



"The **harvest** is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved."

Jeremiah 8:20

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

John 4:35

VOLUME 43

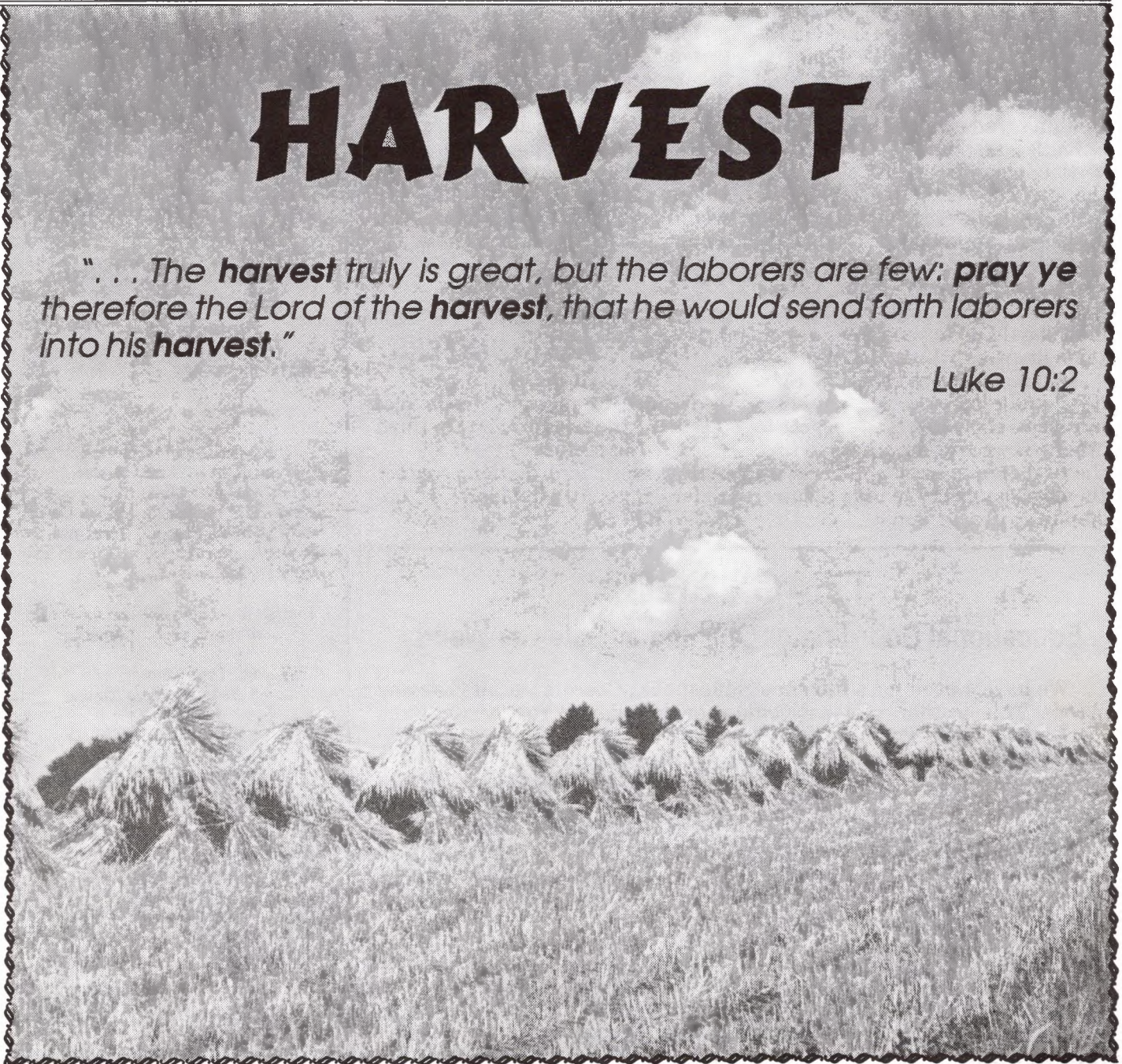
AUGUST 1993

NUMBER 8

# HARVEST

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

Luke 10:2





# MISSION — WORLD RELIEF — WORKS PROJECTS

## THE INTANGIBLES

Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle, Shioda, Japan

There is a story about a conversation among farm animals. The cow said, "I give my master milk to drink;" the sheep said, "I give my master wool with which he can make clothes;" and the horse said, "I carry my master wherever he wants to go." The little dog felt worthless and discouraged, but when his master came home from the field, he jumped up and down wagging his tail, and licked his master's hand. The tired master was very pleased, took the little dog up in his arms and said, "I wouldn't trade you for all the other animals on the farm."

It is clear from this story that the love shown his master by the little dog was very important and very much appreciated. Each of us, also, desires to be loved and respected. The Lord Jesus Christ taught us, "And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise." (Luke 6:31)

Inasmuch as we each like to be loved and respected, we should try harder to show love and respect to others. If we like for others to take the first step to come and greet us, then we should try to take the first step to go greet them.

Love, respect and a friendly attitude are intangibles. They are not material things which can be touched and handled, yet they are priceless. And if children of God don't have these attributes, who is supposed to have them?

Another intangible is consideration. It might be toward your spouse or anyone else. By consideration is meant that you do not try to force your conviction on someone regarding a certain matter. The other person's situation might be different than you think or know and if the Bible is neutral on this matter, at least consult with other responsible brothers in the church before coming on too strong. We would like to treat others as we would like to be treated. Those are the precious intangibles.

## WORK TEAM VOLUNTEERS

Athens, AL

Needed to help put a new roof on the Athens church the third week in September.

For more information: contact Elder Bro. Lavoyd Moore, 1-205-232-2035

## 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 a year 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 fall and winter.

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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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).*

## WHY CHURCH DISCIPLINE?

The Bible leaves no option but for true believers to practice a redemptive church discipline. The Word's foundation and the Spirit's direction are the keys that make kindly administered discipline a beneficial practice in the church. Although we as individual believers are not to judge one another, the church must make certain judgments when grievous sin occurs (1 Cor. 5:12-13).

Believers in the early church were commanded in the name of the Lord Jesus to withdraw themselves "from every brother that walketh disorderly" (2 Thes. 3:6). "And if any man obey not our word by this epistle, note that man, and have no company with him, that he may be ashamed" (2 Thes. 3:14). Such an act was to be done in Christ-like love, and only for the welfare of the erring soul.

Individual believers in Christ are united in His holy body, the church (1 Cor. 12:27) and knit tightly together in love (Col. 2:2). They are accountable to one another, and when "one member suffer(s), all the members suffer with it" (1 Cor. 12:26).

The church exists in this unique form to reflect light and virtue to an unbelieving world and to proclaim the glorious gospel of Christ and the teachings of the Apostles. Because the church preaches the messages of personal virtue and godliness, it follows that its members must live such a life, lest they are seen as hypocrites and Christ's message would appear to lack credibility. Thus, when sin overtakes virtue—due to the carelessness of the individual member of Christ's body—then corrective healing must take place.

Although the church aspires to perfection, it is not perfect. This is acknowledged by the fact that the Word gives instruction for discipline. The fact, however, that the church is not perfect, does not reduce its members inevitably to the status of sinners (Rom. 6:11). Although no sin can be

ignored nor taken lightly, there are greater and lesser sins and failures. The Lord Jesus clarified this when He said to Pilate, "he that delivered me unto thee hath the greater sin" (John 19:11). Minor, unintentional failures in daily life—mostly connected with temperament and stress—are not considered the same as gross, willful sins, and neither do they make a striving soul a sinner. Just as in the Lord's prayer, our daily prayers should include the plea, "forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors" (Matt. 6:12).

Yet, willful and gross sins, which reflect purposeful disobedience and a disregard for the Word's standards, require the scriptural remedy of discipline. This is for the benefit of the individual and to maintain the purity and holiness of the church. The church, ideally, is to be without "spot or wrinkle, or any such thing" (Eph. 5:27).

When gross, willful, and corruptive sin occurs, it must be confessed and eradicated from the church. The fallen believer becomes subject to the discipline of the church to help bring him or her back into relationship with Christ. Although there is initially a measure of suffering for both the individual and the church, discipline is a positive rather than a negative practice. "Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness to them that are exercised thereby" (Heb. 12:11).

Ideally, the erring believer responds to the conviction of the Spirit, voluntarily confesses his sin and accepts the remedy of God's judgment through the church as a token of love and mercy. There are unfortunate instances of individuals who become hardened and apostate for whom discipline must also be applied, "Some men's sins are open beforehand, going before to judgment; and some men they follow after" (1 Tim. 5:24). It is far better

to confess and repent for sins in this life rather than to carry them into eternity where there will be "a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation" (Heb. 10:27).

There are varying degrees of discipline depending upon the nature of the sin and the circumstances involved. Determination of the appropriate steps is made by the prayerful consideration of the elders based on a number of scriptural teachings and examples. The forms of discipline range from an apology or short-term denial of church privileges such as the holy kiss and holy communion to excommunication from Christ's body, the church. Repentance, purification, forgiveness and redemption are always the foremost goals of every form of discipline.

"Verily I say unto you, whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven" (Matt. 18:18). Thus, baptism and marriage (binding) and severance (loosing) are biblically rooted, and when carried out by a God fearing body of believers are duly recognized in heaven.

It is essential for the church to make a sincere effort to keep itself pure. The Apostle Paul taught, "Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump..." (1 Cor. 5:7).

The church is charged to pray for erring believers and to forgive them and confirm their love for them (2 Cor. 2:6-8). When the Word permits, and the individual has regained peace and an overcoming life, he is to be restored by the church in the spirit of meekness (Gal. 6:1).

Church discipline must be viewed as an act of love, "for whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth" (Heb. 12:6). It is humbling for the entire church and should motivate all to a closer walk with God and a greater determination to resist temptation.



## RELIEF SHIPMENT TO UKRAINE IN 1992

Bro. Gene and  
Sis. Verna Lehman  
Wolcott, IN

Although few of our American brethren were aware of the fact, there have been groups of our faith in the country we formerly called "Russia" for almost 80 years. At this time there are 11 congregations with over 500 members, as well as converts and children totaling about 1,000 souls. These congregations have been visited in the past by our brethren, and communications are open. There have been goodly sums of money sent for

building churches, with one nearly complete, another fully framed, and a third beginning.

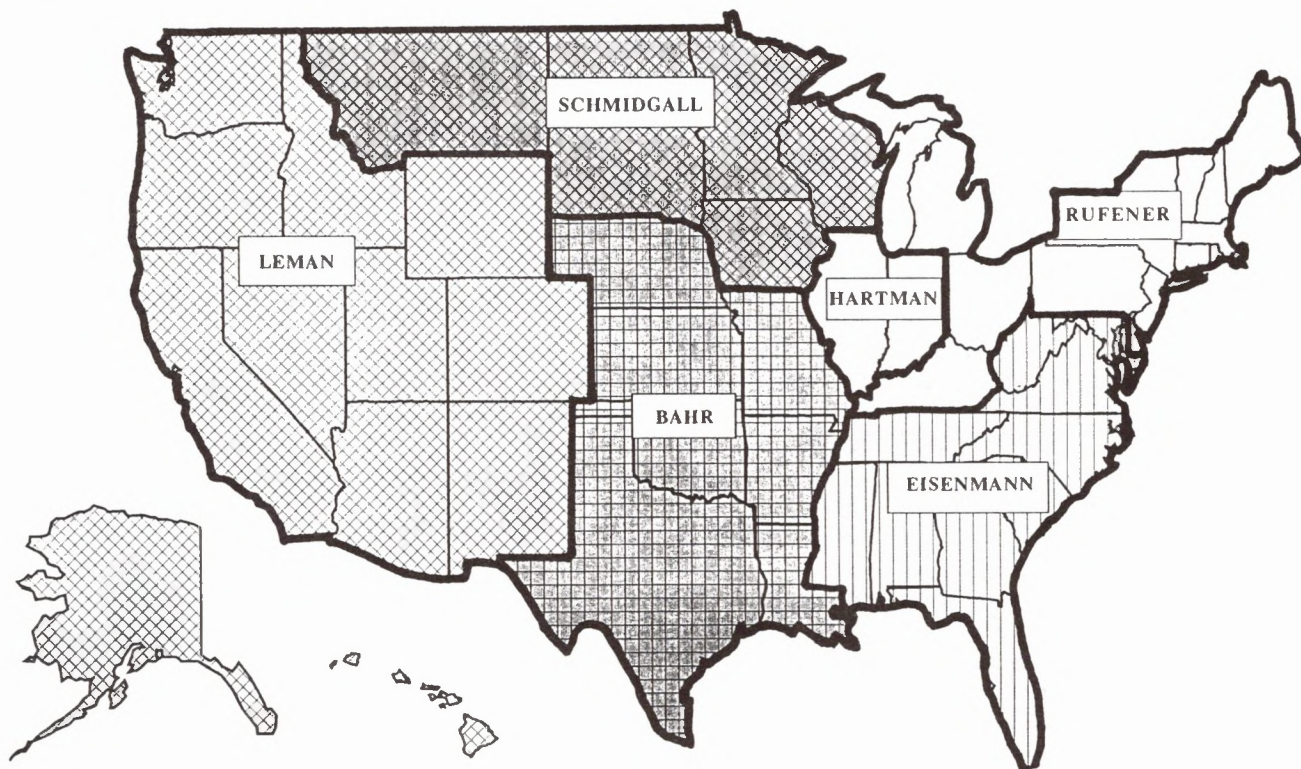
The church in Breidenbach, Germany, which we have also been aiding in building a new facility, has close contact with the Ukrainian brethren, and in January 1992, delivered 33 tons of food and clothing to them, financed entirely from Germany. Elder Bro. Ernst Pfister of that church has been coordinator of the efforts. Our brethren live in the Ukrainian state of Bukovina, near Chernovcy, a city of 200,000.

In June, 1992, we received an urgent fax message from Ernst stating that they had an immediate

need in Bukovina for another shipment of food, clothing, etc., and that sending money would not suffice, for there was nothing to buy in the stores. At that time, the Mission and World Relief Committees sent aid in the amount of \$30,000 very quickly, which allowed that shipment to take place. In October, 1992, another such request was received, and financed in like manner as before. The shipment was scheduled to take place early in November, and Gene and Verna Lehman were authorized to accompany it and submit a report.

At 5:00 p.m. Thursday, October 29, we left O'Hare Airport for a

## 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 Lemman (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.



direct flight to Frankfurt, Germany, which is convenient for the Breidenbach brethren, as well as being normally the most reasonably priced, for it is a major hub in Europe. We arrived at 9:30 a.m. Friday, German time, after a good flight, and were met by Ernst and several of his 14 children. Twelve of them still live at home, so things are lively in the Pfister household. After lunch, we rested a few hours.

Ernst had received two urgent appeals from Bukovina, one for 1,000 pairs of stockings, and one for 1,000 mousetraps. He and Gene picked up the traps that Friday evening, taking them to the church which was rapidly filling with used clothing, etc.

On Saturday, the two went to a store which handles distressed merchandise where they purchased 1000 pairs of good stockings in assorted sizes for 65¢ per pair. At the outset of the trip report, we will include a few of Ernst's own words concerning our involvement.

"Beloved brethren in America! We have just returned from our trip to Ukraine with assistance for the brethren there. The loved ones there were overjoyed with this aid, which was possible with your assistance. We took in over 26 tons of foodstuffs and more than four tons of clothing. They wept over it. Bro. Gene will give you a full report of this. Beloved brethren, without

your assistance, it would not have been possible to provide sufficient assistance to our brethren. We also must support them in like manner in the future. We thank you from the depths of our hearts for your help in these shipments."

We attended Sunday services in the familiar environment of the Breidenbach church, receiving a warm welcome. Once more the strains of "Christian greetings" touched our hearts.

On Monday, we did miscellaneous chores, while the men prepared Ernst's van for our long trip with nine people on board. It is a Volkswagon with three bench seats, and when all of us plus our luggage were aboard, it was plumb full.

On Tuesday, we got up at 3:30 and loaded our van as traveling companions arrived. The group was: Ernst, his daughter, Katja, Michael Gruber, Arpad Bodo, Sandor Albert, Lena Nitz, Gene, and Verna. The eight of us left at 5:30, traveling to Adolzfurt where we ate breakfast at the home of Elder Bro. Hans Heer, who also went along.

Traveling along the Autobahns through Germany and Austria, we reached the Budapest church around 7:30 p.m., where a singing was in progress. Afterwards, we spent the night in apartments provided for guests, and on Wednesday morning, went to a mill where

we met the semi to be loaded with flour and sugar purchased there.

The other goods had been loaded in Breidenbach while we were traveling on Tuesday. We waited several hours, but finally saw the welcome sight of it coming down the street. During this time, Verna worked on the notes which formed the basis for these reports.

The men set to work rearranging the load to get the heavy weight above the axles, and finally the truck was loaded. Among many other things, we had 9,000 pounds of rice, 6,600 of sugar, 11,000 of flour, etc. Elder Bro. Hans Heer has a few words for us. "This was very interesting for me, in my whole life I have never seen such a load for the hungry. But what is this among so many in Russia? We are glad we can do this, and hope that God will give the people in Russia a better situation as soon as possible. We thank the American people, especially our brothers and sisters for the help for the people in Russia."

Laslo Keyneres, the truck driver, paid \$180,000 for his rig, and has taken this trip to Bukovina three times totally at his own expense. He won't even take anything to pay the relief driver. He's a friend

## 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



at the Breidenbach Church.

We went to the police station where the truck was resealed, leaving at 4:50 p.m. Darkness began to settle over the land as we took the last leg of our trip to the border between Hungary and Ukraine. We all realized that we were venturing into the unknown, and the mood was sober.

At 11:30 p.m., we reached the Hungarian border. We had filled our fuel tanks at a station just prior to this. We also carried drums of fuel, for none is available to us in Ukraine.

We cleared the Hungarian border with few problems, but there was a long line on the dark and gloomy bridge which spanned the river dividing two countries. Since the language at the Ukrainian border was English, Gene made the arrangements for our visas. It took 1½ hours.

Driving through mist and a bit of snow, we crossed the Carpathian mountains in the darkest hours of the early morning. The roads were simply terrible, with tops speeds of about 40-45 miles an hour at best. Potholes and broken pieces were everywhere. Along the way, many people were walking, even in the dark hours before dawn, others rode bicycles, and horse drawn wagons were common. As it grew light, we could see many animals being grazed along the highway, watched over by old women and children for the most part.

About noon, we reached the home of Micha Kartscha, brother of Elder Bro. Peter. They took us to the church building under construction, where they intended to stow what we brought.

When the truck arrived, we saw

it was not possible to back up to the building without getting stuck, so young and old formed a human chain up to and inside the building, passing goods from hand to hand. 65 people were ultimately involved, unloading 66,000 pounds in 2½ hours!

Elder Bro. Peterbachi spoke thus, "First of all, I cannot find words to thank first of all, God, and then to all the brothers and sisters who were thinking of us. Thank God, and all of you." He said they are not able to repay us, and stated over and over that they are not worthy of such a great fight. We assured him that is true, no one is worthy. The grace of God is a gift to those who are not worthy, but we are brothers, and the scripture is clear about our duty to one another.

The nine of us then went with Peterbachi to his home. After supper, they laid mats on the benches used for church, and the brothers slept there. Five of us had beds. It had been nearly 40 hours since we saw one, so we were grateful for much needed resting places.

On Friday, and again on Saturday, we went shopping in Chernovcy for the express purpose of discovering what was available, and at what cost. Most stores were nearly empty, the fullest having perhaps 15% of an inventory.

Ernst figured that using prices we saw it would cost 1500 kopon, their money, per day to feed his family of 12 children. Wages are between 5,000 and 8,000 kopon monthly, so in five days the entire sum would go for food. A pair of men's shoes cost 12,000, a sweater 6,000, a child's coat 4,000, etc. We have much data on prices.

There are open places where those who have items to sell can do so, like a big flea market.

We also saw a prison in which many of our brothers spent 25 years. Hundreds were taken forcibly from their homes never to be seen or heard from again, for the sake of their faith.

We also visited the churches being built with funds provided by our brethren, and were very much impressed with the quality of the workmanship.

On Sunday, we took part in services at the church in Ostrica, where about 300 assembled. Hans spoke in German, translated into Romanian, their language. Gene had the evening service, translated into Romanian by Janos Mamenji. All told, the morning services lasted nearly five hours, and evening about the same. 300 voices raised in five languages singing our old familiar hymns touched every heart. The emotion of the moment cannot be described, it must be experienced.

God alone knows how it was possible, but through all the years of oppression, even though the flame of faith grew dim, it did not go out. Today it is burning brightly.

At the end of the evening services, they had all nine of us stand in line once more near the exit hall,

## 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.

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/ADMINISTRATOR

Cedar Creek Retirement Home is searching for a dynamic individual to serve as the Executive Director of its retirement center, currently under construction in Northeast Allen County, Grabill Road. The qualified applicant must be a licensed administrator in the State of Indiana with at least two year's experience. They must possess strong interpersonal and management skills with knowledge of patient care, marketing, accounting and financial controls. Excellent compensation and benefit package. Please send resumes in confidence to:

Cedar Creek Retirement Home  
P. O. Box 248  
Leo, IN 46765



## — 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
July 1993 —	3996	41,755

\*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

and the entire congregation, beginning with the little children, filed past saying farewell. Many of them were weeping, and some of us were, too. The young sisters remained until the very end, singing, concluding with "Auf Wiedersehen". By the time all was over, it was past 10:00 p.m. We spent the night in the home of Elder Bro. Vasile, part of the church building, rising at 4:30, and after breakfast, Vasile and eight of the young brothers guided us in their van to the edge of town. Here in the darkness, we all sang a hymn, and bade each other farewell.

We all voted to drive straight through to Breidenbach, arriving safely about 32 hours later.

#### 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



## EUROPEAN UPDATE

### Andy Hunyady

"And if thou draw out thy soul to the hungry, and satisfy the afflicted soul; then shall thy light rise in obscurity, and thy darkness be as the noonday: and the Lord shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought,"

Isaiah 58:10

Greetings Beloved!

It is with a very heavy heart that we share the following report with you, as very sad news came to our attention recently. A well beloved Elder Bro. Rudy Metzger and his wife, Sis. Danica (Matrovica, Yugoslavia) were found brutally murdered in their home. Here is the article that appeared in a Serbian language newspaper in Belgrade June 29th: (translated).

"Mysterious murder in Mitrovica, massacre for hard currency?"

"Rudolf Metzger (62) and Danica (64) pensioners were found brutally murdered".

"Mitrovica, June 29.

A retired married couple, Danica and Rudolf Metzger of Mitrovica, were slaughtered in their own home under unsolved circumstances. It is assumed that the murder was carried out about three days earlier as the bodies began to decompose.

As of yesterday, the office of the district investigator did not give out any details of the identity of the perpetrators. It is not known for certain the manner in which the murder was committed, but it is believed that they were stabbed.

Several pieces of foreign currency were found at the site leading to the suspicion that robbery may have been the motive.

Before their retirement, the couple worked in Germany and it leads to the conclusion that they may have had a large amount of money in their possession. In addition, it was reported (by word of mouth) that Rudolf Metzger served as the honorary treasurer for the local Nazarene sect."

The report of Bro. Rudy's tragedy came to us from reliable sources

and it does not fully agree with the newspaper report.

A farewell song service in the Novi-Sad Church Sunday, June 27, for one of the young brothers who was to enter the military service the following day. Many brethren came from the area churches for this occasion. Elder Bro. Metzger was expected to be there also, though he lived in Mitrovica, about 40 km. from Novi-Sad. Several phone calls to his home by the Novi-Sad brethren with no response was of concern, so they called one older brother in Mitrovica who in turn sent one young man to go the Metzger home and investigate. When the young man arrived he found the gate, from the street to the courtyard wide open. He began to look first in the garage and there he found the blood covered, badly slashed body of Sis. Dana. He called the police and searching through the house they found the body of Bro. Rudy on the basement floor. His head nearly severed, and legs broken and his body brutally slashed.

Most interesting to note, that searching through the house, the police found a suitcase with a large amount of DM., undisturbed. The billfold on the person of Bro. Rudy, with money in it, also undisturbed.

According to the latest information, several persons were arrested as suspects, but again, no official reports have been released, so it remains a mystery.

It is a tragedy that really shook the whole community of believers both in Europe and America.

Our elder brethren who visited in Yugoslavia knew him. He was active in relief work and several years ago, while visiting with relatives in Canada, came to Detroit, MI, and attended the World Relief Committee Meeting. He was also at the Szeged meeting April 24. Upon hearing the sad news, Elder Bro. Ben Maibach wrote a letter of condolence addressed to the Yugoslavian brethren. It reads in part: "It is difficult to put in words how grieved and shocked we were to hear of the tragic passing of our beloved Bro. Rudy Metzger and his helpmate and wife. We hope that you will share with his family our

sympathy and concern and especially the assurance to all of them as well as to the beloved church that we will certainly remember them in our prayers that the comfort of the Holy Spirit through Jesus Christ our Redeemer can sustain us in this hour of need . . . On behalf of all of us in the fellowship here in the United States, we want to share our condolences and also a word of encouragement that we must continue to labor together for the time is certainly short and the needs are great. May our heavenly Father, who is rich in mercy and filled with compassion, watch over and between us when we are absent one from another."

This letter was transmitted to Novi-Sad by fax June 29. Burial was held Wednesday, the 30th. The Metzgers had no children, but leave a brother and two sisters who live in Canada.

Another setback affecting the Yugoslav food package program is due to failure by the United Nations Relief Mission in New York to issue a permit to the Hungarian Red Cross which would allow the delivery of the 200 parcels now at the Budapest Church. The first delivery was made in April, with some obstacles on the part of certain groups in order to prevent total loss. The remaining parcels will be divided and delivered to Croatia and Bucovina. Future shipments will be suspended except for certain medications and money. Hard currency is needed for it is the only means whereby our people can buy the badly needed items in order to survive.

The government urges the public to build up their supply of heating fuel, coal, oil or wood, during the summer months. For this reason the Yugoslavian elders sent a letter to the elders in the other countries, asking for financial help, to enable the families to stock up on these fuels, which are very scarce and can be obtained with hard currency, to heat their homes and the churches in the coming winter. The whole situation is very critical and needs our urgent attention and support, both prayer and material.



Our brethren in Bucovina, Ukraine, continue to struggle as before, economics and high inflation, scarcity of most essentials still exist. At our international relief conference Elder Bros. Karcia and Paladean asked the brotherhood to give them permission to allow them to use some of the church building funds be used to buy food to support some of the families with young children. On our trip to Bucovina last April a large semi-truck-load of food and clothes was delivered, but it is not sufficient to support all the people there. As we visited some of the stores in the area, we found very little food, mostly alcoholic drinks and cigarettes in good supply. On the open market we saw freshly butchered lambs, pork displayed openly on car hoods or trunk lids with flies and dust in the air, few buyers, costs very high, so with other merchandise, except for a long line of customers behind a large truck, selling vodka, our American and German brothers pointed out to the local brethren that it is necessary now for them to start farming to raise their own crops and be able to support themselves and perhaps later on support others too. But first we need to help these people to buy farm tools and equipment and teach them how to operate the farm, raise livestock and become self sustained, rather than expect to live on help coming from abroad. This also applies to our brethren in Romania, where the conditions are very similar. It is very heartwarming and a joy to see the many young people gathered at the church. There is a good hope for the church's future in this area. The only problem is that the elder brothers have not made the necessary steps to apply at the government for official recognition as a legally registered religious body. Though proper instructions and information was provided and sent to them by way of Washington, D.C., all church owned properties are registered on the name of individuals.

The trip to Bucovina was made by 20 persons, 6 from the U.S. and 14 from Germany, and in addition, the truck owner and driver. The truck was followed all the way from

Budapest to Chernovtsy by the two vans and one car, with a number of stops for brief rest, food and fuel. A very long and exhausting ride indeed, but a worthwhile one, long to be remembered. Those making this trip were: Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen, Andy Hunyady, George Hunyadi, Gene and Verna Lehman and Andy Demrovsky (Akron, OH).

The second International Relief meeting was held at Szeged, Hungary Saturday, April 24. Nine countries were represented with about 40 in attendance. Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen, Andy Hunyady, Gene Lehman, George Hunyadi and Andy Demrovsky (Akron, OH), represented the U.S. churches. Elder Bro. Janos Pap was the moderator. First the representatives from countries receiving assistance spoke of conditions within their own country and churches. Each one thanked God and the supporting countries for the generous help that is being sent to sustain them in these difficult times and shared information as to the current needs that cannot be obtained locally.

It appears that the Yugoslavian situation is the worst due to internal conflict and the isolation from the other countries due to the tight U.N. imposed embargo. Romania and the Ukraine also suffer as their economy, instead of improving, is getting worse week by week. Workers' salaries or pensions are inadequate to support individuals or families, prices of goods are extremely high and they still depend on outside help.

The U.S. and German brothers made the recommendation that the families in the Ukraine and Romania, should start to work on their farms and try to produce the necessary food supplies rather than depend on outside help. Of course, it is very necessary, first need to buy tools and equipment to have the proper tools to work with. Also needed are tractors, or horses, oxen and, as we had seen, water buffalo in certain parts of the Romanian countryside to pull the plow, etc. It is almost impossible at present for most families to acquire such necessities without outside help to get off to a start. In addition, most of them need training as how to farm,

operate a dairy or other related chores.

Need for church buildings also was discussed. As we know, in the past 3½ years about 20+ churches were built or purchased in Romania which are in use but some have yet to be finished. One is under construction and 18 more are needed. In Bukovina, currently the Korovia is under construction, the one in Dimka is nearly finished, the Ostrica congregation is in need of a larger building for the one in use is overly crowded. In Slovakia the brethren are searching for suitable buildings in two locations. In Hungary, the Szeged Church is under construction and expects to have the roof on it before the fall. The congregation at Pogany will need a new building to replace the existing, about 100-year-old building. The Ersekcsanad building is finished and we received the invitation at the meeting to attend the dedication scheduled for May 16.

After the meeting ended we all drove to the site of the new church and were pleased to see the working brothers, full of enthusiasm building the masonry walls. Following our trip to the Ukraine, we returned to Hungary and spent Sunday at the Budapest Church. We met Elder Bro. Albert Szabo (Romania), attended the funeral of his sister in Hodmezovaarhely, He served as our driver through Romania. We travelled in the new VW van that was purchased recently for his use, to travel and carry passengers to church functions and also to deliver some of the food parcels to people in isolated areas.

We visited about 16 congregation and we could feel the love and the deep appreciation of the brethren. They are most grateful to God and the American brethren for the help received that made it possible for them to have their own houses of prayer. There are still about 18 smaller congregation in need of church buildings and, with God's help, it, too, will come about, hopefully in the not far distant future. Some folks told us how thankful they are for the food shipments they receive. They just don't know how to exist without it. Prices on certain food items, when available, are



too high and they cannot afford it. They keep thanking God continually for the thoughtful brethren in America for their love and compassion. Families who are getting their land back from the state are also in need of assistance as they have no proper tools to work with. Very few can manage to keep on going. This summer the weather has been very hot and dry, and now are concerned about the winter months for food, both for humans and their livestock.

The closed bodied truck and trailer that was purchased with World Relief funds for food parcel distribution is working well and now they can deliver and make the distribution as soon as it arrives.

Returning to Hungary, the third time, we attended the dedication services at Ersekcsanad. What a beautiful church! And what a nice group of brethren! It was a most blessed day as about 750-800 persons gathered from the area, as well as several foreign countries. A most blessed day for all, long to be remembered. We bring many heartfelt greetings from many beloved brethren of like faith to our brethren in the United States! We also wish to thank everyone for your continued prayers for our safety and we thank God for His marvelous love and the opportunity to visit the many brethren in the different countries. May He bless you all!

### APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

Summer has always been a flurry of activity for all of us at ACHH. This year is no exception! Some of the highlights are mini-vacations with Oakwood. They've been to Amana Colonies which included a dinner cruise, St. Louis, and there are still plans for a trip to Nashville, TN. We've been blessed with abundant garden growth and Herb Stieglitz was pleased to provide a meal of green beans at Oakwood one evening.

In July we thoroughly enjoyed our annual Sunday in Forrest. It is always a blessing!

At the Special Olympics State

meeting at ISU, the Lord really watched over us. Several storms blew up, but did not interfere with any of our athletes' events. Our Equestrian Special Olympic athlete participated in an Invitational competition in July. Still to look forward to are the many camping trips both day and overnight, Six Flags trips, swimming, horseback riding, biking and picnics.

We welcome our new resident, Viola Fisher, to the ACHH large facility. She is a delightful lady and we are glad to have her.

In the near future, groundbreaking for our new 16-bed facility will begin, Lord willing.

Birthdays for August ACHH (2125 Veterans Road) are: Dan McDonough (2), Eric Ringwald (4), Susie Landis (5), Peggy Full (5), Martha Clymer (6), Nancy Eschmann (12), Shirley Pfeifer (23), and Barbara Perkins (30).

### GATEWAY WOODS Apostolic Christian Children's Home Patsy Stoller

I was recently reminded and challenged as I read an article of a "professional thief." As the article stated, more than likely we'd never pick him out in a crowd but through the years, many have encountered this thief as a giant. He is a master of clever logic and may even give you just enough rearranged facts to gain your sympathy. Often, too late, we'll see through his artifice and will acknowledge him as the shrewdest of all thieves. Who is this thief - procrastination! His object - to steal time and incentive.

Which of us has not encountered this thief once, twice or many times within a day. I'm reminded of times for myself of not heeding the Spirit when a burdened friend came to mind and I so easily spoke, "I'll do it this afternoon, Lord." So soon the afternoon came and went and again I had fallen victim to the thief - procrastination.

Or maybe you are an individual who felt the Lord tenderly prick your heart and conscious. "Today if you hear my voice, harden not your heart," and you say "Lord, tonight I will." Tonight comes and goes and

you've fallen prey to the thief - procrastination also.

Or could it be, the Lord has challenged you with your time and talents to do His work among the less fortunate? And you answer "Lord, when I get a few more bills paid or the kids are all raised, then Lord, I'll give my time and talents for others." You, too, have fallen victim to the thief - procrastination. Somehow we find it so easy to allow this thief to steal from us blessings!

May we all be challenged to recognize this thief and to put him to shame by responding "now" when the spirit convicts. "Today if ye will hear his voice, harden not your heart." (Psalms 95:8-9 and Hebrews 3:7-8)

Our summer has been busy for our teens with many at jobs in the community or at a special summer work program called Jobworks. Some just finished with summer school. Others are busy with weeding, mowing lawns, or helping to prepare fresh produce to freeze for our use this winter. Although there is lots of work, they like to get their work done by noon so they can go swimming in the afternoon or enjoy a game of baseball or kickball.

We've been blessed by "time and talents" of many volunteers this month who came to assist in our busy summer schedule. They are Jeff Leman (Peoria, IL), Lance Pfeiffer, Larry Gramm and Lisa Knobloch (Chicago, IL), Chuck Hart (Bloomington, IL), Marci Metz (Francesville), Tony Wieland and Anita Witzig (Morton, IL), Joel Beer (Goodfield, IL), Darren and Marie Yergler (Cissna Park, IL), Krista Banwart (Champaign, IL) and Kami Isch (Bluffton). Thanks to each of you who helped to brighten the lives of our children. May your reward be with Him in all eternity.

July 17 and 18 was a special time of reminiscing as the current staff hosted our third staff reunion. A special part of the weekend was inviting former residents to join us for worship on Sunday and share fellowship and supper at the fellowship hall. It was a weekend filled with many emotions as we could share together times of joys or times of struggles and hurts in many of



the lives of those we've learned to love. It was a solemn reminder once again how time marches on. We need to respond now to opportunities which are at our fingertips daily.

Much planning is already underway for our annual sale to be held August 7. We are thankful for the faithful support and donations shared with us over the past years. Once again we trust Him to supply our needs.

May each of you continue to enjoy His blessings upon your summer and should you encounter the thief of procrastination, may God's grace encourage you to respond now while he tenderly calls.

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### ALABAMA, ATHENS

**Lisa Huette**

This month our Athens congregation has been blessed with several special events. Twin girls, Roslyn Gabrielle and Olivia Marie, blessed the home of Bro. David and Sis. Barbara Coulter. Welcoming the two little bundles into their family were big brothers, Steven and Eric, as well as their sister, Kendra. Grandparents of the twins are Bill and Lois Coulter (South Carolina) and our own Sis. Ola Mae Barnes.

"But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." (Matthew 6:33) We rejoice with Bro. Tim and Sis. Joan Reinhard because their daughter, Kristin, has heeded the Lord's call and given her life over to His control. It's not always an easy road, but the rewards will well be worth it in the end.

We'd like to wish Sis. Terri Gramm farewell as she leaves the Athens congregation to return to Illinois. Sis. Terri spent nine months with us here in Athens and we will miss her!

We'd also like to recognize our high school and college graduates. Graduating from high school this year was Kay Barrett and Alvie Lynn, and graduating from college was Bro. Joel Schrenk. We wish them the best as they move on to their next endeavor.

We'd like to thank Bro. Neil

Ramseyer and his family for spending a Wednesday evening with us and ministering out of God's Word to those gathered. Also spending time with us were Bro. Dave and Sis. Melanie Huette. A special thanks to all those putting Athens on their summer schedules.

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### ARIZONA, PHOENIX

**Ron and Ev Hoerr**

"... Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven."

Matthew 18:3

The special 'peace' that one who repents of the sinful life acquires as he or she gives their life to the Lord is most precious. You just have to experience it – and – words cannot explain the transformation – but praise God, what joy and love is yours. Ray and Wendy Blunier are awaiting baptism. What beauty to see a couple sparkle and speak for Jesus. We must keep Him as our best friend in our daily walk.

For some, God has an earthly mate and two of our young men will honor God as head of their abode. We ask God's blessings on both couples.

Bro. Jim Zollinger and Sis. Tresa Kuenzi will be married July 18 in the Silverton, OR, church and reside in that area. Bro. Ed and Sis. Shirley Zollinger and Scott recently moved to Oregon. Many from Phoenix went to Silverton for the wedding.

Shannon Maurer and Lacey Dicks will exchange vows July 24, at Grace Presbyterian church in Peoria. His parents are Bro. Howard and Sis. Eileen Maurer. Her parents are Jeannie and Larry Dicks (Morton, IL).

Our Sunday school is on vacation July and part of August.

Our prayers are with our elders as their conference meets in Goodfield in August. Surely the Mississippi flood will get much attention. How our hearts ache for them, but God will provide. Let us be in prayer for all God's children.

We welcome the Lawson family from Minneapolis, MN. Bro. Ken

and Sis. Sharon, Bro. Tim and Tricia were already familiar faces before their move, as daughter, Sis. Shelley (Bro. Shawn) Maurer lives here. We love you!

Welcome also, toddler Christian Hill (Gabe) will join us regularly as grandma, Sis. Susan Knochel Suever lovingly cares for him.

For various reasons, Christian families move from home base. Sis. Jan Elsasser planned a Phoenix reunion for this large group June 26-27 in Princeville and Washington, IL. May God bless Sis. Jan and the many others for their efforts. Families from six states get to renew old friendships.

Let us turn to II Corinthians 1:3-4 for comfort during this day's (7/13) trouble (floods, heat waves, earthquake, war and hunger).

Ask the Saviour to see you through.

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### ARIZONA, TUCSON

**Lisa Knapp**

Our Bro. Andy Lehman (Nate and Yvonne) was hospitalized recently and is now recovering from surgery nicely. Our prayers are with him and his family as he recuperates.

Bro. Al Zeltwanger is hospitalized in Ohio as of this writing. Bro. Curt and Sis. Caroline Kautman and their family are with him and we are praying that the Lord's will will be done in their lies.

Our temperatures have been in the 100's but we did have a break today as it was 85°, cool and breezy.

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### COLORADO, DENVER

**Eric and Marcel Huber**

We have been blessed with many visitors during the past month. Among them were ministering Elder Bro. Bob Walder (Congerville, IL) and Bros. Earl Ringger (Gridley, IL), Dennis Rassi (Fairbury, IL), Kevin Ryan (Rockville, CT), Lloyd Kraft (Gridley, KS) and Pat Zaugg (West Bend, IA).

Our prayers continue for Bro. Richard Hasty in his illness. "The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in him, and I am helped; therefore my heart greatly



rejoiceth; and with my song will I praise him." (Psalm 28:7)

We rejoice that Jennifer Ebert (Bro. Tom and Sis. Diane) has turned to God in repentance

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**CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE**  
**Michelle Virkler**

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

Proverbs 1:33

Our love and prayers are with those in our congregation who recently have been in the care of a physician or hospitalized: Bro. Fred Zahner, Sisters Jane Ballasy, Carol Bahler, Diane Stoller and Alma Luginbuhl.

Bro. David and Sis. Kim Schneider welcome their first-born little bundle, Joanna Vi. Maternal grandparents are Bro. Keith and Sis. Mary Kloter and paternal grandparents are Bro. Wilbur and Sis. Marge Scheider.

Recently, Elder Bro. John Lehman (Bern, KS) and his family spent time in our midst. We thank him for his efforts to be with us and labor in the Lord's vineyard.

"Fulfill ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves."

Philippians 2:2, 3

The Lord has provided a very warm summer so far here in Connecticut and it is so uplifting to see the beautiful array of flowers.

". . . behold, I have set before thee an open door and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name."

Revelation 3:8

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**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,**  
**WASHINGTON**  
**Henrietta Meyer**

"I was glad when they said unto

me, Let us go into the house of the Lord."

Psalm 112:1

While we are glad to come together, during the summer there is extra anticipation, wondering if there will be any visitors. We have been very blest with visitors this past month. Our guests were from Smithville, OH, Lester, IA, Rockville, CT, Leo, IN, and Lamar, MO. Visiting ministers were Bros. Jerry Isch (Philadelphia, PA), Lynn Stieglitz (Leo, IN), Merele Hartzler (Rittman, OH), Vernon Schwab (Wolcott, IN) and Mark Masters (Mansfield, OH).

We usually do not meet the second Sunday of the month, but we learned a group from Rockville, CT, would be in the area. Arrangements were made not only for services on Sunday, but also a singing on Saturday evening.

Services are held the first, third and fourth Sundays of the month at Tyson's Westpark Hotel, located about one mile west of the Beltway (I-495) on Route 7. 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. We often gather on Saturday evenings for fellowship or singing and the other Sundays for a tape, so please let us know if you are in town. 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.

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**FLORIDA, FT. LAUDERDALE**  
**Caroline Hejja**

". . . this do in remembrance of me." (Luke 22:19) This month we once again were given the opportunity to pause and reflect on what Jesus did for us as we partook of the Lord's Supper together. We were thankful to have Elder Bro. Joe Braker (Morton, IL) with us during this time. Everyone enjoyed the time of fellowship during a church supper later that evening.

Summer brings many opportunities for fellowship. We've enjoyed getting the families together for picnics. Our Sunday school children are involved in "Summer Sun-

day School." Our theme this year is "The Armor of God."

Our young people enjoyed hosting our guests from Gateway Woods over a weekend recently. A day of activities, including a BBQ, was planned. We, also, appreciated their presence in our Sunday school classes and church services that weekend.

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

"And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ."

Colossians 3:23, 24

It is wonderful to know that if we do all things for the Lord with our whole heart, that we have the full promise of our heavenly inheritance. The troubles and sorrows that we face in this life from time to time, seem much smaller if we keep this promise in our thoughts and our hearts.

We were thankful to have Bro. Dale Stoller (Fairbury, IL) come to minister to us this month. We do not get many visiting this time of year, so we really appreciate those that travel to share with us. We are also so grateful for our own two North Fort Myers ministers that stand before us so faithfully, proclaiming the Word. Bro. Dave and Bro. Vic ask so little and give so much. Their wives give much support to the congregation also.

We have Bro. Ralph and Sis. Jeanette Yergler back with us in good health, and we thank the Good Healer for many answered prayers.

We all enjoyed our monthly supper out together July 11. We had a nice big group of 28.

We are counting the weeks down to the Lakewood Retreat Sunday school trip in November.

We so deeply appreciated all the prayers and acts of love given on our behalf while we were ill. We could feel the prayers, and we thank God for you all.

Bro. Ralph and Sis. Jeanette  
Yergler



**GEORGIA, ATLANTA****John Brewer**

As our prayers go to the people on the Mississippi River plains, fighting the swells of the river and hopefully soon drying out from the aftermath, it is an interesting dichotomy that the South is suffering a heat wave not experienced in five years. We know deep in our heart that God has control of either situation, but it would be nice for all concerned that we could attempt a swap for continuous sunshine in the Midwest and heavy rains down in the South. Of course only through prayer can such an attempt be possible (God has not allowed us to master the weather, thankfully). In looking at the whole, it would be easy to say God has a purpose for those fighting and losing the onslaught of the swelling rivers and those contending with the continuous heat. As God may have a purpose for such weather mishaps (mishap may be understatement for those in the Midwest), it is interesting to note that these are times that allow us to anchor more firmly on the rock of Christ and pull together with help, physical and financial, for those who are suffering.

Our prayer for those in the Midwest is, not only they persevere with minimal damage the onslaught nature has incurred, but that they may also not lose hope and that there may be a silver lining that can be looked to in this disaster and know without a shadow of a doubt that God was with you in the whole ordeal.

As always and thankfully will continue, we want to thank those who have stopped and visited our congregation here. We appreciate visiting ministers, Bro. Glen Price (Sarasota, FL) and Bro. Ken Hoerr (Peoria, IL) to take time and share the Word of God. It has been a great blessing to hear from so many different ministers over the years and to expound on the Word of God and to those friends who have stopped by to worship with us the many years we have been here. And we look forward to more friends, new and old, as time goes on, to meet, to learn and to fellowship with as time goes on.

If you are here on business, pleasure, or on the way to coastal locations, please stop in and worship with us here in Atlanta. We are always looking forward to meeting new brothers, sisters and friends. We meet every Sunday at the Ramada Renaissance Hotel. The hotel is located just south of the Atlanta airport off I-85 on the Riverdale Road Exit. The hotel is located right next to the interstate. Song service starts at 10:20, with the worship service starting at 10:30. If you are coming down to visit give us a call and let us know. You can contact either Linn Stoller (404-631-4554) or myself (404-591-5432).

**ILLINOIS, BELVIDERE****Peg Anliker**

We thank Bros. Paul Eisenmann (Burlington, IA), Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL), Fred Knapp (Congerville, IL) and Ron Schambach (Elgin, IL) for visiting us and sharing God's Word with us. We appreciate their labors of love on our behalf. We are thankful for all our visitors.

Our Sunday school picnic was July 10 at Dave and Sis. Sheila McCoy's. We thank them for their kind hospitality. Our youth are so precious. We pray they can seek our Lord when He calls.

**ILLINOIS,  
BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL**

**Tudy Schmied - Debbie Grieco**  
On June 22 Bro. Dennis and Sis. Sheri Frank were blessed with the birth of Andrew John. He joins his two sisters, Ashley and Amanda. The grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Ann Getz (Morton) and Bro. Ray Jr. and Sis. Shirley Frank (Morton).

This past month of July has been like no other for many persons as they have experienced record flooding, extreme heat and drought. Many prayers are with our church families and their neighbors who live near the Mississippi and the other rivers which have overflowed their banks. In troubled times it is so good to be able to call upon our Lord for strength.

"The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; the God of my rock; in him will I trust; he is my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my high tower, and my refuge, my savior; thou savest me from violence. I will call on the Lord, who is worthy to be praised: so shall I be saved from mine enemies."

II Samuel 22:2-4

The time of year brings the start of a new school year. Studies have indicated that the foundation of a child's value system is well established by the age of six. Considering this, we realize the importance of the time spent reading Bible stories, singing songs about our friend Jesus, and "walking the talk." A big "thank you" to the Sunday school teachers from pre-school to high school who bring the message to our children. May God's wisdom be your guide.

There is always a feeling of loss when loved ones move away. We wish God's blessings upon Bro. Jay and Sis. Dawn Martin and their children who have recently moved to the Champaign, IL, area.

Heartfelt appreciation goes to the visiting ministering brothers. This month they were Bros. Wayne Laubscher and Tom Stock (Cissna Park).

**ILLINOIS, BRADFORD****Les and Barb Fehr**

We were filled with the Holy Spirit as three new souls were brought into the fold, Ben Endress (Bro. Larry and Sis. Becky), Sara Ringger (Bro. Bill and Sis. Karen) and Elizabeth Kimble. We are thankful that these souls have answered God's calling, but more importantly, that our heavenly Father is still calling souls out of this world of sin. God is still sending His wonderful peace to all who will answer His call.

Our congratulations goes to two couples that were united in marriage June 26. They are Jim Ehnlé (Bro. Gary and Sis. Carol) and Cindy Mink (Doug and Pat, Princeton) and Amy Tanner (Bro. Harold and Sis. Imogene) and Rodney Brewer (Chester and Dorothy, East Peoria). God be with



them as they begin their life together.

Bradford held their annual Sunday school picnic June 27. What a joy to hear the children sing songs of praise. May all of us have a song of praise in our hearts.

During the last month our visiting ministers were Elder Bros. Wes Knapp (Goodfield), Joe Stoller (Princeville), Bros. John Steiner (Oakville, IA), Paul Eisenmann (Burlington, IA) and Don Manz (Junction, OH). We want to thank these brothers for their labors of love in bringing us the Word of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

### ILLINOIS, CHAMPAIGN

#### Margie Heintz

We are very glad to welcome Bro. Jay and Sis. Dawn Martin (Bloomington, IL), along with their two children, Taylor and Chelsea, into our congregation. We pray for God's blessings upon them as they establish themselves in a new home and community.

We also want to express our sympathy to Bro. Dan Schlatter and his family at the death of his sister, Mary Kerner. We entrust them into the comforting power of the Holy Spirit.

The Sunday school students enjoyed their annual picnic on a sunny afternoon at the park. We express our thanks to the Sunday school teachers who have committed much time and effort toward clearly bringing forth the gospel message to young hearts. We also express our thanks to Bro. Willis Wiegand (Goodfield) for giving of himself in the ministry to our congregation.

### ILLINOIS, CHICAGO

#### Kathy Schlatter

Before I took my college algebra class this summer, I was rather disdainful of the answers in the back of the book. I had had four years of high school math and even my college physics class did not take from me the notion that the answers in the back were for those who did not understand the problems. Since then it has been twenty-six years, and getting reacquainted with the world of mathematics has

taught me a great deal, not all of it math-related. I have listened intently to my instructor and gone to every class without fail, even when there were other activities and compelling reasons to be elsewhere. This summer I have also checked my answers extensively in the back of the book. The answers have helped me to understand my work better, to compare the results of my work, and to focus my work towards the correct process and solutions. Spiritually, I have been very slow to understand. Only yesterday (after I had attended over 80% of the class meetings) have I seen the spiritual relationship. First of all, there is only one Book, the Bible. All of us know we have work to do, but we do not always check the Book. For myself, I have seen the number of errors I have made in the simple, automatic mathematical computations within the more difficult problems that have hindered me from matching the book's solutions. I have had to take much time to retrace my steps and to correct my thinking about positive or negative signs or other parts of the computation in order to come to the right answer. I need to understand, to compare, and to focus my spiritual walk in the same way, even when it takes time, even when I thought I was right the first time, because I so often err in small ways, in the "easy" work within the bigger picture the Lord has. And I need to check and beg forgiveness from Him and learn to go more carefully, more prayerfully the next time. I also need, as I found for my class, that I need to be "in class" whenever the Word is preached, for there is help and understanding expounded through the Spirit of God, and it does not matter what else may be going on or vying for my attention: if I am in His House, listening to His Word, I am doing His will.

What a privilege it is to have ministers visiting with us! Bros. Arnie Gerst (Taylor, MO) and Curt Heimer (Alto, MI) have joined us for Sundays. For our Vacation Bible School, we also were privileged to have Elder Bro. Joe Braker (Morton), Bros. Gary Anliker (Elgin), Steve Baner (Gridley) and

Dennis Kaufmann (Bloomington, IL). They spoke about our pathway choices as God's creation and specifically about our desires and responsibilities in order to be on the Lord's road. We are truly grateful to them and to the Lord for their ministry. There were many others who labored for our children's benefit in Vacation Bible School. May all who participated, in planning, in teaching, in crafts and in providing snacks, be blessed for their willingness to contribute. We pray also that each child who enjoyed Vacation Bible School will remember his experience for a lifetime.

Bro. Doug Wettstein (Bro. Dave and Sis. Gloria, Gridley, IL) and Sis. Sarah Mueller (Bro. Ron and Sis. Loida, Forrest, IL) have understood that it is the Lord's will for them to walk together on life's pathway, hand in hand. We are delighted and prayerful at their engagement, knowing that they take this step in all seriousness but also in joy.

The Lord has given another child a special home. Dave and Kathy Welter (Glenview) are the parents of little Alisabeth Leigh, born June 30. She has a brother, Andrew. Her grandparents are Bro. Melvin and Sis. Irma Walder (Champaign, IL) and John and Lu Welter (San Antonio, TX). We pray that her whole family may be blessed by her.

Lloyd (Bing) and Lois Tackwell are moving to Columbus, OH. We have appreciated their support of us in Chicago and know that Columbus church will be happy to have them. We are regretful to lose them, but send them in His will.

Sis. Frances Schrenk has gone to live at Fairview Haven (Fairbury, IL). We will miss her smile, but we know she has good care and good company there. May we continue to pray for her.

Sis. Martie Grivet has been hospitalized but has been able to come home. We love her and are concerned for her, praying for the Lord's gentle touch of healing.

Bro. Matt Strahm has lost his mother. Several others have also lost loved ones. Even when we are ready for the Lord to take souls to His bosom, we grieve for ourselves,



for other loved ones left behind. May the Lord be gracious in His bountiful love and sheltering arms for those affected by grief.

Some of us were privileged to camp as a group after Vacation Bible School. Bro. Dennis Kaufmann gave a talk which involved some review of what heaven will be like. The children were knowledgeable, though we cannot totally imagine. One point I thought of was that in heaven there will be no itching! When one is at a campsite and the air is redolent with Off, Cutter's and Skin-So-Soft, that really sounds wonderful. And, of course, some of us were still scratching and smashing. But, for myself, that is a small part of the itching in my life. Itching within also calls forth reactions, most of them negative. Perhaps we itch to become involved with an organization because of its status. On the other hand, we want our children to excel. Or we crave recognition for something we have done, praise for our goodness, gratitude for our sacrifice. Itching seems to be a natural reaction to life's temptations - but how do we scratch? Do we become entangled in an organization that will lead us away from God's work for us? Will we help our children too much on their homework or 4-H projects? Are we always telling others what we have done to hear their appreciation? Do we become discouraged when we do not know whether those we are trying to help care or not? I am so often guilty of massive scratching forays. Or, when what we want to happen does not, do we smash a others' motives, morals, lives? Lord, forgive us for we know not what we do. May I first, and others who may have similar tendencies, remember that "godliness with contentment is great gain." (I Timothy 6:6) We also have Thy promise that in heaven we will not have to deal with temptations, and we thank Thee for Thy blessings here when we submit and can overcome our "itching" by Thy grace.

"Be still my soul: the hour is hastening on . . . When we shall be forever with the Lord, when disappointment, grief and fear are gone

. . . Sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored. Be still, my soul; when change and tears are past . . . All safe and blessed we shall meet at last . . ." (Hymns of Zion #191, vs 3)

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**ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK**  
**Anna Marie Reutter**  
**Cyndee Anderson**

On Father's Day we appreciated the visits of ministering Bros. Robert Beebe, Dennis Kaufmann and Mark Graber. May God bless them in this important service.

The Sunday of June 27 became the wedding day of Bro. Joe Walder (Bro. Dale and Sis. Dorothy) and Sis. Tricia Steiner (Bro. Harold and Sis. Karen, Princeville). We welcome Sis. Tricia to our congregation and hope she will soon feel at home.

We want to express our sympathy to Sis. Helen Lackey in the death of her son-in-law, Evan Battey (Roselin, Chatsworth) June 24, and to Sis. Wilma Walder and family in the death of their mother and grandmother, Sis. Helen Baer (Princeville) July 3. May the Lord grant an extra measure of love to these dear ones at this time.

The July 4 weekend was a time of rejoicing for Bro. Ken and Sis. Sharon Eisenmann and family as their daughter, Pam, gave her testimony and was baptized into the family of God. We wish Sis. Pam the blessings of a humble heart and joy and contentedness in His service for the rest of her life. Elder Bros. Dale Eisenmann and Art Bahler were here with us that day.

The following Sunday was our annual all-church picnic, held at the park pavilion in Cissna Park. Although the day was another hot, humid one which are so typical these days. The food and fellowship were enjoyed by all. In church that Sunday we enjoyed the inspiring sermons of Bros. Jon Zeller (Morton) and Curt Rassi (Tremont). May God bless them for coming to be with us.

The past several weeks our prayers and thoughts have been often with the brethren and friends from our congregations along the Mississippi River. Many brethren

from here have taken time to go and help with the sandbagging efforts and have returned with stories of severe flooding and damage to crops and homes. How thankful we can be that our real treasure is not of this world, but awaits us in heaven.

We are thankful to have Bro. Ed Alt again assembling with us after having undergone open-heart surgery in Florida awhile back. Bro. Dale Walder is home gaining strength after his heart transplant in June. Sis. Kathryn Farney spent some time in the hospital with pneumonia this past month. May the Lord continue to bless these dear ones with His love and nearness.

We are so happy to welcome little Katie Elizabeth to our congregation. She was born July 19 to bless the home of Bro. Doug and Sis. Julie (Bauer) Walder.

I recently read the testament of an Anabaptist mother to her children, shortly before she gave her life for her belief in Christ. "My dear children, since it pleases the Lord to take me out of this world, . . . I want to instruct you a little for the best with the Word of the Lord, . . . In the first place, I admonish you, my most beloved, always to suffer yourself to be instructed by those who fear the Lord; then you will please God, and as long as you obey good admonition and instruction, and fear the Lord, He will be your Father and not leave you orphans . . ." I had to think how appropriate this advice is still today, and especially as our children begin a new school year. May we always teach our children to respect the counsel and wisdom of those who "fear the Lord" above all the knowledge and teachings of those who don't. And may we be diligent in committing them to prayer each day.

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**ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE**  
**Sue Wiegand - Beth Steffen**

We're always grateful when visiting ministers are willing to be spent on our behalf. Our appreciation goes to Bro. Neil Ramseyer (Bay City, MI) and Bro. John



Steiner (Oakville, IA) for their efforts.

Brock Daniel, born June 30, has brightened the lives of Frank and Jill Merritt and siblings, Kourtney and Brittany. Happy grandparents are Bro. Steve and Sis. Gerri Schrock and Frank and Reba Merritt (Eureka). We enjoy seeing these new little ones assembling with us.

We pray for God's continuing strength for Sis. Nancy Knapp as she recovers from double knee surgery and assembles with us again.

Our hearts have been touched by the efforts of the Mississippi flooding in the Midwest. Many brethren and friends have willingly responded to the Taylor, MO, and Burlington/Oakville, IA, areas to aid in the sandbagging and levee reinforcement efforts. It's been heart-warming to work side-by-side with our brother and strangers alike - disaster seems to unify us. But it's also been heartbreaking to know our Taylor, MO, brethren's efforts have been in vain when the West Quincy levee succumbed to the river. May our prayers, donations and generosity in clean-up be as prevalent as before as we were reminded God is always in control.

In school our children are frequently asked to give book reports to explain the contents of the author's work. Could we give a book report on the Bible if we were asked to do so? In the front of a New Testament of mine, an unknown author gives a brief, but accurate, description of what the Holy Book contains - a book report on the Bible.

"The Bible contains the mind of God, the state of man, the way of salvation, the doom of sinners, and the happiness of believers. Its doctrines are holy, its precepts are binding, its histories are true, and its decisions are immutable. Read it to be wise, believe it to be safe, and practice it to be holy. It contains light to direct you, food to support you, and comfort to cheer you. It is the traveler's map, the pilgrim's staff, the pilot's compass, the soldier's sword, and the Christian's charter. Here paradise is restored, heaven opened, and the gates of hell disclosed.

Christ is its subject, our good the design, and the glory of God its end.

It should fill the memory, rule the heart, and guide the feet. Read it slowly, frequently, prayerfully. It is a mine of wealth, a paradise of glory, and a river of pleasure. It is given you in life, will be opened at the judgment, and be remembered forever. It involves the highest responsibility, will reward the greatest labor, and will condemn all who trifle with its sacred contents.

Author Unknown

### ILLINOIS, ELGIN

Renee Anliker - Debbie Sauder

"O grant me now Thy grace that I,  
with true devotion  
May ever by Thee stand, though  
stormy be life's ocean.  
And with Thy blessing Lord, may I  
in faith remain,  
And to that kingdom come, where  
peace shall ever reign."

Zion's Harp #43, vs. 4

On June 26, we were privileged to witness the baptism of Bro. Ryan Weiss (Bro. Roger and Sis. Karen). We welcome him into the fold and trust he will find the grace to faithfully remain one of God's elect. Present with us for this blessed occasion was visiting Bro. Ron Joos (Pulaski, IA). We appreciate the inspired Word he, as well as our other visiting ministers this month, Bros. Dale Frank (Oakville, IA) and Dean Steffen (Belvidere, IL) so clearly expounded. May God be the Rich Rewarder of our brothers who so willingly serve us.

Daniel Haas (Sis. Carolyn) and Rita Peterson were joined in holy matrimony in Flagstaff, AZ. May their marriage be blessed with God's nearness wherever life's path may lead them.

Brian Welzein (Rick and Sis. Stephany), Bro. Don Schambach (Sis. Leann) and Sis. Gladys Weiss were hospitalized during this month. May God continue to be near them as they recover.

"The Lord bless thee, and keep thee: The Lord make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: the Lord lift up his counte-

nance upon thee, and give thee peace." (Numbers 6:24-26) With saddened hearts, we bid farewell to our Sis. Sue Davis who has accepted a position at Illinois State University. Her smile and example will be missed by the young and the old, as well as our Sunday school children. May God bless her and keep her, true to the faith, for we know that our loss is Bloomington's gain. Also departing this month was Christian Hilty. He returned to Switzerland after spending a year in the States and lived with Bro. Sam and Sis. Betty Bachtold and their family. Though many miles may separate us, how thankful we are that prayer knows no boundaries.

Visiting ministers were Bros. Paul Eisenmann (Burlington, IA), Kevin Knapp (Bloomington) and Trent Meiss (Iowa City, IA).

### ILLINOIS, EUREKA

Dori Blunier

Many of our brethren traveled to the Taylor, MO, and Oakville, IA, areas to help during the flood. It was sobering to realize the power and force of the water, but yet it was so uplifting to know how we can depend upon our brethren to help in time of need. Our prayers are with those congregations who have experienced loss.

We extend our sympathy to the family of Lawrence J. Rocke who died Friday, June 25. He is survived by his wife, Helen; son, Jerry (Arthur); and daughter, Janice Grede (McHenry). We also sympathize with Bro. Dan and Sis. Diane Fehr in the loss of Bro. Dan's father, Bro. Carl (Roanoke).

We especially have Bro. John Hartter (Sis. Bev) in our prayers as he has again undergone surgery on his knee. We hope he can soon mend and assemble with us again. Bro. Ernie Fehr (Sis. Mary) also had surgery in this past month, and we pray that he can make a good recovery.

We extend our thanks to Bro. Steve Baner (Gridley, IL), Bro. Loren Schrenk (St. Louis, MO), Elder Bro. Curt Frank (LaCrosse, IN) and Bro. Dan Stoller (Remington, IN) who ministered to us recently. We were reminded of how Satan



comes as an angel of light and we should be on guard to recognize him. Even as Paul tried to forewarn the Corinthian church, our ministers exhort us to be watchful.

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**ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY**  
**Sally Fehr - Thelma Slagel**

Anew, Lord, we are bound to Thee  
 Through Thy blest sacrament,  
     which we  
 Partook, that joined in heart and  
     hand;  
 To Zion's realm and holy land  
 We journey on.

Lord, lead us then by Thy strong  
     hand  
 As pilgrims through this desert  
     land;  
 We are pursued by many foes;  
 Deliver us from all our woes,  
 For we are Thine.

Communion Hymn  
 Zion's Harp #200, vs. 5-6

We gathered in solemnness June 23 to partake of holy communion. Elder Bros. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott, IN) and Wayne Anliker (Forrest) assisted our Elder Bro. Art Bahler in this labor. We were reminded that communion is a time for reflection and remembrance. We should reflect on the past . . . Christ's suffering and death for our salvation, the present . . . carefully examining our soul's standing with God and our fellow men, and the future . . . looking ahead to the glorious goal. May God give us grace to fulfill this.

Other visiting ministers who served us this month were Elder Bros. Ervin Knecht (Eureka) and Wendell Gudeman (Francesville, IN) and Bros. Marvin Dotterer, Gary Brown and Earl Gerber (Forrest), Brian Waibel (Champaign), Ralph Gerber (Morton) and Tom Stock (Cissna Parek). We are grateful to all for their labors.

We experienced a very blessed weekend June 19 and 20 when we heard the testimonies and witnessed the baptisms of our new brother and sister, Ryan Hartman (Bro. John and Sis. Rosemary) and Darcy Stoller (Bro. Dale and Sis. Sandy). There is no greater cause

for rejoicing in a Christian's life than to hear that souls are turning to the Lord. How we wish that many more would come and taste and see! Kevin Meiss (Bro. Carlos and Sis. Jane) has also made a beginning in repentance recently. We wish him God's grace.

Forward struggle, e'er contending,  
 Till the light from God descending;  
 Shall envelope thee, dear soul!  
 Throughout all the deepest  
     darkness  
 Jesus guides thee, and He  
     hearkens  
 Thee with courage to console.

From the world now turn thy  
     vision  
 "Forward go" be thy decision,  
 To God and eternity.  
 Eye and heart and all affection  
 Turn in Jesus Christ's direction  
 Heavenly joy He sendeth thee.  
 Zion's Harp #39, vs. 1 and 4

Jonathan Munz passed into eternity July 2. He was 82. May God comfort his family which includes one brother, Otis; and three sisters, Leona Sutter, Viola Goembel and Mary Ann Lorch (all of Fairbury).

Bro. Don and Sis. Carol Bazzell are happy grandparents of Kinzie Jo, born July 4 to Laurie and Keith Schweigert (Bourbonnais). Paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Schweigert. Kinzie has one brother, Bradley Wayne.

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

Zion's Harp #79, vs. 3

On July 18, we witnessed the union of Sis. Julia Fehr (William and Helen, Forrest) and Bro. Doug Moser (Bro. Lloyd and the late Myrna Moser) in holy matrimony. May God bless them in their future together that their marriage may be a Christian example the world needs to see.

Hospital patients this month

were Sis. Sharon Kelson, Sis. Esther Keifer, Sis. Anna Van-Antwerp and Sis. Barb Meiss. Our prayers are with them.

We are also remembering Bro. Roger Wiegand (Sis. Kathy) in prayer as he was selected to be a Sunday school teacher, filling the spot of Bro. Eldon Steidinger (Sis. Darlene).

The time draws near again when our elder brethren will assemble for the annual conference. Let's also carry an extra prayer in our hearts for them in their weighty duties.

The flood along the Mississippi River and our brethren in Taylor, MO, and Oakville and Burlington, IA, have been foremost in our thoughts and prayers recently. It was quite an experience to go to help and witness the teamwork and efforts among the people in that area as they attempted to avert the disaster. God uses tragedies to bring people together.

The hymn "Gratitude For Deliverance" (Zion's Harp #109) recently opened to one of our ministering brothers and verse two seemed appropriate for the situation. ". . . For unbelief with many woes, Has thus increased and overflows, The world as does a river . . ."

The stormy waters of the Mississippi, held in only by the levees along the bank and the numerous sandbags piled closely together on top of them, were an awesome sight.

In the same way, unbelief and evil threatens to overwhelm and flood the world and they are held in check only by holy and Christ-like lives of true believers. We have a great responsibility to stand closely together and stand fast, to contend for the Gospel and the faith and doctrine handed down by our forefathers so that the raging current in the world does not sweep any of us away.

Reminder: August is Silver Lining collection month for Fairbury.

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**ILLINOIS, FORREST**  
**Sandra Schneider**  
**Marlene Walter**

We rejoice with the angels in heaven that Mike Lanz (Bro. Elmer and Sis. Lavonne) has answered



the call to repentance. May God give him much grace in his new walk of life.

Sally Broquard (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Roberta) and Brian Bennett (Bill and Linda, Windsor, IL) were united in marriage June 26. We wish them much happiness in their life together.

June 27 was a special day for Sis. Sarah Mueller (Bro. Ron and Sis. Loida) and Bro. Doug Wettstein (Bro. Dave and Sis. Gloria, Gridley) as their engagement was announced. May God bless them as they approach this important step.

Even as we rejoice with those who rejoice, we weep with those who weep. Bro. John Kyburz was called to his eternal home June 29. We sympathize with his wife, Sis. Nettie, and his children, Marilyn Scott (Chester, NJ) and Sis. Marjorie Friedman.

Our hearts go out to Bro. Les and Sis. Ruth Roth in the unexpected passing of their daughter, Patricia Paplomatas. We also extend sympathy to her husband, children, brothers and sister.

Funeral services were held here for Bro. Andy Lehmann III (Altadena, CA) July 16. We sympathize with his wife. We thank Elder Bro. John Klotzle and Bro. Richard Aberle (Altadena, CA) for taking part in the service.

May God comfort the hearts of all who have suffered the loss of loved ones.

We also want to thank Bros. Lenard Meyer (Chicago) and John Rowell (Burlington, IA) for being willing to serve us.

Raya Steidinger (Bro. Ray and Sis. Shelly) and Bro. Elmer Stoller were hospital patients, but we are glad they are home again.

We were privileged to have residents from the Morton Home for the Handicapped worship with us July 11. We appreciate the staff who came with them.

#### Special Notes of Thanks:

The families of Sis. Carrie Roth wish to extend their thanks and appreciation to everyone from far and near who sent cards and gifts of love at the time of the loss of their beloved mother and grandmother. God bless you.

The family of Patricia Ann Paplomatas wishes to extend their heartfelt thanks and appreciation for all the prayers, cards, food, flowers and gifts of love that were bestowed upon them during this great loss. May God bless you all.

Takis, Stella and Alex  
Paplomatas

Bro. Les and Sis. Ruth Roth  
John and Karen Roth  
and family

John and Sharon Payne  
and family

Bro. Ken and Sis. Deb Roth  
and family

Tim and Diane Roth  
and family

A very special thank you to the family, relatives and friends of Sis. Eldora Walter for making her birthday very enjoyable. The cards and money gifts were appreciated very much. Your special thoughtfulness will be long remembered.

#### ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD

##### Barb Brim

"Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering, for He is faithful that promised."

Hebrews 10:22-23

The Lord has truly been faithful to us of the Goodfield congregation. We joyfully heard the confessions and witnessed the baptisms of two new sisters this month, Shelley Leman and Jackie Lawery. What better evidence of our God's faithfulness than this, His grace convicting and then regenerating the hearts of these two dear souls. We are blessed! May God walk at their sides throughout this earthly journey to our heavenly home. We deeply appreciate the presence of Elder Bro. Jesse and Sis. Shirley Beer (Milford, IN) as he assisted our Elder Bro. Wes Knapp on this happy occasion.

With our children out of Sunday school on summer vacation, we are enjoying their attendance dur-

ing morning services. We can surely feel the Lord's blessings through the inspiring messages we've heard this month, from Noah and the ark, Daniel and the lions, Jonah and the whale, and Joseph and his brothers, these stories, so simple yet so full of promise, are remembered throughout a lifetime.

Our thoughts and prayers are with our hospital patients this month. We wish a speedy recovery to Norma Bauman, Frieda Grusy and Evelyn Hoffnow.

Thanks to Bro. Karl and Sis. Lydiann Wyss (Washington, IL) for sharing of their love and time with us this month.

As this month ends, we would also like to send a special thanks to all the brothers, sisters and friends who aided in the relief efforts in Missouri, Iowa and Illinois. You're unselfish willingness to serve others will be richly blessed as we continue to pray for God's grace for all the flood victims.

#### ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY

##### Perry A. Klopfenstein

It is often said that "growing up" is a difficult process. In fact, I just recently heard a minister underscore that point. Teenagers, especially, have a very difficult time today because they are growing up amid a wide variety of negative forces.

Yet, in our churches, we have reason to rejoice! There are many young people who are repenting and being baptized – and are taking on Godly characteristics that make growing up easier. The seriousness of their devotion to God is an inspiration as they strive to daily serve the Saviour.

I witnessed an example of youthful commitment recently that served both to silently encourage and admonish me. While on a short vacation, I had occasion to often be in close proximity to two of my believing children who are young. I noticed that the length of their silent bedtime prayers was often much longer than mine; and they seemed more disciplined than I was in the daily reading of God's Word. In observing this, I felt deeply



humbled and a surge of emotion came over me. it stirred up a new zeal within me to be more prayerful and to seek God more fully. "God is a rewarder of them who diligently seek Him."

Our busy and hectic lives, along with the "cares of this world," should not deter us from our "first love" patterns of daily prayer and reading of the Word.

Our congregation was happy on hearing the marriage engagement of Bro. Doug Wettstein to Sis. Sarah Jane Mueller (Forrest). His parents are Dave and Sis. Gloria Wettstein (Gridley) and she is the daughter of Bro. Ron and Sis. Loida Mueller (Sibley, IL). They plan to wed September 19.

Several new babies have been born among our Gridley brethren. On June 25, Joshua Paul Zehr became the first child of Bro. Eric and Sis. Minday Zehr. His grandparents are Bro. Pete and Sis. Jan Meiss, and Bro. Paul and Sis. Wilma Zehr (all of Gridley).

On July 5, a second child was born to Bro. Jake and Sis. Amy Schlipf. She was named Kayla Jo. She has an older brother, Jacob Carl, Jr., who is 2. Grandparents are Sis. Lola Schlipf (and the late Bro. Carl) and Bro. Jerome and Sis. Mary Witzig (all of the Gridley congregation).

Alexander David Poppen was born July 7. He is the second child of Dave and Sis. Peggy Poppen. His older sister is two-year-old Amanda. Alexander's grandparents are Bro. Floyd and Sis. Marge Meiss (Gridley) and Alwin and Ruby Poppen (Normal).

On July 9, Austin Jeffrey Romersberger was born to Bro. Ron and Sis. Gail Romersberger. He has two older sisters, Ashley, 11, and Allison, 9. Austin's grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Lucille Romersberger (Gridley) and Bro. Alvin and Betty Hari (Cissna Park).

"Train them up in the way that they should go, and when they are old, they will not depart from it." This verse is the center piece for successful child rearing, and with God's help, and if He tarries, let's hope all these precious youngsters will one day be with us in all eternity.

### ILLINOIS, MORTON Phyllis Farney Cheryl Wuthrich

Our congregation recently rejoiced with two dear couples who reached milestones in their lives. Bro. Harry and Sis. Bert Getz recently celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary and Bro. Earl and Sis. Irene Farney celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. We wish both couples God's continued blessings as they continue to walk life's pathway together, hand in hand and heart in heart, with Christ the continued head of their homes.

We wish to thank Bro. Kevin Knapp (Bloomington-Normal, IL) for ministering God's Holy Word to us. May our heavenly Father bless him for his labors of love.

A reminder to the Morton congregation that August is collection month for the Silver Lining. Please see Sis. Annette Tanner.

Bro. Earl and Sis. Irene Farney wish to thank all those who remembered them with cards, good wishes and gifts of love. May God bless all who were so kind.

A reminder to all believing persons that August is "back-to-school" month for many families. Please pray for the children, whether they are entering kindergarten or college, whether they are in public school, Christian school or home school. We are engaged in a spiritual battle for the minds, hearts and souls of our children. Prayer is the most important weapon in this battle. Involvement is also crucial.

### ILLINOIS, PEORIA Cara Nussbaum

We would like to extend a sincere thank you to Bros. Neal Widmer (Wolcott, IN), Eric Givens and Jim Plattner (Princeville, IL), Marvin Leman (Bradford, IL), Ted Witzig (Morton, IL), Floyd Schmidgall (Morris, MN), Marshall Heinold (Washington, IL) and Mike Rieker (Peoria, IL), for speaking during Peoria's Vacation Bible School this summer. We are thankful that they allow God to use them in His service.

July 10 and 11 was a special weekend for Aaron Klopfenstein (Bro. Cleve and Sis. Kathleen), Dan

Geyer (Bro. Dale and Sis. Barb), Bridget Scholl (Bro. Rolland and Sis. Carol), Benjamin Hodel (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Gail) and Scott Meiss (Bro. Robert and Sis. Doris) as they testified that they had found peace with God and were baptized into the fold of Jesus Christ. We rejoice with them and their families.

Assisting with testimonies and baptisms were Elder Bros. Dave Wiegand (Champaign, IL) and Nathan Steffen (Elgin, IL). Also visiting that weekend was Bro. Paul Gasser (Akron, OH) and on July 18, Bro. Andy Moser (Valparaiso, IN). We thank each one for bringing us the Living Word of God.

Hospitalized recently were Bro. Howard Musselman, Bro. Fred Koehl and Bro. Bill Hofstetter. We pray for the return of good health and strength to each one.

### ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE Martha Jane Siebenthal

We are thankful for our visiting ministers, Elder Bros. Dan Koch (Tremont), Dave Wiegand (Champaign), Lavoyd Moore (Athens, AL) and Bros. Nate Stoller (Bradford), Marshall Heinold (Washington), Wayne Laubscher (Cissna Park), Jim Rinckenberger (Bluffton, IN) and Nelson Beer (Milford, IN).

"Now it is accomplished!  
With heart and with mind,  
To Thee, my dear Savior, I am  
resigned!

I'll ever be faithful in life and in  
death,  
Abiding in Jesus unto my last  
breath."

Zion's Harp #209

It is a blessing when we can hear testimonies and witness baptisms. We enjoyed that blessing the weekend of June 19 and 20. We welcome our new Bro. Tim and Sis. Tricia Wagenbach (Bro. Lawrence and Sis. Elaine) and Sis. Stacy Francis. May they walk the narrow way and be a light in this dark world.

"Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother and shall cleave unto his wife and they shall



be one flesh." (Genesis 2:24) June 27 was the wedding day for Sis. Tricia Steiner (Bro. Harold and Sis. Karen) and Bro. Joe Walder (Bro. Dale and Sis. Dorothy, Cissna Park). On June 20, the engagement of Sis. Robin Steiner (Bro. Harold and Sis. Karen) to Bro. Paul Klopfenstein (Sis. Betty, Gridley) was made known. We wish both of these couples the guidance and presence of the Lord in their new life together. May they look to God for His help as they establish a Christian home and may He bless this union of hearts.

Our prayers and thoughts are with Bro. Herman Stahl (Sis. Lillian, heart and stroke) and Sis. Janna Gehrig (surgery) and Joel Gehrig (surgery), both are children of Bro. Kenneeth and Sis. Donna Gehrig. We pray for a speedy recovery and God's healing powers.

Sisters Dee Ann Baer and Vera Baer are our newly elected Sunday school teachers. They replace Sisters Linda Joos and Jane Ehnle. May God impart to each teacher the wisdom and love needed to plant the seed in those tender hearts. May God bless the ones whose terms have expired.

May each one of us remember our dear elder brothers in our prayers as they gather for the annual conference in August. May God be the unseen guest in every decision and concern that will be met. May we be supportive of their conclusions that we might be able to preserve this precious faith.

Our deepest sympathy is extended to the family of Sis. Helen Baer. She was called to her eternal rest July 3, after an illness of a few months. She leaves to mourn three daughters, Sis. Joan (Bro. Lavern), Sis. Wilma Walder (the late Bro. Charles, Cissna Park) and Sis. Gloria White. Also, our sympathy goes to Roy and Elsie Mueller. Their brother, Al, passed away July 8. May God comfort each one in their time of sorrow and grant them many precious memories of their departed loved one.

We think of our loved ones along the Mississippi River and are praying for them during this stressful time. May God give them the extra grace, help and strength to endure

and trust their faith to carry them through this difficult time.

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**ILLINOIS, ROANOKE**  
**Annie Leman - Cathy Hohulin**

The flood in the Midwest created the opportunity for many of our brethren to meet at the river and assist those in need. Our prayers continue for them.

Our Sunday school picnic was held at the Roanoke park June 27. We thank all of our Sunday school teachers, and especially retiring superintendent Bro. Rol Rumbold and his wife, Sis. Carol, for their untiring effort and love this past year.

Lorna Knepp and Brian Peterson were united in marriage July 10 in Peoria. Their parents are Bro. Ken and Sis. Judy Knepp and Harold and Linda Peterson (Eureka).

July 11 was the wedding day for Bro. Chad Getz (son of Bro. Merlyn and Sis. Jan) and Sis. Crystal Fischer (daughter of Bro. Jerry and Sis. Marge). We wish both couples God's loving guidance.

On July 9, our Bro. Carl Fehr passed into eternity. His survivors include his wife, Sis. Louise; son, Bro. Dan; daughter, Sis. Dee; and five grandchildren. We will miss his quiet presence.

Visiting ministers this month were Bros. Will Schieler (Milford, IN), Don Braker (Kansas City, MO) and Marvin Stieglitz (Leo, IN). A special thanks to each one.

We are thankful all our hospital patients last month are home and doing better. They were Bros. Bob Hohulin and Bill Klaus, and Sisters Helen Zimmerman and Jill Aeschleman.

Sis. Margaret Hodel is also home recuperating and shares this note: We want to thank everyone for all your deeds of kindness and love. We appreciate so much all the prayers, cards, food and gifts of love. Wishing all of you His blessings

Bro. Willis and Sis. Margaret  
Hodel

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**ILLINOIS, TREMONT**  
**Barbara Dill - Marsha Koch**  
We have been blessed with sev-

eral visiting ministers this past month. We greatly appreciate Bros. Kenneth Dietz (Bradford, IL), William Emch (Lamont, KS), Gary Maibach (Smithville, OH) and Jim Plattner (Princeville, IL) for their willingness to come and minister God's Word to us. May God richly bless them and their families for their labor of love.

Many hearts have been saddened as loved ones have passed from this life. We extend heartfelt sympathy to Sis. Frieda and Bro. Ernie Aberle and children in the passing of Sis. Frieda's mother, Frieda Resch (Regensburg, Germany); Sis. Ida and Bro. Chris Schweigert in the passing of Sis. Ida's sister, Sis. Helen Baer (Princeville, IL); and to George and Grace Schmidgall in the passing of George's brother, Milford Schmidgall.

Hospital patients this month are Bro. Ken Huette, who is home and doing better; and Sis. Jane Bolliger (Bro. Tom), who is in the hospital at this time.

Sis. Melba and Jerry Hanguartner observed their 40th anniversary, July 5. May God's blessing rest upon this couple.

Thank You Note: I wish to thank everyone who sent cards and gifts to me for my 80th birthday. May God bless each one of you.

Sis. Ruth Frank

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**ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON**

**Denise Romersberger**

**Sue Rupert**

How quickly a month goes by! As we look ahead to eternity, we can only imagine how short a month will seem then! Bro. Jim Lehman and Elder Bro. Don Sauder (both of Roanoke) visited with us and shared God's Word with us. Thank you, brothers! We also had a large group of visitors that gathered for a reunion of those who had lived in Phoenix, AZ, at one time or another.

Hospitalized this month was Bro. Elmer Banwart. Many prayers have been sent heavenward for him and for his family. We have missed his quiet, gentle spirit in our fellowship. We also remember Bro.



Joe Herrman, who continues to reside at the Peoria Home. He, too, is missed as we gather together.

We neglected to include Matt Kellenberger in our list of graduates this spring. He is the son of Bro. Randy and Sis. Ruth Kellenberger. Congratulations!

As we think of these among us, we know that there is power in prayer. Prayer lets us bring our concerns, our praises and our thankfulness to the Almighty God. I suppose that all of us, at one time or another, have wondered whether God really hears us. But then comes the moment that we, without a shred of doubt, can say assuredly, that God has answered our prayers. He answers prayers in so many ways, and we are continually amazed at how He can work things out. Of course, there are times when He answers prayers with "No." We need to align our requests with God's Word and to make sure there is nothing present in our lives that would impede our prayers to our Father (Psalm 66:18, Isaiah 59:2)

Many, many times we pray alone. We can pray on our knees at our bedside, or while driving a car, or when sitting in church, or while walking or at any other time our thoughts go heavenward. I believe that we can also pray while singing songs or hymns to our wonderful God. God hears us at any time. His Word says that "the effectual, fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." (James 5:16)

Sometimes we pray with others, either in church assembly or at mealtimes. We can also pray together at times when a special need is known. There seems to be a special power available when people pray together (Matthew 18:19, 20) How sweet the fellowship and the bond of love as we share our concerns for each other! Surely prayer is important as indicated by the frequent exhortations for prayer as found in the Gospels and in Paul's writings. We can never do enough of it (1 Thessalonians 5:17)

Satan many times distracts us and puts obstacles of time restraints, other activities, discouragement, etc. in front of us to keep us from prayer. This, too, shows how important prayer is. If it

wasn't, Satan wouldn't work so hard to keep us from it.

May each one of us consider this, searching the scriptures, so that our own prayer life can become more fulfilled and more effective. We will reap the benefits of a closer walk with God if we can do this. And let us make our concerns and needs known to others so that they can pray for us.

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### INDIANA, BLUFFTON Jaci Gerber - Jill Fiechter

". . . and as the bridegroom rejoiceth over the bride, so shall thy God rejoice over thee."

Isaiah 62:5

Bro. Alan Gerber and Sis. Joli Vidakovics were united in marriage June 27 in Ersekcsanad, Hungary. Their parents are Bro. Dezso and Sis. Jolan Vidakovics and Bro. Don and Sis. Mary Gerber.

July 18 was the wedding date of Sis. Karlene Westfall and Bro. Burt Isch. Their parents are Bro. Karl and Sis. Donna Jean Westfall (Francesville) and Bro. Al and Sis. Carole Isch. Bro. Burt and Sis. Karlene will be making their home together in Francesville.

We were pleased to learn of the engagement of Sis. Janet Morris and Bro. Bob Herring. They are planning a September wedding. We wish these couples God's blessings and a joyous future in their walks together.

On July 9 and 10, we witnessed the testimonies and baptisms of Bro. Rick Schwartz (Elder Bro. Ed and Sis. Jeni), Sis. Adrienne Maggart (Bro. John and Sis. Becky) and Bro. Chad Gerber (Bro. Russell and Sis. Susie).

We also rejoice to hear that our friend, Mark Klopfenstein (Bro. Denny and Sis. Carol), has decided to answer the call of God. We trust God will be with each one and provide abundant grace.

We were thankful to have four visiting ministers with us this month. They were Bro. Lenard Meyer (Chicago, IL), Elder Bro. Phil Stettner (Bluffton North), Bro. Doyle Frauhiger (Bluffton North)

and Bro. Jim Ramseyer (Bay City, MI).

On July 11, Rick and Deb Fiechter became the parents of a new daughter, Alecia Joy. Her sisters, Leah and Heather, and grandparents, Bro. Tom and Sis. Marilyn Baumgartner and Bro. Melvin and Sis. Doris Fiechter, welcome her too.

Bro. Richard and Sis. Karen Kaehr and Bro. Al and Sis. Colleen Ringger (Bluffton North) are the grandparents of Ellison Gregory. He is the first born of Bro. Greg and Sis. Amy Kaehr (Bluffton North).

We pray for God's healing power over all who suffer from weakness and infirmities of the flesh. Hospitalized this past month were Sis. Marie Gerber, Jeff Frauhiger (Leon and Susie) and Bro. Fred Moser (Sis. Mabel).

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### INDIANA, BLUFFTON NORTH Susan Harris - Kay Steffen

There is joy among the angels,  
When a sinner heeds the call;  
When he turns to Christ believing,  
and from Him is love receiving,  
Grace that saves us one and all.

Gospel Hymns #171

Nothing is more precious than to feel God's grace touch another soul. We rejoice to hear Mona Graham turned her heart to the Lord July 13. We joyfully anticipate hearing her testimony in the near future.

Love of all gifts is the greatest. . . On July 4, we were happy to hear the engagement of Bro. Robert Herring (Bluffton) and Sis. Janet Morris. We wish the God's blessings.

Bro. Greg and Sis. Amy Kaehr are the first-time parents of a son, Ellison Gregory, born June 25. The happy grandparents are Bro. Al and Sis. Colleen Ringger and Bro. Richard and Sis. Karen Kaehr.

We have a few to keep in our prayers. They are Sis. Lillian Levy, from Christian Care who went to the hospital; Sis. Evelyn Meyer, who broke her hip; and also for little Trayton Gerber (Bro. Blake and Sis. Fawn Gerber). Sis. Evelyn



and Trayton both underwent surgery. May they all feel the Lord's nearness and healing touch.

Our July 10 and 11 Christian Endeavor was held at Francesville. May God bless our young people. We trust they will have made some lasting friendships.

A minister spoke some time ago about a chameleon changing his colors according to his surroundings. Instead of being a chameleon and changing with the lifestyles of the world, we should be different. Let us let our lights shine forth and be steadfast.

### INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE

#### Bev Huber

"As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" (Joshua 24:15) was our theme for Vacation Bible School this year. We appreciated Bros. Bob Pfledderer (Morton, IL), Jim Ramseyer (Bay City, MI), Steve Ringger (Bluffton North, IN), John Stoller (Leo, IN) and Dennis Kaufmann (Bloomington-Normal, IL) coming to share each evening with us.

We are rejoicing with the angels in heaven over one sinner that repents. James Washburn has been announced to have peace with God and man and is looking forward to baptism.

We rejoice with Sis. Lavonne Pelsy (Ryan) as she gave her testimony July 7 and was brought into the faith as our dear sister. May she feel God's grace and peace each day of her life.

On July 18, Karlene Westphal and Bert Isch were united in marriage. We wish them God's blessings in their life together. Bro. Karl Westphal and Bro. Al and Sis. Carol Isch (Bluffton, IN) are their parents.

Our prayers are with Bro. Morris Stedman (Sis. Verna) as he recently spent time in the hospital.

We have been blessed this past month with visiting ministers. Bro. Victor Beer (North Fort Myers, FL), Elder Alfred Bahler (Wolcott), Bros. Steve Frauhiger, John Reinhard and Elder Bro. Ed Schwartz (Bluffton), Bro. Nile Bucher (Bluffton North) and Bro. Wayne Leman (South Bend). May God bless them

and their families for willingly sharing with us.

### INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS

#### Miriam Gudeman

We want to thank visiting Elder Bro. Ray Sinn (Latty, OH) for assisting our dear Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott) in serving and partaking of communion with us Saturday evening, June 12. Let us always remember the price that Jesus willingly paid to set us free, and may we have purified thankful hearts as we continue on anew to serve our Lord more faithfully.

Our Vacation Bible School was held the week of June 14 through 18. As always it was such a blessing for all who attended. The children enjoyed learning how God uses even the animals, both great and small, to help share His Word to all the world, and that He loves us best of all, His creation.

On Friday, July 9, a singing was held at church, hosted by Bro. Bill and Sis. Gail Bradford, to honor the engagement of our Bro. Greg Baumgartner and Sis. Missy Huber. Their wedding date has been set for August 22, and Lord willing, they will be making their home here in Indy. We look forward to welcoming them to our family and wish them the Lord's blessings on their happy union.

We want to extend a warm heartfelt appreciation to all our visiting ministers this past month. They were Bro. John Bollier (Leo), Bro. Donald Manz (Junction, OH), Elder Bro. Ed Ringger and Bro. Earl Ringger (Gridley, IL). May God bless them as they continue to give of themselves for His glory!

### INDIANA, LACROSSE

#### Judy Gudeman

"And they called Rebekah, and said unto her, Wilt thou go with this man? And she said, I will go." (Genesis 24:58) The engagement of Sis. Rebecca Gudeman (Bro. Don and Sis. Mary) to Bro. Lonny Moser of Mansfield, OH (Bro. Phil and Sis. Jean, Bluffton, IN) was announced. We wish them God's blessings as they plan for their marriage. "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)

Our congregation has been blessed with three new converts! Doug Feller (Bro. Todd and Sis. Karen), Matthew Gudeman (Bob and Sis. Diana) and Diana Heinold (Bro. Gene and Sis. Evie) have all turned their hearts towards the Lord. "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." (Ephesians 6:13) The armor of each of us is strengthened with each new convert.

Unfortunately, Doug's employment has taken him from our area to the Phoenix, AZ, congregation. May God bless his move and his work.

### INDIANA, LEO

#### Judy Gehring

We have two births to announce this month. Kacie Mae Klopfenstein was born to Bro. Loren and Sis. Rita. Anna Elizabeth Thames was born to Bro. Jeff and Sis. Brenda Thames.

Our visiting ministers were Bros. Carl Weiss (Washington, IL), Bro. Neil Ramseyer (Bay City, MI) and Bro. Marvin Leman (Bradford, IL). We thank the Lord for sending these brothers in our midst.

Gateway Woods had their third staff reunion this past weekend. It was so good to fellowship with those from a distance: Bro. Bob and Sis. Karen Indermuhle (Sardis, OH), Bro. Dale and Sis. Pam Steiner (Chicago, IL), Bro. Nate and Sis. LeAnn Gerber (Philadelphia, PA) and Sis. Maxine Sauder (Morris, MN). On Sunday, we all gathered for a potluck and former children from Gateway Woods joined us. Several children came to join the staff Sunday from 2 to 4. It was good visiting with the children. We want to thank the staff for doing all the work which was involved in getting together two blessed days for the reunion. May God bless you all.

Visiting with one girl that had lived at the home, she said, "I wish I was still at the Home. I had secu-



urity there and I don't have that now." We need to continue praying for Gateway woods, the staff, children and former children of the Home.

We have several young converts. The Lord is still calling loved ones to come unto Him.

Sunday, July 19, was a blessed day. We went out to our new church site for a short service to thank the Lord for helping us thus far in the planning of the new church, the different committees and all who have prayed. Also, for a continual blessing and unity to work together one with another in the building of our new church.

Bro. Lynn Stieglitz opened with prayer and Elder Bro. David Bertsch had the service from II Kings and Psalms. Our dear Bro. Pete Maxfield closed with a prayer.

Bro. Philip Schlatter celebrated his 90th birthday. What a milestone in his life. We enjoy Bro. Philip's zeal for the Lord and good bass voice. It's such an inspiration to meet Bro. Philip in church and to visit with him. What a testimony Bro. Philip and his dear, loving wife, Sis. Thelma, are to our congregation. May God continue to bless them.

#### INDIANA, MILFORD

**Judy Longcor  
Marguerite Hoerr**

The annual Sunday school picnic was enjoyed this past month by a large number of adults and children. This year it was scheduled a week later so the fourth through eighth grade classes of our Sunday school could sing for the South Bend Vacation Bible School. This same group, led by Sis. Connie Beer, was enjoyed by our Milford congregation as they favored us with their songs. It's always a joy to hear the enthusiasm of children singing praises to the Lord.

Bro. Herman Weisser and his wife, Gwen, recently were able to return to their home. They'd each been hospitalized and then spent time in a nursing home. We're happy about their individual recoveries and are happy to know they are able to be up and about again.

Shane Beer, son of Bro. Steve and Sis. Connie, broke his ankle as he was playing ball. His walking cast was removed this week and we thank God for his recovery from his injury.

Sis. Edith Baumgartner was hospitalized for surgery this month. She's making a successful recovery at her home at this time. We're asking God to bless her with good health in future days.

Sis. Millie Beer (Bro. Phil) was hospitalized at St. Vincent's Hospital in Indianapolis, and received medical treatment. Many prayers were offered in her behalf and God has blessed her return home.

We've been favored with many visitors this past month. Living in a county with many lakes brings us special enjoyment as people come to their summer cottages and worship with us while they're nearby. Summer weather brings these added blessings to our small congregation.

Visiting ministers favoring us with their God-given messages this month were: Bro. Gene Lehman (Wolcott, IN), Bros. Robert Meyer, Jr. and Carroll Gerber (Bluffton North, IN) and Bro. Richard Aberle (Altadena, CA). Bro. Gene and his wife, Sis. Velma, were with us the Saturday evening previous and showed the Milford congregation slides of their trip to the Ukraine.

Rod Steffen (son of Bro. Dick and Sis. Gwen) and Jeremy Price (son of Bro. Phil and Sis. Jane) gave their testimonies and were baptized July 18. We ask for their lives to be filled with the love of God and enhanced by His Spirit. We welcome them to our church family.

The following article is very difficult for me to write because of the grief I feel at this time.

My mother, Sis. Naoma M. Beer, went to be with the Lord she loved, early Sunday morning, July 18. Funeral services were held for her yesterday, July 20. She and Dad, Bro. Theo, were married in Bluffton, IN, October, 1925. She was dearly loved by her family. She is survived by her husband and her seven children: Sis. Marguerite Hoerr, Bro. Philip Beer, Miriam Speicher (all of Milford, IN), Sis. Mary Fiechter (Berne, IN), Becky

Doll (Milford, IN), Alan Beer (Lake Forest, IL) and Bernard Beer (Nappanee, IN). Also surviving are 34 grandchildren and 72 great-grandchildren.

She loved her Lord, her large family, her church and her community. She was a sterling Christian example to her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren and was dearly loved by each one.

This seems a good time to thank the Milford congregation, and the hosts of loved friends, who came to express their sympathy to our family. The practical expressions of sympathy in providing food and provisions were so very appreciated by family members. Also deeply appreciated were the words of comfort and encouragement by Elder Bros. Ben Maibach, Jesse Beer and Bro. Walter Steffen, who conducted her "going home" services.

#### INDIANA, REMINGTON Amelia Schini

Giving: The best thing to give your enemy is forgiveness; an opponent, tolerance; a friend, your heart; your child, a good example; yourself, respect; all men, charity.  
F. M. Balfour

At 6:30 a.m. Wednesday, June 23, a prayer was offered in the parking lot at our fellowship hall for those who were about to depart for Juarez, Mexico, as a work team. While down there they accomplished their plan to build two houses and do some repair work. Those who went were: Bro. Dick and Sis. Sharon Meister and their three sons, Rob, Ryan and Rustin; Bro. Louis Gomez (Chicago, IL, as the translator); Matt and Jason Getz (Bro. Eldon and Sis. Charlene); Megan Isabell (Bro. Phil and Sis. Diane); Dan Getz (Ron and Sis. Jean); Bro. Ed and Sis. Annette Bahler and two children, Clint and Jenny; Lee, Judy and Neil Waibel (Bro. Clyde and Sis. Mary Sue); Heather Steffen (Bro. Roger and Sis. Vicki); Sandra and Shirley Waibel (Bro. Ralph and Sis. Helen); Heidi Vaughan (Joe and Betty); Bob Schini, Jr. (Bro. Albert and Sis.



Amelia); Bill Langhofer (South Bend, IN) and Bro. Marshall Heinoel (Washington, IL).

They were a very excited group when they returned to the Indianapolis airport at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, the 30th. Most are looking forward to going back again.

Our Sunday school and church picnic was held Sunday, June 27. It was a rainy day but since we have it at our elementary school, we were in the dry. The classes put on a short program and teachers promoted their students to the next classes.

It is with real joy we can report we have converts after long, "dry" period. They are Dan Getz (Ron and Sis. Jean), Heather Steffen (Bro. Roger and Sis. Vicki) and Jason Getz (Bro. Eldon and Sis. Charlene). We also have a mother of two young sons who has sought her salvation. She is Peggy (Sutter) Hillenberg. Her parents are Marvin and Vera Sutter who attend another church, so she was not reared in our church. Her grandparents are the late Albert and Sis. Lizzie (Huette) Sutter. She deserves our prayers and words of encouragement.

Thanks to Bro. Alpha Strahm and wife, Sis. Mamie (Berne, KS) for their visit Sunday forenoon, July 11.

A number of brothers, sisters and friends from here and our Wolcott church have gone to Quincy, IL, to help with sand bagging in the flood disaster area. It is with a feeling of "nothingness" that we think of all who have lost homes, farm crops and businesses in this great disaster. May God give courage and faith to all.

Closing Thought: Abraham Lincoln is credited with having said, "I have been driven many times to my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had nowhere else to go."

### INDIANA, VALPARAISO

#### Ken and Cindy Susdorf

Greetings to all of our brothers, sisters and friends. This has been a special month for our congregation as we have had two baptisms and two more repenting. Combining

that with the messages we have heard from visiting ministers and our own ministers, we have much to be thankful for. Being a small congregation, that's a big month for us and we are really encouraged with all these blessing from our Lord!

Baptized this month were Bros. Lance Bucher (Bro. Ken and Sis. Carol) and Andi Rossi (Richard and Peggy Knapp, Harvey, IL). Laboring over these two testimonies and baptisms were Elder Bro. Curt Frank (LaCrosse, IN) and our own Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL). Listening to those two testimonies was refreshing for all as we were even reminded of our own testimonies. It was as if we were all rededicating ourselves to Jesus Christ. We could just feel the Holy Spirit working mightily and yet were made aware at the same time that the devil is still at work. Our thanks to our dear elder brothers for their tireless efforts in this work. Thank you for letting the Spirit have free course so events like these could be so special.

We are also rejoicing with the angels in heaven as two dear friends have decided to repent and follow Jesus. They are Brady Moser (Bro. Andy and Sis. Diane) and Dawn Gaddis (Don). We pray God will grant these dear ones the grace to complete this undertaking as they seek their way in this new walk of life.

This was also the month for our Vacation Bible School. Our theme was "Just As I Am." On Tuesday, night Bro. Bob Meyer Jr. (Bluffton North) spoke on "How Am I?"; on Wednesday, Elder Bro. Joe Braker (Morton, IL) spoke on "How Do I Know?"; and on Thursday, Bro. Rick Plattner (Peoria, IL) spoke on "Will You Join Me?" We thank these brothers for traveling the many miles and for letting the Lord use them to bless each one of us. Also, thank you to all of the special singing groups who blessed us with song.

The following Sunday we then had our VBS program at our Sunday school picnic. Praise the Lord for our children. Sometimes it is through their child-like ways that we adults can understand things

better. We want to thank Bro. Lyle Zeltwanger for all his labors in Sunday school as his term is up and Bro. Tim Bucher will take his place. Also, thanks to Bro. Mike Thomas for filling in. We want to thank all of the Sunday school teachers for their labors of love in this past year.

Other visiting ministers in this past month have been Bro. Nile Bucher (Bluffton North), Bro. Todd Feller (LaCrosse, IN) and Bro. Vernon Wettstein (Congerville, IL). Our heartfelt thanks to you brothers and may God continue to bless your ministries.

We rejoice with Pam Schwartz as the Lord has blessed them with a baby girl.

Along with all this rejoicing, we realize that life still has its trials and setbacks. Hospitalized this month were Bro. Rollie Meiss (Sis. Jo) and Bro. Willis Feller (Sis. Eunice). Dorothy Claussen has been a shut-in. We pray for God's healing hand on all of these dear ones.

Please stop and fellowship with us if you're in the area. Until next month, "The Lord bless thee, and keep thee; The Lord make His face shine upon thee and be gracious unto thee; The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee, and give thee peace." (Numbers 6:24-26)

### INDIANA, WOLCOTT

#### Lorna Knapp - Lynell Blume

Bro. Bruce and Sis. Pam Furrer, Katie and Mindy were blessed with Caleb Alynn June 25. Happy grandparents include Bro. Vernon and Sis. Jan Furrer and Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Pat Kyburz. May God grant them much joy, grace and wisdom in raising their sweet family.

On June 27, many enjoyed the annual Sunday school picnic. At this time, the children were promoted to next year's grade level.

Our congregation has been richly blessed with visiting ministers this month. They were Bros. Roger Aberle (Sabetha, KS), Mark Bahr (Detroit, MI), Alpha Strahm (Bern, KS), Everett Hari (Bloomington-Normal, IL) and Edwin Bahler (Remington). We appreciate their labors and invite them to come again.



Bro. Troy Furrer (Sis. Lisa) and Kyle Knapp (Bro. Brian and Sis. Lorna) both suffered injuries in separate accidents. We pray God's healing hand upon them. Also, our dear Sis. Marilyn Schieler has again spent time in the hospital. We continually support her in prayer as she endures so patiently.

### IOWA, BURLINGTON

Jana Massner - Carolyn Wulf

"Noah's ark long drifted  
On the surging flood,  
But with eyes uplift,  
Trusted he in God.  
When throughout life's journey  
Raging storms I see,  
This shall be my comfort:  
God is still with me."

Zion's Harp #148, vs. 1

We certainly have seen God's power in the recent weeks as we have experienced high waters and threatening floods. We are thankful that God can comfort and provide strength and grace through the Spirit and also through brethren who have volunteered their labors on our behalf. May God reward each of you who came to help.

We rejoice with Bro. Paul and Sis. Elaine Eisenmann as their daughter, Monica, was brought into the fold Sunday, July 18. May she continue to look to God for guidance and daily submit to His holy will. Elder Bro. Bob Walder (Congerville, IL) assisted Elder Bro. Ed Lanz with this special occasion. Also visiting with us were ministering Bros. Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL), Kenny Dietz (Bradford, IL) and Oakville ministers, Bros. John Steiner, John Schmidgall and Dale Frank.

Bro. Wayne Banwart (Champaign, IL) and Bro. Bill Gerst (Alto, MI) also brought the Word of Life to us this past month. We can never be thankful enough for these dear brethren who are willing to be used to bring forth the true Word of God. May the Lord richly reward them for their labors of love.

Our prayers are with our Bro. Kenneth Scheitlin and Sis. Tillie Frank as they are recuperating

from surgery. Although the afflictions of the body brings heartaches and sorrows into many of our lives, it's comforting to find solace in God's Word as we read we will have a "new body" in the realms of heaven above.

### IOWA, ELGIN

Gloria Frieden

Brethren be ye not affrighted,  
God is yet among you here;  
You are still with Him united,  
And His grace is ever near.  
His corrections prove His love,  
Showered on us from above.  
Let this be your consolation!  
Why despair in tribulation?

Though the waves of life's great  
ocean

Harass us from far and near,  
Would humanity's commotion  
plunge us

In to sore despair;  
Though the Savior holds His  
peace,

Seems to sleep and rest at ease,  
Naught shall move your faith in  
Jesus;

Soon the storm and flood  
decreases.

Zion's Harp #38

Our thoughts and prayers are with the many who are experiencing loss and hardships due to the flooding here in the Midwest. Though much labor went forth as people worked together and gave of their time and energy to try to prevent the levees from breaking yet, in many areas, it was to no avail. It is easy for us to question God and ask why? But He would rather we would simply trust Him and His all-knowing wisdom. Having had a small taste of flood damage in this area a couple years ago, it gives us some insight to the damage the flood waters cause.

We were blessed with two visiting ministers this past month, Bro. Fred Eberhart (Burlington) and Bro. Jim Knoblock (Winthrop, MN). May God be their Rich Rewarder for sharing unto us from the Bread of Life.

As our students return for an-

other year of education, may they feel and know our prayers are with them.

### IOWA, GARDEN GROVE

Laura Funk - Dawn Moser

Greetings to all from rain soaked Garden Grove! The continual rainy weather pattern makes us realize that God is in control of all things. We can plant the seeds in the soil, but the growth and maturity of those seeds comes from above.

We may be feeling depressed and gloomy due to the lack of sunshine, but the Lord has sent us many blessings in other ways. Our visiting ministers this past month include Elder Bros. John Lehman (Bern, KS) and Sam Huber (Sabetha, KS) and Bros. Ron Joos (Pulaski, IA) and Alphai Strahm (Bern, KS). We appreciate each and every visitor and want to thank all for coming.

As I was looking through a book I found this poem. I had to stop and think. We are experiencing wet conditions and part of our country is flooded, but God promised never to flood the entire earth again.

### NOAH AND THE FLOOD

There was a time upon this earth  
That's hard to comprehend.  
It's written in the Book of Life,  
Which we believe and defend,  
Telling how the earth was covered  
By a flood which God did send.

'Twas Noah, just and perfect,  
Who did the warning sound  
That man would surely perish  
If in sin he did abound.  
But the people only mocked him,  
Building his ark upon the ground.

God remembered eight dear souls  
Who found favor in His sight,  
And in the shelter of the ark  
There could feel His wondrous  
might

As the all consuming flood  
Covered every mountain height.

There was preserved within the  
ark  
Creatures of every kind.  
And two and two of every sort  
Was the number God defined



To replenish His new earth  
And provide for all mankind.

It rained upon the evil world  
For forty nights and days  
Until it caused a swelling flood  
To over maintains raise  
Which did consume all living  
things

And proved that sin never pays.

Upon the Mount of Ararat  
The ark did settle to remain;  
God has promised that a flood  
Shall ne'er destroy the earth again.  
He has made the lovely rainbow  
As a token of the same.

There's a likeness now to Noah's  
time

Which we can plainly see.  
'Tis nearing, oh, so swiftly,  
When the earth destroyed will be  
By God's fiery vengeance falling  
On this world of vanity.

Henry Kipfer

### IOWA, IOWA CITY Janette Schulz

Greetings to all! We're thankful for all of our visitors this month, including those who were able to make it for the Iowa City reunion. Among those were ministering Bros. Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL), Fred Eberhardt (Burlington, IA) and Kevin Banwart (West Bend, IA). May God bless them for sharing the Word with us. God, His Word and the Plan of Salvation was certainly the main focus of the reunion, for it is what has drawn all of these people together over the years. "What a fellowship! What a joy divine!"

Many of us have "Oakville connections" and were involved somehow in the flood control efforts, whether through moving those threatened by flood waters from their homes, filling sandbags, patrolling the levees, or most importantly, interceding in prayer for God's mercy and protection. Seeing the outpouring of help from the local community and our brethren from several states was both humbling and heartwarming.

At this writing, most of the levees are still intact, but our hearts go out and our prayers go up for

those who have not been so fortunate. May God provide the stability and hope we all need when things in this life seem so out of control. "God with us, we need not fear!"

### IOWA, LESTER

#### Sue Warner - Cindy Leuthold

We appreciate and enjoy many visiting ministers who are willing to bring forth God's Word to enrich our lives through Him. Among our visitors this month were: Elder Bro. Ray Sinn and Bro. Larry Wenninger (Latty, OH), Bro. Sam Schlatter (Junction, OH); Bro. Earl Beery (Rittman, OH), Bro. Walter Steffen (Milford, IN), Bro. Carroll Gerber (Bluffton North, IN), Bro. Harold Schmidgall (Gridley, IL), Bro. Virgil Metzger (Chicago, IL), Bros. Steve Martin and Jim Vierling (Eureka, IL), Bro. Trent Meiss (Iowa City, IA), Bro. Doug Schock (Pulaski, IA) and Bro. Doug Grimm (Sabetha, KS).

Many of these brethren worshipped with us July 4, to witness the marriage vows of Bro. Gary Sinn and Sis. Paulette Feucht. Their parents are Elder Bro. Ray and Sis. Ann Sinn and Bro. Alfred and Sis. Marie Feucht. July 3 was the wedding day of Jeff Knobloch (Bro. Bill and Sis. Eleanor) and Keri Van Velhuizen (John and Jan). May God bless both of these dear couples as they begin married life together.

Two sweet baby boys made their appearance in this world in the past few weeks. Congratulations to Bro. Lynn and Sis. Joni Knobloch on the birth of their first born, Kenneth Douglas, who was born June 29. Grandparents are Bro. Glen and Sis. Joyce Metzger and Bro. Bill and Sis. Erma Gerber. Jason Paul has brightened the home of his parents, Ken and Ranae Leuthold. He was born July 15 and is welcomed by a brother, Nathan. His proud parents are Bro. Art and Sis. Emily Leuthold.

We express our sympathy to loved ones in our congregation with the death of Bro. Elmer Banwart (Washington, IL). He leaves to mourn three sisters from Lester. They are Sis. Leona Wulf (Bro. Bill),

Sis. Alice Metzger (Bro. Eli) and Sis. Esty Metzger (Bro. Fred).

### IOWA, OAKVILLE Debbie Wagenbach Melody Steiner

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

Proverbs 22:6

We've been blessed this month to have three new little ones added to the hearts and homes of our congregation.

Welcoming their first daughter are Bro. Jerry and Sis. Bonnie Wagenbach. They have named her Corin Marie. Also excited about a sister are big brothers, Kyle, Clinton and Kory. As well as her grandparents, Sis. Bonnie and Bro. Jerry Wagenbach, Sr. and Bro. Lloyd Moser (Fairbury, IL) and also the late Myrna Moser.

Tyler and Leslie Gray love their new little blessing, Wynston Levi. Also thankful for his safe arrival are Bro. John and Sis. Carol Steiner and Don and Bonnie Gray, his grandparents.

Joshua Ronald is the new little bundle from heaven that has arrived at the home of Bro. Ron and Sis. Timna Lanz. Big sister, Alex, is happy to have a new little brother to love. Elder Bro. Ed and Sis. Joan Lanz and Bro. Dick and Sis. Dorothy Taeger (Burlington) are thankful for the safe delivery of another grandchild. We wish for each one of these dear families the Lord's fullest blessings in raising these dear little babies that he has entrusted to their care.

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

We appreciate the visiting ministers who shared the Gospel message with us. Bro. Wayne Banwart (Champaign, IL) spent a Sunday in our midst. Bro. Andy Virkler (New York) had intended to be with us, but he and Sis. Becky spent the week in the Mason City Hospital with little Elizabeth (3 months). We are thankful she is home in West Bend and improving. Bro. Andy



was able to share the Word with us the following Sunday. We thank these brothers for their ministry.

Hospital patients have been Sis. Carol Fehr (Bro. Larry), Sis. Dawn Schmidt (Bro. Frank), Bro. Lawrence Schneider (Sis. Ella) and Sis. Leah Traub, who was a surgical patient. Sis. Carole, Sis. Dawn and Bro. Lawrence are recovering at home. Sis. Leah has returned to the West Bend Care Center. Mildred Scuffham remains in the hospital at this time. We pray the Lord will be with each one and grant the blessing of better health according to His will. Bro. Earl Banwart (Sis. Edna) is now residing at the West Bend Care Center after another stay in the hospital. May God be with him and Sis. Edna during this time of extended illness.

On June 28, we laid to rest our dear Bro. Mike Tapavica (71). Bro. Mike came faithfully to church from about 70 miles away. He was usually one of the first to arrive and enjoyed fellowshiping about what the Lord had done for him. Bro. Mike spent the last month of his life in the Iowa City Hospital and we thank the dear brothers and sisters who so faithfully visited him and cared for his wife, Donna. Bro. Joe Gerst (Iowa City) helped our ministering brothers with the funeral. We are thankful he could be among us at this time. We extend sympathy to Bro. Mike's wife, Donna; and son and daughter-in-law, Michael and Vicki, and their two daughters, Nicole and Crystol (Wisconsin). Also to his brother, Joseph Tapavica and Dan and Helen Yovichin, his sister and brother-in-law (all of the Akron, OH, area).

Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to Sis. Louise Anliker on the death of her son, Kevin (Des Moines, IA) and also Bro. Pat and Sis. Julie Zaugg and family. Kevin was the brother of Julie. May God comfort and bless these dear ones in this time of grief and in the days ahead.

#### JAPAN, SHIODA

**Willis and Lois Ehnle**

This morning, Saturday, July 17, Lois and I were listening to a

National Public Radio broadcast on the U.S. Army radio station. The lady announcer was talking about the flood in the Quincy, IL, and Taylor, MO, area, and she said, "Many of the volunteers are from the Apostolic Christian Church."

The Lord Jesus Christ taught us in Mark 12:31, "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." May God help us to continue our work with World Relief and that we might have a reputation as a group of people who go all out to help their neighbors around the world. Thanks to all those volunteers mentioned on the radio, and to all the brethren who, over the years, have organized our World Relief and similar efforts to help others.

This past weekend of July 11, we had Bro. David Lehman, who was originally from Wolcott, IN, as our guest. We asked him a lot of questions in order to learn all we could from him. On Sunday afternoon, he and I took a walk in the woods, with the river running in the gorge beneath us, to renew our friendship with nature and to marvel at God's creation. Bro. David is here on an assignment with Caterpillar.

Our Sunday school children can earn points by attending Sunday school, bringing friends to Sunday school, and by memorizing scripture verses. Such a meeting was held here at our Shioda church Sunday, July 11, with ten children in attendance. Our Sunday school teachers, Sisters Eiko and Reiko, took care of the activities and refreshments. Our Sunday school has become much smaller since we closed our kindergarten last year, but it has recovered somewhat.

#### JAPAN, TOKYO

**Andrew & Jana Klaus**

Japan is now going through its rainy season, and this season has brought rain almost every day. However, it has not hindered us from gathering and worshipping together at church and enjoying Christian fellowship. We also had extra fellowship from the U.S. recently. Jana's friends, Sisters Peg Knobloch, Deanne Stahl and Lori Kieser (Princeville, IL) visited for

a couple of weeks in June. Then, Bros. Dave Lehman (Wolcott, IN) and Merle Rocke (Eureka, IL), both came with the Caterpillar group and could worship with us for several weeks in July. We always appreciate each one of our visitors.

Our Elder Bro. Akito Inoue was gone for a week on an overseas trip and his whole family plans to be gone for the month of August to the U.S. Our prayers are with them for their safety and blessing in travel.

Just as we were hearing of the flooding in the Midwest, a very powerful earthquake struck northern Japan. In the past several weeks, I have seen many non-Christian groups and individuals here in Japan respond with help to the victims and their families. And it made me think that as Christians, how much more should we be helping those in need around us? "Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid." As a testimony to our churches back in the Midwest, we heard on the news, even here in Japan, about the volunteers from an Apostolic Christian Church helping out with all of the flooding.

#### KANSAS, BERN

**Donna Edelman - Diane Kaeb**

A long and happy marriage is an inspiration to all married couples. Congratulations to Bro. Melvin and Sis. Florence Rokey on their 50th wedding anniversary. May God's blessings continue in the years ahead.

We are happy to welcome Bro. Brad and Sis. Michelle Strahm. Brad has completed his education and has found employment here. May God bless and provide for them as they establish a new home.

It is always a pleasure to have visiting ministers with us. Bro. Robert Stoller (Lamar, MO) and Bro. Roger Aberle (Sabetha) fed us from the Word of God. We thank them and their families and welcome them back any time.

May 1 was the wedding of Scott McGuire and Christy Bucholz. Their parents are Rudy and Linda Lehman and Thayer and Linda



Bucholz. We wish them joy and happiness together.

We extend congratulations to Marci Strahm (Bro. Wilfred and Sis. Verona) and Ted Rottinghaus (Jerry and Paula) on their engagement. May God's blessings be with them as they plan their wedding.

Our prayers are with Sis. Katie Grimm (Bro. Paul) as she had knee surgery. May God comfort and heal according to His will.

As the brotherhood conference approaches, we pray that our beloved elders may feel the Holy Spirit's guidance in all their endeavors.

Bro. Melvin and Sis. Florence Rokey wish to sincerely thank all that remembered them with cards and gifts on their 50th wedding anniversary. May God bless you for your kindness.

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**KANSAS, GRIDLEY**  
**Doug and Judy Kraft**

A Christian now baptized,  
 To me much grace is given.  
 Why was this granted me?  
 That I with Christ am risen!  
 This is the holy aim;  
 He Who does this neglect  
 Cannot truthfully claim;  
 "I'm one of God's elect."

Zion's Harp #43

It was a blessed weekend, July 10 - 11, as we witnessed the testimony and baptism of Hope Williams. We wish Sis. Hope continuing grace from God above as she walks each day with him. We appreciated our visiting brethren, Elder Bros. Gene Marti (Kansas City, MO) and Jay Luthi (Lamont, KS) and Bros. Al Langhofer (Wichita, KS) and Jeff Bahr (Kiowa, KS).

Silver Lining dues will be collected in August for the Gridley, KS, congregation.

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

**GIVE ME STRENGTHS**

Give me strengths, Dear Lord of Mercy,  
 To endure my trials of life;

Give me strengths to suffer hardships -

Strengths, to suffer grief and strife;

Let me - never - yield to struggles,  
 Trust and faith I have in You;  
 Give me strengths that do not waver

In the trials I suffer through.

Many times, my faith is tested  
 By the griefs I'm made to bear;  
 Trust is challenged - by my heartaches;

Faith - by my unanswered prayers;  
 Give me strengths, in all such moments,

To be strong and Christian, true -  
 With a trust that does not waver  
 And a faith, forever, true.

Michael Dubina

Of all men, we are most blessed, for we have God to turn to in our trials. Think of the despair of those who do not have God in their lives to trust in, to turn to in times of trouble. Sometimes it seems as if our cross is too big to bear, but praise the Lord for scriptures like I Corinthians 10:13, which states "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it." For when we think we can't take any more, the Lord is there to give us 'strength' to hold on until He finds our way of escape. Let's hold on, loved ones. God will never leave or forsake us and what Satan has to offer is not worth the loss we will suffer eternally.

Our hospital patients this month included Sis. Elizabeth Diel, Bro. Huber Farney, Sis. Millie Frieden and Kirk Riedel. We miss our church family when they are absent from our midst and hope the Lord will bless each one with returning health very soon.

School will be starting again very soon for our children, and though there may be many things we can't control as parents, we can still pray and the power of prayer is greater than any other gift we bestow upon our family. So keep praying!

**KANSAS, LAMONT**

**Jane Isch**

Steve and Maria Schrader are the happy parents of a little girl, Shantel. Her grandparents are Bro. Steve and Sis. Dorothy Schrader.

Julia Anliker has announced her engagement to Todd Pyle. Julia's parents are Bro. Glen and Sis. Lorean Anliker. We wish them much happiness in their future.

Brandon Emch (Bro. Bill and Sis. Susan) was hospitalized for knee surgery and we're thankful for his quick recovery.

We extend our sympathy to retired Elder Bro. Sam and Sis. Clara Anliker in the loss of her brother, Bro. Elmer Banwart (Morton, IL). We know the loss of a loved one always means a separation and may God help fill the void.

August is collection month for the Lamont Silver Lining dues.

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**KANSAS, SABETHA**

**Mary Kay Wenger**  
**Sharon Strahm**

We wish to extend our sincere appreciation and gratitude for many visiting ministers. Elder Bros. Leo Moser (Lester, IA), Charles Sinn (Fort Scott, KS) and John Lehman (Bern, KS) assisted with the testimonies and baptisms of Brenda Grimm (Bro. Gerald and Sis. Ruby), Christy Grimm (Bro. Douglas and Sis. Jeryl) and Jenny Plattner (Bro. Donald and Sis. Ada). We welcome these girls as sisters-in-faith. Other visiting ministers this month were Bros. Pat Zaugg (West Bend, IA), Rex Frieden (Lamar, MO), Dale Wulf (Lester, IA), Don Braker (Kansas City, MO), Marvin Leman (Bradford, IL) and Alpha Strahm, Jr. (Bern, KS). We also thank Elder Bro. John Lehman for helping with communion.

A reception was held at the fellowship center for Bro. Richard and Sis. Joni Meyer who were recently married in Bradford, IL. We welcome Sis. Joni to our congregation.

Bro. Joseph Traub (Sis. Viola), Sis. Evelyn Wysong, Sis. Evelyn Steiner and Bro. John Plattner have been hospital patients. Bro. Joseph has been moved to the nursing home for further care. May God's blessings be upon them.



As we see the flood waters in our area, it reminds us everything we have is a gift from God. He has a purpose in everything. It may be part of a chain of events to cause one soul to turn to Him. May we be willing to say Thy will and not our will be done.

## KANSAS, WICHITA

### K. Gallatin

On June 26, we witnessed the marriage of Stuart Carl Nelson (son of Elwyn and Gladys Nelson, Hinckley, MN) to Andrea Kay Reimschisel (daughter of Bro. Max and Sis. Judy). May they be blessed as they fear the Lord and walk in His ways.

On July 10, we were privileged to celebrate the Lord's Supper remembering that only by the shed blood of the Lamb of God, Jesus, could our sins be forgiven and only by partaking of the life of Jesus can we have strength to forsake the old life and walk in newness of life. "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me" (Luke 9:23) Not only do we have strength for today, but Jesus reminds us of the time when He will return and we, who belong to Him, will eat and drink with Him. We are grateful to have God's forgiveness and love and hope of eternity with Him. May our lives be a joy and blessing to Him.

We appreciated the encouraging message from our visiting minister, Bro. Ben Manz, who was here with his wife, Sis. Carolyn (Junction, OH). Also Bro. Almer and Sis. Dee Steffen (Bluffton, IN) worshipped with us Wednesday evening and told us a little of the World Relief projects at Bluffton.

D. H. Brunt, brother of Sis. Lillian Bowers, is seriously ill and in the hospital. Our prayers are for his healing. May he call upon the Lord and trust Him for strength to endure.

Our hearts and prayers go out to the victims of the devastating floods throughout the country. How quickly Almighty God overturns the protective controls devised by man.

## KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON Wayne and Becky Snodgrass

Greetings of love from Lexington. We had our first Vacation Bible School in a long while this past week. It was really a blessing to hear some of our church background from Bro. Perry Klopfenstein (Gridley, IL) and then the many teachings and thoughts Bro. DeWight Stoller (Latty, OH) brought to us all three evenings, and the children presented us with songs and verses Sunday afternoon. We also want to extend a special thank you to Karen Schlatter (Junction, OH) for coming and helping teach some of the children. Our theme was "Fountain of Living Water." We were taught we must be thirsting for the Living Water. If we thirst, we will be filled and receive the many blessings God has for us. It is quite sad that many will be left out on the day of judgment simply because they would not drink from the living water and live the life He had to offer them. God is a loving God, but He also is a God of order and demands that our attention be focused on Him and not on things of this world. When our focus wanders off of God, that is when Satan gets his foot in the door. May we ever thirst for that pure living water, and receive the many blessings of our Father.

God bless the dear brothers and their precious families who served us that living water in the last couple months. They were Elder Bro. Bob Walder (Congerville, IL), Bros. Dave Graf (Akron, OH), Walt Steffen (Milford, IN), Vic Bowman (Smithville, OH), Dennis Kaufman (Bloomington, IL), John Hartman (Fairbury, IL) and DeWight Stoller (Latty, OH).

"Thus saith the Lord, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls . . ."

Jeremiah 6:16

## MICHIGAN, ALTO Jane Grawburg

"Is your all on the altar of sacrifice laid?"

Your heart, does the Spirit control?

You can only be blest and have peace and sweet rest,  
As you yield Him your body and soul."

Gospel Hymns #810

Our children learned about "Putting on the whole armor of God" at Vacation Bible School this year. Highlighting the week for us were Bro. John Stoller (Leo, IN) and Elder Bro. Ed Schwartz (Bluffton, IN). We especially want to thank these brothers for sharing with us and for helping to make our Vacation Bible School a success.

Other ministers joining us during the month have been Bro. Jim Ramseyer (Bay City, MI) and Bro. Ron Schambach (Elgin, IL). We thank these brothers for their labors of love.

We rejoice with Otto Schlatter (Bro. Otto and Sis. Patricia) as he has found his peace and now awaits baptism.

Eleven from the Alto congregation heeded the call and traveled to Taylor, MO, to assist with the Mississippi River disaster. Our love and prayers, and our concerns are with those living in the area. May God grant you grace and strength during these trying times.

"A child is joy that grows deeper,  
Pride that grows stronger, and Love that touches your heart every day."

Anonymous

Bro. Ted and Sis. Sandy Steffen and their daughter, Tasha, have welcomed little Heather into their hearts. Heather's grandparents are Bro. Alvin and Sis. Janet Nuest (LaCrosse, IN) and Bro. Aaron and Sis. Loretta Steffen (Alto, MI).

Our converts, Mark and Natalie Berg, have moved to their new home in Bay City, MI. They have our love and prayers, and sincere wishes for God's blessings as Bay City becomes their home, and as they continue their walk in Him.

Our general conference is nigh upon us. We especially want to pray for its success and ask God to supply grace sufficient for each one in attendance.

God be with you.



**MICHIGAN, BAY CITY**

Bro. Winsor and Sis. Loretta Mosher wish to thank everyone for their gifts of prayer, cards and other gifts of love through their time of illness.

We would like to remember Christ Mehl in our prayers through his long time illness and discomfort, also for his wife, Sis. Alice.

We wish our Lord's grace and blessings on Allan and Pam Wackerle who have professed peace with God and man. Parents are Bro. Sam and Sis. Lorraine Wackerle.

Sis. Doris Knochel needs our prayers and the grace of our Lord. She is in the hospital, has had surgery and is not doing too well.

Bro. Neil, Sis. Ginger, Lane and Nicole Mosher wish to thank everyone for their gifts of love, cards and prayers in their recent loss of Sis. Ginger's father, and may the Lord bless each and every one for their loving thoughtfulness.

Our Vacation Bible School was held June 21 through 25. Our theme was "Christ's Return Is Near - Don't Miss It For The World." Look up . . . rejoice. (St. Luke 21:28)

Vacation Bible School week seems to give us extra blessings from our Lord each day and by the end of the week, even though we get tired, our blessings are five fold. Blessings came each day teaching and waiting on our small and younger people and in the evening listening to our visiting elders and ministers with our young people, junior, senior Bible students and older ones, as one family of our God.

Topics of each evening for the week were: Monday, "The First Advent," Elder Bro. Wayne Anliker (Forrest, IL), Song: "O Come All Ye Faithful"; Tuesday, "The Second Advent," Bro. John Stoller (Leo, IN), Song: "Watch and Pray"; Wednesday, "Am I Worthy To Be Included In The Rapture?", Bro. Lynn Stieglitz (Leo, IN), Song: "I Gave My Life For Thee"; Thursday, "The Last Seven Years," Bro. Ed Fritz (Washington, IL), Song: "The Fire Song"; Friday, "Your Alternatives - God's Final Call - Rapture Or Great Tribulation?", Bro. John Rowell (Burlington, IA), Song: "Rise Glorious Conqueror." Theme song

for the week, "Up Yonder In Heaven The Blessings And Memories Still Longer On."

Great and marvelous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints."

Revelation 15:3

I want to express my heartfelt thanks to all, near and far, for your many, many prayers, love, food, cards, flowers and gifts of love while in the hospital and my recovery at home. May God bless you all.

Cheryl (Schlatter) Schmidt

**MICHIGAN, DETROIT**

**Holly Barton**

**Marlene Reinhard**

June not only marks the end of spring, but many of the offices held by our faithful and loving brothers and sisters have come to an end. Bros. Dana Knochel (Sis. Beth) and Tom Hitz (Sis. Cindy) have replaced Bro. Bob Feller (Sis. Marcia) and Bro. Phil Bahr (Sis. Dawn) as Sunday school teachers. Sis. Kelly Ramseyer (Bro. Mark) replaces Sis. Charlotte Barton with the younger Sunday school children. Sis. Kay Rauhe (Bro. Warren) and Sis. Marlene Reinhard will serve as substitutes. Bro. Phil Bahr (Sis. Dawn) was re-elected as the Woodhaven director, Bro. Troy Schrock replaces Bro. Von Ringger (Sis. Janelle) as church treasurer. Bro. Keith Gudeman was elected as trustee.

Congratulations to first-time parents, Bro. Nate and Sis. Suzanne Weiland on the birth of their son, Brice Davis, June 29. Grandparents are Bro. Harvey and Sis. Janice Scheiler (Fairbury, IL) and Bro. Roger Weiland (Bay City). We are thankful that Bro. Doug Harmon (Sis. Lanna, Toledo, OH) came and spent the evening of July 6 ministering to the residents at Woodhaven. On September 7, Alto, MI, is scheduled to host Tuesday evening services. Everyone is welcome to worship with the residents.

We want to extend a hearty and loving welcome to Sis. Tessa Schambach (Bro. Lee and Sis. Carolyn, Bay City) to our Detroit

congregation. Tessa will be attending a local college and pursuing her goals towards her career.

May God's strength and grace abide with Bro. Joe Szilagyi (Sis. Martha) as he was recently hospitalized. May grace and strength be blessed in abundance to this dear family according to God's perfect will.

Many of our children attended Bible School this past week. With excited anticipation, they did daily crafts and learned about Noah, the big ark and the great flood. Then they learned that God is a compassionate God and He sent a beautiful rainbow as His promise to never destroy the earth again with a flood. To many of us, the flood out West seems very large and overwhelming. Many people are facing a disaster. Then in complete contrast, the people out East are experiencing a drought. Isn't it comforting to know that God is in complete control and He knows the future, but we can only guess what tomorrow may bring.

"The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower."

Psalms 18:2

To complete the Bible school week, the Sunday school children hosted a car wash to raise money for the flood victims from the flood out West. Everyone really enjoyed the day and the lesson of helping the less fortunate and showing brotherly love to our fellow brethren was instilled upon these young hearts.

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

Psalms 31:24

Food for thought: One never gets lost on a straight road.

**MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS**  
**Delores Sauder**

The Sunday school children ended classes for the summer June



27 with a picnic at the park. They will resume classes September 12.

We are thankful when loved ones are directed to move to the area. We welcome Bro. Leo and Sis. Tammy Banwart (Elgin) and Amy Schmidgall (Bro. Dave and Sis. June, Morris). We also wish Amy God's grace as she begins her new life with Christ.

The Lord has answered our prayers and provided a brother to serve in the ministry. We are thankful Bro. Dewayne Dill is willing to accept the responsibility of ministering God's Word. As Bro. Dewayne accepts these duties we remember him and his wife, Sis. LaRae, in prayer.

We enjoy visitors who come to worship and fellowship with us. Among our visitors were Elder Bro. Paul Butikofer (Elgin, IA), Dennis Warner (Lester, IA) and Wayne Fehr (West Bend, IA), along with ministering Bros. Wayne Grimm (West Bend, IA), Wayne Banwart (Champaign, IL) and Dennis Rassi (Fairbury, IL). We thank them for sharing God's Word with us.

Those who will assume positions in the church September 1 are Bro. Ted Schmidt, trustee; Bro. Harold Fritz, usher with Bro. Doug Messner, substitute usher; and Sis. Gail Metzger assisting Sis. Sherry Fritz on the food committee and Sis. LaRae as substitute. We thank those whose terms expired.

Sis. Diane Stewart (Bro. Dave) is remembered in prayer as she endures the afflictions of the body.

Reminder: Minneapolis Silver Lining dues of \$9.00 are due in August.

### MINNESOTA, MORRIS

#### Maxine Sauder - Debra Joos

Visiting ministers serving us recently were Bro. Gene Lehman (Wolcott, IN), Bro. Elmer Witzig (Gridley, IL), Bro. Jim Vierling (Eureka, IL), Elder Bro. Dennis Warner and Bro. Dale Wulf (Lester, IA). May God's blessings be upon these brothers for sharing the Word with us.

Bro. Gene and Sis. Verna Lehman spent the weekend of June 26 and 27 with us and shared their slides of their trip to the Ukraine.

It was truly a touching presentation and reminds us all to remember our dear brethren in distressed countries.

We are encouraged and thankful for two souls who have found the need for repentance. They are Dana Sutter (Bro. Randy and Sis. Pam) and Amy Schmidgall (Bro. Dave and Sis. June). May God be by their side as they begin this heavenly pathway.

Recent hospital patients have been Sis. Shirley Koehl, Bro. Alvin and Sis. Minnie Nohl and Sis. Julie Messner (Bro. Beirne and Sis. Joyce). We trust that each of them will continue to feel God's strength and healing power.

Our thoughts, prayers and concerns have been with our brethren in many parts of the country where there have been devastating floods. May God give each of us grace to accept those things He brings upon us and shows us His almighty power.

### MINNESOTA, WINTHROP

#### Kim Messner - Joleen Messner

Greetings! Ministering Bro. Kevin Banwart (West Bend, IA) and his wife shared a Sunday with us. May our heavenly Father be their rewarder for sharing words of wisdom with us.

Our surgical patient for the month was Bro. Joe Messner (Sis. Kim). We would like to extend special prayers to Jeremy Kuhn and family, grandson of Duane and Mona Messner, as he has been hospitalized for a lengthy time. We pray that God will provide His healing hand for those suffering bodily afflictions.

As another Sunday school year begins, may we always remember our teachers and dear children in prayer so the seed may be planted in their tender hearts in a way pleasing to God.

Let us remember our dear brothers, sisters and friends in prayer who have experienced losses due to flooding caused by the heavy rain-falls. May we always put our faith and confidence in the Lord and remember that He will provide.

### MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY

#### Joan Fehr - Jamie Marti

We have enjoyed having Sis. Sarah Steiner (Tremont, IL) with us this summer. She was working in Kansas City as a nurse intern.

A special thanks to Bro. Rex Frieden (Lamar, MO) for ministering to us July 11. May God bless you as you continue in His service.

### MISSOURI, LAMAR

#### Martin Hohulin

#### Carolyn Banwart

We regret missing the reporting of Karen Stefan, daughter of Sis. Barbara and William Jr. Stefan, as a graduate of Jasper, MO, High School.

Little Matthew Luthi, infant son of Bro. Troy and Sis. Vanessa Luthi, was a recent hospital patient.

We welcome Bro. Michael Huber (Eureka) and Matthew Monson (Wilmer, MN) who have come to our area for summer employment.

A number of brothers and friends journeyed to Taylor, MO, to work on the flood levees.

We are in the peak of the vacation season. Nearly every Sunday brings visitors to our church door. Many have graced our assembly before; some we have never met. In our circle of churches we are not strangers for very long. Soon we can connect those whom we have never met with someone whom we are acquainted with.

Elder Bro. Bob Walder was a July guest minister. July 18 brought a large group of visitors, including Elder Bro. Ervin Knecht (Eureka, IL), along with his wife, Sis. Sandy, and sons, David and Jeremy. Bro. Ervin was first installed into the ministry here at Lamar in 1980. He was a faithful and sound minister of God's Word, serving us until 1989, when the family moved to Eureka. It was touching for him and for us to see him open God's Word once more in the Lamar church.

A number of young Sunday school boys had good success at fishing recently. Quite thoughtfully they suggested that we have a church fish fry. The Sunday evening of July 18 was capped off with a fish fry and singing at the



home of Bro. Gene and Sis. Linda Banwarts.

We appreciate the interest that our people have in church fellowship for they are the future church.

### MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS

**Betsy Schrenk**

The Flood of '93 . . . This disaster will be long remembered by those of us who live in the Mississippi River basin. Here in the St. Louis area, the church and the congregation have been spared actual flooding. There have been some temporary electric power interruptions, and traffic delays and reroutings, but for the most part we are unscathed. Many areas along the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers are completely inundated — we have seen entire farms, homes, businesses and churches under water. There are wonderful stories of people's outpouring of aid: sandbagging, preparing food, providing clothing, donating money. It is very encouraging to see this willingness of people to help.

The following ministers visited St. Louis this past month: Bros. Sid Kaufmann (Cissna Park, IL), Walt Herrmann (Princeville, IL), Dale Stoller (Fairbury, IL) and Don Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN). The teachings and encouragement and fellowship that our visiting ministers bring to us is appreciated by each of us. We pray that they and their wives and all of our visitors can feel the Lord's blessings in their support of our little church.

We have a new Sunday school superintendent. Bro. Matt Muselman has taken this responsibility. May God give him guidance and wisdom as he carries out his duties. I think that the many faithful brothers and sisters who are or have been Sunday school teachers can testify that this experience can lead to personal spiritual growth and is an excellent opportunity to get to know and love the young people in the congregation.

### MISSOURI, TAYLOR

**Tami Grimm**

The past month has been a very stressful time as each one did their

part to hold back the floodwaters of the Mississippi River. There are many lessons to be learned in situations like this if we apply it to our spiritual lives. I was gently reminded of the importance of prayer one day as I was babysitting my niece. I was feeling some frustration at not being able to help out or "do my part" on the levees, helping people move, filling sandbags, etc. Suddenly my niece was pulling on my arm, urgently repeating a word I took to be "play." But when I picked up a few toys and tried playing with her she continued tugging on my arm. Finally she led me into the bedroom where she knelt down and folded her hands. I then realized God was using her to show me my "part" for the day was to pray for all those who were having to move out of their homes, were facing the possibility of losing their farmland, or were giving of their time and placing themselves in danger to try and keep the floodwaters back. After praying with my niece, she looked up at me and gave me a huge smile and then ran off to play, as I thank God for using her in such a special way.

After weeks of extremely hard work on the part of so many, the levee broke July 16. Many in our community have suffered huge material losses caused by the flooding. Words are hard to find at a time like this, but our thoughts and prayers have been with all those affected by the flood. More than a dozen of our church homes had to be evacuated and are now in ten to twenty feet of water, along with thousands of acres of farmland. I'm sure those of us who are still in our homes cannot begin to comprehend the emotions many of our brethren and friends are experiencing, although we feel touched by the flood, too, as we "bear one another's burdens . . ." (Galatians 6:2). Those of us living in Quincy feel a separation as we no longer gather with our dear brothers, sisters and friends at church because of the huge "gulf" of water which separates us. Subsequently, we will be holding regular church services in Taylor, but Illinois residents will be meeting at Elder Bro. Roy and Sis. Dona Grimm's home for ser-

vices. Their new address is 203 Morton Drive, Quincy, IL 62301, phone number (217) 223-5207. We welcome any who are in the area to attend.

We were grateful for our many visitors this month, including the following ministering brothers: Lenny Myers (Chicago, IL), Doug Schock (Pulaski, IA), Wayne Miller (Fort Scott, KS), Elder Bro. Aaron Steffen (Alto, MI) and Bro. Curt Heimer (Alto, MI). Also Elder Bro. Don Sauder (Roanoke, IL) was with us for a Bible study on "Being A Father Like The Father." We appreciate each one who came!

On June 26, Doug Haerr (Bro. Louis and Sis. Ruthie) and Amy Entrup (Mark and Peggy Entrup) were united in marriage. May they feel God's direction in their lives as they begin their life together as one.

Our special Sis. Marie Butikofer has been in the hospital for some time following surgery. Our prayers are with her and her son-in-law, Bro. William Cottrell (Sis. Ruth) who was also hospitalized. We were sorry Bro. Troy Furrer (Wolcott, IN) had to be hospitalized after an accident he suffered while helping on the levee. We pray for God's healing touch on all three.

Our Sunday school students enjoyed a week of Vacation Bible School June 21 through June 25. We ended the week with a program and "open house." We enjoyed meeting many friends and neighbors who also attended. It was a real inspiration to see how eager the students were to learn about the Bible. Thanks to the teachers, song leaders, the babysitters and those who provided the snacks.

Note of Thanks

To all of our beloved brethren and friends: Mere words cannot begin to convey to each one of you how much we appreciated your prayers and help during the flood threat and now since the mighty Mississippi did flood many of the homes and the farmland of our brethren and friends. It was so touching to see hundreds of you, willing to come and work so hard to save the levees! The good Lord only knows why the battle was lost after so much hard work and



prayer! One thing we do know is that the dedication of our brotherhood was noticed by many and was mentioned over the air! Philippians 4:12 seems appropriate: "But I would ye should understand, brethren, that the things which happened unto me have fallen out rather unto the furtherance of the gospel . . ." How we would love to thank each individual personally for your prayers and willingness to help in any way! Many of you came several times to work on the levee. Such love is really overwhelming! We just pray that the Lord will bless you all abundantly!

Taylor congregation

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### NEW JERSEY, UNION CITY Franz Soni

"For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister."

Hebrews 6:10

We thank Elder Bro. Edward Aeschleman for bringing us God's Word this past month. May God richly reward him and his wife, Sis. Nancy, for their efforts. Services are held the second Sunday of the month at the Days Inn Route 1 and 9, North Bergen, NJ. We encourage those in the area to come worship with us. For further information, please call Elder Bro. Edward Aeschleman at (301) 478-7845 or Bro. Franz Soni (201) 835-3577.

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### NEW YORK, CROGHAN-NAUMBURG Alice Virkler

Bro. Floyd Graves, Sr. has announced his retirement from the ministry of God's Word. He has served in the ministry since December 4, 1966. We want to thank Bro. Floyd for his faithful service in God's work in our congregation and also we want to thank Sis. Loretta for her faithful support. We are happy that they are both able to assemble regularly again with us and our prayer is that they will continue to enjoy good health and

that God will richly bless them in the years ahead.

Our Sunday school children, teachers, parents and others enjoyed the annual "wiener roast" held at Whitaker Park June 28.

Sis. Cronne Virkler is now a resident of the East Road Adult Home. our deepest sympathy is extended to her and her family as her brother, Emerson Yoder, has been called from this life today at the age of 89 years.

Our thoughts and prayers were for little Elisabeth, daughter of Bro. Andy and Sis. Becky Virkler as she was hospitalized for six days in Mason City, IA, while the family was visiting in West Bend, IA. We are glad that she is showing much improvement and pray that a complete recovery will soon be made.

On Sunday, July 11, Elder Bro. John Lehman (Bern, KS) was our visiting minister of God's Word. On Saturday evening, July 17, and Sunday, July 18, Elder Bros. Ed Aeschleman (Philadelphia, PA), Don Sauder (Roanoke, IL) and Kevin Ryan (Rockville, CT) were with us for services. May God richly bless each of these brothers for their service unto Him and unto us. We also enjoyed the fellowship of their families who traveled with them.

May we all have a prayer on our heart for our dear elder brothers as they travel to the annual conference to carry out the work that has been laid upon them. May God lead, guide and direct them each day, that they may continue to serve Him and each of us in our home congregations.

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### OHIO, AKRON Joyce Gasser

"If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God . . . and it shall be given him." (James 1:5) Solomon is an example of asking for wisdom and receiving it, as he had a wise and understanding heart so that there was none like him before or after him (1 Kings 3:12) Proverbs state: "Wisdom is the principal thing . . . all things thou canst desire are not to be compared unto her." There are many Hebrew and Greek words that are translated wisdom or understanding, three of

which are: Phronimos which is prudent or discreet; Sophos is wisdom of ultimate things and service to God; and Sunesis is knowledge and mentally putting it all together. God's Word is all words for wisdom, and He commands us to "Search the Scriptures . . ." (John 5:39) We're thankful He says, "Consider what I say and the Lord give thee understanding in all things." (1 Timothy 2:7)

Sherri Bako, daughter of Bro. Zoltan and Sis. Bonnie, was baptized and added to the fold of Jesus Christ. She had given a good testimony and we pray for the Lord's blessings upon her. Elder Bro. Kenneth Sauder assisted our Elder Bro. Eugene Pamer.

Bro. Mike and Sis. Susie Walder became parents with the birth of their baby boy, Evan Michael. Grandparents are Bro. Fred and Sis. Eva Grawunder and Bro. and Sis. Melvin Walder.

We were thankful to have visits and inspiring messages of Bro. Eugene Marti, Bro. John Grimm and Bro. Robert Beebe.

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### OHIO, COLUMBUS Julie Grimm

#### A BLUEPRINT FOR BLESSING

1. Give God the first hour of every day.
2. Give God the first day of every week.
3. Give God the first of your income.
4. Give God the first consideration in every decision.
5. Give God's Son the first place in your heart.

Author Unknown

We thank Elder Bro. Ken Sauder (Mansfield, OH) and Bro. Jim Ramseyer (Bay City, MI) for sharing a Sunday with us. May God richly bless their labors on our behalf.

Our Bible class students enjoyed a trip to Athens, AL, where they were able to help by painting the preschool. May they be blessed for their efforts.

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**OHIO, JUNCTION****Sandra Manz**

Not much news to report this month. We want our brethren and friends farther west to know how often we lift them up in prayer in church and in our homes as they face rising waters and the many adjustments that have to be made.

Our only visiting minister was Bro. Mark Steiner (Smithville, OH). We thank him and his family for their efforts in our behalf.

**OHIO, LATTY****Lane Stoller - Kathy Sinn**

We have been privileged to have several visiting ministers in our congregation. Through the Word and the Holy Spirit, they have exhorted us to a closer walk with the Lord. These brothers include: Bro. Sid Kaufmann (Cissna Park, IL), Bro. Doyle Frauhiger (Bluffton North, IN) and Bro. Curt Kaufman (Tucson, AZ).

Our congregation has grown in number during the past month as two precious babies have been born. Gary Lee was born to Bro. Roy and Deb Klopfenstein. Gary is welcomed home by Andrew and Evan. Grandparents are Bro. Alvin and Sis. Ellen Klopfenstein and Donald and Myrna Hubbard.

Rachael Kay was born to Bro. Bruce and Sis. Amy Rosswurm. Mallory welcomes home her new sister. Grandparents are Sis. Irma Stoller and Bro. Richard and Sis. Eileen Whitman.

Many of us traveled to Lester, IA, to witness the July 4 wedding of Bro. Gary Sinn (Elder Bro. Ray and Sis. Ann) to Sis. Paulette Feucht (Bro. Alfred and Sis. Marie). We extend a warm welcome to Paulette to our Latty congregation. May she feel the love and fellowship from one and all.

Several of our local brethren have been hospitalized during the past month. They include Bro. Albert Zeltwanger, Sis. Deb Wenninger (Bro. Dave), Sis. Kay Miller (Bro. Roger), Sis. Delores Grant (Bro. Tom) and Sis. Dorothy Stoller (Bro. Wayne).

During the month, Reiko Koga, exchange student of Ken and Sis. Esther Stoller, has returned to her

homeland of Japan. We will miss seeing her in church. May the memories that have been shared be treasured in the years to come.

Another soul has expressed her need of the wonderful grace of our heavenly Father. Valerie Klima (Mike) has begun the walk of repentance and conversion. May God be ever near her side during the coming months.

As this issue arrives at our homes, so will many school buses. As our children, grandchildren, nieces, and nephews, go off to school; let us make sure our prayers go with them. "Our future church" will need our prayerful thoughts as they once again go out into the world. Don't forget to name each child's teacher in these prayers.

**OHIO, MANSFIELD****Cari Mann**

We wish to extend our prayerful support to our brethren in the Midwest states who have suffered loss during the recent floods and rains. We do not understand why these things must be but we do know that all things work for the good in God's perfect plan. We are thankful that lives have been spared.

"For this cause a man shall leave his father and mother, and cleave to his wife." (Mark 10:7) On June 20, the engagement of Bro. Lonny Moser (Bro. Phil and Sis. Jean, Bluffton, IN) and Sis. Becky Gudeman of Silverton, OR (Bro. Don and Sis. Mary, LaCrosse, IN) was announced. We look forward to having Sis. Becky join our congregation. We pray God will draw them closer to Him and to each other as they plan their life together.

"And He said unto her, Daughter, be of good comfort; thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace." (Luke 8:48) Our friend, Stephany Keever (Bro. Clair and Sis. Bev) has found peace with God and man and is awaiting baptism. May she always feel God's guiding hand upon her life.

"The Lord recompense thy work, and a full reward be given thee of the Lord God of Israel, under whose wings thou art come to trust." (Ruth

2:12) We cannot express enough thanks to Bro. Don Gudeman (Sis. Mary, LaCrosse, IN) and Bro. Mark Ramsier (Sis. Alice, Sardis) for lending themselves to His service during the past month. Therefore, we ask the Lord to bless them in this life and in all eternity.

"... the power of the Lord was present to heal them." (Luke 5:15) Sisters Kathryn Beer, Lena Beer and Wilma McCutchen have all been hospitalized or met with injury this past month. We are thankful that they are each on the road to recovery. May they continue to trust in His almighty healing power.

The weekend of July 3, 4, 5 brought us visiting single groups from Columbus and Toledo, OH, Detroit, MI, Fort Scott, KS, Lamar, MO and Milford, IN. What a pleasure it was to meet and greet those of like mind and faith from several parts of the country. We pray they were blessed as richly by coming as we were by having them.

We extend special prayers for guidance to each member of our elder body as they meet in Goodfield, IL, for the general conference. May they each feel the Spirit's presence as they strive to lead our church according to His high and holy will. We also pray for a special blessing on the Goodfield congregation for their efforts in hosting the conference.

**OHIO, RITTMAN****Marsha Hartzler  
Linda Ramsier**

"Today is a day of celebration for the United States as we celebrate our political freedom. But for we who are, Christians, it goes a lot deeper, doesn't it, because we think about the freedom that we have, we who have found the Lord. The freedom that we have from fear, the freedom from worry, the freedom from concern about the future. God has enabled us as Christians to be a more relaxed people, hasn't He, by freeing us from all of those things that are of Satan and those things that are meant for our destruction. And so, as we celebrate our political freedom here in the



United States, let us also be grateful and appreciative of the freedom that we have from Satan and from sin."

This is a message our visiting minister Bro. Randy Gasser (Detroit, MI) brought to us July 4. Also ministering to us were Bros. Bill Brake (Sardis, OH), Fred Domka (Mansfield, OH) and Ron Palitto (Akron, OH).

On June 27, we heard of the engagement of Bro. Mark Hartzler (Bro. Merle and Sis. Bonnie) and Sis. Natalie Schar (Bro. Rowen and Sis. Judy). September 12 is the day they have chosen for their wedding. We wish them God's richest blessings.

Jeremy Alan, born June 22, is the first child of Bro. Rod and Sis. Jill Steiner. Jeremy's grandparents are Bro. Ron and Sis. Ruth Steiner and Bro. John and Sis. Joyce Schamback (Akron, OH).

Chad and Denise Ribbenbach welcomed Joseph Alan June 25. Big sister, Cherese, is happy for a brother. Grandparents are Bro. Edward and Sis. Anita Riggenbach.

Robert, Angela and Polly, along with their parents, Bro. Daniel and Sis. Virginia Widmer, are thankful for Neil Christopher, born July 2. Happy grandparents are Bro. Harold and Sis. Carole Widmer and Mr. and Mrs. Julius Giet.

Eric Walter joined Bro. Walter and Sis. Lynda Beery July 16. Eric's sisters and brothers are Laurie, Michelle, Hannah, Chad and Leah. Also anxiously awaiting Eric's arrival were grandparents, Bro. Melvin and Sis. Elizabeth Beery and Elder Bro. Eugene and Sis. Eleanor Pamer (Akron, OH).

Those who have been hospitalized recently are Sis. Ellen Weber (Bro. Ralph), Sis. Mary Ellen Bauman, Bro. Bill Breece (Sis. Pearl) and Sis. Violet Baltic (Bro. Mitch). May they feel our love and prayers.

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**OHIO, SARDIS**  
**Renee Miller**

God provided beautiful weather and traveling mercies for the annual New Martinsville, WV, church service held the last Sunday in

June. But perhaps more importantly He provided an inspired message through His servants, Elder Bro. Gene Marti (Kansas City, MO) and Bro. Trent Meese (Iowa City, IA). Christian greetings were shared from 29 Apostolic Christian churches across the country.

We gathered together for holy communion July 10 to remember that Jesus Christ gave His life on the cross of Calvary to bear our sins that we might be forgiven. We are thankful that Elder Bros. Gene Pamer (Akron, OH) and Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH) shared the weekend with us and labored on our behalf.

Also visiting us in July was ministering Bro. Glen Riggenbach (Smithville, OH). It was good to have him with us. We thank God for the blessings of fellowship.

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**OHIO, SMITHVILLE**

**Edith Miller - Kim Stoller**

We were thankful to have Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH) with us June 20 to minister to us from God's Word.

We rejoice with Bro. Jim and Sis. Karen, Julie and Jana Widmer as they welcomed Jason Robert July 15. Grandparents are Bro. Gary and Sis. Mary Ann Maibach and Bro. Bob and Sis. Joann Widmer (Rittman).

We pray for God's healing on Sis. Elaine Marti (Bro. Ed) and Devon Jordan (Doug and Nancy) as they have been hospitalized. We also want to remember in prayer those who cannot attend church because of illness. We pray that God will give them an extra measure of grace to endure.

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**OHIO, TOLEDO**

**Joy Beard - Edie Fetter**

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

James 1:25

We were blessed with a recent visit from Bro. Lynn Stieglitz (Leo, IN) and his wife. We enjoyed being

able to visit with them as well as his willing ministry.

Congratulations are extended to Michele Kipfer (Sis. Janet) on her engagement to Tim Merritt (Ypsilanti, MI). Plans are being made for an October wedding.

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**ONTARIO, KITCHENER**  
**Laura Baxter**

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

Psalms 127:3

Bro. Walter and Sis. Margaret Fortenbacher rejoice as God has given them a new granddaughter, Olivia Ann. Olivia's thankful parents are Aaron and Tammie Fortenbacher (Arthur, Ontario). We are all thankful God has blessed Olivia with good health. May Aaron and Tammie look to God for direction in raising this precious soul.

Goodbyes are always hard to say in a small congregation. We will miss Sis. Johanna Fortenbacher as she has travelled to Athens, AL, to help with the preschool for the summer months. We are looking forward to her return, Lord-willing, in the fall. We also say farewell to Sis. Maggie and Sis. Ingrid Fortenbacher as they plan to live in the Yukon for a year. We pray God will watch over them and provide for them. And we pray that God will bless their journey and bring them safely home.

We are thankful for all our visitors that took the time and effort to worship our Father with us. We are especially thankful for ministering Bro. Duane Farney (Croghan-Naumburg, NY) for serving us with Him.

If any wish to visit us in Kitchener, we would be very happy to have you. Please contact Bro. Walter Fortenbacher (519) 699-4133 or Bro. Jim Baxter (519) 699-5081.

Doubt sees the obstacle,  
Faith sees the way.  
Doubt sees the darkest night,  
But faith sees the day.  
Doubt dreads to take a step,  
But faith soars on high,



Doubt says, "Who believes?"  
Faith says, "I."

Author Unknown

**OREGON, PORTLAND**  
**Lori Martin - Mary Berg**

"Let brotherly love continue . . ." (Hebrews 13:1) We certainly feel the love of our brotherhood as we meet and greet our summertime visitors, some whom we have never met before but feel the common bond of Christian friendships. Among our visitors were ministering brothers: Gary Maibach (Smithville, OH), Tom Leman (Denver, CO) and Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr (West Bend, IA). We thank them for service to us and wish them and their families God's richest blessings.

We bid a sad farewell to our dear Sis. Elizabeth Klopfenstein as she has moved "home" to Gridley, IL, to continue her schooling there. We will miss her youthful enthusiasm and we appreciate all she has done in the Sunday school with our children. We wish her God's grace as she pursues her career.

Sis. Louisa Gallup has been elected to replace Sis. Elizabeth in Sunday school. We certainly wish Sis. Louisa grace as she takes on this important responsibility.

There are friendships that we  
cherish  
In our daily walk of life  
Friends with whom we meet and  
labor  
In our earthly toil and strife,  
Friends among the aged and  
youthful,  
Friends that live from us apart  
Friends of higher rank and station  
Find a place within my heart.

Hymns of Zion #91

**OREGON, SILVERTON**  
**Becky Gudeman**  
**Peggy Schulz**

Greetings of love to each one. We have had a very eventful month. "How excellent is thy loving-kindness, O God!" (Psalm 36:7) We were blessed to hear the testimonies of several dear souls: Bro. Jim and

Sis. Barb (Walter) Kuenzi, Bro. Lynn and Sis. Marilyn (Walter) Kuenzi, Bro. Loren and Sis. Marlene (Kaeb) Dettwyler, and Sis. Nora Kuenzi (Bro. Jim and Sis. Barb). Bro. Kurt and Sis. Koreen (Kuenzi) Metzger, Bro. Harvey and Sis. Jennifer (Muelle) Kuenzi, Bro. Jason and Sis. Jo (Stedronsky) Kuenzi, and Bro. Aden Kuenzi (Bro. Terry and Sis. Ann) were also baptized. We surely welcome each one into our church family and wish them God's blessings.

July brought the wedding of Bro. Jim Zollinger (Bro. Ed and Sis. Shirley) to Sis. Tresa Kuenzi (Bro. Bob and Sis. Linda). We wish them the best and trust that God will bless their union richly. Bro. Jim and Sis. Tresa are residing in the area. We are thankful for their presence.

We welcome Bro. Ed, Sis. Shirley and Scott Zollinger to our congregation. It is a blessing to have you with us! May the Lord bless you in your new home.

We were happy to hear of the engagement of Sis. Becky Gudeman (Bro. Don and Sis. Mary, LaCrosse) to Bro. Lonny Moser (Mansfield, Bro. Phil and Sis. Jean, Bluffton). May they have God's grace and blessings as they plan for their life together.

Blessings are abundant when there are visitors among us. We have certainly enjoyed our visitors this month! Among them are several dear brothers that have helped feed us with the Word of God. We want to thank each one for their labors and duties: Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr (Sis. Kathy, West Bend, IA), ordained deacon Bro. Tom Leman (Sis. Marlene, Denver, CO), Elder Bro. Art Bahler (Sis. Suzanne, Fairbury, IL), Elder Bro. Art Nohl (Sis. Sandy, Morris, MN), Elder Bro. Leo Moser (Sis. Leona, Lester, IA), Elder Bro. Henry Dotterer (Sis. Martha, Rittman, OH), Bro. Lloyd Kraft (Sis. Nadine, Gridley, KS), and Bro. Gary Maibach (Sis. Mary Ann, Smithville, OH). We also want to thank Bro. Duane Kilgus (Sis. Arlene, Fairbury, IL), Bro. Robert Miller (Sis. Pearl, Portland), and Bro. Garth Steffen (Sis. Connie, Portland) for being with us this past month.

**PENNSYLVANIA,**  
**PHILADELPHIA**  
**Franz Soni**

"Because thou hast made the Lord, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation;

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

"For He shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways."

Psalm 91:9-11

We rejoice with Bro. Nick and Sis. Suzanne Gutwein who welcomed new daughter, Madison Rose, to their growing family June 25. Welcoming their sister home are brothers, Chet and Andre, and sister, Whitney. Grandparents are Bro. Carl and Sis. Yvonne Gutwein (Francesville, IN) and Bro. Vernon and Sis. Arlene Schwab (Wolcott, IN).

We thank the young group who made the effort to spend with us the weekend of July 4. It is encouraging to a small church to have brothers and sisters-in-faith travel from Princeville, Tremont, Bradford, IL and Sardis, OH, to come worship, fellowship and sing with us.

Visiting ministers this past month were Bros. Doug Harmon (Toledo, OH) and Vernon Schwab (Wolcott, IN). May God richly reward them for sharing His Word with us.

**TENNESSEE, NASHVILLE**  
**Gwen Leuthold**

"That ye might walk worthy of this Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God."

Colossians 1:10

Ministering Bro. Chris Wuethrich (Francesville, IN) meditated on this first chapter in Colossians when he and his wife, Sis. Carla, and their children came to worship with us July 11. We also welcomed visitors from Congerville, IL, and Columbus, OH. May the Lord bless



and keep all of you in His loving care.

On June 16, Bryan Badger and Suzanne Bock were united in holy matrimony in San Antonio, TX. Parents are Bro. Don and Faye Sauder (Nashville, TN) and Bennie and Kathy Bock (New Braunfels, TX). We extend congratulations and best wishes to them. May "the Lord bless thee, and keep thee: the Lord lift up his countenance upon thee and give thee peace." (Numbers 6:24 & 26)

Bro. Don and Enid Miller's son, Bradley, has also moved to Texas to pursue other career opportunities. May the Lord be with him and bless him in his endeavors.

On May 30, we were saddened to learn of the passing of Bro. Don Sauder's sister, Sis. Ruth Weiss (Mansfield, OH). May the Lord comfort and grant peace as only He can.

We encourage and invite anyone traveling in the Nashville area to call and visit us. Upcoming scheduled services are August 1 and 22 and September 5. Bro. Don and Faye Sauder (615) 373-8928, Bro. Don and Enid Miller (615) 384-1081, and Sis. Gwen Leuthold (615) 352-3940.

### TEXAS, ZAPATA Viola Perdelwitz

I was reading a poem by an unknown author one day. It was written about the handiwork of God's plan to speak to us through the beauty of nature. I thought of this as I looked at our purple sage bush covered with beautiful purple flowers, also they many roses we find in gardens and parks around Zapata. We also see it in the sunsets over Falcon Lake.

## SILVER THREADS

### HAPPINESS

Happiness is serving Jesus,  
My Redeemer, Lord and King!  
Joy unending, ever singing,  
Thanking Him for ev'rything!

Happiness is knowing Jesus,  
Who has died to set me free!  
Once a sinner, lost forever,  
Now redeemed eternally!

Happiness is sharing Jesus,  
Helping others far and near!  
Tell the story, O what glory,  
Of my Savior's love so dear!

Happiness is thanking Jesus,  
For the blessings I receive!  
What a Savior, Lord, Creator,  
In His name I do believe!

Happiness is serving Jesus,  
My Redeemer, Lord and King!  
Always joyful, ever singing,  
Thanking Him for ev'rything!  
Bro. Rodney Stoller

### LOVE

"The Greatest Thing in the World"  
I Corinthians 13: 4, 5, 6

The spectrum of love has nine ingredients:

Patience . . . Charity (love)  
suffereth long,

Kindness . . . And is kind:  
Generosity . . . Charity (love)  
envieth not;

Humility . . . Charity (love)  
vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up.

Courtesy . . . Doth not behave  
itself unseemly,

Unselfishness . . . Seeketh not  
her own,

Good temper . . . Is not easily  
provoked,

Guilelessness . . . Thinketh no  
evil:

Sincerity . . . Rejoiceth not in  
iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth.

### Twenty-Three Elements in THE LORD'S PRAYER

Relationship - Our Father  
Recognition - which art in heaven,  
Adoration - Hallowed be Thy name.  
Anticipation - Thy kingdom come.  
Consecration - Thy will be done  
Universality - in earth,  
Conformity - as it is in heaven.  
Supplication - Give us

Definiteness - this day  
Necessity - our daily bread.  
Penitence - And forgive us  
Obligation - our debts,  
Forgiveness - as we forgive  
Love and Mercy - our debtors.  
Guidance - And lead us  
Protection - not into temptation,  
Salvation - but delivery us  
Righteousness - from evil;  
Faith - For Thine is the Kingdom,  
Humility - and the power,  
Reverence - and the glory,  
Timelessness - for every.  
Affirmation - Amen.

Matthew 6:9-13



### TODAY

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

Psalm 118:24

"The Lord is on my side; I will  
not fear."

Psalm 118:6

"Take therefore no thought for  
the morrow: for the morrow shall  
take thought for the things of it-  
self."

Matthew 6:34

Not yesterday's load we are called  
on to bear,

Nor the morrow's uncertain and  
shadowy care;

Why should we look forward or  
back with dismay?

Our needs, as our mercies, are  
but for the day.

One day at a time, and the day is  
His day;

He hath numbered its hours,  
though they haste or delay.

His grace is sufficient; we walk  
not alone;

As the day, so the strength that He  
giveth His own.



### WHY CHRISTIANS SHOULD READ THE BIBLE

#### To Enlighten The Heart

"The entrance of thy words  
giveth light; it giveth understand-  
ing unto the simple."

Psalm 119:130

#### To Feed The Soul

"As newborn babes, desire the  
sincere milk of the word, that ye  
may grow thereby."

I Peter 2:2

#### To Increase Our Faith

"So then faith cometh by hear-  
ing, and hearing by the word of  
God."

Romans 10:17

#### To Discover God's Will

"... they received the word with  
all readiness of mind, and searched  
the scriptures daily, whether those  
things were so."

Acts 17:11

#### To Guard Against Sin

"Thy word have I hid in mine  
heart, that I might not sin against  
thee."

Psalm 119:11

#### To Be Purified Through The Word

"Now ye are clean through the  
word which I have spoken unto  
you."

John 15:3

#### To Know The Mighty Influence Of The Word

"For the word of God is quick,  
and powerful, and sharper than any  
two-edged sword."

Hebrews 4:12

A glory that's unclouded,  
A light that won't go out,  
A victory undisputed,  
A praise, a song, a shout.

A beauty never fading,  
A faith that is unmarred,  
A wisdom that's unbaffled,  
A life that is unscarred.

A strength that is unfailing,  
A guide that's in control,  
A hope that is eternal,  
An anchor of the soul.

A harbor for the tempest,  
A sure and safe retreat,  
A refuge for the wayward,  
A shadow from the heat.

We have all these resources,  
A source of strength and power;  
But best of all a Savior  
Who keeps us hour by hour.

He is the Rock of ages,  
The Rose of Sharon, too,  
A faithful Friend and Brother  
To help in all we do.

A Counsellor to guide us,  
He is God's worthy Son.  
He's altogether lovely,  
The most beloved One.

A mighty, reigning monarch,  
Crowned with a crown of gold,  
His diadem of beauty  
Is something to behold.

If you don't know my Jesus  
As your abiding place,  
Repent and trust Him quickly  
To save you by His grace.

granted . . . and that bothers me.  
How many of us are that way? How  
many of us do not rejoice the way  
we should?

"Let your moderation be known  
unto all men." (Philippians 4:5) He  
is talking to the Philippians here  
and he is telling them goodbye. He  
is telling them some important  
things. As he was writing to have  
this letter written, he wanted the  
basics laid down, didn't he? "Let  
your moderation be known unto all  
men." (Philippians 4:5)

In today's society, it seems like  
moderation is a thing that is not  
even in style anymore. It seems  
like many denominations want to  
entertain people and pack the bal-  
cony and they want it full with only  
folding chair room.

You know, I wonder about mod-  
eration. Paul wanted the Word  
preached. I do not believe anywhere  
we can read where he suggested  
that we do things to be real attrac-  
tive to the world. "Let your mod-  
eration be known unto all men."  
(Philippians 4:5)

I refer to a person who told me  
that they do not understand this  
next part, verse six, "Be careful for  
nothing," (Philippians 4:6) I am not  
a very smart man, and sometimes I  
have to pray to God, "Help me un-  
derstand this." Sometimes I under-  
stand it when I read it and some-  
times the next day, or the next  
hour, or the next week, it will pop  
into my mind, "That is what God  
means!"

But when he says, "Be careful  
for nothing," does that mean to go  
out and just don't care, and just  
have fun, and lay back and do what-  
ever feels good? No! No! No!

In my simple way, I like to say,  
"Be full of care for nothing." Don't  
get all worked up. Do we let the  
things going on during the day at  
work or at home or wherever get  
us so worked up that we don't even  
think to rejoice or thank God?  
Sometimes I do. Pray for me.

We should have our mind set on  
our heavenly goal. That should be  
number one. We should be rejoic-  
ing and telling others about the  
great love that God has.

"... but in every thing by prayer  
and supplication with thanksgiv-  
ing let your requests be made

### IN JESUS WE HAVE

A love that can't be fathomed,  
A life that cannot die,  
A righteousness untarnished,  
A home beyond the sky.

A peace beyond our knowledge,  
A rest that's undisturbed,  
A joy that's undiminished,  
A shout that can't be curbed.

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#### Sermon . . .

(Continued from Page 40)  
ery one of us has our problems . . .  
some, it seems like, more than oth-  
ers. Sometimes, I guess maybe this  
is a confession also, I feel that  
maybe I do not rejoice enough, be-  
cause I kind of take things for



known unto God." (Philippians 4:6) We have a privilege. We have a communication line to God that is unreal.

When any one of us gets depressed, we can talk to God. Then sometimes, when we get to feeling pretty tall, pretty good, and pretty successful, God talks to us, doesn't He? He knocks us down a level or two. Are we thankful for that? I hope so.

"And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding . . ." (Philippians 4:7) That really says a lot. The peace of God that passeth all understanding, and we cannot explain it.

I think moms and dads, if they could, would just like to take their son or daughter that is out in sin and set them down and say, "Look! This is the way it is! Taste it! See it!"

We cannot even understand it ourselves, can we? We cannot even understand it ourselves, it is so great. Oh, we have so much to rejoice for.

As Paul went on here, he built them up. "Brethren, whatsoever things are true," what is really true, "whatsoever things are honest," truth, honesty, "whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things." (Philippians 4:8)

He is instructing the church. Those are the things that count. Be in moderation. Keep your values based on the Word. The peace of God which passeth understanding. Many times I marvel!

At home, I am involved in court situations many times as a volunteer, as an advocate for children, and I have gotten to know a lot of different people really down in sin.

One person, in particular, I look at her and talk with her. She is a mother of nine children, from five fathers. It is a sick situation. Today she is awaiting trial on child molesting charges that make me bawl. When I look at her, I think of God's great love. I said, "Kathy, you know, until you get your life right with Christ, it is not going to go." She agreed. She knows that.

When I look at her, she seems about low as life can sink. Then I think of God's great love. I think about Jesus Christ hanging on the cross and shedding His blood. He shed His blood for her as well as He did for you and me. Someday, if she would just accept and believe and live what the Word says, she could walk down those streets in heaven, just like you can or just like I can. The past does not matter. He died for all sins.

Sin is sin. It does not matter if it is a little sin or a big sin. Can you understand that? Can you believe that? How do you explain that to someone? It is so great!

Oh? We have much to rejoice for!

Then Paul told them something that I think probably a lot of us have problems with. Living sounds good. "I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content" (Philippians 4:11) What a blessing! What a great feeling that must be!

I think that every one of us is striving for that and every one of us has that as our goal, but how many of us are not quite content? How many of us want a little bit bigger home? How many of us want a little fancier care? How many of us want to make ten thousand dollars more this year than we did last year? All at once, those wants become a big thing to us.

Whatever state we are in, let us be content. Let us work toward that.

Maybe there is one place where we should not be content in the state that we are in, and that is in our spiritual life. I think we should be challenged to improve that every day, and every hour – to work better, and work harder to be a servant of Jesus Christ . . . a good, willing, humble servant.

Paul says, "I can do all things . . ." and he did not stop there. "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." (Philippians 4:13) That is the bottom line – Jesus Christ.

That is the bottom line. We cannot, we must not think that it is ourselves. We are just a vessel, we are just a servant. It is Christ that is doing it. Let us give Him a little more room.

Let us pray just a little bit harder. "Jesus, help me. Make me more dedicated. Make me improve. Help me improve." You know, I would imagine that if we really strive and really work on improving our spiritual walk, then our wants will start to be more content with what we have.

God's plan of salvation is so marvelous. The more that you dig in the Word and the more you read and the more you think about it and the more that you pray about it, for me anyway, it becomes greater and greater and greater.

My respect for the Word and my respect for God's plan of salvation is so much greater than it was a year ago. I sure hope it will be even greater in a year. Let us keep striving and striving and striving.

We were talking about our fellowship, our Apostolic Christian fellowship. Then we have to think as we were reading here where he was thanking the Philippian church for sending him some money and helping him where there was a need. Do you think that is kind of the way it is with our church?

He was saying that is good. That is the way it should be. We are talking about sacrificing. He says, "But my God and his God is your God. It is my God who is everybody's God if they would just yield."

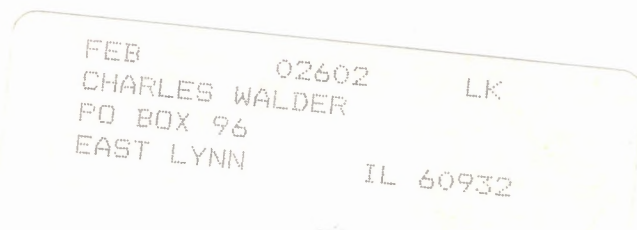
"But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus. Now unto God and our Father be glory for ever and ever." (Philippians 4:19, 20) Let us rejoice!

Then, before he closed this book, Paul said, "Give them greetings." Can't you just see him standing there and saying, "Give the brethren greetings"? Let us not quit giving greetings.

I am sure that everyone of us look at some things and think, "Well, this could be a little different or that could be a little different." But it has been proven over time.

Rejoice evermore in Christ Jesus. He died for you and He died for me. I do not understand that great love, but I know that it is real. Certainly, brethren, we have much to rejoice for.





## SERMON BY BRO. ANDY MOSER OF VALPARAISO, IN

“Rejoice Because Of God’s Great Love For You”  
Psalm 88 and Philippians 4

Father, we have just sang that even though the wolves can be raging, we know that we can have confidence in Thee and Thy Holy Ghost. We are so thankful for this, Father. As we look at the world around us, we are so thankful that we can fall upon our knees and pray in earnest to Thee. We are so thankful, Father, that we can even call Thee, “Father, Who art in heaven.”

We have many, many blessings. It seems that we have so much given to us, Father, that sometimes we almost take them for granted. Help us so that we do not do that. Help us so each day we can count our blessings. Help us each day to lean more upon Thee and Thy Holy Spirit.

Father, whenever we fall upon our knees, we do have many things to thank Thee for, but above all, we want to thank Thee each and every time for thy marvelous plan of salvation. We are so thankful that Thou didst send Jesus to die that cruel death upon the cross.

We are so thankful that His blood was shed. We are so thankful for His love, and for Thy love. It is a love that we do not understand, Father, because it is so great. Oh, we are so thankful that we are recipients of that love.

Father, we know that there are many people who have not yet tasted of Thy love and tasted of Thy forgiving Spirit. We pray for them. Somehow, Father, we would beg and plead that many hearts would be touched before it would be forever too late.

May many who are discouraged, as we read in the Psalms here, when they get depressed and down, may they look to Thee. We know that all things will be done well that are done according to Thy will.

We thank Thee for Thy Word, Father. It is certainly a Living Word. We know that it is Thy Word. Even as we have celebrated the birth of our nation in the past week, we want to thank Thee for our nation. We pray for those who are in leadership of our nation. We would ask, Father, that somehow Thou would cause them never to be proud to fall upon their knees and say, “God, help me to make this decision or that decision.”

For we know that we were a nation under God. We are still a nation under God, but we are humbled when we look at the way our society has gone. We pray for our country.

Now we think of those who are less fortunate. There are many who have heavy crosses placed upon

them. Whether they be brothers or sisters or friends, Father, we would ask that Thou wilt stand by them, especially those who look to Thee for their strength.

Yes, Father, we have to ask Thee to forgive us where we many times fail. We are weak. We need Thy help. Do not grow weary with us. Help us each day to be more worthy of our high and heavenly calling.

Now, Father, as we open Thy Word, we plead for Thy nearness. We have never been let down in the past, Father, and we know that we will not be let down today.

We know, Father, that it is Thy Holy Spirit that speaks, and not man. We are thankful for this. We ask now that Thou wilt bless us with Thy Word. We thank Thee and bring this prayer in Jesus’ name. Amen.

### Sermon

“Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice.” (Philippians 4:4) Rejoice in the Lord. I think that we, as Apostolic Christians, many times are so used to having everything go good. We are so used to a church that supports us, and to a family that supports us.

Yes, we have our problems. Ev-

(Continued on Page 38)