



"For whatsoever is born of God **overcometh** the world: and this is the victory that **overcometh** the world, even our faith."

I John 5:4

"But thanks be to God, which giveth us the **victory** through our Lord Jesus Christ."

I Corinthians 15:57

VOLUME 43

JULY 1993

NUMBER 7

Victory

"I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:"

II Timothy 4:7

Victory In Jesus

I heard an old, old story,
How a Savior came from glory,
How He gave His life on Calvary
To save a wretch like me;
I heard about his groaning,
Of His precious blood's atoning.
Then I repented of my sins
And won the victory.

I heard about His healing
Of His cleansing pow'r revealing,
How He made the lame to walk again
And caused the blind to see;
And then I cried "dear Jesus,
Come and heal my broken spirit,"
And somehow Jesus came and bro't
To me the victory.

I heard about a mansion
He has built for me in glory,
And I heard about the streets of gold
Beyond the crystal sea;
About the angels praising,
And the old redemption story,
And some sweet day I'll sing up there
The song of victory.

Chorus:

O victory in Jesus, My Savior, forever, He sought me and bought me with His redeeming blood;
He loved me ere I knew Him, and all my love is due Him, He plunged me to victory, beneath the cleansing flood.

Gospel Hymns #777

My Country 'Tis of Thee

My country, 'tis of thee,
Sweet land of liberty,
Of thee I sing;
Land where my fathers died
Land of the pilgrim's pride,
From ev'ry mountain side,
Let freedom ring.

My native country, thee,
Land of the noble free.
Thy name I love;
I love thy rocks and rills,
Thy woods and templed hills.
My heart with rapture thrills,
Like that above.

Let music swell the breeze.
And ring from all the trees
Sweet freedom's song;
Let mortal tongues awake,
Let all that breathe partake,
Let rocks their silence break
The sound prolong.

Our fathers' God, to Thee,
Author of liberty,
To Thee we sing;
Long may our land be bright
With freedom's holy light,
Protect us by Thy might,
Great God, our King!

Gospel Hymns #738



MISSION – WORLD RELIEF – WORKS PROJECTS

LIBERTY

Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle, Shioda, Japan

American history books report that Patrick Henry said, "Gentlemen may cry, 'Peace, Peace,' but there is no peace." (These words are a paraphrase of Jeremiah 6:14 and 8:11) It is reported that he ended his speech by saying, "As for me, give me liberty or give me death."

It sounds like liberty is quite important. I have been told that Patrick Henry particularly wanted the liberty to earn a living for himself and his family, practicing law in Boston. Often economics is a big factor in conflicts.

In Leviticus 25:10, we find these words, "... Proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof." I believe I've seen those words by the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia.

Bro. Akito Inoue tells me that in his school right after World War II the students, including himself, understood that in a democracy the people concerned have the liberty to decide things for themselves. One thing the students discussed was whether or not they wanted to use the windows to go in and out of the school and classrooms, or whether they wanted to use the doors as in

the past. He says they had more sense than to decide on using the windows but the fact that this option was discussed is interesting.

In America now, we even have the liberty to destroy each other. Maybe things have gone too far. Even so, there are many wonderful things about America and we certainly thank God for her and we pray for her. It is up to us to make America better. How? By obeying the following teachings.

Galatians 5:13, "For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; (freedom from sin) only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another." We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves.



TEACHERS:

Educational Coordinator Opening at Gateway Woods

We have a need for a full-time Educational Coordinator at Gateway Woods. This brother or sister would provide a liaison role between the local school system and the Home, tutor the young people with daily homework assignments and maintain the Home's library.

Qualifications include a Bachelor's Degree in Education and work experience in the field. We offer competitive salaries, benefits and continuing education opportunities. For further information and a job description, please contact one of the brothers listed below.

Please prayerfully consider this work. It provides an excellent opportunity to work with a unified team of brothers and sisters toward a common goal of helping troubled young people.

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

HURRICAN ANDREW PROJECT

It has been ten months since the devastating hurricane hit South Florida and there is still much work to be done.

Since our first request for volunteers, we have had 275 respond to the need. We want to encourage more people to come and help for a week or longer, during the summer months and further into the year.

We have the facilities to house and feed the work teams. Those that have volunteered expressed that it was a rewarding experience, with good Christian fellowship.

For further information, please contact Bro. Roger Sauder, (305) 584-0947 or Bro. Roy Luginbuhl (305) 472-1738.

THE SILVER LINING

Grabill, Indiana 46741
USPS 496780

EDITORIAL STAFF:

David Bertsch

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

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Christian Church of America

Counselors: Loren Stoller,
David Bertsch, Phillip Stettner

SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO:

The Silver Lining
c/o David Bertsch
11520 Grabill Road
Grabill, IN 46741

Second class postage paid at Grabill, IN 46741. The subscription rate is \$9.00 per year. Send zip number with address. Remember to send changes of address. Send both old and new addresses (with both zips).

IN MEMORY – EDITORS:
HENRY SOUDER
EDWARD SOUDER



Writings based
on God's Word

Light From The Word

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

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP II

Every child of God is entrusted with various stewardship responsibilities. Most important is the proper care and nurturing of the precious pearl of salvation given by the Lord to each believer. In addition, we will all have to someday give an account of what we have done with the material aspects of our lives.

We can become so entangled with the material affairs of this life that it consumes us. "Your gold and silver is cankered; and the rust of them shall be a witness against you, and shall eat your flesh as it were fire. Ye have heaped treasure together for the last days" (James 5:3). This could also lead us into covetousness which the Bible says is idolatry (Col. 3:5). God will not tolerate idolatry. It is identified as one of the works of the flesh that will keep us from His kingdom.

The Word of God not only provides guidelines of what not to do with the material things of life, but it also provides instruction on what we should do. We certainly need to remember to give back to the Lord what is His and not to rob God. "But ye say, wherein have we robbed Thee? In tithes and offerings" (Malachi 3:8). It is a privilege to be able to give to the Lord and we should do so willingly, "... not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver" (2 Cor. 9:7).

It is good to regularly lay aside a portion of our income as "firstfruits" for the Lord, rather than waiting until the end of a pay period and giving him the "leftovers." The attitude with which we give is just as important as the amount. If we regularly lay aside a certain percentage of income we must not view this as a routine obligation or a "tax." We may be tempted to bend our principles with regard to use of such funds to make it easier to reach a certain quota. Instead, each time we give, it should be

with a prayerful heart and a humble desire to willingly help in the Lord's name to meet some worthy need.

We should give discreetly, not to be seen of men, but to the honor of God (Matt. 6:1,4). We should give generously because we have received bountifully. "He which soweth sparingly shall reap sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully" (2 Cor. 9:6).

The Bible tells us very plainly that we are to help those in need. "But whoso hath this world's goods, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?" (1 John 3:17). It is evident that we are saved by grace through faith (Eph. 2:8-9), yet "... faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone" (James 2:17).

Jesus made it clear that we need a balance of faith and works. He said to the Pharisees: "... for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy and faith: these ye ought to have done and not to leave the others undone" (Matt. 23:23). We cannot buy our way into heaven, even with the best of financial stewardship. On the other hand we should never judge another person's motives who may be able to give much more than we or offer many more deeds of service. If we make effort to point out their shortcomings this may be a futile attempt to justify our own lack of generosity.

Some believers may have struggles regarding their financial responsibility toward the government. Because there is sometimes evil in high places and much governmental waste, the temptation is strong to be less than honest in paying taxes. When asked if it was lawful to give tribute to Caesar, Christ said, "Render therefore unto Caesar the

things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's" (Matt. 22:21). While we may not agree with the way those in authority exercise their power, we cannot justify dishonesty as a result of it.

Self-indulgence must be controlled. What we spend on ourselves should be moderate. When the rich man had acquired excessive possessions, he wanted to set himself up so he would have it easy for many years. If we are rich toward ourselves and not rich toward God, we could face the same judgment as he did when God said, "Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?" (Luke 12:20).

While we must be careful not to heap treasures to ourselves, we do need to plan somewhat for the future. All of us face the possibility of living several years after we retire. Surely we should not plan for a life of luxury and irresponsible consumption when we retire, but neither do we want to be a burden to others.

We should pray for modest ambition. We should willingly work when we can and provide for the time when we are unable to work. "Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise: Which, having no guide, overseer, or ruler, provideth her meat in the summer, and gathereth her food in the harvest" (Prov. 6:6-8).

As God's people we need to be very careful that we do not overemphasize the material side of life. "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also" (Matt. 6:21). If our treasure is in heaven, our life will reflect God's holy will. Our stewardship should be one which will end with our hearing, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant: ... enter thou into the joy of thy lord" (Matt. 25:21).

OPPORTUNITIES FOR COUPLES

HURRICAN ANDREW PROJECT

During the months of June, July, August and September, there are opportunities for married couples to work with a Mennonite couple in the management of the Project Office. This will be during the time of year when the work teams will be fewer in number, as it is off season for most volunteers.

Couples can volunteer for this duty for a month or more at a time. Only one couple at a time will be

required. This would be a good opportunity for a couple, whose occupations give summers off, such as teachers, or for those that are retired.

Meals and a private bedroom will be furnished. There would be access to the common areas, such as the living room and kitchen.

The project is close enough to the Fort Lauderdale church for commuting to church services.

Anyone interested in this opportunity to serve should contact, Elder Bro. Edward Aeschleman, (302) 478-7846 or Bro. Arnold Gerst (217) 223-8424.

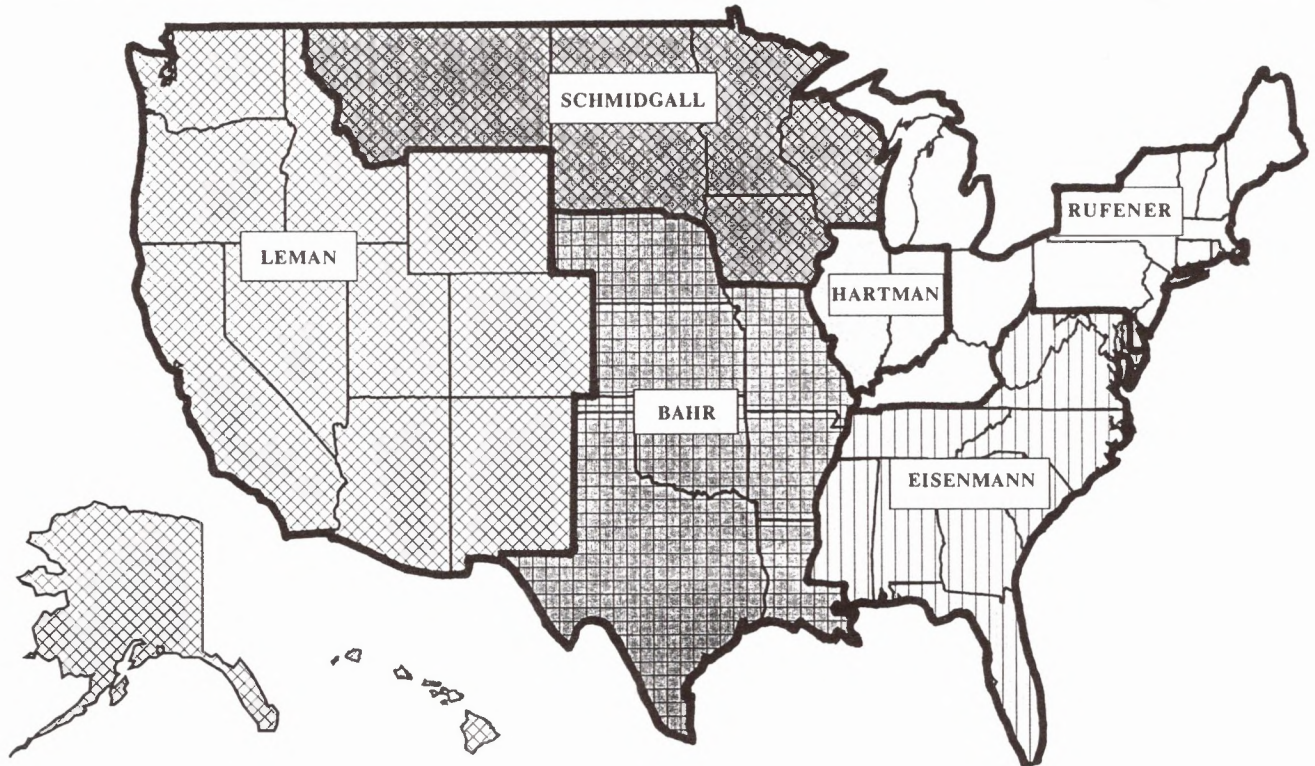
THE ORIGIN OF OUR FAITH IN BUKOVINA, UKRAINE

Submitted by
Bro. Gene Lehman

This is a transcript of an interview with Elder Peter Kartscha of our brethren in Bukovina, Ukraine, taped at his home in November of 1992 by Bro. Gene Lehman. Bro. Peter spoke in Romanian language.

Bukovina belonged to Romania until after World War II, when the USSR annexed the norther part of approximately 3127 square miles. 795,000 people live there, who make their living mostly from agriculture and lumbering in this hilly

WORLD RELIEF COMMITTEE FORMS NEW U.S. BOARD



Recognizing the fact that sometimes needs in our own country arise which exceed the scope of a local congregation, your World Relief Committee has opened an avenue with which to deal with such. They have formed a subcommittee known as the "U.S. Board" for this purpose. Some examples of such circumstances are as follows: Building or renovating an Apostolic Christian Church; assisting in repairing damages resulting from natural disasters; distributing relief assistance to needy groups or individuals through reputable charitable organizations, and so forth.

The current board members are: Bro. Ed. Aeschleman, counseling elder; Bro. Arnie Gerst, chairman; Bros. Orin Rufener (Rittman, OH), David Eisenmann (North Fort Myers, FL), Warren Hartman (Fairbury, IL), Richard Schmidgall (Morris, MN), Mike Leman (Denver, CO) and Willard Bahr (Sabetha, KS). A map is included to show the areas of responsibility for each brother.

Requests for World Relief assistance may be submitted to any of the above brothers, who will in turn review the project and submit it to the World Relief Committee if it meets the established guidelines. They will also assume the responsibility of carrying out the necessary approved actions in an orderly and brotherly manner.

We encourage our brotherhood to make use of this Board whenever the needs arise.

and forested region. Today it is part of Ukraine.

In 1919, a man from the little town of Ostrica in Bukovina worked in Italy. He became acquainted with a brother and sister of the Nazarene faith. (Our brethren are known as Nazarenes in Eastern Europe) He talked to them and found their faith to be good. Prior to this he was not a Christian. He used to attend the Orthodox Church, which did not mean much to him.

He learned that there was the same kind of church in Romania and moved there. It was the present country of Romania, not that part of former Romania which now be-

longs to Ukraine. After some time in Romania, he left for his native Bukovina in Ukraine. He was alone in the faith there without like-minded brothers and sisters, and did not grow in the faith, which led him to return to Romania. There he was baptized. Afterwards he returned to his wife and son in Bukovina.

The only church there was the Orthodox Church, so he was all alone in his faith. He discontinued going to various activities with his wife, such as weddings and other functions. This made her hate and despise him and she told their neighbors he was crazy. Every Sunday he went into a room by himself

at 9 o'clock and held services by himself. He sang songs, read, and preached and prayed all by himself. Once in a while his wife would go by and laugh at him. His children also hated him and did not come home any more and told their friends that something was wrong with him. His wife told his former friends to come and visit him and hear what he had to say. Some of them laughed at him, but some listened to what he said and realized that he was not crazy, but that he had a message. He held morning services and also in the afternoon and some of them who came in the morning returned in the afternoon, and were eventually converted.

Some of his neighbors also started to come to his church services, and the number began to grow and slowly became a church. Even some people from other towns

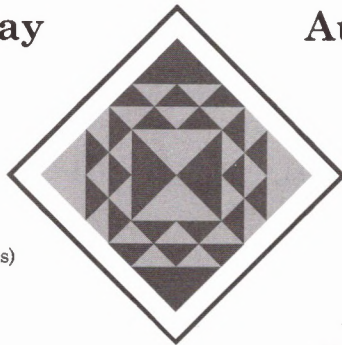
PUBLIC DONATION AUCTION

Saturday

August 7, 1993

— Quilts —

- Skillfully Pieced and Handstitched Quilts
- Crib Quilts
- Comforters
- Afghans
- Pillows
- Many More Quilts (all sizes)



— Crafts —

- Framed Stitchery
- Needlework
- Rag Rugs
- Painted Milk Can
- Painted Sweatshirts
- Plus Much More

— Specialty Items —

- Walking Exerciser
- Monkey Bars
- Large Metal Swing Set
- Many Children's Toys
- Butchered Hog
- Push Lawn Mowers
- John Deere LX176 Lawn Mower 14 hp, 38" deck, hydrostatic



— Hand-Crafted Wood Items —

- Doll Bed
- Dollhouse
- Rocking Horse
- Grandmother Clock
- Oak Silverware Chest
- Oak Doll Dresser/Bed With Canopy
- Free-Standing Oak Corner Cabinet
- More Wooden Items

NEW THIS YEAR

— China, Art and Antiques —

Antiques

- Crock
- Oak Clock
- Bible Stand
- Church Bench
- Wooden Pitch Fork (1850)



China & Art

- China Face Doll/Hand Crocheted With Stand
- Pictures
- Variety of Items

— Timetable of Events —

From	
7:30 a.m.	Meals
7:30 a.m.	Pre-priced Crafts & Bake Sale
8:30 a.m.	Gateway Woods Songs & Devotions
8:45 a.m.	Quilt Auction
10:00 a.m.	Craft Auction
11:00 a.m.	China, Art & Antique Auction
12:00 p.m.	Specialty Items Auction

All Items Are New Except Our Quality Antiques

MASTERCARD OR VISA ACCEPTED

GATEWAY WOODS is located ten miles northeast of Fort Wayne on State Road 1 to Leo, one mile east on Leo-Grabill Road to Klopfenstein Road, then north 1/4 mile. Watch for signs.



GATEWAY WOODS

Apostolic Christian Children's Home

P. O. Box 151
Leo, IN 46765
Phone (219) 627-2159

RIDE THE BUS



Central Illinois bus trip to the Gateway Woods - Apostolic Christian Children's Home Auction and Sale on August 7.

Noah and Evie Herrmann are chartering a bus from Central Illinois for the Children's Home Auction and Sale Saturday, August 7.

The bus will leave Peoria Apostolic Christian fellowship hall Friday, August 6, at approximately 12:30 p.m. and make passenger pick-ups along Route 24 with overnight stay in Fort Wayne at a motel.

The bus will return Saturday, August 7, leaving the Children's Home at 4:00 p.m. The first thirty-eight reservations will be honored. The cost of the bus trip is \$30 per person.

Contact Noah Herrmann, 211 Ostrom Avenue, Princeville, IL 61559, phone: 309-385-4872.

started to come. Some walked to church from as far away as 40 km. The assembly grew to the extent that new quarters were needed and not enough helpers were available. He wrote to the church in Romania, and they sent older members to come and assist him.

They performed the first baptism in the river Prut in 1922. When people started to come from different, more distant, villages, they organized more churches, closer to them, so they did not have to travel so far. Some people had to leave home already Saturday evening to get to church on time for Sunday morning services. After morning services, they would have their meal on the grass and then go back to afternoon services and leave in the evening to return home by Monday morning.

The first man who was a Christian was not well-liked by the other people in town, who were not Christians. Many times when he was on the streets children would run after him and shout, "Christian, Christian!", in a derogatory manner. He would then call them to him and give them money and encourage them to yell it louder. They were put to shame and stopped doing it.

A man lived in town, who belonged to the Orthodox Church, and was very strict. One day he was preparing a dance as a function of

his church. He found a leaflet in the gate of his church which some of the Christian had composed and written by hand. He read a little of it and put it away.

One night he was asleep and heard someone knocking on the window. When he opened, he heard someone calling, "read the entire leaflet". After that people came to his house to go to the dance, which was held outside of his church. He told them he did not want to go anymore, but would rather try the Christian service. They advised him not to go to that service and that they put the cross under the table and stepped on it. He answered, "That could be, but I want to see for myself. If they read from the Bible and state where what they do can be found in the Bible, then I don't think there is anything wrong with it."

When he went to the Christian services, he found that they did not put the cross under the table and step on it. He really liked what he saw and began reading the Bible. Thus people from the Ukrainian population started coming to church. They did not understand the Romanian services, but enjoyed being there. So in this way, God also reached people of Ukrainian descent. In the entire assembly was just one Ukrainian and one Romanian Bible, because at that time, it was difficult to obtain a Bible. The

members in the church were all young and all were later persecuted.

It was not until 1932 that they had their own elder. He did his work diligently and would bring people to church and shortly afterwards they would be ready for baptism.

During World War II, it became more difficult for the church. The borders were closed, and they lost contact with the brethren in Romania. During this time they could only hold services occasionally, not on a regular schedule. They could not hold meetings on Sundays, which was forbidden. They had to meet evenings or nights. When some of the Romanian elders were able to come, they held communion services. The police arrived and put them in jail. They had to pay a high penalty to be released and later collected offerings to pay the police. They led away 3 or 4 people at a time. They were kicked by the police and beaten badly with sticks so that they wished they could go to jail to get away from the police.

In one congregation was a deacon. He and his mother were the only believers. His wife and children were against him. Several times the police, judge, and party

PLEASE PRAY ABOUT THIS SINGLE SISTER AND HOUSEPARENT COUPLE NEEDED AT GATEWAY WOODS

Houseparents are the very core of our program for the troubled children. Without these committed workers, we really have no program and our children have no one to be their mother and father figures. A single sister is needed for the team in our All-Girls East House, while an opening for a married couple is in the New House. We are trusting that mature individuals will respond to our urgent need and to the Lord's leading to be parents to teens who need Godly love and guidance. The work is challenging, rewarding and inspiring.

Please contact one of the brothers listed below to learn more about qualifications, training, competitive salaries and excellent benefits.

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

GATEWAY WOODS HUMAN SERVICES SCHOLARSHIPS

Gateway Woods - Apostolic Christian Children's Home is offering \$1,000 scholarships to students enrolled in undergraduate or post-graduate work leading to a degree in the human services field. The scholarship is available to any member of the Apostolic Christian Church or friend who attends on a regular basis. A description of the scholarship and an application are available by writing or calling Joanne Gerber or Tim Sauder. Applications need to be returned by August 1, 1993.

Gateway Woods
P. O. Box 151
Leo, IN 46765
219/627-2159

— NOTICE —

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

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

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

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

or

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

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN BIBLE DISTRIBUTION

Bibles Distributed By Our Churches

First Year — August 1983 thru July 1984 —	13,890
Second Year — August 1984 thru July 1985 —	10,812
Third Year — August 1985 thru July 1986 —	18,247
Fourth Year — August 1986 thru July 1987 —	23,048
Fifth Year — August 1987 thru July 1988 —	25,969
Sixth Year — August 1988 thru July 1989 —	25,509
Seventh Year — August 1989 thru July 1990 —	25,501
Eighth Year — August 1990 thru July 1991 —	32,677
Ninth Year — August 1991 thru July 1992 —	39,608

Bibles Distributed — Tenth Year

	MONTH	TO DATE
August 1992 —	3670	3670
September 1992 —	3304	6974
October 1992 —	4238	11,212
November 1992 —	3913	15,125
December 1992 —	4629	19,754
January 1993 —	2419	22,173
February 1993 —	2792	24,965
March 1993 —	3657	28,622
April 1993 —	2649	31,271
May 1993 —	2941	34,212
June 1993 —	3547	37,759

*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.

NOTICE

Due to the lack of requests for "Zion's Harp," "Hymns of Zion" and other hymn books, we ask that you **not** send us these until our surplus is used up. We'll submit a NOTICE when we need more. However, continue to send us your used Bibles which are greatly needed and appreciated.

Thank you,
Phil and Gloria Grant

secretary came to his house to tell him he was wrong and considered himself to be better than other people. But he held fast to his faith. They wanted to put him to death and he told them that Moses commanded, "Thou shalt not kill." But they condemned him to death and sent him a letter to tell him to come to the police station at a certain time one night. He said to his mother, "No, I'll go this afternoon and shall not wait until tonight." When he arrived there, the group was already present, the police, judge, and party secretary. When he knocked at the door, they said: "Oh, you are too early. don't come now. You are supposed to come at 9 o'clock tonight." After having said that, they called him back and said, "Don't leave now, we can do the job now." They led him out and got a soldier to come with him and put him against the wall. He then

HAITI COORDINATORS

We are seeking a couple or two brothers to help with the Haiti Projects for the season of November 1993 through March 1994.

This work will include helping Bob Stewart on the school roof projects, assisting our teams that are working on construction, water projects, trade school projects, in transporting them and general assistance to make the teams stay in Haiti a pleasant experience.

Room, board, transportation and compensation will be paid.

For information or to apply, please contact Bro. Roger Sauder, Caribbean Board, 6261 S.W. 5th Street, Plantation, FL 33317, phone (305) 584-0947.

"And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

St. Matthew 25:40

raised his hand and they asked him, "What's the matter, do you want to give yourself up?" But he replied, "No, I want to pray with you one time before you shoot me." They talked about it, and said, "All right we will let you pray." So he knelt down and prayed, "Lord, please forgive them for they don't know what they are doing." After that he told the soldier to shoot him. Then the person who had condemned him said, "Wait, don't shoot!" After he had called his name, he said, "Go home."

The soldier said he couldn't feel his hands any more during the prayer and it felt as if he were paralyzed, and he remained in that state from then on. Then the man went home to his mother and had no problem with the police any more from then on.

When the Romanian elders were unable to come any longer, they decided to choose elders for themselves. They placed slips of paper in a basket, as many slips as there were brothers present. One slip had a mark on it. The brother who drew the slip with the mark started to cry and said, "I have a big family of 12 children. I have many temptation and a hard job. I have a lot of problems, I can't accept this!" But the told him they did not choose him, God had spoken. So this

brother did his work as elder. Gradually the task became too much for him and they followed the same procedure to choose an additional brother. Like the first brother, he did not want this office at first. He said, "No, I have a large family and lots of difficulties". But in the end he took the office.

Later he had the opportunity to travel to Romania and while there the elders gave him the oversight over all the work in Bukovina. This took place in 1970. These two brothers then had the leadership of the churches and worked together until 1984.

At that time Bro. Pavlovici told the membership that he felt sick and did not believe he would be with them much longer. He called the deacons to his house and told them to choose two of them for the eldership to replace himself and the other elder. The two brothers were not the oldest of the group and unsure whether they could accept. But he said that they have been chosen and it should stay that way. Then they called the churches together and had a large service and announced these selections to them.

Now the deacons are selected differently than in the beginning with a slip of paper. They inform the churches of the need for deacons and the churches suggest brothers. Then they talk to their relatives and ask them of their conduct at home, what they are like, etc. If more than one brother is chosen by the church, they will determine among themselves who should serve. Then they talk personally with his wife to see whether she is ready to have him accept the extra duties, become more busy and whether she can support him. If the determination is positive, he will become the next deacon.

In one of the congregation were two women, one of whom was not a believer. Her husband had been a member, but he died and left her with three children living under bad circumstances in a bad house. She later became a believer and today she has been 50 years in the faith. One of her daughters is unconverted and involved in a bad marriage. Her husband is questionable, but he had been to church a

few times. Her other daughter, a believer, had a poor house with a leaky roof in the village. Her mother moved in with her so they could be together and did not have to live in separate dwellings. Sometimes the brothers and sisters of the church met there. They had no heat and it was really cold in the winter. When the church people saw this poor house, they decided to build a new house for them. It did not cost them anything as they did the work themselves. When the two women went to their new home and saw how nice and warm it was, they started to cry for happiness.

The churches all have Sunday schools and sometimes the children meet during the week to learn hymns.

Article translated from the Romanian tape by Ference and Ruth Davidovics (Peoria, IL).

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

We have several different means of meeting our residents' need to worship on Sundays! Every Sunday morning residents choosing to participate join one of four Bible classes. Two of these classes are held here at ACHH, one at the Morton church and the other at the Washington church. Although staff teach the classes here at ACHH, a team of volunteer brothers and sisters teach the classes at the churches. We have been so thankful for these brethren who have been willing to incorporate our developmentally disabled friends into their congregations. In fact, many Bible class teachers have indicated they have been recipients of blessings and much learning because of their involvement.

An author once stated: "I have learned more about the Gospels from handicapped people, those on the margins of our society, those who have been crushed and hurt, than I have from the wise and the prudent. Through their own growth and acceptance and surrender, wounded people have taught me that I must learn to accept my weakness and not pretend to be strong and capable. Handicapped

HELP! HELP! HELP!

We have a great need of volunteers to help out at the Pre-school this summer. We expect to have a fairly full enrollment and between staff vacations and catch-up time to get ready for the new school year, we will need any help you can give. There is also a need for some painting and repair work. **Anyone** who would be interested in coming to Athens to give of their time and talents, for any length of time, is encouraged to call Sis. Joan Reinhard at 205-233-0591, or write to Route 11, Box 333, Athens, AL 35611, for more information. We greatly appreciate your willingness to be used in the Lord's fields.

people have shown me how handicapped I am, how handicapped we all are. They have reminded me that we are all weak and all called to death and that these are the realities of which we are most afraid. They have shown me how much I need Jesus the Healer." These statements motivate us to look to Jesus' character and His response to individuals who are less than what society expects. Here is another article that was discovered that may express this best:

JESUS' KIND OF PEOPLE

In the Biblical record of the life of Jesus, we have only two occasions mentioned when Jesus actually spent the night in Jerusalem: 1) when He went before the elders at age 12 (Luke 2:42-49), 2) and the night of His trial (Luke 22 and 23). On all the other occasions that Jesus was in Jerusalem, He would walk across the Mount of Olives in the evening and spend His nights in the homes of His friends in Bethany, the community two miles southeast of Jerusalem (John 12:1).

Bethany was the city where those who had incurable diseases or afflictions lived. They and their families were not allowed to live in Jerusalem as a method of quarantining diseases. As time went along, this method of quarantine became a method of keeping the "imperfect" out of the mainstream of society.

As we fellowship with the disabled community, we are among Jesus' kind of people.

August birthdays at ACHH are: Dan McDonough (2), Eric Ringwald (4), Susie Landis and Peggy Full (5), Martha Clymer (6), Nancy Eschmann (12), Shirley Pfeifer (23), Barbara Perkins (30). There are no August birthdays for our other facilities.

GATEWAY WOODS Apostolic Christian Children's Home Joanne Gerber

When children have had a discouraging day, houseparents will sometimes respond with a simple phrase, "attitude check." The chil-

dren all know what that means! I have even heard the children tell one of the adults "attitude check." Whether we are young or old, living at Gateway woods or overseas, in school or working, we all need to have "attitude checks." They give us a chance to evaluate where we are standing in light of God's Word. Unfortunately, we all fall short of the mark. Ask yourself a few questions, do I . . .

. . . give thanks in everything? (Philippians 4:6)

. . . have the mind of Christ? (Philippians 2:5)

. . . think on honest, pure, just, lovely things? (Philippians 4:8)

We need to strive to have the willing, submissive attitude that Christ had when He prayed "not my will but Thine."

We are thankful for God's protection while our houses travelled on their annual vacations. East House went to St. Louis, MO, West House went to Florida and New House went to Colorado. Thanks to everyone who donated money, care packages, meals and lodging to make these trips possible. God bless you!

Vacation Bible School has been in full swing at Leo church. Several of our children are involved and really enjoyed the pleasant two weeks. The topic was "Of all creatures great and small, God loves you most of all."

"Many hands make light work" is a true phrase around the Home. We are especially grateful to the many volunteers who have helped this past month: Bro. Matt Ackerman (Morton, IL), Bro. James Washburn (Francesville), Sis. Lu Ann Eisenmann and Sis. Tammy Zimmerman (Chicago, IL), Sis. Kara Menold (Princeville, IL) and Sis. Jenny Schmidgall (Morris, MN). We also had several volunteers from Rittman who installed carpeting and from Leo and Bluffton who helped with the landscaping at the new Social Services building. The Leo young group also volunteered an evening to clean the building after the construction was finished.

Please continue to pray for us. We currently have staff openings for a single sister as a houseparent

in the All-Girls House, a houseparent couple for the New House, and a teacher as the Education Coordinator. Remember the parable of the talents? God gave to each person according to his/her ability. If God is calling you, answer like Samuel, "Speak; for thy servant heareth." (I Samuel 3:10) Please see the ads in this issue.

Gateway Woods has begun a scholarship fund for students enrolled in undergraduate or post-graduate work leading to a degree in the human services field. We will be giving two \$1000 scholarships for the 1993-94 school year. There are a few criteria that must be met in order to qualify. Please contact Joanne Gerber or Tim Sauder at the Gateway Woods office if you are interested. Applications need to be returned by August 1, 1993.

ALABAMA, ATHENS

Lisa Huette

Summer has arrived here in Athens with a blast of hot weather. The above average temperatures and dry weather make us just that much more thankful when God waters the earth with His cool, refreshing rains.

"Praise ye the Lord. Praise the Lord, O my soul. While I live will I praise the Lord: I will sing praises unto my God while I have any being."

Psalm 146:1-2

Memorial Day weekend was once again a highlight in our summer activities here in Athens. Approximately 400 people gathered at the Tennessee fellowship area for a blessed afternoon and evening of song and worship of our great God. Sunday morning, Athens' church was filled to overflowing prior to our gathering in Tennessee. It was special to witness those who used their talent of song to praise God, throughout the weekend. Thirty-one churches were represented, and we'd like to sincerely thank all those who made the effort to participate. We'd especially like to thank our ministering brothers for lending themselves. Those

present were Elder Bros. David Bertsch (Leo, IN), Chuck Hemmer (Peoria, IL), Darrell Klopfenstein (Fort Lauderdale, FL), as well as our own Elder Bro. Lavoyd Moore. Ministering brothers present were Kent Heimer (Taylor, MO), Dennis Kauffman (Bloomington, IL), Andy Moser (Valparaiso, IN), Jack Bollier (Leo, IN) and Paul Gasser (Akron, OH). We'd also like for all who are interested in the Tennessee fellowship area to provide input as to future dates for singings (i.e. Fourth of July, Labor Day, etc.). Volunteers are also needed for future work projects at the Tennessee fellowship area. Please contact Elder Bro. Lavoyd Moore if you are interested in assisting in any way. Once again, we'd like to thank all of those who participated and made it a special weekend for everyone.

ARIZONA, PHOENIX
Ron and Ev Hoerr

"Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine."

I Timothy 4:13

Bro. Allen Stoller (Bluffton, IN) filled our hungry appetites with God's Word. We are grateful also to Bro. Howard Plattner (Alto, MI).

Once again the Lord is leading a dear family from Phoenix. "Where He leads me, I will follow." Bro. Ed, Sis. Shirley and Scott Zollinger are moving to Oregon. With prayers in our hearts, may God watch over all of us. Love and memories are priceless and His blessings endure forever.

The second week of June is Vacation Bible School. Amongst all the activities, our visiting ministers will be Bro. Howard Plattner (Alto, MI), Bro. Peter Petrovic (San Diego, CA) and Bro. Jaye Rinkenberger (Goodfield, IL). God's little ones will let us know what they learned in a special program.

A reception for our graduates was held June 6.

Bro. Chuck and Sis. Marie Kieser will travel to Pittsboro, NC for their son's wedding. Dwight Kieser and Kathryn Ott will be married June 19. Her parents are

James and Sally Ott (Chapel Hill, NC). God bless the newlyweds as they make their home in Atlanta, GA.

Bro. Steve Freed will be on a three-month work assignment in Malaysia.

Mackenzie Ryan Pamer was born May 29 to Bill and Betty Pamer. We rejoice with William, Aden, Tyler and Rachel watching little Kenzie coo and wiggle himself into our hearts.

Our sympathy to Bro. Dick and Sis. Marie Beery on sister, Sis. Donna Young's, death. They went to Rittman, OH, for services.

Congratulations to Bro. Gordon and Sis. Emily Greenbank on May 5 birth of their granddaughter, Julie Ann. Sis. Janice and Bro. John Rufener (Rittman, OH) are her parents.

Christian experience is going in you, not around you, and life is great.

Our hospital patients were Sis. Doris Kokanovich and Sis. Lindy Knochel, both surgical. May they feel that special closeness in their hour of need.

Our bird friends are numerous since we've had cooler weather. The morning after 109°, before day-break, an owl was giving a "hoot." There is no end of delights to enjoy - an Inca dove sitting on a nest in the fork of our eucalyptus tree, lizards racing on the fence, fluttering butterflies - and our Lord made them all!

ARIZONA, TUCSON
Lisa Knapp

We are pleased to report the engagement of our deacon Bro. Loren Knapp to Sis. Joan Reutter (Rockville, CT). A July 25 wedding is being planned. We are anxious to welcome Sis. Joan to our congregation and get to know her better. May the Lord richly bless this union as they begin their life together.

We held our Vacation Bible School recently with our theme being "Stepping in the Light." We had a good turnout with quite a few visitors on hand. Everyone present agreed that the blessings were abundant!

We are having "summer" early. It's only June 15 and already we are having triple digit temperatures. Today it was 111°

CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA
Carol Graf

Bro. Gene Metzger (Lester, IA) was a visiting minister this month. We appreciate his willingness to serve us.

Recently, I was looking in the most recent church and minister directory, and I noticed that much of the information for Altadena is incorrect. The area code for our phone number has changed, so the phone number should read: (818) 798-5214. Also, since we moved into our new church we have changed the times of our services. Sunday morning singing begins at 10:15 PST/PDT and the first service begins at 10:30. The second service begins with singing at 12:30 and the sermon starts at 12:45. We begin singing on Wednesday evening at 7:45 and the service begins at 8:00. Finally, although our new church building is in the same place as the old one, our address has been changed. It now is 736 E. Calaveras.

We have three graduates this year. Two of them graduated from California State Polytechnic Universities. Bro. Ben Aberle graduated from the campus at San Luis Obispo, and Bro. Dave Klotzle graduated from the campus at Pomona. Our prayers are with Bro. Ben as he will begin looking for a job in his field. We are thankful that God has provided Bro. Dave with a job in our area. Also, Sis. Lisa Steiner received her Master's degree in Social Work from the University of Southern California and has begun working with an agency which deals with foster children and their families.

Sis. Lori Martin has finished her schooling and is returning to her home in Princeville, IL. It has truly been a blessing to have her with us for the last three months, and she will be missed. We wish her God's blessings as she takes a job in Peoria, IL.

CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO
Marian Petrovic

It was our privilege to host the Altadena church June 26 and 27 for a blessed weekend of Christian fellowship.

We're thankful for the dear brothers who share God's Holy Word with us. Visiting ministers were Elder Bro. John Klotzle and Bro. Glen Hackenjos (both from Altadena). As Altadena is our closest church, the ministers from there are often called to help out in our San Diego church. We take this opportunity to sincerely thank them for always being so willing to come and serve us.

Sis. Esther Bozzay has recently relocated here from Chicago, IL. We welcome her to our fellowship and pray that the Lord will bless her move and all her future endeavors.

Congratulations to our eighth grade graduate, Sherise Holbert (Bill and Barbara Holbert)! We wish Sherise God's abundant blessings and may she look to Him for direction in all her paths.

COLORADO, DENVER
Eric and Marcel Huber

Elder Bro. Charles Sinn (Fort Scott, KS) assisted Bro. Tom Leman in reading the memorandum from the past brotherhood conference to our congregation. We appreciate his willingness to give of his time.

We welcome a new sister and a new brother-in-faith into our fellowship. Sis. Kristi Kellenberger (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Shirley) gave her testimony and was baptized in Lester, IA. Bro. John Elder testified of his faith and was baptized June 13. We thank Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen for his presence.

Elections for Sunday school teachers were held in May. Sis. Beth Ann Martin and Bro. Eric Huber were chosen to replace Sis. Barb Baer and Bro. Verne Leman. We thank Sis. Barb and Bro. Verne for their years of service.

We extend a welcome to Dwayne and Ann Wulf and Bro. Glen and Sis. Lorene Anliker. Both couples have moved to Colorado.

Visiting ministers serving us during the past month were Bro.

Allen Stoller (Bluffton, IN), Elder Bro. Robert Walder (Congerville, IL) and Bro. Earl Ringger (Gridley, IL).

Jennifer Ebert (Bro. Tom and Sis. Diane) has graduated from high school. We wish her God's guidance as she opens a new chapter in her life.

CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE
Michelle Virkler

"Bless me now, Loving Jesus;
 Bless me now!
 Do anoint me with Thy pardon;
 On life's pathway be my guardian;
 More and more, oh, let me be
 Joy and honor, Lord to Thee.

Carry me, Faithful Shepherd;
 Carry me,
 As Thy lamb in Thy compassion,
 In Thy arms with Shepherd
 fashion.
 In faith I on Thee rely;
 Bear me to Thy home on high."
 Zion's Harp #152

"... And I will lead the blind in a way that they now not, in paths that they have not known into light, the rough places into level ground. These are the things I will do, and I will not forsake them."

Isaiah 42:16

Eighteen of our dear children have graduated from high school and will now enter into a new path of life. Our prayers will be that God will always keep them in His arms of protection and guidance and they may come to know Him in His time: Shannon Ellert, Jennifer Hany, Paul Hany, Bridgette Humphries, Jessica Kloter, Grant Kupferschmid, Ben Lanz, Rachael Leite, Damian Ludwig, Janelle Luginbuhl, Mary Elizabeth Luginbuhl, Naomi Luginbuhl, Justin Moser, Nathan Reutter, Holly Schamback, Keely Zahner, Michael Zahner and Nathan Zahner.

"IN HIS TIME"

I wait on God to bring to pass all
 He has promised me,
 and as I wait I rest in faith in
 what I cannot see.

For in His way, He will provide at just the perfect time everything that's good and right to bless this life of mine.

Roy Lessin, author

"Love of all gifts, is the greatest
 Which the Spirit does bestow
 Though I had a voice like angels,
 Lacking love, I truly know
 That I'd be a tinkling cymbal
 Or a wretched sounding brass;
 For although the sound were
 present

Lifeless through this world I'd
 pass.

Zion's Harp #37

Sis. Joan Reutter is engaged to Bro. Loren Knapp (ordained deacon, Tucson, AZ) and will be married July 25.

Those ministers able to visit with us during the month were Bros. Earl Beery (Rittman, OH) and Andy Virkler (Croghan/Naumburg, NY). We thank them for their efforts to be with us and to labor in the Lord's house.

"Be strong and of good courage, do not fear or be in dread of them: for it is the Lord your God who goes with you; he will not fail you or forsake you."

Deuteronomy 31:6

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,
WASHINGTON
Henrietta Meyer

We rejoice with Bro. Matthew and Sis. Jennifer (Kellenberger) Mangold on their marriage May 30 in South Bend, IN. Their parents are Mark Kellenberger (North Carolina), Sis. Diane Kellenberger (Morris, MN) and Mike and Sis. Renee Mangold (South Bend, IN).

Ministers this past month were Elder Bro. Ed Aeschleman (Philadelphia, PA), Bro. Jim Ramseyer (Bay City, MI), Bro. Chris Huber (Francesville, IN) and Elder Bro. Curt Frank (LaCrosse, IN). Other visitors have been from Rockville, CT, Akron and Mansfield, OH, Gridley, Forrest, Peoria, Morton and Elgin, IL, Philadelphia and York, PA and Huntington, WV. We are so thankful for all who include

our congregation in their vacation plans.

We will not meet in our regular location August 1! Please contact one of the brothers listed below for information on location. While we do not have scheduled services the second and fifth Sundays of the month, we often gather in a home, especially if there are visitors in town, so please call. This was the case in June when we gathered at Bro. Matthew and Sis. Jill Aeschleman's home.

Services are held the first, third and fourth Sundays of each month at Tyson's Westpark Hotel on Route 7, about one mile west of the Beltway (I-495). Many from the area meet for breakfast in the hotel dining room at 9:00 a.m. Services are at 10:30 and 12:30. For more information, assistance or just to let us know you will be in the area, please call Bro. Matthew Aeschleman (301) 863-9624 or bro. Matt Fetter (703) 860-5749.

FLORIDA, FT. LAUDERDALE Caroline Hejja

We are rejoicing along with the angels in heaven as Christy Sutter (Bro. Richard and Sis. Kathy Sutter) has made known her desire to live the rest of her life for the Lord. Our prayer is that still more hearts will be touched and open up to the Lord's knocking.

Several of our members have been asked to serve in various capacities during our recent elections. The efforts of each one are so appreciated, because when everyone carries out his responsibilities "as unto the Lord" it makes for a more smoothly-running church for all. (Colossians 3:23) Bro. Jonathan Sutter will be teaching Sunday school, and Bro. Peter Green will serve as trustee. Bro. Aaron Webb will take over the responsibilities of running our sound system. We're sure Bro. Bill Kuntz will make all feel welcome as usher, while his wife, Joan, heads the kitchen committee. We are looking to Bro. Mike Hohulin to serve as Sunday school superintendent during the next school year.

Sis. Joyce Trowel recently underwent heart surgery involving

five bypasses. We are thankful to hear that she is now at home and recovering very well. The name "Joyce" has been whispered many times in the prayers of our church members.

We welcome home Lisa Green (Bro. Peter and Sis. Claudia Green) and congratulate her on successfully completing her training in chiropractic school in Atlanta, GA. God has provided her with a position back here in the Fort Lauderdale area.

A number of our families and young people visited "Jungle Larry Safari" where they spent the day with a group from the Sarasota and North Fort Myers churches. Those who went seemed to enjoy the informative animal programs and the good Christian fellowship.

FLORIDA, NORTH FT. MYERS Marvin and Rhea Steffen

"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

II Chronicles 7:14

Doesn't the promise God made to the nation of Israel a few thousand years ago seem to be the most desperately needed in this nation we live in today? We, as God's children, must never give way to feeling hopelessness for our country as we watch it decline rapidly. Much can be accomplished by the sincere prayers of God's people . . . "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." (James 5:16)

Our visiting ministers this month were Bros. William Gudeman (Elgin, IL) and Richard Sutter (Fort Lauderdale). We thank them and their families for sharing with us. It is wonderful the way all ministers in our churches travel to support one another in His work.

Ralph and Jeanette Yergler have had a rough bout with the flu for three weeks, and we look forward to their return to health and our congregation.

Bro. David Eisenmann is the Zone Coordinator for World Relief in the following states: Maryland, South Carolina, North Carolina, West Virginia, Virginia, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi and Tennessee. He was appointed by our U.S. board for World Relief, and will be responsible for the overall coordination of projects within his zone.

Our Sunday school got together with Sarasota's and Fort Lauderdale's Sunday schools for a day in Jungle Larry's Zoological Park in Naples June 12. The children really seemed to enjoy the day, and we thank all who traveled to be with us. It is so important for our children to be able to spend time with others that have been taught like values and beliefs.

Once again we want to thank each and every one for the gifts of love to our family during the 7 1/2 years of our beloved Dathan's battle with cancer. Dathan taught us all so much about enduring, and patience, and accepting what cannot be changed. He had a real love for His Lord and was never bitter. So may we strive to be more like him, always trusting that "God knows best." Our loss is heaven's gain. We thank you all from the bottom of our hearts for all your deeds of kindness and love.

The Eisenmann family

FLORIDA, SARASOTA Lorane Martin - Gala Gerber

We rejoiced with Sis. Kristine Price and Bro. Kevin Kreiger as they were wed in holy matrimony May 30. We wish them both God's blessings in their new life together. Just as Ruth was willing to follow the divine call of her God, we bid farewell to our dear Sis. Paulette Feucht as she has returned to Lester, IA, to prepare for her wedding in July. We will miss Sis. Paulette in our small congregation but wish her and Bro. Gary Sinn the very best as they too become as one-in-the-Lord.

A special thanks to our visiting ministers, Elder Bro. Ben Maibach, Bros. Brian Webb and Richard Sutter (Fort Lauderdale) and Bro. Al Langhofer (Wichita, KS).

Our prayers are with those who have recently had surgery; Bro. Rich Martin with eye surgery and Bro. Ed Alt who had emergency open heart surgery while visiting Sarasota for their daughter's wedding. We wish them both God's grace and strength as they recover.

GEORGIA, ATLANTA
John Brewer

In a small congregation, a family or a single person would settle in that area to start a new chapter of their life and these new transplants to the congregation are as pure gold to us in the community and are welcomed with open arms. When they move on to new areas or just back to their hometown, a piece of the congregation's heart goes with them. God is always faithful to mend and replace that missing piece, even though we do suffer the initial pain of that brother or sister leaving. The pain felt is good in the long run though, for it signals that you have gained a brother, a sister, and a friend. This brother, sister, and friend might be gone physically, but spiritually you know they are with you forever.

In the past month our congregation has said good-bye to those irreplaceable friends. Bro. Jeff and Sis. Robin Steffen and their family have moved back to St. Louis, MO, after their six-month stint here. Even after getting to know them only after a short period of time, they will be missed immensely.

Sis. Lisa Green has completed her education in chiropractics and has moved back to Fort Lauderdale, FL. For the past four years she has been a special friend to all of us here and will be missed just as immensely.

Our prayer is that wherever God leads, Jeff, Robin and Lisa will be just as much of a blessing where they reside now as they were in our congregation.

We were blessed to have the following ministers visit us, Elder Bro. Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI), Bro. Bob Pflederer (Morton, IL), Bro. Ken Wuethrich (Indianapolis, IN) and Bro. Neal Widmer (Wolcott, IN). It is a blessing to have the Word preached from a variety of minis-

ters, and so much is learned when the expound on the Word.

Services are held every Sunday at the Ramada Renaissance starting with the song service at 10:20. The hotel is located off I-85 on Riverdale Road, just south of the Atlanta Hartsfield Airport. If you are coming to this area on vacation or business and have more questions, don't hesitate to call either Linn Stoller (404-631-4554), Don Sellers (404-381-1395) or myself (404-591-5432).

ILLINOIS, BELVIDERE
Peg Anliker

We are thankful for God's Word and those who serve us. Our thanks to Bros. Ron Schambach (Elgin, IL), Todd Feller (LaCrosse, IN) and Harold Schmidgall (Eureka, IL). We appreciate their willingness to minister, as well as our own Bro. Dean, who sometimes stands alone. We know God is with him though.

Jason Kupferschmid, originally from Eureka, IL, is working in Rockford for the summer. We are glad to have him assemble with us.

Our eighth grade graduates are Austin Mueller (Bro. Art and Sis. Marlene) and Alisha McCoy (Dave and Sis. Sheila).

On June 5, we gathered for the reading of the memorandum. Elder Bro. Nate Steffen and Bro. Ron Schambach (both of Elgin, IL) brought forth the exhortations.

"In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." (I Thessalonians 5:18) We hope that during the week of Vacation Bible School, all can learn this verse and more about our loving Savior. The children will probably remember one night especially, as there were tornado warning sirens and the children sat under the lunch tables singing.

Elder Bro. Nate Steffen was present the night of our business meeting. Sis. Carol Steffen replaces Sis. Millie Jepson in the second - fourth grade Sunday school class. Bro. Dirk Steffen replaces Bro. Bill Schifferer in the junior Bible class. Bro. Dave Jepson replaces Bro. Art Mueller in the adult Sunday school class. Bro. Mark Wettstein replaces

Bro. Dave Jepson as trustee. Sis. Peg Anliker replace Sis. Carol Steffen as Silver Lining reporter. We appreciate those who have so faithfully carried out their duties. May God bless you. And may those newly-elected trust Him to help them in their new responsibilities.

ILLINOIS,
BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL
Debbie Grieco - Tudy Schmied

The past month has been a busy one for our Bloomington-Normal congregation. It began with the reading of the memorandum May 19 by Elder Bros. Joe Braker (Morton, IL) and Dan Koch (Tremont, IL).

We had reason to rejoice as we welcomed Matt Knapp (Bro. Charlie and Sis. Paula) and James Kieser (Bro. Robert and Sis. Laura) into our midst as brothers-in-faith. We witnessed their testimonies May 22 and their baptisms May 23. Elder Bro. Dan Koch (Tremont, IL) was assisted by Bro. Dave Wiegand (Champaign, IL) in the ceremonies. Isn't it comforting to realize that the same Holy Spirit who came upon Jewish believers at Pentecost and upon Gentile believers in the house of Cornelius is now dwelling in each of these dear brothers? The same Spirit that indwells in these new believers also dwells the most mature believer.

A group from Bloomington traveled over the Memorial Day weekend to the annual Tennessee fellowship day sponsored by the Athens, AL, church. Those who attended reported great spiritual blessing received from the singing, the message and the fellowship. The moving of the Holy Spirit was evident in their midst!

The dates of our Vacation Bible School were June 7 - 11. The theme "Are You Ready For Battle?" revolved around Ephesians 6:10-17 describing the armour of God. "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil." (Ephesians 6:10-11) Do you live your Christian life here on earth focusing only on what can be seen?

Or, do you live always aware that there is an unseen, but just as real, spiritual plain on which we also interact? "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." (Ephesians 6:12) Then we are shown a vivid picture of God's saints going out to battle equipped with truth, righteousness, the Gospel, faith, the promise of salvation through Jesus and the guidance of the Holy Spirit. "Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God." (Ephesians 6:14-17)

A large tent was set up on church grounds and that was where the children began their evening with singing, stories and prayer. They heard how to use a different part of God's armour in practical terms each evening. They then were dismissed to their classrooms for the remainder of the evening. Meanwhile, the Bible class and adults were treated to the inspirational message of a visiting minister in the sanctuary each evening. These willing servants were Elder Bros. Edwin Ringger (Gridley, IL) and Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL) and Bros. Rick Plattner (Peoria, IL), Steve Baner (Gridley, IL) and John Stoller (Leo, IN). We truly appreciate the sacrifice in time and energy these dear brothers make as they minister so willingly to us. We also were blessed in hearing a guest singing group each night. These included the "Mortonaires," a group from Washington, IL, "A Joyful Life," the Meister family from Peoria and a group from Bloomington-Normal. Each of these groups had a special music ministry to uplift and encourage those in attendance.

Bro. Clyde and Sis. Charlene Knobloch are happy to announce the engagement of their daughter, Leigh, to Mike Bowen. His parents are Gerald and Josaphine Bowen of E. Peoria. We wish this couple the Lord's wisdom and his blessing as they prepare for their life together.

Bro. Clyde Knobloch was saddened at the passing of his mother, Sis. Irieda Knobloch (Lester, IA) but rejoice that she could be released from her earthly suffering into the arms of our heavenly Father.

Brendon Nussbaum (Bro. Brent and Sis. Cheryl) was hospitalized and in traction for two weeks this month for a broken femur. He now is in a partial body cast for about five weeks but is able to stay at home during this time. He and his parents no doubt would appreciate prayers for speedy and complete healing as well as for patience and comfort in times of frustration and discomfort.

We were blessed at the end of this reporting period with yet one more visiting minister, Bro. Kurt Heimer (Alto, MI). We thank the Lord for his message and for his and his family's safety in their travels.

ILLINOIS, BRADFORD

Les and Barb Fehr

"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) We rejoice with Sis. Joan Leman (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Jane) and Bro. Richard Meyer (Bro. Eli and Sis. Lois, Sabetha, KS) who recently were joined in holy matrimony.

We are very grateful that our heavenly Father is still calling souls from this world of sin and darkness into a new life of peace and happiness. Jennifer Pyles (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Becky), Kara Leman (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Jane) and Emily Slutz (Richard and Marilyn) have turned their back to this world and started on the path towards the heavenly kingdom.

Our high school graduates this year are Rachel Knobloch (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Dianne) and Emily

Slutz (Richard and Marilyn). We wish them God's guidance in their future plans.

During the last month our visiting ministers were Elder Bros. Eugene Marti (Kansas City, MO), Joe Stoller (Princeville, IL), Sam Huber (Sabetha, KS) and Bros. Galen Rokey (Bern, KS) and Hartzell Kaisner (Detroit, MI). We want to thank these brothers for their labors of love in bringing us the Word of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Alan and Mark Ann Knobloch were blessed with a precious little one. Kendra Marie, born May 20, was welcomed home by her two older sisters, Raquel and Kalla. Kendra's grandparents are (Bro. Ed and Sis. Verla Ehnle) and (Bro. Ed and Sis. Frances Knobloch, Princeville).

Our apologies for forgetting to report the marriage of Bro. David Duckworth and Sis. Dawn Harris (Roanoke). David is the son of Bro. Don and Sis. Delores Duckworth and Dawn's parents are Mike and Linda Harris. We welcome Dawn to Bradford.

ILLINOIS, CHAMPAIGN

Margie Heintz

"Charity suffereth long, and is kind; . . . beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. Charity never faileth." (I Corinthians 13:4, 7, 8) We rejoice with two young couples who have recently committed themselves to one another in the love of our Lord Jesus Christ. On May 15, Ellie Blunier (Bro. Ben and Sis. Wilma) married Rick Paulson in Aitkin, MN, where they will make their home. And on June 6, Bro. Dean Kaisner and Sis. Amy Unsicker were married in Peoria, IL. They will be establishing their home in Champaign for which we feel thankful. Our congratulations and prayers for God's blessings are extended to both couples.

We were blessed as we listened to the testimony of Lorelie Broquard (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Roberta) as she related how the Holy Spirit has worked in her life. We were thankful that Elder Bro. Art Bahler (Fairbury) could share

in the testimony and baptismal services. We also give thanks to Jim Rinkenberger (Bluffton, IN) for his recent ministry to us.

Bro. Dan Schlatter has now been released from the hospital following his hip surgery. He has asked for his thanks to be relayed to all who remembered him during his hospital stay. As I'm sure he would still appreciate your thoughtfulness, his present address is as follows: The Inman Retirement Community, 17 East University Avenue, Champaign, IL 61820.

The Vacation Bible School theme this year was "Put on the Whole Armour of God." We pray that the seeds of truth will bring forth fruit in due time in the lives of each individual student. "Finally my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil." (Ephesians 6:10-11)

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO

Kathy Schlatter

After a quick trip to the Florida sun and white sand, most of our careful are nursing some nasty sunburns. As always, I seem unable to leave the experience there. It seems to me that the time we spent getting sunburned was quite similar to time getting burned by sin. The days were bright, even physically beautiful. At the time, each of us enjoyed the sun. However, there is always the pain and regret. Healing takes time, depending on the product one chooses, and many applications are needed to help the sunburn. With Christ, healing takes time, but only one "product" does anything except mask the symptoms – and there is only one application of Christ's blood given but it is sufficient for our balm. A word to those wiser than we: sunblock comes in many strengths. Lest we be tempted to return to sin, may we use the preparation of the gospel of truth daily to prevent our being burned, to prevent the burning of others who may watch our behavior.

We are so grateful for the visits of brethren. Elder Bro. Janos

Ombodi (father of our Sis. Erica Furj) has returned to Budapest, Hungary, after spending time in our area. Elder Bro. Jesse Beer (Milford, IN) came to assist in the blessed weekend we shared with our new sister, Sis. Esther Bozzay and Sis. Janell Hofstetter. They gave their testimonies from their hearts Saturday evening, June 12, and were baptized according to their faith Sunday, June 13. We pray for them especially, grateful for the leading of the Lord in their lives and for their sharing it with us as it has been, thus far. To our ministering brethren, we also have prayers and thanksgiving, trusting in the Lord to continue to give them grace and wisdom.

There is delight in the household of the newborn. Bro. Brad and Sis. Cindy Eisenmann are the happy parents of Julie Renee, born June 11. Her brothers, Greg and Ryan, and glowing grandparents, Bro. Harry and Sis. Berthajean Herrmann (Princeville, IL) and Elder Bro. Dale and Sis. Judy Eisenmann of our congregation, share the joy. The rest of the church family are also joyful, grateful, prayerful.

It is always more difficult to say farewell, even if it may be for a season. Bro. Marvin Wieland has received his D. O. and will be interning in Lansing, MI. He plans to worship with the Detroit, MI, congregation. Having Bro. Marvin back was so comfortable, and we are grateful for that privilege. He goes with God, so we know that we must let him go on cheerfully -- yet it is not nearly as easy as it was to welcome him. May he be blessed and may he be a blessing as he was with us. Sis. Esther and her brother, Steve Bozzay, have left us for San Diego, CA. Our thoughts and prayers will be often there for they take a part of us with them. We trust that they will become ever nearer to the Lord as they pursue their college and career plans. Aleida Mandujano, AFS daughter of Bro. Jim and Sis. Kathy Schlatter, will be returning to her home in Mexico City. We trust that her year in the United States has been profitable in many ways for her, but especially spiritually. She

will be much missed and prayers in her behalf will continue.

Bro. John Schrenk is recovering from coronary surgery, a triple bypass. We continue to pray for his recuperation and returning strength, giving the Lord all thanks and praise.

I have a friend to thank for the sunglasses I used while we were in Florida – but there is a problem. They were so relaxing that I think I could become addicted to them. They cut down on the brightness of the light so much that I wanted them even when the sun wasn't shining. They reminded me of too many of the coping mechanisms we use in life – whether it be alcohol or withdrawal, anger or shopping. Comfort can become addictive and wanting every situation to be that way can curb our witness, our courage, our readiness for the next test. "All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any." (I Corinthians 6:12)

Also, since we were at Disney World, Katrina made an interesting observation. All of the "rides," even the educational ones at Epcot, seemed to have so many fake people made to look as realistic as possible. After we left, she said she would see real people and get the impression that they were fake. We must be careful of our exposure to the real and the unreal, and we must be very thoughtful. In the same vein, in discussion of an article on television, the main difficulty appears to be a change in one's reaction to real suffering, to real violence. "And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted . . ." (Ephesians 4:32) We must remain discerners of the truth.

As we walked into Athens' service Wednesday evening, they began "The Last Mile of the Way," a song I had anticipated their singing as I looked forward to worshiping with them. We don't know if we are at the beginning of our way, the middle, or even very near to the end of that last mile of the way, but we have so much to look forward to! "And if here I have earnestly striven, And have tried all His will to obey, 'Twill enhance all

the rapture of heaven, When I've gone the last mile of the way . . . And I know there are joys that await me, When I've gone the last mile of the way." (verse) Surely He will strengthen us as we anticipate seeing His face.

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK
Cyndee Anderson
Anna Marie Reutter

It has been said that a gem cannot be polished without affliction, nor can a child of God be perfected without adversity.

Since our last report, we have mourned the loss of another dear one. Bro. George Gudeman (Sis. Caroline) was relieved of his bodily affliction May 23. Children are Sis. Shirley Steiner (Tremont), Janice Ficklin (Onarga), Bro. Ralph (Goodfield), Earl (Asheville, NY), Dean (Champaign) and Bro. Stanley (Onarga).

The weekend of May 22, the family of our retired Elder Bro. Ezra Feller observed their father's 90th birthday. Bro. Todd Feller (Sis. Karen) and Elder Bro. Roy Grimm (Sis. Dona) were with us Sunday, the 23rd. It was a day of joy. We heard much about the faith of our fathers, Abraham, Isaac, Joseph and Joshua through the past weeks. We are to be "strong and of good courage." This can also apply to our graduates, Phillip Conrad, Pam Eisenmann, Alicia Maul, Danell Stock, Adrea Walder and Timothy Young from high school. College graduates are Sheryl Farney and Sis. Darla Stock.

On May 12, Tom and Jill Kaeb welcomed their third child, Ashlyn Brooke. Bro. Wayne and Sis. Nancy Hauptli are happy grandparents.

Bro. Tim Kaufmann and Sis. Robin Zimmerman were united in holy matrimony May 16 at Roanoke, IL. Parents are Bro. Larry and Sis. Jeanie Kaufmann and Bro. Rick and Sis. Raylene Zimmerman. We wish them God's richest blessings as they establish their home in Waukegan, IL.

Hospitalized for treatment or surgery the past while have been Jason Rudin, Vernon Clauss, Alvin Rudin and Sis. Edna Hoffman. Bro. Ed Alt and Bro. Emmanuel Manz

are recovering from open heart surgery. Bro. Dale Walder, who has been waiting on a heart transplant for many months, received a replacement recently and at this writing is doing well. We thank the Lord for healing power.

The first Sunday in June, the ACYF students from Illinois gathered at Bloomington-Normal for a time of learning, singing, prayer and fellowship along with teachers. Some five hundred were in attendance, the largest ever. Our youth are hungry for the truth. We just value our young people so much as our future church, as well as those who teach. Each person in our congregation has a duty of some sort. May we help and encourage each other.

In our congregation we have a number of brethren who volunteer their time at spending a day in the spring and again in the fall to help the elderly with various tasks. This reporter was one of the recipients and it was truly a work of love. Some of the brethren brought their young sons to help. What a beautiful way to teach benevolence. Thanks to each helper.

Our sympathy reaches out to Sis. Tillie Rudin and Bro. Bob Greiner and the families over the loss of their brother, Bro. Ben Greiner, who passed away June 12, in Minnesota.

Sis. Kathryn Rudin will be leaving her home in Clifton, IL, and will be living in Elgin, IL. We will miss her in our assembly.

On Friday evening, June 18, our youth presented us with a program on what they learned during the two weeks of Bible school. It is always inspiring to see our youth take an interest in learning more of God's Word and His ways. The efforts of each teacher and helper are greatly appreciated.

We are looking forward to hearing the testimony and witnessing the baptism of Pam Eisenmann (Bro. Ken and Sis. Sharon) the first weekend in July.

Recently our younger Sunday school students, along with their teachers, distributed fruit and flowers at Heartland Health Care Facility.

We appreciated having Elder

Bro. Art Bahler with us June 6, and Bro. Kevin Knapp (Bloomington) June 13.

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE
Beth Steffen - Sue Wiegand

Faith of our fathers! living still
 In spite of dungeon, fire and
 sword,

O how our hearts beat high with
 joy

Whene'er we hear that glorious
 word!

Faith of our fathers! holy faith!
 We will be true to thee till death!

Hymns of Zion #85

As our country celebrates another year of freedom, may we be thankful for what our forefathers did so that we can enjoy the heritage that is ours and strive to preserve it for those to come.

Our visiting ministers this past month were Elder Bros. Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI) and Andy Virkler (Bay City, MI), Bros. Gary Anliker (Elgin), Dale Zeltwanger (Morris, MN) and Dennis Rassi (Fairbury). May God bless them!

We want to extend our sympathy to Bro. Ralph and Sis. Carolyn Gudeman in the loss of his father, Bro. George Gudeman (Cissna Park).

We pray for God's healing hand for Sis. Nancy Knapp and Bro. Allen Schrock who both submitted to surgery. We hope it won't be long before they are both able to assemble with us again.

We apologize for forgetting some of our graduates last month. From eighth grade: Benjy Funk (Bro. Virgil and Sis. Shirley) and our nursing graduates: Jackie Schrock (John) and Sis. Crystal Remmert (Kent).

ILLINOIS, ELGIN
Renee Anliker - Debbie Sauder

" . . . be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in spirit, in faith, in purity. Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine." (I Timothy 4:12-13) How thankful we are for the kind and loving exhortations shared with us during the

reading of the memorandum, May 22. As we were kindly exhorted, a true believer's walk of life is exemplified every moment of every day of our life. We want to thank Elder Bro. Wayne Anliker (Forrest, IL) and our dear home Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen and Bro. Ron Schambach for the inspired words shared with us. Also welcomed into our midst this month were visiting ministers, Elder Bros. Joe Braker (Morton, IL), Ed Lanz (Oakville, IA), John Steiner (Oakville, IA) and Marvin Stieglitz (Leo, IN). May God continue to inspire our brothers in the ministry to proclaim the Word in truth and sincerity, without fear or favor of man.

"We thank you loving teachers too, For all your love and care. You teach us of the heavenly home, How we may enter there." (Hymns of Zion #73) We wish to thank Bro. Dave Martin, Sis. Betty Bachtold and Sis. Sue Davis for their years of service in teaching our children of the heavenly way. May Bro. Ted Schock, Sis. Christine Schock and sis. Karen Weiss feel our prayerful support as they assume the responsibilities of planting the seed in the tender and fertile hearts of our future church. A blessed evening of fellowship was had by young and old alike, as our teachers also hosted the annual Sunday school picnic. May God richly reward them for all their efforts and deeds of love.

"The Lord will give strength unto his people; the Lord will bless his people with peace." (Psalms 29:11) We rejoice with friends, Ryan Weiss (Bro. Roger and Sis. Karen) and Elvis Kellenberger (the late Gail), as they have bene given the strength to lay aside every earthly weight to seek their soul salvation and now have been blessed with the gift of peace. We look forward to the time these two dear souls can bring forth their testimonies and, Lord willing, be added to the fold.

Bro. Earl and Sis. Jeanette Moser recently commemorated their 50th wedding anniversary. May God's presence and blessing continue to be a part of their remaining days together.

We want to welcome Loni Schock (Bro. Norm and Sis. Ginny)

home from New Guinea, for a year on furlough. We look forward to seeing and spending time with her during her leave.

"I am going to a city Where the streets with gold are laid, Where the tree of life is blooming, And the roses never fade." (Gospel Hymns #764, vs. 1) On May 27, Sis. Libbie Fehrman, 93, was called home, following a short illness. Surviving are several nieces and nephews, to which we extend our condolences. We also wish to extend our sympathy to Sis. Dorothy (Ed) Schifferer in the loss of her mother, Amelia Wascher. "Loved ones gone to be with Jesus, In their robes of white arrayed, Now are waiting for my coming Where the roses never fade." (Gospel Hymns #764, vs. 3) Our love and prayers are with Sis. Jean Martin (Bro. Dave) in the loss of her dear father, Bro. Ben Greiner (Sis. Martha, Morton, IL). May God's comfort be felt by the many family members which include his sisters, Lydia Osmun and Sis. Rose Eurich. May God's faithfulness be felt by each of these families, during this difficult time and in the days ahead.

On May 30, Sis. Lorri Cargill and Bro. Jay Wiegand were united as one in Christ. Their parents are Bro. Jerry and Sis. Kay and Bro. Al and Sis. Martha Wiegand (Oakville, IA). Sherry Schock and Jordan Vanagas were joined in holy matrimony June 13. Bro. Norm and Sis. Ginny and Tony and Beverly Vanagas are their parents. May God bless these couples with His nearness and divine direction throughout their lives.

Little Jordan Elizabeth arrived June 1 to bless the home and hearts of Ed and Traci (Utt) Hartfiel. Anxious to help Dad and Mom are grandparents, Sis. Norma Utt, Bob and Jan Hartfiel, and great-grandparents, Bro. Morris and Sis. Nina Willaert. We trust God's wisdom will be imparted, that all parents, who are recipients of a bundle from heaven, will raise them in the fear and admonition of the Lord.

ILLINOIS, EUREKA Dori Blunier

In this past month we have laid

three of our residents at the Home to rest. Sis. Viola Schlupp died May 21, Sis. Alice Rinkenberger (Bro. Chris) died May 22 and Bro. Jesse Getz passed away June 17. Sis. Viola is survived by a son, Joseph (Russellville, MO) and one daughter, Minnie Marie Lodge (Eureka). Sis. Alice is survived by her husband, Bro. Chris; five sons, Verden, Bro. Cleo, Lavern, Edward and Glenn; and two daughters, Waunita Hirstein and Sis. Bernice Rapp. Bro. Jesse Getz has one daughter, Sis. Verla Wiegand; and four sons, Bros. Melvin, Merlyn, Allan and Jerry. We sympathize with each family as each one will be missed. At the time of death is always causes us to pause and to wonder "How shall it be when we at last returning from weary wanderings and from toil and strife. Shall reach the home for which our heart is yearning and enter into everlasting life?" (Zion's Harp #146)

A new little baby boy was born May 21 to Bro. Brian and Sis. Tina Wiegand. Kelton James has a brother, Keith, and a sister, Kaylene. Grandparents are Bro. Elton and Sis. Loretta Wiegand and Bro. Lewis and Sis. Arletta Martin (all of Eureka).

Bro. Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville) spent Sunday, May 30, with us and Bro. Byron Stoller (Gridley) visited us Sunday, June 6. May we always appreciate the Word and the servants that faithfully bring it to us.

Our Bible class students attended the Youth Fellowship Day in Normal and all of our Sunday school students enjoyed two weeks of Vacation Bible School. Making that extra effort to take our children to Bible school will surely bring a blessing to the parents, but especially to the children. In this busy world, it is a good place for them to spend their time.

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY Sally Fehr - Thelma Slagel

As we commemorate Father's Day, let us remember to be thankful for our fathers who have taught us to put our faith and trust in the Lord. May the Lord richly bless them for their Christian examples.

We are also thankful for our visiting ministers this month: Bros. William Hodel and Bruce Leman (Roanoke) and Walter Herrman (Princeville). We appreciate these brothers for sharing God's Word with us.

Our Bible class, along with their teachers, attended the annual ACYF at Normal June 6. Our Vacation Bible School was June 7 through June 11. The Bibles stories are not new to the children, but the way that they are presented really holds their interest. Visiting brothers who ministered unto our Bible class were: Bros. Stephen Baner (Gridley, IL), Gary Endress (Bradford) and Dan Stoller (Remington, IN). We thank them for sharing God's message with our youth.

A son and daughter of Robert and Cheri Kaisner and Brian and Colleen Loschen (Tuscola) took marriage vows recently. Sis. Kara Kaisner and Bro. Kevin Moser (Bro. Lloyd and the late Myrna) were wed May 30. Bro. Dean Kaisner (Champaign) was wed to Sis. Amy Unsicker (Sis. Carole and the late Melvin, Peoria) June 6. May God ever be near these dear souls as they establish their homes.

Collin Duane was born to Bro. Ryan and Sis. Lori Steidinger June 2. Little sister, Shelbi Lyn and grandparents, Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Linda Fehr and Bro. Donald Steidinger and Sis. Alice Steidinger are delighted. May God bless the family circle.

Aldine Maier, 94, passed away may 18. She leaves a daughter, Velda Lenz, to mourn her. Our sympathy is extended to her.

Sis. Ruth Hofstetter, 70, passed away June 6. She leaves three brothers and two sister to mourn her.

"I love the Lord, because He has heard my voice and my supplications."

Psalm 116:1

Our congregation is rejoicing that Rodney Steidinger (Bro. Tom and Sis. Dianne) has found the grace to repent and we truly wish him the Lord's guidance and blessings.

Louise Hibsich has recently taken residency at Fairview Haven.

Many prayers are being said in the behalf of Bro. Marion Meiss (Sis. Barbara) and Sis. Jennifer Steffen (Bro. Chris and Sis. Kay) as they both have had surgery. May the loving hand of God heal them as He sees fit.

Another July Fourth will soon be here. May we always thank God for the many years of freedom and great blessings we have enjoyed in this great nation, the United States of America. May we remember to pray for our nation and its people.

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ILLINOIS, FORREST
Sandra Schneider
Marlene Walter

My heav'nly mansion beyond the sky,
 Where they who enter shall never die;
 There would I journey this very day,
 And with my Jesus forever stay.

Hymns of Zion #77

Sis. Carrie Roth, 96, was called to her heavenly home after faithfully serving her Lord for over 70 years. Being blessed with a clear mind, she was able to share many precious times with her family. We sympathize with her children: Elmer (Hot Springs Village, AR), Bro. Earl (Scottsdale, AZ), Eldon (Mount Pleasant, IA), Marvin (LaSalle), Leonard, Bro. Lester, Sis. Leona Leman and Barb Kilgus. We thank Elder Bro. Ed Ringger (Gridley) and Bro. Dennis Rassi (Fairbury) for sharing in the funeral service.

We also extend our sympathy to Bro. Terry and Sis. Peggy Young in the passing of his mother, Sis. Donna Young (Rittman, OH) and to Curt and Debbie Friedman in the passing of her father, Ed Bachtold (Cleburne, TX). May God fill the void that these dear ones feel.

Our hospital patients this month have been Olivia Roth (Bro. Ken and Sis. Deb), Sis. Irene Traub, Sis. Lil Bachtold and Beth Ifft (Bro. Duane and Sis. Mary). Our

thoughts and prayers are with Bros. Ralph Koehl and Ray Steffen as they are still hospitalized.

"Preach the word: be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long suffering and doctrine." (II Timothy 4:2) We lend our prayers and support to Bro. Greg and Sis. Jill Stoller and family as the duties of a minister are laid upon him. May he always be submissive to God's Holy Spirit.

New responsibilities have also been given to Bro. Rod Zimmerman as Sunday school superintendent and Sis. Sherri Kelson as Sunday school teacher. May God give them much wisdom in leading our youth. A special thank you to Sis. Kathryn Steidinger for her years of teaching.

The Lord has again called a dear soul to repentance. We rejoice that Kristen Kupferschmid (Bro. Alf and Sis. Wanda) was willing to answer that call. May God continue to give her grace to completely surrender to Him.

We appreciate Bros. Nelson Beer (Milford, IN), Ed Fritz (Washington), Greg Rassi (Chicago), Sid Kaufmann (Cissna Park) and Jon Zeller (Morton) for taking part in our Vacation Bible School. May God bless them for giving of their time.

June 16 was a special evening as we gathered to partake of holy communion. Our thanks to Elder Bros. Joe Braker (Morton) and Art Bahler (Fairbury) for serving us along with our Elder Bro. Wayne. It inspired us to be more diligent in our spiritual walk of life.

We are looking forward to a blessed evening of fellowship June 27 when, Lord willing, we will have our Sunday school picnic.

The family of Alice Lehmann would like to thank everyone who remembered them during the illness and death of their dear mother and grandma. Your prayers, visits, food, cards, flowers, memorials and the many kind words will always be treasured memories. May God bless each one.

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

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD

Barb Brim

"And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory."

I Timothy 3:16

"Without controversy" leaves us no room to question God's perfect plan of salvation thru His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Let us strive to live lives in accordance with the "great mysteries" He has made known to us and "without controversy" accept and appreciate all the blessings and trials He sends in our lives on this earth until we, too, are "received up into glory."

We joyfully witnessed the testimonies of our new brothers, Delton Whitaker, and Steve Fehr, and sister, Deb Fehr, and wish them much grace as they begin the journey towards their heavenly homes.

We are happy to congratulate the new parents in our congregation this month. Bro. Brian and Sis. Lisa Rieke are the parents and Brittany is the sister to their son, Robert Lee. Robert Lee's grandparents are Rick and Fonda Rieke (Goodfield) and Sis. Elna Grimm (Goodfield). Our second new arrival is another little boy, Ty Malcolm, son of Bro. Ted and Sis. Kenda Taufer, and brother to Teddi, all of Morton. Ty's grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Marie Taufer (Morton) and Roy and Sis. Corrine Roth (Goodfield). Bruce and Sis. Teresa Ruder and their son, Logan, welcome their precious little girl, Paige Marie. Paige's grandparents are Bro. Morrie and Sis. Kathy Zimmerman, Bill and Lynn Ruder (Eureka) and Bob and Marty Douthier (Connecticut).

Just as the Lord giveth, so does He taketh. We are saddened by the passing of Bro. Roy Wyss' mother and Bro. Bruce Hohulin and Sis. Joan Steffen's mother this past month. May the Lord comfort all the members of these families who are feeling the pain of separation from their loved ones. Let us also take comfort in the knowledge that

they are finally safe in the arms of Jesus.

Our hospital patients, Bro. John Hohulin and Sis. Shirley Debolt, are doing well and we are very encouraged by their progress.

Our expression of thanks goes out to all of the visiting ministers and their wives who shared with us, to Elder Bro. Joe and Sis. Shirley Braker (Morton), Elder Bro. Ervin and Sandra Knecht (Eureka), Elder Bro. Edwin and Sis. Pat Ringger (Gridley), Bro. Fritz and Sis. Marjorie Knapp (Congerville), Bro. Don and Sis. Connie Manz (Junction, OH), Bro. Jim and Sis. Marlene Plattner (Princeville) and Bro. Virgil and Sis. Mary Metzger (Chicago), Elder Bro. Wayne and Sis. Judy Anliker (Forrest), Bro. Erik and Sis. Debbie Givens (Princeville), Bro. Carl and Sis. Lydiann Wyss (Washington), Bro. Jim and Sis. Jeanne Rinckenberger (Bluffton, IN), sincerest thanks to all of you.

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY

Perry A. Klopfenstein

The week of June 14 - 18 was one of spiritual refreshment as both children and adults attended Vacation Bible School. While the children were in their Sunday school classrooms each evening, the high schoolers and adults met to hear a series of teaching presentations under the theme, "The Battle For Eternal Life."

The theme was timely because a moral erosion is occurring here in the United States. The topics were designed to alert and assist the believers as they seek to walk on the narrow way. Our theme song after each presentation was "Sound The Battle Cry."

Our guest speakers and their topics were: Elder Bro. Ron Nelson (Kiowa, KS), "Recognizing Our Enemy and His Tactics;" Bro. John Stoller (Leo, IN), "Identifying the Battlegrounds;" Bro. Will Schieler (Milford, IN), "Defenses Available to Us;" Bro. Dennis Kaufman (Bloomington), "Taking the Offensive;" and Bro. Greg Gramm (Phoenix, AZ), "The Outcome - Victory or Defeat?"

On June 13, Sis. Charity Klop-

fenstein was married to Bro. Glenn Schieler. She is the daughter of Bro. Perry and Sis. Carol Klopfenstein. He is the son of Don Schieler, and a nephew of Sis. Marilyn Schieler. The bride's grandfather, Bro. Robert Miller (Portland, OR) helped Elder Bro. Edwin Ringger in officiating at the wedding ceremony. We with them much happiness as they recognize God as the center of their marriage.

On June 20, Bro. Paul Klopfenstein was announced to marry Sis. Robin Steiner (Princeville). He is the son of Sis. Betty Klopfenstein and the late Bro. Carlton. Her parents are Bro. Harold and Sis. Karen Steiner (also of Princeville).

Bro. Barry Ehresman was married to Sis. Beth Landis (Morton) May 23. His parents are Roy and Gladys Ehresman (Gridley) and she is the daughter of Bruce and Sis. Pat Landis (also of Morton). We are very happy for them and wish them many years of wedded bliss together.

ILLINOIS, MORTON

Phyllis Farney

Cheryl Wuthrich

We are rejoicing with Sis. Beth Landes (Bruce and Pat) and Bro. Barry Ehresman (Roy and Gladys, Gridley, IL) as the Lord has lead them to become one in Him. They exchanged their wedding vows Sunday, May 23. May our heavenly Father richly bless them as they will now walk life's pathway together with Christ as head of their home.

We are thankful that our heavenly Father has called three more dear souls unto Him. We heard their testimonies of faith June 12 and witnessed their baptisms June 13. Our new lambs are Sis. Kary Ackerman (Bro. Roger and Sis. Marge), Bro. Wayne Baum and Sis. Michelle Leman (Bro. Howard and Sis. Gloria). May God use them mightily to further His work.

Vacation Bible School was held the week of June 7-11. Both adults and children gathered together each evening to learn more of God's Word and to fellowship.

We wish to thank the many visiting ministers who made the ef-

fort to come and bring God's Word to us this month. They are Bros. Ron Bollier (Indianapolis, IN), Earl Ringger (Gridley, IL), Dennis Kaufman (Bloomington-Normal, IL), Marshall Heinold (Washington, IL), Greg Rassi (Chicago, IL), Jim Plattner (Princeville, IL) and Wayne Laubscher (Cissna Park, IL).

We welcome Bro. Terry and Sis. Janeen Baum to our Morton congregation. They are now making their home in Morton after having attended our Tucson, AZ, church.

The family of Bro. Joe Staker wishes to thank everyone for their kind expressions of sympathy shown to them with cards, food and memorial contributions. Your kindness is deeply appreciated.

ILLINOIS, PEORIA

Cara Nussbaum

Peoria has been so blessed since the first of the year with over 30 converts. The weekend of June 12 and 13 was special for Branden Schock (Bro. Richard and Sis. Jan), Joey Hoerr (Bro. Joe and Sis. Jo Anne), Patty Triplett (Bro. Wilbur and Sis. Louise), Mary Suttor (Bro. Steven and Sis. Jane) and Wendy Rieker (Bro. Tom and Sis. JoAnn) as they have their testimonies and were baptized. Assisting Bro. Chuck with these duties was Elder Bro. Wes Knapp (Goodfield, IL). We thank him for his labor of love.

Other visiting ministers this past month were Elder Bro. Lavoyd Moore (Athens, AL), Bro. Andy Moser (Valparaiso, IN), Bro. Bill Hodel (Roanoke, IL), Elder Bro. Dave Wiegand (Champaign, IL) and Bro. Floyd Schmidgall (Morris, MN). May God bless these brothers for their willingness to serve.

"Therefore shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh" (Genesis 2:24) June 6 was the day Amy Unsicker (daughter of Sis. Carolee, Peoria) and Dean Kaisner (son of Bro. Robert and Sis. Cheri, Fairbury, IL) and Brian and Colleen Loschen (Ogden, IL) were united in holy matrimony. We wish them all the blessings of God as they begin their new life together.

For two weeks in June, Peoria had Vacation Bible School. The children really enjoyed themselves as they learned how to have "Smooth Sailing With The Saviour," with an emphasis on the fruits of the Spirit. We thank everyone who was involved in bringing the message of our precious Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ to our children.

Hospital patients this month were Donna Ferrero, Ruth Hartman, Robert Beyer and Howard Musselman. We pray that God will restore good health to each one.

I was recently hospitalized for some surgery. Having worked in a hospital for a long time, but never having been a patient, was very different for me. What I did experience was an outpouring of love from family and friends and I want to thank everyone for the flowers, cards and most of all, the prayers. And I thank God as He has given me the promise of His healing powers.

Note of Thanks: We wish to thank everyone who thought of us in any way during my recent hospitalization and since at home. Thanks for your prayers, gifts, visits, food and all your love. May God bless and reward you all."

Retired Elder Bro. Robert and Sis. Lucille Beyer

Let's not forget our Bro. Bob Waibel who is at the following address: 612 E. Campus, Apt. A-3, Carbondale, IL 60901. We pray that God will keep him in His loving care.

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE

Martha Jane Siebenthal

Visiting ministers that have labored in our midst recently were Elder Bro. Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO), Bros. Kent Heimer (Taylor, MO), John Grimm (Columbus, OH), Wes Moser (Lester, IA) and Vernon Wettstein (Congerville). May they be blessed for their many efforts that they put forth. We appreciate them doing this for us.

"And the Lord God said, It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him." (Genesis 2:18) On May 30, the engagement of Bro. Brent Graham (Bro. Richard and Sis.

Jeanette) and Sis. Debbie Stahl (Bro. Lyle and Sis. Betty) was made known. August 22 is the wedding date they have chosen and may they seek God's direction as they make future plans for this important step in life.

"Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favor of the Lord." (Proverbs 18:22) We enjoyed a blessed day, June 13, as Bro. Phil Baurer (Bro. Edwin and Sis. Carol) and Sis. Linda Siebenthal (Bro. Eugene and Sis. Kay) were united in marriage. May God's richest blessings be upon this dear couple as they begin life's pathway together. We will miss Sis. Linda in our congregation but feel our loss will be Taylor's gain. May they look to God for their help as they establish a Christian home and may He bless this union of hearts.

"Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord." (Psalm 127:3) Bro. David and Sis. Crystal Streitmatter are the happy parents of Braden David, born June 3. His sisters, Brittany and Brooke, along with grandparents, Bros. Norman and Sis. Joyce Streitmatter, Bro. Harry and Sis. Bertha Jean Herrmann welcome him. Also, Bro. Harry and Sis. Bertha Jean Herrmann are happy grandparents of Julie Renee born June 11, to their daughter, Sis. Cynthia and Bro. Brad Eisenmann (Chicago). Bro. Ellsworth and Sis. Donna Martin are happy grandparents of Bryan David, born June 5 to their son and wife, Todd and Laurie Martin (Iowa). Also, Bro. Ed and Sis. Frances Knobloch are happy grandparents of Kendra born to Bro. Alan and Sis. Mary Ann Knobloch (Bradford). Bro. Roger and Sis. Darlene are thankful parents of Larissa Beth, born June 16. Welcoming her home are big brother and sister, Tristar and Rebekah, grandparents, Bro. Eugene and Sis. Betty Herrmann and Bro. Richard and Sis. Jeanette Graham. May God's loving hand guide these precious little souls throughout life, and give the parents wisdom.

Bro. Keith Herrmann (Sis. Ruth) and Bro. Bruce Stoller (Sis. Mary) were given teaching duties in Sunday school. May they plant the good seed in the children's

hearts that it will remain with them through life. We thank the ones going out, Bro. Steve Streitmatter and Bro. Stan Schick, and may God bless them for the time they spent in behalf of the children.

Vacation Bible School was held the week of June 14 - 18. We pray this will be a spiritual benefit to all. We thank Bro. Curt Rassi (Tremont) for his talk on "Our Spiritual House" Friday evening and Bro. Gary Endress (Bradford) on "Sin In Your Life." May God bless each one that took part.

On May 30, the handicapped residents spend their annual outing at the farm of Bro. Floren and Sis. Twylla Streitmatter and family. As usual, they enjoyed it and it was a good turnout. May God richly bless them for this deed of love to these special people.

We extend our best wishes and ask God's blessings to all of our graduates. Those graduating this year from grade school are Kristal Wagenbach, Jessica Herrmann, Janis Kieser, Bill Stahl, Joel Gehrig, Jeremy Gray, Derek Menold, Kirk Plattner and Doug Stoller. Those from high school are Sis. Kristy Stoller, Sis. Jodie Kknobloch, Sis. Hope Steiner, Stacy Francis, David Blunier and Clinton Plattner. Those from college are Sis. Tricia Steiner.

We pray that God will help our young people make the right choices in life and may each one seek God's help with decisions.

Those hospitalized this month were Bro. Herman Stahl (Sis. Lillian) heart and Sis. Helen Baer remains to be a patient. Bro. Ron Streitmatter had eye surgery. We pray for God's healing powers for our loved ones if it is God's will.

"Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." (Acts 2:38) On June 19 - 20, we will hear the testimony of Tim and Tricia Wagenbach and Stacy Francis.

Thank You: The family of John Stahl with to thank everyone for all the kindness shown while John was in the hospital and since his death for the prayers, cards, gifts, flowers and food and the love shown

in so many ways. We sincerely thank each and every one. God bless you all.

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

Cathy Hohulin - Annie Leman

Bible School was held the first two weeks of June. Students and teachers alike enjoyed the singing, teachings and fellowship. What a blessed way to begin our summer.

Lynn Luginbuhl and Bruce Tjaden announced their engagement. Parents are Bro. Les and Sis. Judy Luginbuhl and Harold and Janet Tjaden (Minonk). A July 31 wedding is being planned. We pray that God will bless this union.

May 23 was the wedding day of Sis. Lisa Anliker (Francesville) to our Bro. Kirk Hoffman. Parents are Bro. Ron and Sis. Vicki Anliker and Bro. Tim and Sis. Jean Hoffman. May God always abide in this house and bless them with His love.

Joan Schumacher and Michael Upts (Minonk) were married June 19. Parents are Bro. Jerry and Sis. Jane Schumacher and Ronald and Carol Upts. We pray God will walk by their side throughout their married life.

Bro. Dan and Sis. Donna Schwind have opened their hearts and home to Jeffery Todd who is seven years old. Brian and Megan are thankful to have a new little brother. Grandparents are Bro. Marvin and Sis. Ila Pfister and Bro. Walt and Sis. Mary Schwind (all of Roanoke).

Marjorie, Susie and Bethany Leman welcome another sister into their home. Happy parents are Bro. Clark and Sis. Lisa. Grandparents are Bro. Fred and Sis. Marge Knapp (Congerville) and Bro. Bruce and Sis. Marge Leman (Roanoke). Marisa Clare was born June 8.

Kendall Rose Knapp was born June 15. His parents, Bro. Norman and Sis. Kathy, along with his older brother, Krik, welcome him into their home. Happy grandparents are Bro. Eldon and Sis. Ida Mae Rocke and Bro. Bob and Sis. Jean Knapp (all of Eureka).

Jeremy Sauder welcomes a new little sister, Jessica Joy, who was born June 17. Parents are Mark and Ina Sauder and grandparents

are Bro. August and Sis. Inez Mogler (Eureka) and Bro. Jack and Sis. Marlis Sauder (Roanoke). May God bless each of these families and give them the direction and grace to rear these little ones in the fear and love of Him.

We thank our visiting ministers, Elder Bros. Edwin Ringger (Gridley) and Joe Braker (Morton). We are thankful they are always willing to give of their time and wisdom.

We extend our sympathy to our Bro. Earl and sis. Marilyn Roth in the passing of Bro. Earl's mother, Sis. Carrie (Forrest).

Bro. Jesse Getz (Eureka) passed away June 17. We extend our sympathy to his children, Bros. Jerry and Merlyn of our congregation, Allen and Melvin, Sis. Verla Weigand (Dan); and to his brothers and sisters, Bro. Dick of our congregation, Bro. Chris, Sis. Louise Rocke and Sis. Emily Getz. We are thankful that these two dear pillars of the church have gained their reward.

We pray for God's healing touch and His grace and strength to our two dear sisters who were in the hospital this month and are recuperating, Sis. Elsie Beer and Sis. Mary Ann Klaus (Bro. Bill).

Card of Thanks: Our sincere thanks to all who remembered us while Helen was in the hospital and since at home. The flowers, cards and many other gifts of love were really appreciated very much. Our sincere thanks to all,

Rich and Helen Zimmerman

ILLINOIS, TREMONT

Marsha Koch - Barb Dill

Our sympathy goes to Sis. Shirley Steiner (Bro. Dan, Jr.) on the passing of her father, Bro. George Gudeman (Cissna Park). Sis. Frieda Aberle (Bro. Ernie) also has our sympathy on the passing of her mother, Frieda Resch (Regensburg, Germany). May God comfort these loved ones with His Spirit.

Our Sis. Jane Bolliger (Bro. Tom) was hospitalized this month. We're very thankful she can be up and about until her baby is born.

I wish to express my thanks and

appreciation to your all for prayers, cards, money gifts, visits and flowers since I had surgery and am a patient at Hopedale Hospital and Nursing Home. Also thanks to you who remembered me on my 89th birthday. Everything was deeply appreciated. May God bless you all for your kindness.

Sis. Rose Knapp

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON
Sue Ruppert
Denise Romersberger

MEMORIES

I gently picked a tender rose
And started on my way,
To decorate my Mother's grave
On Decoration Day.

And as I gently placed the rose
Upon the mound of clay,
I thought of all the joys we had
As she helped me on my way.

I thought of how she held my hand
And wiped away each tear,
She patched me up when I was
bruised
And chased away each fear.

The tender rose reminds me
Of my Mother's tender love
And I would not have her return
For she is with God above.

I'll cherish all the memories
Of the love that she has spread
And as I stand before her grave
I humbly bow my head.

I thank my God for all
The hours and days we shared;
For giving me a Mother
Who loved and really cared.

My days are passing on this earth
May the goal for which I have
striven
Ever be, that by the grace of God
I will walk with her in heaven.

Milton Ruppert

Sis. Martha (Aberle) Fritz went home to her Lord. She will be greatly missed by the church family. Guest ministers who attended her funeral were Bro. Roger Aberle (Sabetha, KS) and Bro. Richard

Aberle (Altadena, CA). We wish to extend our deepest sympathy to her family. May the Lord comfort you in your loss.

Hospitalized were Sis. Clara (Shubert) Speck and Sis. Sandy (Stoller) Endress. Both are home and recovering well. Still hospitalized is Bro. Elmer Banwart. We ask the Lord for healing and that the doctors and nurses will be able to comfort him. We pray also for the family in their hour of distress. "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in time of trouble." (Psalm 46:1)

Guest ministers were Elder Bro. Don Sauder (Roanoke, IL), Elder Bro. Aaron Steffen (Alto, MI) and Bro. Mark Bahr (Detroit, MI). The Lord spoke through each, leaving us with lots of food for thought. We thank each one for submitting to the will of God and allowing the Spirit to speak through them.

Marie Teubel, daughter of Bro. Ed and Sis. Louise (Huette) Teubel, was married May 22 to Thomas Bartolon. We wish them many years of happiness.

Vacation Bible School June 7 - 11 was well attended and the children loved learning more about Jesus. We trust God to work in the hearts of each to bring them closer to Him.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON
Jaci Gerber - Jill Fiechter

Bro. Harold and Sis. Virgil Isch and Bob and Betty Steffen (Bluffton North) are rejoicing over the birth of a new grandson. Neil William was born to Bro. Brad and Sis. Laura Compton (Leo, IN) May 24.

Bro. John and Sis. Trudy Eisenmann welcomed Alyssa Rae into their lives June 2. She joins her sister, Danielle, at home. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Roger Eisenmann, Arlen and Jeanne Gerber and Bro. Ramon and Sis. Lorena Steffen.

On June 3, Jonathan Doyle was born to Bro. Doyle and Sis. Lisa Weil. He is welcomed home by his brothers, Justin and Joshua, and grandparents, Herman and Sis. Phyllis Fiechter, Nora Weil and Gene Weil.

On June 4, David and Kim

Bertsch were blessed with a new son they named Andrew David. Andrew joins Steffanie, Rebekah and Joshua at home. His grandparents are Bro. Walter and Sis. Imogene Aeschliman (Bluffton North) and Sis. Frances Bertsch.

Bro. Terry and Sis. Twila Longenberger are parents of twin sons, Brandon Wayne and Bryce Wesley. Grandparents are Bro. Larry and Sis. Pauline Gerber, and Bro. Harry and Sis. Devona Longenberger. Big brothers, Jonathon and Shawn, are waiting for their little brothers to grow enough so they can come home from the hospital.

Others spending time in the hospital lately have been Bro. Alvin Gerber (Sis. Helen), Cody Neuenschwander (Bro. Terry and Sis. Jean), Tadd Tonner (Bro. Tim and Sis. Susie) and Sis. Katie Maller.

We rejoice with Bro. Bill Carrico (Patrick and Sis. Shirley, Bluffton North) and Sis. Heidi Kaehr (Bro. Lyle and Sis. Connie) who have announced their engagement. We wish them God's blessings as they plan for a September wedding.

Bro. Phil and Sis. Jean Moser's son, Bro. Lonny Moser (Mansfield, OH) was also recently engaged to Sis. Becky Gudeman (Silverton, OR). Her parents are Bro. Don and Sis. Mary Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN).

June 13 was the wedding day of Sis. Kara Heyerly and Bro. Chris Pulver. Their parents are Bro. Simon and Sis. Delores Heyerly and Bro. Lester and Sis. Dulla Pulver.

We are always thankful for those brothers who visit us and help in the sharing of the Word. This month special thanks goes to Bro. Phil Stettner (Bluffton North), Bro. Wayne Lehman (South Bend, IN), Bro. Lynn Stieglitz (Leo, IN) and Bro. Carroll Gerber (Bluffton North).

INDIANA,
BLUFFTON NORTH
Susan Harris - Kay Steffen

We always appreciate our visiting ministers. This month we

were privileged to have with us Bro. Mark Masters (Mansfield, OH), Bro. Ben Manz (Junction, OH) and Bro. Gary Tonner (Bluffton).

Pat and Sis. Shirley Carrico announced the engagement of their son, Bro. Bill, to Sis. Heidi Kaehr (Bro. Lyle and Sis. Connie). We rejoice with them.

Russ Mounsey (Bro. Rod and Sis. Rose) and Jenny Stone (Vernon and Becky) were united in marriage May 29. We wish them God's blessings as they begin a new life together.

On June 13, Bro. Chris Pulver and Sis. Kara Heyerly were joined together in marriage. Their parents are Bro. Lester and Sis. Aldulla Pulver and Bro. Pete and Sis. Delores Heyerly. We also wish them God's richest blessings on their union.

Bro. Walt and Sis. Imogene Aeschliman and Sis. Frances Bertsch were blessed with a new grandson, Andrew David, born June 5. His parents are Dave and Kim Bertsch.

Bible School was a blessing to all who attended this year (teachers and students) as our theme was "Watch and Pray." It seems more important than ever in our day and time that we "watch and pray" wherever we go and whatever we do.

On Sunday, June 6, the memorandum was read to the congregation following afternoon services. Elder Bro. Ed Schwartz (Bluffton) was with us. It's always good to be reminded from year to year of the blessings and concerns that our church is facing and how important it is to continue praying for our church and elders so that we can grow in the Spirit and become more united as a body of believers.

"When we walk with the Lord in the light of His Word, What a glory He sheds on our way! While we do His good will He abides with us still, and with all who will trust and obey."

Sammiss

INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE Val Gutwein

"From that time Jesus began to

preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." (Matthew 4:17) As the day of the return of our Lord Jesus Christ draws near, we are so grateful for his continuing work of salvation. Recently four more dear souls were added to His flock. They are Sis. Pam Gudas (Algrid and Erica Gudas), Sis. Jennifer Leman (Bro. Larry and Sis. Pam) and Bro. Randy and Sis. Mara Leman (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Linda). May God grant each one grace sufficient as they daily learn to walk in the Spirit.

May 23 was the wedding of Sis. Lisa Anliker (daughter of Bro. Ron and Sis. Vicky) and Bro. Kurt Hoffman (son of Bro. Tim and Sis. Jean, Roanoke, IL). We are thankful for the establishment of another Christian home and we pray God's special love and blessings upon them and their families.

Tanya Nuest (Bro. Larry and Sis. Jane) has a testimony of faith that God has shared His peace with her. May His Spirit be near unto her and the many converts as they grow in grace and understanding of the One who gave His all for them.

We extend our love and sympathy to Sis. Nancy Wuethrich (Bro. Brad) at the passing of her father, Ray Wheeldon.

Sis. Louise Onken, Sis. Donna Wuethrich and Bro. Larry Nuest have all spent time in the hospital recently. We pray that His hand of comfort will sustain and give each one renewed strength.

We are always grateful to those who come and share in ministering to us God's Holy Word. This month our thanks goes to Elder Bro. Don Sauder (Roanoke, IL), Bro. Thomas Hoffman (Roanoke, IL), Bro. Nelson Beer and Bro. Neal Widmer (Wolcott, IN).

INDIANA, LACROSSE

Judy Gudeman

"I . . . beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called." (Ephesians 4:1) Our high school graduates this year are Duane Gudeman (Bro. Don and Sis. Mary), Sis. Kathy Heinold (Bro. Gene and Sis. Evie), Michael

Gudeman (Bob and Sis. Diana) and Sis. Natalie Stoller (Bro. Steve and Sis. Anna Marie). In addition, we had two college graduates, Doug Ailes (John and Carol) and David Norbert (Michele). Best wishes as these young people continue with further studies and enter the work force.

We are thankful that Bro. Doyne Stewart (Sis. Dorothy) is again assembling with us after a recent hospitalization. Our prayers continue with Fern Antrim as she remains hospitalized with complications after surgery.

Visiting ministers this month include Bros. Nelson Beer (Milford, IN), Robert Beebe (South Bend, IN), Larry Wenninger (Latty, OH), Virgil Metzger (Chicago, IL), John Stoller (Leo, IN) and Steve Gudeman (Francesville, IN). We thank them all for their services! We enjoyed our Vacation Bible School with its theme being "Be watchful and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die . . ." How increasingly important the advice of this verse is.

Welcoming Rachel Heinold back from her semester in England are her parents, Bro. Gene and Sis. Evie, and family. Rachel was able to tour a few countries in Europe during her stay.

Our sympathy is extended to the Bro. Art Gudeman family in the passing of his brother, George Gudeman (Cissna Park, IL). Bro. George was ill for quite a while and finally has a healthy body again.

INDIANA, LEO Doug Kellenberger

We are happy to have more couples moving to Leo: Bro. John and Sis. Peggy Jackson (Bay City, MI) and newly married Bro. Steve and Sis. Marsha Scheitlin (Elgin, IL and Latty, OH).

Bro. Brad and Sis. Laura Compton are very pleased with the birth of their new baby boy, Neil William Compton. They feel grateful and blessed with how the Lord provided for them.

Five seniors graduated from high school recently. They are Sis. Sandi Stoller (daughter of Bro. John and Sis. Patsy), Andrea Hersey

(daughter of Bro. Bill and Sis. Cheri Blunier), Charity Hensley (foster daughter of Ron and Christie Bowie) and Sis. Rachel Kellenberger (daughter of Bro. Doug and Sis. Sue Kellenberger). It was a humbly "proud" moment to go through with our daughter(s). To think of all the effort, trials, prayers and grace it took to get to this point and rejoice at how wonderfully they have done. We exalt our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

The church has just recently taken part in communion and the reading of the conference letter. We were blessed with the ministry of Elder Bro. Lavoyd Moore (Athens, AL) during communion and Sunday services. Our newly-ordained deacon, Bro. John Stoller, assisted Bro. Lavoyd during communion and helped our Elder Bro. David Bertsch read the conference letter.

May Zimmer (Clarence) passed away recently in South Bend. She was a sister-in-law to Bro. George and Sis. Helen Zimmer of our Leo congregation. May was 97 years old. The funeral was on the 21st day of May.

Our children are enjoying two weeks of Vacation Bible School. A lot of effort has gone into this program. We thank all of the volunteers, mothers and fathers who have helped make this a success for our children.

Thank the Lord that the thing He cares most about is us. (Psalm 139)

INDIANA, MILFORD
Marguerite Hoerr
Judy Longcor

Love is of a friendly nature,
Does not selfish thought possess;
Love is not a sin partaker,
And is free from bitterness.
Love is truthful, not deceitful,
Does here ev'ry burden bear;
And, enduring, is so fruitful
In all trials joy to share.

Zion's Harp #37

On May 24, Bro. Don and Sis. Ruth (Rarig) Beer celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Their five children honored them with

an open house at the church fellowship hall Sunday, May 23.

Bro. Philip and Sis. Millie (Roecker) Beer celebrated their 40th anniversary. May God continue to bless their marriage as He has in the past.

Our Milford congregation extends a hearty welcome to Bro. Linc and Sis. Catrina Rinkenberger and their two children, Chase and Cately. Bro. Linc has sought employment here in our Milford community. They were previously worshipping at the Bluffton congregation.

Recently, we had election of Sunday school teachers for the younger children. Three sisters were chosen for this responsibility. They are Sisters Connie Beer, Stacey Feller and Anne Troup. As our 1993 Sunday school year begins in June, we want to extend our support and prayers to each teacher as they begin teaching our dear children of God's wondrous ways.

Tom Haab, son of Bro. Don and Sis. Martha, graduated from Northwestern College (Lima, OH) from Diesel Mechanics. May God be with him as he seeks his place of employment.

"Trusting God Today" was our theme for Vacation Bible School 1993. We want to thank the following brothers for coming and letting God's Holy Spirit lead them in their individual topics. Monday - "God's Word vs Man's Principles," Bro. Earl Ringger (Gridley, IL); Tuesday - "Who Are You Following? God or Self," Bro. Doyle Frauhiger (Bluffton North, IN); Thursday - "How Bright Is Your Light Shining?," Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen (Elgin, IL); Friday - "Being A Positive Christian in A Negative World," Bro. Randy Gasser (Detroit, MI). This truly was a week filled with many blessings for all of us. May we be encouraged to let our lights shine in this dark and sinful world we live in.

Stephen and Heidi (Beer) Rozow are a thankful second-time parents of a precious baby girl, Sarah Ann, born June 4. Big sister, Hanna Leigh, welcomes her home. Grandparents are Bro. Phillip and Sis. Millie Beer and Steve and Marge

Rozow (North Webster). Hannah Mary Smith was an added blessing to Kevin and Gina (Hurd) Smith June 1. Rejoicing grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Carol Hurd and Henry and Karen Smith (Syracuse). May God be with these parents as they raise their little children giving them love, patience and wisdom.

A reminder to the Milford congregation, Silver Lining dues will be collected in August.

INDIANA, REMINGTON

Amelia Schini

On Sunday, May 30, in our morning service, our two high school graduates were recognized with guidelines for their future. We congratulate Amie Lehman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Chuck Lehman (Kentland) and Jason Getz, son of Bro. Eldon and Sis. Charlene Getz.

Bro. Edwin Bahler submitted to major surgery in an Indianapolis hospital June 1. The surgery was successful and he was able to return home Sunday, June 6. Sis. Lois had surgery a couple weeks prior to his. They are spending quiet hours recuperating at home. We will be happy when they can be with us in church. They send the following "thank you":

We were overwhelmed at the generous outpouring of love during our recent surgeries. We sincerely thank you and may the Lord richly reward each one of you for your deeds of kindness and for your prayers.

Bro. Ed and Sis. Lois Bahler

Bro. John Laukhof and wife visited us Sunday, June 6. There were other visitors from several places. A supper was enjoyed at the fellowship hall. We thank you, Bro. John, for your visit and message. God bless you and come again.

Our sister, Anna Beckley, who resides at Parkview Haven Nursing Home, had major surgery recently. It was necessary to have a leg amputated above the knee. With God's grace, she had a pleasant attitude to this loss. May God continue to be with her.

Elmer Beckley was involved in an accident with his pickup May

24 and we are very thankful the Lord spared him serious injury.

Vacation Bible School was held five evenings last week with Wolcott as our hosts this year of our joint sessions. I will not elaborate on it since, no doubt, the Wolcott reporter will fill us in. Suffice it to say it was a very blessed week. I was impressed how each speaking brother told the young people "We love you." Also, each evening they were invited to make a choice to serve God. One even saying, "Please, please answer God's call."

Once a year our Cheer Circle, along with other volunteers, sponsors a noon meal and entertainment for residents from Parkview Haven at Francesville. On June 14 we all gathered at the fellowship hall for a joyous occasion for these people, who are very appreciative. They would be disappointed if baked beans and pie would not be on the menu.

Thought for the day: What sunshine is to flowers, smiles are to humanity. They are but trifles, to be sure; but, scattered along life's pathway, the good they do is inconceivable.

Addison

INDIANA, SOUTH BEND

Rene Mangold

May was a busy and joyous month for the Mangolds as their eldest son, Bro. Matthew Mangold, married Sis. Jennifer Kellenberger. Sis. Jennifer was originally from Morris, MN, and both Bro. Matthew and Sis. Jennifer now reside in Washington, D.C. We wish them both God's blessings on a long and fruitful life together.

We were thankful to have our Elder Bro. Jesse Beer (Milford) with us for our recent Sunday school election.

Our dear Sis. Mae Schumacher recently suffered a stroke. After spending a period of time in the hospital, she is now residing at the Bremen Nursing Home. We pray that God's healing hand would be upon her and comfort her in her infirmity.

Little Ryan Elcock fell and broke his collar bone. As always, our

prayers are with our children, that the Lord would keep them safe from harms way and ever guide them through their days.

The school year has ended and the busy summer days are already speeding by. Last week the children met every evening for Vacation Bible School. The older children were constructing a grandfather clock which they then donated to a cause that will raise funds for other children in need. Our thanks go to all the teachers and the organizers who made it a blessed week. The verse for the week was as follows:

"And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus."

II Timothy 3:15

We're thankful to our parents for the loving Christian example they have set for us and we remembered them with love on these past Mother's and Father's Days.

INDIANA, VALPARAISO

Ken and Cindy Susdorf

"O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain, for purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain. America! America! God shed His grace on thee, and crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea."

Gospel Hymns #472

As we celebrate our country's birthday, let us take time and thank our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ for all our blessings.

Our church has been blessed with three souls having peace. Lance Bucher (Bro. Ken and Sis. Carol), Andy Rossi (Richard and Peggy Knapp, Harvey, IL) and Jim Bucher (Bro. Garry and Sis. Lois). We are looking forward to calling them our brothers-in-Christ.

Graduating from high school is Mary Bunn (Terry and Sis. Nancy). We wish her God's blessings as she plans to attend Marion College in the fall.

We are happy to have Dorothy

Claussen back with us again. Her smiling face is a blessing to us all.

Visiting ministers in this past month have been Bro. Neil Widmer (Wolcott, IN), Bro. Earl Kilgus (Remington, IN) and Bro. Marvin Schmidgall (Eureka, IL). May the Lord continue to bless you dear brothers and your families.

Our Vacation Bible School begins July 6-7-8. Please come and enjoy as the Lord seems to give extra blessings at these special times.

INDIANA, WOLCOTT

Lynell Blume - Lorna Knapp

Bro. Sid Kaufmann (Cissna Park, IL) shared many interesting thoughts at our Bible study May 26 entitled, "Sanctification." To sanctify means to make holy, to purify, or to be set apart from. We are "sanctified" through Jesus' blood and with the Holy Spirit. We thank Bro. Sid for lending himself in the Lord's service on our behalf.

We congratulate Sis. Sheri Bahler (Bro. Lowell and Sis. Karla) on her graduation from high school. May she feel God's guidance and direction as she plans her future.

June 6 was the wedding day for Sis. Jody Isch (Bro. Ron and Sis. Jane, Lamont, KS) and Bro. Mike Bahler (Bro. Lowell and Sis. Karla). We rejoice with them and pray the Lord will bless their marriage. We warmly welcome Sis. Jody!

"Choose you this day whom ye will serve: . . . but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

Joshua 24:15

We enjoyed a blessed week June 7-11 at our Vacation Bible School. "We Are the Sum of Our Choices" was the theme spoken on by our visiting ministers. We certainly appreciate the efforts and willingness of Elder Bro. Dave Wiegand (Champaign, IL), Bro. Andy Moser (Valparaiso, IN), Bro. Ken Wuethrich (Indianapolis, IN), Bro. Jaye Rinkenberger (Goodfield, IL) and Bro. Carroll Gerber (Bluffton North, IN). We pray that our youth will keep the Bible stories and precious teachings they learned throughout the week in their hearts

that someday they will bring forth fruit.

The Lord has shown His goodness and mercy to a few of our loved ones this month who were involved in separate auto accidents. Bro. Rob, Sis. Beckie Lehman and their son, Benji, and Donnie Bahler (Bro. Lowell and Sis. Karla) were spared injuries. We are so thankful for God's protecting hand!

Our thoughts and prayers have been with Lucille Keller as she recovers from a fall in her home.

IOWA, BURLINGTON

Jana Massner - Carolyn Wulf

"We thank you loving teachers too
For all your love and care.
You teach us of the heavenly home
How we may enter there."

Our prayers are with Sis. Ivy Buster and Bro. Jody Eberhardt as they will have teaching responsibilities in September. May God help them to each the children the wonderful plan of salvation.

Thanks to those who have completed another tern and may God bless them for their willingness and efforts in carrying out this duty.

Our prayers are with Sis. Betty Baker as she undergoes heart surgery. May God's holy will be done in her life.

IOWA, ELGIN

Gloria Frieden

In 1954 our government added the words "under God" to the Pledge of Allegiance and now, less than forty years later, their is talk of removing the words "In God We Trust" from our coins and currency.

So often I find myself comparing this nation with the Children of Israel. How much God wanted to be their God and for them to be His people. In Leviticus, chapter 26, we read "If ye walk in my statutes, and keep my commandments, and do them; . . . I will walk among you, and will be your God, and ye shall be my people . . . But if ye will not hearken unto me, and will not do all these commandments; And if ye shall despise my statues, or if your soul abhor my judgments, so that

ye break my covenant: I will also do this unto you; I will even appoint over you terror, consumption, and the burning ague that shall consume the eyes, and cause sorrow of heart: and ye shall sow your seed in vain, for your enemies shall eat it."

How much grain sown on American soil is being sent to, perhaps, feed our enemies today?

As we celebrate our 217th anniversary, may we continue to be a nation "under God" and a people who continues to put their trust in God. In Psalms 144:15 we read "Happy is the people whose God is the Lord."

We want to wish God's blessings on our two graduates, Jill Schupbach (Bro. John and Sis. Janet) who has completed her high school education and to Bro. Leo Banwart (Sis. Tami) who has completed his schooling and will be beginning his practice as a Physician Assistant.

Though we will miss Bro. Leo and Sis. Tami here in Elgin, our prayers go with them as they move from this area to the Minneapolis, MN, area where Bro. Leo will now be employed.

We had one visiting ministers this past month, Bro. Lee Plattner (Zapata, TX). We appreciated Lee and Mary's visit and trust God will richly bless His labors in sharing God's Word with us.

IOWA, GARDEN GROVE

Dawn Moser - Laura Funk

"I will declare thy name unto my brethren: in the midst of the congregation will I praise thee." (Psalm 22:22) Again we have been blest thought the ministers that so willingly came to declare God's name among our congregation. Thank you Bros. Kevin Banwart (West Bend, IA), Trent Meiss (Iowa City, IA), Erik Givens (Princeville, IL), Harold Gramm (Morris, MN) and Duane Metzger (West Bend, IA) and Elder Bro. Edwin Ringger (Gridley, IL). Special thanks also to their wives and the many other visitors who assembled with us.

Bro. Edwin stressed one thought in his sermons: "Remember the end from the beginning." He referred

to our morning thoughts when we planned our day; the plans young adults make while they are still in school; and emphasized our thoughts and plans and the affect each one will have with our destination in eternity. With these thoughts and prayers in our hearts we give congratulations to our recent graduates. Mark Webber (Bro. Phil and Sis. Jan) is now a graduate of Central College. Hanneli Webber (Bro. Phil and Sis. Jan) and Jessica Smith (Bro. Gene and Sis. Rachel) are our eighth grade graduates.

"O beautiful for spacious skies,
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties
Above the fruited plain.

O beautiful for pilgrim feet
Whose stern impassion'd stress
A thorough fare for freedom beat
Across the wilderness.

O beautiful for heroes prov'd
In liberating strife,
Who more than self their country
loved,
And mercy more than life.

O beautiful for patriot dream
That sees beyond the years
Thine alabaster cities gleam
Undimmed by human tears.

America! America!
God shed His grace on thee,
And crown thy good with
brotherhood
From sea to shining sea.

I remember as a child, singing this song at the top of my lungs while standing on our neighbor's picnic table. I loved this song then and still do. What better words could be penned as a prayer for our country as we celebrate its birthday?

IOWA, IOWA CITY

Janette Schulz

Greetings to all! We are thankful for our visitors this month, including Bro. Ron Schambach (Elgin, IA). We are anticipating more visitors at our Iowa City re-

union July 10 and 11. We look forward to renewing old friendships, and for some of us who haven't been here so long, building new ones. For those who have assembled here in the past and cannot attend, we ask for your continued prayers, and perhaps a visit on another date.

We wish God's blessings for Bro. Jay and Sis. Lorri Wiegand who were married May 30 in Elgin, IL. May their faith in and love for each other and for God grow in spite of their busy schedules in school that sometimes lead them in different directions.

With the long, cold, wet spring, we've experienced and the predictions of a long, hot, dry summer, we know the fears and frustrations of farmers and others whose livelihood are dependant upon the weather. May the prayers of others and the promises of God's Holy Word sustain your faith that God will provide as He has in the past.

FATHER'S CONFIDENCE

While fear hints, "There's something God will deny,"
"No good thing," is Faith's decisive reply;
Whatever He withholds is most wisely denied;
How full is the promise, "The Lord will provide."

Be gone, unbelief, my Saviour is near,
And for my relief will shortly appear
By faith let me wrestle, and He will perform;
With Christ in the vessel, I smile at the storm.

His love in time past forbids me to think
He'll leave me at last in trouble to sink;
Each sweet Ebenezer O have in review
Confirms His good pleasure to help me quite through.

Though dark be my way, since He is my guide,
It's is mine to obey, 'tis His to provide;
Though cisterns be broken, and creatures all fail,

The word He has spoken shall surely prevail.

Since all that I meet shall work for my good,
The bitter is sweet, the medicine food;
Though painful at present, 'twill end before long;
And then, Oh, how pleasant the conqueror's song.

Why should I complain of want or distress,
Temptation or pain? He told me no less:
The heirs of salvation, I know from His word,
Through much tribulation must follow their Lord.

How bitter that cup, no heart can conceive,
Which He drank quite up, that sinners might live,
His way was much rougher and darker than mine,
Did Jesus thus suffer and shall I repine?

Though troubles assail, and dangers affright,
Though friends should all fail and foes all unite,
Yet one thing secures us, whatever betide
The Scriptures assure us the Lord will provide.
How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in His excellent word!
What more can He say than to you He hath said,
You who unto Jesus for refuge have fled?

Zion's Harp #87

IOWA, LESTER

Sue Warner - Cindy Leuthold

On May 16, Bro. Mike Domnick (Bro. Gary and Sis. Velma) and Sis. Marci Warner (Elder Bro. Dennis and Sis. Esther) were united as one in marriage. We wish God's blessings to the young couple as they establish their home at Morris, MN).

With much sadness, we laid to rest a dear sister whose trials are

over on this earth. Sis. Frieda Knobloch died May 17 and is survived by her sons, Bro. Alfred, Gib, Bro. Silas, Bro. Melvin and Bro. Clyde (Mackinaw, IL). Her surviving daughters are Libbie (Shelby, ID) and Sis. Naomi and Sis. Esther Warner (Lester). Our deepest sympathy is extended to her children and grandchildren.

We have been blessed with the presence of several visiting ministers this month. They were Elder Bro. Art Nohl and Dale Zeltwanger (Morris, MN), Bros. Jim Knobloch (Winthrop, MN), Leland Plattner (Zapata, TX), Jon Schmidgall (Oakville), Wayne Grimm (West Bend), Floyd Frieden (Elgin, IA) and Don Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN). Also Bro. Gene Lehman (Wolcott, IN) presented a very interesting slide program of the Ukraine May 28 at the fellowship hall. Thank you to all these brethren for their unselfish labors of love.

Sis. Wendy Mogler has completed her college education and is now employed in our area. We congratulate her on her accomplishments.

It is with joy and thankful hearts that we can report of two dear souls who have turned their lives to the Lord above. We rejoice with Travis Knobloch (Bro. Roger and Sis. Janet) and Rachael Metzger (Bro. Bob and Sis. Rozella).

Among our known hospitalized are Sis. Charlene Messner (Bro. Henry) and Sis. Paulina Knobloch. We pray for God's healing strength for them.

On the weekend of June 12 and 13, Lester hosted Youth Fellowship for our high school aged children from Elgin and West Bend, IA, and Minneapolis, Morris and Winthrop, MN. We enjoyed having our visitors with us and want to thank our teachers and parents for their efforts.

Little Garth Evan was born to Vernon and Chalea Knobloch June 16. He has a sister, Chalsea, to welcome him home, as well as grandparents, Bro. Art and Sis. Elgeva Knobloch.

Give Old and New Address
To Your Reporter

IOWA, OAKVILLE**Melody Steiner
Debbie Wagenbach**

Bro. Curt and Sis. Kathy Frank welcome Jenni Lynn into their hearts and home. Ryan, Christie, Lanae, Aaron, Travis and Nathan, along with Grandpa and Grandma Frank (Bro. Ernie and Sis. Bernice) and Grandpa and Grandma Lanz (Elder Bro. Ed and Sis. Joan) are happy to have a new baby join the family circle.

Several from our congregation attended the wedding of Bro. Jay Wiegand (Bro. Al and Sis. Martha) and Sis. Lori Cargill (Elgin, IL) Memorial Day weekend. May God bless Bro. Jay and Sis. Lori as they begin their life as one in Him.

Bro. Steve Baner (Gridley, IL) and his family stopped in our congregation for Sunday services on their way home from a trip to South Dakota. We thank Bro. Steve for willingly lending himself in the service of the Lord by bringing forth the wonderful Word of Life. May God richly reward him and his family.

On June 13, we held our annual Sunday school election. Bros. Dave Eberhardt, Walt Gerst, Ken Lanz and Sisters Kelly Lanz and Cathy Larson were elected to fill the expired terms of outgoing teachers. We pray that God will give them wisdom and patience as they endeavor to teach the hearts of our children in the ways of the Lord. The teachers whose terms are expiring are Bros. Wayne Gerst, Ron Schmidgall, Roger Schulz and Sisters Linda Gerst and Stefanie Marti. May God reward them for their years of diligent service.

Bro. Chuck Massner (Bro. Ben and Sis. Phyllis Knobloch) and Sis. Lois Schmidgall (Bro. Rich and Sis. Corrine, Morris, MN) are engaged. May they ever look to God for guidance and direction as they plan an August wedding.

Thought: Our problems and troubles are really a gracious sharing with us by God letting us carry small - very small - splinters of His cross.

Give Old and New Address
To Your Reporter

IOWA, PULASKI**Ernestine Wuthrich
Carol Wettstein**

We enjoyed a blessed weekend when Elder Bro. Jesse Beer (Milford, IN) and his wife were with us. Bro. Jesse helped Bro. Russell in serving holy communion.

We are now enjoying warm, sunny weather and summer with all of its busy activities is truly upon us. Graduating from high school was Kerri Cruikshank (Lowell and Sis. Billie) and from college, Chad Wuthrich (Bro. Bill and Sis. Ernestine), Eugene Joos (Bro. Ron and Sis. Chris) and Bro. Mike Musselman (Bro. Roger and Sis. Nancy). May God ever be near them as they seek employment or go on to higher learning.

We extend sympathy to Bro. Cleo Rinkenberger (Sis. Esther) in the passing of his mother, Sis. Alice Rinkenberger. She and her husband, Bro. Chris, resided at the Eureka Apostolic Home.

Little Katrina Kay joined the family of Curt, Kristi and Gunner Klyn May 27. Happy grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Ernestine Wuthrich and great-grandparents, Bro. Albert and Sis. Elizabeth Wuthrich (all of Pulaski).

Hospital patients this month were Adam Townsend (Danny and Sis. Lynn) and Bro. Howard Musselman (Sis. Irene).

Saturday, June 12, was the wedding day for Sally Teubel (Bro. Richard and Sis. Wilma) and Shane Santi (Ron and Kay Santi, Boone, IA). We wish them much happiness.

We enjoyed our Sunday school picnic Sunday, June 13, and appreciated those from Garden Grove who were with us. May God bless our teachers who so willingly give of their time to teach our dear children.

With grateful hearts we want to thank you all, our dear brothers and sisters, for your love, prayers, concern and support for our dear children's healing and well being; also for food, visits, cards and gifts of love while Richard was in the hospital and since returning home.

God has promised to stand by us through all trials and He certainly has answered many prayers.

May God richly bless all for your love and kindness.

Bro. Richard and Sis. Wilma
Teubel

IOWA, WEST BEND**Mary Gerber - Lela Banwart**

We are so thankful for the privilege to hearing the testimonies and witnessing the baptisms of two dear souls recently. We heartily welcome Bro. Arthur Banwart and Bro. Paul Demiter into our fellowship. Elder Bro. Eugene Pamer (Akron, OH) was here to assist our Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr and Bro. Wayne Grimm in this work. Other ministers present were Bros. Dale Moore (Elgin, IA), Russell Wuthrich (Pulaski), Joe Gerst (Iowa City) and Dale Wulf (Lester).

My Lord, an offering to I bring,
My heart I give to Thee.
I gladly give this heart of mine,
Which Thou dost ask of me.

Lord, let my heart Thy temple be
The while I sojourn here,
And then, through all eternity,
Make it Thy dwelling there.

Zion's Harp #163

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the sick and suffering. Hospital patients have been Sis. Katie Ludwig, Bro. Earl Banwart (Sis. Edna), Bro. Mike Tapavico (Donna), Bro. Art Banwart (Madeline) and Sis. Elma Moger (Bro. Ervin). May the Lord continue to be near each one with His comforting Spirit and healing touch.

We thank Bro. Gene Lehman for sharing the pictures of the World Relief work in the Ukraine and Russia. May he and Sis. Verna be blessed for taking the time to share pictures and the Word with us. Bro. Dean Messner (Winthrop, MN) and Bro. Gene (Wolcott, IN) were with us on Sunday also, and expressed many timely thoughts to our graduating seniors.

We are thankful to God who has sent another bundle of joy into the home of Bro. Mark and Sis. Janet Fehr. Big sister, Erica, is on hand to help care for Jessica Ann, as well as grandparents, Bro. Jim and

Sis. Sharon Fehr and Maurice and Sis. Marge Schafer (Tremont, IL).

We extend sympathy to Bro. Cameron and Sis. Tammy Knobloch on the death of Cameron's grandmother, Sis. Frieda Knobloch (Lester).

JAPAN, SHIODA

Willis R. Ehnle

On Sunday, June 13, we had our Sunday school and church picnic along a river in a wooded area. It was starting to rain as we left our church and that is always a concern when it comes to picnics. It was raining harder when we got to the picnic area and we were about to give up when Bro. Andy Klaus who was visiting from Tokyo suggested that we have our picnic under the nearby bridge. I thought that was an excellent idea, so we gathered there and had our wiener roast and picnic as well as our children's program and a singing.

Bridges are very important because they will carry you across a river. Come to think of it, the Lord Jesus Christ is like a bridge. He carries us across the river of death to the promised land. He joins us with God - He serves as the connecting link. The word bridge is not found in the Bible, but Jesus did say, "I am the way, the truth and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."

Bro. Andy and Sis. Jana Klaus brought three guests with them when they visited us. (They also brought their baby son, Caleb). The three guests were Sis. Lori Kieser and Sis. Peggy Knobloch (Princeville, IL) and Sis. Deanne Stahl (Bradford, IL). We tried to learn all we could from them, spiritually and culturally. We have to wonder how it would be to attend one of our Central Illinois churches on a regular basis and to adjust to that culture.

Four former kindergarten parents and their children came to the picnic. We were thankful.

Mrs. Ishikawa, who is a close friend and lives near our home and church, is hospitalized in Kofu with back trouble. She expects to be in the hospital for about one month. We miss seeing her in church but

she reads and reads her Bible in the hospital.

KANSAS, BERN

Diane Kaeb - Donna Edelman

In days of youth seek ye the Lord,
His love and truth with one
accord,

Go offer Him thy youthful days
and

Walk within the Savior's ways.

Hymns of Zion #135

We rejoice in the knowledge that by God's grace souls continue to be called into salvation. Jananne Hartter (Bro. Neil and Sis. Evelyn), Carla Meyer (Bro. Robert and Sis. Janet), Lisa Menold (Bro. Don and Sis. Pat) and Holly Menold (Bro. Joe and Sis. Kathy Rokey) have given their hearts to the Lord in repentance. May God richly bless them as they begin to walk in His ways.

With heartfelt appreciation we thank Bro. Wayne Miller (Fort Scott, KS) who shared God's Word with us.

Congratulations to happy grandparents, Bro. Wayne and Sis. Claudia Strahm on the birth of their first grandchild, Anna Lanette, born May 20 to Bro. Wayne and Sis. Camille Hartzler (Rittman, OH). Also congratulations to Bro. Melvin and Sis. Florence Rokey on the birth of a grandson, Josiah Zachary Jay born May 28 to Don and Sheri Rokey.

Benjy Jordan was born June 7 and is the son of Bro. Arden and Sis. Darlene Stoller. Welcoming him home is Maria, Steven, Rick and Lauri. His grandparents are Bro. Harlan and Sis. Pearl Stoller and Bro. Bill and Sis. Leona Wulf (Lester). May God bless these little ones and their families.

We extend sympathy to Bro. Roy and Sis. Lucy Rokey, Bro. Melvin and Sis. Florence Rokey and Bro. Joe and Sis. Lila Rokey and their families on the death of their brother, Benjamin Rokey, who passed away June 7.

Thank You: I would like to say thanks to each and every one for prayers, cards and flowers I re-

ceived the past two months. May God bless you all.

Sis. Mildred Strahm

Our prayers continue to be with Sis. Mildred Strahm and may she ever feel God's nearness.

KANSAS, FORT SCOTT

Janelle Sinn - Tammy Sinn

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

Psalm 119:105

Our congregation was certainly blessed with teachings from the Word during Vacation Bible School the week of June 7-11. We truly enjoyed the songs and verses recited by the children in their Bible school program. We would also like to thank ministering Bros. Don Braker (Kansas City, MO), Bill Emch (Lamont) and Bob Stoller (Lamar, MO) for their teachings and exhortations to the adult Bible class. May the Lord bless His Word so that it will continue to grow in our hearts.

Our sympathy and prayers are extended to the family and loved ones of Bro. George Bahr as he passes on to his heavenly home. We will always remember his happy smile and kind words he was always ready to share. Bro. George will certainly be missed by those who were blessed to know him.

KANSAS, GRIDLEY

Doug and Judy Kraft

JESUS, THE TRUEST FRIEND

Who is He that cares and watches
O'er our life and soul's estate?
Who is He that thus has drawn us?
Christ alone, His love is great.

Ere Thy light shone in with
brightness,
Did'st Thou see us in our woe.
Thou did'st die to give salvation
To the lost ones here below.

Zion's Harp #18

The words in the above hymn had a special meaning to our dear Bro. George Bahr, 69, who was laid to rest June 7. He leaves his broth-

ers and sisters, Arnold and Helen Bahr, Roy and Doris Bahr, James and Ruth Bahr, Anna Lou Aberle and Joe and Wilma Farney. Bro. George was the oldest person in the country who was afflicted with spinal bifida and had been confined to a wheelchair most of his life. He was an example and inspiration to all.

KANSAS, KIOWA

Darcy Kisling - Janice Bahr

MY COUNTRY, 'TIS OF THEE

Our fathers' God to Thee,
Author of liberty,
To Thee we sing;
Long may our land be bright,
With freedom's holy light,
Protect us by Thy might,
Great God, our King!

Gospel Hymns #738, vs. 4

As we celebrate this Independence Day, let us be thankful for this great freedom to worship God unhindered.

Here in Kansas, farmers have been harvesting the beautiful "amber waves of grain." Again, we can praise God for this bounty.

Our Bible school this year had great attendance and faithful helpers. All of the effort put forth to lead our youth closer to the Lord is truly appreciated.

KANSAS, LAMONT

Jane Isch

Bro. Glen and Sis. Lorean Anliker have recently moved to Roggen, CO, and plan to assemble with the Denver church. They are sorely missed in our small congregation but we wish them the Lord's continued care and blessings in their new endeavor.

June 6 was the wedding day of Sis. Jody Isch and Bro. Mike Bahler. Their parents are Bro. Ron and Sis. Jane Isch and Bro. Lowell and Sis. Karla Bahler (Wolcott, IN). We wish God's richest blessings on this union as they establish their home in Wolcott, IN.

We were thankful to have Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott, IN), Bro. Ken Schneider (Remington,

IN) and Bro. Don Braker (Kansas City, MO) with us for this special weekend. May God continue to bless them and their families as they are used in His service.

Martha Hughes has once again been in the hospital but is home and seems to be gaining strength. We pray God will provide for her.

KANSAS, SABETHA

Mary Kay Wenger

Sharon Strahm

May 23 was a special day for Bro. Barry Metzger (Bro. Eldon and Sis. Doreen Metzger, Gridley, KS) and Sis. Regina Edelman (Sis. Marge) as they were united in marriage by Elder Bro. Gene Marti (Kansas City, KS). We wish God's blessings on their lives. We appreciated Bro. Dennis Rassi (Fairbury, IL) bringing forth God's Word and also Bros. Max Reimschisel (Wichita, KS) and Lloyd Kraft (Gridley, KS).

We were thankful to have Bro. Randy Kellenberger (Kansas City, KS) minister to us May 30. Then on June 6, we were richly blest and provided for again when Bro. Charles Sauder (Tremont, IL) ministered to our needs. We thank them both for sharing God's Word and bringing their families to fellowship with us.

Our prayers have been with our hospital patients, Sis. Mary Aberle, Bro. Willard Bahr and Bro. Joe Traub. We are thankful all are improving. Bro. Kyle Beyer fractured his ankles; but we are thankful to see him back on his feet!

Wednesday evening, May 28, was a blessed evening when Lafe Bailey (Debbie) was privileged to give his testimony telling us how God worked in his life. He then was baptized and welcomed as our brother-in-Christ. We rejoice with him and his family. Elder Bro. John Lehman assisted our Elder Bro. Sam Huber.

We extend heartfelt sympathy to several families: To Bro. Lou Wenger and family as his only remaining brother passed away. To the family of Bro. George Bahr. He lived his last years at the Apostolic Christian Home here doing what he could for others. Funeral ser-

vices and burial were June 7 at our Gridley, KS, church. And to the family of Ben Rokey, age 71, who passed away June 7 after time in the hospital. He is survived by a son, Mark; and brothers, Bros. Roy, Melvin and Joe (Bern, KS), Bro. Ervin (Phoenix, AZ) and Bro. Ira (Goodfield, IL). May God's comforting hand be with each one in their loss.

KANSAS, WICHITA

Emma Miller

Our visiting minister was Bro. Howard Plattner who, with his wife, Sis. Kristen, and children, were warmly welcomed "home." They now live in Lowell, MI, and worship at the Alto church.

Sis. Ann Farney just had surgery and we are asking the Lord for a full recovery. Bro. Harvey and Sis. Ann are pillars in our church having worshipped here for over 50 years.

Bro. Mike Bowers has moved to Perryton, TX, where he will manage an Alco store there. May he find his security in the Lord and find confidence in His all-embracing care.

Our fathers surely were honored and blessed today (Father's Day) in church as it was nearly full and the visitors were lifting their singing voices heartily to the Lord. We helped too. We express our appreciation for fathers who taught us the love of God and lived what they taught.

Silver Lining dues, \$9.00, are collectible the first two weeks in August.

"People cannot become perfect by dint of hearing or reading about perfection. The chief thing is not to listen to yourself, but silently to listen to God. Talk little and do much, without caring to be seen. God will teach you more than all the most experienced persons or the most spiritual books can do. You already know a great deal more than you practice. You do not need the acquirement of fresh knowledge half so much as to put in practice that which you already possess."

Francois Fenelon

MICHIGAN, ALTO Jane Grawburg

“. . . This is my body which is given for you: This do in remembrance of me.”

Luke 22:19

Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Sis. Judy, Chicago, IL) joined our Elder Bro. Aaron Steffen in sharing communion with us. We enjoyed having Elder Bro. Dale with us and appreciate his labors of love.

Our cups were filled when we attended the Apostolic Christian Woodhaven Benefit sponsored by the Detroit choir. Special thanks to all those who helped in some way to make this benefit possible. We can away most richly blessed with song, and love.

Sis. Margaret Wingeier (Sis. Christine) experienced a fall at her home. Our prayers are with her as she recuperates.

Father's Day: A time to celebrate; a time to love; a time to share; a time to reflect; a time to pray; a time to care; a time to consider our heavenly Father and the way He cares for us. Thank you and God's blessings to each one.

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY Marlene Mosher

Sis. Loretta Mosher was in the hospital and had a pacemaker insertion.

Bro. Winsor and Sis. Loretta Mosher would like to thank everyone for their cards, gifts and many prayers through their illnesses and the Lord's blessing to each and every one. Thank you all.

Graduates for 1993 are Azumi Horiuchi, exchange student, who made her home this past year with Bro. Eugene and Sis. Carol Meylan, Marcia, Gina and Megan; Bro. Chad Wieland (son of Bro. Merl and Sis. Elaine Wieland); Greg Schlatter (son of Sis. Sharon Schlatter); Sis. Tessa Schambach (daughter of Bro. Lee and Sis. Carolyn Schambach); Sis. Lisa Waibel (daughter of Bro. Bill and Sis. Carol Waibel); Aaron Weiss (son of Bob and Sis. Maureen Weiss) and Lanae Kimmerly (daughter of Gordon and Sis. Lynn Kimmerly).

“In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths.”
Proverbs 3:6

We wish the Lord's grace and comfort to Bro. Neil, Sis. Ginger, Lane and Nicole Mosher on the loss of Sis. Ginger's father, Forrest Friend. We would also wish comfort to Sis. Ginger's mother, brother and sister.

MICHIGAN, DETROIT Holly Barton - Marlene Reinhard

On May 23, we held the benefit dinner for Woodhaven. With the help and dedication from our home church here in Detroit, and the faithful support from several of our neighboring churches, God truly blessed the weekend. May God continue to bless all who participated in this annual event.

May 30 was a special day for Bro. Kevin Krieger and Sis. Kristine Price (Bro. Glen and Sis. Sandy Price, Sarasota, FL) as they promised their lives to each other before God and many witnesses. June 12 was the wedding day of Eric Gudeman (late Sis. Ruth) and JoAnne Putain (Dick and Gail, West Bloomfield, MI). May the union of their hearts withstand the storms in life and bond them closer together as the blessings continue to scatter their daily walk of life.

Our prayers are with Sis. Ann Tachar as she has experience surgery this past month. May God place his healing hand upon her and grant cheer in each moment of her days.

June has brought much anticipation to many young hearts with the approaching of graduation. our high school graduates are Ann Marie Allen (Bro. Pat and Sis. Jeanie), Sis. Alisa Bahr (Bro. Mark and Sis. Bev), Tim Haines (Leland and Katie) and Jason Rauhe (Bro. Warren and Sis. Kay). College graduates are Sis. Suzanne Weiland (Bro. Nate) and Bro. Doug Reinhard (Bro. Dan and Sis. Delores, Garden Grove, IA). As the road ahead seems unknown of the opportunities and decisions each one will encounter, may they always remember God's promise . . .

“I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye.”
Psalms 32:8

The love of God will not lead us where the grace of God cannot keep us. May God's grace ever surround the lives of these dear souls each and every day, whether at college or in the working world.

“I will hear what God the Lord will speak for he will speak peace unto his people, and to his saints.”
Psalms 85:8

After answering God's knock on her heart's door, Ethel Rambeau has heard God speak peace unto her soul and is looking forward to being a servant to God the rest of her life. We are thankful Ethel and her sister, Martha, are renewing their many friendships with the brethren here in Detroit after forty years of absence from our fellowship. We wish God's marvelous grace upon the hearts of these two dear children from the Kruzan family.

We want to welcome David Metz (Francesville, IN) to Detroit as he seeks summer employment in a local business in the Detroit area. May God bless his stay here and may he build many memories for future blessings.

We were thankful to have Bro. Don Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN) visit us June 13. May these faithful ministering brothers always feel the love and support of the church.

August 3 is Bay City's turn to host Tuesday evening services at Woodhaven with the residents. Everyone is welcome to attend.

With spring time around us, our lives can be paralleled to that of a farmer's field. As we see the many crops growing as a result of the diligent labors of the farmers, may we be reminded of the spiritual seed that has been planted in our hearts, some at a young age and some at an older age, that in order to achieve growth we must water and fertilize it daily. When God sends His Son to harvest the fields, we want to be found among the true and faithful and be gathered up into the glorious mansion prepared

for us in heaven. As important to us as the crops are in the field, may our spiritual well-being be cared for so it may also grow and bring forth a bountiful harvest.

Thought: Put today in God's hands.

MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS Delores Sauder

"Therefore shall a man leave his father and mother, and cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh." (Genesis 2:24) Many of us had the privilege to witness the marriage vows of Lori Virkler and Nick Stadel May 22. We wish them God's blessings as they make their home in Silverton, OR. Their parents are Bro. Perry and Sis. Carol Virkler and Norman and Maryann Stadel (Silverton, OR). On June 4, Ilene Miller (daughter of Bro. Noah and Sis. Laura Miller) was married to Eugene Grace.

Elder Bros. Joe Stoller (Princeville, IL) and Wayne Fehr (West Bend, IA) brought forth God's Word May 23. We thank them for their labors and can feel their love and concern for our small congregation.

The Bible class traveled to Lester, IA, June 12 for Youth Fellowship Weekend. Our prayers are that the youth will be drawn closer to God as His Word is brought forth. Thanks to the Lester congregation for their deeds of kindness and labors of love.

Ministering Bro. Kent and Sis. Mary Mogler have moved. Their new address is: 1870 52nd St. E., Apt. 112, Inver Grove Heights, MN 55077, phone 612-450-7386.

MINNESOTA, MORRIS Maxine Sauder - Debra Joos

Many of our congregation traveled to Lester, IA, May 23 to witness the wedding vows of Bro. Mike Domnick and Sis. Marci Warner. Their parents are Bro. Gary and Sis. Velma Domnick and Elder Bro. Dennis and Sis. Esther Warner. We wish this dear couple a long and happy marriage in the Lord and welcome Sis. Marci to our congregation.

Our hospital patients this month

have been Bro. Gottlieb Joos, Bro. Leo Dogotch, Bro. Alvin Nohl and Jonah Koehl.

Two homes were recently blessed with new babies. A very special little girl was born to Bro. Roy and Sis. Jenell Koehl May 31. She has been named Martha Lyn and is happily welcomed home by brothers, Lucas, Kurtis, Levi and Adam and by grandparents, Bro. Ernest and Sis. Gladys Koehl and Bro. Jake and Sis. Alice Wulf (Lester, IA).

Thankful for the safe arrival of baby Micah Alan June 5 are Bro. Gary and Sis. Sandy Fehr and Amy, Mitchell, Amanda and Ashley. Grandparents are Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Diane Fehr. May God bless these families as they guide these little footsteps.

The engagement of Bro. Dwayne Feuchtenberger and Sis. Kay Koehl was made known recently. They are planning a July 25 wedding. Bro. Dwayne and Sis. Kay's parents are Bro. Gerald and Sis. Karen Feuchtenberger and Bro. Eddie and Sis. Lois Koehl.

August 29 is the date that Bro. Chuck Massner (Sis. Phyllis Knobloch, Oakville, IA) and Sis. Lois Schmidgall (Bro. Richard and Sis. Corrine) have chosen as their wedding date. May God's blessings be with these couples as they make their wedding plans.

Our only visiting minister this month was Elder Bro. Dennis Warner (Lester, IA). We thank him for his visit.

On June 15, we said farewell to our dear Bro. Ben Greiner as he exchanged his cross for a starry crown. He will be deeply missed by his wife, Sis. Martha and daughters, Sis. Karen Koehl (Bro. Ken) and Sis. Jean Martin (Bro. Dave, Elgin, IL); and nine grandchildren. He is also survived by brothers, Otto, Emil and Bro. Robert; and by sisters, Sis. Rose Eurich, Lydia Osmun and Sis. Tillie Rudin.

Lane Koehl and Elizabeth Plummer were united in holy matrimony June 19 in California. Lane's parents are Bro. Ken and Sis. Karen Koehl. We wish Lane and Elizabeth God's blessings on their marriage and look forward to getting to know Elizabeth.

MINNESOTA, WINTHROP Kim Messner - Joleen Messner

Greetings! We would like to thank the Lester, IA, congregation on hosting the annual Sunday school picnic. It was an enjoyable and blessed weekend. We pray that the young, Sunday school adults will ponder the teachings of the weekend.

As the Sunday school year came to an end, we also enjoyed the blessings of our annual Sunday school picnic.

The annual brotherhood conference is approaching. May we keep our beloved brothers in our thoughts and prayers as they gather together across the miles.

We pray for the dear soul, Bro. Mike Messner (Sis. Joyce), who has undergone surgery. May God bring renewed health and strength.

We would like to extend our sympathy to Bro. Jim and Sis. Marcy Knobloch and family in the passing of his grandmother, Sis. Frieda Knobloch (Lester, IA).

MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY Joan Fehr - Jamie Marti

Many thanks to Bro. Ben Wysong (Sabetha, KS) for ministering to us May 16. May God bless you as you continue in His service.

On May 23, Bro. Barry Metzger (Bro. Eldon and Sis. Doreen, Gridley, KS) and Sis. Gina Edelman (Sis. Marge and the late Clemens, Sabetha, KS) were united in marriage. We welcome them to Kansas City for the summer. May God's richest blessings be upon them.

On June 13, we gathered for a farewell potluck supper for Bro. Jerry, Sis. Doreen and Kaylin Leuthold. Bro. Jerry has been transferred to Indianapolis, IN. We will miss them in our fellowship and trust that God will continue to direct their lives.

MISSOURI, LAMAR Carolyn Banwart

Our hospital patients this month were Sis. Marilyn Luthi (Bro. Ray), Matthew Luthi (Bro. Troy and Sis. Vanessa) and Maxie Schlupp. Maxine had double knee replacements. We pray that God will be

with each one and bless and heal as He sees best.

We extend our sympathy to Sis. Evelyn Marti (Bro. Joe) in the loss of her mother, Lula Adams.

We want to thank everyone for flowers, gifts, money, plants and food at the time of the death of my mother. May God bless each one.

Bro. Leonard (Joe)
and Sis. Evelyn Marti

MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS

Betsy Schrenk

We are happy and thankful to welcome Bro. John and Sis. Amy Ginzl to our congregation. She is an R.N. at Barnes Hospital, and he will be a law student at Washington University. They have moved here from Peoria, IL. Also back in St. Louis for the summer is Bro. Duane Rocke (Eureka, IL). A University of Illinois, co-op student, he is in his final rotation at McDonnell-Douglas.

Bro. Mike Rieker (Peoria, IL), Bro. Kenny Knapp (Taylor) and Elder Bro. Lawrence Luthi (Lamar) brought us God's precious Word this past month. Sometimes the group here is large, sometimes small — we appreciate the ministering brothers' willingness to be used of God regardless of the circumstances.

Our congregation was privileged to share in the celebration of Bro. Dave and Sis. Mary Kaeb's 50th wedding anniversary. They and their entire family met in St. Louis for a blessed weekend in June. Most of them live in central Illinois, but some traveled from each coast to complete the family circle. Our prayer for them is that their family circle will also be unbroken in heaven.

Perhaps few of us have experience with animals and yokes. If the yoke fits the animal, the burden is easy to handle. One of our visiting ministers taught us about his subject. He asked us if our Christian burdens are difficult for us to deal with. We can read in the Bible that "my yoke is easy, my burden is light." If we find the burden heavy, we should examine ourselves to find out where we may not be in compliance with God's Word. We

need to conform our lives so the yoke will fit, and we will feel that the burden is indeed light.

MISSOURI, TAYLOR

Tami Grimm

We appreciated having two visiting ministers this month; Elder Bro. Ervin Knecht (Eureka, IL) and Elder Bro. Paul Butikofer (Elgin, IA).

Our prayers are with Eleanor Arrowsmith, Sis. Marge Gerst's mother, who is in the hospital.

June 13 was a special day as Bro. Phil Baurer (Bro. Ed and Sis. Carol, Princeville, IL) and Sis. Linda Siebenthal (Bro. Eugene and Sis. Kay, Princeville, IL) were united in Christ. We have enjoyed having Bro. Phil live here the past few years and welcome Linda to our congregation!

Those of us who have Christian dads have so much to be thankful for. As we honor our fathers on Father's Day, let us also reflect on our heavenly Father, whose love never fails!

NEW JERSEY, UNION CITY

Franz Soni

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."

Hebrews 11:1

We thank Bro. Everett Gerber (Rockville, CT) for sharing God's Word with us. May God richly reward him for his efforts.

We are holding services once a month at the Days Inn, 2750 Tonnelle Avenue (Route 109), North Bergen, NJ. We welcome all visitors. Please call Elder Bro. Edward Aeschleman at (301) 478-7847, or Bro. Franz Soni at (201) 478-7846 for information.

NEW YORK, CROGHAN/NAUMBURG

Alice Virkler

Sis. Betty Herzig (late Bro. Arthur) was called from this life after several months of illness. She was able to stay in her home where her family so faithfully cared for

her in her last days. Services were held by our ministering brothers May 26. Our deepest sympathy is extended to her family, a son, Bradley; and a daughter, Sis. Bessie Farney (Bro. Clifton); and four grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. She is also survived by two brothers, William Tomiello and Frank Tomiello; and two sisters, Mildred Dobos and Elise Zaccone (all of New Jersey).

Two families have welcomed new babies in the past month. Jocelyn Denise, born May 19, is welcomed as the first daughter of Norman and Vikki Hirschey. Her brothers are Joel and Brian, and her grandmother is Sis. Bernice Hirschey (Bro. Leland). Tim and Marion Nortz and Heather have welcomed Matthew Lewis, who was born June 8. Grandparents are Jack and Barbara Nortz and Lewis and Ruth Whitney (Phoenix, AZ). Bro. Roy and Sis. Edna Sturtze are the great-grandparents.

Sis. Lovina Farney has also reached the age of 100 years June 2. Our thoughts and prayers are with her as she is unable to assemble with us at church. She is awaiting the time when God will call her home to meet her family who were all called before her, her husband, Bro. Reuben, and her three children, Urban, Kathryn Virkler and Elizabeth Babel. May God be her strength and guide in her remaining days. Several of us were able to gather at her home for a singing to help her celebrate this special milestone in her life.

On Sunday, June 13, Elder Bros. Ed Aeschleman (Philadelphia, PA) and Eugene Pamer (Akron, OH) were here to serve holy communion with Bro. Duane Farney. We were again reminded of Christ's love and suffering for each of us. We want to thank these brothers for serving us and the Lord. May each of us remember the meaning of this feast which we enjoyed together.

Sis. Corinne Virkler was a patient in the hospital for several days and at this writing she is a resident of a home in Port Leyden. We hope she can return to her home again soon. May God continue to give her strength for each day.

Our congratulations and best wishes go to our high school graduates this month. They are Lynnette Lawton (Fred and Linda) and Robert Hirschey (Ronald and Beth). As they are ending one phase of life and look forward to another one, may they also look to God for their guidance.

Silver Lining subscription dues are payable during the month of August for the Croghan/Naumburg church.

OHIO, AKRON

Joyce Gasser

"Pray ye the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest." (Luke 10:2) With each command of Jesus, He gives his help. Jesus had said He would make fishers of men, but after His resurrection, the labourers went to their old fishing trade, but they toiled in vain. Jesus saw their struggle, and gave His Word of direction, and so they caught a multitude. Jesus asked for them to bring of the fish to Him. Perhaps this could symbolize the success we would hope for when we labor for the Lord according to His Word, so that souls can be drawn to the Lord.

Jodi Grawunder, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Fred Grawunder, was hospitalized and we are thankful she can assemble with us again.

We appreciated visiting Elder Bro. John Klotzle from California and Bro. Glenn Riggenbach (Smithville).

OHIO, COLUMBUS

Julie Grimm

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." (II Timothy 3:16-17) God's blessings upon Bro. Carrol Gerber (Bluffton North, IN) and Bro. Larry Wenniger (Latty, OH) for serving us in the ministry.

We are thankful the Lord has brought Bro. Andy Hunyady safely

home from Eastern Europe and pray God will bless the labors put forth.

Paxton and Denise Williams welcomed little Amanda Sue to their family June 18. May God grant them wisdom and guidance to raise the child entrusted to their care. Loving grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Becky Sauder and Fred and Sue Williams.

Silver Lining dues are due the month of July.

OHIO, JUNCTION

Sandra Manz

Hot summer weather often brings vacation plans. When we call ahead to reserve a room, we need to choose a place and ask for a certain number of days. When ministering Bro. Carroll Gerber (Bluffton North, IN) visited us, he reminded us that we need to be making reservations with Jesus for eternity in heaven.

Young Kyle Schlatter (Bro. Ralph and Sis. Sheila) has fully recovered from surgery following a farm accident. Bro. Emmanuel Manz (Sis. Louise), 84 years old, has made a remarkable recovery following five bypass heart surgery. We are thankful that there is healing for the young and the old.

Sis. Anna Manz has moved into a smaller home in town. Her new address is 210 North Drive, Paulding, OH 45879. She would appreciate hearing from old friends.

We bid a fond farewell to Niki Wiggers as she has returned to the Netherlands following a year as an exchange student. We trust that she will benefit from the fellowship and Biblical teachings received in our country.

We wish to thank everyone for the many prayers, pretty cards, visits, phone calls and gifts received after Emmanuel's surgery. Special thanks to our families for their support during his time of convalescence. God bless you.

Bro. Emmanuel and Sis. Louise
Manz

OHIO, LATTY

Kathy Sinn - Lane Stoller

". . . Suffer the little children to

come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God.

"Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein."

Mark 10;14-15

The week of June 14-18 was our Vacation Bible School with the program being on the evening of the final day. It was a blessed and enjoyable time for parents and friends. We were able to view the crafts, then sit quietly and listen to the beautiful songs sung by the children of all ages. We truly appreciate all those that gave so willingly of their time to plant seeds of God's love in young, tender hearts.

We are thankful that God opened the way for Bro. Bill Waibel (Bay City, MI), Bro. Earl Beery (Rittman, OH) and Bro. Don Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN) to visit our congregation and bring forth God's Word.

The Lord has heard our prayers and allowed those recovering from surgeries to assemble with us once more. We are very happy to have Bro. Mark Stoller (Sis. Shirley) and Bro. Dwight Stoller (Sis. Lori) back in our midst.

OHIO, MANSFIELD

Cari Mann

On Saturday, June 5, we had our annual church clean-up day. As we were bringing the church to shining brightness, the thought came that not only do we need to keep our physical church building clean and in repair, we also need to constantly keep our spiritual building repaired and white as snow so that we may be worthy of a mansion that will never need cleaned.

The week of June 7 - 11, we had Vacation Bible School. While the children were downstairs learning about their Lord, the adults were upstairs being enlightened and encouraged by the following topics: Self Worth by Elder Bro. Ed Schwartz (Bluffton, IN); Redeeming the Time by Bro. Doug Harmon (Toledo); The New Age Movement by Bro. Doug Sabo (Sarasota, FL) and The Christian Family's Walk of Life by Bro. Ken Schneider

(Remington, IN). We appreciate these brothers giving of themselves and their time and pray that God will bless them as only He can for their efforts.

On Monday evening, there was a severe electrical storm during the service. Even though there were a couple of surges, the church never lost power. This can be compared to our spiritual life, even though Satan storms and rages and even comes fairly close at times, as long as we are anchored to the Solid Rock, we will never lose His power.

"He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; . . ." (Mark 16:16) The weekend of June 12 and 13 brought four new souls into our fold. We welcome to our flock Sis. Kristy Tucker (Dan and Sis. Barb), Bro. Frank Bertka and Bro. Joe and Sis. Betty Pamer. Betty's sons and daughters-in-law are Bro. Gregg and Sis. Sharon Sabo (Mansfield) and Bro. Doug and Sis. Linda Sabo (Sarasota, FL). May God richly bless Elder Bros. Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI and Sarasota, FL) and Aaron Steffan (Alto, MI) for being here to assist Bro. Ken with this joyous occasion.

May God grant a special blessing to Bros. Doug Sabo and Ken Schneider who extended their visits to spend the weekend with us. We were also blessed that Sunday afternoon with a visit from Bro. Milon Jevremov and his family from Yugoslavia. We also pray for a blessing on Bro. John Grimm for being with us two weekends in a row.

It has been said that if you don't know where you are going, it doesn't matter what road you take. Our friend, Tami Baltic (Bro. Pete and Sis. Karen) knows she wants to go to heaven and has decided to take the narrow road. May God be with her during her repentance.

"God be with you till we meet again, by His council's guide uphold you . . ." (Hymns of Zion #216) Our friends, Chad Keever (Bro. Clair and Sis. Bev) and Clark Gerber (Wayne) are enjoying the opportunity to visit Clark's brother, Grant, in Ireland for the summer. Their address is 83 Rossbrook, Model Farm Road, Cork, Ireland. Also our friend, Todd Ramsier (Bro.

Wally and Sis. Helen) will be spending the summer in Illinois where he has found employment. All three young men will surely be missed.

At age 73, our dear Sis. Ruth Weiss has been relieved of her earthly duties and has been called home. We pray that her loving family, Mrs. Keith (Mary) Kemper, Jim Weiss and Ron Layland and their families will feel God's comforting arms around them in their time of sorrow.

We pray that Sis. Sue Beer (Bro. Joel), Mildred Dolce and Bro. Frank Bertka will feel God's healing power as they have been hospitalized during the past month.

OHIO, RITTMAN
Linda Ramsier
Marsha Hartzler

"And so, farewell to you, beloved brother, As now we part and say our fond 'farewell!' Should we, again be meeting one another, Then pray we find that in you still doth dwell The love of Christ, that first and dearest treasure, That always fill our hearts with grateful pleasure."

Zion's Harp #114

We say a fond farewell to Bro. Jim Zollinger as he moves to Silverton, OR. We appreciated your support in assembling here with us in Rittman. We pray the Lord will bless you and Sis. Tresa in your forthcoming marriage.

Bro. Wayne and Sis. Camille Hartzler welcomed their first child, Anna Lannette, May 20. Grandparents, Bro. Dale and Sis. Joyce Hartzler and Bro. Wayne and Sis. Claudia Strahm (Bern, KS) also welcome the new arrival.

James Michael joined the family of Bro. Vern and Sis. Deanna Lanz, June 2. Julie and Scott now have a new playmate. Grandparents are Dick and Sis. Freda Lanz (Rockville, CT) and Bro. Elton and Sis. Velma Rufener.

June 12 was the wedding day for Ross Maibach (Dale and Dixie) and Lori Carpenter (Mr. and Mrs. Randy Carpenter).

The following day, June 13, Bro. Jon Widmer (Bro. Robert and Sis.

Joann) and Sis. Mary Beery (Bro. Everett and Sis. Carol) were united in holy matrimony. We wish them the Lord's blessings as they establish their home. We want to thank Bro. Nelson Beer (Milford, IN) for proclaiming the Word on this special day.

We appreciate the labors of our other visiting ministers this past month: Elder Bro. John Klotzle (Altadena, CA), Bro. Paul Gasser (Akron) and Bro. Ken Indermuhle (Sardis).

We extend our sympathy to Robert Maag (Martha) on the death of his mother, Pauline Hochstetler.

"When my soul and body languish, Doubts and fears upon me press, Yet my heart shall feel no anguish, For Christ's love does me refresh. He's my joy and consolation In my fear and tribulation. Jesus Christ, my Lord, shall be All and everything to me!"

Zion's Harp #231

Sis. Donna Young (Bill) was called to her heavenly home, May 29. After many years of sickness, what a blessing to be in heaven. We pray the Lord will stand by, mightily, with His grace to the family: Bro. Terry (Sis. Peggy, Forrest, IL), Vicki Hupp (Mike) and Sis. LuAnn Musser (Bro. Michael). Sis. Donna's brothers and sisters, Harold (Sis. Rhea, Smithville), Bro. Richard (Sis. Marie, Phoenix, AZ), the late Bro. Karl (Sis. Ruth), Sis. Delphine Nieman (Bro. Charles, Smithville), Sis. Alma Maibach (Tug, Smithville) and Sis. Christine Dotterer (Bro. Laverne, Mansfield), will also miss her. It seemed she always had the desire and made that extra effort to assemble in the Lord's house with us. May we all strive to have and to keep the desire to hear the Word.

Wayne Gasser passed away June 12. We extend our sympathy to his family: Bro. Robert (Sis. Neva), Willard, Lloyd, Roy, Sis. Mildred Christian (Bro. Ralph), Twila Robinson, Doris Lane and Helen Marty.

Our loved ones in the hospital recently have been Sis. Mary Ellen Bauman, Bro. Ralph Christian (Sis. Mildred), Sis. Velma Hartzler (Bro.

Reuben), Bro. Carl Ingold (Sis. Erma), Sis. Marion Klotzle, Glenn Miller (Sis. Ella), Sis. LuAnn Musser (Bro. Michael), Sis. Ellen Weber (Bro. Ralph) and Bill Young. May the Lord encourage each one.

Dear Ones,

I would like to thank each one of you who remembered us during my stay in the hospital. A special thank you for the cards, flowers and prayers. May God bless you.

In Christian love,
Sis. Velma Hartzler
(Bro. Reuben)

"Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil."

Ephesians 6:11-12

OHIO, SARDIS

Renee Miller

The project to restore the New Martinsville, WV, church has now been completed. Finishing work included cementing an area to the left and front of the church, landscaping, and general clean-up. The phrase "beautifully simple" seems to come to mind when looking at the freshened old church. One crew of workers used a transit to locate the Sardis church from the WV church site. It is amazing that the two churches are within 15 feet of being on the same level perhaps only five miles apart by air, although 15 miles driving distance apart through the valley and hills. We appreciate the efforts of many who have made this project possible.

OHIO, SMITHVILLE

Gwen Stoller - Kim Stoller

Courtney Joy arrived to bless the home of first-time parents, Bro. Ben and Sis. Sharon Gasser. Grandparents are Bro. Glenn and Sis. Liz Gasser.

Bros. Rick Plattner (Peoria, IL) and Marvin Dotterer (Forrest, IL) visited our congregation. We are thankful for brothers who are willing to bring God's Word to us.

We rejoice with Sharon and

Debra Hartzler (Bro. Ken and Sis. Jane) as they have been given grace to begin their repentance.

OHIO, TOLEDO Joy Beard - Edie Fetter

"... For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: . . ."

Matthew 19:5

Congratulations and best wishes are extended to Aaron and Sandy Beard who were married May 22. Parents are Bro. David and Sis. GERALYN Beard. May God bless them as they establish a new home together.

OREGON, SILVERTON

Becky Gudeman

Peggy Schulz

Greetings to each of you. As our country celebrates July 4 as Independence Day, may we be thankful that the country we live in was established as "One nation, under God . . . with liberty and justice for all."

We are thankful to report that though our friend, Verna Bolliger, is still hospitalized, she has been moved out of intensive care. Our thoughts and prayers are with her and her husband, Elmer.

On June 12, a wedding reception for Lori and Nick Stadel was held at the Silverton Grange. We are glad to have them reassemble with us after being united in marriage in Minneapolis, MN.

Once again, we are happy to have Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr and his wife, Sis. Kathy in our midst for a couple of weeks. May the Lord richly bless Bro. Wayne as he labors in our behalf in the ministering of the Word. We are also happy to have Sis. Ann Fehr (West Bend, IA) assembling with us. She has been employed by a landscaping firm for the summer.

PENNSYLVANIA,

PHILADELPHIA

Franz Soni

"Whoso findeth a wife findeth a

good thing, and obtaineth favour of the Lord."

Proverbs 18:22

Charles Insinga (Charles Sr. and Silvia) and Kimberley Lanz (Bro. Edwin and Sis. Marilyn) were united in marriage May 29. We wish them God's blessings.

We pray for Bro. John and Sis. Kay Lanz and their children, Tyler, Travis, Emily, Breanna, Christopher and Abigail. Bro. John plans to work in Florida this summer. They will be missed and plan to attend our Sarasota, FL, church. May God protect them during their absence.

We encourage all who are in the area to come worship with us. Services are Sunday, 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. and Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. For information, please call Elder Bro. Edward Aeschleman at 302-478-7846.

TENNESSEE, NASHVILLE

Gwen Leuthold

"There shall be showers of blessing:

This is the promise of love . . ."

"There Shall Be
Showers of Blessing"

(By James McGranahan)

This month the Lord showered us with the wonderful blessing of visitors. On May 9, we welcomed Elder Bro. Roy Grimm, his wife, Sis. Dona, and their daughter, Tami (Taylor, MO). Memorial Day weekend, May 30, Elder Bro. David Bertsch (Leo, IN) ministered to us. Members, friends and family gathered from Mansfield, Smithville and Rittman, OH; and Tremont and Fairbury, IL. A joyous day was spent worshipping the Lord. On our regularly scheduled church service Sunday, June 6, sixteen traveled from Bluffton North, IN, to be with us. Bro. Nile Bucher proclaimed the Word of God.

We, in Nashville, count it a truly special blessing to be able to meet and greet those of like mind and like faith that travel from the various locations. We realize, however, that this does not come without the love and efforts on the part of our

visitors. We sincerely thank all of you and wish you the Lord's blessings. It is our hope that you will return to visit us again and

"When at last these ties are riven,
When we're called to go on high,
Oh, how sweet to meet in heaven,
Friends forever, you and I . . ."
"Christian Friendship"
Hymns of Zion #91

Contact Bro. Don and Faye Sauder (615) 373-8928, Bro. Don and Enid Miller (615) 384-1081, or Sis. Gwen Leuthold (615) 352-3940 if you plan to be in the Nashville area.

TEXAS, HOUSTON
Sandy Darlington

Once again we thank Bro. Leland Plattner (Zapata, TX) and his wife, Sis. Mary, for serving as our minister May 30. We enjoyed visitors from Phoenix, AZ and Dallas, TX.

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

TEXAS, ZAPATA
Viola Perdelwitz

Bro. Lloyd Nohl, his wife, Sis. Joyce, their daughter, Julie, their foster children, Frank, Emily, Rosita and Patricia, have welcomed two more foster children, Erica, 7, and Olivia, 6, into their home. We enjoy hearing the children join us singing the song "Jesus Loves Me."

We are harvesting the figs from our fig tree in our yard this month. It is always a pleasure to have some figs from our freezer to serve the winter residents.

SILVER THREADS

GOD CAREFULLY GUIDES US

SENDS ANGELS: "Behold, I send an angel before thee, to keep

thee in the way . . ." (Exodus 23:20)
GIVES LIGHT: "When his candle shined upon my head, and when by his light I walked through darkness." (Job 29:3)

SHOWS PATH: "Thou wilt shew me the path of life." (Psalm 16:11)

LEADS US: ". . . for thy name's sake lead me, and guide me." (Psalm 31:3)

INSTRUCTS US: "I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye." (Psalm 32:8)

COUNSEL IS SURE: "The counsel of the Lord standeth for ever." (Psalm 33:11)

GUIDES US: "For this God is our God for ever and ever: he will be our guide even unto death." (Psalm 48:14)

COUNSELS US: "Thou shalt guide me with thy counsel, and afterward received me to glory." (Psalm 73:24)

PROTECTS US: "For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways." (Psalm 91:11)

DIRECT PATHS: "In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths." (Proverbs 3:6)

DIRECT STEPS: "A man's heart deviseth his way: but the Lord directeth his steps." (Proverbs 16:9)

GUIDES CONTINUALLY: "The Lord shall guide thee continually." (Isaiah 58:11)

GUIDES TRUTHFULLY: "When he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth." (John 16:13)

MY GRACE IS SUFFICIENT

Sometimes in our life there are burdens to bear,
We pray, "Lord, please take them away!"
Like Paul, the Apostle, who asked for relief,
We wait for the words He will say!

"My grace is sufficient for you," saith the Lord,

"Believe in My Word," asks the Lord;

"Have faith that I'll lead you aright," speaks the Lord,
Depend on the grace of the Lord!

In kindness and gentleness Jesus will come,
To strengthen the soul who does not run;
The race set before him and patiently says,
"Thy will, not my will, Lord, be done!"

Lord, give me the patience and grace to accept,
Those things that are not to be changed;
And please grant the courage and wisdom to know,
Those things that should be rearranged!

With patience and humbleness one can mature,
And grow in the grace of the Lord;
To trust and obey in His marvelous ways;
To miss this one cannot afford!

So if you are wondering why things are so,
With seemingly unanswered pray'r;
Remember to listen with patience, my friend,
He'll answer, "I really do care!"

With grace in our hearts and song on our lips,
We sing, "He is worthy of praise!"
In joy or in sorrow, in weakness or strength,
Remember these words all your days!

"My grace is sufficient for you," saith the Lord,
"Believe in My Word," asks the Lord;
"Have faith that I'll lead you aright," speaks the Lord
Depend on the grace of the Lord!
Bro. Rodney Stoller

GOD'S BLESSINGS
BE UPON YOU

What joy we feel when meeting,
our Christian friends so dear;
A thrill to hear their greeting,
'tis music to the ear!

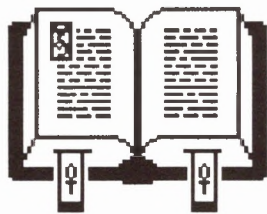
The comfort and the kindness,
of friendships warm and true;
They fill our souls with gladness,
inspire our hearts anew!

This bond of Christian friendship,
does bind each faithful soul;
Secure within God's kinship,
while years eternal roll!

Our hearts are very thankful,
for blessings shared and giv'n;
May God bless friends so faithful,
eternally in heav'n!

Soon comes the time of parting,
when we must go our way;
Please take our love and greeting,
God's peace for you we pray!

God's blessings be upon you,
with benediction sweet;
His peace and love surround you,
until in heav'n we meet!
Bro. Rodney Stoller



Sermon . . .

(Continued from Page 40)

day." (John 11:24) As far as they were concerned, that is all they knew about. But He enlightened them, and said, "I am the resurrection, and the life." (John 11:25)

In Daniel 12, It talks of the two resurrections. Since we are talking about resurrection and the graves plus this being Memorial Day weekend, I think it is appropriate to read in Daniel twelve.

Daniel was a great man of God, yet so humble. He even confessed his sins with God's people of Israel, the disobedient people. He confessed with them, like Ezra and Moses and others did. How humble and meek they were! What a holy man Daniel was!

He says here under the inspiration of the Spirit in verse 10, "Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried; but the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand." (Daniel 12:10)

Then in verse two, "Many of

them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake . . ." Think of it! Long before Christ even came on earth, hundreds of years before, he was prophesying that many that sleep in the dust shall awake, "some to everlasting life, . . ." That is the first resurrection, everlasting life, as Daniel foretells, "and some to shame and everlasting contempt." (Daniel 12:2) That is the sad side of it.

Those who refuse to believe and embrace the words of Jesus and allow them to penetrate their hearts and change their life, this is all they have awaiting them. Shame and everlasting contempt for those who refuse to let the Spirit of God convict them of their sin that they should confess and forsake, and find mercy, as we read what Solomon writes in Proverbs.

Verse nine, concerning salvation while we are here in Daniel. There are so many wonderful, wonderful scriptures that we have. "To the Lord our God belong mercies and forgivenesses," it is plural, "though we have rebelled against him; Neither have we obeyed the voice of the Lord our God, to walk in his laws, which he set before us by his servants the prophets." (Daniel 9:9, 10) We have to admit that, don't we?

But mercies and forgiveness, we have experienced from our God. Even today, yet, because He down not change, for His Word does not change.

Forgiveness. Do not forget that word forgiveness. That is what it is all about. There are mercies and forgiveness, as we read here.

Now we were talking about the resurrection of the just and the resurrection of the unjust, which will be at a later date.

That is what our nation is celebrating this weekend – Memorial Day, which commemorates those who have passed on to the other side – the dead. Whether they be saved or lost, our God knows. It is not for us to say at all. The Word reminds us to judge ourselves, beloved.

There are so many promises in the Word. We have admonition and then we have promises to follow that are so very precious.

We read that if we judge ourselves, we will not be judged. That is a glorious promise. Yet, we all will be judged someday, but we will not be condemned. Many things I do not understand, but that is what it says. If we judge ourselves, we will not be judged. (See Matthew 7:1) Perhaps these brothers would have a better explanation.

Those promises are precious and true, aren't they, that we cling to? We heard about condemnation, but in Christ there is no condemnation. (See Romans 8:1) That perhaps will throw extra light on it, too.

So those that are in the grave, when they hear the voice of the Son of Man, those who are in the first resurrection will arise. That is the account of the rapture, dear ones.

Though the word rapture does not appear in the Bible, yet, we know that it is so true. It means the catching up of the bride of Christ. (See I Thessalonians 4:16-17). We are all familiar with that wonderful portion of the scripture relating to the rapture of the saints.

It bears out this glorious hope, beloved, – the blessed hope that we have in Christ Jesus. For the Lord Himself will be sent from heaven with a shout.

"For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord." (I Thessalonians 4:16-17)

As we were flying in an airplane to come here, 37,000 feet in the air, an elderly man on board had a heart attack and our United flight was diverted to Minneapolis. We were over Idaho when we heard over the speaker of this jumbo jet, "Are there any nurses or doctors aboard?" This man needed aid, and it seemed that the first airport they could land at was Minneapolis. I wondered if we would ever get there, as we still had a couple of

hours to get there. I wondered if the man would live.

God, in his mercy, spared this elderly man, and he was still living. The paramedics were waiting, and as soon as the jet landed, they came on board and took him and his wife. Many of us were praying for him. Life is so frail, and so brief. We never know, do we?

The clouds, what we were speaking about, when you are really up and above the clouds, it is so impressive. We could say a lot about it, but just one more comment. The view was beyond our expectation, because it has been cloudy and damp, like here, out in the Pacific Northwest. Lo and behold, only a few thousand feet out of the Portland airport until we got to the 37,000 feet height, we were crossing the Cascade Mountain Range. What a sight, beloved!

There we could see Mount Rainier, Washington, near Seattle, clear down into California, Mount Shasta, which I was not aware of until the pilot mentioned it. Three hundred fifty miles to the south, we could even see Mount Shasta and the six or seven white mountain caps in between, including Mount St. Helens. Eleven years ago on the eighteenth of this month, the might power of God caused it to blow its top. There is a memorial of God's power right there.

So, beloved, the rapture is getting closer. The Apostle Paul was expecting to participate in the first resurrection. He will, but not alive in the body.

Paul said, "We which are alive and remain . . ." (I Thessalonians 4:17) Was he mistaken? Maybe he was, but God wants every generation to be expecting Christ to return in their day. The apostle (as I understand it) expected Christ to return while they were still living. So that wasn't a sad mistake.

Why should we be expecting Christ to return? Because the Word tells us every man that has this hope . . . What hope? The hope of the resurrection, the rapture, Christ's second coming, the first resurrection. Every man that has this hope in himself purifieth himself, even as He is pure.

Human nature is to procrastinate

and wait the last minute. If we know that the Lord will tarry until we become ninety years old, (or ninety-one as dear Bro. Lou shared with me this morning, one of the oldest brothers), we would wait until then, probably.

He wants us to live in expectancy of His return, our Lord and Saviour, from our youth on. Yet, some wait until their older years and God in His magnified mercy and compassion still calls the old as well as the young and saves them, because He is able to save to the uttermost.

Can there be any stronger language than that? "Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God . . ." (Hebrews 7:25) Through whom? None other than Jesus Christ, who we sang about and Who the Word speaks of.

He is the central figure of all time and eternity. All who ". . . come unto God by him, seeing" and I love this last part, "he ever liveth to make intercession for them." (Hebrews 7:25)

Everything is complete, beloved. God left nothing out. He ever liveth now to make intercession for you and for even me. He is coming again! So we need to continue to entertain this blessed hope of Christ's return.

The dead in Christ will rise first and simultaneously we will be caught up together with them in the clouds, the first heaven. We will meet them! Praise God! No doubt about it! We know this!

If we doubt, we are doubting the mighty Word of God. The important thing is that we know that nothing can separate us from the love of God. We speak of love -- it is all based on the love of God and on His mercy.

Beloved, we know that it is because of His mercy of love that we live. The only danger, beloved, of us missing the mark, and we have danger signs throughout the Word that we dare not ignore. What is it? Simply we dare not trust or put any confidence in the flesh. As long as we remember that, we are safe as we can ever be.

"I can do all things through

Christ which strengtheneth me."
Philippians 4:13

"Without Me," Jesus said, "you can do nothing." We must remember that.

In the clouds, we will meet the Lord in the air. "And so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words." (I Thessalonians 4:17-18) Some of you have lost loved ones recently, and these are comforting words. Maybe we are in the prime of life, feeling great and everything is going great, it is all temporary.

That is all temporary. We do not know. The young may die, and the old must, unless Jesus comes first. It is much more likely that He will come now than when the Apostle Paul related the account of the rapture two thousand year ago.

So, let us which are alive and remain look with great anticipation, above everything else in life, for His return. We which are alive includes all of here. We have been made spiritually alive and so literally we shall be made alive. Also this mortal shall put on immortality. We know that from I Corinthians 15.

We shall be caught up together with the dead in Christ. It is their privilege to be raised up first. Then, the best is after we have this wonderful reunion!

How we rejoiced yesterday to meet our loved ones from Rockville. We hadn't seen them for a long time. They are with us today and we rejoice so much. But yet, the greatest reunion is ahead. Christ Jesus, our Head, will be the One and Only that we are so anxious to see face to face. That will come right after we join our loved ones in Christ in the clouds.

We will go on to the second heaven, and there the Lord will come down and there will be that great meeting in the air -- the greatest meeting that ever will be for time and eternity. Jesus Himself will say, "Behold, I am with you!"

Wonderful, wonderful promises! In the closing remark in Matthew, It says, "I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." (Matthew 28:20)

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SERMON BY BRO. ROBERT J. MILLER OF PORTLAND, OR

“Longing For His Appearance” John 5:19-29

We must hear and do . . . one is just as important as the other. The hearing is only half of it. It will do no good hearing it if we do not do. To try doing it without hearing it, we would be groping in darkness, loved ones.

“He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life.” (John 5:24) That is the greatest of all promises.

It is what the whole human race needs so much and seems to ignore. Eternal life! Everyone would like to enjoy life and see good days and Peter tells us how. But so many don't go about it in the right way to enjoy life . . . the abundant life that Christ praised! That is so sadly overlooked, it seems like.

Sometimes, we are guilty of this. So impress this verse here on many that are yet outside the fold of Jesus Christ. This message is directed to you, wherever you may be. We all need it so much, and still need to be reminded of it.

“Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.” (John 5:24) What a terrific promise! “Shall not come into condemnation!”

“There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in

Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.” (Romans 8:1, 2) Precious, precious promises!

So, here we read that you shall not come into condemnation, but shall pass from death unto life . . . actually transferred from death unto life! That is what he is saying.

He continues, “Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is . . .” Not only future tense, but present tense. “The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live.” (John 5:25)

Those who were living at that time who would hear the voice of the Son of God, would live. Way in the future two thousand years later, now in our day and time, to all who today hear His voice can also have spiritual life within them, and also the promise of spiritual eternal life. It is in present tense.

“For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself; And hath given him authority to execute judgment also, because he is the Son of man.” (John 5:26, 27) This substantiates what we just said concerning judgment, because He is the Son of man.

Now, verse 28. This is an appropriate verse that I like whenever we go to the graveside of our loved ones. We read this verse together as we kneel by the graveside of our beloved parents, and is so comforting just to be reminded of this wonderful verse.

“Marvel not at this:” Jesus said, “for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves . . .” (John 5:28) That is unmistakably clear – all that are in the graves, in the many hundreds of graves around this beautiful church here in Roanoke, and other cemeteries, many decorated in flowers, most of them. We did not get up there this time and feel a little guilty. Hopefully our children may do that. They have a loved one there, too, our daughter, Linda, lost their first son, but we don't want to get too personal now.

Anyway, “All that are in the graves,” as Jesus Himself is saying in verse twenty-eight, “shall hear his voice.” The Son of God Himself! “And shall come forth . . .” the resurrection, beloved, is still ahead! The best is yet ahead! The first resurrection is what He is talking about.

Martha said about her brother Lazarus, “I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last
(Continued on Page 38)