



# *The Silver Lining*

*Nevertheless my loving - kindness will I not  
utterly take from Him nor suffer my faithfulness to fail.*

August 2001

## “SEEK THE LORD AND LIVE”

Sermon by Bro. Elmer Witzig, Gridley, IL

Luke 13

Dear ones, these are the words that the Saviour spoke when He was here upon earth. What would be more pleasant and of greater value than if we could sit at Jesus' feet and learn of Him? We do not have the privilege today to see Jesus, or to hear Him speak, but we have the privilege to hear the words He spoke many years ago.

We are thankful that God preserved these words, even unto this very day and hour. We are thankful that Jesus did speak these words. We are thankful that He was that perfect example for you and me. We are thankful for the blood that flowed on Calvary's cross. We are thankful for the promises that are given to the faithful ... to those that will believe in that shed blood.

How thankful we can be that these words have been preserved for us. As I mentioned, we do not have the privilege of having the Lord in person with us, but we are thankful that we have the promise in His Word that His Spirit will be among us. How often we have felt His Spirit!

We trust this afternoon that we might feel the Spirit of God in our midst and that He will be the One Who will speak to us through His Word. The Apostle Paul said we can plant and we can water, but God must give the increase. (I Cor. 3:6).

We are thankful that there are souls in our midst today — a goodly number — who have just recently turned and given their hearts to the Lord. It thrills our hearts when we think that God's mercy is still extended to us today. It is not anything that we have done, but it is God that works in the heart. God converts the soul. We are redeemed through His precious blood and through faith in His Word and in that blood.

As we began to read here, “There

were present at that season some that told him of the Galilaeans, whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. And Jesus answering said unto them, Suppose ye that these Galilaeans were sinners above all the Galilaeans, because they suffered such things? He said, I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish. Or those eighteen, upon whom the tower in Siloam fell, and slew them, think ye that they were sinners above all men that dwelt in Jerusalem? I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.” (Luke 13:1-5)

These are the words that Jesus spoke, and they cannot be altered. We know that Jesus, after He was baptized, was driven by the Spirit into the wilderness. He was tempted for forty days and forty nights. Why was He tempted? Not for His purpose, but we know that through the overpowering strength of our Lord and Saviour, you and I, too, can overcome.

We might think that because He was the Son of God, He was able to overcome. But the enemy brought Scripture before Him and said, “If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: ...lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone.” (Matthew 4:6)

“Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.” (Matthew 4:10)

At three different times, the enemy brought temptations to Him, but He used the Word of God to drive away the enemy. You and I have the Word of God before us, and we, too, can drive him back through the Word of God.

But, what I was going to say, that immediately after He left the wil-

derness, the “...angels came and ministered unto him.” (Matthew 4:11). At the beginning of His ministry, He preached repentance for the kingdom of God is at hand. (Matthew 4:17)

John the Baptist, the forerunner of Jesus Christ, preached repentance for the kingdom of God is at hand. (Matthew 3:1-2)

In Froehlich's writings, the founder of our faith and who estab-

*Sermon continued on page 45*

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

### September

1. Forrest, IL
2. LaCrosse, IN
3. Leo, IN
4. Morton, IL
5. Oakville, IA
6. Fort Scott, KS
7. Chicago, IL

Next correspondence due:

**For September Issue**

*(16 July News - 15 August News)*

**Due: 20 September 2001**

The Silver Lining (Vol. 55, #8)  
RR 2 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 Non-Profit postage paid at Roanoke, IL 61561, and additional offices. The subscription rate is a donation. Send zip number with address. Remember to send changes of address. Send both old and new addresses (with both zips). Postmaster send address changes to:

The Silver Lining  
RR2 Box 50, Roanoke, IL 61561

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

## Light From The Word



Writings based  
on God's Word

August 2001

### Too Late

There are many times in our lives that we have an opportunity to accomplish a task and we wait too long to take advantage of the opportunity. Sometimes the results of waiting too long are insignificant, but in some situations the results are very serious.

Just as when someone puts off seeing a doctor for an illness and later learns his disease is too advanced for a cure, there is even more serious spiritual consequences for those who resist God until it is too late.

We know that God is "...a God full of compassion, and gracious, longsuffering, and plenteous in mercy and truth" (Ps. 86:15). But we also know that if we tempt the Lord beyond His patience, God will reject us, "So I swear in my wrath, They shall not enter into my rest" (Heb. 3:11). If we persist long enough, God will "... (give) them their request; but send leanness into their soul" (Ps. 106:15).

There are numerous examples where individuals or groups pushed the patience of the Lord too far. In many of these examples, by the time they realized the seriousness of their error, it was too late. Romans 1:21-32 reminds us of the sad consequences of those who "...do not like to retain God in their knowledge..." (Ro. 1:28).

At the time of the flood, Noah warned the people for years that there would be a flood that would destroy all "...wherein is the breath of life,..." (Gen. 6:17). After many years of preparing the ark and giving those who lived around him plenty of time to learn about the impending disaster, the time came when the ark was completed. After Noah, his family, and the animals entered the ark, "...the Lord shut him in" (Gen. 7:16). Undoubtedly after it started to rain, there were those who would have been glad to enter the ark, but it was too late. God had closed the door.

The Egyptians had numerous examples of God's power and they had numerous opportunities to turn away from their sin but they ignored the warnings of the Lord and the nation was nearly destroyed.

Likewise, the Children of Israel, after seeing numerous miracles as they were

leaving Egypt, so often tried the Lord's patience. Time after time they longed to return to Egypt, but God gave them more time and more examples of His love and power. When it was time to enter the Promised Land, they forgot what God had done for them. They ignored the message of Joshua and Caleb. All they could think of was how big and strong the enemy looked. They did not trust God in spite of the many times He had given them proof that He was with them. Finally, the Lord told them they must wander in the wilderness for forty years because of their unbelief.

Upon hearing this sentence, the Children of Israel realized that they had sinned and then decided they would fight their enemy and enter the promised land. Moses told them not to go, because it would not prosper. "But they presumed to go up unto the hill top:... Then the Amalekites came down, and the Canaanites which dwelt in that hill, and smote them,..." (Nu. 14:44-45). It was too late. The Lord refused to help them because of their unbelief and complaining.

We can also learn the value of yielding to God's wisdom before it is too late from the experience of Esau and King Saul. Esau realized he made a serious mistake in selling his birthright but "...when he would have inherited the blessing, he was rejected: for he found no place of repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears" (Heb. 12:17). King Saul finally recognized his sin in trusting in himself rather than obeying God. He said "...I pray thee, pardon my sin, and turn again with me, that I may worship the Lord. And Samuel said unto Saul, I will not return with thee: for thou hast rejected the word of the Lord, and the Lord hath rejected thee from being king over Israel!" (1 Sa. 15:25-26).

Esau and Saul both came to the point where they realized they had made serious mistakes, but they waited too long and they suffered the consequences of their behavior.

Although not everyone who waits too long is involved in what we might regard as serious sin, some simply put off doing what

needs to be done to obtain their salvation.

For example, the five foolish virgins knew the bridegroom would soon come, so they "... took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom" (Mt. 25:1) at the proper place to wait for his arrival. The virgins even went so far as to trim their lamps, but they took no oil with them.

When the bridegroom came, they had to go get oil for their lamps. By the time the five foolish virgins returned "...the door was shut" (Mt. 25:10). They were too late. When they knocked and asked admission they were denied the privilege of going to the marriage.

Learning from the mistakes of others can be helpful in times of conflict. Knowing the Lord offers salvation and has even sent His Son to pay the price of our sins, the unconverted soul must decide to accept this gift. As Satan tries to convince him to wait a little longer before turning to the Lord, he faces a conflict that has eternal consequences. Jesus warned his disciples to not be deceived "...for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh" (Mt. 25:13). Once we have been called from time into eternity, it will be too late to choose salvation through Christ because where "...the tree falleth, there it shall be" (Ec. 11:3).

Perhaps one of the saddest verses in the hymns that we sing is the last verse of "Almost Persuaded" (Hymns of Zion p. 212). "Almost persuaded, harvest is past! Almost persuaded, doom comes at last! Almost cannot avail; almost is but to fail! Sad, sad that bitter wail, Almost, but lost!"

We need not suffer that fate. God is calling His people to come unto Him through repentance and conversion, giving time and grace to begin serving the Lord. God is longsuffering, but there will come a time when the unconverted will hear that they have waited too long, that the door of grace is closed and they are not saved. "And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal" (Mt. 25:46).





## APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN Mission Committee

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

### Church Dedication in Timisoara, Romania

In last month's issue, the Mission Committee reported on the dedication of a new building in Szentantalfa, Hungary. On Sunday, May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2001 the same group was also present for the dedication of a new church building in Timisoara, Romania. Nearly 1,000 people from all across Europe attended this service. The following is taken from diaries kept by American brothers.

#### Saturday, May 26

Breakfast this morning was served at the bed and breakfast facility in Szeged, Hungary, where the group spent several nights. The group loaded their luggage into a late-model Peugeot van driven by a Hungarian brother. It had air-conditioning, which is unusual in this part of the world. They did appreciate the traveling comfort very much.

After about an hour they reached the Romanian border. Children were walking around with sponges and squeegees, wanting to wash the windows of vehicles waiting in line to cross. There was the usual long line of trucks, many of which wait long hours or even days to get through the tangles of the officialdom. This is a big problem, and seems senseless to Americans, but there is little to do about it. It took about 1½ hours to cross.

The roads in Romania are quite good, much better than a few years ago. Wheat looks good and is beginning to turn ripe. Many laborers are in the fields working by hand hoeing corn or sometimes a horse was pulling a small plow.

The noon meal was served in the Arad church where visitors from Ukraine were also beginning to

assemble for the dedication. Following the meal, the group met with the Romanian elders with three elders from Ukraine sitting in as observers. They discussed the Romanian self-help programs that are for the most part successful.

A big concern on the part of our group was the overnight accommodation. They didn't want to be a burden to anyone and the local brethren had much on their hands already as they have the meals to prepare and many visitors to accommodate. They discussed this with elder Ladi Augustinov who then agreed to take them to a hotel in the city. This hotel is about 15 stories high and in need of renovation. It is scheduled to be closed in July for two years to bring it back to three star standards. They were able to get four rooms on the fourth floor. They were clean with old but functional bathroom facilities. The brethren were quite grateful for the room and especially the bathrooms. They were able to rest well in this place so far from home.



Church in Timisoara, Romania

#### Sunday, May 28

After a good breakfast in the hotel, the group loaded into their van about 7:30 and drove for about one hour to the new church in Timisoara. This is the largest church in Romania with about 130 members. It had been nearly disbanded under Communism. There

are around 300 seats in the assembly room in this church. Total membership in the country of Romania is about 1,200. Many are elderly sisters, but there are some families.

Services started at 9:15 AM with the singing of "Christian Greetings" for which everyone stood. The dedication service was conducted in Romanian by several elders. At 10:15 they sang Hymn #220 and Bro. Roy Grimm closed in prayer. Then Hymn #236 and another elder spoke in Romanian. This was followed by a report of the financing of the building, much of which came from the USA brethren.

Elder Augustinov mentioned how Nazarenes had suffered in the past and now we can worship freely. He thanked everyone including the city officials who were present. There was singing until 11:10 AM at which time a meal was prepared.

There was considerable discussion as to how to conduct the afternoon service, and in what language, and since there was no qualified English translator the Americans were pretty much excused. It was decided that brothers would speak in Romanian, Hungarian, and Serbian, and the suggestion was that all should be short. The service began at 4:00 PM in Romanian, and Bro. Peter Petrovic then spoke in Serbian. Hungarian was spoken at 5:00 PM and at 5:15 PM a 91 year old elder from Ukraine selected Hymn #50, which was followed by a prayer in Hungarian. The final remarks were in Romanian.

Following the services, greetings were extended, with many being expressed. About 15 or 16 elders were present from Europe, Canada, and the USA. Nine languages were present.

Following a meal, the group returned to Arad for the night.

TO BE CONTINUED





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

## Work in Mexico

**A**postolic Christian World Relief efforts in Mexico are centered in Imuris, Juarez, Agua Prieta and Rio Bravo.

### Work teams are needed in Imuris

Imuris is about 30 miles south of Nogales, AZ. World Relief has been involved here with the Casa de Elizabeth orphanage. World Relief has built a wall around the compound and a home is under construction for the administrators, as well as a small place for volunteers to sleep.



A work team is needed August 23-25 to put the roof trusses up and roofing material on.

There is also a need for work teams from November through April to finish the interiors of the house, volunteer quarters and casitas. For more information on work teams in Imuris, contact Bro. Jerry Tooley in Phoenix:

Home Phone: 480/460-4531  
Work Phone: 602/256-2664  
Email: [jtooley@mcdavisco.com](mailto:jtooley@mcdavisco.com)

### Juarez

Many people from the interior of Mexico flock to the border at Juarez in hopes of a better life. Because of this, the city is growing very rapidly, and many people are unemployed. The people that do find work get low wages, and have difficulty finding housing. World Relief has been feeding children for years, and work teams build small homes for the very poor.

World Relief sends 2 medical teams annually to Mexico, providing basic care and training in hygiene and dental care, as well as general check ups.

### Agua Prieta

Agua Prieta is located just across the border from Douglas, AZ. World Relief has been involved in building a school, and also building a fence at an orphanage.

### Rio Bravo

Rio Bravo is across the border from McAllen, TX and is a deaf ministry similar to the Jamaican villages that World Relief has been involved with for many years. The organization is known nationally as ICCD, International Christian Center for the Deaf. They are building a deaf school campus and World Relief has sent several groups to help.

Six groups have traveled to Rio Bravo to date and bring home reports of the blessing of fellowship and service to the Lord. The housing is on campus and is dormitory style, making this an inviting Sunday School or young folks work project. They feed the team daily and the work is done on campus.

Many of our groups are choosing to drive to Rio Bravo in order to cut some travel costs. The close proximity of Zapata makes Rio Bravo a great place for Apostolic Christians that have a desire to give of their time in this labor of love. The people who run the organization help our teams cross the border, and take the groups to the campus in old school buses. This saves the cost of buying Mexican insurance.

The work schedule is close to the same for each team. After unpacking and picking your bunk, supper is served and a special week of fellowship is well underway. Each evening, there are devotions and hymns are often sung. This always seems to

be a highlight for most team members. Prayers are offered for God's protection, blessings, and nearness. Quiet time is provided after breakfast before job assignments so that everyone can begin their day focused on Christ. Sunday is a day of rest and fellowship following the services led by the ministering brother on the team.

The group looks forward to the work which consists of various jobs. Block work, concrete work, brick making, plumbing, electrical, painting, and cleaning are just a few of the jobs that teams do. Everyone takes their turn helping with dishes and many team members get to help prepare the food in the kitchen with the excellent Mexican cooks.

At this time, the deaf children are not housed on campus, so team members look forward to the morning that is set aside to meet and play with them and to meet their families. After having lunch with them, goodie bags are passed out and good-byes are said.



Tears are mixed with smiles as team members watch the little bus filled with happy children wind down the lane leaving the campus. Upon returning home we bring a bit of Rio Bravo with us, and leave a part of our heart with the children and those who are involved in the work at Rio Bravo.

There are many opportunities to be used in Mexico, and if you feel a need to be involved, the door is open.

Contact: Bro. Mike Fiechter  
Phone: 219/597-7330  
Email: [mfiechter@parlorcity.com](mailto:mfiechter@parlorcity.com)

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

"Giving our best to help others achieve their best" is a part of our Mission Statement — Serving According to God's Purpose. As employees, we want our people to take pleasure in their lives as well as learn new skills. As we like time away from our homes and the every day stresses of work and household chores, our people enjoy getting away for a "mini vacation" as well. These times are motivating and refreshing to spend vacation time with housemates and staff. When returning from time away, we often are rejuvenated, and ready to meet a new day. At the community homes, we schedule mini vacations, which are 2 days and 1 night away. We usually take 5 - 6 people along with 2 staff who go to some interesting places in Illinois or our neighboring states. Some of the places we are going to this year are Rockford, IL; St. Louis, MO; Terra Haute, IN; Indiana Beach, Union, IL, etc. We will enjoy going on dinner cruises, shopping trips, amusement parks, seeing museums and most importantly, relaxing by the hotel pool plus dining out with friends. At Timber Ridge, we have a new friend, Anna Marie Viens, who moved from Rockville. We are thankful that she has come to live with us.

September birthdays at Timber Ridge, 2125 Veterans Road are: Ed Green (3), Judy Vicic (3), Marta Graber (9), Mike Culkin (10), Richard Harvey (14), Janet Christensen (16), Lester Miller (16), Cindy Sigulas (22), Mike Bedford (26), Ethel Borinstein (29). At Oakwood Estate, 2213 Veterans Road: Glenn Getz (20), Nancy Thels (25). At Linden Estate, 1000 Linden Street: Dave Taylor (13), Jim Maupin (24), Brent Rebeck (24), Doug Steffen (26). At 207 Wagler:

Marlene Esslinger (8)). At 652 Detroit: Angie Massner (9). At 241 Minnesota: Janet Schweigert (10). At 208 S. Indiana: Dave Maupin (20).

---

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

**Kurt and Kristen Slagel**

Summer brings added activity to campus, and along with this addition of activity comes the blessing of volunteers. God has richly blessed us with a continual supply of good help to mulch and trim trees, paint, run errands, baby-sit, and many other tasks. Our Annual Auction coming up on August 18 also creates extra tasks where volunteers are much needed and appreciated. May God be your rich rewarder for willingly giving of your time and talents.

We thank and praise our God for His faithfulness in providing a new alternate houseparent couple, Bro. Erik and Sis. Carrie Wiegand (Goodfield, IL), and assistant houseparent, Sis. Chelby Kaeb (Bloomington, IL). Once again the Lord has provided, and we want to heartily welcome them to the Gateway Woods team. A big thank-you to all of you who recognized and prayed for our needs. God bless you and may it strengthen and reassure your faith in Him that He does answer our prayers. Please continue to pray for God's leading as we still have an urgent need for two teachers at Gateway Woods School.

We also want to welcome Brooke E. to the Meister House. Also, Terry H. has joined the Lehman household. Please pray God will touch their hearts as He has so many other residents in the past.

We are so often reminded as we walk from day to day how much we need God's grace to be effective in

our ministry here at Gateway Woods. Without God's provision, our work is in vain. By praying for us, and asking God to shower His grace upon this work, we can continue to sow the seeds of truth into these young hearts. For "I can do all things through Christ, which strengtheneth me."

Our Family Services Summer Work Teams in central Illinois have done construction/service projects in six church towns and utilized over 250 volunteers with more locally coordinated projects scheduled by the end of the summer. Our Summer Construction Coordinators are Bros. Jeff Sauder (Tremont, IL) and Kirk Plattner (Princeville, IL). We appreciate all the volunteers and donors for their generosity and effort. Finally, we want to thank Elder Bro. Wes Knapp (Goodfield, IL) for serving the last six years as an Overseeing Elder for our Illinois program. We welcome his replacement, Bro. Tom Hoffman (Roanoke, IL).

We hope you will join us on August 18 for our 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Sale.

---

## **APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL**

**Tom Schrenk**

The summer is slipping away and it is almost time for fall classes to begin. It seems that the summer has gone by so quickly. The staff is making preparation for the return of some children that have taken the summer off, and the start of some new children that will be starting for the first time. This is a time that we look forward to each year, because we again have the opportunity to work with children and parents as we share God's love and goodness. We are so blessed to be able to work with these children. They are so willing to learn the Bible stories and sing those little Bible songs that we learned, some of us many years ago, but still love to-

day.

We have a new teacher that has moved here from Mansfield, OH, and will be making Athens her home. We welcome Sis. Melinda Matuch and wish her God's grace as she becomes a part of our Pre-school staff and church family.

We have enjoyed many volunteers from Indianapolis that came and worked on several projects that needed attention. A major one was putting a new roof on our fellowship center and also on our storage shed. We also thank Sis. Margo Stettner for her help for several weeks. We appreciate all who have come and given of themselves to help us.

The staff wants to congratulate and wish God's blessings to Sis. Monica Steffen, our 4-5 year old class teacher, as she became the wife of Bro. Daron Price. Sis. Monica will continue to be part of our Preschool staff.

As we begin this new school year, we want to thank everyone for your prayers and support during the past summer months. With the new school term we will have new and special needs that will require decisions to be made. We ask for your continued prayer support, and for those who have helped us in our sponsorship program, we will be continuing to help parents and children that have a hardship, but want their children to come to be a part of the Apostolic Christian Preschool. If anyone has questions or needs information on becoming a sponsor, please call at (256) 233-0591 or e-mail:

apostolicpreschool@juno.com.

---

### ALABAMA, ATHENS

**Louise Hall  
Joan Reinhard**

We ask for your prayers as we have had quite a few who have not been feeling well in our congregation. Sis. Dessie Sinard has been in

and out of the hospital and doesn't get to assemble with us very often. Sis. Dessie is the oldest member here in Athens and we do appreciate it when she is feeling able to come. Janice Flanagan (Bro. J.R. and Sis. Louise Hall) has not been feeling well. She is currently undergoing quite a few tests to see if they can find out what is wrong. Your prayers for her and her family would be appreciated. Sis. Joan Schrenk (Bro. Tom) has been having some trouble with her heart again. We pray for wisdom for the doctors to be able to help each one and that God's healing mercies would be evident in our congregation.

Our hearts go out to our Sis. Louise Haggemaker (Bro. Ed) as her brother, William Amerson, died. As we face life's changes and heartaches, we pray that the Holy Spirit will comfort and strengthen as only He can.

We appreciated it when Bro. Ted Witzig (Morton, IL) and his whole family was able to assemble with us on June 17. Bro. Ted had the service and ministered to our congregation. We also had visitors from Bloomington, IL, that weekend.

On June 24, Mark Klaus' parents, John and Betty, were here and we have always enjoyed their visits. We welcome them back to the States and here to Athens anytime.

The last full week of June, we had our Vacation Bible School. It was a busy week, but the students and teachers alike seemed to enjoy being together and learning about Jesus. We are very thankful to each in our congregation that participated and helped in any way.

A special thanks goes to the group from Indianapolis, IN, who came down again this year to offer their services in any way to the Athens church. They had a few days of hard work and a lot was ac-

complished. Our Fellowship Hall was re-shingled along with other projects and we are very thankful for their willingness to serve here. The Sunday of July 1, Bro. Ken Wuethrich (Indianapolis, IN) had the service and Bro. Sam Schlatter (Sis. Linda, Junction, OH) had our adult Sunday School. We pray the Lord will bless both of these brothers for their time and talents that they shared on our behalf.

July 8 was the wedding of our Bro. Daron Price and Sis. Monica Steffen in Milford, IN. A large group of us traveled to Milford to attend their wedding and we welcome them as a new couple in our church.

We enjoyed a Saturday night singing on July 14, and we had some sisters from Bluffton, IN, who were here and spent the weekend with us. We enjoyed their participation and company then and in church on Sunday. That Sunday, we also enjoyed a visiting minister from Oakville, IA. Elder Bro. Jon Schmidgall and his wife, Sis. Julie, worshipped with us on their way over to Ponotoc, MS, for the work project that is going on there.

A special thank you to Sis. Margo Stettner (Bluffton North, IN) for spending about five weeks with us this summer as she helped out at the Preschool. It seemed very natural to have Sis. Margo here and we welcome her back any time.

---

### ARIZONA, PHOENIX Ron and Ev Hoerr

"The wife is bound by the law as long as her husband liveth,"  
*I Corinthians 7:39*

"Let the husband render unto the wife due benevolence: and likewise also the wife unto the husband."



*I Corinthians 7:3*

Bro. Mike Ringger and Sis. Angie Klopfenstein exchanged wedding vows on June 24, a lovely day. Bro. Steve Ringger (Bluffton North, IN) had a beautiful message before Elder Bro. Jon Kokanovich pronounced them husband and wife. We pray God's blessings on them. Their parents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Lou Ann Klopfenstein and Bro. Steve and Sis. Myra Ringger.

Sunday School will start on August 12. Bro. John Gerber is recovering from back surgery.

We were blessed with several visiting ministers, and we give thanks. They were Bros. Steve Ringger, Bob Meyer, Mark Gerber, Ed Sauder, David Obergfel, Wayne Laubscher, and Byron Stoller.

We pray for God to lead and direct the Elder Conference August 8-10 and bring back a generous portion of love, respect, and reverence to each church.

*Find Happiness in  
Everything You Do*

Find happiness in nature  
in the beauty of a mountain  
in the serenity of the sea.  
Find happiness in friendship  
in the fun of doing things together  
in the sharing and understanding.  
Find happiness in our family  
in the stability of knowing that  
someone cares  
in the strength of love and honesty.  
Find happiness in yourself  
in your mind and body  
in your values and achievements.  
Find happiness in  
everything you do.

—Susan Polis Schultz

*Note of Thanks:*

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all of you for the love expressed to me on my 80th birthday. The many cards, gifts, and the surprise birthday celebration in my honor truly overwhelmed me. Thank you for your love and constant support to me since my dear Richard passed away.

*Sis. Barbara Schupbach*

**ARIZONA, PRESCOTT****Jane Hodges**

On July 1, the engagement of Bro. Tim Furrer (Bro. Jim and Sis. Rowena) to Sis. Janon Fiechter (Bro. Don and Sis. Suzie) of Bluffton was announced. A November 11 wedding is planned in Bluffton. We wish them the Lord's guidance and blessings as they plan their life together.

Bro. Henry Volz has been moved from the V.A. facility to an assisted living center. We are hoping he can assemble with us again soon. He can receive mail at:

*Grayson House*

7509 E. Long Look Dr. #122

Prescott Valley, AZ 86314

The last month our ministering brothers have been Elder Bro. Jon Kokanovich (Phoenix, AZ), Bros. Brad Gudeman (Bradford, IL), Greg Stoller (Forrest, IL), Dave Obergfel (Peoria, IL) and Byron Stoller (Gridley, IL). We pray that God will bless each one of them and their families for their service.

We have also been blessed by several visitors that have been stopping on their vacations to fellowship and worship with us, and we thank them for including us in their itinerary.

**ARIZONA, TUCSON****Lisa Knapp**

Vacation Bible School has come and gone and as usual it was thor-

oughly enjoyed by all. We had some visiting children which is always nice. Teachers and students learned about the different people in the Bible who were of service to others in their life. Hopefully, we all came away with a greater sense of what we can and should be doing to be of service to the world around us. Many thanks to everyone who worked diligently to prepare lessons, crafts and food for this special week. Special thanks to Bro. Brad and Sis. Sandy Bauer for organizing our week of learning and fellowship.

Sunday School and our monthly Fellowship Supper will resume in August after two months of vacation.

All of our Sunday School children will return to schools, some to new schools and some to familiar ones. We pray God will go with each one and guide them safely through their "school days". We also hope that other students or even teachers could see something in our children that they might not see in children not raised in Christian homes and that we as parents might be aware of any opportunities to tell of God's love and the plan of salvation when those opportunities are present.

We have enjoyed a four session Bible Study on the book of Jonah. Many thanks to Bro. Curt Kaufman for his time and effort on this enlightening activity.

As for my weather update, well, let's see ... it's hot! Actually we are enjoying some of our summer monsoons so our temperatures have been in the 90's quite a bit which is definitely better than the 100's!

**CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA****Jim Klotzle**

Greetings from Altadena! As we walk out our lives of faith, what do we use to light up our path? What

gives us comfort in troubled times? What powerful weapon is Satan constantly striving to foil? God's Word.

"And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God."

*Eph. 6:17*

It is very appropriate that Paul should describe God's Word as a sword. Swords are not only used to strike offensively, but to parry on the defense as well. Similarly, many leaders of old brandished their swords, using them to rally disheartened troops. As God reveals more of Himself to us through His Word, we begin to grasp its many different uses. Here are a few:

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works."

*II Timothy 3:16-17*

May the Lord revive in us a renewed hunger for the scriptures this coming month.

Sis. Martha Slenker passed away on July 3. She attained the age of 96 years and had always expressed the desire to live to see the Lord's coming again. Now, she has gone to see Him in the heavenly mansions.

Our visiting ministers this month were Elder Bro. Jon Kokanovich (Phoenix, AZ), and Bros. Tom Leman (Denver, CO), Galen Rokey (Bern, KS), Greg Lehman (Wolcott, IN) and Frank Sauder (Roanoke, IL). Each shared their gifts with us as inspired by the Holy Spirit. We thank them for their visits.

Sis. Mary Leman (Roanoke, IL), a guest of Sis. Letty Chavez, is vis-

iting for about a month. We welcome her and enjoy her company.

Bro. Ted Klotzle was hospitalized with a heart condition. We pray for his early recovery.

### CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

#### Peggy Jevremov

We are sorry that our news for the months of February and April were not printed. We would like to express our appreciation for the visiting minister who served us those months. They were Bros. Dwight Stoller (Latty, OH), Richard Aberle (Altadena, CA), Mike Rieker (Peoria, IL), Brian Huber (Francesville, IN), Paul Schmidgall (Morris, MN) and Elder Bros. Art Metz (Silverton, OR) and John Klotzle (Altadena, CA).

Our hearts rejoiced in January with Melinda Koehl (Bro. Jim and Sis. Hildy) as she made the most important decision of her life in turning to the Lord in repentance. We pray the Lord will supply her with the needed grace and strength to overcome the evil one and a humble heart to submit her life completely unto our dear Lord's will.

In March, Elder Bros. Art Metz and John Klotzle were present to assist Elder Bro. Peter in making known to us the leading of the Lord in establishing Bro. Jim Koehl (Sis. Hildy) as our new minister. Our prayers and support are surely with Bro. Jim, Sis. Hildy and their children as he accepts this new responsibility.

We are so thankful to the Lord for the promise in His Word that His grace is sufficient for all our needs and to carry out the responsibilities which He places upon us. We also want to thank Elder Bro. Peter and Bro. Doug for their willing service to us in the past 15 years. May we earnestly pray for the Word and our ministering brethren each time we gather to-

gether that God's Spirit might have free course.

This past month we were blessed to have Bro. Tom Leman (Sis. Marlene, Denver, CO) and Bro. Galen Rokey (Sis. Nancy, Bern, KS) visit our congregation and minister unto us. May the Lord richly bless them for their willing service.

Our graduate this year is Melinda Koehl (Bro. Jim and Sis. Hildy). We wish her the Lord's guidance as she seeks out His will for her future occupation.

### KITCHENER, ONTARIO CANADA

#### Nathan Reutter

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ, our Saviour. We are thankful that God has seen us through this past month. We have had visiting ministers, and a birth this month.

We have had three visiting ministers this month. The first to come our way was Bro. Todd Stoller (Sis. Pam, Latty, OH). Next was our Elder Bro. Mark Bahr (Sis. Bev, Detroit, MI). And, lastly, Bro. Don Manz (Sis. Connie, Junction, OH) came. We were blessed by all of these ministers, their families, and those that traveled with them. We are more than happy to let him that is taught in the word communicate to us the Word of God (Gal. 6:6).

We are also thankful for the evening singings we have had this past month. We always appreciate being with the brethren as much as possible. It is a comforting feeling to be resting from the world and encouraging one another to true holiness. We strive to follow Heb. 10:24-25, Heb. 3:13, and I Thes. 5:11,14.

The one birth we had this month was our baby boy, Lucas Boyd Reutter. We, Bro. Nathan and Sis. Miriam, are joyed beyond

what we ever expected. We thank God for a healthy boy. We are also experiencing the sobering realization of parenthood. We pray for God's grace to raise him in a God-fearing way.

May God's grace rest upon you this month and may His Holy Spirit find your heart a fit place to reside this month. May God bless you all.

---

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

Two precious little girls were born this month. Bro. Chuck and Sis. Naomi Wiegand welcomed Katharina Lee into their family. Demetrius, Sebastian and Gabriella are anxious to have their little sister join them. Also, Bro. George and Sis. Tina Gal brought Bethany Ruth home to big brother, Adam, and sister, Heidi. Our little congregation is growing with six new little bundles this year.

We are so thankful for visitors and appreciate the efforts of Bros. Jeff Grimm (Goodfield, IL), Dean Steffen (Belvidere, IL), Kevin Banwart (West Bend, IA) and Frank Sauder (Roanoke, IL) as they ministered to us this month. Bro. Frank Sauder also spoke to our Sunday School class about his experiences in Japan.

Brian and Becky Pfeiffer feel they are at peace and we look forward to hearing their testimonies.

As summer ends and school is just around the corner, many hours will be spent teaching the children knowledge of the world, but God reminds us His wisdom is far more important. How have we spent our time with them?

---

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

Thus united and in concord

Let us walk the path of life;  
Hand in hand, O may love bind  
us  
For each other's welfare strive.  
*Zion's Harp #237*

Bro. Doug LaPlante and Sis. Heidi Carlson were joined in Holy Matrimony on June 17. Parents are Bro. Leo and Sis. Sherri LaPlante and Bro. Walter Jr. and Sis. Judy Carlson. As they walk as one, may they ever continue to seek the Lord's will in their lives.

"Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God."

*Mark 10:14*

June 16 was the day for the Sunday School Picnic. We so appreciated the efforts of the superintendent and teachers who provide instruction to our precious children and young adults. May God richly bless those who have completed their term and provide guidance for teachers beginning their term.

Our Single Group was invited to Morris, MN, for the Memorial Day weekend. It is a joy to our heart to see so many gathered together for the purpose of being strengthened spiritually through song service, fellowship and attending service. We express our thanks for a blessed weekend. We also had the privilege to host a weekend inviting various Single Groups from many of our blessed congregations. "If ye walk in my statutes, and keep my commandments, and do them; Then I will give you rain in due season, and the land shall yield her increase,..." Leviticus 26:3-4. God truly has showered us with blessings as we can gather in peace and worship Him in holiness.

We are thankful for visiting ministers. May God continue to give Bro. Jerry Bauman (Rittman,

OH) words of instruction to our churches as he ministers to us out of the Holy Word of God. May we always pray that the Word would come forth not to the itching of men's ears but according to His good and blessed will.

Ken and Sis. Karen Hunt and family have made their new home in Montana with Lester, IA, as their new home congregation. May their hearts be directed by God in the days ahead and may they also feel the love of the Rockville brethren whenever they may visit us here in Connecticut. Also our prayer is that our Father lovingly takes care of Anna Viens (Bro. Steve and Sis. Dorothy) as she makes her new home in Timber Ridge at the Apostolic Christian Home for the Handicapped in Morton, IL. May God be with these two dear families during these changes in their lives.

We pray that God be with Sis. Bonnie Bahler (Bro. Ron) as she recovers from surgery. Let us each one continue to pray for our loved ones in times of need.

How much more  
Is in store  
When whole congregations  
Bring their supplications?

*Zion's Harp #174*

---

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**  
**WASHINGTON**  
**Henrietta Meyer**

We have been blessed to have so many visitors this year. This month our visiting ministers were Bros. Gene Metzger (Lester, IA), Ron Heiniger (Normal, IL), Jerry Isch (Philadelphia, PA) and Gary Endress (Bradford, IL). Other visitors this month were from Forrest, Gridley and Tremont, IL; and Rittman, OH.

Our church services are usually held the first, third, and fourth



Sundays of the month at the Tysons Corner Westpark (Best Western) Hotel, located about one mile west of the Beltway (I-495) on Route 7. Song service begins at 10:15 a.m., worship service at 10:30; afternoon service begins at 12:15 p.m. There are a few Sundays the next few months when we will be unable to meet at the hotel; please call one of the brothers listed below to find out the location of services.

If you are planning to visit Washington, DC for vacation or business, please call Bro. Matt Fetter (703) 860-5749 or Bro. Barry Steffen (410) 569-3635 for assistance and to let us know how many to expect for Sunday services. If you would like to get together on Saturday evening, please let us know that also. We would be happy to have an evening of fellowship and/or singing.

---

**FLORIDA**  
**FORT LAUDERDALE**  
**Nancy Rocke**

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

*Psalms 23:4*

Our dear Sis. Elsie Bolliger was laid to rest in June. We will miss her smiling face and cheerful attitude but are thankful that she could be relieved of her suffering. She was predeceased by her husband, Bro. George Bolliger.

We are thankful to have Sis. Elena Zurz assembling with us again.

Bro. Mike and Sis. Renee Mangold and two of their boys, Joseph and David, have moved to the Fort Lauderdale area. May the Lord be with them as they settle here. We

look forward to worshipping with them.

June is the month that we have elections to fill our various church offices. This year, Bro. Matt Rocke and Sis. Mary Ann Klaus were elected for Sunday School positions; Bro. Aaron Webb, Trustee; Bro. Ron Jones, Sound System; Bro. Bob Huber, Usher; Sis. Nancy Rocke, Kitchen Committee; and Bro. Bob Huber, Treasurer. Thanks to all for their willing spirit and a special thank you to those brothers and sisters that have completed their terms.

---

**FLORIDA**  
**NORTH FT. MYERS**  
**Dorothy Beer**

As we celebrated Independence Day, may we be ever thankful for the freedoms we enjoy in our country. To obtain these freedoms, our forefathers had to fight many battles. We must pray to God to inspire our President and senators to remain steadfast in their commitment to what is right and good.

“I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions and giving of thanks, be made for all men. For kings, and for all that are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.”

*I Timothy 2:1-2*

Our church extends a very warm welcome to Sis. Leslie Masters who has moved to Fort Myers and taken employment. Her parents, Bro. Bill and Sis. Mary, of Bloomington, IL, are part time residents here.

We welcome anyone who is interested in living in Florida and pursuing a career here.

**GEORGIA, ATLANTA**  
**John Brewer**

“And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.”

*Luke 11:9*

July 16-20 was the week of our annual Vacation Bible School. The theme for the week was the “pre-prayered” life and how prayer prepares us for the rigors of life. We were not only blessed by the stories that were discussed in all of the classes, but on the story of Nehemiah how before he set forth to rebuild Jerusalem, that he took it before God in prayer to give him proper direction and His definite will (Nehemiah 1-2), which was discussed by Bro. Tom Waldbeser. The above verse was our theme, knowing if we go before God in prayer, we can ask forgiveness for sins and it shall be given, seek salvation and peace, then we shall find it, and if we knock, God’s will shall be opened unto us.

We want to thank Bros. Tom Stock (Cissna Park, IL) and Jerry Bauman (Rittman, OH) for visiting and bringing the Word of God to us. We are always thankful for the special effort they spend to be with us.

We always enjoy the fellowship that visitors bring when they visit our area and if you are in the Atlanta area or the state of Georgia itself, we encourage you to stop by. Our church is in Fairburn, GA, off exit 64 on I-85 southwest of Atlanta. You go west when getting off the exit and go exactly 4 miles on Hwy. 138. The building is on the left. Please give us a call if you are going to be in the area. You can either contact Bros. Tom Waldbeser (770-463-4778), Linn Stoller (770-631-4554) or Keith Kaufman (770-304-8335).

**ILLINOIS, BELVIDERE**

**Doreen Moser  
Sheila McCoy**

Showers of blessings have flowed from on high this month in our Belvidere congregation. We have had many visitors coming through our area. Thank you for blessing us with your presence.

What a friend we have in Jesus,  
All our sins and griefs to bear!  
What a privilege to carry  
Everything to God in pray'r.  
O what peace we often forfeit,  
O what needless pain we bear  
All because we do not carry  
Everything to God in prayer!

Have we trials and temptations?  
Is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged,  
Take it to the Lord in pray'r.  
Can we find a friend so faithful  
Who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our every weakness,  
Take it to the Lord in pray'r.

Friendships were strengthened during the week of June 18-22 as Vacation Bible School was held. This year our theme was "Friendship". As we grew up in high school, we thought those friends would be there forever but they soon fade away. Bro. Jaye Rinkenberger (Goodfield, IL) and Bro. Greg Rassi (Chicago, IL) talked to our young group about the influences of a friend. The group was encouraged to remember the best friend we can possibly ever have is Jesus! He is always there and always loves us.

To God be the Glory, great things  
He hath done,  
So loved He the world that He  
gave us His Son,  
Who yielded His life an atone-

ment for sin  
And opened the life gate that all  
may go in.

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,  
Let the earth hear His voice!  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,  
Let the people rejoice,  
O come to the Father thro' Jesus  
the Son,  
And give Him the glory, great  
things He hath done.

On the weekend of July 8, we gathered together to give God the glory as we dedicated our new church.

One decade has passed since the church in Belvidere was established. In the beginning it was started with five families and two singles and by God's grace, the congregation has increased in size. Our church was filled to overflowing with brothers and sisters in the Lord, family and many friends. Retired Elder Bro. Nate Steffen, Elder Bro. Ron Schambach and Bro. Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL) along with Bro. John Rowell (Burlington, IA) brought forth the Word of God. Our thanks goes out to all those who helped to make it a very blessed weekend.

Our pulpit has been shared by many other visiting ministers this month: Bros. Tom Klotzle (Altadena, CA), Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville, IL) and Ron Heiniger (Bloomington, IL). Thank you for your fellowship, for blending your voice in song and sharing your families with us.

We have appreciated being able to assemble with Bro. Grant Heinold and Sis. Sarah Laubacher for the last couple months. As our assembly is small in number, we appreciate the time they spent with us. Please come back and visit often.

*Her Faith*

"Bless Mother, Daddy too,  
Amen,"  
She prayed beside her little bed.  
It's time to turn the light down  
low,  
"Why are you kneeling still?" I  
said.

So simply she expressed her  
faith,  
"Right now I'm listening quietly,  
And waiting just to see if God  
Has anything to say to me."  
—*Esther F. Thom*

It is my prayer every day, that I can spend more time sitting quietly, feeling God's peace and waiting upon the Lord for His direction.

**ILLINOIS  
BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL  
Shawn Masters  
Ann Kellenberger**

Once again God has blessed us by increasing our church family. Bro. Brad and Sis. Karen Metz and family are now worshipping with us. They have relocated with Bro. Brad's occupation.

Bro. Ron Hodel (Sis. Donna) is still down in Mississippi overseeing the rebuilding of four homes. These homes were destroyed by tornados. We pray for God's wisdom and protection while he is away.

Please continue to keep Bro. Marvin Huette in your prayers as he continues to recover.

**ILLINOIS, BRADFORD  
Chad and LauraLee Plattner**

We have two births to report. The first is Sierra Rose Young, born June 19 to Bro. Nate and Sis. Stephanie Young. She is welcomed home by her big sister Bethany. Thankful grandparents are Sis.

Kate Young (Cissna Park, IL) and Harvy Young (East Peoria, IL), and Tom Challacombe (Dunlap, IL) and Carmen Butte (Peoria, IL).

Also, Jared Bracey Plattner was born to Bro. Chad and Sis. LauraLee on July 15. He has two excited older brothers to take care of him, Jesse and Javan. Grandparents are Dale and Sharon Riley (Seville, OH) and Bro. Jim and Sis. Marlene Plattner (Princeville, IL).

This month we were able to host a Gateway Woods Illinois Family Services Local Work Team Project. Volunteers spent the week working on the new Heartland school building in Castleton. May God be glorified by the labor of love which was given by many.

We were blessed to have with us visiting ministers, Elder Bro. Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO) and Bro. Craig Martin (Princeville, IL). May God bless them as well.

---

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

“For if these things be in you and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

*II Peter 1:8*

Throughout the summer, the ministers have led a series of three Bible studies on the book of II Peter. Topics covered included the importance of believers remaining steadfast, being grounded in the truth, growing in grace, being aware of false teachers, and living with the hope of Christ's return. Many have attended these evening gatherings and have grown from them.

The month of July is our church's month to make the soup for TIMES Center, the local men's

emergency shelter. This is a Word Relief project, and several people each make a large quantity of soup and then deliver it to the center. Our World Relief activities have recently drawn special interest from the Sunday School children since part of this year's Vacation Bible School project was making things for World Relief.

Our New Student Welcome Sunday is scheduled for August 26. Students planning on coming to college in the fall should receive information in the mail. Anyone still having questions may contact one of the ministers. We look forward to having a very large number of University of Illinois and Parkland College students and their families with us that day!

We've had the privilege of having a few visiting ministers with us over the past month. Elder Bro. Joe Stoller (Princeville, IL) and Bros. Alan Schambach (Remington, IN) and Gerald Wagenbach, Jr. (Oakville, IA) have been with us while visiting family and friends in our congregation. We are happy to have hosted these families and the many other families who have dropped in throughout the summer. With our summertime student numbers being low, it is especially nice to have some visitors.

---

**ILLINOIS, CHICAGO  
Jill Rager**

“I am the vine, ye are the branches. He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit.”

*John 15:5*

“Working in the Vineyard of the Lord” was the theme of our Vacation Bible School this year, June 25-29. The Sunday School students were kept very busy learning

verses, singing songs and making crafts all centering around the fruit of the Spirit. Each student also brought supplies to fill a health kit bag to be sent to Haiti.

For the Bible class students and adults, four faithful brothers each prepared a topic about a different aspect of “abiding in the vine”. On Monday, Bro. Lenny Meyer spoke about “Making a Commitment”. Bro. Howard Plattner (Alto, MI) spoke Tuesday about “Resisting Sin and Temptation”. (We want to extend a special thank you to Bro. Howard for giving most of his talk in a warm and dimly lighted assembly room due to a local power outage.) Wednesday evening, Bro. Neil Widmer's (Wolcott, IN) topic, “God's Grace and Faithfulness”, was enhanced by actual grapevines and some other visuals to help our recall. Bro. Ron Bollier (Indianapolis, IN) then spoke Thursday on the topic of “Relating to God as our Father”. Friday evening was a summary of the week's teachings in the form of a program and open house. We express our warm appreciation to the ministering brothers as well as the coordinators and many teachers. May the seeds sown in the hearts of those who attended take root and bring forth much fruit.

We extend a hearty welcome to Hope Nenadov from Eureka, IL.

We also want to thank Elder Bro. Andy Stoller (Smithville, OH) for joining us on a Wednesday evening service.

The weekend of July 21-22 was a memorable one for our Chicago church. Elder Bros. Curt Frank (LaCrosse, IN), Wendell Gudeman (Francesville, IN) and Ron Schambach (Elgin, IL) assisted our own Elder Bro. Dale in our efforts to seek help in the ministry. The Lord has answered many prayers and blessed us richly. In a beautiful unity of spirit and peace we have



added Bros. Brad (Sis. Cindy) Eisenmann and Matthew (Sis. Bridget) Rassi to the ministry. We are thankful to God for His direction and we offer our sincere love, support and prayers to these dear brothers, their wives and families. The brothers were exhorted to bring forth a clear sounding trumpet as they speak and live the Word, and the church was reminded of the importance of their prayers, support and obedience.

---

**ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK**  
**Denise Walder**

**Cheryl Eisenmann**

The engagement of Sis. Erica Rudin (Bro. Arlyn and Sis. LaNae) and Bro. Brent Blume (Bro. Larry and Sis. Lynelle, Wolcott, IN) was made known on July 8. We wish this couple God's blessing, direction, and guidance as they plan their wedding.

Bro. Les and Sis. Arlene Stock happily welcome their new granddaughter, Zoe Mitchell. Her parents are Kurt and Donna Mitchell. Bro. Nathan and Sis. Stephanie Young of Bradford are happy to announce the arrival of Sierra Rose. Welcoming her home is big sister, Bethany. Grandparents are Sis. Kate Young (Cissna Park) and Harvey Young (East Peoria).

The weekend of June 23 we were privileged to hear the testimonies and witness the baptisms of Josh Walder (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Sharon) and Alvin and Dorothy Rudin.

The angels in Heaven rejoice over every sinner that repents. We are grateful that George Maul and Jess Walder (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Sharon) have decided to seek the Lord in repentance.

Bringing us the Word of Truth this month were visiting ministers, Elder Bros. Ray Sinn (Latty, OH) and Bob Walder (Congerville,

IL) and Bros. Bob Beebe (South Bend, IN), Duane Reutter (Rockville, CT), and Doyle Frauhiger (Bluffton North, IN).

Our sympathy and prayers go out to those in our congregations who have lost loved ones recently. Sis. Bonnie Young (Bro. Harry) and George Maul have passed on to a better home.

Sis. Joan Rudin (Gerald) had back surgery and Sis. Ernie Eisenmann fell and broke her leg. We wish them both a speedy recovery and pray that God will be near each of them.

---

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

Having recently observed Independence Day, let us remember from where our true freedom comes and be thankful.

His way at first may seem too hard,

Too steep and full of sorrow;  
Yet peace e'en now is its reward,  
And bliss in God's tomorrow.

Who through the narrow gate  
doth press,

An inner peace will he possess,  
And very joy in living.

*Zion's Harp #106, vs. 8*

We rejoice with Bro. Clarence and Sis. LuAnn Zobrist that their daughter, Rebekah, has found peace with God and man and now awaits baptism. Our prayers continue to be with her as she gains spiritual strength each day.

Our sympathy is extended to Bro. Jerry and Sis. Linda Knobloch in the passing from this life of Sis. Linda's grandmother, Martha Stahl.

July 2 was the birth date of Jared Daniel Rinkenberger. His parents are Bro. Grant and Sis. Rachel. Erica is now the big sister. Jared's grandparents are Bro.

Larry and Sis. Shirley Ifft (Forrest, IL) and Bro. Jake and Sis. Glenna Rinkenberger.

On July 15, Andrew James Roth joined his sisters, Wendi, Jodi, and Heidi, and parents, Bro. Jim and Sis. Deb. Andrew's grandparents are Bro. Keith and Sis. Pauline Roth and Bro. Bill and Sis. Sheri Dietrich. May these little boys be a blessing as they are raised in the fear of the Lord.

Hospital patients have been Bro. Merion and Sis. Esther Miller and Jared Rinkenberger (Bro. Grant and Sis. Rachel). May the Lord's healing hand be on them.

Our sincere thanks go to all those who have volunteered labor and brought food to the workers at our new church building. It's a joy to drive by and to stop in and see the progress being made daily.

O, may I seek the souls who stray  
And save them from destruction,  
And through Thy holy love still  
lead

Them to Thy congregation.  
May prayers and pleadings penetrate

To warn them of their lost estate.  
*Zion's Harp #113, vs. 7*

As the Brotherhood Conference will be taking place soon, we should especially remember our Elder brothers in our prayers.

*Note of Thanks:*

We want to thank everyone for their prayers, visits, love, gifts, and concern for Orville during his illness and since his passing. Everything was greatly appreciated. May God bless each one.

*Lulu Zimmerman and family*

---

**ILLINOIS, ELGIN**  
**Amy Gasser**

**Kay Kellenberger**

We are very thankful for the

faithful service of our visiting ministers. May God be with Bro. Ken Dietz (Bradford, IL) and Bro. Dan Koch (Tremont, IL) as they continue to bring forth His precious Word.

Our prayers are extended to Sis. Jenny Schambach (Bro. Ed) and Sis. Elizabeth Schambach in the loss of their sister, Sis. Mildred Huber (Francesville, IN). May God's unending comfort be with them.

Loni Shock (Bro. Norm and Sis. Virginia) and Tim Axford (John and Joyce) of Dundee, IL, are engaged and planning an October 13 wedding.

Ten-month-old Gracie Vanagas, daughter of Jay and Sherri, and granddaughter of Bro. Norm and Sis. Virginia Shock, is doing very well after open heart surgery at Children's Hospital in Chicago.

We are very thankful to welcome Ben and Stephanie Standish and their daughter Aubrey LeAnn (formerly from Remington, IN) to our congregation.

An open house was held at the Fellowship Center on July 8 for Bro. Gene and Sis. Libbie Ann Moser's 50th wedding anniversary. May God continue to bless their marriage.

---

### ILLINOIS, EUREKA Janet Zimmerman

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

*Genesis 2:18*

Seeking and trusting God's direction, Bro. Mark Nenadov (Bro. Paul and Sis. Marilyn) and Sis. Brenda Grimm (Bro. Gerald and Sis. Ruby, Sabetha, KS) made their engagement known. We rejoice with them and trust they will con-

tinue to seek God's direction in all things.

Bro. Andy and Sis. Vicki Wiegand were blessed with a new baby. Jesse Ernest was born Sunday, July 15. He is welcomed home by his big sisters, Katie, Julie, and Jolene, and his brother, Chase. His grandparents are Bro. Ernie and Sis. Judy Knecht and Bro. Bob and Sis. Helen Wiegand, all of Eureka.

Bro. Bill and Sis. Heidi Wettstein have been blessed with a baby girl, Darci Lynn, born July 19. She is welcomed home by Abbie, Mitch and Molly. Her grandparents are Bro. Art and Sis. Donna Wettstein and Bro. Sam and Sis. Pat Plattner (Goodfield, IL).

Sis. Clara Hunzicker spent some time in the hospital recently. We are thankful she was able to return to her home.

We are always thankful for our visiting ministers. Our visiting ministers this past month were Bro. Bob Stoller (Sis. Janice, Lamar, MO), Elder Bro. Art Bahler (Sis. Suzanne, Fairbury, IL), and Bro. Bill Hodel (Sis. Betty, Roanoke, IL). May God bless them for their willingness to be spent on our behalf.

We are thankful for the rain we received today after going through a hot, dry spell. Thanks be to God who cares and watches over us and blesses us with these things that are so needful.

#### *Someone Needs You*

If you're feeling low or worthless  
There seems nothing you can do,  
Just take courage and remember  
There is someone needing you.  
You were created for a purpose,  
For a part in God's great plan;  
Bear ye one another's burdens  
So fulfill Christ's law to man.  
Are you father, son, or daughter?  
You've a work none else can do.

Are you husband, wife, or  
mother?

There's someone needing you.  
If perhaps in bed you're lying,  
You can smile or press the hand  
Of the one who tells his story;  
He will know you understand.  
There are many sad and lonely,  
And discouraged, not a few,  
Who a little cheer are needing  
And there's someone needing  
you.

Someone needs your faith and  
courage,  
Someone needs your love and  
prayer,  
Someone needs your inspiration,  
Thus to help their cross to bear.  
Do not think your work is ended,  
There is much that you can do,  
And as long as you're on earth,  
There is someone needing you.

#### *Note of Thanks:*

I want to thank all who remembered me on my 90th birthday. I received 145 cards, some with added tokens of love, and many with extra writings of encouragement and wishes for continued health for the years ahead. God bless you one and all.

*Bro. Harry B. Rocke*

---

### ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY Sally Fehr Joann Zehr

We rejoice with and wish God's blessings to Clint Steffen (Bro. Chris and Sis. Kay) and Jennie Masuda (Kenneth and Beatrice, Pearl City, Hawaii) who were married on June 30.

We are happy for Bro. Kevin Meiss (Bro. Carlos and Sis. Jane) and Sis. Katie Kaisner (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Donna) who are planning to be married on October 14 and may God bless them.

Sis. Pat Hartman (Bro. Vernon) and Sis. Gladys Slagel (Bro. Ray)

were in the hospital and we ask God's healing power on them.

We are thinking of our young Bro. Kyle Steidinger (Bro. Randy and Sis. Dawn) who is going to Mayos this week for tests. May they feel God's strength and help and our prayers.

We had our annual Sunday School picnic on June 24. The term of Bro. Keith Hinrichsen (Sis. Tammy) has ended and we thank him for his years of service. Bros. Doug Steidinger (Sis. Dixie) and Darren Fehr (Sis. Kendra) are now serving in Sunday School. May God bless each family. It is always a special time for our Sunday School students as they complete their year in one classroom and move up to the next one.

---

### ILLINOIS, FORREST

**Jean Knapp  
Linda Anliker**

May the light of the Lord forever shine in the lives of our new brother and sisters in faith. Making their covenant with our Lord in baptismal waters were Bro. Ryan and Sis. Tabatha Honegger and Sis. Denise Leman (Bro. Arlen). May the covenant they made with God remain foremost in their hearts and minds as they experience the many blessings and trials of life.

Natalie Kilgus (Bro. Kevin and Sis. Denise) and Tamra Stork (Bro. Paul and Sis. Dawn) are looking toward the light of the Lord as they have begun their repentance. Offering their lives to Christ in their youth, may they embrace Him as their true Shepherd and Friend in complete submission.

We thank Elder Bros. Wes Knapp (Goodfield, IL), Art Bahler (Fairbury, IL), Curt Frank (La-Crosse, IN), and Bros. Jeff Thames (Washington, IL) and Ken Weerts (Cissna Park, IL) for visiting and

lending themselves in service of our Lord.

May the blessings of the Lord be with Bro. Sid Leman and Sis. Ann Leman (Eureka, IL) as they were united in Holy Matrimony on June 20. We will miss Bro. Sid as he has moved to Eureka since his marriage but hope Bro. Sid and Sis. Ann will visit us often.

First time parents, Bro. Shane and Sis. Sarah Aberle, are enjoying their new son, Seth David. Rejoicing with them are grandparents, Bro. Mark and Sis. Laverne Aberle and Bro. Jim and Sis. Sandra Schneider.

Hope Danielle Mueller is welcomed home by Bro. Stacey and Tonda, Amanda, Candis, and Logan. Her thankful grandparents are Cindy Whitehouse (Sibley, IL) and Bro. Ron and Sis. Loida Mueller.

Those in the hospital in the past month were Sis. Doris Kachelmuss and Bro. Nathan Kelson (Bro. Paul and Sis. Sherri).

We extend our sympathy and prayers to Sis. Leona Steffen (Bro. Mel), Sis. Virginia Hilti, Bro. Wilbur Wiegand (Sis. Ruth), and Bro. Paul Wiegand (Sis. Edna) in the death of their brother, Ben Wiegand (Morton, IL).

*Note of Thanks:*

Thank you for all the prayers, cards, food, flowers, calls, and visits during my recent surgery and recovery. May God bless each kind deed.

*Sis. Doris Kachelmuss*

---

### ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD

**Heather Hohulin**

We were privileged this last month to hear the testimonies and baptisms of our new brother and sisters, Larisa Wiegand (Bro. Larry and Sis. Lori) and Doug and Lynn Wiegand. We are so thankful

that God has blessed them with His peace and hope of eternal life. We appreciated Elder Bro. Ervin Knecht (Sis. Sandy), Bro. Fred Knapp (Sis. Marjorie) and Bro. Ed Fritz (Sis. Sally) being here.

Our prayers go out to Bro. Matt and Sis. Laurie Hohulin, Grant and Maci as their daughter/sister Marli, underwent a serious surgery. We pray they can feel God's hand of healing and comfort.

Our prayers also go out to Bro. Ivan and Sis. Pearl Nohl as they both have had health problems.

Bro. Roger and Sis. Becky Roberts, Rhoda and Reuben welcomed home a babyboy, Russell Francis.

Hospital patients this month were Sis. Verla Wiegand (Bro. Dan) and Sis. Allene Steffen (Bro. Jerry). May God be with them in their recovery.

Sis. Clem Joos wishes to thank those who remembered her on her 90th birthday with cards and prayers. May God bless them.

We were thankful to hear that Jackie Steffen (Bro. Mark and Sis. Joan) has found peace with God. Our prayer is that she can feel the love and support of her church.

---

### ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY Perry A. Klopfenstein

I live 'mid my affections,  
This world I do not love;  
With longings true I journey  
To heaven's home above;  
There dwells my soul immortal,  
My treasure's where my heart;  
The mind, from earthly portal,  
Arises heavenward.

Fade, earth and idle pleasure,  
They are the soul's distress;  
They glitter from a distance,  
Yet who will them caress,  
Accepts but filth for jewels  
And for the pearls but sand;



For in their magic potion  
There is but death at hand.

I love what leads to heaven,  
But not on earth beneath;  
The world, its lustful tumult  
And all it can bequeath,  
Beneath my feet I trample  
And upward I aspire;  
For more than worldly wisdom  
Thy kingdom I desire.

Today we hear a lot about "priorities". They are easy to get confused. Yet, the above author's priorities were set correctly as he focused on Heaven, and this short, earthly existence meant little to him.

In our era of plenty, we are often tempted to want more; and we constantly face the lure of a love for earthly things. Yet, amid all this, if we set our affection on our heavenly home, as the author did, we will be wise and much happier while here on earth.

The crops in our immediate area are doing well but rain is needed. It's interesting, in an earthly sense, how farmers can plant and cultivate, but only God can give the increase. It is wonderful to rely on Him each day.

On Sunday evening, July 8, the Bible class showed their Jamaica slides in the fellowship hall. High school age youth, both members and friends, constituted a work team. Teachers and their wives, and Elder Bro. Earl and Sis. Dixie Ringger, accompanied the group.

An open house for Bro. Reuben Stoller (on his 95th birthday) was held at the fellowship hall. Bro. Rueben is able to live in an apartment at Big Rock Estates (with his son, Art Stoller). He cooks and cares for himself and attends church regularly.

Bro. Reuben enjoys fellowship and can remember the days of generations ago. His demeanor re-

flects a kindliness; and a gentle spirit that gives a good feeling to those who communicate with him. If it's God's will, we wish him many more years. We are sure our dear brother thinks often of his Heavenly Home (as we all do).

Our dear Sis. Mildred Schlipf continues to take treatment for her very serious illness. Many prayers are uttered on her behalf. May the dear Lord take good care of her.

Several have been named to church offices: Bro. John Schlipf, trustee; Bros. Doug Wettstein and Grant DesCarpentrie, song leaders; Bro. Sean and Sis. Carla Cornell, fellowship hall schedulers; Bro. Don Gramm, fellowship hall trustee; Bro. Robert Witzig, usher; and Bro. Curtiss Gramm, Gateway Woods representative.

At this writing (July 20), our thoughts and prayers are with our Elder brothers as they convene at Roanoke, IL, for their semi-annual Elder meeting. As has been the case since the first century, the winds of evil and falseness blow against the church. May God grant much grace and favor that they may be dispelled. Our further prayers is that the glorious gospel may be preached and souls made ready for all eternity!

---

## ILLINOIS, MORTON

**Phyllis Farney**

**Cheryl Wuthrich**

On June 24, Bro. Adam Spangler (Morton, IL) and Sis. Amy Bates (Roanoke, IL) were joined in holy marriage. Their parents are Bro. Roger and Sis. Dawn Spangler and Bro. Steve and Sis. Diane Bates. Our prayers go with them as they continue to walk together with their Lord.

July 22 brought the wedding of Bro. Bob Salter and Sis. Holly Kaiser, both of Morton. Their parents

are Donna Lewis and Bro. Ed and Sis. Barb Kaiser. We continue to marvel at God's work as he brings two dear souls together to serve Him.

On the weekend of June 30 we were privileged to hear the testimony and witness the baptisms of Bro. Jay Knobloch and Bro. Sean Schick. It encourages and renews us when we hear how the Lord has worked in the lives of these young men. Bro. Jay's parents are Bro. John and Sis. Cheryl. Bro. Sean's parents are Bro. Stan and Sis. Carol. We pray they continue to seek the Lord's direction as Bro. Jay goes to the University of Arizona and Bro. Sean goes to his first post-college job in Champaign, IL.

Ben Wiegand passed away on July 15 at the age of 67 after a sudden illness. We pray the Lord comforts and supports his loved ones. Surviving is his wife, Sis. Beverly; one daughter, Sis. Linda; two sons, Don and Robert; three brothers, Bro. Paul (Edna), Bro. Wilbur (Ruth) and Bro. David (Ethel); and sisters, Sis. Leona (Mel) Steffen, Sis. Edith Zimmerman and Virginia; and two grandchildren. We also want to remember his faithful friends and co-workers.

We wish to thank the ministers that worshipped with us this past month. They were Elder Bro. Wayne Banwart (Champaign, IL) and Bros. Wayne Lehman (South Bend, IN), Marvin Stieglitz (Leo, IN), David Obergfel (Peoria, IL) and Greg Rassi (Chicago, IL).

### *Note of Thanks:*

I wish to thank everyone for their thoughtfulness while I was in the hospital and at home recovering. Thank you for the cards, gifts, food and most of all your prayers.

*Sis. Margaret Joos*

---

## ILLINOIS, PEORIA

### Peter and Mabel Weber

Our relationship to our earthly and Heavenly Father was an appropriate subject for Father's Day. How do we understand God's holiness? "Be still and know I am God" (Ps. 46:10), listen, have a relationship, gather with brothers and sisters who love the Lord. God is willing to adopt us and give sufficient grace (Bro. Ken Hoerr). Do we pray: give me, give me! or are we content? God doesn't owe us anything. Only for His love is there a plan of salvation and a hope of eternity in Heaven. The world offers many enticing things, but there is an end to them. There is something we can have, which is free: salvation. It is the ultimate and we want it for everyone. Jesus is the only source of help. Let's be thankful He has provided a way and home in Heaven for us (Elder Bro. Chuck Hemmer).

Bro. Bill Hodel (Roanoke, IL) expressed what a privilege it was to be together and reminisce at the 20th bi-annual Camp Pickett, VA (1952-54) reunion on June 30 at the Fellowship Hall. But the real reason to gather is the shed blood of Jesus. Many of the 48 veterans assembled with us on July 1, when Elder Bros. Andy Stoller (Smithville, OH) and Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO) conducted the services: the friends of the sick of the palsy in Luke 5 expected Jesus to do something for him. He has the power to forgive and heal the sickness of sin, which is more serious than physical illness. Why take one more day of risk of not being in Heaven? The next time the Lord calls, don't fall into the "if only..." cliché. We don't need to do impossible things, just "Follow Me" as He told Levi in verse 27. He doesn't expose us to Satan without the tools to fight him off.

The challenge of Bro. Tim Funk

on July 8 was: what are our expectations today? Are we just letting the service proceed, or are we involved? Joshua 20 tells of the six cities of refuge, which were plainly marked and easily accessible for accidental killers to escape blood revenge. They had to remain there until the death of the high priest. Today, Jesus is our refuge. In Acts 4, Peter and John were questioned by the Sanhedrin by what power they had healed a lame man. Are we puppets, pulled by a thousand strings, or looking to Jesus without double-mindedness? USS "Cole" was one of the most sophisticated Navy vessels, but when a small boat pulled along side of her in Yemen and exploded, she was severely damaged and almost sank. Do we let small crafts come close to our hull? Don't you want to be "of one heart and of one soul?" (vs. 32). The world is searching for a compass; if it's set on the Scriptures, we won't go through the fiery gate.

More than 300 enjoyed the Sunday School picnic at the Fellowship Hall on July 1, the conclusion of the current school year. Many thanks to the faculty and parents for their dedication and efforts, especially to outgoing superintendent, Bro. Dan Hoerr, and successor, Bro. Jim Rieker.

Alexa Joy (#1) was born to Bro. Jesse and Sis. Jill Schroeder. We congratulate them and grandparents, Bro. Skip and Sis. Pat Meister and Bro. Duane and Sis. Rachel Schroeder (Roanoke, IL), and great-grandparents, Bro. Dave and Sis. Ruth Kieser (Princeville, IL), their 17th great-grandchild, and the fourth for Bro. Dave and Sis. Diane Meister.

We welcome Bro. Kyle and Sis. Jane Scholl, who come to us from Cary, NC, where Bro. Kyle had worked for Caterpillar Inc. 2 1/4 years, and Bro. Merlyn and Sis. Judy Metzger from West Bend, IA.

Bro. Merlyn is employed by Knobloch Grain Co.

Little things can have a big impact. A small maid from Israel caused the king of Syria to write the king of Israel on behalf of Naaman, captain of the host of Syria, who had leprosy/sin (II Kings 5). Elisha didn't come to the door but told Naaman through a messenger to wash seven times in Jordan. We need to humble ourselves, not look for great miracles, as Jesus has paid the price through His blood. When Gehazi told Naaman a lie, his leprosy did cleave to him. Your sins shall find you out; God knows every heart. With God all things are possible and, like Zaccheus, we must by faith go out on a limb to feel God's blessings (Elder Bro. Chuck Hemmer).

We thank Bro. Rich and Sis. Kathleen Sutter (Ft. Lauderdale, FL) for their visit on July 15. John 3 includes messages no man ever heard before...refreshing water which changes lives. The Old Testament was intended to teach, not save us. The Pharisees were legalistic: my opinion becomes your burden, but we are spiritual beings in human bodies, miniature churches. God looks at us differently after we are converted because He sees Jesus in us. His blood covers our sins to the extent God doesn't see them any more and we are made holy in His sight. Man can only be saved through transformation. We must give it all to receive the blessings and power of God in return.

Life is about death ... "all go unto one place; all are of the dust, and all turn to dust again" (Eccles. 3:20). Sis. Louise Mueller (96) passed away at the Skylines on June 17, where she had resided since 1987. The way of the cross leads home (she built her life for this day), the most blessed place we could go. One of her motivations

was: "when a job is once begun, do it well until it's done. Whether it be great or small, do it well, or not at all."

Mark Meiss (44) passed away June 17 at Danville, IL, and we express our sympathy to his family; his mother is Sis. Edith Meiss and Bro. Bob Meiss is his brother.

Sis. Esther Sutter (78) went to be with the Lord on June 23 at the Skylines, where she had resided 15 years. Our sincere sympathy to her family; she is Sis. Miriam Messerli's sister.

1851/2001 — 150 years of Apostolic Christian Faith in Peoria. To mark the occasion, Bro. Jim Huber has prepared a narrative of tapes and pictures to sketch the history of Congregation, Home, Fellowship Hall and Cemetery. It is scheduled to be presented on September 8 at the Fellowship Hall.

#### *Notes of Thanks:*

We would like to express our thanks and gratefulness to everyone who sent cards and love gifts and remembered us in prayers in the passing of our loved one. May God richly bless each of you for your thoughtfulness.

#### *The family of Sis. Esther Sutter*

I would like to thank everyone for your prayers, cards, gifts and visits during my hospital stay for knee surgery. God bless each of you.

#### *Sis. Viola Messner*

---

### **ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE** **Mary Ehnle** **Crystal Streitmatter**

"But Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven."

*St. Matthew 19:14*

Two new babies have been added to our church family this month. Bro. Denny and Sis. Stephanie Streitmatter had a baby girl, Kenedi Lee, on July 11. Her big brother Keenen, maternal grandparents, Ron and Connie Cargnino, and paternal grandparents, Bro. Bill and Sis. Diane Streitmatter, welcome her home. Also, Bro. Wayne and Sis. Deyona Streitmatter had a baby boy, Loren John, on July 18. Three big sisters and two big brothers welcome their new brother home. Maternal grandparents are Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Mary Massner (Burlington, IA) and paternal grandparents are Bro. Floran and Sis. Twylla Streitmatter.

We are joyful that another soul has found the need to come to the Lord in repentance. Cindy Meyers (Chillicothe, IL) has been assembling with us for the past few months and has decided to give her life to God. We are very thankful that she has made this important decision and is assembling with us.

Our congregation has been blessed with the following visiting ministers in the past month: Bro. Roger Sauder (Fort Lauderdale, FL), Bro. Marvin Stieglitz (Leo, IN), Bro. Brian Waibel (Champaign, IL), Bro. Frank Sauder (Roanoke, IL), and Bro. Brad Gudeman (Bradford, IL). We were kindly reminded of the importance of abstaining from the works of the flesh and building upon the fruits of the Spirit.

In sorrow and pain,  
Thy trust do retain,  
In Jesus the merciful Savior.

Our sympathies are with the Stahl family as their mother and grandmother, Martha Stahl, has passed away. She was residing at the Apostolic Christian Skylines Home in Peoria. Also in our

prayers are Bro. Howard and Sis. Mary Ann Hermann and family with the passing of their mother and grandmother, Iza Nolder. She also resided at the Apostolic Christian Skylines Home in Peoria.

In patience then bear,  
All trial and care;  
Above streams of bliss will re-  
fresh thee.

*Zion's Harp #46*

Recent hospital patients from our congregation have been Sis. Esther Hermann (late Bro. Robert) and Sis. Lucille Rumbold (late Bro. Ezra). We're thankful when God provides His healing touch to our earthly bodies.

It's already that time of year again when our children go off to school. May we keep them in our thoughts and prayers as they journey into the school setting and remember that:

Our children are a gift from God  
On loan from heaven above,  
To train and nourish in the Lord  
And show to them His love.

—*Sper*

Both the recipients and those who donated their time and talent received a blessing at several local work projects. These World Relief projects were completed in our area this month in connection with Gateway Woods work projects. Thanks to all who participated.

---

### **ILLINOIS, ROANOKE** **Jenell Hodel** **Linda Hodel**

"There shall be showers of blessings!"

We have certainly been showered with "baby blessings" this past month — actually five born in a little over a week! It has been so precious to see these babies coming



to church in their mother's arms. Each one is a gift from our Heavenly Father. They are: 1) Paige Anna Sauder born June 18 to Bro. Jeff and Sis. Jodie. Siblings include Wade, Taylor and Macie, and grandparents are Bro. Jerry and Sis. Ann Sauder and Bro. Duane and Sis. Vermeda Freidinger (Goodfield, IL); 2) Douglas Allen Edward Moser was born June 19 to Bro. Brian and Sis. Beth. Jenna's a big sister and grandparents are Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Malinda Gerber and Bro. Glen and Sis. Christa Moser; 3) Ryan James Byrd was born June 22 to Bro. Steve and Sis. Colleen. Craig, Joshua, Jesse and Karen are siblings and Bro. Jim and Sis. Leota Byrd and Sis. Clara (late Bro. Wilmer) Fischer are grandparents; 4) Payton Olivia Martin was born June 23 to Bro. Jesse and Sis. Jenny Martin. She is the first grandchild to both sets of grandparents, Bro. Randy and Sis. Carol Feucht and Glen and Carol Martin; and the 5th newest baby is Blake William Martin born June 25 to Bro. Chad and Sis. Brenda. Brothers are Austin and Drew and grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Chris Hartter and Bro. Harvey and Sis. Sharon Martin (Washington, IL). Also, Bro. Harland and Sis. Martha Braker are rejoicing in their granddaughter, Grace Elizabeth, born May 18 to Bro. Jim and Sis. Kim Bucher (Indianapolis, IN), and Bro. Merlin and Sis. Jan Getz have a new grandson, Braden Lee, born July 10 to Milt and Jennifer Getz.

We have also noticed those not in church worshipping with us due to illness or hospitalizations. Our prayers continue for healing for Bros. Bob Hohulin (Sis. Marie) and Harold Roth (Sis. Edna) and Sisters Elsie Beer, Fanny Bradle, Norene Herbst and Ann Leman (late Bro. Sam).

The week of July 9-13 was spent at the home of our Sis. Mabel Bowald for our special work project. A "historic" barn was torn down, the house repainted and various other work projects were accomplished due to the labors of many who participated in this work of love. May God bless each one for their efforts.

We also ask a special blessing to those in our congregation who have opened up heart and home to Haitian children awaiting or recuperating from surgery. Please continue to pray for their healing as well. They are: Daniel, Rhodemika, Adonis, Nanelson, Marie Claude and Evaline.

It has also been a busy month for weddings! Brooke Bauer (Bro. Brad and Sis. Cheryl) married Andy Feucht (Bro. Jordan and Sis. Kathy, Princeville, IL) on June 23. Sis. Amy Bates (Bro. Steve and Sis. Diane) married Bro. Adam Spangler (Bro. Roger and Sis. Dawn, Morton, IL) on June 24. And finally, Scott Leman (Bro. Steve and Sis. Shirley) married Erin Weber (Roger and Gloria) on June 30. We pray that God will be the center of your marriage and bless you as you begin your new lives together. Looking ahead for this special occasion are Chris Leman (Scott Leman and Mindy Norbom) to Elizabeth Seckler (Norm and Sharon) on September 8.

And last, but certainly not least, we want to thank our visiting minister, Bro. Rick Plattner (Sis. Mary, Peoria, IL), for worshipping with us on July 8. Bro. Rick, we ask that our Heavenly Father would continue to bless your ministry as He can work so powerfully in a humble and yielded servant.

*Note of Thanks:*

We would like to thank everyone for all the love and kindness

shown to our mother, Mabel Bowald, especially the week of work on her house and taking her barn down. It is humbling to experience the love from giving people. May God bless you for your labors of love.

*Bro. Duane and Sis. Mary Lou Bowald*

*John and Shirley Kilgus*

## ILLINOIS, TREMONT

### Heather Rassi

#### LaVonne Wagenbach

Many visitors assembled with us in Tremont this month. The ministering brethren that attended and labored for us included the following: Elder Bros. Ervin Knecht (Eureka, IL) and Curt Frank (LaCrosse, IN), and Bros. Jim Kaeb (Bern, KS), Wayne Leman (Roanoke, IL), Tim Roecker (Peoria, IL), Marvin Stieglitz (Leo, IN), John Steiner (Oakville, IA), Vernon Wettstein (Congerville, IL), Greg Rassi (Chicago, IL), Jon Zeller (Morton, IL), Dennis Rassi (Fairbury, IL), and Dewayne Dill (Minneapolis, MN). We are always grateful for visiting ministers and their families. We pray God's blessings upon you and look forward to your return.

We are so thankful for every soul who finds the grace to repent and become converted. Seven souls were baptized this month after testifying what God has done in their lives. We welcome Bro. Marty Rollins (Sis. Karla), Bro. Jerry Hangartner (Sis. Melba), Sis. Jamie Koch (Bro. Ken and Sis. Amy), Sis. Mary Rassi (Bro. Curt and Sis. Kathy), Sis. Sara Menold (Bro. Ron and Sis. Lynnette), Sis. Lindsey Koch (Bro. Terry and Sis. Christine), and Sis. Holly Wagenbach (Bro. Ron and Sis. Liz).

We rejoice with Bro. Howard and Sis. Janice Sauder at the mar-

riage of their daughter, Sis. Christy Sauder, to Bro. Daryl Wiegand (Bro. Dave and Sis. Mary, Pulaski, IA). We will miss her in our Tremont congregation but hope to have them both as frequent visitors.

Also this month was a marriage between Simon Wagenbach III (Simon and Sis. Lavonne) and Lori Thomasian (Peoria, IL). May God bless this new couple and their family.

May we as a body of believers continue to offer up prayer for those who have been hospitalized this month. Our thoughts go to Bro. Les Schweigert (Sis. Betty), Bro. Walt Aberle (Sis. Vera), Jeffrey Kaeb (Bro. Dave and Sis. Barb), and Brooklyn Sinn (Bro. Jeff and Sis. Gail). May we also remember Bro. Jess Koch (Sis. Amy) in his illness. We want to keep Bro. Ken and Sis. Sandy Dill's family in our prayers since the hospitalization of their granddaughter, Marli Hohulin (Bro. Matt and Sis. Laurie, Goodfield, IL).

Thankful parents this month are Bro. Greg and Sis. Julie Blunier. Silas Immanuel was born June 30 and welcomed home by siblings Luke, Sarah, Judah, Ethan, and Isaac. Grandparents are Wayne and Sis. Marjorie Blunier (Roanoke, IL) and Bro. Nick and Sis. Jean Ricketts (Forest, IL).

---

## ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

**Sue Ruppert  
Denise Romersberger**

"Through faith also Sara herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged him faithful who had promised."

*Hebrews 11:11*

What would you do if a couple in their nineties told you they were expecting their first child? You may stifle a laugh or go into reason why that would be humanly impossible.

Many years ago, Abraham and Sarah were in a similar situation. God had promised them a child, Isaac. Sarah was in her nineties. As you can imagine, Sarah went through periods of disbelief but she ultimately believed God. She had hope when there was no logical reason to have hope.

Do you have something in your life that God has promised that has not come to pass? Maybe it's the salvation of a loved one or maybe it's a life long dream you have. Even if there is little hope, God is faithful.

Sarah took into consideration the human impossibilities of her having a child in her old age against the divine impossibilities of God breaking His promise. You can say with assurance that God will not break His promise.

We must remain faithful in our prayer to God and He will remain faithful to the promise He has made to us.

We thank Bro. Brian Waibel (Champaign, IL) for coming to share with us for our monthly Bible Study. It is always a blessing to come to church to worship and study God's Word. Our hearts' deepest desire is to know more of God, and church is one of the places where that desire is fulfilled.

A hearty welcome goes out to Bro. Jason and Sis. Gayla Stoecker and their four children who are now worshipping with us. They have moved here from the Detroit area.

Our annual Sunday School picnic was held at the Washington Park, which was enjoyed by all who attended.

## INDIANA, BLUFFTON

**Tonia Isch  
Beth Aschliman**

As we think of our independence as a country and celebrate our freedom, let us praise God for this nation and it's many blessings. We are so blessed!

We celebrate new life in Jesus as we have many new converts. They are Erika Heyerly (Bob and Mary), Klint Gerber (Bro. Greg and Sis. Joan), Elise Vidrine (Bro. Paul and Sis. Connie), Jolinda Tucker (Paul and Julie), Kami Klopfenstein (Bro. John and Sis. Linda), David Aschliman (Bro. Keith and Sis. Connie), and Vanessa Isch (Bro. Jim and Sis. Rachel). We rejoice with them and their families.

Trusting in God's will for their lives, Bro. Tim Furrer (Bro. Jim and Sis. Rowena, Prescott, AZ) and Sis. Janon Fiechter (Bro. Don and Sis. Suzie) have announced their engagement. We wish them God's richest blessings.

Bro. Tyler and Sis. Teresa Reimschisel (Baltimore, MD) have a new baby boy. Caleb John was born June 17. Congratulations to Bro. Tyler and Sis. Teresa and big sister Elise. Happy grandparents are Bro. Richard and Sis. Elaine Reimschisel and Bro. Lenny and Sis. Charlotte Meyer (Chicago, IL). Bro. Troy and Sis. Brenda Kipfer are blessed with another son, Taylen Chandler. Kayla and Jonathan are excited to have a new brother. Taylen was born June 11. Bro. John and Sis. Susan are happy to have a new grandbaby to love.

We are saddened by the death of Vallera Meade. Vallera is the mother of Bro. Mike Meade (Sis. Mary Dean). Our prayers are with this dear family. Bro. Herb Frauhiger passed from this life into eternity on June 2. After 59 years of marriage, he will be greatly missed by his wife, Sis.

Lucile, and children, Bro. Les (Sis. Ann), Lonnie, and Bev Miner (Steve).

Sis. Marge Ringger has spent many weeks in the hospital. We pray for her healing and strength so she can go home. Bro. Bob Sutter (Sis. Jan), Sis. Lucille Grandlienard (Bro. Leonard), Bro. Ervin Aeschliman, Bro. Roger Isch (Sis. Vi), Dylen Gerber (Karen), Bro. Paul Schladenhauffen (Sis. Mildred), Whitney Baller (Bro. Todd and Sis. Shelly), and Bro. Sam Kaehr (Sis. Connie) also have spent time in the hospital. We wish for them God's healing so they can join us back in church.

Visiting ministers are Bros. Hartzell Kaisner (Sis. Mary, Detroit, MI), Dave Sinn (Sis. Joleen, Fort Scott, KS), Jerry Isch (Sis. Linda, Philadelphia, PA), Kent Mogler (Sis. Mary, Minneapolis, MN), and Roger Sauder (Sis. Judy, Fort Lauderdale, FL). We want to thank them for their willingness to share God's Word with us at Bluffton.

---

**INDIANA  
BLUFFTON NORTH  
Rhonda Maller  
Ann Meyer**

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

*Luke 15:10*

Our church family, along with the angels, is thankful for two converts seeking God's grace. Shawn and Mindy Yergler have turned to the Lord in repentance. May God be the foundation in their lives and their marriage.

"Love, of all gifts is the greatest, which the Spirit does bestow." (Zion's Harp #37). Bro. Jesse Frauhiger wed his beloved bride,

Sis. Janelle Steffen, on June 3. Their parents are Bro. Steve and Sis. Irene Frauhiger and Bro. Keith and Sis. Kay Steffen. May they grow in love for each other and for God.

Bro. Steve and Sis. Myra Ringger, along with many friends and family, traveled to Phoenix, AZ, for the marriage of their son, Bro. Michael, to Sis. Angie Klopfenstein (Bro. Dave and Sis. Lou) on June 24. A reception was also held a few weeks later in Bluffton since Michael and Angie's mom are originally from Bluffton. We may not see this new couple very often, but our love and best wishes will be with them as they start a new life together with God as their leader.

We also pray a blessing on the marriage of Jonathan Rupel (Bro. Fred and Sis. Rhonda) and Laura Robbins (Jeff and Wanda). The wedding was July 7 and the new couple are making their home in Lebanon, IN.

Spending time in the hospital this month were Bro. Harry Isch (Sis. Clarice), Bro. Neil Shorb (Bro. Brett and Sis. Cindy) and Sis. Marge Ringger. Dear Sis. Marge has poor circulation in a foot and has been in the hospital for a couple months. We pray for her healing and for grace to keep enduring.

"Children's children are the crown of old men; and the glory of children are their fathers."

*Proverbs 17:6*

We have some new grandparents rejoicing at church. Bro. Sam and Sis. Darlene Habegger were blessed with a granddaughter, Eden Jolene, on July 6. Her first-time parents are Bro. Jason and Sis. Janel Habegger (Leo, IN). Likewise, Sis. Susan Byerly is thrilled with little Grace Michelle born on July 10. Her parents are

Andrew and Gay Stoppenhagen.

Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Nora Gilliom and Sis. Vi Isch (Roger) in the passing of their sister, Elva Blocker.

A total of 49 high school students, parents and teachers from the Bluffton North Sunday School discovered first hand that you can never out give the Lord. They spent a seek at Kingston, Jamaica, working at the Caribbean Christian Center for the Deaf school. Even though they worked very hard, they were blessed so richly with new friendships and a close tie with each other. God is always so good!

---

**INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE  
Pam Huber**

"The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is long-suffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."

*II Peter 3:9*

"God's Eternal Promises" was the theme for our Vacation Bible School this year. I'm sure it pleases our Lord to see the whole church working together to bring His Word to those who come and listen. A heartfelt thank you to the following ministers who came and shared in this special week with us: Bros. Erik Givens (Princeville, IL), Ron Koehl (Sarasota, FL), Tom Troxel (LaCrosse, IN), Ken Wuethrich (Indianapolis, IN) and James Emch (Phoenix, AZ).

Praise be to God for His healing hand on Bro. Michael Anliker (Bro. Wendell and Sis. Karel) and Doug Pelsy as they recuperate from surgery. We are also thankful for God's protection in a tornado that hit Francesville last month. A few families had some damage to their

buildings, but no one was injured.

A potluck supper was held for Elkanah from Haiti, who gave a presentation on the work there. Bro. Jan and Sis. Val Gutwein shared slides from their previous trips and their children sang a few songs in Creole with Elkanah. It was a very enjoyable evening.

*Note of Thanks:*

A special thank you to our family, friends and neighbors for remembering us on our 60th wedding anniversary with so many beautiful cards, gifts and prayers. God bless each one for your love and kindness.

*Bro. Elmer and Sis. Emilie Anliker*

**INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS**

**Sue Levy  
Gail Bradford**

We would like to thank our visiting ministers Bro. Garry Bucher (Sis. Lois, Valparaiso, IN) and Bro. Ken Lawson (Sis. Sharon, Phoenix, AZ) for sharing God's Word with us this month.

We are looking forward to testimonies of our converts on July 28 and baptisms the following day.

"For I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me."

*Galatians 2:20*

Our Sunday School Bible Class went with Bro. Matt and Sis. Missy Ackerman, Bro. Brad and Sis. Michelle Cook, and Bro. Ken and Sis. Lyn Wuethrich for a work project in Athens, AL. God is pleased when we use our energy to bring praise to His name.

"And the Lord make you to in-

crease and abound in love toward another, and toward all men, even as we do toward you."

*I Thessalonians 3:12*

Our church enjoyed a potluck at Ft. Harrison Park on July 4. We heard about Independence Day from Bro. Fred Witzig and about the war in Vietnam from our veteran Bro. Merle Rocke.

**INDIANA, LACROSSE  
Jeremy and Natalie Freed**

"Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding. He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

*Isaiah 40:28-31*

Graduates this year were Chris Frank, Sis. Karina Troxel, and Bro. Mark Heinold. We pray they will each seek God's direction as they pursue earthly goals, realizing life is only a journey toward the eternal destination. Our thoughts and prayers also extend to those returning to school and college this fall.

We heartily welcome Bro. Ben and Sis. Kendra Stoller with their daughter, Lucy, as they have found employment and are moving here from Latty, OH. What a privilege to have a like-minded faith from one congregation to the next! God bless your new home.

Those experiencing physical ailment and hospitalization are Eugene Stoller, Sis. Lizzie Pfladderer and Sis. Ruth Heinold. May God comfort and grant healing, according to His will.

"He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young."

*Isaiah 40:11*

Tyler Allan Freed is welcomed into the family by Bro. Jeremy and Sis. Natalie Freed and his older brother, Kyle. Children are truly a gift to love and cherish. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Steve and Sis. Anna Marie Stoller and Bro. Tom and Sis. Kathy Freed (Indianapolis, IN).

**INDIANA, LEO  
Ethelyn Schlatter**

We were blessed to have visiting ministers with us this past month. Bro. Jim Rinkenberger (Sis. Jeannie, Bluffton, IN), Bro. Jaye Rinkenberger (Sis. Peg, Goodfield, IL), Bro. Darren Plattner (Sis. Sue, Champaign, IL), and Bro. Kenneth Hoerr (Sis. Darlene, Peoria, IL). May our Lord richly reward them for their service.

Our prayers are with Sis. Jodie and Bro. David Kieser for God's grace, comfort, and peace for their little son, Zachary. He has been diagnosed with muscular dystrophy. May the Lord's will be done as we pray for healing and help.

All your anxiety, all your care  
Bring to the mercy seat; — leave  
it there;

Never a burden He cannot bear,  
Never a friend like Jesus!

—Edward H. Joy

In all of King David's distress,



he admitted his feelings to God, he re-established his confidence in God, and he determined to praise Him.

"Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God."

*Phil. 4:6*

Nathan Luke came into the hearts and home of Bro. Mike and Sis. Denise Klopfenstein on July 5. He was also welcomed home by his brother Grant, and grandparents Bro. Lynn and Sis. Chris Klopfenstein and Bro. Don and Sis. Delores Duckworth (Bradford, IL).

Bro. Jason and Sis. Janel Habegger welcomed a baby girl, Eden Jolene, on July 6. Eden's grandparents are Bro. Herbert and Sis. Nancy Frank and Bro. Sam and Sis. Darlene Habegger (all from Bluffton, IN). Our congratulations and God's blessings to both parents.

We welcome Bro. Erik and Sis. Carrie Wiegand and Sis. Shelby Kaeb into our church fellowship. They have come to serve at Gateway Woods. May God bless them.

"...make straight paths for your feet, lest that which is lame be turned out of the way; but let it rather be healed. Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord."

*Heb. 12:13,14*

The strength of a man consists in finding out the way God is going, and going that way.

—Henry Ward Beecher

As we remember our Elders in prayer when they gather at the Conference, may we seek to understand their deep love and concern for us.

"Who is it knocks so loudly?"

"A very little sin."

"Come in," we answer,

And all the world comes in.

## INDIANA, MILFORD

**Stacey Feller**

**Pam Beer**

"What will you do with Jesus?" was the theme of our Bible School held the week of June 18-22. Monday night Bro. Gary Tonner (Bluffton, IN) spoke to us on "Will you obey Him?"; Tuesday night Bro. Andy Moser (Valparaiso, IN) talked about "Will you trust Him?"; Thursday evening Bro. Greg Lehman (Wolcott, IN) spoke on "Will you serve Him?"; and on Friday evening Bro. Chuck Kellenberger (Elgin, IL) talked on "Will you live with Him?". We want to say a special thank-you to each of these brothers for coming and sharing God's Word and their evening with us and a very special thank-you to our Milford and South Bend brothers and sisters who taught the children each evening.

Other visiting ministers in Milford this past month were Bro. Sam Schlatter (Junction, OH), Bro. Dennis Kaufmann (Bloomington, IL), and Elder Bro. Ray Sinn (Latty, OH). We appreciate the visits of these ministers and their wives and thank them for standing and preaching God's Word to us.

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

Sis. Kari Beer (Bro. Fred and Sis. Pat) and Bro. Tim Stoller (Bro. Rod and Sis. LeAnn, Latty, OH) made their engagement known to the church. May their love for the Lord and each other grow as they plan and look forward to an October wedding.

July 8 is the day Bro. Darin Price (Bro. Phil and Sis. Jane) and Sis. Monica Steffen (Bro. Dick and Sis. Gwen) will always remember as the day they became one in the Lord. We pray God will bless their marriage and their lives as they live and work in Athens, AL, and may they come back to visit us and their families often.

Kelli Haab (Bro. Alvin and Sis. Carol) and Greg Koutsouros were joined as husband and wife on July 15. May God's blessings be upon them as they reside in West Lafayette, IN, and finish their schooling.

We rejoice with Angie Beer (Bro. Fred and Sis. Pat) as she has found peace with God and man and looks forward to her baptism in the near future.

Our prayers are with Brooks Beer (Bro. Sam and Sis. Rachel) as he underwent outpatient surgery for an eye injury. We hope he has a full and speedy recovery.

## INDIANA, REMINGTON

**Beth Virkler**

**Rochelle Ward**

We welcome Bro. Dan and Sis. Denise, Ashley, and Brittany Weerts from the Washington, IL, congregation as they make their new home at 673 S. Iroquois, Goodland, IN 47948. Their phone number is (219) 297-8863.

We thank Bro. Ed Fritz (Sis. Sally, Washington, IL) and Bro. Bill Hodel (Sis. Betty, Roanoke, IL) for giving of themselves and coming to minister to us.

Bro. Jeremy Scheitlin (Bro. Rolyce and Sis. Lori) announced

his engagement to Sis. Amanda Stoller (Bro. Dan and Sis. Deb). Lord willing, their wedding date is September 23. It's been 22 years since we've had an engaged couple where both are from Remington. Since we're so used to saying good-bye to the bride on her wedding day, it will be special to add a home-grown couple to our fellowship.

Kelsie Renee was born to converts Alan and Erica Craig (Bro. Rex and Sis. Tammy Clauss) on June 24. The Lord gave Kelsie approximately one hour of life upon earth for her family and friends to enjoy. Graveside services were held on June 27 and we're so thankful that most of Alan's family from Texas could attend. We pray that Alan and Erica and two-year-old Bryce can feel the continuing love and prayers from the brotherhood during this time of grief.

---

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

Summer is such a busy time for everyone. All the outdoor work, fairs, and vacationing. Traveling means visitors in South Bend, which we always appreciate. Thank to all who make the effort to visit our congregation.

Our prayers go with Mike and Sis. Renee Mangold as they move to the Ft. Lauderdale, FL, area. We are saddened to see them depart and hope they will always consider South Bend their home.

Our thanks to visiting minister, Bro. Everett Gerber (Rockville, CT), and his wife. We were again blessed by the visit of our Elder Bro. Jesse Beer (Milford, IN) and Sis. Shirley.

The Sunday School picnic was held at Bro. Bob and Sis. Sue Beebe's home. Everyone enjoyed the beautiful day and fellowship.

---

**INDIANA, VALPARAISO**  
**Darel and Janet Walker**

This past month we were thankful to have two visiting ministers on July 1. They were Bro. Todd Feller (LaCrosse, IN) and Bro. Bob Meyer (Bluffton, IN) who spoke on the special occasion of a 50th wedding anniversary celebration. Bros. Todd and Bob reminded us of the virtue and blessings of being united in marriage with another believer. May God continue to bless each of these brothers for willingly sharing with us.

We were celebrating the golden anniversary of Bro. Merle and Sis. Leona Bucher. After church, their children hosted a nice dinner and reception where we enjoyed sharing memories of the Bucher family over the years. Congratulations to Bro. Merle and Sis. Leona!

On July 8 we enjoyed a church potluck hosted by Bro. Braden and Bro. Drew Moser at Valplayso Park. We all enjoyed a beautiful Sunday afternoon together. Thanks to Bros. Braden and Drew for inviting us all.

We also wish to thank all those who helped this year with Vacation Bible School July 10-12. The theme was "Why Bad Things Happen to Good People". On Tuesday night, Bro. Clark Stoller (Gridley, IL) helped us understand how to deal with emotional problems caused by our reactions to unfortunate events. By sharing with us some of his life experiences, he showed how God often uses such events to reach someone and bring them closer. Thanks also to the men's group from Remington and Wolcott who sang hymns for us.

On Wednesday, Elder Bro. Dan Kilgus (Remington, IN) spoke to us about dealing with financial problems. He gave us all some good advice on how to avoid financial traps

such as greed, wealth, debt, and gambling. Thanks to the young ladies group from Francesville for sharing some special hymns with us.

On Thursday, Bro. Dave Oberghel (Peoria, IL) discussed spiritual problems. He reminded us that none of us are "good" of ourselves and that if we have not given our life to God, we have a spiritual problem. We enjoyed hearing the children's choir sing the songs they learned in Bible School. Thanks to these three brothers for their efforts and letting God use them to bring us inspiring messages. We also thank them for traveling so far on a work day to be with us. We wish to thank all of our Sunday School teachers for making Bible School a special time for the children who attended. May God bless them all for their efforts.

We pray that God's healing hand will be with Sis. Cindrea Susdorf and little Ryan Gaddis who had surgery this month.

---

**INDIANA**  
**WEST LAFAYETTE**  
**Geoff and Angie Ginzel**

The West Lafayette Church open house that was going to be on August 19 has been indefinitely postponed. The Dedication will still be on September 16. Everyone is invited to join us for this dedication weekend.

On June 24, the Peoria Young Group joined us for worship services. What a joy it was to see familiar faces and to greet and meet our fellow brothers and sisters in faith.

We would like to thank the following ministering brothers and their wives for visiting us and allowing God to use them to bring forth His message. Elder Bro. Ron and Sis. Nancy Schambach (Elgin,

IL), Bro. Ken and Sis. Darlene Hoerr and Bro. Mike and Sis. Carol Rieker (all from Peoria, IL), Bro. Scott and Sis. Gigi Schafer (South Bend, IN), Bro. Wayne and Sis. Gloria Laubscher (Cissna Park, IL), Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott, IN), Elder Bro. Wendell and Sis. Marcella Gudeman and Bro. Chris and Sis. Sharon Huber (all from Francesville, IN) and Elder Bro. Curt and Sis. Lyla Frank (LaCrosse, IN).

A rotation has been established so we look forward to our visitors and thank God for them.

If you are in the area, please join us at 10:00 a.m. for services. 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 Bros. Curt Frank and Wendell Gudeman.

---

### **INDIANA, WOLCOTT**

**Erica Wagenbach  
MaryBeth Lehman**

Summer is a busy season of traveling and reunions. We have enjoyed our visitors, among them ministering Bros. Doug Harmon (Toledo, OH) and Dwight Stoller (Latty, OH). God bless them for proclaiming His Word!

Our hearts grieve with Sis. Heidi and Bro. Jeff Bahler and family as Sis. Heidi's mom, Sis. Nancy Baumgartner (Bro. Leonard) from Bern, KS, has been released from her pain and is now resting safe in the arms of Jesus. We pray God will comfort and provide as only He can when lonely times come. How thankful we can be for the gift of memories God gives us.

We are also rejoicing with souls that God has led together. The engagement of Bro. Brent Blume (Bro. Larry and Sis. Lynell) and

Sis. Erica Rudin (Bro. Arlyn and Sis. LaNae) of Cissna Park, IL, was announced on July 8. The following weekend, Bro. Derek Blume (Bro. Larry and Sis. Lynell) and Sis. Theresa Schwab (Bro. Tim and Sis. Rachel) were also announced for marriage. Our prayers are with these two couples as they continue to grow in God's love and respect for one another.

---

### **IOWA, BURLINGTON**

**Brenda Schulz  
Karla Gerst**

Over the past month in Burlington, we have had a number of visitors assemble with us. Among them were Elder Bro. Jon Schmidgall (Oakville, IA) and ministering Bros. Jeff Thames (Washington, IL) and Tim Funk (Peoria, IL). May the Lord reward them according to their efforts in His service.

We also had Sunday School elections in Burlington in the last month. Bro. Dick Taeger and Sis. Julie Schulz completed their terms, and Bro. Gary Schulz and Sis. Brenda Schulz were elected to serve as the new teachers. May God bless those who have given of their time to teach tender hearts, and may He grant each teacher grace and wisdom for the coming year to live and teach the way of faith.

---

### **IOWA, ELGIN**

**Gloria Frieden  
Heidi Butikofer**

How quickly the summer months are passing; already the days are getting shorter and soon our students will be returning to school for another year of learning. Though we are limited in our number of school years, learning is a life long experience. While we read that the wisdom of this world is

foolishness with God (I Cor. 3:19), we also find in Proverbs 9:10, "The fear of God is the beginning of wisdom." When God, in His great love and mercy grants us the knowledge of our sinful lost condition (condemnation), may we, with thankful hearts, surrender unto the shed blood of Jesus to redeem us. This is our only hope of eternal salvation.

June 23 was the wedding day for Peg Moore (Bro. Dale and Sis. Cheryl) and Steve Moyle (Les and Mary). May God ever bless their home and life together.

Two couples have been blessed with babies to nurture and guide for a few years that will so swiftly pass by.

On July 1, Easton Allen was born to Wade and Michelle Halverson. Callie will enjoy having a little brother to play with. Grandparents are Roger and Sharlene Halverson and Steve and Brenda Finholt.

On July 6, Bruce and Tracy Frieden were blessed with a daughter, Mara Mae. Bro. Floyd and Sis. Jan Frieden and Kim and Julie Grant are both first-time grandparents.

Weddings and births reap much rejoicing but when the time comes for a loved one to leave this earth, there is much sorrow.

Our sympathy is extended to Steve Moyle (Peg) whose father, Les (Mary), passed away on July 12. May God comfort and provide for them in their loss.

Hospital patients this past month have been Bro. Bert Butikofer (Sis. Beulah) and Bro. John Schupbach (Sis. Janet). We are thankful to God for the knowledge given to the physicians to care for our physical needs.

May we also be thankful for ministering brothers who, by God's Spirit and direction, teach us how to obtain healing for the sin

sick soul.

We have been blessed with two visiting ministers this past month: Bro. Jim Butikofer (Sis. Diana, Iowa City, IA) and Bro. John Rowell (Sis. Nelda, Burlington, IA). May God bless each one for their submissiveness unto their calling.

---

## IOWA, GARDEN GROVE

### Willa Clark

How quickly the summer is passing, and school days are nearly here again! A robin in my yard is nesting for the third time, after her first two nests were destroyed by storms. I am amazed at her perseverance, and reminded that God gives us strength and drive to push on, no matter what storms we may have encountered in our lives.

We have enjoyed the visits of Bros. Tim Zimmerman (Lamont-Gridley, KS) and Craig Martin (Princeville, IL). The Lord bless them for service they give so freely.

Several of our Sunday School students and their families joined the Pulaski Sunday School for their annual Sunday School picnic. We thank Pulaski for inviting us to join them in this fellowship.

---

## IOWA, IOWA CITY

### Janette Schulz

Greetings to all! I apologize for the lack of timeliness of some of this month's news. Due to electronic problems, June's news was never received and I didn't realize it in time to add it to July's issue.

We appreciated all of our visitors, including ministering Bros. Dave Marquart (Taylor, MO), Ken Weerts (Cissna Park, IL) and Elder Bros. Ed Lanz (Oakville, IA, now retired), Doug Schock (Pulaski, IA), Jon Schmidgall (Oakville, IA), Gerry Hertz (Sabetha, KS) and retired Elder Bro. Paul Butikofer

(Elgin, IA). May God richly bless them all for serving our small flock. We were blessed in partaking of Holy Communion, and hope each of us will serve our King with renewed zeal. We prayerfully support Bro. Jim and Sis. Diana Butikofer as Bro. Jim has recently become our new minister. May they be blessed as they willingly give of themselves to serve us.

Congratulations to our recent graduates: Rachel Reker (Bro. Roger and Sis. Rhonda) and Jeffrey Landherr (Ron and Audrey) from high school, and Sis. Amy Gerst (Bro. Joe and Sis. Connie) from a veterinary tech program. May God bless them as they begin a new chapter in their lives.

Our annual College Student - Family Picnic will be on Sunday, September 16. Any students in the area or their families are encouraged to contact Bro. Joe and Sis. Connie Gerst (319) 846-2359 if they are able to attend.

With several patients from other churches being in Iowa City for extended stays, we have appreciated their visitors worshipping with us. If we can help anyone who requires medical care in our area with transportation, lodging, or other assistance, please feel free to call Bro. Joe and Sis. Connie. Our prayers are with the patients and their families, and trust God will provide their every need.

---

## IOWA, LESTER

### Dawn Knobloch

### Dawn Metzger

Our congregation is rejoicing over the news of Tim and Carla Feucht's repentance. May God grant them the grace to surrender their all to Christ and build on His firm foundation.

Visiting ministers this past month were Elder Bro. Lynn Stieglitz (Leo, IN), Bro. Marvin

Stieglitz (Leo, IN), Bro. Ben Wysong (Sabetha, KS), Bro. Pat Zaugg (West Bend, IA), Bro. Dale Moore (Elgin, IA) and Bro. Randy Mogler (Washington, IL). May God continue to bless them for lending themselves on our behalf.

We have had a number of loved ones that were hospitalized and we pray for them. Surgical patients were Tina Moser, Bro. Benji Kellenberger (Sis. Leah), Sis. Beth Metzger (Bro. Gary) and Ed Martin (Judy). We pray they all are on the road to a complete recovery. Other hospital patients this month were Ethan Meyer (Bro. Brad and Sis. Trinda), Ethan Metzger (Bro. Harv and Sis. Mary), Sarah Feucht, Sis. Zelma Knobloch, Louise Tolvstad (John), Sis. Elaine Kellenberger and Darin Knobloch (Bro. Larry and Sis. Sheryl).

On June 25, Andy Leuthold passed away from this earthly life. We extend our prayers and sympathy to his family. Survivors are his wife, Elsie, and their children, John and Cheryl Leuthold, Stan and Jean Leuthold and William and Caroline Stover and their families. We also share our sympathy with Andy's brother, Bro. Paul Leuthold (Betty).

Our congratulations are shared with Cheri Koomia and Collin Leuthold (Bro. Larry and Sis. Mardi) as they were united in marriage on July 14. May God bless them with many happy years together.

We give our support to those who have been elected to fill the expired terms for Sunday School teachers. They are Bros. Troy Knobloch, Rick Moser, Jerome Metzger and Sisters Tina Knobloch, Tara Kellenberger and Carolyn Knobloch. May God always bless those in these positions with His Spirit and grace to plant seeds of truth in our young ones.

Lucas Alan Moser was born on



July 17 to Keith and Julie. We congratulate them and wish them much joy with their precious son. Loving grandparents are Bro. Bob and Cindy Leuthold and Mike and Kathy Moser. Great-grandparents to Lucas are Bro. Eli and Sis. Alice Metzger, Bro. Paul and Sis. Betty Leuthold and Tina Moser.

As we are coming upon the time of the year for our Elder conference, we want to fervently pray for our Elders. May the Holy Spirit direct them as they meet to discuss important matters concerning our faith.

*Notes of Thanks:*

We extend our thanks to everyone for their prayers, cards, gifts and support during the time of Andy's failing health and death. May God bless you.

*The Andy Leuthold family*

We want to thank everyone who made our 60th anniversary so special. To those who came to our open house and for the many cards and gifts and those that sent their greetings. A special thanks to our children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren who hosted our open house. We really enjoyed it. God bless each and every one of you.

*Bro. Art and Sis. Emily Leuthold*

**IOWA, PULASKI  
Katrina Knobloch**

On July 1, many of us traveled to Tremont, IL, to witness the marriage of Bro. Daryl Wiegand (Bro. Dave and Sis. Mary) to Sis. Christy Sauder (Bro. Howard and Sis. Janice, Tremont). We rejoice with them and wish them God's continued blessings and guidance.

This month our visiting ministers were Bro. John Steiner (Sis. Carol, Oakville, IA) and Bro. Trent

Meiss (Sis. Lucy, Eureka, IL). We appreciate their labors and pray God's blessings on them and their families.

Our thoughts and prayers have been with Sis. Irene Musselman (Bro. Howard) and Sis. Clara Shock (Elder Bro. Doug) as they have spent time in the hospital. May the Lord grant them healing and renewed strength.

**IOWA, WEST BEND  
Lori Skoglund  
Berniece Banwart**

We appreciated Elder Bro. Wayne Banwart (Sis. Charlen, Champaign, IL) and Bro. Dean Messner (Sis. Wanda, Winthrop, MN) bringing words of life to us. Surely God will bless their efforts.

Several in our congregation have experienced loss of loved ones in their close families. Sis. Emma (Bro. Noah) Gerber lost her brother, Bro. Alphai Moser of Morris, MN; and Nettie (Ervin) Banwart's brother - in - law, Alvin Leuthold of Lester, IA, passed away recently. The grief of losing a dear mother, Barbara Frazee of Des Moines, is being felt by Sis. Teresa (Bro. Larry) Bruellman and their children. She suffered many months, and although they are grateful she is relieved of her earthly struggles, she will be deeply missed. We extend our sympathy to all these families.

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

*Psalm 123:3*

Grandparents, Bob and Kay Banwart, welcomed into their family Christopher Joseph on June 12. His parents are the Larry Banwarts of Cedar Rapids, IA. Bro. Mike and Sis. Lila Wirtz are happy over the arrival of a granddaughter born to Michelle and Dan Geyer.

They named her Olivia. Bro. Mark and Sis. Janet Fehr are happy with the safe arrival of Connor James on June 13. His siblings are Erica, Jessica, Trevor and Laura. Thomas William arrived at the Bro. Cory and Sis. Jennifer Fehr home on June 24. He also has siblings, Emma, Jack, Charlie and Noah, to love and care for him. May these parents find grace to train up their children in the ways of the Lord.

Keith Fehr (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Charlotte) and Heidi Henkelvig (Mr. and Mrs. Lowell Mueller) of Algona are engaged and plan to be married on September 8. They plan to make their home in Maryville, MO.

**JAPAN, SHIODA  
Ayako Inoue**

We send our greetings from Shioda again this month. Our prefecture is famous for the high temperature and humidity during the summer and we are already coping with it daily.

On June 17, our congregation went to sing at the local hospital for Father's Day. We passed out small cards with scriptures written on them. Our God is a loving Father who guides us and listens to our prayers daily. He can punish us too, and we learn through those experiences to trust and obey in Him.

We have a couple of people traveling in our congregation. Sis. Eiko Nozawa has been in the States to visit and will return soon. Bro. Akirio Ito is also in the States studying and will be there until October. We wish them God's protection while traveling.

We are looking forward to our summer gathering which will be held on August 22-23. We are planning to study the doctrine of our church. We hope it will be a fruitful time of worshipping God and also

fellowshipping.

## JAPAN, TOKYO

### Marie Inoue

The rainy season finished early this year, and summer is in full bloom with very hot and humid weather. We are told this type of weather makes sweet fruit, and we are thankful for abundant and lovely fruit in this land.

In I Corinthians 11:24 we read, "And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me." Thankful for forgiveness of her sins, this holy sacrament was served to Sis. Shizuko Utsuki at her home by our local Elder. Although bedfast, she clings to faith in the shed blood of our loving and merciful Saviour. Along with some outside professional help, she is lovingly cared for in her home by her daughters, Sis. Hiroko, Tomoko, and Nobuko.

We were all prayerful and continue to beseech for Kazuki Urushino, 6 mo. grandson of our Sis. Urushino. At birth they found he would need corrective surgery in his mouth area. Last week the first of several surgeries was performed, and we all are so thankful it went well. Earlier this spring, Bro. Dave Schumacher (Washington, IL) visited us on a Sunday as he was here on Caterpillar business. As we greeted him, we noticed that he also was faced with this same corrective surgery as a child. In our afternoon Bible class he explained in detail his experience in a heartwarming testimony of the test, trials, and most of all the Lord's precious blessings as he coped with this affliction. We also heard of the faithfulness of his believing parents and how it was a tremendous strength to him. Likewise, our dear Sis. Urushino is en-

couraging her family to take one day at a time, and leave the rest to God.

From now until September there will be much air travel of our church family. May they draw nearer to God as they have the blessed opportunity to visit our churches in the U.S. The first of this group is our ministering Bro. Andrew and Sis. Jana Klaus and their family. This is the reason I am writing this column for a few months. As they experience the joy of the Word and song heard in the native tongue, may their lives be filled with His goodness. Sis. Jana often drives a good distance to church and brings a neighbor or a friend with her to our ladies' meetings or a church function. Most of these are contacts made through their children's schools. What a wonderful way to use the time as we come in contact with our neighbors and friends.

## KANSAS, BERN

### Sally Strahm Lori Baumgartner

As time changes seasons and as seasons change the hills, so changes the course of our lives.

And even though our friends may be on a hilltop far away, it's never too far to love our friends and pray...

I am reminded of these words I once heard in a song as I see the many changes that have taken place in our congregation during the past month. We all need the prayers of those we love.

We recognize that God does answer prayers, as we heard the testimonies and witnessed the baptisms of Elwin and Mary Strahm the weekend of June 23-24. We gladly welcome them

into the brotherhood of Christ. We were thankful to have visiting ministers, Elder Bro. Gerry Hertzell and Bro. Roger Aberle (both of Sabetha, KS), here to share God's Word with us. May the Lord bless their efforts.

The Lord has certainly been working in the lives of our young people as we have three engagements to announce. Sis. Wendy Edelman, who is currently living in Lamar, MO, is engaged to Bro. Gregg Braker (Lamar, MO). Sis. Wendy's parents are Eugene and Judy Edelman and Bro. Gregg's parents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Janice Stoller (Lamar, MO).

On July 8, the engagement of Sis. Jamie Menold and Bro. Scott Bahr (Detroit, MI) was made known to us. Sis. Jamie's parents are Bro. James and Sis. Louise Menold and Bro. Scott's parents are Bro. Phil and Sis. Dawn Bahr (Detroit, MI).

Also, we are happy to report the engagement of Bethany Edelman and Scott Zollinger (Silverton, OR). Bethany's parents are Bro. Wayne and Sis. Linda Edelman and Scott's parents are Bro. Ed and Sis. Shirley Zollinger (Silverton, OR). Bethany is currently living in the Silverton, OR, area.

July 1 was a special day in the lives of Bro. Myron Menold and Sis. Lori Lehman as they were joined in marriage. We rejoice with them and their parents, Bro. James and Sis. Lou Menold and Elder Bro. John and Sis. Connie Lehman. We were thankful for the visiting ministers that assembled with us that weekend. They were Bro. Brandon Emch (Kansas City, MO), Dean Steffen (Belvidere, IL), Kent Heimer (Taylor, MO) and Ted Hirstein (Morton, IL).

We had one other visiting minister this past month: Elder Bro. Don Braker (Kansas City, MO). We appreciated his labors on our behalf.

Hospitalized during the past month was Sis. Stella Moser (Bro. Rueben). We are thankful that Bro. Dan Edelman is doing much better after requiring some medical care.

Our hearts have known sorrow in the past month as we bid our final farewell to Sis. Nancy Baumgartner (Bro. Leonard). Sis. Nancy passed from this life on July 1. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to her helpmate, Bro. Leonard, and his children: Bro. Jeff (Sis. Kim), Bro. Jay (Sis. Heidi), Sis. Heidi Bahler (Bro. Jeff, Wolcott, IN), Sis. Holly Meyer (Bro. Duane), and Carmen Ukele (Lee). We also wish to extend our sympathy to Sis. Nancy's father, retired Elder Bro. Lester Hartter, and to her three brothers: Bro. Steve (Sis. Lois), Bro. Neil (Sis. Evelyn) and Lynn (Barb). There will definitely be an empty spot in our pews where Sis. Nancy used to sit and worship and sing with joy in her heart to her Lord.

"To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven. A time to be born, and a time to die..."

*Eccles. 3:1-2*

Just a few short hours after Sis. Nancy Baumgartner passed from this life, her grandson, Matthew Jay, was born into this world. Matthew was born on July 2 to Bro. Jay and Sis. Heidi Baumgartner. He is welcomed home by his siblings, Laura, Mitchell and Rachel. His grandparents are Bro. Joe D. and Sis. Kathy Rokey, and Bro. Leonard Baumgartner. May this dear family rejoice in the midst of their sorrow.

We wish to remember our Elder brothers in prayer as they assemble in Roanoke, IL, for the General Brotherhood Conference. May the Lord grant each of them wisdom

and discernment as they speak and council together.

August brings the ringing of the school bell and the return to classes for many of our youth. Let us never forget the power of prayer as we pray for our administrators, teachers, parents, and students. I recently read the account of a teacher who asked her class of young first graders to draw a picture of something that they were thankful for. One little boy drew a simple picture of a hand. Many of the other children tried to guess whose hand it could be. One guessed that it was the hand of God who gives us food, and another guessed it was the hand of a farmer who grows food so all can eat.

After several wrong guesses, the teacher was touched by the boy's shy answer. "It's your hand, teacher." She then remembered that often at recess she had taken this scrubby forlorn child by the hand. She frequently did that with the children. She did not realize until then how very much it meant to this small boy. It is our prayer that every teacher may have a positive influence on their students.

*Note of Thanks:*

A special thank you to those near and far for the love, concern and prayers given to Nancy and our families during her year and a half battle with cancer. The many cards, food, memorials and flowers have been greatly appreciated by all of us. Your warmth and generosity have touched our lives. May God bless you for your kindness.

*Leonard Baumgartner  
Jeff and Kim Baumgartner  
Jay and Heidi Baumgartner  
Jeff and Heidi Bahler  
Duane and Holly Meyer  
Lee and Carmen Ukele  
and families*

## KANSAS, FORT SCOTT

**Joleen Sinn**

We want to welcome Bro. Rick and Sis. Karen Kellenberger and their family to our congregation. It is such a blessing when other believers move into the area. Their sons, Bro. Kent and Ryan, will be an asset to the young group also. Their daughter, Sis. Amber, will be going to school at Kansas State but we look forward to her visits.

Bro. Bill Emch (Lamont - Gridley, KS) ministered to us this past month. We sincerely want to thank Bro. Bill and his wife, Sis. Susan, for being with us. May God bless you richly. We also want to thank the Lamont - Gridley congregation for sending Bro. Bill as it left only one minister at home that Sunday. May God bless your sacrifice for us.

We were blessed to have a new convert this month. David Read (John and Paula) has given his heart to our Lord and Saviour.

## KANSAS

### LAMONT-GRIDLEY

**Sarah Somerhalder**

God has blessed our assembly with two additional families. We welcome Todd and Sis. Julia Pyle and their children, Aubrey, Garrison, and Alyssa from the Kansas City, MO, congregation and Bro. Wayne and Sis. Dawn Anliker and their children, Tyler and Danielle, from the Indianapolis, IN, congregation. Bro. Glen and Sis. Lorean Anliker are the parents of Sis. Julia and Bro. Wayne.

We pray for God's traveling mercies upon all those who plan to attend the annual Brotherhood Conference in Roanoke, IL. May the Lord's Spirit be with our Elders as they prayerfully seek the Lord's will and direction in guiding the flocks and preserving our precious faith.

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

July 7 and 8 was a blessed weekend as we welcomed Bro. Troy Strahm as a new brother in faith. How encouraging to see souls answer the call of God and surrender their all to Him. We want to thank Elder Bro. Don Braker (Kansas City, MO), and Bros. Larry Bahr (Fort Scott, KS) and Wes Moser (Lester, IA) who helped on this weekend.

Our prayers are certainly with Sis. Leona Grimm as she spent some time in the hospital this month. May God's comforting hand be upon her.

Lana Grimm (Bro. Rod and Sis. Arlene) and Marvin Kuenzi (Bro. Nick and Sis. Mary, Silverton, OR) announced their engagement. Also made known to our congregation this month was the engagement of Sis. Brenda Grimm to Bro. Mark Nenadov (Eureka, IL). Their parents are Bro. Gerald and Sis. Ruby Grimm and Bro. Paul and Sis. Marilyn Nenadov (Eureka). May these two couples continue looking to God for direction and guidance as they plan for their future together.

We rejoice with Bro. Doug and Sis. Jeryl Grimm in the birth of their second grandson, Harrison James, on July 5. His parents are Bro. Adam and Sis. Christy Zeltwanger (Morris, MN).

"Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God."

*II Corinthians 7:1*

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

The West Bend, IA, congregation was given the responsibility to supply us with a visiting minister scheduled for the second weekend of the month. As a result of West Bend's generosity, both Bro. Wayne Grimm and Bro. Darren Fehr delivered the message on Sunday, July 8. The two brothers were accompanied by their wives and several young sisters from the West Bend and Bern, KS, churches. We thank the brothers for filling the pulpit chairs and the sisters for filling one of our empty church benches.

Tim Funk (Bro. Glenn and Sis. Sally) has completed his training in Mississippi and will now be stationed in San Diego for three years. He will be joined by his wife, Christina, and two young daughters. Our prayers are with this little family as they adapt to their new location.

Bro. Godfrey Miller and I will observe our 50th wedding anniversary on July 22. We are anticipating that the Wichita congregation will come to the health care facility, where Bro. Godfrey resides, and sing "The Union of Hearts" and "The Christian Home". It is amazing how Bro. Godfrey recognizes the traditional hymns as they are sung. He hums the melody in his rich bass voice and surely is blessed by so doing. I am grateful for that "three-fold cord that is not lightly rent apart".

**KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON****Glenda Neukomm**

"Shew me thy ways, O Lord; teach me thy paths."

*Psalm 25:4*

God's guidance through the Bible benefits us only when we trust His Word and obey it. "The humble

He guides in justice," the psalmist wrote, "and the humble He teaches His way. All the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth, to such as keep His covenant and His testimonies" (Psalm 25:9-10). Guidance from above is promised to all who will accept God's Word and follow His directions.

We need God's guidance from above,  
His daily leading, constant love;  
As we trust Him for direction,  
To our course He'll make correction.

—*Fitzhugh*

We are so thankful for the Word of God, and the willingness of ministering brethren to come and share with us. The Lord richly blessed us these past couple months through the ministry of Bros. Merle Hartzler (Sis. Bonnie, Rittman, OH), Walt Steffen (Sis. Dorothy, Milford, IN), Chuck Kellenberger (Sis. Debbie, Elgin, IL), Wally Ramsier (Sis. Helen, Mansfield, OH), Greg Stieglitz (Sis. Lisa, Indianapolis, IN) and Dan Beer (Sis. Deb, Milford, IN).

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

**MEXICO, IXTLAN****Claudia Gonzalez**

"But Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven."

*Matthew 19:14*

This summer we are thankful to God for all His blessings. One is that many little children come to church and we are blessed through them because they glorify the Lord



with their young voices. Very soon we will be having Vacation Bible School and we are now working with the preparations.

*Meet Bro. Jose Magana:*

My name is Jose and I am the father of four daughters and one son. I am Sis. Aurora's husband. I grew up in a Catholic home but I really wasn't a Catholic. I began to come to church through my wife. She invited me but because of my job, I said "no". Sometimes when my wife was about to leave for church, I was back from my job and I told her that we needed to eat together. One day after changing jobs and after she had invited me several times, I decided to go to see what the people do there. I began to attend and noticed that Christian people spoke the truth and everyone had their Bible. I started to enjoy going to church and a little while after that, the Holy Spirit convinced me of my sin and He began working in my life. I was able to see that I was changing but I also saw that Satan didn't want me to have a new life. He wanted me to think about what the people in the world would say about my new life. But with God's help, I didn't listen to Satan.

I recognized that I was a sinner and I decided to surrender my life to Christ. After confessing my sins, I felt much joy in my heart and peace with my family. My body no longer was suffering from Alcohol. I was repenting and now had the desire to be baptized. I was baptized then on July 9, 2000.

Now I desire to serve God faithfully and work for Him and now I have the hope of eternal life. I know that I need God's help every day and ask Him for this. My prayer is that some day my children will surrender their lives to Jesus Christ.

**MICHIGAN, ALTO**  
**Kristen Plattner**  
**Sandy Schutte**

Liberty: freedom from oppression, slavery, bondage, imprisonment, to be free of one's oppressors. The very meaning of the word defines Jesus' mission on this earth. This same word, liberty, our forefathers set the foundation of this nation. Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. These three can only be truly found in the person of Jesus Christ. Jesus said (Luke 4:18), "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives...to set at liberty them that are bruised..." Our nation's leaders, 56 in all, set before them a task to set up a nation "under God" and provide a set of laws unequal to any before or after it. To define a nation with what they thought were Godly standards. Signing their name to this declaration to seal the nation's independence on July 4, 1776, continuing the freedom that Christ brought mankind. Gal. 5:1, "Stand fast therefore in the liberty where with Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage."

Summer has brought many visitors into the area, which we are always thankful for. With that were visiting ministers, Bro. Tom Klotzle (Sis. Jodie, Altadena, CA) and Bro. Dan Stoller (Rockville, CT).

VBS brought us ministering Bro. Bob Beebe (Sis. Sue, South Bend, IN) and Bro. Greg Lehman (Wolcott, IN). We appreciate their efforts as the children learned about the five gems, one each day. Start up, listen up, open up, speak up and grow in the family of God. Our thanks go out to all those who made VBS a success.

Congratulations go out to Ryan Stephen (son of Richard and Cheri Morehouse of Caledonia) and Summer Erismann (Bro. Ron and Sis. Penny) on their engagement to be married. May they make God the center of their union.

"And the Lord God said, It is not good that the man should be alone: I will make him a help meet for him. Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife, and they shall become one flesh."

*Genesis 2:18,24*

We welcome Stan and Elaine Wingeier into the area. May they feel loved and at home as they attend our assembly. But as we welcome Stan and Elaine, we bid farewell to Bro. Brett Plattner as he plans to move to Detroit to attend Medical School at Wayne State University.

A breakfast was given to our high school graduates this past month. Bro. Ted Steffen spoke to the graduates about choices as they enter the college years. We wish each one God's blessings as they open this new chapter of their life.

Our hospital patient this month was Michael Steffen (Bro. Ted and Sis. Sandy) with a fractured arm. We pray for a speedy recovery for this active one year old.

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

One of the many pleasures of summer is the week that our congregation spends in Vacation Bible School. Each day we have Bible lessons and craft projects for the children who attend, and every evening we enjoy a visiting minister who speaks on a topic surrounding our theme for the year.

This year our theme was "Grace". Our sincere thanks and appreciation are extended to the ministering brothers who came. They are: Bro. Frank Sauder (Roanoke, IL), Elder Bro. Lynn Stieglitz (Leo, IN), Bro. Ron Kipfer (Bluffton, IN), Elder Bro. Mark Masters (Mansfield, OH) and Elder Bro. Earl Ringger (Gridley, IL). We pray that God will richly bless each of them and their families for their labor of love.

Also visiting us this month were Elder Bros. Andy Stoller (Smithville, OH), Mark Bahr (Detroit, MI) and Aaron Steffen (Alto, MI). We appreciate the ministries and loving guidance of these Elder brothers and pray that God's richest blessings will be upon them.

Sis. Maxine Virkler (Elder Bro. Andy) spent time under the care of physicians this past month. We pray that her recovery will be swift and complete and that she will feel God's loving nearness in the days ahead.

May God bless you this month!

---

## MICHIGAN, DETROIT

**Sarah Beard  
Holly Barton**

Vacation Bible School was eagerly attended by many students again this summer. The focus was "Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also" (Matthew 6:21). At the end of the week we held a picnic, where the students presented a program of what they had learned. It took many willing hands to help make this year's VBS successful, and we sincerely thank all those who assisted. We also enjoyed hearing ministering Bro. Ted Steffen (Alto, MI) give a presentation at the picnic.

Some of the Sunday School students also have new teachers now. We pray for Sis. Dawn Bahr (Bro. Phil) and Bro. Dana Knochel (Sis.

Beth) as they undertake this very important work, and we thank Sis. Kristine Krieger (Bro. Kevin) and Bro. Jesse Bedolla (Sis. Bonnie) for their past service. In addition to new Sunday School teachers, we also have a new trustee, Bro. Andy Wieland.

Sis. Ann Tachar was hospitalized briefly this month, and Sis. Kathryn Losiewicz is on the mend after having surgery. We are so thankful for a faithful God.

Bro. Kevin and Sis. Kristine Krieger joyfully welcome their first child, Zacchaeus Glenn. He arrived July 1 and is sure to be doted on by his grandparents, Bro. Glenn and Sis. Sandee Price (Sarasota, FL) and Diane Krieger and Arnold Krieger.

The same God who heals and creates life also brings hearts together in love, and we were pleased to hear two engagements this month: Bro. Scott Bahr (Bro. Phil and Sis. Dawn) to Sis. Jamie Menold (Bro. James and Sis. Louise, Bern, KS), and Sis. Heather Hitz (Bro. Tom and Sis. Cindy) to Bro. Quinton Snyder (Bro. Greg and Sis. Kara, Kansas City, MO). We wish both couples the very best God has for them in the days and years ahead.

We always appreciate visiting ministers, and this month we welcomed Bro. Ted Steffen (Alto, MI) and Bro. Duane Rocke (Minneapolis, MN). Bro. Doug Harmon (Toledo, OH) came for our monthly Woodhaven service, and we very much appreciated him also.

As Bro. Kevin and Sis. Kristine Krieger celebrated the birth of a baby, they also grieved at the loss of Sis. Kristine's grandmother, Sis. Mildred Huber (Francesville, IN). May God comfort their hearts.

It hardly seems possible that it is already time for our out-of-state college students to be leaving us! Bro. Scott Bahr and Michelle Bahr

(son and daughter of Bro. Phil and Sis. Dawn) will be returning to Kansas State University, and Amber Bahr (Elder Bro. Mark and Sis. Bev) will be starting there as well. We certainly pray that God will be with them throughout the school year.

---

## MINNESOTA, MORRIS

**Cheryl Messner  
Dianne Kellenberger**

What a fortunate people we are to have the privilege to come to church Sunday after Sunday to hear God's Word preached, and to still hear the call to repentance come forth.

Our special thanks to Elder Bro. Jon Schmidgall (Oakville, IA) and Bros. Brian Huber (Francesville, IN), James Koehl (San Diego, CA), Doug Grimm (Sabetha, KS) and Jeff Grimm (Goodfield, IL) for sharing God's precious teachings with us.

We've been richly blessed with four babies this month. Bailee Nicole was born to Jeffrey and Stephanie Jurgens on June 29. Dylan is excited to have a baby sister! Grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Charlotte Metzger (Lester, IA) and Leon and Shirley Jurgens (Wilmot, SD).

First-time parents are Bro. Tim and Sis. Kristen Schaefer. Gretta Rose joined them on July 3. Happy grandparents are Bro. Steve and Sis. Pam Schaefer and Bro. Roger and Sis. Ilene Harter (Sabetha, KS).

Bro. Adam and Sis. Christy Zeltwanger rejoice over the birth of their son, Harrison James, who was born on July 5. Taylor is his big brother and special playmate. Grandparents are Bro. Dale and Sis. Rachel Zeltwanger and Bro. Doug and Sis. Jeryl Grimm (Sabetha, KS).

Allan and Sis. Ilene Burnham

have joyfully announced the arrival of their second grandchild, Nathan Allan, who was born on July 7. His parents are Ranee and Wayne Grunklee. May God richly bless each family circle.

We bid farewell to Sis. Marla Stoller who will soon be leaving our area. God has chosen to lead her through another chapter in her life. Our prayer for you, Marla, is that God will be with you until we meet again.

Our hospital patients have been Sis. Sophie Nohl and Sis. Emma Feuchtenberger. Let us continue to uphold them in our prayers.

We extend our thoughts and prayers to our Elder brethren as they meet for their annual Conference to seek God's counsel and wisdom in shepherding the flock through this time of great deception.

May God in Heaven help us to endure the storms and trials of life.

I need the prayers of those I love,  
While trav'ling o'er life's rugged  
way.

That I may true and faithful be,  
And live for Jesus every day.

I want my friends to pray for me  
To bear my tempted soul above,  
And intercede with God for me.  
I need the prayers of those I love.

I need the prayers of those I love,  
To help me in each trying hour,  
To bear my tempted soul to Him,  
That He may keep my by His  
power.

I want my friends to pray for  
me,  
To bear my tempted soul above,  
And intercede with God for me.  
I need the prayers of those I love.

I want my friends to pray for me,  
To hold me upon on wings of  
faith,  
That I may walk the narrow way,

Kept by our Father's glorious  
grace.

I want my friends to pray for me,  
To bear my tempted soul above,  
And intercede with God for me.  
I need the prayers of those I love.

---

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

"A wise man will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels:...The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction."

*Proverbs 1:5,7*

Visiting ministers and their families here in July were Bro. Brian Huber (Sis. Jackie, Francesville, IN) and Elder Bro. Ron Messner (Sis. Pam, Washington, IL) sharing the Gospel message with us. To believe and be obedient to God is the common denominator between the Old and New Testaments.

"But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God:... neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned."

*I Cor. 2:14*

Our Sunday School will start their new year the first Sunday in August. We are thankful for the dedication of our Sunday School staff.

"...a teacher of babes, which hast the form of knowledge and of the truth...Thou therefore which teachest another, teachest thou not thyself?..."

*Romans 2:20-21*

Our annual church picnic was

held in the city park. Although it has been very hot and dry, a wonderful time was had by all. Fellowship sweet...

---

**MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY**  
**Garry and Marty Rokey**

We want to thank visiting minister Bro. Jeff Bahr (Sis. Janice, Kiowa, KS) for sharing the Word with us. Bro. Jeff brought forth the wonderful story of Jesus and His love.

Our sympathy to Sis. Janice Lehman for the recent loss of her father, Bro. Ed Lehman (Bern, KS). Our sympathies also extend to her grandchildren, Sis. Lori and Bro. Tim Lehman, who assemble with us.

The annual father/son canoe trip was held Friday, June 15, at the North Fork of the White River in the Southern Missouri Ozarks. Despite a very rainy beginning, the beauty and power of God's creation was enjoyed by all.

We would extend a special thanks to Bro. Perry Klopfenstein, who assembled with us on June 23. After a potluck supper, Bro. Perry spoke on the past, present, and future of the Apostolic Christian Church. In this era of tumult where society is preoccupied with earthly matters, it is a great blessing to have an oasis (our church) where we can set our affections on things that are eternal, not only when we assemble together, but also in our daily sojourn here on earth. We appreciate Bro. Perry's efforts and writings in regard to the history of our precious faith.

United in marriage on June 30 were Jennifer Wales and Christopher Finch. Their parents are Sis. Carol Wales and Dale and Charlotte Finch (Ramona, CA). We wish them God's presence and blessing on their future together.

May God's richest blessings be

with Bro. Myreon Menold (Bro. James and Sis. Louise, Bern, KS) and Sis. Lori Lehman (Elder Bro. John and Sis. Connie, Bern, KS) as they joined in a threefold cord of marriage with the Lord on July 1 at Bern, KS. We will miss Sis. Lori assembling with us in Kansas City, but we wish her and Bro. Myreon the very best as they continue their pilgrim journey together.

On July 8 our congregation rejoiced when we heard the engagement announcement of Bro. Quinton Snyder (Bro. Greg and Sis. Kara) and Sis. Heather Hitz (Bro. Tom and Sis. Cindy, Detroit, MI). We pray that the Lord will continue to guide this couple as they prepare to begin the rest of their lives together.

On the weekend of July 14, our single group and many invited guests gathered at Shawnee Mission Park to sing praises unto the Lord and hear ministering Bro. Edwin Strahm (Bern, KS) speak on growing in the Lord. Bro. Edwin (Sis. Ramona) and family assembled with us on Sunday and further spiritually fed us. Our many thanks to Bro. Ed.

---

### MISSOURI, LAMAR

**Kristi Huber**

**Kristen Braker**

We appreciate the opportunity we have to hear God's Word proclaimed in truth and sincerity each Sunday. Among those that labored for us were Bros. Brad Gudeman (Bradford, IL), Kenny Knapp (Taylor, MO), and Chris Wuethrich (Francesville, IN). May God's blessings rest upon them.

Jack Thiebaud (Betty) was a hospital patient this past month. May we remember to pray for those who may have physical pain or affliction.

The engagement of Bro. Greg Braker (Bro. Robert and Sis.

Janice Stoller) and Sis. Wendy Edelman (Gene and Judy, Bern, KS) was made known to the congregation on June 17. The wedding is planned for August 5 in Bern, KS. We pray they will feel God's nearness as they seek to do His will.

*Note of Thanks:*

Your love, support, and prayers have been gifts we'll always cherish. Jason is gaining in strength each day. May the Lord richly bless each of you.

In His Love,

*Terri, Jim, and Jason Duncan*

*Bro. Dale and Sis. Corrine  
Marti*

---

### MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS

**Rachel Schrock**

In a recent sermon we were reminded of the story of the ten virgins. These ten souls had received and accepted the invitation to the wedding feast. Thus they represent the church, not the world. After their initial preparations, the ten fell asleep. When the bridegroom came, only fifty percent of them were ready and able to go with him. We were admonished not to fall asleep spiritually but to continually prepare ourselves for the great and notable day of the Lord's return.

We appreciate those who help us to continue our preparations for this great day by lending of themselves in the ministry. Our visiting ministers this past month include Bros. Erik Givens (Sis. Debbie, Princeville, IL), Paul Zimmerman (Sis. Loretta, Forrest, IL) and retired Elder Bro. Ed Lanz (Sis. Joan, Oakville, IA). May God bless each of you for being so willing to labor for Him.

We also extend our blessings towards our dear Sis. Wendi Mathis as she spends her summer in the

Denver, CO, area. We miss having her with us in St. Louis. Thus, our prayers for God's further direction in her life do include a plea for her to be led back to St. Louis so that she may assemble with us once again. May His will become clear to you, Sis. Wendi.

---

### MISSOURI, TAYLOR

**Peg Haerr**

The wedding of John Hoerr (Bro. Don and Sis. Elaine) to Jamie Sublette (Dale and Marsha Elston) took place on July 14. We wish them God's blessings as they begin their new life together.

Bro. James Sutter (Sis. Lois) was hospitalized this month. Our prayers are with him and his family.

Our Bible Class enjoyed fellowship with the Princeville, IL, Bible Class this past month. We're thankful for invitations for our youth to meet other Apostolic Christian youth.

May God bless the following visiting ministers who lended their services in some way this past month: Elder Bro. Ted Witzig (Sis. Cindy, Morton, IL), Bros. John Hartman (Sis. Rosemary, Fairbury, IL), Greg Rassi (Sis. Carla, Chicago, IL), Curt Rassi (Sis. Kathy) and Steve Sauder (Sis. Mary), both from Tremont.

We rejoice with Bro. Marvin and Sis. Joann Wiegand as they celebrate 40 years of marriage! May God continue to bless their life together.

---

### NEW YORK CROGHAN-NAUMBURG

**Anna Mellnitz**

"Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high because he hath known my name. He shall



call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him. With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation."

*Psalm 91:14-16*

On June 19, Elder Bros. Eugene Pamer, Andy Stoller and Kevin Ryan were with us. May God bless them for their willingness to be with us.

On June 25, we had our annual Sunday School wiener roast that was enjoyed by all.

Ministering Bro. Ron Palitto was with us July 1 along with his dear wife, Sis. Lynell, and others from Akron, OH, and brethren from Rockville, CT. We are thankful when those from far come to worship with us. May God bless all those who come to be with us as we are a small congregation. We pray for all our small congregations across the land that the Lord would provide.

Our high school graduate was Heather Greenwood. May God direct our young people in His ways.

Dyan Joseph Virkler - Callahan was born June 10 to Dana Virkler and Patrick Callahan of Utica. He passed away June 29 at Upstate Medical Center at 19 days old. Grandparents are Judy Virkler of Utica and Kendall and Marlene Virkler of Lowville. May God give understanding and comfort to those that have lost loved ones.

---

### **OHIO, AKRON** **Joyce Gasser**

We welcome Sandra Gal and her brother, Emery Gal, who gave their testimonies of their conversion and peace with God and were added to our fellowship on June 23.

Two new babies were born, which we welcome to be with us. Born June 22 was Jacob Everett to parents, Katherine and Bob

Dobrowsky. He has a brother, Alex, and his grandparents are Bro. and Sis. Don Gasser.

Born June 29 was Peter to parents Bro. Jozsef and Sis. Susan Kocsis. He has a brother Jozsef, and his grandparents are Bro. and Sis. Sandor Bako.

Eugene Bako is home from being in the hospital, and we wish him a good recovery.

We appreciated having Elder Bro. Mark and Sis. Jeannine Masters (Mansfield, OH) with us for the weekend and Bro. Mark ministering to us.

---

### **OHIO, COLUMBUS** **Nancy Banks**

Our small congregation rejoices with the happy families at the addition of two new baby girls. Brothers, Joshua and Josiah, welcomed little Julie Hope Grimm to their family circle on June 10. Thankful parents are our ministering Bro. John and Sis. Julie Grimm. Julia's grandparents are retired Elder Bro. Ken and Sis. Sue Sauder (Mansfield, OH) and Bro. Earl and Sis. Anna Lou Grimm (Princeville, IL).

On June 23, Bro. Nate and Sis. Anita Steiner were blessed with their firstborn, little Hannah Joy Steiner. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Matt and Sis. Gail Steiner (Rittman, OH) and Bro. Dave and Sis. Connie Maletich (Smithville, OH). May God grant these parents the heavenly wisdom needed to raise these precious children.

We have enjoyed the presence of many visitors this past month. Our sincere appreciation is extended to those ministering brothers who have so willingly served us from the pulpit, including Elder Bro. Mark Masters (Mansfield, OH), and Bros. Vic Baumann (Smithville, OH), Erik Givens (Princeville, IL), Tim Gerber (Mansfield,

OH), Ben Manz (Junction, OH) and Todd Stoller (Latty, OH). May God richly bless these brothers.

---

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

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Bro. John and Trish Rose and their family in the passing of Trish's dad, Bud Smith. May God be with you and grant you comfort and peace as only He can.

Our hospital patients this month were Willie Manz (Bro. Ken and Sis. Gwen), Elaine Manz (John) and Sis. Julia Hale (Bro. Maburn). We trust God will be near each one and grant healing and strength according to His good and perfect will.

---

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

Our brethren have bid farewell to members of their family during the past week. We trust that the Lord will fill the hollows left by their departures. Sis. Viola Schlatter (Bro. Dick) and her family bade farewell to her sister - in-law, Sis. Mildred Huber (Francesville, IN). Bro. Tom Grant (Sis. Delores) and his family parted for the last time on this side of the grave with his sister, Genevieve Vail. Sis. Sharon Keysor (Bro. George) and her family said good-bye to her dad, Carl Zink. Our prayers and sympathy are with each one.

Jesus knows thy sorrow,  
Knows thine every care;  
Knows thy deep contrition,  
Hears thy feeblest prayers;  
Do not fear to trust Him,  
Tell Him all thy grief;  
Cast on Him thy burdens,  
He will bring relief.

*Hymns of Zion #74*

Our congregation wishes the Lord's richest blessings and peace to Bro. Ben and Sis. Kendra Stoller and their daughter, Lucy, as they are leaving the Latty area. As they assemble with the brethren in the LaCrosse congregation, we trust that they will feel the Lord's nearness. We also look forward to their visits in Latty as they come to see Bro. Bill and Sis. Barb and the rest of their family here.

The Lord has spoken through Bros. Bill Waibel (Bay City, MI), Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville, IL), Kent Getz (Elgin, IA) and Nelson Beer (Milford, IN) during their visit to our congregation. May the Lord bless and keep them as they continue to speak the Word in truth and fullness.

We rejoice with Ryan Stoller (Bro. Todd and Sis. Pam) as he has begun his walk of repentance. We welcome him into our young group and trust that the fellowship will serve to encourage and strengthen his faith and trust in God.

Follow me, the Saviour calleth;  
Come to me, I am the way!  
What is lacking I will give you;  
Trust in me and watch and pray!  
Follow me in true submission;  
I have borne all your transgression;  
Learn of me; both great and small,  
Meekly, humbly hear my call.  
*Zion's Harp #95*

The wedding engagement of Bro. Tim Stoller (Bro. Rod and Sis. Leann) to Sis. Kari Beer (Bro. Fred and Sis. Pat, Milford, IN) was announced. May the Lord walk with them and direct their lives and decisions as they make plans to become one in the Lord.

As this issue comes to your home, many of you will be sending your children back to school. Re-

member the most important things to send with them are not lots of new clothes and supplies (even though they will need a few). Most importantly, send them off with your prayers, love and support. Let them know that you'll be thinking of and praying for them and will be waiting to hear about their day when they return!

---

### OHIO, MANSFIELD John and Marci Pfeiffer

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

*Eccles. 3:1*

Bro. John and Sis. Julie Grimm (Columbus, OH) welcomed a precious daughter into their hearts and home. Julia Hope was born on June 10. Julia's brothers are Joshua and Josiah. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Earl and Sis. Anna Lou Grimm (Princeville, IL) and retired Elder Bro. Ken and Sis. Sue Sauder.

We extend our sympathy to Sis. Sieda Hill (Bro. Chip) whose father, Joseph Hoffmann, passed away.

Louie Gerber, the brother of Sis. Edna Eyerly (Bro. Dave), was laid to rest.

Bro. Ora Sauder died at the Rittman Apostolic Christian Nursing Home where he was a resident. His children, Betty Ringer, Randy (Belinda), and Sis. Mary Ann Domka (Bro. Dan), have our sympathy.

May God comfort all of these dear families in their loss.

We remember our loved ones who are or have spent time in the hospital. They are Bro. Richard Sauder (Sis. Caroline), Bro. Art Stuenzi (Sis. Lore), and Bro. Richard Bricker (Sis. Helen). We look to God and continue to pray for those

who are sick and suffer pain.

Our annual Sunday School picnic was held at the home of Bro. Mike and Sis. Florina Baumann. We appreciated the efforts of all who helped make this a blessed event.

Jason Sabo and Nora Schuster were united in marriage on July 7. Jason's parents are Bro. Greg and Sis. Sharon Sabo. Nora's parents are Carl and Lila Schuster. We wish them the Lord's richest blessings and direction as they begin their life together.

This past month we were thankful for the following ministers: Elder Bro. Doug Sabo (Sarasota, FL), and Bros. John Grimm (Columbus, OH), Don Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN), and Ben Manz (Junction, OH).

We rejoice with our convert, Abby Ramsey (Bro. Ed and Sis. Laura), who is at peace with God and man. We look forward to her baptism when we can welcome her as our dear sister in the Lord.

"I know that, whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ever: nothing can be put to it, nor any thing taken from it: and God doeth it, that men should fear before him."

*Eccles. 3:14*

---

### OHIO, RITTMAN Cheryl Hartzler Beth Beery

The last word of a survivor of Auschwitz: "It never occurred to me to question God's doings or lack of doings while I was an inmate of Auschwitz, although, of course, I understand others did...I was no less or no more religious because of what the Nazi's did to us; and I believed my faith in God was not undermined in the least. It never occurred to me to associate the calamity we were experiencing with God, to blame Him or to believe in

Him less or cease believing in Him at all because He didn't come to our aid. God doesn't owe us that, or anything. We owe our lives to Him. If someone believes God is responsible for the death of six million because He didn't somehow do something to save them, he's got his thinking reversed."

—author unknown

Two precious souls have begun to strive to serve the Lord: Benjamin Rufener (Bro. Dan and Sis. Karen) and Laura Stoller (Bro. Greg and Sis. Joy). Our late Elder Bro. Joseph Ramsier used to say at testimonies that "a soul is worth more than the entire contents of this world."

As our Elders tell us often, the second most important step in life is marriage. To become one on September 2 is Bro. Matthew Bauman (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Martha) and Sis. Laura Zollinger (Bro. Ken and Sis. Becky, Smithville, OH). May God give all those whose lives are changing much wisdom and understanding in walking the path-way to Heaven.

Into the lives of three precious couples, a child has been born. On June 23, Bro. Nathan and Sis. Anita Steiner (Columbus, OH) welcomed Hannah Joy. Grandparents to share in the love are Bro. Matthew and Sis. Gail Steiner and Bro. David and Sis. Connie Maletich (Smithville, OH). On June 27, Paige Kathryn joined Scott and Mandy Maibach to brighten their home. Welcoming grandparents are Roger and Cinda Maibach and Tom and Sally McKenzie. Mason Russell joined the family of Travis and Jan Higgins on June 26. Brother, Garrett, along with grandparents, Gary and Peggy Higgins and James and Sis. Joyce Thompson, welcome Mason home, looking forward to care for him.

Truly we are all servants of the living God and appreciate with thankful hearts those who share God's love in encouragement or chastisement. We thank Bros. Todd Zollinger (Silverton, OR) and Randy Gasser (Detroit, MI) and their families for visiting us and for these brothers sharing the Word.

"And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it..."

*I Cor. 12:26*

Hospitalized recently was Bro. Eric Steiner (Sis. Trisha). May he feel God's presence each day and the brethren's support.

When sin entered the earth, the punishment was death. "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned." (Romans 5:12) But, Christ overcame the sting of death, and we are forever indebted to Him. We bid farewell to Mabel Bauman (daughter of the late Bro. John and Sis. Minnie) and Bro. Harold Stoller (Smithville, OH), brother of Bro. Everett Stoller (Sis. Marge), Sis. Lucille Gasser and Bro. Fred Stoller (Sis. Joyce), and what remains is memories.

#### *Precious Memories*

Precious memories, unseen angels,  
Sent from somewhere to my soul;  
How they linger, ever near me,  
And the sacred past unfold.  
Precious memories, How they linger,  
How they ever flood my soul,  
In the stillness of the midnight,  
Precious, sacred scenes unfold.

—J.B.F. Wright

#### **Alice Ramsier**

Graduating from college is Sis. Sara Brake (Bro. Bill and Sis. Miriam). Sis. Sara received a Bachelor of Science degree in Education. We wish Sis. Sara God's continued guidance in her future endeavors.

We have had several visiting ministers this past month. Lending themselves to share the Word of God with us have been Elder Bro. William Schlatter (Junction, OH), Bro. Randy Gasser (Detroit, MI), and Bro. Steven Pamer (Akron, OH). We thank them and their families for visiting us.

Joyfully, joyfully onward I move,  
Bound for the land of bright spir-  
its above!

Angelic choristers sing as I come;  
Meet me with gladness and wel-  
come me home;

Soon with my pilgrimage ended  
below,

Home to the land of delight will I  
go;

Pilgrim and stranger no more  
shall I roam,

Joyfully, joyfully resting at  
home!

*Hymns of Zion # 239*

This was the closing hymn sung to finish up our annual West Virginia church service. Bro. John Steiner (Oakville, IA) and Bro. Todd Zollinger (Silverton, OR) traveled to be with us on this memorable weekend. Bro. John shared with us that his great uncle, Bro. Fred Thomas, was the last active minister in this church. We were reminded of our precious heritage, one that reaches back farther than the little white church on a hill. Ours is a heritage that takes us back to the cross. Thank you to all who traveled to be with us that weekend.

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

We were blessed with several visiting ministers this past month. We thank Bros. Todd Zollinger (Silverton, OR), Tom Leman (Denver CO), and Marvin Dotterer (Forrest, IL) for lending themselves in God's service.

We are happy to report another convert, Craig Dotterer (Bro. Joe and Sis. Rose), has felt the call of God and wishes to turn his life over to Him. Surely there is no higher standing on this earth than to become a child of God, and no better time to begin than in our youthful years. We also rejoice that peace has been granted to Samuel Maibach (Bro. Tim and Sis. Mary). May he continue to feel God's help and grace as he awaits his baptism.

Jock Alan Zollinger arrived on July 8 to bless the home of Mark and Michelle Zollinger. Alissa and Ella also welcome their little brother, as well as grandparents, Bro. John and Sis. Marge Zollinger. We wish God's blessings on this home, and godly wisdom to parents.

June 23 was the date chosen for the wedding of Jim Smith (Dee) and Stacy Ingram. May they always remember to put God first in their marriage.

The engagement and forthcoming marriage of Bro. Matt Bauman (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Martha, Rittman, OH) and Sis. Laura Zollinger (Bro. Ken and Sis. Becky) was made known to us. We wish them God's direction and blessing as they plan for a lifelong union.

We've had several who needed to be hospitalized recently. Sis. Berniece Bauman (Bro. Herbert), Bro. Lloyd Indermuhle (Sis. Vera), and Bro. David Zollinger (Sis. Mary Ann) have all experienced the afflictions of the body. May

each one feel the comfort and healing of the Great Physician.

"Watch ye therefore: for ye know not when the master of the house cometh..."

Mark 13:35

On July 10, Bro. Harold Stoller was suddenly called from this life at the age of 68. Our prayers and sympathy go out to his wife, Sis. Luella, his children, Bro. Doug, Bro. Art, and Bro. Tom (Sis. Gretchen). He also is survived by his brothers and sisters, Bro. Everett (Sis. Marge), Bro. Robert (Sis. Eileen), Bro. Dale (Sis. Jeanette), Bro. Andy (Sis. Roberta), Bro. Fred (Sis. Joyce), Sis. Lucille Gasser, Sis. Carolyn Stoller, Sis. Elma Stoller, and a sister-in-law, Sis. Luzelda Stoller. Many times we do not appreciate the important roles of a brother or sister until they have passed on. Although Bro. Harold was a quiet brother, he exercised his talents in many ways to the benefit of the church. His appreciation for each brother and sister and his deep concern for the "friend of the truth" was so ably expressed in a poem he had written some time ago.

*Something Missing  
In Our Church?*

We gather on a Sunday morn  
And hear the story that Christ  
was born  
And though the world with strife  
is torn  
And the crown they gave Him  
was a thorn.

It doesn't have to be that way  
Just don't let Satan have his way  
Let's often bow our heads and  
pray  
And hear what Jesus has to say.

For in the church we come as  
one  
With each one's help God's work  
gets done  
When burdens seem to weigh a  
ton  
Remember, God sent His only  
Son.

Some are here to preach and  
pray  
And all of us support the way  
That gives us peace and strength  
each day  
And pray not one will go astray.

Some can make the singing go  
And some are there to move the  
snow  
Some are there when there's  
grass to mow  
And some to trim the trees that  
grow.

There are many who teach in  
Sunday School  
Where children are taught the  
Golden Rule  
The words of the Bible is the  
most precious jewel  
For a worthwhile life it's the  
most important tool.

There is someone there to sweep  
the rug  
The children at your heart  
strings tug  
And when you're down someone  
has a hug  
Because at church you're safe  
and snug.

There are some who always have  
a smile  
And some who go the extra mile  
They always help you through a  
trial  
And make this life seem more  
worthwhile.



What would church be without a  
mother  
Their love for a child is like no  
other  
Be it father, sister or brother  
For all their tears in love she'll  
smother.

Like the church needs the Lord,  
a child needs a dad  
Oh please! Don't follow that lat-  
est fad  
Walk just as plain as you can; for  
that little lad  
Will follow your example;  
whether it's good or bad!

The trustees always do their  
share  
The kitchen is always cleaned  
with care  
The aged help if it's only in  
prayer  
And the children help just by be-  
ing there.

But there is something missing  
too  
That often makes us feel blue  
That we love the brothers and  
sisters, it's true  
But, Oh, dear friend! What we're  
missing is you!

*By Harold V. Stoller*

---

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

"...With men this is impossible,  
but with God all things are possi-  
ble."

*Matthew 19:26*

Sis. Colette Harmon (Bro. Howard) has gained strength and is able to assemble with us again. We are reminded of the omnipotence of God as we see His miracle of healing and are thankful for

Colette's presence with us.

Among our recent visitors were Bros. Sam Schlatter (Junction, OH) and Mark Ramsier (Sardis, OH). We appreciate their service in the ministry.

---

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

As the weeks of summer are passing, we have had the pleasure of receiving many visitors. We had the opportunity to meet and greet brethren from out-of-state congregations as well as from nearby Silverton. We are thankful for each and every one. We truly appreciated the ministering brethren and their families who came to Portland this past month. They were Elder Bro. Art Metz (Sis. Betty) and Bros. Ed Knecht (Sis. Judie) and Todd Zollinger (Sis. Michele), all from Silverton, OR. May the Lord bless you all for your unfailing support of our small flock.

A few days ago Sis. Ann Rumbold underwent cataract surgery. As she is recovering, we hope and pray that her vision will be restored. We are thankful that in spite of her high age, Sis. Ann is still able to attend church with us regularly. May the Lord bless and heal her.

We wish everyone a wonderful summer and safe travel. If you are in the area, please come and visit us!

---

**OREGON, SILVERTON**  
**RosaLee Kuenzi**

We are enjoying our summer visitors. It is so encouraging to go to church and meet and greet like-minded brethren visiting from all over the country. Many are here to be with family or friends who now live here and some are taking their summer vacations and have in-

cluded Silverton in their travel plans of the Northwest. When we are all on the same straight and narrow path to our Heavenly goal, it is especially pleasant to share time with our fellow travelers on that pilgrim pathway.

One pilgrim making her beginning on that Christian path is Sis. Penny Hari (Dan). Sis. Penny gave her testimony and was baptized into the family of God in the middle of July. Working together in this wonderful work of the Lord were Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr (Sis. Kathy, West Bend, IA) and Elder Bro. Art Nohl (Sis. Sandra, Morris, MN) and our own Elder Bro. Metz (Sis. Betty). We welcome Sis. Penny and pray for much grace and guidance from our Lord and Saviour Jesus who will always be by her side. Dan and Sis. Penny's little Tyson will be looking to them for his examples in life. May they rely on the Lord for direction and strength to do the right thing.

This same weekend, carefully following the directions clearly written in the Bible, a brother of the Silverton congregation was called upon to take up the responsibility of the ministry. Bro. Harvey Kuenzi was asked to assume this duty. Bro. Harvey and Sis. Jennifer received good words of exhortation and encouragement from the three Elder brothers here. On Sunday, Bro. Harvey and Sis. Jennifer stood with Sis. Penny Hari as the congregation was given the opportunity to extend their love, support and encouragement to them. Bro. Harvey, Sis. Jennifer and young family, Nicole, Lorraine, Logan, Jeanelle, Leanne and Byron, will be relying on the Lord for His strength and guidance. We will keep them all in our thoughts and prayers, now and in the years ahead.

In other news this month, there

were two engagements announced. Marvin Kuenzi (Bro. Nick and Sis. Mary) and Lana Grimm (Bro. Rod and Sis. Arlene) of Sabetha, KS, have made known their plans to marry. They are planning a wedding for September 8 in the Sabetha Apostolic Christian Fellowship Center.

Scott Zollinger (Bro. Ed and Sis. Shirley) and Bethany Edelman (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Linda) of Bern, KS, have shared their plans for marriage. They have chosen December 29 as the wedding date. The wedding is planned to take place in the Sabetha Apostolic Christian Fellowship Center.

May the Lord bless these two young couples as they plan their weddings together and more importantly as they begin their lives as husband and wife.

We are very thankful for our visiting ministers this past month. They were Elder Bros. Wayne Fehr and Art Nohl. May they feel the nearness of our Lord and the inspiration and courage of the Holy Spirit, especially in the coming weeks when our Elders meet for the annual Brotherhood Conference. Our prayers are with them, our own Elder Bro. Art Metz and with all the Elder body as they consider the needs and concerns of the Church.

---

**PENNSYLVANIA  
PHILADELPHIA**

**Nathan and  
MaryElizabeth Gasser**

As the end of summer approaches, many of us are getting ready to go back to school, some to grade school, some to college, and some as teachers going back to school for another year of teaching. A former boss used to talk about our company going "back to school" at the end of the summer. He meant that the pace is a little

slower during the summer, and everyone is paying less attention to the work they have to do, thinking instead about relaxing and enjoying the sun. To him, going back to school meant taking our jobs more seriously, putting aside thoughts of vacations, and keeping our minds focused on work. As Christians, our work is serving our God and ministering to those around us. And while God understands our need for rest (He invented taking a day off!), He also wants us to go "back to school" and focus our efforts again on serving Him.

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

*Hymns of Zion #46*

This month we were blessed to have many visitors worship with us, including ministering Bros. Everett Gerber (Rockville, CT) and Dwight Stoller (Latty, OH), along with their families. We are thankful for faithful servants who minister God's Word to us.

---

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

What a joy it is to see our young people grow to maturity, especially when they have placed their lives and their future in the hands of our loving, omniscient, omnipotent Lord. Our daughter, Sis. Cheree Fritz (Bro. Mike and Sis. Monica), recently graduated from high school, and looks forward to a life of continued service to Christ, wherever He leads.

The Living Word, brought to us by willing ministering brothers, has truly blessed us in this past month. We have been encouraged in our daily walk through the ministry of Bros. Clark Stoller (Sis. Cindy, Gridley, IL), Frank Sauder

(Sis. Kathy, Roanoke, IL), and Neil Ramseyer (Sis. Sharon, Bay City, MI). We are also thankful for the visit of retired Elder Bro. Don Sauder (Roanoke, IL). In addition, we have been privileged to enjoy the fellowship of brethren and friends from Cissna Park, Elgin, and Roanoke, IL; Francesville, Milford, Remington, South Bend, and Wolcott, IN; Kansas City, MO; and Akron and Smithville, OH.

If you are traveling in or through the Nashville area, please plan to worship with us. We now have a visiting minister scheduled for every Sunday. The following churches are scheduled for services in the near future: Mansfield, OH (8/19); Indianapolis, IN (8/26); Peoria, IL (9/2); Lamar, MO (9/9); Milford, IN (9/16); Oakville, IA (9/23); Elgin, IL (9/30). We also meet on Wednesday evenings for a song service. 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.

---

**TEXAS, CENTRAL**  
**Dale and Amy Ringger**

A sermon note:

"Now all these things were written for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come." I Corinthians 10:11 was read in a sermon. The week before we had heard that an ensample (based on the Greek definition) is always a real event told so that we might learn from it. On the other hand, the word "example", which is also used in the New Testament, can be a real or hypothetical event, possibly a "metaphor" intended for our learning.

Another sermon note:

Ezekiel 16:49, "Behold, this was the iniquity of thy sister Sodom, pride, fulness of bread, and abundance of idleness was in her and in her daughters, neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy." From this real event, we can see how one sin led to another and caused increasing ungodliness.

We are glad to have Kevin Stoller gather with us in Central Texas. He has recently moved to the Houston area for work.

Brethren who have preached the Word of God in past Sundays include Bros. Steve Baner (Sis. Donna Lou, Gridley, IL), Gene Lehman (Sis. Verna, Wolcott, IN), Herb Knochel (Sis. Laurie, Phoenix, AZ), Leland Plattner (Zapata, TX) and Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Sis. Marcella, Francesville, IN). We also had fellowship with visitors from Eureka, Peoria and Roanoke.

September's schedule of ministers for Central Texas services are these: September 2 - Akron, OH; September 9 - Oakville, IA; September 16 - Zapata, TX; September 23 - Taylor, MO; and September 30 - Rittman, OH.

We continue to meet for services 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 southwest side access road.

We extend a welcome for anyone who may be in the area to worship with us. Also, let us know if you would be available for fellowship on Saturday or Sunday evening or during the week. 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 and Bro. Dale and Sis. Amy Ringger (512) 933-1380.

### TEXAS, ZAPATA Joyce Nohl

We are experiencing very hot weather this month. Although we have had a few rain showers this year, the drought is still very real. The current rains haven't helped to restore the reservoirs to normal. We put our trust in God that He will supply the rain when needed. It is during times like these that we realize just how dependent we are on His continual love and care for His children.

We are very few in number during the summer months and always enjoy the fellowship with those that are able to come worship with us. We invite and encourage any that are traveling through this area to come visit us.

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

—Author unknown

We pray God will be with those who have endured bodily afflictions since their return home. May the Lord heal each one according to His perfect will.

Note: Sis. Wilma Pulfer will have the Zapata church cookbooks available at the Zapata reunion on September 15-16 at Athens, AL. The proceeds will go to the Zapata church charity fund. The price is \$10.00.

*Following is an article submitted by Sis. Jennifer Kellenberger about the work being done in Rio Bravo, Mexico:*

Apostolic Christian work teams to Rio Bravo, Mexico

In February of the year 2000 the first AC work team headed to Rio Bravo, Mexico, to work with International Christian Centers for the Deaf (ICCD), otherwise known as Mexico, Centros Cristianos para Sordomudos (MCCS). I was fortunate enough to have been on that team. The team was led by Bro. Chad Lantz (Bluffton, IN) and the team minister was Bro. Ted Hirstein (Morton, IL). There were 29 of us from various churches and we had a wonderful time as we worked together helping in the construction of the school for the deaf children of Rio Bravo.

In June of 2000, the second AC work team arrived in Rio Bravo for a week of hard work in the hot sun. The team was led by Bro. Marvin and Sis. Gail Hodel (Peoria, IL) and the team minister was Bro. Lynn Fiechter (Bluffton, IN). It truly was a blessing for me to be in Mexico again. It was on that trip that I first felt God was really calling me to Rio Bravo, Mexico, to serve in the mission field. God paved the way and by November of 2000 I had packed my bags and headed to Rio Bravo to serve as an administrative assistant with ICCD/MCCS. I cannot even begin to describe how much of a blessing it has been to serve here in Mexico.

Since my arrival we had had four other AC work teams, each of which has been a special blessing. I look forward to the arrival of each AC team. In March, two AC teams came to help in the construction of the Rio Bravo campus. The first was led by Bro. Todd Fiechter (Bluffton, IN) and the team minister was Elder Bro. Jesse "Bud" Beer (Milford, IN). Then two weeks later, another AC team arrived. Bro. Todd Fiechter served at ICCD/MCCS for the entire month of March and served again as team

leader for the second team. Elder Bro. Steve Gutwein (Francesville, IN) served as the team minister and on Sunday, we were also blessed with the presence of Bro. Leland Plattner from the Zapata, TX, church. Both of these AC teams accomplished a great deal of work, and they specifically worked on the construction of a maintenance building, which has been donated entirely by World Relief.

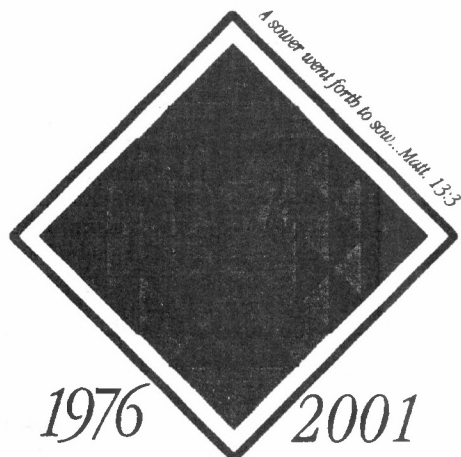
Summer time is our busiest time down here in Rio Bravo due to the large number of work teams that come down. We have work teams here almost every week throughout the summer. We have been blessed with several young people who have volunteered to work with us for the summer. Two of the summer staffers are from the AC church: Sis. Janel Blunier (Goodfield, IL) and Sis. Maria Kellenberger (Washington, IL). Janel is using her sign language skills to work in the school and is also serving as the volunteer dorm supervisor. Maria is in charge of the kitchen, which is a huge task, especially considering that we

have teams of up to 150 people. It is quite a feat to make sure things run smoothly in the kitchen when you are feeding that many people. Both of the girls have done an excellent job and have been a blessing to have around. The rest of the summer staff include: Oliver McLemore (Montgomery, AL), Michael Godwin (Brewton, AL) and Phillip Reagan (Montgomery, AL). We have also been blessed with some short-term summer staffers, which include Ruthie Martin (Murfreesboro, TN) and Bethany Parker (Budapest, Hungary). They have all been a huge help to all of us here at ICCD/MCCS.

In June, our first summer teams arrived, two of which were AC teams. The first team was led by Bro. Joe and Sis. Denise Maller (Bluffton, IN) and consisted of 35 people from 14 different AC churches. There was no team minister; however, we were once again blessed by having Bro. Leland Plattner (Zapata) here with us. The rest of the Zapata congregation also joined us for the Sunday service. We took the team to a

small Mexican church where Bro. Leland had the service. The following week we had a team of 27 here with us, all of which were from Leo, IN. We were blessed to have two team ministers, Elder Bro. Lynn Stieglitz and Bro. Brace Wieland. The teams worked hard on the maintenance building and on the children's dormitory, which will eventually be home to 150 deaf children.

What a blessing it is to have so many people give of their time and money to work for the deaf of Mexico. We praise God for all of you who have been part of an AC work team to Rio Bravo. All of us here at ICCD/MCCS hope you will return some day soon to continue in the work here. We look forward to the future AC work teams that will come to Rio Bravo. All of the work teams are truly a blessing and we praise God for the work He continues to do here at ICCD/MCCS and also in the lives of the deaf children and all of the volunteers that come to serve.



GATEWAY WOODS  
Apostolic Christian Children's Home

## Events August 18, 2001

*Don't eat breakfast on your own!*

**7:30 a.m.** Hot breakfast begins

(breakfast sandwiches, fruit, rolls, coffee)

**7:30 a.m.** Pre-priced Crafts begins

**7:30 a.m.** Bake Sale begins

**8:30 a.m.** Gateway Woods presentations

**9:00 a.m.** Auctions begin

**12:00 p.m.** Specialty Items Auction



*Sermon continued from page 2*

lished our faith as we know it today, said, "John the Baptist preached repentance. The Lord Jesus preached repentance. It is our obligation to preach repentance likewise."

Here we read it together that Jesus said, "...except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." (Luke 13:5). We are thankful for everyone that can believe in these Scriptures and that can, by the grace of God, be able to repent, acknowledge their sin, acknowledge their lost condition and their need of a Saviour.

Come to the foot of the cross and humble yourself before His Almighty hand, and He will lift you up. A broken and contrite spirit, the Lord will not reject. (See Psalm 51:17). So we are thankful for His Word and for His teachings.

We read here another very important passage. "He spake also this parable; A certain man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came and sought fruit thereon, and found none. Then said he unto the dresser of his vineyard, Behold, these three years I come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and find none: cut it down; why cumbereth it the ground?" (Luke 13:6-7). We could compare this to a soul that would continually put it off, and that finally, He would say, "Cut it down."

But we are so thankful for the love, and the mercy, and the longsuffering of God and that He is still extending His day of grace.

We believe that so it was even in the lives of many throughout the generations that if it were not for the longsuffering of God, that He could have tired in calling them from time to time. But He was willing to be patient and longsuffering and gave them more time so that they would finally surrender.

The time is going to come when the Lord will say "to here and no further." As the tree falls, then so shall it lie. Our wish and our prayer is that all of you, dear friends, that have not yet surrendered your hearts, that you would have this

prayer. We would encourage you to have this prayer within your heart.

The hymnwriter wrote, "Jesus Saviour, hear my humble cry; While on others Thou art calling, do not pass me by." The Lord will not pass anyone. But He is beckoning. He is "...longsuffering to usward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance" and the knowledge of the truth. (II Peter 3:9)

We would encourage everyone that when you hear that call to heed the call. You are in the midst of God's people today and hearing the kind invitation, "Come unto me, all ye that labour (are weary) and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest for your soul." (Matthew 11:28)

We have every reason to believe that there are many, many souls gathered with us even this afternoon that would have a longing and a desire to have that surrendered heart, but the enemy has ways and means in causing you to put it off until some more convenient day.

We have every reason to believe that you, our dear old friends, who have surrendered your hearts, are thankful that God has given you grace to repent. Likewise, to the dear young converts, how wonderful it is when you in your tender years of life can surrender your hearts unto the Lord.

We would say to the youth, that you are our hope and fond expectation. Hark to the voice which is calling a kind invitation, and obey the hand which often has pointed the way to our dear Saviour's salvation.

To those who have come to their older years of life, we would encourage you to not put it off another day because it is not worth taking the chance. What if the Lord would say, "Cut it down, Why cumbereth it the ground?"

If a person is willing to surrender, the Word teaches us that they who come in the eleventh hour will have the same reward as those who went through the heat and burden of the

day. We are thankful that God has promised that in His Word because we are thankful for every soul that can come in the eleventh hour and still receive that eternal reward.

But see how many years have lapsed that you were not able to enjoy the peace and love of God, and that could have been yours if you would have only surrendered. But thanks be to God that He has given to those who have surrendered, the grace to surrender. We plead for those who have not yet surrendered. There are many, many that should yet be saved.

We heard this morning that only God knows when He will make an end of all things, or when He will come and call His church, or when He will begin the great tribulation. We have no promise that we will not endure trials and tribulations. We might even experience a measure of tribulation.

When we look and search the Word, we can see that everything is pointing to that time when the Lord will return. We are thankful that the waters have been troubled and that souls are turning to the Lord.

We can read in that one chapter that when the waters were troubled, an impotent man was there for many years but could not step in because someone stepped in before him. (See John 5:2-9). We are thankful that is not the case today. Just because someone else turned to the Lord, that did not exempt anyone that wants to repent.

"Whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely." (Rev. 22:17)

It says here, "And ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan hath bound, lo, these eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath day?" (Luke 13:16). Jesus saw this woman and had said, "Woman, thou art loosed from thine infirmity." (Luke 13:12)

Right away the Pharisees murmured because Jesus healed on the Sabbath day. How sad it is that the

enemy can work such in the hearts of people. No doubt that was the work of Satan in the heart of that Pharisee, and then he murmured because Jesus did good on the Sabbath day. But Jesus said, "Thou hypocrite, doth not each one of you on the Sabbath loose his ox or his ass from the stall, and lead him away to watering? And ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan hath bound, lo, these eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath day? And when he had said these things, all his adversaries were ashamed: and all the people rejoiced for all the glorious things that were done by him. Then said he, Unto what is the kingdom of God like? and whereunto shall I resemble it? It is like a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and cast into his garden; and it grew, and waxed a great tree; and the fowls of the air lodged in the branches of it." (Luke 13:15-19)

So it is when a soul surrenders their life. They hardly know which way to turn. They do not know what is required of them, but they know that they need to repent. If they come to the Lord Jesus at the foot of the cross and commit their life and their all unto Him, then He will unfold and He will increase their faith and He will give grace and obedience to His Word and His teaching.

That is why we have to search the Word and give heed to the entire Word of God. We are thankful that our faith is not based upon any one certain passage of Scripture, but it is based upon the entire Word of God. The Old Testament is for our learning and admonition and we can see how God dealt with sin and iniquity. The Apostle Paul said that the children of Israel were examples to us of how God dealt with them (See I Cor. 10:6). So it is in the New Testament. We have to be followers and faithful servants of His. May God give each one of us that necessary grace so that we might be led by His Spirit into all truth.

In another passage of Scripture, the Apostle Paul reminds us, "Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard," considering the whole Word of God, "lest at any time we should let them slip. For if the Word spoken by angels was stedfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense of reward; How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him." (Hebrews 2:1-3)

We are thankful that (even though we have not heard the words of the Saviour) we have His Word recorded. Then we have the words of the apostles recorded and it was confirmed by those who heard them how the apostles were endowed by the Spirit of God to teach and preach and to be the proper examples. God expects no less from you and me. We, in this generation, even in 1988, God requires of us that we will be those examples.

Where we fail, may God reveal it to us so that we can all be that proper example and that we might be a help to those yet outside of the fold so that they will be brought into the Inn. The Inn is where they can hear the Word and where they can be convicted and then find the Lord, and make a covenant with God to be faithful and true even until life's end.

We are thankful for the provisions. We are thankful for the heritage that is ours. We are thankful for every soul that has come into the faith and have been exposed to the Word and that they could come and taste and see. Many have experienced and testified that when they heard the truth, they were convicted and then they came to the knowledge of the truth.

All this has to be revealed by God Himself. We are only instruments in God's hands. We, as the body of believers, are the salt of the earth. If

the salt has lost its savour, where-with shall it be seasoned? (See Matt. 5:13). May we be a light in the world and walk as though it were our last.

But we must occupy until the Lord comes. (See Luke 19:13). We cannot wait and think, "The Lord is soon coming so we will just lay our hands in our laps." That we cannot do. He said one time that we should work and labor as though we will live here a long time. Still at the same time, live today as though it were the last. If we can do that, as we heard this morning, then we will watch and pray.

In another chapter of Luke's gospel, it says, "Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man." (Luke 21:36)

In the conclusion, it says, "The same day there came certain of the Pharisees, saying unto him, Get thee out, and depart hence: for Herod will kill thee. And he said unto them, Go ye, and tell that fox, Behold, I cast out devils, and I do cures to day and to morrow, and the third day I shall be perfected. Nevertheless I must walk to day and to morrow, and the day following: for it cannot be that a prophet perish out of Jerusalem. O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, which killest the prophets, and stonest them that are sent unto thee; how often would I have gathered thy children together, as a hen doth gather her brood under her wings, and ye would not! Behold, your house is left unto you desolate: and verily I say unto you, Ye shall not see me, until the time come when ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord." (Luke 13:31-35)

He was speaking here to the children of Israel. "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem ... how often would I have gathered thy children together, as a hen doth gather her brood under her wings, and ye would not!" (Luke

*Sermon continued on next page...*

*Sermon continued from page 45*

13:34). I believe if Jesus were here today, He would say that to our generation ... to even the Gentile generation that refuse Him.

"How often have I wanted to gather you in, and ye would not." May none that are here, or none that should have been here and are not, be of those that would have to hear those words. But may we be of those that hear, "Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord." (Luke 13:35)

May we search the Lord. May we find the Lord. May we be of those that keep His Word.

The first Psalm says, "Blessed is the man that walked not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But His delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper. The ungodly are not so: but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away. Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. For the Lord knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish." (Psalm 1:1-6)

May those words from the Psalmist sink deep into our hearts. May we look to the Lord Jesus Christ for our strength and for our help. Then we will be blessed.

"Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil." (Eccles. 12:13-14)



## World Relief Haiti

Previous articles in the Silver Lining outlined the focus of the World Relief efforts and the organizations we, as a National Church, work with in Haiti. This article will focus on the experiences in Haiti from the viewpoint of a work team volunteer. While the work, emotions and spiritual experiences of each volunteer is different, the basis of this report is personal experience and discussions with other volunteers over many years.

As with any work undertaken in the vineyard of the Lord, if we approach the work with the humble heart of a servant, God will bless.

**The decision to participate:** Haiti is a country of contrasting extremes. Side by side, throughout the country is prosperity and poverty, wealth and want, the 21<sup>st</sup> century and 19<sup>th</sup> century practices, and a culture steeped in a blend of African roots, French colonialism and modern western influences. When one hears of the great physical need in Haiti, given our abundance in America, we are moved to help. First time participants decide to participate on a work team by this desire to help. Returning work team members are drawn for additional reasons, which is difficult to place into words. Hopefully as you read further, you will understand the depth of the reasons. Regardless of first time travelers or experienced work team members, the primary decision factor should be prayer. We do not understand the depth of God nor His will for our lives, but if we approach this work in prayer, God will provide direction on our participation.

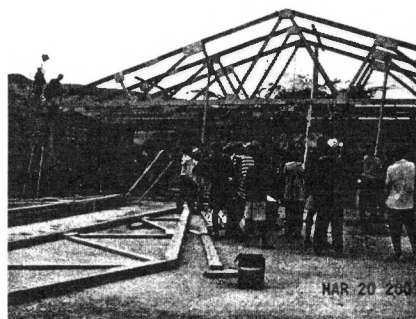
The work in Haiti is not a vacation. There is a great deal of work to be done. Specialized skills are not necessary for most of the work teams, yet one should be willing to work wherever the needs are and the Lord leads. The work can be hard, especially if you do not routinely perform physical labor. Yet there is always some task available for each person's ability. Likewise, the travel and living conditions in Haiti are vastly different from our lifestyles in the US. When work teams travel to remote villages to work, the accommodations are more primitive than our campgrounds in State Parks.

**Preparation for the Trip:** Without seeming redundant, the most effective preparation one can focus on is prayer. We make preparation for what to wear, what to leave behind, our tools needed, etc. All reasonable considerations. But if our heart and minds are not in concert with the heart of God, we will miss many blessings on the trip. A first time team member to Haiti recalled looking at the new roof put on a school for a poor rural community, what a wonderful job he and the other

brothers had done, helping these poor and disadvantaged people. God immediately convicted his heart by reminding him that the work is God's and the talents men used to build the roof were given of God.

**Arrival in Haiti:** Deplaning in Haiti is an experience. Not your modern International Airports, Haiti has one concrete strip used for landing, take off and taxi. Chaos awaits as you pass through immigration, customs and onto the street. This has improved greatly in the past several years, yet upon leaving the terminal building, there is a flock of Haitian workers willing to carry your bags or simply watch your bags; for a fee of course. Traveling in the back of a truck or the newly acquired van, one begins to experience the sites, sounds and smells of Haiti. Roads are rough. In many areas, the pavement on the main roads has been destroyed by heavy use and lack of repair. Throughout most of Haiti, the roads are not paved. Traveling distances which would take one or two hours in the States will take four to eight hours. Some areas are so remote that vehicle travel is impossible. Mule and foot prove to be the most effective way to travel.

The food of the Haitian people is likewise very different. Rice and beans are a staple at every meal. While in the villages, the adventuresome diner can experience many unique foods such as goat, or new ways to prepare standard foods such as turkey. Fruits abound in the country of Haiti, which always adds a sweet touch to every meal. In the guesthouses in Les Cayes and Port Au Prince, conventional western cuisine is served. As stated previously the work is hard, yet rewarding. The Haitian people



have a willingness to help, especially when it comes to pounding nails and sawing lumber with power tools. The World Relief work team projects generally consist of installing roofs on schools, building benches, painting and other odd jobs. The agricultural work teams also provide specialized care for the agricultural industry such as conducting seminars, agronomy and animal veterinary care.

**The tie that binds:** We sing in Hymn 156 "Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian Love; The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above." A lasting memory of trips to Haiti is the Christian Friendships made. Quite often, many of the work team participants have never met, yet there is that immediate bond of the love of Christ. Reunions and friendships have lasted for many years following a trip. Most importantly is the friendships made with the Haitian people. Though we are very different from the Haitians culturally and economically, we have one important element in common. The shed blood of Jesus brings victory to all peoples of the world. The

*Sermon continued from page 49*

## 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						
ORG.	DATE	AREA	COORDINATOR	PROJECT	CAPACITY	PERCENT FILLED
AWA-FRW	Oct 18-26, '01	Les Cayes	Duane Schieler	Voc. School	4	100%
AWA-T	Oct. 18-26, '01	Les Cayes	Derek Sauder	Water Aid	5	100%
AWA-B	Oct. 18-26, '01	Les Cayes	Bill Rager	Voc. School	2	100%
MEBSH	Nov. 29 - Dec. 7, '01	Les Cayes	Phil Isabel	Grade School	9	0%
MEBSH	Jan. 4-11, '02	Les Cayes	Craig Emch	Grade School	9	0%
AWA-FRW	Jan. 17-25, '02	Les Cayes	Duane Schieler	Voc. School	4	100%
AWA-T	Jan. 17-25, '02	Les Cayes	Derek Sauder	Water Aid	5	100%
AWA-B	Jan. 17-25, '02	Les Cayes	Bill Rager	Voc. School	2	100%
SEED	Jan. 24 - Feb. 1, '02	Les Cayes	Robert Beebe	Agriculture Aid	9	0%
MEBSH	Jan. 31 - Feb. 8, '02	Les Cayes	Dean Pashak	Grade School	9	0%
Palm Grove	Feb. 15-23, '02	Les Cayes	Tom Hitz	Grade School	11	100%
SEED	Mar. 7-15, '02	Les Cayes	Robert Beebe	Agriculture Aid	9	0%
MEBSH	Mar. 14-22, '02	Les Cayes	Jim Walter	Grade School	9	0%
Palm Grove	TBD	Puit Sales	Tom Hitz	Grade School	11	0%
MEBSH	May 16-24, '02	Les Cayes	Phil Isabel	Grade School	9	0%
AWA-FRW	May 9-17, '02	Les Cayes	Duane Schieler	Voc. School	4	100%
AWA-T	May 9-17, '02	Les Cayes	Derek Sauder	Water Aid	5	100%
AWA-B	May 9-17, '02	Les Cayes	Bill Rager	Voc. School	2	100%
JAMAICA						
CCCD	(* Jan 2-11, '02	Montego Bay	Mark Criss	Deaf School	50/60	(*) 50%
CCCD	(** Mar 8-16	Kingston	Terry Miller	Deaf School	40	(*) 10%
CCCD	(** Mar 8-16	Deaf Village	(*) Nate Wiegand	Work Place	40	(*) 25%
CCCD	(*) Mar 17 - Apr. 5, '02	Kingston	(*) (1) Roanoke Bible Class	Deaf School	50/60	80%
CCCD	May 17-25, '02	Deaf Village	Kevin Sauder - TBA	Work Place	40	(*) 15%
CCCD	May 31-June 8, 02	Deaf Village	(*) (2) Taylor/Princeville BC	Work Place	50/60	100%
CCCD	(*) July 6-13, '02	Knockpatrick	(*) (3) Mansfield Bible Class	Deaf School	40	80%

**CCCD**=Caribbean Christian Center for the Deaf  
**MEBSH** = Missions of Evangelical Baptists of South Haiti  
**Palm Grove** = Mission of Haiti  
**S.E.E.D.** = An Agricultural School & Extension Service  
**TBA** = To Be Announced  
**Palm Grove** = Mission of Haiti  
**A.W.A. - B.**= Apostolic Water Aid/Bluffton

**A.W.A. - FRW** = Apostolic Water Aid/Francesville, Remington, Wolcott  
**A.W.A. - T** = Apostolic Water Aid/Tremont  
**(\*)** = Changes or additions since last issue  
**(\*\*)** = Spring Break Timeframe

COORDINATOR	PHONE	FAX	E-MAIL
Bob Beebe	219-291-2158	219-299-8173	robertebb@lightdog.com
(*) (1) Kevin Fisher	309-923-7684		
(*) (2) Kent Heimer	573-393-2440	573-769-5516	janheimer@hotmail.com
Tom Hitz	734-454-9229	734-454-9259	thitzhome@juno.com
Phil Isabel	219-261-3541	219-261-2885	
Mark Criss	309-693-2532		redemed1@aol.com
Craig Emch	330-939-4591	330-939-4591	
Terry Miller	309-747-2212 or 941-485-4302		tbmiller@mymailstation.com
Dean Pashak	517-662-7685	517-662-7099	
Bill Rager	419-263-2989		
Derek Sauder	309-925-7502		
Kevin Sauder	309-925-2409	309-925-2409	ksss@dpc.net
Duane Schieler	765-567-2922	765-567-2922	
Jim Walter	815-692-3158	815-692-2851	
(*) (3) Pete Webel	419-756-2587	815-692-2851	
(*) Nate Wiegand	309-744-5252		NATEWIEG@hotmail.com



**- NOTICE -**

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

**WE DO NOT ACCEPT ZION'S  
HARP HYMNALS SINCE WE DO  
NOT HAVE ANY PLACE TO DIS-  
TRIBUTE THEM.**

Please get your books to us or  
the Goodfield World Relief Cen-  
ter.

Books are mainly distributed to  
India, Philippines, and Africa.

Jerry and Arlene Banwart  
Box 181 C, 307 W. First St.  
Congerville, IL 61729  
(309) 448-2416

### **Apostolic Christian Counseling Services**

73 East Queenwood Rd,  
Morton, IL 61550  
309-263-5536 (local#)  
309-263-6841 (fax)

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

*Counseling for depression, anxi-  
ety, relationship problems, etc...*

- Information about mental health issues and relationship problems
- Referrals to qualified mental health professionals in your area
- Telephone consultations with a counselor
- Staffed by professional counselors and registered nurses
- All calls are strictly confidential

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

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

Bryan Stoller  
817 S. Locust  
Pontiac, IL 61764

### **Gateway Woods Auction**

Saturday, August 18, 2001

### **Call To Subscribe**

Please call the Gateway Woods'  
Office at 888/443-4283 to receive  
The Gate Post, a free newsletter  
about Gateway Woods published  
three times yearly.

### **NOTICE - BOOKSTORE HOURS**

The Apostolic Christian Book-  
store will be open on Friday eve-  
ning, August 10, 2001, from  
4:30pm to 6:30pm. This is the day  
of the General Brotherhood Con-  
ference.

If you would have an order,  
please place it early so the book-  
store can have it prepared for  
pickup.

We now have large print, spiral  
bound Hymns of Zions available.  
The cost is \$14.50 per book.

### **MEXICO WORKTEAMS 2001**

**MEDICAL TEAMS 2001**

**JUAREZ or  
COPPER CANYON  
August 29 - Sept. 5**

Contact Sis. Cheryl Herrmann  
309-385-1082

### **BIBLE DISTRIBUTION**

*The Bible Distribution Center which  
was formerly in Leo, IN has been  
moved to Bluffton, IN.*

All books, including Bibles, in English and other languages, plus  
Bible Story Books which have been approved by the Apostolic  
Christian Mission Committee, are available for those who wish to  
distribute them in the name of Jesus Christ.

The book inventory is computerized, and the personnel at  
Bluffton can drop ship to nearly any address.

*To order, contact,*  
Apostolic Christian Church  
**Bible Distribution**

PO Box 30  
1254 S. Main Street  
Bluffton, IN 46714  
Phone and Fax 219/824-5587  
E-mail: biblelist@parlorcity.com

*Sermon continued from page 46*

Haitian people do not forget us, nor do we forget them.

**The work in the future:** Once again this year, God has provided the funds for materials for work teams and the schedules have been set. If you are considering participating, pray that God will lead your heart. If you are unable to participate, or do not feel led of God to participate, pray for those of your local congregation who may be going.

As a Church, let's pray that God will bless His work this year, and that hearts and souls will be touched into His service. Pray that the Elders and National Committee Members be of one mind and accord with the work and will provide sound council. Pray that the Caribbean Board be given wisdom to discern the heart of God and make wise choices in the use of His money. Pray that the work team coordinators be of a

humble spirit to lead the teams in accordance with our faith and doctrine. Pray for the work team members to have a safe and blessed trip. Pray that the Haitian people will see Jesus in the lives and hearts of each one of our team members.

A closing scripture sums it up nicely. "Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it." Ps 127:1.



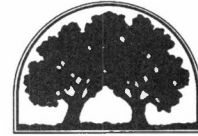
## **Gateway Woods Illinois Family Services Central Illinois Local Work Team Projects**

Over the years, more and more of our people are getting involved in work projects in other countries such as Jamaica, Mexico, and Haiti. Brethren and friends, young and old, have received many blessings as a result of these work team experiences. At the same time, it has been observed that there are also many needs right here in our own communities.

Last year, Illinois Gateway Woods Family Services organized and successfully completed a Local Work Team Project of this type in an attempt to bring the work team experience closer to home without the need for traveling thousands of miles. Arrangements were made for the volunteers to stay together over night at a church family's home simulating the remote work - team experience. Other volunteers furnished the noon and evening meals. The workers had evening devotions with a minister present, just like is practiced in Haiti and Jamaica. The project involved reroofing an older woman's home that had recently adopted her two great grandchildren. The time spent working and fellowshiping was a blessing to all participants.

At the recent Elder Conference, the counseling Elders from both the Illinois Gateway Woods Family Services and World Relief met and approved a proposal for encouraging these local work projects, and the Illinois Gateway Woods Family Services program has been given permission to coordinate a local work project in any of the Central Illinois church communities. Letters have been sent to the Elders offering coordination of such projects, and Elders choosing to participate can initiate an invitation. The projects will follow the same guidelines established for the overseas work teams with regard to who can participate and the expectations for the workers.

We have already been given a van and a job trailer which we hope to fill with tools and travel around Central Illinois this summer using God's people, and our blessings to let our good works so shine before men that they may see our good works and glorify our Father which is in Heaven. We look forward to seeing many of you this summer and thank you in advance for your participation in this exciting opportunity.

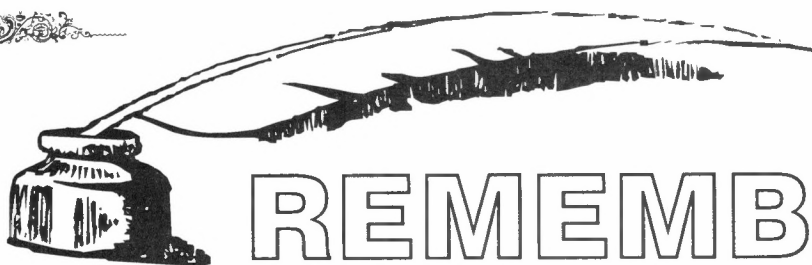


## **TEACHERS**

Gateway Woods is excited to announce teacher openings at Gateway Woods School. Our school is an accredited education program, serving students who are having difficulty being successful in public school. We are accepting applications now for teacher openings beginning in the summer. Qualifications include a Bachelor's Degree in Education and work experience in the education field. Special Education Certification would be especially useful. If you hold these qualifications and have a heart for children, please ask the Lord if this is the position He has in mind for you. This is an excellent opportunity to do mission work in the U.S. For more information, please contact one of the brothers listed below.

Jeff Schumacher  
Residential Program Director  
PO Box 151  
Leo, IN 46765  
(219) 627-2159

Lynn Stieglitz  
Counseling Elder  
15417 Doty Road  
New Haven, IN 46774  
(219) 493-6711



# REMEMBERING

## *Our Spiritual Heritage*

The work of the church in Switzerland continues on. Bro. Froehlich has begun establishing congregations based on the Word's messages. As he and other devout, converted brothers preached directly from the Scriptures — and heralded the truths of repentance and conversion — souls in many places began to repent. In time, they were baptized and live unitedly in brotherhood.

In 1947, Henry Michel, a Swiss minister, made a historical presentation at Lake Bloomington, IL. He summarized the origins of Bro. Samuel Froehlich's work, and the subsequent development.

This column ends the European phase of the work of forming new churches.

### **Establishing Churches**

Let me relate a story about Bro. Froehlich: He was hungry at noon and went into a restaurant in a small village to have a meal. He started to speak with the proprietor, a lady. He spoke of the Gospel, and she said, "Oh, I know somebody who is interested; he lives on the next farm."

He went to the next farm and spoke there, and a church was started. He went to the next village where there was a restaurant and a big hall for dancing. Do you know that a dance hall is a wonderful place for a church? It became a church.

These people became converted and changed this dance hall into a church, and it was a church for perhaps 15 years, until it was too small. But that is the way they were working. That is the reason why we have congregations.

They never stayed at home to take it easy. They went on the road, and when they had a call of the Spirit of God, they went long distances in spite of all the dangers. So the Gospel came as well to France. The congregations were increasing, and it was wonderful how everything fit together.

### **More Preaching**

Once a young shoemaker came. This young shoemaker had the name of Andrew Braun. He went to a Swiss place, near the border, and found a job with an established shoemaker. The shoemaker was a believer! During the repairing of shoes and the ham-

mering of the soles, he preached the Gospel to this lad. Andrew was a receptive man. He repented and became converted. He went to Strassburg and was baptized; and afterwards he went to Germany (his home country) to his home town and after a very short while, a church existed in that town.

So the Gospel came to Germany. Is not that wonderful? We can be in a town for 50 years and there is no church. But at that time when they were somewhere, after a few months believers were to be found there. My grandfather had to go there to baptize and later Andrew Braun was made an elder at 22 years because they needed him in that country. He came to Strassburg and was ordained an Elder there. So they went this same evening to my great-grandfather's farm to have a meeting. This farm was near the Rhine. During the winter, the Rhine was overflowing and the road was covered with water. But the one of them was a very ambitious man and the one elder took the other elder on his shoulders and they went through the water.

I am sorry I was not present with a camera at that time taking the picture of one elder having the other elder on his shoulders. I think that would be a marvelous picture. One of the fellow elders of Samuel Froehlich and of my grandfather was the grandfather of David Mangold of Roanoke IL.

### **Into the Balkan States**

It happened that two men — not tailors or shoemakers — but Locksmiths, came to Switzerland. Their names were Denkel and Kropatschek. Coming into Switzerland, they became acquainted with us and came to the assembly and found peace with God. They went back in 1829; and when they had returned, they found a very ambitious and zealous young man called Louis Hencsey.

As soon as they told him of the Gospel, he repented; and he was the one who went to all these countries — Jugoslavia, Hungary and Romania — to bring the Gospel, from one village to the other. Persecution followed — I may say a 100 years of persecution followed — and has still not stopped. That is probably one reason that these churches

were always increasing and that in these countries we had a total of 50,000 - 100,000 members in our congregations there before World War II.

### **Bro. Josef Bela**

So the Gospel came to Austria-Hungary, Jugoslavia, Romania. From one village to the other came the joyful message of Jesus. See how wonderfully the Lord prepared everything! Hencsey himself found another young man whose name was Josef Bela, a very zealous man. And this man had been prepared for you, for America, for the United States! Although Hencsey was not so persecuted, Bela was so fearfully persecuted that he had to leave his country and come to America. He was persecuted terribly day after day.

Do you know how he was kept in jail? They bound hands and feet together and then hung him up on a ring on the wall, so he could neither sit, nor stand nor lie. That is the way he had to be in jail. He suffered so much that even the authorities said, "We cannot watch this anymore; something has to be done." So they gave him the license to emigrate to the United States. But before he emigrated, the jail keeper and his wife were converted. That was in 1861.

They told him that he could emigrate, but that was just for the sake of the public, to make them think that the authorities were being good to him. But they made arrangements that on his arrival at the harbor of Bremen some wicked people would way-lay him and kill him. On the way, by the inspiration of God, just like it was with Joseph, he was warned, and instead of going to Bremen, he went to Hamburg and boarded his ship and went to the United States.

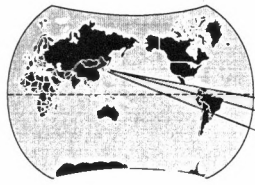
*By: Perry A. Klopfenstein*

### **Next Issue:**

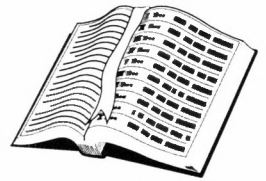
The concluding remarks will center on the beginnings of the church here in America. That will end the comments of Bro. Henry Michel.

# The Light Of Hope

From Across The Ocean



## 希望の光



### “Response Requested”

Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle, Shioda, Japan

At least twice in the Bible, the Lord Jesus Christ made as if He would go past His disciples, indicating that He desires some kind of a response from us.

In Mark 6:48 we read, “And about the fourth watch of the night he cometh unto them, walking upon the sea, and would have passed by them.” The disciples were in their boat and about to sink and He would have passed by them. However, in verse 49 we read that the disciples cried out. At least there was a response. In Matthew 14:28 we see that Peter decided he was interested in walking on the sea, storm or no storm. He did all right at first, but then failed and began to sink. Jesus helped him because he had responded. Jesus also quieted the storm.

After the resurrection, the Lord Jesus Christ joined two of His disciples as they walked on the road to Emmaus. We read in Luke 24:28, “And they drew nigh unto the village, whither they went: and he made as though he would

have gone further.” Once again, Jesus kept walking, waiting for a response. This time the disciples did not cry out but they constrained Him and said, “Abide with us.” (vs. 29). That was their response. We read further, “And he went in to tarry with them.”

It appears that the Lord Jesus Christ desires to receive an invitation from us for Him to come and help us. In Revelation 3:20 we read, “Behold, I stand at the door and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him and will sup with him, and he with me.” Here no mention is made of Christ walking past us but at least He is not trying to force open that door. A sister in our church in the States once told me that she did not choose or decide to repent but that the power of God came upon her to such an extent that she had to repent. There is some scripture for that. We read in Luke 14:23, “Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled.” The Holy

Spirit may sometimes operate in this manner, but there is no indication that Jesus Christ, God’s Son, came on that strong in offering us His assistance or salvation. The ministry of God’s Son and the ministry of the Holy Spirit may be different.

In John 6:67 we read, “Then said Jesus unto the twelve, Will ye also go away?” From the previous verse we learn that many of His disciples walked no more with Him. He didn’t beg His twelve disciples to stay with Him but simply asked if they also would go away. This was right after He had exhorted the people that they should eat His flesh and drink His blood in order to have eternal life. This was a spiritual teaching that His broken body and His shed blood was necessary for their salvation.

The Lord Jesus Christ is walking by. By His actions He is saying to us, “Do you desire my fellowship or do you want to go alone? Response requested.”

## 希望の光





*Rejoice in the Lord, ye righteous; and give thanks at the remembrance of His holiness.*

THE SILVER LINING  
RR2 Box 50 Roanoke, IL 61561



\*\*\*\*\*CAR-RT LOT\*\*R-001

594

16

25

LK

Mrs. Charles Walder

533 N 3RD ST

CISSNA PARK IL 60924-9782