



"While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease."

Genesis 8:22

"And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?"

I Peter 4:18

VOLUME 42

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NUMBER 10

Harvest Time

"... 'The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth laborers into his harvest.'" Luke 10:2

"Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest." John 4:35

"For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost." Luke 18:10

"... Thrust in thy sickle, and reap: for the time is come for thee to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe." Revelation 14:15

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

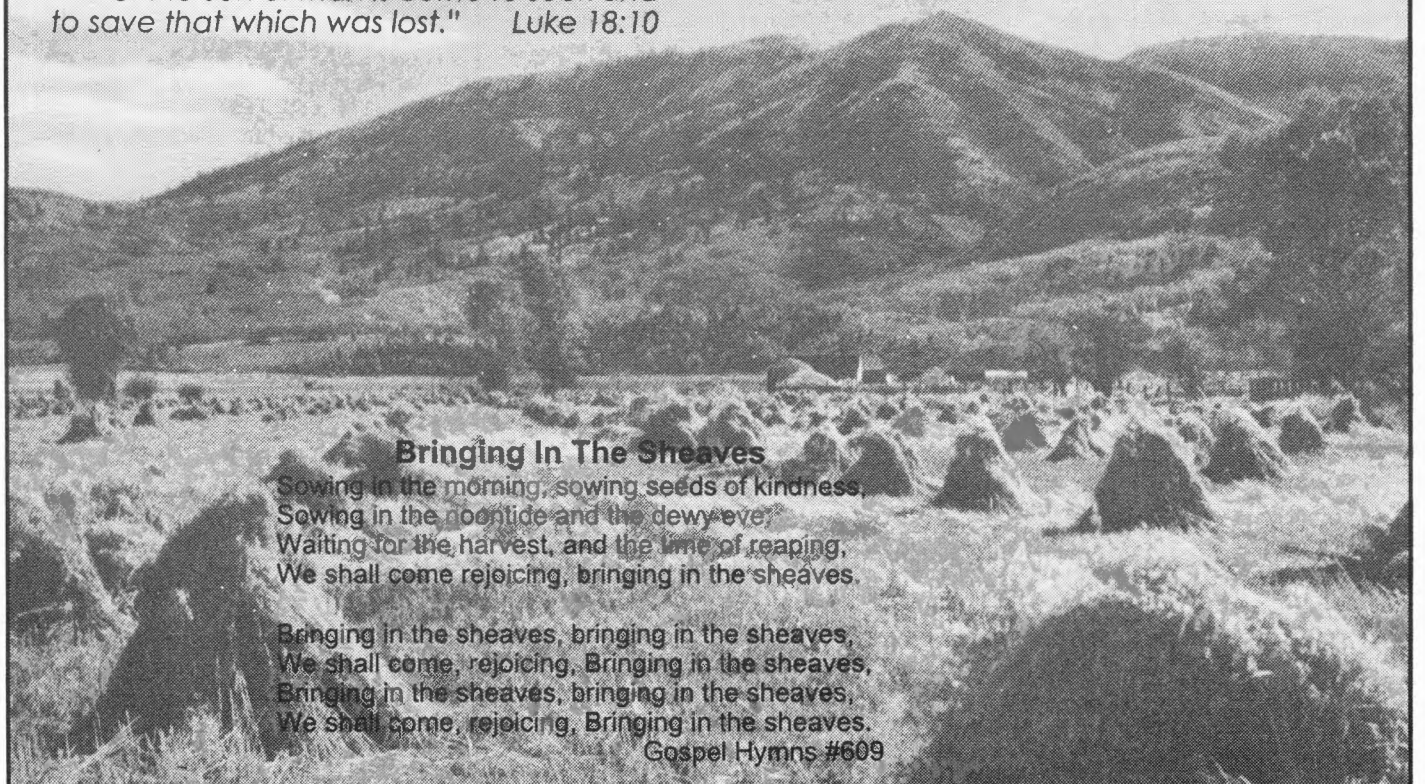
"He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son." Revelation 21:7

Bringing In The Sheaves

Sowing in the morning, sowing seeds of kindness,
Sowing in the noontide and the dewy eve,
Waiting for the harvest, and the time of reaping,
We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves.

Bringing in the sheaves, bringing in the sheaves,
We shall come, rejoicing, Bringing in the sheaves,
Bringing in the sheaves, bringing in the sheaves,
We shall come, rejoicing, Bringing in the sheaves.

Gospel Hymns #609



MISSION – WORLD RELIEF – WORKS PROJECTS

ZEAL

Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle, Shioda, Japan

Is zeal good or bad? People who have a zeal sometimes cause problems, so zeal itself has a difficult time keeping a good reputation.

As children of God, we should always consider what the Bible teaches on a given subject, although we sometimes forget to do this.

The Corinthian church had a zeal for giving. Concerning this Paul writes in II Corinthians 9:2, "And your zeal hath provoked very many." The Japanese Bible reads, in Japanese, "Your zeal has awakened many people." This was a positive zeal and an obedient zeal. It was commended by the Apostle Paul.

In Philippians 3:6 Paul writes of himself, "Concerning zeal, persecuting the church; touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless." This was a misdirected zeal, so zeal is not inherently good. It can be bad.

We are exhorted to have the right kind of zeal in Titus 2:14. It is written concerning our Saviour, Jesus Christ, "Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works." This tells us that

one reason the Lord Jesus Christ died for us is so that we will have a zeal to do good works, or do I read it wrong? However, the zeal we are speaking of should promote unity and obedience, which are also taught in the Bible.

If we are exhorted to have a zeal for good works, we must next define good works. What do you think they are? Some of us grew up with the idea that good works is to refrain from doing anything bad but the word "works" indicates action. Giving, praying, visiting, teaching, preaching, Bible distribution, and counselling would surely all be good works, if done in the right spirit.

The right kind of zeal is something wonderful which cannot be purchased nor can it be obtained by our own decision. It is a gift of God. Let's treasure it.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

The board of directors for the Apostolic Christian Home for the Handicapped consists of nine directors who represent different re-

gional areas of the United States and who have varied backgrounds and experiences. New board member nominees are selected by the conference of elders held each August. These selectees are then interviewed at the November meeting of the ACHH board of directors and the final selection of a brother is made by the board. One new board member is selected each year and serves a nine-year term.

The board of directors are delegated an important responsibility. Their primary responsibility is to the developmentally disabled individuals who have the right and privilege to receive training, medical care, and dietary needs in a Christian, home-like atmosphere. Even though board members are generally engaged in other busi-
(Continued on Page 4)

THE SILVER LINING

Grabill, Indiana 46741
USPS 496780

EDITORIAL STAFF:

David Bertsch
Lester Stoller

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IN MEMORY – EDITORS:
HENRY SOUDER
EDWARD SOUDER

SHORT-TERM SERVICE OPPORTUNITY

Alternate Houseparents Needed at Gateway Woods December - February

Instead of going to Florida or Arizona this winter, how about coming to Gateway Woods? Art and Ruth Gramm, who have served as Alternate Houseparents for the past four years, want to take the winter off. We need a couple, perhaps a farmer or seasonal worker, who can spend December through February with us. The work involves part-time substituting in one of our houses and campus maintenance. Training, housing, food and salary are provided. If you have a warm heart, a service mind and time on your hands, this may be just the opportunity to serve troubled children.

If you are interested call Bros. Tim Sauder or Jeff Thames at (219) 627-2159.

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



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).

When asked about marriage the Lord Jesus taught, "Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female . . . For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh . . . What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder" (Matt. 19:4-6).

"Why are increasing numbers of marriages in serious trouble today?" Perhaps the New Testament prophecy: "In the last days . . . men shall be lovers of their own selves" (2 Tim. 3:1-2) provides some explanation. In these latter days people expect full satisfaction from a relationship or they set it aside. Self-centered desires for immediate personal gratification are the norm in our society.

The Lord Jesus Christ gave us the perfect example of sacrificial love and servant leadership. If husbands faithfully obey the scriptural directive, "love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it," their marriages will very likely thrive under God's rich blessings.

Christ-like love as defined in 1 Cor. 13 "seeketh not her own . . . thinketh no evil . . . endureth all things" (1 Cor. 13: 5,7). It is essential that wives know that they are loved, respected and valued by their husbands far above family and friends, jobs, hobbies or any other earthly pursuit. This is evident when a husband respects his wife's opinion, when she is his closest confidant and when her concerns play a key role in all significant decisions. Husbands are to "honor" their wives. This must be proven by evident desire to spend ample time together sharing both the joys and burdens of life.

It is the husband's responsibility, when his wife is hurt or offended, to make every effort to understand the cause. When in error he should readily confess and sincerely apologize. In all situations he should be sensitive to her concerns. Many times men feel they cannot meet the needs of their wives and simply do

not understand how they think or why they react as they do. Husbands should patiently, kindly and humbly ask their wives to explain what it is that either helps or hinders in meeting their needs. Too often difficulties are handled by a husband judging, lecturing, criticizing or belittling his wife. The Word teaches, "let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer . . ." (Col. 4:6) and "Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying" (Eph. 4:29). Can we imagine our Saviour giving us a harsh lecture when we are hurt and struggling? The Bible says, "He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young" (Isa. 4:11).

The husband is to be the spiritual head of the home (Eph. 5:23). If this is exerted in a forceful manner it is far removed from the gentle servant leadership portrayed by our Saviour. Jesus did not need to demand submission from His followers to feel secure in His authority. His authority was from God and His actions earned the respect of those who were godly. Husbands should follow Christ's example as they lead. Usually it is an insecure person who leads by force.

When wives seek to control and dominate their husbands this is another perversion of God's perfect plan. Wives are to "revere their husbands" (Eph. 5:33) and husbands are to "praise" their wives (Prov. 31:28). These attitudes should be nurtured by both spouses and they should be frequently expressed by words of commendation as well as special acts of appreciation.

When a husband's attention toward his wife is motivated only by selfish desires he is destined to be disappointed. The true Christ-like motivation is based on concern for the welfare of the other. When this is sincerely practiced, the bond of love is fortified by expression of the bless-

ed marital union as designed by the Creator.

Poor communication skills are often the source of discord in marriage. It is essential for each spouse to be free to express feelings and desires but each must do so in a way that is sensitive to the other's feelings. It is a serious mistake to avoid resolving conflicts and to just allow them to fester. One of the most important aspects of communication is to listen very carefully. This should involve not only hearing the words spoken but being sensitive to the feelings behind those words. Wives often feel a need to explain at some length a problem or concern on their heart and husbands too often fail to take the time and exhibit the patience to hear them out with sincere interest.

Sometimes husbands tend to run their households by the same methods applied in the workplace. They give orders and expect quick and compliant responses. They feel it is a waste of time to explain things in detail or deal with what they feel are petty conflicts. The home is to be a godly haven where Christ is the Head and love and mutual respect prevail. One of the hymns sung at many of our weddings gives a wonderful description of the Christian Home. "There is beauty all around, When there's love at home. There is joy in every sound, When there's love at home. Love at home. Time doth softly, sweetly glide, When there's love at home" (Hymns of Zion, # 64). Is this a true representation of the atmosphere of our homes, or are they filled with pressures, tensions and superficial relationships? It is God's will that we give the highest priority to making our homes the closest thing to Heaven we can experience here on this earth. The ideal standards of the Scriptures should be our goal: "I will walk within my house with a perfect heart" (Psa. 101:2); "Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity" (Psa. 133:1).

At no time did Christ say or do anything to hurt the church. Husbands should do no less for their wives.

ness or occupations, they must keep themselves informed of ACHH activities so that policies may be established from a position of reasonable knowledge. He must be able to form and express his own convictions, but he must also be willing to give full support to any majority decision of the board. The directors are the executive body having responsibility to the elders for Home operations. Their direct contact in these operations is with the administrator who serves as the chief operating officer.

In addition to attending the

seven board meetings per year, a board member devotes time to committee meetings and accepts special homework projects as required. He should be willing to give of his time without thought of compensation in this life.

September is always an exciting month at ACHH. We anticipate the Morton Pumpkin Festival. Each year the Home for the Handicapped nurtures special pumpkin seeds into giant pumpkins to enter in the largest pumpkin contest. Our residents watch the growth and anticipate the con-

test hoping for the prize for the largest pumpkin. We also look forward to the Pumpkin Festival Parade, which just about everyone who is able attends.

Birthdays in November at the Home are: Susie McGinley (1), Keith Weyeneth (4), Rhonda Pullen (4), Kathy Knapp (5), Tom Manley (8), Kay Ellis (9), Bernice Heiniger (11), Sam Sigulas (13), Jane Aberle (14), Janet Worner (17), Kristie Furrer (18). At Oakwood: Ken Clauss (2), Lucy Endress (13), Marian Funk (20). At 200 E. Hazelwood, Morton, IL: Alan Unsicker (15).

-- 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.

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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
September 1992 —	3304	6974

*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.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL OF ATHENS, AL Joan Reinhard

"Even a child is known by his doings." Proverbs 20:11. This is the first Bible verse we will be memorizing in the month of October and how true it is. Our students at the Preschool are ages two and a half to five years old and this is the main age when they are developing the ideas and personalities that will remain with them the rest of their lives. We only pray that each child will develop "doings" or actions that are in accordance with God's ways and teachings. How about our actions?

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN PUBLICATIONS

A new Froehlich book entitled, "OLD TESTAMENT MEDITATIONS" is now available through the Apostolic Christian Publications bookstore in Eureka, IL. This publication is a softbound collection of Froehlich's notes on certain Old Testament passages. The format will easily accommodate highlighting or underlining if desired. The text itself is styled for easier reading and comprehension, and should appeal to a wide readership of members and friends.

The bookstore is ready to receive your orders. The cost of the book is \$4.85 plus tax, and can be ordered by mail or by calling (309) 467-3611 during the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Monday through Friday.

Our main themes for Bible stories this month are the teachings about Joseph and following the journey of the children of Israel to the Promised Land. During our lesson times we will be studying about transportation. We will deal with the three main areas of transportation - land, water and air, and we will have a special section on tricycle and bicycle safety. The children will then get to practice what they have learned by participation in a Trike-A-Thon here at school, which is our only main fund-raiser throughout the year. The excitement and support for this event are truly amazing and heartwarming.

We hope and pray, too, that each one of you will continue to lift us up in prayer to our Father and that He will provide the wisdom, grace and strength to carry out His work here.

GATEWAY WOODS
 Apostolic Christian
 Children's Home
 Liz Martin

"God, never asks for more than we have, He just asks us for everything we've got."

Seems like a lot to give all we have to the Lord. But really, what is ours in the first place? Nothing! All we have is on loan from the Lord. It doesn't matter if we have a little or a lot. God will bless and multiply it until it is more than He needs to use for His purpose. Re-

member how God blessed the small boys lunch. He used it to fulfill His need and there was plenty left. (St. Luke 9:12-17).

My challenge to you is to search your heart, pray that if there is anything you are holding onto or feel you can't live without: if there is, give it to God. Let Him use it to His purpose and see the goodness of God.

Finding classes and checking out new teachers was a struggle for some of the new children. Now it is old hat. You'd think life would slow down now that school is underway. But those of you with teenagers know that is a dream. There is always someone to take here or there.

As I am leaving Gateway Woods, I have been doing a lot of reflecting on my days here. The last three years have been full of excitement and heartache.

It has been a very good experience. I think about when I came, it was exciting and scary at the same time. Scared of the unknown, excited to be in God's plan. I have learned every day to pray for grace and wisdom. I could not have stayed here if it weren't God's plan or without His grace. So many times when I have had a child yell in my face how awful I am, it hurts and I would wonder, what am I doing? The good makes up for the bad though. Not much is more exciting than when the girls come home excited over a new friend, a test passed or a good grade. The best time of the day is at night when they are being tucked in and time is spent talking with

them, praying, hugging and kissing them.

One of my most memorable times is when I first came, I had driven 36 hours, feeling exhausted, I pulled in the driveway someone said okay she is here, let's go. We climbed into the van and went camping. It was so cold! I had come from Arizona where there was record breaking heat temperatures. I can remember just wanting to sleep and get warm. I don't think I've warmed up yet.

It has been a wonderful experience working with fellow Christians in the trenches and to be able to say, pray for me I'm having a bad day, knowing they will. Getting together just to talk and encourage each other. Not many places offer that.

When I think of leaving, it puts a big lump in my throat, I will miss the friends made here, there has been many, but I know God is leading me on to a different mission field. He is faithful to keep us.

We are excited for Dawn S. as she has moved on to live with Sis. Amy Unsicker at our TLP house. She is missed at the East House.

Bro. Jeff and Sis. Tina Schumacher have opened their home up to Charity H. It is exciting for Charity to have someone who is willing to love and care for her off of campus during her later teen years.

Thanks, Bro. Trent Schrock, for all the work you did for us in organizing the volunteer program this summer. We welcome him to the Leo area as he has found a job here.

During the Grabill Fair we had our fourth annual pancake and sausage breakfast. Once again God has shown us His mighty power. The first two days were very slow. We were sure we wouldn't have much profit. Well wouldn't you know, Saturday was so very busy, there was hardly time to breath! It is exciting to see the results of God's plans.

We enjoyed our first volunteer reunion for those who served our program in the past year. There were about twenty volunteers. We were all excited to see the familiar, fun faces. Saturday afternoon we played softball and volleyball followed by a hot dog roast, singing

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

and sharing by the campfire. We are thankful the weather was perfect. Sunday we had dinner and games at the fellowship center. Thanks to everyone who made the effort to come and for making it a great weekend and a great summer.

ALABAMA, ATHENS

Lisa Huette

We were reminded this month that we need to give God our undivided attention in order to fully understand what His will for us is. Too often we think of this world receive more of our attention than our Lord does.

We are glad to have Sis. Debbie Barrett and Pete Perry back among us after their hospitalizations. Also, Sis. Hazel Vibbert would like to express her thanks for the many cards she received upon the death of her husband.

Labor Day weekend was a special one for all of us here in Athens in that we had an abundance of visitors. Saturday evening a singing was held in the fellowship hall. As always, the evening was made special by those who were willing to lend themselves in song. Sunday morning we were privileged to have

Bros. Ron Kipfer (Bluffton, IN) and Doyle Frauhiger (Bluffton North, IN) share the Word of God with us. We'd also like to thank our visitors from Peoria, Princeville, Cissna Park and Goodfield, IL, for making the effort to be with us this month.

ARIZONA, PHOENIX Ron and Ev Hoerr

"Take heed therefore that the light that is in thee be not darkness."

Luke 11:35

Daily practice of the Golden Rule would help each of us have a bright light. What a loving, caring, good way to praise and honour our Lord. Do you cherish your freedom of religion?

We are hearing the conference tapes during Wednesday nights in September. What great guidelines and encouragement for a better Christian life. Dear elder brothers, we do appreciate your labor of love!

"Will you answer the midnight call?" Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle was our visiting minister August 26 and 30. He and Sis. Lois were returning to Japan after the elder's conference. We are most grateful to you both. Thanks to Bro. Peter

Petrovich (San Diego, CA) too.

That special blessing of Christian fellowship was enjoyed when the older classes of Sunday school traveled to see their hosts in Altadena, Labor Day weekend. Hearty thanks to our teachers for the work and effort to serve God.

Happy first-time parents, Bro. Nathan and Sis. Kathy Knochel, are grateful little Amanda Marie arrived September 10. Her grandparents are Bro. Herb and Sis. Johanna Knochel and Sis. Helen Steffen.

Our sympathy to Bro. Greg and Sis. Deniese Gramm on Elder Bro. Bob Grimm's (Goodfield, IL) death. Bro. Bob's unboundless love for everyone truly made him special to all of us. May the Lord comfort all his family members.

Many prayers were uttered for our dear church family this past month. Surgical patients were Sis. Lyola Ringger, Sis. Ella Harmon and Fawn Esslinger. Sis. Kathrine Laukhuf and Sis. Dorothy Kraft were in the hospital for studies.

Out of sight is not out of mind. Case in point -- Joe Zollinger (currently Rittman, OH). Joe (formerly of Phoenix church) was in a very bad accident resulting in a broken leg and internal injuries. The power of prayer and much medical care has many folks giving thanks to God for showing His will be done. Joe is recovering.

Just as touching is Wendy Blunier's call to repentance. Once again, we never know when the Master is gently calling one "To seek the kingdom of God."

Autumn is coming (despite 105°). The tweets and chirps of our bird friends make us well aware "This is the day the Lord hath made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it."

There is a tremendous amount to read and profit from in Ecclesiastes. Verse 11:1 is a real gem for a beginning. May God bless.

ARIZONA, TUCSON Lisa Knapp

We have started up our monthly fellowship suppers and Bible studies, so fall must be here!

We don't have much news this month, except to report that we are

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
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Grabill, IN 46741
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ready for some cool weather so that it will feel like fall!

Our fellowship suppers are the second Sunday of the month and our Bible study is held the following Friday evening. If you are in the area, please join us.

CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO Marian Petrovic

It was a weekend of many blessings as we were privileged to host the Phoenix, AZ, choir. As our congregation listened to their beautiful singing and then joined in, it was such a joy to raise our voices and praise our heavenly Father in one accord.

A hearty welcome back to Sis. Joanne Varga (Bro. Steve) as she has returned after a lengthy stay in Canada.

We appreciate the efforts of Bro. Glen Hackenjosh (Altadena) who was our visiting minister during the month of September. God bless you.

COLORADO, DENVER Eric and Marcel Huber

We were again privileged to have visiting ministers this past month. Thanks to Bros. Harvey Grimm (Bern, KS), Peter Petrovic (San Diego, CA) and Ronald Schambach (Elgin, IL) for their willingness to serve us.

We rejoice with Sis. Helen Lobnitz that God has granted her the opportunity to repent, share her testimony and experience baptism. May He be her constant compan-

ion as her battle with cancer continues. A special thank you to Elder Bro. John Lehman (Bern, KS) for his presence at this special event.

Our congregation welcomes Jamie Grant, formerly of Princeville, IL. She has acquired employment in the Boulder, CO, area.

Prayers continue for Sis. Katherine Ries who has been hospitalized.

CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE Michelle Virkler

The Lord has surely shown His presence as Bro. Duane Reutter has been chosen as minister for the Rockville congregation. Elder Bros. Art Bahler and Leo Moser assisted Elder Bro. Kevin Ryan in this effort. We wish Bro. Duane and Sis. Kay God's abundant grace and blessings as Bro. Duane ministers the teachings of His Word. Bro. Duane and Sis. Kay have six children: Nathan, Derek, Kirby, Amber, Ashley and Matthew.

"He'll lighten the load,
And level the road
And bear thee on hands of
compassion.
He'll shield and defend
His child to the end;
No suffering or death shall appall
thee.
In patience then bear
All trial and care;
Above streams of bliss will refresh
thee.

Zion's Harp #46

School bells are once again ringing. Summer seems to have passed so quickly this year. We pray the Lord will guide and protect our children as they journey on to school each day.

As the fall season approaches, and the leaves begin to change, our hearts and minds turn to Thee, our Creator of all things. The beauty of this season that surrounds us surely gives us evidence of the power of His creation.

We rejoice with those who have chosen to walk with Thee: Cathryn Virkler (Bro. Dan and Sis. Dorothy), Naomi Luginbuhl (Bro. Ken and Sis. Kay) and Mary Elizabeth (Bro. Daryl and Sis. Norma). Our prayers are with these converts as they face each new day.

"Oh, if we are ever ready
To serve Jesus day by day,
Sacrifice our soul and body,
Bear each burden by the way,
We shall fear, Nothing here
For the Lord is always near."
Zion's Harp #159

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, WASHINGTON Henrietta Meyer

We welcome Sis. Shay Nelson (Morton, IL) to our congregation. She will be working in Baltimore for four months.

I may write it every month, but our congregation is very thankful and does appreciate ministers coming so far to minister God's Word to us. Our ministers in September were Bro. Nathan Stoller (Bradford, IL) and Bro. Steve Martin (Eureka, IL). May the Lord bless these brothers and their families for their efforts. Other visitors this month were from Huntington, WV, Lester, IA, Toledo and Akron, OH.

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. We often meet for a tape on the other Sundays, so please let us know if you are in the area. We are always blessed when we have additional opportunities for fellowship.

FEMALE FOSTER PARENTS NEEDED

The Gateway Woods Specialized Foster Care Program is looking for single sisters to reside in the Leo, Fort Wayne or Bluffton area to open their homes and lives to one or more female teens. These girls are in need of a transitional setting in which to live as they prepare to move out on their own. The part-time nature of this work makes it possible to pursue outside jobs or continue college education. Co-foster parenting with another single sister is also an option. Gateway Woods presently has a home available in Fort Wayne for this purpose; however, other rental arrangements can be considered. Additional living expenses are covered by Gateway Woods and the girls.

Your example, friendship and love may be just what a young person needs to step into a future of success and faith.

For information concerning the Specialized Foster Care Program, please contact Judy Stoller or Ruth Reinhard at P. O. Box 141, Leo, IN 46765; (219) 627-2159.

For more information, assistance or just to let us know you will be in the area, please call Bro. Matthew Aeschleman (301) 863-9624 or Bro. Ed Stoll (703) 494-3955.

FLORIDA, FT. LAUDERDALE
Terri K. Huber

We received God's Holy Word through His servant, Bro. Ken Hoerr (Peoria, IL) August 30. As always, we are thankful for our visiting minister.

Things are pretty much back to normal for us . . . but we are still looking for ways to help those who were affected by Hurricane Andrew. Daily we read stories on the front page of the newspaper about people who were left with no home, nowhere even to store the belongings that were salvaged, as even rented storage spaces are leased to capacity. On my first trip down I was astounded to see pieces of metal from beams and trailers wrapped around telephone poles . . . a tall Norwegian pine that looked like a toothpick because all the branches had been snapped off . . . bare trees where the wind had stripped not only leaves but bark also . . . and a church sanctuary with a collapsed cathedral ceiling.

It is a blessing to be able to report that Brigitte Heib has given her heart to the Lord. Let's remember to pray for all of our converts for we know that Satan steps us his efforts to reclaim a soul that he has "lost."

FLORIDA, NORTH FT. MYERS
Marvin and Rhea Steffen

"Let brotherly love continue. Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. Remember them that are in bonds, as bound with them; and them which suffer adversity, as being yourselves also in the body."

Hebrews 13:1, 2, 3

Are not we a fortunate people to be able to share our burdens one with another in brotherly love? How this strengthens the body and members. Our brothers and sisters

in southeastern Florida can use some prayerful support as they rebuild their neighborhoods in the wake of Hurricane Andrew.

We, in North Fort Myers, share the loss of Elder Bro. Bob Grimm (Goodfield, IL) with his family and all who knew and loved him. His family's many visits here over the years will be treasured the more, and we will miss him dearly. We pray his family will find comfort in God's unfailing promises.

We were blessed with visiting ministers this past month. Our Elder Bro. Darrell Klopfenstein (Fort Lauderdale) and his wife, Billie, traveled to be with us. Bro. Jeff Streitmatter III (Sarasota) also shared with us. We thank them for their labors of love.

Victor and Dottie Beer celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary this month. We wish God's continued blessings on them.

ILLINOIS, BELVIDERE
Carol Steffen

Our visiting ministers this month were Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle (Japan), Bro. Jon Zeller (Morton, IL), Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen (Elgin, IL) and Bro. Virgil Metzger (Chicago, IL). Bro. Willis blessed us with a visit after the conference, Bro. Jon took Morton's turn on our visiting minister schedule and Bro. Nathan ministered to us on a Wednesday evening. Bro. Virgil came to minister in Bro. Dean's absence. We thank them and their families for serving us.

We are now listening to the tapes of the brotherhood conference. Our prayer is that we can be obedient and supportive of these teachings.

Our sympathy is extended to Bro. Bill and Sis. Lana Schifferer and their family in the death of Sis. Lana's father, Louie DiPirro (Marengo, IL).

ILLINOIS,
BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL
Tudy Schmied - Debbie Grieco

I hope you don't mind if I ask sort of a personal question of each of you. I'd just like to know, how

are you getting along with that "terminal illness" you've got? You say, "What 'terminal illness'? I don't have cancer. I don't have AIDS. I don't have a bad heart." No, I'm talking about that "terminal illness" that we all have; and that "terminal illness" is the minute we took our first breath as a human being, we're going to take our last one. We're all afflicted with that one, aren't we? Nobody can deny that. You might look forward to, oh, seventy, eighty, ninety, a hundred years. But sometime you've got to face that fact that, from a human standpoint, that's it. And then we ask the question, "then what?"

These were the beginning words of Elder Bro. Bob Grimm's concluding remarks as he finished the afternoon service on the Sunday afternoon he entered the hospital for surgery. Prophetic? In retrospect, his last words become more powerful and meaningful than they were when he spoke them.

Bro. Bob and Sis. Elna touched each life in our church with their love and dedication to God and our faith. Each of us has a special memory of the unique way that our lives have been affected by them. Our prayers are for Sis. Elna and her family as they must carry on without a husband, dad and grandpa.

One sister commented just prior to Bro. Bob's surgery, "He can't lose." He gets better or he gets to go home to Jesus and the heavenly Father. Our hearts are sad but we rejoice that he can now be eternally with the saints.

Everett Hari

Our hearts also go out to Shirley Stimeling (wife of George) who lost her mother, Emma L. Rocke (Morton) August 13.

We rejoice in the knowledge that by God's grace souls continue to be called into salvation. On August 19 our congregation heard how the love and power of God had worked in the heart of Sis. Kathi Hart (Bill and Sandra Hart, Bloomington). Her baptism followed on August 23. We welcome Kathi into our brotherhood and we wish her God's blessings as she walks the narrow road to life eternal.

On September 13 our congregation welcomed new college and university students and their families to our church and then enjoyed getting to know them better at the Towanda Community Center. We invite all students and persons whose jobs have brought them to the McLean County area to worship with us. Services are at 9:45 and 12:00 on Sunday and 7:15 on Wednesday.

We were richly blessed this month with the presence of several visiting ministers. They were Elder Bro. Bob Grimm (Goodfield), Bro. Edwin Baylor (Remington, IN), Bro. Floyd Schmidgall (Morris, MN), Bro. Earl Kilgus (Remington, IN) and Elder Bro. Lavoyd Moore (Athens, AL).

ILLINOIS, BRADFORD

Les and Barb Fehr

Bro. Brad and Sis. Teresa Gudeman and family have moved to our area from Elgin, IL. We wish them God's richest blessings in their new home and welcome them with open arms to our church here in Bradford.

Bro. Nathan and Sis. Sherrill Stoller were blessed with a new daughter, Allaina Maria. Allaina was welcomed home by Joanna and Loren. Grandparents are Bro. Nathan and Sis. Martha Stoller and Lloyd and Betty Stahl.

During the last month our visiting ministers were Bros. Russell Wuthrich (Pulaski, IA), Andy Moser (Valparaiso, IN) and Elder Bro. Joe Stoller (Princeville). May God bless these brothers for their efforts on our behalf.

ILLINOIS, CHAMPAIGN

Margie Heintz

On Sunday, August 19, the marriage of Bro. Win Stoller (Peoria) to Sis. Amy Sutter (Champaign/Fort Lauderdale, FL) was solemnized. We pray they will continue to seek God's guidance as they begin their new life together. We are thankful they will be making their home in Champaign and welcome them as a couple to our congregation.

New Student Welcome Day was

Sunday, August 23. Traditionally on that day all new and returning students and their families are invited to worship with us. Following services, a potluck picnic is held at a local park. Again this year many joined us for worship and for the picnic and fellowship. It is a time of revitalization, as so many enthusiastic young brothers, sisters and friends join or rejoin our congregation. We pray they will know God's blessings and guidance in this formative time in their lives, and that they will feel the love and support of the Champaign congregation.

Saturday, September 19 was set aside to listen to the tapes of the brotherhood conference which had been held last month in Tremont. The tapes were played in the morning and afternoon with a lunch/fellowship break at noon. It was a refreshing and uplifting day with messages of challenge and encouragement for believers as we walk together toward heaven.

We were blessed with many visitors in August and September, including a number of visiting ministers. They were Bro. Gary Endress (Bradford), Elder Bro. Joe Braker (Morton), Bros. Ken Hoerr (Peoria), Tom Leman (Denver, CO), Mike Rieker (Peoria), Tom Stock (Cissna Park), Rich Sutter (Fort Lauderdale, FL), Wayne Grimm (West Bend, IA), Kenny Dietz (Bradford), John Hartman (Fairbury), Lenny Meyer (Chicago, IL), Jim Plattner (Princeville), Greg Rassi (Chicago, IL), Steve Sauder (Tremont), Dale Stoller (Fairbury), Marshall Heinold (Washington), Earl Gerber (Forrest) and Sid Kaufman (Cissna Park). We want to thank all of our visitors for the love and encouragement which they bring.

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO

Kathy Schlatter

A fellow teacher was thought to be too young to have a seventeen-year-old daughter. She didn't understand why. I suggested that part of the reason might be that she had no gray hair. She laughed and said her hair was dyed (brown) – that she had been white since she was 25. I was amazed. The difference in

age rested solely on the pigment (and lack of it). I teach students of all races – some of us have more and some less of the pigment melanin, yet honestly each is an especially unique individual – regardless of his/her race or ethnic background. Too often I think we make judgments – or I am apt to anyway, based on outward appearance. Sometimes age or skin color affect me more than I wish. Other characteristics may also crop up: clothing, hairstyles, activities, ways of speaking. I am rebuked in James, for no one has made me a judge. Christ died for each one. Who am I? "If ye fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself, ye do well: But if ye have respect to persons, ye commit sin, and are convinced of the law as transgressors." James 2:8, 9. Lord, give me more of Thy love for each individual I meet. Thou hast a purpose that we are met together.

We are so thankful for the blessings of the ministry of Bros. Curt Rassi (Tremont) and Dennis Rassi (Fairbury). May His grace and goodness to them include continued guidance in His will and time and energy for each part of their days' paths.

Sis. Tina Leman, originally from Roanoke, has followed a dream, as she has prepared to work with students who are hearing-impaired. She is now working in Tinley Park, and we are delighted to have her join our church family. We pray that she will add to our sensitivity and that we may become her second family and home.

Bro. Shannon Stahl has left us for California Tech. We know that Altadena will enjoy him. We are sorry to have him go, but, as always, we continue to hope that the Lord might still give an assignment back here later. We wish him the Lord's abundance, and we always send our love and prayers.

We want to convey our sympathies to Diana and Gary Halfer and Chris on the death of her grandfather, Bro. Joe Hauter (Morton, IL). Also Mabelle Welk has lost a dear nephew in Phoenix, AZ, and we want to remember her in our prayers. May the Lord sustain them

in their grief and give them the comfort of His Word.

One of my biggest battles is in waiting on the Lord, yet I am more and more convinced that in waiting is power and peace. Waiting for our daughters to come home from ACYF reminds me of the prayers that arise as we wait, the surrender to Him, the realization of our total dependence on Him. The Word tell us many times: "Our soul waiteth for the Lord: he is our help and our shield." Psalms 33:20. Psalms 62 says, "Truly my soul waiteth upon God: from him cometh my salvation," vs. 1, and "My soul, wait thou only upon God; for my expectation is from God." (vs. 5) And in Psalms 130, vs. 5, David says, "I wait for the Lord, my soul doth wait, and in his word do I hope." "And therefore will the Lord wait, that he may be gracious unto you, and therefore will he be exalted, that he may have mercy upon you: for the Lord is a God of judgment: blessed are all they that wait for him." Isaiah 30:18. Lamentations repeats the promise in Isaiah: "The Lord is good unto them that wait for him, to the soul that seeketh him." (3:25). In Romans 8:25, we are reminded that ". . . if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it." "And the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God, and into the patient waiting for Christ." II Thessalonians 3:5. Now we do not understand, but we shall if we wait patiently, lovingly, faithfully, with hope (paraphrasing I Corinthians 13:10-13). Most of all, though, when the waiting role seems to wear us down, we are promised: "But 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." Isaiah 40:31.

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK
 Bev Knapp - Cyndee Anderson

"There are many devices (plans) in a man's heart; nevertheless the counsel of the Lord, that shall stand."

Proverbs 19:21

It is with much prayer that we have sent our children back to school again this fall, to be under the instruction of another for close to seven hours a day. As we heard so clearly in the conference tapes this fall, may we, as mothers and fathers, do our best to be there for our children when they are not in school, making good use of the hours that are still ours. And although they might come home full of "plans," may we have the courage to stand up for what we know to be right, showing them the "counsel of the Lord" if need be, for we know that shall stand.

We truly appreciate the wise counsel of the elders again through the conference tapes, and are so thankful that God saw fit to establish a church order that called for submission to those who are over us in the Lord. It seems evident that it is this submission to each other, to our elders, and to the Lord that is the "glue" that holds our church family together and brings us the blessing and grace of God. (I Peter 5:5)

We enjoyed a blessed day of fellowship on Sunday, September 6, as many young single members from various churches had traveled to be with us for the weekend. The singing in church was so inspiring! We want to thank our own dear young group for planning the weekend, and also each one who came. Also with us that weekend were ministering Bro. Ken Schneider (Remington, IN) and our Elder Bro. Art Bahler, both of whom we always appreciate having.

Spending time in the hospital this month were Sisters Carolyn Hari (Bro. Marvin) and Elaine Sauder (Bro. Curt). How wonderful it is to be able to trust each step of our lives into God's care. "When my spirit was overwhelmed within me, then Thou knewest my path." Psalms 142:3

We want to extend our sympathy to Sis. Caroline Gudeman and Bro. Joel Hofbauer on the death of their sister, Sis. Margaret Frank (Tremont).

Feeling God's leading, Bro. Doug and Sis. Beth Rinkenberger have moved near Fairbury and will be

attending the Fairbury church. We are sad to see them go, but cannot doubt God's direction. We hope they will visit us often and remember us in prayer.

September 13 was the wedding day of our Sis. Jill Kaufmann to Bro. Jonathon Sutter. The parents of this couple are Bro. Larry and Sis. Jean Kaufmann and Bro. Richard and Sis. Kathy Sutter (Fort Lauderdale, FL). Besides Bro. Richard, we are also thankful for other visitors on the pulpit that day: Elder Bro. Dave Wiegand (Champaign), and ministering Bros. Loren Schrenk (St. Louis, MO), Dennis Kaufmann (Bloomington, IL) and John Hartman (Fairbury). May the Lord bless this dear couple as they make their new home together in Florida.

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE
 Myra Steffen - Sue Wiegand

We are thankful for the ministering brothers this past month. Elder Bro. Lawrence Luthi (Lamar, MO) and Bro. Alphai Moser (Morris, MN) brought us God's Word. We appreciate their visit.

Hospital patients were Sis. Nancy Knapp and Bros. Bob Williamson and Chris Miller, Jr. We are thankful to have them assembling with us again.

God has blessed our congregation with three more babies. John and Renae Dietrich are parents of Hannah Rachel. Bro. Bill and Sis. Sherri Dietrich and Gary and Sis. Wanda Edwards (Goodfield) are grandparents. Bro. Ralph and Sis. Joyce Zobrist are grandparents for Austin Wayne born to Scot and Amy Zobrist. Eric and Erin Zimmerman are glad for a brother, Evan Christopher. His parents are Bro. Ben and Sis. Kathy and grandparents are Bro. Walt and Sis. Betty Miller and Bro. Orville and Sis. Lula Zimmerman. May God grant each parent His wisdom to teach those little ones.

 Address Changed . . .
 Give Your New and Old Address
 To Your Reporter

ILLINOIS, ELGIN
Elizabeth Schambach
Betty Bachtold

"I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, . . ."

Isaiah 61:10

Larry and Beth (Weiss) Moore have repented of their sin and found mercy in the precious blood of the Lamb and are awaiting baptism.

Little Rachel Lynne Buckheister is thrilled to welcome a new brother, David William, born September 1 to Bro. Bob and Sis. Lynette. Grandparents include Bro. William and Sis. Evelyn Gudeman and William and Dorothy Buckheister.

Wedding vows were spoken by Traci Utt and Edward Hartfiel July 3. She is the daughter of Sis. Norma Utt and Mr. and Mrs. Richard Utt (Wheaton) and his parents are the Robert Hartfiels (Elgin).

Recent surgical and hospital patients include Bro. Bill Reber (Sis. Ann), Milford Rein (Bernice) and Elvis Kellenberger. May God look down in mercy.

We are thankful for God's continued inspiration upon beloved brothers to bring forth His Word. Our visiting ministers include: Bros. Willis Wiegand (Goodfield, IL), Walter Steffen (Milford, IN), Elmer Schmidt (Winthrop, MN), Dean Steffen (Belvidere, IL), Marvin Leman (Bradford, IL), Dale Stoller (Fairbury, IL) and Marvin Schmidgall (Eureka, IL).

It has been our privilege to serve as reporters for Silver Lining. Your new reporters will be Sisters Debbie Sauder and Renee Anliker. God bless all of you.

ILLINOIS, EUREKA
Dori Blunier

We could certainly feel the blessing and presence of our God as we witnessed the ordination services for Bro. Ervin Knecht August 30. We appreciated the exhortations of our Elder Bros. Don Sauder (Roanoke), Gene Marti (Kansas

City, MO), Dan Koch (Tremont) and Ed Lanz (Oakville, IA). They stressed the importance to Bro. Ervin of being elder to all of the congregation, and they so wisely reminded us of our duty as a church to our elder. As Bro. Ervin said, "We are all trying to get heaven." Therefore may we all in prayer and love and a close walk with our Lord support Bro. Ervin and each other.

Also present at the ordination were Elder Bros. Bob Walder (Congerville), Lawrence Luthi (Lamar, MO) and Chuck Hemmer (Peoria).

As a congregation, we also want to express our thanks to our now retired Elder Bro. Walt Anliker. We appreciate his many years of service in the ministry and the last few years as our shepherd. May God richly bless him for his willing labors.

We express our sincere sympathy to Bro. Vernon and Sis. Viola Leman in the unexpected death of their son, Allen Leman (Webster City, IA). We also remember in prayers Sis. Laura Kupferschmid, Bro. Ed and Sis. Donna Kupferschmid, and Lonnie Kupferschmid, the family of Loretta (Kupferschmid) Leman, wife of Allen.

We especially remember in prayer Bro. Kurt and Sis. Livy (Grimm) Blunier of our congregation. We were all deeply saddened by the death of Sis. Livy's father, Elder Bro. Bob Grimm.

We wish to extend a heartfelt welcome to Bro. Darin and Sis. Keri Blunier who recently moved to our area from Princeville.

Bro. Jeff and Sis. Lisa Banwart are thankful for their new little baby boy. Trent William was born August 24 and has two big brothers, Doug and Brian. Grandparents are Bro. Joel and Sis. Sonia Banwart (Eureka) and Bro. Don and Sis. Verda Bruellman (West Bend, IA).

Richard and Kathy Stoller had a little baby girl, Emily, born in July. Also welcoming Emily into their lives are her brother, Jacob, and her grandparents, Bro. Melvin and Sis. Marge Stoller (Eureka).

We express our thanks to Elder Bro. Paul Butikofer (Elgin, IA) as he spent a Sunday with us recently

and to Bro. Tom Hoffman (Roanoke) for Wednesday evening services.

Our thoughts and prayers have been with Sis. Lula Fehr and Bro. Jesse Getz as they recuperate from their recent illnesses.

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY
Sally Fehr - Thelma Slagel

"Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest."

John 4:35

We were reminded recently in a sermon that at this time of year it is apparent that harvest is nigh. We can see the leaves turn and the grain ripen. It is a time of preparation for farmers, an anxious time if they aren't quite ready.

In a spiritual application, we can see the signs of the times and the prophecies being fulfilled and we know that the great harvest is nigh. We don't know the exact time when the Lord will tell His angel, "Thrust in thy sickle and reap . . . for the harvest of the earth is ripe." (Revelation 14:15), but when it comes, will we be ready?

We were blessed with visiting ministers Bro. Charles Sauder (Tremont) and Bro. Bruce Leman (Roanoke) this month. May the Lord reward their willing service.

In days of youth seek ye the Lord . . . (Hymns of Zion #135) We are rejoicing with our new convert, Ronald Slagel, Jr., as he seeks his Lord in repentance. Ronald's parents are Sis. June and Ronald Slagel, Sr. May the grace of God be with them all.

Even as we rejoice together, we also sorrow with those of our congregation who have lost a loved one. We extend sympathy to Robert and Mary Edelman and son, James, in the passing of Mary's mother, Beulah Loughran.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Bro. Lloyd and Myrna Moser and family as Myrna returns home from extensive treatment. We pray for the Lord's nearness and that we may accept in all things whatever His perfect will may be.

Don't stop praying but have more trust;
 Don't stop praying for pray we must;
 Faith will banish a mount of care;
 Don't stop praying, God answers prayer.

Tabernacle Hymns #69, vs. 5

Other hospital patients this month were Eunice Stork (John) and Bro. Dave Kaeb (Sis. Mary), who had out-patient surgery.

We extend a hearty welcome to Bro. Doug and Sis. Beth (Schmidgall) Rinkenberger, who has moved to this area from Cissna Park and will be assembling with our congregation. Sis. Beth's grandparents, Bro. Warren and Sis. Louise Hartman, are thankful to have them living so near. We know they will be an asset to our church family.

"Ye, if thou criest after knowledge and liftest up thy voice for understanding; If thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hidden treasures. Then shalt thou understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God."

Proverbs 2:3-5

We pray for the Lord's guiding hand over our high school and college graduates as school begins again and they go on to higher education or new careers. As they seek after knowledge, may they remember that the knowledge of God is of foremost importance and worth more than all earthly knowledge they may obtain.

We have been gaining wisdom from the tapes of the August brotherhood conference. It is such an encouragement to hear our elder brethren's exhortations regarding our duties in a believer's walk of life. One gem I carried with me was the fact that we should not be known as the "AC" church for those initials are an abbreviation for many things and are essentially meaningless. The name "Apostolic Christian" means "Apostle-like Christ-like" church. What a tremendous challenge those two words hold for all of us to live up to in our daily walks of life.

ILLINOIS, FORREST Sherri Kelson Sandra Schneider

Brad Metz and Karen Martino were united in marriage August 15. Their parents are Bro. Gene and Sis. Carol Metz and Mark and Ruth Ann Martino (Roanoke). We wish them happiness as they make their home in Littleton, CO.

Bro. Frank Honegger passed from this life September 2. We extend our sincere sympathy to his children, James, Velma Koehl, Joan Glendenning and sisters, Sis. Kathryn and Sis. Nathalia Honegger.

We thank Bro. Bill and Sis. Betty Hodel (Roanoke) for spending a Sunday with us. We always appreciate his ministering to us and pray God will richly reward him.

Bro. Larry Bachman, Laura Stoller (Bro. Greg and Sis. Jill) and Sis. Eleanor Honegger were hospitalized for a time this month. May God continue to grant them His healing power.

We rejoice with the angels in heaven that Velma Koehl is seeking peace with her Saviour and God. We are thankful God is still stirring hearts to live for Him.

Jeana Michelle is the new little bundle of joy born to Bro. Ernie and Sis. Carol Leman, Jodi, Jason and Jeremy welcome her. Grandparents are Bro. Robert and Sis. Donna Leman and Bro. John and Sis. Beverly Eisenmann.

Our congregation gathered for four evenings to hear the tapes of the brotherhood conference. We received many teachings to use in our walk of life as believers.

Bro. Ben and Sis. Irene Traub wish to thank all of their friends and relatives for cards and gifts. A special thanks for your prayers while in the hospital and Carle Arbours which they were so in need of. May God bless each and every one.

THE FINAL HARVEST

He was bound to the land from the day of his birth
 His roots anchored deep in the fertile earth,
 Nurtured, sustained by the soil he grew --

And his life, like his furrows, ran straight and true.

In faith, each spring he planted the seeds
 In hope to reap for his family's needs.
 With patience, he waited for the harvest to come
 To gather the fruits of his labor home.

Ever turning seasons, the years sped past
 Till the final harvest came at last.
 Then claimed anew by beloved sod,
 He was gathered home to be with God.

In memory of
 Bro. Edward Wenger
 who passed away
 in October of 1977

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD Barb Brim

"And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours: and their works do follow them."

Revelation 14:13

"And there shall be no night there: and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever."

Revelation 22:5

What a victorious reward our dear shepherd Bob has entered into; released from earthly bondage to joyously enter those heavenly realms. Surely the angels are singing hallelujahs to Almighty God over his passing from this life to his eternal home with the Father. As we in our mere mortal minds strive to overcome our feelings of sorrow and loss, we have faith in God's abundant grace that allows us to look ever forward to that glorious heavenly reunion, when our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, returns for all of His children!

To his most beloved family, we

extend our heartfelt sympathy and love, for we know the sacrifices you've made so that we, as his flock, could be fed. Thank you for sharing so willingly of his time, effort, wisdom and, most of all love. May God comfort and bless each of you dear ones, and remember, he is only a heartbeat away.

We extend our sympathy also to our dear Bro. Keith and Sis. Dorothy Leman, upon the passing of their brother, Allen Leman, this month. Our thoughts and prayers are with Bro. Vernon and Sis. Vi; his parents; his wife, Loretta; his children; and whole family.

"When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee; when thou walkest through the fire thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee. For I am the Lord thy God the Holy One of Israel."

Isaiah 43:2-3

We would like to express our thanks to those visiting ministers who shared with us this month. To Elder Bros. Don and Sis. Wilma Sauder (Roanoke) and Edwin and Sis. Geralene Ringger (Gridley), and Bros. Frederick and Sis. Marjorie Knapp (Congerville), Joe and Sis. Shirley Braker (Morton) and Jim and Sis. Jeanne Rinkenberger (Bluffton Country South), a special thank you for allowing the Lord to use you for our edification.

Thank You: We wish to express our appreciation for the prayers, cards, flowers, and many kindnesses received after the passing of our father, Dale Rinkenberger. Your love touches us deeply. May God bless you all.

Bro. Kent & Sis. Janell Kloter
and family

Lead me to the Higher Places,
Let me gaze on angel's faces.
Show me gates of pearly white,
Gold paved streets, Oh! what a sight!

There within the light He stands,
Staff of life upon his hands.
Tenderly he draws me near,
My Shepherd bids me, "Do not fear."

And all about a joyous song,
Comes from the heavenly angels
throng.

Hearts are free, there love abounds,
Its here our spirit's comfort's
found.

Lead me to the Higher Places,
To my home in God's Oasis.

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY Perry A. Klopfenstein

During a day in late August, I had three special occasions to feel inspiration from above, and to harbor a gladness that I was privileged to serve God.

First, as I was getting ready for work I noted a plaque on our dresser that read, "Each Day Is A Beautiful Gift Of God." Indeed, as one ponders on the serious matters of creation, life and purpose he can realize that meaning and happiness resound within the heart if Almighty God can daily be experienced - and that each 24-hour period is a gift to use fruitfully in God's vineyard.

Then, as I drove to work, I noted a sign that said, "Enjoy This Beautiful Day." Again, this was a reminder that stirred up my mind (by way of remembrance) that a happy life stems from the ever-flowing fountain of God's love and truth.

Finally, that evening as our believing children hosted a singing for the young folks in our home, we sang a hymn entitled, "Prayer Changes Things." Such a thought, enshrouded in profound truth, deepened my faith in God as I realized more fully the omnipotent power of God and His infinite power to change things for the better, if it is His will.

In conclusion, each day is God's gift to us. We should enjoy each day and recognize its beauty because we have no promise of tomorrow. Too, we should rest in the ongoing promise that God can change things and bring comfort to our hearts.

Our visiting ministers this past period were Bros. Ron Bollier (Indianapolis, IN) and John Stoller (Leo, IN), Eric Givens (Princeville) and Dennis Rassi (Fairbury).

Those hospitalized were Jason Rinkenberger, and Sisters Verena

Kuerth and Aline Stortz. Sis. Ethel Schmidtgall has been convalescing at home from a recent illness, and is recovering.

As the political campaigns begin to reach fever pitch, it will be of great interest to see who will prevail. All power, secular and spiritual, is ordained of God. Earthly kingdoms rise and fall and none are perfect. God's Word is sure and His presence is from everlasting to everlasting. As partisan fervor may want to well up in each of our hearts, may God's Spirit give us a sense of restraint that is reflective of an attitude that our true citizenship is in heaven, for which we are striving.

ILLINOIS, MORTON Phyllis Farney Cheryl Wuthrich

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

Ecclesiastes 3:1

In just the past month our congregation has experienced many seasons. We have had deaths and a birth; we have celebrated anniversaries and rejoiced as a dear soul became a child of God.

Bro. Keith and Sis. Janice Schick welcomed home their first child, Kelly Elise. Kelly was born August 22. Her grandparents are Bro. Ted and Sis. Mary Staker and Bro. Randy and Sis. Jane Schick.

Two of our brothers were allowed to go to their eternal rewards this past month. Bro. Bill Miller's funeral was held September 1. May God comfort his two sons, Jerry and Robert, in the loss of their father, and also his grandchildren and other relatives and friends. Bro. Joseph Hauter was called home at the age of 103. His funeral was held September 12. May God's presence be felt among his son, Bro. Ralph; his daughter, Sis. Katherine Kaiser; his brothers, Ben and Bro. Chris; his many grandchildren; great-grandchildren; and his other relatives and friends.

We rejoice with the angels as we heard the testimony and witnessed the baptism of Ida Kaufman

September 2. We are so thankful that even though she is in her eighties, she had the grace to become a child of God.

We were happy to welcome guests of our Bible class August 23. Students from the Remington, IN and Gridley, IL Sunday schools spent the weekend with us. It is time and effort well spent for our young people to get to know one another better.

We give special thanks to the ministers and their families who visited us this month. They were Elder Bros. Ron Nelson (Kiowa, KS) and Richard Schupbach (Phoenix, AZ) and Bro. Ron Heiniger (Bloomington/Normal, IL).

Many thank yous are in order this month for cards, gifts of love, prayers and well wishes. Bro. Bill and Sis. Eula (Yoder) Grimm wish to thank all those who remembered them on their 60th wedding anniversary. Bro. Herman and Sis. Oleda (Honegger) recently celebrated their 50th anniversary and would like to express their thanks to all those who remembered them so lovingly. Sis. Marie Moser wishes to thank all those who remembered her on her 80th birthday. Special occasions are especially meaningful when shared with loved ones.

ILLINOIS, PEORIA Jim David

The Lord blessed Bro. Scott and Sis. Brenda Hoerr with their fourth child, Sydney Brooke, August 20. Sydney was welcome home by her older sister, Amanda, and by her brothers, Scott and Alec. Sydney's grandparents are Bro. Ken and Sis. Darlene Hoerr, and Larry and Sandy Guingrich.

The Peoria church was saddened by the deaths of Bro. Pete Hoerr and Sis. Mari Musselman. May God comfort their families with the assurance that these dear ones are now at rest in their heavenly mansions.

We also pray that God will grant a speedy recovery to our hospital patients, Bro. Joe Herman, Sis. Emma Woerner, Sis. Judy Woerner and Sis. Velma Kellenberger.

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE

Martha Jane Siebenthal

We thank Bro. Tom Stock (Cissa Park) for sharing God's Word with us August 30. May God bless him and his young family.

September 6 was the wedding day of Brian Wieland (Bro. John and Sis. Elizabeth) and Renee Stahl (Norman and Pat). We wish them many blessings and a happy life together.

Bro. Kyle and Sis. Jane Scholl and little Quintin welcome into their family a little girl, Chasity Lynn, born September 14. Happy and thankful grandparents are Bro. Robert and Sis. Arlene Scholl and Bro. Eugene and Sis. Betty Herrmann. May they seek God's guidance as they raise these little blessings the Lord has entrusted to them.

Hospital patients this month were Sis. Cathy Kieser (Bro. Mark) surgery, Bro. John Joos and Sis. Marian Hinshaw. Tanya Wagenbach, 5-year-old daughter of Curt and Mary Beth, and Jamie Gray (Bro. Brian and Mary Beth Elsassner) both broke bones in the arm. May the Lord grant His healing mercies.

We spent four blessed evenings listening to the conference tapes. May all who made the effort to come and listen felt it was well worth their time and received a blessing. It is important that we support our dear elders and be obedient to preserve this precious heritage.

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

Cathy Hohulin - Annie Hoffman

We have enjoyed listening to the tapes of the brotherhood conference. The love and concern of the brothers gives us a renewed appreciation of the faith and brotherhood that has been preserved for us.

On August 23 we welcomed two new brothers to our congregation. We rejoice with Bro. Tom Martin (Bro. Jim and Sis. Helen) and Bro. Dave Whitten (Bro. Gene and Carol). May God bless them as they walk close to Him.

We thank the ministers who visited with us and served us this month; Bros. Will Schieler (Milford,

IN), Bruce Hohulin (Goodfield), Jim Hoerr (Peoria), Robert Miller (Silverton, OR), Everett Hari (Bloomington), Steve Martin (Eureka) and Marvin Leman (Bradford).

Scott and Sally Achterberg are happy parents of a son, Jacob Ross, born April 1. Grandparents are Bro. Jim and Sis. Helen Martin and Ron and Lill Achterberg.

Bro. Steve and Sis. Colleen Byrd are first-time parents of a son, Craig Daniel, born September 10. Grandparents are Bro. Wilmer and Sis. Clara Fischer and Bro. Jim and Sis. Leota Byrd. Those who have been in the hospital this month are Bro. Rich Leman, Bro. Rich Fehr, Paul Fehr, Bro. Jim Hodel, Sis. Freida Schafer, Sam Bradle and Sis. Dorothy Bittner.

We are thankful that Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago) came and spoke to our Sunday school teachers. We appreciate his thoughts and concerns shared with them.

September 6 was a blessed day for the families of Bro. Rudie and Sis. Mary Hoffman and Bro. Jim and Sis. Myra Leman as the marriage engagement of their children, Sis. Annie and Bro. Jim, was announced. We all pray God will continue to shower them with His love.

Sunday, September 13 was the open house for the new addition to our home in Roanoke. We are thankful to have such a nice home for those who are older to reside in. Some of the duplexes were also open for us to go through. May God bless all of those who give of their time and love to make life more enjoyable for those who reside there.

ILLINOIS, TREMONT

Carolyn Bolliger - Marsha Koch

A sweet baby daughter was welcomed into the home of Jonathan and Rebekah Wagenbach. Little Nicole Marie was born August 29. Grandparents are Bro. Mike and Sis. Dorothy Meister and Si, Jr. and Sis. LaVonne Wagenbach.

Also first-time parents are Bro. Mike and Sis. Michelle Oswald. Little Jeremy Michael was born September 6. His grandparents are

Bro. Marshall and Sis. Phyllis Holmes and Marcielle and Don Oswald, Jr.

We were saddened by the sudden death of our Sis. Margaret Frank. Sis. Margaret is survived by two sons, Bro. Marvin and Bro. Mahlon; and daughters, Carol Barnard and Sis. JoAnne Scholl (Dunlap). We extend our deepest sympathy to these families as we know they will miss her quiet and loving ways.

Also taken very suddenly was our Sis. Alma Getz. Sis. Alma is survived by one brother, William (Peoria). We will all miss Sis. Alma's cheerful and friendly nature.

We extend sympathy also to Sis. Barb Pflederer (Bro. Steve) on the loss of her grandfather, Bro. Joe Hauter (Morton).

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

**Denise Romersberger
Sue Ruppert**

This month we were encouraged by visiting Bros. Doug Wagenbach (San Diego, CA) and Walt Herrmann (Princeville) at Sunday services. We also heard from Bro. Glenn Dill (Tremont) at our monthly Bible study. We thank those willing brothers for their efforts and praise God for sending the increase.

We are also rejoicing with the arrival of two baby girls to our family. Bro. Wes and Sis. Lena (Hangartner) Kieser are parents of Maria and Bro. Max and Sis. Mary (Schick) Pfaffman are the parents of Wendy. May God bless the little ones and their families.

Hospitalized this month were Bro. Joe Herman and Dawn Martin, daughter of Bro. Harvey and Sis. Sharon (Meiss) Martin. We are so thankful that Dawn's life was spared despite being involved in a very serious car accident. Our hearts and prayers go out to the family of her friend who was fatally injured.

GOD PROMISED

God did not tell me,
Only roses would grow.

That I'd find no sorrow
On the path I must go.

But He promised to be there,
Each step of the way,
Providing a way to escape,
The temptations each day.

His grace all sufficient
Daily to see me through
He'd help me to conquer,
And be victorious too.

Dottlee Dugan Reid

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

Romans 8:28

INDIANA, BLUFFTON

Jill Frauhiger - Mary Isch

We have been blessed with several births this month. On August 5, Bro. Dean and Sis. Marlene VanHorn welcomed Elise Nichole into their lives. Grandparents are Bro. Ralph and Sis. Lucinda Steffen. Tim and Madelyn (Gerber) Clark are first-time parents of a boy, Ryan Matthew, born August 17. Grandparents are Bro. Fred and Sis. Margaret Gerber. Bro. Joe and Sis. Jackie Herman (Peoria, IL) are proud parents of Madison Edgar, born August 18. Madison joins a brother, Colton, at home. Grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Louise Reimchisel. On August 23, Bro. Dave and Sis. June Fiechter welcomed little Kara Mikel home. Kara joins brothers, Jason, Nick and Chase, at home. Grandparents are Bro. Paul and Sis. Mary Jo Gerber and Bro. Charles and Sis. Maxine Fiechter. Dean and Jana Foust are also proud parents of Tanner Reid, born August 24. Grandparents are Bro. Gene and Sis. Elaine Baumgartner. Bro. Jim and Sis. Laura Walburn welcomed a son, Ethan James, into their lives August 27. Ethan joins a sister, Holly, at home. Grandparents are Bro. Ned and Sis. Dixie Kipfer. We wish all these parents and little ones God's richest blessings.

We also rejoice with Jenny Bertsch (Bro. Mike and Sis. Carmen) who has decided to give her heart to the Lord in repentance.

We pray that God's grace will be with Jenny as she begins her new walk with Christ.

Hospitalized this month were Sis. Kim Maller (Bro. Bob) and Sis. Linda Reinhard. May God's healing power be with them as they recover.

We would like to share our sympathy with Bro. Dean and Sis. Marlene VanHorn and his family as they mourn the passing of his father, Dave. May God be with you in the days ahead.

We would like to thank these visiting ministers for sharing God's Word with us this month. They were Bro. Ken Wuethrich (Indianapolis), Bro. Willis Wiegand (Goodfield, IL) and Bro. Wesley Knapp (Goodfield, IL).

INDIANA, BLUFFTON NORTH

Terri Mueller - Lora Kieser

Our visiting ministers for the month of September were Bro. Willis Wiegand (Goodfield, IL), Bro. Marvin Leman (Bradford, IL) and Elder Bro. Ed Schwartz (Bluffton). May God bless those dear brothers and their families for their efforts of love.

Sharing their testimonies and baptisms with us September 19-20 were Sis. Michelle Cupp (Bro. Mick and Sis. Connie), Sis. Michele Wall (Sis. Pat), Bro. Jon Leman (Bro. Wally and Sis. Marilyn) and Sis. Kara Ifer (Bro. Frank and Sis. Ruth). We pray for our new brother and sisters-in-faith that they can stand fast and that they could be a light to others along the way.

God has blessed Bro. Dave and Sis. Deanna Brinneman with a beautiful little girl which they have named Kristen Kay. She was born September 5. Her grandparents are Bro. Mike and Sis. Linda Dubach and Dale and Judy Brinneman. Kristen will join a brother, Taylor.

We pray for a special blessing for our sister, Shirley Carrico, as she recently spent some time in the hospital.

INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE

Bev Huber

"Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old he

will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6 Our congregation has been blessed with three precious girls this past month. Born to Scott and Sis. Colleen Wuethrich August 26 was Ingrid Roxanne. Grandparents are Bro. Otto and Sis. Donna Wuethrich, and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Bisher Jr. (Monon) and Mr. and Mrs. Allyn Onken.

Bro. Mike and Sis. Donna Putt are happy for their daughter, Erica Marie, born August 28. Grandparents are Bro. Willis and Sis. Margaret Gudeman and Bro. Wayne and Sis. Paulette Putt.

Bro. Jeff and Sis. Sue Neihouser welcome Karissa Ann, born August 31, into their home. Kendra and Blair are happy to help care for a little sister. Grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Betty Zeltwanger (Texas) and Bro. Andre and Sis. Lois Neihouser.

Steven Putt and Michelle Putt were united in marriage recently. We wish God's blessings in their home. Their parents are Maurice and Bonnie Kopka and Bro. Wayne and Sis. Paulette Putt.

Donna Jean Parish was announced to have peace and is looking forward to baptism in the near future.

We're thankful for answered prayers for those who recently were in the hospital. Sis. Elsie Yaggie, Sis. Vicky Anliker (Bro. Ron) and Wayne Huber (Sis. Carol) are improving each day.

Our thoughts are with Bro. Brian and Sis. Jackie Huber in the passing of her father, Elder Bro. Bob Grimm (Goodfield, IL) Also Doug and Mary Lew Gutwein laid to rest his mother, Jane Gutwein (Francesville). May the Lord be a comfort to each family.

We enjoyed several visiting ministers this past month: Bros. Loren Knapp (Tucson, AZ), Elmer Schmidt (Winthrop, MN), Ken Wuethrich (Indianapolis, IN), Steve Ringger (Bluffton, IN) and Don Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN). We're grateful for their labors of love.

Thank You Note: I would like to take this opportunity to thank all my family and friends who sent me cards for my 80th birthday. Surely was humbling to read through all

the beautiful cards. May God bless each one for your thoughtfulness.

Bro. Elmer Anliker

INDIANA, LACROSSE Barb Troxel

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

John 16:33

The passage above is one of the classic Christian lines. Yet we hesitate to accept it. Tribulation doesn't bring out the cheerleader in us.

Tribulation is a mud puddle we don't want to splash around in. It feels more like a swamp swallowing us up. But Jesus cautions that we will always be swamped with storms. Only faith keeps our heads above water, instead of under the circumstances.

How do we sail the victory vessel and overcome the world? This calls for water-walking faith. Only with eyes focused on Jesus can we overcome the floods of confusion, and get rescued from drowning in despair.

From a world awash in sorrow, we turn our eyes the other way, hoping to float over the troubled waters of our time. If the priesthood of believers is to become the bridge over troubled waters, we must exhibit water-walking faith and so identify with Christ that His passion becomes our passion, His walk becomes our walk.

Oh, Lord, I pray that the wind of your Holy Spirit will fill my sails and guide me to your safe harbor, reminding me that the waves of this life cannot prevail against me. Amen.

Dorothy Segovia

We are thankful that Sis. Bertha Clauss has recovered well from eye surgery, and that Sis. Mary Gudeman (Bro. Art) has been able to return home after her hospitalization. May the Lord add His strength daily.

Give Your Old and New Address
To Your Reporter

INDIANA, LEO Thelma Schlatter

Reading an article about the loved hymn, "What A Friend We Have In Jesus" I found the suggestion that we study this hymn's solutions to problems of life. In reading or singing it thoughtfully, we find that through prayer, our sins, griefs, sorrows, weakness and cares are resolved in the One Who is our Friend and also our Peace, our Refuge, our Shield and our Solace. The hymn was first credited to a writer who disclaimed any connection. Thereupon, it was marked "Unknown Author." Years later, a friend who was sitting with Joseph Scriven during an illness asked him if he had written, "What A Friend We Have In Jesus." Mr. Scriven said, "The Lord and I did it between us." The date of the song is about 1857. As far as is known, it was the only hymn he wrote. He must have had a good acquaintance with the Scripture since reference is made to Proverbs 18:24, Psalms 55:22, I Peter 5:7 and Philipians 4:6-7.

On Wednesday evenings, we are presently hearing timely topics from the conference under the title, "The Believer's Walk of Life."

The volunteers who so unselfishly gave of their time at Gateway Woods this summer were guests of the home staff (over the weekend) who again expressed appreciation and thanks.

Bro. Bill Klopfenstein is in an Indianapolis hospital awaiting heart surgery at the time of this writing. Many prayers have ascended for his recovery.

Bits of This and That:

"If we sit down at set of sun
And count the things that we
have done,
And counting, find
One self-denying act, one word
That eased the heart of one who
heard;
One glance most kind
That fell like sunshine where it
went --
Then we may count the day well
spent."

(Author Unknown)

Count that day lost when low

descending sun views from thy hand no worthy action done.

An easy conscience makes a soft pillow.

Our walk must square with our talk.

He stands best who kneels most.

INDIANA, MILFORD

Paula Haab - Gwen Steffen

We always appreciate and welcome visiting ministers. One Sunday morning brought Bros. Tom Troxel (LaCrosse) and Ted Witzig (Morton, IL) to our congregation. We want to thank Bros. Tom and Ted and their families for sharing that day with us.

Joyfully we announce the arrival of little Jeffery Robert born September 12 to Jeff and Rocio Hoerr (Canton, OH). Thankful for this little blessing are Jeffery's big sister, Becky, and his grandparents, Bro. Bob and Sis. Marguerite Hoerr and Hilda Eljaiek (Columbia, South America).

Just as the Lord giveth life, it is also His to take. Our heartfelt sympathy reaches out to Bernice Wenger and Bro. Art and Sis. Mary Ann Haab, whose husband and step-father, Warren Wenger, passed away. Warren spent the last five years in the nursing home. He was encouraged by the faithful visits of family and friends. Surely Warren will be missed in this little family circle.

Sis. Emma Rock had the misfortune of falling and breaking her leg, which caused her to be confined in the hospital a number of days. Sis. Emma is presently recuperating in the home of her sister, Anna Mary Schrock.

There's always concern in the hearts of parents when children are absent from the family while spending time overseas in the service. Presently two families in our congregation are experiencing this separation. We pray for the safe return of Ray and Rosemary Piper's children. Gordon and Kim Olde and Bro. Bill and Sis. Anne Troup's son, Tim.

I said a prayer for you today,
And know God must have heard --
I felt the answer in my heart

Although He spoke no word!
I didn't ask for wealth or fame
(I know you wouldn't mind) --
I asked Him to send treasures
Of a far more lasting kind!
I asked that He'd be near you
At the start of each new day --
To grant you health and blessing
and friends to share your way!
I asked for happiness for you
In all things great and small --
But it was for His loving care
I prayed the most of all!

INDIANA, REMINGTON

Amelia Schini

I saw something real sweet last Sunday in church. Eleven-year-old Clint Bahler, with a smile from ear to ear, was carrying his new baby brother. Why wouldn't he smile? Four times his dad said to him, "I'm sorry Clint, it's a girl." Kurt John is his brother's name and Ed, Jr. and Annette are his mom and dad. Needless to say Jenny, Andrea, Ashton and Kaitlin are happy too.

Bro. Gary Brown was our visiting minister the last Sunday in August. We thank you and your wife and all the other visitors who came with you. It was a blessed day for all of us.

We are very thankful that our Bro. Walter Bahler's visit to St. Vincent's Hospital in Indianapolis was only a couple days. The heart condition was soon remedied and he could return home, his usual smiling self.

We all sympathize with Sis. Elna Grimm (Goodfield, IL). We all feel her loss and pray and trust God will be very near to her and grant healing to her heart.

DeKalb Seed Corn Co. started picking this week (15th). This is so different than the "good ole days" when corn was harvested by hand. One never could start this early. If it happened to be a bad season, sometimes we'd be finishing around New Years! God has been good to us, giving man the wisdom to invent ways of making our work easier and more pleasant. Let us remember to give Him all the praise as well as to seek His grace to be faithful to Him.

INDIANA, SOUTH BEND

Renee Mangold

We are thankful to have with us this month Bro. Nelson Beer (Milford), our Elder Bro. Jesse Beer (Milford), Bro. Walt Reger (Toledo, OH) and Bro. Ken Hoehr (Peoria, IL).

This month brings us to the beginning of another Sunday school year. We pray that God will be with the teachers and students and that they will be encouraged and uplifted. Together they learn more of God's Word and His plan of salvation.

Michael Beebe and Susan Ingle were wed this month. We pray that with God's help they will have a full and blessed life together.

Wednesday nights for the next month, we are listening to the conference tapes. We pray for open hearts and minds as we listen to our elder brethren.

INDIANA, VALPARAISO

Cindy Susdorf - Marie Heinold

Amazing grace! how sweet the sound,
That sav'd a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.

Hymns of Zion #97

Our hearts rejoice with Christine Lester (Ed and Caroline Lester) and Lance Bucher (Bro. Ken and Sis. Carol) as they have chosen the fruitful path of serving the Lord.

Our prayers are with the dear souls who were hospitalized this past month. They were Tom Bucher (Sis. Cheryl) and Bro. Roy and Sis. Aldene Frieden and Bill Williams (Millie).

Visiting ministers this past month were Bro. Nile Bucher (Bluffton North, IN), Bro. Gary Tonner (Bluffton, IN), Bro. Greg Rassi (Chicago, IL) and our dear Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL). May God bless them and their families for their willingness to serve.

HAVE A GREAT DAY!

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

The precious Rose of Sharon
Broken and bruised in cruel
shame

Stained the cross of Calvary
So that men might be saved.
Satan cheered as He died
While Mary and the others cried
Then God raised Him up from
death's sleep
And kept a promise only He could
keep.

Roses will bloom again
Just wait and see.
Don't mourn what might have
been
Only God knows how and when
But Roses will bloom again.

Marcia Henry

On August 27, 60 were present for our annual Freshmen Welcome Supper at MCL. We had an enjoyable evening of fellowship as we became acquainted with the incoming freshmen. The new students include: Ben Culp and Bro. Rob Honegger (Bluffton North), Sheri Klopfenstein, Chad Ringger and Kurt Ringger (Bluffton), Matt Beebe and Bill Langhofer (South Bend), Dan Getz, Matt Getz, Megan Isabell, Ryan Meister, Heather Steffen, Heidi Vaughan, Neil Waibel and Sandra Waibel (Remington), Tracy Anliker, Ben Cook, Aaron Gutwein, Sis. Nicole Gutwein, Jeremy Gutwein and Tara Putt (Francesville), Sis. Kristine Pearson (Indianapolis), Scott Klopfenstein (Leo) and Ryan Maibach (Detroit, MI). We also welcome Sis. Karen Nuest (LaCrosse) who is newly employed in the area.

We had a fall picnic September 3 at Happy Hallow Park. About 53 were there to enjoy the fellowship, food and nice weather.

We are thankful that Bro. Chris Huber (Francesville) and Bro. Mark Gerber (Bluffton) shared the Living Word with us this past month.

INDIANA, WOLCOTT

Lorna Knapp - Lynell Blume
We thank Bro. Alphai Strahm

(Bern, KS) for bringing us the Word of Life August 19. May God richly bless him.

Our sympathy is extended to Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Pat Kyburz in the passing of her brother. It is our prayer that God will comfort their hearts.

We miss Sis. Dorothy Lehman who has not been able to assemble with us due to ill health. May she feel our prayers for God's healing touch on her. We are thankful that Andy Hofstetter (Marge) is again able to join us after a brief hospital stay. Little Michelle Furrer (Bro. Troy and Sis. Lisa) was hospitalized a short time in Indianapolis where her heart medicine was regulated, and we are happy she is now home doing fine.

We have been privileged to have the opportunity to listen to the conference tapes. May God richly bless our dear elder brothers for their labors of love on our behalf.

**IOWA, ELGIN
Gloria Frieden**

Last spring, seeds were planted with faith believing that the Lord would provide a harvest, come fall.

Now as we garner in the fruits of our labors, may we give all thanks and praise to God, knowing that man can plant but only God can give the increase. Though we may think of spring time as the season for planting, spiritually we are sowing seeds every day. What will be the harvest of the seeds we sow today?

We've been blessed with two visiting ministers this month. Bro. Dale Wulf (Lester) and Bro. Jon Schmidgall (Oakville). May God bless the seeds they sow.

It has been a real blessing to listen to the conference tapes and hear comments on the different aspects of the believer's walk of life by our elder brethren. May God help us to be submissive to the teachings.

We are thankful that Heidi Butikofer (Bro. Al and Sis. LaVerne) is home again and back to school following major surgery.

Keep On Praising the Lord!

**IOWA, IOWA CITY
Janette Schulz**

Greetings to all! We are again very thankful for our many visitors this month, including ministering Bros. Nathan Stoller (Bradford, IL) and Nelson Beer (Milford, IN) and their families. May God bless all who travel to worship with us.

With school starting again, we have many changes - new students, new teachers, new addresses. We welcome three new university students this semester: Susan Knobloch (Lester, IA), Jami Metzger (Lester, IA) and Stacey Kahler (Morton, IL). We also welcome Roger Banwart (West Bend, IA) who will be working in the area for two years. We look forward to getting to know each of you and worshipping with you in our little church.

We also are beginning a new Sunday school session. We pray God will grant us the wisdom, patience and understanding to guide the tender, young souls entrusted to us into ways of righteousness.

**TAKE THOU OUR MINDS,
DEAR LORD**

Take Thou our minds, dear Lord,
we humbly pray;
Give us the mind of Christ
throughout each day,
Teach us to know the truth that
sets us free;
Grant us in all our thoughts to
honor Thee.

Take Thou our hearts, O Christ --
they are Thine own;
Come Thou within our souls and
claim Thy throne,
Help us to shed abroad Thy
generous love;
Use us to make the earth like
heaven above.

Take Thou our wills, dear God!
hold Thou full sway;
Have in our inmost souls Thy
perfect way,
Guard Thou each sacred hour
from selfish ease;
Guide Thou our ordered lives as
Thou dost please.

Take Thou ourselves, O Lord,

heart, mind and will;
Through our surrendered souls
Thy plans fulfill.
We yield ourselves to Thee -- time,
talents, all;
We hear, and henceforth heed,
Thy sovereign call.

Hymns for the
Family of God #467

IOWA, LESTER
Cindy Leuthold - Sue Warner

"I embrace, O Lord, Thy servants, Joined to them in love so fervent, Asking, Lord, that from Thy face They receive a thousand blessings; In Thy ways, Thy strength possessing, Lead them in Thy light and grace."

Zion's Harp #189

We're so thankful to hear the Word of Life from our pulpit, and appreciate the willingness of our ministering brethren to share the Word with us. Our visiting ministers this month include Bro. Don Wagenbach (Washington, IL), Bro. Doug Wagenbach (San Diego, CA), Bro. Doug Grimm (Sabetha, KS) and Bro. Don Miller (Minneapolis, MN).

We rejoice with Bro. Phil Mogler and Sis. Donna Hartzler (Detroit, MI) and Sis. Sherri Metzger and Bro. Troy Kuenzi (Bro. Bob and Sis. Linda, Silverton, OR) as their engagements have been made known. Our prayers are with these dear couples as they prepare for the important step of marriage.

Bro. Stan and Sis. Dawn Knobloch and big sisters, Andrea and Kyla, welcomed little Maura Nicole into their family August 18. We're so thankful that Maura is home and doing well after her recent illness and hospital stay. Our prayers are with their family.

Bro. Albert Knobloch is home again after his hospitalization and surgery. We hope he can feel our prayers on his behalf.

Our other hospital patient this month was Sis. Elizabeth Nester.

On September 12, Bro. Wilhelm Nester turned 93, and he and his wife, Sis. Elizabeth, celebrated his birthday and their 21st wedding anniversary. Bro. Wilhelm is our

oldest brother. This month the two of them moved from their home to the Lyon Manor nursing home. May God be with them, and grant us all the grace to be true and faithful to Him as long as we live.

IOWA, OAKVILLE
Debbie Wagenbach
Melody Steiner

May the Lord dearly bless those ministering brothers who've shared the Word with us this past month. They were Bro. Dan Stoller (Rockville, CT) and Bro. Joe Gerst (Iowa City).

We have been blest this month with two more little bundles from heaven. To the family of Bro. Colin and Sis. Barb Wagenbach was born little Reid Allen. Big brother, Reilly, is so thankful for a little brother, along with big sisters, Alicen, Carly and Whitney. Also welcoming him are grandparents, Sis. Hilda Gerst and Bro. Paul and Sis. Dorothy Wagenbach.

First-time parents, Bro. Mark and Sis. Dana Musselman, are thankful for the safe arrival of Cole Andrew, as are his dear grandparents, Bro. Doss and Sis. Bertha Lee Massner and Bro. Roger and Sis. Nancy Musselman (Pulaski).

We pray both of these dear families can feel the Lord's strength and guidance as they raise their little ones.

Thank You Note: The family of Sis. Hattie Schrock would like to express their thanks for the expressions of sympathy and deeds of kindness extended to them since her passing. Your interest in her welfare over the years was also greatly appreciated. May God reward each of you.

IOWA, PULASKI
Ernestine Wuthrich
Carol Wettstein

Our visiting ministers this month were Elder Bro. Ed Lanz (Oakville) and Bro. Dean Steffen (Belvidere, IL). We thank them and their families for traveling to be with us.

Sis. Deb Metzger (Bro. Roy and Sis. Evelyn) spent some time in the

hospital, and we hope she will soon be feeling better.

Bro. Mark and Sis. Dana Musselman (Oakville) were blessed with a little boy, Cole Andrew. Happy grandparents are Bro. Roger and Sis. Nancy Musselman and great-grandparents, Bro. Howard and Sis. Irene Musselman and Bro. Cleo and Sis. Esther Rinckenberger (all of Pulaski).

Soon the leaves will be changing colors and another season will be here. Let us thank the Lord for His wonderful work of creation.

WE HAVE THIS MOMENT,
TODAY

Hold tight to the sound, Of the music of living
Happy songs from the laughter of children at play
Hold my hand as we run through the sweet fragrant meadows
Making memories of what was today.

Take the blue of the sky, and the green of the forest
And the gold and the brown of the freshly mown hay
Add the pale shades of spring, and the circus of autumn
And weave you a lovely today.

Chorus:

We have this moment to hold in our hands
And to touch as it slips through our fingers like sand
Yesterday's gone and tomorrow may never come

But we have this moment today.

William and Gloria Gaither

IOWA, WEST BEND

Lela Banwart - Mary Gerber

We are thankful Bro. Leland Plattner (Zapata, TX) spent a week-end in our midst. May he be blessed for sharing the Gospel message.

A precious baby boy was born to Deb and Terry Banwart. Sisters, Jenna and Laura Beth, and grandparents, Dean and Irene Banwart, welcome little Ryan Dean to the family circle. We wish God's blessings and help in rearing the new family member.

Hospital patients at this writing are Arthur Banwart (Madeline) and Sis. Matilda Fehr (Bro. Elmer), who have both submitted to surgery. Arthur is improving and expects to be home soon. Sis. Matilda required unexpected surgery while visiting her granddaughter and family in Oregon. We hear she is also doing well. We thank God for being with them through their surgeries and pray they might feel His hand through convalescence as well.

We extend sympathy to Betty and Benjy Banwart and family on the death of brother-in-law, Mark Thilges. May God comfort their hearts.

We have been strengthened in our faith, encouraged to more holiness, admonished to improve our spiritual walk of life, and taught the positive doctrines of our heritage through our dear elder brethren. What a privilege is ours to have listened to the conference tapes as a congregation. Let us thank our God for these brethren who expounded on "The Believers Walk of Life."

Let us always remember that each season brings us a new lesson to learn as do our earthly trials that bring us closer to our reward.

LIFE'S LESSONS

I learn, as the years roll onward
And I leave the past behind,
That much I had counted sorrow
But proves that God is kind;
That many a flower I longed for
Had hidden a thorn of pain,
And many a rugged by-path
Led to fields of ripened grain.

The clouds that cover the sunshine
They cannot banish the sun:
And the earth shines out the
brighter
When the weary rain is done.
We must stand in the deepest
shadow
To see the clearest light;
And often through wrong's own
darkness
Comes the weary strength of
light.

We must live through the dreary
winter

If we would value the spring;
And the woods must be cold and
silent
Before the robins sing.
The flowers must be buried in
darkness
Before they can bud and bloom,
And the sweetest, warmest sun
shine
Comes after the storm and gloom.
Anonymous

JAPAN, SHIODA

Frank and Kathy Sauder

Elder Bro. Willis and Sis. Lois have returned to Japan after a month's stay in the States visiting family and attending the brotherhood conference. We thank God for their safe return.

"I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvelous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well." (Psalms 139:14) We are happy to announce the birth of our third son, Jesse Thomas. Sis. Lois Klotzle (Altadena, CA) flew over to Japan to help take care of her new little grandson. Jesse's grandfather, Elder Bro. John Klotzle (Altadena, CA) made a surprise trip to Japan one week later. What a thrill it was to get a telephone call and hear a familiar voice say that he was in town and wanted to be picked up. What a joy! We count it a real blessing to have had them with our family. The church in Shioda also felt blessed to have Bro. John preach to us from His Word.

". . . I will sing, yea, I will sing praises unto the Lord." (Psalms 27:6) On Sunday, September 13, several cars of us from our Shioda congregation traveled into Tokyo for a singing. Over 30 members and friends gathered together to lift their voices in praise. Not only was it a precious time of praise and fellowship, but it was also a time where we learned songs in the Japanese hymnal which we had not sung before. We thank the Tokyo congregation for hosting the song service.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Sis. Iijima and family and Sis. Hiroko Natori as both of their mothers have been hospitalized recently.

Sis. Misawa is also presently in the hospital with a bad back. May God be the great healer, making His presence and power known.

KANSAS, BERN

Donna Edelman - Diane Kaeb

We are so very thankful and full of joy that five more souls have heeded the call to take up the cross and follow Jesus. Alan Meyer (Bro. Jim and Sis. Jeanne), Lisa, Leslie and Lynn Strahm (Bro. Dale and Sis. Shelby) and Cynthia Edelman (Bro. Fred and Sis. Joann) have all felt the need of repentance and the desire to be at peace with God and man. May God grant them wisdom and understanding to build a firm foundation that they may shine out to all those who have not yet turned to repentance.

May God grant strength to those who are suffering from illness.

We have been privileged to listen to the tapes of the recent brotherhood conference. We so appreciate the warning, admonitions and encouragements brought forth by our beloved elder brethren. May we take these teachings to heart.

KANSAS, FORT SCOTT

Janelle Sinn - Tammy Sinn

We were blessed to have Elder Bro. Gene Marti (Kansas City, MO) with us August 23 and again September 13 to assist our congregation in seeking out a new minister. Bro. David Sinn (Sis. Joleen) was chosen for this responsibility. As the Lord has provided for our church, we trust that He will always be with Bro. David, Sis. Joleen, and their family. Our many thanks go out to Bro. Gene and Sis. Mary for being with us during this time.

We also wish to thank Bro. Max Reimchisel (Wichita, KS) for sharing the Word with us.

On Wednesday evenings, we have been gathering to listen to the tapes of the general conference. We truly appreciate the kind exhortations of the elder brothers.

KANSAS, KIOWA
Janice Bahr - Darcy Kisling

STEPPING STONES

Dear Lord please always let me
 see
 In everything befalling me,
 A spark of light that I may know
 That through it all You will it so.
 May every silent pain I bear
 Become for me a golden stair,
 That rises high above the woe
 Our human hearts were meant to
 know.

May every little heartache felt,
 Each disappointment roughly
 dealt,
 Uplift my soul that I may be
 A fire that brightly burns for
 Thee.
 And through life's waters dark
 and deep,
 May Thy blessed presence keep
 Afloat the boat in which I ride
 Until I reach the other side.

For I am but a timid soul
 In need of Thy dear hand to hold,
 Ever trusting Thee to lend
 The strength on which I can
 depend.
 Amid the trials Thou has sent,
 However plaintive my lament,
 I know my tears, and sighs and
 groans,
 Are only little stepping stones.
 Grace E. Easley

As I read the above poem, I
 thought of all the "Stepping Stones"
 my grandma, Sis. Frieda Frieden,
 has faced in her 90 years on this
 earth. So many changes, so many
 trials, and yes, so many blessings
 in her loving children and grand-
 children. May God richly bless
 Grandma Frieden as she celebrates
 her 90th year this month, and fill
 her future "Stepping Stones" with
 peace and joy until He leads her
 home.

We don't always know those that
 face illness, or trials, or even joy
 each month, but if we would lift a
 prayer to the Lord for each person
 we meet in a day, I just wonder
 what difference it would make in
 their lives. We miss our dear Sis.
 Elizabeth Diel, and Sis. Marie
 Schurter, who have been unable to

worship with us for quite a while.
 May God be a comfort to them, and
 also to our dear Sis. Kathryn Miller
 whose brother, George Miller, Jr.,
 passed away this month after a
 lengthy fight with cancer. Know-
 ing the Lord at times like these is
 such a help.

God bless everyone who visits
 the sick, shares in our rest home
 services, supports Bible study, sing-
 ing, services, Sunday school. It's
 such a joy to see people keeping
 God alive in this world that tries to
 forget Him.

KANSAS, SABETHA
Mary Kay Wenger
Sharon Strahm

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

St. Matthew 6:33

It is a blessing to report Wanda
 Grimm (Bro. Rodney and Sis.
 Arlene) has heeded the call to re-
 pent.

Bro. Gene Kellenberger (Sis.
 Marian) was hospitalized for sur-
 gery. We are thankful he is back
 assembling in church with us.

"Blessed are they that mourn:
 for they shall be comforted."

St. Matthew 5:4

Our hearts go out to Sis. Lydia
 Meyer who recently lost a sister
 and brother. Sis. Esther Meyer
 passed away August 17 and Bro.
 John Meyer September 4 after be-
 ing hospitalized. We pray God will
 grant courage to Sis. Lydia in her
 loss. Bro. John lived with Sis. Lydia
 for many years. These loved ones
 are remembered as pillars in the
 church although Bro. John didn't
 repent until his latter years. We
 know God will reward the same
 whether we come to Him in the
 early years of our lives or in the
 sunset years, but how much better
 to seek Him early in life for we
 know not how long we will have
 the breath of life.

Our sympathy is extended to
 Clifford and Sis. Barbara Edelman

in the passing of his mother, Emma
 Edelman.

Bro. Louis Wenger (Sis. Tillie)
 has been transferred from the hos-
 pital to the nursing home where he
 now resides.

Brooke, Tyler and Brianna,
 along with their parents, Gordon
 and Sharlyn Huber, welcome the
 birth of Trenton Ray Huber Sep-
 tember 16. Grandparents are El-
 der Bro. Sam Huber and Sis.
 Jeanette Huber and Bro. Eli Meyer
 and Sis. Lois Meyer.

We are in the process of listen-
 ing to the tapes with the theme,
 "The Believer's Walk of Life." May
 God grant us the grace to do what
 is only our reasonable service.

KANSAS, WICHITA
Emma Miller

As reported last month, our Va-
 cation Bible School was held Sat-
 urday, August 22. This suited our
 needs in the Wichita congregation
 for several reasons. By having the
 event on Saturday, more parents
 could be involved. Because we are
 separated from one another by con-
 siderable distance, much driving
 time was eliminated by using the
 one-day format. Those of us who
 participated were blessed by the
 theme "Happiness is the Lord." A
 total of 45 students attended.

Bro. Jeff Bahr (Kiowa) minis-
 tered to us August 23.

We have four young people en-
 rolled in area colleges. Jodi
 Reimchisel and Bro. Patrick Funk
 go to Kansas State University at
 Manhattan. Annie Reimchisel at-
 tends Wichita State University and
 Jennifer Reimchisel attends Bethel
 College in Newton. They are able
 to worship with us frequently and
 we certainly pray for their safe-
 keeping as they travel to and from
 their school locations.

MICHIGAN, ALTO
Denise Oesch - Michelle Oesch

Let your whole life be an offering
 to God and to Christ the Lord.
 None who here to Him surrender
 will regret it, for His Word
 Gives us peace, and release, sweet
 rest after battles cease.

Gives us peace, and release, sweet
rest after battles cease.

He who soweth will be gathering;
O, my loved ones, this is true.

If but many this were learning
what the Lord for us would do.

If we thus, without loss sow as He
does ask of us.

If we thus, without loss sow as He
does ask of us.

They who love the Saviour dearly,
and not for vain pleasures seek,

Glad for that which He provideth;
will be happy, blest and meek;

And their peace ne're shall cease;
heaven will their joy increase.

And their peace ne're shall cease;
heaven will their joy increase.

Zion's Harp #159

Harvest time is again upon us
and farmers are getting their machinery ready for the many hours in the field it will take to harvest their crops. The long hours spent tilling and planting in the spring will now be rewarded and there is a feeling of completion when every last wagon is filled for the last time until the process starts over again next spring.

As the farmer sows his crops, so should we sow the Lord's work in our lives that we might be gathered in when the Lord harvests his own. If in everything we give the Lord the blessing and strive to serve Him faithfully, our reward will far exceed the blessings here on earth and in heaven will "our joy increase!"

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

Hebrews 13:17

Recently we started listening to the tapes of the elder conference Wednesday nights. We are thankful to our many elders across the land who are willing servants in the Lord's work and take this time to bring their concerns for the preserving of our faith. We pray that God will continue to guide and strengthen them and may we each do our own part in being submis-

sive to the Lord's guiding hand.

Thank You: We want to thank each one for your kind cards and prayers during and since Bro. Ferd's surgery. May the Lord bless you.

Bro. Ferd, Sis. Jane
and Brian Grawburg

Bro. Bill Gerst had gall bladder surgery this past month and we pray that he will have a full recovery.

We enjoyed many visitors this past month who traveled to Michigan on their vacations. We are thankful for each one who comes to share in worshipping with us on the Lord's Day! We pray a special blessing for Elder Bro. Andy Virkler for coming and sharing in bringing God's Word to us.

Reminder: October is the month for Silver Lining dues in Alto.

A thought to share: "If the eye has no tear, the soul has no rainbow."

Author Unknown

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY

Peggy Waibel

How quickly time has traveled. School is already in session and summer is giving way to autumn. How thankful we all should be that the Lord has seen us through another season, and yes, another month. With school in session again, we said goodbye to a few young people who are seeking higher educations in other areas. Sis. Jodi Schamback (Bro. Lee and Sis. Carolyn) is attending Hope College, Bonnie Wieland (Bro. Rod and Sis. Evelyn) is attending Eastern Michigan University, and Marcie Meylan (Bro. Eugene and Sis. Carol) is attending Oakland University. The others who recently graduated will either be attending Delta College or Saginaw Valley State University, which are both local schools. Our thoughts and prayers are with these young people as they begin a new era in their lives. Isn't it wonderful to know that God is with us wherever we go?

Tragedy has touched our congregation. Sis. Betty Schlatter and Sis. Emily Rechsteiner were in a

severe car accident over the Labor Day holiday. Both sustained many injuries and Sis. Emily is still in the intensive care unit at a Traverse City hospital. Sis. Betty is still in the same hospital, but was able to be removed to a regular hospital room. Sis. Emily took over the Silver Lining writing position as a favor to me and now I will once again write until she is well. Both of these ladies are real examples of God's love and are well loved in the Bay City church. Our thoughts and prayers are with them and their families and we ask that God's will will be done in their lives, for His ways are so far above our own. Also in the hospital this month were Sis. Anna Magyar and Mary Goddard. We are very pleased to note that these two special people are recovering and that God has once again manifested his healing power to us. I have to think of that inspiring hymn "He Leadeth Me" written by Joseph H. Gilmore. The second verse says this: "Sometimes mid scenes of deepest gloom, sometimes where Eden's bowers bloom, by waters still, o'er troubled sea, - still tis His hand that leadeth me." Often we feel that when things aren't going just the way we had planned that God has forsaken us, but He hasn't, His hand still leads us and guides us over the rough times.

"Now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity." Isn't it exciting to see God's greatness in the hearts of His people? Isn't it even more exciting to see the love that He can put into the hearts of a man and a woman and then to see that love grow into another Christian home? We were very blessed in witnessing the marriage of Bro. Rob Wardynski to Sis. Kim Andrzejewski (Norm and Sis. Linda). We wish them the best in their new life together and pray that God will help their love to grow even deeper over the coming years.

Children are God's special blessing to a marriage and we are excited to announce that Mark and Natalie Berg welcomed little Elise Noelle into their home. Bro. Jim and Sis. Marlene Ramseyer are the proud grandparents. We share in the joy of Mark and Natalie and

pray God's blessings upon all three of them.

After a time of repentance and conversion, we welcomed Sis. Rhonda Knochel (Bob) and Bro. Ed Wieland into the family of God. Elder Bro. Ben Maibach (Detroit) was with us to aid our Elder Bro. Andy Virkler in the baptisms. The testimonies of Bro. Ed and Sis. Rhonda were beautiful illustrations of God's awesomeness, His patience and His undying love for all of us. Bro. Ed is in the sunset years of his life and it is so wonderful to see the joy that he has, that he will be able to see God when this life is over. Sis. Rhonda and her husband, Bob, are raising a family and it is thrilling to know that they will be reared to know Christ. Steve and Annie Chapman sing a song that says this: "The greatest gift a father can give is life lived for Jesus, and the greatest gift a mother can give is the knowledge of the Lord." How true that is. Parents, give that gift to your little ones.

We had one other visiting minister this month, and that was Bro. Wayne Lehman (South Bend, IN). We thank Bro. Wayne and his wife for sharing our spiritual table with us and we ask that God richly reward him for his faithfulness in preaching the Gospel.

I apologize for the length of this article, but it seems that there have been so many things happening over the last few weeks and it seems that God has had His hand in each one, making it special and worth calling to your attention. "The Lord bless thee, and keep thee: the Lord make His face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: the Lord lift up His countenance upon thee, and give thee peace." Numbers 6:24-26

MICHIGAN, DETROIT

Marlene Reinhard
Holly Barton

This has been a month of comings and goings in Detroit; unfortunately, more have been going than coming! We said farewell to Bro. Ted Orcsik, Bro. Scott Aberle and Ryan Maibach. After finishing graduate school this spring, Bro. Ted (Bro. John and Sis. Esther) has accepted an architectural posi-

tion in Columbus, OH. Bro. Scott has returned to Sabetha, KS, after a summer internship in Detroit. Ryan (Ben III and Barb) is now attending Purdue University, intending to study engineering. Though it's never pleasant to say goodbye, we wish each one well in their new pursuits. On a happier note, we welcome Gretchen Weigle (Bro. Ernie and Sis. Mary) back from a summer internship in New York.

We praise God that He has granted His sweet peace to another seeking soul. May He continue to be close to Pat Baran (Craig) as she is brought into the fold of the redeemed.

We have had several engagements and weddings among our congregation in the past few months. On July 26, Bro. Tim Reinhard and Sis. Joan Meister (Athens, AL) were united in marriage in Peoria, IL. Their parents are Bro. Dan and Sis. Delores Reinhard and Bro. Paul and Sis. Rhoda Meister (Peoria, IL).

Bro. Ken Martin and Sis. Jill Hohulin (Goodfield, IL) joined hearts and home August 16. Parents of the couple are Bro. Kaywin and Sis. Karen Martin and Bro. Jim and Sis. Joy Hohulin (Goodfield, IL). We are sorry that both of these couples are making their home so far from our congregation, Tim and Joan in Athens, AL, and Jen and Jill in Bloomington, IL, but we pray that they may accomplish the Lord's will wherever they may be.

We were thrilled August 23 to hear the engagement announcement of Sis. Donna Hartzler and Bro. Phil Mogler (Lester, IA). We praise the Lord for His leading and pray that He will bless them richly.

We are also happy for Eric Gudeman (Sis. Ruth) and JoAnne Puritan who recently became engaged. They are planning a June 1993 wedding. May the Lord be present in their wedding plans and future life together.

Our annual Sunday school picnic was held August 23. Both the weather and the fellowship were wonderful! There were many family gatherings at the park where we met, and we are thankful for an

opportunity for our "family" to draw closer together.

Aren't we thankful that we have a God to whom we can go in times of stress and grief as well as joy? God, in His infinite wisdom, saw fit to call home a dear shepherd, Elder Bro. Bob Grimm (Sis. Elna, Goodfield, IL), who was hospitalized near us for a time. We share our love and sympathy to his family, including Bro. Bob Feller of our congregation, and to the Goodfield congregation.

We are grateful that Roger Kahler (Connie, Morton, IL) is recovering nicely. He underwent heart surgery at a hospital in our area recently.

Our choir had a new experience this month when we flew to Kansas city, MO, for a weekend of fellowship. The brethren there put forth a great deal of effort to make us feel welcome and we truly felt the unity of the Spirit. May God bless them for their hospitality.

Woodhaven's monthly services will be held Tuesday, November 3 at 7:00 p.m. Toledo, OH, is scheduled to host this service and we welcome any of you who are interested to join us.

Bay City, MI, will be hosting services in Kitchener, Ontario, November 15. Please contact Bro. Walter Fortenbacher at (519) 699-4133 if you plan to be in the area.

MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS Delores Sauder

We are reminded of the power of God as we see the destruction caused by the hurricane in Florida. We pray for them that suffered loss.

God has blest the home of Bro. Mike and Sis. Kathy Drete with a son, Phillip Michael, born September 7. His sister, Rebecca, and grandparents, Bro. David and Sis. Shirley Kieser (Bradford, IL) and Richard and Millie Drete (Metamora) will also enjoy him.

We have enjoyed many visitors including Elder Bro. Dennis Warner (Lester, IA), Bros. Harold Gramm (Morris) and LeRoy Messner (Winthrop). We thank them for sharing God's Word with us.

We have completed listening to

the conference tapes. We are thankful for our elder brothers who give so much of their time. May we heed their warnings and be more obedient to God's Word.

I want to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, telephone calls and visits received during my surgery and recovery at home. Your thoughtfulness and love will always be remembered. May God richly bless each of you.

Bro. Perry Virkler

MINNESOTA, MORRIS

Deb Joos - Maxine Sauder

As we see the signs of autumn around us, we are reminded how swiftly we pass through the seasons of life.

We rejoice with Karla Schmidgall as she experiences the "spring-time" of a new life in Christ. We pray that the roots of her spiritual tree will run strong and deep. Her parents are Bro. Dennis and Sis. Ruby Schmidgall.

Peggy Schmidgall and Tony Aescheman have announced their engagement and plan to begin their "season of marriage," March 27, 1993. Peggy's parents are Bro. Richard and Sis. Corrine Schmidgall. May God bless them as they prepare to establish a home.

We pray God would grant Bro. Don Esterling a "season of healing" in that he has had recent surgery on his arm.

In their "season of sorrow," we extend our sympathy to the Virgil Sauder family in the death of Virgil's brother, George. May God comfort their hearts.

Bro. Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville, IL) visited and ministered to our congregation recently.

In that the seasons of our life pass so quickly, it was good to be encouraged to use our time to God's honor and glory.

MINNESOTA, WINTHROP

Kim Messner - Nancy Messner

Our thoughts and prayers are with Paul Jacobson, son of Sis. Dorothy and John Jacobson, as he has suffered from a heart attack. May God be with him.

We would like to thank our vis-

iting ministers, our Elder Bro. Leo Moser and Bro. Eugene Metzger (Lester, IA), and Bro. Don Miller (Minneapolis, MN). May God bless these dear brothers for their efforts in bringing forth the true Word of God.

Sis. Celina Schmidt celebrated her 90th birthday with family, friends and brethren from miles apart. May God bless her for the milestone she has walked and for her faith she has held. It was a special reunion for everyone as we also had our annual pork chop supper. We appreciated our visitors and want to thank each one for coming.

Note of Thanks: I would like to express a special thank you to each of you for your prayers, cards, flowers, visits and calls during my hospital stay; and recovery at home. May God bless each of you for your deeds of kindness.

In His love and mine,
Sis. Geri Messner (Bro. Marvin)

MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY

Lanette Meyer

The Kansas City congregation was blessed with a weekend of praise and worship with a large group from the Detroit, MI, congregation. With the group were visiting ministers, Bro. Mark Bahr and Bro. Randy Gasser. Other guest ministers who have served our congregation recently are Bro. Galen Rokey and Bro. Alpha Strahm (Bern, KS), Bro. Marvin Schmidgall (Eureka, IL) and Bro. Roger Aberle and Bro. Doug Grimm (Sabetha, KS).

Brad and Sis. Lu Ann Gramm became first-time parents with the arrival of Alec Richardson Gramm July 23. Grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Nola Gramm (Gridley, IL) and Sis. Lucille Richardson (Phoenix, AZ).

MISSOURI, LAMAR

Martin Hohulin

Janel Kellenberger

This month we had two visiting ministers. Bro. Jay Luthi (Lamont, KS) and Bro. Don Braker (Kansas City, MO) were with us over Labor Day weekend. We appreciate their

efforts to come and share God's Word with us. We also had many other visitors this month and want to thank them for being with us.

We wish God's blessings upon the marriage of Leon Luthi (Bro. Ray and Sis. Marilyn) to Teresa Nehr (Danny and Nancy). Hospitalized this month was Sis. Becky Hohulin. She is at home and recuperating. Kent Kellenberger (Bro. Curt and Sis. Martha) fell and broke his arm. We wish them both speedy recoveries and God's blessings.

MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS

Betsy Schrenk

Visiting ministers this past month are Elder Bro. Gene Marti (Kansas City), Bro. Art Baurer (Princeville, IL), Bro. Gary Endress (Bradford, IL), Bro. Kent Heimer (Taylor, MO) and Bro. Marvin Schmidgall (Eureka). God bless you and your wives and families. We are thankful for you.

Our students have all returned and are busy with their studies. Bro. Lance Meyer (Sabetha, KS) and Scott Stoller (Gridley) are studying aviation at Parks College. Sis. Missy Joos (Morton, IL) is in her last year of occupational therapy at Washington University. Jeff Martin (Princeville, IL) continues his study of pharmacy at the St. Louis College of Pharmacy. Welcome back!

I recently heard a minister tell of Nehemiah who prayed twice that God would remember his good deeds. Can we pray the same? God will remember what we have done, whether we wish Him to or not.

MISSOURI, TAYLOR

Ruthie Hoerr

We were truly blessed with special messages given through our visiting ministers this month to encourage and strengthen us. Those sharing God's Word with us were Bro. Ron Heiniger (Bloomington, IL), Bro. Doug Schock (Pulaski, IA), Bro. Fred Knapp (Congerville, IL) and Bro. Russell Wuthrich (Pulaski, IA). May God richly bless each one who took the time to visit us and be spent for the Lord.

Blessings from heaven were felt in the home of Bro. Shon and Sis. Peg (Hunsiker) Haerr with the birth of their first child, Tyler Joshua September 14. Happy grandparents are Bro. Al and Sis. Ginny Hunsiker (Morton, IL) and first-time grandparents, Bro. Norman and Sis. Sally Haerr. We wish them special guidance to nurture their little one in God's way.

Heidi Heimer (Bro. Rodney and Sis. Barb) suffered a double fracture of her arm; and, after being hospitalized a few days, is now home and improving daily. Bro. Gerald Sutter is home after being hospitalized for medical problems. Elder Bro. Roy Grimm is also improving after undergoing tests. May God continue to apply His healing hand.

Many here sympathize with Elder Bro. Bob Grimm's family in the loss of their loved one. We all feel a great loss in one who has served the Lord so faithfully and has been a pillar for our church.

Our community was saddened by the tragic death of three teenagers, killed in an accident September 19. They were friends of our children and a relative of Jamie Sublette, who has been attending church here. Only God knows where they will spend eternity but we all still have the opportunity to make our destination sure. We grieve with their families in their loss. May God comfort.

During times of loss and trials we can always find comfort in God's Word. This poem by Helen Steiner Rice helps to say what I feel:

There are times when life
overwhelms us
And our trials seem too many to
bear
It is then we should stop to
remember
God is standing ready to share
The uncertain hours that confront
us
And (that) fill us with fear and
despair
For God in His goodness has
promised
That the cross He gives us to wear
Will never exceed our endurance
Or be more than our strength can
bear . . .

And secure in that blessed
assurance

We can smile as we face tomorrow
For God holds the key to the future
And no sorrow or care need we
borrow!

NEW JERSEY, UNION CITY
Franz Soni

"Jesus said unto him. If thou
canst believe, all things are possible
to him that believeth."

Mark 9:23

Sunday, August 30, we held our first church service since vacating the Union City church building. It was encouraged to have ten souls in attendance to hear Elder Bro. Edward Aeschleman (Philadelphia, PA) delivered God's Word. May God richly reward him and Sis. Nancy for their efforts.

We plan to hold church services once a month. We encourage all who are in the area to check if services are being held, we welcome your friendship. Services will be held at the Days Inn Hotel, Ambassador Room, 2570 Tonnelle Ave., North Bergen, NJ. For more information, please call Elder Bro. Edward Aeschleman (301) 478-7846 or Bro. Franz Soni (201) 835-3577.

NEW YORK,
CROGHAN-NAUMBURG
Alice Virkler

Our congratulations and best wishes go to Dr. Betty J. Rauhe, daughter of Bro. John and Sis. Esther. Betty graduated in May from Indiana University, Bloomington, and received her Doctorate Degree August 3 in Health and Safety with a minor in Gerontology. She has accepted a teaching position at the university.

Bro. Leland Hirschey was a hospital patient this month for treatment. We are happy that he is able to minister to us.

On Labor Day weekend we had many loved ones fellowship with us to help celebrate several events. Bro. Leland and Sis. Bernice Hirschey and Bro. Dave and Sis. Lois Schamback celebrated their

50th wedding anniversaries with family gatherings. We are thankful that they have enjoyed fifty years together and wish both couples God's blessings in the years ahead. May they continue to trust in God for their every need.

On Sunday, September 6, we gathered for a meal together in the church basement to fellowship with the many who came to be with us for the weekend and to bid farewell to Elder Bro. Robert and Sis. Lucille Beyer who have left our vicinity to live in Peoria, IL. We want to thank God first for the many years that Bro. Robert was able to minister the Word to us and serve as our elder, and then to thank Bro. Robert for his years of service in God's work. They will be missed in our congregation and our prayer is that God will grant them good health and years of happy retirement. At the close of our service Sunday, September 13, we sang the beautiful hymn, #114 in the Zion's Harp together before we bid farewell to Bro. Bob and Sis. Lucille.

We tarry in this blest and tranquil
union,
And thus united speak the farewell
word,
Ye loved ones, not the parting hour
is nearing,
The farewell greeting sounds in one
accord,
Our hearts are yet in close
communion beating;
In Jesus' name we bid the farewell
greeting.

So fare ye well! Our hands are
joined in parting.
This may our final farewell
greeting be.
O, let us look unto our Lord and
Saviour,
Who'll lead us into all eternity!
O, may God's grace, our bond of
love completing,
Protect us all; this is our farewell
greeting!

Hymn #114, vs. 1, 8

Our sympathy goes out to Sis. Mabel Ebersol and her family, as her daughter, Fern Reed, was called from this life several weeks after open heart surgery. As Sis. Mabel is unable to assemble with us may

God richly bless her and be near her in the many lonely hours.

Thank You: We want to thank all who remembered us with cards, gifts and prayers on our 50th wedding anniversary. May God richly bless you for your love and kindness.

Bro. Dave and Sis. Lois
Schamback

OHIO, AKRON Joyce Gasser

Bro. John and Sis. Joyce Schamback's two daughters were married three weeks apart, Sis. Jill in August, and Sis. Jennifer in September. Sis. Jill exchanged wedding vows with Bro. Rod Steiner, whose parents are Bro. Ron and Sis. Ruth Steiner (Rittman). Sis. Jennifer exchanged wedding vows with Bro. Dan Hartzler, whose parents are Bro. Merle and Sis. Bonnie Hartzler (Rittman). We pray for God's blessings on each of these couples.

We appreciated the visits of the following elders and ministers who have been with us. These are Elder Bros. Walter Anliker, John Klotzle, Andy Stoller, Dennis Warner; and ministers Bros. Lynn Stieglitz, Ron Steiner, Merle Hartzler, Earl Beery, Tom Schamback, Duane Farney, Glenn Riggenbach, Fred Domka, Trent Meiss, and Gary Maibach.

Sis. Alma Curie is back in her home after having been hospitalized.

Bro. Eric and Sis. Lisa Indermuhle, who were here temporarily, moved back to Sardis. We will miss them, but they will be again in their home church.

We are sorry that Peter and Sis. Nerys Lightner moved from our community, but Peter found good employment in Alabama. They will be within driving distance to Athens church, and we pray for God's blessings upon them.

Our retired Elder Bro. Rudy Graf will be 4 score and 10 years old as his 90th birthday will be October 21.

OHIO, COLUMBUS Julie Grimm

Bro. Dwight Stoller (Latty, OH) and his wife, Sis. Lori, shared a blessed Sunday with us. We thank Bro. Dwight for his labors in the ministry.

Bro. Eli and Sis. Evelyn Manz (Junction, OH) and Bro. Bob and Sis. Karen Indermuhle (Sardis, OH) presented the World Relief slides and gave an inspiring presentation on opportunities available through World Relief. Bro. Andy Hunyady followed with slides from Eastern Europe. Certainly there are many people with physical and spiritual needs. May we each one be willing to serve as the Lord grants us opportunity.

We welcome Sis. Polly Uhler (Smithville) to our Columbus church. May the Lord provide for her as she adjusts to her new home and begins teaching at a suburban school.

OHIO, JUNCTION Sandra Manz

We have a new face at church! Her name is Niki Wiggers, an exchange student from the Netherlands, and she will be spending the school year with Sis. Karen Schlatter. Niki attends Paulding High School where Sis. Karen serves as guidance counselor.

Our oldest church member, Sis. Frances Dotterer, has reached a new milestone in her life - her 90th birthday. We continue to look to her as an example of a Godly woman and wish her much grace to deal with the usual problems of aging.

Bro. Paul Gasser (Akron, OH) shared the Word with us September 6. We thank him and Sis. Joyce for their visit.

Bro. Oliver and Sis. Annabell Spangler would like to share their new address: 3257 Schneider Road, Toledo, Ohio 43614.

OHIO, LATTY

Rhonda Stoller - Kathy Sinn

On September 12 and 13, many of the brethren who spend their winters with the Zapata, TX, congregation gathered for a reunion

in our fellowship hall. We sure enjoyed the company and trust that the company enjoyed the visit to Latty.

Throughout the last month, Bro. Earl Gerber (Forrest, IL) and Bro. Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville, IL) visited our congregation and ministered the Word of the Lord. We prayed God will bless them and their families now and much more in eternity.

As the children and young adults have returned to school, we pray for their safety to and from school. May God grant them the grace and wisdom to keep themselves from worldly involvement. As we pray for our children, let us not forget their teachers who must teach children from a vast array of life styles and backgrounds.

Sis. Bena Delong fell and hurt herself during this past week. She is now back in the nursing home, but needs our prayers, cards, and visits to comfort and uplift her.

On August 23, we gathered at the nearby park for our annual Sunday school picnic. The weather was accommodating for the day. May we all be blessed through the gathering together and fellowshiping with one another.

Colin Wayne was born September 17 to Bro. Leon and Sis. Debra Klopfenstein. Colin is welcomed home by brothers, Brett, Philip and Karl, and sister, Ann. Grandparents are Bro. Herman and Sis. Mary Baer (Princeville, IL) and Bro. Raymond and Sis. Catherine Klopfenstein.

OHIO, MANSFIELD Linda Morrison

The engagement of Bro. Ed Dawson and Sis. Judy Beer (Bro. Joel and Sis. Sue) was announced Sunday, September 20. May God continue to bless them as they make the necessary plans to walk this life together. "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 79:1)

Sis. Martha Enderle fell and broke her foot earlier this summer but Sis. Martha is such a spry little lady and didn't let it get her down that I forgot to mention it. We are thankful Sis. Martha is blessed with such good health and courage. She is an example for all of us. Sis. Janet Beer (Bro. Al) had surgery on her hand and is recovering quickly. Bro. Ora Sauder had yet another stay in the hospital but is again able to attend services. "So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom." (Psalms 90:12)

Dayne William was born July 25 to Gary and Vicki Sauder; Blake and Calvin are happy to have a little brother. Bro. Richard and Sis. Carolyn Sauder are the prayerful grandparents. "I need the prayers of those I love . . ."

"The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved." (Jeremiah 8:20) Are we praying for the salvation of our loved ones, our friends and neighbors?

Bro. Gary Maibach (Smithville) encouraged our hearts with God's Word. May God bless Bro. Gary and his family in their efforts to visit us.

OHIO, RITTMAN

Lois Maibach
Charlene Winkler

We were inspired with many good teachings this past month. Those that have labored in our midst were Bro. Trent Meiss (Iowa City, IA), Bro. Bill Brake (Sardis, OH) and Bro. Fred Domka (Mansfield, OH).

Those that have recently needed hospital care were Bro. Vern Lanz (Sis. Deanna), Bro. Charlie Zollinger and Joe Zollinger.

Marriage is such a blessing. The following couples have pledged their love and faithfulness to each other till life's end.

August 22 was the day chosen as Chris Hilty and Sarah Gingery became husband and wife. Their parents are Sam and Judy Hilty and Mr. and Mrs. George Gingery.

Bro. Rod Steiner (Bro. Ron and Sis. Ruth) and Sis. Jill Schamback (Bro. John and Sis. Joyce, Akron,

OH) have become one-in-the-Lord August 23.

Bro. Dan Hartzler (Bro. Merle and Sis. Bonnie) and Sis. Jennifer Schamback (Bro. John and Sis. Joyce, Akron, OH) exchanged their wedding vows September 13.

What joy babies can fill a home with.

Bro. Rick and Sis. Dawn Dotterer welcomed Jill Michele September 1. Jill's brothers and sister are Jodi, Mark, Michael, Matthew and her grandparents are Elder Bro. Henry and Sis. Martha Dotterer and Bro. Robert and Sis. Joann Widmer.

Todd Kenneth arrived safely September 1 to Ken and Carol Rupp. Megan, Amanda and Jenny are his three big sisters that will help take care of him as well as grandparents, Ken and Sis. Lillian Rupp and Elder Bro. Henry and Sis. Martha Dotterer.

Bro. Jim and Sis. Sara Steiner have been blessed with a darling little girl, Hannah Jane. Nathan is her big brother. Patiently awaiting her arrival were grandparents, Bro. Carl and Sis. Carol Steiner and Bro. Andy and Sis. Mary Jane Winkler.

Kiersten Rynne, born September 11, was the name chosen by Bro. Steve and Sis. Mary Lynn Stoller. Whitney and Klæe will share with their sister the loving care of grandparents, Bro. Everett and Sis. Marge Stoller and Bro. Donald and Sis. Alice Steidinger (Fairbury, IL).

We offer our condolences to James Thompson (Sis. Joyce) in the passing of his father, James Thompson, Jr.

On September 3, Sis. Mary Winkler was called to her heavenly home. She served the Lord for 64 years. We extend sympathy to her two sisters, Sis. Freda Winkler and Sis. Pauline Hartzler (Bro. Ernest).

We extend our sympathy to Bro. Eugene Bachman (Sis. Kathryn) in the passing of his mother, Elizabeth Bachman Snyder.

Joe Zollinger thanks the loved ones who have so kindly remembered him with many deeds of love since his accident. May God be your Rich Rewarder.

OHIO, SARDIS

Renee Miller

Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
Look full in His wonderful face;
And the things of earth will grow
strangely dim,
In the light of His glory and grace.
Helen Lemmell

It has been a blessing to listen to the tapes of this year's conference. May the Lord richly bless each of our caring elders who have exhorted us about the walk of life we should be following as believers.

Bro. Merril Laukhuf (Latty, OH) was with us at our August Vacation Bible School. He issued a timely warning to take every precaution to be ready to counteract the prevalent ideas of humanism, the New Age Movement and New World Order. We thank him for his prayerful study of this matter and for sharing his thoughts and concerns with us.

OHIO, SMITHVILLE

Stephanie Luginbuhl

We were thankful to have several visiting ministers with us this past month. Bros. Neil Ramseyer (Bay City, MI), Randy Gasser (Detroit, MI) and Trent Meiss (Iowa City, IA) came to proclaim the Word of God.

We pray for those who have been hospitalized or confined to their homes that God will be near them and that they will feel His healing power. Sis. Mildred Hartzler was hospitalized but is now home again.

OHIO, TOLEDO

Edie Fetter

"But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed."

James 1:25

We appreciated having with us our Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter (Junction) and Bro. Wayne Lehman (South Bend, IN). May God con-

tinue sending the gospel message to us by His faithful ministers.

The Toledo congregation extends its welcome to the university students who will be worshipping with us during this coming school year. May you enjoy your classes and the time spent with us.

OREGON, PORTLAND
Pearl Miller

"Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost."

Romans 15:13

HOPE IN ACTION

Hope looks for the good in people instead of harping on the worst.
 Hope opens doors where despair closes them.
 Hope discovers what can be done instead of grumbling about what cannot.
 Hope draws its power from a deep trust in God and in the basic goodness of mankind.
 Hope "lights a candle" instead of "cursing the darkness."
 Hope regards problems, small or large, as opportunities.
 Hope sets big goals and is not frustrated by repeated difficulties or setbacks.
 Hope accepts misunderstanding as the price for serving the greater good of others
 Hope is a good loser because it has the divine assurance of final victory.

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

John 16:33

We're thankful that Louisa Gallup has answered the call to repentance and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.

"God calling yet!
 I cannot stay
 My heart I yield without delay,
 Vain world, farewell,
 From thee I part

The voice of God has reached my heart."

Gospel Hymns

We appreciate the visit of our ministering brethren, Bro. Kevin Banwart and Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr (West Bend, IA). Other visitors were Bro. Earl and Sis. Kathryn Steffen (Elgin, IL), Sis. Lois and Sis. Leona Pfister (Roanoke, IL) and Del and Sis. Nancy Whittaker (Morton, IL).

"Faith and works are like the light and the heat of a candle, they cannot be separated."

OREGON, SILVERTON
Becky Gudeman
Peggy Schulz

"Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you." St. John 1:3 We are thankful that our visitors this past month have included several ministering brothers who were willing to speak this Word to us. They include Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr (Sis. Kathy, West Bend, IA), Bro. Kevin Banwart (Sis. Sandy, West Bend, IA), Bro. Bob Miller (Sis. Pearl, Portland), Bro. Elmer Witzig (Sis. Marjorie, Gridley) and Bro. Gary Brown (Sis. Jane, Forrest, IL). Bro. Gary spent Labor Day weekend with the Sunday school Bible class. We certainly appreciate all the efforts that were put forth by each one in attendance. The blessings were abundant!

"For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh." Ephesians 5:31 August brought the wedding of Monte Kuenzi (Bro. Rich and Sis. Rosalee) and Kellie Hill (Woody and Sherry, Silverton). We pray for God's blessings on their new life together. They are currently residing near Portland.

We rejoice with Bro. Troy Kuenzi (Bro. Bob and Sis. Linda) as he has announced his engagement to Sis. Sherri Metzger (Bro. Dale and Sis. Chris, Lester, IA). We wish them God's ever present and unsurpassable guidance as they plan for their life together.

We wish to extend a special

prayer to our new college students this year. Jason Snook (Vance and Sis. Liz), Trinda Kuenzi (Bro. Bob and Sis. Linda), Andy Burger (Robert and Sonja) and Marie Kuenzi (Bro. Nick and Sis. Mary). Jason and Trinda are attending a local university, and Andy and Marie are attending in southern Oregon. May God's guardian angels keep close watch over each one.

Sis. Matilda Fehr (Bro. Elmer, West Bend, IA) is recovering nicely after an emergency surgery and hospitalization. May God continue to strengthen the physical body as well as the spiritual one. Bro. Elmer, Sis. Matilda and Bro. Wayne have been visiting us for a few weeks; we enjoy them immensely.

**PENNSYLVANIA,
PHILADELPHIA**
Franz Soni

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

III John 2

Bro. Edwin Lanz (Sis. Marilyn) was recently hospitalized. It was good seeing him back in church worshipping with us. Kimberley Lanz (Bro. Edwin and Sis. Marilyn) also was hospitalized recently. May God extend His healing powers to all those who are experiencing accidents and illnesses.

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

Psalms 31:24

Cory Metzger (Bro. Eldon and Sis. Dorene, Gridley, KS) has turned his back on the world and is seeking the Lord in repentance. We wish him God's grace and blessings.

We welcome all who are in the area to worship with us. Services are Sunday 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. and Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. If you need more information, please call Elder Bro. Edward Aeschleman at (301) 478-7846.

TENNESSEE, NASHVILLE Don Sauder

"Blessed assurance Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine." This is the feeling we had when we met to fellowship and worship our Lord. We always feel it's a blessing when loved ones come and worship with us. This month was a special blessing, not only did we have visitors from Silverton, OR, our ministering Bro. Greg Rassi (Sis. Carla) and their family from Chicago, IL, fed us from God's Holy Word. Also our dear Sis. (Auntee Bun) Nellie Groh, a young 89-year-old sister, her daughters, Sis. Lucille and Alice (Mansfield, OH), drove almost 500 miles each way to be with us. As they drove off after such a wonderful weekend, hymn #122 in the Hymns of Zion reminds us, "With friends on earth we meet in gladness, While swift the moments fly, Yet ever comes the tho't of sadness, That we must say good-by. We'll never say good-by in heav'n, We'll never say good-by, For in that land of joy and song We'll never say good-by." What a wonderful promise that some day, with God's grace, we will meet loved ones who have gone before and never say goodbye.

Many thanks to our visitors. Please come again as we plead God's blessings on you.

TEXAS, HOUSTON Sandy Darlington

We, here in the Houston area, thank God for sending kind and faithful shepherds like Elder Bro. Joe Braker (Morton, IL) to visit and minister to us August 30. God even provided for a few to meet in the home of Jerry and Sis. Sandy Darlington August 28 for a time of food and fellowship with Elder Bro. Joe and his wife, Sis. Shirley.

Services are held in Houston the last Sunday of the month at 10:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn - Southwest. Please contact Bro. Bill and Sis. Betty Zeltwanger at (409) 542-0763 or Jerry and Sis. Sandy Darlington at (409) 297-8301 for information regarding Houston services.

On September 13 those who were able gathered in the home of

Bro. Howard and Sis. Delores Rapp, near Dallas. We felt blessed to participate in an hour of Bible study and meditation led by Bro. Marshall Heinold (Washington, IL).

We all enjoyed a delicious lunch served around the pool, sunny skies and a chance to visit with Bro. Marshall and his wife, Sis. Jan. We prayed for them the following week thinking of their visit to Mexico.

There are scheduled services for the Dallas, TX, area the first and third Sunday of each month at 10:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn - Desoto, TX. Please contact Bro. Howard and Sis. Delores Rapp at (214) 867-4074.

TEXAS, ZAPATA Viola Perdelwitz

On September 12, a Zapata reunion was held at Latty, OH. There were many there from Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Connecticut, Michigan, Minnesota and Ohio.

We are so grateful the brothers and sisters of Latty welcomed those attending to fellowship together.

SILVER THREADS

BIBLE SCRIPTURES FOR THE HOME

A Household of Faith . . .
Galatians 6:10

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

A Peaceful Home . . . Isaiah 32:18

"And my people shall dwell in a peaceable habitation, and in sure dwellings, and in quiet resting places."

An Illuminated Home . . . Exodus 10:22, 23

"And Moses stretched forth his hand toward heaven; and there was a thick darkness in all the land of Egypt three days; . . . but all the children of Israel had light in their dwellings."

A Compassionate Home . . . II
Chronicles 36:15

"And the Lord God of their fathers sent to them by his messengers, . . . because he had compassion on his people, and on his dwelling place."

Off Limits To Sickness . . . Psalm 91:10

"There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling."

Sleep Peacefully In Safety . . . Psalm 4:8

"I will both lay me down in peace, and sleep: for thou, Lord, only makest me dwell in safety."

A Blessed Home . . . Proverbs 3:33

"The curse of the Lord is in the house of the wicked; but He blesseth the habitation of the just."

A Safe Home Free From Fear Of Evil . . . Proverbs 1:33

"But whoso hearkeneth unto me shall dwell safely, and shall be quiet from fear of evil."

A Home Where There Is Unity . . . Psalm 133:1

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

A Home Where Sins Are Forgiven . . . Isaiah 33:24

"The inhabitant shall not say, I am sick: the people that dwell therein shall be forgiven their iniquity."

A Home Filled With Love . . . Psalm 26:8

"Lord, I have loved the habitation of thy house, and the place where thine honour dwelleth."

Sermon . . .

(Continued from Page 32)
ing in total unity and magnificent performance in which the whole universe is involved in. There is no chaos or casualness to it. It is precise and meticulous the way God set it up.

Man is the one who has got to keep adjusting every few years to

keep time with Almighty God. We can see the hand of God in nature and in the universe. We can just feel His magnificent creation and know that He is really there. There is nothing casual about it. It is precise in unity and in great order. That just makes us really know Almighty God.

Then we come to know God in other ways. We come to know Him through the lives of other people. Some people that we meet, we can feel in their lives a sense of order, of peace and of love. We maybe sense sometimes that their lives were not always that way. Now we feel from them that love and that close connection. Their lives really speak of God.

So we get to know God through other people. We get to know God through His Almighty nature. Yet this afternoon we come here and through His Word, we really come to know Him, too. The Bible has 66 books, with about 40 different writers, and it was put together over 1500 years.

We read from the Old Testament about Solomon and now we read in the New Testament where it falls open and we read about Solomon again. It just seems like the Old and New Testament come together like the folding of two hands. There is such a rightness, sense of order and exactness here in the Word of God that you just cannot hardly fathom or explain.

We really feel God's Spirit in it all. Beyond that, we hear from Jesus, like we read here. He spoke to the people, and we come to know God through our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Not just the historical Jesus who walked over the dark desert area of Palestine 2000 years ago, but from the Jesus Who lives in our lives today. When we walk even in this day and age, we can feel Him beside us.

We pray to Him and we know that He hears our thoughts and prayers and we know that He is active in our lives.

We know that God is really among us! If you sit down like I do sometimes, maybe troubled, and you open the Word of God and it opens to someplace in Ezekiel

where you never thought that you would read before, it is just alive to you. It warms our heart to feel that strength and power through His Word. That is what we take so much courage in.

Here, as we read together, and stated at the twenty-ninth verse, "And when the people were gathered thick together . . ." Luke 11:29. I like that. They gathered thick together. Many people came together. It was not any different then than it is now. Many people came to hear Jesus, but many walked away, just not totally buying into His program and the promises He offered.

Do the promises He offers yet today seem pretty empty to the people around us? The promises I like to think of most of all are those of eternal life. We stand the opportunity to share in heaven above! That just thrills my soul!

This life is like a dot in eternity. It is a very important dot for you and me. Yet in this life all we have is birth and death, and after death comes resurrection, and after resurrection comes judgment, and after judgment comes an eternal existence in one of two places: heaven or hell.

We can spend that time in heaven. It says, "We will be caught up together." There are many here. I see some older sisters and brothers, but think of parents gone on before and those who really felt God in their lives, and we will spend eternity with them!

Can you think of gathering with them? That thrills my soul! We will see John the Baptist, Moses and those who were true and faithful unto God. Maybe they had problems in their life, but they were faithful. We can be there together with them!

In this life, what do we know? We just know separation. When I was a kid, all along, I would think of separation. When I was young, I always had to go to bed before I wanted to. They put me upstairs and left a hall light on, but separated me from what was going on downstairs.

Then later in life, I wanted to live at home and work in that area, but I could not find a job and had to leave. Separated again. Then we

got married and had children and felt we had them around us and close to us. Soon there was separation as they left for different areas. We go to visit them, but there is still separation when we are not right together with one another.

God says, "In the end, we will be brought together." We will be, as Jesus said in that prayer in John 17, "We will be one. Just as You and I are one (the Father and the Son), then those people will be one with Me." That is what we really seek after – to be one with the Lord!

As we think of that, I think of one that I visited with before she died, and talked about her life. She said, "When you really look at death, you just wonder yet if you have been close enough." I think we all have a little bit of that. Do we really live close enough? Are we maintaining the right importance in life?

We see what happened to Solomon. He drifted over and got away. We talked that he had good words. The queen of the south said that she came to hear from him, and that the half had not been told about his wisdom. The half was not told! Yet with all that wisdom, as we read in the Proverbs, Solomon allowed disillusion to come into his life. Satan still has the same goal with you and me today, if he can induce us to neglect our salvation or do other things.

I would not doubt but that it is the same in your home as in our home. We must make a real effort to take the Word every day. There are so many other things – good pursuits – that can involve us.

We need to watch, because if he can induce us into doing so many other things, we will soon become spiritual paupers. We will become nothing but impotent backsliders. We need to fight against that and watch in our lives that that does not become a part of us. Solomon was a good bad example, so to speak. Do we keep our mind on the goal . . . that eternal rest for the soul?

I think of one young fellow who served in Vietnam. He talked about it. He said that when he got over there in 1965, he was looking for a little action. He went out in a heli-

copter and when they came back in, their helicopter was not scarred at all, although several of the others had been shot up.

But he said in 1966, finally when he boarded the plane to leave Vietnam, he could not fathom that he made it out alive. Another one of the boys sitting just a few seats ahead said, "I can't hardly believe I made it."

I think it will be the same way with you and me. When we finally get to the end of time, and the Father gives us the opportunity to be with Him throughout eternity, I think that we will say, "I can't hardly believe I made it."

Oh, that God will keep us and help us so we can understand His way and make it to that eternal goal where there is rest for the soul!

"And when the people were gathered thick together . . ." Luke 11:29. many people came together. Like it says in Jesus' teachings, "Many are called, but few there are that really find it." (See Matthew 22:14).

"Broad is the gate, wide is the way that leadeth to destruction. Narrow is the gate that leads to life eternal and few there be that find it." (See Matthew 7:13)

If we are with a few and seem to be in a minority, let us not worry, but let us stay consistent and continue to look into His Word. Let us read the Word and study what God would have us to know.

Try to really understand the concepts that He was telling the people. Here He said, when the people were gathered together, "This is an evil generation . . ." Luke 11:29. You and I also believe that the generation we live in is an evil generation. It is changing. I believe we can ask the older brothers and sisters, "Is it like it used to be?" My mother told me, "No, it is not. We used to work just to survive. Today we do not work just to survive . . . we work for other things."

Nobody here probably worries about the meals tomorrow or next week. We have so much abundance. It can lay leanness to our heart if we are not so very careful. Maybe it is an evil generation that we live in today. I believe these words are very pertinent.

It says, ". . . they seek a sign . . ." Luke 11:29. We would like a sign. There are so many signs that happen around us and yet we truly need to watch and pray. Watch and pray! A great topic! Watch! Watch what is going on around us! Can you hardly believe it? Russia overthrown. We have been fighting Communism all our lives. We did not fire a bullet. There is not a thing that took place; yet, it melted down.

The Almighty hand of God and His ways are so far ahead of us that we just need to watch what is taking place. Pray to the Almighty God to stay in tune so that we are in concert with God rather than being in harmony with the world that we live in.

We have so many teachings here about the Pharisees. They were in great harmony with the world around them. They were in such great harmony with the world around them that they sought to destroy Jesus and get rid of Him completely.

It says, "The men of Nineveh shall rise up in the judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it." Luke 11:32. As we think about that, I like to think of in Corinthians where Paul speaks to the people about the judgment. He puts it so clear . . .

It speaks that every one of us will have to come before the judgment seat of God. He says that every one of us will receive the good or the evil that has come out of our lives.

So it behooves us to really think on these things and to know that the world and what is in it should not be a part of our lives and our time. We must focus in on that which is right.

He says, "No man, when he hath lighted a candle, putteth it in a secret place, neither under a bushel, but on a candlestick, that they which come in may see the light." Luke 11:33. We are to be the light of the world and the salt of the earth. The little children sing about that candle. They sing "This little light of mine. I'm going to let it shine. I won't let Satan blow it out."

How about that? Do we let the evil one blow our light out? We need

to be careful to let that light truly shine and not let the evil one blow it out. God wants us to stay in His will and stay close to His Word and let the light of His goodness shine through us.

Not our goodness, but the light in the goodness of Almighty God. May we not let it get blown out. Simple concept. Simple ways. A teaching that works for the young people, and it also works for you and me.

In this day and age, everyone is looking for something new. They are looking for a new procedure. They are looking for new teachings and new ways. It does not come from new ways. It comes from the same, old teachings and the same, old procedures that were used all down through history and down through time. That is what it is . . . understanding the old procedures and the old methods. That is what is so important for us.

As we go through this life, there will be some difficult times. There is no question. Life is like an ocean. We read about that this morning. Jesus took His disciples out on a boat after the problem of John the Baptist. I like to think of life as an ocean, and you and I are the sailors. Sometimes there are storms. Sometimes there are leaky boats. Sometimes it just seems like there is no way out.

Leaky boats. Maybe we have taken on too much of the world or too much around us. It is not the water outside the boat that creates the problem; it is the water inside the boat. The storms of life may press hard upon us. They did upon John the Baptist. But let us hold true and faithful. Our prayer to God may be ever so simple. "Oh, Lord, the sea is so great, and my boat is so small."

The Lord understands that kind of prayer. The world will tell you a clear different line. The world says, "The Lord will help those who help themselves." I do not think we can find that in the scripture.

God helps those who realize their weakness and helplessness and who look to Him to seek out in His Word what He would have us to know and to follow His Word as straight and true as we know how.

MAR 02709 RP
GORDON GREENBANK
11000 N CAVE CREEK RD
PHOENIX AZ 85020

SERMON BY BRO. WILL SCHIELER OF MILFORD, IN

God Is So Precise
I Kings 11:1-13 & Luke 11:29-54

It seems rather clear and straight-forth and simple, the Word of Almighty God that we have read again this afternoon. They are teachings from Jesus Himself.

He was telling the people what really to look for. He cut into those Pharisees, scribes and lawyers because they were a self-righteous lot. Because of that self-righteousness, He went after them and spoke right directly to them in such ways.

Yet other people were great sinners, like the woman at the well who had five husbands, and we think of Solomon who we read about again. The woman at the well have five husbands . . . five times a loser. Jesus dealt with her so gently. Others who were not of the Jewish heritage and came to Him and pleaded for help, He was so gentle with them.

Then those who were self-righteous, He came down on them almost like a ton of bricks. His words were short and really to the point. As I like to think of that so much, I think of the words that we have read here again this afternoon . . . right specifically to the point . . . not difficult to understand. If we just open up and read it a time or two to grasp it, it is easy to understand and right to the point. I think God's words are so simple!

Then we talk about the lawyers.

Have you ever visited with a lawyer? Maybe there is some lawyer here. They complicate things to the point that you begin to wonder whether you are going to be able to get your arms around it and grasp the point that they are after.

God is not that way. We have a lot of books that describe how to do everything in such technical ways, but the Word of God is so simple. It is like the Lord's prayer that is in the first part of this chapter.

The Lord's prayer contains 66 words. The Twenty-third Psalm has 118 words. The Ten Commandments have 297 words. Yet the United States Department of Agriculture has a directive on how to price cabbage and it contains 15,629 words.

When you think of the Word of our Almighty God, He makes it so easy to understand if we are just willing and obedient to it. We can grasp it easily. Even someone who does not really have all of their faculties, we might say, not really have a good, sound mind, they can still come to the Word of God and come to grips. Young children three or four years old can have a grasp on what God wants them to do and how He would want them to behave.

God is so precise in the ways that He deals with en, if we just let

Him have complete control in our lives.

There were those who fought it in that day and there are still those who fight and battle with it yet today. I had to think that this is March the first. We mentioned that earlier this morning. We are coming together on a spring morning, so to speak, to know Almighty God. Yesterday we got an extra day, did we not? It was leap year and February twenty-ninth.

God set up the week with seven days in a week. He did not really set up the calendar, but He set up the days and he set up the years. Each year has 365 days, 5 hours, 48 minutes, 46.02 seconds in each year. So we have to have leap year every four years except on the century change, we do not have leap year . . . except on any century change divisible by 400. Now in the year 2000, we will have a leap year, but we did not in 1700, 1800 and 1900.

We can see by this that God is so precise. We really come to know God by taking a look outside at the birds in the sky and the heavens above and the earth that we live on. When we see the universe around us, we really feel God through nature.

God brought the earth into be
(Continued on Page 29)