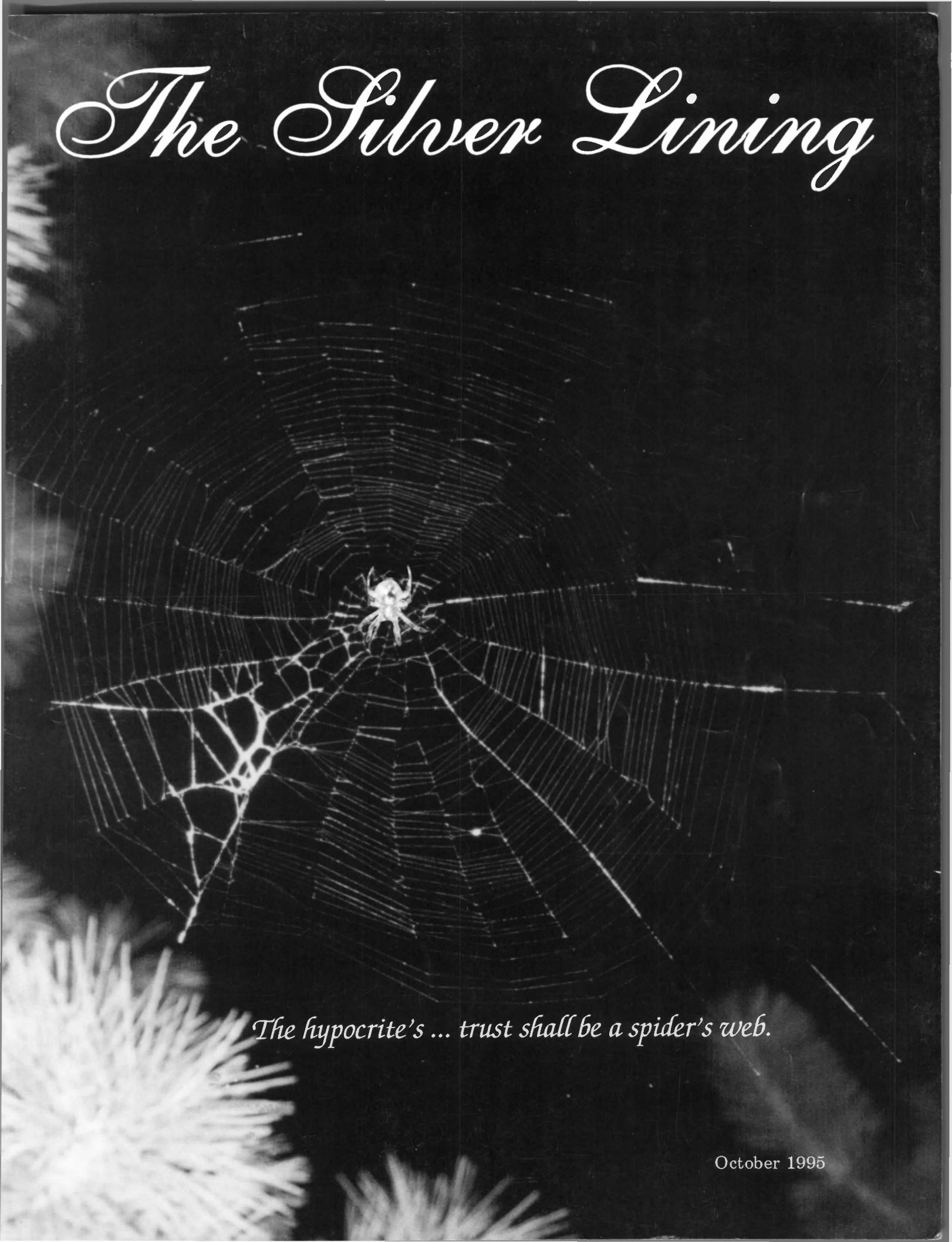


The Silver Lining



The hypocrite's ... trust shall be a spider's web.

October 1995



"So are the paths of all that forget God,
and the hypocrite's hope shall perish:

Whose hope shall be cut off, and whose
trust shall be a spider's web."

Job 8:13-14

"There be four things which are little
upon the earth, but they are exceeding
wise: The ants...The conies...The locusts...The spider taketh hold with her
hands, and is in kings' palaces."

Proverbs 30:24-28

Volume 49

OCTOBER 1995

Number 10

The Web of Deceit

As we walk through the timber in the late months of summer or early fall, we may witness the awful reality of a web, woven so intricately by the most dreaded spider.

What has made people despise the spider? Perhaps the web, which is so beautiful to behold and yet so messy to deal with.

When we study the spider and his deceitful web, our mind just goes to the Devil and his crafty ways. The spider himself is exceeding wise, created by God for a purpose not altogether known by man. The spider has a wondrous way in which he feeds himself, through wisdom given by God. In the early evening hour, the spider seen on the cover will begin to weave a beautiful web. The web itself is made out of a silky substance which is stored in the spider's body.

The spider uses his web to fly, to make a home, to drop to the ground and to gather food. It is this web that so much reminds us of deceit. At the dusk of the day, the newly spun web is nearly invisible. As they fly at night, the unsuspecting insects are caught up in the web. The spider, who always maintains a center position, immediately senses the capture and after rushing to the caught insect, injects him with a paralyzing substance which immobilizes the captured insect, and then he drains the insect of all his life substance. When daylight comes, the web is usually gone and the spider waits again for another night to weave his web.

The close parallel the web has to sin is amazing. We, the unsuspecting, can be walking along so unaware when we can feel the touch of the web on our face. Now at that precise moment, if we simply back away, we can come away without a trace of the web on us. However, if we try to walk on through, we will witness a great mess. How similar to the innocent appear-

ing sin in the world. When we first touch it, we always will be given a chance to simply back away. The sense of the web on our face is keenest at the first touch because it is foreign to our skin. So, too, is sin as we may sense it in life. Our senses are best if we can abstain from the sin of this world. I have personally had to go through a barn where many webs hung. I had no choice but to just go right on through them. At first they were gross, but soon I hardly noticed them because I got used to them. As children of God, we need to discipline ourselves to the point that we would never lose our sense of knowing when we bump into the sin that surrounds us.

The beautiful web, which is spun by the spider, is almost invisible to the eye and it is that deceitful weaving, covered with a sticky substance, that will bring down an insect who unsuspectingly flies into it.

There is a better way and it is that way we strive to travel. When we look up to God who is our salvation, we see very well what is ahead of us. We also see God and are humbled by His majesty. Through His love we are given grace and by that grace we are saved.

How different things are when we walk our spiritual journey trusting completely in our Creator and God. We find those gifts of God: peace, joy, faith and love. It is so joyful to walk in the pathway God has made for us. Even though we must be careful not to get entangled in the webs of deceit, we can look forward to great joy at the end of our journey if we truly look up to God from whence cometh our strength.

Our God and Creator will help us along the way with grace, and by His grace we will someday be with our Saviour for eternity.



Even though we don't know what kind of fruit it was that Eve partook of, we do often think of it as an apple.

How tempting this apple looks to us as we pass by. Without inspection we could, however, consume rotteness and possibly a live worm.

Life is much that way. We can and should enjoy life, but carefully inspect things before we consume them. We inspect the things in life by praying to God for guidance and direction.

The Silver Lining

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

Light From The Word



Writings based
on God's Word

October 1995

God's Plan For Family Unity - IX

This final article in a series on the family focuses attention on the importance of the proper home atmosphere, the consequences of neglect and the rewards that obedient children bring to their parents.

In a world filled with strife and anguish, we can give our children a great blessing if we provide them with a home that has a Godly atmosphere. Our children need a refuge from the world. They need the security of knowing that their home is free from the turbulence that is characteristic of so many homes today. If our children are not able to notice a difference in the atmosphere in our homes as compared to the atmosphere they feel in school or other places, we need to examine why our homes are like the homes of the world.

The characteristics of a Godly environment should be evident in our homes. Our homes should be a place where we and our children want to be; it should be a place where we find a balance of individuality and group activity; it should be a place where we feel a part of each other's lives and yet we are recognized for our individuality.

Most of all, perhaps, is the need for our homes to be a place where the Lord is the centerpiece of our home, and He must be not only our Saviour, but also our Lord and Master. We can learn from the example of Joshua who said, "...choose you this day whom ye will serve...but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." (Joshua 24:15).

Our homes should be a place where our children's friends are welcome. While this must be limited to a reasonable amount of time, welcoming their friends to visit could provide an opportunity to expose other children to a Godly atmosphere who otherwise may never have that opportunity.

In Psalm 39 and 90 we are reminded to number our days, and time with our

children is short. We must make the most of the opportunities that we have to teach our children and to be with them. They will soon have other interests, and time that is gone can never be regained. How sad it would be if we spent our time trying to provide the material blessings for our children and failed to provide the spiritual blessings. We may realize too late that we have made a sad mistake.

Among the lessons that we need to teach our children are the responsibilities that children have to their parents. Children must learn to "Honor thy father and mother," as God commanded (Matt. 15:4). One of the definitions of honor is one whose worth brings respect. This implies that honor must be earned. Certainly, we should teach our children to honor us, but our behavior and attitudes must be such that we are worthy of the honor.

Obedience to parents is another lesson that must be taught. "Children obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right" (Eph. 6:1-3). It must be remembered that the only way for children to obey this commandment is for parents to be in the Lord. We undermine our own authority if we do not live in the Spirit and walk in the Spirit.

Jesus himself offered us an example of obedience to parents. Obedience to godly parents helps children learn to be obedient to God, to the church, and to appropriate civil authorities. The Bible teaches us that obedience to God is necessary for entrance to the Kingdom of God. If a child never learns obedience at home, it is questionable if he will ever learn obedience to God.

It is also necessary for children to learn obedience to a God-fearing, Bible-believing church. "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..." (Heb.

13:17).

Children must also be taught to be obedient to government. "Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God" (Rom. 13:1). The only exception is when a law of the land is in direct conflict with the Word of God.

The consequences that parents and children face as a result of the neglect of parental duty are serious. In Proverbs we read, "A wise son maketh a glad father: but a foolish man despiseth his mother" and "There is a generation that curseth their father, and doth not bless their mother" (Prov. 15:20; 30:11). Not only can neglect bring shame to the parents, but the consequences are felt for generations to come. "...for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me" (Deut. 5:9).

Sometimes faithful parents see their children go astray and we wonder what went wrong. At times like these we take comfort in knowing that we have the promises of God that our efforts are not in vain. "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old he will not depart from it" (Prov. 22:6). We also have the promise that with God nothing shall be impossible" (Luke 1:37).

Although the responsibilities of raising children are great and can at times seem overwhelming, the rewards of faithful parents are beyond measure. After all the work of raising our children we have one final reward to think upon, "I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth" (III John 4). Every effort that we make in teaching our children the ways of the Lord are not in vain, as they lead to the greatest reward of all---eternity with our Lord.



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

Taking the Gospel to Ixtlan, Mexico

As we have previously reported to our brotherhood through this page, the Mission Committee is supporting the ministry of Bro. Marshall and Sis. Janice Heinold in Ixtlan, Mexico. Initially, we approved that they would conduct worship services for a period of six months. During this time, Bro. Marshall is continuing to search for a tract of land to be used as a site for a home where unwanted boys would be housed and sustained physically and spiritually. The Heinolds live in a small, modest building which is also used for worship services and Sunday school.

Sunday School Classes

Between 20 and 30 children come to Sunday school regularly. There are two classes, one for age five and under and the other for those over age five. The younger class uses materials from Apostolic Christian Publications, and the older one uses the Bible. Emphasis is placed upon memorization of Bible verses, plus teaching the children what the Bible is and how it is arranged. This is often difficult, for many of the children cannot read or write.



With patience and love the gospel message is brought to these children who have not had previous exposure to the truth.

Sunday Worship Services

Fifteen to twenty adults usually attend the worship services, along with some of the children, making a congregation of somewhere around 40 souls. Most of the adults are women. In many third world countries where we have activities, the men do not exhibit the interest in learning of Jesus. Perhaps it is viewed as weakness, or possibly their hearts have been hardened by generations of sin and unbelief.

As we consider that many have never heard the gospel, and think about the opportunity for salvation which has been extended to us, it sobers our hearts. We have done absolutely nothing to deserve the grace of God, and it is only by His mercy that we are beneficiaries. Someday each of us will give an account to God based upon what we know. We need to consider this very seriously.

Elders Visit Ixtlan Site

In July, Elder brothers David Wiegand, Charles Hemmer, and Marvin Leman traveled to Ixtlan to observe the project. They gathered facts and became better acquainted with the work. As this project moves forward, each future step is studied carefully with prayer.

They looked at three parcels of land which have potential for the establishment of a boys' home and ranch. At this time, there is not enough information available to make a decision on purchasing property.

Meeting with Nazarene Officials

The brothers also had an opportunity to discuss the project with Elder Horacio Roldan and a minister from the Apostolic Christian Church (Nazarene) in Argentina. Elder Roldan has the oversight of their Mexican efforts, and he expressed a sincere desire that we continue to use their facilities for our ministry in Ixtlan, in which they have no spiritual involvement.

Plans for the Future

After the three Elder brothers returned from their trip, they reported to both the Mission and World Relief Committees. At the Princeville conference, the project was discussed by the Elder body. The Heinolds were approved to continue this project through the year of 1996. By sending reports of their activities, they are keeping the brethren at home fully informed.

We pray that the Lord will give us guidance in this project in Mexico. It is the sincere desire of the Mission Committee, as well as Bro. Marshall and Sis. Janice, that only God's will would be done. Each are willing to submit to one another and God's guidance, trusting Him for direction. We earnestly solicit the prayers of the brotherhood regarding this effort.

FOR FURTHER
INFORMATION
PLEASE CONTACT:

Apostolic Christian Mission Committee
P.O. Box 23356
Overland Park, KS 66223
(913) 681-3796



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

If we suffer, we shall also reign with him...

Early in September, brethren from the USA visited various countries in Eastern Europe for the purpose of evaluating past efforts, assessing the current situation, and determining future actions. The group consisted of Elders Gene Marti and Nathan Steffen, plus Bros. Louis Bikadi, Gene Lehman, and his wife, Sis. Verna. A full documentary report of this trip will be printed in future issues.

First Meetings in Szeged, Hungary

The group traveled on some varied flight schedules, coming together on Saturday, September 2nd in the newly constructed church building in Szeged, Hungary. There is also a nursing home facility under the same roof, which they toured that day. On Sunday, services were held in Szeged in the morning, and Oroshaza in the afternoon. The brethren stayed together in Szeged, meeting with various brethren there until Tuesday evening. Following is a summary of findings in the countries we are assisting with material aid.

Yugoslavia

Brethren came to Szeged from Yugoslavia, the border of which is only around 10 miles away. It is apparent, that as expected the greatest needs among our people exist in this tormented land. At one time, over 20,000 members of our faith lived in this country, but their number is now about 15% of that. The persecution of believers by war, communism, poverty, and the uncertainty of living a normal life resulted in a large scale emigration, as well as the deaths of many members. As a result, the churches became neglected and numbers in attendance dropped. Some

churches were sold. When communism fell, the situation changed, and people began attending services again. There have been a number of converts, most from our background of faith. The brethren now feel we should continue the work of restoring churches and building new ones which has been going on for several years.

"The persecution of believers by war, communism, poverty, and the uncertainty of living a normal life resulted in a large scale emigration, as well as the deaths of many members."

They estimate financial needs of around \$400,000 to provide facilities for all the believers. This is under consideration by the Mission Committee. Although not many of our brethren live in the war zone, all are affected by the embargo and refugee situation. Travel is difficult, vehicles are few, and we are considering buying several vans for the purpose of helping our people to come together. There have been nearly 200,000 refugees of Serbian background who have fled into Yugoslavia from Bosnia. Some of these are being cared for in homes of our members. They estimate somewhere around 110 members will probably be forced from their homes in areas where the fighting is getting closer, and they also will need care. In consideration of these needs, they have requested we increase our present monthly support from \$7,500 to \$10,000. We have also arranged for an additional \$10,000 to be set aside for unexpected needs. With adequate contact via phone and fax, the European Board is regularly informed.

Romania

The group entered Romania on Wednesday, September 6, and spent

until Friday morning meeting with their elders and visiting numerous brethren and their work places. The European Board is initiating a program of self-help in hopes of providing opportunities for them to support themselves. This will take time, but a beginning has been made. Food packages come from our Bluffton Distribution Center each month, and the Romanians feel this work is vitally necessary. Many elderly people depend upon these packages for basic survival needs. There were families who suffered from the cold last winter, and the need here continues

to be great. Unemployment and inflation are both high, bringing much misery to all people. As we continue to support our brethren, through food packages and other assistance we monitor the situation closely.

Ukraine

The political situation in Ukraine is actually worse than in Romania. The same problems of unemployment and inflation exist along with lack of order in society. However, in cooperation with the German brethren, we have supported our members there by furnishing them tractors, sewing machines, plus clothing shipments each year. Few members live in the city, and the others can grow food for themselves. After viewing an excellent account of usage of previous funds, we left about \$40,000 for fuel and foodstuffs over the coming winter. We feel they are making progress in Ukraine.

Expression of Thanks

Financial support from our brethren is vital to all these programs, and the European brethren thank you from the heart for every deed of love and mercy done in the name of Jesus Christ. May God bless you for it.

Caribbean Update

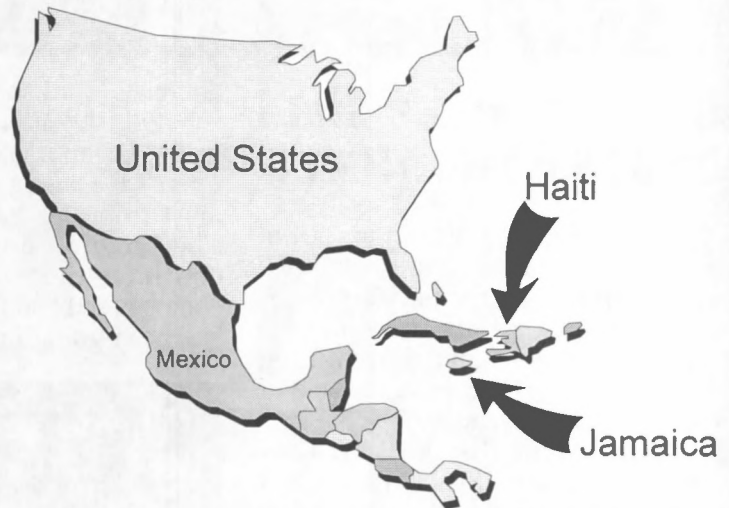
Haiti Coordinators Needed

The concept of long term coordinators for Haiti building projects was approved by the World Relief Committee. We are seeking several couples or brothers who would have a desire to serve as coordinators, living in Haiti, for a period up to six months.

The coordinators would be involved in assisting and coordinating Apostolic Christian work teams, and also aiding in our other World Relief projects in Haiti.

We ask that you prayerfully consider this, and if you have an interest, contact:

Roger Sauder, Chairman
Caribbean Board
6251 S.W. 5th. St.
Plantation, FL 33317
Phone (305) 584-0947



Work Team Dates

The following are dates for work teams in Haiti and Jamaica for the literacy program (school buildings) during the coming 1996 winter work season. If you wish to volunteer for a work team, please contact the coordinator listed below. Should you not be able to contact the coordinator, please call Bro. Harold Witzig at 309/266-6263.

HAITI



January 12-20, 1996

HAITI - MEBSH (Missions of Evangelical Baptists of South Haiti)
This team is filled.

Coordinator: Glen Hackenjors
10564 Haverly
El Monte, CA 91731
818/442-4957

January 26-February 3, 1996

HAITI - PALM GROVE
This team is filled.

Coordinator: Tim Butikofer
609 Mill St.
Elgin, IA 52141
Home: 319/426-5486
Office: 319/426-5585
Fax: 319/426-5586

February 2-10, 1996

HAITI - MEBSH
This team is filled.

Coordinator: Craig Emch
11856 Miller Road
Sterling, OH 44276
216/939-4591

February 16-24, 1996

HAITI - MEBSH
Location to be announced by
Bob Stewart

Coordinator: Jim Walter
26 Timber Ridge
Fairbury, IL 61739
815/692-3158
815/692-2851 Fax

March 1-9, 1996

HAITI - MEBSH
Location to be announced by
Bob Stewart

Coordinator: Phil Isabell
16746 S. 380 W.
Remington, IN 47977
219/261-3541
219/261-2860 Fax

JAMAICA



January 3-11, 1996

JAMAICA-CCCD (Caribbean Christian Center for the Deaf)
This team is filled.

March 8-16, 1996

JAMAICA - CCCD
Kingston Site (scheduled for spring break at many colleges).

Coordinator: Harold Witzig
308 N. 2nd St.
Morton, IL 61550
309/266-6263
309/266-8575 Fax

May 17-25, 1996

JAMAICA - CCCD
Deaf Village Site (scheduled for end of college term at most colleges).

Coordinator: Mike Finley
Box 176
Carlock, IL 61725
309/376-7301
309/923-7243 Fax

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

We're continuing to send used books overseas. Almost daily we receive requests in the mail for Bibles. You may get your books to either of us or Wing or Bluffton World Relief Centers.

Jerry and Arlene Banwart
Box 181 C, 307 W. First St.
Congerville, IL 61729
(309) 448-2416

or

Phil and Gloria Grant
6476 S.R. 111
Antwerp, OH 45813
(419) 258-2197

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN BIBLE DISTRIBUTION

Bibles Distributed By Our Churches

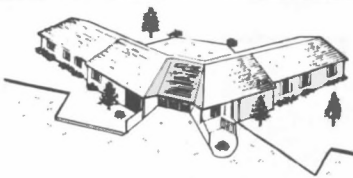
Eleven Years --- August 1983 thru July 1995 --- 321,754

Bibles Distributed --- Twelfth Year

	MONTH	TO DATE
August 1995 --	3,834	3,834

*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.

**Program Assistant/Direct
Care Provider**

Lakeside Terrace, ICF/MR, in Sabetha, KS is looking for individuals to work as Program Assistants. This job requires one to be responsible for the daily care and implementing instructional programs for our residents. The

mental demands of this job include following directions, organizing time, and communicating with various people. The physical demands include physical strength to lift and position physically disabled adults.

The job requirements include: 1) pre-employment physical, 2) nurse aide or previous experience with handicapped adults or children, 3) being creative, flexible and willing to learn new ideas, 4) being positive and caring, sensitive to others' needs, 5) able to maintain confidentiality.

Lakeside Terrace is a 12 bed home to 5 women and 7 men with developmental disabilities. It is affiliated with the Apostolic Christian Home for the Aged in Sabetha, KS. This home opened in April of 1991. Lakeside Terrace is a home with Christian background and ideals. Any individual interested in applying for a job, please call or write to Sheila Moser, RSD

Lakeside Terrace
1100 Harrison
Sabetha, KS 66534
(913) 284-0005

CASSETTES FROM EUROPE

We still have a supply of the cassette tapes produced in Austria and Hungary containing beloved hymns of our old Heft (Long Book) and Zion's Harp Hymnals.

All profits from the sale of these tapes go to Europe, where the money is distributed among our very needy brethren in the Eastern European countries of East Germany, Hungary, Romania and others.

The Heft or Long Book tapes were recorded by Bro. Josef Farkasch, who is a music professor near Salzburg, Austria. He plays the classical guitar and many other instruments on three tapes of songs from the Long Book. Some include singing.

"Holy Love" and "Blest Be the Tie" tapes recorded in Hungary, feature orchestra and choral renditions of songs from the Zion's Harp and Long Book, as well as many of their Hungarian hymns.

We have received a great response in the sale of these five tapes and wish to thank everyone for their past support.

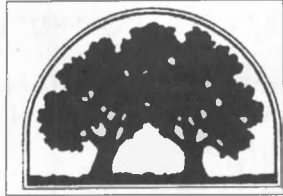
The Heft (Long Book) tapes include three volumes. Volume I includes songs 1-11, 13-18; Volume II includes songs 12, 19-31; Volume III includes songs 33-48. Each tape costs \$8.00. For shipping costs on orders of 1-5 tapes, add \$.75 extra for each tape. On orders of 6 tapes or more, add only \$.30 extra for each tape. Make checks for Long Book Tape payable to the Long Book Tape Fund.

The two tapes, "Holy Love", a tape of orchestra, and "Blest Be the Tie", which has both orchestra and singing, are available at \$7.00 for each tape. For shipping costs on orders of 1-5 tapes, add \$.75 extra for each tape. On orders of 6 or more tapes, add only \$.30 extra for each tape. Make checks for Hungarian tapes to the person you order from.

Long Book tapes and Hungarian tapes may be ordered from:

Don and Lorna Schrock
100 Forest View Road
Morton, IL 61550
(309) 266-6810

Dennis and Beth Feucht
317 North Third
Morton, IL 61550
(309) 266-9498



We Are Fully Staffed!

Gateway Woods is fully staffed for the first time in several years with John Stoller as our new Child Care Supervisor and John and Peggy Jackson joining our team as Alternate Houseparents. Thanks for your prayers in the past, for our present program, and for the future!

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

"Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth."

Psalms 46:10

We appreciate the opportunity to serve the Lord by helping in the lives of others. Sometimes those needs are high, and we feel unable to meet them or have trouble finding the time needed to meet them. We need to slow down enough to remember that no matter where God has called us and no matter what the responsibility, that God is still God. We will never be able to have all the answers or solve all the problems. We each need to be sure that our lives include time to stop and know that He is God and to know that He knows the need and knows the answer.

An Ice Cream Social was held on Saturday, September 9, for all our residents and their families. This was a huge success, enjoyed by all and the weather cooperated, too. Many residents spend their time

OPPORTUNITY TO HELP OUR BRETHREN IN HUNGARY



Beautiful singing of praise to our Lord has been put on 5 tapes by our brethren in Hungary. These new tapes are being offered, with glory and honor given to God, to raise money to publish a new hymn book which will be a combination of our Hymns of Zion and The Gospel Hymns.

Five 60 min. Tapes Available: *Delivery in September 1995*
From European Churches

- 1.) Budapest with guests: Dunavecse, Paks, Nagydorog churches
- 2.) Baja and Ersekcsanak churches
- 3.) Oroshaza with guests: Bekescsaba, Bekessamson churches
- 4.) Dunavecse Childrens Chorus
- 5.) Szeged with guests: Hodmezovasarhely churches

\$10 each or \$45/set, includes shipping, American Funds

"These tapes are made only for glory to God. Our wish that sisters and brothers in the States will listen them also for glory to God."

Elder Bro. Pap Janos

This project is being overseen by Elder Bro. Ben Maibach and Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman along with the Francesville and Detroit churches.

To order, contact the following individuals:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1.) Sis. Dorine Kurkowski
3540 Prairie
Berkley, MI 48072
810/544-2707 | 4.) Bro. Dennis Virkler
Rejoice Records
Ringger Ranch Recording
RR 1 Box 217B
Carlock, IL 61725 |
| 2.) Sis. Holly Barton
35502 Woodfield
Farmington Hills, MI 48331
810/489-1164 | 5.) Sis. Peg Schieler
RR 2 Box 50
Roanoke, IL 61561
309/923-7513 |
| 3.) Sis Harriet Orcsik
2670-5 Meadowbrooke Lane
Windsor, ONT, CANADA N8T2Y4
519/945-9964 | 6.) Bro. Roger Ward
RR 2 Box 74a
Francesville, IN 47946
219/567-2687 |

Send U.S. Funds With Orders

in our Special Olympics program and many enjoy being outdoors, walking and riding bikes on nice days. One of the bigger events each year is the Pumpkin Festival Parade. This year the parade was September 16 and a large group attended. Some were also able to attend the festival and get one of those delicious pork chop sandwiches.

Outdoor swimming weather is over, but in the colder months we are able to use the Eureka College

pool. It doesn't seem possible for our summer to be drawing to a close already.

November Birthdays for all our facilities are as follows: 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 - Rhonda Pullen (4), Keith Weyeneth (4), Marian Funk (20). At LINDEN - Ken Clauss (2), Jane Aberle (14). At 200 HAZEL-

WOOD - Alan Unsicker (15).

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

It's school time again! Everyone is getting back into the routine of studying and learning. It takes a lot of motivation on each student's part to do their best. We encourage them to keep up the good work and effort!

As I observe them in their studies, I am reminded of God's desire for me to learn His truths and to teach them! "And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up." (Deuteronomy 6:6-7). May we encourage each other to be students and teachers of the Word!

Kellie N. has moved into the Schrock home. We welcome her and trust God will help her make the changes necessary to move home again.

Thanks to Bro. Aden Kuenzi (Silverton, OR) for his volunteer service. May God bless you!

After months of progress and delays, the Houseparent Apartment addition to the East House is complete and the Grafts have been able to move in. We are thankful to the many volunteers who helped with the architecture, masonry, painting, finishing, wallpaper and landscape.

Bro. John and Sis. Peggy Jackson of Leo (formerly of Bay City, MI) have been hired as our new Alternate Houseparents. They have a clear calling from God and are ready to serve on our team. With the hiring of John and Peggy, we are now fully staffed for the

first time in several years. God is faithful.

We rejoice with two of our former residents who have recently saw their need to repent before the Holy One. Steve Acosta in the Washington church and Randy Fessenden in the Chicago church have already tasted the Lord's goodness and felt the love of the brethren. We trust God will enable them to be faithful followers and servants.

To all who believe: Press on! "Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good." (Romans 12:21)

**APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN
PRESCHOOL
Athens, Alabama
Tricia Baumgartner**

"Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee."
Isaiah 26:3

It is such a blessing to see how the children can focus their minds on the Lord and keep the world out. While driving to our destination on a recent field trip, one of the children started calling out, "I see the cross that Jesus died on! It's on the floor of your car." I looked at the child, smiled and wondered what she was talking about. After letting her out of the car, I looked to see what made her so excited. The floor mat had a design with a cross on it. What an encouragement to know that our children's minds are stayed on Him!

During the month of September we have been learning about emotions and community helpers. Because of this, we enjoyed a trip to the fire station as well as the police station. The children were able to climb through a police car, hear the sirens, and view a fireman

dressed in all of his gear. God blessed us with perfect weather so we were also able to enjoy a picnic at a nearby park.

We have also been studying the color red and letters A-D. Each week the children memorize a verse beginning with the letter of the week. It is amazing how quickly the children can learn the verses and how long the verses stay with them.

October will be another busy month in our preschool. We will be learning about transportation and music. Orange is our featured color and letters E-H will be studied. Near the end of the month we will be holding our annual fundraiser, the Trike-a-thon. The children will raise money to benefit our Preschool for each lap they ride on their tricycles around a course. The children are already practicing at playtime!

Just one month after moving to Athens, our new teacher, Sis. Tricia Baumgartner (Bro. Keith and Sis. Ruth, Bluffton, IN), made known her engagement to Bro. Dan Tucker (Jerry and Sarah) of Bluffton. "Miss Trish" is moving back to Bluffton during her engagement, and we wish them God's richest blessings. However, after they are married, Bro. Dan and Sis. Tricia feel it is the Lord's will to begin their lives as one in Athens, AL. Since Sis. Tricia is leaving, we will have a substitute teacher in her class for two months. Please be prayerful for this teacher and our school, because the children take a little time to adjust to new situations.

Another matter needing prayer is our semi-annual board meeting to be held the last weekend of October. Faithful brothers from many states will be coming here to make decisions about Preschool. May God give them wisdom to direct us in the Lord's work.

ALABAMA, ATHENS**Pam Moore**

After my five-year-old boy finished his "Now I lay me down to sleep..." prayer the other evening, he asked me to stay with him while he prayed again, praying "Dear God, please don't let me have any cavities at the dentist tomorrow, and please help my jaw to quit hurtin'." I knew he had been worrying about the possibility of having a cavity, because his "jaw was hurtin'", so he took it to the Lord in prayer, fully expecting the Lord to take care of it. If only we had the faith of a little child, even in the smallest of matters.

We have had quite a few hospitalized this past month: Christy Thomas and Sis. Eunice Kelley have had surgery, and Sis. Nancy Sizemore was hospitalized. They all need our prayers of faith. Roy and Christine Barnett need our prayers, as Roy has been ill this past month.

We had our monthly potluck dinner at church on Sunday, September 17. We always enjoy the extra fellowship and food!

We were happy to hear the engagement announced of Sis. Tricia Baumgartner (currently of Athens, AL) and Bro. Dan Tucker (Bluffton, IN). Sis. Tricia recently moved to Athens to teach at the Preschool. We hope and pray that their plans to establish their home in Athens following their marriage will come to pass. They would be a wonderful addition to our fellowship.

As always, we look forward to visitors in Athens. Church services begin at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday and 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday.

Note: Subscription renewals for the Athens church are due in the month of October for the Silver Lining.

ARIZONA, PHOENIX**Ron and Ev Hoerr**

"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 gathered on three Wednesday evenings to listen to the Conference tapes. Praise the Lord and let us give thanks that the Elder Brothers in our faith meet and study to guide and lead us on the road to our Eternal Home. If we can have a no "me-ism" attitude, have humility, contentment, be obedient and be submissive to God Almighty and His Word, we can be filled with the Holy Spirit and our church can be preserved.

Loved ones, it is the duty of everyone to live a better life, not a bitter one.

For some "Do's", Galatians 5:22-23 will guide us.

Cory Langhofer (Bro. Erik and Sis. Cindy) and Steven Dotterer (Bro. John and Sis. Jeanne) have the peace a convert strives for and are growing richer in the blessed assurance while waiting to give their testimony.

Sowing seed for future believers is under way again, as Sunday School has resumed. We ask God's blessings on the children and teachers.

Labor Day weekend was great Christian fellowship, fun and food, as our junior and senior high Sunday School classes went to San Diego. Thank you, San Diego folks and our teachers and spouses for what one lad called "a great time". How fine to hear our youth enjoy a Christ-centered time fellowshiping!

Labor Day weekend brought

Bro. Doyle Frauhiger (Bluffton North, IN) and family as our visiting minister. We are thankful.

The welcome mat is always out but our weather is getting very nice with moderate temperatures. Despite no rain for over 100 days and high temperatures, we enjoyed visitors all summer.

We have received another double blessing this month. Bro. Ray and Sis. Wendy Blunier had a baby boy, Nolan James, on August 29. His sister, Kaylea, and grandparents, Bro. Wilmer and Sis. Sylvia Blunier (Roanoke, IL), also welcome him.

On September 7, Bro. Mark and Sis. Stacey Steffen became first-time parents when little Hannah Christine was born. Happy grandparents are Bro. Robert and Sis. Christine Baum and Bro. Carl and Sis. Myrna Steffen.

The start of the World Relief meetings began on September 15. Sis. Jan Elsasser and Sis. Sophia Huber have materials to make health kits. What a worthy way for a little help to make a big difference.

On September 5, Elder Bro. Jon Kokanovich had graveside services for Sis. Lena Vege. Sis. Lena, 90, had been in a nursing facility for some years. We will remember her as always caring for the sick.

Hospital patients were Floran Klopfenstein and Sis. Esther Harmon.

Note of Thanks:

My parents and I are grateful for God's mercy and your many prayers before, during and after two major surgeries. Thank you, also, for the cards, calls, flowers, food, gifts and a special thanks for spiritual encouragement.

Jim Laukhuf

Bro. Alvin and Sis. Katherine Laukhuf

ARIZONA, PRESCOTT

We have had a goodly number gather for church services all summer. Keep coming!

Thanks to Bro. Bill Dotterer, Bro. James Emch and Bro. Ken Lawson for coming this past month.

ARIZONA, TUCSON

Lisa Knapp

Sis. Lucy Knapp was elected to replace Sis. Emy Streitmatter as teacher to our grade school Sunday School class. We pray the Lord will direct her heart towards the things He would have her to pass on to the children.

Sis. Emy has left us to work in Canada for a short period and then she will be heading back to Illinois. We thank her for her time and efforts here in Tucson. May the Lord richly bless you, Sis. Emy!

We are pleased to welcome two sisters to Tucson: Sis. Keri Baum and Sis. Nicole Baum are both attending the U of A and assembling with us. We are grateful for two more sisters to add to our numbers. Welcome to Tucson!

Our Sunday School Bible Class was very privileged to travel to San Diego, CA for a weekend of fellowship with the Altadena, Phoenix and San Diego Bible Classes. We so appreciate all the efforts made on our behalf by the San Diego people. Everything was done so well and with so much love. A note of thanks, too, to the Phoenix Sunday School for letting us catch a ride on their bus! God bless you all!

Elder Bro. Jon Kokanovich and his wife, Sis. Nancy, were with us for a Sunday service this month. We were down to one minister for a period and Elder Bro. Jon came to offer Bro. Curt some relief. Thank you, Bro. Jon, for your service.

Sis. Martha Blessman is still not assembling with us but I'm sure she is with us in spirit. God bless you, Sis. Martha.

Fall is teasing us; today is September 18 and this morning it was actually cool outside! Our high should be around 90 degrees today.

CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA

Joy Nenadov

"For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness, and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world. These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no man despise thee."

Titus 2:11-12,15

Greetings to all!

As we again had the privilege to listen to the Conference tapes, may we diligently heed the warnings and exhortations brought to us by our beloved Elder Brothers, who with great care and concern for each member of the body of Christ, stirred up our minds by way of remembrance. With clear cut instructions on what we must do to truly be called a "true believer", may our hearts be obedient and submissive to God's Holy Word and to our precious church and brotherhood. We're thankful to have had the opportunity once more to be reminded.

"Building on the Rock - Jesus Christ" was the theme of our Vacation Bible School held on August 25-26. With this being our first one in many years, we're so thankful that everything went smooth. Special thanks to visiting ministering Bro. Doug Wagenbach (Escondido, CA) for having the adult class, to those who so tire-

lessly organized to help revive this special time here in our small congregation, and to all who willingly volunteered their time and efforts to make this all possible. It truly was a blessing to all!

We're happy once again to have June Ringger (Bluffton, IN) back in our midst as she is working as a traveling nurse. Welcome back, June!

"And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."

I Thess. 5:23

CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

Rose Huette

Now In The Days of Youth

Now in the days of youth,
When life flows fresh and free
Thou Lord of all our hearts and
lives,
We give ourselves to Thee
Our fervent gift receive,
And fit us to fulfill,
Through all our days, in all our
ways,
Our heavenly Father's will.

Teach us wherever we live,
To act as in Thy sight
And do what Thou wouldst have
us do,
With radiant delight!
Not choosing what is great,
Nor spurning what is small,
But take as from Thy hands our
tasks,
And glorify them all.

Teach us to love the true,
The beautiful and pure,
And let us not for one short hour
An evil thought endure.
But give us grace to stand,
Decided brave and strong,

The lovers of all holy things,
The foes of all things wrong.

Spirit of Christ,
Do Thou our first bright days
inspire,
That we may live the life
Of love and loftiest desire,
And be by Thee prepared
For larger years to come
And for the life ineffable
Within the Father's home.
Zion's Praises #772

Over Labor Day weekend, the Bible Classes and junior Bible Classes from Tucson, Phoenix and Altadena were here for a wonderful weekend of fellowship, love and instruction. Bro. Fred Witzig (Altadena) gave an inspirational message to all gathered at the park Saturday night where we gathered for a picnic. Thanks to all who came and God's richest blessings upon all of you.

Elder Bro. John Klotzle (Altadena) and his wife, Sis. Lois, spent a Sunday with us recently. We thank them both for coming. Our love and prayers are with them as they are preparing for a trip to India. We wish them and the others accompanying them a safe trip with many blessings. May God go with you and then bring you safely back again.

The Brotherhood Conference tapes are being shared with us Wednesday nights. It is a blessing to be able to hear the kind encouraging words of love and exhortation by our faithful Elder brothers.

Bro. Bill Minger is hospitalized again and will be moved to another nursing home. We miss him and pray that he might grow stronger each day.

Bro. Rory Strahm is doing fairly well following his recent surgery. It was a joy to have him join us for worship services again after a lengthy absence.

ONTARIO, KITCHENER CANADA

Laura Baxter

Greetings in Jesus Christ our Saviour! We have been blessed this past month with many visitors and ministers to share the Word of God with us. We are thankful for Elder Bros. Ben Maibach and Mark Bahr (Detroit, MI) and Bro. Walter Steffen (Milford, IN) for the efforts and sacrifices to be with us.

"For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come."

I Cor. 11:26

How wonderful it was to be able to partake in Holy Communion again and to "show the Lord's death." Sharing Communion with us was Elder Bros. Ben Maibach and Mark Bahr.

"And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away."

Revelation 21:4

Our deepest sympathy goes out to Bro. Jim Baxter, as his mother, Mrs. Marilyn Neeb, passed away recently. Let us remember to pray for him and all those who have lost loved ones.

Bro. David Fortenbacher would like to thank everyone who prayed for him and sent cards after his accident this past spring. He is back to work; thanks to God for His healing powers.

Anyone that would like to visit is always welcome. Please contact Bro. Walter Fortenbacher (519) 699-4133 or Bro. Jim Baxter (519) 699-5081 for directions. A recent change in our schedule has led to

us having a visiting minister the first and third weekends of each month and taped services the other Sundays. We are also meeting for mid-week services on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 p.m.

We are thankful for Bro. Walter and Sis. Margaret Fortenbacher for opening their home to our congregation to have services in for the past several years. Now God has directed us to a small school house in our area to hold services in. We are thankful for His provision.

COLORADO, DENVER Chuck and Naomi Wiegand

Greetings across the many miles! Now that the summer has ended and school is back into full swing, the number of visitors has decreased making our church seem a little bit empty. We really enjoyed all those who came out to spend time in Colorado, especially those who shared the whole summer with us. We once again had to bid farewell to Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Margaret Pflederer (Sarasota, FL) as they ended their annual vacation to Dillon, CO. Lord willing, we will be able to spend time with them again next year.

God be with you till we meet again
Keep love's banner floating o'er
you
Smite death's threat'ning wave
before you
God be with you till we meet again.
Hymns of Zion #216

Bro. Chris and Sis. Barb Johnson have felt God's direction to move to Detroit, MI for temporary employment opportunities. We wish them the Lord's protection and hope they will assemble with us again soon. We bid farewell to Bro. John and Sis. Joleen Elder as they plan to worship with the Winthrop, MN congregation.

Sis. Tina Wackerle has felt God's calling to return home to Bay City, MI. We also would like to say "goodbye" to Jake Wiegand (Dale and Sis. Freidora Wiegand, Eureka, IL) as he leaves this area to move back home to Eureka, IL.

We are saddened by the number of people moving away, but are encouraged by the arrival of Bro. Dean and Sis. Amy Kaisner. They have found employment at a guest ranch and are living in Westcliffe, CO.

These moves have left some vacancies to be filled. Bro. Chuck Wiegand has accepted the responsibilities of World Relief Treasurer-Representative. Bro. Chuck and Sis. Naomi Wiegand have taken on the duties of Silver Lining Correspondent.

We are thankful to have had Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen (Elgin, IL) and Bro. Paul Messner (Winthrop, MN) with us to share the precious Word of God. May God bless them richly for their loving labors.

CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE

Dawn Winans - Peggy Bahler

June 17 was the wedding day of Kristen Zahner (Bro. Dale and Sis. Harriet) and Chris Alexander.

August 19 was the wedding day of Gwen Zahner (Bro. Dale and Sis. Harriet) and Bill Unterstein.

August 20 was the wedding day of Sis. Sara Bahler (Sis. Maxine and the late Bro. Lee) and Bro. Kevin Grasso (Anita Grasso).

September 1 was the wedding day of Suzanne Moser (Bro. James and Sis. Jane) and Jeff Schlinger. May the Lord bless these couples as they begin their lives together as husband and wife.

Bro. Richard Aberle (Altadena, CA) and Bro. Shawn Metzger (Philadelphia, PA) were visiting in our congregation this month. May the Lord bless them for their labor

of love.

We are thankful for our recovering hospital patients. They are Sis. Sue Moser (Chris), Sis. Christine Virkler (Bro. Ken), Sis. Miriam Reutter (Bro. Dean), and Cheryl Farnham (Steve). We wish them God's blessings for a speedy recovery.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

WASHINGTON

Henrietta Meyer

This month we said farewell to Bro. Duane and Sis. Bonnie Rocke. His next assignment is taking them to Wisconsin. They will be worshipping in Minneapolis. Although they have only been with us for six months, they will be missed as they leave.

It seems like we have been saying "Good-bye" often this year. This month we were able to say "Welcome"; actually it is "Welcome Back" to Bro. Barry Steffen from Bluffton. He was here last summer for an internship and has taken a position with the government.

We have been blessed this summer with visitors. Our visiting ministers this month were Bros. Andrew Virkler (Croghan, NY), Doug Grimm (Sabetha, KS) and Jerry Isch (Philadelphia, PA). We thank these brothers and members of their family who traveled with them.

Special thanks to Bro. Jerry and Sis. Linda for coming on short notice. Elder Bro. Aaron Steffen (Alto, MI) was on his way to minister to us when he learned of family illness and accidents. Our prayers are with them and hope they can visit us another time.

Our visitors this month were from Belvidere, IL and Rockville, CT. The hottest part of the year should be over. Fall in this area is usually nice and a lot less crowded. The leaves are already starting to

turn.

Every month I include the directions for finding the hotel (Church) in one of the last paragraphs of my article. More and more people are out here on business and staying downtown, relying on METRO for transportation. We are easily accessible by public transportation. Take the METRO Orange Line to West Falls Church and the 5S bus stops at the hotel. Or call any of us and we will be glad to pick you up at the METRO station; it is only a little over three miles from the hotel.

Services are held the first, third and fourth Sundays of the month at Tysons Westpark Hotel, located about one mile west of the Beltway (I-495) on Route 7. Services are at 10:30 and 12:30. Some from the area meet in the hotel dining room for breakfast at 9:00. If there is an interest expressed by our visitors, we gather Saturday evening for fellowship and/or singing.

For more information, assistance, or just to let us know you are in the area, please call Bro. Matt Fetter (703) 860-5947 or Bro. Ken Martin (703) 444-9085.

FLORIDA, FT. LAUDERDALE

Mary Ann Klaus

We, in South Florida, are very grateful and we praise the Lord for His protection this far into the hurricane season. 1995 has seen many hurricanes and we have escaped with only a very heavy rainy season. Hurricane season officially ends on November 30; may the Lord continue to keep us under the shadow of His wings.

Our annual Sunday School picnic was held on September 10. We do appreciate all the effort that was put into making this picnic a very enjoyable time. Sunday School classes have resumed after a short vacation.

We are thankful to have Bro.

Bill (Sis. Mary Ann) Klaus back worshipping with us after his short stay in the hospital.

FLORIDA, NORTH FT. MYERS
Marvin and Rhea Steffen

We have been spared the destructive forces of many storms and hurricanes this season, and for this we are very thankful.

Bro. Ron Koehl and Sis. Carol came to share the Word with us and we enjoyed their visit and thank them for their faithfulness in doing God's work.

Bro. Dave Eisenmann suffered a mild heart attack recently, and we are all thankful that he has been given a clean bill of health, and that there was no damage.

Bill Heckel had open heart bypass surgery this month and we are all grateful that he is resting and recuperating at home. The Great Healer has guided the hand of the surgeon, and answered many prayers.

We will be having Wednesday night services again starting in October. We have been listening to a tape from the Brotherhood Conference each Sunday afternoon. May we have obedient hearts as we listen.

Note of Thanks:

We want to sincerely thank all of our church family for the cards, love, gifts and their prayers! We certainly felt the prayers during the hours of waiting in the hospital to see what we would have to deal with after Dave's heart attack. It is just a reminder that we are here for only a short time, and it makes us stop and look at what is really important in life; what we do with the time God has given us. It has brought us closer, as a family. We have to ask ourselves what kind of an example we are giving of our stewardship.

With our sincere thanks and

may the blessings of God be with you and yours.

Bro. Dave and Sis. Kaye Eisenmann

FLORIDA, SARASOTA
Vera and Mary Martin

"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."

John 15:13

What a challenge this verse gives us today and what a loving Saviour we are privileged to serve!

If instead of a gem, or even a flower, we should cast the gift of a loving thought into the heart of a friend, that would be giving as the angels give. (As quoted from George Macdonald)

Two loving souls have surrendered their hearts to the Lord and are willing to give all--as the angels gave. Our friends, Courtney and Lindsay Maibach (daughters of Alan Maibach and Sharon Lussier and granddaughters of Elder Bro. Ben and Sis. Lorene Maibach) have made known their desire to walk in the steps of our Saviour.

Not only do we want to thank our local ministers for proclaiming His loving Word to us, but also want to thank Bro. Dave Eisenmann (North Ft. Myers) for his visit and love.

Little Mary Leona was born on September 11 to Bro. Jeff and Sis. Gloria (Streitmatter) Fischer. Brother, Joseph, is very helpful in making Mary a part of their family.

Knowing that love of all gifts is the greatest, we pray that God will bless the tie that binds the union of marriage of Bro. Nathan Sabo (Elder Bro. Douglas and Sis. Linda) to Sis. Sheila Brake (Bro. William and Sis. Miriam) of Sardis, OH on August 27. Bro. Nathan, for the present time, has

moved to Ohio and will be greatly missed in our congregation. We will be looking forward to having them visit us often as the Lord wills.

Bro. Jeff Sabo has also temporarily relocated for employment and will be fellowshipping with the Morris, MN congregation. We miss his presence in our congregation but know his zeal and joy is being shared with other brethren.

It is in loving, not in being loved, that the heart is blest.

It is in giving, not in seeking gifts, we find our quest.

GEORGIA, ATLANTA
Peggy Camp

Once again, our congregation has been blessed with many visitors and we thank each one who took the time to come and worship with us. Visiting ministers this past month were Bros. Allen Stoller (Bluffton, IN), Glenn Price (Sarasota, FL) and Earl Beery (Rittman, OH).

If you are in Atlanta for business or just passing through, please stop in to worship with us. We meet every Sunday at 10:20 at the Renaissance Hotel. The hotel is located on I-85 at the Riverdale Rd., just south of the airport. Please contact Bro. Linn Stoller (404) 631-4554, Bro. John Brewer (404) 502-8629 or Bro. Don Sellers (404) 381-1395 for further information.

ILLINOIS, BELVIDERE
Millie Jepson

Break Thou the bread of life,
Dear Lord to me.
As Thou didst break the loaves
beside the sea;
Beyond the sacred page I seek
thee, Lord;
My spirit pants for thee, O living

Word!

Bless Thou the truth, dear Lord,
To me, to me,
As Thou didst bless the bread by
Galilee;
Then shall all bondage cease, All
fetters fall.
And I shall find my peace, My All
in All.
Hymns of Zion #10

We thank God for the simple plan of salvation, of repentance and faith in Jesus, that has been consistently proclaimed in the Belvidere church. We pray that this message will always be clear and plain, and we will "grow in grace and the knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ" (II Peter 3:18). We surely appreciate all of the visiting ministers: Bros. Tom (Sis. Connie) Schambach, Virgil (Sis. Mary) Metzger and Floyd (Sis. Jan) Frieden have faithfully shared the Living Word with us this last month.

It was so good to have the Elgin and Chicago young groups come to Belvidere on a recent Sunday. Also, on another Sunday, the Bible Classes from Elgin and Chicago came here along with their teachers and their families. We hope that both groups enjoyed their day with us as much as we enjoyed seeing them and hearing them sing.

And "thank you" to all the brothers and sisters from the various churches who visited us this month. There were many from Eureka and Chicago because of the remodeling in their churches. We also were privileged to have Bro. Harold and Sis. Mick Hodel from Eureka here with all their family celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary. They all stayed in Rockford and included Belvidere church in their weekend plans. We apologize to Sis. Mick for the milk pitcher accident. The incident didn't dampen her spirits---

she went on with the day beaming!

Sis. Wendy Schambach has lived and worked in Rockford for six years and has now taken a position as a traveling nurse. She is moving to Tampa, FL for her first seventeen week assignment. Sis. Wendy will really be missed in this area and we pray that God will bless her and use her special skills for His glory.

"Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee."
Isaiah 26:3

**ILLINOIS,
BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL**

Janice Horner - Debbie Grieco

A church cookout was held at Comlara Park on August 25 where everyone participated in singing hymns around the campfire. Bro. Nathan Lehman gave a special talk on "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." Thanks to everyone who made this event such a blessing.

On September 6, Bro. Perry Klopfenstein (Gridley, IL) gave a special Bible Study on relationships between parents and children. We, as parents, can make a big difference in our children's lives and make the world better if we have zeal and sincerity. Our first goal is for our children to spend eternity in Heaven. This is very serious because eternity is sobering. What can we do? We can create a spiritual awareness and continue to build ties. We can tell our children we will be broken-hearted if they do not turn to the Lord; and if they violate Scripture, we should take a stand. Complimenting them and trying to develop their God-given talents is very essential. Being courteous, listening to them, appreciating them and spending time with them are all very important. We

should also let them know what we expect from them because people usually gravitate to the level of expectation. Thank you, Bro. Perry, for allowing the Lord to work through you.

"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it."
Proverbs 22:6

A dear couple, Bro. Stan and Sis. Verna Hodel, observed their 50th wedding anniversary September 10 at the Roanoke Fellowship Hall. May God continue to bless them while they sojourn here on earth.

We extend our sympathy to Bro. Ron and Sis. Donna Hodel on the death of Sis. Donna's mother, Evelyn Green, who lived in Quincy, IL. May their family look to the Lord for comfort and strength in this time of sorrow.

We had the blessed opportunity to witness the testimony and baptism of a dear soul, Sis. Tonei Knapp (Stan Knapp), on September 16 and 17. What a blessing it is to greet Sis. Tonei as a sister in Christ. May she continue to trust God and let Him be Lord of her life.

"Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord;"

Acts 3:19

ILLINOIS, BRADFORD

Brad & Cheryl Kupferschmid
I notice the farmers are again gathering in their crops as fall quickly approaches. I also notice that there are some weeds that have escaped the cultivating and spraying of this year. Fortunately, the combine seems to have little trouble separating the good grain from the "tares". It reminds me of the parable in Matthew 13:24-30.

It says that a "man sowed good seed in his field" but an "enemy came and sowed tares". Then the householder decided, "Let them both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn." "But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night" (II Peter 3:10), so let us always be ready, brethren.

Kevin and Marina Endress were blessed with the birth of a daughter, Eden Violet, on August 16. She joins her sister, Taylor, at home. Grandparents are Bro. Jordan and Sis. Sharon Elsasser and Jerry and Caroline Endress (Wyoming).

Keri Hausmann recently announced her engagement to Randy Kennedy and they plan to wed in November. Parents are Bro. Alfred and Sis. Verla Hausmann and Mr. and Mrs. George Kennedy and Mr. Ken Williams (Springfield).

Troy Pyles and Heather Elsasser were married on September 16. Their parents are Bro. Dennis and Sis. Becky Pyles and Bro. Jordan and Sis. Sharon Elsasser. We pray that God will bless them and their families as they begin their marriage.

Our visiting ministers this month were Bros. Bruce Hohulin (Goodfield, IL) and Gary Brown (Forrest, IL). We thank them for being with us, and we appreciate all our ministers allowing God's Holy Spirit to teach us through them.

ILLINOIS, CHAMPAIGN

Samuel and Pamela Furrer

Our academic year resumed on Sunday, August 20. Students from 22 of our congregations have begun or returned to school at Parkland College in Champaign or

the University of Illinois in Urbana. Many of these students and their families spent the day with us at church, then shared in our annual New Student Picnic in the afternoon. This is always a wonderful experience of meeting new and old friends, eating too much picnic food, and shooing away some of God's little bugs who think our food looks more tasty than their fare of tree leaves. This year's crop of students makes its way from as far away as Altadena, CA to as close as two of our local church's young men who chose to stay close to home for the college years. We welcome every one and hope they make our church their home on a regular basis. It's hard for me to believe that it has been sixteen years since we attended our first New Student Picnic as entering freshmen at Parkland College and the U of I. Little did we know then of God's plan that I would become a Christian, we would marry, graduate, find jobs locally, and become "permanent". It would be something to be thankful for if some of our present students would also make that transition from students to permanent residents.

Just as those years have passed for us, they have passed for the young children in our congregation. When we walked our 3 1/2 year old son into Sunday School for his first day as a student, it took me back as I said "good morning" to Neil Banwart, who was beginning his senior year in Sunday School. Not too many years ago, when we first attended church in Urbana, this now nearly-grown young man was himself a child younger than our Joel. Each of our children have a marvelous opportunity to spend time with others their age in Sunday School and hear accounts from the Bible. As this new year begins for our Sunday School, we pray for Godly wis-

dom, direction, and patience for our teachers and for attentiveness, willingness, and understanding for our children of all ages.

Looking around our church, it is apparent that our baby rooms will be enjoying a new crop of little ones who will quickly grow to Sunday School and college age. One of these additions to our congregation is Haley Sue Plattner. On August 25, Haley made her debut into the Darren and Sue (Heinold) Plattner family. Caleb is Haley's very excited "big" brother. Welcome, Haley.

Bro. Bob and Sis. Wilma Simpson reached a milestone in their lives as parents, as their daughter, Leigh, married Steve Schamp on September 9. Theirs was a very beautiful wedding day, and we wish them an even more beautiful life together sharing in God's blessings. They will be making their home near Detroit, MI.

Among our visitors this past month were ministering Bros. Marshall Heinold (Washington, IL), Greg Rassi (Chicago, IL) and Jaye Rinkenberger (Goodfield, IL). Thanks goes out to these brothers and all of our visitors over the past month.

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO

Kathy Schlatter

A brother recently mentioned that we would, if we could, put our children in whatever place they needed to be if that would guarantee their eternal salvation. Of course, he said, he knew of no such place--but that church was the next best place--and it exists.

We have a new sister-in-faith, Sis. Caesy O'Shea (Bro. Tom and Sis. Jean). Amidst our own church building construction, August 19 and 20 we celebrated the addition of Sis. Caesy to our church family, as it, too, is built brick by brick, to enlarge and to strengthen each

one---His Bride. Our love and prayers follow Sis. Caesy to ISU, wishing her all grace and continuing growing faith. Elder Bro. Don Sauder and Bro. Jim Lemman (Grandpa), Roanoke, IL and Bro. Dennis Kaufmann (Bloomington, IL) contributed much to our weekend, for His Spirit and power were made manifest as they relied on Him, ministering to us.

We welcome you to come to Chicago as a visitor or as a resident. Some already believe us, and we are delighted. Bro. Chris and Sis. Dana Lemman plan to be with us a year as he studies mortuary science. They are living in Melrose Park. Bro. Bob Waibel has joined us and lives in Darien. Andrea Niehouser (Francesville, IN) is living downtown and works for a law firm. Alan and Katie Schafer have moved to the Hyde Park area of Chicago. He plans to pursue a law degree through the University of Chicago and Katie plans to teach. Also returning is Bro. Dave Wegman, this time with his wife, Sis. Karen, and son, Bryce. He is a pharmacist, pursuing a related specialty internship. Each loved one will be a blessing to us, we know. We pray that we as a church family may be a blessing to each of them.

"For the Lord God is a sun and shield: the Lord will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly."

Psalm 84:11

Bro. Tom Schambach (Elgin, IL) came to our annual Sunday School teachers' and ministers' meeting. He spoke to us in gentle tones, and, besides the Word, shared some memories. We are overwhelmed by the wealth of positive spiritual memories with which we have been blessed. As he exhorted us by the Spirit, may we

be instruments used to create such memories for our children.

Ring the bells of heaven! there is joy today,
For a soul returning from the wild;
See! the Father meets him out upon the way,
Welcoming His weary, wand'ring child.

Tabernacle Hymns #202

Randy Fessenden has seen his need for a Saviour and come with a humble heart and bended knee in repentance. We want to express all love and prayers and support for him, that his spiritual house be built on the Rock so that it may stand fast.

I waited too long to send Bro. Morris Stedman a second batch of chocolate chip cookies. However, he has no need now--he has Heaven. Though he and Sis. Verna have spent recent years in Francesville, IN at Parkview Haven, we still count them as "old" Chicago. The "old" is quite affectionate; Bro. Morris was always a young man at heart, a courtly gentleman. He used to drive a taxicab through our streets. In church, his ready smile and special warmth (especially for fellow left-handers like me) were a trademark, a reason that when he left us before, he was gone but not forgotten, and so it is now. Our tears, our prayers, our love and sympathy are with Sis. Verna, to whom he was a tremendously helpful, patient and loving husband. We also extend our love and sympathy to Mabelle Welk, a well-loved niece, who has lost several other relatives in recent months. Bro. Morris' sight became increasingly dim, but now it is restored. We sorrow with those who sorrow, yet we rejoice in his victory in the Lord!

The purring of our cat has such a heartening sound. It tells us she

is happy and contented, pleased to be around us and appreciative of being petted, fed and sheltered. What is the Lord hearing from me day by day, moment by moment? I am His because He died for me, called me, forgave me, and changed me then through now. May I be more "purr"fect in praise! My reason for being is to reflect His glory, so let me "rejoice evermore." (*I Thess. 5:16*)

The Lord will come, and He is near
To meet His own with gladness.
O that His vision would appear;
Great joy would banish sadness.
If now today in majesty
We'd see Him come, then surely we
Would weep for joy and gladness!

Zion's Harp #56

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK

Anna Marie Reutter

Joyce Bauer

Bro. Rick and Sis. Rachel Meyer have moved to Champaign where both will be attending college this fall. Bro. Rick had taught math at the Cissna Park High School the past five years. We will miss them.

August 20 was an exciting day for Bro. David Maul and Sis. Vickie Kaufmann as they were united in marriage. They will be living near Paxton. Parents of the couple are Bro. Fred and Sis. Joan Maul and Bro. Sid and Sis. Sandy Kaufmann.

The weekend of August 27 was indeed a blessed one for all as we heard the testimonies of Octavio Martinez and Cristela Martinez and witnessed their baptisms on Sunday. What a renewal it is for us all as we "experience" the conversion process with each new convert.

Our congratulations are extended to Bro. Les and Sis. Dorothy Walder as they celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary on August 28. May God bless them

with many more years together.

September 3 was the wedding day for Kellie Drayer and Kenie Rittenhouse at Secor, IL. Kellie is the daughter of Bill and Judie Drayer. We wish God's blessing on this couple as they begin their new life together.

In the week prior to September 10, the Sunday School students were busy making preparations for their annual Senior Citizens dinner. The report from those attending was that the food was good, the program was nice, and the evening was enjoyed by both old and young alike.

This past month we have been blessed with the following visiting ministers: Elder Bros. Dave Wiegand (Champaign, IL) and Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL), and Bros. Lennie Meyer (Chicago, IL) and Ron Schambach (Elgin, IL). We truly thank each one for ministering to us.

On Saturday, September 16, Bro. Eldon and Sis. Melba Steffen held a reception in their home for their son, Dean, and his wife, Shirley, of Florida, in honor of their recent marriage. May God's blessings be with this couple.

Sis. Bonnie Young had been hospitalized a short time with pneumonia. Bro. Melvin Stock underwent a number of tests at the hospital after being confined to his home with a back ailment. We are glad that both could return home again and trust God's healing touch will be on both.

Note of Thanks:

We extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to all who sent cards for our 40th wedding anniversary. Thank you and may God bless you.

Bro. Les and Sis. Dorothy Walder

**Arlene Banwart
Linda Knobloch**

"...Christ is preached; and I therein do rejoice, yea, and will rejoice."

Phil. 1:18

We have been given the opportunity to listen to the tapes of the Brotherhood Conference. May we, by God's grace, heed the encouragement and warnings. After all Christ has done for us, it is really only our reasonable service.

On August 20, Sis. Kristi Ifft and Bro. Lance Knobloch were united in marriage. Parents are Bro. Larry and Sis. Shirley Ifft (Forrest, IL) and Bro. Ezra and Sis. Marie Knobloch (Lester, IA).

Visiting ministers who were with us this past month were Bros. Greg Stoller (Forrest, IL), Dale Moore (Elgin, IA), Myron Knobloch (Lester, IA), Jim Plattner (Princeville, IL) and Clarence Dietrich (Silverton, OR).

Our congregation has three new baby girls. On August 17, Jill Marie was born to Bro. Brent and Sis. Kay Stoller. She has two brothers, Daniel and Derek. Grandparents are Elder Bro. Joe and Sis. Emily Stoller (Princeville, IL) and Bro. Keith and Sis. Pauline Roth.

On August 24, Bro. Larry and Sis. Marilyn Wettstein, Janel, Rex and Ross welcomed Lana Beth into their hearts and home. Sis. Verna Wettstein (late Bro. Robert, Eureka, IL) and Bro. Duane and Sis. Lois Steffen are her grandparents.

Miriam Joy Hoerr was born September 12 to Bro. Max and Sis. Suzanne Hoerr. Siblings, Sarah, Rebekah, Rose, Martha, Andrew and Rachel, along with her grandparents, Bro. Max and Sis. Katie Hoerr (Peoria, IL) and Bro. Gene and Sis. Velma Lehman (Wolcott, IN) are thankful for another pre-

cius blessing.

As we enter the harvest season in the earthly and material way, let us be reminded that God is looking for fruit in our lives in a spiritual way.

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law."

Gal. 5:22-23

**ILLINOIS, ELGIN
Renee Anliker
Debbie Sauder**

"Anywhere with Jesus over land or sea;

Telling souls in darkness of salvation free;"

Hymns of Zion #179

We are thankful our dear Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen has been brought home safely after his travel overseas. May we ever be willing to follow Jesus wherever He may lead believing that anywhere with Jesus we can safely go.

Our congregation is now in the middle of the Conference tapes. It is so beneficial to sit and hear the Word inspired by our Almighty God. May we each strive to become a true believer in all aspects.

We wish to thank Elder Bro. Andy Virkler (Bay City, MI) and Bro. Marvin Schmidgall (Eureka, IL) for their willing service of ministering unto us. We pray that the Lord will ever strengthen His brethren that each may be of service to Him.

Grant Schrock (Bro. Melvin and Sis. Ada Mae) and Jan Ogden (Jerry and Jody, Elgin) were united in marriage September 9. May the Lord's blessings be rich in their lives.

Several from our congregation have been hospitalized recently:

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE

Sis. Lucile Knupper, Sis. Ada Mae (Bro. Melvin) Schrock, Sis. Joyce (Bro. Paul) Weiss and Bro. Frank (Sis. Lois) Schock. It is such a comfort to know the Lord will not ask more of us than we can bear. May we each help bear each other's burdens.

The start of another school year has drawn three individuals to our congregation. We welcome Sis. Carol Sauder (Tremont, IL) who is at Northern Illinois University, and Bro. Gabriel and Sis. Rachel Clough (Philadelphia, PA) who are at Waubonsie Community College. What a blessed opportunity we have to travel across the land and find brethren of like mind and faith. May we each do our part to uphold the faith.

Bro. Art and Sis. Alma Schmidt have reached a milestone in their lives. They recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with an open house. We are thankful for family and friends who came to be with them.

Note of Thanks:

We gratefully thank each and every one for their deeds of kindness, your love, and cards and letters. Your cards and letters have certainly made our 50th anniversary a real joy. May God bless each of you.

With love, Bro. Art and Sis. Alma Schmidt

ILLINOIS, EUREKA
Dori Blunier

With songs and honors sounding
loud,
Address the Lord on high;
Over the heavens He spreads His
cloud,
And waters veil the sky.
He sends His showers of blessing
down
To cheer the plains below;
He makes the grass the mountains

crown,
And corn in valleys grow.
Hymns of Zion #283

What a pleasant month of September we have had so far. It was such a welcome relief from the heat and humidity of July and August. As the harvest is about to begin in our area, the farmers are certainly wondering what the end result will be. Even if they have been diligent, it is the Lord who makes the corn grow and prosper. May we always recognize the true source of our blessings even if to us it is not apparent that it is a blessing.

We have been truly blessed with a beautiful addition to our church which we are now enjoying. We want to say a very special thank you to all who have contributed to this building project. We especially thank our trustees, the building committee, finance committee, kitchen committee, and baby room committee. We know you put in countless hours of labor and prayer to help complete this project. We also want to thank everyone who volunteered their time and donations of money from our congregation and neighboring congregations. Lord willing, this addition will be used and appreciated for many years to come.

Our prayers and concern go out to Sis. Tami Vierling (Bro. Eric), as she is confined to bed for several months. May God give her strength and patience during this time.

We would like to welcome Bro. Harold and Sis. Ethel Schmidgall who have recently moved to Eureka from Gridley, IL.

As a congregation, we bid farewell to Sis. Claribel Anliker who is moving to Rittman, OH. Sis. Claribel will be moving to a duplex next to the Rittman church. Her new address is 10710 Steiner Rd, Apt 19, Rittman, OH 44270. We

have appreciated Sis. Claribel assembling with us in recent years, and will miss her very much. May God bless her in this transition in her life, and we certainly welcome her to come back and visit often.

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

Numbers 6:24-26

Note of Thanks:

Our sincere thanks for the beautiful cards and gifts we received for our 50th anniversary. God's blessing.

Bro. Harold and Sis. Mick Hodel

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY
Sally Fehr - Thelma Slagel

"Let brotherly love continue. Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever."

Hebrews 13:1 & 8

We have devoted four Wednesday evenings to listen to the Conference tapes. It was a blessing to hear our dear Elders speak of their love and concern for their flocks.

"He that refuseth instruction despiseth his own soul: but he that heareth reproof getteth understanding."

Proverbs 15:32

A special thank you to our visiting ministers this month. They were the following: Bros. Nelson Beer (Milford, IN), Gary Brown (Forrest, IL), Sid Kaufmann (Cissna Park, IL), Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL) and Jim Kaeb (Bern, KS).

"...there is joy in the presence of

the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth."

Luke 15:10

Clara Bender (Marvin) has made a beginning with Christ in repentance. We wish her grace and strength from the Lord.

Courtney Jane was born September 2 to first-time parents, Bro. Jason and Sis. Joy Kilgus. Bro. Dennis and Sis. Jane Steidinger and Bro. Duane and Sis. Arlene Kilgus are the happy grandparents. Great-grandmothers are Sis. Ollie Steidinger, Sis. Carolyn Fehr, Sis. Marie Kilgus, and Emma Werner (Salem, OR).

Perry, Becky and Jacob Biggestaff (Clinton) have welcomed Rachel Diane into their home. May God bless these families.

Bro. Todd Fehr (Bro. Warren and Sis. Shirley) was united in Holy Matrimony to Sis. Cynthia Edelman (Bro. Fred and Sis. JoAnn, Bern, KS) on August 27. A wedding reception was held at Fairbury on September 10. We welcome Sis. Cynthia to our congregation.

Bro. John V. Fehr is hospitalized and we miss him and his dear wife, Sis. Katherine, in assembling with us. May God comfort him in his affliction.

We are thankful that Eunice Stork (John) is well again.

Note of Thanks:

We wish to thank everyone for their prayers, visits in the hospital and at home. A special thank you to the Sunshine group for the food and flowers. God bless all of you.

Ben and Kathryn Kaisner

ILLINOIS, FORREST

Marlene Walter

Mary Bachtold

We are always thankful for ministering brothers who so willingly share God's Word with us. Visit-

ing us were Elder Bros. Joe Braker (Morton, IL) and Art Bahler (Fairbury, IL), and Bros. Elmer Schmidt (Winthrop, MN), Dean Steffen (Belvidere, IL), Virgil Metzger (Chicago, IL), Brian Waibel (Champaign, IL), Dale Stoller and John Hartman (Fairbury, IL). May God richly bless them.

We were uplifted the evening of September 16, as we could sit and listen to the testimony of Daren Metz (Bro. Gene and Sis. Carol). He shared with us how God has called him from sinful darkness into His wonderful light and on Sunday we welcomed him as our new brother in faith. We wish him God's grace and guidance as he returns to school in Texas.

Travor Vincent was born August 25 to Mark and Amy Shackley of Wichita, KS. Welcoming him are his big sister, Chandra, and grandparents, Vince and Rosemary Shackley (Plant City, FL) and Bro. Nick and Sis. Jean Ricketts.

Sis. Lydia Sohn has spent time in the hospital this month. We are thankful she has been able to return home and pray that God will continue to tenderly care for her.

May God grant Bro. Keith Edelman much grace and wisdom as he has been chosen to teach our Sunday School children. Bro. Keith will replace Bro. Mike Zimmerman who will complete his term at the end of this year. We thank Bro. Mike for his willing service and know that God will bless him.

Note of Thanks:

I wish to thank everyone that sent me cards and gifts of money for my 80th birthday. God bless you all!

Sis. Dorothy Bachtold

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD

Barb Brim

"Let, I pray thee, thy merciful kindness be for my comfort, according to thy word unto thy servant. Let thy tender mercies come unto me, that I may live: for thy law is my delight." These words of the psalmist, having endured thousands of years, are still meaningful and relevant to our lives today. The Goodfield congregation has been mightily blessed by the recovery of several sisters and brothers who can surely find comfort and peace in our Lord's merciful kindness. We are so happy to report that Gina Kloter (Bro. Kent and Sis. Janell), Ray Roth (Sis. Corrine), Sis. Verla Wiegand (Bro. Dan), and Bro. Howard Zobrist are all home from the hospital and on the road to recovery through our Lord's grace and favor. Our prayers and wishes of well-being are extended to them and also to Sis. Margaret Newlin, a dear elder sister living at the Eureka Home who has been struggling with ill health for a time and would surely appreciate our prayerful intercession on her behalf. Our hearts are also with Sis. Sandy Hohulin (Bro. Sam) as she undergoes surgery. We pray the outcome will be successful and her recovery swift. May the Lord God Almighty keep these dear souls in the palm of His hand through this time of trial. We love you all.

We were saddened by the departure of Bro. Doug and Sis. Jenny Hart this month. Indianapolis is their new home and we wish them all the best of God's blessings on this transition in their lives. We will miss you both and hope you come "home" often.

Many thanks to our visiting ministers and their wives. Thank you, Bros. Brian Huber (Sis. Jacki, Francesville, IN), and Jim Rinkenberger (Sis. Jeanne, Bluffton, IN) and Elder Bro. Ervin Knecht (Sis. Sandra, Eureka, IL) for sharing in

the Lord's blessings with us.

Note of Thanks:

We wish to thank everyone for the prayers and kind expressions of sympathy extended during the illness and passing of our father. May God bless you all.

The family of Louis Bauman

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY

Perry A. Klopfenstein

On Sunday morning, September 17, we sang a few verses from "The Journey to Zion" (Zion's Harp, #185). It depicted very vividly the peril and risk we face on the narrow way of Christ. We sang three out of the sixteen verses included in the hymn. When we completed the verses, I glanced across to verses seven and eight, and was amazed at the author's description of the believer's pathway. I sometimes wonder if we realize the depth and sincerity---and the martyr tone---of our Zion's Harp lyrics.

We must not pause to dally
With child's play by the way!
Our powers we must rally;
Sloth follows on delay.
Pay no attention here.
On then! All ease now spurning,
Away from vain thoughts turning,
For danger's always near!

(verse 7)

And be the path quite narrow,
So lonesome, steep, and bent,
Though thorns be without
number,
And many crosses sent,
Yet there is but one way!
Let us but journey onward;
Attend our Leader homeward,
Through darkness unto day.

(verse 8)

With the social and ethical decline in our nation, and the attendant wrath caused by a growing

ungodliness, these lyrics indeed are not too serious; neither do they exaggerate the peril we face on a day to day basis!

Verses 15 and 16 present a positive invitation to continue on---and to strive for that heavenly eternity:

Come, let us journey gladly!
Day follows after day;
The way grows shorter daily;
The flesh soon proves but clay.
With courage and more love
To be a little truer,
Of earthly matters freer,
And turned to things above!

Then journey on reliant;
The goal is well worthwhile.
Of all things be defiant
That hinder or beguile!
Earth, thou art small indeed:
With Christ Himself to guide us,
Eternity shall hide us;
For Christ is all we need!

We are enjoying the Conference tapes each Wednesday evening. As these are presented across the churches, it stirs up a binding sense of likemindedness.

Bro. Marvin Stieglitz (Leo, IN) was a visiting minister on Sunday, August 27. Years ago, his parents moved from Gridley to Leo, IN.

ILLINOIS, MORTON

Phyllis Farney

Cheryl Wuthrich

Sis. Clara Grimm was called Home on August 16. May God bless and comfort her sister, Sis. Elsie Sinn (Tremont, IL); her nieces and nephews; and her many other relatives and friends.

Margaret Grimm died September 4. Our sympathy and prayers are with her two sons, Jerry and Mike. They will miss their mother, as the three of them offered mutual support and encouragement for one another.

It was Morton's privilege to host the Men's Combined Choir on August 26 and 27 as brothers from across the land gathered to sing praises to our Lord. It is a weekend that generated many precious memories.

We wish to thank Bros. Ron Heiniger (Bloomington-Normal, IL), Paul Gasser (Akron, OH), John Stoller (Leo, IN), Greg Gramm (Phoenix, AZ) and Floyd Frieden (Elgin, IA) for ministering God's Holy Word to us this month. May the Lord bless them for their labors of love.

Notes of Thanks:

Sis. Ann Eberhardt wishes to thank everyone for their prayers, visits, cards and gifts of love while in the hospital and since coming home. May God bless all who were so kind.

Bro. Russ and Sis. Alvina Zimmerman wish to thank everyone for remembering them with prayers, visits, cards and gifts of love. May God richly bless you all.

ILLINOIS, PEORIA

Cara Nussbaum

I don't know about you, but I am always thrilled when the air turns cooler. After a very warm, dry, midwest summer, it is such a blessing to experience comfortable temperatures once again. As summer turns into fall, it prepares us for the winter to come. It reminds me of the following verses:

"To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: ...a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted..."

Eccles. 3:1-2

It's wonderful to know that our great God has everything perfectly orchestrated; not only the seasons,

but our lives as well. Sometimes it's hard to remember that He is fully in control. May we each strive to give Him the glory and honor that He deserves and praise Him in all things.

We want to extend our thanks to our visiting ministers in the last month. They are Bros. Tom Hoffman (Roanoke, IL), John Steiner (Oakville, IA), Virgil Metzger (Chicago, IL) and Jim Plattner (Princeville, IL). May God bless each of you for your efforts.

Those hospitalized recently were Bro. Walt Geyer, Bro. Bud Fehr, Bro. Chris Feucht, Simon Traub, Sis. Martha Huber, Sis. Louise Koehl, Bro. Ernie Schneider, and Rebecca Moser (daughter of Bro. Matt and Sis. Aimee). We pray that each of them has felt God's healing hand upon them. We especially want to remember little Rebecca who is battling leukemia.

Note of Thanks:

Thanks so much for the cards, gifts and prayers while I was hospitalized recently.

Bro. Ernest Schneider

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE
Joanna Herrmann

"Put ye in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe:...Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision: for the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision."

Joel 3:13,14

With thankful hearts, we begin another harvest season. We want to remember our brethren in our prayers, that God would be near them and keep them safe.

We are thankful that once again souls are answering God's call to repentance. Tiffany Wieland (Bro. Bob and Sis. Nancy) has made the decision to forsake the

pleasures of this world and follow the way of the Cross. Our prayer would be that many more would make that decision.

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

Isaiah 54:13

How thankful we are for parents who taught us the plan of salvation. We have had three new births this past month, and we pray God will help them to be wise, God-fearing parents. Jordan Andrew was born to Bro. Mark and Sis. Stephanie Rumbold on August 28. Jordan has older siblings, Jonathan, Jessica and Jacob. Grandparents are Bro. Elwin and Sis. Loretta Rumbold of Bradford, and John and Connie Francis of Wyoming.

Rhea Gail was born September 9 to Bro. David and Sis. Leann Berchtold. She was welcomed home by older sister, Lynell, and grandparents, Bro. Lavern and Sis. Joan Berchtold and Bro. Larry and Sis. Becky Endress of Bradford.

Mitchell Elmer was born to Bro. Mike and Sis. Julie Martin on September 14. He was welcomed home by older brother, Beau, and grandparents, Sis. Janet Martin (the late Bro. Elmer) and Bro. Kenny and Sis. Donna Gehrig.

Our hospital patients this month were Sis. Anna Stahl, Bro. Leonard Menold (Sis. Marie), and Bro. Ezra Rumbold (Sis. Lucille). May they feel God's comforting presence and healing hand, according to His will.

Note of Thanks:

Thanks so much for the love, prayers, and many deeds of kindness you extended to our family during the passing of our loved one, Steve Elsasser. May God bless each one of you and keep you

in His care always.

The John Elsasser Family

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

Jana Gastman - Annie Leman

We once again have reason to rejoice as two dear souls have turned from the world. Jill Hodel (Bro. Ken and Sis. Kathy) and Jim Ott (Lorna Getz Ott) have given their lives to the Lord. We wish them much needed grace to walk close to Him.

Jim and Lorna Ott have another reason to rejoice. They are new parents of a baby boy. Dakota James was born on September 14. Adam and Shelby welcome Dakota home along with grandparents, Bro. Merlyn and Sis. Jan Getz and Bro. Don and Sis. Carolyn Ott (Goodfield, IL).

Bro. Rich and Sis. Helen Zimmerman are first-time great-grandparents and their daughter, Sue, and Mike Aberle, of Cashton, WI are first-time grandparents. Mike and Sue's daughter, Ginni, and her husband, David Busche, had a girl, Trinity Joy, born August 12.

Our Bro. Jeff Hodel has announced his engagement to Sis. Jennifer Reimschisel from Wichita, KS. Parents of the couple are Bro. Max and Sis. Judy Reimschisel and Bro. Ken and Sis. Kathy Hodel. They are planning a spring wedding. May God bless them as they walk with Him together.

We thank our visiting ministers for sharing God's Word with us. They were Elder Bros. Wes Knapp (Goodfield, IL), Everett Hari (Bloomington, IL), and Andy Stoller (Smithville, OH), and Bros. Loren Knapp (Tucson, AZ), Kent Heimer (Taylor, MO), Paul Gasser (Akron, OH), Will Schieler (Milford, IN), Carl Wyss and Don Wagenbach (Washington, IL) and Ted Hirstein (Morton, IL).

Bro. Jon Zeller (Morton, IL) had our topical Bible Study this month. His topic was the Shepherd and the sheep. He reminded us that we as sheep need to stay close to the Shepherd and be thankful for His gentle prompting and care. We appreciate the time and effort that Bro. Jon put into the Bible Study to give us a deeper appreciation of our faith.

Our congregation has been deeply touched this month in the passing of several of our loved ones. Our prayers are with the many loved ones left behind. May God bless and fill the void left in their hearts.

Our Sis. Emma Blunier passed away on August 19. She is survived by her husband, Bro. Harold; two sons, Wayne (Roanoke) and Bro. Melvin (Congerville); one daughter, Marilyn; and one brother, Bro. Melvin Rocke (both of Roanoke).

Sam Minger passed away on August 25. He is survived by his wife, LaRae; one son, Daniel; two daughters, Shellie and Jeanie (all of Eureka); six grandchildren; one brother, Michael (Eureka); and five sisters, Sis. Anna Leman and Sis. Ruth (Bro. Warren) Hodel of our congregation, Mrs. Ronald (Ellen) Ulrich (Eureka), Mrs. Richard (Margaret) Weber (Morton), and Mrs. Martin (Rachel) O'Malley (Chicago).

Our Bro. Lynn Fischer passed away on August 31. His parents are Bro. Jerry and Sis. Marge Fischer. He is also survived by two brothers, Bro. Keith and Bro. Kevin, both of Roanoke, and three sisters, Cheryl Fischer, Sis. Crystal Getz and Sis. Lavonne McLaughlin, all who worship with us.

Our Sis. Velma Leman passed away on September 6. She is survived by her husband, Bro. Walt; two sons, Marcus (Denver) and Wayne; and one daughter, Sis. Denise (Bro. Curt) Knepp, of

Roanoke; three brothers, Harvey Hartter (Carlock), and Arthur and Eli (Sabetha, KS); three sisters, Sis. Ione Rokey (Roanoke), Elda Mae Craig (Congerville), and Sis. Luella Zimmerman (Bloomington).

We also extend our sympathy to our Bro. Duane Schroeder in the passing of his brother, Donald, who passed away August 26.

Our hospital patients this month were: Sis. Patty (Bro. Marty) Rebbec, Bro. Harold Blunier, Sis. Fannie Zimmerman, Sam Bradle, Sis. Ruth Scherer and Sis. Mabel (Bro. Dick) Getz. May God grant His grace and strength to endure the trials we are called on to bear and return to health where He sees fit.

Our Sis. Brenda Hartter and Bro. Chad Martin (Washington, IL) were united in marriage on September 17. Parents of the couple are Bro. Bob and Sis. Chris Hartter and Bro. Harvey and Sis. Sharon Martin (Washington). May God bless Bro. Chad and Sis. Brenda's union with peace and love as only He can. We wish for them many happy years together.

Card of Thanks:

We wish to express our sincere thanks and appreciation to everyone who remembered us with cards, kind expressions of love and sympathy, and prayers at the time of Emma's death. We were overwhelmed by the love shown to help ease our loss. May God bless each one of you.

Harold Blunier

Wayne and Marjorie Blunier

Mel and Marilyn Blunier

Bob and Marilyn Ott

Keith and Ida Kellenberger

ILLINOIS, TREMONT Barb Dill - Barb Kaeb

As we are again in the harvest time of the year, let us remember,

"As it is written, He that had gathered much had nothing over; and he that had gathered little had no lack." (II Corinthians 8:15).

Our visiting ministers this past month have been Elder Bros. Wayne Anliker (Forrest, IL) and Ervin Knecht (Eureka, IL), and Bros. Dale Frank (Oakville, IA), Greg Rassi (Chicago, IL), Dennis Rassi (Fairbury, IL), Ted Witzig and Jon Zeller (Morton, IL), Ed Fritz and Don Wagenbach (Washington, IL), Steve Martin and Marvin Schmidgall (Eureka, IL). We thank these brothers for their willingness to proclaim God's Word to us and pray they will visit us again.

Our sympathy goes out to Sis. Elsie Sinn in the death of her sister, Sis. Clara Grimm (Morton, IL). May God grant comfort and strength to Sis. Elsie and her family.

Hospital patients this month have been Sis. June (Bro. Curt) Zuercher, Sis. Ruth Frank, Curt (Pat) Musselman, Bro. Fred Beutel, and Jason Hoerr (Sis. Jean Hoerr and Bro. Brad Hoerr). May God grant these dear ones His help and grace in their time of need.

"Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

Matthew 11:28

How thankful we are to have souls that have answered the call and could give us a testimony of their faith and are now children of God. We welcome Sis. Fern (Mark) Wagenbach, Bro. Michael Rassi (Bro. Curt and Sis. Kathy), and Sis. Carol Sauder (Bro. Howard and Sis. Janice).

Note of Thanks:

Beloved Brothers, Sisters, Family and Friends,

We thank you for your love, prayers, cards and gifts in memory

of our 50 years together, given to us by God. God bless each of you.

Humbly, Bro. Arnold and Sis. Lydia Rassi

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

Sue Ruppert

Denise Romersberger

With children returning to school, the weather getting cooler and the trees changing colors, we see God's handiwork. These changes in our surroundings make us aware of God's awesome power. We can always turn to God for every little situation and the big ones, too.

The Washington congregation is privileged to now have our own resident Elder. Bro. Ron Messner was ordained in a beautiful service that we were all glad to be a part of. Many Elders and ministers were present for this momentous occasion. We are so thankful to have our own Elder, but we regret losing Elder Bro. Don Sauder (Roanoke, IL), who was such a loving shepherd to our congregation. Our prayers will continue with him and with Bro. Ron and his family.

Guest ministers throughout this month were Elder Bros. Don Sauder (Roanoke, IL), Phil Stettner (Bluffton North, IN), Joe Braker (Morton, IL) and Chuck Hemmer (Peoria, IL), and Bros. Jaye Rinkenberger (Goodfield, IL) and Bob Pflederer (Morton, IL).

Bible Study was given by Bro. Byron Stoller (Gridley, IL) on the topic of witnessing. He so eloquently went through the scriptures on being "salt" and "light". Many thought-provoking ideas were conveyed. Bro. Dean Steffen (Belvidere, IL) was also present and summarized the evening's message. Thank you, brothers, for the excellent study.

Baptized following his testimony was Bro. Todd Steffen (Bro.

Keith and Sis. Cathy). It is always uplifting when a soul overcomes Satan and his evil ways. God's grace is so powerful. We only need to accept it.

We want to thank Eureka for worshipping together with us during their time of construction. It was a joy to sit with our fellow believers and commune together. We thank Bros. Steve Martin and Marvin Schmidgall for assisting the Washington brothers with services.

Bro. Chad Martin (Bro. Harvey and Sis. Sharon) and Sis. Brenda Hartter (Bro. Bob and Sis. Chris, Roanoke, IL) were united in marriage on September 17. We pray for blessings as they walk hand in hand with God.

Bro. Matt Steffen was hospitalized this month, but is now home and doing well. His little daughter, Myca, was also hospitalized, but is now doing fine.

Sis. Grace Klaus left for Japan with the intent of staying with her brother and family for at least a year. We wish her Godspeed and know we will miss seeing her.

Bro. Marshall and Sis. Jan Heindl have now gone back to Mexico after several weeks. It was good to share experiences with them. They reported that things are going well in their Mission. They gave many prayer requests and encouraged visitors to come. During the time that they were home, they welcomed two grandbabies into this world. What a blessing that all are doing fine. We look forward to their next visit with anticipation.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON

Jaci Gerber - Brenda Bertsch

Depart, vain world, with all your sin!

From bondage I am free.

A humble offering do I bring;

My heart I give to thee!

Zion's Harp #163

We gathered together September 9 and 10 to hear the testimonies and witness the baptisms of Sheri Klopfenstein (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Carol), Janon Fiechter (Bro. Don and Sis. Suzie), Andy Stoller and Phillip Stoller (Bro. Allen and Sis. Susan). We wish all of them the grace and peace of God each day of their lives.

We pray that God will bless our visiting ministers and their families for their faithfulness in sharing God's Word. They were Elder Bros. Everett Hari (Bloomington, IL) and Phil Stettner (Bluffton North, IN), and Bros. Hartzell Kaisner (Detroit, MI), Dave Sinn (Ft. Scott, KS), and Steve Ringger (Bluffton North, IN).

Two couples have announced their engagements. They are Sis. Rose Steffen (Sis. Marie) to Bro. Tom Rohr; and Sis. Trisha Baumgartner (Bro. Keith and Sis. Ruth) to Bro. Dan Tucker. We wish them much grace as they plan their lives together.

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

Matthew 25:21

Our sympathy goes out to Bro. Al Isch, Bro. Ernie Isch and Mrs. Rod (Sis. Pat) Maller in the passing of their father, Bro. Joe, on September 6.

On September 8, Bro. John Frank (Sis. Dorothy) escaped his earthly pain and went Home to be with the Lord. Our love and prayers are extended to his son, Bro. Herb.

We also want to remember Sis. Gloria Kaehr and her children in the passing of their husband and

father, Bro. Phil, on September 9. His children are Mrs. Kevin (Sara) Beaty, Mrs. Dan (Jennifer) Brink, Mark, Scott and Jeff.

Our sympathy is extended to Bro. Paul Schladenhauffen in the passing of his mother, Minnie.

On September 5, Bro. BJ and Sis. Lana Frauhiger welcomed Colton Douglas into their lives. Grandparents are Bro. Alan and Sis. Sheryl Ringger and Bro. Chuck and Sis. Marie Frauhiger.

We rejoice with Bro. Nick and Sis. Natalie Gerber over the birth of their daughter, Bailey Mabelle. Bailey was born on September 6. Grandparents are Bro. Ken and Sis. Judy Kipfer and Bro. Neil and Sis. Karen Gerber (Bluffton North, IN).

On September 9, Benjamin Samuel was born to Bro. Sam and Sis. Connie Kaehr. He is welcomed home by Daniel and Matthew and grandparents, Bro. Ralph and Sis. Jeannie Baumgartner and Sis. Dorothy Gerber.

Aidan Jacob is the new grandson of Bro. Harold and Sis. Violet Meyer. Aidan was born to Bro. Mike and Sis. Beth Heinold (Valparaiso, IN). Justin Melvin is the new grandson of Bro. Tom and Sis. Marilyn Baumgartner. Rick and Deb are the happy parents of Justin.

Our thoughts and prayers have been with those who have spent time in the hospital. They are Sis. Lou Moser (Bro. Ervin), Sis. Donna Steffen (Bro. Bill), Sis. Mary Jo Gerber (Bro. Paul) and Bro. Richard Reinhard.

Note of Thanks:

We wish to express our sincere thanks to everyone who extended comforting help and sympathy in our recent sorrow. For the memorials, cards, love, prayers and other kindnesses given in memory of Bro. John Frank, we are truly grateful. May God bless all of you.

*Sis. Dorothy Frank
Bro. Herb and Sis. Nancy Frank
and family*

INDIANA, BLUFFTON NORTH Susan Harris - Kay Steffen

"Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things."

Philippians 4:8

We were once again blessed to have visiting ministers and their families with us. They were Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville, IN), and Bros. Ken Wuethrich (Indianapolis, IN) and Al Langhofer (Wichita, KS). May they always feel our prayers and the Holy Spirit's guidance every time they are called to speak.

We shared a blessed weekend on September 16 and 17, as we heard the testimonies and witnessed the baptisms of three dear souls. They are Chris and Kim (Gerber) Jutte and Kristan Gerber (Bro. Sam and Sis. Mary Jo Gerber). May God grant them grace to be true and faithful until life's end.

Bro. Brad Cook (Herb and Sis. Suzanne) and Sis. Michelle Cupp (Bro. Mick and Sis. Connie) were united in marriage on August 20. We wish them a lifetime of happiness serving God together.

Cedrick Edward was born to Mary Jo Ringger (Bro. Sam and Sis. Becky) on August 25. Our prayers are with her as she raises her new little son.

Sis. Melvena Gerber is in need of our prayers as she has learned from her doctors there is no further treatment for her illness.

Our dear Sis. Goldie Kipfer

passed away on September 1. We extend our sympathy to her husband, Bro. Art; a son, Bro. Lynn; a daughter, Sis. Kristi Meyer; and a brother, Bro. Ervin Moser. May God be a comforter to this family.

Ready to suffer grief or pain,
Ready to stand the test;
Ready to stay at home and send
Others if He sees best.
Ready to go, Ready to stay,
Ready my place to fill;
Ready for service, lowly or great,
Ready to do His will.

Hymns of Zion #124

INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE Lily Pelsy

God's design is perfect. We rejoice with Bro. Brad Cook (Herb and Sis. Suzanne) and Sis. Michelle Cupp (Bro. Mick and Sis. Connie, Bluffton North, IN) who were married August 20. May God be glorified as they worship at Indianapolis.

On August 22, Ivy Louise was born to Scott and Sis. Colleen Wuethrich. Grandparents, Bro. Otto and Sis. Donna Wuethrich, and her sister, Ingrid, welcomed her gladly. We are all thankful as little Ivy is home after spending a few days in the hospital with a virus. Others who need our prayers and have been in the hospital are Sis. Louise Yaggie and Jim Albrecht.

Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Verna Stedman at the passing away of her beloved husband, Bro. Morris, on September 4. May we all cling to our Heavenly goal to meet Jesus and our loved ones.

"...and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints."

Jude 3

We thank all the Elders who

brought the topics to us on the Conference tapes. We also want to thank all the brethren who shared God's Holy Word to us. They were Bros. Dan Kilgus (Remington, IN), Bob Beebe (South Bend, IN), Nelson Beer (Milford, IN), John Reinhard (Bluffton, IN) and Elder Bro. Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO).

Note of Thanks:

To all the brethren and friends who have been such an encouragement to us since the birth of our little Josiah. Thank you so very much for your prayers, cards, gifts, food, and all the kindness shown to us. May God richly bless each one of you.

Jeff, Wendy and family

Closing thought: True faith is trusting without questioning.

INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS

**Lauretta Schafer
Sandy Lichtle**

On August 12, Michael Barnett and Kristine Pearson exchanged their wedding vows. Their parents are Patrick and Kathy Barnett (Chicago, IL) and David and Sis. Becky Pearson. They are living in Lafayette, IN. We wish them the Lord's richest blessings.

Bro. Brad Cook and Sis. Michelle Cupp were united in marriage on August 20. Their parents are Herb and Sis. Suzanne Cook (Francesville, IN) and Bro. Mick and Sis. Connie Cupp (Bluffton North, IN). May God guide and bless them as they walk life's pathway together.

After prayerful consideration, we recently voted in nine new Sunday School teachers. They are: Bros. Greg Stieglitz, Andy Wuethrich, Jim Bucher, and Ron Gress; and Sisters Lisa Stieglitz, Jill Wuethrich, Doreen Leuthold, Gail Bradford and Marcelle Gress. A special thanks to all of our teach-

ers 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.

We rejoice with Sarah Bollier (Bro. Ron and Sis. Edie) as she has found peace with God and man. The Lord willing, her testimony and baptism will be the weekend of November 18.

We extend a loving and warm welcome to Bro. Doug and Sis. Jeni Hart who have moved to our city from Goodfield, IL.

Visiting ministers this past month were our Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott, IN) and Bro. Chris Huber (Francesville, IN). May the Lord richly bless them for their love and faithfulness.

INDIANA, LACROSSE

Judy Gudeman

Our sympathy is extended to the family of Sis. Clara Heiniger in her death following an extended illness. "Miss Clara" taught Sunday School for many years in LaCrosse, as well as in Alabama, where she served as a missionary. She is survived by five sisters and one brother: Sis. Esther Bucher (Valparaiso, IN), Sis. Emma Pfeifer (LaCrosse, IN), Matilda Bucher (Valparaiso, IN), Alice Messner (Glendale, AZ), Madalyn Hofferth (Lancaster, PA), and Bro. Arthur Heiniger (Morton, IL).

Thanks to our visiting ministers, who all helped with Sis. Clara's funeral: Elder Bros. Lavoyd Moore (Athens, AL), Wendell Gudeman (Francesville, IN), and David Bertsch (Leo, IN), and Bro. Ronald Heiniger (Bloomington-Normal, IL).

Sis. Clara wrote a poem four years prior to her retirement from

missionary work which her family has especially requested be read again:

21 Years in Alabama, April 1975

I've enjoyed traveling for Jesus so much of my life,
He's led me up hills and down valleys,
But I'm counting on taking a trip to the sky,
That will be the last trip for me.

The south land of Alabama, I've traveled afar.
Meeting dear friends whom the Saviour had redeemed,
From the clutches of Satan, to a New Life in Jesus,
Now trusting in Him, I'll move to the City of Gold,
Which will be the last move for me.

There will be loved ones long gone whom I'll meet over there,
And whose teachings have guided me right.
I shall meet the Apostles and Jesus my Lord,
Whom I believe I shall know them at sight.

Here I'm bothered with packing each time I move,
And carry a load in each hand.
But I'll not need one thing I have used in this world,
When I move to that Heavenly Land.

When I move to the City of God, up to Heaven on High,
What a wonderful trip that will be.
I'm all ready to go, washed in Calvary's Flow,
That will be the last move for me.

My last invitation to dear friends outside of Christ,
Remember God's Word in *John 3:16*,
Whosoever believeth in Him Should not perish, but have

Everlasting Life.

INDIANA, LEO
Ethelyn Schlatter

Bro. Levi Pfister, 87, passed over Jordan on September 4. He had been in failing health and often mentioned he would not be here much longer. The last day of life he made notes of events that transpired. The note was beside him when he was found, and ended with "see you in Heaven". What a comfort and encouragement to those who survive. Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Sis. Lillian; five sons, Robert, Bro. David of Leo, Albert of Bluffton, Daniel of Auburn, and Myron of Fort Wayne; six daughters, Sis. Carolyn Gudeman of Goodfield, IL, Linda Rengstorf and Lois Pfister, both of Minneapolis, MN, Ella Brown of Cleveland, OH, Marty Pence of Leo, and Margie Stoller of Richmond, IN. Also surviving are a brother, four sisters, thirty-two grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. Services were held September 9.

Bro. William Schlatter (Junction, OH) presented a review of the investigation made on Bible translation. The evening service was very informative and we appreciated his effort to come.

Elder Bro. Earl Ringger and Sis. Dixie (Gridley, IL) visited the weekend of September 16-17. His sermon was an encouragement to us and a special challenge to the young people. One thought he left for us was the need to read and retain the Word, so the Holy Spirit can bring it to our remembrance when we need it.

Jonathan David Stoller arrived on September 10, to increase the family of Bro. Lester and Sis. Judy to two sons. His brother is Nathaniel. Happy grandparents are Bro. Ernie and Sis. Dean Stoller and Bro. Rudy and Sis. Evelyn

Luginbuhl (Rockville, CT).

Bro. Jeff, Sis. Carla and Evan Fritz welcomed Gavin Otto into their hearts and home on September 19. Bro. Harold and Sis. Sherry Fritz and Otto and Janice Bradtmueller are the grandparents. All are thankful for a healthy baby boy.

Our Gardens

We each have a garden to tend
with care,
A garden with soil that is rich and
rare;
A plot all our own that the Master
gives
To each and to all for the day he
lives.

The garden we own is a fertile
heart,
In which good and evil might have
a start
And grow until harvest - their
fruitage yield
When God will require both fruit
and field.

The wheat will be gathered with
tender hand;
The tares will be burned at His
word's command;
What then will remain of our
garden's yield,
When God will require both fruit
and field?

Edythe I. Danielson

INDIANA, MILFORD

Judy Longcor
Marguerite Hoerr

Bro. Tom and Sis. Kathy Hoffman (Roanoke, IL) spent a Sunday with our Milford congregation. Bro. Tom taught us from the Word and his loving messages uplifted us.

Our congregation increased in numbers with a large group of visitors from the Sabo/Steffen/Zimmerman reunion during the past month. They gathered on Satur-

day at nearby Goshen for their reunion and many of them stayed over to worship with us. Accompanying them were ministering Bros. Fred Domka, his wife, Sis. Connie; and Mark Masters, and his wife, Sis. Jeannine, of the Mansfield, OH congregation. We were blessed with their presence.

We've concluded hearing the tapes of the Brotherhood Conference during Wednesday evening services.

Sis. Flossie Hartter, wife of our retired minister and deacon, Bro. Elmer, remains seriously ill at nearby Lakeland Loving Care Center. We are thinking of her, Bro. Elmer, and their family during this difficult period and are asking God to give them strength for each day.

Simon Beer (Bro. Steve and Sis. Connie) has spent additional time in hospitals this month. We're thankful to report he's back home again and able to be back in school.

Sis. Millie Beer also had tests in an Indianapolis hospital, and is back home again.

Megan Piper (Rod and Sherry) underwent an emergency appendectomy. She's back home with her parents and three sisters and is doing fine.

Sis. Leona Price received medical treatment in a local hospital, has returned to her home and is making satisfactory progress.

My father, Bro. Theo Beer, was treated in a hospital emergency room for a urinary tract infection this past month. He's doing much better and is very thankful he can be in his home during recovery.

Sis. Melba Hunsberger is happy to report her broken arm is healed and she's looking forward to worshipping with us again soon.

Our daughter, Becky Pelath, is recovering from her radiation treatments and we're looking forward to going with her to Ann Arbor, MI next week for her first

checkup. She's been so grateful for all the cards, letters, and prayers.

For all of these dear folks, prayers have been offered. Each person holds a significant place in our Milford church home and when they're not with us, their absence is keenly felt. We're all concerned when one of our congregation has health problems, and are so thankful for God's healing powers and for medical expertise.

We received our first frost this morning. Soon the autumn leaves will be brilliant. The harvest has already begun and another summer has passed. The changing of seasons in Northern Indiana is something we look forward to as we witness the beauty given us by our Creator.

INDIANA, REMINGTON Amelia Schini

"While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease."
Genesis 8:22

Isn't that a wonderful promise, made so many years ago?

We find that our farmers are now benefitting from part of that promise as harvest has begun in our area. Since the rains were very spotty here, there will be different kinds of harvest; some good and some not so good. We can also be thankful that the "heat" of this summer is past. We are now enjoying nice fall weather.

Labor Day weekend usually makes one feel that the time of summer is about past. Young people are settled back in school; some in college. But it is a great, nice long weekend for traveling for many. The Remington and Wolcott "young group" were hosts to many young members from about

ten of our churches---from Rockville, CT to Oregon and churches between. I'm told there were 85 visitors in all. Those in charge did a fine job planning and carrying out their plans, thus making it a blessed weekend for all.

During that weekend, Bro. Morris Steadman benefitted from God's harvest. He was called Home to his eternal rest. Services and burial were here at our church. They had lived and worked in Chicago for many years. It was at our Chicago church where they repented and were baptized. In recent years they moved to Parkview Haven in Francesville. Bro. Morris' wife was Verna Clauss who grew up living less than a mile from our church. Morris did not grow up in our church, but was one who found and appreciated his salvation very much some years after their marriage. He will always be remembered as a pleasant and cheerful person who cared about "you".

First-time parents are Dean and Tammy Waibel. Justin Dean was born September 9. Grandparents are Bro. Ralph and Sis. Helen Waibel and Ken and Carolyn Thompson. We are thankful Justin's parents will teach him about Jesus, whom they have recently learned to know through repentance.

September 16 was a fun day for the Sunday School classes, third grade through twelfth. They, along with their teachers, went to Turkey Run by bus. They had a picnic lunch, and what tastes better than a picnic lunch after "running" some trails? On the way home they stopped in Lafayette for pizza; a great way to end a fun day. We trust such a day will some day be a fond memory along with the benefits of Sunday School.

Thought for the day: Friends are an aid to the young, to guard

them from error; to the elderly, to attend to their wants, and to supplement their failing power of action; to those in the prime of life, to assist them to noble deeds. (Aristotle)

INDIANA, SOUTH BEND Carolyn Frank - Gigi Schafer

Bro. Walt Steffen (Sis. Dorothy, Milford, IN) lended himself in the Lord's service on a recent Sunday. Several weeks later, Bros. Nile Bucher (Sis. Phyllis) and Steve Frauhiger (Sis. Irene), Bluffton North, IN blessed our assembly with inspiring teachings. We thank all of our ministering brothers for serving us so untiringly and faithfully through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Sis. Emma Lou Gerber celebrated a special birthday on August 23. Our congregation assembled at the Hubbard Hills Retirement Home where she now resides and enjoyed a time of singing hymns in recognition of this event. Sis. Emma Lou maintains an undying faith and trust in her Lord and Saviour and is so appreciative of this precious gift.

With grateful appreciation, we extend a thank you to the Mike Mangold family for opening up their country home on a Wednesday evening for services and a singing. This, too, was an occasion to wish a farewell to Joe Klotzle who has completed a job assignment in the South Bend area. His presence during these past months was a blessing to our congregation and our prayers remain with him in his endeavors.

INDIANA, VALPARAISO Ken and Cindy Susdorf

Once again, the Lord has tarried and we bid you all Christian greetings, dear ones. Just think, one day we won't receive our copy of

the Silver Lining because the Lord will have come and all the redeemed will be gathered together in that beautiful City. Does that frighten you? It shouldn't. That's the day when all of our worries will be over. No more pain or sickness or tears. No more sorrows! What a day that will be. God help us all to be ready and helping others get to that point in life.

Isn't this a beautiful time of the seasons we are now entering? A time when it just seems like God is adding His special touch to this world we live in. Let us realize when we see all of the beauty around us of just how gracious the Lord has been to us. For all of you busy with harvesting, may the Lord grant you a blessed and safe harvest season.

In the last writing, we were rejoicing in all that had been happening in our church; all the greetings and visiting ministers we had. This month we didn't even have one visiting minister. But God doesn't let us down, does He? He's always touching our hearts in some way.

This month we have three births to announce. On August 15, Randall and Louann Lamb were blessed with a baby girl named Shannon Raye. Her big sister, Rachel, welcomes her home.

On August 28, Mike and Sis. Beth Heinold were blessed with a baby boy named Aidan Jacob. Chase and Garrett welcome their new brother home.

On September 6, Don and Sis. Dawn Gaddis were blessed with a baby boy named Ryan Andrew Richard. Daniel and Cory welcome home their new brother. "Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is his reward." (Psalm 127:3) We thank the Lord for each one of these precious gifts. May they give Him much honor and glory during their time here on earth.

Please stop and see us if you are in our part of the country. We bid you farewell with this Scripture: Numbers 6:23-26. This Scripture is often quoted when you think highly of someone and you want nothing but the best for them. That's the way we feel about all of our dear brethren. God has richly blessed us many times through this blessed fellowship and faith. Please take the time to read and ponder what the Lord has done for us.

**INDIANA, WEST LAFAYETTE
PURDUE UNIVERSITY
Marie Gutwein**

"Whereunto I also labour, striving according to his working, which worketh in me mightily."

Col. 1:29

As we begin another year at Purdue working toward a higher education, may we also daily allow God to work in us as we strive to serve Him better. We are excited to have a large new group of freshmen with us. They are: Bro. Nathan Yergler, Joe Sprunger, Tim Ruple, Josh Schriver, John Ward, Kelli Waibel, Bro. Brent Blume, Rustin Meister, Sara Steffen, John Waibel, Katie Gutwein, Mandy Metzger, Nathan Mangold, Sis. Monica Steffen, Holly Beer, Bro. Joel Baumgartner, Russ Leman, Vince Leman, Sis. Tanessa Leman, and Carmen Cook.

We thank Bros. Steve Gutwein (Francesville, IN) and Tom Troxel (LaCrosse, IN) for sharing the Word with us at our Thursday evening services. A welcome invitation is extended to anyone who can come and worship with us. The dates for the rest of the semester are Oct. 5, 19; Nov. 2, 16, 30; and Dec. 7, at 7:30 p.m. E.S.T.

Please join us in prayer for the furtherance of the Gospel through

Bible distribution on campus and for more souls to come to the knowledge of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

**INDIANA, WOLCOTT
Jody Bahler - Sheri Bahler**

Now the field is ripe for harvest;
Let us then all garner in;
For if we should stand here idle,
Who would bring the sheaves of
grain?

Hymns of Zion #46

As the harvest season is now well upon us, we are once again reminded of the reaping that will take place on judgment day. May we all continue to strive diligently so that we may be a part of that harvest.

Thankful parents of their first boy, Lee and Michelle Huff welcomed little Austin Lee on July 28. Delighted sisters are Brandi and Heidi. Grandparents are Bro. Michael and Sis. Glenna Minniear.

On Sunday, September 10, we were privileged to have two visiting ministers with us. Bros. Bill Emch (Lamont-Gridley, KS) and Don Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN) both were useful instruments in God's hands as they brought forth the Word of Life. May the Lord richly bless them.

**IOWA, AMES
Tricia Metzger
Nicole Dahlhauser
Kay Kellenberger**

Classes are back in full swing at Iowa State! We started the year out wonderfully with our first church service on August 20. We thank Bros. Jon Schmidgall (Oakville, IA) and Duane Metzger (West Bend, IA) for sharing the powerful Word of God with us. It inspired all of us to strive aright while dealing with the usual rigors

of college life.

Parents and students enjoyed the annual picnic following the service. We were very grateful for the pleasant weather and the generous efforts of the parents, and all who helped out. We are thrilled to have some new faces on campus this semester. We lovingly want to welcome all of the new students. We certainly enjoyed sharing an uplifting weekend with a few of the Kansas State students on September 9 and 10. We were richly blessed to have Bros. Dale Moore (Elgin, IA) and John Rowell (Burlington, IA) as our ministering brothers. We thank them for their service to the Lord and to us.

We would like to extend a warm welcome for everyone to join us for services, which are held in the basement of Firststar Bank at 405 Main St. If there are any questions concerning dates and times, contact coordinator, Bro. Dave Stoller at (515) 233-8153.

We pray that the school year will be guided and blessed by our Heavenly Father!

IOWA, BURLINGTON

Lorna Knapp

Monica Eisenmann

We were privileged to have several visiting ministers lately. Elder Bro. Ed Lanz (Oakville, IA), Bro. Arnold Gerst (Taylor, MO) and Bro. Bill Gerst (Alto, MI) lent themselves in the service of the Lord. May God richly bless each of them for their labor of love.

As the school year gets under way, may we remember to pray for the children and teachers. Also, may we have a special prayer on our hearts for those in college. Marty Taeger (Bro. Dick and Sis. Dorothy) is attending college in Iowa City, and Marisa Rowell (Bro. John and Sis. Nelda) is in Ames. Surely God will increase their knowledge of Him along with

earthly knowledge.

Our sympathy and prayers go out to the family of Philip Heiniger, Sr., who passed away recently. May Bro. Harve Heiniger and Sis. Sarah Miller feel the comfort of God in their hearts in the passing of their brother.

Our prayers are also with those who have spent time in the hospital in the past month.

IOWA, ELGIN Gloria Frieden

"To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:...a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted..."

Eccles. 3:1-2

As we are now in the harvest season, we rejoice that God has blessed the little seeds we planted last spring and we can now pluck up the fruit. As I write this, a song comes to mind which reminds me of other seeds we sow.

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

He who gathers not at harvest
Will a beggar be at last.
Therefore, rise today and labor
Gathering golden sheaves with
haste.

The past four Wednesday evenings we have been privileged to listen to the Conference tapes. It is so encouraging to be reminded of the many fruits that come forth so we can entertain true faith in our hearts.

We are thankful for the safe return of our Elder Bro. Paul Butikofer, and his wife, Sis. Milly, and their traveling companions, Bro. Al and Sis. Laverne Butikofer, as

they recently spent some time with our brethren in Regina, Canada.

IOWA, GARDEN GROVE Laura Funk

What a privilege and blessing when we can meet someone we've never met and know that we share the same faith. We enjoyed many visitors the weekend of August 26-27, many whom some of us had never met before. But what a joy! We had all come to worship and thank the Lord as a dear soul was added to the fold. We welcome Bro. Jeff Reinhard (Bro. Dan and Sis. Delores). We pray for the Lord's guidance each and every day as a new lamb of the flock.

Elder brothers here to share with us were Bros. Ed Lanz (Oakville, IA), Ed Aeschleman (Philadelphia, PA) and Wendell Gudeman (Francesville, IN). Other visiting ministers this past month included Bros. Clark Stoller (Gridley, IL), Roy Koehl (Morris, MN) and Lloyd Kraft (Lamont-Gridley, KS). Special thanks to all who come to share and visit us.

As Sunday School has resumed, may the Lord direct and guide those who teach our youth.

At Day's End

Is anybody happier because you
passed his way?
Does anyone remember that you
spoke to him today?
The day is almost over, and its
toiling time is through;
Is there anyone to utter now a
kindly word of you?
Can you say tonight, in parting
with the day that's slipping fast,
That you helped a single brother
of the many that you passed?
Is a single heart rejoicing over
what you did or said;
Does the man whose hopes were

fading, now with courage look ahead?

Did you waste the day, or lose it? Was it well or sorely spent?

Did you leave a trail of kindness, or a scar of discontent?

As you close your eyes in slumber, do you think that God will say,

"You have earned one more tomorrow by the work you did today."?

John Hall

IOWA, IOWA CITY Janette Schulz

Greetings to all! We have appreciated all of our visitors this month, including ministering Bros. Dan Stoller (Rockville, CT) and Walt Herrmann (Princeville, IL). Bro. Dan and his wife, Sis. Diane, were here for a very special occasion---to meet their first grandchild, Drew Daniel, born to Dana and Nathan Honson, who live in this area. May this new bundle of love be a special blessing to his parents, grandparents and all who meet him.

The new Sunday School year has started. May the teachers feel our prayerful support as they assume the weighty responsibility of planting the Good Seed in tender hearts. May this task not be confined to Sunday School, but may each of us, parents and others alike, take every opportunity to talk about God and the plan of Salvation, be a light through a happy, consistent life in the Lord, and remember our friends and children in our daily prayers.

We have begun to listen to the tapes of the Conference held in Princeville in August. May the loving exhortations deeply impress our hearts and stir us to more diligent service to our Heavenly Father and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Another student is in our area. We welcome Angie Schneider (El-

gin, IA) and hope she will feel welcome to assemble with us when she doesn't go home for the weekend.

Food for thought from the Conference tapes: If we are pliable clay, the Master won't have to chisel us.

IOWA, LESTER

Cindy Leuthold - Sue Warner

On Sunday, August 20, Bro. Lance Knobloch (Bro. Ezra and Sis. Marie) and Sis. Kristi Ifft (Bro. Larry and Sis. Shirley) exchanged wedding vows at Congerville, IL. We congratulate them and look forward to getting acquainted with Sis. Kristi.

Saturday, September 9, was the wedding day for Molly Metzger (Bro. James and Sis. Lois) to Scott Bowman (Ardell and Jayona, Lurverne, MN). We wish them God's blessings.

We also extend a warm welcome to Merlin and Marilyn Meyer who recently moved here from Silverton, OR. We're glad to have Merlin back "home" again, and hope Marilyn can feel at home, too. Our prayers are with these young couples as they seek to establish their homes.

Bro. Stan and Sis. Sue Warner welcomed little Sarah Joy into their family circle on August 20. Sarah has a brother, Matthew, and two sisters, Maria and Abigail. Grandparents are Bro. Dennis and Sis. Esther Warner, and Bro. Ed and Sis. Shirley Zollinger (Silverton, OR).

We're thankful for the Word of Life that we hear so freely across our pulpit. We pray God will bless our ministers for faithfully serving us. Visiting ministers were Bros. Carl Wyss (Washington, IL), Ben Wysong and Roger Aberle (Sabetha, KS), Pat Zaugg (West Bend, IA), and Vern Wettstein (Congerville, IL).

We extend sympathy to Sis. Donna Mogler (Bro. Phil) on the death of her father, Bro. Reuben Hartzler (Rittman, OH).

We are thankful that Bro. Larry Peterson (Sis. Emily) and young Dalton VerBeek (Tim and Sis. Becky) are both out of the hospital and able to be at church again. Our thoughts were with Marty Knoblock (Bro. Glen and Sis. Joyce Metzger) and Daniel Messner (Bro. Henry and Sis. Charlene) who were both surgical patients. May God grant continued health and healing where it is His will.

Once again, we are enjoying the blessed privilege of listening to the Conference tapes. We pray an extra measure of grace upon our Elders as they watch for our souls.

IOWA, OAKVILLE Melody Steiner Debbie Wagenbach

I love harvest season. God's glorious wonders shine out so bright. The trees are truly magnificent. The air is cool, and once again the combines are whirring in the fields. As we enjoy this season of the year, let us reflect upon the great harvest that awaits each and every one of us. Will we have produced a crop that is fit and ready for our Lord?

We have been blessed to have several visiting ministers in this last month. Bros. Gary Endress (Bradford, IL), Randy Gasser (Detroit, MI), Marvin Schmidgall and Jim Vierling (Eureka, IL) have recently taught us in the ways of the Lord. May God bless them for their unselfish efforts.

Thought: Witnessing is not a spare-time occupation or a once-a-week activity. It must be a quality of life. You don't GO witnessing, you ARE a witness. (Dan Greene)

IOWA, PULASKI

Carol Wettstein

On August 22, Eugene and Lana Joos welcomed Lincoln Wade into their hearts and home. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Ron and Sis. Chris Joos and Phil and Cathy Garrett (Bloomfield). May God be near them as they care for their little son.

Our visiting ministers this month were Elder Bro. Ray Sinn and family (Latty, OH). We really appreciated Bro. Ray for conducting our adult Bible Study on Sunday morning and for his timely and uplifting messages he brought to the entire congregation. Also, Bro. Brad Funk (Garden Grove, IA) brought us God's Word. May God bless all our faithful brethren who labor in our behalf.

We are enjoying Bro. Christopher Eland (Iowa City, IA) who is assembling with us while doing some teaching in our area.

We surely feel fall is approaching with cooler weather, and look forward to seeing God's magnificent beauty portrayed in the turning leaves. Truly a beautiful time of year!

IOWA, WEST BEND

Lela Banwart - Eunice Fehr

We were thankful to have in our midst visiting ministers, Bros. Wayne Banwart (Champaign, IL) and Andy Virkler (Croghan-Naumburg, NY). May God bless them and their families as they travel many miles and then so willingly share God's precious Word with us.

September 10 was a blessed day for our congregation as we had Elder Bro. Curt Frank (LaCrosse, IN) and Bros. Dean Messner and Jim Knobloch (Winthrop, MN), and Bro. Dale Zeltwanger (Morris, MN). They were all here to share in the joy with Bro. Kevin Fehr and Sis. Lonnie Metzger as they were united in marriage. May they feel

God's nearness and direction as they now begin a new Christian home. Parents of this couple are Bro. Melvin and Sis. Glenagene Fehr and Bro. Silas and Sis. Della Metzger.

Our prayers are with those who have had to say goodbye to loved ones. We extend our sympathy to Sis. Nima Fehr, Sis. Edna (Schneider) Banwart, and Bro. Lawrence Schneider on the death of their sister, Nellie Sauder, of Worthington, MN.

Sympathy is extended to Bro. Dave and Sis. Diane Gerber and their family on the passing of Sis. Diane's grandmother, Agnes Montag.

Our congregation was saddened by the death of our Sis. Katherine Fisher. Our love and sympathy to her family. She will be especially missed by her son, Philip Jr. and Barb Fisher; daughters, Lois and Larry Lloyd, Eileen and Olin Hoover; and daughter-in-law, Marie Fisher; and sisters, Della Persinger (Mpls., MN), Sis. Margaret Banwart and Laura Valian (Portland, OR); and five grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Bro. Philip, and sons, Harold and Robert. We are grateful to Bro. Bert Butikofer (Elgin, IA) for the prayer offered at Sis. Katherine's funeral service. May God comfort and bless these families at this time of sorrow.

"Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee."

Isaiah 26:3

We rejoice with our converts, Sally Fehr, Cory and Jennifer Fehr and Marc and Jami Banwart, as they have found that wonderful peace that only God can impart. We are looking forward to hearing their testimonies in the near future.

Our congratulations go out to

Troy and Julie Olson on the birth of their first little girl. Tegan Marie has two big brothers waiting to help. Also anxious to share love are grandparents, Bro. Larry and Sis. Marvella Wickman, Gary Olson (Ayrshire) and Janice Olson (Emmetsburg). Great-grandparents are Bro. Ed and Sis. Helen Zaugg. May they feel God's love and direction with this precious addition to their family circle.

JAPAN, TOKYO

Andrew and Jana Klaus

Greetings from Japan. Our church has had a busy summer which we ended with our fellowship meeting on August 28-29. This year the topic was Christianity and Japan. With Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle and Bro. Toru Saigusa as speakers, we studied the history of Christianity in this land, as well as the supposed barriers in the culture to why more do not convert.

On September 10, we had the most powerful typhoon in modern times to hit Tokyo and as a result, church for the day was virtually canceled. We are thankful the damage done by it was minimal.

My sister, Sis. Grace Klaus (Washington, IL), has moved here this month, and will be living with us for a while. We appreciate her help at home and her support in the church, too.

Just last week a big conference that attracted world wide attention ended in Beijing, China, which is not too far from us on this side of the globe. Our first lady, Hillary, was also present to lead the U.S. delegation. However, what has happened in the two and a half weeks of that conference has done more harm to the godly family than any other conference of all times.

It was called a conference of women. But see what they had to

say: Marriage in the biblical sense was seen as the root of all evil for women. Abortion and population control of the world's nations was promoted. The "unnatural affections" spoken against in the Bible was spoken of as completely normal. And worst, religion was held to be the worst oppressor of women.

Well, we could go on. But all that was talked about was in stark contrast to our beliefs and to recent editorials we have had in the Silver Lining. And also it should stir us up to become greater beacons of light and truth in the world. To keep our flames burning. We all have a great responsibility in the world as Christians.

God bless your Christian walk.

KANSAS, BERN
Lori Baumgartner
Donna Edelman

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

August 27 was the wedding day of Sis. Cynthia Edelman (Bro. Fred and Sis. JoAnn) and Bro. Todd Fehr (Bro. Warren and Sis. Shirley, Fairbury, IL). We pray that God will direct their pathway together as they strive to serve Him as one. We will miss Sis. Cynthia in our midst as she and Bro. Todd make their home in Fairbury.

Our congregation has been blessed with the following visiting ministers: Bros. Roger Aberle and Ben Wysong (Sabetha, KS), John Hartman (Fairbury, IL) and Clarence Dietrich (Silverton, OR).

We thank these brothers for giving of themselves to share God's Holy Word with us.

Hospitalized was Ryan Menold (Bro. Joe and Sis. Kathy Rokey) for an appendectomy. We are thanking God for His healing power.

KANSAS, FORT SCOTT
Joleen Sinn

We had the privilege of gathering together to celebrate the 50th anniversary of our dear Bro. Raymond and Sis. Kathryn Banwart. It was nice to see many dear friends that we had not seen for awhile. We want to give special thanks to Bro. Al Langhofer (Wichita, KS) for ministering to us.

Bro. Raymond and Sis. Kathryn then had a blessed surprise as the wonderful weekend came to a close. Their granddaughter, Trista (Bro. Lon and Sis. Deb Banwart), and her husband, Dave Miller, gave their lives and hearts to the Lord in repentance. The following evening their grandson, Tyler Banwart (Bro. Lon and Sis. Deb), also came to the Lord. We are rejoicing with the angels in Heaven over our dear converts. May they lean on their new-found strength as they continue on their way.

We are listening to the Conference tapes. It is so encouraging to hear the exhortations of our dear Elder brothers. May we all listen to the prompting of the Holy Spirit and follow His leading.

Note of Thanks:

A note of appreciation and thanks to all who so kindly shared in remembering our 50th wedding anniversary. Our thanks go to all who attended from near and far. Also, for the many cards of best wishes and love. A special thanks to our children, grandchildren and others who helped plan and host

this joyous occasion. God bless you all!

Raymond and Kathryn Banwart

KANSAS, KIOWA
Darcy Kisling - Janice Bahr

Forsake me not, give grace the load to carry.
 Bliss shall replace the murmurings of the weary,
 When once this pilgrim journey is forgot.
 Forsake me not, forsake me not.
Hymns of Zion #252

Our prayer this month is for "grace the load to carry". As we go about our earthly duties, let us never forget the precious gifts God offers us, and all we have to do is accept them.

Our hospital patients this month were Sis. Mildred Frieden (Bro. Joe), Matt Schupbach (Bro. Kent and Sis. Darcy), Sis. Rachel Kraft, Sis. Nelda Ott (Bro. Arnold), and Sis. Betsy Diel.

"We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves."

Romans 15:1

We appreciate the support of each and every one who helped with our rest home services, as this is such an important ministry.

Our visiting ministers this month were Elder Bro. John Lehman (Bern, KS) and Bro. Dean Steffen (Belvidere, IL). What a joy to have their families with us! We want to thank them for sharing God's eternal Word with us.

KANSAS, LAMONT-GRIDLEY
Julie Bahr

We extend our congratulations and best wishes to Sis. Jennifer Isch (Bro. Ron and Sis. Jane) and

Bro. James Kieser (Bro. Don and Sis. Laura, Bloomington, IL) who exchanged wedding vows on August 30. Visiting ministers for this occasion were Elder Bro. Bob Walder (Congerville, IL) and Bro. Trent Meiss (Iowa City, IA). May God's Spirit be near as they begin their walk of life together.

Our sincere sympathy is expressed to Bro. Steve Schrader and his dear family in the unexpected death of his dear brother, Leroy Schrader, Osage City, KS. "When the cares of this life get too heavy to bear, Dear Lord, we just commit them to Thee."

KANSAS, SABETHA

Mary Kay Wenger

Ye shepherds, Who the Lord do
love,
And through the Spirit from above,
Proclaim to men salvation,
How much the Lord to you has
willed,
Who at His blessed kingdom build,
It is beyond expression!
Therefore, therefore, Be ye
faithful!
How delightful! God with pleasure
Will impart the crown and
treasure.

Ye messengers of peace shall bring
The glorious gospel of the King
To man in accents truthful.
How great your blest reward shall
be
When Jesus Christ, the Lord, will
see
That ye were true and faithful!
Ev'ry brother Who such mission
And position Has been granted,
Shall be to the end undaunted.
Zion's Harp #210

Our congregation was under much meditation and supplication unto God in seeking His will as we faced the decision of Elder Bro. Sam Huber retiring as Elder and

minister. After various meetings, Bro. Sam informed the congregation that he was retiring. We thank Bro. Sam for his many years of service to our congregation. May God be his rewarder, both now and in the life to come.

Elder Bro. Eugene Marti (Kansas City, MO) had the support of the church to fill in as Elder at this time. We are thankful he and Sis. Mary are willing to accept God's will. We appreciate their visits and hope they always feel "back at home".

Our sincere sympathy to Bro. Larry Bailey (Sis. Linda) and his sister, Shari Kemp, on the loss of their father, Earl Bailey.

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

Hymns of Zion #165

KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY Derek Funk

Once again, school is in session and once again we are back to studying. As we begin to increase our knowledge in books, we can only pray that our knowledge in the Lord and what He wants for us will increase.

We would like to welcome all the members and friends that have started school here for the first time. We are thankful to have you with us and pray God will be with you in your studies. Once again, our fall picnic was held. We would like to thank all the families and loved ones who gave their time and effort to be with us and make it a success. Services have also started and we would like to thank Elder Bro. John Lehman, Bro. Darrel Stoller (Bern, KS) and their families for joining us in our worship.

As we part, we would like to

contemplate this verse. "But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy." (James 3:17). May we always receive our wisdom from God.

KANSAS, WICHITA

Emma Miller

This past month has been a bonus one for grandparents in our congregation. Bro. Milton and Sis. Lillian were blessed with a new grandson born to Marsha and Jim Bowers; as was Sis. Ann Farney with a granddaughter, Rachel Aaryn, born to Terry and Mary Farney. Sis. Roseanne and Duane Reeves rejoiced in the birth of James Benjamin to Sid and Ann Newby. Sis. Carol and Earl Carter's daughter, Sheryl, and Dale Toews welcomed a daughter, Chelsea Renee.

I would also like to note the marriage of the Carter's son, Darren, to Michelle Tower on July 29 and the approaching marriage of their son, Tim, to Michelle Forslund on October 14. Before they located in Dale, Indiana, in the late 1980's, the Carter family was a vital part of our congregation. We continue to hold them dear to our hearts.

On Sunday, September 3, Bro. Max Reimschisel announced to the congregation the engagement of his daughter, Sis. Jennifer, to Bro. Jeff Hodel of the Roanoke, IL congregation. We join Bro. Max and Sis. Judy and Bro. Jeff's parents, Bro. Ken and Sis. Kathy, in their happiness and concern for their children's trust in God's direction for their lives.

Our Wednesday evening services have been devoted to hearing the Conference tapes. As Bro. Max commented, it would be a delight to hear the speakers in person, but since this is not feasible,

the tapes are next best.

Sis. Nellie Lambert commented to me about my remarks concerning Bro. Clarence Yackley in the June Silver Lining and began to tell me of her memories of how Bro. Clarence influenced our Wichita congregation. I asked her to write an article that I could share with you and she graciously obliged with the following:

On the west side of our Wichita church, in letters big enough to see as one drives by, is the quotation from Isaiah 1:18, "Let us reason together." When we built our first little white wooden church in 1938, we felt the need to put out a sign giving the name of our church and the time of services, and Bro. Clarence suggested that we add the Isaiah quotation as a sign of welcome. It became such a part of the church that when we re-built in 1973 and moved into our new brick church, we took the Isaiah words right along with us and tacked them on the west side of the building. These words are a fitting memorial to our dear departed Bro. Clarence as he wholeheartedly believed in the healing peace that so often follows the conciliatory powers of "reasoning".

In the early years of our church, Bro. Clarence was chosen to serve on the pulpit. From his very first sermon, he was a "natural", much like Apollos in Acts 18:24---"an eloquent man and mighty in the scriptures." He had a God-given gift which he did not waste. He was a true student of the Bible, following faithfully the teachings of II Timothy 2:15, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

As a sister in Phoenix, AZ confided to me, "It doesn't just happen that Clarence has such outstanding sermons; he does his part in building." Quite often when she

picked up her husband from work, late a night, they would drop by the Yackley home for a short visit. Nearly always, Clarence could be found at his dining room table with his Bible, Bible dictionary, hymn book, note book, etc. spread out before him and he was deep in study.

Yes, we did lose Bro. Clarence to Phoenix in 1950, but fortunately, he had relatives in Wichita, so he came back frequently and we were still able to enjoy many a beautiful sermon along with his visits.

One could write many good chapters on the life of Bro. Clarence, but most of all, I wanted to cover just a few in which he touched the lives of us in a spiritual way. We will always cherish the words he selected, to help establish the heart and spirit of our Wichita church---words which are as timely today as when our great and Almighty God dictated them hundreds of years ago.

KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON

Doug and Rebecca Germann

A special thanks to all our visitors this past month! We enjoyed visitors from Wolcott, Remington, Francesville, Latty, Akron and Bloomington. We were privileged to visit the Galilean Home for the dedication for the new building that our brethren built. That Saturday evening we enjoyed a dinner out at a local Lexington restaurant for those who could spend the weekend with us.

Visiting ministers were Bro. John Laukhuf and his wife, Sis. Marcia, from Latty, OH. Also, we were fortunate to have Bro. Ron Heiniger and his wife, Sis. Kay, from Bloomington, IL. Thank you for your efforts and time spent here on behalf of the Lexington congregation.

Recently I read an article about family life and the author was say-

ing that merely telling children about God and teaching them a simple prayer was a poor substitute for being that example of "Christ like love" that will ultimately lead them to repentance. He said that one night his little boy was frightened by a terrible lightning storm and called out, "Daddy, Daddy, I'm afraid!" The father answered, "Oh son, don't be afraid, God will take care of you!" The son replied, "Yes, father, I know He will, but right now I want somebody who has skin on." How important it is for us to be God's love with skin on for the lambs God has put within our care. If they do not experience this from their families, it may be nearly impossible for them to see it elsewhere in day to day life.

MICHIGAN, ALTO

Jane Grawburg

The richest of our Lord's blessings are sure to be with Joe and Jennifer Schlatter, son and daughter-in-law of Bro. Otto and Sis. Pat, as they have given their hearts to their Lord in repentance. We look forward to the time when we are able to greet as brother and sister and share in the Holy Kiss. Our prayers are with Joe and Jennifer as they begin their walk with Him.

Bro. Bill Gerst, through his work, had the opportunity to travel to the Orient. We know our Lord was with him every step of the way and brought him safely home. We are so thankful for that and are grateful to have Bro. Bill with us again.

Our prayers for God's blessings are with Sis. Kate and Carl Wheeler as Carl is now a resident of Greenview Manor. Your visits, cards and prayers will be greatly appreciated. Carl's address is: 1708 Leonard, N.E., Grand Rapids, MI 49505.

Hazel Mehrings passed away on September 12. She is survived by friends, Fred and Pauline Feldman, of Chicago, IL and Bro. Lyman and Sis. Vivian Feldman of Alto. Hazel was a nurse for, and a friend of, the Feldman's for many years. Elder Bro. Aaron Steffen officiated at the service and Bro. Lyman and Sis. Vivian welcomed everyone into their home afterward for a time of refreshment and fellowship.

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY

**Marlene Mosher
Rhonda Knochel**

Happiness is being content where you are in whatever your lot may be and be content to wait upon the Lord for all things for He knows best.

Bro. Gary Meylan (Sis. Marilyn) has been in the hospital with heart problems. He is home again and we wish them both our Lord's blessings and healing hand.

Chris Mehl (Sis. Alice) has been in the hospital and has had surgery. Chris had to have his stomach taken out. We hope our Lord will have mercy and touch them both with His healing powers. All things are in God's hands and we wish His will to be done.

We have been blessed this month to have with us Bro. John Laukhuf (Sis. Marcia, Latty, OH) and family, and also Bro. Lynn Stieglitz (Sis. Leonda, Leo, IN) and family. We were richly blessed.

Our fields are white with harvest and we have also been blessed with moisture. God is good.

MICHIGAN, DETROIT

**Lynette Moser
Holly Barton**

After having said many "good-byes" over the past few months, it is so nice to welcome several new and returning individuals and

families to our congregation. Sis. Brenda Orcsik (Bro. John and Sis. Esther) has returned after spending a year in Hungary and is attending college in Windsor, Ontario. Bonnie Wieland (Bro. Rod and Sis. Evelyn, Bay City, MI) is back to finish her last year of college here after working the summer in Chicago. We welcome Bonnie's brother, Andy, who is also attending Eastern Michigan University. We are also very pleased to welcome a new family, Bro. Chris and Sis. Barb Johnson and daughter, Kyra, who have recently moved from Denver, CO. We're thankful for each person that the Lord places in our family here!

Our spiritual family is growing as well! Wayne and Allison Sadler and Marisa Wirtz (Kitchener, Ontario) have expressed a desire to share their testimonies with the church. Also, Jesse Bedolla and Heather Hitz (Bro. Tom and Sis. Cindy) have both felt God's peace and we look forward to testimonies and baptisms the weekend of October 21-22.

"Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted in me? hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him for the help of his countenance."

Psalms 42:5

We pray that those who have experienced illness or the loss of loved ones can find their hope and help in the Lord. Joe Sabados and Bro. Joe Szilagyi (Sis. Martha) have both spent time in the hospital. Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Kristie Meyer (Bro. Mark) and family on the death of her mother, Sis. Goldie Kipfer (Bluffton, IN). We especially pray for God's nearness to Bro. Doug and Carole, Katherine Maibach in the loss of their stillborn child, Craig.

After a busy and sometimes

stressful week, it is so nice to share a time of fellowship and enjoyment with fellow believers. September 15-17 was that kind of a weekend for us here as Bro. Hartzell and Sis. Mary Kaisner hosted a wiener roast on Friday night and Sunday was our annual Sunday School picnic. These times are precious to those of us in a small church, especially, and we appreciate those who take the time to organize and attend them!

Bro. Bill Gerst (Alto, MI) ministered to the residents at Woodhaven this month and we thank him for coming. Lord willing, our next monthly evening service will be Tuesday, November 7, at 7:00 hosted by Toledo, OH.

MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS

Perry Virkler

We were blessed with several visiting ministers this month. Elder Bros. Joe Stoller (Princeville, IL) and Leroy Messner (Winthrop, MN), and Bro. Harold Gramm (Morris, MN) brought us inspiring messages. We appreciate each of them, as well as our home ministers, who faithfully carry out their duties Sunday after Sunday.

Our children are a gift from God
On loan from heaven above,
To train and nourish in the Lord
And show to them His love. -- Sper

Bro. Kent and Sis. Mary Mogler joyously welcomed into their family of boys, a precious baby girl, Kallianne Marie, born on August 27. Braden, Seth and Micah are delighted to have a little sister. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Ernest and Sis. Gladys Koehl (Morris, MN) and Bro. Howard and Sis. Lolly Mogler (Lester, IA).

Many heartfelt prayers were offered for Sis. Rachel Kent (Darcy) as she underwent cancer surgery.

May God's healing hand be upon her.

We spent three blessed evenings listening to the Conference tapes and appreciate the love and concern of our dear Elder brothers as they bring encouragement and admonition to our churches. May we all strive more diligently to be obedient to their loving exhortations.

Our Sunday School children were excited to resume classes on September 10. May God direct our Sunday School teachers in teaching our youth His precious Word.

Note of Thanks:

We would like to express our thanks and appreciation to all who remembered Joe during his hospital stay. He is home and doing quite well. We especially thank you for all your prayers; they mean so very much to us. May God bless you all.

Joe and Sis. Ethel Bednarski

MINNESOTA, MORRIS

**Linda Schmidgall
Maxine Sauder**

Because I am uncomfortable being cold, as the temperature begins to drop outside, I find myself gravitating toward sources of heat to stay warm. I may wrap my hands around my mug of hot beverage, sit close to the fireplace, or like this morning, work where the sun shines through the window. This is an important concept for me to remember in a spiritual sense. To feel the warmth, the power, the presence of God--it is important that I move close to Him. I move closer by taking time in His Word, prayer, and consciously turning my thoughts to Him. It is then that I can more fully experience the comforting warmth of His Spirit.

We are grateful that Bro. Steve Martin (Eureka, IL) visited us recently, ministering to us from

God's Word.

The home of Bro. Gary and Sis. Sandy Fehr has been warmed by the birth of a daughter, Angela Lynn. Amy, Mitchell, Amanda, Ashley, and Micah welcome Angela home. Grandparents are Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Diane Fehr.

We know that many prayers ascended to God in behalf of Alissa Koehl (Bro. Randy and Sis. Shirley) after hearing of her fall and potential head injury. We are very thankful for her full recovery and to see the twinkle in her eye and ready smile once more.

Our congregation welcomes Bro. Jeff Sabo (Sarasota, FL) to the area and would pray that his heart and spirit would be warm while here, though the climate may be very different from what he is accustomed to.

MINNESOTA, WINTHROP

Becky Braulick - Jan Messner

This is the time of year where farmers are busy in the fields harvesting their crops. We can also relate this to God's harvest which can and will happen at any time. Are we ready? As we heard on the tapes from the Conference, "Must Jesus bear the cross alone and all the rest go free?" This is truly something worth thinking on.

It is with gladness of heart that we welcome Bro. John and Sis. Joleen (Messner) Elder to our congregation, as they have moved here from Denver, CO. We pray that God will be with them as they make their home here in our area.

Our surgical patients this past month were Sis. Ella Mae Schmidt (Gene) and Lindsay Schmidt (Bro. Verl and Sis. Jamie). We rejoice that they are both out of the hospital and doing well. May the Lord continue to watch over them in their time of recovery.

We would like to thank Bro. Kent Mogler (Sis. Mary) for minis-

tering on our behalf and all the company that came to be with us the weekend of our hog roast in August. It was such a blessing to have so many with us and we appreciate everyone who came. We would also like to thank Bro. Joe and Sis. Kim Messner for all their efforts and for initiating this weekend of fellowship.

Note of Thanks:

I would like to thank everyone for their prayers, phone calls, visits and gifts during the time I was in the hospital and during my recovery.

Lindsay Schmidt

MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY

Joan Fehr - Jamie Marti

On September 10 we had a beautiful afternoon for our annual Sunday School picnic with Ft. Scott. We extend a big thank you to Ft. Scott for hosting it this year. It was enjoyed by all. This was also the first Sunday back in Sunday School after a month break. Bro. Jay Wiegand will be replacing Bro. Greg Snyder whose term has expired. Thank you, Bro. Greg, for all your work.

MISSOURI, LAMAR

**Carolyn Banwart
Becky Marti**

We welcome Ana Passos to our congregation. She is from Belo Horizonte, Brazil and is spending the semester with Bro. Gene and Sis. Linda Banwart, Gary, Jason, Andrea and Emily as a foreign exchange student.

"But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope."

I Thess. 4:13

So we were reminded as we laid our dear Sis. Cecile Braker to rest, that even though she will be sorely missed, we should also celebrate because for her, the victory is won. She was preceded in death by her husband, Bro. Fred. She is survived by her three sons, Wayne, Edd and Bro. Jay Braker; and two daughters, Marilyn Rose and Pamela Greene; and a brother, Elbert Dumm. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to them.

Sis. Vera Frieden (Bro. Rex) has been a surgical patient. We pray that she may feel God's nearness and healing hand.

Notes of Thanks:

Thank you dear ones in faith for the many cards and well wishes we received in observance of our 50th wedding anniversary. Your love and kindness is appreciated very much. May God bless each of you.

Bro. Art and Sis. Ruth Banwart

We want to thank everyone who sent cards for our 40th wedding anniversary and Sis. Jodi and Sis. Alice, especially.

Bro. Joe and Sis. Evelyn Marti

MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS **Thadd Walter**

"But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin."

I John 1:7

We thank Bros. Steve Baner (Gridley, IL), Steve Gutwein (Francesville, IN), Don Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN) and Rex Frieden (Lamar, MO) for allowing themselves to be God's servants and letting His Word flow through them. Having visiting brothers and their families with us always enriches our spiritual lives.

We extend the invitation to all the churches to come visit our little congregation even as the summer draws to a close and families settle back into work and school. We know that it is not always easy to travel during the busy fall and winter months, but you are welcome at any time.

"But even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not therefore: ye are of more value than many sparrows."

Luke 12:7

Little Camille Steffen (Bro. Jeff and Sis. Robin) has recently broken her arm, but on Sunday she was full of energy and smiles. Upon seeing this I was reminded that God would want us to endure trials and afflictions with abundance of joy (II Corinthians 8:2) and to smile through adversity just as this little girl did. We pray for God's healing graces and Camille's quick recovery.

Once again, many thanks to all of our visitors and may God bless you all.

MISSOURI, TAYLOR **Rusty and Amy Adrian**

A new Sunday School year is in full swing and how thankful we are for the students who are eager to learn and the teachers who are willing to be used by our most precious Lord and Saviour to teach them. Our prayers are with those taking on the teaching responsibilities who are Bros. Curt Heimer and Keith Pflum and Sisters Kay Sutter and Tami Pflum.

Our heartfelt thanks goes to the teachers who have completed their terms, who are Bros. Phil Baurer and Benj Knapp and Sisters Kris Sutter and Anna Hoerr. May God bless each of them for their efforts and willingness to teach.

We have been truly blessed this

past month to be able to listen to the tapes from the general Conference. What strength and encouragement we did receive from the exhortations we heard on being a true believer. May the Lord Jesus Christ strengthen our church and help each one of us do our part to stay true and faithful until life's end.

Our visiting ministers this past month was Bro. Jim Plattner (Princeville, IL). We thank Bro. Jim for coming and sharing God's Word with us.

Those who were hospitalized this past month are Sis. Elizabeth Hoerr (late Bro. George) and Bro. Phil and Sis. Linda Baurer. We pray that God's healing hand would be with each one.

For the past four years our congregation has been blessed with the presence of Bro. Tim and Sis. Verene Sutton and their family. Following God's guidance, they have now moved to Phoenix, AZ where they will make their home. We are thankful we had the opportunity to get to know them in the time we were together. Realizing that we are separated physically, how thankful we are for the Holy Spirit that keeps us together through prayer. May God bless you, Bro. Tim and Sis. Verene, as you raise your family and look to our Lord Jesus Christ for guidance.

The weekend of September 16 and 17 was an uplifting weekend as various young groups and four Bible Classes from our Iowa churches gathered here in Taylor. Truly the joy and positive attitudes that was seen in our young people was a wonderful encouragement.

NEW YORK, CROGHAN- NAUMBURG **Alice Virkler**

We have been listening to the

tapes of the recent Brotherhood Conference held in Princeville. May each of us keep the true faith each day as we have been so lovingly reminded by our Elder Brothers. By keeping the faith we can be assured of an eternal Home in Heaven. By communing with God through prayer and by allowing Him to commune with us through His Word, we can be given the necessary strength and guidance to follow the direction left for us in this life. May we strive to be that good example to those whom we contact in our daily walk of life.

Our thoughts and prayers have been with those of our loved ones who have had medical problems and have been hospitalized. They are Bro. Raymond Stockberger, Sis. Minnie Taube and Joe Bush (Linette). May each of them look to God for daily strength and may He provide improved health for each of them.

Many of us were able to attend an open house hosted by the family of Bro. Bernard and Sis. Elvera Martin on the occasion of their 40th wedding anniversary. May God continue to bless them with health and many more years together.

OHIO, AKRON

Joyce Gasser - Diane Jarrett

Love and greetings from Akron. We appreciated the many visitors from various congregations who assembled with us for song service on the Labor Day holiday weekend. Also, our thanks to Bros. Ken Dietz (Bradford, IL), Glenn Rigenbach and Gary Maibach (Smithville, OH) for their labors ministering to our congregation in recent weeks.

We wish God's blessings on Tammy Bako (Eugene and Sis. Dianna) and Zoltan Namenyi (Joseph and Esther) who were united in marriage on June 10.

Matthew Pamer (Bro. Steve and Sis. Arliss) was hospitalized and we are thankful that he is now feeling better.

Our prayers and sympathy are extended to Elder Bro. Gene and Sis. Eleanor Pamer and their family in the loss of Sis. Eleanor's father, Bro. Reuben Hartzler (Rittman).

Sis. Bethi Graf will celebrate her 90th birthday on November 5.

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

Psalm 127:3

On September 15, Marvin and Sis. Carol Indermuhle were blessed with a precious daughter, Sarah Rose. Christopher, Rachael and Michael welcome their new little sister. Grandparents are Elder Bro. Gene and Sis. Eleanor Pamer and Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Vera Indermuhle (Smithville, OH).

OHIO, COLUMBUS

Nancy Banks

Autumn is now upon us and the cool, crisp air is such a refreshing change from the 90-95 degree weather we were having in the latter months of summer. With the beautiful fall weather, we also welcome the arrival of our Ohio State students to the Columbus area as they prepare to begin the fall quarter. Our prayers are with them as they begin their college studies and hope they will feel welcome to attend church services with us during their stay. We would also like to welcome Sis. Renee Steffen (Alto, MI) to our Columbus congregation as she has found employment in Columbus.

Work is progressing more rapidly on our church building this month as several work teams have arrived to help. It was exciting to

arrive for church this week and see the new siding on the exterior walls. We pray for God's guidance and loving patience as the building committee slowly works their way through the countless permits and licenses that need to be issued for work to continue. We appreciate the endless hours of research and work this committee had to endure to keep the project moving along and also the many brethren who have offered their talents and time to help with the construction.

Prayers for recovery are with our dear Sis. Theresa Hunyady (Bro. Andy) as she has been unable to attend church for several weeks. We miss her and wish her renewed strength and health.

We are thankful for our visiting ministers this month. Elder Bro. Mark Bahr (Detroit, MI) and Bro. Dale Stoller (Fairbury, IL) lent themselves to bring forth God's precious Word.

As harvest time approaches, we pray for the farmers who will soon travel to the fields. It was such a late spring planting this year in our area and I remember at the time of planting, wondering how the beans would ever grow that were planted in the late weeks of June and even July. Yet, through God's tender mercy, we were blessed with abundant warm rains and plenty of sunshine and the fields of soybeans and corn have flourished. Just as the farmer, we must learn to trust that God will take care of us.

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.
 God will take care of you,
 Thru ev'ry day, O'er all the way;
 He will take care of you.
 God will take care of you.

No matter what may be the test,

God will take care of you;
Lean, weary one, upon His breast,
God will take care of you.
God will take care of you,
Thru ev'ry day, O'er all the way;
He will take care of you.
God will take care of you.

OHIO, JUNCTION
Sandra Manz

"...For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away."

James 4:14

Visiting minister, Bro. Clarence Dietrich (Silverton, OR), alluded to this verse when describing the past 55 years. It was that many years ago at the age of 20 that he had given his heart to the Lord. We thank him for his thought-provoking messages to our congregation while he and his wife, Sis. Betty, visited our area.

Bro. David Manz (Sis. Kathy) underwent surgery, and we were glad to see him so soon back in church.

Several young families are in need of our prayers. We are sorry to report that Bro. Roger Gasser (Sis. Sue) has had a recurrence of leukemia. At this time, he is enduring a time of waiting until he can again undergo treatment.

Gary Whitney, son-in-law of Richard and Eleanor Gerber, lapsed into a coma some time ago during a bout with encephalitis. Doctors offer no hope for his recovery. Please lift these families up in your prayers as the Father works His will. Gary's wife, Nora, would appreciate hearing from anybody who has personally dealt with a similar situation. Nora Whitney, 173 King St., Armonk, NY 10504. Phone (914) 273-3528.

OHIO, LATTY

Lane Stoller - Kathy Sinn

As summertime comes to an end, our congregation gathered for our annual Sunday School picnic at a nearby park. We enjoyed the outdoors, good food and Christian fellowship. After the meal, a singing was held in the park pavilion.

During the month, Steve Plummer and Sis. Ruth Stoller (Bro. Ralph) were hospitalized. Steve has again been able to reassemble with us. May God continue to grant this favor.

However, Sis. Ruth (Bro. Ralph) has gone to her eternal reward. May God's comforting hand and presence be ever near her remaining family throughout the coming months. Her family includes her husband, Bro. Ralph; her sons, Barry, Rick, Greg, Brian, Eric, and Brad; and her daughters, Kathy and Lisa. She has many other relatives in our Latty congregation. We also extend prayers and sympathy to each one of these brethren.

Ministering Bros. Doug Harmon (Toledo, OH) and Bill Hodel (Roanoke, IL) visited us during the month. We appreciate their visit and encourage them to continue to preach the truth. May God continue to bless them. We invite them to visit us again soon.

We also want to extend sympathy to the Latty brethren who are members of the Lynn Fischer family (Roanoke, IL). We need to remember that God's ways are so far above our own.

NOTE: LOST COAT. During the weekend of April 8 and 9, we had the testimonies and baptisms of Bro. Brad Grant, Bro. Mick Laukhuf and Bro. Jason Whitman. There was a "mistaken coat exchange" sometime during the weekend. A light brown, size 11/12 woman's coat with a white

lining was left in the Latty church. This coat has a veil in the pocket. The coat that was taken is exactly the same color and size, except a button was missing. If you are aware of the owner of the coat, please contact Sis. Wanita Laukhuf (419) 622-6531.

OHIO, MANSFIELD
Cari Mann

The following correction to Mildred Dolce's obituary has been brought to my attention. She was preceded in death by her husband, Bro. Gabe Dolce; two sisters, Marie Fulk and Sis. Ruth Weiss; and one brother, Bro. Robert Sauder. My sincerest apology to the family for this error.

This month we have had the privilege of extending a warm welcome to several people. We wish to welcome Bro. John and Sis. Anna Webel who are now assembling with us. We also welcome Debbie Christian (Bro. Ron and Sis. Joann, Rittman, OH) back to finish her final year of nursing school. Also, newlyweds, Bro. Nathan and Sis. Sheila Sabo will be assembling with us while Sis. Sheila finishes her nurse's training. While we know that Elder Bro. Doug and Sis. Linda Sabo (Sarasota, FL) and Bro. Bill and Sis. Miriam Brake (Sardis, OH) will miss this young couple, we hope they feel at home during the time they are with us.

"We give thanks to God always for you all making mention of you in our prayers; Remembering without ceasing your work of faith, and labour of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sight of God and our Father; Knowing, brethren beloved, your election of God."

I Thess. 1:2-4

This month our cups have been

filled to overflowing by our visiting ministers. They include Elder Bro. Doug Sabo (Sarasota, FL), and Bros. Vic Beer (North Ft. Myers, FL), John Grimm (Columbus, OH), Bill Brake (Sardis, OH), Gary Maibach (Smithville, OH), and Don Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN). We certainly appreciate the efforts these brothers have put forth in our behalf and pray for God's richest blessings upon them and their families.

"Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth."

Luke 15:10

The angels in Heaven are certainly rejoicing this month, as even in our congregation we have three precious young ladies who have decided to walk the way of the Lord rather than the way of the world. These dear souls are Elizabeth Masters (Bro. Mark and Sis. Jeannine), Jessica Keever (Bro. Clair and Sis. Bev), and Tami Tucker (Dan and Sis. Barb). As these young ladies begin their life-long walk, may they ever strive to stay close to God and to all His teachings.

One day when I was in the park eating my lunch, I had the privilege of watching a grandfather and his young grandson feeding the ducks. As the ducks swarmed around their feet, clamoring for more food, I couldn't help but think of how we should be like those ducks. We should be so hungry for our spiritual food, that we do everything we possibly can to gather around God's Word. One brother voiced that thought as we listened to the Conference tapes as he asked, "Are we hungry for the Word?" In an earthly sense, it doesn't take very many hours between meals until we are hungry again. How many hours go by be-

fore we are hungry for the Word again? I pray that not one will let very many hours go by before becoming hungry.

OHIO, RITTMAN

**Linda Schar
Marsha Rufener**

We extend a warm welcome to Bro. Gordon and Sis. Emily Greenbank, as they have moved from Phoenix, AZ to our Rittman area.

We want to thank the visiting ministers who have labored to us. Special thanks to Bros. Clarence Dietrich (Silverton, OR), Fred Domka (Mansfield, OH), Marvin Dotterer (Forrest, IL), Sam Schlatter (Junction, OH), and Elder Bro. Gene Pamer (Akron, OH).

Chris and Lisa Matie welcomed a daughter, Taylor Ann, on August 21. Brother, Cody, now has a playmate. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Matie and Bro. Ron and Sis. Joann Christian.

Joanna Lynn Gasser joined the family of Bro. Jim and Sis. Janice Gasser on September 4. Big brothers, Gregory, Daniel, Matthew, and grandparents, Bro. Ron and Sis. Hope Gasser and Bro. John and Sis. Joan Hartzler, also welcome baby Joanna.

Bro. Dave and Sis. Jan Stoller welcome their firstborn child. Derek Lee was born September 6. Happy grandparents are Bro. Everett and Sis. Marge Stoller and Bro. Michael and Sis. Norene Miller.

Bro. Reuben Hartzler went to be with our Lord after 95 years here on earth. He is survived by his wife, Sis. Velma, and his children, Sis. Eleanor Pamer (Elder Bro. Gene, Akron), Bro. Dale (Sis. Joyce), Sis. Donna Mogler (Bro. Phil, Lester, IA), Sis. Lucille Blough, Bro. Vince (Sis. Jane), and Bro. Merle (Sis. Bonnie). Our

prayers are with them all through this loss.

September 10 was the wedding day of Bro. Steve Dotterer (Keith and Sis. Linda, Smithville) and Sis. Amy Hartzler (Bro. Dale and Sis. Joyce). May the Lord bless them with many years together.

Our prayers are with those who have been hospitalized this past month. Our thoughts are with: Bro. Dan Baltic (Sis. Betty), Jennifer Dotterer (Bro. Bob and Sis. Mardel), Bro. Ralph Lanz (Sis. Diane), Rich Marty (Sherri), Sis. Cherie Maibach (Jeff and Elsie), Bro. Joe Ramsier (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Terri), Randy Riggerbach (Vernon), Luke Steiner (Bro. Matt and Sis. Gail), and Bro. Eric Stoller (Sis. Melanie). May the Lord be near each one.

OHIO, SARDIS Renee Miller

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

Bro. Nathan Sabo (Elder Bro. Doug and Sis. Linda, Sarasota, FL) and Sis. Sheila Brake (Bro. Bill and Sis. Mim) were united as one on August 27. Bros. Mark Masters (Mansfield, OH) and Ed Bahler (Remington, IN) ministered to us on their wedding day. Bro. Nathan's father, Elder Bro. Doug, gave instruction from the Word and took the marriage vows.

Our prayers go with Sis. Julia Brake (Bro. Bill and Sis. Mim) as she has moved to Rittman, OH to continue her education at Akron University.

Sis. Cyndi Figel (Bro. Andy) and Sis. Joy Indermuhle (Bro. Dana) have accepted the responsibility of teaching our young children in Sunday School. We appreciate their willingness and extend our thanks to Sis. Joyce Indermuhle and Sis. Karen Indermuhle (Bro. Bob) for their past service.

"Dearest Saviour let me ever in thy service here abide" was the prayer on the hearts of our Elders and ministers as they met for the yearly summer Conference. Those that went were uplifted, chastised, and strengthened. Those who stayed at home eagerly awaited the "Good Word" in the form of the Conference tapes. The past few Wednesday evenings have been a real blessing to us as we gathered to listen to the tapes. As we strive for true faith to become a "True Believer", let us put to good use the teachings we have gleaned from our 1995 Conference.

OHIO, SMITHVILLE

Edith Miller

Margaret Blough

A new little soul came into the world on September 5 when Miranda Joy was born to first-time parents, Bro. Mark and Sis. Julie Maibach. Miranda's grandparents are Bro. Norm and Sis. Lollie Young (Fairbury, IL) and Bro. Gary and Sis. Mary Ann Maibach. May God provide the wisdom needed to be good and godly parents.

On August 26 and 27, two more souls were added to the Lamb's Book of Life. After giving their testimonies, Susie Rufener (Bro. John and Sis. Emily) and Jessica Riggenbach (Bro. Glenn and Sis. Lou) were baptized and welcomed into the body of Christ.

"Teach me to do thy will; for thou art my God: thy spirit is good;

lead me into the land of uprightness."

Psalm 143:10

Sheila Hartzler (Bro. Stan and Sis. Gloria) has decided to hear God's call to repentance. Let's remember her in our prayers as she begins the fight against self and Satan.

We've had two weddings within the past month. The wedding of Sis. Shelly Riggenbach and Bro. Dwaine Beery took place on August 20. Their parents are Bro. Glenn and Sis. Lou Riggenbach and Art and Eileen Beery. Bro. Steve Dotterer and Sis. Amy Hartzler were married at the Rittman church on September 10. Their parents are Keith and Sis. Linda Dotterer and Bro. Dale and Sis. Joyce Hartzler (Rittman). May the Lord bless each new home with love and unity in Christ!

Those who were hospitalized recently include Peter Fetzer (Bro. Andy and Sis. Elizabeth Fetzer), Bro. Roger Bauman (Sis. Jennifer), and Sis. Dorothy Ramsier (Bro. Jim). We trust that each one has felt the Lord's healing hand.

We have been blessed with many visiting ministers lately: Elder Bros. Henry Dotterer (Rittman, OH) and Ken Sauder (Mansfield, OH), and Bros. Bill Gerst (Alto, MI), Merle Hartzler (Rittman, OH), Ken Schneider (Remington, IN), Don Manz (Junction, OH), Dave Graf (Akron, OH) and Mark Masters (Mansfield, OH). May the Lord bless them for their willingness to speak His Word.

OHIO, TOLEDO

Rebecca Beard - Edie Fetter

Bob and Dorothy Stevens are happy to welcome a new granddaughter. Elizabeth Hope was born to John and Barb Kihm of Durham, NC.

We want to extend our sympathy to the family of Bob Reineck (Pat) who passed away September 13. May God be the Comforter and Healer of sorrowing hearts.

We are happy to welcome our college students back for a new school year. We enjoyed being with their families at our annual College Family Weekend. It is a special blessing when our assembly is filled and we can lift our voices together to praise God's Holy name. We especially appreciated the visit and service of Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter and Bro. Ben Manz, both of Junction. May the students feel God's leading through the course of their studies.

OREGON, PORTLAND

Mary Berg - Lori Martin

Greetings brethren! School has started again and as we get back into our daily routines, let us not forget what is most important; to shine our light in our daily walk.

The Bible Class enjoyed a wonderful weekend with Bro. Walt Steffen (Sis. Dorothy, Milford, IN). We thank him and his wife for taking time from their busy schedules to talk with our children. As many are approaching adulthood, may they examine their lives, pray and decide to surrender to Him.

OREGON, SILVERTON

Peggy Schulz

On August 20, we were blessed to hold the dedication service of our new Silverton church. Elder Bro. Art Bahler (Sis. Suzanne, Fairbury, IL) and Elder Bro. John Klotzle (Sis. Lois, Altadena, CA) took part in this special service. We want to take this opportunity to thank them for their willing service on our behalf. We truly appreciate our new edifice and often as we assemble our thoughts

turn to all those who have helped make it a reality. May the Lord richly bless each one.

Our thoughts and prayers have been with our recent hospital patients, Alex Bolliger (Bro. Ben and Sis. Carolyn) and Sis. Carol Dietrich. We are thankful they are both able to assemble with us again.

We recently held Sunday School elections. The following brothers and sisters were entrusted with this important responsibility: Preschool - Sis. Cindy Metzger; Grades 1 & 2 - Sis. Peggy Schulz; Grades 3 & 4 - Sis. Diane Sinn; Grades 9 & 10 - Bro. Lynn Kuenzi and Bro. Art Kuenzi; Grades 11 & 12 - Bro. Terry Kuenzi. We want to thank Sis. Tresa Zollinger who has completed her term.

This month we were also privileged to have Bro. Jim Leman (Sis. Myra, Roanoke, IL) serve us in the ministry. May the Lord continue to bless you as you bring forth His Word of truth.

**PENNSYLVANIA,
PHILADELPHIA
Franz Soni**

"...O man greatly beloved, fear not: peace be unto thee, be strong, yea, be strong. And when he had spoken unto me, I was strengthened, and said, Let my lord speak; for thou hast strengthened me."

Daniel 10:19

We welcome two new families to our church. From Columbus, OH, Bro. Ben and Sis. Michelle Wiegand and their children, Lauren and Emily. From Kansas City, MO, we welcome Bro. Brad and Sis. LuAnn Gramm and their children, Alec and Ashlyn. We look forward to having them worship with us.

We extend our sympathy to Bro. Jerry Isch (Sis. Linda) on the

death of his grandfather, Bro. Joe Isch, of Bluffton, IN.

Our prayers are with Bro. Jerry and Sis. Linda Isch on the birth of their new son, Isaac Glen, born on September 7. Waiting at home to welcome their brother are brother, Joel, and sister, Bonnie. Grandparents are Bro. Ernie and Sis. Lucille Isch (Bluffton, IN) and Bro. Glen and Sis. Eileen Furrer (Morris, MN).

Kevin Clough (John and Sis. Kathy) has found peace with God and man. We look forward to his testimony and baptism.

John and Sis. Kathy Clough hosted a slide presentation on World Relief and Mission Committee work.

Our Sunday School held its picnic on September 9. We thank our Sunday School teachers for giving us a nice day of fellowship. We thank them for their efforts in teaching our children. May God reward them for their efforts.

We encourage those who will be 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**

As we think of the fall season and the leaves changing color, I like to think of God using a paintbrush to color the trees the different shades of red, yellow, and orange that they become. God is also "painting" our lives. The different combinations of trials and blessings sent our direction change and shape us into the person He wants us to become. We need to remember that God is always just a prayer away to help us. How much we rely on God to help us is up to us! We have often heard

the expression "Let go and let God." Our lives will go so much smoother if we will abide by this simple principle of letting go of a situation ourselves and letting God work it out for us.

Our church remodeling project is a great example of this principle. We have had to learn to "let go and let God"! Quite a few hurdles/obstacles have been encountered that only God could work out. It is during these times that we learn to trust God and our faith becomes strengthened when we see situations worked out for us. This past month an extensive amount of clearing and grading was done around the church building to create the parking area. An inspection was also done on the newly added kitchen/dining room.

Our visiting ministers this past month were Bro. Ted Hirstein on September 3 from Morton, IL; and Bro. Brian Huber from Francesville, IN on September 17. In addition to the families of these two brothers, we were also blessed with other visitors from Morton, IL and Francesville, IN as well as from Gridley, IL; Minneapolis, MN; and Bluffton North, IN. Thank you, Bro. Ted and Bro. Brian, for lending yourselves into God's service and to all of our visitors for your efforts in traveling to worship and fellowship with us. We appreciate each and every one of you, and pray the Lord will bless you.

This month we were also blessed to have Amanda Gutwein with us for the first of, we hope, many visits. Amanda has just moved from the Francesville, IN area to pursue college studies in Knoxville, TN. Amanda, we wish you the Lord's blessings as you pursue your future endeavors.

Fall is an especially beautiful time to come visit Nashville. The trees are absolutely gorgeous. Contact Bro. Don and Faye Sauder

(615) 373-8928; Bro. Don and Sis. Enid Miller (615) 384-8761; or Sis. Gwen Leuthold (615) 352-3940 for more information. Our services are held on the first and third Sundays of each month with the following churches scheduled: November 5 - Elgin, IL; November 19 - Goodfield, IL; December 3 - Bluffton, IN; and December 17 - Oakville, IA. Tape services may also be scheduled on the second and fourth Sundays. Call for more details.

**TEXAS, DALLAS
AND ROUND TOP**

**Christine Kaiser
Kim Kaiser**

Our August service in Dallas was blessed by a visit from Elder Bro. Lawrence and Sis. Sandra Luthi (Lamar, MO). Bro. Leland Plattner (Zapata, TX) ministered

to us in September. We sincerely thank them for their loving labors in Jesus' name.

Bro. Dale and Sis. Cheryl Moore (Elgin, IA) attended our Round Top church gathering. A great thanks is extended to them for their efforts. An additional service was held in Austin, TX at the home of Brian and Terri Kaisner. Bro. Leland and Sis. Mary Plattner were again up from Zapata for it. Thanks so much!

Dallas church services are usually 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. Contact Bro. Howard and Sis. Dolores Rapp (214) 867-4074 or Bro. Greg and Sis. Christine Kaiser (214) 335-0105 for more information.

Round Top services for the Houston/Austin area are held at

Bro. Bill Zeltwanger's home in Round Top, TX on the last Sunday of each month. Contact Bro. Bill at (409) 249-5102 for schedule confirmation and directions.

**TEXAS, ZAPATA
Viola Perdelwitz**

We listened to the tapes of the August Conference. We wish to thank the Elders for telling us of the many dangers we should avoid. May we all watch and pray that we may heed these warnings.

We had very little rain this last year, but we have had a few showers of rain the last few weeks. The wild olive tree in our front yard has many white blossoms. In our climate, some of the flowers ignore the calendar, and they will bloom when we have a rare welcome rain.

LIFE'S ENDING DESTINATION

The devil is plodding through the land
Looking for those to join his band.
But God is always on our side,
While the unrighteous look for a place to hide.
For the sins they've committed are burdensome,
Yet they continue on in pleasure and fun.
But the ones that are fighting on God's side of the war,
Will live in Heaven forevermore.

By Sis. Amanda Steffen of the Latty, OH congregation

"ASK AND YOU SHALL RECEIVE"

Sermon by Bro. Ken Wuethrich of Indianapolis, IN

Job 31:1-28 and Matthew 7

Let us think about this idea of judgment. If you are not converted this afternoon, I would offer to you one of the proofs of the need to live for Jesus Christ, the need to actually believe to the point where you are converted and you repent is just the truth that is in the Word.

This morning there were so many articles of truth given to what our human nature is and what the Bible teaches us to be and to do, that we begin to say, "Yes, I understand the good and I understand the truth that is in the Bible."

Here we start again with judgment. Now think about what human nature is. We heard about it this morning. Human nature is to tend to look at our neighbor before we look at our own self and our own home.

In a minute we are going to read here as Jesus spoke these words about there are two ways to go. It is simple, but there are two ways. One of the evidences of the truth of the Word is this fleshly nature that we are born into and how we are either filled with the Spirit, or we are filled with the flesh. We are going to serve one or the other, aren't we? Who here this afternoon says, "Oh, I don't think so. I think I am pretty good. My flesh has no problems." Just think about it. Think about our nature to be able to want to talk about someone else, to observe someone else and want to correct them before ourselves.

I read a little saying in the past couple of weeks that said, "If God Himself has said that He will not judge until one is dead, then why should I do any different?" I've been thinking about that. When

you read a thought like that (the Word is full of them) and if you just "chew" on that for a period of time, you will begin to see the truth of the Word because you will experience things. At least, I have done that in the last couple of weeks. I will want to jump to a conclusion in certain situations and I think, "Wait a minute. Why did I make that judgment?"

One of the evidences of the truth of the Word and the need to follow it with all our heart, all our mind and all our soul is that as we read these verses, just think about, "Yes, I do struggle with that from time to time, and I see what Jesus means when He says, 'Don't judge.'" He even reminds us that it is a scary thought that the same measure upon which we would measure someone else will be put upon ourselves. It is pretty fair, isn't it?

Men say today, "How can there be a hell and how can God judge men that way?" Yet, we read in the Word and we begin to understand how we have these choices and how Jesus reminds us that we simply will be judged as we judge others, as according to the Word.

We started with the commandment to not judge one another, and then to look at ourself first. Now there is Scripture that we should care enough for our brothers and sisters that we would even speak to them and help them in their own lives, but it is always out of love and then it always starts with our checking our own lives first. Then we can go to other Scriptures and say we are to go to that person first and by ourself and visit with them. That is the beauty of the Word. We take the whole Word and we see the wisdom that is placed in and

given to us.

Now we go to prayer where verse seven says, "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened." (Matthew 7:7-8).

Parents and grandparents, how much time do we spend just fretting over what our children are doing? If you sat my children down and asked them, they would probably just like to kick me out of the house at times because we are over concerned. I don't know if you can be over concerned, but yet, how much time do we spend going before the Lord and just saying, "Lord they are yours.?"

That thought sticks with me this morning that we heard, reminding ourselves that these things are of God. This noon we were visiting a little bit about our own children and our own fears about children, and then I was reminded thinking about how our parents probably worried, fretted, and experienced the same anxieties over us.

There was a thought by a wise father that was shared with a son that says, "I always trusted that the same grace that brought me around would work in your life." I'm going to remember that.

We need to be concerned. We need to have a heart that is so full of love and prayers that the fiery darts of Satan can be deflected, and that God will build a hedge around them, our homes, our offices, and our responsibilities. We can then know that grace, that joy and that peace that He has.

Let us be a praying church. Let

Sermon continued...

Sermon continued...

us have praying homes. Let us help. You know, it seems like when God puts us together, whether it is a good friend in an apartment or at a home in a marriage or a neighborhood, it seems like (maybe this is just Lyn and I and our own lives), when one of us gets just a little upset, the other one can kind of remain calm and say, "No, we need to pray."

Let us help each other with that. Let's be mindful as He says here. That is the beauty of the Word. Young people, this is for you; and for the old, it is for us.

"Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you." (Matthew 7:7). Let us go to our knees first. Another little saying says, "It is impossible to over-emphasize the fabric of prayer in the family life."

There is a man that is just publishing a big cookbook. I want to get that cookbook -- it is Italian food. But do you know what his whole goal is? His goal is not that he has the greatest cookbook and be known for the great recipes. His goal and the whole book is designed around family time around the table. He challenges, as he speaks about what he is putting together, the thought of the difference in just twenty years that has been brought about in the opportunity of the time at the table.

You know, that is just one example. But think about how hard it is. I do not think that that is just our home as to just how hard it is to all sit and be together and to visit. It is such a blessing. I thought, "How clever. He is taking time to put together recipes with that goal in mind." God gives us many different opportunities and talents, and with just that one focus, He helps one family spend time.

Again at noon, we were visiting about a family that just really is respected. You just see that calmness in the father and then you begin to see it in the son and you think, "What is the secret in that family?" Then the father is asked. "Well, we just take time. What we do around the table is just stay with the Bible. We read from the Bible." And, "Son, how many times would you say that we have been through the Bible?" This son said, "Oh, I don't know. Six or seven times." That is reading the Word.

Jesus mentioned prayer. I can't say anything new this afternoon. It is all in the Word. The challenge goes out as we open up and read the words here of Jesus that we should pray though. If anyone here is really fretting or worrying, let us just be reminded -- Jesus said, "Just knock!"

Young people, this is for you. Do not say that this is for Dad. "Yes, Dad, you need to do this." Yesterday, I was trying to hang a light in the office. Sometimes I get in a hurry. I was trying to hold it. Of course, my arms got tired as I was working there, and I asked one of the boys for something and he was wanting to visit about something else and I got after him a little. As he handed me the screwdriver, he said, "Dad, why are you always in a hurry?"

That kind of made me think about it the rest of the day because it is true. We get busy, even as I remember a time in my life of trying to start lists. Now lists almost consume us at times because we just want to get done with the list. Then there is another list, and something else breaks.

Let us help one another. Let's not judge one another. Let us look at our own lives first and then, with a loving heart, work together. Being a praying church, start with

each one as individuals. That is where it starts.

Then, you know, when I get a little upset, love me enough to help me out and calm me down. I will do the same for you. If we would do that in our homes, our apartments, our businesses and wherever we are at, then we would display the reason and the joy of the hope that is within us. Then someone might say, "How do you do that?" By prayer.

Now this is a promise. Verse nine. "Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone? Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent? If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him? Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets." (Matthew 7:9-12).

There it is -- the golden rule again that we read this morning. How basic! How true that is! When you have a decision to make, stop. What would I like to have done to me? Use that in junior high and high school. Use it in college. Use it in our homes and our neighborhoods.

Verse 13 says, "Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it. Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits." (Matthew 7:13-16).

Very important. Verse sixteen says, "Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of

thorns, or figs of thistles? Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit." (Matthew 7:16-18).

You know, I think of examples that we have seen even in our national or world media. Whether it is world leaders, or an example like David Koresh or even recently, I was informed of a story of a man just ten years ago. He led a little group of people and he called himself a prophet. I had to think as I listened to that story how confusing it must be to someone who is not converted and is not walking in the grace or the spirit of the Lord. How confusing it might be for them to separate this man who is so confused and said that he is of God and talking to God, why is he any different?

What does that mean and what does that say about religion? We have a responsibility, I believe, to them to live a life that tells a story that is consistent with the Word, because that is the difference. In this one example that I am thinking of, this man asked the people that followed him to do things that clearly were not of the Word.

So, what do we have to know first? What is the answer? We have to know the Word, don't we? How will we know those false prophets? The Bible says, "Ye shall know them by their fruits." It makes sense, doesn't it?

"A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit." (Matthew 7:18). I just think about those opportunities when someone disagrees. Someone who is not converted is not going to think like you think. When they speak out and say, "Well, what is wrong with abortion?" Or, "What is

wrong with...?" whatever it is.

When we feel this anger that wells up inside of us and we want to lash out, we are just absolutely helping Satan out and confusing. But when we show the confidence and the understanding of the Word and we know the Word, then we can be a better example.

I believe that we have many opportunities throughout a week to let the Lord's Word be displayed, just from how we react to different situations that God puts us in.

Verse 19 says, "Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them." (Matthew 7:19-20). A beautiful answer to those that say, "How can there be a hell? How can God, a loving God, cast anybody into an eternity of hell?"

Let us go back over that. It says that the tree will be known by what? By its fruit. Let us think about it. What fruit is there in our lives? That challenge went out this morning and that challenge goes out now. Where is my life at? What kind of a tree am I and what will happen to me? What do we let our minds do? "Well," some of us say, "I am as good as so-and-so." Now wait a minute. We started with verse one that talked about believers not judging one another. It is telling us not to judge one another.

We need to be reminded that we will all stand before Him on Judgment Day. We will all stand before Him. Then our own lives, and the fruit that we bare throughout our lives, they will then determine. As we would do with a tree here on this earth, those that do not produce fruit go into the fire. Jesus tells us that once again here in the Word.

People say, "Now, what am I supposed to do? Sure, I want to live for Him and have Him a part

of my life, but then what am I supposed to do? How much more is necessary? What am I called to do?" This is nothing new. Man has been wrestling with that since the time of Christ.

Let us read on...just a few more verses here. Verse twenty-one, "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." (Matthew 7:21). Now the first part of the commandment here is to do the will of the Father. So, what do we have to have? It has been written that many of us want the joys of the kingdom, but we do not want to serve the King. Do you understand that?

In other words, we cannot use Jesus Christ or this plan of salvation as an insurance policy to say, "I want to be covered; Lord, I want to live for you," and then go about our own will. There is a real important part of repentance, and that is why we talk about repentance.

It began there with John the Baptist when he said, "Repent and be baptized." Jesus said, "Repent and be baptized." Then we say, "Repent." Part of that is to give up our own will. That is why he says here in verse twenty-one, "He that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven."

So, let us get real specific. Are we willing to do the will of our Father? Could that be one of the fruits or pieces of fruit in a life that might determine that standing with the heart of a soul? What do you think?

Are we willing to do the will of Him even if it means that we do not go the way that we want to go? Because we want to go so bad, but we are willing to say, "No, Lord, I do not want to go that way because

Sermon continued...

Sermon continued...

I believe that you know what is best for me. If what is best for me is to go this way instead of that way, then I am going to go this way."

It is really important to have a frame of mind and a heart that is open to God's will. So He says, "...but he that doeth the will of my Father in heaven." (Matthew 7:21).

Verse twenty-two, "Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity." (Matthew 7:22-23). That is a humbling thought that someone that has prophesied in His name and cast out devils and done many wonderful works and yet Jesus will say, "Depart from me."

Let us read on. Verse twenty-four, "Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock. And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it. And it came to pass, when Jesus had ended these sayings, the people were astonished at his doctrine: For he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes." (Matthew 7:24-29).

When we know the Word, we know that Jesus understood His purpose in life and He understood

what His Father needed and wanted Him to do, and He did it! As He spoke these words, as we read them here, He spoke with confidence. They were confused, it says here in these last two verses, because He spoke as one having authority and they thought, "Now who is this? This is just Jesus."

But we know the Word. I think about the confidence or the authority, the comfort and the safety that Jesus knew. You and I can have that confidence, not of ourselves, but because we are willing to give up ourselves.

He says, "Every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man." (Matthew 7:26). We heard that this morning over and over again. We heard it as we closed up this morning. I guess maybe the third time, it ought to "sink in" for all of us that we would kind of listen. Not "kind of" listen, but that we would listen to the Spirit this afternoon again.

Is there something that just kind of comes back to you through the day as you have been listening? Something that you think, "Yes, I thought that before," or "I sensed that there is something that I need to do, something that I need to change, something that I need to be."

I believe that the Spirit works that way. As it speaks to us, then it is our point, so to speak. It is up to you and me. As we just read here, we are either going to take that Word, take that prompting, and use it or we are going to be like the foolish man. "Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock." (Matthew 7:24).

The Old Testament fits so well because we see an example of a

man, a godly man, in the midst of a struggle. It is so beautiful, as God knows our minds and hearts, that you and I could come today and we can hear the Word. It does not matter what situation we are in, it applies to us.

So in these teachings, we say, I think that many of us might have been guilty if we had lived in the time of Job to go to Job's house and maybe accuse him as he was accused by his friends. That is going back to this judgment thing that we read about here in the New Testament.

Let us look at ourselves first. Let us be willing to help those that are around us and love them enough to look at ourselves first and then be willing to lend that helping hand. Let us pray. "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened." (Matthew 7:7-8). There are two ways, as we just read in verses thirteen through eighteen.

Then, in closing, verse twenty-four, we are all building on something. I think that is what is scary about this life, as time goes on, as it goes faster and faster, all of a sudden it is another Sunday. Where did the week go? In some ways it seems like a long time and in some ways it seems like yesterday.

We are building something as we rush through it. Let us have the wisdom to take the time to build that foundation in the Word as we read this afternoon.





REMEMBERING

Our Spiritual Heritage

Our Theological Heritage

In presenting a summary of our church's theological heritage, a sense of irony arises because our people have never placed a high emphasis on the studied influences of religious scholars. They have relied more on the humble precepts of godly men who felt led by the Holy Spirit. In this, the overriding emphasis has focused, as much as possible and by God's grace, on applying the scriptures to everyday life in ways that are pleasing to God.

Too, one is limited in tracing a "theological" heritage because our church denomination is so comparatively young. It was established in 1832 and is only 163 years old. These years constitute a little more than eight percent of the Christian era. Thus, 92 percent of Christianity's time frame has preceded the Apostolic Christian Church.

Essentially, we as a church body follow in the tradition, historically, of the "free" church (i.e. those devout groups over the centuries that existed outside the realm of the monolithic and/or state churches). The free churches were distinguished by their devotion to the Bible's literal messages, and they reflected a warm Christian piety and holiness. Their intent was to follow the Bible as literally as possible. They were

often martyred.

The fact that ongoing religious confusions---mostly in the official, state churches---were so prominent prompted young Samuel Froehlich (in his early twenties) to start anew and build a church squarely on the foundation of Christ and the Apostles. He looked to the secure foundation of the Word (as opposed to the state church's theological forces) to form a new church. Our early brethren separated themselves from virtually all "outside" religious influences in an effort to establish and maintain a pure church that was free of willful sin. While admitting imperfections, they sought the perfection of Christ.

Our heritage also follows in the tradition of the Reformation motto, "sola Scriptura", which means scriptures alone as the only standard for doctrine and life. The Anabaptists invigorated this concept, as did our brethren three hundred years later.

By adopting "sola Scriptura", and making a careful and conscious effort to eschew religious falsehoods and/or biblical omissions, Brother Froehlich and his followers (and we today) have avoided questionable doctrines. We have made efforts to shield ourselves from seducing religious influences, and the ill winds of theological insufficiencies. In this,

we have been able, by God's grace, to maintain sound doctrine over our 16 decades of existence.

Theological rationalism was the prominent religious system in Froehlich's day. Also, he faced a strong influence from the five points of Calvinism which included predestination and eternal security. He rejected all these viewpoints. Instead, he answered God's call to repent and become converted. His was a "crises" conversion in which the old man became broken and "crucified" with Christ, and he became a new creature in the Lord, by God's grace.

To more fully grasp our doctrinal heritage, it is instructive to note the forces of religious thought that were in existence when our church was established and began to grow. A short period after our church began, the "higher criticism" method of biblical interpretation began to flower in Europe. Our brethren did not accept this tendency. Such a trend found root in German seminaries in the mid-to-late 1800's. This method tended to undermine scriptures and has led, over the decades, to a more liberal Christianity. Biblical fundamentals such as the virgin birth, the divinity of Christ, and His bodily resurrection were either denied or severely questioned. It called into question whether or not parts of the Bible

Remembering continued...



REMEMBERING

Our Spiritual Heritage

Remembering continued...

were true.

By the 1920's in America, a "fundamentalist" movement rose up to defend the historic faith against this new rationalist liberalism. Although sincere, their response was often considered indiscreet and they drew rebuke for what seemed to be their intolerance.

During the great debates between liberalism and fundamentalism early in this century, our church here in America remained at a distance, and was largely unaffected by these controversies. Their pattern of not co-mingling with questionable forces was of great benefit.

Because fundamentalism became so seemingly immovable in its defense (and thus diminished its potential for influence), a new movement arose in response during the middle of this century. It was called New Evangelicalism. This movement felt the old fundamentalism was too rigid, and failed to communicate well with an increasingly "sophisticated" and educated populace.

In the latter half of the twenti-

eth century the New Evangelical, a free-spirited and doctrinally generic type of Christianity, largely recognized no denominational lines. A more worldly-oriented and less demanding Christianity resulted. It is a big force in America today.

In order to keep a doctrinal purity acceptable to God, our church has historically remained apart from these many swirls of influence. Doctrinal separation and closed communion have enhanced our maintaining sound doctrine. To a large degree, we have been able to resist many, many religious falsehoods. But because of publishing and broadcasting capabilities today, and due in part to our brethren's advanced state of social acculturation (due to occupational demands, etc.), the above-mentioned evangelicalism is a potential influence in this present era.

In a doctrinal/theological sense, we have held firmly to the need for a thorough, sincere, and upright repentance and conversion; and a subsequent entering into a state of brotherhood whereby, as "members one of another", we are ac-

countable to each other in faith, and a kindly, biblical authority rests over us as "helpers" of our joy (II Cor. 1:24).

A significant point in our theological heritage is that our brethren have held to a strong confidence in the majority texts from which the King James Version of the Bible was translated in 1611 (the German Bible also came from those same ancient texts). Just this year, our council of Elders confirmed their confidence in supporting the King James Version.

In our doctrinal outlook, we have further held to the need of the Bible's ongoing themes of humility of heart, lowliness of mind, and an obedient and submissive spirit. It is into such a heart that God's grace can more readily flow.

Our heritage is precious. May God sustain us!

By Bro. Perry A. Klopfenstein

Next issue:

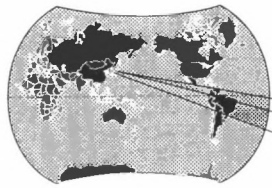
The Faith Spreads



The Light Of Hope

From Across The Ocean

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"We Should Be Willing"

Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle, Shioda, Japan

We should be willing to reject worldliness and embrace a simple, spiritual lifestyle. There is beauty in the quiet, modest, wholesome lifestyle. We should be willing to pursue that lifestyle more aggressively. It will take some doing because the trend is laxity in self-discipline and succumbing to curiosity and the influence of the world.

The Apostle John writes, "The lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world." (I John 2:15). John reminds us that there are natural inclinations that we need to be careful about. Surely, I'm not the only one who has a need for this reminder. Don't you need it, too?

The lust of the flesh might cause us to dress or act or adorn ourselves in a way unbecoming a child of God. Let's try to keep everything under control in a manner and with an appear-

ance which is above reproach. By God's grace, I shall try to do so.

The lust of the eyes is a difficult problem and it can lead to sin. There are two facets to it; the desire to be looked at and noticed by others, and the desire to do the looking. We are much better off, spiritually, if we keep these things under control.

The pride of life has to do with our search for self-respect and to be well thought of by others. Some of us might even speak too much of our own successes, which might indicate we are lacking in self-confidence and actually feel inferior. We are all only human beings, struggling along trying to do the best we can by God's grace.

Another area in which we would be willing to do better is in regard to reverence toward God. "Let us have grace, whereby we may serve God ac-

ceptably with reverence and godly fear." (Hebrews 13:28). Do we show reverence and do we have godly fear; fear that we might displease Him in some way or fail to be a good example? We should have this kind of reverence and fear. I shall try to cultivate it more.

I do not chew gum but some do. Last year at the general Conference I noticed gum chewing in the church. Is that reverent or doesn't that have anything to do with reverence? Please help me.

We should be willing to always take the path which brings God the most glory, regardless of personal will or desire in the matter. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ enable us to do this and to thereby maintain our identity as a modest group of believers who live holy lives. We should be willing.

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Pulaski, IA - 1864

We are grateful for our forefathers who had courage and faith to preserve a place for souls to worship and find peace and rest for the soul.

The church pictured here was first located in the country but later moved to town. This building was used until 1957. In 1958, we dedicated our new church to the Lord.

Bro. Russell Wuthrich

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