahead.
I will love you and pray with you
And through it all, I will stay with
you.

Our home will be a refuge of
unconditional love.

Jon Mohr

What joy was expressed by our congregation when we learned of the marriage engagement of Sis. Teresa Stoller (Bro. Justus and Sis. Ruby) to Bro. Paul Kywalski (Peter and Virginia, Toledo, OH). May the both of you look to God for guidance and answers to each of the new events that lie ahead.

OHIO, MANSFIELD

Linda Morrison

Youth Day for Ohio and Michigan was held Sunday, July 30. The theme for the day was "As you sow, so shall you reap". Over two hundred students plus teachers and parents took part in the activities of the day. Bro. Bill Schlatter and Bro. Ben Manz (Junction) shared the day with the children. "He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Many parents have sown seeds of love, faith and prayers into the lives of these young children, God is faithful and will provide the bountiful harvest. May God grant grace and courage to each parent and grandparent as they continue to uphold their children in prayer.

"It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God." (Luke 4:4) Bringing God's Word with truth and power was Bro. Glenn Rigggenbach (Smithville), Bro. Doug Sabo (Sarasota, FL), Bro. Bill Schlatter and Bro. Ben Manz (Junction). May God bless them for their efforts.

Hospitalized was Sis. Ruth Weiss. We are thankful she is again able to assemble and find strength and encouragement from being with the brethren.

Sis. Katie Bocka is in the hospital and in need of our prayers that God's will be done and His grace and courage be with her.

Heather Washington (Sis. Bev and Bro. Barnie) was married to Rod Peterson August 19. May God's love bind their hearts together.

OHIO, RITTMAN**Diane Gasser - Lois Stoller**

This past month we have welcomed visiting ministers: Bros. Randy Gasser (Detroit, MI), Dale Wulf (Lester, IA), Peter Petrovic (San Diego, CA) and Paul Gasser (Akron, OH). May God bless them for their service.

We wish to remember those who have been sick recently: Bro. Lester Riggenbach (Sis. Lorena), Sis. Elizabeth Musser and Amos Maibach (Bro. Alpha and Sis. Denise). Our prayers are with Sis. Sandy Zollinger (Bro. Rudy and Sis. Brenda), who has been receiving dialysis treatments and is planning to undergo a kidney transplant.

On August 13, the engagement of Bro. Bob Hartzler (Bro. Ken and Sis. Jane, Smithville) and Sis. Lisa Stoller (Bro. Harlan and Sis. Jean) was announced. We wish them God's blessings and guidance as they plan to serve Him together.

To hear of friends surrendering to God in repentance brings us joy. We are thankful Jeff and Kathy Ryan have turned to the Lord and can have thoughts as the author of hymn #259 in the Hymns of Zion. "In Jesus Christ alone I boast, I'm numbered with God's chosen host, His spirit is my security that I am heir of heav'n shall be!"

OHIO, SARDIS**Paula Figel**

Here we are with summer nearly over and autumn with its cool breezes and radiant color just around the corner. Time flies on, and God continues to shower His blessings upon us in one form or another.

We have been privileged to have visiting Bro. Gene Metzger and Bro. Dennis Warner (Lester, IA) to minister unto us. May we appreciate and support them with our prayers.

The engagement of Allen Indermuhle (Bro. Delbert and Sis. Martha) and Janet Altruz (Mr. and Mrs. Richard Martin) plan a September 30 wedding. May God bless them in their lives together.

It is school time again. Among those going to places of higher education are Eric Indermuhle (Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science, Pittsburgh, PA), David Figel and Robert Figel (Devry Institute of Technology,

Columbus, OH). We wish each one of our students a good year from kindergarten through college. Each step of the way is important as it also is in our spiritual growth. Sometimes the going is rather smooth, and again, quite rough, but we must press on. May we allow the good Lord to be very near us each step of the way.

OHIO, SMITHVILLE**Kim Stoller - Gwen Stoller**

Bro. Brian, Sis. Bev, and Brienna Indermuhle have been blessed by the birth of Brittany Lynne. Her grandparents are Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Vera Indermuhle.

We welcome Carlton Schlatter to our area and wish him well in his new job.

Bro. Vic Bauman (Sis. Brenda) has been hospitalized several times. We pray that the Lord will stand close to each family member in this stressful situation. Bro. Ralph Marty (Sis. Marie) was injured in a farming accident. May he feel the healing power of the Lord.

We are grateful for our ministering brothers and we thank Bro. Ted Witzig (Eureka, IL) for visiting us and allowing the Lord to use him to bring forth His Word.

Rebecca Rigganbach (Bro. Glenn and Sis. Louise) and Jeffrey Criss (Mr. and Mrs. Robert Criss, West Salem) were united in marriage August 12. May the Lord bless their life together.

Bro. Bob Hartzler (Bro. Ken and Sis. Jane) and Sis. Lisa Stoller (Bro. Harlan and Sis. Jean, Rittman) believe that God has drawn their lives together. Their engagement was announced August 13. May the Lord ever abide in this new home.

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

A tiny new addition has been added to our church. Bro. Doug and Sis. Lanna Harmon have a baby girl, Sharlene Kay. She joins her brother, Benjamin, and sister, Linda. It will be so nice to have a baby in church again. May God bless them richly in raising their family.

"... and in multitude of counselors, there is safety."

Proverbs 24:6

Our brotherhood meeting being held this week came to mind when we read this passage and felt especially thankful that we have these meetings.

We appreciate vacationists remembering us by stopping to visit us in our church.

OREGON, PORTLAND**Jane Rocke
Brenda Knobloch**

The visitors that assemble with us while vacationing in the Pacific Northwest are always a great blessing to us. We are especially grateful when there are ministering brethren amongst the visitors. Our sincere thanks to Bro. Marvin Leman (Bradford, IL) for sharing God's Word with us. We also thank the Silverton ministers for giving of themselves on the behalf of our congregation while both of our ministers are in the Midwest.

God has been so gracious to our small flock by allowing three dear souls to spend several months in our midst. Although we feel the emptiness of their absence brings, our memories will remind us of the support and encouragement they have shared with us. Bro. Mark and Sis. Kelly Ramseyer return to Purdue University and Francesville, IN, church. Bro. Neil Knobloch return to Iowa State University at Ames, IA. Our prayer is that God will continue to use them in lives of others as they "Brighten the Corner Where They are."

OREGON, SILVERTON**Rosa Lee Kuenzi**

We are pleased to welcome Kurt Metzger (Bro. Dale and Sis. Chris, Lester, IA) to Oregon. Kurt has found employment here since completing his studies and graduating from South Dakota State University last spring. We are pleased that Oregon's economic situation and employment opportunities are favorable at this time, encouraging young people to move to our area. We hope and pray that our spiritual climate is also healthy and strong and that we can keep the "Inn"

doors open and inviting to weary travelers, young and old.

Our sympathy is extended to Bro. Matt Edelman (Bro. Fred and Sis. JoAnn, Bern, KS) and to Bro. Kip Edelman (Bro. Albert and Sis. MarJean, Gridley, KS) at the passing of their grandfather, Levi Edelman (Fairbury, IL). He had long fought the battle of faith and deserved to lay his armor down. Thankfully both Bro. Matt and Bro. Kip were able to fly back for the funeral.

Many prayers have been offered and more are solicited for Eldon and Bernice Alt and family. Recently Eldon suffered a severe stroke and faces a long recovery. Eldon is at St. Vincent's Hospital in Portland.

Our sincere thanks to our visiting ministers this past month. Elder Bro. Ed Lanz (Oakville, IA) and ministering Bro. Ron Heiniger (Bloomington, IL). Both were traveling with their wives and families and we appreciate them including Silverton in their schedules.

Bro. Paul Dettwyler is again able to assemble with us after his knee surgery. Thanks to the Lord for His healing mercies.

Sermon . . .

(Continued from Page 28)
receive, what thank have ye? For sinners also lend to sinners, to receive as much again." Luke 6:32-34.

You can go down the road and look upon a neighbor who is as well off as you and lend him money, mule or plow, that is not big thing. Sinners do that . . . to receive as much again when you know that in time he will pay you back, maybe even with a little interest. That's no big thing. Sinners do that.

"But love ye your enemies, and do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the Highest: for he is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil." Luke 6:35. The Lord is kind!

Loved ones, if the Lord is kind to the unthankful and He lets the rain fall on the just and on the unjust, should not we also be kind and thankful as God's children to those who do not know the truth and who maybe even make fun of our faith? Yes! We should love our enemies and be kind

to the unthankful and to the evil.

"Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful. Judge not, and ye shall not be judged: condemn not, and ye shall not be condemned: forgive, and ye shall be forgiven." Luke 6:36, 37. Oh, this is like the balm of Galead, isn't it? Doesn't it warm your heart and strengthen you to find so many beautiful promises in God's Word that can spur us on and encourage us?

"Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful." Luke 6:36. How merciful He has been to us when we saw our wretched condition when we viewed the Lord spilling His blood on the cross and suffering there because of our sins . . . my sins and your sins.

We knew that at Calvary, mercy was great and grace was free! There my burdened soul found liberty! Pardon there was multiplied to me because the Father had mercy on us!

"Judge not, and ye shall not be judged." Luke 6:37. This is weighty scripture! All of God's Word is profitable and good for inspiration and instruction in righteousness and given by the inspiration of His Spirit. (See II Timothy 3:16).

This is so weighty, loved ones, out of the faith and in the faith. We should not judge those who are not in the church yet, and we should not judge those who are. We should never judge our brother or our sister-in-faith.

To elevate ourselves above our brother or sister and to place them below us, would be to judge them and to judge ourselves better. Oh, God, forbid that we would ever entertain the thought. But we should esteem one another higher than ourselves.

Pure religion is to love the Lord with all our heart, soul and strength. Even our neighbor as ourselves. (See Luke 10:27). Certainly we don't want to get involved in condemning anybody, but rather, let us forgive, and ye shall be forgiven. (See Luke 6:37).

We rub shoulders together with the world. We rub shoulders together in life. We rub shoulders together as brethren. We are not all going to think the same thought and entertain the same viewpoints in life. There are times when we are going to differ in our viewpoints with one another. But it need not be an excuse for an argument.

Let us esteem our brother higher than ourselves and his feelings and his views. Let us be willing to understand and be patient with one another.

Give. Give of your love. Give of what you can. "Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again." Luke 6:38.

In the chapter this morning, we read two most important small portions of scripture that mean so much to us in our lives. The Golden Rule in this verse here, "And as ye would that men should to you, do ye also to them likewise." Luke 6:31. Ponder upon that a moment. Ponder upon that! Not on the basis of whether my brother will respond and treat me like I hope he will. No! Then you are worried about him. The Lord wants us to look here first.

If you love your brother, you will treat him like you would want him to treat you regardless of how he responds. That brings your heart into the safe range of the Lord. Let us look into our own hearts first, loved ones.

Really, all we have to do to make the Lord happy here is to see to it that we do to others as we would hope they would do unto us. How could you go wrong with that spirit in your heart and in mine? "For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again." Luke 6:38.

Here is another one. Very simple. I thank God many times, loved ones, that God's Word is so plain and simple.

For with the same measure in the way that you deal with your neighbor, your brother, and your sister, that is the way the Word of God says here will be measured back to you again.

So really, what does that tell us? That tells us in a sense that really we somewhat are responsible and can determine what kind of a blessing we will find out of life. Because we are going to be dealt back by the way that we have dealt out.

Do you see the point? If you want your life to be blessed and you want to be happy and you want to enjoy the good things in the household of God in this life, if you so remember others and treat them that way, that is the

way it will come back to you and to me. God just puts it to the point, doesn't He? He likes to put it plain and simple.

"And He spake a parable unto them, Can the blind lead the blind? Shall they not both fall into the ditch? The disciple is not above his master: but everyone that is perfect shall be as his master." Luke 6:39, 40. If we are willing, loved ones, to take hold of Jesus' hand and say, "Lord, I am not that wise to chart my own course through this life. Oh, just let me walk in humble nearness to Thee. Let me be Thy disciple. Be thou my Master." Then with that kind of heart and spirit, we don't have any desire at all to be above our Master. Certainly not.

But here it says everyone that is perfect, or everyone that has a heart filled with perfect love for his Master will be As his Master. We can be like Jesus. Never above Him. We wouldn't even desire that. But here if we are true in heart and our heart is pure, we can even be like our Master. (See Luke 6:40).

The Lord looks upon the surface of the earth and upon the sons of men to see. What do you suppose He is really looking for to see, when He looks at your life and mine? What would be the first thought in your heart that He would like to see in your life?

Do you know what He wants to see? He wants to see the express image of His own character in you! You can display that and you can be of that character if you let Christ's righteousness govern your life!

If you are willing to deny self and pick up the cross and follow Him, your walk of life will bear His image and you will be like Him! When He looks at you, He will see a reflection of His own character and image, and you will be blessed and you will be As your Master!

"And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but perceivest not the beam that is in thine own eye?" Luke 6:41. How can we help our brother to help him overcome his little thorn in the flesh or his little splinter in his eye if we have a beam in our own eye? We need to consider these things often, loved ones. For these are the things that help us to find that peace . . . to dwell in love and unity . . . how to deal with one

another . . . and how to walk together through this life.

As the Word teaches us in many areas, I believe that we should always examine ourselves first before we look upon others to see where they have failed and to try to point out their failures to them. We really should not even think on terms as to point out someone else's failure. We should look upon them out of love and concern and try to help them to find a better way perhaps.

It is like in marriage in a Christian home, the relationship of a husband and wife is beautiful, a beautiful thing in the Lord. If a husband would pick on his wife, or if a wife would pick on her husband, that marriage wouldn't stand, would it? There would be broken hearts and grief and their marriage would be "on the rocks" in short order.

But I like to think of it as the relationship when two souls are betrothed. In that short time before they are married, there is a love there that is hardly matched. Do you know why that is? That is because that love is so great that they do not see each other's faults. Did you ever think about that?

I remember so well that period of time before our marriage day came. Just being in her presence, every minute was precious. I loved her so much; I was blinded by that love. I couldn't see anything wrong at all. That love was so deep. Can we have that kind of love for Jesus? For one another? Not that we would be blinded to our brothers' needs. Oh, no! We are our brothers' keeper.

Let us be real careful when we point out somebody else's little mistakes. Think of the Christian home, marriage, family and the church, and how the two are so interwoven together. We, who are somewhat older and have been married some years, we think of our parents who are still among us, or may not even still be among us. For fifty, sixty or even longer years, they dwelt together in the same house under the same roof and raised their family. How they trusted in the Lord for their needs and how they depended on Him to be their Protector and their Provider and how they raised their children to know the Lord, it is a beautiful and precious thing.

We know that the Christian home is more than just a home where there is a marriage, family and children. Any home where there is even just one who is a child of God, that home is sanctified. It may not be a home of a family. It might just be a single brother, single sister, a widower or a widow, all by himself or herself, that is a Christian home and it is sanctified and set apart for the Lord. The Holy Spirit lives there!

How much more, then, when there are more than one soul in a household -- children of God, mothers and fathers in the Lord raising their children. That home is a holy place . . . sanctified and set apart so the Spirit can live there and feel welcome there.

Not many years ago, I heard a dear elder brother speak, I believe in Princesville, and I can hear the words ringing across the audience yet. He said, "The church is not any stronger than the home!" I believe that is true, so true! How can the church be any stronger than the home? If there is peace, love and order in the home, it is going to come right with us to church, isn't it? Then there is going to be peace, love and order there with God's blessings.

If there is schism, bitterness, wrath, and strife at home, that can't all be left behind in a minute and come to church and everything is okay. It follows us, doesn't it? The church is not going to be any stronger than the home.

Oh, the Christian home! I think of the hymn about the Christian home that we sing in our Hymns of Zion:

Peace and plenty here abide,
Smiling sweet on every side,
Time doth softly, sweetly glide,
When there's love at home.

We read here in verse forty-three, "For a good tree bringeth not forth corrupt fruit; neither doth a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. For every tree is known by his own fruit. For of thorns men do not gather figs, nor of a bramble bush gather they grapes. A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh." Luke 6:43-45.

SERMON BY BRO. MARVIN LEMAN OF BRADFORD, IL

"Choose Life and Blessings"

Luke 6:17-31

Precious, precious are the words of God, through His Son, the Lord Jesus, Who came to save His own, and His own received Him not. Instead they nailed Him to a tree. That is how the Pharisees thanked the Lord for coming to bring the Gospel of the Good News and the plan of salvation. They nailed Him to a tree!

But there were those of the disciples who loved Him and they were willing to pick up their cross and follow Him. In order to be a disciple, the Word tells us that we must deny ourselves and pick up the cross and follow Jesus.

The cross. What does it mean, loved ones? It means the cross of self-denial. When we can be in humble submission before this Lord and set aside ourself, deny ourself, stop living for ourself, stop being preoccupied with ourself and can give our whole heart to this great Master and Lord, then we can be one of His disciples.

Until then, He really can't use us too well because we haven't submitted ourselves -- heart, soul and body to Him. But when we do, then we can be one of His disciples. Then these blessed words apply to your heart and to mine . . . to you and to me!

"Blessed be ye poor: for yours is the kingdom of God." Luke 6:20. He was talking to the disciples. "Blessed are ye that hunger now: for ye shall be filled." Luke 6:21. Oh, rejoice in the day and leap for joy when the friends of the world don't like you anymore. Dear friends of the truth, this is so precious because when you turn to the Lord and you repent, you are going to make that experience. Some of your best friends are not going to like you anymore.

But in that day when they cast out your name as evil, rejoice and praise God because in that day, you found your salvation and you can be someone separated from the world! Then you don't

have to perish with them. Be not surprised because they didn't love the Lord either. If they hated the Lord, some of them are going to hate us.

"But woe unto you that are rich! For ye have received your consolation." Luke 6:24. What does this mean -- woe unto you that are rich? I don't believe this necessarily means because a man has a good-size bank roll that that is what He is exactly referring to here. I believe this means that we are rich in our own hearts and we have lifted up ourselves and we think, like in the Revelation I believe, where the Lord had to upbraid some, and they said, "We can be rich and we sit as kings and queens and have no need of anything."

When we don't need the Saviour, loved ones, that is what it means! When our heart is elevated to the point where we don't need the Lord, then what beggarly elements we have in our life, that is our reward. I think that is what He is saying! Then we have had our reward!

I think this especially applies to our unconverted friends. What He is saying to you is that if you love the world and you reject His tender call, then you live for yourself and for the world. The things that you are allowed to accumulate, that will be you eternal reward. That will be your reward! All you are going to get out of your life is the corruptible things of this world that will perish in the day of judgment. You will have had your reward!

Oh, doesn't that alarm you? Oh, that would make it hard for me to sleep at night to think that all I am

going to have when my life is past is what I have accumulated in this world . . . those things that rust and corrupt, and where thieves break in and steal. (See Matthew 6:19). These things all vanish are all temporal. If that is all that I would have, my life would be in vain.

How sad it would have to be, to hear the Lord say, "You have already had your reward." Wouldn't that be tragic to hear Him say, "Depart from Me. You've already had your reward?"

"Woe unto you, when all men shall speak well of you!" Luke 6:26. Your worldly friends who go with you to the bowling alleys, to the movies, to the card-playing sessions and what have you with all your buddies, what do they really mean to you? Will they stand in your stead on Judgment Day and vouch for you? Do they speak well of you and lift you up? Is that a comfort to you to have the friends of the world? To be a friend of the friends of the world?

Do you know what the Bible says about being a friend of the world? He who is a friend of the world is an enemy to God. (See Romans 8:7).

"But I say unto you which hear, Love your enemies, do good to them which hate you. Bless them that curse you, and pray for them which despitefully use you." Luke 6:27, 28. It takes grace, doesn't it? It takes a gift from God to love someone that you can tell does not love you.

Anybody can love those who love them. In this chapter, "For if ye love them which love you, what thank have ye?" Sinners do that. ". . . for sinners also love those that love them. And if ye do good to them which do good to you, what thank have ye? For sinners also do even the same. And if ye lend to them of whom ye hope to

(Continued on Page 26)