



"... he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake."
Psalm 23:3

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."
Psalm 119:105

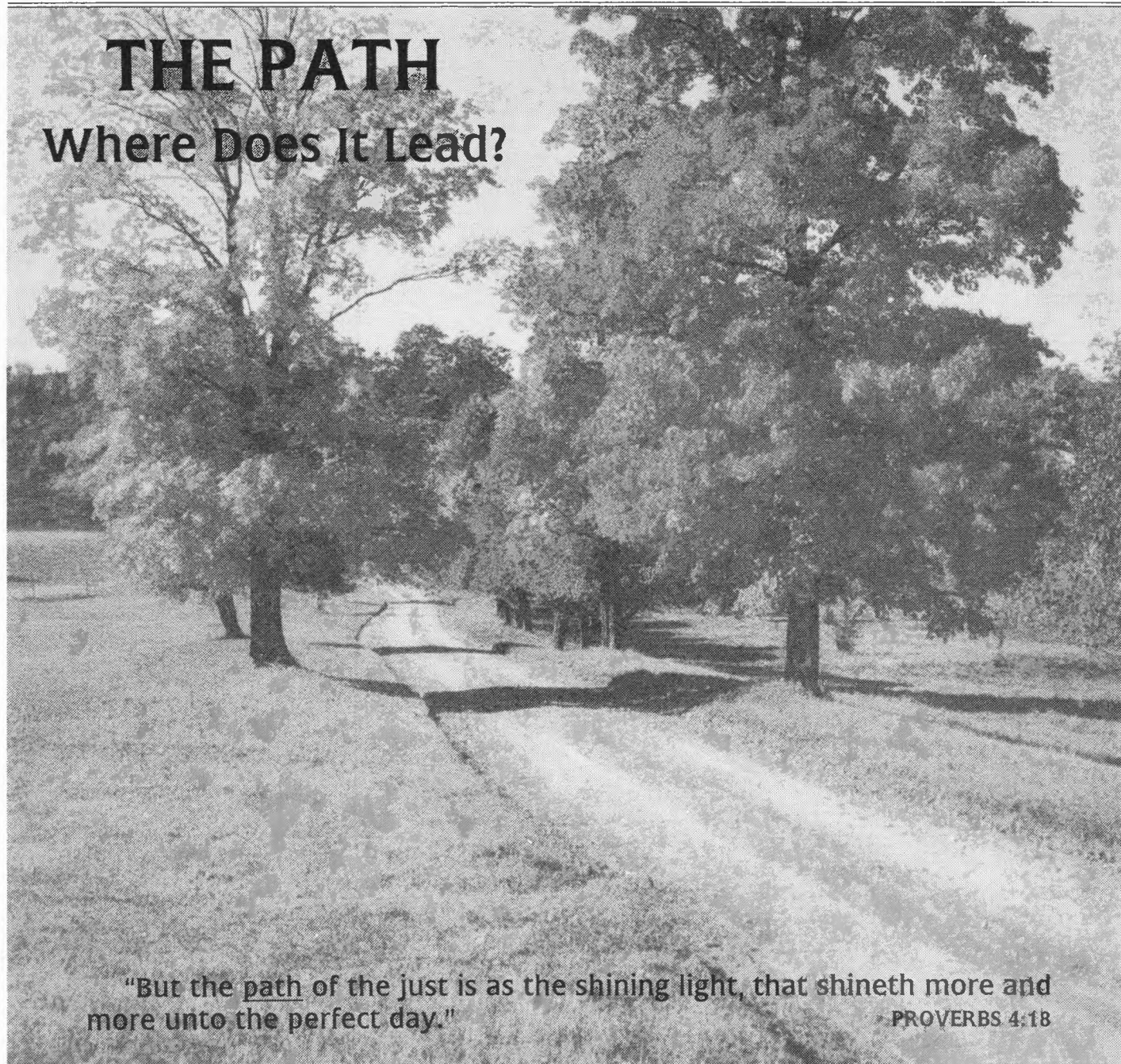
VOLUME 41

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NUMBER 10

THE PATH

Where Does It Lead?



"But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day."

PROVERBS 4:18

MISSION -- WORLD RELIEF -- WORKS PROJECTS

GIVING FOR THE LORD'S WORKS

Where Shall We Focus Our Efforts in Giving?

By Richard Schmidgall, World Relief Committee

We are well aware that our mail is inundated with pleas almost daily to give to this or that cause. Some of these causes are very good and should have support. However, many more of these solicitations eat up 30-50% or more in their advertising, mailing, and administration costs. Some of these organizations have a staggering income. One example is a prominent boys home that has \$1 million in reserve for each child it houses and raises.

Members and friends of the Apostolic Christian Church are fortunate to have a World Relief Committee sanctioned by the elder body who meet three times a year. Their duties as well as expending the generous contributions of our people include a careful study of each organization who solicits funds, to see what their costs are and if they merit contribution.

We have not found any organization whose contributions are used as efficient as your own Apostolic Christian World Relief and Mission Group whose volunteer work expends almost 100% of your contributions to worthy projects. As near as we can figure, approximately 1% is used for administrative expense. So if you want the most for your contribution, your own Apostolic Christian World Relief, Mission and Works Project Volunteer Groups would be a good choice.

If you know of work projects that you feel are worthy of your contributions, on page 70 of the Mission World Relief activities handbook there is a form on which you may submit the data or you may write a request letter to your area representative. The committee will review your request, and after prayerful consideration will submit it for allocation if they feel it is a worthy cause.

At our last national World Relief meeting in Minneapolis on August 17, 1991, it was made mention of a sizeable contribution that came in from a brother who, as a busy man, just doesn't have time to be actively involved in the many on-going world relief projects.

I believe there are many brethren who are in this position and how we appreciate them! For without their generous contribution there wouldn't be money for the many projects world relief is funding.

We have brethren who may not be able to give monetary contributions, yet they willingly give of their time in many ways. We have brethren who use their vacation time to travel to work projects such as building new churches in America, traveling to disaster projects such as Hurricane Hugo in the Carolinas, Mexico City's devastating earthquake, and on-going projects such

as school house roofs in Haiti, fresh water wells providing clean water for approximately 200,000 people, refurbishing medical facilities and providing pharmaceutical supplies for the impoverished people of Haiti.

We have our wonderful Sewing Group sisters who make the many quilts, baby clothes, school kits, scratch pads, hospital gowns from used white shirts, homemade soap, do clothing drives, sort and pack at our material aid centers. They also tear, strip, and roll bandages from sheets which are used in Haitian hospitals. These sheets are provided by another group of volunteers who are willing to canvas motels, hospitals, and so forth for used sheets and soap.

(Continued on Page 4)

THE SILVER LINING

Grabill, Indiana 46741
USPS 496780

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IN MEMORY -- EDITORS:
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NOTICE OF A REVISED BOOKLET OF CHRISTMAS CAROLS

The paperbound edition of Christmas Carols that is currently available from the Apostolic Christian Publications bookstore in Eureka was first printed in 1955, and has remained largely unchanged during the previous 35 years. A revised edition, however, is in the process of being printed and will be available for the coming Christmas season.

This new paperbound booklet, entitled "Hymns of Christmas," will contain 36 songs selected from the Zion's Harp, Hymns of Zion and Gospel Hymns, as well as a few hymns from other books.

These booklets are expected to be available from the bookstore in Eureka around the first of November. As soon as they are available, a copy will be sent to each congregation, along with the cost and information on ordering. Individuals or families wishing to purchase them should contact the bookstore after November 1.



Writings based
on God's Word

Light From The Word

"The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple" (Ps. 119:130).

THE GOLDEN YEARS

The Bible teaches that a long life can be a blessing. Children who honor their father and mother are given this promise: "That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth" (Eph. 6:3). Abraham was the father of faith and was greatly blessed by God. Among God's many promises to him was the assurance that he would go to his rest in peace at a good old age (Gen. 15:15). Our most important goal is to live in such a way that we may leave this life in peace with God and man and be with the Lord in all eternity. Reaching a "good old age" as a faithful servant of the Lord can be a special blessing, not only to the individual but to many others. It is not ours to choose how long we will live, but we should have the readiness of the Apostle Paul to go or stay (Phil. 1:21) and to always remember the Scripture: "... if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens" (2 Cor. 5:1).

There are many differing attitudes which individuals adopt as they grow older. Some foolishly try to deny the reality of aging by using artificial means of looking younger or by simply not "acting their age." For some there are fears of failing health or loneliness. Some become discouraged because they feel they have lost their usefulness to others. On the other hand there are those who adjust to the "golden years" in a constructive manner and welcome the many opportunities unique to this phase of life. Rather than denying the reality of the aging process, we should apply a scriptural outlook which is very positive. "The hoary head (gray hair) is a crown of glory, if it be found in the way of righteousness" (Prov. 16:31).

For the believer the greatest joy of reaching the older years should be the awareness that the heavenly goal is approaching. In His times of heavy trial, the Lord Jesus was lifted up and strengthened by the thought of the

"joy that was set before him" (Heb. 12:2). God has given many wonderful promises to those who reach an old age as his faithful servants. "And even to your old age I am he; and even to hoar hairs will I carry you: I have made, and I will bear; even I will carry, and will deliver you" (Is. 46:4). David prayed to God for sustenance in his old age: "Cast me not off in the time of old age; forsake me not when my strength faileth" (Ps. 71:9), and his prayer was answered. Essential attributes of a wholesome outlook on aging include patience and maintaining trust in God's faithfulness. "Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompense of reward. For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise" (Heb. 10:35-36).

Many gratifying opportunities present themselves in the golden years. It is often possible to spend more beneficial time with grandchildren than was possible with one's own children. Those who are older are to serve as teachers and role models for the younger (Tit. 2:2-4). The years of experience and the wisdom of the elderly should be highly valued and heavily utilized resources.

Retired individuals should take advantage of the numerous opportunities for volunteer work. If we feel we are not needed it may be because we have simply failed to take the initiative to make ourselves available to help others. The Psalmist wrote, "Those that be planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God. They shall still bring forth fruit in old age; they shall be fat and flourishing" (Psa. 92:13-14). Those who are blessed with good health and strength into a high age should maintain an active life of service to God as long as possible. When Moses came to the end of his days "his eye was not dim, nor his natural force abated."

The Word also explains how we should adjust to the more common

experience of eventual decline of human strength and health. "Though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal" (2 Cor. 4:16-18). We should always make effort to care for the health of our bodies because they are temples of the living God (1 Cor. 3:16; Eph. 5:29). Nevertheless the time usually comes when we must make appropriate adjustments in our activities and our living arrangements because of advancing age. How reassuring to know that when these times come, the Spirit of God within us remains as a powerful, unwavering source of guidance and help.

In our beloved fellowship there is no lack of loved ones who are ready to lend a helping hand and an encouraging word to those who are no longer able to lead an active life. Excellent homes for the elderly have been established in a number of our communities. These provide a wonderful spiritual and physical haven for souls who need special care. The pathway of life includes both giving and receiving. Although "it is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:25), if we have served others while able, we can receive help gratefully and joyfully like the Apostle Paul, who described this as "fruit that may abound to (the giver's) account" (Phil. 4:17).

Above all things, may we be found faithful in the end, declaring like Paul, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing" (2 Tim. 4:7-8).

Bandages and soap go to hospitals and individuals in poverty stricken countries like Haiti. You would know it was all worth it if you would see their smile when they receive something as simple as a bar of motel soap.

Finally, we have the project coordinators and the World Relief Committee who spend their time in meetings judiciously expending your contributions, make conference calls when emergencies such as storms, floods, and earthquakes occur throughout the year. They make missionary trips to India and Japan, and evaluation studies to Haiti, Jamaica, Mexico, Europe, and other

places, making sure your contributions are used prudently and effectively.

What a blessed experience for all of us as members and friends of the Apostolic Christian Church, knowing that the Lord loves a cheerful giver and that there are so many ways to give. We believe whether we give to our church, our neighbor, our community, or the unfortunate in this world, it can be a real blessing. We also believe whether our giving is through monetary contributions to fund God's work, through voluntary work on the many ongoing projects or through prayer, the Lord will add His blessings, for

surely all of the volunteers need your prayers.

An audio-visual slide presentation covering the work of your Mission, World Relief and Work Project committees is now available for presentation. Contact your local or area representative if you are interested in seeing this.

If you have any questions about world relief, mission work, or work projects, feel free to contact your local or area representative or refer to the mission-world relief activity outline and guide book which should be available through your local world relief representative.

-- NOTICE --

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

We're continuing to send used books overseas. Almost daily we receive requests in the mail for Bibles

You may get your books to either of us or Wing or Bluffton World Relief Centers.

Jerry and Arlene Banwart
Box 132, 307 West First St.
Congerville, IL 61729
Phone (309) 448-2416

or

Phil and Gloria Grant
R.R. #2, Box 95A
Antwerp, OH 45813
Phone (419) 258-2197

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
Seventh Year — August 1989 thru July 1990 — 25,501
Eighth Year — August 1990 thru July 1991 — 32,677

Bibles Distributed -- Ninth Year

	MONTH	TO DATE
August 1991 —	2951	2951
September 1991 —	3318	6269

*Note — 792 Romanian Bibles and Testaments shipped
770 Romanian Bibles and Testaments, 2nd shipment
234 Romanian Bibles and testaments, 3rd shipment

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.

UNTIED AND TURNED LOOSE Elder Bro. Willis Enhle Shioda, Japan

Recently in our church services here in Japan, I have been intrigued by the Japanese word, KAIHO, which is written with one character for KAI and another character for HO. This word is used in Romans 6:18 which reads, "Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness." After reading the Japanese, I expected the English to read that we had been acquitted of our sin but I found that our King James Bible used the words that we had been set free from sin. In my mind, I had always translated that Japanese word to mean acquittal but now I had to consider the matter further.

In the Old Testament, Job longed to be acquitted, if he had committed any sins for which he was being punished. In Job 10:14, he states, "If I sin, then though markest me, and thou wilt not acquit me from mine iniquity." At that time, he was at a low and felt that there was no way out of his trouble. Later in 19:25, his hope and confidence in God was restored when he stated, "For I know that my redeemer liveth."

The word acquittal is used in the court room to indicate that someone on trial was found not guilty. I like to think that Christ is not only our Saviour but also our defense lawyer and on the basis of His atonement we are found to be not guilty.

I was struck with the fact that the translators of the English ver-

sion in Romans used the words "made free" rather than "have been acquitted." My mind turned to the meaning of the two Japanese characters which form the word KAIHO. The first character means to untie and the second character means to turn loose. I was elated and remain

so. Can you imagine anything so wonderful as being untied and turned loose? It reminds me of a colt which has been kept in a barn for a long time and then turned out to pasture to romp in the grass. That's us, only we must remember that we are now "servants of righteousness."

HAITI SCHOOL WORK TEAM PROJECTS

(March - June 1991)



- I. HAITI'S ECONOMY
- II. PROJECT SCHEDULE
- III. PUBLICITY
- IV. PROGRESS REPORT
 - A. Guest House
 - B. Nursing Home
- V. FIELD COORDINATOR(S)
- VI. MINISTER OPPORTUNITIES

I. HAITI'S ECONOMY No political problems are seen for this winter's work season. The newly elected president seems to have the support of the people. The econo-

my has worsened, however, due to a trend toward socialism. The government has lost the confidence of business and industry, so the responsibility of job creation falls on a government structure of questionable ability.

Shortages are creating inflation so that construction such as ours is more costly. World Relief aid such as medical, water wells, material aid and school support is therefore much appreciated.

II. PROJECT SCHEDULE See "Work Projects List, Season '91 - '92" Good interest has been shown thus far so we are again hopeful to fill every team of 4 - 9 volunteers or more, including opportunities for sisters on some projects.

III. PUBLICITY Communicating these work opportunities by the report of approved projects in the Silver Lining and through local World Relief representatives has been a great help. Area coordinators now find it unnecessary to solicit for volunteers as they once did.

IV. PROGRESS REPORTS

A. The guest house is now finished. It looks very nice; has 6 bedrooms, 2 baths, living - dining room, kitchen.

B. The nursing home kitchen - dining addition is now finished also as of last month. Pictures and reports of both projects will be available after the fall evaluation tour.

V. FIELD COORDINATOR(S) Bob Stewart has again stressed the importance of Apostolic Christian field coordinators.

VI. MINISTER OPPORTUNITIES The Mission Committee has given opportunity for a minister to accompany each work team as a support to them the field coordinator(s) in holding worship services and as well as acquaint them with the activities of World Relief.

In humble service,
Harold Witzig
Morton, IL, congregation

HAITI SCHOOL WORK PROJECT LIST

Season -- 1991 - 1992

Project Number	Date	Mission	Church Area	Area Coordinator
#1	11/29 - 12/7/91	Bob Stewart	#8 Western, IL	Mike Finley Box 176 Carlock, IL 61725 (309) 376-7301
#2	12/13 - 12/21/91	Bob Stewart	#1, #2 & #3 CT, E. OH, AL, GA, FL	Craig Emch 11856 Miller Road Sterling, OH 44276 (216) 939-4591
#3	01/03 - 01/11/91	Bob Stewart	#4 & #6 N. IN, MI, W. OH	Phil Isabel Route 2 Remington, IN 47977 (219) 261-3541
#4	01/17 - 01/25/91	Eris LaBody	#9 & #10 KS, MO, MN, IA, TX, CA	Richard Schmidgall 955 Lyon Street Hancock, MN 56244 (612) 392-5241
#5	01/31 - 02/8/92	Bob Stewart	#11 & #12 CA, AZ, OR, CO	Glen Hackenjoes 10564 Haverly El Monte, CA 91731 (818) 442-4957
#6	02/14 - 02/22/92	Bob Stewart	#7 E. IL	Jim Walter Route 2, Box 3 Chatsworth, IL 60921 (815) 635-3158
#7	02/28 - 03/07/92	Bob Stewart	#5 Bluffton & Indy	Bill Stoller 1050 N. Main Bluffton, IN 46714 Off. (219) 824-4686 Hm. (219) 565-3291

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

August and September are extremely busy months for our nursing and activities departments here at ACHH. Many of our summer aides and volunteers return to college for school causing real losses in personnel and in friendships for our dear residents. Our residents depend very much on seeing those they love each day and these changes are difficult for them. Therefore, we bring to you a scripture in James 1:2-4, "My brethren, count it all joy

when ye fall into diverse temptation; knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing."

We know that these difficult times for us will bring about a growth in character that can glorify our Lord Jesus Christ. We ask not only for your financial support but for your prayerful support as well. "We need the prayers of those we love" to get us through difficult times. Pray we will have enough nursing staff and that they can be compassionate and kind. We also continue to need volunteer support. Our residents that live in residential settings need your friendship continually.

Our residents at ACHH have been enjoying a busy month. On Labor Day we had a picnic on our picnic grounds. The Special Olympics Bowling Tournament kept our team "rolling the ball." We also made several trips to the Morton Pumpkin Festival. This year, Kent Knobloch won a prize for the largest pumpkin in his division. Everyone at ACHH was excited about this as two large pumpkins were grown in our own garden. The other pumpkin won a prize too. Bob and Marvel Knobloch were our gardeners. The festivities ended with a warm morning at the Pumpkin Parade.

One of our residents, Edwin Gehrig, died August 29. Edwin had been suffering from cancer and is now enjoying a "new body" in heaven. Our staff truly cared about this dear man.

The birthdays for November are: Susan McGinley (1); Keith Weyeneth (4); Rhonda Pullen (4); Kathy Knapp (5); Tom Manley (8); Kay Ellis (9); Bernice Heiniger (11); Sam Sigulas (13); Jane Aberle (14); Janet Worner (17); Kristie Furrer (18). At Oakwood: Ken Clauss (2); Lucy Endress (13); Marian Funk (20). At 200 E. Hazelwood: Alan Unsicker (15).

**APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN
PRESCHOOL OF ATHENS, AL**
Joan Meister

"Thou shalt have no other gods

before me." Exodus 20:3 This is one of the verses the children are memorizing in the month of October. As they memorize this verse and we read the stories of Moses and the children of Israel, this commandment is an important reminder to all of us. Do we have anything that is before God in our hearts? Is there any "idol" that is taking away from God's time and place in our lives?

This month we are studying about transportation. We hope to also get a first-hand view of this topic by having a Trike-A-Thon where the children actually get to try out the safety rules they have learned. This is also the month for school pictures and parent conferences. We would like to ask each of you to remember us in your prayers as we meet with each child's parents to discuss his or her progress. This is an important time for us to get to know parents better and to share the love of God with those who do not know Him.

**GATEWAY WOODS
Apostolic Christian
Children's Home
Andria R. Moushon**

If only our children could realize that Jesus truly does understand their every heartache and broken dream and that if they would just grasp His outstretched hand He would wipe away every tear and sorrow. Please pray for our children here, you may not know their names but God does and He will intercede to the Father for us. Pray that they will realize that no matter how horrid their pasts were that Jesus too was abused and He understands.

The cooler weather that September has brought is very welcome but not near as welcome as the new faces around here at Gateway Woods. Jennifer F. is a welcome addition to the girls in the East House while Eve J. and Bruce J. add to the West house family and Sara J. is a rose amongst the thorns as she joins the New House boys (prayerfully we will soon have more new girls to keep Sara company.)

Along with the changes of children our staff on campus is also looking different. We would like to welcome Sis. Jan Stoecker (Oakville,

IA) to the team in the East House while Sis. Denise Duckworth (Bloomington, IL) joined our counseling staff. We are very happy that both Jan and Denise listened to God's calling and came to be part of the Gateway Woods family.

On September 5-7, the staff of Gateway Woods could be found serving pancakes and sausage to the friends and neighbors of Grabill during their Grabill Days Country Fair. The staff uses the profits to fund staff retreats and speakers. Although it meant early mornings, the staff enjoyed serving those in our community.

Over the weekend of September 13, Sis. Shay Nelson (New House) and Sis. Andria Moushon (East House), along with their fellow houseparents, Sisters Liz Martin and Jan Stoecker, and assistant staff, Joanne Kaisner, loaded their children into two vans and headed to their home town of Morton, IL. In Morton they enjoyed the events and excitement of the Pumpkin Festival. Saturday was filled with a parade, tents, food, and rides as part of the festival and a dinner and singing with the Morton Young Group in the evening. We would like to thank the Morton Young Group and those who opened their hearts and homes to us and helped make this an enjoyable trip.

The bang of hammers and smell of fresh paint in the Administration Building are signs that the remodeling is well underway. Currently a new school room and counseling offices are being constructed in the basement as one step in the overall plan for a new look to the Administration Building.

On September 27, the staff will pack their bags and head to a campground for a few days of "roughing it" and growing together in Christ Jesus our most precious Saviour. Our most sincere thanks goes out to the couples from Indianapolis and Francesville who will come and keep the campus together while we are on this trip.

ARIZONA, PHOENIX
Ron and Ev Hoerr

"The Lord is my Shepherd, I

shall not want . . . surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever."

Psalm 23

Bro. Lyle Huette died suddenly August 21 doing what we know was a labor of love for our church. His wife, Sis. Helen, and family in Illinois and Florida survive. Memorial services were held at the church, Thursday evening. Further services were held in Fairbury, where his body was interment.

Sis. Helen, may you feel the abundance of Godly love we have for you. Comforting words are in Psalm 91 and 103.

The engagement of Sis. Debbie Yackley and Bro. Brian Katich was announced August 18. They have put their trust in the Lord for His direction and blessings. Their parents are Bro. Al and Sis. Joyce Yackley and Frank Katich and Cinthia Smith.

On September 8, we heard the engagement of Bro. Earl Roth and Sis. Marilyn Weyeneth (Roanoke, IL). May the Lord bless both couples as they blend their lives together.

"Where He leads me, I will follow". With joy in our hearts and prayers on our lips, we wish three couples many blessings as they move to the Midwest. Bro. Jacob, Sis. Wanda, Franz and Anneliese Hoerr are moving to Iowa; Bro. Dennis, Sis. Sherry and Ashley Frank are moving to Illinois; and Bro. James, Sis. Gina and Amy Emch are going to Indiana. These couples have served the Lord and church well and will be missed. "Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love!"

Welcome back, Bro. Tim Rumbold (to ASU), Steve Miracle and newcomer, Sis. Jill Steffen.

Our Sunday school enjoyed their Labor Day weekend in San Diego, CA. Our hearty thanks to all.

Sis. Katherine Laukhuf had knee surgery. Bro. Lee Esslinger suffered severe injuries to his hand, Sis. Gladys Fisher was in for a second eye surgery, and Sis. Esther Harmon had hip surgery. We are thankful to see Bro. Melvin Miller in church again.

On September 14 and 15, we

gathered to hear Carmen Langhofer's testimony and baptism. Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville, IN) assisted Elder Bro. Richard Schupbach. Sis. Carmen's parents are Bro. Erik and Sis. Cindy Langhofer. Her four grandparents were here for this happy event. A fellowship dinner and singing followed later in the day.

Love is the ingredient "The Candy Man" passes out on Sundays. Sunday school children of 3-12 years watch for Bro. Al Frautschi -- he never lets them down, they appreciate the treat.

We've enjoyed 28 different birds since spring -- a real tribute to our delightful cooler summer. Phoenix has the 20th busiest airport, yet when going to church we see quail with their top-knots and rabbits come out of the desert.

Our third nuptial announcement was heard September 15, when we learned of Bro. Nathan Knochel and Sis. Kathy Steffen's engagement. Their wedding will be in the Alto, MI, church. Parents of the happy couple are Bro. Herb and Sis. Johanna Knochel and Sis. Helen Steffen (Alto, MI).

Welcome Bro. Marshall to Phoenix while attending ASU.

Sis. Patsy Esslinger is hospitalized. Visiting ministers, who we are thankful to are Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville, IN), Bro. Nate Leman (Tucson) and Bro. Al Langhofer (Wichita, KS).

ARIZONA, TUCSON

Lisa Knapp

We are glad to report that Sis. Martha Blessman is out of the hospital and recovering nicely. She was with us last Sunday for church services. It was so good to have her with us. Welcome back, Sis. Martha.

Our Sunday school students recently spent a weekend in San Diego, CA, with the Phoenix and Altadena, CA, Sunday school class. We are glad to have them safely back. Many thanks to the San Diego congregation for their hospitality.

We have resumed our fellowship dinners, Bible studies and Sunday school classes. Our morn-

ings are starting to get cooler, we are anxious for fall!

CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA

Lisa Steiner

September was a month of change for our congregation. We bid farewell to several dear ones who have left our area. Bro. Mike and Sis. Kathy Dreste and little Rebecca, have relocated to Minneapolis, MN. We wish them God's blessings in Bro. Mike's new job and their new home. Bro. Ben Ammann is moving to Ohio to live with his sister and eventually enter the Rittman Home. Bro. Ben attended church in Maywood for over forty years, and later assembled with us in Altadena. In July, Marie Feuchtenberger returned to her hometown of Morris, MN, having been with us for many years. We have shared many pleasant times with these loved ones and they will be greatly missed.

Our sympathy is extended to our dear friend, Dorothy (Meister) Vermillion at the passing of her husband, Harold, following a lengthy illness.

There was a mixture of sadness and anticipation on September 15, as we held a commemorative service in the building which has served our Altadena congregation for the last 38 years. Many memories were recalled that day, as we spent one of our last Sundays in that wonderful old house. Many tears were shed at the realization that it is soon to be torn down. I recall attending Sunday school as a child and the hymns we sang there, especially #139 in the Hymns of Zion. I remember the warmth, love and friendship my family and I encountered there, the aroma of coffee brewing, and us kids playing on the lawn outside.

With the Lord's help and blessing we will soon endeavor to build a new place of worship which will accommodate us more easily. We anticipate creating new memories, and we have the assurance that God's Spirit will reside there as well.

Give Old and New Addresses
To Your Reporter

CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO Marian Petrovic

The Lord gives us today. Yesterday is past, and tomorrow is not promised to us. Today, when we hear the Word, let us make a commitment to call upon Jesus and serve Him with our whole heart. Then tomorrow we will walk on streets of gold and live with our Lord and Saviour forever!

This timely message was imparted to both young and old by Bro. Nathan Lehman (Tuscon, AZ). It was our privilege to have Bro. Nathan and his family, the upper grade Sunday school students from Tuscon and Phoenix, AZ, and Altadena, and their teachers for the annual Sunday school fellowship weekend. A hearty thank you to Bro. Denes and Sis. Joy Fulop and everyone else who put loving efforts toward this special weekend.

What an unspeakable joy it is for a congregation to hear the testimony and witness the baptism of a precious soul who has decided to forsake the world and all its sin and become a soldier for Jesus! Bro. Steven Varga was baptized into the fold of our Lord September 8. Elder Bros. John Klotzle (Altadena) and Richard Schupbach (Phoenix, AZ) were with us for this very memorable occasion.

As a number of us were traveling this past month, Bro. Glen Hackenjos and Bro. Tom Luginbuhl traveled from Altadena to minister God's work to the San Diego congregation during Bro. Peter's and Bro. Doug's absence. God bless you richly, our dear brothers, for the extra effort you both put forth in behalf of our church.

Bro. Richard Aberle (Altadena) also helped out on the pulpit one Sunday. May God be your rich rewarder for faithfully preaching His Word.

As we embark upon a new school year, our thoughts go out to the teachers and students. For the teachers we pray for wisdom, that they might with courage and strength face daily problems and challenges, and teach the truth.

One of our duties, as parents, is to bring our children up in the training and instruction of the Lord. May our children be firmly grounded

in Jesus so that as they are exposed to the world and its influences, Satan's subtle ways will not lure them away from the truth. We wish our students a blessed and fruitful school year!

COLORADO, DENVER Marlene Leman

We welcome Kristie Kellenberger (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Shirley, Lester, IA) to our little church family. She is a student at CSU in Ft. Collins. We trust she will feel the "love of home" away from home.

How thankful we are when souls come seeking their soul's salvation! Chris Johnson has repented and has felt God's blessed peace. We look forward to hearing his testimony and greeting him as a dear brother in the near future. May he continue to follow God's leading.

We are grateful for all the visitors we get. A special thanks to the ministers who came to plant and water in God's vineyard here in Colorado; Elder Bros. Andy Virkler (Bay City, MI) and David Bertsch (Leo, IN) and Bros. DeWayne Dill (Champaign, IL), Dan Stoller (Rockvill, CT) and Alphai Strahm (Bern, KS).

Bro. Alphai came on a spur of the moment plea when we received word that our little grandson, David Bauman (Bro. Ben and Sis. Kris, Goodfield), died of AIDS. Our thanks to him and to God for providing His Word. May Bro. Alphai and Sis. Mayme feel God's rich blessings.

CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE Michelle Virkler

"Abide with us, Lord Jesus;
Thy Grace on us bestow;
And guard that ne'er can harm us
The evil, crafty foe."

Zion's Harp #135

As summer turns to autumn and the school bells ring once again, we wish our dear children and members God's abiding love and comfort.

We thank Bro. Ben Aberle (Altadena, CA church) for assembling with us this summer and trust God

will be his protector as he returns to school.

Just as in the days of the Apostles, the elders got together to consider the matters that concern our churches (Acts 15), our beloved elders have just met together to discuss the matters that are of concern to the church today. We are presently listening to the tapes and ask a special blessing upon the dear brothers who allow themselves to be used as instruments in God's hands.

We rejoice with Tom Bahler (Bro. Lee and Sis. Maxine), Matthew Luginbuhl (Bro. Daryl and Sis. Norma), and Jason Kloter (Bro. Keith and Sis. Mary) as the Lord has granted them peace of heart with man and with God. "Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the time of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord." (Acts 3:19).

We welcome Marc Armbruster who will be assembling with us. Marc is from our sister church in Syracuse, New York. He is attending the University of Connecticut doing graduate study.

Janet Kupferschmid (Bro. Gene and Sis. Ellen) will marry Robert Binkowski (Walter and Maureen) Saturday, September 21 and will reside in Ellington. We wish them God's blessings and happiness.

Bro. Len and Sis. Debbie Schneider are the parents of a son, Jared Emanuel. Levi and Kayla waited with anticipation upon his arrival. Maternal grandparents are Bro. Ron and Sis. Judy Stomberg and paternal grandparents are Bro. Emanuel and Sis. Verona Schneider.

Our thoughts and prayers are with those who have been in the care of a physician: Bro. Melvin Gerber, Bro. Clarence Mangold, Sis. Jane Moser, Sis. Glenna Moser, Sis. Michelle Wiegand and Daniel Gerber.

We were blessed to have in our midst Bro. Andy Virkler (Croghan, NY). May God richly reward him for his efforts to be here at Rockville.

"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in

psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord."

Colossians 3:16

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,
WASHINGTON
Henrietta Meyer**

"For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

Matthew 18:20

How we rejoice that the Lord does not have a minimum number for an assembly. The Lord's presence is felt whether two or three gather to hear a tape in a home or a large number assemble together in a church.

Many of our congregation journeyed to Ohio over the long Labor Day weekend to enjoy much fellowship and returned with many blessings.

On September 8, we were able to travel to Philadelphia, PA, to join their congregation in partaking of holy communion. At such a solemn time, we remember our Lord's great suffering for we unworthy ones.

The weekend of September 14 and 15, we had visitors from Philadelphia, PA, and Rittman, OH, in addition to Elder Bro. Dave Wiegand (Champaign, IL) and his wife, Sis. Ethel. Besides serving our congregation, Bro. Dave and Sis. Ethel helped their son, Bob, get settled in this area. We welcome Bob to our small but growing group.

We are anticipating traveling to Lester, IA, the last weekend in October, Lord willing, to hear the testimonies and witness the baptism of Ed and Ginny Stoll.

Services are held the first and third Sundays of each month at Tyson's Westpark Hotel, located on Route 7 about one mile west of I-495 (Capitol Beltway). Many from the area meet in the hotel dining room for breakfast at 9:00 a.m. Services are at 10:30 and 12:30. For more information, assistance or just to let us know you are in town, please call Bro. Matthew Aeschleman (301) 863-9624 or Ed Stoll (703) 730-0248.

**FLORIDA, SARASOTA
Gala Gerber - Suellen Ott**

It is fall time . . . "Harvest Time" . . . that ye bear much fruit (John 15:8), for the tree is known by its fruit (Matthew 12:33), every three which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire (Matthew 3:10)

Are our lives yielding any fruit? If so, is it suited for our Master's use?

Now the field is ripe for harvest; Let us then all garner in; For if we should stand here idle, Who would bring the sheaves of grain?

Hymns of Zion #46

Individually and collectively as a congregation of believers we must encourage each other to earnestly press on towards that mark. In doing so, we pray that our "fruits" may be ripe for harvest, . . . that we may find favor in our Saviour's eyes upon His return!

Our dear Sis. Biserka Krstec recently spent time in the hospital. So thankful we all are to know our God continues to see ones' needs and His healing touch is ever present. Sis. Biserka is back worshipping with us and in this we rejoice!

The Sarasota congregation wants to welcome Sis. Ruth Dapper. Such a joy to have her worshipping with us. May God bless her and may she find contentment in our community.

**GEORGIA, ATLANTA
Peggy Camp**

The Atlanta church is very thankful for the ministers who serve us so willingly. This past month, we were blessed with visits from Bro. Mark Bahr (Detroit, MI) and Bro. Marshall Heinold (Washington, IL).

Services are held every Sunday at the Ramada Renaissance Hotel. The hotel is located off I-85 at the Riverdale Road Exit. Please contact Bro. Linn Stoller (404-631-4554) or Bro. John Brewer (404-378-5918) for further information.

Give Old and New Address
To Your Reporter

**ILLINOIS, BELVIDERE
Carol Steffen**

We are thankful the Lord has been with our small gathering in Belvidere. This month our attendance has ranged from 39 to 78 people, including children. We appreciated visitors from 16 different churches this past month. Along with our visitors, we thank the following ministers for coming to serve us: Bros. Bill Gudeman and Gary Anliker (Elgin), Bro. Lenny Meyer (Chicago), and Bro. Edwin Bahler (Remington, IN) who willingly ministered to us on a Monday evening.

The Lord has moved the heart of Sis. Stacy Miller (Valparaiso, IN) to relocated to the Rockford area. We welcome her to our assembly.

Progress is being made on the remodeling required. Our congregation would like to thank all who helped with the landscaping, and to the brothers who installed the kitchen cabinets.

We invite all to come worship and fellowship with us. Visitors are a real encouragement. For more information concerning services, please write or call Bro. Dean and Sis. Carol Steffen at 22417 Grange Road, Marengo, IL 60152; phone (815) 568-6086 or call Bro. Jim Jepson at (815) 332-9793. The address to the church is 525 Carpenter St., Belvidere, IL 61008; phone (church) (815) 544-3240. We appreciate everyone's prayers for our gathering.

**ILLINOIS,
BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL
Trudy Schmied
Carolyn Fischer**

On August 25, new Illinois State University, Mennonite School of Nursing and Illinois Wesleyan University students and their parents were welcomed to our church community. After services, all enjoyed a good meal and fellowship at the Towanda Community Center. This "welcome" enabled our church families to get to know their newly "adopted students" and their families. Our "Adopt a Student Program" provides students, who are sometimes far from home, contact with someone who can lend support, love,

a ride to church or just an occasional batch of chocolate chip cookies. If you know of a new student who will be in our area, send our ministers their name, address and phone number.

"I will sing unto the Lord, for he hath triumphed gloriously . . . Exodus 15:1. Our congregation was richly blessed September 15 as we listened to sweet praises of the Lord through the beautiful voices of the Chicago Choir.

Bro. Jim and Sis. Nancy Kaufman and big brothers, Brant and Mitchell, welcomed the birth of Christopher Reid August 30. His grandparents are Bro. Richard and Sis. Corrine Schmidgall (Morris, MN) and Bro. Don and Sis. Gladys Kaufmann (Cissna Park).

We rejoice in the announcement of the engagement of Bro. Bernie Ferneau to Sis. Joyce Witzig (Gridley). Parents are Lilian and the late Richard K. Ferneau (Chicago) and Bro. Edward and Sis. Dorothy Witzig (Gridley). The wedding is scheduled for November 24.

We extend a warm welcome to the family of Bro. Dale and Sis. Carol Strassheim and their children, Eric and Alison, who have recently moved from the Minneapolis area.

Once again we express our heartfelt appreciation to our visiting ministers and their wives this month. They were Elder Bro. Joe Braker (Morton), and Bros. Kenny Knapp (Taylor, MO) and Greg Rassi (Chicago).

ILLINOIS, BRADFORD

Les and Barb Fehr

What a blessed weekend we had September 21 and 22 when we heard the testimonies and witnessed the baptisms of three dear souls. They are Greg and Julie Rumbold, son and daughter of Bro. Elwin and Sis. Loretta Rumbold, and David Duckworth, son of Bro. Don and Sis. Delores Duckworth.

Our congratulations go to Bro. Don and Sis. Traci Ehnle on the August 27 birth of their daughter, Heidi Elizabeth. She is welcomed home by Daniel and Melissa. Her grandparents are Bro. Roy and Sis.

Donna Ehnle and Larry and Jeanne Duckworth (Dunlap).

Donna Kieser has decided to turn her back on the world and give her life to the Lord. She is the daughter of Bro. Jerry and Sis. Wilma Kieser.

Visiting ministers who shared the Word with us recently were Elder Bros. Joe Stoller (Princeville) and Chuck Hemmer (Peoria) and Bros. Tom Hoffman (Roanoke), Rick Plattner (Peoria), Ed Knecht (Silverton, OR) and Jim Plattner (Princeville).

Our sympathy is extended to our dear friend Elizabeth Kimble on the death of her husband, Howard Kimble. May the Lord comfort her in the coming days.

ILLINOIS, CHAMPAIGN

Kim Walder

We are rejoicing with Bro. Keith and Sis. Jodi Schieler on the arrival of their new son. Austin Reed was born September 4. Grandparents are Bro. Harvey and Sis. Janice Schieler (Fairbury) and Bro. Floyd and Sis. Vila Schmidgall (Morris, MN).

Bob Wiegand (Bro. Dave and Sis. Ethel) has recently moved to Washington, D.C. We miss Bob and look forward to his visits home.

We want to welcome Bro. Jesse and Sis. Rachel Waibel, as well as all the new students to our congregation. We appreciate the love and warmth you bring to us.

Our congregation had the privilege of listening to the conference tapes this past month. It is always fruitful to hear the Lord's direction through our elder brethren.

Many visitors were here during student welcome weekend. We appreciate the ministering brothers who shared with us, Bro. Ken Dietz (Bradford), Bro. Gary Brown (Forrest), Bro. Lenny Meyer and Bro. Greg Rassi (Chicago) and Bro. Floyd Schmidgall (Morris, MN).

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO

Kathy Schlatter

So many experiences, so little time it seems. Often I see too much of myself in my students. One girl, for example, got special help for a test in biology, getting an A on it --

but for the next test, she forgot that she was even taking it and didn't study at all. In another class, after she had permission to retake an earlier test, she refused to study for the test she was taking the next day. I use the same types of sabotage on my spiritual life at times, I fear. I prepare reasonably well at times, with constant prayer, reading, and meditation. However, there are other times. Work I forgot about sneaks up on me. There seems to be less of me to give spiritually. Or maybe I have time but instead of filling my time with spiritual edifying, I choose a more questionable activity. I need to help Joanna with her priorities, but I need even more to turn to the Lord to ask Him for help in my motivation toward continual spiritual attention. Just as ups and downs in the classroom don't get A's or B's, so spiritual rises and falls are not aiming for the sixty and one-hundred fold the Lord has a right to expect from me. He has given me His Son and His blood and His Spirit, plus untold advantages and support. I must return His love towards me more fully, more constantly. By Thy grace, O Lord.

We appreciate our expected and unexpected visitors. Bros. Walt Rager (Toledo, OH) and Art Baurer (Princeville, IL) have family members in our congregation, making them more frequent visitors. We are so thankful for those visits. We were also surprised and delighted to have Elder Bros. Gene Marti (Kansas City, MO) and John Klotzle (Altadena, CA) join us for a Wednesday evening. Truly the Lord lifts us up through the service of these who proclaim His Word.

The Lord has added a dimension of His love in the lives of these couples. Because of His will for them, Bro. Tom Waldbeser of our congregation (son of Bro. Fred and Sis. Joan, Cissna Park, IL) and Sis. Susan Getz, originally from Remington, IN (daughter of Bro. Maurice and Sis. Eileen), and formerly a houseparent at Gateway Woods, Leo, plan to be married Sunday, October 20, in Remington. Bro. Bernie Ferneau, also of our congregation, having just moved from Bloomington, IL, and Sis. Joyce Witzig, origi-

nally from Gridley, IL, but a long-time resident of Bloomington, have been granted joy, too, believing that the Lord has plans for their union. For both of these precious engaged couples, we pray for their thoughtful prayers and deep communication of the Spirit together as they await their wedding days. We rejoice and pray that He will give them love and forbearance beyond all human possibilities now and always.

We welcome several who are joining our congregation. Bro. Brad and Sis. Cindy Eisenmann and young sons, Greg and Ryan, have followed the Lord's will, going to Houston, TX, for a season, now to return. We are thankful to have them rejoin their place in the family circle once again. We also want to welcome Elaine Pfister (Leo, IN), who is attending school in our area. May she feel a part of our church family as well, as she pursues her education.

Almost always our joy at welcoming some has another side. Sis. Esther Hay has been one of the best balcony people I know. By her encouragement of our ministers and each member through prayer, housing, and conversation, she brightened our church family and worked for spiritual unity for years. She sustained the loss of her husband Howard and a daughter. Always she knew the Lord had work for her yet in our midst. However, now she has recently moved to an apartment at Fairview Haven in Fairbury, IL, returning to the community she left over 65 years ago. The Lord had shown her, through continued loss of sight, that He had a place for her there. She has been forever a spiritual uplifter, forever young at heart. We, in Chicago, are still adjusting to losing her; she is still adjusting to the changes of leaving her home of 30 years, her son, Bill, and daughter-in-law, Mary Pat, and grandchildren, Jill and Steven, and longtime church family as well. Please pray for us, as we pray for each other. But as Sis. Esther, we must be continually thankful for what the Lord gave us in the time we communed together from week to week. Sis. Esther's new address is: 206 Circle Drive #4,

Fairbury, IL 61739, phone (815) 692-2581. She enjoys hearing from people.

Also, Bro. Randy and Sis. LaNae Meyer (San Diego, CA), son and daughter-in-law of our Bro. Lenard and Sis. Charlotte, have been held in the Lord's hands as their son, Korey Glen, arrived September 17 and died the 21st. We do not understand very much, but our prayers and love travel to them especially at this time of sorrow. May we always know that the Lord's view of our lives is so much larger than what we can see. "... blessed be the name of the Lord." Job 1:21.

Since I am an alumna of adult orthodontics, I still have retainers. They are an ever-present reminder: what has been changed can change back. I will probably wear them at night for much of the rest of my life. There are spiritual reminders and retainers I need also, so that I do not become careless, so that I am "held in place" -- be it my tongue, my desires, my thoughts or my deeds. May I never be ungrateful nor rebellious about retainers.

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK Karol Stock - Bev Knapp

Seeds of goodness we are sowing
In the hearts of man today.
Bless it, Lord, that it may prosper,
And bear fruit for harvest day.

Hasten gladly to the labor
Consecrate to God your heart
Say this day unto your Saviour,
"Lord, I'll gladly do my part."

Those seeds of goodness have been sown in the hearts of two dear souls and we are beginning to see the fruit of the spirit in their lives. On August 24, we heard the testimonies of Bro. Dale Waldbeser (Bro. John and Sis. Carol) and Sis. Susan Walder (the late Bro. Charles and Sis. Wilma) and witnessed their baptisms the following Sunday. We are thankful those seeds were planted and watered by their parents and by our brotherhood and we praise God for giving the increase.

Ministering brothers who worked in the fields of the Lord in our behalf that weekend were Elder

Bros. Bob Walder (Congerville) and Art Bahler (Fairbury) and Bros. Steve Martin (Eureka), Joe Gerst (Iowa City, IA) and Kenny Dietz (Bradford).

Other brothers who have planted and watered the seed of God's Word for us this month were Elder Bro. Bob Grimm (Goodfield), Bro. Ted Witzig (Morton), Bro. Ron Schamback (Elgin), and Bro. Todd Feller (LaCrosse, IN).

That same message was brought to us through song when the Mortonaires spent Sunday, September 8, with us. It was a blessing to have them worship with us as well.

As we consider the season of our lives, we think of our youth as the fertile soil in springtime who receive the planted Word of God. Then as a plant matures and grows, so do we, as God's children, grow in our spiritual walk of life. As we approach the time of harvest in our later years, we are hopefully bearing the fruit of God's Word in our lives. As nature believes, our older brothers and sisters have so much wisdom and knowledge to share and pass on to our youth. That opportunity was given as our Sunday school children hosted a supper for senior citizens. In turn, the vigor of youth be such as inspiration to us. We enjoy so many blessings in our precious fellowship!

In considering the golden years of life, we rejoice with our Bro. Harry and Sis. Gladys (Baumgartner) Knapp who recently celebrated their fiftieth anniversary August 31.

Likewise, we rejoice with our Bro. Tom Waldbeser (Bro. Fred and Sis. Joan) and Sis. Susan Getz (Bro. Maurice and Sis. Eileen, Remington, IN) who announced their engagement August 25. We pray they can experience God's blessing and nearness as they prepare the soil of their lives for marriage in the Lord.

Even as a bountiful harvest requires sunshine, it also needs rain and cloudy days. So in our lives, we experience some dark and dreary days. These, too, are needed for us to grow spiritually. And although none of us want to endure pain and hardship, it can be a time of drawing closer to our Lord. We trust that this is due for those on our sick list this month. Sis. Elsie Bauer and

Sis. Clara Vogel were medical patients and Sis. Marie Kaufmann had surgery following an accident involving her and her husband, Bro. Bob. We hope and pray these loved ones can feel the warmth of God's love in spite of the clouds of adversity.

As we have been listening to the conference tapes this year, we have also been harvesting our earthly crops. Even though our crops are short this year, they are valuable lessons we can learn from it. Our earthly harvest was poor because of a shortage of rainfall. Spiritually, we, too, can experience a shortage of nourishment if we neglect listening to or heeding the counsel of our dear elder brothers, and the fruits of our labors will be few. However, if we "take in" their advice and let it grow, the harvest can truly be great! Let us "gladly do our part."

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE Myra Steffen - Joanne Roth

August 14 was the wedding of John Dietrich (Bro. Bill and Sis. Sherri) and Ranae Edwards (Gary and Wanda, Goodfield). May the Lord's presence be felt as they make their home together.

Our congregation welcomes two baby girls this past month. Morgan Marie is the new arrival at Mike and Michele Ott's home. Megan is now a "big" sister. Grandparents are Bro. Don and Sis. Carolyn Ott and Curt Morman (Morton) and Annette Morman (Bloomington). Mike and Jenny Merritt are first-time parents of Kelsey Lynn. Grandparents are Bro. Steve and Sis. Gerri Schrock and Frank and Reba Merritt (Eureka).

We were saddened to hear of the death of Albert "Bud" Zimmerman and extend our sympathy to his family.

We also extend our prayers to Sis. Fannie Schieber (Bro. Harvey) and Sis. Julie Schrock (Bro. Steve and Sis. Gerri) who have been hospitalized.

We had many visiting ministers this month and we are thankful for each one who came and brought us God's message of love. Bros. Kenny Knapp (Taylor, MO), James Ramseyer (Bay City, MI) Carroll Gerber

(Bluffton North, IN), Tom Hoffman (Roanoke, IL), Bill Gerst (Alto, MI), Jim Knoblauch (Elgin, IA), Kurt Rassi (Tremont, IL) and Kent Heiner (Taylor, MO).

ILLINOIS, ELGIN Elizabeth Schambach Betty Bachtold

We rejoice and wish God's blessing upon Bro. Brian Anliker and Sis. Peg Banwart who have announced their engagement. Their parents are Bro. Gary and Sis. Edie and Bro. Jerry and Sis. Arlene (Congerville, IL.)

Heartwarming fellowship and rich blessings were our portion this past weekend as our dear friends, Walter Schambach and Jerry and Gail (Weiss) Wonneberg shared their testimonies and were baptized. We were thankful to God for the inspired messages and labors of Elder Bro. Eugene Marti (Kansas City, MO) and Bro. Galen Rocke (Bern, KS). Thank you, Bro. Eugene and Sis. Mary, for the interesting slide presentation of Eastern Europe. Other visiting ministers who were appreciated were Bros. Dan Stoller (Rockville, CT) and Steve Baner (Gridley, IL).

We are encouraged as well as admonished as we listened to the conference tapes being shared to us. May our hearts be open and submissive to a greater faithfulness.

Jeff Dietz (Sara) and Beth Moore (Larry) have surrendered their hearts to God in repentance. We praise God for His great love and mercy unto all making who will heed the invitation.

On August 8, the family of Jim and Mary Krueger happily received a little girl, Lindsey Marie. Eager helpers include Scott, Derek and Heidi, also grandparents, Bro. Gene and Sis. Libbie Moser and Ken and Ora Krueger, all of Elgin.

Miles Kellenberger is delighted to have a little brother, Landon Gerald, born August 27 to Bro. Greg and Sis. Debbie. Grandparents include Elder Bro. Nathan and Sis. Marilyn Steffen and Sis. Marilyn Kellenberger and (the late Bro. Gerald).

Once again God's healing powers were manifested as Rick Welzien

(Sis. Stephany), Sis. Lucile Knupper and Leah (Schmidgall) Kuschmirz each submitted to major surgery recently.

Cindy Schambach and Arvid Miller were recently united in marriage. We wish them God's love and mercy.

Scott and Vicki (Weiss) Samelson, with their son, Bret, have recently relocated in New Jersey. May God bless them and bring them home often to visit us.

Our prayers are with Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen and the brethren traveling with him to Eastern Europe and Russia. May the Lord lead and bless all efforts.

We wish to extend our heartfelt thanks and appreciation for the many deeds of Christian love and kindness, messages of sympathy, beautiful flowers and gifts we have received in the loss of our dear mother, Rosine Gschwind. May God bless you all richly.

Bro. George and Sis. Hilde
Schumacher

ILLINOIS, EUREKA Kathy L. Leman

We were thankful for visiting brethren in the ministry this past month. May God bless Bros. Robert Miller (Portland, OR) and Curt Frank (LaCrosse, IN) for lending themselves in His service.

We remember those who have spent time in the hospital this past month: Sis. Dianne Crawford, Sis. Leona Weyeneth (Bro. Melvin), Janel Cottrell (Sis. Judy and Bill Cottrell), Bro. Virgil Rocke (Sis. Pauline), and Bro. Roy Hangartner (Sis. Norma). Alex Gerber (Bro. Neil and Sis. Leesa) had the misfortune of breaking his leg.

Our hearts were saddened when we learned the passing of Sis. Marie Aeschleman (late Bro. Orie) August 30. She had lived in the Condo apartments and assembled with us often. Our sympathy goes out to her daughters, Sis. Nelma Eastman (Bro. Dick, Eureka), Sis. Carol Metz (Bro. Gene, Forrest) and Mary Jane Meginnes (Brian, Peoria). Services were held at the Roanoke church September 2.

On August 21, Joseph Edward Leman blessed the home of Bro. Ed

and Sis. Ruth Leman. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Earl and Sis. Elsie Zimmerman and Bro. Gerald and Sis. Velma Leman, all of Eureka.

We were thankful to hear two of our converts who have confessed peace. They are Rachel and Darrell Stoller (Bro. Tom and Sis. Edie). We look forward to the time when they can give their testimony of what the Lord has done for them.

We have been privileged to listen to the tapes of the recent brotherhood conference the past few Wednesday evenings. Surely the warnings, admonitions and encouragements are timely and sincerely brought forth by our beloved elder brethren. May we take these teachings to heart.

Our Sis. Debra Blunier had taken a teaching position in Hungary for one year. Her address is: III. Bela Gimnazium, Sagvarie ter 5., 6500 Baja, Hungary.

Inadvertently, the father of Bro. John Cottrell, Bill Cottrell, was omitted when reporting the baptism of Bro. John.

SOMETIMES

When brethren visit us who are older
They forget to share with us
The gift our Lord has given them
Because we failed to ask
But as we get older our minds
Don't always serve us well
So dear brothers please ask
If you may share a prayer with us.
Submitted by a dear older
sister-in-faith

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY Jean Bachtold - Crystal Fehr

HARVEST TIME

The harvest fields are bending with precious ripened grain; More reapers now are needed, Ere Christ come back again. Harvest time! Harvest time!

Paul Rader

Will our fields be white for harvest when Christ comes back again?
Two couples were blessed with

bundles of joy. Bro. Ted and Sis. Sara Steidinger welcome Clem Austin to their family. He was born August 26. McLane, Tyrel and Sharla are happy to have a new little brother. Grandparents are Elder Bro. Art and Sis. Suzanne Bahler and Bro. Don and Sis. Alice Steidinger.

On September 12, Bro. James and Sis. Brenda Fehr were blessed by the birth of Kendall James. Larissa is happy to have a playmate. Grandparents are Bro. Duane and Sis. Arlene Kilgus and Bro. Glenn and Kathryn Fehr.

Six precious souls gave their testimony of their faith and were baptized in Christ's death September 8. We welcome John Fehr (William and Helen), Kara Meiss (Bro. Carlos and Sis. Jane), Ann, Barb, Mike and Karie Stork (John and Eunice) to the fold.

Sis. Kim Ashba (Robert and Cherie Kaisner) and Bro. Todd Kupferschmid (Bro. Dean and Sis. Robin, Forrest) were united in marriage September 15. 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)

Bro. Lyle Huette, resident of Phoenix, AZ for the past 11 years and a former Fairbury resident, passed away into eternity August 21. We extend sympathy to his wife, Sis. Helen, and the family.

The following loved ones have been hospitalized recently: Bros. Herb Fehr, Ben Zehr and Alf Steffen. May the Lord be with each one during this time.

Our congregation has been privileged to listen to the conference tapes and were once again reminded of the importance of the earthly family to be spiritually minded.

We want to thank our visiting ministers who faithfully served us: Elder Bros. Raymond Banwart (Fort Scott, KS), Richard Schupbach (Phoenix, AZ), Ed Lanz (Oakville, IA) and Wayne Anliker (Forrest) and retired Elder Perry Zimmerman (Forrest) and Bros. Gary Maibach (Smithville, OH), Curt Rassi (Tremont), Curt Frank (La-Crosse, IN), and Earl Gerber (For-

rest). May the Lord be their rich rewarder.

Thank you: I want to thank my friends and relatives for all the cards, gifts, and prayers given for me while I was in the hospital and since I've returned home. Every kind deed meant so much to me. May God bless you all.

Sis. Lydia Eisenmann

ILLINOIS, FORREST

Sherry Kelson
Sandra Schneider

"Praise ye the Lord, O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good: for his mercy endureth forever." Psalms 106:1. We are so thankful to the Lord that He has called Dan Schmidgall (Mary) and Hazel Karcher to repentance. We pray that they will find true peace in walking with our Lord.

Wayne "Tip" Cox, 77, passed from this life August 20. Our prayers and sympathy have been with his wife, Sis. Bernice; and daughters, Gloria Ebach and Gail Kafer.

We also sympathize with Bro. Paul and Sis. Loretta Zimmerman in the loss of her father, Bro. Lyle Huette (Phoenix, AZ).

We extend our sincere sympathy to Bro. Gene and Sis. Carol Metz in the loss of her mother, Sis. Marie Aeschleman (Roanoke).

May these dear families find comfort in "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." Psalms 46:1.

Elder Bro. Dave Wiegand (Urbana) and Bro. Bill Hodel (Roanoke) visited our congregation this past month. We thank them for their service to us.

Bro. Dave Schmidgall was hospitalized to have knee replacement surgery. May we all continue to pray for each other to help through trials in life.

Several couples are taking an important step in their lives. August 16 was the wedding day of Tom Schlatter and Barbara Elwood (Champaign). Their parents are Bro. Dan Schlatter and George and Ann Elwood (Hanover, NY).

Marvin Hilti and Alice Rodino (Pontiac) were united in marriage August 31. Sis. Virginia Hilti and

Mr. and Mrs. John Rodino are their parents.

Bro. Todd Kupferschmid and Sis. Kim Ashba (Fairbury) began their lives together September 15. Their parents are Bro. Dean and Sis. Robin Kupferschmid, Ray Sledge (Bloomington), and Robert and Cherie Kaisner (Fairbury).

Looking forward to sharing their lives are Bro. Allen Ricketts and Sis. Alisa Hamilton. Bro. Nick and Sis. Jean Ricketts and Tom and Sis. Earlene Hamilton are their parents.

We support Sis. Jan Bachtold who now has the responsibility of teaching our children in Sunday school. May our prayers encourage her. We also thank Sis. Jean Ricketts who recently has completed her service there. May God richly reward her.

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD
Trish Gerber

A GLIMPSE OF HEAVEN

When I see the woodland flaming
In a brilliant red and gold;
I can only stand and marvel
At the splendor I behold.

Only could the Master Painter
Clothe a tree in such array;
Seems I get a glimpse of heaven
Every sunny autumn day.

Daniel D. Rodes

The angels welcome our new brothers-in-faith to the family of God. They are Shawn Roth (Roy and Sis. Corrine), Kevin Plattner (Bro. Sam and Sis. Pat) and Robert Rokey (Bro. Kenny and Sis. Phyllis).

Thanks to Elder Bro. Aaron Steffen (Alto, MI), Bro. Charles Sinn (Fort Scott, KS), Bro. Niel Widmer (Wolcott, IN) and Bro. Paul Gasser (Akron, OH) for ministering the Word to us.

The Goodfield congregation was blessed with the fellowship and songs of praise as our brothers from surrounding churches and from a distance met together here. The spent the evening of Saturday recording and then sang their songs

for us Sunday evening. It was indeed a spirit-filled weekend.

We grieve with our dear Bro. Ben and Sis. Kris Bauman as they laid to rest their precious little angel, David Michael. We pray for God's constant love and comfort.

Through God's guidance, Sis. Krista Roth (Roy and Sis. Corrine) has been led to Bro. Brian Steffen (Bro. Dave and Sis. Emmy, Gridley, IL). We rejoice with them as they announce their engagement.

Grant Hohulin and his parents, Bro. Matt and Sis. Laurie, welcome Maci Christine into their home. Maci was born August 31 and her grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Lydia Hohulin and Bro. Ken and Sis. Sandy Dill (Tremont).

Our prayers are for God's will and His healing power for Bro. Alfred Kieser, Sis. Norma Bauman and Sis. Vi Hohulin as they each recover from hospital stays.

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY
Perry Klopfenstein

Recently, in one of our Sunday school groups, the topic of "success" was presented. Through earthly eyes the focus on success is centered on fame, status, power and wealth. A spiritual focus defines success in a two-fold way: (1) finding godliness with contentment and (2) being at peace with God and man. No earthly treasure can surpass these two points.

Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago) was our guest at our annual Sunday school teachers' supper September 7. He spoke to our group and gave helpful advice on teaching Sunday school, and expounding our doctrine.

On September 9, Russell and Sherri Kuntz became the parents of Claire Kuntz, their second child. She is the sister of Philip, age three. Grandparents are Bro. Clyde and Sis. Wilma Kuntz (Gridley), and Mr. and Mrs. Clair Vitzthum (Saunemin).

On September 15, Bro. Brian Steffen was engaged to marry Sis. Krista Roth (Goodfield). Parents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Emmy Steffen (Gridley), and Roy and Sis. Corrine Roth (Goodfield).

On September 14, Todd Kiefer (Springfield), son of Bro. Larry and Sis. Barb Kiefer (Gridley) was married to Lana Schultz (Elgin). Her mother is Carol Schultz (Elgin). We wish them many blessings in life's second most important step, and surely hope they will visit our congregation many times in the future.

Sis. Joyce Witzig was announced to be married to Bro. Bernie Ferneau (Chicago). This took place September 8. Bro. Edward and Sis. Dorothy Witzig (Gridley) are her parents. His mother is Lillian Ferneau.

Our recent visiting ministers were Bros. Trent Meiss (Iowa City, IA), Ed Fritz (Washington) and Curt Rassi (Tremont).

Bro. Sam Witzig was hospitalized for surgery, but is now home and doing well.

Sis. Anna Klopfenstein of our congregation, who now resides in the Peoria Home, was hospitalized overnight September 14, following a fall. She is doing well also.

ILLINOIS,
ILLINOIS STATE UNIV.
Sue Heinold

After one month of classes, we have been encouraged in our walk here on campus by Bro. Wayne Banwart (Champaign, IL), Bro. Ed Fritz (Washington, IL), Bro. Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville, IL) and Bro. Vernon Wettstein (Congerville, IL). We have been exhorted to stand fast as we endure temptation and also to discern the teachings that we are exposed to. Our highest calling is to serve God - not man. Our knowledge is useless in heaven unless it is of God and His Word.

Bro. Everett Hari (Bloomington, IL) and Bro. Wes Knapp (Goodfield, IL) are sharing the opportunity to help us with our Thursday evening Bible studies. Bro. Brad Martin is our president for the year so please contact him for any information regarding ISU. Everyone is invited and we enjoy the fellowship that comes when gathering in Jesus' name. Bible studies start at 7:30 in Schroeder Hall, Room 138, each Thursday night.

ILLINOIS, MORTON

**Phyllis Farney
Cheryl Wuthrich**

May God comfort Bro. Clarence Belsley's family as he was laid to rest August 16. He will be missed by his daughter, Mary Holmes; his six grandchildren; his great-grandchild; his sister, Sis. Lorene Maibach; his brothers, Bro. Willis, Bro. Edward, Bro. Robert and Bro. Ben; and his many other relatives and friends.

Our congregation had many reasons to rejoice this month. Cassidy Jeanne was born to Jay and Stacy Tyler August 16. Also welcoming her is her big sister, Samantha, and her grandparents, Gerald and Geneva Sullivan and Robert and Rebecca Tyler. Her great-grandparents are Bro. Richard and Sis. Florence Guthrie (Kiowa, KS) and Betty Sullivan. Monica Lynn, the first child of Bro. Dave and Sis. Sherry Jones, was born September 6. Her grandparents are Bro. Harry and Sis. Helen Schmidgall and Sis. Sherril Jones, all of Morton.

August 25 was "Invite A Guest Day," and we enjoyed the company that worshipped with us. Some of us need a little extra boost to invite loved ones for a visit and this special day provided that incentive. Opportunity for fellowship was enhanced by a church potluck and a singing.

We wish to thank our visiting ministers and their families for being with us this month. They were Bros. Dean Steffen (Belvidere, IL), Gary Endress (Bradford, IL), Ed Fritz (Washington, IL), Ron Heiniger (Bloomington, IL), Greg Rassi (Chicago, IL), Wes Knapp (Goodfield, IL) and Steve Baner (Gridley, IL).

Bro. Art and Sis. Verena (Moser) Heiniger celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with a family dinner hosted by their children, Larry, Jim and Bro. Ron. They wish to thank all who remembered them with cards and gifts of love.

Sis. Gladys Warner wishes to thank everyone who remembered her on her 80th birthday with cards and gifts. May God bless all who showed their love.

We cannot find words to express our appreciation to all our dear

friends for the cards, gifts, flowers and money given to us for our 60th wedding anniversary. Especially a big thank you to our children and family and everyone who had a part in making it such a blessed occasion.

Your least brother and
sister-in-faith,
Eli and Bertie Leman

ILLINOIS, PEORIA

Jim David

God blessed the home of Steve and Susan Hoerr with a son, Louis Walter, July 31. Louis was welcomed into the family by older sister, Kristin, and by grandparents, Louis and Ida Stoecker (Chillicothe, IL) and Bro. Max and Sis. Katherine Hoerr (Peoria).

On August 18, Bro. Doug and Sis. Cindy Streitmatter became new parents with the birth of their daughter, Rachel Nicole. Rachel's grandparents are Bro. Alfred and Sis. Virginia Streitmatter (Princeville, IL) and Bro. Ken and Sis. Edith Plattner (Peoria).

Tanner Robert was born to Kim Bowen August 19. Tanner's grandparents are Sis. Barb Schafer and Terry Bowen (both of Peoria).

Bro. Dean and Sis. Andrea Hoerr also became first-time parents when God blessed them with a baby girl, Emily Jane, August 26. Emily's grandparents are Bro. Irvin and Sis. Sharon Hodel, and Bro. David and Sis. Harriet Hoerr (all of Peoria).

We appreciated the visits of two ministering brothers this past month: Bro. Floyd Schmidgall (Morris, MN) and Bro. Marvin Leman (Bradford, IL).

Recent hospital patients have been Bro. Bud Fehr, Anna Traub, Sis. Dorothy Hohulin, Sis. Ruth Hartman, Sis. Caroline Schmidgall and Pauline Hermann. We pray that they will all experience God's healing power.

"Let us not be weary in well-doing."

Galatians 6:9

Have you ever considered how many opportunities we have to do good? Nearly every day we come in

contact with people from all walks of life, particularly when we are in the workplace or out among the world. Let us take full advantage of every opportunity to show others that we are children of God and followers of Jesus Christ. We may never realize the impact we have on the lives of other people, but we can be certain that our daily acts of kindness will not go unnoticed. It has been said that the example we set might be the only Bible some people ever read. Our Lord Jesus Christ expressed a similar thought when He said, "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." (Matthew 5:16).

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE

Martha Jane Siebenthal

Our visiting ministers this month were Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott, IN), Charles Hemmer (Peoria), Bros. John Grimm (Columbus, OH), Wallace Ramsier (Mansfield, OH), Robert Meyer (Bluffton, IN), Bruce Leman (Roanoke) and Rick Plattner (Peoria). May God bless them for their labor of love.

We are thankful two more souls have answered the call to repentance, Debbie Stahl (Bro. Lyle and Sis. Betty) and Ema Jean Streitmatter (Bro. Don and Sis. Mary Lou). May God grant them wisdom and understanding to build on a firm foundation.

September 1 was the wedding day chosen by Sis. Lynne Pflederer and Bro. Brent Teubel (Washington). Parents are Bro. Duane and Sis. Doreen Elsasser and Bro. Dave and Sis. Pauline Teubel (Lester, IA). September 15 was the chosen day for Bro. Michael Martin and Sis. Julie Gehrig. Parents are Sis. Janet Martin and the late Bro. Elmer and Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Donna Gehrig. We wish them God's blessing as they begin their new life together along with the children, Neil and Eric Pflederer and Bo Martin.

On August 25, Bro. Wayne Streitmatter and Sis. Deyona Massner were united in holy matrimony at Burlington, IA. Parents are Bro.

Floren and Sis. Twyla Streitmatter and Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Edith Massner. May God bless them with much joy and happiness as they start their married life together.

Bro. Alfred and Sis. Virginia Streitmatter are blessed with a new granddaughter, Rachel Nicole, born to Bro. Douglas and Sis. Cindy Streitmatter (Peoria). Also, blessed with a new granddaughter are Bro. Leonard and Sis. Marie Menold born to their daughter, Sis. Karen and Bro. Bill Schrock (Oakville, IA). May God bless these family circles.

Hospitalized this month were Sis. Ruth Ricketts (surgery) and Bro. Harry Herrmann (broken leg). We are very grateful for the dear Lord's healing power and sparing more serious injury for Bro. Harry as he fell 15 feet inside a grain bin. We think of Bro. Nick Knobloch as he is receiving treatments in Arizona. May God grant His healing powers to all of our sick and grant a good recovery.

Our sincere sympathy to Sis. Emily Stoller (Bro. Joe), Sis. Natalie Feucht (Bro. Reuben), Sis. Mary Ellen Menold, Bro. Leonard (Sis. Marie) and Sis. Martha Stoller (Bro. Nate, Bradford) in the loss of their brother, Jacob Menold. May they feel His presence in their sorrow.

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

Cathy Hohulin - Annie Hoffman

As Sunday school has started again, we are reminded of the importance of teaching our youth about the Lord and all He has done for us. May God grant a special blessing to all the teachers and the students as they learn together of His wondrous ways.

Once again God has reached down and touched the life of a dear soul. We rejoice with the angels that Janice Braker (Kevin) has turned to the Lord in repentance. May God grant her the grace to live a close walk with Him.

Our congregation was saddened with the sudden passing of our Sis. Marie Aeschleman. She was always such an example to us in her walk with God. We extend our sympathy to her children, Sis. Carol Metz (Forrest), Sis. Nelma Eastman

(Eureka) and Mary Jane Meginnnes (Peoria).

We pray that God will be near to the family of Dave Sauder who passed away at our Home in Roanoke, We extend our sympathy to his wife, Elsie; and their children, David Lee (Cocoa Beach, FL), Jim and Doris ("Bubs") both of Roanoke, and Sally Kuebler (Eureka).

Andy and Kim Luginbuhl welcome their first child into their home. Sara Elizabeth was born August 23. Grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Jean Luginbuhl and John and Cheryl Weber, all of Roanoke.

We rejoice in the engagement announcement of our Sis. Marilyn Weyeneth and Bro. Earl Roth of the Phoenix, AR, congregation. May God bless them as they together serve Him.

We pray that God will bless and fill the void that is left in the passing of Rachel Studer. We extend our sympathy to her husband, Verle; and children, Jamie Sauder (Skip) and Rick, both from Roanoke.

Jeff Sauder and Jodie Young were married September 14. Their parents are Bro. Jerry and Sis. Ann Sauder and Duane and Vermedea Friedenger (Congerville). We wish them God's blessings in their new life together.

We were thankful to have Bro. Will Schieler as a visiting minister this month. May God bless him and his family for worshiping and sharing His Word with us.

ILLINOIS, TREMONT

Carolyn Bolliger - Marsha Koch

Our thanks goes to Bros. Jay Luthi (Lamont, KS) and John Steiner (Oakville, IA) for coming and sharing God's Word with us.

Sympathy goes to Sis. Betty (Bro. Les) Schweigert on the passing of her brother, Bro. Lyle Huette (Phoenix, AZ). Also Sis. Marie Aeschleman (Eureka) passed away and our sympathy goes to Sis. Jill (Bro. Doug) Huette.

Bro. Dave and Sis. Ann Dill welcomed little Bethany Ann into their family August 26. Also welcoming her home were brother, Brent, and sister, Kimberly. Grandparents are Bro. Glenn and Sis.

Marilyn Dill and Bro. Bill and Sis. Marilyn Huette. Bro. Jess and Sis. Amy Koch have a new grandson. Their daughter and son-in-law, Connie and Marty Kiesewetter (Grenoble, France), are the proud parents.

Bro. Marvin (Bro. Robert and Sis. Dorothy) Wagenbach and Sis. Paula (Bro. Elmon and Sis. Janice) Koch were united in marriage September 8. May God's richest blessings be with them in their new lives together.

Our hospital patients this month were Les Staker, Jerry Hangarter, Iris Gschwind and little Mary Koch (Bro. Stan and Sis. Jennifer). We pray for each one that God's healing hand will be upon them. Also, Bro. Dave Beutel was in a farming accident and is hospitalized. Our prayers are with him as he recuperates.

Sis. Elizabeth Moser would like to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, gifts and visits during her illness.

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

Jon Sigafus - Rita Menold

As we journey through life, we often encounter circumstances or experiences that challenge our commitment to Christ. A story was once told about an elderly couple who attended a Bible conference several years ago. Their children were raised and the sunset years of their lives were upon them. Though never really making a commitment to Christ, they both professed to be Christians. "Looking Unto Jesus" was the theme of the conference. During the conference each one decided to have a whole-hearted faith in Christ as their Savior, to fully follow the Lord, no matter what. Before starting their drive home they prayed "Lord, you now have first place in our lives. For too long we've lived for ourselves - whatever is left of our lives here on earth will be spent for You. The rest of our days are in your hands no matter what!"

Later that evening while on their way home, a car swerved over into their side of the road, coming right at them. Jerking the steering wheel to the right, slamming on the brakes, they skidded down into a ditch,

coming to a stop at the bottom of the ravine. With water pouring into the car, the couple each pulled themselves out of the windows of the car. As water passed under them they stood on top of their car. They embraced, stunned, but so grateful to be alive that they began to sing "Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts, Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost."

When they stopped singing they looked up at the edge of the ravine, where a crowd had gathered, staring at them in disbelief. Everyone was speechless. Seized with the realization that even this situation could be used to the glory of God, the husband said with a trembling voice and a twinkle in his eye, "You might have wondered why we called this meeting here today . . ." proceeding to tell the crowd about their faith to "Look Unto Jesus". No complaining, no succumbing to fear, just an open testimony of their faith in the Lord their Saviour.

If we put Jesus Christ first, we can view life as a challenge, not a threat. We can follow Him fully. Are we willing to start today?

INDIANA, BLUFFTON
Jill Frauhiger - Gwen Kipfer

"If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it."

Luke 9:23-24

We're thankful for our two new converts, Brandy Girod and Tammy Leyse. It's such a blessing to see souls turn their hearts over to the Lord. We continue to pray for many more.

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

Luke 10:2

A special thanks goes to visiting

ministers, Elder Bro. Ed Ringger (Gridley), Elder Bro. Robert Beyer (Naumburg, NY), Bro. Harold Schmidgall (Gridley) and Bro. Marvin Leman (Bradford, IL). We're grateful they are willing to be used as labourers for Christ.

We rejoice with Bro. Lonnie Grube (Paul and Jane) and Sis. Vicki Baumgartner (Bro. Ralph and Sis. Jeannie) as they were united in marriage September 8. God bless you as you serve Him together as one. We also share in the excitement of the wedding of Trent Reimschisel (Bro. Richard and Sis. Elaine) and Teresa Knecht (Charles and Bev) September 14.

Bro. Jay and Sis. Deb Gerber welcome a new little girl, Katelyn, into their hearts and home. Katelyn is nine months old and she was born in Columbia, South America. She joins Emmy, Bryan, Brant and Bruce at home. Grandparents are Bro. Alvin and Sis. Helen Gerber and Tom and Maxine Freiburger. We thank the Lord for the gift of love that this family has shown to Katelyn, as well as the love she will return to them. Bro. Jon and Sis. Trudi Eisenmann are first-time parents to a girl, Danielle Marie, born August 21. Proud grandparents are Bro. Ray and Sis. Lorena Steffen, Roger and Linda Eisenmann and Arlen and Jeannie Gerber. We're happy for grandparents, Bro. Tom and Sis. Rose Frauhiger, on the birth of their grandson, Spencer Thomas. Spencer has a brother, Justin, at home. Parents are Rob and Deb Moon.

We extend our sympathy to the family of Bro. Ezra Kaehr who passed away September 19, at the age of 78. Bro. Ezra is survived by a brother, Bro. Ted Kaehr; four sisters, Sis. Mabel Kipfer, Sis. Frances Kaehr, Sis. Aldine Moser, and Sis. Lillian Bertsch (Bro. Laurin); and his children, Bro. Richard Kaehr (Sis. Karen), Sis. Carol Meyer (Bro. Vernon), Jeannie Gerber (Arlen), Sis. MaryJo Troxel (Bro. Bob), Sis. Joy Bertsch (Alan) and Sis. Sharon Imel (Bro. Dave).

Those hospitalized this month include: Bro. Harry Aschliman, Bro. Harold Geisel (Sis. Ellen), Sis. Emma Baumgartner, Sis. Nellie Bertsch, Sis. Beulah Clark (Bro. Richard),

Herman Fiechter (Sis. Phyllis) and Sis. Dorothy Frank (Bro. John). Let's remember them in our prayers, that their health might be returned to them.

We would like to remind you that collections for the Silver Lining in Bluffton will be the first two Sundays in November. The subscription rate is \$9.00 for one year.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON NORTH
Terri Mueller - Lora Kieser

If we with all our heart and soul
 Devoutly love the Lord,
 We'll talk of Him to those we love
 And tell them of His Word.

Sper

We were thankful to have visiting ministers Bro. Marvin Leman (Bradford, IL), Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville) and Bro. Ron Kipfer (Bluffton) share the Word with us. May God richly bless them for their labors.

Out of the depths to the glory above,
 I have been lifted in wonderful
 love;
 From every fetter my spirit is free
 For Jesus has lifted me!

Christiansen

Four souls were added to the fold following their testimony and baptism. They are Bro. Craig Stettner (Elder Bro. Phil Stettner and Sis. Maureen), Bro. Trout Moser (Bro. Gene and Sis. Edna), Sis. Jenifer Culp (Bro. Mick and Sis. Colleen) and Sis. Melanie Craighead (Bro. Mike and Sis. Kaye).

Our Sis. Velma Faulkerson is rejoicing as her daughter, Sis. Kay Rauhe and her husband, Bro. Warren Rauhe have been added to the family of God in the Detroit, MI, congregation. May God richly bless them all.

Our children are a precious gift,
 Each one unique and rare;
 The playful times we spend with
 them

Express our love and care.

Sper

Kinsey Marie, born August 30,

is the precious daughter entrusted to Bro. Dan and Sis. Jacki Kershner. Kinsey was welcomed by Kyan, Kellan, Kelby and Klayton.

We congratulate grandparents, Bro. Bob and Sis. Betty Steffen, as they have a new grandson, Grant, born to Randy and Diane Steffen.

Congratulations also to Rob and Sis. Tonya Troxel as they have been blessed with a beautiful daughter, Adriene Elizabeth. Big sister, Sheena, and grandparents, Bro. Bob and Sis. Mary Jo Troxel, were excited with her arrival.

O to be ready when death shall
come!

O to be ready to hasten home
And sweetly, gently, to pass away
From earth's dim twilight into day.
Anonymous

After a lengthy fight with cancer, dear Bro. Ezra Kaehr, 78, was taken home September 19 to be with the Lord. Daughters in our congregation, Sis. Mary Jo Troxel (Bro. Bob) and Sis. Carol Meyer (Bro. Vernon) along with many other family members will greatly miss him. We know though, that he is in heaven and his pain is ended.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Bro. Alvin Honegger as he has spent time in the hospital this past month.

We also have Elder Bro. Phil Stettner in mind as he has traveled to Europe and Russia for meetings. We heard Sunday that there was "much weeping" at these gatherings. How wonderful that people of so many different languages and nationalities can still come together to praise and discuss the same God and Lord!

INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE Bev Huber

We rejoice with Dale and Deborah Cook, as they welcome a baby girl, Chelsea Marie born August 23. Grandparents are Vern and Bonnie Jones (Logansport) and Herb and Sis. Suzanne Cook. Bro. Chris and Sis. Carla Wuethrich also welcome, Landon Christian, born August 28. Grandparents are Bro. Chris Lee and Sis. Ruth Wuethrich and Bro. Carl and Sis. Yvonne Gutwein.

Bro. Emil Pelsy went home to be with the Lord August 26. Our prayers and thoughts are with his children, Bro. Ellsworth and Sis. Luella Pelsy (Francesville), and Sis. Dorothy Martin (Roanoke, IL).

Sally Wuethrich was announced to have peace and is looking forward to baptism in the near future. We wish her God's richest blessings.

Jill Getz (daughter of Bro. Keith and Sis. Doris) was united in marriage to Joseph Kozeluh (Cicero, IL), August 31. We wish them many blessings in their life together.

We will sure miss two dear couples who have moved from our congregation to new areas of employment. Bro. Tim and Sis. Verene Sutton and their family will be attending the Taylor, MO, church. Joe and Sis. Kathy Lee and their children will be fellowshipping with the Indianapolis congregation.

Sis. Doreen Gudeman has accepted employment in the Lansing, MI, area and will be attending the Detroit church. We trust she will visit us often.

We enjoyed Elder Bro. Akito Inoue (Tokyo, Japan) and Bro. Dan Stoller (Remington, IN) sharing the Word of Life with us.

INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS Miriam Gudeman

"O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? . . . But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

I Corinthians 15: 55, 57

We were sorry to hear about the loss of our Sis. Edye Meyer's sister and our Sis. Sandy Lichtle's grandfather this past month. Our thoughts and prayers go out to them and their families. May God comfort them with loving memories.

We want to welcome into our congregation two new families who have come to join us as their homes now reside in southern Indiana. Joe and Sis. Kathy Lee and family are now living in Linton, and Bro. Bob and Sis. Marsha Steffen and family are living in Bloomington. This means that it is a long drive for

them on Sunday mornings, but they are so faithful and we are always so glad to see them.

Our Sunday school picnic was held September 15 at church. Fun and fellowship were enjoyed by all. We're glad that Bro. Dave and Sis. Arlene Metzger and family came to join us. We always enjoy having family and friends share with us.

Bob Stewart, a missionary from Haiti, shared an evening with us September 19 at the home of Bro. Ardie and Sis. Leann Bucher. May God be with them as we continue to give them our help and support.

Our visiting ministers this past month were Bro. Nile Bucher (Bluffton North), Bro. Dwight Stoller (Latty, OH) and Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott). May God continue to bless their untiring devotion to His work.

INDIANA, LACROSSE Barb Troxel

"Safe in the arms of Jesus,
Safe on His gentle breast,
There by His love o'er shaded,
Sweetly my soul shall rest."

Fanny Crosby

Bro. Virgil Heinold can sing this beautiful hymn. He went to meet his Maker August 24. We want to express our heartfelt sympathy to his wife, Sis. Ruth; and his children, Sis. Sherry Fritz (Minneapolis, MN), Jim (LaPorte, IN), Jill Plattner (Portland, OR) and Bro. Vic (Valparaiso, IN) and their families. He will be greatly missed in our congregation.

". . . In this world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world."

John 16:33

Our prayers are with Sis. Lena Hitz who had been hospitalized this past month. We pray she can return home soon.

INDIANA, LEO Thelma Schlatter

What to bring to church:
Bring a holy reverence for both
God and His house.

Bring an unselfish spirit and love for your fellowman.

Bring your tithes and gifts for His work.

Bring a friendly smile and a hearty handshake for friends and strangers.

Bring a prayerful heart and a mind open to the Word of God.

Bring a willingness to join in the worship service by singing from your heart.

Bring an unsaved friend and pray for him.

Bring a willingness to serve the Lord in the church.

(copied in part)

We welcome newcomers into our church family. Bro. Bill and Sis. Jan Baumgartner and family (Bluffton), Sis. Jan Stoecker (Oakville, IA) and Sis. Denise Duckworth (Bloomington, IL) have recently responded to the Lord's call to serve in the worthy work at Gateway Woods.

Sis. Susan Getz will be missed as she leaves her work at Gateway Woods to become the bride of Bro. Tom Waldbeser (Chicago, IL). Their parents are Bro. Maurice and Sis. Eileen Getz (Remington) and Bro. Fred and Sis. Joan Waldbeser (Cissna Park, IL).

Bro. Bill and Sis. Joan Schick and sons are also missed in our fellowship since they returned to Illinois after serving as interim houseparents.

Bro. John Stoller was named a minister in our Leo church. The announcement of his being chosen was made September 15 in response to the Lord's leading and prayerful support of the congregation. May the Lord bless him and his wife, Patsy, and family with a fruitful ministry.

An evening slide presentation on World Relief work was both enlightening and challenging.

Visiting minister, Bro. Ron Bollier (Indianapolis) delivered the message on a recent Sunday. Ron was born and raised in the area and is always welcome back home.

Elder Bro. David and Sis. Marie Bertsch observed their golden wedding anniversary September 1. They were married August 9, 1941. Many came to offer congratulations and

good wishes at a reception-dinner given by their children and grandchildren at Fellowship Center.

"He's sheltered you from the beginning

And led you all the way ---
Keeping you close together,
Blessing you day by day."

On October 8, Sis. Anna Steiner will observe birthday number 102. She was born October 8, 1889, the eldest daughter of the late Bro. Elias and Sis. Emma (Lindegger) Steiner on a farm in Cedarville. She had six sisters, three brothers, and two half brothers. Of this family, Anna and three sisters survive. She was converted and baptized in her teens, and said, "It was time!" She continued, "I felt so free and happy to be living for the Lord."

She spent much of her life helping others. She cared for about thirty new mothers and their infants besides caring for many little children. Little folks loved to go to the Steiner home.

During the later years, she suffered a couple broken bones. She thanks the Lord for good healing. She hears and see quite well, and is able to be up and move about the house. She appreciates this and says, "The Lord be praised."

Anna and two sisters live in their comfortable duplex in our Cedar Creek Retirement Complex. Anna says, "The good Lord knows us all. He will take care of us. He promised never to leave nor forsake us." What a beautiful testimony!

Bits of This and That:

"I shall pass through this world but once, If, therefore, there be any kindness I can show, or any good thing I can do, let me do it now; let me not defer it or neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again."

Grellet

Spiritual growth can be compared to riding a bicycle in that if you stop, you fall over. There's a measure of safety in momentum.

Be gentle. Feelings are everywhere.

Self pity lets many joys slip away.

INDIANA, MILFORD

Paula Haab - Gwen Steffen

September of 1991 marked a special milestone in the lives of two couples very dear to all of us. Our retired minister, Bro. Elmer Hartter and his wife, Sis. Flossie, celebrated 60 years of married life. How grateful we are for the beautiful example they have been to us over the years. Bro. Gwen and Sis. Kathryn Price celebrated their golden anniversary with an open house for their family and friends. Sharing this special day with Bro. Glenn and Sis. Kate was their son, ministering Bro. Glenn, Jr., and his family from Sarasota, FL.

We always appreciate visiting ministers who come willing to share God's Word with us. Along with Bro. Glenn, Jr., we were privileged to have Bro. Steve Ringger (Bluffton North).

The Lord has blessed our Milford congregation with the addition of a new family. We welcome John and Jan Schieler and girls, and hope they feel our love.

On September 4, God blessed the home of Dan and Heather Gutwein (Indianapolis) with a precious baby boy. Little Garrett Michael has already nestled into the hearts of his grandparents, Bro. Phil and Sis. Millie Beer.

Hospitalized and requiring surgery this month was Jim Price (son of Bro. Tom and Becky). Once again we have seen the gracious healing touch of the Master.

We always have a special concern for those leaving for college for the first time. Our prayers go with Matt Haab (son of Bro. Alf and Sis. Carol) and Lisa Mirel (daughter of Russ and Sis. Pat) that God will shield them from dangers they may face in the college environment.

I said a prayer for you today,
And know God must have heard -
I felt the answer in my heart
Although He spoke no word!
I didn't ask for wealth or fame
(I know you wouldn't mind) -
I asked Him to send treasures
Of a far more lasting kind!
I asked that He'd be near you
At the start of each new day -
To grant you health and blessing
And friends to share your way!

I asked for happiness for you
In all things great and small
But it was for His loving care
I prayed the most of all!

We would like to thank all our dear brothers, sisters and friends that remembered us on our 50th wedding anniversary with so many beautiful cards and acts of kindness. God's richest blessings to each one of you.

In Christian love,
Bro. Glenn and Sis. Kathryn Price

INDIANA, REMINGTON
Amelia Schini

"The Lord taketh pleasure in them that fear Him, in those that hope in His mercy."

Psalm 147:11

Wouldn't we be a very unhappy people if we couldn't hope (trust) in God's mercy?

On the forenoon of August 18, we were pleased to have Elder Bro. Sam Huber (Sabetha, KS), minister to us. He spent the afternoon at the wedding at Wolcott.

The weekend of August 24 and 25 was a real banner weekend for us at Remington. Our Bible class had invited the Bible classes from Roanoke and Gridley, IL. The Wolcott Bible class assisted in hosting all these young people. All together there were some 80 teenagers in church that Sunday morning. In the afternoon the young people went to the fellowship hall for their Sunday school classes. Later they had activities until time to eat pizza and other foods. All seemed to have enjoyed themselves.

It is so good to host these young people. Sorry they don't realize how much we would like to take them in our arms and lead them to God and salvation! But let's continue to "pray without ceasing" for them.

That same Sunday, August 18, we were happy to have Bro. Willard Schieler (Milford, IN) and Bro. Dale Stoller (Fairbury, IL) minister to us. We were pleasantly surprised when the engagement of our Sis. Susan Getz to Bro. Tom Waldbeser was announced. Susan is the daughter of Bro. Maurice and Sis. Eileen.

She has been giving herself to the Children's Home in Leo the past 2-3 years. Bro. Tom is the son of Bro. Fred and Sis. Joan (Cissna Park, IL). He has been living and working in Chicago.

On September 1, we were blessed with the visit of three ministers. Bro. Neil Ramsier (Bay City, MI), Bro. Gary Maibach (Smithville, OH) and Bro. Don Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN). Their wives and family members accompanied them.

We thank all our visiting ministers and others who were with us this past month. May God bless and reward each one.

Thought for the day: The milk of human kindness never curdles.

INDIANA, SOUTH BEND
Renee Mangold

This month we at South Bend are listening to the conference tapes. In what we have heard so far, there have been many pearls of wisdom and advice given to us. This comment struck me as being so simple and yet sound advice, paraphrased, "When in doubt, don't. Wait." What happens when we wait? We get strong.

Isaiah 41:31, "But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength."

In the hustle and bustle of this world, it's so important that we remember that we need to "Be still, and know that I am God." "Meditate within your heart on your bed, and be still." Psalm 4:4.

Accepting new Sunday school positions for the new year are Bro. Rich Gramm and Sis. Mary Lehman.

Mourning the passing of her aunt, Sis. Marie Aeschleman (Roanoke, IL), are Sis. Carolyn and Bro. Tom Frank. Our prayers for comfort in their time of grief are with them.

We were fortunate to have with us this month visiting Bro. Walt Rager (Toledo, OH) and his family.

It was an uplifting time of fellowship at Bro. Tom and Sis. Carolyn Frank's. We met and shared a meal and watched a slide presentation by Bro. Owen and Sis. Judy, children of Bro. Don and Sis. Mary Gudeman (LaCrosse). The slides represented their trip to Europe

and, most interestingly, of our churches and sister churches there.

Many thanks to the Alto, MI. congregation for inviting our junior high and high school Sunday school for a weekend visit. The children had a wonderful time. The friendships they are making will be with them for a lifetime.

INDIANA, VALPARAISO
Cindy Susdorf - Marie Heinold

How shall it be when we at last
returning
From weary wand'rings and from
toil and strife,
Shall reach the home for which our
heart is yearning
And enter into everlasting life?
When from our feet the dust of
earth has vanished,
The last sweat from our brow is
wiped away,
Our eyes behold what oft earth's
care has banished
And gave to us new courage on our
way.

Zion's Harp #146

How shall it be for you and for me? This was our closing thought as our home brothers concluded Sunday. Now it is up to us to open our hearts. We thank our home brothers for their labors of love: Bro. Mike Thomas, Bro. Garry Bucher and Bro. Andy Moser.

We were privileged to have our Sunday school picnic and start a new year with our teachers. Bible class: Bro. Mike Heinold, superintendent and Bro. Lyle Zeltwanger, assistant superintendent. Jr. Bible class: Bro. Jeff Miller and Bro. Ken Susdorf. Middlers: Sis. Trish Bucher and Sis. Julie Bucher. Primary: Sis. Marsha Weiss and Sis. Kelly Thomas. Beginners: Sis. Dawn Ailes and Sis. Bev Miller. We thank each one whose term is up for labors of love.

Tom and Sis. Cheryl Bucher have been blessed with a little bundle of joy, Graham Madison. Reid and Brittany welcome their new brother home. Bro. Merle and Sis. Leona Bucher and Sis. Tillie Nussbaum (Bloomington, IL) are the happy grandparents.

We pray that God will watch

over Sis. Sheryl Bucher (Bro. Garry and Sis. Lois) as she has taken a teaching job in Francesville. Also Sis. Stacy Miller (Bro. Terry and Sis. Bev) has moved to Rockford, IL, and will be attending Belvidere church.

We extend our love and sympathy to Bro. Vic and Sis. Sheryl Heinold and family in the loss of his father, Bro. Virgil Heinold (La-Crosse, IN).

Bro. Vic and Sis. Sheryl would like to thank each one for their prayers, cards, flowers, meals, visits, phone calls, etc. during Bro. Virgil's illness and passing.

**INDIANA, WEST LAFAYETTE
PURDUE UNIVERSITY
Tracey Putt**

"So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God."

Romans 10:17

Our year at Purdue has begun again, and it is so nice to have our young group back together. On August 22, we were blessed by the Word from Bro. Edwin Bahler (Remington, IN). We were so thankful to have him and his wife, Sis. Lois, with us once again. On August 29, Bro. Ron Kipfer (Bluffton North, IN) came to share the Word with us. His message was one that we all need to remember, especially as students, in our daily lives:

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

Matthew 6:33

On September 2, the Purdue Young Group, along with families and friends in the surrounding area, had the annual Labor Day picnic at Happy Hollow Park. Approximately 30 attended, and we enjoyed food and fellowship.

The Purdue and Francesville Young Groups hosted six other young groups from Illinois and Indiana on the weekend of September 7 and 8. We enjoyed such an uplifting weekend praising the Lord with "psalms and hymns and spiri-

tual songs." (Ephesians 5:19). Bro. Steve Gutwein (Francesville, IN) blessed us all with a message Saturday night, and then on Sunday we were thankful for the opportunity of singing at Parkview Haven Retirement Home. Thanks to all who made the weekend such a blessing!

**IOWA, BURLINGTON
Carolyn Wulf**

We enjoyed a blessed day when Sis. Deyona Massner and Bro. Wayne Streitmatter were united in holy matrimony August 25. They are the children of Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Edith Massner and Bro. Floran and Sis. Twila Streitmatter (Princeville, IL). We will certainly miss Sis. Deyona Massner in our congregation but pray that she will be a blessing to Princeville. May God direct their lives each day as they are now one in Christ.

We especially want to thank Elder Bro. Joe Stoller (Princeville, IL) and Bros. Lawrence Luthi and Bob Stoller (Lamar, MO) for spending the day with us and letting God use them on our behalf. They brought us many good teachings from the Bible. May God bless them and their families for making the effort to be with us. Elder Bro. Ed Lanz was also there and we want to thank our dear elders for their many hours spent in caring for the flocks.

We wish Mark Eisenmann and Jamy Martin many blessings and happiness in their engagement and upcoming wedding. They are the children of Bro. Paul and Sis. Elaine Eisenmann and Leo and Connie Martin (Burlington). Their wedding date is September 28.

**IOWA, ELGIN
Gloria Frieden**

I recently read a story about a little boy who felt he should be paid for each task he was asked to do so he made out this bill and handed it to his mother.

For running errands 50 cents
For making up my bed 10 cents
For picking up my clothes 10 cents

For helping with the dishes 15 cents
For taking out the trash 15 cents
Total \$1.00

His mother read the bill and then turned the paper over and wrote . . .

For giving you birth No charge
For fixing your meals No charge
For washing your clothes No charge
For a home filled with love No charge
For taking care of you when you're sick No charge.

I will continue to care for you and guide you to the best of my ability at No charge because you are my boy and I love you.

Upon reading his mother's note, the little boy with tears in his eyes, wrote at the end of his bill -- Paid in Full!

We've been blessed with two visiting ministers since the last writing, Bro. Andy Virkler (Croghan-Naumburg, NY) and Bro. Wayne Grimm (West Bend, IA). May the seeds they sew bring forth much fruit, and may they be richly blessed as they lend themselves in God's service.

The past few Wednesday nights we've been listening to the conference tapes and each evening we were given much food for thought. May we each do our part, whether old or young, single or married, to be a Christian example and faithful witness. We all have good days and bad days and truly need each other.

**IOWA, GARDEN GROVE
Dawn Moser**

The summer turned out to be a busy one for all of us here. Bro. Phil and Sis. Jan Webber and daughter, Hannali, spent a month in Europe. We are thankful they are safely home and worshipping with us again. We look forward to hearing their reports of all that occurred there while they were visiting, especially the news concerning our churches.

In June, Bro. Tom Moser and Sis. Jan Webber had emergency surgeries. We are grateful for modern medicine and the wonders of it.

Our Junior High Bible class spent the weekend of September 8 in Wichita, KS, with the Kansas Youth Fellowship. They all seemed to enjoy their time with the other students. Our thanks to the Wichita congregation for hosting this weekend.

We do not want to neglect saying thank you to all the visitors we have had over the summer months. Many of you included us on your vacation schedules, or just decided to join us for Sunday worship services. We hope each one of you felt our appreciation for your presence. It is very encouraging to us to know that many of you support us and are praying for us.

Heartfelt thanks to our many visiting ministers: Bros. Kenny Knapp (Taylor, MO), Dale Frank (Oakville, IA), Gary Endress (Bradford, IL), Jim Plattner (Princeville, IL), Russell Weuthrich (Pulaski, IA), Doug Schock (Pulaski, IA), Paul Eisenmann (Burlington, IA), Galen Rokey (Bern, KS) and Elder Bros. Leo Moser (Lester, IA) and Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO). It is obvious they give of their time in the travels they make to minister to us. We have been richly nourished from God's Word because of them.

Over Labor Day weekend, the Funk family hosted a family reunion for the children of the late Bro. Phil and Sis. Bertha Moser. That same weekend Bro. Tom and I went to the Champaign-Urbana College reunion. We realize that it is because of Jesus and the love he had for us in dying for our sins and then His calling to each of us that we were even able to have these reunions. It is the love of God that binds us together and keeps us close even though many miles separate us.

IOWA, IOWA CITY

Janette Schulz

Greetings to all! Each of us are thankful for all of our visitors this month. We appreciate your traveling to assemble with us.

Our prayers have been with Bro. Robert Frank as he has undergone heart bypass surgery. May we continue to remember him in prayer as he recovers in the homes of his children, including Bro. Brad and Sis.

Joyce Eland and Bro. Bruce and Sis. Bonita Frank, from our congregation.

Heal Thou me in my illness; heal
Thou me!

When in times of sore affliction
Sent Thy love and pure affection
To my poor and wounded heart:
Heal Thou ev'ry painful smart.

Zion's Harp #152, vs. 6

We were thankful that Bro. Bob was able to assemble with us on Sunday. In speaking with him, he told me the times of most spiritual growth were times of suffering. The author also reflected this thought in "Streams in the Desert", October 1.

"It is good for me that I have
been afflicted."

Psalms 119:71

It is a remarkable circumstance that the most brilliant colors of plants are to be seen on the highest mountains, in spots that are most exposed to the wildest weather. The brightest lichens and mosses, the loveliest gems of wild flowers, abound far up on the bleak, storm-scalped peak.

One of the richest displays of organic coloring I ever beheld was near the summit of Mount Chenebetz, a hill about 10,000 feet high, immediately above the great St. Bernard Hospice. The whole face of an extensive rock was covered with a most vivid yellow lichen which shone in the sunshine like the golden battlement of an enchanted castle.

There, in that lofty region, amid the most frowning desolation, exposed to the fiercest tempest of the sky, this lichen exhibited a glory of color such as it never showed in the sheltered valley. I have two specimens of the same lichen before me while I write these lines, one from the great St. Bernard, and the other from the wall of a Scottish castle, deeply embossed among sycamore trees; and the difference in point of form and coloring between them is most striking.

The specimen nurtured amid the wild storms of the mountain peak is of a lovely primrose hue, and is

smooth in texture and complete in outline, while the specimen nurtured amid the soft airs and the delicate showers of the lowland valley is of a dim rusty hue, and is scurfy in texture, and broken in outline.

And is it not so with the Christian who is afflicted, tempest-tossed, and not comforted? Till the storms and vicissitudes of God's providence beat upon him again and again, his character appears marred and clouded; but trials clear away the obscurity, perfect the outlines of his disposition, and give brightness and blessing to his life.

Amid my list of blessings infinite
Stands this the foremost, that my
heart has bled;
For all I bless Thee, most for the
severe.

Hugh Macmillan

IOWA, LESTER Cindy Leuthold - Mary Knobloch

On the weekend of August 17, following the general conference at Morris, MN, we were richly blessed with many visitors including a large number of ministering brothers and elder brothers. We thank all those who brought forth God's Holy Word and those who enjoyed the Word with us.

Visiting brothers were Elder Bro. Walter Anliker (Eureka, IL), and Bros. Duane Farney (Croghan-Naumburg, NY), Ken Indurmuhe (Sardis, OH), Carroll Gerber (Bluffton North, IN), Kevin Ryan (Rockville, CT), Leland Plattner (Zapata, TX), Peter Petrovic (San Diego, CA), Everett Gerber (Rockville, CT), Clarence Dietrich (Silverton, OR), Ron Schambach (Elgin, IL), Jim Plattner (Princeville, IL), Merle Laukhau (Latty, OH), Jim Knobloch (Elgin, IA), Doug Schock (Pulaski, IA), Virgil Metzger (Chicago, IL) and Rex Frieden (Lamar, MO). On September 1, Bro. Jon Schmidgall (Oakville, IA) brought forth God's Word. We thank all these servants for being used in God's service. May we ever strive to take the teachings to heart and use them in our daily walk of life.

The home of Bro. Rodney and

Sis. Lois Mogler has been blessed with a new baby boy, named Troy Paul, born September 11. He has three brothers, Mark, Devon and Ross to welcome him home. May God direct this family as they rear their new son.

On Labor Day weekend, we enjoyed many visitors as the single groups from a number of churches across the land traveled to Lester to fellowship with us.

We have begun listening to the conference tapes and the concerns and teachings of our dear elder brethren for our church and we pray each of us can use these teachings to become closer in our walk of life to our dear Lord.

The oldest member of our congregation, Sis. Rose Moser, quietly observed her 94th birthday August 18. Sis. Rose has been unable to assemble with us for several years and resides at the Tuff Home in Hills, MN. Despite her infirmities, this dear, faithful sister enjoys each visitor who takes time to see her and has keen interest in her many children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Her deep abiding faith is so precious to her and is an inspiration for those around her.

Our prayers go to those of our congregation who have been hospitalized recently. Those who had surgery were Bro. Fred Metzger, Bro. Dale Wulf, John Tolvstad, Louise Tolvstad and Shelley Van Wyhe (Leroy). Hospitalized for medical reasons was Orvie Knobloch. May God restore health as only He can.

IOWA, OAKVILLE
Debbie Wagenbach
Melody Steiner

On August 26, another precious little bundle arrived into the hearts and home of Bro. Fred and Sis. Susan Gerst. They had named her Rhiannon Michelle. Helping to welcome her home are big brother and sisters, Carl, Rachel and Brenda. Also rejoicing are her grandparents Sis. Hilda Gerst (late Bro. Carl) and Bro. Jody and Sis. Ruby Eberhardt.

On August 16, Jennifer Diane was born to Leroy and Karla Cordill. Bro. William and Sis. Bertha

Cordill are rejoicing as they welcome their first grandchild.

We want to sincerely thank our visiting ministers for allowing themselves to be used in sharing God's Word with us. Our visitors this past month have been; Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL) and Bro. Ken Schnieder (Remington, IN). May God reward them for their labors.

The peace and happiness of our lives depends upon the quality of our thoughts.

Apples of Gold

IOWA, PULASKI

Teresa Schock - Carol Wettstein
As Sunday school has once again started, our prayers go out to the teachers that they may seek God's guidance and wisdom in teaching our youth.

We were privileged to have Elder Bro. Ron Nelson and Bro. Jeff Bahr (both from Kiowa, KS) stop and minister to us. They were heading home from the brotherhood conference. May God richly bless them for their labors.

We have since spent four consecutive Wednesday evenings listening to the conference tapes. Once again, God has richly endowed our dear elder brothers with the true spirit of love and concern. May we whole-heartedly respect and consider these timely teachings and warnings.

Our dear Sis. Elizabeth Wuthrich is back home after recuperating at the Rest Home in Bloomfield.

Our best wishes to Bro. Roger and Sis. Nancy Musselman and Bro. Bill and Sis. Ernestine Wuthrich, as both have recently celebrated their 25th wedding anniversaries.

IOWA, WEST BEND
Phyllis Banwart
Mary Gerber

We express our appreciation to the Morris congregation for hosting the annual brotherhood conference this year. We appreciate the time and efforts put forth by our elder brethren. Now, we are privileged to listen to the tapes and be reminded of our duties.

We were again blessed with a number of visiting brothers who let God direct them in speaking the Living Word. We thank Elder Bro. Gene Marti (Kansas City, MO), Bros. Charles Marti (Lamar, MO), Wayne Banwart (Champaign, IL), Tom Schambach (Elgin, IL) and Ken Wuethrich (Indianapolis, IN) for sharing their time with us.

Our recent hospital patients are Eva Banwart, Bro. Mike Tapavica (Donna) and James Banwart (Becky). May the Lord be near them.

May God comfort Bro. Fred & Sis. Hulda Wirtz, Bro. Edwin and Lucille Wirtz and Bro. Verner and Sis. Betty Wirtz and their families as they recently lost a brother-in-law, Russell Edwards (Lydia).

Congratulations go to Jerry Wickman (Bro. Larry and Sis. Marvella) and Lori Bohn (Dale and Cleo, Curlew) as they are planning a December 27 wedding. May they look to the Lord as they plan their life as one.

With gladness, we welcome Bro. Kevin Banwart back into our midst. We know he will be missed in the Silverton, OR, congregation, but trust God will lead wherever we go.

JAPAN, SHIODA
Terri Gramm

"I will lift up my eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth."

Psalm 121:1-2

The majesty of the mountains always draws my eyes to them. As I lift up my eyes and drink in the beauty, I just can't help but praise the Lord, the Creator. While my heartbeat quickens, my prayer and desire for all the Japanese around me is that they, too, could praise the living God.

On Respect for the Elderly Day, September 15, a national holiday, many of the older generation attended church. Bro. Willis spoke on the necessity of preparing our souls to meet the living God while we are alive. We believe that many of our friends are trying to believe Jesus Christ died for their sins and we are encouraged.

The kindergarten children at S.A.K. also presented to their grandparents the Biblical approach of creation. This was done Friday, September 13, through a skit and singing.

Sis. Kuniko Iyima's mother-in-law recently passed away. Her mother-in-law was Buddhist and we are again reminded of the differences between Buddhism and Christianity.

We were thrilled to fellowship with Bro. David and Joe Klotzle for a couple of weeks. They are brothers of Sis. Kathy Sauder. Thank you, Joe and David, for spending your vacation time with us!

JAPAN, TOKYO

Frank and Kathy Sauder

The past Sunday, the Word of God opened up to Luke 12:31. "But rather seek ye the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you." So often we find ourselves surrounded by cares and anxiety. Sometimes we find ourselves "spiritualizing" our worry by saying: "I just want to know what God's will is for me in the future." However, we probably should spend more time seeking His will for the present moment, and then the future shall be laid out before us. "Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself." (Matthew 6:34) If a small child would approach his parents to discuss his concern about what college he should go to, or what kind of job he should get when he gets to be an adult, his parents would probably tell him not to worry about it but instead to work on being a good little child and listening to and obeying his mommy and daddy. The same applies to us, for we are the children of God. If we simply listen to and obey God with the situations we confront at the moment, He will lay out and prepare us for our future.

This past month Elder Bro. Akito Inoue, his wife, Sis. Marie, and their children were in America to attend the brotherhood conference and visit family. Sis. Haruyo Onoda was in Holland as a translator. We are

thankful to God that He has brought them all safely home again.

It was a special blessing to have Joe and Bro. David Klotzle (Altadena, CA) visit us for several weeks. For us Americans, who are living in Japan, it is extra special when family can come and share in our life. We are looking forward to October when the brothers who are overseeing our church's work in India will stop off in Japan for several days.

KANSAS, BERN

Diane Kaeb - Kathy Strahm

This past month we were thankful to have Bro. Clarence Dietrich (Silverton, OR) with us to bring us God's Holy and blessed Word. May it be the prayer of each of us that His Word comes forth in its truth and purity, that we may be washed by the water of it.

Bro. Faron Strahm and Sis. Jana Meyer were married in Sabetha August 18. Clayton and Miriam Strahm and Bro. Eli and Sis. Lois Meyer (Sabetha) are the parents of the couple. We welcome Sis. Jana to our Bern congregation. Married Saturday, September 7, were Ronnie Edelman (son of Bro. Fred and Sis. Joanne Edelman) and Stephanie Kanel (daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Steve Kanel, Morrill). We also welcome Stephanie to assemble with us. On Sunday, September 8, we witnessed the wedding of Bro. Jay Baumgartner (Bro. Leonard and Sis. Nancy) and Sis. Heidi Menold (Bro. Joe and Sis. Kathy Rokey). We're thankful Bro. Jay and Sis. Heidi make another young couple in our midst. As each of these three newly married husbands and wives begin their wedded life together we would wish them God's blessings in their homes and His presence as they go forth each day.

Our Sunday school students, 6th grade through 8th grade, traveled to Wichita where the Wichita congregation hosted all of the classes of that age group in the Kansas churches for a weekend of worship and fellowship. A thank you is due the Wichita church for the time the young people enjoyed together.

Our thoughts and prayers have so often been with Bro. Glen and Sis. Lola Luthi in the past weeks as

Sis. Lola has undergone numerous tests and even now has begun traveling daily to Topeka for treatment. Surely our loving and merciful Father above will provide His much-needed grace and comfort in times of affliction.

KANSAS, FORT SCOTT

Teresa Bahr

Thankful to God for their new daughter are Tom and Jan Byler. Megan Lea was born on her mother's birthday, July 26. Her sister is Kimberly and grandparents are Bro. Harold and Sis. Wanda Kraft. May God bless Bro. Earl Gerber (Forrest, IL) who recently ministered to us.

We enjoyed a blessed weekend August 3-4, when a bus tour of "Snowbirds" traveled through Fort Scott.

On Wednesday evenings, our assembly is listening to the tapes of the 1991 conference.

Mark Sinn (Bro. Charles and Sis. Karen) had a short stay in the hospital and also his great aunt, Sis. Ida Sinn, was a hospital patient.

KANSAS, KANSAS STATE UNIV.

Sheri Braker

Another semester has begun and we are all so very thankful to have the Lord near our sides. We are happy to have many new students with us this year. They are: Rachel Aberle (Bro. John and Sis. Cornelia, Sabetha, KS), Kayla Bahr (Bro. Brian and Sis. Julie, Gridley, KS), Bro. Keith Beyer (Bro. Martin and Sis. Karen, Sabetha, KS), Brandon Farney (Bro. Tom and Sis. Gay, Kiowa, KS), Jenny Farney (John and Sheryl, Kiowa, KS), Chris Hartter (Bro. Neil and Sis. Evelyn, Sabetha, KS), Colleen Hartter (Bro. Roger and Sis. Ilene, Sabetha, KS), Bro. Gale Kellenberger (Bro. Gene and Sis. Marian, Sabetha, KS), Shawna Robb (Steve and Gayle, Fort Scott, KS) and Tom Strahm (Bro. Carl and Sis. Sharon, Sabetha, KS). We also welcome Jodi Reimschisel (Bro. Max and Sis. Judy, Wichita, KS) back from Wichita State University.

Our annual fall picnic proved to be a success with over 100 family and friends attending. Each of us enjoyed the chance to meet one another again. The evening was truly wonderful!

We would like to thank Bro. Alpha Strahm (Bern KS) for taking the time to come and minister the Word. It is special to be able to put aside our studies for a while and just concentrate on God! We appreciated the presence of all those who were able to come.

KANSAS, KIOWA
Janice Bahr - Darcy Kisling

WHEN WORDS FAIL

There is a time for silence,
A time for us to withdraw
From the good we're pursuing
That we may accomplish more.

There is a time for repair
To a favorite quiet nook
That we may ponder God's will
And acquire His outlook.

There is a time to desist
From words that so often fail,
And turn to good example
Which more surely will prevail.

S. Mary Gemma Brunke

We are so carefully watched by the world and sometimes we may think it doesn't matter what they see in us, but we should always remember we carry the name of our Lord; and our way of life, our honesty in all things, our talk and our dealings with those around us reflect on His holy name. I've heard people make the statement "He or she professes to be a Christian but look how they live. They're not honest in their dealings." And it makes me sad because, we are not supposed to love the world or the things in it, but it seems that we forget that and become stuck in our Christian walk. We are the only example of Christianity some people will ever see. Lets find that quiet nook and ponder God's Will, then walk as close to it as we can every day!

Our fervent prayers are with our dear Sis. Elizabeth Diel as she

faces surgery this week. May God's presence ever be with her to grant her strength and peace in her suffering.

We would like to thank the Wichita Sunday school for hosting our youth fellowship this past month. We know how much effort everyone puts forth for these precious youths, and we pray God will bring forth fruit from the undertaking. God Bless you all!

KANSAS, LAMONT
Jane Isch

"This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it."

Psalms 118:24

We were thankful to have Bro. Don Bracker (Kansas City, MO) and his family visit us this month. May God richly bless him for his labor in God's service.

Bro. Jeff and Sis. Debbie Frieden's granddaughter, Amanda Reed (Cheri and Gene), had surgery on her heart and was hospitalized several weeks. We are thankful all went well and she is home again.

On September 7 and 8 our Sunday school went to Wichita for a time of fellowship with other Kansas area youth. We want to thank the Wichita congregation for all the planning and efforts put forth to make this a memorable and blessed time together.

KANSAS, SABETHA
Sharon Strahm - Beth Hartter

Bro. Charles Sinn (Fort Scott, KS) was among the Sabetha brethren August 18 to share the Word of Life with us. We appreciate the visits of those who speak the Gospel and give timely warnings.

August 18 was the special day that Bro. James Hartter (Bro. Virgil and Sis. Marie) and Sis. Sandy Bahler (Bro. Lowell and Sis. Karla) exchanged their wedding vows in the Wolcott, IN, church. The following Sunday we witnessed the wedding of Bro. Faron Strahm (Clayton and Miriam, Bern) to Sis. Jana

Meyer (Bro. Eli and Sis. Lois) of our congregation. Our wish to each of these couples is for the goodness and blessings of God to be present in their lives. We will miss Sis. Jana, as Bern will be their church now, but we are pleased to welcome Sis. Sandy to the Sabetha church. It doesn't matter so much were we are "planted", but we should all do our best to "bloom where we are planted." Elder Bros. John Lehman (Bern) and Eugene Marti (Kansas City, MO) conducted the wedding service for Bro. Faron and Sis. Jana. Also among us on the pulpit that day was Bro. Galen Rokey (Bern), who spoke to us of God's will and ways.

We were pleased when Bro. Clarence Dietrich (Silverton, OR) consented to an evening service August 25. It was a nice conclusion to a short song service.

We were recently reminded of how God truly is in control and how we need to look to Him for our courage and strength. Dave and Sis. Shari Eisenbise's little Will Wenger Eisenbise arrived seven weeks early. After a lengthy hospitalization, he is now home and doing well. Maggi and Maria are his happy sisters. LaVon and Erma Wenger are the pleased grandparents.

Ted Samuel Grimm is the bundle that arrived to Bro. Doug and Sis. Jaryl Grimm. He will share the same birthday as little Will. Ted has three brothers and two sisters to welcome him into the family. Bro. Nathan and Sis. Lois Grimm (Sabetha), and Bro. Phil Mogler (Lester, IA) are Ted's grandparents.

Sunday school is again in session and we look to God for a blessing on this time we have together with our children and young adults. We encourage parental support and their visits to the classrooms. With this support and God's presence, surely fruit will be forthcoming.

Sisters Esther Grimm, Lena and Matilda Steiner, and Bro. Noah and Sis. Evelyn Steiner were saddened by the passing of their sister, Sis. Louise Stickling (Peoria, IL). They wish to express their thanks and God's blessings to the many who remembered them in various ways in the time of grief.

KANSAS, WICHITA**Emma Miller**

Wichita congregation hosted the Kansas Middle School age Sunday school fellowship the weekend of September 7-8. Using the theme, "Patriots for Jesus," speakers for the weekend were Bro. Russell Wuthrich (Pulaski, IA), Bro. Carl Wyss (Washington, IL) and Bro. Al Langhofer of our congregation. Bro. Jeff Bahr (Kiowa, KS) ministered to us in church on Sunday morning.

Bro. Harve and Sis. Ann Farnery's family circle was increased August 22 when Katelyn Marie Wheeler was born to their grandson and his wife, Curtis and Jody Wheeler. Three brothers and sisters welcome Katelyn.

After a month recess from classes in August, we resumed Sunday school September 1. We are thrilled to welcome a new student, Joshua Huffman, to our student body. Josh and his father, Hans, have moved to Wichita, joining their sister and daughter, Joy, who has been making her home with relatives in the area and for the past year has been an enthusiastic participant in Sunday school and church activities. Hans is the grandson of Sis. Gussie Wullschlegel. We welcome him back to Kansas and his family roots and pray for God's direction to continue with him.

Another blessed event in Sis. Gussie's family is the birth of Rebecca Dawn, born August 13 to Heidi and Don Bradley. Heidi is Sis. Gussie's granddaughter and the daughter of Janet Cooper. I am reminded of Titus 2:3, "The aged women likewise, that they be in behavior as cometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things when I think of Sis. Gussie's outreach to her over widening family circle.

On the afternoon of September 15, brethren and friends from Fort Scott and Kiowa met in Wichita for choir practice. Again, this week, I hear the precious words and melodies ringing in my heart as I go about my duties. Truly, that is a benefit of Christian fellowship -- it sustains us even when we are absent from one another.

MICHIGAN, ALTO**Michelle Oesch - Denise Oesch**

"The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved."
Jeremiah 8:20

This little verse can stand for so many meanings. As I was going through my Bible to find something for my writings for this month's column, I came upon it.

For those of us who have turned to the Lord, what does it mean to us? Does it possibly mean that our salvation can be in doubt? Maybe if we do not strive to fill our hearts and lives with our own bountiful harvest serving the Lord, we will be lost.

As a farmer who does not reap a full harvest there is not enough food for his animals or loved ones.

For whatever the meaning in this simple sentence you receive may we as Christians try to fill our harvest baskets full. For each day is a challenge to complete this task of life, for it is so easy to fill it only half full and try to get by.

This past weekend we saw so many younger and eager faces as Alto sponsored youth day weekend for our fellow churches who chose to visit us for the weekend. We hope they had a good time with the many activities planned for them. Also Bro. Tom and Sis. Joanne Schrenk spend a weekend with us here at Alto traveling from Athens, AL, church.

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY**Emily Rechsteiner**

Seeing students go back to school and college, fields ripe for harvest, we know summer will soon be over.

We have been richly blessed, also in spiritual blessings, Chad Wieland (Bro. Merle and Sis. Elaine) Heidi Broquard (Bro. Duane and Sis. Carol) have peace, now waiting to share their testimony and be baptized. We rejoice with them and look forward to them coming into the fold of Christ.

Several have been recuperating from surgery, Bro. Scott Kent, Sis. Della Erismann, Sis. Marilyn Ruegsegger, Sis. Lynette Munsel and Ronald Wackerle. With God's

healing power, they all have been able to assemble with us again, we are thankful.

We recently enjoyed Bro. Gary Maibach (Smithville, OH) for a midweek service.

We will miss Sis. Minnie Freidinger, she has gone back to Woodhaven Home, after her summer here.

With favorable weather all enjoyed a nice Sunday school picnic.

I want to thank all my friends, family, and relatives for the prayers, cards, gifts, flowers, visits, phone calls, during my hospital stay and while recuperating at home. May God richly bless each one.

Sis. Marilyn Ruegsegger
My thanks to all who remembered me with prayers, cards and gifts for my recent surgery. May God bless.

Sis. Della Erismann

May we always be ready to go, ready to stay, ready my place to fill, ready for service great or small, ready to do His will.

Hymns of Zion #124

MICHIGAN, DETROIT**Marlene Reinhard
Holly Barton**

"... I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me."

John 14:6

The first missionary to the Kiowa Indians was a woman named Miss Reside. After living with the Indians long enough for them to know what it meant to be a Christian, they began calling her "Aim Day Co." Explaining the significance of this name, Chief Bigtree said, "When we Kiowas see anyone on the wrong trail, we call out, 'Aim day Co,' which means 'Turn this way.' Our sister came to us from a far land and found us on the wrong path and in great danger. She stood and called to us and said, 'Turn this way,' and then she showed us the Jesus road. God bless Miss Aim Day Co."

We are ambassadors for the Lord. With all earnestness, let's point others to Jesus. Like Aim Day Co.,

let's urge people, "Turn this way!" Our Daily Bread, September 1991

We are very thankful and full of joy that two more souls have heeded the call to "turn this way." Bro. Warren and Sis. Kay Rauhe gave their testimonies and were baptized into the Lord Jesus the weekend of September 7 and 8. Both mentioned before the church that they are ready now to move forward in this way and join those who are "ambassadors for the Lord." We pray that they will always stand to point out the right path to those who have not yet turned onto it.

Several visiting ministers joined us for this special occasion. We sincerely thank these brothers for their presence and service: Elder Bro. Andrew Virkler and Bro. Neil Ramseyer (Bay City, MI), Bro. Doyle Frauhiger (Bluffton North, IN) and Bro. Homer Reineck (Toledo, OH).

Once again we have those who have been hospitalized. Though we pray often for them and show our concern and comfort as best we can, surely all who are ill have trials and lonely times that only the Lord can comfort them in. We pray that He will be near to Steve Hohulin (Mary), who had surgery and continues to deal with pain, and Sis. Ruth Gude-man, who recently underwent more chemotherapy treatments.

There are also those here who have recently lost a loved one. We extend our sympathy to the family of Bro. Clarence Belsley (Morton, IL), including Sis. Lorene Maibach (Elder Bro. Ben), Bro. Ben Belsley (Sis. Lois), and Sis. Arlene Belsley.

Sis. Arlene Belsley is a proud grandma once again! Jennell Elizabeth was born to her son and daughter-in-law, Ken and Susan Belsley (Valrico, FL), August 16. We wish them God's blessings.

We want to extend our appreciation to Elder Bro. Aaron and Sis. Loretta Steffen (Alto, MI) for coming to share in our monthly evening service at Woodhaven. We know it is not always easy for the other three churches that share in our Woodhaven ministry to make the effort to come, but we believe we are all blessed when they can. The next service is scheduled for November 5

at 7:00 p.m. and will be hosted by Toledo, OH.

We also extend an invitation to share in the monthly service in Kitchener, Ontario. Rockville, CT, will host this service November 17. For directions or more information, please contact Bro. Walter Fortenbacher at (519) 699-4133.

MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS Marcy Schmidgall

As the seasons change around us, we see many changes within our congregation. Moving from our congregation are Bro. Dale and Sis. Carol Strassheim, moving to Bloomington, IL, and Bro. Dwight and Sis. Donna Mogler, moving to Lester, IA. As we bid a fond farewell to them, we also have a warm welcome to Bro. Phil and Sis. Char Feldsman (Chicago, IL), Bro. Harold and Sis., Sherri Fritz (Lexington, KY) and Garth and Ramona Snyder (Alto, MI). We wish them all the Lord's blessings in their new endeavors.

Visiting ministers this month were Elder Bros. Dennis Warner (Lester, IA), Art Nohl (Morris, MN) and Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI). May God bless these brothers for their deeds of love and kindness.

MINNESOTA, MORRIS Debra Joos - Christa Sauder

Another month has passed and we have again been richly blessed in many ways. Some families have been blessed with the arrival of a new baby.

A son, David Charles, was born to Mike and Cindy Moser August 15. Grandparents are Bro. David and Sis. Norene Moser.

Jason Lee is the new son of Bro. Stan and Sis. Beverly Schaefer. Jason's brothers are Jeffery, Corey, and Brent. Jason was born August 20. Grandparents are Bro. Anton and Sis. Verna Schaefer and Virgil and Mildred Sauder.

Also arriving August 20 was a new son, Wade Michael, for Bro. Steve and Sis. Cathy Backman. Wade will have his brothers, Coby, Eric, and Troy, for playmates. Grandparents are Bro. Leonard and Sis. Vi Wulf.

August 31 was a day of special blessings for Patti Wulf and Christopher Wente as they exchanged their marriage vows. We wish them God's blessings in their life together. Their parents are Bro. Leonard and Sis. Vi Wulf and Mike Wente (Morris, MN).

We were blessed to hear the Word preached by visiting ministers this month. Those brothers were Bro. David Eisenman (North Fort Myers, FL), Bro. Ken Lawson (Minneapolis, MN), Bro. Alpha Strahm (Bern, KS), and Elder Bro. John Lehman (Bern, KS).

How we rejoice when there are souls who yet feel the need of repentance and desire to be at peace with God and man. We were blessed to witness the testimonies and baptisms of four young men whom we now embrace as our brothers-in-faith. They are Bro. Craig Feuchtenberger (Bro. Wally and Sis. Diane), Bro. Jim Dornick, Bro. Bob Dornick (both are sons of Bro. Gary and Sis. Velma) and Bro. Jerry Nohl (Bro. Larry and Sis. Bonnie).

Our thoughts and prayers are with our hospital patients who have been: Sis. Kathy Nohl, Bro. Carl Joos, Sis. Doris Koehl (Bro. Edwin), retired Elder Bro. Paul Fehr (Sis. Anna), and Bro. Alpha Moser (Sis. Pearl). We pray they may be blessed with good health again if it be the Lord's will.

MINNESOTA, WINTHROP Georgia Messner Kim Messner

What a privilege we have to be able to listen to the conference tapes and to share in the concerns of the church with our elder brothers. We appreciate Bro. Don Miller (Minneapolis, MN) for sharing the evening with us.

We want to thank Bros. Kent Mogler (Minneapolis, MN), Pat Zaugg (West Bend, IA), and their families, and all other visitors for sharing Saturday evening singing and the Pork Chop Supper on Sunday. A blessed weekend was enjoyed by all.

Elder Bro. Harold Messner has informed the congregation that he is retiring from the ministry due to health problems. May we take this

opportunity to thank Bro. Harold for all his years of service and we pray that God will richly bless him.

We have been receiving an abundance of rain so it is hard to believe that fall is here as everything is very green.

MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY
Lanette Meyer

The Kansas City congregation enjoyed several evenings of fellowship with the Snowbirds from several Illinois and Indiana churches. We hope they enjoyed their bus tour through Kansas and Missouri.

We welcome Bro. Jerry and Sis. Doreen Leuthold to Kansas City from St. Louis, MO. It's been a pleasure to have their families here to visit them as well.

Thanks to our guest ministers, Bro. Ben Wyson and Bro. Wayne Miller, for worshipping with us this month.

MISSOURI, LAMAR
Martin Hohulin
Janel Kellenberger

"And when they had ordained them elders in every church, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, on whom they believed."

Acts 14:23

Our congregation has after many prayers, a new elder, Bro. Lawrence Luthi. He was ordained September 1 by Elder Bros. Ronald Nelson (Kiowa, KS), Raymond Banwart (Fort Scott, KS) and Eugene Marti (Kansas City, MO).

We would like to thank Elder Bro. Eugene Marti, who has been our faithful shepherd for many years.

Also, with us that weekend were Bros. Don Braker (Kansas City, MO), Ervin Knecht (Eureka, IL), Tim Zimmerman (Gridley, KS) and Charles Sinn (Fort Scott, KS).

There have been many visitors with us this past month. We appreciate all that have fellowshipped with us.

MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS

Mark Leman

Our congregation would like to thank ministering brothers -- Elder Bro. Walt Anliker (Eureka, IL), and Bros. Dale Frank (Oakville, IA) and Gene Lehman (Wolcott, IN) for visiting with us this month and preaching the Word.

We are blessed to have three students joining us in St. Louis for the school year. They are Bro. Lance Meyer, Sis. Missy Joos and Jeff Martin. We wish them the best of luck in their academic endeavors and welcome them openly.

MISSOURI, TAYLOR
Ruthie Hoerr

"Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves; for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you."

Hebrews 13:17

I was thinking about the tapes we had just heard of the recent conference held in Morris, MN, when I opened to this scripture. How much we all enjoyed the deliberations of the conference; and how fitting to have this scripture as a reminder.

Gary and Bonnie Lutener are the happy parents of a boy, Ricky Lee, born September 2. His sister, Amanda Rose, grandparents, Buddy and Barbara (Hoerr) Plank and Virginia Lutener share in this joy. May God bless their precious bundle and guide their family as it grows.

We are delighted to have a new family move to our area from Francerville, IN. We welcome Bro. Tim and Sis. Verene Sutton and their two children, Mary Beth and Samuel. Tim has taken a position with Heimer Construction here.

Bro. Phil Bauer is home for a couple of weeks from England. After returning for a short period, we hope to have him back with us permanently.

Galen Haab, son of Bro. Paul and Sis. Kathy, is in Austria for a year of study. Remember him in your prayers.

Many prayers and get well

thoughts are going out for Bro. Mike (Sis. Cheryl Hodel) Stratton as he enters Jewish Hospital in St. Louis for surgery.

Sis. Ruth Cottrell was a medical patient this month. Bro. William is home again after being hospitalized. Sis. Pam (Bro. Steve) Kiefaber's father, Bill Baxter, was hospitalized at Columbia, MO, for complications from recent back surgery. May God provide His healing hand and His comfort to each one.

We are going to miss the smiling faces of Bro. Gerald and Sis. Marge Sutter's grandchildren, Tara and Josh, since they have moved to Texas with their mother. Their address is: Tara and Josh Sutter, 1901 Lake View Circle Apt. 103, Louisville, Texas 75057.

We share all these events with you in our column so you can intercede on their behalf with prayers of love, healing, protection, and whatever else the Spirit moves you to do. "For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward His name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and so minister." Hebrews 6:10.

NEW YORK,
CROGHAN/NAUMBURG
Alice Virkler

"We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:

"Knowing the first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.

"For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost."

II Peter 1:19-21

On Sunday evening we were privileged to gather together to listen to the first tape of the recent brotherhood conference held in Morris. As we listen to the kind words spoken by our dear elder brothers, may each of us take heed to the words as they truly are a light unto our daily walk of life. We are

thankful that there are still holy men of God to direct our paths in this life.

Ethel Karcher remains a hospital patient after a fall in her home resulting in the fracture of both of her knees. May she look to God for her daily strength in her days of recovery.

Our thoughts and prayers go to Sis. Berdena (late Bro. John) Widrick as her son Ralph Streeter has been called out of this life at the age of 60 following heart surgery. Our deep sympathy is extended to Sis. Berdena and his wife, Audrey, and children and grandchildren. He is also survived by two brothers. May God comfort them in their sorrow. Sis. Berdena was also a hospital patient a few days and we pray that good health will be returned to her again.

OHIO, AKRON Joyce Gasser

Goliath said: "... if he be able to fight with me, and to kill me, then will we be your servants: but if I prevail against him, and kill him, then shall ye be our servants, and serve us." 1 Samuel 17:9. The difference between letting Israel be servants to the Philistines, or getting the Philistines to be Israel's servants is portrayed in two brothers, Eliab, and his younger brother, David. The Philistines came from Mizraim, the son of Ham and were living in Canaan and the problem Goliath presented himself forty days making Israel servants to them and not letting Israel enter their land God promised them. Forty is the number of testing, and Israel was being tested whether they would have faith in God's Word. Satan tests us at God's Word because it is the Word that overcomes Satan. Eliab was servant to the problem giant and spoke such to David. David was the eighth son, and eight means "a new beginning". Instead of taking his elder brother's advice, David believed God's Word, used God's Word to be his servant, the stone, symbolizing Jesus Christ, and the sword, symbolizing the sword of the Spirit, the Word of God, and overcame the giant problem, making the Philistines servants to Israel.

When we overcome a problem, there is also a reward, and in this case, the reward was the king to enrich him with great riches, to give him his daughter, and make his father's house free in Israel, all of which David then received. We're thankful for this example that we can use God's Word and not only overcome our giant problems, but God enriches us with many rewards.

A welcome to Akron University students that assemble with us: Bro. Dana Indermuhle (Sardis), Sis Sue and Sis. Pam Stoller (Latty), Bro. Warren Schlatter (Junction), and Shane Laukhuf (Latty).

We welcome Bro. Mike Reinhard (son of Bro. and Sis. Dan Reinhard, Detroit, MI) into our area and to assemble with us. Bro. Mike has employment as an engineer assistant with the city of Akron.

Carole Collins (daughter of Bro. and Sis. Hank Collins) is in Brazil as a foreign exchange student. A family near Sao Paulo is hosting Carole as she studies in her junior year.

We were happy to have visiting ministers: Bros. Jon Zeller, Mark Steiner, Merle Hartzler, Merrill Laukhuf, Glenn Riggerbach, Gary Maibach and Vic Bauman.

OHIO, COLUMBUS Julie Grimm

May God richly bless the brothers who labor on our behalf to minister His precious Word. We thank Bro. Walter Rager (Toledo, OH) and Elder Bro. Eugene Pamer (Akron, OH) for worshipping with us.

Our prayers are with Bro. Any Hunyady and the other brothers who are traveling to Easter Europe. May God protect them and keep them safe in His care.

OHIO, JUNCTION Laurie Schlatter

We rejoice with our friend Chip Etter as he begins his walk with the Lord. Our thoughts and prayers are with him especially at this time.

"... the time is fulfilled, and the Kingdom of God is at hand: Repent ye, and believe the gospel."

Mark 1:15

Ministering Bro. Dwight Stoller (Latty) recently visited with us. We thank these faithful brethren for their labors of love.

OHIO, LATTY

Rhonda Stoller - Kathy Sinn

Sis. Clara Sinn would like to thank all those who remembered her on her 90th birthday with cards, gifts, and prayers. May God richly bless each of you for your deeds of kindness.

We were greatly blessed by gathering to witness the testimonies of Jane Linder (Jim), Pam Stoller (Bro. Millard and Sis. Irma), and Carrie Stoller (Bro. Dwight and Sis. Lori). Then on Sunday to come and witness their baptisms was truly a great privilege. Through this gathering together may the brethren be renewed, the converts be encouraged, and the friends be called to come and taste and see.

May the Lord's richest blessings be on the brethren who lended themselves to God's service this month. They include Elder Bro. Eugene Pamer (Akron, OH), Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH), Bro. Ron Palitto (Akron, OH), Bro. Earl Beery (Rittman, OH), Bro. Walter Steffen (Milford, IN) and Bro. Doug Harmon (Toledo, OH).

A precious baby girl, Jenna Mae, was born to Bro. Dale and Sis. Jodi Stoller. Jenna was welcomed home by brothers, Dustin and Josiah. Happy grandparents are Bro. Glenn and Sis. Ede Stoller, Mr. and Mrs. Mac Brigner, and Mr. and Mrs. Rick Helms.

God has again answered many prayers as Shelli Grant (Bro. Phil and Sis. Gloria) has begun to change from an old life unto a new life. May God continue to bless and provide throughout this change as He has in the past. "Draw nigh to God, and He will draw nigh to you." James 4:8.

OHIO, MANSFIELD Linda Morrison

Roma (John) Them and Sis. Mabel (Bro. Richard) Banks were hospitalized. We are thankful both are able to be in their own homes. "Oh, God is good, Oh, God is good,

Oh, God is good, God is good to me!"

Our prayers and sympathy go out to the family of Rosa Oesch Munson: her sisters, Sis. Helen Ramsier, Sis. Emilie Went, and Martha Oesch (Mansfield), Sis. Ann Farney (Wichita, KS) and Sis. Edith Mayer (Indianapolis, IN); and her brothers, Ben, Bob and Elmer Oesch (Mansfield). "Will the circle be unbroken, by and by, by and by; in a better home awaiting in the sky Lord in the sky."

"Thy Word O Lord forever is, the mirror where we see, our faults and duties as they are . . ." We thank Bro. Art Ingold and Bro. Earl Beery (Rittman) for sharing God's Word with us.

OHIO, SARDIS
Paula Figel

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

Ephesians 1:2

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

We rejoice with Bro. Eric Indermuhle (Bro. Bob and Sis. Karen) as his engagement to Sis. Lisa Brake (Bro. Bill and Sis. Miriam) was announced August 24. We wish them joy and pray that God will bless their lives together.

OHIO, TOLEDO
Frances Laidig
Josephine Rehlau

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

Psalms 122:1

Our visiting ministers for September were our Elder Bro. William Schlatter (Junction, OH), Bros. Pete Baltic (Mansfield, OH) and Mark Ramsier (Sardis, OH). We appreciated their visit and may they come again to be with us.

We are thankful to have Bro. Al Weigele (Sis. Mary Ann) assembling with us again after spending time in the hospital with a medical prob-

lem. We wish him a complete recovery.

Those of the Toledo Bible class who attended the fellowships weekend at Alto, MI, would like to thank them for the well planned and blessed weekend. They also enjoyed meeting others from the Michigan and Indiana Sunday schools. May God bless them for the kindness shown unto everyone.

We welcome fall with our college students returning to spend the winter months with us. We wish them all a good year.

OREGON, PORTLAND
Pearl Miller

"Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God"

Ephesians 5:21

Do I seem forsaken? Is my spirit shaken,
Knowing not God's will? Yet in all affliction

I'll accept correction, In submission still

He'll provide what's good and right,
All my earthly tribulation, Serves to my salvation.

Zion's Harp #196, vs. 5

We were reminded so richly by our ministering Bro. Art Metz (Silverton, OR) on the importance of submission, not only to God, but to one another in the family of God. May we ever be obedient to the teachings of God's Precious Word!

Betsy Lin was born to Gary and Linda Schulenberg, August 31, the granddaughter of Bro. Robert and Sis. Pearl Miller.

We're thankful Louisa Gallup and her daughter, Dana, arrived safely back from Holland after a visit with her parents and grandparents.

Thanks to the many visitors that have visited us this summer from the east coast to the west coast.

Bro. Vic Beer (Sis. Dorothy, North Fort Myers, FL) accompanied by Bro. Sidney and Sis. Fern Leman (Francesville, IN) visited us September 15. We thank them for coming and we were blessed by the Word spoken by our dear Bro. Vic.

Willing hands of the brethren made the task of housecleaning the church September 14, enjoyable. We thank the dear ones, Bro. Keith and Sis. Carol Kaufman (Silverton, OR) for giving of their time to come and help us. How good to have everything in order in God's house, so should it be with our spiritual house.

There's a place that I cherish, the church of my heart;
'Tis a place of sweet solace and rest;
Where worship and fellowship brighten the way
And our service in spirit is blest
United in concord our praises we bring
And worship with reverence our Saviour and King.

The house in itself is commodious and neat,
Quite modest in structure and frame.

Here the rich and the poor in fellowship meet,
And God is exalted, all praise to His Name.

The revealing banqueting have here no part,
In this place where I worship, the church of my heart.

'Tis the nearest example and pattern I know
How a church should be governed and led.

It builds on New Testament doctrine and truth,
Where the church is the body and Christ is the Head.

For traditional teachings the church has no place,
Only God-given doctrine, it seeks to embrace.

And worldly amusements are never employed

As a means to allure and attract;
For the God-fearing man will be found at the place

Where they preach the real truth and the facts.

God's Word is alluring to them who love truth,

And is sweet to the aged, the children and youth.

For the brethren called out by the voice of the Lord
Comprise the true church of today.

What comfort of love as we walk
hand and heart
With the saints who will trust and
obey.
In the dwelling of light I hope to
have part
With the saints that I love from the
church of my heart.

Bro. Henry Beer

**PENNSYLVANIA,
PHILADELPHIA**
Franz Soni

God be with you till we meet again;
'Neath His wings protecting hide
you,
Daily manna still provide you;
God be with you till we meet again.
Hymns of Zion #216

We said farewell to our dear sister-in-faith Ruth Dapper. Sis. Ruth has moved to Sarasota, FL, and will be attending church there. May our dear Lord Jesus Christ keep her in His protecting hands, and may she know our Lord is always there to protect and comfort her.

"If any man have ears to hear let him hear."

Mark 4:23

On Saturday, August 24, after a church supper, we heard the testimony of Nathan Gasser (Bro. David and Sis. Gail) who heard the Word of God and allowed it to enter his heart. Nathan was baptized into the blood of our Saviour, Sunday, August 25, and we wish him God's blessings as he takes on the added responsibility of being a child of Christ's. We thank Elder Bro. Eugene Pamer (Akron, OH) for allowing himself to be used in assisting Elder Bro. Edward Aeschleman in this important work. A time of fellowship and a church supper was held after greeting Nathan as a brother-in-faith.

On Saturday, September 7, our Elder Bro. Edward and Sis. Nancy hosted dinner for the Philadelphia and Washington, D.C., congregations at their home. The next day we shared in the Lord's Supper. How wonderful it is we can share times like this with brothers and

sisters-in-Christ. We thank Elder Bro. Robert Beyer (Croghan/Naumburg, NY) for sharing God's Word with us and assisting Bro. Ed. A time of fellowship and a church supper was held after communion services.

We would also like to thank Bro. Paul Gasser (Akron, OH) for allowing to be used to deliver God's Word to us. May God richly reward him for his efforts.

TENNESSEE, NASHVILLE
Don Sauder

Proverbs 27:1, "Boast not thyself of tomorrow for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth." O if we would only follow Solomon's advice and live each day as it was our last for the Lord.

This month's minister was Elder Bro. Ray Sinn (Sis. Ann), Bro. Ray's mother and sister from Latty, OH. Since we know we cannot thank them enough for their time and effort, we turn it over to our Holy God for His rich blessing on them.

Other visitors this month were from Mansfield, OH. To all our visitors, please come again.

Enid Miller broke her arm. We are happy to report God's healing power has pretty much healed her at this writing.

Services for the balance of the year are the first Sunday in October and November with the second Sunday in December. Please visit us if you can and remember us in your prayers. Faye and my phone number is 615-373-8928. 2059 Timberwood Dr., Nashville, TN 37215. Don and Enid Miller's phone number is 615-384-1081.

TEXAS, DALLAS/HOUSTON
Sandy Darlington

On August 25, several of us in the area gathered to listen to a sermon tape. Afterwards we enjoyed eating together at a local restaurant. We had to say goodbye to a family which had become very dear to us. The Lord brought Bro. Brad Eisenmann and his wife, Sis. Cindy, to the Houston area through his work. Over the past 17 months,

Bro. Brad, Sis. Cindy and their children, Greg and Ryan, have been faithful supporters of all the services in this state. We will miss them, but are thankful they are safely back in Chicago and can be where God has directed them in their lives.

Services are held in Houston on the last Sunday of the month at 10:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn-Southwest. Please contact Bro. Bill and Sis. Betty Zeltwanger at (409) 542-0763 for information regarding Houston services. As we sometimes gather together on Sundays when there are no scheduled services, we encourage anyone passing through the Houston-San Antonio-Austin area to contact us.

There were no services in Dallas on the first Sunday of September because of the Labor Day holiday. On September 15, Bro. Bert Butikofer (Elgin, IA) was here for services in Dallas with his son, Bro. Lon. We were happy that Bro. Rich Bertschi joined us as he was in Dallas for business.

On September 22, our group gathered in the home of Jerry and Sis. Sandy Darlington for the purpose of studying God's Word. Bro. Lee and Sis. Mary Plattner were here from their home in Zapata. Also joining us were their children, Dallas and Lila (College Station), Bro. Bill and Sis. Betty Zeltwanger (Giddings) and Brian and Terri Kaisner (Austin).

Bro. Howard and Sis. Delores Rapp, at (214) 867-4047, are the local area contact for Dallas services which are held on the first and third Sundays of each month at 10:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn-Desoto, TX.

TEXAS, ZAPATA
Viola Perdelwitz

We received an adequate amount of rain this month. The plants and grasses are green and some of the purple sage bushes are blooming. The water in the lake is getting higher.

We did not have many visitors this summer. We anticipate the joy of greeting our members that will be coming soon.

SILVER THREADS

"YE MUST BE BORN AGAIN"

Booklet available at your church or the Apostolic Christian Publications, 524 Valley Court, Eureka, IL 61530.

(Continued from September, 1991 Issue of the Silver Lining)

In Repentance — All this time, prayer is playing a great role in the work of regeneration. Many of us were taught from childhood to pray, but as long as the soul is untouched by the divine life, our prayers are mostly an empty form, mere words and phrases rendered largely through habit and a sense of duty. How futile are such prayers! But a change is taking place. The divine light is dawning in the soul. The conscience is quickened and condemns pitilessly, not only our past transgressions, but such new transgressions as are still committed, as long as the soul has not laid hold in faith on Christ as its Saviour. Now the soul is truly under conviction and is lashed by the accusation and condemnation of the Law. Having not yet laid hold on faith nor received the strength which comes only through faith in Christ, the crucified and risen Lord, Who is the victor over the power of sin and death, the situation seems hopeless. Doubt, fear and despair torture the soul.

Now prayer partakes of a different nature. It becomes a yearning, a crying, a sighing to God for help. The fine phrases are forgotten. Sometimes without words the soul sighs to God, and sometimes with such simple words as, "O Lord help me, O Lord be merciful to me and forgive me my many sins and make me free from sin." (Romans 10:13)

These are days of darkness and despair, but Oh, how healing are they if we allow them to serve the purpose for which they are sent; namely, to lead us to truly and earnestly seek the Saviour. These days make it possible for the soul to bring to God the one offering which He will not despise, a broken spirit and a broken and contrite heart. (Psalm 51:17) This is repentance in the

sense used in the gospel. It is a deep feeling of remorse and regret for past sins, a struggle to become free from sin and a reaching out to God for help. It is born out of a realization that God is holy and righteous and that those who would stand in his presence must be purified and sanctified in order to be acceptable.

Confession — A new important need is now experienced in the soul — a need which is quite the opposite of what the soul previously desired. The natural man, in darkness, is not very much concerned because he has sinned, but he does fear that he might be found out by his fellow men. Therefore, to keep his sins under cover of darkness is one of his chief concerns. Now that the soul is enlightened, it is tortured by the consciousness of its guilt before its Maker and has an actual desire, even a deep felt need to make confession of its sins.

It is like the impurities of the body gathering into a large, painful boil. The pain becomes very severe and the sufferer longs for the time when the boil becomes "ripe" so that it may belch forth its pus and impurities and allow the healing process to begin. So the soul in repentance has an increasing desire to "open up" and pour out a confession of its past sinfulness. David experienced this after he once forgot God and fell into a great sin for which he afterward repented so contritely. His confession of repentance was made openly and written into a psalm of instruction and published, even printed into the Bible, where you and I may read it until this very day. It is recorded in the thirty-second Psalm, where he says: "When I kept silence, my bones waxed old through my roaring all the day long. For day and night Thy hand was heavy upon me; my moisture is turned into the drought of summer, I acknowledged my sin unto Thee and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord; and Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin." (Psalm 32:3-5)

Apologies — When a repentant person becomes convicted in his conscience of wrong doing against another person, it is essential to confess and apologize and where

possible make restitution to that person. Sometimes this is not so easy because it involves personal pride. In such cases, it is all the more necessary and wholesome that it be done. Not only is it very helpful and healing to the confessor, but it gives the very best kind of testimony to the wronged person of the changed which the Grace of God is accomplishing in the repenting person. There have been cases where a person to whom the apology is made by a repenting person was so struck and impressed by the humble and penitent attitude of the confessor that it caused that person also to turn to repentance and thereby became the direct means of saving a soul.

But there are sins which are against God and His law only and involve no other person. In fact, all sins are primarily against God and only secondarily against our fellow men. The truly repentant person will feel the need of confessing these also. (Such confessions are made to elders and occasionally to ministers when an elder is not available. Such confession is made with the confidence that the elder will understand and will know how to counsel the confessor, and will keep such confession confidential.) Of course, such a confession is always to be made in sincerity and uprightness.

That confession of sins is an essential fruit of true repentance is evident in many places of the Scriptures. Even of John the Baptist it is written, the people "were baptized of him in Jordan, confessing their sins." (Matthew 3:6) When the gospel of Jesus Christ was brought to the Ephesians and accepted by them, we also find that confession was the fruit of repentance. We read: "And many that believed came and confessed, and shewed their deeds." (Acts 19:18)

When unrepentant people came to John the Baptist for baptism, he refused them with these cutting words: "O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance." (Matthew 3:7-8) Undoubtedly an essential part of the fruit consistent with repentance, which John

missed in these insincere candidates for baptism, was a readiness and willingness to confess their sins as the others had done, to whom John's baptism was administered.

That confession is an essential part of the cleansing of the heart, not only in the original cleansing during repentance, but also in after life, if a Christian should again through unwatchfulness commit sin, is shown by the following Scripture texts: "Confess your faults one to another and pray one for another that ye may be healed." (James 5:16) "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (I John 1:9)

Experience — Not only is the confession of sins as an essential part of the Cleansing of the heart in repentance thoroughly established in the doctrines of the Holy Scriptures, but the experience of those in our days who have attained regeneration through repentance and faith confirms the absolute need of confession as a means of unburdening the heart and of obtaining the strength to resist and throw off the power of sin.

To the soul in repentance who is not yet ready and willing to make confession of its sins we can only say, "The fruits of repentance are yet incomplete. Press forward until you have grace to pour out all filth (be it much or little) of the old life." It is no disgrace for a repentant person to confess sins, but an honor. It marks definitely the end of the old life of uncleanness and the beginning of the new life in Christ in righteousness and purity.

Wrestling With God — In this state of repentance, the soul must wrestle with God and Christ in prayer as did Jacob who wrestled with an angel of God all through the night, seeking a blessing. The angel said to him, "Let me go, for the day breaketh. Jacob replied, "I will not let thee go, except thou bless me." Jacob prevailed and received a blessing and a new name; "Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel, for as a prince hast thou wrestled with God and men and has prevailed." (Genesis 32:26-28) So may the repenting soul say to the Lord, "I will not give up. Thou hast

promised to help me and forgive me. I hold Thee to Thy promise.

It is not hardness nor unwillingness to forgive sins that causes God to allow the soul thus to suffer and struggle in the slough of despond. This experience is necessary to bring about certain changes in the heart. Willfulness and stubbornness must give place to obedience to Christ; pride and arrogance must be displaced by humility and meekness, and doubt and unbelief must yield to faith. The will and determination to serve God only must become overwhelming. Those in repentance, who ask God's forgiveness, must learn to forgive, where others have offended against them.

The love of things sinful must be changed into a loathing of them and the power of sin over us must be broken. The love of vain things must perish out of the heart. These are fundamental changes which are the real essence of conversion — of being born again.

Superficial evangelists often speak lightly of "accepting Christ as our Saviour." That of course is necessary. But our marriage to Christ the heavenly Bridegroom, like all marriages, must be a mutual affair. It is not only a question of whether we accept Him, but much more of whether He accepts us. He will accept us; He is bound by His Word and His promises to accept us and His love prompts Him to accept us when we meet His conditions and come with the true fruits of repentance, asking to be forgiven by Him and to be accepted of Him. It is while the fruits of repentance are being developed and ripened that this struggle must go on. The length and fierceness of the struggle does not depend nearly so much upon the degree of our sinfulness (for the sacrifice of Jesus Christ upon the cross is sufficient to atone for all sins, though they be as scarlet), as upon the stubbornness of our will and the tenacity with which we cling to our old life.

Repentance, then, is not merely remorse for past wrongdoing but a struggle within ourselves, a struggle between the forces of good and evil, a struggle in which our will plays an important, but not the decisive, part. Our own will unsupported

could never overcome the evil in our nature, not only for lack of strength, but because it, itself, is not perfectly pure.

As the struggle goes on, the soul becomes more conscious of its need, of its complete dependence upon the grace of God, in short, of its lost condition without Christ. It wrestles with God, pleading to be forgiven, pleading for strength and victory, pleading for peace, and vowing over and over to God, to obey and serve Him unto death if He will only help and receive it.

The soul becomes more and more ready and willing to yield itself to Christ and to believe and accept God's way of salvation; to believe in Jesus Christ as the Son of God and to believe in His atonement for sin through His death upon the cross and in the shedding of His blood, as a blameless, perfect Lamb of God, for the atonement and the forgiveness of the sins of all men who believe and (receive) His salvation.

Accepted By The Saviour — But the climax comes, not when we accept Him, but when He accepts us. When He sees the fruit of repentance ripened, the heart purified, the will subdued into obedience to Him, then He changes our hope and belief that He can and will forgive our sins and accept us, into a conviction, into an assurance that He has accepted and forgiven us. Thus the struggle ends. Peace and joy fill the heart. An all-consuming love fills and overwhelms the soul. This love knows no bounds. It embraces all men — friend and foe — and burns with a desire to tell all men of the life-giving, soul-saving, healing and liberating power of God in Jesus Christ.

That soul is converted!

Baptism — The man of sin has perished in the heart, has been nailed to the cross with Christ; "old things are passed away; behold all things are become new!" (II Corinthians 5:17)

The man of sin, the Adam nature, being now slain, crucified with Christ, that soul may now be baptized into the death of Jesus Christ and arise with him to "walk in newness of life." (Romans 6:4) Thus baptism is not the means of obtaining forgiveness of sins, but is

the ensembling of an established fact, of a conversion that has gone before. By immersion into water, the burial of the Adam nature is symbolized; by arising out of the water the resurrection to a new life of godliness and holiness is symbolized. The bath in water symbolizes the cleansing of the heart, which cleansing, however, is not done with water, but by the atonement in the blood of Christ.

The Holy Spirit — Now, the heart, being cleansed, is prepared to receive the Holy Ghost as a permanent tenant. He shall be, and is needed as a comforter, as a guide through life, to guide us into all truth. (John 16:13) Jesus said, "He shall teach you all things and bring all things to your remembrance whatsoever I have said unto you." (John 14:26)

The anointing of the Holy Ghost is an essential part, without which no converted soul is fully furnished and equipped for the journey and battle of life. A solemn rite is ordained in the Word of God which, when accepted in obedience and faith, and after proper preparation, becomes the means by which this precious gift is received, namely by the laying on of hands, with prayer, after immersion.

The writer of the Epistle to the Hebrews includes this rite, along with repentance and baptism, as among the **principles** of the doctrine of Christ when he says, "Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, of faith toward God, of the doctrine of baptisms and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead and of eternal judgment." (Hebrews 6:1, 2)

Also we find that the Apostles, Peter and John, when they went to Samaria, having heard that Samaria had received the Word of God through the preaching of Philip, practiced the laying on of hands for the giving of the Holy Ghost upon those who believed and were baptized. We read: "Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost." (Acts 8:17)

While this rite is ignored or neglected by most denominations

of nominal Christianity, it is well established in the Holy Scripture and should be gladly embraced by all true believers who desire to accept the whole counsel of God.

What A Blessing — What a wonderful experience, to be led out of darkness into light! To be led by God's goodness into repentance; in repentance to be led to faith in the Son of God; by Him to be freed from the power of sin; by Him to be washed and cleansed of our sins that are past, to receive forgiveness of sins and peace with God; to be clothed with the white garment of justification through Jesus Christ; to receive baptism in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; by the laying on of hands to receive the gift of the Holy Spirit; to have the love of God richly poured out into our heart!

What A Responsibility — What an experience! What a blessing! Also what a **responsibility**!

Henceforth we are no more our own, but are betrothed as the bride of the Lamb, to Jesus Christ the Lamb of God, the heavenly Bridegroom.

Henceforth we may no more live unto ourselves, but unto Him who lived and died for us.

Blessed are we if we continue in this faith and in the love all our days, being faithful unto death, bearing fruit of the Spirit, (Galatians 5:22) serving God and our fellow men in love, keeping the commandments of Christ, growing rich in good works, done in the Lord. "For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ." (II Peter 1:11)

But woe unto us, if, after being saved, and having vowed to serve God and to keep the Commandments of Christ, we fail to do so; if we content ourselves, merely because we no longer live in sin, and neglect to labor in Christ's vineyard and harvest field; if after having said, "I go, sir," when the Lord called us to labor for Him, we neglect to go and neglect to labor.

Woe unto us and double death, if after we have been "once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers

of the Holy Spirit and have tested the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, if we shall again fall away, and crucify the Son of God afresh and put Him to an open shame." (Hebrews 6:4, 5) There is no second regeneration of such. "But beloved, we are persuaded better things of you, and things that accompany salvation, though we thus speak." (Hebrews 6:9)

— Ben Sommer

THE GOSPEL

"Gospel" means "Good News"

Divine Gospel — "... separated unto the gospel of God." Romans 1:1

Gracious Gospel — "... to testify the gospel of the grace of God." Acts 20:24

Wondrous Gospel — "The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God." Mark 1:1

Sermon . . .

(Continued from Page 36)
that cannot be forgiven, we find also that we can come asking Him to forgive us for our sins and mistakes and He will help us.

We certainly don't want to fall into the trap whereby we would be like those children of Israel where one day they were okay and the next day, they fell into sin. Then the next day, they would beg for forgiveness and on and on and on. We don't believe that God is well pleased with that kind of life. Certainly it is for that reason, then, that we gather to exhort one another that we be true and faithful each day. We should take heed to these teachings and follow them as God gives us the Spirit to direct us.

What are these things? What are the reminders we have here? It is general here in the first verse or two, "Furthermore then we beseech you, brethren, and exhort you by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us how ye ought to walk and to please God, so ye would abound more and more." I Thessalonians 4:1. There is growth here in this first verse. He is saying, "We have taught you what you are to do

and now we want you to walk that way and even walk so that you are abounding more and more."

The Lord has just called us unto His service . . . unto His walk and expects of us to grow and to be more faithful and more honorable to Him.

"For ye know what commandments we gave you by the Lord Jesus." I Thessalonians 4:2. He begins to reiterate some of those commandments. He said, "For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication: That everyone of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour; Not in the lust of concupiscence, even as the Gentiles which know not God:" and he goes on. I Thessalonians 4:3-5.

We are cautioned to be careful of lust and that which could lead to fornication, and to know how to possess our vessels . . . know how to possess our bodies . . . know how to take care of ourselves so we would not be enticed or drawn into these things. The world is drawn into them, and which we could be tempted into also if we are not careful and if we are not obedient to the will of the Spirit of God and not prayerful even in asking Him to help us.

The last part of that sentence seems to change the subject a little bit. He said, "That no man go beyond and defraud his brother in any matter: because that the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also have forewarned you and testified." I Thessalonians 4:6.

This is the matter of being honest in all aspects of life, even toward our brother, even toward all people on the earth!

"For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness." I Thessalonians 4:7. Again, thinking of those children of Israel, it was the same for them. God had called them to be a chosen people but they had fallen even to the point where they were unclean and had grieved God in their actions.

"He therefore that despiseth, despiseth not man, but God, who hath also given unto us his holy spirit." I Thessalonians 4:8. We are reminded here that if we do not keep these commandments, we are

working against God or being as though we were despising some man, but actually we are against God. We are doing these things contrary to God and then God becomes even hurt by this because He has given His Holy Spirit unto us so that we might be overcomers.

Then he speaks of love, brotherly love. He said, "But as touching brotherly love ye need not that I write unto you: for ye yourselves are taught of God to love one another." I Thessalonians 4:9. The first commandment and the second, like unto the first, gives us this requirement. They must have had love for each other.

They must have had brotherly love even to all those brethren that were in Macedonia. Again he said, ". . . we beseech you, brethren, that ye increase more and more" I Thessalonians 4:10.

In the first part of the chapter, it was that they should abound more and more, and now he says that they should increase more and more. So we can see what we are called to, also, that we might grow and prosper in those things which are pleasing to God.

Then just some general reminders are here about their life. ". . . study to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands." I Thessalonians 4:11. We are called to be a people who are quiet.

We are called to be a people to mind our own business, that is, that we don't gossip or seek out to know everybody else's business.

Furthermore, we are asked we would work even with our own hands to lay up those things which are necessary to sustain us in our families.

"That ye may walk honestly toward them that are without, and that ye may have lack of nothing." I Thessalonians 4:12. It is so important, I believe, that we walk honestly toward them that are without. There are people who don't know the way of salvation. There are people who are looking to us to show them the way. There are people who are looking to us to show them the way. They are people who are looking to us as an example of the way.

It is very important that we walk honestly towards those and show a good example.

We know that we can't be perfect and we should not try to be something we are not. But at the same time, I think it is very important that we can show forth honesty and we can show forth the example that our word is good. What we say is what we mean and when we make a promise, that we fulfill our promises.

In general, we should be true to our word and to those we come in contact with. There ought to be a difference in our lives. There ought to be a ring of honesty and truth and sincerity in each of our lives.

We believe there is. Yet, how good that we have been reminded here this morning that we should increase more and more and that we should abound more and more. Everyone of us here in this room has that which we can do better. Everyone of us has that which we can be more honorable to God and be more respected by those who are around us.

Again, if we just think about the last part of the chapter, it will help us to want that more and more. It will help us to want to strive so we can be more faithful, if we just think what it will be like if we are called out of this life before we die. If Jesus does return again, what will it be like on that day when we can be taken up to be with Him forever? What will it be like when we pass from time into eternity and then wait the time in which He will choose us?

We cannot comprehend the blessings of heaven. We cannot comprehend the terribleness of hell. But we can comprehend the blessings of heaven. We want to be among those who are chosen, and we want to escape being among those who are not.

May the love of God and may His Holy Spirit ever come over us each day so that we might then strive to do those things which are written here in the beginning of the chapter. Let us strive to have more faith in Jesus, the One Who saved us from our sins so that we can be a part of those who are taken up.

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SERMON BY BRO. KENNETH INDERMUHLE OF SARDIS, OH

"Abound More and More in Jesus" I Thessalonians 4

If we would read on in the next chapter, we would find that the holy Apostle talks about the coming of our Lord Jesus again. He says even the day of the Lord shall come as a thief in the night to receive those of His own. (See I Thessalonians 5:2).

We believe that believers throughout the ages, between the time this was written and today, have all believed and all have had the thought that perhaps in their time, the Lord Jesus would again return. Here we are, some two thousand years later, and we are still waiting for His return.

None of us know when that shall be. None of us know whether we will be those who are asleep in Jesus when He comes, or if we will be those who are alive and be caught up, even as we have read here in this last part of the chapter.

Really the end of this chapter is quite a comfort, isn't it, when we think about those who passed on before? When we think of those who are indeed sleeping in Jesus and who indeed lived their lives so they were prepared to meet their God, they will be the first to be taken up. Then those who would yet remain on the earth and be alive, will follow after.

"For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the arch-angel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall

be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord." I Thessalonians 4:16-17.

How fitting that the Apostle closes this chapter yet with the thought, "Wherefore comfort on another with these words." I Thessalonians 4:18. We need comfort and we need this assurance, not only when we think about our loved ones who have gone on before, but when we even think about ourselves, our children, and our friends.

We need to be able to comfort each other with the thought that we can be among those who are to be caught up with the Lord forever.

I believe it means that when it says, ". . . so shall we ever be with the Lord." I Thessalonians 4:17. So shall we ever be with the Lord. We shall forever be with the Lord.

It sounds so easy, doesn't it? Yet, the first part of this chapter is a warning to us and it has many, many teachings unto us to help us so that we can have this privilege, and so we can have this eventually happen to us.

I believe he was speaking here to believers. He reviewed here at one point that they had become converted. "For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him." I Thessalonians 4:14.

Just before that, it says, "For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness." I

Thessalonians 4:7. He is speaking here to those who were called by God and who had accepted the call and who believed that Jesus died and rose again. That faith and belief was unto the saving of their souls.

We believe yet today that the only way that we can be saved is through faith and through acknowledgement of that faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Through repentance and conversion, we then can be saved . . . through being born again, as the Word teaches us, out of water and of Spirit.

Then the charge he gave these people was that they remain faithful . . . that they take heed to the teachings and strive to do that which would be the will of God.

He is giving them warnings here that they would not be like the children of Israel, that they would not forget what God had done for them and revert back to doing things which were not pleasing to God . . . only to find that God would have to punish them and then feel kind of sorry. As we read it together, it gives us that impression, at least, for what he had done for them. They would come begging and He would come forgiving.

So it is with us, too. When we find ourselves in sin and when we find ourselves even as lost, we can come begging to God and He will forgive us. As long as we don't fall into deep sin again . . . into a sin

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