



"For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the **word** preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it."
Hebrews 4:2

"Holding forth the **word** of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, either labored in vain."

Philippians 2:16

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— The Bible —

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." John 1:1

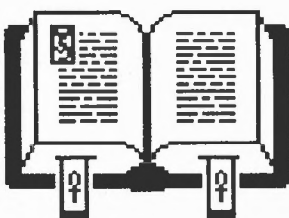
Take The Bible In The Morning

Take the Bible in the morning,
But a moment if no more;
It is better than an hour,
When the trying day is o'er;
It is better than an hour,
When the trying day is o'er.

'Tis the gentle dew from heaven,
The manna for the day.
If you fail to gather early,
Alas, it melts away,
If you fail to gather early,
Alas, it melts away.

So in the blush of morning,
Take the offered hand of love,
And walk in heaven's pathway,
And the peacefulness thereof.
And walk in heaven's pathway,
And the peacefulness thereof. Amen.

Hymns of Zion #62



MISSION – WORLD RELIEF – WORKS PROJECTS

THE DIFFICULTY OF UNBELIEF

Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle, Shioda, Japan

You may think that we have a difficult time maintaining our faith, and this is true inasmuch as the devil is working against us. However, he is playing tricks on us, insinuating that those who have no faith have no struggles, that to them everything is clear. II Corinthians 11:14, "For Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light."

If unbelievers are thinking people, some of the questions they will ask themselves are: "How did life get started in the first place?" "How did animal life and vegetable life separate?" "How did the earth know to tilt at a 23° angle to give us our seasons and to make life possible on earth?" "How is it that we have a mind that is so wonderfully made as to baffle our imaginations?" "What can we do when we feel quilt?" "Is there no balm in Gilead?" Jeremiah 8:22

Faith in a Supreme Being is a natural conclusion of a thinking person. Psalms 19:1 "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handiwork." Once we realize that we have the Supreme Being, God, to deal with, it certainly seems logical that we should give ourselves to Him.

The fact that God sent His Son in human form to die for our sin reinforces the argument that we really should belong to God, live a

holy life, and do what we can to share Him with others.

Many people have a struggle with faith but are afraid to tell anyone. If you are one of those people, believe me, you are not alone. Often elderly people are attacked by Satan in this way. We should encourage each other by realizing that faith is not stupid. Unbelief leaves more questions unanswered than faith does.

EUROPEAN UPDATE

Bro. Andy Hunyady

"And ye shall hear of wars and rumors of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. All these are the beginning of sorrows."

Matthew 24:6-8

Greetings beloved brethren and friends,

Yes, we hear and see that these words of our Saviour are being fulfilled in many parts of this world today. Suffering and misery is being brought upon millions, both by men and nature. (As this report is being typed, the first hurricane of

the season, Andrew, is spreading destruction upon a large section of Florida.) Another sign of the beginning of sorrows!

We cannot fully appreciate the abundant gifts and blessings God bestowed upon us! We need to remember our less fortunate brethren in our prayers who at this very day and time are without the home they were forced to abandon, not knowing if ever they can return and live a life of peace and quietness.

As noted in our previous report, the fate of our brethren in Yugoslavia is worse now. There is no sign of ending this conflict. All efforts to send humanitarian relief into that country has failed so far. But we still continue to find some openings. One shipment of food, (Continued on Page 4)

THE SILVER LINING

Grabill, Indiana 46741
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IN MEMORY – EDITORS:
HENRY SOUDER
EDWARD SOUDER

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN PUBLICATIONS

A new Froehlich book entitled, "OLD TESTAMENT MEDITATIONS" will be available in May from the Apostolic Christian Publications bookstore in Eureka, IL. The text contains writings of S. H. Froehlich, including new sections previously not available in English, along with a number of educational maps. These writings have been carefully translated in order to remain true to the original, then the entire work formatted and printed in a new style which is easier to read than existing Froehlich works.

The casual reader as well as the serious student, will gain a blessing from these Bible studies, which are based on the doctrine of our faith and applicable to our times.

Your needy Brother-in-Christ,
Ron Heiniger
Secretary Apostolic Christian Publications



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).

"TRIED BY FIRE"

As believers we all experience times of severe trial and tribulation. We try to cope with these struggles, but sometimes we fail. We are taught in the Word that our faith which is more precious than gold, must be "tried with fire" (1 Pet. 1:7). We have been given a perfect example in our suffering Saviour to help us understand the purpose of trials and to reap their full benefit.

On the surface, it appears as if some believers have few afflictions and others carry a disproportionately heavy load. No believer is spared, and many times one's trials are not evident to others. When we "take up the cross" of the Lord Jesus Christ we make a life-long commitment to deny ourselves and share in His sufferings. These sufferings may include loss of loved ones, health or possessions; failure and disappointment; harm or hurt inflicted by others; as well as many other difficulties.

Sometimes we are able to bear our burdens well by trusting in the Lord and promptly casting our care upon Him (1 Pet. 5:7). In other instances we may experience trials which press so heavily upon us that we are overwhelmed. Our entire outlook on life can be altered, causing difficulty in carrying out our daily responsibilities. We struggle to overcome, but sometimes it is like crawling up a steep and slippery slope; we gain a little ground and then fall back again. When loved ones offer their comfort and prayers this is of great help. Yet Satan tries to make us feel hopelessly bound or trapped by our trials. We must remember that no individual, event or evil spirit can keep us bound any more than the jailers could restrain Paul and Silas. Even though they beat them and fastened them in stocks, Paul and Silas prayed, sang praises to God and saw His miraculous intervention as an earthquake loosed their bands (Acts 16:22-26).

But what about when after much prayer and pleading the trial does not

pass? We know from God's Word that nothing is impossible with Him (Luke 1:37). We must claim this scriptural truth, but we must also believe that the most important goal is that His will is done. It is essential that we hold to a thread of hope, even in our darkest hours. Job was able to cry out in his wretched condition, "When he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold" (Job 23:10). Isaiah was moved by the Spirit to record this beautiful promise of God's faithfulness: "Fear thou not, for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee: yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness" (Is. 41:10).

There may be periods when it seems as though we just cannot find help. Perhaps these are the very times when we should give help. The turning point from our despair may come when, with thankful hearts, we reach out with determined effort to lend our feeble hand to lift another's burden. The intensity of our trial will become less if our focus is on others, not ourselves.

Another great source of courage is the assurance that God in His own good time will bring forth the fruit of suffering. Learning to wait patiently on the Lord is one of the great benefits of trials. "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint" (Is. 40:31).

There is divine purpose in every trial of our faith. Jesus said that every fruitful branch would be purged (pruned) so that it might bring forth more fruit (John 15:2). The Lord Jesus suffered incredible agony in Gethsemane as He struggled with the bitter cup of sin and shame which was held before Him. "Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; and being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salva-

tion unto all them that obey him (Heb. 5:8-9). The Lord's suffering brought Him to the point of total surrender, where He was ready to submit to any outcome. He was able to endure the shame and torture of the Cross because of His faith in the "joy that was set before Him" (Heb. 12:2). The Apostle Paul wrote that we as believers can claim the same glorious hope. We are "joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together" (Rom. 8:17).

When we fully surrender to God we are in a position to be released from the grip of despair. Joy can be restored whether or not the trial itself has passed. This brings into focus the beautiful truth that "all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose" (Rom. 8:28), even though it may be beyond our comprehension at this point to grasp the full meaning of what has happened.

If we reap the intended benefit from a fiery trial we will find ourselves less dependent upon the things of this life for our joy and peace. Perhaps we will have made vows to the Lord in our dark hours. Like the Psalmist we will declare, "I will go into thy house with burnt offerings: I will pay thee my vows, which my lips have uttered, and my mouth hath spoken, when I was in trouble" (Ps. 66:13-14).

Additionally, we will be far better equipped to help others who are suffering by reaching out with true Christ-like compassion. We will be more appreciative of our Saviour's sufferings and His resultant ability and desire to help us (Heb. 2:18). Above all we will share in the special blessing which is reserved for those who endure the fire and come forth as the gold: "for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord has promised to them that love him" (Jam. 1:12).

assembled by the Canadian churches with the support of our Detroit church, is still being held in Windsor as no air lines would take it due to the sanctions imposed by the Canadian and the United States governments against "Serbia and Montenegro," formerly Yugoslavia. We were successful in obtaining a "license" from the U.S. Treasury Department, Foreign Assets Control Office, to allow us to send the shipment to Budapest. But the International Red Cross in Washington would not cooperate. They asked that we turn the goods over to them and they would dis-

pose of it as they see the most urgent need for it. Our next step was to contact the Salvation Army in Washington. They have a branch in Budapest, but must work through Switzerland and currently we are waiting for clearance from them.

There is no significant change in the Romanian situation, except for the tightening the border crossings. When attempting to deliver some building supplies and fixtures for the new buildings in Romania, the Hungarian brothers were denied entry and were turned back on two separate occasions and

crossing points. They tried to explain that these items were gifts, paid for with monies contributed by the churches in America, but of no avail. Now, I was informed that Elder Bro. Alex Virtaci (Arad, Romania) plans to visit Bucharest and file a complaint and request permission to allow these goods to be delivered. Otherwise, the work on the church buildings is progressing as can be expected.

A generous supply of food and clothing was delivered unto the brethren in the Ukraine. Bros. Ernst Pfister (deacon at Breidenbach, Germany) and Janos Namenyi (minister at Budapest, Hungary) were working together to assemble a large shipment of requested food and other needed items. Both brothers sent reports of their trip. Bro. Namenyi wrote, among other things, that their trip was successful, without any problems at border crossings. The elder brothers asked them to relay their thanks and heartfelt greetings to the American brethren, with best wishes that God would bless and reward each giver for their generosity. He reports that Bro. Octavian Kozak, the veterinarian, finds the medications very helpful in caring for the livestock, horses, sheep, goats, swine, rabbits and poultry. He expressed his hope that additional supplies will continue in the future. Because of large numbers of mice and rats, they ask for some poison to help control their population.

Bro. Ernst sent a more detailed report of their trip.

-- 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
Ninth Year — August 1991 thru July 1992 — 39,608

Bibles Distributed — Tenth Year

	MONTH	TO DATE
August 1992 —	3670	3670

*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.

URGENT NEED!

Apostolic Christian Preschool Athens, AL

We have started our new school year and currently have about 35 students (2-5 year olds) registered. It has been approved by our school board to hire a new teacher. We need a sister who has a degree in education or child development, and a desire to serve the Lord in Alabama. We will provide salary, health insurance and housing. For more information call Elder Bro. Lavoyd Moore (205) 232-2035 or Sis. Joan Reinhard (205) 233-0591.

Bro. Gene Lehman (Wolcott, IN) was kind enough to translate it from German. One large semi, one medium-size truck and a VW minibus were used to deliver the goods. They started out on Monday, July 27, by way of Lintz, Austria, where others joined with a Mercedes truck carrying 2.5-3 tons of supplies. Traveling separately they met at the Hungarian-Ukrainian border. From there they traveled together. Several brothers were waiting their arrival at the edge of Chernovic. On Thursday they had the 28 tons of supplies unloaded. On Friday, the brothers visited the churches under construction. "We went to a store to see what goods were offered for sale. There were indeed many things available, but certainly at no affordable prices. For example, a pair of good shoes cost about 4,300 kopon, the Ukrainian currency, while the monthly income varies between 1,000 and 2,000 kopon . . .

On Saturday afternoon we had a conference with the beloved elder brothers concerning the shipment of aid for them. We made it clear that the groceries for the greater part were a gift of the American brethren and friends, and we merely the transporters of the gifts."

"We also delivered to the elders the \$40,000 which came from the U.S.A. for new buildings which is about 64,221.41DM. We requested an acknowledgement and thanks to the proper brothers in America . . . We begged the brothers to feel free in the future to share with us

when there is a need, and what goods are needed at that time. Their opinion is that it would not be good to help too often, for the people would eventually become accustomed to it . . .

On Sunday early we took part in a funeral for a sister 92 years old. The services were held in the apartment house of the deceased and lasted 3 hours. From there we went on foot 3KM (1.8 miles) to the cemetery. The entire affair took 5 hours, and during this time the assembly of about 300-350 who were also very old, followed the proceedings with great patience and attention. In the evening we were in Ostrica in the assembly, where we spent a few blessed hours together . . .

On Monday, early we began our homeward journey through Romania, where we hoped to visit a few lonely brethren. For lack of time, we turned back at the second stop. The balance of food, designated for Romania, we unloaded in Mescshiide. On Tuesday noon we traveled on to Budapest where we stayed overnight. In the morning we continued our trip, through Lintz, and arrived home again in Breidenbach in good health about 8:30 p.m.

We return thanks to God, our Lord for His protection throughout our travels, and for the abundantly rich blessings which we received, along with our brethren while we were together."

EASTERN EUROPE TRAVEL INFORMATION GUIDE

Many of our Eastern European brethren have struggles, are materially poor or are in need of encouragement. Hence, we are awed by the loving spirit, kindly attitude and willing hearts of those who travel and/or intend to travel to Eastern Europe to visit, fellowship and share in humanitarian ways with brethren and friends of like mind and faith.

As with all aspects of life and living, there are areas of caution, along with the fruits of our labors. It behooves all of us to act and conduct ourselves in a manner that glorifies God, provides peace with mankind and enhances the image of our brotherhood.

The following comments are not meant to dictate one's travel plans, but only to be helpful to travelers who may not be familiar with conditions in Eastern Europe. Perhaps unknown to many are difficulties in cultural practices, national customs and human traits; along with the general volatile and unsettled conditions prevailing in Eastern Europe. Unfortunately well-meaning U.S. brethren have innocently brought problems to our loved ones in Europe which has resulted in confiscation of funds, imprisonment of brethren, as well as strong disapproval and restraint to the activities of the local church.

Observations from individuals, both civilian and governmental, indicate some restraint should be exercised in certain practices while in Eastern Europe, in particular when visiting brethren and friends.

Travelers should note the three following objectives:

- 1) What is to be accomplished - spreading of love and good will.
- 2) What is to be preserved - peace, hope, understanding and harmony.
- 3) What is to be prevented - discord, jealousy, offense or confusion.

The Apostolic Christian Church subsequently offers the following recommendations:

I. Preparation

A. Kindly notify the local elder or church leadership for direction in contacting members of the Mis-

IS GOD CALLING YOU?

As our foster program continues to grow, we hope to add a second Foster Care Caseworker to our staff this fall. Our specialized Foster Program trains and licenses Christian homes and then places and supports foster children in these families. We trust that God is pointing a brother or sister with at least a bachelor's degree and experience in child care, social work or a related field to this position at Gateway Woods. Flexible hours, including part-time work, are available. Please contact one of the brothers below for more information. Gateway Woods provides extensive training, excellent benefits and educational opportunities.

Tim Sauder, Administrator
Box 151
Leo, IN 46765
(219) 627-2159, Office
(219) 627-2606, Home

David Bertsch, Elder
11520 Souder Road
Grabill, IN 46741
(219) 627-2923

sion or World Relief Committees. With European unrest, boundary changes and need for updated information, kindly inform or inquire of the Committee brothers for direction.

B. Exercise caution in solicitations for contributions from individuals or churches on a private basis, as this diminishes the National Apostolic Christian scope of purpose. It is not the intent to restrict giving; we need to work together as a National Church, rather than a splintered group of believers. All major contributions should be handled through the National Apostolic Christian Mission or World Relief Committees, as banking and monetary channels are already in place with European banks for transferring of funds. In all European countries church leaders have pleaded to please observe proper established channels.

C. Travelers will be representing the Apostolic Christian Church of America in one way or another. Discretion needs to be exercised, lest our record within a given country or church community be tarnished. Appearance, conduct and business practices must be done decently and in order.

II. Function

A. Visitors should contact the

local deacon or elder in the country visited and seek out recommendations for visits and/or giving and distribution process.

B. Monetary gratuities for the hosts who feed, house or transport visitors is appropriate but must be discreetly administered. However, in some cases money just cannot purchase or replace hard to acquire articles as toiletries, rationed fuel and foods that are in short supply.

III. Accountability

A. As children of God, we represent Him and the American Apostolic Christian Church while abroad. When returning to the States, it is appropriate to offer a written report or verbal expression of experiences, either to local church leadership or to the National Mission or World Relief Committee. The experience would include recent developments, updated notice of needs, opportunities or conditions.

B. Having felt the atmosphere in Eastern Europe among brethren, perhaps the returning visitors (brethren or friends) can further assist in promoting distribution of goods from American brethren through our distribution centers; and encourage monetary giving through special collections and contributions to the National Apostolic

Christian Mission and World Relief Committees.

The Apostolic Christian Church of America is thankful for those who strengthen the tie that binds our hearts together by visiting Eastern Europe Churches and families. In an effort to build up this bond, we of the Apostolic Christian Church simply ask that the Lord's blessings rest upon your labors of love.

Respectfully in Christ,
World Relief and Mission Committees

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

ITS MISSION, PHILOSOPHY, GOALS AND ORGANIZATION

"As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith."

Galatians: 6:10

Nowhere is the mission of the Home better stated than in this passage of Scripture. The Home's bylaws state that: "It is organized to provide facilities for disabled and to equip, contact and maintain on the broadest humanitarian principles, as espoused by the Apostolic Christian Church, those facilities for handicapped, to obtain, receive and disburse funds, personal and real property, by gifts, grants, etc., to the end also that fellow human beings may be helped." The Home helps not only the handicapped individuals for whom it provides a permanent residence with all the necessary personal care, but also the families of these individuals who are relieved of providing care that is, at best, difficult and gives them a peace of mind knowing their loved one is receiving good care.

The primary goal of the staff is to provide the best possible level of physical care for the Home's residents. Another primary objective is to maintain an atmosphere of Christian virtues that encompass the Scripture's fruit of the Spirit. This, along with various religious-oriented functions, fulfills the ob-

DO YOUR TALENTS AND YOUR TIME BELONG TO GOD?

- * Your abilities to work with young people in love and firmness
 - * Your enthusiastic social skills, sensitivity and assertiveness
 - * Your practical qualities of independence and teamwork
- Do these talents belong to God?

- * Your present and future career plans
 - * Your time and purpose in continuing education
 - * Your plans for tomorrow, next week, next month, and beyond
- Does your time belong to God?

If God is convicting you to use your talents and your time for his purposes at Gateway Woods, **we have an opening for a single sister Houseparent in the All-Girls East House.** Training could begin immediately for an October vacancy. You may contact one of the brothers listed below for more details regarding qualifications, responsibilities, benefits and compensation.

Tim Sauder, Administrator
Box 151
Leo, IN 46765
(219) 627-2159, Office
(219) 627-2606, Home

David Bertsch, Elder
11520 Souder Road
Grabill, IN 46741
(219) 627-2923

jective of meeting the spiritual needs of residents. Scheduling physical and educational activities that raise the ability of the residents to function at their highest possible level is a continuous goal of the Home's staff. Individual attention by staff members to the needs of residents is a high priority at the Home. Another major objective is to comply with all the laws and regulations of the State of Illinois and the federal government concerning licensed facilities for the developmentally disabled. The care, comfort and training of residents comes first; but beyond that, the Home has the objective of providing a desirable place of employment for its many employees. These are some of the major goals and objectives of the Home from which arise many more specific goals.

The ultimate authority over the Home resides with the elder body of the church. Three or more guiding elder brothers are designated to represent the elder body in matters concerning the Home. Authority is delegated by the elder body to a board of directors for overseeing administration and operation of the Home. The board consists of nine brothers with four officer positions and a number of standing committees. The administrator of the Home reports to the board and directs a staff that is divided into nine departments. The assistant administrator presently serves in a dual capacity as social services department manager, and each of the other nine departments is directed by a manager. The Home is currently most ably managed by the administrator and staff.

Each church has a designated representative for the Home. Communication of information about the Home is accomplished through these representatives.

Summer is going by so fast and yet our residents have been able to go on an overnight camping trip which was a huge success and on a trip to Six Flags which was a happy experience. The fun activities planned here at the Home bring much enjoyment to our residents. It makes an ordinary day exceptional, and don't we all like that now and then?

Birthdays in October at the Home are: Lois Baumgartner (4), Carol Fahrni (5), and Kent Knobloch (14). At Oakwood: Anita Schuon (13), Bryan Tiezzi (30). No birthdays at our community homes (CRS's).

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

September is here and school is in full swing. It is exciting to start out a new school year and the new students are settling into routine. This month we are studying about community helpers. The children learn all about different workers in our town that help us, and we climax the month with a field trip to the police station and the fire station. Our students really enjoy this theme.

For our Bible story time each day, we started back to the story of Creation and will continue through the familiar Old Testament stories, then on to the New Testament. As the children hear the stories and learn Bible verses, it is our prayer, that these seeds being planted, will someday bring forth much fruit. Please pray for us here at the Preschool that, as we try to do God's work and His will, He would add the blessing.

We would encourage anyone traveling in the area to stop by and come visit the Preschool anytime. We appreciate the fellowship and support.

GATEWAY WOODS
Apostolic Christian
Children's Home
Art and Ruth Gramm

"My God shall supply all your needs, according to His glory by Christ Jesus."

Philippians 4:19

Ten days before the Auction there was some anxiety among the staff that there just wasn't much of anything to sell. Would we have enough donations for an auction this year? How would the economic crunch affect our sale? As usual, we began our staff meeting with

prayer, and we just turned the auction situation over to the Lord our God, who is able and willing to, "supply all our needs." That all means both physical and spiritual needs.

God certainly worked through His people, as brothers, sisters and friends, came from all our congregations with open hearts and busy hands to make the auction a miraculous success. Over \$135,000 in all.

The words, "thank you!" do not seem to adequately express our appreciation for each one's love, prayers, support and donations. We pray God's blessing on each one who helped, whether it was stitching, sawing, painting, cooking, bookkeeping, auctioneering, donating items or whatever. It took each one to make the auction happen. The unity of God's people at work was certainly evident as the day progressed. We pray, as staff here at Gateway Woods, we will be good stewards of God's work, as we strive to help direct these youthful lives to God's glory. Pray that they may see Jesus is the only one who can help erase the scars, the hurts and pain in their lives, placed on them by a Godless society.

We welcome four new children to our Gateway Woods family. Adam (14), Shane (12) and Barbara H. (8) joined the West House with Bro. Kevin and Sis. Brenda Fiechter and Jeremy S. (12) lives with Bro. Bill and Sis. Jan Baumgartner in the New House. Pray for our houseparents and the children as school starts and new challenges are placed on the young people. Some will be starting in a new school and others anxious to be back to school and old friends.

We are thankful to have Sis. Dena Lewis, with us as education coordinator. She replaces Sis. Sue Grusy who is now a full time mom with two boys of her own and two teenage foster girls. Dena comes to us from Chicago, IL. She has experience in working with and teaching junior high and middle school children. She is a graduate of Illinois State University.

We really appreciate each of the young brothers and sisters, who have volunteered their services for

a few days or a week this summer. The experience of establishing a relationship with happy, young Christians is a powerful message of God's love to our youth. For them to see young people who live the Christian life, by working for others with no monetary reward and enjoying it, is a true picture of God's love in action. It is a new concept to many of our residents to willingly do something for someone else with no thought of reward, as they usually did not have that example in their former lives. We learn best by example and role models. Recent program volunteers include brothers and sisters: Doug Sauder (Fort Lauderdale, FL), Angie Baurer (Tucson, AZ), Rose and Miki Bozzay (Chicago, IL), Jeni Schmidgall (Morris, MN), Lanae Schrock (Washington, IL), Lisa Kieser (Princeville, IL), Amanda Gutwein, Chad Huber and Stan Gutwein (Francesville, IN), Brad Leman (Congerville, IL), Ked Gerber, Tammy Fiechter and Dawn Dick (Bluffton, IN), Jenel Ramseyer (Bay City, MI), Bridget Zollinger and Renee Miller (Sardis, OH) and Jeff Leman.

Some of our young teens went on our annual Honor's Trip this past month. The boys enjoyed camping and spending a day on Mackinaw Island and the girls enjoyed seeing the sights of Chicago and spending a day on Lake Wawasee. A special thank you to the Chicago young group for hosting a picnic for the girls to enjoy while in Chicago.

Sis. Liz Martin has announced that she will be leaving her houseparent position at the East House in October after serving for three years. Sis. Judy Stoller, our Foster Care manager, is greatly cutting back her hours as she anticipates the birth of her first child. Consequently, we have openings for a single female houseparent and a Foster Care Caseworker. Please pray and see the ads in this issue. Possibly the Lord will use you to "supply all of our needs."

ALABAMA, ATHENS
Pamela Moore

It's already the end of August!

Even here in Alabama, the nights are turning cooler, and the days not so hot and humid. The change of seasons is always so welcome, God provides so fully for our every need.

We've experienced so many happy, blessed events in Athens in the past month. On July 18 and 19, Debbie Barrett gave her testimony of her new life with the Lord, and was baptized the following day. It is special to have a new sister-in-Christ.

We've also had three baby girls added to our Athens community. Ray and Tammy (Haggenmaker) Aldridge were doubly blessed with twin girls born July 16, Ashley Faye and Allison Ann. They are both home now, and enjoying their new little world around them. Just ten days earlier, July 6, a baby girl was born to Harold and Laura (Panky) Haggenmaker. They're enjoying little Charity Brook Haggenmaker. Both are first-time parents.

On August 1, David Durham and Renee Barrett were joined as one in marriage, at the Athens Fellowship Hall. They will make their new home in the Athens community also. Then on July 26, Sis. Joan Meister (Athens) and Bro. Tim Reinhardt (Detroit, MI) were united in a sacred marriage in the Lord at Peoria Apostolic Christian Church. Many from Athens traveled to Peoria, IL, that weekend, to share in this special occasion. They also will be making their new home in the Athens area.

We also had sad news. Pete Perry (Sis. Anis Perry's son) has been in the hospital because of a heart attack. We pray for his health and strength to return.

We were so thankful to have Elder Bro. Dave Bertsch (Leo, IN) with his wife and daughter, spend time with us Sunday, August 23. We appreciate so much his kind and gentle ways, and the love in which he brings to us the Word of God.

We've had many visitors in Athens, during the summer months, and appreciate each one. We encourage you to stop and spend time with us if you are in the Athens area.

A reminder to those in Athens

receiving the Silver Lining news, the subscription renewal time is the month of October.

ARIZONA, PHOENIX
Ron and Ev Hoerr

"Be ye kind one to another."
Ephesians 4:32

Our heavenly calling requires heavenly conduct. Kindness is something you can give or show, without effort. How much more pleasant our lives would be if kindness was shown to all, not to just certain ones of choice. Kindness could change the world.

Prayers for all our elders for Godly wisdom, especially during the present conference is helpful to all of us believers. We are grateful to each one (and spouse) for your dedication and daily labors.

Visiting ministers we are grateful to this past month are: Bro. Loren Knapp (Tucson), Bro. Len Meyer (Chicago, IL) and Bro. Nate Leman (Tucson).

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep." John 10:7, enter in and be saved. John 10:9.

Mark Kokanovich and Matt Roth answered the call and found the door. We pray the Good Shepherd will guide them into the fold and we can all dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

We enjoyed a large group of vacationing brothers and sisters from the great Midwest the week of August 7. There were greetings from twelve churches. Do come back -- we can't promise rain or 110 degrees though.

Sis. Dorothy Kraft was hospitalized. Good to see Sis. Lavina Dotterer back and Sis. Emma Sanders visit.

Our dear Bro. Al Frautschi had a fatal heart attack while driving August 14. Memorial services were held after visitation Sunday evening, August 16. There will be funeral services in Leo, IN, August 20.

Our sympathy is extended to Bro. Ed and his family in the loss of dad and grandpa. Bro. Al was lovingly known as "The Candy

Man," giving treats to our many precious children after Sunday lunch. To us adults, he was a loving, kind brother in faith. Praise the Lord! We do have a heavenly home.

Psalms 23 is so comforting, especially now.

Until next time - Ephesians 6:23, 24.

ARIZONA, TUCSON

Lisa Knapp

Adam Frederick Funk made his arrival August 1. He has blessed the home of Bro. Fred and Sis. Diane Funk. Helpers include big brother, Aaron; big sister, Heather; grandparents, Jim and Sis. LouAnn Funk and Bro. Jim and Sis. Joanne Fischer (Morton, IL) and many more! We are happy to report Adam is the third healthy baby in our church this year.

We are experiencing extremely hot, humid days these past few weeks. Temperatures are in the 105° area and unusually high humidity.

We have two people leaving us for the Midwest. Corinne Hari (Daryle and June) has decided to continue her education in Indiana. Corinne has lived in Tucson since she was a little girl and we miss her already! Debby Hunziker (Bro. Willis and Sis. Gloria, Peoria, IL) has decided to move back to Illinois after being with us for awhile. May God bless you both!

Sis. Caroline Zeltwanger (Latty, OH) is with us for awhile, staying with Bro. Curt and Sis. Caroline Kaufman.

CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA

Carol Graf

It has been announced that our friend Nathan Moser has found peace with God and looks forward to being baptized October 4. Nathan brought his children, now grown, to Sunday school when they were younger and has attended our church for many years. We rejoice that God continues to call souls to Him even in their later years. Another friend who has found salvation is our friend, Mark Gallup.

Mark and his wife, Louisa, and daughter attended our church in Altadena for a few years before they moved to Portland, OR. Mark has expressed his wish to be baptized in Altadena, and looks forward to his baptism here sometime in the coming months.

We were blessed to have an extremely full church August 2, as the Snowbirds worshipped with us. There were about 40 brothers and sisters from the Midwest traveling together. Often our church is fairly empty in the summer because it is the favorite vacation time for our members, so this group really made a difference.

Ministering Bro. Glenn and Sis. Kay Hackenjos celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary August 8. All of their children and grandchildren, as well as a group of relatives from Bluffton, IN and Portland, OR, were able to come to their reception and to church the next day. This meant that we again had a large group in church. We are happy for Bro. Glenn and Sis. Kay and hope that they will have many more happy years together.

Our church building project is progressing. Last Saturday, August 22, a group of us painted much of the interior of the new building. While we work very hard during these work days, they are always enjoyable because we fellowship while we work and appreciate one another's company.

We have three graduates who were inadvertently left out of previous Silver Linings. Sis. Debbie Aberle will graduate from Cal. Poly. University, San Luis Obispo at the end of the summer, and Bro. Keith Klotzle graduated from Cal. Poly University, Pomona in June. Shayna Aberle graduated from 9th grade in June, and will begin high school this fall. May God be with them all as they go on to the next step in their lives.

If you know of anybody who lives in the Los Angeles area who doesn't currently attend our church but who might like to come for our dedication service, please send his/her name to:

Elder Bro. John Klotzle
1769 Midwick Drive
Altadena, CA 91001

Note:

I wish I could thank each of you personally. I have been overwhelmed by the number of you that have remembered me with cards, letters, phone calls, flowers, visits, plants and above all, for your prayers to the Great Physician for my healing. Thank you and God bless each of you and keep you in His care.

Andy Lehmann

(This letter was to have been printed in the August issue of the Silver Lining, but was mistakenly printed under Wichita, KS.)

COLORADO, DENVER

Eric and Marcel Huber

We have enjoyed the opportunity to worship and fellowship with our many visitors during the past month. Among those visitors were Elder Bro. Ed Schwartz (Bluffton, OH), and Bros. Dean Messner (Winthrop, MN), Jaye Rinkenberg (Goodfield, IL), Vic Beer (North Fort Myers, FL), Nathan Lehman (Tucson, AZ), Darrel Stoller (Bern, KS) and Elder Bro. Bob Grimm (Goodfield, IL). Our thanks to each brother for sharing the Word with us.

Best wishes are extended to Brad Metz and Karen Martino (Roanoke, IL) on their recent marriage. We welcome Karen to Denver.

Sis. Katherine Ries has been hospitalized. We pray God will grant her renewed health.

CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE

Michelle Virkler

We have been blessed abundantly with many little bundles of joy:

Bro. Dan and Sis. Carole Crohan were blessed with Derek Emanuel, born June 19. His paternal grandparents are Daniel and Jane Crohan and maternal grandmother is Sis. Florine Luginbuhl.

Mark and Cathy Kloter rejoice with the arrival of Scott Eric born June 15. Scott's paternal grandparents are Bro. Everett and Sis. Phyllis Gerber and maternal grandparents are Bro. Ken and Sis. Aline Bahler.

Sarah Marie was born to Bro. Rudy and Sis. Susan Virkler March 25. Paternal grandmother is Charlotte Virkler (New York) and maternal grandparents are Bro. Ron and Sis. Judy Stomberg.

Bro. John and Sis. Maureen Virkler, along with paternal grandmother, Sis. Charlotte Virkler (New York) and maternal grandparents, Bro. Melvin and Sis. Millie Gerber, welcome Samuel John into their hearts and home. Samuel was born January 15.

Our Lord and Saviour surely leads us in our every day walk with Him. "We never are forsaken, With Christ our Lord so near, His faithfulness revealing, We feel his presence here." (Zion's Harp #138). The engagement of Bro. Tom Bahler (Sis. Maxine) and Sis. Lanae Gerber (Bro. Ed and Sis. Beverly) was announced recently.

"Our love shall not diminish, Nor fade nor wax away; Bind us till life we finish, And in the grave we lay. Pure love leads to perfection, Joy of our soul and guide, Gives us true satisfaction And leads to heaven's light." (Zion's Harp #137) Bro. Jay Fehr (Bro. Gene and Sis. Margaret (Tucson, AZ) and Sis. Amber Farney (Bro. Clifford and Sis. Harriet) were united in holy matrimony Sunday, July 19.

"Therefore brethren, stand fast and hold the traditions which ye have been taught, whether by word, or our epistle. Now our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God, even our Father, which hath loved us and hath given us everlasting consolation and good hope through grace. Comfort your hearts and establish you in every good word and work."

II Thessalonians 2:15-17

Visiting ministers for the month were Bro. John Steiner (Oakville, IA), Bro. Earl Gerber (Forrest, IL), Bro. Marvin Dotterer (Forrest, IL) and Bro. Vernon Wettstein (Congerville, IL).

"This union of our hearts, Shall stand through grace in Jesus; We walk the path of life, While cheer and trust increases. Where God in truth abides, Where two join hand and heart, We find a threefold cord, Not lightly rent apart." (Zion's Harp

#79) Bro. Tom Bahler (Sis. Maxine) and Sis. Lanae Gerber (Bro. Ed and Sis. Beverly) were united in holy matrimony August 9.

"Thy eternal God is thy refuge and underneath are the everlasting arms: and he shall thrust them out the enemy from before thee; and shall say, Destroy them."

Deuteronomy 33:27

"Live in peace, and the God of love and peace will be with you."

II Corinthians 13:11

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,
 WASHINGTON
 Henrietta Meyer**

"What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder."

Matthew 19:6

Bro. Matthew Fetter and Sis. Wendy Metzger were joined in marriage July 26 in Gridley, KS. Their parents are Bro. Richard and Sis. Betty Fetter (Toledo, OH) and Bro. Eldon and Sis. Dorene Metzger (Gridley, KS). We welcome Sis. Wendy to our congregation.

"There shall be showers of blessing."

Ezekiel 34:26

We were abundantly blessed August 2 when we had four ministers to serve us. Bros. Doug Sabo and Ron Koehl were here for Sarasota's turn on the rotation. Bro. Curt Rassi (Tremont, IL) and Bro. Jerry Isch (Philadelphia, PA) were vacationing in the area with their families.

Bro. Vernon Wettstein (Congerville, IL) and family were in the area August 9 and met with some of us.

Elder Bro. Dennis Warner (Lester, IA) and family left Tremont after the brotherhood conference on Friday to be with us Sunday. May we ever thank our Lord for ministers and their families who are willing to travel great distances to serve us. Other visitors this month were from Francesville, Bluffton and LaCrosse, IN, Lester, IA and Goodfield, IL.

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. Many from the area meet in the hotel dining room for breakfast at 9:00. Services are at 10:30 and 12:30. For more information, assistance or just to let us know you will be in the area, please call Bro. Matthew Aeschleman (310) 863-9624 or Bro. Ed Stoll (703) 494-3955.

**FLORIDA, FT. LAUDERDALE
 Terri Huber**

Certainly everyone in the country is aware of the hurricane that hit South Florida. Our congregation fared very well, as we all live in Broward County, north of the brunt of the storm. There were a few trees blown over and the inconvenience of being without electricity for one or two days, but that is the extent that we have suffered. In contrast, to the south of us there are people whose entire homes were broken and scattered by the hurricane-force winds. Many of us have been able to donate clothing and food and volunteer time to help transport and distribute the donated necessities. One sister has even used her nursing experience to help in the most devastated areas. As time goes on, further volunteer efforts to help rebuild will be coordinated. We are so thankful to God that we were spared and that we are able to help. We are awed by the display of His power.

We have news of another convert, Delores VanNorman. It was reported last month that her husband, Roy, is repenting. There is much joy in that family and in the family of God today!

**FLORIDA, NORTH FT. MYERS
 Marvin and Rhea Steffen**

"But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear:"

I Peter 3:15

Doesn't that verse kind of de-

scribe our mission on earth as Christians? We pray that we will always be ready when asked by family member or friend.

We had few visitors this month, but surely appreciated each and every one!

Sis. Kaye Eisenmann had surgery this month, and we look forward to her gathering with us again soon. We surprised several of our congregation that had birthdays at our monthly meal out together. We also gave brief testimonies of what brought each of us to the Lord. The memories came back for each of us like it was yesterday. It was uplifting for all.

We, as a church, are going to be adding on in the coming year, we hope. We hope to have plans drawn up for review by the time our winter visitors gather with us. If, in the meantime, any of you have thoughts or advice to share with us, you should contact one of our building committee members: Bros. Dave Eisenmann Sr., Ivan Stoller and Art Keller. You could also contact one of our trustees: Bros. Ben Bauer, Art Keller or Marvin Steffen. We appreciate your prayers as we move into the early stage of this project.

FLORIDA, SARASOTA Suellen Ott - Gala Gerber

So swiftly the time has passed and here it is . . . "school time" once again. We pray for the children that they may not be sucked in by the "evil forces" of everyday society! Satan shares excitement and thrills for the immediate, but offers only pain and torment for eternity! Lord, help each child to be a "Daniel" -- daring to stand alone, if need be.

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

Proverbs 2:6

After spending the summer up north, we welcome home Bro. Matt Koehl. It is a real joy to have him back fellowshiping with us!

We want to express our sympathy with the Jeff Streitmatter family in the passing of their mother and grandmother. May the memo-

ries they share of past times together be sweet and may they rejoice when they anticipate their family reunion in the skies!

Our Sarasota congregation wants to wish Bro. Ed and Sis. Esther Getz birthday blessing as they both celebrate ninety years.

We appreciated and enjoyed Elder Bro. John Lehman (Bern, KS) as he shared the gospel message with us. May he, his wife and children be blessed by our wonderful Saviour!

ILLINOIS, BELVIDERE Carol Steffen

"Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

Matthew 5:14-16

Elder Bro. Gene Marti read the above scripture during our dedication services July 26. We certainly felt the Lord's presence as we held an open house Saturday, July 25, followed by supper and a beautiful singing. Then on Sunday, Elder Bros. Nathan Steffen (Elgin, IL) and Gene Marti (Kansas City, MO), along with Bro. Gene Lehman (Wolcott, IN) and Bro. Wayne Miller (Fort Scott, KS), ministered to us throughout the day dedicating our church and congregation to the Lord. The entire weekend was a tremendous blessing.

The weekend of August 2, we were blessed with several visitors from Princeville, IL. Among them, Bro. Walt Herrmann came to minister unto us. We thank them for supporting us.

We would like to also thank Bros. Tom Schambach and Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL) for lending themselves on our behalf in the ministry. May God bless each of our visitors and all who have prayed for us. We extend a hearty welcome to all to come worship with us.

ILLINOIS, BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL Debbie Grieco - Tudy Schmied

It is always a blessed occasion when two young people, guided by God's will, take their marriage vows before family, friends and the church family. On June 19, Bro. Daren Yergler and Sis. Marie Sprunger were wed in Bluffton, IN. They will be making their home in Cissna Park, IL. We wish them God's grace and guidance as they build their new life together.

We appreciated this month's visiting ministers, Bro. Jim Ramseyer (Bay City, MI) and Elder Bro. Lavoyd Moore (Athens, AL) at a Friday night post-conference service. Their God-inspired messages supplied spiritual food for our congregation after a work week filled with the usual challenges of living in a fallen world.

Do you ever become discouraged by the prevalence of sin around you? Do you tremble as you see the advocates of Christian and family values get defeated on most every front? Do you ever become fearful when reading the Old Testament account of God's judgment against Israel and realize our nation may soon fall under that same judgment unless national repentance occurs? Comfort can be found in Jeremiah 24 where God speaks to the prophet about his judgment of Judah but also his preservation of the "faithful remnant" using the illustration of the good and bad baskets of figs. He speaks of how these hardships will refine and strengthen those who continue to love and obey him. So when you are feeling overpowered by the sinful state of our nation and frightened for our future, remember His words concerning those who remain obedient to Him. "For I will set mine eyes upon them for good, and I will bring them again to this land: and I will build them, and not pull them down; and I will plant them, and not pluck them up. And I will give them an heart to know me, that I am the Lord: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God: for they shall return unto me with their whole heart." Jeremiah 24:6-7.

Our congregation rejoiced with Steve and Lori Stock at the birth of

their son, Nathan Steven Stock, born August 7. He weighed in at 6 lbs. 11 oz. and is welcomed by big sister, Marissa and proud grandparents, Bro. Lester and Sis. Arlene Stock (Cissna Park, IL). In this age where the sanctity of human life is in question by the world, there is no doubt in our hearts that this precious baby is a miraculous gift from God. Praise be to Him, the giver of all life!

Our prayers have been answered as Sis. Bev Hari is recovering nicely from surgery. We look forward to her being able to return to worship with us as her strength returns. God's healing of our physical bodies parallels His healing of our spiritual lives when we come to Him in repentance. "Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows . . ." Isaiah 53:4.

Our concern and prayers are with our Elder Bro. Bob Grimm and his loved ones as he battles illness. We pray for physical healing and spiritual renewal. Comfort may be found in these words, "God's will won't take us where his grace can't sustain us." (Author Unknown) We pray for an extra portion of God's grace to be given Bro. Bob and that he may always feel the Lord's comforting presence near to him. "Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 8:37-39.

ILLINOIS, BRADFORD

Les and Barb Fehr

We recently witnessed the wedding vows of Sis. Julie Rumbold and Bro. Brice Tuebel (Peoria). The parents of the new couple are Bro. Elwin and Sis. Loretta Rumbold and Bro. Dave and Sis. Pauline Tuebel (Lester, IA). May the Lord bless Julie and Brice.

We had the pleasure of hearing the testimonies and witnessing the baptisms of Sis. Lisa Knobloch. She is the daughter of Bro. Ben

Knobloch (Apostolic Christian Home of Eureka). We wish Lisa much grace and many blessings as she begins her new walk.

These two joyous occasions brought us the following ministers: Bros. Dale Frank (Oakville, IA), Ron Schambach (Elgin), Roger Aberle (Sabetha, KS), Jim Plattner (Princeville) and Elder Bros. Joe Stoller (Princeville) and Dave Wiegand (Champaign). Bro. Elmer Schmidt (Winthrop, MN) was with us on a Wednesday evening.

Note of Thanks: A special thanks to everyone for all the beautiful flowers, gifts, visits, cards, phone calls, food and prayers while I was in the hospital and since returning home from having hip surgery. God bless you all.

Lucille Kieser

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO

Kathy Schlatter

The beginning of August we were privileged to visit with a former teach of mine from high school. In fact, I made contact with him again at our 25 year reunion, and we worked the visit into our vacation. He and his wife were so kind and so delightful. We felt at home with them. They shared so many parts of their lives with us, and there were no strained and uncertain moments (unless one counts the one when my nephew broke an antique candleholder). Nevertheless, this teacher remained "Mr. Hall" to me. Though I knew his first name well, I could not use it. Truly, it would have seemed inappropriate. (And as I told a former student my experience, he nodded - for though he is a dear friend, he avoids addressing me rather than using my first name as I have given him permission to do.) For me, this incident illustrated on a very small scale how I find myself addressing God. No matter that I know Him better than I ever have, with more reasons to thank and praise Him and with more reasons to request forgiveness and strength, supplication and mercy. He is worthy of such total respect that only "Thee" and "Thou" can seem appropriate on my tongue. If a translation on a calendar or devotional

uses "You" and "Your," I repeat that part aloud and change it to "Thou," "Thee" and "Thine." How could I do less? Am I willing to show a past teacher respect in my mark of address, yet I do not esteem my Lord God and Creator highly enough to differentiate the way I directly address Him from the way I speak to all other people on earth? I cannot.

We were privileged to have ministering brothers breathe into our congregation the inspiration of the Spirit. We are thankful to Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle (Shioda, Japan), Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville, IN), Bros. Max Reimschisel (Wichita, KS), John Grimm (Columbus, OH), and Leland Plattner (Zapata, TX). We are grateful for the Lord's traveling mercies and pray that each would be yet more richly blessed for the love each shared.

Sunday school has begun once again. Bro. Brent Stoller has joined Bro. Tom O'Shea (S. S. Supt.) as assistant superintendent. Sis. Mary Metzger gave so much in her six years of teaching, by her manner, her words, and her dedication. We will miss her, but we are thankful for all of her work and love. Sis. Elaine Gudeman has agreed to replace her, and Sis. Raelynn Plattner will also join us by December. May we support our Sunday school teachers with our love and prayers.

We welcome several wonderful people. Ross Meyer has returned to us. Instead of teaching English in Hungary this year, he will be attending graduate school at the University of Illinois in Chicago. Sis. Mollie Witzig (Gridley), Sis. Krista Banwart (Champaign) and Sis. Jill Baurer (Cissna Park), all of Illinois, are also enrolled in the field of therapy there, occupational and physical. Aleida Mandujano, and AFS student from Mexico City, is a new family member with Bro. Jim, Sis. Kathy and Katrina Schlatter for the year. May all of these beloved souls find blessing within our church fold, living under the protection of the Lord in our area.

Twins are double the blessings. Amanda and Ashley arrived August 8 to delight Bro. Randy and

Sis. Lanae Meyer, Kendall, Kevin and Kayla. Grandparents are Bro. Glen and Sis. Joyce Metzger (Lester, IA); and Bro. Lenny and Sis. Charlotte Meyer (Chicago) have also had prayers answered in their safe arrival. Great-grandparents and a great-great-grandparent count their blessings, too. We, in the church, remember that we have responsibilities along with our privileges in watching this set of twins grow. May the Lord give their family and us special guidance as they grow.

When people leave, we never seem too eager. Sis. Dena Lewis has joined the Gateway Woods (Leo, IN) staff as educational coordinator; Sis. Katrine Streitmatter has moved to Bloomington, IL, to further her education at Illinois State University. We would be glad to keep them both, but we appreciate the Lord's leading in their lives. May we be joyful, prayerful, ever counting them as family despite our distance.

We extend our deepest sympathy to Lois and Bud Tackwell at the death of her sister. Grief works on us for better when the Lord has His way, but it is never easy. May we remember this dear family in our prayers.

Summer ended quickly once again. Though I am not ready for school, I should be — every year. August always brings two very special events into our lives. The first is the auction at Gateway Woods. This year we spent some delightful days with the teens there before the auction also. Then there is the brotherhood conference, which this year was in Tremont. The World Relief Committee reminded us of the scope of our outreach. Our elder brothers reminded us by the Spirit of our inner reach towards God. What a privileged people we are!

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK
Cyndee Anderson - Bev Knapp

"To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: . . ."

Ecclesiastes 1:2

"A time to be born . . ."

We rejoice with Bro. Les and Sis. Christine Kaeb of our congregation who are parents of a new boy, Ryan Keith, born August 12. He is welcomed home by his little sister, Leah. Grandparents are Bro. Larry and Sis. Jeanie Kaufmann and Bro. Elmer and Sis. Mary Lou Kaeb.

"A time to die . . ."

Our dear Sis. Elizabeth (Lizzie) Knapp passed away August 2 at the Fairview Haven Nursing Home. We extend our sympathy to her family, which includes Alma Dreyer (Aaron, Peoria), Bro. Melvin (Sis. Doris), Bro. Ralph (Sis. Verena) and Bro. Earl (Sis. Mary), all of Cissna Park, Bro. Wayne (Sis. Delores, Watseka) and Charles (Jeanne, Hoopeston). We are thankful for her good example for many years.

We also extend our sympathy to Bill and Judie Drayer in the death of her sister, Sharon Kay McCullar and to Mark and Sis. Dinah Wilkening in the death of his grandmother, Gertrude Wilkening.

"A time to love . . ."

We wish God's blessings upon two couples in our congregation who recently announced their engagements. They are Sis. Karen Rinkenberger (Cissna Park) and Bro. Wendell Schmidt (West Bend, IA) who are the children of Sis. Velma and the late Bro. Steve Rinkenberger and Bro. Ivan and Sis. Evelyn Schmidt. Also, Kara Drayer (Rankin) and Douglas Teske (Buckley), whose parents are Bill and Judie Drayer of our congregation and Robert and Lois Teske (Buckley).

"A time to speak . . ."

We appreciated the many messages of encouragement and admonition brought to us by visiting ministers this month: Bro. Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville, IL), Bro. Robert Beebe (South Bend, IN), Bro. Todd Feller (LaCrosse, IN), Elder Bro. Lavoyd Moore (Athens, AL), Bro. Larry Wenninger (Latty, OH), Bro. Bill Waibel (Bay City, MI) and Bro. Tom Luginbuhl (Altadena, CA).

"A time to heal . . ."

We pray for God's nearness to those who have been sick in the

hospital recently. Sis. Wanda Maul is again home and recovering, but our thoughts and concern are still with Bro. Elmer Bauer as he is still suffering the weaknesses of the flesh.

"A time to keep . . ."

We extend our congratulations to Bro. Alvin and Sis. Loretta Baumgartner on their 50th wedding anniversary which they enjoyed with their children and family. It is truly a blessing to spend 50 years together in the Lord.

For all things, God has a time and a purpose. What a comfort to know that in all things He is sovereign and is in control of all aspects of our lives.

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE
Myra Steffen - Sue Wiegand

"Blessed is every one that feareth the Lord; that walketh in His ways."

Psalms 128:1

We are thankful for the time the elder brothers have taken again at conference time in our behalf. Visiting ministers who were with us during that time were Bros. Duane Farney (Croghan-Naumburg, NY), Bill Dotterer (Phoenix, AZ), Lloyd Kraft and Tim Zimmerman (Gridley, KS), Ron Palitto (Akron, OH) and Merle Hartzler (Rittman, OH). Bro. Bill Gerst (Alto, MI) was also here for a Sunday. May God bless them in their service for Him.

Bro. Alan and Sis. Joanne Roth are thankful for Brett Steven. David, Lisa and Jonathon are his brothers and sister. Grandparents are Bro. Hans and Sis. Arlene Hinrichsen (Goodfield) and Bro. Keith and Sis. Pauline Roth.

Having first sought God in their lives, Sis. Lynette Stahl and Bro. Doug Knepp (Eureka) feel it is His will that they be husband and wife. May God be with them as they plan for their wedding.

Elizabeth Virkler (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Gayle) and Tyler Dietrich (Bro. Tim and Sis. Sandy) spent time in the hospital. We are thankful for God's healing hand and they are home again.

As it is again time for school to start, may we all remember to pray for our children that God would be there with them.

ILLINOIS, ELGIN
Elizabeth Schambach
Betty Bachtold

**I KNOW THAT MY
 REDEEMER LIVES**

I know that my Redeemer lives;
 What comfort this sweet sentence
 gives!

He lives, He lives, who once was
 dead.

He lives, my ever living head.
 He lives to bless me with His love.
 He lives to plead for me above.
 He lives my hungry soul to feed.
 He lives to bless in time of need.

He lives to grant me rich supply,
 He lives to guide me with His eye.
 He lives to comfort me when faint.
 He lives to hear my soul's
 complaint.

He lives to silence all my fears.
 He lives to wipe away my tears.
 He lives to calm my troubled
 heart.

He lives, all blessings to impart.
 Lewis D. Edwards

This month our Sunday school children participated in Vacation Bible School and were taught of the loving truths of the Bible. May our merciful God add the increase. We are especially grateful for ministering brothers, Edwin Bahler (Remington, IN), Gene Lehman (Wolcott, IN), Merrill Laukhuf (Latty, OH), Thomas Schambach (Elgin) and Marshall Heinold (Washington). Other visitors this past month were Bros. Neil Ramseyer (Bay City, MI), Tom Leman (Denver, CO), Dean Steffen (Belvidere), Garth Steffen (Portland, OR) and Alpha Strahm (Bern, KS). Our humble thanks and God bless you!

Believing that holy matrimony is ordained by God, and in the spirit of Christian joy, Sis. Ida Metzger and Bro. Keith Kellenberger were united as one-in-Christ August 2. Their parents are Bro. Ernest and Sis. Ella Metzger (Lester, IA) and

the late Bro. Nathan and Sis. Minnie Kellenberger.

Melissa Kellenberger and Richard Genz exchanged wedding vows August 7. Parents of this couple include Elvis and the late Gail Kellenberger and Dick and Geri Genz (South Elgin). May the Lord's love and blessings be upon these two couples.

Tim and Patty Kilgus are saddened by the passing of her grandfather. May God send His love and comfort.

We continue to pray for God's mercy and loving strength upon Sis. Gladys Weiss who has again undergone surgery.

ILLINOIS, EUREKA
Dori Blunier

"And I will set up shepherds over them which shall feed them: and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, neither shall they be lacking, saith the Lord."

Jeremiah 23:4

We are truly thankful that God has directed our congregation in providing Bro. Ervin to be our elder and shepherd. We are looking forward to ordination services to be held Sunday, August 30.

Feeling the direction of God's Spirit in their lives, we had two wedding engagements announced in the last month. The two couples are Bro. John Cottrell (Bill Cottrell and Sis. Judy Cottrell) and Sis. Gloria Zimmerman (Bro. Earl and Sis. Elsie Zimmerman) and Bro. Doug Knepp (Gary Knepp and Sis. Nancy Knepp) and Sis. Lynnette Stahl (Bro. Ernie and Sis. Norma, Congerville). We wish them God's blessings and continued guidance as they blend their lives together.

We were privileged to have many visiting ministers with us recently. One of those brothers asked us "Who among us is the most blessed? It could be me or it could be you." It was a reminder to concentrate on the good things in our lives instead of the negatives. Our visitors were Bros. Bill Hodel and Jim Leman (Roanoke), Bro. Bill Dotterer (Phoenix, AZ), Bro. Ed Knecht (Portland, OR), Bro. Art

Metz (Silverton, OR), Bro. Paul Gasser (Akron, OH), Elder Bro. Lawrence Luthi (Lamar, MO) and Bro. Duane Metzger (West Bend, IA).

On July 18, Bro. Mark and Sis. Lisa Schmidgall were excited to welcome into their lives their third little girl, Lilly Lanae. Her two sisters are Ashley and Emily, and her grandparents are Bro. Marvin and Sis. Dorothy Schmidgall.

Our prayers are with Sis. Connie Hoerr (Bro. Norman) and Jason Kupferschmid (Bro. Ed and Sis. Donna) who have spent time in the hospital. Sis. Judie Knecht would like to thank everyone who remembered her with prayers, visits, cards, gifts and food while she was in the hospital and since returning home. May God bless each one for their love.

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY
Sally Fehr - Thelma Slagel

"O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good: because his mercy endureth for ever."

Psalms 118:1

We thank the following ministers for sharing God's Word with us, Elder Bro. Kevin Ryan (Rockville, CT), Bros. Kenneth Weerts (Cissna Park, IL), Nelson Beer (Milford, IN), Jay Luthi (Lamont, KS) and Elmer Schmidt (Winthrop, MN). We wish them and their families God's richest blessings. We also had many visitors and appreciate them worshipping with us.

Our prayers were with our elder brothers as they met in Tremont, IL, for the brotherhood conference.

We have been blessed with several weddings. May God richly bless these dear couples as they journey hand in hand till life's end.

Dayton Steidinger and Teresa Bryant took their wedding vows July 18. Parents are David and Deann Steidinger and Jean Bryant.

Bro. Corey Steffen (Bro. Albert and Sis. Karen) and Sis. Beth Steidinger (Bro. Tom and Sis. Diane) were united in holy matrimony August 9.

Jay Mueller (Ron and Loida) and Diane Slagel (Ron and Sis. June) were united in marriage August 15.

We rejoice with Bro. Bryan Stoller (Bro. Dale and Sis. Sandra) and Sis. Kara Meiss (Bro. Carlos and Sis. Jane) their engagement was announced August 9. As they plan their wedding may they look to God for His guidance.

We welcome Bro. Tim and Sis. Julie Walder to our congregation. May God bless them as they establish their home in Fairbury.

Sis. Ann and William Van Antwerp observed their 40th anniversary August 28. May God's blessings rest upon this couple.

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Steidinger had a 65th anniversary open house at their home August 16. May God continue to bless this dear couple.

On August 5, Sharnell Kayla was born to happy parents, Bro. Kirby and Sis. Gwen Knapp. Little sisters, Lanae and Natasha, are delighted. Grandparents are Bro. Merle and Sis. Marge Kaisner and Glenn and Sis. Laura Knapp (Forrest, IL).

Sis. Vi Moser had tests and is feeling well again. Bro. Melvin Hartman was at the VA hospital and is home recovering. Bro. Willis Nussbaum is able to be out and about. May God's healing power abide with them.

Our hearts are saddened over the loss of Dale Zimmerman (Forrest). Our prayers and sympathy are extended to his wife, Carol, and many relatives.

I wish to thank everyone for birthday greetings and gifts. May God bless you. It was very much appreciated.

Ruth Hofstetter

ILLINOIS, FORREST

Sherri Kelson
Sandra Schneider

A dear sister-in-faith had the opportunity this summer to work with Robbie Mueller and others that require special care and felt moved to write the following poem. We include it here as a tribute to Robbie on his 17th birthday.

AN ANGEL IN DISGUISE

I passed someone today,
Who seemed a tad-bit odd.
His feet were all awry,
As slowly he did plod.

His hands and arms did flail,
As if out of control.
And when he tried to speak,
How strange his tongue did roll.

Perhaps he's near my age,
but it's quite hard to tell,
For his features are deceiving,
And his mind a child's still.

I asked God, "Why'd you send
This child down to the earth?
Don't you know he doesn't match
us?
He's had problems since his
birth!"

God chided me quite gently,
"Can you trust my Will no more?
Please open your heart to him,
And see what he has in store."

So I watched his joyful playing
He was free of anxious care.
Then instead of needless
grumbling,
Could I find a smile to share?

He's content to fully trust,
The first unselfish hands.
So pleased to love and cherish
The one who by him stands.

I resolved to be more willing
To trust God's hand more fully,
And prayed that I could see,
The good in those by me.

I passed someone today,
Who was a little special.
His feet seemed light and
carefree,
Though they tried to make him
stumble.

His loving face did show,
A radiance so bright.
His voice and tongue so slow,
Praised God and His great might.

He doesn't seem his age,
According to his skills.
But he's wiser yet than I,
As no sin his pure heart fills.

I told God, "Thanks for sending,
This child down to the earth,
He has so much to teach us,
Of Thy Will for us on earth."

God replied in patience tender,
"I told you to trust Me more,
Please open to him your heart,
He'll point you to heaven's door."

May God continue to grant patience to Robbie's family as they care for their Angel in Disguise.

Sis. Leona Ricketts, Sis. Aldine Wackerle, Sis. Edith Zimmerman, Andy Metz, Sis. Louise Honegger and Bro. Homer Blunier required hospital stays recently. We are thankful most have been able to return to their homes and we pray God's nearness will be felt by each one as they wait for His healing.

We are rejoicing over the news that Ralph Koehl has made a beginning in repentance. He has experienced a decline in health but we are happy to see him grow in the spirit. We wish him much grace to go through a true repentance.

We extend our sympathy to Dan Bradley in the passing of his brother, Robert Bradley (Minonk); to Sis. Sharon Adams in the passing of her brother, Maurice Martin (Cissna Park). May God comfort their hearts.

Kevin Kafer and Heidi Weber have made known their engagement and have set September 19 as their wedding date. Bruce and Sandy Weber (Fairbury) and Kenny and Gail Kafer are their parents.

Dick Rieger and Pam Stimele were married July 18. Bro. Rich and Sis. Marian Rieger and Carl Schrof and Ernie Parkinson are their parents. We wish them happiness together.

The brotherhood conference brought us many visiting ministers and we thank them for their service to us. May God bless Elder Bro. Kevin Ryan and Bros. Al Schneider and Ev Gerber (all of Rockville, CT), Loren Knapp (Tucson, AZ), Jay Luthi (Lamont, KS), Elmer Schmidt (Winthrop, MN), Art Metz (Silverton, OR), Ron Koehl and Doug Sabo (Sarasota, FL), John Stoller (Leo, IN) and Bob Stoller (Lamar, MO). Also we enjoyed having the Fairbury congre-

gation gather with us the Friday evening of the conference.

Words cannot express our heartfelt thanks and deep appreciation for the many acts of love and sympathy after the tragic loss of our dear Dale.

Our deepest gratitude to all for the comforting calls, visits, prayers, the memorials, gifts, cards, flowers, food and other expressions of sympathy during this difficult time.

The outpouring of love has been truly overwhelming and humbling and will always be remembered. May God richly bless each and every one.

Carol Zimmerman
Bro. Glen and Sis. Mildred
Zimmerman
Curt and Cindy
Bro. Rod and Sis. Micki
Sis. Trudy and Bro. Craig
Bro. Denny and Sis. Pam
Bro. Jeff and Sis. Steph
and families
Bill and Lucille Menold
and family

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD
Barb Brim

"Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

Isaiah 41:10

How sweet are his victories as has once more been demonstrated to us in the Goodfield congregation this month. The successful surgery of our dear shepherd, Elder Bro. Bob Grimm, is yet another example of the divine love and grace extended to us, His children, daily. We rejoice with Bro. Bob, Sis. Elna and the whole family for this positive affirmation of our heavenly Father's care.

Many new beginnings were made this month in Goodfield. On July 26, our dear Sis. Dawn Plattner (Bro. Dan and Sis. Jayne, Goodfield) was united in marriage with Bro. Seth Sauder (Bro. Roger and Sis. Judy, Fort Lauderdale, FL) and on August 16, Sis. Jill Hohulin (Bro. Jim and Sis. Joy, Goodfield)

and Bro. Ken Martin (Bro. Kaywin and Sis. Karin, Detroit, MI) joined their two lives in our Lord and Saviour's name.

"Many waters cannot quench love, neither can the floods drown it: if a man would give all the substance of his house for love, it would utterly be contemned." Song of Solomon 8:7. May your love for each other be as unquenchable as our Father's love for us and may He richly bless the union of your hearts.

New beginnings were also made by the births of Wade Daniel and Kaitlyn Nichole this month. Jeff and Jodie Sauder were made first-time parents with the arrival of their son, Wade Daniel Sauder, July 18. Grandparents are Bro. Jerry and Sis. Ann Sauder (Roanoke) and Verm and Duane Freidinger (Congerville). Our second new arrival of the month was Kaitlyn Nichole Monfrey, daughter of Bro. Tony and Sis. Deonne Monfrey. Bro. Jerry and Sis. Mick Steffen (Goodfield), Mrs. Monfrey (Decatur) and Mr. John Monfrey (Mississippi), are all happy to be grandparents to this little bundle of joy. We're sure sisters and brother, Meika, Brooke and Clayton, are equally excited over their new sister.

We have many visiting ministers and their wives to thank for sharing their time and extending their love to us this month. To Bro. Rich and Sis. Kathy Sutter (Fort Lauderdale, FL), Bro. Jeff Streitmatter (Sarasota, FL), Bro. Dennis and Sis. Bonnie Kaufmann (Bloomington), Elder Bro. Ed and Sis. Nancy Aeschleman (Philadelphia, PA), Bro. Mark and Sis. Bev Bahr (Detroit, MI), Bro. Hartzell and Sis. Mary Kaisner (Detroit, MI), Bro. Greg Graham (Phoenix, AZ), Bro. Gene and Sis. Dolores Metzger (Lester, IA) thank you all! Your fellowship is truly enjoyed and appreciated.

Card of Thanks: Dear Ones All, Our family would like to thank each one for the prayers, food, money and each deed of kindness in the last year. The Lord has provided this loving network in our church family and we praise Him each day. Our prayers have been answered

and we are greatly encouraged by my returning good health. In His name,

Jackie and Dean Knoblock,
Sara, Andy and Amy

In a still small voice that speaks
to me,
so softly yet so clear;
as I lay upon my bed at night,
with the dawn's light drawing
near;

He tells me of his love for me,
he calms my every fear,
In words so lovingly he speaks,
like music to my ears.

Sometimes, he will chastise me,
for all my foolish doubts,
he says his strength will see me
thru, when Satan lurks about.

Remember Job and Abraham,
remember Moses too.
How do your fears stack up
against, the trials they went thru?

And when I feel so all alone, as if
no one can hear;
the cries for help that silently,
keep ringing in my ears;

That still small voice will come to
me, I never know just when.
He soothes my soul and gives me
rest, restores my peace again.

In trials and in tribulations,
he tells us to rejoice,
I know its true because that's
when,
You hear that still, small voice.

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY
Perry A. Klopfenstein

Several brothers from our Gridley congregation attended the annual conference August 14 at Tremont. As always, the Spirit's inspiration was uplifting and edifying.

It is deeply meaningful, year after year, to see brethren gather from east and west, and north and south, out of all our various congregations to sit in attendance and hear a common doctrine expounded that will benefit the churches.

The Lord warned, "Take heed that no man deceive you." Indeed,

an ongoing need of the church has been, and continues to be, to separate the true from the untrue and to carefully dispel the many falsehoods to which the flesh is prone.

Our brethren's legacy of doctrinal fidelity continues on. Our link to the foundations of the past helps to clarify our vision of the future. In a preface to one of Bro. Samuel Froehlich's books, it was written: "Froehlich's service was to shake off the chains of false Christianity and go back to the original truth. Back to the gospel of Christ and the pure doctrine of the apostles, whose task was to continue to Christ's work. They weren't content to just believe this gospel, but they were to follow it in its completeness."

One of the great blessings of our national brotherhood is that we recognize the Word of God as without error and unfailing. Free of rationalistic and seminary falsehoods, and humble of heart, our church leaders are able by God's grace to give a Bible-based identity to the Word's pathways and patterns. May this continue on until resurrection morning when Christ will come in all His glory and our limited faith will be turned into an unfathomable sight.

Sis. Louise Gramm recently moved to the Eureka home. One of our most elderly sisters, she had resided in her Gridley home for many years, but recently felt the need for more care. Her husband, the late Elder Bro. George M. Gramm, served as Gridley's elder for nine years, from 1963 to 1972. Sis. Louise is a beloved and devoted sister-in-faith and will be missed. We wish her the Lord's nearness in Eureka.

Bro. Alwin Funk was hospitalized recently. Also in the hospital were Sisters Valerie Funk and Ethel Schmidgall.

ILLINOIS, MORTON

**Phyllis Farney
Cheryl Wuthrich**

We wish to thank the many ministers and their families who visited us this month. They were Elder Bros. Richard Schupbach (Phoenix, AZ), Bud Klopfenstein

(Fort Lauderdale, FL), Charles Sinn (Fort Scott, KS) and ministering Bros. Doyle Frauhiger, Steve Ringger (Bluffton North, IN), Brian Webb (Fort Lauderdale, FL), Doug Grimm (Sabetha, KS), Ron Heiniger (Bloomington-Normal, IL) and Greg Rassi (Chicago, IL).

Two dear sisters were laid to rest recently. How sweet to have lived long and full lives and be able to meet their Savior. Sis. Emma Rocke died August 13 at Apostolic Christian Restmor where she had lived for the last 12 years. May God comfort her son, Bro. Wayne Rocke; her daughters, Erma Steiner, Sis. Shirley Stimeling and Sis. Marilyn Huette; her sisters, Sis. Minnie Unsicker, Sis. Velda Schlipf and Sis. Alvena McDermott; her 16 grandchildren and 27 great-grandchildren. Sis. Irene Ogg died August 18 at Apostolic Christian Restmor. May God comfort her son, Jack; her sister, Sis. Olga Frintz; and her nieces and nephews.

Bro. Eric and Sis. Mildred Koehl wish to thank all those who remembered them and helped them celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary.

ILLINOIS, PEORIA

Jim David

Bro. Joe and Sis. Jackie Herman welcomed their second child, Madison Edgar, into their family August 18. Madison has an older brother, Colton Joseph, and his grandparents are Bro. Joseph and Sis. Lucille Herman (Peoria) and Bro. Robert and Sis. Louise Reimschisel (Bluffton, IN).

Another couple also experienced the joy of having a second child, when Alexandra Janell was born August 17 to Bro. Geoffrey and Sis. Angie Ginzel. Alexandra was welcomed home by her sister, Samantha. Alexandra's grandparents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Mary Ginzel, and Bro. Herman and Sis. Eva Jean Schaefer (all of Peoria).

God blessed Bro. Wayne and Sis. Carol Klopfenstein with another girl, Carmen Joy, August 20. Carmen's older sisters are Carissa, Kyra and Kelsey. Carmen's grandparents are Bro. Alvin and Sis. Ellen Klopfenstein (Latty, OH) and

Bro. Reuben and Sis. Emily Stoller (Gridley, IL).

We thank Bro. Richard Sutter (Fort Lauderdale, FL), Bro. Carl Wyss (Washington, IL), Bro. Russell Wuthrich (Pulaski, IA), Bro. Tom Leman (Denver, CO) and Bro. Loren Knapp (Tucson, AZ) for visiting the Peoria church this month.

We pray for God's healing of our hospital patients, Bro. Walter Hess, Sis. Lydia Stoller, Sis. Leona Leman, Bro. Pete Hoerr and Sis. Martha Wagenbach.

On August 19 the Peoria church witnessed the testimony and baptism of August Hoerr. We welcome our new brother-in-faith, and pray the Lord will richly bless Bro. August in his new walk of life.

On August 9, Bro. Jeff Birkner (Joyce Birkner, Pekin, IL) and Sis. Angela Metzger (Bro. Roy and Sis. Evelyn, Pulaski, IA) were united in marriage in the Peoria church. Bro. Win Stoller (Bro. Herb and Sis. Nancy) and Sis. Amy Sutter (Bro. Richard and Sis. Kathy, Fort Lauderdale, FL) were married in Champaign, IL, also on August 9. We wish both these couples God's abundant blessings.

Sis. Anna and Bro. Ernie Schneider wish to thank those who helped celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary.

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE

Martha Jane Siebenthal

We were fortunate this month to have many visiting ministers, Elder Bros. Darrell Klopfenstein (Fort Lauderdale, FL), Lawrence Luthi (Lamar, MO), Willis Ehle (Shioda, Japan) and Bros. Douglas Sabo (Sarasota, FL), Marvin and Lynn Stieglitz (Leo, IN), Rex Frieden (Lamar, MO), Al Langhofer (Wichita, KS), Peter Petrovic (San Diego, CA), Kevin Banwart (West Bend, IA) and Jeff Streitmatter (Sarasota, FL). May God bless them for their labors of love sharing God's Holy Word with us.

On August 8 and 9, we heard the testimonies and witnessed the baptisms of Wanda Baer (Ray and Sis. Janna Lou), Janell Blunier (Bro. Dale and Sis. Joyce) and Kathy Martin (Sis. Edna and the late Bro. Ray). We rejoice with these

three souls and with them God's richest blessings and grace as they begin their new life in Christ. We thank Elder Bro. Darrell Klopfenstein for coming to help Bro. Joe.

Happy and thankful grandparents are Bro. Alfred and Sis. Virginia Streitmatter of Jed Ryan Feucht, born July 22 to their daughter, Beth and Curt Feucht. Also, Bro. Howard and Sis. Mary Ann Herrmann are happy grandparents, as their daughter, Sis. Deanna and Bro. Matt Steffen, were blessed with a boy born August 3.

Hospital patients this month were little Brian John Elsasser, infant son of Bro. Brian and Sis. MaryBeth. We are thankful he is home after having heart surgery. Bro. Duane Elsasser (Sis. Doreen) submitted to heart surgery and we are thankful he is home and doing well. Sis. Nancy Menold (Bro. Fred) had foot surgery. May they feel God's nearness and healing powers.

We thank Bro. Carroll Gerber (Bluffton, IN) for the inspirational Bible study the evening of August 7. May God bless him and Sis. Louise for coming and giving of himself for a blessed evening.

We are thankful for the safe return of our minister, Bro. Art and Sis. Joy Baurer, as they travel in Europe for a few weeks visiting their daughter and husband.

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

Annie Hoffman - Cathy Hohulin

September is upon us and the kids are back in school. As they leave home in the mornings, our prayers for God's protection and guidance go with them. May they "remember their Creator in the days of their youth."

We rejoice with Cindy Luginbuhl and her parents, Bro. Ray and Sis. Carol, as she has recently turned to the Lord in repentance.

Bro. Jerry Getz welcomed a new grandson June 28 when Jacob Lawrence was born to H. L. and Teresa Hirstein (Virginia Beach, VA). His other grandparents are Bonnie Getz, Jack Hirstein and Mary Jo Hirstein (all of Morton).

June 12 was the birthday of Maria Lyn, born to Andy and Jayne Sauder (Bettendorf, IA). Bro. Howard and Sis. Edith (Roanoke) and Bro. Victor and Sis. Marilyn Banwart (West Bend, IA) are her grandparents.

Our congregation welcomed several new babies born in July. Jenna Ashton was born July 17 to Joan Schumacher. Grandparents, Bro. Jerry and Sis. Jane Schumacher, welcome Jenna.

On July 18, Jeff and Jodie Sauder became the parents of Wade Daniel. Wade is the grandson of Bro. Jerry and Sis. Ann Sauder (Roanoke) and Duane and Vermeda Freidinger (Congerville).

Finally, July 24 was the birthday of Christopher Ross Gingrich, son of Bro. Ross and Sis. Nancy. The happy grandparents are Sis. Margaret Hodel (Roanoke) and Virgil and Wilda Gingrich (Eureka).

Our prayers have been with Sisters Wilma Sauder, Michaleen Braker and Cindy Leman, as they have been hospital patients recently. May God strengthen and heal according to His perfect will.

We thank our recent visiting ministers, Elder Bro. David Bertsch (Leo, IN) and Bros. Art Metz (Silverton, OR) and Dale Wolf (Lester, IA).

A sincere 'thank you' to everyone for all your prayers, visits, love and concern for me since my accident and hospital stays and since again returning home. Everything was truly appreciated, and I pray God will richly bless each and every one of you!

Bro. Dick Bowald

We wish to thank everyone for the prayers and acts of kindness shown to us during the illness and death of our loved one, Bro. Art Legel.

Sis. Til Legel,

Bro. Allen & Sis. Carol Schrock
and family

Thanks! to my family, friends and neighbors for the prayers, gifts, cards, visits and phone calls while in the hospital and since returning home. Your kindness will always be remembered.

Alice Kempf

ILLINOIS, TREMONT

**Carolyn Bolliger
Marsha Koch**

Bro. Kevin Dill (Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Sandy, Delavan) and Sis. Jody Kaufmann (Bro. Dale and Sis. Jane) were united in marriage August 2. May God richly bless them as they begin their lives together.

Our sincere sympathy goes to Sis. Marilyn Huetter (Bro. William) and family on the passing of her mother (Sis. Emma Rocke, Morton). May God's comforting Spirit be with them in the coming days.

Our hospital patients this month were Bro. Robert Frank, Bro. Simon Wagenbach, Sr. and Sis. Mary Baurer. We're thankful each one is doing better.

We were privileged to host the brotherhood conference August 11 - 14. How rewarding it was to be able to host this and to work together on His behalf. Surely the prayers of all of us were answered that the Holy Spirit would be among our brethren. Let us all take heed to the warnings and counsel so lovingly given so our church could be preserved.

Many of our visiting ministers were here because of the conference. Elder Bros. John Klotzle (Altadena, CA), Willis Ehnle (Shioda, Japan), Ray Sinn (Latty, OH) and Bros. Dennis Kaufmann (Bloomington), Richard Aberle (Altadena, CA), Paul Gasser (Akron, OH) and Victor Bauman (Smithville, OH). We thank these brothers for their endless labors on our behalf and may God be their Rich Rewarder.

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

Sue Ruppert

Denise Romersberger

At our Sunday school picnic we were visited by a heavy rain storm. The winds blew and no one was left dry, even though we were under shelter. The storm came so quickly that no one had a chance to get out of it. It was very dark and the rain was a solid blowing wall. The children became frightened and many cried, but one little boy bowed his head and prayed

ferently. He looked up and asked "Why isn't everyone praying?" He knew where his help came from. The innocence of a little child is so precious. When the storm let up, he said out loud, "Thank You, Lord." We too need to be reminded to thank our Lord for our prayers answered. Our Lord does want us to come to Him for everything. This little boy was an example for all of us to follow.

We were blessed with two new babies in our church. They are Jed Ryan to Curt and Beth (Streitmatter) Feucht and Quinn to Bro. Matt and Sis. Deanna (Herrmann) Steffen.

This month was filled with visiting ministers. They were Bro. Doug Wagenbach (San Diego, CA), Bro. Richard Aberle (Altadena, CA), Bro. Charles Sauder (Tremont, IL), Elder Bro. Aaron Steffen (Alto, MI) and Bro. Randy Kellenberger (Kansas City, MO).

INDIANA, BLUFFTON

Jill Frauhiger - Mary Isch

We have several births to announce this month. On June 20, Eli Joseph was born to Bro. Dale and Sis. Amy Ringger (Fort Lauderdale, FL). Grandparents are Bro. George and Sis. Evelyn Ringger. On June 26, Jonathan Doyle was born to Bro. Keith and Sis. Jane Frauhiger (Bluffton North). Scott and Sis. Melinda Gerber are proud parents of Alicia Nicole, born August 4. Joining Alicia at home are brothers, Mick and Benjamin. Grandparents are Bro. Larry and Sis. Pauline Gerber. On August 6, Bro. Larry and Sis. Laura Bertsch welcomed Luke Adam into their home. Luke joins his brother, Lance, at home.

We are also joyful to have four souls turn their lives to the Lord. Brent Kaehr (Bro. Lyle and Sis. Connie), Holly Frauhiger (Bro. Chuck and Sis. Marie), Heather Cress (Sis. Sherri) and Leah Habegger (Bro. Ted and Sis. Jane) all have decided to follow Him. We wish them all God's blessings and grace.

We were also saddened to learn of the passing of Sis. Martha Kipfer.

Sis. Martha faithfully served the Lord for many years.

We would like to thank our visiting ministers this month. They were Bro. Loren Knapp (Tucson, AZ), Bro. Nelson Beer (Milford, IN), Bro. John Steiner (Oakville, IA) and Bro. Nile Bucher (Bluffton North).

On May 24, Sis. Tammy Leyse, Bro. Gary and Sis. Tricia Steffen and Bro. Doyle Weil were baptized. We are sorry for the delay in giving this wonderful news.

Hospitalized this month were Bro. Lewis Gerber, Sis. Helen Stoller, Sis. Katie Maller, Bro. Elmer Isch (Sis. Minnie), Bro. Tom Pfister (Sis. Barbara) and James Stoller (Bro. Allen and Sis. Sue).

INDIANA, BLUFFTON NORTH

Terri Mueller - Lora Kieser

"Draw nigh to God and He will draw nigh to you . . ." James 4:8. We rejoice that Kari Shorb (Bro. Brett and Sis. Cindy) and Ingrid Stoller (Bruce) have turned to the Lord in repentance. May God grant them much grace in their new walk on earth.

Little Lucas Adam was welcomed into the family of Bro. Larry and Sis. Laura Bertsch. He was born August 6. "Big" brother, Lance, welcomes his new brother home. Happy grandparents are Bro. Glen and Sis. Dina Fae and Bro. Leonard and Sis. Wava Bertsch.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the dear family of Sis. JoAnn Harter (Bob). Sis. JoAnn is now resting peacefully with her dear Lord. We extend our sympathy to those who are feeling sorrow at this time.

Hospitalized this past month were Bro. Sib Ringger (Sis. Vi), Sis. Dorothy Schladenhauffen (Bro. Harold) and Presto Gilgen (Bro. Gene and Sis. Melinda). May the Lord strengthen them and encourage them as they are recovering.

As the children begin school again this year it is especially important that we keep both the children and their teachers in our prayers. May they learn not only about reading, writing and arithmetic, but also the importance of

taking God with them to school everyday.

INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE

Jacki Huber

At 89 years of age, on Monday, July 13, our Bro. Pierre (Pete) Neihouser went home to be with the Lord. Just days before he passed away, one of his children asked him if he could see heaven. Bro. Pete nodded his head, "yes." What a comfort to know we have a better home where many loved ones await us, if we are true to our Lord. We extend sympathy to his dear wife, Sis. Catherine (Wuethrich), as well as to his children. They are Bros. Perry and Andre Neihouser (both of Francesville), Sis. Yvonne Gutwein (Bro. Carl, Francesville), Sis. Renee Sinn (Bro. Walter, Haviland, OH), Sis. Marie Inoue (Elder Bro. Akito, Tokyo, Japan), Marcelle Gress (Ron, Carmel, IN) and Sis. Sharon Neihouser (Francesville).

In July, Elder Bro. Wendell and Sis. Marcella Gudeman, and Bro. Sid and Sis. Fern Leman were in a car accident and were taken to the hospital. We are so thankful that their lives were spared and that they are back with us. Bro. Joe Clauss was hospitalized recently, but he is home again at Parkview Haven. We pray that his health will also improve.

We rejoice with Bro. Harvey Gutwein and Sis. Joan Streitmatter, as their engagement was recently announced.

On Saturday, August 8, Janine Shaffer (Mary Shaffer and William Shaffer) was united in marriage to David Gutwein (Bro. Fred and Sis. Madeleine).

We extend congratulations to John and Vi Wuethrich as they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary recently.

May each of these three couples enjoy the rich blessings of God in their lives together.

It is always a privilege to have visitors with us, and we especially thank the following ministering brothers for being with us: Bro. Vernon Schwab (Wolcott, IN), Elder Bro. Akito Inoue (Tokyo, Japan) and Bro. Steve Baner (Gridley, IL).

INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS Miriam Gudeman

"For the Lord giveth wisdom; out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding."

Proverbs 2:6

As another school year begins, we want to encourage all of our students to seek God's wisdom before their own. May God be with them as they prepare for their futures.

We want to welcome our newest students. Travis Wuethrich, son of Bro. Brad and Sis. Nancy (Francesville), is residing at Ball State University and Lance Bucher, son of Bro. Ken and Sis. Carol (LaCrosse), is staying at the home of Bro. Ardie and Sis. Leann Bucher while enrolled at I.U.P.U.-Indy. Lance has just recently gave his life to the Lord. We rejoice with him for we know that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.

We have another newly converted student in our midst. Jeremy Freed, son of Bro. Tom and Sis. Kathy, is attending the Academy at Muncie for his junior and senior high school years. Jeremy is taking special advanced classes and nurturing the talents that God has given him. We are so proud of him and encourage him to continue in God's will and His wisdom.

We hear congratulations are in order for the engagement of our dear friends, Michelle Leman, daughter of Bro. Dennis and Sis. Linda (Francesville) and Brian Colett. They are planning a November wedding and we sincerely wish them God's blessings. May they seek His loving guidance in their lives together.

We want to thank our visiting ministers this past month. They were our dear Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott), Bro. Wayne Lehman (South Bend), Bro. Steve Ringger (Bluffton North), Bro. Richard Plattner (Peoria, IL), Bro. Erik Givens (Princeville, IL) and Bro. Tom Hoffman (Roanoke, IL). Your fellowship and sharing the Word with us will always be greatly appreciated.

INDIANA, LACROSSE Barb Troxel

Once again it is time to go back to school. For parents, students and teachers, it is always a time of anticipation and wondering what the new school year will bring.

IN PRAISE OF CHILDREN

Lord, you have made these children as varied as the flowers of a garden.

You have blessed each one uniquely.

And each fragile, growing child is infinitely precious in your sight. You have trusted me to nurture them.

And blessed me with the joy of seeing them grow.

Lord, I teach in reverence.

Elsbeth Campbell Murphy

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."

Psalms 119:105

How grateful we are for the Word God has given to guide our path. We want to thank Bros. Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville, IL) and Jim Ramseyer (Bay City, MI) for visiting with us this past month and bringing that Word in its truth and sincerity.

Our prayers are with Sis. Lorene Moser as she recovers from surgery. Also Sis. Mary Gudeman (Bro. Art) has been hospitalized. May the Lord grant His healing mercy to both of these dear sisters.

INDIANA, LEO Doug Kellenberger

We are redeemed people, And the One who redeemed us will take care of us. Like belonging to a family -- if we become hungry, we have free access to the refrigerator. If we have an accident, dad's insurance will cover us. When family and financial plans are made, we are automatically included.

Being redeemed by God is the same. We don't have to live in anxiety. If we believe, everything we need is already promised. II Peter 1:3. Just know Him and serve His purpose.

We congratulate Bro. Tim and Sis. Jenny Sauder on the birth of their son, Adam Gramm.

We had three visiting ministers with us recently: Bros. Ed and Earl Ringger (Gridley) and Bro. Wally Ramsier (Mansfield, OH).

We were all saddened to hear of the death of our dear Bro. Albert Frautschi. Bro. Albert passed away August 14 at the age of 82 years. Bro. Al lived many years at Leo and we have many blessed memories of His Christian love, faithfulness, love for children and his faithful support of the Leo church. We wish to express our sympathy and prayers to his son and daughter-in-law, Bro. Ed and Sis. Connie, and their children; to his brother; Bro. Carl Frautschi and many nieces and nephews.

Reminder: This is Silver Lining collection month.

INDIANA, MILFORD Gwen Steffen - Paula Haab

We have had a cool summer on the outside, but our church has been warmed with many visitors during the summer. It is uplifting and encouraging to meet and greet our own church family each Sunday, but our cups have been filled to overflowing with the added blessings of having church nearly full many Sundays.

Among our visitors this past month have been six ministers who were willing to lend themselves in the speaking of God's Word: Bros. Steve Ringger (Bluffton North), Marshall Heinold (Washington), Ron Kipfer (Bluffton), Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle (Shioda, Japan), Bro. Garth Steffen (Portland, OR) and Bro. Carroll Gerber (Bluffton North). We thank these brothers for we were amply fed spiritually. I'm sure our visitors appreciated our home ministers. The scriptures tell us a prophet is without honor in his own country, and sometimes I am afraid we are guilty of this. We pray for all of our ministering brothers, but fail to tell our own how much we love and appreciate them. May God bless our ministers everywhere for their efforts in our behalf.

When Bro. Marshall came to

spend the weekend with us, he also spoke on Saturday night about the Biblical approach to our finances. This was thought provoking for all of us, young and old alike.

Some of our loved ones have needed medical care this month. Bro. Lee Beer (Sis. Sandy) had hand surgery. Jonathon Meyer (Bro. and Sis. Kristie) had the misfortune of breaking his foot the night before moving to Detroit. Bro. Don Beer (Sis. Ruth) spent several days in the hospital for tests and treatment. Sis. Sandy Beer (Bro. Lee) had tests at I.U. Medical Center. We trust God can and will heal their bodies and care for their souls.

It is good to have our dear ninety-five year old Sis. Marie Reuter worshipping with us again.

Sis. Mary Gerber and Tillie Kasbaum, after living in a lovely, large home for many years, have moved to a retirement center in Goshen. Hopefully this will make it easier for them to continue their daily help and care for their sister, Edna Graff, who has been in a nursing home many years.

Those who were able to attend the annual brotherhood conference came back encouraged with a renewed zeal for the Lord and our church. We will be listening to the tapes the next few Wednesday evenings.

As another school year begins, we need to be praying that our young people will be taught the truth. We have those who will be going away to college. Lisa Mikel will return to Ball State. Matt Haab and Sis. Heidi Lehman will transfer to Fort Wayne. Sis. Rita Beer will be in Toledo, OH, and Tom Haab in Lima, OH. Cindy Price began classes in Fort Wayne earlier this summer. We hope these students will be back many weekends.

Sis. Anna Rassi will be ninety years old August 26. Her three daughters are hosting an open house for her. She still is very active, maintains her own home, and helps in the kitchen at church every Sunday.

After spending a few years at the Air Force base in Hawaii, Tim Troup (Bro. Bill and Sis. Anne), his wife, Angela, and daughter, Holly, have been moved to Montana. May

God bless their new home and cause them to feel God is everywhere. Their new address: 621 Lincoln Drive, Great Fall, Montana 59405.

INDIANA, REMINGTON Amelia Schini

There was a lot of excitement in our church the afternoon of Sunday, July 26. Kids were running around getting it all together, as they say, very excited. Around 2:00 p.m. the anxiously awaited bus pulled in. All students in classes 3rd grade through 12th grade boarded the bus with lots of baggage, bound for McCormick's Creek State Park. This has been an annual thing for our high school class, but this year the teachers decided to include the younger classes too. They returned home Monday evening. Teachers and many parents went along as chaperons and helpers. I'm told they had a great time, came home tired and with muddy clothes. Well, what's a little dirt when you're having "clean" fun! I commend the teachers and parents for their efforts and hard work. Times like this give the children lifelong memories. It also helps them to bind together for our future church. I have to say it was thrilling to see the enthusiasm.

Sunday, August 2, the wedding of our Bro. Greg Schneider and Sis. Heidi Graf took place in Akron, OH. She is the daughter of Bro. Art and Sis. Audrey Graf (Akron, OH). Bro. Ken and Sis. Ken are Greg's parents.

Sunday, August 16, Greg's parents gave a reception here for Greg and Heidi Schneider at the fellowship hall. It was a special occasion. We surely welcome Sis. Heidi and do wish them God's blessings.

Speaking of welcoming - we are blest to have the privilege of welcoming a new family to our church. Bro. Rolyce and Sis. Lori Scheitlin and children, Justin, Jeremy, Angela and Jan have moved to Rensselaer. Bro. Rolyce is managing the new Pamida store in Rensselaer. It seems they have found a place in our hearts as well as our church. We are happy to have them. However, I'm sure the

loved ones at our Lester, IA, church regret losing them.

The following thank you came in just a little late for the last newsletter:

We want to take this opportunity to share our thanks from our hearts for all of the cards we received following the death of our infant daughter. We were especially comforted by the number of times we head of the prayers that were being offered for us, as we have felt so lifted up because of the prayers of the brethren. When one has a burden he should not have to bear it alone . . . what a privilege to experience the fullness of the fellowship of the saints.

Bro. Stan and Sis. Beth Virkler

Thought for the day: The test of our love to God is the love we have one for another.

INDIANA, SOUTH BEND Renee Mangold

Our thoughts and prayers are with our college students as they again turn to the school year ahead; Clay and Celise Frank to Purdue and Micah Frank to Ball State (Bro. Tom and Sis. Carolyn Frank), Mark Beebe to Ball State and Matt Beebe to Purdue (Bro. Bob and Sis. Sue Beebe); Bro. Josh Mangold to I.U.-Bloomington (Mike and Sis. Renee Mangold) and Bill Langhofer to Purdue (Bro. Marty and Sis. Lavilla Langhofer).

We were once again happy to have with us for a Sunday service our Elder Bro. Jesse Beer (Milford).

Our sympathy and prayers go out to the Langhofer family with the sudden passing of Sis. Lavilla's father, Oscar Zaugg (West Bend, IA).

We welcome back Sis. Mildred and Sis. Ernestine Meister who've recently returned from a reunion in Hawaii.

INDIANA, VALPARAISO Cindy Susdorf - Marie Heinold

Greetings to all of you! We are so thankful for the rich heritage of our faith. We are very thankful God has given us faithful brothers who are willing to be used. We appreciate Bros. Garry Bucher and Andy

Moser of our home congregation and our Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL).

Our Bible study for the month was "What Prayer Is." Many good teachings were brought out. God wants us to have a close communication with Him and never give in. Luke 18:1, ". . . that men ought always to pray, and not to faint." It was summed up as an expression of the intimate relationship that the believer sustains with the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Bro. Mike and Sis. Beth Heinold were blessed with a baby boy, Garrett Logan. Chase Michael welcomes his new little brother home. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Harold and Sis. Violet Meyers (Bluffton) and Bro. Vic and Sis. Sheryl Heinold.

We do appreciate the efforts of all our Sunday school teachers. We thank those whose term has expired and ask God's blessings as the new ones start. They are Sis. Dawn Ailes and Sis. Karen Susdorf.

**INDIANA, WEST LAFAYETTE
PURDUE UNIVERSITY
Camille Vogt**

As we begin another academic semester at Purdue, we look forward to welcoming in 23 freshmen students. Along with the incoming freshmen, we are pleased to have two more couples residing in the area. Keith and Colleen Braden were married May 16 and attend the Wolcott church. The wedding of Randy and Mara Leman was held July 11. They attend the Francesville church.

The Purdue services during the fall semester will be held on the following Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m. E.S.T.: August 27, September 10, 24, October 8, 22, November 5, 19 and December 3 and 10. We extend a hearty invitation to all!

**INDIANA, WOLCOTT
Lynell Blume - Lorna Knapp**
Bro. Merrill Laukhuf (Latty, OH) conducted our Bible study July 29 on the "New Age Movement."

Bro. Merrill provided us facts and examples about this new movement. May we read and obey God's Holy Word lest we be deceived.

The Word was brought to us by several visiting ministers who were willing to lend themselves in His service. We thank Bros. Marshall Heinold and Carl Wyss (Washington, IL) and Elder Bros. Eugene Pamer (Akron, OH) and John Klotzle (Altadena, CA) for the encouragement and spiritual blessings we received.

". . . and in multitude of counsellors, there is safety." Proverbs 24:6. Our thoughts and prayers were with our dear elders and ministering brothers as they assembled at the conference last week in Tremont, IL. May we always appreciate their concern for us and their efforts in preserving our precious faith.

**IOWA, ELGIN
Gloria Frieden**

There are times in life when, it seems, we experience an extra load of care, disappointments and heartaches. But though the pain hurts deeply, it draws us closer to God and He is always there to help. His grace is sufficient to meet all our needs.

He giveth more grace when the burdens grow greater;
He sendeth more strength when the labors increase.
To added affliction He added His mercy;
To multiplied trials, His multiplied peace.

Our thanks to Bros. Rex Frieden (Lamar, MO), Gerald Sutter (Taylor, MO), Paul Eisenman (Burlington, IA) and Leland Plattner (Zapata, TX) for their visits and sharing God's Word with us.

Brothers accepting new duties at our recent annual elections were Bro. Floyd Frieden - Junior Bible class teacher; Bro. Lon Butikofer - Senior Bible school teacher and Sunday school superintendent; Bro. Charles Schneider - trustee and Bro. John Schupbach - head song leader.

**IOWA, IOWA CITY
Janette Schulz**

Greetings to all! We've been blessed with various visitors this month, and thank you all for your efforts in traveling to assemble with us. Among our visitors were ministering Bro. Walt Herrmann and his wife, Sis. Betty (Princeville, IL). May God bless you for being a willing servant in proclaiming the Word. May we all be willing listeners and doers of the same.

Besides our Sunday visitors, we had surprise Wednesday night visits from retired Elder Bro. Leroy and Sis. Clara Huber (Eureka, IL) and ministering Bro. Kevin and Sis. Sandy Banwart (West Bend, IA). As the location of our services vary throughout the month, we encourage anyone who will be in the area during the week to contact one of us for directions.

WE ARE GOD'S PEOPLE

We are God's people,
the chosen of the Lord,
Born of His Spirit,
established by His Word;
Our cornerstone is Christ alone,
And strong in Him we stand:
O let us live transparently,
And walk heart to heart and hand
in hand.

We are God's loved ones,
the Bride of Christ our Lord,
For we have known it,
the love of God outpoured;
Now let us learn how to return
the gift of love once given:
O let us share each joy and care,
And live with a zeal that pleases
heaven.

We are the Body
of which the Lord is Head,
Called to obey Him,
now risen from the dead;
He wills us to be a family,
Diverse yet truly one:
O let us give our gifts to God,
And so shall His work on earth
be done.

We are a Temple,
the Spirit's dwelling place,
Formed in great weakness,
a cup to hold God's grace;
We die alone, for on its own

Each ember loses fire:
Yet joined in one the flame burns
on
To give warmth and light, and to
inspire.

Bryan Jeffery Leech
Hymns for the Family of God #546

IOWA, LESTER

Sue Warner - Cindy Leuthold

Summer has come to a close following unusually cool and wet conditions in our part of the country. The lush green of the trees and countryside make us grateful and leave us in awe of His beautiful creations.

Throughout the summer we enjoy and appreciate our many visitors. Recently we have been blessed with the presence of ministering Bros. Don Manz (Junction, OH), Sidney Kaufmann (Cissna Park, IL), Ken Dietz (Bradford, IL), Roy Ehnle (Bradford, IL), Duane Metzger (West Bend, IA), Greg Rassi and Virgil Metzger (Chicago, IL). We thank these brothers and their families for being with us. May they be blessed for their efforts.

Summer has also brought many weddings to our congregation. We wish God's richest blessings to those who have put their trust and faith in Him. Bro. Keith Kellenberger (Elgin, IL) and Sis. Ida Metzger were married August 2. On August 8, Bro. Jim Domnick and Sis. Penny Knobloch recited their marriage vows. They will be making their home in the Morris, MN, area. A wedding reception was held August 7 to honor newlyweds, Bro. Brice and Sis. Julie Teubel. Bro. Brice's parents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Pauline Teubel of our congregation. On July 24, Ryan Heyer, son of Bro. Gary and Sis. Jean Heyer, was joined in matrimony to Jodi DeWitt (Washta). Marriage vows were also spoken between Lloyd Metzger (Bro. Don and Sis. Mary Jane) to Malynda Gabriel at Phillip, SD, August 15. We pray that the Lord will be present in the homes of these dear ones as they join their lives together as one.

A sweet baby girl was born to Bro. Dwight and Sis. Donna Mogler July 20. Ranae Louise is their first-

born and delights the hearts of her grandparents, Bro. Howard and Sis. Lollie Mogler and Bro. Norman and Sis. Lavina Ballasy (Rockville, CT).

We pray for comfort and healing to Sis. Eleanor Popkes and Bro. Albert Knobloch who have undergone surgery. Sis. Eleanor has returned home, but Bro. Albert remains hospitalized at this time. Also spending time in the hospital for medical reasons was Bro. Larry Leuthold.

We wish to express our sympathy to the family of Ida Huttenmeyer who passed away at Tehcumseh, NE. She leaves to mourn from our congregation, Sis. Ella Metzger, Anna Knobloch, Bro. Alvin Leuthold, Bro. Paul Leuthold and Andy Leuthold.

After listening to the conference topics, we are reminded of concern we have for our children's welfare in education. School has resumed whether it be in Sunday school, public school or schools of higher learning. Remember our students as well as their instructors in our prayers.

IOWA, PULASKI

Carol Wettstein

Ernestine Wuthrich

July has been a month filled with special blessings by the many visitors. Included were Elder Bro. Dennis and Sis. Esther Warner (Lester, IA), Elder Bro. Gene and Sis. Mary Marti (Kansas City, MO) and Bro. Bob and Sis. Janice Stoller (Lamar, MO). The timely and inspirational messages were appreciated and enjoyed by everyone.

Sis. Angie Metzger and Bro. Jeff Birkner, both of the Peoria, IL, congregation, were married August 9 at Peoria. Sis. Angie is the daughter of Bro. Roy and Sis. Evelyn Metzger of our congregation.

Our children will have returned to schools and colleges by the time you receive this issue. For parents, it is a time of concern as we want a quality education for our children but not for them to be misled into the subtleties of this world.

Give Your Old and New Address
To Your Reporter

IOWA, WEST BEND

Mary Gerber - Lela Banwart

We were blessed with several visiting ministers this past month. Those who so faithfully served by bringing us the Word of God were Elder Bro. Curt Frank (LaCrosse, IN), Bros. Marvin Leman (Bradford, IL), Dale Stoller (Fairbury, IL), Dean Messner (Winthrop, MN), Paul Eisenman (Burlington, IA) and Andy Virkler (Croghan-Naumburg, NY). We thank these brothers for serving us, and may we remember all our ministers in our prayers.

Hospital patients were Bro. Ed Zaugg (Sis. Helen), who submitted to heart surgery, and Sis. Katherine Fisher. We are happy to report that Bro. Ed is now recovering at home. Sis. Katherine has been released from the hospital and is recuperating at the West Bend Care Center. We pray for their healing and that they will look to God, who is our refuge and our strength in every need.

Our congratulations and best wishes to Bro. Wendell Schmidt (Bro. Ivan and Sis. Evelyn) and Sis. Karen Rinkenberger (Sis. Velma and the late Elder Bro. Steve Rinkenberger, Cissna Park, IL) on their engagement. We rejoice with them and may God be with them and guide them as they plan their September wedding.

Our best wishes go to two dear couples: Greg and Patty (Grimm) Pfeffer, who were joined in holy matrimony July 25. They will be making their home in Mason City, IA. Parents are Eli and Margaret Grimm (West Bend) and Jim and Neva Pfeffer (Mankato, MN).

Larry and Beth Banwart also became one August 15. Naples, FL, will be their home. Parents are Bob and Kay Banwart (West Bend) and Virginia and Calvin Husman (Quimby, IA).

May the Lord's blessings be on both these couples as they begin their married life. "What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder." Matthew 19:6.

Precious bundles have come to bless two homes. Kory Leonard joins brother, Kyle, in Don and Brenda Hagen's home. Grandparents, Bro. Leonard and Sis. Helen

Anliker and Francis and Betty Brennen (Emmetsburg) are on hand to lend care for little Kory. Elizabeth, Karen, Sarah, John and Curt welcomed baby sister, Heidi Patricia, into their family August 8. Parents Bro. Pat and Sis. Julie Zaugg, along with grandmothers, Sis. Louise Anliker and Sis. Frances Zaugg, feel God's blessings as they receive this bundle from heaven. May God be near both these couples as they bring their children up in these confusing and wicked times.

JAPAN, SHIODA

Frank and Kathy Sauder

The majestic Southern Alps of Japan are considered by many to be the most scenic mountain range in Japan. Among the tall pine trees and mountain brooks, Tokyo church hosted the annual summer fellowship meeting. Elder Bro. Akito Inoue spoke on what it is to be a faithful servant. Early the next morning we gathered together in a meadow to worship God and sing songs of praise. Indeed, ". . . the heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament showeth his handiwork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night showeth knowledge. There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard." Psalms 19:1-3. We thank the Tokyo church for all the time and effort they put into organizing a most blessed time together.

Elder Bro. Willis and Sis. Lois Ehnle returned to the States for the month of August to attend the brotherhood conference and visit family. May God bless their trip and bring them back safely to Japan.

We thank Bro. Akito Inoue and his family for coming out to Shioda on the first Sunday in August to minister to our congregation in Bro. Willis' absence. May God richly bless Bro. Akito and his family for all the time they give to help further His kingdom.

Sis. Vicki Ramseyer returned to America after spending a month with us. It was a joy to have her once again worshipping with us. God seems to have a special way of using the former teachers who used

to live in Japan. Sis. Vicki and others have given us much encouragement. May God bless each of you who are so faithful in remembering us in prayer.

JAPAN, TOKYO

Andrew and Jana Klaus

The month of August (in all its sweltering humidity) is the big summer holiday time in Japan. The children are finally off from school (making for lots of extra action and noise outside!), the men have a week or so off from work, and usually pile their families into the car and head back to hometowns, and everyone, at one time or another, has the chance to see huge, brilliant fireworks displays and to attend a local "obon" festival where there's food booths galore, traditional Japanese dancing and the kimono attire is common. These festivals are very interesting to observe; however, not looking at it as through a child's eyes who sees the glitter and happy faces, but as an adult, I realize that the meaning behind all he celebrating is for spiritual worship/prayer to ancestors and gods. It sobers me up, and makes me think how wonderful it would be if all this enthusiasm was focused toward Jesus Christ instead! We must never give up, though, on the power of God to reach out and change lives, even just one by one.

On July 27 and 28, several brothers, sisters and friends from each church drove out to the gorgeous Southern Alps in Yamanashi-ken for the annual summer outing called "Shuyōkai." A few meetings were led by our faithful ministers on the topic "Being A Faithful Servant." As we sing about in our Zion's Harp hymnal, are we faithful in small things as well as big?

In addition to the meetings, sightseeing was also readily available. Several carloads drove further up the mountain on a very narrow, winding road full of tunnels and big cement trucks, yet nervousness over these facts could be overcome by the beauty of cascading waterfalls and green peaks meeting blue sky all around you. I

think everyone got to know each other a little better, too, as we walked and talked together or did whatever! Overall, attendance was high, the weather was beautiful and praise belongs to God!

KANSAS, BERN

Diane Kaeb - Donna Edelman

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

Luke 15:10

We rejoice with Natalie Lehman (Elder Bro. John and Sis. Connie) as she turns to God in repentance. May she feel God's power, strength and love as she takes up her cross to follow Him.

Our annual Sunday school picnic was enjoyed by all Tuesday, August 4 at Sycamore Springs.

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

Our prayers extend to Bro. Harvey Grimm (Sis. Marie) who is presently in the hospital. May the Lord provide healing and restoration of the body as is His will.

KANSAS, FORT SCOTT

Janelle Sinn - Tammy Sinn

O God of wisdom, life and love,
Thine is the blessed plan,
In holy bonds of love to join the
twain, created man.
And when Thou, Lord, shalt come
again to gather home Thine own,
May they, with duty nobly done,
be blessed before Thy throne.

Hymns of Zion #286, vs. 1, 5

August 8 was the wedding date chosen by Shawna Robb (Steve Robb and Gayle Robb) and Chad Kerr (Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kerr). We wish them God's blessings as they begin this new chapter in their lives.

Our congregation has been blessed this summer with many visitors. We thank each one for coming and welcome others who may be in our area.

KANSAS, GRIDLEY**Vola Young - Judy Kraft**

Family and friends from far and near gathered at our church, July 26, to witness the union of Bro. Matthew Fetter (Bro. Richard and Sis. Betty, Toledo, OH) and Sis. Wendy Metzger (Bro. Eldon and Sis. Dorene). Their first home will be established in Reston, VA. We wish them God's divine spiritual guidance as they embark in a new chapter of their lives. Visiting ministers we were privileged to hear speak on this joyful occasion were Elder Bro. Ronald Nelson (Kiowa, KS), Bro. Jerry Isch (Philadelphia, PA) and Bro. Doug Harmon (Toledo, OH).

Bro. Sam Kraft has moved to the Apostolic Christian Nursing Home in Sabetha. During several years of my childhood, my mother cleaned the church. How well I remember observing Bro. Sam. He would often be at the church as we cleaned, freely giving his time to fixing and maintaining the church property as he saw the need. His empty seat towards the front of the church is noticed with a mixture of emotions. Sadness that he no longer is in our midst, realizing that this move wasn't an easy choice for him or his family, yet we feel happy that he can reside his remaining years with brothers and sisters of like mind and faith.

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

"For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother and shall be joined unto his wife." Ephesians 5:31. Jenny Schupbach (Bro. Kent and Sis. Darcy Kisling) and Kelly Stewart chose August 15 for their wedding day. May God richly bless their marriage and may they always look to him for guidance.

Our hospital patients this month were Sis. Edna Reed, Sis. Alice Tanner and Sis. Matilda Schupbach. May they each feel the healing hand of the Lord.

Visiting our Kiowa church this month were Elder Bro. Richard and Sis. Barbara Schupbach (Phoenix, AZ). May the Lord richly bless this ministering brother and his wife for their faithful work for the Lord.

KANSAS, LAMONT**Jane Isch**

We have been richly blessed this past month with brethren who were willing to break the Bread of Life with us. We thank Bro. Max Reimschisel (Wichita, KS), and Bro. Gary Maibach (Smithville, OH) for remembering us and trust God will bless them richly.

September starts the beautiful fall and harvest season and is also the time for our children to go back to school. Whatever age they may be, from kindergarten to college, let us ask our heavenly Father to watch over them.

KANSAS, SABETHA**Mary Kay Wenger
Sharon Strahm**

We are thankful for ministering brothers who visited us and taught us from God's Word. They were Bros. John Rowell (Burlington, IA), Glen Funk (Wichita, KS), Gary Maibach (Smithville, OH) and Galen Rokey (Bern, KS).

Our hearts rejoice to have dear ones answer the call of God. We pray for Colleen Hartter (Bro. Roger and Sis. Ilene), Brenda Grimm (Bro. Gerald and Sis. Ruby), Christy Grimm (Bro. Doug and Sis. Jeryl), Sally Hartter (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Beth) and Jennifer Plattner (Bro. Don and Sis. Ada). We trust God will be with each one and provide abundant grace.

"Abide with me! Fast falls the eventide, The darkness deepens – Lord, with me abide! When other helpers fail, and comforts flee, Help of the helpless, oh, abide with me!"

I need Thy presence every passing hour; What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's power? Who like Thyself my guide and stay can be? Through cloud and sunshine, oh, abide with me"

"Abide With Me"
by H. F. Lyte

We need His presence at all times and want Him to always abide with us.

Hospital patients have been Bro. Andy Lehman (surgery), Sis. Esther Meyer, Sis. Eva Emch, Sis. Marie Hartter and Bro. Lou

Wenger. May they feel His presence.

Our sympathy is extended to Elder Bro. Sam and Sis. Jeanette Huber in the loss of her niece, Sis. Kathy Nohl (Morris, MN).

"Thank you" to all my friends, especially the "Sarasota Snowbirds," for cards and phone calls during my stay in the hospital for knee surgery. May God bless all of you.

Andy Lehman

KANSAS, WICHITA**Emma Miller**

Traditionally, August is Sunday school recess time for students and teachers in our Wichita church. When we reconvene in September, Sis. Kathleen Gallatin will teach the beginner's class, Sis. Sally Funk will teach the next level, and Sis. Emma Miller and Bro. Glen Funk will continue with their assignments.

We rejoice and are grateful for the Lord's guidance in the lives of Bro. Jerry and Sis. Pauline Carnahan as He has directed them to move from Paulding, OH, to Wichita. We know that the Junction church will miss them and their children – Nathan, Liza, Luke and Katie (son Jason is enrolled in college in Ohio). We welcome the entire family into our fellowship and pray that together we may grow in grace and increase in the knowledge of God.

August 16 was a special day for all of us at the Wichita church as we were privileged to share with Bro. Howard and Sis. Ann Warner in the celebration of their fiftieth wedding anniversary. Bro. Howard had requested that Psalms 127 and 128 be read during the morning service. Verses 3, 4 and 5 of Psalm 127 could be visualized as we observed the Warner family seated in the front pews of the assembly room.

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

"As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man, so are children of the youth.

"Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: . . ."

The Warner children and their families hosted a lovely reception and dinner for Bro. Howard and Sis. Ann at the Blue Ribbon Center in Hutchinson that afternoon.

Again this year we are planning our Vacation Bible School as a one day activity. Sis. Sally Funk organizes lesson sessions interspersed with recreational activities so it is possible to conduct five lessons during the day. A church picnic supper, followed by a brief program conclude the affair. This structure works well for our scattered congregation, and by holding it Saturday, August 22, we are able to involve parents. If the Lord so wills, perhaps I can add a summary report next month.

KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON

Glendoris Huber

"Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil." Ephesians 6:11. As Christians, we are engaged in a spiritual warfare in our daily walk of life. Paul exhorts us to take on the whole armour of God to fight against the wiles of the devil. David was also engaged in a warfare against Goliath. Saul encouraged David to put on his armour, but David found he didn't need it because he had the Lord in his side. He said, ". . . the Lord saveth not with sword and spear; for the battle is the Lord's . . ." I Samuel 17:47. In our spiritual warfare, may we always remember the battle is the Lord's, and through Him we're able to win the fight.

Again we wish to thank all of our visitors and those who were passing through on vacation during the last two months. We are always grateful for each one and a special thanks to the ministers, their wives and families, for their love and faithfulness in travelling the many miles to come and share God's Living Word. God bless and reward you all, Bros. Wayne Banwart (Champaign, IL), Ben Manz (Junction, OH), John

Lehman (Bern, KS), Kenneth Dietz (Bradford, IL), Douglas Grimm (Sabetha, KS) and Todd Feller (LaCrosse, IN).

MICHIGAN, ALTO

Michelle Oesch - Denise Oesch

We here at Alto have watched summer fly by, our weather has been unseasonably cool and dry, so it seems we have already been in fall for a month or so now. It is time to get our children back to school, clean out the cobwebs in the thinking part of their brains so they can open it up to learning again in a classroom. Hopefully in life we can always keep our children's minds free of cobwebs so they can be constantly learning, not just in a classroom.

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

Proverbs 22:6

I think we, as parents, all try to live this verse and hope as we raise our children, we make the right decisions and teach them the right values in their lives for it seems one minute we hold them so new in our arms and the next they are taking their first walk through the school doors. Walking off to college and the ties of control, we, as parents, have are pretty much broken. We can only hope we have done a good job. It can only be done I'm finding with a lot of patience and prayer.

We, here at Alto, are happy to see our Sis. Renee Steffen (Bro. Aaron and Sis. Loretta) back at church with us after a brief illness. Also our cheer and prayers go to a speedy recovery for Gordy Blough (Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Elouise) after back surgery.

We've also had the privilege to be visited by Bro. Jim Ramseyer and his family (Bay City) and Bro. Ken Wuethrich (Indianapolis, IN).

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY

Emily Rechsteiner

Our summer has been very cool. We did have a nice amount of rain.

Everything looks so nice and green, even our roadsides are beautiful with wild flowers. The farmers were blessed with a good wheat crop.

When we work with the soil and breathe fresh country air, we feel a certain kinship to God.

One weekend, Bro. Curtis Heimer (Alto, MI) paid us a visit. We are always happy to see Bro. Curtis and Sis. Sue Ann as they were part of our congregation for quite a few years and we always have fond memories. May God bless them.

Real love begins when nothing is expected in return.

Char Wieland (Brian) had hip surgery. We hope and pray that she will soon be able to walk without pain again.

"Cast your burden on the Lord and He will sustain you."

Psalms 55:22

We are always glad when Bro. Gary Maibach (Smithville, OH) and Sis. Mary Ann spend their vacation in Michigan. We always look forward for Bro. Gary to have a Wednesday evening service with us. We know it is an effort to drive 90 miles. With our thankfulness, may God richly bless him.

Our weekend of August 8, we heard the testimony of Edwin Wieland and Rhonda Knochel (Bob). On the following day we witnessed their baptisms. With great rejoicing, we welcome them into the fold of Christ. Elder Bro. Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI) helped Elder Bro. Andrew on this blessed occasion. May God bless Elder Bro. Ben. We always have memories of Elder Bro. Ben growing up in Bay City as a young boy.

"Oh that men would praise the Lord for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!"

Psalms 107:8, 15, 21, 31

We also extend our sympathy to Helen Knochel (Fred) in the loss of her father, Herb Matthews. May time heal the wounds of a loss of a loved one.

MICHIGAN, DETROIT**Holly Barton****Marlene Reinhard**

Vacation Bible School was held the week of July 27 for the first time in Detroit. Much effort and time was spent, by many willing volunteers, in developing and planning the daily schedules. The theme was "Discipleship." Both the children and the teachers were anticipating a blessed week growing in Christ. On Saturday, the children had an opportunity to share with the church the many songs they learned during the week, along with displaying their many projects. Retired Elder Bro. Loren Stoller (Sis. Esther, Latty, OH) ended the program with a lesson on the Quality of Life/Discipleship. There was much food for thought placed upon our hearts and minds to be pondered in the coming days. We were reminded of the time when Jesus said unto His disciples . . . "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me." Matthew 16:24.

Those faithful, willing servants of God, who ministered to us here in Detroit this past month are: Bros. Chris Wuethrich (Francesville, IN), Neil Widmer (Wolcott, IN), Walter Rager (Toledo, OH) and Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL). May God bless these brothers in their labors for Christ.

We are excited to welcome Bro. Mark and Sis. Kristy Meyer and their family from the Milford, IN, congregation to a new start in the Detroit area. May they feel God's love overflowing from each of us, and may they be blessed with peace from God.

Once again God has heard the cry of a poor lost soul and has granted grace to Diane Kaisner (Bro. Hartzell and Sis. Mary) as she seeks repentance in her life. We are so happy to have another convert in Detroit, and may we be the light and examples that shine in her path to help guide her along the road that leads to everlasting life with endless joys and blessings of being a child of God.

We are glad to hear that Sis. Maria Sabodos is home from the hospital and is growing stronger

everyday.

On September 6, the Alto congregation is scheduled to host Tuesday evening services at Woodhaven at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend. We want to thank Bro. Jim Ramseyer (Bay City) for lending himself and hosting services August 4. We appreciate all those who supported Bro. Jim for this service.

MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS**Delores Sauder**

We are always thankful when God directs loved ones to move to our area. We welcome Bro. Dwayne, Sis. LaRae, Meg and Ben, who recently moved here from Champaign.

Our prayers are with Bro. Perry Virkler as he recovers from surgery.

Our prayers and sympathy are extended to Elder Bro. Art and Sis. Sandra Nohl (Morris) as their daughter, Sis. Kathy, was called home to be with the Lord. They spent many hours at her bedside in Minneapolis.

MINNESOTA, MORRIS**Maxine Sauder - Debra Joos**

We are so thankful that two young souls are seeking the Lord in repentance. They are Lanette Feuchtenberger (Bro. Bob and Sis. Gwen) and Cindy Nohl (Bro. DeWayne and Sis. Janice). May God continue to grant them grace that they may build on a solid foundation.

It is always a blessing to have visiting ministers share the Word with us. Our visitors this month were Elder Bro. Dennis Warner (Lester, IA), Bro. Bill Dotterer (Phoenix, AZ) and Bro. Ken Lawson (Minneapolis, MN).

Barb Lesmeister was welcomed into the fold as a sister-in-the-Lord the weekend of August 1 and 2. We rejoice with Sis. Barb and her family.

Joining hearts and hands in holy matrimony August 9 in Lester, IA, were Bro. Jim Domnick (Bro. Gary and Sis. Velma) and Sis. Penny Knoblock (Bro. Al and Sis.

Lucy, Lester, IA). We welcome Sis. Penny to the Morris congregation and wish them a long and happy married life in the Lord.

Several of our loved ones have spent time in the hospital recently; Bro. Ben Greiner, Bro. Chris Moser, Bro. Ernest Koehl and Mildred Sauder. We are thankful for God's healing hand upon them.

All too soon it is time for school bells to be ringing and our children will be returning to school. Might they ever look to God for direction and follow in His ways.

We were all saddened by the death of our dear friend and sister-in-faith, Kathy Nohl, who passed into eternity August 15 at the University of Minnesota Hospital in Minneapolis at the age of 30. Sis. Kathy was an inspiration and touched the lives and hearts of all who knew her, both young and old. She is survived by her parents, Elder Bro. Art and Sis. Sandra Nohl; a sister, Sis. Gwen Gramm (Bro. Tom); five nieces and nephews; and grandparents, Bro. Alvin and Sis. Minnie Nohl and Delores Rose. We are thankful that Sis. Kathy could be relieved of her cross of cystic fibrosis and be with the Lord where there is no pain, so suffering and no tears, although parting from her loved ones brings much grief and sorrow. May God comfort her family and fill their lonely hours with precious memories.

THE CROSS

The longer beam is God's direction
Across it lies thy will, perverse.
Thus brings the cross pain and
affliction;
God's dispensation seems for
worse.

Resist not then God's regulations
Although His hand may press
thee hard;
But conquer thy own will with
patience;
Soon cross and suffering will
depart.

If thus thou'lt overcome thy
wishes
And let God's will prevail in thee,
Then thou wilt find peace in thy
suffring;

And grace thy great reward will
be.
Then bear thy woes with Jesus
gladly,
And fear the cross of life no more,
For when thy journey here is
ended,
The cross will open heaven's door!
Zion's Harp #171, vs. 8-11

MINNESOTA, WINTHROP

Nancy Messner - Kim Messner
We extend a sincere "thank you"
to all of our visitors this month.

Our dear Sis. Gerry Messner
(Bro. Marvin) required hospital
care and we pray it may be the
Lord's will to restore health and
strength.

MISSOURI, LAMAR

**Martin Hohulin
Janel Kellenberger**

While we had no visiting minis-
ters in the past month, we did en-
joy many blessings by the vacation-
ing brethren and friends who came
to worship with us.

I often compare Sunday morn-
ing church with a potluck supper.
We do not know what blessings we
will receive from the songs and the
sermon nor do we know just what
visitors will be there to enhance
the blessings of the day. In most
cases, those whom we meet are in a
greater number than what we had
anticipated and often are those
whom we least expected. Our
church suppers contain a wealth of
food with an unexpected variety.

During the past month, a
brother whom I went to high school
with, brought his family to our con-
gregation. It was a special blessing
to meet him once again and to be-
come acquainted with his family.
The thing that impressed me the
most was the fact that several of
his older children had repented and
had taken their places in our pre-
cious fellowship. The young brother
had a most inspiring prayer at the
noon lunch. The thought came to
me that our faith was being pre-
served by the future generation.
Christ asked this question, "Will I
find faith when I return?"

This writer is acquainted with a
brother who was not raised in our

faith. He and his family were plan-
ning to visit a distant congregation
where they were not acquainted.
In discussing the forthcoming trip
with his father, the father inquired
as to whom they knew or where
they would stay in this distant
town. The brother replied, "I will
pick a minister from our minister
book and call him to tell him of our
plans." To this the father said, "This
is amazing; I could not call a minis-
ter in my next neighboring town
and expect any kind of a welcome."
This is one of the blessings and
benefits that, perhaps, we take for
granted. May we do our part to
preserve these precious privileges.

Sis. Marilyn Luthi was an over-
night patient in the hospital.

MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS

Betsy Schrenk

The clear streams and beautiful
lakes of the Ozarks draw many
people to Missouri during vacation
time. When they choose to combine
their vacations with a Sunday in
St. Louis, we are blessed to have
them worship with us.

A large central Illinois potluck
group spent several days camping
in SW Missouri, and they made the
journey up to the city for Sunday.
Our unusually moderate tempera-
tures during the parts of this sum-
mer have made many weekends
very unpleasant for outdoor activi-
ties.

A busload of young people from
Peoria spent a Saturday enjoying
God's creation on the Meramec
River, and then came to St. Louis
Saturday evening and Sunday. The
love and enthusiasm of this group
contributed to a joyful Sunday. Bro.
Mike Rieker was our visiting min-
ister.

The Elder Bro. Bob Grimm fam-
ily expanded our numbers signifi-
cantly another weekend. Traveling
in a seven van caravan, they spent
the weekend in St. Louis on the
final leg of their trip. We thank
both Elder Bro. Bob and Bro. Jaye
Rinkenberger for ministering to us.

We are happy to welcome Bro.
Matt and Sis. Lynne Musselman
and their baby, Zachary, to our con-
gregation. They are living in St.
Charles. He has accepted employ-

ment here after finishing a gradu-
ate degree at the U. of I.

We also welcome Steve Kaisner
to St. Louis. We appreciate getting
to know him and having him wor-
ship with us.

MISSOURI, TAYLOR

Ruthie Hoerr

Summer is gone. The children
are back to school. A lot of parents
feel a certain relief to be back on a
schedule, again. As we go about
our work, we need to remember to
surround our children and spouses
with prayer. That is something we
do have control of; and it gives us a
good feelings we talk to God while
we work.

During the past month, we had
many visiting ministers. On Au-
gust 2, the Ed Grimm family en-
joyed a reunion, bringing to us El-
der Bro. Nat Steffen (Elgin, IL) and
Bro. Garth Steffen (Portland, OR).
We rejoiced with Bro. Ralph and
Sis. Linda Knapp's family when
their son, Benjamin, and his wife,
Karen (Kilday) gave their testimo-
nies and were baptized August 9.
Elder Bro. Bob Walder (Conger-
ville, IL) assisted Elder Bro. Roy
Grimm. Other ministers attending
in addition to many relatives and
friends, were Bro. Ed Fritz (Wash-
ington, IL), Bro. Wes Knapp
(Goodfield, IL), Bro. Roger Aberle
(Sabetha, KS) and Bro. Ron Joos
(Pulaski, IA). On August 16, Elder
Bro. Paul Butikofer (Elgin, IA) and
Bro. Max Reimschisel (Wichita, KS)
were here to serve us. We enjoy
and appreciate each one that came
to visit us and share God's Word
with us. May the Lord bless each
one abundantly and more.

On July 26 we had our annual
Sunday school picnic and were de-
lighted with an inspirational pro-
gram of memory verses and songs.
Sunday school teachers deserve our
love and appreciation for their time,
thoughtfulness, dedication and love
that they contribute to our chil-
dren. God's blessings on them also.

Sis. Sally Haerr (Norman) sub-
mitted to surgery this month and
is recuperating nicely. Elder Bro.
Roy Grimm is also improved after
medical treatment.

Galen Haab (Bro. Paul and Sis.

Kathy) has returned safely, after spending a year in Austria. His brother, Gavin Haab, has returned from a summer in Washington, D.C. Both will be attending Illinois University in Champaign this fall. Ted Hoerr (Bro. Robert and Sis. Emma) has returned home to farm and attend school in the area.

We want to say thanks to our elder brothers, and those who serve in other capacities; for taking time to attend our brotherhood conference and prayerfully consider matters to help us all on our pathway to heaven. We are already enjoying tapes of the conference, inspiring words of wisdom.

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

Our annual business meeting was held July 27. Our new Sunday school superintendent is Bro. Ted Virkler and teachers will be Sis. Mae Virkler (Bro. Ted) and Sis. Eleanor Herzig (Bro. Ron). Bro. John Farney will serve as our assistant Sunday school superintendent and trustee. May God be with each of these brothers and sisters as they begin their new duties in His service, and may He bless those who have completed their terms in His service.

The annual Sunday school picnic at Happy Hollow was enjoyed by young and old August 15. We think of our Sunday school children especially as they will soon be returning to school in September. As they go off to grade school, high school or college, may they remember the teachings of their faithful Sunday school teachers which are the true teachings of our heavenly Father for their guidance.

Our thoughts and prayers have been for our elder brothers and the many others who have traveled to attend the brotherhood conference in Tremont, IL. May each one be guided and protected on their way and in the decisions that must be made for the welfare of our future church.

We were happy to see Bro. Bernard and Sis. Elveira Martin in our assembly recently and were sorry to hear that he has again

been hospitalized. We hope that his stay this time will be short and that they can assemble with us soon. Bro. Bernard and his family are the faithful caretakers of our cemetery.

God has continued to give Sis. Lucille Beyer strength and we are glad to have her back in our assembly. May He continue to be with her and Elder Bro. Robert as they made plans for changes in the near future.

OHIO, AKRON
Joyce Gasser

Jesus said to a blind man: "Go wash in the pool of Siloam, (which is by interpretation, Sent)". John 9:7 The man was blind, but heard Jesus "sending" him to Siloam, and he "came seeing." Siloam is a landmark in Jerusalem today. Siloam means "sent" as the water was sent there by a great engineering feat of the ancient world. Jerusalem's water supply was the Gihon Spring outside the city, and every time they had a siege, if the enemy cut off their water, they would have the city. Hezekiah cut a tunnel through solid rock from the spring into the city. II Kings 20:20, etc. It would have been a distance of 66 yards if they would have gone straight, but they did it in zig-zag fashion to avoid sacred sites, and it was 583 yards. Tourists can go through this tunnel yet today. History in the Holy Land states engineers began by cutting the rock at the ends and as the stonemasons were nearing the middle, each heard the voice of the other, and they struck pick to pick, and water was "sent" from the spring into the city to the pool of Siloam. Jesus "sent" the blind man, and he received the blessing, and when Jesus sends us for something, we can hearken and receive His blessing.

Bro. Michael and Sis. Amy Palitto became new parents by the birth of their baby daughter they named Micah Lynn. Happy also are new grandparents, our minister, Bro. Ron and Sis. Lynell Palitto. Maternal grandparents are Bro. Everett and Sis. Carol Beery.

Sis. Heidi Graf and Bro. Greg Schneider were united in marriage.

Parents are Bro. Art and Sis. Audrey Graf and Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Loretta Schneider (Remington, IN). The newlyweds will be making their home at Remington, and we pray for God's blessings upon them. We appreciated the groom's father, Bro. Ken, ministering unto us; and also Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler, and Bro. Earl Kilgus. Also with us were Bro. Glenn Riggensbach and Bro. Gary Maibach.

Sis. Louise Graf will have attained four score years as she will be 80 years old September 25. We appreciate Sis. Louise's wisdom and love. She has spent years in faithful volunteering at needy places and helping others, in addition to her loving hospitality to countless guests. May the Lord continue to bless her.

Sis. Juliet Graf was a hospital out-patient, and we are glad to have her assembling with us again.

We were pleased to have Bro. and Sis. Robert Miller (Portland, OR) visit us and Bro. Robert minister to us. Their daughter, Marlise, and her husband, John Luber, who is a heart surgeon at Cleveland, were with them.

OHIO, COLUMBUS
Julie Grimm

A sincere thank you is extended to our recent visiting ministers. Serving us has been Bro. Will Schieler (Milford, IN), Bro. Bill Brake (Sardis, OH), Bro. Dave Graf (Akron, OH) and Bro. Mark Steiner (Smithville, OH). We also wish to thank the many brethren and friends who have visited our small congregation over the summer months. It was a blessing to have you worship with us.

Our prayers have been with Sis. Jennifer Banks (Bro. Larry and Sis. Nancy) as she has recently undergone surgery on her ankle. May she feel God's presence and strength during this time of healing.

We extend a warm welcome to Bro. Ted Orcsik who has moved here from Detroit, MI. May the Lord bless him as he makes Columbus his home and begins his new job.

Our prayers are once again with

our school age children as they begin another school year. May God ever keep them safe in His love and care.

OHIO, JUNCTION
Sandra Manz

It is with mixed emotions that we watch Bro. Jerry and Sis. Pauline Carnahan and their children, Nathan, Liza, Luke and Katie, prepare to move to Wichita, KS. We know that if this is the Lord's will, He has good things in store for them. yet parting brings heartache when loved ones must leave behind many friends and family. Our church will truly be left with an empty spot. Their oldest son, Jason, will be staying here in Ohio to attend college. We truly wish them patience and wisdom to adjust to this big change. And may they soon feel "at home" in Kansas.

Many were surprised to hear that Bro. Oliver and Sis. Annabell Spangler have bought a home in Toledo and will be moving soon. Wendell and Elizabeth Spangler will be living with them while attending college in Toledo. We hope to still see them often as the distance between here and there is not great.

With the beginning of a new school year, we must continue to pray for Godly teachers and administrators to guide and teach our young people.

OHIO, LATTY

Kathy Sinn - Rhonda Stoller

What glorious joy filled our hearts when Pauline Riggensbach began her repentance. We love you Pauline and pray God's richest grace to be near you on this new journey.

We are thankful to have two new brothers and one sister in God's family. August 8 and 9 were the testimonies and baptisms of Steve Sinn (Elder Bro. Ray and Sis. Ann), Tim Sinn (Bros. Walt and Sis. Renee) and Lane Stoller (Sis. Irma). For each of you may our God's perfect will be the burning desire of your heart.

August 22 was a happy day for Janis Plummer (Bro. Rex and Sis.

Ann) and Scott Wallace as they were united in marriage. Scott and Janis if you will seek God's direction each new day your marriage will be blessed by Him.

Our heartfelt prayers were with the family of Bro. Alvin and Sis. Ellen Klopfenstein's family when Sis. Ellen's mother passed away. Grace will be missed by her family.

We are thankful that God's healing hand has been extended to Bro. Delmar Stoller (Sis. Marguerite) after his hospital stay. May you continue to feel renewed health each day, Bro. Delmar.

Our Sunday school students enjoyed their day at Mansfield's Youth Day. This is a beautiful time for friendships to develop that can last through eternity.

We ask God to richly bless the visiting ministers who proclaimed His Word to our congregation. Those dear brothers were Bros. Walter Steffen (Milford, IN), Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL), Merle Hartzler (Rittman, OH), Earl Beery (Rittman, OH), Doug Harmon (Toledo, OH), John Grimm (Columbus, OH), Steve Gutwein (Francesville, IN) and Curt Kaufman (Tucson, AZ). Thank you, we appreciated your service.

OHIO, MANSFIELD

Linda Morrison

"Flourishin Youth, Thou our hope and our fond expectation, Hark to the voice that is calling in kind invitation!" Youth Day was held Sunday, July 26. Although the weather was overcast and drizzly outside; there were showers of blessings on all who took part. Bro. Art Ingold (Rittman) and Bro. Merrill Hartzler (Rittman) brought the message of good news: "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." (John 3:16)

Our love and sympathy is extended to Sis. Dorothy Durkin, Sis. Catherine Morrison, Sis. Mabel Banks, Sis. Mary Mae Bock, Gladys Texter and Ruth Young in the death of their only brother. John W. Fuhrer died on his 80th birthday in his home where he took care of

his invalid wife, Mary. "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints." (Psalms 116:15)

Hospitalized during the past month and in need of our prayerful support: Bro. Joe Sabo (Sis. LaVersa), Bro. Ora Sauder, Sis. Ruth Weiss, Elmer Sauder (Bud). Injured in accidents and hospitalized were Joel Vent (Richard and Sis. Becky) and Scott Sauder (Julie). Joel had an auto accident on the way to work and Scott was injured at work. "... and weep with them that weep." (Romans 12:14)

OHIO, RITTMAN

Lois Maibach
Charlene Winkler

We appreciate the ministers who have visited us recently: Bro. Tom Leman (Denver, CO), Elder Bros. Walter Anliker Eureka, IL), John Klotzle (Altadena, CA) and Don Sauder (Roanoke, IL).

Those who have been ill and in the hospital are Bro. Ernest Hartzler (Sis. Pauline), Bro. George Riggensbach (Sis. Minnie) and Sis. Donna Young (Bill).

Wednesday evening, July 22, we welcomed our elderly friend, Bill Breece (Sis. Pearl) as a brother-in-Christ after he gave his testimony and was baptized. We rejoice with Bro. Bill as we could sense the happiness he enjoys in serving God.

Sis. Clara Jenkins is the grandmother of twins, James Edward and Jessica Renee, born August 2 to Jim and Sharon Monahan.

Dale and Beth Steiner are parents of a boy, Joshua Nathan, born August 5. His sister, Brandy; grandparents, Bro. Bob and Sis. Betty Steiner and Mr. and Mrs. Guy Holland; and great-grandfather, Bro. Willard Steiner are pleased about Joshua's arrival.

Logan Edward joined the family of Bro. Dan and Sis. Karen Rufener August 18. Logan's brothers, Benjamin, Myles and Jonathan, and grandparents, Bro. Orin and Sis. Anna Rufener and Bro. Ed and Sis. Anita Riggensbach welcome him.

Joining the home of Bro. Gary and Sis. Sandy Dotterer and their son, Kent, is another son, Kevin Andrew, born August 19. Grand-

parents are Elder Bro. Henry and Sis. Martha Dotterer and Bro. Roy and Sis. Mabel Maibach.

OHIO, SARDIS
Renee Miller

Martha LaCava suffered a broken hip on the way into church one Sunday morning. We are thankful she is back home and recovering.

We were saddened by the passing of Mildred Riegenbach. Our prayers are with her sister, Marie Riegenbach, and her brother and sister-in-law, Dale and Virginia Riegenbach.

Young and old alike enjoyed our first Vacation Bible School session for this year. The topic was The Christian Family and we especially want to thank Bro. Ron Steiner for speaking to the adult class.

Jason Brake (Bill and Miriam) has had a relapse of leukemia and is once again undergoing treatment. His family has expressed that the comfort and strength they receive from your prayers have made their troubled days easier.

We wish to extend our sympathy to Sis. Martha Indermuhle and family on the death of her brother, Clarence Berger.

OHIO, SMITHVILLE
Stephanie Luginbuhl
Kim Stoller

We were privileged to have Bro. Marvin Dotterer (Forrest, IL) minister God's Word unto us. May each of us always remember to pray for those dear brothers who so faithfully proclaim God's Word.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Sis. Louise Riegenbach (Bro. Glenn) who spent some time in the hospital this past month.

THE LORD WILL PROVIDE

Though often the heart
 With storms be oppressed,
 Afflictions do smart,
 By Satan distressed,
 "O what shall befall us?"
 We wearily sighed;
 Still He who protects us,
 "The Lord will provide!"

Zion's Harp #86, vs. 2

OHIO, TOLEDO
Josephine Rehklau
Edie Fetter

"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another . . ."
 Colossians 3:16

May the wisdom which God revealed to our brethren who attended the annual conference strengthen our zeal in His service.

We had a blessed Sunday when Bro. Fred Domka and his wife, Sis. Connie (Mansfield), came to be among us.

We appreciated having Bro. Matt Fetter and his wife, Sis. Wendy, spend some time with us before returning to their new home in Washington, D.C. We wish them God's blessings.

Aaron Beard, son of Bro. David and Sis. Geralyn, has announced his engagement to Sandy Weaver. We wish them God's blessings as they begin to plan their future life together.

OREGON, PORTLAND
Elizabeth Klopfenstein

Standing on the promises that cannot fail,

When the howling storms of doubt and fear assail,

By the living Word of God I shall prevail,

Standing on the promises of God.

Tabernacle Hymns #164, vs. 2

My Grandpa (Bro. Bob Miller) was reminded of the words of this beautiful song and emphasized their importance in a recent sermon. He mentioned that although he sang it often as a child, it wasn't until his conversion that he could grasp the true meaning of God's precious promises that give us life and hope and help through our pilgrimage here on earth.

God's promises are many, as we read in His Word, but one in particular has stood out to our small Portland congregation:

"For where two or three are gathered together in my name,

there I am in the midst of them."
 Matthew 18:20

Since our church has been very small, we've experienced the fulfillment of this promise. However, at times, it can almost be discouraging only filling three or four benches, and for months we have been praying for growth.

In answer to our prayers, God has directed ministering Bro. Ed and Sis. Judie Knecht to regularly attend Portland. We welcome them to our congregation and greatly appreciate their willingness to follow where the Lord would lead. They are a wonderful asset to our small church.

We wish to thank our Elder Bro. Leo Moser (Lester, IA) and Bro. Frederick Knapp (Congerville, IL) for being with us and ministering God's Word July 19. We appreciate the efforts that Bro. Leo has made in supporting the growth of our church and in encouraging brothers and sisters who may feel led by the Spirit to assemble with us.

July 26 was a very blessed day for those of us who joined the Silverton brethren in witnessing the baptism of Sis. Becky Dietrich and partaking of holy communion. It was spiritually refreshing to be reminded of all that the Lord has done for us.

August 2 was also a very special Lord's day. Elder Bro. Willis Enhle, and his wife, Sis. Lois, from our church in Shioda, Japan, visited us along with four Japanese students. Their presence among us was truly a blessing, and we enjoyed the opportunity to learn more about another culture. Although the Japanese seem different from us in many ways, they also have a need for the Lord Jesus in their lives. As Bro. Willis pointed out, they strive for unity and service toward one another, but lack a vertical relationship with their Creator. We pray that our brethren in Japan can spread the true Gospel and let their lights shine.

Later in the day, Sis. Cheryl Herman (Princeville, IL) shared slides of World Relief projects, particularly her trip to Mexico, with Portland and Silverton brethren at the Molalla Senior Center. It is

wonderful to see so many of our brethren using their talents to help those in need.

We rejoice with Mark Gallup, who was recently announced for baptism. He, his wife, Louisa, and their daughter, Dana, have been attending our church in Portland for nearly two years. We are thankful for all that the Lord had done in Mark's life and look forward to having him as our "brother."

We wish to thank all our visitors, from the East and Silverton, that have assembled with us this past month. Your presence has been greatly appreciated and the extra voices blending in harmony have been an added blessing along with your fellowship. We ask you to come back again and we extend a warm welcome to those readers that may be planning a trip to the Northwest in the near future.

OREGON, SILVERTON
Becky Gudeman
Peggy Schulz

Greetings to one and all. We have been richly blessed this past month with many visitors. Among them were ministering Elder Bro. Andy Virkler (Bay City, MI) and Bro. Ron Schambach (Elgin, IL). May the Lord reward them for their willingness to serve Him and our congregation in bringing the truth to us in rich measure.

There are times in our lives that the blessings come so plentifully that we can hardly absorb them all. So it was the weekend of July 25-26. Saturday evening we were privileged to hear the testimonies of our now dear Bro. Mark and Sis. Elsie Sinn and Sis. Becky Dietrich. Our dear Elder Bro. Leo Moser and Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH) so ably led them in sharing with us how the Lord granted them grace to repent and caused a conversion to come into their lives. Sunday again was filled to overflowing with the Word being brought forth in truth and sincerity, witnessing the baptism, and then in the evening, holy communion. God knows only too well how we need that self-examination and renewing of our vows from time to

time. The unity and love of God we could feel was so uplifting.

What glorious state, to be a lamb of Jesus,
 To feel the faithful Shepherd's loving grace.
 In all the earth there is no higher standing,
 Than this - to follow in the Saviour's ways.
 What all the world could never give,
 A lamb of Jesus from its Shepherd will receive.

**PENNSYLVANIA,
 PHILADELPHIA**
Franz Soni

When pure and upright hearts,
 By flames of love ignited,
 Are by the bond of faith
 More firmly yet united,
 The light of hope beams forth
 In radiance far and nigh,
 Invites us to partake
 The blessings from on high.

Zion's Harp #79

Sis. Wendy Metzger (Bro. Eldon and Sis. Dorene) was united in marriage July 26, in Gridley, KS, to Bro. Matthew Fetter (Bro. Richard and Sis. Betty, Toledo, OH). We will miss Sis. Wendy as she and Bro. Matt prepare a new home in the Washington, D.C. area. May God bless them as they walk this earthly pathway together.

Our Sunday school picnic was held July 19. We thank our Sunday school teachers for the good time had by all. We appreciate the efforts put forth by our teachers.

We welcome Sis. Stephanie Holmes (Tremont, IL) and Cory Metzger (Gridley, KS) who have found employment in this area. We look forward to have them worship with us.

We will miss Bro. Craig Schafer who will be doing graduate work in Pittsburgh for the next year. We wish him God's blessings.

We thank Bro. Marvin Dotterer (Forrest, IL) for sharing God's Word with us. May God richly bless him for being such a willing servant.

TENNESSEE, NASHVILLE
Don Sauder

I Thessalonians, chapter 5, from verse 16 reminds us as Christians or Christ-like people, to "Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. Quench not the Spirit. Despise not prophesying. Prove all things; hold fast that which is good. Abstain from all appearance of evil. And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it. Brethren, pray for us."

Can we not as believers almost close our eyes and hear the Apostle Paul today giving us the very same instructions, reminding us not to quench the Holy Spirit, in every thing giving thanks and to pray for each other without ceasing.

We, in Nashville, know that God answers prayers as He sends loved ones, with your help, once a month to minister to us. Loved ones, if you only knew how much we appreciate visitors and the blessing we receive from your visits. Our meeting room would not hold all of you. Please consider Nashville for your weekend get away. Services are normally the first Sunday of the month.

This month a special thank you from us goes to Bro. Dwight Stoller (Sis. Lori) and their family from Latty, OH, for bringing us God's living Word. God bless you and please come again.

TEXAS, HOUSTON
Sandy Darlington

Bro. Dale and Sis. Becky Wulf and Bro. Bob and Sis. Cindy Leuthold traveled from Lester, IA, to be our welcomed guests July 26. Our visitors may never realize how much we Texans appreciate all their efforts in being in Houston and/or Dallas. We can only trust that God will provide a special blessing for them.

We praise God that our prayers have been answered and Sis. Betty Zeltwanger (Round Top, TX) is feel-

ing better and growing stronger day by day.

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) 249-5102 or Jerry and Sis. Sandy Darlington at (409) 297-8301 for information regarding Houston services.

There are also scheduled services for the Dallas, TX, area on the first and third Sundays of each month. Please contact Bro. Howard and Sis. Delores Rapp at (214) 867-4074.

TEXAS, ZAPATA Viola Perdelwitz

Bro. Lloyd, Sis. Joyce, daughter, Julie Nohl, and their three foster children, Frank, Emma and Rosita have welcomed two more foster children into their home. They are Reynaldo, 6, and his sister, Ericka, 3. In Proverbs 22, verse 6, it says, "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old he will not depart from it." It is a blessing that these children are having the influence of a Christian home.

We are again receiving about average rainfall. We have had two months of dry weather so the rainfalls are very much appreciated.

SILVER THREADS

GIVE PRAISE TO GOD

Praise is due God on account of:

HIS SOVEREIGNTY; THE GRANDEUR OF HIS PERSON - "... him that liveth for ever, whose dominion is an everlasting dominion, and his kingdom is from generation to generation."

Daniel 4:34

HIS MAJESTY - "They shall lift up their voice, they shall sing for the majesty of the Lord."

Isaiah 24:14

HIS GLORY - "... for great is the glory of the Lord."

Psalms 138:5

HIS EXCELLENCY - "Let them praise the name of the Lord: for his name alone is excellent; his glory is above the earth and heaven."

Psalms 148:13

HIS GREATNESS - "Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; and his greatness is unsearchable."

Psalms 145:3

HIS HOLINESS - "Let them praise thy great and terrible name; for it is holy."

Psalms 99:3

HIS WISDOM - "Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever; for wisdom and might are his."

Daniel 2:20

HIS POWER - "Be thou exalted, Lord, in thine own strength; so will we sing and praise thy power."

Psalms 21:13

HIS GOODNESS - "Oh, that men would praise the Lord for his goodness."

Psalms 107:8

HIS MERCY - "Praise the Lord; for his mercy endureth for ever."

II Chronicles 20:21

HIS LOVINGKINDNESS - "Because thy lovingkindness is better than life, my lips shall praise thee."

Psalms 63:3

HIS TRUTH - "I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth; for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name."

Psalms 138:2

HIS FAITHFULNESS - "O Lord, thou art my God: I will exalt thee, I will praise thy name; for thou hast done wonderful things; thy counsels of old are faithfulness and truth."

Isaiah 25:1

HIS SALVATION - "Let the God of my salvation be exalted."

Psalms 18:46

HIS WONDERFUL WORKS - "Praise him for his mighty acts;

praise him according to his excellent greatness.

Psalms 150:2

HIS CONSOLATION - "For I shall yet praise him for the help of his countenance."

Psalms 42:5

HIS JUDGMENT - "I will wing of mercy and judgment; unto thee, O Lord, will I sing."

Psalms 101:1

HIS FULFILLING HIS PROMISES - "Blessed be the Lord . . . according to all that he promised; there hath not failed one word of all his good promise, which he promised."

I Kings 8:56

HIS PARDON OF SIN - "Blessed be the Lord . . . Who forgiveth all thine iniquities."

Psalms 103: 1, 2

HIS HEALING POWER - "Bless the Lord . . . who healeth all thy diseases."

Psalms 103: 1, 2

"I am the Lord that healeth thee."

Exodus 15:26

HIS DELIVERANCE - "If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed."

John 8:36

HIS PROTECTION - "For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways."

Psalms 91:11

HIS ANSWERING PRAYER - "I will praise thee: for thou hast heard me, and art become my salvation."

Psalms 118:21

THE HOPE OF GLORY - "To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory . . . which is Christ in you, the hope of glory."

Colossians 1:27

THE DEPTH OF THE RICHES OF GOD!

"O the depth of the riches of both of the wisdom and knowledge

of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!" Romans 11:33

Unfathomable - His wondrous love
 Unchangeable - His ways
 Unsearchable - His judgments
 Unutterable - His praise
 Unimaginable - His splendor
 Unspeakable - His joy and gifts
 Unquenchable - His passions
 Uncanceled - His riches
 Unblemished - His wisdom
 Undiluted - His knowledge
 Unstained - His blessed truths
 Unnumbered - His company of angels
 Unaltered - His plan of salvation
 Unashamed - His testimony
 Uncensored - His word
 Uncomplicated - His blessedness
 Undeserved - His grace and mercy

Sermon . . .

(Continued from Page 36)

eases or in terms of feeding the people. In fact, He told them one time, "Ye seek me because of the miracle of the fish and the bread and so ye come so ye can be filled with the physical food and the miracles that I do."

He saw in their hearts that they were not seeking Him and thronging Him, in some cases, because of recognizing Him as the King of kings and Lord of lords. It is not a whole lot different today, is it?

Jesus Christ is not so thronged. If He walked on the earth today, I wonder if He would draw great crowds. I wonder if He would draw more mockers and scorners and those who would look to find fault with what He practiced and what He taught. People do not seem to be hungry, do not seem to be searching, do not seem to be anxious to meet someone like Jesus Christ.

He can look through the shroud of mystery that we sometimes put in our lives, or the covering of our smiles. He can see deeply into our hearts and He knows exactly what is in every crevice of our mind. What is tucked away in every recess of our mind, He knows and He sees.

I do not know about you, but sometimes that is a little uncomfortable when I know that there is some thought or I know that there

is some feeling that He would not approve of . . . some feeling, some grudge, or whatever it may be. He knows it is there and His Word says it should not be there.

These people came to Him and thronged Him and came about Him, and yet this Man had such a compassion for the people, even though perhaps He did not see what He would have liked to have seen in their hearts. I am sure there were some there that genuinely believed and genuinely trusted, but probably not all.

When it came right down to the point where He told them who He was and what was going to happen, they realized that Jesus Christ was not going to march into Jerusalem and throw the Romans out and set up an earthly kingdom. But, rather, He was going to a cross to hang and die. All those who ate of His flesh, as He told it, or drank of His blood could be part of His kingdom. It says, "Then many turned and walked with Him no more." (See John 6:66)

They wanted the physical healing and they did not want the spiritual. Even in this case in the group that came to Him, It says, "And they that were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed." Luke 6:18

Jesus Christ in His compassion for mankind looked at those at that point and time who carried various infirmities and various problems and He was able to reach out and touch them and heal them. It says, "And the whole multitude sought to touch Him: for there went virtue out of Him, and healed them all." Luke 6:19

There were great miracles of healing that He performed on the face of the earth. We can look at that and say, "Why doesn't it take place today?" Let us back up a couple paces and let us take a look at how things were back then.

Has God forgotten us or changed? I do not believe so. Back then, with many of these infirmities and diseases, there was no cure. There was nothing that could be done. The lepers had no hope whatsoever for any kind of a medical treatment or any kind of a cure from the doctors.

The technology was not like it has become today. God has allowed us to learn. God has allowed man to accomplish some fantastic things and changes. Do we take the credit for it and say that God does not have a hand in it?

Why for all the years and times that Christ walked on the face of the earth until this century were men not able to accomplish some of these things? Because they were not smart enough?

It still defies men to understand how they really built the pyramids of Egypt hundreds of years ago. Man has been smart enough. Man has been intelligent enough all along. It is simply one generation has built on another's research as God has allowed it to happen, I believe.

He has opened the minds of men and the understanding of men and allowed them to begin to learn some of these things. Let us not forget to give God the credit. Today, when sometimes we are sick, we do not have to go to the Saviour for a miracle healing. We can, through the technology that is available to us, receive some healing.

We need to give God all the credit. He allowed it to happen. he could very well have kept the blinders on men and kept all these things from happening.

The whole multitude sought to touch Him. I think that there is another lesson in this. I think that sometimes we dwell too much on the physical. I have a tendency to do that. I think we all have a tendency to do that. We dwell on the physical.

Jesus Christ came to bring a new message of healing to the people. The healing that occurred under the Old Testament was not a healing as much as it was a sacrifice for sin. It was a reminder over and over of giving a sacrifice as a recognition of their sin.

The Word tells us that the blood of bulls and goats could never make the hearts of man pure and clean. I think sometimes the physical healings that were done by Jesus Christ were symbolic (there is a lot of symbolism in the Scripture) of the spiritual healing that He was on earth to perform.

It says here, "And they that were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed." Luke 6:18. The ones that asked. In fact, if I do not error, as we look at the New Testament and look at the times, I do not think that there was a time that someone came to Christ with an illness of some form or another that He did not touch them and heal them.

We can look at that and become puzzled today and say, "What is wrong? I have interceded, and medically there is not anything the doctors can do. What is wrong that I could not be healed?" Let us understand that maybe this was symbolic of the spiritual healing.

Christ forgave sins in many cases, didn't He? That was His response when they came for physical healing. He said, "Your sins are forgiven." (See Mark 2:5) Let us look at these healings that took place as those spiritual healings that were really His purpose.

Then when we read that they were healed, have you ever known anyone -- anyone? -- who went to Christ and to God through the shed blood of Christ for spiritual healing that He denied? Ever? I do not!

The Word of God promises, "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

So if we look at it from a spiritual standpoint, it puts it in perspective and we do not struggle with that because spiritually, when we deal with the issue of sins as an illness, Jesus Christ makes us whole.

How long do we continue to limp along and struggle with that sin as a burden on our back and drag it through our lives? No. He changes.

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." II Corinthians 5:17

If there is anyone in this assembly this morning that is dragging a load of sin through your life, there is a promise in this Word. It's just like those who came and touched Him, as He walked on the dusty trails, as He stood on the mountain tops, as He stood by the sea side, and had their infirmities

cleansed and purified so that burden of sin could be lifted.

How can it be lifted? He goes on, "And he lifted up his eyes on his disciples, and said, Blessed be ye poor: for yours is the kingdom of God." Luke 6:20

Poor in spirit . . . those who recognize that their own ability to control and order their lives was nothing. Just as a poor person from a monetary standpoint does not have a lot of power, does not have a lot of control, is not able to do much directing and is not able to control a lot of events in their lives as it comes to the material things in life.

So the poor spiritually understand that they have no control. It all belongs to God. When we become poor that way, when we become poor, when we become bankrupt spiritually, we recognize that we are lost in sin. We cannot pray the debt. It is impossible.

How much poorer can you get than to go bankrupt? Not a lot. Spiritually, when we become bankrupt we understand that we have a tremendous debt. A debt that would require, in the sight of God, eternal death. That is the Word!

It tells us, "The wages of sin is death . . ." Romans 6:23. That is what we have earned. We become so poor that we become spiritually bankrupt. We go to God and say, "Lord, I cannot pay this debt. Will you take it? Will you forgive it? Will you dismiss it?"

Then what happens? He says, "Yours is the kingdom of God!" Luke 6:20. That is the promise! That is the invitation, and really it is the only way. It is the only way to become a part of Him, because later on He says, "But woe unto you that are rich! for ye have received your consolation." Luke 6:24

The spiritually rich are those who would think they have their life together. "I have done all these good things. I have walked according to the Word of God. I have kept the commandments of God. I have given to charity. I have done this and I have done that." He said to them, "Ye have your consolation."

"Blessed are ye that hunger now: for ye shall be filled." Luke 6:21

We do not have to go searching

someplace else. There is not the void and the emptiness that existed within us before. But we need to continue to have a hunger for the Word of God so that we can learn.

"Blessed are ye that weep now: for ye shall laugh." Luke 6:21. There is weeping in this life. Some people go through periods of time of heartache and burden. Then when it is lifted, they can rejoice again.

Some people have burdens and cares that will go on forever in this life. If you are struggling with those things and you struggle with that verse, bear in mind that someday could mean the eternal day. Maybe Satan has such an opportunity to test us and try us that we just struggle, struggle, struggle, struggle in this life.

Read the Book of Revelation. Read chapter nineteen and what is going to take place in heaven, where it says the saints will rise up from the throne of God with a roar of the people as the sound of many waters as they sang praises to God when finally He executed His judgment on Satan.

There will be a day that maybe it won't be laughter as we think of laughter in terms of "ha-ha-ha," but there will be that lightness of heart and that rejoicing that will come.

"Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you, and when they shall separate you from their company, and shall reproach you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of man's sake." Luke 6:22

Make sure that we get that in there. It does not mean that we go through life being obnoxious and being not liked by people. When we are not liked for the Son of man's sake and because we refuse to be involved in those things which would not be good and those things which would not bring glory and honor to our Saviour and to the Master, then He says, "Blessed are ye."

There are a lot of other teachings in here. Some very difficult. Verse twenty-seven, "But I say unto you which hear, Love your enemies, do good to them which hate you." Luke 6:27 That was Jesus Christ. That was Jesus Christ! Can we have the mind of Christ?

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SERMON BY BRO. NILE BUCHER OF BLUFFTON NORTH, IN

God's Lovingkindness Lasts Forever
I Kings 13:1-10 & Luke 6:17-33

Frequently in the Old Testament, we can read the accounts where the people rebelled against God, but I marvel at the mercy of God. Here was a king that evidently had reached out to touch the man of God. He did not like what he had to say. He wanted to destroy him and take him and do harm to the man of God.

As he reached out, his hand became withered. In other words, God intervened and God refused to allow him to carry out a purpose that was contrary to the will of God. His hand became withered and immediately he changed his attitude and he said to the man of God, "Cry to God that my hand can be restored." God in His mercy, restored Jeroboam's hand and made it whole again. (Luke 13:6)

I just marvel at the mercy of God, don't you? He can be so kind and so patient and so gracious to mankind!

We can go, sometimes, so contrary to His will, so contrary to His purpose and yet He reaches out and draws us to Him. He can take a life that has been stained with sin and make it pure and whole again. You can look at Jeroboam's hand and you can look at our lives and say, "We were like that." At one point, we were pure and we were whole and in innocence we grew up as a young child.

We can to the point in our life

when we rebelled against God. We did things contrary to His will and contrary to His purposes. Our lives became withered as God would view them. They became useless to God.

But when we came to that point when we cried out, he changed us. he made us whole again. it did not make any difference how deep we were in sin. It did not make any difference what we had been involved in. Oh, the mercy of God! As human beings we judge differently.

I read an account awhile back in a book about a young man. As I looked at his life, which was terrible and horrible, I was somewhat repulsed by it. Our human tendency is to look at it and say, "Why would God care? Why won't He just say, 'Let us just forget that person.'" God does not work that way, not with anybody on the face of the earth.

The Word says that He would have all men come unto Him. That means every being regardless of how deeply they have gotten their lives messed up or how useless they have become to God. He can turn them around and into a vessel just like He did Jeroboam's hand.

He made it well again. he made it whole. He made it useful to Jeroboam. God can take the life of man when they simply surrender to Jesus Christ and make it useful again for His purpose.

I think we have plenty to con-

sider in those verses. There are certainly other wonderful teachings in the remainder of this chapter.

It seemed like when Christ walked on the face of this earth and He was in the prime of His ministry, so to speak, He was surrounded by multitudes of people, wasn't He? Every place He went, he was thronged by multitudes.

The only people today that we see walking the face of this earth thronged by multitudes seem to be the celebrities of the world . . . the movie stars . . . the sports heroes . . . those who are identified for their great accomplishments and the things that they have done. The names in the limelights are the people today who are surrounded by a crowd every place they go.

I think to them it is perhaps a bit frustrating with no privacy, and no time alone. I wonder, when Jesus Christ was on the earth, if sometimes, although He had a great compassion, if sometimes it became a little wearisome to be so surrounded by people. I believe if He could have looked and seen in the hearts of men a true desire, a true recognition of who He was, He would have been thrilled to have been surrounded by throngs.

I think maybe He looked upon some of these people and saw those that were there for what He could do for them in terms of curing dis-

(Continued on Page 34)