



The Silver Lining

Which made Heaven, and earth, the sea, and all that therein is: which keepeth truth for ever:

September 2001

“IT IS A BLESSING TO HELP OTHERS”

Sermon by Bro. Kent Mogler, Minneapolis, MN
Psalm 149 and James 2

It is somewhat humbling how God works in that we should read this chapter today. It probably speaks to my heart more than any brother, sister, or friend gathered this morning. Many know that Bro. Jim and myself and some other brothers and sisters that we have returned. We saw the poor. For those who are not aware, we just returned from Haiti. We had a blessed privilege, to see the faith of the poor.

You understand when these words that James wrote and probably in that land and that culture is much more common or much more like what James and the culture that existed in the first churches at that time. In America, we truly can say we are all rich. They had a faith where we were that they had enough to get by the week in earthly possessions. They had quite a bit as they had enough to get by that week. They probably labored that week so that they can buy food for this week. By faith, they believe that God will provide for next week.

We had an opportunity to go to a medical clinic. There at the medical clinic, it cost \$2.00 for any check-up, no matter what was wrong. If you come in, it cost \$2.00 and they have a poor fund. In America, if it cost \$2.00, we probably wouldn't need a poor fund. So we see the blessings that God has.

James writes here and asks how we are in God's house. Do we have respect for the person that has goodly apparel? The poor man in vile raiment, do we allow him or her to sit in the back and the one in good clothing to sit in front? James goes on and writes, and this is again what we probably saw with our own eyes, we saw how the rich oppress the poor.

We saw some poor land — very poor land, but there are rich among them; and the rich rule. The rich op-

press the poor to make sure that the poor don't take away from them what they have.

Their rich, we could say, live nicer than all of us. They dress nice, they drive nice vehicles, and they have very expensive vehicles that the rich would drive there in this land of poor, but the faith is what is poor. Those that believe and trust in God's Word are those of the poor.

James said, "If ye fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself, ye do well: But if ye have respect to persons, ye commit sin, and are convinced of the law as transgressors." (James 2:8-9). Again, we shared the privilege that we had. We pray and sometimes prayer, at least for myself, you can fall into where you pray from the Spirit and you pray from the heart, but maybe the words just come when you pray and the thoughts when you pray to God. Do we really think upon and dwell as deeply as we ought?

Many times we pray for the poor and the destitute. We pray for those in foreign lands, and those that suffer persecution. Maybe we don't understand exactly what we are praying for and maybe we don't know if those prayers are blessed by God. Again, I think we could say that, as you know, I have observed it with my own eyes that those prayers ascend to God and He answers those prayers.

There was a pastor in their church and he spoke with us, and he said this, "I pray daily for the Apostolic Christian Church. I pray specifically" he said, "every day for the Apostolic Christian Church." I don't think he has ever stepped foot in an Apostolic Christian Church. He has never stepped foot as he has only observed those who come and who have helped.

But he said, "I have observed a

faith and a willingness to give, a willingness to serve and a willingness to live for God. I am thankful to God for the example that that church gives to us. It is an encouragement that it gives to us. It is different," he said, "it is different. I pray daily for the Apostolic Christian Church." He just made one request, "Can you pray daily for us?"

So we see God is not a respecter of persons. Prayers ascend into

Sermon continued on page 44

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

October

1. Alto, MI
2. Washington, IL
3. North Ft Myers, FL
4. Athens, AL
5. Iowa City, IA
6. Kitchener, Ontario, Canada

Next correspondence due:

For October Issue

(16 Aug. News - 15 Sept. News)

Due: 20 October 2001

The Silver Lining (Vol. 55, #9)

1389 County Road 1600 N

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

1389 County Road 1600 N

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

1389 County Road 1600 N

Roanoke, IL 61561

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

Light From The Word



Writings based
on God's Word

September 2001

Satan Departed For a Season

"And when the devil had ended all the temptation, he departed from him (Jesus) for a season" (Lk. 4:13). Many times throughout our lives Satan seems to have an enormous amount of power that he uses to discourage God's people. There are even times when we can get so discouraged that we may begin to fear that Satan has more power than God.

There are numerous examples in the scriptures that tell us of God's special protection and reassures us that, even when we are in distress, God is in control. We can see the hand of God working counter to Satan in the lives of Joseph, Elijah, Job and even Jesus.

Several times Joseph was sorely tried. He was sold by his brethren, falsely accused by Potiphar's wife, imprisoned, and forgotten by the chief butler. In each case his load was somewhat lightened by the intervention of the Lord. Satan was only permitted to go so far and the Lord required him to leave for a time. Joseph was able to persevere in the midst of trial, and he felt the blessings of God.

Elijah was so discouraged he fled into the wilderness to hide. He could not find the Lord in the great wind, in the earthquake, nor in the fire. However, he found the Lord in a still small voice. When the Lord asked Elijah why he had fled he replied that he feared for his life because he believed he was the only prophet of God that was left "...and they seek my life, to take it away" (I Ki. 19:14).

God replied to Elijah that "...I have left me seven thousand in Israel, all the knees which have not bowed unto Baal, and every mouth which hath not kissed him" (I Ki. 19:18). With this reassurance from the Lord, Elijah found the courage to go on and he found Elisha, a young man whom God had chosen to carry on the work after Elijah was gone. Satan had almost succeeded in bringing Elijah to such discouragement that his work would have ceased. Finally, Elijah was able to recognize that Satan's power was limited and the work of the Lord would continue.

Job is described as "...perfect and up-

right, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil" (Job 1:1). Satan was not pleased with this so he accused God of building a hedge about him. God gave Satan permission to cause Job much grief. Although we do not know how long Job's grief lasted, it would appear to be a significant period of time.

Satan succeeded in taking away nearly every source of comfort Job had - his children, his wealth, the faith of his wife and the support of his three friends. Job became so discouraged he longed for death. God saw Job's grief and heard his plea. Satan's power was taken away and Job was again blessed so "...the latter end of Job (was more blessed)... than his beginning." (Job 42:12).

Perhaps we should not be surprised when we are tried to the point of serious distress. We may even wonder if God still hears our prayers. Even Jesus felt tremendous pressure from Satan. After His baptism Jesus went into the wilderness to fast and pray. After forty days of fasting, he was hungry. Satan seized the opportunity to approach Him in His time of weakness. He came to Jesus with what seemed like a reasonable suggestion - turn stones into bread to satisfy His hunger.

The problem, however, was that Satan did not go to Jesus with a reasonable suggestion. He went with the intention of asking Jesus to obey him. Any time we obey Satan, regardless of how reasonable it seems, it is sin. Jesus recognized that it was an attempt to destroy God's perfect plan to ultimately provide a way of salvation for all of mankind.

Jesus responded to Satan's temptations by using the Word of God. He did not allow Satan's "logic" nor his offers of temporary gain to cause Him to yield to Satan. Satan could not resist the Word of God, and he was required to flee for a time.

This was not Jesus' only temptation. As Jesus faced His final trial while hanging on the cross, He knew it was a trial He must face alone. In the darkest hour in all of history Jesus cried "...My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" (Mk. 15:34). One

last time Satan tried to make Jesus fail. Thanks be to God he was not successful. Jesus paid the price for our sins, and all of mankind now has the opportunity for salvation.

Since Satan is so bold as to approach the Son of God with temptations, we should expect that he will also approach us from time to time.

There are many promises and much encouragement contained in the Word of God to help us in these trying times. "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble" (Ps. 46:1), the entire Twenty-third Psalm, and the comforting verses in II Cor. 4:8-11 "We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed; Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body" are very comforting to those in distress.

When we are discouraged and feel we cannot go on because our reading of the scriptures seems pointless and our prayers seem so empty, we need to remember the promises of God. "For we are saved by hope:..." (Ro. 8:24) and "...that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope" (Ro. 15:4).

If we continue to do the right thing - reading the Word of God, praying, pleading for faith and trust - eventually we will find that God will prevail and Satan must leave for a season. When we have won the final victory and we have attained our heavenly goal, we will see Satan for what he is, a liar and a deceiver, one who only has temporary power who will eventually be destroyed with the wicked. Lucifer was proud, exalted himself, and wanted to "...be like the most High" (Is. 14:14). However, in the end he shall be brought low and be so powerless that those that see him shall say "...is this the man that made the earth to tremble, that did shake kingdoms..." (Is. 14:16). At that point Satan will depart, not only for a season, but forever.

An editorial committee of elder brothers is preparing articles for this section of the Silver Lining to address some of the special needs of our times. Suggestions for subjects are welcome and can be sent to: Silver Lining Editorials, 1399 County Road 1600 N, Roanoke, IL 61561.



APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN Mission Committee

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

Brethren Visit Churches In Eastern Europe

(Continued from last month)

For the last two months the Mission Committee has used this page to report on trips taken by our brethren into Eastern Europe in May of this year. Last month's page concluded at the end of Sunday, May 28, which was the day of dedication of the new church building in Timisoara, Romania that was financed by our USA brethren.

Timisoara history

We wish to share a few statistical facts on the congregation in Timisoara. In order to do this, however, it is necessary to relate a bit of history of the conditions and situations that led up to the present time. The Timisoara congregation itself was established, as close as can be determined, in about 1860. This came about as a result of the efforts of brethren who became converted under the teachings of Bro. Samuel Froehlich. In the years following the establishment of the faith, brethren in this area have lived through many different political circumstances.

Oppressive governments

Factors affecting our brethren have included World War I that was followed by the communist revolution in Russia. This great upheaval finally extended also into the other countries that made up the former Austrian-Hungarian Empire. Great changes in government and personal conditions followed this conflict.

The years following the first World War brought much difficulty throughout Europe, and this finally culminated in the horrible fighting of World War II. The suffering of our brethren was great during all this destruction, which itself

was followed by the oppressive yoke of communism that descended upon Eastern Europe following WWII.

Through all of this turmoil, although the flame of faith among our brethren flickered and grew dim, it did not go out. By the grace of God, these dear people kept their faith, although often they had to meet in secret and suffered much oppression.

Contact was difficult

Brethren from the USA made several attempts to maintain contact with the brethren in Eastern Europe, including Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Romania, and Ukraine during the years of oppression. There was very little information available to our brethren in the USA during those years of turmoil. However, late in 1989, the oppressive communist regime was finally overthrown, and a measure of personal freedom ensued.

One uprising of the Romanian people that resulted in the end of the communist government actually took place in the city of Timisoara. Although our brethren always try to remain separate from politics, no one could escape the results of this tremendous upheaval. It changed the course of Romania and has allowed us the opportunity to assist these dear souls.

Conditions did not improve

During all those years, the living conditions of the common people advanced in our own country of America. Throughout the period of peace following World War II our own brethren experienced great prosperity and improvement of lifestyle. The brethren in Eastern Europe did not experience the same thing. Some of them even experienced setbacks, and yet today many of them live much as Americans did a century ago. Change was difficult and did not come quickly

Many emigrated Some did not

Throughout the difficult years, many of the brethren, who were called Nazarenes in Eastern Europe, fled the oppressive regimes and moved to various countries including our own. However, there was a core group that remained, and it is with this group that we are attempting to work at this time. It is the purpose of our European Board, working with both the Mission and World Relief Committees, to help these souls find a way to build a life for themselves and their families in the lands and circumstances in which they find themselves today.

Today's situation

As one reviews history in a few brief words, he finds that the Romanian brethren have reasonable hopes of building a new life, both physically and spiritually. The congregation in Timisoara now includes about 130 members and many friends who can gather in freedom and relative comfort. The church that was built with the assistance of the American brethren will seat around 300 persons.

The building is of masonry construction, as is normal throughout Europe. It has two floors and a balcony, with an apartment attached, as is also common in Europe.

At the end of July, a report from our brethren in Romania states that it appears to be a very good year as pertains to crop harvest. There is grain and fruit in abundance, and a prospect for enough to sustain people during the winter that will come. For this our brethren are thankful to God.

New Mission Committee Address:
PHIL STETTNER, SECRETARY/TREASURER
APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN MISSION COMMITTEE
P.O. Box 322
BLUFFTON, IN 46714



APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN
World Relief

As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith. GALATIANS 6:10

Haiti From the Eyes of a Work Team Volunteer

Previous articles in The Silver Lining outlined the focus of World Relief efforts and the organizations that 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 viewpoint of each volunteer is different, the basis of this report is personal experience and discussions with other volunteers. 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 21st century and 19th 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. This desire often inspires participants to make their first trip. Returning work team members are drawn for additional reasons, which are difficult to place into words. Hopefully as you read further, you will understand the depth of the reasons. However, the primary decision factor should always 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.

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, what tools are needed, etc. All are reasonable considerations. But if our hearts 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 and thinking what a wonderful job he and the other brothers had done by helping these poor and disadvantaged people. God immediately convicted his heart by reminding him that the work is the Lord's and the talents men used to build the roof were given of God.

Arrival in Haiti

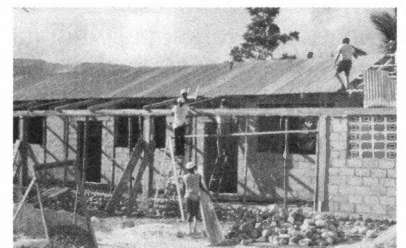
Deplaning in Haiti is an experience! It's not your modern international airport. Haiti has one concrete strip used for landing, takeoff and taxi. Chaos awaits as you pass through immigration, customs, and into the street. This has improved greatly in the past several years, yet upon leaving the terminal building, there is a flock of Haitian workers willing to carry or simply watch your bags, for a fee, of course.

Traveling in the back of a truck or newly acquired van, one begins to

experience the sights, sounds, and smells of Haiti. Roads are rough. In many areas, the pavement on the main roads has been destroyed by heavy use or 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 motor vehicle travel is impossible. Mule and foot prove to be the most effective means of transportation.

The food in Haiti

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 guest houses in Les Cayes and Port Au Prince, conventional western cuisine is served.



The work is rewarding

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 seminars and specialized care for the agricultural industry such as agronomy and veterinary care.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

Summer is almost over and it has been a busy time at the Home. Although change is ever present in all lives, our residents at the Home seem to be able to appreciate each and every single day. Our Lord told us to not worry, for we cannot even add a single hour to our lives, but how many of us can truly say that we are worry free (Luke 12:24)? Sometimes leading a simple and less complex life is the key to not worrying over life's concerns. Those who have taken the opportunity to work or volunteer at the Home can observe the residents enjoying a meal or having fun playing a game. They appear to be able to live as each day may be their last and the pleasures they receive over the simple things are very self-evident. We can only learn and follow by their existence, for they have the knowledge of true joy. Jesus told us that unless we become like little children, we will never enter the Kingdom of God (Matthew 18:3).

Activities have included mini-vacations, walks, baseball games, outdoor concerts, outside games, horseback riding, root beer floats, and lots of other summer time activities.

OCTOBER birthdays at Timber Ridge, 2125 Veterans Rd. are: Tricia O'Donnell (1), Carol Fahrni (5), Mark Mulnix (6), Emma Walker (15), Curt Jewett (24). At Oakwood Estate, 2213 Veterans Rd.: Lois Baumgartner (4). At Linden Estate, 1000 Linden St.: Kent Knobloch (14). At 652 Detroit: Anita Schuon (13). At 1001 E. Idlewood: Chad Gerber (9). At 208 S. Indiana: Bryan Tiezzi (30).

GATEWAY WOODS APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME

Judy Gehring

What is in your heart today? What have you been sharing with others from your heart recently? Has the love of God been flowing through you to others? As we have been commanded: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul and with all thy mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like unto it, thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." (Matthew 22:37-39). Exactly what does this commandment that God gave us mean? When we are loving others, what is in our hearts, what is the "action" of our heart? How do we feel? What are we thinking? What do we say? What don't we say? How do we act? What is going on with us spiritually? How do we want the other to feel? What is our purpose? What was Jesus like with other people? What did He convey to others? And based on their response, how did Jesus make them feel? Loving others ... When we are truly loving others we are just there, with an open pure heart, with no agenda, not critical, not judgmental, just allowing God's love to flow through us. Not telling others what to think, how to be, what to do or believe. What do we convey? How do others feel when they are around you? Through acceptance, by acknowledging their worth as a person, a human being, allowing them their own space, as well as a feeling of importance and an affirmation of being worthwhile. Mentally, our minds need to be quiet, not thinking of other things going on in our life, where we need to be next, etc., not thinking of what and how we will give a response; just being there. Spiritually,

when we are in tune with God, and feel His presence and closeness it is much easier to allow His love to flow through us, isn't it? Emotionally, it is hard to have an open heart if we are stuck in our own "stuff", isn't it? If we are nursing past hurts, wounds, sadness, upset, anger, bitterness, our past upsets may spill over to the person we are currently with. What keeps us from sharing love with others? What keeps us from opening our hearts? What keeps us closed off? Sometimes, just not doing it. Sometimes not thinking about it. Sometimes not thinking others would appreciate a little love, even to a stranger it is not more than a cheery smile and have a good day, looking them in the eyes with an open heart of God's love. Sometimes our own "stuff" gets in the way, preoccupation, fear of rejection, fear, feeling unworthy, being hurt in the past. Sometimes it's just out of not being accustomed to opening up and loving others. Sometimes we don't realize how much others need and appreciate love. We all appreciate love, even from people we don't know, like the grocery store clerk, to family. Each one of us can be a light, a beacon, a messenger of Christ's love in a world that has so much darkness, so much evil, so much negativity, and so many people beaten down by cares and troubles by what they've "been through". It doesn't take any more to be an ambassador for God, to share love, His love through an open loving heart, an extra measure of love in our daily interactions. All of us want to be loved, to be accepted for who we are, even though what we think, do, believe may be different than someone else; to be loved and acknowledged even with our imperfections and differences. We cry

out "Love me as I am"! Love others for who they are and others will love you for who you are!

All three residential houses have taken short vacations recently: the Lehmans to Chicago, the Plattners to Illinois to the lake; and Meisters to Michigan to the lake. Our vacations were good and we all enjoyed them. We thank you for making our vacations possible for GW residents.

We have a lot of changes. Lora E. graduated from Leo High School and is going on to International Business College here in Ft. Wayne. Long time resident Justin L. left Lehmans recently, too. New residents on campus are Terry H., Stephanie G., Amanda J., Jessica B., and Shannon G.

Our summer has come to an end and we want to thank all our volunteers who so unselfishly came to serve us. A big thank you to Bro. Doug Brewer, our Summer Volunteer Coordinator who has returned to college. Thank you, Doug, and may God bless you for your time with all of us. Our Illinois Work Projects Coordinators were Bro. Kirk Plattner and Bro. Jeff Sauder. Bro. Kirk has joined our faculty as one of our new teachers and Bro. Jeff has returned for his senior year at college. These brothers facilitated 10 different repair and construction projects this summer in various central Illinois towns utilizing nearly 400 volunteers! Thanks to all who gave time, money, materials or even a cup of cold water in Jesus' name.

Our Summer School Program went well this summer with Randy Fessenden and Sis. Jodie S. Schlipf teaching. The regular school year will be starting next week with 13 of our 19 residents going to Gateway Woods School here on campus. Lord willing, we will be building a

new school that has recently been approved by our Elder body. We are so thankful, first of all to our Lord, and then to you for your support for this great project.

Our 25th Auction Day was a big and beautiful day. The Lord blessed us with the fellowship of the saints, friends and neighbors. Thank you for giving to the Lord and being a part of this blessed day. In addition, we took this opportunity with so many of our supporters present to have a ground breaking ceremony for our new school building which hopefully will be completed by next fall.

We have a beautiful baby boy, Abram Daniel, born to Houseparents, Bro. Dan and Sis. Susan Meister. His sister, Sophia, is enjoying her new brother along with the resident children.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL Monica Price

The summer is gone and school is well on its way. The enrollment keeps increasing as the children end their summer fun and start back to school. We teachers have also made the new adjustment of classrooms full of children again.

Over the summer we have had many volunteers who helped with a variety of jobs. They even took over the teachers' responsibilities to free us up to do other needed jobs. We want to thank Sisters Debra Blunier (Eureka, IL), Kristen Meister, Molly Meister, and Holly Stickling (Peoria, IL) for giving of their time and talents to help us out at the preschool.

It is definitely a challenge for us to teach these active children, but we are continually reminded that we may be the only Godly example these children will experience.

This is an awesome responsibility for us, but it is definitely a blessing from God as well.

In September we start learning our alphabet and a Bible verse to go along with each letter. It's amazing to see how much these little minds can take in and we just pray that a seed is planted. Hopefully someday in the future these precious verses will come back to them and our gracious Lord and Savior can use them to further His kingdom.

We also have themes to go along with each month. This month our themes are community helpers and safety. Not only will we be talking in our individual classes about these two themes, but we will also be taking a field trip to the police and fire station to learn about safety and the different jobs in our community. It's always interesting to hear, at the end of our field trip, how many children want to be either a fire fighter or a police officer when they grow up.

Once again we ask for your prayers as God has given us another school year in which to teach these tender hearts about His love. We also want to thank each of you who have helped us financially over the past year and we would hope that you would continue, for in helping the school, you too are furthering the Gospel. God bless you.

ALABAMA, ATHENS Louise Hall Joan Reinhard

A new school year has begun. As the students settle into their new routines, we pray for God's blessings and protection on them. We pray that the time spent in preparation to live in this life would not in any way take from the needed

preparation to be ready for the next. We ask God's special care on our convert Josh Johnson as he has moved from our congregation to school in Lafayette, IN. We will miss his enthusiasm for the Lord.

As we say goodbye to one, we welcome another. Sis. Melinda Matuck has moved to our congregation from Mansfield, OH. She is teaching at our preschool, and we are thrilled to have her here in Athens.

We thank God that our Sis. Corrine Thomas is recovering well from some eye surgery that she had done on July 29. Also, we appreciate God's care for Janice Flannagan (Bro. J.R. and Sis. Louise Hall), as she had surgery on August 1.

Our two oldest Sunday School classes had an enjoyable day on July 31 at Visionland down by Birmingham. They had held a car wash to earn the money, and a good time was had by all.

Many thanks to our visitors this past month. August 8, Bro. Sam Schlatter (Sis. Linda, Junction, OH) was with us and shared God's Word. August 12, Elder Bro. Ted Witzig (Morton, IL) and his family were here and we appreciated Bro. Ted ministering the Word to us. We are also thankful to the visitors we had from Oakville, IA, and Cissna Park, IL. Your fellowship means so much to us, and we welcome visitors any time.

ARIZONA, PHOENIX

Ron and Ev Hoerr

World Relief projects accomplish help for many. The latest project on August 8 was 200 health kits packed for the needy. Thank you to the children and adults who stayed after church to help.

Little Emily Freed (Bro. Steve and Sis. Kelly) had her tonsils removed and is waiting for Sunday School to start on August 26.

It is good to see Bro. Allan Freed and Sis. Nancy Baumgartner in church since the redecorating and refurbishing is mostly finished.

Ann Kieser has moved to Hendersonville, NC, where she is employed.

People of different faiths all agree "The Twenty-third Psalm contains the most famous words in the Bible. All 117 of them." So soothing and comforting in so many situations. There is power in thinking the positive thoughts; there is hope also. To get the most from the 23rd Psalm, it has been offered as a prescription: Read and meditate 5 times a day, for 7 days.

Before breakfast

After breakfast

After lunch

After dinner

At bedtime

The success of this prescription is how it is taken as in (READ) and how often (5 times a day). Better results to see the printed Word than from memory.

As we draw closer to autumn, we enjoy a cooler day with a warm "Hi" to everyone at church!

ARIZONA, PRESCOTT

Jane Hodges

The engagement of Sis. Bethany Furrer (Bro. Jim and Sis. Rowena) to Bro. Dan Dubach (Bro. Ken Dubach and Jodi Holloway) of Bluffton was announced to the church on August 12. They are planning a December 2 wedding in Prescott. We pray for God's blessings on their lives as they plan their future together. Bro. Dan plans to move to the Prescott area.

We are excited and thankful to the Lord with the expected growth in number of our church membership with the last two engagement announcements.

We enjoyed a wonderful evening of food and fellowship on August 18 at our corn-on-the-cob picnic. About seventy people were in attendance.

As always we are indebted to the Lord for the messages He brings us each Sunday through the ministering brothers He provides. This last month they included Elder Bro. Jon Kokanovich, Bros. John Reinhard (Bluffton, IN), Roger Aberle (Sabetha, KS), and Jim Meiss, Ken Lawson, and James Emch (all of Phoenix, AZ). May God richly bless all of them and their families for their love and service to us and the Lord.

ARIZONA, TUCSON

Lisa Knapp

We are pleased to announce the arrival of Noah Ray Bauer, born July 25 to first-time parents, Doug and Young Bauer. Grateful for the safe arrival of another grandchild are Bro. Don and Sis. Gloria Bauer. Noah has already made an appearance at church and we hope to see him there a lot in the future. We pray God will guide Doug and Young as they seek to raise their first child.

We were equally as pleased to be able to attend the wedding of Catie Kaufman and Bill Dienst. They were married August 5 in a lovely outdoor ceremony witnessed by family and friends. Catie's parents are Bro. Curt and Sis. Caroline Kaufman. We ask God's blessings on their marriage as they begin their life together in Florida where Catie is stationed in the Air Force.

Our Bro. Curt Kaufman hurt his leg recently, had surgery and is wearing a cast which has made his job on the pulpit a little more challenging! He was thankful for timely help on the pulpit from Bros. Herb Knochel, Jr. and Jim Meiss (Phoenix) following the injury and surgery. God bless you both for your love and concern. We pray for a fast and full recovery for Bro. Curt.

We have been missing Bro. Paul Knoblock who has been having back pain and other medical problems recently. We were happy to see Bro. Paul in church with us again last Sunday and hope he continues to be able to come. Our prayers are with you, Bro. Paul.

CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA **Jim Klotzle**

"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

Matthew 5:16

How can we, who are redeemed, keep silent? How can the light of those who trust in the Lord be dimmed? Though Satan may use the things of this world to buffet us, we have the Holy Spirit and the Word of God living in our very midst. Our joyful hearts shall not be bound, nor our hope concealed!

Elder Bros. Ben Wiegand (Philadelphia, PA) and Jon Kokanovich (Phoenix, AZ) visited us this month. We thank them for sharing the pulpit with our ministering brothers during their visit. It is always a blessing to exchange greetings with our brethren in congregations afar off.

Sis. Martha Slenker passed away this month. Many have been

encouraged by her faithful yearning for the return of our Lord. While the rest of us wait with the same patient expectation, Sis. Martha has finally seen the Savior face to face.

Bro. Ted Klotzle has spent some time in the hospital recovering from a medical emergency. We are thankful to have him back in our midst.

Joey Klotzle (Bro. Tom and Sis. Jody) was briefly hospitalized following a trampoline accident and is expected to be back on both feet within six weeks.

CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO **Peggy Jevremov**

We are thankful for the safe arrival home of those of our congregation who traveled to the Brotherhood Conference in Roanoke, IL. Our thoughts and prayers were with our Elder brethren as they met, and now we are receiving such a blessing as we listen to the Conference tapes.

This past month we were blessed to have visiting ministering brethren, Bro. Jim Rinkenberger (Sis. Jeanne, Bluffton, IN) and Bro. Tom Klotzle (Sis. Jody, Altadena, CA). We appreciated the inspired Word of God as they brought it forth to us. May the Lord be with them as they continue to serve Him.

The Sunday School had a blessed time as they visited the Silverton, OR, congregation. It is wonderful when they can travel and get acquainted with others in our various churches.

Sunday School is about to resume after our summer break. We want to thank Sis. Yasmin Petrovic for her faithful service the past three years. Sis. Hildy Koehl

will be taking her place in the youngest class.

KITCHENER, ONTARIO **CANADA**

Nathan Reutter

Greetings, brethren, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. This month has brought many blessings. These include visiting ministers, singings and the Conference. With all of these, we were encouraged to faithfulness to God.

Our visiting ministers were as follows: Bros. Duane Reutter (Rockville, CT), Ron Kipfer (Bluffton, IN), Everett Gerber (Rockville, CT) and Elder Bro. Aaron Steffen (Alto, MI). We had many ministers from different places. It encouraged us to realize that they all preached a saving faith in Jesus. May God grant that our faith may ever be so.

We also had a few singings in homes of fellow believers and in church. These singings are always nice. The Bible encourages us to praise His almighty name with singing. It is especially nice when we can do this multiple times a week.

Lastly, we very much enjoyed and appreciated the annual Brotherhood Conference. May we carefully listen to the deliberations on tape. And then let us be doers of His Word and not hearers only. The blessing of God lies in the doing of His will, not the hearing of it. May God bless you into eternity.

COLORADO, DENVER **Mike and Heather Katanic**

We were blessed to hear how God worked in the lives of Brian and Becky Pheiffer at their testimony and welcomed them into our congregation.

Visiting us this month and sharing God's Word were Elder Bro. John Lehman (Bern, KS), Bros. Nathan Steffen (Elgin, IL), Ken Eisenmann (Cissna Park, IL), Ed Fritz (Washington, IL), Steve Martin (Eureka, IL) and Duane Metzger (West Bend, IA). We love and appreciate the work of these brothers traveling through our area.

Through much prayer and guidance, Bro. Nate Lehman has been added to our ministry. Our support and prayers are with Bro. Nate and Sis. Yvonne as he has accepted this new responsibility.

Our building committee has purchased the land for our new church building a few miles east of the current church in Aurora. They are still working with the city on details of the project and continue to ask for your prayers as they follow God's direction.

Several from our congregation have been able to travel to Mexico and donate time and effort to those who are not as fortunate as us. What a humbling experience to see the needs of so many in our world and touch lives for the sake of Christ.

**CONNECTICUT
ROCKVILLE
Cherie Galat**

"Bow down thine ear, and hear the words of the wise, and apply thine heart unto my knowledge. For it is a pleasant thing if thou keep them within thee; they shall withal be fitted in thy lips. That thy trust may be in the Lord, I have made known to thee this day, even to thee."

Proverbs 22:17-19

We are confident that our Heav-

enly Father was present with our dear Elders and the brethren at the Brotherhood Conference in Roanoke, IL. What a blessing it is to hear sound doctrine! As each of our congregations listens to the tapes, may the Holy Spirit move our hearts to heed the instruction of living a holy and sanctified life.

God with us! We need not fear;
Jesus crowns with life eternal;
Faithful let us be while here,
Till God ends our pilgrim journey...

Zion's Harp #100

God is with us as we take steps in faith together. May God bless the union of Bro. Andrew Luginbuhl and Sis. Colleen Ryan. Parents are Bro. Ken and Sis. Kay Luginbuhl and Elder Bro. Kevin and Sis. Cheryl Ryan.

Another dear couple has the faith that God is leading them to become husband and wife. The engagement of Bro. Stephen Lanz and Sis. Julie Schulz (Burlington, IA) was made known unto us. Parents are Bro. Sherman and Sis. Joanne Lanz and Bro. Gary Schulz. May He continue to guide their steps as they plan for their upcoming wedding.

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine..."

II Timothy 3:16

We are thankful to have had visiting ministering Bro. Shawn Metzger (Philadelphia, PA) with us. May God richly bless his efforts as he labors in God's vineyard.

Chris and Kristen Alexander were blessed with a baby son, Nolan Christopher, born on June 11. He joins Joshua at home. Grandparents are Bill and Cathy

Alexander and Bro. Dale and Sis. Harriet Zahner. As parents, may Chris and Kristen seek God's help in raising these dear children.

We warmly welcome the family of Bro. Denny and Sis. Lori Martin and their children, Jeremy, Jamie, and Jennifer, who have moved from Portland, OR. May they feel the love of our brethren here in Rockville as they establish their new home.

Our prayers are with our Bro. Martin Luginbuhl (Dorothy) as he is hospitalized. God knows each one of our cares, "But even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not therefore: ye are of more value than many sparrows." St. Luke 12:7

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
WASHINGTON
Henrietta Meyer**

School will soon be starting this month and we said farewell to Sis. Andria Gudeman (Francesville, IN) as she returns to Purdue and Bro. Adam Hermann (Morton, IL) as he returns to the University of Illinois. We have appreciated their time with us.

We have been blessed to have so many visitors this year. This month our visiting ministers were Bros. Lenny Meyer (Chicago, IL), Marvin Dotterer (Forrest, IL), Dale Stoller (Fairbury, IL) and Wayne Laubscher (Cissna Park, IL). Other visitors this month were from Rockville, CT; Bloomington, Cissna Park, Congerville, Eureka and Fairbury, IL; Wolcott, IN; Smithville, OH; and Kiev, Ukraine.

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 this fall 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. 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
NORTH FORT MYERS
Dorothy Beer**

Our church was shocked and saddened by the sudden death of Bro. Ivan Stoller, on August 5, by drowning. It is uncertain if he had a heart attack or if he got caught in an under-tow, but the Lord called him Home. Bro. Ivan was not only our church treasurer for many years, but was always working or helping whenever and wherever he saw a need. He will be greatly missed by our church, and by all who knew him.

Our deepest sympathy goes to his dear wife, Maxine, and children, Jacqui (Bruce) Eaton of Fort Myers, Debra (Roger) Bachtold of Fairbury, IL, Chip (Stephanie) Stoller of Daytona Beach, FL, and Brett (Laurie) Stoller of East Peoria, IL. The funeral service was held at Bloomington, IL, and burial at Fairbury, IL, on August 11. The family moved to Fort Myers 16 years ago from Fairbury,

IL.

We thank Bro. Ron Koehl (Sis. Carol, Sarasota, FL) for willingly sharing God's Word with us on July 29.

**FLORIDA, SARASOTA
Carol Koehl**

Bro. Glenn and Sis. Sandee Price are happy to have a new grandson in Detroit. Zacchaeus Glenn has arrived to bless the home of Bro. Kevin and Sis. Kristine Krieger.

Our prayers continue with Sis. Mary Lou Joos (Princeville, IL) as she recovers from surgery.

Our thoughts and prayers are extended to the North Fort Myers congregation in the unexpected loss of Bro. Ivan Stoller (Maxine). We also offer much love and sympathy to Jean Shackelford (daughter of Bro. Dave and Sis. Kay Eisenmann) in the sudden death of her husband.

We want to thank Bro. Keith Beyer (Detroit, MI) and Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL) for bringing us the Word in July and August.

Sarasota has enjoyed many summer visitors. We appreciate all of you for sharing your time with us.

Bro. Ben and Sis. Lorene Maibach have so generously hosted several Sunday evening singings recently in their home. These times together have been a glimpse of Heaven.

**GEORGIA, ATLANTA
John Brewer**

"And these are they which are sown on good ground such as hear the word, and receive it, and bring forth fruit, some thirtyfold, some

sixty, and some an hundred."

Mark 4:20

Bro. Tom shared with us during the morning service about the sower of the seed and how our hearts should be prepared to receive the Word. He relates that our hearts have to be prepared such as soil needs to be prepared before planting. This includes tilling the land, taking out the stony ground and rocks, and uprooting the thorns and weeds that crop up. Our hearts are prepared the same way. Are our hearts prepared like soft turned ground to properly hear what God has for us, or do we have stones, weeds and thorns that choke the Word of God?

We were privileged to have Bro. Darrin and Sis. Marie Yergler (Gridley, IL) visiting us this summer. Bro. Darrin was on a work assignment in South Georgia with his place of employment. The times they could make it up (they were over four hours away from Atlanta), we enjoyed their fellowship and love. As they head back this month to Gridley, we are thankful for the opportunity we could share in the commonality of our fellowship and faith and that God will bless them richly as they head back to central Illinois.

We are thankful for this past month of the visiting ministers that have taken the time to share the Word of God with us. They include Elder Bro. Ron Messner (Washington, IL) and Bro. Todd Stoller (Latty, OH) and their families. We appreciate the extra effort taken to fellowship with our small congregation and pray that God will bless them mightily for their efforts.

Visitors who worship with us on Sunday always encourage our con-

gregation. We are encouraged by the fellowship with one another and as a body of believers we grow closer to each other as a more unified Body of Christ. The church is located at Fairburn, GA, southwest of Atlanta. We are off I-85 south at exit 64 (Jonesboro Rd) exactly four miles west of the interstate. Song service starts at 10:15 a.m. For more information, please either call Bros. Tom Waldbeser (770) 463-4788, Linn Stoller (770) 631-4554 or Keith Kaufman (770) 304-8305.

ILLINOIS, BELVIDERE
Doreen Moser
Sheila McCoy

Thy messengers Thou sendest,
 By them to us extendest,
 The living bread of heav'n.
 That none of us may perish,
 Arouse our hearts to cherish
 The grace and healing to us
 given.

Zion's Harp #207

Our messengers this month have been Bros. Paul Gasser (Akron, OH), Duane Reutter (Rockville, CT), Wayne Laubscher (Cissna Park, IL), Gary Anliker, retired Elder Bro. Nate Steffen and Elder Bro. Ron Schambach (Elgin, IL). We have been blessed by having you and your families with us. We hope you also left with a blessing of love from our Belvidere congregation.

God be with you till we meet
 again,
 By His counsels guide, uphold
 you,
 With His sheep securely fold you;
 God be with you till we meet
 again.

Hymns of Zion #216

Bro. Benj Hodel has moved from the Milwaukee area and thus leaves an empty spot in our hearts and our Belvidere congregation. God be with you, Bro. Benj, until we meet again.

"O Lord my God, I cried unto thee, and thou hast healed me."

Psalms 30:2

It seems we cry to the Lord for many things but when emergency surgeries take place and accidents happen, how wonderful that we can pray to the Almighty Physician. God has provided His healing power to Bro. Mark Wettstein (Sis. Karen) who was a hospital patient this month and is back to work already. Jill Anliker (Bro. Brian and Sis. Peg) is recovering slowly from a broken arm. She has had many complications and we continue to hold her in our prayers.

I thoroughly believe in a university education for both men and women, but I believe a knowledge of the Bible without a college course is more valuable than a college course without a knowledge of the Bible.

—Apples of Gold

As school bells will soon ring for universities, preschool through high school and home schools, may our children always remember what the Lord has taught us in the Bible is the MOST valuable knowledge. For that knowledge will lead us to our eternal home.

ILLINOIS
BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL
Ann Kellenberger
Shawn Masters

We were thankful to have the following visiting ministers this past month: Elder Bros. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL) and Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO), and Bros. Fred Knapp (Congerville, IL), Alan Schambach (Remington, IN), Steve Baner (Gridley, IL), and John Stoller (Leo, IN).

July 28-29 was a blessed weekend in our congregation as four dear souls gave their testimonies and were baptized. They were Alex and Jacob Zimmerman (sons of Bro. Dennis and Sis. Pam) and Glenn and Susan Hodel. May God richly bless each one of them as they submit their lives to Him.

Bro. Jeff and Sis. Crystal Cargill were blessed with little Molly Grace, born July 29. Johnathon, Brandon, and Sydney are thrilled to have a new sister. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Don and Sis. Ione Broquard (Fairbury, IL) and Bro. Jerry and Sis. Kay Cargill (Elgin, IL).

We were saddened by the sudden passing of Bro. Ivan Stoller (Fort Myers, FL). Bro. Ivan and his family lived in our area and worshipped many years with us. The funeral was held at our Bloomington church on August 11. Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to his dear wife, Maxine, and their family. We'd also like to extend our sympathy to Bro. Lynn Young for the recent loss of his mother. May God comfort as only He can during this time of sorrow.

Bro. Dennis Frank spent some time in the hospital and is home recovering from surgery.

The engagement of Sis. Tonya Scott to Bro. Shane Knapp

(Goodfield, IL) was announced on July 29. Their parents are Sis. Janelle and the late Bro. Don Scott and Bro. George and Sis. Fern Knapp (Goodfield, IL). May God's Spirit continue to lead them as they plan their future together.

Two families have moved away from our area and will be greatly missed. Bro. Matt and Sis. Dana Knapp have moved to the Fairbury area. Bro. Dave and Sis. Candy Huber have moved to the San Diego area.

We would like to welcome Sis. Julie Hoerr (Phoenix, AZ) back to Bloomington after spending time in Phoenix. Also, we welcome Bro. Neil Beer (Milford, IN) who has recently moved to our area.

August 11 was our annual Ladies Luncheon. This year the topic was "From the Heart". It was very encouraging and uplifting to all who went.

ILLINOIS, BRADFORD

Chad and LauraLee Plattner

It is a blessing for us to share the news that Troy Pyles (Sis. Heather) has begun his walk towards God in repentance. Let us continue to be prayerful for Troy as he seeks to build a solid foundation on the Lord Jesus Christ.

We rejoice in the engagement of Sis. Kristal Wagenbach (Bro. Lawrence and Sis. Elaine, Princeville, IL) to Bro. Bill Stahl, Lester, IA (Bro. Lyle and Sis. Betty, Princeville, IL). Our prayers are with them as they prepare for the God-ordained union of marriage.

On August 18 Wayne Tanner (Bro. Richard and Sis. Marilyn) was married to Betsy Welsh (Mr. and Mrs. James Welsh) of Decatur, IL. We pray they may seek wisdom from God as they grow in their

marriage.

Hospitalizations include Sis. Lois Endress, Bro. Elwin Rumbold, and our convert Richard Gillespie. We submit each of their recoveries in the hand of the Great Physician and pray that His will may be done.

Lance David was born to Bro. Brad and Sis. Cheryl Kupferschmid on July 29. His two older sisters and one older brother are Kayla, Heather, and Clint. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Richard and Sis. Maribeth Kupferschmid (Eureka, IL) and Bro. Bill and Sis. Karen Ringger.

We are thankful to have had visiting Bros. Andy Klaus (Tokyo, Japan), Hartzell Kaisner (Detroit, MI), Paul Kilgus (Fairbury, IL), Paul Schmidgall (Morris, MN), Darren Fehr (West Bend, IA), and Brandon Emch (Kansas City, MO) minister to us this past month. May God bless them for serving us the Word.

ILLINOIS

CHAMPAIGN-URBANA

Samuel and Pamela Furrer

Each August, our community welcomes thousands of students who begin a new chapter in life as a college student. Many more continue the course of study from the previous year. Of course, some of these students are from our churches throughout Illinois and a few other parts of the country, and they make the Champaign-Urbana church their "church home away from home". Parents of these students do a great job of coming down for the annual Student Welcome Sunday picnic, then they leave their children and drive home with an empty car (and checkbook).

Typically, parents expect that they will see their children when they come home in a few weeks and they will keep in contact through phone calls and email messages. Sometimes parents come see their students at college and come to church with them. However, the story doesn't end there. As a former student and present high school college counselor and member of the C-U congregation, I offer a little encouragement, advice, or wisdom especially for parents. Our church loves having students here. Without them, our church is much different. The youth, energy, and singing abilities they add to our group is immeasurable. We are blessed to have students. We know that they will want and need to go home or elsewhere every now and then, but we like it when they stay here and become an active part of our congregation. Just as in their home congregations, there are opportunities for them to become involved with a variety of projects. Our students have (for about 20 years now) provided child-care services on a Saturday between Thanksgiving and Christmas so parents can have a childfree shopping day. Students who stay here in the summer are very important in Vacation Bible School, frequently serving as teachers for our children, World Relief activities, church cleaning days, and such simple things as coming to mid-week services, potlucks (free food/no dirty dishes!), Bible studies, and hymn sings are but a few of the other ways they can be involved with the church as a whole. On a more individual level, students and local folks have become connected through our need for child care. Most of the young families here do not have grandparents

or aunts and uncles in the area. For our family and others, it is wonderful having the college students as childcare providers when we need it. Our own son has gained many temporary "big brothers" by staying at one of the houses of church boys while we were out for the evening. Whether he was sliding down a sledding hill, playing soccer in the park, or learning to strum the guitar, he always has fun being with the older guys. We take comfort in knowing that he is around good Christian influences. The older boys seem to like the opportunity to be helpful, get to know a youngster, and have a little diversion from studying, too.

The local people can be resources for your student children, too. We've loaned power tools to students who needed them, we can give pretty good directions on getting from one place to another, and we can offer some guidance and perspective on many topics. We have a church made up of people from many career areas which may at some point in time be helpful to students. (For example, there may be a time that it would be good to know the church person who is a nurse, electrician, banker, or University administrator.) We're also available to just "be here" for your student. Having a few people in church to always look for, greet, and share a few thoughts on the week past or the week ahead provides an important connection for everyone.

Yes, we know your children are your precious treasures and you want them to come home.

We expect that they should and will do that. As parents, please come our way to visit your children, too. Be interested in what they are doing here in the class-

room, in their living quarters, in their free time, and in their spiritual life. Get to know their new friends and at least a few of us at the church. Bring your children to church and help them feel comfortable in their new surroundings. (This is especially important for parents of unconverted students.) The time your children will spend with us passes quickly, just as their high school years seemed to fly by. These two or four years are very formative for the adult your student/child is becoming. Please be involved with your student and constantly encourage him or her to be a participant what the Campaign-Urbana church has to offer.

In mid-July, Gateway Woods of Central Illinois sent a work team to Urbana for a few days. Their mission was to do some building repairs and yard cleanup work for a woman whose resources for doing such things are limited. This project included the Gateway Woods work team members and some local church volunteers. Those who were in charge of the project included our former or current U of I students, Bros. Kirk Plattner, Jeff Sauder, and Joel Gherig. Several local people provided food for the workers. The woman for whom the work was done was quite thankful for the assistance and overwhelmed by the generosity.

Our annual Sunday School picnic was held in late July. As is the tradition, the Sunday

School teachers conducted various activities with their students during the hours between church and the picnic at the park. The weather for the picnic was quite hot and humid, which made games including water balloons very popular! Our thanks to outgoing teacher, Sis. Christine Ginzel.

In early August, we had a work day at the church with much of the effort going into the landscaping tasks that needed some attention. The trustees appreciate all the help they received on that day. Our site looks very nice again.

Though we didn't have any visiting ministers this past month, we did have a "guest." We miss having Bro. David Wiegand on the pulpit, and it was a special blessing to have him lead a Wednesday evening Bible study focusing on how we can strengthen and support one another within the church family and how we each have our own unique talents and personal qualities.

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO Jill Rager

"While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease."

Genesis 8:22

As summer days wind down and a taste of autumn is in the air, our thoughts often turn to the beginning of school. We pray for our children and their teachers, including their Sunday School teachers. This year our four new teachers are Bros. Rick Kaisner, Rick Meyer, Tom O'Shea, and Mike Zimmerman. May God bless these brothers for their willingness to serve, and may He grant wisdom to all of the teachers for the year ahead.

This time of year often brings new college students to our area, and we wish to extend a warm welcome to Bro. Ed Hohulin (Goodfield, IL), who is attending school in our area.

We extend our sympathy to Bro.

Greg and Sis. Carla Rassi and their family at the sudden death of Sis. Carla's mother, Sis. Rose Vierling (Morton, IL).

We also bid farewell to Lois Rees. Even though time did not permit her baptism, we are thankful that Lois was able to experience conversion in her last days. What a comfort to know that these dear souls are waiting in Glory for that glad reunion day.

We are grateful for Bro. Leland Plattner (Zapata, TX) for sharing God's Word with us.

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK

**Cheryl Eisenmann
Denise Walder**

We thank those who have come and ministered the Word to us. May God bless Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler and Bros. Fredrick Knapp, Duane Reutter, and Tom Waldbeser.

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

Psalm 127:3

We rejoice with Bro. Dale and Sis. Susan Waldbeser at the birth of their second daughter, Jenna Lynn. Big sister Briana welcomed her home. Thankful grandparents are Sis. Wilma and the late Bro. Charles Walder and Bro. John and Sis. Carol Waldbeser. We extend congratulations to Sis. Virginia Ehman on a new grandson, Daniel, born to Kathy and Mike Hardison. Bro. Ken and Sis. Myrna Weerts are thankful grandparents of a boy, Brendon. His parents are Bro. Dan and Sis. Denise Weerts (Remington, IN).

Those who have spent time in the hospital recently and are in need of our prayers are Sis. Sandy

Kaufmann, Bro. Bob Greiner, and Sis. Twylla Beer.

We extend sympathy to Bro. Melvin Young and family and Sis. Kate Young and family at the death of their mother and mother-in-law, Ruth Young of Cissna Park. We pray God will comfort them during this time of sorrow.

We were thankful and happy when we heard of two couples announced for marriage. Bro. Nick Walder (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Sharon) and Sis. Andrea Maul (Bro. Fred and Sis. Joann) are looking forward to marriage. On the same Sunday, Bro. Josh Walder (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Sharon) and Sis. Tina Knobloch (Bro. Roger and Sis. Janet, Lester, IA) were also announced. We wish God's richest blessings on both of these couples.

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE

Glenna Rinkenberger

As the sultry days of summer
Swiftly ripen earthly grain,
So in days of dire affliction
Shall our faith its growth attain.
And beneath this heat and burden
Shall the Christian be prepared
For his happy home in heaven,
Where God's bliss and joy is
shared.

Zion's Harp #36 v.8

As we enter another harvest
season we pray that there could
also be a heavenly harvest.

"So they did eat and were filled:
and they took up of the broken
meat that was left seven baskets."

Mark 8:8

The Brotherhood Conference was in our area and we were privileged to have several visiting ministers. Listed in the order these brothers occupied our pulpit this month were Bro. Bill Gerst (Alto, MI), Elder Bro. Ken Indermuhle (Sardis, OH), Bro. Warren Zahner (Rockville, CT), Bro. Tom Leman (Denver, CO), Bro. Darren Fehr (West Bend, IA), Bro. Gary Maibach (Smithville, OH), and Bro. Larry Bahr (Fort Scott, KS). Several others sat in the benches the evening after the Conference. We hope they will return that we may eat of heavenly tables and fill our baskets again.

Bro. Jim Schrock and Bro. Carl Schieber (Sis. Millie) spent time in the hospital.

ILLINOIS, ELGIN

**Amy Gasser
Kay Kellenberger**

Press on, press on, O pilgrim,
Rejoicing in the Lord,
Believing in His promise,
And trusting in His Word;
Fear not, for He is with us,
Whate'er the cross we bear;
And soon, beyond the swelling
tide,
We'll gather over there.

Gospel Hymns #540

Our cup has been filled to overflowing. We have been blessed with many visiting ministers. Those who came to teach for Vacation Bible School the week of July 30 were Bros. Darren Plattner (Champaign, IL), Randy Mogler (Washington, IL) and Jon Zeller (Morton, IL). Other visiting ministers this month were Bros. Alan Schambach (Remington, IN), Marvin Dotterer (Forrest, IL),

Greg Stoller (Forrest, IL), Tim Zimmerman (Lamont - Gridley, KS), Beirne Messner (Morris, MN), Bob Beebe (South Bend, IN), Gary Brown (Forrest, IL), Dale Frank (Oakville, IA) and Elder Bro. Art Metz (Silverton, OR). We sincerely pray God's blessings upon each one and their families.

Our prayers are with Bro. Delbert Schmidt and Sis. Marge Wewetzer as they have undergone surgery.

On July 22, the Elgin congregation had a farewell singing for Bro. Earl and Sis. Kay Steffen who have moved to Morton, IL. We wish them many blessings in their new home.

Our thanks go to the outgoing Sunday School teachers. May God bless Bro. Tom Schifferer and Sis. Libby Leman for their years of faithful service. Our prayers are with Bro. Greg Kellenberger and Sis. Vicki Kellenberger who have been chosen to fill these positions.

Sis. Laura Getz passed away on August 17. We will miss her gentle manner.

First - time parents, Bro. Dave and Sis. Paige Stieglitz, welcomed a son, Reagan David, on August 17. His grandparents are Bro. Allen and Sis. Rosemary Massner (Taylor, MO) and Bro. Marvin and Sis. Joan Stieglitz (Leo, IN).

Note: A ladies' long black winter coat was mistakenly taken from the Elgin church about six months ago. If you have any knowledge of the whereabouts, please call Sis. Joni Anliker at (847) 742-3066. Thank you!

ILLINOIS, EUREKA Janet Zimmerman

Turn your face, take timely warning,
to Him who alone can save!
Now His loving face is shining;
Soon comes judgement and the grave.

Still He offers you salvation
but the time of grace is short.
Will you heed the invitation?
Come, and harden not your heart.

Zion's Harp #52, vs. 2

We are thankful that Merle Stoller (Bro. Stan and Sis. Lola) has heeded God's loving invitation unto repentance. We wish him much grace as he works out his soul's salvation and builds upon the solid rock, Jesus Christ.

This covenant shall then endure
and stand forever;
there neither grief nor pain shall
come to part or sever.
There God shall e'er abide with
us our truest friend,
our hearts in Him unite forever,
without end.

Zion's Harp #79, vs. 6

On July 29, many from our congregation traveled to Lamar, MO, to witness the marriage vows of Bro. Brian Leman (Bro. Terry and Sis. Shirl) and Sis. Kristen Braker (Bob and Sis. Janice Stoller). Bro. Brian is formerly of Eureka. We wish this dear couple God's richest blessings.

We have experienced joy along with sorrow this month in our congregation. Our friend, Wilbur Rocke, passed away Sunday, August 5. We will miss his friendly ways. We extend our sympathy to his sisters, Wilma McCanless

(Phil), Sis. Ruth Schumacher, both of Eureka, Clara Knapp of Morton, and his brothers, Walton of Washington and Richard of Streator.

We extend our sympathy to Bro. Mike (Sis. Kary) Schmidgall on the death of his mother, Betty Schmidgall, of Deer Creek. She died August 5.

We also extend our sympathy to Sis. Gladys Schmidgall (Bro. Sam), Sis. Evie Gudeman (Bro. Don), Sis. Dorothy and Sis. Elizabeth Zimmerman and Bro. Walter Zimmerman (Mabel) on the sudden death of their sister, Margaret Kercher (the late Emerson), of Littleton, CO. She died on August 7. May God comfort each of our dear ones during their time of sorrow.

Steve and Tarla Gibbs welcomed a precious baby girl into their hearts and home. Taylor Kay was born July 30. Her grandparents are Bro. Lewis and Sis. Arletta Martin and the late William and Barbara Gibbs. May God richly bless their family circle.

Josh Knecht (Bro. Ernie and Sis. Judie) and Shannon Weeks (Dale and Debbie) of Mackinaw became engaged Sunday, August 19. We wish them God's blessings as they plan their future wedding.

Earlier this month we had two visiting ministers, Bros. Don Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN) and Doug Grimm (Sabetha, KS). May they be blessed for laboring on our behalf.

The Brotherhood Conference also brought many visiting ministers to our congregation. With us from our Hungarian churches were Elder Bro. Janos Papp (Budapest) and Elder Bro. Ferenc Kovacs (Oroshaza). From within the United States were ministering Bros. Ed Knecht (Silverton, OR),

Tim Zimmerman (Gridley/Lamont, KS), Doug Wagenbach (San Diego, CA), Dan Stoller (Rockville, CT), Paul Gasser (Akron, OH), Pat Zaugg (West Bend, IA), Bill Dotterer (Lamar, MO), Floyd Frieden and Kent Getz (Elgin, IA), Duane Rocke (Minneapolis, MN), Bob Miller (Portland, OR) and from our Kitchener, Ontario church, Bro. Mike Ursu. May God richly bless these brothers.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Bro. Walter Zimmerman who is hospitalized at this time. Bro. Roy Hangartner (Sis. Norma) and Sis. Eunice Martin also spent some time in the hospital. We trust God will be near each one who are sick and suffer pain and that He will grant healing and strength according to His good and perfect will.

Did You?

Did you send him to school with
a brave little song
Full - assured in his heart that
your love went along?
Did you help him, last night, to
dreamland quite early
So that morning brought calm,
with no hurly-burly?

If there's helter-te-skelter, harsh
words as you part,
Or a stiff criticism — poor vexed
little heart!
He's a laggard all day, though he
does not know why,
And he seems, to his teacher, un-
willing to try.

He is under a shadow — no fault
of his own
One could dispel with a fond,
gentle tone.
Your hand on his shoulder —
he'd understand
The faith in your eyes, that touch
of your hand.

Let his heart be assured as he's
off and away
With a skip and brave stride to
meet a new day.
Yes, a smile of approval, his par-
ents' caress,
Can do more for his grades than
you ever would guess!

—*Florence Aiken Banks*

Note of Thanks:

I would like to thank everyone
that sent me cards on my 90th
birthday. May God bless each of
you.

Bro. Walter Zimmerman

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY

**Sally Fehr
Joann Zehr**

May God's blessing be with Bro.
Bill Stork (Bro. John and Sis.
Eunice) and Sis. Shay Steffen (Bro.
Chris and Sis. Kay) as they were
united in marriage on July 22 and
will establish their home together.

The following from our congre-
gation have had surgery and we
wish them God's healing powers:
Hannah Fehr (Bro. Nathan and
Sis. Marsha), Bro. Jeff Moser (Sis.
Sarah), and Brad Steidinger (Bro.
Eldon and Sis. Darlene). Sis.
Darlene Steidinger (Bro. Eldon)
met with an accident on her left
hand.

Our sincere sympathy is ex-
tended to Bro. Norman Young (Sis.
Lollie) in the death of his mother,
Ruth, 91, of Cissna Park.

Also, we ask that God will com-
fort the family of Bro. Ivan Stoller,
65, of Fort Myers, FL: his wife,
Maxine; daughters Jacqui Eaton
(Bruce, Fort Myers) and Debra
Bachtold (Roger, Fairbury); sons
Chip (Stephanie, Dayton Beach,
FL) and Brett (Laurie, East Peoria,

IL); his sister Joan Gaston
(Fairbury); and his brothers
Melvin (Inge, Cincinnati, OH),
Richard (Karen, Chenoa, IL), and
Bro. Dale (Sis. Sandra, Fairbury).
Bro. Ivan grew up and lived in the
Fairbury area for many years, and
we have a lot of good memories.

Maggie Huber (Bro. Richard
and Sis. Dawn) has turned her life
and heart to God in repentance,
and we wish her His grace and help
as she walks this new life.

A special thanks to all of our
ministering brothers who visited
us and were willing to bring us
God's precious Word. They were
Elder Bros. Phil Stettner (Bluffton
North, IN) and Wayne Anliker
(Forrest, IL) and Bros. Ralph
Garber (Morton, IL), Mark
Streitmatter (Bloomington, IL),
Clark Stoller (Gridley, IL), Paul
Schmidgall (Morris, MN), and
Gary Brown and Marvin Dotterer
(both from Forrest, IL).

ILLINOIS, FORREST

**Jean Knapp
Linda Anliker**

We enjoyed the benefits of hav-
ing a neighboring congregation
host the Elder Conference with
several visiting ministers. Those
ministers include Elder Bros. Pe-
ter Petrovic (San Diego, CA),
Kevin Ryan (Rockville, CT) and
Art Bahler (Fairbury, IL) and min-
istering Bros. Everett Gerber
(Rockville, CT), Tim Gerber
(Mansfield, OH), Beirne Messner
(Morris, MN), Mike Ursu
(Kitchener, Ontario) and Pat
Zaugg (West Bend, IA).

Joining the family of Earl and
Krista and Collin Leman was Drew
Edward born July 30. His grand-
parents are Steve and Cindy Ed-
wards (Forrest, IL), Roger and

Charon Brydon (Cullom, IL) and Sis. Donna Leman.

We extend our sympathy to Sis. Alma Bolliger and her family, Bro. Mark and Sis. Ruby, Brian and Nancy, Bruce and Lisa and Joyce, in the passing of her mother, Gertrude Ifft (Fairbury, IL).

Also, in our prayers are Tom and Sis. Earlene Hamilton and family with the death of their son, Chris Hamilton. We want to remember his wife, Dawn, and his daughters, Reana and Jordan, and also his sisters, Sis. Alisa (Bro. Allen) Ricketts, Teresa (Brad) Caron (Newberry, FL) and Danesa (Marty) Borgerding (Greenville, OH) and his grandmother, Sis. Marie Hohulin.

We continue to keep Sis. Janny and Bro. Duane Schneider in our prayers as she is undergoing radiation treatments.

Note of thanks:

We wish to thank our loved ones for the love, prayers and many cards received with the death of our mother and grandmother.

Sis. Alma Bolliger

Bro. Mark and Sis. Ruby Bolliger

To our Brothers, Sisters, Neighbors and Friends,

We would like to thank everyone who remembered us with cards, gifts, phone calls, visits and your prayers after my recent surgery. We would appreciate your continued prayers as we go to radiation. May God be your Rewarder!

Bro. Duane and Sis. Janny Schneider

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD
Heather Hohulin

"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths."

Proverbs 3:5,6

How simple it is to say this verse, but do we really feel it in our hearts? Do we, in our weak human way, really trust God with our future and the future of our families, or do we lean to our own understanding? Amidst trials and cares of life, we need to remember that God is in control. He knows what is best for us and will direct our paths if we "acknowledge Him".

Trusting in the Lord to help them find a mate were Sis. Tonya Scott (Sis. Janelle, Bloomington, IL and the late Bro. Don) and Bro. Shane Knapp (Bro. George and Sis. Fern). Also, Sis. Gwen Kloter (Bro. Kent and Sis. Janell) and Bro. Tim Drayer (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Lois, Bluffton North, IN) were announced. How happy we are for these dear couples. We pray they can feel God's Spirit as they prepare to become one in the Lord.

Our prayers are with Sis. Karen Wiegand (Bro. Gary). She was in the hospital and is now recovering at home. We hope she is soon feeling better.

Visiting ministers this month were Bro. Bill Brake (Sis. Miriam, Sardis, OH), Bro. Ed Knecht (Sis. Judy, Silverton, OR), Bro. Ron Palitto (Sis. Lynell, Akron, OH), and Bro. Gene Metzger (Sis. Dolores, Lester, IA). We thank them for their service to us.

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY
Perry A. Klopfenstein

It was a privilege for several of us to attend the annual Brotherhood Conference on August 10 at Roanoke. We extend our thanks to those who spoke; and we thank God who granted inspired words and thoughts.

It is heartening to come together from far and near to revive and stir up God's ways, and to illuminate the proven pathways of the past. The enemy of our soul seeks to tempt us with little things to create a leaven.

The Scriptures teach that a "little" leaven will leaven the entire lump. Such a teaching ought to caution each of us to walk more circumspectly.

On Friday evening, August 10 (following the all day Conference at Roanoke), three visiting ministers were present in Gridley: Bros. Bill Emch (Lamont-Gridley, KS, who had the meditation) and Nelson Beer (Milford, IN) and Duane Reutter (Rockville, CT).

Bro. Dennis Rassi (Fairbury, IL) was the speaker at our monthly topical Bible presentation on Wednesday evening, August 15. His topic was, "I Don't Want To." In this, he explained how the believer is often tempted to say that when God asks him to do something.

Sawyer Wyatt Schlipf was born on July 19 to Bro. Ryan and Sherrie Schlipf. Grandparents are Bro. Dale and Sis. Vicki Schlipf and Bob Stiles, Mahomet, and Carol Stiles, El Paso. Siblings are Bodee (6), Codee (5) and Tucker (3).

Grace Marie Yergler, born on February 22, became the adopted daughter of Bro. Darin and Sis. Marie Yergler. They are temporarily residing in Georgia, so

grandparent information is lacking and will be forthcoming in another issue. We rejoice with Bro. Darin and Sis. Marie.

Sis. Mildred Schlipf continues to suffer a serious illness, but has been doing a little better. Likewise, Sis. Vyra Stoller has not been well. May God be with both of these dear sisters in faith.

"Walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;"

Col. 1:10

ILLINOIS, MORTON

**Phyllis Farney
Cheryl Wuthrich**

Sis. Rose Vierling passed away suddenly on Sunday, August 12. May the Lord comfort her loved ones. They are sons, Weldon and Darrel (Linda); daughters, Sis. Gloria Leman (Bro. Howard) and Sis. Carla Rassi (Bro. Greg); her brother, Bro. Elmer Baer (Sis. Shirlee); sisters, Sis. Anna Hartter, Martha Vance (Don), and Sis. Minnie Glueck; 14 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren.

The weekend of August 18-19, Morton hosted a gathering of the brothers and their families that are involved in the S.E.E.D. agriculture project in Haiti. We were happy to have them.

We wish to thank the visiting ministers who led us in worship this month. We also want to thank the families that were able to come with them. They were Elder Bros. Janos Papp (Budapest, Hungary) and Ferenc Kovacs (Oroshaza, Hungary), and Bros. Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI), Dave Graf (Akron, OH), Jim Ramseyer (Bay City, MI), Greg Rassi (Chicago, IL), Ron

Heiniger (Bloomington, IL), Bob Beebe (South Bend, IN), and Art Mueller (Belvidere, IL).

ILLINOIS, PEORIA Peter and Mabel Weber

In Judges 13, God put the Israelites under the cruel rule of the Philistines for 40 years, then chose the most uncommon way to deliver them through a barren woman, wife of Manoah, mother of Samson. But when he later violated all the laws of the Nazarites, he paid the price. Paul also knew he had to give an account someday: "ye are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read of all men" (II Cor. 3:2). God doesn't need our fruit, but it's the natural result if we are grafted into the root. "It's not me that liveth, but Christ liveth in me" (Gal. 2:20). (Bro. Rick Plattner 7/29)

The Galilean Home near Liberty, KY, is a non-denominational facility for about 100 residents from newborn to adult. Not receiving government aid, it is funded through individual contributions and an annual auction sale. A few years ago, World Relief supported the building and landscaping of the Angel Home, a shelter for babies until their mothers are released from correctional facilities. Bros. Wayne Wieland and Lou Lonteen delivered a van-load of non-perishables there over the weekend of 7/27-29. Thanks to the donors and Bro. Mike Mangold for making a van available for this trip.

"What is a Christian?" was Bro. Rick Plattner's topic for our family night service on 8/1. Jesus often answered a question with a question to get His hearers to dig a little deeper, below the surface. Are we a Christian? How do we become one?

"Christian" is only mentioned three times in the New Testament. The Bible calls them saints, brethren, men of God, beloved, the Church, strangers, called, believers, transformed (not conformed), converted, separate, pure, holy, righteous, dead, repenter. All came under sin because the law raised the bar too high. What is the will of the Father? He is not willing that any should perish, but come to repentance. Today, everybody is a Christian ... a broad brush with a stroke that takes in all. Satan does not say not to repent, just to wait. Can we be a Christian and live like we always did? Is this according to the Word of God? or: "therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new" (II Cor. 5:17) and "except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God" (John 3:3). The world tells us Christianity is a label, but it goes far beyond that and is more than carrying a Bible.

The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch by others who observed them, identified with Christ, in the world, not of the world. Agrippa said to Paul: "almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian" (Acts 26:28). Acts 26:18: "to open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me" ... self-contained definition of repentance. One of the first steps is to open their eyes as the god of this world has blinded them; now we have a different mindset. Being a Christian might not make us popular, but when the Spirit of the Lord gets

a hold of us, it is not what we cannot do, but what we can do and have the opportunity to suffer for Him (I Peter 4:16). Will He find faith when He returns? We thank Bro. John and Sis. Pat Stoller (Leo, IN) for their visit on 8/5 and Bro. John for his ministry on Galatians 5 and Ephesians 6: God calls us to be faithful, not successful. Faith is not believing what God can, but will do. If anything other than God is our security, it is not of Him. Guilt and shame come from Satan, conviction from God. We must follow the ten commandments, but are not saved by them. How do we become strong in the Lord? Hold on to Him, fight evil through prayer with faith and confidence, walk and don't faint. Let the light of Jesus fill us and stand against the wiles of the devil.

We heard encouraging words about the mind of Christ from Bro. Roger Sauder (Ft. Lauderdale, FL) on 8/8. Jesus is the only way to Heaven and when we come to Him, He is there and will love us. Satan's victory is to take as many as he can with him to destruction. Do we love Jesus or complain and want a little more? Sometimes love, joy, and peace are diminished in our lives. Is it God's fault? We need to renew our vows and dedication to have the mind of Christ. Why do we struggle so hard to keep from going to Heaven? Jesus will help us, let's have His mind.

Bros. Hartzell Kaisner (Detroit, MI) and Bob Meyer (Bluffton North, IN) stayed over from the General Conference of 8/10 at Roanoke and we thank them for their ministry on 8/12. Do we give Jesus the honor and glory to be the Captain of our ship, which will sail over boisterous seas?

Dwelling on unwholesome

thoughts is pre-action to doing. Talk to Jesus about the greatest joy in life: here I am, pick me up! Let us look into the mirror of the Word to see how we stand and ask: what would the Lord do? Are we prepared for our trip to eternity? Same God, same Jesus, same power of prayer as ever!

God looks at us and says: this is my habitation. We are not murderers, just annoying in His sight. "Good kids", without Christ, can perform most heinous crimes. The definition of sin is "to miss the mark". It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not" (Lam. 3:22). To many places we are denied access, but God does not reject us and let's us be saved by grace. Let's cultivate our thankfulness and have Jesus as our Lord. We hear words and voices, but the Spirit is speaking to each individual heart.

Sis. Irene Aeschleman (76) passed away 7/22 in San Diego, CA, where she had moved to be near her daughter. We express our sympathy to Linda and the rest of her family. Joe Fehr (93) was called home 8/3 at the Skylines, where he had resided since 1999. He is the father of Sis. Nancy Schmidgall and we wish her and the other family members the comfort of the Lord in their bereavement. A grain of sand outlives all man.

We welcome Ray and Sis. Verna Pueschel, who have moved from Sun City, AZ, to a Skylines duplex.

Where are they now?

Sis. Sally Herman lives in Mesa, AZ, works as Air-E-Vac nurse, part-time at Desert Sand Hospital and studies for nurse practitioner. She goes twice a year to Mexico with World Relief and was recently in Vietnam with Operation Smile,

an organization helping children with facial deformities and cleft palates.

Bro. Steve Joos has had an apartment at Poseyville, IN, for ten years and works in the editorial department for the local paper. He drives 100 miles to Champaign, IL, for church and assembles with us several times a year.

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE

Mary Ehle

Crystal Streitmatter

Our annual Sunday School picnic was held July 29 at Hickory Grove Park, marking the end of another Sunday School term. We again thank each teacher for their willingness to serve in this important work. Sunday School classes will resume for another year on August 26.

"Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ; Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God. Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord."

Ephesians 5:20-22

The engagement of Bro. Bill Stahl (Bro. Lyle and Sis. Betty) to Sis. Kristal Wagenbach (Bro. Laurence and Sis. Elaine) was announced on August 12. Bro. Bill is currently employed in the Lester, IA, area, and Sis. Kristal attends our Bradford, IL, church, but their "roots" are in Princeville. We wish them God's rich blessings as they prepare for their marriage. They are planning an October wedding.

We were again blessed this past month to have many visiting ministers. Those visiting our congregation were Bros. Andy Klaus

(Tokyo, Japan), Mark Streitmatter (Bloomington - Normal, IL), Paul Messner (Winthrop, MN), Rod Bajema (Lester, IA), Rex Frieden (Lamar, MO), Kevin Banwart (West Bend, IA), and John Grimm (Columbus, OH). We were reminded of the children of Israel, and how they grieved God's heart by their lack of faith and trust in Him and by complaining. The price they had to pay was wandering in the wilderness for 40 years. May we take example from these Old Testament Scriptures.

It is always a time for rejoicing when a soul can leave behind the world and make a beginning in repentance. Kristen Regier (Bro. Dana and Sis. Martha Kay) recently made this decision, and we are so thankful! Our prayers are with her as she seeks the Lord. Those enduring physical affliction have been Bro. Roy Mueller, Sis. Mary Lou Joos, and Sis. Beulah Ehnle (Bro. David). We pray for God's healing hand to be upon them if it can be His will.

Our congregation is currently listening to the tapes of the Brotherhood Conference held in Roanoke, IL, as we assemble on Wednesday evenings. It is truly a blessing to hear the instructions, encouragement, and admonitions from our beloved Elder brothers.

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

Linda Hodel

Jenell Hodel

What a blessing it was for our congregation to host our Brotherhood Conference the week of August 6. After many months of planning, we were thankful to be able to work and fellowship together. We appreciate those that came to be with us and especially

our beloved Elders who labor for us. May the Lord bless each one and continue to guide and direct them each day.

We had many visiting Elders with us on that Tuesday night at our mid-week service and want to thank all for being with us. We thank those that labored that night on the pulpit: Elder Bros. Merle Hartzler (Rittman, OH), Peter Petrovic (San Diego, CA), Mark Masters (Mansfield, OH) and Gerry Hertzler (Sabetha, KS). We also thank Bros. Everett Gerber (Rockville, CT) and Mike Leman (Denver, CO) for sharing God's Word with us this past month. May God bless each one.

Our prayers are with Bro. Ervin Kempf and Bro. Nathan Hoffman as they both spent time in the hospital this past month. May they continue to feel God's healing.

On July 25, we had the funeral of Sis. Ethel Rassi. Our prayers are with this dear sister's family at this time.

We rejoice with Bro. Harland and Sis. Martha Braker, as they welcome a new grandson, Isaac Robert Wuethrich, son of Reggie and Lora. We were thankful to hear of his safe arrival and pray God's blessings upon them.

On August 10, Bro. Ervin and Sis. Alice Kempf were able to share their 60th wedding anniversary. We praise God for their years together.

Note of Thanks:

Thanks for the encouraging cards, prayers and concern, and gifts during my total knee replacement surgery. God bless everyone.

Bro. Harold Roth

Brothers and sisters in faith and friends: I humbly thank our loved

ones who took part in the work done on my property. Also meals prepared, food and drinks brought, prayers, your willingness and kindness, was all greatly appreciated. I wish to add, last but not least, a special thank you to whom ever left \$100 on my coffee table, with my name attached. May God richly bless each of you now and in eternity for your good deeds done.

Sis. Mabel Bowald

"I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth."

Psalms 121:1-2

ILLINOIS, TREMONT

Heather Rassi

LaVonne Wagenbach

What a precious blessing it is to gather once again to receive exhortation from God through our Elder Brothers. The Conference this month brought many of our brethren to the central Illinois area. We were thankful to have Bro. Mike Leman (Sis. Deb, Denver, CO) visit and minister in our congregation.

A loved one has passed on from this earthly life to one that is eternal. We are saddened at the passing of Bro. Jess Koch. May the Comforter come to his wife, Sis. Amy, and their children, Bro. Terry (Sis. Christine), Connie Kieswetter (Marty), and Randy, at this time of loss. Also saddened at the death of their father, Joe Fehr, are daughters Sis. Doris Baer (Bro. Bob), Sis. Phyllis Holmes (Bro. Marshall), and Sis. Barb Reinbeck (Bro. Larry). Our sympathy is extended to each one.

An announcement this month made known the engagement of

Bro. John Dill (Bro. Glenn and Sis. Marilyn) to Sis. Jamie Koch (Bro. Ken and Sis. Amy). We rejoice with this couple and pray God's blessings upon them.

On July 29 Bro. Gregg and Sis. Cindy Sauder had their sixth child. They are grateful parents of a new little girl, Blessing Joy. Her siblings are Tim, Nic, Jeni, Ben, and Andy. Grandparents are Bro. Earl and Sis. Glenna Sauder and Bro. Glenn and Sis. Marilyn Dill.

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON
Denise Romersberger
Sue Ruppert

"Then this Daniel was preferred above the presidents and princes, because an excellent spirit was in him; and the king thought to set him over the whole realm."

Daniel 6:3

In the beginning of the Old Testament story of Daniel and the lions' den, we see Daniel being promoted by the king because of his "excellent spirit". The king obviously felt that Daniel was trustworthy and had enough wisdom to manage the affairs of the kingdom. We also find later in the account that the king knew that the source of Daniel's strength was "Thy God, whom thou servest continually" (Dan. 6:16). When the king, after a sleepless night, went to the lions' den and called out to Daniel, Daniel could say that God had shut the lions' mouths because "before him innocence was found in me; and also before thee, O king, have I done no hurt" (Dan. 6:22). By the end of the chapter, the king is proclaiming the God of Daniel as the living God and recognizing God's dominion over all.

Here we have a man who was brought involuntarily to Babylon as a slave. Despite this, he continued to worship God, and did the best he could do for his employer, the king. Because he worshipped God, God blessed the work of his hands, and his life was a witness of God's goodness to the people around him. The king even professed a faith in God because of Daniel's example.

We have many lessons in this story that show us how we too should be as employees. Do others sense "an excellent spirit" in us? Can we profess "innocency" before God and know that our actions have brought no hurt to our employers? Perhaps, God will even see fit to have our nonbelieving employers come to knowledge of Him through our example. If we keep God at the center of all we do, including at work, He will bless the work of our hands.

Many visiting ministers joined us this month to serve us through the preaching of the Word, partly due to the Elder/Brotherhood Conference held in Roanoke and the associated World Relief meeting held here at Washington. We also had brothers visit for testimonies and baptisms, and our monthly Bible Study. Included were Elder Bros. Joe Stoller (Princeville, IL), and Phil Stettner (Bluffton North, IN), and Bros. Dean Steffen (Belvidere, IL), Tim Hohulin (Roanoke, IL), Chuck Kellenberger (Elgin, IL), Dale Zeltwanger (Morris, MN), Roger Sauder (Ft. Lauderdale, FL), Jerry Bauman (Rittman, OH), Trent Meiss (Eureka, IL), Roger Aberle (Sabetha, KS), Arnie Gerst (Taylor, MO), Frank Sauder (Roanoke, IL), Ken Weerts (Cissna Park, IL), Andy Klaus (Tokyo, Japan), Ted Hirstein (Morton, IL),

and Doug Wagenbach (San Diego, CA). May God bless you for all of your efforts.

We rejoiced as two souls found their peace with their God and gave their testimonies and were baptized. Sis. Trisha Plattner (Bro. Russ and Sis. Sally) and Bro. Shayne Fehr (Dave and Sis. Linda) were brought into the Washington family of God. We rejoice with you and wish you God's richest blessings in your new life in Christ.

Hospitalized this month were Bro. Rich Dreeste and Sis. Judy Witzig. We thank God for His healing powers, and pray that you will feel His presence as you recuperate.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON
Tonia Isch
Beth Aschliman

We rejoice with five new converts and their families as they have chosen to give their lives to Christ. Jason Gerber (Bro. Gene and Sis. Becky), Kyle Swisher (Doug and Julie), Marissa Pfister (Bro. Tim and Sis. Angela), Joey Cline, and Terry Goodpaster have left the world behind and followed Jesus. We wish them God's grace.

On August 28 - 29, we heard the testimonies and witnessed the baptism of Bro. Rodney Reimschisel (Bro. Todd and Sis. Lori), Sis. Shauna Fiechter (Bro. Don and Sis. Suzie), Bro. Kurt Fiechter (Bro. Rick and Sis. Beth) and Bro. Jason Fiechter (Bro. Dave and Sis. June). On August 12, we enjoyed another beautiful weekend as Bro. Mitch Aschliman (Bro. Kevin and Sis. Beth), Bro. Brad Bertsch (Bro. Mike and Sis. Carmon), Bro. Carson Gerber (Bro. Doug and Sis. Ruby), Sis. Jesse Steffen (Bro. Duane and Sis. Karen) and Sis.

Janel Fiechter (Bro. Doug and Sis. Jill) gave a testimony of their faith and were baptized. We can now greet them as our new brothers and sisters in Christ.

Elder Bros. Jesse Beer (Sis. Shirley, Milford, IN), Lynn Stieglitz (Sis. Leonda, Leo, IN) and Phil Stettner (Sis. Maureen, Bluffton North, IN) were in Bluffton to help Elder Bro. Ed with baptisms. We're thankful for their willingness to share.

Wedding bells have been ringing for Doug Gerber (Bro. Lee and Sis. Jenny) and Kristy Collier. They were married on Sunday, August 12. We pray for God's presence and love as they start on the beautiful journey of marriage. Congratulations.

We wish Bro. Dan Dubach (Bro. Ken and Jodi) and Sis. Bethany Furrer (Bro. Jim and Sis. Rowena, Prescott, AZ) God's blessing as they have announced their engagement and plans for their future together.

Sis. Devona Gerber, Bro. Sam Kaehr (Sis. Connie) and Sis. Dorothy Frank have spent time in the hospital and are recuperating. Sis. Devona has suffered a stroke and has spent many weeks in rehab. We pray for God's strength and continued healing in her life.

**INDIANA
BLUFFTON NORTH
Ann Meyer
Rhonda Maller**

"Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting."

Psalm 139:23-24

We were very blessed to have Elder Bro. Janos Papp (Budapest, Hungary) and Elder Bro. Ferenc Kovacs (Oroshaza, Hungary) minister unto us and exhort us to examine ourselves in light of the Word on a daily basis. Through the help of Bro. Tom Bako (Budapest), who translated, we were reminded that the Word of the Lord spoken unto us today is the same Word that was spoken to our forefathers. God does not change; there is not even a shadow of change. We are thankful for the blessing of their visit and our prayers go with them as they journey home. We are also thankful to Bro. Peter Gal (Budapest) who traveled with the Elder brothers to make their journey smoother.

Our prayers continue to be with Sis. Marge Ringger who remains in the hospital and with Ron Meyer (Kathy) who was recently admitted. May they both know the peace of God and experience His healing touch.

"I will bless the Lord at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth."

Psalm 34:1

We praise God for our new convert, Amanda Fritz. We are thankful that she has repented, sought forgiveness, and accepted the gift of eternal life. We pray that she will continue to grow in the wisdom and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Our converts, Shawn and Mindy Yergler, have been blessed with their firstborn son, Colton Jeffrey. We pray this precious blessing from the Lord will bring Shawn and Mindy joy as they train Colton up in the way he should go. The happy grandparents are Bro.

Jeff and Sis. Peg Yergler.

"Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind."

Philippians 2:2

**INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE
Jessica Murray**

"Remember not the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions: according to thy mercy remember thou me for thy goodness' sake, O Lord."

Psalm 25:7

It was with great joy that Francesville hosted the annual Christian Endeavor weekend. We thank Bro. Steve Ringger and Bro. Doyle Frauhiger (both of Bluffton North, IN) for sharing the Word with us.

We express our sympathy to Bro. Elmer Anliker (Sis. Emilie) as his brother, retired Elder Bro. Samuel Anliker (Lamont-Gridley, KS), went to his reward on August 11. May our prayers also be with Sis. Terri Pelsy (Bro. Dale) as her father went to his final rest on August 18.

Bro. Irvin Yaggie (Sis. Lois) is now at home recovering from surgery he had this past month. May the Lord grant him strength through his recovery. Our prayers have also been with Sis. Viola Von Tobel (Bro. Virgil) who has returned home from the hospital.

Sincere thanks to the Elders for their labors of love as they met for the Conference. What a privilege we have to be able to listen to our Elders and review our hearts as we try to walk closer with the Lord.

As we say farewell to our dear Bro. Chris and Sis. Carla

Wuethrich and their family, we pray that the grace of God will continue to be with them and bless them. They will be making their new home in the LaCrosse, IN, congregation. We thank Bro. Chris for his years of dedicated service in the ministry at Francesville and his wife and family for their support. We pray the Lord's blessings be with them.

Note of Thanks:

I would like to thank everyone for their many prayers, cards, visits, and especially all of the love. The last two and a half years of battling lymphoma cancer has now come to the remission stage. I pray that the studies they have done by using me can help just one person—that would be a blessing. Through the healing power of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, anything is possible. May the Lord continue to bless.

Bro. Joe Gray

INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS

**Sue Levy
Gail Bradford**

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

II Cor. 5:17

Samuel Holliger, Michael Holliger, Matthew Freed and Benjamin Pearson recently experienced this miracle. The congregation listened to their humble testimonies on Saturday evening and rejoiced with them on Sunday morning. Here for the joyful occasion were Elder Bro. Wes Knapp and Bro. Jeff Grimm (both from Goodfield, IL), and Elder Bros. Al-

fred Bahler (Wolcott, IN) and Wayne Banwart (Champaign, IL), along with many family members, friends and Christian brethren.

We also celebrated two births of the human kind. Mikaila Joy Witzig arrived on July 16. Her parents are Brian and Nicole Witzig. Happy grandparents are Duane and Lori Carver of Cincinnati, and Bro. Bill and Sis. Conni Witzig. Reggie and Lora Wuethrich welcomed Isaac Robert on August 2. His delighted grandparents are Bro. Harland and Sis. Martha Braker (Roanoke, IL) and Bro. Robert and Sis. Phyliss Wuethrich (Francesville, IN).

Some of us donated our time to help many other laborers at the Gateway Woods auction. The Lord provides many areas of service here in the city and around the world. We should be alert to these opportunities and look to Him for guidance on where our physical and financial resources can be used most effectively.

This month we send our college students and young people beginning new jobs out into the world. We pray God's protection for them. They will need it as they make important choices on how they will spend their time.

“And I will bring the blind by a way that they knew not; I will lead them in paths that they have not known: I will make darkness light before them, and crooked things straight. These things will I do unto them, and not forsake them.”

Isaiah 42:16

INDIANA, LACROSSE
Eric and Bobbi Ann Heinold

God's people yet shall take pos-

session
Of that sweet land of rest so
bright;
Rejoice!

Zion's Harp #211

Our prayers are with the family of our dear Sis. Lizzie Pfladderer as she passed on to her eternal reward August 7. She will be greatly missed by her sisters, Lydia Horak and Marie Marvine, as well as several nephews and nieces and the LaCrosse congregation. She was preceded in death by her parents, ten brothers, and five sisters.

A special thank-you to the following ministers for sharing the Gospel with our congregation: Bro. Gary Maibach (Sis. Mary Ann, Smithville, OH), Bro. Tom Leman (Sis. Marlene, Denver, CO), and Bro. Ted Steffen (Sis. Sandy, Alto, MI).

It is such a blessing to welcome Bro. Man Huynh to our congregation. He has found employment in our area and will be greatly missed by the Iowa City, IA, church.

We continue to be prayerful for Sis. Ruth Heinold, Sis. Carolyn Levy, and Gene Stoller, who have been ill or hospitalized again this past month.

We rejoice with Bro. Gene and Sis. Evie Heinold as they welcome another precious granddaughter into their family. Kyla Rae was born to Bro. Jim and Sis. Diana Butikofer (Iowa City, IA) on August 2.

Our new Sunday School teachers are Sis. Kerri Gudeman and Bro. Eric Heinold. May they be granted much wisdom from above as they teach our children. May God richly bless Sis. Jackie Feller and Bro. Keith Elcock for their years of service in Sunday School.

INDIANA, LEO Ethelyn Schlatter

The engagement of Bro. Shane Stieglitz and Sis. Laura Siegel was announced July 1. Their parents are Bro. Steve and Sis. Jane Stieglitz and Bro. Bob and Sis. Leann Siegel (Oakville, IA). We wish them the Lord's blessings. Plans are for a September wedding.

Bro. Dan and Sis. Susan Meister welcomed Abram Daniel into their hearts and home on July 28. Abram has a sister, Sophie. Grandparents are Bro. Paul and Sis. Rhoda Meister (Peoria, IL) and Bro. Doug and Sis. Myrna Schwenk (Goodfield, IL). Congratulations to all.

Gateway Woods auction commemorating 25 years was another blessed success. There was more of everything and more visitors. It was well organized. The tents were cleared and the last items were put away as the rains descended in sheets in a thunder storm. It was God's provision and it is marvelous in our hearts. We were thankful for the overflow crowd that stayed over for Sunday. The ministers who served us were Bros. Kenneth Hoerr (Peoria, IL), Jeff Thames (Washington, IL) and Wally Ramsier (Mansfield, OH). It was a blessed weekend. We were also greatly blessed during the month by the following ministers: Elder Bro. Ray Sinn (Sis. Ann, Latty, OH), and Bros. Greg Stieglitz (Sis. Lisa, Indianapolis, IN), Gary Anliker (Sis. Edith, Elgin, IL) and Robert Pflederer (Sis. Eleanor, Morton, IL). Our local ministers were grateful for their visits, as most of the time there was only one at home.

Give me the love of friendship
and I
Shall not complain of cloudy sky,
Or little dreams that fade and
die.

Give me the clasp of a firm hand,
The lips that say "I understand"
And I shall walk on holy land.
For fame and fortune burdens
bring,
But friendship is a God like
thing.

—author unknown

I need Thee every hour, most
gracious Lord.

No tender voice like Thine can
peace afford.

I need Thee every hour; stay
Thou near by.

Temptations lose their pow'r
when Thou art nigh.

I need Thee every hour, in joy or
pain.

Come quickly, and abide, or life is
vain.

I need Thee every hour; teach me
Thy will,
and Thy rich promises in me fulfill.

I need Thee every hour, Most
Holy One;

O make me Thine indeed, Thou
blessed Son.

—Annie S. Hawks

INDIANA, MILFORD Pam Beer Stacey Feller

Our congregation has had to bid farewell to a couple of our young brothers as they have relocated for employment. Bro. Rod Steffen (Bro. Dick and Sis. Gwen) is now residing in Chicago, IL, and Bro. Neal Beer (Bro. Dan and Sis. Deb) in Bloomington, IL. We are sorry to see them go, but we wish them God's nearness and blessings as

they settle into their new communities and congregations.

We wish a speedy recovery to those with injuries or surgeries in the past month, which include Bro. Cap Beer (Sis. Mary Ann), Bro. Phil Price (Sis. Jane), and Rhett Mikel (Russ and Sis. Pat). Sis. Eleanor Beer (Bro. Howard) is happy to be back home after a stay in the nursing home.

Our visiting ministers this month were Bro. Clark Stoller (Gridley, IL), Bro. Ron Kipfer (Bluffton, IN), and Bro. Lynn Fiechter (Bluffton, IN). We thank them and their families for their visit and willing service.

"For thou, Lord, wilt bless the righteous; with favour wilt thou compass him as with a shield."

Psalms 5:12

As our youth head off to school again, may they have a happy year, blessed by the Lord's protection.

INDIANA, REMINGTON Beth Virkler Rochelle Ward

Throughout this summer, we have enjoyed many visitors. It is such a joy to know that we can travel across our great country and find others of like mind and faith to worship with. What a blessed heritage we have!

A special thank-you to our visiting ministers who brought us the Word in truth and sincerity. They were Bro. Bill Emch (Sis. Susan, Lamont-Gridley, KS), Bro. Andy Moser (Sis. Diane, Valparaiso, IN), Bro. Tom Waldbeser (Sis. Susan, Atlanta, GA), and Elder Bro. Andy Virkler (Sis. Maxine, Bay City, MI).

We also appreciated an inspir-

ing Bible Study on thankfulness led by Bro. Fred Witzig (Sis. Nancy, Indianapolis, IN). Thank you again, brothers, for your love and willingness to share God's Word.

Bro. Dan and Sis. Denise Weerts welcomed Brenden Michael into the world on August 6. Little sisters Brittany and Ashley are excited to have a new baby brother to help Mom take care of. Grandparents are Bro. Ken and Sis. Myrna Weerts (Cissna Park, IL) and Bro. Ed and Sis. Sally Fritz (Washington, IL).

We are prayerful for Melanie Bahler (Bro. Mark and Sis. Benita) as she has found peace with God and man. We encourage her to stay in the Word and close to Jesus as she awaits baptism.

We are thankful for the closeness of fellowship we have with our churches across the land. What a blessing that our Elder brethren can gather together and prayerfully discuss issues that will bring unity to all of our churches. We've appreciated the time and effort spent by all who participated and the privilege of being able to listen to the Conference tapes in our respective churches. May we take the God-given instruction and apply it to our own individual lives.

On August 11 we held a graveside service for Betty Bahler, wife of the late Dr. Dean Bahler. Our prayers and condolences go to her family.

It is hard to believe that summer is past and fall is upon us. As our children return to school, whether it be kindergarten or college, let's keep them close to our hearts and in our prayers that they may be able to stand for the Godly principles they've been taught and be a light in a dark and sinful

world.

INDIANA, VALPARAISO Darel and Janet Walker

We wrapped up another year of Sunday School with a picnic hosted by Bro. Tim and Sis. Julie Bucher. We all enjoyed a great meal. The children enjoyed cooling off on a warm summer day in the swimming pool. We wish to thank all of our Sunday School teachers for giving their time to plant seeds of faith in our children. Their efforts and sacrifices are greatly appreciated.

We rejoice in that a new couple has decided to make Valparaiso their church home. Bro. Robert and Sis. Marguerite Hoerr moved from Milford to New Buffalo, MI, last month. How nice it is to have a few more believers worship with us at our little church. Welcome, Bro. Robert and Sis. Marguerite.

Last month we were blessed by the Word of God delivered by Bro. Herb Knochel (Phoenix, AZ). They spent a few weeks visiting Sis. Laurie's parents, Bro. Lyle and Sis. Marilyn Zeltwanger. It has been nice having them in church. We wish to thank Bro. Herb for letting God use him to teach us.

The days are getting shorter and the sun has lost some of its power. Another harvest is approaching. May we all be prepared for the final harvest.

The Final Harvest

Harvests come and harvests go
God said it will come to pass
He also said we do not know
Which one will be the last.

In spring the seeds are planted
And tended with such care
As we with expectations

For a harvest do prepare.

The sun, the clouds, the wind
and rain

All play important roles
So that the harvest we hope for
Will reach our cherished goals.

May we now in God's plan divine
As plants of honor grow
Bring forth the fruits that He expects,
The harvest of our souls.

It's true the storms of life will
come

The Lord has said it will be
But this we know if faith we keep
We'll win the victory.

—anonymous

INDIANA WEST LAFAYETTE Geoff and Angie Ginzell

The Dedication for the West Lafayette church will be on September 16. Everyone is invited to join us for this dedication weekend.

After prayerful consideration and the support of our Elders, Bro. Neal and Sis. Chris Widmer and their family have decided to make West Lafayette their home church. Bro. Neal will be our local minister.

The following brothers and sisters will be serving in our Sunday School: Sisters Jackie Hoerr, Sara Huber, Nettie Haab, and Angie Ginzell and Bros. Kevin Gutwein, Randy Leman, Don Hoerr and Geoff Ginzell.

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: Bro. Rick and Sis. Mary Ann Plattner (Peoria, IL), Bro. Jaye and Sis. Peg Rinkenberger (Goodfield, IL), Bro.

Greg and Sis. Mary Beth Lehman (Wolcott, IN), Bro. Steve and Sis. Myra Ringger (Bluffton North, IN), and Elder Bro. Wendell and Sis. Marcella Gudeman and Elder Bro. Steve and Sis. Linda Gutwein (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 our local ministering Bro. Neil Widmer (765) 497-4709. Our counseling Elders are Bros. Curt Frank and Wendell Gudeman.

INDIANA, WOLCOTT

**Erica Wagenbach
Mary Beth Lehman**

We were thankful for each of our visiting ministering brothers this month. May God bless Bro. Chris Huber (Francesville, IN), Bro. Floyd Graves, Jr. (Croghan-Naumburg, NY), Bro. Bill Brake (Sardis, OH), Bro. Ron Palitto (Akron, OH), and Bro. Fred Witzig (Indianapolis, IN) for lending themselves in God's service.

We extend our sympathy to the family of Sis. Grace Stoller, who passed away on August 17. We trust she now rests safe in the arms of Jesus after 98 years of life and many years of faithful service to the Lord.

Our thoughts and prayers were with the Elder brothers as they met for the General Conference in Roanoke, IL. We have begun to listen to the Conference tapes and are thankful for the Spirit-led admoni-

tion and encouragement from our dear Elder brothers.

Sis. Luann Gerber (Bro. Bob) spent several days in the hospital this month. We are thankful she is home now and recovering from her surgery.

This month has also brought a change to the pulpit in Wolcott. Bro. Neal Widmer (Sis. Kris) is now going to be the resident minister in the West Lafayette church. We thank Bro. Neal and Sis. Kris for their years spent in service to the Lord in our Wolcott congregation, and we pray they will feel God's nearness as they take up new duties in the West Lafayette congregation.

How quickly the summer days have passed and school is now starting for the children and college students. May God be near each one, and may each one's learning be used to the honor and glory of God.

IOWA, BURLINGTON

**Karla Gerst
Brenda Schulz**

Greetings in the name of our Lord! This month we had one visiting minister. We thank Bro. Stephen Baner (Gridley, IL) for bringing the Word to us, and we pray that he will feel the Lord's blessing.

Also this month, the engagement of Sis. Julie Schulz (Bro. Gary and the late Sis. Karen) to Bro. Stephen Lanz (Bro. Sherman and Sis. Joanne, Rockville, CT) was announced. We surely pray they will feel God's blessing and guidance as they prepare for an October 7 wedding.

IOWA, ELGIN Gloria Frieden Heidi Butikofer

August 5 was our first Sunday of worship in our new church. What a blessing it is, after many months of labor, to again gather in our own church edifice. While the building is completely new, we are thankful to God that it's the old, old gospel story that continues to come forth from the pulpit. Nothing new or updated but yet very pertinent to the times we are living in.

We welcome back Aaron Butikofer (Bro. Lon and Sis. Sandy) who spent the summer at Fort Benning, GA, in the National Guard. Jack Hanson (Albert and Trudy) is also in the military currently stationed in Sicily. Our thoughts and prayers are with him.

Our annual Sunday School picnic was held at the home of Bro. Lon and Sis. Sandy Butikofer. It was a very blessed evening of Christian fellowship.

Bro. Al and Sis. LaVerne Butikofer welcome another granddaughter, Kyla Rae (Bro. Jim and Sis. Diana Butikofer, Iowa City, IA). May God bless this new addition to their family circle.

Two new Sunday School teachers were elected for a two-year term at our annual election. Bro. Mark Stork replaces Bro. John Schupbach as teacher for the Junior Bible Class, and Sis. Darla Schupbach replaces Sis. Marcy Knobloch for the Primary Class. May God bless and provide for them as they willingly offer themselves in His service and also Bro. John and Sis. Marcy for their labors during their two-year term.

Bro. Paul Gasser (Sis. Joyce, Akron, OH) was our first visiting minister in our new church. How

encouraging it is when ministering brothers can come from across the land, and yet we can feel the same Holy Spirit feeding us as they offer their voices to bring forth the words by the Spirit's direction.

If all goes as planned, the Dedication of our new church is planned for September 16. Our thanks again to all who helped in many ways to make this possible. God bless you each one.

IOWA, GARDEN GROVE
Willa Clark

Visiting ministers have been Bros. Gene Metzger (Lester, IA), Joe Gerst (Iowa City, IA), Fred Eberhardt (Burlington, IA), and our Elder Bro. Doug Schock (Pulaski, IA). We are so thankful for their visits and the power of the Word as they shared with us.

Twenty-two children attended our Vacation Bible School the last week in July. It is a joy to watch their excitement as they learn the Bible truths and praise the Lord in song. May we always have the enthusiasm of a little child as we worship and in our daily lives so that we might be strong and faithful examples for Him.

We held our annual Sunday School picnic on July 29. It was a beautiful day for rest and recreation in the park under a roof of leaves and with a gentle breeze.

On August 5 we shared a picnic lunch and singing with Pulaski brethren at a park midway between our two churches.

Our prayers are with the youth as they return to school for another term and with the teachers as they mold and shape the pliable spirits of the children.

IOWA, LESTER
Dawn Knobloch
Dawn Metzger

I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye."
Psalms 32:8

The leading of the Spirit has brought two couples together this past month. On August 5, we heard the betrothal of Sis. Tina Knobloch (Bro. Roger and Sis. Janet) to Bro. Josh Walder (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Sharon) of Cissna Park, IL. Sis. Krystal Wagenbach of Bradford, IL (Bro. Lawrence and Sis. Elaine, Princeville, IL) is engaged to Bro. Bill Stahl, who is living in our area. His parents are Bro. Lyle and Sis. Betty (Princeville, IL). We wish these two couples God's direction as they make plans for October weddings.

"Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven."

Matthew 18:4

Receiving the blessing of a precious son were Kouri and Nora Wysong, who are stationed at Camp Humphreys, South Korea. Jax Gabriel was born on June 20 and his grandmother is Sis. Janet Wysong. Sis. Janet was able to go to South Korea and spend time with her new grandson and family. On August 9, Adam Dean Knobloch was born to Bro. Thadd and Sis. Wendy. Adam's grandparents are Bro. Roger and Sis. Janet Knobloch and Bro. Howard and Sis. Lollie Mogler. Sis. Zelma Knobloch is his great-grandmother in our congregation.

Hospitalized this past month

were Bro. Jake Wulf (Sis. Alice) and Bro. Ron Kellenberger. May we remember the power of prayer for our loved ones.

Our deepest sympathy is extended to Bro. Bill and Sis. Leona Wulf, Sis. Esty Metzger, and Bro. Eli and Sis. Alice Metzger in the passing of their brother-in-law, Bro. Sam Anliker, of Lamont-Gridley, KS.

"For whom the Lord loveth he correcteth; even as a father the son in whom he delighteth."

Proverbs 3:12

We were thankful to have Bro. Roger Aberle (Sabetha, KS) with us on July 29 to deliver God's Word.

August 4 was the wedding day for Aaron and Lori Kock. Lori's parents are Charlie and Linda Metzger. On that same day, Jill Knobloch and Jeremy Leusink took their wedding vows. Bro. Delbert and Sis. June Knobloch are the bride's parents. We wish these two couples God's nearness in their new life together.

IOWA, OAKVILLE
Debbie Wagenbach
Melody Steiner

What a time of rejoicing as we add more dear lambs to the fold. We recently heard the testimonies of Shayla Marti (Bro. Erv and Sis. Teresa) and Cleo Gerst (Bro. Dick). They are now our dear sisters in faith. Sis. Cleo has been a faithful companion to her husband and a wonderful support to the church for many years. What a blessing that we can now greet her as a dear sister.

Elder Bro. Aaron Steffen (Alto, MI) was here to assist Elder Bros.

Ed and Jon with this important work. May the Lord continue to bless him and his dear wife for their faithful labors.

It was recently made known to us of the betrothal of Sis. Laura Siegle (Bro. Bob and Sis. Leann) to Bro. Shane Stieglitz (Leo, IN). May they feel the Lord's divine guidance and help as they look forward to the day they can become a three-fold cord with Him.

Kenzy Wagenbach and her brothers, Joel, Devon and Gabriel, are happy to have a new baby brother to love. Bryson Dean is the new little bundle that has arrived into the heart and home of Donnie and Sis. Kris Wagenbach. Also rejoicing with the arrival of this precious little boy are his grandparents, Bro. Gerald and Sis. Bonnie Wagenbach, Sr. and Tim and Candace Licko. May the Lord bless this dear family with His strength and love.

We also want to thank our visiting ministers for their faithful labors. They were Bros. Don Manz (Junction, OH), Ken Eisenmann (Cissna Park, IL), Kenny Dietz (Bradford, IL), Bill Hodel (Roanoke, IL), Marvin Stieglitz (Leo, IN) and Duane Metzger (West Bend, IA).

IOWA, PULASKI **Katrina Knobloch**

This past month we were thankful for all of our visitors, especially our ministering Bros. Steve Sauder (Sis. Mary, Tremont, IL) and Brad Funk (Sis. Laura, Garden Grove, IA).

As Sunday School resumes, our prayers are with Sis. Lana Joos (Bro. Eugene) and Bro. Paul Teubel (Sis. Charlotte) as they have been selected to teach our

children. As their terms have expired, we thank Bro. Jeff Birkner (Sis. Angie) and Sis. Rita Wettstein (Bro. Jon) for their efforts in teaching our children.

We are thankful Sis. Clara Schock (Elder Bro. Doug) and Bro. Dave Wiegand (Sis. Mary) are home from the hospital. May God continue to provide healing.

Note of Thanks:

Thank you family, friends, and relatives for the phone calls, flowers, cards, gifts, and food while I was in the hospital and recuperating at home. All was deeply appreciated. God bless you all.

Sis. Irene Musselman

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

We were richly blessed with many visiting ministers this past month. Bros. Roy Koehl (Sis. Janell, Morris, MN), Kent Mogler (Sis. Mary, Minneapolis, MN), Virgil Metzger (Sis. Mary, Chicago, IL), Bill Emch (Sis. Susan, Lamont - Gridley, KS) and Elder Bro. Curt Frank (Sis. Lyla, LaCrosse, IN) traveled many miles to bring the Word to us. Surely God will continue to bless them for their faithful service.

After many months of failing health, our dear friend, Helen Gerber, passed away on July 21. Her husband, Irvin, passed away in 1990. We sympathize with the family she leaves behind: her sons, Ronald and Robert, a daughter, Beverly Kuecker, their spouses, one sister, one sister - in - law, Helen Scuffham, and many grandchildren, great - grandchildren, nieces and nephews, who will miss her greatly.

We also extend our sympathy to the family of retired Elder Bro. Sam Anliker (Lamont - Gridley, KS). He had several sisters, brothers - in - law, and other relatives in our congregation. Bro. Sam was special to many of us and he will be missed.

Bro. James (Sis. Sharon) Fehr had the misfortune of injuring several of his fingers. After surgery and a short hospital stay, he is doing well and hopeful of a good recovery.

Our prayers go with our young people as they start a new year in school and many head off to college. May they go with a good attitude so they can be a blessing to their teachers, good examples for their peers, and a reflection of the Godly instruction they have been given.

In September, a Sunday is set aside to honor grandparents. Many of us have fond memories of our grandparents who have long gone to their rest. The following clipping was found in 1985 in an old school notebook of Berniece's mother, five years after her death. It was written in the very early 1900's, but many of the instructions are as applicable today as when they were written so many years ago. May it encourage those of us who have living parents and grandparents to spend as much time with them as we can.

Your Parents

You sons and daughters who have left home should not forget that Mom and Dad get homesick for you.
You may think that because they live in a small town and know everyone and have many friends, that they don't miss you so much.

But friends nor relatives can take your place with your parents.

If you are a short distance from home, you might run down Sunday afternoon. Many a time when you go, you choose to go elsewhere.

Never a Sunday passes that Dad and Mother don't think and talk of you.

Never a Sunday that they do not hope against hope that you will come.

When you don't see them, there is sadness in their hearts.

You don't know how much longer you will have a father and mother to whom you can go home to in trouble or joy.

Don't wake up to the loss when it is too late to put more brightness into their lives.

If you are too far away to go often, how about a letter instead of a visit at least once a week?

Your may think that your life is uneventful and the things you write about would not be interesting to them; but the scratch of a pen from the boy or girl they love so much is precious in itself.

—JJ Mundy

JAPAN, SHIODA

Ayako Inoue

We send our greetings from Shioda again this month. This summer has been very hot and humid. Maybe I mentioned about this in the previous month's article, and it is still the same.

This month we had Joy Ehnle and children, David and Emily, visiting us on their way to China. Bro. Willis and Sis. Lois Ehnle enjoyed having their grandchildren around them and the congregation also was glad to worship together

on Sunday, July 29.

Sis. Tamino Inoue has been in Bloomington, IL, since August 6, and we pray that she will have a safe and enjoyable trip.

The scripture opened on Sunday, August 19, was Matthew 7:13, "Enter ye in at the strait gate...". If we want to enter the strait gate, we must throw away excess baggage which are our earthly wishes, habits, ways of living, etc. for we will not fit through the strait gate, neither the narrow path which continues on after the gate. Our hope is that we all keep walking on the narrow path and someday reach the goal which is Heaven.

JAPAN, TOKYO

Marie Inoue

Our summer greetings to each one. As many are going here and there during this season we wish God's traveling mercies and blessings on those going out and also for those remaining at home.

The annual Conference was held in Roanoke and we remembered it in our thoughts and prayers. One of the directives and encouragements given to us at most Conferences is to visit smaller congregations, and if the Lord opens the way to even relocate there. After feeling the Lord's direction through The Silver Lining, pulpit ministry, and school information, Bro. Matt Brake (Sardis, OH) has obeyed this directive and relocated to Tokyo for six months to fellowship with us. We are very thankful for him and trust the Lord will help him adjust and soon feel at home among our small churches here. He is a recent college graduate and is employed as an intern by an engineering firm in

Yokohama. His commute by train is long, but we notice he carries a songbook to meditate/study Japanese, thus using the time effectively.

Other Ohio visitors we welcomed with open arms this month were the Sinns of Latty, OH, namely Bro. Walt, Sis. Renee, and daughters, Sisters Kathy and Shelby. Being my sister's family, it was a special joy to have them assemble with us on Sunday here in Tokyo and also spend time at the Shioda church and brethren's homes in the country. They enjoyed riding the trains, visiting many sightseeing places, and also schools and hospitals where they have employment in the States. We especially enjoyed having Bros. Matt and Walt sharing in our services. May the Lord bless them richly for their efforts.

Soon school bells will be ringing at homes or buildings, for the very young to the college level. May God go with each student and teacher and guide them in all situations. May He also be with all parents at home as their thoughts and prayers ascend to Heaven for their children and loved ones.

KANSAS, BERN

Lori Baumgartner **Sally Strahm**

Our love shall not diminish
Nor fade nor wax away;
Bind us till life we finish
And in the grave we lay.

Our love shall not diminish;
It is our Lord's command,
And free us from all blemish,
Before our God to stand.

Pure love leads to perfection,

Joy of our soul and guide,
Gives us true satisfaction,
And leads to heaven's light.

Zion's Harp #137

Our congregation has been blessed to witness the marriage vows of three dear couples who were united in marriage this past month.

July 22 was the wedding of Sis. Angela Edelman to Bro. Kaleb Beyer (Sabetha, KS). Sis. Angela's parents are Bro. Earl and Sis. Donna and Bro. Kaleb's parents are Bro. Martin and Sis. Karen (Sabetha, KS). We pray God will become the center of their home as they became one in Him. We were thankful to have ministering Bro. Keith Beyer (Sis. Alisa, Detroit, MI) with us that weekend.

The wedding of Sis. Wendy Edelman and Bro. Greg Braker (Lamar, MO) was August 7. Sis. Wendy's parents are Eugene and Judy (Sabetha, KS) and Bro. Greg's parents are Bob and Sis. Janice Stoller (Lamar, MO). We wish them God's richest blessings as they become one in Him.

Ministering brothers with us that weekend were Bro. Pat Zaugg (Sis. Julie, West Bend, IA), Rex Frieden (Sis. Vera) and Elder Bro. Lawrence Luthi (Sis. Sandra), both of Lamar, MO. We appreciate each one for being with us and sharing the Word.

August 12 was the wedding day of Sis. Marla Stoller and Bro. Korbin Beyer (Kansas City, MO). Sis. Marla's parents are Bro. Arden and Sis. Darlene Stoller and Bro. Korbin's parents are Bro. Martin and Sis. Karen Beyer (Sabetha, KS). We wish them the Lord's blessings as they now walk together as one in Him. May they faithfully fill their place in the K.C.

congregation. Ministering brothers with us that weekend were Elder Bros. Jon Schmidgall (Sis. Julie, Oakville, IA), and Mark Bahr (Sis. Bev, Detroit, MI) and Bros. Dale Wulf (Sis. Becky, Lester, IA) and Keith Beyer (Sis. Alisa, Detroit, MI). We pray God will bless them for their labors.

As we heard many good instructions and teachings for a Godly marriage all three weekends, may we remember that God is the key word in a marriage.

Other ministering brothers that were with us this past month were Bros. Duane Metzger (Sis. Ruth, West Bend, IA), Max Reimschisel (Sis. Judy, Wichita, KS) and John Steiner (Sis. Carol, Oakville, IA). We thank these brothers and may we be prayerful each time our brothers stand up to speak the Word.

It's time again that Sunday School will be starting up after a break in the month of August. We always pray for our new teachers who will be teaching our youth and hope that the seed is sown and in later years brings forth much fruit. We also thank the teachers who will have served their term and pray God will bless their efforts of love in teaching the children. Sis. Peggy Strahm (Bro. Kyle) will be replacing Sis. Shelby Strahm (Bro. Dale). Bro. Mike Strahm (Sis. Diane) and Bro. Paul Kaeb (Sis. Joan) will be replacing Bro. Larry Meyer (Sis. Jill) and Bro. Curt Strahm (Sis. Ellen).

We plan to begin listening to the Conference tapes August 17. The Sabetha congregation will join us alternating churches.

If anyone is interested in corresponding with Benji Strahm (Bro. Elwin and Sis. Mary), his new address is:

Corporal Benjamin J. Strahm
Fox Co. 2/5 Hq. Plt.
Unit 39745
FPO-AP 96609-9745

KANSAS, FORT SCOTT Joleen Sinn

We want to welcome Bill and Jan Boge and their children, Michael and Mikayla. They are in the process of moving here from Kansas City. It is our heartfelt prayer that they will feel loved and welcome here at Fort Scott. May God's blessings and love surround you as you make the move to your new home.

Bro. Don and Sis. Aleta Banwart are enjoying their new granddaughter, Emma Rose. On Sunday, August 11, little Emma was welcomed into the home of Jerod and Alesha Martin. Big sister, Madelyn, is enjoying helping with Emma, too. We are also glad to have great-grandma, Sis. Helen Farney, visiting.

KANSAS, KIOWA Jenny Stewart Laura Wagenbach

We want to thank our visiting ministers and their wives and families for assembling with us and sharing God's precious Word. They were Bro. Fred Knapp (Congerville, IL), Elder Bro. John Lehman (Bern, KS), Bro. Roger Aberle (Sabetha, KS) and Bro. Jim Kaeb (Bern, KS). We always rejoice when visitors arrive at our small congregation. Such a blessing!

"Thou shalt guide me with thy counsel, and afterward receive me to glory."

Psalms 73:24

On July 5, we laid to rest our

dear Sis. Clara Miller. Our hearts are saddened at her passing, but we rejoice with her in her victory and the glory she will receive.

"Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the father, even so we also should walk in newness of life."

Romans 6:4

On July 7, we were privileged to hear the testimony of Matilda Diel and then on Sunday, we witnessed as she was baptized so that she may walk in the newness of life. What a blessing the weekend was. We had many faces in church that we had not seen for a long while.

Those who have had afflictions are Sis. Mildred Frieden with a fractured pelvis, Marie Tucker, and Sis. Alice Tanner. Sis. Alice had a stroke and is slowly recovering. We pray for God's hand of healing on all of them.

School time is upon us again. Let us have a prayer on our hearts for all the young ones, as they are busy with school activities and social functions.

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

Proverbs 22:6

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

Proverbs 3:6

**KANSAS
LAMONT-GRIDLEY
Sarah Somerhalder**

We wish to extend our sympathy to Bro. Eldon and Sis. Dorene Metzger in the death of their

granddaughter, Addie Grace Metzger, who died August 1 during birth. May the Lord ever be with Addie's parents, Philip and Stephanie Metzger, and her brother, Colin (Emporia, KS), during this difficult time.

Jesus lives! I live with Him.
Death no more my heart shall frighten.

Now He lives, and at His call,
From death's call I shall awaken;
I am glorified in Thee,
This my confidence shall be.

Zion's Harp #120

On August 11, our retired Elder Bro. Samuel Anliker (Sis. Clara), reached his eternal reward. Our prayers and sympathy are with his dear wife, Sis. Clara (who faithfully stood by him during his illness), his son and family, Bro. Glen (Sis. Lorean), and his daughter and family, Sis. Ione Broquard (Bro. Don, Fairbury, IL). Bro. Samuel was 96 years old. He was put in as a minister in 1945 and as an Elder in 1951 and served until 1989. Besides being the Elder of the Lamont and Gridley congregations for many years, he also served as the Elder of several other churches. We all will certainly miss his presence and fatherly counsel in our small congregation.

We thank Elder Bros. Art Bahler (Fairbury, IL), John Lehman (Bern, KS) and Wayne Anliker (Forrest, IL) for their labors of love at the funeral of retired Elder Bro. Samuel Anliker. Also, there were many other Elders, retired Elders and ministering brothers who attended the visitation or funeral.

Note of Thanks:

We wish to express our grati-

tude and appreciation for the loving support, prayers, cards, visits, flowers, food and memorials during the illness and passing of our dear husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather. May God bless and reward each of you.

Sis. Clara Anliker

Bro. Glen and Sis. Lorean Anliker and family

Bro. Don and Sis. Ione Broquard and family

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

Two families are parents for the first time. Greta Rose Schaefer was born on July 3 to Bro. Tim and Sis. Kristin Schaefer (Morris, MN). Thankful grandparents are Bro. Roger and Sis. Ilene Hartter and Bro. Steve and Sis. Pam Schaefer (Morris, MN) and great-grandparents, Bro. Virgil and Sis. Marie Hartter.

A son, Kalahan Alpha Aberle, will bring much joy to his parents, Bro. Scott and Sis. Dorine Aberle (Kansas City, MO). He was born July 28. He is also welcomed by grandparents, Bro. Roger and Sis. LaVonne Aberle and Don and Eleanor Kurkowsi (Novi, MI), and great-grandmother, Sis. Irene Aberle.

Bro. Brent and Sis. Beth Kellenberger and Bro. Phil Nenadov have recently moved from our area to the Kansas City area where they have accepted employment. We pray that God will bless them in their new occupations. Our loss will be a gain for the Kansas City church.

Our annual church picnic was held at Mulberry Creek on a very hot evening. The children enjoyed cooling off in the pool while the

adults enjoyed the time of fellowship.

Are we using the abundance of what God has given us to His honor and glory? How big a barn do we need? May He help us discern what we should be doing with those things He has blessed us with.

We know the young children are always anxious to sit down at the table and eat after leaving Sunday School. It was a blessing to observe a nephew whose parents aren't converted to bow his head in prayer before he ate.

Bro. Kaleb Beyer (Bro. Martin and Sis. Karen) was united in marriage to Sis. Angela Edelman (Bro. Earl and Sis. Donna) on July 22 at the Bern church. We are thankful this couple will be a part of our congregation.

Sabetha and Bern hosted the Fort Sam reunion July 28 and 29. We were blessed with ministering brothers, Bros. Don Gudeman (La-Crosse, IN), Glenn Riggerbach (Smithville, OH) and Nelson Beer (Milford, IN). One of them told us about a verse his teacher had under the clock in school. It said, "Time passes. Will you pass?" As was mentioned, this could be applied spiritually. We also heard in the army it didn't go well if one man wasn't keeping pace with the others. We are spiritually marching. How are we doing? There were examples given on how we can let our light shine.

God with us! We need not fear;
Jesus crowns with life eternal;
Faithful let us be while here,
Til God ends our pilgrim journey;
Trumpets for the conflict sound;
Up ye valiant, stand your ground!

See, our Saviour leads the way;
Triumph marks His every foot-

step;
Follow Him in glad array
Bravely with courageous effort!
Though He leads through blood
and death,
Heroes never lose their faith.

Zion's Harp #100

Sis. Esther Terry had a fall and broke her hip. May God heal as only He can and stand beside her when the days get long and lonely.

A new daughter to love and cherish was born August 6 to Bro. Wayne and Sis. Jean Wenger. Jeanelle Ann Wenger is also welcomed to the family circle by her sister, Heidi, and brother, Justin, and grandparents, Bro. Harvey and Sis. Arleta Wenger and Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Nancy Bachtold (Fairbury, IL) and the late Sis. Viola Bachtold.

Bro. Korbin Beyer (Bro. Martin and Sis. Karen) was united in marriage to Sis. Marla Stoller (Bro. Arden and Sis. Darlene) on August 11 at the Bern church. We wish God's blessing upon their home they establish in Kansas City.

Another visiting minister we appreciated in our midst was Bro. Kenneth Eisenmann (Cissna Park, IL). We were reminded there are things that are not good that can influence our lives.

We welcome Sis. Dawn Grimm from West Bend, IA. She is employed in the Sabetha area.

We have begun listening to the Conference tapes with the Bern congregation. May we find the grace to apply these teachings to our individual lives.

Bro. Elmer and Sis. Phyllis Strahm will observe their 50th wedding anniversary with a reception on August 18.

Sis. Brenda Grimm will be greatly missed after she is married

in October and moves to Illinois. She has not only been a super assistant in writing the Silver Lining but was selected as a substitute Sunday School teacher for the upcoming season.

KANSAS, WICHITA Emma Miller

Our congregation extended sympathy to Bro. Al and Sis. Judy Langhofer as Bro. Al's brother-in-law, Stuart Lay, of Newton, KS, died earlier this month.

We learned today, August 12, at church that our retired Elder Bro. Sam Anliker, died yesterday. The Wichita congregation has had a long association with Bro. Sam as he counseled us on many occasions. My memories of Bro. Sam go back some seventy or so years to the day he was baptized. I was reared in the Gridley, KS, Apostolic Christian Church and the Anlikers attended the Lamont church or the Greenwood County church, as my father called it. That little wood frame church was situated across the road from the Anliker farm home. Water to fill the outdoor baptismal tank had to be pumped from a nearby well. I am sure I had witnessed other baptisms before that time, but Bro. Sam's immersion is the first I can remember. I have never ceased to be amazed at this brother's zeal, energy, and concern for the Lord's work.

Note of Thanks:

We would like to thank our many brothers and sisters in faith for their prayers and congratulations through the out-pouring of cards for our 50th anniversary celebration. May you each be blessed

for your thoughtfulness.

Bro. Godfrey and Sis. Emma Miller

MEXICO, IXTLAN
Rosario Gonzalez

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

Revelation 22:14

Our church in Ixtlan continues to be blessed more and more with new souls coming in repentance and seeking the direction of God in order to inherit eternal life. We were privileged to listen to the testimonies of the faith of four precious souls: Teresa Cervantes de Navarro, Berenice Navarro Cervantes, Guadalupe Montejano de Cabrera, and Nancy Roque Martinez. It was inspiring to hear how the Holy Spirit works in the hearts of those who want to follow Christ and do His will. Elder Bros. Tom Hoffman (Roanoke, IL) and Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO) were with us for this most important work.

We thank the Lord for blessing our church with material blessings as well as spiritual by sending Bros. Bryan Stoller and Loren Schrenk who have brought to our community much help with two eye clinics. The people are very thankful to God most of all and to these brothers for their physical help.

We praise the Lord for putting the desire in the heart of many children to come to Vacation Bible School to glorify His name and learn of His love. More children came than in any previous year (more than 140 children). We

thank the Lord for giving strength to the Young Group to carry out this work of love for Him.

Our dear Sis. Pauli (Morelia) suffered complications of meningitis following chicken pox, but thanks to the Lord, she has now almost completely recovered. She became ill while caring for her brother in Mexico City who has cancer. Because the Lord foresaw the need and had already provided a dependable van, some of the brethren were able to make the trip and get her the medical care she needed. We pray the Lord will grant her a full recovery.

On August 6, our dear sisters, Rosa Cabrera and Claudia Gonzalez, went to Imuris, Sonora, to offer help at an orphanage for a period of time. They will be working with little children and adolescents who come from very difficult circumstances. Our prayer is that the Lord will strengthen them in this most important work. We miss them in our little church and await their return.

“But we, brethren, being taken from you for a short time in presence, not in heart, endeavored the more abundantly to see your face with great desire.”

1 Thessalonians 2:17

MICHIGAN, ALTO
Sandy Schutte
Kristen Plattner

“Then whosoever heareth the sound of the trumpet, and taketh not warning; if the sword come, and take him away, his blood shall be upon his own head.”

Ezekiel 33:4

With the change of the season,

we again are reminded that everything has its time, and life is ever changing. Let us cling to God's Word to keep us from destruction.

This year we sent 24 young adults off to college. Many are attending colleges in the community. Those that are going away are: Bro. Jake Gerst, Bro. Brian Knudstrup, Bro. Ben Kaeb, Aaron Kaeb, and Betty Jo Meyer to Michigan State; Sis. Sarah Gerst to Grand Valley State; Tim Schutte to Hope College; Mark Schutte to Lake Superior State; Bill Stouffer to Central Michigan; and Bro. Aaron Plattner to Kansas State. A dinner followed by a singing was given for all of our college students to say goodbye to those that are leaving and to wish them God's blessings. We pray that all would allow God's hand in their lives.

Once again Alto has been blessed with the birth of a healthy baby boy. Jacob James was born on July 26 to Jason and Joanna Elenbaas. Grandparents are Bro. Jim and Sis. Julie Blough.

“And he lifted up his eyes, and saw the women and children, and said, Who are those with thee? And he said, The children which God hath graciously given thy servant.

Genesis 33:5

We are thankful that Sis. Christine Wingeier is home and back in our assembly after several days in the hospital. Steve Schutte's hand is healing nicely after a trip to the hospital for an injury to his hand.

Visiting ministers this month were Bro. Ron Palitto (Sis. Lynell, Akron, OH), Bro. Gary Maibach (Sis. Mary Ann, Smithville, OH), and Bro. Tom Leman (Sis. Marlene, Denver, CO). We thank them for taking the time to come

and share the Word.

Bro. Ned Stoller, Bro. Terry Steffen, and Sis. Gretl Schlatter were elected for Sunday School teachers at the recent election. We lift them up in prayer. Thanks and appreciation to those who served, which include Sis. Michelle Blough, Bro. Rob Koehl, and Bro. Tom Oesch.

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY
Rhonda Knochel
Peggy Jackson

We were privileged to have the Fort Sam reunion take place here in Bay City. It was a wonderful weekend of fellowship and we are so thankful for each one that attended. Because of the reunion, we were blessed to have five visiting ministers with us for Sunday. They are: Elder Bro. Robert Walder (Congerville, IL), and Bros. Walt Herrmann (Princeville, IL), Carroll Gerber (Bluffton North, IN), Paul Eisenmann (Burlington, IA) and Paul Gasser (Akron, OH). We were appreciative of the presence of each minister and pray that God will richly bless them in their service to Him.

We were very excited to hear of the engagement of Bro. Andy Wieland (Detroit, MI) to Sis. Krista Bauman (Detroit, MI). We share in the joy of their parents, Bro. Rod and Sis. Evelyn Wieland (Bay City) and Bro. Steve and Sis. Connie Bauman (Smithville, OH). As this young couple begins to plan for the future, we pray that God's wisdom and love will surround them and that they will continue to know His peace.

Our congregation was saddened by the loss of Sis. Martha Rezmer who went Home to be with the Lord. Sis. Martha was a special sis-

ter with a ready smile and a twinkle of humor in her eye. She will be greatly missed by all. Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to her family. May they know the peace of God's comforting hand in the months ahead. May God bless each one of you!

MICHIGAN, DETROIT

Sarah Beard
Holly Barton

Our annual benefit dinner was held on July 22. We are thankful for all those that have given their time with the residents. Bro. Jim Ramseyer, Bro. Bill Waibel (both from Bay City, MI), and Bro. Howard Plattner (Alto, MI) served us at the dinner and on the pulpit, and may God bless them. All who attended enjoyed listening to the Alto and Detroit choirs.

We thank Bro. Neil Ramseyer (Bay City, MI) for serving at Woodhaven this month.

On August 5 we welcomed Sis. Michelle Bahr (Bro. Phil and Sis. Dawn) into the Brotherhood. We are happy to greet her as a Sister-in-Faith. Bro. Howard Plattner (Alto, MI) was with us for the weekend. May God bless him for his efforts.

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

Ephesians 5:31

We are happy for Bro. Andy Wieland (Bro. Rod and Sis. Evelyn, Bay City, MI) and Sis. Krista Bauman (Bro. Steve and Sis. Connie, Smithville, OH) as they were announced to be married. May they feel the prayers of loved ones and the blessings of God as they

prepare for marriage.

We welcome Bro. Brett Plattner (Alto, MI), who is attending medical school, and we have said farewell to Bro. Tommie Hitz, who is continuing his education at Kansas State. May God be with these brothers as they prepare for their future.

MINNESOTA, MORRIS
Cheryl Messner
Dianne Kellenberger

How thankful we are for the precious tie that binds our hearts in Christian love. We're so thankful for our many visitors that come from a distance to worship with us. We're especially grateful to Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr (West Bend, IA) and Bro. Jaye Rinkenberger (Goodfield, IL) for ministering unto us this past month.

Kelly Shipley (Regina, Canada) gave a testimony of his faith and was baptized on July 29. Kelly's parents are Bro. Keith and Sis. Myrna. Our prayers and God's blessings be with you, Kelly.

Farewell, farewell, my morning
 dawns,
 Farewell my rest I see.
 The strife is o'er, my morning
 dawns,
 The Master calleth me.

Hymns of Zion #194

God called Bro. Leroy Fehr unto his eternal rest on August 4. Surviving him are his beloved wife, Sis. Judi; his parents, Bro. Paul and Sis. Anna Fehr; one son, Chip (Deb); three daughters, Dawn (Daniel) Jepma, Penny Meierding and Mindy McClard; two brothers, Bro. Lloyd (Sis. Diane) and Bro. Paul Jr. (Sis. Pam); five sisters, Sis. Ruby (Bro. Dennis) Schmidgall,

Sis. Nancy (Bro. Jack) Knobloch, Sis. Wilda (Bro. Harvey) Koehl, Sis. Velma (Bro. Gary) Domnick and Sis. Diane (Bro. Mike) Schmidgall.

We rejoice with Eric and Bridget Backman in the birth of their first child. Precious little Paige Elizabeth was born on August 10. Grandparents are Bro. Steve and Sis. Kathy Backman and Duane and Becki Adams (Leseuer, MN).

Our recent hospital patients are Sis. Anna (Bro. Paul) Fehr and Sis. Ruth Nohl. We pray God will keep them in His care.

Our dear children and grandchildren will soon be back in school. We pray for them God's nearness and protection.

MINNESOTA, WINTHROP

Carol Ann Messner

Marilyn Messner

We are thankful for the watchmen on the walls of our church communities. Thank you to the Roanoke congregation for hosting the Brotherhood Conference. We are now able to hear the tapes right after the meetings at our midweek services. This is made possible by modern technology for those unable to attend.

Summer — a time for family reunions and special remembrances of those who are gone from our earthly family circles. Will the circle be unbroken by and by? What joy the reunion will be one day when we reach the shores of Heaven!

Fall college and school classes have started for our children. We need to uphold them with support and prayer. Our children are vulnerable to the attacks of Satan so we need to be watchful at the post for them also.

Bro. Leo Messner (Sis. Georgia) was our hospital patient this past month. Our prayers are with him.

August 7 is the birthday of a precious new baby son, Matthew Duane. Happy parents are Dan and Karen Messner. Grandparents are Duane and Mona Messner, all of Gaylord. We wish God's blessings to the families.

MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY

Garry and Marty Rokey

We welcomed Bro. Kyle and Sis. Carrie Beyer who assembled with us this summer. We greatly appreciated their presence. They are returning to college at Kansas State University this fall. Also, our church will greatly miss Bro. Rick and Sis. Karen Kellenberger and their family as they believe they have been led by the Spirit to move to Fort Scott, KS, where Bro. Rick's medical practice is located. May the Lord bless them on this change in their lives.

We would like to thank retired Elder Bro. Gene Marti for the talk on his most recent trip with other church brethren from North America to Eastern Europe. It is interesting to connote their struggles despite the fact that the communist oppression is now officially gone. It is good to know of their spiritual joy and thankfulness for our aid. May the Lord continue His work in that part of the world.

During the summer months we enjoyed the many visitors that pass through our crossroad city and stop to worship and fellowship with us while on their way to vacation or business endeavors. On the weekend of July 20-22, more than 100 attended the annual J. D. Rokey Family Reunion held at Jacob Loose Park in Kansas City,

MO. Most also attended our church on Sunday and we were filled to overflowing. We thank the Lord for this wonderful fellowship. In addition, we appreciated the labors of ministering Bro. Gene Metzger (Sis. Dolores, Lester, IA) on this Sunday. Thank you, Bro. Gene, for sharing the Word with us.

“Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord...”

Psalm 127:3

May God bless the firstborn son, Kalahan Alpha, of Bro. Scott and Sis. Dorine Aberle. Grandparents are Bro. Roger and Sis. Lavonne Aberle (Sabetha, KS) and Don Kurkowski (Novi, MI) and Eleanor Kurkowski (West Palm Beach, FL). Little Kalahan was born July 28.

Recovering from recent surgery is ministering Bro. Randy Kellenberger. We pray for God's healing hand to aid Bro. Randy in recovery so that he can again assemble with us and continue his labors in the Lord's vineyard.

Our sincere sympathy goes out to the family of Sam Sammut (Livonia, MI). Mr. Sammut, who was the grandfather of Sis. Dorine Aberle (Bro. Scott), passed away August 8.

We would like to thank visiting ministering Bro. Max Reimschisel (Sis. Judy, Wichita, KS) who assembled with us on August 12 and broke the Bread of Life, the precious Word, with us.

Also on August 12 at Bern, KS, Bro. Korbin Beyer (Bro. Martin and Sis. Karen, Sabetha, KS) and Sis. Marla Stoller (Bro. Arden and Sis. Darla, Bern, KS) were united in Holy Matrimony. We pray God's blessings for this young couple and

look forward to having them assemble with us.

On Wednesday evening, August 15, we were blessed to have Bro. Paul Gasser (Sis. Joyce, Akron, OH) come and minister the Word unto our congregation. Many thanks, Bro. Paul.

Our congregation is rejoicing with our friend, Heather Persinger, who has sought the comfort of the Lord in repentance. We were happy to have her come and assemble with us when she moved from Fort Scott, KS, to the Kansas City area for employment. Now we praise the Lord that she has heeded the call.

We lamented at the beginning of this column that families were moving to other communities. However, we are happy to report that Bro. Brent and Sis. Beth Kellenberger have found employment in the Kansas City area and are now assembling with us.

MISSOURI, LAMAR

**Kristen Leman
Kristi Huber**

Ben Braker (Bro. Roy and Sis. Judy) had the misfortune of an injury in a farming accident and was hospitalized overnight. We are thankful he was spared a more serious injury.

Amber Ruth arrived on July 17 to bless the home of Bro. Calvin and Sis. Jodi Luthi. Also to welcome her home are Audrey, Jared, Jessica, Ryan, Caleb, and Nathan. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Ray and Sis. Vi Luthi and Bro. Orlan and Sis. Mary Kellenberger (St. Louis, MO).

Bro. Orlan and Sis. Mary were also blessed with another grandchild on July 20. Chase Alan was born to Chad and Kelly Kellen-

berger. Also welcoming him home are his sisters, Madison, Margaret, and Molly, and maternal grandparents, David and Karen Carlton.

We have truly been blessed with visiting ministers this past month. They were Elder Bro. Ervin Knecht (Eureka, IL), Bro. Bill Emch (Lamont-Gridley, KS), Bro. Kenny Knapp (Taylor, MO), Bro. Glen Braker (Princeville, IL), and Bro. Jim Koehl (San Diego, CA). May God bless them for their labors in His service.

“What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.”

Matthew 19:6

On July 29 Bro. Brian Leman (Bro. Terry and Sis. Shirley, Eureka, IL) and Sis. Kristen Braker (Bob and Sis. Janice Stoller) exchanged marriage vows.

On August 5, several from our congregation traveled to Bern, KS, to witness the marriage vows of Bro. Greg Braker (Bob and Sis. Janice Stoller) and Sis. Wendy Edelman (Eugene and Judy, Sabetha, KS). We pray God will guide and bless these two couples as they establish their homes.

MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS

Rachel Schrock

We heard a war analogy in a recent sermon that was humbling — do not we always want to be on the “front lines” of the battle? For every man on the front lines in the army, there are about nine men behind the front supporting him. We should not be ashamed or become complacent if we do not hold the “front line” position of Elder, minister, Sunday School teacher, etc. Instead, we should rejoice in our

support positions, as the prayer warriors, listening ears, helping hands, etc. are just as important in keeping the battle against Satan going full force. May God bless each one of us in the position in which He has placed us.

Those whom He has placed in the ministering position which have visited us this past month include Bros. Wayne Leman (Sis. Julie, Roanoke, IL), Ed Strahm (Sis. Ramona, Bern, KS), Dave Zehr (Sis. Vicki, Gridley, IL) and Gary Endress (Sis. Evelyn, Bradford, IL). Thank you for being willing to be used on our behalf.

Thankful to be grandparents twice again are our Bro. Orlan and Sis. Mary Kellenberger. Bro. Cal and Sis. Jodi Luthi (Lamar, MO) rejoice in the safe arrival of little Amber on July 17. Chad and Kelly Kellenberger are also delighted with the birth of their son, Chase, on July 20. May God’s blessings rest upon these two precious souls as they begin their lives on this earth.

Our lives on this earth are full of change. Once again we must say good-bye to three dear souls. Bro. Doug Mangers is now enroute to New Hampshire to start upon his next job assignment there. Sis. Rachel Schrenk has moved to California for a year to work on obtaining her master’s degree. Bro. Peter Schrenk has returned to U of I for the fall semester. May God be with these dear ones as they embark upon the next phase of their lives.

MISSOURI, TAYLOR

Peg Haerr

Our Sunday School picnic was held July 22 with the children blessing us in word and song during the program.

Congratulations were given to Bro. Kent and Sis. Jan Heimer for their 25th anniversary at a surprise reception for them at the Fellowship Center on August 5. May God continue to bless their marriage.

We want to thank Bro. Darren Plattner (Sis. Sue, Champaign, IL) and Bro. David Zehr (Sis. Vicki, Gridley, IL) for the Bible Studies they shared with us this month. Bros. Dewayne Dill (Sis. LaRae, Minneapolis, MN), Alan Schambach (Sis. Sarah, Remington, IN), Brian Waibel (Sis. Wendy, Champaign, IL), and Kenny Dietz (Sis. Mardell, Bradford, IL) ministered to us this month, and we thank them.

Bro. Allen and Sis. Rosie Massner are celebrating a new grandson, Reagan David, born to Bro. David and Sis. Paige Stieglitz (Elgin, IL) on August 17. His paternal grandparents are Bro. Marvin and Sis. Joan Stieglitz (Leo, IN).

Our recent hospital patients have been Sis. Lois Sutter (Bro. James), Bro. Scott Hoerr (Sis. Anna), Mitchell Sutter (Bro. Roger and Sis. Dianne), and Blake Massner (Chad and Lisa). May God continue to be near each one, as well as those who have chronic illnesses.

NEW YORK CROGHAN-NAUMBURG Hope Graves

The June graduates from high school that were missed in the last issue were Amy Farney, Matthew Farney, Bradley Lehman, and Barry Virkler. We pray for God's guidance and direction upon them as they pass this point in their lives.

We are thankful that God's call is still going forth and that there are those yet answering Him. Jacob Farney has chosen to answer the Lord's call and we pray that God will grant him grace in his repentance. Jacob is the son of Bro. John and Sis. Matie Farney.

On July 23 Harriet Lasher passed from this life at the age of 91. Harriet is survived by son, James Beck, and daughters, Sis. Celia Virkler (Bro. Lowell), Lois Cardinal, Helena Clarke, Joyce Rowsam, and Darlene Lahah. May God be a comfort to all of her children and their families as she will be sadly missed.

We had a blessed evening on July 30 when we gathered for our annual meeting. On August 4 we held our annual Sunday School picnic at Whetstone Gulf State Park. The Lord provided us with a beautiful day of sunshine and fellowship.

Several of us were able to travel to our Brotherhood Conference. Certainly a rich blessing was received through the exhortations of our beloved Elder Brethren. We thank them for their loving work as undershepherds to Christ as well as express our gratitude to the Roanoke congregation for all of their love shown to each one through their labors. May the teachings brought forth renew us each in this earthly walk so that we may be found faithful when our Heavenly Father calls us home.

Thy holy Word does teachings
give,
In faith and hope and love to live.
For this O Lord I thank Thee.
Should I not seek within this
time

A foretaste of the joys divine
And for Thy home prepare me?

Salvation is the noblest part,
Impress this deeply on my heart.

Zion's Harp #102

We are very thankful that Sis. Julia Karcher was able to return home and assemble with us after an extended absence. We will continue to pray for her and her family as they care for her at home. Elizabeth Stockburger was also able to return to her home after a period of time in the nursing home.

We were able to enjoy several visitors this month from Connecticut and Illinois and thank them for remembering us in their travels.

Our church would like to express its deep appreciation to Sis. Anna Mellnitz for her work as Silver Lining reporter for the past few years. May she be richly blessed for her labors.

OHIO, AKRON Joyce Gasser

Doug and Maria Demiter gave their testimonies of their faith and peace with God and were welcomed into our fellowship on August 4. Elder Bros. Duane Farney and Kevin Ryan assisted our Elder Bro. Gene Pamer with the testimonies and we appreciated Bro. Kevin staying with us for Sunday.

We had visitors from Hungary with our congregation. They were the Elders John Pap of Budapest and Ferenc Kovacs of Oroshaza, and also Peter Gal of Budapest was with them. The Elders had a part in our services.

Bro. Tom Bako, who has been in Hungary for around ten years, came along with the visitors and translated for them.

OHIO, COLUMBUS**Anita Steiner**

We were blessed to have many visiting ministers this past month. Those who visited were Bros. Ben Manz (Junction, OH), Steve Pamer (Akron, OH), Mark Ramsier (Sardis, OH), Bill Brake (Sardis, OH), Ron Palitto (Akron, OH) and Todd Stoller (Latty, OH). May God richly reward them for their efforts.

In silence give attention,
The Lord will cheer and
strengthen
With His own word and hand.
If earnestly we seek Him,
And prayerfully entreat Him,
He'll not let us as orphans stand.
Zion's Harp #207

OHIO, JUNCTION**Cindy Schlatter**

July 22 was a special day for our Sis. Henrietta Gerber and Bro. Adam Baumann (Mansfield, OH) as they became united in Holy Matrimony. We trust God to continue to be with them and bless them. Visiting ministers with us on this blessed weekend were Elder Bro. Mark Masters (Mansfield, OH), Bro. Mike Baumann (Mansfield, OH), and Bro. Carroll Gerber (Bluffton North, IN). Many thanks to these brothers for giving of themselves and also to the many visitors who were with us this weekend.

Funeral services were held for our Sis. Julia Hale (Bro. Maburn) on July 23. Our prayers are with Bro. Maburn and his family as they go through this time.

I am going to a city
Where the streets with gold are
laid;

Where the tree of life is bloom-
ing,
And the roses never fade.
Here they bloom but for a sea-
son,
Soon their beauty is decayed;
I am going to a city
Where the roses never fade.

Gospel Hymns #764

Visiting on a Wednesday evening on their way out to the Conference were ministering Bros. Bill Dotterer (Lamar, MO) and Mark Steiner (Smithville, OH). May God richly bless you, and as He opens the way, please come visit again.

Sierra and Skyler McCullough, along with their parents, James and Sis. Julie, welcomed Sydney Layne into their family on July 26. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Kathy Manz and Paulette McCullough. We pray God will be near us each as we strive to raise our children to know and love Him.

OHIO, LATTY
Heidi Hackenjos
Kathy Sinn

Visiting on our pulpit this past month were Bros. Steve Pamer (Akron, OH) and Dale Wulf (Lester, IA). We wish to thank these brothers for bringing forth the Word.

We are thankful that Corey Laukhuf (Bro. Bruce and Sis. Vickie) has turned his back on the world and begun a new life of repentance. May the Lord work in his heart as he establishes a firm foundation.

We welcome two new babies into our congregation. Claire Suzanne came to the home of Duane and Carrie Sinn. Leah and Brooke

welcome their new playmate. Grandparents are Elder Bro. Ray and Sis. Ann Sinn and Earl and Allison McClure. Bro. Brad and Sis. Kim Grant are the first time parents of Leah Kimberly. Leah's grandparents are Bro. Phil and Sis. Gloria Grant and Bro. Richard and Sis. Evelyn Sauder (Tremont, IL).

Sis. Lola Laukhuf was called home this past month. Our sympathy goes out to her children, Bro. Bill (Janice), Doug (Joyce), and Barb Bollear (Don). Sis. Lola and I were baptized on the same day, and she always had a special place in my heart. Her quiet spirit will be missed by everyone in our Latty congregation.

Little Claire Sinn (Duane and Carrie) spent some time in the hospital this past month.

Note of Thanks:

My heartfelt thanks go out today for special prayers, concerns of love, many gifts, cards, visits, and more. All have helped along the way and are special blessings from God above. Special thanks once again.

Mary Eisenmann

OHIO, MANSFIELD
John and Marci Pfeiffer

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

Zion's Harp #79

Sis. Henrietta Gerber and Bro. Adam Baumann were married on July 22. We welcome Sis. Henrietta into our congregation and wish them a happy marriage in the Lord.

Sis. Melinda Matuch recently moved to Athens, AL. She plans to teach at the Apostolic Christian Preschool starting the fall term. May God continue to be with her as she teaches the little children.

On July 29 our youth gathered at Pleasant Valley Ranch for the 29th annual Ohio-Michigan Youth Day. The theme was "Have You Any Room For Jesus?". We appreciated the visit and ministries of Bro. Don Manz (Junction, OH) and Bro. Ben Manz (Junction, OH) that Sunday.

Other visiting ministers for the month were Elder Bro. Aaron Steffen (Alto, MI), Bro. Sam Schlatter (Junction, OH), and Bro. Beirne Messner (Morris, MN). We wish to thank all the ministers that were willing to serve us.

OHIO, RITTMAN
Beth Beery
Cheryl Hartzler

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

Proverbs 22:6

We rejoice with many this month as God has blessed them with additions to their family circles. On June 2, Amin Eli was born to Chris and Angela Gasser. His grandmother is Sis. Lucy Gasser. Kyria Dacy and Haven Celia were born on July 21 to Bro. Alan and Sis. Renee Blough (Sardis, OH). Grandparents are Sis. Lucille Blough and Bro. Denny and Sis. Doris Miller (Sardis, OH). Elijah Edwin was born on July 23 to Bro. Rick and Sis. Dawn Steiner. Claire welcomes her little brother. Grandparents are Bro. Ron and Sis. Ruth Steiner and Bro. Ray and

Sis. Carol Stoller (Latty, OH). Ivan John was born on July 29 to Bro. Jon and Sis. Mary Widmer. Alex and Katerina are his big brother and sister. Ivan's grandparents are Bro. Everett and Sis. Carol Beery and Bro. Bob and Sis. Joann Widmer. Also, Quinn Douglas was born to Rich and Michelle Holcomb on July 29. His sister, Mara, and brother, Grant, are thankful to have a new playmate. Grandparents are Glenn and Mary Jane Winkler. We are thankful for the safe arrival of each little bundle of joy. May God grant wisdom to each parent as they raise and nurture their dear children.

On Sunday, August 5, Bro. Luke Steiner (Bro. Matt and Sis. Gail) and Sis. Pam Maletich (Bro. Dave and Sis. Connie, Smithville, OH) promised their lives together in their wedding vows. May it be that God is put at the head of each new home that is established.

Sis. Mary Ellen Bauman and Bro. George Riggerbach have both been hospitalized this past month. We pray for God's healing on these loved ones and pray for protection over each one of His children as they carry out their tasks from day to day.

What a blessing it is to have brothers and sisters from across the land visit our congregation. We are especially thankful to those who do minister God's Word. We appreciated Bros. Ron Palitto (Akron, OH) and Dean Messner (Winthrop, MN) and Elder Bros. Janos Papp (Budapest, Hungary), Ference Kovacs (Orocsasa, Hungary), Dennis Warner (Lester, IA) and Lynn Stieglitz (Leo, IN) sharing God's blessings with us throughout this month.

"Remember them which have the

rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation."

Hebrews 13:7

We were reminded to pray for our Elder brothers this past week as they gathered together for the Conference. Let us continue to uphold them and pray for them throughout the year.

OHIO, SARDIS
Alice Ramsier

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

Ecclesiastes 3:1

About nine weeks earlier than expected, two precious little girls arrived to bless the home of first time parents, Bro. Alan and Sis. Renee Blough. Little Kyria Dacy and Haven Celia are finally home in Sardis after spending several weeks in Columbus, OH, at Ohio State University Hospital. Thankful grandparents are Sis. Lucille Blough and Joe Blough (Smithville, OH) and Bro. Dennis and Sis. Doris Miller.

We are so thankful to have ministers of the Word of God come and share with us. Visiting us this past month have been Bro. Neil Ramseyer (Bay City, MI), Bro. Paul Schmidgall (Morris, MN), and Bro. Dan Stoller (Remington, IN). May God bless them for giving of themselves.

OHIO, SMITHVILLE
Edith Miller
Ruth Gasser

Let your whole life be an offering

To God and to Christ the Lord.

Zion's Harp #159

We are thankful to report that more souls are offering their life to Christ and are seeking their salvation. We wish God's grace to converts Craig Stoller (Bro. Ed and Sis. Verla), Sharla Steiner (Bro. Mark and Sis. Sue), Shyla Riggerbach (Jaime), and Aaron Marty (Bro. Ralph and Sis. Marie). We are also happy to hear that April Miller (Bro. Max and Sis. Diane) has found peace through repentance. We wish her overcoming grace and courage as she waits for the appropriate time to give her testimony to the church.

Our thanks go to the ministering brothers who offered themselves in bringing forth God's Holy Word to us this past month: Bros. Randy Gasser (Detroit, MI), Mark Ramsier (Sardis, OH), Doug Harmon (Toledo, OH), and Paul Schmidgall (Morris, MN). May God bless each of His true servants. We pray that the Word will be fruitful.

On August 5 Bro. Luke Steiner (Bro. Matthew and Sis. Gail, Rittman, OH) and Sis. Pam Maletich (Bro. Dave and Sis. Connie) became one in the Lord by bonds of Holy Matrimony. That day it was made known to the congregation the engagement of Bro. Andy Wieland (Detroit, MI) and Sis. Krista Bauman (Detroit, MI). Parents of this couple are Bro. Rod and Sis. Evelyn Wieland (Bay City, MI) and Bro. Steve and Sis. Connie Bauman (Smithville, OH). May they feel the Lord's leading as they prepare for marriage, and may both couples experience God's blessing in serving Him together.

We hope that four-year-old

Christian Steiner (Kurt and Robin) will heal quickly now that he is home after suffering injuries in an accident. As the Lord held the little children in His arms and gave His blessing, we pray He will touch those in affliction, weakness, and pain.

OHIO, TOLEDO

**Rebecca Beard
Edie Fetter**

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

Matthew 18:20

Visitors are a special blessing in our fellowship. We were thankful for a recent visit from Bro. Dwight Stoller (Latty, OH), and for his service in the ministry. May God bless the Word to His glory.

OREGON, SILVERTON

Rosa Lee Kuenzi

We have enjoyed our summer visitors these past weeks and thank them all for including Silverton in their travel plans. They fill our church with love and fellowship and our hearts with the warmth of love and precious memories.

July 29 was the wedding day for Bro. Jeremy Kuenzi and Sis. Kristy Dietrich. Parents of the young couple are Bro. Terry and Sis. Ann Kuenzi and Bro. Jim and Sis. Joan Dietrich, all of the Silverton congregation. The few showers of the day did not dampen the joy and we pray that those showers will only be a reminder of God's shower of blessings upon them in the past and surely in their future together.

Another young couple made

their marriage vows in recent weeks. Lyle Kuenzi and Andrea Townsend were married on August 4 in the nearby beautiful garden setting at Canterbury Falls. Parents are Bro. Jim and Sis. Barbara Kuenzi and Jim and Vikki Buss and Bohn and Ramona Townsend.

Our Sunday School will be starting again soon. Six new teachers have been called to the very responsible duty of bringing the Word of the Lord to their young minds. They are Bro. Jack Kuenzi (Sis. Janet), Bro. Kurt Metzger (Sis. Koreen), Bro. Jim Zollinger (Sis. Tresa), Sis. Jen Kloter (Bro. Eric and Sis. Sharon, Rockville, CT), Sis. Sherri Kuenzi (Bro. Troy) and Sis. Amanda Sinn (Bro. Don and Sis. Linda). As our Sunday School is our future church, we cannot overemphasize the value of the impact of our beloved brothers and sisters who are willing to give of their time, their love and especially their good example to our children.

We were privileged to have two visiting ministers this past month. May God bless Bros. Darren Fehr (Sis. Nora, West Bend, IA) and Myron Knobloch (Sis. Beth, Lester, IA).

Our Sis. Carol Wackerle (Bro. Greg) was a hospital patient this past month. May she feel the prayers of the people and the nearness of the Lord.

PENNSYLVANIA PHILADELPHIA

Nathan and

MaryElizabeth Gasser

This month we were pleased to hear good reports from the Brotherhood Conference. We had faith that the Lord would lead His ser-

vants in their discussions and we look forward to listening to the tapes and learning from them.

We were thankful that Robert and Rika Allen and their son, Hira, have found a place to live and employment closer to our church. They had been living in Bedford, PA (over 3 hours away), and just moved to Ephrata, PA. Many of the church were able to help them during this moving process, and we enjoyed the time that we had together.

We were also thankful that many families took the opportunity to travel this summer and visit us in Pennsylvania, and we appreciate our many visitors. We certainly extend a warm welcome to any who would want to come and be with us.

TENNESSEE, NASHVILLE

Mike and Monica Fritz

God's Word and His will have been clearly brought forth to us in the past month by our visiting ministering brothers: Bros. Earl Beery (Sis. Suzie, Rittman, OH), Paul Zimmerman (Sis. Loretta, Forrest, IL), Ralph Garber (Sis. Lynn, Morton, IL), Dave Marquart (Sis. Lori, Taylor, MO), and Tim Gerber (Sis. Wendy, Mansfield, OH). During the month, we have also greatly enjoyed the fellowship of large groups, including brethren and friends from Rockville, CT; Chicago, Forrest, and Princeville, IL; Wolcott, IN; Lester, IA; Akron, Rittman 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: Oakville, IA (9/23), Elgin, IL (9/30),

Lamont-Gridley, KS (10/7), Remington, IN (10/14), Goodfield, IL (10/21) and Detroit, MI (10/28). We also usually 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

While sightseeing recently, we drove through the town looking for a place to eat lunch. All eyes hungrily scoured the storefronts for signs of food. Before long, someone excitedly announced, "Look! Free chicken!" As the van moved forward, all could see that the sign actually said "Free Checking" and hung above a bank. The fluttering banner had been hard to read accurately from a distance. Similarly, it is sometimes hard to "read" the "signs of the times" in which we live. We are thankful for the church Conference tapes, which aid our discernment. "Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety." (Proverbs 11:15)

This month we said farewell to Bro. Dan and Sis. Pam Sauder and their daughters, Lauren and LaNae. They are moving back to Mansfield, OH, after living in Central Texas for four years. We will certainly miss their family in our church here. We know that God will be with them there, as He has been here.

Brethren who have preached the Word of God in past Sundays include Bros. Darren Plattner (Sis. Sue, Champaign, IL), Kent Getz

(Sis. Betty, Elgin, IA), Roy Koehl (Sis. Jenell, Morris, MN), Randy Mogler (Sis. Evie, Washington, IL) and Leland Plattner (Zapata, TX). We also had fellowship with visitors from Lester, IA; Fairbury, IL; and Phoenix, AZ.

October's schedule of ministers for Central Texas services are these: October 7 - Chicago, IL; October 14 - Princeville, IL; October 21 - Remington, IN; and October 28 - Silverton, OR.

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; Dale Kaisner (512) 255-7583; Bro. David and Sis. Shella Brummitt (512) 360-3379; Sis. Dorothy Martin (210) 658-1968; and Bro. Dale and Sis. Amy Ringger (512) 933-1380.

TEXAS, ZAPATA Joyce Nohl

How shall it be, when we in close relation
With holy saints the streets of heaven tread;
Where trees of life, fresh as in first creation,
By waters from the stream of life are fed?

Where fountains of eternal
youth shall flourish,
The hand of time no more shall
work decay,
No eyes shall close in death, no
more souls perish;
Pain, sorrow and distress have
passed away!

Zion's Harp #146

We extend our sincere sympathy to Bro. Paul and Sis. Anna Fehr on the death of their son, Bro. LeRoy. We also express our sympathy to Sis. Louise Bach on the death of her husband, Bro. Rueben. May God comfort these families in this time of sorrow.

In sorrow and pain
Thy trust do retain
In Jesus the merciful Saviour.
When burdened with care,
When thou wouldst despair,
Then call on thy loving Redeemer.

Zion's Harp #46

Sis. Jennifer Kellenberger has submitted the following article on the work in Rio Bravo

Introducing the ICCD/MCCS staff of Rio Bravo, Mexico:

On August 11, 2001, the last ICCD/MCCS summer work team boarded their plane and headed home. It has been a busy summer, but our hearts ache as we say good-bye to each individual that

gave of his/her time to work with all of us here at International Christian Centers for the Deaf in Rio Bravo, Mexico. We also had to say good-bye to all of the wonderful summer staff that was here with us for three blessing - filled months. The lessons we have learned and the memories we have gained are irreplaceable. It wasn't easy, but it was worth it. What a blessing it is when brethren work together in unity to bring honor and glory to our Lord.

Now that the summer staff has gone home, only a few of us remain here in Rio Bravo. At this time, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce the full - time staff of ICCD/MCCS. When I arrived in November, I had the opportunity to work with two wonderful families, the Beale's and the Parker's. These two families came to work with ICCD in June of 1999 and have been a blessing to the ministry ever since.

Nolton (everyone calls him "Nono") and Kate Beale are originally from Montgomery, AL. They lived there for many years before God called them into the mission field. They have two children: Bibb is their 15-year old son and Sadler is their 10-year old daughter. Nono serves as the project coordinator in Rio Bravo, Mexico, and oversees all of the work that goes on down here.

Joe and Alice Parker are also from Montgomery, AL. The Parker's and the Beale's were in

the same Sunday School class before they decided to serve together in Rio Bravo. The Parker's have been blessed with three daughters: Joanna (12), Emily (9) and Eleanor (6). Joe is Nono's right - hand man and together they make a great team.

The newest additions to our team are Ray and Tanya McDaniel. The McDaniel's are from Shiloh, GA, and just moved to Rio Bravo in June of this year. They are a young couple and contribute energy to the effort. They are here training to be campus managers at another ICCD campus in the future, Lord willing.

And, for those of you who don't know me, my name is Jennifer Kellenberger and I joined the ICCD/MCCS staff in November of 2000. I am from Metamora, IL, and am a member of the Washington Apostolic Christian Church. However, I am currently attending the Zapata, TX, church. I am using my language skills (Spanish and Sign Language) to serve here in Rio Bravo as an administrative assistant.

We are so thankful for all of the staff that God has blessed us with down here at Mexico, Centros Cristianos para Sordomudos (MCCS). We ask that you continue to remember us all in prayer as we work together for the bettering of His kingdom.



Sermon continued from page 2

heaven by faith and God answers prayers and He sends down His blessings upon those who love Him and who serve Him, regardless of country, regardless of nationality, and regardless of economic condition. The only thing God looks at, He looks at the heart. He said in James here that he encouraged us unto good works. Again, we are blessed and our brethren have been blessed.

We asked and we made inquiry. On the last night as were leaving, we had the privilege of having a very good translator with us on Sunday and he was with us on our last night that we spent down there together. You felt such a peace even when we met him on the first day. He met us at the airport when we came in and we didn't know him very well. We visited with them a little, you know courtesy, but we visited more amongst ourselves the first day. When we left by the end of the week, and again we only spent some time with him on Sunday and then when we left. We visited with him a lot at the end because we just felt that much closer and we had experienced and observed things that we wanted to understand.

We understood the blessing of what we had received from being there. God had blessed us and how God revealed it to us. It is easy to get caught up in our jobs and our daily tasks. There are so many people who need help and God tells us to be a people of service to Him. We just saw the blessings of many years where brothers have faithfully served. We saw the wisdom of our brotherhood ...the wisdom that we saw observed down there were what brothers had given. They didn't give money, but they gave physical things that they could use. They gave hospital equipment. They gave time and labor. They gave supplies because, again, it was shared with us that those churches where money flows in, you just give them money. All they want is more

money.

It doesn't increase their faith. It gives them the opportunity to go to school. It gives them the opportunity to buy food and clothing, but it doesn't increase their faith in God. Our brothers have been very careful in how they have served down there and we see, again, the unsolicited as we visited these places. They just commented about the wisdom of the brotherhood and the World Relief activities that they have done. They have given carefully of how God has blessed it bountifully in that service.

We saw how they give service. It is easy to write out a check and if I could, I would just share about how Brother Jim shared with me one night. We shared a room. He said, "Before I left I thought it would be easier and better for the people if I just wrote out a check and sent the money down instead of buying the plane ticket and pay all the things." Once you are there, you understand that is not how it is.

If you wrote out a check and sent down the money, then see how it blessed. There are brothers there that can take that money and put it to good use. Our World Relief does that. They need financial resources to help out, but they don't just turn financial resources over. They make sure that it goes to good works that God's name can be blessed and that there can be a blessing for the church and that it would not become the seed of the evil and works for Satan.

Again, the opportunity and the wisdom that our brothers have received, it really humbles you to think how wise those brothers were when they began that work probably some twenty-five years ago. Again, the brothers that are there, they would say, "You don't need to go to Haiti to get works of faith. Now works of faith begin at home." They will be the first to say that. Now we should really make sure what you do is, as for myself, it gave

appreciation of do you really give to those who hurt here at home? We really give our time and our talents to those needs that are all about us and allow God to bless our faith to our works.

Again, we cannot be saved by works. We are not saved by works. Man is not justified by his works. It is by faith we are saved and it is that faith in Jesus Christ and Him crucified. It is through a true repentance. It is the conversion of the heart. Jesus said that He came not for the righteous, but for the unrighteous. He said those that are of good health have no need for a physician, but those who are sick. We need Jesus Christ because of the sickness and death that sin brings upon us. We are saved by Jesus Christ.

James, the brother of Jesus, observed these things and encouraged the churches to be diligent about not being a respecter of persons, and about showing our faith through our works that God's name could be blessed. Again, this was one of the things that impressed the church down in Haiti, as they shared with us. I asked them a question. I said, "Do you know that we understand the blessings that we have received from being here? Does the church here receive a blessing? How do the believers see us as we come in?"

Most people can only get around by walking. Some of them have a mule or a donkey that they can ride if it is not loaded down with their goods. Some get around and they labor and toil and they pull a two-wheeled cart by hand and they walk that down the road.

There is transportation and old beat-up pick-ups. There are old buses that we would long ago have discarded and let in the junk yard. They keep them running and use that to get around. They can pay a few cents which would be less than a quarter. They can get a ride that way if they have quite a distance to go. We show up in fairly nice vehi-

cles that the World Relief has provided for them to get around. A trailer to haul our goods that is towed behind and it is not lavish by any sense from our standards here. You know, those vehicles have just pretty plain old cloth seats and they don't have a lot of extra instrumentation on these vehicles. They are pretty much just a basic vehicle, we would say here, without too many frills other than air conditioning.

But down there, it is a very nice vehicle. We show off in these nice vehicles with trailers with wheels on instead of tandem wheels behind the goods. We have hammers and tools that we just pull out and go to work. These people have almost nothing — maybe enough to get to the end of the week, but by faith that God will provide for them the next week if they labor and if they toil. God will provide for them.

So how do they feel? Talk about the rich and the poor, we show up and it is pretty obvious we are rich, and they are poor. So do they receive a blessing? Do they look at us and think, "Well, they gave a little." He shared and said they are deeply moved for the blessings that they receive. They don't look at us.

To those that are believers, God doesn't show to them that we are rich earthly. But they observe how we come together, work together, communicate one with another and work so well together. Part of their culture and with what they struggle with is every man sort of does his own labor and they don't collaborate and the church doesn't either. They struggle to sort of come together and to give and to work together until a common end. They struggle with that because that is not their culture.

Their culture is very family. The culture and that God has called them out of it and the life that God has called them from is every family sort of scraps out a living on their own. They really haven't experienced sort of extending themselves

beyond the family. So it is a struggle for them to come to church and work together as brothers and sisters in their church to some of these ends, and they observe that in us. It encourages them to submit more and work together and try to come to some good understanding within their church.

Then to help those churches that are strong to go and help another congregation in another church for their needs also. So that is a struggle that they have and they observe that. We come not even from the same community but that we come from very different communities. Many times these teams that are working together, they did not even know each other before, some of them. Just like we experienced. There were many there and half the team I did not know and met for the first time when we gathered and flew out on Friday morning in Hawaii getting on the plane. That was the first time Bro. Jim and I met half the team. Never met them before in this life.

That impresses upon their hearts deeply how we can come together, how we communicate, and how we work together. Also how we, because of the blessing of God, when we work and we labor that we don't raise our voices one to another. We ask and make inquiry and we all go about our labors. Then our labors come together and we are able to accomplish much work in one day and they are humbled.

They are humbled that we are willing to come and to make this sacrifice knowing we will receive nothing back for that sacrifice. That humbles them, they said, that we are willing to give in our knowing that we will receive nothing back.

We probably will never see that church again. We probably will never see the believers, the pastor that serves that church, or the children that attend there, The likelihood that we will ever see them again is very, very remote until we

get to heaven. It humbles them that we are willing to come in and to give, knowing that we can receive nothing back for what we give. Again, part of their culture is that it would be a challenge for them as believers to do, even though they have so few possessions. They do have time and they have talents that they can give one to another. This has been a great blessing and it encourages the believers.

Then he said that many times after the project is done, we asked them also, so what do the unbelievers think when we come into their community? Down there they said like James wrote that we should have one God. "Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble." (James 2:19). Down there they have many gods in their culture. They have the God that we have. We will see buses and it will say, "Thank you, Jesus!" in big, big words. You wouldn't see Jesus' name here so often as you see it down there.

On that same bus, they have signs to other gods also. To them, Jesus is one God and they have other gods. They have many gods. In the world down there in their culture, they don't differentiate Jesus from many other gods that they have. That is not in the church, not in the church that we were at. The church we were at, there is one God. There is Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour. But many of them came out of a culture where they had many gods, and they believed on many gods and all about them were many gods.

So for us, "Thou believest that there is one God;" That is easy for all of us to accept. It says, "...thou doest well." (James 2:19). For us, that is not a trial; for them it is. For someone there to come out of their world of unbelief unto a true belief, and believe that all these other gods, these little icons that they

Sermon continued on next page...

Sermon continued from page 45

have, the celebrations that they have, and all of that is for naught. Because in some of these, as we understand it, in some of the Christian churches, nominal Christendom, they mix in this voodoo and idealism with Christianity. It is proclaimed in the same word and it is a Christian church. So there is a lot of confusion...a lot of confusion!

These people choose to come to this church, and there is only one God there, and there is one Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour. All other things are vain. That is their doctrine that they believe in with their whole heart, their whole soul and their whole body. Jesus said, "Thou doest well."

So we asked, "How do the unbelievers do in the world?" He said this, "That when you leave the community and they see these people came in that this church didn't know, they had no contact with us." There is a brother and sister in faith who are now down there and live there. They help plan and prepare for us. The pastor had made this request and again they searched out the needs and it has been determined. So all this planning is done.

The pastor and the congregation are aware that a work team from

America is going to come in and do this project. But the people coming, they never met before. He said that seems really strange to the world. When they see and observe and usually a day or two days in the community, when they observe that, it causes them to wonder about that church. How did this happen for that church?

He said the people from the community will come and start attending services just to try to understand why this happened for that church. What they do by attending, they get exposed. For many, it is the first time in their life to the true Word of God, and to a doctrine of salvation through Jesus Christ and Him crucified. Many times the congregation grows and grows because unbelievers come and make inquiry about what is going on there.

He shared that he believed that with God's blessing, we felt blest. He said, "I believe the blessings to the Haitian people and to the Haitian churches where you worked by the hand of God is no less—no less!—than the blessings you have received."

Again, a faith of works, a faith demonstrated through works

should be our daily walk. Again, it doesn't need to be in Haiti. We can't be there every day and it doesn't make any brother or sister that goes any greater in their works than someone who doesn't go.

It is no greater work. It is just a work. It is no greater work. Those that are there will say the same thing. This isn't a greater work; it is a work that God has blessed and needs to be done. It is no greater work. May we remember the Word.

The brothers down there said, "Remember the Word. True religion is this to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction and to keep yourself separated from the world." That we can do daily and we can do it at home. That is a work of faith to show to God that we love Him.

May God just grant us grace to show our faith unto Him through a good work of keeping His Word to glorify His name, such that when Jesus comes again, He will see us in His vineyard being busy about the Father's business. May He grant us grace.



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. For Jamaica, direct your inquiry to Bro. Kevin Sauder, Ph./Fax 309-925-2409 or E-mail 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		janheimer@hotmail.com
(*) (2) Kent Heimer	573-393-2440	573-769-5516	thitzhome@juno.com
Tom Hitz	734-454-9229	734-454-9259	
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 prescription eyeglasses
(with cases if available) to:

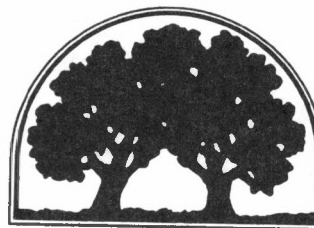
Bryan Stoller
817 S. Locust
Pontiac, IL 61764

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.

THANK YOU!

A heartfelt THANK YOU for
your wonderful support of Gate-
way Woods at the 25th Annual
Auction! This year's Auction
was truly special. Not only did it
raise the most money ever for
the work at Gateway Woods, but
it also was the best attended
Auction ever! We give all the
glory to God for each person who
made the Auction a success in so
many ways. May the Lord bless
each of you for your generosity!
Only in eternity will your love,
support, and kindness be known
fully.



BIBLE DISTRIBUTION

*The Bible Distribution Center which
was formerly in Leo, IN has been
moved to Bluffton, IN.*

All books, including Bibles, in English and other languages, plus
Bible Story Books which have been approved by the Apostolic
Christian Mission Committee, are available for those who wish to
distribute them in the name of Jesus Christ.

The book inventory is computerized, and the personnel at
Bluffton can drop ship to nearly any address.

To order, contact,
Apostolic Christian Church
Bible Distribution
PO Box 30
1254 S. Main Street
Bluffton, IN 46714
Phone and Fax 219/824-5587
E-mail: bibledist@parlorcity.com



REMEMBERING

Our Spiritual Heritage

This is the final installment of the historical remarks made by Henry Michel in 1947. This part is a brief summary of the origins of our church in America.

Now let me tell you something about the United States. The Lord prepared the way wonderfully. He permitted persecution of Andrew Braun, of Joseph Bela and of a few others, and He prepared in advance a wonderful settlement. It is a very interesting story.

In the beginning of the 19th century, the Duke of Chaumont, who was a very wealthy Frenchman, emigrated to the United States. Having plenty of money, he bought a large tract of land. At that time, the cost per acre was \$1.50. So he bought this very big place and wanted to find people who would come to work his land, but he could not find people. He tried to convince the Indians, but the Indians were not very good farmers.

So he sent his managers to Europe and especially to France, to try to find families to come to America, to his settlement. The settlement was called French Settlement and was near New Bremen (in upstate New York). This man went to France looking for people. Two of the families he found were the Virkler family and the Farney family. These people were Mennonites. I may mention here that the story of the Virklers is wonderful, too. They originated in Switzerland, and be-

cause of persecution they had to leave Switzerland in 1730. They settled in France, because at that time France had a government which was tolerant. They did not have compulsory military service, so they settled in France.

Now came the war of Napoleon. The young Virklers, who came to France to avoid military service, had to go to the service. One of the young Virklers had to go with Napoleon and my great-grandfather likewise went to Russia. They were in that terrible winter campaign where Napoleon had to go back and where he lost most of his army.

The young Virkler came back and my great-grandfather too, but they did not like it anymore. They were looking for an opportunity to go to a place called something like "Paradise", the United States. Then it just happened through the wonderful guidance of God that this man from the French Settlement was coming for people and found the Virkler family and asked them to come. They came to the French Settlement and not only they, but others too.

So the family was increasing; they had meetings, they were singing hymns and reading the Bible, but they lacked a minister — somebody to show them the way. Through a wonderful guidance, they had the address of our people in Switzerland. They asked for a minister and then came the opportunity for Benedict Weyeneth to come to

this country and he went to this French Settlement. He found these people and baptized them. One was appointed an Elder, another as a teacher of these Virklers and Farneys, and that was the first of our congregations that existed in the United States.

Weyeneth afterwards left the French Settlement and returned to Switzerland, but came back here later to a country called Illinois. That country was said to be a very, very bad country, not healthful; they had malaria and other sicknesses. They had mosquitoes, such terrible mosquitoes that it was almost impossible to live. But the ground was good. So they started, and many others came, and we see the families Koch, Pfloderer, Riggerbach, and many others.

Weyeneth was working in their midst and he was a wonderful man. He said himself that he was a poor farmer, yet he was a good evangelist. When the last crop was in his barn, he did missionary work the whole winter, until spring came. One spring, he forgot to go home; that is, he did not forget, he could not go home. His wife said, "Benedict, it is high time that you come home." But he had been too busy that winter. He was doing missionary work in these parts of the country. A brother told me that in the winter of 1879, he had 159 baptisms.

Another man of whom I think I

Remembering continued next page...

Remembering continued from page 49

have found some relatives in this country, had the name of Kraehenbuehl. He was Swiss by birth. He went with his buggy and spread the Gospel all around the countryside.

Before last summer I always believed that the congregations in America had been created only by Europeans who came through persecution or through people who wanted to make more dollars than they could make at home, but I have seen since that the congregations here are also the result of an extensive missionary work of many, many years.

Andrew Braun had to leave his country with his whole congregation. They, the congregation of Schweinfurt, Germany, all came together. They traveled through Strassburg, and came to America and settled in Ohio. And working together, Illinois, Ohio and the French Settlement, they went preaching, bringing the good tidings of peace. One of the Virklers even crossed the whole United States and came to the Pacific coast, and that

was the beginning of the church in Oregon.

I could speak a long time about this wonderful time and sometimes you may be astonished. For instance, Mansfield existed a long time before Akron. One Swiss brother, who came first to visit the congregations was Bro. Henry Geistlich. He came in 1866 and traveled the whole United States visiting the churches, and when he came to Akron, he said, "A busy town, but not one believer, and it seems not to be a very good ground for the Gospel." What a poor impression of Akron, where we now have many believers. See how it can change, how it is changing and how we should be zealous to do what we can.

One thing happened. The families were growing. They all had many children and where they had big families, much food was needed. Nobody wanted to be a poor farmer as Weyeneth called himself, so they started to be "good" farmers. They had the reputation of being the best farmers, but the result was that they settled down. No buggies anymore to go the Pacific coast, to bring the Gospel from house to house.

And after a while, congregations having been formed, they were enjoying themselves in singing hymns, and working hard, but the missionary work had been forgotten. We know how many congregations exist, and we are thankful, but we do not care so much to expand. We have a beautiful hymn, "Where is the Spirit of all these pioneers who were filled with the love of God, the love of Christ, who had the passion for souls and who wanted to bring the good tidings of peace to others?"

A time came, the same on the other side of the ocean as here, as soon as the persecution stopped in Europe, then the people settled. In Switzerland the persecution ended about 1854. Following that, brethren expanded their properties, and the missionary work waits for a new revival.

By: Perry A. Klopfenstein

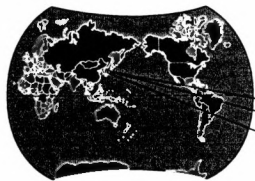
Next issue:

A historical analysis of Henry Michel's comments regarding the origin and development of the church.

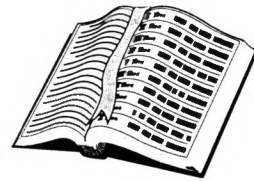


The Light Of Hope

From Across The Ocean



希望の光



“Citizenship”

Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle, Shioda, Japan

In my passport it is written, “The Secretary of State of the United States of America hereby requests all whom it may concern to permit the citizen/national of the United States named herein to pass without delay or hindrance and in case of need to give all lawful aid and protection.”

I once knew a man from Poland who was a man without a country. He escaped from Poland and joined the French underground during World War II. After the war he became a professor of World History but he didn't want to return to Poland to claim his citizenship because it had become a communist country. He didn't belong in any country and there was no country to offer him protection. I felt sorry for him.

Recently, in our home, we were reading in John 18 and in verse 36 we read, “Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world.” Jesus was a Jew from the tribe of Judah and He

was a citizen of the nation of Israel by virtue of His birth in Bethlehem, but He didn't count that as His real identity. He identified Himself first and foremost, as a citizen of Heaven, the Kingdom of God.

In Ephesians 2:19 we read, “Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God.” In Japanese society I am a foreigner and I must carry an alien registration at all times, but in the church I am a citizen. I have the blessing and protection of the household of God.

In Acts 22 the Apostle Paul claimed Roman citizenship for protection against scourging. Verse 25 reads, “And as they bound him with thongs, Paul said unto the centurion that stood by, Is it lawful for you to scourge a man that is a Roman, and uncondemned?” This put fear into the heart of the centurion who told the chief captain,

“Take heed what thou doest: for this man is a Roman.” The chief captain answered, “With a great sum obtained I this freedom.” And Paul said, “But I was free born.”

It was the time of the Roman Empire and Paul was a citizen by birth. Perhaps his father was a Roman citizen. The chief captain had to pay a lot of money for his citizenship.

If we are truly born again, we are citizens of God's Kingdom and it didn't cost us any money, we were free born. However, it did cost the Lord Jesus Christ His life and His blood, and we should be grateful. This citizenship is for eternity, if we abide in Him and walk in the light.

Do citizens have responsibility toward their own country or kingdom? Indeed they do. Let us treasure our citizenship, not only in our own country but in the Kingdom of God, and live lives of self-denial in order to be good citizens.

希望の光



Happy is he that hath the God of Jacob for his help, whose hope is in the Lord his God:

THE SILVER LINING
1389 County Road 1600 N, Roanoke, IL 61561



*****CAR-RT LOT**R-001

596 16

25

LK

Mrs. Charles Walder

533 N 3RD ST

CISSNA PARK IL 60924-9782