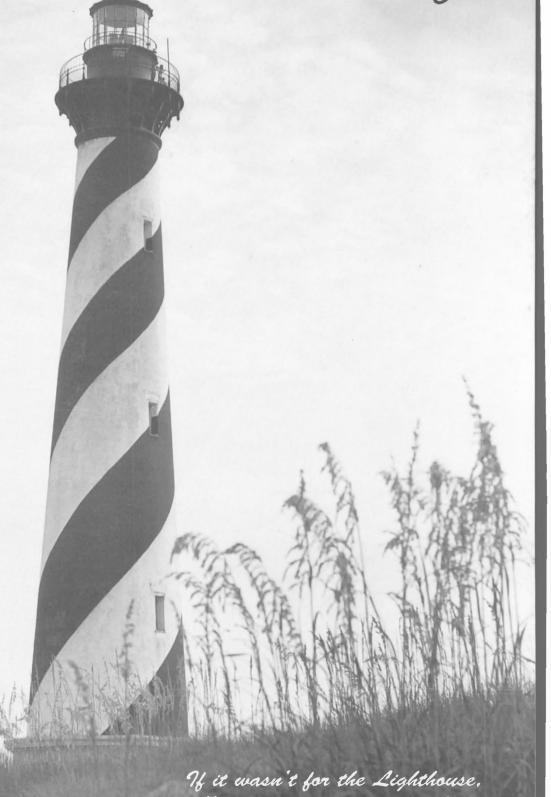
The Silver Lining



If it wasn't for the Lighthouse, tell me Where would this ship be.



Volume 44

SEPTEMBER 1994

Number 9

For Jesus is the Lighthouse...

In this life we are blessed with numerous things which God has created or allowed man to create through God-given wisdom, that gives us inspiration in our daily walk. Does the lighthouse inspire you like it does me? I often think of that beacon light shining brightly, beaming our Father's mercy across the sea of life. Yes, as we travel in our ship of faith, we keep our eyes focused on the bright beacon light of Jesus to guide us safely to the port of repentance.

"But to us He gives the keeping of the lights along the shore." As one approaches the port, there are lower lights to guide the ships safely into dock. These lower lights must steadily beam a guiding light not nearly as noticeable as the beacon, but still serving a very important purpose. The more the darkness of this world surrounds us the more important it is that the lower lights keep burning so some poor struggling seaman might be guided along into the harbor of the Lord's salvation.

Brightly beams our Father's mercy From the lighthouse evermore, But to us He gives the keeping Of the lights along the shore.

Dark the night of sin has settled, Loud the angry billows roar; Eager eyes are watching, longing, For the lights along the shore.

Trim your feeble lamp, my brother; Some poor sailor tempest tossed, Trying now to make the harbor, In the darkness may be lost.

Let the lower lights be burning! Send a gleam across the wave! Some poor fainting, struggling seaman

You may rescue, you may save.

Melodies of Praise, #243

We are sailing our ship of faith ever closer to yonder shore, where pain and sorrow will be nevermore. It is there afar off or maybe very close up, we can see the great beacon light of the Lord. It brings tears to our eyes to consider the loved ones who have made it to that great harbor on yonder shore, because of the touching memories we have of them. We, of course, do not sorrow for them, but the sorrow comes when we remember the touching memories we share in our heart.

As we sail the sea of life, let us strive diligently to keep our ship of faith on course headed toward that lighthouse, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, so that when the tempest rages, we will not lose sight of the beacon light.

NOTICE:

Dear Brethren of the Apostolic Christian Church of America:

As you are probably aware, there has been a change of location for the publishing of our national publication, The Silver Lining.

Bro. David Bertsch, who along with the many brethren at Leo, IN have served the church faithfully and diligently through many years of joy and work in the publishing of The Silver Lining. Our thanks cannot begin to compensate in any way for that service, but from the heart of the church we say thank you. God's richest blessings to you all.

Bro. David Bertsch has asked to be relieved of his duty as editor, but will still be available for counsel. Over the past six months a gradual transition has been in process, which has resulted in the Elder Body charging the responsibility of overseeing The Silver Lining to the Apostolic Christian Publications.

As your least brother-in-faith, I will strive to walk in the path which has been blazed by Bro. David as we all follow the Lord through this life. May He give us grace to fulfill His high calling.

Bro. Bruce Leman

The Silver Lining

RR 2 Box 50 Roanoke, IL 61560 USPS 496780

Published Monthly By The Apostolic Christian Church of America

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SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO: The Silver Lining RR2 Box 50 Roanoke, IL 61561

309-923-7513

Second class postage paid at Roanoke, IL 61561, and additional offices. 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 zlps). Postmaster send address changes to:

The Silver Lining RR2 Box 50 Roanoke, IL 61561



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).

THE MESSAGE OF OUTWARD HOLINESS

The Lord Jesus, in reminding His followers that they were the light of the world, said, "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven" (Matt. 5:16).

The implication here is clear that the believer is to outwardly reflect those godly values that are cherished in our hearts. Not only will the inner joy of salvation be "outwardly" noticed in the form of a cheerful, loving and friendly personality, but one's inner commitment to virtue, restraint and purity will be outwardly manifested by choices in clothing, hairstyle, our home, the way we dress our children and other aspects of life style that are patterned after New Testament standards and principles.

The scriptural mandates regarding outward holiness are especially important today amid a culture that more and more reflects a style of outward unholiness, demonstrated by patterns of dress that reflect immodesty, sensuality, sloth, and sloppiness.

It is well established that non-verbal forms of communication convey subtle but powerful messages. It is said that "actions speak louder than words," and often the modest and orderly patterns of outward godliness portrayed by sincere believers serves as a powerful means of silent, spiritual communication, "perfecting holiness in the fear of God" (2 Cor. 7:1).

We as believers in Christ Jesus are to walk in the light of God's countenance (Psa. 89:15). We are image-bearers. We are ambassadors for Christ (2 Cor. 5:20). An ambassador (in governmental circles) is one who is carefully chosen, who is able to communicate with discretion and who is very careful in dress and manner, so as to avoid bringing even the least amount of reproach to his nation. The same principle applies to our lives as ambassadors for the Lord.

Defined patterns of outward appearance are not confined to the realm

of faith. In the military, in scouts and among certain entertainers and athletic teams uniform modes of dress and appearance prevail. The intent is to be "uniform;" that is, to be "united in form." Such a pattern gives a message of solidarity, special identity and allegiance. The Apostle Paul commended the Colossians for their order and steadfastness of faith (Col. 2:5). The word "order" in this case signifies an orderliness which is characteristic of unified groups such as well disciplined soldiers.

In matters of faith, attire and appearance are important, not merely for the sake of symbolism but because the Bible directs souls to be holy, both inwardly and outwardly. "Be ye holy, for I am holy" (1 Pet. 1:16). Also, we are to "be holy in all manner of conversation" (1 Pet. 1:15). In this instance, "conversation" refers to lifestyle, not just to verbal expression.

The world's patterns of outward unholiness are often enshrouded in sensuality, pride, vanity, rebellion, extravagance, sophisticated fashions, and consumptive living. These are all patterns which are to be laid aside at conversion. The "former lusts" (done in ignorance) are abandoned for the much higher standard of godliness (1 Pet. 1:14).

The true believer seeks to please God, not man. Accordingly, he or she realizes that the "fashion" of this world passes away (1 Cor. 7:31). Therefore, dress and appearance should comply with the patterns of the Word rather than with those of an unregenerate world.

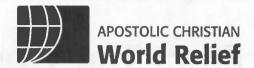
A basic biblical teaching which applies to the subject at hand is sanctification. This means to be set apart as holy. It was the Apostle Paul's prayer that the "very God of peace sanctify you wholly" (1 Thess. 5:23). Sanctification's foundation lies in the cleansing power of the blood of Christ and is made evident when we "put on the new man" (Col 3:10). Another biblical teaching associated with sanctification is separation.

The believer is advised: "come out from among them, and be ye separate, and touch not the unclean thing" (2 Cor. 6:17); and he is to cleanse himself from all "filthiness of the flesh and spirit" (2 Cor. 7:1). Thus, we are to separate ourselves from suggestive styles of dress and attire that would instigate lust and sensual desire in those who observe us. Finally the principle of outward distinction of the sexes must be honored. This is an ordinance of God (1 Cor. 11:2-15) which is reflected in hair length, prayer covering and dress. An example of perversion of this sacred distinction is listed among the works of the flesh as being "effeminate" (1 Cor. 6:9).

Even though these biblical principles have little respect in our modern society, we must remember the warning of the Apostle Paul: "Be not conformed to the world. . . ." (Romans 12:2).

A sister in faith, in realizing that her calling is one of modesty (1 Tim. 2:9) and chastity (Titus 2:5; 1 Pet. 3:2), seeks to follow the church's helpful guidance in the application of these pertinent Scriptures. Her long hair, gathered modestly and free of artificial enhancements presents a time honored and widely recognized pattern of dedication to godliness. "In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety: not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls or costly array; But (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works" (1 Tim. 2:9-10).

Outward holiness motivated by a sincere love for Christ conveys a clear message to the world. It tells the world that we are committed to Christian beliefs, that we have rejected the sensuous and self-pleasing patterns of the culture, and that we are willing through self-denial, separation, and nonconformity to live according to the Bible's enduring ideals of holiness and sanctification. It clearly identifies us with the church, which is Christ's body here on earth.



As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith. GALATIANS 6:10



Try to picture life through the eyes of an innocent Mexican child. His life began in poverty on the edge of the big city of Juarez. He is among thousands living in the city dump, combing through the garbage to find something of value to sell back to the city. Hunger and disease are his constant companions, for the average family earns \$25.00 per week. His house is made from pallets and cardboard, or whatever else can be found to make a type of shelter. Life has never been easy.

Now picture yourself as part of a team of people from our brotherhood giving care to these little ones and their families. August 3 to 10, 1994, marked the 11th semiannual Apostolic Christian medical-dental team working in Juarez. This team consisted of 31 workers of ages 12-40, who came from eighteen of our churches from California to Connecticut. In the eight days they spent there, our people made new friends and unforgettable experiences, continuing a work begun in 1988. Volunteers often find their lives and attitudes changed by what they see and work in which they participate.

World Relief teams have built several community centers which function as medical and dental clinics, food dispensaries, and worship places. The goal is always to help the local people to learn to help themselves, so most of these units are up and running on their

own. Currently, teams are taken out in a caravan, providing assistance to residents of the worst of areas. There is a great need for persons knowledgeable and skilled in medical and dental fields, for there are always more patients than can be treated.

Each day begins with devotions conducted by one of our ministers who accompanies the group. This is done

on each trip, and we encourage our ministers to make themselves available for the work when possible. It is vital that we communicate the love of Christ in these efforts as a witness to precious souls who have never had

the privilege of hearing about the plan of salvation.

The dental team on this trip was unique. A family of 6 and a hygienist worked nonstop, yet not all of the needs could be met. The dental need is enormous, and we always can use volunteers with dental skills. There is also a real need for dental equipment, for only the very basic tools exist in these remote areas. Normally 1400 to 1700 patients are seen by our volunteers as they work in conjunction with local professionals. The heart cannot fail to be touched by the patient endurance of suffering and the appreciation shown to those who try to alleviate it.

Facilities are provided for those participating in the work teams, and although primitive, are adequate. We work in cooperation with a local organization which has been evaluated by our brethren. This organization is dedicated to reaching out to the poor, and bringing them the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

These trips are usually planned well in advance, and notice given throughout our churches as details are known. A unique opportunity for service to needy souls just across our own borders does exist, and we encourage anyone who has a heart for such work to give this effort prayerful consideration. The smiling faces and appreciative gestures from recipients cross the language and cultural barriers.

Work in Caribbean Continues in Spite of Difficulties

he war and instability in Haiti has hampered all efforts to assist the suffering people in this troubled land. In spite of this, from March to June of this year, even though no teams of our brethren could be sent, assistance was given to seven schools and a nursing home with the \$26,000 budgeted by the World Relief Committee. We hope that things will open up and we can resume physical presence, but this remains in the Lord's hands, and we continue to monitor this tense situation.

Funds were appropriated in the last World Relief meeting to finance 5 schools, in hopes that peace and stability can be restored and work teams go in during the coming winter season.

Jamaica continues its serene composure just one island away. In cooperation with Christian Center for the Deaf, three project teams have worked there during this calendar year. A total of nearly 100 brethren from 26 churches in 8 states have lent their personal assistance in this work. This deaf school makes a productive life available to children who otherwise would be outcasts. They are taught sign language and living skills, and now we are building an on-site workplace in which to use these skills. Long term vision includes expanding this work to Montego Bay and Kingston in Jamaica as well as to Mexico. They hope to provide work in this land of 25% unemployment and little or no care for the handicapped.

Three projects are currently planned for the upcoming year. These will utilize 40 volunteers each, and are tentatively scheduled for:

- Montego Bay January 4 -12, 1995
- Deaf Village February 2-10, 1995
- Deaf Village May 19 27, 1995

Anyone wishing to participate in these projects should contact their local treasurer-representative for details.

... The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest. Matthew 9:37-38

The faith known as "Nazarenes" in Eastern Europe traces its roots to the efforts of Bro. Samuel Froelich in the middle of the 19th century. Some young brothers, converted in Switzerland, went to what is now Budapest and became the forefathers of the church as we know it today. At that time, much of Eastern Europe was part of the Austro-Hungarian empire.

Over the years, the faith spread eastward and congregations sprang up in many villages across the area. Some of these people eventually emigrated to America, where their families are part of our brotherhood. During the years, this contact has been maintained. In spite of the tragedies of two major world wars and the oppression of communism, while the flame of faith sometimes grew dim, it did not go out. In 1951, all church buildings were confiscated and used for other purposes. Our brethren worshipped secretly in homes for many years. For over twenty years, the American brethren have helped the brethren in Romania when natural disasters such as the flood in 1970 and the earthquake in 1977 occurred.

Representatives from our brotherhood visited Romania several times over the years with the intent of alleviating human suffering and giving spiritual encouragement to struggling fellow pilgrims. These efforts met with varying degrees of success, particularly

during the communist years.

Beginning in 1985, a more concerted effort was put forth to send material aid. Although it met numerous difficulties, this resulted in our being able to ship food packages and money on a regular basis into this troubled land. After the collapse of communism in 1989, the way became more open and assistance was stepped up. Many brethren help package and ship food from our Material Aid Center in Bluffton, Indiana. This year hybrid seed corn was sent in, and a report dated August 8 stated that the fields stand out

from the rest of the crops in the area and the prospects look excellent.

The Mission Committee has always been ready to assist when needs such as building churches or printing Bibles and hymnbooks present themselves. Romania is one of the places where funds have been used for this effort.

In June of this year, a team of brethren

visited this country for



the purpose of evaluating what has been done, and to gain information and decide the next steps of our program.

A meeting was held in Arad on June 13. with ten Romanian elders and deacons, plus U.S. Elder Bros. Gene Marti and Ed Aeschleman, and Bro. Andy Hunyady.

In comparison to what was observed by brothers who went in 1990, conditions were somewhat improved. They noticed the people are better dressed and have sufficient means to supply physical needs. Land seized by the communists has been returned when former owners could be located. However, there is now a high property tax, which they fear could result in losing the land again. This situation is causing much anxiety among them.

During former times, those young men who could do so fled the country. Others were detained in prisons, and today there are considerably more women, most of higher age, than men. Recognizing that growth comes from families, we are trying to find ways to assist them in building the family unit, which we hope will help strengthen the brotherhood. In this work, coordination with World Relief efforts is vital.

Although the roads are poor, one can travel, and fuel is obtainable. We have furnished vehicles so brethren can visit the scattered members and deliver food packages. There are a few telephones and we have provided some fax machines so they can stay in touch with one another and with us.

Some 50 churches were taken from them, and most have now been returned, some usable and some not. With our help, many congregations have new or remodeled buildings

which are adequate for their needs. There are 38 congregations, and a full report of recommendations for each one has been submitted to the European Board and Mission Committee. On this basis, we feel there is a need for about \$160,000 to bring them to a point

where all assemblies have their own

place of worship

They use the Zion's Harp hymnal in the Romanian language, and have agreed upon an acceptable translation. At this time 8,000 copies are being printed at an estimated cost of \$2.00 per book. The Mission Committee has already sent funds for this. In addition, funds have been designated for printing of Romanian Bibles. In this way, your contributions go directly into programs designed to benefit the spiritual welfare of brethren in far away lands.

One European elder pointed out the scripture stating that there is a time to tear down and a time to build. And it appears that this is a time to build. No one knows how long the open access to these brethren will remain. We are doing all we can to assist them physically as well as spiritually while we have the opportunity. In this effort, we need your prayers and support.

Apostolic Christian Mission Committee P.O. Box 23356 Overland Park, KS 66223

- 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 W. First St. Congerville, IL 61729 or (309) 448-2416

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

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN BIBLE DISTRIBUTION

Bibles Distributed By Our Churches Ten Years --- August 1983 thru July 1993 --- 256,743

Bibles Distributed --- Eleventh Year

	MONTH	TO DATE
August 1993	1,509	1,509
September 1993	1,661	3,170
October 1993	3,572	6,742
November 1993	2,580	9,322
December 1993	2,864	12,186
January 1994	1,486	13,672
February 1994	1,998	15,671
March 1994	2,741	18,412
April 1994	3,599	21,511
May 1994	3,292	24,803
June 1994	3,096	27,899
July 1994	1,978	29,877
August 1994	2,740	32,617

*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

Our thanks to those who sent Bibles to be sent overseas. We appreciate the response and can continue to use more Bibles, Bible Story Books and the three hymnals mentioned.

Thank You, Jerry and Arlene Banwart

-NOTICE -

INDIANA UNIVERSITY Mid-week Service

The Indianapolis church would like information to consider starting a monthly midweek service in Bloomington,

Students or their parents are encouraged to call ministering Bros. Ken Wuethrich (317-894-0986) or Ron Bollier (317-549-9151) if you plan to attend Indiana University this fall.

Thank you for your help.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

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

Eccles. 3:1

Change... Ecclesiastes tells us there is a time for each event of our lives. Recently there have been many changes at the Apostolic Christian Home for the Handicapped. As we experience these changes, we are both excited to anticipate the future and are sentimental when looking at what must change.

Linden Estate now houses 15 residents who formerly lived at ACHH and one person from the community. This also involves the changes associated with new staff and staff-changing positions. These changes were made slowly so that all could adjust. We moved new residents into ACHH as the occupants of Linden Estate moved into their new home. The residents here at ACHH have met new friends and really accept new people very easily.

The end of July also brought administrative changes, as Bro. Bob Knobloch retired after 23 years of SILVER LINING

dedicated service to the Home and all who lived and worked here. Bro. Ron Messner is the new Administrator. Ron has worked at ACHH for 13 years as Social Services Director. Thank to all of you for the anticipated continued prayerful support of the work of caring for the handicapped.

October birthdays are: at ACHH, Tricia O'Donnell (1), Lois Baumgartner (4), Carol Fahrni (5); at Oakwood Estate, Anita Schuon (13), Bryan Tiezzi (30); and at Linden Estate, Kent Knobloch (14). There are no October birthdays at the Main Street or Hazelwood homes.

GATEWAY WOODS Apostolic Christian Children's Home Marilyn Walder

"Count your blessings, name them one by one. Count your many blessings see what God hath done." Hymns of Zion #116

We have been so blessed that it's hard to know where to start in counting our blessings. First of all, we need to say thanks to God for enabling us through so many outside sources to be able to say at the end of the summer that it has been a wonderful one. We also need to say thanks to the many people who have been willing to be used by God to help meet our needs. Bro. Chad Plattner and Sis. Tonya Wieland were employees for the summer and we say a big thanks for coming to Gateway Woods and for making a difference for all of us. Also a special thanks to Bro. Rob Honegger and Sisters Kelly Leyse, Rachel Clough, and Bridget Zollinger for volunteering on a long-term basis. Our summer wouldn't have gone as smoothly without each of you. You each had your own special gift to offer before the Lord and we pray a

rich blessing to each of you. Some further blessings have been many willing volunteers during August, including: Sisters Wendy Witzig, Marjie Heinz, Amanda Gutwein, Shelley Leman, Christine Romersberger, Renee Miller, Kelli Stoller, Dawn Dick, Lisa Kipfer, and Jill Gramm, and Bros. Kevin Plattner, Kurt Plattner, Dana Plattner, Joel Beer, Jeremy Zimmerman, Jeff Hodel, Gabriel Clough and Clint Heinold. A big thanks to each of you for giving of your time and talents.

Another blessing for which we are thankful is the success of our annual auction. This is the third year for me as a staff member to be able to watch the extensive preparation prior to the sale. It seems that people come out of nowhere and go about doing his or her part and miraculously it all gets done without any one individual feeling overwhelmed. Our sincere thanks goes to Bro. Jeff and Sis. Carla Fritz, Leo, IN for volunteering their time as the local coordinators. We appreciate their enthusiasm and selflessness as they offered and followed through on new ideas and extra work to make this year's auction even more of a success. We can't thank all of you enough who gave of your time and talents for months ahead, the week before or on sale day to bring this year's total to over \$138,000! May God be your rich rewarder.

Two of our young ladies, Lia B. from the Girl's House, and Robin S. from the Schrock's have moved home. Our continued prayers and support will be with both of you.

We would like to ask for your continued prayer support as we begin a new school year without an Education Coordinator. School brings along with the homework and extra curricular activities, the challenge of juggling our children's time and enthusiasm with the ever present struggles in their personal

lives. It can be a very stressful time but also one of personal growth for the children and staff. We are thankful for you, our faithful prayer warriors.

We are also still praying that God will provide for our open staff positions of Alternate Houseparents and Child Care Supervisor. These are demanding jobs but also very rewarding. If God is calling, are you opening your heart to His call? Do not wait--answer today.

ARIZONA, PHOENIX Ron and Ev Hoerr

"Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted." Matthew 5:4

"...and the Lord give thee understanding in all things."

Our Silver Lining news was in the mail when we got news that still grieves us. Our sympathy to Bro

the mail when we got news that still grieves us. Our sympathy to Bro. Jerry and Sis. Cathy and Michael Emch and to Bro. Paul and Sis. Irene Emch and other relatives on the untimely death of Nathan Zeltwanger, son of Bro. David and Sis. Kelly (Emch) Zeltwanger. Nathan's services were in Francesville, IN where his maternal grandparents and great-grandparents were in attendance. Oh Lord, please comfort all of us.

We gathered the evening of July 24 to hear the reading of the 1993 Memorandum. Bro. Loren Knapp (Tucson, AZ) came to help Elder Bro. Jon Kokanovich.

Bro. Don Gudeman (Wolcott, IN) also was our visiting minister.

Dr. Surendra Parkhe and wife, Damayanti, visited from India. He gave us an update on the Christian church in India.

We enjoyed visitors who had been to the California army reunion. Our weather is much more pleasant between October to May, so please plan another trip.

Welcome to Valerie Knobloch who moved here from Minneapolis. Her parents are Bro. Larry and Sis. Sherryl Knobloch (Lester, IA). Valerie didn't just find a job---she found her Saviour Jesus Christ. We rejoice with her.

We also welcome the Ebert family from Colorado. They are Bro. Tom, Sis. Diane, Jeremy, Jennifer, Amy and Adam.

Our sympathy to Bro. Melvin and Sis. Bertha Miller on the death of their niece, Sis. Cheri Maher, due to an accident. Also our sympathy to Sis. Lucille Richardson on her brother's death.

Thank You Note:

The family of Bro. Earl Sanders wishes to express their deepest gratitude for all the love, kindess and most importantly, prayers bestowed on them during his illness and death. Visits, cards, meals, gifts of love and other expressions of caring and support were greatly appreciated. We pray God will bless you all.

Sis. Emma, Bro. Bill, Sis. Sue and family

The Book of Philippians is a joy to study. Read 3:1.

ARIZONA, TUCSON Lisa Knapp

We are happy to extend two welcomes this month. First, we are pleased to welcome Nicholas Bradley Bauer to our church family. Nicholas has joined the family of Bro. Brad and Sis. Sandy Bauer. Mindy, Daniel and Candace also welcome Nicholas, along with Bro. Willis and Sis. Gloria Hunziker (Peoria, IL) and Bro. Don and Sis. Gloria Bauer (Tucson).

Secondly, we welcome Sis. Emmy Streitmatter from Princeville, IL to our church and to our city. Hopefully, we can help Sis. Emmy feel at home both in the church and in Tucson. We wish you God's blessings in this new chapter in your life.

Our Bro. Gene and Sis. Marge Fehr wish to thank everyone for their cards, prayers and phone calls after the car accident they were recently involved in. It was all greatly appreciated.

Bro. Wayne Zonner and his family were with us recently for Sunday services. We want to thank Bro. Wayne for his service on the pulpit. We appreciate his effort to be with us. May God richly bless Bro. Wayne and his family.

CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA Carol Graf

On July 30 the Fort Sam reunion was held in our area. About 95 people traveled from the Midwest to attend the reunion. The next day on Sunday, those who had come out for the reunion attended church with us in Altadena. It was truly a blessing to fellowship with the group from the reunion and to see how the difficult times spent in the military had led to a closeness and love between these brethren. Visiting ministers who were here for the reunion were: Elder Bro. Phil Stettner (Bluffton North, IN), Bros. Don Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN), Nelson Beer (Milford, IN), Leland Plattner (Zapata, TX), Glen Riggenbach (Smithville, OH), Charles Sauder (Tremont, IL) and John Steiner (Oakville, IA).

Pat Schwartz passed away in July. She had been ill for some time with cancer. She left behind her husband, Bill (son of Bro. Bill and Sis. Naomi Schwartz, both deceased); four children, Jim, Bob, Christie and Tom; and a grandchild. Our prayers are with her family as they mourn her death at an early age.

CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO Rose Huette

shadows lengthen
Across this little landscape of
our life;
We would see Jesus, our weak
faith to strengthen
For the last weariness, the final
strife.

We would see Jesus - for the

We would see Jesus - this is all we're needing,
Strength, joy and willingness come with the sight;
We would see Jesus, dying, risen, pleading;
Then welcome, day! and farewell, mortal night!
Gospel Hymns #500

Our visiting minister this month has been Bro. John Stoller from Leo, IN. Thank you, Bro. John, for coming and your labor of love. Come back soon; it was a blessing. We also wish to thank all of our visitors for coming. We would love to have you come back soon.

COLORADO, DENVER Jamie Grant

The month of July brought many welcome visitors to our little church here in Denver. We were so thankful for the fellowship and the wonderful singing, as together we lifted hearts and voices toward heaven. Singing is such a precious gift where we can give glory to God!

I read an article once entitled, "Songs To Help With Work"; an article about song-writing in all the corners of the world. It told of boatmen pulling their heavy barges along the Volga River in Russia, as they sang slow, drawn out songs to fit the work they did. Then, there were the cowboys that sang serene, easy-moving songs to keep the cattle quiet and to pass the long night away. Lastly, it spoke of moving day in the Philippines, which

meant lifting a whole house and taking it to another place! The movers often sang songs to help them work together to move the heavy house. I thought of how I use singing in my life. It is normally to praise God, but sometimes it is the best tool to make Satan flee from us. How thankful we can be to open our Zion's Harp hymnal and sing praises to God, while it is yet aiding us with our tasks upon this earth!

Special thanks to all of our visiting ministers: Bros. Bruce Hohulin (Goodfield, IL), Jon Schmidgall (Oakville, IA), Gary Maibach (Smithville, OH), Elder Bro. John Lehman and Galen Rokey (Bern, KS), Mark Bahr (Detroit, MI), Elder Bro. Aaron Steffen (Alto, MI), Ron Schambach (Elgin, IL), and Glen Funk (Wichita, KS).

In closing, we would like to thank the Fairbury congregation for hosting the Elder conference this year. It is our hope that where we prayed for the Spirit's leading during the conference, that the same Spirit would admonish us when the Memorandum is read, and that we would receive a measure of grace to submissively follow the advice of our dear Elders and the precious Word of God!

CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE Dawn Winans - Peggy Bahler

We thank our visiting ministers for their willingness to bring God's Word to us. Those ministers were: Elder Bro. Bob Walder (Congerville, IL), Bro. Roy Enhle (Bradford, IL), Bro. Neil Ramsier (Bay City, MI), Bro. Jim Rinkenberger (Bluffton, IN), and Bro. Bob Miller (Portland, OR).

Give faithful Servants ever Who have but one endeavor, The Gospel to proclaim; Who heed Thy Spirit holy And strive and Labor solely O, Lord, to glorify Thy name. Zion's Harp #207

On July 30, Emily Hany (Bro. Richard and Sis. Betsy) was married to Billy Hall (Bruce and Debbie). May the Lord bless them as they make their plans together for the future.

Our thoughts and prayers are certainly with Sis. Doris Bahler and Bro. Doug Schneider (Sis. Jane) who have been hospitalized this past month.

Greg Galat who is living in Korea for a year has a new address:

Greg Galat COMFLEAET Chinhae P.S.C. 479 Box 191 FPO AP 926269 - 1100

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, WASHINGTON Henrietta Meyer

This summer we have been truly blessed with visitors. We are thankful so many have included our area in their travel plans. Our visitors were from Bloomington, Princeville, Roanoke and Gridley, IL; Lester, IA; Rittman, OH; Phoenix, AZ; Lexington, KY; Remington and Bluffton, IN. Our visiting ministers were Bro. Ron Bollier (Indianapolis, IN) and Bro. Ron Heiniger (Bloomington, IL).

Services are held at the Tyson's Westpark Hotel, located about one mile west of the Beltway (I-495) on Route 7. Some of the local congregation meets in the hotel dining room for breakfast at 9:00 a.m. Services are at 10:30 and 12:30.

For more information, assistance, or just to let us know you will be in the area, please call Bro. Matthew Aeschleman (301) 863-9624 or Bro. Matt Fetter (703) 860-5749.

FLORIDA, FT. LAUDERDALE Mary Ann Klaus

The Summer Sunday School program was presented on July 31,

during which the children told about each of the Ten Commandments and sang songs about them. On August 14, our congregation gathered together for a beach picnic as part of the Kingdom Kids program.

We have two births to report this month. Bro. Phil and Sis. Kathy Sauder are the happy parents of Stephanie Lynn who was born on July 13. Bro. John and Sis. Esther Sauder and Mark and Ruth Ann Martino, all of Roanoke, IL are her grandparents. She also has two great-grandmothers, Mary Ruth Riviere and Dorothy Martino.

Born on August 5 to Frank and Elizabeth Fulop was Angelican Victoria Fulop. She is also welcomed by her happy grandparents, Bro. George and Sis. Katherine Fulop and Al and Ruth Patterson.

Bro. Ron Koehl and his family visited us this month and we really appreciated his inspiring messages. Their son, Mark, will be attending school in Miami this fall. We welcome him to the area and look forward to fellowshipping with him.

Other young people moving in and out of the area include Jennifer Sutter (Bro. Rich and Sis. Kathy) who will be attending Florida State University at Tallahassee this fall. We welcome Scott Heiniger from Elgin, IL who has moved into this area and is working at the Executive Airport in Ft. Lauderdale. We also appreciate having Bro. John Bauman, originally from Rittman, OH and more recently from Washington, D.C., worship with us. He is employed by U.S. Air.

Sis. Claudia Green has returned from her week's work in Juarez, Mexico as part of the World Relief Program, A.M.M.A.R. Project. She has some interesting experiences to relate.

FLORIDA, NORTH FT. MYERS Marvin and Rhea Steffen

"There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it."

I Corinth. 10:13

Just when we start wondering if we have trials and temptations that are unlike those of any of our dear brothers or sisters, we rediscover a beautiful verse of scripture with so much promise! God is so faithful! We must strive diligently to be completely in His will, and to reach out to our brothers and sisters to help each other endure what we will in this life.

We have had the good pleasure of visiting ministers coming to share with us this month. Elder Bros. Darrell Klopfenstein (Ft. Lauderdale, FL) and Ben Maibach (Sarasota, FL) traveled to spend a Wednesday evening with us. Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle (Shioda, Japan) and his wife, Lois, traveled across the ocean and shared God's Word with us one Sunday. We ask God's blessings in their labors of love.

We had one of our brothers go into the hospital for surgery this month and we are grateful Bro. Roland Keller will be gathering with us again soon.

Reminder: Silver Lining subscriptions are due for North Ft. Myers in October.

ILLINOIS, BELVIDERE Peg Anliker

We appreciated a visit from ministering Bro. Mike and Sis. Deb Leman and children (Denver, CO). It is encouraging to visit with others from small congregations. The following Sunday Bro. Brian and Sis. Jackie Huber and family (Frances-

ville, IN) were with us. May God bless all the dear brothers who minister God's Word to us. Again, we enjoyed fellowshipping with Bro. Brian and his family.

We had Thursday evening services August 4, as Bro. Robert and Sis. Pearl Miller (Portland, OR) and Bro. Walt and Sis. Dorothy Steffen (Milford, IN) were with us. May God bless them for their labors of love on our behalf. We were thankful for visitors from Elgin, IL that evening too.

Last, but certainly not least, Bro. Gary and Sis. Edie Anliker (Elgin, IL) assembled with us on August 14. We sure appreciate Bro. Gary's willingness to serve us when Bro. Dean is gone. We are thankful Bro. Dean and his family can travel too and be encouraged by brethren from other congregations. In the afternoon, our dear Elder Bro. Nate and Sis. Marilyn Steffen (Elgin, IL) assembled with us and Bro. Nate brought us communion exhortations.

Little Derek Anliker (Bro. Brian and Sis. Peg) was hospitalized. We're thankful he is home now.

ILLINOIS, BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL Debbie Grieco - Janice Horner

We have had the privilege of hearing the messages from a number of visiting ministers this reporting period. Bro. Jon Zeller (Morton, IL) on August 14; Bro. Loren Knapp (Tucson, AZ) on August 17; and Bro. Tom Hoffman (Roanoke, IL) on July 17 exhorted us in the faith. The Brotherhood Conference in neighboring Fairbury brought us Bros. Ronald Palitto (Akron, OH), Duane Reutter (Rockville, CT) and Harold Gramm (Morris, MN) to visit Friday evening, August 12. We so appreciate the sacrifices these brothers make to bring us the Word. We are thankful that they are willing to pay the cost of obedience to Jesus Christ in feeding His sheep. May we not forget to hold them up in prayer daily that they be strengthened physically and spiritually, and that they be filled with God's Holy Spirit and His wisdom.

Sis. Dorie and Sis. Annie Widmer were saddened by the passing of their brother, Edwin Widmer, on July 23 after a sudden illness. He resided in Gridley, IL. We pray for God's comfort to touch this family as they continue their earthly journey in his absence.

Our prayers for healing are with Sis. Virginia Huette and Sis. Anne Marie Young who have been absent from our congregation due to physical illness. We miss them and pray they will soon be able to join us in worship.

Our Sunday School had an opportunity to spend an evening together at an outdoor setting in a nearby park on August 19. Elder Bro. Everett Hari brought the evening to a close with a talk which urged those present to be the "salt" in the world around us. "You are the salt of the earth:" (Matt. 5:13). We need to apply the properties of salt to our lives. One grain of salt changes the taste of the whole lump. It improves the taste of the food. We need to display that Jesus Christ makes life more enjoyable. He improves the quality of our lives, and we as Christians can in turn do that for others. Salt is also a preservative. It hinders spoilage in food. Do we as Christians hinder the course of corruption, unbelief, and unhappiness in the world around us? Salt is also used in home remedies due to its healing qualities. Are we serving as an avenue through which God can heal others spiritually? And last of all, salt is worthless despite all these good qualities if it stays in the salt shaker.

ILLINOIS, BRADFORD Les and Barb Fehr

The weekend of August 13 and 14 the Zapata reunion was held in Bradford. We enjoyed the fellowship with the many visitors, including ministering Bros. Carroll Gerber (Bluffton North, IN), Clarence Dietrich (Silverton, OR) and Earl Gerber (Forrest, IL).

We also thank Bros. Doyle Frauhiger (Bluffton North, IN) and Gary Bucher (Valparaiso, IN) for bringing us God's Word. We really appreciate and look forward to visitors. God bless each of you.

ILLINOIS, CHAMPAIGN Margie Heintz

The 1994-95 school year is about to begin and new and returning students of Parkland College and the University of Illinois are arriving on campus. As a part of that yearly cycle, we set aside a Sunday in August as New Student Welcome Day. The new students (as well as upperclassmen) and their parents and other family members are invited to worship with us. After services, we meet at a local park and enjoy fellowship and food together. We trust that God will bless and protect each student who has come to the Champaign-Urbana area to pursue further learning, and we pray that all will find a warm and loving welcome each time they gather with us. May God bring each to the highest learning in Him.

Just as we cheerfully greet new students, we are very sad to say farewell to Bro. Rod and Sis. Anne Anliker and their children, Lane, Lucas and Austin, who have moved to Dundee, IL. They have felt God leading them each step of the way and we can trust them to His unfailing care, but they will be greatly missed. We will welcome them back for frequent visits.

"The Lord bless thee, and keep

thee: The Lord make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: The Lord lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace."

Numbers 6:24-26

We wish to extend our deepest condolences to Bro. Bob and Sis. Wilma Simpson over the recent loss of Sis. Wilma's parents, Bro. Lee and Sis. Emma Scherer, of Roanoke, IL.

Likewise, our sympathy goes to Sis. Lorna Clauss as she has recently lost her father, Bro. Joe Clauss. We pray and trust that God is comforting them in their sadness, helping them to rejoice because their loved ones' sufferings are over, they have won the victory, and they have gone Home!

"And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes...neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away."

Rev. 21:4

Brent and Keiko Hanson have been blessed with a new baby boy. Conor Ethan was born on August 5, joining his brother, Collin, in the family circle. Conor's grandparents are Bro. Keith and Sis. Joan Hanson and Takashi and Kazuko Sasamori.

"Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord...".

Psalms 127:3

Recently the engagement of Bro. John Walder (Bro. Melvin and Sis. Irma) to Sis. Lisa Schneider (Bro. Ken and Sis. Loretta) of Remington, IN was announced. Their wedding is planned for early October. We pray that they will seek and feel God's guidance as they plan their new life together.

"Be ye therefore followers of God...and walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us...submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God."

Eph. 5:1,2,21

Visiting ministers in the past month were Bros. Dennis Rassi (Fairbury, IL), DeWayne Dill (Minneapolis, MN) and Steve Sauder (Tremont, IL). We appreciate the love and truth of God's Word which they shared with us.

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO Kathy Schlatter

I am continually blessed by the variety of the experiences the Lord has in mind for me. We were privileged to travel many miles and to live for a time in Mexico City this summer (and the Lord helped me to be humble enough to speak in Spanish--though I spoke poorly with a very American accent). As we drove towards the United States on our way back home, I was nursing a bad cold and was not totally grateful for the twisting roads through the mountains. In fact, too much of the time I only wanted to sleep. However, the vistas were breathtaking, and time and time again, from these slopes there were waterfalls. Sometimes they were small. sometimes taller; sometimes only a small amount of water was falling, vet at other spots the falls were spectacular. The Lord has prepared for us similar paths for our spiritual journey. There are many bends in the road. We are not always comfortable, for we are but strangers here. Nevertheless, He gives us glimpses of glory along the way, and always--if we are awake-there are the fountains, the springs, the rivers of living water to refresh

"And the Spirit and the Lord say, Come...And let him that is athirst come. And whosever will, let him take the water of life freely."

Revelations 22:17

We are appreciative of those brothers who shared their time with us in the Spirit. They include: Bros. Duane Reutter (Rockville, CT), Leland Plattner (Zapata, TX), Dwight Stoller (Latty, OH), John Grimm (Columbus, OH), Brad Funk (Garden Grove, IA), Curt Rassi (Tremont, IL) and Dean Steffen (Belvidere, IL). May they know that we were blessed and look forward to their returning as soon as the Lord may lead.

Rachel Rassi and Greg Carder were married Saturday, August 20, in Darien by Bro. Dale Eisenmann. Their parents are Bro. Greg and Sis. Carla Rassi, and Michael and Anna Carder of West Chicago. Grandparents are Sis. Rose Vierling and Bro. Eli and Sis. Pearl Rassi, Morton, IL; Eleanor Downey, FL; and James Boulgon, KY. The new Carder household is in Buffalo Grove, IL. We wish Rachel and Greg much joy and would pray they have little sorrow, but most importantly that the Lord be with them in all their life as they walk hand in hand.

These words are true for our individual households and our church household: "Here we are at the start, committing to each other by His Word and from our hearts. We will be a family in a house that will be a home, and with faith, we'll build it strong."

"Now, to be a family, we've got to love each other at any cost, unselfishly, and our home must be a place that fully abounds with grace, a reflection of His face."

"We'll build a household of faith that together we can make, and when the strong winds blow it won't fall down. As one in Him we'll grow and the whole world will know that we are a household of faith." "Household of Faith," words by Lamb and Rosasco.

At the wedding, some of us were

determining the definition of a "Chicago Classic". Certainly in part, it had to do with the number of years one has been a part of our Chicago church family. There is one couple who would definitely have fit that definition: Bro. Ernst and Sis. Louise Knecht. Bro. Ernst died in 1974, and recently Sis. Louise has moved closer to her daughter and family and attends the Belvidere church. Perhaps this is in the nature of a farewell to Sis. Louise--with much love and some tears--but she always left us laughter. Bro. Ernst was for many years the song leader in Chicago and responsible for punctuality in the afternoon service, especially in the church on Sunnyside. His accent and intensity of spirit were a special part of the flavor of Chicago church. Sis. Louise matched him with her energy and teasing conversation. She was always interested in the church family, from the young to the older, and she was a willing traveler, delighting to meet others wherever she went. Is it any wonder that we miss her? Yet, we know the Lord is taking her to one more place to be a blessing to those around her. We thank the Lord for such "classics" as these who have helped to preserve the faith--and, Louisey, please don't forget Chicago and all of us who love you.

Mabelle Welk is recuperating from surgery. Our love and prayers are with her as she endures what is needed to be physically freer. May she know the Lord's presence in this time of pain.

Having been welcomed so totally into the lives of the friends and family of a Mexican household where we have loved ones, we were overwhelmed. Then I think, are we always so welcoming to those of another "anything"--be it culture, color, socioeconomic class, way of dressing? May the Lord blind us to differences so that we may love as we have been loved by Him--BE-

FORE we were even trying to be like Him (and certainly we have not achieved His perfection)! This acceptance for others is not to give us license for ourselves, yet who are we to judge another?

"For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, that he would grant you according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man; That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God."

Ephesians 3:14, 16-19

"...we glory in tribulations also; knowing that tribulation worketh patience; And patience, experience; and experience, hope; And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us."

Romans 5:3-5

This year I have a new position, as a counselor in the school in which I have been teaching. I know it is the Lord's timing. Nevertheless, I need many reminders in all of my life. When I am not ready for an event which has just happened, small as it may be, somehow my immediate reaction is human. When I am not dealing well with it, which, I must confess, often happens, then the Lord nudges me and I step back and pray, knowing that He has something for me to learn, to do, or both--and I am at peace.

"Advance now for the meeting, All who love Zi'on here, With joyful, happy greeting; Thy griefs now disappear. SILVER LINING

The hour of joyful tiding Now for the bride will sound, Who long in faith abiding, In glory shall be crowned.

O joyful city yonder, Jerusalem the New,

Where the redeemed shall tarry;
O were the time soon due
When we with Thee united, Our
brethren one and all,
Whom Thou, Lord, has invited,
Enter the wedding hall!"
Zion's Harp #50, vs. 6 & 9

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK Cyndee Anderson Anna Marie Reutter

"Unto Thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul."

Psalm 25:1

Repentance is a key that opens the door to God's heart. The last weekend in July our congregation heard the testimonies and witnessed the baptism of four precious young souls who are now brothers and sisters in our Lord. They are Melissa and Rebecca Rinkenberger (Bro. Bob and Sis. Sally), and Phillip Conrad (Bro. John and Sis. Javne), and Derek Yergler (Bro. Max and Sis. Donna). Elder brethren who were with us for this joyous occasion were Dave Wiegand (Champaign, IL), Joe Stoller (Princeville, IL) and Art Bahler (Fairbury, IL). Bro. Robert Beebe (South Bend, IN) was also with us. May Psalm 25:5 be the prayer on each of our hearts. "Lead me in Thy truth and teach me; for Thou art the God of my salvation; on Thee do I wait all the day."

This month we also had visiting ministers who were with us before and after the church conference. They were Elder Bro. Charles Sinn (Fort Scott, KS), and Bros. Lester Huber (Lexington, KY), Art Metz and Donald Sinn (Silverton, OR), Rich Sutter (Ft. Lauderdale, FL)

and Duane Reutter (Rockville, CT). Our Elder brethren and also our ministers have many concerns in regard to the preservation of our precious faith. Let us show our appreciation by being supportive of their conclusions.

We extend sympathy to the family of the late William and Lizzie Farney over the loss of one of their family, Sis. Caroline Leman, of Eureka, who passed away July 2. Sympathy is also extended to her husband, Bro. Milton, and his family.

On July 23, Earl Reutter passed away. Our sympathy is also extended to this family. His wife, Martha, was a daughter of the late Fred and Sis. Emma Jacob. In God's Word there is help promised for the widow, widower and orphans.

Bro. Joe Clauss who lived at the Francesville Home for some time was called to his reward on August 2. He and his late wife, Sis. Nettie, were strong pillars in our congregation and very active in World Relief work when they were able. This family, too, has our sympathy. All nine of their children are still living. They are Sisters Betty Feller (Bloomington), Erma Wieland (Dunlap) and Lorna Clauss (Champaign). Also, Lois Beer (Milford, IN), Caroline Sever (Bloomington), Dorothy Holmes (Hoopeston), and Vernon, Jerry and Earl of Cissna Park.

Those among us who have spent some time in the hospital recently and need our prayers are Sis. Arcelia Bauer, Bro. Richard Ehman, and Sis. Kathy Stock.

We wish God's guidance and direction on our Bro. Steve Eisenmann and his bride, Sis. Cheryl Frank, of Tremont who were married August 7.

Bro. Elmer and Sis. Mary Lou Kaeb celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary with their family of 12 married children and many grandchildren. The Lord has blessed this family in so many ways. We appreciate them.

Our children will be back in school as you read this September edition. Please pray for our youth. There is a battle raging for the mind, heart and soul of these young people. Sometimes we wonder just what is going on, but God works behind the scenes and He will hear and answer the prayer of the righteous in His own time. We need to send these prayers heavenward daily.

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE Arlene Banwart - Beth Steffen

"Thanks we give, and adoration, For thy gospel's joyful sound. May the fruits of thy salvation In our hearts and lives abound; Ever faithful, Ever faithful, To the truth may we be found."

Hymn's of Zion #17

We're thankful for many visiting ministers this past month: Bros. Tim Zimmerman (Gridley, KS), Kenneth Indermuhle (Sardis, OH), Loren Knapp (Tucson, AZ), Jim Knobloch (Winthrop, MN) and Elder Bro. Andy Virkler (Bay City, MI). It's always a blessing when the Annual Brotherhood Conference is in the area and visitors come. We extend a warm welcome to all to visit us.

Sis. Esther Miller (Bro. Merion) has returned to her home after spending some time in the hospital. We pray she'll continue to regain strength.

We'd like to share a little history of our church. The first gatherings of our church people here were in 1857. The barn is still standing where worship services were held. Our present dining room was the sanctuary of the original built in 1874-75. After a wedding of two Mennonites in 1852, Elder Bro.

Joseph Virkler of New York who was visiting was asked to play dominos. He said, "No, that's not for me." The young bride noticed this and pondered it, and later accepted the Apostolic Christian Faith. She, Magdalena Schrock, and her husband, Joseph, were some of the first persons baptized in Illinois among Apostolic Christians. (Marching to Zion by Perry Klopfenstein, pg. 129-132)

What a far-reaching effect that small statement "That's not for me" has had.

ILLINOIS, ELGIN Renee Anliker - Debbie Sauder

"Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart; and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Matthew 11:28-30

We, as God's children, enjoyed the privilege Saturday evening, July 23, to hear what God had worked in the heart of Alan Schambach (Bro. Stan and Sis. Norma). and then to welcome him into the fold, as a brother in faith, the following day. Much encouragement and many loving exhortations were shared, not only with Alan, but all of us to "learn of God", which is the best curriculum available. We trust God will be with Alan and continue to guide and bless him with the same sincere and humble faith he had that weekend. With us for this occasion was Elder Bro. Phil Stettner (Bluffton North, IN). May God bless him for his faithful service on our behalf.

Other visiting ministers this month included Bros. Ken Dietz (Bradford, IL), Wayne Lehman (South Bend, IN) and Paul Gasser (Akron, OH). We are always encouraged when we can assemble together and still find God's Word proclaimed in its truth and sincerity. May God bless these brothers for their labors.

"...prepare to meet thy God."

Amos 4:12

Recently we were reminded that there are times that God does not use what we would term as good manners, but rather He gives a straightforward commandment that we are to follow. How we rejoice with the angels in Heaven that three souls have been obedient to this command and found grace sufficient to seek the Lord in repen-May God grant Jose Manterola, and Janice and Karen Anliker (Bro. Gary and Sis. Edie) that sincere childlike faith to lay their all on the alter and make all the necessary preparations to meet their God.

"And all thy children shall be taught of the Lord; and great shall be the peace of thy children."

Isaiah 54:13

During the week of August 1 our Sunday School children enjoyed attending Vacation Bible School, once again. We are thankful for all who participated, especially the ministering brothers who taught the high school students: Bros. Andy Moser (Valparaiso, IN), Jon Zeller (Morton, IL), Rick Plattner (Peoria, IL) and Ron Schambach. On Wednesday evening that week, Elder Bro. Earl Ringger (Gridley, IL) exhorted the entire church, young and old, on the topic of "Family Worship". While Satan is working overtime to destroy the family, may we each be encouraged to never tire of reminding our children, as well as ourselves, of the old, old story. "For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, here a little and there a little."

(Isaiah 29:10). May God reward the efforts of each one.

Surgical patients this month included Bro. Dick Klopfenstein (Sis. Judy) and Timothy Steffen (Bro. Dave and Sis. Linda). We are thankful that both are home and trust they soon will be restored, according to God's perfect plan.

Also, some in our congregation have experienced the final earthly parting of loved ones. May God comfort Bro. Ken Lindoerfer (Mary) and Sis. Vicki Kellenberger (Bro. Ken) as only He can do.

While some have experienced loss, other families among us have already gained or anticipate future additions. On August 9, Jesse Wilson Darlington blessed the home of Jerry and Sis. Sandy (Houston. TX). Big brothers, Joseph and Jacob, as well as grandparents, John and Ella Martin, are all anxious to help care for Jesse. May God grant each parent the grace to raise their children, according to His precepts. Eric Schambach (Bro. Bob and Sis. Jeanne) and Erika Anderson (Ken and Anita of St. Charles, IL) have recently announced their engagement. May God guide and bless them as they plan for their future together.

"Ready to go, ready to stay,
Ready my place to fill;
Ready for service, lowly or great,
Ready to do His will."
Hymn's of Zion #124 (chorus)

It is with sadness of heart that we bid farewell to Bro. Cal and Sis. Dena Weiss as they leave the Elgin congregation for an apartment in Sabetha, KS. While they have certainly always exemplified the quiet, willing spirit of readiness to help where needed, we know they likewise are now willing to go where God has lead. We trust God's blessings, nearness and peace will accompany them and they will enjoy their new home, but not forget to

return and visit us.

Others have also been "ready to do His will" and responded to God's leading by moving into our congregation. We warmly welcome Bro. Rod and Sis. Anne Anliker, along with their three sons, Luke, Lane and Austin, from the Champain, IL area. Also, Bro. Tim Lawson of the Arizona area has relocated to our area. May each soon feel at home among us as we together strive for that Heavenly home awaiting the true and faithful.

ILLINOIS, EUREKA Dori Blunier

Some of the Eureka brethren hosted the Fort Sam reunion on July 31 which brought many visitors to our church, including Elder Bros. Chuck Hemmer (Peoria, IL) and Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO), and Bros. Bert Butikofer (Elgin, IA) and Marvin Steiglitz (Leo, IN). We could sense the closeness that the brothers in the service had and how much they appreciated each other.

The annual Conference brought many other visiting ministers to our area, including Elder Bro. Art Nohl (Morris, MN), Bros. Ed Knecht and Robert Miller (Portland, OR), Beirne Messner (Morris, MN), Tom Leman (Denver, CO), Wayne Grimm and Pat Zaugg (West Bend, IA). We were thankful for the true Word which was so ably taught us.

Bro. Mark and Sis. Lisa Schmidgall are thankful for their first little boy, Zachary Tyler, born on July 17. Zachary has three older sisters, Ashly, Emily and Lilly.

We were saddened by the death of our Sis. Caroline Leman on July 20, but yet could rejoice that her patient suffering is over. We extend our sympathy to her husband, Bro. Milton, and children, Bro. Bob (Peoria), Shirley Johns (Woodland Hills, CA), and Bros. Terry and Larry (Eureka). We also sympa-

thize with Sis. Caroline's brother, Ben Farney (Rankin), and nine sisters, Sisters Anna Nuest (Kouts, IN), Helen Lackey (Paxton), Louise Manz (Cissna Park), Martha Farney and Esther Steiner (East Lynn), Marjorie Knapp (Congerville) and Sophie Peyer (Whitewater, WI), Lucille Baker and Clara Bodager (Jeromesville, OH).

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY Sally Fehr - Thelma Slagel

"And the apostles and elders came together for to consider of this matter."

Acts 15:6

How fortunate we are to be part of a faith and a church that is still based on Scripture and conducted as the early New Testament churches were. We at Fairbury were privileged to witness this as we hosted the Annual Elder and **Brotherhood Conference on August** 9-12. From the beginning...the detailed planning, which began a year ago, to the end...Friday night church after the General Conference, it was surely a time of great spiritual blessing for our congregation. As we sang Friday morning before the conference, a line from one of the hymns really touched me and expressed the feeling of the week..."I am in the midst of you." Zion's Harp #28, vs. 2

We were blessed to have most of our Elder brethren and many ministers with us, as well as numerous other visitors. We enjoyed hosting all of you and welcome you to come again. We are especially grateful to those who ministered to us: Elder Bros. Henry Dotterer (Rittman, OH), Ed Aeschleman (Philadelphia, PA), Kevin Ryan (Rockville, CT), and Bros. Ben Wiegand (Columbus, OH), Mark Steiner (Smithville, OH), Andy Virkler (Croghan - Naumburg, NY),

Hartzell Kaisner (Detroit, MI), Doug Sabo (Sarasota, FL), Dale Zeltwanger (Morris, MN) and Dean Messner (Winthrop, MN). May the Lord bless your efforts.

Yea, all I am and love most dearly To Thee I offer now, the whole; O, let me make my vows sincerely; Take full possession of my soul! Let naught within me, naught I

Serve any will but Thine alone. Zion's Harp #41, vs. 4

July 23 and 24 was a very blessed weekend as we heard testimonies and witnessed the baptisms of Nathan Teubel (Walter and the late Mabel), Annette Hale (Troy), and Rodney and Trent Steidinger (Bro. Tom and Sis. Dianne). Elder Bros. Joe Braker (Morton, IL) and Wayne Anliker (Forrest, IL) and Bro. Earl Gerber (Forrest, IL) shared the weekend with us. We are so thankful for our new brothers and sister and wish them God's continued grace.

And never let my purpose falter, O Father, Son and Holy Ghost! But keep me faithful to Thine altar

Till Thou shalt call me from my post.

So unto Thee I'll live and die, And praise Thee evermore on high.

Zion's Harp #41, vs. 6

Bro. Martin and Sis. Trish Steidinger welcomed a baby brother for Alex, Wesley, Kent, Leann and Karla. Little Kirk Douglas was born on July 28. His grandparents are Bro. Maurice and Sis. Alma Steidinger, and Bro. Earl and Sis. Esther Gerber (Forrest, IL).

"For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother and shall be joined unto his wife...".

Ephesians 5:31

The engagement of Bro. Mike Stork (John and Eunice) to Sis. Marie Kuenzi (Bro. Nick and Sis. Mary) of Silverton, OR was announced to us. May the Lord guide them as they plan their September 25th wedding and look forward to their life together.

We extend sympathy to Sis. Katherine Fehr (Bro. John) in the loss of her nephew, Luke Huber, a missionary in Santarem, Para, Brazil, South America.

Hospital patients this month were Sis. Aldine Steffen (Ezra) and Sis. Darlene Bittner. Bro. Jeff Moser underwent outpatient surgery. May the great Physician grant healing to all.

The following was shared by a ministering brother some time ago:

If Jesus came to your house to spend a day or two,

If He came unexpected, I wonder what you'd do.

Oh, I know you'd give your nicest room to such an honored guest,

And all the food you'd serve to Him would be the very best.

And you would keep assuring Him you're glad to have Him there,

That serving Him in your home is joy beyond compare.

But when you saw Him coming, would you meet Him at the door

With arms outstretched in welcome to your heavenly Visitor?

Or would you have to change your clothes before you let Him in,

Or hide some magazines and put the Bible where they had been?

Would you turn off the radio and hope He hadn't heard,

And wish you hadn't uttered that last loud hasty word?

Would you hide your worldly music and put some hymn book out?

Would you let Jesus walk right in or would you rush about?

Yes, I wonder, if the Saviour spent a day or two with you, Would you go right on doing the things you always do?

Would you go right on saying the things you always say?

Would life for you continue as it does from day to day?

Would your family conversation keep up its usual pace?

And would you find it hard each meal to say a table grace?

Would you sing the songs you always sing and read the books you read,

And let Him know the things on which your mind and spirit feed?

Would you take Jesus with you everywhere you'd planned to go,

Or maybe would you change your plans for just a day or so?

Would you be glad to have Him meet your very closest friends,

Or hope that they would stay away until His visit ends?

Would you be glad to have Him stay forever on and on,

Or would you sigh with great relief when He at last had gone? It might be interesting to know

It might be interesting to know the things that you would do,

If Jesus came in person to spend some time with you.

--- Author Unknown

ILLINOIS, FORREST Marlene Walter -Mary Bachtold

On the weekend of July 30 and 31, we gathered together to hear the testimonies and witness the baptisms of three dear souls. Our new sisters and brother in faith are Sis. Kathleen Lanz (Bro. Troy), Sis. Jodi Ifft (Bro. Larry and Sis. Shirley), and Bro. Mike Lanz (Bro. Elmer and Sis. LaVonne). We appreciate Elder Bros. Art Bahler (Fairbury, IL) and Bob Walder (Congerville, IL) for helping our Elder Bro. Wayne in this important work. We are thankful that these

souls heeded God's call and may He lead, guide and direct them according to His Holy will.

We feel privileged to have had many visiting ministers this past month. Those sharing God's Word with us were: Elder Bros. Ed Aeschleman (Philadelphia, PA), Lawrence Luthi (Lamar, MO), Duane Farney (Croghan-Naumburg, NY), Ken Sauder (Mansfield, OH), Paul Butikofer (Elgin, IA), and Bros. Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville, IL), Ben Wiegand (Columbus, OH), Art Metz and Don Sinn (Silverton, OR), Dale Moore (Elgin, IA), Loren Knapp (Tucson, AZ) and Bill Dotterer (Phoenix, AZ). May God bless them for their faithfulness.

On August 1, Robbie Mueller left his parents' home, Bob and Sis. Elaine Mueller, and became a resident at the Home for the Handicapped in Morton. We hope Robbie adjusts well to his new home and know that his family will miss him. We trust that the Lord will provide for them in the days ahead.

A precious baby girl, Kyla Renee, is welcomed into the home and hearts of Bro. Todd and Kim Kupferschmid. Kyla has one sister, Brooke Nichole, and her grandparents are Robert and Cherie Kaisner (Fairbury, IL), and Bro. Dean and Sis. Robin Kupferschmid.

Spending time in the hospital this past month were Sis. Marie Hohulin, Bro. John Bolliger and Craig Steidinger (Bro. Glen and Sis. Holly). Our thoughts and prayers are with them, along with Sis. Aldine Wackerle who remains in skilled care.

We extend our love and sympathy to Bro. Harvey and Sis. Velma Jean Ifft and Bro. Homer and Sis. Virginia Blunier and their families in the death of their nephew, Luke Huber (Brazil, South America), who was killed in an airplane accident. May they feel God's comforting Spirit during this time of

sorrow.

As we begin to listen to the tapes of the Conference, we can feel our Elders' concern for our soul's salvation. We appreciate the time they devote to shepherding their flocks.

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD Barb Brim

"They shall hunger no more; neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat. For the Lamb, which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes."

Rev. 7:16-17

What a beautiful promise these verses hold for us as believers. Jesus shall lead us unto living fountains of water, and Lord God Almighty shall wipe away all tears from our eyes. What rejoicing there shall be!

We are so fortunate in our Goodfield congregation this past month to witness the testimonies and conversions of five souls who have committed their lives to the Lord and will share in these rich promises. We welcome our new sisters. Sis. Keri and Jody Hohulin (Bro. Wes and Sis. Joyce), Sis. Amy Wiegand (Bro. Gale and Sis. Jane), Sis. Lucy Grusy, and our newest brother-infaith. Bro. Elmer Grusy, into our beloved church family, and are confident that we shall all one day share in the living fountains of waters provided for us through our belief and acceptance of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Thank you, Elder Bros. Don Sauder (Roanoke, IL) and Dan Koch (Tremont, IL) for assisting Elder Bro. Wes Knapp in the provings and baptisms of these dear souls.

Our congregation rejoices at the birth of Emily Rose Wiegand, the newest addition to our church family. Emily's parents are Bro. Greg and Sis. Jenny Wiegand and her grandparents are Bro. Steve and Sis. Mary Ellen Wiegand, and Jeff and Linda Barrick. We pray that one day she, too, will respond to the Lord's promise and be lead to the living waters through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Our thoughts and prayers rest with dear Sis. Ruth Hohulin who has been in the hospital this month. May God wipe away all the tears and pain this earthly body affords, and fill her with the joy that comes from our earnest expectation of His promise fulfilled.

We are grateful to our visiting ministers and their wives who have shared their time and energies in the Lord with us. Thank you Bro. Loren and Sis. Joan Knapp (Tucson, AZ), Bro. Will and Sis. Sue Schieler (Milford, IN), Bro. Gene and Sis. Dolores Metzger (Lester, IA), and Elder Bro. Ervin and Sis. Sandra Knecht (Eureka, IL) for extending your appreciation of God's love with us.

Thank You Note:

Thank you to all the dear souls who remembered my 90th birthday with cards and gifts. God bless your thoughtfulness.

In His love, Sis. Clara Zobrist

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY Perry A. Klopfenstein

Recently I had a pleasant experience. A lady from Flanagan walked into my store and gave me a listing of the financial donations to our old Gridley church when it was remodeled in 1938. This list, which was not considered confidential at that time, was found among the papers left by our deceased Sis. Verena Kuerth. Her father was a trustee during the remodeling project.

It was special to me because when that church re-opened and conducted its first services in the fall of 1938, it was my first Sunday in church, having been carried in my mother's arms to worship for the first time. Like so many who have benefitted by this, surely it is our hope that at life's end we all can be carried out of church in the arms of Jesus into heaven's portal.

The jist of this is that the act of a mother carrying her infant child into church for the first time is a noble one. That, along with continuous parental nurturing and daily encouragement of children, are pillars of family life which are so desperately needed in our land today. May our faith, and our devout adherence to it, continue on so our families can be strong under God's guidance.

On Saturday, August 13, our Gridley church was the site of the World Relief Board of Directors meeting. This all-day session of nearly 12 hours duration was held in the foyer of the church. It was a blessing to witness these devoted brothers from all regions of our national church proceed through three pages of agenda items. Their zeal and willing attention to detail were an inspiration to us. May God reward them for their efforts in providing relief for the poor and needy. May it glorify God!

On Friday evening, August 12, following the General Conference at Fairbury, IL we held worship services and several ministering brothers were our guests. Elder Bro. John Klotzle (Altadena, CA) preached the main sermon. On the pulpit with him were Bros. Clarence Dietrich (Silverton, OR). and Rex Frieden (Lamar, MO). In attendance were Elder Bros. Eugene Marti (Kansas City, MO), Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO), and Nathan Steffen (Elgin, IL). Also. ministering Bros. Peter Petrovic (San Diego, CA), Arnold Gerst (Taylor, MO), and Alan Steffen (Bluffton, IN).

On Sunday, August 7, our guest

ministers were Bros. Robert Miller (Portland, OR), and Mark Gerber (Bluffton, IN).

On Sunday, August 14, we were blessed by the preaching of Bro. Doug Grimm (Sabetha, KS), and Bro. Curt Rassi (Tremont, IL).

On Sunday, July 31, we witnessed the baptism of four souls who were taken into the church. They were Bro. Casey Knobloch (Bro. Dave and Sis. Judy), and Bros. Jason and Jaren Schlipf (twins) and their younger sister, Sis. Jamie, all children of Bro. John and Sis. Jill Schlipf. It was a wonderful blessing for everyone.

Sis. Emily Stoller was a recent hospital patient.

ILLINOIS, MORTON Phyllis Farney Cheryl Wuthrich

Once again this month the Morton congregation has experienced both joy and sorrow. Death of loved ones causes sadness for they will be missed. But there was also a time to rejoice in that several precious souls gave testimony of their salvation by being baptized in Jesus' name.

On July 27, at Apostolic Christian Restmor, several gathered to hear the testimony and witness the baptism of our new Sister-in-Faith, Lucille Hohulin. On July 30, the congregation gathered to hear the testimonies of three converts and witness their baptisms on July 31. We welcome Sis. Norma (Oscar) Weisser, Sis. Cindy (Bill) Wiedman and Bro. Jerry Miller into our fellowship. May God continue to direct the lives of these new lambs so they can be of a service and glory in our Lord's kingdom.

Louise Frank passed away on July 30 at the age of 96. May God comfort her son, Joseph, and her daughter, Betty Andreoni (Adolph), and her 6 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. Henry J. Mathis, 91, died on August 3. May God be with his surviving relatives; his sister, Margaret Grimm; his nephews, Jerry and Michael Grimm; his niece, Elizabeth Alt; and his many friends and acquaintances he has made in the Morton area through the years.

Bro. Christian Wiedman was called to his Eternal Home on August 7. May God comfort and bless his daughters, Phyllis Thomas (Ronald); Carol Morgan (Gene); six grandchildren and nine greatgrandchildren; three brothers, Edwin Wiedman, Elmer Wiedman, and Bro. Albert Wiedman; three sisters, Sis. Anna Wiedman, Sis. Elsie Knapp and Sis. Edna Dufelmeier; and his many other relatives and friends.

Bro. Raymond Grimm was called into all eternity on August 10. May his loved ones be comforted by the Lord. Surviving are his wife, Caroline; his three daughters, Ellie Kuykendall, Sis. Jody Baum, and Jan Stewart; his brother, Ralph Grimm; his sister, Salome McCool; his six grandchildren and his other relatives and friends.

August 5 found the congregation rejoicing with Bro. Joe and Sis. Millie (Getz) Zimmerman as they celebrated 50 years of marriage. Their children and grandchildren hosted an open house in their honor. May our Heavenly Father continue to richly bless them as they continue down life's pathway together.

We wish to thank visiting ministers that served us this month. They were Elder Bros. Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI), Wes Knapp (Goodfield, IL), Willis Ehnle (Shioda, Japan), Jon Kokanovich (Phoenix, AZ), and ministering Bros. Harvey Grimm (Bern, KS), Eric Givens (Princeville, IL) and Hartzell Kaisner (Detroit, MI).

Note of Thanks:

We want to thank everyone for their kind deeds done during the illness and death of our loved one. May God bless you all as you continue in His service.

The Family of John Hohulin

ILLINOIS, PEORIA Cara Nussbaum

Bro. Dean and Sis. Teresa Thomas welcomed a blessed addition to their family. Alexis Marie was born on August 12, and she joins big brother, Adam, at home. Grandparents are Bro. Edward Jr. and Sis. Frances Knobloch (Princeville, IL) and Bro. Robert and Sis. Lucille Beyer of Peoria.

A new Sunday School year has begun and we welcome the teachers who are starting new terms. They are Sis. Kathy Huthmann and Bros. Jim Rieker, Jim Huber, Tim Feucht and Carl Hoerr, Jr. We ask the Lord's blessings on Sunday School Superintendent, Bro. Dave Obergfel and all of our teachers and pray that they may have the wisdom and patience to teach our children the precious Word of God.

We want to thank the ministers who visited the Peoria congregation this past month. They include Bro. Eric Givens (Princeville, IL); Bro. Pete Petrovic (San Diego, CA); and Bro. Ed Knecht (Portland, OR).

Those hospitalized recently were Bro. George Koehl, Bro. Micheal Rieker and Gene Ivy. Sis. Shirley Klaus is recuperating at the Apostolic Christian Home in Roanoke. May God's healing hand be upon each of you.

Notes of Thanks:

I thank all those who remembered me with prayers, cards and the many kind deeds shown me during my hospital stay and also at the Eureka Home. May God bless and reward each and every one.

Bro. Robert Beyer

We thank you for the gifts, cards, visits and prayers during Bro. Lee's

illness and hospital stay. The Leland Swadley Family

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE Martha Jane Siebenthal

We are always thankful for our visiting ministers; Elder Bro. Art Nohl (Morris, MN), and Bros. Elmer Schmidt (Winthrop, MN) and Rex Frieden (Lamar, MO). We appreciate and thank these dear brothers being willing to bring the precious Word to us.

May God richly bless Bro. Bill Dotterer (Phoenix, AZ) for the Bible Study topic on "Education in the 90's" on August 4. It was a very interesting and worthwhile evening.

A precious baby girl, Alexandria, was born to Bro. Brian and Sis. Mary Beth Elsasser. Welcoming her home are brothers, J. Michel, B.J., Jeremy, and sister, Jamie. Thankful grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Lillian Elsasser, and Bill and Lucille Menold.

Also, thankful grandparents of Tervn Marie Leuthold (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Doreen, Indianapolis, IN) are Bro. Richard and Sis. Jeanette Graham, and Bro. John and Sis. Shirley Leuthold.

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

Properts 22:6

Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Mary Lou Joos in the passing of her father, Bro. John Joos. We pray she will feel the comforting Spirit of God.

We pray for God's healing mercies upon all that have been in the hospital and are home. Bros. Noah Herrmann (Sis. Evelyn), heart; Robert Scholl (Sis. Arlene), heart surgery; Floren Stoller; Herman Baer, heart; Sis. Louise Martin; Martha Stahl and Virginia King.

Thank You Note:

Our sincere thanks for the many expressions of sympathy and memorials received at the passing of our loved one, John Joos. We also appreciate the prayers and kindness extended during his illness and at this time. May God bless each one.

Mary Lou Joos and family

Words to live by:

If you can't have the best of everything, make the best of everything you have.

Kindness is a virtue given by the Lord.

It pays dividends in happiness, and joy is its reward...

For if you practice kindness in all you say and do.

The Lord will wrap His kindness all around your heart and you...

And wrapped within His kindness you are sheltered and secure.

And under His direction your way is safe and sure. Helen Steiner Rice

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE Cathy Hohulin - Annie Leman

School will soon be starting again. We pray that God will watch over our children and grant the parents wisdom to guide their children in ways of truth.

We were thankful to hear the testimonies and witness the baptisms of four of our new Brothers in Christ. On August 7 we welcomed Bros. Jeff Hodel (Bro. Ken and Sis. Kathy), Jeremy Zimmerman (Bro. Rick and Sis. Raylene), Samuel and Steven Bertschi (Bro. Rich and Sis. Bev) into our brotherhood. May God bless them as they walk with Him.

Our thoughts and prayers have been with the Elders, ministers, and brothers as they gathered in Fairbury for the General Conference. May we all do our part in walking closer to God and to the church so we become a more unified body of Christ.

Bro. John and Sis. Jill Bradle are the happy parents of a new little boy. Jason Robert was born August 17. Jason has an older sister, Heidi, and his grandparents are Bro. Jaye and Sis. Peg Rinkenberger (Goodfield, IL), and Bro. Robert and Sis. Mary Bradle.

We'll Talk It Over Tho' shadows deepen and my heart bleeds

I will not question the way He leads:

This side of heaven we know in

I will not question a broken heart. I'll trust his leading, He'll never

Thro' darkest tunnels or misty vale:

Obey His bidding and faithful be Tho' only one step ahead I see. I'll hide my heartache behind a smile

And wait for reasons till afterwhile:

And tho' He try me I know I'll find,

That all my burdens are silver lined.

We'll talk it over in the bye and

We'll talk it over, my Lord and I, I'll ask the reasons. He'll tell me

When we talk it over in the bye and bve.

Melodies of Praise #118

Our congregation was deeply touched and saddened by the tragic accident that took the life of our Sis. Cheri Maher on August 2. She will be missed by many of us. We extend our sympathy to her dear family; her husband, Bro. Dan; their children, Joshua, Cody, Zachary, and Sara (all at home); her parents, Bro. Ervin and Sis. Alice Kempf; and her sisters and their families.

Elaine Hodel (Roanoke), Sis. Maxine Hodel (Bloomington), Gail Smith (Rock Island), Junetta (Boots) Schrock (Wauseon, OH), and Bernie Miller (Middlebury, IN). May God fill their hearts and lives with His love and grace.

We also extend our sympathy to Sis. Ila and Bro. Marvin Pfister in the passing of Ila's mother, Sis. Lena Sauder (Tremont, IL). May all of us left here below find peace in the knowledge of someday meeting these loved ones again in the realms above.

We rejoice with Kelly Funk (Bro. Keith and Kathy) as she has acknowledged her need for Christ in her life and has turned her back on the world. May God grant her the grace and faith to walk close to Him.

We thank our visiting ministers this month. They were: Elder Bros. Jesse Beer (Milford, IN), Dave Wiegand (Champaign, IL), Joe Braker (Morton, IL), Ed Aeschleman (Philadelphia, PA), and Bros. Ted Herstein (Morton, IL), Marvin Stieglitz (Leo, IN), Tom Leman and Mike Leman (Denver, CO), Robert Miller (Portland, OR), Mark Masters (Mansfield, OH) and Jaye Rinkenberger (Goodfield, IL). May God bless these and all of our ministers who give of themselves in the service of His Word.

Our Sis. Alma Baum is in the hospital. We pray that God will grant her strength and health so she will soon be with us again.

Card of Thanks:

Our sincere thanks to everyone who remembered us in any way during Rudie's illness and recovery. We truly appreciate all of your kind words and thoughts, the many gifts, but we are especially grateful for your prayers. We feel so unworthy, but we know your prayers made the difference. May God bless each one of you.

Bro. Rudie and Sis. Mary Hoffman

ILLINOIS, TREMONT Barb Dill - Barb Kaeb

August 7 was the wedding day of Sis. Cheryl Frank and Bro. Steve Eisenmann. Parents are Bro. Robert and Sis. Rose Mary Frank and Bro. Ken and Sis. Sharon Eisenmann. We pray that God will bless their lives as they grow together in His love and in their love for each other.

We appreciate and thank our visiting ministers. They were Bros. John Stoller (Leo, IN), Sid Kaufmann, Ken Eisenmann, Ken Weerts (Cissna Park, IL), Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL), Wes Knapp (Goodfield, IL), Harold Schmidtgall and Steve Baner (Gridley, IL). We wish we could have heard all of them, as many came for the wedding of Sis. Cheryl and Bro. Steve.

Our hospital patients this month were Sis. Lydia Brunner, Sis. Rose Knapp, Bro. Harlan Bolliger (Sis. Carolyn), and Levi Kaiser (Bro. Tim and Sis. Ruth). May they feel our love and prayers.

Bro. Gregg and Sis. Cindy Sauder were blessed with a baby boy that they named Benjamin Gregg. Welcoming home their baby brother are Timothy, Nicholas, and Jeni. Happy and thankful grandparents are Bro. Earl and Sis. Glenna Sauder and Bro. Glenn and Sis. Marilyn Dill.

Bro. Dean and Sis. Judy Martin are leaving Tremont. They will be making Peoria their new home. May God bless them and we hope they will come back and visit us often.

We welcome back to our congregation Bro. Michael and Sis. Ivy Steiner. We are happy to have them with us again.

The funeral of Sis. Lena Sauder was held August 12. She is survived and deeply missed by her son, Jerry, and two daughters, Sis. Ila

Pfister (Roanoke, IL) and Marjorie Zeltwanger (Mishawaka, IN), and two sisters, Sis. Ruth Knepp (Peoria, IL) and Sis. Amy Koch, and many grandchildren. We also extend our sympathy to Sis. Doris Hutchison and Beverly Staker on the death of their brother, Wayne Hutchison (Delavan, IL). May God comfort and bless them all.

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON Sue Ruppert Denise Romersberger

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

I John 1:9

Have you ever thought about all the sins you committed in the past? Do they haunt you to this day, even though you asked for forgiveness and received it freely? It is a problem when you begin doubting that forgiveness. You allow those vivid memories of hurting yourself, and Jesus, to flood into your mind, making you feel bad. Jesus wants you to trust his forgiveness. He has promised in I John 1:9 to forgive you and cleanse you from all unrighteousness. His Word is truth and it is for your good. With forgiveness you can begin a new clean slate if you repent of the old sins.

A famous author, Corrie Ten Boom, says that God puts all of our sins into a big fishing pond and then posts the sign that says "No Fishing". Instead of obeying the sign, we bait our hooks and go fishing anyway. When we go back and fish out our past sins, it hampers our spirit and causes us to feel once again the turmoil and pain. Reliving the sins He has forgiven can isolate us from God. God promises to faithfully and justly forgive us when we confess to Him. Today, let us take God at His word.

Hospitalized this month was Sis. Elizabeth (Putt) Herbst. We ask God for strength and healing for her. Also hospitalized was Bro. Carl Wyss. He is home and feeling much better. Sis. Sue Ruppert underwent knee surgery and is home recovering well. Both Carl and Sue would like to thank all for their thoughts and prayers. We are so privileged to have a fellowship of loved ones who really care about our well being.

Visiting us was Bro. John Klotzle and his wife, Sis. Lois (Altadena, CA). We appreciate Bro. John's preaching and submitting himself to the Spirit. Thank you and come again.

Bro. Keith and Sis. Jill (Elsasser)
Teubel are the parents of a new
baby girl, Anna Lee. Grandparents
are Bro. Ed and Sis. Louise Teubel,
and Bro. Duane and Sis. Doreen
Elsasser. Mother and baby are doing fine. We are so thankful for a
safe delivery and a healthy baby.

Bro. Matt and Sis. Deanna (Herrmann) Steffen are the happy parents of a baby girl, Olivia Re. She was welcomed home by brother, Quinn, and sister, Myca. Grandparents are Bro. Howard and Sis. Mary Ann Herrmann, and Bro. Aaron and Sis. Loretta Steffen. Mother and baby are doing fine. We are so thankful.

Lisa Martin, daughter of Bro. Harvey and Sis. Sharon (Meiss) Martin, was married July 23 to Scott Friederich. We wish the couple a blessed and happy marriage.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON Jaci Gerber - Jill Fiechter

On August 12, Bro. Tom and Sis. Lyn Steffen welcomed the arrival of Jenae Michelle. She joins big sister, Jessica, at home. Grandparents are Bro. Phil and Sis. Jean Moser, and Bro. Harry and Sis. Betty Steffen.

Bro. Lonnie and Sis. Vicki Grube

were blessed with a new son on August 13. They named him Lance Ralph C and he joins sister, Lindsey, at home. Grandparents are Bro. Ralph and Sis. Jeannie Baumgartner, and Paul and Jane Grube.

Bro. Walter and Sis. Lillian Bertsch welcomed their granddaughter, Rachel Michelle, on August 13. Her parents are Jeff and Sis. Jodi Towle (Bluffton North).

We share in the joy of Bro. Homer and Sis. Clara Fiechter as they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on August 6.

July 31 was the wedding day of Sis. Amber Heyerly and Bro. Tony Gerber. Their parents are Bro. Arlin and Sis. Roxanne Heyerly (Bluffton North), and Bro. Jerry and Sis. Ann Gerber.

Rachel Kipfer and Marc James were married on August 6. Rachel is the daughter of Bro. John and Sis. Sue Kipfer.

Sis. Lana Ringger and Bro. B.J. Frauhiger were united in marriage on August 21. Their parents are Bro. Alan and Sis. Sheryl Ringger, and Bro. Charles and Sis. Marie Frauhiger. We wish these couples God's richest blessings in their new life together.

We rejoice with our recent converts who have turned their backs to the world and its sin. They are Dan Tucker and Sally Ringger (Bro. Alan and Sis. Sheryl).

May God's healing power rest on those who have been hospitalized. They are Sis. Alice Schwartz (Bro. Ervin), Bro. Greg Isch (Bro. Hubert and Sis. Judy), Sis. Saloma Kipfer, and Sis. Effie Bertsch (Bro. Herman).

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

Isaiah 55:8-9

INDIANA, BLUFFTON NORTH Susan Harris - Kay Steffen

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

Proverbs 22:6

We think of our children who will soon be starting another school year. As they are faced with many challenges, we must always remember to pray for them.

We were happy to hear that Jeff and Sis. Jodi Towle were blessed with a baby girl, Rachel Michelle, on August 13. She joins a brother, Brandon, and a sister, Sarah. Grandparents are Bro. Walter and Sis. Lillian Bertsch, and Don and Bev Towle. We wish them God's guidance and blessings.

Bro. Tony Gerber (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Ann) and Sis. Amber Heyerly (Bro. Arlen and Sis. Roxanne) were joined in marriage on July 31. We wish them God's blessings as they begin this new walk together.

"My Jesus, I love Thee, I know Thou art mine.

For Thee all the pleasures of sin I resign; My gracious Redeemer, my

Saviour art Thou;
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus tis
now."

Hymn's of Zion #153

INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE Val Gutwein

Recently in Francesville we were exhorted to live each day with the imminent return of our Lord Jesus Christ on our hearts and minds. The thought that was expressed is that we will see the "inconveniences" of life as not so important. We need to say to ourselves in those situations, "What does it really

matter?". Our most important duty in life should be to do His will each day, and that includes thinking less and less of ourselves, while lovingly building one another up in the precious faith. Let us let the Spirit lead us daily.

With great joy it was announced that Sandra Gutwein (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Janice) and Ben Cook (Sis. Debbie) have peace with their Lord Jesus. We look forward with them to baptism and pray that the Holy Spirit will keep them as they walk in the way of the cross.

July 24 was the wedding of Sis. Carolyn Gutwein (Edwin and Mary B.) and Bro. Mitch Leman (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Jane, Bradford, IL). We trust that God will direct them on their path of life together, and make them a useful vessel in His kingdom.

Two more couples shared their wedding vows this past month. On August 13, Erica Ward (Bro. Roger and Sis. Sandi) and Michael Thomas (Bro. Mike and Sis. Claudia, Valparaiso, IN) were united in Holy Matrimony. Also on the same day, Bryan Cook (Herb and Sis. Suzanne) and Jennifer Cornforth of Indianapolis (Mr. and Mrs. Richard L. Cornforth) became one in the flesh as they exchanged their vows to stay true until life's end. We pray God's eternal love will guide and direct these dear couples as they begin a new life together.

Bro. Mike and Sis. Monica Fritz are rejoicing at the arrival of their special package from Heaven. Their son, Ezra Harold, has arrived from Korea and he is nine months old. His grandparents are Bro. Nate Gutwein, and Bro. Harold and Sis. Sherry Fritz (Minneapolis, MN), and one great-grandmother, Sis. Ruth Heinold (LaCrosse, IN). Ezra has two brothers and two sisters to welcome him home. We pray that little Ezra will feel the love and excitement from us as we too wel-

come him to the United States.

We are thankful that Sis. Louise Yaggie and Sis. Mildred Huber are back home after short stays in the hospital. May God continue to heal them and may we pray that His tender touch would make them "healthy" again if it would be His will.

We are grateful to the many ministers who helped in the ministry of the Word over the past month. Those that shared with us were as follows: Bros. Marvin Leman and Nate Stoller (Bradford, IL), Marshall Heinold (Washington, IL), Jim Plattner (Princeville, IL) and Elder Bro. David Bertsch (Leo, IN). We know that God will reward each one richly for his efforts to further His kingdom.

INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS Sandy Lichtle Melissa Baumgartner

Greetings! The Lord must really smile when He sees His children gather in one accord to praise Him for His unspeakable gifts. On July 30, we had a singing and were thankful to have Sis. Leonda Stieglitz join us, as she and her husband, Bro. Lyn, and children were visiting for the weekend. We also want to thank Bro. Lyn for his efforts in sharing God's Word with us on Sunday.

We rejoice with Bro. Jerry and Sis. Doreen Leuthold, as they are the parents of a little girl, Teryn Marie. Kaylin welcomes her baby sister home, as do her thankful grandparents, Bro. Dick and Sis. Jeanette Graham and Bro. John and Sis. Shirley Leuthold, all of Princeville, IL.

INDIANA, LACROSSE Judy Gudeman

The young daughter of Bro. Paul and Karen Heiniger, Paula, had a dream last month, which she shared at his baptism. In her dream, she was standing in her yard when an angel came and spoke to her. "Is there anything that you want, Paula?" the angel asked. Paula didn't answer, so the angel repeated the question. This time Paula said, "I want my Daddy to get better," at which point she heard the house door shut. She saw her father exit the house, walking easily and without a cane. This dream was realized on August 10 when Bro. Paul left his sick earthly body and entered heaven with a new and perfect one. Our sympathy is extended to his wife, Karen; children, Paula and Jacob; parents, Bro. John and Sis. Lucille: sister. Sis Joanie Camburn and her family: and brother David and his family (Sawyer, MI). Our prayers will continue with Karen as she also faces surgery in the near future.

Thanks to the ministers who visited this past month for a wedding: Elder Bro. Bob Walder and Bro. Frederick Knapp (Congerville, IL), and Bro. Steve Martin (Eureka, IL). Bro. John Knapp and Sis. Andrea Stoller were united in marriage, and we wish them many happy years together.

INDIANA, LEO Judy Gehring

Bro. Steve and Sis. Jane Stieglitz were blessed with their second daughter, Whitney Joy, this month. She was born the day of our Gateway Woods auction sale.

We were blessed by the visits of Elder Bro. Darrel Klopfenstein, Bros. Vernon Schwab and Bill Waibel. Thank you for bringing us the Word of God.

The dedication for Cedar Creek Retirement Home was held on a Sunday afternoon.

Our new Sunday School teachers are Bros. Bill Baumgartner and Trent Schrock, and Sis. Peggy Jackson.

May God richly bless Sis. Brenda Wieland and Bro. Loren Klopfenstein for their willingness to teach our youth. Their terms have expired and the new teachers will begin their terms.

Sis. Mildred Schlatter passed away at home on July 3 at the age of 98. Surviving are daughters, Sis. Ethelyn Schlatter and Sis. Joan Stieglitz of Leo; a son, Victor, of Australia; a sister, Sis. Evelyn Wysong, of Sabetha, KS. Also surviving are nine grandchildren and sixteen great-grandchildren. Sis. Mildred served the Lord for 72 years. She lived in the Leo-Grabill area after her marriage to Adam Schlatter. Sis. Mildred was a widow for 64 years. We will miss her welcome smile and faithful attendance at the Leo church.

INDIANA, MILFORD Marguerite Hoerr Judy Longcor

"This union of our hearts Shall stand through grace in Jesus;

We walk the path of life,
While cheer and trust increases.
Where God in truth abides,
Where two join hand and heart.
We find a three-fold cord,
Not lightly rent apart."

Zion's Harp #79 (vs. 3)

August 7 was the wedding date for Bro. Brent Beer (Bro. Bob and Sis. Linda) and Sis. Pam Stoller (Sis. Irma and late Bro. Millard, Latty, OH). We wish them God's richest blessings and extend a warm welcome to Sis. Pam.

Visiting ministers this month were Bros. Robert Miller (Portland, OR), Ron Kipfer (Bluffton, IN), Ken Schneider (Remington, IN), Nile Bucher (Bluffton North, IN) and Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle (Japan). We want to thank each of these brothers for lending themselves on

our behalf. May God bless each of them.

INDIANA, REMINGTON Amelia Schini

"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct thy paths."

Proverbs 3:5-6

On Wednesday, July 27, Bro. Tom Stock (Cissna Park, IL) was here for Topical Bible Study. His topic was "Developing Self-Discipline". We thank you (and Sis. Karol) for your time and efforts. We appreciated the message.

Bro. Leon and Sis. LeAnn Kaeb had a boy, Nelson Merle, on July 31. He was welcomed home by two brothers, Wesley and Loren. Grandparents are Bro. Elmer and Sis. Mary Lou Kaeb (Cissna Park, IL) and Bro. Merle and Sis. Marge Kaisner (Fairbury, IL).

On Wednesday evening, August 10, we had visiting ministers, Bros. Ron Steiner (Rittman, OH) and William Brake (Sardis, OH) with us. We thank you and your wives for your visit.

We are happy for Sis. Lisa Schneider (Bro. Ken and Sis. Loretta) and Bro. John Walder (Bro. Melvin and Sis. Irma) of Champaign, IL who announced their engagement on August 14.

Brian Schneider (Bro. Ken and Sis. Loretta) and Shelly Siela (Richard and Glenda) were united in marriage August 14. May they "find a three-fold cord not lightly rent apart". We wish them God's richest blessings in their new life together.

Bro. Virgil and Sis. Mary Metzger and family were with us also on August 14. We are always glad to have you with us and thank you for your message, Bro. Virg.

INDIANA, SOUTH BEND Carolyn Frank - Gigi Schafer

We would like to welcome Bro. Jeff Dotterer to our congregation. He has recently moved to the South Bend area from Chicago. We are thankful that the Lord has lead Bro. Jeff to seek employment here and are delighted to welcome him into our church family.

Two dear sisters recently celebrated birthdays. Sis. Mae Schumacher observed her 86th on July 3, and Sis. Helena Martin celebrated her 88th on August 7. Even though they can no longer assemble with us because of failing health, they are ever close in our hearts. Their love and steadfast faith through the years have been a constant source of inspiration and strength to us all. Our love to them as the Lord leads them into another year.

Clay Frank, son of Bro. Tom and Sis. Carolyn, recently underwent eye surgery at St. Joseph Hospital in South Bend. We trust the Lord to provide healing and a measure of strength for Clay as he recuperates.

We received an unexpected blessing Wednesday, August 10, when Bro. Ron Palitto (Akron, OH) chose to worship with us on his way to the Conference. We were few in number that evening, but the Spirit of the Lord was truly in our midst, and we thank Bro. Ron and Sis. Synell for ministering to us.

As our thoughts and prayers are with the Elder body during this time of our yearly Conference, we would especially like to remember our Elder Bro. Jesse Beer. Having the oversight of two churches is a weighty responsibility, and we wish to extend our love and thanks to him for his time, efforts, and love on behalf of the South Bend congregation.

INDIANA, VALPARAISO Ken & Cindy Susdorf

We were happy to have our children with us during their Sunday School break and now it's time for school to start up again. We pray for each one of them. Some will just begin school for the first time and some will be leaving home for the first time to go to college.

Pam Schwartz (Gene) is home from the hospital and is slowly recovering from her accident. Also shut-ins this month were: Sis. Jo Meiss (Bro. Rollie), Sis. Carol Bucher (Bro. Ken) and Dorothy Claussen. We are happy to have them back with us again.

We had the privilege to witness and hear the testimony of our new Brother in the Lord, Braden Moser (Bro. Andy and Sis. Diane). Elder Bros. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott, IN) and Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL) were with us for that special weekend. We also want to thank Bro. Todd Feller (LaCrosse, IN) for coming and sharing God's Word with us.

Mike Thomas (Bro. Mike and Sis. Claudia) and Erica Ward (Bro. Roger and Sis. Sandy; Francesville, IN) have been married. We wish them God's blessings and a close walk with the Lord.

Last, but not least, we would like to express our heartfelt thanks to Bro. Dave Bertsch for all the many hours and love he has shown while keeping the Silver Lining printed and organized for us. We are sure there have been many blessings in this, but we also realize to keep a publication like this going takes much effort. May the Lord bless you and your family richly. Please come be with us sometime.

We would also like to wish the Publication's Board the Lord's blessings as they take over this important labor.

Fare thee well and thank you all for your love.

INDIANA, WOLCOTT Sheri Bahler

This is the test of true devotion,
To keep and hold fast to the Lord;
And evermore without omission
In all things to obey His Word.
In small and unimportant
matters,
Yet to be careful and sincere,
Not knowingly to faults
consenting,
However small they may appear.

Zion's Harp #179, vs. 1

We were privileged to have Bro. Tom Stock (Cissna Park, IL) with us July 27 for our Topical Bible Study. His topic was "Building Self-Discipline". So many of our spiritual battles can be won or even avoided just by practicing self-discipline.

Since we rarely have visiting ministers for Wednesday evening services, it was a pleasure to have Bros. Ron Steiner (Rittman, OH) and Bill Brake (Sardis, OH) on August 10. May the Lord richly bless these brothers for sharing His Word.

Chris and Sis. Teresa Bahler are thankful parents of their fourth child, Alisha Christine, born August 7. Excited siblings are Renae, Eric and Shane. Grandparents are Bro. Alfred and Sis. Frances Bahler, and Wallie and Bev Lank.

> IOWA, BURLINGTON Monica Eisenmann Lorna Knapp

We appreciated the labors of three visitors on our pulpit this month. May God richly bless Bros. Dale Frank and Jon Schmidgall (Oakville, IA) and Dale Wulf (Lester, IA) for sharing God's Word with us.

Our congregation has been blessed with two precious babies. Bro. Fred and Sis. Kathy Eberhardt, along with Jonathan, Kayla, Kara, and Joshua, welcome sweet little Kenda Renee into their hearts and home. Also rejoicing are grandparents, Bro. Jody and Sis. Ruby Eberhardt and Paul and Sis. Evelvn Pulfer (Elgin). God has also blessed the lives of Bro. Brian and Sis. Lorna Knapp with the arrival of dear little Darrin Drew. He has stolen the hearts of Jordan, Kyle, Trevor, Krystal, Derek, Wyatt, and Travis, and grandparents, Bro. Jerry and Sis. Nancy Knapp (Congerville, IL) and Bro. Myron and Sis. Dorothy Schulz (Oakville, IA). May God grant them much grace and wisdom to raise these dear souls in His ways.

We are so thankful to have Bro. Paul Eisenmann back home and assembling with us once again. May God continue to manifest His healing powers on Bro. Paul.

God has lead Bro. Mike and Sis. Ivy Steiner to relocate. We miss them so, yet knowing that God's ways are perfect, we ask God to bless them as they go. Our loss is certainly Tremont's gain. We hope they will visit us often.

As we send our children back to school, we pray our Lord will stand mightily beside them. We know they face many evils, but take courage in God's Word, "...greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world." (I John 4:4) How completely we must depend upon Him!

IOWA, ELGIN Gloria Frieden

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

Bro. Lon Butikofer (Sis. Sandy) and Sis. Sue Schneider (Bro. Charles) have completed their terms as Bible Class and Intermediate Class SILVER LINING

Sunday School teachers. We truly appreciate all the time and loving efforts put forth for our children's spiritual benefit. May God richly bless them. Replacing Bro. Lon will be Bro. John Schupbach (Sis. Janet) and Sis Betty Butikofer will replace Sis. Sue. We know God will continue to be with them as they seek His grace and guidance in this duty.

We want to thank ministering brothers Wayne Banwart (Champaign, IL) and Wayne Grimm (West Bend, IA) for spending a recent weekend with us and for the timely considerations given to our Bible Class and Jr. Bible Class students regarding career choosing.

Sunday, August 14th, was our annual Sunday School picnic. As usual, it was well attended and enjoyed by young and old.

Precious memories, how they linger, How they ever flood my soul

In the stillness of the midnight Precious sacred scenes unfold.

IOWA, GARDEN GROVE Dawn Moser - Laura Funk

We want to thank our visiting ministers. They were Bros. Walter Herrmann (Princeville, IL), Wayne Grimm (West Bend, IA) and Ron Joos (Pulaski, IA). May God bless you and your families for your time and labor of love on behalf of our congregation.

We are glad to have Jeff Reinhard back among us, as he was gone for the summer working. It is very comforting and uplifting to have him here, as he has heard God's call and has answered with a firm yes. It is a source of strength and encouragement to us to know that God is indeed calling yet.

IOWA, IOWA CITY Janette Schulz

Greetings to all! A special

"thank you" to all of our visitors this past month, including ministering Bro. Roger Aberle (Bern, KS). We appreciate your making the effort to assemble with us. It is always encouraging to see our sometimes quite empty assembly fill when we have visitors.

We welcome Sis. Lucy Meiss, the new bride of our ministering Bro. Trent Meiss, to our congregation. We hope she can feel at home and part of our church family, and we look forward to getting to know her better.

We extend our congratulations to Sis. Heidi Fehr who has recently completed her floriculture program. She has found employment in the West Bend, IA area and our prayers and thoughts go with her as she relocates there.

We welcome our students for the upcoming school year. If anyone knows of a student moving to the Iowa City area, please contact one of us so that we can welcome them to our church.

IOWA, LESTER Sue Warner - Cindy Leuthold

We have been richly blessed by the presence of several visiting ministers this past month. How wonderful it is to hear God's Word proclaimed each time we worship together. Thank you to Bros. Carl Wyss and Ed Fritz (Washington, IL), Russell Wuthrich (Pulaski, IA), Virgil Metzger (Chicago, IL), Brad Funk (Garden Grove, IA), Art Metz and Clarence Dietrich (Silverton, OR), Paul Gasser (Akron, OH), and Clark Stoller (Gridley, IL), for lending themselves to God's Word for our benefit.

Alison Lin made her appearance in this world on August 6 to the joy of her parents, Brad and Sis. Linda Klostergaard, as well as her delighted grandparents, Bro. Art and Sis. Elgeva Knobloch. She is joined with her sisters, Angela and Karmen, and big brother, Bryce.

Melissa Van Wyhe (Bro. Pete and Sis. Susan) has found that blessed peace that all converts strive for and is awaiting to give her testimony in the near future.

We want to remember Bro. Ernst Metzger (Sis. Ella) who recently had surgery and Sis. Gladys Knobloch and Bro. Delbert Knobloch (Sis. June) who spent time in the hospital. May God's healing power restore them to health once again.

We bid a final farewell to Jack Wysong who died August 12 after a three-month battle with cancer. He leaves to mourn his wife, Sis. Janet (Moser); six children, Shelley Van Wyhe (Leroy), Nick (Jean), Sis. Lex Knobloch (Bro. Dietrich), Sis Jackie Knobloch (Bro. Denis), Kouri and Blake; as well as his brother, Bro. Ben (Sis. Janice) Wysong of Sabetha, KS; his sisters, Sis. Nancy Gerber (Bro. Bob) of Lester, Sis Sally Haerr (Bro. Norman) of Taylor, MO; and his mother, Sis. Evelyn Wysong of Sabetha, KS. We extend heartfelt sympathy for the dear family.

IOWA, OAKVILLE Melody Steiner Debbie Wagenbach

Bro. Monte and Sis. Kelli Lanz welcome Vienna Marie into their hearts and home. Vienna was born on July 30, and Orrin and Kaylee are very excited to have a new baby sister. Bro. Bob and Sis. Emma Jean Lanz and Marvin and Dorothy Austin (Wapello) are happy for the safe arrival of their new granddaughter. Bro. Sam and Sis. Rosemary Wegman have a new grandson. Bryce Daniel is the firstborn son of Bro. Dave and Sis. Karen Wegman (Washington, IL). Bro. Ted and Sis. Mary Staker (Morton, IL), Bro. and Sis. Sam Staker (Morton, IL), and Bro. and Sis. Willis Sauder (Tremont, IL)

round out the list of Bryce's grandparents and great-grandparents. We wish our new parents God's divine wisdom and help in raising their children.

How we love to come to church and hear the truth so pure and free. We have been encouraged and uplifted to have several visiting ministers in our congregation. Bros. Edwin Bahler (Remington, IN), Doug Grimm (Sabetha, KS), and Loren Knapp (Tucson, AZ), have fed us from the precious Word of Life. May God bless them for lending themselves in the Lord's service. We were also thankful to have retired Elder Bro. Sam Anliker assemble with us for a Sunday recently.

As our dear Elder brethren and ministers return to our congregations from their annual conference, may we give special heed to their warnings and admonishments lest our precious faith and church become spotted by the world. Let us strive to be more prayerful and more obedient to God's Holy Word.

IOWA, PULASKI Ernestine Wuthrich

Visiting ministers during July were Elder Bros. Ed Lanz (Oakville, IA) and Andrew Virkler (Bay City, MI), and Bros. John Steiner (Oakville, IA) and Marvin Schmidgall (Eureka, IL).

We were also privileged to host many visitors who made this a stop as part of their vacation.

We wish to extend sympathy to Sis. Evelyn Metzger in the loss of her brother-in-law, Jack Wysong, of Lester, IA.

IOWA, WEST BEND Mary Gerber - Lela Banwart

We were richly blessed with many visiting ministers this past month. We pray God will be with each of these dear ones and their families as they continue to serve Him. The visiting brothers were: Bros. Alphai Moser (Morris, MN), Roy Ehnle (Bradford, IL), Dale Moore (Elgin, IA), Duane Dill (Minneapolis, MN), Bill Dotterer (Phoenix, AZ) and Elder Bro. Curt Frank (LaCrosse, IN).

We welcomed Sis. Robin Kellenberger and Bros. Kent Kellenberger and Nick Zaugg into our fellowship on August 7. We rejoice with them and their parents, Bro. Rick and Sis. Karen Kellenberger and Bro. Norman and Sis. Polly Zaugg, in this great change and miracle in their lives. Here to share in this joy were Elder Bro. Eugene Marti and Bro. Randy Kellenberger (Kansas City, MO), as well as Bros. Alphai Strahm (Bern, KS) and Floyd Frieden (Elgin, IA).

Bro. Byron and Sis. Anita and Colleen Fehr welcomed Deanna Ruth into their lives on July 19. Little Deanna remains hospitalized in Minneapolis at this time. Our prayers are with them as they continue to spend time nourishing this little one. Grandparents are Elder Bro. Wayne and Sis. Kathy Fehr, and Bro. Gene and Sis. Shirley Nester (Lester, IA).

Loved ones who have been hospitalized and released are Josephine Thomann and Bro. Lawrence Schneider (Sis. Ella). Also, Shane Metzger (Bro. Harlan and Sis. Shirley) was hospitalized at Burlington, IA following an accident. Our prayers are for their recovery and God's blessings on each one.

Our deepest sympathy is extended to Sis. Ida Schmidt and family on the tragic, accidental death of her great-grandson, Nathan Zeltwanger (Bro. David and Sis. Kelly), of Indiana. May God comfort their hearts in the loss of this dear child.

Best wishes go to newlyweds Randall and Dawn (Smith) Metzger (Bro. Leland and Sis. Kathy Metzger, and Tom Smith and Pat Smith). May God be with them as they begin their lives together.

KANSAS, BERN Diane Kaeb - Donna Edelman

A reception was held at the fellowship center for Bro. Matthew and Sis. Helen Edelman who were recently married in Fairbury, IL. We welcome Sis. Helen to our congregation.

July 24 was the wedding day of Bro. Victor Menold (Bro. James and Sis. Louise) and Sis. Jananne Hartter (Bro. Neil and Sis. Evelyn). We wish them the Lord's blessings as they begin life as one.

Our prayers were with our dear Elder brethren as they gathered for the annual conference in Fairbury, IL. May we give our shepherds our faithful support to preserve our precious faith.

We enjoy visitors who come to worship and fellowship with us. Among our visitors were Bros. Don Braker (Kansas City, MO), Edwin Bahler (Remington, IN), Mark Bahr (Detroit, MI), and Roger Aberle (Sabetha, KS). We thank you for sharing God's Word with us.

A farewell potluck was held for Tom and Becky Rokey and their children, Erin, Gina and Laura, on August 7. We will miss them as they move to California. We pray God will be ever near them in their new place of employment.

Our annual Sunday School picnic was held on August 9. The blessings of fellowship were enjoyed by all that attended. During the month of August we have a Sunday School break. As our children enter the next classes, may the teachings they have learned stay with them and bring fruit in due season.

Hospital patients have been Sis. Arlinda Rokey (Bro. Morris), Mary Strahm (Elwin), and Sis. Katie Grimm (Bro. Paul). May the Lord continue to bless them with better health.

SILVER LINING

KANSAS, KIOWA Darcy Kisling - Janice Bahr

We were blessed this month to have visiting minister, Bro. Al Langhofer (Wichita, KS) and his wife, Sis. Judy, with us. May the Lord bless them for their labor of love.

Our hospital patients this month were Sis. Edna Reed, Sis. Laverne Roth, and Matt Schupbach (Bro. Kent and Sis. Darcy Kisling). All are at home now except Sis. Laverne who is residing at the nursing home while she recuperates from broken ankle bones.

Also recovering are Sis. Helen Murrow and Sis. Alice Tanner. Sis. Helen injured both legs in a fall and Sis. Alice has a cracked leg bone. May each of them feel the comforting hand of the Lord.

KANSAS, SABETHA Mary Kay Wenger Sharon Strahm

"In sorrow and pain Thy trust do retain, In Jesus the merciful Saviour."

Zion's Harp #46

We extend heartfelt sympathy to several families. We extend sympathy to the family of Sis. Louise Wreath who passed away quite unexpectedly July 17. Her funeral services were held in Kansas City where they lived prior to moving here in January. Her husband, Edward, passed away in June.

We also extend sympathy to the family of Jack Wysong of Lester, IA; especially his mother, Sis. Evelyn Wysong, and brother, Bro. Ben Wysong, and family of our congregation. His sufferings are over and we must be thankful.

Sis. Irene Aberle has endured much pain and now is recovering from back surgery. Sis. Peggy Strahm (Bro. Marvin) also had surgery. We trust God will heal and restore.

"Rejoice, the Father loves us here, In sympathy remembers, And all the gifts we need to cheer, So graciously He renders." Zion's Harp #206

We appreciate ministering Bro. Edwin Bahler (Remington, IN) and Bro. Mark Bahr (Detroit, MI) for sharing God's Word with us. May they be blessed.

Rejoicing over their new baby son and brother are Bro. Brad and Sis. Teresa Edelman, Wil, Emily, Elizabeth and Christina. Ben Isaac was born July 24. Grandparents are Cliff and Sis. Barb Edelman. God's blessings to them all.

We rejoice with Kalynn Hartter (Bro. Roger and Sis. Ilene) as she is seeking God in repentance. We trust she will feel His nearness and guidance and in due time that peace which passeth understanding.

Summer has swiftly passed and it is time for school to resume. May each heart, the young and tender and the older, too, be open to Godly instruction.

Our Sunday School children are enjoying a short recess from classes. When they resume in September, the newly elected teachers will be Sis. Karen Edelman, Bros. Martin Beyer, Rod Grimm and John Aberle. May they feel God's inspiration in their duty and also His blessing.

KANSAS, WICHITA Emma Miller

Bro. Wallace Ramsier and his wife, Sis. Helen, worshipped with us on Wednesday evening, July 27. We appreciated Bro. Wally's ministry.

Sis. Lillian Bowers underwent major surgery in early August. She is convalescing and will undergo further treatment. Prayers are still being offered for her healing and we praise God for His goodness to her.

Sis. Gussie Wullschleger has been blessed with another grandchild. Madison Ann was born August 8 to Sherry and Victor Wullschleger of Sommers Point, NJ.

Our college students are beginning another school year. Sis. Jennifer Reimschisel will return to Bethel College in Newton, KS and Bro. Patrick and Derek Funk are enrolled at K-State at Manhatten, KS.

Sis. Nellie Lambert has sold her home on Giltner Street and has moved to the Hillcrest Apartments. We pray God's blessing on this less demanding arrangement for Sis. Nellie.

KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON Doug and Rebecca Germann

A special thanks to our summer visitors for stopping in Lexington! On July 17, Bro. Roy and Sis. Donna Ehnle came to share their time and talents from the Bradford, IL congregation. On July 24, Bro. Ralph Garber and Sis. Lynn from Morton, IL came to share the Word with us. Also on August 14, Bro. Earl and Sis. Susie Beery were with us and we were once again fed from the living waters of God's Holy Word.

Our Sunday School enjoyed a beautiful weekend of fellowship on the weekend of the 14th as we, with some of the brethren from Burlington, IA, went on the Scenic Bluegrass Railway for an afternoon excursion.

A special thanks to the Ohio churches who hosted the Ohio Youth Fellowship Day on July 30 and 31. Our Bible class was invited and we enjoyed the weekend of fellowship. May these efforts yield a great harvest of souls in the coming

months and years.

We would also wish to extend a welcome invitation to any one who would like to vacation in the Bluegrass or surrounding area. If you would like information about places to visit or accommodations, please contact Bro. Doug Germann at 737 Wellington Way, Lexington, KY 40503, and we'll send out a packet of information.

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY Marlene Mosher

Bro. Elias Schlatter (Sis. Ella) is mending in small ways. Also, Sis. Martha Rezmer has been very ill with heart problems, but she was able to congregate with us once again for a short time. We wish our Lord's grace and blessings for those who suffer in mind and body.

We have a new bundle of joy in our congregation. Brandon Gregory Wackerle has come to live with parents, Bro. Allen and Sis. Pam; brothers, Brad and Brent; grandparents, Bro. Sam and Sis. Lorraine Wackerle, and Uncle Greg.

With our Lord's grace and blessings we were able to welcome three new lambs into our Family of God; Bro. Ronald and Sis. Kathryn Wackerle (my aunt and uncle) and Bro. Bob Knochel (Sis. Rhonda). We enjoyed having with us for our loved ones' testimonies and baptisms, Elder Bro. Ben and Sis. Lorene Maibach.

Oft through bitter conflict, yet to peaceful concord

Leads my pilgrim way; He who fought so glorious,

Over death victorious, He will near me stay;

Thou, O Lord, O'ercam'st the world,

So we'll conquer in believing,

Victory achieving.

Zion's Harp #196 (vs. 6)

MICHIGAN, DETROIT Holly Barton -Marlene Reinhard

During the week of July 18-22, Detroit hosted their annual summer Vacation Bible School. The children were taught about the fruits of the spirit and the importance of them in their daily lives. On Saturday evening, Bro. Howard Plattner (Alto, MI) talked on the fruits of the spirit to the congregation. In our busy lives may we remember to practice the fruits of the spirit daily and we will be spiritually blessed.

We were privileged to have Bro. Richard Aberle and his wife, Sis. LeNae, of Altadena, CA worship with us. We also had Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle (Shioda, Japan) share the gospel with us during his visit to the United States. May God bless these brothers as they continue to faithfully labor in doing service for the Lord. May we each bring forth fruit from the seeds that were planted and watered during these worship services.

Our sympathy is extended to Sis. May Weigle (Bro. Ernie) in the passing away of her aunt, Sis. Marie Schock (Bro. Levi), and her uncle, Bro. Chris Weidman, both of Morton, IL.

We apologize for not welcoming Bro. Dave Metz (Bro. Ben and Sis. Miriam) of Francesville, IN to the Detroit congregation earlier this summer. Bro. Dave has decided to attend a local college in the area and may he find the love of God amongst his many friends here in Detroit.

We are grateful that God is still calling souls to repentance and by His grace heart's doors are being opened. Heather Hitz (Bro. Tom and Sis. Cindy) has answered God's knock and is seeking Him in repentance. May she always feel God's nearness and His mighty love that holds us up on wings of faith and may His grace be sufficient for

every trial and temptation that she encounters during life. We hope she will always feel the love and support of her family and friends here in Detroit.

We were thankful to have Bro. Neil Ramseyer (Bay City, MI) worship with the residents at Woodhaven this past month. On October 4 the Beverly Hills congregation is scheduled to host the monthly Tuesday evening worship service at Woodhaven. May everyone who so faithfully participates receive an extra special blessing from God.

Sis. Linda Shaw has suffered a broken ankle. We pray for God's healing touch in the next few weeks.

On August 17, we gathered together to meet Dr. Surendra and Mrs. D.S. Parkhe from the Rural Medical Mission of India. Dr. Parkhe is on a short visit in the United States. After listening to the lifestyle of the people in India, I realize I have so much to be thankful for and how little I seem to appreciate it. So much is taken for granted, yet we are not promised anything for tomorrow. May we remember our brethren in India and the special work they are called to do in the service for the Lord in our prayers. It was touching to hear Dr. Parkhe say how often they pray for the Apostolic Christian Church and its members.

MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS Delores Sauder

Vacation Bible School was held the week of July 25th with the theme of "Love One Another". Guest speaker on Saturday evening was ministering Bro. Virgil Metzger (Chicago, IL). We thank him for sharing the weekend with us.

We thank Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr (West Bend, IA) and Bro. Brian Waibel (Champaign, IL) who shared with us teachings from God's Word.

MINNESOTA, MORRIS Maxine Sauder Linda Schmidgall

"...I am the way, the truth, and the life..."

St. John 14:6

Once again we are so thankful more souls have chosen to forsake all this world has to offer and seek the straight and narrow way. We rejoice with Mindy and Molly Wulf (Bro. Doug and Sis. Joyce), Connie Koehl (Bro. Arnie and Sis. Sharon), Heidi Messner (Bro. Beirne and Sis. Joyce), Sheila Nohl (Bro. Larry and Sis. Bonnie), Heidi Feuchtenberger (Bro. Wallis and Sis. Diane), and Ruby Luthi. May God continue to call souls who linger without.

We are thankful for the ministers who came to share the Word of God with us this month. May God richly bless Bros. Vernon Wettstein (Congerville, IL), Dale Wulf (Lester, IA), Jay Rinkenberger (Goodfield, IL), Larry Wenninger (Latty, OH), and Ed Fritz (Washington, IL).

In the hospital this past month were Sis. Anna Nohl (Bro. Henry), Ruby Luthi, and little Matthew Luthi (Bro. Troy and Sis. Vanessa). We pray for God's healing hand upon these loved ones.

God was surely watching over Keith Koehl (Coleen) when he fell from the top of a grain bin. We are thankful he doesn't have any serious injury.

July 30 was the wedding day of Annette Koehl (Bro. Arnie and Sis. Sharon) and Stephen Metzger (Bro. James and Sis. Lois, Lester, IA). We wish them God's blessings in this marriage.

Note of thanks:

My heartfelt thanks to those who remembered me with prayers, cards, gifts and flowers during my recent surgery and those who visited when I got home. May God bless each one of you.

Bro. Gottlieb Joos

MINNESOTA, WINTHROP Jan Messner - Joleen Messner Greetings!!

"Jesus loves me! this I know,
For the Bible tells me so:
Little ones to Him belong;
They are weak, but He is strong."
Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me!
The Bible tells me so."
Hymns of Zion #176

Sunday school has resumed and we pray that God will direct our dear Sunday school teachers in passing on to our youth His precious Word.

A bundle of joy was delivered on July 1 to Brad and Jane Messner. Andrew and Lauren welcome their new brother, Eric Charles. Grandparents are Bro. Kenneth (Boots) and Margaret Messner, and Ralph and Donna Lundahl.

Our hospital patients this month were Sis. Geri Messner and Bro. Joe Messner. May God lay His healing hand upon them as they recover from their bodily afflictions.

MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY Joan Fehr - Jamie Marti

We were privileged to have Bros. Pat Zaugg (West Bend, IA), Bro. Alphia Strahm (Bern, KS) and Elder Bro. Edwin Ringger (Gridley, IL) minister God's word to us this month. We appreciate your labors and hope you will return soon.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Mike and Carolyn Geran on the death of her mother, Sis. Louise Wreath (Sabetha, KS). We will miss her cheerful smile.

We extend a warm welcome to

Bro. Jay and Sis. Lorri Wiegand as they both have accepted employment in Kansas City. We hope they will soon feel at home in our congregation.

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

Proverbs 22:6

The first week in August our Sunday School children attended Vacation Bible School. We hope that all who were involved may feel a blessing from God.

MISSOURI, LAMAR Carolyn Banwart Becky Marti

Our sincere sympathy is extended to Bro. Dean and Sis. Arlene Marti in the sudden death of their dear son, Stan. He is survived by his wife, Linda; two daughters, Candace and Jessica; and one foster son, Brandon. Also, we extend our sympathy to Bro. Martin Hohulin (Sis. Edith) in the death of his brother, Al, of Tremont. May God provide comfort at this time of sorrow.

We are thankful that Jo Ann Marti (Fred Marti and Sis. Carol Marti) has turned her heart to God in true repentance and trust that He will provide for her as she walks this path of life.

Bro. Larry and Sis. Marcy Schmidgall welcomed Elizabeth Marie to their home. Issac and Amanda are happy to have a new little sister.

We will miss Kevin and Kathy Marti and their two children, Nicole and Christopher, as they have moved to Francesville, IN.

The Lamar congregation enjoyed having the Soldier's Reunion here in July. We were blessed with four ministering brothers: Bros. Robert Miller (Portland, OR), Russell Wuthrich (Pulaski, IA), Wally

Ramsier (Mansfield, OH) and Don Manz (Junction, OH). May God bless them for their efforts in speaking His good and holy Word.

Marilyn Hohulin (Martin Jr.) was severely burned and is in the hospital at this time. We pray that God will heal and strengthen her.

MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS Betsy Schrenk

We welcome Bro. Thad and Sis. Molly Walter to our congregation. Bro. Thad is completing his education at SIU Carbondale, and Sis. Molly is working as an occupational therapist in Cape Cirardeau. They have quite a drive to attend church-we are thankful for their love and dedication in joining us for worship and fellowship.

Once again, we thank the faithful ministering brothers and their wives and families who have come to St. Louis. Bros. Kenny Knapp (Taylor, MO), Chris Wuethrich (Francesville, IN), Ron Messner (Washington, IL), and Ken Hoerr and Mike Rieker (Peoria, IL), all served us so graciously this past month.

Jeff Martin is back in St. Louis to continue his education at the school of pharmacy. Welcome, Jeff.

A busload of young members and converts from Peoria, IL came to Missouri for a weekend. Saturday started out cloudy, and then it rained and rained. Just as they obtained their rafts after lunch, the clouds broke up, the sun came out and they enjoyed a beautiful afternoon floating on the Meramec River. Several of us from St. Louis joined them for dinner and singing praises back at their hotel that evening.

Now most of them face another school year, as do young people everywhere. They were encouraged to stand firm, be good examples, and look to God for help with everything that comes their way. We need to remember to turn to God FIRST and not wait to ask for His guidance as a last resort. Probably all Christians can testify that they could have dealt with situations much more effectively had they always sought God's guidance first. It is so easy to feel self-reliant when things are going well.

MISSOURI, TAYLOR Rusty and Amy Adrian

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. The week of July 25 was a blessed week as we enjoyed Vacation Bible School together. How exciting it was to see the eagerness on the children's faces as they came each evening to read stories from the Bible, make crafts, sing songs and enjoy fellowship one with another.

We were thankful to have visiting ministers this past month which were Bros. Lenny Meyer (Chicago, IL) and Peter Petrovic (San Diego, CA). Also, during the last part of July and the first part of August we were privileged to have Wednesday evening Bible studies. On July 29, Bro. Dennis Kaufmann (Bloomington, IL) encouraged us with the topic of "Watch and Pray". May we all be ready and waiting for the Lord's return.

On August 3, Bro. Steve Baner (Gridley, IL) shared with us the topic of "How to Raise Godly Children". How wonderful it is to have God's Holy Word for our guideline in raising our children in these days.

On August 17, Bro. Bruce Leman (Roanoke, IL) brought to us the topic of "Family Unity". How important it is that we have love and unity at home and also with our brothers and sisters in our church family.

Hospital patients this past month are Bro. Ben Knapp (Sis. Elsie) who has suffered a heart attack. Also, Jan Stratton (Bro. Mike and Sis. Cheryl) who is recuperating from a fall. Our thoughts and prayers have been with each one. May God grant each of them a full measure of health.

We extend our sympathy and prayers to Sis. Sally Haerr (Bro. Norman) and family for the loss of her brother, Jack Wysong, of Lester, IA.

Our congregation is thankful and extends a hearty welcome to Bro. Curt and Sis. Sue Heimer and children, Seth, Levi, Casey and Brock, who have moved here from our church in Alto, MI. May they see and experience the love of our precious Saviour Jesus Christ as they make their home here.

Note:

Dear Brothers, Sisters and friends of our most beloved faith, Greetings in our Dear Saviour's name!

Since our daughter, Mary Beth, now 7 years old, was diagnosed with a rare and dangerous tumor on her spine in November of 1993, we have received overwhelming support from our church family! We are truly humbled by the love, gifts, acts of kindness, notes and prayers on our behalf. We wish to express our heartfelt thanks to each one. May God be your rich rewarder as He is glorified through your love, for we could never in a lifetime repay the Lord for all the kindness of His saints. In all of this we have learned that our lives and children's lives are truly in God's hands. We take a day at a time, as the treatments shift our family around and put Mary Beth on a roller coaster of sickness and recovery. We cherish the moments together. Continue to pray for healing for Mary Beth and strength for our family to face the long road ahead and for God's merciful will that the suffering would not be in vain but be to His ultimate glory!

In Christian love and thankfulness.

Tim and Verene Sutton, Samuel (9), Mary Beth (7), and T.J. (born Nov. 1993)

NEW YORK, CROGHAN-NAUMBURG Alice Virkler

Our annual Sunday School picnic was enjoyed by all on Saturday, August 6 at Happy Hallow Camp-Our thoughts and grounds. prayers will be with our Sunday School children as they will be returning to school in the next few weeks. Also, our prayers will be with those who will be returning to college and with those who will be attending college for the first time this year. It is our hope that the teachings from Sunday School and their homes will be in their minds as they begin the new school year. May God be their guide each step of the way.

First-time parents, Fred and Julie Lawton, welcomed their son, Travis Frederick, on July 19. He will also be loved by grandparents, Fred and Linda Lawton and Albert and Nina Posello, all of Lowville. May God guide these new parents as they begin this important step in their lives.

Our thoughts and prayers of sympathy are extended to Bro. Clyde and Sis. Lois Virkler and their families. Sis. Lois's mother, Grace Matoon, was taken from this life on August 13. May each of them be comforted by God's promises.

OHIO, AKRON

Joyce Gasser - Diane Jarrett

Greetings from Akron. In the past month, our congregation was blessed by the ministering of Bro. Ken Weerts (Cissna Park, IL) and Bro. Doug Grimm (Sabetha, KS). We appreciate their labors in the Lord.

On July 24, Sis. Sherri Bako (Bro. Zoltan and Sis. Bonnie) was united in marriage to Bro. Mike Atanasov of the Rittman congregation (Nick and Sofija). "This covenant shall then endure and stand forever..." Zion's Harp #79. May God richly bless this union. We will miss Sis. Sherri as the couple establishes their home in Rittman.

Recently celebrating forty years of marriage were Elder Bro. Gene and Sis. Eleanor Pamer, and Bro. Leon and Sis. Janet Graf.

"O that I were with Jesus! O that I could take wings, To where the angel chorus sweet hallelujah sings! There where the tribulation of earth shall be no more: The joys of God's salvation our weary hearts restore!" Hymns of Zion #273

Bro. Ernest Graf went to be with the Lord on July 22, 1994. Bro. Ernie served God faithfully for 67 years, and labored in the ministry from 1947 to 1988. We have fond memories of Bro. Ernie's humble. kind manner. Heartfelt thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Sis. Louise, and her family at this time of loss.

We rejoice that Joanna Schamback (Bro. John and Sis. Joyce) has heeded the call to work out her soul's salvation.

Sis. Helen Burr wishes to thank everyone for their prayers, visits, cards and good food during her stay in the hospital and at home.

OHIO, COLUMBUS Julie Grimm

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." Psalms 119:105

We thank Bro. Gary Maibach (Smithville, OH) for lending himself in the Lord's service to share the Gospel with us.

Sis. Sara Adam arrived safely home from Canada where she spent seven weeks visiting relatives. We are thankful to have her back in our midst and for the traveling mercies God has provided once again.

OHIO, JUNCTION Sandra Manz

Following prayerful consideration, Bro. Dennis Schlatter (Sis. Laurie), and Sis. Sharon Gherian (Bro. Paul) were elected as Sunday School teachers. May they feel our support and respect as they guide the tender hearts of our youth.

Having learned about God's plan of salvation in Sunday School as well as at home and through church services, two young men have given their hearts to the Lord. We wish Christopher Manz (Bro. Don and Sis. Connie) and Randolph Manz (Bro. Russell and Sis. Vera) grace to understand God's plan for their lives and a willingness to stand up and be a shining light at school or wherever they may be.

We are always thankful for those brethren who pass through our area on their way to and from the brotherhood conference. Bros. Kenneth Sauder (Mansfield, OH) and Charles Sinn (Fort Scott, KS) were willing to lend of themselves in the ministry, and we thank them for their service.

The Apostle Paul wrote...."as ye have received of us how ye ought to walk and to please God, so ye would abound more and more." (ITh. 4:1). One of our ministers used this verse to remind us that we cannot just set our lives on "cruise control" but should daily put forth special effort.

OHIO, LATTY Kathy Sinn - Lane Stoller

We were truly blessed to have many visiting brothers bringing forth the truth of God's Word. They were Bros. Curt Rassi (Tremont. IL), Bill Dotterer (Phoenix, AZ), Will Schieler, Walter Steffen and Nelson Beer (Milford, IN), Earl Beery (Rittman, OH) and John Grimm (Columbus, OH). We pray that God will richly bless them as they labor to preach the truth.

Bro. Kevin Fehr has returned to his home in West Bend, IA. Bro. Kevin spent several months in our area doing an internship at a local nursery. May God direct him as he continues his education.

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

II Timothy 4:7

Sis. Bena Delong was called home to be forever with the Lord. She had spent many years in a nursing home and we are thankful that she can now rest in the arms of Jesus. May God comfort her fam-

On July 31, the high school and junior high Sunday School children spent the day in Mansfield, OH for the annual Youth Day. We believe that seeds were planted in tender hearts, and friendships were formed that will last for many years.

"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

On August 7, Sis. Pam Stoller (Sis. Irma) became the wife of Bro. Brent Beer (Bro. Bob and Sis. Linda, Milford, IN). We pray that the Lord will be near unto them as they walk life's pathway together.

> OHIO, MANSFIELD Cari Mann

"Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." John 14.6

"I am the way, the truth, and the life" was the theme for the 22nd Annual Ohio/Michigan Youth Day which was held on July 31. On Saturday evening, many members and friends enjoyed dinner at the Rittman Fellowship Hall. The day was truly a memorable one for several young people around Ohio who have realized that Jesus is truly the way to come unto the Father and have turned their lives to Him. We rejoice with each and every one of them and as always, we continually pray for more converts.

"For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord: and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake "

2 Corinthians 4:5

It seems wherever we may go we can hear "our" servants preaching Christ Jesus the Lord. We are always thankful for beloved brethren who come to visit us and share with us teachings of our loving Lord and Master. This month brought us visits from Bro. John Laukhuf (Latty, OH) and Bro. Art Ingold (Rittman, OH) and their wives. We pray that they received as much of a blessing for visiting us as we received by having them visit.

"And great multitudes followed him; and he healed them there."

Matthew 19:2

How often we must be thankful that the Lord has healed us or one of our loved ones, be they friend or family. We are always grateful that someone is recovering after they have been "under the weather". I often wonder, though, if Jesus were walking on the earth today and I was healed after being

sick, if I would remember to turn and say "Thank You" or if I would be "one of the nine". May we each remember to praise the only One who can truly heal us, even after we have recovered from a minor illness. May we also remember that there is only one way to turn if we are "spiritually ill".

'Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing. and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment."

1 Corinthians 1:10

Our dear beloved Elder brethren have returned from the annual General Conference. As we started listening to the tapes this past Wednesday evening, I had to think of how the Brothers come from all over the country and yet they all have the same message -- that we be of one mind and united by the Spirit which lives in each of the redeemed. As one dear brother said, "I am redeemed and I am happy about it." Let us each be reminded to live joyfully in Christ and to pray for each other so that there be no divisions among us.

OHIO, RITTMAN Linda Ramsier Marsha Rufener

We want to thank our visiting brethren this past month. We appreciate the labors of Bros. Doug Grimm (Sabetha, KS) and Tom Leman (Denver, CO).

July 24 was the wedding day of Bro. Mike and Sis. Sherri Atanasov. Parents are Mr. and Mrs. Nikola Atanasov, and Bro. Zoltan and Sis. Bonnie Bako (Akron, OH). We welcome Sis. Sherri into our congregation and pray the Lord will richly bless these dear ones.

We want to remember those who

SILVER LINING

were hospitalized recently. Our thoughts are with Tiffany Bauman (Bro. Allan and Rose) and Mary Rupp (Ken and Sis. Lillian).

Keith and Regina Winkler and Abigail welcome a new baby into their family. Aliza Rose was born August 13. Grandparents are Glenn and Mary Jane Winkler, and Bro. Bob and Sis. Margorie Boltz.

Caleb Wayne joined the family of Bro. Wayne and Sis. Camille Hartzler on August 13. Anna has a new little brother. Grandparents are Bro. Dale and Sis. Joyce Hartzler, and Bro. Wayne and Sis. Claudia Strahm (Bern, KS).

"Jesus, Lover of my soul, let me to Thy bosom fly, While the nearer waters roll, While the tempest still is high! Hide me, O my Saviour, hide, Till the storm of life is past; Safe into the haven guide, O

receive my soul at last!"

We rejoice as many dear friends turn to the Lord in repentance. Our prayers are with: Audrey Baltic and Dan Baltic (Bro. Dan and Sis. Betty), Aaron Gasser (Bro. Virgil and Sis. Lois), Cheryl Hartzler (Bro. Merle and Sis. Bonnie), Lynn Hartzler (Bro. Dean and Sis. Jan), Shannon Indermuhle (Bro. Dwaine and Sis. Joan), Doug Ingold (Bro. Art and Sis. Bonnie) and Joe Ramsier (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Terri).

"Plenteous grace with Thee is found, Grace to cover all my sin;

Let the healing stream abound, Make and keep me pure within.

Thou of life the fountain art; Freely let me take of Thee;

Spring Thou up within my heart, Rise to all eternity."

OHIO, SARDIS Renee Miller

Most of the Sardis church gathered in Toledo on August 28 to wit-

ness the marriage of Bro. Dana Indermuhle and Sis. Joy Beard. The beautiful simplicity of the wedding and the inspired words that were spoken over the pulpit made it a blessed day.

I am Thine, O Lord,
I have heard Thy voice,
And it told Thy love to me;
But I long to rise in the arms of
faith,
And be closer drawn to Thee.
Gospel Hymns #572

We rejoice that three new converts have joined the two that turned their lives to the Lord last month. Milan Indermuhle (Bro. Ken and Sis. Linda) and Matt Brake (Bro. Bill and Sis. Mim) felt the call of God and have drawn closer to Him. It is good to have them as part of our single group. The joy that Janet Indermuhle expressed as she joined her husband, Allen, in repentance is refreshing for all of us. We pray God's nearness to each of them.

OHIO, SMITHVILLE Kim Stoller - Edith Miller

"But seek ye first the kingdom of God...".

Matthew 6:33

We rejoice with the angels over three young people who have made their decision to seek the kingdom of God. Our new converts are Krista Bauman (Bro. Steve and Sis. Connie), Cindy Hartzler (Bro. Ken and Sis. Jane), and Ann Maibach (Bro. Bruce and Sis. Lois). May God bless them with much grace in this important step in life.

We are happy to see Bro. Roger Bauman (Sis. Jennifer) in church again following ear surgery.

We extend our love and sympathy to our Sisters Mary Ann Maibach (Bro. Gary), Lou Riggenbach (Bro. Glenn) and Rose Luginbuhl (Bro. Marvin) in the passing of their father, Bro. Ernest Graf of Akron.

Smithville was recently host to a Fort Sam Soldier reunion. We thank all those who visited us that weekend. Among the many visitors were fourteen ministers who were present with us on Sunday. They were: Elder Bro. Charles Sinn (Fort Scott, KS), Bros. Bill Brake (Sardis, OH), Gary Brown, Greg Stoller and Marvin Dotterer (Forrest, IL), Fred Domka (Mansfield, OH), Bill Dotterer (Phoenix, AZ), Dave Graf (Akron, OH), Art Ingold (Rittman, OH), Duane Reutter (Rockville, CT), Tom Schambach (Elgin, IL), Darrel Stoller (Bern, KS), Jon Zeller (Morton, IL), and Tim Zimmerman (Gridley, KS). Also this month Bro. Walter Rager (Toledo, OH) visited and ministered to us. May God bless and reward each one for their efforts.

"Finally, brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace, and the God of love and peace shall be with you."

II Corinthians 13:11

We bid a sad farewell to Bro. Wendell and Sis. Kathy Dotterer and their family, as they have moved from our area and will make Forrest, IL their new home. We will surely miss this dear family in our congregation, but we wish them many blessings from God in this undertaking.

Our prayers also follow our many children and young people who will once again be going back to school. May God bless and protect each one.

OREGON, SILVERTON Peggy Schulz

The voice that breathed o'er Eden That earliest wedding day, The Primal Marriage blessing It hath not passed away. Still in the pure espousal of Christian man and maid The Holy three are with us. the Three-fold grace is said.

We rejoiced with Sis. Lucy Kuenzi (Bro. Lee and Sis. Janet) and Bro. Trent Meiss (Iowa City. IA), son of Edwin and Sis. Barb (Eureka, IL), as they exchanged wedding vows on July 31. We will truly miss Sis. Lucy but know her presence in Iowa City will be a blessing to them. Present to join them in marriage was Elder Bro. Paul Butikofer (Elgin, IA).

Also this month we were blessed to have Bro. Rex Frieden (Lamar. MO) share God's Word with us.

Two engagements were made known to us this month. friends Marilyn Kuenzi (Bro. Nick and Sis. Mary) and Merlin Meyer (Bro. Ray and Sis. Twyla, Lester, IA) plan a September 10 wedding. The betrothal of our Sis. Marie Kuenzi (Bro. Nick and Sis. Mary) to Bro. Mike Stork (Mike and Eunice, Fairbury, IL) was also announced. We wish these couples God's blessings during their engagements and forthcoming marriages.

We are thankful Bro. Bob Kuenzi (Sis. Linda) is able to assemble with us again after a short hospital stay. Little Nelson Sinn (Bro. Tom and Sis. Edith) had the misfortune of breaking his leg. We pray he will

have a quick recovery.

PENNSYLVANIA, **PHILADELPHIA** Franz Soni

"And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us."

Romans 5:5

Our Sunday School picnic was

held on July 17. We thank our Sunday School teachers for their efforts in teaching the children and for giving us a nice day of fun and fellowship.

We welcome Sis. Doreen Gudeman to our church family. Sis. Doreen has moved to this area and previously attended our Alto, MI church. We look forward to having her worship with us. David and Pella Naffin have returned to us after spending a year in Ohio. Welcome back!

We said farewell to Jeff Reinhard (Bro. Dan and Sis. Delores) who has turned his heart to the Lord in repentance. Jeff returns home to Garden Grove, IA to finish high school. We wish Jeff God's blessings as he embarks on his new walk of life.

We encourage those who are in the area to come worship with us. Services are held Sunday 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. and Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. If you need more information, please call Elder Bro. Edward Aeschleman at (302) 478-7846.

TENNESSEE, NASHVILLE Gwen Leuthold

"There are many things in life that I cannot understand. Yet the good Lord's blessed the labor of these two hardworking hands:

And when all my toil is over and I'm laid beneath the sod. Then these hands of mine shall touch the hand of God." Country & Western Gospel Hymnal #73

What a beautiful song Del Delamont was inspired to write. I thought it especially appropriate with the approach of the Labor Day holiday. May God ever continue to bless the labor of our hands and may we take time to give Him thanks for granting us the ability to work and make a living as well as strive onward to serve in His vinevard.

We here in Nashville, want to take this opportunity to remember those who have labored in love to help us in many ways in the past and especially during this past month.

On August 7, we were privileged to welcome approximately 45 visitors from various churches in Indiana, Kansas and Iowa. Bro. Steve Ringger and his family traveled from Bluffton, IN to be with us for the weekend and to minister the Word of God to us. We were also overioved to be able to welcome Bro. Stan Hohulin and his family who have moved to the Knoxville area from Goodfield, IL. We wish them God's blessings as they make Tennessee their new home. We sincerely thank all of our visitors for traveling to worship and fellowship with us. Your efforts are sincerely appreciated.

We also wish to thank Bros. Earl and David Sauder from Tremont. IL for their labor on the church August 22. They were kept busy putting particle board on the floor, working on the women's restroom, and framing doors. As an update on our remodeling project, we are beginning to see an end in sight for the assembly room (painting and carpeting remain) and can now start to think about the kitchen area, roof, sidewalks, bricking the outside of the building, etc. As you can see, we still have much work to do and would welcome any help in the above mentioned areas.

When we think of the Labor Day holiday, usually thoughts of Fall are not too far behind. The leaves on the trees will begin to change; especially in our area, this transformation makes God's creation even more beautiful to behold. This is an especially wonderful time to come visit and worship with us. Services

are still held the first Sunday of the month with September 7, October 2, and October 30 being the next scheduled services. We would gladly meet for fellowship and a tape service on the other Sundays. Contact Bro. Don and Faye Sauder (615) 373-8928, Bro. Don and Enid Miller (615) 384-5948 or Sis. Gwen Leuthold (615) 352-3940.

TEXAS, DALLAS Christine Kaiser Kimberly Kaiser

We were pleased to have Bro. Jon and Sis. Christie Zeller (Morton, IL) and Bro. Bruce Hohulin (Goodfield, IL) for church this summer. It is a joy to see familiar faces and share time with our brethren. We thank our church visitors for the memorable weekends we had. May God bless you.

We extend a special invitation to anyone traveling in the Dallas area to come worship with us. Our services are held on 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. Dolores Rapp (214-867-4074), Bro. Bill Zeltwanger (409-249-5102), or Bro. Greg and Sis. Christine Kaiser (214-335-0105) for additional information.

TEXAS, ZAPATA Viola Perdelwitz

August 13 was the date of our 1994 Zapata reunion. Over 100 members that spent some time dur-

ing the winter months in Zapata met at the Princeville, IL Fellowship Hall for an evening meal. On Sunday, August 14, they attended church at Bradford, IL. Ministers that attended the reunion were: Bros. Elmer Schmidt (Winthrop, MN), Carrol Gerber (Bluffton North, IN), Earl Gerber (Forrest, IL), and Clarence Dietrich (Silverton, OR). We want to thank all the people that had part in hosting this reunion.

On August 4, one of our trustees, Bro. Rolland Messner, and his wife, Sis. Melva, visited Zapata for a few days. We want to thank them for their visit.

We have been blessed with some rain. Our purple sage bushes are blooming. We marvel at the beautiful flowers that cover the many



MIDDLE MANAGEMENT OPENING

Child Care Supervisor at Gateway Woods

We have an opening for a key leadership position at Gateway Woods -Apostolic Christian Children's Home. The Child Care Supervisor's responsibilities include supervision and support of all Houseparents, recruiting and training child care staff, supervision of maintenance and resident intake coordination. This critical member of the management team must have experience with children and supervisory ability. Salary is commensurate with training and experience and benefits are excellent.

Please contact one of the brothers listed below for more information of the job description and application process.

Tim Sauder, Administrator Box 151 Leo, In 46765 (219) 627-2159 (office) (219) 627-2606 (home)

David Bertsch, Counseling Elder 11520 Souder Road Grabill, IN 46741 (219) 627-2923 APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL --- ATHENS, AL

URGENT NEED!

We are in need of a teacher here at the Apostolic Christian Preschool in Athens, AL for this coming school year. Please pass the word along. Anyone with a Child Development, Elementary Education, or related degree who would be interested in using his or her talents to work for the Lord is encouraged to call Elder Bro. Lavoyd Moore as soon as possible for more information at (205) 232-2035.

SERMON BY ELDER BRO. WAYNE FEHR OF WEST BEND, IA

"Jesus is the Shining Star to Follow" Acts 6

This causes us to wonder as we read about these accounts. Many of us would think of history as time long gone, years and years behind us, but have been kept and preserved in God's Word for a reason and a purpose. We know and realize that in the church and amongst the disciples and believers there, it must have been a very, very tumultuous time...very disturbing for many of those people.

In one chapter we can read about the time when Stephen and six other souls were brought out. They had a commission and a work to do of taking care of the widows and of distributing the needs of the material things. Also, in ministering God's Word, we can believe because of the way it is said.

There was a group of people who would not accept the ministry of Stephen, because he believed that the Word of God was to go out to the Gentiles, as I understand it, that they could also find salvation so they could be saved.

How thankful we are today as we gather together of that Gentile nation. We know because many of us today have experienced it. The blood of our Lord and Saviour Jesus was shed in behalf of our sins. Also, not just of the chosen people there of the offspring and root of Abraham, but we also as outsiders and of the Gentile race, we have the opportunity.

Stephen tried to share that with those people and began to minister and preach it. But they would not accept it and it says that they rose up out of that synagogue. (See Acts 6:9).

But even prior to that, as we began this chapter here, it says, "...when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a mur-

muring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministration." Acts 6:1

I am thankful today that we can read God's Word, and that God has set forth His Word and has commissioned faithful brothers to record and put it down on paper.

He did not whitewash it. He could have left out the problems, trials and tests of the early and first formative church there. But we then today, if we couldn't read of those things, we would have to experience many of the same things over and over again, generation after generation after generation. But instead, we can see that it was recorded for a purpose so we can learn from the things that they had to experience.

Here there was a murmuring in the church amongst the brethren. They did not have the love, respect and feelings that they should have had for each other. It tells us (if we would go back further in God's Word in the Epistles), if we say we love Jesus and we hate or despise a brother of His, we would make Him a liar.

It doesn't say that there was hatred there, but there was a murmuring...a discontentment in the church and amongst the brethren. It was not good. There was maybe some reason. Some of these people felt that their widows were not being taken care of and dealt with in all fairness the same as some others.

We know and realize that everything in life will never be fair and will never be completely equal outside of those things that God does. I think of salvation first and foremost (that comes to mind), how that brings us to an equal state in life.

When we become a child of God, and experience the sin of our former life be washed away and cleansed, and be replaced with that peace that God can give to us, then we are a child of God.

There is no child of God that is of a higher standing than another child of God. We are all equal. We are all the same. We often think and observe and see things in the world that have a price tag on and are for sale. There are commodities and things that can be purchased and bought with money or are bartered for and purchased and acquired through many different ways, but they all have a price tag and they can be acquired.

But the thing of salvation that we talk about is so very, very precious to us. It cannot be acquired in that way. Because it is so valuable, there is no price that will ever buy it, outside the price that God gave through the shed blood of His Son on Calvary's Cross.

If we stop and think that He purchased us with Jesus' blood---He redeemed us with the blood of His Son---then aren't we, as His children, just as valuable as any other brother or sister that was bought and purchased with that same blood? The same price tag, the same purchase price, was given for every one of us.

It seems as often as we visit together with our dear brothers and sisters, that they often esteem—and I appreciate the esteem and respect that we have amongst us—but often they would think that some of us who have been called to minister and to preach God's Word and to work in the elder council and body here, that we are more valuable to God than what they are. We know and realize as we look in God's

SILVER LINING

Word that that is Satan who tries to put that amongst us; that somebody is of more value to God than we ourselves who God has purchased and redeemed.

There is no way that when God looks down here that He would think that one of the brothers are of more value than any one of you who have been redeemed.

To our dear friends of the truth that gather with us today, the blood has been shed, the price has been paid, and you just have to acknowledge it. You just have to realize that God is tenderly calling and as soon as you would accept Him, and work out your salvation in fear and trembling, then God will also number you amongst His children.

The price is paid. He loves us. He cares for us.

It is Satan that comes in amongst us and tries to divide us, even as the murmuring here did amongst those people so many years ago. But how thankful we are that the Spirit was there and as the brothers and disciples began to look and to observe this discontentment and murmuring amongst God's people, that the Spirit directed them.

The Spirit told them, "Look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business." (Acts 6:3) There was a solution. The Holy Ghost provided it and the people said they would do that; and they did.

They sought out amongst that group of believers, and I don't know how large the group was, but we can read back a couple chapters ago here in the Acts where there were three thousand that were baptized in one day. (Acts 2:41) So there must have been by this time a large gathering of believers.

Now today, I don't know how long we would have to wait to find three thousand converts...three thousand people...who are ready for baptism. How many sermons would it take? How many Sunday meetings--like we have today--would God have to speak to congregations, to people and to our dear friends before we could accumulate three thousand souls who are ready for baptism? I don't know.

But there in that one preachingin that one sermon that Peter spoke--there were three thousand that were ready for baptism, and they were baptized in one day. But it is the same Word going forth in the power of the invitation of Almighty God that goes out yet today.

But people have changed. Hearts have been hardened. Things are not the same. Satan has been here on this world almost two thousand years longer than he was then, and he is more cunning, more crafty and more successful in blocking and hardening hearts. He even comes in amongst the brethren here and there and causes a murmuring; and sometimes today he causes divisions and he causes problems.

He raises up people with pride and tries to also depress others to the point that it has gone past humility into depression and discouragement. They think they have no work, and that is Satan's work both ways. When God talks about humility and submission, He is talking about us, dear brothers and sisters.

We should submit ourselves to God's will and to His work, and we would be then faithful brothers and sisters of much value to Him, working and laboring in His vineyard and doing the things even as these seven brothers were appointed to do, to be able to share with others...to minister to them...to help them and to encourage them along.

As they appointed these seven brothers, they laid their hands upon them, prayed and commissioned them to a certain work there as deacons and workers in the church. How thankful we are that we do have this recording of the first laying on of hands of these who were commissioned to work in the church.

"Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people." (Acts 6:8) But we can see that Stephen, even though he was given a special spirit there and was commissioned to go out and do those wonders and miracles, that it did not puff him up. Pride did not come in his life, but he was a faithful brother.

But it did come into the hearts and minds of others there who could observe and see it. They wanted to squelch and stop it. They wanted to keep everything in the old former way that it was in the Old Testament time. The Word of God in the Old Testament was reserved for the chosen race that was promised to Abraham, Isaac and their children down through the years, generation after generation.

They were "suborned men". (See Acts 6:11) That should cause each one of us to stop and think. God would not tolerate stubbornness. Their stubbornness led them in the direction where they even stoned Stephen (if we would read on to the following chapter), when he really spoke to them and unburdened his heart and let the Spirit speak to them. They would not accept it. Why? Because they were stubborn men...an attitude that God cannot tolerate...an attitude that is not of God, but is of Satan.

If we are following God and if we are God's children, we will have other attitudes in our life instead of stubbornness. In place of stubbornness, we will find joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, kindness, goodness. You know the fruits of the Spirit better than I myself.

How many times have we observed, dear brothers and sisters, the fruit tree ready for harvest? It

Sermon continued next page

Sermon continued

is not hidden. You can all see when you drive past a fruit tree when it is laden and is heavy with fruit that it is ready for harvest. It is the same when God looks in our life. There is nothing hidden.

If we have that fruit that is going to bring us to a good, faithful and perfect end, they are not hidden. Not only to God, but to those whom we come into contact with.

You don't have to be a trained horticulturist to see if a tree is bringing forth a good harvest. Even we who are so untrained as myself, can observe and see in a grove one that is fruitful and another that is bare.

God knows exactly what we have, what we have acquired and what it is that we are bringing forth for Him. We all have work. We all have a commission in the church. God did not purchase any one of us and bring us here as a child of His for us to think that we could just rest and sit back and He is going to bless us and provide all those good things for us.

We have work to do, dear brothers, and that work is serving Him and being obedient. Stand on the promises that God has given us, even as we read there in the hymn, "The Lord Will Provide". You would be different than I myself if it wouldn't be from time to time that you do become discouraged. From time to time, the cares of life press heavy upon us because we have all experienced it, haven't we, dear brothers and sisters?

But might it be from those things that we would learn and that we would realize that it is God who gives us the grace to overcome and to be drawn back even closer to Him than we were before; that we as His children then might have learned and grown.

The Apostle Paul said there was a time when I fed you with milk because you were not able and not ready for meat. But there comes a time, and I think the time is here for most of us as we gather today, where you have been nourished with the meat and with the hard food of the Spirit. You have weathered and stood the test of time, many of you, far longer than I myself and I appreciate it.

The Bible tells us that we should be Christians...we should be Christlike. We should look to Him as our example, and we do. We don't want to diminish that in any way. But how often it seems that we can see in His brothers and His sisters the Light that is not so far away that it really directs us in the right way.

I have been privileged to learn some navigation over the years of time. If you have ever been up in the air at night when the lights begin to come on in foreign places or across the land in the cities, you can see them. You can navigate with those lights on the ground and you can get a long ways by going from one light to the next, to the next, and to the next, and that is pretty similar when we look at our brothers and sisters and we use them to give us guidance and to give us direction in life.

But that path across the land will be a little to the right, a little back to the left, a little back to the right, or maybe more to the left until we find another light that we can recognize and know what it is. Then we will zero in on it and we will follow it. We will come to the end and be successful at the end of the journey. Just following those kind of things in life across the earth, we can do that. Spiritually, we can do it for a short distance of time.

But think how much different if we navigate off the stars that God has placed in the sky...millions and millions of miles away. There we don't go back and forth and zigzag across the ground if we zero in on a star and follow straight for it and we keep our navigation the way it should be. If we keep our eye placed upon it, very similar to us, if we keep our eye on Jesus Christ and the way we should walk our life.

There might come a time when a cloud, when we would be flying, would come between us and the star and we could not see it. Then we would need the light on the ground. Then we would need our brother and our sister to give us the direction for a period of time.

Then when the cloud was gone, and we could once more see the star that we were navigating with, we might have drifted either right or left a little bit. It shouldn't be too far if we picked up the light on the ground at the right time. If we looked at a faithful brother or a faithful sister at the right time, we would be looking pretty much straight toward Jesus Christ, or toward that star and so we would be headed for the right direction. When the cloud left, the star should be right there.

But if we just trust in our brothers and sisters to lead us, guide us and to direct us, our pathway through life would be quite erratic because we do tend to be off to one side, and sometimes in our life, we drift off to the other.

But Jesus never changes. He is always there in the same place. It tells us not so much as a shadow of turning is God or His Word. (See James 1:17)

I'm so thankful that even though we are now almost two thousand years from the time of Stephen, that experience in the church so long, long ago is valuable and is precious to us. If we would let these murmurings, bitterness, hurt feelings, and those kind of things spring up amongst us, it would bring forth the same kind of fruit that it did here.

What do you think God thought of those souls, who were the false witnesses here? What do you think

ALL THINGS WORK FOR GOOD

We know that all things work for good for those called by the Lord, According to His Purpose, yes, God's Word does this record; It is a Promise full of Hope for Christians ev'rywhere, To stand upon, believe upon, Assurance God does care! Encompassing all things in life that daily come our way, Eternal is this Truth Divine, unchanging, come what may; For us to always trust and know God's Plan for ev'ryone, According to His Purposes, will always be well done!

Some things we do not understand, untimely death or loss,
A shattered dream, a grieving heart, a burden or a cross;
Longsuffering, a wayward soul, when evil does abound,
We must commit such mysteries to God where Grace is found!
For those redeemed, those called by God, all things will work for good,
When they can trust, commit to God in Faith the things they should;
And by His Grace, new Courage see, to do the best they can,
Amidst adversity they may fulfill God's Perfect Plan!

As potter works the clay for shape, for purpose in his use, So God does mold our Destiny, direct as He would choose; Tho rich or poor, if strong or weak, in sorrow or in joy, When we accept God's Will for us, His Peace we will enjoy! And yet sometimes our Vision clouds from mysteries so deep, It's then we need the Lord to guide, our Soul restore and keep; By Faith we'll rise above the world, believing ev'ry day, That God does see and know what's best, His Perfect Will obey!

So when the clouds obscure the Light, and darkness would descend, Remember that the Lord is True, upon His Word depend; And know that all things work for good for those called by the Lord, According to His Purpose, what Assurance from God's Word! God is our Refuge and our Strength, a Present Help in need, The Keeper of our Soul He is, redeeming us, indeed; We need not fear mortality, what comes with earthly strife, For in the end God saves our Soul, we win Eternal Life!

Bro. Rodney Stoller

was the end result of that kind of life? We all know. We don't have to talk about it.

It says that they could behold the face of Stephen as if it were the face of an angel. (See Acts 6:15) How it uplifts us and how it really, really draws us close to God when we can meet and greet His dear brothers and sisters. We can see in their life happiness, contentment, joy and

peace just like the angels. We don't know what the angels are like because we are here on this earth.

We carry flesh and blood, but we often think amongst His brothers and sisters and here in the precious faith, we are as in a heavenly place, even today. These who we mingle with certainly have to be like the angels. Not angels, but like angels to us. They are the ones who encour-

WE WORSHIP THEE, O GOD

This day, O God, we come to Thee to praise Thy Holy Name,
For Mercy and Thy Faithfulness
Thy Goodness we proclaim;
Creator of the Universe
of all things great and small,
We worship Thee, O Holy One
The Keeper of us all!

O Lord, our God, we give Thee thanks for all that Thou hast done, For sending us Thy Son Divine redeeming ev'ryone; Omnipotent, Eternal One our Lord and God and King, Accept our thanks, we worship Thee Thy praises do we sing!

We humbly bow before Thy Throne O Holy One of Love, Impart to us Thy Peace and Grace They Spirit from Above; Immanuel, Lord God with us Abide in ev'ry heart, And keep us in Thy tender care O Lord, how great Thou art!

O teach us, Lord, Thy Perfect Way awaken ev'ryone,
May we Thy children always be
Thru us, Thy Will be done;
forgive our sins, O Lord we pray restore us back to Thee,
And lead us on to Paradise where we Thy Glory see!

Bro. Rodney Stoller

age us. They are the ones who lift us up.

How thankful we are that God has called us to brotherhood. Not as cousins, not as some distant relative, but as brothers and sisters of His...the highest standing there is. Let us never let Satan come in and destroy that wonderful thing that God has made and has drawn us together.

The Last Sunday

The night had relinquished its hold on the light, And morning had come, the sun shining bright. A beautiful Sunday, the week's chores were through, And forward we looked to church services, too.

We entered the church, greeted brethren and friends. Then all file in when the singing begins. We sang several hymns, then with heads bowed in pray'r, We asked that the Lord now His Spirit would share.

The minister stood and walked up to the mike Said, "Greetings to all, now we would all like To be fed from His Word and strengthened thereby." He opened The Book then he started to cry.

He quickly looked up and with trembling disclosed, "It's over! It's done! The Door has been closed! God's Grace has been taken! His Mercy is through! Look up to the clouds for The Rapture is due!"

Now we just don't know how the end will all go. Just always be ready, that we all know. The day is soon coming when out of the blue, Return as The King, Jesus will, that is true!

But yet in this day there is time to repent.

Not for tomorrow are promises lent.

So make haste and come, set your sights on the Lord.

You've heard His good teachings and all read His Word.

Then dearly beloved ones all take a look,
Down deep in your hearts where, there like a book,
Are contained your true feelings how you would stand
Before your Creator and His mighty Band.

Does your heart now condemn you? Please be aware There will be a Judgment Day, all will be there.

The Book will be opened, the names will be read.

Awake! Listen closely! Will your name be said?

By Bro. Bill Schmidgall

From Father To Son

My son, it seems not long ago you were a little boy,

Who loved to run and play, to sing, you filled my heart with joy;

A father's pride, you were for me, what happy times we had,

As you would grow, thru work or play, you were my special lad!

With childish voice you learned to pray, for God to keep your soul,

With simple faith, in Jesus trust, yes Heaven was your goal;

In school, at church, or in the home, you learned what you would need,

To help you for what life may hold, what kind of life to lead!

So soon the years have come and gone, my how you've grown, my son.

Accomplishing so many things, I'm proud of what you've done;

A young man now, with hopes and dreams, so vigorous in youth,

Consider now what I must say,
Eternal Words of Truth!
In all your ways acknowledge God,
His Word keep in your heart,
Please listen when His Spirit
speaks, from evil ways depart;
Seek first the Lord while in your
youth, for Grace from Heav'n
Above,

Give back to Him your life in Faith, for Service in His Love!

Remember, son, to keep your Faith, no matter come what may,
No pow'r on earth can It o'ercome, when you will trust and pray;
Accept success with humbleness, help others in their need,
And try to live as Jesus lived, in word and thought and deed!
A Good Name keep, no matter what, esteem, respect all men,
Be true, be kind, be merciful, for give, forgive again;

Forget not whence all Blessings
flow, Who gives you daily bread,
And be assured, there is Reward,
when Jesus is your Head!
There are so many things to say,
but this one thing please do,
Fear God, and keep His Precepts
True, may Wisdom dwell in you;
Embrace, preserve and live the
Faith, taught in your childhood
days,

Rejoice and thank your God each
day, give Him your ev'ry praise!
I cannot give you lasting wealth,
earth's power or its fame,
But what I have is Faith in God,
Eternally the Same;
This Heritage of Faith, my son, is
yours with Promise Bright,
O cherish It, please pass It on, Our
legacy, Faith's Light!

By Bro. Rodney Stoller

The BIBLE

The Bible is the mind of God,
Its thoughts are deep and pure.
The words this precious book records,
Forever shall endure.
It is a plan on which we see
And read the Father's will.
The glory of His worthy name,
All heaven and earth does fill.

God's servants in the days of yore, Transcribed His words and mind. His mighty works and wondrous deeds,

Are in this book combined. Compassion, love, and sympathy, Are on its page enscrolled; He does the sweetness of His name, To human hearts unfold.

Whenever we read this sacred page, We read the mind of God.
We see the zeal that filled the souls, Who righteous ways have trod.
This message then divinely given Is more than printed word;
It is the will of Sabaoth,
Our Saviour, Prince and Lord.

O, who would not this sovereign King With song and praise adore?
O, who can read His precious word And lightly pass it o'er?
What privilege this book to own,
O, lay it not aside,

Nor let the dust accumulate Whatever may betide.

For if we have its sacred truth,

And cherish not its worth, Our negligence will testify Against our walk on earth. And if we own a costly gem

We fain will let it part; So why not win this precious pearl, And seal it in our heart?

The Bible is the Book of books,
A message from on high.
Embrace it now while yet you live,
You'll need it when you die.
The author of this Book divine,
Each page with truth has blest.
"Tis He who simply calls to us:
"Come unto me and rest."

By Bro. Henry Beer

At Church On Time

I like to be at church on time,
To join in song and prayer,
And with the brethren of the Lord
The morning blessings share.
Our faith is a profession
And it requires zeal;
We do by prompt attendance
Our inner state reveal.

And many will rise early Some earthly thing to gain, For such they strive to be on time Their object to attain.
The principles of business
To faith should be applied;
Thus value of true worship
Will evermore abide.

When children have a hunger, You'll see each little face Quite early at the table In proper time and place. And if we truly love the Lord, And cherish things divine,

We'll gather there in one accord And strive to be on time.

How oft our hearts are burdened!
For instant help we plead!
What if the Lord would come too late
And not regard our need?
And when He gathers to His side
His saints from every clime
Then when He says "Come unto Me"
I hope to be on time.

By Bro. Henry Beer

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

For by it the elders obtained a good report. Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the Word of God, so that things that are seen were not made of things which do appear. Heb. 11:1-3

OUR HERITAGE OF FAITH

Down thru the Course of History there shines a Ray of Light, A Light Divine called Faith in God, in Souls who strive aright; From Abraham to Early Church, to Saints of Yesterday, Undimmed, unbroken, is this Light, shines brightly yet today! A precious Heritage of Faith to dwell within our hearts, With promises of Heav'n someday, with Blessings God imparts; His Faithfulness and Grace each day, with Comforter Who guides, Believing in God's Holy Word, His Peace with us abides!

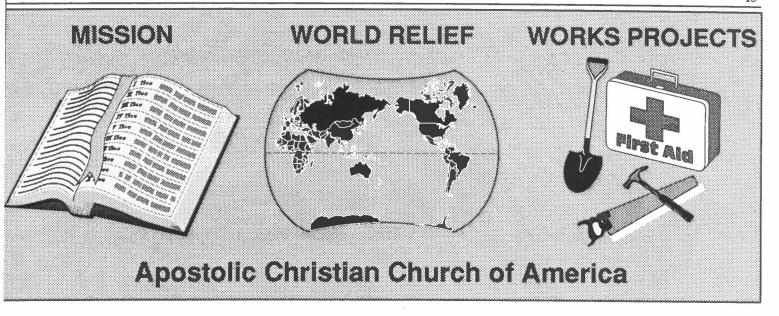
How was it so that we were taught of Faith in God, His Truth, Then called by God, unworthy we, no matter age or youth? 'Twas long ago that humble Souls by God were called to be, Committed to His Word and Way, Faith's Light, by Grace, to see! Unshaken they, by winds of change, their aspirations high, With Holy Spirit, Faith unfeigned, the Lord by them stood nigh; Down thru the Age their Heritage of Faith was passed along, Until today, now Keepers we of Faith, to keep it strong!

It is by Faith we realize God's Promises of Love,
May we uphold Faith's Heritage, Its Teachings from Above;
Simplicity of Faith portray, a Light for ev'ryone,
With godliness, contented be, 'tis then God's Will is done!
In rising up, in work or play, in lying down to sleep,
In all our ways, acknowledge God, our Soul for Him to keep;
Instructing those placed in our care, Faith's seed in them instill,
For God to call, Faith, spring anew, according to His Will!

God's Purposes for all of us, to serve, obey His Will,
Salvation's Story, live and tell, His Plans Divine fulfill;
To cherish and preserve Faith's Light, received from Saints of Old,
For those who follow after us, for them, His Truth uphold!
How privileged and fortunate that we were called by God,
To keep Our Heritage of Faith, while on earth's path we trod;
And by His Grace, pass on the Faith, with purest Light sublime,
Undimmed, unbroken may It shine, until the End of Time!

Bro. Rodney Stoller

SILVER LINING



'DICHOTOMIES" Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle, Shioda, Japan

Recently when meditating on II Cor. 1:4, "God comforteth us in all our tribulation", I began to notice that without tribulation or suffering, comfort is meaningless. I concluded that suffering and comfort are an inseparable pair, or a dichotomy. You must first have suffering before you can be comforted.

Thinking a little further, I remembered that Jesus said, "Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone." (John 12:24) Death and new life go together. There can be no new life, or the resurrection, unless there is first a death. These spiritual truths seem to come in pairs, or dichotomies, which means by twos.

Take the matter of forgiveness. If we did not "Come short of the glory of God," (Romans 3:23), there would be no need for forgiveness. In our relationship with each other, also, it is when I err and someone graciously forgives me that I realize how wonderful forgiveness is. We often speak of having peace but this is meaningful only if there was first a conviction of sin and of a lost condition. Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you." (John 14:27)

When it comes to patience, which is called longsuffering in the fruits of the spirit listed in Galatians 5:22, it is only valuable if there is something which ordinarily would aggravate you. Here again, two things go together; aggravation and patience.

My mother used to quote a poem which stated, "A man worthwhile is a man that can smile, when everything goes dead wrong." This applies to women, too, of course. It should be easy to smile when everything is going well, but to smile when everything is going dead wrong is another matter.

When you have a problem, please think of it as an opportunity. Things do come in dichotomies.

TEACHERS

Educational Coordinator
Opening at Gateway Woods

If you have been reading The Silver Lining for the past few years, you may have noticed this advertisement comes up every summer. Let me explain that the high turnover is not because this is an awful job! It is full of challenges, rewards and welcomes creativity. I am sad to leave this position, but praise God as He has blessed me with a child of my own to care for.

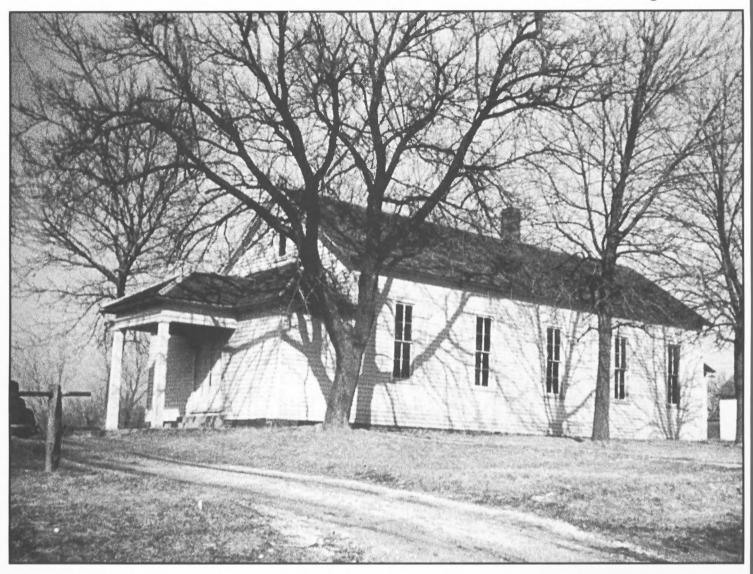
We are looking for a brother or sister who has a desire to light a spark in a child's mind for knowledge and in their heart for Jesus Christ. Qualifications include a Bachelor's Degree in Education and work experience in the field. We offer competitive salaries, benefits and continuing education opportunities. Please prayerfully consider this work. For more information, contact one of the brothers listed below.

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Down Memory Lane

From Marching To Zion



The Old "Town Church" on West Davidson in Roanoke

This small church was built in 1884 to accommodate the congregation for the mid-week services. A small room in the back was used to teach the German language.

With improved transportation, the old church in town was no longer needed by mid-century. Accordingly, it was sold on June 28, 1952. People attending the "night" church remember many enjoyable times of worship at that location.

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