

# *The Silver Lining*



*And the dove came in to him in the evening; and, lo, in her mouth was an olive leaf plucked off: so Noah knew that the waters were abated from off the earth.*

October 1999

## "THE APOSTLE PAUL'S INSPIRATIONS"

Sermon by Bro. Darrel Stoller, Bern, KS

### II Corinthians 5

It begins speaking here of our earthly house. He also then goes on and speaks about the body. I believe the beginning few verses here where he speaks of our earthly house is in reference to our bodies that the Spirit of God, our soul, lives within. He speaks of it that if it is dissolved and returns to the earth, which we read, we all will then have a building made by God, not made by hands, eternal in the heavens.

The Apostle Paul was speaking this to the brethren in Corinth, to those who had experienced a conversion. It seems even though, at least for myself, I perhaps cannot explain everything contained within this chapter. Yet it does seem like it is a very simple and basic instruction here that he goes over with them.

Sometimes it seems as we stand before you and read the story over and over again, some of these same chapters that the mind of man often wants to hear, perhaps, something that we did not know before, we want to be enlightened to something that we had not previously considered. We are thankful that as we go through the Scriptures, that to the believer, it is not really a mystery of what Christ has done and what He has accomplished and what He has fulfilled.

It is not a mystery what is in store for those who are true and faithful. It is receiving it by faith and taking the Word and believing it and knowing it. Just as the Apostle Paul was speaking to believers, it comes to us today also as believers. So we have experienced Christ in our heart and we have come to the point in our life that we knew we transgressed our beloved God.

We knew we were guilty and that we had sinned and there was a judgment remaining for us if we did not receive and did not become reconciled unto God. But there is a judgment of everlasting damnation, eternal hell, and eternal repentance. We are reminded of it throughout the Scriptures.

We were reminded of the rich man this morning, and Christ Himself

spoke of that place. We can read it in many other places. So that created a fear within our heart. We did not want to spend our days here and waste them away standing idle in the market place. We wanted to be laborers. We wanted to have a hope. We wanted to be a part of the promises of God.

As we read here, with a groaning within, we had a desire to be clothed upon with that earthly house which is from heaven. We read, "If so be that being clothed we shall not be found naked." (II Corinthians 5:3). Shall not be found without. We can read of the wedding and those that were invited in. There was one there that came without a wedding garment, unprepared, without, and he was speechless. There was no reason that he could give. There was no justification.

We also know brethren, don't we, there is going to be no reason to come without being clothed upon. "For we that are in this tabernacle do groan, being burdened: not for that we would be unclothed, but clothed upon, that mortality might be swallowed up of life. Now he that hath wrought us for the selfsame thing is God, who also hath given unto us the earnest of the Spirit." (II Corinthians 5:4-5).

The earnest of the Spirit is that which has been given unto us in part, temporarily, while we are here in this life. There are some things that, I believe, we need to continually remind ourselves. We were reminded in this morning hour of those things that we should strive after.

It seems that this life and in our pursuits from day to day, each day we are faced with making temporal provisions for ourselves. Each day we should be faced with the reality and the brevity of life and for what we are really striving after.

So we want the earnest of the Spirit, that which was given to us to hold us and to keep us until that time we would be relieved when this earthly house will become dissolved. So then the Apostle Paul speaks of liv-

ing in faith and the ministry of the faith.

"Therefore we are always confident, knowing that, whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord: (For we walk by faith, not by sight:)" (II Corinthians 5:6-7). What is that, dear ones, to really walk by faith and not by sight? Don't we so much want to know what is before us? We might say, "No, it really doesn't matter a lot to us." When there is someone that is predicting something and it can be about anything, it can be events and it can only be the weather, we give attention and listen. We may

*Sermon continued on page 45*

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

## Light From The Word



Writings based  
on God's Word

October 1999

### All Sunshine Makes a Desert

Nearly everyone enjoys a balmy, sunny day that has no clouds. The blue sky, lush vegetation and comfortably warm temperatures provide an atmosphere of peace and serenity. However, we also realize that too many warm, sunny days all together will cause the earth to get very dry, hard and even develop cracks. The vegetation will begin to wilt and will eventually die if the rains do not come. We know that sunshine every day would make a desert and that we cannot live without the refreshing rain from heaven.

Nearly every child of God enjoys the times when our life is going well, when there are no major problems that we must face and our relationship with God and man seems to be very peaceful. We also know that when everything seems to be going our way too long we can get careless and begin to slowly drift away from God. Too many days or weeks of carefree living can lull us into a false sense of security and self sufficiency.

Just as we need the rains and storms of life to replenish the water supply that will sustain life, so do we occasionally need spiritual rain and storm to remind us of our dependence upon God for all that we have.

We do not look forward to spiritual battles. We sometimes anticipate them with fear. Even Job, who is described as "perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil" (Job 1:1) had a fear of pending troubles. "For the thing which I greatly feared is come upon me, and that which I was afraid of is come to me" (Job 3:25).

Most Christians would prefer to live their life and serve God without persecution. Those who face persecution usually try to flee. This is understandable. Even the apostles, who spent time with Jesus, often would flee when given the opportunity to escape persecution.

When King Herod persecuted the Christians he killed James and imprisoned Peter, intending to kill him also. Many were praying for Peter's release. When he was miraculously released, he went to the home where they were praying. After gaining admission to the home, he "...declared unto them how the Lord had brought him out of the prison. And

he said, Go shew these things unto James, and to the brethren. And he departed, and went into another place" (Acts 12:17). He did not stay there and face almost certain death.

Saul, soon after his conversion, faced persecution. When the Jews planned to kill him, "...The disciples took him by night, and let him down by the wall in a basket" (Acts 9:25). At that time Saul chose to flee to a place where he could be of greater service to the Lord.

When it suits the Lord's purpose to spare His people from harsh trials to complete the work He has for them, "...The Lord shall deliver me (his people) from every evil work, and will preserve me unto his heavenly kingdom: to whom be glory for ever and ever" (1 Tim. 4:18). Numerous other examples are recorded in the scriptures, both old and new, that record God's merciful deliverance of his people from harm or evil. A few examples include Lot (Gen. 19:16), David (1 Sam. 17:37), the Hebrew children (Dan. 3:27), Daniel (Dan. 6:22), and Paul and Silas (Acts 16:26).

There are times, however, when the Lord allows His people to suffer persecution and death. Stephen, after making a defense against the accusation of blasphemy, was not delivered from his accusers. "Then they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and ran upon him with one accord,...and stoned Stephen, calling upon God and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit...he fell asleep" (Acts 8:57-60).

Peter and other disciples, when faced with persecution did not flee when it suited the Lord's purpose for them to fulfill a task in the face of danger. When they were commanded by men to stop preaching, said "We ought to obey God rather than men" (Acts 5:29). They continued to preach the truth. They were beaten for this and "...departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name" (Acts 5:11).

The Apostle Paul, as he neared the end of his ministry, refused to be intimidated by even the threat against his life said "...none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy

and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God" (Acts 20:24).

Many other examples of self-sacrifice could be recounted, including Abraham (Gen. 13:9), Joseph (Gen. 50:21), Moses (Nu. 11:29), many early disciples and, of course, Jesus Christ. They faced heavy trials and their faith grew stronger.

Why would God allow His children to suffer? There are a number of reasons. Persecution caused Christians to move to many areas where there were no servants of the true God. Persecuted Christians "...were scattered abroad (and) went every where preaching the word" (Acts 8:4). Also, "...they which were scattered abroad, travelled as far as Phoenice, and Cyprus, and Antioch, preaching the word..." (Acts 11:19), and giving many people an opportunity to hear the Word of God.

Persecution also helps individuals grow in their faith. "if we suffer, We shall also reign with him:" (1 Tim. 2:12). "...but if, when ye do well, and suffer for it, ye take it patiently, this is acceptable with God" (1 Peter 2:20). There are many examples throughout history, such as those accounted in the Bible and in Martyr's Mirror, that provide us with evidence that faith can be increased with adversity.

Persecution can help strengthen the church by helping the individuals of that church be stronger in their faith. Following Saul's early persecution against the Christians, there was an element of unrest but when Saul was converted and stopped the persecution, "...then had the churches rest and were edified; and walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost, were multiplied" (Acts 9:31). Other accounts of godly fear that brought the church closer together can be found throughout the scripture.

Persecution, suffering and pain are not conditions that we seek but when we face them on occasion, it can bring us closer to the Lord. We have been promised that "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" (1 Cor. 10:13).





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

## World Relief Approved Projects — Opportunities to Serve

Anyone interested in volunteering for these or future projects should contact Bro. Arnold Gerst and/or submit a volunteer information form, which is available from their local treasurer representative. The completed form should be sent to:

Arnold Gerst, Secretary  
Apostolic Christian  
World Relief Committee  
1107 Madonna Dr.  
Quincy, IL 62301  
217-223-8424 Phone  
217-223-0116 Fax

### U.S. BOARD

#### Disaster Work Projects

##### Tornado Reconstruction Project in Oklahoma and Kansas

Christian Aid Ministries have reconsidered their previous decision not to field a work team site in Oklahoma. They have a need for carpenters, beginning the week of September 27, at New Castle, OK. This location is approximately ten miles South of Oklahoma City near I44. This location is 197 miles from Kiowa, KS, or 179 miles from Wichita, KS, for weekend church commuting.

If anyone is interested in taking advantage of these opportunities, please contact Bro. Arnold Gerst, phone 217-223-8424 or fax 217-223-0116, for additional details.

##### Faith, Hope, & Love Living Center — Peoria, IL

Remodeling and renovation project on a building that was purchased from the South Side Mission to provide a halfway house for individuals released from local prisons. It is an extension of the Faith,

Hope, & Love Prison Ministries which is completely under the control and direction of our Brethren. Volunteers should contact Bro. George Huthmann, 309-266-6306.

##### South Side Mission — Peoria, IL

Volunteer to paint the interior of an 11,000 sq. ft. building, purchased by the South Side Mission. It will become a used clothing distribution center for the needy and homeless. This is the same organization from which we purchased the building that houses the Faith, Hope, & Love Living Center. Volunteers should contact Bro. Ed Meister, 309-637-7746.

##### Woodford County Heart House Project — Eureka, IL

Volunteers to help in providing staff support for this shelter for the homeless and victims of domestic violence. This organization has been in operation for over three years. The local coordinator is Bro. Lyle Martin, 309-923-8911.

##### Empty Tomb Project Champaign/Urbana, IL

This is a food pantry and house rehabilitation project that has given our church Brethren and Friends, including students of the University of Illinois, many opportunities to share. The local coordinator is Bro. Thane Hanson, 217-398-3793.

##### CAM Clothing Processing Project — Roanoke, IL

Volunteers from our Central Illinois churches are using the Christian Aid Ministries facilities to sort and bale the clothing donated to our Central Illinois Distribution Center. The baled clothing is sent to our needy brethren in Europe, and to Christian Aid Ministries projects in third world countries and the United States. Local coordinator is Bro. Gene Hangartner, 309-923-7289.

##### Galilean Home Project Liberty, KY

This is a home for orphaned and needy children, often mentally and/or physically impaired. We have approved a new project and funding to build a dormitory for the nannies, who care for 'born free' babies, living in the "Angel House." The mothers of the 'born free' babies are inmates of the federal prison system. There are continuing opportunities for volunteers for facility enhancement, repair, and maintenance projects. Interested parties should contact Bro. Mike Fiechter, 219-597-7330.

##### Harbor House Project Celina, OH

This project includes remodeling of existing, unoccupied rooms into office space and several apartments for this organization, which cares for and counsels pregnant, unwed, teenage girls, and is a licensed adoption agency. Interested parties should contact Bro. Mike Fiechter, 219-597-7330.

##### Soap Making Projects

Some of our congregations have soap making projects, to provide soap for distribution with health & school kits to Haiti, Jamaica, & Mexico, shipments of food & clothing to Eastern Europe, and clothing, and medical supplies to the Caribbean area.

##### Wolcott, IN

Contact Bro. Gary Waibel  
219-279-2582

##### West Bend, IA

Contact Bro. Eldon Banwart  
515-887-2652.

##### Akron-Mansfield-Rittman-Smithville, OH

Contact Bro. Mark Steiner  
330-669-2094

He that hath a bountiful eye shall be blessed; for he giveth of his bread to the poor. PROVERBS 22:9



## Bethany Ranch Project

The Phoenix and Prescott congregations have a security fence-building project at Bethany Ranch, a home in Phoenix for handicapped children. A delay has occurred because of changes in layout. The construction of a 12 unit building at Bethany Ranch has been approved as a new opportunity for volunteer work teams. It is hoped that construction will start this Winter season. Work team leaders are encouraged to contact Bro. Dick Beery, 602-266-1517.

## Navajo Nation Project

This an ongoing project with a continuing slow growth. With distribution buildings at Crown Point, NM and Dilkon, AZ, we now have convenient locations to deliver our Bibles, clothing, and food grains. The Home for Abused Children, at Dilkon, started with the Hozho Ke' Hogan, currently needing house parents. Work is now being planned to bring the Counseling Center to a usable completion. For additional information, please contact Bro. Dick Beery, 602-266-1517 or Bro. Dan Beer, 219-457-4633.

## Distribution Centers

Volunteers operate all of our Distribution Centers. While each of the Distribution Centers is unique, they all participate in some aspect of the collection, sorting, packaging, and distribution process. If you desire to volunteer your time and abilities, please call a contact listed below:

### Athens AL

Elder Bro. Lavoyd Moore  
205-232-2035

### Bay City, MI

Bro. Kurt Munsel  
517-686-6634

### Bluffton, IN

Bro. Gerald Fiechter  
219-597-7494  
Bro. Leon Gerber (Bible Distribution)  
219-824-5587

### Fairbury, IL

Bro. Glen Steidinger,  
815-692-2374.

### Goodfield, IL

Bro. Marvin Wagenbach,  
309-925-5658.

## EUROPEAN BOARD

### Food Packaging Project Bluffton, IN

Since December 1985, food packaging for the Brethren in Eastern Europe has been ongoing. Anyone interested in assisting on this ongoing project should call Bro. Mike Fiechter, 219-597-7330.

## MEXICAN BOARD

### Ammar Building Project Juarez, Mexico

Our work teams have constructed a number of two room houses, on concrete slabs. The new owners show great appreciation for these new shelters. The materials, for the houses, were purchased with World Relief Funds. The local natives helped our work teams with the construction. Plans call for more house construction and repairs to existing houses. Anyone interested in sharing time with this project should contact Bro. Mike Fiechter, 219-597-7330.

### Ammar Medical Assistance Project — Juarez, Mexico

Each year, two medical work teams journey to the colonias in suburban Juarez, to provide medical and dental treatment to the poor. They work in small, easy to assemble, tubular aluminum and fabric field clinics. The clinics were designed and built by our work teams, and funded by contributions from World Relief.

Participants have considered it a blessing to share their time, love, and expertise. There is a need for additional dentists, dental technicians, and hygienists. Medical work teams scheduled for the months of March and August each year. For those wanting to share their talents in the medical field and receive a blessing, please contact:

Bro. Dave Wegman  
309-452-8079  
Sis. Cheryl Hermann  
309-385-1082

### Orphanage - Imuris Sonora, Mex

The orphanage has a need for additional bathrooms. For additional details, please contact Bro. Mike Fiechter, 219-597-7330.

## CARIBBEAN BOARD

All volunteers should contact the project coordinator. Should you not be able to contact the coordinator for Haiti, direct your inquiry to:

Bro. Tom Hitz,  
734-454-9229

For Jamaica direct your inquiry to  
Bro. Kevin Sauder  
Phone/Fax 1-309-925-2409.

Note: Bro. Harold Witzig has retired from the coordinating position.

## Apostolic Water Aid

Water is a most valuable resource in Haiti. The water well drilling project uses equipment furnished by Apostolic Christians. A new drilling rig brings the total to three. Volunteers, with rotary drill operating experience, are greatly appreciated. Responsibilities include instructing Haitian nationals on service, maintenance and drilling techniques. Interested individuals should contact Bro. Earl Sauder, 309-387-6357.

## Haiti Vocational School Project

The instructing of the Haitian nationals has evolved into the creation of three Vocational Schools to teach the Haitians in the building and repair trades. Anyone interested in sharing their skills with young people who are eager to learn should contact Bro. Duane Schieler, 765-576-2922.

## Agricultural Assistance Project

This project provides opportunities to assist the Haitian farmers with Veterinarian medicines and expertise, animal nutrition supplies, and plant nutrition by our Veterinarian, Animal Nutritionist, and Agronomist volunteers. Work teams have been working with the S.E.E.D. Ministries agricultural school. Interested individuals should contact Bro. Bob Beebe, 219-291-2158.

*I have showed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.*

ACTS 20:35

## APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

We all enjoy compliments, and recently the Home received one that we felt should be passed along. A card was sent by a resident's mother after one Friday evening when she and her husband had come in to pick up their son for the weekend. It was during one of our Friday evening song services that they arrived and were surprised when their son did not want to leave right away. He was enjoying the music so much, and his parents appreciated it too. They noticed that even those that didn't seem to be paying attention looked relaxed and peaceful because of it. We thank all of the area churches that make themselves available to praise our Lord in this way and bring comfort to so many.

"Sing unto him, sing psalms unto him, talk ye of all his wondrous works."

*I Chronicles 16:9*

Many attended the Ice Cream Social at Timber Ridge on Saturday, September 11. All residents, family and friends from each of our homes were invited to share in food and fellowship.

There currently is a position open at Timber Ridge for an Assistant Director of Nursing. We want to ask nurses to prayerfully consider being a part of our mission at the Home for the Handicapped. This career opportunity would involve using supervisor, training and people skills. Experience in management and working with disabled people would be helpful.

"...Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

*Matthew 25:40*

NOVEMBER birthdays at TIMBER RIDGE are: Susie McGinley (1), Kathy Knapp (5), Tom Manley (8), Kay Ellis (9), Bernice Heiniger (11), Sam Sigulas (13), Janet Worner (17), Kristie Furrer (18). At OAKWOOD: Keith Weyeneth (4). At LINDEN: Ken Clauss (2). At 200 E. HAZELWOOD: Alan Unsicker (15). At 652 DETROIT: Jane Aberle (14). At 241 MINNESOTA: Rhonda Pullen (4), Marian Funk (20).

## GATEWAY WOODS APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME

I used to have a sign on my bulletin board when I was a new believer that read, "Humility is Power!" I was recently trying to explain the concept of grace to my daughter and how God's ways are so different than ours. His ways seem so backwards to a world that esteems those who can control, assert and manipulate through human brute force, financial dominance and verbal and mental mastery. What a paradox! "God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace to the humble." (James 4:6). "Let each esteem other better than themselves." (Philippians 2:3). "But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant." (Matthew 23:11). "So the last shall be first, and the first last." (Matthew 20:16). God is just the opposite of we humans. In fact, He's not human! And aren't we glad!

He has power (grace) to call us by His Spirit, reveal our sin, reveal His holiness, grant repentance, give us the knowledge of His will, give us the desire to do it, and give us the ability to do it. He does it all. And that's humbling!

We are humbled and encour-

aged by the Lord's recent outpouring of blessings through our supporters who helped to raise \$250,000 at our recent Sale. We provided over \$500,000 worth of free or subsidized care last year through our five programs: Residential Child Care, Therapeutic Foster Care, Gateway Woods School, Home Based Services (IN) and Apostolic Christian Family Services (IL). This single event provided half of that amount in just one day. We praise God for all the devoted volunteers and generous donors.

He has also provided us with a full staff through the recent addition of Sis. Rena Braker (Roanoke, IL) who is serving as the Assistant Houseparent for the Baumans in our East House and Sis. Lauretta Schafer (Indianapolis, IN) who brings abundant experience to our Counseling staff. We are so thankful that God has called and these sisters have answered.

New residents on campus are Debra H. and Deb B. with the Kipfers and Jacob M. with the Baumans. We welcome them as chosen by the Lord to be here. We pray that true change can occur in these young people and their families.

## ALABAMA, ATHENS

**Pam Moore**

As I sit down to write the Silver Lining article, I am so thankful to hear the sound of rain outside. We have been in a drought since the month of July. When it began to rain, my oldest son commented, "Mama, it's raining! That means the drought is over!" We don't know why God has withheld the rain, perhaps so that we are now thankful and appreciative of the rain that we take for granted.

We are also thankful for the busload of Gridley, IL young folks

who came to work and fellowship Labor Day weekend. Their work at the Tennessee Fellowship Area and the Athens church is greatly appreciated, as well as the fellowship that we all enjoyed.

Again, we were thankful to have Bro. Ted Witzig (Morton, IL) minister to us this month, as he came to visit his son and daughter-in-law, Bro. Andy and Sis. Erin Witzig, who are currently residing in Athens.

As always, we welcome each and every one to fellowship with us in Athens. Church services are held at 10:00 a.m. Sunday morning, and 7:00 p.m. Wednesday evenings.

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### ARIZONA, PHOENIX Ron and Ev Hoerr

"The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?"

*Psalm 27:1*

Our Sunday School students in the junior and senior Bible Classes went to San Diego on September 4-5 for Christian fellowship with the Lord as their light. Our youth can cherish these memories for years. Our thanks to our hosts and our teachers for their labors of love.

Bill and Ramona Emch have a new baby daughter, Josephine Irene, born on September 4. She is named after her Emch grandparents, Bro. Joseph Paul and Sis. Irene. We welcome Josie (or Jo) as does her sister, Emily.

Bro. John (Mick) and Sis. Donna Gerber welcomed baby Jonathan on September 2 in Lester, IA.

Our sympathy to Bro. Ellsworth and Sis. Lois Niemeyer on his brother Bill's death in an ac-

cident. They went to Michigan for his funeral.

Our World Relief workers have been assembling health kits and knotting quilts when they meet. Anything done to help God's family in need is a blessing.

Sis. Shirley Mohrman is still disabled. Sis. Helen Wuthrich has been quite ill. Mary Ella and Floran Klopfenstein have been hospitalized.

We wish Sis. Keri Baum God's blessings as employment takes her to North Ft. Myers, FL.

Mark Stoller and David Maurer have been worshipping with us for some time. Welcome from Oakville and Forrest.

Sis. Gladys Fisher passed away after a lengthy illness on September 14. She was our oldest sister, at 95 years. When the choir sang "It is well with my soul", we were grateful our beloved Sis. Gladys had made it Home to Heaven, as she so often prayed. Our ministers had her funeral services at church September 18. We extend our sympathy to her son, Don, wife Margaret, and grandson Paul. What a blessing to hear our choir sing "Open Thy Merciful Arms" at East Resthaven Cemetery, where her body was interred.

Sis. Helen Wuthrich passed away on September 15. She had been confined to bed for six years. She was lovingly cared for by her sisters, Sis. Elva and Sis. Ruth. Her funeral was September 19 at the church with our home ministers having the service. The choir sang several favorite selections at the church and cemetery. Interment was in East Resthaven Cemetery. Yes, "Open Thy Merciful Arms" was very comforting.

Our sympathy to Sis. Cindy Langhofer, Sis. Wanda Hoerr and Sis. Gina Emch on the death of their aunt, Sis. Lois Ann

Gudeman. Services were in Francesville on September 16.

Psalm 29:11 will comfort us in these days of distress. Let us pray for and practice a calm attitude.

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### ARIZONA, PRESCOTT Jane Hodges

Sis. Madeline Knochel, her son, Bro. Darby, and daughter and son-in-law, Sis. Susan and Ed Suever, have moved near Prescott from Phoenix, and are now worshipping with us. We welcome them and appreciate their support.

Our ministering brothers this month included Bro. Greg Rassi (Chicago, IL) and our Elder Bro. Jon Kokanovich (Phoenix, AZ). Two of the Sundays, we shared in the services from Phoenix via phone. The Lord has really blessed our country with wonderful technology.

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### ARIZONA, TUCSON Lisa Knapp

It is mid-September and Tucson is still enjoying a very mild summer by Arizona standards. We are having temperatures in the low 90's and overcast skies much more than we are accustomed to. The weather forecasters have announced that our normal monsoon season lasts 56 days and that we are now in our 83rd day of the official "monsoon season". I thought maybe it was my imagination but I guess we really are having an unusual summer.

We would like to welcome Bro. Floyd and Sis. Clara Banwart to Tucson. They have moved to Tucson to a lovely retirement home not far from our church. Bro. Bob and Sis. Betty Lemons are glad to have family so close by.

Our Bible Class recently returned from a trip to San Diego,



CA after spending the Labor Day weekend enjoying the company of the Altadena, San Diego, Prescott and Phoenix Bible Classes. Once again they were able to catch a ride with the Phoenix Sunday School on a chartered bus (for which we are extremely thankful and grateful) and head for a weekend of fun and fellowship, renewing old friendships and making new ones. Many thanks to the San Diego church for their love, hard work and hospitality and also to the Phoenix church for letting us ride with them. These weekends are just one of the many blessings God showers down upon us.

We had to say goodbye to Betty Kaufman who had been living near her family here in Tucson (Bro. Curt and Sis. Caroline Kaufman and children) for a few years now and decided to leave Tucson. We pray God will watch over Betty as she starts a different phase in her life. We hope she comes back to visit soon.

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**CALIFORNIA  
ALTADENA  
Jim Klotzle**

Greetings brothers and sisters in Christ! This month, Altadena has been blessed with several visiting ministers. We had Elder Bro. Jon Lehman (Bern, KS), and Bros. Ben Wiegand (Philadelphia, PA), Frank Sauder (Roanoke, IL), Curt Kaufman (Tucson, AZ) and Ben Wysong (Sabetha, KS). The ability to travel from cities and communities across the nation has greatly blessed our congregations. Even in the early days of the church, the Apostle Paul saw the need to visit churches to preach and encourage. Writing to the church in Rome, he said:

“Making request, if by any

means now at length I might have a prosperous journey by the will of God to come unto you. For I long to see you, that I may impart unto you some spiritual gift, to the end ye may be established; that is, that I may be comforted together with you by the mutual faith both of you and me.”

*Romans 1:10-12*

Paul also saw the value of return visits, so we invite all of the brethren and ministers who have visited us to come back again.

“And some days after Paul said unto Barnabas, Let us go again and visit our brethren in every city where we have preached the word of the Lord, and see how they do.”

*Acts 15:36*

Our Junior high and Bible Class students also enjoyed the benefits of traveling to other churches this Labor Day weekend when they gathered with the Arizona Sunday Schools in San Diego. We thank our new superintendent, Bro. Joe Klotzle, and his wife, Sis. Sue, for accompanying our Altadena students.

We extend our sympathy to Bro. Sam and Sis. Lily Bence and their family following the passing of Bro. Sam's mother, Ana Bence, who was a member of the sister church. May God comfort their hearts as they adjust to the many changes.

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**CALIFORNIA  
SAN DIEGO  
Peggy Jevremov**

We welcomed and greeted our dear Sis. Julianna Topolchanyi, July 31, after hearing her testimony of how God had worked in her life, even so many years ago.

We are so thankful to have Bro.

Rory Strahm assembling with us again, even if it is only for one service on Sundays. He is making slow progress. He remains in our thoughts and prayers.

Labor Day weekend found many going and coming. We were blessed to host the Phoenix, Tucson and Altadena Bible classes. Meanwhile, our single group enjoyed fellowshiping with the brethren in Silverton, OR.

We have been listening to the tapes of our recent Brotherhood Conference. How strengthening they have been. May we take to heart the encouragements and admonitions of our dear Elder brethren, for they watch for our souls.

We have appreciated our recent visitors. Among them were Bro. Mike and Sis. Carol Rieker (Peoria, IL). May the Lord bless Bro. Mike for his willingness to serve us in the ministry.

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**CANADA  
ONTARIO, KITCHENER  
Laura Baxter**

“Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted within me? hope in God: for I shall yet praise him, who is the health of my countenance, and my God.”

*Psalm 43:5*

God is the health of our countenance. Do we have a healthy countenance? Can others see by our visual appearance and attitude that we have joy and peace in our hearts? If we have a downcast or disquieted heart in us, may we do as the psalm writer instructed; hope in God and praise Him. Jesus came to earth and died for us so that we could not only have a good life, but an abundant life. And our countenance will reflect the life we are living.

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

*Psalm 127:3*

Bro. Mike and Sis. Barb Ursu and their children, Naomi, Jesse, and Jacob welcome baby Charity Ruth into their hearts and home. We are thankful to God for the miracle of birth and children. Sis. Barb also suffered some complications after the birth, but we are thankful that she is home and recovering. May God bless this dear couple as they raise their family to glorify Him.

We are thankful for our visitors this past month and especially our visiting ministers, Bros. Everett Gerber (Rockville, CT) and Wally Ramsier (Mansfield, OH). We thank God for your labors on our behalf.

We welcome all visitors to worship with us. Please contact Bro. Mike Ursu (519) 669-8515 or Bro. Wayne Saddler (519) 662-6834 for more information and directions. Our church address is: 52 King St., East, Heidelberg, Ontario NOB-1Y0. (519) 699-4129

### **COLORADO, DENVER**

#### **Mark and Kelly Ramseyer**

Todd Schambach (Bro. Bob and Sis. Jeanne, Elgin, IL) was planning to spend the summer in Colorado, enjoy the activities and maybe even go to our Denver church a couple times. He made it to church several times and a few weeks ago decided that he needed more than a geographical change in life, he needed a spiritual change. Todd has given his life and soul to God. He's been a delight to have around, but unfortunately he has plans to move back to Elgin, IL. With him letting God

make his decisions, it's tough to even think about coaxing him to stay around. We wish Todd plenty of God's grace and wisdom and peace, and hope he visits (or moves) here again.

What a joy it is to welcome another Katanic into our church! Jackson Thomas Katanic was born on September 16 to a beaming Tom and Theresa Katanic. Jackson will join our burgeoning group of little tikes that gives us hope and determination. No doubt Uncle Bro. Mike Katanic can hardly contain himself and likely will have his arms full. Unfortunately, Jackson won't see his grandparents, Grandma Maria Katanic and Grandpa Mark and Grandma Mary Djemrovsky, very often, since all three live in Ohio. We're all thankful that Jackson is here and pray that God will continue to protect and bless his family.

In the beginning of September, Sis. Lanette Meyer along with Bro. Mike and Sis. Deb Leman and their son, Daniel, spent a week in Mexico with an Apostolic Christian work team. Their task was to serve as a health center for hundreds of Mexicans who don't have access to health care. Many basic items of healthcare which we possess in multiples just are not available to them. The Word of God which we can easily obtain and read is impossible for some. This reminded me of an article I recently read which helped me to realize how I can be more thankful and praise God, rather than being sad and complaining. I don't remember the details of the article, but it was something like the following:

Do you thank God for transportation when your vehicle is 10

years old?

Do you thank God for healthy children when they consistently wake you up ten minutes before you want to get up?

Do you thank God for the food when you have peanut butter and jelly for lunch for a whole week?

Do you thank God for the good job today even though you don't know how you could ever retire?

Do you thank God for the yard to use when only the dandelions need mowing (again)?

Do you praise God for His wisdom when you just can't understand Him?

Do you thank God for providing a loving household to grow in when a parent still doesn't believe in God?

Do you thank God for allowing sickness and tragedy to come upon you so that you can be an even brighter light of His?

Do you praise God for His guidance when He tells you to do something you'd rather not?

Do you thank God for fellow believers when they frustrate you to no end?

Do you thank God for placing you in a group of people who don't believe in Him so that you can share the gospel?

Do you thank God for His Son when God allows your child to be taken?

Do you praise God for His love when you long to love someone?

Do you thank God for a believing spouse when he/she never seems to listen/clean/remember/work/talk/dress/eat the way you'd wish?

Do you thank God for your talent when you see someone else's talent(s)?

"In every thing give thanks..."  
*I Thess. 5:18*

I have a ways to go.

We're thankful to God for providing Elder Bros. Ed Lanz (Oakville, IA) and Ron Schambach (Elgin, IL) to visit us and share in God's Word. Hopefully each one of us will feel the Spirit to tell of God's Word to others the way these two have.

*Note of Thanks:*

May God bless each one who has been so thoughtful in supporting us through prayer, cards and kind words and deeds, during the illness and death of our daughter and sister, Sis. Kris Bauman.

*The Tom Leman family*

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**CONNECTICUT  
ROCKVILLE  
Cherie Galat**

"My loving Father, Thou dost take me To be henceforth Thy child and heir." (Zion's Harp #41). Six dear souls gave their testimonies and established a covenant with their Heavenly Father. We welcome into the fold Bro. Adam Luginbuhl (Bro. Daryl and Sis. Norma), Sis. Sharon Manning (Ray and Mary), Bro. Jonathan Moser (Bro. Ben and Sis. Glenna), Bro. Jon Zahner (Bro. Warren and Sis. Bonnie), Bro. Kevin Zahner (Bro. Curt and Sis. Sally) and Sis. Carla Virkler (Bro. Terry and Sis. Cindy).

"...Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

*Matthew 4:17*

Our hearts are uplifted when we hear of more that are willing to turn their back on Satan and follow our Lord Jesus Christ. We rejoice with the families of Jacob Virkler (Bro. Terry and Sis. Cindy), Andrew Luginbuhl (Bro. Ken and Sis. Kay) and Deborah

Hoffman (Bro. Mark and Sis. Luella).

Many of us from the Rockville congregation had the opportunity to attend the Brotherhood Conference in Rittman, OH. Words really cannot adequately express the love and joy we felt on that day. God surely was with us and spoke unto us words of instruction, encouragement and warning through our dear beloved Elder brethren. It strengthens us and gives us courage when we can all be together in one spot as a representation of the body of Christ. May we all continue to uplift each other in love.

Two dear couples were joined in marriage. August 20 was the wedding day of John Hoffman (Bro. Mark and Sis. Luella) and Erin Doyle (John and Gail). Bro. John Garrow (Bro. Bernie and Marie) and Sis. Rhonda Zahner (Bro. Curt and Sis. Sally) were married on August 29. May God give them direction as each couple walks as one before Him.

A sweet little bundle of joy arrived on September 3. Christopher Russell was born to Peter Jr. and Kelly Hany and joins his sister Katherine. Grandparents are Bro. Peter Sr. and Sis. Virgene Hany, Dean and Bonnie Kloter and Roger and Pauline Pinard.

We certainly appreciate the love of our ministering brethren who visited us in past weeks: Elder Bros. Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH) and Duane Farney (Croghan-Naumburg, NY) and Bros. Larry Wenninger (Latty, OH), Floyd Graves, Jr. (Croghan-Naumburg, NY), Ben Wiegand (Philadelphia, PA), Roy Ehnle (Bradford, IL) and Shawn Metzger (Philadelphia, PA).

Our Single Group was invited to LaCrosse, IN over the Labor Day weekend. It is a blessing to

meet our brethren from our various congregations and share the love of God through Christian fellowship and singing.

May God be with Ernie Kupferschmid who was recently in the hospital. Let us also remember in prayer those who have ongoing conditions of the mind or body. If we put our trust in Him, He will surely see us through.

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**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
WASHINGTON  
Henrietta Meyer**

Towards the end of every article I include "...just to let us know you are in the area, please call...". We appreciate those who call to let us know they are going to be with us on our "Church" Sundays, helps us plan a Saturday evening gathering and Sunday lunch. We also appreciate those who call on the "off" Sundays. A few times this summer we have had visitors in the area and have met in homes for a tape and fellowship. We thank the families who have opened their homes to us.

Our visiting ministers this past month were Elder Bro. David Wiegand (Champaign, IL), and Bros. Ben Wiegand (Philadelphia, PA), Glenn Price (Sarasota, FL) and Walter Ramsier (Mansfield, OH). Other visitors this month were from Rittman and Junction, OH; Rockville, CT; and Bay City, MI. We are always glad when business or vacation brings loved ones to our area.

Services are usually held the first, third and fourth Sundays of the month at the Tysons Corner Westpark (Best Western) Hotel, located about one mile west of the Beltway (I-495) on Route 7. Song service begins at 10:15; worship service at 10:30. 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. Barry Steffen (410) 569-3635 or Bro. Matt Fetter (703) 860-5749.

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**FLORIDA  
FT. LAUDERDALE  
Gretchen Webb**

"But the Lord sent out a great wind into the sea, and there was a mighty tempest in the sea..."

*Jonah 1:4*

We are thankful and fortunate to have experienced God's protecting mercy as we escaped the effects of Hurricane Floyd. The storm came very close to devastating our community. We were reminded of God's awesome power and our human condition. Our thoughts and prayers are with those who felt the effects of the hurricane.

September 19 was the date for our Fall Sunday School picnic. The students put on a program to show what they learned in Vacation Bible School. I Peter 4:10 was the theme of the evening: "As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God." We were taught to use the gifts God has given each one of us. The evening was a blessing to all who attended.

The strong South Florida economy has many employment opportunities available. Brothers and sisters considering relocating should prayerfully consider Ft. Lauderdale. We will give you a warm welcome into our fellowship.

**FLORIDA  
NORTH FT. MYERS  
Anjie Baum**

"Then they cry unto the Lord in their trouble, and he bringeth them out of their distresses. He maketh the storm a calm, so that the waves thereof are still. Then are they glad because they be quiet; so he bringeth them unto their desired haven. Oh that men would praise the Lord for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!"

*Psalms 107:28-31*

We in the Ft. Myers area are thankful to again be spared any major effects of two tropical storms that passed through our area. Often we are fearful during our hurricane season. Man has developed technology to track the storms. God alone, however, directs the paths of the storms. And God alone can calm the winds. We praise our Heavenly Father for His mercy upon us...not only in stormy weather, but also in the stormy times of our spiritual lives.

We would like to thank our Bro. Glenn Price (Sarasota, FL) for visiting us this past month and joyfully teaching the Word.

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**FLORIDA, SARASOTA  
Rachel Sabo**

On the weekend of September 18, we were privileged to witness the testimony and baptism of our new Bro. Shaun Knepp. We appreciated having Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL) here to assist during this special occasion.

We want to extend a warm welcome to Sis. Emily Wiegand (Roanoke, IL). She plans to be in Sarasota for six months with her studies.

Sunday, September 5, was a sad

day for us as Bro. Glenn Price retired from the ministry. We wish to sincerely thank Bro. Glenn for his twenty years of faithful, loving service to our congregation.

We continue to pray for God's healing of Bro. Glenn Blume, who has spent time in the hospital this past month.

Ministering Bro. Will Schieler (Milford, IN) also was here in September and we want to thank him for bringing the Word to us.

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**GEORGIA, ATLANTA  
Keith and Carol Kaufman**

I love to tell the story!

'Tis more pleasant to repeat  
What seems, each time I tell it,  
More wonderfully sweet.

I love to tell the story;  
For some have never heard  
The message of salvation  
From God's own Holy Word.

*Gospel Hymns #30*

"And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."

*Mark 16:15*

We were recently instructed that the simple fulfillment of this commandment begins with our own families and then to our neighbors. The question was asked, "Are you fulfilling Christ's great commission?" Are those who are sin sick being told of the Great Physician and how they can be healed?

Anyone reading this who lives in the area or has friends or family living in this area, please send us your current address and phone number.

We are so thankful for faithful brothers who are willing to stand before us and speak God's Word,

allowing the Spirit to have free course. May God richly bless Elder Bros. Tom Hoffman (Roanoke, IL), Lavoyd Moore (Athens, AL) and Bro. Lenny Meyer (Chicago, IL) for preaching the truth to us.

Twice during the last two weeks, the brothers spoke about the frailty of life and the urgent need of the preparation of our souls that we might stand before God with that cloak of righteousness, that He alone can give. We were reminded of this in the sudden passing of an 18-year-old friend of Erica and Staci Stoller (Bro. Linn and Sis. Brenda). May they feel God's love and comfort.

"Those things which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you."

*Philippians 4:9*

As we listen to the Conference tapes, may we take each thought to heart and put them into action that the peace of God will be with us.

We appreciate each one who comes and worships with us. The fellowship and the love of the brethren strengthens our faith and encourages us to be more faithful. Our prayer is that all of God's children will not neglect to assemble with those of like-minded faith.

"Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

*Galatians 6:7*

Sunday Services begin at 10:15 and 12:30. Song service is held the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. The church is located at 6225 Campbellton-Fairburn Rd.,

Fairburn, GA. Take I-85 south to Exit 13. Go west four miles. The church will be on your left. Please call Bro. Linn Stoller (770) 631-4554, Bro. John Brewer (770) 502-8629 or Bro. Keith Kaufman (770) 304-8335 to let us know of your plans.

*Note of Thanks:*

We would like to thank all who sent cards and remembered us in prayer during my sister's illness and her death. May God richly bless each one.

*Bro. Keith and Sis. Carol Kaufman*

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### ILLINOIS, BELVIDERE Sheila McCoy

"Ye are the salt of the earth; but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? It is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men."

*Matt. 5:13*

Our congregation was able to enjoy a lot of delicious dishes at our Sunday School picnic on August 28. But without salt much of the food would have been so tasteless. When seasoned with salt, we can make a distinctive impact on the world around us. We should not want to blend in with this world. If we are to be useful Christians to God, we need to be obedient servants. We need to do good works. We'll then have the same effect as those tiny grains of salt that bring out the best flavor.

We were blessed with a wonderful day for our Sunday School picnic. May God bless our teachers for all their efforts on this day and throughout their terms and grant them wisdom as they teach our

children.

Bro. Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL) was our visiting minister this month. We want to thank Bro. Gary for his services on that Sunday when both of our ministers were traveling.

An all church camp-out at Le-Aqua-Na State Park was enjoyed by many families in our congregation on a September weekend. The night was crisp but the fellowship and hymn singing warmed everyone's spirits.

With fall comes new addresses for our college students:

Bro. Ryan Harris  
1305 N. Annie Glidden Rd.,  
Apt. 14B  
DeKalb, IL 60115  
rharris5@niu.edu

Alisha McCoy  
534 Mifflin St.  
Madison, WI 53703  
afmccoy@students.wisc.edu

Andrea McCoy  
317 Witte A Hall  
615 W. Johnson St.  
Madison, WI 53706-1792  
amccoy@students.wisc.edu

Austin Mueller  
505 Oakridge Ln.  
New London, WI 54961

Angela Mueller  
413 9th S. St.  
LaCrosse, WI 54601  
ajmueller@mail.viterbo.edu

Tristan Mueller  
University of WI-Green Bay  
Box 2120 2420 Nicolet Dr.  
Green Bay, WI 54311  
muelta14@uwgb.edu

Note: For those visiting Belvidere, there is change in the

name of a street. When exciting from Bypass 20, Stone Quarry Rd. is now called S. Appleton Rd.

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**ILLINOIS  
BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL**

**Carol Sauder  
Janice Horner**

We welcome all of the college students back to the Bloomington-Normal area. We welcome you to join us on Sundays and Wednesdays for church. May the Lord guide and protect you.

Bro. George and Sis. Shirley Stimeling celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on August 21. It was a special thrill to have all of their children attend church with them on Sunday, August 22. We thank Bro. George and Sis. Shirley for being so diligent to each other and to the Lord as they begin their 51st year together. They truly are an inspiration to all of us.

We said goodbye to Sis. Amber Albritton (Chuck and Sis. Marsha) on August 22 as she will be going to school in Phoenix for the next three years. We pray God's hand will continue to be on her during this time.

On August 28-29 we heard the testimonies and witnessed the baptisms of Scott Meiss (Dawn) and Anita Winger (Gil). It was a very inspiring evening as we heard the power of God to call and change a life.

We thank Bro. Steve Baner (Gridley, IL), and Elder Bro. Chuck Hemmer (Peoria, IL) for sharing God's Word with us, and Bro. John Hartman (Fairbury, IL) for being with us for testimonies.

Alison Strassheim (Bro. Dale and Sis. Carol) has accepted a marriage proposal from David Orns (Normal). We wish them many blessings as they begin life to-

gether.

Our church rejoiced to hear the engagement announcement of Bro. Steve LaFont (Robert and Marjorie, Edwards, IL) to Sis. Heidi Schmidgall (Bro. Steve and Sis. Christine, Peoria, IL).

Brandon Alan was born September 7 to Mark and Wendy Heiniger. They are thrilled to have such a healthy boy who was born on Bro. Art Heiniger's birthday, who is Brandon's great-grandpa. Brandon shares his middle name with his father, Mark, and also his older brother, Austin Alan, who passed away last August. Grandparents are Bro. Ron and Sis. Kayleen, and Steve and Cathy Bland of Normal. This is certainly a time to rejoice and thank the Lord for this new bundle of joy.

Bro. Jeremy and Sis. Amy Masters received the blessing of bringing another child into the world. Courtney Kristine became the little sister to Jacob. We again thank the Lord for another healthy baby.

Al Homer's mother passed away this month. We pray God will comfort their family at this time.

We welcome Sis. Mary and daughters Jessica and Brooke Basham to our church. Jessica, Brooke and Alyssa Schmidgall (Bro. Randy and Sis. Marj) have all made the choice to surrender their lives to the Lord. We rejoice with each one of their families.

We are lifting Sis. Betty Steffen up in prayer as she has spent some time in the hospital this month. We pray God will heal her physical body.

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**ILLINOIS, BRADFORD  
Chad and LauraLee Plattner**

We are thankful for the many blessings of the past month. Abbey Ehnle (Bro. Gary and Sis.

Carole) has accepted God's grace to begin her repentance in the Lord. Our prayers are with Abbey as she makes this beginning.

A second child was born to Bro. Steve and Sis. Karen Ehnle on August 23. Welcoming home Jenna Marie is older brother Keith. Grandparents are Bro. Ed and Sis. Verla Ehnle and Bro. Chris and Sis. Ruth Pflederer (Tremont, IL).

On August 29, the engagement was announced of Bro. Weston Stahl (Sis. Charlotte) to Sis. Jill Herrmann (Bro. Howard and Sis. Mary Ann) of Princeville. We will remember them in our prayers as they prepare for the precious, life-long union of marriage.

Among our visitors this past month were ministers, Elder Bro. Jesse Beer (Milford, IN) and Bros. Charles Marti (Lamar, MO) and Ken Knapp (Taylor, MO). May God bless them for unselfishly serving us.

We were privileged to have Bro. Perry Klopfenstein from Gridley, IL with us on the evening of August 29 as he shared with us some of the history of our Apostolic Christian Church in America. Knowing where we came from and how we got to where we are today, makes us all the wiser as we make decisions that affect our future. It was a very blessed evening, and may God bless him for sharing with the research he has done over the years.

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**ILLINOIS  
CHAMPAIGN-URBANA  
Samuel and Pamela Furrer**

Autumn is in the air here in the midwest. We've had a little dry spell and the temperatures have been cooler than normal. Our garden did well in spite of our periods of neglect as we became more in-



volved with other tasks such as cultivating some new flower beds.

The tiny seeds that we planted in the basement in early spring actually turned into some huge plants that have been quite interesting. We purchased a collection of flowering vine seeds, and they have proven themselves to be very enjoyable. These little seeds became nice little plants ready for the out of doors in the spring. I was not terribly confident that they would survive, so

I planted a few where one would have been sufficient. We now have some very lush foliage on our trellis (and occasionally grabbing onto our porch swing) and up the downspouts on the back of the house. The night-flowering moonflowers have been the ones which really prompt us to be amazed at the wonder of creation. These vines produce a gorgeous large white flower which opens in the evening and wilts away by the time the dew is dry in the morning. While it is open, the bloom looks majestic with a large yellowish-colored star reaching out from its center and it releases a sweet, pleasing fragrance. Every evening, a spiraled bud unfurls and comes into its glory to be with us for just that night. While that was the product of our careful seeding and nurturing, we had a surprise visitor plant in our garden. Last year's autumn pumpkin eventually became part of the compost pile. That produced our mystery plant. Although our neighbor thought it would be a gourd and I thought maybe a return of last year's squash, we eventually had several small pumpkins scattered through vines which seemed to have a goal of taking over the garden, alley, and yard. We were actually glad when the pumpkin vines

died, but will be sorry to see our climbing vines wilt and die with the seasonal frost.

As I was reading my devotional, there was an account of a woman who thought God had things turned around as she saw that huge pumpkins grew on small vines and little acorns grew on towering oaks. As she enjoyed the autumn day and pondered her observation, she fell asleep. As she was awakened when a falling acorn bounced off her head, she realized that God was certainly right and knew what was best from the start! Next year, we'll have more adventures in horticulture and again be witnesses to the little wonders of God's creation.

God created a day that was just perfect for our annual student welcome picnic. Following a very nice day of worship and fellowship, a picnic was held at Hessel Park. There, families, students, and local folks enjoyed the afternoon. From my perusing the new edition of the church phone list, it seems that this year's crop of students represents a total of seven states and seventeen of our nineteen Illinois church congregations. We welcome each student, whether new or returning, and we invite the families and friends of these students to come visit them in Champaign-Urbana and worship with us. Those planning to visit on a Wednesday evening should be aware of the fact that services are sometimes at church and sometimes at the Illini Union, so it would be best to check ahead of time. Once the semester was in full swing, the annual gathering at Illini Grove was held. This is a Wednesday evening picnic for the Champaign church and students and is held amid the tall pines on U of I campus. Again our gathering

was blessed with nice weather, good food, and enriching fellowship.

"The night you were born I ceased being my father's boy and became my son's father. That night I began a new life."

—Henry Gregor Felson

Bro. Chad and Sis. Laurie (Schafer) Keever have their own little wonder of creation. Joel Henry Keever was born on September 9. The Keever family is growing at 822 Saint Andrews Circle, Rantoul IL 61866. May God bless this new little Joel and his parents as he grows and develops into a fine young man.

Elder Bros. Kenneth Indermuhle (Sardis, OH) and Jon Kokanovich (Phoenix, AZ) and ministering Bros. Steve Baner (Gridley, IL) and Jim Plattner (Princeville, IL) were with us during this past month. We thank them for giving of their time and efforts to help cultivate God's Word.

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## ILLINOIS, CHICAGO Jill Rager

During a visit to a local raspberry patch this week, God reinforced the lesson of the dangers of striving for more. Now, as an avid raspberry lover, it does seem that one just cannot get enough fresh raspberries, but it does seem that one just cannot get enough fresh raspberries, but it does seem to take a while to fill a pint box (even if you are not conducting regular "quality control" taste tests). In an effort to make the process move along faster, I would try to pick as many berries as I could hold in my hand before placing them in my gathering bucket. This approach seemed to work against my goal. It seemed like as soon as I would pick

a "perfect berry" and then reach for one more, I would drop the "perfect berry" that was already in my hand.

I dropped quite a few "perfect berries" before I heard the lesson God was reinforcing to me that day, but eventually I heard! "Do not drop the precious blessings that are in your hand in pursuit of more!" Even more good things (like raspberries) can cause our lives to be overcrowded and cloud our vision of the blessings we have today!

The Lord has brought many blessings to our congregation this month. Bro. Paul and Sis. Marie Sauder have been blessed with a precious baby girl. Lydia Grace was born on August 21, and was welcomed by her sisters, Anna and Julia. Grandparents are Bro. Dale and Sis. Joann Sauder (Tremont, IL) and Bro. Eugene and Sis. Shirley Nester (Lester, IA).

A life lived for Christ is another one of those "perfect berry" blessings in which we can rejoice, but when that life is called Home, we feel the void. We extend sympathy to Bro. Troy and Sis. Bonny Reimschisel and their children, Jordan, Jenna and Kayla, at the passing of Bonny's father, Bro. Bill Klopfenstein (Sis. Nancy), of Leo, IN.

Sis. Janell Hofstetter and Steve Hofstetter are also mourning the death of their father, Bro. Ted Hofstetter, of Wolcott, IN.

We also bid farewell to a long-time member of the Chicago church, Sis. Verna Stedman, who was in recent years living at Parkview Haven Retirement Home in Francesville, IN.

It is always encouraging to hear of another heart that has come to Christ in repentance and our dear Sherri Metzger has done just that.

We want to offer our prayerful support to Sherri as she strives to grow in Christ.

September 11-12 was a weekend of blessings for our church. We had the privilege of hearing the testimonies of Mike and Gretchen Zimmerman and witnessing the baptism. Elder Bro. Ron Schambach and Bro. Tom Schambach (Elgin, IL) joined us for this special weekend, and we thank them for their efforts in the ministry.

Bro. Ken Wuethrich (Indianapolis, IN) also ministered to us this month, and we extend our gratitude to him.

Sis. Tricia Metzger (Bro. Galen and Sis. Mary Jo, Oakville, IA) and Bro. Nick Zaugg of Leo, IN (Bro. Norm and Sis. Polly, West Bend, IA), announced their engagement this month. We offer our congratulations to this couple and wish them God's blessings.

Finally, we have the joyful task of welcoming three newcomers to our congregation. Sis. Jenny Sauder (Tremont, IL) will be in our area temporarily. Sis. Mandy Schwenk (Goodfield, IL) and Sis. Sara Aberle (Altadena, CA) have both taken employment in the area. We consider it an honor to meet the many people who pass through our congregation, long or short term, and wish these three sisters much love and support.

#### *Note of Thanks:*

Troy and I wish to express our thanks and gratitude to everyone for the overwhelming support of food, cards, letters and prayers over the last 6 months of bed rest, our daughter's hospitalization, my father's illness and death. It is only by God's amazing grace, prayers and support of our church family that we can come out on the

other side and praise God knowing He is in control.

*Bro. Troy and Sis. Bonny Reimschisel*

## **ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK**

### **Cheryl Eisenmann**

#### **Darlene Walder**

Life brings unexpected cares and concerns for all of us as we journey down the pathway of life. Sickness and pain, suffering and death, struggles and controversy; we all face different roadblocks in life that can make us or break us. God pleads with His followers to trust Him with each step of their way. "It is God's will that I should cast, on Him my care each day; He also bids me not to cast my confidence away. But oh! I am so silly, that when taken unawares, I cast away my confidence and carry all my cares." Carrying our cares doesn't allow Jesus to do what His Heavenly Father commissioned Him to carry out. He wants us to lay our burdens at the foot of the cross and leave them there.

Our one hospital patient this past month has been Sis. Vi Greiner. She anticipates surgery and would benefit from our prayers. Sis. Mary Lou Kaeb and Sis. Laverne Kaufmann also will be going in for surgery this week and covets prayers for speedy recoveries.

Visiting us on the pulpit were Bros. Art Mueller (Belvidere, IL), Jim Rinkenberger (Bluffton, IN) and our Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott, IN). We appreciate these brothers coming and sharing the good news of Jesus Christ and especially want to thank Bro. Alfred for his extended help in shepherding our Cissna Park congregation.

Caleb and Heidi Waldbeser, along with thankful parents, Bro.

Mark and Sis. Janie, welcome little Jared Mark into their happy family. Bro. Fred and Sis. Joan Waldbeser and Bro. Fred and Sis. Joanne Edelman (Bern, KS) are celebrating the birth of a new grandson.

We are also rejoicing with Dave and Barb Young as they have found faith to answer the call of God and come to Him in repentance. New birth, whether in infant state or a new birth in Christ, causes God's children to praise and worship Him for miracles like these still happening. "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel." (Mark 1:15)

We want to extend sympathy to the family of Sis. Louella Jacob. She passed away and is now enjoying the bliss of eternity with Christ. Her son, Wayne, and his family will miss her ever-steady presence and faithfulness.

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**ILLINOIS  
CONGERVILLE  
Glenna Rinkenberger  
Renaë Dietrich**

"Meditate upon these things: give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all."

*1 Timothy 4:15*

We were encouraged and enlightened by the Brotherhood Conference tapes this past month. May the Lord continue to bless each of those who stand before us in humility to share the words and lessons that He would have us to know.

We can trust the Lord is still calling those to repentance as Joan Craig (Bro. Kim and Sis. Carol) has answered her call. May she find the grace to seek the Lord and allow Him to work in her heart

to a true conversion.

"Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is his reward. As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are the children of thy youth. Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate."

*Psalm 127:3-5*

Mistakenly, a birth announcement failed to get written for Daniel Eric Gudeman (Bro. Duane and Sis. Jill). His presence has filled our church now since April 26. He has been a joy for us to see coming and going with his happy parents.

Rose Ann Knobloch made her way into the world on August 17. Thankful parents are Bro. Jerry and Sis. Linda. The rest of the children, Russell, Rueben, and Ruth, welcome their new little sister home.

Wendi and Jodi Roth are pleased to have a new sister also. Bro. Jim and Sis. Deb were blessed with little Heidi Larae on September 10. Then, September 14, Mark David was born to Bro. Dale and Sis. Missy Banwart. Heidi and Angie are thrilled to have a baby brother. May the Lord be with these families and these precious babes.

We were overjoyed to hear the service of Bro. Don Gudeman (La-Crosse, IN) on September 5. We are thankful for his labors on our behalf.

Congerville young group had many visiting churches over the Labor Day weekend. Our church was filled to overflowing and as always many blessings were received. We are thankful to have the opportunity to travel to and fro here on earth. May we all con-

tinue to realize what a blessing this is.

Our sincere prayers go to Becca Zobrist as she continues to battle the pain within her. Hopefully the doctors will be able to relieve her fully. May the Lord continue to be by her side and ease her every need.

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**ILLINOIS, ELGIN  
Peggy Heiniger  
Norma Schambach**

August 28-29 we were privileged to host the biannual Men's Hymn Sing. Brothers from 46 different churches joined together in singing beautiful songs of praise to God. Sunday afternoon our Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen gave an inspirational message during the program. Following are excerpts from his message that likened our life to a song.

"Our life is like a song. There is a beginning and an end.

As we sing, not all of us sing the lead part; some of us sing supporting parts. In order to do that, we need to look at our leader the Lord Jesus. He is our Conductor. If we look unto Him, we will be in harmony, one with another and in harmony with Him.

Sometimes in life we come to a place in the song that changes key from major to minor. Maybe it slows the tempo. Maybe we have had disappointments, sorrow, cares and sickness. We go through that time and then the Lord, our Conductor, picks up the tempo in our life and we continue on as we were before.

Sometimes we reach a point in life when we get real busy and we sing rather loud, make our crescendo upward and life is real meaningful. Then it just changes and there is a decrescendo in our



life and things get rather quiet.

Then sometimes our life just needs to be put on hold. We call that a fermata. The Conductor just holds our life like it is.

Sometimes we need a little bit more than that. We are weary, and Jesus promises rest for the weary. There is a rest in the music stanza, and that rest gives us encouragement and restoration of our spiritual life.

Sometimes there is a little discord. It might be husband and wife, children, maybe a brother or a sister in faith, or maybe a neighbor. We call that a discant, just a little strain on the chord. It doesn't quite sound right but when the discant is resolved very quickly it is just more beautiful for the passing. Then we are in harmony with the Lord and with each other.

Then we get near the end of life and maybe it isn't quite what we would like to see, or how we would like to have it. We have a D.C. which means go back to the beginning or to that mark and we have an opportunity to go back to the beginning of our life and start over again. That chance of going back to the beginning the Lord gives to every one of us: to repent, turn to the Lord and make a new beginning and live for Him.

Then when we get to the end of life's way, there is just kind of ritard. We get older and we slow down and our life's work is about done. At the ending when that last note is struck, our life is ended. Then how wonderful it is to enter into the joy of the Lord.

We trust that as we end our life, we will be remembered by what we have done in following the Lord Jesus, our Conductor, the One who has promised to be with us even until the end."

That weekend we were also

blessed with a number of visiting ministers: Elder Bros. Phil Stettner (Bluffton North, IN), Ron Messner (Washington, IL), and Bros. Paul Gasser (Akron, OH), Marvin Stieglitz (Leo, IN) and Neil Widmer (Wolcott, IN).

It is with thankful hearts that we are again able to report new converts in our midst. They are Joyce (Wayne) Schifferer, Cindy Schifferer (Bro. Glenn and Sis. Shirley), Todd Schambach (Bro. Bob and Sis. Jeanne), Scott and Andrea Heiniger, and Dick Hartman. We currently have 16 seeking souls whom we earnestly pray for, that they can build their life of faith on that Solid Rock.

One of these converts, Matt (Mary Jo) Kinsinger, confesses that he is at peace with God and man, and is awaiting baptism. The weekend of October 16-17 has been set aside for this.

We extend our sympathy to the Moser family, Bro. Gene, Bro. Earl, and Sis. Lois (Frank) Schock, at the passing of their brother, Harold, in California.

## ILLINOIS, EUREKA

### Janet Zimmerman

Bro. Kevin and Sis. Julie Kupferschmid are the happy and thankful parents of their first child, Lanae Cristine, born September 9. Grandparents are Randy and Tereza Schertz and Bro. Ed and Sis. Donna Kupferschmid.

We experienced a blessed weekend August 28 and 29 as three souls gave their testimonies and were baptized. We rejoice with Sis. Crystal Blunier (Bro. Duane and Sis. Eileen), Sis. Kate Frank (Bro. Scott and Sis. Elaine) and Bro. Nathan Wiegand (Dale and Sis. Friedora). May God grant them

much grace and zeal to live for Him. We appreciated having Elder Bro. Curt Frank (LaCrosse, IN) with us to help in these important duties. Also here for the weekend were Bros. Dan Stoller (Remington, IN) and Tim Hohulin (Roanoke). Other visiting ministers this past month were Bros. Steve Baner (Gridley), Ed Sauder (Roanoke) and Dan Kilgus (Remington, IN). May God bless each one for their labors on our behalf.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Sis. Madelyn Rothgeb who is hospitalized at the time of this writing and also for Ellen Wiegand (Bro. Greg and Sis. Lynn) who has undergone surgery for a ruptured appendix. May God be with our loved ones who are suffering and give comfort to them and to those who care for them.

We extend a warm welcome to five young people who have moved into our area recently. We welcome Bro. Steven and Bro. Mark Dotterer from Phoenix, AZ after spending the summer in Bern, KS. Also Sis. Holly Feuchtenberger from Morris, MN, Erin Knobloch from Lester, IA, and Bro. Tony Metzger from West Bend, IA. May God be with each one as they begin a new job or attend a new school.

On September 15 we bid farewell to Bro. Eric Kupferschmid (Bro. Rich and Sis. Maribeth) as he accepted a job at Lester, IA and will be assembling with them there. We will miss him but wish him God's blessings.

We extend our sympathy to the family of Sis. Elizabeth Herbst who died August 28. Many of us knew Sis. Elizabeth when she came to church here while living at our Home in Eureka. We will miss her quiet, friendly nature.

We devoted the past four

Wednesday evenings to listen to the tapes of the General Conference. We could feel the presence of the Holy Spirit among our Elders and may we take heed the warnings given us that we may all reach that good and blessed end which is Heaven.

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

*Proverbs 15:32*

*Note of Thanks:*

A hearty thank you to my many dear friends, brothers and sisters in faith to remember me so kindly on my 80th birthday.

*God bless you.*

*Sis. Katie Blunier*

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### ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY

**Sally Fehr**

**Joann Zehr**

Trusting God's direction in their lives, two engagements were announced. Sis. Betsy Slagel (Bro. Ray and Sis. Gladys) to Bro. Todd Zimmerman (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Nancy) of Forrest. Also, Sis. Jodi Steffen (Bro. Chris and Sis. Kay) to Bro. Michael Stoller (Bro. Greg and Sis. Jill) of Forrest. We wish them God's blessings.

Several who have been hospitalized are Sis. Helen Sohn; Bro. Ezra (Sis. Aldine) Steffen; and Ollie Steidinger. May God be near them.

May God guide, help and bless Adrian Rabe (Bro. Derek and Sis. Julie) who has started repenting.

We extend our sympathy to the family of Bro. Ted Hofstetter who passed away on August 23. He had been a resident of Fairview Haven.

Also, Bro. Lloyd Zimmerman,

79, passed away on August 25. May God fill the vacancy and comfort his wife, Sis. Helen, who stood by his side. Also, may He comfort his two children, Terry of Brazil, and Sandra of Normal; and stepson, Dennis Vaughan, of Forrest.

We extend congratulations to David and Deann Steidinger in the birth of their granddaughter, Ashley Nicole. Her parents are David and Davida Britt.

We had a blessed weekend September 11-12 when we heard the testimonies of Mark and Tania Bazzell and welcome them into our church family. It is so inspiring to hear how God works in our lives. A special thanks to Elder Bros. Wayne Banwart (Champaign, IL) and Wayne Anliker (Forrest, IL) and Bros. Curt Rassi (Tremont, IL), Mark Streitmatter (Bloomington, IL) and Brian Waibel (Champaign, IL) who were with us.

May God bless Bro. Ed Fritz (Washington, IL) who spent a Sunday with us.

We have now completed hearing the Conference tapes and sincerely thank each Elder who gave of himself on our behalf. There were many good teachings for each of us.

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### ILLINOIS, FORREST

**Jean Knapp**

**Linda Anliker**

In crisp autumn air, geese in great V-formation dot the skies as they follow their leader to a warmer climate. The air flow created by flying in V-formation serves as an aid with each goose helping the other. Occasionally, a few geese fall out of line and then must strive to gain back their position.

Recently, listening to the tapes

we were privileged to hear the deliberations from our Elder Conference held in Rittman, OH. May we heed to the wise counsel of our Elders and gain strength by the current of brotherly love as we help one another toward the heavenly goal. Should one fall out of formation, may the loving direction from our Elders and kind admonishment of a brother or sister help get us back in line.

Giving testimony of their faith in God and being baptized, we welcome Bro. Arlen (Denise) Leman, Sis. Jessica Gerber (Bro. Alan and Sis. Marcia), and Bro. Erik and Sis. Michelle Schaffer into the fold. May grace abound in their lives as they walk anew in Christ.

We thank Elder Bros. Joe Stoller (Princeville, IL) and Art Bahler (Fairbury, IL) and Bro. Andy Virkler (Croghan - Naumburg, NY) for their willingness to be used in the service of our Lord and may He richly bless them.

God has provided the institution of marriage. Ryan Honegger (Bro. Lloyd and Joyce) and Tabatha Orsow (Ron and Laurie Franz, Pontiac, IL) were married on August 28.

Trusting in the Lord, Bro. Michael Stoller (Bro. Greg and Sis. Jill) and Sis. Jodi Steffen (Bro. Chris and Sis. Kay, Fairbury, IL) are planning an October 17 wedding. Also, looking forward to joining hands in marriage on October 24 are Bro. Todd Zimmerman (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Nancy) and Sis. Betsy Slagel (Bro. Ray and Sis. Gladys, Fairbury, IL).

Bro. Stan and Sis. Kristen Mueller welcome Stanton Lee into their hearts and home. Also, looking forward to getting acquainted with Stanton are siblings, Allison, Nicole, Lincoln, and grandpar-

ents, Bro. Alfred and Sis. Wanda Kupferschmid and Bro. Ron and Sis. Loida Mueller.

Shania Kay Young is welcomed home by Bro. Tom and Sis. Jolene and big sister Shelby. Enjoying this new granddaughter are Bro. Tom and Sis. Connie Schambach (Elgin, IL) and Bro. Terry and Sis. Peggy Young.

Two couples are first-time parents. Bro. Jason and Sis. Lynn Dotterer are enjoying their son, Luke Jason, along with his grandparents, Bro. Ray and Sis. Shelly Steidinger and Bro. Marvin and Sis. Nancy Dotterer. Jacob Sidney Leman's thankful parents are Bro. Arlen and Denise and his grandparents are Jim and Rita Bahler (Fairbury, IL) and Bro. Jerry and Sis. Kathy Leman.

Those requiring hospitalization have been Bro. Clarence (Sis. Doris) Kachelmuss, Sis. Aldine Wackerle, Bro. Wendell (Sis. Kathy) Dotterer, and Stacey (Tonda) Mueller. We are thankful they have all returned home. Our thoughts and prayers are with Bro. Art (Sis. Velda) Huette, who is still in the hospital, in his battle for health and strength.

We extend sympathy to Bro. Chris and Sis. Viola Metz in the death of her brother, Harold Moser (Bullhead, AZ). May God comfort them during this time of sorrow.

#### *Note of Thanks:*

We would sincerely like to thank you all for the cards, food, gifts of love and most of all for your prayers since my surgery and now through my treatments. Also, thank you for the cards and best wishes for our 40th anniversary. Thanks, too, for the very, very interesting scrapbook. I know that a lot of work and thought went into

each page. You have given so abundantly to us. We just ask God to bless you all richly for your love and many kindnesses!

*Humbly, Bro. Duane and Sis. Janny Schneider*

### ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD

#### Jan Beer

Greetings of Christian love to you! Labor Day weekend our young group hosted visitors from several distant congregations. When the greetings were extended after the morning worship service, Bro. Wes commented that when we receive and send greetings we are saying to each other, "We're thinking of you, and you're in our prayers." That explanation brings a fresh appreciation for and a deeper meaning to a tradition that we probably have taken for granted for a long time.

Three new brothers in faith were welcomed into our fellowship on August 29. Saturday evening, Elder Bro. Earl Ringger (Gridley, IL) assisted our Bro. Wes with the testimonies of Nathan Zeltwanger, Matt Kauffman and Darren Friedinger. Bro. Nathan's parents are Sis. Rhonda and Bro. Loren; we are thankful that Bro. Matt's parents, Warren and Sarah, supported him with their presence, and Bro. Darren's parents, Vermeda and Duane, are awaiting their own testimony and baptism! These young brothers have an important role in our congregation, and we thank God they are fulfilling it.

John Wiegand became a "big brother" with the September 1 arrival of Simon Tanner Wiegand. Beaming parents are Sis. Deb and Bro. Dwight. Since both sets of grandparents are part of the Goodfield fellowship, little Simon

has plenty of loving arms awaiting him, especially at church. Simon joins the families of Sis. Betty and Bro. Willis Wiegand and Sis. Phyllis and Bro. Kenneth Rokey. Our Bro. Adolph Tanner is Simon's great-grandpa!

It was good to see Sis. Tonya Scott home from college over Labor Day weekend. She told me there is a very irritated lady in Columbia, MO because of a wrong telephone number! Please use this phone number when calling Sis. Tonya: (573) 815-5760. It will make Sis. Tonya happy and will relieve the lady at the phone number reported previously!

Our Sis. Connie Allen had surgery on her neck and has not been able to assemble with us lately. We pray God's healing touch upon you, Sis. Connie, and we look forward to seeing you in church again soon.

Thanks to Bros. Kevin Knapp (Bloomington, IL) and Steve Martin (Eureka, IL) for visiting us in Goodfield recently. "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace: that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!" (Isaiah 52:7)

There is something special about being first. Miss Tessa Lee Leman, born September 14, is very special because she is the first child of Sis. Staci (Ringger) and Bro. Chad Leman, and she is the first grandchild of Sis. Dort and Bro. Keith Leman. God's blessings on this family circle.

Oh, the delights of Autumn—crisp morning air, bright, sunny days, the juicy crunch of a delicious apple, the wonder of harvest, the beauty of Fall foliage, the clear night sky with the big bright

moon, the honking of geese as they fly away. God blesses us in so many different ways; don't miss His presence in the "simple pleasures" of life.

School has started and Sunday School classes have resumed. Bro. Jaye Rinkenberger reminded us that good students do certain things that help them achieve the highest level of learning: they attend all classes, they sit in the front of the classroom, they do their homework. All of us are enrolled in the School of Life. Can you see how those habits can be applied to our earthly schooling?

Since starting a new job a few months ago, I have been focused on what is expected of me in the workplace, what resources are available and what model I can follow to best fulfill my position. A recent sermon from the Goodfield pulpit addressed these same issues in regard to God. Bro. Bruce Hohulin said, "What does God expect of us? God wants us to use the talents He gave us to His glory; to look to Christ for the example through the Word. Look into the Word and obey the Holy Spirit. Be encouraged, be uplifted because of Christ and His love!" Thank you, Bro. Bruce, for the encouragement we all need so much.

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**ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY**  
**Perry A. Klopfenstein**

"Praise ye the Lord. Blessed is the man who feareth the Lord, who delighteth in his commandments."

*Psalm 112:1*

"The works of his hands are verity and judgment; all his commandments are sure."

*Psalm 111:7*

These verses surely point the believer to keep the commandments. May God grant us grace to do so in these times.

Bro. Roger and Sis. Becky Roberts became the parents of their second child on August 23. He was named Reuben Lee. He has a sister, Rhoda, age 2. Grandparents are Bro. David and Sis. Gloria Wettstein and Lester and Spatsie Roberts of Chenoa.

Heidi Schlipf was married to Hadley Welsch on September 18 at the Fellowship Hall. She is the daughter of Bro. Dale and Sis. Vicki Schlipf. His parents are Harold and Marjorie Welsch of Secor. We wish them much happiness as they go through life together. May God be near them.

Sis. Debbie Martin was engaged to be married to Bro. Grant DesCarpentrie (Washington, IL). Her parents are Byron and Sis. Katie Martin. He is the son of Bro. Stan and Sis. Jane DesCarpentrie (Washington, IL). We rejoice with this couple.

As of this writing, the harvest (of corn and soybeans) is going strong in the Gridley area. An extended period of favorable weather has allowed farmers to make good progress, and the yields are sizable. And, by God's grace, each of us are working in the ongoing harvest (of souls). May God help us. The fields are white unto harvest!

Sis. Lucille Stoller was hospitalized this month. Also, Ashton Schieler was in the hospital as well. Both are home and doing well.

**ILLINOIS, MORTON**

**Phyllis Farney**  
**Cheryl Wuthrich**

The weekend of August 28-29 we heard the testimonies and witnessed the baptisms of our loved ones, Bro. Luke Wuthrich (Bro. Mark and Sis. Cheryl) and Bro. Brent Bigger (Don and Sis. Millie). We trust they will look to the Word for direction and purpose throughout their lives.

Sis. Lydia Zimmerman died at Apostolic Christian Restmor on August 25 at the age of 91. May the Lord comfort and bless her family and friends. Surviving are her sons, Ray (Marjorie) and Ken (Donna); her daughter, Sis. Wilma Bollegar; eight grandchildren and 23 great-grandchildren. What rich testimonies the elderly leave for us with their Godly lives of faithfulness and service.

Our congregation was blessed to have hosted High School Weekend September 11-12. We wish to thank Bros. Rick Plattner (Peoria, IL), Jeff Grimm (Goodfield, IL) and Clark Stoller (Gridley, IL) for ministering to the young people.

We appreciated the visits of Elder Bro. Ed Lanz (Oakville, IA) and Bro. Greg Rassi (Chicago, IL) and their families this month.

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**ILLINOIS, PEORIA**

**Peter and Mabel Weber**

The summer, punctuated by usual vacation activities, has gone by swiftly and on August 22 the Sunday School started again with 150 students, who will be taught and directed to a future walk with the Lord by a dedicated faculty of 25.

A few months ago the congregation approved resurfacing the parking lot; the cement construction work has been completed and we thank Bro. Max Hoerr for his



personal job supervision.

"Let not your heart be troubled" said Jesus when He saw un-settlement among His disciples (John 14). We all put our trust in something and must start with a personal need to come to the cross because the Spirit is calling all the time "come, taste and see!" This is the first step in the conversion process and if He is No. 1 in our hearts, we have put our complete trust in His hands and the benefits are out of this world. Are Buddah, Mohammed, and all other things people worship, really God in the same form? The Scripture says "I am the way, the truth and the light" (verse 6) and if we want to go to Heaven, we have to go through that door. If we love each other according to the 11th commandment, it will be evidence to the world that something special is going on. Three things witness to our conversion: the promises of Christ, the Holy Spirit to work out our soul's salvation, and works...but don't confuse works as a way to get to Heaven. Paul said he was the best pharisee and worked the law out to perfection, but was turned around 180 degrees. When we put ourselves second, we not only become humble but also go to the very source of strength, which we, as the grapes, receive from the vine. When we find the truth, we are not troubled any more, but this does not mean "no troubles" because Jesus said we learn by troubles and grow stronger if we put our trust in Him and receive His strength. "Let not your heart be troubled!"...are the words we need to hear so we don't forget. Thanks, Bro. Rich Sutter (Ft. Lauderdale, FL) and Sis. Kathleen for your visit and ministry on August 22.

We also thank Bro. Kent

Heimer (Taylor, MO) and his family for their visit on August 22. Some excerpts of his ministry follow. Exodus 27 describes the Tabernacle altar of shittim wood measuring 7x7x4 1/2 feet, on which thousands of gallons of blood were spilled by sinners laying their hands on the heads of the animals to transfer their sins to them while Levites cut their throats. Now it is Jesus the Crucified...and Satan has to hear it one more time! When Satan comes with his discouragement message "I am not needed in the Church", be part of the body so you can have hope. God knows when we are the knees of the Church; pray for the body of Christ and be an encourager. There are differences of administration but the same Spirit and the effectual prayer of a righteous person avails much. WYD (When You Die) is much more critical than Y2K. To have that wonderful hope, join the race where everybody is a winner. Come thru the door of Jesus and run together and receive the crown of righteousness. We don't need to be first, just finish together.

Bro. Duane and Sis. Debbie Steidinger have adopted Dylan Anthony, who was born February 26 in Korea and joined their family on August 12. Grandparents are Bro. Jim and Sis. Helen Knobloch of Princeville and George Steidinger of Fairbury, IL. May the Lord bless them as they begin rearing their family. We also congratulate Bro. Jesse and Sis. Rachel Waibel for Mia Renee, born August 26, who has joined Zoe and Ellie to the delight of grandparents, Bro. Bill and Sis. Joyce Waibel and Bro. Dale and Sis. Barb Geyer. David and Cheryl Byrne were blessed with Zachary David on August 30, who shares

his home with Kaitlyn and Courtney.

Hospital patients were Bro. Ken Hoerr, Martha Stahl and Phyllis Bennett (Berchtold/Fehr); Sis. Matilda Suttor was discharged from Methodist Hospital and is residing at the Skylines. Sis. Barb Hunziker is reasonably comfortable at her home under hospice care. We wish them God's nearness and sustenance as we continue to pray for their well-being.

Sis. Alvena McDermott (87) went to be with the Lord on September 1 and Viola Geyer (76) on August 22 and we express our sincere sympathy to their families.

Bro. Jesse and Sis. Jill Schroeder (Bro. Skip and Sis. Pat Meister) have moved to Peoria and we welcome them to our congregation and into our fellowship.

Bro. Kent Heimer's (Taylor, MO) topic for our family night service on September 1 was "The free gift, our choice and the rewards". Adam could eat of any tree, except one. There the problem of sin arose and today we can make choices. The physical man will be placed in the grave some day, maybe in fourscore years, but the spiritual part will live forever in Heaven or Hell. There are consequences to our choices, with which we must live. If you don't want to make choices, your destination is fixed. Jesus allowed Himself to be nailed to the cross and be lifted up and that cross ties us over that great gulf to God. Satan's gift is full of lies, hollow, looks good on the outside but is a life of emptiness, which you will receive if you don't choose Jesus. Sin will take you farther than you want to go, keep you longer than you want to stay and pay more than you want to spend. What Satan offers, and

what we get, are two different things. When we choose Jesus, we will get a life of spiritual abundance and sustenance versus a life of emptiness. Where the "worm dieth not" is the place where we will remember some day that we made the wrong choice: 80 years in hell, 800 with no water, family, love, chance of salvation, 8,000 and still no peace and grace, 80,000, 800,000, 8 million, 8 billion and it has just begun. Now imagine a city of 1,500 miles cube - New Jerusalem - with streets of pure gold, where the tree of life, which was in the Garden of Eden, will be planted back. It is a joy to be a child of the King, Who will lead us each step of the way. Indecision is a fatal decision and you can never win if you do not begin. "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" (Joshua 24:15). Thanks, Bro. Kent, for your visit and vivid description of the two destinies based on choices, gifts, rewards.

*Note of Thanks:*

Words cannot fully express our gratitude and appreciation for your many deeds of kindness shown Aunt Frieda Joos during her stay at the Skylines Nursing Home. We also thank you for the kindness shown to her family during her recent death. We thank you for your love and prayers for all of us.

*The family of Frieda Joos*

**ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE**  
**Sheryl Martin**

"Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised). And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of

ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching."

*Hebrew 10:23-25*

Believing the Lord has brought them together in faith, the engagement of Bro. Weston Stahl (Bradford, IL) and Sis. Jill Herrmann was announced to the congregation. Bro. Weston is the son of Dean Stahl and Sis. Charlotte Stahl (Bradford, IL) and Sis. Jill is the daughter of Bro. Howard and Sis. Mary Ann Herrmann. May God grant them His peace and love as they plan their future together.

Soft as the voice of an angel,  
Breathing a lesson unheard,  
Hope with a gentle persuasion  
Whispers her comforting word:  
Whispering Hope...

*Gospel Hymns #789*

The hope is whispered for our dear Sis. Esther Schafer as she passed from life to eternity. We wish to express our sincere sympathy to her children, Bro. Charles Schafer, Sis. Judy (Bro. Bill) Longcor (Milford, IN), their children, Blessing and Matthew, along with the entire Shafer and Baer family in the death of their loved one. Esther had resided in the Eureka Apostolic Christian Home for the past 7 years.

May Sis. Martha Stahl feel the healing hand of God as she recovers from her surgery.

We are thankful that our friend, Abigail Feucht (Bro. Earl and Sis. Margaret), has made a beginning in the Lord through repentance.

*The Golden Harvest*  
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.  
Children come the grain to gather,  
While the morning sun doth shine;  
And ere long, beloved brethren,  
It will be your harvest time.  
Now the field is ripe for harvest;  
Let us then all garner in;  
For if we should stand here idle,  
Who will bring the sheaves of grain?  
He who gathers not at harvest,  
Will a beggar be at last.  
Therefore rise today and labor,  
Gath'ring golden sheaves with haste!  
Hasten gladly to the labor.  
Consecrate to God your heart.  
Say this day unto your Saviour,  
"Lord, I'll gladly do my part."

*Hymns of Zion #46*

**ILLINOIS, ROANOKE**  
**Boni Stoller**  
**Linda Hodel**

Haste and seek your soul's salvation;  
heed the Word of God today!  
Haste to flee His condemnation;  
seek the straight and narrow way.  
Evil are the worldly pleasures,  
leading to eternal fire;  
Seek the everlasting treasure,  
Ere the day of grace expire.  
*Zion's Harp #52*

Our congregation is rejoicing that nine souls within the past month have started seeking for the "everlasting treasure". They are John Koehler (Alan and Cydney), Amy Hohulin (Bro. Tim and Sis. Cathy), Seth Braker (Bro.

Jim and Sis. Marge), Rachel Feucht (Bro. Randy and Sis. Carol), Jesse and Jenny Martin, Erin and Dustin Hodel (Bro. Brad and Sis. Patty) and Cody Maher (Bro. Dan and Sis. Kim). We pray they yield their all to the Father and build on the Solid Rock a firm foundation that will weather any storm that will come.

Many of us traveled to Rittman, OH to witness the wedding on August 20 of our dear Bro. Matt Feucht (Bro. Randy and Sis. Carol) to Sis. Jennifer Dotterer (Bro. Bob and Sis. Mardell). He will surely be missed in Roanoke as they plan to remain there for a time. We welcome them back gladly whenever the Lord wills it.

We also welcome our dear Bro. Jerry Fischer in church as he has returned home from a lengthy hospital stay. May he continue to gain strength and make progress towards healing each day. We pray this also for Sis. Elsie Beer and Don Leman (Sis. Pearl) who have also required hospitalization this past month.

Sis. Elizabeth Herbst was laid to her earthly rest on September 1. May God comfort her children, George (Washington), Edward (Orlando, FL), Mrs. Harold (Joanne) Neumann and Roberta Klings (Metamora) and Karen Smith (Peoria) and immediate family. We rejoice in the hope to meet her again in a better land where we are comforted to know there will be no tears.

We ask God to bless Bro. Dennis Kaufmann (Bloomington, IL), our sole visiting minister this past month. But we take this opportunity to thank our "home" ministers who labor for us. May we continue to lift them up in prayer. Also, Bro. Ed Sauder presented our monthly Bible Study Septem-

ber 10 on "Climbing Spiritual Mountains"; and truly we cannot appreciate being on top of a mountain unless we have spent time in the valley. And as we struggle through those valleys, may we ever be fervent in our praying and be mindful of this: A trial that brings us to our knees is a victory. Let's continue striving to be victorious in Christ, and for Christ!

And finally we close with announcing two precious ones born. Seth Thomas Durand was born August 20 to Tom and Sis. Marsha. Big brothers and sisters are Brittney, Brandon, Colton and Rachel; grandparents are Don and Sis. Helen Brown and Don and Linda Durand. September 9, Sarah Elizabeth Whitten was born to thankful parents, Bro. Dave and Sis. Lori, and happy sister, Carolyn. Grandparents are Bro. Gene and Carol Whitten and John Wade.

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

*Philippians 4:8*

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#### ILLINOIS, TREMONT

**Barb Dill  
Barb Kaeb**

"And Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them, And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven."

*Matthew 18:2,3*

We shared a blessed weekend on August 21-22, as we heard the testimonies and witnessed the baptisms of four dear souls. They are Greg and Sheila Beutel (Bro. Dean and Sis. Karen), Anne Beutel (Bro. Roger and Sis. JoAnn) and Tammy Sauder (Bro. Bruce and Sis. Becky). May God grant them grace to be true and faithful until life's end.

We want to thank Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen (Elgin, IL) for coming and helping with provings and baptisms and our other guest ministers throughout this month: Bros. Ted Witzig and Ted Hirstein (Morton, IL), Dennis Kaufmann (Bloomington, IL), Dave Obergfel (Peoria, IL), Jerry Wagenbach (Oakville, IA) and John Rowell (Burlington, IA).

The wedding engagement of Kurt Wagenbach (Bro. Si and Sis. Lavonne) to Krissy Croxton has been made known. We wish them God's blessings as they plan for their December wedding.

Sheri Allen (Chris) has spent some time in the hospital but is now home on complete bedrest. Zach Garman (Steve and Sis. Sara) was in the hospital undergoing some tests for medical problems. We pray that God will supply their every need.

Our dear Sis. Julia Sauder went to her eternal rest on August 31. Our sympathy is extended to her son, Bro. Merle, and his wife, Sis. Nancy, and to their family.

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#### ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

**Denise Romersberger  
Sue Ruppert**

"So they sat down with him on the ground seven days and seven nights, and none spake a word

unto him for they saw that his grief was very great."

*Job 2:13*

Job had lost everything, including his children. His three friends came to see him, and in the beginning, all they could do was sit quietly with him. They saw how great his grief was, and knew that words were not sufficient. This was the best thing they did for him. Later, as they went on and on, accusing Job of unrighteousness, Job's patience wore thin.

"Then Job answered and said, I have heard many such things: miserable comforters are ye all."

*Job 16:1-2*

"How long will ye vex my soul, and break me in pieces with words?"

*Job 19:2*

His friends had become a burden to him in his already-burdened life. Do we know when to be silent? Do we think we always have to have something to say? Do we ever become a burden to our friends because we can't be quiet? Do we know how to "just be with" someone, rather than having to "do something", or "say something"? Have you noticed that the best of friends can be comfortable together, silently enjoying each other's company? We need to practice the art of being silent in our relationships with other people. It may be the best thing we can do for someone.

We also need to ask ourselves these same questions in relation to our prayer life. Are we the one doing all the talking? Are we ever silent, just enjoying God's presence, waiting for Him to speak? Job came to the point where all he

could do is be still in the presence of a holy God. Do we? "Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth." (Psalm 46:10)

We were blessed with several visiting ministers this month. Bros. Mike Baumann (Mansfield, OH), Loren Schrenk (St. Louis, MO), Ken Weerts (Cissna Park, IL), Steve Baner (Gridley, IL) and Greg Lehman (Wolcott, IN) shared from God's Word with us. Thank you all for your labors of love.

Our dear Sis. Elizabeth (Putt) Herbst went to her eternal reward in Heaven. Sis. Putt spread joy around her with her sweet smile and that twinkle in her eye. We ask God's presence with her family members who will miss Sis. Putt as we also will.

The engagement of Bro. Grant Descarpentrie and Sis. Debbie Martin was announced. Grant's parents are Bro. Stan and Sis. Jane of Washington. Sis. Debbie's parents are Byron and Sis. Katie Martin of Gridley. We wish them God's blessings.

Sis. Lydian Wyss experienced the loss of her brother, Bro. Fred Metzger, of Lester, IA. We extend our sympathy to their family.

Bro. Mike Baumann came and shared with the congregation his past experiences in Yugoslavia. We were blessed to hear of how God works in the lives of His people.

It was Washington's turn to host the ACYF. It is such a blessing to have the church filled with young people, and to hear God's name praised. May the Lord touch each of the lives of these youth in a special way.

## **INDIANA, BLUFFTON** **Catrina Rinkenberger** **Beth Aschliman**

I'd like to start out the Bluffton news with a heartfelt and blessed farewell to our Bro. Eric and Sis. Rhonda Tonner as they will be serving in Haiti until next spring. What a beautiful call to serve our Lord. We wish them God's protection and strength.

Also answering God's call in repentance are three new converts: Aaron Isch (Bro. Barry and Sis. Imogene), Jonathon Longenberger (Bro. Terry and Sis. Twila), and Mick Gerber (Scott and the late Melinda).

Bluffton has enjoyed two summer weddings. On August 21, Jamie Maller (Bro. Joe and Sis. Denise) was married to Scott Johnson. Vince Everett (Bro. Dick and Sis. Rita) joined hand and heart with Suzy Lindsey on May 28.

We have had many loved ones in the hospital needing our prayers. We hope they will soon be well enough to assemble with us again. They are: Sis. Ellen Fiechter (Bro. Ervin), Drew Rinkenberger (Bro. Linc and Sis. Catrina), Sis. Susie Tonner (Bro. Tim), Sis. Helen Stoller, Sis. Mae Strahm, Bro. Orville Ringger (Sis. Naomi), Sis. Minnie Isch (Bro. Elmer), Sis. Goldie Steffen, Galen (Dean) Gerber, Brockton Tonner (Bro. Dean and Sis. Julie), Sis. Clara Tonner (Bro. Harry), Bro. Gary Tonner (Sis. Diann), Sis. Jeanette (Bro. Curt), Al Dubach, and Bro. Roy Reinhard (Sis. Vergine).

We rejoice with Bro. Ked and Sis. Adrienne Moser. They along with their daughter, Arissa, welcome Cierra Jordan born August 25. Happy grandparents are Bro. Butch and Sis. Pat Moser and Bro.



John and Sis. Becky Maggart (Bluffton North). Also enjoying their new little girl are Trout and Lisa Moser. Trisa Lee was born August 13. Bro. Bill and Sis. Lou Ann Rager and Bro. Gene and Sis. Edna Moser are the happy grandparents. Bro. Phil and Sis. Jean Moser have quickly become grandparents as Bro. Lonny and Sis. Becky Moser (Mansfield, OH) have adopted two beautiful boys from Russia. Three - year - old Shane Alexander and two - year - old Aaron Danil will have a new home in America.

Our sympathy is extended to Bro. John and Sis. Linda Klopfenstein as they said goodbye to their earthly father, Bro. Bill Klopfenstein (Sis. Nancy) of Leo. Our prayers also go out to Sis. Anita Bertsch (Godfrey) at the passing of her mother, Violet.

We would like to thank Bros. Art Ingold (Sis. Bonnie, Rittman, OH), Dennis Kaufmann (Sis. Bonnie, Bloomington, IL) and Hartzell Kaisner (Sis. Mary, Detroit, MI) and Elder Bro. Ken Indermuhle (Sis. Linda, Sardis, OH). We are so very thankful we always have brothers who will faithfully serve us.

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**INDIANA  
BLUFFTON NORTH  
Rhonda Maller  
Ann Meyer**

Ready to suffer grief or pain,  
Ready to stand the test...  
Ready to go, ready to stay,  
Ready my place to fill;  
Ready for service, lowly or great,  
Ready to do His will.

*Hymns of Zion #124*

We appreciated the sermon from Bro. Hartzell Kaisner (De-

troit, MI) who visited our congregation this month and challenged us to be "ready". We're thankful that convert Natasha Gilgen (Bro. Gene and Sis. Melinda) is accepting this challenge to be ready to do God's will in her life and say no to the world.

Believing it is the Lord's will that they are to be helpmates, Bro. Benji Jolloff (Bro. Bob and Sis. Bev) and Sis. Jenny Bynum (Ron and Brenda Werling) announced their engagement. We wish God's blessings as they prepare for their future together with Christ as the center of their lives.

Two precious bundles sent from Heaven arrived to some happy families. Bro. Ked and Sis. Adrienne Moser were blessed with another daughter, Cierra Jordan, on August 25. Her sister, Arissa, and grandparents, Bro. Dwight and Sis. Pat Moser and Bro. John and Sis. Becky Maggart, are enjoying her. On August 28, little Ian Robert brightened the home of Bro. Vince and Sis. Susan Gerber along with Sophie and Will. Thankful grandparents include Bro. Vernon Gerber and Bro. Bob and Sis. Mary Jo Troxel.

Very ill in the hospital at this time is Bob (Betty) Steffen after having heart bypass surgery. Sis. Ellen (Bro. Ervin) Fiechter is also in failing health. What a comfort to know that Jesus cares and is with us in our most difficult hours.

The first service for the new school year at Ball State University was held September 8. The Wednesday evening services are scheduled every other week with ministering brothers from the different Indiana churches.

"O that there were such an heart in them, that they would fear me, and keep all my com-

mandments always, that it might be well with them, and with their children for ever!"

*Deut. 5:29*

May our goal be each day to strive to be obedient to God in all areas of our lives, so that it may "be well" with us. We can even pass this blessing on to our children. Obedience is not forced, it is motivated by a heart of love.

*Note of Thanks:*

I would like to thank everyone for the thoughts, visits, cards and prayers while I was ill.

*Diane Mason*

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**INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE  
Pam Huber**

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

*Matthew 5:4*

We pray for the family of our dear Sis. Lois Ann Gudeman (Bro. Jim) who passed into eternity on September 13. May her children, Sis. Trudi, Bro. Todd, Sis. Tami Putt (Bro. Brian), Bro. Tim (Sis. Mim) of Indianapolis, IN and Trish Oberholzer (Mike) of Cincinnati, OH, feel the comfort of our Saviour's loving arms. She will also be greatly missed by her siblings, Bro. Lester Huber (Sis. Glendoris) of Lexington, Bro. Eugene Huber (Sis. Millie), Sis. Viola (Bro. Dick) of Latty, OH and Alberta (Morris) of Boca Raton, FL.

Our sympathies also go out to the family of Bill Klopfenstein of Leo, who passed away: Sis. Minerva Wuethrich, Bro. Leon Wuethrich (Sis. Mabel), Sis. Marie Heinold, John Wuethrich (Violet) and Sis. Catherine Neihouser.

On August 25, Glen Boehning

(Sis. Eileen) was brought into the fold. We rejoiced with Heaven and pray for his continued strength as he grows in grace. We also appreciated having retired Elder Bro. Dan Koch (Tremont, IL) and Bro. Nelson Beer (Milford, IN) with us. Other visiting ministers we would like to thank are Bros. Dan Kilgus (Remington, IN), Clark Stoller (Gridley, IL), Ken Wuethrich and Greg Stieglitz (Indianapolis, IN). The effort put forth by you and your families has been a blessing to us all.

Joy Gutwein (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Janice) was announced for peace on September 12. We look forward to her baptism and hearing and seeing her testimony as the words to this old song say, "In the deserts let me labor, On the mountains let me tell, How He died—the blessed Saviour, To redeem a world from hell."

Bro. Lon Vogt will be in Ixtlan, Mexico assisting in the ministry there for a few months. We shall miss his cheerful, kind presence here with us, but know he will be a wonderful help to the church in Mexico.

We would like to welcome Bro. Steve Stoller as the new administrator at Parkview Haven. We pray the transition will go smoothly as he relieves Bro. Ben Metz of many years of faithful service. Also new to Parkview Haven is Sis. Velma Wilson from Remington. We pray you feel at home in our fellowship and look forward to getting to know you!

Praise to God for the recovery of Levi Wuethrich (Bro. Chris and Sis. Carla) and Sis. Carol Overmyer (Bro. Danny). We are thankful for you and are strengthened through your struggles. We continue to pray for Sis. Mabel Wuethrich (Bro. Leon) who was in

the hospital with a broken hip. "...for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him." (Matthew 6:8)

As we say goodbye to our dear loved ones, we also welcome new life that grows dearer to our hearts every day. Chris and Becky (Davis) Huber have been blessed with the birth of Macy Angelica and she is much loved already by grandparents, Bro. Chris and Sis. Sharon Huber, Rick and Wanda Schultz and Dwayne Davis.

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**INDIANA  
INDIANAPOLIS  
Lauretta Schafer  
Gail Bradford**

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

*Psalm 147:3*

We rejoice with several new converts who have repented of their sins and have experienced a true conversion in Jesus Christ. They are Anna Bollier (Bro. Ron and Sis. Edie), Suzanne Zeller (Bro. Eric and Sis. Ginny), Olivia Hoerr (Bro. Don and Sis. Jackie), Wayne Anliker (Sis. Dawn) and Ryan and Hollie Meister. These recent converts, along with others previously announced (Melanie Levy, Makito Inoue, Matthew Freed and Torey Guingrich) need our prayers and our loving attention.

Our sympathies are extended to Brian and Deann Mustard and children and to Tim and Mim Gudeman and children. Brian's stepfather passed away in August. Tim's mother, Sis. Lois Ann Gudeman (Bro. Jim), passed away in September. God can provide the comfort that man cannot.

We welcome several who have moved into the area and are worshipping with us. Sis. Dawn Sutter and Sis. Dawn Dick are newly employed in Indianapolis. Bro. Fred and Sis. Nancy Witzig and their daughters, Marta, Erica and Rachel, recently moved to Bloomington, IN from Altadena, CA. Bro. Fred is studying for a master's degree in history at Indiana University. Bro. Joshua Martinez has also obtained employment here and will move from Chicago. Bro. Eric Strassheim is studying business at IU in Bloomington. Sis. Teresa Houston is working in the city as part of her Purdue University degree in child development.

Our Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler presented the Memorandum from the Silverton, OR Elder Conference. This Memorandum highlighted the concerns of our church leadership, and contained many wise directives.

We are grateful for the ministry of Bro. Erik Givens (Sis. Debbie, Princeville, IL), Elder Bro. Akito Inoue (Sis. Marie, Tokyo, Japan) and Bro. Andy Moser (Sis. Diane, Valparaiso, IN). From far and wide, God's consistent message goes forth!

We are delighted for Bro. Bruce and Sis. Lauretta Schafer at the safe arrival of their first grandchild, Joel Henry Keever, born on September 9. Happy parents are Bro. Chad and Sis. Laurie (Schafer) Keever of Rantoul, IL.

Many of us who now live in the Indianapolis area have beginnings in rural communities and on farms. Moving to the city has exposed us to more diversions and distractions than we might have experienced otherwise. Therefore, it is critical that we "exercise a spiritual mind" as the Silverton

Memorandum said. We must resist everything that will weaken or misdirect our faith. We are called to be examples to the world, our brethren in faith and especially to our converts. We can have victory through God's grace. He has provided us with every resource we need: His Holy Word, prayer, faithful brethren and many opportunities for service.

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

*Romans 8:28*

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### INDIANA, LACROSSE Anna Marie Stoller

"The Lord caused the sea to go back...all that night."

*Exodus 14:21*

"There may be a great working in your life when it all seems dark and you cannot see...yet God is working. God works in the dark. The work of God for the children of Israel was not when they awakened and found that they could get over the Red Sea, but it was "all that night". The next day simply manifested what God had done during the night. Is there anyone reading these lines who may have come to a place where it seems dark? You are not able to see! God works all the night until the light comes. You may not see it, but that "night" in your life, God was working for you."

—*Streams in the Desert*

After much prayer, waiting, hopefulness and preparation, the lives of Bro. Don and Sis. Mary Gudeman have been blessed with two young grandsons. Bro. Lonny

and Sis. Becky (Gudeman) Moser (Mansfield, OH) rejoice as they welcome Shane Alexander and Aaron Danil into their hearts and home. We wish God's blessings in the lives of these precious children.

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### INDIANA, LEO Ethelyn Schlatter

Bro. Bill Klopfenstein, 80, was called Home by the Saviour on August 20. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Sis. Nancy; sons, Bro. John (Sis. Linda), Loren (Sis. Rita) of Leo, and Brent (Judy) of Dallas, TX; daughters, Janet (Bill) Hartman of Ft. Wayne, Lynn (Dennis) Winslow of Indianapolis and Sis. Bonny (Bro. Troy) Reimschisel of Chicago, IL. Also surviving are 23 grandchildren, two sisters, Sis. Lucile Frank (Bluffton, IN), Sis. Helen Maxfield (Leo) and a brother, Richard, of Huntington.

We were greatly blessed again with visiting ministers. Some stayed after the Gateway Woods auction. We welcomed Elder Bros. Lavoyd Moore (Sis. Doris, Athens, AL) and Phillip Stettner (Sis. Maureen, Bluffton North, IN), and Bros. Jeff Thames (Sis. Brenda and family, Washington, IL), Randy Gasser (Sis. Sue and family, Detroit, MI), Mark Gerber (Sis. Barb, Bluffton, IN), Andy Moser (Sis. Diane and family, Valparaiso, IN) and Greg Stieglitz and family (Indianapolis, IN). May the Lord reward them all for their faithful service as well as our local ministers.

Bro. Marvin and Sis. Joan Stieglitz are on a trip to the west visiting churches where they have never attended.

We welcome Sis. Rena Braker, who will fellowship with us, as she

serves at the Gateway Woods home of Bro. Tom and Sis. Jodee Bauman. She replaces Sis. Lisa (Waibel) Laukhuf.

Bro. Mike and Sis. Denise Klopfenstein's baby, Grant, is back home as well as his uncle, Todd Klopfenstein, who was involved in a motorbike accident. He broke both arms, his leg and suffered severe knee injury. He is home, but faces more surgery. Our prayers are with him as he draws closer to his Lord.

We rejoice with Bro. Nick Zaugg and Sis. Tricia Metzger (Chicago, IL) as they announce their engagement. His parents are Bro. Norman and Sis. Polly Zaugg (West Bend, IA) and Sis. Tricia's parents are Bro. Galen and Sis. Mary Jo Metzger (Oakville, IA). May God guide them in this time of preparation for marriage.

Life is a grind stone. But whether it grinds us down or polishes us up, depends on what we are made of.

Whether we face death or marriage, or just the daily living, let our source of help come from His Word.

"He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, he is my refuge and my fortress; my God; in him will I trust."

*Psalms 91:1-2*

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### INDIANA, MILFORD Marguerite Hoerr Pam Beer

The weekend of September 12 was a blessing for our Milford congregation as Phil Yargosz (Mike and Donna) became our brother in faith. Elder Bro. Wendell

Gudeman (Francesville, IN) was with us on Saturday evening for Bro. Phil's testimony and we appreciate his willingness to come and be with us.

We also appreciate the visits of ministering Bros. Clark Stoller (Gridley, IL) and Wayne Lemam (Roanoke, IL) as they came and blessed us from the Word of God. It was a double blessing as they were here the same weekend.

Bro. Bill and Sis. Anne Troup became grandparents again when their son and daughter-in-law, Tim and Angela Troup, had a son, William Cannon.

Becoming first time grandparents are Bro. Alvin and Sis. Carol Haab to a little girl, Kylie Danae, born to their daughter, Kelli, and Greg Koutsouras on August 28. We ask God to bless these precious little bundles, their parents, and their grandparents.

Our prayers have been with Bro. Bill, Sis. Judy, Blessing and Matthew Longcor as Sis. Judy's mother, Sis. Esther Schafer, passed away this past month. May they find comfort in knowing she is with our Lord and Saviour.

Tillie Kasbaum had surgery this past month and we are happy to have her back in church assembling with us.

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#### INDIANA, REMINGTON

**Beth Virkler  
Rochelle Ward**

Trent, Dave, Luke, Anna, Kayla along with Bro. Tim and Sis. Lynette Bahler welcome Isaac Andrew into their family on August 23. Grandparents are Bro. Marshall and Sis. Jan Heinold (Ixtilan, Mexico) and Bro. Elmer and Sis. Marilyn Bahler.

We are rejoicing with Bro. Dick and Sis. Sharon Meister for sev-

eral reasons. Their son, Ryan, and daughter-in-law, Holly, began seeking the Lord in repentance. They attend our church in Indianapolis and reside at 2178 Meadow Glen Blvd., Franklin, IN 46131. Secondly, they also became first-time grandparents this month as Rob and Kristin Meister happily welcomed Makenna Ann, born on September 5, into their home.

Sis. Verna (Clauss) Stedman, 90, passed away on September 13 at Parkview Haven Nursing Home. She grew up in Remington but had spent most of her adult life in Chicago. Her husband, Bro. Morris, preceded her in death in 1995.

Moving into Parkview Haven this past month is Sis. Velma Wilson. Her new address is 100 Constitution Drive, Francesville, IN 47946 for those who would like to send a card during this change in her life.

Supporting us in the ministry were Bros. Brian Huber (Francesville, IN) and Bill Hodel (Roanoke, IL). Oh, how we appreciate each minister's labor of love in caring for the flock.

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#### INDIANA, SOUTH BEND

**Jennifer Mangold  
Sue Beebe**

We were blessed Labor Day weekend to have two baptisms. Keyna Langhofer (Sis. Lavilla and Bro. Marty) and Ben Flis (Sharon Flis) sealed their commitments with the Lord in the holy waters of baptism. This wonderful event brought many visitors to South Bend, including Elder Bros. Jesse Beer (Milford, IN) and Wendell Gudeman (Francesville, IN). Also in attendance was retired ministering Bro. Al Langhofer and his

wife, Sis. Judy (Wichita, KS). All in attendance were moved by the testimonies given Saturday and the baptismal service Sunday. We pray that those unconverted who witnessed these events take heed to do the same.

Our sympathy and prayers have been with Bro. Robert Beebe and Sis. Sue and their children in the passing of his father, Kenneth Beebe. We extend the same condolences to Bro. Bob's sister, Jennifer, and her husband, Dan Boen, of Ft. Wayne. Also mourning his loss were many grandchildren who will miss a dear grandpa. Kenneth resided at Miller's Merry Manor in Wakarusa the last few years after living in Cissna Park, IL.

The Mangold family (Mike and Sis. Renee) watched closely as a hurricane approached the island on which son Joshua was stationed in the Pacific Ocean. The hurricane reportedly split in half before hitting the island and re-joined afterwards causing little damage to the island. We won't know for sure in this life time, but could the fact that parents, grandparents, friends and brethren in South Bend were praying for his safety had something to do with this unusual occurrence?

Other visiting ministers this month have included Bros. Ken Hoerr (Sis. Darlene, Peoria, IL) and Chuck Kellenberger (Sis. Debbie, Elgin, IL). We are always grateful in our small congregation to have visitors, especially ministering brothers and their families.

#### *Note of Thanks:*

Robert and Sue Beebe and family wish to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, and words of encouragement following the death of Robert's father.



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**INDIANA, VALPARAISO**  
**Hope Bucher**

We are thankful to have started a new year of Sunday School classes. Both the teachers and children were excited to be back teaching and learning the stories of the Bible. We want to welcome the new teachers, Dennis Weiss, Brandon Moser and Cheryl Bucher, as well as thank Mike Thomas, Lance Bucher and Nancy Bunn for the time and efforts they have contributed to the Sunday School over the past four years. We also are thankful to our Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann for the encouragement that he offered at a meeting held for the Sunday School teachers and their spouses. We pray that each teacher will realize the great responsibility they have as they teach the children the truths from the Bible.

We are also looking forward to beginning our Wednesday night lessons and activities for the children. We pray that the children will enjoy learning more about Jesus.

Thank you again to Bro. Todd Feller (LaCrosse, IN) for his willingness to come and share the Living Word with us. We appreciate Bro. Todd's ministry.

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**INDIANA, WOLCOTT**  
**Beckie Lehman**  
**Mary Beth Lehman**

The summer season has once again turned to memory and fall is upon us. The rich colors and crisp cool nights are a testimony to God's ordained cycles of nature. All too soon we will be in the grip of the cold winter season. The promise of spring will carry us through, just as God's promises in His Word give us hope for salvation through

trials.

Werejoice with Brandy Schwab (Bro. Jon and Sis. Wendy) and Katy Schwab (Bro. Tim and Sis. Rachel) as they have found peace with God and look forward to giving their testimonies to the church in the future.

Our prayers are with Sis. Dorothy Lehman as she recuperates from a broken hip and is currently in the hospital. Sis. Bobbi Gerber (Bro. Bob and Sis. Luann) was also hospitalized this past month after major surgery on her back. She is now at home and we all hope and pray that her healing and recovery can be swift and that she can have relief from pain.

We extend our sympathy to the family of Sis. Josephine Farney who recently passed away. May God's comforting hand be close to each of them.

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**IOWA, BURLINGTON**  
**Karla Gerst**  
**Judy Gehring**

Our dear Bro. Blaine Applegarth has returned home after being hospitalized for a few weeks.

Our sisters in the flesh, Sis. Betty Baker and Sis. Martha Beulher, are now residing at the Wapello Nursing Home.

Bro. Brad Funk spent a Sunday with us. May God richly bless him for his efforts in bringing us the Word of God.

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**IOWA, ELGIN**  
**Gloria Frieden**  
**Heidi Butikofer**

Where God in truth abides  
Where two join hand and heart  
We find a threefold cord  
Not lightly rent apart.

On September 5, Sis. Melisa Butikofer (Bro. Lon and Sis. Sandy) and Bro. Tim Gerst (Bro. Joe and Sis. Connie, Iowa City, IA) made their vows before God and man and were pronounced man and wife. We give them our love and wish them God's richest blessings as they, together, walk this pilgrim pathway.

Two couples have made their engagements known. Candace Halverson and Daylon Moser are planning an October wedding. Wade Halverson and Michelle Finholt have no wedding date set yet. Roger and Charlene Halverson are the parents of Candace and Wade. May both couples feel God's nearness and direction as they make plans for their lives together.

Sis. Ruth Schupbach recently spent some time in the hospital following a car accident. We are thankful for God's healing touch on Sis. Ruth and for sparing her of more injury.

"When a Christian dies, precious is the prize!" Sis. Carolyn Butikofer (the late Bro. Lawrence) was suddenly called from this life into eternity on September 19. Our love and prayers are with her children, Dennis, Larry, and Sheryl, and their families. May they find great comfort in knowing that their mother is safe in the arms of Jesus now.

Speak the gospel on salvation boldly in the wilderness! We have been blessed with several visiting ministers this past month. Our sincere thanks to Elder Bro. Wayne Banwart (Champaign, IL) and Bros. Joe Gerst (Iowa City, IA), Wayne Grimm and Pat Zaugg (West Bend, IA), Andy Virkler (Croghan-Naumburg, NY), Bill Gerst (Alto, MI), Paul Messner (Winthrop, MN), Trent Meiss

(Eureka, IL) and Jerry Wagenbach (Oakville, IA). May God bless each one as they continue to labor in His vineyard.

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### IOWA, GARDEN GROVE

#### Laura Funk

Our guest minister this past month was Bro. Dale Frank (Oakville, IA). We have also enjoyed many visitors. We want to thank each and every one for ministering and fellowshiping with us.

We pray for those who are suffering afflictions of the body.

Why grieveest my soul,  
must thou suffer great pain?  
Trust in your dear Jesus,  
He'll strengthen again.  
Is thy lot to suffer  
in sickness and pain?  
Let nothing deceive you  
to murmur in pain.  
Endure and be still,  
Believing it is  
thy dear Saviour's good will.

*Zion's Harp #241*

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### IOWA, IOWA CITY

#### Sharon Gerst

As the summer wound to a close, we had a very busy month here in Iowa City. We were glad there were several visiting ministers to help us break the Bread of Life together. We appreciated Bros. Kevin Banwart (West Bend, IA), Fred Eberhardt (Burlington, IA), Jon Zeller (Morton, IL) and Arnie Gerst (Taylor, MO) making the effort to come and share the Word of Life with us.

On September 5, many of us from Iowa City were able to go to Elgin, IA to witness the marriage of Bro. Tim Gerst (Bro. Joe and Sis. Connie) to Sis. Melisa

Butikofer (Bro. Lon and Sis. Sandy). May they continually look to the Lord for guidance as they walk down the path of life together.

The next weekend, September 11-12, we were blessed to host Iowa churches in our congregation. We extend our appreciation to the many single brothers and sisters who traveled the miles to gather together.

On September 19, we had the annual college student picnic. We were able to fellowship with several families who have college students in our area. May our college students realize that the most important book to study is the Word of God. We hope each and every one will have a profitable school year.

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### IOWA, LESTER

#### Cindy Leuthold

#### Sue Warner

We have cause for rejoicing in our midst as two more souls have surrendered to God's call. Our prayers are with Annie Metzger (Bro. Jim and Sis. Lois) and Hana Larson (Ted and Sis. Diane) as they seek to crucify self in a true repentance.

We also are thankful that Kary Hartter (Bro. Jerome and Sis. Gail) has been granted the gift of peace. We look forward to hearing her testimony.

On August 20, Marty and Martha Knoblock welcomed little Riley Jay into their hearts and home. How fortunate for Riley that his parents have repented for their sins and that he will be raised in a Christian home. Grandparents are Bro. Glen and Sis. Joyce Metzger, and Bro. Nick and Sis. Mary Kuenzi (Silverton, OR).

September 14 was the day little

Kerrick Lee Knoblock made his arrival. Thankful parents are Bro. Trent and Sis. Heather. Kerrick also has loving grandparents, Bro. Roger and Sis. Janet Knoblock, and Bro. Harvey and Sis. Mary Metzger. May God grant these young parents much grace, and help us all to be good examples to our children.

Our beloved Bro. Fred Metzger, Jr. was called to his rest. We are thankful he was relieved of his earthly suffering, yet our hearts are saddened at our loss. We pray that God will comfort his wife, Sis. Esty, and his children, Bro. Tom (Sis. Deb), Sis. Beth (Bro. Dennis) Hartter (Sabetha, KS), Bro. Mark (Sis. Audrey), Sis. Twyla (Bro. Rod) Bajema, Bro. Kevin (Sis. Dawn), Sis. Diane (Ted) Larson, and Sis. Luann (Bro. Aaron) Schmidgall (Oakville, IA), and his grandchildren. We also extend sympathy to his brothers and sisters: Sis. Emma Meyer, Sis. Freida Mogler (Bro. Andy), Bro. Ernst Metzger (Sis. Ella), Bro. Elmer Metzger (Sis. Marianne), Bro. Eli Metzger (Sis. Alice), all of our congregation, and Sis. Karoline Wuthrich (Bro. Russell), Pulaski, IA, and Roy Metzger (Sis. Evelyn), Floris, IA.

We appreciate the labors of visiting minister Bro. Larry Bahr (Ft. Scott, KS), who shared with us the Word of Life.

On August 8, Tim Feucht (Sis. Martha) and Carla Berndt were united in marriage. We wish them much happiness and pray that God will bless their marriage.

Ray Lynn Metzger (Bro. Bob and Sis. Rosella) and Aric Leenderts exchanged marriage vows on September 4. We wish them God's blessings on their marriage. They will be living in the Minneapolis area.

Bro. Nathan Knobloch (Sis. Irene) was a surgical patient. Our prayers are with him and all who suffer bodily afflictions.

We are glad to have two new brothers assembling with us. We welcome Bro. Kevin Wulf (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Judy) from Morris, MN and Bro. Eric Kupferschmid (Bro. Richard and Sis. Maribeth) from Eureka, IL.

Our prayers and good wishes go with Sis. Marie Feucht (the late Bro. Alfred) who has moved to Latty, OH, to be near her daughters. We will miss her and pray that God will go with her. Her address is: Sis. Marie Feucht, P.O. Box 67, 411 Alexander, Latty, OH 45855.

*Notes of Thanks:*

The family of Ted Gerber wish to express thankfulness and appreciation for the loving support, prayers, cards, visits, flowers, food, and memorials during the passing of our dear husband, father, and grandfather. May God bless and reward as only He can.

*Sis. Emma Gerber and family*

We are unable to express in words the gratitude we feel for the prayers, kindness, visits, cards, gifts, phone calls, flowers, and food shown and given to us during the illness and loss of our dear husband, father, and grandfather. May God bless each of you.

*The Alfred "Duke" Feucht family*

Words cannot express my thanks for all the cards, gifts, visits, and prayers that were offered in my behalf during my last two surgeries, also for the phone service that was set up so we could hear the church services right in our home. Also for the loved ones

that lent a helping hand around our place.

*Bro. Andy and Sis. Freida Mogler*

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**IOWA, OAKVILLE**  
**Debbie Wagenbach**  
**Melody Steiner**

Our thoughts and prayers are with Sis. Luann Schmidgall (Bro. Aaron) in the loss of her father, Bro. Fred Metzger, Jr. (Lester, IA). May she feel the support and strength of our blessed fellowship in this time of sorrow.

It was recently made known to our congregation of the betrothal of Sis. Tricia Metzger (Bro. Galen and Sis. Mary Jo) to Bro. Nick Zaugg (Leo, IN). We pray they can feel the Lord's guidance and direction as they make plans to be united as one in Him.

We want to thank our visiting ministers this past month: Bros. Arnie Gerst (Taylor, MO) and Garry Bucher (Valparaiso, IN). May the Lord bless them for their labors.

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**IOWA, PULASKI**  
**Lisa Knecht**

Greetings of love to each of you. Our summer days have ended and the beauty of autumn is all around us. We only need to look outside to be reminded of our Great Creator!

We, as a church, are always grateful for the ministers who visit our congregation. We wish to thank Bro. Floyd Frieden (Sis. Jan, Elgin, IA) for sharing God's Word with us and Elder Bro. Lawrence Luthi (Sis. Sandra and family, Lamar, MO) for speaking to our Adult Sunday School.

I want my friends to pray for me,  
To bear my tempted soul above,  
And intercede with God for me,

I need the prayers of those I love.

Our prayers are with our dear Sis. Clara Schock (Elder Bro. Doug) as she begins tests and treatments for cancer. We know the Lord is faithful as we depend completely upon Him in our time of need.

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**IOWA, WEST BEND**  
**Berniece Banwart**  
**Eunice Fehr**

We have been blessed with visiting ministers all on separate Sundays. Bros. Glen Funk (Sis. Sally, Wichita, KS), Brad Funk (Sis. Laura, Garden Grove, IA) and Andy Virkler (Sis. Becky, Croghan-Naumburg, NY) brought forth the Word in the power of the Spirit.

Sis. Edna I. Banwart and Louis Schafer have spent time in the hospital. We are thankful that God has again restored health and they can both be home.

"When a Christian dies...Precious is the prize..." (Hymns of Zion #248). Many in our congregation had family ties with loved ones whom the Lord has called Home. Bros. Alfred Feucht, Ted Gerber, Fred Metzger (Lester, IA) and Sis. Esther Schafer (Morris, MN) and Sis. Gladys Fisher (Phoenix, AZ) were all laid to rest in the past few weeks. It is comforting to know they were prepared to go Home to rest in the Lord.

Congratulations and God's blessings to Bro. Jim and Sis. Sandy Knobloch as they have been blessed with Jed Alan born on August 24. Happy to have a new little brother are Jordan, Andrea and Larae. Grandparents are Bro. Al and Sis. LaVerne Butikofer (Elgin, IA) and Sis. Lauretta Knobloch (Lester, IA).

Sarah Zaugg and Jamie Montag have announced their engagement. Parents are Bro. Pat and Sis. Julie Zaugg and Edward and Luan Montag. We wish them God's blessings and direction as they plan their wedding.

We spent several evenings together listening to the Conference tapes. It is so encouraging to hear our Elders exhort us on so many different topics. May we do our part and be obedient to God's Word.

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### **JAPAN, SHIODA** **Ayako Inoue**

Greetings from across the ocean. The hot "typhoon" season that caused a lot of natural disasters like landslides and floods is finally coming to the end and we are looking forward to the cool autumn season, when we can find our Lord's beautiful work, nature; but we know that is not the only thing He made for us. We had many other blessings this month, too.

In the beginning of August, we enjoyed having Bro. Willis and Sis. Lois Ehnle's family, Tom Ehnle and children Hannah and Noah, Jewel Maeda and son Matthew, from the States. We had a blessed time with them at the summer fellowship meeting and reinforced our friendship again. We missed having Tony Ehnle, the Ehnle's oldest son, who passed away this past January. He is also in our hearts as precious memories.

The Tamahata and Shioda congregation were glad to have Inoue Okaa San (Sis. Tamino Inoue) back from a three week visit to the States. She enjoyed the reunion of the former teachers (sisters) who taught at Shioda's kindergarten, and also enjoyed the spiritual fel-

lowship and "chat" with some of the elderly sisters (are they called "The Old Group"?) of Bloomington church.

From September 3-14, we had Bro. Ben and Sis. Lorene Maibach, Bro. Tom and Sis. Cindy Hitz, visiting from Detroit. We were thankful that our Lord had opened the way for Bro. Ben to come again. He brought the welcoming banner which the church people held in the airport of Haneda, when he landed in our country to help our church, over 40 years ago.

We had the privilege to take Holy Communion on September 12 in Tokyo church, and were reminded of the price our Saviour paid for us to be saved. That is the most wonderful blessing.

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### **JAPAN, TOKYO**

#### **Andrew and Jana Klaus**

Greetings from Tokyo! Today is the fall equinox, which is a national holiday in Japan. Just a couple days ago, Tokyo finally was relieved of the summer humidity, which normally does not last so close to the fall equinox. We are looking forward to the beauty and coolness of fall now.

God's handiwork is just so beautiful and pleasurable here in Japan as you travel out of the city and into the country through the mountains. Our family (the Klaus) spent the national holiday today at a lake in the mountains and just this past Sunday, we were privileged to visit our Shioda church which is surrounded by mountains and farmers' fields. These places make for some of the most pleasing scenery ever! How can we not be awed by and led to praise our wonderful Creator God? We are thankful to Shioda

church for showing us love once again and to Bro. Akihiro Itoh for leading us in singing practice.

On Sunday, September 12, we had a very blessed day with visiting minister and retired Elder Bro. Ben Maibach and his wife, Sis. Lorene, and son-in-law and daughter, Bro. Tom and Sis. Cindy Hitz, all from Detroit, MI. This was Bro. Ben's 16th trip to Japan and Sis. Lorene's 5th, and most likely their last. But we were thankful the Lord gave them health and energy for one more trip as they are very dear to many of the members here, having connections with our churches way back from when they first started. We thank Bro. Ben for laboring for us in the morning service, and then in the afternoon as he and Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle assisted Elder Bro. Akito Inoue in Holy Communion.

There was quite a large attendance for the day, and we hope and pray that any unsaved souls could take to heart Bro. Ben's morning message of not just believing in God, but becoming born again and converted by Him. It is definitely a fact in this land that many people believe in God or "a god of some sort," but have such a hard time having the faith and humbleness to submit to Him as their Saviour. We will not give up in praying for them, though! And for the rest of us, who have admitted our sinful state and need for a Saviour and have become converted, we hope and pray that as we partook of Holy Communion together that we would more deeply appreciate what our Lord Jesus did for us on the Cross of Calvary. May we not grow lax in thanking and praising Him. After Holy Communion, we had a short break and many gathered again for a supper and sing-



ing together.

On the previous Thursday, at our monthly ladies meeting, we enjoyed all four guests with us to share about their lives and memories of Japan and we especially appreciated Bro. Tom Hitz's Bible message on Psalm 63 of deeply thirsting for God and then being satisfied fully by Him. Thank you Bros. Ben and Tom for all of your labors and to your wives, Sisters Lorene and Cindy, for your added fellowship and love.

We were saddened to hear of the devastating earthquake in Taiwan this week. Taiwan is not too far from Japan, and has a lot in common, including being hit by many earthquakes! Perhaps another fact we share is that Christian believers number only about one percent of the population, as well as being economically very prosperous. We pray that through the trials that God allows to come upon us, we could be drawn closer to Him.

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### KANSAS, BERN

**Jill Hartter  
Holly Meyer**

The weekend of August 28-29 was a very special and blessed one for our congregation, as Bro. Galen Rokey was ordained a deacon. We gathered together on Saturday evening for a special service and then witnessed the ordination prayer on Sunday, followed by an all-church meal. May we give our whole-hearted support to Bro. Galen as he takes on these additional God-given duties; and also keep his wife, Sis. Nancy, and their children, Aaron, Rebekah, Jason and Jordan, in our prayers!

Visiting Elders who joined us for this weekend were Bros. Gene Marti (Kansas City, MO), Jay

Luthi (Lamont-Gridley, KS), and Gerry Hertzell (Sabetha, KS). Bro. Leland Plattner (Zapata, TX) also ministered to us this month. We appreciate each of these brothers for their labors in the Lord's service.

Many of our high school aged Sunday School students spent a weekend of fellowship with the other Kansas churches, in Kansas City recently. We would like to extend a big thank-you to all who helped make it such an enjoyable weekend.

We have enjoyed having our friend Ted Strahm (Bro. Wilfred and Sis. Verona) in our midst the last two years and are sad to see him move to Kansas City, but know he'll be warmly welcomed there. We wish him well and look forward to his visits back "home".

Reaching the milestone of her 90th birthday was our dear Sis. Anna Ulmer. She enjoyed having many relatives come from across the U.S. to be with her and share in her special day. She summed it up in three words, "It was wonderful!". God's blessings to you, Sis. Anna; your kindness and contentment are an inspiration to all who know you!

"Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content."

*Philippians 4:11*

*Note of Thanks:*

A special thank you to everybody who sent cards, flowers, and gifts to make my 90th birthday such a special day.

*Sis. Anna Ulmer and family*

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### KANSAS, FORT SCOTT

**Joleen Sinn**

As school starts again so do our Wednesday evening services. We start by listening to the Conference tapes and when they are finished, regular services will begin.

We want to thank Bro. Marvin Stieglitz (Leo, IN) for ministering to us on a Wednesday evening this month. It was such a blessing to have Bro. Marvin and Sis. Joan with us, as well as the other visitors that have been with us. It is so nice to see the assembly room a little fuller and to be able to visit with our brothers and sisters from other congregations.

September 19 was the date of our annual Kansas City, Fort Scott Sunday School picnic. It was here at Fort Scott this year and all of us, especially the children, were happy when after a rainy day it cleared off and we were still able to go to the park instead of the church basement!

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### KANSAS LAMONT-GRIDLEY Sarah Somerhalder

We rejoice with our dear young convert, Andrea Luthi (Elder Bro. Jay and Sis. Jane) who has been announced as having peace in her heart and looking forward to baptism. Also, we rejoice with Bro. Glen and Sis. Lorean Anliker as their son, Wayne (Sis. Dawn, Indianapolis, IN) has answered God's call to repentance.

We extend our sympathy to Sis. Dorothy Young in the passing of her brother-in-law, Raymond Botham.

Our congregation has been privileged to listen to the annual Conference tapes during the past month. May we ever heed our Elders' loving counsel.

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**KANSAS, SABETHA**

**Mary Kay Wenger  
Brenda Grimm**

Bro. Ken and Sis. Amy Beyer of Detroit, MI rejoice in the birth of their first child. Sophie Claire Beyer was born on August 20. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Martin and Sis. Karen Beyer and Elder Bro. Mark and Sis. Bev Bahr (Farmington Hills, MI).

Stefany Kellenberger (Bro. Jay and Sis. Marilyn) and Darin Lesmeister (David Lesmeister, Bonner Springs, MO and Ranae Wright, Topeka, KS) have announced their engagement. We wish them God's blessings as they plan their November 6 wedding.

We extend sympathy to the families who have lost loved ones. Sis. Beth Hartter's (Bro. Dennis) father, Bro. Fred Metzger (Sis. Esty), passed away in Lester, IA. Alan Meyer and Mary Swanson (Salina, KS) are the surviving nephew and niece of Sis. Lydia Meyer who passed away August 27 at the nursing home.

We appreciated Elder Bro. Mark Bahr (Detroit, MI) sharing the Gospel of truth.

Our Senior Sunday School class helped paint houses in Kansas City as part of a World Relief project. We know this labor of love was much appreciated.

Grandparents' Day on Sunday, September 12, was a special day for grandparents, Bro. Harvey and Sis. Arleta Wenger and Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Nancy Bachtold (Fairbury, IL). They were blessed with a grandson, Justin William Wenger, born to Bro. Wayne and Sis. Jean Wenger. Heidi, 2 1/2 years, is excited to have a baby brother.

Our church remodeling project is progressing at a steady pace. We

appreciate the volunteer help that is available. Beginning September 19 we plan to start assembling at the Fellowship Center for our church services at 10:00 a.m., take a half hour break and have our second service at 11:30 a.m. We will be thankful when our remodeled facility is finished.

**KANSAS STATE  
UNIVERSITY  
Brandon Plattner**

Classes have once again resumed at K-State. We wish to extend a warm welcome to several new students, and we certainly look forward to worshipping with you. As we begin another semester, may we remember the Apostle's advice to the Ephesians, "I therefore the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love." (4:1-2).

Our annual fall picnic was held on September 1 at Tuttle Creek State Park. We thank parents and friends for attending. We certainly appreciate your support.

We rejoice with a new convert, Angela Edelman (Bro. Earl and Sis. Donna, Bern). We pray for God's guidance as she begins this new walk with Him. We were also thankful to witness the testimony and baptism of Bro. Quinton Snyder (Bro. Greg and Sis. Kara, Kansas City) on the weekend of August 21-22 in Kansas City.

Wednesday evening services will soon begin and we wish to extend a warm welcome to everyone! These are scheduled for September 15, 29; October 13, 27; November 10; and December 1 at Throckmorton 1018 at 7:15 p.m.

**KANSAS, WICHITA**

**Emma Miller**

Bro. Charlie and Sis. Gail Grimm celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on September 5. Their children, Carla Holland, Teresa Morris, and Greg Grimm, hosted a lovely reception for their parents. Bro. Charlie and Sis. Gail have seven grandchildren.

Out of town visitors in church the day of the anniversary celebration included Bro. John and Sis. Ursula Barth from the Oakville, IA congregation. Bro. Virgil Barth was able to come to church that afternoon. The two brothers greeted each other happily and one of the bystanders commented that this was just a foretaste of how blessed we will be when we meet our loved ones in Heaven.

Bro. Virgil has surprised us all with his strength and ability to assemble with us as often as he can. He is blessed with a loving family who makes it possible for him to do so.

Bro. Al Langhofer underwent major surgery Wednesday, September 15. Hopefully, his hospital stay will be short but then he will have an extended recovery period at home. Our prayer for him and Sis. Judy is that they will experience God's loving embrace during this time of healing.

**KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON**

**Glenda Neukomm**

We enjoyed visitors this month from Rittman, Junction, Latty, Mansfield, Bluffton and Eureka. Our visiting ministers were Bros. Wally Ramsier (Mansfield, OH) and Gary Brown (Forrest, IL). The weekend of September 11-12, several families came from Forrest along with Bro. Gary. A

blessed time of fellowship was enjoyed as we had a potluck and singing at church on Saturday evening. It is our prayer the Lord will richly bless and reward these dear ministering brothers for coming the distance and bringing the Word to us.

As the Fall season is approaching us, I think of the pruning that is necessary to maintain beautiful looking trees, perennials and shrubs in our yard. I came across this article and felt how well it applies to our spiritual walk with the Lord:

An owner had a great hothouse where luscious clusters of grapes were hanging on every side. The owner said, "When my new gardener came, he said he would have nothing to do with these vines unless he could cut them clean down to the stalk; and he did, and we had no grapes for two years, but now this has been the result."

In this interpretation of the pruning process, we can apply it to the Christian life. Pruning seems to be destroying the vine, the gardener appears to be cutting it all away; but he looks on into the future and knows that the final outcome will be the enrichment of its life and greater abundance of fruit.

There are blessings we can never have unless we are ready to pay the price of pain. There is no way to reach them save through suffering.

"I walked a mile with Pleasure,  
She chattered all the way;  
But left me none the wiser  
For all she had to say.

I walked a mile with Sorrow,  
And ne'er a word said she;

But, oh, the things I learned from  
her

When sorrow walked with me."

—Dr. Miller

We always appreciate visitors and extend a welcome to anyone. Please contact Bro. Lester Huber (606) 745-2541 or Bro. Jan Neukomm (606) 273-8574.

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### MICHIGAN, ALTO Kristen Plattner Michelle Oesch

Fall is here and again we see changes. Changes in the foliage, changes in routines of families in regards to the return to school and harvest. Let us go a bit deeper and see spiritual changes in each of us. A quote on the page of a calendar says "people change and forget to tell each other." It is so easy to criticize each other's faults. Take the extra effort and look for positive growth and change in each other. It is comforting to know our Lord's love and faithfulness never changes.

The longer we journey here on earth, we see how temporal everything is. In Heaven, there won't be "changes" as we experience them here. As the songwriter says, "In every change He faithful will remain." In Heaven the song continues..."Be still my soul: when change and tears are past...All safe and blessed we shall be at last."

Our visiting ministers were Bros. Hartzell Kaisner (Detroit, MI) and Bill Waibel (Bay City, MI). Thanks to those two visiting brothers for bringing the Word which has the power to save us from a life of sin.

The Sunday School held their annual fall picnic. It is a time of fellowship and reminding the children again of Christ's love and

plan unto salvation. All who attended felt blessed and were thankful for the beautiful day.

"Pleasant words are as an honeycomb, sweet to the soul and health to the bones."

*Proverbs 16:24*

As we gathered to hear the Conference tapes, we were encouraged in our marriages. Elder Bro. Joe Braker spoke of the little things we can say and do. Just those words "I love you"...how much they encourage each of us. We were reminded to listen, really listen, to each other. The kindness we extend to each other may not change the person, but it changes the person showing the kindness...it makes us kinder.

We extend our best wishes to the marriage of Jerry and Annie Link. Jerry is the son of William and Mary Jane Link. Annie is the daughter of Bro. Fred and Sis. Donna Oesch.

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### MICHIGAN, BAY CITY Peggy Jackson Rhonda Knochel

It's so wonderful when we have months like this past one that have brought our congregation so many blessings. We are just sure that the angels in Heaven, and even the Father Himself, rejoiced with us when we heard the news that Chet Schlatter (Bro. Ken and Sis. Pam) has made the decision to live a life for the Lord. We pray that he will feel God's nearness throughout his repentance.

We also rejoiced with Bro. Mick and Sis. Lisa Laukhuf as they were united in marriage on August 29. We also rejoice with their parents, Bro. Dwain and Sis. Wanita Laukhuf (Latty, OH) and Bro. Bill

and Sis. Carol Waibel. We are so thankful that Bro. Mick and Sis. Lisa chose the Lord to be part of their lives years ago, as now their marriage is a three-fold cord that will not be easily broken.

We had several visiting ministers here for the wedding. They were: Bros. Doyle Frauhiger (Bluffton North, IN), Dwight Stoller (Latty, OH), John Stoller (Leo, IN), John Laukhuf (Latty, OH) and Brace Wieland (Leo, IN). Although we didn't get a chance to sit under the ministering of each of these brothers, we appreciate their willingness to be used by God, to preach the Gospel. May God bless them and their beloved wives and families for their service of love.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Sis. Martha Rezmer and Sis. Mabelle Wackerle as they both spent time in the hospital this month. May God's loving hand and His precious grace be their "supply" in this difficult time.

May God's loving hand be resting on each of you also in the month ahead.

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**MICHIGAN, DETROIT**  
**Bonnie Bedolla**  
**Crystal Ramsier**

"Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."

*John 14:27*

We were encouraged to hear that God continues to grant grace and peace to seeking souls. Kevin Rauhe (Bro. Warren and Sis. Kay) has experienced the wonderful gift of peace in his heart. We wish him God's blessings as he contin-

ues to grow spiritually.

Elder Bro. Mark and Sis. Bev Bahr welcomed a new granddaughter, Sophie Claire, to their family. Sophie's parents are Bro. Ken and Sis. Amy Beyer (Kansas City, MO).

We were thrilled to have three newcomers to our congregation this month. Sis. Stephanie Kellenberger has moved here from the Washington congregation. Eduardo "Lalo" Ugalde, a convert from the congregation in Juarez, Mexico, has also relocated to the southeast Michigan area. Tim Wieland has moved here from the Bay City congregation. We hope they will feel welcome in our church and wish them well in the endeavors that brought them to our area.

Along with the joy of welcoming people to our congregation, we had the sorrow of saying goodbye to Sis. Ashley Wiegand as she went back to Oakville, IA. We will miss Sis. Ashley and hope that she will visit us often.

We are thankful that retired Elder Bro. Ben and Sis. Lorene Maibach and Bro. Tom and Sis. Cindy Hitz were able to travel to Japan and fellowship with the congregations there. What a blessing it is to travel so many miles and meet others who have experienced God's wonderful plan of salvation, too.

Our prayers are with Sis. Lorene Maibach for a speedy recovery of the broken arm she suffered shortly after arriving home from Japan. We also miss seeing Bro. George Popp at church and pray that his health will improve.

Our congregation enjoyed a beautiful afternoon of fellowship on September 19 when we gathered for our annual Sunday School sponsored church picnic. We en-

joyed spending time together and created a lot of wonderful memories for both the kids and adults.

*Note of Thanks:*

I would like to express my sincere appreciation for all of the prayers, cards, love and kind expressions of sympathy I received at the recent passing of my husband, Bro. Joe. May God bless each of you for your thoughtfulness.

*Sis. Martha Szilagyi*

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**MINNESOTA**  
**MINNEAPOLIS**  
**Delores Sauder**

We were recently reminded that we make many choices every day. We need to prayerfully consider the choices that we make so they will not be held against us on Judgment Day.

We have concluded listening to the Conference tapes. We appreciated the love and concern of the Elders and thank them for all their labors.

Bro. Ray Schmidgall (Sis. Millie) is spending some time at the Apple Valley Care Center for rehabilitation following hospitalization. We pray that he may have a speedy recovery.

A wedding reception was given honoring Aric and Rae Lynn Leenderts' recent marriage. May God be with them as they establish their new home. Their parents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Rosella Metzger (Lester, IA) and Alan and Bonnie Leenderts.

We thank Elder Bro. Dennis Warner (Lester, IA) for sharing God's Word with us. May God richly bless him for his efforts.

The children were excited to resume Sunday School on September 12. Sis. Rachel Kent is the new



teacher and Sis. Stephanie Knobloch and Bro. Doug Bergstrom are the substitutes. We pray that the seed of truth will be planted in each heart.

Sis. Rosie Zeltwanger (Bro. Dale and Sis. Rachel, Morris, MN) has started college here. We welcome her into our fellowship.

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### MINNESOTA, MORRIS

**Dianne Kellenberger  
Nancy Wulf**

God is still calling souls to repentance, and we are grateful for the answering of the hearts of Alexis Koehl (Bro. Randy and Sis. Shirley), Rekeeta Schmidgall (Bro. Mike and Sis. Diane) and Joshua Schmidgall (Bro. Dave and Sis. June). May they seek and find God's grace for a true and full conversion.

We would like to thank Elder Bro. Dennis Warner (Lester, IA) and Bro. Robert Beebe (South Bend, IN) who visited our pulpit this month.

Rejoicing over hearts united are Bro. Monte Gerber and Sis. Karla Schmidgall on September 19. May God bless and direct them as they walk life's pathway together. Their parents are Bro. Dennis and Sis. Ruby Schmidgall and Bro. Bill and Sis. Erma Gerber (Lester, IA).

Announcing their engagement are Echo Fehr and Andy Hacker. May God richly bless them as they plan a November 20 wedding. Their parents are Bro. Cork and Sis. Pam Fehr and Charles and Deb Hacker (Hancock, MN).

Our hearts go out to the family of Sis. Esther Schaefer as she was called Home August 27. May her husband, Bro. John, and son, Bro. Steve, and Sis. Pam and family find comfort in the arms of Jesus,

knowing she is finally at rest.

Come to warm the hearts and home of Jeff and Stephanie Jurgens is Dylan Jeffrey, who was born September 20. His loving grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Charlotte Metzger (Lester, IA). May God surround their family with His love.

*Note of Thanks:*

Again, I wish to express my sincere thanks to all who so lovingly remembered me with prayers, visits, cards, flowers, and gifts during my hospital stay and my recovery at home. May God richly bless you all.

*Bro. Harold Gramm*

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### MINNESOTA, WINTHROP

**Carol Ann Messner  
Becky Braulick**

"Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow. Be not carried about with divers and strange doctrines. For it is a good thing that the heart be established with grace."

*Hebrews 13:7-9*

Over the past month we have been privileged to listen to the Conference tapes. We thank the Elders for their tireless efforts on our behalf. We pray that God will continue to enlighten the watchmen on the wall.

We were thankful to have ministering Bro. Don and Sis. Bernadine Miller (Minneapolis, MN) with us this past month. The parable of the talents in Matthew was read and explained. It was noted that the parables of Jesus are earthly stories which speak of heavenly things.

"What man is there that hath built a new house, and hath not dedicated it?"

*Deut. 20:5*

A dedication prayer to the Lord was offered by Elder Bro. LeRoy Messner for the unveiling of the new church addition cornerstone on September 12.

Our surgical/hospital patients this past month were Bro. Ray Messner (Sis. Bernadine), Bro. Marvin Messner (Sis. Gerri), Bro. Dick Van Deest (Sis. Nancy), Lowell Demm (Shirley), and Amy Bartels (Jay). We pray God will place His healing touch on them.

*Note of Thanks:*

Thank you for all the prayers and acts of kindness shown to me after my surgery.

*Bro. Marvin Messner*

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### MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY

**Brent Kellenberger**

On the weekend of August 21-22, we were blessed to hear the testimonies and witness the baptisms of two dear souls. We rejoice with Bro. Matt Wirtz and Bro. Quinton Snyder, and our prayers are with them as they continue on through life. We are thankful for the many visitors that came, especially Elder Bro. Gerry Hertzell (Sis. Ellen, Sabetha, KS) and ministering Bro. Larry Bahr (Sis. Julie, Ft. Scott, KS). Lord willing, we hope to see you here again.

On September 11-12, Kansas City hosted the area Sunday School Bible classes for the first time. On Saturday afternoon the kids had the privilege of going into the city to do some maintenance work on homes. May we always remember that "...God loveth a

cheerful giver." (II Cor. 9:7). After the work, ministering Bro. Mike Rinkenberger (Sis. Pat, Congerville, IL) spoke to the kids. We're thankful Bro. Mike was willing to be used throughout the weekend, and we hope God will add His blessing to the spoken Word. We enjoyed the weekend, and thank every student and teacher who made the effort to come.

We are thankful that Ft. Scott was willing to host our rotating Sunday School picnic this year. As a new Sunday School term begins, may we all be prayerful that God's Word will be taught and learned in an effective and Godly manner.

Our church is happy to see another soul join us in worship. Bro. Kyle Kellenberger (Lamar, MO) is now living in our area. We pray he will find a blessing in our fellowship.

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**MISSOURI, LAMAR**  
**Kristi Huber**  
**Carolyn Banwart**

Now it is accomplished; I'm no longer mine;  
Lord, I will forever and always be Thine.  
For Thou hast created and purchased me too  
Baptized with Thy Spirit, Thou makest me new.  
*Zion's Harp #209*

On August 21 we were privileged to hear the testimony of Kyle Kellenberger (Bro. Orlan and Sis. Mary). It is always a blessing to witness the baptism of a dear soul and welcome them into the fold. We appreciated the efforts of Elder Bros. Ervin Knecht (Eureka, IL) and Charles Sinn (Fort Scott, KS). Also sharing the weekend

with us was Bro. Loren Schrenk (St. Louis, MO). May God bless them for their labors of love.

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**MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS**  
**Rachel Schrock**

"Beloved, thou doest faithfully whatsoever thou doest to the brethren and to strangers."

*III John 1:5*

These are just some of the powerful words that the Apostle John wrote describing Gaius in the third epistle of John. Looking at this chapter during a small group Bible study this past month, we concluded that we should strive to be like Gaius who was selfless and given to service in the church and not like Diotrephes who was self-centered and authority-driven.

This past month we have been blessed by our ministering brethren who also do faithfully perform God's work towards their brethren and towards strangers. Those who visited us include Bros. Roy Ehnle (Bradford, IL), Frank Sauder (Roanoke, IL) and Elder Bro. Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO). May God richly bless each one of them for their labors of love on our behalf!

"Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices!" (Zion's Harp #236). We are also thankful that two souls could be joined to the fold this month. Bro. Orlan and Sis. Mary Kellenberger's son, Kyle, was baptized in Lamar, MO. In St. Louis we rejoiced to hear the testimony and witness the baptism of Cindy Baker. May God's presence be felt in both of these dear souls' lives as they continue on the narrow pathway towards Heaven.

"My lifetime doth pass away. Hourly to the grave I hasten" (Zion's Harp #253). Just a few days before Sis. Cindy Baker's baptism, we were saddened to hear of the passing of her grandmother, Helen Cagle, into eternity. May the comfort and peace from our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ sustain her as she adjusts to the loss of her loved one.

The St. Louis congregation has been blessed this past month with many visitors from our congregations across the land. We invite any of you who may be considering traveling our way to join our little assembly. May God bless each one of you.

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**MISSOURI, TAYLOR**  
**Peg Haerr**

We wish to welcome Taunya Rumbold here from the Bradford, IL congregation. She is attending college at Quincy University.

May God's blessings rest upon Bro. Gerald and Sis. Marge Sutter as they celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary. A reception was held in their honor on September 12.

On August 16, we gathered to hear Dr. Parkhe talk about the events taking place in India. Let us all continue to pray for him and the Rural Gospel Medical Mission.

Ministering God's Word to us this past month were Bros. Keith Beyer (Sis. Alyssa, Detroit, MI), Dean Steffen (Sis. Carol, Belvidere, IL), Ken Dietz (Sis. Mardell, Bradford, IL), Ron Joos (Sis. Christy, Pulaski, IA), Ron Heiniger (Sis. Kayleen, Bloomington, IL), Mike Baumann (Sis. Florina, Mansfield, OH) and Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen (Sis. Marilyn, Elgin, IL). May God richly

reward them for their service.

We pray for wisdom to be imparted to our new Sunday School teachers: Bro. Don Grimm (Sis. Tricia), Bro. Joe Yackley (Sis. Jerilyn), Bro. Richard Sutter (Sis. Kay), Sis. Dianne Sutter (Bro. Roger), Bro. Keith and Sis. Tami Pflum, and Bro. Shon and Sis. Peg Haerr. Many thanks go to those who have completed their terms: Sis. Jerilyn Yackley (Bro. Joe), Sis. Tina Sutter (Bro. Dan), Sis. Kris Sutter (Bro. Jim), Bro. Eric Knochel (Sis. Penny), Bro. Mike Stratton (Sis. Cheryl), Bro. Rodney Heimer (Sis. Barb), Bro. Kim Sutter (Sis. Vonette) and Bro. Rusty Adrian (Sis. Amy).

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### NEW YORK CROGHAN-NAUMBURG Anna Mellnitz

September is here and the children have returned back to school and some to higher learning. May God be with them as they start a new year of learning and many prayers will be with them.

On September 8, our congregation started to listen to the tapes from the recent Brotherhood Conference that was held at Rittman, OH. It is a blessing that our Elder brothers gather together to seek out God's will and to keep our precious faith with brotherly love.

"The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed: Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly, not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock."

*1 Peter 5:1-3*

On August 9 we had six visiting brothers from Rittman, OH with us. We thank the many visitors that have been with us this month. May God bless them.

We had church cleaning on September 18 and many turned out.

Noel Virkler (Bro. Ted and Sis. Mae) was united in marriage to Kendra Lehman (Nevin and Donna) on August 21. May God bless their marriage.

Sis. Celia Virkler (Bro. Lowell) came back to assemble with us after a short illness on August 22. May God help her to improve.

We are thankful that God is still calling souls. We were thankful to hear that Hope Graves (Bro. Floyd Jr. and Sis. Linda) has been announced as having peace with God in her heart and awaits baptism in the future.

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

*Acts 2:38*

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### OHIO, AKRON Joyce Gasser

We welcome two new sisters into our church: Katie Williams of Wadsworth gave a testimony of her conversion and peace with God. She had been asked to sign for the selling of her self-produced solo and instrumental CD, but wanted to give that up to come and repent and follow the Lord. She was baptized September 12. Diana Vidakovics testified of her conversion and peace and was welcomed into our fellowship. May these two sisters always feel the love and presence of Jesus. El-

der Bro. Henry Dotterer assisted our Elder Bro. Gene Pamer. We appreciate all the loving assistance and support that Elder Bro. Henry has given the Akron congregation over the past two years.

We have two new mothers and fathers to report: Bro. Zoltan and Sis. Bonnie Bako report their daughter, Sandra, and her husband, Roy Haga, of Apex, NC have become a new mother and father by the birth of their son, Nathaniel, on August 6.

Bro. Don and Sis. Carol Gasser's daughter, Katherine, and her husband, Robert Dobrowsky, have become a new mother and father by the birth of their son, Alex Robert, on August 20. May the new parents be led by the Lord in caring for their children.

Bro. Joseph Grossenbacher will be having a "four score" birthday, as he will be 80 years old November 1.

Sis. Mary Stanoyevic, age 102, had been residing at the Nursing Home and passed away August 22. She was preceded in death by sons, Steve, George and Carl; and is survived by daughter, Helen Kubilus; 14 grandchildren, and many great and great-great grandchildren.

Bro. Paul Gangel, age 92, passed away August 30. He was born in Hungary and resided in the Akron and Norton areas, and then resided at the nursing home. He was preceded in death by his wives, Elizabeth and Margaret; and is survived by his daughters, Sis. Kathy (Bro. Carl) Graf, Elizabeth Kovacs and Mary Koehler; grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Sis. Michelle Steidl helped with the medical-dental work team in Mexico. We appreciate the efforts of these work team participants

and are thankful when they return home safely.

There were many young people visiting in the area for the Labor Day holiday weekend and we appreciated their coming to our Sunday evening church singing.

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### OHIO, COLUMBUS Anita Steiner

Come then, Lord of life eternal,  
Step into our midst, we pray;  
Help that we may not be merely  
Hearers of Thy Word today.  
To our teacher, O, be near;  
Bless the children gathered here;  
May we thrive in fullest measure,  
And Thy heart in us find pleasure!

*Zion's Harp #166*

We are thankful for our teachers who faithfully bring us God's Word. Our visiting ministers this month were Bro. Ben Manz (Junction, OH) and Elder Bro. Eugene Pamer (Akron, OH). May God bless them for their efforts.

On September 19, we had our annual Ohio State University student welcome picnic. OSU students and their families were invited to meet each other and share a time of fellowship. May God be with each student as they start a new school year. We also encourage families and friends to come and visit as often as they can. Visitors are greatly appreciated.

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### OHIO, JUNCTION Cindy Schlatter

"But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like a man beholding his natural face in a glass:"

*James 1:22-23*

Our congregation has spent some blessed evenings listening to the Conference tapes together. May we all strive to apply the words of encouragement and instruction to our daily lives.

Our Sis. Betty Manz (Bro. Alvin) was in the hospital for an overnight stay. We are thankful she is feeling well again.

Summer vacation has quickly slipped by and the children and teachers are back in school once again. Let us not only remember the children, but also the teachers, when we pray for God's nearness and direction for them each day. "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it."

(Proverbs 22:6)

We rejoice with Bro. Ken and Sis. Gwen Manz as their son, Marvin (Jennifer), gave his testimony and was baptized into the death of the Lord Jesus this past weekend in Latty, OH. It is our prayer that many more will hear and answer the call while it is still the day of grace.

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### OHIO, LATTY Kathy Sinn Heidi Hackenjos

Our congregation recently gathered at a local park for our annual Sunday School picnic. We enjoyed a time of fellowship and singing in a natural setting. May we treasure these times with our youth.

Bros. Ron Joos (Pulaski, IA), Kent Getz (Elgin, IA) and Bill Emch (Lamont-Gridley, KS) recently gathered with us as they journeyed to or from the Brotherhood Conference. Also visiting our pulpit and congregation during the past month were Bros. Bill

Waibel (Bay City, MI) and Ron Kipfer (Bluffton, IN). We are thankful that we once again heard the truth of God's Word. May the Lord's blessings be upon all our ministering brothers as they continue to preach the Word.

We extend sympathy and remember Sis. Connie Krzesinski (Bro. Keith) and their family in prayer. May the Lord bestow on them a peace and comfort during the time of the loss of Sis. Connie's dad.

The wedding engagement of Bro. Darin Laukhuf (Bro. Rod and Sis. Edie) and Sis. Erin Kipfer (Bluffton, IN, Bro. Ron and Sis. Linda) was made known to the church. We pray for the Holy Spirit to be among them as they plan their lives together.

Those who experienced a need of medical attention this month include Bethany Greutman (Bro. Greg and Sis. Kristy), Sis. Carol Eisenmann (Bro. Bill) and Bro. Eli Schlatter (Sis. Janel). We are thankful that they are able to assemble with us once again.

The wedding of Bro. Mick Laukhuf (Bro. Dwain and Sis. Wanita) and Sis. Lisa Waibel (Bay City, MI, Bro. Bill and Sis. Carol) was August 29. We welcome Sis. Lisa to our Latty congregation. May the Lord bless their home with His presence.

We were blessed to commemorate Holy Communion on the evening of September 11. We wish to thank Elder Bro. Marvin Leman (Bradford, IL) for his labors of love on our behalf as he assisted Elder Bro. Ray in this work. As we were reminded, let us continue to watch for the Lord's return keeping our garments whiter than snow. As the Lord asked His disciples to watch and pray for a short while on the night of His betrayal,



that is all that He is asking of us.

We extend sympathy to Sis. Viola (Bro. Dick) Schlatter for the passing of her sister, Sis. Lois Ann Gudeman (Francesville, IN, Bro. Jim). May the Lord give a peace and comforting spirit to this family during this time of loss.

Bro. Brent and Sis. Andrea Steiner welcome a baby girl, Isabel Marie, into their family. Her brother, Jacob, and grandparents, Bob and Martha Maag and Bro. David and Sis. Carole Steiner (Rittman, OH) are looking forward to spending time with Isabel. We are eagerly waiting to see her in church in the near future!

#### OHIO, MANSFIELD

##### John and Marci Pfeiffer

Sis. Lena Beer passed from this life into eternity on Sunday, August 22. We extend sympathy to her family, especially her children: Bro. Joel Beer, Clara Catron, Marge Mann, Fran Stump, and Sis. Becky Vent. We thank Elder Bro. Jesse Beer (Milford, IN) for speaking words of comfort through God's Holy Word.

Mark Rufener (Bro. Ron and Sis. Kay) was announced to our congregation as having peace with God and man. May the Lord continue to watch over him.

Let us continue to include Bro. Phillip Keiper (Sis. Theresa) in our prayers and visits. Bro. Phillip plans to stay at Woodside Village, a nursing home in Mt. Gilead until he recuperates from knee surgery.

We enjoyed our visitors on Labor Day weekend. It is a blessing to meet and greet brethren in the Lord. Our visiting brethren were from our churches in Eureka and Forrest, IL and Lamar, MO.

Tell me the Old, Old Story,

Of unseen things above,  
Of Jesus and His glory,  
Of Jesus and His love.  
Tell me the Story simply,  
As to a little child,  
For I am weak and weary,  
And helpless and defiled.  
Tell me the story slowly,  
That I may take it in  
That wonderful redemption,  
God's remedy for sin.  
Tell me the Story often,  
For I forget so soon,  
The "early dew" of morning  
Has passed away at noon.  
Tell me the story softly,  
With earnest tones, and grave;  
Remember! I'm the sinner  
Whom Jesus came to save;  
Tell me the story always,  
If you would really be,  
In any time of trouble,  
A comforter to me.

*Gospel Hymns #28*

Among our visitors in recent weeks were Elder Bro. Lawrence Luthi (Lamar, MO), and Bros. Steve Martin (Eureka, IL) and Sam Schlatter (Junction, OH). We thank our ministers for telling us of Jesus.

Bro. Lonny and Sis. Becky Moser have adopted two sons from Russia. We gladly welcome Shane Alexander (8/17/96) and Aaron Danil (10/14/97). Happy grandparents are Bro. Don and Sis. Mary Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN) and Bro. Philip and Sis. Jean Moser (Bluffton, IN).

Bro. Clair and Sis. Beverly Keever have become first-time grandparents. Bro. Chad and Sis. Laurie Keever gave birth to Joel Henry on September 9. The other thankful grandparents are Bro. Bruce and Sis. Lauretta Schafer (Indianapolis, IN).

On September 11, Angel Prince (Rick and Debbie) and Sam

Sauder (Elder Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Sue) were married. We wish them God's direction and blessings.

#### OHIO, RITTMAN

##### Lynda Beery

##### Lucy Gasser

At the beginning of the school year we are especially reminded to send off our children with prayer and ask for the protection of the Holy Spirit to guide their minds and their footsteps. From the youngest who are starting kindergarten to the young adults going back to college, we have a concern that our young people will remember the instruction of faithful parents, Sunday School teachers and ministers.

Bro. Ernie Howell (Sis. Rowene), David Acker (Bro. Brian and Sis. Darlene), Bro. Jack Maibach (Delores) and Sally Marty (Dale) have had to spend time in the hospital. There are also loved ones among us who are awaiting direction for treatment or undergoing treatments for various illnesses and we wish them peace and the comforting presence of the Lord as they trust each day to Him.

Many relatives and friends were present with us for the wedding of Bro. Matt Feucht (Bro. Randy and Sis. Carol, Roanoke, IL) and Sis. Jennifer Dotterer (Bro. Bob and Sis. Mardel) on August 22. We were blessed of God through the services conducted by Elder Bro. Tom Hoffman (Roanoke, IL), and Bro. Rick Plattner (Peoria, IL). Bro. Bill Hodel (Roanoke, IL) also attended the wedding. We invite him to return when we have a place for him on the pulpit.

We were thankful to have Bro. Mike Baumann (Mansfield, OH)

visit us on a Sunday afternoon after he had services at our nursing home in the morning. May God bless His Word each time we gather to hear and worship.

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**OHIO, SARDIS**  
**Angie Figel**

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

*II Cor. 4:5*

We are so blessed to have ministers who are so willing to give of their time and lives for the service of God, but we need to remember that they cannot carry the burdens alone. We must pray for them and give of our lives as well.

Bros. Donald Manz (Sis. Connie, Junction, OH), Merle Hartzler (Sis. Bonnie, Rittman, OH) and Lenard Meyer (Sis. Charlotte, Chicago, IL) were here to share Christ's message with us. May God bless them for their efforts.

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**OHIO, SMITHVILLE**  
**Ruth Gasser**  
**Edith Miller**

Abide with us, Lord Jesus  
Thy grace on us bestow;  
And guard that ne'er can harm  
us,  
The evil, crafty foe.

Abide with Thy true brightness,  
Thou precious light divine!  
And gird us with uprightness,  
To truth our hearts incline!

Abide with heav'nly blessing,  
O richest Lord of peace!  
May grace, each heart possessing  
Abundantly increase!

Thy wings for our protection  
Be o'er us, Lord, unfurled!  
O, guard us from deception  
Of Satan and the world.  
Zion's Harp #135

This beautiful prayer was sung during the summer general Conference, and as we are now listening to the tapes, we are comforted by the words of this hymn. We are thankful for the kind admonitions of our Elder brothers, and trust we will all be guarded "from deception of Satan and the world."

Bro. Dwaine and Sis. Shelly Beery were blessed with the arrival of Heather Lynn on August 26. Awaiting her arrival at home were Sharnise, Dee Dee, Mariah and Katrina. Thankful grandparents are Art and Eileen Beery and Bro. Glenn and Sis. Lou Riggenschach. May God's blessings be felt in this home, as these precious children are taught the ways of truth.

We rejoice with Dana Nieman (Bro. Denny and Sis. Kay) as it was announced he has found peace with God and man, and now awaits baptism.

August 21 was the date chosen by Bradley Yochheim and Wendy Riggenschach to be joined in marriage. Wendy's parents are Bro. Art and Lynn Riggenschach. May God find a welcome in their home.

Ministers who have visited our congregation this past month were Bros. William Hodel (Roanoke, IL), Larry Wenninger (Latty, OH), James Ramseyer (Bay City, MI) and John Stoller (Leo, IN).

Our prayers are with Sally Marty (Dale), as she has undergone surgery and is presently in the hospital. May God be near her.

**OHIO, TOLEDO**  
**Rebecca Beard**  
**Edie Fetter**

"We took sweet counsel together, and walked unto the house of God in company."

*Psalm 55:14*

What a joy it is to share fellowship with our brethren from many congregations. We enjoyed this sweet fellowship at our annual college family picnic on September 12. We are always glad to welcome our new and returning college students and their families, and rejoice when we can worship together.

Among our visitors in the past month have been Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH) and Bro. Mark Ramsier (Sardis, OH). We are thankful for their service and pray that God would bless their efforts to His glory. Bro. Richard Fetter (Sis. Betty) was a recent surgical patient. We are thankful that he is doing well and able to assemble with us.

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**OREGON, PORTLAND**  
**Louisa Gallup**

Fall is in the air here and students started a new school year again. Many of our children go to public schools; let us not forget to pray for them and their teachers.

Our special thanks this month to visiting Bro. Kenneth Dietz and his wife, Sis. Mardell (Bradford, IL). Bro. Kenneth so willingly gave of himself preaching both sermons that Sunday. May the Lord bless him and his wife for making the effort to visit Portland while in the area.

Our small flock happily welcomes Bro. Adam Merkel into our midst. Bro. Adam relocated to

Portland from Bluffton North, IN. He will be here for about a year as he continues his schooling. May the Lord bless his stay here in the Northwest.

We will begin listening to the Conference tapes for the next four Wednesday evenings, starting today (September 15). Hopefully, most of us will be able to attend and receive a blessing from it.

Thanks to all visitors this past month, especially to Elder Bro. Art Metz (Sis. Betty) and Bro. Ed Knecht (Sis. Judie) from Silverton. We appreciate their sermons and support very much.

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### OREGON, SILVERTON

**Rosa Lee Kuenzi**

School is back in session, bringing many families back into the routine of the various schedules that are necessary to get each student to the right place at the right time. We remember the sigh of relief each morning when the last one would scoot out the door in time to get on the schoolbus. We were always thankful that the bus had to turn around in our barnyard before stopping to pick up the kids. It gave just a few more precious seconds to grab the homework or find that lost shoe before dashing out the door. When you are caught up in the thick of those busy times, it seems they will last forever, but, before you know it, your grandchildren are heading off to school and you wonder...where did the time go? Surely, the older generation told us it would go fast, but we didn't believe them. Will you younger ones believe us now?

Our Sunday School is also back in session this month. It was so precious to see the youngest ones eagerly going for the first time. And how they love and esteem

their teachers. No wonder Jesus said we must become as a little child.

We were thankful to have Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr (West Bend, IA) and Bro. Ken Dietz (Bradford, IL) here this past month. We appreciate it when visiting ministers are willing to bring us the true Gospel Word as the Holy Spirit speaks to us through them.

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### PENNSYLVANIA

**PHILADELPHIA**

**Nathan Gasser**

This month we rejoiced as the miracle of salvation was carried out in the life of another young believer. Bro. Adam Luginbuhl, living in Philadelphia while attending school, was baptized in Rockville, CT. We thank God that Bro. Adam was able to join our congregation last year, and we pray for him as he begins a new life of serving Christ. What a blessing to be reminded once again that God is still at work in our lives today!

We are very thankful that God's healing power is evident upon our dear ministering Bro. Jerry Isch. We appreciate so much having him back on the pulpit, and we thank God for once again demonstrating His faithfulness in answering the many prayers offered for him and his wife, Sis. Linda, in recent weeks.

We regretfully bid farewell to Sis. Sandy Zollinger who this month moved from Philadelphia back to Rittman, OH after spending a year working in our area and worshipping with us. We thank God for bringing Sis. Sandy into our congregation for a time, and wish her the best in the future.

We were blessed to have Bro. Jeff Grimm (Goodfield, IL) share the Word of God with us this

month, and we trust and pray that he and all who labor willingly week after week bringing forth the gospel will receive their reward from the Lord.

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### TENNESSEE, NASHVILLE

**Gwen Leuthold**

Each day I'll do a golden deed,  
by helping those who are in  
need;  
My life on earth is but a span,  
and so I'll do the best I can.

To be a child of God each day,  
my light must shine along the  
way;  
I'll sing His praise while ages  
roll,  
and strive to help some troubled  
soul.

The only life that will endure,  
is one that's kind and good and  
pure;  
And so for God I'll take my  
stand,  
each day I'll lend a helping hand.

While going down life's weary  
road  
I'll try to lift some trav'ler's load;  
I'll try to turn the night to day,  
make flowers bloom along the  
way.

Hymns of Zion #139

This past month, we welcomed ministering Bros. Ted Hirstein (Sis. Joyce, Morton, IL), Tom Waldbeser (Sis. Susan, Atlanta, GA) and Elder Bro. Wes Knapp (Sis. Mildred, Goodfield, IL). We thank these brothers for ministering God's Word to us and pray that He will bless them and their families. We also want to take this opportunity to thank all of our other visitors who worshipped

with us during this past month.

If you are traveling in the Nashville area, please plan to stop and worship with us. The following churches have been scheduled for services on the following days: November 7 (Kansas City, MO); November 21 (Fairbury, IL); December 5 (Detroit, MI); and December 19 (Gridley, IL). Please call one of the contacts listed below if you plan to be with us to assist us with lunch plans. Bro. Don and Faye Sauder (615) 373-8928; Bro. Mike and Sis. Monica Fritz (615) 952-9933; or Sis. Gwen Leuthold (615) 662-2946.

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**TEXAS, CENTRAL**  
**Dan and Pam Sauder**

We are often reminded of what a precious faith we have when we gather to worship and have visitors in our midst. Often we are acquainted with them or can associate them with someone we know. However, occasionally, they are new names and faces. Isn't it a blessing what a warm greeting in the Lord can do to give us a kinship. We can feel a close fellowship knowing we have both experienced Jesus' work in our lives.

We appreciate visitors who make the effort to support our

small gathering. Ministers who have shared the Word with us this month include Bros. Roy Koehl (Sis. Jenell, Morris, MN), Earl Beery (Sis. Susie, Rittman, OH), Marvin Stieglitz (Sis. Joan, Leo, IN) and Leland Plattner (Zapata, TX).

Central Texas services are held on all Sundays except the first Sunday of the month. The third Sunday we meet in the San Antonio area. The last Sunday we meet at Bro. Bill Zeltwanger's home at Round Top. The remainder of the month we meet in Austin at the Omni Hotel at I-35 and Hwy. 290.

Visitors are always welcome. For your benefit, please call ahead to confirm our schedule. Contacts are Bro. Bill Zeltwanger (409) 249-5102; Brian and Terri Kaisner (512) 266-0178; Bro. David and Sis. Shella Brummitt (512) 360-3379; Sis. Dorothy Martin (210) 658-1968; and Bro. Dan and Sis. Pam Sauder (210) 651-4996.

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**TEXAS, ZAPATA**  
**Viola Perdelwitz**  
**Melva Messner**

"One generation passeth away,  
and another generation cometh:

but the earth abideth forever,

The sun also ariseth, and the sun goeth down, and hasteth to his place where he arose. The wind goeth toward the south and turneth about unto the north: it whirleth about continually, and the wind returneth again according to his circuits.

All the rivers run into the sea; yet the sea is not full; from whence the rivers come, thither they return again.

All things are full of labor; man cannot utter it: the eye is not satisfied with seeing, nor the ear filled with hearing.

The thing that hath been, it is that which shall be; and that which is done is that which shall be done and there is no new thing under the sun."

*Eccles. 1:4-9*

Again we have had a variety of weather but it is interesting to learn that it has been like that from the beginning of time.

We have returned from a trip to visit family and friends.





*Sermon continued from page 2*

not believe exactly what they are saying but we listen because we always have an interest in what is going to happen so we might make preparation to be ready for it.

There are events and even perhaps the ending of this year, there are people who are all concerned about their temporal welfare. Sure, we want to be ready and we want to be found prepared, but here in a spiritual sense, the believer doesn't always know what is before him. I believe God has it this way for a very distinct purpose because man would be so throned to want to lean toward his own understanding. He would seek his own wisdom and he would live following what he thought was right.

We have found and experienced, haven't we, that living by our own abilities really hasn't gotten us anywhere, but it got us into sin. So we are thankful that God has given unto us the Spirit that we can look to Him, knowing that He careth for us and that we can walk by faith and not by sight.

We can think of the faithful patriarchs of old. Think of Abraham, think of Isaac, of Jacob, David and many men of old who were given directions by God. They were instructed to do and go accomplish a certain thing. God told Abraham to leave his kindred and to leave his family and go into a land that He would show him. He didn't even tell him exactly where to go, I don't believe, but he said, "Into a land that I will show you."

He picked up and went and followed God. It is that way for you and me, dear ones, in life. He maybe isn't going to instruct us to go a certain place. He may not tell us to go and preach to the regions far away, but He does tell us in His Word how we are to live and how we are to conduct ourselves and what we are to deny ourselves.

That is living by faith and that is a battle and that is a struggle, but God will reward and recompense the faithful. He will give them an inner peace and a contentment that we cannot find if we go beyond His Word. Yes, we might be blessed in abundance physically in the necessities of life. We might acquire houses or we might ac-

quire positions. We read of that this morning, didn't we? It isn't in the abundance of this life that we receive the blessings. That is not the gain that we are looking for, but it is godliness with contentment, we read.

So may we be encouraged to walk by faith, to be dependent upon God. It is contrary to our nature. We read here that when we are present in the body, we are absent from the Lord. When we are home in the body, we are absent from the Lord. So how do we shake off this? We always want to be present with the Lord. We want to have Him in our heart.

I believe, dear ones, it is a battle within that we must crucify those fleshly desires of wanting to even be independent and wanting to choose all of those things. May we put our faith and our trust in Him. What He wills, may that be our desire.

The apostle said, "We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord." (II Corinthians 5:8). Can we see the enmity there is between the world and God? They cannot co-exist, can they, in the life of a person? So even we as believers must crucify the flesh so we can be present with the Lord.

"Wherefore we labour, that, whether present or absent, we may be accepted of him. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad. Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are made manifest unto God; and I trust also are made manifest in your consciences." (II Corinthians 5:9-11). The judgment seat of Christ, we read. We may receive of the things done in this body according to whether it be good or bad.

We read that what we sow, we shall reap. So we are encouraged. There is really left not an alternative, is there? We want to press into it, we want to press into the Word. We want it to have this full effect in our lives.

"Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord..." (II Corinthians 5:11). Today He is on the Mercy Seat and He is pleading and calling and He is willing

to forgive. There will come a time, we read in His Word, that His terror will be expressed.

In the Old Testament, we can read of the times when God allowed the children of Israel to suffer. It was a punishment that was dealt out to them. The law was fulfilled that they would change and come back to Him. They would cry unto Him and they would look unto Him for help. Today, dear ones, we may not receive that type of exhorting, but it is going to be through the Word that He exhorts us and He instructs us.

He may not come down with His arm and physically touch us and correct us or bring His judgment upon us, but it is going to be here at the judgment seat. The Apostle Paul goes on and exhorts to a life of faith and a life of acknowledging God for what He has done.

"For we commend not ourselves again unto you, but give you occasion to glory on our behalf, that ye may have somewhat to answer them which glory in appearance, and not in heart. For whether we be beside ourselves, it is to God: or whether we be sober, it is for your cause. For the love of Christ constraineth us...." (II Corinthians 5:12-14). But I am not real sure what he is really meaning here, but it seems that the believer can certainly see it in the life of Christ. We can see it in the lives of the apostles. They didn't talk about those things that they were able to accomplish that God wrought. They always gave the glory and praise to God.

When Christ healed individuals, He often told them, "Go and tell no man". They came and were healed. It seems like it would have been for the furtherance of the gospel if they could have gone and spread it to other people. I believe it was that Christ didn't want people coming unto Him only for the temporal things or to praise Him to make Him king.

The apostles, when they were shipwrecked upon an isle, there were those that did not know of God that were wanting to worship the apostles because a viper that had come and fastened upon the apostle's hand. They watched to see what would hap-

*Sermon continued next page*

*Sermon continued...*

pen. They were protected. When they should have fallen down dead, they thought and perceived then that there was some mighty man or some god had come to visit them.

It really troubled the apostles when there were those who came there to praise them. They focused their attention upon God, the One who had delivered them, and upon Jesus Who gave His life and shed His blood.

The Apostle Paul here did not want to receive any commendation, but only that they could glory in the fact that the gospel had been brought and dispensed that they could become believers because of what they had heard and what they had experienced and through faith had believed.

It says, "For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead: And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again." (II Corinthians 5:14-15). Isn't it beautiful, dear ones, when those can come? Even though we have experienced it, many of us, many years ago we could see the work of God.

There are those among us whether they be old or whether they be young to seek God, to feel the burden and the weight of sin and they give up of themselves. The old self died and is given over unto God in faith believing that God will provide for them spiritually and physically and yield unto the power of the Spirit of God.

Those on the outside cannot understand and it is a fearful thing to let loose of those things which seem to bring a pleasure. We can find here in

the Word of God that if we are going to be present with the Lord, our physical house, the old man must become dissolved and then we can receive the fullness of His blessings. Even though we war in this lifetime, we experience the joys and the pleasures and have the assurance within our heart that God is with us and allow Him to mold us and shape us so that we can be a vessel for His use.

Saul, who penned this, we believe by God taking his hand and writing it yielded himself fully in his service. He did not know when he was knocked down there on the road to Damascus, he didn't know the fullness of the power of God. He didn't know what was awaiting him in those moments of his life.

Each one of us, when we repented of our sins, when we beckoned God to come into our life and to help us, to forgive us, to show us the way, we didn't know the blessing that were to await us by living in faith. We didn't know what it was going to be like to be brought into a body of believers whose purpose and single goal in life is to serve God and keep His commandments, to keep free of the world and the stains thereof, and to be found fit for His eternal Kingdom.

These blessings awaited us. We thank Him and we praise Him for it today. May we continue on. Let us fight a good fight of faith that when we stand before the judgment seat, we can hear the words that we read in the Scriptures, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant:" (Matthew 25:21a).

May we never be like the nominal Christian who comes bringing the acts and deeds and say, "We have

prophesied in thy streets. We have cast out devils in thy name." But there will be those who will still hear the words, "Depart from Me; I know you not."

We make the decision today of where we will spend eternity. His grace is sufficient to help each one of us to attain it.

#### 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



## CARIBBEAN BOARD PROJECTS - 1999-2000

All volunteers should contact the project coordinator. Should you not be able to contact the coordinator, for Haiti direct your inquiry to Bro. Tom Hitz, Ph. 734-454-9229. For Jamaica, direct your inquiry to Bro. Kevin Sauder, Ph./Fax 309-925-2409. **Note:** Bro. Harold Witzig has retired from the coordinating position.

COUNTRY	GROUP	DATE	AREA	COORDINATOR	PROJECT	CAP.	FULL
Haiti	AWA-FRW	Oct 21-29, '99	Les Cayes	Duane Schieler	Vocational Sch.	4	50%
Haiti	AWA-T	Oct 21-29, '99	Les Cayes	Earl Sauder	Water Aid	4	100%
Haiti	MEBSH	Dec 2-10, 99	Les Cayes	Les Gerber	Grade School	11	100%
Haiti	MEBSH	Jan 6-14, '00	Les Cayes	Craig Emch	Grade School	11	100%
Haiti	AWA-FRW	Jan 20-28, '00	Les Cayes	Duane Schieler	Voactional Sch.	4	50%
Haiti	AWA-T	Jan 20-28, '00	Les Cayes	Earl Sauder	Water Aid	4	100%
Haiti	MEBSH	Jan27/Feb4, '00	Les Cayes	Dean Pashak	Grade School	11	100%
Haiti	SEED	Feb 17-25, '00	Les Cayes	Bob Beebe	Agriculture Aid	11	100%
Haiti	MEBSH	Feb24/Mar3, '00	Les Cayes	Jim Walter	Grade School	11	60%
Haiti	Palm Grove	Mar 3-11, '00	Puits Sales	Tom Hitz	Grade School	11	90%
Jamaica	CCCD	Mar 3-11, '00	Kingston	Terry Miller	Deaf School	40	100%
Jamaica	CCCD	Mar 10-18, '00	Deaf Village	TBA	Work Place	40	100%
Haiti	SEED	Mar 30-Apr 7, '00	Les Cayes	Art Mueller	Agriculture Aid	11	60%
Haiti	MEBSH	Mar 23-31, '00	Les Cayes	Phil Isabel	Grade School	11	0%
Jamaica	CCCD	Apr 13-21, '00	Kingston	(1) Roanoke Bible Class	Deaf School	40/50	100%
Jamaica	CCCD	May 12-20, '00	Deaf Village	Andy Bauman	Work Place	40	100%
Jamaica	CCCD	May 12-20, '00	Montego Bay	TBA	Deaf School	40	100%
Haiti	Palm Grove	May 20-27, '00	Puits Sales	Tom Hitz	Grade School	11	100%
Haiti	AWA-FRW	May 25/June2, '00	Les Cayes	Duane Schieler	Vocational Sch.	5	40%
Haiti	AWA-T	May25/June2, '00	Les Cayes	Earl Sauder	Water Aid	5	40%
Jamaica	CCCD	June 2-10, '00	Montego Bay	(2) Morton Bible Class	Deaf School	40/50	100%
Jamaica	CCCD	Jul 15-22, '00	Knockpatrick	(3) Mansfield Bible Class	Deaf School	40/50	100%
Haiti	AWA-FRW	Oct 19-27, '00	Les Cayes	Duane Schieler	Vocational Sch.	4	50%
Haiti	AWA-T	Oct 19-27, '00	Les Cayes	Earl Sauder	Water Aid	4	50%
Haiti	MEBSH	TBA	Les Cayes	Bob Pflederer	Hospital Lumiere	TBA	0%

CCCD=Caribbean Christian Center for the Deaf  
 MEBSH = Missions of Evangelical Baptists of South Haiti  
 Palm Grove = Mission of Haiti  
 S.E.E.D. = An Agricultural School & Extension Service  
 TBA = To Be Announced

Palm Grove = Mission of Haiti  
 A.W.A. - B. = Apostolic Water Aid/Bluffton  
 A.W.A. - FRW = Apostolic Water Aid/Francesville,  
 Remington, Wolcott  
 A.W.A. - T = Apostolic Water Aid/Tremont

COORDINATOR	PHONE	FAX
Earl Sauder	309-387-6357	309-387-6357
Harold Witzig	309-266-6263	309-266-8575
Duane Schieler	765-567-2922	765-567-2922
Craig Emch	330-939-4591	330-939-4591
Dean Pashek	517-662-7685	517-662-7099
Jim Walter	815-692-3158	815-692-2851
Bob Beebe	219-291-2158	219-299-8173
Phil Isabel	219-261-3541	219-261-2885
Terry Miller	309-747-2212 or 941-485-4302	
Tom Hitz	734-454-9229	TBA
Bob Pflederer	309-266-5853	309-676-8455
(1) Kevin Fischer	309-923-7684	
(2) Stan Schick	309-263-8010	
(3) Pete Webel	419-529-2998	
Andy Bauman	309-965-2174	309-691-6739
Les Gerber	219-824-2734	
Art Mueller	608-676-4365	608-676-5200

**OPENING FOR  
DIRECTOR OF NURSING AT  
CEDARS RETIREMENT  
HOME, LEO, IN**

We have an opening for a Director of Nursing.

Requirements: R.N. background, managerial skills, love for the elderly.

For more information, call:

Bro. John Klopfenstein  
219/627-3934  
or write:  
15028 Reservoir Rd, Box 8  
Leo, IN 46765

**Mexico Work Teams**

**Construction - Juarez  
December 3-10, 1999**

Contact Bro. Doug Schock (Sis. Clara)  
(515) 929-3377

**Medical - Juarez**

**February 23 - March 1, 2000**  
Contact Sis. Cheryl Herrmann  
(309) 385-1082

**Construction - Juarez  
March 4-11, 2000**

Contact Bro. Kurt Ifer (Sis. Angie)  
(219) 824-2829

**Construction - Juarez  
March 11-18, 2000**

Contact Bro. Jeff Sauder  
(217) 367-1427 or (309) 925-3215

**Construction - Juarez  
March 18-25, 2000**

Contact Bro. Mike Fiechter (Sis. Shari)  
(219) 597-7330

**Construction - Juarez  
March 25 - April 1, 2000**

Contact Bro. Mike Fiechter  
(Sis. Shari)  
(219) 597-7330

**APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
MENTAL HEALTH HOTLINE  
1-800-747-9049**

Calls are answered by an answering service and referred to the hotline. You will receive a return call shortly. All calls are strictly confidential.

Callers will receive a screening, suggestions for appropriate services and assistance with appropriate referrals.

The hotline will not provide diagnosis or treatment.

**USED EYEGLASSES ARE  
NEEDED FOR FREE  
IXTLAN CLINIC**

A free eye clinic is being established in Ixtlan, Mexico, by Bros. Dr. Loren Schrenk and Dr. Bryan Stoller. Used eyeglasses are needed to support this effort. Please send your used prescription eyeglasses (with cases if available) to:

Bryan Stoller  
817 S. Locust  
Pontiac, IL 61764

**Gateway Woods Auction**

Saturday, August 19, 2000



**"...BUT GOD GAVE THE  
INCREASE." I Cor. 3:6**

Thank you so much for the loving response to our 23 Annual Auction. We are in awe of how God takes the portion we have to offer and multiplies it as only He can. Your donations help cover the daily costs of care for each child in the Residential program, each student enrolled in Gateway Woods School, and allow us to provide services free of charge through our Family Services program in Illinois. Thank you for supporting us in this mission...for the children!

**THE FIRST ONE  
HUNDRED YEARS**

A book of historical data of the Apostolic Christian Church as it relates to Bluffton.

*300 pages of information  
dating from 1870 to 1970.  
\$10.00 each plus \$2.00 postage.*  
Contact Bro. Gene Baumgartner  
5950 W 300 S-1  
Bluffton, IN 46714  
(219) 565-3064

**- 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.

**WE DO NOT ACCEPT ZION'S HARP HYMNALS SINCE WE DO NOT  
HAVE ANY PLACE TO DISTRIBUTE THEM.** Continue to bring used Bibles, Bible Story Books, Hymns of Zion, Tabernacle, or Gospel Hymn Books to:

Jerry and Arlene Banwart  
Box 181 C, 307 W. First St.  
Congerville, IL 61729

**Work Team**

Funds were allocated at the August World Relief meeting for the Children's Home-Orphanage in Imeros Mexico, 40 miles south of Nogales, for the completion of the boys' and girls' rest rooms, consisting of metal roof, wood ceiling, painting, piping water heater, server lines, setting of bath fixtures, electric wiring and so forth. Also the footing for the masonry fence at the parameter of the property. I am looking for a team leader to coordinate the team. I would like the work completed by November 15, 1999.

*Please contact Bro. Dick Beery*

*Day: (602) 625-7244*

*Evening: (602) 266-1517*



### **ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING THE ZION'S HARP REVISION**

The Elder Body has approved the publication of a revised Zion's Harp hymnal. The Apostolic Christian Publications has a very limited supply of the prior version on hand and these will be available for sale until the existing supply is exhausted. We will not be reordering any more of the prior version due to the need to move forward with the new version as quickly as possible. We are taking great care to insure that the new printing will be of high quality. For this reason the exact timing of the availability of the new edition is not certain. Lord willing, the new edition will be available in the first quarter of next year. Should you have a desire for a copy of the old edition, you may contact the Bookstore in Eureka. If the supply is exhausted you may wish to contact your local church or surrounding churches to see if they might have copies available to meet your needs. We will make an announcement in a future Silver Lining to inform you when the new edition of the Zion's Harp is available. Thank you for your understanding during this period of transition.

*The Apostolic Christian Publications Committee*

### **BIBLE DISTRIBUTION**

*The Bible Distribution Center which was formerly in Leo, IN has been moved to Bluffton, IN.*

All books, including Bibles, in English and other languages, plus Bible Story Books which have been approved by the Apostolic Christian Mission Committee, are available for those who wish to distribute them in the name of Jesus Christ.

The book inventory is computerized, and the personnel at Bluffton can drop ship to nearly any address.

*To order, contact,*

Apostolic Christian Church

**Bible Distribution**

PO Box 30

1254 S. Main Street

Bluffton, IN 46714

Phone and Fax 219/824-5587

E-mail: [bibledist@parlorcity.com](mailto:bibledist@parlorcity.com)

### **Work Team**

*Prescott, Arizona*

**Brick Layers & Helpers**

**October Time Frame**

*Robert (Duckey) Baum*

*Mobile (602)918-1871 Home (602)998-9560*

### **HMO Coverage in Nursing Homes**

With the increased marketing of Medicare HMO programs, it is important that individuals are aware that many of these programs do not cover the cost of nursing home care unless the HMO has a contract with the nursing home. This means that if you are covered by one of these HMO programs you may not receive coverage for your care if you choose one of our church homes and the home does not have a contract with the HMO. Instead you may be required to be admitted to a home that is under contract with the HMO. If you are considering coverage by an HMO, you may want to specifically ask and get in writing if there are any limitations on the choices you have where you may go and receive nursing home coverage. You may also want to discuss the matter with the church home administrator.



# REMEMBERING

## *Our Spiritual Heritage*

*Many of us were privileged to be present for the annual General Conference at Rittman, OH on August 13, 1999. The following is a brief summary of that occasion.*

### **The Annual Conference**

As daybreak peered over the horizon on the morning of August 13 at Rittman, OH, kitchen lights were on in a host of believers' homes. Breakfast was being readied for guests. Many of these guests had never met their hosts, but the tie of a common faith in Christ Jesus made them acquainted almost immediately. This is a precious aspect of our faith.

The occasion was the annual General Brotherhood Conference of the Apostolic Christian Church. Brethren from across the churches had traveled to Rittman to listen to a day of inspired exhortation—and to show their support for the church's welfare.

Attending a Conference is a wonderful experience—and it never seems to grow old. The Spirit is present every year, and a powerful blessing pours forth. One is able to feast on the comments for months.

Upon driving into the parking lot, one receives a special feeling of anticipation. It's obvious everything is well organized; and that all aspects of hosting such a large assemblage have been well thought out. It gives one a lift to note the sincerity and energies of those directing the traffic in the parking lot.

On entering the church, one senses a common surge of love as brothers (and many sisters) are endeared to the fellow believers they meet on a nationwide basis. One is able to meet new people, and to renew old acquaintances.

The exchange of the holy kiss expresses this joy.

Attendees arrived and were seated around 8:00 a.m., a full hour before the 9:00 a.m. starting time. Singing began at once and the volume of male voices was deeply inspiring. Hymn singing from the Zion's Harp confirmed the in-depth doctrinal content of that hymnal.

At 8:55 a.m., when everyone was seated (the Elder brothers included), the song, "The Best Refuge" was announced. As nearly 1,500 believers stood and sang that beautiful hymn together it helped reveal that the omnipresent Spirit of God was in our midst; and would remain so during the day.

A day of timely exhortation was given to those eager to hear. The presence of approximately 1,500 was a vivid show of support to church leaders who aspire to "keep the faith", and guide the church aright. The assigned topics related to practical aspects of the believer's life as he/she seeks daily to put off the old man, and walk anew in the way of Christ and the Apostles.

The collective spiritual discernment of the church offers a beneficial guidance to every humble member of Christ's body. Reminders and warnings, as well as much positive encouragement, were given. Those in attendance were lifted up, and hopefully the recorded tapes will offer the same benefit to each congregation.

Church conferences reach back to the early days of the Christian faith. The New Testament records a meeting in 44 A.D. in Acts 11:30. Other references are in Acts 15:6 and Acts 21:18.

The earliest known "brother meet-

ing" in America was on August 20, 1866, at Leo, IN. Elder Bro. Henry Geistlich of Switzerland, who visited all the churches (of our faith) in America that year, was present.

In the early days, Elders met periodically to address specific problems. At Elgin, IL, in 1944, lay brethren attended for the first time. In 1942, based on the Elders' deliberations at Rittman, OH, a written report was first sent to all the congregations.

The Conference is a great coming together to reflect on the beliefs and pathways of the church. On an annual basis, it is well to give church-wide exhortation; and to support the Bible's message of likemindedness and keeping the same spiritual judgments. The fact, too, that the Elder brothers meet together semi-annually to discuss matters of mutual concern constitutes a unifying pattern that is enormously beneficial to the church.

Energies expended for a successful Conference will offer a reward to those who put forth so much effort. The sisters who served all the meals provide a wonderful Christian service; and all brothers who served on committees did an efficient job. May God bless even the smallest efforts.

Elder Geistlich described the 1866 meeting:

"Brothers were assembled from far and near. We opened our assembly with singing and prayer. We talked about many important things concerning the welfare of the church. This was a blessed day."

The same was true in 1999!

*By: Perry A. Klopfenstein*

**November Issue:**

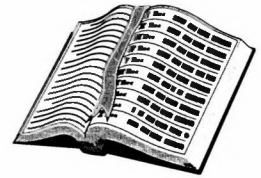
*A Conversion in Strasbourg*



# The Light Of Hope

From Across The Ocean

## 希望の光



### “Action Increases Faith”

Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle, Shioda, Japan

If someone tells you that he would like to repent and become a follower of Jesus Christ but that he simply cannot believe, cannot believe that Christ was born of a virgin nor that He physically arose from the grave after He was crucified, what would you tell that person? Many people are scientifically minded to the point that they will not accept the testimony of the Bible that Christ “Was seen of above five hundred brethren at once.” (II Cor. 15:6). Witnesses are important in proving anything but those 500 brethren are no longer alive to testify of what and whom they saw. The case rests on how much we can depend on what is written in the Bible, which is no problem for the converted child of God, but what about all those others out there?

In John 7:17, Jesus is quoted as saying, “If any man will do his (God’s) will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself.” Here Jesus teaches us a very important principle. It is that we learn

by doing. It is akin to pragmatism which means that ideas or beliefs have value based on the results of those ideas. A certain Prof. Dewey influenced American education by teaching pragmatism, which meant that children learn by doing, not just by studying. Therefore, American education is based partly on the idea that teachers learn with their students through discussion and experiment, while in some countries the teachers are expected to hand down to the students their knowledge about a subject. In America, at least in theory, students are welcome to challenge what the teachers say, if they do it respectfully. At present, however, American education is not getting a very good grade. Something else must be wrong.

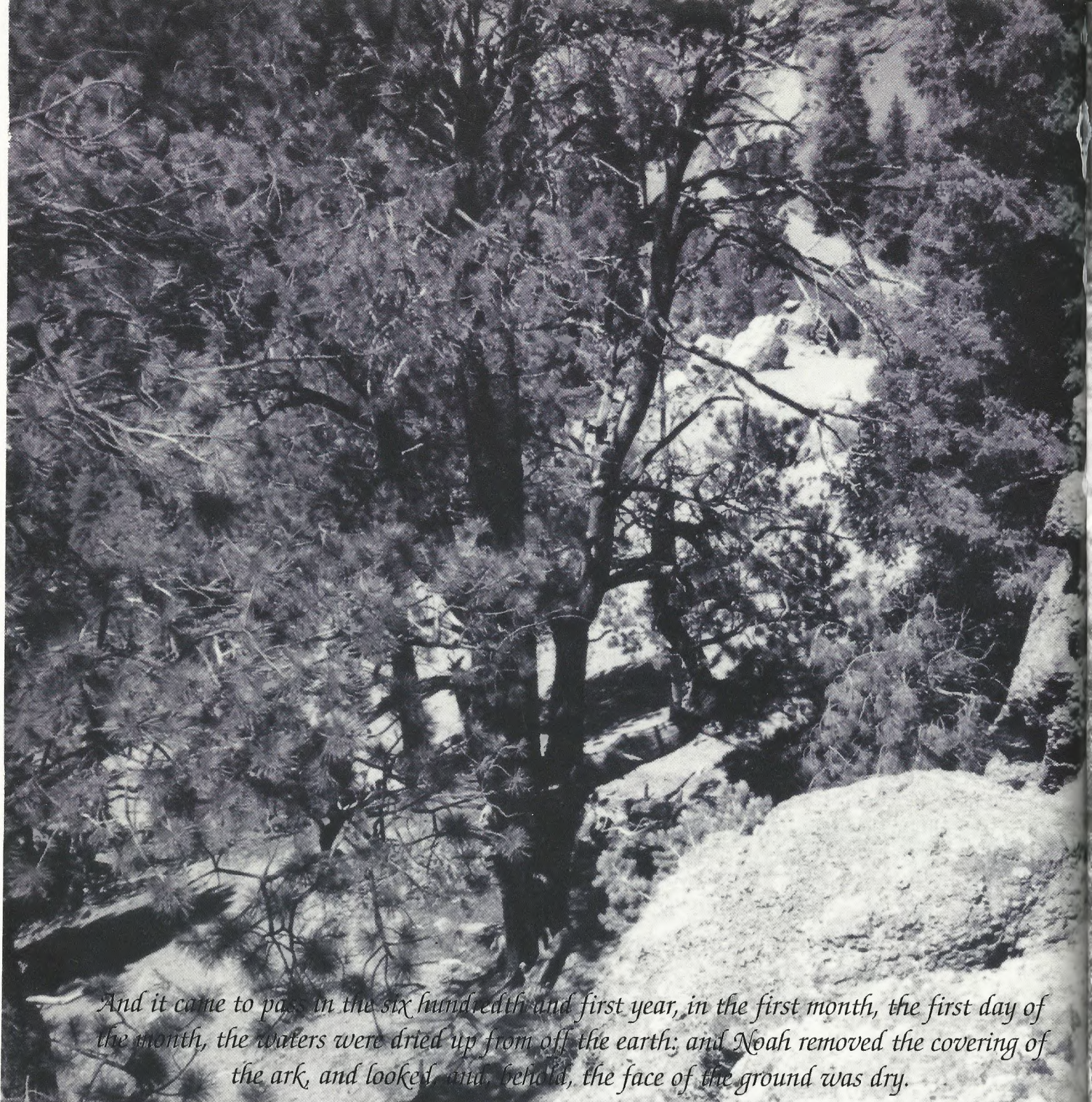
Getting back as to what to tell this person who wants to repent but can’t believe. Would it not be all right to tell him to read the Bible every day, including the New Testament, to pray every day, asking God for faith and forgive-

ness, to confess any sins he may have, and to make restitution where needed, and to attend church regularly and faithfully? If he doesn’t believe in God, either, we can tell him to pray anyway and God will understand. He should pray that he can believe in God. According to what Jesus has spoken, that person will come to know the doctrine, he will come to believe in the miracle and all the rest. Action increases faith and may even be the beginning of faith.

Our Brotherhood is active in helping others less fortunate than ourselves, and in sharing the Gospel with others as we have opportunity, especially if there is an interest. All of you who participate in all these avenues of service, does not action increase your faith? Romans 12:1 puts it this way, “Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.” Action increases faith so let’s be active in spiritual things.

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*And it came to pass in the six hundredth and first year, in the first month, the first day of the month, the waters were dried up from off the earth; and Noah removed the covering of the ark, and looked, and behold, the face of the ground was dry.*

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