

# *The Silver Lining*



*The bounty of the Lord cometh in many forms - Thanksgiving is from our heart*

November 2000

## “GOD’S GRACE IS SUFFICIENT”

*Sermon by Bro. Ted Hirstein, Morton, IL*

Psalm 31 and Romans 15:16-33

What a beautiful request as Paul speaks of sharing the gospel and of ministering the story of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles. How the door has swung open wide to all mankind and to be able to hear what Jesus did! Jesus died and He shed His blood and He paid the debt so that we can all come to Him with our heart broken, that we could repent of our sins, that we can confess them and that we could find a cleansing, a washing away, that lifting of that burden, that weight that would lay so heavy upon us. It is a weight that would push us down so far that it would take us all the way to hell if we did not unload it. It would take us to hell.

Yet, how simple it is. Once we understand the gospel message, the beauty of what Jesus did, the beauty of God’s plan for all mankind that there are none that are too good and none that are too bad. But everybody can be received. Everyone can find that forgiveness, everyone can become a believer in Jesus Christ. We are all welcome by Him because He loves us so much.

Isaiah is the one that wrote the words, “Behold, the LORD’S hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear.” (Isaiah 59:1). His hand can reach to each and every one of us all the way from heaven.

He can pull us up to heaven just as in the kingdoms that are established here in an earthly sense scientifically whether it be minerals, vegetables, animals, or the celestial kingdom. No kingdom can rise to the next kingdom by itself. It must be pulled up. Vegetables must absorb the minerals. The animals must absorb the vegetables. The mammals, the people, must absorb those things from the earth. They don’t get there by themselves. It takes a higher level to pull them up.

Likewise, with us, even as believers, the only way we can experience this is to be pulled up by the heavenly kingdom...the kingdom that is far beyond us, and yet, God’s hand is not shortened. His ears are not too heavy. We talk about prayer even in the Psalm where David was singing a song of the Lord’s deliverance and how he put his trust in the Lord and that he would never be ashamed of this. Even as Paul spoke here as a minister and took this Word, there would be some who would receive it and they would be so glad to hear that. They would rejoice that He is coming!

There are others that were waiting, “When are you going to come and see us again?” Don’t we even experience that in our fellowship in our own relationship as a church? We travel from congrega-

tion to congregation at times or we have visitors and we look forward to that. We look forward to being able to go often and visit others. “When are you coming again? When will you be able to visit us?” Or, they may say, “When are you going to come back?”

Paul was going through that

*Sermon continued on page 43*

The Silver Lining subscriptions are due from the following churches. Please collect in:

### December

1. West Bend, IA
2. Bradford, IL
3. Latty, OH
4. Akron, OH

Next correspondence due:  
**For December Issue**  
 (16 Oct News - 15 Nov News)  
**Due: 20 November 2000**

The Silver Lining (Vol. 54, #11)  
 RR2 Box 50 Roanoke, IL 61561  
**USPS 496780**

Published Monthly By The Apostolic  
 Christian Church of America

### Counselors:

*Ervin Knecht, Ron Schambach*

### SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO:

The Silver Lining  
 RR2 Box 50, Roanoke, IL 61561  
 309-923-7513 (phone) 309-923-7359 (fax)

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

The Silver Lining  
 RR2 Box 50, Roanoke, IL 61561

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

## Light From The Word



Writings based  
on God's Word

November 2000

### The Fear of God III

Two previous articles on the Fear of God focused attention on the meaning of the two extremes of fearing God - reverence and terror - and the major benefits of fearing God. These benefits include recognizing His greatness, understanding right from wrong, and developing a greater trust and confidence in God and gaining wisdom by serving Him.

This article will concentrate on the benefits of the fear of God in helping us overcome temptation, to escape the grip of Satan, improving our attitude and some benefits it will bring to the church if we display the reverent fear of God.

In addition to the blessings we can receive from fearing God, the fear of God can also help us to overcome temptation. If we have a reverent fear of God, it is no longer necessary for a child of God to continue in sin. "...by the fear of the Lord men depart from evil" (Prov. 16:6). The world would have us believe that it is not possible to live an overcoming life. Nominal Christendom often teaches us that, since we have not become perfect individuals, "we sin daily" and there is no way we can rid ourselves of the power that sin has on mankind. The Bible teaches us otherwise. It is possible, and necessary, for a converted person to overcome sin.

Peter pleaded with the early Christians to "...abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul" (I Peter 2:11). Paul encouraged Christians to "...lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us," (Heb. 12:1) and also gave strong admonition that we not abuse the grace of God. "What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? ...Shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid" (Ro. 6:1-2; 15). Since we are baptized into Jesus' death and we know that He conquered death and arose from the grave, we by His grace can overcome sin.

We have a beautiful promise to those who fear God and overcome sin: "...that we, being dead to sin, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were

healed" (I Peter 2:24). To each of the seven churches addressed in the second and third chapters of Revelation, a special promise was given to "...him that overcometh..." (Rev. 2:7, 11, 17, 26; and Rev. 3:5, 12 & 21). God would hardly have repeated a promise seven times if the condition of the promise was not attainable.

It is no longer necessary for us to remain in the grip of Satan, to continue to yield to his temptations, and to seek happiness from the pleasures of the world. We can have true joy and freedom in serving God faithfully. We also have the promise that we can be happy if we do not condemn ourselves by the things we allow in our lives (Ro. 14:22). By resisting the temptations that Satan brings to us we can rejoice knowing that the grace of God is sufficient to help us remove evil from our lives.

Prior to our conversion, when we had fright rather than reverence toward God, we all were in need of an attitude adjustment. We were not as submissive to God as we should have been even though we know that "Pride goeth before destruction..." (Prov. 16:18) and "A man's pride shall bring him low:..." (Prov. 29:23). As we came under conviction and were able to "Submit (our) selves therefore to God..." (Ja. 4:7), we found it possible to be obedient and strive for humility and, therefore, find that "By humility and the fear of the Lord are riches, and honour, and life" (Pr. 22:4).

God knows our attitude. His Word is "...powerful and sharper than any twoedged sword, ...and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart" (Heb. 4:12). If we fill our minds with thoughts of the fear of God and if the intents of our heart are pure, God will know. Jesus knew without being told who believed in Him and whose hearts were right with God. He "...needed not that any should testify of man: for he knew what was in man" (Jn. 2:25).

If we truly fear God in a reverent manner, it will be apparent in our lives. We will truly be a separate people, showing humility, submission, obedience and holiness in our lives. It will not be necessary for us to

seek the entertainment of the world that dulls the senses, destroys compassion, mocks the fear of God, blurs the distinction between right and wrong, and leads us to the very edge of sin.

The scripture also teaches us that the fear of God brings strength to the church. After a period of turmoil brought on by persecution, there came a time when "...the churches had rest ...and were edified; walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost,..." (Acts 9:31). Although periods of unrest and persecution were important in spreading the gospel, the Lord wants peace and harmony within the church. He counts as an abomination "...he that soweth discord among brethren" (Prov. 6:19).

David recognized that it is important for individuals to walk in unity and peace for there to be strength in the house of God. "For it was not an enemy that reproached me; then I could have borne it: neither was it he that hated me that did magnify himself against me; then I could have hid myself from him: But it was thou, a man mine equal, my guide, and mine acquaintance. We took sweet counsel together, and walked into the house of God in company" (Ps. 55:12-14). David knew that reverent fear of God would not have allowed such behavior to occur.

The first three articles of the "Fear of God" provided definitions of "fear", and explained some of the benefits a child of God can receive by developing and maintaining a truly reverent fear of God.

Among the benefits are learning of God's greatness, gaining a strong trust and confidence in God, obtaining wisdom, understanding the difference between right and wrong, gaining acceptance with God and adjusting our attitude toward God and His Word.

In the final article of this series, attention will be focused on learning how to gain the fear of God.



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

## Living in a Developing Country

Blessed is the people that  
know the joyful sound: they  
shall walk, O Lord, in the light  
of thy countenance.

PSALMS 89:15

Several years ago the Caribbean Board authorized placing a couple from our US brotherhood in Haiti to serve as project coordinators. Bro. Eric and Sis. Rhonda Tonner from the Bluffton area were chosen to make a beginning in this necessary work and have been there for several years. Over the years, our brethren have worked through various different organizations based in this land, which is recognized as the poorest in the western hemisphere. It has proven good to have someone from our own group to help coordinate work teams as well as oversee the many efforts in place.

Brethren serving on the Caribbean Board as well as

volunteers who go to Haiti to help in various ways have found this work to be both challenging and rewarding. They are united in their desire to serve God and man. The hand of our great God has been witnessed many times in many different ways as this effort has progressed through the years. The gratitude and hospitality of most of the Haitians they work with has often overwhelmed our brethren and friends.



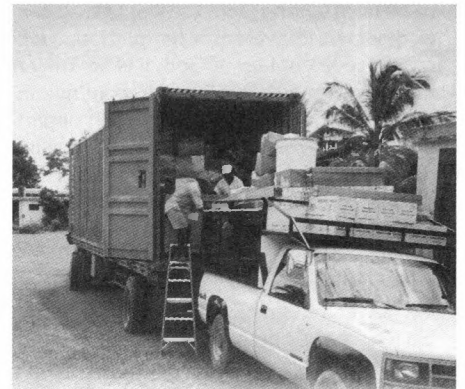
## Adjusting to life in Haiti requires grace from God

Haiti is a country with a lot of problems, and these problems affect most people that live there on a daily basis. They learn to cope with roads being blocked by protesters or mud, having slow access to needed parts to keep equipment working, as well as trying to keep Haitians and volunteers working together toward a common goal. These situations require God's help, because so often human effort doesn't go far enough to overcome all the difficulties. Project coordinators and volunteers learn that they must often seek guidance and comfort in the Word of God, and pray for the direction of the Holy Spirit to manifest the virtues of patience, faith, and a positive testimony to all who observe the work.

## With the rains in Haiti most roads get difficult

Staff members have shared experiences that have caused them to seek God's help all the time. Recently there were lots of problems to solve at the same time, and when the end of the day came, many of them were quite frustrated. They had tried to put a hitch on a truck so they could deliver the goods that had arrived on a sea

container from the USA. However, things did not go very well. Evening found them looking in the Word and praying for the right spirit as they approached the work. The next day things went better as they tried to approach the difficult situations in a manner reflecting Godly virtues. This work, as well as all others in which our World Relief efforts are carried out is very dependent on the prayers from our brethren at home. Time after time these prayers have been felt and the results have been seen.



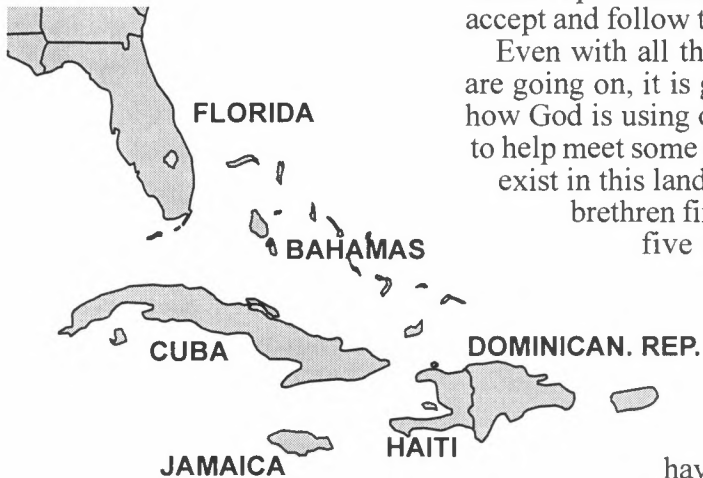
## Unloading a sea container shipped from the USA

The picture above shows workers unloading a sea container of supplies provided by our brethren and friends in the USA. Many deeply dedicated people work together to make all this possible.

## How it looked when coming home

This past summer the Tonners returned to Indiana for nine weeks to keep in touch with family, friends, and their home church. As they drove through cities and towns, they were astounded at how orderly things are here. After living for a couple of years in primitive circumstances, one tends to forget

how it is at home, and becomes much more appreciative of the many blessings and benefits we take for granted in this land of plenty.



### Haiti's heritage

Haiti has a heritage that is just opposite of ours. Instead of having a government based on Godly principals, Haiti is governed by men that worshiped and served Satan as they set up their government. The fruits of this evil influence are seen everywhere. As a result, Haiti is full of confusion, jealousy, corruption, and misery. Just about everyone who lives there feels this in their lives.

Our volunteers often find it hard to cope with the chaos and suffering that this type of self-centered governing produces. Somehow from our perspective it always seems that the work should be easier.

### God turns hardships into blessings

Over the years, our brethren serving in the Caribbean nations have developed a working relationship with local groups who are trying to bring Godly principles into the lives of the struggling Haitian people. Our brotherhood has always felt that we should not mingle our doctrines with other groups, and with thanks to God, they have been able to cooperate with local groups that have the physical organization we lack while maintaining our own

spiritual identity. The Caribbean Board has adopted guidelines that address these situations, and requests that everyone who goes to Haiti representing our brethren accept and follow these guidelines.

Even with all the hardships that are going on, it is gratifying to see how God is using our organization to help meet some of the needs that exist in this land of turmoil. Our brethren find that regularly five things seem to come together as we carry out this work. They are: seeing a need that exists, having faith to meet that need, sincere prayer, a willingness to make a personal sacrifice, and an earnest desire for God's name to be exalted. When these are present, the blessings seem to follow, both at home and abroad.

about this problem, a check arrived from one of our Sunday Schools. That check made it possible for these children to experience the love of God in a very practical way. Those who send these gifts of love seldom see the end result, but the children are grateful, and they pray for their benefactors.

### There is hope for change in Haiti

If the Lord delays his coming, Haiti could make a turnaround. Local churches have invested a lot of energy in providing schools for their children. Biblical virtues are being taught, and children are being brought up in the knowledge of the love of God. It is hoped that this will result in a different outlook toward daily life, not only for the children, but also for their parents.

Our volunteers see a new spirit as they install roofs on the school buildings. It is amazing to observe how parents pull together to get the

material around the walls of a school when they know that a group of foreign Christians will do the work. It seems to give them the incentive they need to improve their schools and thus their way of life.

Our work teams also construct desks for these schools.



### Let the little ones come unto me

Recently plans were made to send twenty-five special needs children to a loving Christian school in Port-au-Prince for a year. Just before the children were scheduled to go, the organization that usually funded this didn't have the money. The day before our staff in Haiti was told

By the end of their time in Haiti, a lot of people are praising God for His faithfulness. The recipients thank God and pray for everyone involved in this labor of love. This includes not only work team members, but also those who serve at home in Distribution Centers, Sewing Groups, or any other way. May God continue to bless these efforts!

### **APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED**

During the past month, the staff, residents, and the families of the small group homes have had a couple of wiener roasts. One of these was at the Blunier Farm and the other was at Linden Estate. We want to thank all who helped to make them a success. The residents really enjoy being outdoors this time of year.

Eleven of our residents from the smaller homes went to Remington, IN, for the weekend of October 14-15. We appreciate those who have shown hospitality to our staff and residents by keeping them overnight.

"And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

*Matthew 25:40*

We enjoyed an Ice Cream Social for all residents and their families in September with around 250 people served.

Several residents went for a harvest drive to see the pumpkin, corn and soybean harvest in full swing.

We congratulate Kay Ellis, a resident of Timber Ridge, who has progressed in the bowling tournament of the Special Olympics to the state level.

As we move towards the end of the harvest season and reflect on the yields that they brought, may it remind us of our calling to go into the field of souls for the fields are white unto harvest.

"...Thrust in thy sickle, and reap; for the time is come for thee to reap;

for the harvest of the earth is ripe."

*Revelation 14:15*

DECEMBER birthdays at **TIMBER RIDGE** are: Dirk Slonneger (5), Bryan Streid (8), Christina Otten (9), Phil Fehr (18), Bland Jones (18), Anne Carrescia (30). At **OAKWOOD ESTATE**: Delores Wieland (15). At **LINDEN ESTATE**: Jennifer Steiner (15). At 200 E. **HAZELWOOD**: Alan Unsicker (15). At 652 **DETROIT**: Jane Aberle (14). At 241 **MINNESOTA**: Marian Funk (20), Rhonda Pullen (4).

### **GATEWAY WOODS APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME**

**Jeff Schumacher**

As a young man growing up in central Illinois, harvest time was a very exciting time. Even though I am no longer a "young man", nor living in Illinois, harvest is still a very exciting time. I watch with fascination (and a desire to help), the farmers driving through the fields harvesting their crop. I listen to the discussions about yield and how the rain helped/hurt. I am reminded of how we work towards the goal of the earthly harvest and it is all culminated in a couple of months. There is a lot of time and energy spent around harvest, but in reality there is much more time spent in preparing the ground, planting, cultivating and praying.

In reality, as Christians, we are all farmers. Do we spend time preparing, cultivating and praying for souls so they are ready for the harvest? Is our focus so earthly that we cannot see the Lord's fields? They are all around us, no matter where we live or what we do.

When I look at the example of the farmers and look to scripture, I am reminded of the passage in John 4:35b, "Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; they are white already to harvest."

The Lord made it clear that His harvest is ready at all times. Are we working diligently for our Lord (Matt. 9:38, "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest")? We are the labourers that the Bible talks about. What has been our effort towards His harvest? Which one will have a greater "value"? I pray that we are diligently looking around us at the Lord's fields and seeing that the harvest is ready and that there is a lot of work that needs to get done.

I believe with all my heart that Matthew 9:37 ("Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few;") is very valid today and that even some in the secular world are looking to Christians for help. The question remains...where are the labourers?

The Lord continues to bless the work here at Gateway Woods. We were glad to see Bro. Andy and Sis. Jill Lehman arrive and start their service. Kyle F. was admitted to the Bauman house, Amber J. was admitted to the Meister home and Tyler J. was discharged from the Meisters to return to his father's home.

Gateway Woods Foster Care program will hold meetings in homes to inform and recruit families to work as foster parents in the Bluffton area.

We would encourage you to pray

for:

-wisdom as we work with the residents and families God brings to us.

-the staff, as we minister, that the Lord will show through all we do.

-the children and their parents that they will be receptive to the Lord's call.

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

What a wonderful thing it is to praise and honor our great God, who gives us so many blessings. The staff here at the Preschool have been very busy this past month working with several new children and a couple of them being a little younger than we sometimes take. As we wait upon the Lord, He sometimes puts opportunities in our way that we could very easily miss and sometimes we probably do.

Our theme this month is Transportation, so we have been learning different things about that. Our color this month is Orange, so we took a field trip to a large 5,000 acre farm where the kids saw and touched some animals, was able to pick a bowl of cotton, and then went to a huge pumpkin field filled with orange pumpkins, where each child picked out their very own pumpkin to take home. Several of the parents went along and all enjoyed a good day. What a blessing it is just to be able to enjoy the simple things of life and to realize that all we have is because of a loving God who provides for His people.

Time seems to pass so quickly. The last weekend of October will be our fall Preschool board meeting, where several brothers and their

families will travel to be here and discuss the things that concern our Preschool, and then be with us on Sunday. We pray God will give all safe travel and a blessed weekend together.

As was mentioned in last month's writing, a mailing was sent out to all that supported our sponsor program last year. To date, many have responded to again be a part of our Preschool, and we of the Preschool staff thank you for this support. If anyone would like information concerning the opportunities of being a sponsor of the Athens Apostolic Christian Preschool, please contact Elder Bro. Lavoyd Moore (256) 232-2035 or the Preschool at (256) 233-0591.

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**ALABAMA, ATHENS  
Joan Reinhard  
Louise Hall**

We were thankful that Elder Bro. Lavoyd Moore felt well enough to be in Nashville for the testimony and baptism of Sis. Faye Sauder (Bro. Don) on the weekend of September 30 and October 1. A few of us attended and had a blessed weekend with our Nashville brothers and sisters.

Bro. Lavoyd is continuing his chemotherapy treatments and he did have a cat scan that gave a good report. He has been overwhelmed with the support, cards, phone calls and prayers that have been offered on his behalf. Thank you each one.

Our Sis. Ruby Ross spent some time in the hospital this past month, but we are thankful that she is home now and doing better.

We are very appreciative of some brothers from Rittman helping with and bringing down our new kitchen tables. We now have u shaped tables

in our kitchen and have enjoyed using them. May God bless each of you that had a part in this labor of love.

We had visitors this month from Eureka, Peoria, Roanoke, Tremont and Washington, IL; Bluffton, Bluffton North, Francesville and Milford, IN; and Rittman, OH. We also were glad to meet some of our Sis. Maryann Zamora's family from Colorado Springs. It is so good when we can have fellowship across the country.

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**ARIZONA, PHOENIX  
Ron and Ev Hoerr**

"Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart."

*II Timothy 2:22*

Beth Cooke and Tricia Lawson have received this peace and will share their testimonies on October 28. How thankful we are to share our love with God's new children.

Our sympathy to Bro. Bob and Sis. Eleanor Hill on the death of his sister. Bro. Bob went to Virginia for the funeral.

We welcomed our friends, Nick and Kolette (Niemeyer) Hysong, back from Sydney on October 1. Nick gives thanks to the Lord for the gold medal he returned with.

Bro. Allan and Sis. Edith Freed were honored at a reception for their 50th wedding anniversary, October 8. May the Lord continue to bless them. Family came from Indiana, Illinois and California to share this golden event.

*Notes of Thanks:*

Our deepest, heartfelt thanks to

all who remembered us on our 50th anniversary. Your kindness was so appreciated, and gave us some wonderful "Golden Memories". Special thanks to our dear family who planned this blessed weekend and to relatives who traveled to be with us. God bless you all!

*Bro. Allan and Sis. Edith Freed*

With heartfelt thanks for your prayers, cards, gifts and visits. We pray God's blessings on each of you for your love the past months during some health problems.

In Christian love,

*Bro. Richard and Sis. Barbara Schupbach*

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### ARIZONA, PRESCOTT Jane Hodges

"Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;"

*Eph. 5:19-20*

Even though we are reminded by the Apostle Paul to give thanks always for all things, we can be especially thankful in November that our nation has set aside a day of "Thanksgiving" that the majority of us have the opportunity to be together with family and friends and share in a day of love, rejoicing and thanks for the many blessings the Lord has given us. We should also remember those who are not as privileged as we are in this nation.

Our congregation is especially thankful for the many visitors we

have had in Prescott this year. On October 15, we had 84 in attendance, our largest group since the dedication of our church in March. Many of the visitors that day were from Phoenix, who had attended a group camp in Prescott for the weekend.

Praise be to God for continuing to provide us with ministers from other churches each Sunday. This last month they included Bros. Steve Ringger (Bluffton North, IN), Erik Givens (Princeville, IL) and James Emch and Herb Knochel Jr. (both of Phoenix).

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### ARIZONA, TUCSON Lisa Knapp

We recently enjoyed our annual Sunday School Picnic. The weather was beautiful as we sat down to a table laden with goodies and watched the children play games and break the piñata. Later we all enthusiastically participated in the traditional bake sale/auction to benefit the Sunday School. We set a record again this year for our sale at the auction. Many thanks to Bro. Brad and Sis. Sandy for their work on the picnic and also to everyone who came and brought such beautiful food and auction items and to those who were so generous in their donations at the auction. The kids seem to think we have this picnic for them, but I think there would be a lot of disappointed adults if this picnic ever canceled!

We are pleased to welcome Bro. Norm and Sis. Jan Rechkemmer (Roanoke, IL) to our assembly. They will be "part-time Tucsonans" which is just fine with us. We are enjoying their fellowship already and heartily welcome them to our little

church. God's blessings are certainly abundant and comes in many forms!

Our prayers have been with Bro. Bob and Sis. Betty Lemons as their daughter has been hospitalized in Illinois. We will keep them in our prayers.

We are happy to welcome back our dear friend, Bee Schmidt. Bee spends every summer in Show Low, AZ, to escape the heat. She is back with us now that our days are cooler!

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### CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA Jim Klotzle

When someone wrongs us, offends our brother or sister, or causes contention in the church, the hurt from those actions manifests itself, like a little drop of bitterness, in our hearts. After a few of these, an otherwise upright heart can be clouded, straining our walk with the Lord. The Word commands us to forgive:

"For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses."

*Matt. 6:14-15*

We should forgive out of love for those who hurt us, because we know firsthand the incredible blessing of being forgiven. Provided in the Bible for us to follow is the ultimate example of forgiveness:

"Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. And they parted his raiment, and cast lots."

*Luke 23:34*



On Wednesday, October 4, Elder Bro. John Lehman and his wife, Sis. Connie; Elder Bro. Roy Grimm and his wife, Sis. Dona; and Elder Bro. Mark Bahr visited us on their way to Japan, and on to India. Sis. Connie Lehman returned to the States after the stop in Japan. At last report, the trip had gone well and those traveling were in good health. We ask the Lord to bless them and our Elder Bro. John Klotzle and his wife, Sis. Lois, for their continued work in spreading the Gospel message to those in India.

Other visiting ministers were Bros. Ben Wiegand (Philadelphia, PA) and Doug Wagenbach (San Diego, CA).

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### **CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO** **Peggy Jevremov**

"In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."

*1 Thess. 5:18*

We live in a nation that has set aside one day each year called Thanksgiving Day. And on that day we do reflect upon our many blessings. But as children of God, really every day should be a day of thanksgiving. How much we have to be thankful for! But are we really thankful enough? Do our lives reflect that thankfulness as they should? If they don't, there is never a better time to improve than today.

We are thankful Bro. Rory Strahm has been able to assemble with us some Sunday mornings in the past month. He still continues to be in our thoughts and prayers as his

illness is ongoing.

Once more, we have enjoyed visitors from across the land. We pray that the Lord will bless you, as your visits have blessed us.

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

"I was cast upon thee from the womb: thou art my God from my mother's belly. Be not far from me; for trouble is near; for there is none to help."

*Psalms 22:10-11*

Trouble is near for all those who are raising children to fear God and keep His commandments. We need to cast them upon the Lord "from the womb". We appreciate so much that Bro. Perry Klopfenstein (Gridley, IL) came to speak to us about raising our children to be godly in a secular world and also about the doctrinal history of our church. We were much encouraged and renewed in our spiritual battle.

Bro. Jim and Sis. Laura Baxter, and their children, Andrew, Hannah, Leah and Daniel, are thankful to God for the safe arrival of Julia Rose. Grandparents are Earle Baxter and Bro. Gene and Sis. Kay Siebenthal (Princeville, IL). May God help us to rely upon His strength and wisdom as we raise these precious children.

We are thankful God is healing Daniel Baxter (Bro. Jim and Sis. Laura) as he broke his arm in a fall from his bicycle.

We praise and thank our Lord again for all our visitors and especially our visiting ministers, Bros.

Randy Gasser (Detroit, MI) and Art Ingold (Rittman, 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. Tim Tomic (519) 634-1185 for more information and directions.

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### **COLORADO, DENVER** **Mike and Heather Katanic**

At this time of Thanksgiving, our congregation rejoices with Brit Steffen as he has found peace with our Lord. We are looking forward to hearing his testimony and witnessing his baptism the weekend of November 25. May God continue to be his strength and guide in the coming months.

We are also thankful to have had Elder Bros. Robert Walder (Congerville, IL) and Ron Schambach (Elgin, IL) share God's Word with us this past month.

Our plans for a new church building are progressing well; and we remind each of you to keep us in your prayers that we would follow God's direction in this venture.

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### **CONNECTICUT** **ROCKVILLE** **Cherie Galat**

Now thank we all our God  
With heart, and hands and  
voices,

Who wondrous things has done,  
In whom the world rejoices...

*Zion's Harp #236*

Not only on Thanksgiving day,  
but every day may we remember  
with hearts full of thankfulness His

death and God's rich mercy upon mankind.

"But if from thence thou shalt seek the Lord thy God, thou shalt find him, if thou seek him with all thy heart and with all thy soul."

*Deut. 4:29*

We rejoice with Amber Reutter (Bro. Duane and Sis. Kay), Elisa Zahner (Bro. Warren and Sis. Bonnie), Marcy Bahler (Bro. Ron and Sis. Bonnie), Elisabeth Ballasy (Bro. Kevin and Sis. Jane), Sarah Gerber (Bro. Loren and Sis. Anne), Jennifer Hoffman (Bro. Arlo and Sis. Lynn), Jayme Lanz (Bro. Barry and Karen) and Holly Reutter (Bro. Dean and Sis. Miriam). Our prayers are with each of these precious souls as they begin a new walk with Him in repentance.

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

*Genesis 2:18*

The engagement of Bro. Chad Virkler (Bro. Terry and Sis. Cindy) and Sis. Jenn Hufnagel (Michael and Debra) was made known unto us. May they continue to look unto Him for continual direction in their lives.

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

*Zion's Harp #79*

Many from our congregation traveled to Remington, IN, to witness the union of Bro. Jonathan Moser and Sis. Angie Scheitlin as husband and wife. Parents are Bro.

Ben and Sis. Glenna Moser and Bro. Rolyce and Sis. Lori Scheitlin (Remington, IN). We welcome Sis. Angie into our hearts and homes and surely hope that she will feel the love of the Rockville brethren.

We are thankful for dear brethren who visit Rockville and labor on the pulpit to teach us out of God's Word. May God richly reward Bros. Loren Knapp (Tucson, AZ) and John Rowell (Burlington, IA) for their loving service.

Our prayers are with Bro. Melvin Gerber as he was in the hospital. May God heal according to His will.

"...In Jesus I will trust always; In Him I live and pass away..." (Zion's Harp #247). May God comfort Bro. Edwin Aberle upon the passing of his dear wife, Sis. Ernestine. She also leaves her children, Linette Murray (Dennis), E. John Aberle, Jr., Ruth DeCarli (Tony), Sis. Heidi Ludwig (Bro. Gerald), and Emily Champ; and her brothers and sisters. May God also provide solace to Sue Balfe (Bro. Bob) on the passing of her mother, Gladys Moreau. She also leaves her other daughters, Jackie, Pauline and Lynn. May He pour in the healing balm and comfort both of these dear families.

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**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
WASHINGTON  
Henrietta Meyer**

We welcome Danisa Lanz and Tim Burke to our congregation. They plan to be married the end of October and will be living in this area.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Ken and Roberta Belsley as he has had back surgery this past month. It may be awhile until he is able to assemble with us.

Our ministers this month were Bros. Gene Lehman (Remington, IN), Ted Hirstein (Morton, IL) and Darrel Stoller (Bern, KS). We are glad these ministers brought family and others with them. Other visitors this month were from Rockville, CT; Philadelphia, PA; and Rittman, OH.

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. (Virginia Department of Transportation has changed the Exit Number from the one that is in the Ministers Book, but it is still the same Route number.) Song service begins at 10:15, worship service at 10:30. If there is an interest expressed by our visitors, we gather Saturday evening for fellowship and/or singing.

For more information, assistance, or just to let us know you are in the area, please call Bro. Barry Steffen (410) 569-3635 or Bro. Matt Fetter (703) 860-5749.

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**FLORIDA  
FT. LAUDERDALE  
Gretchen Webb**

On October 11, we were saddened to hear of the death of Bro. Tom Cholak. Bro. Tom was a member of our Ft. Lauderdale congregation for many years before moving to the West Coast of Florida. Our thoughts and prayers are extended to his family as they mourn his loss.

October 14-15 was the annual gathering of the three Florida churches in Lakewood, FL. Bro. Will Schieler (Sis. Sue, Milford, IN) was the visiting minister. We pray that God will bless him for his efforts. The Ft.

Lauderdale congregation would like to extend their thanks to all who had a part in planning the weekend.

Sis. Joyce Banwart will be leaving the Ft. Lauderdale congregation and retiring to West Bend, IA. We are sorry to see Sis. Joyce move away and pray that God will bless her as she settles into her new home.

Our prayers and sympathy are extended to Bro. Matt and Sis. Nancy Rocke and their daughters, Jessica and Jennifer, and to Bro. Bob and Sis. Doris Huber in the passing of Bro. Matt's uncle and Bro. Bob's nephew, Bro. Nelson Rocke. We pray that God will comfort them during this time.

Visiting ministers this month were: Elder Bro. Tom Hoffman (Sis. Kathy, Roanoke, IL), and Bros. Rick Plattner (Sis. Mary Ann, Peoria, IL) and Brace Wieland (Sis. Brenda, Leo, IN). May God bless each one for sharing the Word with our congregation.

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**FLORIDA  
NORTH FT. MYERS  
Dorothy Beer**

After a hot and humid summer, we are now welcoming some cooler weather.

Those who attended the Retreat this past weekend reported a wonderful time of Christian fellowship and blessings with the Sarasota and Ft. Lauderdale churches.

Again, our hearts are saddened at the loss of two of our winter residents, Sis. Edith Sauder and Bro. Ray Messner. Our sympathy and prayers go out to their spouses, Bro. Howard Sauder and his family, and Sis. Bernadine Messner and her family. Their presence will be

missed this winter.

We are planning our annual church picnic at our home on November 5.

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**FLORIDA, SARASOTA  
Carol Koehl**

We rejoice with Bro. Doug Wiegand and Sis. Robin Esslinger (Bern, KS) as their engagement was announced. Their parents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Mary Wiegand and Bro. Leland and Sis. Patsy Esslinger, all of Pulaski, IA.

Our annual Lakewood Retreat was held October 13-15 for the three Florida churches. We want to thank our guest speaker, Bro. Will Schieler (Milford, IN), for helping to make this a special weekend.

We also appreciated the labors of Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH) who was also with us in October.

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**GEORGIA, ATLANTA  
Keith and Carol Kaufman**

Now thank we all our God  
With heart, and hands and  
voices,  
Who wondrous things has done,  
In whom the world rejoices,  
Who from our mother's arms  
Has blest us on our way  
With countless gifts of love,  
And still is ours today.

*Zion's Harp #236*

We are so thankful that God has once again provided help for Bro. Tom. Bro. Gary Maibach (Smithville, OH) was our visiting minister this month. May God richly bless him and his wife for spending the weekend with us. Bro. Don Sinn

(Silverton, OR) was planning to be with us on October 15, but his trip was canceled due to the passing of his father, Bro. Otto Sinn, of Silverton, the night before they were due to leave. May his family feel the prayers of the brethren and the comfort of the Holy Spirit.

What a blessing to be able to meet together mid-week and listen to the tapes of the Brotherhood Conference. May each Elder be filled with God's Holy Spirit that the church may be kept pure until His coming. We appreciate you.

"For the priest's lips should keep knowledge, and they should seek the law at his mouth: for he is the messenger of the Lord of hosts."

*Malachi 2:7*

We look forward to having more visitors as winter approaches. Sunday services start at 10:15 and 12:30. 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. (Highway 92), 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.

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**ILLINOIS, BELVIDERE**

**Sheila McCoy  
Doreen Moser**

“...for the harvest of the earth is ripe.”

*Revelation 14:15*

We took an outing to see the cranberry harvest in Wisconsin. It was a beautiful sight to see the crimson berries floating on the flooded fields and the loaded trucks dumping the ripe fruit at the receiving plant. We are grateful for all the blessings of another fall harvest across the land.

We have reaped bountiful blessings from our visiting ministers and many visitors to our congregation this past month. The visiting ministers were Elder Bro. Tom Hoffman (Roanoke, IL) and Bros. Tom Schambach (Elgin, IL), Ed Fritz (Washington, IL) and Lenny Meyer (Chicago, IL). Our continued prayer is that Heaven's harvest of souls will be plentiful and we will be gathered with the ripe fruit.

We had a magnificent fall Sunday afternoon for our church cookout and hay rack ride at Kinnikinnick Forest Preserve. After our monthly rest home singing we enjoyed pizza at Bro. Art and Sis. Marlene Mueller's. These times of fellowship are so special.

Bro. Dean Steffen was our minister at our monthly service in Madison, WI. May our ministers be richly blessed for doing the Lord's service.

Bro. Matt Hein has been absent for several Sundays due to an injury from a fall. We pray he may be in our midst again soon.

Our high school Bible Class invited the Pulaski, IA, Bible Class for a recent weekend. We thank our

Sunday School teachers for all their efforts in this blessed weekend and for the Pulaski students willingness to travel.

Bro. Ryan Harris (Bro. Ron and Sis. Barb, Gridley, IL) has finished college and has moved back home. We certainly miss Ryan and hope that future employment may bring him back to our area.

The foundation has been completed on our new church. Any brethren interested in volunteering their time and talents to help in the construction of the new church should contact Bro. Clint Heinold at (262) 695-8108 or at heinold@prodigy.net.

With the arrival of fall we can observe the geese as they migrate south and learn some valuable lessons. The geese in formation honk from behind to encourage the flock to keep up their speed. We likewise need to reach out to our families, neighbors and friends. Our "honk" may be a helping hand, a card, or a word of encouragement. "Let us not be weary in well doing."

When a goose gets sick or is wounded, two geese drop out of formation and follow it down to land to help and protect it. They remain with the disabled companion until it is able to fly or dies. We, too, need to remember that God tells us to "bear ye one another's burdens."

Due to the V formation and each goose flapping it's wings, the updraft makes flying easier. This should encourage us to remember the importance of a church and of each member of the congregation in reaching our final destination.

**ILLINOIS  
BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL**

**Shawn Masters  
Dana Knapp**

Our church family had many reasons to rejoice this month. Robin Cornejo (Bro. Ron and Sis. Donna Hodel) began her new life in Christ. May God provide her with extra wisdom in raising her daughters, Hannah and Savannah. We are also celebrating the repentance of Bob Hany (Sis. Marilyn). May both feel God's love and nearness as they begin living for Him.

Audrey Elaine was born October 12 to Bro. Jeremy and Sis. Amy Masters. She was welcomed home by Jacob and Courtney. Grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Mary Masters, Bill Custer, and Judy Custer. God bless your family!

We want to welcome back Bro. Steve and Sis. Danae Lehman. They recently moved back to the area from Colorado. Our church family is excited to have you back worshipping with us.

Several Bible studies were given this month. Bro. Jeff Thames (Washington, IL) talked on parenting and Bro. Kevin Knapp spoke on fear. It is always encouraging to study the instructions and promises the Bible holds.

Precious Halley Joy was called Home on October 15. She was the seven week old infant daughter of Bro. Larry and Sis. Barb Stevig and sister to Erin, Bonnie, and Lauren. Sis. Carol Sauder's mother and Chuck Albritton's (Sis. Marsha) brother were also laid to rest. Our hearts go out to all of these families. May God comfort and strengthen you.

Sis. Barb Loy (Bro. Matt) had sur-

gery this month. We are so glad to see her back worshipping with us.

Our church family is looking forward to worshipping in our new church. Our first service will be held there in November. We all will appreciate the extra space the new facility will offer.

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**ILLINOIS, BRADFORD  
Chad and LauraLee Plattner**

“Praise ye the Lord. I will praise the Lord with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright, and in the congregation.”

*Psalm 111:1*

There was much praise given to the Lord this month for three souls who have given their all to Him in repentance. They are Adam Endress (Bro. Larry and Sis. Becky) and Lucas and Tonya Gudeman (Bro. Brad and Sis. Teresa). We pray they will not quench the Spirit as He leads them to change and give up those things that would be a hindrance to their relationship with God.

We have had several loved ones hospitalized this month. They were Sis. Mardelle Dietz (Bro. Kenny), Sis. Rachel Dietz (Bro. Barry), Alisa Duckworth (David and Sis. Dawn), Sis. Audrey Ehnle (Bro. Ben), Bro. Jerry Kieser (Sis. Wilma) and Sis. Martha Stoller (Bro. Nate). We pray for a complete recovery for them all.

Our prayers are with Sis. Lucille Kieser and her family as her sister, Hilda Anderson, of Watseka, IL, passed away this month.

Our visiting minister this month was Bro. Doyle Frauhiger (Bluffton North, IN). May God bless him for his willingness to serve.

We also appreciated Bro. Bryan Stoller (Fairbury, IL) for sharing with us a presentation on the eye clinic that is being established in Ixtlan, Mexico.

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

“Children are the hands by which we take hold of Heaven.” (anon.)

Our future Sunday School has grown by two this past month—a real baby boom for our church! Madison Sue Blunier is the new little sister born to Cody, Mallory, and Clayton Blunier. Madison joined the family of Bro. Darin and Sis. Keri Blunier on September 26. Zachary Marshall Plattner was born on October 15. He is the little brother of Caleb, Haley and Courtney. Zachary’s parents are Bro. Darren and Sis. Sue. We welcome these new children to our church and know that they are going to get a lot of love and attention from their families.

The first weekend of October was busy for our church. The Mangers family hosted their annual wiener roast and hayrack ride for the students on Friday evening and another on Saturday for the rest of the church and families who used to live here. It was nice to see ministering Bros. Frank Sauder (Roanoke, IL) and Loren Schrenk (St. Louis, MO) and others who lived here and have now gone on to other locations and don’t often get back.

On the cool autumn Sunday, we had a tree-planting after our services. Elder Bro. Wayne had a prayer and we sang a song, then the Sunday School children helped with the

planting of a nice little Japanese Maple near the driveway. The tree is planted to commemorate the years of service given by Bro. Dave and Sis. Ethel Wiegand. Just as the tree has started small and will grow and provide shelter and comfort, the children who helped with its planting will grow and carry on our church. “Just like a tree that’s planted by the living waters, I shall not be moved.” (I Shall Not Be Moved, Heavenly Highways #13)

Having students with fathers in the ministry has brought a few more visiting ministers to us. We thank these parents and all of the ministers who have been with us this past month. These were ministering Bros. Steve Baner (Gridley, IL), Ken Eisenmann (Cissna Park, IL), Rick Plattner (Peoria, IL), Curt Rassi (Tremont, IL), Dennis Rassi (Fairbury, IL) and Clark Stoller (Gridley, IL). We look forward to these brothers and their families returning again.

Note: Bro. Wayne and Sis. Charlen Banwart have recently moved. Their new address is 3201 Sandhill Lane, Champaign, IL 61822. Their new phone number is (217) 351-1321.

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**ILLINOIS, CHICAGO  
Jill Rager**

If someone were to ask me, “Do you want the good news or the bad news first?”, I would most likely choose the good news. Therefore, I begin this month with the joyous news of two dear souls who have come to the cross in humble repentance. Nathan Rassi (Bro. Greg and Sis. Carla) and Lane Anliker (Bro. Rod and Sis. Anne) have both made a

beginning in their walk with the Lord. We rejoice with Nathan and Lane and assure them of our prayerful support.

It is also a joy to welcome a convert from the Wolcott, IN, congregation. Ben Royer will be attending school in our area, and we want to support Ben in prayer, not only in adjusting to a new area, but also in his walk with the Lord.

We express our appreciation to Bros. Brian Waibel (Champaign, IL) and Greg Stieglitz (Indianapolis, IN) for their willingness to serve us as ministers. These brothers were with us for our Invite-a-friend weekend and we felt blessed by their visit.

As Christians, we have an important responsibility to pray for one another in good times as well as difficult times. Sis. Carla Rassi (Bro. Greg) underwent surgery recently, and we will keep her in prayer as she recovers. We also extend the comforting arm of prayer to Dwaine Dembry and Errol McDade after the loss of their mother.

We are so blessed by the assurance that our Lord is faithful whether we hear the bad news or the good news.

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

Our blessings are countless as we come into this Thanksgiving season of the year, both material and spiritual. This past month we were blessed with visiting ministers, Bro. Bob Beebe (South Bend, IN) and Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott, IN). We thank them both for ministering to us.

We were saddened at the passing

of 7-week-old Halley Jo Stevig from Bloomington. Our sympathy goes out to her grandparents, Bro. Dale and Sis. Dorothy Walder, from our congregation and her parents, Bro. Larry and Sis. Barb Stevig. We also extend our sympathy to Bro. Fred and Sis. Joan Waldbeser and Bro. Kenny and Sis. Loretta Bauer in the passing of their brother, Bro. Lynn Feller, of LaCrosse, IN.

Those from our congregation who were hospitalized this past month include Bro. Gerald Rudin, Sis. Gladys Winger and Sis. Twylla Beer.

It is always exciting news when a new baby is born. On October 14, Lana Marie was born to Bro. Les and Sis. Christine Kaeb. Happily welcoming her home were her siblings, Leah, Ryan, Evan and Alan, and grandparents, Bro. Elmer and Sis. Mary Lou Kaeb and Bro. Larry and Sis. Jeannie Kaufmann.

*Notes of Thanks:*

I certainly want to thank everyone for the cards, letters, gifts and for the prayers in my behalf following my bypass surgery in August. Everything was greatly appreciated.

*Sis. Elsie Ehman*

I wish to thank everyone for your prayers, cards, phone calls, visits, flowers, gifts and food that was brought in since my surgery. May God bless each and every one of you as He has blessed me.

*Sis. Judy Edelman*

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**ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE**  
**Glenna Rinkenberger**

Should I restrain the Spirit's

course  
 For fear of man so feeble?  
 Though Satan's hosts are raging  
 here,  
 Should I not be more faithful?  
 Awed by a mortal's frown, shall I  
 Conceal the Word of God most  
 high?

*Zion's Harp #113*

We were blessed with several visiting ministers this past month. They were Elder Bros. Andy Virkler (Bay City, MI), Wes Knapp (Goodfield, IL), Wayne Anliker (Forrest, IL) and Marvin Leman (Bradford, IL). Ministering Bros. were Loren Knapp (Tucson, AZ), Wayne Wiegand and Jeff Grimm (both from Goodfield, IL).

Among our congregation are some loved ones who have not been able to attend church for some time. Our prayers go out to Bro. Richard and Sis. Kathe Hasty, Bro. Orville (Sis. Lulu) Zimmerman and Sis. Sarah Dietrich.

Yea, all I am and love most  
 dearly  
 To Thee I offer now, the whole;  
 O, let me make my vows sincerely;  
 Take full possession of my soul!  
 Let naught within me, naught I  
 own

Serve any will but Thine alone.

*Zion's Harp #41*

October 11 we witnessed the baptism of our new Sis. Virginia Knapp. The following Sunday, three more souls were added to the fold. They were Sis. Joan Craig (Bro. Kim and Sis. Carol), Sis. Rachel Knapp (Bro. Denny and Sis. Gay) and Bro. Kent Wiegand (Bro. Rick and Sis. Sue). We rejoice with the angels in Heaven

as Satan's grip has been released on these dear souls.

Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Virginia Knapp in the death of her sister. May she find comfort in her closer walk with the Lord.

He who stayeth in thy dwelling  
And upon thy holy hill  
Shall from God receive the blessing,

Mercy, comfort and good will.  
He who love and truth attaineth  
And in holiness remaineth;  
He will in the church abide  
And in Salem's hall reside.

*Zion's Harp #32*

We are thankful that groundwork has been started on the sight of our future church. We ask for the prayers of the brethren that this project will be to God's glory.

Brandon Lee Gudeman joined the family of Bro. Duane and Sis. Jill on August 15. His big brother, Daniel, welcomes him, too. Brandon's grandparents are Bro. Don and Sis. Mary Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN) and Bro. Ron and Sis. Jane Isch (Lamont-Gridley, KS).

*Note:* A TLC canvas bag has been left in our baby room. It is blue with black straps and has the name CODY on it.

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**ILLINOIS, ELGIN**  
**Amy Gasser**  
**Kay Kellenberger**

We gather together to ask the  
Lord's blessing;  
He chastens and hastens His will  
to make known;  
The wicked oppressing now cease  
from distressing

Sing praises to His name: He forgets not His own.

*Gospel Hymns #473*

The Elgin congregation was blessed as we gathered together over the last four Wednesdays to be chastened, encouraged and uplifted through the direction of the Conference tapes. It is so often a blessing to be reminded of the importance of a sincere repentance through humility and God's guiding grace. We treasure the unity and fellowship of the saints by upholding the traditions through encouragement and support of the brethren. We want to extend our sincere appreciation to our faithful undershepherds as they so often gather together seeking the Lord's direction for the counsel of our precious faith.

Many of the Elgin and Belvidere congregations gathered together October 15 for the dedication of Elgin's new Fellowship Center. We give glory to God for His faithfulness as the friends and brethren worked together to build this new edifice. We pray that its use may be to the glory and honor of God.

On October 15, Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen retired from the Eldership passing the mantle to Elder Bro. Ron Schambach who will now take full responsibility for shepherding the Elgin congregation. We express our deep appreciation to Bro. Nathan for his many years of dedication and faithful service. May we each do our part to prayerfully support Bro. Ron as he assumes his new duties.

Bro. Norm and Sis. Ginny Schock welcome back home their daughter, Loni, who has lived in Papua, New Guinea for the past sixteen years.

We are thankful for her safe return.

We are thankful to again fellowship with Sis. Jeannette Kilgus (Bro. Dick) as she has been recovering from a recent surgery. It is important to always remember our brethren in prayer.

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

*Proverbs 22:6*

We rejoice with Bro. Jason and Sis. Karen Schambach as they welcome a son into their family. Travis Lane was born on October 12. Grandparents are Bro. Tom and Sis. Connie Schambach and Bro. Gary and Sis. Edie Anliker.

We extend our prayers and congratulations to Gary and Yoko Kellenberger as they begin a family. Koa Joshua was born in Tokyo, Japan, on October 11. Grandparents are Bro. Keith and Sis. Ida Kellenberger and Asaji and Fumiko Sugahara.

With Thanksgiving just around the corner, we can begin to recollect the many blessings the Lord has bestowed. In witnessing the beautiful golden harvest, God's children are reminded to think upon the gathering of their spiritual harvest. May we thank God in all things, big and small, and in joy or in sorrow.

Now thank we all our God  
with heart, and hands and voices,  
Who wondrous things has done,  
In whom the world rejoices,  
Who from our mother's arms  
has blessed us on our way,  
With countless gifts of love,  
and still is ours today.

*Zion's Harp #236*

*Note of Thanks:*

Dear Ones,

We would like to thank everyone for your prayers and support for our daughter, Rachel, during her surgeries, hospitalization and recovery. We are so thankful for each of you.

In Christ's love,

*Bro. Keith, Sis. Ida Kellenberger and family*

**ILLINOIS, EUREKA**  
**Janet Zimmerman**

We are thankful for another soul who has turned to the Lord in repentance. May God be with Jonathan Wiegand (Bro. Don and Sis. Jane) as he begins this best and most important step in life. "But covet earnestly the best gifts: and yet shew I unto you a more excellent way." (I Cor. 12:31).

We were saddened by the death of Bro. Nelson Rocke (Sis. Kathy) of Tremont. We extend our deepest sympathy to his mother, Sis. Pauline (the late Bro. Virgil), and to his brother, Bro. Curt (Sis. Beth), and their family. May God's presence and His Holy Spirit fill the void that has been left in their lives. "Holy Spirit, faithful Guide, ever near the Christian's side. Gently lead us by the hand, pilgrims in a desert land...Ever present truest Friend, ever near Thy aid to lend..." (Hymns of Zion #220)

God has blessed the home of Bro. Tim and Sis. Becky Martin with a precious baby boy, Braxton Reid. His birth date is October 4. Welcoming Braxton home are his big brothers, Brant, Bryce and Braden. Grandparents are Bro. Ernie and Sis. Judie Knecht and Sis. Edna

Martin (Princeville, IL).

Visiting ministers this past month were Bros. Kent Getz (Elgin, IA), Bill Dotterer (Lamar, MO), Ed Knecht (Silverton, OR) and Bob Stoller (Lamar, MO).

On October 22, the Bible Class hosted "invite-a-friend day". It was nice to have so many young people with us. We invite each one to come back and visit us again soon. May these friendships be warm and lasting and may the Word spoken penetrate deeply into each heart. "Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near." (Isaiah 55:6). Visiting ministers with us for this weekend were Bros. Frank Sauder (Roanoke, IL), Jon Zeller (Morton, IL) and Dennis Rassi (Fairbury, IL). We thank all of our visiting ministers this past month for their labors on our behalf.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Bro. Clarence Lehman (Sis. Wilma) who had been hospitalized recently.

We pray for God's healing strength to Sis. Thelma Saathoff (Bro. George) who has been ill the past several weeks.

**ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY**  
**Sally Fehr**  
**Joann Zehr**

"Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord..."

*Psalm 126:3*

Rejoicing over the birth of a new daughter, Lilly Anna, are Bro. Douglas and Sis. Julia Moser. Lilly was born October 13. She has one sister, Sadie, and three brothers, Walter, Arthur and Wendell. Grand-

parents are William and Helen Fehr (Forrest) and Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Martha Moser (Washington, IL).

"Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine."

*I Tim. 4:13*

It was a joy to have a number of visitors in the past month, including brethren who served us on the pulpit: Elder Bro. Everett Hari (Bloomington, IL), and Bros. Tom Waldbeser (Atlanta, GA), Brian Waibel (Champaign, IL), Brad Funk (Garden Grove, IA), Steve Martin (Eureka, IL) and Randy Mogler (Washington, IL).

Keith Slagel (Bro. Raymond and Sis. Gladys) was married to Candy Bell on September 23. Her parents are Mary Lou Hinds and the late Harold Hinds. We wish them a happy and faithful marriage.

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

*Rev. 21:4*

Bro. Melvin Hartman passed into eternity on October 13. He was 80 years old. We extend sympathy to his family: one brother, Harvey Hartman, of Watseka; four sisters, Sis. Mabel Springer and Sis. Lucille Schurter, both of Fort Scott, KS; Evelyn Malaimare, Simi Valley, CA; and Sis. Ruth Hartman, Peoria; and two stepbrothers, Bro. Robert Miller, Peoria, and Bro. Godfrey Miller, Wichita, KS.



Our thoughts and prayers are with Sis. Roberta Meyer as she recently submitted to surgery and will have continuing treatment. Also, Sis. Robin Lemmons had a recent illness. In trying times like these, we can look forward with anticipation to that time when there shall be no more suffering or pain, "for the former things are passed away." And we know that all these things work together for our eternal good. (Romans 8:28).

*The Master Carpenter*

So this, dear Lord, is now what  
 Thou art choosing  
 To fit me for eternity.  
 These hammer blows that on my  
 soul are raining,  
 Are pounding out some hidden  
 flaw in me.  
 The chisel's sharp incising art  
 Thou using  
 To prise out every dark impurity.  
 So teach me, Lord, to lie without  
 complaining  
 That Thou might make a master-  
 piece of me.  
 —S.J. Fehr

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**ILLINOIS, FORREST**  
**Jean Knapp**  
**Linda Anliker**

"It is written in the prophets, and they shall be all taught of God."  
*St. John 6:45*

Sis. Mary (Bro. Marvin) Bachtold and Bros. Roger (Sis. Sheila) Steidinger and Kent (Sis. Paulette) Zimmerman have been given the responsibility of teaching our children in Sunday School. As they plant the seeds in the hearts of our youth, may it fall on good soil that in due time it

may germinate and take root. We thank Sis. Kathy (Bro. Jerry) Leman for her service in Sunday School and may she feel the Lord's blessings.

Extending our hands in brotherly love, we bid farewell and God speed to Bro. Jerry and Sis. Kathy, Sis. Kelly and Jonathan Leman as they now assemble with the church family in Eureka, IL.

Offering themselves in the service of our Lord, we thank visiting ministers, Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH) and Bros. Frank Sauder (Roanoke, IL), Chris Wuethrich (Francesville, IN), Dennis Rassi (Fairbury, IL), Ed Knecht (Silverton, OR), Neal Widmer (Wolcott, IN), Doug Grimm (Sabetha, KS), Ron Koehl (Sarasota, FL), and Paul Messner (Winthrop, MN) for sharing God's Word with us.

We extend sympathy to Bro. Ken and Sis. Carol Edelman with the passing of her father, Bro. Otto Sinn (Silverton, OR). May God be near them and provide comfort.

We are thankful Bro. Clarence (Sis. Doris) Kachelmuss is home again after spending some time in the hospital.

In closing, I'd like to share a thought a visiting minister recently relayed to us regarding the traditions of our church and their positive influence in helping us spiritually. He mentioned if Adam and Eve would have had a tradition to stay 50 feet away from the tree of knowledge of good and evil, would they have eaten of it's fruit?

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**ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD**  
**Heather Hohulin**

"I expect to pass through this

world but once, therefore, if there be any kindness I can show or any good thing I can do to any fellow human being, let me do it today; let me not defer or neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again."

—*Marcus Aurelius*

It is so easy for us to get caught up in day to day living (i.e. going to school, raising children, going to work) that we sometimes forget that we are here to do the Lord's work. Each day is a new opportunity for us to show Christ's love through our actions. Let's not let one day go by without sharing that love with others.

How glad we are to welcome a new brother to our family. Bro. Adam Rocke (Mark and Connie) gave his testimony of how God has worked in his life and was baptized. Elder Bro. Ervin Knecht (Eureka, IL) and Bro. Brace Wieland (Leo, IN) were here to share in this joyous occasion.

The Lord has blessed our church with another healthy baby girl. Matt and Angie Knapp welcomed home Madison Rae. Her big sister, Paige, is there to help out.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Betty Colclasure (the late Ron), Sherry Mullins (Roger), Sis. Sandy Hohulin (Bro. Sam), and Sis. Marcella Schieler (Bro. Bob) as they were all in the hospital. We hope that their recovery is quick.

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

It is a wonderful benefit in our brotherhood to travel and fellowship with those of like precious faith. We can receive a positive influence that

builds us up spiritually.

Just recently, I talked with an out-of-state brother who told me he has read the Bible through (entirely) many times. What a blessing! That convicted me to spend more time reading God's Word.

And while traveling in Canada, I visited with a believer who had spent 10 years in prison (in Europe) for his refusal to bear arms. Another believer languished in prison for more than five years for the same reason. I asked the latter if he ever became depressed while in prison. With no trace of resentment, he replied, "I had many happy times." (because he was with brethren and they could worship together).

Such devotion to faithfulness is an inspiration. We can surely draw strength from one another as we interact and serve the Lord together.

We are all saddened by the passing of Sis. Rosella Knapp, 55. She had suffered from cancer for many months, and after a valiant struggle to live, succumbed on October 21.

Many prayers were uttered on her behalf, and many brothers and sisters in faith helped to support her well being, but eventually God took her to a better place in His own time. It's difficult to lose a dear soul, but her readiness for the end soothed the sorrow of her loved ones.

She is survived by her beloved husband, Bro. Larry. They were married for 34 years. Also surviving are two sons, Bro. Mark and Mike (who is repenting); two brothers, Bro. Clyde and Bro. Ralph, Gridley, and a sister, Sis. Lucille Romersberger, Gridley.

Her kindly spirit, and genuine interest in the activities and welfare of

those in the general community will be missed. She had a special pleasantness wherein people were drawn to her warmth. Our hope is that God will sustain her husband and the two sons who survive her.

Bro. Jay Wettstein was injured in a trucking accident. He received a broken arm, and due to God's mercy, avoided what might have been a much more serious injury.

Sis. Kathy Taylor was hospitalized due to injuries received in a car accident. Sis. Lucille Hoffmann has been very ill at a nursing home.

Heather Schlipf was married to Christopher Gentes on October 14. She is the daughter of Bro. Dale and Sis. Vicki Schlipf. His parents are John and Teresa Gentes, Chenoa. We offer our sincere best wishes to this dear young couple.

Sis. Jodie Schlipf has moved to Ft. Wayne, IN. She will teach at the Leo Children's Home.

Bro. Frank Sauder (Roanoke, IL) gave a topical Bible presentation on October 11. He spoke on "Dare to be a Daniel".

Other visiting ministers were Bros. Jerry Bauman (Rittman, OH), Fred Knapp (Congerville, IL) and Elder Bro. Chuck Hemmer (Peoria, IL).

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### ILLINOIS, MORTON Phyllis Farney Cheryl Wuthrich

The announcement was made of the forthcoming marriage of Sis. Amanda Zimmerman to Bro. Drew Leman of Roanoke. Their parents are Bro. Mike and Sis. Sue Zimmerman and Bro. Bill and Sis. Jeanne Leman (Roanoke, IL). As the Lord has graciously drawn them to-

gether, we pray for their continued reliance on Him as they go forward to serve Him together.

The weekend of October 14-15 found us rejoicing that four more precious souls have publicly confessed Christ as their Redeemer and Saviour. We heard the testimonies and witnessed the baptisms of Sis. Heather Knobloch, Bro. Daniel Knobloch (Sis. Jennifer), Sis. Kathryn Grimm (husband, Todd), and Bro. Tim Braker (Bro. Joe and Sis. Shirley). May they continue to feel the Holy Spirit's power, comfort and guidance as they go forward in living their lives for the Lord.

It was indeed a week of rejoicing that on the following Wednesday evening, October 18, Bro. Elmer Baer (Shirley) gave his testimony of faith and was baptized. We are so thankful that people of all ages are still called and are still responding to our Lord's invitation of salvation.

September 28 was our annual wiener roast and singing held in the picnic area behind Timber Ridge Home for the Handicapped. It was a time for all ages to come together for a time of fellowship.

On October 1, the Bible Class presented slides and information on the Work Team project they participated in at the CCCD Deaf School in Kingston, Jamaica, this past June. The slides and talks gave the church much insight into the benefit of the trip to both the Bible Class and to those they served.

We wish to thank the ministers and their families that visited us and served us this past month. They were Elder Bros. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL), Charles Sauder (Tremont, IL) and Ron Messner (Wash-

ington, IL) and Bros. Loren Knapp (Tucson, AZ), Ken Knapp (Taylor, MO), Bruce Hohulin (Goodfield, IL), Dave Obergfel (Peoria, IL) and Clark Stoller (Gridley, IL).

### ILLINOIS, PEORIA Peter and Mabel Weber

"Assemble yourselves and come: draw near together" (Is. 45:20); "Let none of his words fall to the ground" (I Sam. 3:19). Hear the Word live and remember it in print...one of the purposes of the Silver Lining.

In Joshua 6:18, God instructed the Israelites to give the entire booty of Jericho into the Lord's treasury. His anger was kindled when Achan took a Babylonian garment, 200 shekels of silver and 50 shekels of gold and hid them in the earth in the midst of his tent (Joshua 7:21). Because God saw sin in Achan's heart, He let the Israelites be defeated in their first attempt to conquer Ai. When Achan confessed to Joshua: "I have sinned against the God of Israel", "all Israel stoned him and burned him and his household with fire" (7:20,25). What does God see when He looks into OUR hearts, homes, businesses? (Elder Bro. Chuck Hemmer 9/24).

October 1 was a glorious day for the wedding of Bro. Rustin Ledford and Sis. Cara Herman and provided many visitors and ministering Bros. Ed Fritz (Washington, IL), Ted Hirstein (Morton, IL), Bob Meyer (Bluffton North, IN) and Rich Sutter (Ft. Lauderdale, FL). Bro. Ted quoted several scripture verses as references for his wedding sermon: "My soul longeth, yea, even fainteth for the courts of the Lord, my heart and my flesh crieth out for

the living God" (Psalm 84:2), which reflected Sis. Cara's feelings. The passage in Philippians 4:6, "Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God" had a special meaning for Bro. Rustin. Also, "Let no man despise thy youth, but be thou an example of the believers, in word, conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity" (I Tim. 4:14). What holds a family together? Iron out the wrinkles right away, be steadfast, anchored in the Word, let His peace rule in your hearts. We wish them the blessings of God in their walk through life together.

We thank Bro. Jon Zeller (Morton, IL) for speaking to us about "Vigilance" at our family night service on October 4. Be vigilant, ready, prepared, on guard!...but how do we do it when the enemy is always present? (I Peter 5:8). An interesting episode is found in Judges 7. When the Israelites had become lax and were not vigilant, God permitted 135,000 Midianites and Amalekites to come into their land. Then Gideon and 300 men defeated them because they were not vigilant themselves. The enemy, overwhelmed by Gideon, killed each other in the confusion caused by the cries, trumpets and empty pitchers (with lamps inside) in the hands of Gideon's men. When we look for the enemy, we have to do it through the eyes of God, stand shoulder to shoulder with faithful brethren, be careful, VIGILANT and have a prayer on our lips.

"O what is seventy (+)? One does review past life so fleeting..." (HZ 131). A fitting thought for the Senior Citizens Dinner, sponsored October

7 by the Young Group at the Fellowship Hall. What a blessing when we can get out of our peer groups and "the rich and the poor (young and elderly) meet together: the Lord is the maker of them all" (Proverbs 22:2). A nice dinner, followed by hymn presentations and group singing, was enjoyed by all who attended. A sincere thank-you to all who took part in planning, food preparation and other efforts to make this event such a delightful experience.

God is not an abstract Someone, somewhere, but has a father-heart and loves His creation. John was not permitted to write what was in the little book in the hand of the mighty angel (Rev. 10:2, 9-10). There are many mysteries in the Bible, which we do not understand. If we did, would there be a need for faith? We don't have to know what is in the little book, but we need to ingest it as it was sweet as honey in John's mouth and good, because it is of the Lord. And when there is time no longer (Rev. 10:6), how shall it be? (Bro. Rick Plattner 10/8).

We were richly blessed on October 15 by the visit of Bro. Brad Gudeman (Bradford, IL), his family and ministry. Paul stood on the faith and never wavered in bringing the new dispensation to the world, and what Satan tried to destroy, spread. We have to measure ourselves against the WHOLE Word of God as He tenderly beckons to us: don't let my Son have died in vain. There is no hope if we have not been washed in His blood. We always hope tomorrow comes, but on Judgment Day there will be no more hope and no tolerance. One day, the "some day" will be over. All fame and glory will

vanish, but works through faith will remain. Christ died once and there is no more sacrifice for blatant sin. When we come short of the glory of God, He intercedes for us as we are still subject to temptations, but "Greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world" (I John 4:4).

Hospital patients were Wayne Guingrich and Sis. Amy Hodel, who experienced respiratory problems. May the Lord extend His healing mercies to them and restore good health.

Sis. Martha Peters (96) passed away October 13 at the Skylines; Bro. Melvin Hartman (80) on October 13 at Fairbury, IL (brother of Sis. Ruth Hartman and stepbrother of Bro. Bob Miller); Bro. Ray Messner (75) on October 15 at Winthrop, MN (brother of Bro. Don Messner); and Janet Meister Culp (60) on September 28 at Pekin, IL (sister of Bros. David, Ed, Paul and Walter Meister). We extend our sincere sympathy to the bereft families.

Receiving/sorting/packing/wrestling 1,000+ pounds of used clothing for World Relief on a beautiful Saturday morning may not be the favorite activity of a young family (especially when the job went begging the year before). But there were no sober faces when Sis. Karen Waibel and some of her family volunteered for this work on October 14. We owe them a special "Thanks!"

Soundbytes of two major and two minor candidates have fallen silent, the president-elect is known, and we are reminded of Titus 3:1, "...be subject to principalities and powers,...to be ready to every good work" and "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord" (Psalm 33:12).

Bro. Ben and Sis. Verna Baurer observed their 60th and Bro. Wilbur and Sis. Eldora Hoerr their 50th wedding anniversaries and we extend our sincere congratulations and best wishes for continued good health and happy togetherness.

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**ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE**  
**Mary Ehnlé**  
**Crystal Streitmatter**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.  
*Hymns of Zion #95*

As we enter this Thanksgiving season, we think of so many things to be thankful for—the gift of our salvation most of all as well as our precious Faith, families, friends, health and our land of America. We are also very thankful for our converts. Those recently turning to the Lord in repentance are Rachael Stoller (Bro. Bruce and Sis. Mary) and Laura Streitmatter (Bro. Alan and Sis. Janet).

We appreciate the visiting ministers who labored on our behalf this past month. It was a blessing to have them each one in our midst: Elder Bros. Wayne Anliker (Forrest, IL), Ervin Knecht (Eureka, IL), Aaron Steffen (Alto, MI), Marvin Leman (Bradford, IL) and Bros. Bill Hodel (Roanoke, IL) and Glenn Dill (Tremont, IL).

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

his reward."

*Psalm 127:3*

Bro. Ben and Sis. Ann Herrmann and their son, Andrew, welcomed a new little boy, Austin LeeRoy, on October 2. Grandparents are Bro. Howard and Sis. Mary Ann Herrmann and Jack and Lois Klendworth (Minonk, IL).

*The Thankful Heart*

For all that God in mercy sends—  
For health and children, home and friends;  
For comforts in the time of need,  
For every kindly word or deed,  
For happy thoughts and holy talk,  
For guidance in our daily walk—

For beauty in this world of ours,  
For verdant grass and lovely flowers,  
For song of birds, for hum of bees,  
For the refreshing Summer breeze,  
For hill and plain, for stream and wood,  
For the great ocean's mighty flood—  
In everything give thanks.

For the sweet sleep which comes with night,  
For the returning morning light,  
For the bright sun that shines on high,  
For the stars glittering in the sky—  
For these and everything we see,  
O Lord, our hearts we lift to Thee;  
In everything give thanks.  
—*Helen Isabella Tupper*

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

Precious memories, how they linger,  
How they ever flood my soul;  
In the stillness of the midnight.  
Precious, sacred scenes unfold.

Precious father, loving mother,  
Fly across the lonely years;  
And old home scenes of my childhood  
In fond memory appear.  
*Gospel Hymns #408*

Surely the family of Sis. Edith Sauder has many memories to cherish and carry them through lonely hours. Sis. Edith passed away rather suddenly September 28. She leaves behind her husband of 53 years, Bro. Howard; her children, Sis. Marge (Bro. Jim) Braker, Sis. JoAnn (Bro. Roger) Beutel, Sis. Carol, Sis. Rachel (Bro. Duane) Schroeder, Bro. Bob (Sis. Jan), Bro. Harold (Sis. Judy) and Andy (Jane); her 24 grandchildren, and 1 great-granddaughter; as well as her brothers and one sister, Sis. Mary Bradle (Bro. Bob), from Roanoke. It was mentioned in her funeral service that Sis. Edith was a wonderful blend of Mary and Martha in the Bible as she used her talents well in serving and doing much for others but also took time to receive instruction from our Lord.

We bring loved ones to the Great Physician, our Father in Heaven, in prayer as they have spent time in earthly physicians' care. Sis. Emma Legel, Bro. Morris Barth, Bro. Dan Knapp and Bro. Lyle Martin have all been in need of a doctor's care.

We are thankful God provides faithful servants to speak His Word.

May God bless and continue to inspire Bros. Paul Zimmerman, Dave Zehr and Jim Vierling as well as Bro. Brian Waibel who spoke at our monthly Bible study on being ready and prepared for the end of time.

Our October 1 family hymn sing was enjoyed by many. A quartet of brothers sang for us so beautifully. What a blessed way to spend an evening.

On Wednesday evening, October 11, we spent the evening singing hymns and practicing the revisions made to our Zion's Harp. Thank you to our leaders for putting in extra effort to help us learn them.

Bro. Jim and Sis. Helen Martin are rejoicing at the birth of their new granddaughter, Skyler Madison Martin, on August 26. She is the first child of David and Bonnie Martin of Bloomington. Her other thankful grandparents are Ralph and Margaret Henson.

Little Daniel Patrick Maher brought great joy to his family when he arrived October 11. His thankful parents are Bro. Dan and Sis. Kim Maher. Josh, Cody, Zach and Sarah are his proud brothers and sister. Sis. Jeannie Hoffman is his Roanoke Grandma and looks forward to sharing lots of love with him.

**ILLINOIS, TREMONT****Heather Rassi  
LaVonne Wagenbach**

Our congregation was happy to hear the announcement of the engagement of Sis. Anne Beutel (Bro. Roger and Sis. JoAnn) to Bro. Troy Stuber (Bro. Todd and Sis. Beth). We pray God's blessings on this dear couple.

Spending time in the hospital this

month were Bro. Mahlon Frank, Steve Wagenbach, Bro. Dean Bolliger (Sis. Trudy), Sis. Doris Baer (Bro. Robert), and Sis. Amy Koch (Bro. Ken). May we all remember to be thankful for good health and pray for those in need. First-time grandparents are Bro. Darel and Sis. Mary Alyce Hofsess. Kolton Blake was born September 16 to the happy parents, Kurt and Amy Hofsess from Kentucky. Jeff and Jo Cleasby and big brother, Chase, welcome Carson Jay born September 11. Grandparents are Bro. Warren J. and Sis. Carolyn Prather. Mark and Jennifer Steiner of Chicago are first-time parents. Little Jessica Lauren joined their family on August 10. Bro. Dan and Sis. Shirley Steiner are her grandparents. Richard and Naida Beutel of Morrisville, VT, were blessed with a precious little girl, Mariah Rae, born September 10. Bro. Alvin and Sis. Carol Beutel are her grandparents. Marty and Sis. Karla Rollins were blessed with a little boy on October 4. Garrett Joseph is welcomed home by big sister, Danielle, and brother, Corey. Grandparents are Kenny and Linda Rollins and Bro. Karl and Sis. Velda Glueck. May God bless all the families.

We appreciate the efforts of all our ministers, and especially those of our visiting ministers. We want to thank visiting minister, Bro. David Obergfel (Peoria, IL), for ministering to us on October 15.

The entire Tremont congregation was deeply saddened by the death of our dear Bro. Nelson Rocke. He was called Home at the age of 50. We know God has a plan for each of us and that some day we will under-

stand. Our sympathy goes out to his dear wife, Sis. Kathy (Wagenbach), and children, Sis. Brenda (Bro. Darrel) Ehnle, Bro. Eric, Janet, Galen, Doug and Dean.

We also sympathize with Bro. Chris and Sis. Wilmina Woerner on the passing of Wilmina's brother, George Graf (Peoria). Bro. Glen and Sis. Dorothy Stuber lost Sis. Dorothy's sister, Margaret Cvochot, of Richmond, VA. Bro. Roger and Sis. JoAnn Beutel and family were saddened by the death of JoAnn's mother, Sis. Edith Sauder (Roanoke, IL). May God's nearness and comfort be felt by all those whom have lost loved ones.

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**ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON**  
**Denise Romersberger**  
**Sue Ruppert**

Recent news reports have been filled with the unrest, the violence, and the hatred that is filling the land of Israel. Government officials think that with their intervention, both sides will talk and come to some sort of peace. What most people don't understand is that this conflict is so ancient, and so deeply rooted that peace talks will do little to abate the differences of people on both sides. They also don't understand that this conflict, and the end of it, are all prophesied in the Bible. Throughout the Old Testament, God called Himself the God of Israel. He speaks many promises to Israel because of His covenant with them as his chosen people. As we hear of unrest and violence in the land of Israel, we have to remember that God is in control, and that He will keep His promises. That does not mean that we should be fatalistic and not pray for God's

divine intervention. The souls of people are at stake here. God still performs miracles, including transforming men's hearts. Let us pray for God's miracles in the time of life that we live.

Visiting ministers this month were Elder Bro. Joe Braker (Morton), and Bros. Clark Stoller (Gridley), Kenneth Dietz (Bradford), Wayne Leman (Roanoke), and Craig Martin (Princeville). Thank you, brothers, for lending yourselves to the Spirit and to us.

The Washington church family has had several events to celebrate this month. Bro. Mark and Sis. Tammy Herrmann gave their testimonies and were subsequently baptized the next day. It is always a joy to see souls turn their lives over to the Lord. May God's love, wisdom, strength, and grace follow you for the rest of your days.

Bro. Rustin Ledford and Sis. Cara Herman were wed in Peoria on October 1. Parents of the groom are Bro. Chris and Sis. Staci Ledford of Washington and the parents of the bride are Bro. Larry and Sis. Susie Herman of Peoria. May God grant you His presence as you start your new life together and throughout the years to come.

An open house celebrating the 90th birthday of Bro. Bill Wiegand was held at the Congregate Living residence. A thank you note from Bro. Bill: "I want to thank everybody who came to my 90th birthday party and brought cards and gifts." Bro. Bill Wiegand. Thank you, Bro. Bill, for your years of faithful service to our Lord!

We want to welcome some new faces to our congregation. Bro.

Myron and Sis. Lori Rumbold and their family have joined us in fellowship and worship. They come to us from the Belvidere area. We pray that you can feel the love of the church and will soon feel at home here in Washington.

The Washington congregation is also in the middle of listening to the tapes from this year's Brotherhood Conference. May the Spirit of the Lord open our hearts and minds to the teachings that God would have us to learn.

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**INDIANA, BLUFFTON**  
**Tonia Isch**  
**Beth Aschliman**

Faithful until death remain!  
 For the crown of life be striving.  
 Break through bonds of woe and pain,  
 in His promise e'er confiding,  
 which through grace is kept in store.

For thee when thy journey's o'er,  
 For thee when thy journey's o'er.  
*Zion's Harp #165*

Gone to be with our Lord Jesus Christ on October 11 is our dear Sis. Helen Gerber (late Bro. Roy). Sis. Helen has fought the good fight. Her family, four brothers and six sisters, will greatly miss her.

Passing from this life into eternity on October 14 is Sis. Naomi Ringger. She, too, will be greatly missed by her husband, Bro. Orville, one son, Kent Ringger (Jan), and daughter, Sis. Dixie (Bro. Ned) Kipfer. She has nine grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren. What a blessing. What an example she was. We will miss these two dear sisters.

Celebrating new life with the

birth of their son is Deon and Amy Steffen. Levi Blaine was born on July 13. Happy grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Donna Steffen.

Ellie Nicole Longenberger was born on September 9 to Scott and Julie. Karlie, Kylan and Sydney are excited to have another sister. Grandparents, Bro. Bill and Sis. Betty Longenberger, are thankful for another healthy blessing.

Jori Lee Steffen was born on September 23 to Bro. Tom and Sis. Lyn. Sisters, Jessica, Janae, and Janean, are happy to have another little girl join their family. Happy grandparents are Bro. Harry and Sis. Betty Steffen and Bro. Phil and Sis. Jean Moser.

Bro. Todd and Sis. Carla Brege are first-time parents with a precious new son. Garrison Todd was born October 11. Happy grandparents are Bro. Leon and Sis. Pat Gerber. We rejoice with these parents. Children are a blessing from Heaven.

Bluffton is rejoicing as two souls have chosen to trust Jesus. Grayson Reinhard (Bro. Doyle and Sis. Jan) and Tami Raber (Bro. Bruce and Sis. Mary) are trusting in God's grace and guidance.

John Sprunger (Bro. Kent and Sis. Sheila), Matt Reinhard (Bro. Gene and Sis. Dar) and Ryan Donaghy have found peace and are ready for baptism. We had a beautiful weekend as four souls were added to the family of God. Bro. Travis Frauhiger (Bro. Kris and Sis. Ann), Bro. Jameson Ringger (Bro. Kendall and Sis. Sandy), Sis. Bethany Neuenschwander (Bro. Terry and Sis. Jean) and Bro. Jason Klopfenstein (Bro. John and Sis.

Linda) were baptized on September 23. Elder Bro. Phil Stettner (Sis. Maureen, Bluffton North, IN) and Bro. Steve Frauhiger (Sis. Irene, Bluffton North, IN) were here to share the weekend with us. We want to thank them for their willingness to share. We extend our prayers to Bro. Doug Dailey (Sis. Susan), Sis. Clara Fiechter (Bro. Homer) and Bro. Roy Reinhard (Sis. Vergene). We pray for them God's strength as they spend time in the hospital and recuperate at home.

Thus our duty is made plain,  
Trusting and in God abiding.  
Faithful to thy Lord remain;  
Till your eyes in light beholding,  
See prepared there for the blest  
Shining crowns of righteousness.

*Zion's Harp #105*

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**INDIANA  
BLUFFTON NORTH  
Ann Meyer  
Rhonda Maller**

"Thy mercy, O Lord, is in the heavens; and thy faithfulness reaches unto the clouds."

*Psalms 36:5*

God is ever faithful! There is no shadow of turning with Him. In joy and in sorrow, in light and in darkness, He is always present. He knows and provides for our every need. He is holy and pure and truth and love. He is our everything.

We were blessed this past month to have Bro. Allen Stoller (Sis. Susan, Bluffton, IN) visit our congregation. Our thanks to him and to all of our ministers for offering themselves to God for our edification.

Bro. Jarod Studebaker (Larry

and Carol) and Sis. Carissa Geisel (Bro. Stan and Sis. Cindy) were united in Holy Matrimony on October 8. We wish them joy in the Lord and each other. May they continue to be a true witness for Christ in our church and community.

Bro. Ben Habegger (Sis. Arlene), Bro. Matt Markley (Sis. Lisa) and our ministering Bro. Carroll Gerber (Sis. Louise) have all been in our thoughts and prayers as they have dealt with injury, illness, or surgery.

"For I will restore health unto thee, and I will heal thee of thy wounds, saith the Lord:"

*Jeremiah 30:17*

With our love and heartfelt sympathy, we uplift Bro. Rich and Sis. Arlene Stoller and their family in prayer concerning the tragic death of Rich's niece, Deborah Nichols. We pray that God will surround her husband, her twin babies, and her family with His love and faithfulness as they live with this heart-breaking loss.

In contrast, we rejoice with Bro. Todd and Sis. Carla Brege as they welcome their firstborn son, Garrison Todd. Children are a blessing and heritage of the Lord. We pray that Garrison will bring them joy as Todd and Carla bring him up in the way he should go.

"Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, and today, and for ever."

*Hebrews 13:8*

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**INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE  
Lily Pelsy**

"Follow peace with all men, and

holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord.”

*Hebrews 12:14*

We are rejoicing with Amy Pelsy (Bro. Dale and Sis. Terri) who has found peace with God and man.

The following loved ones have experienced God's healing and are thankful for answered prayers through their hospitalizations: Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Sis. Marcella), Sis. Nancy Wuethrich (Bro. Brad), Vanessa Ricks (Rod and Con. Shari Erb) and Con. Shari Erb (Rod).

On October 4, Emma Katrina was born to Bro. Chad and Sis. Pam Huber. Happy siblings are Paul, Anna, and Timothy. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Gene and Sis. Barb Huber and Algird and Erica Gudas.

We were privileged to host the Londonaires reunion October 14-15.

The engagement of Sis. Miranda Wuethrich (Bro. Bruce and Sis. Kathy) to Bro. Paul Virkler (Bro. Stan and Sis. Beth, Remington, IN) was announced. May God bless this special time.

September 3 was the wedding day of Craig Fritz (Bro. Harold and Sis. Sherry) and Kitty Clark (Chuck and Patty) in Albuquerque, NM.

On October 7, Kyle Wuethrich (Bro. David and Sis. Mim) and Misty Houston (David and Jill) were married. May God's blessings be upon these homes.

Heartfelt thanks to the following brethren who served us with the love of God: Elder Bros. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL), Alfred Bahler (Wolcott, IN), Jesse Beer (Milford, IN), Bros. Jim Rinckenberger

(Bluffton, IN), Jaye Rinckenberger (Goodfield, IL) and Dan Kilgus (Remington, IN).

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### INDIANA INDIANAPOLIS Gail Bradford

“And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.”

*Colossians 3:15*

With great joy we heard the announcement that our friends, Bryce Guingrich (Bro. Dan and Sis. Sandy) and Makato Inoue (Bro. Akito and Sis. Marie), have God's peace in their hearts and are looking forward to baptism. They welcome our prayers and encouragement during this very meaningful time.

We lean on God and His steadfast love, especially in time of change. We know that God will provide for two dear families as they leave our city. Bro. Bruce and Sis. Laretta Shafer are moving to Leo, IN. Laretta has been serving as a counselor at Gateway Woods for the past year. Brian and Michelle Collette and their son, Drew, are moving to Tacoma, WA, where Brian has a new job. The tie that binds our hearts together will provide comfort as we bid farewell.

Recently, Bro. Andy Moser (Sis. Diane, Valparaiso, IN) and our Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott, IN) ministered to us.

The Sunday School teachers and spouses met for dinner on October 21 to share plans for the coming year and to encourage one another.

An old adage says that if we are angry, count to ten before speaking.

Likewise, if we feel discontent, let's count our blessings before complaining. By the time we have enumerated the many blessings that flow from God, we will forget what we wanted to complain about!

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### INDIANA, LACROSSE Jeremy and Natalie Freed

Peace, Perfect Peace  
Peace, perfect peace, in this dark world of sin;

The Blood of Jesus whispers  
“Peace” within.

Peace, perfect peace, by thronging duties pressed;  
To do the will of Jesus—this is rest.

Peace, perfect peace, with sorrows surging round;  
On Jesus' bosom naught but calm is found.

Peace, perfect peace, our future all unknown;  
Jesus we know—and He is on the Throne.

Peace, perfect peace, Death shadowing us and ours;  
Jesus has vanquished Death and all its powers.

It is enough! Earth's struggles soon shall cease;  
And Jesus call us to Heaven's perfect peace.

—Edward H. Bickersteth

We rejoice with our converts, Joel Troxel and Jessica Feller, and their families, and pray that they may completely turn from the world, as they have been announced for peace. Lord willing, Joel's testimony and baptism will be the weekend of November 11-12, and we look forward to Jessica's testimony and baptism the weekend of December 2-3.

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**INDIANA  
WEST LAFAYETTE  
Geoff and Angie Ginzel**

"I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord."

*Psalm 122:1*

With the support of the Elder body, Sunday church services began in West Lafayette on September 3 and will continue on the first and third Sundays of each month. We have a morning worship service at 10:00, an afternoon worship service at 12:00, a noon church lunch break in between, and Sunday School during the morning service. We are averaging 90 brothers, sisters and friends during the worship services and 20 children in Sunday School.

We would like to thank the following ministering brothers and their wives for visiting us in the past month and allowing God to use them to bring forth His message: Elder Bro. Wendell and Sis. Marcella Gudeman (Francesville, IN), Elder Bro. Curt and Sis. Lyla Frank (Lacrosse, IN), Bro. Steve and Sis. Linda Gutwein (Francesville, IN), Bro. Neil and Sis. Kris Widmer (Wolcott, IN) and Bro. Chris and Sis. Sharon Huber (Francesville, IN). A rotation has been established and we look forward to our visitors and thank God for them.

If you are in the area, please join us. For local correspondence contact our trustees, Bro. Dick Meister (765) 567-4704, Bro. Duane Schieler (765) 567-2922, or Bro. Neil Widmer (765) 497-4709. Our counseling Elders are Bro. Wendell Gudeman and Bro. Curt Frank.

**INDIANA, LEO  
Ethelyn Schlatter**

On Wednesday evening, September 20, Elder Bro. Phil Stettner, Bro. Steve Ringger (Bluffton North, IN) and their wives, Sis. Maureen and Sis. Myra, visited us. Bro. Steve had the main service. We thank them for sharing the Word with us.

October 1 was a very special and blessed day with the ordination of Bro. Lynn Stieglitz as our new Elder. Retired Elder Bro. David Bertsch had an impressive morning prayer. The ordination was carried out in the afternoon by Elder Bros. Ray Sinn (Latty, OH), Jesse Beer (Milford, IN), Ed Schwartz (Bluffton, IN) and Phil Stettner (Bluffton North, IN). A group of brothers sang "Faith of our fathers" and "Rise Up O Men of God". Bro. Ray had counsel for the church how to make the Elders' load easier. "Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation: Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and for ever." (Hebrews 13:7-8)

Bro. Jesse encouraged the ministers to hold up Bro. Lynn's hands and to share in the load as Jethro instructed Moses in Exodus 18:18-19. Bro. Ed had special encouragement for Bro. Lynn and Sis. Leonda and their family. He said there will be many expectations, but their duty to each other and family is first as they are also part of the "...household of faith." (Gal. 6:10). He also said they can claim the promise of Isaiah 40:11, that God is going to care for their family. Bro. Phil concluded

with explanations of I Timothy 3:1-4 and I Peter 5:2-4, duties of an Elder. He exhorted the church to pray for Bro. Lynn, Sis. Leonda and their children by name. Bro. Phil took their vows followed by the ordination prayer. We then sang from the Zion's Harp, hymn #100.

We are very grateful to Elder Bro. Phil for service he offered during the intervening time between Elder Bro. David Bertsch and Elder Bro. Lynn. We are grateful the Elders' wives, Sis. Ann, Sis. Shirley, Sis. Jeni and Sis. Maureen, could be with us as well as family. We beseech God's blessings on those who serve us. "And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ: faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it." (I Thess. 5:23-24).

Bro. Ron Kipfer (Bluffton, IN) conducted our Topical Bible Study on October 11. The topic was the "Heavens Declare the Glory of God" based on Psalm 19. He explained how science is now disproving the theory of evolution and revealing the truth of Genesis. Isaiah 45:18 "For thus saith the Lord that created the heavens; God himself that formed the earth and made it; he hath established it, he created it not in vain, he formed it to be inhabited: I am the Lord; and there is none else." "Behold I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice and open the door, I will come into him, and will sup with him and he with me." (Rev. 3:20).

We welcome Bro. Kurt and Sis. Kristen Slagel from Fairbury, IL, who have come to serve as alternate

houseparents at Gateway Woods. Their new address is P.O. Box 151, Leo, IN 46765.

Our annual wiener roast and singing was held the evening of October 15.

“Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity.”

*Psalms 133:1*

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**INDIANA, MILFORD**  
**Marguerite Hoerr**  
**Pam Beer**

We were thankful to have Bro. Lynn Fiechter (Bluffton, IN) minister God's Word to us this summer and also to have his wife's family worship with us and then bless us with their singing in the evening. May they feel God's blessings as they use their beautiful voices to sing praises to Him.

Rosemary Piper (Ray) is assembling with us again after having knee surgery. We hope that Rosemary has felt our prayers and may have a complete recovery and soon be walking pain free.

Our Bro. Bob Hoerr (Sis. Marguerite) spent some time in the hospital and we are thankful the Lord has touched him and he was soon back home and assembling with us the following Sunday.

Our prayers and sympathy are extended to Bro. Glenn (Sis. Kate) and Everett (Sis. Leona) Price in the passing of their sister, Melba Rensberger.

We at Milford look forward to a January wedding when our Sis. Lauriel Feece will be joined in marriage to Bro. Rich Gramm (South Bend, IN). May they feel God's guid-

ance and blessings as they make plans for the wedding.

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**INDIANA, REMINGTON**  
**Rochelle Ward**  
**Beth Virkler**

It has been another busy month here in Remington. We are thankful that God has blessed us so richly.

On October 1, Sis. Angie Scheitlin (Bro. Rolyce and Sis. Lori) was united in marriage to Bro. Jon Moser (Bro. Ben and Sis. Glenna, Rockville, CT). We will miss Angie, but our prayers are with her as she and Jon make their home in Rockville.

The following ministers took part in Sis. Angie and Bro. Jon's special day: Elder Bro. Curt Frank (Lacrosse, IN), Bro. Duane Metzger (West Bend, IA), Bro. Duane Reutter (Rockville, CT), as well as our own Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler. Thank you, brothers, for your love and willingness.

On September 27, Samuel Jay was born to Bro. Jason and Sis. Sara Getz. He was welcomed home with lots of hugs and kisses by little sister, Sophie. Grandparents are Bro. Eldon and Sis. Charlene Getz and Bro. Bill and Sis. Barb Stoller (Latty, OH).

Rustin Michael was born on October 7 to Bro. Alan and Sis. Sarah Schambach. He, too, was welcomed home with love. Rustin's grandparents are Bro. Stan and Sis. Norma Schambach (Elgin, IL) and Bro. Warren and Sis. Dolores Zehr (Fairbury, IL).

“As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word that ye may grow thereby; if so be ye have tasted

that the Lord is gracious.”

*I Peter 2:2-3*

Along with our newborn babies, we also have two young souls seeking to be reborn in Christ. We are thankful that Trent Bahler (Bro. Tim and Sis. Lynette) and Melanie Bahler (Bro. Mark and Sis. Benita) have decided to follow Jesus. Our prayers are with them as they begin the journey of serving Him.

We are happy to announce the engagement of Bro. Paul Virkler (Bro. Stan and Sis. Beth) to Sis. Miranda Wuethrich (Bro. Bruce and Sis. Kathy, Francesville, IN). A December 31 wedding is being planned.

On the weekend of September 14-15 we enjoyed a visit from the Morton Home for the Handicapped. It is always refreshing to witness their cheerful spirit.

The time of Thanksgiving is upon us once again. On this holiday we are reminded to be thankful for what we have. May we always be thankful, not just one day out of the year, but every day. We are a very fortunate people and we take a lot for granted. Above all, let's thank the Lord for sending His Son to die for us. For without this great deed we would have nothing to be thankful for.

“Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms.”

*Psalms 95:2*

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**INDIANA, SOUTH BEND**  
**Lavilla Langhofer**  
**DeAnn Schlatter**

Thy Word, O Lord, draws us together

In mutual fellowship to stand;  
It kindles in our hearts forever  
The flames of faith and love's  
sweet band.

*Zion's Harp #63*

We greatly rejoice in the engagement of Bro. Richard Gramm to Sis. Lauriel Feece (Milford, IN). It will be exciting to have another young couple in our church.

We were blessed to have visiting Bro. Nile and Sis. Phyllis Bucher (Bluffton North, IN) minister to us.

As we conclude listening to the Conference tapes, we wish to thank the Elders for their love, encouragement and kind admonishment.

Our prayers for safety and God's blessings are with Bro. Marty Langhofer during his trip to Romania.

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### INDIANA, VALPARAISO Hope Bucher

What a wonderful time of year to enjoy the awesome handiwork of God as we see the beauty of the changing season all around us! This past month we were thankful to have Bro. Steve Gutwein (Francesville, IN) with us for a Sunday to teach the Word of the Lord. We also want to thank Bro. Todd Feller (LaCrosse, IN) for taking the time to come and minister to us as well. We always enjoy the families and friends that visit us.

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### INDIANA, WOLCOTT Beckie Lehman Mary Beth Lehman

The nights are turning crisp and soon the leaves will all be gone from the trees. As the earth prepares for the winter rest, we anticipate indoor

activities and projects. While seeds and plants hibernate for a few months, we must still be busy about the Lord's work. We must continue to cultivate the seeds that are planted in our hearts by God's Word and His Spirit.

We were thankful that Bro. Wayne Lehman (South Bend, IN) shared the Word with us one Sunday. May he be blessed for his willing service to us.

We rejoice with Brianna Furrer (Bro. Brian and Sis. Lorene) as she has made a beginning in walking with Christ. May she rest in His grace and find peace in Him.

We have several who were hospitalized or ill this past month. Sis. Virginia Oberlander underwent surgery. Sis. Pat Kyburz was hospitalized and is now at home again. Sis. Grace Stoller fell and is now in a nursing home. Our prayers are with these sisters that they could enjoy swift recoveries and be in good health once again.

Two couples joined hands and hearts in the last month. Dan Kyburz (Ron and Donna) and Jaime Wedell (Jim and Vickie, Portage, IN) were united in marriage September 30. Kelly Waibel (Bro. Gerry and Sis. Marcia) and Nathan Pritts were married October 7. May God bless these two couples as they begin their journey together.

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### IOWA, ELGIN Gloria Frieden Heidi Butikofer

We always have much to be thankful for but as we near Thanksgiving 2000, our little flock here at Elgin is especially grateful for the many volunteers from across

the land who have shared of their time and talents towards the building of our new church edifice. Words cannot express our appreciation. What a blessing to witness this labor of love in Christian unity.

For those who might be interested in where we are in the building process as of October 20, we will try to update you. The building has been framed, trusses are up, most of the siding is done and, Lord willing, if all goes as planned, the shingling will be done and the doors and windows will be in place by the end of the month.

Thanks again to all of you who have labored in our behalf. God bless you.

Since our new church will be in the same location as our old one was, we again encourage those who might be planning to come and worship with us to call in advance to find out where we will be assembling the Sunday you plan to be with us.

Visiting ministers are always a blessing and this past month we have been blessed with two. Our thanks to Bros. Chuck Kellenberger (Elgin, IL) and Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville, IL) for sharing God's Word with us.

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### IOWA, GARDEN GROVE Willa Clark

A little girl comes through the school cafeteria every day, and as she sees the hot dogs or ham balls, the chili soup or chicken sandwich, her response is the same. "This is my favorite lunch." I occasionally question how she can have so many favorites, but she assures me that she loves today's lunch. When she returns her empty tray, she says, "I'm really full."

As we gather in church on Sunday, or open our Bibles at home, do we approach it with a hunger like that of the little girl? Are we hungry for whatever spiritual food the Lord may put on today's menu? Or do we think this message is for the person sitting next to us? If we are hungry for the blessings of God's Word, we will be spiritually filled.

Visiting ministers have been Bros. Rod Bajema (Lester, IA), Galen Rokey (Sabetha, KS), Dave Marquart (Taylor, MO) and Kent Mogler (Minneapolis, MN). We are thankful to them for bringing us the nourishing Word of God.

Todd Mogler (Bro. Art and Sis. Eula, West Bend, IA) and Jennifer Buttrey (Bill and Juanita Buttrey, Cainsville, MO) were united in marriage at Princeton, MO, on September 30. We pray for God's blessings in their lives.

Our Bible class was invited to Pulaski to gather with students from four other churches. It was a spiritually rewarding and fun filled day. Our thanks to Pulaski for hosting us.

Cold and rainy weekends hindered the annual Pulaski-Garden Grove picnic. We finally opted to meet halfway at a restaurant. It was a pleasant evening for all attending.

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### IOWA, IOWA CITY Janette Schulz

Greetings to all! We again would like to extend our sincere thanks to all of our visitors this month, including ministering Bros. Bill Emch (Lamont-Gridley, KS), Dale Frank (Oakville, IA) and Wayne Leman (Roanoke, IL). May God richly bless each who makes the effort to assem-

ble with us.

We extend our best wishes to Karin Peterson in the birth of her new daughter, Lillian. Big brother, Zach, and grandparents, Bro. Larry and Sis. Emily Peterson, welcome this new bundle of joy.

We extend our sympathy to our friends, Andy and Jayne Sauder and their children, in the passing of Andy's mother, Sis. Edith Sauder (Roanoke, IL). Although they no longer assemble with us, they certainly are still in our hearts, and we share their sorrow.

We ask for your prayers for our young friend, Jessica Simmons, who is terminally ill with leukemia. While the doctors can offer no further treatment and it seems certain she will lose the battle with cancer, we are so thankful the Bible is clear in holding out the promise of eternal life to all innocent children. May the Lord comfort her family and hold Jessica in His arms of love as she makes the transition to a Home where there will be no more pain nor tears.

At our annual business meeting, Bro. Jim Butikofer was selected to serve as trustee and his wife, Sis. Diana, on the Kitchen Committee. We give them our prayerful support and thank Bro. Larry and Sis. Emily Peterson who are completing their terms.

As we face times of uncertainty with fighting in the Middle East, the upcoming Presidential elections and unsettling economic trends, may we look steadfastly to our unchanging Father to guide and provide for us.

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### IOWA, LESTER Sue Warner Dawn Metzger

"...The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye and believe the gospel."

*Mark 1:15*

We truly rejoice with Amber Metzger (Bro. Harv and Sis. Mary) as she has turned her life over to the Lord and now expresses peace with God and man.

Austin Jerome Metzger was born on September 20. Welcoming him into their hearts and home are Bro. Jerome and Sis. Jana and siblings, Kayla, Grant and Brady. Austin's grandparents are Bro. Gene and Sis. Delores Metzger and Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Mary Massner and the late Sis. Edith Massner (Burlington, IA). On October 19, Tim and Carla Feucht became first-time parents to a precious daughter, Gabrielle Marie. Her grandparents are Sis. Martha Feucht and the late Bro. August.

"For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother and shall be joined unto his wife and they two shall be one flesh."

*Ephesians 5:31*

September 23 was the wedding day chosen for Trista and Tim Bosch. Trista is the daughter of Leroy and Shelley Van Whye. Bro. Steve and Sis. Liz Warner were united in the Lord on October 8 in West Bend, IA. Elder Bro. Dennis and Sis. Esther Warner and Bro. Pat and Sis. Julie Zaugg are the parents of this happy couple. We welcome Sis. Liz to our church family.

Sis. Donna (Bro. John) Gerber

was a surgical patient and Janae Mogler (Bro. Dwight and Sis. Donna) was hospitalized. We can be thankful Bro. Dietrich Knobloch escaped serious injury in a farm accident.

Our deepest sympathy is extended to Bro. Jim and Sis. Lois and Bro. Bill and Sis. Charlotte Metzger and their families as we learned of the sudden passing of Sis. Lois and Sis. Charlotte's brother-in-law, Bro. Nelson Rocke, of the Tremont, IL, congregation.

Bro. Ron Kellenberger has moved to an apartment. His new address is 413 S. Elizabeth, Hills, MN 56138 (507) 962-3428.

*Note of Thanks:*

Dear Ones,

We would like to thank our family, our church family and friends for remembering us with cards, gifts, food and calls while Emily was in the hospital and since returning home. May God bless each and every one of you for the kindness shown to us.

*Bro. Art and Sis. Emily Leuthold*

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

We have had many blessings in the past month. Five precious souls have been added to our precious brotherhood. We welcome Bro. Jason Siegle (Bro. Bob and Sis. LeAnn) and Sisters Anne Steiner (Bro. Tom and Sis. JoAnn), Sarah Kuntz (Bro. Bob and Sis. Edra), Betsy Schulz (Bro. Roger and Sis. June), and Heidi Lanz (Bro. Keith and Sis. Tonya). May God be near them and may they always hearken unto that still small voice of His Holy Spirit.

We appreciate the assistance lent to Bro. Ed by visiting Elders and ministers. They were Elder Bros. Wayne Banwart (Champaign, IL) and Doug Schock (Pulaski, IA), along with ministering Bros. Joe Gerst (Iowa City, IA), Paul Eisenmann (Burlington, IA), Doug Grimm (Sabetha, KS), Arnie Gerst (Taylor, MO), Garry Bucher (Valparaiso, IN) and Fred Eberhardt (Burlington, IA). May God richly bless them for their sincere service in His name.

Bro. Ted, Sis. Carrie and Kaelen Wiegand are thankful for the arrival of little Lance Jacob. Due to an early delivery, he needs to remain in the neonatal unit at the University Hospital in Iowa City. May we continue to pray for this young family.

**IOWA, PULASKI**  
**Katrina Knobloch**

Now thank we all our God  
With heart, and hands and  
voices,  
Who wondrous things has done,  
In whom the world rejoices,  
Who from our Mother's arms  
Has blest us on our way  
With countless gifts of love,  
And still is ours today.  
*Zion's Harp #236*

We have many reasons to give thanks for what God has done for us this Thanksgiving season.

Bro. Chuck Kellenberger (Sis. Debbie, Elgin, IL) shared God's Word with us this month. He also spoke to the Bible class who was hosting the Oakville, Burlington, Garden Grove, IA, and Taylor, MO, Bible classes.

Bro. Lee and Sis. Patsy Esslinger and Bro. Dave and Sis. Mary

Wiegand are thankful God has worked in their children's lives and are looking forward to the December 31 wedding of Sis. Robin Esslinger (Bern, KS) and Bro. Doug Wiegand (Sarasota, FL).

We are all thankful that Alan Schock (Elder Bro. Doug and Sis. Clara) is home, recovering from hip surgery.

Thankful for the arrival of Lance Jacob Wiegand are his grandparents, Bro. Joel and Sis. Shirley Wuthrich, and great-grandpa, Bro. Albert Wuthrich. Parents are Bro. Ted and Sis. Carrie Wiegand and big sister, Kalen (Oakville, IA).

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

Several from our congregation traveled to Leo, IN, for the September 17 wedding of Bro. Matt Wirtz (Bro. Mike and Sis. Lila) and Sis. Danielle Stickling (Bro. Dale and Sis. Diane). May they always look to God for guidance as they establish their home in Indiana.

On October 8, Sis. Elizabeth Zaugg (Bro. Pat and Sis. Julie) and Bro. Steve Warner (Elder Bro. Dennis and Sis. Esther) were joined in marriage in the Lord. They will begin their married life in Lester. Among the many visitors were Elder Bro. Dennis Warner (Sis. Esther), Bros. Dale Wulf (Sis. Becky) and Rodney Bajema (Sis. Twila), all of Lester, IA; Gary Brown (Sis. Jane, Forrest, IL), Dale Zeltwanger (Sis. Rachel, Morris, MN), and Kenneth Eisenmann (Sis. Sharon, Cissna Park, IL). We wish both of these couples many years of happiness.

We also appreciated Bros. Wes

Moser (Sis. Esther, Lester, IA) and Dean Messner (Sis. Wanda (Winthrop, MN) on other Sundays. What a blessing it is to assemble in the house of worship Sunday after Sunday and always hear the Word spoken by humble brothers. May we never take this privilege for granted, but pray for the Word so that we can always feel God's presence.

Three more families have been blessed with the arrival of new babies. On September 22, Jamie and Sarah Montag became first-time parents of Katelyn Ann. Bro. Pat and Sis. Julie Zaugg and Ed and Luan Montag are all first-time grandparents.

Clinton and Kelly Schneider are first-time parents of Nathan Alexander, born on September 25. Bro. Gary and Sis. Sue Schneider and Scott and Deborah Hughes will share their love on this grandchild.

Bro. Kevin and Sis. Lonnie Fehr welcomed Leah Jean on September 26. Her brothers, Taylor and Adam, along with grandparents, Bro. Melvin and Sis. Glenagene Fehr and Bro. Silas and Sis. Della Metzger, are thankful and happy. May these families ever look to God for guidance as they rear these precious little ones.

Bro. Vic Banwart (Sis. Marilyn) and Sis. Lucille Schmidt (Bro. Dwaine) had short hospital stays. We are thankful both can enjoy a good recovery.

The harvest is near completion in this area and we are thankful for the Lord's blessings.

"It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, but his compassions fail not. They are new every morning. Great is thy faithfulness."

*Lamentations 3:22-23*

*Thanksgiving Prayer*

Lord, we thank Thee  
 For precious heritage our forefathers gave;  
 For noble ones so fearless, true and brave  
 Who came to clear a wilderness unknown,  
 Transforming waste to a foundation stone,  
 Surviving dangers, loneliness and fears,  
 Looking and trusting to the future years.  
 This day we lift our hearts, for we are free  
 To sing our songs of thanks, all thanks to Thee.  
 We thank Thee, Lord; this heritage we know  
 Has come to us through Thee, and so  
 In humbleness we lift our hearts in prayer,  
 Asking Thy protection and Thy daily care.  
 We thank Thee, Lord,  
 For food, shelter, hearth, home and love,  
 For herds, new grain, and blessings from above.  
 As year by year we meet in festive scenes,  
 Help us to know just what Thanksgiving means.  
 And on this day of days in bright November,  
 Help us to live true and heritage remember  
 And strive each year for better, nobler living,  
 Giving thanks to God on this Thanksgiving.  
 —*Mamie Osburn Odum*

**JAPAN, SHIODA**

**Ayako Inoue**

We send our greetings from Shioda, Japan.

This month we had four visiting Elders, Bro. John and Sis. Lois Klotzle, Bro. Roy and Sis. Dona Grimm, Bro. Mark Bahr, and Bro. John and Sis. Connie Lehman. We were very thankful they could be with us on Sunday (October 8) and worship and fellowship together. We went to see Mt. Fuji the following day, and although we did not have very good weather, we could see the top of the mountain in between the clouds. We trust the Lord that He will keep them and guide them as they do God's work in India.

The Tamahata Church building will not be used from this month, since it is getting difficult to maintain it with the small number of members. They will gather in a private home once a month, and will attend Shioda church on the other Sundays. It would be best for both churches to join together completely, but the local people who attend Tamahata church requested having one gathering a month, even though it would not be in the church building.

We pray for God's blessings upon our walk with the Lord.

Our fall gathering (Shuyokai) is coming up next month and we are looking forward to it.

**JAPAN, TOKYO**

**Jana Klaus**

Greetings of love from Tokyo! Recently, while looking up the word "harvest" in the concordance, I came across a verse in Genesis that I hadn't remembered from before,

but it struck me as a wonderful verse. We can read in Genesis Chapter 8 how the Lord safely delivered Noah and his family out of the ark and how Noah offered a sacrifice of thanksgiving to the Lord. Then the Lord in turn promised Noah that He would never again destroy the earth as He had just done. This leads to the verse that I was referring to earlier, the very last verse of that chapter and the words of the Lord, "While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease." These were ordained by the Lord, and true to His promise, we are still enjoying them today. He is worthy of our praise and thanksgiving!

Our congregation experienced much encouragement and joy the weekend of October 7-8. Four of our American Elders and three of their wives stopped in Japan on their way to India. On Saturday, Andrew and I were very privileged to take them all on a tour of Tokyo. We had a wonderful time and cherish the memories. Then, on Sunday, Elder Bro. Roy Grimm and his wife, Sis. Dona (Taylor, MO), Elder Bro. John Lehman and his wife, Sis. Connie (Bern, KS) and Elder Bro. Mark Bahr (Detroit, MI) assembled with us in Tokyo church while Elder Bro. John Klotzle and his wife, Sis. Lois (Altadena, CA), assembled with those in the country church. The ministering of these dear Elders on our behalf was greatly appreciated as it is not often that we have visiting ministers. We thank them for their patience with the translating. The day was culminated with a supper, service and "question time" out in

the country church, where three car loads of us traveled to join those gathered in Shioda. What a blessed time!

Our prayers have been with these dear Elders and their wives during their stay in India, also. We trust that the Lord will provide for their every need. We are already looking forward to their next trip through Japan should the Lord will it.

Sis. Haruyo Onoda's second oldest son, Kunihiro, was married to Miho in Odawara on October 8. At the time of this writing, they are on their honeymoon in New York. We do pray that the Lord would bless their marriage, drawing them close to each other and ultimately close to Him. Sis. Onoda's mother spent time in the hospital, but was recently able to return home; however, she is requiring more care than before and we do pray for Sis. Onoda and her family to have strength.

Sis. Utsuki Okaasan (mother) was also released from the hospital recently and her four daughters, two of them sisters in our church (Sis. Hiroko and Sis. Yoshiko), would surely appreciate prayers as they lovingly care for her.

Sis. Shizuko Urushino suffered a bruised face and chest from a fall in her home in the middle of the night. She said she normally leaves a tiny light on, but just that night she left it off. It made me think spiritually what a difference just one Christian or Christian family can make in a dark neighborhood. Our prayers are with Sis. Urushino for her bodily healing and for the "soul healing" of those still in darkness.

We heard that our friend, Gary Kellenberger (Bro. Keith, Elgin, IL),

and his wife, Yoko, were blessed with their first child on October 11. Koa Joshua is his name and we do hope we can all meet him in church someday.

Last, but certainly not least, is the reporting of our Holy Communion service on October 22. Elder Bro. Willis (and Sis. Lois) joined us to assist Elder Bro. Akito. Bro. Willis explained why we use the word "communion" using I Corinthians 10:16 and then in verse 17 how we are all part of one body. What a blessing and responsibility.

Perhaps I had too much to report on this month, but I just realized that I forgot some very important news. We were very thrilled and encouraged to hear wonderful news from our two college students in America. Makoto Inoue (Indianapolis, IN) has experienced peace from the Lord and will, Lord willing, be baptized here in December. And Kan Uemura (Bloomington, IL) has turned his back on his old life and is seeking conversion and peace from his God. These two young men are very special to us and we continue to pray for them and thank all of you there in the States for the help you are to them.

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### KANSAS, BERN Lori Baumgartner

"Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest?"

*John 4:35*

Our harvest time has come and gone rather quickly this year, due to such a hot, dry summer. Hopefully this has allowed many of us more time to savor this beautiful fall sea-

son and appreciate God's magnificent handiwork!

We have one birth to announce this month. Bro. Matt and Sis. Helen Edelman, along with Marvin, Diana, and Marissa, welcomed Sheri Lynn on September 23. Thankful grandparents are William and Helen Fehr (Fairbury, IL) and Bro. Fred and Sis. Joanne Edelman.

Our congregation was excited to hear of the engagement of Bro. Doug Wiegand (Sarasota, FL) to Sis. Robin Esslinger. Their parents are Bro. David and Sis. Mary Wiegand and Bro. Lee and Sis. Patsy Esslinger, all from Pulaski, IA. Our love and prayers go with Doug and Robin as they plan for their December wedding and make their future home in Florida.

On September 30, a singing was held for another special couple preparing for marriage. Bro. Jason Strahm (Taylor, MO) and Sis. Courtney Hoerr (Peoria, IL) are planning a November wedding. May God richly bless Jason (who was raised in our area) and Courtney, along with their parents, Bro. Joe and Sis. Joann Hoerr (Peoria, IL) and Clayton and Sis. Mariam Strahm.

Two brothers have spent some time in the hospital recently. We're thankful Bro. Reuben Moser (Sis. Stella) and Bro. Ed Lehman (Sis. Leola) are both home now and trust they are feeling better.

In closing this month, may we all glorify God as we gather in His house on Thanksgiving Day, and also with our family and friends in the coming weeks. What a special time of year to truly give thanks!

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### **KANSAS, FORT SCOTT** **Joleen Sinn**

Sis. Ruth Sinn was in the hospital this month. We are thankful that with help she was able to return home.

We were blessed to have two visiting ministers this month: Bros. Bill Emch (Sis. Susan, Lamont-Gridley, KS) and Dave Marquart (Sis. Lori, Taylor, MO). May God bless them richly for being willing to be used by Him.

October 14-15 was our Invite a Friend weekend. We enjoyed supper and singing at the park Saturday evening and a nice group at church on Sunday. It is a joy to meet new people and to spend time with those who we have known for a long while. We want to thank all who joined us for the weekend as it was our company that made it so enjoyable.

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

Our little congregation always appreciates having visitors assemble with us. September 23-24 was our biannual "Invite-a-Guest" weekend. Thanks to all who were with us, especially ministering Bro. Dale Zeltwanger (Sis. Rachel, Morris, MN). May the Lord bless him for his willingness to proclaim God's Word to us.

Sunday afternoon, October 8, was our annual Sunday School fall picnic at Riverside West by Redmond Dam. Although the weather was a little cool, the students enjoyed a good time of playing games and singing hymns together.

As we approach Thanksgiving Day, may we be thankful to God for

our salvation and for the many blessings we enjoy.

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### **KANSAS, SABETHA** **Mary Kay Wenger** **Brenda Grimm**

We are thankful Bro. Virgil Hartter (Sis. Marie) has been released from the hospital and is able to be in church.

A daughter, Salome Kathryn Hartter, was born to Bro. Tim and Sis. Charleen Hartter on October 1. She is welcomed home by Bro. Seth, Bro. John, Heidi, Maria, Micah, Rose and Daniel. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Edwin and Sis. Lois Bahler (Remington, IN) and Bro. Virgil and Sis. Marie Hartter.

We extend sympathy to those who have recently lost loved ones. Curtis Keim (Valerie) feels the loss of his father, Glen Keim, of Sabetha, who was suddenly taken out of this life with a heart attack. Sis. Pearl Banwart, formerly from Lamar, MO, passed away October 7. Local survivors include her sister, Sis. Marie Banwart, who resides at the nursing home.

#### *Note of Thanks:*

I wish to thank everyone for remembering me with your prayers, the many cards and the encouragement during my surgeries and many other kind deeds of love. God bless each one.

*Virgil Hartter*

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### **KANSAS STATE** **UNIVERSITY** **Tiffany Kellenberger**

"To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under



heaven.”

*Eccles. 3:1*

As we watch the seasons change, we are reminded of how great our God is. His hand is in everything around us and He has a purpose for us all. As our schedules fill and we become busier, we pray that our minds would not be drawn from our main focus and goal, that of our heavenly kingdom.

We were blessed to have several ministering brothers here for Wednesday evening services on September 27 and October 11: Bros. Bill Emch (Lamont-Gridley, KS) and Randy Kellenberger (Kansas City, MO). We thank these brothers and their families for taking the time to come be with us and for sharing God's Word. We also once again thank the families and friends who travel the many miles to come for such a short time to be with us. May God richly bless each of you.

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### **KANSAS, WICHITA Emma Miller**

Last month I reported that Sis. Gussie Wullschleger had rallied. I mailed the news article on the morning of September 18 and that afternoon I received word that our dear sister had gone to her heavenly reward. Sis. Gussie is survived by sons, Carl of Port Clinton, OH; Bill of Wichita; Kermit of Portage, MI; Bruce of La Mirada, CA; Victor of Egg Harbor Township, NJ; and daughters, Karen Rae of Pacific Palisades, CA; Janet Cooper, Sis. Sally Funk and Juanita Dunlap of Wichita; Emily Morris of Andale; and Sis. Kristen Plattner of Lowell, MI. She also had 35 grandchildren and 19

great-grandchildren.

The front cover of Sis. Gussie's memorial leaflet contained a poem written by her husband, Bro. Art, who preceded her in death. It is as follows:

To My Darling Wife, Gussie  
May this fill your heart with gentle peace.

#### *A Sonnet of Joy*

There's many a thing tomorrow brings,  
But only God tomorrow holds.  
The rapture grand  
I feel God's hand.

I love to sing or pray  
When day is done,  
It frees my heart  
of earthly things.  
The rapture grand  
I feel God's hand.

Bro. Max and Sis. Judy Reimschisel became grandparents again on October 15 when Michael was born to Mark and Lynette Reimschisel. Little Michael is born into a loving family and I am reminded of Proverbs 17:6, "Children's children are the crown of old men and the glory of children are their fathers."

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### **MEXICO, IXTLAN Lorenia Sibaja**

"Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him."

*Revelation 1:7*

This past summer we were blessed with two more eye clinics to serve some of our local needs, as there are no eye doctors in the area.

For the first clinic, ministering Bro. Loren Schrenk (St. Louis, MO) performed a number of operations. For the second clinic, Bro. Bryan Stoller (Fairbury, IL) offered examinations and then distributed donated eyewear. We hope the Lord has blessed these efforts and pray that the patients were able to see more than eye charts.

Our fledgling congregation in Morelia, Mexico, is now blessed with Sunday School classes every Sunday for the local children, in addition to services every other Saturday. Once again, we pray that the Lord will prosper these efforts.

#### *Meet Benjamin and Patricia Campos*

Benjamin is 36 years old and his wife, Patricia, is 29. They have three children.

Benjamin met his wife, Patricia, in Mexico City, where she is from. Unfortunately, due to marital problems, they separated and Benjamin returned to Ixtlan. He felt like a complete failure in life and continued to drink. He never thought he would see his family again. Thanks to the Lord, he had believing aunts in Ixtlan who invited him to hear the Word of God, as there were occasional services in the area. The very first time he went to church, he knew that this was what he needed to fill the tremendous void in his life. He was split between the desire to learn more of the Lord and the desire to dive back into the world. Seven months later he began his conversion. He prayed that he could be reunited with his family.

Meanwhile, Pati had moved to a different location, without Ben's

knowledge. She was very disturbed by the separation. She began to read her brother's Bible for direction. One day Ben was able to reach her by telephone. He asked for forgiveness and told her he had given his life to the Lord. Perhaps they could start over. At first she was hurt and angry, but then a tremendous peace came over her. She was so touched that she wanted to return to Ben. She prayed that God would lead her to her husband, and help her to live a sanctified life.

The third day after Pati's return to Ixtlan there was another service. Ben, Pati, and the three children went to church as a family. In His mercy, God also called Pati to repentance. She wanted Christ in her heart but still felt like a sinner. As they had never married in the eyes of the law, three months later the Lord directed them to obtain a legal license. They were baptized together in July of 1998.

"We are extremely thankful that God sent messengers to preach us the truth. We hope and pray that someday our children will find this same path. There is nothing more important than a relationship with God."

"This is the only true path."

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**MICHIGAN, BAY CITY**  
**Rhonda Knochel**  
**Peggy Jackson**

As Thanksgiving approaches, it is so easy to focus on what we wish we had to be thankful for instead of what we DO have to be thankful for. I challenge each of you in the month ahead to thank God daily for all that He has given you. I think that when we take time to focus on our bless-

ings, we find ourselves being more content and happy instead of buying into the world's constant striving for things.

We were very pleased to have Bro. Ken Hoerr (Peoria, IL) and his wife, Sis. Darlene, visit us this month. We want to extend our thanks to Bro. Ken and Sis. Darlene and pray that God will continue to bless Bro. Ken's ministry.

We had several in the hospital this month. They are: Bro. Gary Wright (Sis. Shirley), Bro. Daryle Wieland (Sis. Edie), Sis. Margret Ruegsegger (Bro. Glenn) and Bro. Ron Wackerle. It is our prayer that each one will continue to feel God's nearness and healing power.

"Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name."

*Psalm 100:4*

May God bless each of you richly as you rest in Him this month.

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

Every child is a miracle from God and it always builds our faith to welcome another baby into the Detroit family. Bro. Keith and Sis. Alisa Beyer are thankful for the safe arrival of their son, Brecken Mark. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Martin and Sis. Karen Beyer (Sabetha, KS) and Bro. Mark and Sis. Bev Bahr. Auburn and Braden are very excited about the new addition to their family.

We have had several of our loved ones ill this past month. Our

thoughts are continuously with Bro. George Popp, Bro. Dan Knochel (Sis. Ruth), Bro. Floyd Wieland (Sis. Perseda), Bro. Guy Wieland (Sis. Rose), and Sis. Maria Sabados as they have had health concerns. We pray for them and their families who support them with such love and care.

Those who are willing to stand before us and teach the gospel are so special to each of us. We are thankful for their diligent work for the Lord and their dedication to His service. This month, we were blessed not only with our home ministers but also with Bro. Akito Inoue (Sis. Marie) from Tokyo, Japan. It is a blessing to have someone from such a far distance share in the same Word with one mind.

We welcome Eva Kotecz as a sister in our faith. We are thankful for the addition to our congregation. May God continue to bless her in her spiritual walk.

Bro. Leonard and Sis. Audrey Hitz plan to leave for Florida this month. As they depart for a season, they will be missed by the Detroit congregation. We look forward to their return in the spring.

This month our dear Elder Bro. Mark Bahr (Sis. Bev) has been traveling in Japan and India doing God's work with others around the world. He is certainly missed back home but we are grateful for his opportunity to share the Word with those who need it. We pray for Bro. Mark and the other brethren's safe return home.

*Note of Thanks:*

Dan Knochel, who for approximately 4 1/2 years has had ALS - also

known as "Lou Gehrigs" disease, expresses his sincere and humble thanks for the many acts of kindness that include messages of prayers, love, encouragement and personnel help that we have received during this time. There is no way that we can express the magnitude of what your prayers, gifts and help have meant to us. We pray the Lord will richly bless you for your love.

*Dan and Ruth Knochel*

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**MINNESOTA  
MINNEAPOLIS  
Delores Sauder**

The Sunday School children and their families enjoyed the beautiful Saturday evening of September 30 on a hayride. It was truly a blessing to have lovely weather.

We enjoyed the fellowship and ministering of our Elder Bro. LeRoy Messner (Winthrop, MN) and Bro. Dale Zeltwanger (Morris, MN). We thank these brethren for their labors.

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**MINNESOTA, MORRIS  
Dianne Kellenberger  
Cheryl Messner**

Lead me through the vale of shadows,  
Bear me o'er life's fitful sea;  
Then the gate of life eternal  
May I enter, Lord, with Thee.

*Hymns of Zion #223*

On September 19, our beloved sister in faith, Sis. Nettie Nohl, was called from this life. She truly lived a life of service to her Lord and to others.

Tory T. joined the family of Bro. Trevor and Sis. Jody Schmidgall and

big brother, Luke, on September 25. May God grant Heavenly wisdom as they raise and enjoy their little sons. Grandparents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Eileen Nohl and Bro. Mike and Sis. Diane Schmidgall.

God richly blessed the lives of Bro. Jerry and Sis. Kristi Nohl when Staci Kay was born on October 5. She joins a brother, Ted. Bro. Dennis and Sis. Shirley Kellenberger (Lester, IA) and Bro. Larry and Sis. Bonnie Nohl are grandparents.

The engagement of Bro. Ryan Kellenberger and Sis. Joan Messner was announced on October 8. It is our prayer that God will help their love for Him and for one another to increase. Parents are Sis. Dianne Kellenberger of Morris and Mark Kellenberger of Leicester, NC, and Bro. Sid and Sis. Cheryl Messner.

Loved ones who have been hospitalized include Cornelia Joos, Sis. Dorothy Durkee, and Bro. Alphai Moser. May each feel God's nearness and comfort.

Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr (West Bend, IA) visited our congregation. We appreciated his exhortations.

*Note of Thanks:*

Thank you to my family, relatives, and friends for remembering me with your prayers, cards, gifts, telephone calls, flowers, food and visits when I was in the hospital and at home. Thank you for your love and support; I appreciated it all very much. God's blessings to you all.

*Mabel Schmidgall*

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**MINNESOTA, WINTHROP  
Carol Ann Messner  
Marilyn Messner**

"O give thanks unto the Lord; call upon his name: make known his deeds among the people. Sing unto him, sing psalms unto him: talk ye all his wondrous works. Glory ye in his holy name: let the heart of them rejoice that seek the Lord. Seek the Lord and his strength: seek his face evermore. Remember his marvelous works that he hath done..."

*Psalms 105:1-5*

Thanksgiving: the day set aside by our government to remind us of Hebrews 13:5, "...be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee."

We were also thankful for our visiting minister. Bro. Don Miller (Sis. Bernadine, Minneapolis, MN) shared precious words of truth with our congregation. "And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive." (Matthew 21:22)

Kari and Russell Terwey welcome their newest son, Samuel Duane, born September 24. Big brother, Jack, welcomes him home. Grandparents are Duane and Mona Messner. Dennis and Connie Schmidt are new parents of a son, Tanner Benjamin, born September 26. Grandparents are Bro. Darrel and Darlene Schmidt. We pray for God's blessings upon these new babies and their families.

September 15 was the day of marriage chosen by Jeff and Jennifer Messner to start their new life together. They will be living in Savage, MN. Duane and Mona Messner are

the parents. We wish them God's blessings.

Hospital patients this past month were Elder Bro. Leroy Messner (Sis. Joanne), Leighton Messner (Bro. Paul and Sis. Jan) and Darlene Schmidt (Bro. Darrel). We pray for God's healing touch in their lives.

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to the family of Bro. Ray Messner on his passing on October 15. Bro. Ray is survived by his wife, Sis. Bernadine; sons, Gary (Marilyn), Stan (Jeanine), Jeff (Debbie) and Steve (Jan); daughter, Cindy VonBerge (Gary); and grandchildren. Also surviving are his brothers, Bro. Harold (Sis. Geraldine), Bro. Mike (Sis. Joyce), Bro. Don (Sis. Viola), Melvin (Vernita), Harvey (Verda), Bro. Marvin (Sis. Geraldine) and Gerald (Millie); and sisters, Sis. Hazel Schmidt (Bro. Elmer), Idabell Witt (Donald) and Shirley Demm. May the Lord comfort and strengthen his family.

"And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and their shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain..."

*Rev. 21:4*

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

*Rev. 22:14*

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### MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY Komari Neal

The autumn it upon us once again and with autumn comes our fall church cleaning. Many of our broth-

ers and sisters worked together on September 23 to keep our church and it's grounds in good repair and neat. We are so very thankful for our small church and for the ability to gather within it's walls to hear the Word of God and praise Him with song. We take such good care of the physical building which is our church; may we also strive to take care of the spiritual health of our congregation.

Our congregation has had other opportunities this past month to gather together and fellowship. On September 24, we had a potluck supper and singing at the church in honor and thanks to our retired Elder Bro. Gene and Sis. Mary Marti. Words cannot explain the love and gratitude we feel for Bro. Gene and Sis. Mary, but we hope our efforts to express were understood. Many of our congregation also gathered at the home of Bro. Randy and Sis. Karen Kellenberger for the annual fall wiener roast. This event is always filled with fun, singing and fellowship. How blessed we are to be able to gather as a group of believers and enjoy the benefits of fellowship, prayer and singing together.

Joy has filled our hearts as our dear convert, Gayle McAfee, has been announced for having found peace with God and man. We anxiously await the weekend of November 11-12 when we will gather to hear Gayle's testimony of faith. Our prayers are with Gayle during this time of preparation. May we also prepare our own hearts to listen to her testimony and examine our own lives. This is a truly special time when we can recall the time when our faith was new and we laid our all

on the altar.

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### MISSOURI, LAMAR Kristi Huber Kristen Braker

We were thankful to have ministering Bro. Wayne Grimm (West Bend, IA) visit our congregation this past month. May God bless him richly.

We rejoice with Kayla Kellenberger (Bro. Curt and Sis. Martha) as she has turned her heart to the Lord in repentance. Let us keep her in our prayers.

It was announced to the congregation that Greg Braker (Bro. Robert and Sis. Janice Stoller) feels he is at peace with God and man. We rejoice with him and look forward to his baptism.

We extend our sympathy and prayers to the family of Sis. Pearl Banwart (Sabetha, KS) as she has passed out of this life. Surviving her are one sister, Sis. Marie Banwart (Sabetha, KS), and three brothers, Bro. Art (Lamar, MO), Bro. Raymond (Ft. Scott, KS) and Lloyd (Springfield, MO). Also, we pray the Lord will bless ministering Bro. Dale Frank (Oakville, IA) for his labors in the funeral service.

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### MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS Rachel Schrock

In a recent sermon we were reminded of all that Jesus went through during the last few days of His life here on this earth: the sleepless night, the long trial, the crown of thorns, the scourging, the mocking, the walk to the hillside, the nails in His flesh, the weight of our sins upon Him, and most tragic of all, feeling the separation from God as He cried,

"My God, my God, why hast Thou forsaken me?" Nothing that we encounter in life can compare to the agony that His Spirit went through so that we may have a hope of life eternal. We thank Thee, Father, for reminding us of Thy love.

We also wish to extend our gratitude to those who have ministered to us this past month. Our visiting ministering brethren included Elder Bros. Roy Grimm (Sis. Dona, Taylor, MO) and Bob Walder (Sis. Gloria, Congerville, IL) and Bros. Ken Dietz (Sis. Mardell, Bradford, IL), Bob Stoller (Sis. Janice, Lamar, MO), Art Ingold (Sis. Bonnie, Rittman, OH) and Bill Dotterer (Sis. Sharon, Lamar, MO). May God bless them for their labors on our behalf.

As we move into the holiday season, may we remember all of our many blessings. May we not only count them, but also cherish each one. During this season it is so easy to be thankful with the beautiful fall foliage and thoughts of the Babe in the manger. May we strive to keep this thankfulness alive in our hearts every day as we walk the sometimes not so cheerful pathway of life.

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### MISSOURI, TAYLOR Peg Haerr

Our Bible Class traveled to Forrest, IL, on September 24 for ACYF. On October 1 they were invited to Pulaski, IA. Our Sunday School Fall Picnic was held October 8. We pray that all our students will develop those lasting Christian friendships!

Bros. John Hartman (Sis. Rosemary, Fairbury, IL) and Roy Ehnle (Sis. Donna, Bradford, IL) blessed us with their ministry this month. We really are thankful when brothers

are willing to come and serve us!

Our hospital patients this month were Linda Heimer, Sis. Kathy Haab (Bro. Paul) and Bro. Arnold Gerst (Sis. Marge). We are thankful for God's healing mercies.

We have two new babies this month! Bennett Avery Sutter was born October 17 to Bro. Kim and Sis. Vonette. Grandparents are Bro. James and Sis. Lois Sutter and Kenneth Leinweber from Palmyra. Bro. Albert Wuthrich from Pulaski, IA, is the great-grandfather. Donald Hayden Hoerr II arrived October 18. He is the son of Stacy and Jody Hoerr. Grandparents are Bro. Don and Sis. Elaine Hoerr and Don and Judy Fessenden of Palmyra. Great-grandparents are Sis. Loida Hodel and Harold and Sue Silver from Palmyra. May God bless each family!

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### NEW YORK CROGHAN-NAUMBURG Anna Mellnitz

"Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins gird about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked, And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the spirit which is the word of God;"

*Ephesians 6:13-17*

We had invite a friend weekend on October 7-8. Our visitors were from Congerville, IL; Rockville, CT;

Rittman, OH; Winthrop, MN; and friends from the community. We had a covered dish meal and a singing afterwards on Sunday.

On Wednesday evening, October 11, we had brothers and sisters from Fairbury, Bloomington, and Peoria, IL; and Silverton, OR.

The regional Elders' Conference was held at Mansfield, OH, on October 14. May God bestow guidance and wisdom to our Elders as they seek to preserve our precious faith.

On Wednesday evening, October 18, we had visiting Elder Bro. Wayne Banwart (Champaign, IL) and Bro. John Rowell and his wife (Burlington, IA), and brothers and sisters from Tremont, IL.

It is fall and the trees are beautiful this time of year as you travel through the woods.

A baby boy was born to Todd and Danielle Farney on October 8. His name is Logan Todd. He has a sister, Brianna Morgan. His grandparents are Elder Bro. Duane and Sis. Karen Farney.

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### OHIO, AKRON Joyce Gasser

We are thankful that Sis. Amy Palitto is willing to be a Sunday School teacher. She replaces Sis. Amy Relgin, whose service was also appreciated. We are thankful Sis. Arliss Pamer is willing to help on the Kitchen Committee to replace Sis. Joanne Schar.

Bro. Mark and Sis. Marcy Graf were blessed with a baby girl whom they named Rebekah Lynn, born September 19. Also welcoming the baby home is Isaac, Jacob, and Sheila. Grandparents are Bro. Leon and Sis. Janet Graf and Bro. Lowell

and Sis. Karla Bahler (Wolcott, IN).

Bro. Joe and Sis. Carla Miller have become a new Mother and Father with the birth of their first child, a girl, Trina Lauren, born October 11. Grandparents are Bro. Randy and Sis. Carolyn Miller and Bro. Fred and Sis. Joyce Stoller (Rittman, OH).

Sis. Gerri O'Brien has had a cochlear implant surgery behind her ear, and after a period of recovery at home, we are glad she can be back with us again. We wish for her a successful recovery. She would like to thank all that have remembered her in any way with gifts, cards, flowers, and prayers. The kindness has been greatly appreciated.

Bro. Sandor and Sis. Kathy Bako will be having a 40th wedding anniversary November 13 as they were married in 1960.

We were blessed in hearing the "Memorandum" read and explained to us by our Elder Bro. Eugene Pamer with Elder Bros. Andy Virkler and Ray Sinn assisting. We appreciated the visiting Elders staying over for Sunday, October 15.

Bro. John Graf had been hospitalized and is undergoing rehabilitation.

Jim and Sheli Remick are moving to Indianapolis October 16. We are sorry they are moving away, and wish them well in their new location.

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### **OHIO, COLUMBUS** **Anita Steiner**

A World Relief night was held at the church on October 6. Nights like these make us stop and think how truly blessed we are. It was a wonderful evening of fellowship with the included blessing knowing that we

were helping others.

Our visiting ministers this past month were Bros. Wally Ramsier (Mansfield, OH), Jim Plattner (Princeville, IL), Art Ingold (Rittman, OH) and Elder Bro. Charles Hemmer (Peoria, IL). May God richly bless these brothers for their efforts.

Will Sauder has a new address in Texas. It is as follows:

PFC Sauder, William K.  
E. Co. 187th MED BN  
FSH, TX, 78234

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### **OHIO, JUNCTION** **Cindy Schlatter**

"Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine."

*II Timothy 2:4*

May we all pray that our hearts can be open to God's Word so that we can daily apply it to our lives. This past month we were thankful to have visiting ministers with us. We thank Bros. Marvin Stieglitz (Leo, IN) and Todd Stoller (Latty, OH) for lending themselves and trust that God will richly bless them.

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### **OHIO, LATTY** **Heidi Hackenjos** **Kathy Sinn**

We are thankful for our ministers who labor for us in the Lord. Visiting us this past month were Bros. Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville, IL), Ron Kipfer (Bluffton, IN), Bill Waibel (Bay City, MI) and Curt Rassi (Tremont, IL).

We extend a hearty welcome to Sis. Bonny Wenninger (Bro. Doug).

May the Lord be with them as they establish their home here in Latty.

With joy we heard the testimony and witnessed the baptism of Bro. Vince Krzesinski (Bro. Keith and Sis. Connie). We welcome Bro. Vince into the brotherhood.

Our sympathy goes to Sis. Diane Sinn (Bro. Mark) in the passing of her father, Bro. Otto Sinn (Silverton, OR). We pray that she will feel God's nearness in the days ahead.

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### **OHIO, MANSFIELD** **John and Marci Pfeiffer**

September 13 was a joyous day for Bro. Lonny and Sis. Becky Moser as they adopted a son, Grant Nikolai (6/22/98), and a daughter, Lauren Polina (1/2/99), from Russia. Grant and Lauren were welcomed home in America by their brothers, Shane and Aaron. Happy grandparents are Bro. Don and Sis. Mary Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN) and Bro. Philip and Sis. Jean Moser (Bluffton, IN). We ask God to bless the Moser family.

Our sympathy and prayers have been with Sis. Julie Webel (Bro. Jeff) in the passing of her dear mother, Barbara Somers (James). May the Lord continue to comfort Sis. Julie and her family during this difficult time.

Aaron Masters (Elder Bro. Mark and Sis. Jeannine) was hospitalized this month. Sis. Peg Graszl (Bro. Frank) is currently at the Winchester Terrace Nursing Home for therapy. We hope Aaron and Sis. Peg will soon be well enough to assemble with us again.

Sam and Angel Sauder were blessed with their first child, LaCrisha Marie, on October 3. Thankful grandparents are Rick

and Debbie Prince and retired Elder Bro. Ken and Sis. Sue Sauder. We wish them God's blessings.

The Eastern Regional Elder Meeting was held in Mansfield on October 14. May the Holy Spirit continue to direct our Elder brethren as they strive to feed the church of God.

We thank our visiting minister, Bro. Max Reimschisel (Wichita, KS), who taught us of the grace of God.

We had a blessed weekend on October 14-15 when we heard the testimonies of Bro. Nathaniel Ramsey (Bro. Ed and Sis. Laura), Bro. Troy Baltic (Bro. Pete and Sis. Karen), Bro. Tom Hill (Bro. Chip and Sis. Sieda), and Bro. Art and Sis. Lore Stuenzi. We appreciated Elder Bros. Duane Farney (Croghan Naumburg, NY), Kevin Ryan (Rockville, CT) and Doug Sabo (Sarasota, FL) who assisted our Elder Bro. Mark Masters with this work. Bro. Nelson Beer (Milford, IN) also served us on this special day. We welcome you into our fellowship, Bros. Nathaniel, Troy, Tom, Art and Sis. Lore!

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**OHIO, RITTMAN**  
Beth Beery  
Cheryl Hartzler

"Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out..."

*Acts 3:19*

How thankful we are when God does call souls to feel the need for repentance. We rejoice with Mark Steiner (Sis. Deb) as he has heard that call and has begun his walk with the Lord.

God has blessed Bro. Dan and Sis. Jennifer Hartzler with a safe arrival

of their son, Troy Daniel, on September 20. Welcoming their little brother home are his three sisters, Wendy, Tresa and Rachel. Grandparents are Bro. Merle and Sis. Bonnie Hartzler and Bro. John and Sis. Joyce Schambach (Akron, OH).

Our sympathy goes to Arlene Rupp in the passing of her brother, Raymond Mullet. We also think of Bro. Alan and Rose Bauman as Rose's father, John Dellafave, has passed away. Our prayers are with you both.

On September 17, Bro. Alan Blough (Sis. Lucille) and Sis. Renee Miller (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Doris, Sardis) were joined together in Holy Matrimony. What a blessing it is to see how God can bring two souls together. "What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder." (Mark 10:9)

Our prayers are with Sis. Ruth E. Beery and Bro. Aquilla Barna as they have been hospitalized this past month. May God grant his healing as he sees fit.

We are thankful for our visitors this past month, especially those who are willing to share God's Word with us. Visiting ministers that were with us this past month were Bros. Fred Domka (Mansfield, OH) and Dean Steffen (Belvidere, IL).

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**OHIO, SARDIS**  
Angie Figel

"Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name."

*Psalms 100:4*

The Bible puts much emphasis

on being thankful to God for what He has blessed us with.

Even though things don't always go the way we would like them to, the Lord always has blessings in store for us, but let us wait upon and put our full trust in the Lord, and receive Him with thanksgiving.

We held our annual outdoor pork roast dinner on October 7. It is especially fun for our Sunday School children who make crafts, take nature walks, and enjoyed a small hay ride. We would like to thank the family of Bro. Wayne and Sis. Jane Klotzle (Akron, OH) for hosting this event.

Our visiting minister this month was Bro. John Rowell (Sis. Nelda, Burlington, IA). May God bless Bro. John for his kind efforts.

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**OHIO, SMITHVILLE**  
Edith Miller  
Ruth Gasser

'Twas a sheep, not a lamb, that  
strayed away  
In the parable Jesus told,  
A grown-up sheep that had gone  
astray  
From the ninety and nine in the  
fold.

Out in the meadows, out in the  
cold,  
'Twas a sheep the Good Shepherd  
sought.  
Back to the flock, and into the  
fold,  
'Twas a sheep the Good Shepherd  
brought.

Why, for the sheep, should we  
earnestly long  
And so earnestly hope and pray?  
Because there is danger, if they  
go wrong,

They will lead the young lambs  
astray.

For the lambs follow the sheep,  
you know,  
Wherever the sheep may stray;  
If the sheep go wrong, it will not  
be long  
Till the lambs are as wrong as  
they.

So, with the sheep, we earnestly  
plead  
For the sake of the lambs today,  
If the lambs are lost, what a ter-  
rible cost  
Some sheep may have to pay.  
—*Minnie Lee Bovende*

On September 24 we received four precious lambs into the fold following their testimony of faith and baptism. May God guide and protect our new Bros. Jon Bauman (Bro. Steve and Sis. Connie) and Dave Colvin (Shelly) and Sisters Kristen Rufener (Bro. John W. and Sis. Emily) and Darla Nieman (Bro. Denny and Sis. Kay) as they go on their pilgrim pathway.

We rejoice that another soul has found grace and peace through repentance. May God bless Marcia Martin (Adam) with faith as she awaits to give her testimony. Bro. Mark and Sis. Sue Steiner are her parents.

We are grateful to many visiting brothers who ministered to us this past month. Elder Bros. Marvin Leman (Bradford, IL) and Merle Hartzler (Rittman, OH) and Bros. Dan Stoller (Remington, IN), Ben Manz and Don Manz (Junction, OH), Steve Pamer (Akron, OH) and Jim Vierling (Eureka, IL) were here for baptisms. Also, we thank Bros. Dan Stoller (Rockville, CT), Bill

Gerst (Alto, MI), Dave Graf (Akron, OH) and Fred Knapp (Congerville, IL) for lending themselves in God's service to us.

Those requiring hospitalization this month were Sis. Mildred Hartzler and Sis. Berniece Bauman (Bro. Herbert). We are happy they are able to assemble with us again. There are others who suffer from ongoing pain and affliction, who surely would appreciate our prayers or words of encouragement.

We plough the fields and scatter  
the good seed on the land.  
But it is fed and watered  
by God's Almighty hand.  
He sends the snow in winter,  
the warmth to swell the grain  
The breezes and the sunshine  
and soft refreshing rain.  
All good gifts around us  
are sent from Heaven above  
Then thank the Lord,  
oh thank the Lord,  
for all His love.

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

"I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord."

*Psalm 122:1*

It is a joy to gather in the house of the Lord to be spiritually refreshed. We extend our thanks to Bro. Mark Ramsier (Sardis, OH) who brought forth God's Word to us recently.

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

When Sis. Brianna Miller left Oregon this summer to attend college

in Eureka, IL, the position of Sunday School teacher for the younger children was vacated. Recently, a vote was held and Sis. Louisa Gallup will now fill this position.

In the past few weeks we have been listening to the Conference tapes. Important and inspiring messages have been heard. We very much appreciate the efforts made on our behalf by our Elder brethren. May the Lord bless them for their willingness to give of themselves in His service. May we in turn, heed the loving advice and take to heart the words we heard.

As always, we thank all visitors who came our way this past month. Special appreciation for Elder Bro. Art Metz (Sis. Betty) and Bro. Ed Knecht (Sis. Judie) of Silverton, OR, for bringing us the Word. We thank Elder Bro. Art also for his exhortation on Holy Communion of which we hope to partake soon.

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**OREGON, SILVERTON**  
**Rosa Lee Kuenzi**

In this past month we have seen two souls begin their spiritual walk with the Lord and one soul finish his spiritual walk with the Lord. Both experiences give us courage in our own walk with Him. One, as we remember our own humble beginnings and the other, as we strive to keep on the narrow path until we, too, have fought that last battle successfully.

Sis. Karla Dettwyler (Bro. Loren and Sis. Marlene) and Sis. Tasha Kuenzi (Bro. Bob and Sis. Linda) were baptized and brought into the Good Shepherd's fold on September 17. May they ever feel the Lord's nearness in their lives and heed the



Holy Spirit's prompting. Elder Bro. Peter Petrovic (San Diego, CA) was here to join with our Elder Bro. Art Metz in this wonderful work for the Lord.

On October 13, the Lord called Home His servant, Bro. Otto Sinn (Sis. Marian). After battling afflictions of the body for many years, his family is comforted to believe that he is at rest "Forever with the Lord." He leaves his wife of nearly 50 years, Sis. Marian. In addition, his daughters, Sis. Linda Edelman (Bro. Wayne, Bern, KS), Sis. Carol Edelman (Bro. Kenneth, Forrest, IL) and Sis. Diane Sinn (Bro. Mark, Latty, OH), and sons, Jim (Irene), Bro. Don (Sis. Linda), Bro. Tom (Sis. Edith), Bro. Mark (Sis. Elsie) and Bro. Dean (Sis. Heidi), all of Silverton. Forty-eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild also survive. He was preceded in death by a daughter, Sis. Shirley Sinn, and a granddaughter, Angela Sinn (Bro. Don and Sis. Linda). May the love and sympathy of the church, family and friends be a comfort to the family in the days ahead when they shall surely feel Bro. Otto's absence.

In addition to Elder Bro. Peter Petrovic (San Diego, CA), visiting ministers this past month were Bros. Garth Steffen and Robert Miller (Portland, OR) and Mark Streitmatter (Bloomington, IL). May our Lord, who knows our needs before we ask, be their Rewarder now and in all eternity.

Last week Bro. Carl Schmidt fell and is currently in the Silverton Hospital in serious condition. Bro. Carl recently moved into Davenport House, an Assisted Care Facility in Silverton. Certainly he would appreciate our prayers.

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**PENNSYLVANIA  
PHILADELPHIA**  
**Nathan and MaryElizabeth  
Gasser**

We gathered this month to say farewell to Bro. Merle and Sis. Bev Rocke, who have been with us for many years and are now moving to Indianapolis. We want to thank Bro. Merle and Sis. Bev for their support and dedication to our small congregation over the past years, and wish them God's continued protection and guidance in the future.

We are always appreciative of the many visitors who come through our area in the summer and the fall, and we encourage all who plan a trip out east to join us in fellowship and worship on a Sunday or Wednesday night.

We were very appreciative that Bro. John Rowell and his wife (Burlington, IA) were willing to be here for mid-week services and were thankful that he was willing to be used as a servant to bring forth God's Word. We also would like to thank Bro. Everett Gerber (Rockville, CT) for ministering to us this last month. May God continue to bless these brothers as they preach the Word, in season and out of season.

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**TENNESSEE, NASHVILLE**  
**Mike and Monica Fritz**

This past month, our congregation was blessed by the Word brought forth by Bro. Jon Schmidgall (Sis. Julie, Oakville, IA). This weekend was also the first weekend that Bro. Craig and Sis. Raelynn Plattner and their children began fellowshiping with us. We

welcome them with open arms and hearts as they make their home in Nashville after moving from the Chicago area.

On the weekend of October 1, we gathered together to hear the testimony and witness the baptism of our new Sister Faye Sauder (wife of Bro. Don). We had a weekend full of worship and fellowship as our church was filled with many visitors, including our Elder Bro. Lavoyd Moore (Sis. Doris, Athens, AL) who we are thankful was able to share in the duties of the occasion. We were also blessed by the ministry of Bros. Mike Baumann (Sis. Florina, Mansfield, OH) and Tom Schrenk (Sis. Joan, Athens, AL).

We are also thankful that our daughter, Mahlia Fritz (Bro. Mike and Sis. Monica), has found peace with God and man, has grown spiritually during her time of repentance, and is prepared for baptism.

Throughout the month, we also enjoyed the fellowship of visitors from Athens, AL; Oakville and West Bend, IA; Chicago, Forrest, and Tremont, IL; Francesville, IN; Bern, KS; Mansfield and Rittman, OH.

If you are traveling in or through the Nashville area, please plan to worship with us. We normally have visiting ministers scheduled on the first and third Sundays of each month, and tape services on the other Sundays. The following churches are scheduled for services in the near future: Tremont, IL (Nov. 19) and Elgin, IL (Dec. 3). Our schedule for 2001 should soon be published and we are thankful to have recently learned that as we have grown, we will now be scheduling visiting ministers every Sunday, Lord willing. We understand that

this is an additional commitment for our ministering brothers and we greatly appreciate their efforts of love on our behalf. If you are planning to worship with us, please call ahead to confirm our schedule. Contacts are Bro. Don and Sis. Faye Sauder (615) 373-8928; Bro. Mike and Sis. Monica Fritz (615) 952-9933; and Sis. Gwen Leuthold (615) 662-2946.

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### TEXAS, CENTRAL Dan and Pam Sauder

“Thou visitest the earth and waterest it: thou greatly enrichest it with the river of God, which is full of water...Thou waterest the ridges thereof abundantly; thou settlest the furrows thereof: thou makest it soft with showers...”

*Psalm 65*

We who live in areas prone to long dry periods such as we had this summer, can truly appreciate when God blesses us with rain. His Word, much like the rain, is so refreshing.

Visiting ministers who have shared the Word with us recently

were Bros. Dale Eisenmann (Sis. Judy, Chicago, IL), Ron Palitto (Sis. Lynell, Akron, OH), Ken Wuethrich (Sis. Lyn, Indianapolis, IN) and Jeff Thames (Sis. Brenda, Washington, IL). 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 December schedule of worship services and churches sending ministers include: the 3rd (Washington, IL); 10th (Milford, IN); and 17th (Winthrop, MN). To date, there are no services planned for the 24th and the 30th.

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.

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### TEXAS, ZAPATA Viola Perdelwitz Melva Messner

How appropriate it is to honor Thanksgiving Day in November. It is fitting that we give God praise and thanks for the many blessings of the past year. The Pilgrims held a feast with the Indians which lasted three days. It was many years later that President Lincoln declared a national Thanksgiving Day. We should be very thankful and grateful for the many privileges we have in America, including religious freedom.

We sympathize with Sis. Lillian Koehl of Peoria, IL, for the loss of her sister, Sis. Nettie Nohl, of Morris, MN. Sis. Lillian spent many weeks with her and has been a winter resident in Zapata for many years. May God's grace and peace forever dwell within her heart.



*Sermon continued from page 2*

same thing. He was taking the gospel wherever he went and there were some that were so excited about that. They were longing for that and looking forward to the message, to the Word being shared with them. Yet, he even had somewhat of a fear. There was a concern because there was going to be those who were going to reject it. There were those already who tried to kill him. There were those who were opposed to it. They were the enemies. Often when we read these Psalms, they talk about my enemies and those that would destroy me, those that would try to, as it says here, "Pull me out of the net that they have laid privily for me: for thou art my strength." (Psalm 31:4). We need strength to overcome that because there are enemies...enemies of the cross of Jesus Christ...enemies of the gospel.

Sometimes we become so comfortable with what we have and we are so blessed and it is really easy for us to go to church. Most of us probably rarely even experience ridicule. There may be times somebody may make a comment or somebody might try to put a stumbling block in our way, or question our faith, or our dedication even to church, to worship, to the Bible, or prayer. Rarely—rarely— if ever, do I run into somebody who is offensive or is offended by prayer. I'm not saying there aren't people for we know there are those that would want

nothing to do with it.

But for the most part, people are receptive to prayer. I have found so often that that is one way I feel I can share my heart with somebody. Perhaps open a little crack in the door even in a relationship with them where I know there is a need, or where there is perhaps a concern in their life. Even as I mentioned in my prayer, there are those who are really looking for answers. I can't believe how many people that I work with or are in my work environment (not that I directly work with them), but even in my environment that I cross paths with, that their concern is that they are looking for some future direction. They are looking for a way to make right decisions in their life. There are many.

A young man said to me just this morning, "I just got so many decisions to make...so many decisions!" He is twenty-three years old. He has a good job, but it is not exactly what he wants. He is trying to decide where he should live and trying to decide what kind of car to buy. He is looking ahead to a lot of decisions. Now it may seem to a lot of us as we look back, that they are not all that critical and there is plenty of time for some of those decisions. Yet, those things can lay heavy on someone's heart.

When we are faced with those decisions, whether we are young or whether we are older, there are a lot of decisions. Some we recog-

nize are far more important. Perhaps someone is trying to consider marriage in their life, or how to deal with a troubled child, or a family member. Maybe an aging parent or a loved one that has some type of disability and they are not real sure how to deal with that. There are a lot of different things in our life that we have to deal with, and decisions that have to be made.

At what point do we really trust in the Lord? I have found in those cases so many times just to share with someone. You are a testimony of prayer or to offer, "If you don't mind, I think I will be prayerful for you about that." I don't think I hardly ever can recall anybody say, "No, no, don't do that." But they express some type of appreciation and it seems like no matter what their faith or their belief is. Yes, there would be those that would be enemies of prayer. For the most part, you won't find too many of them, I don't believe. It is an opportunity.

Then there are those times when we can even share what God has done for us, and what His plan is about, His mercy and about His love, how He will look down on us and He will listen to us. David said, "For thou art my rock and my fortress; therefore for thy name's sake lead me, and guide me." (Psalm 31:3). If Jesus is leading us, if it is His name that is going to lead us and guide us, Jesus

*Sermon continued on next page...*

*Sermon continued from page 43*

Himself, the Holy Spirit within us, what a Rock to build on! What a fortress! That is what is going to help us when we do run into some of those snags and when we do run into those difficulties of the things we are just not real sure about.

Where does our joy come from? Where can we be glad and rejoice, if it were not for the Lord and His mercy?

I appreciated so much here in the Psalm where he said, "...for thou hast considered my trouble..." (Psalm 31:7). Do you think you have a problem that the Lord doesn't care about, or that He isn't paying attention? He knows about it. We all have some struggles. There are some of us—maybe all of us—that have some real deep-rooted difficulties that we battle with and we really don't see an end to that battle. It is an on-going battle that perhaps we are going to, by the grace of God until the day we die, fight that battle. Does that mean that the Lord is ignorant of it and that He doesn't care? Why doesn't He just completely remove it and take it away? God's grace is sufficient.

Here David said, "For my life is spent with grief, and my years with sighing: my strength faileth because of mine iniquity, and my bones are consumed. I was a reproach among all mine enemies, but especially among my neighbours, and a fear to mine acquaintance: they that did see me without fled from me. I am forgot-

ten as a dead man out of mind: I am like a broken vessel. For I have heard the slander of many: fear was on every side: while they took counsel together against me, they devised to take away my life." (Psalm 31:10-13). All those things! Sometimes we may feel like that. Why is it that we hear of someone who ends their life? One of the greatest tragedies that could ever be is for someone to take their life. To think that there is absolutely no other choice, no hope but to end their life. How sad that is.

Life is so precious and there is hope, even though we sometimes may feel so overwhelmed and may feel that the battle is just too hard for me... it is too heavy. Yet, God's hand is not shortened, His ear isn't too heavy. Paul feared. David feared. They experienced those feelings of how am I going to be received? How am I going to deal with these troubles? How am I going to deal with the enemy? David said here, "But I trusted in thee, O LORD: I said, Thou art my God. My times are in thy hand: deliver me from the hand of mine enemies, and from them that persecute me. Make thy face to shine upon thy servant: save me for thy mercies' sake." (Psalm 31:14-16).

How much we would like to help someone who is in trouble—whatever the trouble might be. Maybe it is a small problem and sometimes we can help with small problems because we can see the answer. Maybe it might be some-

thing like homework. Children have homework and it is a little frustrating because you think, "That is their work. It is not my work. That is your problem, not mine." But then, we think, "Well, I know the answer to that and I can probably help. I really don't want to have to do this. I already graduated from school, but I can help. No, if you turn that in like this, it is going to be wrong. You might want to look at it again." Sometimes we might even tell the answer. We might even try to help erase the wrong answer. So there are times when we see solutions to and that we can help with.

But then there are times when maybe the problem occurs and there is nothing we can do. How do you think those people felt when those iron workers were falling off that scaffolding this week? The ones that were watching even as one picture in the newspaper showed them clinging one to another. These are iron workers; they don't hug each other, do they? Yet, there they were embracing one another and hanging onto each other. No doubt they were crying and sharing their concern and grief with one another. Because all of a sudden tons of iron are falling and people are pinned underneath it. There is not a thing any one of us could have done to stop that at that moment. That is when we realize there are some things we just can't do anything about. It is too late.

Oh, someone might try to jump off a barge and jump into the cold water and end up having their own problems. They tried to help. We try that sometimes, too, don't we? But there are some things that only God can do, and we have to depend on Him. I think that is what David was saying, "My times are in thy hand..." (Psalm 31:15). We do have to depend upon Him and we are privileged that we can depend upon Him. It is just so beautiful to know that if we love the Lord, and we love His saints even as it says in Psalm 31, "... for the LORD preserveth the faithful..." This is an interesting verse here. "...and plentifully rewardeth the proud doer." (Psalm 31:23). We have to think about that for a minute.

Now wait a minute! We are not supposed to be proud, are we? Now the Scripture goes and uses that word in a little bit different way than what we are used to. He says that He rewards plentifully the proud doer. This is no doubt a different type of pride. Is it wrong to be proud of what the Lord can do? What is our attitude? Pride that is destructive is when we think too much of our self, but can we ever think too much of the Lord and do too much for Him? I suppose I would interpret that to say that we are very glad and proud to do the Lord's work. Not proud of ourselves for who we are or what we are, but proud to honor the Lord because of who He is and to glorify

Him. It is an interesting verse!

"Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your heart, all ye that hope in the LORD." (Psalm 31:24). Sometimes that is the only way we are going to make it through is to have our courage in the Lord. Paul feared as he was looking forward to his journey because he was wanting to see some of those people who he longed to be with again. He loved them and wanted to share the Word with them. Yet, there was that fear of some of the hindrances he would come into. I believe he had contributions to distribute to some of the poor that were needy. Wouldn't that be a joyous task?

Troy was preparing something for the Bible class to take with them to Jamaica. The collection that is going on right now with all the little items that seem so insignificant to us as we look at them. We can go and get them any time we want... any time we have a need. Well, I take that back. I couldn't find a simple ruler the other night at one of the stores because they put away all their school supplies already. But you know what I mean, these things that are just so simple and so insignificant for us. We can find them somewhere, can't we, for the most part? If we need them, we go and pick them up at the store. These little items as we are collecting them, they become a larger volume of items that could be taken and distributed. It is going to be

exciting. I have experienced that when you hand out those little insignificant items to these poor children, they are so excited and they have something they didn't have before and never knew they were going to have. It is a wonderful experience!

I think Paul is looking forward to even delivering some of these contributions that he had to the poor. He said here, "For it hath pleased them of Macedonia and Achaia to make a certain contribution for the poor saints which are at Jerusalem. It hath pleased them verily; and their debtors they are." Romans (15:26-27a). I feel like they really owe them something. We don't want that, but you can't help it if somebody does something even though it is so simple. When they do something nice for you, don't you just want to do something back if you were able to? That is a good problem to have.

"For if the Gentiles have been made partakers of their spiritual things, their duty is also to minister unto them in carnal things." (Romans 15:27b). So many times we tell somebody that has a need, "Well, I will pray for you." The Scripture even emphasizes this in other parts. If there is more we can do, there are times we ought to do it. Sometimes maybe we ought to hand out that food or warm clothing or help them in various needs that they might have where we are

*Sermon continued on next page...*

*Sermon continued from page 45*

able to help. And pray. And share the gospel. There are just a lot of opportunities that we have and how thankful we can be that we are even through the structure of our church and through our World Relief and various other opportunities that we have right here in our home church. We just have a lot of wonderful opportunities to be able to do the Lord's work, to work together, and to help promote the gospel even through our work efforts.

Then he concludes by pleading for their prayers. I want to emphasize how beautiful and how important is the avenue of prayer. "Now I beseech you, brethren, for the Lord Jesus Christ's sake, and for the love of the Spirit, that ye strive together with me in your prayers to God for me; That I may be deliv-

ered from them that do not believe in Judaea; and that my service which I have for Jerusalem may be accepted of the saints; That I may come unto you with joy by the will of God, and may with you be refreshed." (Romans 15:30-32). What a beautiful prayer request that is!

Whatever our need is for prayer, let us not be too high-minded, too proud, or even maybe somewhat neglectful to ask, or to be willing to ask someone to pray for us. We may not want to stand up in front of a large group of people or have it written in a book like the Bible our prayer requests, but there should be someone that you can ask. How much I appreciate the opportunity to pray for someone, especially when I know their need and when I can be specific in my prayer.

Oh, there are a lot of prayers we pray that can be very general, and I believe they can be very effective, even for those who have no idea that you are praying for them, or those who are perhaps on another part of the world that have no idea that you are being prayerful. Yet how touching it is when you can kneel down and right there on your list or on your heart or on your mind is someone with a special need that have asked you to pray. The only way we can do that is if you ask.

"Now the God of peace be with you all. Amen." (Romans 15:33).



## CARIBBEAN BOARD PROJECTS - 2001

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](mailto:thitzhome@juno.com). For Jamaica, direct your inquiry to Bro. Kevin Sauder, Ph./Fax 309-925-2409 or E-mail [ksss@dpc.net](mailto:ksss@dpc.net).

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%
Haiti	AWA-B	Jan 18-26, '01	Les Cayes	Bill Rager	Vocational Sch.	2	100%
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	(* ) 100%
Haiti	Palm Grove	Mar 2-10, '01	Puit Sales	Tom Hitz	Grade School	11	0%
Jamaica	CCCD	Mar 2-10, '01	Kingston	Terry Miller	Deaf School	40	50%
Haiti	MEBSH	Mar 8-16, '01	Les Cayes	Phil Isabel	Grade School	9	0%
Jamaica	CCCD	Mar 9-17, '01	Deaf Village	Kevin Sauder (TBA)	Work Place	40	(* ) 95%
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%
Haiti	MEBSH	Apr 19-27, '01	Les Cayes	Nathan Gerber	Grade School	9	0%
Haiti	MEBSH	Apr 19-27, '01	Les Cayes	Bob Pflederer	Hosp. Lumiere	TBA	0%
Jamaica	CCCD	May 11-19, '01	Deaf Village	Kevin Sauder (TBA)	Work Place	40	100%
Haiti	AWA-FRW	May 25 - Jun 01, '01	Les Cayes	Duane Schieler	Vocational Sch.	4	100%
Haiti	AWA-T	May 25 - Jun 01, '01	Les Cayes	Derek Sauder	Water Aid	5	100%
Haiti	AWA-B	May 25 - Jun 01, '01	Les Cayes	Bill Rager	Vocational Sch.	2	100%
Jamaica	CCCD	Jun 2-9, '01	Deaf Village	(2) Gridley B.C.	Work Place	50	100%
Jamaica	Montego Bay	Jun 9-16, '01	Montego Bay	(4) Belvidere B.C.	Deaf School	40/50	50%
Jamaica	CCCD	Jul 21-28, '01	Deaf Village	(1) Ak-Rit-Sville BC	Work Place	50/60	100%

**CCCD** = Caribbean Christian Center for the Deaf  
**MEBSH** = Missions of Evangelical Baptists of South Haiti  
**Palm Grove** = Mission of Haiti  
**S.E.E.D.** = An Agricultural School & Extension Service  
**TBA** = To Be Announced  
**(\*)** = Changes or additions since last issue

**Palm Grove** = Mission of Haiti  
**A.W.A. - B.** = Apostolic Water Aid/Bluffton  
**A.W.A. - FRW** = Apostolic Water Aid/Francesville,  
 Remington, Wolcott  
**A.W.A. - T** = Apostolic Water Aid/Tremont  
**(\*)** = Held for College Student Participation

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### **Gateway Woods Auction**

Saturday, August 18, 2001

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## MEXICO WORKTEAMS 2001

### CONSTRUCTION

#### RIO BRAVO - ICCD

*(International Christian Center  
for the Deaf)*

#### March 3-10

Team Leader -  
Bro. Chad Lantz  
219-565-3463

#### March 24-31

Team Leader -  
Bro. Mike Fiechter  
219-597-7330

#### June 16-23

Contact Bro. Joe Maller  
219-565-3211

#### AGUA PRIETA PROJECT

#### March 3-10

Team Leader -  
Bro. Wayne Lehman  
219-773-4373

#### March 10-17

Team Leader -  
Bro. Wayne Lehman  
219-773-4373

#### JUAREZ PROJECT

#### March 3-10

Team Leader - Bro. Kurt Ifer  
219-824-2829

#### March 10-17

Team Leader -  
Bro. Jeff Sauder  
217-367-1427 or 309-925-3215

#### March 24-31

Team Leader - Bro. Jeff Leman  
219-565-3815

-----

## MEDICAL TEAMS 2001

#### JUAREZ

#### March 15-22

Contact Sis. Cheryl Herrmann  
309-385-1082

#### JUAREZ or COPPER CANYON

#### August 29 - Sept. 5

Contact Sis. Cheryl Herrmann  
309-385-1082

**PLEASE NOTE:** The A.C. Mental Hotline that has been in operation for many years has become a part of Apostolic Christian Counseling Services as of March, 1 2000.

The old hotline number (800-747-9049) HAS BEEN CHANGED to:

**(Toll free) 877-370-9988**

*Please make this change in your address book.*

## Silver Threads

### God's Autumn Rainbow

Green were the forests at summer's close,  
Then how it happened no one really knows,  
But God brushed a rainbow.

It splashed upon the leaves of trees and vines;  
The colors ran and blended into strange designs  
That seemed to flow...

In harmony across the hills and vales,  
Along the banks of streams and forest trails  
and each hedge-row.

A color pageant really grand to see,  
Robes of splendor adorning every tree,  
It seemed to grow...

Until it felled the world with colors bright.  
A beautiful and awe-inspiring sight!  
A gorgeous show.

Viewed on autumn morn, there is no doubt  
That what has really come about...  
is God's autumn rainbow.



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

It is a comfort to us that our brother could see those things. And when the time came for him to take his place, to answer the call of his country and nation, he was willing to do it. It meant a sacrifice on his part to leave the influence of his people and his peace loving home. What a contented family this was before the shadow of death crossed the threshold of this humble home, of this peace-loving home, and when we say of this home, we can say of millions of homes, where such a shadow has been cast.

But nevertheless, in obedience to his country, he was willing to accept his place as the nation decreed and we know that he had convictions and we think all the more of him because he had them. He did not believe it was consistent with the teachings of Jesus Christ to kill or to maim his fellow man. We make no secret of that.

The teachings of Christ have to be suspended and annulled for anyone to take the sword, but we are thankful and grateful, however, that because of the benevolent attitude of our government that he was given the permission to serve his country and nation in a line of duty that was in conformity and consistent with his inner convictions.

And for that reason he became attached to a combat group as one of the "angels of mercy" so to speak. It became his duty to soothe the wounded, to aid those in need. Was that not a wonderful and noble undertaking, even if it did merit on his part a great deal of reproach and ridicule, answering many a question, as a living witness to the utmost end. Was not this a noble young brother? Thanks be to God.

His duties found him on the island of Luzon late in the evening, going out on the battlefield and binding up the wounds, to show forth mercy, to go out to his fellowmen and bind up the wounds and bring them in at the risk of his own life. And when he was

cautioned by his fellow soldiers that it would be a dangerous venture, he did not shrink nor shirk from his duty, not to destroy life but to sustain life, to go out into the dark of night and bind up and make comfortable one of those whom he was associated with in his duty.

Now then, we know that there are people on earth (we are willing to forgive them) that term as cowardly those that hold such convictions in their hearts, and I believe there must be a reason that this had to come to pass, to bring into the open the combination of true patriotism and loyalty to our country and also obedience unto God's Word. There need be a witness offered unto the world for the Word's sake and for Christ's sake.

I do not believe that there was any malice in the Brother's heart. We hold today no malice in our hearts toward the Japanese boy who directed the bullet that ended the life and brought into eternity this our Brother. He did as he was taught. He was brought up in that way, the way of his empire and his nation, and thought he was doing his duty.

God has created and made all nations out of one blood to live and dwell peacefully on earth, if those kind of relations could exist. And that is exactly what God proposes in the beautiful kingdom when Christ comes again, that every man will sit under his own fig tree and every man shall sit under his own vine and can enjoy the blessings and benefits of home, after all, of home.

My own son wrote to me that the American soldier is the most homesick soldier in the world because he has more to go home to than anyone else in the world. It was touching; it was heartbreaking.

After all, it is the aim and ambition for each one to come home, and we would be so glad and we would rejoice if every nation and every man could sit under his own fig tree, something he could call his own, something that he wouldn't have to be disturbed about. This is freedom from fear, and freedom from fear shall become the blessed lot

and portion for those who believe in Christ and inherit the blessed Millennium Kingdom.

"For we say unto you by the word of the Lord that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep."

"For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: And the dead in Christ shall rise first."

That will happen on Luzon as well as it will happen in Indiana, my dear hearers, when that time comes.

I hope the dear family can become comforted with the definite assurance that not only their son but everyone who lives in Christ and believes in Him will answer the summons when the trumpet of the Lord shall sound.

It is not necessary for us to go through a rehearsal imitating a burial. We are glad, and it is a comfort to us that there was a Brother at the graveside of this Brother Aeschliman that offered a humble prayer committing him to the bosom of the earth. Oh what a comfort that can be to these, our beloved ones, here today.

The promises of God contained in the Prophet Micah are a comfort to every believing heart. The world condition that is described therein offers hope. The world leaders in their recent Yalta conference and in the proposed conference of many nations in this country cannot paint a picture of the future such as God Himself will bring about in due time.

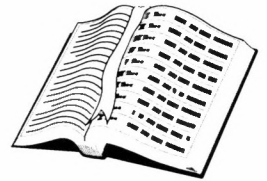
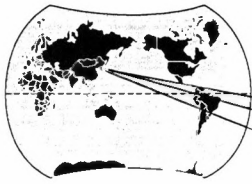
### **Next Issue:**

Concluding Remarks

# The Light Of Hope

From Across The Ocean

## 希望の光



### “The Number Seven”

Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle, Shioda, Japan

I noticed that in Genesis 33:3, Jacob bowed himself to the ground seven times as he came near to his brother, Esau. Jacob wanted to make peace with his brother so he bowed seven times. But why seven times? The number seven is often used in the Bible. The number is considered to be sacred in Hebrew or Jewish literature and may also have the meaning of being complete.

God created the heaven and the earth in six days and “He rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made.” (Genesis 2:3)

In Pharaoh’s dream, there were seven fat cows (kine, which is plural for cows) and seven skinny cows. There were also seven good ears of grain and seven withered ears of grain, in Pharaoh’s dream.

Jesus was a Jew in the fullest sense of the word, inasmuch as He was from the tribe of Judah, which was the original meaning of the word, Jew. Jesus continued the tradition of using the number seven. In Matthew 15:34 we read, “And Jesus saith unto them,

“How many loaves have ye? And they said, Seven, and a few little fishes.” In verse 37 we read, “And they took up of the broken meat that was left seven baskets full.” I assume that the word “meat” in this sentence refers to the bread and fish that was served. Did they just happen to have seven loaves of bread and did they just happen to have seven baskets full of leftovers? I doubt it.

In Revelation 1:4 we find that mention is made of the seven churches in Asia. It reads, “John to the seven churches which are in Asia.” In the vision or revelation which John saw, the Son of man “Had in his right hand seven stars.” (vs. 16). The seven stars represent the seven angels of the seven churches (vs. 20).

The Apostle Peter also used the number seven to symbolize something sacred and complete. In Matthew 18:21, Peter came to Christ and asked, “Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times?” Peter thought that would be a good num-

ber and would certainly be enough. However, in regard to forgiveness, Jesus had a different idea. He replied in verse 22, “I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven.” That’s 490 times which is the same as saying, “Don’t ever hold a grudge against anyone no matter how many times he or she does evil to you.” That doesn’t mean that you must approve of the evil, but to hold a grudge only harms yourself and is not in keeping with the Gospel which offers God’s forgiveness to all without holding any grudge. The use of the number seven in regard to forgiving others is one usage which should help us to shake off any unforgiving attitude. Everyone has some good points for which we can love and respect them, even though they may have mistreated us.

## 希望の光



*Soon to come is the chilly Winter, the ice, snow, and cold winds.  
But pray ye that your flight be not in the winter.*

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