

# *The Silver Lining*



*God Paints the Clouds in the Evening Sky*

*October 1994*



Hearken unto this, O Job: stand still, and consider the wondrous works of God.

Dost thou know when God disposed them, and caused the light of his cloud to shine.  
*Job 37:14,15*

And it shall come to pass in that day, saith the Lord God, that I will cause the sun to go down at noon, and I will darken the earth in the clear day:

*Amos 8:9*

## Sunset

The beauty of God's creation is written on the pages of this earth. When we view that beauty, that boundless beauty, traveling across the vast expanse of God's creation, we are often inspired with a heavenly feeling.

The thankfulness in our heart that comes from the knowledge that God is everywhere and that He is omnipresent, often times overwhelms our soul. In a weak or sad moment we may think that such a great God, who can paint the clouds in the sky, will not have any time for us and our problems. Overcoming those moments of despair can be a struggle for most of us.

Remember in the precious Word where we are told about the trials of Job and how he just sat in a gloom for days. Job could not be comforted by his friends and neighbors, because they were trying to tell Job why he was having his problems. Job needed the "sunshine" from God, but he was being tested and he had to walk that lonesome valley all by himself.

"You must go and stand your trial, you have to stand it by yourself, oh, nobody else can stand it for you. You have to stand it by yourself." But when we walk through the valley of despair, many times we can look up to the sky and think upon heavenly thoughts. There may be friends or even brethren who try to help us by telling us why we are having our problem or trial and we may even sink lower in our stride. Then along comes an "Elihu" who says the right thing at the right time.

It is as if the words of Job come to life for us.

For God speaketh once, yea twice, yet man perceiveth it not. In a dream, in a vision of the night, when deep sleep falleth upon me, in slumberings upon the bed;

Then he openeth the ears of men, and sealeth their instruction, that he may withdraw man from his purpose, and hide pride

from man. *Job 33:14-17*

When God opens our understanding and we can feel purpose again in our lives, it is a time of renewing and a time of reflecting...and I get a heavenly feeling.

When shadows grow long in the evening  
When birds wing their way back home,  
I get a heavenly feeling  
It's sunset and I'm going home.

The burdens I've carried were heavy,  
I've prayed in the garden alone,  
But there'll be no crosses up yonder,  
It's sunset and I'm going home.

The harvest is over and gathered  
The summer is ended and gone  
The laborer longs for His coming  
It's sunset and I'm going home.

God paints the clouds in the evening sky,  
To show me the way to the palace on high,  
And stars mark the pathway lest my feet  
should roam  
It's sunset and I'm going home.  
*Gospel Hymns #812*

In the singing of this hymn, we can feel that heavenly feeling and we know the spirit of God is alive in our heart. "...and stars mark the pathway lest my feet should roam..." Are you a star? Are you an "Elihu"? Do you take the time to say a cheering word or write a letter to someone in despair? Are you sunshine that lifts up a soul that is walking that lonesome valley?

We all have times when we are down and sad. At times like that we appreciate when sunshine comes into our life. It comes in various ways, but its equally appreciated by he who is in despair.

So as we walk that lonesome valley, we need to pray to God that He gives us "eli-hus" and sunshine, but we must be willing to do our part. Letting God lead, guide, and direct us will make all well.

## The Silver Lining

The Silver Lining is your publication, which has a purpose to draw the Golden Threads of our churches across the land together into a single media of print.

We are so thankful for the correspondants and the important work they are accomplishing. We encourage you to visit with them about improvements or suggestions to The Silver Lining so that this media can meet the needs of all the brethren.

The main mission of The Silver Lining will always be the articles of news from each of our blessed churches.

May God bless each one of His children across this great land and throughout the world as we diligently seek to walk the pathway of life.

"I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help."

## The Silver Lining

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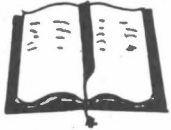
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Writings based  
on God's Word

# Light From The Word

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

## THE ARMOR OF GOD

A believer's life is on the one hand an ongoing quest for peacefulness (2 Tim. 2:22; Heb 12:14) and on the other hand a warfare against evil that must be engaged continuously (1 Tim. 1:18). These seemingly contrary pursuits require strong determination and can be mastered only by the grace of God.

Our quest to maintain peacefulness involves our relationship with God and with our fellow man: "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ" (Rom. 5:1) and "If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men" (Rom. 12:18).

However, our warfare (Eph. 6:12) is "against principalities [Satan's dominion as in Col. 2:15], against powers [worldliness as in Eph. 2:2], against rulers of the darkness of this world [un-godly secular leadership], against spiritual wickedness in high places [deceptive leadership in spiritual matters as in 2 Tim. 4:3]." The purpose of the armor is to ward off spiritual deception: "... that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand" (Eph. 6:13).

Preparation for a lifetime engagement in this spiritual battle begins when an individual repents and becomes a truly converted and dedicated soldier of the Cross. "No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier" (2 Tim. 2:4). The phrase "stand therefore" (Eph. 6:14) is indicative of a well grounded, fully prepared soul, unquestionably ready to put on the whole armor of God. Armor includes all equipment needed to win the battle, both protective elements (such as the breastplate and helmet) as well as an aggressive weapon (the sword).

To have the loins girded with truth signifies the strength which is derived

from truth (Eph. 6:14). One cannot "grow in grace" (2 Pet. 3:18) without building upon the solid foundation of biblical truth. This requires that we give diligence to "rightly dividing the Word of truth" (2 Tim. 2:15), which means carefully, prayerfully and correctly interpreting the Word of God.

Perversions of the truth include tactics that are within the boundaries of the civil law but are not altogether aligned with the law of righteousness (1 Cor. 10:23). We are not to give moral or financial support to those who pursue activities in the name of Christianity but whose doctrine is not altogether founded on the truth (2 John 10). The child of God is to practice total honesty in everything: "Provide things honest in the sight of all men" (Rom. 12:17). There is a saying that "honesty is the best policy." For the believer honesty is the only policy. Our behavior toward everyone should be Spirit-motivated, kind and without partiality: "The wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy" (Jam. 3:17).

The "breastplate" (Eph. 6:14), consists of righteousness (right living, correctness) and is the major protector of the heart (the inner man). It is displayed in our personality, emotions and other aspects of our character. It is readily observed by others: "... let your conversation [behavior] be as becometh the gospel of Christ. ..." (Phil. 1:27).

A soldier in Bible times with "feet shod" (Eph. 6:15) had his sandals tightly bound giving him good speed and sure footing. This is figurative of the believer's readiness of mind and body to lay hold of the grace of God, to "stand fast in the faith" (1 Cor. 16:13), and "to be ready to every good work" (Tit. 3:1).

"The shield of faith" (Eph. 6:16)

denotes sincere belief that is firmly grounded in the truth of God's Word. The shield of faith has the capability to protect us from all tactics (fiery darts) which the evil principalities and powers would use against us. Since quenching the fiery darts doesn't diminish the source, the use of the shield requires persistence, alertness, and skill that can only come from unwavering loyalty to Christ and His Word. As Joshua of old, we must continually affirm that, "as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" (Josh. 24:15).

"The helmet of salvation" (Eph. 6:17) is figurative of the preservation of our blessed hope: "If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard..." (Col. 1:23).

"The sword of the Spirit" (Eph. 6:17) is the fulfillment of God's promise to give each believer aggressive power over sin. We use the sword (God's Word) to sever unfruitful and unholy things from our lives. There should be no ambiguity in our dealing with impulses to compromise with sin: "For the Word of God is quick and powerful and sharper than any two-edged sword . . . and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart" (Heb. 3:12).

Even after being wholly armed, full success will still require much prayer and watchfulness on the part of all the brethren. We should dedicate ourselves to praying for all the saints. We all deeply appreciate other's prayers and should be mindful of the fact that the fierce spiritual battle in which we are all engaged requires marshalling all of our forces in a united effort against the enemy of our souls. "Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with *all perseverance and supplication* for all saints" (Eph. 6:18).



APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN  
**World Relief**

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

At the World Relief meeting held in Goodfield on August 13, reports and inquiries concerning the situation in Rwanda, Africa were considered. Based upon the interest and concern, the committee authorized sending \$100,000 from the disaster fund to Rwanda. Funds were sent via *International Aid*, *MAP International*, and the *Mennonite Central Committee*.

These funds will be used to purchase antibiotics, medical supplies, blankets, food and vitamins, along with scripture booklets in the Rwandan language. Relief workers from each of these agencies will manage the distribution of these products.

## Relief For Rwanda



A request has also come from *Concern International Relief Agency* for corn shipments to Rwanda. The U.S. Air Force will fly grain directly to Africa, free of any shipping and handling charges. *Doctors Without Borders* will handle the shipments upon arrival in Africa. Anyone interested in donating corn and processing, bagging, and trucking to Massachusetts for air lifting to Africa please call:

**Jim Hoerr**  
6140 Evergreen Circle  
Peoria, IL 61614  
(309) 692-7757 Home  
(309) 691-4561 Work

Anyone wishing to contribute can do so on the local congregation level. Funds will be forwarded to the World Relief Committee. Or funds can be sent direct to the World Relief Treasurer at the address below:

**Leon Graf**  
Apostolic Christian World Relief  
180 Park Place,  
Wadsworth, OH 44281  
(216) 334-3180

The World Relief Committee thanks every contributor for your generous gifts of love and prayer support of World Relief projects.



## A Special Report

In April of 1994, four brothers visited the Galilean Home in Liberty, Kentucky for the purpose of evaluating the work and reporting to the World Relief Committee. Following is a condensation of their findings.

Galilean Home Ministries are run by Sandy and Jerry Tucker, for the purpose of caring for homeless, abandoned, and handicapped children from around the world. The couple shared their purposes as well as their financial status with these brothers.

Many of the residents have severe mental or physical impairments. At any one time, 70 to 80 special children are being cared for in the home. Some of these babies were born to women in prisons and could not remain with the mothers. It is the need for a facility for these children, termed *Born Free*, which is the subject of this report.

The brothers were impressed by the loveliness of the early spring morning, the rustic surroundings in the beautiful hill country, but most of all by the circumstances of the little tots who had no other place of refuge, that received care here. The buildings range from old to new, good and poor conditions, but all with only the very basic support systems. Poorly insulated, they can be quite cold in the winter months.

Jerry and Sandy Tucker embrace a doctrine similar to our own, and have a goal of teaching the children Biblical truth while ministering to their human needs. The children in the home are in four categories:

- 1) Normal children.
- 2) Severely handicapped.
- 3) *Born Free* children.

- 4) Children from foreign nations who could not receive medical help at home, and are kept here until fit to return to their country.

Their private school, as well as daily needs, are supplied by a large staff of paid and volunteer workers sensitive to and capable of meeting the special requirements. It was obvious that the entire operation is run in a very frugal manner. The stock of food in the warehouse made it clear that the menu of the day was determined primarily by what was available, not necessarily what they would like to serve.

Many of the crowded bedrooms are in violation of Kentucky building codes, but the inspectors, knowing there is virtually no place else to care for these children, simply look the other way. Sleeping in one room, are 20-24 children on bunks three feet apart. Some of these need care virtually around the clock. The brothers were impressed by the many acts of kindness and devotion of the people who provided this special care.

The recommendation from this group, which was presented to and approved by the World Relief Committee, was to provide a dormitory for the *Born Free* children. Estimated costs are \$80,000 for the materials, with drawings and permits covered by a special donation. It is intended that our brethren will construct the building.



To coordinate this project, it will be necessary to have brethren volunteer as on site construction managers. They would need to stay throughout the project. Daily workers could donate time as they are so moved and able to do. Target dates to do this construction are presently in the spring of 1995. Any brethren having an interest in responding to this appeal, kindly contact:

**Gerald Fiechter**  
5676 N. 600 E.  
Craigville, IN 46731  
(219) 597-7494



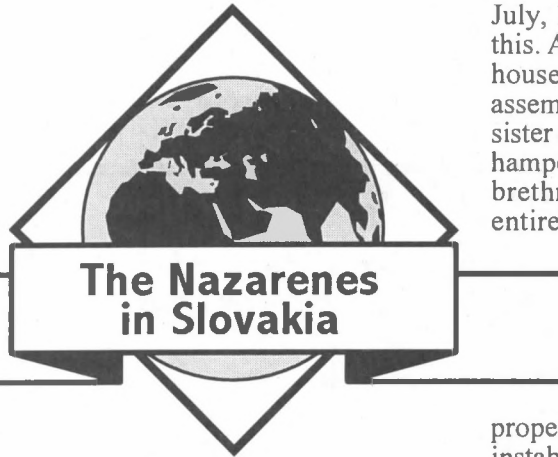
## APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN Mission Committee

... 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

As the faith initiated by the fiery young evangelist Samuel Froelich spread across Europe in the middle of the nineteenth century, congregations sprang up in many areas. Most of these "Nazarenes" first met in homes, building assembly houses as funds and circumstances permitted. For most of these pilgrims of the faith, life was difficult at its best. Our European brethren today are products of their heredity and culture, as each of us are also.

The boundary lines across Europe were far different a century ago than today. The relocation of borders with dramatic changes in government is having a major impact on our brethren at the present time. It is apparent that we have reached a turning point in the history of the world. As old orders pass away with new ones taking their places, only God knows what the future holds for His people. The relaxing of the stern discipline and oppression of former regimes has given our brethren the opportunity to work with and assist one another in ways that did not exist just a short time ago. The brethren in the USA are trying to respond to these opportunities in a manner acceptable to God and one another.

The most recent change in the country formerly known as Czechoslovakia has been the peaceful division into the Czech and Slovak republics. Although both are made up of ethnic Slavic peoples, each has an individual history. The Czech portion was formerly Bohemia, where few Nazarenes settled. There have been members of our faith in Slovakia for nearly 150 years, stemming from the efforts of brethren who moved from Switzerland into Hungary, bringing the faith with them. As time passed, believers moved across the area, establishing 10 or 12 Slovakian congregations. The 20th century brought with it the impact of two world wars followed by many years of Communist rule, which took a heavy toll on these struggling souls.



All religious groups were required to register in order to qualify for permission to hold services, but doing so involved compromises with their faith that our brethren were not willing to make. With no official status, they had to assemble in secret, and when discovered, as they often were, imprisonment resulted. Members were jailed for 2 years, with ministers receiving 5 year terms. Many brethren suffered several terms over the years. Scars from these experiences, both physical and emotional, will remain as long as they live.

Although present requirements for registering religious groups are acceptable to our brethren, they are still having a difficult time doing so. They have been told that they must have at least 20,000 members to qualify for registering. They are now appealing this regulation by using the record that their faith has existed in this land for nearly 150 years. It is important to gain full recognition, otherwise church buildings must be titled to individuals, which is undesirable for many reasons.

The instability resulting from the breakup of Communism is a real fact of life in this work. Property ownership is not always clear, and because of inflation, often families are not willing to sell anything. This makes it hard to find places to build churches. In February, 1992, the sum of \$34,000 was transferred to the Slovaks from Mission Committee funds. In our meeting in

July, 1994, they gave a full account of this. At Malinec, three rooms of an old house were remodeled providing an assembly room for 30 people. An older sister also lives in this house. Although hampered by the difficulties stated, the brethren are trying to purchase the entire property, which they hope to achieve by year's end.

In Zemberovce (20-30 persons) and Selice (10-15 persons) brethren are gathering in private homes, with attempts for purchase of property under way in each place. The instability of both society and currency is causing delays. In the mean time, funds are being held for use when the way opens. \$10,000 of the funds were used to buy a new van and a used car, giving them means to get people to services. An excerpt from their report is printed below:

*"We would like to assure all (US) brothers that we use and will use offered help with God's will as a gift of love from believers in USA, as modestly and as sparingly as possible in holy Godly awe for needs to the Church of believers in Christ Nazarene in Slovakia. Through our prayers we thank the Lord God and all believers in USA and also all brothers of committees for demonstrating to us love and solicitude with appeal, that Lord God would return your blessing and give all of you everlasting peace."*

Signed by an elder and elder assistant

The U.S. brethren working with these projects also extend sincere thanks to everyone for your love, prayers, and support of these efforts. Only God knows how long it will be possible to continue the work, but while the way is open, we hope to be a support and encouragement to fellow pilgrims struggling for eternal rest.

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  
RR 1 Box 181C, 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 mid-week service in Bloomington, IN.

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**

Fall is fast approaching and the fields are ripe for harvesting. It is obvious that God is the artist, as we see all the leaves coloring to red, yellow and orange. We are all excited for wiener roasts and camp-fire singings. Many residents enjoyed several events of our annual Morton Pumpkin Festival, which was highlighted by a parade on Saturday, September 17. It's always fun to go to a parade. The Karen Blunier family hosted a wiener roast at the Blunier Barn in Eureka on September 22. Many people from the Home and Linden Estate enjoyed the annual festive event, the singing and fellowship with many friends. On September 29, people from Oakwood, Linden and the community homes enjoyed the annual wiener roast at the park. The staff members bring their families whom the people enjoy getting to know.

We are thankful that all of our new people have moved into their new homes. Many are very appreciative for the opportunity to live in an environment that encourages a closer walk with Jesus, a chance to learn new skills and develop new friendships.

NOVEMBER birthdays are: at ACHH - Susie McGinley (1), Kathy Knapp (5), Tom Manley (8), Kay Ellis (9), Bernice Heiniger (11), Sam Sigulas (13), Janet Worner (17), Kristie Furrer (18); at Oakwood Estate - Rhonda Pullen (4), Keith Weyeneth (4), Marian Funk (20); at Hazelwood - Alan Unsicker (15); and at Linden Estate - Ken Clauss (2), Jane Aberle (14). There are no November birthdays at the Main Street or Wagler homes.

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**GATEWAY WOODS  
APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN  
CHILDREN'S HOME**

**Jeff Schumacher**

As I sit down to write this month's Silver Lining article for Gateway Woods, I struggle because I personally have not been around much to know what has been going on. As a few of you might know, I had back surgery on September 2. This was quite an ordeal for my wife and I. But I also found out what an ordeal it was for my oldest son and what he saw my role as in our house.

One night as Jonathan was getting ready for bed, my wife went in to pray with him because I was in quite a lot of pain. At the end of his prayer he spoke these words, "Dear Jesus, please come into my heart so that I may have a light heart. And Jesus, please heal my daddy's back; will you please do that for me Jesus, so that me and Zachary and mommy can jump on him again. Thank you Jesus." A toy. That is what my son missed the most. Well, needless to say I was just a little let down, but we got quite a chuckle out of that prayer. We were later able to give Jonathan a very good lesson from this prayer.

Our sons have a children's tape that recounts the story of the centurion soldier (Matthew 8:8-10):

"The centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that

thou shouldest come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed. For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me: and I say to this man, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it. When Jesus heard it, he marvelled, and said to them that followed, Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel."

One night after my surgery, Jonathan came up and asked how my back was doing. When I responded that it was getting better, he gave me one of his big, ear-to-ear grins and said, "Jesus did answer my prayer". Remembering the song and his prayer, we discussed that fact that he had asked Jesus into his heart and requested that Jesus heal my back. I was able to show him that as a child under Christ's authority, Jesus was sure to answer his prayer.

As I thought about this in a larger context, I was amazed at how often I, as a child of God, often forget that I am a man under authority, and just how important it is to show that to my wife and children. They need to see that I am under the authority and headship of Christ so that they have a model of submission to follow and model their lives after. This is especially important for my sons to see this modeled.

Being under the authority of Christ is not always an easy task. Sometimes He may request us to do something that is not comfortable (like confront another brother or sister, go and ask forgiveness where we have fallen short of His glory, etc.). When we have Christ in our hearts, serving and obeying Him are an option. It is my deepest wish that no one choose not to obey, but it is human nature to avoid doing things that are uncomfortable for us (author included). God does not

call us to strive to perfect humanness, but He calls us to strive to be Christ-like.

Is God asking you to do something that is challenging? Uncomfortable? Uncertain? Different than what you are used to? Are you obeying His call? Do you have the faith that the centurion had, that God will supply all your needs? If not, I strongly urge you to pray, have patience, listen and heed His calling to the vineyard so that His work might be furthered through you, His child.

My son had the faith to believe that Jesus would answer his prayer and supply his needs. Do you have the faith to believe that Christ can answer your prayers?

This month has been somewhat slow at Gateway Woods. Sis. Heidi Schrock left to take on the new challenges of motherhood. God blessed Bro. Trent and Sis. Heidi with a son, Hudson, born on September 15.

Sis. Kelley Leyse from Bluffton, IN, has been hired temporarily to help in our tutoring in the absence of an Education Coordinator. We have had one new admission---Christa (14) who joined the Todd Schrock family. We continue to seek out children that the Lord would allow us to serve.

We also would humbly urge that you pray with us as we continue to seek brothers and sisters to come and fill the staff openings that we have here at Gateway Woods.

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**APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN  
PRESCHOOL  
Athens, Alabama  
Joan Reinhard**

Change, change, change has been the theme so far this year at the Preschool. We started out the school year with two new teachers and about 45 students per day. We welcomed to our Preschool Sis. Cheryl Leman (Bluffton, IN) and

Sis. Doris Fischer (Roanoke, IL). Sis. Cheryl was teaching the 3-year-old class and because of the large number of students this year, we made a new class of 2 and 3-year-olds together that Sis. Doris was teaching. However, two weeks after Sis. Cheryl arrived she received and accepted a proposal from Bro. David Moser (Bluffton, IN) and soon headed back to Bluffton. We do want to thank Sis. Cheryl for her willingness to come, and this is just another reminder that our ways are not always God's ways. Sis. Doris has now moved up to the 3-year-old class and this leaves a desperate, immediate need for another teacher. Please help us with this, by spreading the word, and committing our situation to prayer. One of our local sisters (Sis. Clarann Lynn) has agreed to help out until we can find a replacement. Anyone interested, please call Bro. Lavoyd Moore at (205) 232-2035.

Our students are adjusting well to all of this change, and we are grateful for each one who attends here. Please also help us by praying for each child and their families in these times.

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#### **ALABAMA, ATHENS** **Pamela Moore**

We were pleased to have Bro. Ron Pilido (Akron, OH) with us in August to bring to us the Word of God.

We are thankful to have Bro. J.R. Hall home from the hospital and doing well, following a short hospitalization. Please pray for Sis. Shirley Haggemaker, as she has undergone more hospitalization. She and her family need our prayers.

It's always refreshing when the Lord sends to us spiritual and mortal helpers, as He has brought Sis. Doris Fischer (Roanoke, IL) and Sis. Cheryl Leman (Bluffton North, IN) to Athens to teach in the Pre-

school. Sis. Cheryl will not be here very long, as her engagement was announced soon after moving to Athens. We enjoyed and appreciated the short time she did spend with us. We very much look forward to getting to know Sis. Doris, and hope that she can feel at home and a part of our Athens congregation.

Fall is such a wonderful time of year, as the crops become ready for harvest, and the days become cooler and shorter. Here in Alabama, our cotton fields are "...white already to harvest. And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal: that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together." John 4:35,36

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#### **ARIZONA, PHOENIX** **Ron and Ev Hoerr**

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

*Luke 11:35*

In these troubled times, our most urgent need is a "closer walk with Thee". We are looking forward to hearing testimonies from Bob and Eleanor Hill, Larry, Kathie, Brandon and Heather Labudde, and Virginia Contrascere.

Our joy increases even more as we look forward to testimonies and baptisms to four babes in Christ. Jeff Klopfenstein, Matt Roth, Heidi Kokanovich and Nicole Baum are very happy to have His peace in their hearts.

Bro. Ben Endress returned to Illinois. We enjoyed his fellowship. May God's love keep us close.

Our thanks to the Altadena church for having our Sunday School junior and senior high classes on Labor Day Weekend. Christian fellowship is a treasure to keep.

Several in our Singles Group

traveled to Bern and Sabetha, KS, to fellowship. We are most appreciative of your warm welcome and fine hospitality.

We always appreciate a visit from Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle and Sis. Lois. Bro. Willis was our guest minister in a very dry August.

On Wednesday nights we have been hearing the Conference tapes. How comforting to know our Elder brothers love and care for all of us and ever so gently guide us along Heaven's highway. May God bless you and your helpmates. We are most appreciative of your labors of love.

Several years ago Sis. Rachel Bauman moved back to Morton, IL, after worshipping here. Sis. Ruth Baer received word of her death on August 20.

We need your prayers for many loved ones: Sis. Ella Harmon, Sis. Gerry Beyer, Sis. Josephine Martin, Sis. Vera Jian, Bro. Melvin Miller, Bro. Todd Roth and Ed Suever.

As we assemble our news, the threat of invading Haiti is looming close at hand. Our ongoing prayers seem to go unheard. Dear Lord, please intervene. We are continually praying for peace.

Seek comfort in Romans 8 and Psalm 23.

With the holidays upon us, let us remember those away.

*Ann Kieser*

*Auburn University*

*Teague Hall 317*

*Auburn, AL 36830-5313*

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#### **ARIZONA, PRESCOTT**

A large crowd turned out for our annual corn roast on August 20.

On Sunday, retired Elder Bro. Richard Schupbach was our minister. Our thanks to him and Sis. Barbara for coming.

Earlier in the month a group from Prescott-Phoenix painted the



building where we worship.

"Where He leads me I will follow." We lovingly welcome a new family from Morris, MN; Bro. Troy and Sis. Vanessa Luthi and children, Miranda, Jordon, Jennifer and Matthew. They will also worship in Phoenix on the second and fourth Sundays. May God bless you as you relocate.

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## ARIZONA, TUCSON

**Lisa Knapp**

We have resumed our monthly fellowship supper on the second Sunday of the month, and our monthly Bible study on the Friday following the fellowship supper. If you are in the area, please join us!

We are currently listening to the tapes of the August Conference.

We are still having summer weather in the middle of September which is nothing unusual. Our temperatures are still hovering around the 100 degree mark.

Our Sunday School recently traveled to Altadena, CA, for the Labor Day weekend. Another successful trip, safe travel, and great fellowship and we are very thankful to the Lord for His blessings, and, of course, to the Altadena church for their work of love.

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## CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA

**Carol Graf**

We rejoiced with Bro. Fred and Sis. Nancy Witzig as the adoption of their daughter, Marta Lynne, was finalized on August 31. She has been their foster child for the past three and a half years, and now the people she has been calling "Mom" and "Dad" are glad to hold those titles legally. Marta is very happy to be a part of their family, which includes her new sister, Erica. Her grandparents, Bro. William and Sis. Mary Witzig and Sis. Janet Martin (Princeville, IL) welcome her also, as do numerous

aunts, uncles and cousins.

Over Labor Day weekend, the Bible and Junior Bible classes from the Arizona and California congregations were here for a fellowship weekend. It's a blessing that they can travel to meet other young people from our churches. Also here that weekend was Bro. Pete Petrovic (Escondido, CA) and his family. We are thankful that he was willing to be used by the Lord by preaching to us.

As the summer winds down and the school year begins, we are thankful to have all of our travelers back safely. As the Lord protected us on our journeys, may He protect us now that we are back at home.

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## CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

**Rose Huette**

Our Elder Bro. John Klotzle (Altadena, CA) and his wife, Sis. Lois, visited us recently and we want to thank him for his labor of love. Also, thanks to all our visitors. Come back soon.

We were so richly blessed to have Bro. Tim Sauder along with his wife and children visit us from Leo, IN. Bro. Tim showed us slides of the Gateway Woods Apostolic Christian Children's Home and told us so many wonderful things that are being done for the children. It was a wonderful weekend. Thank you, Bro. Tim, for sharing this with us.

Our church is coming along nicely. Each time I go, it has changed so much. We have so much to be thankful for.

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## COLORADO, DENVER

**Jamie Grant**

Greetings to all across our free land! May we ever rejoice of God's goodness, His love, His grace, His mercy and His redemption for our sins! What unspeakable joy this should give us as we proclaim His glory!

This past month has been refreshing to many of us here in Denver. We have felt God's love and peace as we were blessed with many visitors. It was an eventful time for the Young Group, as we and many of our fellow brothers and sisters across the land rested from our earthly labors and replenished our souls with love, strength, encouragement, and joy that the Spirit allowed us to draw from each other. It was a weekend that ended in tearful partings, but began to make us smile all the more of the time when all God's children will be gathered together and "farewell" will be a word long forgotten.

The following weekend I was blessed to take a drive up to "Medicine Bow", about an hour and a half west of Laramie, Wyoming, to view yet another portion of God's splendor. As we were hiking about, we noticed a flock of sheep. Oh, they were so beautiful grazing on the hillside. With cameras adjusted for action, we crept our way closer and closer to the woolen beauties, and just when it seemed we had tip-toed as close as we could possibly get, the animals were startled. Then we saw more commotion winding up the hillside. There were so many sheep I couldn't begin to count, and lo and behold, here came the shepherd on horseback, and his three sheep dogs barking.

For some, a flock of sheep may be just a familiar sight, but on this day I began to clearly understand the references where the Bible tells us of our Father in Heaven being the Shepherd and we the sheep. The sheep dogs reminded me of our Elders, the ones who assisted the will of the Shepherd, and the ones who defined the perimeters of the sheeps' safety.

When I asked the shepherd how many sheep there were, he informed me that there were 1,200. I pointed to one of the flock that was limping. He told me that he knew

and that there were three others sick. You know, I would have never guessed the three others to be sick, because the assessment I made was only what my eyes could see..., but isn't it like the shepherd to know exactly the ones who are sick and hurting, just like our Heavenly Shepherd who sees all the afflictions of the heart and soul. What a blessing to behold God's creation! I'm reminded of Hymn #116 in Zion's Harp, "The Faithful Shepherd, Jesus Christ". I encourage you to read the words of this beautiful hymn.

Our thanks to Bro. Mark Bahr (Detroit, MI) for ministering the Word and for Bro. Duane Kilgus and his topical presentation "Resting From Our Labors".

God be with each of you through the fall season that has colored before us. May we reflect on God's power and goodness as another year is about to close.

## CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE

### Dawn Winans - Peggy Bahler

September 2 was a doubly joyous day for Bro. Tom and Sis. LaNae Bahler, with the birth of their twin boys, Robert Russell and Michael Thomas. Their grandparents are Sis. Maxine Bahler and the late Bro. Lee Bahler and Bro. Edwin and Sis. Bev Gerber.

"And they called Rebekah, and said unto her, Wilt thou go with this man? And she said, I will go."

*Genesis 24:58*

As Isaac and Rebekah had faith in God to be joined together, also did Bro. Dave Bahler (Bro. Owen and Sis. Lois Ann) and Sis. Peggy Skipper (Bro. Joe and Sis. Alma) have the faith to be united in Holy Matrimony on August 21. We wish them the Lord's richest blessings.

We are happy to have our hospital patients back with us: Sis.

Michelle Virkler (Bro. Wayne), Bro. Chet Luginbuhl (Sis. Pam) and Chad Virkler (Bro. Terry and Sis. Cindy).

Elders and ministering brothers visiting in our congregation this month were: Elder Bros. Dennis Warner (Lester, IA), Ed Lanz (Oakville, IA), Andy Virkler (Bay City, MI), and Bros. Floyd Graves (Croghan, NY), Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL) and Richard Aberle (Altadena, CA). May God bless each of them for their willingness to bring us His word.

Sis. Doris Bahler went to her rest after a short illness. We extend our deepest sympathy to her family. She leaves three sisters, Sis. Eunice, Sis. Marge and Sis. Marilyn; a sister-in-law, Sis. Maxine (wife of the late Bro. Lee); and a brother, Bro. Russell.

We want to extend our deepest sympathy to Elder Bro. Kevin, Sis. Cheryl and their family in the passing of Bro. Kevin's grandmother, Nora McBirerty.

### Note of Thanks:

The family of Sis. Doris Bahler wishes to express their thanks to the many who remembered them with cards, phone calls and especially prayers during the illness and death of their dear one. May God richly bless each one.

## DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

### WASHINGTON

### Henrietta Meyer

"Put ye in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe."

*Joel 3:13*

With farmer's markets, produce stands and the abundance of friends and relatives' gardens, even us city folk know harvest time is here. We will soon be enjoying the fall season with the changing colors of the leaves.

Again, we want to thank those who made this area part of their vacation this year. Just a reminder the crowds are smaller at the museums, etc. during the fall and winter. Visitors this past month were from West Bend, IA; Peoria, IL; Rockville, CT; Rittman and Smithville, OH. Our ministers were Bros. Jerry Isch (Philadelphia, PA), Dennis Rassi (Fairbury, IL) and Elder Bro. Ervin Knecht (Eureka, IL). We thank these brothers and their families for all their efforts to come to serve us.

Please note: Services will NOT be held either the last Sunday in November or December. Services are held the first, third, and usually the fourth Sundays of the month at Tyson's Westpark Hotel, located about one mile west of the Beltway (I-495) on Route 7. Some gather in the hotel dining room for breakfast at 9:00 a.m. Services are at 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

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

## FLORIDA, FT. LAUDERDALE

### Mary Ann Klaus

Sidney and Sue Troxel have been blessed with the birth of Megan Elizabeth who was born on September 8. Her sisters, Andrea and Marissa, are very excited about their new little sister. Happy grandparents are Bro. Ken and Sis. Joyce Troxel and Bro. Ed and Sis. Violet Gerber.

Mrs. Josephine Gudeman had the misfortune of falling and fracturing one of her ribs. May she be restored to good health by His healing power.

Last year our Sunday School students were involved in The Great Reading Challenge (TGRC) and read nine books of the Bible, i.e. St. Mark, Acts, Obadiah, Jonah, Hag-

gai, Ruth, Ezra, Colossians, and I John. This year they challenged us adults to participate with them. This is how the program works. A book from the Bible is chosen by the Sunday School teachers and broken down into a schedule of verses. Participants are to read 50 verses each week, five readings of 10 verses each. These readings are planned for Monday through Friday with Saturday and Sunday provided for catching up if a day is missed. Hopefully, this will help all of us to develop the habit of daily, personal Bible reading and to appreciate the truth, the wisdom, and the help found in the Bible, making us realize that the Bible has something important to say about our everyday life and to grow confident in our ability to read, know and understand the Bible. It should also help us to realize that the Bible was written for each of us from our very Best Friend. Each Sunday, participants record their reading on The Great Reading Chart. By reading daily in the Bible, our faith in God and the Bible will grow. It's a promise from the Bible.

We wish to extend our sympathy to the family of Bro. Ben Zehr. We have many fond memories of when Bro. Ben and Sis. Minnie spent their winter months with us here in Florida.

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

As we approach the end of our rainy season here in Southwest Florida, we eagerly look forward to the much cooler, drier weather. It seems that folks around here tend to really appreciate the cool, dry, sunny days after months of hot, rainy days through the summer. Isn't that true in our lives also? We tend to better appreciate the sunny, peaceful days of our lives after we experience some stormy, rainy days. May there be a silver lining

in any clouds you have blow into your life.

We were privileged to have our Elder Bro. Darrell Klopfenstein and his wife, Sis. Billie, travel to share with us this month. Bro. Darrell shared a very timely message with us about the condition and quality of our walk with Christ. It seems there is always plenty of room for improvement in our spiritual walk.

We offer our prayers and condolences to Sis. Viola and Bro. Roland Keller in the loss of her brother, Robert Springer. Robert was from Springfield, IL, and died September 3.

Bro. Ivan and Sis. Maxine Stoller were blessed with a new grandson. Marcus Lee was born on August 14 to Debbie and Roger Bachtold of Fairbury, IL.

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#### **FLORIDA, SARASOTA Jeff and Gloria Fischer**

The love that a mother has for her son cannot be measured nor can the grief and sorrow when she loses him. Our church mourns the loss of Roger Laparo who was killed in a traffic accident near Akron, OH. We extend our hands of sympathy to his wife and children. Our hearts and prayers are lifted up to his parents, Sis. Helen and Charles Laparo. May God provide comfort to the heavy hearts.

Our hospital list is also indicative of the pain and suffering that we have experienced in Sarasota. Sis. Lorene Maibach underwent some testing and is receiving treatment for unbearable back pain. Our wish is that we could report that the treatment has been successful. We wait with her in prayer.

Sis. Beth Roscher was hospitalized for preterm labor. She returned to her home and is at bedrest. We are thankful that she is doing well and the baby appears to be fine. Beth went through a

similar experience also at 26 weeks with her son, Steven. Having previous experience, however, does not make the wait any easier. Our prayers are with her and her husband, Bro. Bill.

Sis. Minny Nueast returned home and is getting along nicely following a mini stroke. It was difficult to keep her in the hospital as she serves in many positions. We are thankful that the stroke had no apparent effects.

Bro. George Reardon underwent heart surgery. It appears that the operation went well. He has assembled with us since his hospital stay. Sis. Norma Blume was hospitalized at the time of publication for a surgical procedure. Our prayers for healing have been abundant.

Angels in Heaven rejoice when a sinner repents. Our congregation rejoices with our two new converts. Kenny Buser (Bro. Ernest and Lucy) and Agnes Wenyek have opened their hearts to Jesus. May God's blessings enrich their lives.

The waters of baptism were moved as Nathan and Melissa Sabo (Bro. Doug and Sis. Linda) testified of their commitment to our dear Saviour. We pray that the Holy Spirit will lead them on paths of righteousness. We have a nice group of young folks.

We welcome to our church Gean Pierce. She moved from New Jersey and lives near her friend, Sis. Edna Roscher. Her telephone number is 923-3047.

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

Over this past summer we were blessed to have many visitors stop in and worship with us. Labor Day weekend was no exception when a group from the Goodfield, IL, congregation came down for a visit. That Sunday was the biggest attendance we have had this year. We appreciate the time and energy

they expended to come down and to have the chance to fellowship and make some new friends.

As always, we had our abundance of visiting ministers to share the Word with us. We appreciate Bros. Jaye Rinkenberger (Goodfield, IL), Doug Harmon (Toledo, OH), Ron Steiner (Rittman, OH) and Dan Stoller (Remington, IN) for spending a Sunday with us.

Some misfortune has befallen some of our friends this past month. Dorthea Elder spent time in the hospital this past month and Chip Fehr was laid up for a while from a bad back. Our prayers go to Dorthea and Chip that they will recover from their ailments and to their families for strength to help them through their recovery.

If you are in the Atlanta area, please stop in to worship with us. Services are held every Sunday at the Renaissance Hotel. The hotel is located off I-85 on the Riverdale Rd. exit just south of the Atlanta Hartsfield Airport. Services begin at 10:30 a.m. If you have any questions, please call Bro. Linn Stoller (404) 631-4554, Bro. Don Sellers (404) 381-1395 or Bro. John Brewer (404) 502-8629.

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### ILLINOIS, BELVIDERE

#### Peg Anliker

We appreciated having Bro. Lenny and Sis. Charlotte Meyer (Chicago, IL) with us for Wednesday evening services. May God bless them for their labors of love.

Elder Bro. Nate Steffen and Bro. Ron Schambach (Elgin, IL) and their wives were with us on Sunday afternoon, August 28. Following services, we were blessed to be reminded of our Saviour's death and suffering for us that we might have hope of life eternal. We then shared the Lord's supper together. How wonderful to be at peace with one another and to be ready to meet our great God.

We again really appreciate Dave and Sis. Sheila McCoy's hospitality as they hosted the Sunday School picnic. May these dear Sunday School children someday seek the Lord in humble repentance.

We're happy to welcome Michael and Kay Nazarczuk and their children, Chris, Sadie and Casey, to Belvidere. We hope they can feel Christ's love among us. We are also thankful and happy to welcome Mike and Kay's newest little blessing, Taylor Kay, who was born August 31. It's always so special to see these dear babies their first Sunday at church. May God give His wisdom to all parents that we can raise our children in the Lord's ways.

On September 4, Bro. John and Sis. Carol Steiner (Oakville, IA) worshipped with us. We're thankful for Bro. John's willingness to be spent on our behalf. May God bless all our dear ministers and their wives.

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### ILLINOIS,

#### BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL

#### Janice Horner - Debbie Grieco

This time of year brings the start of a new school year. The foundation of a child's value system is well established by the age of six; and we realize the importance of spending time in God's Word and going to Sunday School. We should be so grateful that our parents loved us enough to make sure those seeds were planted at an early age. Not everyone has this wonderful opportunity.

We were thrilled that four more young souls have repented of their sins and are experiencing the wonderful peace of God. On July 28 we witnessed the baptism of Kendra Knapp (Bro. Charles and Sis. Paula) and Sharon Kieser (Bro. Bob and Sis. Laura). On August 21 we witnessed the baptism of Alesa Knapp (Bro. Kevin and Sis. Dixie) and Becky Ifft (Bro. Gary and Sis.

Peggy). We wish these souls God's abundant grace to remain steadfast in the faith.

August 24 was a farewell for Bro. Al and Sis. Keri Hany who will be making their new home in Denver, CO. May the Lord be ever so near to them.

We are always thankful for our visiting ministers. They were: Elder Bros. Earl Ringger (Gridley, IL) and Wayne Fehr (West Bend, IA), and Bros. Trent Meiss (Iowa City, IA), Walt Gasser and Marvin Dotterer.

September 11 was a special day set aside to say farewell to Elder Bro. Dan Koch and his wife, Sis. Carol. It was a time to thank them for their 20 plus years of leadership in the Bloomington-Normal congregation. Bro. Dan became our Elder in 1972 and served us with exception to Elder Bro. Bob Grimm; and through it all Elder Bro. Dan and Sis. Carol have always been there for us. They touched hundreds of lives and we will always remember their abundance of love and prayers for our church. We have been truly blessed to have had such a loving shepherd. Thank you does not seem adequate.

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### ILLINOIS, BRADFORD

#### Brad and Cheryl Kupferschmid

"And these are they which are sown on good ground; such as hear the word, and receive it, and bring forth fruit, some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some an hundred."

*Mark 4:20*

Harvest is upon us here in the Midwest, and the Lord has blessed us with abundance this year. We pray that He may also give us grace that we may bear much fruit for Him at His appointed time for the spiritual harvest.

On August 13, Brent and

Michelle Knobloch had their first son, Austin Jack. He joins his sister, Britny, at home. Excited grandparents are Bro. Jack and Sis. Nancy Knobloch and Lowell and Mary Hayenga (Oregon, IL). Also, Bro. Tim and Sis. Denise Kieser were blessed with a daughter, Kristy Lanae, on August 21. Seth and Lindsey are thankful for their new little sister that God has given them. Grandparents are Bro. Loris and Sis. Mart Kieser and Bro. Nathan and Sis. Esther Martin, all of Princeville, IL.

We are so thankful that two more hearts will become one. Sis. Sara Ringger (Bro. Bill and Sis. Karen) and Bro. Matt Zimmerman (Bro. Leland and Sis. Laurene) of Eureka, IL, have felt God's hand directing them to begin their life together. May God's hand continue to guide them as they plan their future.

Sis. Alisa Pyles was hospitalized for a couple days this month. We're thankful that she is feeling better.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Ronnie and Sue Eberle as Sue's brother passed away. Our sympathy also goes to Sis. Sharon Bruell (Bro. Clarence) on the passing away of her mother, and also to Bro. Clarence Bruell (Sis. Sharon) and Sis. Elizabeth Kimble on the passing away of their brother. We pray that God will be their Comforter.

We have been very blessed with many visitors this month. We are especially thankful for the number of visiting ministers willing to be used by the Lord on our behalf: Elder Bros. Ed Aeschleman (Philadelphia, PA) and Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL), and Bros. Kenneth Schneider (Remington, IN), John Steiner (Oakville, IA), Erik Givens (Princeville, IL), Ron Joos (Pulaski, IA), Wayne Banwart (Champaign, IL) and Dan Stoller (Remington, IN).

"And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you; And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake..."

*1 Thessalonians 5:12-13*

We are thankful that after 30 years, God has moved us to select our own Elder within our congregation. On September 11 Elder Bros. Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO) and Joe Stoller (Princeville, IL) were with us for the day. We assembled again Sunday evening for the ordination of Bro. Marvin Leman (Sis. Jane). We appreciate the labors of Elder Bros. Joe Stoller, Wendell Gudeman (Francesville, IN), Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL), and Ed Lanz (Oakville, IA) during the ordination service. We also appreciate the many Elders and ministers, and others who came to give their support. We pray that we would have the grace to walk obediently and hold up Bro. Marvin's arms, that he may be able to give an account with joy and not with grief. We also sincerely thank Elder Bro. Joe Stoller for his many labors of love for us through the years. May God bless him richly.

We wish to welcome Sis. Becky Wettstein into our community. She has accepted a teaching position in a nearby school and is assembling with us at Bradford.

Sunday School has again started. May God grant the needed grace to the Sunday School teachers to plant the seed of the Word in the young, fertile hearts. We think especially of Bro. Ralph Joos (Sis. Jenny), Bro. Donn Ehle (Sis. Tracy), Bro. Nate Stoller (Sis. Sherrill), and Sis. Becky Endress (Bro. Larry) as they begin new terms in Sunday School. May those of us with children also take care not to neglect our duty of teaching our children at home.

## ILLINOIS, CHAMPAIGN

### Margie Heintz

The annual fall picnic for students, their invited guests and our local church family was held recently at a park on the University of Illinois campus. Many students came and enjoyed the food and fellowship that was provided. We trust that God's love was shared and that many will continue to join us for worship services.

Our church building has been cleaned and generally "spruced up" both inside and out. We want to thank all those who were able to help. We are especially grateful to the many students who made a special effort to join in the work.

Believers came together on a Saturday in September to listen to the tapes of the 1994 Brotherhood Conference. Lunch was served between the morning and afternoon sessions. We were encouraged to learn and live Hebrews 12:1-2: "Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God."

A family hymn sing was held Sunday evening, September 18. Voices blended beautifully to sing praises to God and a time for fellowship was enjoyed. This was the first of what we hope will be a monthly gathering.

Visiting ministers this past month were Bros. Ken Schneider (Remington, IN), Dennis Kaufmann (Bloomington, IL), Greg Rassi (Chicago, IL) and Marshall Heinold (Washington, IL). May God continue to bless them in their service to Him and to His people.

## ILLINOIS, CHICAGO

**Kathy Schlatter**

Sometimes we have to see things to believe them. Our Sunday School students (and teachers) were well-reminded of the properties of sin. One young girl was invited to oversee the making of chocolate milk. First, the milk was put into the glass. Then she asked for two scoops of chocolate, to make it really chocolatey. While the milk was being stirred, the teacher-stirrer asked her if she liked to listen to the crickets outside at night. She said yes. Her chocolate milk was ready (and others were wishing they had chosen the front row) when the teacher added a "secret" ingredient to the milk: a cricket. Now, not only did she refuse the milk, but so did every other eager-beaver in the other rows. Sin, we were told, may sound pleasant, but we never want to take it into our bodies. Can we be as careful about our sin-intake as we are with crickets in chocolate milk? "A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump." Galatians 5:9

We have again been blessed by the visits of several ministering brethren. Elder Bro. Curt Frank (LaCrosse, IN) and Bros. Andy Moser (Valparaiso, IN) and Jim Plattner (Princeville, IL) have given of themselves for His service, and we wish them the Lord's abundant rewards and continued grace.

In Sunday School we have two new faces. Bro. Tom Waldbeser has replaced Bro. Tom O'Shea and Sis. Terri Leman will be replacing Sis. Pam Steiner in November. The Lord knows the inspiration and dedication Bro. Tom O'Shea and Sis. Pam have given to our students and to their fellow teachers. May He allow them much joy in the new phases of their lives, as He uses them in other niches of our church family. Also, may Bro. Tom Waldbeser and Sis. Terri Leman rejoice

in the challenges of teaching and learning with our Sunday School students.

We welcome two to our congregation. Bro. Andy Hodel (originally from Roanoke, IL) is employed as an accountant in our area by Price, Waterhouse. We anticipate much joy in our interaction with him as part of our church family, and we pray that his transition to living in our area is God-led.

Our other newcomer is Brock Nathaniel Steffen, born September 7 to Bro. Kim and Sis. Diane Steffen. Some special members of the welcoming committee besides his thankful parents are "big" brother, Jade, and grandparents, Sis. Helen and Don Brown, Roanoke, IL, and Bro. Jerry and Sis. Allene Steffen, Goodfield, IL. His blonde sweetness has already captured our hearts and our prayers. May we be the church family he needs; part of the "holiness" group.

Bro. Rick Meyer (Bro. Lenard and Sis. Charlotte) has sought and found the Lord's guidance in seeking a helpmate. His engagement has been announced to Sis. Rachel Laubscher (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Gloria). He is a teacher in Cissna Park High School and she, from Cissna Park, is in school in Champaign. Our hearts leap within us, knowing the Lord is at work. Our love and prayers are with them both, and sometime we hope to see them.

Katrina Schlatter is spending the fall semester in Ecuador rather than in Champaign. Our hearts and prayers are with her. Her address through December 17 is: c/o Maria Chiriboga, Casilla 17-21-856, Quito, Ecuador.

We also say farewell to Bro. Duane Rocke who continues his "traveling" work, this time to Rochester, NY. We have appreciated his fellowship and are thankful for his times with us. We wish him God-speed in his work---and, because he

is recently engaged to Sis. Bonnie Young, much spiritual preparation as well for his upcoming marriage.

"And when the barbarians saw the venomous beast hang on his hand, they said among themselves, No doubt this man is a murderer, whom, though he hath escaped the sea, yet vengeance suffereth not to live. And he shook off the beast into the fire, and felt no harm. Howbeit they looked when he should have swollen, or fallen down dead suddenly: but after they had looked a great while, and saw no harm come to him, they changed their minds, and said that he was a god."

*Acts 28:4-6*

I am reproved by this account of the barbarians, for I think I too often fall into this trap laid by Satan. I am constantly judging my fellowman on outward appearances and actions I see. I cannot, of course, see his/her heart nor do I know the entire motivation behind the actions, for I only see a small part of the whole. Very often, my reactions are totally negative, as was that of the barbarians to Paul. I know who should listen to what part of what sermon. I know who would be better off if they would only...and the list continues. What is worse, is that I sometimes verbalize my reactions and speak to others about someone I am judging. Also, in like manner, I seem to be no wiser than the barbarians if I change my mind and think a person can do no wrong, that his/her life is easy, that I should pattern my life in that same direction, forgetting my God's example.

"What is man, that thou art mindful of him?"

*Psalms 8:4*

Dear Lord, protect me, please, with the reminder that my words must pass through more than one

filter before I speak: not only is it true? but also is it kind? and is it necessary? Once Thou hast helped me control my tongue, let me know, Lord, that my thoughts must yet be purged.

The billboard said "Through Unity is Power". We are not engaged in a political process; however, the sign has meaning for us as Christians, especially as a member of the part of His body called Apostolic Christians. We need to be more united. I didn't mean to write this, but I spent part of my afternoon with four fifteen-year-old girls. They had had words about each other because "someone said you said...". I tried to suggest to them that remembering last year's statements was unproductive nor did they need to listen to someone else's current words, supposedly said about themselves or about others. Yet, these kinds of human relations problems are sometimes a major factor in students' inability to concentrate on their real tasks, learning and studying. Have we been guilty of such disunity within our body? Have we been distracting one another from our true mission, that we show our love one to another, that day by day we are reflectors of Christ's truth and goodness and oneness with the Father, that we are willing witnesses to others of His Word and Spirit?

"Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. But shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness."

*II Timothy 2:15-16*

As I visited with a young friend in prison, he mentioned how the Lord had been teaching him about the feast prepared for us all---but that we have the choice to be ready to partake of the Lord's bounty or to

refuse the invitation.

Come for the feast is spread; hark to the call!  
Come to the Living Bread, Broken for all;  
Come to His house of wine, Low on His breast recline,  
All that He hath is thine; Come, sinner, come...  
Come to the throne of grace,  
Boldly draw near;  
He who would win the race Must tarry here;  
Whate'er thy want may be. Here is the grace for thee,  
Jesus thy only plea, Come, Christian, come...  
Come to the Better Land, Pilgrim make haste!  
Earth is a foreign strand---  
Wilderness waste!  
Here are the harps of gold, Here are the joys untold--  
Crowns for the young and old;  
Come, Pilgrim, come.  
*Hymns of Zion #206*

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

Let our eyes be raised to Heaven  
Where the sun is shining bright,  
And on hill and dale and meadow  
Is dispensing life and light;

But far more than sun in space  
Beams the Saviour's kindly face;  
Truth and kindness, peaceful  
nearness  
Shine out in eternal clearness.  
*Zion's Harp #166*

Could there be a more beautiful time of year than autumn, when the hills, dales, and meadows are ablaze with color, the sky is a brilliant blue, and the air clean and crisp? Sometimes the beauty of nature almost makes our hearts ache as we try to appreciate it with our mortal senses. For we know that

behind all this autumn glory is a loving Creator who is trying to reveal Himself to us in yet another way. May the beauty of His handiwork in the temporal world around us only help our spiritual eyes to see more clearly His kindly face, shining in eternal clearness.

"O Lord, our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth!"  
*Psalms 8:1*

This past month has brought three visiting ministers our way, for which we are so thankful. May God bless Bros. Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville, IL), Ron Schambach (Elgin, IL) and Dale Frank (Oakville, IA) for their labors here.

On September 3, Abby Winger became the bride of Bud Petry. Her parents, Gordon and Aldine Winger, attend our church here at Cissna Park. We wish them God's blessings as they make their home in Davenport, IA.

Also on September 3, Bro. Tom and Sis. Karol Stock welcomed their first son, Andrew Lee, to their family. The rest of the family includes sisters, Mindy and Bonnie, and grandparents, Bro. Bill and Sis. Marj Rinkenberger, and Bro. Les and Sis. Arlene Stock. How thankful we are for each new little soul that joins our church family!

We want to extend our sympathy to Ben and Grace Farney on the death of her sister, Gladys Sargent, of Tucson, AZ.

"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble..."  
*Psalms 46:1*

We want to report the recent move of Linda Bauer from her apartment in Cissna Park to the Gilman Nursing Home. May we take time to remember our elderly in prayer and other ways.

On Sunday, September 11, our Sunday School, from third grade

through the Bible Class, hosted a dinner for our Senior Citizens. In all, 70 seniors were served, making the evening very worthwhile. It was a blessing for our youth to spend time with our older brethren and friends (and vice versa!).

*Note of Thanks:*

The Joe Clauss family would like to thank everyone for remembering Joe with cards, prayers, and visits while he was at Parkview Haven in Francesville.

**ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE**  
**Arlene Banwart - Beth Steffen**

"Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us,..."

*Hebrews 12:1*

With thankful hearts, albeit chastised at times, we've cherished the privilege of hearing the Conference conclusion tapes this month. We so appreciate the efforts of our dear Elders and ministers as they strive to, based on Scripture, provide for us a Godly anchor in this drifting world. As this year's theme "Looking to Jesus" revealed, we must "Therefore...give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip." (Hebrews 2:1)

We were reminded of how God so often treats us with His mercy rather than justice in the message brought to us by Bro. Gene Lehman (Wolcott, IN). We appreciate all visitors and ministers, brethren and friends alike. It's strengthening to witness the "tie that binds" us from congregation to congregation.

After a lengthy recuperation, we are happy Sis. Esther Miller has been assembling with us again. We

pray the same for Bro. Emil Stahl who is ill at this time. Bro. Vern Wettstein fortunately escaped a more serious hand injury and is recovering satisfactory.

"I will bless the Lord who hath given me counsel..."

*Psalms 16:17*

Believing that God, the Holy counselor, has directed them to be husband and wife in the Lord, the engagement of our Sis. Myra Steffen (Bro. Duane and Sis. Lois) to Bro. Joe Wiegand (Bro. Willis and Sis. Betty) of Goodfield, IL, was made known to us. We rejoice with them and their families, trusting God's infinite wisdom will continue to direct them on this new pathway of life.

**ILLINOIS, ELGIN**

**Renee Anliker**  
**Debbie Sauder**

Take time to be holy, The world rushes on;

Spend much time in secret with Jesus alone

By looking to Jesus, Like Him thou shalt be;

Thy friends in thy conduct His likeness shall see.

*Hymn's of Zion #112*

It is so important, in this busy world, that we take time, or rather make time, to be holy. Throughout the Conference tapes we have been reminded of the need to look to Jesus as the perfect example, so that others may see Christ in our walk. May we all be willing to heed every loving exhortation that we may become more like our dear Saviour.

We are so thankful that Mark Gasser (Bro. Walt and Sis. Mary) has looked to Jesus for salvation, and having a peace within his heart, desires to be baptized and added to the fold. May we ever en-

courage each one along their way to hold fast to the true faith, so the enemy of our soul is not given any opportunity to gain even the smallest victory in our life.

"...take heed to the ministry which thou hast received in the Lord, that thou fulfill it."

*Col. 4:17*

We are so blessed to have faithful brothers, visiting and home, to minister the simple, yet true, life-giving Word unto us. Elder Bro. Joe Braker (Morton, IL), and Bros. Willis Wiegand (Goodfield, IL) and Walt Steffen (Milford, IN) recently visited our congregation. May the Lord richly bless each one for their labors of love.

We were saddened to hear of the passing of Bro. Joe Steiner (Sabetha, KS) from time into eternity. One of his daughters, Eleanor Weiss (Bob), and several granddaughters, Sisters Libby Leman (Bro. Keith), Beth Moore (Bro. Larry), Ramona Strahm (Bro. Edwin) and Gail Wonnemberg (Bro. Gerry) assemble here in the Elgin congregation. May the Lord comfort the heart of each one, until that glorious day when those that have been faithful will be reunited with loved ones who have gone before.

Hospitalized during this past month were Bro. Dick Klopfenstein (Sis. Judy), Bro. Greg Kellenberger (Sis. Debbie) and Sis. Edna Bolliger. We are thankful that each have returned home and look forward to having them worship with us again soon.

Two couples in our congregation have recently made their engagements known. Paul Schifferer (Bro. Tom and Sis. Kathy) and Donna Marie Friess (John and Mary of Chester, IL); as well as Sis. Stacy Martin (John and Ella) and Bro. Jeff Stoller (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Barbara of Morton, IL). May the Lord direct them both as they



prepare for their futures together.

God be with you till we meet  
again;  
Neath His wings protecting hide  
you,  
Daily manna still provide you;  
God be with you till we meet  
again.

Till we meet, till we meet,  
Till we meet at Jesus' feet;  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
God be with you till we meet  
again.

*Hymns of Zion #216*

These words were our parting wish as a dear friend, Sara Foell, departed to make her home in Arizona near relatives. We have fond memories of the many years that Sara assembled with us. She certainly will be missed but we trust God will be with her, bless her and keep her in the hollow of His hand.

September 17 was the date for the 2nd annual Sunday School Pancake Breakfast. It always warms our hearts to see the young people so willing to serve us. May we continue to pray that the Lord will touch their hearts to inspire a willingness to serve Him with as much enthusiasm.

## ILLINOIS, EUREKA

**Dori Blunier**

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*

On August 28 we witnessed the wedding vows of Bro. Eric Vierling (Bro. Jim and Sis. Linda) and Sis. Tami Martin (Bro. Lewis and Sis.

Arletta). Ministering Bros. Gary Endress (Bradford, IL) and Dale Frank (Oakville, IA) were with us to share the day.

We also rejoiced to hear two wedding engagements this past month. Announcing their engagement on August 21 were Bro. Matt Zimmerman (Bro. Leland and Sis. Laurene) and Sis. Sara Ringger (Bro. Bill and Sis. Karen) of Bradford, IL. The engagement of Bro. Duane Rocke (Bro. Curt and Sis. Beth) and Sis. Bonnie Young (Bro. Norman and Sis. Lollie) of Fairbury, IL, was announced on September 11. Even as we sing in "The Union of Hearts" may each of these couples walk this path of life in the grace of Jesus and with trust in God and each other.

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Sis. Naomi Peters in the loss of her husband, John, on Friday, September 9. May our Lord be her comfort in her sorrow and loneliness.

Welcoming their first child into their lives are Rob and Diane (Blunier) Gregoire. Whitley Nicole was born on September 10.

Our prayers are with Maury Crawford (Sis. Joyce) who has been in the hospital.

### *Note of Thanks:*

"The Lord is my Shepherd I shall not want". What a consoling Psalm. More than once when grief wanted to overtake me did I find consolation in these words. The many, many condolences received from our many dear friends across the land, it was overwhelming. The visits Fred had, the prayers of the ministers that always were so uplifting. May the Lord bless all of you.

*In Christian Love, Sis. Elizabeth S. Knapp*

## ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY

**Sally Fehr - Thelma Slagel**

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

*Hebrews 13:17*

We were privileged to gather together to listen to the tapes of the recent Brotherhood Conference held here at home. As we listened to the kind words spoken by our dear Elder brothers, may we each take heed to the words, as they truly are a light unto our daily walk of life.

John Maul (Bro. Bill and Sis. Wanda, Cissna Park, IL) and Tresa Bazzell (Bro. Donald and Sis. Carol) were united in Holy Matrimony on May 28.

Bro. Jason Kilgus (Bro. Duane and Sis. Arlene) and Sis. Joy Steidinger (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Jane) were united in Holy Matrimony on August 21.

Bro. Darren Fehr (Bro. Warren and Sis. Shirley) and Sis. Kendra Ifft (Warren and Sis. Betty, Forrest, IL) were united in Holy Matrimony on September 11. We pray the Lord will abide with these couples in their homes as they begin their walk together.

We rejoice with Bro. Duane Rocke (Bro. Curt and Sis. Beth, Eureka, IL) and Sis. Bonnie Young (Bro. Norman and Sis. Lola) as their engagement was announced September 11. May God guide them as they plan their December 4 wedding. The Lord will never be any more than just a prayer away.

Bro. Reuben and Sis. Louise Bach observed their 50th wedding anniversary on September 11. May God's blessings be with this dear couple and their family.

We thank the following ministers for sharing God's Word with us: Elder Bro. Wayne Anliker and Bro. Gary Brown (Forrest, IL) and Bro. Frederick Knapp (Congerville, IL).

We wish them and their families God's blessings.

Elmer Wenger, 87, passed away September 5. We extend our sympathy to his daughter, Mildred, and husband, Lyle Brucker, and their family.

Bro. Ben Zehr, 94, passed away September 6. We extend our sympathy to his daughter, Maxine, and husband, Ray Yoder, and family. Surviving are five sisters who are: Sis. Lena Zehr, Sis. Anna Steffen, Sis. Ida Steffen, Fannie Steffen, and Sis. Aldine Steffen. May they all feel the comfort from the Lord.

Our thoughts and prayers have been with our hospital patients: Bro. Martin Steidinger (Sis. Trish), Bro. Emanuel Steffen (Sis. Lucille), and Sis. Tillie Rinkenberger. May God shower His blessings upon them and others that have afflictions of the body.

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### ILLINOIS, FORREST

**Marlene Walter  
Mary Bachtold**

We warmly welcome Bro. Wendall, Sis. Kathy, Lisa, Wendy, Shara, Alex, Wesley, Jenna and Evan Dotterer as they have chosen to make Forrest their church since their move from Smithville, OH. We look forward to having them fellowship and worship with us.

Two young couples have recently exchanged wedding vows. August 27 was the day chosen by David Slagel (Ron and Sis. June, Fairbury, IL) and Kristi Lanz (Bro. Elmer and Sis. Lavonne) to be joined in marriage. Bro. Darren Fehr (Bro. Warren and Sis. Shirley, Fairbury, IL) and Sis. Kendra Ifft (Warren and Sis. Betty) were joined in Holy Matrimony on September 11. We wish these dear couples God's blessings as they begin their lives as husband and wife.

Kyra Ifft and Ron Carr, Jr. are planning a November wedding. Parents of the couple are Warren

and Sis. Betty Ifft and Gloria Donowitch (Chillicothe) and Ron Carr, Sr. (Pontiac). We wish them much happiness as they plan their new life together.

We are always thankful to have visiting ministers. Those sharing God's Word with us this month have been Elder Bro. Wes Knapp (Goodfield, IL), Bros. John Stoller (Leo, IN), Ken Weerts (Cissna Park, IL), Dennis Rassi (Fairbury, IL), Dwight Stoller (Latty, OH) and Steve Baner (Gridley, IL).

Bro. Harlan and Sis. Jean Knapp have been blessed with a sweet baby girl, Naomi Jean. Carrie, Jared, Kyle, Leah and Waylon are happy to have a new little sister. Grandparents are Bro. Norval and Sis. Wilma Knapp and John and Adeline Kaeb (Arrowsmith).

Spending time in the hospital this past month have been Julie Shambrook (Mark), Sis. Lydia Sohn, Danny Bradley (Dan and Mary) and Sis. Jan Bachtold. We are thankful they have all been able to return home.

Services were held at the funeral home on August 30 for Mae Hack. We offer our sympathy to her children, Deborah Palmore, Connie, and Jon (Forrest) and James (Evans, CO), and sisters, Sis. Marion Rieger and Edith Honegger of our congregation.

After struggling with a long illness, Bro. John Bolliger passed from this life into eternity. Although we will miss his presence among us, we are thankful for him that his earthly battle is over. Our hearts go out to his wife, Sis. Alma, and his children, Joyce (Champaign), Mark (Strawn), Brian (Naperville) and Bruce (Mahomet).

There have been others in our congregation who have recently lost loved ones. We sympathize with Bro. Elmer and Sis. Lavonne Lanz and family in the loss of her father, Paul Staedeli (Silverton, OR); Bro. Homer and Sis. Virginia Blunier

and family in the passing of his sister, Sis. Ruth Knepp (Roanoke, IL); Gene and Sis. Velma Schladenhauffen and family in the loss of his brother, Earl (Phoenix, AZ); and Don and Barb Hall and family in the tragic death of his sister, Laura Hall (Pontiac). It is our prayer that God will comfort these loved ones in their time of sorrow.

We rejoice with Bro. Ed and Edith Honegger and Bro. Norval and Sis. Wilma Knapp, as these two couples recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. May God continue to bless them as He has so richly in the past.

### *Note of Thanks:*

The families of Bro. Ed and Edith Honegger, Bro. Richard and Sis. Marian Rieger and Mrs. Dorothy Vermillion wish to express their thanks for prayers, visits, cards, food, and all expressions of sympathy during the long illness and passing of their loved ones, George and Mae Hack. May God bless all of you.

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### ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD Barb Brim

"And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God. And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

*Romans 8:27-28*

What peace these verses impart on us as brothers and sister in faith. Who is a better advocate than our dear Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, making intercession without ceasing, to God Almighty for our soul's salvation. We have seen many things working together for

good this month in our congregation.

Three new souls who love the Lord gave their testimonies and were baptized into a new life with Jesus Christ as their eternal intercessor. We heartily welcome Sis. Jan and Bro. Mark Tol and Bro. Chad Leman (Bro. Keith and Sis. Dort) into the brotherhood of faith we share and know that they too will surely feel His loving hand guiding their lives toward our Heavenly reward. Our thanks to Elder Bros. John Lehman (Bern, KS) and Earl Ringger (Gridley, IL) and their families for their presence and assistance in this most joyful of events.

We also had occasion to rejoice the union of two dear souls in marriage this month. Bro. Ross Hohulin (Bro. Stan and Sis. Jean) and Sis. Heather Knapp (Bro. George and Sis. Fern) were joined heart and hand in this Holy covenant with God to fulfill His purpose in their lives. May your love for each other be exceeded only by your love for our Father and may He bless your life abundantly.

We welcomed another one of our Lord's littlest blessings into our church family this month. Maria Elizabeth is the newest addition to the Berardi family. Bro. Randy and Sis. Elli, along with grandparents, Bro. Bill and Sis. Lydia Hohulin, Randall and Lana Berardi, and Ed and Augusta Shaw, rejoice at this perfect example of God's never-ending grace. May she learn to love the Lord and share with us His promise of eternal life.

Thoughts and prayers go out to our hospital patients this month. God bless you, Bro. John Knapp and Bro. Elmer Bauman. Rest assured in His grace for we know you love the Lord and are heirs to His promise of good things working in your lives according to His will.

We were saddened to hear of the passing of Sis. Marie Kieser's (Bro.

Alfred) sister, Elaine Herrli, from Fairbury, IL. May God comfort your hearts during this time of grief.

Our sincere thanks go out to our visiting minister, Bro. Brian Huber (Francesville, IN) and his family for sharing their time with us. We appreciate your meaningful contribution to our Sunday service.

*Note of Thanks:*

Thank you for all the beautiful cards and memory slip cards that you sent for our 50th wedding anniversary.

Your least ones, Elmer and Minnie Grusy

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**ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY**

**Perry A. Klopfenstein**

Bro. David and Sis. Debbie Meiss became the parents of their third child on August 2. It was their first daughter, named Chloe Leigh. She has two brothers, Derrik, 10, and Jordan, 7. Grandparents are Bro. Floyd and Sis. Marge Meiss, and John and Sis. Sarah Diggie of Roanoke, IL.

Charles Meiss, 80, passed away on September 9. His funeral was held on Sunday, September 11. Survivors were his wife, Evelyn, whom he married in 1936, and three children: Connie Lindenbaum, Lexington; Leland Meiss, DeMotte, IN; and Tom Meiss, Anaheim, CA. Also surviving are four brothers: Bros. Elmer and Floyd, Gridley; Bro. Earl, Morton, IL; and Ed, Eureka, IL. Three sisters: Sis. Viola McKinley and Sis. Alyce Rose Gilmore, Gridley; and Carolyn Aeschleman, Roanoke, IL.

Sis. Viola Hany was hospitalized with a heart attack. Sis. Emily Stoller had surgery and is home recuperating. Don Schieler was hospitalized for a week with blood clots, but is now home again and able to do harvest work.

The farmers in the Gridley area,

and elsewhere, are preoccupied with the harvesting of grain. In Genesis 8:22 the scriptures read, "While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease." In this context, there remains a greater harvest that is not confined to any one season. This is the harvest of souls. Our calling as followers of the Lord is to engage in this harvest in which the fields are white and ready to be harvested. May the sound of the gospel echo far and wide so that souls may hear, understand, and repent for their sins. And may God give each one of us grace, and a humble heart, to be willing workers in this great harvest, for His glory.

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**ILLINOIS, MORTON**

**Phyllis Farney**

**Cheryl Wuthrich**

It seems the monthly news from the Morton congregation is often a representation of all of life condensed onto a thirty-one day time period. This month we have had deaths, births, baptisms, and an engagement announcement. Through it all, the presence of the Lord can be felt.

Bro. Dave, Sis. Sherry and Monica Jones welcome a new baby into their hearts and home. Alicia Nicole was born August 16. Her grandparents are Sis. Sherrill Jones and Bro. Harry and Sis. Helen Schmidgall, all of Morton.

Sis. Rachel Bauman was called Home on August 20. May our Heavenly Father comfort and bless her two sisters, Sis. Sarah Dietrich, Sis. Louise Hirstein; her fourteen nieces and nephews, and her many other relatives and friends.

We are rejoicing that God has called another soul to work in His vineyard. On August 24 the congregation heard the testimony and witnessed the baptism of our loved

one, Florence Strunk. We welcome Sis. Florence into the Family of God and wish her many continued blessings.

Matilda Griener passed away on August 27. Surviving are her four sons, Charles, Stephen, Gerald and James; her daughter, Shirley Houghton; her three brothers, Arthur Miller, Bro. Walter Miller, and Bro. Jacob Miller Jr.; her four sisters, Sis. Vera Heinold, Sis. Ida Schweigert, Ann Bullington, and Florence Hammer; her seven grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren. May God comfort and bless them all in their loss.

Sis. Sara Rapp was called into all eternity on August 31. May our Heavenly Father comfort and bless her two sisters, Leah Smallenberger and Della Koch; her four nieces and two nephews; and her many other relatives and friends.

The announcement of the engagement was made of Bro. Jeff Stoller (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Barbara) to Sis. Stacey Martin (John and Ella) of Elgin, IL. We rejoice that another Christ-centered home will be set up to serve the Lord. May He continue to guide and bless them as they become one in Christ.

Paul Wenninger passed away on September 1. May our Heavenly Father comfort and bless his wife, Imelda; his son, James; his two daughters, Gloria Kirby and Betsy Mitchell; his brother, Herman; his seven grandchildren; his ten great-grandchildren; and his many other relatives and friends.

It was Morton's turn to host those loved ones who were in the service during World War II that were stationed in London, England. It was indeed a blessing to have them in Morton for the weekend. We want to especially thank Bro. Harold Schmidtgall (Gridley, IL) for ministering the Word to us that Sunday.

*We have several acknowledgments of thanks this month.*

The family of Ray Grimm would like to thank everyone for their loving kindness at the passing of their husband, father, and grandfather. The cards, gifts, and prayers were a great comfort and help to all.

The family of Sis. Rachel Bauman wishes to thank everyone for their expressions of love during her illness and her subsequent passing. May God bless all who were so kind.

We wish to thank everyone for your beautiful cards, notes and gifts of love which we received for our 50th anniversary. We appreciate all who were able to come to our open house. We enjoyed seeing each of you. May God continue to bless each of you with His abundant love and grace.

*Bro. Joe and Sis. Milly Zimmerman*

#### ILLINOIS, PEORIA Cara Nussbaum

"To Him That Overcometh Shall Inherit All Things" was the theme for a group of single adults who gathered in Peoria on August 27. The Saturday afternoon sessions included the following topics: "Spiritual Warfare" by Bro. Ted Witzig (Morton, IL); "Growing Through Adversity" by Bro. Dennis Kaufmann (Bloomington, IL); "Seeking God's Will For Your Life" by Bro. DeWayne Dill (Minneapolis, MN); and "Utilizing Your Talents" by Bro. Jaye Rinkenberger (Goodfield, IL). I believe it was very uplifting and beneficial to all who came. Our thanks to the ministering brothers who participated, as well as the Tremont and Washington congregations for their financial and meal assistance. Lord willing, there will be another one in Bloomington, IL, in the spring.

We are thankful that Bro. Dave Obergfel is recovering from his recent surgery and hospitalization.

We extend our condolences to Sis.

Donna Ferraro and her family following the recent death of her mother.

Bro. Ron Heiniger (Bloomington, IL) was in Peoria recently for the September "Family Night". We appreciate his efforts to come for a mid-week service.

#### *Note of Thanks:*

Thanks so much for the prayers, cards and kindness shown during my hospitalization. We really appreciated it.

*Dave and Kathy Obergfel*

#### ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE Martha Jane Siebenthal

We were blessed this month to have with us ministering Bros. Ron Joos (Pulaski, IA), Jim Rinkenberger (Bluffton, IN), Steve Martin (Eureka, IL) and Chris Wuethrich (Francesville, IN). May God bless these dear brothers for their labor of love.

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

*Psalms 127:3*

Happy and thankful grandparents of Kristy Lanae Kieser (Bro. Tim and Sis. Denise, Bradford, IL) are Bro. Nate and Sis. Esther Martin and Bro. Loris and Sis. Martha Kieser. Also, thankful grandparents of Alexis Marie Thomas (Bro. Dean and Sis. Teresa, Peoria, IL) are Bro. Ed and Sis. Frances Knobloch and Bro. Robert and Sis. Lucille (Thomas) Beyer of Peoria, IL.

Sis. Louise Martin (late Bro. Sam) celebrated her 90th birthday on August 27. She is now living in an apartment at the Peoria Home. God has blessed her with a loving family and may He continue to bless her.

We spent four blessed evenings listening to the Conference tapes. We are thankful for the encourage-

ment and admonition our dear Elder brothers were inspired to bring forth in the Conference tapes. May we all strive more diligently to live the life of a true believer and be obedient to these loving exhortations.

We pray for the ones who have been hospitalized and pray they have been able to feel God's help and nearness in their time of need. On our sick list this month have been Paul Streitmatter (Mary), Fred Schafer (Sis. Esther), Sis. Twylla Streitmatter (Bro. Floren), Bro. Herman Baer (Sis. Mary), and Sis. Frances Knobloch (Bro. Ed). Let us remember to pray for one another and encourage one another, especially in their time of need.

A minute is a little thing, but minutes make a day, so crowd in some kind deeds before it slips away.

*Thank You Note:*

I want to thank all who remembered me with cards, visits, gifts, food, calls and prayers while I was in the hospital and since returning home. All was deeply appreciated. God bless you all.

*Virginia and Harry King*

### ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

#### **Annie Leman - Cathy Hohulin**

We rejoice with the angels in Heaven that two more souls have turned to God in repentance; Joseph Leman (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Karen) and Kevin Hodel (Bro. Chuck and Sis. Rita). Kevin is attending the University of Illinois in Champaign. We wish them God's grace in their new beginning.

Bro. Curt and Sis. Jenell Hodel and their boys, Brett and Colin, welcome home a new baby girl, Rachel Renae. She was born August 18 and her grandparents are Bro. Richard and Sis. Rachel Leman, and Bro. Jim and Sis. Doris Hodel.

August 29 was the birthday of Samantha Leigh Harris, firstborn of Bro. Todd and Sis. Andrea. Her grandparents are Bro. Dale and Sis. Jane Kaufmann of Tremont, IL, and Sis. Linda Harris of Roanoke, and Mike Harris of Florida.

Taylor Kay was born to Michael and Kay Nazarczuk on August 31. Christopher, Sadie, Casey and her grandparents, Bro. Eugene and Sis. Evelyn Hangartner, welcome her into the family.

Big brother Jordan welcomes Madison Nicole Hodel, newborn daughter of Dan and Justine Hodel. She arrived on September 14. Roger and Elaine Hodel and Mark and Ruth Ann Martino are her happy grandparents.

Joseph Edward was born September 8 to Jill and Ed Gralak of Indianapolis, IN. Bro. Ray and Sis. Carol Luginbuhl and Mrs. Betty Gralak, all of Roanoke, are his grandparents.

Bro. Ed Blunier welcomes a new grandson, Antonio Salvador Cabral, born to Jan Blunier on September 14. His siblings are Ashley, Lela, and Douglas.

May God's love and blessings be upon these little souls as they grow up.

We will miss our sister-in-faith, Ruth Knepp, who went home to be with the Lord on September 2 after a battle with cancer. She is survived by her husband, Bro. Ralph; daughters, Marjean Largent, Sis. Carol Luginbuhl, and Rachel Lambert; sons, John, Bros. Rich, Curt, Bob, and Ken; eight brothers and three sisters; 28 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

We were thankful to have Bro. Everett Hari (Bloomington, IL) for our Bible study. His topic was "Family Relationships".

We've also been listening to the tapes of the Conference on Wednesday evening services. We appreciate the love and concern of our Elders as they counsel the

churches.

On September 17 and 18, we were grateful to have Elder Bro. Andy Stoller and Bro. Gary Maibach and their wives (Smithville, OH). Bro. Andy spoke at the annual Sunday School teachers' dinner.

Our hospital patients this month were Elmer Wiedman, Sis. Florence Bucher and Sis. Helen Zimmerman.

### ILLINOIS, TREMONT

Barb Dill - Barb Kaeb

We wish to thank Bro. John Rowell (Burlington, IA) for his willingness to minister unto us at the funeral of his great Aunt Mary Rowell. Mary died September 3 and is survived by many nieces and nephews. Our prayers and sympathy go to them and to Sis. Ida and Bro. Chris Schweigert in the passing of Matilda Griener, Sis. Ida's sister.

August 20 was a special day for Marlise Michel (Bro. Paul and Sis. Helen Michel) and Matt Byrd (Bro. Jim and Sis. Leota Byrd, Roanoke, IL) as they were joined in marriage. May they feel God's nearness as they begin their life together.

Our hospital patients this month were Bro. Walt Aberle and Bro. Bob Hodel. Bro. Bob is now a resident at Apostolic Christian Restmor. May God continue to comfort our loved ones in their time of need.

First-time parents, Jason and Jennifer Lee, along with grandparents, Kelly and Marion Knobloch, welcome Travis Michael Lee born July 31. Bro. Kevin and Sis. Jody Dill welcomed their first child, a son, Cole Jacob, born August 18. His grandparents are Bro. Dale and Sis. Jane Kaufmann and Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Sandy Dill. Cody Ehnle is excited about his new sister, Carly Lynn, born September 9 to Terrie and Russ Ehnle. Her grandparents are Bro. Ed and Sis. Verla

Ehnlé (Bradford, IL), Ellie Hanning and Robert Hanning. May these new babies bring an added blessing to their families. May they each look to God for guidance as they have an added responsibility of children in their home.

Note of Thanks:

The family of Sis. Lena Sauder wishes to thank all who remembered her with prayers, cards and visits while she was at Restmor and for the kindness shown to us upon her passing. May God bless all of you.

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**ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON**

**Denise Romersberger**

**Sue Ruppert**

The harvest is starting, the leaves are beginning to fall, the air is sometimes cooler, and the children are back in school. All these things tell us that a new season is coming. Fall is in the air and we anticipate the good things that this time of year will bring us. Do we have the same anticipation for the day that our Lord will come to take us home? There are so many things happening in the world around us that tell us the time of His return is coming. Do we anticipate the good things that Heaven will bring us? The Washington congregation had the opportunity to listen to the Conference tapes this past month. At the end, we were reminded of our hope of living with Jesus in eternity. We also were reminded that we want to be ready and doing things that would please Christ at the time of His return. What a glorious day that will be!

"Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come...Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh."

*Matthew 24:42,44*

We thank the brothers who came

to minister to us this month. Elder Bro. Ervin Knecht (Eureka, IL), Elder Bro. John Klotzle (Altadena, CA) and Elder Bro. Don Sauder (Roanoke, IL) lent themselves for our benefit.

We were privileged to witness the testimonies and baptisms of two newly-changed souls. Bros. Tim Slagel and Eric Hodel were added to our family. Bro. Tim is the husband of Sis. Barb, and father of Matthew, Jason, Jodi and Carly of Washington. Bro. Eric is the son of Kent and Janet Hodel of Eureka, IL. It is always uplifting to hear how God works in peoples' lives, through circumstances and through loved ones, including the words of children. Thanks be to our great God!

Sis. Elizabeth (Putt) Herbst is home and recuperating from an extended hospital stay. We pray the Lord will continue to give her strength and healing, and that she may soon be able to join us in worship once again.

We are glad to have Bro. Marshall Heinold home again from Mexico, where he is exploring possibilities for future Christian service.

The Washington congregation upheld civic responsibilities by sponsoring the local Red Cross Bloodmobile. Many thanks to Sis. Marty Teubel and Sis. Jane Orr for their efforts in organizing this worthwhile project. Thanks also to those who donated food and/or time, etc. All of your efforts were appreciated.

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**INDIANA, BLUFFTON**

**Jaci Gerber - Jill Fiechter**

"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*

September 11 was the wedding day of Bro. Chad Gerber and Sis. Jami Moser. Their parents are Bro. Russell (Butch) and Sis. Susie Gerber and Bro. Mark and Sis. Wanda Moser.

Sis. Erika Aeschliman (Bro. Bert and Sis. Karen) and Bro. Corey Gerber (Bro. Russell (Butch) and Sis. Susie) have announced their engagement.

Also announcing their engagement are Sis. Sheri Leman (Bluffton North) and Bro. Dave Moser. Their parents are Wally and Sis. Marilyn and Sis. Dina Fae Moser. We wish these couples God's blessings and many happy years together.

Matthew and Julie Leman became first-time parents on August 7 when Landon Matthew was born. His grandparents are Bro. Rich and Sis. Cathy Stucky.

On August 19, Bro. Linc and Sis. Catrina Rinkenberger had a son, Drew Lincoln. He is welcomed home by Chase and Caitleigh and grandparents Bro. Dave and Sis. Julie Westfall (Francesville, IN) and Bro. Jim and Sis. Jeanne Rinkenberger.

We rejoice with Bro. Dean and Sis. Jaci Gerber on the birth of their daughter, Heather Lynn. Heather was born on September 13 and joins Austin, Adam and Bethany at home. Grandparents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Maxine Ringger and Bro. Harry and Sis. Lois Gerber (Bluffton North).

Our recent converts have been John Johnson, Aaron Taylor and Jeremy Greenway. We offer prayers and encouragement as they begin their walk with the Lord.

Our prayers also go out to those hospitalized lately. They are Bro. Richard Reinhard, Sis. Mabel Kipfer, Bro. Ken Reinhard (Sis. Ann), Sis. Queenie Barger and Drew Neuenschwander (Bro. Rex and Sis. Becky).

Sis. Saloma Kipfer went to be

with the Lord on August 26. Our sympathy goes to her children, Mrs. Don (Dorothy) Mayer and Alvin Kipfer.

On August 27, our Bro. William Pfister also went to be with the Lord. Our prayers will be with his dear wife, Sis. Elizabeth, and children, Bro. Tom and Bro. Ted, Sis. Julia (Bro. Vic) Gerber (Bluffton North), and Sis. Mary Jo (Bro. Paul) Gerber.

Do you ever think of its destiny  
How to glory or sorrow the soul  
may rise?

Both are eternal, so choose the  
best,  
That you may receive that  
peaceful rest.

Do you ever think that the  
Apostles' goal  
Was helping to save the immortal  
soul?

Through their words and deeds  
they did reveal  
How sincere they were in godly  
zeal.

Do you ever think of its redeemer,  
How Jesus died, the soul to  
deliver?

Dear friend, make Heaven your  
final goal;  
For it is the purpose of the soul.  
*By Henry Kipfer,  
The Immortal Soul (6,7&8)*

We are grateful for the visiting ministers who have taken the time to share the Word of God with us this month. They were Bros. Dennis Kaufmann (Bloomington, IL), Lynn Stieglitz (Leo, IN), Doyle Frauhiger and Steve Frauhiger (Bluffton North, IN).

#### INDIANA, BLUFFTON NORTH

**Susan Harris - Kay Steffen**  
Elder Bro. Phil Stettner reminded us all as he read Acts 6 not to neglect our widows and widow-

ers, for their spouses have gone on. Let's do our duty and give of our time and love, but especially in remembering them in our prayers.

"Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind."

*Philippians 2:2*

We were pleased to announce two engagements on August 28. Sis. Sheri Lehman (Wallace and Sis. Marilyn) to Bro. David Moser (the late Bro. Glen and Sis. Dina Fae). Also, Sis. Erika Aeschliman (Bro. Bert and Sis. Karen) to Bro. Corey Gerber (Bro. Russell and Sis. Susie). May God be with each of these couples as they prepare for their life together. These couples fulfilled God's joy, and are likeminded having the same love, and being of one accord, of one mind they will fulfill God's plan.

After living a full life, our dear Bro. Jay Rauch was called to his eternal rest on August 24. We extend our sympathy to his son, Bro. Jerome (Sis. Virginia) Rauch and three grandchildren and their families.

We want to send out an extra prayer for the ones who spent time in the hospital this month. They are Bro. Everett (Sis. Luella) Schladenhauffen and Sis. Lucille Borrer. We pray that God will grant them a measure of good health.

As we look outdoors and see the leaves start to turn color and the farmers are harvesting their crops, we know that autumn has arrived, but mostly that God's fingerprints are everywhere coloring the trees with His beauty.

Reminder: November is the month for Bluffton North's collection of dues. Please pay one of your reporters the first two Sundays of November.

#### INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE

##### Stefanie Wuethrich

We want to extend a special thanks to Elder Bro. Joe Stoller (Princeville, IL) for ministering God's Word unto us.

We are saddened over the sudden loss of our dear Bro. Keith Getz. We extend our deepest sympathy to his wife, Sis. Doris, and their three daughters, Jill Kozeluh (Joseph), Sis. Jenna Kilgus (Bro. Daniel) and Sis. Jody Waibel (Bro. Bruce), and one son, Jason.

When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory."

*Colossians 3:4*

We want to welcome Kevin and Cathy Marty (Lamar, MO) and their two children, Nicole and Christopher, into our congregation.

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning."

*James 1:17*

Benjamin and Joshua are the proud big brothers of Hannah Leigh Streitmatter, born to Mike and Cheri on September 14.

We are thankful that Sis. Phyllis Wuethrich and Bro. Randy Wuethrich are recovering nicely from their recent surgeries. God is faithful.

##### *Note of Thanks:*

Words cannot express the feeling in our hearts towards you all for remembering Eugene and I and our dear children so warmly during our recent trauma. The prayers, love and concern are held dear to our hearts. The many lovely cards and tokens of love from far and near will always be cherished. Thank you and may God richly bless you one and all.

Bro. Eugene and Sis. Milly Huber

**INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS****Melissa Baumgartner****Sandy Lichtle**

On August 13, Bryan Cook and Jenny Cornforth exchanged their wedding vows. Their parents are Herb and Sis. Suzanne Cook (Francesville, IN) and Rick and Patty Cornforth (Indianapolis, IN). May God bless and guide this new couple as they begin life's pathway together.

We are rejoicing with first-time parents, Bro. Troy and Sis. Bonny Reimschisel, on the birth of their new son. Jordan Troy was born on August 31. Grandparents are Bro. Richard and Sis. Elaine Reimschisel (Bluffton, IN) and Bro. Bill and Sis. Nancy Klopfenstein (Leo, IN). We wish this new family God's richest blessings and wisdom as they raise up their son for Him.

After prayerful consideration, we recently voted in five new Sunday School teachers. They are Bro. Greg Baumgartner, Bro. Tim Gudeman, Bro. Dennis Neuenschwander, Sis. Melissa Baumgartner and Sis. Leann Bucher. A special thanks to all of our teachers who give of their time to teach the precious Word to our dear children.

As a new school year begins, we want to welcome all of the new college students to our city and church. May they feel "at home" here in Indy.

Visiting ministers this past month were: Bros. Steven Gutwein (Francesville, IN), Dwight Stoller (Latty, OH) and our dear Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott, IN). We pray for God's blessings on our faithful servants and their families.

**INDIANA, LACROSSE****Elder Bro. Dennis Warner**

(Lester, IA) and Bro. Will Schieler

(Milford, IN) were our visiting ministers and we thank them for their labors.

Karen Heiniger is recuperating at home after a surgery. Our prayer is that her medical problem may be arrested following her operation. Bro. Ralph Levy was also hospitalized this month and is home again.

We have just finished listening to the tapes of the Annual Brotherhood Conference and have been encouraged by the exhortations. We read in Proverbs 6, "These six things doth the Lord hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him: A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief, A false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among the brethren. Can a man take fire in his bosom, and his clothes not be burned? Can one go upon hot coals, and his feet not be burned?" (vs. 16-19, 27, 28) On the other hand, Psalm 133:1 teaches, "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!" The efforts of the Elder brethren to promote unity among our beloved brotherhood are appreciated, and may we not forget to remember them in our daily prayers.

*Note of Thanks:*

We wish to thank all who helped in any way through prayers, those who came to sing and those who came to give spiritual support to Paul (Heiniger) during his illness and the prayers, flowers, gifts, food, cards and words of comfort to the family since the passing of our beloved husband, father, son and brother Paul. May God richly bless each one of you.

*Karen, Paula and Jacob**John and Lucille**Joan and family**David and family***INDIANA, LEO****Judy Gehring**

The Cedar Creek Retirement Home had dedication services on Sunday, August 28. We had many visitors from the community share with the residents in thanking the Lord for a Labor of Love; first a hope and vision, and now the Lord has provided a home for the elderly. Board members from our church are Bros. John Klopfenstein, Lynn Klopfenstein, Pete Maxfield, Marvin Stieglitz and David Bertsch.

Our visiting ministers this month were Elder Bros. Wendall Gudeman (Francesville, IN), Ed Ringger (Gridley, IL), Alfred Bahler (Wolcott, IN) and Jesse Beer (Milford, IN).

A very special thank you to all the volunteers who have come to work on the new church building.

A baby boy, Hudson Trent, was born to Bro. Trent and Sis. Heidi Schrock. Grandparents are Bro. Byron and Sis. Mary Schrock (Congerville, IL) and Bro. Duane and Sis. Carol Broquard (Bay City, MI).

Bro. Jeff Schumacher, who is a counselor at Gateway Woods, had back surgery with good recovery. It's good to see Bro. Jeff and family back in church.

Our dear Sis. Elda Stiener, 99, was called to her blessed rest with the Lord on September 17 at the Cedar Creek Retirement Home. Sis. Elda was a lifelong resident of Allen County and taught in the Cedar Creek Public Schools. She was preceded in death by five brothers and four sisters. Surviving are two sisters, Rhoda Schlatter and Sis. Sylvia Stiener of Leo. We will miss Sis. Elda's loving smile and kindness shared with all who met and knew her. Our sympathy and prayers are with all the family.

We express our sympathy to Bro.



George and Sis. Helen Zimmer on the death of Mrs. Gwendolyn Weisser, 79, on August 24 after a long illness. She attended the Milford church.

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### INDIANA, MILFORD

**Judy Longcor  
Marguerite Hoerr**

During these last weeks of summer we've been blessed with visiting ministers who stopped by on their travels or vacation times. They were: Bros. Carl Wyss (Washington, IL), Russell Wuthrich (Pulaski, IA), Bob Meyer, Jr. (Bluffton North, IN), Ted Witzig (Morton, IL), and Steve Ringger (Bluffton, IN). We appreciated, too, visiting with their wives who accompanied them.

We extend our loving and sincere sympathy to Bro. Herman Weisser whose wife, Gwen, passed away at the home of her son, Fred, and his wife, Diane, on August 24, surrounded by her loving family. Bro. Walt Steffen conducted her private services. Gwen and Bro. Herman have four sons. They are Larry and Steve of Milford; Fred of Syracuse; and Phillip of Louisville, KY.

Our love and sympathy goes out to Bro. John and Carol Hurd and their family, also. John's mother, Agnes, passed away on August 24. Agnes was a lifelong member of our community and was loved and respected by everyone. Bro. Jesse Beer conducted services for her.

Sis. Kate Price has received medical treatment in this past month. She's been remembered by many of us as she regains her health once again.

Our friend, Vanessa Pamer, had surgery for a tonsillectomy. We're praying that this will alleviate the health problems she has had.

Sis. Edith Baumgartner is undergoing medical treatment for an eye problem. We are concerned for her and remember her in our

prayers.

Congratulations go to Bro. Dan and Sis. Deb Beer who have become grandparents for the first time. Bro. Jason and Sis. Jenny Furrer of the Wolcott congregation have a baby boy named Andrew Jonathon, born August 31. We also congratulate Bro. Cap and Sis. Mary Ann Beer, who are the paternal great-grandparents. We ask that God's blessings flourish in little Andrew's life.

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### INDIANA, REMINGTON

**Amelia Schini**

"God is our refuge and strength,  
a very present help in trouble."

*Psalm 46:1*

We sympathize with Sis. Jenna Kilgus (Bro. Dan) and Sis. Jody Waibel (Bro. Bruce) in the death of their father, Bro. Keith Getz of Francesville, IN. May God be their comfort and strength in this time of sorrow.

We pray God will give healing to Cheri Frantz (Joe) who was involved in an auto accident. We look forward to her smile and presence in our midst again.

It is good news to have Judy Waibel (Bro. Clyde and Sis. Mary Sue) back from Texas and has local employment. We love you, Judy.

Bro. Harold Schieler (Sis. Lorene) had cataract surgery recently. We hope he gets good results.

We appreciate Bro. Kevin Banwart (West Bend, IA) including us in his travels and bringing us the good Word of God.

Something to think about: Trifles make perfections, but perfection is no trifle. (Michelangelo)

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### INDIANA, SOUTH BEND

**Carolyn Frank - Gigi Schafer**  
A warm welcome to Deb and

Derek Sallee who have moved to the area from Valparaiso. We are thankful that they have chosen South Bend as their church home.

Sis. Emma Lou Gerber celebrated a birthday August 23. We miss her warm fellowship, and often think of the words of encouragement and Godly wisdom she has blessed us with over the years. We wish her God's blessings in the coming year.

"Thy testimonies have I taken as an heritage for ever: for they are the rejoicing of my heart."

*Psalm 119:111*

We rejoice that another soul has begun his walk of faith. Keith Elcock has made the decision to follow the Lord. As the father of four precious children, we pray he can establish a Godly heritage for his family. Along with the joy experienced by the Elcock family, there has also been great sorrow. Keith's only brother, Rodney, was recently killed in a tragic automobile accident. May we keep these dear ones in our prayers as they struggle to cope with the loss of their loved one.

Sis. Helen Eisenmann suffered a stroke this past month, and was hospitalized for a short time. She is still very frail, and we pray for God's comforting hand to strengthen her.

Sis. Helen Martin was also hospitalized and underwent surgery for a ruptured appendix. We are thankful she is regaining some strength and is home again at Miller's Merry Manor.

We have blessed with many visitors this past month and especially would like to thank Bro. Pat Zaugg (West Bend, IA) and Bro. Ken Hoerr (Peoria, IL) for sharing God's Word with us.

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**INDIANA, VALPARAISO**  
**Ken and Cindy Susdorf**

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love; the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

Before our Father's throne, we pour our ardent prayers; our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comforts, and our cares.

We share our mutual woes, our mutual burdens bear; and often for each other flows the sympathizing tear.

When we asunder part, it gives us inward pain; but we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet again.  
*Hymn's of Zion #156*

As we say farewell to Bro. Terry and Sis. Bev Miller, we are thankful we have been a part of their lives. They have been a great blessing in our church and now will be moving to Gridley, IL, where their hearts were originally joined together. The Lord bless and keep you now and even much more in eternity.

We want to thank Bro. Mike (Beth) Heinold, Sis. Trish Bucher and Sis. Julie (Bro. Tim) Bucher, as their terms have ended for Sunday School, and pray for God's grace as the new teachers begin. They are Sis. Caroline (Bro. Ed) Lester, Sis. Susie (Bro. Joe) Kimerer, Sis. Nancy (Terry) Bunn, and Bro. Dennis (Sis. Marsha) Weis.

We are thankful that Don (Sis. Dawn) Gaddis is back with us again after being hospitalized.

We thank Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL), Bro. Edwin Bahler (Remington, IN) and Bro. Tox Troxel (LaCrosse, IN) for coming to share God's Word with us in this past month. The Lord continue to strengthen and bless you all.

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**INDIANA, WOLCOTT**  
**Sheri Bahler**

"For I the Lord thy God will hold

thy right hand, Saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee."

*Isaiah 41:13*

This month we have had several of our congregation hospitalized for surgery. Ed Widmer (Sis. Gladys) had surgery on his throat; Bobbi Gerber (Bro. Bob and Sis. Luann) had an operation on her knee; Michelle Huff (Lee) had arm surgery; and Sis. Norma Blume (Bro. Glenn) had an operation on her eye. We are thankful that each one has come through their operation well and we continue to pray for a speedy recovery for them.

Excited first-time parents are Bro. Jason and Sis. Jenny Furrer. Andrew Jonathan arrived August 31. Grandparents are Bro. Alvin and Sis. Phyllis Furrer (Francesville, IN) and Bro. Dan and Sis. Deb Beer (Milford, IN).

We were kindly exhorted once again to remain steadfast in our Christian walk of life as we listened to the tapes of the Brotherhood Conference. May we each be submissive to the teachings these Elder brothers have brought to us.

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**IOWA, AMES**  
**Luann Schmidgall**

In our first two gatherings of this school term, we were blessed with the ministering of Bros. Jon Schmidgall (Oakville, IA), Duane Metzger and Kevin Banwart (West Bend, IA). We sincerely wish to thank these three ministering brothers for giving unto us God's Word.

On the weekend of our first gathering (August 21), we were privileged to have among us many parents and friends of new and returning students. We enjoyed a picnic after our church service where everyone had the opportunity to get acquainted and fellowship.

New in the Ames community this year are: Sis. Nancy Belsley, Tricia

Metzger, Mark Stoller (Oakville, IA); David Clark (Garden Grove, IA); Keith Fehr, Mike and Patty Fehr and their children, Allison and Caleb, Todd Mogler, Joni Wickman (West Bend, IA); KayLyn Kellenberger (Elgin, IL); and Jeanne Leuthold (Lester, IA).

Upcoming services will be held October 9 and October 23. Song service begins at 12:00 p.m. and church service follows at 12:30 p.m. Services will be held in the basement of Midland Savings Bank located at 525 Main Street, Ames. For further information, contact Bro. Aaron Schmidgall at 205 S. 5th St., Apt. 711, Ames, IA 50010 or call him at (515) 232-4723.

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**IOWA, BURLINGTON**  
**Lorna Knapp**  
**Monica Eisenmann**

It is always a great joy to sit under the sound of God's precious Word. In the past month we have had the privilege to listen to two visiting ministers: Bro. Ron Messner (Washington, IL) and Elder Bro. Ed Lanz (Oakville, IA). May God richly bless them for lending themselves and allowing the truth to come forth.

*Card of Thanks:*

We thank you for your cards, phone calls, prayers and other kindness these past few months. It meant a lot to us. May God bless you all.

*Sincerely,*  
*Bro. Paul and Sis. Elaine Eisenmann and family*

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**IOWA, ELGIN**  
**Gloria Frieden**

"Yea, the Lord shall give that which is good; and our land shall yield her increase."

*Psalm 85:12*

As we harvest in the fruits of our labors, may we remember to give all thanks and praise to our Heavenly Father who provides the rain and sunshine. Without this, our labors would be in vain.

The past few weeks we have enjoyed listening to the Conference tapes. "Looking to Jesus" is so needful as we journey through this life. We looked to Him for grace to repent and we continue to look to Him for grace to remain faithful and victorious in this earthly battle. In Hebrews we read, "...and let us run with patience the race that is set before us. Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God." He is our perfect example; we can look to Him.

It was a real blessing to have Bro. Joe and Sis. Connie Gerst (Iowa City, IA) with us. A special thanks to Bro. Joe for lending himself in God's service with many timely teachings.

Spending time in the hospital this past month was Bro. Bert Butikofer (Sis. Beulah). We are thankful he is back home and feeling better.

Again, we are permitted to enjoy the beauty of the colorful array of fall leaves and flowers, but we know that this season passes quickly and soon the trees will be bare and we will wait for the resurrection of new life in the spring.

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### IOWA, GARDEN GROVE

**Laura Funk - Dawn Moser**

Once again we have been blessed with the presence of many visitors, including ministering Bros. Rex Frieden (Lamar, MO), Jon Schmidgall (Oakville, IA) and Galen Rokey (Bern, KS). We want to thank these willing servants for coming and serving us. May God

bless you.

Eric Smith and Tracey Latch were united in marriage on June 3 in Charles City, IA. Eric's parents are Bro. Gene and Rachel Smith. We pray for the Lord's guidance and direction for this young couple as they begin to walk life's road together.

In a recent sermon we were reminded that what we say behind someone's back we should be able to say to their face also. And what we say in secret shall be proclaimed upon the housetops. What a sobering thought.

"Therefore whatsoever ye have spoken in darkness shall be heard in the light, and that which ye have spoken in the ear in closets shall be proclaimed upon the housetops."

*Luke 12:3*

Thankful for food and ripe golden grain,

For all that is needful our life to sustain.

Thankful to work in rich moist soil  
Where roses bloom, to  
compensate toil.

*Gospel Hymns #480*

In this area we look forward to begin harvesting in the next couple of weeks. We pray that all who will be harvesting God's bounty may have a safe season.

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### IOWA, IOWA CITY

**Janette Schulz**

Greetings to all! A special "thank you" to all of our visitors this month, including ministering Bro. Dale Moore (Elgin, IA). We thank each of you for making the effort to assemble with us, and trust God will bless you for it.

We are currently listening to the Conference tapes on Thursday nights. It is so humbling and encouraging to feel and know of our shepherds' great love and concern

for us! May we all strive to be obedient sheep.

Lord willing, we look forward to the Ordination service of our Bro. Joe Gerst on October 30. We hope Bro. Joe can feel our love and support as he assumes the duties of an Ordained Deacon, and know he and Sis. Connie would appreciate your prayers on their behalf.

We have been doing some maintenance work on our church building. We appreciate all of those who have so willingly given of their time and talents in this work, and pray God will be your rewarder. May we be just as conscious of the necessary maintenance work in our spiritual church. Just as the task is easier when many help with the roofing and painting, so our spiritual maintenance becomes less of a burden when we can feel the participation and support of all of our members. It is not always possible for everyone to help with every task, but the prayerful support and willingness when it is possible helps draw us together and lighten the load of those doing the work.

How depressing autumn would be if we knew only that winter would soon follow and had no hope of spring! God has given us that knowledge and hope so that we can enjoy the blessings of the day and hold out an even greater vision for the morrow. As we heard in the Conference tapes, may we keep the vision---and may it inspire us to be more fervent, more hopeful, and more joyful service as we await our Lord's return.

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### IOWA, LESTER

**Cindy Leuthold**

**Sue Warner**

We were thankful to have as a visiting minister Bro. Loren Knapp (Tucson, AZ). May God bless our ministers and their spouses who give of themselves in our behalf.

Once again, Sunday School has

resumed after summer vacation. It is heartwarming to see the excitement of the young children as they look forward to Sunday morning. May we all be so eager to hear God's teachings. We pray He will grant the teachers wisdom for their important task.

On August 27, Dean Knobloch (Bro. Larry and Sis. Sherry) was united in marriage to Kim Steen. September 10 was the wedding day of Merlin Meyer (Bro. Raymond and Sis. Twyla) to Marilyn Kuenzi (Bro. Nick and Sis. Mary, Silverton, OR), at Silverton. Merlin was formerly from our Lester congregation. May God bless both of these couples.

Bro. Dennis Kellenberger was a hospital patient. We're thankful he is home again.

Lance Knobloch (Bro. Ezra and Sis. Marie) and Larry and Emily Peterson have been blessed with the wonderful gift of peace. We rejoice with them and continue to pray for them. Lord willing, Lance Knobloch and Melissa Van Whye hope to share their testimonies and be baptized on October 22 and 23.

We bade a fond farewell to Sis. Paula Kellenberger who has moved to Morris, MN. We thank her for her loving labors as a Sunday School teacher. She will be missed.

Bro. Fred and Sis. Esty Metzger have been blessed with a new grandson. Jared David was born on September 17 to Bro. Aaron and Sis. Luann Schmidgall who live at Ames, IA. Our prayers are with little Jared who remains hospitalized at this time.

Once again we were privileged to hear the tapes of the Elder Conference. We appreciate the kindly admonitions and teachings of our Elders. May God bless those dear shepherds who watch for our souls.

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**IOWA, OAKVILLE**  
Debbie Wagenbach

### Melody Steiner

We recently heard the testimonies of two dear souls. Sis. Heather Gerst (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Jolene) and Sis. Chris Tapp (Bro. Ed and Sis. Patti and wife of Rob Tapp) are now precious lambs in our blessed brotherhood. We just pray they can feel the love and support as they strive toward that Heavenly goal. May they be granted much grace as Sis. Heather goes back to school and Sis. Chris raises her little ones.

We are thankful also for the visiting ministers that were able to assemble with us this month. They included: Bros. Fred Eberhardt (Burlington, IA), Arnie Gerst (Taylor, MO), Gary Bucher (Valparaiso, IN) and Elder Bro. Dave Wiegand (Champaign, IL). May the Lord bless them richly for their labors of love.

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### IOWA, PULASKI

#### Ernestine Wuthrich

Visiting ministers this past month were Bros. Ron Schambach (Elgin, IL) and Gerald Sutter (Taylor, MO). We also enjoyed the fellowship of their wives. Bro. Ron and Sis. Nancy were here to enroll their daughter, Charlene, in college at Kirksville, MO.

Also attending college are Kerri Craikshank, Lana Metzger, Lana Joos, Bro. Mike Musselman and Tammy Joos.

We welcome Bro. Jeff and Sis. Angie Berkner to our congregation. May they find a "haven of rest" with the members of our congregation.

We have also been listening to the Conference tapes and we appreciate the opportunity to hear our Elders express their concerns. We should also pray for the continuation of the plan of salvation made possible by our Saviour Jesus Christ.

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**IOWA, WEST BEND**

### Lela Banwart - Mary Gerber

Visiting ministers this past month were Bros. Leroy Messner, Jim Knobloch, and Dean Messner (Winthrop, MN), Virgil Metzger (Chicago, IL) and Brad Funk (Garden Grove, IA). As always, we appreciate their serving us in the ministry. May God bless them and grant grace and courage to continue faithfully in the Lord's work.

We want to extend best wishes and God's blessings to Jamie and Carmen Moser on their marriage on August 20. We rejoice with them as well as their parents, Jim and Mary Moser and Bro. Leonard and Sis. Helen Anliker. May God guide them as they establish their earthly house.

God has blessed the lives of two dear couples with little girls. Wendal and Nichole Metzger welcomed MaKayla Ann on August 30. We pray for them and also grandparents, Jim and Vonnie Shouse and Bro. Leland and Sis. Kathy Metzger. Emma Anne joined Cory and Jennifer Fehr on September 5. Emma's grandparents are Gary and Pat Alberts of Ames, IA, and Bro. Dan and Sis. Eunice Fehr. We wish each of these dear ones wisdom to guide their little ones as they raise them in this present world.

Our sympathy and prayers are with Jeff and Beth Fehr and family on the death of Beth's father, Roger Anderson. Also, our sympathy to Sis. Trela and Chuck Wirtz, as Trela's grandfather, Bro. Joe Steiner of Sabetha, KS, passed away. May each one look to our Heavenly Father for comfort and strength each day.

Hospital patients this month have been Bro. Bill Zaugg (Connie), Sis. Nima Fehr, Sis. Helen Zaugg (Bro. Ed), and Sis. Christine Schmidt. We are thankful to report that all are assembling with us again except Sis. Christine who has broken her leg and will be confined

to her room at the Care Center.

Recently, we were privileged to listen to the conclusions of the Brotherhood Conference held in Fairbury, IL, in August. Surely, we can agree that the theme of the Conference "Looking to Jesus" for help in all areas of our lives is so essential. We do appreciate all the efforts of and prayers made in preparation for and during the conference, as well as the presentation of the tapes in the home churches. May God richly bless our Elders and ministers for their labors of love in the Lord's work.

"When thou cuttest down thine harvest in thy field, and has forgot a sheaf in the field, thou shalt not go again to fetch it: it shall be for the stranger, for the fatherless, and for the widow: that the Lord thy God may bless thee in all the work of thine hands."

*Deut. 24:19*

Harvest is upon us and we are thankful for the blessings the Lord has given us in our fields. Let us never forget that what God giveth to us we must not neglect to share with others.

## JAPAN, TOKYO

### Andrew and Jana Klaus

As we reflect on the summer just gone by, we realize how abundantly God has blessed us. Whether we can presently feel God's hand in our lives or not, when we spend time in reflection of our lives we can see more clearly how God works everything out for good and in His time to those that love Him.

We had our annual Tokyo/Shioda church summer outing on July 26-27 up in the mountains of Yamanashi prefecture. It was a quiet time of fellowship, studying God's Word, singing praises to God, and enjoying God's creation. We are thankful for times like these

when we can leave behind the fast-paced, and at times, stressful world and join our hearts in quiet service to God.

This year we had a Church camp outing for both Tokyo and Shioda children on August 1-3. Our theme was "Walking with God" as we studied the life of Elijah in the Book of Kings. In addition, we all enjoyed cooking out and hiking the mountain trails.

Mr. Takehisa Nakazawa who, as a boy, attended the Shioda church, recently was married here in Tokyo, and both he and his wife have been coming to church since then. We pray that they will continue to earnestly seek the Lord and that He will open their hearts.

Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle and Sis. Lois were gone to the States for a greater part of the summer, but are back safely. We are thankful for God's protection on their travels.

Many visitors spent time here this past summer. We are especially thankful to Bro. Frank Sauder (Roanoke, IL) for ministering to us through God's Spirit and to his family for spending time back here where they lived for so many years. Also, Sis. Jana's parents, Bro. David and Sis. Shirley Kieser (Bradford, IL) spent several weeks here during the month of August.

Sis. Urushino's 22-year-old daughter, Yukiko, has been hospitalized for over a week now with a serious case of mumps, and we pray for her soon and complete recovery.

## KANSAS, BERN

### Donna Edelman

#### Diane Kaeb

We do rejoice, as well as the angels in Heaven, over every sinner that repenteth. Steve Buser (Robert and Ellen), Kristen Lehman (Elder Bro. John and Sis. Connie) and Carmen Baumgartner (Bro. Leonard and Sis. Nancy) have heeded the loving invitation. May

they seek and build upon that solid rock which is Jesus Christ.

Joining hearts and hands in Holy Matrimony August 21 were Sis. Sheila Edelman (Gene and Judy) and Bro. Todd Rokey (Bro. Allen and Sis. Glenda). We wish them a long and happy married life in the Lord.

Bro. Wayne and Sis. Claudia Strahm welcomed a new grandson August 12 when Caleb Wayne was born to Bro. Wayne and Sis. Camille Hartzler (Rittman, OH). His other grandparents are Bro. Dale and Sis. Judy Hartzler (Rittman, OH).

Bro. Jeff and Sis. Kim Baumgartner have been granted a daughter, Olivia Natalie. Born August 29, Olivia has a sister, Miranda, and grandparents, Bro. Robert and Sis. Janet Meyer and Bro. Leonard and Sis. Nancy Baumgartner. Our hearts are open as we pray for this little family so dear to us. May God continue to grant them His strength and mercy as they love and care for her.

Our thoughts and prayers have been with four different families as they have laid to rest their loved ones. On August 30 little Raleigh Gene was stillborn to Richard and Angela Robuck (Wichita, KS). Grandparents are Bro. Eldon and Sis. Waneta Plattner and Stan and Donna Robuck (Halstead). We extend sympathy to Sis. Grace Strahm (Bro. Emil) on the death of her sister, Sis. Ruth Knepp (Roanoke, IL). Also our sympathy goes to Sis. Arlinda Rokey (Bro. Morris) and Sis. Jan Strahm (Bro. Dean) as their grandmother, Sis. Susie Brunner (Sabetha, KS), was able to meet her Saviour on September 2. Bro. Joe Steiner passed from this life August 22. We lend our sympathy to his grandchildren, Bro. Steve Meyer (Sis. Kaye), Sis. Shelby Strahm (Bro. Dale), Sis. Nancy Rokey (Bro. Galen), Sis. Cynthia Strahm (Bro. Rod) and Sis.

Jana Strahm (Bro. Faron). May God's comforting Spirit be with each of them in the coming days.

Hospitalized this month were Keith Meyer (Debbie), Bro. Ed Lehman (Sis. Leola), Sis. Marcie Edelman (Gene and Judy), Sis. Liz Brey (Roger) and Brittany Edelman (Bro. Tim and Sis. Margaret) broke her arm. May the Lord strengthen and encourage them as they recover.

We rejoice with Arnold and Helen Bahr as they were able to be baptized September 3. Bro. Arnold is a resident at our rest home and Sis. Helen has an adjoining apartment. We were thankful to have retired Elder Bro. Sam Anliker (Lamont, KS), Bro. Lloyd Kraft and Bro. Tim Zimmerman (Gridley, KS), Elder Bro. Gene Marti (Kansas City, MO) and Elder Bro. Sam Huber (Sabetha, KS) assist Elder Bro. John Lehman.

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

We were fortunate this month to have many visiting ministers: Bros. Jeff Bahr (Kiowa, KS), Max Reimschisel (Wichita, KS), Doug Grimm and Roger Aberle (Sabetha, KS), Loren Knapp (Tucson, AZ), Dale Wulf (Lester, IA) and Elder Bro. Gene Marti (Kansas City, MO). Also with us as a special guest was Dr. Surrendra Parkhe and his wife, Damayanti, from the Rural Gospel and Medical Mission in India. May God bless each of them for their labors of love in sharing with us.

How uplifting it is to see the excitement in our young children as Sunday School resumed after our August break. On Labor Day weekend our Bible class traveled to West Bend, IA, and enjoyed a blessed weekend of fellowship. Special thanks to all who made this possi-

ble.

On September 10 and 11, the Bible classes from Kansas City and Lamar, MO, and the Kansas churches visited our congregation. It was a pleasure to see so many young people at church along with several Sunday School teachers and their wives. We enjoyed and want to thank Bro. John Hartman and his wife, Sis. Rosemary (Fairbury, IL), for spending the weekend with us.

On Labor Day weekend we enjoyed many visitors, as the single groups from a number of churches across the land traveled to Sabetha and Bern to fellowship with us.

"Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful but his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night."

*Psalms 1:1,2*

Our beloved minister, Bro. Harvey Grimm, told our congregation on September 11 that due to health reasons, he felt it was time to retire from the ministering body. We know that Bro. Harvey gives all glory and praise to God, but as a congregation we so appreciate his faithful responsibilities for the 43 years that he labored in bringing us God's Holy Word. We wish Bro. Harvey and Sis. Marie many more blessings and look forward to his loving concern for the well-being of the church.

We welcome foreign exchange student, Fernando Perez Ozores from Spain, and hope he can feel at home with us. He is staying with Elder Bro. John and Sis. Connie Lehman.

Revive us again; fill each heart  
with Thy love;  
May each soul be rekindled with  
fire from above.  
Hallelujah! Thine the glory,  
Hallelujah! amen;  
Hallelujah! Thine the glory,  
revive us again.

*Hymn's of Zion #290*

The words from this familiar hymn seem to express our hearts desire as we have the pleasure of listening to the tapes from the Brotherhood Conference. It is such a blessing to hear the exhortations from our beloved Elders.

As our children start another year of school, we pray that the teachings they have had at Sunday School and at home will not be clouded with the knowledge of this world.

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

James Kraft (Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Nadine) and Kathy Cochran were joined in marriage. We wish them God's blessings.

Our congregations here at Gridley and Lamont had the opportunity to enjoy the tapes from the General Conference on three Friday evenings.

We want to thank Elder Bro. Gene Marti (Kansas City, MO) for spending a Sunday with us, and also Elder Bro. Jay Luthi and Bro. Bill Emch (Lamont, KS). We so much appreciate those who take time to come visit and minister the Word.

Caleb Gorges was the name chosen for the little son of Trent and Janell Edelman (Wichita, KS). Grandparents are Bro. Albert and Sis. MaraJean Edelman.

We are so thankful Arnold and Helen Bahr could find the grace to repent, give their testimony and were baptized. They have recently moved to Sabetha, KS, to reside in an apartment and nursing home.

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#### **KANSAS, FORT SCOTT Joleen Sinn**

May God bless them and keep them in His tender care.

### KANSAS, KIOWA

**Janice Bahr  
Darcy Kisling**

To me is given boundless mercy, a gift that I did not deserve;

Such wondrous love, it is so marv'ous, that such for me should be reserved.

But since I know, I will rejoice, and praise Thy mercy with my voice, and praise Thy mercy with my voice.

No man shall take this rich possession, it is my boast and my delight; my faith in "mercy" finds expression, in pray'r I praise its wondrous might.

On this compassion I endure unto my death in hope secure, unto my death in hope secure.

*Zion's Harp #220*

The world that we live in is in such a state of discontent, that sometimes we become discontented with our lot also. At times like these, our Bible and our precious Hymn books have such wonderful verses to help us to realize that we are such a blessed people if we are under the will and love of God, and we are promised His care and keeping if we just trust Him. The other day a friend that is younger than I passed away, and I again was reminded that we only have promise for today and that tomorrow may never be ours; so why worry about it. If we just trust God for His boundless mercy, all will be well.

We were so sorry to learn that our dear Sis. Kathryn Miller fell and broke her leg. She is in much pain and our prayers go out to her in her suffering. May the Lord be with her in the days to come and help her in her recuperation.

We are so happy to know that Sis. Laverne Roth is at home now after

her long stay in the hospital and Manor. We hope it won't be long before she can be in our midst again.

The singing at the Kiowa Manor was so nice when we held services there this month. There was such a nice turnout and it was a blessing for all of us.

#### *Something to remember:*

"But Godliness with contentment is great gain."

*I Timothy 6:6*

### KANSAS, LAMONT

**Jane Isch**

The Lamont and Gridley congregations had the opportunity to enjoy the Conference tapes on three Friday evenings. We truly appreciate the kind exhortations of the Elder brothers.

We were blessed to share an afternoon service with Gridley when Elder Bro. Gene and Sis. Mary Marti (Kansas City, MO) were there for the day. We're thankful he so willingly shared God's Word with us.

On September 10 and 11 our Sunday School went to Bern for a time of fellowship with the other high school students. We want to thank them for all the planning and efforts put forth to make this a memorable and blessed time together.

### KANSAS, SABETHA

**Mary Kay Wenger  
Sharon Strahm**

We appreciated the opportunity to hear visiting minister, Bro. Marvin Leman (Bradford, IL) and welcome him and his family back any time.

Our hearts go out to those in our congregation who have lost loved ones. Bro. Joseph Steiner passed away on August 22. He is survived by his wife, Sis. Clara; daughters,

Sis. Lois (Bro. Eli) Meyer, Sis. Florence (Bro. Harlan) Meyer; and sisters, Sis. Matilda Steiner and Sis. Lena Steiner.

Sis. Susie Brunner passed away on September 2. Surviving her are two daughters, Sis. Loree (Bro. Henry) Plattner and Sis. Mildred (Bro. Walter) Strahm.

We were saddened by the death of baby Rebecca Marie Edelman on September 15. Her parents are Bro. Darin and Sis. Karen Edelman. Grandparents are Sis. Marjorie Edelman and Bro. Roger and Sis. Ilene Hartter, and great-grandparents, Bro. Virgil and Sis. Marie Hartter.

May God comfort and heal the hearts of each one.

Sis. Irene Aberle and Sis. Dena Emch have been hospital patients. We remember them in prayer.

We are in the process of listening to the Conference tapes with the Bern congregation. May we not only be supportive in word and thought, but much more in our actions. We are taught that we shouldn't let things of this world distract us from looking to Jesus.

Our Senior Bible Class spent the weekend of September 3-5 in West Bend, IA, and on September 10-11 Bern, KS, hosted them. We thank each congregation for their part in planting the seed in the hearts of our youth.

Our church has enjoyed the fellowship of reunion groups and young single members visiting this summer. We appreciate the efforts put forth by each one to be in our midst.

We rejoice with Ben and Mary Plattner and David (Sis. Shari) Eisenbise who have been announced as standing at peace with God and man. Their provings are planned for September 17.

Sis. Marjorie Edelman is thankful for the safe arrival of a small granddaughter, Kelly Nicole, born to Julie and David Bauman on Sep-

tember 14.

*Note of Thanks:*

The cards, prayers and other deeds of kindness in our behalf are sincerely appreciated. We thank one and all and may God bless you.

*The family of Joe Steiner*

**KANSAS, WICHITA**

**Judy Langhofer**

Read Psalm 4:6-8.

God has reserved for each season a certain glory which has a way of bringing expectation as well as nostalgia to His creation. Step outside on a crisp fall morning and be invigorated; then observe the beauty of the early fall foliage, especially the deep color in the flowers taking a break from the summer heat. Catch the mood of the families at the fall fairs filled with excitement of bringing the fruits of their summer labors into focus. Observe the excitement of parents and children preparing for school again, hoping for a fresh start. Then bow your heads in thanksgiving for God's beautiful blessings of the fall season and pray for the parents and children who must cope with the challenges of the year and season ahead---that their joy may be full. In this spirit, Bro. Max and Sis. Judy Reimschisel, with the help of the Sunday School teachers, planned a "Back to School" outing at the Reimschisel suburban home. The various classes rotated with crafts, classes of practical biblical instruction, and recreation. The afternoon ended with a picnic and a good outdoor singing with both adults and children.

Bro. Patrick and Derrick Funk, sons of Bro. Glen and Sally Funk, will share an apartment at Manhattan, KS, where they will both take up their studies in the coming year at Kansas State University. We always appreciate the weekends when they come home to fel-

lowship with us as well as take home some goodies from their mother's kitchen.

Our Wednesday night winter church Bible studies will focus entirely on the Gospel of Mark. It will continue for twenty weeks of consecutive studies so everyone will have homework. The children who attend on Wednesday night will have a corresponding study geared to their level.

After suffering a minor stroke, Bro. Milton Bowers underwent emergency surgery to relieve a blockage in a carotid artery. The following day on Sunday, September 11, Bro. Roger Reimschisel underwent emergency by-pass surgery. Both are reportedly making satisfactory progress.

Bro. Harvey Farney is still totally confined to his bed at his home at 4030 S. Broadway where he receives 24-hour care. Six months ago he underwent radical surgery through which he suffered complications. There is a need for prayers, letters of encouragement, etc. for the family and those attending him.

Sis. Nelly Lambert recently moved to the Hillcrest Apartments from her residence of 57 years. Sis. Nelly is like a landmark to many of us. We consider it a privilege to have her with us even though she has reached a high age. She is still very active and is not lacking in Christian hospitality (Psalm 90:12,16,17). In the eyes of this reporter, she is the most giving and caring grandmother anyone could desire. It is always a joy to listen as she shares her bits of wisdom and humor that has graced her years. She is at home at 515 S. Rutan, Apt. #7 D, Wichita, KS 67218.

The Wichita Sunday School would like to express their appreciation to the Bern, KS, Sunday School for the past weekend of fellowship.

Kansas and Missouri young peo-

ple are anticipating a weekend of Christian worship and fellowship the last weekend of September, hosted by the Gridley and Lamont young adults group.

**KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY**

**Jeanne Aberle**

School is once again in session for us K-Staters. We welcome all the members and friends that have joined us this year. As we open our books to learn the knowledge for our careers, we pray that, more importantly, our Godly wisdom will increase.

It is such an encouragement to know that souls are still hearing and answering the call of God, amid this evil world. Kristen Lehman (Elder Bro. John and Sis. Connie, Bern, KS) has turned her life over to the Lord. We wish her God's grace and richest blessings.

The annual fall picnic was held at the Tuttle Creek Lake area on August 25. Many parents, relatives and friends attended. Services here on campus have also begun again, and we have been blessed to have Bro. Darrel Stoller (Bern, KS) worship with us.

**KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON**

**Doug and Rebecca Germann**

Therefore rise, all ye His servants;  
For Elijah's spirit pray!

If as Lord ye would address Him,  
Faithfully ye must confess Him,  
And His holy will obey!

Therefore rise, all ye His servants;  
For Elijah's spirit pray!

*Zion's Harp #112, "Watchmen's Call"*

The Lexington congregation has been listening to the Conference tapes the past few Wednesday evenings. May we all strive to reach that Heavenly goal.

In addition, a special thanks to



Bro. Edwin Bahler and his wife, Sis. Lois, from Remington, IN, who came to share their turn in ministering the gospel. That same weekend, August 21, many family members of Bro. Lester and Sis. Glendoris Huber came to share their 50th anniversary with them.

On August 28, Bro. Walt Steffen came to share the Word of God with us. A special thanks to all our visitors who have included Lexington on their schedule.

Another school year has begun and our children and many of yours are now busy with many activities and projects. May we as God-fearing parents remember to take time to listen and watch for the messages they have to share about the school day. I have to think of the masses of people, young and old, who were on the plains of Babylon that day when the cornet and harp sounded and thousands fell to their knees to worship the golden idol of Nebuchadnessar. Only three children did not bow their knees to the idol of that day and I don't doubt that there were many other Hebrew children that were there in captivity also that gave into the pressure to conform to the world. What made the difference for the three young lads who did not bow? Perhaps they remembered what their father and mother taught them. May we as parents prepare our youngsters for what they face as they enter the schools of today.

"When wisdom entereth into thine heart, and knowledge is pleasant unto thine soul; Discretion shall preserve thee, and understanding shall keep thee:"

*Proverbs 2:10-11*

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## MICHIGAN, ALTO

### Jane Grawburg

On August 12 in Fairbury, IL, those of us attending our General Conference were encouraged to look

to Jesus. The review that follows covers only a small portion of the Conference, but from it we see that Jesus is really here for us. We have been redeemed and are happy about it. We look to Him.

It was enlightening to hear Bro. Willis Ehnle (Shioda) speak about redemption and peace. In 1 Cor. 6:20 we see that we have been bought, or redeemed. In 1 Peter 1:19, "...as a lamb without blemish and without spot." Bro. Willis also reminded us that the closer we walk with God, the greater will be our peace.

Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott, IN) talked about the vision God has given us. In Proverbs 29:18, we see that when there is no vision, people perish. Those who follow God's direction remain happy and receive a victory from God every day.

Bro. Art Nohl (Morris, MN) discussed looking to Jesus for an assurance of our salvation. Matthew 28:20 tells us that Jesus said He will always be with us and in St. John 14:1 we are encouraged to let our hearts not be troubled. Bro. Art explained the court system of the Holy Spirit and how it enables us to lead a holy life. When righteousness is a part of our lives, we are identified with God. When we walk in a life of loving kindness and purity, we light up our world.

Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville, IN) shared his thoughts about our eternal inheritance and also why Satan is working overtime today. We read from Proverbs 11:30 that the fruit of righteousness is a tree of life. We are encouraged in Hebrews 12:1 and 12:2 to "run with patience the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before Him, endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God."

We want to thank our brethren

at Fairbury for hosting the Conference, for the many hours spent in planning and for those who so graciously worked at the Conference helping make it a blessing for all who attended. We look forward to meeting again, Lord willing, at next year's General Conference.

Bro. Aaron and Sis. Loretta Steffen have become grandparents to little Olivia Re, daughter of Bro. Matt and Sis. Dee Steffen (Washington, IL). Olivia has a sister and brother, Myca and Quinn, who are happy to have her at home with them.

Bro. Tom and Sis. Joan Schrenk (Athens, AL) spent part of the Labor Day weekend with us. We enjoyed seeing them again and especially want to thank Bro. Tom for sharing God's Holy Word with us.

Those newly elected to Sunday School are Bro. Tom Oesch (Sis. Michelle), Bro. Ron Erismann (Sis. Penny), Sis. Michelle Blough (Bro. Martin), and Sis. Julie Sanders (Bro. Ed). Sis. Michelle Oesch (Bro. Tom) and Bro. Ed Sanders (Sis. Julie) are our new substitute teachers. Sis. Liz Blough (Bro. Marvin), upon being led by God, has agreed to extend her term for another year. Those stepping down are Bro. Paul Jackson (Sis. Margaret), Sis. Renee Steffen (Bro. Aaron and Sis. Loretta), and Sis. Laurie Steffen (Bro. Terry). We appreciate very much the efforts put forth by all those involved with this important work.

Bro. Terry Steffen (Sis. Laurie) has agreed to remain as Alto's representative for Woodhaven. Our prayers are with Bro. Terry as he continues this important work.

Sis. Loretta Steffen (Bro. Aaron) is recuperating from surgery. Our love and prayers for God's healing power are with her.

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## MICHIGAN, BAY CITY

### Marlene Mosher

Bro. Elias Schlatter (Sis. Ella) is at home again after receiving therapy and spending time at a nursing home. Sis. Martha Rezmer is also back with us after her bout with her heart problems. Sis. Loretta Mosher (Bro. Winsor) spent a few days at the hospital after having an arterial gram but is at home again for now. We wish the Lord's grace and blessings to these our loved ones who are infirm in body and they covet the prayers of those they love and the family of God.

We were blessed with a visit and ministry of our Bro. Carroll Gerber (Sis. Louise) from Bluffton North, IN.

Also, we were visited by our Bro. Eli Manz from Junction, OH, (our World Relief coordinator) who gave us an overview of what World Relief involves. Bay City, MI, will host the Eastern World Relief meeting on November 12, 1994.

There is a blessing to each and every one of us who help and participate in any of the World Relief or volunteer work that is available to us.

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### MICHIGAN, DETROIT

#### Marlene Reinhard

#### Holly Barton

With the start of a new academic year we welcome several members and friends to our congregation. Bro. Dave Metz (Francesville, IN) is attending Oakland Community College and Steve Wieland (Bay City, MI) is pursuing studies at Lawrence Technological University. Sis. Lynette Moser (Roanoke, IL) has begun teaching pharmacy at St. John's Hospital. We are pleased to have them as part of our small fellowship.

We are also thrilled to welcome two new brothers who have become part of God's family through conversion and baptism. Bro. Scott Reardon (Bro. John and Sis. Linda)

and Bro. Scott Bahr (Bro. Phil and Sis. Dawn) each made a covenant with the Lord on August 21. Both converts spoke of wanting to become new creatures in Christ, and we pray that they will continue to "...put off concerning the former conversation the old man...and be renewed in the spirit of your mind; and that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness." Ephesians 4:22-24.

First-time parents, Bro. Mark and Sis. Kelly Ramseyer, are excited to welcome Carrie Leigh, born August 23. Carrie's grandparents are Bro. Joe and Sis. Dorothy Ramseyer (Bay City, MI) and Bro. Chris Lee and Sis. Ruth Wuethrich (Francesville, IN). May God bless them as they raise their precious girl!

"A threefold cord is not quickly broken."

*Eccles. 4:12*

On September 4, Bro. Dan Kaiser (Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Lorraine, Morton, IL) and Sis. Jane Kaisner (Bro. Hartzell and Sis. Mary) blended their two lives into one, built upon the love of God to form that threefold cord. We rejoice with them and pray that their union can ever remain strong in Christ. We are saddened that this occasion has taken Sis. Jane away from our fellowship, but as she and Bro. Dan are living relatively close (Bay City), we hope that they will often visit.

Several visiting ministers were with us for the wedding. We were happy that Bros. Roy Ehnle (Bradford, IL), Jim Ramseyer and Bill Waibel (Bay City, MI) could join us.

September weather is often unpredictable in Detroit, but September 11 was a perfect day for our annual Sunday School picnic. God is so good to provide these times of fellowship and relaxation for us!

Sis. Dawn Pallag's (Sandor)

mother passed away some time ago. We pray for the comfort of the Holy Spirit who would take every circumstance of our lives and use it to draw us closer to God.

Bro. Jim and Sis. Vi Barton celebrated 50 years of marriage on September 16. A reception was held in their honor, and indeed in these days, this milestone certainly deserves to be celebrated! I recently read that the median length of a marriage is something over six years--half of all marriages last less than that! We are thankful to God for His faithfulness to this couple and their family and pray that He would continue to direct their lives.

We are looking forward to having a minister from the Toledo, OH, congregation to be with us at our monthly Woodhaven service on November 1 at 7:00 p.m. Currently, a wing to accommodate patients with Alzheimer's disease is in progress at Woodhaven and we ask for your prayers on this undertaking.

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### MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS

#### Delores Sauder

We were blessed with many visitors this past month, including brethren who shared with us God's Word. They were: Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr (West Bend, IA), Bros. Gene Metzger (Lester, IA), Harold Gramm (Morris, MN) and Dean Messner (Winthrop, MN). We thank them for their labors.

Our prayers and sympathy are extended to Joe and Sis. Ethel Bednarski in the death of Joe's sister.

We have concluded listening the Conference tapes. We are thankful for the Elder brethren who sound forth the warnings, and that by God's grace we can continually look to Jesus for all our help and strength.

Sis. Millie Schmidgall (Bro. Ray) is able to assemble with us after spending some time in the hospital.

We wish God's blessings to Bro. Duane Rocke and Sis. Bonnie Young as their engagement was made known.

The Sunday School children were excited to resume classes on September 11.

We welcome Ginny Banwart who has found employment in the area. Her parents are Bob and Kay Banwart (West Bend, IA).

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### MINNESOTA, MORRIS

Linda Schmidgall  
Maxine Sauder

No matter what kind of circumstances surround us, it was good to be reminded to keep looking to Jesus.

We rejoice with Katie Messner as she looks to Jesus for her salvation. Her parent's are Bro. Beirne and Sis. Joyce Messner. May she know God is close to guide every footstep as she places her trust in Him.

Bro. Jim and Sis. Penny Domnick are blessed with a new son, Tony Dean. Big sister, Erica, is ready to shower him with her love and affection. Grandparents are Bro. Gary and Sis. Velma Domnick and Bro. Al and Sis. Lucy Knobloch (Lester, IA).

Those traveling to visit and minister to us included: Elder Bros. Sam Huber (Sabetha, KS) and Leo Moser (Lester, IA), and Bro. Doug Schock (Pulaski, IA). May God bless them for their willingness to share the Living Word.

Our congregation bids farewell to Bro. Troy and Sis. Vannessa Luthi and their family, as they move to the Prescott, AZ, area. We will miss them, but pray that they will experience better health and God's richest blessings.

Hospitalized recently were Eli Nohl and Millie Goll. May God grant them healing and renewed strength.

*Note of Thanks:*

I would like to thank everyone for their love and concern shown to me since my illness. Especially for the many encouraging cards, the prayers said for me, the visits of our ministers, the flowers and gifts. May the Lord bless each one for their thoughtfulness and love.

*Sis. Anna Nohl*

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### MINNESOTA, WINTHROP

Jan Messner - Joleen Messner  
Greetings!

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

*Hebrews 13:17*

We received many blessings at the Elder ordination for our dear Bro. Leroy Messner. We are so truly thankful for the exhortation from our Elder Bros. Leo Moser (Lester, IA), Art Nohl (Morris, MN), Wayne Fehr (West Bend, IA) and Paul Butikofer (Elgin, IA). Also showing love and support during the weekend were ministering Bros. Bert Butikofer (Elgin, IA), Dale Wulf (Lester, IA), Bernie Messner, Harold Gramm and Floyd Schmidgall (Morris, MN), Don Miller, Dewayne Dill and Kent Mogle (Minneapolis, MN). We would like to thank each of them and their families for sharing this special weekend with us.

Ministering Bro. Wayne Grimm (West Bend, IA) and his dear wife, Sis. Rose, shared a weekend with us. May God bless him for his labors of love.

All you may need He will provide,  
God will take care of you;  
Nothing you ask will be denied,  
God will take care of you."

*Hymn's of Zion #138*

Brendon Messner (Bro. Dean and Sis. Wanda) and Bro. Roland Messner (Sis. Melva) recently had surgery. We pray that God's healing hand can rest upon them.

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### MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY

Joan Fehr - Jamie Marti

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Elder Bro. Gene and Sis. Mary Marti and family on the passing of her father, Bro. Joe Steiner of Sabetha, KS.

Many thanks to Bro. Russell Wuthrich (Pulaski, IA) for ministering God's Word unto us on September 11. May God bless you for your labors and we welcome you back anytime.

Sis. Wilma Farney (Bro. Joe) was a surgical patient this month and we are thankful she is home and recovering.

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### MISSOURI, LAMAR

Carolyn Banwart  
Becky Marti

Haste and seek your soul's  
salvation,  
Heed the Word of God today!  
*Zion's Harp #52*

We rejoice that Leon and Teresa Luthi are seeking their souls' salvation. Their parents are Bro. Ray Luthi and Danny and Nancy Neher. We pray that many more of our loved ones will also heed the Saviour's call while grace is freely given.

We appreciated the recent visits of Elder Bro. Gene Marti and Bro. Don Braker (Kansas City, MO). May God bless them for willingly serving us in the ministry.

Our hospital patients this past month were Marilyn Hohulin (Martin "Bubs"), Maxine Schlupp and Bro. Raymond Braker. We are thankful that Marilyn is now home and recovering from her burns.

Maxine was seriously injured in an automobile accident and remains hospitalized.

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### MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS

#### Betsy Schrenk

We in the St. Louis church always face the end of summer with some sadness, as we know that the number of visitors will decrease as the children return to school and families travel less. We do appreciate each visitor. You are welcome anytime! We generally experience a long, beautiful fall and would encourage you to come and spend a weekend with us.

The following ministers and their wives so kindly came to share with us recently: Bros. Tom Schambach (Elgin, IL), Erik Givens (Princeville, IL), Tom Hoffman (Roanoke, IL) and Ted Hirstein (Morton, IL). May God bless each of you.

One brother read Mark 11, telling of when Jesus threw out those who were defiling the temple. He exhorted us to face sin in ourselves the same way. We don't need to sit down and discuss and think about sin that we are facing. We need to throw out anything that can defile our temple.

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### MISSOURI, TAYLOR

#### Rusty and Amy Adrian

As our new Sunday School year begins, may our sincere prayers go out to the newly elected teachers. Those taking on new responsibilities are Sisters Vonette Sutter, Eleanor Yackley, Anna Hoerr, Sally Haerr, and Brothers Rich Sutter, James Knapp, Shon Haerr and Rusty Adrian. As we recognize the awesome responsibility in teaching our youth, our heartfelt thanks go to those who have completed their terms: Sisters Linda Knapp, Deb Sutter, Lori Marquart, Kay Sutter, and Brothers Tim Sutton, Rodney

Heimer, Dave Marquart and Ralph Knapp.

For many of us who were not able to physically make it to the Conference, we truly feel it is a privilege to have the tapes to listen to. May God's Word be inspired in each one of our hearts as we hear the topics brought forth by our Elder brethren.

"Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting."

*Psalm 139:23-24.*

Special thanks go to each visiting minister this past month: Bros. Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL), Kenny Eisenmann (Cissna Park, IL) and Kenny Dietz (Bradford, IL).

Also on August 31, we were encouraged with a Bible Study by Bro. Marshall Heinold (Washington, IL) about "Priorities in a Christian Family". What a comfort it is to know that we don't have to rely on our own ability to get our priorities straight, but through Jesus Christ and the reading of God's Holy Word, we are able to prioritize our lives.

On September 10, Chad Massner (Bro. Allen and Sis. Rosie) and Lisa Adair (Carl and Alice Adair, Quincy, IL) were united in Holy Matrimony. We pray that God's guiding hand will be upon them as they walk the path of life together.

We extend a special welcome to Sis. Janice Anliker who is attending school and working in Jacksonville, IL. May she see and feel the love of Jesus Christ as she assembles here with us at Taylor.

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### NEW JERSEY, UNION CITY

#### Franz Soni

"My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear to my sayings. Let them not depart from thine eyes;

keep them in the midst of thine heart. For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh."

*Proverbs 4:20-22*

We thank Elder Bro. Edward Aeschleman (Philadelphia, PA) for bringing us God's Word. May God richly reward him for his efforts.

Services will no longer be held in Union City. We thank the many brothers who came and shared God's Word with us. We also thank the many brothers, sisters and friends who supported us.

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### NEW YORK, CROGHAN- NAUMBURG

#### Alice Virkler

We have been able to listen to the tapes of the Brotherhood Conference held recently in Fairbury. As we listen to the kind words of warning and counsel given by our Elder brothers, may we ponder them deeply and remember them in our daily walk of life. We are thankful for the technology provided that each one can listen to the tapes and hear the words of the brothers.

Our visiting minister the weekend of September 11 was Bro. Paul Gasser (Akron, OH) and the Word of God was brought forth through his ministry. Our thanks go to Bro. Paul and Sis. Joyce for visiting us again.

Our sympathy is extended to Urban and Sis. Julia Karcher and their family as his mother, Ethel, was called from this life. She is also survived by her daughter-in-law, Dorothy Karcher, a brother in Georgia, a sister in Delaware, four grandchildren and several great-grandchildren. May each of the family remember Ethel's example left for them. She reached the age of 96 and had been a resident of the L.C. Extended Care for two and a half years. Whenever we visited her she had a smile on her face and

always enjoyed our visits and song services at the Extended Care.

Our thoughts and prayers this week have also been for Mary Schulz (Norman) as she has undergone major surgery in St. Joseph's Hospital in Syracuse. She is progressing well and we hope she can return home soon. May God be the great Healer for her in the days ahead and may she look to Him for each and every need.

Barbara Ebersol (Fred) was hospitalized after learning of a medical problem. We are happy she is feeling better and she and Fred can continue their faithful duties as caretakers for the daily upkeep of our church building.

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### OHIO, AKRON

**Diane Jarrett  
Joyce Gasser**

Bro. Mark and Sis. Marcy Graf became a new mother and dad with the birth of their first baby, a boy, Isaac Bahler. Grandparents are Bro. and Sis. Leon Graf of Wadsworth, and Bro. and Sis. Lowell Bahler of Remington, IN.

Sis. Carolyn Miller was voted to help on the committee for our World Relief sewing group. We know she will be a big help.

Sis. Bethi Graf is home from the hospital, back to her room in the Assisted Living, and we pray for the healing of her sore leg.

Sis. Amy Bako, daughter of Eugene and Sis. Dianna Bako, has returned from a trip to Hungary where she visited her brother, Bro. Tom Bako, relatives and friends.

We appreciated these visiting ministers: Elder Bro. Charles Sinn (Fort Scott, KS), Bros. John Zeller (Morton, IL), William Dotterer (Phoenix, AZ), William Gerst (Alto, MI), Bill Brake (Sardis, OH), and Don Braker (Kansas City, MO).

Note of Thanks:

Sis. Louise Graf and family wish to thank all that remembered them

with love and kindness in many ways with the passing on of Bro. Ernest.

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### OHIO, COLUMBUS

**Julie Grimm**

Sunday, September 18, was our College Welcome Day. The students and their families who worshipped with us were appreciated. We thank Bro. Ben Manz (Junction, OH) and Bro. Nelson Beer (Milford, IN) for the inspiring messages brought forth through the Spirit of God. The Lord once again provided a beautiful day and we enjoyed a picnic and time of fellowship following services.

The many visitors who have worshipped with us over the past month are a blessing to our small congregation. Among them were ministering Bros. Ron Kipfer (Bluffton, IN) and Dale Stoller (Fairbury, IL) and Elder Bro. Dave Wiegand (Champaign, IL). May God bless each one for their labors of love on our behalf.

"To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: A time to be born, and a time to die;"

*Eccles. 3:1-2*

Our prayers are with Bro. Ron and Sis. Karen Laparo and their family circle as they experience a season of death and sorrow in the sudden loss of Bro. Ron's brother, Roger Laparo, in an accident. May they feel God's nearness and comfort at this time and in the days to come.

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### OHIO, JUNCTION

**Sandra Manz**

After a dry summer, we are experiencing an early harvest here in northwest Ohio. We always pray for God's protecting hand over our farmers as they often work long,

tiring hours around potentially dangerous equipment.

Little Aaron Michael Manz was adopted by Sis. Virginia Manz on August 26. She had served as his loving foster mother for over two years. We wish God's blessings on their home as she continues to accept other foster children to love and nurture.

Sis. Karen Schlatter has accepted a newcomer into her home. Melineh Petrossian from Armenia will spend her senior year at the local high school as an exchange student. We welcome her to our community and to our church.

Richard Gerber (Eleanor) has been confined to his home following a short hospital stay. May he seek the Lord's nearness as he recuperates.

Following major surgery, Sis. Gwen Manz (Bro. Ken) has also been unable to attend church and we miss her. Our thoughts and prayers have been with her, as we hope for a speedy and complete recovery.

Visiting ministers this past month have been Bro. Gary Maibach (Smithville, OH) and Bro. Ken Dietz (Bradford, IL). We appreciate their kind words of both admonition and encouragement because we all need both.

Pete and Helen Hurd have experienced an emotional month. After a long struggle with cancer, Pete's mother, Doris Hurd (Gloversville, NY), passed away. We extend our sincere sympathy to their family. Many of us grew to know and love her when she used to visit our area. Soon after their return from the funeral, two of their sons, Mark and Shawn, were involved in a motor vehicle accident. Shawn's injuries did require several days in the hospital, but we offer a prayer of thanks for the good progress he has already made.

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

On September 10, our congregation gathered together to partake of Holy Communion. Bro. Ervin Knecht (Eureka, IL) assisted Bro. Ray. May God ever bless these brethren as they carry out their ordained duties.

Throughout the days of August 26-27, the Zion's Harp Revision Committee met at the Latty Fellowship Hall. They discussed the revision of numerous songs. On Saturday evening, the congregation met for a Zion's Harp singing.

On August 21, we held our annual Sunday School picnic at a local park. Fellowship was enjoyed as we gathered together.

On August 21, the wedding engagement of Sis. Larissa Wenninger (Bro. Larry and Sis. Joyce) and Bro. Dave Maibach (Bro. Gary and Sis. Mary Ann) of Smithville, OH, was announced. We wish the Lord to richly bless them as they make their plans together.

The wedding engagement of Amy Grant (Bro. Phil and Sis. Gloria) to Cris Hopkins (Kurt and Laurel) has been made known. May they seek the Lord's guidance in planning their lives together.

Trent Stoller (Bro. Craig and Sis. Ruth) was badly burned while working. He is recovering nicely and has returned home again. We look forward to when he will again assemble with us. May Trent and his family ever feel God's presence throughout this time.

It was announced to the church that two of our converts feel at peace with God and all men. They are Chris Laukhuf (Bro. John and Sis. Marcia) and Lori Laukhuf (Bro. Rod and Sis. Edie). May God be with and sustain these two and all of our converts.

During the month, Bros. Doug Harmon (Toledo, OH) and James Hoerr (Peoria, IL) gathered with us.

May God bless these brothers as they continue to preach the truth.

*Note of Thanks:*

Thankful, heartfelt appreciation to each of you for never-ending kindness, love and prayers shown to me! Can we ever be thankful enough for loving families, our beloved church and our precious faith? May God richly bless each one who remembered me with love, prayers, cards, gifts, phone calls, or visits, far and near! The following words from a sermon I listened to in May at home were a special help to me and I still have them on my dresser mirror: "When the storms are over your head, they are under Jesus' feet!"

*Sis. Mary Eisenmann*

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

This month we grieved with Bro. Clarence Pfister with the passing of his brother, Bro. Bill Pfister, from Bluffton, IN. May Bro. Clarence and his family feel our heartfelt prayers of sympathy during this time.

"For he is the minister of God to thee for good."

*Romans 13:4*

This month we were privileged to have the following ministering brothers visit our congregation: Bros. Don Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN), Bruce Leman (Roanoke, IL), John Grimm (Columbus, OH) and Elder Bro. Aaron Steffen (Alto, MI). We truly pray that God will richly bless these brethren and their wives for their visits, as we certainly enjoyed them all.

There was plenty of good news this month as we heard of two engagements and one marriage among our friends. The engaged couples are Melinda Zimmer (Bro. Jim and Sis. Clara) to Steve Robert-

son; and Ron Beer (Bro. Rex and Sis. Marilyn) to Donna Cotterman. Sis. Wilma Sauder rejoiced with her son, Richard, as he married Deb Smith on September 2. May all of these couples always feel God's guiding hand on their marriages and may they always look to Him first to draw them closer together.

We wish to extend a loving Christian welcome to Anna Groman who has moved to our area from Maryland. Her daughter, son-in-law and grandson, Sis. Joyce, Bro. Dan and Eric Boliantz, are sure glad to have her closer so they can visit more often.

We also have several students in our area and we extend a warm welcome to them all. They are Sis. Diane Sauder (Bro. Bill and Sis. Becky, Columbus, OH) who is in her senior year at Mansfield General School of Nursing; Sis. Sheila Brake (Bro. Bill and Sis. Mim, Sardis, OH) and Debbie Christian (Bro. Ron and Sis. Joann, Rittman, OH) who are both in their first year at Mansfield General School of Nursing; and Sis. Jennifer Banks (Bro. Larry and Sis. Nancy, Columbus, OH) who is living with her grandmother, Sis. Mabel Banks, while pursuing her bachelor's degree in nursing at Ashland University. May God be with them as they prepare for their life's work.

Recently, I was traveling with some sisters and we heard a song on a tape about a man whose clothes were tattered and torn. He didn't mind though because he had a white robe awaiting him that had never been worn. One of the sisters in the car made the comment that it was like we could see our white robe hanging in our closet and were just waiting for a special occasion to wear it. As one of the brothers on the Conference tapes so aptly put it--the robe is of Christ's own weaving. Are we reaching out as we should be to help Him put our robe around our shoulders?

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**OHIO, RITTMAN****Marsha Rufener****Linda Ramsier**

We appreciate our visiting ministers sharing the Word with us. Those who have been with us recently were Elder Bros. Gene Pamer (Akron, OH) and Robert Walder (Congerville, IL), and Bros. Ken Indermuhle and Bill Brake (Sardis, OH).

Kevin and Carolyn Keiper are the parents of Adrian Thomas born on August 15. Adrian's brothers are Seth and Kyle, and grandparents are Bro. Reinhart and Sis. Betty Keiper and Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Shook.

Mitchell Christian, born on August 25, is the first son of Douglas and Dawn Knieriem. Grandparents are Russell and Betty Knieriem (Hudson, FL) and Rex and Carol Young.

August 21 was the wedding of Bro. Sam Hartzler and Sis. Gail Gasser. Parents of the couple are Bro. Merle and Sis. Bonnie Hartzler and Bro. Virgil and Sis. Lois Gasser. May God richly bless their new life together.

Those of our loved ones who have been hospitalized recently are Bro. Fred Marty (Sis. Erma), Bro. Homer Hartzler, and Sis. Violet Baltic. We hope they will feel our love and prayers.

We have been encouraged the last few weeks by listening to the tapes of the General Conference. It's a blessing to gather together and hear these words of the Lord spoken through His servants.

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

"These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I

have overcome the world."

*John 16:33*

Jesus gave a message of comfort and joy to each of His children when he spoke these words. Julia Brake (Bro. Bill and Sis. Mim) has experienced the peace that is available to all, and is ready for baptism.

A special thank you to Bro. Mark Masters (Mansfield, OH) who taught us from the Holy Bible during a recent visit, as well as to our many other visitors that we've been blessed with.

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**OHIO, SMITHVILLE****Edith Miller - Kim Stoller**

The engagement of Bro. David Maibach (Bro. Gary and Sis. Mary Ann) and Sis. Larissa Wenninger (Bro. Larry and Sis. Joyce) of Latty, OH, was announced to our congregation on August 21. May God bless their engagement.

Visiting ministers this month were Bros. Ben Wiegand (Columbus, OH) and Larry Wenninger (Latty, OH). We thank them for laboring for the Lord.

"Teach me, O Lord, the way of thy statutes; and I shall keep it unto the end."

*Psalms 119:33*

We extend sympathy to Bro. Rudy and Sis. Barb Maibach in the death of Barb's sister, Virginia Swiegert.

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**OHIO, TOLEDO****Edie Fetter**

As often as we gather in the name of the Lord, He is faithful to provide for us all that we may need. We appreciate those who are willing to be used in His service as ministers of the Word. Elder Bro. Andy Stoller (Smithville, OH) was a recent visitor to our congregation, and we welcomed the time he spent with

us.

We extend a warm welcome back to the college students who will be attending schools in the Toledo area. We hope that they will feel our love and happiness to have them here and will find God's blessings in their endeavors.

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

"I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation where with ye are called."

*Ephesians 4:1*

We were reminded of our duties in answering the call of our Lord by ministering Bro. Art Metz (Silverton, OR).

Our congregation rejoices over the births of two new baby boys. Kody Scott was born to Tim and Sandy Jones with a brother, Jeff, to welcome him. Grandparents are Bro. Ed and Sis. Judie Knecht and Jim and Jo Jones. Our thoughts and prayers are with Kody, that he will continue to grow stronger and will soon be able to come home from the hospital.

Bro. Mark and Sis. Louisa Gallup have been blessed with a son, Shane Charles. Grandparents are William and Alida Bernson and Mignon Gallup. Big sister, Dana, is excited about her new baby brother.

We have been privileged to listen to the Conference tapes the last four Wednesday evenings. We pray that the messages brought forth to us by our Elder brethren will be prayerfully considered.

Feeling God's direction and guidance, we have finalized the sale of our present church building and have purchased another in a country setting outside the Portland city limits. We have purchased a building 1 mile south of Oregon City on Highway 213. The address is

14761 S. Henrici Rd., Oregon City, OR 97045. It is our prayer that God will continue to bless our congregation as we begin our worship in a new location. It is with mixed emotions that we make this move, as many of our members have worshipped in the present building for many, many years. We encourage those of you visiting this area to come and worship with us at our new location.

## OREGON, SILVERTON

### Peggy Schulz

We have enjoyed many visitors this past month. We were blessed to have the Word brought forth to us by Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr (West Bend, IA), Bro. Doyle Frauhiger (Bluffton North, IN) and Bro. Larry Wenninger (Latty, OH). Our heartfelt thanks to you and may the Lord's grace continue to strengthen you as you minister His Word through the prompting of the Holy Spirit and not to the itching of men's ears. Over Labor Day weekend, Bro. Larry and Sis. Joyce also spent two days at the coast with the Bible Class. The time spent together was truly a blessing to all. May the Lord bless you for coming and sharing with our youth and future church.

We have been enjoying the tapes of our recent Brotherhood Conference on Wednesday evenings this month. May we hold up the arms of our dear Elder brethren.

Our sympathy and prayers are with our Bro. Ben and Sis. Carolyn Bolliger in the passing of Bro. John Bolliger (Forrest, IL) who is Ben's brother. We can be thankful his heavy burden has finally been laid down and he can rest in peace at Jesus' feet.

Little Nicole Kuenzi (Bro. Harvey and Sis. Jennifer) had the misfortune of falling and breaking her leg, requiring her to be in a body cast for several weeks. She has

been a light to us all as she endures this contraption so patiently and pleasantly. May we strive to bear our burdens in such a manner.

We rejoice with Bro. Nick and Sis. Mary Kuenzi and Bro. Ray and Sis. Twyla Meyer (Lester, IA) as their children, Marilyn Kuenzi and Merlin Meyer, were united in Holy Matrimony on September 10. Bro. Ed Knecht conducted the service in the beautiful flowering backyard of the bride's parents. We wish them the Lord's blessings as they walk through this life together.

We have three births to announce this month. On September 2, Brian and Shelle Kuenzi became first-time parents to Mitchell Brian. His happy grandparents are Bro. Richard and Sis. Rosa Lee Kuenzi and John and Helen Farlow (Bend). Little dark-haired Madison Rose arrived on September 17 causing Monte and Kellie Kuenzi to join the ranks of parenthood. Bro. Richard and Sis. Rosa Lee Kuenzi eagerly welcomed another grandchild, as did Woody and Sherry Hill (Silverton). Bro. Todd and Sis. Michelle Zollinger rejoiced upon the birth of their daughter, Lindsey Ann, on September 18. She is already adored by her big brother, Luke, and grandparents, Bro. Ed and Sis. Shirley Zollinger and Bro. Dale and Sis. Chris Metzger (Lester, IA).

It is hard to describe all the feelings that were experienced this past Saturday as many hands raised the first wall of our new edifice; but among them are excitement and anticipation of continued progress and most of all thankfulness to our Lord for His blessings and for all the volunteer help we have received from local friends and brethren and visitors alike. May the Lord richly bless each one.

## PENNSYLVANIA, PHILADELPHIA

## Franz Soni

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:"

*II Timothy 3:16*

We have started listening to the Brotherhood Conference tapes. May we always look to Jesus to guide us.

John and Kathy Clough and their children, Rachel, Rebekah, Faith, Hope and Kevin, will be spending three months in Silverton, OR, helping construct the new church being built. May God watch over them while they are gone.

We welcome Bro. Dave and Sis. Carolyn Roberts. They will be worshipping with us for the next few months. We are happy to have them with us.

We thank Bro. Mark Masters (Mansfield, OH) for sharing God's Word with us. May God richly reward him for his efforts.

We thank the many visitors who came to worship with us this past summer. We encourage all who are in the area to come worship with us. Services are held Sunday at 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

"Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children; And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet smelling savour."

*Ephesians 5:1-2*

We rejoice this month with Trista Banwart (Bro. Lon and Sis. Debbie) and Dave Miller (Ron and



Sandy) who have moved from the Ft. Scott, KS, area to Nashville. We welcome them and wish them God's richest blessings.

We were also privileged this month to be able to meet for services twice in two Sundays. On our regularly scheduled service weekend, September 4, ministering Bro. Virgil Metzger (Chicago, IL) and his family, as well as the Rod Schieler family from Wolcott, IN, worshipped and fellowshipped with us. The next Sunday, we met for a tape service/Bible study as Trista Banwart's family visited us from Ft. Scott, KS.

Remodeling continues to progress on the church. Carpeting is scheduled to be laid on September 23. We are nearing completion of the inside of the assembly room, but will soon be starting on other phases of the project such as the kitchen/dining room, roof and sidewalk. If anyone is interested in helping us, please contact one of the numbers listed below. We will gladly welcome any help and will make any necessary accommodations.

Upcoming services are scheduled for October 2 and October 30. Con-

tact Bro. Don and Faye Sauder (615) 373-8928; Bro. Don and Sis. Enid Miller (615) 384-5948, or Sis. Gwen Leuthold (615) 352-3940 if you plan to be in the area on these weekends or others. Fall is a wonderful time to come visit us.

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**TEXAS, DALLAS**  
**Christine Kaiser**  
**Kimberly Kaiser**

When there are holiday weekends, like Labor Day, the Dallas congregation does not schedule a minister to come to our area. Consequently, we sometimes have month breaks between live church services, making our recent minister visits an extra special blessing. Bro. Don and Sis. Eileen Braker (Kansas City, MO) were with us on August 21 and Bro. Leland Plattner (Zapata, TX) ministered here September 18. Since our gathering is small and away from most of our churches, we are very grateful for the presence of visiting ministers, members and friends. Thank you and may God bless you all.

We extend a special invitation to anyone traveling in the Dallas area to come worship with us. Our serv-

ices 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.

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**TEXAS, ZAPATA**  
**Viola Perdelwitz**

Andy Lee Plattner, son of Bro. Leland and Sis. Mary, received his masters degree in education at summer commencement ceremonies at Texas A&M University, Kingsville. Andy has accepted a teaching position at Rio Grande City, TX. We are happy he attends church in Zapata.

We are looking forward to our winter residents coming to Zapata.



## 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 BRO. WILLIAM J. DOTTERER OF PHOENIX, AZ

### *"Be Merciful And Judge Not"*

#### *Luke 6:20-49*

Perhaps it has occurred to you as it has often occurred to me, what must have it been like to have been in the presence of the Master as He was bringing His good message---His new Gospel---as He was bringing the Word, which the Heavenly Father had Him to bring. It must have been a very strange message to many, a comforting message to some, and a condemning message to some. But it was certainly very different from that which they were used to.

I don't know how it is for you, but I can say that for myself, I find that continually over and over again, I need to be reminded of the truths of the message of Jesus Christ. Because it is a message that is so contrary to my flesh, it is so contrary to my nature, but yet, it is the Word of Truth and the Word of Life.

Certainly it behooves us to very seriously consider the words of the Master. The setting here, as we mentioned, was He had chosen His twelve special disciples, and He had come down with them. He was on the plain, there was a great multitude there, it says, and they came to be healed of diseases. Many were healed! It even says, "The whole multitude sought to touch him: for there went virtue out of him and [He] healed them all." Luke 6:19

He did not stop there, though. They were very interested, no doubt many were, in being physically healed, as it is not pleasant to be sick. It is not pleasant to have a physical infirmity or a mental infirmity, but Jesus did not stop there. Jesus could have healed and can today heal all the illnesses of everyone in the world, but Jesus came for a higher mission. Because if our body is healed and if our body is healthy and if until the end of our

days here upon the earth we have a healthy body and a pleasant life, and spend eternity separated from the eternal God, then it has been a waste. It has been a loss.

Jesus was interested in more than just healing their physical bodies. As He began to teach them Words of Truth and Words of Life and He taught them things which, as we look at them at first glance today, the natural inclination again can be that this is almost nonsense. Perhaps many of them at that time thought the same thing, but as we recognize that these are Words of God, we recognize that it is not nonsense. It is Words of Truth and Life.

But He began by speaking to them, "Blessed be ye poor...". Luke 6:20. If we were to go out on the street corner today, or go into an area where there are people who are financially poor and say, "Blessed are ye poor," they might really wonder what we are talking about. Maybe many of those at that time also wondered what He was talking about.

But He said, "...for yours is the kingdom of God." Those who hunger are blessed for they shall be filled. If they weep, they are blessed because they are going to laugh. (See Luke 6:20-21). As we think about these words, we just can ask ourselves the question, "What was Jesus talking about?" What kind of "poorness" was He talking about, and what kind of hunger was He talking about, and what kind of weeping was he talking about?

As we read further in the Scriptures, we consider the life of Jesus and the life of His apostles and their teachings, and the things that they did and things that they did not do

and the things that they valued and those things they found to be of little worth. We find that if we are poor in heart and recognize the poverty of our heart and our spirit, that that poverty can be filled up to overflowing by the blessings of the Almighty God.

If we hunger and thirst after righteousness, we can be filled. If we weep because of sorrow for disappointing our Lord for sins we have committed or for a lack of love for Him, and if we truly sorrow for that and ask His forgiveness, we can receive a wonderful peace. Even as He says, "For you shall laugh."

Then He gets a little bit deeper into it when He pronounces a blessing upon those whom men shall hate and "shall separate you from their company, and shall reproach you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of man's sake." Luke 6:22. Now it is not blessed to just be plain separated from the company of men. It is not blessed to just being reproached, or having our name cast out as evil, but if it is for the Son of Man's sake, then it is blessed.

If it should be our lot that at some time or other, or maybe even often, in some cases it may be often, if we are reproached for the Son of Man's sake, then we can recognize that we are blessed by the Heavenly Father. We should even rejoice and leap for joy.

Then we might wonder, does He really mean what He is saying here, or is it literally true that we are supposed to rejoice and leap for joy? We can think of the lives of the apostles and how it was that the Apostle Paul and the Apostle Peter and John and many of the apostles were mistreated by men. They bore

reproach and their name was cast as evil for the sake of the Son of man.

What did they do? We have an account of Paul being in prison, and another disciple being with him in prison. They had been beaten and they were in a miserable place. It was not a nice place to be. It may have been damp and it may have been in a hole someplace. I suppose there were roaches around and flies and mosquitoes and maybe there were rats there. They had been beaten so I suppose there were open wounds on their body and probably the insects were biting them and their feet were in the stocks.

But then He pronounced a woe. Over and over again, as we read the Scriptures, we find it so contrary to that which the natural man would expect. We would expect that those who were poor are disadvantaged and those who are rich are blessed. But He said, "But woe unto you that are rich! for ye have received your consolation." Luke 6:24. That is a topic that is talked about much in the Scripture--the topic of money. Jesus Himself said, "It is so difficult for those who are rich to enter into the Kingdom of Heaven." Here He pronounced a woe because they had received their consolation.

Woe unto those who were full for they were going to hunger, and to those who laugh now for they would mourn and weep. (See Luke 6:25). If we have the choice of living a pleasant life for sixty, eighty, or one hundred years, and then spend eternity in separation from God, or live really a persecuted life in this flesh, and then forever be with the Lord, it is a simple decision, isn't it, as to which is the better deal? It is far better for us if it is the Lord's will if we would have things not nice at all in this lifetime, that we might be with God in eternity.

Then, it almost seems as He continues to teach here and to speak that it just gets deeper and deeper.

After having told them, and told us of the blessings of being deprived of what the world calls good, He tells us of the way that we should treat those who are our enemies and who use us spitefully. Not only should we rejoice if we are found worthy to suffer for His name's sake, but we should love our enemies. He said, "...do good to them which hate you. Bless them that curse you, and pray for them which spitefully use you." Luke 6:27-28.

As we progress down these teachings, at least it occurs to me, it is drawing us closer and closer to the pattern to which Jesus Himself lived. Because in terms of material wealth, Jesus did not claim it. He could have, but He did not. In terms of being accepted or rejected, He was accepted by some, certainly, as many received Him and were glad to hear His teachings, but those who were in authority at that time, by and large, rejected Him.

Jesus did love His enemies. He loved those that hated Him. He did good to them that hated Him. He blessed them that cursed Him, and prayed for them which spitefully used Him. He did offer the other cheek. When He was smitten on one cheek, He offered the other cheek. His cloak, also, was taken away from Him and that, of course, was most dramatically done and most powerfully done at Calvary where Jesus, in the supreme demonstration of love, one which never has nor ever will be surpassed in this earth, Jesus gave His life.

Jesus did not give His life for good people. He gave His life for sinners. Jesus was willing upon the cross to not only bear the physical reproaches of men, not only have His head hit by a rod when it had a crown of thorns on it, not only be spit upon and be mocked, but He was willing to go far beyond that and He was willing to take our sins upon Himself.

Perhaps we often thought about that and maybe tried to think what it would be like and recognize that we just can't come close to thinking of what it would be like for a perfect God to take upon Himself the sins of wicked mankind. But that is what Jesus did. So it is helpful to myself to be reminded that, yes, Jesus did mean what He said. He showed, if by no other way, He showed He meant it by what He did.

It has been said that really the only way we can demonstrate how we believe and the faith that we have, is the way that we live. If we believe that a given food is really poisonous for us, we will tend not to eat that food, unless maybe we are mentally ill. If we eat that food, it kind of demonstrates that we really don't think it is poisonous for us. Jesus demonstrated that He loves not only those who were His friends, but He loved those who were His enemies because He died for the vilest sinner.

The Word instructs us that we shall love those who spitefully use us. I don't find that at all easy to do. I don't do a very good job of it, but the Scripture tells us that it is important for us to do it.

"And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise." Luke 6:31. Then He talked about love. He said if you just love those that love you, you really aren't doing any better than the sinners do. We want to do better than the sinners do. If we just do good to those that do good to us, even the sinners do that. If we just lend to those of whom we hope to receive again, even sinners do that. We want to do better than the sinners do.

But Jesus said, "But love ye your enemies, and do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again: and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the Highest: for

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*Sermon continued*

he is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil." Luke 6:35. He is kind to them and we should be also. I think it is a natural inclination for us, but if we do help someone and they are very appreciative, it makes us feel good. If they are unappreciative, there is a tendency for many of us, at least, to think, "Well, I guess I'm not going to help them again." But that is not what the teaching of Jesus is. He said here that the Heavenly Father "is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil." Luke 6:35. What a contrast to what our natural inclinations would be!

He tells us, "Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful." Luke 6:36. If we ever wonder just how merciful ought we to be, we have the instruction here, "...as your Father also is merciful." We can ask the question. Maybe each one of us can ask ourselves the question, "How merciful has God been to me?" We recognize that God has been very merciful to us because we didn't deserve the goodness that God has given to us. We don't deserve the close fellowship that we can have with Him. But His mercy is such that He permitted it. We should be thankful and we should also be merciful.

He then speaks about judging and He told the people there, "Judge not, and ye shall not be judged: condemn not, and ye shall not be condemned..." Luke 6:37. That is a teaching which has often been a confusing teaching, and the word "judge" apparently has several different meanings in the Scripture. We can read in some places in the Scripture where judgment was taken away and it was not a desirable thing that judgment was taken away. It even speaks prophetically of our Lord and Saviour. In His humiliation, His judgment was taken away. It was not

pleasant for Jesus to have His judgment taken away.

Yet, the Word teaches us about judging very sober teachings. It indicates in several places about not judging. Also, it indicates in other places that we must judge and judge righteous judgment.

I think that at least one understanding that we can have of judgment is that we are all going to be judged. That is just part of God's plan. He could have set things up a different way, but the way it is set up is that we are all going to be judged. Those of us who have been privileged to hear His Word, to have faith, and to have some understanding of His way are privileged to receive that judgment in this lifetime.

I very desperately desire to be judged and I want it to happen in this lifetime. Now it is best, if I understand the Scriptures correct, that I judge myself; that I be not judged, if I judge myself. I can look into the Word and ask the Holy Spirit to reveal to me the things that are wrong in my life and thereby judge myself. I think that is the best way if I follow the Scriptures correctly.

But if it doesn't happen that way and I am in need of judgment, I desire that my brother or my sister help me to receive judgment. They may come to me, hopefully not in a condemning way, but in a true demonstration of love and help me to realize my necessity for judgment. If I don't listen to my brother or my sister, if I understand the Word correctly, then the church has the obligation to help me to receive judgment, because I am going to be judged and I want it to happen in the flesh.

If I understand it right in all of these situations thus far, we have the option individually of receiving the judgment or rejecting the judgment. We have a lament in the Scripture in the Old Testament

where God said, and I can't quote it exactly, but something to the extent that God was lamenting the fact that the people had not received His correction. He had corrected them in vain. We individually can choose to reject the judgment of God in this lifetime.

But if we do, the Bible tells us that we are all going to stand before the judgment seat of Christ and I certainly don't want myself nor any of us to have to be judged there because the judgment there is an eternal judgment, and an eternal separation from the Heavenly Father.

So let us desire for ourselves judgment as we need it to the end that we might be purified and be able to escape having to have our sins judged on Judgment Day. Then with respect to each other, let us be careful that we are not quick to condemn one another. It is only God that sees the heart and it may well be that an action that I do or that you do might look to someone (let's just put it this way), maybe an action that you do might look to me like it is something which is really off target. Now, what should I do? Maybe the natural inclination would be that I am going to think condemnably of you. I should not, if I understand the Word correctly.

But then, neither should I ignore that because I believe the Word teaches us that we are our brother's keeper. The Word gives us instruction. In fact, we read it further in this chapter that the direction that we are to follow is, as we observe (and of the example given in the *Scripture by the Lord and Saviour*), was that if we behold a mote in our brother's eye, what should we do?

Now a mote is probably not very big, but yet it doesn't take something very big to impair our vision or to be uncomfortable to us. Or, maybe even to cause blindness. So what do we do?

Well, we first examine ourselves

because it may be there is something bigger in our eye. If our vision is impaired, we should not expect to have very good success taking a mote out of our brother's eye. We certainly would desire that any surgeon who would perform eye surgery on us could see pretty good himself.

So what we are first to do is to be sure there is no obstruction in our own eye. So we are to examine ourselves. We ought to seek to be judged. If we find something in our eye, what we are supposed to do is remove it. Get it out of our eye that we ourselves might see clearly.

Now I think it is worth noting that Jesus did not say to stop at that point. The instructions did not stop. He said, "Thou hypocrite, cast out first the beam out of thine own eye, and then shalt thou see clearly to pull out the mote that is in thy brother's eye." Luke 6:42. The motive that which we should have, should be love...that we love our brother and we desire that our brother see clearly.

There can be a fleshly desire to kind of set things straight...to straighten up our brother or our sister. I don't believe that is the kind of desire the Scripture is approving of. What it should be is that our brother might see more clearly. Our brother, if necessary, might receive judgment in this lifetime but he does not have to receive judgment in eternity. So our motive should be the well-being, the eternal well-being, of our brother or our sister.

It has often occurred to me that, perhaps, is among the best explanations of the kind of love that Jesus wants us to have. A love which is not a love that brings pleasure to ourself, and there are kinds of love that can do that, but the kind of love that seeks the welfare of the object of our love.

Now certainly we have people that we love; mothers, fathers,

grandparents, aunts, uncles, or children, or spouses or grandchildren that we love very much, and the love that we have for them usually makes us feel good. We enjoy being with them, and that is good, but I believe the kind of love that the Scripture speaks most highly of, and is most important, is the love that desires the well-being of the object of our love. I think that is borne out by the Saviour Himself.

The Bible tells us "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son...". He gave His Son! "...that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16. That love which God had for His fallen mankind was then most perfectly demonstrated at the cross.

Certainly it was demonstrated by Jesus leaving Heaven to come here upon this sinful world, but it was demonstrated most perfectly when Jesus, there upon the cross, did bear our sins, and He who was with God in the beginning and thought it not robbery to be equal with God was willing to allow Himself to be separated from the Heavenly Father. That was not pleasant for Jesus. The nails in His hands were not pleasant. The crown of thorns on His brow was not pleasant. Being mocked and spit upon and rejected by men was not pleasant.

But it often seems to me what was most terrible was being separated from His God. At the time when He bore our sins there, He became sinful in the eyes of God, and He who was without sin became the most sinful creature that ever walked on the face of the earth. If my understanding is wrong, I hope one of these brothers will correct it, but it often seemed that way to me.

In that sinful condition, God forsook Him. I believe I have been told that the only time Jesus addressed God as God was there upon the

cross. When He cried out in anguish and agony, He said, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" Mark 15:34. But God, of course, did not utterly forsake Him, and when Jesus paid the price and was able to die, then He, of course, was resurrected and is now with the Heavenly Father.

I believe a point that we should not forget is that the motivation for our interaction with our brothers and sisters and the friends of the truth and those who are enemies should be a sincere desire for the eternal well-being of their never-dying soul.

He talked about a tree bringing forth fruit and that we know a tree by its fruit. I know there are some people who are very well educated in what kind of tree the various kinds are. But a pretty easy way for many of us is to look at the fruit for what kind of tree it is. Is it an orange tree, or an apple tree, or is it a pear tree, or whatever it might be? That is the way we are known also.

As we desire to be known of men as being followers of God, it is a lot more effective for us to bear fruit that demonstrates that we are believers than it is for us to tell them that we are believers. But seek to bear the kind of fruit that the Master would be pleased with.

Finally, He said, "And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?" Luke 6:46. Over and over in the Scriptures, we find how important it is to do what the Word tells us to do. It was true in the Old Testament and it is true in the New Testament also that we must do what God tells us to do...what the Lord tells us to do. If we do it, then we are like a man that built a house on a good foundation and when the storm came, it did not fall.

If we hear the Word and we don't

*Sermon continued next page*

# Silver Threads

## What Matters Most

There are those special times in life when we will oft reflect,  
Upon our past and present and the future we'll project;  
A milestone or goal we've reached, those times we win or lose,  
Those happenings of joy or grief, or when we have to choose;  
It's in these times we realize how thankful we can be,  
If we have Faith in God, our Lord, Who guides our Destiny!

It's in these quiet times of thought that we begin to see,  
How temporal and fleeting and how fragile life can be;  
No matter whether young or old, mortality we share,  
We must confess our need for One Who from this Fate can spare;  
Our Faith in God redeems us, His Salvation realize,  
Tho mortal we, He'll share with us Eternal Life, our Prize!

May we then consecrate ourselves in Service to our God,  
Our hopes and dreams, our ev'ry step, while on earth's path we trod;  
It's not so much what is behind, nor what may be ahead,  
What Matters Most is Faith in God, with Jesus as our Head;  
May we prioritize our life to What Does Matter Most,  
Believe in the Eternal One, His son, and Holy Ghost!

So in these special times of life when humbly we reflect,  
Upon our past and present and our future we project;  
Acknowledge the Creator Who does guide all Destiny,  
And worship the Redeemer Who does reign eternally;  
Yes, while we live upon this earth, may we aspire to do,  
What Matters Most, Have Faith in God, and Live in Christ Anew!

*By Bro. Rodney Stoller*

## My Traveling Companion

One day I took a journey  
Some distance from my home.  
They asked upon arrival,  
"Did you come all alone?"

After some reflection  
I was inspired to say:  
"My traveling companion  
Came with me all the way."

'Tis sweet to feel His presence  
His friendship I have tried.  
The way is never lonely  
When He is at my side.

When traveling days are  
ended  
I trust that I can say  
My traveling Companion  
Went with me all the way.  
*By Bro. Henry Beer*



### *Sermon continued*

do it, the Bible tells us that we are like a man who without a foundation built a house upon the earth, and when the waters came, the house fell. Why did that house fall? I don't think it is because the house was not well constructed, because a house on earth can be well constructed. If the earth is never disturbed, the house might stand for a long time. But if a house is built

upon earth and the earth is disturbed by, usually, water---especially by water---the earth erodes away. Even a strong house will tend to fall.

The Bible teaches us that what we shall do is build our spiritual house upon Jesus Christ the Lord by doing the works which He tells us to do.

We have a privilege---a wonderful privilege---of submitting ourselves to the will of a merciful

Heavenly Father. The way has been explained to us so clearly in the Holy Word.

We have been privileged to be part of a wonderful church fellowship which teaches and lives the Word of God. May we be wise that we will not have to eternally regret having lived; but that we can throughout the endless ages of eternity dwell with the One who loved us so much.

# Silver Threads

## Good and Bad Fruit

So many things in nature  
Which human eyes can see  
Oft teach a moral lesson  
Of truth and purity.

Today out in the orchard  
While picking apples fair  
I thought how trees in fruiting  
With human life compare.

The unsound fruit had fallen---  
And lay upon the ground  
All gnarled and worm infested  
Corrupt within were found.

The good fruit clings securely  
When storm and tempest beat  
And ripens sweet and mellow  
Through summer's glowing heat.

And when the good fruit ripens  
Upon a bearing tree,  
It falls --- by touch or breezes  
To earth quite easily.

A virtuous man resembles  
The fruit on bending tree,  
Who walk before their Maker  
In true humility.

The good fruit shall be gathered,  
The bad is cast aside.  
When men in Christ are branches  
Their fruit shall e'er abide.

*By Bro. Henry Beer*



## A Repentance Prayer

Dear God in Heaven, hear me  
As I to Thee now pray.  
My heart is crushed and broken  
And in the dust I lay.  
Turn not away Thy face, Lord  
E'en though I sinner be.  
Have mercy and compassion,  
I writhe in misery.

How canst Thou look my way,  
Lord?  
So oft I turned away.  
I'm weak and poor and sinful  
And scarcely dare to pray.  
To Thee my soul is bared, Lord,  
Thou seest everything.  
I lay all on the altar,  
To Thee all self I bring.

Forgive me, Lord, I pray Thee  
For all those wasted years.  
I've nothing now to offer  
Except my bitter tears.  
They fall like rain, O Saviour,  
Around Thy feet, divine.  
O let now in Thy mercy,  
Thy Light in my heart shine.

As I begin this way, Lord,  
As undeserving lamb,  
I've nothing to repay Thee,  
But come just as I am.  
O, make me pure and holy,  
And wash away my sin.  
That I with Thee might walk  
here  
And someday Heaven win.

I thank Thee, O my Saviour,  
That Thou didst die for me,  
Though I can't comprehend,  
Lord,  
Thy love that sets me free.  
And thank Thee for this calling,  
O God, who reigns above.  
Might that I now can call Thee,  
My Father, in pure love.

So hear my fervent pray'r, Lord,  
I give my all to Thee.  
I want no more of this world.  
From sin I would be free.  
O, hold my hand and lead me.  
My heart's open, come in.  
I give all praise and honor  
Through Jesus Christ, Amen.

*By Bro. Bill Schmidgall*

# Silver Threads

## What's Keeping You?

To you, my dear beloved friend,  
I want to write, my hand extend.  
You seem so close, and yet so far.  
What does yet your repentance bar?

You come to church from week to week  
And hear God's Word, through brothers weak.  
You feel that He speaks to your heart,  
And yet you do not make a start.

Oh, is there something that I did?  
If so, then let's not keep it hid.  
Am I a hindrance in some way?  
Perhaps something I do or say?

Are there some friends that hold you back?  
Or those at work, on the wrong track?  
Do you embarrassed think you'll be  
When those folks you repenting see?

Dear friend, Oh, how I love you so!  
I've been through this myself, you know.  
I longed to have a Hope of Life  
When parted from this world of strife.

And I excuses, too, did find  
To push the Lord from heart and mind.  
But, Oh how grateful now I be  
That He so patient was with me.

It is my pray'r, dear friend, for you  
That God has patience with you, too.  
But, know this, there a time will come  
Which there is no escaping from.

Then what will those excuses gain?  
Just everlasting death and pain,  
Where endless grief will wrack your soul  
Down in that awful, fiery hole.

So come, draw near, while there's yet time.  
And out of Satan's clutches climb.  
So many of us did the same,  
And now we praise our Saviour's name.

There's in these verses nothing new,  
Just Christian love from me to you.  
Oh, Can't you feel God's drawing pow'r?  
Come! Follow Him this very hour!

*By Bro. Bill Schmidgall*

## The Watchmen On The Wall

In our beloved Bible book,  
Which is the Word of God,  
Are promises that He will keep,  
If we His way true trod.

To help us faithful pilgrims be,  
He watchmen does ordain,  
Who have a duty to fulfill,  
To keep His Church from stain.

God gives to them His grace and strength,  
And courage each day new.  
His Spirit double portion grants  
To guide them their lives through.

What rests on these, our brothers dear,  
We just can't comprehend,  
The great responsibility  
God's children to attend.

We find God's Word makes very plain  
If they their duties shun,  
And they themselves do not make free,  
But do, like Jonah, run,

Then, there on that Great Judgment Day,  
Required of them will be,  
The answers why they'd not fulfill  
Their calling faithfully.

*(continued)*



# Silver Threads

## The Psalms

How sweet are the words of the Psalmist,  
Consoling, and precious, and pure,  
For there we can read the soul's struggles,  
Which saints long ago did endure.

How oft in this long earthly journey,  
When burdened with toil and with care,  
I turn to the Psalms for my comfort;  
Our struggles so closely compare.

His tongue was the pen of a writer,  
Who wrote not for honor or fee;  
The words which I oft would have written,  
The Psalmist has written for me.

He saw in his day the rare beauty  
Which heaven and earth did disclose;  
For the trees, and the fields, and the mountains,  
His praise to the Maker arose.

His victories o'er self, and o'er evil,  
Inspired the Psalmist to praise;  
The Father oft leads into trials,  
To show us poor mortals His ways.

His conflicts, his struggles, and trials,  
The Psalmist did truly record.  
Though ages have passed since he wrote them,  
They still live as the Word of the Lord.

O Soul, art thou weary and troubled?  
Just turn to your favorite Psalm.  
There your heart, in its strivings and longings  
Like the sea will grow peaceful and calm.

His counsel will lead thee, and guide thee  
To the rock that is higher than I;  
And afterward take thee to glory,  
For there we shall nevermore die.

*By Bro. Henry Beer*



But, if upon the other hand,  
We shun their counsel true,  
Oh, what excuse can we provide  
If we just hear, not do?

It hurts us so when some dear souls  
Can disobedient be.  
When even in the brotherhood  
Some disrespect we see.

We should, according to God's Word,  
Our elders not cause stress,  
But rather love them, hold them up,  
We'll greater peace possess.

For they, like us, have flesh and blood,  
Emotions, feelings, too.  
Oh, how a kind and loving word  
Can help them the day through.

But, we as brethren, most of all,  
A help to them can be,  
If we united on our knees,  
For them pray, constantly!

*By Bro. Bill Schmidgall*



# REMEMBERING

## *Our Spiritual Heritage*

This is a new column entitled "Remembering". It will appear periodically and focus on the past. The goal is to help keep alive--for this and coming generations, so long as the Lord tarries--the deeds and the dedicated pursuit of godliness of those dear souls who have gone on before us in faith, often amid much trial and privation.

Our brethren, over the years, have attempted to keep a true doctrine despite being surrounded by other shades of belief. Mead's Handbook of Denominations in the United States includes a general list of 220. The Encyclopedia of American Religions more specifically lists 1,200.

Included in these listings is our Apostolic Christian Church. With approximately 12,000 members and 10,000 children and unbaptized adults, our church comprises a thin slice--about 1/100th of 1 percent of our nation's population. Today we continue on, by God's grace, with 86 churches in 23 states, 2 in Canada, and 3 in Japan. Worship services are also held on several university campuses.

Our doctrinal depth, and devotion to faithfulness, while not reflecting great numbers, is nonetheless worthy of note. The root and foundation from which our beliefs have grown is worthy of our special focus.

A famous statesman once said, "The further back you can look, the further ahead you can see." In this, we are wise to examine the past and the development of our church, both in Europe and in the United States. We have much to learn, both from the victories and the setbacks of our foreparents. If we fail to examine the past, we can perhaps fall prey to many of the religious falsehoods that surround us. The old adage that "history repeats itself" is a true one.

In pursuing the history and godly deeds of our predecessors, the intent is not to lift up any one person or persons. Some of our leaders performed wonderful deeds, and labored with a strong sense of sacrifice and diligence; and we as readers can often become very impressed with what they did. Yet, in "Remembering", a sincere effort will be made to focus on what God did through men and women, rather than what they as humans accomplished. It is through God's power and grace that we, as His weak and unworthy servants, can do His work and fulfill His will.

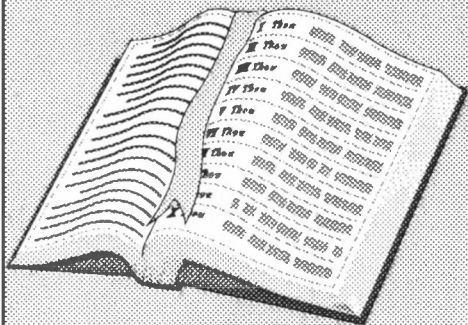
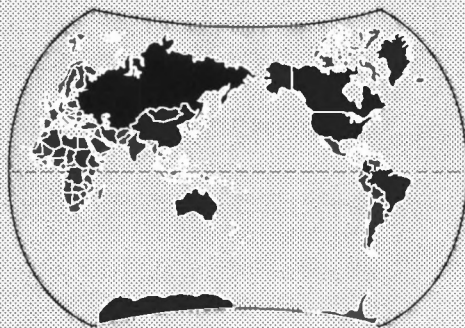
In 1984, the church history, *Marching to Zion*, was completed. This 4-year research and writing project resulted in a large amount of collected data, much of which would not fit in the 653-page finished product which covered all of

our then-existing churches. It is from this source that "Remembering" hopes to draw much of its basic information. Other relevant historical sources will be used as well. It's possible, too, that interviews with elderly brethren might periodically be used. And we want your ideas, too. If you have any topics of interest, please mail them to The Silver Lining.

Our heritage is wonderful, and God has been gracious to our people. This column, God willing, hopes to honor and point out the beneficial deeds the Almighty has showered on us during the 162 years of our existence. May He guide our pen in this pursuit; and may the historical deeds we list in subsequent issues be for His glory, and an inspiration to all of us as we engage ourselves in the uphill struggle to the Heavenly Zion.

*Next issue:  
The Beginnings in Europe*



**MISSION****WORLD RELIEF****WORKS PROJECTS****Apostolic Christian Church of America****"HARD OR EASY"**

Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle, Shioda, Japan

Some people think the Christian life is hard. What do you think? The Lord Jesus Christ said, "For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." Matthew 11:30. The Apostle Paul wrote "Rejoice in the Lord always; and again I say, Rejoice." Philipians 4:4.

When I repented it was hard for me to make the break---I even cried about giving up some of my activities with farm youth organizations. I do not wish such a struggle for anyone else, but for me it did help in the process of becoming broken. Things that are hard can have spiritual benefits if we can endure it with courage and optimism. If we become bitter and resentful, the spiritual benefits are lost.

The early church had a conference concerning how hard it should be to become a Christian, and to live a Christian life. There were strong feelings on both sides of the issue but Peter said, "Now therefore, why tempt ye God, to put a yoke upon the

neck of the disciples, which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear?" The issue at that time was circumcision and keeping the law of Moses.

We come now to the matter of obedience, which is important. The Lord Jesus Christ said, "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven." Now then, how hard is it to do the will of our Heavenly Father? There are many New Testament teachings, some of which may be hard for some of the believers. To live for self and the devil can be hard, too; terribly hard with more dire consequences. What we should do is avoid laying unnecessary burdens on one another while rejoicing in living the surrendered life. Jesus said, "My yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

**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.

Tim Sauder, Administrator  
Box 151  
Leo, IN 46765  
(219)627-2159 Office  
(219)627-2606 Home

Dave Bertsch, Counseling Elder  
11520 Souder Road  
Grabill, IN 46741  
(219)627-2923

# Down Memory Lane

*From Marching To Zion*



## Princeville Church - 1920

The Princeville brick church was built in 1920, forty years after the first meetings took place in the Streitmatter Prairie Church. This large two story brick church was built in the town of Princeville, because older brethren began moving off their farms and into town. Along with the geographical change came an increase in attendance, which necessitated the larger facility in town. The congregation, after a number of remodeling projects, decided to rebuild in 1969 and presently is conducting services there.

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