



"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:"
Matthew 28:19

"Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world."
Matthew 28:20

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The four page Silver Lining of October 1943, sent to 78 soldiers, is reprinted in this anniversary issue.

Vol. 1, No. 1

GRABILL, INDIANA

October 15, 1943

Purpose and Plan of the Silver Lining

At home we cannot realize how different other ways of living may be. We cannot realistically imagine how some of you may live through your day.

And yet we know you are interested in what is happening at home. We are planning to publish monthly the paper "The Silver Lining" through which we want to bring you information of happenings at your home Sunday school and church and also messages of hope, cheer and comfort.

Once a month we plan to send "The Silver Lining" to you. We will attempt to publish it more often if you would like for us to. The purpose of this paper is for your interest, and enjoyment, and to keep us in closer touch with each other. We want to know what you like and what you dislike. Don't be afraid to tell us in plain words. It will be a great help to us.

In each issue we will have a guest writer bring a message to you. Our first guest writer will be the Rev. J. A. Getz (Morton, IL). Here again we would like to know what you are interested in. If you have anything you would especially

WHAT HAS THE FUTURE TO OFFER OUR YOUNG MEN? By J. A. Getz

This message is addressed to our beloved sons, brothers and young men in the service.

First, what do we owe our young men? What should we do for them? There are some things we cannot do. One is to shield them from the inescapable realities. It is of course, a great pity that our children do not have the good fortunate to grow up in a stabler and a kindlier world but that is their fate. We might just as well face it, and they must make the best of it. Nor can we take them by the hand and lead them to safety. We

cannot present you with a blueprint of what is to come. We cannot think like to know about, write to us and we will tell the guest writer.

Then we have our Friendship columns. For us at home and for you in the service, we will have the addresses of soldiers and sailors who are in the service of our country. For both, we will have news of what's happening at home.

Now, who shall be responsible for our paper's success? The answer is everyone. We must all work together. If you have something that might be interesting to others, send it to us. We are interested in getting to you what you are interested in.

The address is "The Silver Lining," Box 74, Grabill, IN. You can help make our paper a success by your suggestions and criticisms. We shall try to do our best.

How about it?

The Editors

cannot present you with a blueprint of what is to come. We cannot think your thoughts, nor experience your deep emotions. You will have to stand up against your own problems and face your own dangers.

Time is slowly but surely accomplishing the divine purpose of God. With each day you are given, fresh from the hand of God, the dawn of a new day, clear and bright as the sun that gave birth to the morning. Each day is a new jewel from the crown of time.

Many of you have been very busy, some taking additional training in the type of work you like and have gotten along very well in building up a training and an education that will help you post-war.

Experience tells us that every good thing must be tried with fire. There are so many things that can

(Continued on Page 4)

Sermon by the Late Elder Henry Souder

Delivered on October 8, 1922
St. Matthew 7

If we are willing, having the good will and having faith in Jesus to not only hear or read the words which He has spoken, because as we have heard and often spoken of that not in hearing are we blessed but in doing, but also to do that which it says. And if we are so willing to obey the teachings of what Jesus our Saviour has spoken in this and also a few of the chapters before, we shall read the teaching of where Christ was up on a mountain and of where He assembled together His disciples and gave them his teachings. Now if we are willing to believe that these are words which He has spoken Himself and that He is also willing to hear our prayers asking of Him what we are in need of, because He is keeping His Father's teachings.

If God was to take us away from this life, He should find us in the straight and narrow way and not in the wide path. With our sins and by our strength we can do nothing, but if we trust, and also consider, what we feel we are in need of and what we are lacking, we can ask, for God is willing to give these things to us. We will not be judged if we believe and trust in Him. The Saviour has preached on the mount to great multitudes and He compared the people to a house. "And the storm may come and the wind will blow our house down." They will not build on the sand but on the rocks where they can lay a solid foundation. And if we are wise we will build according to His good teachings and He is the Rock and the firm foundation. Therefore, those who are willing to enter into the straight gate, if I am not mistaken, His disciples came unto Him, and He taught them that a few would be saved. He said, "We shall enter into the straight gate." It may at times seem a little hard and discouraging, but if we will keep in the straight path and stay true to Him we will have our reward by getting through the straight gate. The other gate is so wide, but we forget where it will lead to. We have to be on the watch. We know that from the beginning He taught

us what was displeasing unto Him, and what if He should come and find us all in sin and doing deeds displeasing to Him, we are after all leading a different life. But we must do as we pray unto Him and He has to put the will into our hearts. Jesus hears our prayers and heals our wounded spirits. Jesus has the power to cast out devils and we can read of such devils being cast out of the hearts of the people. Of course, we all possess a will and God will not take that away from us that we will be kept from temptation; whereby we might be lost and cast into the fire that so long has burned and cannot be quenched. It is our desire that we could put more trust in Him.

If Jesus should come and find us all just as we are doing now, what would we do or say? — We would say, "O! can't God help us?" Some may think that after a person is a Christian it is easy for him not to enter into temptation, but not so. We have to keep right on the straight path and not give the evil one a chance.

We can both love and fear God. If children have fear of their parents and not love, they will not be brought up the right way, and if they have love and no fear, they will be disobedient. And so it must be fear and love together.

We sing that song — "Nearer My Home, Nearer my home today than I have been before," an done place it is "Nearer my home today, perhaps than now I think." God has given us the warning, and we cannot say — "God did not give me a chance." Often little children are called as we have found in times past. The children are saved as long as they are innocent. "Suffer the little children to come unto me . . ." God said we cannot come into the kingdom of heaven only as little children.

The Lord's children sometimes get into trouble, we find, but we should take the good children for a pattern. Even if sometimes something may happen, the Lord ac-

cepts our prayers. As we sing in one of the beautiful songs — "When we all get to heaven, what a day of rejoicing that will be." And so we want to prepare ourselves, especially also our children. Accept the preaching of John, whose words are still kept in store if his body is dead. The words have to go on yet. When he came, he said everyone should prepare themselves. God is warning everyone that when the Lord comes there will not be any more time. And as we have already mentioned, let us consider eternity a little. What is our life compared to eternity. As it is written, three score and ten or fore score. Perhaps one may live eighty years. There is now and then one that will live ninety or one hundred. But what is 100 years compared to eternity? And when this life is over, we will enter into eternity, whether it is heaven or not.

Sometimes members will get careless and then they will enter into temptation. They should try instead to be a light and an example to the others. (Sometimes people say there is no God and so you see we have tests.) If we want to be willing we must accept and eat the whole Lamb. When Moses went to take the children of Israel out of Egypt, God told them to slay a lamb and to eat the whole lamb. And now we have a Lamb slain for us and it is Jesus. And we are to accept the whole teaching and we cannot expect to do that which we want to do and then expect to meet God in heaven. We all want to make heaven our home and to take the cup which was spoken of (and which is so much better for the flesh).

If we want to get to heaven, we cannot get there by our own will but by the will of God. But we have to pray to the Saviour, "If it be possible that this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt." We don't know, dearly beloved, in what way we are to enter into the heavenly kingdom. Let us be as it will if God will only strengthen us. When the disciples told Christ that they wanted to sit to the right and to the left He an-

ADDRESSES OF OUR BOYS IN THE SERVICE

Cpl. Wm. Klopfenstein, No. 35161661
Hdqts. Co. Supply Bn.
A.P.O. 259 c/o Postmaster
Los Angeles, CA

Pvt. Richard Klopfenstein, No. 153228084
Co. C. 66 Bn., 14 Tng. Regt.
Hut. No. 1, Platoon No. 1
Camp Fannin, TX

Pfc. Harry R. Schwartz, 15312959
1545 S. U.
314 W. Fowler
W. Lafayette, IN

Cpl. Henry Kipfer, No. 35166105
581st Q. M. Salvage Repair Bn.
H. Q. Det.
Camp Ellis, IL

Sgt. Russel R. Steiglitz
Co. C. 1st Q. M. T R.
Ft. Francis E. Warren, WY

Pfc. Joseph Bahr
536 Base Hdq.
Walterboro Air Field
Walterboro, SC

Cpl. Eugene Bahr
3rd Prov. Co.
Aberdeen Proving Grounds, MD

Pvt. Louis Kaminer
Hq. & Hq. Sqdn. A.A.F.S.A.T.
Orlando, FL

Pfc. Raymond Pulfer
Med. Det. Station Hospital
Williamsfield
Chandler, AZ

swered them that they should sit to the right and left and take the cup and be baptized with His baptism. And so we have to be willing.

Some people will say that God will not take the words spoken in the Bible so seriously. That is a lie. And if one has the privilege, he will tell us we take it too closely or too strictly. He should take the Word himself to see if we are taking it too seriously. The gate is straight and the way is narrow. But Satan will try to tempt us; the Lord is our guide. If people just take that part of the teaching that pleaseth them, they will find it hard to pray. If you find your task hard, try again. We are in the school of Jesus Christ, but we sometimes find it so easy not to take the teaching strictly. But if we do we will enter into the hands of our Saviour.

NEWS

Monday night, September 27, a number of men gathered at the church. A floor was put in the attic to store screen and other material. Other things which were done included painting, wiring, plumbing and some shelving.

* * *

Staff Sgt. Homer Reinick and Josephine Frautschi were married Tuesday evening at the home of

Sgt. Ted J. Bollier, No. 35160227
Hq. Btry. 256th AAA, AW Bn.
San Francisco 9, CA

T/Sgt. Donald R. Bollier A.S.N. 15059597
I.C.W.—A.T.C.
22nd Transport Group
77th Transport Sydn. A.P.O. 466
New York City, NY

Pfc. Louis F. Getz
A.S.N. No. 35764521
429 Q. M. Platoon
7th Photo Rcn. A.P.O. 466
c/o Postmaster,
New York City, NY

Sgt. Albert P. Norr
Hq. & Hq. Battery H.D.L.A.
Ft. Mac Arthur
San Pedro, CA

Pfc. John J. Bollier, 15374503
1st P. G. Group
Fighter Section
Elgin Field, FL

Pvt. Gaylord Widner
Sqd. 1, Sec. 64
52nd C. T. D.
Butler University,
Indianapolis 7, IN

A/S Richard Lantz, No. 35556022
70th C.T.D. (Air Crew)
Albion College,
Albion, MI

Theodore W. Bahr S. 2/c
U.S.S. Wolverine
c/o Fleet Post Office
Naval Armory
Chicago, IL

A. S. Edward Souder
Co. 1328 Barracks 2101
U.S.N.T.S.
Great Lakes, IL

A. S. Robert W. Bollier
Co. 1328 U.S.N.T.S.
Great Lakes, IL

Pvt. David Bertsch, No. 35894267
Co. C. T. 616
Ft. Benjamin Harrison,
Indianapolis, IN

the bride in Toledo, OH. Later a reception was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Eli Reinick (Bluffton). Josephine went with her husband to his camp.

* * *

Herman Schlatter came home Tuesday, September 21, from the hospital after a serious operation and is improving nicely.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Getz have a baby boy, Conrad Joseph. He was born the August 10. He now weighs 11 pounds.

* * *

Lorene Steiner is engaged to Pfc. Howard Wiley. She recently came home from a trip to Missouri where he is stationed.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. Russel Steiglitz have a baby girl, and it was born September 26. They call her Karen Ann. Lenora left Saturday, October 2, to see them.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. Leiberenz named their new son Max. He was born September 21. Mrs. Leiberenz was the former Edith Gerber.

* * *

Helen Klopfenstein was in South Carolina with Mrs. James Maxfield to see Orangewade (Pete) Maxfield. They left September 23 and stayed until the 28th.

* * *

David Bertsch left for Indianapolis September 30, where he was inducted into the Army. On the second and the third of October, while he was still at Indianapolis, Marie Bertsch and her two sisters, Velma and Kathrine Norr, went to see him. Deloris Widner and Philippine Levy also went.

* * *

Harry Robert Schwartz was home on the third of October. His parents took him back to camp in the evening.

* * *

Dick Lantz visited his parents October 2 and 3. He went back to Michigan Sunday evening.

* * *

Billy Klopfenstein is home on a 15-day furlough. He arrived here October 2.

Cpl. Henry Kipfer has been moved from Fort Warren, WY, to Camp Ellis, IL. His wife, Arvilla, was home on a visit for two weeks while he was being moved. She is now in Illinois with Henry.

* * *

A group met at Ida Zimmerman's home near Grabill for an evening meal October 3.

* * *

Mrs. Phoebe Bahr has three sons in the service who were recently home on furloughs. Cpl. Eugene Bahr is attending electrical school at Aberdeen, MD. Ted is a seaman second class. He is stationed at Chicago. Joe is an electrician at Walterboro Air Field, NC. Mrs. Bahr also has three sons-in-law who are in the service of our country.

* * *

Our 58th Young People's meeting was held at the Leo church Sunday night, August 22. The program was very interesting, with "The Fruit of the Spirit - Love," as the theme. Love was defined in a number of different ways, and each definition was clearly illustrated by a short story, poem or song, and a talk on different examples of love throughout the Bible was given by Ramas Schlatter. The meeting was closed by a prayer.

* * *

Gaylord Widner has been recently moved to Indianapolis, where he is attending Butler University. His sister, Deloris, was down to see him October 2 and 3, with Marie Bertsch. Frank went down Sunday, October 3.

* * *

Elsie and William Rager moved to a farm near Latty, OH.

* * *

The Sewing Circle met at the home of Mrs. Al Frautschi Tuesday, October 5.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. Elias Souder and sons, Henry and Dwight, spent Saturday and Sunday, October 9 and 10 with Edward Souder, who is in training at Great Lakes, IL.

* * *

The Sam Aschliman family returned home from an enjoyable visit with the boys in the service at the camps near New Orleans.

EDITORIAL

An Unwelcome Telegram

On October 6, at Coloma, MI, a telegraph operator went to his post. The first message which he took from the wires read: "Your son was killed in action." He sat still for a moment. Then he delivered the message to the son's mother, his own wife.

Such telegrams are not uncommon today. If this should be your fate, my son, may you be reconciled to your God that you may meet the fate bravely. And He has a promise of a better home where we will meet again.

This is the prayer of those that you have left behind. It continues from the breaking of the day until the setting of the sun and through the weary hours of the night.

This is the message that is daily sent to the One that holds you under the shadow of His wings. He will take care of you; it matters not where you may be. Distance means nothing. We are confident that He will deliver the messages to you. Are you receiving them? Only trust Him; then you will

Never fear when night is near
And hard the hills to climb;
Enough for me if I but see
Just one step at a time.

Assured that He will care for you,
I'll trust in Him today,
I'll press along, with sigh or song,
And pray for peace today.

E.S.

IF EVER YOU'RE IN TROUBLE

By Edward Souder

If every you're in trouble,
And you're load you cannot bear,
Just stop and turn your heart to
God,
And bow your head in prayer.

Your troubles will be lifted,
Your worries cast aside,
So, if ever you're in trouble,
In God you must abide.

My friend, you need not worry
When trouble troubles you,
Just stop and turn your heart to
God,
That's all you need to do!

WHAT HAS THE FUTURE TO OFFER OUR YOUNG MEN?

(Continued from Page 1)

happen to break down the good things built up in our young men that we must put forth every strength and every effort to retain the good things we have learned and to follow the teachings from our Christian homes.

"We could wreck the Pyramids" is the slogan of a building wrecking concern. Who couldn't? But the question is, could you build the Pyramids? It isn't what you wreck, but what you build, that counts in life. So it is with the character of young men - you can build soberly and honestly for years, and some godless companion can lead you into a night of sin that may mean the wanton destruction of nearly everything we have built up. Our only hope is in Christ. Christ for deliverance from sin of the past, and Christ for the Deliverer when the temptation would be too much for us.

So the spiritual life that has been generated in us through the Word of God needs cultivation also. Even under the handicaps and under the pressure of much work we should devote some time in the reading of the Psalms and the Scripture and spend some time in earnest prayer whereby we draw close to God to dwell in Him and He in us. Let us give the Lord His tithe in taking time to seek Him.

Paul gives us one of the best answers. Listen to him talk to the Corinthians. (I Corinthians 15:3) "For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures; and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures." He began with the crucified and risen Christ - with the atonement and the resurrection. The plan is just as fixed as are the stars in the heavens. If one really holds to the right views concerning the atonement made by our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ on the cross at Calvary, he will sooner or later get right on every other question.

THE SILVER LINING

Published by

Apostolic Christian Sunday School
Grabill, Indiana

TREASURED VERSES

PROVERBS 3:1-4

"My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments:

"For length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee.

"Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart:

"So shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man."

A True Shepherd

The following is an article from the March 15, 1944 Silver Lining by now deceased Bro. Otto Norr, minister to the Leo congregation.

Experience is a great help to a person, that is what David of old had. He is the one that wrote the words found in the 23rd Psalm, namely:

"The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I will fear no evil: for thou art with me."

Dear ones, words will not be able to explain in fullness, the value of such a good Shepherd at all times. Many are the joys received by those that come to the fold of this good Shepherd, to live under His protecting love and blessing.

What will hinder one from coming to His fold? Not obeying the teachings of the Lord and living a sinful life. Sin will separate man from God and to be separated from the Lord is a sad condition in many ways. These words mean so much to each one, "Without Christ the Saviour, I dare not die."

That is what He did. He died on the old rugged cross, that you and I can be saved, but only by believing and obeying His teachings.

Can we find such a true friend among mankind? That is why we say,

"Ask me what great thing I know,

That delights and stirs me so?

Jesus Christ the crucified One." How sad in many ways, if there were no Savior to cheer and comfort the many sad hearts in this time.

The helping arm of the dear Lord has not become shorter, to help for their undying souls.

When the time comes for a father or son to be on the battlefield, not knowing what moment life will end, faith sincere as David the Psalmist, had will be a great help. He had no fear, because he put his trust not in man, but in the living God.

Will we not say with Paul, the servant of the Lord, "For to me to live is Christ and to die is gain"? This gain will not be temporal as is the case in the natural walk of life. To die in Jess, is the beginning of rest after a life of work and worry. If it has been precious, there will follow peace and joy found only in heaven where no pain or sorrow can enter. Let us all try and become worthy to enter into such a beautiful home built by workmanship diving.

So wherever you go, take the name of Jesus with you.

THE SILVER LINING

Monthly Church Publication



A new building was erected in 1981 on the Leo church property for World Relief storage, Bible Distribution and *The Silver Lining* publishing and mailing. *The Silver Lining* room is on the right.

Each month, the church publishes a periodical called "The Silver Lining." This is a 32 page publication referred to as "A Light For Believers." It is published and printed at Grabill, Indiana. The Silver Lining's first issue was sent out October, 1943. It was distributed initially as a small inspirational, four to six page newspaper for the men of the Leo, IN, area in the armed services.

As the years unfolded, The Silver Lining distribution increased. Eventually, a few other churches began sending local news and, for many years now, each church participates. Local church reporters or correspondents are chosen to submit monthly news to The Silver Lining. In the beginning, circulation totalled approximately 78. By 1993 it had reached 6100.

The Silver Lining seeks to bring sermons from ministers of our congregations, history of our church, writings and sermons of Elder Bro. Samuel Frohlich, subjects of faith, doctrine, and teachings as written on by our brethren. A monthly newsletter from each of our churches, including marriages, births, deaths and baptisms, which brings and keeps the church members well informed of each other and builds up the sense of brotherhood, which is so precious among the membership.

There is an opportunity to share in this work by serving as a church correspondent, to write articles for The Silver Lining, and locally to help in the monthly compilation, editing, addressing, packaging and mailing of The Silver Lining.

MISSION – WORLD RELIEF – WORKS PROJECTS

WORLDLINESS

Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle, Shioda, Japan

The world is defined as Satan's domain and when believers cross over into enemy territory for their own pleasure, there is danger to their spiritual lives. That is why the Apostle John wrote, "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world." (I John 2:15) He was referring not to the beauty of nature nor the preciousness of fellow human beings but to the things that might prevent us from following New Testament teachings as closely as we should in order to have the spiritually abundant life. Jesus said, "I am come that they might have life, and have it more abundantly." (John 10:10)

In conquering worldliness, it is important to have the right attitude and the way to have the right attitude is to die to self. Jesus said, "He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it." (Matthew 10:39) Don't be afraid to lose your life, it solves a lot of problems. Losing your life means that you are no longer devoted to pleasing yourself. The

wonderful part of it is that when you do that, you really do find the better life, which, in fact, is more pleasing to yourself. The apparent contradiction is true, "He that loseth his life shall find it."

If there is anything questionable in your life, try experimenting in getting along without it. If you have tv, put a cover over it for six months. Let's hope you will decide life is better without it. If you think dress code and modest hair styles are too old fashioned, try following the church guidelines for six months and see if you don't feel better and more in harmony with the Word of God. If sports are a bit too attractive for you, and perhaps you are about to become addicted, try forgetting entirely about sports for six months and see if life doesn't improve for you, so far as the things in life that really count. Devotion to God and concern, love and respect for others are some of the things that really count. Don't be afraid to lose your life. It solves a lot of problems.

Winter Works Project

Gateway Woods has an excellent works project for the winter months. We need a mature couple to come and serve as **part-time alternates** for the regular Houseparents. This would include substituting in our homes for the full-time Houseparents' scheduled days off as well as routine maintenance and household chores. This project would be an eternally rewarding way to spend the time between harvest and spring planting; sowing seed for our Lord Jesus Christ in the hearts of needy youth. Bro. Art and Sis. Ruth Gramm have done this for over five years and they would be glad to talk to anyone about their work here at Gateway Woods. (As a note of explanation, Bro. Art and Sis. Ruth are planning to spend the winter in Florida after Bro. Art's knee surgeries.)

Please contact the Gramms or one of the brothers listed below to learn more about the details of this Winter Works Project.

Tim Sauder, Admin.
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

Art & Ruth Gramm
Box 43
Leo, IN 46765
(219) 627-2798

DIRECTOR OF NURSING

Cedar Creek Retirement Complex will be hiring a director of nursing for the 42-bed, intermediate care, plus 20-apartment complex. Planned opening date is January 1, 1994. For more information please contact, call or write:

Bro. John Klopfenstein
15028 Reservoir Road
Leo, IN 46765
(219) 627-3934
Chairman

or

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

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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Counselors: Loren Stoller,
David Bertsch, Phillip Stettner

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

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

IN MEMORY – EDITORS:
HENRY SOUDER
EDWARD SOUDER



Writings based
on God's Word

Light From The Word

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

NEW TESTAMENT PRIESTHOOD

What is God's plan for the office of priest in the New Testament Church? If we examine the earliest priesthood and follow it through to the New Testament, we find that this same principle extends into today's church. The first that we read of priests in the Bible is the appearance of Melchizedek to Abraham (Gen. 14:18). He presented himself as a priest of the most high God.

The Levitical priesthood required one high priest plus the lower offices of priest. The priests were people specially consecrated and ordained of God for three major purposes: (1) to offer sacrifices (ceremonial service) for their own sins and for the sins of the people, (2) to pray for the people, and (3) to teach the people.

Some of the changes which later occurred in the priesthood were not to God's pleasure. Hosea and Malachi had some harsh words for the priests, blaming them for much of the disobedience of the people because they didn't perform their ordained functions. They delighted in the ceremonies and symbols and even expanded them, but the emphasis became increasingly superficial and progressively less meaningful. The priests also fell far short in teaching the people and praying for them. "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children" (Hos. 4:6). "For the priest's lips should keep knowledge, and they should seek the law at his mouth: for he is the messenger of the Lord of hosts. But ye are departed out of the way; ye have caused many to stumble at the law; ye have corrupted the covenant of Levi, saith the Lord of hosts" (Mal. 2:7-8). By the time Jesus was born, the office of high priest had declined to an appointed position which was rotated periodically for political advantage.

John the Baptist was born to righteous parents who were both from priestly families (Luke 1:5-6). John was very aggressive in his teaching and he denounced the self-righteous Pharisees. He also introduced the ceremony of baptism to the people and taught its proper use. His goal was "to make ready a people prepared for the Lord" (Luke 1:17).

Paul explains that Jesus Christ is "a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek" (Heb. 7:17). The order of Melchizedek is described as a high priest "who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens" (Heb. 7:26). Jesus is currently filling these roles as part of His service to the church. He was not of the tribe of Levi so He was not a priest in His earthly life, but He gave instruction to the people of His time to use the services of the priest's office as was required in the law (Luke 5:14). Christ's revelation to John may provide insight concerning the office of priest as the Lord wanted it to exist in the New Testament Church, "And hast made us unto our God kings (a kingdom) and priests: and we shall reign on the earth" (Rev. 5:10).

A link between priesthoods of the Old and the New Testaments is made in the expressed wishes of God in the Old Testament, "And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation" (Ex. 19:6), and by Peter in the New Testament, "But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people" (1 Pet. 2:9). Each one of us as believers must accept our responsibility in the priesthood of God with Jesus as our high priest.

Our priestly service has much in common with the Levitical priesthood in that it includes the same three major areas; (1) ceremonies and symbols, (2) praying for others, and (3) teaching the people. It is necessary that we include these practices

in our Christian life and regularly examine ourselves to see that they are in place.

In fulfilling the proper concept of priesthood, we want to participate in meaningful scripturally-based ceremonies and symbols, and we must not neglect them. Their true benefit would be lost if these sacred rites and ordinances were observed without godly sincerity, as in the following examples: baptism without conversion; communion without a fruitful self-examination; greeting with a kiss without holiness; displaying the scripturally prescribed hair length (men and women), wearing a head covering at appropriate times (women), and absence of head covering at certain times (men), without practicing discipline in all of our ambitions and activities. Since all of these symbolic actions require personal and inner preparedness by each individual, as well as the more visible aspects, we must resist the urging of our natural mind to examine others. Rather we should seek after our own sanctification first and then care for others as the Levitical priests were instructed to do.

We must be diligent in praying for others; our own salvation and that of others depend heavily on prayer. The effects of our prayers are not always seen by us.

One of the greatest failings of Judah was neglect on the part of the priests in teaching the people. The last statement of Jesus as recorded by Matthew lays out a clear directive, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations...teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you" (Matt. 28:19-20). The opportunity and responsibility to teach the people is no less today than it was in Bible times. First we must be taught ourselves, and then we can teach others, through the Holy Spirit and the Word. Fulfilling the scriptural pattern for the priesthood will bring untold blessings to God's people.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

The busy days of summer activities are winding down and we are now enjoying the refreshing early fall season. Some of the late summer activities for our residents

were: Two separate groups (a total of 58 residents) enjoyed an overnight mini-vacation at Little Galilee Christian Camp; another group of residents went on an overnight trip to Six Flags; there were some picnics in the local parks, bike riding, horseback riding and 32 res-

idents attended a swim party and dinner at Phil Fehr's parents.

Some of the planned fall and winter activities are wiener roasts, "Pumpkin Festival" parade and associated activities. "Special Olympics" bowling and basketball are beginning, a visit to Wildlife Prairie Park is planned, monthly hymn sings, shopping, eating out, etc.

Linden Estate, the new 16-bed facility, is progressing very well. The building is now ready to be drywalled on the inside and for the brick to be laid on the outside. This work will proceed as soon as the site dries up after the four inch plus rainfall September 13 and 14. We are hoping to be ready for occupancy in late winter or early spring of 1994.

We truly praise and thank the Lord for every one of you that have made the facilities for the Developmentally Disabled possible through your prayerful, physical and financial support. May God bless you for your acts of love that are so important in the lives of the residents.

November birthdays at ACHH are: Susie McGinley (1), Rhonda Pullen (4), Kathy Knapp (5), Tom Manley (8), Kay Ellis (9), Bernice Heiniger (11), Lucy Endress (13), Sam Sigulas (13), Jane Aberle (14), Janet Worner (17) and Kristie Furrer (19). November birthdays at Oakwood Estate are: Ken Clauss (2), Keith Weyeneth (4) and Marian Funk (20). A November birthday at 200 Hazelwood is Alan Unsicker (15).

GATEWAY WOODS Apostolic Christian Children's Home

Todd and Carol Schrock

We read an article recently about a young man who was taking a walk and met a little boy who was obviously poor. As they talked together, the man discovered the boy's father had been sick for months and unable to work. As the young man was ready to leave he commented to the boy, "It must be hard to be so poor." Quickly the little boy responded, "but we are not poor! We just don't have any money!"

What a concept! So often we are

— 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. or
Congerville, IL 61729
Phone (309) 448-2416

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
Tenth Year — August 1992 thru July 1993 — 41,755

Bibles Distributed — Eleventh Year

	MONTH	TO DATE
August 1993 —	1509	1509
September 1993 —	1661	3170

*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

inclined to think that rich means having money and poor means having no money. This little boy knew he was rich because he had a mom and a dad who loved him and who loved each other. He had other brothers and sisters who loved each other as well. What the young man learned and what was impressed on our hearts as well as we read this, is that someone is poor indeed, who lacks character, though they may own many things and have much money but with character and values and morals is the richest person in the world. And the verse comes to me of the abundant life that one may have who puts their hope and confidence in Christ alone. Abundance, of course, not meaning a huge home, more than one vehicle, clothes galore, a feast at every meal, but abundance in a life of purpose, peace, love, forgiveness, hope and joy! What a life! Thank you, Jesus, for providing the way and the means to such a life. For we are saved through the grace of our Lord Jesus. (Acts 15:13)

It is always our prayer and hearts' desire that the saving message of Jesus reaches the hearts of the children we serve. Recently, Tamara and Bobby have become a part of Kevin and Brenda's home in the West House and family while Danial has come to the Deb, Marilyn and Sandy trio and troop living at East House. Doug is our most recent child, coming to the New House. We look forward to learning together every day.

Early on the mornings of September 9 - 11, most staff members were found flipping pancakes, serving sausage or wiping tables of the 21st annual Grabill Days Country Fair Pancake and Sausage Breakfast. For the past several years Gateway Woods has sponsored this breakfast as a way of sharing with our community as they have done so for us. It is almost always a good time together as we discover once again the value of teamwork.

We are still in need of some team members and we hope you will pray for us, and perhaps for yourself, if God is prompting you to the position of Alternate Houseparenting. There is a need for two Alternate

Houseparent couples: one full-time couple and one couple who could substitute temporarily during the winter months (Please see the notice in this issue). To all of you who love and support us in prayer, we thank you and trust God will bless you!

ARIZONA, PHOENIX
Ron and Ev Hoerr

"I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, . . ."

John 10:9

With a foot in the door, and a new love in his heart, you can readily see the look that says the Lord has touched Jason Sanders' heart. Jason's parents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Sue Sanders.

The Lord Jesus knows our every need and as a new school year starts, where better to turn but to the Lord! Our school children have a very tough world compared to a couple of decades ago. May our heavenly Father watch over each of them.

Our thanks to the Sunday schools in San Diego and Altadena, CA, for Christian fellowship and a blest Labor Day Weekend. It is a real blessing to serve our Father doing His work. We are most appreciative.

Likewise, our single members enjoyed time spent with Congerville's group. We are most grateful to you folks.

Our prayer list for shut-ins and caretakers could be brightened with a card, note or phone call - especially as the holiday season is here. (Remember, the fun helping bake cookies for those who couldn't any longer?)

Hospital patients were Bro. Earl Sanders (coronary) and Mary Ella Klopfenstein (surgical). Bro. Earl Sanders is at: Desert Samaritan Care Center (209), 2145 W. Southern Avenue, Mesa, AZ 85202.

Once again, welcome to new arrivals, Bro. Jim and Sis. Rowena Furrer and six children from Morris, MN.

We are counting our blessings and look forward to Mick and

Delores Hill being added to our church family. Kristi and Kimberly are happy in our Sunday school. With Christ the center of our lives, who can be against us?

Some cool mornings brought six kinds of birds missed through the summer. Can you just imagine how God feels when you and others come to His house after time off? He deserves better.

We each have much to be thankful for but let our prayers continue for the victims of the floods.

All things are possible through God, as the holiday season is upon us. We need to share like never before.

Trust in the Lord! Keep looking up.

ARIZONA, TUCSON
Lisa Knapp

Our Sunday school recently returned from a trip to San Diego, CA, after a blessed weekend with the San Diego and Altadena, CA, and Phoenix, AZ Sunday schools. Many friendships and memories were made. Many thanks to the San Diego congregation for all their efforts.

A reception was held for Bro. Loren and Sis. Joan Knapp August 28 to celebrate their wedding. Many from Phoenix attended to officially welcome Sis. Joan to Arizona. May the Lord richly bless Sis. Joan as she makes her home in Tucson.

Bro. Bill and Sis. Sharon Dotterer (Phoenix) and their family attended the reception for Bro. Loren and Sis. Joan and then stayed overnight to spend Sunday with us. We thank Bro. Bill and his family for their efforts to be with us and we especially thank Bro. Bill for his service on the pulpit.

Bro. Paul Knoblock has experienced a great loss as his wife, Dorothy, passed from this life. Many family and friends gathered to help Bro. Paul lay to rest his dear wife. It is now that Bro. Paul will need our prayers as he gets through the coming months. May the Lord be your constant companion, Bro. Paul.

Jim Funk (Sis. LouAnn) was hospitalized this month and required surgery. He is home and

recuperating nicely. He has even begun assembling with us again. Welcome back!

We are getting a little relief from our heat as we have had temperatures in the high 80's. Fall will be very welcome in Arizona!

We have resumed our monthly fellowship suppers (second Sunday of each month), Sunday school and monthly Bible studies (Friday following the fellowship supper).

CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO
Rose Huetter

The week of September 4 and 5, we at San Diego hosted the junior and high school students from Tucson and Phoenix, AZ and Altadena, CA. It was a blessed and beautiful weekend of love and fellowship. We thank everyone for coming and welcome them back anytime.

We wish to thank Elder Bro. John Klotzle (Altadena), Bro. Greg Gramm (Phoenix, AZ) and Bro. Nathan Leman (Tucson, AZ) for their labors in the Lord on our behalf. May God richly bless all who so willingly serve in bringing the message of the gospel to us.

Bro. Steven Varga has been elected to replace Bro. Denes Fulop for Sunday school superintendent. We wish him our Lord and Savior's richest blessings in teaching our children.

Sis. Camille Vogt has recently moved here from Francesville, IN. We welcome her here with love.

CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE
Michelle Virkler

"Behold God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid."
Isaiah 12:2

We surely rejoice with our new converts: Betsy Ryan (Bro. Kevin and Sis. Cheryl) and Suzi Hoffman (Bro. Mark and Sis. Luella). May God continue to guide them on this pathway of life. May He enfold them with His arms of love.

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

Psalms 91:11

Our Sunday school picnic was held Saturday, September 4. Although the weather tried to dampen the occasion, the children and friends enjoyed the day.

"My life is but a weaving
Between my Lord and me
I cannot choose the colors
He worketh steadily.

Oftimes he weaveth sorrow
And I in foolish pride
Forget He sees the upper
And I, the underside.

Not till the loom is silent
And the shuttles cease to fly
Shall God unroll the canvas
And explain the reason why.

The dark threads are as needful
In the Weaver's skillful hand
As the threads of gold and silver
In the pattern He has planned."

Author Unknown

Those that have been hospitalized or under the care of a physician during this month are Sisters Florine Luginbuhl, Joyce Hunt, Lorraine Dombeck and Bro. Darryl Luginbuhl. We trust the Lord will keep them in His tender care and love.

We began last evening listening to the elder conference tapes. "And the apostles and elders came together for to consider of this matter." (Acts 15:6) May we always be grateful that our dear elders care enough for our soul to bring forth matters of concern. Sometimes in our busy lives, do we take the time to listen to the Lord speaking to us?

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,
WASHINGTON
Henrietta Meyer

"And He changeth the times and the season."

Daniel 2:21

The weather is cooler and not as humid. The leaves are just starting to turn. Almost anytime is a good time to visit the nation's capital and our congregation. Our visitors this month were from Smith-

ville, OH, Wolcott, Francesville and Remington, IN. Visiting ministers were Elder Bro. Ed Aeschleman and Bro. Jerry Isch (Philadelphia, PA) and Bro. Alpha Strahm (Bern, KS). We appreciate either Elder Bro. Ed and Bro. Jerry coming to minister to us once Sunday a month.

"Train up a child in the way he should go . . ."

Proverbs 22:6

In the past several of our sisters have worked as nannies. Their families have been very impressed with the care provided to their children. There is at least one family in the area looking for a nanny with a church background. Our congregation is willing to assist anyone interested, please contact one of the brothers listed below.

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 in the hotel dining room for breakfast at 9:00. 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.

FLORIDA, NORTH FT. MYERS
Marvin and Rhea Steffen

As we pass the middle of September, we anticipate cooler weather and start looking forward to the coming south of our brothers, sisters and friends from the north. We have had occasional visitors and do appreciate each one. We also had visiting ministers, including: Bro. Glenn Price, Jr. (Sarasota), Elder Bros. Darrell Klopfenstein (Fort Lauderdale) and Ben Maibach (Sarasota). We were very thankful these three brothers and their wives traveled to share God's Word with us.

We have been listening to one tape from the elder conference each Sunday afternoon. What a wealth

of wisdom and teaching! All are benefitting from hearing them as a group, free from the distractions of the world.

"Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time. Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man."

Colossians 4:5, 6

Isn't it essential that we rely completely on the Holy Spirit as we, in our human weakness, try to walk without stumbling before unconverted family members, co-workers and friends? God grant us more grace and strength!

FLORIDA, SARASOTA

Lorane Martin - Gala Gerber

Praise ye the Lord; for it is good to sing praises unto our God; for it is pleasant; and praise is comely.

Our congregation appreciates the support and love each of our brethren give with their talents and works. We wish to give a special thanks to Bro. Richard and Sis. Aldine Martin. Bro. Richard has been our head song leader for many years and has asked to be relieved of this duty. We want to express our sincere appreciation to him for his years of dedicated service in leading our singing regardless if our congregation was few or many in number. Sis. Aldine was always by his side to encourage him in this labor of love.

Our prayers are with Bro. Mike Siladie who has been taken over the responsibility as head song leader. May he feel our support and experience the blessings of our God as he willingly avails his talents.

We rejoice as we see God's hand in providing our needs daily. Bro. John and Sis. Kay Lantz have joined our congregation and we appreciate their willingness to give of their talents. Bro. John assists in song leading. We also welcome their family, Tyler, Travis, Emily, Breanna, Christopher and Abigail. They each bring joy to our hearts in their own special way. What a blessing they each have been to our Sunday school!

God has again blessed us with visiting ministers. Thankful to have our Elder Bro. Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI) and Bro. Andy Moser (Valparaiso, IN) with us.

ILLINOIS, BELVIDERE

Peg Anliker

We bid farewell to our dear Sis. Esther Troike as she moved to Eureka. She attended the Elgin congregation but lived in Belvidere and for, I believe ten years, she and her late husband, Bro. Wilmar, were kind in providing a place to hold evening church services in their home. Bro. Wilmar and Sis. Esther were good examples to all of us in doing things for others.

We were blessed on several Sundays as well as two Wednesday evenings with visiting ministers. Bros. Duane Reutter (Rockville, CT), Bill Gudeman (Elgin, IL), Jim Leman (Roanoke, IL), Marvin Schmidgall (Eureka, IL), Tom Schambach (Elgin, IL) and Andy Moser (Valparaiso, IN). We thank them and their dear wives for their labors of love on our behalf. We also appreciate all the visitors we've had lately and welcome you to visit again.

ILLINOIS, BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL

Tudy Schmied - Debbie Grieco

The invitation has gone forth, the Holy Spirit has worked in hearts, and many friends have recently been moved to repentance. Pray for our new converts as they grow in God's love and wisdom. A special prayer is asked for Jean (Lehmann) Orth (wife of Ed, Morton) who has found the joy of experiencing peace with God and will soon be baptized. Jean has recently moved to Restmore Nursing Center in Morton. Pray for God's comfort of her physical body as He has comforted her heart.

God has once again brought two hearts together as only His love can. We rejoice with the announcement of the engagement of Sis. Shawn Hari (Bro. Everett and Sis. Beverly) and Bro. Rick Masters (Bro. Bill and Sis. Mary). A December 12 wedding is planned.

Our congregation lost a dear friend and soldier of the cross this month. Sympathies go out to the family of Arthur E. Baurer (husband of Helen) who passed away August 27. Heartfelt sympathy is also extended to Dorothy Harsh and Ruth Lowery who lost their father of 104 years, Bro. Joseph Rinkenberger (Roanoke) August 27.

"His Lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou has been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

Matthew 25:21

Thankful hearts abounded September 19 as the additions to our church home were dedicated in God's honor. The additions include a new and enlarged Sunday school area which will allow all of the classes to meet at the same time, an enlarged fellowship area and conference room, a new baby room, a remodeled women's restroom, plus roof repairs and improvements to other areas of the church. Elder Bro. Dan Koch (Tremont) and Bro. Everett Hari expressed appreciation to God that our church congregation has grown to such an extent that these changes were necessary. They expressed hope that the physical structure continue to be blessed as a vehicle to carry out God's work and to enhance relationships with God. Thanks be to God and to all who had a part in the planning, building and completion of this house of God.

ILLINOIS, BRADFORD

Les and Barb Fehr

We heard the engagement announcement of Bro. Mitchell Leman (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Jane) to Sis. Carolyn Gutwein (Edwin and Mary B., Francesville, IN). May God's grace be with them as they look forward to a lifetime together.

We wish LaNae Dietz (Bro. Kenny and Sis. Mardell) God's healing strength as she recovers from knee surgery.

During the last month our visiting ministers were Bros. Carl Wyss (Washington) and Jim Vierling (Eu-

reka). We want to thank these brothers for their labors of love in bringing us the Word of our Lord.

ILLINOIS, CHAMPAIGN

Margie Heintz

As the fall school semester begins each year, the students plan and host a Wednesday evening picnic for their college friends and for the church family. This year the weather cooperated and many gathered to enjoy food and fellowship and to renew old acquaintances and to meet new friends.

Another fall tradition is the cleaning of the church building. A number of brothers, sisters and friends worked together one evening to make an already tidy interior virtually immaculate. Wouldn't it be wonderful if we all kept our inner spiritual homes so clean that whenever we did our soul searching, it would be easy work to make them spotless?

On a mid-September Saturday, the 1993 brotherhood conference tapes were played for all those able to attend. We were encouraged and blessed as we were shown how obedience to God in specific areas of our lives can bring contentment.

We want to thank our visiting ministers, Elder Bro. Ervin Knecht (Eureka) and Bro. Tom Stock (Cissna Park) for serving us so faithfully. May God bless you and your families.

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO

Kathy Schlatter

Though I originally applied (again) this fall for a counseling position, by the time the interview came, I couldn't see having that job – not now. I had met my classes. I have many students who were born in other nations. I have three out of these 45 who are "white," one of whom speaks Greek fluently. I have numerous African-Americans, numerous Mexicans, two Indians and a Jamaican. I am so privileged. Each person the Lord has put here is important, and I get to meet so many who have so much to teach me. I try to let them know how much I care. In fact, this year I had these feelings of mine

calligraphied and shared them with my students, putting them on my bulletin board: "I want you to know that I love you even though I may sometimes disagree with you and I may not always like your actions, yet I want you to know that there is One whose love is much more unconditional than mine." May the Lord help me to point others towards Him each day – only possible through His grace and strength. For what other reason do we live?

Our visiting ministers were Bros. Steve Ringger (Bluffton North, IN); and Arnie Gerst (Taylor, MO). We are always so grateful for brothers who are willing to visit and then also willing to serve us from the pulpit through the Spirit.

We are appreciative of those who serve in Sunday school. Bro. Clark Baurer has finished his term and Bro. Brent Stoller is moving. Both of them have an inspiration in many spiritual ways. May the Lord reward them richly. Bros. Tom Neu and Craig Plattner are their replacements. Sis. Carla Rassi and Sis. Pam Steiner are coming in to the younger grades. We look forward to each one's special gifts at work in the Lord. At our annual Sunday school teachers/ministers' meeting, we were grateful for holy reminders from Bro. Earl Ringger (Gridley, IL). May teachers keep such an upward look always.

Being privileged is never difficult. Ross Meyer (Bro. Lenny and Sis. Charlotte) and SandraSue Palaez-Botello (Magdalena Botello and Luis Pelaez, Mexico) were married June 5 in Mexico City but had their American reception here September 25. We are so happy to have them back in the United States, especially in our area. Ross will be working in the social work field and Sandi in education. Bro. Scott Wegman (Bro. Sam and Sis. Rosemary, Burlington, IA) and Sis. Dawn Haerr (Bro. Norman and Sis. Sally, Taylor, MO) were married Labor Day Sunday in Taylor. They will be living in Naperville. Scott continues his work here, and Dawn will be a physical therapy assistant. We are joyful for the Lord's work in bringing them together. Bro. Paul and Sis. Marie Sauder

are the grateful parents of a daughter, Julia Rose, born September 14. Big sister, Anna, and grandparents, Bro. Dale and Sis. JoAnn Sauder (Tremont, IL); and Bro. Eugene and Sis. Shirley Nester (Lester, IA); are also excited and delighted. We, as a church family, want to open our arms to our new couples, especially to the wives who are changing their locations, and to this new child. We want to share our love, our experiences, our prayers; and we are so thankful for the opportunity to have them with us.

Life has two sides to it. We also must say goodbye. Bro. Doug Wettstein (Bro. Dave and Sis. Gloria, Gridley, IL), newly married September 19 to sis. Sarah Mueller (Bro. and Sis. Ron, Forrest, IL) are living in Bloomington, IL. We extend our love and prayers to them as they walk together in Christ's will. We will miss Bro. Doug for at least two senses, his spiritual one and his sense of humor. We ask that he will return to us with his bride often. Bro. Brent and Sis. Kay Stoller, Daniel and Derek, have moved to Congerville, IL, to their house in the country and Sis. Kay's home church. The Lord has led them carefully and prayerfully, and we cannot gainsay it. Nevertheless, there is another hole in our congregation. Bro. Brent was in Sunday school for several years and worked with Bible distribution. He and Sis. Kay have been especially helpful in making us aware of other people to love and to pray for, a true gift. We pray for them and we ask them to pray for us. And can I cry more? Bro. Tibor and Sis. Pearl Bozzay and Tom (who is already in school there) are moving to San Diego, CA. Bro. Tibor and Sis. Pearl repented and were baptized in our church. In the spirit of true servanthood they cared for our church building for fourteen years. Their Hungarian recipes and ways of using English have been a delight. Now almost the whole family will be together in California, and what can we say? Our hearts and prayers are there, too – and for the time the Lord allowed us to walk together, just "thanks to the Lord."

Bro. Todd Eisenmann has fractured a bone in his leg. We wish

him patience and quick healing as he adjusts his life to include this situation.

When my brother-in-law looked at my daily spiritual meditations book, he said, "Oh, this must not be the one that you use. It isn't written in." He has the advantage of me in this excellent habit. Every day he writes a few lines; not only is he thinking spiritually, but he is recording (not really like a diary) something of what the Lord is giving him day by day. I need to work toward that end. The Lord gives us so much when we write: clearer thinking, better remembering, more special time with Him.

Always we are dealing with our inadequacies. Satan would have us be overwhelmed. Always we are dealing with our impure motivations. Satan would have us say, "The ends justify the means." Always we are dealing with flesh which wants comfort and convenience. Satan would say we deserve to have things easier. Always he tells us we are doing so much for the Lord and that we should either 1) let others do more, or 2) glory in those good works, as though it were in us. As he tempted the Lord, he tempts us. The Lord knows him and He will deliver us, but we must ask in faith, believing. "Lord, help Thou mine unbelief." (Mark 9:24)

"More purity give me,
More strength to o'ercome;
More freedom from earthstains,
More longings for home;
More fit for the kingdom,
More used would I be;
More blessed and holy,
More, Savior, like Thee."

"My Prayer,"
Tabernacle Hymns #307

—————

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK
Anna Marie Reutter
Cyndee Anderson

"Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety."

Proverbs 11:14

We have been listening to the conference tapes this month and have appreciated so very much the

sincerity and love evident in the exhortations of our elder brethren. How good it is to have those over us in the Lord who, instead of soothing us into thinking we have no room for improvement, are willing to "provoke unto love and to good works" . . . "and so much the more, as (they) see the day approaching." May we be as awake in the Spirit as they, and heed these warnings "so much the more" that we "may be able to withstand in the evil day" and then when the day of the Lord does come "having done all, to stand" before Him in joy. (Hebrews 10:24-25, Ephesians 6:13)

July was the month for the weddings of the daughters of two couples in our congregation. Jim and Betty Hofbauer's daughter, Tammy, was married to Brian Martin (son of Jerry and Fran, Loda) July 10 in Normal. They are now living in Bloomington. Bro. Wayne and Sis. Deloris Knapp's daughter, Dawn, was married to John Elmendorf (son of Frances, Princeton, and William, Castro Valley, CA) July 31, in Watseka. They are making their home in Geneva, IL.

"Let the husband render unto the wife due benevolence: and likewise also the wife unto the husband."

I Corinthians 7:3

As one elder brother reminded us at the conference, some synonyms for the word benevolence are to be "loving, kind, unselfish, considerate, generous, gentle, friendly and helpful." May God bless these two couples in their marriages.

We want to thank Bro. Robert Beebe, who spent a Sunday with us this past month. We always appreciate it when Bro. Robert and Sis. Sue come to be with us.

On August 29, we heard the wedding engagement of Bro. Dan Weerts (Bro. Ken and Sis. Myrna) to Sis. Denise Fritz (Bro. Ed and Sis. Sally, Washington, IL). We rejoice with this couple and wish them God's nearness and guidance as they plan and prepare themselves for their upcoming life as a married couple.

Our thoughts and prayers have been with Bro. Bob Kaufmann dur-

ing his recovery following a hip replacement, and also with Sis. Anna Hari, who has spent some time in the hospital and is now residing at Heartland Health Care Facility in Paxton.

On Sunday, September 12, our senior citizens (a very special part of our congregation) gathered at the fellowship hall to be honored with a delicious meal by the Sunday school students and teachers. We ended the evening by singing hymns together – a real blessing to all.

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ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE
Sue Wiegand - Beth Steffen

The sounds and smells of harvest are just beginning. Despite the rainy season, we pray our farmers will be able to harvest enough to meet their needs. Our thoughts and prayers are with those who have little or no crops to harvest due to saturated fields, flooding, etc. But we rejoice whenever a souls turns to God to make ready for that eternal harvest. We're so thankful Christie Ifft (Bro. Larry and Sis. Shirley, Forrest) has made that decision.

We also gladly welcome Bro. Brent and Sis. Kay Stoller and sons, Daniel and Derek, who have moved here from the Chicago congregation; where we know they'll be sorely missed. Sis. Kay, daughter of Bro. Keith and Sis. Pauline Roth, is a familiar face, having grown up in Congerville. Bro. Brent, son of Elder Bro. Joe and Sis. Emily (Princeville) is now closer to home too. We hope the transition from urban back to country life will be a pleasant one.

Bro. Carl Scheiber had been hospitalized and Sis. Esther Miller had been confined to limited activity for a time. We appreciate it when our church pillars have a fair measure of health.

We thank Bro. Sid Kaufman (Cissna Park) and family for spending a Sunday with us and sharing God's Word. We do not express our appreciation often enough to our home ministers who diligently carry out our Father's work. Those of us who do not have the responsibility of the church ministry do not

really understand the time, effort and prayers that our ministers and elders put in for their congregations. May we all strive to have the personal ministry of our lives be a pleasing one to God and not a burden to our elders and brotherhood.

ILLINOIS, ELGIN

Renee Anliker - Debbie Sauder

"Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city." (Revelation 22:14) We are currently being reminded of how "Obedience to God brings contentment" in several aspects of our lives and eventually leads to a home in heaven. We are so thankful for our dear elder brothers who are willing to be used of God to exhort us in the ways of God. May we ever be willing to heed God's Word as it is so lovingly delivered by His faithful servants.

We also wish to thank visiting ministering Bros. Wayne Grimm (West Bend, IA), Jim Knobloch (Winthrop, MN) and Elmer Schmidt (Winthrop, MN) for delivering the Word to us this past month. May the Lord richly bless each one for their willingness to serve us.

Two couples from our congregation have reached a special milestone in their lives. Bro. Delbert and Sis. Jeanette Schmidt and Bro. Ken and Mary Lindoerfer recently commemorated their 50th wedding anniversaries. We are thankful their families could be here to celebrate with them and trust God will continue to be with each of them as long as He would grant them days together.

"One of Thy children is coming home,
Open Thy merciful arms,
One of Thy children's too tired to roam,
Open Thy merciful arms,
Send out a shepherd, open the gate,
Jesus has called and His sheep must not wait
Oh, what a joy to be traveling home;
Open Thy merciful arms."

Don Whitson

Several brethren in our congregation have experienced one of their loved ones being beckoned from this life to an awaiting heavenly home. Our love, prayers and support go to Bros. Art (Sis. Alma) and Delbert (Sis. Jeanette) Schmidt in the loss of their uncle, Bro. Ernest Schmidt (West Bend, IA), Dave Rinkenberger (Gloria) as his father, Bro. Joe (Gridley, IL) was called home and Sis. LeAnn Schambach (Bro. Donald) as her father, Bro. Earl Banwart (West Bend, IA) received the summons he had been awaiting. Though the day of parting is never easy, whether the preparation has been long or short, we have the blessed assurance that these brothers have gone home to be with our dear Shepherd. May it be the earnest desire of each one to strive to enter that gate and be reunited with our loved ones as well as the Chief Shepherd. Our sympathy is also extended to the family of Dan Deihs. May we each do our part to support and encourage those who experience loss and have the spirit to weep with those who weep as well as rejoice with those who rejoice.

Two little girls, Mary Braun (Bro. Gene and Sis. Sue) and Maria Steffen (Bro. Dave and Sis. Linda), have been hospitalized this month but are recovering well, for which we are all thankful. Also, Sis. Emma Viellieber was hospitalized after a fall that resulted in a broken hip. We entrust these loved ones into the care of the Great Physician and are confident He can heal, according to His perfect will.

ILLINOIS, EUREKA Dori Blunier

We certainly had much instruction on how to set our sails to reach that heavenly harbor as we listened to the conference tapes. There are so many areas of our lives where we can be more obedient to the Spirit, and it is encouraging to remember that ". . . greater is He that is in you, than he that is in the world" (I John 4:4)

Bro. Kent and Sis. Chris Leman are the parents of a new little baby girl, Caitlin Marie, born August 23. She has two older sisters, Danielle

and Kalsey, to help take care of her. Also, Abram Clayton was born to Bro. Scott and Sis. Elaine Frank September 10. Welcoming their new little brother home are Emily, Kate and Lainey.

We wish to thank Bro. Jon Schmidgall (Oakville, IA) and Bro. Gary Endress (Bradford) for ministering to us. We appreciated the warning of the self-centeredness of man and how we should guard against it.

We express our sympathy to Sis. Marie Meyer in the passing away of her father, Bro. Joseph Rinkenberger. His funeral was in the Gridley church where he lived most of his life.

Our prayers are with Sis. Madeline Cawley and Sis. Fannie Wiegand who both had the misfortune of breaking their hips this past month. May they feel God's healing touch. We also remember Sis. Clara Bach who recently underwent surgery.

Note of Thanks:

We would like to thank everyone for all of your prayers, cards, gifts and visits that you sent during my recent hospitalization. May God bless you all for all the love that was shown unto us.

Bro. Ernest Fehr
and family

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY Sally Fehr - Thelma Slagel

Depart, vain world, with all your sin!

From bondage I am free.
A humble offering do I bring;
My heart I give to Thee!

Zion's Harp #163, vs. 11

We gathered together August 28 and 29 to hear the testimonies and witness the baptisms of Sarah Zehr (Bro. Warren and Sis. Dolores), Betsy and Wendy Slagel (Bro. Raymond and Sis. Gladys) and Kim Stoller (Bro. Dale and Sis. Sandra). We wish all of them the grace and peace of God each day of their lives and in all eternitiy.

We thank Elder Bros. William Schlatter (Junction, OH) and

Wayne Anliker (Forrest), who assisted our Elder Bro. Art Bahler, for being with us for this important work. Other ministering brothers this month were Bros. Dewayne Dill (Minneapolis, MN), Brian Waibel (Champaign), Mark Masters and Fred Domka (Mansfield, OH). May God bless them and their families for their faithfulness in sharing God's Word. We appreciate all visitors who come and are thankful to the Lord for the blessing of Christian fellowship.

Come draw near of ev'ry nation
Heed the Saviour's loving voice;
Hear the words of consolation.
Make the way of truth your choice."
Zion's Harp #54, vs. 1

We are rejoicing with our new convert, Nathan Teubel (Walter and Mabel), who has heeded the Saviour's voice. We wish him God's grace.

We are thankful that Bro. Vernon Hartman (Sis. Pat) is able to assemble with us again. May he continue to gain strength.

Oftentimes our loved ones must suffer physical afflictions and pain. Those who have been hospitalized are Sis. Lydia Eisenmann, Sis. Janice Schieler (Bro. Harvey) and Arlene Farley (Charles). May God continue to provide for each one's needs.

"Be silent, be silent,
His mercy record;
Be silent, be silent,
And wait on the Lord."

Hymns of Zion #137

Our congregation was deeply saddened September 8 by the sudden tragic death of Diane E. Mueller, beloved wife of Jay Mueller (Forrest). Our prayers and sympathy are extended to her husband, her dear parents, Ron and Sis. June Slagel (of our congregation); her brothers, Steven, John, David and Ron Jr.; sisters, Teri Wenger (Forrest), Cheryl, Christine; and the dear grandparents, Russell and Rosella Mowery and Caroline Slagel. May God grant comfort and grace to the bereaved families.

We find it hard to express the

deep gratitude and love we feel for each of you have shown your sympathy in words, cards, deeds and prayer in the sudden loss of our precious Diane. May God bless you for your prayerful support.

The family of Diane Slagel
Mueller

ILLINOIS, FORREST

**Marlene Walter
Mary Bachtold**

"Not now, but in the coming years,
It may be in the better land,
We'll read the meaning of our
tears,
And there, sometime we'll
understand."

Hymns of Zion #165

Our hearts were saddened by the death of Diane Mueller, 22, who lost her life in a tragic car accident. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to her husband, Jay; and her parents, Ron and Sis. June Slagel (Fairbury). She was a sister of Steven, John, David, Ron Jr., Teri Wenger, Cheryl and Christine. Our prayers are with Bro. Ron and Sis. Loida Mueller and family who also feel a deep loss. May God's comforting spirit be ever near these loved ones. We thank Elder Bro. Art Bahler and Bro. Dennis Rassi (Fairbury) for taking part in the funeral service.

We are always thankful for ministers who visit and so willingly share God's Word with us. We appreciate that Bro. John Laukhuf (Latty, OH) recently spent a Sunday with us.

May God grant much grace to Jodi Ifft (Bro. Larry and Sis. Shirley) who has answered His call to repentance. Our prayer is that she can build a firm foundation.

Arriving on his late Uncle Dale's birthday, September 7, Philip Dale was born to Bro. Jeff and Sis. Stephanie Zimmerman. Also welcoming him are big brother, Thadd, and grandparents, Bro. Glen and Sis. Mildred Zimmerman and Bro. Eldon and Sis. Marge Waibel.

Spending time in the hospital have been Sis. Kim Kupferschmid, Bro. Eldon Waibel, Bro. John Schmidgall and Julie Shambrook

(Mark). May God grant His healing powers to each one.

We welcome Bro. Matt Koehl (Bro. Ron and Sis. Carol, Sarasota, FL) as he worships with us while staying with his grandparents, Bro. Leroy and Sis. Janita Koehl, during his last year of high school.

Bro. Ray and Sis. Doris Steffen wish to express their true and sincere thanks for the many deeds of kindness shown to them during Ray's extended illness, and also for all the beautiful cards and gifts for their 45th wedding anniversary. Your love will always be remembered. They humbly ask God's blessing on each one.

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD

Barb Brim

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,"

How thankful we are for that "lively inheritance" in heaven, more priceless than any worldly treasure! Let us all strive to pass this most valuable of all inheritances on to our children and friends of the truth, so we may all share in His rich blessings.

Our Goodfield congregation was pleased to learn of the engagement of our Sis. Erika Hart (Bro. Bill and Sis. Terry) to Bro. Brad Leman (Bro. Dale and Sis. Mary, Congerville). We wish you God's grace and direction along this new path you will be taking together.

We were also happy to share the joy of two dear friends at their marriage this summer. To Kity Roth (Roy and Sis. Corrine) and Ross Herman (Bro. Walt and Sis. Betty, Francesville, IN), we extend our congratulations and best wishes on your new life together.

Audrey Rokey, one of our new converts, is doing well after surgery and we wish her God's blessings for a speedy recovery.

Our church seems somewhat

emptier now with Sunday school back in session We truly are grateful for all the brothers and sisters who so generously spend their time teaching and guiding these precious souls towards the light of Jesus Christ.

Our congregation felt the loss of our dear sister, Norma Bauman, as she passed on this month. Yet we know that her soul is now truly in His light and we rejoice that her battle is complete. To Bro. Lou and all her dear family, may God bless you and keep you thru this trying time.

Card of Thanks: We would like to thank everyone for their cards, flowers, prayers, and kind words of comfort since the passing of our dear one. May God bless each one.

Lou Bauman,
Larry & Betty Bauman,
Raymond & Twyla Meyer,
George & Charlyn Meyer,
Lawrence & Elaine Wagenbach.

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY Perry A. Klopfenstein

"My son, forget not my law: but let thine heart keep my commandments; For length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee."

Proverbs 3:1, 2

One who benefitted from the above words from the Bible was Bro. Joe Rinkenberger, 104, who passed away August 27. He lived a long and full life, and counted it a privilege to be in the household of faith.

A man of optimism and friendliness, he and his wife of 72 years (Sis. Ida, who died May 14, 1986) raised 12 children on a farm south of Gridley. His life of hard work, duty to family, charity and faith reflected a heart that loved and served God.

He is survived by 206 relatives, including 39 grandchildren, 100 great-grandchildren and 55 great-great-grandchildren. His immediate survivors are Sis. Marie Meyer (Eureka), Sis. Esther Kaupp (Gridley), Sisters Ruth Lowery and Dorothy Harsh (Bloomington), Verna Harsh (Normal) and Eleanor

King (Pewaukee, WI); five sons, Melvin (Sebring, FL), Orville and Bro. Lynn (Gridley), Raymond (Tremont) and David (Plato City, IL). His brother, Christian Rinkenberger, with whom he roomed at the Eureka church home also survives.

Bro. Jake and Sis. Schlipf are the parents of a daughter, Kayla Jo, born July 5. She has an older brother, Jacob. Children are an heritage of the Lord!

Bro. Larry Kiefer was injured and suffered a broken arm while making hay on his farm. He fell off a hay wagon.

Hospital patients have been Sis. Vi Hany and Aaron Kinder. Bro. Kenneth Meiss is seriously ill and is being cared for in his home.

On August 29, we enjoyed the messages of ministering Bros. Dennis Kaufmann (Bloomington) and Jon Zeller (Morton).

ILLINOIS, MORTON Phyllis Farney Cheryl Wuthrich

We wish to extend God's richest blessing to Bro. Fred Hermann and Sis. Ella Geiger at the announcement of their engagement. May God continue to bless them in their life together.

September 12 was the wedding day for Sis. Donna Tanner (Bro. Lawrence and Sis. Annette) and Bro. Ted Witzig (Bro. Ted and Sis. Cindy), all of Morton. We rejoice that another Godly home has been set up; one whose purpose is to serve the Lord.

Henry Schock was called into eternity September 8. We are saddened by this loss but rejoice that he was able to make peace with God before his death. May the Lord comfort his son, William; his daughters, Nancy Barnes and Rita Strunk; his brother, Bro. Levi; his sisters, Sis. Katherine Roecker, Sis. Eileen Hermann, Eldeen Mitchell and Sis. Florence Guthrie; and his six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Robert Ackerman died September 15 at the age of 77. May God's arms of comfort surround his family at this sudden loss. Surviving are his wife, Emma (Joos); two sons,

Bro. Roger Ackerman and Donald Ackerman; three daughters, Roberta Beutel, Diane Peterson and Elaine Barth; his brother, Melvin; three sisters, Viola Perdelwitz, Velma Kerr and Lanora Fort; and 14 grandchildren.

We wish to thank our visiting ministers that were with us this month. We are always blessed by those who are willing to serve. They were Bro. Doug Sabo (Sarasota, FL), Bro. Greg Rassi (Chicago, IL), Bro. Tom Hoffman (Roanoke, IL) and Bro. Dennis Hoffman (Bloomington-Normal, IL).

Correction: In the July Silver Lining issue, it should have read, "Our new lamb is Bro. Melvin Baum . . ." (not Wayne).

ILLINOIS, PEORIA Cara Nussbaum

As summer gives way to fall, we see many changes about us, especially outside as the leaves turn different colors and create a special kind of beauty. We rejoice with five more souls who have changed hearts and were able to give their testimonies Saturday, August 11, and were baptized Sunday. They were Wes Hoerr (Bro. Jack and Sis. Jody), Courtney and Kristi Hoerr (Bro. Joe and Sis. Jo Anne), Mindy Hoerr (Bro. Bob and Sis. Myrna) and Lisa Schock (Bro. Rich and Sis. Jan).

Peoria welcomes three new babies. Mark and Sis. Pam Fritzenmeier are happy to welcome a baby boy, Dustin Mark, to their family. Dustin was born August 6 and joins sisters, Monica and Sandra, at home. Grandparents are Bro. David and Sis. Shirley Kieser (Bradford) and Robert and Delores Heilman (Lena, IL).

On August 18, Brett Neil was born to Bro. Carl and Sis. Debbie Hoerr. Welcoming him home were Ryan, Cassie, Kary, Abby and Polly. His grandparents are Bro. Carl and Sis. Evelyn Hoerr and Bro. Bill and Sis. Joyce Waibel, both of Peoria. Then on August 26, Anna Elizabeth arrived to Bro. Jim and Sis. Julie Barth. She is joined at home by Laura, Trenton and Peter. Her grandparents are Bro. Morris and Sis. Ida Mae Barth (Roanoke) and

Bro. John and Sis. Dorothy Hoerr (Peoria). May God give wisdom to these parents as they raise these little ones.

Announcing engagements recently were Bro. John Hoerr (Bro. John and Sis. Dorothy) and Sis. Serena Sauder (Bro. David and Sis. Rita Sauder); and also Sis. Kim Schafer (Sis. Barb) and Bro. John Hangartner (Jerry and Sis. Melba, Tremont, IL). We rejoice with them as they plan their weddings.

We were saddened to learn of the death of Sis. Louise Martin, a resident at our home. We extend our sympathy to her family. We also ask a special blessing upon Bro. Edwin Staub and his family, following the death of his wife, Sis. Emma. We trust God will comfort and console as only He can do.

Hospitalized patients recently were Bro. Tom Martin, Sis. Donna Ferrero, Bro. Leland Swadley, Otha and Sis. Emma Eshelman, Sis. Leona Race, Sis. Gladys Binkele, Bro. Ed Hoerr, Bro. Howard Musselman and Bro. Ken Ober. May God's healing hand be on each one.

We want to thank the following ministers who visited us recently. They are Elder Bro. Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO), who assisted with testimonies and baptisms; Bro. Floyd Schmidgall (Morris, MN); Bro. Jay Rinkenberger (Goodfield, IL); Bro. Marshall Heinold (Washington, IL), who gave a presentation on finances for the September "Family Night"; and Bro. Andy Moser (Valparaiso, IN). May they continually feel the presence of the Holy Spirit as they bring forth the Word of God.

As Sunday school is back in session, please remember the children and the teachers in prayer, that the seeds that are planted may continue to grow.

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE Martha Jane Siebenthal

We thank Bros. Everett Hari (Bloomington), Al Langhofer (Wichita, KS), Dale Moore (Elgin, IA) and Howard Plattner (Alto, MI) for visiting us and sharing God's Word with us. We appreciate their labors of love on our behalf.

Bro. Keith and Sis. Lisa Knobloch are the happy parents of their first girl, Alisha Marie. She is welcomed home by two brothers, Devon and Austin and thankful grandparents, Bro. Nick and Sis. Gladys Knobloch and Bro. Bob and Sis. Norma Pfledderer (Francesville, IN). Bro. Bruce and Sis. Mary Stoller are the happy parents of another daughter, Alivia Renae. Rachael and Kendall welcome her as thankful grandparents, Elder Bro. Joe and Sis. Emily Stoller and Bro. Al and Sis. Judy Langhofer (Wichita, KS). Thankful grandmother of Erica Witzig (Bro. Fred and Sis. Nancy, Altadena, CA) is Sis. Janet Martin. She spent a couple months with her daughter and family as Erica was premature.

"Whoso findeth a wife, findeth a good thing." (Proverbs 18:22) Bro. Brent Graham (Bro. Richard and Sis. Jeanette) and Sis. Debbie Stahl (Bro. Lyle and Sis. Betty) were united in marriage August 22. May they look to God for their help in this important commitment to marriage as they establish a Christian home.

Our prayer for God's healing power for those who suffer the infirmities of the flesh. Hospitalized this month were Sis. Esther Kieser (Bro. George) for surgery, Bro. Alan Herrmann (Sis. Rose), surgery, Bro. John Joos, Sis. Leila Elsasser, Sis. Kathy Streitmatter (Bro. Floren and Sis. Twylla), Sis. Wilma Martin, surgery, and Bro. John Leuthold (Sis. Shirley) spent some time at Mayo Clinic. May God grant each a speedy recovery.

Our sincere sympathy goes to the family of Bro. Herman Stahl. Surviving are his wife, Sis. Lillian; a son, Dean; and daughters, Diane and Sis. Jackie Rumbold (Bro. Ronald); ten grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Some time back Bro. Herman had a stroke. May the Lord fill the vacant place with His love and mercy.

Dear brothers, sisters and beloved friends,

We want to thank each and every one for your prayers, lovely cards, visits, gifts, phone calls, food and many offers to help in any way during my recent hospital stay and

since I am home. The prayers, all the love which was shown and the good will wishes meant so much. May our heavenly Father bless each one of you for your love and kindness. Love,

Herman and Lillian Stahl

Thank you:

The family of Helen Baer would like to express their sincere thanks for the love, gifts, prayers and cards received during the illness of their mother. May God bless you for all your deeds of kindness and expressions of sympathy at her passing.

We wish to express our sincere sympathy to the family of Sis. Louise Martin. She leaves to mourn one sister, Sis. Mary Scholl; her daughter; a niece, Sis. Mary Lou Scholl; nephew, Bro. Charles Hemmer (Peoria) and many other nieces and nephews.

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

Annie Leman - Cathy Hohulin

Our hearts rejoice in the good news that two more souls have sought the Lord in repentance. They are Kenny Stoller (son of Bro. Rich and Sis. Barb Stoller) and Jeff Hodel (son of Bro. Rich and Sis. Kathy Hodel).

August 8 was a joyous day for Bro. Wilmer and Sis. Sylvia Blunier, as they were in Phoenix, AZ, to witness the baptism of their son and his wife, Bro. Ray and Sis. Wendy Blunier.

Sis. Sandy Leman has answered a call to serve at the Children's Home as a houseparent. Our thoughts and prayers go with her as she relocates in Leo, IN.

Bro. Bill and Sis. Mary Ann Klaus have also relocated to Fort Lauderdale, FL, where the climate is better for their health.

Bro. Jim and Sis. Julie Barth are the happy parents of Anna Elizabeth, born August 26. Her sister, Laura, brothers, Trenton and Peter, and grandparents, Bro. Morris and Sis. Ida Mae Barth (Roanoke) and Bro. John and Sis. Dorothy Hoerr (Peoria) also welcome her.

Our hearts grieve over the sudden and unexpected death of Samuel Hodel, 41 (Roanoke). We extend our love and prayers to his family, his wife, Robin; daughters,

Mandy and Andrea; mother, Sis. Margaret; one brother, Bro. Ken; and three sisters, Edith Yordy, Sis. Nancy Gingrich and Lucy Koehler.

On September 17, Bro. Ed Fritz (Washington) came for Bible study and spoke about the "Second Coming of Christ." Elder Bro. Wesley Knapp (Goodfield) spoke at a Sunday school teachers' dinner September 11. Bro. Marvin Lemman (Bradford) was also a recent visitor. We thank these brothers for giving of their time and talent.

We pray for healing and renewed strength to Sisters Ruth Hodel and Wilma Sauder and Bro. Jim Martin, who were recent hospital patients.

ILLINOIS, TREMONT

Barbara Dill - Marsha Koch

How thankful we are that Connie Schweigert (Dan) and Bro. Earl Sauder have recovered after their recent surgery and are able to assemble with us again.

Our hospital patients this month are Bro. George Lang and Sis. Royaldine Hodel (Bro. Bob). We ask that God will grant a good measure of added strength and grace to these loved ones.

On September 12, we heard the engagement of our Bro. Jon Hangartner (Jerry and Sis. Melba Hangartner) to Sis. Kim Schafer (Sis. Barbara Schafer, Peoria, IL and Keith Schafer). May God's blessings be with them as they walk hand in hand with God.

August 21 was a special day for Kathleen Dill (Bro. Glenn and Sis. Marilyn Dill) and Greg Getz (Susan Getz and the late James Getz) as they were joined in marriage. May they feel God's nearness as they begin their life together.

We extend our deepest sympathy to Cleda and Ray Rinkenberger in the recent loss of Cleda's mother, Alice Farris (Fairfield, IL) and Ray's father, Bro. Joseph Rinkenberger (Gridley, IL).

Our sympathy also goes to Bro. George and Sis. Phyllis Lang and George and Grace Schmidgall in the passing of their brother, Neil Lang (Tampa, FL).

There is joy in the home of Bro.

Kyle and Sis. Tanya Dill with the arrival of Kayla Lynn, born August 28. Her sister, Kylie, and grandparents, Bro. Ken and Sis. Sandy Dill and Archie Jr. and Jackie Martin welcome her home. A precious little bundle arrived August 30 to Bro. Stan and Sis. Jennifer Koch with the birth of their daughter, Jessica Lorraine. She was welcomed home by sisters, Elizabeth and Mary, and a brother, Jerad, grandparents, Bro. George and Sis. Phyllis Lang and Bro. Ralph and Sis. Matilda Koch. Bro. Mike and Sis. Michelle Oswald rejoice with the birth of their second son, Caleb Daniel, born September 14. He was welcomed home by a brother, Jeremy, and grandparents, Bro. Marshall and Sis. Phyllis Holmes and Don Jr. and Marcielle Oswald.

Our Sis. Ann Aberle is now a resident at Apostolic Christian Restmore (Morton, IL).

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

Sue Rupert

Denise Romersberger

Sis. Denise Fritz, daughter of Bro. Ed and Sis. Sally (Witzig) Fritz, has been announced for engagement to Bro. Dan Weerts, son of Bro. Ken and Sis. Myrna Weerts (Cissna Park). We wish them God's blessings for a happy marriage. May the Lord continue to be the center of their lives. The power of prayer is our link to the Lord.

Bro. Ron Messner, husband of Sis. Pam (Frank), has been selected through much prayer to become a minister of our church. The church has in unison voted to support his ministry.

We were saddened by the death of Charles Hall, father of Chuck and Sis. Becky Hall.

"Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort;

"Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God."

II Corinthians 1:3, 4

We were once again able to praise the Lord for saving two souls. We witnessed the testimony and baptism of Keith Teubel and his wife, Jill (Elsasser) Teubel. It is comforting to know the Lord is still calling people to His kingdom. Our continual prayer goes out for the unconverted. We pray the Lord never grows weary with His calling.

This month we were very fortunate to have many guest ministers. Elder Bro. Don Sauder (Roanoke, IL), Elder Bro. Chuck Hemmer (Peoria, IL), Bro. Glenn Dill (Tremont, IL), Bro. Art Baurer (Princeville, IL) and Elder Bro. Joe Braker (Morton, IL). Thank you again, brothers, for your sermons in which you submitted to allowing God to teach us with truth and purity.

Bible study was provided by Bro. Steve Martin (Eureka, IL) it was very informative. God always provides for our each and every need.

Hospitalized were Sis. Emily Simon, Sis. Jane Orr and Sis. Martha McGough. We wish for them a speed recovery. The Lord be with each one as they deal with their illnesses.

Sis. Emily Simon sends these wishes. "May God bless all who came to visit me in the hospital and also since returning home. Thank you for your prayers and gifts of love."

INDIANA, BLUFFTON

Jaci Gerber - Jill Fiechter

Bro. Kurt and Sis. Angie Ifer welcomed their new daughter, Naomi Elizabeth, August 30. Her grandparents are Bro. Chuck and Sis. Marie Frauhiger and Bro. Frank and Sis. Ruth Ifer (Bluffton North).

Also on August 30, Bro. Ed and Sis. Denise Steffen had a new daughter that they named Sheena Marie. Grandparents are Bro. Ray and Sis. Amelia Heyerly and Sis. Marie Steffen.

On September 3, Logan Ray as born to Bro. Jerry and Sis. Jodi Reinhard. He is welcomed home by Clint and Audrey and grandparents, Bro. Dave and Sis. Maxine Ringger and Bro. Ezra Reinhard.

We rejoice with Bro. Gene and

Sis. Darlene Reinhard over the birth of their daughter, Jami Lou. Jami was born September 14 and joins her brothers, Matt, Ryan, Zach and Nick. Grandparents are Bro. Ernie and Sis. Lucille Isch and Bro. Alphonse and Sis. Lucille Reinhard.

September 12 was the wedding day of Bro. Bill Carrico and Sis. Heidi Kaehr. Their parents are Patrick and Sis. Shirley Carrico (Bluffton North) and Bro. Lyle and Sis. Connie Kaehr.

Sis. Tonia Schwartz and Bro. Doug Isch have announced their engagement. Their parents are Elder Bro. Ed and Sis. Jeni Schwartz and Bro. Hubert and Sis. Judy Isch. We wish these couples rich blessings and many happy years together.

We are grateful to have had six visiting ministers share the Word with us this month. They were Bro. John Steiner (Oakville, IA), Bro. Vernon Wettstein (Congerville, IL), Bro. Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville, IL), Bro. Dennis Kaufman (Bloomington, IL), Elder Bro. Phil Stettner (Bluffton North) and Bro. Steve Frauhiger (Bluffton North).

Those spending time in the hospital have been Bro. Sylvan Gerber (Sis. Mary), Jason Fiechter (Bro. Dave and Sis. June), Sis. Frances Kaehr, Bro. Russell Steffen (Sis. Alice), Bro. Scott DeHoff (Sis. Rita) and Bro. Steve Reinhard (Sis. Renee). Our thoughts and prayers are with these loved ones.

August 28 was a special day for Bro. Bob and Sis. Ida Aschliman and Bro. Harold and sis. Lou Aschliman. They celebrated the anniversary of their double wedding which took place fifty years ago. May God continue to bless them.

Our prayers of encouragement are extended to Robby Parker (Karen Bailey) and Lana Ringger (Bro. Al and Sis. Sheryl) who have begun their walk with the Lord.

We want to remind the Bluffton subscribers that we will be collecting for the Silver Lining the first two Sundays in November.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON NORTH Susan Harris - Kay Steffen

"Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth laborers into his harvest."

Matthew 9:38

We were blessed in Bluffton August 30 by the ministry of Bro. Gary Bucher (Valparaiso, IN). He encouraged us to never give up. God never quits, so why should we? We need to trust in God.

We wish God's blessings on newly engaged Sis. Michelle Cupp (Bro. Mick and Sis. Connie) and Bro. Brad Zimmer (Bro. Jim and Sis. Cheryl). We rejoice with them.

We rejoice with Sis. Heidi Kaehr (Bro. Lyle and Sis. Connie) and Bro. Bill Carrico (Patrick and Sis. Shirley). On September 12 they were united in marriage. May God continue to bless them as they begin their life together.

We are thankful for the recovery of those who have been hospitalized this month. Sis. Wanda Gerber (Bro. Wendell), Sis. Goldie Kipfer (Bro. Art) and Bro. Ray Gerber (Sis. Ida). We continue to pray for God's healing hand to be upon them.

Many enjoyed a 50th wedding anniversary for Bro. Vernon and Sis. Mary Anne Kaehr. Their anniversary was September 4 and a reception was held September 12, given by their children and grandchildren at Christian Care.

We, in the Bluffton area, were host of College Weekend October 9 and 10. We had a beautiful and blessed weekend get together.

As we look outdoors and see the leaves start to turn color and the farmers are harvesting their crops, we know that autumn has arrived. This poem seems to be a true reflection of autumn.

SIGNS OF AUTUMN

Golden pumpkins, shocks of corn,
Smoky eves and frosty morn;
Ripened apples bending down,
Milkweed pods of silken down;
How fair to see the forest trees
Arrayed so bright with gorgeous
leaves;
Chrysanthemums in grand display,

And bittersweet along the way -
All of these and more make
Autumn.

Bro. Henry Beer

Reminder: November is the month for Bluffton North's collection of dues. Please pay one of your reporters the first and second Sunday of November. Thank you.

INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE Bev Huber

On August 22, Sis. Melissa Huber and Bro. Greg Baumgartner were united in marriage. We wish them God's blessings in their life together. Parents are Bro. Gene and Sis. Barb Huber and Bro. Herman and Sis. Mary Baumgartner (Bluffton North).

Sis. Carolyn Gutwein wishes to announce her engagement to Bro. Mitch Leman (Bradford, IL). Their parents are Edwin and Mary B. Gutwein and Bro. Marvin and Sis. Jane Leman (Bradford, IL).

Steven Paul Emch was born to Bro. James and Sis. Gina August 30. Amy and Brent are thankful for a brother to love and care for. Grandparents are Bro. Gene and Sis. Barb Huber and Bro. Jerry and Sis. Kathy Emch (Phoenix, AZ).

On September 9, Bro. Dale and Sis. Teri Pelsy were blessed with a son, Sean Christopher. Sisters, Amy and Erin, will take good care of him. Bro. Ellsworth and Sis. Luella Pelsy and Gene and Dorothy Polf (Pine Village, IN) are the grandparents.

Aaron Gutwein, son of Bro. Mike and Sis. Melody Gutwein was announced for peace. We look forward to baptism in the near future.

Our prayers continue to be with Sis. Millie Clauss (Bro. Bob) and Bro. Wayne Huber (Sis. Carol) as they have spent time in the hospital.

We were blessed with many visiting ministers this past month. Bros. Ron Bollier (Indianapolis, IN), Marvin Leman (Bradford, IN), Wayne Lehman (South Bend, IN), Neal Widmer (Wolcott, IN), Harold Schmidgall (Gridley, IL) and Elder Bro. Akito Inoue (Tokyo, Japan). We appreciate their efforts and labors of love.

INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS Miriam Gudeman

"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above . . ."

James 1:17

Bro. Tim and Sis. Mim Gudeman are so happy to announce the birth of their daughter, Megan Elise. Her long awaited arrival was August 6. Megan's grandparents are Bro. Jim and Sis. Lois Gudeman (Francesville) and Sis. Barbara and the late Bro. Dave Wuethrich (Francesville). With thankful hearts we praise our heavenly Father for His goodness and faithfulness!

Our congregation has been blessedly growing, not only because of the recent arrival of our little miracles, but a few couples have decided to make Indy their home. We are so excited to welcome Bro. Jerry and Sis. Doreen Leuthold with their daughter, Kaylin, to our family. They are originally from Princeville, IL, and have just recently moved here from Kansas. Also, we want to warmly welcome our newly-wedded couples, Bro. Greg and Sis. Missy Baungartner, united in marriage August 22 in Francesville, and our dear friends, Kurtis and Angela (Callahan) Anliker, who were united September 18. We are so happy to have each of them here in Indy, and may God bless their lives together as they settle into their new and happy homes.

Our annual Sunday School Picnic was held September 19. God blessed us with such a lovely day of fun and fellowship. Thanks to all those who came to share in it.

Our dear Bros. Lance and Jim Bucher were taken up recently in their home church of Valparaiso. We rejoice with them and their families as they commit their new lives to Christ Jesus! We are so fortunate to have them here in Indy as they continue with their schooling.

Our hearts and prayers go out to Bro. Bob and Sis. Millie Clauss (Francesville) as Sis. Millie has been hospitalized here in Indy the past few weeks. May God grant her healing for a quick and complete recovery. Bro. Bob and Sis.

Millie are aunt and uncle to our Bro. Greg and Sis. Lisa Stieglitz.

We appreciate our visiting ministers, Bro. Chris Wuethrich (Francesville) and Bro. Gene Lehman (Wolcott), for sharing the Word with us this past month. May God continue to inspire His teachings in you!

INDIANA, LACROSSE Judy Gudeman

"When pure and upright hearts,

By flames of love ignited,
Are by the bond of faith

More firmly yet united,
The light of hope beams forth

In radiance far and nigh,
Invites us to partake

The blessings from on high."

Zion's Harp #79, vs. 1

September 19 was the wedding date for Sis. Rebecca Gudeman (Bro. Don and Sis. Mary) and Bro. Lonny Moser (Mansfield, OH) Bro. Phil and Sis. Jean, Bluffton, IN). It was a very blessed day with a moving wedding service. May God continue to bless their union with much happiness. "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).

Thanks to the visiting ministers this past month (all but one visiting for the wedding): Bros. Kevin Banwart (West Bend, IA), Doyle Frauhiger (Bluffton North, IN), Sam Schlatter (Junction, OH), Dan Stoller (Remington, IN), Larry Wenninger (Latty, OH), Nelson Beer (Milford, IN) and Mark Masters (Mansfield, OH). Thanks also to Elder Bro. Phil Stettner (Bluffton North, IN) for his service.

INDIANA, LEO Judy Gehring

We, here at Leo, had such a blessed month. We had the blessed privilege of having three visiting brothers. Bro. Ron Bollier (Indianapolis) came home to his parents, Bro. Jack and Sis. Velma, for a family reunion.

Last Sunday we had showers of blessings delivered to us through

Bro. Wil Schieler (Milford, IN) and Bro. Randy Gasser (Detroit, MI) He is Bro. Oliver and Sis. Emma Jean Stieglitz's son-in-law. Our church was so uplifted through these humble brothers. We all joined together at the fellowship center for a potluck and singing.

With great anticipation, we are looking forward to the baptisms of four dear souls the last Sunday in October. They are Shane Stieglitz (son of Bro. Steve and Sis. Jane Stieglitz), Jaret Wieland (son of Bro. Brace and Sis. Brenda Wieland), Kevin Stoller (son of Bro. John and Sis. Patsy Stoller) and Rebecca Kellenberger (daughter of Bro. Doug and Sue Kellenberger). Think of the angels rejoicing in heaven.

Bro. Eugene Stoller is in the hospital recovering from surgery. His spirits are high. Dear Sis. Minerva was with him as we visited. It is so blessed to visit with them and to see their steadfastness and trust in our living Lord and Savior. What a testimony and encouraging visit it was for me. God bless you both.

We had our Sunday school election. Our new teachers are Sis. Rachel Fessenden, Bro. Paul Fischer and Bro. Brace Wieland. May God richly bless Bro. John and Sis. Becky Maggart for touching the lives of our children.

Camp Mack is this coming Sunday. May our dear youth listen, become convicted and turn to our dear Lord and Savior. Thank you to all the brothers and sisters who put forth so much effort for this day. May many fruits be shown and lives changed.

INDIANA, MILFORD Judy Longcor Marguerite Hoerr

Instead of regular midweek services, members of the Milford congregation have been listening to tapes of the brotherhood conference during the month of September.

We feel it's necessary to think of our college students who have gone off to their various campuses, and to remember them in our prayers. Bros. Jeremy Price and Rod Steffen have entered Purdue

University in West Lafayette. Sis. Trischa Wuthrich is enrolled at the Fort Wayne Campus of I.U.P.U.; as are Sisters Heidi Lehman and Michelle Schieler. Vanessa Pamer is attending Grace College in Warsaw. Sis. Lisa Mikel has returned to Ball State University; and Matt Haab to Indiana University in Bloomington.

Bro. Don Beer was admitted to Cleveland Clinic for treatment. We're thankful to God for answered prayers in that the treatment was successful and he and Sis. Ruth were back home and in church again.

Tim and Angie Troup and their daughter, Holly, were visiting his parents, Bro. Bill and Sis. Ann, this past month. Tim is with the Air Force and is stationed in Montana. While here, little Holly became quite ill and had to be hospitalized. Again, we're thankful for modern medicine and God's healing powers. She is well again and they were able to go on with the rest of their trip, visiting Angie's relatives in the South.

At this time, Chad Beer is spending time at Riley Hospital for medical treatment. Reports are that he is feeling better and that he took his school books with him so the tutors at Riley can keep him current with his studies. Once again we ask for prayers for Chad, who has remained a stalwart young man when hospital stays are necessary.

We were favored with three visiting ministers in one Sunday this past month. Bros. Gary Tonner, Ron Kipfer and John Reinhard of Bluffton. Their messages gave inspiration to our Milford congregation, and we thank them for their visit. We also are grateful to Bro. Phil and Sis. Gloria Kaehr for inviting them. Phil and Gloria have purchased a lake home in our area and have been attending our church all summer. We feel blessed by their presence in our congregation.

INDIANA, REMINGTON
Amelia Schini

"The eyes of the Lord are in ev-

ery place, beholding the evil and the good."

Proverbs 15:3

I like this verse because it tells me God is always observing me.

This past month we had the following visitors: Bro. Fred Domka (Mansfield, OH), Bro. Marshall Heinold (Washington, IL), Bro. Paul Gasser (Akron, OH) and Bro. Al Langhofer (Wichita, KS). We thank all of you brothers for your visit.

I was thinking one day, why is it we enjoy the visiting ministry so much when we already have our faithful ministers who bring us the Word every Sunday? That led me to comparing it to my meals. Variety of tastes add extra enjoyment to a meal. So it is when we have visiting ministers. They still bring us the same basics but served up a different way. This is one of the many fringe benefits we have in our Apostolic Christian Church.

Thought for the day: The highest pinnacle of Spiritual Life is not happy joy in unbroken sunshine, but absolute and undoubting trust in the Love of God.

Anonymous

INDIANA, VALPARAISO
Ken and Cindy Susdorf

In Jesus' name, greetings to all our dear brothers, sisters and friends. Once again the Lord has provided us with yet another blessed month and we are very grateful.

We have heard another wonderful testimony of how Jesus has worked in an individual's life and then witnessed the baptism of Bro. Jim Bucher (Bro. Gary and Sis. Lois). We thank Elder Bros. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott, IN) and Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL) for their labors of love in this new birth. We pray that the Lord will bless and comfort Bro. Jim as he begins this new walk of life.

Other visiting ministers this month were Elder Bros. Akito Inoue (Tokyo, Japan) and Wendell Gudeman (Francesville, IN). Also Bros. Ron Bollier (Indianapolis, IN), Nile Bucher (Bluffton North, IN), Arnold Gerst (Taylor, MO), Curt

Heimer (Alto, MI), Dan Stoller (Remington, IN) and Ken Wuethrich (Indianapolis, IN). Our heartfelt thanks to all you dear brothers for helping to make our month such a blessing. Our prayer is that the Lord will watch over and continue to bless you and your families. We are also thankful that over all these miles traveled everyone arrived and got home safely.

Hospitalized in this last month were Sis. Carol Bucher (Bro. Ken) and Sis. Leona Bucher (Bro. Merle). May the Lord bless both as they are recovering. It's amazing how the medical profession can get us back on our feet again. We know this is done through the hand of God and pray He will richly bless doctors, nurses and all those involved.

Our hearts are with Sis. Marilyn Zeltwanger (Bro. Lyle) at the passing of her father this past month. We pray God will be mightily with all family members and especially Marilyn's mother, as she is without her mate now.

Bro. Terry and Sis. Bev Miller are going to Florida for a period of time. We pray the Lord will take good care of them as they are very dear to us.

As you can see, we've had both joyous and sad times this month just as you have probably had also. Isn't it wonderful how God's love can keep us going as life goes on? And isn't it also good to know that even though we are not perfect and make mistakes, God will continue to watch over and bless us if we'll just do our part and stay close to Him. How long has it been since you've thanked the Lord for these privileges we have? Our lives are very busy but let's remember from whence our strength cometh and give thanks to the Lord.

We wish you all a blessed month to come if the Lord tarries. Come and worship the Lord with us if you're in the area.

INDIANA, WOLCOTT
Lorna Knapp - Lynell Blume

We were blessed with many visitors this month, including ministering Bro. Al Langhofer (Wichita, KS), Bro. Ron Heiniger (Bloom-

ington, IL), Bro. Paul Gasser (Akron, OH), Bro. Marshall Heinold (Washington, IL) and Elder Bro. Dennis Warner (Lester, IA). We appreciate these brothers laboring on our behalf. How thankful we can be when we hear the Word spoken plainly. "For if the trumpet give an uncertain sound, who shall prepare himself to the battle?" (I Corinthians 14:8)

Phillip Kyburz (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Nancy) is engaged to be married to Angela McCarthy (Mr. and Mrs. John Mohn). We wish them God's blessings and welcome Angela into our fellowship.

IOWA, BURLINGTON

Jana Massner - Carolyn Wulf

We rejoice with Sis. Jana Massner (Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Edith) on the announcement of her engagement to Bro. Jerome Metzger (Bro. Gene and Sis. Delores, Lester). May God richly bless them as they make wedding plans and look forward to being one-in-Christ.

Our prayers are certainly with Bro. Herb Gray, Ada Drasil and Bro. Paul Eisenmann, as they recently experienced afflictions of the body. May our heavenly Father comfort each one and grant health again as He wills.

We think also of our school children as they start another year. May God watch over them and keep them from the evil of this present time.

IOWA, ELGIN

Gloria Frieden

Contentment - According to Webster, is to be satisfied and happy. A feeling, I believe, we all want to enjoy. As we listened to the conference tapes, we were reminded that we can find this contentment by being obedient to God's commandments and the teachings of our Lord.

As summer comes to a close, and we watch the leaves turn shades of red and orange, may we appreciate all the beauty God gives us to enjoy.

The past few weeks we have missed seeing some familiar faces in church. Due to ill health, Sis.

Adeline Lehman, Sis. Eleanor Butikofer and Edwin Frieden haven't been able to assemble with us. We are thankful that God knows their needs and is the Healer of body and soul.

We are happy for Sandy Butikofer (Bro. Al and Sis. LaVerne) who has found peace and is looking forward to baptism.

IOWA, LESTER

Cindy Leuthold - Sue Warner

We're thankful each time God's precious Word is shared with us. Our visiting ministers this past month included Bros. Russell Wuthrich (Pulaski, IA), Carl Wyss (Washington, IL), Virgil Metzger (Chicago, IL), Nate Stoller (Bradford, IL) and Alphi Moser (Morris, MN). We pray that God will bless each faithful servant.

We extend sincere sympathy to Josie Feucht (Paul) on the death of her brother, John VanEngen (Ireton, IA).

We also extend sympathy to the families of Bro. August and Bro. Martin Knoblock on the death of their sister-in-law, Dorothy Knoblock (Bro. Paul, Tucson, AZ). May God comfort those who sorrow.

We wish a special blessing on Sis. Luann Metzger (Bro. Fred, Jr. and Sis. Esty), whose engagement to Bro. Aaron Schmidgall (Bro. Ron and Sis. Jane, Oakville, IA) was recently made known. They plan to be married November 21.

We also rejoice with Bro. Jerome Metzger (Bro. Eugene and Sis. Delores), who is betrothed to Sis. Jana Massner (Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Edith, Burlington, IA). May God be near these two dear couples as they plan for their future together.

Hospital patients this month were Sis. Cindy Leuthold, Sis. Vicki Leuthold, Reed Metzger (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Jolene), Gwen Meyer (Bro. George and Sis. Charlyn) and little Brent Leuthold (Bro. Doug and Charlene). We are thankful they are all home again, and pray for their continued healing.

On September 7, Bro. Ernst and Sis. Ella Metzger were married for 60 years. Most of their 15 children,

and many other family members, friends and brethren came from near and far to share a blessed day with them September 5. May God continue to bless them.

Once again the school year has begun. As we encourage our beloved children to seek their education, let us remember that the most important teaching job of all is up to us, with God's help. May He grant us all the grace we need to be an example, and the wisdom to teach our children as He commands us, ". . . to love the Lord your God and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul." (Deuteronomy 11:13)

IOWA, OAKVILLE

Debbie Wagenbach

Melody Steiner

We want to thank Bro. Bill Gerst (Alto, MI) for visiting our congregation and ministering to us. May the Lord bless him and his family for spending the day with us.

"And the Lord God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him."

Genesis 2:18

We've recently learned of the engagements of Bro. Aaron Schmidgall (Bro. Ron and Sis. Jane) to Sis. Luanne Metzger (Bro. Fred and Sis. Esther, Lester) and Bro. Keith Pflum (Bro. Lyle and Sis. Marian) to Sis. Tammy Grimm (Elder Bro. Roy and Sis. Donna, Taylor, MO). Our prayers and thoughts are with these dear couples as they make preparations for their upcoming weddings.

Rejoicing that the Lord has blessed their family with another little daughter are Bro. Tom and Sis. Mary Lanz. They have named her Alyssa Dawn. Big sister, Kelsey, is happy for a new little playmate. Also thankful for her safe arrival are her grandparents, Elder Bro. Ed and Sis. Joan Lanz and John and Sis. Marilyn Wagenbach. We just greatly rejoice every time a new little baby arrives in our congregation. It seems so refreshing to see their innocence.

IOWA, PULASKI
Carol Wettstein
Ernestine Wuthrich

After a brief summer due to unusual weather conditions of many rainy, cloudy days our children are once again back in school. With our children's welfare our main concern we must become knowledgeable with what information are children are being taught. With a prayer upon hearts may help our children search for the truth.

Our visiting ministers for the past month have been Elder Bros. Ed Lanz (Oakville IA) and Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI and Bro. John Rowell (Burlington IA). It was our blessings to hear the Word of God spoken by them. It was also interesting to hear Bro. Ben speak of his family ties to this community and how he felt at one time he did not know how this small church could survive, but here we are today with our small building filled with our own congregation. How thankful we are that God's work prospers and grows.

On a recent Sunday, the betrothal of Sis. Nancy Teubel (Latty, OH) and Bro. Robert Manz (Junction City, OH) was made known. Parents of the couple are Bro. Richard and Sis. Wilma Teubel (Pulaski) and Bro. Alvin and Sis. Betty Manz (Junction, OH). May the Lord's blessings be upon them always.

After a brief summer vacation, Sunday school has begun again. The Bible class enjoyed a picnic with the Garden Grove Bible class on a recent Sunday afternoon.

College students beginning or returning to college are Bro. Michael Musselman, Kerri Cruikshank, Lana Garrett, Heather Humphrey, Tammy Joos and Sis. Carrie Wuthrich.

IOWA, WEST BEND

Lela Banwart - Mary Gerber

God called a dear soldier of the cross home August 24. Bro. Earnie Schmidt, 84, gained the victory and was laid to rest after some sixty years of serving the Lord. Elder Bro. Eugene Marti (Kansas City) spoke many encouraging words about the reasons death is a joy and victory. Bro. Earnie is survived

by his wife, Sis. Ida; sons, Jim (Sherry) and Chuck (Carol, West Bend); and daughter, Sis. Marilyn Zeltwanger (Bro. Lyle, Valparaiso, IN). Sixteen grandchildren and sixteen great-grandchildren survive along with sisters, Sis. Lydia Wilson (West Bend) and Esther Moadinger (Walnut, IL). Brothers and sisters-in-law, Sis. Celena Schmidt (Winthrop, MN), Sis. Christine Schmidt, Bro. Walter and Sis. Esther Banwart, Sis. Kate Ludwig, Sis. Edna Banwart and Ervin and Nettie Banwart (West Bend). We appreciate the brothers who helped our brothers with the services. Those attending were Bros. Elmer Schmidt (Winthrop, MN), Gary Bucher (Valparaiso, IN) and Harold Graham (Morris, MN).

We enjoyed a visit from ministering Bro. Don and Sis. Bernadine Miller (Minneapolis, MN). We wish the Lord's blessings on them for sharing His Word.

Bro. Paul Knobloch (Tucson, AZ) laid to rest his dear wife, Dorothy. We wish him, as well as his sisters, Sis. Christine Schmidt and Sis. Louise Anliker (of our congregation) the comfort and nearness of the Lord.

We rejoice with Bro. Darren Fehr (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Judy) and Sis. Nora Kuenzi (Bro. Jim and Sis. Barb, Silverton, OR) as God has worked in their hearts and lives the faith to believe it is His will that they become husband and wife in the Lord. May God richly bless them as they make plans for their future life together.

We are thankful to learn that Bro. Lawrence Schneider (Sis. Ella) is improving after several weeks in the hospital, although still hospitalized. Other hospital patients have been Sis. Tillie Mogler, Irene Banwart (Dean) - surgery, and Donald Zaugg, who have all been released. May God bless each one with better health. The weekend prior to Sis. Tillie's illness, her 90th birthday was celebrated with her family and many relatives. Sis. Tillie is now residing in the West Bend Care Center.

Bro. Nathan Mogler has recently moved from the South Care Center in Humboldt to the Good Samaritan Center in Algona. We hope

and pray that he will be comfortable and happy in his new location.

JAPAN, SHIODA
Willis and Lois Ehnle

How do you define the word "love" as used in the Bible? We read in I Corinthians, chapter 13, in church this afternoon, September 19. That scripture tells us a great deal about love but doesn't exactly define the term. It was defined this afternoon as an attitude, a way of thinking and a feeling toward God or another person. That is not sufficient, however, because it does not say what kind of attitude is involved. Love is sometimes defined as a deep devotion or affection which comes closer to saying what it really is. In any case, love is a treasure which all people are desperately in need of. For a start, let's really give of it freely to one another within our brotherhood. (A college professor once told me that anything abstract is the most difficult to teach, and love is abstract, you can't touch it with your hand.)

Our church cleaning day is September 25. In II Corinthians 29:15 we read, "And they gathered their brethren, and sanctified themselves, and came, according to the commandment of the king, by the words of the Lord, to cleanse the house of the Lord." I find that there is a slight difference between "to cleanse" and "to clean." The former includes the removal of defilement as well as dirt. Let's hope our church buildings are not defiled but we do well to maintain our sanctuaries as holy places.

On September 19, we had five people at our meeting in the afternoon. That includes Lois and myself and that is about as usual. Recently we had only five people at Sunday morning worship services as some are working in the fields during the summer, along side their husbands. (One sister was faithfully serving in our small Sunday school.) On the 19th we had about 14 people in our morning service, however. In any case, please pray for the people here, that more would have an interest

in the Bible and in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

KANSAS, BERN

Donna Edelman - Diane Kaeb

We are thankful for our visiting ministers, Elder Bros. Gene Marti (Kansas City), Sam Huber (Sabetha) and Bros. Bill Emch (Lamont) and Roger Aberle (Sabetha) for speaking the Gospel and giving timely warnings.

August 8 and 9 was a blessed weekend as we heard and witnessed the testimonies and baptisms of Brian Rokey (Bro. Allen and Sis. Glenda) and Larry Meyer (Bro. Jim and Sis. Jeannie). May God always be present as they walk this earthly journey to their heavenly home.

Our congregation recently rejoiced with Bro. Martin and Sis. Arlene Esslinger as they celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary. We wish them God's continued blessings as they walk life's pathway together.

Our deepest sympathy is extended to the family of Sis. Mildred Strahm, who was called to her eternal rest August 6. May God comfort her two sons, Elwin and Ronald; two daughters, Dana Tegtmeier and Barbara Beethe; their families and her brothers and sister, Freemond Meyer, Bro. Louis Meyer and Leora Baumgartner. We will miss her quiet, gentle spirit in our fellowship.

We are so happy to welcome little Trevin Reid to our congregation. He was born September 9 to bless the home of Roger and Michelle Edelman. His grandparents are Bro. Morris and Sis. Arlinda Rokey and Bro. Fred and Sis. Joann Edelman.

With gladness, we welcome Bro. Wayne and Sis. Pearl Miller (Fort Scott) and Sis. Mary Raff (Gridley) into our midst. Sis. Mary is residing at our Apostolic Christian Home and Bro. Wayne and Sis. Pearl are moving into one of the new apartments adjacent to the home. It is a blessing to have them with us. May the Lord bless them in their new homes.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to those sick and suffering. Bro.

Frank (Sis. Ruth) broke his ankle and is on crutches, Sis. Florence Rokey (Bro. Melvin) has been a hospital patient and Sis. Ella Hartter (Bro. Lester) has had tests and been diagnosed with cancer of the bone. May our loving Father above put His arms around each one and provide the needed grace and comfort.

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

KANSAS, FORT SCOTT

Janelle Sinn - Tammy Sinn

On the weekend of September 18 and 19, our Sunday School hosted a youth gathering of the Kansas Bible classes, including Kansas City and Lamar, MO. We were blessed to have Bro. Steve Sauder (Tremont, IL) with us to minister to the students. We were also thankful for all those who made an effort to attend. May the Lord work in their hearts and give increase to the seed that has been planted.

Also visiting us this month was Elder Bro. Lawrence Luthi (Lamar, MO). We wish to thank both brothers and their wives for their labors on our behalf.

KANSAS, GRIDLEY

Doug and Judy Kraft

Sis. Mary Raaf has moved to Sabetha to reside at the Apostolic Christian Home for the Aged. We will miss Sis. Mary in our midst and trust that God will continue to bless and provide for her.

We enjoyed a blessed weekend when Bro. Harold Kraft (Fort Scott, KS) and his wife, Sis. Wanda, were with us along with many other visitors.

Our sympathy reaches out to our dear Sis. Dorothy Young over the loss of her husband, Bro. Ephriam Young, who passed away September 2. Other survivors include two daughters, Sharyl Ellis (Zion, IL) and Lanette Bazil (Burlington, KS); four sisters, Sis. Ann Warner (Hutchinson, KS), Gladys Botham (Burlington, KS),

Doris Norman (Longmont, CO) and Laura Young (Winfield, KS); three brothers, Andrew Young Jr. (Gridley, KS), Harvey Young (Tulsa, OK) and Howard Young (Kansas City, KS); five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. We were thankful to have Bro. Al Langhofer (Wichita, KS) here for Bro. Ephriam's funeral service.

KANSAS, KANSAS STATE UNIV.

Wanda Grimm

School is back in session for us K-Staters and we are once again enjoying a rich fellowship as children of God. Our annual fall picnic was held at the Tuttle Creek Lake area. It was attended by many supportive parents, relatives and friends. We appreciate your show of love and support to us here at K-State. We also want to thank Elder Bro. John Lehman (Bern) for his willingness to minister unto us. It is our desire and prayer that as we study this year we not only increase in the knowledge necessary for our careers but most importantly that we grow in the knowledge of the Lord.

KANSAS, KIOWA

Darcy Kisling - Janice Bahr

"Ask and it will be given you; seek, and ye will find; knock, and it will be opened to you."

Matthew 7:7

Some days we walk a lonely path

With teardrops in our eyes,
Caught up in worries of the day
Before we realize

That God is there to share the
load

No matter what the task;
The weight is eased when shared
by two -

All we need do is ask.

Sandra Town Lytle

Sometimes I can't help but wonder what an unbelieving world does when the trials of life become more than they think they can handle. Then I read of the suicides, divorce and unrest everywhere, and I realize how very blest the child of God

is. When all around us is going crazy, and we wonder how we can handle any more: a quiet place, a Bible, a Zion's Harp and prayer to our Father brings everything back into perspective, and we can start again with a smile on our face and the peace of God in our hearts to look at the situation again and know we have One Who will see us through to the end. Thanks be to our Precious Lord for His presence in our lives.

God bless each who share in our services at the home. Someday we may sit where those dear people sit, and appreciate the beloved songs of our Lord as many of them seem to do.

Thought: Satan uses discouragement and depression, and loneliness to bring a child of God despair. As a child of God, let's use love, encouragement to each other and prayer to fight him and bear each other up.

KANSAS, LAMONT
Jane Isch

We are thankful that our visitors over Labor Day weekend included ministering brothers who were willing to speak this Word to us. They were Bro. Mike Rinckenberger (Congerville, IL) and Bro. Wes Moser, (Lester, IA). We certainly appreciated all the efforts put forth by different families that came to make our weekend such a blessing.

Martha Hughes was hospitalized this month due to a fall in a grocery store. The automatic door malfunctioned and closed in on her. May God's healing power be with her as she recovers.

On three Friday evenings, we have gathered with Gridley to listen to the tapes of the general conference. We truly appreciate the kind exhortations of the elder brothers.

KANSAS, SABETHA
Mary Kay Wenger
Sharon Strahm

Sis. Evelyn Wysong and Bro. Joseph Steiner (Sis. Clara) have been

hospital patients. Our prayers reach out to each one for God's healing as it can be His will.

It was uplifting to have another soul added to the fold. We appreciated Elder Bros. Art Nohl (Morris, MN) and John Lehman (Bern, KS) assisting with the testimony and baptism of Tom Strahm (Bro. Carl and Sis. Sharon). Other visiting ministers were Bros. Wes Moser (Lester, IA), Bill Emch (Lamont, KS) and Mark Bahr (Detroit, MI).

Our Sunday school classes resumed September 12. New teachers this year in Sunday school are Sis. Sandy Hartter (Bro. James), Bro. DeVere Meyer (Sis. Michelle) and Bro. Gordon Huber (Sis. Sharlyn). We thank those who have served and pray for each teacher as they do their part to help plant the seed in the tender hearts of our youth.

We have begun listening to the tapes from the general conference on "Obedience to God Brings Contentment." May we find the grace to become more obedient to God as we consider where we can apply it in our lives.

KANSAS, WICHITA
Emma Miller

Sunday school classes have resumed after a month's recess in August. Bro. Jerry Carnahan has the responsibility of superintendent. Also added to the teaching staff are Bro. John Schrader, Sis. Ann Greiner and Sis. Paula Read.

Our Bible study began in September, also. Our study is the Book of Psalms. Psalm 1 makes it very plain that there are two ways — one which leads to blessings and the other which causes us to perish.

On the evening of September 12, we met at the church for a potluck supper and then assembled for an hour of hymn singing. It is our hope to repeat this activity the second Sunday of each month.

Jason Carnahan (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Pauline) has joined his family here in the Wichita area where he is employed. We are happy to have this friendly young man in our church circle.

KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON
Wayne and Becky Snodgrass

"O God, thou art my God; early will I seek thee: my soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh longeth for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is;

"To see thy power and thy glory, so as I have seen thee in the sanctuary.

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

"Thus will I bless thine while I live: I will lift up my hands in thy name."

Psalms 63:1-4

This is a psalm of David, when he was in the wilderness of Judah. He was being hunted by Saul and his army, hounded day and night. But his love for God was so strong, he was able to write this psalm, even in his time of crisis. It behooves us to take David as an example of what we also should be feeling in our hearts. We should want to serve God with our whole heart, soul and mind, even as David did. We can read where David failed God many times, but we also read where he was always humbled and sorrowful when he did fail, and always praised the Lord for deliverance. That is where may of us need to spend more time. In fellowship with our God and Savior Jesus Christ. The Lord can and will see us through our troubles and trials if we but ask and seek him with our whole heart, soul, mind and body.

We appreciated the efforts of our dear ministering brothers who gave of themselves this past month. They were Bros. Earl Gerber (Forest, IL) and Wayne Laubscher (Cissna Park, IL). May God be their Rich Rewarder.

We want to once more extend a warm welcome to anyone who would have a desire to support our small congregation. The parsonage is still available. There is always a rich blessing in following the Lord's directing, and sometimes many heartaches when we follow our own will. Let us each one pray for one another that we be ever faithful to our calling.

MICHIGAN, ALTO
Jane Grawburg

A WEDDING WISH

Thus shall the man be blest
Who truly loves the Lord;
For length of days, and peace, we
read,
Shall be the saints' reward.

You've sought and found the Lord;
His peace does satisfy;
Now follow on in one accord
To Him who lives on high.

The marriage vows be blest,
Uniting heart to heart,
Of son and daughter whom we
love;
Thy grace to them impart.

He shall direct the way
In paths of service here;
In all thy ways acknowledge Him,
His Word and truth hold dear.

Parental blessings true
To you we do extend!
And though we part, at Jesus'
throne
Our mutual prayers will blend.

We'll sacrifice our lives
To Him who e'er has blest.
For God, the Church, and the true
Faith
We'll seek to do our best.

from "My Garden of Verse"
by Bro. Henry Beer

We welcome Bro. Otto Schlatter
(Bro. Ott and Sis. Pat) into the fam-
ily of God. Our prayers are with
Bro. Otto as his new life in Christ
begins.

Joining us at this time was El-
der Bro. Ray Sinn (Sis. Ann, Latty,
OH). We especially want to thank
Bro. Ray for sharing the weekend
with us and for his labors of love.

Others joining us during the
month were Bro. Joe Gerst (Sis.
Connie, Iowa City, IA) and Bro.
Tom Schrenk (Sis. Joan, Athens,
AL). We thank these brothers for
sharing God's Holy Word with us.

Nathan and Susan (Jenkins)
Steffen (Bro. Aaron and Sis. Loretta
and Ron and Kay Jenkins) joined
hand and heart August 28. We re-

joice with them as they begin their
lives together.

A special thank-you to all those
sharing their time and talents in
Sunday school. New instructors this
year are Bro. Ted Steffen (Sis.
Sandy), Bro. Ed Sanders (Sis.
Julie), Sis. Jane Grawburg and Sis.
Kristin Plattner (Bro. Howard).
Bro. Wally Gerst (Donna) will as-
sume his duties as superintendent
in January. May God richly bless
each one.

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MICHIGAN, BAY CITY
Marlene Mosher

On August 22 we were blessed
to have with us Elder Bro. Bill and
Sis. Emily Schlatter and their fam-
ily. We were blessed to bring three
souls into our brotherhood, Bro.
Allan and Sis. Pam Wackerle and
Sis. Maryann Ramseyer. Parents
are Bro. Sam and Sis. Loraine
Wackerle and Bro. Neil and Sis.
Sharon Ramseyer.

With the sick were Sis. Alice
Wieland, Sis. Doris Knochel, Glenn
Ruegsegger, Jr., Sis. Loretta
Mosher and Sis. Esther Waibel. We
wish the Lord's grace and bless-
ings for a measure of health if it be
His will.

We were also blessed with much
company this month from many
parts of the United States. Among
these were Bro. Elmer and Sis.
Hazel Schmidt (Winthrop, MN),
Bro. Roy and Sis. Donna Ehnle
(Bradford, IL) and Bro. Carroll and
Sis. Louise Gerber (Bluffton North,
IN). We are richly blessed by our
Lord to be able to meet and greet
loved ones in the name of our Lord
and Savior.

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MICHIGAN, DETROIT
Marlene Reinhard
Holly Barton

One of our young converts, Ann
Marie Allen (Bro. Pat and Sis.
Jeannie) has experienced some
changes in her life recently. She
has headed to Grand Valley State
University (Allendale, MI) to pur-
sue her studies. We will miss her
as she plans to attend the Alto
church. We are so thankful, how-
ever, that she will have the shield
and comfort of God's peace which

she recently confessed receiving.
May all our converts be able to ex-
press this confidence as well! Scott
Bahr (Bro. Phil and Sis. Dawn) has
just embarked on his journey of
repentance and we pray especially
that God would guide him and give
him courage as he moves forward.

We welcome three new college
students to our area. Lanae
Kimmerley is attending the Uni-
versity of Michigan and Lisa
Knochel is at Eastern Michigan
University. Both are from Bay City,
MI. Studying at Madonna Univer-
sity is Heather Frautschi (Phoe-
nix, AZ). We hope they will be able
to worship with us often.

Detroit hosted the Michigan
Youth Day weekend September 11
and 12. Bro. John Stoller (Leo, IN)
was with us Sunday to minister
and to speak to the students. We
trust that all who participated re-
ceived some truth that they could
take with them.

We sympathize with Sis. Andrea
Denes (Bro. Frank and Sis. Sanche)
who had an accident that left her
with her arm in a cast. It seems
that our well-being is something
we, too often, take for granted —
until something comes along to dis-
rupt it!

Bro. Curt Heimer (Alto, MI)
ministered to the Woodhaven resi-
dents this month, and we thank
him for making himself available.
Our next service is scheduled for
November 2 at 7:00 p.m. with To-
ledo, OH, providing a minister.

While doing the daily weather
report with my preschool students,
I am often reminded of a teaching
product I saw advertised once. The
weather board had a permanently
attached "sun"; in case of rain or
clouds, you just placed the appro-
priate symbol over the sun. That
way, the instructions said, children
could better understand that the
sun doesn't disappear; it is just hid-
den from our sight sometimes. How
often we need to be reminded of
this in our spiritual walk! Although,
spiritually we may prefer to soar
above the clouds where the sun is
always shining, sometimes God
sees it necessary that we walk be-
low through trials and sorrows. We
can always take heart, however,
that God, our true Light, is always

shining – and He will help us through those days when the clouds are attached to our weather board!

MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS
Delores Sauder

We have concluded listening to the conference tapes and may we heed the words of Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann, "Go forth with sincere diligence."

Bro. Gary Endress (Bradford, IL) and Bro. Harold Gramm (Morris) shared with us out of God's Word. We thank them for including us in their travel plans.

Sunday school resumed September 12. The children were excited to assemble together again.

MINNESOTA, MORRIS
Debra Joos - Maxine Sander

"Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your heart, all ye that hope in the Lord." (Psalm 31:24) Indeed, as we are confronted with the various trials of life, isn't our heart strengthened when we can focus on the hope we have in Christ Jesus!

"Thou art my hiding place and my shield: I hope in thy word." (Psalm 119:114) Visiting ministers who shared the Word of hope with us this month included Elder Bro. Joe Stoller (Princeville, IL), Bro. Erik Givens (Princeville, IL), Bro. Nate Stoller (Bradford, IL), Bro. Dale Frank (Oakville, IA), Bro. Kent Mogler (Minneapolis, MN), Bro. Rex Freiden (Lamar, MO) and Bro. Dale Wulf (Lester, IA). We appreciate their willingness to preach His Word.

Jon and Lori Moser are likely to have many hopes and aspirations for their new son, Jacob David. Jacob was born August 18, and has one sister, Jena. His grandparents are Sis. Noreen and the late Bro. David Moser. May God bless their little family.

"For thou art my hope, O Lord God: thou art my trust from my youth." (Psalm 71:5) We rejoice with those who have recently turned to God in repentance and placed their trust in Him. They are Michael Messner (Bro. Tony and

Sis. Nancy), Matthew Koehl (Bro. Karl and Sis. Marilyn) and Dawn Koehl (Bro. Arnold and Sis. Sharon). We pray that their budding faith and hope will give their hearts strength to stand firm for God.

On August 29 we witnessed the marriage of Sis. Lois Schmidgall and Bro. Chuck Massner. Their parents are Bro. Richard and Sis. Corrine Schmidgall, and Bro. Ben and Sis. Phyllis Knobloch and the late Bro. William Massner. May their marriage be one that glorifies God as they continue to trust in Him.

Our congregation extends a warm welcome to Bro. Troy and Sis. Vanessa Luthi and their children who have moved to the area from Lamar, MO. As they experience changes and adjustments, may they also find God is faithful to provide.

In times of physical pain and affliction it seems so essential to draw strength in a hope and trust in God. We lift our dear Sis. Lillian Koehl and Sis. Doris Koehl up in prayer as they recuperate from recent surgeries.

"If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable." (I Corinthians 15:19) Our hearts are grieved at the death of two dear brothers. Yet, we can also rejoice in the hope that can be ours, especially in dealing with death; when we know Jesus as our Savior.

Our sympathies are extended to the family of Bro. Orville Nohl who was called to rest August 29. His brother and sisters include Bro. Noah Nohl, LaVerna Heil, Neil Joos and Sis. Edith Joos (Gottlieb).

Also laying down his armor is Bro. David Moser. Bro. David is survived by his wife, Sis. Noreen (Kempf), and children Michael, Renaee and Jon. His surviving brothers are Bro. Richard (Roanoke, IL) and Albert. His sisters are Sis. Marion Schmidgall (Hartzell) and Sis. Bernice Frank (Ernest), both from the Oakville congregation. May they all find rest in God's promises.

Special note of thanks:

Our heartfelt thanks to all who

remembered us with prayers, cards, gifts and memorials. May God richly bless each one.

The family of Orville Nohl

MINNESOTA, WINTHROP
Kim Messner - Joleen Messner

Greetings! We recently held our annual pork chop supper and we would like to thank our visitors for sharing the weekend with us, especially visiting minister Bro. Duane Dill (Minneapolis) and family. May God richly bless Bro. Duane for his word of encouragement.

On Labor Day weekend, we were enlightened through the Word as it was brought forth by Bro. Eric Givens (Princeville, IL). May God bless Bro. Eric and his wife and those that travelled the many miles to be here to share in love and fellowship.

Our hospital patients this month were Tyler Messner (Bro. Rick and Sis. Brenda), Keith Kuhn (Sara), Leo Messner (Sis. Georgia) and Joyce (Bro. Mike). We are thankful to God for extending His healing hand.

A bundle of joy was delivered August 31 to Rebecca and Marlyn Braulick. Elliot James brings much happiness to his grandmother, Sis. Julia Messner.

Two dear friends were united in marriage August 25, Richard Messner (Sis. Julia and the late Bro. James Messner) to Pam Tuma (Marion and Milo Tuma). "What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder." (Mark 10:9) We wish them God's blessings.

We wish to extend our sympathy and prayers to Sis. Dorothy and John Jacobson and family in the loss of his mother, Beulah Jacobson.

We would like to extend our sincere apologies to Bro. Gene Lehman as he gave his slide presentation several months ago on his Ukraine trip to our congregation. May God bless Bro. Gene and his wife for their efforts.

MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY Joan Fehr - Jamie Marti

Congratulations to first-time parents, Monte and Lisa Thompson (Emporia, KS) on the birth of their daughter, Halley Renee, born August 14. Happy and thankful grandmother, Sis. Thirza Thompson (Kansas City, MO) and great-grandfather, Ellsworth Dobson (Sabetha, KS) also welcome her.

Many thanks to Bro. Charles Marti (Lamar, MO) for ministering to us August 29. God bless you as you continue in the service of the Lord.

"There are friendships that we cherish . . ." (Hymns of Zion #91) On September 12, our Sunday school joined the Fort Scott, KS, Sunday school for our annual picnic. A beautiful afternoon was enjoyed by all.

"Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving . . ." (Psalm 95:2) As the Thanksgiving season approaches, may we all count our spiritual and physical blessings with a grateful heart.

MISSOURI, LAMAR Martin Hohulin Carolyn Banwart

We bid an affectionate farewell to Bro. Troy and Sis. Vanessa Luthi and their beloved children, Maranda, Jordan, Jennifer and Matthew. They departed our area for Morris, MN, where Bro. Troy has taken employment. They will be an asset to the Morris congregation as they have been here at Lamar.

Bro. Roy Braker was selected as a Sunday school teacher to replace Bro. Troy Luthi.

A precious bundle of love came to brighten the home of Bro. Calvin and Sis. Jodi Luthi. Jessica is welcomed by a sister, Audrey, and a brother, Jared.

Sis. Janise Kellenberger returned to our church circle from Philadelphia, PA, after being employed there for two years. She has obtained employment in Joplin, MO. We welcome her back.

Our senior brother, in age and in service to our Lord, Arthur Banwart, observed his 80th birthday September 19. A picnic was

held in the Lamar park for this pleasant occasion.

This writer considers it proper and fitting to relate some of the events of this dear brother's life. Not only is Bro. Arthur my dear brother-in-Christ, he is my beloved cousin. Bro. Arthur was born a few miles northeast of the Lamar church on a rented farm in the year of 1913.

When he was only six months old, his parents, Bro. Ben and Sis. Cecelia Marti Banwart, moved the small family of two girls and one son to Morris, MN. Here he grew into a teenager and attended eight years of grade school.

In the fall of 1928, the family returned to the Marti home place near Oakton, MO. Grandpa Nick Marti was alone and was to make his home with the Banwarts. However, he passed on before their return to Missouri. Bro. Arthur helped his father on the farm and assisted neighbors and uncles with their farm work before renting a farm in 1935.

In the year of 1939, Arthur heeded the call of the Lord to repent. In those days elder brothers were not so numerous. Bro. Emil Schubert (Peoria, IL) came to Lamar to baptize converts at that time.

Bro. Arthur's farming was interrupted by a call from Uncle Sam to the army. He had a farm sale, only to be rejected by a slight physical defect. He returned to his farming, having his sisters, Marie and Clara Banwart, keep house for him until he was united in marriage with Sis. Ruth Miller of the old Burlington, OK (Kiowa, KS) church in 1945. This was a double wedding with his Bro. Raymond Banwart being married to Sis. Kathryn Somerhalder.

Many years later Bro. Raymond became the first resident elder of the Fort Scott, KS, church. Other brothers in the family are Bro. Harvey Banwart (Eureka, IL), Lloyd of Hartsburg, MO, Sisters Pearl and Marie Banwart of the Sabetha Home and the late Sis. Clara Frank (Oakville, IA).

Bro. Arthur and Sis. Ruth have three children, Bro. Gene Sinn (Sis. Linda, Liberal, MO), Joane Boslee (Teal, Lockwood, MO), Sis. Gail

Strahm (Bro. Phil, Gridley, KS), and eight lovely grandchildren.

This story of interest was related how father, Bro. Ben, a minister in Morris, MN, and Lamar, MO, hauled cheese and butter from the Oakton, MO, creamery to Pittsburg, KS, a distance of 30 miles, with a team and wagon, taking all day to make the trip. This same wagon was moved to Minnesota in 1914 and returned to Missouri in 1928.

In our modern society, we can hardly comprehend the hardships and sacrifices that our forefathers endured. Do we appreciate the faith that they preserved for us?

MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS Betsy Schrenk

We have enjoyed having large groups of visitors many Sundays here in St. Louis. We were blessed with three visiting ministers on one Sunday. God indeed fills our cup to overflowing. Thanks to the following ministers for serving us: Bros. Eric Givens (Princeville, IL), Steve Gutwein (Francesville, IN), Neil Widmer (Wolcott, IN), Wayne Banwart (Champaign, IL), Kent Heimer (Taylor, MO), Arnie Gerst (Taylor, MO), Bill Gudeman (Elgin, IL), Roger Aberle (Sabetha, KS), Ed Fritz (Washington, IL), Mike Reiker (Peoria, IL) and Elder Bro. Bob Walder (Congerville, IL). Our family had the opportunity to visit two other churches recently, and the willingness of the ministers to come and serve, even when they are alone here on the pulpit, is much appreciated by all of the St. Louis congregation.

We marvel at the love and closeness we feel toward our visitors, even though we may never have met them before. Our hearts can communicate. Surely this Christian fellowship is a foretaste of heaven, with earthly limitations.

One Sunday we heard of heaven and hell. Just as wonderful as the love and closeness will be in heaven, will be the isolation and aloneness in hell. I cringe when I hear someone brazenly say that they will go to hell because that's where all their friends will be. That may be so, but in the darkness and

desperation, they will be unable to comfort each other.

Our church took advantage of a beautiful September Sunday afternoon to have a cookout in a St. Charles park. Why do hamburgers and hot dogs taste so good when they're cooked over a charcoal fire?!

While we were on vacation in Colorado, I struck up a conversation in the laundry with a woman who professed to be a Christian. She expressed her concern about the negative influence that tv and the movies are having on our children and society. Christians are often portrayed as stupid, narrow-minded, bigoted hypocrites. But then she presented the following scenario:

Imagine that you are in a parking lot, alone, at night. A group of men enters the lot. How do you feel? Then you find out that they are Christians, leaving a Bible study. Then how do you feel?

Most people, whether or not they were Christians, would feel tremendous relief. The gap between reality and the portrayal of Christians by the entertainment industry is a great one. Many people, Christians and non, share the concerns that we, in our church, have of the influence of television and movies on our children and grandchildren. We need always to pray and not to faint, as the Scriptures teach, and to take responsibility for the things our children are exposed to in our homes.

We have moved and have a new phone number (314) 994-1944, and a new address, 430 Hackmann Lane, Creve Coeur, MO 63141. Please call if you need help with accommodations, or if you want to let us know how many will be in your group so we can appropriately plan for lunch at church.

MISSOURI, TAYLOR Tami Grimm

Many from our congregation are settling into their temporary homes - trailers provided by the federal government for those forced out by the flood. Those of us who didn't lose any earthly belongings in the flood have been taught a lot by the attitudes of those who lost so much.

Although each one must become discouraged at times, and surely has many unanswered questions, we have seen them pick up their lives and go on, with the attitude that "this too shall pass." What a comfort to realize that if we "set our affections on things above, not on things on the earth" (Colossians 3:2) we will never have to worry about flood or fire, rust or decay ruining our prized possessions!

After a brief interval when work was stopped due to rising waters, the river is now technically below flood stage and clean-up has resumed. Once again, as soon as help was needed, brethren from across the land answered the call and offered their assistance. Thanks again to each and every one who has helped out in any way!

A special thanks goes to those who not only came to help with clean-up, but who also gave of themselves to minister to us. We appreciated having Bro. Carroll Gerber (Bluffton North, IN) and Bro. Walt Steffen (Milford, IN) with us.

We rejoice with Sis. Dawn Haerr (Bro. Norman and Sis. Sally) and Bro. Scott Wegman (Bro. Sam and Sis. Rosemary, Oakville, IA) as they were united September 5. We wish them God's very richest blessings as they begin their life together. We will miss Sis. Dawn as they will be making their home in Chicago, IL.

It is such a comfort to know that God is in control of our lives if we "trust in the Lord with all our heart and lean not unto our own understanding." (Proverbs 3:5) Believing it is God's will for their lives, Sis. Tami Grimm (Elder Bro. Roy and Sis. Dona) and Bro. Keith Pflum (Bro. Lyle and Sis. Maria, Oakville, IA) have announced their engagement.

NEW YORK, CROGHAN-NAUMBURG Alice Virkler

Our visiting minister Wednesday evening, September 1, and Sunday, September 5 was Bro. Kevin Banwart (West Bend, IA). A covered dish meal and song service at

church was enjoyed Saturday evening. We are thankful for Bro. Kevin's ministry of God's Word unto us and also thankful for those who traveled with him and the many other visitors on that weekend. What a joy and privilege it is for us to travel from place to place and spend time fellowshiping with those of like mind and faith.

We have listened to the tapes of the recent brotherhood conference on Wednesday and Sunday evenings. May each of us be encouraged and strengthened in our walk of life on this earth. May we strive to carry out God's Word and plan for us in true obedience to the Word.

OHIO, AKRON Joyce Gasser

In the Bible Lands, our guide took us to Jericho to show us a spring they call Elisha's Spring, because it has a beautiful story where "God turned a curse into a blessing." (Nehemiah 13:2) Jericho is now a beautiful city, like an oasis in a dry area, as it has a good spring; whereas earlier it was barren, for the water was naught because it was a cursed city. The Israelites were to destroy it because of its idolatry; and Joshua 6:26 states a curse on the man that tries to rebuild it. Hiel set about to rebuild it, but as predicted, he lost his two oldest sons.

Elisha was sought about the water being naught and the ground barren. Elisha asked for a "new curse and put salt in it," and went to the spring to "cast the salt in," and the Lord healed the waters that "there shall not be any more death or barren land." (II Kings 2:19, 21)

If we have a curse, God is able to turn it into a blessing. Elisha used a "new curse"; a born-again believer is a "new creature in Christ Jesus." He asked for salt, which has many uses including keeping food from corrupting. He cast the salt in, and God healed the situation. We can cast a promise of God into our situation, and God honors His Word, and is able to "turn a curse into a blessing."

We are happy to have Larisa Wenninger (Latty) assemble with

us as she has enrolled at Akron University.

Bro. John Graf was hospitalized, but has been able to assemble with us again.

Sis. Gyongyi Bako and Mary Leidal have returned from being in Hungary visiting relatives and friends.

We were blessed to have Elder Bro. John Klotzle (Altadena, CA), Bro. Larry Wenninger (Latty) and Bro. Mark Steiner (Smithville) give us inspiring sermons.

OHIO, JUNCTION

Sandra Manz

Bro. Roy Ehnle (Bradford, IL) in his gentle manner, brought forth a loving message August 29. Thank you and may God bless you, Bro. Roy.

Bro. Bob Manz has felt the need for a helpmate and the Lord has provided Sis. Donna Teubel (Latty, OH). Their parents are Bro. Alvin and Sis. Betty Manz and Bro. Richard and Sis. Wilma Teubel (Pulaski, IA). May their love for each other grow as the Lord works in their hearts.

Surgical patients have been Bro. Gus Dietrich (Sis. Dorothy) and Bro. Dave Manz (Sis. Kathy). Bro. Eli Manz (Sis. Evelyn) spent a few days in the hospital with heart problems, but we are thankful to report that he has been released to resume his normal activities. Many prayers have been answered as they all seem to be doing well.

"From Thee all skill and service flow, all pity, care, and love, all calm and courage, faith and hope; O pour them from above." (Charles Kingsley) This verse seems appropriate for our Bro. Roger Gasser (Sis. Sue) as today he awaits tests and results following his diagnosis of leukemia. As a teacher in the public school system, his life has touched many in the community, as well as in the church, and much concern and support has been expressed. When we first heard the news, our lives were turned upside down; but there have been favorable reports regarding treatment and recovery, so our spirits were lifted. May the Lord's will be done as He works through the medical

personnel and hears from our fervent prayers.

Little Kelly Jo has brought joy to the home of Bro. Ed and Sis. Cheryl Schlatter. She arrived safely September 5 and joins big brothers, Evan and Caleb. Bro. Don and Sis. Josephine Wenninger and Sis. Juliet Schlatter welcome their new granddaughter. May God be near to help raise her in His fear and admonition.

Bro. Gene Lehman (Wolcott, IN) graciously presented his slides from the Ukraine at the Latty fellowship hall. As we watched the brethren delivering food and supplies to the physically needy, our hearts were warmed to know that despite the contrast between their living conditions and ours, their faith is alive and well. May we all be moved to share more of our time and material blessings so that Bro. Gene and those involved in this mission can accomplish their goal to teach and guide our needy brethren overseas to sustain themselves. On Sunday, Bro. Gene delivered a timely message over the pulpit, and we thank him for his work in the ministry as well.

OHIO, LATTY

Lane Stoller - Kathy Sinn

Among the visitors throughout the month, we had several ministering brethren. They include Bros. Jesse Beer (Milford, IN), Elder Bro. Ken Sauder (Mansfield, OH) and Bro. Jim Ramseyer (Bay City, MI). May God grant the ministering brethren grace enough to always preach the truth from God's Word.

Bro. Gene Lehman (Wolcott, IN) traveled to Latty to show the slide presentation of Ukraine. We enjoyed the slides and realized how very fortunate we are. May the Lord bless Bro. Gene for the labors which have been put forth.

Sis. Ollie Laukhuf passed on to her eternal rest. We extend great comfort to the family, but realize that she is where we are striving for. The local immediate family includes Sis. Delores Grant (Bro. Tom) and Sis. Vera Laukhuf (Bro. Lester).

We gathered September 11 to commemorate the Lord's Supper.

May we be ever thankful for the high price which was paid for our sins. "And He said unto them, With desire I have desired to eat this passover with you before I suffer:" (Luke 22:15)

Sis. Donna Teubel (Bro. Richard and Sis. Wilma, Pulaski, IA) and Bro. Bob Manz (Junction, OH) (Bro. Alvin and Sis. Betty) have announced their wedding engagement. A wedding date in late November has been set. May God be ever near this couple as they plan their wedding and their life together.

Several of our brethren have been hospitalized during the month. They include Bro. Bill Stoller, Sr. (Sis. Florence), Bro. Dick Whitman (Sis. Eileen), Sis. Bena Delong and Martin Stoller (Bro. Craig and Sis. Ruth). May the Lord grant His healing mercies.

Sis. Jan Stoecker and Sis. Dena Lewis have returned to central Illinois after living in our area for several months. May they feel the Lord guiding and directing them in this time of decision making.

OHIO, MANSFIELD

Cari Mann

"... Return unto the land of thy fathers, and to thy kindred." (Genesis 31:3) We wish to warmly welcome Mark, Lynette, Craig and Zachary Rau back into our fold. They have returned from North Carolina where Mark was stationed in the service. Lynette's parents, Bro. Dale and Sis. Donna Gabor, along with the rest of our congregation are glad to have them assembling with us once again.

We are also glad to welcome home Chad Keever (Bro. Clair and Sis. Bev) and Clark Gerber (Wayne). They have returned from Ireland where they spent the summer visiting Clark's brother, Grant. We are thankful that God kept these young men safely in His care while they were separated from their families.

"And afterwards she bare a daughter . . ." (Genesis 30:21) On August 31, God sent a blessing to the home of Bro. Ed and Sis. Judy Dawson. They named their new lit-

tle addition Marjorie Rebekah. The joyful extended family includes maternal grandparents, Bro. Joel and Sis. Sue Beer (Mansfield, OH) and paternal great-aunts, Sis. Kelly Beard (Mansfield, OH) and Sis. Rhea Beery (Ted, Smithville, OH). We pray that Bro. Ed and Sis. Judy will always feel God's guiding hand as they raise this child He has lent to them.

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

Hymns of Zion #46 vs. 1

As we listened to the tapes from the conference, seeds were planted as we were encouraged to live the life that will lead each of us to hearing, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord" when we reach our heavenly destination. We pray for a special blessing on those brothers who spoke at the conference and also for all the elder brethren who so willingly serve us. It was mentioned during the conference, how much we "save" by not paying our elders and ministers. Let each of us remember not to "save" our prayers for these servants but to be generous with them so the Lord will always grant them the necessary grace.

Although there were many missing, those a home over Labor Day weekend appreciated the willingness of Bro. Dean Steffan (Belvidere, IL) and his wife, Carol, to come and minister to our congregation. The following Wednesday evening, Bro. Alphie Strahm (Berne, KS) and his wife, Mamie, shared our midweek service. May the Lord bless them richly in their service here on earth.

We wish to offer our prayerful support to Martha Oesch and Ben Oesch. Their brother, Bob Oesch, has recently been moved to the Crestwood Care Center. Martha has cared for her brother since the passing of their mother many years ago. Bob is the oldest "child" to attend the Mansfield Church. His Sunday school teacher, Sis. Sarah Rice, and her class, along with the rest of our congregation, will miss

seeing Bob's smiling face and warm handshake every Sunday. May the family feel our prayers as they adjust to this change.

"Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together let not man put asunder." (Matthew 19:6) The weekend of September 18 and 19, several of our congregation travelled to LaCrosse, IN, to witness the union of Sis. Becky Gudeman (Bro. Don and Sis. Mary) and Bro. Lonny Moser (Bro. Phil and Sis. Jean, Bluffton, IN). As they begin their life together, may they feel God's loving arms around them, ever uniting them more completely as one. We are looking forward to having Becky as a part of our congregation.

Recently, I read the following saying on a sign at work, "A hug is the best gift there is - one size fits all and no one minds if you return it." The thought came to me that the holy kiss of love is an even better gift for it is often given to someone whose name we do not even know. How precious is this simple act of love! May we each remember its significance as we meet and greet our brethren.

OHIO, RITTMAN Marsha Hartzler Linda Ramsier

What contentment we find in being obedient to God here in our earthly life. We recently had the privilege of listening to the tapes of the general conference. Surely we were uplifted and encouraged.

Ministering to us this past month were Elder Bro. Eugene Pamer, Bro. Dave Graf (Akron, OH) and Bro. Glenn Riegenbach (Smithville, OH). May God bless these brothers for their willingness.

September 12 was the wedding of Bro. Mark Hartzler (Bro. Merle and Sis. Bonnie) and Sis. Natalie Schar (Bro. Rowen and Sis. Judy). We pray they will feel God's nearness in their new walk of life.

Those hospitalized this month were Jason Stoller (Bro. Ken and Sis. Lori), Bro. Melvin Beery (Sis. Elizabeth), Bro. Dave Hartzler (Sis. Linda), Bro. Albert Gasser (Sis. Lucille), Bro. Robert Gasser (Sis.

Neva), and Sis. Violet Baltic (Bro. Mitch). May they feel God's nearness.

OHIO, SARDIS Renee Miller

Trent Indermuhle (Bro. Bob and Sis. Karen) and Christy Long became one September 11 as they were united in holy matrimony. We wish them a life together that is as beautiful as the day that God provided for their wedding.

It was good to be able to listen to the words of the elders as inspired by God at this year's annual brotherhood conference. I believe that we, as Christians, have found that "Godliness with contentment is great gain" (I Timothy 6:6) May each of us strive to make this real in our lives by heeding the teachings that were brought forth.

OHIO, SMITHVILLE Edith Miller - Kim Stoller

Our prayers are with those who have been hospitalized this past month. We pray for God's healing on Sis. Mildred Hartzler, Bro. Charles Nieman (Sis. Delphine), Sis. Carolyn Gasser, Ryan Klotzle (Bro. Bob and Sis. Shirley), and Tug Maibach (Sis. Alma). How wonderful it is to have a Comforter to watch over us in our distress.

OHIO, TOLEDO Joy Beard - Edie Fetter

"Lo, children are a heritage of the Lord:" (Psalms 127:3) Bob and Dorothy Stevens welcome a new granddaughter into their family. Anna Grace is welcomed home by parents, John and Barbara Kihm, and big sister, Julia, in Durham, NC.

We have enjoyed the visits of several ministers this month. With us for service have been Elder Bros. Andy Virkler (Bay City, MI) and Bill Schlatter (Junction), as well as Bros. Ben Manz (Junction) and Mark Ramsier (Sardis).

OREGON, PORTLAND Lori Martin - Mary Berg Visiting ministers since our last

writing were Elder Bros. Dave Wiegand, Leo Moser and Art Bahler. We thank them for their service to our congregation.

We are thankful for the safe return of those that traveled during the summer months. Several from the congregation traveled a great distance to vacation or visit relatives.

After Sunday school vacation in the summer, it's nice to get back into our regular routine. The kids seem to miss it when they don't have it.

We pray from Sam Feucht as he's experienced some medical problems recently. May God be with him and his wife.

We continue to pray for those in the Midwest who have been affected by the summers adverse weather conditions. As clean up and rebuilding continues, we realize we need to always pray for others and that as we endure hardships, we must hold fast to the faith that God will always provide. In Luke 6:48, we are reminded of the man whose faith's foundation is a rock: "and when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently upon that house and could not shake it, for it was founded upon a rock."

OREGON, SILVERTON

Peggy Schulz

Christian greetings to all. Labor Day weekend was full of blessings for us all. Bro. Wayne Banwart and his wife, Sis. Charlene (Champaign, IL), spent the weekend with the Bible class, enjoying God's beautiful creation. They traveled both to the coast and to Mt. Hood. On Sunday, we were blessed with the ministry labors of Bro. Wayne and also our dear Elder Bro. Leo Moser. We always appreciate his visits here.

Bro. Don and Sis. Linda Sinn were blessed with a new daughter, Christina Kay. She is lovingly cared for by Amanda, Brent, Rosanna, Regina, Duane, Juanita, Angela, Darren, and Clinton.

The betrothal of our dear Sis. Nora Kuenzi to Bro. Darren Fehr (West Bend, IA) was announced. We wish them the Lord's nearness

and blessings now during the engagement and all the days of their married life.

We have been renewed in our zeal to hold fast to our precious faith as we listened to the recent conference tapes. How thankful we should be for the labors of love put forth on our behalf by our dear shepherds.

PENNSYLVANIA, PHILADELPHIA

Franz Soni

"To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved."

Ephesians 1:6

We welcome Bro. Bob and Sis. Marcia Feller and their children, Austin, Natasha and Celise. Bro. Bob and Sis. Marcia have moved to this area from Detroit, MI. We wish them God's blessings as they adjust to this area and look forward to having them worship with us.

We thank Bro. Earl Kilgus (Remington, IN) for sharing God's Living Word with us this past month. May God richly reward him for his efforts.

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

TENNESSEE, NASHVILLE

Gwen Leuthold

As I sit outside enjoying the gentle breezes of the beautiful summer evening, I am reminded that this may be one of the last as fall is fast approaching. Although there is sadness to see that the summer months have flown so quickly, there is also much relief in the hope that cooler temperatures will be arriving after the seemingly endless days of high heat and humidity. Along with these cooler temperatures, we also anticipate the changing of the trees to their fall colors. This is truly a picturesque time of

year and one we recognize as a miracle from God that we are able to behold before our very eyes. "To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:" (Ecclesiastes 3:1)

Since the last writing, two very special occasions have been held in Nashville. The weekend of August 21 and 22, the Sauder family reunion was held at the Holiday Inn Express. Approximately 150 friends and family members traveled from various locations with Christian greetings given from Gridley, IL; Mansfield, Junction, Rittman, and Columbus, OH. On Saturday, lunch and fellowship was enjoyed by everyone with many precious memories being made. On Sunday, church services were held with Elder Bro. Ken Sauder (Mansfield, OH) and Lavoyd Moore (Athens, AL) and Bro. John Grimm (Columbus, OH) lending themselves to minister the Word of God. A short Sunday school lesson was held for the children before the regular services. Special thanks to all of you for your efforts in coming to be with us to make this weekend truly blessed and memorable.

"Blest be the tie that binds
Our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds
Is like to that above."

Hymns of Zion #156, vs. 1

On September 12, Elder Bro. Lavoyd Moore (Athens, AL) was with us to serve our first communion service. It was truly a humbling and touching moment for all of us to be sharing communion in remembrance of what the Lord has done for us. Hopefully many more souls will take advantage of this way and plan of salvation before the door of grace is closed.

Come visit us in Nashville! Upcoming scheduled church services are December 5, 1993 and January 2, 1994. Contact Bro. Don and Faye Sauder (615) 373-8928, Bro. Don and Sis. Enid Miller (615) 384-1081 or Sis. Gwen Leuthold (615) 352-3940 if you plan to be in the area for these scheduled services or any other weekend.

TEXAS, DALLAS
Christine Kaiser
Kimberly Kaiser

We were blessed to have Bro. Tom Hoffman and his wife, Sis. Kathy, in our small congregation this September. We thank them for their labors of love and Christian fellowship. We really appreciate the time and effort visitors make to come to our Dallas area.

Services are held the first and third Sundays of each month at the Holiday Inn in DeSoto, TX. Service times are 10:30 a.m. and 12:00 noon. Please contact Bro. Howard and Sis. Delores Rapp (214) 867-4074, Bro. Bill and Sis. Betty Zeltwanger (409) 249-5102, or Bro. Greg and Sis. Christine Kaiser (214) 335-0105 for information.

TEXAS, ZAPATA
Viola Perdelwitz

The 10th Zapata reunion was held at Bay City, MI, September 11. There were about 76 members that attended from the following states, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Connecticut, Kansas, Minnesota, Ohio and Alto, Michigan. It was a joy to greet so many and see some that were not able to come to Zapata for the last years because of health problems.

We wish to thank the Bay City members and friends for making

HURRICANE 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.

us feel so welcome and for all their labor.

My brother Robert Ackerman (Deer Creek, IL) died at the Proctor Hospital in Peoria, IL, and the funeral was at the Morton Apostolic Christian Church Sunday, September 19.

We wish to thank all who thought of us and remembered us with prayers and kind deeds.

We are receiving rain after months of dry weather and again the yards are getting green.

HAITI & JAMAICA WORK TEAM SCHEDULE

Project	Date	World Relief Area	Locations	Area Coordinators
School	12/10 - 12/18/93	#5 Bluffton & Indianapolis	Haiti M.E.B.S.H.*	Bill Stoller 1050 N. Main St. Bluffton, IN 46714 Ho. (219) 565-3291 Off. (219) 824-4686 Fax (219) 824-4719
Deaf Village	1/6 - 1/14/94	#8 Western IL	Jamaica* C.C.C.D.□	Mike Finley Box 176 Carlock, IL 61725 (309) 376-7301
School	1/7 - 1/15/94	#1, #2, #3 CT, E. OH,	Haiti M.E.B.S.H.* AL, CA, FL	Craig Emch 11856 Miller Road Sterling, OH 44276 (216) 939-4591
Nursing Home	1/21 - 1/29/94	#7 E. IL	Haiti* M.E.B.S.H.*	Jim Walter 26 Timber Ridge Fairbury, IL 61739 (815) 692-3158
School	1/27 - 2/4/94	#9 & #10 KS, MO, MN, IA, TX, CA	Haiti Palm Grove	Tim Butikofer R.R. #2, Box 69A Elgin, IA 52141
Deaf Village	1/27 - 2/4/94	#8 Western IL	Jamaica* C.C.C.D.□	Mike Finley Box 176 Carlock, IL 61725 (309) 376-7301
School	2/4 - 2/12/94	#11 & #12 CA, AZ, OR, CO	Haiti M.E.B.S.H.*	Glen Hackenjos 10564 Haverly El Monte, CA 91731 (818) 442-4957
Deaf Village	5/19 - 5/27/94	#4 & #6 N. IN, MI, W. OH	Jamaica* C.C.C.D.□	Phil Isabel Route 2 Remington, IN 47977 (219) 261-3541

For more information, contact:
Harold Witzig

308 N. Second Avenue
 Morton, IL 61550
 HO. (309) 266-6263
 OF. (309) 263-2041
 FAX (309) 266-7644

*Couples invited on this project

*Missions of Evangelical Baptists of South Haiti (M.E.B.S.H.)

□Caribbean Christian Center for the Deaf (C.C.C.D.)

SILVER THREADS

HOW TO FIND HAPPINESS According to God's Word

SEEK FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD

"But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."
Matthew 6:33

LOVE GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART

"Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind."
Matthew 22:37

REPENT AND BELIEVE THE GOSPEL

"The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel."
Mark 1:15

SET YOUR AFFECTIONS ON THINGS ABOVE

"Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth."
Colossians 3:2

RESIST THE DEVIL

"Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."
James 4:7

PRAY WITHOUT CEASING

"Pray without ceasing."
I Thessalonians 5:17

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

"In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."
I Thessalonians 5:18

SING PRAISES TO GOD

"My heart is fixed: I will sing and give praise, even with my glory."
Psalm 108:1

BEAR OTHER'S BURDENS

"Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ."
Galatians 6:2

BE KIND AND FORGIVING

"Be ye kind one to another, ten-

derhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."
Ephesians 4:32

ABSTAIN FROM FORNICATION

"For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication: That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour."
I Thessalonians 4:3, 4

PERFECTING HOLINESS

"Having . . . these promises, . . . let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God."
II Corinthians 7:1

LET THE WORD OF GOD DWELL IN YOU

"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord."
Colossians 3:16

CAST YOUR CARES ON GOD

"Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you."
I Peter 5:7

DO NOT SIN

"Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath."
Ephesians 4:26

LOVE ONE ANOTHER

"This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you."
John 15:12

GOD'S WORD FOR DAILY LIVING Seven Instructions from Jude

1. Build up ourself in faith.
2. Pray in the Holy Ghost.
"But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost."
Jude 20
3. Keep ourself in the love of God.
4. Look for the mercy of Christ to eternal life.
"Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our

Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life."
Jude 21

5. Have compassion on the lost.
"And of some have compassion, making a difference."

6. Make efforts to save the lost.

7. Hate the garment spotted by the flesh.

"And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh."
Jude 23

Sermon . . .

(Continued from Page 36)
came up, would they not turn to God? Look at the powerful things they had seen Him do!

Yet they complained and grumbled and wished they were back in Egypt again, in bondage. It is hard to imagine. I have had to think, I wonder what it would be like if I were to keep a diary of myself, recounting the good things that God had done for me on a day to day basis. Then I would read other days when I questioned and doubted. I wonder if it would be much different.

Yes, I think the scope is maybe a little different than what we read of here. Really, in our day to day walk of life, do we have that same kind of faith to trust in Him? He Who had provided for us?

Many times we think that maybe we do not have much of a purpose in life. Maybe we feel we just do not fit in somewhere, but God knows how we can be effective for Him. Maybe our situation is a little different than someone else's. Dear ones, that gives us a very unique opportunity to help someone else.

I remember a number of years ago, before I was put in the ministry, (I share this openly with you), I went through a period of real depression. I could not understand for two years why I felt this way and why I could not overcome it.

Then, on top of it, I was put into the ministry. I could not understand. But, dear ones, it did not take me long, when I finally surrendered completely to Him when I realized that God was conditioning me for a special work. There have been numerous times that God

has used the experiences that I went through to help another brother or sister. Not to bring any glory to myself, but God uses us in special ways.

Just this morning, as I was sitting and reading the Word of God, I looked up and was just thinking. My mind wandered a little bit as I was watching the fish in the aquarium in the kitchen area. The fish had just been fed.

There were those who were going up the top and eating off the top. There were those who were cleaning up what fell down into the leaves. There were those who were cleaning up the bottom of the tank.

Then came that ugly algae eater. He is not a nice-looking fish. He came out and started to clean off the rocks and the plants. I had to think that that is really how life is.

Each one of those had their own special purpose. Each one was doing their own thing, yet they were all working together. That is how life is, dear ones. We all have different talents. We all look at things a little bit differently.

We need to work together in unity with a common goal in mind of working out our soul's salvation. The time that our differences get in the way is when we are self-serving. When we are concerned about our own wants and desires, we let those differences cause friction among us.

If our goal, dear ones, is really for unity and to strengthen our brother and sister, those differences that we have can be beautiful. They can help us grow. They can help us see things through a little different light, maybe. God is good to us.

The children of Israel, at this time, were convinced that they were going to follow the commandments as God had asked them to do. He had said unto them that if they will obey His voice and keep the covenant, then they will be a peculiar treasure unto Him above all the people.

They were willing to say, "Everything that Ye have said, Lord, we will do." (see Exodus 19:8) Haven't we felt that way in our own lives? When we have experienced something wonderful in our

own lives, something that has drawn us close to God, there isn't anything that we wouldn't do for Him.

Then things come along, sometimes our own self pride. Sometimes our own self desires. Then we kind of lose focus of that primary goal of serving Him and of being a useful tool in His hand.

So it behooves us, dear ones, to reflect upon the level of commitment that we have in our own lives. Has the zeal that we felt when we felt the power of the peace of God in our lives, is that zeal still burning strong within us? Is that still the force that is moving us in our day to day walk of life.

It was in Paul's life. As we can read through his letters, Paul did not seem to be distracted by all those things that were out there. Those things that could have been such a discouragement unto him, they were not distractors in his life. He forged forward, sharing the gospel message. Yes, there were differences.

Here is an example, dear ones, of how differences can be done right. Peter and his followers had a strong conviction of going and preaching unto the Jews. Paul did not. Paul himself, in his conversion, was taught and led and directed to preach unto the Gentiles. Here were two totally different approaches. Yet, each one was working for the same, common goal — the saving of souls.

We are going to look at things differently, dear ones, but let us not use those differences to cause division or strife or conflict. Because when that enters in, then we lose that perfect love that we read about in God's Word. We lose that perfect love that we are instructed to have.

We need to be tolerant and understanding. Dear ones, that will all come if our primary focus is not on self, but on serving Him and looking for ways that we, too, can be a useful tool in His hand, just as Paul was.

How many times could Paul have thrown up his hands in despair? I wonder sometimes, if I were to run into the same kind of road blocks that the Apostle Paul ran

into, what would be my reaction? How would I respond?

How did Paul respond? Read some of his letters. Read Ephesians, and the beautiful teachings that he wrote to the Ephesians as he was in prison. He shared encouragement and joy with them in living for the Lord.

He found joy in being persecuted. He found joy in being in prison there. Why? Because He knew he was doing it for the Lord. It was not his own creature comforts that he was concerned about. It was not himself that he was concerned about. It was others. It was sharing the gospel message with others that was so important to him.

Our live can change when we change our attitude and our focus in life. Read Ephesians with that thought in mind. Paul was writing that during his imprisonment -- the encouragement that he gave to the early believers!

May God give each of us, dear ones, as we go through life, that kind of motivation . . . that kind of zeal. True zeal! Not zeal to accomplish things for ourselves, not zeal to go forward as long as it works out the way we want it, but true zeal.

True zeal comes from a submissive heart . . . a submissive heart that God can work with. What a difference there is when we can begin the morning with the thought in mind, "Lord, what can I do for Thee today?" as opposed to, "Lord, how are You going to help me with this problem or that problem?"

Yes, we need to take our concerns to God in prayer. The Word teaches us that. It is a wonderful thing that we have that we can talk to our Father in heaven as a father. The way has been provided for us that we can communicate with Him in that way.

It is important that we make our desires and needs known unto Him. Then we put it in His hands, and ask Him, "Lord, show me how I can serve Thee today."

You will be surprised at the change in your attitude when you are looking for ways to serve Him instead of ways to serve yourself. Therein comes true peace and joy and contentment.

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SERMON BY BRO. THOMAS HOFFMAN OF ROANOKE, IL

"Honor God With Your Attitude" Exodus 19 and Galatians 2

Thanks be to God that the salvation plan is available to us, the Gentiles. Thanks be to God that people like Paul had the conviction and willingness to submit to God's will. He was willing to go forth and spread the gospel message among the Gentiles and stand firm in the true meaning of salvation.

It was not brought about because of the law, but rather through faith in Christ Jesus our Lord. Paul, who was subjected to so much, certainly could have been very discouraged when time after time he was driven from cities. Numerous times he was in prison.

Yet he was always willing to come back and stand firm for what was right, never wavering, always bringing forth the gospel message. He knew that man by nature is evil; yet, knowing, too, the power of God.

As we read this morning in the first reading of Moses leading the people through the wilderness, God reminded them of all the good things that He had done for them. They had witnessed those things.

It is hard for us to imagine being led by the hundreds of thousands, as they were, out across the river. Then to witness how God provided, after they passed through on dry land, which in itself was a miracle. Then following right be-

hind them was the Egyptians that pursued them. God closed the waters on the Egyptians and they drowned, destroying Pharaoh's army.

Imagine seeing the power of God's might so vividly like that. Yet time and time again how difficult it was for them to entirely put their trust in Him. As God spoke to Moses at this time, he said, "Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine." (Exodus 19:5)

He told them, "Ye have seen what I did unto the Egyptians, and how I bare you on eagles' wings, and brought you unto myself." (Exodus 19:4) "And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and a holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel." (Exodus 19:6)

He told Moses, "Remind them of all that I have done for them. They are my chosen people and they shall be an holy nation." They were to be a peculiar group, God's chosen people. What a beautiful calling! What a beautiful relationship that God would have provided for them there.

As Moses talked to the people, It says, "Moses came and called for the elders of the people, and laid

before their faces all these words which the Lord commanded him." (Exodus 19:7) He shared with them those things that God had spoken to him.

He, no doubt, reminded them of how God had provided for them, and of all the powers within the world, there was no greater power than the power of God. This very God was making them a holy nation - His people!

How did the people respond? "All the people answered together, and said, All that the Lord hath spoken we will do. And Moses returned the words of the people unto the Lord." (Exodus 19:8)

They were moved, dear ones, at that time. They felt the conviction of the desire to serve Him and to be that holy nation that He asked of them. It did not take long, did it, for them to get caught up with the cares and concerns of life. They soon lost that zeal. They soon lost that remembrance of how God provided for them. Their faith began to waver.

As we read on into Exodus, we read of the trials that they were subjected to, and we have to look at our own lives. It is so easy for us to go back and look at these people and to question why. Why would they doubt? Why, when a problem

(Continued on Page 34)