



The Silver Lining

Forbearing One Another...

August 1996



With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love;

Ephesians 4:2

Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:

Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;

Romans 3:24-25

Volume 50

AUGUST 1996

Number 8

Forbearance

The act of forbearance is one of the kindest acts we can commit. It is an act of unfeigned love. Webster defines forbearance in this way—to abstain, controlling oneself under provocation and having patient restraint, extending the time of payment on a debt. What greater debt do we owe than the debt of our sins and the mistakes of life. God, through His forbearance, extended our debt to Him into eternity through the shed blood of Christ. God even goes one step further in His infinite mercy and cancels our debt through our faith in Him and the acceptance of His mercy through repentance. No greater example of mercy and unfeigned love has ever been given than that of our Father which art in Heaven.

For God so loved the World that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

John 3:16

We look to the Lord as our example and start to see the need in our life to come closer to His perfection. Do we jump in with both feet when we hear some gossip about a loved one? Do we hear the words slip from our mouth, "Where there is smoke, there is usually a little fire" or does the love of the Lord reflect in our reply, "I am sure that there is a good explanation for this or that" and then encourage the talking to stop. That is one small way we can show forbearance for those around us. We can never reach the Lord's perfection, however we should never slack in our reaching. We are blessed according to our willingness to extend our effort of reaching for a Christ-like attitude.

The lilies of the valley and the flowers of the field are a constant reminder of God's tolerance for us. As we behold their beauty, we feel a warm feeling which comes from the knowledge that God loves His creation and is tolerant and forbearing of the mistakes of men. Should we use

that forbearance for occasion to sin, God forbid. Should we consider God's forbearance as a reason to procrastinate in repentance, God forbid. We can, however, take that warm feeling of love we get from Him and make an extension of that love to others. Love and forbearance are a couple of things we can not give away, for as we attempt to give our love away or forbear one another, we receive more than we gave. In thinking about the flowers of the field, which was God's gift to us, we almost always have a warm peaceful feeling in return. Warmth generates warmth and cold generates cold. So it is in life.

We should ask ourselves, "Am I a lily of the valley, or a flower of the mountain; do I give forth gracefulness as water from a fountain? Am I an extension of God's love to man who around me stand, or am I a lump of clay who only offers others the back of my hand?"

I can only speak of my imperfection, for it is in my heart that I can see clearly. I know where I can do better, and by God's grace, I will do better.

Forbearance is not apathy. How often do we hear, "You leave me do what I want and I will leave you do what you want." God did not leave us alone on earth to fend for ourselves. He did not create us and then disappear. Rather He created man in His image, instructed His creation in obedience, and made punishment for disobedience. All of this is because He loves us and wants our well being. If as we walk through the valley or field and we watch where our foot falls, we can miss crushing out the life of some beautiful flower, which in return leaves that beauty for the next soul whose journey is behind. It is the same with the beauty of God's instructions for a holy life. If we crush them out as we walk along, they will not hold the same value to the next generation that follows us.

Forbearance is tolerance. Not tolerance for sin or crushing the flowers of life, but rather tolerance for our

imperfection. We all have a tendency to tolerate the imperfections of our spouse or children because we love them so much. If God's love is in our heart, we will also tolerate His children as they may appear to be unfair or hurt us. We will understand that there is no perfection in man. We will however "discern the spirits" and be willing to empathize with our brethren. God cared enough for us that He gave us His Word, the Holy Bible, to warn us of impending danger. We should do no less if we through love and forbearance can help an erring child of God.

In closing, let us consider the tremendous forbearance of Our Father Which Art In Heaven and then look into our lives. As we reach for His perfection, let us remember how much we can hurt others by not forbearing and forgiving. If you are walking down a street and everyone you pass is frowning, quickly seek out a mirror and check out the countenance of your face. Perchance your frown generated the other frowns. Then with a heart of love, journey on and with a smile from the Lord watch as the frowns of the passerby change to smiles of love. Seek not how you can hurt others, but how you can help others.

The Silver Lining

RR 2 Box 50 Roanoke, IL 61561

USPS 496780

Published Monthly By The Apostolic
Christian Church of America

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The Silver Lining

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Periodical postage paid at Roanoke, IL 61561, and additional offices. The subscription rate is a donation. Send zip number with address. Remember to send changes of address. Send both old and new addresses (with both zips). Postmaster send address changes to:

The Silver Lining

RR2 Box 50, Roanoke, IL 61561

*"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

August 1996

Judging Within the Brotherhood

"Judge not, that ye be not judged. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again" (Matt. 7:1-2). "Therefore thou art inexcusable, O man, whosoever thou art that judgest...for thou that judgest doest the same things" (Romans 2:1).

From these passages of Scripture, we receive strong admonition that we are not to judge one another. Yet these questions often arise in the mind of a child of God, "How do we deal with inappropriate behavior if we are not to judge? What authority, or responsibility, do God's people have concerning matters of behavior?"

It is very clear in the Word of God that sin cannot be tolerated in the house of God. "If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are" (I Cor. 3:17). From the very beginning, Satan tried to convince mankind that God did not mean what He said and that sin was not something to be avoided. In the garden of Eden, the serpent told Eve, "Ye shall not surely die: for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil" (Gen. 3:4-5).

To understand our duties in the area of judgment, we must understand that judging has a variety of meanings. Our responsibility is dependent upon the particular meaning of the word that is used. Among the meanings of the word judge are: to condemn; to give sentence; to assume the office of; to undergo the process of a trial; to be involved in a lawsuit, to administer affairs, and to form an opinion or to make a resolve.

The responsibility to judge, depending on the meaning that is used, seems to fall into four distinct categories: 1) the responsibilities that are reserved to God and to His Son, 2) the responsibilities that are assumed by government, 3) the responsibilities that are placed upon the church, and 4) the responsibilities of individuals.

Clearly in the first category the JUDGMENT OF THE HEART OF MAN IS LEFT TO GOD. "But after thy hardness and impenitent heart, treasurest unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God; who will render to every man according to his deeds: (Romans 2:5-6)." "...Behold, the Lord cometh...

to execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly...of their ungodly deeds...and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him" (Jude 14-15). The reader can gain additional understanding in this area by reading Jude 16-25; Matt. 25:31-32; Heb. 9:27; II Peter 2:9 and 3:7; and I John 4:17. The judgment which is the final rendering of the fate of the soul of man must be left to the Lord. Man has no authority nor responsibility in this decision as the Word makes clear.

Secondly, to maintain civil order, CERTAIN AUTHORITY HAS BEEN PLACED UPON GOVERNMENTS and we are instructed to obey them.

"Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation. For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil...For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain; for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil. Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake.

(Romans 13:2-5).

Unfortunately, governments have not always done what is right. A child of God has the duty to obey governments, even those we may not like, as long as we do not disobey God in being obedient to government. "Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honor to whom honor" (Romans 13:7). See also Eccles. 10:20; Acts 23:5; I Peter 2:17.

THE CHURCH IS ALSO GIVEN CERTAIN RESPONSIBILITIES AND AUTHORITY in the third category of judgement. "And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven" (Matt. 16:19). A similar statement occurs in Matt. 18:18. Ultimately, the church and the authorities who have been placed in positions of leadership must carry out responsibilities according to the Scriptures. We are advised in Proverbs 11:13 that "...in the multitude of counselors there is safety." Decisions made by church authorities certainly must be made in the fear of God and with the advice of counselors. Therefore, our brethren do well

to meet and discuss these weighty matters that confront the church.

Furthermore, we are taught to "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" (Heb. 13:17).

Finally, what RESPONSIBILITY DOES THE INDIVIDUAL HAVE IN THE AREA OF JUDGING? All of us must make decisions in matters of right and wrong. We are confronted daily with many of these decisions, and we are called upon to make them in the light of God's Word. We must make decisions that help us discern between good and evil.

Likewise, if we make judgment concerning our behavior and if we allow ourselves to be chastened of the Lord, we will spare ourselves of the condemnation of the world. "For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged. But when we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world" (I Cor. 11:31-32).

We will be judged as we judge, but this is not to say that we should never have concern about the behavior of our brother. In chapter 7 in the Gospel of Matthew, we are clearly instructed that we should be concerned about one another; however we are instructed that we should first remove the beam from our own eye so we can see clearly to remove the mote from our brother's eye (Matt. 7:3-5). James 2:13 instructs us that we must also shew mercy.

If we judge ourselves properly, we will have a charitable attitude toward others. "We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves" (Romans 15:1). A godly concern for others will enable us to respond appropriately to the concerns we have about the actions of others.

Judging in a biblically sound manner is sometimes a difficult task. We do not want to be too harsh lest we weary or antagonize nor do we want to irresponsibly ignore those behaviors that could lead someone into sin. The proper balance between compassion and watchfulness is necessary. We are our brother's keeper, but not our brother's spy. In the church our judgments are based on our Lord's words "...That ye love one another; as I have loved you..." (John 13:34).



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

Brighten the corner where you are

Just before Jesus ascended to heaven, he left these instructions to his followers.

"...and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." ACTS 1:8

As we apply these words to our present day world, we can see some clear instructions for us. Jerusalem can be considered our own home town and congregation, Judaea the rest of our nation, with the uttermost parts of the earth being obvious. A verse which is a guiding light for the World Relief Committee is Galatians 6:10, where we read,

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

Begin at home

With this thought in mind, we will share with the brotherhood some of the activities of our local congregations in carrying out the directives of the above mentioned scriptures. We want to emphasize that the purpose of this is not to bring recognition or honor to men, but to inform our brotherhood of opportunities to serve anywhere there is an interest in helping the unfortunate.

In preparation for these articles, both in this publication and in our "Update" newsletter, the Chairman of our USA Board, Bro. Arnie Gerst of Taylor, Missouri sent a form to each World Relief representative asking for their projects. The replies have been randomly selected, because space does not permit printing them all. We will work them into space available in the coming months.

Local Church Projects

Listed below is the local church and various projects that are being done.

Lester, Iowa

During the 1994-96 period we have made quilts and comforters for various homes for the aged. Clean up teams went to storm and flood damaged areas. We cooperate with those who assist the homeless. We collect used clothing and food which is distributed to needy people, and make school bags for inner city schools.

Eureka, Illinois

We assist the Christian Aid Ministries clothing center at Roanoke in collecting and shipping clothing to Romania. Brethren assist in the Woodford County Heart House in the evenings and on weekends. Our sewing group meets the third Thursday of each month to make quilts, kits, etc. We try to show the slide programs as they become available. Brethren went to the Galilean Home in Kentucky on a building team.

Valparaiso, Indiana

We make comforters and blankets, collect Campbell's labels, plastic bags, coupons, hearing aids, eyeglasses, etc. We also make school bags and health kits, work at the Bluffton Distribution Center one afternoon and collect used clothing.

Junction, Ohio

We put a roof on a home where the resident furnished the materials, and helped remodel a home for a local brother. We sort and load pallets of

Campbell's Soup, which are taken to the Bluffton Distribution Center. We roofed a house and repaired plumbing for a local widow in cooperation with our Latty brethren.

Sardis, Ohio

We gave financial assistance to families whose homes burned. Our children do crafts and projects and sell food at auctions to raise funds for World Relief.

Bay City, Michigan

From January through April we sew comforters and make bandages. We distribute soup and beans to local food kitchens and pantries. We bag beans in packages from 2,000 pounds to 5 and 10 pound bags. We distribute about 3,000 Bibles to prisoners and in local offices.

Winthrop, MN

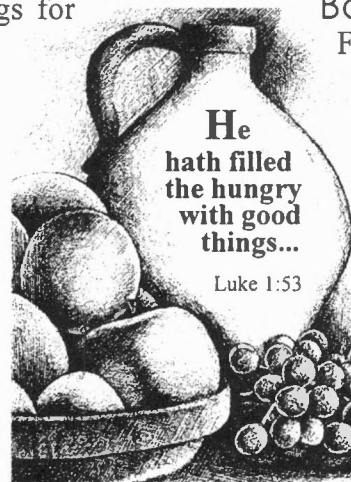
We take clothing and other useful items to a state hospital. We collect baked goods and sewn items for a gift shop for needy families. We have provided quilts for fire victims through the Red Cross, as well as have collected money for victims of fires, etc.

Goodfield, Illinois

We have built wall panels for Habitat for Humanity, loaded sea containers, and assisted as needed at the Goodfield Distribution Center.

Silverton, Oregon

Last year we coordinated many volunteers who helped build our new church. We provided assistance to local flood victims by cleaning up and rebuilding damaged homes.

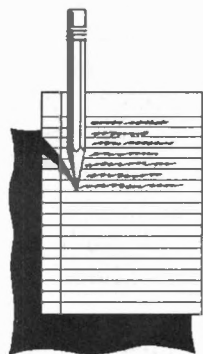




APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN

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



Mission Committee Meeting Report

A regular meeting of the Mission Committee was held on May 21, 1996, at Rosemont, Illinois. We appreciate the Lord's guidance and direction on an agenda with 30 different items, and would like to share with you some of the matters which were discussed.

Financial report

The financial report for the nine months ended April 30, 1996 indicated the following contributions:

Mission Fund	\$311,343
Bible Fund	\$120,405
European Church Building Fund	\$474,811
Interest income	\$6,455
Total receipts	\$913,014

Contributions to all three funds increased as compared to the same period last year. One of the reasons for this was a receipt from an estate in the amount of \$83,137, which was very much appreciated.

European church building

We have agreed to assist the Banatsko Novo Selo, Yugoslavia congregation to build a new house of worship and a total of \$145,000 has been sent to them during the past nine month period. The old building was over 100 years old and needed to be replaced.

They have a congregation of nearly 130 persons, with many young people. Although the economic and political situation in this troubled land

is difficult, the future of this church looks good. The Yugoslavian elders have extended an invitation requesting that some of our elders visit their country this year. Bros. Phil Stettner, Jon Kokanovich, and Gene Marti were given support to travel to Yugoslavia in September. They plan to meet with the elders of that country to discuss spiritual matters, church construction and humanitarian aid. This will then be discussed at the mid-winter elder conference.

The balance in this fund was \$277,689 at the end of April. Nearly all of this amount has been allocated for church construction and remodeling in Yugoslavia, Hungary and Romania. We do not send these funds until they are needed. There is a great need in these countries and we trust the Lord will continue to provide funds to assist these brethren.

U.S. church building

We allocated \$20,000 to the Nashville, TN church building fund to be used in remodeling their building. This project is underway at the present time.

Bible distribution

A major expenditure for the nine month period was for Bibles used in our distribution program. This amounted to \$99,137. We also contributed \$20,000 to Gideons International and \$10,000 to the Braille Bible Foundation. We are thankful that we now have our own distribution program, and appreciate the involvement of our brethren which is helping this effort to grow.

Ixtlan, Mexico

During the nine month period, \$7,479 was distributed to the ministry at Ixtlan, Mexico. The Committee reviewed reports which we receive from Bro. Marshall Heinold each

month relative to the activities there. It was agreed that two or three elders should travel to Ixtlan to review the situation and counsel with individuals that have a concern for the salvation of their souls. Approval was also given for Bro. Phil and Sis. Jennifer Kellenberger from Washington, IL to visit Ixtlan this summer to assist the Heinolds with their Sunday School children.

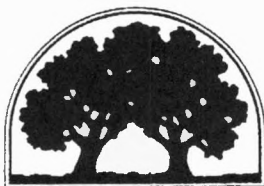
RGMMI

We continue to support the Rural Gospel and Medical Mission of India, for which \$13,500 was allocated during the past nine months. \$7,000 was approved at this meeting to help fund the spiritual work of the mission.

Jamaica

We discussed a request from sisters who are interested in spending a year or more in Jamaica to teach at the Caribbean Christian Center for the Deaf where World Relief has building projects. Several concerns were expressed regarding the spiritual and physical safety of young sisters who would be removed from their families and churches. It was agreed that further investigation was needed before approval could be given. We would like for the Caribbean Board to give this further study and develop a proposal for sending teachers and/or work team coordinators.

It was agreed that individuals considering cross-cultural work should be given sufficient training and counseling before going to a foreign land. The success of our endeavors will be greatly enhanced by our preparation to deal with language and cultural differences. As in this country, communication of the gospel message and assistance with material needs is more effective when a relationship has been established and friendships have developed.



GATEWAY WOODS

We are thankful to be able to report to you that we are now fully staffed. All of the positions have been filled. We thank you for all of your interest over the past months and we want to encourage you all to continue to pray for us. If there is anyone that feels God calling them into His work, feel free to call one of the brothers listed below. Perhaps He is preparing you for future work here.

John Stoller
Child Care Supervisor
PO Box 151
Leo, IN 46765
219-627-2159

David Bertsch
Counseling Elder
11520 Grabill Rd.
Grabill, IN 46741
219-627-2923



GATEWAY WOODS

**We Invite You
All To Join Us!**

**The 20th ANNUAL
Gateway Woods**

Auction and Sale

Saturday, August 17, 1996
Feel free to contact the Gateway Woods office @ 219/627-2159 with any questions!

URGENT NEED FOR TEACHER

The Apostolic Christian Preschool needs a teacher beginning June 1. If you or anyone you know might be interested, please call for more information: Bro. Lavoyd Moore at (205)232-2035.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

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

Psalm 118:24

Every Sunday morning as the people living at ACHH, Oakwood Estate, Linden Estate, and the homes on Detroit Street, Hazelwood Street and Wagler Street wake up to the Lord's Day, there is a lot of hustle and bustle until everyone is finished with breakfast, dressed up for church or Sunday School and off to either the activity room for a Sunday School Class or to the Morton or Washington church for services or Sunday School.

Many volunteer brothers or sisters from nearby congregations take turns teaching the classes and driving the vans. Recently, one of the volunteers said, "It is inspiring to see how the people in the class pray for each other and easily forgive each other for any problems between them."

Here is some food for thought from a newsletter about integrating folks with disabilities into our churches:

1. We assume that being part of a regular ongoing community, such as a congregation, is important for all persons, including persons with disabilities, and that quality of life is best maintained in the community.

2. We assume that spiritual development and physical development are equally important for persons with disabilities and that congregations can play a role in providing such nurture.

3. We assume that each congregation desires to be the inclusive body of Christ, which works toward integration and participation of persons with disabilities in the rituals, ordinances, sacraments, and life of the church community.

4. We assume the friendship between disabled and able-bodied persons in the church will be mutually beneficial.

5. We assume that all persons are equally valued by God.

We appreciate each person in our congregations and communities that has the desire and the means to respond to people with disabilities and that these assumptions are actualities!

As always in the middle of summer, everyone is actively enjoying the weather by taking walks outside, riding bikes, going on picnics, going swimming, experiencing mini-vacations, traveling to Six Flags, and many other places. We look forward to our summers.

September birthdays for all facilities are: ACHH - Viola Fisher (1), Judy Vicic (3), Marta Graber (9), Mike Culkin (10), Lester Miller (16), Lois Egli (19), Glenn Getz (20), Cindy Sigulas (22), Nancy Theis (25), Marsha Miller (26), Ethel Borinstein (29). OAKWOOD - Dave Maupin (20). LINDEN - Janet Schweigert (10), Dave Taylor (13), Janet Christensen (16), Jim Maupin (24), Brent Rebeck (24), Doug Steffen (26). 652 DETROIT CILA - Angie Massner (9). 207 WAGLER - Marlene Esslinger (8). Our residents do enjoy cards and mail. Thanks to all who allow them to experience this joy.

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

We're distributing more used Bibles in the United States now, although some are still sent overseas. Thanks for your continued support. 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

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

"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." (Matthew 5:16). This beautiful Bible verse hangs on our office calendar. It reminds me of the incredible responsibility that Houseparents and all parents have to raise the children entrusted to us. We pray daily for wisdom and direction to teach the children of Jesus. The children watch our lives so closely to see if we really live what we profess. The Lord has given us an incredible responsibility and we pray that we can always be that "light".

Bro. Todd and Sis. Carol Schrock welcome Leia P. to their extended family, while Bro. Ed and Sis. Deb Graf welcome Kevin H. and Echo C. to their home. We welcome these children to Gateway Woods and we pray they will allow God to work in their lives during their stay here.

Every summer our campus welcomes the young volunteers who so willingly give of themselves to help us. Recent volunteers include: Bro. Jason Huber (Francesville, IN), Bro. Joel Beer (Goodfield, IL), Bro. Steve Domka (Mansfield, OH), Bros. Ted Orcsik and Curt Kaisner (Detroit, MI), Bros. Jeff Waibel and Greg Schlatter (Bay City, MI), Bro.

Bryan Kellenberger (Bloomington, IL), Sisters Shelly Leman and Mandy Schwenk (Goodfield, IL), Sis. Tessa Schambach (Bay City, MI), Sisters Abby Kipfer, Amy Lanz, and Gemma Frauhiger (Bluffton, IN). We thank each and every one of you from the bottom of our hearts! If anyone is interested in doing volunteer work, contact Denise Klopfenstein at (219) 627-2159.

On June 22, we were blessed to have the Tremont Senior Bible Class come to Gateway Woods for their work project. Their chartered bus pulled up and out poured all these wonderful young men and women and their enthusiastic Sunday School teachers. They worked diligently on our campus painting, weeding and doing yard work around the pond. In the evening, we all enjoyed a pizza supper followed by games and a time of fellowship. We sincerely thank all of you who gave of your time and energy.

It is amazing how quickly the summer has gone. We are rally enjoying the time we have to form bonds with the children. Soon the school bells will ring again and all the children will be back in their classes. Please join us in prayer for all the teachers here and across the land.

We are thrilled to see the auction items which are beginning to flow onto our campus. This is such a wonderfully exciting time to see the results of year long preparation by our church brethren. We hope you will

CASSETTES FROM EUROPE

We still have a supply of the cassette tapes produced in Austria containing beloved hymns of our old Heft (Long Book).

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.

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.

Long Book 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

make plans to visit us on August 17 for our 20th annual Auction and sale.

Pray with us that God will move in the hearts of a couple for the alternate houseparents position. If God is calling you to touch the lives of hurting children, please don't say no. Contact Bro. John Stoller at (219) 627-2159.

ALABAMA, ATHENS

Pam Moore

We were privileged to have Bob and Vera Stewart with us in July, as they vacationed in the United States. Bob presented to us the history of, and the current, missionary work being carried out in Haiti. We very much enjoyed having them in Athens for the weekend.

I would like to make a correction from the July 1996 Athens, AL news. Elder Bro. Andy Virkler (Bay City, MI) was listed as being with us on Memorial Day weekend at the Tennessee Fellowship Area. It was, instead, Bro. Andy Moser (Valparaiso, IN). I am sorry for the mistake.

Please keep us in your vacation plans this summer. Church is held every Sunday morning at 10:00 a.m. and every Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m.

ARIZONA, PHOENIX Ron and Ev Hoerr

“Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord...”

Isaiah 1:18

When we take Communion, the Lord wills us to belong to Him, not the world. Let us live a Christian life seven days a week, love in our hearts, and kindness to one another (we are all His favorites).

Elder Bro. Jon Kokanovich and Bro. Loren Knapp (Tucson, AZ) served us Communion on June 30.

After 100 plus days, we got rain in parts of the valley and state. We know summer is soon to come when winter residents, Bro. Ernie and Sis. Leona Siegle, return to Iowa. We pray for your safe return.

Sunday School classes are on vacation for six weeks. During that time, a group of brothers are making changes to incorporate space from our building expansion. In behalf of the children, we thank the Lord for

your unselfish labor, brothers.

Bro. Steve and Sis. Kelly Freed are thankful parents of Jenna Lee, born on June 25. Alyse, Abby and Emily are delighted with their sister. Jenna's grandparents are Bro. Allan and Sis. Edith Freed and Richard Kraft and our late Sis. Dorothy.

A precious privilege of being a Christian is talking to and with God. Prayers can do so much; however, they must be uttered (and directions thanked for).

Some recent examples: Bro. Allan Freed and Sis. Shirley Blunier are home from the hospital. Bro. George Schuster had outpatient surgery, Sis. Toni Bentley is improving from hip replacement surgery. Little Kelsey Cooke (Beth and Danny) had a bike accident.

A group of eleven brothers and sisters went to Silverton, OR for fellowship for a long July 4th weekend. Twelve churches and 125 members centered around God can surely bring now and lasting friendships. Our eleven came home very happy and grateful.

Visiting ministers were Bros. Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville, IL), Tom Leman (Denver, CO), Loren Knapp (Tucson, AZ) and Chris Huber (Francesville, IN).

Our sympathy to Sis. Marie Kieser (Bro. Chuck) on her aunt's death (Sis. Caroline Zeltwanger, Latty, OH) in Tucson. Other relatives are Sis. Laurie Knochel (Bro. Herb, Jr.), Bro. Jim Meiss (Sis. Candy) and Bro. Greg Gramm (Sis. Denise).

The Delcon Project near the Winslow, AZ area was getting underway—more later.

ARIZONA, PRESCOTT Jane Hodges

“Nevertheless he left not himself without witness, in that he did good, and gave us rain from heaven, and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts

with food and gladness.”

Acts 14:17

The drought in Arizona ended the last week of June with the beginning of our “monsoon” season. July and August are typically the months that thunderheads accumulate around the mountains and bring daily rains, usually in the afternoons. The hills and mountains are again turning green, and the cacti in the deserts are swelling. The travel and camping restrictions that I mentioned before have all been lifted.

This last four weeks we have not had a minister to serve us, but we are thankful for modern technology that allows us to share in the ministry from Phoenix by speaker phone.

ARIZONA, TUCSON Lisa Knapp

I reported last month that Sis. Caroline Zeltwanger had not been assembling with us much, and shortly after I wrote that column the Lord decided that Sis. Caroline's time here on earth was up and He was ready to take her Home. Bro. Curt and Sis. Caroline Kaufman and their family, Carrie, Catie, Carl, C.J. and Christie, and Bro. Al Zeltwanger all traveled to Ohio for the funeral and burial. They are home safely with us again and we thank the Lord for granting them a safe journey. There was a memorial service held in Tucson before they left for Ohio. We thank Elder Bro. Jon Kokanovich for traveling to be here for that service. We know there is an empty space in the Kaufman home and always will be, but we can rejoice that Sis. Caroline knows no more pain or confusion, only peace and joy.

We were pleased to have two other visiting ministers with us this past month. Bro. Tom Leman (Denver, CO) and Bro. Gary Hartter (Sa-

betha, KS) stopped in Tucson and shared the Word over the pulpit. Many thanks to these brothers for including Tucson in their travel plans.

Bro. Loren Knapp traveled to an Indian reservation near Winslow, AZ recently to take part in a work project on the reservation. He, along with his traveling companions (three of his grandsons), returned home safely for which we are thankful.

We have finally received some rainfall in our city but we are still behind our normal level for the year to date. We can't wait for the rain but when it comes, we are never quite ready for the humidity it brings with it! It makes us thankful for our "dry heat".

CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA
Joy Nenadov

"Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,"

Hebrews 12:1

An experience at work yesterday was a great reminder to me of the importance of being a faithful and consistent example and testimony of our Lord and Saviour, especially in our everyday manner and routine. For me, who lives in a very big metropolis and who works for a large corporation, it quite surprised me that my co-worker grew up in Francesville, IN. It turns out she knows many of our brethren there and the expectations of our faith and church. She was quite surprised that there was one of our churches here in California, as she didn't expect the quality of that church to be in a big city. While I don't know if

she will attend our church, it really made me stop and think that we never know who is watching and observing us and our conduct. Our appearance, conversation and behavior are so very vital as they can, with the Lord's grace and help, point those who are lost to Him. May our lights shine very brightly in this lost and dying world.

Our prayers are with Sis. Marilyn Nenadov (Bro. Paul) in the passing of her sister, Lillian Sabo (Alberta, Canada). May God, our ever merciful Father in Heaven, grant much comfort and strength to her during this time.

We're thankful for brethren who give of their time and efforts to teach our children each week of God's plan of salvation. Bro. David Klotzle was elected Sunday School Superintendent for the next three years. May God grant him much guidance and heavenly wisdom as he will assume his new responsibility. We want to thank Bro. Tom Klotzle for his many years of service.

On July 14, ministering Bro. Floyd Schmidgall (Morris, MN) was in our midst. We thank him for his willingness to serve us from God's Word.

In several weeks our Elder brethren will gather together to discuss the matters of our beloved churches. May we keep them in prayer that our precious faith and heritage may continue until the Lord would come again.

CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO
Rose Huette

"My words shall be of the uprightness of my heart: and my lips shall utter knowledge clearly."

Job 33:3

Visiting ministers this month have been Elder Bro. John Klotzle (Altadena, CA) and Bro. Greg

Gramm (Phoenix, AZ). We want to thank them for their labors of love and wonderful teachings. May our Lord and Saviour richly bless them.

Elections for Sunday School teachers were held recently. Bro. Victor Jevremov is replacing Bro. Steve Varga as Sunday School Superintendent. Sis. Lillian Wagenbach is replacing Sis. Marian Petrovic for the middle grade and Sis. Camille Vogt will continue teaching the youngest class. We want to thank our past and present teachers for their love and diligence in teaching our children of the heavenly way.

As the Brotherhood Conference will soon take place, our prayer is that those who gather might be richly blessed for their willingness to give of themselves and that we might be united in our hearts through obedience to God's precious Word.

ONTARIO, KITCHENER
CANADA
Laura Baxter

Come then to the feast of His New Covenant,
Members of His Church, your faith renew;
Thank the Founder of this precious covenant
Through the chalice He pours out for you.
Here your hands in faithfulness uniting
And the fire of brother-love new lighting,
Let your common prayers rise to His throne.
Thank and praise Him who hath made you one!
Zion's Harp #26

Our congregation was able to partake in Holy Communion this past month. We are so thankful for the privilege to have salvation through the shed blood of Jesus Christ and to be at peace with God and man.

The love it took to implement this beautiful plan is beyond our comprehension. How unworthy we are, yet thankful. Serving us Communion was our Elder Bro. Mark Bahr (Detroit, MI).

Our other visiting ministers this past month were Elder Bros. Ray Sinn (Latty, OH) and Marvin Lemman (Bradford, IL). Our visitors are precious to us and we thank each one for coming.

Rebekah Lynn was born to Aaron and Tammy Fortenbacher on July 22. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Walter and Sis. Margaret Fortenbacher. May they seek the Lord's wisdom in raising their young family.

We welcome all those who are interested in visiting our congregation. Please contact Bro. Tim Tomic (519) 634-9796 or Bro. Jim Baxter (519) 699-5081 for more information and directions.

Special thought: If you don't want the fruits of sin, stay out of the devil's orchard.

COLORADO, DENVER

Chuck and Naomi Wiegand

Greetings across the many miles! We were blessed to have so many visiting ministers with us this past month. Our appreciation goes to Bros. Mike Rinckenberger (Congerville, IL), Jim Vierling (Eureka, IL), Ron Heiniger (Bloomington, IL) and Dan Kilgus (Remington, IN). May God bless each one of you and your families.

We want to welcome Kurt and Angela Anliker to our congregation. They moved here from the Dallas, TX area.

We certainly have been enjoying all the visitors that share our beautiful state with us in the summer. We want to encourage many more to come see God's handiwork here in Colorado. May God bless each one as

we enjoy the warm weather He has provided for us.

CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE

Dawn Winans - Peggy Bahler

Bro. Kevin and Sis. Sara Grasso were blessed with a daughter, Leandra Marie, on June 21. Her grandparents are Sis. Maxine and the late Bro. Lee Bahler and Anita Grasso.

June 22 was the wedding day of Peter Hany, Jr. (Bro. Peter, Sr. and Sis. Virgene) and Kelly Pinard (Dean and Bonnie Kloter). May the Lord bless them as they begin their lives as husband and wife.

Visiting in our congregation this past month were Elder Bros. Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH) and Ed Aeschleman (Philadelphia, PA), and ministering Bros. Richard Aberle (Altadena, CA), Earl Gerber (Forrest, IL), and Andy Virkler (Croghan, NY). We wish them God's blessings for their labor of love.

We are thankful for our recovering hospital patients. They are Sis. Frieda Lanz (Bro. Dick), Bro. Sonny Schneider (Sis. Verona), and Bro. Werner Kupferschmid (Sis. Esther). We wish them God's blessings for a speedy recovery.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

WASHINGTON

Henrietta Meyer

Our thoughts and prayers are with our Elder Brothers and all who travel to Eureka for the Conference. By the time this is read, it will be over and may all who have attended receive a special blessing.

This summer our congregation has been blessed with many visitors. This month our ministers were Bros. Jim Vierling (Eureka, IL), Neal Widmer (Wolcott, IN), and Kenneth Dietz (Bradford, IL). We thank these brothers, their families, and others who traveled with them to serve us. Other visitors were from

Philadelphia, PA; Eureka and Goodfield, IL.

Services are usually 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. 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) 860-5749 or Bro. Ken Martin (703) 444-9085.

FLORIDA, FT. LAUDERDALE

Nancy Rocke

"Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

Philippians 4:6-7

We are very thankful and rejoice to have Bro. Bill and Sis. Mary Ann Klaus back with us in Fort Lauderdale. They were in California for about two months because Bro. Bill had surgery. He is continually improving, but may we still keep them in our prayers. We praise God for Bro. Bill's remarkable progress.

We want to thank Bro. Dennis Kaufmann (Bloomington, IL) for sharing God's Word with us. We read in Luke 5 and were reminded that we must obey Christ no matter how small the task may look to us. Anything God asks us to do is important and may we, by His grace, be obedient.

God blessed Doug and Suzanne Sauder, first-time parents, with a baby boy, Jordon Douglas. Bro. Roger and Sis. Judy Sauder and Bro.

Peter and Sis. Claudia Green are the grandparents. Jordon is a special baby and still in the hospital. May we remember Jordon and his loved ones in prayer.

Once again we are thankful for the privilege which many of our brethren had to be at the General Conference. God has richly blessed us and may we be obedient to His precious Word and to those who have been given the responsibility to shepherd His flock.

Note of Thanks:

We want to express our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to all of you who remembered us with phone calls, letters, and in prayer during Bill's surgery in California. The love and support from the brethren was overwhelming and so encouraging. We thank God for you and may He richly bless you.

*In Christian love,
Bill and Mary Ann Klaus*

**FLORIDA, NORTH FT. MYERS
Kay Eisenmann**

Our summer is truly here! With always a storm in the making, man can tell about when a storm will hit, but he cannot stop them.

Bro. Les Meister is back with us since he laid his dear wife, Sis. Edna, to rest in Remington, IN. We all miss her very much and remember our good times we had in the past, knowing she is at rest with our Lord. May we always remember our loved ones who are left alone, but not really alone for God is ever with His children.

Many are going on vacation up north, so our group is quite small.

By the time this is out, our Conference will be passed, but we still pray and encourage all to pray for peace within the brotherhood. Let our brotherhood be one that others will see the true joy of serving our Lord, so they, too, will want that

"special peace" in loving and serving our Lord!

Man is so short-sighted, so God had His disciples write the Bible so we can learn in the Old Testament where there was trials and storms in life, and people who suffered just as we have today. But does man learn from this? The world is still in a mess. Why? We know that God wrote the Ten Commandments to remind man what is right and what is wrong. These are commandments, not suggestions, and if we don't obey them, there is a terrible price to pay. Our names will not be in the Book of Life. We need to make a commitment to God, for He gave His Son to die for us all. He wants us to live this life to that when we go to our rest, people will remember us as children of God. So let's make our daily walk one step closer to Heaven.

Our visiting ministers this month was Elder Bro. Ben Maibach and Bro. Glenn Price (both of Sarasota). We always are so thankful for visiting brethren. May God bless them for sharing God's Word to us.

Obituary of Edna V. Meister

Edna Vernetta Meister passed away on May 30, 1996 in Fort Myers, FL. Her age was 82 years, 9 months, 6 days.

Edna was born on August 24, 1913 in Latty, OH to Gottlob and Eliza Eisenmann.

She married Lester J. Meister of Bremen, IN on August 3, 1935. She was married for 60 years, 8 months. For most of her married life, Edna resided in Fort Wayne, IN. In 1984, she and Lester retired to Fort Myers.

Edna was a member of the Apostolic Christian Church for 60 years.

She is survived by her husband, Lester J. Meister, of Fort Myers, FL; two sons, Robert Meister of Nashville, IN and Richard Meister of West Lafayette, IN; five grandsons, Reed Meister, Mark Meister, Rob

Meister, Ryan Meister and Rustin Meister; two great-grandsons, Guillaume Meister and Kevin Meister; two sisters, Lavina Leman and Priscilla Martin, both of Roanoke, IL. Four sisters and three brothers preceded her in death.

**GEORGIA, ATLANTA
Peggy Camp**

We are always thankful for the brothers who come and share with us God's Holy Word. This past month we thank Bros. Roy Ehnle (Bradford, IL) and Bill Dotterer (Phoenix, AZ). Also, thanks to those who included Atlanta in their vacation plans. With many of us going north to visit relatives, our group can be quite small on some Sundays.

Services are held every Sunday, beginning at 10:20. We are continuing to meet at the same location but the hotel is now a Westin. It is located off I-85 at Riverdale Rd., just south of the airport. Contact Bro. Linn Stoller (770) 631-4554 or Bro. John Brewer (770) 502-8629 for further information.

**ILLINOIS, BELVIDERE
Millie Jepson**

We welcome newlyweds, Bro. Clint and Sis. Stephanie Heinold, to the Belvidere church congregation. We thank God for their loving support even for the short time they have been with us. It is encouraging to see those that give of the strength of their youth to the Lord in His service. May God bless them in their life together with the many adjustments to new responsibilities and a new church home and locality.

Our visiting ministers this month were Bros. Dale Moore (Elgin, IA) and Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL). We thank them for sharing the Word of God with us. And "thank you" to the many visitors this last month. Remember, our first service now be-

gins at 10:30 with singing beginning at 10:15.

We extended our sympathy to Sis. Carol Steffen, Bro. Dean and family at the loss of her loving father, Bro. Wayne Miller (Sabetha, KS). Bro. Wayne and Sis. Pearl had a very special part in the beginning of our services in Belvidere. Bro. Wayne preached the first sermon and was always so strong and supportive to all. We really miss him. Heaven becomes a little nearer when one so dear has left this earth for the Home above.

God's time is never wrong,
Never too fast or too slow;
The planets move to its steady pace
As the centuries come and go.

Stars rise and set by that time,
The punctual comets come back
With never a second's variance,
From the round of their viewless
track.

Men space their years by the sun,
And reckon their months by the
moon,
Which never arrive too late
And never depart too soon.

Let us set our clocks by God's,
And order our lives by His ways,
And nothing can come and
nothing can go
Too soon or too late in our day.
—Annie Johnson Flint

We have another baby girl in our congregation! Bro. Jim and Sis. Carlene Jepson welcomed their fifth child, Brianna Joy, on July 18. She joins the family of brothers, Eric, Ryan and Jacob, and sister, Emily. Happy grandparents are Bro. Larry and Sis. Carol Fehr (West Bend, IA) and Bro. Dave and Sis. Millie Jepson. We thank God for His goodness.

**ILLINOIS,
BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL
Debbie Grieco - Janice Horner**

We started off our summer vacation in a special way by bringing our friends and families to VBS June 3-7. Our theme this year was "Dare to be a Daniel", and we were privileged to have visiting ministers each night speak to the Bible Class and adults on a quality of Daniel's character that made him a man of God. Bro. Wayne Banwart (Champaign, IL) spoke on the importance of Daniel making good choices at key points of decision. Elder Bro. Joe Braker (Morton, IL) spoke on the wise choice of friendships and how greatly they affect our lives. Bro. Ted Hirstein (Morton, IL) reminded us of the importance of consistent, fervent prayer as Daniel modeled three times a day despite threat of death. Bro. Jaye Rinckenberger (Goodfield, IL) presented Daniel as a man with personal integrity and reliance upon the promises of God's Word. Finally, Bro. Dewayne Dill (Minneapolis, MN) finished the week by addressing Daniel's perseverance and disciplined faith, which allowed him to stay close to God in spite of circumstances which threatened to sever him from the Lifeline. We pray that each person who attended this week would have the desire to live a life marked by personal holiness, and would ask God to develop in them these character traits modeled by Daniel.

We wish to welcome Bro. Scott and Sis. Danell Meiss, and Gil and Anita Winger to our Bloomington-Normal congregation. We look forward to getting acquainted with them.

Bro. Philip Stoller (Sis. Lois and the late Lyle) left this month to attend school near Cincinnati, OH. We will miss his presence in our church family and wish him God's best. His address is: 793 Kocher Road, West Harrison, IN 47060.

Blest be the tie that binds
Our hearts in Christian love;

The fellowship of kindred minds
Is like to that above.

Before our Father's throne,
We pour our ardent prayers;
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are
one,
Our comforts and our cares.
Hymns of Zion #156

Jack Lowery, who is a son of Sis. Ruth Lowery, recently underwent surgery. He is slowly recovering and he and his family would appreciate our continued prayers for him.

Jeff Leman (Bro. Dale and Sis. Mary) and Janet Bell (Richard and JoAnn, Washington, IL) have announced their engagement and plan to be married on August 24. May the Lord bless them richly as they start anew.

Mark Hall (Don and Joan, Cropsey, IL) was united in marriage to Lisa Stork (Richard and Susie, Forrest, IL) on July 13. We wish them much happiness in their new life together.

We extend our deepest sympathy to Bro. George and Sis. Shirley Stimeling on the death of Sis. Shirley's sister, Erma Steiner, who lived in Morton, IL. May their family look to the Lord for comfort and strength in time of sorrow.

ILLINOIS, BRADFORD Brad & Cheryl Kupferschmid

"Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye."

Colossians 3:13

When I think of forbearance, I usually think of "putting up with" people of this world. A certain amount of forbearance is needed within our faith, also, to achieve true unity. Even though we are under God's grace, we don't always overcome our human nature in time

to avoid offending our brother. Forbearance is then needed on our brother's part to keep the peace, even though an apology may be in order on our part.

Bro. John and Sis. Sara Ehnle were blessed with the arrival of a baby boy on July 6. Luke Joseph joins his sister, Rebecca, and brother, Jonathon, at home. Grandparents are Bro. Roy and Sis. Donna Ehnle and Bro. Earl and Sis. Margaret Feucht (Princeville, IL). Our prayer is that God will bless the home of Bro. John and Sis. Sara with their "new arrival".

God has directed the hearts of two souls to be joined together in marriage in the near future. Bro. Steve Ehnle was announced to Sis. Karen Pflederer. May the Lord bless them now, in the time before their wedding, and much more thereafter. Parents are Bro. Ed and Sis. Verla Ehnle and Bro. Chris and Sis. Ruth Pflederer (Tremont, IL).

Our prayers are with Bro. Ed Guingrich who is in the hospital at this time. We will continue to remember him in prayer and ask God to heal him quickly and completely if it is His will.

The last Sunday in June we held our annual Sunday School picnic at the Princeton Park. We always enjoy this special day.

We also have closed out this year of regular Sunday School. Summer Sunday School for the younger classes will now be held. We would like to extend an invitation to our graduating seniors to assemble with us upstairs as they leave Sunday School.

We would like to thank our visiting ministers that were with us this month: Bros. Bill Gudeman (Elgin, IL), Doyle Frauhiger (Bluffton North, IN), Jim Plattner (Princeville, IL), and Elder Bro. Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO). May God bless them for their labors.

We would also like to thank our

Elder Brothers for taking their time to get together at the Elder Conference this year. We support them and fervently pray for them. May God bless them.

ILLINOIS, CHAMPAIGN Samuel and Pamela Furrer

Soon our students will be coming to school. While many will be returning students, there will be several who will be leaving their families for the first time for a whole new environment. They will be out on their own more than they have ever been in the past on this first big step toward independence from the family that has been so nurturing for the past seventeen to twenty years. With this independence comes a whole new set of challenges and responsibilities for these young minds. There are many questions to be addressed: How will they fill that part of their time that is not spent in the classroom? How will they conduct themselves? Is it really true that whatever you do, mom and dad eventually find out? Who will they associate with? Each year, we have a group of young people who come in to replace those who left us the previous spring. Those who are converted believers seem to adjust to the setting here quickly, as they have the formalized structure of the church activities and the various houses where many of our students live. It is the unconverted students who need the special attention from all of us, but especially their families. These students frequently face very difficult choices with the previously stated questions and many more, yet don't have the strength to make the correct choice.

As parents and friends, we can be of help to these students in a number of ways. The first is to establish and maintain an open and honest line of communication. Let your students know that you are

aware of the challenges they face and are willing to discuss these with them or simply listen to them. Spending time with these students can be invaluable. Many of our kids go back home frequently, while others tend to stay on campus most weekends. It doesn't have to be a special occasion for parents to come visit their students. Come anytime and become aware of what your student's life away from the comforts of your home is really like. Walk around the campus, meet a few of their friends, eat pizza in a noisy student hangout, stay up late, and then come to church on Sunday morning. It will be time well spent. Without sounding like a broken record or a nagging parent, continue to encourage your student to take part in some activities with the converted students. This is especially easy for those who live in one of the houses, but is more of a challenge for those in the dorms or in their own apartments. Attendance at church is always a nice touch. Remind them that they might be seen by someone who will go back to their home church and report the news to you, their parents, making you so happy that you feel compelled to send them a care package of their favorite cookies. Pray for them, that they would not wander too far and that they would remember what they have learned of the plan of salvation and would put it to a plan of action. Pray for their friends, those they associate with, and their instructors. It is those we all come into contact with that frequently make the difference in our thoughts and behavior, whether for the positive or the negative. Pray for yourself that you would be able to be a patient and loving parent/friend to your student and would have the right words when speaking to them. Pray for the Champaign-Urbana church congregation that we would make your students feel welcome and loved so

they'll make church a regular part of their week. Pray that they get fed with the inspired Word of God when they come sit in those back rows. Don't get discouraged. Each year, we have students who turn their lives to Jesus.

Our annual New Student Welcome will be a bit later this year due to a change in starting dates for the University of Illinois. The date is set for Sunday, September 8. All students and their families are invited to spend the day with us at church, then join us for a picnic at a local park. This is a very big day and is frequently the first opportunity students have to learn who else is here at school and make or renew some acquaintances and friendships. Specific information is mailed to the students we are aware of, but anyone having questions could call one of the ministers or the student group president, Bro. Thad Heinold at 606 W. Iowa St., Urbana, IL 61801, phone (217) 337-6993.

We'll be welcoming a whole group of people in early September, but we've added a few new folks just this past month. Babies are a real nice way to start new people, and Corbin and Stephanie Kupferschmid have a new baby to cherish. Audrey Marie began to feel the love of her parents on June 5. She is welcomed to church by all of us, including her Uncle Chad, Aunt Linda, and cousins, Alyssa and Curt Kupferschmid. We're also very pleased that Mark and Tania Bazzell, a recently-married young couple from the Fairbury area, have moved to Urbana. We welcome them to our church and wish them all the best as they embark on married life.

Occasionally, we lose a family to another congregation, and then get at least one of the children back. This is the case with Rachel Schrenk, daughter of former residents, Bro. Loren and Sis. Betsy. Rachel moved up from St. Louis this

summer and has since made the decision that Jesus should really be the one in charge of her life. It's great to see the power of the fervent prayers of believers work to bring a wandering child back to the love of God and the riches of His goodness. "And he arose and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him." (Luke 15:20).

It has been very dry here this summer, so we didn't mind at all when a scheduled church picnic had to become a potluck in the church dining room because of a bit of rain. A nice little group turned out to share in eating more food than we really needed. A singing followed a time of visiting before we all headed home. On our way out of town, the sun was just setting and cast gorgeous hues of peachy pinks around the edges of the billowed clouds in the western sky. Looking to the east, we saw a beautiful complete rainbow reminding us of the promises God made with mankind so long ago and continues to keep.

Ministering brothers who brought messages to us this past month were Bros. John Hartman (Fairbury, IL) and Brian Webb (Ft. Lauderdale, FL). Thank you, brothers. Our Elder Bro. David Wiegand was gone on a trip to Mexico, and we are thankful for his safe return.

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO

Kathy Schlatter

Many of our church family were privileged to take another trip together, this time to Sardis, OH/New Martinsville, WV. We experienced the joys of traveling together, trying to stick to the schedule together, and being with the brothers and sisters of Christ (those we have known and those we met). In a sense, our bus trip each year is a microcosm of the Christian life at its fullest. Our

brethren in Sardis and others who had gathered for the memorial service were our "carriers", for they provided transportation up and down and around both Saturday evening and Sunday. The beautiful layers of trees and hills in dark-misty blue-green impressed us with the loveliness of God's physical creation, but the care and sacrifice of our brethren was full of an even more striking beauty for our spiritual eyes, that of the depths of God's spiritual creation in the hearts and lives of those who daily surrender to Him.

We have just completed a wondrous week of Vacation Bible School. In the lives of numerous Chicago families, more miles may get put on the car during it than within any other week of the year. Nevertheless, the effort seems to be rewarded, for the children enjoy the spiritual aspects, intensified by their fun with friends and extra-memorable crafts. We also "pack in" extra visiting ministers, who uplift us with their obedience to the Spirit, using their topics and individual styles to supply us with spiritual manna for feasting throughout the summer. "For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's." (I Corinthians 6:20). We cannot thank these Bros. enough: Steve Ringger, Bluffton North, IN—Our Hearts for God's Glory; Bruce Hohulin, Goodfield, IL—Our Head/Mind/Senses for God's Glory; Curt Rassi, Tremont, IL—Our Tongue/Voice for God's Glory; Steve Baner, Gridley, IL—Our Hands/Feet for God's Glory; and Dennis Rassi, Fairbury, IL—Jesus, the Price and Our Reward. For our coordinators teachers, helpers, storytellers, and lunchmakers, we also say thank you for a week dedicated to God's glory. Bro. Walt Herrmann (Princeville, IL) ministered to us as well in this past month, and, we, with thankfulness, wish him (and

all mentioned) the Lord's blessings.

The Lord is attentive to all of the decisions of our lives. Certainly, He guides us in the search for a Christian helpmate, as Sis. Tammy Zimmerman (originally from Roanoke — Bro. Robert and Sis. Madalyn) and Bro. Paul Klopfenstein (now from Bloomington, originally from Gridley—the late Bro. Carlton and Sis. Betty) have discovered to their joy. Lord willing, they plan an October wedding. We pledge to them our prayers as they anticipate their holy union, and we delight in the Lord's work in their lives.

July 3, 1996, Brett Wesley joined parents, Bro. Scott and Sis. Dawn Wegman, here on earth. They are most appreciative of God's goodness, as are Brett's grandparents, Bro. Norm and Sis. Sally Haerr (Taylor, MO) and Bro. Sam and Sis. Rosemary Wegman (Oakville, IA). May we add our prayers and wishes for the Lord's abundant blessings as this new addition to their family and to our baby room and church family begins his earthly journey.

Grandparents, Bro. Lenard and Sis. Charlotte Meyer, are also praising the Lord for their newest grandson, Andrew Alan, born July 12 (surrounded by hurricane weather) to Ross and Sandra Sue Meyer in Wilmington, NC. We send our love and prayers to this special family across the miles, extending our desire for His blessings and sending extra hugs.

Katrina Schlatter (Bro. Jim and Sis. Kathy) will, Lord willing, spend the next two years in the Peace Corps, stationed in the Dominican Republic and working as a health care worker. For the next couple of months she will be having orientation, living with a Dominican family. Her address there will be: Cuerpo de Paz, APDO 1412, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. All our love and prayers go with her, believing that she can be a blessing

as well as be blessed in this endeavor. In the Spanish which she will be using virtually exclusively, "Vaya con Dios," which is—"Go with God."

Sis. Lucille Feller has recently had surgery. We are grateful that she has returned home and is regaining strength. We pray for her continued recuperation and will try to support her with our love in His name.

Our singing at New Martinsville was such a blessing. We looked out over the hilltop and truly felt that we were blessed with a glimpse of heavenly places. We were reminded of the "faith of our fathers", not only of those who at one time worshiped there, but also of those in many places who preserved faith for their posterity—yet have long since gone on ahead of us. Remembering is a precious privilege given to us as humans, created in the Lord's image. May it stir us to pure hearts, to purer lives, to record on the lives of others an image as close to that of our perfect Christ's as possible.

Beloved brethren, fare ye well!
As we must part in love we tell,
Farewell, until we meet again
Perhaps before God's throne to stand.

There reunited we will be
Where parting tears no more we'll see.

With countless hosts we shall adore

And praise our God forevermore.

—From the long book (also #230
Hymns of Zion)

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK Beth Steffen - Joyce Bauer

We are thankful for all the visiting ministers who have shared God's Word with us this past month. They are Elder Bros. Dave Wiegand (Champaign, IL), Alfred Bahler (Wolcott, IN) and Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL), and Bros. Kevin

Knapp (Bloomington, IL), Fred Knapp (Congerville, IL), Jim Kaeb (Bern, KS), and Jim Rinkenberger (Bluffton, IN). May God bless each one of you for sharing your time and talents with us.

June 23 was the wedding day for Bro. Clint Heinold (Bro. Dan and Sis. Carol) and Sis. Stephanie Roeschley (Bro. Steve and Sis. Lynn of Morton). We wish them God's blessings as they begin their life together. Bro. Clint has accepted employment in Wisconsin and they will be making Belvidere their home church.

On Wednesday evening, June 26, we rejoiced with our dear friend, Angie Young (Melvin and Marilyn) as she gave her testimony and was baptized becoming our dear sister in the Lord. We welcome her into our church family.

Babies are indeed a gift from God. We rejoice with Bro. Tom and Sis. Karol Stock in the birth of their new daughter, Jennifer Lynn. Ready to welcome her home are Mindy, Bonnie, and Andy, as well as grandparents, Bro. Bill and Sis. Marj Rinkenberger and Bro. Les and Sis. Arlene Stock.

Being a grandparent is also a blessing. Bro. Al and Betty Hari have a new grandson, Zachery Bauer, born to Bro. Ron and Sis. Gail Romersberger (Gridley, IL). Bro. Gib and Sis. Kathy Stock have a new grandson, Matthew William, born to Dale and Angie Stock (Hoopeston). Also, Charles and Jean Knapp have a new grandson, Christopher, born to Don and Pam Knapp (California).

Several from our congregation have been in the hospital recently, including Bro. Aaron Bauer, Sis. Eulalia Eisenmann, and Betty Beier. We are thankful they all can reassemble with us again. Bro. Harry Hoffman continues to convalesce at home following his surgery and treatments. We pray that the Great

Physician will send His healing powers.

July 14 was the day for our all church picnic. Although the location was moved from the park to the Fellowship Hall due to rain, the good food, fellowship and activities planned for the afternoon were enjoyed by all who attended.

You are writing a gospel
A chapter each day.
By the deeds that you do
By the words that you say.
Men read what you write
Whether faithless or true
Say, what is the gospel according
to you?

—*Apples of Gold*

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE

**Arlene Banwart
Linda Knobloch**

As defined in the dictionary, forbear is to control oneself when provoked: to be patient. With the virtue of forbearance, we can make a difference in the atmosphere around us. We never know how God wants to use us, but may we be humble and willing so that we can be of service to Him.

You Never Know

You never know when someone
May catch a dream from you.
You never know when a little word
Or something you may do
May open up the windows
Of a mind that seeks the light.

And just in case it could be
That another's life, through you,
Might possibly change for the
better

With a broader and brighter view,
It seems it might be worth a try
At pointing the way to the right.

—*Helen Lowrie Marshall*

We are thankful Benjamin Virkler (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Gayle) is seeking the Lord in repentance. May he feel God's grace and guidance.

We pray more souls will make this most important and best decision.

Bro. John Steiner (Oakville, IA) ministered in Congerville recently. Thanks to all of God's servants for their efforts.

ILLINOIS, ELGIN

Renee Anliker - Debbie Sauder

At times I feel my faith begin to
waver,
When up ahead I see a chasm wide
It's then I turn and look up to my
Saviour
I am strong when He is by my side.
Gospel Hymns #246

We are so thankful our hospital and surgical patients, Sis. Ruth (Bro. Harvey) Schurter, Sis. Joyce (Bro. Paul) Weiss, Sis. Marilyn (Bro. Elvis) Kellenberger and Bro. John Feucht, have a Saviour to look up to and that they can feel the strength which comes from Him to face the days ahead. May each one be encouraged to press on, knowing that come what may, He is by their side.

We truly appreciate the loving words spoken to us by our visiting ministers, Bros. Ken Dietz (Bradford, IL) and Dean Steffen (Belvidere, IL). May the Lord richly bless them for their deeds of love.

Thus will be manifested
An entire change of heart,
Which as will be seen and noticed,
Holiness of life impart.
Heart and mind and self renewing,
All the evil tho'ts subduing,
Faith and love will be the theme,
And God's spirit rule supreme.

Zion's Harp #187, verse 6

We have once again witnessed God's work in the lives of Tom and Gail Rhodes as a change of heart and holiness of life has become their lot during their repentance. They now profess peace with God and await the opportunity to give their testimonies.

Jesus knows thy sorrow,
Knows thine every care;
Knows thy deep contrition,
Hears thy feeblest prayers...
Hymns of Zion 74

We extend our love, prayers and sympathy to Sis. Gayle (Bro. Ed) Schambach in the loss of her dear mother. May Sis. Gayle find comfort in knowing that Jesus does know our sorrow and gives ear to our feeblest prayers, if we but ask.

Brian Heiniger (Bro. Don and Sis. Peg) and Cathleen Park (John and Linda of Hampshire) have recently made their engagement known. May God direct them as they plan for their lifetime together.

ILLINOIS, EUREKA

Dori Blunier

Thus it is our Saviour's pleasure,
As His footprints plainly show.
May God's love, our greatest
treasure,
Richly every heart bestow.
Zion's Harp #237

We have been reminded several times recently of how our salvation is such a rich treasure. We can sing in the song "Unity" that it is even our Saviour's pleasure to give us that treasure. May we cherish it.

Bro. Kent and Sis. Chris Leman welcome a new little baby boy, Jesse Kenton, into their family. Jesse was born June 20 and has three older sisters, Danielle, Kalsey, and Caitlin. May God richly bless them.

Sunday, July 14, was the wedding day for Bro. Mike Mangold and Sis. Judy Waibel of Remington, IN. Bro. Mike's parents were Bro. Charles and Sis. Mary (both deceased), and Sis. Judy is the daughter of Bro. Clyde and Sis. Mary Sue. Our prayer is that God will bless their marriage, and we warmly welcome Sis. Judy to Eureka.

We were glad for the visits of Bro. Will Schieler (Milford, IN) and Bro. Bruce Hohulin (Goodfield, IL) as they ministered to us in this past month.

Our prayers and thoughts are with Bro. Willis Stoller as he has spent time in the hospital.

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY
Sally Fehr - Thelma Slagel

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

Luke 15:10

We are rejoicing with Matthew Kaisner (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Donna) as he has given his heart to the Lord in repentance. Our prayers are that God's grace will be felt by him.

Our Elder body will be meeting at Eureka for the Brotherhood Conference. We are thankful for our Elder brothers and may God guide them as they strive to keep the Faith.

Our congregation enjoyed the annual Sunday School picnic, as families gathered together for food and fellowship.

We extend our prayers to Bro. Keith Hinrichsen (Sis. Tammy) as he has the duty as our Sunday School superintendent.

Bro. Marty Steidinger (Sis. Trish) was elected to fill Bro. Walter Edelman's (Sis. Rosetta) completed term. Bro. Nathan Fehr (Sis. Marsha) was elected to complete Bro. Roger Wiegand's (Sis. Kathy) uncompleted term, due to his relocating to Wolcott, IN. We thank these brothers for teaching God's Word to our precious children.

There are many families traveling; may we all pray that everyone is protected by God's great love for them.

It is time again for school. Let us pray for our children as they learn

and grow.

Hospital patients this month were Sis. Sally Schieler and baby Leighton Moser (Bro. Kevin and Sis. Kara). May God heal them.

Reminder: August is Silver Lining collection for Fairbury.

ILLINOIS, FORREST

**Marlene Walter -
Mary Bachtold**

We are thankful that God's Word is so freely spoken by willing servants. Sharing the pulpit with our home ministers this month were Bros. Jim Leman (Roanoke, IL), Vernon Wettstein (Congerville, IL), Garry Bucher (Valparaiso, IN), Jim Kaeb (Bern, KS), Art Ingold (Rittman, OH) and Vic Bauman (Smithville, OH). We enjoyed having them and ask God to bless them.

We rejoice to hear that Sarah Schneider (Bro. Jim and Sis. Sandra) has been granted the grace to turn her heart to the Lord in repentance. We pray that she may firmly anchor her ship of faith on the Solid Rock, Jesus Christ.

Amber, Natalie, Kyrstin and Brooke Kilgus are excited to be big sisters to baby brother, Stuart Clayton. Their loving parents are Bro. Kevin and Sis. Denise. Welcoming a new grandson are Bro. Leland and Sis. Laurene Zimmerman (Eureka, IL) and Bro. Dick and Sis. Jeannette Kilgus (Elgin, IL).

Spending time in the hospital this month were Sis. Leona Leman, Sis. Hazel Karcher, Bro. Les Zimmerman, Blake Hall (Don and Barb), Julie Shambrook (Mark), Bro. Dean Nussbaum, and Kristi Pruitt (Ron and Vicki Schaffer). May these loved ones feel God's nearness and we pray He will give strength and healing as He sees best.

A special thank you to Sis. Bev Eisenmann as she has completed her term as a Sunday School teacher. May God bless her for her

dedication in serving our Sunday School children.

We extend sympathy to Bro. Ed and Sis. Renee Wenger and girls in the death of her father, Claude Taylor (Fairbury, IL). May God comfort them in this time of sorrow.

Note of Thanks:

Our sincere thanks to all who helped make our Golden Anniversary such a blessed and memorable one. We appreciated the beautiful cards, flowers, gifts, calls, and every expression of love. A special Thank You to our dear children and grandchildren for hosting the lovely buffet reception. May God bless each one of you.

Bro. Harvey and Sis. Velma Ifft

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD
Barb Brim

"...and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God."

Hebrews 12:1-2

How blessed is the example our Lord and Saviour set for us, His brothers and sisters, to follow. Taking up one's cross may sometimes be almost more than we can imagine doing and yet for the joy that will be ours, it is something to be not only endured but carried with joy and gladness of heart, hoping in the promise of our heavenly reward. March on dear brethren, His welcome is near.

Our Goodfield congregation was blessed with yet another addition to our church family. Bro. Phil and Sis. Nikie Hodel are the parents of another wonderful gift from our Lord, little Josie Marie Hodel. Now older

sister, Danielle, and Josie's grandparents, Bro. Curt and Sis. Melita Hodel and Gary and Sis. Wanda Edwards, have an extra special reason to rejoice. May God bless this newest family member and keep her in his loving embrace.

We extend our love and thanks to the visiting minister and his wife who spent time with us this month. Thank you, Bro. Gene Metzger (Sis. Dolores, Lester, IA), for your efforts in the Lord with us.

It is not His cross that is heavy,
It is those that our hands have
made;
That hinder us on our journey,
On our aching shoulders laid;
There is strength for the load He
gives us
And balm for the thorn He sends,
But none for the needless burdens,
And none for our selfish ends.

For His yoke is easy to carry
And His burden is light in weight;
He will do His share of the labor,
For He is a true yolk-mate.
Are we weary and heavy-laden?
Are we anxious and full of care?
That is not the cross of His giving
But the one we make and bear.

—author unknown

Notes of Thanks:

We want to express our sincere and heartfelt appreciation for all the love, prayers, cards, food, flowers, memorials, and phone calls during the loss of our beloved Kristen. We have truly been comforted and encouraged by your many acts of love. May God bless each one of you.

The Stan Hohulin family

We would like to thank everyone whose cards, prayers, service and love were so evident during my stay in the hospital and recuperation at home. Your kindness is sincerely appreciated. God bless you all.

Sis. Rosemary and Bro. Wayne Wiegand and family

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY Perry A. Klopfenstein

I recently received a plaque from a brother in faith which stated, "Live simply so others may simply live."

This is a powerful statement about Christian stewardship. Such a saying inspires each of us to take personal inventory on how we handle our surpluses.

I've heard it said that all we own beyond our basic every day needs (possessions, bank accounts, properties, etc.) are not ours, but God's. We, as His stewards, are to carefully nurture our God-given surpluses for His glory. We will some day be accountable to Him.

As we compare the destitute patterns in third world countries against the high standard of living in western countries, it becomes obvious that our stewardship responsibilities are quite serious. May God give us grace to live up to what He expects of us. May we never become blinded—especially in our "consumer" society—to the Bible's precepts of self-denial.

We have had several weddings in our congregation. On June 15, Sheila Schlipf was married to David Mool of El Paso. Her parents are Bro. Enid and Sis. Lila. His parents are Ron and Marcia Mool of El Paso. We surely extend our best wishes to Sheila and David in their lifetime union together.

Sis. Haley Schlipf was married to Bro. Brian Stoller on June 30. She is the daughter of Bro. Dale and Sis. Vicki Schlipf. He is the son of Bro. Larry and Sis. Ardean (and the late Sis. Carol). May God grant them much marital happiness.

Tiffney Kaupp was married to Jason Hardman on July 6. She is the daughter of Sis. Wava Kaupp, and the late Bro. Harold. His mother is Dawn Spurgin of Las Vegas, Nevada. Jason made his home with his

grandparents, Barb Schramm, and the late Joe Schramm, Gridley. May God bless this marriage.

Sis. Becky Wettstein was announced to marry Bro. Roger Roberts. Her parents are Bro. David and Sis. Gloria Wettstein. His parents are Lester Roberts, Chenoa, and the late Sharon Roberts.

The engagement of Bro. Paul Klopfenstein to Sis. Tammy Zimmerman (Roanoke, IL) was announced on June 30. He is the son of Betty Klopfenstein, and the late Bro. Carlton. Her parents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Madalyn Zimmerman of Roanoke.

Sis. Ruth Rinkenberger was hospitalized with a broken ankle.

Zachary Bauer Romersberger was born to Bro. Ron and Sis. Gail Romersberger on July 9. He is the brother of Austin, 3, Ashley, 14, and Alison, 12. His grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Lucille Romersberger and Bro. Al and Betty Hari (Cissna Park, IL).

ILLINOIS, MORTON Phyllis Farney Cheryl Wuthrich

Lois Aberle was called into all eternity. Her funeral was June 25. May our Heavenly Father richly comfort and bless her son, Glenn Paddock; her daughters, Barbara Park and Jean Aberle; her brother, Raymond Paddock; her grandchildren, great-grandchildren and her other relatives and friends.

Sis. Kathryn Rassi was called Home on June 25. May the Lord comfort and bless her husband, Bro. Chris; her sons, Ken and A.J.; her daughters, Mary Waldbeser and Jane Blosser; her brother, Alvin Strunk; her sister, Sis. Hilda Bauer; her grandchildren, great-grandchildren and her other relatives and friends.

We are rejoicing that another Christian home has been estab-

lished. Sis. Stephanie Roeschley (Bro. Steve and Sis. Lynn) of Morton and Bro. Clinton Heinold (Bro. Dan and Sis. Carol) of Cissna Park, IL were united in marriage on June 23. May our Heavenly Father be the head of their home and richly bless them and guide them.

We recently, here at our church, received a very "special" blessing at our Wednesday evening service. Several carloads of single brothers, sisters and converts from Goodfield and Congerville Apostolic Christian Churches go "visiting" once a month. We here in Morton were blessed with their coming. We trust and pray that they took home our love. We wish to thank them for coming and we thank God for the love and fellowship.

Bro. William Strunk passed away on July 4. May our Heavenly Father comfort and bless his two sons, Bro. Eugene and Duane; his brother, Alvin; his sister, Sis. Hilda Bauer; his seven grandchildren and his other relatives and friends.

William Swearingen died on July 12. Graveside services were held by our ministers. May the Lord comfort and bless his wife, Janet; his two daughters, Jennifer Wittwer and Jessica Swearingen; his two brothers, Alan and Wayne; and his many relatives and friends.

We wish to thank the following ministering brothers for visiting us in Morton this month: Elder Bros. David Wiegand (Champaign, IL) and Charles Sinn (Ft. Scott, KS), and Bros. Kenneth Indermuhle (Sardis, OH), Brian Huber (Francesville, IN), Marvin Stieglitz (Leo, IN), James Plattner (Princeville, IL), Kenneth Weerts (Cissna Park, IL), Wayne Laubscher (Cissna Park, IL), Stephen Baner (Gridley, IL) and Alphai Moser (Morris, MN). May the Lord bless them for their labors of love.

ILLINOIS, PEORIA

Cara Nussbaum

We are rejoicing with five young men who recently gave their testimonies of faith and were baptized. They are Collin Endress (Bro. Dale and Sis. Cindy), Tim Hodel (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Gail), Mark David (Bro. Jim and Sis. Nanette), Adam Geyer (Bro. Dale and Sis. Barb) and Steve Hodel (Bro. Irvin and Sis. Sharon). May the Holy Spirit be ever near them as they continue on their Christian walk.

Bro. Mike and Sis. Rose Waibel welcomed a new baby girl, Tiffany Rose, on June 5. Tiffany's big sisters are Jessica and Brenna. Her grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Joyce Waibel and Bro. Victor and Sis. Anna Jevromov (San Diego, CA).

We wish to thank those ministers who visited Peoria recently. They are Elder Bro. Everett Hari (Bloomington, IL), and Bros. Paul Gasser (Akron, OH), Steve Sauder (Tremont, IL) and Ron Joos (Pulaski, IA). May the Lord bless each of them for their efforts.

Those who have been hospitalized are Sis. JoAnn Koehl, Sis. Elizabeth Merkle, and Sis. Elsie Stickling. We pray that the Lord will restore them to good health and strength.

Note of Thanks:

The children, grandchildren and sisters of our dear Mildred Hoerr want to thank all the loved ones for their love, support and acts of kindness during the time of her death. We especially thank the ministers for their time and loving efforts on her behalf. May God bless every one of you.

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE

Joanna Herrmann

"Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love,

being of one accord, of one mind."

Philippians 2:2

On June 23, Sis. Renee Baurer and Bro. Steve Schlipf (Gridley, IL) were joined in Holy Matrimony. Sis. Renee is the daughter of Bro. Edwin and Sis. Carol Baurer, and Bro. Steve is the son of Sis. Marjorie and the late Bro. Elmer Schlipf of Gridley, IL. We want to thank Elder Bro. Earl Ringger (Gridley, IL) for coming and sharing with us.

We have been richly blessed in the past year to have had many converts and baptisms. On the weekend of June 29 and 30, we were again given opportunity to hear the testimonies and witness the baptisms of three dear souls. Our new brothers and sister in faith are, Bro. Clint Plattner (Bro. Jim and Sis. Marlene), Bro. Ryan Menold (Bro. Mike and Sis. Sharon), and Sis. Holly Steiner (Bro. Harold and Sis. Karen). We want to thank Elder Bro. Tom Hoffman (Roanoke, IL) for assisting Elder Bro. Joe Stoller this weekend.

Hannah Renee Martin was born to Bro. Larry and Sis. Tiffany Martin on June 18. Hannah is welcomed home by big sister, Brittany, and grandparents, Bro. Ike and Sis. Donna Martin, and Dennis and Toni Kerns of Princeville.

Philip Garrett Snare arrived June 14 to grateful parents, Phil and Deonne (Baurer) Snare of Chicago. Garrett has a big sister, Victoria Elizabeth. Bro. Art and Sis. Joy Baurer (Princeville) and Phil and Gladys Snare (Annapolis, MD) are thankful grandparents. Great-grandmothers are Sis. Dorothy Bittner (Eureka, IL) and Elida Patison (Elcajon, CA).

Victoria Elizabeth Herrmann was born to Bro. Dennis and Sis. Renee on June 25. Victoria joins big brother, Dallas, and is welcomed home by grandparents, Bro. Harry and Sis. Bertha Jean Herrmann, and Bro. Marvin and Sis. Joan Stieg-

litz (Leo, IN).

We read in Ecclesiastes 3:2, that there is "A time to be born, and a time to die". We would like to extend our sympathy to Sis. Marie Eberle (the late Bro. Bill) at the passing of her sister-in-law, Lena Eberle.

Our sympathy also goes to Bro. Erik Givens (Sis. Deborah) at the passing of his stepfather, Ray Vandenberg. Our thoughts and prayers are with these two families, at the loss of their loved ones.

Hospital patients this month were Sis. Helen Schick and Bro. David Ehnle (Sis. Beulah), knee surgery. May God grant them His healing powers.

Note of Thanks:

We would like to thank the ministers, relatives, friends and neighbors for all the prayers, visits, phone calls, cards, flowers, gifts, and food while Ezra was in the hospital and since returning home. May God richly bless each one for all their kindness and thoughtfulness.

Love, Bro. Ezra and Sis. Lucille Rumbold

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

Jana Gastman - Lisa Leman

We would like to extend our love and sympathy to the family of Sam Bradle who passed away on June 25. Our prayers are with his brother, Bro. Chris, and his sister, Sis. Fannie.

We have a special prayer on our hearts for our dear Amy Schwind, 11-year-old daughter of Bro. Dave and Sis. Barb Schwind. Amy has been diagnosed with leukemia, and is being treated at the St. Jude affiliate in Memphis. May the angels be ever near her and her family.

Sometimes I take for granted the opportunity we have to gather in God's house and fellowship with our beloved brothers and sisters in faith. What a precious privilege it is! We

think of our Sis. Emma Zimmerman who is confined to her home, and her dear sister, Sis. Elsie, who cares for her. May they feel the love and prayers we have for them.

We want to thank the Lord for being near those who were hospitalized this past month: Sis. Alice Fehr, Sis. Mary Hoffman, and Bro. Mike Hoffman. May the Saviour's healing hand be near those still recuperating at home.

May the Lord grant a special blessing to those who shared the Word with us this month: Bros. Max Reimschisel (Wichita, KS) and Mike Leman (Denver, CO).

Note of Thanks:

We wish to express our sincere thanks to all for your love, prayers, memorials, food and expressions of sympathy in the loss of our dear mother and grandmother.

The family of Lena Martin

A tribute and farewell to our dear Lena:

Such a final fact when the death angel took you from us! What a consolation to believe you are now with God and His host of angels.

We know you were waiting for this day. We hope to be worthy of joining you some day. Until then, farewell, dear Lena, until we meet again.

I am moved to pen some of my memories and thoughts. I hardly know where to start since everyone must know what a wonderful example and individual Lena was. We know she touched the lives of many folks who learned to adore her, and the good teachings she shared as well. She made this Home a wonderful place to be a part of.

Dear Lena, words really cannot express what is deeply embedded in my heart. The 2 1/2 years we were privileged to live here—long live these precious memories.

I think of many things as I reflect

on the evenings we would spend together when you told us stories about your childhood, your devoted kind mother, when you sang to us of songs you learned as a child, the wholesome laughter that rang in our room. You never seemed to tire. We know you were one of the greatest mothers, but you never touched on this. Maybe your children will finish this story. Remember, too, the little naps we took, with a doze here and there. This is priceless to us. While we are very sad, we believe your happiness is endless.

We would have loved to celebrate your 105th birthday. Each year was another joy to us all.

My heart is warmed with the thought of your being here in this your home away from home for 17 years (truly a record) and the many times you portrayed your good example. I'm certain what you gave always came back to you.

As we live through the adjusting days, yes, we will be sad and lonely without you, yet we rejoice and look forward to a better Home.

Everyone who knew and loved you,

The Staff

The Nurses

The Aids

The residents

(submitted by Gus and Alma Baum)

ILLINOIS, TREMONT
Barbara Dill - Barbara Kaeb

"If any of you lack wisdom let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed."

James 1:5-6

Our visiting minister the past month has been Bro. Ed Fritz (Sis. Sally, Washington, IL). We thank

him for his willingness to come and labor in our behalf.

Our sympathy goes out to Sis. Iva and Bro. Merle Getz in the death of Sis. Iva's mother, Sis. Lena Martin, of Roanoke, IL; and to Bro. Kent and Sis. Jane Miller in the death of Bro. Kent's father, Bro. Wayne Miller, of Bern, KS. May God comfort those who are sorrowing is our prayer.

June 30 was a special day for our Sis. Rachel Koch (Bro. Cleo and Sis. Nancy and the late Bro. James Koch) and Bro. Jim Sauder (Elder Bro. Charles and Sis. Miriam) as they became one in the Lord. We pray God will richly bless their new life together.

Our congregation has been blessed with the engagements of our Sis. Brenda Rocke (Bro. Nelson and Sis. Kathy) to our Bro. Darrel Ehnle (Bro. Ed and Sis. Verla), Bradford, IL; our Sis. Karen Pfloderer (Bro. Chris and Sis. Ruth) to Bro. Steve Ehnle (Bro. Ed and Sis. Verla), Bradford, IL; Shawn Rinkenberger (Raymond and Clelda) and Stacy Heflin (Glen and Kay) of Hopedale, IL. May God grant His wisdom to these couples as they plan their weddings.

Our thoughts and prayers are certainly with Bro. Nelson (Sis. Kathy) Rocke who at this time is in the hospital following surgery. We pray God's healing power will be with him that he may soon be home again.

We rejoice with Sis. Kathy and Greg Getz on the arrival of their first child, Jesse James, born June 16. Grandparents, Bro. Glenn and Sis. Marilyn Dill and Sue (the late James) Getz welcome their new grandchild. Bro. Glenn and Sis. Marilyn Dill also have a new granddaughter, Shelby Lynn, born to Sis. Marla and Jeff Rose born June 27. Big brother, Brandon, and grandparents, Al and Christy Rose, also welcome Shelby home.

Jesse and Levi welcome a sister, Tori Danielle, born June 20 to Sis.

Ruth and Bro. Tim Kaiser. Tori's grandparents are Bro. Richard and Sis. Ann Steiner and Bro. Mel and Sis. Marlene Kaiser. May these new babies each bring an added blessing to their families.

Notes of Thanks:

We want to thank our friends and relatives for the many beautiful cards we received for our 50th wedding anniversary. We really appreciate being remembered. God bless you all.

Bro. Jess and Sis. Amy Koch

Brothers, Sisters, family and friends,

Our sincere thanks and appreciation for your prayers, support, visits, calls, and gifts during Arnold's surgery and afterwards. God bless each of you.

Humbly, Bro. Arnold and Sis. Lydia Rassi

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON
Sue Ruppert
Denise Romersberger

"...Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost."

Acts 2:38

We rejoiced to witness the baptism of Bro. Grant DesCarpentrie (Bro. Stan and Sis. Jane). As we listen to converts take their vows in the baptismal waters, we can each renew our own vows with the Heavenly Father and rededicate ourselves to never, never turn back to the world.

Our prayers are with Sis. Emily Simon and Bro. Harvey Martin as they have spent time in the hospital.

We appreciate the visiting Elders and ministers who have come and given of themselves this month. Bro.

Wayne Wiegand (Goodfield, IL) was with us for our monthly Bible Study. On July 14, it was good to have Elder Bros. Wayne Fehr (West Bend, IA), Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH), Wendell Gudeman (Francesville, IN), and Aaron Steffen (Alto, MI) with us. These brothers and our Elder Bro. Ron Messner had traveled to Haiti together in April.

On July 7, the engagement of Sis. Karen Pfloderer to Bro. Steve Ehnle (Bradford, IL) was announced. Sis. Karen is from Tremont but lives in Washington and worships with us midweek. We wish them many blessings!

Bro. Kevin and Sis. Janine Rocke are thankful for the addition of little Allison Marie to their family circle. She is welcomed home by Erin, Galen, Morgan and Gillian. Allison's grandparents are Harold and Loretta Wettstein and Bro. Norman and Sis. Doris Rocke (Eureka, IL).

Bro. Matthew and Sis. Deanna Steffen rejoice in the birth of their little daughter, Paige Brooklynn. She is welcomed home by Myca, Quinn and Olivia. Grandparents are Bro. Howard and Sis. Mary Ann Herrmann (Princeville, IL) and Elder Bro. Aaron and Sis. Loretta Steffen (Alto, MI).

Our sympathy is extended to Bro. Scott and Sis. Marvella Steffen as Bro. Scott's father, Bro. Ray Steffen, of Remington, IN passed away recently. "And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; Even the Spirit of truth..." (John 14:16-17)

We had our annual all church picnic with our Sunday School students. The Sunday School is now on summer vacation for a few weeks. Thanks to the Sunday School teachers who have put in much time and energy to teach our students the way, the truth and the life.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON

Brenda Bertsch - Jaci Gerber

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

Hymns of Zion #156

On the weekend of July 13 and 14, the Sunday School hosted the annual Christian Endeavor for the Indiana churches. We hope that friendships were formed that will last a lifetime.

On the same weekend, our Singles group invited several churches out. We pray that it was an enjoyable weekend for all.

Bro. Kent Reinhard (Bro. Ken and Sis. Ann) and Sis. Jodi Frauhiger (Bro. Steve and Sis. Irene, Bluffton North) have announced their engagement. We pray God's blessings on them as they become one.

We have had several friends answer God's calling this month. They are Joe Gerber (Bro. Doug and Sis. Ruby), Eric Tonner (Bro. Eric and Sis. Rhonda), Abe Habegger (Bro. Ted and Sis. Jane) and Josh Maggart (Bro. John and Sis. Becky).

Sis. Stella Aeschliman (Bro. Ervin) went Home to her heavenly reward on June 19. We extend our sympathy to her family and children, Ervin, Samuel, David, Ella Sonnenberg and Connie Bailey.

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Sis. Helen Heyerly in the passing of her husband, Bro. Cliff, on June 24. His children are Robert, Kenneth, Bro. Von, Jane Mann and Lois Brown.

On June 13, Lauren Christene was born to converts, Matt and Julie Lehman. Landon is her big brother. Grandparents are Bro. Rick and Sis. Cathy Stucky and Derryl and Sharlene Lehman.

Katie Ann is the name give to Bro. Burt and Sis. Karlene Isch's new

little daughter. Keelin welcomes her home. Her grandparents are Bro. Al and Sis. Carol Isch and Bro. Karl Westfall (Francesville, IN).

Bro. Richard and Sis. Karen Kaehr are the grandparents of new little Gavin Wayne. His parents are Bro. Greg and Sis. Amy Kaehr (Bluffton North).

Bro. Ken and Sis. Carolyn Isch have a new granddaughter, Katie Lynne. Her parents are Jody and Jodi Holloway.

Our special thanks to the visiting ministers who shared the Word with us. They are Bros. Marvin Stieglitz and Lynn Stieglitz (Leo, IN), Steve Frauhiger and Doyle Frauhiger (Bluffton North, IN).

Bro. Gaius Gerber, Sis. Rose Frauhiger (Bro. Tom), Sis. Effie Bertsch (Bro. Herman) and Bro. Truman Yergler (Sis. Marcella) all spent time in the hospital this month. We pray that they all feel God's comfort as their bodies heal.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON NORTH

Kay Steffen - Lori Steffen

"I can do all things through
Christ which strengtheneth me."

Philippians 4:13

We were happy to hear the engagement on June 23 of Sis. Jodi Frauhiger (Bro. Steve and Sis. Irene) to Bro. Kent Reinhard (Bro. Ken and Sis. Ann). We wish them God's blessings and nearness.

Bro. Dave and Sis. Deanna Brineman are thankful for the blessing of their new little girl, Lauren Nicole, on June 22. She joins a brother, Taylor, and sister, Kristan. Grandparents are Bro. Mike and Sis. Linda Dubach and Dale and Judy Brineman. Bro. Greg and Sis. Amy Kaehr are the parents of a son, Gavin Wayne, born on June 27. He is welcomed by a brother, Ellison, and grandparents, Bro. Al and Sis. Col-

leen Ringger and Bro. Richard and Sis. Karen Kaehr. May God grant these couples grace to teach their children of His ways.

Our sympathy is expressed to Bro. John and Sis. Tammy Baumgartner in the loss of their infant son, John Daniel, on May 28. Grandparents are Bro. Truman and Sis. Marge Baumgartner and Bro. Jerry and Sis. Pauline Gerber. We also extend our sympathy to Bro. Tom and Sis. Jan Moser in the passing of Jan's mother, Sis. Mabel Banks (Mansfield, OH) on June 26. Emma Moser was taken from this life on June 29. Our prayers and sympathy are with Bro. Gene and Sis. Edna Moser and their children. May God be a Comforter to these families who have lost loved ones.

Bluffton and Bluffton North Sunday Schools hosted Christian Endeavor on the weekend of June 13 and 14. A special thank you to all the superintendents and teachers who donate so much time and love in making this a great weekend for our high school students. These gatherings are so important in keeping our children close to the church and to each other. "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." (Proverbs 22:6).

We pray that the General Conference in Eureka was a blessing for all. We are thankful for our Elder Brothers who gather together with a goal of uniting our hearts through obedience to God's precious Word.

Sis. Margo Stettner (Elder Bro. Phil and Sis. Maureen) assumed a teaching position on July 8 at the Apostolic Christian Preschool in Alabama. We are thankful that the Lord has touched her heart to fill this position at the Preschool. We will miss Sis. Margo in our Bluffton North congregation and hope that this will be a rewarding experience for her.

"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

Romans 8:28

INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE Val Gutwein

"Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded."

I Peter 2:6

What is Jesus Christ to you, a stumbling block or a stepping stone? That was the question we pondered during our beautiful week of Vacation Bible School. It is one of the most important questions we can ask ourselves. If we truly believe the Bible, then it is time to fall upon the Rock and be broken. If we are questioning the validity of the Gospel and we never take action, then someday we will find that the same Rock that could have given us life, must now crush us and hurl us into an eternity of separation. The week was a real blessing for young and old alike. We want to thank those ministers who came and did their part in sharing many soul searching messages. They are as follows: Bros. Kent Heimer (Taylor, MO), Will Schieler (Milford, IN), James Emch (Phoenix, AZ), Ken Wuethrich (Indianapolis, IN), and Elder Bro. Lavoyd Moore (Athens, AL).

We have had new converts over the past month and we look forward to hearing about the peace and the joy they have received from the Rock of their salvation. We pray that each one will build firmly on the Lord Jesus, the only One who can anchor their soul.

We have said good-bye to Pat Gutwein (Bro. Rod and Sis. Donna) who is leaving for the Marines. We pray

the Lord will keep him safe over the many miles he will be traveling.

We extend our sympathy to Sis. Maxine Gutwein (Bro. Harold) at the passing of her sister-in-law, Alice Gudeman. She is the wife of the late Richard Gudeman. May God fill the void that we feel when one passes on to their eternal home.

Little Josiah Gutwein (Bro. Jeff and Sis. Wendy) underwent another surgery this month and Glen Boehning (Sis. Eileen) was also hospitalized. Let's remember them in prayer as they heal and find new strength once again.

As Conference time approaches, it is our duty to pray that the power of the Holy Spirit will be mighty and that He would richly anoint all that have a part in this work. We want to say thanks to those who are spending much time in preparation. May God richly bless each effort made toward the edification of His Church.

INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS Lauretta Schafer Missy Baumgartner

Greetings of love in our Lord and Saviour.

The week of June 17 was our Vacation Bible School. The children learned how to gain courage in God's Word. Many thanks go to all who put forth effort and prayer to make our week a blessing for all who attended.

Our visiting minister this month was Bro. Jon Zeller (Morton, IL). May God bless him for sharing the Word with us.

LACROSSE, INDIANA Anna Marie Stoller

"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct

thy paths. Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the Lord..."

Proverbs 3:5,6,7

Where has the summer gone? As our young people return to the various levels of education, we ask them to remember those words in Proverbs, to remember the Lord above all else. The education each one obtains serves for this life only - a means to earn a living in this life. Our prayer for our precious children is that they remember the greatest occupation mankind is called to, that of serving our Lord and Master in Heaven.

"...walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, with all lowliness and meekness, with long-suffering, forbearing one another in love; endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit..."

Ephesians 4:1,2,3

The past month our young Brothers and Sisters spent an hour singing with Lydia Heiniger as she continues to recuperate from surgery. Fern Antrim and Sis. Carolyn Levy have felt the healing of the body after illnesses.

Bro. Mark Masters (Mansfield, OH) and Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville, IN) spent two separate Wednesday evenings ministering God's Word to us. God, in His goodness and forbearance, always provides the hungry souls with spiritual nourishment for which we give thanks.

Cheyenne Elizabeth made her debut in the hearts and home of Cory and Melissa Rosenbaum on July 13. To each family that has a new little baby comes special joys and blessings, and we rejoice with the Rosenbaum family that they have this opportunity.

Christian Endeavor was held in Bluffton, IN this year. Our Bible Class students were able to attend,

meet other Apostolic Christian youth, and learn more of what they must do to obtain eternal life. God's Word was ministered clearly reminding each soul that repentance and conversion are necessary in this life. Encouragement was given to not be ashamed of the faith of their God, which many of their families have followed for generations.

As our Elder brothers meet for the General Conference, may we each remember to pray for them, but more importantly to support the conclusions of their meeting remembering that God's Spirit is prompting their efforts.

INDIANA, LEO Ethelny Schlatter

All things be to Thee committed;
All Thou doest is well done;
If for death or life I'm fitted,
Thy commands I'll never shun.
Though the burdens oft be
grievous,
Thou dost comfort and relieve us;
Guided by Thy hand alone,
Thine and not my will be done.
Zion's Harp #93

On June 23, Bro. Jim Williams was released from his earthly prison and entered into rest. Our sympathy is extended to his wife, Sis. Velma; two daughters, Ann Williams, Linda Montoya; and two grandchildren. The Montoya's and Ann live in New Mexico.

We are thankful that Bro. Jerry and Sis. Rachel Fessenden escaped unharmed from a fire at their home. It will be several months until repairs allow them to return.

We appreciated the visitors who were with us on Sunday, June 23. There was a busload from Tremont, IL who came on Saturday for a day of service at Gateway Woods.

We welcomed Bros. Robert Meyer (Bluffton North, IN), John Reinhard (Bluffton, IN) and their wives

on June 30. We were richly blessed by the messages they received from the Lord. Several of the many good thoughts they left for us to ponder were, "We are not to judge, our job is to dig and fertilize", and "we need to daily repent and continue pruning".

We know Bro. Steve and Sis. Jane Stieglitz have tried to be faithful in caring and training Courteney and Joel Kizer, who left July 3 to live with their mother, Claudia. May their efforts bear good fruit. They are living in Fort Wayne, IN so we hope to see them often. Our prayers are with you, Courteney, Joel and Claudia, in the new role in your lives.

On July 3, Bro. Carl Wyss (Washington, IL) reminded us that we must die daily to sin. His sermon was a good follow up for Sunday's messages.

The wedding of Sis. Candi Stoller and Bro. Carlton Schlatter (Smithville, OH) was solemnized on July 7. Among the many visitors were ministering Bros. Greg Stoller (Forrest, IL), Tom Schambach (Elgin, IL), uncles to Sis. Candi; Bro. Sam Schlatter (Junction, OH), Bro. Carlton's brother; and Bro. Jim Rinkenberger (Bluffton, IN). We wish this new couple God's richest blessings.

Bro. Lynn Stieglitz presented the topical Bible study on Wednesday evening, July 10. He had asked five different brothers, but only received a promise for a later date. Elder Bro. Phil Stettner came as a visitor, and concluded with a few remarks and prayer.

Bro. Gary Garman had surgery on July 11 to remove cysts from his spine. He is now recuperating at home. We pray for a complete healing.

We were again blessed on July 14 with the visit of Bro. James Ramseyer (Bay City, MI). We enjoy listening to what the Spirit shares

with him.

Forbear has two meanings. When used in the Old Testament, it means "refrain from"; in Ephesians 4:2, it means "bearing with".

"I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; Endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

Ephesians 4:1-3

May the unity of the Spirit that pervades the annual Elders' Conference draw us together as we see the day of our Lord's return drawing near. The problems and threat to the church are really in ourselves. Forbearance can go a long way in the healing process. We need to focus on prayer for the salvation of souls.

INDIANA, MILFORD Renee Beer - Linda Beer

Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
Look full in His wonderful face.
And the things of earth will grow
strangely dim,
In the light of His glory and grace.
—author unknown

Bro. Al Wuthrich underwent surgery for repair of a fracture. Bro. John Martin (Sis. Dorothy) underwent surgery and although home for a few days, at this writing has returned to the hospital. Darcy Price (Bro. Phil and Sis. Jane) fell and fractured her arm. May these loved ones feel the light and glory of God's grace as they convalesce.

We look forward to the summer months when visitors assemble with us as they vacation to the tourist attractions in Northern Indiana and the many lakes around us. We welcome you to spend a Sunday with us.

"For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us."

Romans 8:18

Suffering is a part of the Christian's life whether disease, death, disappointments, financial struggles or any other of many trials that come our way. If everything went well in our life, we wouldn't need faith. We need to bear the unanswered questions and keep our eyes on Jesus. Can we say as Habakkuk—although all fail yet I will rejoice in the Lord?

"Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines; the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls: Yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation. The Lord God is my strength..."

Habakkuk 3:17-19

Our eyes need to focus on the Lord, not on our circumstances. We are to live above the shadows of fear and bask in the sunlight of faith. Even though we have a long list of troubles, like Habakkuk, faith's answer to disappointment must always be verse 18, "Yet I will rejoice in the Lord." That type of attitude will enable us to live above the circumstances instead of under them.

Oh, that God would help us to keep our eyes on Jesus. We know His strength is perfect when our strength is gone. Above the circumstances is where Jesus is!

INDIANA, REMINGTON

Patti Bahler

The Remington congregation has again experienced much joy this

past month as two more souls have found grace to repent. Eric Frantz (Joe and Sis. Cheri) and Charity Isabell (Bro. Phil and Sis. Diane) have both begun a new walk in Christ. May the Lord continue to grant grace so these two souls can establish a solid foundation in Him.

Our church also experienced the goodness of the Lord on July 6 and 7. Five souls gave testimony of the Lord's work in their lives and we were able to witness their baptisms. We welcome Bro. Aaron Kilgus (Bro. Dan and Sis. Jenna), Bro. Clint Bahler (Bro. Ed and Sis. Annette), Sis. Tereasa Fry (Joe and Joan Fry), Bro. Justin Clark (Bro. Ron and Sis. Brenda) and Sis. Cheri Frantz (Joe Frantz) to our church family.

We are thankful for all the visitors who came to worship with us this past month. Among them were many visiting Elders and ministers. Elder Bros. Nathan Steffen (Elgin, IL) Wendell Gudeman (Francesville, IN) Curt Frank (LaCrosse, IN), Alfred Bahler (Wolcott, IN), and Bros. Jaye Rinkenberger (Goodfield, IL), Clark Stoller (Gridley, IL), Marvin Schmidgall (Eureka, IL), and Marvin Stieglitz (Leo, IN) were our messengers of God's Word.

Ryan Meister (Bro. Dick and Sis. Sharon) and Hollie Pearson (Michael and Joyce Pearson) announced their engagement. They are planning a 1997 summer wedding. We wish them the Lord's blessings as they make plans.

On June 29, Rob Meister (Bro. Dick and Sis. Sharon) and Kristin Mroszak (Duane and Janet Peterson) were united in marriage at the Apostolic Christian Fellowship Center in West Lafayette. Rob and Kristin will make their home in Minneapolis, MN where Rob has been employed several years. May the Lord bless their marriage.

Bro. Mike Mangold (Eureka, IL) and Sis. Judy Waibel were united in Holy Matrimony on July 14. Bro.

Mike is the son of the late Bro. Charles and Sis. Mary Mangold and Sis. Judy's parents are Bro. Clyde and Sis. Mary Sue Waibel. As Bro. Mike and Sis. Judy have sought first the Kingdom of Heaven and its righteousness, we can trust God will add all things that are needful as they serve the Lord together.

Bro. Tim and Sis. Lynnette Bahler have reason to rejoice as they begin to nurture their new little daughter, Kayla Lynne. She was welcomed home by Trent, Dave, Luke and Anna.

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free
I'm following the path God laid for me,
I took His hand when I heard Him call,
I turned my back and left it all.
I could not stay another day
To laugh, to love, to work or play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way
I found that place at the close of day.
If my parting has left a void
Then fill it with remembered joy,
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,
Ah yes, these things I, too, will miss.
Be not burdened with times of sorrow
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My life's been full, I savored much,
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.
Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your heart and share with me,
God wanted me now, He set me free.

Bro. Ray Steffen's pilgrim journey ended on June 25 and we bid him farewell. We miss Bro. Ray, but our faith is anchored in God's promise of meeting him in Heaven. His

testimony of hope and joy during these months of illness has been a rich and enduring example for all of us. Our prayers and sympathy are extended to his wife, Sis. Lucille, and children, Wayne (Judy, Fishers, IN), Bro. Roger (Sis. Vicki, Remington), Bro. Scott (Sis. Marvella, Washington, IL), Mrs. Elaine Perry (Ted, Grand Blanc, MI), Mrs. Virgene Gibisch (Mark, Brookesville, FL) and Mrs. Luann Pauley (Douglas, Greenwood, IN).

Note of Thanks:

We wish to thank all of you for your prayers, love, telephone calls, many cards, letters, gifts and every kind deed done for my husband and our father, Bro. Ray Steffen, during his illness and passing. Your loving and caring has been much appreciated.

*In His circle of love,
Sis. Lucille Steffen and family*

INDIANA, SOUTH BEND
Carolyn Frank - Gigi Schafer

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

Matthew 6:33

This verse was memorized and discussed in our summer Vacation Bible School for the youth during the week of June 17. Along with various lessons and projects, the children learned more about the value of seeking the kingdom of God first in their life. We thank Sis. Jill Lehman who coordinated the activities for this session, and we appreciate the efforts of everyone involved.

The visits of our Elder Bro. Jesse Beer (Sis. Shirley, Milford, IN) and visiting Bro. Walt Rager (Sis. Sharon, Toledo, OH) were deeply appreciated in this past month and we express our gratitude for their

presence and edifying services.

We are grateful for the prayerful, thought-provoking messages brought to us by two ministering brothers for our Adult Vacation Bible School. On June 29, Bro. Ken Hoerr (Sis. Darlene, Peoria, IL); and Bro. Neil Widmer (Sis. Kris, Wolcott, IN) on July 18. May God richly bless you.

We are also thankful to Bro. Neil who faithfully assists in the fellowship for our students in the Lafayette, IN area.

Included in a recent note we were privileged to receive, this precious Bible verse seems to be a fitting conclusion for the blessings our congregation received during the VBS sessions and the fellowship we experienced.

"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."

1 John 1:7

INDIANA, VALPARAISO
Ken Susdorf - Cheryl Bucher

In the name of Jesus Christ, we greet you all and pray you are all feeling God's blessings.

We have been richly blessed since the last writing. Bro. Lyle and Sis. Marilyn Zeltwanger had an idea for a picnic at a park one Sunday after church and all enjoyed a wonderful time of fellowship. We all need to take more time out of our busy lives to enjoy what we have here together.

Also we had our Vacation Bible School this month. Topics were: "The Evil Heart" by Bro. John Reinhard (Bluffton, IN), "The Repentant Heart" by Bro. Brace Wieland (Leo, IN), and "The Converted Heart" by Bro. Doyle Frauhiger (Bluffton North, IN). As these Brothers addressed these topics, all expressed how even they in their

own lives were convicted of the words they spoke to our hearts. Thank you, Brothers, so much for your labors and may the Lord continue to bless your ministries. As you all are aware, VBS takes a lot of work from a lot of people. We thank you all: Singing groups, Sunday School teachers, object lesson presenters, coordinators, food committee, etc. Without all of us working together, there would be total confusion and we know who the author of that is.

The following Sunday after VBS we had our Sunday School picnic and program. We have a great God and we thank Him for all of His many blessings.

Also, those willing to come and share the Word with us this month were Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL), and Bros. Kent Heimer (Taylor, MO) and Floyd Schmidgall (Morris, MN). We thank these Brothers for their labors and also pray that the Lord will continue to bless their ministries. We thank God for this blessed holy family He has given us the privilege to be a part of.

Hospitalized this month was Bro. Willis (Sis. Eunice) Feller. We pray for him and his family as he is trying to regain his health. He is a valuable asset to this family, and we love him dearly.

Until next month, the Lord willing, we bid you all farewell. If you are in the area, please stop and worship with us.

INDIANA, WOLCOTT
Sherice Bahler - Jody Bahler

We are thankful to have Bro. Roger and Sis. Kathy Wiegand and their four children, Nicole, Justin, Brandon and Brockton, as part of our congregation. They have moved here from Fairbury, IL as Bro. Roger has taken employment in our area. We welcome them, and hope

that they will feel at home with us.

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.
Gospel Hymns #533

Our hearts were saddened at the passing of Robert Bryant, who was killed in an airplane crash. He was a crop duster. We extend our deepest sympathy to Nancy, Landon and Tyler Bryant, and Niki and Austin Harris. May God comfort them and lift them up in times of sadness and loneliness.

June 30 was the date for our annual Sunday School picnic. The students were promoted to the next grade after a potluck meal and singing.

We are thankful that Angela Furrer (Bro. Troy and Sis. Lisa) is home now, after her second open heart surgery. They were unable to completely repair a leaking valve in her heart which may or may not require another future surgery. At this writing, she is recovering well from surgery. We pray earnestly that God's healing hand will be upon her, that she can feel increasing strength each day. We pray, too, for her dear parents and family, that they will continue to have faith and trust in God, knowing that "...all things work together for good to them that love God..." (Romans 8:28).

We appreciate Bro. Ben Manz (Junction, OH) for ministering unto us on July 14. May God bless him for his labors.

With thankful hearts, we rejoice with the angels in Heaven that Theresa Schwab (Bro. Tim and Sis. Rachel) and Lee Blume (Bro. Larry and Sis. Lynell) have felt the sting of conviction and have given their hearts to God in repentance. May they give their ALL to Him as they

seek out their soul's salvation.

IOWA, BURLINGTON
Edith Massner
Monica Eisenmann

We were pleased to have two visiting ministers this past month: Bros. Bill Gerst (Alto, MI) and Joe Gerst (Iowa City, IA) recently spent a Wednesday evening service with us. We appreciated hearing God's Word through these two brothers.

Our dear Sis. Katy Schumacher spent some time in the hospital recently. We are thankful she is home again.

Our sincere prayers are with the Elders during the week of meetings in Eureka. May God bless them for the hours they unselfishly give to our congregations.

IOWA, ELGIN
Gloria Frieden

What a blessing it was for us to again partake of the bread and wine in remembrance of our Lord's suffering and death. We read in Luke's gospel that Jesus "gave thanks" before sharing the cup and again before breaking the bread. Can we today partake of the blest sacrament without offering a silent prayer of thanks, knowing that our hope of eternal salvation is only possible through this great love, suffering and death of our Saviour?

Our thanks to Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr and Bro. Wayne Grimm (West Bend, IA) for sharing this Holy Sacrament with us. May God be with us now, as anew, we press on to greater faithfulness.

Our love and sympathy is shared unto Sis. Leona Fehr (Bro. Scott) in the loss of her mother, Sis. Ella Mae Schmidt (Winthrop, MN). God knows the pain we feel when we part with loved ones in this life. But what a comforting promise awaits the true and faithful, as revealed to the

Apostle John on the Island of Patmos. "And I saw a new heaven and a new earth...And God himself shall be with them, and be their God and shall wipe all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any pain: for the former things are passed away."

The older we get, the more we realize how short our time on this earth really is and how swiftly the years do pass. Our students are again preparing for another year of studies, and for some of us parents, it seems like only yesterday we were sending them off to their first years of school and now, already, it is the last years. May God grant these young adults the wisdom to know how fleeting time is and the grace to surrender unto God these precious youthful years that once gone, will never return in this life.

As our beloved Elder body meet again at the annual Brotherhood Conference, may our prayers be with them that God's Holy presence and direction will be felt as the cares and concerns of our precious faith are considered.

Our thanks also to the Eureka brethren for their labors of love in preparing and hosting this year's Conference.

IOWA, GARDEN GROVE
Laura Funk

To break Thy bread we now have
gathered,
In covenant to drink Thy wine;
As brethren we unite together,
That unto death we might be
Thine.
This promise we, with heart and
will;
Give grace our promise to fulfill.
Zion's Harp #25

We want to thank Elder Bros. Ed Lanz (Oakville, IA) and Doug Schock (Pulaski, IA) for serving

Holy Communion to us and reading the Memorandum. Do we keep our lives and thoughts pure enough to take Communion every day of our lives? I thank the Lord daily for His never-ending love and forgiveness.

Also visiting this past month were Bros. Bob Stoller (Lamar, MO) and Steve Baner (Gridley, IL). We've also had many other visitors of which we are very thankful. Your love and fellowship are an encouragement for the week ahead.

As we think of the Conference scheduled for August, we pray a special prayer for the Eureka congregation in all the physical preparation. We also say a special prayer for the Elders who have a spiritual preparation, and a special prayer for the audience, that our hearts may be prepared to receive God's Word.

IOWA, IOWA CITY Janette Schulz

Greetings to all! We appreciated all of our visitors this month. Though we enjoy a special closeness as a small congregation, it is so uplifting to have a full assembly when we have visitors. We welcome all who include Iowa City in their travel plans—either as a destination or a stopping point on the way elsewhere.

Bro. Eric Spangler has recently moved to the Iowa City area from Toledo, OH. We welcome him to our congregation and hope he can feel at home during his year of internship here.

At a recent Bible study on overcoming temptation, we discussed five things that can help the believer in this area:

1. Understanding the tempter - Just as Satan tempted Jesus, he will attack us in many ways, using our physical, mental, social and spiritual needs and weaknesses to lead us astray.

2. Communication with God -

How necessary it is to keep the communication lines open—prayer, reading God's Word, and listening to the Holy Spirit—in order to prevent deception and to be strong enough to resist temptation!

3. Fellowship with Believers - We must carefully choose our "peer group", as they will influence both our thinking and our behavior. Time spent with our Brethren can help counter the unwanted influence the world can have in our lives.

4. Getting ready for the battle with the Armor of God - Each piece of the armor protects a vital part of our spiritual body. We must have it at hand for our immediate use and never turn our back on the battle, as the armor primarily protects the front side.

5. In the Battle - We must watch out for our comrades, listen to the Commander, not be afraid to ask for help when we recognize danger, and rely on God's help, for our own strength is not sufficient for victory.

May we all be overcomers!

IOWA, LESTER

Sue Warner - Cindy Leuthold

With the onset of summer vacationing, we enjoy having loved ones in our midst from other congregations as they travel through our area. We especially appreciate when ministering brethren and their families join us in worship services. This month we want to thank Bros. Dan Kilgus (Remington, IN), Jon Schmidgall (Oakville, IA), Duane Metzger (West Bend, IA), Jim Knobloch and Dean Messner (Winthrop, MN), and Ken Mogler (Minneapolis, MN) for lending themselves so unselfishly to bring us God's Word.

Believing it is God's will, Bro. Craig Feuchtenberger and Sis. Paula Kellenberger have announced their engagement. Their parents are Bro. Wally and Sis. Di-

ane Feuchtenberger (Morris, MN) and Bro. Dennis and Sis. Shirley Kellenberger. God's richest blessings to them as they make plans for an August 11 wedding.

We are very thankful that souls are answering the call of God to repent and we pray that many more will continue to seek Him. We rejoice with Tara Kellenberger (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Shirley) and wish her much grace as she seeks peace with God and man.

Our hospital patients this month are Bro. Eugene Nester (Sis. Shirley), Bro. Gary Heyer (Sis. Jean), Sis. Donna Metzger, and Jed Feucht (Bro. Curt and Sis. Beth). We pray for God's healing power for them that they may soon return to good health.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family of Sis. Ella Mae Schmidt (Winthrop, MN) who recently passed away after a lingering illness. Sis. Ella Mae was raised in the Lester area and leaves many brothers and sisters in our congregation to mourn her loss.

IOWA, OAKVILLE Debbie Wagenbach Melody Steiner

Bro. Connie and Sis. Roletta Gerst and Dale and Sally O'Riley have been blessed with a little granddaughter to love. Dan and Lisa are the happy parents of their first child, Danielle Sara Lyn.

Bro. Scott and Sis. Dawn Wegman also welcome their first child; a precious son, Brett Wesley. Also thanking the Lord for his safe arrival are his grandparents, Bro. Sam and Sis. Rosemary Wegman and Bro. Norman and Sis. Sally Haerr (Taylor, MO).

Darby Suzanne is welcomed to the world by her parents, Dan and Pam Massner. Thankful for another precious bundle from Heaven are her grandparents, Bro. Eric and Sis.

Norma Massner and Larry and Pat Darbyshire. May each of these couples feel the Lord's nearness and direction as they strive to raise these little ones He has blessed each of these families with.

Our sincere sympathy and prayers are with Ed Frank in the passing of his dear wife, Delores. May the Lord ever be his strength in his lonely hours.

We will certainly miss our dear Sis. Phyllis Knobloch (Bro. Ben) as she has moved to the Princeville area. We know she will be a wonderful asset to the congregation there. May she ever feel our prayers for her over the miles. Our visiting ministers this past month were Bros. Gary Endress (Bradford, IL) and Bill Gerst (Alto, MI). May the Lord bless them for their labors.

IOWA, PULASKI
Lisa Knecht

Kindness is a language the dumb
can speak,
and the deaf can hear and
understand.
—*Christian Bovee*

A special thank you is extended to Bro. Bill Hodel (Sis. Betty, Roanoke, IL) for so kindly serving our Adult Sunday School class as well as our congregation. May our Lord continue to be nigh unto him and his family.

"And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them?"

Luke 18:7

How very thankful we, as God's children, need to be that we have a Heavenly Father who does not grow weary of our continual pleas unto Him.

Every Hour of the Day

At the dawning of day in the cool
morning hour
When the birds sing with sweet
melody,
I will call on my Lord for His
guidance that day
That He lead me aright is my plea.

As the sun does ascend to the sky
up above
And my work for the day does
begin,
I will call on my Lord for His
wisdom and grace
To protect me from evil and sin.

In the heat of the day when
temptation is near
And the burden of care presses
down,
I will call on my Lord who can
lighten my load
He will help me to win Heaven's
crown.

When the sun does descend from
the sky up above
And I ponder events of the day,
I will call on my Lord who is
worthy of praise
I will thank Him for guiding my
way.

At the close of the day when the
sun has gone down
And the twilight is fading away,
I will call on my Lord who will
watch over me
Through the night 'till the
dawning of day.

Every hour of the day I can call on
my Lord
And believe He will always be
there,
I can trust in His promises so
faithful and sure
And I know He will answer my
prayer.
—written by Bro. Rod Stoller,
Latty, OH

IOWA, WEST BEND
Eunice Fehr - Lela Banwart

We welcomed a number of visiting ministers the past month. Among them were Elder Bros. Curt

Frank (LaCrosse, IN), and Gene Marti (Kansas City, MO), and Bros. Wayne Banwart (Champaign, IL), Joe Gerst (Iowa City, IA), and Dean Messner (Winthrop, MN). On Thursday evening, July 11, we were blessed to have three ministers present: Bro. Mark Masters (Mansfield, OH), and Elder Bro. Lawrence Luthi and Bro. Rex Frieden (Lamar, MO). The Lamar brothers were on their way to the funeral of Sis. Ella Mae Schmidt. Thanks to God for the privilege of having these ministers and their wives with us. May He bless them, and all our ministers, as they bring forth the Word of truth and salvation, and grant them Godly wisdom and courage to continue in His work.

Our sympathy to Bro. Elmer and Sis. Matilda Fehr and family on the death of Sis. Matilda's sister, Sis. Ella Mae Schmidt (Gene) of Winthrop, MN. May our Heavenly Father comfort them and be with all her family in the days ahead.

Also, we think of Sis. Katie Ludwig, widow of Arnold Ludwig, in the loss of her brother-in-law, Bill Ludwig (Algona, IA). Our sympathy to Sis. Katie at this time.

Our hospital patients this month have been Nettie Banwart (Ervin) and Sis. Lezlee Leman (Bro. Dale). Both had been surgical patients, and we are thankful to God for His healing touch and that they can be home again gaining strength each day.

We were happy to hear last Sunday that our friend, Kris Banwart (Steve), has found that wonderful peace, and we are looking forward to hearing her testimony in the near future.

God has blessed several homes with precious bundles from Heaven. Doug and Angie Wirtz are happy to welcome baby girl, Kylie Beverly, their first child. Grandparents are Bro. Gary and Sis. Sue Schneider and Bro. Verner and Sis. Betty Wirtz and the late Sis. Beverly

Wirtz.

Derek Elmer was welcomed into the home of Bro. Duane and Sis. Ruth Metzger. Little Derek has Sis. Sara, Brent, Brian, David, Darin, Bradley, Brandon and Don as his sister and brothers. Grandparents are Bro. Elmer and Sis. Matilda Fehr and Bro. Arnold and Sis. Alice Metzger.

Joan Traub (late Fred) is enjoying the role of grandmother as her daughter, Marcia, and Doug Eidahl (Pierre, SD), welcome their first child, baby girl, Bailey Nicole.

We wish God's blessings upon all these couples and may they look to Him for guidance and direction in raising their children.

Congratulations and best wishes to Dawn Grimm (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Rose) and Jimmy Hanselman (Don and Rita) as they took their marriage vows on June 22. We wish them happiness and God's blessings in heart and home as they begin their life together.

Best wishes to Leslie Traub (son of Joan Traub) and Kimberly Lauck (Ivan and Pat) on their engagement. May God be with them as they prepare for their wedding in August.

Our thoughts and prayers are with our Elders and ministers as they prepare for the upcoming Conference in Eureka, IL. Let us pray for God's blessings on this meeting and that His will be done.

JAPAN, TOKYO

Andrew and Jana Klaus

From this year on, Japan has a new national holiday on July 20 called "Ocean Day". For many parts of Japan, this is about the time when the rainy season ends and the hot summer begins, and it is also the start of summer vacation for students.

On July 14, Sis. Vicki Ramseyer (Bay City, MI) spent the day with us in Tokyo, after spending several

days with Sis. Eiko Nozawa in Shioda. We also had an all-church picnic that day given by Takehisa and Midori Nakazawa, a young couple who has faithfully been attending church for two years. They prepared a feast for us on the grill. A Japanese "grill out" is rather different than an American one, though. They cut up all kinds of vegetables (squash, peppers, onions, eggplants, potatoes, etc.) and grill those, along with a little meat (including seafood, of course).

Recently, benches safely arrived from the old Forrest, IL church and we could install them. By doing so, we almost doubled our seating capacity here at Tokyo church. We sincerely thank the Forrest church and the brothers for all their work in preparing and shipping the benches. They are a great improvement to our church.

We wish Elder Bro. Willis and Sis. Lois Ehnle God's blessings and safety as they travel to America for about one month. Bro. Willis and our Elder Bro. Akito Inoue travel to America and attend the Elder Conference on alternate years. Our prayers are also with all of the Elders as they come together to seek the Lord's guidance for our churches.

KANSAS, BERN

Holly Meyer

Lori Baumgartner

When there is unity, there is strength, but where there is division, there is weakness! By the time this article is printed, many brethren from across the land will have gathered in Eureka, IL for the General Conference. We are so thankful for the efforts that our Elder brothers put forth.

"Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

Ephesians 4:3

May we all strive to walk worthy of the vocation wherewith we have been called and may each of us do our part in preserving unity among our brotherhood by living in obedience to God's Word.

We are pleased to announce two wedding engagements in our congregation: Sis. Marci Edelman (Eugene and Judy) and Bro. Darin Grimm (Bro. Gerald and Sis. Ruby, Sabetha); and Bro. Terry Menold (Bro. James and Sis. Lou) and Sis. Dayra Meyer (Bro. James and Sis. Jeanne). We rejoice with each couple as they feel directed of God to be united as husband and wife.

We are so thankful that another soul, Rodney Menold (Bro. James and Sis. Lou), has answered the call to repentance. May he feel the Lord's mercy and nearness. It is our prayer that many more may answer the call.

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

II Timothy 4:7

Bro. Wayne Miller passed from this life on June 27. We express our deepest sympathy to his dear wife, Sis. Pearl; and his daughters, Sis. Connie Lehman (Elder Bro. John), and Sis. Evelyn Hartter (Bro. Neil), and their respective families.

We've appreciated the visiting ministers that have shared God's Word with us this past month: Bro. Lloyd Kraft (Lamont-Gridley, KS) and Elder Bros. Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO), Charles Sinn (Fort Scott, KS) and Joe Braker (Morton, IL). May the Lord bless them and their families.

Our hospital patients this past month have been Bro. Wilhelm Metzger and Thatcher Reist (Dave and Marci). Sis. Anna Ulmer is home from the hospital following her surgery. May our Lord provide healing as He sees best.

Jesus prayed for his disciples as His time with them on earth was drawing to a close, "I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil." (John 17:15).

So do we as parents pray for our dear little children as they begin a new school year. We cannot follow our children to school each day, but we can pray for them, their peers, and their teachers.

KANSAS, FORT SCOTT

Tammy Sinn

We wish to extend our sympathy and prayers to the family of Bro. Wayne Miller (Bern, KS) who has passed from this life, especially his wife, Sis. Pearl, and their children. Bro. Wayne ministered to us for 35 years while he lived in Fort Scott, serving us longer than any other minister. Though we will all miss his words of wisdom, we can rejoice in the hope of meeting him again in the presence of God.

On July 2, David and Trista Miller welcomed Alyson Nicole into their hearts and home. Grandparents rejoicing along with this couple are Bro. Lon and Sis. Debbie Banwart and Ron and Sandy Miller (Rolla, MO).

KANSAS, KIOWA

Darcy Kisling - Janice Bahr

August is the time when we think about our youth starting back to school. May we hold them up in prayer as they begin another school year.

"Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: but rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy."

I Peter 4:12-13

Our hospital patients this month were Bro. Gary Willson, Bro. Huber Farney, Sis. Marie Schurter, and Ray Schrock. Also, Sis. Sandra Hamilton underwent surgery this month. May each of them feel the healing power of God and find comfort in the Word.

KANSAS, LAMONT-GRIDLEY

Julie Bahr

There are friendships that we cherish,
In our daily walk of life...
Friends among the aged and youthful,
Find a place within our hearts.

We pray that the Lord is gently leading and directing those from our congregation who have chosen new places to establish their homes. Bro. Cory Metzger (Bro. Eldon and Sis. Dorene) has taken employment in Wichita. Bro. Roy and Sis. Doris Bahr have chosen to move to the Sabetha Retirement Village. We will deeply miss these loved ones from our midst. May our hearts always be near.

Our surgical patients this month were Bro. Max Burnham and Joanne Luthi (Bro. Lloyd). Both Bro. Max and Joanne required corrective surgery procedures. We pray for God's healing touch upon them.

A little baby girl, Taylor Christine, was born June 3 to first-time parents, Bro. Barry and Sis. Gina Metzger. Rejoicing grandparents are Bro. Eldon and Sis. Dorene Metzger from here and Sis. Marge Edelman from Sabetha.

Jesus! the name that charms our fears,
That bids our sorrows cease,
Tis music in the sinners ears,
Tis life and health and peace.

Our congregation receives a blessing each time we share of our time and effort to minister music to the ears of the beloved elderly of the Madison Manor and of the Holiday Resort Care Center of Emporia. We're thankful we have been given the opportunity to serve these precious elderly who enjoy it so.

With permission and information given, I submit the following:

The medical technology is increasing with new developments to help those with various medical hindrances. Last November, our dear Sis. Jill Luthi received an implantation of a Vagus Nerve Stimulator to help those patients with severe epilepsy. Recently, Sis. Jill was nominated and appointed to serve on a patient advisory board for Cyberonics Inc. Sis. Jill will provide input as a user of the product for physicians across the nation. She looks forward to attending her first meeting in Orlando in late July. We pray for Sis. Jill that she can be used as a testimony among those she comes in contact with that our Great Almighty God can be given all honor and glory for this great medical work.

Our dear Sis. Hulda Jacobs passed away June 30. Sis. Hulda moved away a few months ago to be near her son in Seattle, WA. Our deepest sympathy goes to her beloved son and his family.

Bro. Rudy Bahr (Sis. Eileen) became seriously ill this past month and was hospitalized for a time. We are so thankful Bro. Rudy has been restored to a measure of good health. May God richly bless him.

Valerie Jean Edelman is the name chosen for the new little baby girl born July 19 to Bro. Kip and Sis. Donita Edelman. The new granddaughter is welcomed by excited grandparents, Bro. Albert and Sis. Jeanie Edelman, and Bro. Don and Sis. Rita Furrer of Wolcott, IN. Big sisters are Rebekah, 3, and Samantha, 2.

Note of Thanks:

Roy and I wish to express our deepest thanks and gratitude to each and every loved one! The love we have felt since Doris' diagnosis of leukemia has truly been a blessing to us. Thank you and may God add His blessings upon each one for every kind deed.

Lovingly, Bro. Roy and Sis. Doris Bahr

KANSAS, SABETHA**Mary Kay Wenger**

We extend our best wishes and God's blessings to Bro. Ben and Sis. Mary Plattner on their 50th wedding anniversary on June 22.

We are happy to announce the engagement of Sis. Marci Edelman of Bern (Eugene and Judy) and Bro. Darin Grimm (Bro. Gerald and Sis. Ruby). May God further bless them as they are united in Him.

August is the month for the teachers and students to take a recess from Sunday School. Special thanks to all the teachers for their labors and talents. New Sunday School teachers this year will be Sis. Sheila Moser and Bros. Rodney Edelman (Sis. Joleen) and Tim Hartter (Sis. Charleen). Substitutes will be Sis. Jeanne Edelman (Bro. Loren), Sis. Joleen Edelman (Bro. Rodney), Sis. Beth Hartter (Bro. Dennis) and Bros. Kevin Grimm (Sis. Nita) and David Hartter (Sis. Beth). May they ever seek His guidance and His will.

KANSAS, WICHITA**Emma Miller**

We have been blessed with the addition of a new family here in our congregation. Bro. Craig and Sis. Patty Rudin and their children, Jason, Elizabeth, and Micah, have moved to Wichita in mid-June. While we know they will be missed

in their former congregation at Cissna Park, IL, we are so happy to have them worshipping with us in Wichita. May God bless them in this move!

Bro. Virgil and Betty Barth quietly observed their 50th wedding anniversary on June 27. In a day and age where the marriage vows are often lightly spoken and quickly broken, we can be thankful for the example of this couple. May the Lord continue to bless them.

KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON**Doug and Rebecca Germann**

We appreciate our visitors recently from Rittman, Oakville, Chicago and Bluffton. In addition, ministering Bros. were John Rowell and wife, Sis. Nelda, from Burlington, IA; Dale Frank and wife, Sis. Christine, from Oakville, IA; Gary Endress and wife, Sis. Evelyn, from Bradford, IL; and Elder Bros. Dale Eisenmann and wife, Sis. Judy, from Chicago, IL; and Roy Grimm and wife, Sis. Dona, from Taylor, MO. We always appreciate our visitors and invite all who are in the area to fellowship with us.

Our eighth grade graduates this year are Julie Neukomm and Jacob Huber. We wish them God's blessings as they enter into high school.

With the beauty of summer we see the gardens flourishing and the beautiful rows of beets, carrots, and corn, but also the weeds that want to choke out the vegetables. I had to think recently as we weeded the garden how quickly those weeds grow. I remember weeding the beets and seeing a few "small" weeds at the edge of the row and now a week later, those real "small" weeds are quite large and at the point of crowding out the beets. I thought how like our spiritual lives in that what might seem small and unimportant now to us can become so big and detrimental to us spiritually

later if we are not careful and watchful.

Faithfulness in Small Things

This is the test of true devotion,
To keep and hold fast to the Lord;
And evermore without omission
In all things to obey His Word.
In small and unimportant matters,
Yet to be faithful and sincere,
Not knowingly to faults
consenting,
However small they may appear.
Zion's Harp #179

MICHIGAN, ALTO**Melanie Kaeb - Michelle Oesch**

We enjoyed an exciting week of Vacation Bible School the week of June 24-28. Our theme was "A Safari through The Lord's Prayer." We learned about our Great God who is omnipotent and the honor we should give Him daily in prayer. We also learned about Africa, its animals, and its people. We wish to thank the many Alto parents who participated as teachers, leaders and support staff and the 55 children who attended daily. We are also thankful for the inspiring messages delivered to us by Bro. Dwight Stoller (Sis. Laurie, Latty, OH) entitled, "Forgive One Another" and by Bro. Brace Wieland (Sis. Brenda, Leo, IN) who spoke on the topic "Deliver us from Evil."

We wish to thank Elder Bro. Marvin Leman (Bradford, IL) and Bro. Bill Waibel (Bay City, MI) for bringing us the Gospel message.

Our prayers are with Ronald Zaagman, the 10-year-old son of Ed and Joyleen Zaagman, who is in the hospital and being treated with chemotherapy for lymphoma, a form of cancer. His grandparents are Bro. Noah and Sis. Marguerite Blough. We pray for God's healing touch on one so young.

We will miss Sis. Heidi Kaeb and her brother, Loren, as they plan to spend four months living in Wash-

ington, D.C. Heidi has been accepted to do an internship in the Department of Agriculture. We wish them the Lord's bountiful blessings!

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY

Marlene Mosher

Rhonda Knochel

Sis. Mary Ramseyer (Bro. Earl) spent some time in the hospital. Sis. Elizabeth Waibel (Bro. Joe) has also been in the hospital and very ill, and Sis. Leanore Knochel (Bro. Norman) had double bypass surgery and is doing well. We wish the Lord's healing hand and pray our loved ones may have a measure of health if it be His will.

A dear soul has confessed peace with her Lord and man and wishes for baptism in August, namely Bonnie Wieland (Bro. Rod and Sis. Evelyn). We wish her our Lord's grace and blessings.

We wish the Lord's blessings on a new couple who have been joined as one in marriage, Lisa Knochel (Bro. Jack and Sis. Debra) and Pat Kraatz.

We were blessed to have with us ministering Bro. Steve Martin (Sis. Vicki, Eureka, IL) and their family. We enjoyed their visit very much.

We were blessed once again with a full five days of Vacation Bible School. The blessings overflow for the children, the teachers, the helpers and the spectators, and also being able to hear God's teachings through a minister each evening.

Our theme this year was "Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples." (St. John 15:8)

Monday - Love - song: Love

Elder Bro. Roy Grimm (Sis. Dona, Taylor, MO)

Tuesday - Joy, Peace - song: It is Well with My Soul

Bro. Nelson Beer (Sis. Shelby, Milford, IN)

Wednesday - Longsuffering, Gen-

leness - song: Wait and Murmur Not

Bro. Brian Huber (Sis. Jacki, Francesville, IN)

Thursday - Goodness, Faith - song: Faith is a Living Power

Bro. Don Manz (Sis. Connie, Junction, OH)

Friday - Meekness, Temperance - song: Yield Not to Temptation

Bro. Lenard Meyer (Sis. Charlotte, Chicago, IL)

Our beginning song each evening was "A Beautiful Life" and our singing was extraordinarily blessed by our Lord.

MICHIGAN, DETROIT

Lynette Moser - Holly Barton

His way at first may seem too hard, too steep, and full of sorrow;
Yet peace even now is its reward,
and bliss in God's tomorrow.
Who through the narrow gate
doth press, an inner peace will he possess,
And very joy in living.

The broader way at first may seem
as through a pleasant pasture,
But in its path great dangers
teem; it ends in dark disaster.
In righteous anger God will cast
into great agony at last
The unrepentant sinner.
Zion's Harp #106

I recently heard the two ways described above compared to a funnel. The way of the world seems indeed at first to be wide and full of possibilities, but it gradually constricts and confines a soul. The way of Christ, however, is as an upside-down funnel; it may seem to start off narrow but soon opens up into a wide path of peace and joy.

We are so happy for Bonnie Wieland, who is now experiencing this "wide part of the funnel" and has peace with the Lord. Her parents are Bro. Rodney and Sis. Evelyn (Bay City, MI). Russel Rambeau

(son of Sis. Ethel) has also decided to forsake the broad way for the way of true reward. We pray that both of these souls may always rejoice in the way they have chosen.

A new baby is stirring up excitement at the Gasser home! Bro. Randy and Sis. Sue, along with Brady, Alexis, Brice and Angela welcomed Autumn Joy on June 21. Grandparents, Bro. Oliver and Sis. Emma Jean Stieglitz (Leo, IN) and Sis. Doris Gasser (Rittman, OH) are also delighted.

Our hearts go out to Sis. Hilda Bauer (Bro. Walt) on the loss of another sister and brother. We pray for God's loving comfort.

This month our Elders, ministers and brethren meet for another Brotherhood Conference. Though the care of the church must at times seem almost overwhelming, we are thankful that it is not important what we can do, but what God can do through us.

God gives to His servants this promise:

"I never will leave you alone;
And when you grow weak in your struggle,
My strength will prevail—not your own."
—Hess

"God's work done in God's way will never lack God's supply."

—Our Daily Bread, July 1996

MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS

Perry Virkler

On June 30, a picnic in a park was enjoyed by the students, teachers, parents and friends ending another Sunday School year. A special thanks to the teachers for their many hours in preparing and teaching our youth. Sunday School classes will resume on September 8.

"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 heartfelt sympathy is extended to Sis. Lila Fehr (Bro. Anthony) in the passing of her mother, Sis. Ella Mae Schmidt (Winthrop, MN). May God comfort all of her family.

We are very thankful that the Lord provides us with ministers of His Word. Those visiting were Elder Bro. Leroy Messner and Bro. Paul Messner (Winthrop, MN) and Elder Bro. John Lehman (Bern, KS). May the Lord richly bless them for their labors of love.

Sis. Vera Schmidt was hospitalized for surgery. We pray she will feel the healing power of God.

May each of us pray for our dear Elder brothers as they gather together in Eureka, IL for the General Conference. May God richly bless them for their labors of love in striving to preserve God's Holy church.

FORBEARANCE

Patience with another under trying circumstances. As God is forbearing, Christians are required to be forbearing, exhibiting a readiness to forgive and unwillingness to insist upon one's rights, especially when to do so might cause another to suffer.

"I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love;"

Ephesians 4:1-2

"Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; Forbearing one another, and forgiving

one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye."

Colossians 3:12-13

Thought:

A promise is from the mouth.

A commitment is from the heart.

—Author unknown

MINNESOTA, MORRIS

Linda Schmidgall

Nancy Wulf

"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

This is the hope we have for four precious souls that we recently welcomed into the family of God. On July 13 and 14, we heard the testimonies and witnessed the baptisms of Joan, Ryan and Quinn Messner (Bro. Sid and Sis. Cheryl), and Carrie Zeltwanger (Bro. Dale and Sis. Rachel). Elder Bro. Charles Sauder (Tremont, IL) was here to assist our Elder Bro. Art. Also with us that weekend were ministering Bros. Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville, IL), Roger Aberle (Sabetha, KS), Jim Knobloch (Winthrop, MN) and Donald Miller (Minneapolis, MN).

Other ministers that came to share the Word with us this month were Bros. Doug Grimm (Sabetha, KS), Mark Masters (Mansfield, OH), Allen Stoller (Bluffton, IN), and Ted Witzig (Morton, IL). We thank each of these brothers for their efforts on our behalf.

Always and in all ways, we rejoice with the angels when even one soul answers the call to repentance as did Micah Zeltwanger (Bro. Dale and Sis. Rachel).

We wish the Lord's blessings as these two couples were united in

marriage. Kristi Ritter and Brad Fehr (Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Diane) were married on June 29. Lorrie Foss and Gary Joos (Bro. Gottlieb and the late Sis. Edith) were married on July 6.

Congratulations go out to Paul Moser (Bro. Joe and Sis. Hazel) and Renae Gades (Sharon and the late Rodney) as they plan a September 14 wedding.

Believing it is the Lord's will, the engagement of Bro. Craig Feuchtenberger (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Shirley, Lester, IA) was made known. They look forward to an August wedding.

Our sympathies are extended to the family of Otto Greiner and especially his wife, Rose, as he was laid to rest.

Bro. Chris Moser (Sis. Marion) spent some time in the hospital. May God continue to heal and strengthen him.

We would like to thank Winthrop for hosting the Youth Fellowship weekend in June. May God bless you for all the effort put forth for our young people.

MINNESOTA, WINTHROP

Becky Braulick - Jan Messner

Greetings!

"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

This past month our congregation was blessed when we were able to witness the testimonies and baptisms of two dear souls, Lindsay Schmidt (Bro. Verl and Sis. Jamie) and Stephanie Messner (Sis. Carol Ann). May they continue to trust in the Lord in their new walk of life. We wish to thank Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr (Sis. Kathy, West Bend, IA) for assisting our Elder Bro. LeRoy

Messner in carrying out the duties of this joyous occasion. We would also like to thank ministering Bros. Dewayne Dill (Sis. LaRae), Kent Mogler (Sis. Mary) and Don Miller (Sis. Bernadine) of Minneapolis for being with us for the weekend. Our hospital patients this past month were Bro. Mike Messner (Sis. Joyce) and Gene Schmidt. We are thankful the Lord watched over them during this time.

Note of Thanks:

Gene and I want to thank everyone for the prayers of love and concern. Also for the many cards and deeds of kindness. May God bless each one.

Gene and Sis. Ella Mae Schmidt

"God saw mom was getting tired
And a cure was not to be,
So He put His arms around her
And whispered "Come with Me."
With tearful eyes we watched her
suffer
And saw her fade away.
Although we loved her dearly,
We could not make her stay.
A golden heart stopped beating,
Hard working hands put to rest,
God broke our hearts to prove
He only takes the best."
—Author Unknown

Heaven must have become a little brighter on July 9 as our dear Sis. Ella Mae Schmidt (Gene) was called to her Heavenly Home. Our deepest sympathy and prayers continue to go out to Gene and his family. Sis. Ella Mae will truly be missed and there is an empty spot in our hearts where we feel this loss.

Note of Thanks:

We wish to sincerely thank everyone for their love, support, prayers, gifts and expressions of sympathy in our time of sorrow. We really appreciate all the deeds of kindness extended to us and are thankful the Lord has blessed us with such a

beautiful circle of loved ones. The Lord bless you.

The family of Sis. Ella Mae Schmidt

MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY

Brent Kellenberger

On the Sunday of June 23 we were blessed to have several members of the Sabetha/Bern young group assemble with us. The extra fellowship we derived was truly a blessing and we are thankful they came.

For the second straight month, our congregation welcomes a little baby girl. Aly Nicole Miller is the first child of Dave and Trista Miller. First-time grandparents are Bro. Lon and Sis. Deb Banwart (Ft. Scott) and Ron and Sandy Miller. For all the dear children in our church, we pray that someday they will forsake the ever-changing world and follow after Christ. To that end we must be strong Christ-like examples. Children may be small, but they have big eyes and ears and a tremendous memory as well.

On July 4-7, about sixty brothers gathered near St. Louis to enjoy fellowship and God's beautiful creation. Ministering brothers who attended were Elder Bro. Marvin Lemman (Bradford, IL), and Bros. Trent Meiss (Iowa City, IA), Loren Schrenk (St. Louis, MO), Mike Lemman (Denver, CO) and Ted Hirstein (Morton, IL). The Bible studies they gave were very edifying and we are thankful for their efforts.

We extend our most sincere sympathy to Bro. Dennis (Sis. April) Miller and family at the passing of his father, Bro. Wayne Miller.

MISSOURI, LAMAR

**Martha Kellenberger
Becky Marti**

"...and I will cause the shower to

come down in his season; there shall be showers of blessing."

Ezekiel 34:26

We have been blessed with some much needed rain showers this past month. We have also been blessed with ministering brothers willing to proclaim God's Word to us. We thank Bro. Kevin Banwart (West Bend, IA) and Bro. David Sinn (Ft. Scott, KS) for serving us. We also enjoyed our many other visitors.

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Bro. Larry and Sis. Marcy Schmidgall in the loss of her mother, Sis. Ella Mae Schmidt (Winthrop, MN). May we each one strive to be faithful so that we can take comfort in His promise - "And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, not crying, neither shall there be any more pain; for the former things are passed away." (Rev. 21:4)

Sis. Anna Marti has spent some time in the hospital, but is now able to be home again. Sis. Janice Frieden recently had eye surgery. Ben Braker (Bro. Roy and Sis. Judy) had the misfortune of breaking his leg and had to spend some time in the hospital. Hopefully, he will be up and going strong again soon.

MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS

Peter Schrenk

It is with joy that we welcome Rachel Schrenk (Bro. Loren and Sis. Betsy) into the fellowship of believers. Rachel made the decision to repent on Thursday, July 11. She lives in Champaign, IL where she is planning to attend school this fall.

The church here was fortunate enough to host a large group of young brothers on the weekend of the 4th of July. Approximately sixty brothers attended a weekend full of singing, Bible studies, and various outdoor activities at the Meramec

State Park near St. Louis. Brothers from over 25 churches attended this blessed weekend.

We thank the ministers who gave of their time to support us: Bros. Carroll Gerber (Bluffton North, IN), Mike Leman (Denver, CO), Ted Hirstein (Morton, IL), Don Gude-man (LaCrosse, IN), Trent Meiss (Iowa City, IA), and Elder Bro. Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO).

MISSOURI, TAYLOR

Rusty and Amy Adrian

Our churches were truly blessed as each one had the privilege to come together once again at the Brotherhood Conference. We can really be thankful for each Elder brother and ministering brothers who are willing to give of themselves to be used by our Lord Jesus Christ to sound the warnings and help keep our faith steadfast and unmovable. Let us each one pray for our church leaders that the decisions that are made will strengthen and bring each of us closer to the Lord.

We have been blessed this past month with Wednesday night Bible studies. Special thanks are extended to Bro. Clark Stoller (Gridley, IL) for sharing with us the topic on "Parenting based on God's Word", and Bro. Marvin Dotterer (Forrest, IL) for sharing with us the topic on "Choices". As we study God's Word together, may we all learn how to be better Christians.

It's getting closer to the time where the children will be going back to school. As they prepare for that time, they are quick to share how exciting it will be to see all their friends again. May it be that each of us have that same excitement when we are able to assemble together with brothers and sisters of like mind and faith and worship our precious Lord Jesus Christ.

NEW YORK, CROGHAN- NAUMBURG

Alice Virkler

Our Sunday School children, teachers, parents and others enjoyed the annual wiener roast held at Whitaker Park the Monday evening after school closed for the summer, June 24.

On the weekend of July 6 and 7, many visitors were able to be with us. A covered dish meal and song service was held on Saturday evening.

God's Word was brought to us by Elder Bro. Andy Stoller (Smithville, OH), and Bros. Jeff Grimm (Goodfield, IL) and Art Ingold (Rittman, OH) during the past month. We thank each of them and their families for their service to God and to our congregation. We are glad they included us in their travel plans.

We are thankful that God's Word is still being preached by faithful Brothers and that loved ones are heeding God's instructions to attain everlasting life. Fred and Barb Ebersol have turned their backs to Satan and the world and have begun the path of repentance. Our thoughts and prayers are with them as they begin this important step in their lives.

Our thoughts and prayers have also been with Harriett Lasher as she has been a hospital patient. May she feel God's nearness through her infirmities. Also, Urb Karcher (Sis. Julia) has had some medical problems and has had some testing as of this time. Our prayers are that he will soon experience a complete recovery.

May God guide and direct our Elder Brothers as they assemble for the Annual Conference. May He also guide and protect each one who will travel to assemble at the Brotherhood Conference.

OHIO, AKRON

Diane Jarrett - Joyce Gasser

We are rejoicing that we have three that have turned to the Lord, have peace with God, and desire to give their testimony of the good things the Lord Jesus has done for them. They are Michelle and Rachel Steidl (daughters of Bro. Don and Sis. Nan), and Sarah Bako (Eugene and Sis. Dianna).

Sis. Amy Bako (Eugene and Sis. Dianna) and Bro. Dan Relgin, both of our congregation, are engaged to be married. We believe the Lord has brought them together, and we pray for God's blessings upon them.

Bro. Irvin Walker and Sis. Mary Ellen Gerber (Rittman, OH) were united in marriage in a Wednesday evening ceremony at Rittman church. We give Sis. Mary Ellen a hearty welcome to Akron, and we wish for them many blessings.

Bro. Todd and Sis. Lydia Graf were blessed with a new baby girl. They named her Carmen Jane, and she has two brothers, Kenny and Jesse. Grandparents are Bro. Art and Sis. Audrey Graf and Bro. Wladimir and Sis. Margaret Fortenbacher of Kitchener.

Robert Kaufman, who has been a resident of our nursing home, recently fell and broke his hip.

We appreciated the visit and messages of Bro. Doug Harmon (Toledo, OH).

OHIO, COLUMBUS

Nancy Banks

The summer months usually bring a great number of travelers to and through central Ohio and we have been blessed with many visiting ministers and their families. Proclaiming God's precious Word this month were Elder Bro. Eugene Pamer (Akron, OH) and ministering Bros. Ron Palitto (Akron, OH), Gary Maibach (Smithville, OH), Ben Manz (Junction, OH), Art Ingold (Rittman, OH) and Kevin Ban-

wart (West Bend, IA). We appreciate the efforts of these loved ones and enjoyed having them visit us.

On July 3, Bro. John and Sis. Julie Grimm were blessed with a beautiful son, Joshua Paul. Joshua will be lovingly welcomed into the hearts of grandparents, Elder Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Sue Sauder (Mansfield, OH) and Bro. Earl and Sis. Anna Lou Grimm (Princeville, IL). We wish this family God's blessings and wisdom as they raise up their son for Him.

It was with a heavy heart that we bid farewell to our sister in faith, Mabel Banks (Mansfield, OH), mother of Bro. Larry and Sis. Nancy Banks. In her last days on earth, she was surrounded by loving family members who now draw comfort from the fact that she is "Safe in the Arms of Jesus" and her earthly suffering is over.

In a small congregation, the loss of a family leaves an empty space in our hearts as well as our assembly. We wish Bro. Troy and Sis. Bonny Reimschisel God's richest blessings as they return to Indiana to await further news concerning their relocation.

Notes of Thanks:

The family of Sis. Mabel Banks would like to express their sincere appreciation for the outpouring of love and sympathy shown during the illness and death of their beloved mother and grandmother.

To all our beloved brethren, friends, our (five) children and their families (15 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren), we wish to express our sincere thanks and appreciation for the kind remembrances by sharing your love and prayerful good wishes on our 60th wedding anniversary. May our loving Father in Heaven bless you all!

Lovingly in Christ,

Bro. Andy and Sis. Theresa Hun-

yady

OHIO, JUNCTION

Sandra Manz

Our guest ministers this past month were Bros. Larry Wenninger (Latty, OH) and Marvin Stieglitz (Leo, IN). We thank them for their tireless efforts and pray God's blessings on them no matter where they preach.

Prayers have been answered in behalf of Barb Brink (Rob) and little Brenda Manz (Bro. Ken and Sis. Gwen) who have both undergone surgery and appear to be doing well.

By the time this article is printed, Lord willing, the annual Brotherhood Conference will be a memory. It is never too early to start praying that the Lord will work in the hearts of those responsible for planning the format, the speakers, the listeners, and anyone involved in the planning of this event. For those of us unable to attend, may we show our support by listening to the tapes where available and attending the Conference conclusions.

OHIO, LATTY

Joyce Klopfenstein

Kathy Sinn

Is there any pleasure in life here on earth?

In what lot and measure have we peace and mirth?

Here where sin prevaieth, fear, distress and need,

For naught here avaieth; Death we all must meet.

Zion's Harp #149

Several members of our congregation had loved ones meet death during the past month. We extend sympathy to Bro. Ralph Stoller at the passing of his mother-in-law, Helen Elston. Bro. Willis Stoller (Sis. Elaine) laid to rest a brother-in-law, Jim Williams.

From our Latty congregation, Sis. Caroline Zeltwanger passed onto her eternal rest. She had spent her last few years in Arizona with the family of her niece, Sis. Carolyn Kaufman (Bro. Curt). May God's presence fill the void in their daily life. May He also comfort her brothers, Bro. Carl (Sis. Louise) and Bro. Bill (Sis. Elsie); her sisters, Sis. Elsie Schlatter (Bro. Joe), Sis. Frieda Rehklau, Sis. Lillian Schlatter, Sis. Marie Steffen; sisters-in-law, Sis. June Rager, Sis. Minnie Fetter, and Sis. Clara Sinn; and brother-in-law, Bro. Albert Zeltwanger.

Moved to weep with sadness, were no Saviour here;

Joy has come in fullness, Since Christ did appear.

He who comes confessing: "My Lord and my God!"

And with joy expressing, Blessed is his lot.

Zion's Harp #149

Bill McClure and Amy Hopkins (Cris) have confessed their peace of God and man. They have expressed the fullness of joy and await a time of testimony.

Tears of joy I bring Thee, Jesus,

Man of pain,

That Thou, Lord, didst call me, To thy flock ordain.

With Thy love's persuasion, Thou my heart didst win,

Guided me with patience, Have Thee still within.

Zion's Harp #149

This verse reflects the life of Shelby Sinn (Bro. Walt and Sis. Renee) who has felt the call of God and has answered that call of repentance. May she look unto the Lord for strength and guidance each and every day.

I have happy hours; with Thee I am blest!

Finding in Thee power, When I am distressed.

I was all unworthy and a wayward
child;
Now I have found mercy in Thy
love so mild.
Zion's Harp #149

Visiting ministering Bros. Earl Beery (Rittman, OH), Curt Kaufman (Tucson, AZ), and Marvin Stieglitz (Leo, IN) gathered with us during the past month. May these brethren remember the words of Zion's Harp #112: "Call and cry, ye watchmen, boldly; Call aloud and spare them not! Jesus wants a faithful witness; Teachers not confessing Jesus have stern judgment as their lot. Call and cry, ye watchmen, boldly; Call aloud and spare them not."

Dave and Elaine Keysor welcome home a baby girl, Megan Michelle. Grandparents are Bro. George and Sis. Sharon Keysor and Ken and Delores Greutman. May God give wisdom to this family as they raise this new addition.

Sis. Eileen Whitman (Bro. Richard) was hospitalized during the past month. Thankfully, she has been able to again worship with us. Also hospitalized during the month was Bro. Ben and Sis. Helen Schlatter. As it is His will, may God grant healing to their bodies to enable them to worship with us again.

The "Snow Bird" reunion was held in Latty the last weekend of June. Many precious memories were exchanged during the mid-year gathering. We were encouraged to see so many strong pillars of faith. May we remember their example in our trying hours.

One Prayer Answered

While he tried to be perfect
And live a good life
He often fell short and
Wound up in strife.
His mind tried so hard
To point him the way,
But Satan succeeded
And led him astray.

He then realized what
A mistake he had made,
Humbling himself, he cried
Out in prayer raised.
To heavenward then
God heard his cries,
And answered his prayer
From those heavenly skies.

OHIO, MANSFIELD
Cari Mann

"Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world,"

Titus 2:12

The week of June 17 was our annual Vacation Bible School. This verse summarizes what the brethren spoke to the adult class about. We were privileged to hear the following brethren: Bro. Ron Palitto (Akron, OH) - "Christian Parenting"; Elder Bro. Andy Stoller (Smithville, OH) - "Results of Justification"; Bro. Paul Gasser (Akron, OH) - "Spiritual Self Control"; Bro. John Laukhuf (Latty, OH) - "Satan - Chief Opponent of God"; and Elder Bro. Gene Marti (Kansas City, MO) - "Music and How it Affects Our Lives". We were all encouraged and uplifted by these topics that are so needed in this present world. We pray these brethren will be richly blessed for their efforts in our behalf.

Beyond the sunset, O glad
reunion,
With our dear loved ones, who've
gone before;
In that fair homeland we'll know
no parting,
Beyond the sunset forevermore.

Hymns of Zion #172

Our dear Sis. Mabel Banks has gone on to that reunion in the sky where her dear husband, the late Bro. Richard Banks, is waiting for her, along with her parents, Bro.

John and Sis. Nellie Fuhrer, brother, John, and sister, Sis. Martha Cordrey. The loved ones left here on earth will surely miss their mother but they are rejoicing that she is in a better place. These loved ones include: Sis. Janet Moser (Tom, Bluffton, IN), Sis. Sheli Fairchild (Bro. Ron), Bill (Becky), Jim (Sharron), all of Mansfield, and Bro. Larry (Sis. Nancy, Shauck, OH) and their families. She will also be missed by her sisters, Sis. Dorothy Durkin, Sis. Mary Mae Bocka, Sis. Katherine Morrison, Ruth Young and Gladys Texter. May the love and sympathy in our hearts be felt by each family member during this time.

"For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit."

I Cor. 12:13

By one Spirit we have all been baptized into one body, whether we are from Mansfield or Fairbury or Zapata. On June 29, we were privileged to hear the testimony of Dorothy Martin (Everett), mother of Sis. Pam (Bro. Dan) Sauder. She stopped in Fairbury on the way home from her daughter's (Sis. Ann Maibach [Bro. Ken], Smithville, OH) funeral to give her confession to Elder Bro. Art Bahler and we were privileged to host her baptism. Along with Elder Bro. Art, also joining us for the weekend were Bros. Leland Plattner (Zapata, TX) and Ron Steiner (Rittman, OH). We wish our new sister-in-faith all of God's richest blessings and sufficient grace to see her through all the days of her life.

"And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. The

night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light."

Romans 13:11-12

Stephanie Domka (Bro. Dan and Sis. MaryAnn) and Heidi Domka (Bro. Fred and Sis. Connie) have both awakened out of sleep to cast off the works of darkness so they can put on the armour of light. As these two young ladies have forsaken the way of the world, may they ever look to the Light to guide them all the way to their eternal home.

OHIO, RITTMAN

Linda Schar

Michelle Dotterer

These past several weeks have been very exciting for our congregation because of three weddings. On June 29, Debbie Ramsier (Bro. Steve and Sis. Karen) and Brian Stoller (Bro. Harlan and Sis. Jean) were united in marriage. Before many witnesses during our Wednesday evening services, Bro. Ervin (Bud) Walker (Akron) and Sis. Mary Ellen Gerber became as one on July 3. Also, Brent Steiner (Bro. Dave and Sis. Carole) and Andrea Maag (Robert and Martha) exchanged their vows on July 13. May God richly bless these three new couples.

Visiting ministers were Elder Bros. Ken Indermuhle (Sardis, OH) and Gene Pamer (Akron, OH), and Bro. John Steiner (Oakville, IA). May God bless them for their labors of love.

On July 8, Joel Rufener Kipfer was born to Bro. Jon and Sis. Suzanne Kipfer. Big brothers, Brandon, David, Daniel and Joshua, welcomed him home. Grandparents are Bro. Ephraim and Sis. Marilyn Kipfer (Latty, OH) and Bro. Isaac and Sis. Verna Rufener.

Our prayers are with Arlene Rupp who was hospitalized this

month.

We were saddened to hear of the tragic passing of Ben Winkler (Sandy). We extend our sympathy to Glenn Winkler (Mary Jane), Sis. Elizabeth Landis (Bro. Vernon), Bro. Stan Winkler (Sis. Margaret), and Bro. Andy Winkler (Sis. Mary Jane) of our congregation, and to Sis. Janet Indermuhle (Bro. Darrel), Sis. Brenda Bauman (Bro. Vic), Sis. Marilyn Uhler (Dale), and Marge Rhoads (Bill) of the Smithville congregation on the death of their brother.

As the Elder Conference approaches, let us take the time to remember our Elders in prayer.

OHIO, SARDIS

Renee Miller

Our cups overflowed as we felt the love and unity of all those who traveled to Sardis for this year's New Martinsville, West Virginia service. Brethren from approximately 25 church locations attended the special memorial service, which is held each year on the last Sunday in June. We especially wish to thank Bro. Lenard Meyer (Chicago, IL) for laboring on our behalf both Saturday evening and Sunday. It is good to remember the heritage of faith from which we reap the benefits.

We wish to extend comfort to Bro. Dana and Sis. Joy (Beard) Indermuhle on the passing of Sis. Joy's grandfather.

Dave and Amy Figel began their family with the birth of a baby boy, Justin Riley, on July 5. We share in the excitement with grandparents, Bro. John and Sis. Paula Figel.

"...let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself, and the wife see that she reverence her husband."

Ephesians 5:33

Valerie Miller and David Fisher

were united in marriage July 6. Parents are Bro. Denny and Sis. Doris Miller, and Ed and Sandy Thomas of Cuyahoga Falls, OH. Our prayer is that the love that was evident on Dave and Val's faces on their wedding day will continue to grow and strengthen throughout their lifetime together.

OHIO, SMITHVILLE

Edith Miller - Julie Maibach

We rejoice with Bro. Dwaine and Sis. Shelley Beery on the birth of their precious daughter. Mariah Rebecca was born June 25 and is welcomed by big sisters, Sharnise and DeeDee, as well as happy grandparents, Art and Eileen Beery, and Bro. Glenn and Sis. Lou Riggenschach. May God bless them as they raise this dear little one.

Bro. Carlton Schlatter and Sis. Candice Stoller (Bro. John and Sis. Patsy, Leo, IN) were joined together in Holy Matrimony in Leo, IN on July 7. We extend a warm welcome to Sis. Candy and wish them God's richest blessings and grace as they begin their lives together in Him.

What joy in our hearts to witness the testimony and baptism of two dear souls! Grandmother and granddaughter, Sis. Florence Hanzie and Sis. Sheila Hartzler, were brought into the fold on July 14. May God keep them close to Him each step of the way.

Visiting ministers this month were Elder Bro. Henry Dotterer, Bros. Merle Hartzler and Ron Steiner (Rittman, OH), Fred Domka (Mansfield, OH), Bill Brake (Sardis, OH), and Elder Bro. Jesse Beer (Milford, IN). We thank these brothers for sharing the Word of God with us.

OHIO, TOLEDO

Rebecca Beard - Edie Fetter

"...if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another..."

I John 1:7

We want to thank the Junction Sunday School for attending our annual Sunday School picnic. Bro. Ben Manz accompanied them and assisted in the ministry.

Sis. Clara Beard was recently in the hospital with heart trouble. We are thankful to God that she was able to be released and hope she is on the road to recovery.

"And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up..."

James 5:15

OREGON, PORTLAND **Mary Berg - Louisa Gallup**

"O Lord, how great are thy works!..."

Psalms 92:5

As this summer unfolds, let us stop and contemplate a few moments now and then on Who gave us beautiful nature and fine weather to enjoy.

"Flourishing youth, Thou our hope and our fond expectation..."
Zion's Harp #168

It was good to be together with the Sunday School children a week-end ago. Our thanks to Bro. Denny and Sis. Lori Martin for hosting this annual event. May the Lord continue to help us guide and direct our children and to be good examples to them in today's confusing world.

Our small congregation has enjoyed numerous visitors this past month, also from other states. We are thankful for this and encourage anyone traveling through this area to stop by and visit.

Thanks also to visiting ministers, Elder Bro. Art and Sis. Betty Metz and Bro. Ed and Sis. Judie Knecht (all from Silverton, OR) for making the effort to come our way and minister to us.

OREGON, SILVERTON **Peggy Schulz**

An Open House was held on June 15 for the 50th anniversary of Bro. Lewis and Sis. Gloria Kuenzi. May the Lord continue to bless them as He has in the past.

June 15 and 16 was our annual Bible Class weekend. Bro. Glenn Dill (Sis. Marilyn, Tremont, IL) spent three days with our Bible Class. Many blessings were experienced as they viewed God's beautiful handiwork and fellowshiped together. We want to thank him for spending time with them and for sharing God's Word with us on Sunday. May the Lord's blessings be upon him and his dear wife.

The following weekend was our Sunday School picnic. The weather was beautiful and the children all seemed to enjoy their time together.

June 30 was the wedding day of Bro. Aden Kuenzi (Bro. Terry and Sis. Ann) and Sis. Becky Dietrich (Bro. Jim and Sis. Joan). Our new assembly was full as many came to witness their vows and wish them the Lord's blessings and guidance as they joined hand and heart.

The weekend of July 4 was a blessed one as the Single Group hosted brethren from the following churches: Rittman, Smithville, Akron, Mansfield, Fairbury, Forrest, Princeville, Bradford, Gridley, Minneapolis, Winthrop, Detroit, Denver, Fort Scott, Lamar, Kansas City, Sarasota, Philadelphia, Milford, South Bend, Altadena, San Diego, and Phoenix. What a wonderful fellowship we have that we can assemble together from across the land and feel that oneness and unity of

spirit.

We have been privileged to have had several visiting ministering brethren this past month. They were Bros. Ron Koehl (Sis. Carol, Sarasota, FL), Dewayne Dill (Sis. LaRae, Minneapolis, MN), and Jim Vierling (Sis. Linda, Eureka, IL). May the Lord reward them for their labors on our behalf.

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

"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."

Psalms 84:11

Sis. Rebekah Clough (John and Sis. Kathy) was recently hospitalized. We thank God for His healing grace.

We thank Bro. Donald Manz (Junction, OH) for visiting and sharing God's Word with us. May God richly reward him for his efforts.

We welcome Bro. Patrick Funk to our congregation from the Wichita, KS church. Bro. Patrick took employment in Delaware and we look forward to a lasting and joyful fellowship.

We welcome all who are in the area to come worship with us. Services are 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**

"If you were responsible for all your neighbor knew about Jesus Christ, how much would he know?"
While traveling to Missouri, I saw

the above saying on a church sign-board. What were your thoughts as you read this? I myself know that I have work to do!

This past month we were privileged to have ministering Bros. Hartzell Kaisner (Detroit, MI), Nathan Stoller (Bradford, IL) and Dwight Stoller (Latty, OH) and their wives/families. We sincerely appreciate their willingness to travel and share God's Word with us. May God be your rich rewarder both now and in the time to come. We also appreciated other visitors from Peoria, Bradford, Princeville, and Goodfield, IL; Athens, AL; Bay City, MI; Bluffton North, IN; and Lester, IA.

Remodeling work continues to progress on the church. Our kitchen/dining room has been dry-walled and painted. A small roof was also added over the front entrance. Lord willing, we plan to finish remodeling with the exception of the outside excavating work by the end of fall.

Stop by to worship with us if you are in the Nashville area. We hope to hold services on September 1 (Sarasota, FL); September 15 (Smithville, OH); October 6 (Chicago, IL); and October 20 (Valparaiso, IN). If you are planning to be in the area for services or if you would like additional information, contact Bro. Don and Faye Sauder (615) 373-8928; Bro. Don and Sis. Enid Miller (615) 384-8761; Bro. Stan and Sis. Jean Hohulin (423) 376-9153; or Sis. Gwen Leuthold (615) 352-3940.

TEXAS, DALLAS & CENTRAL Dee Rapp

While the British began their attack on the Colonists, the First Continental Congress of 1774 met for prayer and the reading of Psalm 35. "Plead my cause, O Lord, with them that strive with me: fight against them that fight against me." The Lord heard and the rest is history. He has blessed our nation and allowed us to worship in peace. We are another year older, but are we wiser? Pray that the Lord will lift up a leader who will lead our nation back to Him.

Sis. Dorothy Martin, of San Antonio, journeyed to the home of their daughter, Sis. Pam (Bro. Dan) Sauder, in Mansfield, OH where she was baptized this past month. All of her children were there to witness the vows and baptism. We wish her a close walk with the Lord and encourage her to be a light to all with whom she comes in contact.

Gloria Volk of Bloomington, IL worshipped with us for a short time but has since returned to Bloomington to pursue her career. May her job be challenging and rewarding.

Dallas and Central Texas was served this past month by Bro. Rex Frieden (Sis. Vera, Lamar, MO), Elder Bro. Everett Hari (Sis. Beverly, Bloomington, IL) and Bro. Jim Rinkenberger (Sis. Jeanne, Bluffton, IN). Thank you, each and every one.

As a reminder, services have to be canceled periodically, especially in Dallas. If you plan to be in the area, call to determine if services are being held.

Central Texas services are on the second, fourth, and fifth Sunday of the month at 10:30 a.m. and noon. The services are held at family homes in Round Top, Smithville, Austin, and San Antonio. You may contact Bro. Bill Zeltwanger for more information at (409) 249-5102.

Dallas services are held on the first and third Sunday at the Holiday Inn in DeSoto, TX. Contact Bro. Howard or Sis. Dee Rapp at (214) 867-4074 for more information.

TEXAS, ZAPATA Viola Perdelwitz

Bro. Lloyd, Sis. Joyce, Julie Nohl and their 11-month-old foster child, Socarro, are sharing their home with a foster child, Alan. Alan is 11 months old and needs special medical care.

Grant to Thy servants grace and
might
And wisdom, working virtues
bright,
That in this time good seeds they
sow
From which eternal fruit may
grow.

Zion's Harp #188



“JESUS IS TRULY INCOMPARABLE”

Sermon by Bro. Ronald C. Palitto of Akron, OH

Philippians 2:1-4

Prayer

Surely, Heavenly Father, as we bow before Thee, our Great God, our hearts are moved with thanksgiving for surely, Father, Thou dost behold us and canst even see into the very depths of our hearts. We have been a blessed people for we have had the most marvelous and wondrous way revealed unto us.

Father, Thou hast opened Thy Word and our understanding that we could know of the way of salvation. Even as the hymn writer of old did write that Thy Son went to that cruel cross, Father, where upon He bore our sin, He was even removed from Thee.

Oh, Heavenly Father, we cannot grasp the love that was Thine to send Him, and the love of Thy Son to come and to offer Himself there upon the cross giving His all that we, Father, in this day could have a hope of eternal life.

Father, we are humbled. Oh, Thou hast been so merciful and so kind. Each one of us, Father, Thou knowest that we were once sinners, and once we were walking away from Thee, our God. Once in this life we wanted to do our own willful way of life, and Thou didst have compassion on many of us.

Father, many are gathered here in this evening hour—young, middle age and old alike. What a joy it is, Father, that we have come through the door of Jesus Christ. We have a common bond, a common hope and a common purpose, Father.

We have been washed in the blood of Thy Son. We have had Thy blessed peace spoken unto our hearts and Thou hast given us purpose of life.

Now, Father, in this evening hour

Thou hast privileged us once more to gather around Thy Word. All through this day, Father, we have felt Thy love and the presence of Thy Spirit as Thou hast moved our beloved elder brothers to open their hearts and pour them out before us, Thy people, that they might free themselves and Thee of the truth that we might know the way of salvation clear and plain.

Thou hast inspired us, Heavenly Father, and Thou hast humbled us and we ask for Thy forgiveness, Father, for surely we have fallen far short. But we rejoice, Father, it is a day of grace and we can yet feel Thy tender nearness and Thy loving kindness. It is, Father, as though we have come through a wilderness of life to a blessed oasis, and we have been refreshed, Father. All the waters of this day have been pure, deep and clear.

Father, we have been fed and we have been nourished, and now in this evening hour, it is our desire to continue to worship Thee, our Great God, and to bring thanks and praise unto Thy Holy Name. Yet, Father, we ask and desire a further blessing. Oh, we pray for Thy patience, even as we, Thy humble people, would gather once more desirous that ere the night would come upon us that we once more could partake of Thy Living Word.

Oh, Heavenly Father, we ask that Thou wouldst have mercy upon us who are called upon to speak. Empty us of ourselves, Father, and fill us with Thy Spirit. We rejoice that we can share of the blessing that we have received from Thee, our Great God.

Oh, Heavenly Father, what a joy it brings to our hearts to join these brethren in worship in this evening hour. These loved ones here of this

blessed congregation where Thou hast been with them, Father, for they flourish in Thy love and in Thy compassion for we find evidence of Thy Spirit here amongst these beloved brothers and sisters in Jesus, Thy Son. We see how Thou hast prospered their numbers and their faith and we only ask, Father, to continue to be mindful of every brother, every sister and every dear friend who gather here in this place that they might continue to feel that love and direction, that peace, that joy and that unity that comes, Father, from loving and serving Thee.

Bless the dear elder brother and the other elder brothers gathered here on the pulpit, Father, as they labor on Thy behalf and for Thy people. Bless all the dear ministering brothers that are gathered here, Heavenly Father, that Thy Word might continue to be proclaimed in its truth, simplicity and in the power of Thy Holy Spirit.

Bless the Sunday School teachers, the parents, the grandparents, the young, the old alike, Father, even each of Thy children might feel a blessing as we have gathered in this evening hour. Surely, Father, we have faith to believe that gathered with us are also friends of the truth. Also there might be those who have not gathered with us here and Thou dost also see them. We pray for them, Father.

We recognize the evil from which Thou hast drawn us out. We see the evil that is all around us, the travail, the distress, the anguish of heart and of spirit, the hopelessness that there is in serving Satan and the world. We plead with Thee, Father, once more ere this night would fall upon us that Thou wouldst call so tenderly unto the hearts of the unredeemed to come and follow Thee.

We thank Thee, Father, for blessing the church and we are humbled, Father, that we might be part of that church. The blessed heritage has been given. The banner has been passed. We plead, Father, for grace and favor to be faithful and to persevere. Open Thy Word, Father. Draw our hearts together. Open our understanding. Speak Thy peace and blessing upon us, we pray in Jesus' precious name. Amen.

Sermon

Surely, loved ones, these are words of good counsel, encouragement and great truth. The church tonight is nearly full. The voices blended in harmony and with the feeling of love, devotion and thanksgiving as we could stand in the back and hear the inspiring words and melodies of our precious hymns that you dear brothers, sisters and friends sang together in unity.

Loved ones, can we imagine if we had sang together with each one choosing a different melody and different words, the confusion and stress that we would have felt trying to sing and follow our own melody or our own words? It seems rather silly, but loved ones, even in this day and time, you and I are clothed with flesh and blood.

Again and again in this day we were reminded, admonished, and encouraged unto unity. Even the Scripture that has fallen open, loved ones, was not chosen. Surely I can confess to you I would never have chosen it.

"If there be therefore any consolation in Christ..." (Philippians 2:1). Consolation, loved ones. We have come together tonight that we might feed upon the Word that it might be a consolation to us, invigorate us, strengthen us and encourage us upon our way.

Surely, we have not come to hear a man speak or we will be very dis-

appointed. We have come with the consolation that we find in Christ Jesus. We are looking for comfort. What greater comfort can we find than in the love of Jesus Christ?

Dear ones, we came to visit Forrest. We found that great love—the love of Jesus Christ. It is a comfort! May it be that we cherish this precious faith that we have come to know and to love and to enjoy and that we might cherish it to the extent, dear ones, that we preserve it. It is a blessing that God has granted.

You and I, one way or another, whether we were born into a believing family or we married into a believing family or have come to live near a believing family or we worked with believing families, but somehow each one of you have come to know of this fellowship and have been drawn by the Lord God and Jesus Christ.

"...if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies..." (Philippians 2:1). The intermost part of our being shared together that as we walk upon this earth, we might find strength, favor and help as we seek, like the children of Israel who went from place to place in the journey of life, we can come together, loved ones, and find this consolation, this comfort, this fellowship, these bowels and mercies that we have when you dear brothers and sisters have patience with me. That is bowels of mercy, and I appreciate it.

"Fulfil ye my joy..." (Philippians 2:2). So He brings them towards the focal point. What is that? "...that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind." (Philippians 2:2). Why, loved ones? Because God wants us to be robots to take away our identities? No, loved ones, it is because God knows that there is only one way for salvation and that is through Jesus Christ.

God knows that there is only one way that we might find strength to overcome the crafty adversary and that we might be able to receive a consolation, comfort, fellowship and bowels of mercies. That is when we are joined tightly together — likeminded, then there is joy. Then there are those comforts, consolations, fellowship and mercies.

"Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory." (Philippians 2:3). We were reminded again and again in this day, loved ones, of the craftiness and subtleness of our adversary.

Not too long ago, in our home congregation, we shared together the Old Testament writing of Adam and Eve in the garden. The serpent, a messenger of that crafty Satan, came to Eve and told her, "Did God really say that you will die?"

God knew that He had told her that she would become wise and know good from evil. Eve looked at that fruit and it was good to look at and she partook.

So, loved ones, today Satan will come against you independently and also as a united congregation seeking to do the very thing that the apostle reminded them that there would become an opportunity through the flesh of man for strife or vainglory.

Strife. Friction. Discontent. Opposing ideas. Varying ways of life. Vainglory. Wanting our own way. Desiring to feed our own wants, or as the Scripture calls them lusts. Our own desires. We are flesh and blood, loved ones.

Almighty God looked down generations ago, even nineteen hundred years ago at the first churches and He beheld the churches were made up of humans just like you and I. So God freed Himself of man. He told them the truth and He tells us today that we must be cautious. We must be careful.

Sermon continued...

Sermon continued...

We have a tendency, most of us at least, unto striving and self-centeredness or vainglory. Therein we would lose the most precious gift that we have—the peace of our living and loving God. Tonight, we share it.

It came to me today as I was amongst the brethren there in Princeville. I don't know the number, but I know that the roof was vibrating with the singing, the presence of Almighty God, the inspiration of His Spirit, and the worship of His Son.

I wondered, as I could feel the invigoration, that Satan must be looking on with displeasure. He saw a body of believers focused upon the Word and upon faithfulness.

I would imagine, loved ones, that Satan looks and beholds this throng gathered here tonight, young and middle-aged and all with a common purpose and likemindedness with the same love, one accord and one mind, that he is disturbed. He knows that we have strength. He knows that we have access to power that is greater than he and he is jealous.

So, loved ones, God inspired the apostle of old that he might stir us up and remind us that we do everything within our power to maintain and hold fast to that which is given to us.

What did he tell us to do here? It seems to be just a small secret, but it is a great mystery. He told us to,

"...let each esteem other better than themselves." (Philippians 2:3).

"Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others." (Philippians 2:4). In this world and time, loved ones, you and I are often required to make many years of study and much schooling and much training that we might master something worth having—an occupation or a skill.

Here we have the mystery of salvation wherein we might work out our soul's salvation in strength and power and surety if we are not self-centered, loved ones, but if we are considerate and concerned for others.

Then our heart will be tender, pliable, soft, gentle, kind, moved with love and mercy, forbearance and patience with each other. Mothers and fathers with their children, children with their parents, brothers and sisters with each other, brothers and sisters in faith, neighbors, work associates that we have each with each other. We will find that it is a most blessed privilege to live with one who is concerned and considerate of us.

So, tonight, as we would draw to the close of another day, God has called down to all who would show interest and concern. Do we want to find consolation? Do we want to be comforted? Do we want to have fellowship? Do we want to have bowels and mercies given to us? Do we want to have joy? Do we want to be like-

minded? Do we want to have the same love? Do we want to be in one accord? Do we want to have one mind?

May it be then, loved ones, that we consider each other. God will look down upon the humble hearts gathered together to worship God and to serve each other.

He will provide what you and I will never be able to do without Him. He will provide grace and favor that someday, and it may not be far away, we will awaken. It will hardly seem like life has started when it will be over. We will awaken and we will see Jesus in the clouds of glory.

Oh! How thankful we will be to have been likeminded...to have the love of Jesus Christ...to have been in one accord...and to have had the mind of Christ as He comes from the four corners of the earth. The Word tells us that there will be a trumpet sound and there will be a shout of the arch-angels! They will be shouting victory! They will be shouting welcome!

We will be so thankful, brothers and sisters, that we were united and strong in Jesus Christ and we did not let Satan rob us of the blessings which God has intended for us to enjoy.

May He bless each one of you. We have felt the presence and the love of Jesus Christ in your midst.



**A TRANSLATION OF A REPORT RECEIVED FROM
ELDER PHILIPP RITZMANN OF BALINGEN, GERMANY —**

**REPORT OF THE HUMANITARIAN AID SHIPMENT FROM BREIDENBACH, GERMANY,
FOR OUR BELOVED BRETHERN IN CHERNOVIC, BUKOVINA, UKRAINE -
MAY 30 UNTIL JUNE 7, 1996**

We departed from Breidenbach about 8:10 in the evening of **Thursday**, May 30 with the brethren Arpad Bodo, Paul Petras, Helmut Steinke, Vasa Sfera, and Philipp Ritzmann.

About 5:00 AM, we arrived at the rest stop along the autobahn at Donautal in Germany, not far from the Austrian border. Here the semi truck was already awaiting us. About 6:00 AM, we crossed the Austrian border at Passau, where the trailer was sealed after about an hour wait. We were finished about 7:00 AM.

About 12:15 on **Friday** we arrived at the Hungarian border. With God's help, we passed through with little delay, and arrived safely about 4:30 PM at the Budapest church, where we enjoyed an evening meal, and a few hours of rest with Br. Peter Gal and his family.

We left about 8:00 PM (Friday) for our destination in Oradea, Romania. Our beloved brethren, Janos Namenji and his wife accompanied us for the purpose of visiting their son in Bukovina. About midnight on Friday, we arrived at the home of our dear brethren Zoltan Bodo in Saretudwari. After a couple of hours rest, we set forth on our journey to the Romanian border at 7:00 AM on **Saturday**. (The semi was to meet us there at 6:00 AM). When we arrived at the border crossing at 8:30, the truck was not there. We turned around and drove to try to find it, and shortly found the truck. It was 8:30 AM, and we were very thankful to God that He had led and protected us so far upon our journey. It was 10:15 AM until

we were finished with the formalities at the border.

We drove through Romania, reaching the Carpathian Mountains late in the evening. Although we had come a long way over the mountains, we learned that there was a tunnel ahead of us through which our semi could not pass due to the fact that it was too high. In the middle of the night, we had to turn around and find another route, which was much longer. After driving the entire night, we arrived at the Romanian-Ukrainian border about 7:00 on **Sunday** morning.

We had expected to be at this border crossing on **Saturday** evening, and had informed the brethren in Ukraine accordingly. However, unfortunately, it was far different than we had planned. We had to wait a long time on the Romanian side of the border because the shift of workers was changing. There was an hour wait during which nobody at all worked.

Finally we cleared the Romanian border, and came to the Ukrainian side. There it was much worse. This was especially difficult since our manifest showed that we had medicine in the load. The border officials said this required the approval of a doctor.

Br. Namenji's son, Janos, Jr., and other brothers from Bukovina had come to the border and had waited on us since Saturday evening. After hours of waiting, more border officials came along with a doctor, to examine the load. The driver was very patient, but he finally said, "***I have never seen anything like this before!***" He had to take off the

tarps covering the trailer on the side and back so that the officials could find the medicine. After searching, they found one small and one large carton with medicine inside. I can see them yet standing there around the boxes. There were four men there, but we could not approach them. Finally, after an impossibly long wait, they prepared papers, and we could proceed. We finally arrived at 4:30 on **Sunday** afternoon at the church in Korovia. (*This is where we have unloaded all previous shipments in which we have been involved. Gene L*) There many brethren were awaiting us, and the joy was great. Here at Korovia, the semi had to wait for a release from the customs officials.

On **Sunday** evening, we had services in the church at Dimka, where there were about 130 members. The joy was great, as the hymnwriter has written, "Joy and peace, thy blessing give us, joy the world cannot obtain." It was very late until the last farewell was said at church, and we could go home with Br. Peter Karcia, and at last get a few hours of sleep.

On **Monday** morning, June 3, a brother came and said the customs officials could not work that day, because it was a holiday. In the evening we had services at Ostrica, the home of Elder Vasile Paladean, where over 200 members plus friends attended. After that, we visited the site of the sewing machines. We stayed overnight in the home of Br Vasile.

Tuesday, the customs officials came, and we unloaded the truck. Since there were about 50 people to

help us, the work was finished in about 45 minutes. The storage room was completely full. However, at the end, the officials resealed the trailer, so that a doctor could come and approve the medicines. In the evening, we had services in Korovia. All three services were conducted in the Hungarian language, and translated into Ukrainian. Also in the Serbian language.

This was the last night we spent in Bukovina, and about 6:10 on **Wednesday** morning, we took our leave. With the best wishes of farewell from many of the brethren, who committed us to God, we began our return trip on June 5. Br. Mischa Karcia accompanied us over the Carpathian mountains to a small assembly of about 16 members in Hischa, to Br. Ivan Pelechac, where they rejoiced in our short stop. Then we set forth to the Hungarian-Ukrainian border.

About 10:30 PM we arrived in Sarretudvar, at the home of our beloved brother Tibi Dirici, where we spent the night. On **Thursday** morning at 11:00, there was a funeral for a 92 year old sister. In the afternoon, we drove to Budapest, where we left the Namenjis plus a sister from Bukovina who is to have surgery on her ear in Pecs, Hungary, and another Ukrainian sister who was her companion. We got to Budapest just in time for evening services, where the brethren rejoiced over our coming. Afterwards, we had supper with Gals, and slept a few hours.

About 4:30 in the morning of **Friday**, June 7, we resumed our homeward journey. About 11:30, we passed through the last border crossing at Passau, between Germany and Austria, and hoped, that if the Lord so willed, we could arrive in Breidenbach in the evening.

We dare say with thankful hearts, "The Lord gave us grace on this trip,

and to Him be the glory."

Signed by Elder Philipp Ritzmann

The following articles were taken into Bukovina on this shipment.

About 10 tons of clothing and sewing fabric. Used shoes. Items necessary for the sewing machine project. Thread, buttons, rubber bands, sewing needles, etc. Electric heaters for the Old Folks Home, used auto parts, medicine, two electric hospital beds, and two wheel-chairs.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS TO THE UKRAINIAN ELDERS

1. In September of last year, American brethren brought in about 60,000 Deutschmarks (\$35,000). Is any of this money available?

This money has been completely spent, there is nothing remaining. We need more money.

2. Is money available for wages for the sewing workers? Has the rent on the room in which the sewing takes place been paid? (This is a Breidenbach project)

For over two months no wages have been paid, because no money remains. The widowed sister who owns the building has given us the facility without cost. She wants do to a good work. The costs of heat and electricity are being paid.

3. What is the present situation in Ukraine? What goods are available, and what do they cost?

Inflation is rampant, about 300%. When we compare wages and pensions with prices everything is impossibly expensive. Besides this, pensions and child support are not being paid. For example, in Mahala, pensions have not been paid for a year. Pensions are now about \$3.00 to \$11.00 per month. A worker earns between \$15.00 and \$40.00 per month. If one can work for a private building firm, he can earn \$5-6.00 per day, but only if work is available. Child support is about \$5.00 per month.

Following are costs of various goods:

1 kg. flour = \$0.50 — 1 kg rice = \$1.00 — 1 kg meat = \$3.00 — 1 kg salami = \$2.00 — 1 litre of oil = \$0.50 — 1 kg margarine = \$1.00 — 4 litres of milk = \$1.00 — 2 kg bread = \$1.00

Fuel for winter: 1 ton of coal = \$85-90 — 1 cubic meter of wood = \$16-17 —

One household needs about 3-4 tons of coal per winter, which would consume an entire year's wages.

When we look at costs of bread, according to our brothers, 3 loaves cost \$1.00. If a large family needs about 4 loaves per day, the entire month's wages would be gone before the end of one month, with nothing left for anything else.

The brethren tell us that almost every Sunday, beggars come into the church and ask for something to eat. They are invited to stay for services.

Therefore, it is obvious, that living from day to day is a difficult struggle just for food and drink.

This translation is dated June 20, 1996 - translated by Br. Gene Lehman

When He Cometh

When He cometh -- are we ready;
ready, saved by His grace?
When He cometh, with joy will we
joyously behold His face?

When He cometh -- have we labored;
labored, gathering sheaves of grain?
When He cometh -- can we bring Him
thirty, sixty, hundred gain?

When He cometh -- will He bid us
come Home your work is done?
When He cometh -- were we faithful
faithful 'til life's setting sun?

When He cometh -- will He gather
us as jewels for His crown?
When He cometh -- can we gladly
there our burdens all lay down?

We can say, oh yes, and amen
to these questions, one by one.
If today we seek adoption
through the shed blood of God's Son.

Won't you come and join the number
e'er He comes and 'tis too late?
Come today; He's yet calling.
Do not tarry; do not wait!



A black and white photograph of a park path lined with trees and benches. The path is paved and leads into the distance. There are several benches on either side of the path. The trees are large and leafy, creating a canopy over the path. A street lamp is visible on the left side of the path. The overall scene is peaceful and serene.

Where Shall I Work

Father, where shall I work today?

And my love flowed warm and free

Then He pointed me toward a tiny spot

And said, "Tend that for me."

I answered quickly, "Oh, no, not that!

Why, no one would ever see,

No matter how well my work is done:

Not that little place for me!"

And the word that He spoke it was not stern:

He answered me tenderly:

"Ah, little one, search that heart of thine.

Art thou working for them or for ME?

Nazareth was a little place,

And so was Galilee."

Author Unknown

The Way and The Reward

Going, yes traveling life's pathway
hand in hand with God every day.

Enjoy true blessings, manifold,
far out-weighting the silver, gold.

Relying on His promised grace
sufficient to attain that "place".

Transcending all our fondest dreams --
old things are past: there life supreme.

Rare beauty! such ne'er seen by man,
nor heard, nor can mind understand.

Up! on our way! our Saviour leads
beside still waters, on pastures feed.

Delivers us from evil, sin,
helps us escape all worldly din.

Engaged as soldiers of His cross
if gladly borne, we'll know no loss.

At last when faith's replaced by sight
we'll praise Him for His wondrous might.

Life's struggles, storms will be forgot
replaced by endless bliss, our lot.

Sing there with all the heavenly throng
praises to God -- sing that new song.

Endless rejoicing, ne'er to end
glad reunion with family, friend.

Nought to sadden, no sound of cries
God wipes away all tears from our eyes.

ETERNITY! all praises to Thee!
thanks for paid price to save e'en me!





REMEMBERING

Our Spiritual Heritage

The Simplicity of Worship

The gathering together for corporate worship has been a very important aspect of our faith, and of our weekly church life. As we collectively draw nigh to God's presence, we have done so (over the years) both with a high degree of sobriety and simplicity. The coming together of the saints and their families to honor, praise and seek God is indeed an ongoing blessing.

Central to our worship order has been an emphasis on the importance of God and His Word, rather than on man. The Word is seen as "quick and powerful and sharper than any twoedged sword." (Hebrews 4:12). We come together to focus on God and his messages to us, rather than on an intriguing or contemporary "performance" that might better appeal to our fleshly inclinations. The intent of worship is to inspire, not to entertain.

Similar to the patterns of the first century church, our brethren have attempted to keep their worship liturgy very simple. It has remained consistent through the generations since 1832 (when Bro. Froehlich began establishing churches). The Reformation attitude of "sola Scriptura" (Latin for Scriptures alone) has been, and continues to be, a significant attitudinal precept concerning our form of worship.

The Scriptures comprise the core of worship. Because of their inerrancy (without error) and infallibility (without failure), their messages per the "forereading" (the first reading of the Word) and the "text" (the second reading) comprise a crucially important part of the worship liturgy. As they are read through without inter-

ruption of man's comments during the reading phase of the liturgy, it draws the congregation's undivided focus to God's divine, enduring and undiluted message(s).

A special phase of worship is when God's servants (humble men of good report) stand to meditate on the Word and proclaim the gospel. They do not come with their own message, but through the collective prayer(s) of the congregation, are empowered by the Holy Spirit to utter God-inspired words to the hearers.

Our ministers, over the years and today, do not prepare their sermons ahead of time; neither do they select their texts from the Word (other than for special occasions such as funerals, weddings, etc.). Instead, they rely on God, who knows (far better than they) what the congregation needs to hear during any given worship service. Accordingly, the Bible is opened at random (both for the forereading and the text) and the minister reads where he has opened. During the subsequent meditation (preaching) phase he relies on God's Spirit to inspire/inform the listeners.

Music also comprises an important aspect of worship. Again, it is carried out with simplicity and reverence. There are no musical instruments in the sanctuary to accompany the singers. There are no special choirs during worship. Rather, the entire congregation participates in singing. "a Capella" singing encourages participation by all worshippers.

The absence of instrumental accompaniment gives a natural richness to the songs, and is further reflective of the intended simplicity of worship. The praise is indeed comely as it flows naturally from the God-given talents

of voice. It is a very simple phase of worship, yet it is a glorious way of praising God.

During prayer, the faithful kneel and bow humbly before God. The quietness and reverence of the sanctuary during prayer enshrouds the words of the brother who leads the congregation in a "from the heart" prayer.

Our simple worship liturgy—which has been followed without significant change for many generations—is free of special attention-getting effects, of trendiness, and of flesh-pleasing patterns that potentially focus on man, and draw attention away from God and His holiness. In our worship services there are no "surprises" to distract us from God. In this, we can direct all our attention to Him, and not become distracted by unexpected liturgical variances.

Our worship patterns are best defined as having a high degree of simplicity, reverence and sobriety. The intent is to recognize the divine presence of God, and to adore and exalt the precious name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

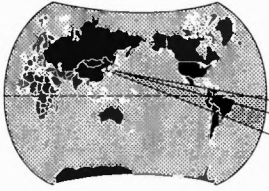
In the past, and still today, we have been richly blessed as a church by our simple worship patterns.

By: Bro. Perry A. Klopfenstein

Next Issue:
Our Willing Ministers

The Light Of Hope

From Across The Ocean



希望の光

“Evil Spirits”

Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle, Shioda, Japan

Evil spirits are looking for people to enter and control. There is evidence that people who are emotionally ill or unstable are susceptible to evil spirits. Evil spirits try to at least influence all of us but they have a hard time of it if we are emotionally stable and are walking with Jesus. “For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.” (II Timothy 1:7).

We must recognize that evil spirits have supernatural power and if they possess a human body, take complete control, and they can transfer that power to the person they possess. We read in Mark 5:3 concerning a man with an unclean spirit, “No man could bind him, no, not with chains.” The power to break the chains came from the evil spirits, not from that man’s body.

Evil spirits have not only superior strength but also superior knowledge. As recorded in Mark 1:24, a man with an unclean spirit said to Jesus, “I know thee who

thou art, the Holy One of God.” This statement came not by observation, he simply knew it.

In some cases, the evil spirit not only uses the human body to reside in but also as a mouth piece, as in the above case from Mark. It’s not the person speaking, it’s the evil spirit, and we may wonder “What kind of talk is that?”

Now, what about the effect of evil spirits on those of us who are surrounded by angels trying to protect us? About the best they can hope to accomplish on us is to sow discord. We find in Proverbs 6:19 that one of the seven things the Lord hates is “He that soweth discord among brethren.” Any church that tries to live by the Bible, has had or will have, splits or divisions. Any kind of reason will do, if the evil spirits can get the church to split over it.

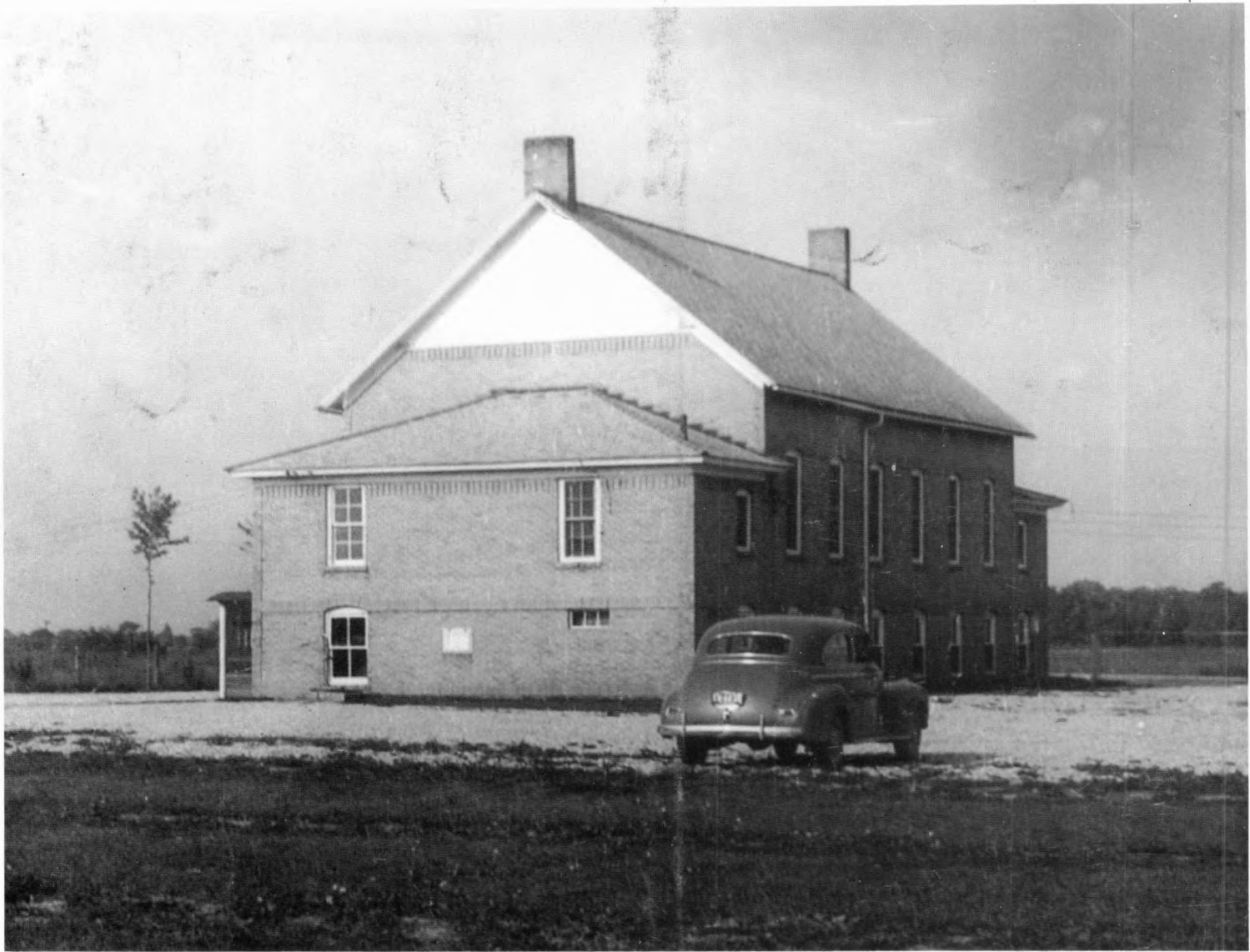
Evil spirits also have the power to foretell the future such as in fortune telling or divination. Acts 16:16 reads, “A certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divina-

tion met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsaying.” Soothsaying is the art or business of fortune telling. Sorcery or witchcraft is the practice of dealing with evil spirits.

Evil spirits may have a part in breaking up marriages by causing very nice marriage partners to be unable to stand each other. Each of us should be willing to do anything, so long as it’s honorable, to make our marriages blossom.

In II Corinthians 2:11, the Apostle Paul writes of Satan, the boss of evil spirits, “We are not ignorant of his devices.” We should know as much as possible about how he operates so we can better take counter measures. If we all obey the Holy Spirit and show much love and respect toward one another, we can nullify the effect of evil spirits.

希望の光



Bay City, MI - 1919

The beautiful land of Michigan offered a new location for brethren to purchase land. Much like the work place of today and its calling for brethren to go to new locations, so was the need in the early 1900's to find new farm ground that was more affordable. Families from Illinois, Indiana, and states started to homestead the area of Kawkawlin.

In 1907, a church was built after much planning. Continual growth necessitated an addition which was put on in 1919. In 1954, services were held in the new edifice, which was built but a few feet from the old building. Again, in 1982, extensive remodeling occurred which changed the entrance and added two Sunday School rooms, remodeled kitchens and a car port.

Step by step, as the Lord led the way, the little congregation grew from the small roots of the early 1900's to the beautiful flower of a church today.

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