

The Silver Lining



*Thou visitest the earth, and waterest it: thou
greatly enrichest it with the river of God, which is full of water:...*

October 2000

“THE NAME OF JESUS IS GLORIFIED”

Sermon by Bro. Jerry Bauman, Rittman, OH
Job 32 and John 12:1-33

We have read thirty-three verses together and that covers the account of Palm Sunday, but as the Scripture opened here, I feel moved to stay with this chapter today. Jesus Christ often times went to Bethany where Mary, Martha and Lazarus lived just outside of Jerusalem. He resorted there for good fellowship and resorted there to leave off of His work many times when He was in Jerusalem. There were those who hated Him and wanted to kill Him. In times, He just needed to get away and often He went to Bethany.

This was the time before the Passover. He came to Bethany where Lazarus was raised from the dead. They made Him a supper there and Martha was the one who served. Lazarus sat at the table with Him. We see the account here of Mary, the one who loved Jesus and sat at His feet. She took very expensive ointment and showed her great love for the Lord and Saviour and wiped His feet with her hair. The house was filled with the odour of the ointment.

Judas said (this is the one who would betray Him), and then Jesus knew the heart of Judas, “Why was not this ointment sold for three hundred pence, and given to the poor? This he said, not that he cared for the poor; but because he was a thief, and had the bag, and bare what was put therein.” (John 12:5-6). We see how Judas could not stand to see this costly ointment be wasted. He had the money and could have done something else with the money. We saw how his heart was not right and how it was set upon the things of this world, even the cares and riches of this

world and not upon our Lord and Saviour.

Can you imagine one that was in the midst of our Lord and Saviour and had accompanied Him so many places and saw those wonderful miracles and felt the great love and compassion of our Lord and Saviour, how he would be so given over to the will of Satan and even betray our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ? You can hardly imagine even one that could be so evil and so filled with the desire to fulfill the things of this world. Yet, the Bible tells us that this had to happen for the Scripture to be fulfilled.

Speaking here of giving to the poor, but that was not really what he wanted to do. Do not believe that he even had a great desire to help the poor. This was certainly a way that he could even express himself at this point in time. We see what Jesus said here, “Let her alone: against the day of my burying hath she kept this. For the poor always ye have with you; but me ye have not always.” (John 12:7-8). We see how this event took place, and this great love that Mary had for her Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Even as she knelt down there after she poured this ointment upon His feet and wiped His feet with her hair, even as she bowed down before Him realizing that this was her Lord and Master and Saviour, this was the One who could save her from her sins. If I understand this Scripture appropriately, she had committed many sins. Yet, she knew that she could find salvation through her Lord and Saviour. She wanted to do all she could for her Lord here, and this is what she did.

Now we even see today that this is a memorial. This is something that is included in the Word of God and we can read it often. As the Word goes forth throughout the world, even almost these two thousand years ago when this account happened so long ago, we can still read of it today of her love for the Lord. “For the poor always ye have with you; but me ye have not always.” (John 12:8). As I think of

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

Light From The Word



Writings based
on God's Word

October 2000

The Fear of God II

In the first article on "The Fear of God", the meaning and the importance of "fear" were presented. In this article attention will be focused on some of the specific benefits of fearing God: recognizing His greatness, learning to distinguish between right and wrong, learning to trust God, and gaining wisdom by serving Him.

If we fear God reverently, we will recognize His greatness. "Oh how great is thy goodness, which thou hast laid up for them that fear thee; which thou hast wrought for them that trust in thee before the sons of men" (Ps. 31:19). As we reflect upon the work of the Lord, we will surely agree with the prophet who wrote of "...The Great, the Mighty God, the Lord of hosts, is his name, Great in counsel, and mighty in work:..." (Jer. 32:18-19). Although there are many wondrous creations on the earth, there is no other power on earth so great or so deserving of reverence than the one true God.

In addition to recognizing the greatness of God, there are other benefits of fearing Him. Walking in the fear of God brings a greater understanding of right and wrong, brings confidence, wisdom, light in darkness, blessings from "...the Sun of righteousness..." (Mal. 4:2), and many others.

The counsel that we receive from God through His Word and through His servants enables us to understand right from wrong. His counsel, if heeded, will make it possible for us to free ourselves from Satan's influence, to live in peace with God and man and to prepare for eternity. All of this is possible because of God's greatness and His love for us.

As we learn the reverent fear of God, we learn to have confidence and trust in Him. "In the fear of the Lord is strong confidence: and his children shall have a place of refuge" (Prov. 14:26). "For thou art my hope, O Lord God: thou art my trust from my youth" (Ps. 71:5).

When we begin to serve the Lord, we

may have doubts about placing our full confidence and trust in the living God. We may be tempted to reserve a bit of self and also continue to place too much emphasis on the world and the things it offers. We may also have doubts because we feel we are not good enough to be considered as one of his children. As we mature in our faith and we willingly become completely submissive to God, we can find the same level of comfort and trust that Paul expressed to Timothy "...for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day" (II Tim. 1:12). We learn that no one is really "good enough", but by the grace and mercy of God, we can have confidence to know that God will hear our prayers and know "the thoughts and intents of (our) hearts" (Heb. 4:12).

The reverent fear of the Lord can bring wisdom: "...Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom; and to depart from evil is understanding" (Job 28:28). At times we struggle as we try to separate the knowledge of the world from the wisdom of God. However, the scripture reassures us that we can be "...wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus" (II Tim. 3:15) and that "...the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy" (Ja. 3:17). Worldly wisdom and worldly knowledge do not bring peace nor comfort to those who do not know the Lord. The harsh reality is that the knowledge of the world is constantly changing and is not really designed to bring peace. It is only of value in this life while the wisdom from God has eternal promises of joy and peace.

In numerous places throughout the scripture, those who fear the Lord are promised that light will replace darkness. "...he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life" (John 8:12). Because the world walks

"...in the night, he (they) stumbleth because there is no light in him (them)" (John 11:10) and "...they know not at what they stumble" (Prov. 4:19). We need not walk in darkness nor stumble because if we keep sound wisdom and discretion "Then shalt thou walk in thy way safely, and thy foot shall not stumble" (Prov. 3:23).

The blessings we can receive from reverently fearing God are almost beyond comprehension. Among the blessings brought by the fear of God are His acceptance of us, strength to overcome temptation, an appropriate attitude, and growth for the church.

The promise of God's acceptance, "But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him" (Acts 10:35), brings special responsibilities and privileges. The responsibilities that come with being accepted by him include the need to labor in his vineyard. "Wherefore we labor, that whether present or absent, we may be accepted of him" (II Cor. 5:9). The responsibilities also include having faith in the atoning power of the shed blood of Jesus Christ, believing in His name and following His teachings. The privileges of fearing him include salvation: "...wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved. In whom we have redemption through his blood..." (Eph. 1:6-7). Finally, it also includes the opportunity to live in peace, to separate ourselves from the world, and to defeat Satan's evil plan.

Thus, we can readily understand that there are many benefits in developing a reverent fear of God. We can learn of His greatness, we can come to a much clearer understanding of right and wrong, we can gain confidence and trust in God and we can learn true wisdom that will help us walk in the light of God's Word that we can be accepted by Him.

Part III of this series will focus on additional benefits that we can gain as a result of the fear of God.



APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN Mission Committee

... The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest. Matthew 9:37-38

Brethren visit Churches in Yugoslavia

(Continued from last month)

Wednesday, May 31, 2000

It was a bright, new day after a night of good rest, when the Yugoslav driver picked up our team of brothers at about 7:30 AM. Before their meeting, the brothers stopped at a shopping mall where they learned once more that nearly all consumer goods are available if a person has the money to buy them. This is a problem, and part of our effort is to furnish our brethren with money to purchase necessary goods. As of now, this seems to be the best system, since it is quite difficult if not impossible to bring the necessities of life into the country.

The way we send help

For a number of years the American brethren have carried out their assistance to Yugoslavia through a committee which the brethren there put into existence. This body is composed of brethren from this troubled land, and is called the Yugoslavian Relief Committee. Efforts through this committee seem to have been beneficial through the years, and we have found it to be the best means through which to channel our support. The brethren who traveled to Yugoslavia on this trip met with this group. The European Board continues to support this method of helping our brethren. In spite of imperfections, it does seem to be benefiting a large number of people.

Our team of brothers met with this committee and was able to reach a good understanding of both the needs and the way we can address those needs. They were able to transfer some

funds that had been brought for that purpose, and appreciated the opportunity to discuss the way in which these funds are utilized. In efforts such as these we are fully dependent upon the support of our loyal brethren and friends in the USA. We wish to assure these supporters that their help is indeed reaching those who need it so much.

Visiting churches and brethren

It was nearly 3:00 PM until the meetings concluded, after which the team of brethren visited some needy members and friends as well as some of their churches. In spite of their need, these loving brethren insist on serving refreshments at nearly every stop. In spite of diets, etc., travelers to Eastern Europe find these interludes to be precious.

Throughout this entire trip, the American brothers had the opportunity to visit quite a number of Yugoslav churches. Many of these buildings are decades old, some of them over 100 years of age. A lot of them were built with a form of unfired block made from clay and straw, and are suffering the ravages of time. With thanks to God the fact is that many assembly houses have been repaired or rebuilt, and the work is even now ongoing.

Services and singing

On this midweek evening services were held at the church in Padina. A Slovak brother had the main service with Bro. Pete Petrovic adding closing remarks in the Serbian language. In the USA we seldom encounter situations in which a translator is needed, but in Europe this is quite common.

After services there was a singing that was extremely impressive. The Padina church is a good sized congregation, and there were many visitors present.

Some came from other congregations, and the building was nearly full. After services and a lunch, the group returned to Novi Sad for the night.

Leaving the country

The new day began shortly after 5:00 AM on Thursday, June 1, which was the last day that our brethren spent in Yugoslavia. The van furnished by Mission and World Relief Committee funds picked up the scattered Americans and was on the way out of town by 7:00 AM. Many tearful and emotional farewells were said as they began the long journey home.

They stopped for diesel fuel, but the first filling station was out of fuel, so they needed to find another. They saw many long lines, but the price of fuel is quite low in comparison to the rest of Europe. However, it is still as high as it is in the USA. The government is trying to keep the fuel cost down to help stem inflation, which is somewhat better than in prior years.

Into Hungary

After several more stops to visit churches and individuals, our team of brethren reached the border between Yugoslavia and Hungary at about 10:45 AM. After delays which seem to be normal, they were allowed to proceed by about 11:15.

In retrospect

As this page is being prepared for publication, several months have passed since the trip. The situation continues to be difficult for our brethren, but with thanks to God we can see some hope. Rumors of war continue to surface, but our brethren retain a strong faith.

The European Board is grateful that this trip could take place, and the brothers could return home safely. Thank God for His mercies!



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

Camilla, Georgia

Disaster Work Team Project

On February 14, 2000, three tornadoes plowed through five counties in Southwest Georgia. Mitchel County and its country seat, Camilla, GA were the hardest hit. The Disaster Work Project subcommittee of the World Relief Committee organized a rebuilding project in this area. A detailed background of the Disaster Work Team concept and the beginning of this project were in the World Relief article in the June issue of the Silver Lining.

How it began

The physical labor to build four new homes with volunteer work teams has been completed. The "hands-on" work was preceded by weeks of planning and preparation. The construction portion of the project covering fifteen weeks began on June 5 and ended on September 16. Work stopped for two weeks due to holidays and one week due to delay in material availability.

From June 5 to August 1, Bro. Harold Steiner of our Princeville, IL congregation covered the field coordination efforts. Bro. Dan Steiner from our Tremont, IL congregation was coordinator during the month of August.

Brethren came from a wide area

Brethren and friends from the upper midwest to southern Florida, totaling approximately 175 persons, gave of their time and talents. An estimated 7,000 to 8,000 hours of labor and skill were generously given.

Local codes must be met

The local building codes required that subcontractors in the electrical,

plumbing, and heating trades must have a current Georgia license, or a building permit would not be given. A brother from the Atlanta congregation, a licensed electrician, was our electrical sub-contractor. Local licensed contractors were hired for the HVAC and plumbing requirements. Local firms were also hired for pre-construction termite treatment, drywall finishing, and the installation of cellulose insulation.

Local vendors were cooperative

The local vendors, from the suppliers of building materials and components to the providers of food and shelter, displayed the honesty and integrity of the fundamental religious influence of the area. It was a pleasure to be able to conduct business with them.

Four houses were built

The four houses that were constructed were of two and three bedroom design. The owners of these new homes are happy and thankful that they have been blessed so richly. Many of the volunteers have testified that working together and having fellowship with other volunteers provided more blessings than they could have foreseen.

Dedication meal

Representatives from the committee invited each of the receiving families

to a dedication meal on September 14 and presented each family with an embossed Family Bible and a smaller Bible to each of the five children in these families.

Disaster Work Projects Committee says thanks

We want to thank our brothers and friends who furnished not only their labor and skills of their trades, but also some of the building materials for their specialty. Brethren who could not physically participate in the project donated the window blinds for all the houses. The project was also blessed with a donation of a semi-trailer load of drywall, finishing compound, and tape. This donation was made by the U.S. Gypsum Co. through the American Red Cross for the express use on disaster repair and rebuilding projects. Material was warehoused and delivered to our job site at no charge by a firm in Camilla.

Local community appreciation

The community showed appreciation for the project and our volunteers, and often invited them for meals and friendship. As it progressed, this project caught the attention of the local media, which brought local and area awareness. Many people would stop by the project to see how it was developing.

The Atlanta congregation was blessed almost every Sunday with visitors who had been involved in the project.

Thanks and glory to God

Looking back on the work one can see that man's efforts are futile if God does not add His blessing. This project truly provided an opportunity to "do good to all men, especially unto those of the household of faith."



APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

The middle of September always brings excitement to the people living in our homes. The annual Morton Pumpkin Festival has come to town! Several small groups of residents will participate in the festival by eating at the food tent, enjoying the rides and walking through the merchant's tent. On Saturday morning a full busload of our people will join individuals from the Apostolic Christian Restmor nursing home at their facility to watch the parade. It is usually one of the most enjoyed activities of the season.

Our summer activities for the residents of our eight homes are winding down. Several small groups took part in mini-vacations. Mini-vacations are usually only one or two night adventures within a few hours drive from Morton. These short trips are anticipated and enjoyed tremendously. During summer months our Physical Therapy department takes groups to the Morton Park District pool for swimming exertions. Outdoor activities of all types along with some specialized activities for persons with development disabilities are in our repertoire. Our people enjoy fairs, games, bus rides, etc. just as each of you enjoy life in the outdoors.

The end of summer and its heat mean more outdoor activities, more bicycle riding and more walking for us. We anticipate outdoor picnics, Central Illinois Riding Therapy (horseback riding) and wiener roasts. We have also begun swimming at the indoor Easter Seals pool in Peoria and plan to continue this once a month throughout cooler weather.

NOVEMBER birthdays at TIMBER RIDGE, 2125 Veterans Road, Morton, IL 61550 are: Susan McGinley (1), Kathy Knapp (5), Tom Manley (8), Kay Ellis (9), Amy

Tucker (11), Sam Sigulas (13), Jennifer Cox (17), Janet Worner (17), Kristie Furrer (18). At OAKWOOD ESTATE, 2213 Veterans Road, Morton, IL 61550: Keith Weyeneth (4). At LINDEN ESTATE, 1000 Linden, Morton, IL 61550: Ken Clauss (2). At 200 E. HAZELWOOD, Morton, IL 61550: Alan Unsicker (15). At 652 DETROIT, Morton, IL 61550: Jane Aberle (14). At 241 MINNESOTA, Morton, IL 61550: Rhonda Pullen (4), Marian Funk (20).

GATEWAY WOODS APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME

Becky Stoller

"The hands that formed the universe, molded and shaped each child. Each pair of eyes and button nose were sculptured with great care. Thank you, God, for giving life to every incredible kid!"

—unknown

"Be anxious for nothing, but in every thing by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your request be made known to God."

Phil. 4:6

We here at Gateway Woods can see how this verse works with our staff openings.

When we have an open position, God provides just the right person for the spot. We are pleased to welcome many new staff members. First off, we want to thank Bro. Dan and Sis. Susan Meister (Peoria) for answering God's call. They have taken over the Kipfer House as Bro. Arlo and Sis. Lisa and their boys have moved to Ohio. We will miss Arlo and Lisa, AJ, Luke and Isaac around campus and wish them God's blessings as they continue His work. Another young couple has accepted God's guidance to join us as

Alternate Houseparents. We thank Him for sending us Bro. Kurt and Sis. Kristen Slagel (Fairbury). Beginning October 1, they will be taking over the duties of Bro. Jeremy and Sis. Angie Zimmerman. We will miss them and their daughter, Ali, as they too have moved to Ohio. We wish them God's blessings as they continue to do His wonderful works.

We want to welcome Sis. Judy Gehring (Burlington) back to Gateway Woods. She is working at the Bauman house as an Assistant Houseparent. Thank you for answering His call and coming back to Gateway Woods. We say farewell to Sis. Rena Braker as she has gotten married to Bro. Jason Hodel (Roanoke) and has moved back to central Illinois. The Bauman house misses you but the fields await. We are pleased to announce the hiring of Bro. Andy and Sis. Jill Lehman (Bloomington) as Alternate Houseparents. They too have answered God's guidance and will begin November 1 here at Gateway Woods.

Gateway Woods School is growing and along with this comes a need for extra staff. We want to welcome Sis. Jodi Schlipf (Gridley, IL) who has accepted the position of the third teacher. Thank you for answering God's call to serve here at Gateway Woods School.

Our most recent staff coming aboard is Bro. Joe Gerber (Bluffton) who will be taking the position of Project and Public Relations Coordinator. This was previously filled by Sis. Janel Ramseyer, who has left us to work in Indianapolis. We will truly miss Janel, as she always had a smile and was ready and willing to help. The office will never be the same without you, Janel!

We are pleased to welcome two new children to Gateway Woods. Joining the the Bauman house is Lora E. and joining the Meister house is Morgan A. May these children know that God is a loving God

and we are here to help them make a smooth transition.

“O give us homes built firm upon
the Savior,
where Christ is Head and Coun-
selor and Guide;
where every child is taught His
love and favor and gives his
heart to Christ,
the Crucified:
How sweet to know that, tho’ his
footsteps waver,
His faithful Lord is walking by
his side!”
“A CHRISTIAN HOME”

The 24th Annual Benefit Auction was another year of hard work, many volunteers and tremendous love. We want to give an extra special thanks to those who helped out the weeks before and the day of the auction. It would not be possible without your labors of love.

“Although God loves the whole
wide world and blesses every
part,
I think he has a special space for
children in His heart.
I think He cherishes their smiles,
their eagerness and mirth,
and their appreciation of the
wonders of His earth.
All children in a special way be-
long to God above,
and I am sure He favors them
with everlasting love.”
—James J Metcalfe

**APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN
PRESCHOOL
Athens, Alabama
Tom Schrenk**

This morning is a wonderful clear, cool morning—a perfect time to give God thanks for all the blessings that we enjoy because of His love for us and His loving Son Jesus. Here at the Preschool we are busy

with our fall classes. The month of September is community helper month, so we took the kids to the Athens police and fire stations. The Athens Hospital also brought an ambulance and told the kids all about it. It was a good day for the kids to learn more about our community.

The past month has been very busy for the teachers and kids. It is a time for the new kids to get to know us and the other kids, and for those that did not come during the summer, to get back into a schedule of classes and being with other kids. Our new flannel graph that we use during story time is working out well. The kids like to be able to visualize the Bible characters and animals and are eager to answer and ask questions.

We have just finished doing a mail out to all of the people that have supported our Sponsorship program during the past year. This program is very important to the Preschool if we are to continue reaching out to parents and children of the community in bringing the message of salvation through Jesus Christ. It seems that the evils of the world have influenced so many that the task of bringing the Good News of the Bible to a lost world is overwhelming; yet God has said that when we do His will and work for Him that He will add His blessings. Please continue to pray for the staff and children here at the Preschool that what we do will be His will.

If anyone would be interested in finding out more about our Preschool, please call Elder Bro. Lavoyd Moore at (256) 232-2035 or the Preschool at (256) 233-0591.

**ALABAMA, ATHENS
Joan Reinhard
Louise Hall**

On August 19, a group of us had the privilege of traveling to Leo, IN, for the Gateway Woods Auction. It is

always so good to see so many of our brethren gathered together in one place. As we spent the day renewing old friendships and creating new ones, my mind cannot help but think of someday when we will all be together as a family in Heaven. We will all join in together in fellowship with our Lord Jesus and God our Father. The preparation we made to make the long trip to Leo was done with eager anticipation of a blessed weekend. How much more should we be eagerly preparing for our “trip” into all eternity.

We appreciated Bro. Ted Witzig (Morton, IL) sharing God’s Word with us on a Sunday this month. Bro. Ted and his wife, Sis. Cindy, were visiting their family, Bro. Andy and Sis. Erin Witzig, and we are thankful for the reason for them to travel here.

We also welcomed a visit from Bro. Dan and Sis. Tricia Tucker (Bluffton, IN) and their young family. They used to live here in the Athens area and we are thankful for Bro. Dan’s willingness to teach Adult Sunday School when they visited.

Our thanks also goes to a small group of brothers from Eureka and Forrest, IL, who came down and built a roof over a small pavilion area in our cemetery. We ask that the Lord will bless them for their labor of love.

September 9 was a day of rejoicing for our small Athens congregation as we gathered to hear the testimony of Pete Perry. Bro. Pete’s parents were members for many years here in Athens as are some of his sisters. We are thankful that God continued to call Bro. Pete and that he did not wait too long to answer this call. Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville, IN) and his wife, Sis. Marcella, came to assist Bro. Lavoyd in this testimony and then on Sunday, the baptism. We are thankful for the effort put forth by Bro. Wendell. Bro. Wendell knew

Bro. Pete's parents and related many fond memories of them. We were also thankful that Bro. Lavoyd's health was well enough to permit him to participate in the activities of the weekend.

Our sympathy goes out to Sis. Pam Moore (Bro. Mike) at the loss of her father, Bro. Hans Hinrichsen (Goodfield, IL). How thankful we are that this world is not our final home and we look forward to a Heavenly Home above.

We were also thankful to have other visitors from Bluffton, IN, and Nashville, TN, here with us this month. May God bless our times together to be fruitful to Him.

ARIZONA, PHOENIX Ron and Ev Hoerr

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

II Cor. 5:17

We are listening to the Conference tapes on Wednesday evenings and being refreshed on being dead to sin. Thanks to our Elders' assurance, our sermons will be from God's Holy Word!

Bro. Bob Beebe brought us an encouraging message when he was here from South Bend, IN.

World Relief meetings were held on Tuesday mornings.

Christopher Josiah Riek was born August 23. His parents are Kari Niemeyer and Tom Riek. Grandparents are Bro. Elsworth and Sis. Lois Niemeyer and Mr. and Mrs. David Riek. The best book to raise a child on is the Holy Bible.

Loved ones, let us find comfort in Ephesians 4:31.

God's loving care was felt by Sis. Katherine Laukhau (eye surgery), and other surgical patients were Sis.

Valerie Knobloch, John Greenbank, Bro. Richard Schupbach, Sis. Shirley Blunier and Sophia Mauer (second degree burn on her leg).

In these trying times, floods, fires, drought, comfort is found in Romans 8:18.

Sis. Verna Pueschel broke her leg while she and Ray were visiting their daughter in Colorado. She won't be able to return to Arizona until January.

A card or letter can reach her at 712 Dreamcatcher Ln., Hesperus, CO 81326.

Note of Thanks:

Words seem inadequate to express my thankfulness for your prayerful support, expressions of sympathy, kind words and many gifts of love given in memory of my sister, Phyllis. May God richly bless each of you.

*In Christian love,
Sis. Jan Elsasser*

ARIZONA, PRESCOTT Jane Hodges

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

Isaiah 61:11

A promise from the Word of God to remind and encourage us when we see all the evil, wickedness and deception around us, that God still reigns supreme over all.

Elder Bro. Jon Kokanovich (Phoenix), Bros. Bruce Hohulin (Goodfield, IL), Richard Plattner (Peoria, IL) and Ken Lawson (Phoenix) were our ministering brothers last month. We thank them for traveling many miles to serve us. We pray God will bless them and their

families for their time and effort.

Many of you may not realize that our congregation does not have its own minister and is served by ministers from Phoenix every other Sunday, and the other Sundays by ministers from churches with five ministers, as directed by the Mission Committee. We are seeking the Lord's direction by prayer over the next several weeks, whether the time is right for us to have our own minister. We would appreciate the prayers of our brethren.

ARIZONA, TUCSON Lisa Knapp

Our Sunday School students recently had the privilege of making the trip to Altadena, CA, to attend the Labor Day ACYF hosted by the Altadena church. The Phoenix Sunday School once again invited us to "ride" with them in their chartered bus and we are so thankful to them for that. It doesn't matter what activities are planned for these weekends or who the host is, they are always a success. We wish to thank the Altadena Sunday School for all their hard work and love. We know it's a lot for a small church to arrange. We look forward, Lord willing, to hosting the ACYF in February.

We have started Sunday School and our monthly fellowship suppers once again. Our temperatures don't reflect the fact that it's September as we had a high of 107 yesterday, September 14.

We are thankful everyone has returned from the summer vacations safely. We are also thankful to have Sis. Carrie Kaufman back with us after spending the summer in Illinois.

I need to apologize for missing two articles in the past few months. I'd hate to think that my memory is going already, but it's starting to look like a real possibility! The only

really important items that would have been reported in those months were the visits of two ministers to help out on our pulpit (something I know is important to Bro. Loren and Bro. Curt). I would like to belatedly thank Bros. Doyle Frauhiger (Bluffton North, IN) and Roger Aberle (Sabetha, KS) for making Tucson a stop in their travels.

CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA

Jim Klotzle

As this Fall season descends upon us and the trees begin to change their hue, God's handiwork seems all the more evident in the world around us. After spending some time with my dad and brother in the beautiful mountains of Paradise Valley, CA, I began to think of the day when we will meet our Saviour face to face and dwell in His paradise. There we needn't be concerned about carnivorous wolves, venomous snakes or any of the infirmities that plague our everyday life.

"The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, and the lion shall eat straw like the bullock: and dust shall be the serpent's meat. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, saith the Lord."

Isaiah 65:25

The Altadena Jr. and Sr. Bible Classes were privileged to host the annual gathering of the Phoenix, Prescott, San Diego and Tucson Bible Classes. Ministering Bro. Ted Hirstein (Morton, IL) assisted our ministers in the pulpit for this weekend. We thank him and his family for their efforts on our behalf. We pray that the weekend was a blessing for all involved, and thank the Lord for this opportunity for growth and social activity among our youth fellowship.

Jeff Luthi was hospitalized this month due to an infection in his bile

duct. He is better now, but may be on long term antibiotics if the infection keeps coming back. He and his family appreciate your prayers.

A number of our congregation assembled this month to practice the revisions in the new Zion's Harp hymnals. We express our gratitude to all those who have worked throughout the past years to put the 2000 edition in our pews.

CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

Peggy Jevremov

On August 20, we welcomed our new Sis. Rachel Petrovic (Bro. Peter and Sis. Marian) into our fold. She willingly shared her testimony of repentance and true conversion with us. We want to thank Elder Bro. John Klotzle (Sis. Lois, Altadena, CA) for coming to assist Bro. Peter in this blessed weekend.

We also want to welcome Sis. Mary Thiem into our congregation. She recently moved here from Peoria. We are so thankful to have her with us and hope she will soon become familiar with the area here and feel at home.

Our visiting ministers this past month were Bros. Mike Rieker (Sis. Carol, Peoria, IL), Curtis Kaufman (Sis. Caroline, Tucson, AZ), and James Emch (Sis. Gina, Phoenix, AZ). May the Lord bless them for their willingness to serve us.

Sunday School has now resumed after a summer break. Bro. Denes Fulop is our superintendent/ Bible class teacher. Sis. Peggy Jevremov teaches grades 3-6 and Sis. Yasmin Petrovic teaches grades K-2. What a blessing it is that our Sunday School has grown with the Koehl family moving here. We are looking forward to learning more about the Lord and His teachings in the coming year.

How we appreciate modern technology of recording on tapes. We

have been listening to the tapes of our recent Brotherhood Conference. Even though some of us were privileged to attend, it helps so much to be able to have our memories refreshed with those warnings and encouragements that were so lovingly given by our dear shepherds. May our spiritual lives benefit from the sounding of those trumpets.

Our thoughts and prayers have been with Bro. Rory Strahm in his illness. We pray the Lord will be with him in this difficult time. Linda Zimmer has recently undergone surgery and we pray she will have a quick recovery.

KITCHENER, ONTARIO CANADA

Laura Baxter

"For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work. But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy. And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace."

James 3:16-18

Our congregation recently finished listening to the Brotherhood Conference tapes. We are thankful that we can look at the above verses and feel the wisdom of God was present and was pure, peaceable and gentle. May we as the believer be easily entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, not partial or hypocritical as we obey these Biblical teachings. We do not want to be envious or creating strife because that will only create confusion and evil works in our lives and the church. And as we were reminded recently, just as the Lord through angels revealed the birth of Christ to the "shepherds" watching over their "flocks", so He

still reveals His will through our earthly "shepherds" that are trying to keep watch over the church or "flocks".

We are thankful again for all our visitors and especially our visiting ministers, our Elder Bro. Mark Bahr (Detroit, MI) and Bro. Fred Domka (Mansfield, OH). May God bless each for their willingness to come and fellowship with us.

We welcome all visitors to worship with us. Please contact Bro. Mike Ursu (519) 669-8515 or Bro. Jim Baxter (519) 699-5081 for more information and directions.

COLORADO, DENVER

Mike and Heather Katanic

As the season changes into fall, we are again reminded of God's power in His creation. The beautiful golden shades of autumn cover the mountainsides. We are reminded that the seasons of our life also change and this month Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen has retired from his responsibilities at the Denver church. We would like to thank Bro. Nate and Sis. Marilyn for all the love they have shown to us and the countless hours devoted to our church. Elder Bro. John Lehman (Bern, KS) has accepted the duties and we wish him God's blessings.

Visiting and ministering God's Word to us this month were Elder Bros. Joe Braker (Morton, IL), Earl Ringger (Gridley, IL), Nate Steffen (Elgin, IL) and John Lehman (Bern, KS), and Bros. Ken Knapp (Taylor, MO), Brian Waibel (Champaign, IL), Doyle Frauhiger (Bluffton North, IN), Bruce Hohulin (Goodfield, IL) and Ed Sauder (Roanoke, IL).

We were happy to hear of the safe arrival of Kaelin Jeanne on August 30. Parents are Bro. Eric and Sis. Erica Schambach. Big brothers and sister are Joseph, Kathleen and Jack.

We wish Bro. Steve and Sis. Danae Lehman God's blessings as they relocate to Illinois. Our prayers are also with Bro. Ken and Sis. Amy and Sophie Beyer as Bro. Ken has accepted a job in Philadelphia, PA. May both families be a blessing there as they have blessed our Denver church.

As our busy summer season closes for another year, we want to thank all who have worshipped with us and invite anyone traveling through our area to visit our church.

CONNECTICUT ROCKVILLE Cherie Galat

Few fruits ripen from the spring-time sunshine:

Not till autumn is abundance shown;

Without waiting we ne'er feel the rapture

Of a precious, bounteous harvest grown.

Zion's Harp #244

This time of year farmers bring in the fruits of the field after a busy year of planning, planting and waiting. Our Heavenly Father also plants the seed of faith into hearts through the ministering of dear brethren and patiently waits for souls to commit their lives unto Him. May we hastily seek Him while it is the time of grace.

Even as we are blessed with the fruits of the ground, families are also blessed with precious children. Little Grace Eun-Jung was lovingly adopted by the family of Bro. Jason and Sis. Sue Kloter. John and TJ now have a sister to love. She was born May 8 in South Korea and arrived in the United States in August. Grandparents are Bro. Keith and Sis. Mary Kloter and Andy and Annette Ouellet. Also blessed with a baby girl are Bro. Dale and Sis. Mary

Ann Gerber. Little Rebekah Louise was born September 11 and joins her sister, Lydia, at home. Grandparents are Bro. Everett Gerber and Bro. Emanuel and Sis. Verona Schneider.

Many of us traveled to the Philadelphia, PA, congregation to take part in a blessed weekend for the ordination of Elder Bro. Ben Wiegand. What a privilege it was for us to have the opportunity to witness this wonderful work of God. May God give him an added measure of strength and wisdom to serve the Philadelphia and Washington, DC, congregations. Our Elder Bro. Kevin Ryan served the congregation faithfully in past days. Assisting Elder Bro. Kevin on the pulpit were Elder Bros. Andy Stoller (Smithville, OH), Wayne Fehr (West Bend, IA), Duane Farney (Croghan-Naumburg, NY) and Doug Schock (Pulaski, IA). We also had Bro. Everett Gerber (Rockville, CT) and retired Elder Bro. Dave Wiegand (Champaign, IL) amongst us.

"And the Lord God said, It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him."

Genesis 2:18

We rejoice with Bro. Everett Gerber and Sis. Nancy Aeschleman (Philadelphia, PA) as their engagement was announced. May God provide for their every need as they plan their future together.

We also appreciate when loving brethren come to visit our congregation and preach unto us the Word of Life. May God richly reward Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL) for his service unto us.

Our prayers are with Sis. Charlotte Luginbuhl as she was hospitalized recently and she is doing well. May God provide for her every need.

The revised Zion's Harps have been placed in our pews and we are now using them. Many of us gath-

ered on two Saturday evenings to sing the various hymns. We appreciate the love and effort that surely went into making the hymnbook pleasing unto our God.

We have started to listen to the Elder Brotherhood Conference tapes and it surely is a blessing to be able to quietly consider what God's will is for our lives. May God richly bless all the labors of our dear Elder brethren for their service unto us. We also thank our Heavenly Father for all His rich blessings He bestows on us the church, the bride of Christ. May we be found waiting and ready to meet Him on that great and notable day.

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
WASHINGTON
Henrietta Meyer**

We extend our deepest sympathy to Robert Welk at the drowning death of his young grandson, Michael, in Michigan on July 15. We know he is safe in the arms of Jesus.

We welcome Tabitha Reist (Dave and Marcy, Bern, KS) to our area as she continues her education in Baltimore, MD. We also welcome Robert and Rika Allen and their son, Hera. They have been traveling to Mansfield, but discovered we are closer. We wish to urge you as you read this if you feel the Lord's leading to relocate in this area, there are jobs available in high tech fields, medical and professional areas, construction and service industry. In the last three days I have had two people ask if I knew anyone looking for work. Anyone from our congregation would be glad to answer your questions and assist in any way possible.

Many from our congregation attended the ordination of Bro. Ben Wiegand as our new Elder the weekend of August 26-27 in Philadelphia. May Bro. Ben and Sis. Michelle and

their families feel our prayers as they assume their new duties.

Our ministers this month were Elder Bro. Jesse Beer (Milford, IN), Bro. Dan Kilgus (Remington, IN). Other visitors were from Princeville, IL, and Bern, KS.

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.

**FLORIDA
FT. LAUDERDALE
Gretchen Webb**

Our prayers and sympathy are extended to Bro. John Hejja, his wife, Sis. Caroline, and their family in the passing of his father. We pray that God will comfort them in the time of their sorrow.

Sunday School has started again in Ft. Lauderdale. Our prayers are with the teachers as they prepare lessons to share with the children.

We thank our counseling Elder Bro. Joe Braker (Sis. Shirley, Morton, IL) for visiting and sharing the Word with us. We pray that his time in Ft. Lauderdale was a blessing and that God will richly reward his efforts.

**FLORIDA
NORTH FORT MYERS
Dorothy Beer**

Greetings from Florida.
Church services were canceled on

Sunday, September 17, because of Hurricane Gordon. There was some damage from high winds and flooding, mostly along the coastal areas. We're thankful it turned into a tropical storm, and brought some much needed rain throughout the state. However, our prayers go out to those who were not as fortunate as we, and bore the brunt of the storm.

The annual Florida churches Sunday School fellowship will be the weekend of October 15.

Our congregation will miss one of our winter residents, Bro. Lynn Feller, who went to be with the Lord. Our prayers and sympathy are with Sis. Maryann and family.

Note of Thanks:

We would like to express our deep appreciation and heartfelt thanks to each and every one for the cards, gifts, phone calls, and visits. Especially the love, prayers and kind thoughts during my recent illness and my convalescence at home and with my family.

God bless all of you.

Sis. Viola Keller

**FLORIDA, SARASOTA
Carol Koehl**

We are thankful that the Lord was with Sis. Millie Bigger (Don), as she had surgery this past month. Our prayers continue to be with her as she recovers.

Church was canceled on Sunday, September 17, due to the threat of Hurricane Gordon; we are grateful that we were spared anything serious.

"Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

Isaiah 41:10

GEORGIA, ATLANTA**Keith and Carol Kaufman**

We are so thankful that Erica Stoller (Bro. Linn and Sis. Brenda) has turned her back on the world and is seeking the Lord in repentance. May she feel the prayers of God's children for her.

Our hearts are saddened as Sis. Maria Paun will be moving back to Romania after a brief stay in Chicago with her sister and brother. She was a great asset and inspiration to each one of us. She will be greatly missed, but we know the power of prayer.

Our prayers are with Bro. Tom and Sis. Sue Waldbeser at the passing of his uncle, Bro. Lynn Feller (LaCrosse, IN). May they feel the comfort of God's Spirit, knowing that Bro. Lynn has gained his eternal reward. May we all continue to strive for that goal.

We were so blessed Labor Day weekend when Bro. John and Sis. Rosemary Hartman (Fairbury, IL) along with two other couples came and spent a Saturday evening with us. On Sunday, more visitors came. May the Lord richly bless each one.

With the Works Project in Camilla finished, our Sunday crowds have greatly diminished. Our prayer is that each volunteer could feel God's nearness and blessings. We truly appreciated your visits.

We look forward to visitors and appreciate the time of fellowship. Sunday services begin at 10:15 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Song service is held the second Wednesday and Bible Study the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. If you are in the area, please plan to worship with us. The church is located at 6225 Campbellton-Fairburn Rd., Fairburn, GA. Take I-85 south to Exit 64. Go west four miles and the

church will be on your left. Please contact one of the following brothers to let us know of your plans. This helps us to plan our Sunday lunches and Sunday School. Bro. Linn Stoller (770) 631-4554, Bro. John Brewer (770) 463-0701 or Bro. Keith Kaufman (770) 304-8335. Thank you.

ILLINOIS, BELVIDERE**Doreen Moser
Sheila McCoy**

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God. Not of works, lest any man should boast."

Ephesians 2:8-9

As the angels in Heaven rejoice over one sinner that repents, we here on earth rejoice, too. Jason Moser has decided to leave the world behind and start on the path to eternal life. May he diligently seek the peace that only the Lord can give. May we all continually strive to remember to pray for others to find the grace to repent because the Lord does answer prayers!

Welcome, Bro. Brent, Sis. Michele Knoblock and family, to the Belvidere church. As a small church, we are so happy to have another family join us. May God bless their dear family as they settle in a new area and may we as a church open wide the doors and welcome them into our hearts.

When I survey the wondrous
cross,
On which the Prince of Glory
died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my
pride.
Forbid it, Lord, that I should
boast,
Save in the death of Christ my

God:
All the vain things that charm
me most,
I sacrifice them to His blood.
See! From His head, His hands,
His feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled
down!
Did e'er such love and sorrow
meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a
crown?
Were the whole realm of nature
mine,
That were an offering far too
small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my
ALL.

Bro. Chad Kaeb led our Wednesday night Bible study with the topic titled ALL. All is defined: the total extent; entirety; every. Is our all on the Alter? And what if I gave all? It would seem we all have work to do.

We have started monthly church services in Madison, WI, again. Please feel free to join us if you are in the area. Bro. DeWayne Dill (Minneapolis, MN) joined us this month. We thank him for taking time to meet with us and share the Word when he is in the area. His topic was on Lust, Covetousness, Envy, Greed and Jealousy. As the Bible verses were shared and exhorted on, it shows that the sin may start small but if we let it continue, it will lead us to losing our soul's salvation and death.

"For the perfecting of the saints,
for the work of the ministry, for the
edifying of the body of Christ;"
Ephesians 4:12

Our visiting ministers this month have been Bros. Sid Kaufman (Cissna Park, IL) Walter Herrmann (Princeville, IL), Gary Anliker and Elder Bro. Ron Schambach (both of

Elgin, IL). May the Lord bless each of you for reading and teaching us from the precious Word and for bringing your precious families with you.

As summer is coming to a close, we have had the opportunity to gather together for the Sunday School picnic hosted by Dave and Sis. Sheila McCoy and have also enjoyed our annual camping trip. Whenever we gather together, we create many memories here on earth and our spiritual life is enriched.

"Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you: but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment."

I Cor. 1:10

As we are gathering together across the land to listen to the tapes from the Conference, may we strive to "United be" and pray without ceasing that we may keep our precious faith intact as we battle the forces of the intruding world.

We are in the early stages of construction on our new church and pray for the Lord's continued blessing. Any brethren interested in volunteering their time and talents to help on the construction of the new church should contact Bro. Clint Heinold at 262-695-8108 or at heinold@prodigy.net.

**ILLINOIS
BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL
Dana Knapp
Shawn Masters**

"...joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth..."

Luke 15:7

This past month there was joy in

Heaven as Wilber and Jeanne Hofmann chose to surrender their lives to God. We are thankful for them and pray that many more would turn to God in repentance and find the abundant life that Jesus has to offer.

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

Psalms 127:4

We had two couples in our church receive a reward from God this month. Bro. Rick and Sis. Shawn Masters gave birth to Cody Richard on August 19. Grandparents are Elder Bro. Everett and Sis. Bev Hari and Bro. Bill and Sis. Mary Masters. On August 23, Halley Joy was born unto Bro. Larry and Sis. Barb Stevig. Halley was welcomed home by her sisters, Lauren, Bonnie and Erin.

Also this month, we welcomed the students back to school by having a pizza party for the students and families. We hope that they and their families will feel welcome to worship with us throughout the school year. We also bid farewell to those students who are moving away to go to college. We will lift them up in our thoughts and prayers.

We enjoyed a special time of fellowship as families this month at our church campout.

September 6 we had our first evening of family night. Bro. Ted Witzig (Morton, IL) came and shared with us from the Scriptures how parents and teenagers can get along. It is encouraging to see that in a society where children are becoming less and less respectful that God's Word is complete in giving instruction to parents and children.

On September 15, we were given more instruction on parenting as Bro. Jeff Thames (Washington, IL) conducted the first of three sessions of "Bring them up." Bro. Jeff re-

minded us that he of himself had nothing to teach us but that God's Word is the only authoritative, comprehensive, unrevised parenting manual ever printed. We look forward to the last two sessions of this seminar later this month.

We were also blessed with visiting ministering Bros. Dave Zehr (Gridley, IL), Steve Baner (Gridley, IL) and Randy Mogler (Washington, IL). We thank these brothers for their willingness to bring to us God's Word.

We started our new Sunday School year. Our prayers are with the teachers as they continue to plant and water the seed of the Gospel in our children.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Sis. Elma Fleming at the passing of her mother, Sis. Elma Schlipf (Gridley, IL). Also experiencing the loss of a loved one is Sis. Jay Martin losing her mother, Blanche Randolph.

We welcome the family of Bro. Steve and Sis. Margie Sauder and their children, Steven, Joshua and Kelsey, as they join our church family.

Lastly, we are nearing completion of our new church building. We plan to have our first Sunday service in this building on November 5. We are also planning an open house on Saturday, November 18, from 2-4 for the community and Sunday, November 19, immediately after church for all of our Apostolic Christian Churches. If you cannot attend Sunday, you are welcome to attend Saturday afternoon. We also welcome all to the dedication of our new building on December 3.

**ILLINOIS, BRADFORD
Chad and LauraLee Plattner**

We are thankful for our visiting ministers this month. They were Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle (Shioda, Ja-

pan) and Bros. Joe Gerst (Iowa City, IA) and Glenn Dill (Tremont, IL). May God bless them for their willingness to serve.

“Remember Lot’s wife.”

Luke 17:32

This short verse carries a lot of meaning and it really makes us think each time we read it. Lot’s wife disobeyed and looked back to all God had commanded her to leave behind. In that one moment she was destroyed. So often Satan tempts us with the pleasures of sin we have put behind us, wanting us also to be destroyed. Let us not be counted among those who look back, but let us be faithful to our calling.

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

Our new student picnic brought a good number of students and families to our church on the last Sunday in August. Looking over our new listing of students, we observed that we have 17 of the 19 Illinois churches represented by at least one student and six students from places outside Illinois. The school year is now in full swing. Our annual wiener roast/picnic at Illini Grove on the University of Illinois campus was held in mid September. This function is well attended by the students and the permanent C-U folks.

The Champaign-Urbana students will be hosting College Weekend on October 21-22. A great deal of planning and preparation always goes into selecting topics and arranging for ministering brothers to speak on the topical theme and lead discussion sessions, and the rewards for the efforts invested are great. We look forward to a very large group of young people on that weekend.

Our Sunday School students

have begun their new year, too. They are again singing songs, learning more about the Bible, and doing creative activities. We thank our Sunday School teachers for the time and effort that goes into being prepared each week.

Visiting ministers have included Bros. Kent Heimer (Taylor, MO), Dennis Kaufmann (Bloomington, IL), Ken Lawson (Phoenix, AZ) and Greg Rassi (Chicago, IL). We are glad that these brothers came with their students and welcome them to visit us (and their children here) with regularity.

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO

Jill Rager

In a Sunday morning service this month, one of our home brothers read a passage of Old Testament scripture that went into great detail in regard to the temple King Solomon had built. The brother’s thought was that this God of ours is a God of detail, and He takes care of details we cannot begin to think of. Later that week my 6-year-old was contemplating out loud the thought that God even knows the number of hairs on our head. She then said, “Wow, Mommy, there’s probably more than a hundred!” Her young mind could not even begin to comprehend the degree of detail that our God encompasses. God probably smiles at us when we wonder how He is going to take care of some detail in our lives much the way I smiled at my daughter.

The Lord has been revealing details in the lives of several people in our congregation of late. Bro. Scott Wegman (Sis. Dawn) recently had surgery. We want to assure Bro. Scott and Sis. Dawn of our continued prayer support as he undergoes follow-up treatment.

Bro. Craig and Sis. Raelynn Plattner and their children, Anissa,

Jonathan, Emily, and Zachary, are trusting to God the details of relocating to Nashville, TN. We know the Nashville congregation will be blessed by this family as evidenced by the loss we feel.

The Lord certainly comforts our hearts by blessing us with newcomers. We welcome Sis. Tricia Zuercher (Tremont, IL), Bro. Clint Endress (Princeville, IL) and Bro. Justin Moser (Rockville, CT). We look forward to becoming better acquainted with these three.

God has provided two faithful sisters, Sis. Marie Sauder (Bro. Paul) and Sis. Heather Knapp (Bro. Randy) to serve as Sunday School teachers. Bro. Matthew Rassi will be our World Relief representative. We thank these dear ones for their willingness to serve in these roles.

Lastly, we want to express our appreciation to our visiting ministers, Bros. Erik Givens (Princeville, IL), Wayne Laubscher (Cissna Park, IL) and Curt Rassi (Tremont, IL).

**ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK
Cheryl Eisenmann
Darlene Walder**

“...My Saviour knows the way I take. Himself has trod the selfsame road. He knows each stone, temptations, pitfalls hid by blossoms fair, the hour of darkness that my life must share. The wilderness of sorrow, doubt and fear, renunciation’s agony, and every pang of loneliness and labor’s wear. Enough for me that He has known it all, that now He stays to strengthen, guide and help me. I am glad my Saviour knows.

Thy will be done whether on pleasant paths I walk along, or crouch amid the lightnings of the storm. Whether for me the larks of springtime sing. Or winter’s icy blasts my being sting. Whatever

Thou dost send is best for me, with joyful heart I take it all from Thee. Rejoicing in Thy sovereignty, and pray, that Thou wilt lead me on my upward way. The road grows smoother as I travel on. Thy will be done."

—Amy L. Person

Our surgical and hospital patients this month have been Sis. Judy Edelman, Judy Drayer, Grace Laubscher, Sis. Marg Kupferschmid, Sis. Wanda Maul and Bro. Herman Bauer. Our prayers have been with each of you as you draw strength from God's sovereignty and grace.

We hold Bro. Joel Hofbauer's family up in prayer at his death. Sis. Mary and their two sons, Jim and Gene, and daughter, Judy, and families are in our prayers at this time of sorrow. Also, Sis. Caroline Gudeman is Bro. Joel's sister and we know that losing a brother is a great loss. We also sympathize with the family of our friend, Jerry Wyss, who passed on into eternity.

Our friend, Gretchen Steffen (Bro. Rod and Sis. Beth), has acknowledged that God is calling her to a higher plane. We rejoice that she has answered the call to repentance. We also rejoice with converts, Amber Walder and Adrea Wells (Ryan), daughters of Bro. Dennis and Sis. Sharon Walder. They are at peace with God and man and are anticipating baptism on November 11-12.

Bro. Dale and Sis. Dorothy Walder are grandparents again. Little Hallie Joy was born to Bro. Larry and Sis. Barb Stevig (Bloomington, IL). She is welcomed by big sisters, Erin, Bonnie and Lauren.

Our Sunday School teachers and students 3rd-12th hosted their annual Sr. Citizen Supper and it is always a blessing for the young and old to interact and grow closer to each other.

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 would bring the sheaves of
grain?

He who gathers not at harvest,
Will a beggar be at last.
Therefore rise today and labor,
Gathering 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, CONGERVILLE Glenna Rinkenberger

How thankful we are for modern technology. We just finished listening to the Conference tapes. Our prayers are continually with our Elders that they can be strengthened as watchmen for the brethren, and that we can be submissive to God and a support to uphold the Faith.

Our congregation has been greatly blessed as we have had three new babies born this past month. August 16, Eli Michael Wieland joined Bro. Brian, Sis. Renee, Ethan, Mikaela and Grace. Grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Elizabeth Wieland (Princeville, IL) and Pat

Stahl (Peoria, IL).

September 8 was the birth date of Codee Jo McClure. Bro. Jeff, Sis. Marilyn, Amanda, Austin and Clint are thankful to have her home following some complications. Bro. Bob and Sis. Sharon McClure of our home congregation and Roger and Elaine Hodel of Roanoke are Codee's grandparents.

September 10, Bro. Denny and Sis. Emily Wettstein welcomed Breanna Cathryn into their family. Siblings, Henry, Reuben, Amber, Joel, Dale, Carmen and Kara, along with grandparents, Bro. Art and Sis. Donna Wettstein (Eureka, IL), share their joy.

On this earth we have sorrow as well as joy. Even as life begins, it also ends. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Bro. Alan and Sis. Joanne Roth and their family in the death of Joanne's father, Bro. Hans Hinrichsen, of the Goodfield congregation.

The engagement of Bro. Isaac Rinkenberger (Bro. Jake and Sis. Glenna) to Sis. Melissa Van Wyhe (Bro. Pete and Sis. Susan) of Lester, IA, was made known to us. We look forward to having Melissa with us and pray that the Lord would be foremost in mind as they make their wedding plans.

Having witnessed the sacred process of Holy Matrimony on September 10, we bid farewell to Sis. Bonny Rinkenberger (Bro. Mike and Sis. Pat) as she became the wife of Bro. Doug Wenninger (Bro. Larry and Sis. Joyce). Our prayers go with them as they return to the Latty, OH, congregation to begin their life as one in the Lord.

Visiting ministers here for the wedding were Bros. Don Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN), Dale Zeltwanger (Morris, MN), Don Manz (Junction, OH), Larry Wenninger, John Laukhuf and Todd Stoller (all from Latty, OH).

We were given the illustration of charging a battery. If we only hook up the positive charge, it won't work. We can't just preach God's love and stop there. We need the negative charge so the battery is balanced. The fear of God and the love of God teach us how to live a life that ends in eternal bliss or eternal misery. It's our choice. Only if the battery is in perfect balance does it then have the ability to provide power.

Bro. Ken Knapp (Taylor, MO) also spent a Sunday with us. We appreciate all our visiting ministering brothers.

God is still working in the lives of souls who are submissive to His call. Three converts have found that precious peace and are awaiting baptism. They are Kent Wiegand (Bro. Rick and Sis. Sue), Rachel Knapp (Bro. Denny and Sis. Gay) and Virginia Knapp (the late Bro. Wilbur). We look forward to hearing how the Lord has changed their lives and pray that they will continue to grow even during this time of waiting.

ILLINOIS, ELGIN

**Amy Gasser
Kay Kellenberger**

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

Psalm 127:3

We rejoice with Bro. Matt and Mary Jo Kinsinger as they have safely returned with Joshua Alexander after having spent many weeks in the Ukraine finalizing the adoption of their new son. His grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Sandy Kinsinger and Irv and Eunice Nevile. We also rejoice with Bro. Fred and Sis. Shaena Dietz (grandparents are Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Mardell Dietz and Bro. Don and Sis. Leann Schambach) welcoming the

new addition to their family, Ashlyn Marie, born on August 26. Jordan and Sherri Vanagas (grandparents are Bro. Norman and Sis. Virginia Schock and Tony and Beverly Vanagas) are blessed with a precious new daughter, Grace Evelyn, born August 29. We pray for the guidance of these families as they raise and nurture their children in the fear of the Lord.

Our sincere sympathy is extended to Sis. Norma (Bro. Stan) Schambach in the loss of her mother, Sis. Lucile Frank. We also share our sympathy with the Ben Knobloch (Sis. Phyllis) family. The funeral of Bro. Ben Knobloch was officiated by Elder Bro. Tom Hoffman (Roanoke, IL) and Bro. Jim Plattner (Princeville, IL) in Elgin where Bro. Ben and Sis. Clara resided for many years.

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

II Timothy 4:7

We are thankful for the following visiting ministers as they have offered themselves in service to the Lord, sharing the needed direction of God's Holy Word. Many thanks and blessings to Bros. Don Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN), John Steiner (Oakville, IA) and Ralph Garber (Morton, IL).

Our Bible Class students hosted the annual Pancake Breakfast to raise funds for their activities throughout the year. This is a great opportunity for the Bible Class to serve others and for the members to show their support. We are thankful to the many individuals who attended the breakfast. It is so important to encourage and support the fellowship of our youth.

In days of youth seek ye the
Lord,

His love and truth with one accord,
Go offer Him thy youthful days
and walk within the Saviour's
ways.

In youthful days His blessings
seek,
With heart that's tender true and
meek,
And while the years draw on
apace,
You'll praise Him for His love
and grace.

*Hymns of Zion #135,
vs. 1 and 5*

ILLINOIS, EUREKA Janet Zimmerman

God has blessed the home of Bro. Brent and Sis. Darla Cottrell with a sweet baby girl, Malea Kay, born on September 15. Excited to have a baby sister to love are her big brothers, Kurt, Sawyer and Andrew. Her thankful grandparents are Bill Cottrell and Sis. Judy Cottrell and Bro. John and Sis. Bev Eisenmann (Forrest, IL).

We were encouraged and uplifted as we heard the testimonies and witnessed the baptisms of two dear souls the weekend of August 26-27. We welcome our new sister and brother-in-faith, Sis. Emily Fehr (Bro. Ken and Sis. Sandy) and Bro. Chad Zimmerman (Bro. Tom and Sis. Janet). We are thankful to God that the door of grace remains open so many can still come and repent, confess their sins, make restitution, be baptized and live at peace with God and man. We thank Elder Bro. Ed Lanz (Oakville, IA) for being here that weekend to assist Elder Bro. Ervin with these duties. Other visiting ministers that weekend were Bros. Tim Zimmerman (Lamont-Gridley, KS) and Wayne Wiegand (Goodfield, IL). May God richly bless each one.

Recently, the death angel came and took three of our dear brothers Home. We miss them but are thankful that they could be relieved of their earthly sorrows and sufferings. Bro. Ben Knobloch was called Home on August 26. We extend our sympathy to his wife, Sis. Phyllis, and their families.

We extend our sympathy to Sis. Norma Pfaffmann, Sis. Dorothy Gandell and Bro. Bob Hinrichsen (Sis. Laydene) on the death of their brother, Bro. Hans Hinrichsen. He died September 2.

May God comfort the families of Glen and Sis. Becky Bauman and Bro. Gary and Sis. Elna Wettstein on the death of their dear father, Bro. Elmer Bauman. He died September 11. "We shall sleep, but not forever, there will be a glorious dawn; We shall meet to part, no never, on the resurrection morn!" (Hymns of Zion #25)

We are thankful for God's divine protection over two of our loved ones. Bro. Earl Zimmerman (Sis. Elsie) was hospitalized recently. We are thankful for his good recovery.

Our prayers have been with Quentin Wuethrich (Bro. Rick and Sis. Brenda) who was seriously hurt in a three wheeler accident. We continue to pray for the Wuethrich family as he recovers at home.

We extend a warm welcome to Bro. Charlie and Sis. Karen Sinn and their family to our Eureka congregation. May they feel God's love and nearness as they assemble with us.

We heard so many good exhortations as we sat and listened to the Brotherhood Conference tapes. It is so refreshing to come together in the middle of the week, in the quietness of an evening with the Spirit of God among us. It is a special blessing. "Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves; for they watch for your souls, as they must give an account, that they may do it

with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you." (Hebrews 13:17)

Jenny Blunier and Jason Royer were united in marriage September 9. We wish them God's blessings. Their parents are Bro. Daryl and Sis. Lucy Blunier and Alan and Joan Royer.

On September 3, Sis. Rachel Stoller (Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Sherry) and Bro. Kurt Domnick (Bro. Gary and Sis. Velma) of Morris, MN, made their engagement known. May God continue to guide them as they plan for their wedding.

Bro. Leroy and Sis. Clara Huber's new address is:

Leroy and Clara Huber
505 Valley Court
Eureka, IL 61530

Note of Thanks:

We want to thank family, friends and everyone for their prayers, kind deeds and concerns during the illness and passing of our loved one. May God bless each one.

The family of Sis. Cathryn Wettstein

Prayer

Ashamed of Prayer?
Oh, blush for shame
if we should scorn that worthy
name,
whom heaven and saints adore!
To a penitent heart His healing
balm
He will impart and shield forever
more,
and shield forever more.

Hymns of Zion #205

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY
Sally Fehr
Joann Zehr

We had a blessed weekend on August 26-27 when we heard the testimonies of Patty (Dan) Walter and Tracy Fehr (Bro. Ivan and Sis.

Cinda). It is a miracle when God can work in our lives. Elder Bros. Curt Frank (LaCrosse, IN) and Wayne Anliker (Forrest, IL) were present as well as ministering Bros. Gary Brown, Greg Stoller and Paul Zimmerman, all of Forrest. May God reward them for their labors of love.

Bro. Alf (Fannie) Steffen and Sis. Betty Sohn spent some time in the hospital. Also, Tanner and Wade Fehr, sons of Bro. Les and Sis. Sally Fehr, are recuperating from some surgery and accident. We wish all of them God's nearness and healing strengths.

Our sympathy is extended to Bro. Keith and Sis. Tammy Hinrichsen, Joe and Kelly in the death of Keith's father. We are so thankful for God's precious promises.

The engagement of Sis. Denise Banwart (Bro. Dale and Sis. Donna) to Bro. Rodney Steidinger (Bro. Tom and Sis. Dianne) was announced. Might they seek God's help and guidance as they plan their wedding.

We also thank Bro. Jerry Wagenbach (Oakville, IA) for bringing us God's living Word.

ILLINOIS, FORREST

Jean Knapp
Linda Anliker

We are thankful that God's Word is so freely spoken by willing servants. Sharing God's Word with us this month were Elder Bro. Curt Frank (LaCrosse, IN), Bros. Art Mueller (Belvidere, IL), Paul Gasser (Akron, OH), Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL) and David Obergfel (Peoria, IL).

Hosting the Apostolic Christian Youth Fellowship, we are inspired by the Illinois Bible Class students. May the words of the songs penetrate and stir their hearts to a new walk of life with Christ.

Two families in our congregation were blessed with the birth of sons on September 1. Bro. Erik and Sis.

Michelle, Thane and Ethan Schaffer welcome Lyndon Urban into their hearts and home. His grandparents are Carlos and Marty Bahler (Fairbury, IL) and Bro. John and Sis. Sally Schaffer.

Dylyn Burke was born to Bro. Todd and Kim Kupferschmid. His siblings, Brooke, Kyla, Talia, Noland and Ty, and his grandparents, Robert and Cherie Kaisner (Fairbury, IL) and Bro. Dean and Sis. Robin Kupferschmid, are thankful for his arrival.

Those spending time in the hospital this month were Sis. Doris (Bro. Clarence) Koehl, Bro. Mark (Sis. Laverne) Aberle and Sis. Edna (Bro. Paul) Wiegand.

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD **Heather Hohulin**

Our Goodfield congregation has grieved for the loss but rejoiced for the victory of two of our faithful pillars of the church. Our sympathy is extended to the families of Bro. Hans Hinrichsen (Sis. Arlene) and Bro. Elmer Bauman (Sis. Mildred). We pray that the teachings and examples of these cherished brothers will be followed and witnessed by the remaining generations.

We welcome into God's family Sis. "Babe" Knapp. We enjoyed her testimony and thank Bro. Fred Knapp (Congerville, IL) for sharing that evening with us.

Goodfield's Silver Lining correspondent, Sis. Heather Hohulin, is taking a little break as she enjoys her new little baby girl, Claire Danelle. Claire is welcomed home by her brother, Jon, and her daddy, Bro. Ross.

Bro. Rod and Sis. Lynda Hinrichsen are happy to welcome home their fourth child, Kurtis Allen. He will get lots of love from his brothers, Kyle and Kent, and his sister, Kate.

Ashlyn Grace has arrived to warm the hearts of Bro. Brandon and Sis. Julie DesCarpentrie. May they have countless blessings as they raise their little girl.

We've had quite a few hospital patients this month. We pray for God's healing powers if it could be His will. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Sis. Clara Hunzicker, Sis. Sandy Hohulin, Sis. Leona Tanner and Sis. Marci Schieler.

Congratulations to Christine Rokey and Kyle Watson as they became one. Chris's parents are Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Phyllis Rokey and Randy and Gail Watson of Topeka, IL.

Congratulations also go to Ron Wiegand (Bro. Gary and Sis. Karen) and Cassandra Beckom (Thomas and Sandra) as they exchanged wedding vows.

More wedding congratulations go to Sis. Katie Williams (Don and Barbara, Akron, OH) and Bro. Rudy Wiegand (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Rosemary). Our prayer is that God will be with each of these couples and bless their marriages.

Notes of Thanks:

Sis. Marci Schieler would like to thank everyone for the prayers and cards that they sent during her stay in the hospital.

I want to thank my dear church family for all the love and support given me during the years of Hans' illness and since his passing. I am most grateful for your uplifting prayers.

Sincerely,

Sis. Arlene Hinrichsen

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY **Perry Klopfenstein**

We are very happy to report the marriage engagement of Bro. Todd Witzig to Sis. Nicole Yackley (Taylor, MO). Her parents are Bro. El-

wood and Sis. Trudie Yackley of Taylor. He is the son of Bro. Jerome and Sis. Mary Witzig of our Gridley congregation.

Bro. Sean Cornell was married to Sis. Carla Miller on August 27. Her parents are Bro. Orlan and Sis. Carol Miller. He is the son of Mel Cornell of Danville and Cheryl Cornell. We surely extend our sincere best wishes to this young couple.

Praise and thanksgiving are due to God for His work in drawing believing souls together for matrimony and a lifelong commitment to be true and faithful to each other.

The fall term for our Sunday School has begun and we offer special prayers for the teachers and the students. Bro. Harvey Kaeb is the superintendent this year, and we offer our full support.

Caleb William Schieler was born on August 25. He is the son of Bro. Glenn and Sis. Charity Schieler. He has a brother, Ashton, age 1. Grandparents are Bro. Perry and Sis. Carol Klopfenstein. Sis. Marilyn Schieler is a special aunt. Great-grandparents are Bro. Robert and Sis. Pearl Miller (Portland, OR) and Florence Schultz of Meadows, IL.

Bro. Jim Plattner (Princeville, IL) was a visiting minister. He gave a topical presentation on "Evolution vs. Creation". It was both timely and informative and we thank him for his efforts. Many junior high and high school students were present.

Bro. Darren Plattner (Champaign, IL) was a visiting minister on September 17.

We want to welcome Sis. Katy Schlipf of Milford, IN, to our congregation. She is a student at Heartland College in Normal, IL.

Scott Stoller was married to Jennie Baird on August 19. He is the son of Bro. Joe and Sis. Karen Stoller. Her parents are Lee and Jackie Baird, Catlin, IL. May God bless them.

Sis. Rosella Knapp has been hospitalized for a long duration and has returned home. She is still very ill and in need of our prayers.

Eunice Schlipf was also in the hospital. She resides in the Eureka Home.

Note of Thanks:

My sincere thanks to all who remembered me with gifts, cards, prayers and visits on my 90th birthday and during my hospital stay. May God bless you all.

Eunice Schlipf

ILLINOIS, MORTON

**Phyllis Farney
Cheryl Wuthrich**

We are so happy to welcome newcomers to our congregation. Andy and Jayne Sauder and their children, Mindy, Adam, Greg and Maria, have moved here from Iowa City and are making Morton their home church.

Bro. Chuck and Sis. Anne Hart, along with "big brother" Cameron welcome Lindsey Marie into their family. She was born on August 15. Happy grandparents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Jean Martin (Elgin, IL) and Bro. Bill and Sis. Terry Hart (Goodfield, IL).

Believing it is the Lord's will, Bro. Jeff Kaufman II (Bro. Jeff and Sis. Rhonda) and Sis. Abby Steffen (Bro. Keith and Sis. Kathy) from Washington, IL, were announced to be married. We wish them God's continued blessings and guidance during their engagement period.

Sis. Lena Aberle was called Home to be with the Lord at the age of 103 years. She died August 27 at the Apostolic Christian Restmor. May God bless her surviving loved ones. They are her two sons, Lester and Ronald (Rozanne); her two daughters, Elvina Guengerich and Ethel (Ches-ter) Finley; 8 grandchildren, 14

great-grandchildren and 5 great-great-grandchildren.

We want to welcome our three new sisters into the family of God. They are Sis. Laura Braker (Bro. Brad and Sis. Debbie), Sis. Brittany Kaiser (Bro. Allen and Sis. Brenda) and Sis. Stacy Kahler (Roger and Connie). Their testimonies and baptisms were held the weekend of September 9-10. May they continue to be surrendered to the Lord as they go forth to serve Him. We wish to thank the following ministering brothers and their families for sharing the weekend with us. They are: Elder Bro. Mark Bahr (Detroit, MI), and Bros. Brian Webb (Ft. Lauderdale, FL), Jeff Grimm (Goodfield, IL) and Tim Funk (Peoria, IL).

Notes of Thanks:

I wish to thank everyone for the prayers, cards and gifts for my 90th birthday. May God richly bless each one. Your kindness will not be forgotten.

Sis. Eula Grimm

We wish to thank all who remembered us on our 68th wedding anniversary. God bless you all.

Bro. Bill and Sis. Eula Grimm

ILLINOIS, PEORIA

Peter and Mabel Weber

With school beginnings, Labor Day, the last days of summer and vacations behind us, we recall those words of wisdom of the ages: it's nice to go and nice(r) to come home. Bros. Jim Hoerr and Paul Meister experienced this aphorism recently after spending ten days in Russia. The purpose of their trip was to investigate the possibility of distributing Bibles and study-guides to Russian prisoners, which would be instituted non-denominationally along the same lines as the local Berean ministries at the Peoria County jail.

The thought was expressed on Labor Day that we are laboring with God to serve the common purpose of furthering His work. God told Ezra to rebuild the temple, and Nehemiah the walls of Jerusalem, after their captivity. Nehemiah saw the hand of God in it and finished the walls in 52 days, weapons at their side because the enemy didn't want them to rebuild. Look at the walls of your heart and let Jesus build them up so Satan doesn't have an opportunity to come in when the walls of your life crumble. Are we at the mild or meat stage in our lives? complete in Him and beginning to grow and be strong? always ready to give an answer about the hope that is in us? Let's continue to labor so God can be glorified.

"The Reliability of the Scriptures"...do we question whether the Scriptures are really right and true? The Bible is inspired by God, written by 40 different authors in three continents, from poor shepherds to tax collectors, generals and kings, without any contradictions and absolutely inerrant. God reached down to man, revealing Himself to us through Christ, the source of all knowledge of God. "Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law" (Ps. 119:18). Archaeology never found one artifact which contradicts the Bible and all 40 Old Testament kings are historically documented. Scripture and truth are constant. The Bible shaped our country. Something cannot come from nothing; somebody had to create it. God speaks to us over a period of 1800 years, 2000 years ago, with many eyewitness accounts, from highest Heaven to the depth of hell. Christ fulfilled 300 prophecies. The New Testament time-frame is 25 years, with 24,600 manuscripts and 99.9% accuracy. This proof doesn't save us, but gives assurance, confidence and love for our Creator. Voltaire said in 1778 that the Bible

would be gone in 100 years! Today, what we have in our homes is what people in many countries are willing to die for. Let's cherish it. Thanks, Bro. Tim Roecker, for your insightful thoughts expressed at our family night service on 9/6.

What's summer all about in a vegetable garden? If you have a green thumb like Bro. Melvin Plattner: whopper tomatoes of exquisite taste. And when they are freely given away with a loving smile to appreciative households, it makes them even more special. Andrew, the brother of Peter (both fishers out of Bethsaida) brought the lad to Jesus from whose lunch 5,000 were fed, and was supporting Jesus and the apostles in a quiet and unassuming way. We are blessed to have an Andrew in our midst in Bro. Melvin and just want to say "thanks!"

Sis. Courtney Hoerr (Bro. Joe and Sis. JoAnne) and Bro. Jason Strahm, Taylor, MO (Clayton and Sis. Miriam, Bern, KS) are looking forward to their wedding on November 12. Their engagement was announced on July 19 and we wish them the Lord's blessing in this important step.

Congratulations to Bro. Matt and Sis. Lisa Waibel on the birth of Cody Dillon (#4), born on August 29. Paternal grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Joyce Waibel, maternal grandparents are Bro. Rich and Sis. Jan Schock.

We welcome Katie Sauder from Westerville, OH, who lives with her grandparents, Elder Bro. Chuck and Sis. Marian Hemmer, while attending ICC. Bro. Andy and Sis. Jill Wuethrich moved here from Indianapolis, IN, and Bro. Todd and Sis. Lisa Bryant from Taylor, MO, and we are glad to have them worship with us. Mary Thiem relocated to San Diego, CA, and we wish her a good beginning in her new environment.

Sis. Lydia Meyer was hospitalized several weeks in Washington, DC, while visiting her daughter, Sis. Henrietta. She returned to the Skylines on September 9 and we wish her a speedy recovery.

Wayne Guingrich was a patient at Methodist Hospital and diagnosed with needing a heart transplant. He is on the waiting list, but also desires a new spiritual heart and we wish him God's grace in this step.

Sis. Rachael Hoerr (84) passed away on August 29 and Emma Stoller (88) on September 11, both at the Skylines. Bro. Joe Thomas (65) was relieved of his trials and pains when he went to be with the Lord on September 18. We extend our deepest condolences to the three families.

Although the new 1848 Swiss constitution guaranteed freedom of speech and religion, Bro. Froehlich was exiled in 1850 to Strasbourg, France, for his faith. He soon had a small congregation assembled, which survived three major wars and five government and language changes. Many of the members later emigrated to U.S. and this year the Strasbourg church merged with the small congregation at Schutterzell, about 30 minutes south on the German side of the Rhine, near Lahr. Many visitors remember thankfully the warm fellowship and generous hospitality of the Strasbourg members and will be glad to know they still have the welcome mat out for them.

Notes of Thanks:

We wish to express our deep appreciation for the many prayers and deeds of kindness during LeRoy's long illness and recent passing. "Thank you" to all who helped with the funeral in any way.

The family of LeRoy Hartman

Thank you for all the prayers,

cards, flowers and get well wishes while I was in the hospital and at home recuperating.

Sis. Martha Tanner

We pray the Lord will richly bless all those who helped in any way at the funeral of Rachael Hoerr. Everything was deeply appreciated. Our heartfelt thanks.

All of Rachael's family

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE Mary Ehle Crystal Streitmatter

How shall it be when we at last
returning
From weary wanderings and
from toil and strife,
Shall reach the home for which
our heart is yearning
And enter into everlasting life?
When from our feet the dust of
earth has vanished,
The last sweat from our brow is
wiped away,
Our eyes behold what oft earth's
care has banished
And gave to us new courage on
our way.
Zion's Harp #146

Our congregation rejoices as those who are called are answering and coming to the foot of the cross in repentance. Denise Joos (Bro. Rolland and Sis. Linda) has made a beginning on the pathway to Heaven. Also, Jessica Herrmann (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Brenda) started repenting recently.

We are thankful that recent hospital patient, Sis. Beulah Ehle (Bro. Dave), has been recovering well. We pray also for the Lord's healing hand on Sis. Lydia Meyer as she also recovers from a recent hospital stay.

A new little innocent baby has been born to Bro. Larry and Sis. Tif-

fany Martin on September 10. Peyton Ryan has two big sisters to welcome him home. Maternal grandparents are Dennis and Toni Kerns and paternal grandparents are Bro. Ellsworth and Sis. Donna Martin. Bro. Phil and Sis. Linda Baurer have also been blessed with a baby girl on September 12. Abigail Joy has three big brothers at home to welcome her. Maternal grandparents are Bro. Eugene and Sis. Kay Siebenthal and paternal grandparents are Bro. Ed and Sis. Carol Baurer. We are thankful for the safe arrival for these two precious little packages.

Our sympathies are extended to Sis. Kathy Feucht (Bro. Jordan) as her father, Bro. Hans Hinrichsen from Goodfield, has passed away. We are also thinking of Sis. Kay Siebenthal (Bro. Eugene) as her father, Bro. Elmer Bauman from Goodfield, has passed away. The husband of Sis. Phyllis Knobloch, Bro. Ben Knobloch, has passed from this life, and our prayers are with her that the Lord will comfort her.

Note of Thanks:

Words seem inadequate to express my thankfulness for your prayerful support, expressions of sympathy, kind words and many gifts of love given in memory of my sister, Phyllis. May God richly bless each of you.

In Christian love,
Sis. Jan Elsasser

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE
Boni Stoller
Linda Hodel

Heart with heart in love united,
seek upon God's heart repose.
Let your love to flames ignited,
to the Saviour upward flow.
He the head and we His mem-
bers;

He the light and we the glow.
He the master, we His brethren;
in true fellowship we grow.

Zion's Harp #33

Having just been with two rotating potlucks this past week, my spirit is strengthened to gather around the table with brethren and fellowship together—what a joy! These times together with brethren we may not necessarily meet or visit with on a regular basis are so precious; it truly is a blessing in our church!

We rejoice to bring two more dear souls into the fold. They are Bro. Michael Rebbec (Bro. Marty and Sis. Patti) and Bro. Todd Hinrichsen (Bro. Mark and Sis. Sue). They gave their testimony of faith and were baptized on September 10.

We witnessed the sacred wedding vows of Bro. John Koehler to Sis. Lisa Sauder on September 17. Their parents are Alan and Cyd Koehler and Bro. Bob and Sis. Jan Sauder. We pray our Heavenly Father will keep them close to Him and each other each day of their lives.

We join together to thank our visiting ministers: Bros. Steve Ringger (Bluffton North, IN), Wil Schieler (Milford, IN) and Frederick Knapp (Congerville, IL). Bro. Marvin Dotterer (Forrest, IL) presented our topical Bible study on "Strangers and Pilgrims".

Funeral services were held August 29 and 30 for our Sisters Marian Blunier and Mary Leman. Sis. Marian has three sons and four daughters. Walter (Faye) and Judy (Daniel) Magnuson attend the Roanoke church.

Sis. Mary leaves three brothers, Bro. Joe, Bro. Irvin and Bro. Wilmer (Sis. Lavina). Both of these dear sisters have been afflicted in their physical bodies and we are thankful they have the precious promise of a new body. Also, Bro. Mark and Ron

Hinrichsen in our congregation, bid farewell to their dad, Bro. Hans, who passed into eternity on September 2. May God comfort these loved ones in their loss.

We rejoice with first-time parents, Bro. Chad and Sis. Kristy Kaeb, in the birth of their daughter, Kelsey Ann, on May 18. Bro. Dick and Sis. Ann Hoffman are Kelsey's grandparents. Bro. Norm and Sis. Jan Reckhammer are thankful grandparents to Lydia Ruth Echman, born August 22 to Troy and Jennifer. Also, Bro. Rod and Sis. Teresa Blunier and Nicole and Sean welcome Seth Eric on August 31. Grandparents are Walter and Faye Blunier. And finally, Bro. Dennis and Sis. Rita Schwind welcome Jason Thomas, who was born September 7. Happy siblings are Laura, Tim and Kristin, and grandparents are Bro. Marvin and Sis. Ila Pfister and Bro. Walt and Sis. Mary Schwind.

The wedding engagement of our Bro. Drew Leman to Sis. Amanda Zimmerman of Morton was announced September 17. Parents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Jeannie Leman and Bro. Mike and Sis. Sue Zimmerman (Morton, IL). May God direct them as they begin their life together.

We also pray God will direct our Sis. Tina Leman who has relocated in Chicago with her work. Her presence and personality is missed and she was also a Sunday School teacher, but we know she can be a blessing wherever God leads her and look forward to the times (which we hope are many!) that she comes home to visit.

We are thankful for the opportunity to listen to the Brotherhood Conference tapes. One can certainly feel how the power of the Holy Spirit was with the brethren who stood to speak, and it truly has been encouraging, inspiring and chastising to listen to. May our Heavenly Father bless each one who labored for this

most holy occasion.

Finally, our Sis. Mary Lou (Bro. Lyle) Martin would like to express her thankfulness and appreciation for all the labors of love she has received since her knee surgery. She expresses that the prayers have proven to be the best thing for her recovery. Truly this is a testimony of the power of prayer and may we be encouraged to make that our first tool to use to fight Satan, and not our last!

ILLINOIS, TREMONT

Heather Rassi

LaVonne Wagenbach

We were blessed with ministering Bros. Tom Troxel (LaCrosse, IN) and Paul Zimmerman (Forrest, IL) this month. We appreciate and thank these brothers for sharing God's Word with us.

Returning to their home congregation in Tremont from four years of service in our Tokyo, Japan, church are Bro. Andy, Sis. Chris, Ben and Drew Aberle. We welcome you back with open arms.

Rejoicing over the birth of their son are parents, Joe and Tina Reinbeck. Lucas Martin was welcomed home by his sister, Ashley, on August 28. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Larry and Sis. Barb Reinbeck and Bob and Carla Jones.

Sis. Lynnette Menold (Bro. Ron) is in our prayers as she spent time in the hospital recently. May God restore her unto good health.

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

Sue Ruppert

Denise Romersberger

"A wholesome tongue is a tree of life: but perverseness therein is a breach in the spirit."

Proverbs 15:4

A favorite poem by Emily

Dickenson states: "A word is dead when it is said, some say. I say it just begins to live that day." It's not true that sticks and stones will break my bones, but words will never hurt us. Words can cause pain that is deeper and more lasting than a physical injury.

On a day when everything is going wrong—the car won't start, your hair looks terrible, you have a fight with a loved one, and you're late for work—a loving word from a friend can make everything seem all right.

Words are important. They express our ideas, show our feelings, and help communicate what's on our mind. They can be helpful or hurtful. We need to watch our idle talk. We may not think we are gossiping, but we may be hurting someone terribly by passing on what we hear. There is no way to take back our words once they are said, so be careful what you say.

Jesus healed with a word. His words are important in Scripture. They were always kind and loving to those in need. As we become mirrors of God's love, our words will be the same. This is just one way we share the good news of our salvation.

Lord God, thank Thee for Thy kindness to us, for Thy love and forgiveness. Make us mirrors of Thy love to others, and let them see the Spirit in our lives.

Once again, we were blessed to have several visiting ministers in our midst to help share the Gospel of Christ. They were Elder Bro. Phil Stettner (Bluffton North, IN), and Bros. Doug Wagenbach (San Diego, CA), James Ramseyer (Bay City, MI), Ken Weerts (Cissna Park, IL), Greg Lehman (Wolcott, IN) and Brian Huber (Francesville, IN). Thank you, brothers, for all of your time and effort in coming to our congregation and serving us. Thank you, wives, for coming along to support your husbands in their efforts.

Hospitalized this month was Sis. Gina Martin who underwent surgery. We pray for healing and a quick recovery for Gina. May the Lord be with her.

Our deepest sympathy goes out to our dear Sis. Pam Messner and her family in the loss of her mother, Sis. Lucille Frank, from Leo, IN. How comforting to know that her loved one is with the Lord. As God's Word says, "To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord."

We would like to welcome in our midst Hudson Edward Gomez, the new son of Bro. Luis and Sis. Cindy Gomez. He was born August 20 and was welcomed home by brother, Elliott, and sister, Elizabeth.

Sis. Pam Huber was united in marriage to Bro. Elliot Yudenfriend on August 20. Parents of the bride and groom are Sis. Carol Huber (Francesville, IN) and Shirley Yudenfriend from Atlanta, GA. We wish God's richest blessings on their new life together and may they have many years to enjoy each other's company. May the Lord be the center of their marriage and be their constant guide.

Two souls found salvation in the Saviour and were baptized. They were Heather Messner (Elder Bro. Ron and Sis. Pam) and Rob Mooney (Robert and Judy, Tremont). God will go with you as you go out to live your lives for Him.

Sis. Abbey Steffen (Bro. Keith and Sis. Cathy) and Bro. Jeff Kaufman (Bro. Jeff and Sis. Rhonda) of Morton celebrated the announcement of their engagement. We pray for them and wish them God's blessings.

We wish to extend our deepest sympathy to Bro. Mark and Sis. Tammy Herrmann in the loss of Tammy's mother, Margie Jensen, from Eureka. She passed away on September 12. May God give you grace and uphold you in days ahead

as you deal with your loss.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON
Beth Aschliman
Tonia Isch

"Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment."

I Corinthians 1:10

Our dear Elder Bro. Ed Schwartz came home from the Elder Conference sharing with the church what a unifying, blessed Conference it was. We, as a church, are so thankful for all of our Elders and need to remember to uphold them in prayer.

We are happy to have five new converts this month and we are rejoicing with the angels. They are Jason Fiechter (Bro. David and Sis. June), Brad Bertsch (Bro. Mike and Sis. Carmen), Kurt Fiechter (Bro. Rick and Sis. Beth), Mitch Aschliman (Bro. Kevin and Sis. Beth) and Tamara Reamer. They are in our prayers as they seek their peace.

Announced for peace and ready for baptisms are Bethany Neuenschwander (Bro. Terry and Sis. Jean), Travis Frauhiger (Bro. Kris and Sis. Ann), Jameson Ringger (Bro. Kendall and Sis. Sandy), Matthew Reinhard (Bro. Gene and Sis. Darlene), Jason Klopfenstein (Bro. John and Sis. Linda) and Ryan Donaghy. They will be taken up in two groups. We are looking forward to two blessed weekends.

Sis. Brandy Ringger (Bro. Kendall and Sis. Sandy) and Bro. Vince Pfister (Al and Becky) have announced their upcoming wedding. Believing it is the Lord's will for their lives, we wish them God's

blessings as they prepare for their future together.

We are saddened by the death of Glenna Ross. She was the mother of Sis. Sally Schwartz (Bro. Lester). Also passing away this month was Larry K. Gerber. Our hearts go out to both families.

Spending time in the hospital this month was Dave Hill (Nancy), Bro. Roy Reinhard (Sis. Vergene) and Bro. John Neuenschwander (Sis. Irene). They are in our thoughts and prayers.

We want to thank Bro. Hartzell Kaisner (Sis. Mary, Detroit, MI) and Bro. Doyle Frauhiger (Sis. Jane, Bluffton North) for sharing God's Word and instruction with us. May God richly bless them both for sharing themselves with us.

Our Bluffton church is giving specific prayerful support to Bro. Eric and Sis. Rhonda Tonner and their daughter, Sis. Beth, as they have left for Haiti for a year. Although we will miss them, we are thankful they are willing to answer God's call and help our World Relief project and those in need so willingly. May God be with them.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON
NORTH
Rhonda Maller
Ann Meyer

What a friend we have in Jesus
 All our sins and griefs to bear!
 What a privilege to carry
 Everything to God in prayer!

Hymns of Zion #161

We rejoice that Brittany Aschliman (Bro. Kelly and Sis. Lisa) has given her heart and life to Jesus Christ. May she experience the joy of having Jesus as her best friend.

It's always a special weekend when you get to hear the testimonies of young people that left the "world"

behind to join the family of God. On September 10 were the baptisms of Sis. Natasha Gilgen (Bro. Gene and Sis. Melinda), Sis. Janelle Steffen (Bro. Keith and Sis. Kay), Bro. Jesse Frauhiger (Bro. Steve and Sis. Irene), Bro. Nathan Mueller (Bro. Dave and Sis. Terri) and Jon Ringger (Bro. Steve and Sis. Myra). We appreciated Elder Bro. Ed Schwartz coming to assist in the weekend and also the messages from Bro. Jim Rinkenberger and Bro. Mark Gerber, all of Bluffton.

We have many bundles of joy to report. Bro. Aaron and Sis. Jaila Taylor were blessed with a son, Joseph Aaron, on September 8. Brother Avery and grandparents, Bro. Neil and Sis. Karen Gerber, welcome him. Also Mick and Kristen Meyer are the parents of precious Allyson Kozette born July 22. She is adored by brother, Clay, and great-grandma, Sis. Evelyn Meyer. Another son, Luke Taylor, arrived July 27 to Bro. Ben and Sis. Jaime Maller and brother, Brant. Grandparents are Bro. Ed and Sis. Rhonda Maller and Bro. Jack and Sis. Diane Schwartz (Bluffton). Arriving clear from China is the new granddaughter of Bro. Jay and Sis. Dot Kipfer. Kait Si Quin was born May 10, 1999, and recently joined her loving new family, Franchon and Gloria (Kipfer) Smithson and Kellen. Al and Becky Pfister were also blessed with a new granddaughter, Julianne Marie, born September 12. Her family includes Joe and Andria Detweiler and sisters, Janae and Josie. May God grant extra wisdom and grace to these parents to raise their little ones up to glorify and serve the Lord someday.

Al and Becky Pfister will also be gaining a new daughter into their family as their son, Bro. Vince Pfister, became engaged to Sis. Brandy Ringger (Bro. Kendall and Sis. Sandy, Bluffton). The engage-

ment of Bro. Travis Bussel (Bro. Dave and Sis. Cathy) to Sis. Missy Frieden of Leo, IN, was also announced. Her parents are Bro. Jeff and Sis. Deb Frieden of Lamont-Gridley, KS. We wish God's richest blessings on these couples as they prepare for their new lives together.

We're thankful that Sheena Milholland (Rob and Sis. Tonya Troxel) is feeling better after spending several days in the hospital.

We will be missing two dear sisters in our congregation that have passed on to their heavenly reward. One was Sis. Lucile Frank, who came to live at Christian Care Home in Bluffton, from Leo, to be near her daughter, Sis. Maureen Stettner (Elder Bro. Phil). We enjoyed her sweet spirit at church. Our sympathy extends to her family, including her other daughters, Sis. Norma Schambach (Bro. Stan, Elgin, IL) and Sis. Pam Messner (Elder Bro. Ron, Washington, IL).

Our Sis. Dorothy Schladenhauffen had a long battle until the Lord quietly took her Home. Her husband, Bro. Harold, was so faithful by her side. She will be greatly missed by her children, Sis. Mary Dean Meade (Bro. Mike) and Susan Rauch (Mike), both of Bluffton, and Joan Parrott (Mark) of Indianapolis.

Our Young Group of members from both Bluffton churches held a benefit supper for the Ryan Steffen family to help with the great expenses while Ryan continues therapy for his short-term memory. It was a memorable night for all that came and very special. It was a huge project for the Young Group, but God truly blessed their efforts!

If you would like to encourage Ryan Steffen (Bro. Keith and Sis. Kay) who is 16 years old and was injured severely last May, write his address:

Ryan Steffen #1440

Indiana Neuro
Restorative Center
1500 N. Ritter Ave.
Indianapolis, IN 46219

INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE Pam Huber

"For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory;"

II Cor. 4:17

Our Bro. Ben Metz was honored at a reception held in appreciation for his 16 years of faithful work as administrator at Parkview Haven Retirement Home in Francesville. May the Lord continue to bless him for his work on behalf of the elderly. We also wish Bro. Steve Stoller well as he steps into this new position.

Baby Taylor Marie was born to Brandon and Rosa Wuethrich on September 12 and welcomed home by brother, Tanner. Grandparents are Bro. Rick and Sis. Judy Wuethrich and Jose and Kathy Mojica. May the Lord bless their family as He promises to "...gently lead those that are with young." (Isaiah 40:11)

Prayer is needed for our Sis. Catherine Neihouser and Sis. Jane Nuest as they have both been hospitalized this past month. May God give them the strength to follow as He leads. "But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us." (II Cor. 4:7)

Thanks to Bros. Jim Rinkenberger (Bluffton, IN) and Garry Bucher (Valparaiso, IN) for lending themselves to God's Spirit and sharing with us His precious Word this past month. It is always a blessing to have visitors with us and we appreciate the effort we know it takes to be away from home.

INDIANA INDIANAPOLIS Gail Bradford

We all feel the loss, along with Bro. Ron Bollier, Sis. Edie and their children, at the passing of his mother, Sis. Velma Bollier (Bro. John). We always enjoyed it when they came to Indianapolis. For many years Bro. John helped on the pulpit. We will miss Sis. Velma's friendly countenance and loving ways. We hope that Bro. John will continue to visit. What a comfort for all of us to know that Sis. Velma rests in the arms of Jesus and that we will meet again!

We are praying that Sis. Norma Zeller (Morton, IL), Bro. Eric Zeller's mother, recovers quickly from surgery. Our prayers go out to her.

We welcome to Indianapolis Sis. Janelle Ramseyer who has taken a position in Indianapolis. We also welcome Sis. Rachel Bahler who is here studying dental hygiene.

We are pleased that Bro. John Mayer (Sis. Edye) feels well enough to attend church. We pray that he continues to gain strength.

Everyone, young and young-at-heart, enjoyed good fellowship and tasty food at our annual Sunday School picnic, held indoors because of rain! No one complained!

Our young people also traveled to "Camp Mac" this month. We appreciate the numerous opportunities our children have for fellowship.

Bro. Sam Schlatter (Sis. Linda, Junction, OH) visited us this month. It seems that often when only one "home" minister is present, visiting ministers arrive to share the pulpit. Our Lord certainly provides for us!

Everyone enjoys spreading good news. This is especially so when we are sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ. We invite interested mem-

bers and friends to join the Indianapolis congregation on October 28-29 for fall "outreach" projects. Our objective is to do good and share the gospel. Some of the places we plan to visit include nursing homes, boys' and girls' schools, and individuals in need. Registration begins at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, October 28, at the church. Please contact Bro. Chris Frauhiger for additional information.

September is a time for new beginnings. Our children began or returned to college, or started new jobs. May the Lord watch over them, and may they experience the sure knowledge of His love and protection while they are away from home.

INDIANA, LACROSSE Jeremy and Natalie Freed

Faith, Hope, and Love
FAITH sees beyond the grave,
A home of rest;
And whispers in the gloom,
"God's will is best."
HOPE, like a shining star,
Brightens life's way;
Gives courage to the faint,
From day to day.
LOVE, greatest gift of all,
Calms ev'ry fear;
Makes all our burdens light,
Brings Heaven near.
—by an invalid

New Sunday School teachers are Sis. Julie Rocke, Bro. Glen Gudeman and Bro. Calvin Schneider. May they be endowed with heavenly wisdom in their endeavor to teach the Word to our young.

We were privileged to host a Labor Day gathering of young members from churches across the land. Lord willing, we look forward to hosting the Over-25 Singles Weekend on October 28-29 for more blessed fellowship.

On September 8, Jennifer Massner (Bro. Randy and MaryLynn) was united in marriage to Anthony Markus of Valparaiso. May the Lord bless them as they start a new home with little Jorrie.

As another of our dear members, Bro. Lynn Feller (Sis. Mary Ann), has passed on, we feel the loss and extend sincere sympathies to Sis. Mary Ann and the family.

Note of Thanks:

We would like to thank everyone for their love and prayers throughout Lynn's illness, and then shown to our family the many cards, flowers, gifts, calls and expressions of love since the death of our loved one. May God richly bless each one.

Mary Ann
Randy and MaryLynn
Tom and LuAnn
Joe and Jackie
Bob and Marcia
Bill and Stacey

INDIANA, LEO Ethelyn Schlatter

Many visitors stayed for Sunday, following Gateway Woods auction, including Bro. Wally Ramsier (Mansfield, OH) who ministered from the Word. On a Wednesday evening, Elder Bro. Phil Stettner (Bluffton North, IN) exhorted us to faithfulness and to not stray from the narrow path after reading II Cor. 13.

August 27 was a special day for all of us, but especially for Bro. Steve, Sis. Linda Schrenk, Bro. Tyler Stieglitz and Sis. Emily Blunier when they were baptized and became our brothers and sisters. They gave their testimonies Saturday evening before a large body of believers. Elder Bros. Aaron Steffen (Alto, MI) and William Schlatter (Junction, OH) conducted services both days. There were a total of ten visiting

ministers with us during the weekend. Bros. Tom Schrenk (Athens, AL) and Don Manz (Junction, OH) also ministered on Sunday. "Blessed, holy is the hour, when we, Saviour, come to Thee." Other visiting ministers were Bros. Jim Ramseyer (Bay City, MI) and Mark Streitmatter (Bloomington, IL). God speaks through any of our brothers who are yielded to the Holy Spirit, but how we appreciate the effort of those who visit. May they receive blessings from the Lord.

Sis. Sarah Rumbold will be leaving for Chicago, IL. It was a joy to have her worship with us the past two months as she pursued her internship in physical therapy at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne, IN.

Bro. Dana and Sis. Kim Plattner welcomed a little girl, Brooke Elizabeth, on August 23. Her brother is Taylor and grandparents are Bro. Dan and Sis. Jayne Plattner (Goodfield, IL) and Bro. Skip and Sis. Pat Meister (Peoria, IL). We wish them the Lord's blessings on their little family.

Sis. Lucile Frank, 89, was called Home by her Lord on September 1, at Caylor-Nickel Medical Center, Bluffton. She had been living at Christian Care Community in Bluffton, IN, since her move from Fort Wayne. Surviving are daughters, Sis. Maureen Stettner (Elder Bro. Phil, Bluffton North), Sis. Norma Schambach (Bro. Stan, Elgin, IL) and Sis. Pam Messner (Elder Bro. Ron, Washington, IL). A sister, Sis. Helen Maxfield (Leo, IN), and brother, Richard Klopfenstein (Huntington, IN), nine grandchildren and five great-grandchildren also survive. Sis. Lucile attended the Leo church many years. Her husband, Bro. Maurice, who ministered at Leo, preceded her in death; also a son, Norman, and brothers, Bro. Bill and Glenn Klopfenstein.

Sis. Velma Bollier, 74, went to her

Heavenly Home on September 4. She was with her entire family for their traditional Labor Day weekend. Following Sunday evening dinner, she became very weak. The family sang and prayed together before she died on Monday morning. Services were held September 7. Surviving are her husband, Bro. John, sons, Steve, Phil and Jim (Leo, IN), Gary (Wheaton, IL), and Bro. Ron of Indianapolis, IN. Sisters, Sis. Marie Bertsch (Bro. David), Sis. Katherine Norr, 20 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren also survive. May the families of these two dear sisters feel God's comforting Spirit.

"...for whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God."

Ruth 1:16

Bro. Lynn Stieglitz encouraged Bro. Matt Wirtz and Sis. Danielle Stickling during their marriage ceremony from the Book of Ruth, to be steadfast. They became one in the Lord on September 17. Bro. John Stoller took their vows. Our prayer is their life and home will portray the beauty found in the book of Ruth.

September 17 was also a happy day for Sis. Melissa Frieden whose engagement to Bro. Travis Bussel was made known. Congratulations! Sis. Melissa's parents are Bro. Jeffrey and Sis. Debbie Frieden (Lamont-Gridley, KS) and his parents are Bro. David and Sis. Cathy Bussel (Bluffton North, IN).

Our prayers are with Bro. Jeff Fritz as he slowly recovers following a period of hospitalization for medical problems. Sis. Rachel Fessenden and Sis. Helen Zimmer also need prayer for medical conditions.

"...God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no

more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain, for the former things are passed away."

Rev. 21:4

How precious are His promises!

INDIANA, MILFORD

Pam Beer

Marguerite Hoerr

Bro. Lynn Feller and Sis. Mary Ann were always welcome visitors in the Milford church when they would come to see their son and family, Bro. Bill, Sis. Stacey, Michael and Olivia. We were saddened as we learned of his illness and many prayers were offered in his behalf. We extend our deepest sympathy to Bill and Stacy and to Sis. Mary Ann and the rest of his family, because Bro. Lynn has now gone to meet his Lord and has left his earthly home. We know happy memories of good family times will sustain them as they lean on the Heavenly Father to adjust to having him gone from the family circle.

Our dear Sis. Marie Reuter went Home to be with her Lord on September 16. Sis. Marie has been a fixture in our congregation for so many years. She reached the age of 103. She made her home for the past several years at Lakeland Rehabilitation Center near our church home. For so many years she served our members by setting the dining room tables for whomever served the lunch that Sunday. Each cup and saucer was set so meticulously in place. What a pleasure it was to enter the dining room early on a Sunday morning to find each table set and ready. Surviving are two stepdaughters and two stepsons and many nieces and nephews. Sis. Marie and my parents rode to church together for many years. They were good friends and can now commune with

each other in their Heavenly Home.

How we rejoice when we learn another one of our special friends have given their heart to the Lord. Angie Beer (Bro. Fred and Sis. Pat) made that decision in this past month. Angie graduated from high school this past spring and is now a student at Purdue University. Every heart feels lifted when news like this is spread.

We had a banner Sunday recently and were thankful when four ministers and their wives and families visited our congregation. They were Bros. Ben Manz (Sis. Carolyn, Junction, OH), Wayne Grimm (Sis. Rose, West Bend, IA), Gary Tonner (Sis. Diann, Bluffton, IN) and Scott Schafer (Sis. Gigi, South Bend, IN). We were blessed by their presence and by the sermons offered and by the topical Bible Study conducted by Bro. Wayne on Saturday evening.

Youth Day at Camp Alexander Mack was held during the month of September. This is an annual occasion and blesses the young people who come from far and near. Many folks remember attending Sunday School classes there and being touched by the Word in sermons, lessons and songs, as they sat among the beautiful pines and hardwoods which are part of the camp.

INDIANA, REMINGTON

Beth Virkler

Rochelle Ward

Moving here from Bern, KS, we heartily welcome Bro. Chris and Sis. Jill Hartter, Ethan and Emily to our church family. Their address and phone is: 307 N. Indiana Street, Remington, IN 47977, (219) 261-3347. This reminds me of a story from my childhood. I had a teacher in high school for whom I babysat quite often. He asked many questions about our faith and as I explained to him the structure of our services,

and the similar customs and traditions that existed from church to church, he exclaimed, "You mean when any family moves to another church, they have a church family awaiting them with all the familiar traditions and customs to enjoy and provide structure to their new, unfamiliar lives?" He was astounded as he had moved his little family around several times and couldn't imagine experiencing such support during those first, chaotic months after moving. I never forgot his comment as it so deepened my appreciation for how our forefathers established our national fellowship structure to benefit the body of Christ so comprehensively.

We rejoice that Jared Steffen (Bro. Roger and Sis. Vicki) answered the call of the Lord upon his life several weeks after starting his freshman year in college.

Elder Bros. Ray Sinn (Latty, OH) and Joe Stoller (Princeville, IL) shared the Gospel together with us.

Lost and Found: A gray suit coat was left in our men's coatroom this summer. It's a Ralph Lauren, size 41R. Please call (219) 261-2423 to claim.

INDIANA, SOUTH BEND

**Lavilla Langhofer
DeAnn Schlatter**

"To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven...A time to weep, and a time to laugh." Bro. Bradley Langhofer was taken up in baptism on August 27. Elder Bros. Jesse Beer (Milford, IN) and Wendell Gudeman (Francesville, IN) and Bro. Howard Plattner (Alto, MI) shared in the blessed weekend.

"A time to be born..." A little blessing, Ireland Eve, was born to Mark and Julie Beebe on September 15. We rejoice with grandparents, Bro. Bob and Sis. Sue Beebe, Sis. Di-

ane Kellenberger (Morris) and Mark Kellenberger.

"A time to build up..." We thank Bro. Ron and Sis. Kayleen Heiniger (Bloomington, IL) for sharing God's message with us.

"A time to plant..." Camp Mack was a blessing for our young people, and we pray God will provide a harvest from the seeds that have been sown.

"A time to mourn..." Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Shirley Lehman on the passing of her sister, Luella Clark. May God comfort you as only He can.

"A time to heal..." Bro. Wayne Lehman wishes to express his thanks to family, relatives and friends for their cards, visits and prayers before and after his hip surgery. May God bless each and every one.

INDIANA, VALPARAISO

Hope Bucher

We want to thank the visitors that have attended church with us this past month. We always enjoy having visiting families and friends with us.

Our children are back in Sunday School now and several have already enjoyed special Sunday School outings. Francesville church hosted Jr. High Fellowship Day for several of the area Jr. High students. They enjoyed a day of Bible lessons, games and meeting new friends. Our High Schoolers also had the opportunity to attend Camp Mack this past weekend.

Bro. Roy Frieden was hospitalized for a few days. We are thankful that he was able to return to Parkview Haven this past week. We continue to keep him and his wife, Sis. Aldene, in our prayers.

INDIANA, WOLCOTT

Beckie Lehman Mary Beth Lehman

"O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together."

Psalm 34:3

Our prayers are with Bro. Nick Waibel (Bro. Gerry and Sis. Marcia) and Sis. Sandra Gutwein (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Janice) of Francesville as they prepare to join as one and serve God together. What a blessing to have a relationship with Christ in the center.

Harvest is fully under way and fall is in the air. We pray for God's care and protection over the farmers as they put in many long hours reaping what was sown.

IOWA, BURLINGTON

**Karla Gerst
Brenda Schulz**

We were blessed to have ministering Bro. Paul Gasser (Akron, OH) with us this past month. We much appreciated his efforts and may God richly bless him. We were also happy to have our Elder Bro. Ed Lanz (Oakville, IA) come down to visit us. May we all strive to uphold and support our Elders and ministers so their burdens can be a little lighter.

IOWA, ELGIN

**Gloria Frieden
Heidi Butikofer**

Life is full of changes. Some we welcome and some we just accept as God's will.

Currently our weather is changing from the warm summer days to the cooler autumn climate. While we know that the much colder winter months are soon to come, we enjoy the beauty of the colored leaves that comes with the fall season.

Two of our families are thankful for the safe arrival of additions to their family circles.

On August 29, Lance Christian came to bless the home of Tom and Darla Butikofer. Sydney, Valarie and Luke are happy for a new brother. Grandparents for Lance are Bro. Al and Sis. LaVerne Butikofer and Paul and Bertha Schuchmann.

September 12 was the date of arrival for Clayton Robert Schupbach (Bro. John and Sis. Janet). Clayton's siblings are Jill, Bro. Greg (Sis. Gwen, West Bend), Nathan, Kent, Sis. Darla, Sis. Abby and Michael. Sis. Rose Steiner (Oakville, IA) and George Schupbach are Clayton's grandparents.

With these precious blessings come changes and added responsibilities. May God grant the parents much grace and wisdom as they guide these little souls.

While we rejoice with these families as they welcome their new additions, we also weep with the parents (Gene and Julie) and siblings (Heather, Wesley, Jessica, Joshua, Rebecca and Brandon) of Jeremiah Moore who was recently called from this life at the young age of sixteen. May God grant the needed grace to trust in His perfect will and timing. What a comfort to know that God doesn't make mistakes.

In these changing times we are thankful for the care and concern of our Elder body for their flocks, and for the admonishments, encouragements and directions we can receive as we listen to the Conference tapes.

May we be thankful that our God is unchanging... "Fear not me, saith the Lord of hosts. For I am the Lord. I change not." (Malachi 3:5-6)

In closing, we would like to share some thoughts that came forth as we recently shared the 14th chapter of St. John.

"Heaven is a prepared place for prepared people" and the BIBLE is "Basic Information Before Leaving Earth".

IOWA, GARDEN GROVE

Willa Clark

At the time of this writing, harvest is just beginning in southern Iowa. It is an early harvest, and seems to have come upon us suddenly. An early spring meant early crops, but August and September weeks of hot dry winds have further hastened the ripening. Some crops may not have been at their fullest potential, others may be abundant, but the end has come and they will be harvested just as they are.

What about our spiritual harvest? Are we ready if the autumn winds of life should come earlier than expected, and hasten the end of our lives? Are you ready for God's harvest, no matter when it may come? We, too, will be "harvested just as we are" whether or not we are ready to meet our Maker.

We are listening to the tapes of the Conference on Wednesday evenings. It is always encouraging to hear the care and concern the Elder brothers have for us.

We have been enriched by the visits of ministering Bros. Paul Schmidgall (Morris, MN) and Clark Stoller (Gridley, IL). We also enjoyed visits of other brethren and friends. The treasure we have in the fellowship of likeminded brethren is richer than pearls and gold.

Our hearts go out to Bro. Glenn and Sis. Sally Funk (Wichita, KS) and their family, and to Sis. Eileen Funk of our congregation, at the loss of Sally's dear mother and Eileen's aunt, Sis. Gussie Wullschleger. Glenn and Sally spent several years in our Garden Grove church and are very dear to us. May they find comfort in the anticipation of a glorious reunion in Heaven.

IOWA, IOWA CITY

Janette Schulz

Greetings to all! We extend our sincere thanks to all of our visitors this month, including ministering Bros. Walt Herrmann (Princeville, IL) and Kent Getz (Elgin, IA). May God richly bless all who willingly travel to worship with us.

The past few Sundays the younger Sunday School students have had a "one room school" and learned more about the disciples. We thank those who helped with our Vacation Sunday School and pray for God's wisdom and grace as the new teachers begin a new year.

After a few hot, humid weeks, we look forward to the refreshing coolness of fall and the accompanying color show it brings. We pray for the safety of those involved with the harvest. Due to weeks of hot, dry weather and then a storm with high winds, many of the area farmers found what should have been a bumper crop flattened. Much of the precious yield was on the ground where even the most expensive harvest machinery could not gather it. May we watch and pray so that no worldly storm can rob us of our spiritual harvest during the eleventh hour.

Through listening to the Conference tapes, we have been encouraged to keep our eyes on Heaven that we may be an overcomer. May the promises in the Word motivate us to pick up the Cross and daily follow Jesus, for each day we are closer to Home!

Springs in the Valley

"For here have we no continuing city, but we seek one to come" (Hebrews 13:14)

A great world conqueror was leading his victorious army back to Italy—and home. Onward they marched over rivers and plains, and through wooded forests until they reached the foothills of the towering

Alps. Here the thinning ranks of the worn and tired soldiers began to falter as they trudged on over the rocky defiles of the mighty mountain passes. As they climbed higher and still higher, the blinding snow and storms well nigh discouraged the stoutest hearts. Stopping on an eminence where he could overlook all his men and be heard by them, and pointing upward across the mighty barrier, the great general shouted, "Men, beyond those Alps lies Italy!"

Italy! Waving fields, beautiful orchards, sparkling fountains! Mothers and fathers, wives and children, sweethearts! Home! Ah, sweet home!

Fainting hearts revived. Tired muscles found new strength. Onward and upward that brave army pressed against every obstacle—and won! They reached home.

Another scene. All over the world are members of Prince Emmanuel's army. Many have won decisive battles with the enemy, great victories over sin. They have struggled along life's rugged highway, and many have become worn and weary in the conflict. Long have they marched, homeward bound. But now they have reached great mountains of difficulties, strifes, wars, threatened dissolution of all social and moral standards—the mighty Alps on the stream of time. To this vast army their Captain shouts, "Christian soldiers, beyond these mountains of difficulty lies Home!"

Heaven! Waving fields of living green, kingly forests with never-fading foliage, sparkling fountains! The tree of life, and the river of life! Long-lost friends, mothers and fathers, brothers and sisters, husbands, wives, children, loved ones! Thank God, we are nearing our heavenly home!

IOWA, LESTER

Dawn Metzger Sue Warner

It is harvest time again and how thankful we are for the bounty of God's blessings. We are also so fortunate to be freely fed from God's Word across our pulpit, and appreciate the labors of our ministering brethren. Visiting ministers include Elder Bro. Art Nohl (Morris, MN), Bros. Darren Fehr, Wayne Grimm, and Pat Zaugg (West Bend, IA), Bro. Brad Funk (Garden Grove, IA), and Bro. Virgil Metzger (Chicago, IL). May God bless them and their families.

On August 27, Sis. Angie Warner (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Esther) exchanged marriage vows with Bro. Jason Fehr (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Judy), West Bend, IA. We pray that God will bless them as they seek to serve Him together.

We rejoice with three couples whom God has led together by faith. Betrothed are Bro. Thadd Knobloch (Bro. Roger and Sis. Janet) to Sis. Wendy Mogler (Bro. Howard and Sis. Lollie), Sis. Melissa VanWyhe (Bro. Pete and Sis. Susan) to Bro. Isaac Rinkenberger (Bro. Jake and Sis. Glenna) of Congerville, IL, and Bro. Benji Kellenberger (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Shirley) to Sis. Leah Messner (Bro. Sid and Sis. Cheryl) of Morris, MN. May they feel God's nearness as they plan for their weddings.

We are thankful to hear that Abby Metzger (Bro. Mark and Sis. Audrey) feels she is at peace with God and man. Our prayers continue with her as she awaits her proving and baptism.

Bro. Phil Nenadov has felt a leading to return to the Minneapolis area. We wish him God's blessings.

Sis. Amy Wirtz (Bro. Jim and Sis. Joan) of West Bend, IA, is now living in our area. We are glad to have her in our midst and hope she will feel welcome here.

Along with the abundance of blessings we enjoy, we also have sorrow in our midst as we "weep with those who weep".

We extend sympathy to Bro. Willie Knobloch (Sis. Helen), Sis. Emma and Sis. Paulina Knobloch, and Lydia Moser on the death of their brother, Bro. Ben Knobloch of Eureka, IL.

We are mindful of those in our midst who have suffered bodily affliction or have grievous illnesses. Clara Knobloch was a hospital patient. Liz Wulf (Emil) continues to battle with cancer. She is now residing at Fellowship Village in Inwood, IA. We are thankful that Leah Doorneweerd (Dick) is done with her treatments for cancer and is back at work. Sis. Iola Knobloch was involved in a car accident. We are thankful to have her in our midst and that her life was spared. May God be near and comfort all those who have crosses and trials in this life.

IOWA, OAKVILLE Debbie Wagenbach Melody Steiner

Our sympathy and prayers are with the family of Bro. Ben Knobloch (Eureka, IL). Bro. Ben touched many lives the years he assembled with our congregation. May the Lord strengthen each one.

We are so thankful for our visiting ministers this past month. May the Lord continue to bless them and their families for their labors of love. They include: Bros. Andy Moser (Valparaiso, IN), Dan Stoller (Rockville, CT), Clark Stoller (Gridley, IL), Dale Wulf (Lester, IA), Paul Eisenmann (Burlington, IA), Steve Martin (Eureka, IL), Vernon Wettstein (Congerville, IL), Paul Messner (Winthrop, MN) and Rod Bajema (Lester, IA).

We would also like to thank Elder

Bros. Wayne Fehr (West Bend, IA) and Doug Schock (Pulaski, IA) for assisting Bro. Ed with the provings and baptisms of three dear souls. We welcome to the fold three new brothers: Randy Steiner (Bro. Tom and Sis. JoAnn), Brian Schmidgall (Bro. Jon and Sis. Julie) and Brent Frank (Bro. Dale and Sis. Tina). May the Lord continue to strengthen and guide these new little lambs.

IOWA, PULASKI
Katrina Knobloch

The past month we were blessed to have Bro. Kenny Knapp (Sis. Phyllis, Taylor, MO) share God's Word with us. We thank him for his labors on our behalf.

Bro. Harold and Sis. Mary Jane Knapp are thankful for the arrival of granddaughter, Morgan Elizabeth Knapp, born August 30. Brian, Karla and big brother Baxter welcome her home.

We thank Bro. Dale Schock (Sis. Teresa) and Sis. Lisa Knecht (Bro. Mike) for their efforts in teaching our Sunday School children. Their terms have ended and our prayers are with Bro. Lloyd Wettstein (Sis. Carol) and Sis. DeAnn Wuthrich (Bro. Roger) who have taken their places.

IOWA, WEST BEND
Eunice Fehr
Berniece Banwart

We appreciated having Bro. Jim Plattner (Sis. Marlene, Princeville, IL) spend a weekend with us. May God bless him for lending himself in preaching His precious Word.

We welcome Sis. Angela Warner to our congregation as she became the wife of Bro. Jason Fehr on August 27. Their parents are Elder Bro. Dennis and Sis. Esther Warner (Lester, IA) and Bro. Dennis and Sis. Judy Fehr. May they always look to

God for direction as they begin their married life together.

Happy to be grandparents again are Bob and Kay Banwart as their son, Bill, and wife, Rhonda, of Des Moines, welcomed Madison Paige on August 17. Bro. Matt and Sis. Rachel Fehr welcomed Annie Elizabeth on August 26. Loren is excited about his new sister, along with grandparents, Elder Bro. Wayne and Sis. Kathy Fehr and Bro. John and Sis. Paula Schmidt.

Bro. Art Schmidt received surgical care in the hospital due to a previous leg wound and is now recuperating at home. Bro. Lyle (Sis. Irene) Rick also spent some time in the hospital and is now back in the West Bend Care Center. Bro. Arnold (Sis. Alice) Metzger is now a resident of the West Bend Care Center. Our prayers are with these loved ones as they make these adjustments in their lives.

Many of us attended the Conference at Lester, IA, and then again heard the tapes on three Thursday evenings. It was such a blessing to hear the Elder brothers as they brought to our attention the many ways we can strive to uphold our precious faith. May we each do our part so that we can safely reach our heavenly goal.

Our sympathy is extended to Adolph and Jean Knobloch, as his brother, Bro. Ben Knobloch, Eureka, IL, passed away. May they feel the prayers of others as they mourn his death.

JAPAN, SHIODA
Akihiro Ito

Greetings from Shioda! Some brothers and sisters may expect to read my voice from the Silver Lining. I skipped writing owing to visiting the U.S. for two months. I came back here without any problem and I

started to serve the Lord in Shioda again. As you know, our church is so small that I have lots of things to do. As far as my trip is concerned, it was excellent and marvelous so that I couldn't help thanking our Lord. I visited several churches and houses. I would like to say special thanks to them for their hospitality, especially to Bro. Robert and Sis. Eleanor Pflederer, who let me stay all the time.

We are willing to welcome the following guests on their way to India: Elder Bro. John Klotzle and his wife, Sis. Lois; Elder Bro. Roy Grimm and his wife, Sis. Dona; Elder Bro. John Lehman and his wife, Sis. Connie; and Elder Bro. Mark Bahr. They plan to be with us at Shioda on Sunday, October 8. We are supposed to spend precious time with them. Those attending the Tokyo Church will be coming to Shioda in the late afternoon. We pray the Lord will give them a safe trip.

"Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh, it shall be opened."

Matthew 7:7-8

I had the experience to witness an older man's baptism in Morton, IL, last month. He was visiting there since he was young. We have only a few visitors who attend at Shioda every Sunday, not as many as most American churches do. But they are trying to know the truth and believe on Jesus Christ. We keep on sending our prayers. We pray for them that they start to repent some day before they die.

JAPAN, TOKYO

Jana Klaus

"After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands;..."

Revelation 7:9

Isn't this an incredible verse? Can we imagine such a happening? It is going to happen! I must admit, the meaning has definitely sunk into my mind much deeper since I have lived in another nation and worshipped with believers in another tongue. I don't want to miss out on this incredible event. "Lead me gently home, Father, lest I fall upon the wayside, lead me gently home." (Hymns of Zion #133).

Our dear Sis. Marie Inoue had to submit to surgery and a week long hospital stay. We are very thankful she seems to be recovering well and was back in church just a couple weeks later, much to our Japanese peoples' consternation—recovery periods tend to be much longer here in this country than what people practice in America.

We enjoyed meeting and visiting with Lester Huber from Lexington, KY, who was here on business with Toyota and came to our church on Sunday, September 17. He is the son of Bro. Lester and Sis. Glendoris from our church in Lexington, KY, so we enjoyed getting acquainted with him and hearing news from Kentucky!

Several in our congregation have taken trips overseas recently and have reported safe travels and nice times, for which we are thankful to the Lord. Sis. Onoda spent time in Holland as a special representative from her city in Japan which has a "sister city" in Holland. Sis. Urushino spent time with her

daughter in Canada who is there on a homestay. She was a little bit worried about having to speak English! Perhaps some other parents out there can relate with her feelings of "not quite keeping up with our children's ambitions!" Bro. Andrew Klaus had a business trip to India for the first time. One thing that stuck out to him was the modest dress of the women there. He was able to spend a night with his wife's (Sis. Jana) cousin, Mitch and Carolyn Leman and children, who are missionaries there, which was very special.

Speaking of India, we are all looking forward with great anticipation to the arrival of four of our church Elders and three of their wives to Japan on their way to India. This is planned for October 6-10, Lord willing.

Please continue to remember the Utsuki family in your prayers. Mother Utsuki was again hospitalized for failing health (she's over 90 years old) and it does take a toll on the family members. May the Lord be with us all.

KANSAS, BERN Lori Baumgartner

The fields are definitely "white already to harvest" in our rural community and harvest is well under way. The grain from the fields is quickly being stored away for future use, and in our homes our pantries and freezers are full of produce. We have much to thank our Father for.

"He who gathers not at harvest,
Will a beggar be at last.
Therefore rise today and labor,
Gathering 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

As we diligently perform our earthly tasks of harvesting, storing and preserving of the earth's bounty, may we each remember to "hasten gladly to the labor" of gathering up spiritual food for future use also. Only what is done for Christ will last into eternity!

We enjoyed a blessed weekend on August 26 and 27 as Tanya Rokey (Bro. Allen and Sis. Glenda) and Cara Hartter (Bro. Neil and Sis. Evelyn) testified that they were ready to bury their old sinful life and now live a life for Christ. We gladly welcome them as new sisters-in-faith.

We were privileged to have five visiting ministers with us the weekend of August 26 and 27. They were Elder Bro. Gerry Hertzell (Sabetha, KS), Bro. Max Reimschisel (Wichita, KS), Bro. Ted Hirstein (Morton, IL), Bro. Dean Steffen (Belvidere, IL), and Bro. David Sinn (Fort Scott, KS). We appreciated their labors on our behalf. May God bless each one.

When we asunder part. It gives
us inward pain.
But we shall still be joined in
heart,
And hope to meet again.
Hymns of Zion #156

With mixed emotions our church gathered at our Fellowship Center on Sunday evening, August 27, for a farewell singing for Bro. Chris and Sis. Jill Hartter and their children, Ethan and Emily. Although we will miss them, we wish them God's many blessings as they make their new home in Remington, IN. We look forward to their visits back.

The engagement of Sis. Rita Hartter (Sabetha, KS) and Bro. Trent Menold was made known to us on Sunday, September 3. Sis. Rita's

parents are Bro. Dennis and Sis. Beth (Sabetha, KS) and Bro. Trent's parents are Bro. Joe David and Sis. Kathy Rokey. We rejoice with them and wish them the Lord's blessings as they plan for their future together.

Hospitalized during the past month were Bro. Harvey Grimm (Sis. Marie), Bro. Dan Edelman, and Bro. Gordon Grimm (Shari). We are thankful for the Lord's healing touch.

The birth of a new little baby brings much joy as we are able to view first-hand God's miraculous handiwork. We are happy to report four new babies.

Cauy Joseph was born on September 6 to Eric and Jackie Rokey (Hutchinson, KS). We rejoice with his grandparents, Bro. Morris and Sis. Arlinda Rokey.

(On September 6, Bro. Larry and Sis. Jill Meyer were blessed with their second son, Trenton John. He has an older brother, Kyle. Trenton's grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Jeanne Dotterer (Eureka, IL) and Bro. James and Sis. Jeanne Meyer.

Bro. Mike and Sis. Diane Strahm were blessed with their third daughter, Shayna Lou, on September 13. She is welcomed home by two older sisters, Malerie and Michaela. Her grandparents are Bro. Alphonse and Sis. Mamie Strahm and Bro. James and Sis. Louise Menold.

We rejoice with Bro. Wayne and Sis. Claudia Strahm as another granddaughter has been added to their circle of grandchildren. Abigail Leigh was born on July 28 to Bro. Wayne and Sis. Camille Hartzler (Rittman, OH).

September 10 was Grandparents Day: a day to honor those special people in our lives. I cannot help but reflect on those beautiful memories I have of overnight stays, a harmonica playing hymns, singings, family

gatherings filled with love, and the list goes on and on. Each of us have unique memories of spending time with grandparents. We are so thankful for godly grandparents and the loving example that they portray to their grandchildren. They play a very important role in young lives!

KANSAS, FORT SCOTT **Joleen Sinn**

Our prayers are with Sis. Marie Zaugg as she has been released from the hospital and is residing at Medical Lodge gaining strength so she can move home again.

Many of us traveled to Bern to witness Sis. Cara Hartter's proving and baptism. As she is living at Fort Scott, it was a special time for us all.

As school starts, so do our regular midweek services. We start listening to the Conference tapes, then go into regular services. We thank God that we still have freedom of religion and can meet whenever we please.

KANSAS, KIOWA **Jennifer Stewart** **Laura Wagenbach**

Before school started, the Sunday school had one last great opportunity for fun in the sun. The Wichita Sunday School invited them for a weekend of canoeing, camping, and fellowship at the Illinois River near Tahlequah, OK. Many of the Sunday school students attended, as well as families and friends. Everyone had a wonderful, relaxing time together.

On August 2, E.O. and Kristen Flavell were blessed with their first bundle of joy. Brayden Leighton was born as a healthy baby boy. What a gift from Heaven! Grandparents of the new baby are Bro. Tom and Sis. Gary Farney.

We are always blessed when Elder Bro. John Lehman spends a Sunday among us. We thank him for

his time and encouragement for our spiritual lives.

Not now, but in the coming years,
It may be in the better land,
We'll read the meaning of our tears,
And there, sometime, we'll understand
Chorus: Then trust in God thro' all the days;
Fear not for He doth hold thy hand;
Tho dark thy way, still sing and praise,
Some time, some time, we'll understand.

Hymns of Zion #165

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to the family of John Farney on his passing. John was the son of Sis. Mildred and the late Bro. Ulysses Farney. Our prayers are with his wife, Sheryl, and their daughters. May the Lord comfort and strengthen his family and friends.

School is well under way. While the children are so busy with all of their activities, let us not forget to remind them to ask for their Heavenly Father's guidance and direction throughout their day. May we always have a prayer on our hearts for the children God has given us to raise for Him.

KANSAS **LAMONT-GRIDLEY** **Sarah Somerhalder**

What a blessed weekend on September 2-3 to hear the testimonies and witness the baptisms of Bro. Rick and Sis. Mary Jane (Kraft) Anliker. We welcome these two precious souls as our new brother and sister in the Lord. Our thanks to Elder Bro. John Lehman (Bern, KS) who assisted our Elder Bro. Jay Luthi in this most important work.

Also, being with us were ministering Bros. Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL), Jim Kaeb (Bern, KS), Jeff Bahr (Kiowa, KS), Brandon Emch (Kansas City, MO) and Larry Bahr (Ft. Scott, KS). May God bless our Elders and ministers for their willingness to be used in the Lord's service.

On September 17, the engagement of Sis. Melissa Frieden (Bro. Jeff and Sis. Debbie) to Bro. Travis Bussel (Bro. Dave and Sis. Cathy, Bluffton North, IN) was announced. Sis. Melissa is employed as a teacher at the Children's Home in Leo, IN. We wish them the Lord's guidance and blessings as they make plans to share their lives together.

Note of Thanks:

My mother, Sis. Edna Somerhalder (Sabetha, KS), wishes to thank all who sent her birthday cards, letters or called her for her 85th birthday.

KANSAS, SABETHA
Brenda Grimm
Mary Kay Wenger

Three more souls were added to the fold September 9-10 as we witnessed the baptisms of Bro. Brett and Sis. Tiffany Kellenberger (Bro. Brad and Sis. Teresa) and Sis. Kelly Hartter (Bro. Roger and Sis. Ilene). We rejoice with them and pray they will remain true and faithful until Christ's return. We were thankful to have Elder Bros. Leroy Messner (Winthrop, MN) and John Lehman (Bern, KS) and ministering Bro. Dean Messner (Winthrop, MN) with us that weekend and for their work in the Lord's service.

With joy we heard the engagement of Bro. Trent Menold from Bern, KS (Bro. Joe and Sis. Kathy Rokey) and Sis. Rita Hartter (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Beth). We wish them God's nearness in their life ahead and look forward to their November

wedding.

We always appreciate the visiting brothers who are willing to stand before us and proclaim God's Holy Word. Our thanks are extended to Bros. Dale Zeltwanger (Morris, MN), Rick Plattner (Peoria, IL) and Randy Kellenberger (Kansas City, MO) for being with us this month.

Our prayers continue to be with Bro. Virgil Hartter as he is recovering from surgery. We are thankful to have Sis. Louise Aberle worshipping with us again after a broken hip.

We have just finished listening to the Conference tapes. May we ever hold fast to our faith and help support our Elder brothers as they uphold the teachings of Jesus Christ.

We extend a warm welcome to Bro. Brent and Sis. Beth Kellenberger (Kansas City, MO) as they are assembling with us while Bro. Brent is enrolled in college in Lincoln, NE.

Special thanks are extended to the Lamar, MO, congregation for hosting a Sunday School gathering for the Bible Class on September 16-17. We appreciate your efforts and labors of love shown to our youth.

To win this precious treasure
and matchless pearl I would
Give honor, wealth, and pleasure,
Yea, every earthly good;
I gladly would surrender
The dearest thing which might
Obscure my Sun's bright splendor,
And rob me of His light.

Zion's Harp #178

May we remember to keep Christ and His blessings first and foremost in our lives and not let the temptations and evils of this world distract us from our close walk with the Lord.

KANSAS STATE

UNIVERSITY
Tiffany Kellenberger

"And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

Phil. 4:7

How comforting this verse is to us as we begin another year of college. We pray that we may keep our minds focused on our highest calling as we further our education. We gladly welcome ten incoming freshmen and wish them the best in their new college career. We are also happy to have Sis. Holly Wales here from Kansas City and pray she will have a good year as she begins her new teaching job.

Our annual K-State picnic was held the 23rd of August and we thank the many parents, brothers, sisters, friends and grandparents who came. We very much depend on and appreciate the support of our families. Our mid-week services begin this week with a ministering brother coming from Bern. Our services will be held September 27, October 11 and 25, and November 29. Hearing God's Word and seeing "hometown" faces adds a wonderful break to the busy week. This past weekend, September 9-10, we welcomed Sis. Tiffany Kellenberger (Bro. Brad and Sis. Teresa) into the fold. It is always a blessing to see souls turn from the world and walk into God's arms. We pray that many more can make this precious way of life their own.

KANSAS, WICHITA
Emma Miller

September 10, Bro. Bob and Sis. Janice Stoller were in our congregation. We appreciate Bro. Bob fulfilling the position of visiting minister. It's a long drive between Lamar and

Wichita and we are grateful to our Heavenly Father for their traveling safety.

Bro. Howard Warner has been a hospital patient several times this past month. In spite of that, he has been able to assemble with us nearly every Sunday. He and Sis. Ann have over an hours driving time between their home and church and faithfully gather with their church family on Sundays.

Wednesday night Bible Study has begun. The focus of the study is on Peter.

Sis. Gussie Wullseger has rallied some but continues to need your prayers as her many infirmities continue.

KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON

Glenda Neukomm

We are happy and very thankful to the Lord for our convert, Elaine Baltic (Bro. Dan and Sis. Betty), that she has been announced for peace and is looking forward to her proving and baptism the weekend of October 21-22 in Rittman, OH. Our prayers will certainly be with her.

Also, we're very thankful to the Lord for yet another example of answered prayer. Julie Neukomm (Bro. Jan and Sis. Glenda) has found grace to seek the Lord in repentance in her life. Our prayers are with Julie, as she is away at college in Illinois, that she will find a rich measure of God's grace as she begins her walk with the Lord.

We, as Christians, have a reason to be courageous. God is our helper. When we rely on Him, He'll enable us to stand firm no matter what danger we may face. "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind." (II Timothy 1:7).

Ask God for good judgment and courage

To face unexpected events;
To follow the teachings of Scripture

Is the best, most effective defense.

—Hess

We were so very blessed to have ministering Bros. Mark Ramsier (Sardis, OH), Sidney Kaufmann (Cissna Park, IL) and Tim Gerber (Mansfield, OH) this past month bring us the Word. We pray the Lord will richly bless them.

We always appreciate visitors and extend a welcome to anyone. Please contact Bro. Lester Huber (859) 745-2541 or Bro. Jan Neukomm (859) 273-8574.

MEXICO, IXTLAN

Lorenia Sibaja

The Lord has blessed our church. He has prepared the hearts of the people to receive His Word.

Our Sis. Delfina Lira has now been able to return to live with her daughter, Sis. Carmen Cervantes, who had been recuperating from a knee operation. She is very weak and we are sad she has to suffer.

Meet Sis. Hermila Montejano Casillas

Hermila, age 36, and mother of a little girl, Nayeli, tells us: "I remember the first time I came to the church. It was for baptisms. My cousin, Rosa Cabrera, invited me to come. Also, when we worked together, she would talk to me about the Word of God. I had read the Bible before I became pregnant, but didn't attend church until I went for the baptisms. Then I attended church on Sundays and later more frequently. I enjoyed going to church and hearing the Word of God. But then I began to feel very evil when I listened to the messages because of my great sin. Two months later, in

February of 1997, I repented and gave my life to the Lord. I could feel a beautiful peace from the Lord and great happiness. I have a desire to obey His Word and not go back to sin. I was very grateful because I could feel His forgiveness for my sins.

My father had been away from us (my mother and me) for a time. Then he attended a church, came to know God, and became a Christian. He would talk to us about how the Lord had changed his life, about his repentance, and when he found out that I was attending a Christian church, he was very happy because he wanted us to know about God.

Five months later I was baptized on July 27, 1997, and the Lord has given me a beautiful life at His side and filled with His love. I am thankful for those He sent to show us the way.

After a time, my mother gave her life to the Lord. Now I want to share with others the salvation of the Lord and help them to know Him. Also, I desire for my daughter to grow up in the way of the Lord and that some day she, too, will give her life to the Lord.

I am thankful to the Lord for all His blessings and that He brought me into His fold and for giving me a family of faith. Some day I will be able to be with Him in His kingdom.

MICHIGAN, ALTO

Kristen Plattner

Sandy Schutte

As summer turns into fall and we again prepare for the change in seasons, we again are reminded that nothing stays the same. Nothing that is but the Word of God.

"Thy word is true from the beginning: and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth for ever."

Psalm 119:160

It was Alto's turn to host the Michigan Youth Day. Children from Detroit and Bay City joined our Sunday School children for a week-end of fellowship. We would like to thank Bro. Neal Widmer (Sis. Kristine, Wolcott, IN) who came on that Sunday to share God's Word with the children.

Our prayers go out to Sis. Margaret Wingeier who again prepares for surgery on her leg. Also to Curt Kaeb who was hospitalized for a short period for a heart problem. May God watch over them as they recover.

Our hearts go out in prayer to Bro. Howard and Sis. Kristen Plattner and their family at the passing of Kristen's mother, Gussie Wullschleger. Take comfort knowing that she is with the Lord and someday we will all be united in a better place.

We would like to welcome the arrival of baby Andrew to Terry and Sis. Rose Watson. Grandparents are Dennis Koehl and Linda Koehl-Jones.

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY

Rhonda Knochel

Peggy Jackson

We are always very excited to come to church on a Sunday or Wednesday night and see that we have a visiting minister. This Wednesday evening we were especially pleased to see two visiting ministers, one of which planned to stay for Sunday. Our thanks are extended to Bro. Gary and Sis. Mary Ann Maibach (Smithville, OH) and Bro. Ken and Sis. Loretta Schneider (Remington, IN). We were richly blessed by each of these brothers and look forward to having them back in Bay City soon.

One thing that thrills a church is the creation of a new Christian home and that home being blessed with children—our heritage and future

church. We were pleased to hear of the birth of Clark Michael to Bro. Mick and Sis. Lisa Laukhuf (Latty, OH). Delighted grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Carol Waibel of here and Bro. Dwain and Sis. Wanita Laukhuf (Latty, OH). It is our sincere prayer that little Clark will always have a heart for the things of God.

Several in our congregation spent time in the hospital this month. They are: Sis. Esther Meister, Sis. Martha Rezmer and Lori Bateson (Bill). We are so thankful that we have a Great Physician who loves us so much and pray that His healing touch will be on each one.

As we head into fall and watch the trees turn beautiful shades of red, orange and yellow, may we always remember that the God who transforms the colors of the leaves can also transform our lives. May you feel God's nearness in the month ahead.

MICHIGAN, DETROIT

Bonnie Bedolla

Crystal Ramsier

We rejoiced to have another person added to our congregation this month. John Michael Josef Orcsik received a warm welcome into the home of first time parents Ed and Susan Orcsik. Bro. John and Sis. Eszter Orcsik and Josef and Magdalena Bencsik are excited about their new grandson.

Some of our Sunday School students traveled to Alto for Michigan Youth Day the weekend of September 9th and 10th. They enjoyed meeting getting to know Sunday School students from the other Michigan churches. Bro. Neal Widmer (Wolcott, IN) shared a special message with the students, comparing the truth in the Bible with unproven theories that are often

presented as fact.

Bro. Doug Harmon (Toledo, OH) held services at Woodhaven this month. May God bless him for his willingness to serve the Woodhaven residents.

On September 17th, the Sunday School sponsored a church picnic. Everyone enjoyed the food, fellowship, and singing and we were thankful that God provided a warm, sunny afternoon for the event.

MINNESOTA MINNEAPOLIS Delores Sauder

We have been blessed with a wonderful summer. God's splendor of color is beginning to show as the foliage is changing.

The children were eager to start Sunday School September 10. Sis. Stephanie Knobloch (Bro. Damon) replaces Sis. Melody Knobloch as a teacher and Sis. Gail Metzger (Bro. Dick) and Bro. Doug Bergstrom are substitutes. May the seed sown in their tender hearts bring forth fruit in due time.

We are thankful that Elder Bro. LeRoy Messner (Winthrop, MN) and Bro. Dale Frank (Oakville, IA) were among us to bring forth God's Word. May they be blessed for their efforts.

We have enjoyed gathering together to hear the tapes from the Brother Conference. We appreciated the love and concern expressed by the Elders. May we each be an overcomer and do our part to preserve the church.

We welcome Sis. Rosie Zeltwanger (Bro. Dale and Sis. Rachel) of Morris as she begins another year of college.

God has blessed Sis. Jodi Metzger (Bro. Justin) with good health again after spending some time in the hospital.

We were recently reminded that we need to use spiritual warfare to

fight a spiritual battle. The earthly warfare will not be helpful.

MINNESOTA, MORRIS

Cheryl Messner

Dianne Kellenberger

We appreciated hearing God's Word spoken to us from Elder Bro. Doug Schock (Pulaski, IA) this past month. May he feel God's rich blessings.

Our very special thanks to the Lester congregation for hosting the Brotherhood Conference. May God richly reward each one for their work and labor of love. Let us each one be willing to obey the wise teachings we heard. Let not our minds become numb to the evil and sin that abounds.

We have two betrothals to make known. Bro. Kurtis Domnick (Bro. Gary and Sis. Velma) to Sis. Rachel Stoller (Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Sherry) from Eureka, IL.

Also, Sis. Leah Messner (Bro. Sid and Sis. Cheryl) to Bro. Benji Kellenberger (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Shirley) from Lester, IA. May God direct these two dear couples as they make plans for their future.

Stacy Luthi (Bro. Aldean and Sis. Charlotte) and Scott Kjorness (Kathy) exchanged wedding vows on August 19. Our congratulations and God's blessings to them.

Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world. We're so happy to announce the birth of Amanda Mae on August 18 to Jessica and Bobby Chamberlain. Lee excitedly welcomed home his baby sister. Grandparents are Sis. Bev Minke, Nola Chamberlain (Maryville, TN) and Len Minke (Maynard, MN).

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Curtis Kussatz in the death of his wife, Joan. May God meet your every need and comfort you.

We pray that God in His tender mercy will raise the fallen, cheer the

faint, heal the sick. Our hospital patients have been Sis. Eunice Koehl, Bro. Doug Koehl, Sis. Dorothy Durkee, Bro. Don Schmidgall (Sis. Virginia), and Sis. Christie Zeltwanger (Bro. Adam).

School has resumed for our beloved children. We pray God will protect and keep them from the worldly influences about them.

Note of Thanks:

A special "thanks" to all who took part in our farewell potluck and singing and for the prayers, cards, gifts and love shown to us as we make our new home in the San Diego area. May God bless all of you.

*Bro. James and Sis. Hildy Koehl
Melinda, Stacy and Ashlee*

MINNESOTA, WINTHROP

Carol Ann Messner

Marilyn Messner

"...Be not afraid, but speak, and hold not thy peace: For I am with thee, and no man shall set on thee to hurt thee..."

Acts 18:9-10

Our congregation thanks and appreciates the visit of Bro. Kevin Banwart (Sis. Sandy, West Bend, IA) at our annual pork chop supper. The fellowship we share with one another is something we cannot purchase with silver or gold.

"Having therefore obtained help of God, I continue unto this day..."

Acts 26:22

We rejoice with Sue Sward and her family as she has peace with God and man. There is joy in Heaven when a sinner turns to the Lord in true repentance.

Bro. Dick VanDeest (Sis. Nancy) was hospitalized. We're thankful he is doing well. God is faithful.

"...doing the will of God from the heart; With good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men: Knowing that whatsoever good thing any man doeth, the same shall he receive of the Lord..."

Ephesians 6:6-8

Sis. Rebecca Schaefer shared slides and commentary about her last trip to Hungary and the Ukraine at last month's church supper.

For lo, children are an heritage of the Lord. Jay and Amy Bartels are the new parents of a son, Max Ryan. Grandparents are Allen and Joleen Bartels and Sis. Carol Ann Messner, all of Winthrop. We wish the new family God's blessings.

MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY

Komari Neal

This past month included a historic event for the Kansas City congregation. The first ordination of an Elder in the Kansas City church occurred on the weekend of August 19-20. We were blessed to have Elder Bros. Wayne Fehr (Sis. Kathy, West Bend, IA), Gerry Hertzell (Sis. Ellen, Sabetha, KS), John Lehman (Sis. Connie, Bern, KS), Jay Luthi (Sis. Jane, Lamont-Gridley, KS), Lawrence Luthi (Sis. Sandra, Lamar, MO) and Doug Schock (Sis. Clara, Pulaski, IA) with us. Our congregation is very thankful for the humble leadership of these Elders as they gave instruction and encouragement to Bro. Don, Sis. Eileen and their family. We are especially thankful for the instructions given to the congregation. May we all prayerfully and spiritually support Elder Bro. Don Braker in his new duties.

Ministering Bro. Glen Braker (Princeville, IL) was also with us for the ordination weekend and we were blessed to have him with us again on

September 3.

After a month of vacation from Sunday School, our children were anxious and excited to start a new Sunday School term on September 10. This year we have about 30 children. Our prayer is that each teacher and each child may be filled with the Holy Spirit as the lessons are taught. These lessons lay the foundation of a spiritual life with Christ and are vital to the continuation of our faith.

September 10 was also the date of our annual Sunday School picnic. We rotate with the Fort Scott, KS, Sunday School and this was our year to host. We met at Heritage Park in Olathe, KS, and enjoyed a picnic supper, singing, games and Christian fellowship.

Our fervent prayers continue for Sis. Sophie Delph as she endures the ailments of cancer. We trust in God's will and ask for His comfort for dear Sis. Sophie and Bro. Jesse during this wearisome time in their lives.

MISSOURI, LAMAR

**Kristen Braker
Kristi Huber**

This past month we have been reminded of the uncertainties of life. We extend our sympathy and prayers to Bro. Ray and Sis. Vi Luthi in the passing of her brother, Bro. Ben Knobloch (Eureka, IL). We also remember Bro. Leon, Sis. Teresa, Melinda, Courtney and Lane Luthi in our prayers in the sudden loss of their father and grandfather, Danny Neher, from a truck/train accident. May God grant each of them grace and comfort during this difficult time.

"To every thing there is a season, a time to every purpose under the heaven: A time to be born, and a time to die...He hath made every thing beautiful in his time..."

Eccles. 3:1-2,11

MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS

Rachel Schrock

God is the ultimate light source, and we are to reflect His light to those around us. This thought was brought to our remembrance during a recent sermon. Are we allowing Jesus to shine through our everyday walk of life?

There are times when this earthly life brings us physical pain. Recently our Sis. Mary Kellenberger (Bro. Orlan) underwent knee surgery to take away some of her physical pain. May God grant her swift recovery and bless her family and herself.

May God also bless those who have labored on our behalf this past month. Our visiting ministers included Bros. Dennis Rassi (Sis. Diane, Fairbury, IL), Steve Gutwein (Sis. Linda, Francesville, IN), Jeff Grimm (Sis. Ruth, Goodfield, IL), Darren Plattner (Sis. Sue, Champaign, IL) and Elder Bro. Jay Luthi (Sis. Jane, Lamont-Gridley, KS). Thank you for being willing to come and help our Bro. Loren bring the Word to us.

We are also thankful to have Jeremy Knapp (Bro. Charlie and Sis. Paula, Bloomington, IL) joining us for worship. Jeremy is attending Greenville College in Southern Illinois. May God bless his studies there.

MISSOURI, TAYLOR

Peg Haerr

Our Vacation Bible School was held the last week of July, followed by the Sunday School Picnic. Thanks to all who helped! Our new teachers are Sis. Susan Haerr (Bro. Shannon), Sis. Tricia Grimm (Bro. Don) and Bro. Kim Sutter (Sis. Vonette). May God bless the ones who have finished their terms: Sis.

Lori Stratton (Bro. Michael), Sis. Tami Pflum (Bro. Keith) and Bro. Brad Gehring (Sis. Ellen).

My apologies for forgetting to mention that Bro. Ben Knapp is the great-grandfather to the two new Knapp babies, Jenna Dietrich and Jordan Knapp, both from Congerville, IL. Two new babies were born on September 13. Evan Alexander Wiegand was born to Philip and Lori. Grandparents are Bro. Marvin and Sis. Joann Wiegand. Great-grandma is Sis. Fannie Wiegand (Eureka, IL). Also, Collin Michael Stratton was born to Bro. Michael and Sis. Lori. Grandparents are Bro. Mike and Sis. Cheryl Stratton and Bro. Dale and Sis. Terisa Martin (Princeville, IL). Great-grandma is Sis. Loida Hodel from Taylor.

Our thanks to Bro. Tom Stock (Sis. Karol, Cissna Park) for coming to minister to us here in Taylor.

We here at Taylor have been privileged to listen to the Conference tapes on Wednesday nights. May God bless each of the brothers that bring us God's Holy Word.

May God comfort Sis. Dona Grimm (Elder Bro. Roy) in the loss of her brother, Bro. Lynn Feller (Sis. Mary Ann), from LaCrosse, IN. May we all look forward to that time when we can all be together again in Heaven.

NEW YORK CROGHAN-NAUMBURG

Anna Mellnitz

"Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves, for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you. Pray for us: for we trust we have a good conscience, in all things willing to live honestly."

Hebrews 13:17-18

It is a great spiritual uplifting to gather together to listen to the tapes of the recent Brotherhood Conference that was held at Lester, IA. As we listen to our dear Elder brothers, may we each take heed to the words. It is spiritually uplifting to know how our dear Elder brothers are watching out for our soul's salvation with our daily walk of life, with our dear Lord and Saviour.

On September 3 we had visiting ministering Bro. Shawn Metzger (Philadelphia, PA), and on September 10, Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL) was with us. Covered dish meals, followed by singing, was enjoyed by everyone, and there were other visiting brothers and sisters from Rockville and Philadelphia.

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

Numbers 6:24-26

Dereck E. Farney (Niles F. Jr. and Barbara Farney) was struck by an automobile on Wednesday evening, September 13, and died September 15 at Upstate Medical Center in Syracuse. Surviving besides his parents are: sister, Amy, at home; his maternal grandmother, Martha Kalamas, his paternal grandmother, Sis. Polly Farney; aunts, uncles and cousins. Our prayers and sympathy for this dear family and may God comfort them in the days ahead.

OHIO, AKRON
Joyce Gasser

We rejoice with three young men that gave their testimonies of their strong faith in our Saviour Jesus for

their salvation, were baptized, and added to the fold. They are Gregory and Ben Henico (Bro. Greg and Sis. Sarah) and Mark Steidl (Bro. Don and Sis. Nan). Elder Bros. Merle Hartzler and Ken Indermuhle assisted our Elder Bro. Gene Pamer in the testimonies.

Bro. Wayne and Sis. Jane Klotzle were blessed with a baby girl born August 11 and they named her Bethany Louise. Also welcoming their baby sister is Meredith, Kaitlin, and Jodi. Grandparents are Sis. Donna Metzger (Lester, IA) and Bro. Irwin and Sis. Jane Klotzle (Rittman, OH).

We are thankful Sis. Mara Henico and her family could enjoy a vacation in Alaska, granted to them by the "Make a Wish Foundation". Sis. Mara is the daughter of Bro. Greg and Sis. Sarah Henico.

We appreciated Bro. Duane Farney (Croghan-Naumburg, NY) ministering to us this past month.

OHIO, COLUMBUS
Anita Steiner

This month we have been blessed to listen to the Lester, IA, Conference tapes. We are thankful for the loving guidance of our Elders.

Our prayers are with Sis. Julie Grimm (Bro. John) as she is recovering from foot surgery.

On September 17 we had our annual College Welcome Day. Bro. Warren Zahner (Rockville, CT) was here to minister God's Word unto us. Following services, we had a picnic where we enjoyed supper and fellowship at a local park. We pray that God would be near our students as they would start back to school.

OHIO, JUNCTION
Cindy Schlatter

Ministering Bro. Paul Gasser (Akron, OH) recently spent the

weekend with us. We appreciate him lending himself to God's service.

Those who were ill or spent time in the hospital this past month were Derek Schlatter (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Laurie), Sis. Cindy Schlatter (Bro. Warren) and Bro. Mark Manz (Sis. Cathy). Once again we have reason to thank our Heavenly Father as He has touched each one and mended the physical body.

OHIO, LATTY
Kathy Sinn
Heidi Hackenjos

We thank Bros. Bill Waibel (Bay City, MI) and Lynn Stieglitz (Leo, IN) for being used by God to convey the truth of the Word during their visits to our congregation. May God's blessings ever rest upon them and their families. We also wish to pray the same for our "home" ministering brothers who serve us week after week.

Our annual Sunday School picnic was held at a local park on August 27. We enjoyed gathering with the children and young adults. After a potluck meal and fellowship time, we sang a while outdoors amongst God's creation.

Continue to remember in prayer the many college students who may or may not assemble in your congregation for several months. Our confidence in God's promise, that if the young adults are taught (by word and example) when they are young, they will not be able to remove the words from their mind, can give us hope as these young people are absent from our gatherings.

Our Bro. Dick Schlatter (Sis. Viola) has had to submit to a hospital stay during the month. May he soon be able to assemble with us. Sis. Lori Stoller (Bro. Dwight) and their daughter, Natalie, were involved in a car accident. Sis. Mary Eisenmann has also spent time in the hospital

within the last couple of days. Our prayers are for the healing of their bodies and that they can soon gather with us in church.

September 9-10, some of our congregation traveled to Congerville to witness the wedding of Bro. Doug Wenninger (Bro. Larry and Sis. Joyce) and Sis. Bonny Rinkenberger (Bro. Mike and Sis. Pat). We ask the Lord's blessings on their marriage and offer a warm welcome to Sis. Bonny as she makes Latty her new home.

Another thrilled couple welcomed home their first child in our congregation this month. Bro. Mick and Sis. Lisa Laukhuf welcomed Clark Michael into their care and upbringing. Happy first-time grandparents are Bro. Dwain and Sis. Wanita Laukhuf and Bro. Bill and Sis. Carol Waibel (Bay City, MI).

Bro. Glenn and Sis. Ede Stoller commemorated their 50th anniversary during the month. May the Lord's rich blessings continue to be upon them as they walk further on. "What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder." (Mark 10:9)

With thankful hearts, we gathered together to observe Holy Communion. Elder Bro. Ray was assisted by Bro. Leland Plattner (Zapata, TX). May our lives be lived so that our hearts could always be prepared for Holy Communion and God's beckoning call. This would be our reasonable service to thank our Redeemer for the price of His life.

OHIO, MANSFIELD

John and Marci Pfeiffer

Visiting ministers this month were Bros. Bill Brake (Sardis, OH), Sam Schlatter (Junction, OH), Walt Rager (Toledo, OH) and Elder Bro. Curt Frank (LaCrosse, IN). We thank these brothers and pray God would continue to teach them what

to say.

"Now therefore go, and I will be with thy mouth, and teach thee what thou shalt say."

Exodus 4:12

Sis. Sophia Sabo (Bro. Bill) and Sis. Peg Graszl (Bro. Frank) were hospitalized this past month. We pray God will be near them and continue to provide a healing hand.

On September 1, Andy and Tamara Pfeiffer welcomed Braeden Isaiah to their family. He is joyfully received by his sister, Katlyn. Happy grandparents are Dennis and Marilyn Paramore and Bro. John and Sis. Zuzanna Pfeiffer.

We rejoice and are thankful that Troy Baltic (Bro. Pete and Sis. Karen) and Tom Hill (Bro. Chip and Sis. Sieda) have found peace with God and man. We look forward to hearing their testimonies and witnessing their baptisms. We also look forward to hearing the testimonies of Art and Lore Stuenzi. Art and Lore are the parents of Sis. Wendy (Bro. Tim) Gerber.

This past month our congregation listened to our Brotherhood Conference tapes on Wednesday evenings. We are thankful to have Elder brethren that watch for our souls.

OHIO, RITTMAN

Cheryl Hartzler

Beth Beery

"Seven times a day do I praise thee because of thy righteous judgments." (Psalm 119:164). Aren't we thankful that His judgment is righteous and here on earth we receive mercy? There is much to be thankful for and praise the Lord for such as walking, talking, smiles, friends, our homes, our health, our freedom to worship God, and the list could go on and on.

Praise His promise to give us life;
Praise His presence to bear our strife;
Praise the glory that shines in Christ;
Praise Lord Jesus, who paid our price!

—*Sangray Corporation*

We are thankful to have ministers and Elders who teach, exhort, encourage, chastise and preach repentance. Bros. Vernon Wettstein (Congerville, IL), John Steiner (Oakville, IA), Todd Stoller (Latty, OH) and Steve Pamer (Akron, OH) were our visiting ministers this past month.

O, may I seek the souls who stray
And save them from destruction,
And through Thy holy love still lead
Them to Thy congregation.
May pray'rs and pleadings penetrate
To warn them of their lost estate.

Zion's Harp #113

"...and preach the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins." (Mark 1:4). Amos Maibach (Bro. Alpha, Jr. and Sis. Denise) is seeking the Lord in repentance. We pray the Lord be his guide and strength.

At Home 'tis well!
There shall the pilgrim tarry,
When tired and worn by sorrow,
grief and strife;
In heav'n when the hard race of
earthly life is run,
the longborne load no more he'll
carry.

Zion's Harp #170

Two beloved sisters in the Lord,

Sis. Laura Queen, 101, and Sis. Adena Rock, 100, passed away. Sis. Adena Rock served the Lord 70 years. May the families be comforted in the Lord, especially Sis. Laura's beloved sister, Sis. Helen Kerstetter.

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

Psalm 127:3

On August 17, Travis Alan joined the family of Bro. Novko, Sis. Julie and Tyler Atanasov. As grandparents, Nikola and Sofija Atanasov and Bro. Galen and Sis. Cheryl Indermuhle, welcome him into the family. Brian and Myra Ball are the parents of a precious baby girl, Mackenzie Ann, born September 11. Her brother, Garret, and sister, Madeline, and grandparents, Bro. Michael and Sis. Norene Miller and Mrs. Joyce Patterson, are happy to help care for her.

We rejoice with Bro. Dale and Janet Gasser in the marriage of their son, Brant, to Tiffany Haverty (Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Haverty) on September 2. The engagement of Bro. Cliff Brake (Bro. William and Sis. Miriam, Sardis, OH) and Sis. Gina Stoller (Elder Bro. Andrew and Sis. Roberta, Smithville) was announced September 10. May God give these couples much wisdom to plan and walk this life together.

Amy Steele, Sis. Ruth Ingold, and Bro. Alton (Jack) Maibach were hospitalized this past month. We pray for the healing powers of the Lord upon them, as He alone can do, for "...the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life and man became a living soul." (Genesis 2:7)

OHIO, SARDIS

Angie Figel

Elder Bro. Merle Hartzler was a visiting minister to us this month as he and his family were staying at the "River Valley Ranch". We thank him for sharing the Word of God with us.

"Is any sick among you?...let them pray over him..."

James 5:14

There were three souls this month that required surgery. They need our prayers that God may grant healing and comfort where it would be in His will. They were: Amy Figel (David), Sis. Miriam Brake (Bro. Bill), and Sis. Paula Figel (Bro. John).

He left the splendor of Heaven,
Knowing His destiny
Was the lonely hill of Golgotha
There to lay down His life for
me.

If that isn't love,
The ocean is dry,
There's no stars in the sky,
And the sparrow can't fly.
If that isn't love,
then Heaven's a myth.
There's no feeling like this,
If that isn't love.

—*Dottie Rambo*

Jesus tells us to love one another even as He has loved us (John 15:12). That's quite a commandment. God also tells us that our marriages should reflect how Christ loves the church and how the church loves and is obedient to Christ, who is so kind to us (Eph. 5:22-26). What a wonderful God we serve!

The marriage of Bro. Alan Blough and Sis. Renee Miller took place on September 17. God provided a gorgeous day which added to the joy in our hearts. May He continue to bless this dear couple as they walk the straight and narrow

path as husband and wife in the Lord. Visiting ministers on this occasion were Elder Bros. Merle Hartzler (Rittman, OH) and Gene Pamer (Akron, OH), and Bros. Steve Pamer (Akron, OH), Fred Domka (Mansfield, OH), and retired Elder Bro. Henry Dotterer (Rittman, OH).

Also the engagement of Bro. Cliff Brake (Bro. Bill and Sis. Miriam) and Sis. Gina Stoller (Elder Bro. Andy and Sis. Roberta, Smithville, OH) was announced. May our loving Saviour bless and guide these two dear souls also as they look forward to the day that they will unite in marriage as well.

Joshua Stohl has come to live with Bro. Bob and Sis. Karen Indermuhle for his senior year at River High School. We gladly welcome him and hope that he finds his stay a blessing and an encouragement.

OHIO, SMITHVILLE

**Ruth Gasser
Edith Miller**

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

Hebrews 13:17

We are presently listening to the tapes of the Conference, and have been greatly blessed with many inspiring messages. How thankful we can be that we have dear brethren who do "watch for our souls". Although this is a tremendous responsibility for them, their job can be made much easier and more pleasant if we are willing to submit and obey.

"Peace I leave with you, my peace
I give unto you..."

John 14:27

We rejoice with two souls who have found this precious peace. May the Lord be with Darla Nieman (Bro. Denny and Sis. Kay) and Michael Beery (Art and Eileen) as they await the appropriate time to give their testimony and be baptized.

"But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus."

Philippians 4:19

God always keeps His promises and will provide for His own. We believe God saw a need and supplied according to His will in drawing together Bro. Cliff Brake (Rittman, OH) and Sis. Gina Stoller, whose engagement was recently announced. Parents of this couple are Bro. Bill and Sis. Miriam Brake (Sardis, OH) and Elder Bro. Andy and Sis. Roberta Stoller. May they feel the Lord's nearness as they prepare for their marriage.

"Many are the afflictions of the righteous..."

Psalms 34:19

Our prayers are with those who are afflicted in the body. Bro. John Dotterer (Sis. Betty) spent some time in the hospital this month. Bro. Ben Maibach (Linda) has also endured many trying months as he battles his affliction. Through it all, his pleasant smile is an inspiration to all of us.

OHIO, TOLEDO

Rebecca Beard

Edie Fetter

We are happy to join Richard and Kelly Chamberlain in welcoming Anna Grace to their family. She joins

her sisters, Stephanie and Marisa. Dave and Sis. Connie Sancraint are Anna's grandparents.

We enjoyed our annual picnic welcoming new and returning college students and their families. Among our visitors were Elder Bros. Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH) and Mark Masters (Mansfield, OH). We thank them for their service on our behalf.

Bro. Sam Manz finished his degree in elementary education during the summer and has returned to the Junction area to teach. We wish him God's blessings in his labors.

OREGON, PORTLAND

Louisa Gallup

Due to vacation, I was not able to submit last month's news on time; my apologies for that. This article, then, contains news from July 16-September 15.

Thro' the shining gate,
where the angels wait...
what a wonderful chorus
thro' the sky shall sing,
when the saints are marching in.

Gospel Hymns #785

On Sunday, August 6, one of our dear elderly sisters was called to eternity. Sis. Margaret A. Banwart (Zaugg) passed away peacefully in her sleep at the age of 90. She was preceded in death by her husband, Bro. Ray, six years ago. The funeral and services took place Wednesday, August 9, at Mt. Scott Funeral Home here in Portland. Bro. Ray and Sis. Margaret are survived by their four children who were present at the funeral: Idl (Robert, dec.) Higgins, Betty Rae (Bob) Meyer, Elsie (Neil) Struwe and Donald. Sis. Margaret is survived by two sisters, Laura Valian from Oregon City, OR, and Della Persinger from Minneapolis, MN, as well as 11 grandchil-

dren, 19 great-grandchildren and 3 great-great-grandchildren. We wish to extend our deepest sympathy to the family who will surely miss her, as we all do.

We enjoyed quite a few visitors these past two months and among them were the following ministering brethren: Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen (Sis. Marilyn, Elgin, IL), and Bros. Carroll Gerber (Sis. Louise, Bluffton North, IN), Bill Hodel (Sis. Betty, Roanoke, IL), Timothy Gerber (Sis. Wendy, Mansfield, OH) and Robert Beebe (Sis. Sue, South Bend, IN). We truly appreciate the inspiring words we heard and the fellowship afterwards. May the Lord bless them for their willingness to serve.

OREGON, SILVERTON

Rosa Lee Kuenzi

September 2 was the wedding day of Kristen Walter and Matt Brockamp. Parents are Bro. Chuck and Sis. Karen Walter and Jim and Bonnie Brockamp, all of Silverton. Kristen and Matt appreciated the many friends, neighbors and family members who came to their wedding reception and buffet, even though there were showers off and on during the outside event.

Bro. Tim and Sis. Dana Schneider are the happy parents of a new baby boy, Jonathan Wilbur, born August 29. Family welcoming him home are siblings, Sam, Lydia, Jacob and Christian. Grandparents are Bro. Wilbur and Sis. Marge Schneider and Bro. Jim and Sis. Jane Moser, of the Rockville, CT, congregation. May they feel the Lord's nearness and guidance as this new little one becomes part of the family.

We were blessed with visiting ministers this past month. They were Bros. Bill Hodel (Roanoke, IL) and Robert Beebe (South Bend, IN).

It seems as if we have had more because we have been listening to the tapes of the General Brotherhood Conference recently. It is such a blessing to be able to sit and listen to such good teaching and wisdom so lovingly brought forth. We pray that they can feel our Lord's love and strength ever with them as they continue to serve as watchmen on the wall to God's people.

**PENNSYLVANIA,
PHILADELPHIA**

**Nathan &
Mary Elizabeth Gasser**

We were richly blessed this month as we witnessed the ordination of our Bro. Ben Wiegand to the Eldership of the Philadelphia and Washington, DC congregations. We thank Elder Bros. Kevin Ryan (Rockville, CT), Duane Farney (Croghan-Naumburg, NY), Andy Stoller (Smithville, OH), Doug Schock (Pulaski, IA) and Wayne Fehr (West Bend, IA) for lending themselves in the Lord's service to our congregation.

As Bro. Ben begins his new duties and office, we ask God to bless and guide him and his family, and may we all experience even greater unity and fellowship in the coming months and years. We also wish to thank Elder Bro. Kevin Ryan, along with his wife and family, who has been our counseling Elder in recent years for his love and faithfulness to our congregation.

We welcome Bro. Ken and Sis Amy Beyer and their daughter, Sophie, to Philadelphia. Ken is taking a new job in the area and we welcome the opportunity to have their family worship with us.

TENNESSEE, NASHVILLE

Gwen Leuthold

This past month we welcomed visiting ministers, Bros. Ed Fritz (Sis. Sally, Washington, IL) and Jon Schmidgall (Sis. Julie, Oakville, IA). We especially thank these ministering brothers for their willingness to travel and share God's Word with us. We also enjoyed the fellowship of other visitors from Indianapolis, IN; Wolcott, IN; and Eureka, IL. May God bless each and every one of you.

Please plan to stop and worship with us if you are in the Nashville area. We meet every Sunday. On the first and third Sundays, visiting ministers have been scheduled as follows: Nov. 5 from Goodfield, IL; Nov. 19 from Tremont, IL; Dec. 3 from Elgin, IL; and Dec. 17 from Sarasota, FL. On the other Sundays, tape services are held. Please call us if you do plan to attend to assist us in meal planning and to confirm our schedules as there may be times when all of us are traveling. Please contact Bro. Don and Faye Sauder 615-373-8928; Bro. Mike and Sis. Monica Fritz 615-952-9933 (email: Michael.Fritz@juno.com); and Sis. Gwen Leuthold 615-662-2946.

TEXAS, CENTRAL

Dan and Pam Sauder

We're grateful when we can feel fall coming on and enjoy more pleasant temperatures after record breaking heat in the summer.

Visiting ministers who have shared the Word with us recently were Bros. Dale Zeltwanger (Sis. Rachel, Morris, MN), Jerry Bauman (Sis. Martha, Rittman, OH), Lee Plattner (Sis. Mary, Zapata, TX) and Elder Bro. Jay Luthi (Sis. Jane, Lamont-Gridley, KS). We truly appreciate those who are willing to be used by the Lord for our benefit.

Our services are currently being held in one location. We are meeting at the Quality Inn in San Marcos,

TX. San Marcos is located on IH-35 approximately 20 minutes south of Austin or about 50 minutes north of downtown San Antonio. Exit at #206 and find the hotel on the northwest side access road.

Our November schedule of worship services and churches sending ministers include: the 5th (Princeville, IL), 12th (Silverton, OR), 19th (Elgin, IL) and 26th (Eureka, IL).

We extend a welcome for anyone who may be in the area to worship with us. For your benefit, please call ahead to confirm our schedule. Contacts are Bro. Bill Zeltwanger (979) 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.

**TEXAS, ZAPATA
Viola Perdelwitz
Melva Messner**

We have been listening to the tapes of the General Conference. We are so thankful that we have the opportunity to hear the message brought to us by the Elder brothers.

His Word obey and warning
take;

His wisdom will prevail.

For if we know and heed it not,
It is of no avail.

Zion's Harp #142

We are looking forward to having our winter residents come back to Texas. We enjoy the fellowship of our loved ones from the many northern states. We hope some members and friends will visit us this winter.

Sermon continued from page 2

this Scripture here, I think of the reasons we came this weekend to your community. It was to have a World Relief meeting. We know that throughout our land and throughout the world, there are many poor. There is no way through all our efforts that we could take care of all the poor, for Jesus told us here, "We always have them with us."

We do pray as God has blessed our churches and congregations throughout the land; He has moved the hearts of brothers and sisters even to contribute for these causes and have compassion for the poor. We so trust that we can be wise stewards of that which God has entrusted to us. Even to this end, we certainly need the prayers of the congregation that God's will might be carried out and that His name might be glorified. We know we can't take care of all the needs but we want to be in those places where God would have us to be. Then people can see that there is a people that do care and there is a people that doth know and love and serve the Lord. His name should be glorified and hope that even souls and lives would be touched and there would be others who would desire to have what we have, even as we have taken part in this beautiful life. God has called us to be His children and to serve Him.

"Much people of the Jews therefore knew that he was there: and they came not for Jesus' sake only, but that they might see Lazarus also, whom he had raised from the dead." (John 12:9). We can understand this, can't we, that this great miracle had been accomplished there? Lazarus had been sick and then he died. Perhaps he was pretty well known among those people in that community. He came back to life through the miracle of our Lord

and Saviour, Jesus Christ. They wanted to see him also and so we can understand that.

As we did read this morning, after Jesus had spoken there and spoke the truth to the people in that day and time, there was a division among the people after they heard Him speak. This is the way it always was when Jesus did speak. Some wanted to serve Him and follow Him, and some others hated Him, did they not?

We see here, "But the chief priests consulted that they might put Lazarus also to death;" (John 12:10). They wanted to put Lazarus to death because again through Lazarus and this miracle, other people could be drawn unto Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. Not only did they want to put Jesus to death, but also Lazarus. "Because that by reason of him many of the Jews went away, and believed on Jesus." (John 12:11). Jesus Christ is our Lord and Saviour.

Then there is the account of the triumphal entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. We won't dwell on this a whole lot because Palm Sunday is just coming up. See how they came forth to meet him. "Blessed is the King of Israel that cometh in the name of the Lord." (John 12:13). Now we know that many believed in that day and time and were expecting someone to come as a king, that would set up a kingdom here on earth, a kingdom perhaps to even overthrow the Roman government. The children of Israel, the Jews, could be free from that Roman rule and they could serve their King, Jesus. But this is not why He came, was it? His kingdom was not of this world and time and that is not why He came.

He came to bring salvation to you, to me, to each and every one.

We were reminded in this morning hour... whosoever will. We can insert our name in there, can we not? These are beautiful Scriptures that whosoever will can take part in this wonderful plan of salvation. How wonderful it is! We sang a hymn in Rittman Wednesday evening, *One For All*. Jesus did not die for just some people or just a few special or chosen people, but He died for us all. He died there upon that cross and shed that precious blood so that we all may have hope of life everlasting. How thankful we must be for that! We know there was great suffering upon that cross. Oh, I am sure you heard of that last night in the communion service. He hung upon that cross with physical agony and even with those nails, as one dies by crucifixion, even the supplication that took place and He struggled to get breath. How terrible and horrible that must have felt. Yet, that was so minimal compared to the weight of the sins that was upon the heart of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. He felt a great weight there of those sins when He hung upon that cross—your sins and my sins. Yet, He was willing to do it because He loved us so much. He loved us so much and then He had to cry out, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" (Mark 15:34). He felt forsaken of God and that is what He felt. He felt He was in hell, separated from God because of the weight of our sins.

But such did He love us, each and every one. He wants us to be with Him in Heaven forever and forever. If there are any here who do not yet have this hope, we certainly encourage you and plead with you to even seek out the Lord while you may. This loving Saviour Who died upon that cross will some day come back

Sermon continued on next page...

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to claim His own. Also, some day He will sit upon that Judgment Seat, even dividing the sheep from the goats and put some on the right hand and some on the left, as that great division will be made. As people were divided when they heard the Word of God, there will be a division there at that last time, even between God's children and those who chose not...those who chose perhaps to follow the way of the world.

We do not have a promise of tomorrow, do we? There are many, many promises in this good and Holy Word. I have read the New Testament through; but I have not read all the Old Testament through, but I have talked to those that have. They speak of the wonderful promises of God. In my readings and those who I've talked to who have read the entire Scripture, they say there is no promise of tomorrow there. So let us be up and doing each day because there is no promise of tomorrow. Today is the day of salvation. Today is the day we should serve the Lord and do those things that are pleasing in His sight. We pray that none will wait too long so they won't be lost in all eternity.

Jesus died upon that cross, didn't He? He died there for you and for me. They were surprised how soon He died, but what happened after He died? The soldier took that spear and thrust it into His side and forthwith then came blood and water out—that cleansing blood. That blood is so precious because it can cleanse us from our sins. Many of us have taken advantage of it as it has cleansed us from our sins. This world has many things man would consider to be valuable—silver, gold, lands, whatever, but nothing more valuable has touched this earth than the blood of Jesus Christ. That spear pierced His side and

blood ran down His side and touched the earth. It is the most valuable thing that has ever been upon this earth—the blood of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. It is so powerful that it can cleanse each and every one of us from our sins.

That is why He went to Jerusalem to give His life, as this account here tells us. "The people therefore that was with him when he called Lazarus out of his grave, and raised him from the dead, bear record." (John 12:17). Are we not thankful that we do have this record, this precious Word of God? There were men in times past who tried to destroy this Word of God, but they were not successful, were they? God wants His Word to be available to us in this day and time and God wants His Word to be preached. I am confident of that in this day and time. We read in the Book of Amos that there will be a time of a famine for the Word of God. Young men and fair virgins will go from coast to coast seeking the Word of God and shall not find it. We are not in those times, are we? We are in the time when God's Word is preached and God's Word is available to us. We have His precious Word.

It is important that we take it in our hands often and consider this precious Word of God. This is how God speaks to us. This morning we sang the beautiful hymn, *The Privilege of Prayer*. It is a privilege that we can speak to our Creator, through our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. We have this way we can speak to God and He speaks to us through His good and Holy Word.

"The Pharisees therefore said among themselves, Perceive ye how ye prevail nothing? behold, the world is gone after him." (John 12:19). Oh, we wish that the whole world had gone after Him, would we

not? In the many places we read in the Scripture, we read the words "few...a remnant here...a few here and a few there," but how thankful we are as we think of that question that Jesus Christ did ask, "Shall I find faith when I return here upon this earth?" Part of the answer to that question is up to us, is it not? We should preserve this precious faith that has been given unto us and to pass it on to those who have come after us.

At the past Conference, I believe it was spoken, "What do we mean by preserve?" Is this something we take and put it in a museum and go look at it and say, "Well, that is the way things used to be. That's the way dad and mom used to do things and this is what they did when they went to church and this is how they lived their lives." That is not what we are talking about, is it? We are talking about continuing what they have done and have given unto us. This heritage is just passed along to us through this Apostolic Christian Church of America. So it is up to each one of us to do our part, not just to see if we can do a little bit and get by but fully and completely serve our Lord and Saviour, dedicate our hearts and lives completely unto the Lord and even be an integral part of this precious church which we have.

This church has many, many functions. Yes, there are those who speak the Word and there are those who have the oversight over us and all these things are very important. Yet, in the church, many things have to be done and together we can work as a body. All things are important—those that work in the kitchen, the ushers, the trustees and those who take care of the maintenance of the church. We all have to work together, do we not?

Oh, as we think of communion how those grapes were even pressed and lost their identity as the wine was made. Also, the bread was made and many, many grains went into it, but each grain had to lose its identity as it was pressed and ground into that bread. So, a church can work together as a whole as we march forward in this life and time.

We know Satan is all around us. We sang about that in this beautiful hymn, *Satan is my soul tormenting*. He will do that, will he not? Even as he tormented Job, as we read in the first reading today, he tormented him and tried to destroy him. Yet, we see God was more powerful, was He not? Job had his struggles for quite some time and he had difficulties. When those three men came to him, he said, "...miserable comforters are ye all." (Job 16:2). He had no one really to turn to except God who could help him in that day and time. He was faithful and true, and that should give us courage. We know Satan is out and about trying to mislead and to deceive even the very elect. It is important that we stay close to God and together we walk this pathway of life. Aren't we thankful that we have the church congregations and that we can be together and help one another along this pathway of life as we go out to the battlefield?

In our daily occupations, it seems like we are alone, but we know there are brothers and sisters praying for us, and we can pray for them. Then we can come together mid-week, Sundays and on special occasions to become renewed and strengthened and be overcomers. How thankful we are that God is the One who is Almighty, all-powerful, all-seeing and all-knowing! In the end, He is going to win out. So when Satan tempts us

and tries us, let us take courage that God will help us through these trials. When we are in the middle of these trials sometimes, it is pretty difficult, isn't it? Even as God saw those in Bible times, there are many, many accounts of those who had great trials, but God saw them through to the end when they put their trust and confidence in Him. God will be faithful unto us also as He was to those people in those times.

"And there were certain Greeks among them that came up to worship at the feast: The same came therefore to Philip, which was of Bethsaida of Galilee, and desired him, saying, Sir, we would see Jesus. Philip cometh and telleth Andrew: and again Andrew and Philip tell Jesus." (John 12:20-22). Some disciples here that we don't hear too much about, but they had their part, did they not? Philip and Andrew saw those Greeks that came to the feast; they came to see Jesus. They came to Jerusalem and if they came from Greece, they came quite a ways, didn't they? They felt it was worthwhile to come and to worship Jesus Christ. They felt it more important than some of those who right there in the local community did not even feel it was important. Those who wanted to put Him to death did not pay much attention to our Lord and Saviour.

We see this work here of Philip and Andrew. We don't even read of any words that they spoke other than they told them that they wanted to see Jesus and he brought them there. Jesus told those who were there, "The hour is come, that the Son of man should be glorified. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die,

it bringeth forth much fruit." (John 12:23-24). We see that, do we not? The time of the year is coming to plant the grain into the fields, and first and foremost the soil has to be prepared. Even as we come to God's house, how important it is that our hearts be prepared to receive this Word. Yet, the corn, wheat or whatever it might be, this grain is put into the ground and it dies, doesn't it? Yet, when it dies, it provides nourishment and the beginning for that stalk of grain to come up, whether it is corn, wheat or whatever it might be that it could come forth and bring much more fruit. That is how it was that Jesus Christ also had to die and be laid in the bosom of the earth so we could be saved.

"He that loveth his life shall lose it; and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal." (John 12:25). Do we love our life here upon this earth? Let us think about that. Do we love it too much? Are we getting too comfortable when we go out in our daily labors with the things and people of the world? Are we getting too comfortable with them? We know this world is not our home; we are just passing through. When the world would come and put its arms around us and start to embrace us and tell us "might" things, let us be careful. Let us be on guard and be warned for this world is not our home. We want to be separate from the world, do we not?

There is a beautiful poem that speaks of the church and the world. At one time, they were even far apart, but yet, step-by-step, just a little bit here and a little bit there, the church grew closer to the world. At the end, the church was walking hand in hand with the world.

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Whether it be our church in the world or we as individuals in the world, we must stay separated. As the world gets more and more wicked and more and more darker and darker, how important it is that we stay farther and farther away from this world in which we find ourselves. Our goal is Heaven. "...he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal." (John 12:25).

So may God help us to keep these things in proper perspective so our love would not be for the world and things of this world. Our love should be focused on those things that are eternal and in helping one another along this pathway of life that leads us to life eternal. Spend time with our children, appropriate time, good quality time with them and teach them of God's ways. There are so many things that we can be doing in this world and time, and so many good things we can be doing, but if it takes us from our family too much, we need to be careful. Let us keep all these things in mind.

"If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me, him will my Father honour." (John 12:26). Isn't this what we want to do—serve our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ and follow Him? Where He leads, I will follow.

How important it is that we do this. We are not always sure where that is going to be, do we? Certainly in my life there have been things that I have been asked to do—God has asked me to do, the church has asked me to do and it came somewhat as a surprise. But if this is God's will and the will of my brother, certainly we are willing to do that through God's help. "If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me, him will my Father honour." (John 12:26). Isn't this what we want—the honor and blessings of God to rest upon us?

"Now is my soul troubled; and what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour: but for this cause came I unto this hour." (John 12:27). Jesus was God in the form of man but He bore that flesh, did He not? He knew what was ahead of Him. He knew that death upon that cross and the weight of our sins stood before Him. All of this was ahead of Him. Even as the time in the garden, He asked if this could be removed, but nevertheless, that God's will would be done.

We see at this time, "Father, glorify thy name. Then came there a voice from heaven, saying, I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again." (John 12:28). Even as God

speaks from Heaven, we know God was pleased with His Son, Jesus Christ, who even lived His life here upon this earth. He was innocent, pure, and faithful unto His God in all things. Jesus said, "This voice came not because of me, but for your sakes." (John 12:30). That is why Jesus came into this world, was it not? It was for our sakes. He wants each and every one of us to be with Him in the heavens above. He has gone to prepare a place for us. If He would not be doing this, He would not have told us. He is there now on the right hand of God interceding for each and every one of us. We can be with Him where He is in the heavens above.

So let us be up and doing, loved ones, whether we be in Remington, Rittman or wherever it might be, we can serve our God. We can serve Him faithful in those times when we come together and have these blessings. We can pray for one another and can be thinking of one another. Even hand-in-hand, arm-in-arm we can go forward side-by-side, and even if Satan would attempt to assail us, we can be overcomers. By God's grace, may He help us unto this end. Perhaps we will never meet again here on this earth; yet, we can all be together in the heavens above. May God bless us and help us to this end.



CARIBBEAN BOARD PROJECTS - 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, Fax 1-734-454-9259 or E-mail thitzhome@juno.com. For Jamaica, direct your inquiry to Bro. Kevin Sauder, Ph./Fax 309-925-2409 or E-mail ksss@dpc.net.

Haiti	MEBSH	TBA	Les Cayes	Bob Pflederer	Hospital Lumiere	TBA	0%
Haiti	MEBSH	Nov 30 - Dec 8, '00	Les Cayes	Jon Zeller	Generator	6	(*)100%
Haiti	MEBSH	Dec 7-15, '00	Les Cayes	Jon Zeller	Generator	6	(*)100%
Haiti	MEBSH	Jan 4-12, '01	Les Cayes	Craig Emch	Grade School	9	(*)60%
Jamaica	CCCD	Jan 5-13, '01	Montego Bay	Mark Criss	Deaf School	(*)60	100%
Haiti	AWA-FRW	Jan 18-26, '01	Les Cayes	Duane Schieler	Vocational Sch.	4	100%
Haiti	AWA-T	Jan 18-26, '01	Les Cayes	Derek Sauder	Water Aid	5	100%
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Haiti	MEBSH	Jan 25 - Feb 2, '01	Les Cayes	Dean Pashak	Grade School	9	(*)20%
Haiti	SEED	Feb 15-23, '01	Les Cayes	Bob Beebe	Agriculture Aid	9	0%
Haiti	SEED	Feb 22 - Mar 2, '01	Les Cayes	Bob Beebe	Agriculture Aid	9	0%
Haiti	Palm Grove	Mar 2-10, '01	Puit Sales	Tom Hitz	Grade School	11	0%
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Haiti	MEBSH	Mar 8-16, '01	Les Cayes	Phil Isabel	Grade School	9	0%
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Haiti	MEBSH	Mar 15-23, '01	Les Cayes	Jim Walter	Grade School	9	0%
Haiti	Palm Grove	(*) Mar 16-24, '01	Puit Sales	Tom Hitz	Grade School	11	(*)100%
Haiti	SEED	(*) Mar 22-30, '01	Les Cayes	Bob Beebe	Agriculture Aid	9	0%
Haiti	Palm Grove	Apr 6-13, '01	Puit Sales	Tom Hitz	Grade School	11	(*)100%
Jamaica	CCCD	Apr 7-14, '01	Deaf Village	(*) (1) Peoria B.C.	Work Place	50	80%
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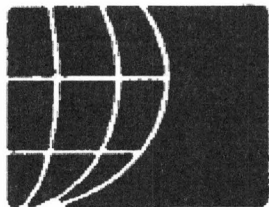
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EASTERN UNITED STATES

**APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN
WORLD RELIEF**

REVIEW

36th Annual Meeting

**Saturday,
November 11, 2000**

**Apostolic Christian
Fellowship Center
Francesville, Indiana**

**Hosted by the
Francesville
Congregation**

**“As we have therefore the opportunity, let
us do good unto all men, especially them
who are of the household of faith.”
Ga. 1:10**

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in Sewing Groups, World Relief, and Work Projects.

* Hear special presentations and progress
updates of national disaster assistance programs.

* Learn how you can get more
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Schedule of Events

Friday, November 10

For those arriving Friday night, your hosts for overnight accommodations will be at the Fellowship Center from 7 to 9 pm EST

Saturday, November 11

8:00am	Doors Open
9:00-noon	Morning Meeting
12:00-1:30pm	Lunch
1:30-4:00	Afternoon Meeting
4:30	Dinner

Sunday, November 12

10:00am	Sunday School & Morning Service
12:30pm	Afternoon Service
3:00	Dinner

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Funeral service for Bro. Dale Aeschliman, Bluffton, IN, (1945), conducted by Elder Bro. Noah Schrock, Oakville, IA. (Continued from September 2000 issue)

It must have been an exceedingly revolutionized doctrine to them that Paul preached of a risen Lord. It was the resurrection of the dead, resurrection of Christ, that so mystified the early believers who were brought out of darkness and into the true faith. They could hardly grasp it. That was quite mysterious to them.

It need not be a mystery to us if we believe the scripture, "if we believe that Jesus died and rose again." That is that "if" exists, that is the condition upon which man may possess this precious hope or may not possess it, whether he believes that Jesus Christ lived, died and rose again.

And once an awakened heart believes that Jesus Christ died for mankind, that he arose again a victor over death and the grave, such an awakened heart is no longer satisfied with the unfruitful life of sin and disobedience, but has penetrated into a new realm of life and new source of comfort of which there never can be enough.

It is as the Saviour Himself said, "In such a heart a well of water shall spring into life eternal."

It is a comfort for us upon such an occasion to read such Scripture as we have gathered here in memory of our beloved Brother, as was mentioned in the prayer at the home, whose body we cannot lay away with tender care and cannot look upon him for the last time, but only as in memory of his having lived among us and having been associated with him in this same precious hope and faith, have we become willing to come here today.

It seems to me that "Memorial Service" is not quite the appropriate and proper title for such a meeting. It should be entitled, "A meeting of Hope and Anticipation."

So far as the memory of his life is concerned, even as we cherished it in our hearts and even his short life that he was permitted to live here, eventually time will erase.

Time and generations coming on finally will forget such fond and cherished memories, but with God there is no forgetting. He has in His own mind the welfare and salvation of His people. It would not be proper to continue in this meditation and forget to mention the work of salvation.

It may be unusual to dwell upon these things and not perhaps of the glory that is connected with the death of one who dies in Service. There is greater glory, my dear hearers, than that to die in the service of our nation. We are willing to give tribute to whom tribute is due and honor to whom honor is due, and we want to respect and we want to esteem and pray for our earthly government and for those who are in authority, and respect the emblem of our nation which is in our midst today. We do not want to set the most important in the background, we cannot put lasting things first and first things last.

The first thing that we want to dwell upon is to impress upon the mind the value of salvation, the love of God toward us mortals here upon earth, in His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. That He came into this sinful world and that He gave His own life and shed His precious blood that we might have life, and that we might have it more abundantly.

We read something in the Prophet Micah of God's ultimate objective. God has deemed it best to leave even those who believe in Him in this world, in this world of strife and turmoil and war. But thanks be unto His precious name that He has given us a glimpse of the future time, the time and dispensation when His Son Jesus will reign upon earth, when the plan of peace and good will toward men will finally and literally be established and can be realized by poor humanity here upon earth.

We are sometimes very unhappy that this thread of truth has not been recognized by governmental authority more than it has. We do not want to belittle the ambition of the leadership here upon earth to try and put forth efforts by force to make this a world better for future generations. We do not want to belittle such efforts, but we feel extremely skeptical about the ultimate outcome of the efforts that are being put forth because the basic and fundamental evils cannot be removed by the use of tanks and other instruments of war.

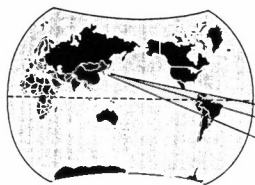
The evil nature of the human race, the nature of greed and sin is displeasing to God. That is the very nature of man, and we cannot change human nature with bayonets. The nature of man must be changed through regeneration in which the sinner repents and believes in this risen Christ Jesus and finds remission and is born again and rises out of baptism a new man.

Our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, had never given us one particle of hope that this universal condition of good will and peace toward men would be realized upon earth until He comes again. He says among other things, "In the world ye shall have tribulation; in me ye shall have peace."

And he spoke that there shall be wars and rumors of wars and we might just as well face the facts as they are, that we are not going to have peace on earth and good will toward men as long as the god of this world and forces of evil are enthroned in every nation in the world more or less.

Next Issue:

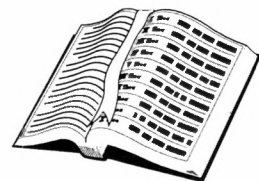
Concluding Funeral Remarks



The Light Of Hope

From Across The Ocean

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“Ten Thousand Year Reign”

Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle, Shioda, Japan

Although my first love is what the Bible teaches, as to how we are to live here and now, today, it may be well for us to know something about prophecy, so that when it happens we will remember that it is written in the Bible.

One topic about prophecy is the Millennium, although that word is not used in the King James Bible. In Revelation 20:6 we read, “They shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.” The word millennium means a thousand years. The pronoun “they” in the above quotation refers to the redeemed. In Revelation 20:2 we are told that an angel laid hold on Satan and bound him a thousand years, indicating that Satan will not have any power over the earth and its inhabitants during this period.

We believe that Isaiah 11:6 describes the conditions on the earth during Christ’s thousand year reign. “The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the

leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them.”

In Jude, verse 14 and 15 it is written, “Behold the Lord cometh with ten thousand of his saints, to execute judgment upon all.” In I Thessalonians 4:16-17 we read, “The dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.” It seems reasonable to assume that Christ will come first for His saints (which is referred to as the Rapture) and then later, come with His saints to reign on earth for a thousand years. It is my understanding that the saints, the redeemed, will receive a new body at the time Christ comes for His saints, and that the resurrection is of the body, not of the spirit. When the saints come with the Lord to reign on earth, they will already have their new, immortal bodies. I Corinthians 15:53, “For this corruptible must

put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.”

I look upon our reign with Christ upon this earth for a thousand years as a part of our heavenly experience. It is something to know about since it is written in the Bible, but let us concentrate on our faith on the Lord Jesus Christ and how we are called upon to live it out every day. Then we can meet our Saviour smiling and be ready to enjoy any and all experiences He has in store for us.

In Revelation 16:16 we read, “And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon.” This term has come to mean the last, great battle on this present earth, between the forces of evil and the forces of good. It will probably take place after the thousand year reign. General MacArthur said, “Unless we find a more equitable way of settling our differences, Armageddon is just around the corner.”

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... thou preparest them corn, when thou hast so provided for it.

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