

The Silver Lining



*... all creatures great and small ...
the Lord God made them all.*

September 1996



"The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple."
Psalm 19:7

"But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtlety, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ."

II Corinthians 11:3

Volume 50

SEPTEMBER 1996

Number 9

Holy Simplicity

Simplicity is a message that rings out like a golden chord from a harp, throughout God's Holy Word. Holy Simplicity is peaceful to our soul. Today's technology and fast pace of life have brought so many complicating factors into all our lives and we find ourselves often meeting our going. Can we slow down our pace? Can we stop and smell the roses? Is it possible to build a place in our soul for Holy Simplicity? See how you might respond to these scenarios, which are hypothetical, but so very possible:

(A.) Joan and John are the parents of three teenagers, whose names are Joey, Suzy, and Sarah. John has just gotten home from a long hard day of work, when Joan enters.

Joan: "John, don't sit down because I need help. Suzy should be dropped off at seven for her 4-H meeting, Joey must be back at school for madrigal practice and Sarah needs a new pair of shoes. Don't forget, the store closes at nine o'clock. I would be glad to take them, but I have to go to sewing. You drop off Suzy at seven and then get Joey over to school by seven thirty. That should leave you enough time to go to the store and buy Sarah her new shoes and then get back to pick up the children."

John: "Now wait a minute. I just came in the door. Where is our supper? I am famished and bushed."

Joan: "Oh, I didn't have time to make supper. Why don't you stop off at McDonald's to eat? If you hurry you might have time to stop before you drop off Suzy. The children said they were not hungry, but they might eat some fries with you."

Suzy: "Come on, Dad, we got to go!"

John: (If you were John, how would you respond?)

(B.) Rita and Josh are also parents of three teenagers. Rita is the epitome of Holy Simplicity. Every move she makes is directed to make things run smoothly for others. She plans for it and executes her days' activities accordingly. Josh has just come in from a hard day of work, when Rita approaches.

Rita: "Hi Hon, how was your day?"

Josh: "What a day, I am just bushed

and famished."

Rita: "Why not sit down for a while and relax? It will be a little while until supper is done. We are having mashed potatoes and gravy with that pot roast you got the other day."

Josh: "That sounds just great. Are there any plans for tonight?"

Rita: "The children are going to need to finish their homework, but otherwise nothing."

Josh: "You know, I was thinking about that new Bible Trivia game we got the other week. I was hoping there were no plans tonight so we could spend an evening together."

Rita: "I am sure we will all enjoy that. It is such a blessing to spend the evening together as a family."

Josh: "Sometimes I feel guilty that we have not encouraged our children to be more active in school."

Rita: "Don't talk like that, Hon. They are content because we are content. If they felt we were expecting them to be more active in extra curricular activities, there would be a lot less time that we could spend together. I heard it said that Holy Simplicity entrusts its pilgrim journey to God's mighty hand alone—looking toward the glorious ending, when God will receive His own."

Josh: (If you were Josh, how would you respond?)

There are only a few years given to each of us to raise our children and to bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. It is often our expectation for our children to achieve that can make our life so busy. Not only are their life and our lives busy because we try to fit too much into twenty-four hours, but no one has time to enjoy each other. You go there and I go here, while the children go everywhere. Just a thought—Do we try to live our lost youth through our children?

Some activity can be beneficial for our children, but a good rule of thumb is: one night for activities, and one night for family. One night for visiting loved ones (or inviting those who are lacking a complete family over for fellowship and/or a meal), and one night for the

Lord. Most important to remember is that every night possible we should end the day with our children in prayer and story. Each of us may feel a desire to be closer to our family; however, it takes planning and execution.

Next is our work. How many hours are we allowing ourselves to be tied down to our jobs? We might say, "Well the work must get done." While there might be some accuracy in that statement, we all know that we can become more efficient users of time. We each must look into our time allotment and decide where to cut and or stop the days work activity. We are only given one chance to raise our children and teach them the truth of God's Word. We are only given one chance to develop a close love tie with each of our children and if we miss it, that opportunity will be lost.

Sometimes the best hours are spent looking at God's creation. The Hart and the Hare can teach us many lessons of life. As we take time to teach our children about the blessings of the little creatures of God's creation, we have ample time to teach them about God's love for us.

...all creatures great and small...the Lord God made them all. In God, all things are simple. Our faith in God is humble and simple, our way of life can be holy and simple, and we all can enjoy Holy Simplicity.

The Silver Lining

RR 2 Box 50 Roanoke, IL 61561
USPS 496780

Published Monthly By The Apostolic
Christian Church of America

Counselors:

Wayne Anliker, Ervin Knecht
David Bertsch

SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO:

The Silver Lining

RR2 Box 50, Roanoke, IL, 61561

309-923-7513 (phone) 309-923-7359 (fax)

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

September 1996

Godly Sorrow

We are living in a time when pleasure is a very high priority in the lives of many people. To think that sorrow would not only be tolerable, but even a privilege, would be unthinkable in the minds of those who do not know the meaning of godly sorrow.

Sorrow is mental suffering, sadness, grief or regret that is brought on by loss or disappointment. Godly means "of" or "from" God. Therefore, godly sorrow is mental suffering, sadness, grief or regret that is from God. One who is unfamiliar with God's love and mercy may find it difficult to understand the benefit of sorrow that is of God.

The scripture tells us "...godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death" (2 Cor. 7:10). We find two distinct sources of sorrow with eternally significant differences.

The sorrow from the world worketh death. Romans 6:23 tells us that death is the wages of sin. James 1:15 tells us that: "...sin, when it is finished bringeth forth death". Thus, the world has only one solution for the sorrow it offers and that is death, which results in eternal separation from God.

As the world tries to eliminate the consequences of sin, great effort is made to try to find an excuse to justify inappropriate behavior (sin) because if it is possible to justify the sin, then there would appear to be no need for guilt. There is an attempt to blame inappropriate behavior on some event, or series of events, that makes it impossible for the individual to avoid inappropriate behavior. If the individual cannot control his behavior because of some "affliction", then it is deemed to be a "disease" or a "condition" that the individual has. Therefore, there is no responsibility, and hence, no need for guilt. Certainly there are some people whose mental or emotional condition makes it impossible for them to control their behavior, but this is the exception rather than the rule.

Unfortunately, the deceptive logic of the world offers only a temporary relief from accountability. The scripture very clearly

explains that "...every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God. So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God" (Romans 14:11-12). We cannot escape the certainty of the judgment of God. "Therefore is the kingdom of heaven likened unto a certain king, which would take account of his servants" (Matt. 18:23). Those who would try to deny the need to deal forthrightly with their behavior must answer to their "...vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called:" (1 Tim. 6:20).

Since worldly sorrow brings death and death brings separation from God, we need to consider the alternative. We need only to read one verse of scripture to learn many benefits of godly sorrow. "For behold this selfsame thing, that ye sorrowed after a godly sort, what carefulness it wrought in you, yea, what clearing of yourselves, yea, what indignation, yea, what fear, yea, what vehement desire, yea, what zeal, yea, what revenge! In all things ye have approved yourselves to be clear in this matter" (2 Cor. 7:11).

Although there are many times in our lives when these benefits of godly sorrow are evident in a child of God, there is undoubtedly no time when it is more evident than at the time of repentance. To repent means to feel so contrite (sorrowful) over one's sins as to change one's ways and attitude toward sin.

The world would tell us to simply accept Christ and rejoice in our salvation. Surely we should rejoice in our salvation, but first we must "Bring forth therefore fruits worthy of repentance..." (Luke 3:8). Since "...godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation..." (2 Cor. 7:10), one could hardly expect a truly repentant soul to be immediately joyful. One can hardly repent with a light heart. This does not mean that a child of God is forever sorrowful. If we look carefully at 2 Cor. 7:11, we can see the benefits of this godly sorrow and the joy it ultimately brings.

When we repent with godly sorrow, it brings to mind many of the deeds we have done that need to be removed from our lives. It brings a carefulness to us that helps

us focus our attention on a detailed examination of our lives so we can thoroughly and completely eliminate Satan's dominance over us. This carefulness will bring a "clearing" of our minds; thus helping us to think on the things that are true, honest, just, pure, lovely and of a good report (Phil. 4:8).

When we allow ourselves the privilege of godly sorrow and we realize the control that Satan and the world had on our lives, we could feel a measure of indignation toward Satan because his goal is our eternal destruction! This should cause us to be very indignant toward him. It will bring fear. We will be fearful of the condemnation that awaits us if we turn back to sin and thus separate ourselves from God and have only eternal destruction to look forward to in all eternity. It also brings a godly fear as we think of the tremendous love and compassion we have from our Heavenly Father.

When we think of these things, we will want to flee from Satan's control. This is possible through our personal faith in Jesus Christ and obedience to His Word, remembering "...the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance" (Romans 2:4). We will find that obedience to the Holy Spirit simply will not allow us to ever again be caught in the clutches of Satan.

Godly sorrow will enable us to look at the joy, the peace, and the eternal benefits that await a child of God. This will bring a zeal and a vehement desire to do God's will. It will help us to want so much to serve God, and to help others to do so, that the time and energies once spent on the pleasures of this life will be used to the honor and glory of God.

Sorrow is not always negative. It opens the door for God's grace and brings a humble heart. Sorrow of a godly nature helps us to build a firm foundation upon the rock of Jesus Christ, so that when the storms of life prevail, our house of faith can stand, and we by His grace can remain faithful and bring our ship of faith to a blessed end.



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

Haiti Evaluation Trip

April 27 - May 24, 1996

In the 14 years from the beginning of 1982 to the end of 1995, 429 slots on World Relief Work Teams to Haiti have been filled by Apostolic Christian members and friends. Combined with the work teams to Jamaica and Mexico, several hundred Apostolic Christians have experienced third world needs and poverty at its most severe level. The World Relief Committee has sent several evaluation teams to these countries to identify needs, and lay the groundwork for future work teams. Since the Elder Body has ultimate responsibility for World Relief, it was suggested that a group of elders do an evaluation of a typical third world environment. Since so many of our brethren and friends have been to Haiti, and it was readily accessible, it was selected as the evaluation site.

Elder Brothers Wendell Gudeman, Francesville; Wayne Fehr, West Bend; Aaron Steffen, Alto; Bill Schlatter, Junction; Ron Messner, Washington; and Ed Schwartz, Bluffton comprised the evaluation team on behalf of the Elder Body, World Relief and the Mission Committee. The goal of the trip was to visit the sites of World Relief involvement, determine potential physical or spiritual harm to our brethren and friends, provide input to World Relief as to future projects or input regarding current projects.

We arrived at Port au Prince, Haiti the morning of April 27. The first exposure to Haiti is always a very memorable one. The sights, sounds and smells provide more information to the senses and brain than can be absorbed. The environment is so much different than anything that can be experienced in the States. To say the least, our trip to Haiti was life changing.

Over the eight days that we were in Haiti, we visited many World Relief sites: Eight schools built by work teams; several wells drilled by

Haitians, trained by our teams using World Relief supplied equipment; MEBSH Child Care Center at Cayes; Asile Dorcas Nursing Home; Port-a-Piment and IRD Vocational Schools; SEED Agricultural and Animal Science Project; Hospitals Albert Schweitzer, Lumiere, Grace Children's, and Project Hope; Palm Grove Mission at Cotes de Fer.

The primary purpose of World Relief and Mission Committee involvement in Haiti as well as other third world countries is to promote the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. There are many organizations and missionaries who are active in Haiti. We found during our trip to Haiti that the World Relief brethren over the years have been very careful in supporting only organizations whose work can be supported without compromising the Apostolic Christian Faith. During our travels, we found that working through other organizations is currently our most effective way for the Apostolic Christian Church to fulfill the Scriptural requirements of helping others. The Apostolic Christian role of giving World Relief to the needy has been through providing food, clothing and shelter. As we travelled the country over those eight days, we found that our work teams have provided much more than just the physical necessities. Our brethren have been a tremendous spiritual blessing to the Haitians. They see God's love in action as our brethren travel to Haiti to give of their time, talents and money to help someone they've never met before. We were encouraged as many spoke very highly of the work ethics and conduct of the Apostolic Christian work teams.

When someone goes to a third world country for work team labor, we might go with the thought of what we are doing to help others. However, we have found that what we bring home in our hearts and minds far outweighs any efforts we might expend for others. Sometimes we hear the comment that it would be better stewardship to

provide funds to pay Haitians to do the labor that work teams do. Unfortunately, in some cases, the Haitians do not have the organization nor the training to do what the work teams do. We were encouraged to find that the World Relief Committee is funding trade schools to train men in some of these skills. However, in the mean time, the work team environment provides the brethren and friends with a spiritually enriched experience. Many have spoken upon their return from a work team experience that they have a much greater love for the Lord and our church. They also speak of priority changes in their lives.

The road system in Haiti is very difficult and bone-jarring to say the least. The bumper to bumper traffic at times is an opportunity to learn long-suffering, as well as an opportunity to view Haitian culture. One of the items we were to consider was the physical safety of our members and friends as they travel in Haiti. We had to marvel many times at the close calls in traffic between vehicles as well as pedestrians. Once, a truck in front of us lost a large tire and rim from his truck. We saw it roll ahead of us down the street which was filled with cars and people. It crossed the center lane at great speed, into the other lane and onto the sidewalk without hitting anyone or anything. These types of things seem unusual in the States, but are very common in Haiti. All of us spoke often of the ever-present protection of our Father. At the beginning of our 8 days in Haiti, we felt some apprehension as to our personal safety. However, as the days unfolded, we felt God's presence in a mighty way. We appreciated so very much the prayers of those back home on our behalf. We find it extremely important to be prayerful for those who travel abroad.

Another area which sometimes can be a problem in a third world country is the food and water. We found that we were safe when we listened to the instructions of our hosts. We had a very

steady diet of goat meat, fruits, vegetables and rice. We were told that using non-purified water, even for brushing teeth could provide us with problems for days. Therefore, it is important to be very careful on many issues.

Our hearts told us to give candy, toys and gum to the multitudes of children who followed us. We all agreed at the end of our trip as to the importance of listening to our hosts rather than our hearts. The missionaries told us that we would only encourage begging which can be devastating for an individual. It was so difficult to not give "things" to the children. We saw many children run alongside vehicles in traffic asking and begging for "things". Giving them their requests would probably result in some child losing a leg in traffic. When we viewed it from the missionaries viewpoint, it became easier to be submissive.

Another area for us to consider was the issue of potential spiritual harm for our members and friends. Of course, the people we met with were not Apostolic Christians. We saw the missionaries devotion, dedication and their selfless desire to serve the Haitians. We saw the meager means of the Haitians, and also the devotion of those who relied upon God. It was very touching for us as we visited the Asile Dorcas Nursing Home. Many older people took the effort to gather in an outdoor area to sing some hymns to us. We then returned the favor by singing a song for them. One of the Elders had a touching prayer with them which was translated into Creole for the elderly. We were touched by their love for God and for us. We all agreed that the Holy Spirit is a wonderful guide for those who travel abroad. The Word, the Holy Spirit, the prayers of our brethren back home, and Apostolic Christian traveling companions provided sufficient spiritual protection for us on our trip.

We find examples in the Scripture where Paul commended churches in their giving to relieve the oppressed. It is important for the brotherhood to know whether or not the national committees such as World Relief are being good stewards of the funds given to them for distribution. As we visited various sites which our World Relief organization has assisted over the years, we were impressed. Seeing

hundreds of children going to schools which our brethren assisted in building was a touching scene. Watching men, women and children lined up at a well getting fresh, clean water touched our hearts. We had seen many polluted streams where people were bathing themselves, washing their animals or vehicles, watering their herds and getting drinking water, all within a stones-throw of each other. Fresh, clean water in their villages was a miracle for them as compared to carrying polluted water in jugs on their heads for a mile or two. We were touched as we saw the Creole sign on each pump that said, "in the name of Jesus Christ". Seeing the medications, medical instruments, X-Ray equipment, operating tables, wheelchairs, crutches, sheets, bandages and vitamins at the hospitals was a blessing. We were moved deeply at Grace Childrens Hospital when we saw the little children in colorful gowns provided by our many sisters sewing groups. These little children were trying desperately to recover from tuberculosis. We will not soon forget their smiles.

One of the works in Haiti that seemed especially effective was the SEED Ministry at Cayes. It is an organization operated by a Haitian who was college educated in the States, and devoted to training Haitians in agriculture and animal science. It seemed to us that one of the last remaining hopes for Haitians is to train them in a vocation. Therefore, we were thankful to see that World Relief is supporting SEED, as well as several vocational schools. The vocational schools provide training to committed Haitian young men in the areas of carpentry, welding, electricity, masonry and mechanics. We feel these efforts will be very effective and noble.

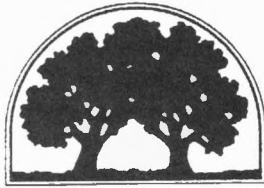
Another touching experience on the trip was during our visit to Hospital Lumiere at Bonne Fin. The hospital administrator asked us if we would like to visit a Haitian family on the mountain behind the Hospital. We agreed and then subjected ourselves to a strenuous climb. We emerged from dense vegetation to a breathtaking view of mountains, valleys and the Caribbean in the distance. However, the view was overshadowed by the homestead of Antonio and his family. We spent time with Antonio, his wife and four children, his mother-in-law and

brother-in-law. They lived in a hut measuring 8' x 8'. We were told that Antonio and his wife had just recently begun their repentance and were happy to have visitors. They were doing their best to carve out a living in a clearing that nature was trying to reclaim. We were touched deeply by their acceptance of their situation. It caused us to reflect upon our lot in life. As we realize that God is not a respecter of persons, we understand that anyone of us could have been born as Antonio and he in our situation. What blessings we have, along with the opportunities and responsibilities!

As we consider all that we saw and experienced, we drew some conclusions as a combined group. We feel that the National World Relief organization is doing an effective job of organizing and distributing the funds provided by brethren and friends of the Apostolic Christian Church. We believe it is important that ongoing evaluations by World Relief continue to be made and changes made where necessary. We found that our World Relief Committee brethren are continually striving to not expose our brethren to spiritually or physically harmful environments. There are many individuals and organizations in Haiti who are heavily relying on our brotherhood's support to continue their work. Words cannot express the bottomless pit of poverty which exists in Haiti. However, we found that where God has led us, there has been a positive difference.

We have confidence that the World Relief organization has done an equally effective and careful job in the other third world countries in which we are involved. We believe that as long as the Lord continues to provide for us materially, we should be involved in assisting others as He provides opportunity. The Lord has provided us with opportunities to help in places such as Eastern Europe, many places in the States, Mexico, Jamaica, India and Haiti. It gives us great joy to be able to be a "giver" rather than a "receiver".

Humbly submitted by
Bros. Wayne Fehr,
Wendell Gudeman,
Ron Messner,
Bill Schlatter,
Ed Schwartz and
Aaron Steffen.



GATEWAY WOODS

"... BUT GOD GAVE
THE INCREASE." I COR 3:6

Thank you so much for the loving response to our Twentieth Annual Auction. Our total to date is over \$208,000! We are in awe of how God takes the portion we have to offer and multiplies it as only He can. Your donations help to pay the daily cost of care for each child-especially those placed by parents who may be unable to pay the full cost. Thank you for supporting us in this mission... for the children!

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

On October 1, 1996, the Apostolic Christian Home for the Handicapped will have been delivering services for 25 years. On October 1, 1971, Marlene Moser and Harold Miller were admitted to the Home. These admissions were the result of the work of many unsung heroes. We still owe much to their work and foresight. We do not know who all of them are and cannot adequately thank them, but we believe that God has rewarded them and will continue to bless them for their service.

Over 25 years ago, God moved a group of brothers and sisters to ask questions and consider the future for their sons and daughters with disabilities. We believe that the Home has been able to provide a valuable service because the work was committed to God in the beginning; and for 25 years, the work has continued to be done in His name and for His sake. We are committed

to continuing this heritage.

There are many things which have remained the same and many more which have changed. One thing which was learned early on is that the needs of people change and the opportunities to deliver services change. The original vision of the founders of the Home was a 52 bed home for disabled people. We currently have a total of 137 people we serve in various settings which include a 93 bed home, two 16 bed homes and 3 houses in the community.

The large home has evolved into a much more acute care center for developmentally disabled people with high care needs. Our population there represents those with more severe disabilities and needs. As God has given us opportunity to develop new services, many of our residents are being served in settings which allow them more opportunity to learn new skills and participate in normal living activities.

We do not know what the future holds, but we believe it is likely that God will continue to show us how to serve people better.

When the Home first began, probably no one envisioned the magnitude of support which God would move brothers and sisters to give. As we review our first 25 years, we are deeply moved by the dedicated giving and service of our staff and volunteers. There are no longer any original staff left working at the Home, but we have benefited greatly from the service of many dedicated staff who gave years of their lives to care for residents, including the original administrator who served through most of the first 25 years of growth, department heads who gave many years of service, and on hands staff who gave many years of service. We have many volun-

teers who made a career of helping us to serve.

The financial support of our churches and other donors is deeply moving. Each year, as we review it, we know again that this support has allowed us to do things which we could not otherwise have done. We have been able to grow and provide new services due to this generous support.

We want to always give all credit and Glory to God, but it is also appropriate to acknowledge the tremendous work of love done by the parents we are privileged to meet. No one knows the work they are called to. When it comes time for their son or daughter to come to the Home, we get to see the dedication of the family. This dedication makes our work simpler and inspires us to serve well in their place.

We believe it is our calling to continue to serve. We believe it is obedient to the commands of our Saviour to care for those in need and to glorify His name through service. We thank each of you for this opportunity and for your participation in this work. We ask that each of you continue to pray for God's direction and provision as we move into the future.

October birthdays for all facilities are: ACHH - Tricia O'Donnell (1), Carol Fahrni (5), Mark Mulnix (6). OAKWOOD -Lois Baumgartner (4), Bryan Tiezzi (30). LINDEN - Kent Knobloch (14). 652 DETROIT CILA - Anita Schuon (13).

GATEWAY WOODS APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME Jeff Thames

When I began to write the Silver Lining article for September, I had written a brief summary of how Gateway Woods Apostolic Christian Family Services, the year long op-

- 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

eration in Illinois, was related to the Leo program. Besides explaining how the new effort was accountable to and administered by the parent organization, I planned to include a first year service report and some projected goals for the future. The article was off to a good start and I was going to give it the last effort while I was in Leo for the auction, but it didn't get finished. What happened instead was that the Lord opened the windows of Heaven and poured out such a rich blessing on Gateway Woods that we would be amiss if we did not tell all our brothers, sisters and friends what great things the Lord has done for us.

On Tuesday afternoon prior to the sale, the buildings and grounds looked great as a result of diligent volunteers and young people throughout the summer. The West House basement was already set up to sort the auction items and it was overflowing like never before with donated quilts, crafts, merchandise, antiques, and china. The sisters were on their second day of wrapping and sorting the quilts and items continued to be added to the list of things for the auction. On Wednesday morning while the tents were going up, a small band of single volunteers along with young people from Gateway Woods, continued to make steady gains on the mountain of things that needed to be done to prepare the grounds for the big day. Chairs were carried, display racks

set up, stages assembled, and electrical parts put in place. Thursday, more items arrived, several brothers finished wiring the tents, tables and chairs were set in place, the podium was painted, sale props and accessories were rounded up and the items continued to be sorted, numbered, priced, wrapped, and entered into the sale book. On Friday, there was a large number of helping hands at the Home and so much work got done both for the auction as well as the grounds and building repairs as talents and skills were applied in many directions at the same time. Everything from cutting melons, fixing hinges, and building shelves, to preparing receipts, building barrel lids, and hauling trash got done on the last day before the sale. The final set up included stages, sound systems, signs, and most importantly, the auction items were placed in order in the tents.

This whole preparation process included so many brothers, sisters and friends who lovingly lent their time for the benefit of Gateway Woods that we were humbled to see everything on Friday night all ready for the sale. Saturday dawned a beautiful day with a large portion of the biggest crowd ever already on the grounds by 8:00 a.m. People gave graciously, worked willingly, fellowshiped freely, picked up promptly, and by 6:30 that evening everything was put back in its place until next year's auction. The re-

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

sult, over \$200,000 had been raised in a single day by the blessing of the Lord, after months of preparation, and through a multitude of faithful donors. We are moved to thankfulness for His tender mercy.

Dear Heavenly Father,

We thank Thee for Thy magnified Word which says "that the blessing of the Lord it maketh rich and He added no sorrow to it." Once again we stand in awe of Thy tender mercy as Thou hast shown Thyself strong

on our behalf. We thank Thee for another sale, for Thy continued blessing on the Apostolic Brotherhood and for the powerful way that Thy Spirit prompted the hearts of all who contributed to the effort. We thank Thee for providing for each one according to their several abilities from the widowed sister on a fixed income to the brother whose business has been dedicated to Thee, from the busy mother who took time to sew a dress, to the college student who lent strong arms to the effort. Father, we read that all men shall know we are Thy disciples if we love one another and we pray that the love shown and shared on sale day might continue in our hearts throughout the year ahead, that men might know we are Thy disciples, and that Jesus would be lifted up in our lives and thus draw all men unto Him. We praise Thee, we thank Thee, and we pray this in the only name by which we must be saved, the name of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, Amen.

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

As another school year begins, the excitement of new crayons, pencils, sleeping mats, and teachers fills the air. It has also brought a change of faces to our preschool. We've exchanged the "big kids" who are going to "big school" for many fresh, new younger faces. We also are experiencing a change of staff.

Amber Moore (Bro. Mike and Sis. Pam) will be leaving us as she begins her college education. We are sad to see her leaving, but are thankful to see her pursue her dreams.

When God closes a door, He opens a window. We rejoice that the Lord has once again answered our prayers. Sis. Margo Stettner (Bluffton

North, IN) has heeded the Lord's prompting by becoming our new teacher. She is a welcome addition as she teaches one of the four-year-old classes.

The preschool has also been blessed by having a number of volunteers help throughout the summer. We offer our many thanks to Sis. Deb Blunier and Lexy Blunier (Eureka, IL), Bro. Marvin Isch, Shane Maller and Jason Smith (Bluffton, IN), Sis. Elaine Graf (Altadena, CA), and Janelle Fischer (Roanoke, IL). May the Lord richly bless their willing hearts. We could have never done it without them.

Even though our school year has begun, we still encourage anyone who wants to volunteer. If you or anyone you know is interested, please contact Elder Bro. Lavoyd Moore at (205) 232-2035 or the Preschool at (205) 233-0591.

Lastly, we would humbly ask for your prayers as we begin our new school year. We ask that the Lord's work will be done here as we touch not only the lives of our students, but also of their families and friends, as our work is not temporary but of the everlasting kind.

**ALABAMA, ATHENS
Pam Moore**

My oldest son came home from his first day of first grade and was telling me all about his first day of school. I asked him what the best part of the day was, and he told me. Then I asked him what the worst part of the day was. He thought a minute, and then said, "There wasn't any." At first, I was surprised at his answer, and yet it made such an impression on me; what a perfect example of a positive attitude! How we need to focus on that which is good and positive, and perhaps even the negative will be minimized or forgotten.

In the past month, the teenage Sunday School class took a trip to Opryland. Though it was a small turnout, those who went truly enjoyed the day.

The first Sunday of August, a cookout was held at the Athens Park after church. The younger enjoyed games following the meal. Everyone enjoyed the fellowship and being outdoors on a warm summer day.

We welcome everyone to visit us in Athens. Church begins at 10:00 a.m. on Sundays, and at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday evenings.

**ARIZONA, PHOENIX
Ron and Ev Hoerr**

"For do I now persuade men, or God? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ."

Galatians 1:10

As our Elder Body meets this week, we pray our Heavenly Father will be ever present and each will be the servant of God.

We are living in a land of anything goes, but "God my-style" is reeking havoc! We need the real God before it is too late. Pollution is taking over more than the air!!

Elder Bro. Paul Butikofer was our guest minister from Elgin, IA. We thank them for coming and the rain showers that came for our area.

Jim Laukhuf has peace (Ephesians 6:10-11) and is awaiting baptism. Jim is one more proof of what the Great Physician and prayers are about. Bro. Alvin and Sis. Katherine found comfort and real meaning in the writing "Footprints in the Sand" while all three, with disabilities, made it out of the valley this past year.

The Dilkon Chapter of the Navaho Nations are now able to store supplies closer to where

needed, since a group of brothers went forty miles north of Winslow, AZ to put up a storage building. Thanks to Bros. Dick Beery, Herb Knochel, Sr., Bob Hill, John Kaufman, John and Steven Dotterer and Jason Sanders.

We have several bedfast brethren, with much effort, make it to church with caretakers (God's earthly angels). Those of us less fortunate need your prayers.

Our sympathy to: Bro. Wayne and Sis. Mary Koehl on the death of his dad, Bro. Ernest. They went to Winthrop, MN for his services.

Also, to Bro. Floyd Banwart (Sis. Clara) and Sis. Mary Jo Schmidgall (Bro. Kenny) on their sister, Sis. Florence Banwart's death. Bro. Floyd and Sis. Clara went to West Bend for services. They are also relatives of Bro. Ernest Koehl.

Also, to Bro. Herb and Sis. Johanna Knochel. Her mother, Sis. Elizabeth Waibel, passed away. They and Bro. Nate and Bro. Herb Jr. went to Bay City, MI for services. May each family find peace in our Lord.

Notes of Thanks:

The cards, gifts of love, and the prayers of encouragement during my days and nights in the hospital and convalescing at home were truly a blessing. Edith and I feel that we received a good measure, pressed down and shaken together and running over. May God give you all grace and peace for the love you gave us.

Bro. Allan Freed

My sincere thanks to all of you for your many prayers, cards, flowers and gifts of love. And a special thanks for all the phone calls. They meant so much to me during my hip surgery and long recovery. Also, thanks to the group that came to our house and sang for us on Sunday

afternoon. May God richly bless you.

In Christian love, Sis. Toni Bentley

ARIZONA, PRESCOTT

Jane Hodges

Christian fellowship was enjoyed by approximately ninety people at our annual corn roast on August 3. In the evening we sang praises to our Lord. We wish to thank the brethren and friends from Phoenix who came to lend their support and enjoy the day with us.

Bro. Harvey Smith (Sis. Ethel) is recovering well from oral surgery. May God continue to bless and heal him.

We extend our sympathy and prayers to the family of Bro. Wayne Koehl (Sis. Mary) in the loss of his father, Bro. Ernest Koehl, of Morris, MN from a sudden stroke.

May God richly bless Elder Bro. Jon Kokanovich and Bro. James Emch and their families for serving us in the ministry of God's Word this last month.

ARIZONA, TUCSON

Lisa Knapp

Our Sunday School classes and monthly Fellowship Dinners have resumed although the weather tells us it's still very much summer. We are having temperatures right around 100 degrees most days which is a little below normal for August. We have not had our normal triple digit weather this summer with our only triple digits being in the low 100's and quite a few days in the 90's; quite mild for Tucson. Our rainfall is still behind but has been teasing a lot lately.

Most of our small congregation has done their summer traveling and have all safely returned home for which we are thankful.

We are looking forward, Lord willing, to our Sunday School children having a weekend of fellowship with the Phoenix and California churches in Altadena over the Labor Day weekend.

Also, our Sunday School Picnic is the second Sunday of October. If you are in the area, please join us.

CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA

Joy Nenadov

Greetings to all! As we go through our days, may we stop to appreciate the simple things of life and give God the thanks and praise that is due His name. It seems the more simple we lead our lives as children of God, the more we can focus our all on serving our Almighty Father in Heaven. May our faith, conduct and lifestyle reflect that of Holy simplicity.

July 21 was a joyous day as we could witness the marriage vows of Bro. Kevin Herrmann (Bro. Howard and Sis. Mary Ann, Princeville, IL) and Sis. Grace Nenadov (Bro. Paul and Sis. Marilyn). May God's love, mercy and peace be upon them as they together make their new home in Princeville. We surely will miss Sis. Grace as she moves to Illinois.

It was a blessing and a privilege to have had visiting ministering brothers in our midst. On July 24, Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle (Sis. Lois, Shioda, Japan) and Bro. Jim Plattner (Sis. Marlene, Princeville, IL) shared to us from the riches of God's Word. Among the exhortations was the need for us to be careful not to store our treasures in "bags with holes in them" or those things which hold no eternal weight. Rather, we were reminded to store our treasures in Heaven for "where our treasures are, there will our heart be also." May God richly bless these brothers for sharing these wonderful teachings.

Our prayers are with Sis. Jody Klotzle (Bro. Tom) as we heard of the passing of her grandmother, Sis. Elizabeth Waibel (Bay City, MI). May she feel the Lord's nearness and comfort.

Our small congregation was blessed with many visitors this summer for which we are very thankful. We appreciate each and every one. Many of our own here have traveled as well and we're grateful for the safety of each one as they returned home. It truly is a blessing to be able to travel and fellowship with brethren across the land.

CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO **Rose Huette**

"For ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace: the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing..."

Isaiah 55:12

We were blessed the weekend of August 4 to have the brothers and sisters of "Joyful Life" with us. Their ministry of song and the sweet fellowship we enjoyed will long be remembered. May God richly bless this group of central Illinois brethren for sharing with us.

Also with us that weekend was Bro. James Emch (Phoenix, AZ) and Bro. Fred Witzig and Elder Bro. John Klotzle (Altadena, CA). Many thanks to these brothers for sharing on the pulpit.

Bro. Victor Jevremov and Irvin Sarok joined others from the Phoenix, AZ congregation and went from there to an Indian reservation near Winslow, AZ to take part in a work project on the reservation. May God richly bless all who worked so hard in helping those in need.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Bro. Rory Strahm and Sis. Sherise Varga (Alex) and their fami-

lies in the tragic loss of their father, Gary Strahm. May God strengthen them in this time of sorrow. A memorial service was held in Los Angeles and burial was in Sabetha, KS.

We welcome Bro. Steve Varga back to our church family as he has returned recently from Canada.

ONTARIO, KITCHENER **CANADA** **Laura Baxter**

"For our rejoicing is this, the testimony of our conscience, that in simplicity and godly sincerity, not with fleshly wisdom, but by the grace of God, we have had our conversation in the world, and more abundantly to you-ward."

II Corinthians 1:12

The Apostle Paul rejoiced that his walk of life was (by God's grace and not man's wisdom) one of simplicity and godly sincerity. As we read the New Testament, we can learn that he did not possess much or have much worldly honor but he was indeed very sincere in serving the Lord. We don't need a bigger house, bank account, car, or more prestige to be happy; just simplicity and godly sincerity.

We again are thankful for all our visitors. The summer has brought us much sunshine and many visitors, for which we thank the Lord. We especially thank our visiting ministers who so faithfully preach and live in the Truth. Elder Bro. Kevin Ryan (Rockville, CT), and Bros. Hartzell Kaisner (Detroit, MI) and Victor Bauman (Smithville, OH) were with us the month of August.

We look forward to enjoying the beautiful fall weather and scenery here in Kitchener and we invite anyone interested to join us for a weekend. Please contact Bro. Jim Baxter

(519) 699-5081 or Bro. Tim Tomic (519) 634-9796 for more information and directions.

COLORADO, DENVER **Chuck and Naomi Wiegand**

Greetings across the many miles! We were blessed this past month with an abundance of ministering brethren. Our deep appreciation goes to Elder Bros. John Lehman (Bern, KS) and John Klotzle (Altadena, CA) and Bros. Dennis Rassi (Fairbury, IL), Brace Wieland (Leo, IN), Dan Stoller (Remington, IN), Loren Schrenk (St. Louis, MO), Ron Kipfer (Bluffton, IN), Clark Stoller (Gridley, IL), and Paul Gasser (Akron, OH).

We have been enjoying the warm weather and especially enjoyed sharing in the Sunday School picnic with the students and their parents. It is a special event that we look forward to each year.

Duane and Ann Wulf have felt the Holy Spirit's calling to go to Columbus, OH. We will truly miss all the love they have brought to our congregation. We know the Columbus church will enjoy them and their precious daughter, Cassidy, as much as we have. We were reminded in a sermon not long ago about the importance of choosing to serve God fully and about staying away from riding the fence, because it is owned by Satan. Duane and Ann have made this choice and have professed to be at peace with God and man. We wish them God's richest blessings as they part from us, but look forward to hearing their testimonies here in Denver on the weekend of September 21.

CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE **Dawn Winans - Peggy Bahler**

July 16 was a joyous day for Eric and Donna Moser with the birth of

their son, Blaine David. His grandparents are Bro. Jim and Sis. Jane Moser.

Bro. Brian and Sis. Cyndi Luginbuhl were blessed with another little girl, Grace Louise, on August 9. Her sister, Harmony, welcomes her home. Her grandparents are Sis. Florine Luginbuhl and Bro. Dave, Sr. and Sis. Marlene Galat.

July 28 was the wedding day of Bro. Brent Walder (Elder Bro. Bob and Sis. Gloria) and Sis. Naomi Luginbuhl (Bro. Ken and Sis. Kay). We certainly want to wish them the Lord's blessings as they start their lives together as husband and wife.

Our visiting ministers were Elder Bros. Bob Walder (Congerville, IL) and Ken Indermuhle (Sardis, OH), and Bros. Ken Schneider (Remington, IN), Ben Wiegand (Philadelphia, PA), Vernon Wettstein (Congerville, IL) and Don Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN). We wish them God's blessings for their labor of love.

We are thankful for our recovering hospital patients. They are Sis. Adele Trueb (Bro. Ron) and Sis. Eloise Webb (Bro. Clint). We wish them God's blessings for a speedy recovery. As our children are getting ready to go back to school, let us keep them in our prayers, for Satan is not sleeping.

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
WASHINGTON
Henrietta Meyer**

"Study to shew thyself approved unto God."

II Timothy 2:15

While the apostle Paul was encouraging Timothy to study the Word, our thoughts this time of year turn to all returning to school. Our prayers and best wishes go with Marie Koch as she returns to the

University of Illinois.

"Use hospitality one to another without grudging."

I Peter 4:9

One of the problems with renting hotel rooms for services is that occasionally the rooms are not available. We had that problem this past month. Ken and Roberta Belsley graciously opened their home so we could assemble.

We have been blessed all summer with many visitors. Our ministers this month were Elder Bro. Ed Aeschleman (Philadelphia, PA), and Bros. Virgil Metzger (Chicago, IL), Jon Schmidgall (Oakville, IA), Steve Sauder (Tremont, IL), and Wayne Laubscher (Cissna Park, IL). Other visitors were from Philadelphia, PA; Bluffton, Bluffton North and Leo, IN; Akron and Sardis, OH; Morton, Peoria, and Princeville, IL; Rockville, CT; and Oakville, IA. We are glad so many families included this area in their vacation plans.

Services are usually held the first, third and fourth Sunday 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.

**FLORIDA, FT. LAUDERDALE
Nancy Rocke**

Holy virtue, graceful wonder,
Might of God, love, innocence!
In Thy face the high are humbled,
Only God's work has defense.
Meek and lowly, childlike nature,
Glory of humility!
It alone restores us fully,

And from Adam's fall sets free.

It seeks neither praise nor
greatness;
Chiding, shame, no hurt impart;
Thinks no evil; for all goodness
Has a deeply grateful heart.

Zion's Harp #246

Dan and Sally Klopfenstein and their daughter, Holly, have moved to Orlando, FL because of his job. We will miss them, but hope they will come and visit us often.

"Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me."

Psalms 23:4

We extend our sympathy to Bro. Roger Sauder (Sis. Judy) in the passing of his mother, Sis. Ida Mae Klaus (Eureka, IL). Even in the death of a loved one we can rejoice in the hope that we can be reunited in Heaven if we are faithful to God until death.

As we think about godly sorrow, we may remember the account in II Corinthians where the Apostle Paul made the Corinthians sorry. At first he did repent, but then he rejoiced because it caused them to become more zealous in their service towards God. This godly sorrow purified them and should do the same for us.

"For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death. For behold this selfsame thing, that ye sorrowed after a godly sort, what carefulness it wrought in you, yea, what clearing of yourselves, yea, what indignation, yea, what fear, yea, what vehement desire, yea, what zeal, yea, what revenge! In all things ye have approved yourselves to be clear in this matter."

*II Corinthians 7:10-11***FLORIDA, NORTH FT. MYERS**
Kay Eisenmann

In August, a lot of our church families are on vacation. In fact, Dave and I have been gone five weeks. We have enjoyed our trip very much, thus far, going to our two daughters' families in Minnesota and Iowa. Also, we went to Dave's 45th class reunion. It has been kind of a "going down memory lane". We also went back to Oakville, IA where we were both baptized, as was our daughter, Gail. There were many wonderful loving brethren to reminisce with. Dave also went to the Brotherhood Conference where we were all encouraged to make sure our time was being spent at being good ambassadors for God. It made all who heard re-examine our daily walk one day at a time, to enjoy the good things that are left in a sin-sick world.

We also spent a blessed Sunday in Iowa City, a small congregation just like at home.

Then we had a blessed time in Remington, IN where we had lived for six and one-half years. Bro. Earl and Sis. Arlene Kilgus then took us to the sale at Gateway Woods where we met some of our church family that winter with us, and many more. It was like a little bit of Heaven, to be with so many whose lifestyle is like ours. Satan was really outnumbered, as we felt so encouraged in our service to God and ever praying to serve God more.

On Sunday, after church, we had a potluck at the Remington Fellowship Hall where we could laugh, cry, and encourage our loved ones there.

We pray to yet be able to visit Burlington, Peoria, Gridley, La-Crosse, and Cissna Park. The Eisenmann Reunion is in Cissna Park and then on to Georgia to visit Dave's

youngest brother. Then, it's home-ward bound. We plan, if God allows, we should be home September 3 to our loving Ft. Myers family. We are ever thankful for our loving co-workers, Bro. Vic and Sis. Dorothy Beer, for taking care of our church family while we were gone. We need each and every one to work together to share the cares of life. Our thoughts and prayers should be, "He is not heavy, he is my brother." If we could all reach this attitude, Satan would lose his hold and our church then would be a refuge for all would want to be a part of it! For eternity is sure, but where we spend it depends on how we live in this life.

FLORIDA, SARASOTA
Vera and Mary Martin

As another autumn season approaches and we look back at the days of summer and see how our time has vanished so quickly and what little we have really accomplished in service to our Lord, it makes us wonder if the fast pace of life that we race through is more important than living a life of simplicity and peace of mind. We are reminded in Philippians 4:8, "Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things." How much time do we allow for thinking on the most important aspect in our lives?

We want to welcome our new sister into our congregation, Sis. Lindsey Maibach, who has given her testimony of faith to work in the service of the Lord.

GEORGIA, ATLANTA
Peggy Camp

This past month we were blessed with visiting ministers, Bros. Ken Wuethrich (Indianapolis, IN) and Ken Weerts (Cissna Park, IL). How thankful we are for God's Word being brought to us through these brothers. We pray that God will bless them for their efforts.

As the children return to school, let us pray that they will remember the lessons they have been taught at home and at Sunday School.

After receiving the support from the Elder body, the Atlanta congregation is hoping to purchase and remodel an office building southwest of the city. Please pray that the Lord will continue to direct us as we proceed.

At this time, we are no longer meeting at the Westin Hotel but are having Sunday services in our homes. Please contact Bro. Linn Stoller (770) 631-4554 or Bro. John Brewer (770) 502-8629 for further information.

ILLINOIS, BELVIDERE
Millie Jepson

July 27 was the wedding day for Daren Mueller and Katie Douglas in their home town of Clinton, WI. Daren and Katie's parents, sisters, brothers, relatives and friends surrounded them with their love as they said their vows in marriage. Daren and Katie have settled temporarily in Champaign, IL and we pray for God's blessings on their life together. Daren is the son of Bro. Art and Sis. Marlene Mueller.

We were privileged to have Bros. Bill Gudeman (Elgin, IL), Duane Reutter (Rockville, CT), Paul Gasser (Akron, OH), and Ron Schambach (Elgin, IL) as our visiting ministers this month. We thank God for the faithful teaching of God's Word by those who served us.

We appreciate the love and support of each minister, their wives and all the other visitors during this last month of summer.

The Sunday School classes are now held during the morning service at 10:30 instead of the afternoon service as previously planned, with the exception of the high school class. That class still meets during the afternoon service. Our facilities warranted the change. The lunch hour is still at 11:30 and afternoon services are at 12:45. Singing starts fifteen minutes before each service.

We ended the busy summer activities again with the Sunday School picnic at Dave and Sis. Sheila McCoy's lovely home in Wisconsin. The weather was perfect for the picnic and we all had a wonderful time of fellowship!

'Mid all the traffic of the ways,
Turmoil without, within,
Make in my heart a quiet place,
And come and dwell therein!

A little shrine of quietness,
All sacred to Thyself,
Where Thou shalt all my soul
possess,
And I may find myself!
—John Qxenham

"Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength, and my redeemer."

Psalm 19:14

**ILLINOIS,
BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL**

Debbie Grieco - Janice Horner
Our congregation has again been blessed with the birth of two healthy babies. Sant Stephen is the brand new son of Bro. Brian and Sis. Roze Strassheim and was born on July 25. He is the first grandchild of both Bro. Miklos and Sis. Aranka Bozzay (Chicago, IL) and Bro. Dale and Sis.

Carol Strassheim (Bloomington). Needless to say, he is causing quite a bit of excitement in those families! Two days later on July 27, Grace Elizabeth was born to Bro. Dennis and Sis. Pam Zimmerman. She is welcomed by her siblings, Jacob, Alex, Hannah and Lydia. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Glen and Sis. Mildred Zimmerman (Forrest, IL) and Dick and Betty Lawrence of Fairbury. We pray the Lord will bless these tiny ones and give wisdom to their parents/grandparents in the rearing process and the teaching of God's Word. Scripture speaks of the importance of raising our children in an environment saturated with God's precepts and principles.

"And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes. And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates."

Deut. 6:5-9

We mourn with Bro. Ben and Sis. Mary Daily and their children at the loss of their mother and grandmother, Margaret Daily, of Wilmington, IL on August 10. She died of post surgical complications, so losing her was sudden and unexpected. We pray the Lord will comfort this dear family who is so precious to us.

Bro. Loren Knapp was our only visiting minister this month on August 7. We're thankful for his com-

mitment to preach from God's Word under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit and the sacrifice that involves.

ILLINOIS, BRADFORD
Brad & Cheryl Kupferschmid

By the grace of God, Sarah Rumbold has found the grace to start repenting. Her parents are Bro. Herb and Sis. Diana Rumbold. May the Lord give her grace to feel sorrow for her sins and to then find peace with the One who died for all of us. May we remember her in our prayers.

Bro. Bruce Endress was baptized on July 28. His parents are Bro. Gary and Sis. Ev Endress. We rejoice with Bro. Bruce and his family as we welcome him into the fold.

We are thankful Bro. Roy Ehnle (Sis. Donna) has nearly recovered from burns for which he was hospitalized for a couple of weeks. He is doing well and is again able to assemble with us.

Our prayers continue for Bro. Ed Guingrich (Sis. Doris) whose health has not yet permitted him to assemble with us. We pray that God will comfort him with His Holy Spirit and heal him in His time.

We had numerous visiting ministers this month. Elder Bros. Ed Lanz (Oakville, IA) and Willis Ehnle (Shioda, Japan) were with us, as were Bros. Hartzell Kaisner (Detroit, MI), Don Manz (Junction, OH), Rex Frieden (Lamar, MO), Erik Givens (Princeville, IL) and Paul Messner (Winthrop, MN). We thank them for letting the Holy Spirit teach us through them and invite them to come back soon.

As Sunday School starts for yet another year, may we remember to uphold our teachers in prayer. May God give each one His grace and direction as they teach our future church. We pray also that the young

hearts of our children will be open and in due time show the fruit of the Word that was taught to them.

ILLINOIS, CHAMPAIGN
Samuel and Pamela Furrer

We always have people coming and going, and this month is no different. For the past few summers, Bro. Aaron Webb of Ft. Lauderdale, FL has come up north during summer break from college. Each summer, he is encouraged to stay in the north where he could enjoy such things as snow, ice, and tornadoes, but he chooses to just come up for a few months at a time. We do truly appreciate Bro. Aaron, his wonderful sense of humor, and his pleasant spirit and we thank him for sharing some time with us. Bro. Aaron has now returned to Florida, and we look forward to his future visits with our church. We extend a sincere welcome to one of our former students who has returned to the area for employment and to a new couple coming here for school and work. Bro. Derek Sauder (formerly of Tremont, IL) has been hired by Caterpillar in Decatur and will be making Champaign-Urbana his home church. Bro. Samuel and Sis. Shelley Steffen have moved from Bloomington-Normal to spend the next four years with us as Bro. Sam is a student at U of I College of Medicine and Sis. Shelley works at Urbana High School. Welcome!

Beulah Weeks has relocated from her home of many years to a home at 2001 Hagan Blvd., Urbana, IL 61801. The ladies' luncheon group recently met at Beulah's to have a housewarming for her. Beulah left a home where she had accumulated many precious memories. We wish her the best and many more years of collecting precious memories at her new home.

Following an afternoon of activi-

ties the Sunday School teachers had planned for their students, the annual Sunday School Picnic was held at Hessel Park in Champaign. We had a great turnout for the games and picnic in the park. This was the final activity for teachers, Sis. Tina Fehr, Sis. Pam Furrer, and Bro. Darren Plattner, who have completed their terms. We thank them for their dedication and efforts on behalf of the future of our church.

Visiting minister Bro. Jon Zeller (Morton, IL) gave the concluding Wednesday evening Bible Study on the book of First Thessalonians. We thank Bro. Jon for making the trip to aid in our study of the Bible.

During the summer months, some of the women of the church have gathered in the evenings to make children's quiet books for the sale at Gateway Woods. The group that works on World Relief projects has continued to make pre-natal kits for third-world countries. A local project is one of making a large quantity of chili for a shelter of homeless people. It is encouraging to know that what seems like small efforts on the local level can mean so much to others.

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO
Kathy Schlatter

Circumstances led us on a short trip to the state of Washington. There we viewed unusual crops—from the view of those who are used to corn, soybeans, and occasional pumpkin fields. The crops of their southeastern area—wheat, lentils, and green and yellow split peas—were fascinating, undulating gold and green among the rolling hills. And I'm not sure which was more meaningful, the fact that the lentils were harvested by being scraped from the earth, leaving bare ground, or the fact that on those hilly farms they used combines with

self-leveling abilities to harvest the wheat. Maybe we sometimes think that the Lord is taking too closely from our supplies—but we are prepared to produce more by that very sacrifice, grievous though it seems. "...I will sacrifice unto Thee with the voice of thanksgiving; I will pay that that I have vowed. Salvation is of the Lord." (Jonah 2:9). Also, for myself, I know that the Spirit is ready to keep me emotionally even, despite the bumpiness of the terrain on which I find myself; yet I am not as smooth in my reactions as He is available to keep me. "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord." (I Corinthians 15:58)

We have always considered it a privilege to have our nearest Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen and his wife, Sis. Marilyn (Elgin, IL), visit. Likewise, Elder Bro. Ed Aeschleman and his wife, Sis. Nancy (Philadelphia, PA), sometimes visit their son and daughter-in-law in our area and we appreciate our opportunities to see and hear from them. May the Lord grant them His richest blessings, including return visits to our congregation.

The most important news we can record here is the beginning of the conversion process in a soul. The Lord has granted grace to Jarod Rinkenberger (Bro. Ken and Sis. Devon) to reveal his seeking and repentant heart. Our hearts rejoice and prayers of thanksgiving and supplication fly to him and his family ever more than before.

The Lord has sent another baby girl to Bro. Dale and Sis. Pam Steiner and sister, Natalie, to add to their family. Rebecca Joy's birth-date is August 11. Her supportive grandparents are Bro. Dan (Jr.) and Sis. Shirley Steiner (Tremont, IL)

and Bro. Don and Sis. Rosie Gramm (Gridley, IL). We, as a church family, are pledged to this dear family in love and prayer that we may all understand "...the Lord gave...; blessed be the name of the Lord." (Job 1:21).

Sis. Lucille Feller wanted to convey a special thanks for the many prayers expressed in the lovely cards which meant so very much to her during her illness, and also the many phone calls and gifts of love. The plant from the church family was lovely. She also appreciated the Florida snowbird cards with the individual notes. God bless you all.

We want to extend our sympathies to Chicago sisters. Earlier, Sis. Janell Strunk lost her grandfather, Bro. Bill, of Morton. Just recently, Sis. Teri Leman (Bro. Jay) suffered the death of her grandmother, Sis. Marie Kilgus, Fairbury, IL. We know the Lord alone can comfort them in their losses, reminding them of the precious memories they can always have of their believing grandparents.

Acts 16 has appeared in my life more times than I have kept count since June. A major section mentions the hymns of praise and thanksgiving sung by Paul and Silas, in pain from their beatings, at midnight in prison. I have pondered the meaning of being thankful. We speak of it often. We tell people "Thank you" quite a lot also. However, speaking for myself and from observation, what one says is not as meaningful as what one does. If one is thankful to a person for a gift, there is a spirit of appreciation, a willingness to do for him/her, and a use for the gift. Could that not also apply to our actions in His name? How many times am I too tired, too resentful, too upset, too despairing—to perform as He has asked me: in joy and in thanksgiving, unceasing in prayer. Truly I have needed to be reminded of this passage and

that "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." (Philippians 4:13).

All of us who deal with people, especially those in trouble—whether they recognize it or not—and sometimes that "dealing" includes ourselves, need encouragement, knowing that as long as we have breath, we are in the MIDDLE. The end has not yet come, and there is hope for change, hope for joy and peace. David expressed this hope often, and the Psalms include many promises. "They that sow in tears shall reap in joy." (Psalm 126:5).

Jesus I will never leave;
Oh, the gifts that He has given!
Comfort, rest, and joy and light,
All are sent to me from heaven.
Hope and life comes from above,
All because of Jesus' love.

I am His and He is mine,
Love has bound us so sincerely;
Through His wounds and blood
divine
Was my ransom paid so dearly.
On Him I will firmly build,
Full of hope which shall not yield.
Zion's Harp #228

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK Joyce Bauer - Beth Steffen

July 27 was a joyful day in the life of Michael Kaufmann and Kori Grimm as they were united in marriage. Michael is the son of Bro. Larry and Sis. Jeanie Kaufmann of here. Kori is the daughter of Kent and Denise Grimm of Wapello, IA. We wish Michael and Kori much happiness and God's blessings in their life together.

Our prayers are with Bro. Gib Stock and Sis. Laverne Kaufmann who have recently submitted to surgery. We pray God will continue to heal their bodies. May this verse be an encouragement to them. "Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your heart, all ye that

hope in the Lord." (Psalm 31:24)

"Behold upon the mountains the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace..."

Nahum 1:15

We are thankful this past month the Lord has again provided us with ministers who brought us the good news. Among them were our Elder Bros. Dave Wiegand (Champaign, IL), Alfred Bahler (Wolcott, IN), and Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL), and Bros. Art Mueller (Belvidere, IL), Duane Ruetter (Rockville, CT), and Wes Moser (Lester, IA). May God bless each one of these brothers in a special way.

We extend our sympathy to those in our congregation who have lost loved ones recently. Our prayers are with Bro. Bob and Sis. Eileen Greiner, Sis. Tillie Rudin, and Sis. Vi Greiner over the loss of their brother and brother-in-law, Otto Greiner, from Morris, MN. Our thoughts are also with Sis. Verena Knapp and Bro. Ralph over the loss of her sister, Sis. Dorothy Norr, Leo, IN. During the times you feel especially lonely for your departed loved ones, remember the wonderful promise of God found in Matt. 28:20. "...lo, I am with you alway..."

Proverbs 23:25 talks of the joy a child can bring to their parents. "Thy father and thy mother shall be glad, and she that bare thee shall rejoice." We believe Bro. John and Sis. Tresa Maul are rejoicing as first-time parents over the birth of Marti Lynn. May God bless this couple as they now become a family. Grandparents of Marti are Bro. Bill and Sis. Wanda Maul of here and Bro. Don and Sis. Carol Bazell of Fairbury.

Urb and Sis. Judy Edelman of Cissna Park are busy grandparents as they welcome two new granddaughters into their family circle.

Erin Elizabeth was born to Matthew and Susan Ifft and Erica Morgan was born to Jerrold and Sally Hass. May God guide these parents in raising their children in His ways.

Concluding thought: "But now, O Lord, thou art our father; we are the clay, and thou our potter; and we all are the work of thy hand." (Isaiah 64:8). That the Potter should die for His clay is an incredible thought.

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE

**Linda Knobloch
Missy Banwart**

July 28 was the wedding date of Bro. Brent Walder (Elder Bro. Bob and Sis. Gloria) and Sis. Naomi Luginbuhl (Bro. Ken and Sis. Kay, Rockville, CT). We wish them the Lord's richest blessings as they establish a Christian home in the Rockville area.

We are thankful to have many visiting ministers in our midst in the past month. They were: Elder Bros. Ken Indermuhle (Sardis, OH), Ed Aeschleman (Philadelphia, PA), and Dennis Warner (Lester, IA), and Bros. Loren Knapp (Tucson, AZ), Ken Knapp (Taylor, MO), Warren Zahner (Rockville, CT), and Tim Zimmerman (Lamont-Gridley, KS). May God richly reward these brothers for giving of themselves on our behalf.

Friday evening following the General Conference, we had the special blessing of church services. We enjoyed many visitors with greetings from 30 churches. How thankful we should be to live in a land of religious freedom.

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

you."

Hebrews 13:17

We have started listening to the tapes of the Conference. May God grant us the grace to apply the many teachings to our individual lives.

ILLINOIS, ELGIN Renee Anliker - Debbie Sauder

"...Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever: for wisdom and might are his: And he changeth the times and the seasons..."

Daniel 2:20-21

The times and seasons of this earth are, without doubt, controlled by our God, but how much more the changing times and seasons of our lives. May we be encouraged to remember God is in control and always brings only what is best, regardless of time or season.

A season of illness has been the lot of loved ones among us this month. We are thankful God answers prayer and has restored Sis. Edna Bolliger, Sis. Marilyn (Bro. Elvis) Kellenberger, Bro. Gary (Sis. Lois) Steffen and Ann Farney to a fair measure of health.

"Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season..."

II Timothy 4:2

How thankful we are that willing servants do preach the Word to us regardless of the season. We trust the harvest season will bring a bountiful yield to the teachings we were blessed with through our home brothers as well as visiting ones, namely Elder Bros. Ron Messner (Washington, IL) and Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL) and Bros. Kevin Knapp (Bloomington, IL) and Tom Leman (Denver, CO).

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

Hymns of Zion #46

The season of life seems to begin with a seed and such is true with the "seed of the Word". Our youth have had opportunity for many seeds to fall in the soil of tender hearts during the recent Sunday School picnic and week of Vacation Bible School. May God bless the dear teachers who often give of themselves, as well as the ministering brothers who were willing to participate: Bros. Mike Rieker (Peoria, IL), Randy Gasser (Detroit, MI), Ed Bahler (Remington, IN), Ted Hirstein (Morton, IL) and Tom Schambach.

Planting and watering is so important but we long for that seed to sprout forth to a true repentance. We rejoice with Erica Schambach (Bro. Les and Sis. Alison) as she has answered the call. May she feel God's nearness and grace as she seeks to serve Him faithfully.

Hasten gladly to the labor.
Consecrate to God your heart,
Say this day unto your Savior,
"Lord, I'll gladly do my part."

Hymns of Zion #46

August 3 we gathered to hear how God has worked in the hearts of Tom and Gayle Rhodes, drawing them to our faith and then through a true conversion. It brought a deep gratitude to realize how fortunate we are to be a part of our precious faith that, as one expressed, "takes no shortcuts". We welcome our new brother and sister in faith, wishing them God's nearness, peace and blessings throughout their lifetime.

"Love of all gifts is the greatest..."

Zion's Harp #37

A new season has also entered the

lives of two dear couples from our congregation who were united in marriage. On July 20, Dan Cargill (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Kay) and Stephanie Schambach (Bro. Stan and Sis. Norma) were married by Elder Bro. Phil Stettner (Bluffton North, IN). Also, on August 17, Tony Martin (Bro. Dave and Sis. Jean) married Kendra Pfaffinger (Dick and Pat Pfaffinger of Marengo). May God's presence and blessing be felt and welcomed in the newly established homes of these dear couples.

"When pure and upright hearts,
By flames of love ignited..."
Zion's Harp #79

Bro. Matt Schambach (Bro. Tom and Sis. Connie) and Sis. Renee Anliker (Bro. Gary and Sis. Edie) believe God has directed their hearts and lives to be one in marriage. May God's richest blessings be theirs as they continue to seek His will.

"Precious in the sight of the Lord
is the death of his saints."
Psalms 116:15

When times and seasons are past, we look forward with hope to that eternal reward. May Bro. Dick (Sis. Jeanette) Kilgus find comfort that his dear mother has finished her course in faith and is now reaping the reward of a bountiful harvest, preserved for the true and faithful.

ILLINOIS, EUREKA Dori Blunier

We sing in our Zion's Harp hymn #185 "Let us go hand in hand, with joy in one another." That seemed to be the prevailing feeling of our congregation as we worked together to host the annual Brotherhood Conference. Everyone wanted to help, and everyone wanted to do their job

as they were instructed. The only way a Conference of that size can operate smoothly is for each one to be obedient to those in charge. We can transfer that lesson to our church, and if each of us are obedient to our Elder body, who we have asked to lead us, it will be a joyful, united church.

We especially extend our thanks to our Elder Bro. Ervin Knecht, our ministers, trustees, and committee heads who spent many hours planning the Conference. May God richly bless each one for their extra labor in the Lord.

We also were inspired to have so many visiting ministers with us for services during the Conference week. We thank them for their messages of hope and encouragement. As one of our older sisters told me, "I call this holy week."

On July 28, we witnessed the baptisms of Daniel Knecht (Elder Bro. Ervin and Sis. Sandy) and Natalie Getz (Bro. Allan and Sis. Nathalia). As they begin their walk as children of God, may His Spirit be their daily guide. We thank Elder Bro. Lawrence Luthi (Lamar, MO) and Elder Bro. Wes Knapp and Bro. Bruce Hohulin (Goodfield, IL) who shared the weekend with us.

As a congregation, we extend a hearty welcome to Bro. Trent and Sis. Lucy Meiss who have moved to our area from Iowa City. Also, we gladly welcome Bro. Phil Nenadov who has moved here from Altadena.

May God heal those who have recently met with accident. Bro. Ted Blunier (Sis. Donna) recently injured his arm in a fall. Also, Sis. Judie Knecht (Bro. Ernie) fell and broke both of her legs. As she will be laid up awhile, may we remember her in prayer.

We extend our sympathy to Sis. Marge Rocke, Bros. Milton, Gerald, and Roy Leman, who lost their brother, Ivan Leman (Peoria), on

July 30.

This time of the year we pray for our children as they begin a new school year. May they remember the lessons they learn at home and at church and be able to apply them at school.

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY Sally Fehr - Thelma Slagel

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

Hebrews 13:17

Once again, our prayers were with our Elder brethren as they gathered in Eureka for the annual Brotherhood Conference. We have faith that those prayers were answered and that the Spirit spoke to us through them. It was an added blessing and joy to be able to assemble for church services on Friday evening after the Conference. Elder Bro. Art Metz (Silverton, OR), and Bros. Robert Miller (Portland, OR) and Ron Palitto (Akron, OH) visited us, as well as a number of other ministering brothers who did not share the pulpit. Also, Elder Bro. Jay Luthi (Lamont-Gridley, KS) and Bro. Edwin Bahler (Remington, IN) shared the Word with us this month. May God bless you all for your efforts.

We rejoice with the angels in Heaven as two more souls have begun on the pathway of repentance. Carolyn Kieser (Bro. Carl and Sis. Becky) and Jessi Maurer (Steve and Sis. Donna) are seeking the Lord in their youth. May He grant them grace to build a firm foundation of faith.

God has blessed the home of Bro.

Ivan and Sis. Cinda Fehr with a little boy, Stan Allen, on July 23. Shannon, Tracy, Ryan and Tyson welcome their little brother. Grandparents are Bro. Allen and Sis. Carolyn Zimmerman (Forrest, IL) and Bro. Glenn and Sis. Kathryn Fehr.

Faithful unto death remain...
With the shining crown before you,
Rise unto the regions o'er you,
In the Lamb thy trust retain...
Hymns of Zion #225

The Lord called two of our dear faithful older sisters Home. Sis. Marie Kilgus passed away on August 4. She was 92. We extend sympathy to her children, Bro. Duane (Sis. Arlene), Bro. Richard (Sis. Jeannette, Elgin, IL) and Phyllis Nussbaum; a sister, Alice Himelick, of Kokomo, IN; four brothers, Sam, Paul and Ralph Hoffman, of Fairbury, and Clyde Hoffman of Elliott; as well as grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Sis. Fannie Maurer, 98, passed away August 12. She leaves behind one son, Ervin, of Phoenix, AZ; two daughters, Eileen Baurer of Cissna Park and Sis. Mary Beth Maurer; one brother, Silas; and three sisters, Ollie Steidinger, Sis. Lavina Moser and Sis. Viola Moser; and grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren. May the faithfulness of these two dear sisters comfort and inspire their families and all of us.

Also, we extend sympathy to the family of Harvey Slagel, especially his sister, Kathryn (Ben) Kaisner.

Bro. Dick Wiegand (Sis. Betty) spent some time in the hospital. We are thankful that he is feeling better.

"In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we

shall be changed."

I Corinthians 15:52

Recently we received a message early one Sunday morning that we would be having church services at our fellowship hall because of electrical problems at church. Driving by the church on our way to the fellowship hall, we noted the vacant parking lot...the empty church building. It looked deserted and forlorn, compared to the usual Sunday morning activity. I was struck with a thought that was later echoed in the sermon—someday the church building and the parking lot will look that way on Sunday mornings, after the Lord returns again to claim His bride.

"Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come."

Matthew 24:42

Note of Thanks:

We thank everyone for all your prayers and kindness during Dad's extended stay at Carle Hospital and Fairview Haven. Thanks to our faithful ministers (from home and Champaign and Cissna Park) whose prayers always strengthened us. We also appreciated all the cards, letters, visits and food.

Bro. Ezra and Sis. Aldine Steffen and family

Sis. Katharine Fehr received this poem in the mail in loving memory of her dear husband, Bro. John V. Fehr, who went to his Heavenly Home on September 23, 1995.

*In Loving Memory of
Bro. John V. Fehr*

J - Just across the river crystal
Jesus there with: "Welcome Home!"
O - Over on those shores so peaceful

O'er earth's toils — no longer roam.

H - Heavenly peace, divinest rapture!
Here with angels sing a new song.
N - Naught but joy and bliss the future
Numbered with the Holy Throng.

F - Fear thou not this path to travel;
Faithful His Cross-bearer be,
E - Every step, nearer great marvel;
Endless joys! Eternally!
H - Here to know the worth of serving
Him who died for you and me,
R - Robe of white and crown so glitt'ring —
Rejoice! Praise Him for Victory!
—C.N. - a loved one of our precious faith
(Note: The first lines of the poem spell Bro. John's name)

ILLINOIS, FORREST

**Marlene Walter
Mary Bachtold**

The last two weekends in July were special as we were privileged to hear the testimonies and witness the baptisms of eight dear souls. Our new brothers and sisters in faith are Heidi Dotterer (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Nancy), Nicholas Roth (Bro. Ken and Sis. Deb), Erika Schlatter (Sis. Sherri), Heidi Stoller (Bro. Greg and Sis. Jill), Amber and Kelli Adams (Sis. Sharon), Laura Steidinger (Bro. James and Sis. Marlene) and Kraig Edelman (Bro. Levi and Sis. Donna). We are thankful these loved ones could turn their hearts to the Lord in their youth and pray they will always stay close to Him.

How thankful we are to have willing brothers bring us the Word of God. Visiting us this month were Elder Bros. Art Bahler (Fairbury, IL), Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH), Jesse Beer (Milford, IN), Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI) and Kevin

Ryan (Rockville, CT) and Bros. Beirne Messner (Morris, MN), John Stoller (Leo, IN), Jim Byrd (Roanoke, IL), Edwin Bahler (Remington, IN), Bill Hodel (Roanoke, IL), Bill Gudeman (Elgin, IL), Bill Dotterer (Phoenix, AZ), Everett Gerber (Rockville, CT), Andy Virkler (Croghan-Naumburg, NY), Loren Knapp (Tucson, AZ), and Duane Reutter (Rockville, CT).

Two baby boys have arrived in the homes of two dear couples making them first-time parents. Eric and Michelle Schaffer lovingly welcome Thane Christian into their family circle. His grandparents are Carlos and Marty Bahler (Fairbury, IL) and Bro. John and Sis. Sally Schaffer. Little Joseph Alan was born to Bro. Brent and Sis. Sheila Ifft. His happy grandparents are Bro. Greg and Sis. Jill Stoller and Bro. Larry and Sis. Shirley Ifft.

August 3 was the wedding day of Stacey Mueller (Bro. Ron and Sis. Loida) and Tonda Whitehouse (Cindy, Sibley, IL). Doug Roth (Leonard and Marilyn) and Jody Taylor (Bob and Sheila, Marian, IN) were married August 17. We wish these two couples God's blessings as they walk through life as husband and wife.

Sis. Peggy Young and Bro. Ed Honegger spent time in the hospital this past month. Our prayers are with Ron and Vicki Schaffer as their daughter, Kristi Pruitt, is now under their care at home. May God grant these loved ones grace and strength to accept His will.

We extend sympathy to Sis. Pauline Wiegand in the death of her twin sister, Carlene Orr (Quincy, IL), and to Bro. Kevin and Sis. Denise Kilgus and family in the death of his grandmother, Sis. Marie Kilgus (Fairbury, IL). May God's comforting Spirit be with these loved ones in their time of sorrow.

Notes of Thanks:

I wish to thank everyone who remembered me with your prayers, gifts and food when I was in the hospital and since I returned home. God bless all.

Sis. Hazel Karcher

I wish to sincerely thank everyone who helped make my 100th birthday such a happy one. Your kindness and love have meant so much over the many years. God bless each one.

Sis. Louise Zimmerman

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD Barb Brim

"For as the earth bringeth forth her bud, and as the garden causeth the things that are sown in it to spring forth; so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations."

Isaiah 61:11

As our growing season flourishes under God's caring hand, so must our hearts be ever thankful for the grace He bestows on us all to grow in righteousness, mercy and love.

We were most blessed in Goodfield this month with the addition of three dear souls into our church family and the Lord's family of saints. The evening spent listening to their testimonies was such a blessing not only to them, but us as well. We heartily welcome Bro. Tom and Sis. Jody Bauman (Bro. Les and Sis. Helen, and Janet Rogers and Joe Tanner) and Sis. Sara Knobloch (Bro. Dean and Sis. Jackie) into the fold and thank God continually for His grace that still abounds to call souls unto everlasting life. We want to thank Elder Bro. Everett Hari (Sis. Bev, Bloomington, IL) for sharing this labor of love with Elder Bro.

Wes. His army increases! Rejoice!

Little Caroline Rose Eastman was born this month to Bro. Kurt and Sis. Kelly and older sister, Anna Marie. They, along with grandparents, Bro. Dick and Sis. Nelma Eastman (Eureka, IL) and Bro. Mike and Sis. Barb Meece (Bloomington, IL) rejoice for this wonderful gift of love. May God's arms encircle her life so she too may be filled with righteousness. Our prayers are with her on her journey.

We extend our thanks to the visiting ministers and their wives as they labored in the Lord for us this month. Thank you, Elder Bro. Leroy Messner (Sis. JoAnn, Winthrop, MN), and Bros. Ed Knecht (Sis. Judy, Portland, OR) and Leland Plattner (Sis. Mary, Zapata, TX) for the time shared with us.

Note of Thanks:

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our friends and loved ones for their cards, gifts and best wishes on our 50th anniversary. It was appreciated very much. May God bless each one.

Raymond and Sis. Viola Wagner

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY Perry A. Klopfenstein

In a prayer by a visiting brother, the phrase "pilgrimage" was used. This is an accurate attitudinal concept of the believer in Christ Jesus. The Bible tells us we are "pilgrims and strangers" in this present life.

Because we exist on earth only for a season, our main focus is not to develop affection for earthly, fleeting things, but to instead zealously train our focus on Zion, our Heavenly goal.

On August 11, four dear souls were baptized: Bro. Jeff Stoller, and Sisters Mirian Kath, Maria Klopfenstein, and Debbie Martin. May God give them much grace to walk hum-

bly, and to overcome sin and evil until their final day. It was a blessed weekend!

Elder Bro. Everett Hari (Bloomington, IL) was here for the baptisms. Other visiting ministers were Bros. Carroll Gerber and Mark Gerber (Bluffton North, IN), Roger Aberle (Sabetha, KS), Robert Miller (Portland, OR) and Vernon Wettstein (Congerville, IL).

Trent Kaupp is to be married to Amy Baker. His parents are Sis. Wava Kaupp and the late Bro. Harold. She is the daughter of Joseph and Linda Baker, Lexington.

A daughter, Dusti Rose, was born to Jason and Tiffney Kaupp Hardman. It is their first child. Grandparents are Sis. Wava Kaupp, and Dawn Spurgin, Las Vegas, NV. May God bless this couple and their new blessing from above.

The funeral of Bob Kuerth was held on Thursday, August 8. He is survived by Janet Lavallier of Pekin, and Marjorie Zielke of Elgin, IL; and four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Bob was in ill health for the past few years, but enjoyed visiting with ministers and others who visited him. He was married for 52 years to his loving wife, Sis. Ella Broquard Kuerth, who died July 5, 1990. Bob was a quiet and friendly man, and he will be missed by those who knew him.

ILLINOIS, MORTON

**Phyllis Farney
Cheryl Wuthrich**

Donald Hoffman died on July 21 at the Peoria Apostolic Christian Home. May the Lord bless and comfort his son, Randall; his daughter, Lisa Hoffman; his brother, Edward; and his other relatives and friends.

Sis. Naomi Bauman was called Home on August 4 at the age of 94. May our Heavenly Father bless and comfort her sons, Bro. Eldon and

Willis; her daughters, Sis. Dorothy Roeschley, Mabel Yentes, Sis. Bernice Knapp, and Sis. Virginia Streitmatter; her brother, Bro. William Grimm; her 30 grandchildren and 78 great-grandchildren and her other relatives and friends.

School bells have been ringing in the new school year. May we uphold our children and young people in prayer as they face the year with all its challenges. May they turn to God and feel his nearness.

We wish to thank Elder Bro. Wes Knapp (Goodfield, IL), Bros. Steve Baner (Gridley, IL), Dennis Kaufmann (Bloomington, IL) and Mark Steiner (Smithville, OH) for ministering God's Holy Word to us. May our Heavenly Father richly bless them for their labors of love.

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE Joanna Herrmann

"Maintaining our Peace in a Chaotic World" was the topic of a Bible study. We are thankful that Bro. Steve Sauder (Tremont, IL) was willing to be used on our behalf. We were encouraged to pray right, think right, and live right.

"What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder."
Mark 10:9

On July 21, two souls were joined as one. They are Bro. Kevin Herrmann and Sis. Grace Nenadov (Altadena, CA). Bro. Kevin is the son of Bro. Howard and Sis. Mary Ann, and Sis. Grace is the daughter of Bro. Paul and Sis. Marilyn (Altadena, CA).

August 11 was the wedding day for Bro. Ben Herrmann and Sis. Ann Klendworth. Bro. Ben is the son of Bro. Howard and Sis. Mary Ann, and Sis. Ann is the daughter of Jack and Lois Klendworth.

We held our annual Sunday

School picnic July 28. We enjoy this time of fellowship, marking the end of another year. We break for the month of August, and will start again September 1. May we continue to pray for our Sunday School teachers.

How thankful we are for God-fearing parents, who have taught us to love the Lord, and the plan of salvation. We want to pray for two couples, as they again have been blessed with children. Kourtney Rose Stahl was born to Bro. Rod and Sis. Cathy on July 24. She is welcomed home by siblings, Kelsie, Kendall, Kristi, and Kaylie. Also thankful grandparents are Bro. Lyle and Sis. Betty Stahl.

Bro. Jay and Sis. Deanne Knobloch have been blessed with another daughter, Janae Frances. Janae joins big sister, Jaylyn. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Ed and Frances Knobloch and Bro. Richard and Sis. Jeanette Graham.

"Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city."

Revelation 22:14

What a comfort to believe that when a loved one dies, they have gone to be with the Lord. We want to extend our sympathy to Sis. Virginia (Bro. Alfred) Streitmatter at the passing of her mother, Sis. Naomi (the late Bro. Frank) Bauman, of Morton.

We also extend our sympathy to the family of Sis. Marilyn Siebenthal. Sis. Marilyn passed away August 13. Our prayers are with her mother, Sis. Anna; and siblings, Sis. Martha Jane, Kenneth, and Bro. Eugene (Sis. Kay).

"...If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me."

Matthew 6:24

Two dear souls have found grace to seek the Lord in repentance. They are Derek Menold and Luke Rumbold. Derek is the son of Bro. Mike and Sis. Sharon, and Luke is the son of Bro. Ron and Sis. Jackie.

We want to thank all of our visitors, but especially our visiting ministers. Visiting ministers this past month were, Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle (Shioda, Japan), and Bros. Jon Zeller (Morton, IL), Paul Messner (Winthrop, MN), Myron Knobloch (Lester IA), Hartzell Kaisner (Detroit, MI), Wallace Ramsier (Mansfield, OH), Gary Endress (Bradford, IL), and John Grimm (Columbus, OH).

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE**Jana Gastman - Lisa Leman**

The Roanoke congregation has again experienced the goodness of the Lord on July 27 and 28. Four souls gave testimony of the Lord's work in their lives and we were able to witness their baptisms. We welcome Bro. Ben Luginbuhl (Bro. Ray and Sis. Carol), Bro. Brad Sauder (Bro. Bob and Sis. Jan), Bro. Chris Wuthrich (Bro. Bill and Sis. Val) and Sis. Gina Knapp (Bro. Dave and Sis. Carol).

We are thankful for all the visitors who came to worship with us this past month. Due to the Conference in our area, we also had many visiting ministers. Elder Bros. Jesse Beer (Milford, IN), Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO), Ed Schwartz (Bluffton, IN), John Klotzle (Altadena, CA), Ed Aeschleman (Philadelphia, PA) and Jon Kokonovich (Phoenix, AZ), and ministering Bros. Nelson Beer (Milford, IN), Don Braker (Kansas City, MO), Bob Miller and Ed Knecht (Portland, OR), and Arnold Gerst (Taylor, MO) were our messengers of God's Word.

Bro. Dick Moser's pilgrim journey ended on August 9 and we bid him farewell. We will miss Bro. Dick, but our faith is anchored in God's promise of meeting him in Heaven. Our prayers and sympathy are extended to his wife, Sis. Erma; and children, Ronald (Benson), Sis. Jean Hoffman (Roanoke) and Sis. Jan Bates (Jim, Roanoke).

We extend our sympathy to our Sis. Emma Legal in the death of her sister, Sis. Ida Mae Klaus (Eureka, IL). May our Heavenly Father be near to these families as we all continue our journey toward Heaven.

Hospital patients this month were Bro. Ed Blunier, Lloyd Aeschleman (Cynthia), Bro. Larry Aeschleman (Doris), Charlene Donaldson, Joan Burton (Richard), Sis. Clara Braker, Bro. Joe Rassi, and Bro. Rudy Hoffman (Sis. Mary).

We also still have a prayer on our hearts for our dear Amy Schwind. Amy (age 11) is the daughter of Bro. Dave and Sis. Barb Schwind and is being treated for leukemia at the St. Jude Affiliate in Memphis, TN. Bro. Dave and Sis. Barb wish to thank everyone from the bottom of their hearts for the prayers said on behalf of Amy. They have expressed that they have felt a tremendous uplift and support; what they desire most is your continued prayers as they go through more treatment and bone marrow transplant.

Bro. Steve and Sis. Colleen Byrd rejoice in the birth of their son, Jesse Michael. He is welcomed home by Craig and Joshua. Grandparents are Bro. Jim and Sis. Leota Byrd and Sis. Clara Fischer, all of Roanoke. We wish God's blessings upon this family and may they look to Him for guidance and direction in raising their children.

Note of Thanks:

I pray God's richest blessings on each of you who remembered me

while I was in the hospital. A sincere "Thank You" for your love, gifts, and your prayers on my behalf have been so humbling, I can only say "May God be near and bless you all!" To our ministers, for your many visits and your healing prayers for me have truly brought me through and I thank you!

God bless and reward you!

Bro. Ed Blunier

ILLINOIS, TREMONT**Barb Dill - Barb Kaeb**

We rejoice with John and Misty Sauder in the birth of their second daughter, Echo Rain, born July 24. She is welcomed home by her big sister, Willow. Her grandparents are Elder Bro. Charles and Sis. Miriam Sauder and Jim and Shirley Green.

Bro. Bob and Sis. Dorothy Wagenbach welcome their grandson, Lucas Daniel, born July 1. His parents are Steven and Diane Kauzlarich.

On August 4, Bro. Darrel Ehnle and Sis. Brenda Rocke were united in marriage. Their parents are Bro. Nelson and Sis. Kathy Rocke and Bro. Ed and Sis. Verla Ehnle (Bradford, IL). Our love and prayers are with them for many happy years together.

We thank our visiting ministers for their willingness to bring God's Word to us. Those ministers were: Bros. Hartzell Kaisner (Detroit, MI), Gary Endress (Bradford, IL), Ralph Garber (Morton, IL), Glenn Riggerbach (Smithville, OH), John Stoller (Leo, IN), Roger Sauder (Ft. Lauderdale, FL), and Vernon Wettstein (Congerville, IL).

Spending time in the hospital this past month were Bro. Bob Hodel and Sis. Sara (Steve) Garman. Our thoughts and prayers are with them.

Sis. Ida Mae Sauder Klaus was

called Home and her funeral was held August 8. May our Heavenly Father comfort and bless her daughter, Sis. Judy Martin (Peoria), and her son, Bro. Roger Sauder (Ft. Lauderdale, FL).

Our sympathy goes out to Sis. Marilyn Huette in the death of her sister, Erma Steiner, and to Berniece Joos in the death of her brother, Bro. Frank Kyburz.

Note of Thanks:

It is with much appreciation and thanks for the prayers, flowers, cards, food and money given to me during my recent illness. Many thanks to all of you.

Thankfully, Bernice Frank

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON
Sue Ruppert
Denise Romersberger

"...and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world..."

Matthew 28:20

What a consolation this is to know that no matter where we are or what we are doing, God is there. The impact of this struck me when I was with my six-year-old niece out in the middle of a very dark field. No lights were anywhere to be seen and the only sounds heard were that of nature: hoot owls and coyotes on their nightly prow. As we sat in the truck, I made the statement, "I sure would hate to be out here all by myself. Wouldn't you?" In her simple childish way, she said, "You're never all by yourself. Jesus is with you." I was humbled and yet grateful for the words of wisdom from a child.

Once again, it is time for school to start and we hope the young ones will always remember that they are never alone. God keeps His promises. He is always near.

We have such a privilege to know that no matter which one of our churches we go to, we will hear the Word of God in its truth and purity. We would like to thank Bros. Jim Ramseyer (Bay City, MI) and Tom Leman (Denver, CO) for being with us. Bro. Jim also had our monthly Bible Study, the topic being "First Love". It was a good message for all of us to hear.

Sis. Sue Ruppert was hospitalized this month. She is now recovering at home and is most grateful for the many phone calls and visits she received. She requests your continual prayers and thoughtful visits as her recovery is going to take some time.

Little Clayton Leman had the misfortune of falling and breaking his leg while the family was on vacation. He is healing satisfactorily. He is the son of Bro. Herb and Sis. Lori (Wyss) Leman. Our prayers are with the family.

Notes of Thanks:

A special thanks to everyone who so kindly sent cards, gifts, and visits during my stay in the hospital, and while recovering from surgery at home. The love and prayers were deeply felt from the ministers and the entire congregation. May God richly bless you all.

Bro. Harvey Martin

May God bless all of you who shared your kindness, prayers, cards, and gifts while I was in the hospital and since returning home.
Thanks, Sis. Emily Simon

INDIANA, BLUFFTON
Brenda Bertsch - Jaci Gerber

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."

II Corinthians 5:17

We are rejoicing with our new converts and their families. They are: Mindy Sipe (Bro. Kevin and Sis. Andrea), Todd Steffen (John and Etta), Stephanie Elliot, Matt Pfister (Bro. Ted and Sis. Rose), Carla Gerber (Bro. Leon and Sis. Pat), Gwen Gerber (Bro. Keith and Sis. Kay), and Jenny Klopfenstein (Bro. John and Sis. Linda).

Jonathan Ringger and Lisa Smith were united as one on July 27. Their parents are Dave and Sis. Loretta Smith and Bro. Tim and Sis. Marlene Ringger.

July 27 was also the wedding day of Tina Gerber (Mary Ann) and David Gaddini.

On August 11, Sis. Jayla Gerber and Bro. Aaron Taylor were married at Bluffton North.

August 18 was the wedding day of Sis. Jodi Frauhiger (Bro. Steve and Sis. Irene) and Bro. Kent Reinhard (Bro. Ken and Sis. Ann). They were married at Bluffton North, also.

We are grateful to the many ministers who were willing to serve us from the pulpit during their travels. They are: Bros. Bill Dotterer (Phoenix, AZ), Art Ingold (Rittman, OH), William Brake (Sardis, OH), Marvin Dotterer (Forrest, IL), Jon Zeller (Morton, IL), Tim Zimmerman (Lamont-Gridley, KS), Greg Stoller (Forrest, IL), Ron Palito (Akron, OH), Jerry Isch (Philadelphia, PA), and Al Langhofer (Wichita, KS).

In closing, let us remember Bro. Millard Aschliman (Sis. Alice), Sis. Luella Geisel (Bro. Vernon) and Mildred Krill as they have been hospitalized recently.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON NORTH
Kay Steffen - Lori Steffen

We were thankful to have Elder Bro. Ray Sinn (Latty, OH), Bro. Gary Tonner (Bluffton, IN), and Bro. Tom Leman (Denver, CO)

share God's precious Word with us. We certainly need their encouragement to press on toward our heavenly goal.

We were blessed to listen to the testimonies of three dear souls. Todd Brege (Rev. William and Ruth Brege) and Jason and Jeni Habegger (son and daughter of Bro. Sam and Sis. Darlene) testified that life was empty without the Lord and were baptized on July 28. It was strengthening to hear them encourage parents to continue to pray for their children, saying "that's what really makes the difference." Prayer changes things!

Our congregation had the joy of witnessing two couples being united in Holy Matrimony this month. Bro. Aaron Taylor (Dan and Sharon) and Sis. Jaila Gerber (Bro. Neil and Sis. Karen) exchanged their vows on August 11; and Bro. Kent Reinhard (Bro. Ken and Sis. Ann) and Sis. Jodi Frauhiger (Bro. Steve and Sis. Irene) were married on August 18. We wish them God's richest blessings as they begin a new walk of life as one in the Lord.

Bro. Dave and Sis. Cathy Bussell have been blessed with their first grandson. Cole Christopher was born on August 1 to Jason and Stacy Bussell. Keith and Carolyn Griffiths are the maternal grandparents. May God bless this dear family!

Our prayers have been with Sis. Carolyn Meyer (Bro. John) as she has spent time in the hospital. May she feel God's strength and peace in the days ahead.

Our hearts go out to our dear Bro. Bob and Sis. Ann Meyer as they experienced the loss of their home and most of their belongings to a consuming fire. Thankfully, no one was injured in the blaze. They have been able to say that God has been by their sides and may they continue to feel our prayers in the days ahead.

We are thankful for the unity of

our beloved ministering body, who so diligently strive to lead us along the narrow way. The annual Conference was held in Eureka, IL on August 7 - 9. May God direct their decisions for His glory in each of our lives.

We're looking forward to August 17, which is the date of the annual Gateway Woods Auction. May the Lord bless this endeavor as so many work together to help those who are less fortunate.

At this time of year when many of our children return to school, let us all be praying that God will protect them from evil and allow them to share the love of Jesus with all those they come in contact with.

"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."

I Corinthians 15:58

INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE Lily Pelsy

"The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit."

Psalms 34:18

We rejoice that Cyndi Daniels (Joe) has found peace with God and man. She was invited to church by a member and appreciates her faith and church family very much.

Samuel Seth was born August 16 to Bro. Matt and Sis. Tracey Gudeman. May God bless their home as they train their son for the Lord. Thankful grandparents are Elder Bro. Wendell and Sis. Marcella Gudeman and Norm and Sis. Mary Putt.

We extend our sympathies to Stanley and Maxine Boehning for the sudden death of their son, Brian.

May God also comfort Bro. Jim Gudeman (Sis. Lois Ann) in the loss of his sister, Janet Tadin, of Chicago.

Bro. Jeff and Sis. Wendy Gutwein are thankful for another successful surgery for their son, Josiah.

Sis. Edith Streitmatter has now made her home at Parkview Haven. With her cheerful countenance and loving heart we know she will glorify her Lord.

We thank Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott, IN) for so willingly coming to share the Memorandum with us. May God richly bless him.

We appreciate all the labors of love of our Elders. May we be good hearers and doers of the Word as we listen to the Conference tapes.

INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS Missy Baumgartner Lauretta Schafer

July 20-21 was a very special weekend for us as Bro. Greg Stieglitz was put into the ministry. Bro. Greg's and Sis. Lisa's parents are Bro. Oliver and Sis. Emma Jean Stieglitz and Lee and Marianna Hege, all from the Leo area. Present for this blessed occasion were Elder Bros. Alfred Bahler (Sis. Frances, Wolcott, IN) and Wendell Gudeman (Sis. Marcella, Francesville, IN), and Bro. Allen Stoller (Sis. Susan, Bluffton, IN). Our sincere prayers are with Bro. Greg as he responds to the Holy Spirit's prompting in guiding our thoughts and minds to feed on heavenly manna.

Other visiting ministers this month were Bros. Steve Gutwein (Sis. Linda, Francesville, IN), Ken Hoerr (Sis. Darlene, Peoria, IL), Mike Rieker (Sis. Carol, Peoria, IL) and Erik Givens (Sis. Debbie, Princeville, IL). We are grateful for their words of encouragement and challenges.

As many teachers in the world are

shaping and molding our children from kindergarten to graduate school, may we hold both teachers and students up in sincere prayer to God. And may the students in Sunday School be attentive to the seeds planted so they can be aware in the secular schools of the enemy of God, whether it is in the classroom, on the playground, in extra-curricular activities, or on the bus. The most important goal on earth is Heaven after death.

Nathan Freed (Bro. Tom and Sis. Kathy) has made known his intent to follow the path of Christ and become a Child of God. Pray for all "Babes in Christ" that they learn precept upon precept, line upon line. Take the time to encourage one another in Christ.

We welcome Bro. Philip Stoller from Bloomington, IL, as he plans to make Indianapolis his church home while he attends school in Cincinnati, OH.

INDIANA, LACROSSE Anna Marie Stoller

Karen Heiniger became the bride of Don Pickard on July 20. Karen and her children, Jacob and Paula, will be missed in our congregation as they relocate in Tennessee, but our prayers and love for them will not diminish.

Sis. Kathy Heinold's engagement to Bro. Travis Knobloch was made known. Our hearts rejoice to learn how God has directed the lives of these dear souls. Bro. Gene and Sis. Evie Heinold and Bro. Roger and Sis. Janet Knobloch (Lester, IA) are the thankful parents.

Sis. Lea Frank and Sis. Jackie Feller suffered broken bones from falls. Lydia Heiniger has again been admitted to the hospital due to her ongoing illness.

Bro. Don Nuest and Bro. Owen Gudeman will be replacing Bro.

Roger Levy and Bro. Steve Stoller as Sunday School teachers. Sis. Luann Troxel will replace Sis. Anna Marie Stoller. May God continue to bless His servants with His Spirit as they pass the message of salvation on to another generation.

A young man recently gave testimony of his conversion experience. When he was asked what grace means to him, he replied, "Grace is to a Christian like air is to humans." God deserves our praise and thanksgiving continually for His saving grace.

INDIANA, LEO Ethelyn Schlatter

Sis. Dorothy Norr is "Safe in the Arms of Jesus", called into her rest on July 26, to join her husband, Bro. Robert, and daughter, Sis. Roberta Klopfenstein. Our sympathy is extended to her family, two sons, David and Ken; a son-in-law, Bro. Dennis Klopfenstein; six grandchildren and a great-grandchild. Also surviving are four sisters and two brothers. Sis. Dorothy was an inspiration to the nursing staff that cared for her at The Cedars Retirement Home. Her journey here was a life of simplicity, dedication and commitment to her God and family. After her family was grown, she acquired a nursing degree, but this service was shortened by a stroke. This stroke did not stop her ministry, the gift God gave her to communicate to others through letters, cards and loving thoughtfulness.

We express our sympathy to Sis. Lillian Pfister whose brother, Melvin Blume, of Sequim, WA departed this life on July 26. Their mother died when they were young, and Melvin was a foster child in the home of Bro. Will and Sis. Saloma Fiechter. Our prayers are with you and your family, Sis. Lillian. Melvin was also survived by eight sons.

We welcome Sis. Terri Gramm into our church family. She has replaced Sis. Stephany Moser in the Schrock home at Gateway Woods. Sis. Stephany left August 6 to teach English for one year at the Yangzhou University in China. Her desire is to also minister to anyone in need of the Saviour. Our prayers are upholding her.

Bro. John and Sis. Peggy Jackson are leaving Gateway Woods and Leo, returning to Bay City, MI. We will truly miss them. May the Lord bless you in this transition. They are replaced by Bro. Arlo and Sis. Lisa Kipfer from Bluffton, IN. We welcome you and pray for the Lord's grace in this ministry.

We are grateful and thankful for the ministry of visiting ministers this month. Bro. Mark Gerber (Bluffton, IN) was with us on August 4; Elder Bro. Bud Klopfenstein and his wife, Sis. Billie (Ft. Lauderdale, FL), visited August 11. The Gateway Woods auction on August 17 brought many visitors, including Bros. Wally Ramsier (Mansfield, OH) and Bill Waibel (Bay City, MI) who ministered on Sunday, August 18.

"Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God; But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth: And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the

glory of God the Father.”

Philippians 2:5-11

Is not this Holy Simplicity? Not to put ourself down, for Christ's mind is in us, but in humble obedience die to self for Jesus' sake. When we are committed to God and have the Holy Spirit dwelling in us, we should not belittle or degrade our labors as nothing. I've often thought, when our brothers pray, "Lord, grow not weary of our coming to Thee", He does not tire of our coming to Him.

INDIANA, MILFORD

Linda Beer - Renee Beer

Once again our congregation has enjoyed visitors from around the world who have spent a Sunday with us. We want to thank Bros. Bob Meyer, Jr. (Sis. Ann, Bluffton North, IN), Ron Kipfer (Sis. Linda, Bluffton, IN), Bill Dotterer (Sis. Sharon, Phoenix, AZ), Floyd Graves, Jr. (Sis. Linda, Croghan-Naumburg, NY) and Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle (Sis. Lois, Shioda, Japan) for ministering God's Holy Word to us.

We want to welcome Bro. John, Sis. Stephanie and their two daughters, Victoria and Amber Schlatter, as they now worship with us. We enjoy having them part of our congregation.

Our prayers are with those of our congregation who have experienced surgery or illness. Bro. John Leman, Sr., Sis. Kathryn Emch, and Bro. Maurice Beer spent time in the hospital.

We are so thankful for the safe arrival of two baby boys in our congregation this month. First-time parents, Tom and Jody Haab, are excited for their little boy, Cody Miles. Cody's grandparents are Bro. Don and Sis. Martha Haab and Keith and Carol Heffelfinger.

Bro. Sam and Sis. Rachel Beer,

along with Brooke, Betsy and Abbey, are thankful that Colin Bryce was added to their family. Elder Bro. Jesse and Sis. Shirley Beer, and Gary and Rosetta Ringger from Bluffton are grateful grandparents.

Many of our congregation have been spending long hours working at the Hephzibah House, a home for troubled young girls. World Relief has provided funds to build a storage building.

We think of all the students starting another school year. We pray the Lord will give them guidance and protection throughout another year.

We have started listening to the Annual Conference tapes and appreciate the many hours our Elders continue to labor in the Lord's vineyard.

INDIANA, REMINGTON

Patti Bahler

Our church family here in Remington has experienced many changes this month. Bro. Harold and Sis. Lorrene Schieler have moved away from our community into the Parkview Haven apartments in Francesville, IN. Although we miss them in our community, we are thankful they still plan to worship with us. Bro. Albert and Sis. Amelia Schini have also moved to Francesville, IN and live in a duplex next to Parkview Haven. We hope they come back to visit often, but they do plan to attend the Francesville church. We are grateful for the faithfulness and the dedication of our older brothers and sisters.

Our prayers are also with Matt Getz and Heidi Vaughan as they have announced their engagement and they begin to make wedding plans. Parents of the engaged couple are Bro. Eldon and Sis. Charlene Getz and Joe and Betty Vaughan, both from our congregation. We

wish Matt and Heidi the Lord's blessings and guidance in their lives together.

Many of us were witnesses as John Ward and Rochelle Clark exchanged wedding vows at the Remington Fellowship Hall on August 3. We wish them the Lord's guidance as they leave our community and establish their home in Indianapolis where they both will attend college. Parents of the couple are Bro. Ron and Sis. Brenda Clark from Remington and John and Rosa Ward from Wolcott.

The Lord has again blessed our church with visiting ministers to share God's Holy Word with us. Special thanks to Bro. Duane Reutter (Rockville, CT) and Bro. Jim Kaeb (Bern, KS) for ministering to us.

INDIANA, SOUTH BEND

Carolyn Frank - Gigi Schafer

The blessings of our Lord and Saviour were again evidenced in the visits of ministering Bro. Sam Schlatter (Junction, OH) on July 21; Bro. Ron Heiniger (Bloomington, IL) on August 4; and Elder Bro. Jesse Beer (Milford, IN) on August 11. In truth and sincerity, stirring exhortations were delivered through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Our appreciation is extended to the Bro. Bob Beebe family for their hospitality in opening up their home for our annual Sunday School picnic. A precious evening of fellowship was enjoyed.

It was also an occasion where Mark Beebe (Bro. Bob and Sis. Sue) was remembered as he leaves for a six month architectural internship in the Colorado Springs, CO area. The words of the parting hymn, "Where He Leads I'll Follow" best express our thoughts and prayers as he pursues this opportunity.

We are grateful that Heather

Mangold (Mike and Sis. Renee) was spared serious injury in a recent car accident, and are again reminded of God's protection in our lives.

Bro. Wayne Lehman returned home from a week of construction work in Juarez, Mexico. We thank God for His direction in this endeavor.

We offer our sincere prayers for God's guidance to Clay Frank (Bro. Tom and Sis. Carolyn) and Wendy Wilson (Dale and Kathy Wilson, Franklin, PA) who are engaged to be married.

INDIANA, VALPARAISO

Ken Susdorf - Cheryl Bucher

Believing in Jesus Christ doesn't change society around us, but it's sure nice as we get ready to send our children back to school, knowing that God is in control and we can discuss our concerns with Him. It is our prayer that the Lord will watch over them and they too will be ready when that great day comes!

A couple of Sundays ago, we were all invited to Bro. Andy and Sis. Diane Moser's house for a picnic. It was Bro. Braden's birthday and this was how he wanted to celebrate his 21st birthday—to feel the fellowship of the church. What a blessed example this is for all of us. Thanks, Bro. Braden, and God bless you.

We thank Bro. Todd Feller (LaCrosse, IN) for sharing God's Word with us. Bro. Todd is always so willing to come when we need someone to come and let God use him. We love him much and just know that God will continue to bless.

We continue to pray for Bro. Wilis (Sis. Eunice) Feller, and dear friend, Judy (Dave) Kotzer, as they are trying to shake off illnesses. We are looking very much forward for them to join us in worship again.

Until next time (Lord willing), keep up the good fight of faith for

our beloved Saviour. We love you all.

INDIANA, WOLCOTT

Jody Bahler - Sherice Bahler

"For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

Matthew 18:20

This past month, our church hosted an Invite-a-Couple weekend. There were many visitors among us, including ministering Bros. Nile Bucher (Bluffton North, IN) and Tom Troxel (LaCrosse, IN). We are thankful to each one that came and helped to make the weekend a blessing.

The angels in Heaven are rejoicing once again with the repentant heart of Amy Schieler (Bro. Duane and Sis. Suzanne). We pray that God will grant her the much needed grace to overcome daily Satan's temptations.

Along with that, we are thankful for those souls that have sought our God's ways and now have an overwhelming peace with God and man. Those souls are: Ed Widmer (Sis. Gladys), Bethany Gerber (Bro. Bob and Sis. Luann), Rachel Schieler (Bro. Darl and Sis. Cindy), Kent Bahler (Steve and Sis. Elaine) and Nick Waibel (Bro. Gerry and Sis. Marcia). May God sustain this peace within their hearts throughout the hard times in life. We look forward to hearing the testimonies of these individuals in the near future.

Bro. Kip and Sis. Donita Edelman welcome a new little girl into their family. Valerie Jean arrived on July 19. Big sisters, Rebecca and Samantha, are excited to have a new playmate.

Also, Sarah Kristine has arrived in the home of Bro. Jeff and Sis. Heidi Bahler. Abigail, Emily and Hannah are thrilled with their little

sister. May God richly bless these two families as they strive to raise their children in the fear and admonition of the Lord.

Bro. Duane Reutter (Rockville, CT) was with us for our Wednesday evening service on July 31. May God bless him for making the effort to come and be with us as he and his family were traveling through our area.

We were sorry to hear of the passing of Bro. Frank Kyburz, but have the faith to believe that his journey has just begun. Bro. Frank has been living in Morton for the past number of years. Our prayers and sympathy are extended to his brother, Urban (Rockford, IL), and his three sisters, Perceda Scharer (Salem, OR), Berniece Joos (Morton, IL) and Wilma McVay (Lafayette, IN).

IOWA, BURLINGTON

Monica Eisenmann

Edith Massner

Burlington and Oakville hosted a Ft. Sam Soldiers' Reunion. We were grateful for all our visitors, especially Bro. Nelson Beer (Milford, IN). Bros. Kent Heimer (Taylor, MO), John Steiner, Jon Schmidgall, and Elder Bro. Ed Lanz (all from Oakville, IA) also visited. May God bless them for being of service to us.

We extend a special thanks to the Eureka congregation for hosting our church Conference this year. We pray God's blessings to all who helped provide and especially to all our dear Elders who continue to direct the church.

Bros. Brian Knapp, Jody Eberhardt and Lloyd Massner have spent some time in the hospital. Bro. Brian will need more treatments; Bro. Jody is home, doing fairly well; and Bro. Lloyd is recovering from surgery and complications. They are grateful for all the kind remem-

branches and especially for everyone's prayers.

IOWA, ELGIN
Gloria Frieden

"The faith is still alive." "Brethren are continuing to speak out the warnings." "The Spirit of God has directed the church." These are comments made by a brother who attended the recent Brotherhood Conference in Eureka. How encouraging to hear these words. There is so much sin and discord in the world today; how it must sadden the Father's heart. Out in the world, it seems that people really don't hardly know anymore what is right and what is wrong. But we are a very blessed people—our shepherds and ministers continue to sound forth the warnings and teachings from God's Word. We are still being taught what is right and wrong and if we seek God's grace, He is going to guide us safely through this wicked world to those heavenly mansions.

This past month we were blessed with two visiting ministers: Bros. Dean Steffen (Belvidere, IL) and Andy Virkler (Croghan-Naumburg, NY). Across the land our beloved ministers are preaching the same truths from God's Word. God bless them all!

At our annual election, the following were given new duties. We wish them much grace and God's blessings as they willingly serve Him in their assigned areas: Bro. Lon Butikofer (Sis. Sandy), Bible Class teacher; Sis. Janet Schupbach (Bro. John), Intermediate Class teacher; Bro. Scott Fehr (Sis. Leona), Usher and Trustee; and Bro. Charles Schneider (Sis. Sue), car parking.

Our annual Sunday School picnic was again enjoyed by the entire church. What precious memories

when young and old can spend time together in Christian fellowship.

Notice:

A ladies white sweater with black trim was left here last April, the weekend of the baptisms of Sisters Melisa Butikofer and Jill Schupbach. If this is yours, please contact Gloria Frieden, 801 Main, Elgin, IA 52141 or (319) 426-5214.

IOWA, GARDEN GROVE
Laura Funk

We are thankful for the brothers who come and share God's Word with us. Visiting ministers this month included Bros. Roger Aberle (Sabetha, KS) and Charles Marti (Lamar, MO) and Elder Bro. Leroy Messner (Winthrop, MN).

Summer vacations will be ending soon and school resuming. We pray for the Lord's guidance for each student every step of the way.

We thank the Eureka congregation for hosting the Conference. Where two or three are gathered, the Lord will be there. Think of the power of the Lord where 1,300 brethren are gathered and praying for the Lord's presence. We look forward to listening to the Conference tapes.

A theme idea for this month was Godly sorrow. I thought about Godly sorrow and wondered all day long what I could write about Godly sorrow. My thoughts kept turning to the premature birth of our son and his death, which was 2 1/2 years ago. At the time, we could see no blessing or Godly sorrow in this event. We could only think of ourselves and how sad and hurt we were. As 2 1/2 years have passed, we are thankful God took our son. He would have been severely mentally and physically handicapped. Now we can rejoice we have a son in Heaven. God was so merciful; He

chose to take our son's life and not have him suffer on earth. Now we can see the blessing—we already have a son in Heaven with Jesus. Another reason to strive daily to reach that Heavenly Home.

IOWA, IOWA CITY
Janette Schulz

Greetings to all! We have felt the prayers and support of our loved ones across the land as we have faced changes and challenges as a church and as individuals. With appreciation for past years of service and with love and prayers for God's blessings, we bade farewell to our ministering Bro. Trent Meiss, his wife, Sis. Lucy, and their daughter, Amelia, as they followed God's direction in moving to the Eureka area. We will miss them dearly, but know God will provide for us as well as for them if we all place our trust in Him.

We thank the visitors who knowingly or unknowingly supported our congregation through these first few weeks of adjustment, including ministering Bros. John Rowell (Burlington, IA), Loren Schrenk (St. Louis, MO), David Eisenmann (Sarasota, FL), and Fred Knapp (Congerville, IL). We thank in advance those ministers who will now be on a rotating schedule to assist our Bro. Joe Gerst with the ministry. We know all of our ministers have busy schedules and are already serving many small churches. We hope the addition of Iowa City to your list will not overburden you, but that God may bless you and your families for the time and effort spent in serving our needs as well as those of your home congregation.

Another "challenge" has brought the blessing of visitors to our congregation. My brother-in-law, Bro. Brian Knapp (Sis. Lorna, Burlington, IA), was recently diag-

nosed with acute leukemia and has been hospitalized for chemotherapy at University Hospitals in Iowa City. God has been merciful, and through the prayers of many loved ones and God's blessings on the efforts of the medical personnel, he is now in remission. Although we do not know what lies ahead for him and his family, we appreciate all of the support and prayers that have brought him this far, and covet your prayers for the days ahead. We entrust him to the Great Physician, who has the power to heal if it is for our eternal benefit.

(While many other brethren and friends from our area churches are and have been patients in Iowa City as well, I do not usually mention them, partially in fear of leaving out someone of whom I was not aware, and partially not knowing if they would wish to be mentioned. We nonetheless offer our prayers for them as well and hope they can feel our willingness to help them in any way we can.)

Our congratulations and prayers are with Sis. Wendy Eland (Bro. Brad and Sis. Joyce) who has accepted a teaching position in Grinnell, IA. We are thankful she will be able to assemble with us and wish her much patience and wisdom in teaching the students entrusted to her.

IOWA, LESTER
Cindy Leuthold - Sue Warner

Now it is accomplished!
With heart and with mind
To Thee, my dear Saviour,
I now am resigned!
I'll ever be faithful in life and in
death,
Abiding in Jesus unto my last
breath.
Zion's Harp #209

We were uplifted as we heard the

testimony and witnessed the baptism of our two new sisters in faith, Sis. Sara Metzger (Bro. Tom and Sis. Debra) and Sis. Heather Metzger (Bro. Harvey and Sis. Mary Metzger). It is our prayer that we all will help one another to remain faithful until our last breath.

We have several families who are rejoicing over the miracle of a new baby. On July 25, Kinzi LaRae was born to Bro. John and Sis. Tricia Blomgren. Grandparents are Bro. Roger and Sis. Janet Knoblock and Harry and Bernice Blomgren.

Bro. Brad and Sis. Trinda Meyer were blessed with a son, Reagen Bradley, on July 29. Grandparents are Bro. Robert and Sis. Linda Kuenzi (Silverton, OR) and Bro. Raymond and Sis. Twyla Meyer.

Neil Ernst Metzger was also born on July 23. He is lovingly welcomed by Bro. Rodney and Sis. Polly Metzger, Emma, Vance, and Eric, as well as grandparents, Lou and Tina Moser and Bro. Ernst and Sis. Ella Metzger.

On August 1, Keegan Carl was born to thankful parents, Bro. Lance and Sis. Kristi Knobloch. Grandparents are Bro. Larry and Sis. Shirley Ifft (Forrest, IL) and Bro. Ezra and Sis. Marie Knobloch. May we all strive to be an example to our children — the future church.

We are thankful for our freedom to worship and for our ministers who share with us the Word of Life. Visiting ministers were: Elder Bros. Wayne Fehr (West Bend, IA) and Ed Aeschleman (Philadelphia, PA), and Bros. Virgil Metzger (Chicago, IL), Galen Rokey (Bern, KS), Dan Stoller (Remington, IN), Kevin Banwart (West Bend, IA) and Paul Gasser (Akron, OH). We pray that God will bless them.

We rejoice with Jeff Leuthold (Bro. Charles and Sis. Vicki) who has heeded the call to repentance.

Believing it is the Lord's will, the

engagement of Bro. Travis Knoblock (Bro. Roger and Sis. Janet) and Sis. Kathy Heinold (Bro. Gene and Sis. Evie, LaCrosse, IN) was made known. We pray their love and faith will continue to grow.

We pray for God's healing hand on surgical patients, Bro. George Meyer (Sis. Charlyn), Glen Meyer (Bro. George and Sis. Charlyn), Bro. Wilhelm Wulf (Sis. Leona), Bro. Denis Meyer (Sis. Jill), and Bro. Verlyn Kellenberger.

We were glad to hear that Lou Moser (Tina) was finished with rehabilitation and able to go home. We were especially thankful to have him back in our midst on Sunday. May God give strength to those who suffer bodily afflictions and to those who care for them.

We extend sympathy to Sis. Vicki Knobloch (Gilbert) in the loss of her grandson, Neil Birkeland.

IOWA, OAKVILLE
Melody Steiner
Debbie Wagenbach

The Ft. Sam Reunion was held in Oakville the first weekend in August. It was a joy to have so many visitors, including ministering Bros. Nelson Beer (Milford, IN), Dave Eisenmann (North Ft. Myers, FL), Arnie Gerst (Taylor, MO), Max Reimschisel (Wichita, KS) and Glenn Riggensbach (Smithville, OH). May God bless them for their willingness to be used in His service.

Bro. Dean Messner (Winthrop, MN) spent a Sunday with us recently. May God bless him and his family.

IOWA, PULASKI
Lisa Knecht

A little nose that crinkles,
Tiny ears that hear,
"I love you so very much,
My precious little dear."

I love it when you go to sleep
Lying on my heart;
A sign that you are trusting me,
Even from the start.

Eugene and Lana Joos are the thankful parents of daughter, Megan Alexis, born August 12. Her brother, Lincoln, and grandparents, Bro. Ron and Sis. Chris Joos and Philip and Cathy Garrett, along with our congregation rejoice with them.

Our Adult Sunday School class, as well as our entire congregation, wishes to sincerely thank Bro. Wayne Grimm (Sis. Rose, West Bend, IA) and Elder Bro. Joe Braker (Sis. Shirley, Morton, IL) for sharing their life's experiences and God's Living Word with us all.

It was very encouraging to see the enthusiasm of our precious children during the week of Vacation Bible School. We pray for each dear heart that their love for the Lord would only grow stronger.

Our Sunday School classes have resumed and we pray for Godly wisdom for each dear brother and sister who have the responsibility of teaching our children.

We are thankful our hospitalized patients, Eric Teubel (son of Carolyn and the late Bro. Dennis) and Bro. Kenny Wuthrich (Sis. Lora), are recovering well at this time.

IOWA, WEST BEND

Eunice Fehr - Lela Banwart

God has surely blessed us, as we had the privilege to welcome two new sisters into the faith. Sis. Kris Banwart (Steve) and Sis. Elizabeth Zaugg (Bro. Pat and Sis. Julie) gave their testimonies on Saturday, August 3, and were baptized on Sunday. Elder Bro. Art Nohl (Morris, MN) was here to assist our Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr and Bro. Wayne

Grimm for this blessed occasion. Also present were Bros. Andy Virkler (Croghan-Naumburg, NY), Gary Brown (Forrest, IL) and Jim Knobloch (Winthrop, MN). Other ministers visiting the past month were Bros. Lloyd Kraft and Bill Emch (Lamont-Gridley, KS), Kent Mogler (Minneapolis, MN), Roy Koehl (Morris, MN), and Trent Meiss (Iowa City, IA).

Sis. Mary Gerber (Bro. Manuel) has spent some time in the hospital for various tests and we are thankful that she is home and doing better. May she feel God's healing power.

Our sympathy is extended to Bro. Dwain and Sis. Lucille Schmidt and their family as they traveled to Morris, MN to attend the funeral of Sis. Lucille's brother-in-law, Bro. Ernest Koehl. Within a week, the death angel paid their family circle another visit and took home Sis. Florence Banwart. Survivors include her brothers, Glenn Banwart (Albuquerque, NM), Bro. Floyd Banwart (Phoenix, AZ), Bro. Joel Banwart (Eureka, IL); and sisters, Sis. Gladys Koehl (Morris, MN), Sis. Doris Banwart (Peoria, IL), Sis. Lucille Schmidt (West Bend), Sis. Mary Jo Schmidgall (Phoenix, AZ), Sis. Mabel Weber (Peoria, IL), Lydia Jean Payne (Pulaski, IA), and Sis. Joyce Banwart (Village of Golf, FL). May this dear family feel God's comforting hand and nearness in the many days ahead as they experience the empty spots in their family circle. The family appreciates all the kind deeds, thoughts and prayers of others during this time.

Bro. Cory and Sis. Jennifer Fehr welcome Jack Dean into their home. Big sister, Emma, is excited to have a new little brother. Grandparents are Gary and Pat Alberts (Ames, IA) and Bro. Dan and Sis. Eunice Fehr.

Bro. Byron and Sis. Anita Fehr are also happy to have a little boy

join their family along with Colleen and Deanna. Happy grandparents to Evan Byron are Eugene and Sis. Shirley Nester (Lester, IA) and Elder Bro. Wayne and Sis. Kathy Fehr. We wish both of these couples God's direction in raising their little families.

Best wishes to Mandy Banwart (Mike and Marilyn) and Mike Poepe (Kenneth and Ruth of Emmetsburg, IA), as they took their marriage vows on August 10. We pray that God will bless them and that they may seek His will and guidance in their lives.

Our Sunday School election was held recently. Our thanks to those who have fulfilled these duties, namely Sisters Eula Mogler, Charlotte Fehr and Lonnie Fehr; Bros. Dennis Fehr and David Bruellman. Those beginning new terms are Sisters Polly Zaugg and Kathy Metzger and Bros. David Gerber and Mike Wirtz. We pray for God's grace and blessings on those who have served and those whose terms are beginning.

As the summer quickly flies by, we see the school children and college students preparing for studies again. We pray for each student, realizing that Satan can entice them so very easily. It is our earnest prayer that God will stand mightily by their side and they will never forget the most important Book that they need to study—the Bible!

JAPAN, TOKYO

Andrew and Jana Klaus

We had our annual church fellowship outing with Shioda and Tamahata churches on August 19-20 in the mountains of Yamanashi. This year the topic was "Being a living example for Christ." We were made to think of how others influenced us with their examples and of our responsibility to be a living example.

It was a time of joyful fellowship, as well as a time to get away from the Tokyo heat.

Two sisters were planning to attend but could not. Sis. Kiyoko Hirose (Shioda) was bit by a dog on August 17, and besides receiving many stitches, lost all feeling in her hand. We pray for her quick healing and that there is no lasting damage to her hand. Sis. Haruyo Onoda's mother has recently suffered a broken bone and has undergone surgery. We pray she recovers soon.

We close with the following note from the Inoue's:

To our loved ones in the U.S. and Japan,

Humbly, we thank you for the kind expression shown on our recent 25th wedding anniversary. May God's richest blessings be yours.

Bro. Akito and Sis. Marie Inoue

KANSAS, BERN
Lori Baumgartner
Holly Meyer

The Sunday School is our delight.
We love it more and more;
'Tis here we learn to do the right
And live forever more.

Hymns of Zion #73

As we begin a new Sunday School year, we praise God for providing willing teachers to help teach our youth to "do the right and live forever more". Special thanks go to Bros. Mike Strahm and John Baumgartner, and Sis. Kathy Strahm, as they have finished their terms. Our prayers are with Bros. Mike Rokey and Matthew Edelman, and Sis. Jill Hartter, as they begin their new terms.

Our annual Sunday School picnic was held at Sycamore Springs on Tuesday, July 23. It was a beautiful evening and a good-sized crowd enjoyed the food, fellowship and fun.

We have been the beneficiaries of several family reunions this month and have sure enjoyed the added fellowship and visiting ministers. Serving from the pulpit were Elder Bro. Chuck Sauder (Tremont, IL), and Bros. Ed Fritz (Washington, IL) and Ben Wysong (Sabetha, KS). Bro. Roger Aberle (Sabetha, KS) ministered to our Bible Classes. We thank these brothers and their families for the effort put forth.

This is the time of the year when my children and I enjoy wagon or stroller rides in the evening while waiting for Dad to get home. It is amazing how simple life can be through the eyes of a child. As we go down our country road, they find such pleasure in picking a small flower, feeding grass to the nearby horses, making pretend fishing poles out of foxtail, etc. It is such a wonderful time to talk, sing, and thank God for the simple things in life. May we all strive for more holy simplicity in our busy day-to-day lives.

"For our rejoicing is this, the testimony of our conscience, that in simplicity and godly sincerity, not with fleshly wisdom, by the grace of God, we have had our conversation in the world, and more abundantly to you-ward."

II Corinthians 1:12

KANSAS, FORT SCOTT
Tammy Sinn

"Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted."

Matthew 5:4

Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to Sis. Aleta Banwart (Bro. Don) as her father, Bro. Huber Farney (Kiowa, KS), was called to his Heavenly Home. Though earthly partings often bring great sadness, we

have the promise of divine comfort.

We wish to thank the Eureka congregation for their labors of love during the Brotherhood Conference, of which some from our congregation were benefactors.

KANSAS, KIOWA
Janice Bahr - Darcy Kisling

To me is given boundless mercy,
A gift that I did not deserve;
Such wondrous love, It is so
marvelous,
That such for me should be
reserved.
But since I know, I will rejoice,
And praise Thy mercy with my
voice,
And praise Thy mercy with my
voice.

No man shall take this rich
possession,
It is my boast and my delight;
My faith in "mercy" finds
expression,
In prayer I praise its wondrous
might.
On this compassion I endure
Unto my death in hope secure,
Unto my death in hope secure.
Zion's Harp #220

This hymn was given often by our dear Bro. Huber Farney who fell asleep in the arms of his Saviour this past month at the age of 76 years, 6 months, and 21 days. As I reflect on the words, I can't help but think of his love for music and of the many years he was our song leader, and did praise God's mercy with his voice in our song worship. It is our fervent prayer that God will bless and comfort his family, and all of us in this small church, for his place is empty and he will be greatly missed.

Our hospital patients this month were Sis. Mildred Farney, Sis. Edna Reed, Sis. Sophia Kircher, and Sis. Jenny Stewart. We are thankful that they are all home now, and that when Sis. Jenny came home, a small

bundle of God's love came home with her in the form of Carter Jacob Stewart. Bro. Kelly Stewart, Stacy and Joshua welcomed him home. May God richly bless their home and let His love abound therein.

Bro. Richard and Sis. Florence Guthrie celebrated their 60th anniversary this past month and many of their children and grandchildren were here to share in this very special occasion. In a world where divorce is rampant, it is so wonderful to see that marriage CAN last a lifetime if we let God be our Guide and the center of our home.

We would like to thank Bro. Max Reimschisel (Wichita, KS) for lending himself to share God's Word with us one Sunday this past month. We truly appreciate his efforts.

As our children head back to school, let's not forget to hold them up on wings of prayer, for the temptations are so great out there, and they need the best protection we can give them, the guidance of our Lord and Saviour.

KANSAS, LAMONT-GRIDLEY Julie Bahr

The children have once again returned to their respective areas of learning. Each one needs our undivided love and encouragement to face what is put before them. Let's march onward together, holding them up to the Father for His protection and strength.

Tanner Edwin is the new baby grandson of Bro. Eldon and Sis. Dorene Metzger, born August 18 to Bro. Shawn and Sis. Sandy Metzger. The lucky big brother is Hunter, age 2 1/2. Maternal grandparents are Bro. Ed and Sis. Marilyn Lanz of Philadelphia.

We need to be ever mindful of our dear loved ones who have recently acquired physical needs. Dear Sisters, Lorene Anliker (Bro. Glen) and

Dorene Metzger (Bro. Eldon), have both required diagnostic procedures. Kendon Bahr (Bro. Brian and Sis. Julie) required corrective surgery. Bro. Floyd Isch (Sis. Mary) had been hospitalized for a time, that resulted in the need for some extended health care in the Madison Care Home. Our love, concern and prayers are with these dear ones during their time of need.

We wish to express our congratulations to Cheri Frieden (Bro. Jeff and Sis. Debbie) and Tim Adams, who were united in marriage on July 27. We ask that God will abide in their home and in each of their hearts, drawing them closer to Himself and to each other.

KANSAS, SABETHA Mary Kay Wenger

In days of youth seek ye the Lord,
His love and truth with one
accord,
Go offer Him thy youthful days
And walk within the Savior's ways.
Hymns of Zion #135

We rejoice with Erik Hertzell (Bro. Gerry and Sis. Ellen) who is repenting and pray that many more will realize that the only important thing in this life is to be prepared for eternity.

Greetings to our faithful brethren,
Heart and voice we do employ;
Wishing them the Father's
nearness,
Tho' their lot be woe or joy,
There's a blessing in the greeting,
Given in the Savior's name.
Hymns of Zion #7

Our congregation welcomes Bro. Roy and Sis. Doris Bahr from Fort Scott, KS and hope they soon feel "at home" with us.

O how I love Thy holy law!
'Tis daily my delight;

And thence my meditations draw
Divine advice by night.

Hymns of Zion #119

We welcomed the following ministers: Elder Bros. Mark Bahr (Detroit, MI), Eugene Marti (Kansas City, MO) and Art Nohl (Morris, MN), and Bros. Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville, IL), Myron Knobloch (Lester, IA), Beirne Messner and Dale Zeltwanger (Morris, MN) and Darrel Stoller (Bern, KS). We are thankful for the Word provided through the Holy Spirit. May we be appreciative recipients and do what is only our reasonable service.

There is beauty all around,
When there's love at home;
There is joy in ev'ry sound,
When there's love at home.
Peace and plenty here abide,
Smiling sweet on ev'ry side,
Time doth softly, sweetly glide,
When there's love at home.
Hymns of Zion #64

July 29 was the wedding day of Sis. Christy Grimm (Bro. Doug and Sis. Jeryl) and Bro. Adam Zeltwanger (Bro. Dale and Sis. Rachel, Morris, MN). We will miss Sis. Christy, but realize our loss will be a gain for the Morris church.

Bro. Henry and Sis. Loree Plattner observed their 50th anniversary while their family was home. May they have many more fruitful years together.

Jesus knows thy sorrow,
Knows thine ev'ry care;
Knows thy deep contrition,
Hears thy feeblest pray'rs;
Do not fear to trust Him,
Tell Him all thy grief;
Cast on Him thy burden,
He will bring relief.

Hymns of Zion #74

Our sincere sympathy to the family of Gary Strähm who passed away in Hawthorne, CA. He is survived by

his mother, Sis. Helen; a sister, Velma Albin; and a brother, Bro. Don Strahm, of our congregation.

KANSAS, WICHITA

Emma Miller

Ruth Long underwent major surgery in late July and is recuperating at home. Our prayers are of thanksgiving that she can be surrounded by loving, helping family members. We hope to see her in church soon with her husband, Jonathon, and four children, Matthew, Candice, Stephanie, and Grant.

July 27 was the wedding date for Nathan Carnahan (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Pauline) and Rhiannon Davis. May God grant them guidance in this important undertaking.

Sis. Jodi Reimschisel has returned from spending three weeks in Ixlan, Mexico with Bro. Marshall and Sis. Jan Heinold. She has exhorted us to pray for the undertaking there. Sis. Jodi has again taken up residence in the Kansas City area where she is continuing her studies at the K U Medical Center.

Our other college students are Bro. Derek Funk and his sister, Glenna Funk, who are both enrolled at K State in Manhattan. We appreciate their faithfulness in coming home on weekends to worship with us.

We listened to the first set of tapes from the Brotherhood Conference on Wednesday, August 14. It is our intention to devote the following Wednesday evenings to the rest of the tapes until we have heard them all. Again, I am reminded of the expectations we have for our Elders. What a sacrifice they and their families make on our behalf!

KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON

Doug and Rebecca Germann

We appreciate the many visitors

that have been with us this past month from Cissna Park, Forrest, Francesville, Elgin, West Bend, Pulaski, etc. and wish to welcome anyone else who might be traveling through our area. A special thanks to Bro. Tom Schambach and his wife, Sis. Connie (Elgin, IL), Bro. Wayne Grimm and Sis. Rose (West Bend, IA) and Bro. Ron Joos and Sis. Christy (Pulaski, IA), who were our visiting ministers the last few weeks. We appreciate their time and efforts and all who travel with them.

The church Conference was once again an inspiring time as we were able to see those we had not seen for some time as well as be reminded of those ancient landmarks that our forefathers saw so useful in battling the enemy of our souls. For our battle plans, we must use the Bible and search how former warriors of God were victorious. We can read of Joshua, David, Nehemiah and most importantly, our Lord and Saviour. May we remember as Saul was reminded by Samuel, that "obedience is better than sacrifice" as we war against our adversary (I Samuel 15:22).

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY

Marlene Mosher

Rhonda Knochel

We were saddened yet blessed at the passing of our dear Sis. Elizabeth Waibel (former Elder Bro. Joe). Sis. Elizabeth was a very dear sister in faith and a loving example to us all. She will be missed. Her family left behind to remember her loving presence are Mary Elizabeth Black, Sis. Johanna Knochel, Joseph Waibel, Bro. Bill Waibel, John Waibel, Ben Waibel, Jim Waibel, Bob Waibel, Allen Waibel, Helen Waibel, Sis. Donna Gerst and Sis. Sharon Schlatter. May our Lord comfort and bless Bro. Joe and his family.

Sis. Bonnie Wieland (Bro. Rod and Sis. Evelyn) was taken into the fold of brothers and sisters in faith in Detroit. We wish her our Lord's guidance on her new journey in life.

Hospitalized this past month has been Sis. Esther Waibel and Sis. Loretta Mosher. David Waibel was in an auto accident. Also, Sis. Kathryn Wackerle (Bro. Ronald) had surgery. We wish our loved ones God's healing mercies if it be His will.

Visiting ministers have been a blessing to us. They were Elder Bros. Ben Maibach (Sis. Lorene, Detroit, MI) and Ken Sauder (Sis. Suzanne, Mansfield, OH), and Bro. John Grimm (Sis. Julie, Columbus, OH).

One of our Lord's blessings of travel let our Sunday Schools gather together (grades 7-12) with other Sunday Schools for a weekend of devotions and fellowship at Mansfield, OH.

A number from Bay City attended the auction in Leo, IN at Gateway Woods. What a blessed day of fellowship and witnessing the talents that God grants, and also the wondrous gifts He gives so that the work that is being done may continue through hard work, work of body, work of love, and also monetary capabilities to be able to serve others.

What God Has Made

What God has made is meant to be
For all the world to hear and see,
And grace each span of land and
sea

With life and love and majesty.
But we must do what must be done
To keep His treasures, everyone,
And save for those - who are to
come
The wonders He has built and
done.

—*Michael Dubina*

MICHIGAN, DETROIT

Holly Barton - Lynette Moser

No matter what our age, we all think of the fall of the year as a new start. Remembering the feeling of new clothes, new notebooks, and books takes us back to the days when learning was our main job. God asks us to always keep the feeling of being a student as we strive to understand His Word and His will for us. "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." (II Timothy 2:15). Much of God's advice about learning can be found in Proverbs: "Apply thine heart unto instruction, and thine ears to the words of knowledge." (Proverbs 23:12). "Whoso loveth instruction loveth knowledge: but he that hateth reproof is brutish." (Proverbs 12:1). "Hear counsel, and receive instruction, that thou mayest be wise in thy latter end." (Proverbs 19:20). From looking at this very limited selection of King Solomon's wisdom, we see that we need to make an effort to apply ourselves and listen. This reflects a great part of our character, none of us desires to be brutish or lacking in wisdom. With all of this advice, we must all remember that Christ Jesus is our most perfect Teacher, and His teachings are the final word in wisdom and truth. His many lessons are buried deep in our hearts and we have an image of Christ as a 12-year-old teaching the greatest leaders in the synagogue (Luke 2:41-52). So, let our prayer be to learn more of God's love and will for our lives, in every season.

This has been a particularly blessed month for us here in Detroit. We had our Vacation Bible School (learning again) which was begun by visiting Bro. Jaye Rinckenberger (Goodfield, IL) who spoke to us about the race towards the Finish Line. He and his family stayed with

us for the whole weekend. VBS was closed with a picnic at Bro. Hartzell and Sis. Mary Kaisner's home.

We were blessed by the testimonies and baptisms of Bro. Tommy Hitz (Bro. Tom and Sis. Cindy) and Sis. Bonnie Wieland (Bro. Rodney and Sis. Evelyn from Bay City). We were strongly reminded that "...God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him shall not perish, but have everlasting life." (John 3:16). Elder Bro. Andy Virkler (Bay City, MI) and Bros. Larry Wenninger (Latty, OH) and Don Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN) all joined us for this wonderful occasion.

This month we also celebrated the wedding of Bro. Ken Beyer (Bro. Martin and Sis. Karen, Sabetha, KS) and Sis. Amy Bahr (Elder Bro. Mark and Sis. Bev). Our joy as we celebrate a wedding here on earth is just preparation for the celebration of the joining of Christ and the church (Ephesians 5:32). Elder Bro. John Lehman (Bern, KS), and Bros. Dean Steffen (Belvidere, IL) and Jim Ramseyer (Bay City, MI) joined us for the wedding.

We were also blessed this month with the company of Bro. Gary Maibach (Smithville, OH) and Bro. John Laukhuf (Latty, OH).

Even with the many things we had to be thankful for this month, we still remember those who suffer illness and loss of loved ones. Sis. Anne Tachar and Kathryn Losiewicz were hospitalized and are doing well. Sis. Cindy Hitz (Bro. Tom) was hospitalized for surgery and is home doing well. Bro. Chris Johnson's mother in Florida has been ill also. Sis. Judy Aberle mourns the passing of her uncle, Bro. Huber Farney (Kiowa, KS), and Dorothy Leman the passing of her brother, Bro. Richard Moser (Roanoke, IL). We also bid farewell to Anita and Christopher Corven as

they and their family move to Arizona.

**MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS
Perry Virkler**

Vacation Bible School was held July 15-19 with the theme: "Gift of God". "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above." (James 1:17). We thank all of those who so willingly gave of their time and talent to make this a special week for the children. We especially thank Bro. Galen Rokey (Bern, KS) for coming and speaking to us.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Joe Bednarski who was in the hospital this past month and is now home convalescing. May he feel God's healing hand.

Beyond the sunset a hand will
guide me
To God, the Father, whom I adore;
His glorious presence, His words
of welcome,
Will be my portion on that fair
shore.

Hymns of Zion #172

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Sis. Mary Mogler (Bro. Kent) in the passing of her father, Bro. Ernest Koehl (Morris, MN). May God be a Comforter to all of his family.

We were recently blessed with the visit of ministering Bro. Greg Gramm (Phoenix, AZ). May he feel God's blessings and grace as he serves in His vineyard.

Our Elder Brothers at times become weary from all of their duties. Let each of us continue to pray for them, give them words of encouragement and show our support by being obedient to God's precious Word. May our faithful Elders also find encouragement in the words the Lord told Zerubbabel in the book of Haggai: "Be strong" (2:4), "for I am with you" (2:4), "from this day

will I bless you" (2:19), "for I have chosen thee" (2:23).

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

During the past several months many families have taken vacations and enjoyed God's beautiful handiwork.

ALL AROUND, I SEE

All around, I see
 God's supremacy;
 In the mountains and the plain,
 Shore and shining sea.

Beauty everywhere
 Which He longs to share
 With each man who sorely seeks,
 Whom His works declare.

He who loveth me
 Makes each flower and tree,
 Glories of God's artistry
 All around I see.
 —Sancie Earman King

People may doubt what you say,
 but will believe what you do...
 —Author unknown

MINNESOTA, MORRIS

Nancy Wulf

Linda Schmidgall

Our congregation was saddened by the sudden death of our dear Bro. Ernest Koehl, 77, on July 19. He leaves to mourn his wife of 44 years, Sis. Gladys (Banwart); sons, Keith, Bros. Wayne (Prescott, AZ), Roy and James (Morris); and daughters, Sis. Mary Mogler (Minneapolis, MN), Sis. Ruth Jones (Morris), and their families and Sis. Cheryl (Morris). Our sympathy goes out to these families, as well as to his brother and sister, Bro. Reuben and Sis.

Eunice Koehl (Morris), as they adjust to life without their beloved one.

Those who spend time in the hospital were Sis. Marie Feuchtenberger and Bro. Leonard Wulf, who broke his hip. May they feel the healing and comforting hand of our Lord.

On July 28, Bro. Adam Zeltwanger (Bro. Dale and Sis. Rachel) and Sis. Christy Grimm were united in Holy Matrimony in Sabetha, KS. May God richly bless their lives together.

Our church was full to overflowing as we witnessed the marriage of our Sis. Paula Kellenberger (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Shirley, Lester) and our Bro. Craig Feuchtenberger (Bro. Wally and Sis. Diane) on August 11. May God bless them as they start their married life together. Elder Bro. Leo Moser (Lester, IA) was here to assist Elder Bro. Art Nohl. Others here that weekend were Bro. Gene Metzger (Lester, IA) and Bro. Jerry Isch (Philadelphia, PA). May God richly bless them for their efforts in bringing to us God's Word.

We were also privileged to have in our midst this month visiting ministers, Bros. Dave Eisenmann (North Ft. Myers, FL), Tom Leman (Denver, CO), and Paul Gasser (Akron, OH). May God richly bless them for being willing servants.

How grateful we are for each sinner that can heed the call to true repentance. We rejoice that Doug Nohl (Bro. Larry and Sis. Bonnie) has found grace to take that first step in faith.

Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Edna Zeltwanger celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with a reception in our fellowship hall, given by their children. May God bless their years together.

Note of Thanks:

The family of Bro. Ernest Koehl

wishes to sincerely thank each one for their kind expressions of sympathy, cards, flowers, phone calls and prayers during the loss of our dear husband, dad and grandpa. Your love and prayers have been felt and greatly appreciated. May God bless each one.

Sis. Gladys Koehl and family

MINNESOTA, WINTHROP Becky Braulick - Jan Messner Greetings!

How blessed 'tis when we as lambs,
 Are gathered 'round our Lord;
 In youthful years with tender hearts,
 To hear the Master's words.
 We love to hear the words of truth,
 We'll do our best in days of youth,
 That we may sit in realms above,
 To share in Jesus' love.

Hymns of Zion #73

As our Sunday School resumes, our children once again have the opportunity to learn of the love of God and His plan of salvation in simple ways they can understand. What a blessing it is that we have Sunday School teachers who so willingly lend themselves on our children's behalf.

Battle and Victory! What a true to life theme the Conference held this year. We are so thankful that the Lord watched over our Elder Brethren as they journeyed to Eureka to meet on our behalf. If we continue to hold strong in our battles, the final victory will be won. We are looking forward to listening to the Conference tapes in September.

Our hospital patients this past month were Sis. Jamie Schmidt (Bro. Verl) and Sis. Delores Messerli (Bro. Cornelius). May our Lord be by their side as they continue on their road to recovery.

MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY**Brent Kellenberger**

Seven days are left until school begins. For college kids like myself, these days should be precious. I think of what Jesus did in the seven days from Palm Sunday to his resurrection and it is thought-provoking. That week makes going back to school seem very easy. I hope everyone has a prayer on their heart as we head back to our university battlegrounds.

Our visiting ministers this month were Elder Bro. Lawrence Luthi (Lamar, MO) and Bro. Jim Kaeb (Bern, KS). May God bless you and your families. Please come again.

MISSOURI, LAMAR**Becky Marti****Martha Kellenberger**

Although many of us have desired more rain this summer, God has definitely showered us with the blessings of His Word. Our heartfelt thanks go to our visiting ministers, Bros. Dale Frank (Oakville, IA), Ken Eisenmann (Cissna Park, IL), Bill Dotterer (Phoenix, AZ) and Everett Gerber (Rockville, CT).

We rejoice with Bro. Kevin, Sis. Kathy, Nicole and Christopher Marti as Elizabeth Grace was welcomed into their hearts and home on July 31. Happy grandparents are Mabel Connors, Bro. Dale and Sis. Corine Marti, and Sis. Anna Marti.

Bro. Art Banwart (Sis. Ruth) had eye surgery. We pray for his speedy recovery.

Note of Thanks:

We wish to extend a sincere thank you for all the prayers, thoughts, and labors of love during our mother's illness and the time of her death. May God be your Rich Rewarder.

Larry and Marcy Schmidgall and family

MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS**Peter Schrenk**

As I did a considerable amount of traveling this summer, it was impressed upon me how precious the fellowship of the church is. I spent many Sundays in various churches from Chicago to Iowa City to Denver, and I had the same feeling of belonging in all of them. I marvel at the great love of God that He extends among His children.

We have also enjoyed the company of many visitors this past month. Visitors are especially appreciated in a small congregation like St. Louis. We would like to thank all who made the trip to worship with us.

We would also like to especially thank the ministers and their families who shared their time with us this past month: Bros. Mike Rieker (Peoria, IL), Art Baurer (Princeville, IL), Brian Huber (Francesville, IN), Arnie Gerst (Taylor, MO), Ed Fritz (Washington, IL), Brian Waibel (Champaign, IL), Gerald Sutter (Taylor, MO), Leonard Meyer (Chicago, IL), and Elder Bros. Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO) and Ervin Knecht (Eureka, IL).

MISSOURI, TAYLOR**Rusty and Amy Adrian**

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

Luke 15:10

How wonderful it is to be able to write a verse like that as we rejoice here with Michael and Jason Stratton (Bro. Mike and Sis. Cheryl) who have decided to turn their backs on the world and begin a new walk with Jesus Christ through repentance.

Our prayers are with each one as they strive to find that true peace that comes from becoming a new child of God.

We are truly thankful that we were able to complete our Bible studies for the month of July with Elder Bro. Dave Wiegand (Champaign, IL) sharing with us the topic on "Resolving conflict of husband and wife and parent and child." Also, Bro. Ron Heiniger (Bloomington, IL) sharing with us the topic, "Prophecy of the end times." Our heartfelt thanks are extended to each of you dear brothers for the time and effort it took to come and share with us these timely topics.

The week of July 22-26 was a special week for our children and guests who participated in Vacation Bible School. We had the privilege of doing our project for the week to benefit a group of children that had been physically afflicted from birth and abandoned by their parents. From the teachers to the students, each heart was touched as we were able to help those who are less fortunate.

On July 28, we enjoyed our annual Sunday School picnic. How thankful we are for the opportunity to come together and hear our children share with us the songs and verses they have learned.

Our thoughts and prayers have been with Sis. Ruthie Hoerr (Bro. Louis) who was in the hospital this past month. May God's healing hand be with each one who confront the physical problems that come their way.

Special thanks are extended to our visiting ministers this past month, who were Bros. Mark Gerber (Bluffton, IN), Dennis Kaufmann (Bloomington, IL), Ted Witzig (Morton, IL), Ron Joos (Pulaski, IA), and Everett Gerber (Rockville, CT). May God bless each of you brothers for coming and shar-

ing His Word with us.

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

Holy Simplicity - the theme for this edition of the Silver Lining. Where can we look for holy simplicity? It is all around but seems to be covered by the things of Satan and the world. One thing that comes to mind is our simple faith in God and all that He has created. The Apostolic Christian Church stands for this simplicity in all that we do and believe. It is not necessary to have the things of this world and those around us—if we practice this holy simplicity and follow God's teachings each day, we will be granted a home in Heaven after this lifetime.

The truths of God's Word were brought to us in simplicity and love by Elder Bro. Andy Virkler (Bay City, MI) and Bro. Wayne Grimm (West Bend, IA). We thank them and their families and the many others who have traveled to spend time with us in the past few weeks.

Bro. John (Sis. Esther) Rauhe is progressing well following hip replacement surgery. Also, Urban (Sis. Julia) Karcher is progressing following outpatient surgery. At this time he is having radiation treatments. May God continue with them in their recovery time.

Our annual meeting was held with the election of ones to carry out duties in the church. We pray for grace and strength for each of them as they attend to their duties and the teaching of our precious children. May they look to God for guidance.

The annual Sunday School and church picnic was held at Happy Hollow and the beautiful day given us by God was enjoyed by all in attendance. We pray for each of our

Sunday School children and all children who will be returning to school for another year of learning. It is our hope that they will carry the simple teachings they have been taught with them for strength and guidance throughout the coming school year.

OHIO, AKRON

Joyce Gasser - Diane Jarrett

Greetings from Akron. In the past month, our congregation was blessed by the labors of Elder Bros. Aaron Steffen (Alto, MI) and Andy Stoller (Smithville, OH), and Bro. Mark Masters (Mansfield, OH). The visiting Elder brothers assisted Elder Bro. Gene with the testimonies of our three converts. On that evening, it was brought to us as a congregation that there are many things that we can teach our children. There are many things that they can become proficient at in their youth, but how blessed is the child who can enter their years of accountability with a sound understanding of the plan of salvation. Let's keep that a priority.

With joy we witnessed baptismal services and welcomed our three new sisters in the Lord: Sis. Michelle Steidl and Sis. Rachel Steidl (Bro. Don and Sis. Nan), and Sis. Sarah Bako (Eugene and Sis. Dianna).

"...desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:"

1 Peter 2:2

Our concern and prayers are with dear Sis. Barb Graf (Bro. Dave) as she has underwent a kidney transplant. Sis. Janet Graf (Bro. Leon) was hospitalized briefly this month.

Please note that due to an error at the time of submission, Elder Bro. Eugene Pamer's phone number is incorrect in the national directory,

Apostolic Christian Churches and Ministers. His correct phone number is 330-336-3411.

**OHIO, COLUMBUS
Nancy Banks**

We always face the end of summer with some sadness as our number of visitors decrease. It seems as though we were just awaiting the start of summer vacation and now it's time to start buying the school supplies! The following ministers and their wives so kindly sharing with us this month were Bros. Wes Moser (Lester, IA), Earl Beery and Ron Steiner (Rittman, OH) and Mark Steiner (Smithville, OH).

Our heartfelt sympathy goes to our dear Sis. Sara Adam in the loss of her son in Hungary. We are so thankful that she was able to spend some time with him in Hungary before his passing.

Our senior Sunday School class traveled to the Indianapolis, IN church for an end-of-summer outing.

Upon our early arrival for Sunday services in Columbus this week, we were surprised by the presence of several police cruisers in our parking lot with yellow police ribbons strung everywhere! When asked if we could enter the parking lot for our morning services, the policeman explained that a young man had been killed only hours earlier in the street beside our church in a seemingly senseless act of violence. Words cannot describe the emotions felt by the brothers and sisters and friends that morning as they watched witnesses frisked by police on church property and newspaper reporters and television cameras fill the parking lot. Through it all, we were so thankful that we were able to hold our church services and find peace and refuge in God's Word. The violence and chaos of today's world

is striking so close to home; even on the very doorstep of our church.

OHIO, JUNCTION

Sandra Manz

The home of Bro. Dennis and Sis. Laurie Schlatter has been blessed with a precious baby girl named Jaclyn Mae, born on July 22. She has older siblings, Travis, Tara, and Derek, to assist with her care. Grandparents are Sis. Juliet Schlatter and Bro. Darl and Sis. Iva Stoller (Latty, OH). May all those involved in her upbringing have Godly wisdom.

After prayerful consideration, Bro. Ray Schlatter (Sis. Corrine) and Sis. Connie Manz (Bro. Don) were chosen as Sunday School teachers. Our prayers are with them as they help to shape and mold the minds of our future church. Special thanks to Bro. Lester Manz (Sis. Karen) and Sis. Sheila Schlatter (Bro. Ralph) for their faithful service in the Sunday School in the past years.

Cheryl Manz (Bro. Don and Sis. Connie) has heeded the call of the Lord and desires a conversion in her heart. May the Lord's presence be felt during this time of repentance.

Sis. Anna Manz and little Clark Schlatter (Bro. Ray and Sis. Corrine) were hospital patients and are glad to be back home.

We have been blessed with visiting ministers this past month. Bro. Mark Steiner (Smithville, OH) and Bro. Curt Rassi (Tremont, IL) spoke as prompted by the Spirit and left us with much food for thought. May God reward their efforts.

Serving us on the pulpit the weekend of our new Bro. Tony Manz's baptism were Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott, IN) and Bros. John Steiner (Oakville, IA), Paul Eisenmann (Burlington, IA), Lloyd Kraft (Lamont-Gridley, KS), and Dwight

Stoller (Latty, OH). We appreciate all the sacrifices made so that these brothers and their families could be with us to make this a special weekend. May the Lord grant Bro. Tony (Bro. Ken and Sis. Gwen) and all of us a memory of all the advice given over the pulpit. Our cups were filled to overflowing.

OHIO, LATTY

Kathy Sinn

Joyce Klopfenstein

We have been privileged with several visiting ministers this past month. May God bless the efforts of Bros. Doyle Frauhiger (Sis. Jane, Bluffton North, IN), Steven Frauhiger (Sis. Irene, Bluffton North, IN), Tom Leman (Sis. Marlene, Denver, CO), and Don Manz (Sis. Connie, Junction, OH).

Taylor and Madeline Baumle welcomed a new little sister, Blair Nicole, to their home on August 12. Parents are Patrick and Sis. Wendy Baumle. Thankful grandparents are Robert and Sis. Janet Williamson, and Robert and Fran Baumle. Tammy Whitman (Bro. Richard and Sis. Eileen) has a new baby boy, Caleb Michael. May God give these parents wisdom to raise their children for Him.

Our prayers have been with Sis. Helen Schlatter (Bro. Ben), Bro. Ben Schlatter (Sis. Helen), Bro. Raymond Klopfenstein (Sis. Catherine), and Sis. Iris Laukhuf (Bro. Bob). Ben, Raymond, and Iris were surgical patients. We are thankful Raymond and Iris are able to gather with us again.

May God comfort the hearts of the family of Robert Price, who passed away on August 6. We are thankful that he was able to repent, and meet our Lord with joy in his heart. Surviving are his wife, Aldean; two sons, Jim (Sue) of Van Wert, OH and Jerry (Colette) of

Tucson, AZ; one daughter, Sis. Janel Schlatter (Bro. Eli) of Latty, OH; five grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

OHIO, MANSFIELD

Cari Mann

"In all thy ways, acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

Proverbs 3:6

On July 21, the annual Ohio-Michigan Youth Day was held in Mansfield. Many young people from both states gathered for a day of learning more about the Lord and for fellowship. May each of the students who were present learn to acknowledge Him and let Him direct their paths. We also wish to express our sincere thanks to the Rittman/Smithville brethren for the delicious meal and singing on Saturday. May each one who helped in any way that weekend be richly blessed.

We wish to offer our sincere thanks and appreciation to Bro. Perry Klopfenstein of the Gridley, IL congregation for joining us on August 3 to explain the church history. May Bro. Perry and his family be richly blessed for his work on this subject.

"For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ."

II Peter 1:11

Every time the brethren speak to us, we are told how to find the "entrance" to the Heavenly Kingdom. We are thankful that the following brethren are willing in this way. Our visitors this month included: Bros. Paul Gasser and Ron Palitto (Akron, OH) and Peter Petrovic (San Diego, CA). May the blessings

we felt by their visits be returned to them one hundredfold.

"I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance."

Luke 15:7

There is joy in Heaven and joy here on earth when a sinner repents. Our hearts were filled with joy when Brenda Beer (Bro. Joel and Sis. Sue) decided to turn her back on the world and walk the way of Christ. May she ever feel our prayers as she takes this most important step of her life.

The General Conference is over for another year, and what an encouraging, uplifting day it was! As we now look forward to listening to the Conference tapes and eventually to the reading of the Memorandum, may we continue to pray as fervently each day for our Elders, as we do in the time preceding the Conference when they specifically request our prayers. Let us each one strive to help "hold up their arms" so they do not become weary of leading us in the fight.

OHIO, RITTMAN
Michelle Dotterer
Linda Schar

We have had the blessing of many visiting ministers with us recently. Bros. Ben Wiegand (Philadelphia, PA), John Grimm (Columbus, OH), Doyle Frauhiger (Bluffton, IN), Tom Leman (Denver, CO), and Wes Moser (Lester, IA) have spoken to us of God's great love and mercy. We thank these brothers for their efforts.

Rachel Elise came into this world on July 24. Rachel is the first child of John and Sis. Cynthia Nussbaum. John Nussbaum, Sr., Elizabeth

Arko, Erwin and Geraldine Wagner are happy for a new granddaughter. Marie Nussbaum (late Bro. Frank) is Rachel's great-grandmother.

Kevin and Carolyn Keiper welcomed a daughter, Caitlin Elizabeth, on August 4. Seth, Kyle and Adrian are happy for a little sister. Caitlin's grandparents are Bro. Reinhard and Sis. Betty Keiper, and Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Shook.

July 27 was the wedding day of Brian Ball and Myra Miller. We wish them many happy years filled with love. Their parents are Mrs. Joyce Patterson and Bro. Michael and Sis. Norene Miller.

Several of our loved ones have been hospitalized in the past few weeks: Andrea Gasser (Bro. Mark and Sis. Jill), Sis. Martha Kohler, Bro. Greg Gasser (Sis. Sue Ellen), and Bro. Neil Gasser (Sis. Donna). May they feel God's love and grace.

We wish to extend our sympathy and prayers to Bro. Bob and Sis. Neva Gasser in the death of their son-in-law, Mervin Ullman (Wanda). Bro. Fred Gasser (Sis. Mary) and Elsie Maibach (Jeff) have lost a dear brother-in-law. May God grant His strength in time of sorrow.

OHIO, SARDIS
Renee Miller

Many of the familiar hymns we sing over and over again are so full of meaning. As we recently sang one such song (Hymns of Zion #118), it occurred to me that it covered many of the past month's happenings in our small community.

Savior, like a Shepherd lead us,
Much we need Thy tender care;
In Thy pleasant pastures feed us,
For our use Thy folds prepare.

Though this is a daily prayer for each of us, it seems especially appli-

cable for those experiencing transitions. We extend our congratulations to Carol Indermuhle (Bro. Bob and Sis. Karen) as she leaves Ohio University in Athens, OH with a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration with Accounting. Also moving from one earthly abode to another for a time is Sis. Joyce Indermuhle. Our prayers are with her as she goes to Rittman, OH.

We are thine, do Thou befriend us,
Be the Guardian of our way;
Keep Thy flock, from sin defend
us,
Seek us when we go astray.

We are thankful that God directed Bro. Lenard Meyer's (Chicago, IL) path to include Sardis again. When a brother stands and speaks as inspired by God, we are strengthened by the encouraging words and admonitions that keep us on the straight and narrow way.

Thou has promised to receive us,
Poor and sinful tho' we be;
Thou hast mercy to relieve us,
Grace to cleanse, and pow'r to
free.

Sara Brake (Bro. Bill and Sis. Mim) has experienced the grace of God as He has called her to serve Him. How thankful we are for the freedom we can feel through the saving power of Jesus.

Early let us seek Thy favor;
Early let us seek Thy will,
Blessed Lord and only Savior,
With Thy love our bosoms fill.

When we seek the will of God first, it is a joy to know that He will be by our sides every step of the way.

OHIO, SMITHVILLE
Julie Maibach - Edith Miller

Two families welcomed precious babies into their homes during the

past month. Ty Logan was born to first-time parents, Curt and Heather Ramsier, on July 24. First-time grandparents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Dottie Ramsier. On July 27, Karleen Laura Stoller was born to Bro. Dan and Sis. Kim. Awaiting her arrival at home were sisters and brother, Lydia, Roseanna, and Wayne. Grandparents of Karleen are Bro. Don and Sis. Luzelda Stoller and Sis. Lucille Blough (Rittman OH). May God bless both of these families as they raise their children.

"Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come."

Matthew 24:42

Tragedy struck two separate families in our congregation this month. We extend our deepest sympathy to Sis. Janet Indermuhle (Bro. Darrel), Sis. Marilyn Uhler (Dale), Marge Rhoads (Bill), and Sis. Brenda Bauman (Bro. Vic), in the accidental death of their brother, Ben Winkler. We also lend our prayerful support to Bro. Ken and Sis. Jane Hartzler, as their brother-in-law, Merv Ullman, was tragically killed in an automobile accident.

Bro. John Stoller (Leo, IN) recently visited and ministered God's Word. We thank him for his efforts.

Our prayers go with our children now as they go back to school for another year. We trust the Lord will be near unto each one of them and always help them to make wise choices, from the very youngest to those going to schools of higher learning.

OHIO, TOLEDO
Rebecca Beard
Edie Fetter

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

Matthew 5:4

We are thankful for the promises of God to comfort us when we face sorrow. We hope that Sis. Dee Beard (Bro. Ed) can feel this comfort in the loss of her father, as well as Sis. Frances Laidig in the death of her brother-in-law, Bob Price, of Latty.

Bro. Mark Ramsier (Sardis, OH) and his family spent a recent weekend with us. We want to thank him for serving us in the ministry on Sunday.

OREGON, PORTLAND

Louisa Gallup - Mary Berg

We want to thank the following ministering brothers who have shared the Word with us this past month: Bros. Gary Maibach (Smithville, OH), Todd Zollinger and Ed Knecht (Silverton, OR) and Elder Bro. Art Metz (Silverton, OR).

As summer so quickly is ending, the nights are getting cooler, our summer visitors are dwindling, and the children return to school, it reminds us of how short our life here on earth is. Time flies by, and it seems we are so busy with our every day lives. Are we really taking the time for the things that are most important? Let's keep reminding ourselves to slow down a little and take a little more time with the Lord.

OREGON, SILVERTON

Peggy Schulz

Our congregation has enjoyed the many visitors who have come to attend the reunions we have hosted this past month. July 20-21 was the Ft. Sam Reunion; August 3-4 was the Schifferer Reunion; and August 17-18 was the Zapata Reunion. Many visitors were present from across the land and from many of our churches. We truly have re-

ceived many blessings of fellowship.

We rejoice with Kristy Dietrich (Bro. Jim and Sis. Joan) as she has found peace and now awaits baptism.

Visiting ministers this month included Bros. Clark Stoller (Gridley, IL), Roy Ehnle (Bradford, IL) and Carroll Gerber (Bluffton North, IN). We want to express our thanks to these brothers for ministering to our needs. May the Lord continue to guide them with His Holy Spirit that the truth might continue to be preached unto us.

We are thankful Bro. Paul Dettwyler is home from the hospital and able to assemble with us again. Our thoughts and prayers are surely with our Bro. Bob (Sis. Linda) Kuenzi, Sis. Shirley (Bro. Otto and Sis. Marian) Sinn, and Phil Hari (Pat) in their battles with cancer. At times like these it is brought home to us so clearly that the future of each of us is in the Lord's Almighty hands. May our faith and trust in Him grow each day as we commit all to Him, knowing that He will provide for our every need.

On August 18, we were happy to learn of the betrothal of marriage of our Sis. Amy Metz (Elder Bro. Art and Sis. Betty) and Bro. Chris Menold (Bro. James and Sis. Lou) of Bern, KS. We wish them the Lord's blessings and guidance throughout their engagement as they plan for their wedding and future together.

Alice Gehring (Lawrence) and Martha Kuenzi (Bro. Nick and Sis. Mary) have undergone surgery this past month. We pray that with the Lord's healing hand, they both may have a quick recovery.

PENNSYLVANIA,
PHILADELPHIA
Franz Soni

"Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;"

Titus 2:13

Sis. Ann Waibel recently spent some time in the hospital after a fall. We are glad she is home and look forward to having her worship with us soon. May God look after this dear sister.

We encourage those 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**

This past month, we welcomed ministering Bro. Edwin Bahler (Remington, IN) and Elder Bro. Dave Wiegand (Champaign, IL). May the Lord bless you for your efforts in traveling to minister and fellowship with us. Many other visitors from various churches worshipped with us also.

During our August 18 services, Elder Bro. Dave meditated on the chapter on charity from I Corinthians 13. Although each verse of the chapter is precious, I found a couple of the verses to be especially beautiful in telling of the necessity and importance of having and displaying this wonderful quality.

"Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing. And now

abideth faith, hope, charity, these three, but the greatest of these is charity."

I Corinthians 13:1-2, 13

Services are held in Nashville on the first and third Sundays of each month. Please stop by and worship with us if you are in the area. Fall is an especially beautiful time to visit the Nashville area. Lord willing, we hope to hold services on October 6 (Chicago, IL), October 20 (Valparaiso, IN), November 3 (Forrest, IL), November 17 (Francesville, IN), December 1 (Princeville, IL), and December 15 (Junction, OH). Please 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 if you do plan to visit us.

TEXAS, DALLAS & CENTRAL **Dee Rapp**

How frequently do you think about God's amazing grace offered to you?

Have you ever faced people who hated your witness for Christ so intently they wanted to kill you? Stephen did. Have you ever known a murderer who became a missionary? The apostles did. Have you ever thought you were "dead right" and suddenly discovered you were "dead wrong"? Saul did.

Probably most of us will never experience the first two, but all can identify with Saul as we experienced God's amazing grace that brought us to the point of knowing that we were "dead wrong".

After spending a year in the nursing field in Dallas, Sis. Beth Beery will be returning to her home in Rittman, OH the end of August. A farewell get together was held for her at Bro. Howard and Sis. Dee

Rapp's home. Her presence and cheery smile will be missed. All here in Texas wish God's direction in her life.

The Dallas congregation has rapidly diminished while the Austin area continues to grow. In light of this and after consulting with Bro. Lee Plattner, it was decided to make a change in scheduling.

Starting in September, Dallas services will continue to be held on the first Sunday of each month at the Holiday Inn, DeSoto, TX, at 10:30 and noon. The second, third and fourth Sundays will be held in Austin at the Omni Hotel, at the intersection of Highway 71 and 35 at 10:30 and noon.

When five Sundays occur in any given month, the services for the fifth Sunday will be held at the home of Bro. Bill Zeltwanger, in Round Top, at 10:30 and noon.

You may call Bro. Bill Zeltwanger at (409) 249-5102, or Bro. Howard or Sis. Dee Rapp at (214) 867-4074 for more information.

TEXAS, ZAPATA **Viola Perdelwitz**

We did some traveling this summer and are thankful our Saviour watched over us. Every year there is more traffic. We enjoyed visiting family and friends.

The General Conference was held at Eureka this year. We are thankful that this opportunity is provided to promote unity among the brotherhood.

So march then boldly onward,
Our Saviour's in the lead!
He, as a faithful shepherd,
Sustains us in our need.

Zion's Harp #138



“HUMBLE YOUR SOUL WITH FASTING”

Sermon by Bro. Donald Manz of Junction, OH

2 Chronicles 20:1-19 and 2 Corinthians 10

We see here as we read in God's Word that life is a struggle to keep things in proportion as God would have them to be. God is good to those who will respond to Him, who will take Him at His Word, look up to Him and tremble at His Word.

When they see how we stand in the presence of God, they will bow down and worship Him and look to Him for strength and do things according to His good will and pleasure.

Sometimes, life is compared to a battle. A preparation for fighting the good fight of faith and laying hold unto eternal life, is one way it is said.

Here we saw in the Old Testament reading in Chronicles how their enemies were lined up against them. The numbers were far greater than what they could match them one-on-one or have an advantage as concerning numbers.

We are living in a world and time where we feel this kind of thing, too. We feel like we are in the minority. Many advantages are to those...the laws and the rulings and so on are in this way. In this example of those people, the numbers were stacked up against them. It looked like—in the way that we look at it as people—that they just could not win. Maybe we sometimes think those thoughts today.

We have not gathered here this morning to talk about the world. We have not gathered together to talk about social issues and those things which we think about a lot throughout the week. We are gathered together to think about and respond the way these people did.

They bowed down before God. They brought their needs and their

cares before God, like we would pray. I don't know exactly what form they did, but like we would pray. When this enemy or that enemy was against them and when they were trying to do what was right, though it seemed that they were calling evil good and good evil, they bowed down before the Lord.

They brought their cares before Him. It started in the leadership with Jehoshaphat, and they were praying before the Lord. That is how we would do it, in the New Testament times, we would pray, as they were doing.

It says, “Jehoshaphat feared, and set himself to seek the Lord, and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah.” (2 Chronicles 20:3). We can fast. The literal translation of fasting would be to keep ourselves from food.

We know how it was in Jesus' time. He worked a miracle before them and they tried to work the same miracle. They tried to take power from God, no doubt, to work the same miracle, but they couldn't do it. They could not help that person. Jesus came along and they explained the situation to Him. They said, “There was a need for help here. We tried to help and the help was not accomplished.” Jesus said, “This kind can come forth by nothing, but by prayer and fasting.” (Mark 9:29).

So we pray to God like they did and we fast like they did. One of the ways, dear ones, that we can fast in our time is we can deny ourselves of food, but there are many other things that God has asked us, as a church, to deny ourselves of. We deny ourselves of worldly pleasures.

We try to do things according to

the will of God to open ourselves up for His presence and His blessings that He might help us.

The Bible teaches us to, “...come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing.” (2 Corinthians 6:17). He said, “...and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.” (2 Corinthians 6:16). That is what we are asking Him for. That is our joy and our pleasure to be a part of God and let this world that is going to perish go by.

God's Word teaches us that heaven and earth shall pass away. There will be a new heaven and a new earth. But He says, “My word shall not pass away.” (Luke 21:33). So we are standing on the promises of God. We are fasting.

Maybe like Naaman of Syria, who found himself to have the affliction of leprosy. The little girl told him of one of faith who looked to God. She said, “If you go back to my homeland, there is someone there who can help you out...someone who can point you to God.”

If I remember the story right, he went back there and first sought for help in the logical places...in the places like we would try to go and help ourselves. Yet he did not find help there. Those people that he asked for help in that manner were somewhat upset, but one of the counselors said, “You could go to the prophet.”

When he went to the prophet, the prophet did not even come out to see him, but left instructions as to what he should do, “Go and wash in the river Jordan.” (see 2 Kings 5:10).

By faith, do things the way God asks it to be done. By faith, people

Sermon continued...

Sermon continued...

in our time seek the Lord's favor and His presence and seek to be baptized into His name most holy. They seek to be identified with the Lord, their God.

He didn't want to do it. It seemed too simple, this fasting and the way that was asked of him. One of his servants said to him, "...if the prophet had bid thee do some great thing, wouldest thou not have done it?" (2 Kings 5:13). He had to think about it and he had to admit that he would have done it. The servant said, "Let's just do this what is asked of us."

We would speak with each other and ask what we like. We would like the Lord's presence. We would like the Lord's blessing. We would like the Lord to bless our relationship as brothers and sisters. We would like Him to bless our relationship with Him. We would like Him to help us in overcoming sin, self and the world. We would like His blessing in calling the unredeemed...our children, our friends, our neighbors, our associates and whomsoever will that will come and be partakers of His benefits.

Maybe God is asking us to do it this way—by fasting. We can deny ourselves of food, but the New Testament somewhat warns against too much of will-worship and so on. But we can deny ourselves and we can fast from this world and time.

Those pleasures which are so alluring and the temptation to somehow blend in and not stand out so much and not be identified with the people of God (not to be so different), God asks it of us. Couldn't we do it? If it made that leprous man to be healed of his leprosy by allowing himself to be submerged in the river Jordan seven times, couldn't we do those things which God asks of us if that is the way He chooses us to have faith in Him and to be blessed?

The kingdom of God starts with humility of heart and depending upon Him as they did. When they prepared themselves for the battle, He said, "When you go to the battle tomorrow, those things which you were so worried about are just going to melt away before you. You are not even going to have to hardly fight," if I remember correctly what we read. (See 2 Chronicles 20:15-17).

How was it, dear ones, when we went back to others? We were somewhat reluctant, perhaps, to repent because we knew that there were some things that we would need to go back and make right. How we prayed! What we saw before us looked to us almost as big as what this battle looked to them, with being outnumbered with people.

We prayed to God. We thought in our own minds that they would not understand and perhaps they would not forgive us, but we prayed. We finally had to realize that our resources wouldn't make it. We would not be able to set the record clear on our own, and we went in the strength of God.

We found out that God went before we did. He made their hearts tender and when we said we were sorry, how they then said, "We forgive you." They did not hardly know how to handle it and were somewhat embarrassed by our coming and were glad to forgive and let us go on our way again.

This is the way the Apostle Paul came to those people. He said, "Now I Paul myself beseech you by the meekness and gentleness of Christ..." (2 Corinthians 10:1). Sometimes we would like to go to battle because we think that the way to go to battle is to go with overwhelming numbers or to go with overwhelming arguments and to just come in overwhelming ways to clinch the point, make it clear,

sweep through and have it over with.

Then when we think of our ourselves and how we want God to deal with us, He says, "I am beseeching you by the meekness and gentleness of Christ."

Sometimes, as we seek God's presence and His blessings, we ask Him, "Whatever it takes, Lord, make us ready for the kingdom of heaven." We need to get there and we need to be ready for that.

Then we ask Him, or at least I do sometimes, just one more favor, as we have in our song, "Lead me gently home, Father, Lead me gently home. Lest I fall upon the wayside, Lead me gently home." We want what is right. We want God to work with us, help us and prepare us for that kingdom so we would not be overwhelmed.

Then he goes through working in the Master's vineyard. They somewhat get a reputation. In one way or another, rightly or wrongly, they somewhat get a reputation. Maybe part of it we bring upon ourselves, but part of it is not fair or just.

Here they accused Paul of writing letters which were strong, powerful, bold and to-the-point. Then, when they saw him in bodily presence, he was somewhat of a weak man. That was the reputation that was following this servant of God.

He had to make it clear. "For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh:" (2 Corinthians 10:3). We are alive and in the flesh. We are in this phase of our existence, and that is true. Nevertheless, that is not where our love is or not where our love should be. It is not where our strength comes from.

It goes on to tell where the strength of the child of God is. It says, "For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal" (2 Corinthians

10:4). We are not the strongest person. We are not the brightest person. We are not the most determined person. We do not have more than anyone else in any of those categories.

The strength comes when we lend ourselves to God and open ourselves up to Him for blessings and we realize that, "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." (Psalm 46:1).

He says, "...but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds." (2 Corinthians 10:4). Then he speaks of those things that get in our way. It is not always someone else. It is not always ourselves. A lot of times even our attitudes can be those things which get in our way and be a detriment to us. He says, "Casting down imaginations," (2 Corinthians 10:5). How many times have we imagined things to be a certain way? We imagined someone was against us. We imagined someone did not like us. We imagined this or we imagined that.

"...and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God," (2 Corinthians 10:5). God can go before us, if we allow Him to. Sometimes, we just like that control. We just like to be in control and we do not like to yield up ourselves to powerlessness and submission so that God can take over and work a better work within us.

He says, "...and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;" (2 Corinthians 10:5). Sometimes our thoughts are not what we would like them to be. We can blame them on the environment. We can blame them on the people around us. No doubt those things have an influence on us. We are what we eat. If we read a lot of things, those things which we read have an influence on us. If we listen to or discuss a lot of different things,

what we hear and what we come in presence with have an influence on us.

But God can help us to bring our thoughts into purity, into faith, into encouragement and put aside those things which are not good. The Bible teaches us that we should, "Be not overcome of evil but overcome evil with good." (Romans 12:21).

So, if we are thinking about those things which are good, right and pleasing to God, then we are crowding out of our limited minds those things which would destroy, imaginations, thoughts or things which work against God. It could partly be other people.

"And having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled." (2 Corinthians 10:6). Are we ready? Is that what we want? Let us think about the description that was given of Job. It says that he was a man that loved God or feared God (I'm not sure about that, but it would bring about the same results) and he eschewed evil. He hated it.

He didn't only stay away from evil or only deny himself of it because that was what was required of him or that was his duty to do, but he hated it. As evil comes around us, the balance for us is that we love the sinner and hate the sin.

To keep that in proportion is a struggle and we need to keep working on it. Perhaps it is a life-long battle. Here is an example. We want to eschew evil and we want to hate it. We don't want to just sort of get numb to it or get used to it; we want to hate it.

We think about thoughts and how they can work on us. Our thoughts can be good or our thoughts can be evil. James talked about the end of it all—the end of Satan's influence and the end of evil is condemnation and eternal death.

He talked about how these things get started with thoughts in our mind. These thoughts are then picked up and embraced and entertained in our minds. Then they are prompted into action if we don't stop them at some point. There can be sin and the wages of sin is death and the end result is eternal condemnation.

There is seriousness then in our walk with the Lord. He acknowledges here about misunderstanding. He says, "Do ye look on things after the outward appearance?" (2 Corinthians 10:7). Do you look as they seem to be? He talks about imaginations and so on. He says, "If any man trust to himself that he is Christ's, let him of himself think this again, that, as he is Christ's, even so are we Christ's." (2 Corinthians 10:7). We can get discouraged on that, too, can't we?

Sometimes it gets lonely, like the prophet who had seen the work of God and the definite destroying of the worshippers of Baal. God took that soggy offering and made fire from heaven come to clearly demonstrate that He was God. Then they sought the prophet's life and he felt so lonely in serving God. He felt perhaps like he was the only one who cared anymore.

That wasn't true, but that was the imagination of his thoughts. Then God gave him this blessed assurance when He said, "There are seven thousand which still have not bowed down their knee to Baal." (See 1 Kings 19:18).

We are workers together. We are builders for this heavenly kingdom. We have something worthwhile, dear ones, to embrace as a faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as a departure from this world.

He goes on to speak again on the misunderstanding. Perhaps they

Sermon continued...

thought that he didn't mean what he said or he wouldn't have carried it out. These things are of significance. We appreciate the gentleness and meekness, and we appreciate when someone handles us tenderly. We should think about that when we are handling others, and I am pointing to myself.

Nevertheless, we are taught in God's Word that we should hold fast to the liberty which we have in Christ Jesus. He told them how he stressed himself above measure and spent extra time and extra hours in speaking and in prayer for them and so on.

"To preach the gospel in the regions beyond you, and not to boast in another man's line of things made ready to our hand. But he that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord." (2 Corinthians 10:16-17). Now, just to put all this in perspective, we

have our part and God has His part. God has the far greater part. He just asks us to have faith in Him.

The real strength and the real difference between the child of God and one who is not a child of God is the measure which God adds—the faith in the Lord Jesus Christ...the cleansing of the heart...the grace and strength to overcome...and to be faithful unto Him. Then, a lot of times, we hear people who want to defend their lifestyle. They want to justify themselves.

Let us consider here the last verse. "For not he that commendeth himself is approved, but whom the Lord commendeth." (2 Corinthians 10:18). Finally, judgment is going to be in the hands of God. In the Old Testament it speaks of that. It says something of this effect. I am very poor with repeating word for word, but it says something about, "not he

who is approved of himself...". Basically it says the same as this: "For not he that commendeth himself is approved, but whom the Lord commendeth."

There is a way that seemeth right unto men, but it is God that makes the decision. We need to search the Scriptures, pray, sing and try to stay close to God.

In prayer and in fasting, we need to commit to God this overwhelming that surrounds us and the loneliness of the narrow way. We are going to ask God to help us through prayer and through fasting that we can keep the faith for ourselves and for our children and for our children's children.



The Indispensable Man

Sometime when you're feeling important;
Sometime when your ego's in bloom;
Sometime when you take it for granted,
You're the best qualified in the room.

Sometime when you feel that your going,
Would leave an unfillable hole;
Just follow this simple instruction,
And see how it humbles your soul.

Take a bucket and fill it with water;
Put your hand in it up to the wrist;
Pull it out and the hole that's remaining;
Is a measure of how you'll be missed.

You may splash all you please when you enter;
You can stir up the water galore;
But stop and you'll find in a minute;
That it looks quite the same as before.

The moral in this quaint example,
Is to do the best that you can.
But, just be sure to remember,
There's no indispensable man!



Silver Threads



God's Loan

I'll lend you a child for a little while, a child of mine, He said.
 For you to love him while he lives and mourn him when he's dead.
 It may be one or two years, or twenty-two or three,
 But will you till I call him back, take care of him for me?

He'll bring his charm to gladden you and should his stay be brief,
 You'll have his tender memories as solace for your grief.
 I cannot promise he will stay, as all from Earth return,
 But there are lessons taught down there I want this child to learn.

I looked the whole world over in search for teachers true,
 And from the throngs that crowd life's way, I have selected you.
 Now, will you give him all your love, nor think the labor vain,
 Or will you hate me when I come to call him back again?

I fancied that I heard you say, "Dear Lord, Thy will be done,"
 For all the joy this child shall bring, the chance of grief I'll run.
 We'll shelter him with tenderness and love him while we may,
 And for the happiness we've known, forever grateful stay.

And should your angels call him back much sooner than we planned,
 We'll bear the bitter grief that comes and try to understand.

Author Unknown



Joy Through the Tears

Though pain and grief surround us here
and though our lot would seem so drear,
we must believe the Lord is near;
we must believe the Lord does hear.

The clouds that, oh, so heavy seem
that try to hide each last sunbeam;
will never take away our gleam
in Christ who did our souls redeem.

Tho' oft our minds can't understand
how times like this so long have spanned;
so tighter cling we to His hand,
as He faithfully leads us to the Promised Land.

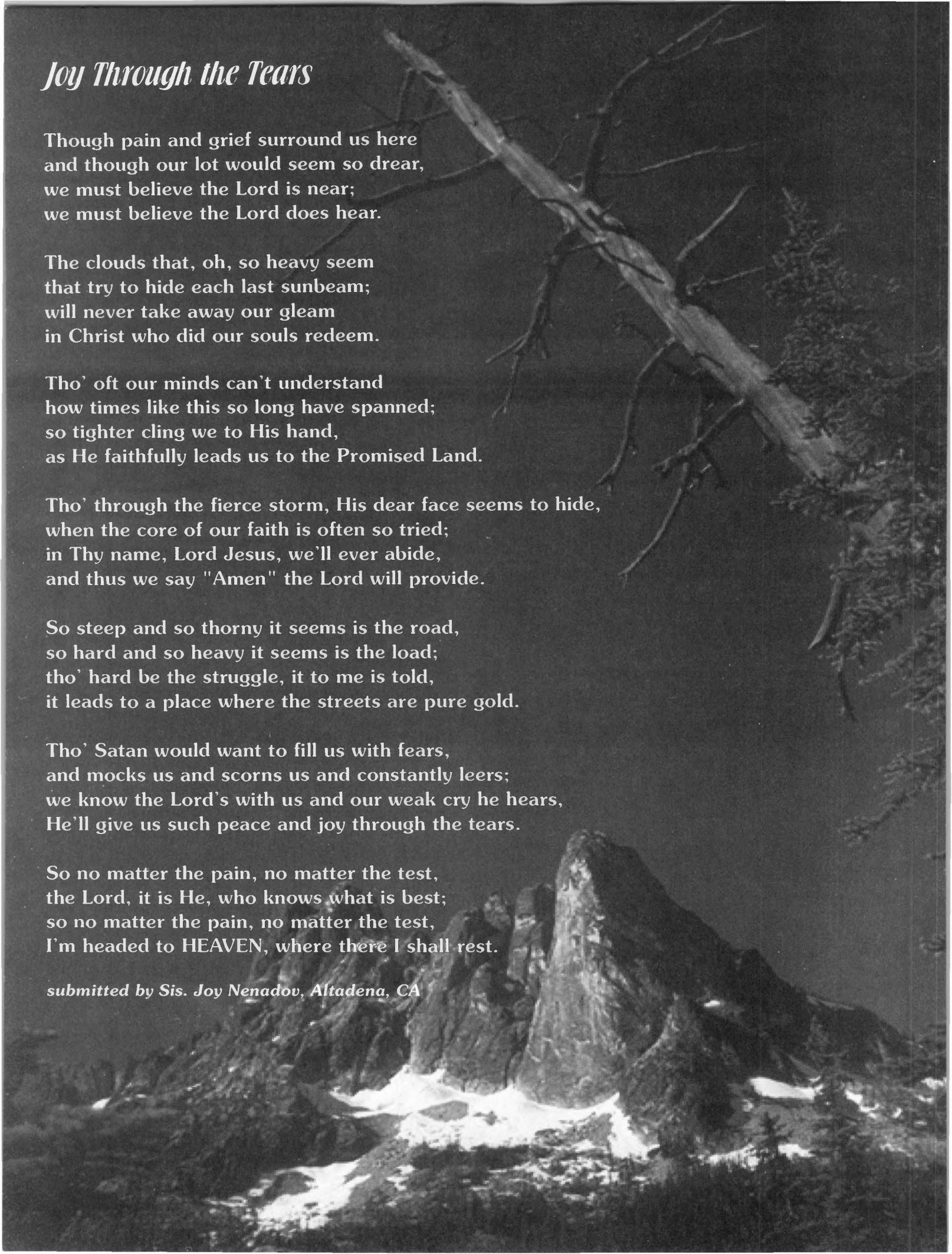
Tho' through the fierce storm, His dear face seems to hide,
when the core of our faith is often so tried;
in Thy name, Lord Jesus, we'll ever abide,
and thus we say "Amen" the Lord will provide.

So steep and so thorny it seems is the road,
so hard and so heavy it seems is the load;
tho' hard be the struggle, it to me is told,
it leads to a place where the streets are pure gold.

Tho' Satan would want to fill us with fears,
and mocks us and scorns us and constantly leers;
we know the Lord's with us and our weak cry he hears,
He'll give us such peace and joy through the tears.

So no matter the pain, no matter the test,
the Lord, it is He, who knows what is best;
so no matter the pain, no matter the test,
I'm headed to HEAVEN, where there I shall rest.

submitted by Sis. Joy Nenadov, Altadena, CA



Silver Threads

BLESSINGS

“And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe and to do all his commandments which I command thee this day, that the LORD thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth; And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God.” *Deuteronomy 28:1-2*

DWELLING WILL BE BLESSED

“Blessed shalt thou be in the city, and blessed shalt thou be in the field.” *Deuteronomy 28:3*

CHILDREN AND YOUR WORK WILL BE BLESSED

“Blessed shall be the fruit of thy body, and the fruit of thy ground, and the fruit of thy cattle, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep.” *Deuteronomy 28:4*

SAVINGS AND POSSESSIONS WILL BE BLESSED

“Blessed shall be thy basket and thy store.” *Deuteronomy 28: 5*

YOUR COMING AND GOING WILL BE BLESSED

“Blessed shalt thou be when thou comest in, and blessed shalt thou be when thou goest out.” *Deuteronomy 28:6*

ENEMIES WILL FAIL IF THEY OPPOSE YOU

“The LORD shall cause thine enemies that rise up against thee to be smitten before thy face: they shall come out against thee one way, and flee before thee seven ways.” *Deuteronomy 28:7*

MATERIAL POSSESSIONS AND NEEDS WILL BE BLESSED

“The LORD shall command the blessing upon thee in thy storehouses, and in all that thou settest thine hand unto; and he shall bless thee in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.” *Deuteronomy 28:8*

YOU WILL BE HOLY UNTO THE LORD

“The LORD shall establish thee an holy people unto himself, as he hath sworn unto thee, if thou shalt keep the commandments of the LORD thy God, and walk in his ways.” *Deuteronomy 28:9*

THE WORLD WILL KNOW AND FEAR YOU

“And all people of the earth shall see that thou art called by the name of the LORD; and they shall be afraid of thee.” *Deuteronomy 28:10*

GOD WILL BLESS YOUR FAMILY AND YOUR LABORS

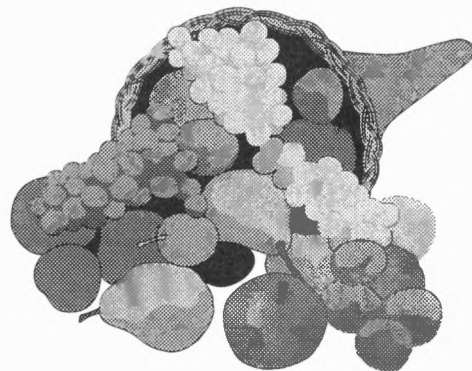
“And the LORD shall make thee plenteous in goods, in the fruit of thy body, and in the fruit of thy cattle, and in the fruit of thy ground, in the land which the LORD sware unto thy fathers to give thee.” *Deuteronomy 28:11*

GOD WILL BLESS THE WORK OF YOUR HANDS

“The LORD shall open unto thee his good treasure, the heaven to give the rain unto thy land in his season, and to bless all the work of thine hand: and thou shalt lend unto many nations, and thou shalt not borrow.” *Deuteronomy 28:12*

GOD WILL MAKE YOU THE HEAD

“And the LORD shall make thee the head, and not the tail; and thou shalt be above only, and thou shalt not be beneath; if that thou hearken unto the commandments of the LORD thy God, which I command thee this day, to observe and to do them:” *Deuteronomy 28:13*



Silver Threads

In The Land of Endless Day

We are told of a land so wondrous and fair
Where the angels are singing — no night
comes there.

Goads He sends lest we miss that important date;
Lest we should forget those who there for us wait.

Could they speak to us now, they would say,
I know:
"There's nought of real value on earth there
below

To compare with the wonders of heaven above,
Where all is pure joy, sweet peace, and true love!"

It will be worth all the tests and struggles of life
To attain this home where everything's rife.

The half never yet to you has been told
Of the beauties of heaven with its streets of gold.

When your cross seems heavy, I will meet
you there
As you kneel at His throne in humble prayer.

My Father His Spirit and grace will send
To help you each day as your journey you wend.

Don't give up! onward strive! for we watch
and we wait
'Til that blest, happy meeting just inside the
Eastern Gate.

Crosses, Not Losses

Who the Master's cross will carry
'Long lone trek to Calvary's hill?
Crosses we'll find were not losses
But goads to spur us on until

We can lay aside our armor
For a garment spotless, white;
Find the cross the key which opens
Heaven's realms of peace and delight.

Does the cross we bear seem heavy
As we onward, upward climb?
Persevere, we'll find 'twas worth it
When we reach those realms sublime.

Cross will lead to that blest haven
Where all burdens we'll lay down.
Trials, tests, pains will be over
And we exchange cross for a crown.

Oh the joys that there will greet us
Yes, because we are His lamb;
Who were lost and sought and found
By the Shepherd, great — "I AM"!

Yes, we'll gather round His table
For the banquet He's prepared
Clothed in that pure wedding garment
With the saints who've gathered there!

Silver Threads

TRUTH

Truth is seldom popular, but always right.

* Truth is easily forgotten if we want to forget it as we live among the world.

* A lack of truth can start a war, break up a marriage, ruin a reputation, or deceive a friend.

“...If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body...” (*James 3:2*)

“And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell.” (*James 3:6*)

“For we can do nothing against the truth, but for the truth.” (*II Corinthians 13:8*)

“But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:” (*Ephesians 4:15*)

“Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.” (*John 14:6*)

“And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.” (*John 8:32*)

* If we pick untruth, and justify that untruth for any reason, we will endanger our heavenly security in Christ.

* A lie can grow from white to black. Any lie however small (white) will need to be remembered in detail as it is repeated. Many times a lie will need a second and third lie to back it up so to give the first lie credibility. As lies grow, they can destroy and become black.

* Statements without facts and substantiation can be untruth.

* Truth is seldom popular, but it is always right.

* Truth may seem unpopular, and less than expedient, but can be repeated without fear of mistake.

Truth is a rock in the foundation of our faith.



Our Willing Ministers

The Word of God, and its literal interpretation, comprises the very foundation from which our lives and spiritual endeavors are initiated.

Auxiliary to the foundational power of the Word is the ongoing preaching of the Word—in season and out of season and through the ages—so long as God tarries.

A special blessing among the brethren during the 17 decades of our church's existence has been the labors of its willing ministers. By offering their hearts and minds freely, and without financial compensation, they have availed themselves in the finest tradition of the early church.

The Lord Jesus, initially, chose humble fisherman by the seaside who were willing to drop their earthly endeavors to become "fishers of men". In a sense, the multitude of brothers who have been called into the ministry have placed their pulpit and ministerial duties above their other earthly pursuits.

Likewise, during the time of Bro. Samuel Froehlich, the same attitude prevailed. As he preached the gospel of salvation, many souls responded, repented for their sins and became converted. A zeal to follow Christ, unreservedly, and to abide by His Word, resulted in a significant Christian awakening.

In this, young brothers in faith were called by the church to preach. They traveled widely in Switzerland and adjacent areas and preached with fervor and sincerity. Their only text was the Word of God. In 35 years, 110 congregations were started in western Europe.

In America, from 1847 on, the same

pattern continued. Bro. Benedict Weyeneth, the first American elder, along with Elder Bro. Joseph Bella (called a roving elder), labored tirelessly in helping to establish our early American churches. The zeal of the Swiss beginnings extended to America. Their willingness to preach (without a salary) was born out of a divine conviction that God, through the beloved church, had called them to labor in His vineyard.

God's messengers among the brethren have followed the Word. The Bible's emphasis regarding preaching has always been on the "demonstration of the Spirit and of power" rather than on "excellency of speech or of wisdom" or on the "enticing words of man's wisdom". The fact that we as brethren have humbly held to the Word's literal messages is a testament to our outlook about the requirement for ministers. So long as He tarries, may we continue in such an attitude.

In this outlook, our ministers have refrained from seminary influences. Rather, their studies have focused primarily, and almost exclusively, on the Word alone in personal, daily meditation. They have realized that the Holy Spirit, not the scholarship of men, is the best teacher.

In such a context, the seminary's rationalist, reason-oriented tendencies, which often undermine the Word, can be avoided. The result is a more humble and pure mind that is more conducive to bringing forth the unadulterated messages of God's unchanging Word.

We, as brethren, have truly benefited by the labors of our willing ministers of the gospel. The churches have thrived by the Spirit-led utterings of these humble men of "good report"

who are "sound in faith".

Our willing ministers, and the brethren too, benefit by our multi-pastorate system whereby several brothers share in the Word's proclamation. These collaborative efforts help the ministers encourage each other, and lift up one another, as they bring God's Word to the congregants in a stable pattern. The fact that as one brother stands to read the Word, and then preach, and his co-laborers in the Word sit behind him is symbolic of their solid support in bringing God's Word to the listeners. Then, a second minister's comments after the main sermon is reflective of the re-enforcement given to the sermon's message.

God help us if we ever begin to take our willing ministers for granted. Our ministers are one of the church's greatest blessings, and yet they seek no credit. Their only motive is to do God's will, and we who sit in the pews rejoice that they read and preach the Word to us Sunday after Sunday and during mid-week services, year in and year out. This is a marvelous tradition. May God bless them richly for their labors of love, both now and in the life to come.

"For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance; as ye know what manner of men we were among you for your sake."

I Thess. 1:5

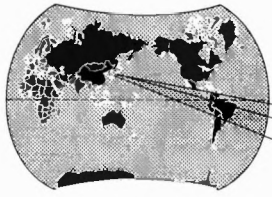
By Bro. Perry A. Klopfenstein

Next Issue:

The Richness of Fellowship

The Light Of Hope

From Across The Ocean



希望の光

“The Spiritual Immune System” Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle, Shioda, Japan

We have all heard of AIDS, a disease that destroys the immune system of the body. The immune system is our defense against other diseases and anything foreign that might enter the body. If we are free of AIDS, we can either strengthen or weaken our immune system by our life style. Medical science now teaches us that the right diet and the right amount of exercise helps to prevent cancer, that is, it strengthens our immune system against the disease.

This makes me wonder if we have a spiritual immune system that helps protect us against sin. If we do have such a system, is it automatic or do we have to do something to activate it? In I Corinthians 10:13 we read, “There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.” In verse 14 we read, “Wherefore, my

dearly beloved, flee from idolatry.” To flee from sin is one way to activate our immune system and to escape from the disease of sin.

Some of our loved ones who have been converted to Christ have fallen into serious sin. This is past and we can't undo it but we would like to know what we should do to prevent such things from happening in the future. We find in Ephesians 6:13, “Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.” The armour of God spoken of here can be thought of as our immune system. Reading and thinking about the Word of God, and praying, activates that system and acts as an immunization against sin, although there may be temptation. This is taught in verses 17 and 18. “And take...the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit...”

Does every believer in our Broth-

erhood pray to God through our Lord Jesus Christ every morning and every evening, and does every believer, also, read the Bible every day? These are practices which need to be maintained in order for our spiritual immune system to work.

We are all aware of Christ's practice of sending forth His disciples two at a time. Mark 6:7 “And he called unto him the twelve, and began to send them forth by two and two...” When our Mission Committee sent believers to Japan to help us here, they advised that two come together, and wisely so. It was thought that one alone would become too lonely, but also, each believer acts as an immune system for the other.

God longs for the day, and we all long for the day, when all of our immune systems are working perfectly and we no longer have to practice discipline in our church, for all will be living holy lives.

希望の光



Goodfield, IL -1918

The early brethren who resided in the Guthville (Goodfield) area attended church at the Mackinaw Dells (Congerville) Church. Goodfield may be the only Church in our fellowship that was built because of a hill. Due to the hilly terrain and the difficulty of navigating during the winter months with horse and buggy, brethren began to construct a Church in Goodfield in 1918. In 1961, the Church was remodeled to provide for a new assembly and a basement dining room. In less than twenty years, more room was needed and the old original Church building was razed, while the 1961 addition was retained. The 1980 remodeling project effectively doubled the size of the Church.

THE SILVER LINING
RR2 Box 50 Roanoke, IL 61561

2nd Class
U.S. Postage
PAID
Roanoke, IL
and
additional offices
USPS 496780

*****CAR-RT-SORT**R-001
RP S 6 13
Gordon Greenbank
10680 Steiner Rd # 24
Rittman OH 44270 9518

