

The Silver Lining



Tender love on earth is a mixture of Faith, Hope, and the Love of God.

October 2002

Sermon by Brother Brad Funk, Garden Grove, IA

Esther 5 and St. John 18:1-27

When we read both in the Old Testament and in the New Testament, we know that both of these accounts are familiar to all of us. It is nothing new as we read the Word. But it is encouraging the way God brings His message forth to us as we read here.

Going back into the Book of Esther, we know that it was a time in which for the children of Israel was not a pleasant time. They were being threatened even of their lives being taken. We know that Esther had a job to do that perhaps was not all that easy, to go before the king and to plead for her people. We read the account here of where it was just leading up to that point where she was going to plead to the king for the Jewish race, that they would not be wiped out. We can see that even though it was perhaps hard for her to do that, hard for her to make the stand, to be bold enough to go to the king to request his presence at the banquet she was preparing, she did it. Even though if she would have failed along the way, her life could have been taken.

As we read in the New Testament, we read an account of another man, of Peter, who was very bold, very outspoken. Yet when he was asked, are you not a follower, are you not one of Christ's disciples, he could not say he was. He denied it and said, "no I am not." He was weak in the flesh, wasn't he? He was weak. He could not make the stand that, yes, he was one of God's followers, he was a follower of Christ.

I had to think, as we read the two chapters, where do we fit in? If we were in Queen Esther's situation or Mordecai, could we stand and be committed to saying, yes we are a

follower of God? Mordecai, even as he sat there in the gate, knew it was very detrimental to him to not honor Haman. But he would not do it, to the point where Haman was preparing to have Mordecai's life taken because he would not follow the wishes of Haman. So we can see that Mordecai was standing fast for his beliefs.

Queen Esther, after Mordecai had talked to her, realized she also had to stand fast. She had to use her position as queen to go to the king to request his presence at this banquet, that the Jewish race might be saved, that it would not be totally wiped out. We see that they had their part and they had to do it. Whether it was comfortable or not, they needed to make that stand. They did, and we all know the outcome. Even when we stopped reading there in the Old Testament about the gallows being built by Haman's request to hang Mordecai on, we know that the following day Haman himself was the one who was hung there on the gallows. God's plan was fulfilled, it was carried out. But it was carried out by people who were willing and capable of standing fast, not yielding to the pressures around them.

Then we read there in the New Testament about Peter. We can see that the pressure around him caused him to yield. He did not stand fast. If we would have continued on reading, we know what Peter did when he recognized that he failed. It said, "And Peter went out, and wept bitterly." St. Luke 22:62. He was very remorseful for what he did but he could not go back and change it.

You and I, when we are put in

that position, and maybe we are not put in a position where we fear for our lives if we say we are serving the Lord, but maybe we just feel a little uncomfortable. Should we? We should not, should we? We should be able to rejoice and just be so thankful for what God has done for us, for the price that was paid.

When we have something that we are filled with joy about and we are rejoicing, bubbling over with an

Sermon continued on page 42

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

November

1. Bluffton, IN
2. Bluffton North, IN
3. Lexington, KY
4. St. Louis, MO

Suggested Donation: \$11/subscription

Next correspondence due:

For November Issue

(16 Sept. News - 15 Oct. News)

Due: 20 October 2002

The Silver Lining (Vol. 57, #10)

1389 County Road 1600 N

Roanoke, IL 61561

USPS 496780

Published Monthly By The Apostolic
Christian Church of America

Counselors:

Ervin Knecht, Ron Schambach

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Roanoke, IL, 61561

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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

October 2002

Weights II

The previous article addressed several issues about "weights" including a definition, a caution about Satan's tactics in using weights, and several examples for which we need to be cautious. This article continues to address issues which can be weights to those of us who are sincerely trying to serve the one true God.

An issue that provides Satan with an opportunity to cause confusion in minds of God's people is the extreme wickedness of the world. Satan could deceive us into thinking that we really aren't doing anything that is so terrible. If we compare ourselves with the world, we might think that some of our temptations are rather minor and as a result, not a problem if we yield. We are cautioned in the scripture that those who compare "...themselves among themselves, are not wise" (II Cor. 10:12). It would not be difficult to sooth our conscience by finding a poor soul mired deep in sin. The only safe comparison that we have is the life of Jesus Christ. If we compare our lives with His life, we quickly realize that we have no room for the things of the world.

Most of us have been taught to be diligent in our work. Many of us have had an opportunity to receive a good education that has enabled us to learn a valuable skill or profession which in turn helps us to earn a productive job. These advantages often lead to success in the workplace. We may have the opportunity to get a series of job promotions with substantial increases in our income. This may result in our having more money than we really need.

Most of us also are blessed with many labor saving devices. We can do the chores at home with much less time and effort than was possible in the past. Therefore, we might find ourselves in the position of having time that is not filled with work related responsibilities.

Is this extra time and money a blessing or a curse? Is it a "weight" or an asset? It all depends on how we use it.

The Bible gives us numerous examples of the impact that these weights have on the souls of men. Lot "...lifted up his eyes

and beheld all the plain of Jordan, that it was well watered everywhere..." (Gen. 13:10) and he yielded to the temptation to choose the better land when Abraham asked him which land he wanted. As time passed he moved closer to the sin-filled cities of Sodom and Gomorrah, and eventually moved into Sodom. Lot and his family became so engulfed by the weight of the wealth of the cities that he did not want to leave, even in the face of obvious danger. "...while he lingered, the men (angels) laid hold upon his hand ...and set him without the city" (Gen. 19:16). Unfortunately, even after all of these warnings, Lot's "...wife looked back from behind him, and she became a pillar of salt" (Gen. 19:26). She was destroyed by weights that tied her to sin.

A rich young man came to Jesus and asked what he needed to do to inherit eternal life. Upon hearing Jesus explain the commandments, he felt that he had kept them all. However, when Christ went on to explain that "...If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, ...and come and follow me... he went away sorrowful: for he had great possessions" (Mt. 19:21-22). He wanted to do what was right but the weight resulting from his love for his wealth was too heavy for him to deal with. He allowed his material possessions to keep him from following Christ.

Many people have more leisure time than previous generations have had. If we use this time to pursue the pleasures of the world, we may find ourselves in an unfortunate situation similar to the one the prodigal son found himself. The deceitfulness of riotous living left him longing for the husks that the swine ate.

We must be careful that we do not allow the "weights" of time and money to hinder our service to God. If labor saving devices enable us to find time to serve God more effectively (more time in prayer, visiting the sick, helping the distressed, etc.), the spare time we have can be a great blessing to us. On the other hand, if we use the extra time to pursue worldly entertainment, and fill our lives with "...the lust of the flesh, and

the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life..." (I Jn. 2:16), the spare time will be a curse.

If we can use the material blessings as we are encouraged to do in Gal. 6:10- "As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith", we can find great blessings from our material goods. However, if we use our wealth in the pursuits of the worldly pleasures "... and seeth (our) brother have need and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?" (I Jn. 3:17)

Improperly used time and wealth are undoubtedly two of the more serious weights that a child of God may have to deal with. Other weights include the temptation to follow the traditions of the world rather than the practices of the church and an unhealthy desire to be entertained.

Family vacations can be a wonderful time for parents to spend wholesome time with their children. However, if the time is used to engage ourselves in activities that we would not feel comfortable doing at home, vacations can be a problem. It can also become a problem if fathers use the time to get away for a while and leave the family at home.

There are many other weights that Satan could bring upon us. How can we be certain that we are not allowing them to hamper our service to God? If we seek out answers from the Word of God, we can gain much protection. The scripture lists activities that are referred to as the Works of the Flesh and activities that are referred to as the Fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:19-26). If we carefully examine our activities and use the discernment of the Word, we can know if our activities are likely to enhance the Works of the Flesh or the Fruit of the Spirit. Any activity that enhances the Works of the Flesh should be avoided. However, activities that enhance the Fruit of the Spirit will assuredly reduce the weights that hinder our relationship with God and draw us closer to our Heavenly goal.



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

Update on the Jamaica Deaf Village

We are thankful that the work in Jamaica continues as a viable project that draws considerable interest among our brethren. In this issue, we'd like to report on recent developments at the Jamaica Deaf Village (JDV) in Mandeville, Jamaica. The village is not a new project. For the past 9 years, it has been under construction, but not in operation. JDV is a part of Caribbean Christian Center for the Deaf that our work teams have been a part of for years.

The past couple of months have yielded much observable fruit that has been a great encouragement to the ministry and our brethren. We trust you too will find this update an encouragement towards continued involvement and support for this wonderful work.

The first deaf residents

This past year God brought enough of the physical necessities together (places to live, work, worship, etc.) to facilitate the "start" of the Jamaica Deaf Village. July 2002 produced many answered prayers with the arrival of the first deaf residents, all of whom are adult graduates from the other three CCCD campuses.

Three young men from Knockpatrick (Sheldon, Ionda, and Kevin) and two young ladies (Diana from Knockpatrick and Avril from Kingston) became the first to move into the first floor of the completed apartments in the large building at the top of the driveway.

Our work teams are sure to enjoy the fellowship of these dear ones as they become an integral part of the Jamaica Deaf Village.

The opening of the factory

July 15, 2002 marked the official opening of the factory at the village. One month prior, one of our Apostolic Christian work teams had the privilege of unloading a sea container containing the donated equipment and materials to setup the factory. Much joy and thankfulness was experienced by all on this team as they "handled" the wonderful provisions of our Lord.



Bent wood rocking chair

The factory is currently manufacturing bent wood rocking chairs. The design is labor intensive to make, yet comfortable to sit in! The chairs are being fabricated with the intent of export to the United States.

Friends from Maryland labored to help set up the factory and then trained the missionaries and the deaf how to operate the wood working equipment, customized jigs, and finishing processes.

What a joy to observe the beaming smiles of the deaf residents as they put their signatures on the first chair they completed that first week!

Spiritual care for the deaf

A CCCD on-site missionary that has worked with each of our work teams at the JDV in the past 2 years, has assumed the role of interim counselor/shepherd to the deaf villagers. Each morning the villagers start their work day with a twenty-

minute devotion. This has proven to be a good exercise where the deaf can interactively learn about practical spiritual issues.

The first church service was held at the village on July 21st. Including all the visitors and deaf students from some of the other campuses, there were nearly 170 people in attendance for this first service!

One of the smaller industry buildings is serving as the chapel until the number of residents grows to a point where they need more space. We are thankful that the Lord has provided such wonderful care to his deaf children in Jamaica through the efforts of this ministry.

Request for continued prayer and support

The arrival of the deaf residents and the opening of the factory bring exciting new challenges to our work in Jamaica. Our brother Warren Kloter (Goodfield, IL) is currently working at the village as a short-term assistant in order to help train the deaf residents and assist in the supervision of work teams. His capable assistance has been very much appreciated by all.



Setting up the wood jigs in the factory

Please continue to pray for this work and the brothers that share oversight so that our support could always be given in a timely and appropriately helpful manner.



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

The Church in Central Texas

The wide open areas and large size of Texas make it a unique state. Because of the vastness of Texas, it flourishes in natural beauty, including an impressive array of wildflowers, abundant wildlife, and a varied terrain. Texas was also once its own republic. Before it was independent, Texas was originally owned by Spain, and then Mexico. In 1845, Texas became a part of the United States. Texas has much to offer in the way of history and nature, making it an interesting, lovely place to visit or live.

First services held in Central Texas

Texas's first services were held in San Antonio in the late 1970s and early 1980s in Everett and Sis. Dorothy Martin's and Elmer (Bud) Sauder's homes.

In the early 1980s Bro. Leland Plattner, the minister of the Zapata, Texas church, received requests for services from people who lived near Waco, Fort Worth, Dallas, and Giddings. After placing an article in the Silver Lining for names of anyone who lived in those areas who may have been interested in attending services, he was submitted over 60 names. He contacted each of them and received enough responses to bring it to the attention of his elder, Bro. Ed Hohulin. Bro. Ed suggested contacting the Elder Committee.

Bro. Alfred Bahler was the corresponding elder of the committee at the time, and he suggested scheduling a few services to see exactly how many would attend. Two services given by two different elders, Bro. Ronald Nelson and Bro.

Robert Walder, were arranged to provide the elder body a report at the following conference. At the conference, the elders approved a schedule for services twice a month.

Regular services begin

The newly begun services were held on the south side of Fort Worth, but within a few years they were moved to the south side of Dallas. In the late 1980s some of services were held in Houston as part of the same schedule. Also, Bro. Bill Zeltwanger offered his home to host many of the services for the Giddings/Round Top area.

Location moves southward

By the mid-1990s the number of attendees in Dallas and Houston had declined considerably. However, some from the Austin and San Antonio areas still attended, so the locations of the services moved southward from Dallas and westward from Houston. During the mid-to late 1990s the scheduled services increased to every Sunday. They were held at rotating locations in the Round Top, Austin, and San Antonio areas.

Over the years there were other members and friends, other than those previously mentioned, who invited the group into their homes for these services. The church greatly appreciated this. In the summer of 2000 services were moved to the present location in San Marcos. Central Texas Church approved their articles of incorporation and by-laws in July 2000 under the name of The Apostolic Christian Church of America at Austin, Texas. The name of Central Texas Church has recently been changed to the San Marcos Church

because of the current location of services.

A haven for those away from home

Quite often, brethren and friends have been transferred temporarily to locations in Texas for occupational reasons and have been thankful for an Apostolic Christian fellowship of which they can be a part. The church has been a haven away from home for them. Those in the Central Texas church have also benefited from this fellowship with bonds of love being forged. Although several have moved to other Apostolic Christian church locations, there have been at least eight conversions within this rapidly changing group.

Hope for the future

The current congregation has several children in the families who attend. There are presently nine members, one convert, several friends and nine children. Children are always a special part of a church since they help it to keep looking toward the future. In Texas, housing is affordable, and there are many career opportunities for anyone wishing to support a small congregation.

Support of the brethren

Zapata is geographically the closest neighboring congregation, about four and a half hours away. Most brethren driving to Zapata travel through Central Texas, often stopping to visit. The counseling elder for San Marcos is Bro. Ray Sinn; the counseling minister is Bro. Leland Plattner. The local congregation feels the support of the brethren through prayers, the minister rotation, and visitors who come to Texas. Any opportunity for fellowship is appreciated.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

On August 24, we were blessed to have many young people come to Timber Ridge as well as our other facilities to lend their helping hands. The Morton young group invited the single groups of many churches to come that weekend and spend Saturday helping others. We were thankful to be beneficiaries of their servant hearts. Many, many bushes were trimmed, vehicles washed, dining room tables and chairs cleaned, and much more. Thank you, everyone that helped this way.

The Lord has provided for us in another big way recently. We were able to open a new CILA home in August. It was amazing to see staff work together so quickly in order to have the house ready to be lived in so soon after planning to open it. Four men are now living in our new home at 338 E. Hazelwood in Morton. It has been exciting to have more resources available to help more people. There have been 10 residents directly affected by this change whose needs are being more adequately met.

Our residents have been enjoying all the activities that come with appropriate weather and seasons. One highlight in September is the Morton Pumpkin Festival and Parade. It's always a fun way to get ready for fall. Many of our residents enjoy the rides, food, and being out in the community.

NOVEMBER birthdays at Timber Ridge, 2125 Veterans Rd., Morton, IL 61550 are: Susie McGinley (1), Kathy Knapp (5), Tom Manley (8), Kay Ellis (9), Amy Tucker (11), Sam Sigulas (13), Jennifer Cox (17), Janet

Worner (17), Kristie Furrer (18) and Vernon Heiniger (18). At Oakwood Estate, 2213 Veterans Rd., Morton, IL 61550: Keith Weyeneth (4). At 652 Detroit, Morton, IL 61550: Jane Aberle (14). At 338 E. Hazelwood, Morton, IL 61550: Kenneth Clauss (2). At 1001 E. Idlewood, Morton, IL 61550: Alan Unsicker (15). At 241 S. Minnesota, Morton, IL 61550: Rhonda Pullen (4) and Marian Funk (20).

GATEWAY WOODS APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME Patsy Stoller

"My voice shalt thou hear in the morning. O Lord, in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee, and will look up."

Psalm 5:3

We as staff were able to join our residents from Gateway Woods School for prayer time at the flagpole this month. It was a time we could collectively pray to our Heavenly Father. My heart was touched as some of our residents expressed appreciation for their teachers, some were thankful for freedoms of our country, some shared gratefulness for His grace to overcome sin, while others shared their desire for help to change circumstances in their lives. His Word reminds us to "bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits." (Psalm 103:1-2)

Not only is it a privilege to tell our residents to whom they can turn to for every circumstance in their life, but it is a responsibility as well! Continue to join us in

prayer that the seeds of truth sown in the hearts of our young people will sprout and grow to His honor and glory.

"Show me thy ways, O Lord; teach me thy paths. Lead me in thy truth, and teach me, for thou art the God of my salvation; on thee do I wait all the day."

Psalm 25:4-5

We would like to extend a warm welcome to Kayla S. in the Wiegand House. May the Lord continue to touch hearts! We also welcome Greg M. and Amanda B. to our Foster Care program. Please pray for them and their foster parents. In addition, please continue to pray for our foster child, Demarco S., who is an infant with severe health complications.

We have started another school year at Gateway Woods School! Our teachers certainly covet your prayers as they work to teach, mold, and shape our residents. We are encouraged with the progress of our school building and look forward to moving in near the end of the year.

The Lord continues to faithfully provide us with staff. We thank the Lord for Bro. Mark and Sis. Tammy Herrmann (Washington, IL), Sis. Julie Zimmerman (Congerville, IL) and Sis. Marti Hinrichsen (Goodfield, IL) for their willingness to serve at Gateway Woods as new members of our staff. We encourage you to pray for each of them and their families.

We have completed an interactive CD, with links to our website, that can be used by our staff, our Reps, referring agencies, families or anyone desiring to learn more about our programs. Copies are

available upon request by contacting Bro. Joe Gerber at: 1-888-443-4283 or:

joe.gerber@gatewaywoods.org

Thank you for your love, kindness, and prayers. As an outreach of the Apostolic Christian Church of America to troubled children and their families, we continue laboring to "TURN LIVES AROUND" through the power of God's Word and love!

**APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN
PRESCHOOL
Melinda Matuch**

"God is love."

I John 4:8

"Honour thy father and thy mother."

Exodus 20:12

"If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it."

John 14:14

"Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father; but by Me."

John 14:6

"Keep thy tongue from evil."

Psalms 34:13

We are having a busy autumn here at the preschool. This month we will go to the pumpkin patch for a hayride and corn maze, to pick cotton and pumpkins and have a picnic lunch. We will also have our annual trike-a-thon. The children ride their tricycles around a route in the parking lot and collect money from their sponsors. They are so proud of themselves when they have finished their last lap. It is quite an accomplishment. This special

fund is used for extra purchases like our new copy machine.

We have also had a change in our staff. Bro. Tim and Sis. Joan Reinhard, Sarah, Bethany, and Hannah, are moving to Peoria, IL. Sis. Joan has been affiliated in one way or another with the preschool for the last fifteen years. We are saddened by their loss, not only to the preschool but also to the church. We wish to thank Sis. Joan for all her hard work in her capacity as part-time director for the last few months. We also welcome Sis. Joan Schrenk (Bro. Tom) as our new part-time director. Sis. Joan S. has done the job before, and we are thankful that she is willing to help us out again.

October will also bring the fall meeting of the preschool board. We are so thankful and blessed to have brothers willing and able to serve us, the children, and even the Athens community in our work here. Please pray for their safe travel to and from Athens as well as the decisions that they must make.

The passage of time has not lessened the need for a qualified teacher to come to the preschool and fill the position of teacher/director. Please pray for God to prick the heart of someone who is able and make them willing to come. Any interested teacher should contact the preschool administrator, Bro. Tom Schrenk, at (256) 232-0037. His home address is 15318 Hastings Road, Athens, AL 35613.

Opportunities abound, even during the school year, for volunteers to come to the preschool. If you would like to plan a trip to a slightly warmer climate for a few days of fun and fellowship, please contact the preschool at (256) 233-0591. The mailing address for all preschool correspondence

is Apostolic Christian Preschool, 15284 Hastings Road, Athens, AL 35613.

ALABAMA, ATHENS

Joan Reinhard

Louise Hall

Fifteen years ago, I loaded pretty much everything I owned in the back of my Volkswagen Rabbit and headed down south to Athens. As I drove, the tears came, and I wondered what in the world I was doing. The internal argument went on as the miles went by. Yes, I felt God's leading to come and finish my college education here where I could also serve a small church. No, I'd never moved away from home before, and yes, I was scared to death. Yes, I had prayed and prayed about this and talked it over with my parents and felt the peace that comes from following God no matter what. Then why was this so hard?

As this went on and just about when I was at my wit's end, I saw a small spray-painted lettering on the side of the overpass that said, "Trust Jesus." A calm came over me, and I said, "Okay, Lord, Thy will be done." This whole situation was repeated about three times during that one trip. Each time I would allow myself to get all worked up, I would see another of the same type of lettering, written in blue, that said, "Trust Jesus."

Now, fifteen years later, with one large truck and numerous small loads, a husband, three of my five children, a cat, and many, many memories of life experiences and friends, I am moving back home. When I think of God's faithfulness throughout these years, it almost overwhelms me. He has never left me or forsaken me. Through the good times and

the lowest times of my life, God has been there. What an awesome God we have, and what a wonderful life it is to live in His will and plan.

As each of us go on our way, let's stop and make sure we are living our life for God and thank Him for His faithfulness. If you ever come down to Athens to visit (and I recommend that you do), watch carefully as you go by the different underpasses, and you will still today see the words, written in blue paint, "Trust Jesus."

Bro. Tim and Sis. Joan Reinhard and their children, Sarah, Bethany, and Hannah are moving away from Athens and relocating near Peoria, IL. We wish to thank the Athens congregation for their many years of love, kindness, and support that has been shown to our family. We pray that the Lord will be with this small congregation and that He will supply, of His abundance, all their needs.

We are thankful to the Lord for His healing mercy for Sis. Joan Schrenk (Bro. Tom), as she had yet another surgery. She came through with flying colors and is recovering well.

We would ask prayers for William Haggenmaker, as he has been diagnosed with colon cancer. William is a brother to our Bro. Ed Haggenmaker, Sis. Clarann Lynn, and Joyce Ray. His wife, Sis. Ethel, has been very sick also, and we know they would covet your prayers.

We are thankful for visitors this month from Princeville, IL. As the winter season comes closer and some of you plan to travel south, please try to include Athens in your plans for a Sunday or Wednesday night. It is important to continue to strengthen the fel-

lowship from church to church.

ARIZONA, PHOENIX
Ron and Ev Hoerr

"To be spiritually minded is life and peace."

Romans 8:6

We started hearing the Conference tapes on Wednesday nights after a shortened sermon.

Our thanks to our dear Sunday School Superintendents, teachers and everyone involved in our Altadena and Phoenix churches for the August 31 - Sept. 1 Sunday School get together in Altadena. Our Jr. and Sr. high classes truly enjoyed the Christian fellowship.

What God has put together, let not man put asunder. He brought two dear souls to become engaged. On August 25, we heard of Bro. Brandon Labudde and Sis. Jodi Hohulin's engagement. We pray God's blessings on them as they plan their December 29 wedding. Their parents are Bro. Larry and Sis. Kathie Labudde and Bro. Sam and Sis. Cindy Hohulin.

Our visiting ministers were Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle (Shioda, Japan) and Bro. Steve Baner (Gridley, IL).

We need the prayers of those we love: Sis. Ruth Vaughn, Sis. Elva Wuthrich and Dakota Thorpe are grateful to you. Sis. Ruth Vaughn, Sis. Katherine Laukhuf and Dakota Thorpe have been in the hospital recently.

Sis. Ruth Baer's new address is:

Freedom Plaza Care Center
Pavilion 326 bed 2
13714 Plaza Del Rio Blvd.
Peoria, AZ 85381

Helen Baer Stewart's address

is still the same as before.

This year our Sunday School teachers are: Superintendent - Bro. Ray and Sis. Wendy Blunier; Bible Class - Bros. Sam Hohulin and Marshall Witzig; Junior Bible Class - Bros. Scott Klopenstein and Leon Baumgartner; 5th and 6th grade - Bros. Scott Baum and Randy Wuethrich; 3rd and 4th grade - Bros. Tim Sutton and Todd Baum; 1st and 2nd grade - Sisters Marge Lindenbaum and Verene Sutton; Kindergarten - Sisters Jenny Hand and Heather Labudde; Beginners - Sisters Janelle Ebert and Diane Ebert.

ARIZONA, PRESCOTT
Jane Hodges

Our congregation has been asked by our Elder Bro. Jon Kokanovich to prayerfully seek the Lord's direction for a brother among us to serve as a minister. The results of our prayers will be revealed the weekend of November 24. We ask for the prayers of our brethren as we seek the Lord's will in this important endeavor.

Our ministering brothers last month were all from Phoenix, AZ, and included Elder Bro. Jon Kokanovich and Bros. Ken Lawson, James Emch, and Jim Meiss. We thank them and their families for their continued love and support and pray the Lord will richly bless them.

ARIZONA, TUCSON
Lisa Knapp

We would like to express our appreciation to two ministering brothers who visited us to relieve Bro. Curt Kaufman on the pulpit. Elder Bro. Jon Kokanovich (Phoenix, AZ) was here over La-

bor Day Weekend as Bro. Curt was traveling with his family. A week later, Bro. Steve Baner (Gridley, IL) was with us to share the Word. Thank you both so much.

Bro. Don Bauer (Sis. Glo) and C.J. Kaufman (Bro. Curt and Sis. Caroline) each had outpatient surgery recently. We are thankful and happy to report both are recovering nicely and able to attend church. God's healing mercies at work!

Our Sunday School Bible Class traveled to Altadena, CA, with the Phoenix Bible Class for a week-end of fellowship over the Labor Day holiday. We are thankful for their safe return and the efforts of so many people, the Altadena church for their love and hospitality, the Phoenix church for providing our transportation, and our own Sunday School teachers and church for their time and financial support. But mostly we are thankful to our Heavenly Father for allowing us the freedom to assemble and worship together.

We said a farewell to Sis. Mindy Bauer (Bro. Brad and Sis. Sandy) who will be spending a semester studying in Spain. We will miss Sis. Mindy while she's gone but will be anxious to hear of her adventures when she returns, Lord willing, in December.

We would like to say "Welcome" to Rachal Woodruff (Bro. Bill and Sis. Kathy, Phoenix) who has chosen to begin her college life in Tucson attending the University of Arizona. We pray God will watch over her as she starts this new phase in her life. We are thrilled she chose Tucson!

We are still having slight monsoon activity but are probably towards the end of our monsoon

rains. We are cooling down a bit with highs this week in the low 90's and wonderfully dry, cool evenings. We are still behind in our annual rainfall and will miss the afternoon thunderstorms.

CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA

John Klotzle

Having just returned from a family visit to Indiana, we couldn't help but notice and enjoy, while we were there, the signs that harvest time was nigh at hand. Within a period of eight days, the corn and bean fields turned from rich green to amber and brown, with golden kernels of corn just barely peeping through the husks. There was talk of moisture content and a noticeable eagerness among the farmers, whose weather eyes sharply watched the skies. I had to marvel how quickly the degree of readiness came upon the fields, which were indeed white unto harvest. It was bearing out the scripture, "But when the fruit is brought forth, immediately he putteth in the sickle, because the harvest is come." (Mark 4:29) Once again we were impressed with the important necessity of being ready when the Lord's harvest is begun.

During August, Dr. and Mrs. Parkhe from Nashik, India, visited the USA. He is the Director/Administrator of the Rural Gospel and Medical Missions of India. Since this spiritual and charitable work is directly under the auspices of our Apostolic Christian Church, these visits help in our counseling the mission workers' leaders. The Parkhes visited a number of our congregations and were impressed with what they observed.

Here in Altadena we have be-

gun a Visiting Minister Invitation Program. As with all small congregations, there is often a need for assistance on the pulpit. Our members extend an invitation to ministers and their wives to come and visit, with the attendant travel and lodging expenses paid by the church. Bro. Tom Klotzle is coordinator for this program. If you are available to participate in this program, please contact him.

We have been blessed by a number of visiting ministers. We are thankful to ministering Bros. Scott Schafer (South Bend, IN), Curt Kaufman (Tucson, AZ), and Lenard Meyer (Chicago, IL), who brought us God's precious Word over the past few weeks.

Our dear Bro. Laszlo Cser (Sis. Maria) suffered a stroke resulting in some paralysis of his left arm and leg. Our prayers are for God's healing and the gift of grace and patience to be upon him.

We welcome Bro. Justin and Sis. Robin Moser into our church family. They are a most welcome addition, and we thank the Lord for their becoming a part of our small congregation.

CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

Peggy Jevremov

On September 1, many of our congregation were blessed to travel to Silverton, OR, where we witnessed the marriage vows of our Bro. Phillip Petrovic (Elder Bro. Peter and Sis. Marian) and Sis. Tasha Kuenzi (Bro. Robert and Sis. Linda). We pray the Lord will bestow upon their marriage His richest blessings. We want to warmly welcome Sis. Tasha into our congregation.

We have been abundantly blessed this past month with many visiting ministering brethren.

ren. They included Bro. Tim Funk (Sis. Deb, Peoria, IL), Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle (Sis. Lois, Shioda, Japan), Elder Bro. John Klotzle (Sis. Lois, Altadena, CA), Bro. Lenny Meyer (Sis. Charlotte, Chicago, IL), Bro. Mike Rieker (Sis. Carol, Peoria, IL), Bro. Tom Klotzle (Sis. Jody, Altadena, CA), and Bro. Herb Knochel (Sis. Laurie, Phoenix, AZ). We pray the Lord will reward them as only He can.

We also enjoyed a visit by Dr. Parkhe of India. He shared with us of the work that is taking place there.

We will miss Sis. Rose Huette and her son Calvin in our little congregation. She has felt led to move back to central Illinois to be closer to her family. They plan to assemble with the Bloomington congregation. We look forward to her future visits with us. We pray the Lord's guidance and blessings will be hers in rich measure.

KITCHENER, ONTARIO CANADA

Nathan Reutter

Greetings, dear brethren. This month we have been blessed with visiting ministers, Brotherhood Conference tapes, an invite-a-couple weekend, and an opportunity to sing in a retirement home. All were encouraging and refreshing to partake in.

Our visiting ministers this month were as follows: Bro. Gary Tonner (Sis. Diann, Bluffton, IN) and Elder Bro. Mark Bahr (Sis. Bev, Detroit, MI). We thank Bro. Gary for speaking the truth about faith and verity (I Timothy 2:7). We thank Elder Bro. Mark for feeding us, taking the oversight of us willingly, and not for filthy lucre, and for being a wonderful

ensample (a living example) to us (I Peter 5:1-4).

The Brotherhood Conference tapes are again a blessing to listen to. They have reminded us how to esteem (highly value) the precious things around us (God, Jesus, His Word, husbands, wives, the Eldership, the ways of our faith, our brethren, etc). We have also been reminded of how the world, and even the nominal Christian world, views things that we have a strong Bible-based stand on. It reminded us of how we need to keep what we have and promote it so others can see something different from the average.

Another precious thing we have in our faith is the fellowship we experience when we invite guests for a weekend. Our invite-a-couple weekend brought several brothers and sisters from a wide variety of places. The wonderful part was that we all shared the same faith and practiced it the same. "As the dew from Hermon's height did descend on Zion bright, so flows grace and blessing free on the brethren's unity." (Unity In Love, ZH 181). The blessing was so much that we are planning to have more in the future.

We also enjoyed the blessing to sing in a retirement home this past month. It is good to give these sometimes lonely, sometimes sickly people a little comfort from the singing of hymns and a little reading of Scripture. It is also encouraging to see and hear the people singing along with us. When we see this we know that it is touching them at the heart. In Psalm 71, verse 9 we read that the psalmist feared that he would be cast off in his old age and would be forsaken in his old age. I am sure everyone of a high age feels this way, and we try to relieve that fear

and anxiety when we go to sing and read with them.

We hope that God has provided you as much blessing in the past month as He has us. May God bless you in the future. May we take the teachings from the Conference tapes and from our ministers and Elders and accomplish them in our lives so that we will be a doer and not a hearer only.

COLORADO, DENVER Ann Gonglach

"Anxiety springs from the desire that things should happen as we wish rather than as God wills."

—Anonymous

"...take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. Take no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof."

Matthew 6:31-34

In these uncertain times, what a blessing it is to know that we don't have to worry because God is in control! On a recent Wednesday evening, Dr. Surrendra Parkhe and his wife, Damayanti, from the Rural Gospel Medical Mission in India visited us along with Elder Bro. John and Sis. Connie Lehman (Bern, KS). Dr. Parkhe told us about his work and the church in India. Let's remem-

ber to pray for Christians there, especially as they are in the minority and face persecution.

Bro. Eric and Sis. Marcel Huber and their children have an exchange student, Nan Thongnarisorn, from Thailand, staying with them for the school year. We welcome Nan as she worships with us.

We are also happy to have Sis. Carmen Cook and Sis. Melissa Wuethrich from Francesville, IN, join our fellowship. Sis. Carmen moved to Denver to attend college while Sis. Melissa is teaching Special Ed in Fort Lupton.

**CONNECTICUT
ROCKVILLE
Cherie Galat**

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

Genesis 2:18

The engagement of Bro. Nathan Hoffman (Bro. Michael and Luann) and Sis. Mary Steiner (Bro. Matt and Sis. Gail) of Rittman, OH, was made known unto us. May God provide guidance for each decision that comes upon them in the coming days.

Precious Mackenzie Kaitlynn was born to Jameson and Jennifer Lloyd on July 21. Grandparents are Herb and Kathy Lloyd and Bro. Ed and Sis. Terry Mangold. May they seek His guidance to bring up their child in the ways of the Lord.

We welcome Sis. Rebecca Schaefer (Winthrop, MN) as she moves here to the Northeast to complete a program she is enrolled in. Our hope is that she feels the love of the Rockville brethren

as she fellowships with us.

The Single Group was invited to Forrest and Fairbury, IL, churches for the Labor Day weekend. We enjoyed a blessed time of fellowship and benefited from being together as we all continue to walk together as the body of Christ. May God bless these two groups as they surely have labored together to serve us.

It is a blessing to have heard God's Word proclaimed by our visiting brethren. May God through the Spirit continue to provide words to be spoken by Bro. Ken Eisenmann (Cissna Park, IL) as he continues to labor in the ministry.

We surely will miss Carolyn Boynton (Ken and Sis. Jan) as she has moved to Nevada. May God protect her and give her guidance in the days ahead.

Our prayers arise for loved ones who have been hospitalized in past days. May He heal according to His will Sis. Esther Gruenig and Mark Lanz (Bro. Barry and Karen).

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
WASHINGTON
Henrietta Meyer**

After summer vacations, everyone is getting back into their routine whether it is work or school.

It is not too often we get to say welcome except to our visitors. This month we are able to extend a welcome to Bro. Adam Hermann originally from Morton, IL, as he has accepted employment in this area. We also welcome Sis. Janet Wysong, her son Kouri, his wife Nora and their son Jax from the Lester, IA, congregation. Kouri is stationed at Ft. Belvoir. Over the years we have had many visitors

say their first trip to Washington was being stationed at Ft. Belvoir.

Our ministers the past month were Bro. Gene Metzger (Lester, IA), Elder Bro. Ben Wiegand (Philadelphia, PA) and Bro. Mark Ramsier (Sardis, OH). Other visitors were from Rittman, OH, and Morton, IL.

Services are usually held the first, third and fourth Sundays of the month at the Tysons Corner Westpark (Best Western) Hotel, located about one-mile west of the Beltway (I-495) on Route 7. Song service begins at 10:15, worship service at 10:30; afternoon service begins at 12:15.

If you are planning to visit Washington, D.C. for vacation or business, please call Bro. Barry and Sis. Doreen Steffen (410) 569-3635 or Sis. Henrietta Meyer (703) 904-8301 for assistance and to let us know how many to expect for Sunday services. If you would like to get together on Saturday evening, please let us know that also. We would be happy to have an evening of fellowship and/or singing.

**FLORIDA
FORT LAUDERDALE**

As the fall weather approaches, we are thankful for the cooler temperatures and the lessening of humidity. We also look forward to the arrival of our winter guests and again extend a hearty invitation to all who may be visiting South Florida either for vacation time or business.

We were blessed to have our counseling Elder Bro. Earl Ringger and his wife, Sis. Dixie (Gridley, IL), visit us in September. He presented a Bible Study on Wednesday evening about “Overcoming Sin”. May God bless

him for his efforts and for the time they spend with us in Fort Lauderdale.

**FLORIDA
NORTH FORT MYERS**

Mary Masters

Sis. Jeanette Yergler is feeling much better and is thankful to be worshipping with us once again. Her surgery went very well, thanks be to God.

Visitors have been with us most every Sunday, for which we are most grateful. Bro. Ron Koehl shared the pulpit with our dear Bro. Marvin Steffen one Sunday when Bro. Vic Beer had to be gone. We are so thankful to have willing brothers come and share with us, even though it means driving the extra miles. May God richly bless them.

Anna Mae Masters was welcomed into the world by her parents, Nathan and Sarah Masters, from Bloomington, IL. Her happy grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Mary Masters from our congregation. This is their 14th grandchild. "Children are a heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is his reward." (Psalm 127:3)

Here in Southwest Florida, we are waiting to see how Hurricane Isidore is going to affect our area. We can listen to the weather predictions as often as we want, but are reminded that only God has knowledge of the future. One thing we do know, is that among the storms and tempests that may surround us, we have a peace in our hearts that can come only from Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord.

FLORIDA, SARASOTA

Carol Koehl

We wish to thank all of our summer Florida visitors for joining us at Sarasota church. We especially appreciated having Bro. Todd Stoller (Latty, OH) bringing us the Word on a recent Wednesday evening.

Very soon our winter residents will start returning, and we pray that you will all have a safe trip to Florida.

Bro. John Krstec (Sis. Biserka) was hospitalized this past month. We are thankful that he is doing better.

GEORGIA, ATLANTA

John Brewer

We were thankful to have over Labor Day weekend some of the Francesville congregation and the Purdue young group with us at a cabin retreat in Rome, GA. Over the weekend the fellowship, singing, hiking and other activities allowed for us to grow closer together as a body of Christ and to establish and reestablish friendships and relationships. Elder Bro. Steve Gutwein and Bro. Randy Gudeman and their wives, Sis. Linda and Sis. Becky, also came down and shared with us during devotions and Bible study.

We also are thankful for Bro. Ben Wysong (Sis. Janice, Sabetha, KS) for visiting and sharing the Word of God with us.

If you plan to be in the Atlanta area, we would invite you to worship and fellowship with us. We start song service at 10:15. We also gather on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday at 7:00 pm. Our church is in Fairburn, Georgia off I-85 southwest of Atlanta. We are 15 miles south of the airport on exit 64 (Jonesboro Rd.) 4 miles

due west after you get off the exit. Please contact Bro. Tom Waldbeser 770-463-4788, Bro. Keith Kaufman 770-304-8335, Bro. Linn Stoller 770-631-4554 or Bro. John Brewer 770-304-8706 if you need more information.

ILLINOIS, BELVIDERE

Doreen Moser

Sheila McCoy

Blest be the tie that binds...
Our hearts in Christian love,
The fellowship of kindred minds
Is like to that above.

We bid farewell to Bro. Jason Moser, as he has accepted a new job in Morris, MN. In our small congregation we will miss that extra voice in song, fellowship and prayer. May the Lord direct our paths until we meet again. Bro. Jason's address is:

26864 US Hwy 59
Morris, MN 56267
(320) 392-5222

Fellowship gatherings this month have been our annual Sunday School picnic and church campout. Such precious memories are made here on earth in a short span of time. Someday we can look forward to Heaven where we will never have to bid one another farewell.

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

A benefit dinner was held to raise money for our Bible class to go on a missionary trip to Rio Bravo, Mexico. The children, their teachers and countless other helpers extend their thanks to all

those who attended the dinner. They look forward to returning the golden deed by helping those who are in need.

“Love of all gifts is the greatest...”

Austin Mueller (Bro. Art and Sis. Marlene) and Kristy (Reed) were united in marriage on August 24. May their love for one another continue to grow stronger as the years pass by.

Victory in Jesus, My Saviour forever

He sought me and bought me with
His redeeming blood
He loved me ere I knew Him and
all my love is due Him,
He plunged me to victory beneath
the cleansing flood.

Our Wednesday evening services have been devoted to listening to the Conference tapes. May the kindly exhortations fall on hearts that are willing to listen to Godly counsel. Together we will win the victory over Satan.

I know not the hour when my Lord
will come
To take me away to His own dear
home,
But I know that His presence will
lighten the gloom
And that will be glory for me.

A year has passed since 9-11. As no one knew that morning what the hour would bring, do we meet each day, as it may be our last?

Deeper, deeper in the love of Jesus,
Daily let me go;
Higher, higher in the school of wisdom
More of grace to know.
O deeper yet I pray and higher every day

And wiser, blessed Lord
In Thy precious Holy Word.

Our Bible studies continue and hopefully our wisdom in the Holy Bible is increasing. Monthly Bible studies will start again in Madison as school is back in session.

Each step of the way
I'm following Jesus, One step at a
time
I live to the moment, In His love
divine
Why think of tomorrow, Just live
for today.

Sis. Kristy Kaeb (Bro. Chad) and Tammy Mueller (Ryan) are on complete bedrest. We continue to lift them up in prayer along with their unborn babies. One day at a time and trusting in Jesus makes it all easier to bear our burdens here on earth.

“Rejoice in the Lord, always, and again I say rejoice.”

Bro. Brian and Sis. Peg Anliker and their family have reason to rejoice as the Lord has blessed them with a new baby girl. Leah Joy was born on August 28. There are many willing hands to hold her and welcome her into the church family.

“Ere you left your room this morning, did you think to pray?”

May we, as a body of believers, remember to pray for one another each and every day. May God bless us all with a bountiful harvest, materially and most of all, spiritually.

ILLINOIS BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL Ann Kellenberger Rebekah Kaufmann

This month we were blessed to have several visiting ministers, Elder Bro. Mark Bahr (Detroit, MI), Bros. Clark Stoller (Gridley, IL), Jaye Rinckenberger (Goodfield, IL), Jim Rinckenberger (Bluffton, IN), Ted Hirstein (Morton, IL), Glenn Dill (Tremont, IL), and Jeff Grimm (Goodfield, IL). We were thankful for their efforts.

Our church was blessed to witness the marriage of Bro. Darrin Freidinger and Sis. Jane Knobloch on September 1. Bro. Darrin is the son of Bro. Duane and Sis. Vermeda (Goodfield, IL). Sis. Jane is the daughter of Bro. Bill and Sis. Eleanor (Lester, IA). We rejoice with Bro. Darrin and Sis. Jane and pray God's rich blessings as they begin their new life together in Goodfield.

Our church family has grown this past month with the addition of two new babies! Dayton Doyle was born on August 16 to Bro. Derek and Sis. Julie Rabe. On August 20, Bro. Andy and Sis. Marla Hodel welcomed Kaitlyn Alexis into the world. Thankful first-time grandparents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Maxine Hodel and Bro. Loris and Sis. Pat Knobloch (Peoria, IL). May God bless their families as they adjust to the new member in their home.

We were excited to welcome ISU, IWU and Heartland Community College students. It's always nice to have the students fellowship with us. We hope that they can feel at home.

On September 4, we had our family night. Bro. Kevin Knapp spoke on the deceptions that students could face in school. He gave

examples of questions that may come up in class and answers that are found in the Bible. He encouraged us to rely on the Word of God as our compass in life. It was a good reminder to stay deep in the Word.

ILLINOIS, BRADFORD
Steve Endress

“Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven.”

St. Matthew 18:3-4

We are reminded in this passage of scripture that humility in serving our God and one another is our chief desire in this life. We are thankful that two souls have also realized that the way to reach God’s heart is through a humble repentance. Phil Endress (Bro. Larry and Sis. Becky) and Sandy Joos (Bro. Ralph and Sis. Jenny) have turned to the Lord in repentance during this past month. We pray that the Lord will work in them a good work of salvation.

We enjoyed our church invite-a-guest this month. We were blest to have brethren from near and far. Bro. Duane Rocke (Sis. Bonnie, Minneapolis, MN) and Bro. Mike Rinkenberger (Sis. Pat, Congerville, IL) ministered the Word of Life to us. Also serving us in the ministry this month were Bro. Dan Stoller (Sis. Deb, Remington, IN) and Bro. Brian Huber (Sis. Jacki, Francesville, IN).

We rejoice with Bro. Tyler Joos (Bro. Ralph and Sis. Jenny) and

Sis. Tonya Gudeman (Bro. Brad and Sis. Teresa) as their engagement was recently announced. How thankful we can be when we have the confidence that the Lord is drawing souls together as it pleases Him.

Notes of Thanks:

We wish to express our heartfelt thanks to everyone who extended their love and kindness through cards, gifts, food, and prayers in the loss of our mother and grandmother, Leila Elsasser. May God bless you and reward you richly.

Bro. Jordan and Sis. Sharon Elsasser and family

I want to thank all who remembered me with prayers, visits, and gifts while my stay in the hospital and again at home. God’s blessings to all.

Sis. Lucille Endress

ILLINOIS
CHAMPAIGN-URBANA
Janelle Schlipf

“Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch ye have done it unto the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me . . .”

Matt. 25: 40

Erin Metzger (Sis. Jeanne) and Aaron Walder (Bro. Art and Sis. Kim) recently had the opportunity to travel to Mexico. They joined the Bible Class students from Chicago to spend a week working to construct two new homes in Juarez.

In the final weeks of August, before the students return for the new semester, Champaign traditionally does not have church on Wednesday evenings. In place of

services we enjoyed the chance to get together for two evenings of singing and fellowship at the homes of Bro. John and Sis. Lisa Walder as well as Bro. Neil and Sis. June Knobloch.

Once again, the weather was beautiful for our annual New Student Welcome Picnic which was held Sunday, August 25, at Hessel Park. This is always a wonderful opportunity to meet the parents, families and friends of those who will be students here in the Champaign area. We are excited to have 30 new students this year, representing over 13 different churches.

Classes at the University of Illinois traditionally begin on a Wednesday, giving the students a few free days at the beginning of the week. Amidst getting ready for a new year, they took the opportunity to use this free time to do some construction work at the home of an elderly woman in our community. We were able to work on her roof earlier in the summer as part of the Gateway Woods Work Team, and we were thankful for the opportunity to return to finish up some outside work and begin dry-walling. The students also took advantage of the new semester to promote the Word through the ministry of Campus Bible Distribution. In a matter of only a few hours, about 1200 Bibles were handed out to students at our annual “Quad Day” on campus.

It was a blessing for some of our congregation and many of the students to travel to St. Louis for services the first weekend in September. We appreciate the love and hospitality of the St. Louis congregation as they opened their homes to us for a weekend of singing and fellow-

ship.

Sunday, September 8, was also the day of our housewarming for Sam and Carrie Gutwein. Though they have been in our area for some time, it was a joy to celebrate with them as they moved into their new home.

Throughout the month of September, Thursday evenings have been set aside to provide an opportunity for students and others who will not be able to listen to the Conference tapes at their home churches or during the normal January period set aside for this purpose in Champaign.

A special thanks to all our visiting ministers and their families. It is truly a blessing to have visitors, and we always appreciate those who come to visit their children and willingly share the Word with us. We thank Bros. Kevin Knapp (Bloomington, IL), Loren Schrenk (St. Louis, MO), Steve Sauder (Tremont, IL), Greg Rassi (Chicago, IL) and Gary Endress (Bradford, IL) for visiting us this past month!

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO

Jill Rager

As I sat down to write this month's article, I felt rather depleted of energy and creativity for writing, but in the process of gathering my thoughts before putting the pencil to the paper, it occurred to me that many of the miracles recorded in the Bible involved making something out of very little. Consider Jacob's flock of spotted and speckled animals, the least desirable of Laban's flock, but with God's blessing, they made Jacob very wealthy (Gen. 30:32-43). Jesus feeding a multitude from just a little boy's lunch (John 6:1-14). The jars of plain old

water provided wine for a wedding feast (John 2:1-10). A nearly empty cruse of oil and a handful of meal providing for many days worth of meals (I Kings 17:2-16). The list goes on and on. I believe God often performs miracles in our lives at times when we feel we have very little with which He can work.

The family of Bro. Matt and Sis. Tracey Gudeman has been blessed by a tiny soul from Heaven, Elias James, born August 23. We rejoice with Bro. Matt and Sis. Tracey as well as Eli's big brothers, Samuel and Caleb, and grandparents, retired Elder Bro. Wendell and Sis. Marcella Gudeman and Norm and Mary Putt.

We bid a fond farewell to Sis. Rebecca Gudeman who will be relocating to the Indianapolis, IN, area. We will miss Sis. Rebecca, but pray that God will bless her as well as the Indianapolis congregation.

We appreciate the efforts of our visiting ministers this month. Elder Bro. Ron Messner (Washington, IL) served on a Wednesday evening, and Bro. Frank Sauder (Roanoke, IL), served at our annual Sunday School teachers' meeting.

Most of the time the Lord does not ask great things of us. Many times it is just the simple offering of a humble, teachable spirit through which we receive miraculous blessings. Such is the case as we take the Wednesday evenings of the month of September to listen to the tapes of the Spirit-directed teachings of the Brotherhood Conference.

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK

Denise Walder

Susan Waldbeser

We are thankful for the visiting ministers who have lended themselves on our behalf this past month. They are Bro. Duane Reutter (Rockville, CT), Tom Waldbeser (Atlanta, GA), Ken Dietz (Bradford, IL) and our Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott, IN).

Those among us who have spent some time in the hospital recently and need our prayers are Sis. Em Eisenmann and Bro. Bob Kellerhals.

Our prayers and sympathy go out to Sis. Betty Obergfel (Peoria, IL) on the loss of her dear helpmate, Bro. Matt. This dear couple resided many years in Cissna Park before retiring to Peoria.

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

card or gift on our 65th wedding anniversary. God bless each of you.

Bro. Art and Sis. Lou Ella Hari

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE

Arlene Banwart

"If you love the Lord, you'll find time for Him." This was one of the blessed exhortations we heard as our church listened to the Brotherhood Conference tapes.

August 28 we witnessed the wedding of Bro. Brad Langhofer (Bro. Marty and Sis. Lavilla) of South Bend, IN, and Sis. Becky Zimmerman (Bro. Fred and Sis. Maryellen). This was our first wedding in our new church, and we so much appreciated having more room. It was a blessing to have all three South Bend ministers here: Bros. Wayne Leman, Robert Beebe, and Scott Schafer. Bro. Al Langhofer (Wichita, KS), Bro. Brad's grandfather, assisted Elder Bro. Bob Walder in the wed-

says a hymn. She has memorized all three verses of #180 in the Zion's Harp, "Father, Son, and Holy Ghost". It's such a meaningful prayer. I would encourage you to look it up.

Another Sister I met that day is only in her 50's and not able to hold a book to read, but reads her large print on the computer. She had the brightest, happy smile — what an encouragement to me!

Note of Thanks:

We would like to thank everyone for their prayers, food, flowers and memorials after the passing of our mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, Sis. Til Legal. Also, thank you to the Roanoke Nursing Home for their good care and keeping and for all those who took the time to visit her.

May God bless you all,

Bro. Allen and Sis. Carol Schrock and families

ILLINOIS, ELGIN

Amy Gasser

Kay Kellenberger

On August 8, the Elgin congregation held a farewell singing for Sis. Sandy Rudin. Many blessings and memories have been shared. May we all remember to lift her in our prayers. We will miss her.

Lucas Ryan was born September 4 to Bro. Matt and Sis. Renee Schambach. Grandparents are Bro. Tom and Sis. Connie Schambach and Bro. Gary and Sis. Edie Anliker.

Blake Elliot was born September 4 to Tony and Kenda Martin. Grandparents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Jean Martin and Dick and Pat Pfaffinger.

"For thou art my hope, O Lord

God: thou art my trust from my youth."

Psalms 71:5

The Elgin Senior Bible Class put on the annual Pancake Breakfast on September 7. A wonderful meal was served. Keep the future church in your prayers.

The Elgin congregation extends their prayers and sympathy to the family of Arvid Miller in the passing of his brother, Richard, on August 31.

ILLINOIS, EUREKA

Janet Zimmerman

The last four Wednesday evenings we enjoyed listening to the Brotherhood Conference tapes. May we be encouraged to help each other in the battle and always be trusting in God's Spirit to guide us onward.

We all rejoiced to hear the testimonies and witness the baptisms of four of our converts the weekend of September 8. They were Amanda and Marissa Hoerr (Bro. Norman and Sis. Connie) and Pete and Wade Wettstein (Bro. Jake and Sis. Mary). We pray for God's spirit of wisdom and grace to lead them all of their lives. We were thankful to have Elder Bro. Wayne Anliker (Forrest, IL) and Elder Bro. Bruce Hohulin (Goodfield, IL) to assist in this important work. We appreciated their efforts and also the other ministers that were with us: Bro. Gary Brown and Bro. Marvin Dotterer (Forrest, IL), Bro. Wes Knapp, Bro. Wayne Wiegand, and Bro. Jeff Grimm (Goodfield, IL), and Bro. Vernon Wettstein (Congerville, IL).

Bro. Dean and Sis. Beth Blunier are happy with the arrival of their son, Colby Dean, born on

August 15. He is welcomed home by his sister Nichole. His grandparents are Bro. Sam and Sis. Liz Blunier and Bro. Jerry and Sis. Nancy Knapp of Congerville.

Bro. Alan and Sis. Angie Huber are thankful for the birth of their first child, Kevin Alan, born on August 25. His grandparents are Bro. Paul and Sis. Kris Schmidgall and Bro. Gary Huber and Karen Huber.

We are thankful that Kayla Blunier (Bro. Duane and Sis. Eileen) and Matt Gerber (Bro. Neil and Sis. Leesa) have begun their walk with the Lord in repentance. May God help them and grant them grace as they begin this new life.

September 14 was the wedding day for Aaron Anliker and Angie Hodel. Their parents are Bro. Art and Sis. Carol Anliker and Steve Hodel and Teri Kidd. We wish them God's richest blessings.

We are always thankful for visiting ministers who share the Word with us. They were Bro. Darren Fehr (West Bend, IA), Bro. Paul Schmidgall (Morris, MN), and Bro. Greg Stoller (Forrest, IL).

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY

Tammy Hinrichsen

Joann Zehr

On September 8, Sis. Lori Edelman (Bro. Walt and Sis. Rosetta) and Bro. Chad Welborn (Bro. Don and Sis. Phyllis) were united in marriage. We rejoice with them and wish them God's blessings as they establish their home together. We also thank ministering Bros. Darren Fehr (West Bend, IA) and Paul Zimmerman (Forrest, IL) for spending the day with us.

We welcome Bro. Rick and Sis.

Mary Ann Plattner and their son, Bro. Joel, as they have moved to Fairbury and are worshipping with us. Bro. Rick is the Administrator of Fairview Haven Nursing Home. We are thankful that God had led them to Fairbury and we trust they can feel the love and support of our Fairbury congregation and God's help and guidance in Bro. Rick's new job.

May God extend His healing mercies to Sis. Betty Wiegand (Bro. Richard) and Bro. Tom Steidinger (Sis. Dianne) as they have both had surgery. Also, our prayers are with Sis. Marsha Fehr (Bro. Nathan) as she had to return to the hospital due to her foot injury and an infection.

Ministering Bros. Jim Butikofer (Iowa City, IA) and Matthew Rassi (Chicago, IL) visited us and we thank them for bringing us God's precious Word.

ILLINOIS, FORREST

Jean Knapp

Linda Anliker

We are thankful that God's Word is so freely spoken by willing servants. Sharing God's Word with us this month were Bros. Ken Eisenmann (Cissna Park, IL) and Brad Eisenmann (Chicago, IL).

Two families in our congregation were blessed with the birth of daughters. Bro. Ryan and Sis. Tabatha and Kara Honegger welcome Renee Elaine into their hearts and home. Her grandparents are Ron and Lori Franz (Pontiac, IL) and Bro. Lloyd and Joyce Honegger.

The precious gift of life was given to Bro. Arlen and Sis. Denise Leman with the birth of Jayna Marie. Her brothers, Jacob and Chase, and her grandparents,

Jim and Rita Bahler (Fairbury, IL) and Bro. Jerry and Sis. Kathy Leman (Eureka, IL) are thankful for her arrival.

May God grant healing and restoration to Sis. Dorothy (Bro. Perry) Zimmerman, Henry (Sis. Marge) Friedman and Sis. Gloria (Bro. Wayne) Drayer as they have spent time in the hospital.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Bro. Wilbur and Sis. Ruth Wiegand in the death of her brother, Reuben Butikofer (Iowa).

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD

Rita Bauman

Heather Hohulin

How thankful we are for the birth of another healthy baby. Simeon Scott Rinkenberger was born to Bro. Scott and Sis. Heidi Rinkenberger. Grandparents are Bro. Rick and Sis. Kathy Knapp and Bro. Jaye and Sis. Peg Rinkenberger. We wish them God's blessings as they enjoy a new baby.

How thankful we are when God provides for our every need. We offer our congratulations to Bro. Darren and Sis. Jane (Knobloch) Freidinger as they were joined in Holy Matrimony. Parents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Elli Knobloch and Bro. Duane and Sis. Vermeda Freidinger. May God be with this couple.

Also joined in marriage were Chris and Kathy (Paul) Knapp. Parents are Joanne and the late Larry Feaster and Dave and Sis. Becky Knapp. May God bless their union.

Another couple was married this month, Kent and Mandy (Bauman) Berg. Parents are Bro. Les and Sis. Helen Bauman and Tim and Helen Berg. We also wish

God's blessings on this new union.

How thrilled we were to hear of two engagements this month. Bro. Joel Beer (Bro. Joe and Sis. Jan) to Sis. Gina Martin (Bro. Harvey and Sis. Sharon) of Washington, IL; and Sis. Sarah Leman (Bro. Keith and Sis. Dorothy) to Bro. Matt Stoller (Bro. Tim and Sis. Peg) of Roanoke, IL. Our heartfelt congratulations are with these couples and pray that God will be with them as they prepare for a wedding and a new life together.

What a joy it is when lost sheep can find their Master. Travis Blunier (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Eddis) has found peace with God. We hope he can feel the love and support of his church family.

Our Sis. Violet Reeser (Bro. Harold) lost a brother, Bruce Landes. We hope and pray she feels the hand of the Comforter.

Our prayers are with Sis. Mary Wiegand (Bro. Simon). She suffered a fall and broke a bone.

Sis. Marti Hinrichsen (Bro. Mike and Sis. Gerri) will be relocating to Leo, IN, to help at Gateway Woods. Our love and prayers go with her as she seeks out God's will.

Visiting ministers this month are as follows: Bros. Virgil Kaeb (Sis. Sue Ellen), Darren Plattner (Sis. Sue), Ed Sauder (Sis. Bonnie), David Steffen (Sis. Linda), and Greg Stoller (Sis. Jill). We thank them for their service to us.

Note of Thanks:

We wish to express our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to all our dear friends and family, for the many prayers, love, kind and thoughtful offerings of food, flowers, cards and generous donations we received with the sudden

death of my son (Scott), brother and uncle.

May God richly bless each of you.

Sis. Loretta Hess and family

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY Perry A. Klopfenstein

Bro. Harold Stoller, 79, passed away suddenly on September 19 after a fall. His death was a shock to all of us, and he will be missed.

He is survived by his dear wife, Sis. Mary. They had been married 59 years. Other survivors are his children, Harold Stoller (Springfield), James Stoller (Chicago), Robert Stoller (Cheyenne, Wyoming), and Sis. Elsa Endress (Lake Bloomington), three brothers, Floyd Stoller (Fresno, California), Charles Stoller (Darien), and Jerry Stoller (Houston, Texas), eight grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

Bro. Harold was a man of energy and initiative. He loved to visit and voice his opinion. We will miss him in his special spot in the assembly, and we pray the Lord will comfort Sis. Mary and his survivors.

On September 7 Sis. Tara Gramm was announced to be married to Bro. Kyle Wettstein. She is the daughter of Bro. Roger and Sis. Darleta Gramm, and his parents are Bro. Lyle and Sis. Linda Wettstein. Lord willing, they are planning a December wedding. We rejoice with them as they follow God's leading in this second most important step in life.

Bro. Fred Funk (Morton) was a special topical speaker on Wednesday evening, September 11. He spoke on the book of Esther. May God bless him for his efforts.

Hospital patients this month

were Sisters Carolyn Schlipf, Betty Rich, and Vyra Stoller. We pray that God will heal them according to His will.

Bro. Jeff Thames (Washington) gave a three-part seminar on "Budgeting." This took place on the evenings of September 17, 24, and October 1.

Bro. Brian Waibel was a visiting minister in September.

A minister (during a sermon) asked a pertinent question. "How much time can we afford to take away from God?" Very likely most of us don't think in such terms. Yet, the time God gives us is for a purpose—that of advancing the glorious cause of Christ. Each of us are allotted so many days in a lifetime. God's message to us is to "redeem the time." Why? "Because the days are evil."

A lot of times we hear the phrase when people have little to do, "I was just killing time." A brother in faith pointed out to me how wrong this is. God wants us to redeem the time, not waste (kill) it. Wasting anything of value is displeasing to God. Time is one of the believer's greatest assets, and we must use it wisely for His cause—to help and assist others to find eternal salvation.

ILLINOIS, MORTON Julie Bahr Christie Zeller

The Morton Young Group hosted 15 churches the weekend of August 24-25. Both the Administrations and Board of Directors from Restmor and the Apostolic Christian Home for the Handicapped wish to thank all these young people for all their hard work and labors of love. Many chairs were scrubbed, wheelchairs cleaned, bushes trimmed,

weeds pulled, vehicles washed, picnic tables repaired, and many windows washed as part of their service project for the day. A blessed weekend was had by all.

We rejoice with three dear souls who profess peace and are awaiting baptism. They are Larissa Witzig, Abbi Witzig and Aaron Funk. May God continue to bless them.

Bro. Bruce Landes (Sis. Pat) passed away on August 26. Emily Dallinger also passed away August 28 at Restmor. She had worshipped with us for many years. May God comfort these dear families.

Our Morton representatives for the Gateway Woods Home are Bro. Stan Schick and Bro. Brian Tanner. May God be with these dear brothers in their new duties.

Bro. Jon Zeller had our Family worship September 4 on "Self-esteem". It was impressed upon us to have joy and a servant's heart for the Lord.

The Apostolic Christian Restmor, Inc. Board of Directors has announced that BLDD Architects of Bloomington, IL, has been selected as the architect for the new Restmor facility. To facilitate planning activities, some administrative changes have been implemented. Bro. Jim Metzger will become the "Project Coordinator" for the new facility. His duties will include coordination of planning, design, finance, architectural and construction activities. Bro. John Kelley has been named "Interim Administrator" of current Restmor operations, and Bro. Mike Kaiser will become "Interim Assistant Administrator". These administrative changes should be complete and in place by mid October 2002. Please pray for the Lord's direc-

tion as we proceed with planning and construction activities.

We are sad to say goodbye to our Sis. Kim Kaiser (Bro. Greg and Sis. Christine) as she goes to Costa Rica for language training to prepare her for her position at ICCD in Mexico. May God be ever with her.

Also we have our Bro. Adam Hermann (Dennis and Sis. Ginger) who took a job in Washington, D.C. We pray for him and his new employment there.

We also pray for Jeremiah Psinas (Bro. Gary and Sis. Heidi) who is going to school now in Virginia.

We are thankful that our Bro. Brian and Sis. Cherise Blume's little B.J. is stabilized enough for him to be transferred to Riley Hospital in Indianapolis, IN, where Bro. Brian is going to school. We are thankful to God for them to be together as a family once more but miss them in our Morton Church.

Note of Thanks:

The family of Bro. Bruce Landes wishes to thank everyone for their love, prayers, cards, gifts, visits, and kind deeds during our loved one's long illness and death. God's love through you was an encouragement to us all.

Sis. Pat Landes

Bro. Dave and Sis. Barb Schwind and family

Bro. Barry and Sis. Beth Ehresman

Landes' brothers and sisters

ILLINOIS, PEORIA

Peter and Mabel Weber

We have been blessed recently with meditations on the Book of Job. In the midst of his trials and tribulations, Job did not know the

end from the beginning and the eventual favorable outcome according to 42:12 "So the Lord blessed the latter end of Job more than his beginning." In the current turbulent times, with financial problems, layoffs, uncertain recovery and other economic stress, many would be thankful for the kind of turnaround and restitution Job was permitted to experience.

On September 4, Bro. Ron Heiniger (Bloomington, IL) painted interesting word-pictures of "The conflict in the Middle East" for our family night service. Abram was called 3990 years ago from Ur to the Promised Land, where God made a blood covenant with him that his posterity would be numberless, from the river of Egypt (Nile?) to the Euphrates. Ishmael was Abraham's first born, but 14 years later Isaac became the son of promise. God can use our mistakes to fulfill His plans. Rebecca gave birth to two nations; Jacob received Isaac's blessing, which should have gone to Esau (Edom) and resulted in one land for two nations. On May 14, 1948, the land of Palestine became the Nation of Israel. David Ben Gurion said there is no solution and none of the treaties (Oslo) have been instituted. Isn't this the perfect scenario for the Anti-Christ's appearance? This conflict is bringing us closer to the end times. The parties are at war, because neither knows the Man of Peace. Our peace comes from an internal source. We need to be ready, go to the cross and look to the Son of God. Watch and pray that God will keep our hearts and make our election sure. We thank Bro. Ron for his inspired and timely message.

Lucille Bessler (90) passed

away August 17 at the Skylines, where she had been a resident since September 1999. We express our condolences to Norman Roche, Irene Stahl, Ruth Rahn, Rita Chiavini and her daughter, Marilyn Shepard.

Bro. Matt Obergfel (87), a brother in Christ and to Christ, completed his course and went to his reward on August 27. He was loved and esteemed in the church, by friends and neighbors and admired for his diligent prayer life. He read the Scriptures daily; Psalm 9 was his last chapter: "I will praise Thee, O Lord, with my whole heart." We express our deep sympathy to his wife, Sis. Betty; sons, Bros. Dave and Alan; and daughters, Carla Ann Kuzian and Jan Swanson, their families and other relatives, and look forward to the time we can be together again.

We have worked in the sweat of our brow physically, but spiritually ...? Let us remember what God has implanted in us and that He said: If you will follow Me, you will have a place in Heaven. Don't relax in communicating with Him. We thank Bro. Hartzell and Sis. Mary Kaisner (Detroit, MI) for their visit on September 1, and service to the church.

"...And the Lord God said, It is not good that the man should be alone" (Gen. 2:18). The focus is on being together and cleave together with a deep love for the Lord and to His service, submitting one to another in the fear of God. Our best wishes to Bro. Lou Lonteen and Sis. Marjean Lehman for their marriage on September 11. Marriage in the Lord is a triangle and always a beautiful occasion, reminding us of the time the Lord is coming back for His Bride, the Holy

Church.

Elder Bro. Chuck and Sis. Marian Hemmer shared the joy of their 50th wedding anniversary on September 7 with their children. Our heartfelt wishes for continued blessings of good health and the Lord's nearness and guidance.

We welcome Bro. Rodney Menold from the Bern, KS, congregation; he has been working at Caterpillar Inc. since March.

We congratulate Bro. Nathan Herman (Bro. Greg and Sis. Beth) and Sis. Brook Esslinger (Bro. Lee and Sis. Patsy, Pulaski, IA) on their marriage announcement on September 1, for a wedding on December 15.

Congratulations to our latest grandparents, Bro. Steve and Sis. Rose Staley. Sara Ree was born September 10, the daughter of Ben and Rebecca David of Machesney Park, IL.

Sis. Verna Pueschel underwent knee replacement surgery August 14 and later had to return to the hospital for an additional procedure. We wish her a good recovery now. Bro. Dave Dunbar is at the Danville, IL, VA Hospital and we pray for his improvement and for Sis. Karen's protection on her frequent trips to visit him.

Note of Thanks:

We want to thank you for your prayers, cards, generous memorial contributions to the Bible and Mission Fund and many other expressions of sympathy. May God richly bless and reward you.

The family of Matt Obergfel

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE Phyllis Knobloch Crystal Streitmatter

"Bow down thine ear, O Lord, hear me: for I am poor and needy. Preserve my soul, for I am holy. Be merciful unto me, O Lord. Give ear, O Lord, unto my prayer: and attend to the voice of my supplications. In the day of my trouble I will call upon thee: for thou wilt answer me."

Selected Psalms

We have been blessed with many visiting ministers this past month. Among them were Elder Bros. Willis Ehle (Japan), Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL) and Aaron Steffen (Alto, MI) on August 18. On August 24, Bros. Clark Stoller (Gridley, IL), Greg Lehman (Wolcott, IN), and Tim Hohulin (Roanoke, IL). On September 1, the Jamaica reunion was held in our Fellowship Hall and Elder Bro. Kent Heimer (Taylor, MO) expounded the Word to us. It was exciting to hear the truth so plainly laid out to us. On September 8, we were again privileged to have Bros. Allen Schambach (Remington, IN), Fred Witzig and Greg Stieglitz (Indianapolis, IN) minister to us. Most of the wives accompanied their husbands. We appreciate the support they give to their dear ones who preach the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Sis. Leila Elsasser passed away on August 24 at Skyline Drive where she had been a resident several years. Our prayers go out to her children, Bro. Sonny and Sis. Doreen (Princeville, IL), Bro. Jordan and Sis. Sharon (Bradford, IL), 15 grandchildren and 27 great-grandchildren. We are all thankful that Sis. Leila has no

more pain and is now with the Lord.

We rejoice with our converts who have been announced for their testimonies, which is planned for the first weekend in October. They are Hannah Herrmann (Bro. Howard and Sis. Mary Ann) and Kim Herrmann (Bro. Dean and Sis. Dawn). The Lord has truly blessed us over and over again!

Bro. Chris and Sis. Carol Steidinger are the happy parents of a baby girl, Taryn Dianna, born August 20. She is welcomed home by big brother, Tagen. Grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Diane Streitmatter (Princeville, IL), Bro. Donald Steidinger (Fairbury, IL) and Sis. Alice Steidinger (Bloomington, IL). Great-grandparents are Bro. Harold Streitmatter (Princeville) and John and Loree Menold (Sabetha, KS). We pray the Lord will guide them as they raise this precious little one.

Thank you to all who helped at the Princeville Choir Benefit Dinner! Loving God and loving each other was felt by all who attended. The proceeds went to the Southside Mission (for women and children), St. Jude (cancer research and treatment) and to a local needy family. Thank you so much for your support! It was with prayerful hearts that we sang the many praises to the Lord. We are a privileged people to have religious freedom in our land. Special thanks to all of the Brothers who prayed for our group before each singing.

Bro. Ed Lanz (Sis. Joan, Oakville, IA) was led by the Spirit to preach to us on October 15, along with Elder Bro. Aaron Steffen (Sis. Loretta, Alto, MI). That evening we had a beautiful

service for the ordination of our dear Bro. Jim Plattner (Sis. Marlene) to serve as Deacon. Elder Bros. Aaron Steffen, Dale Eisenmann and Tom Hoffman gave much advice to all of us and read scriptures pertaining to those who have the rule over us. May we all strive to obey what the Lord commands and pray for our dear Bro. Jim and Bro. Joe and their wives. We are indeed a fortunate group of believers!

Note of Thanks:

We wish to express our sincere thanks and appreciation to all who remembered us with cards and especially their prayers, upon the passing of my mother, Sis. Leila Elsasser. May God richly bless each one for their many deeds of love.

Bro. Sonny and Sis. Doreen Elsasser and family

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

**Jenell Hodel
Joan Leman**

“Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip.”

Hebrews 2:1

We are thankful for the privilege of being able to listen to the Brotherhood Conference tapes on Wednesday evenings. We appreciate the efforts of our Elders as they strive to provide Godly instruction and guidance. May we all be more willing to heed their loving exhortations. Thank you, dear Elder Brethren, for your love and concern for our souls' welfare.

“...Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.”

Acts 2:38

We welcome three dear souls as our brothers and sister in Christ as they have become part of God's family through repentance, conversion and baptism. We were blessed to hear the testimonies and to witness the baptisms of Chris and Elizabeth Leman and Jake Zimmerman (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Mary Beth) on September 14-15. We are thankful that Elder Bro. Kent Heimer (Taylor, MO) and Bros. Tim Funk (Peoria, IL) and Jaye Rinkenberger (Goodfield, IL) were able to share this blessed occasion with us. Also sharing God's Word with us this past month were ministering Bros. Randy Mogler (Washington, IL) and Zoltan Szabo of Budapest, Hungary. We enjoyed an all church singing on Saturday evening, September 7, while Bro. Zoltan was with us. We also want to thank our own ministering Bro. Tim Hohulin for his willingness to speak at our monthly Bible Study. We appreciate and thank all our ministering brothers for their labors on our behalf. May the Lord continue to bless them and their families.

We extend a warm welcome to Bro. Dick and Sis. Nelma Eastman as they are now assembling with us in Roanoke. We are thankful to have them as part of our church family and pray they can feel our love and support.

We rejoice with Bro. Dennis and Sis. Karen Leman as God has blessed them with a little boy, Timothy John. Welcoming him home are his siblings, Bro. Jo-

seph, Sis. Mary, Frederick, Daniel, Elisabeth and David. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Frederick and Sis. Marjorie Knapp (Congerville, IL) and Bro. Bruce and Sis. Marge Leman (Eureka, IL).

Our prayers and sympathy are with Sis. Barb Schwind (Bro. Dave) and their family as her father, Bro. Bruce Landes (Morton, IL), has been taken from this life into eternity. We also extend our sympathy and prayers to Bro. Duane Schroeder (Sis. Rachel) and their family on the death of his stepfather, John Schroeder. May these loved ones feel the strength and comfort of our Lord in their time of sorrow.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Jim Tibbs (Julie) as he has recently undergone surgery to remove a kidney. May he feel God's healing and strengthening hand upon him. Also hospitalized this past month was Sis. Ann Wagler and Sis. Lorene Hodel. May they, too, feel God's healing touch.

ILLINOIS, TREMONT
Heather Rassi
LaVonne Wagenbach

"For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another."

Romans 12:4-5

We are thankful for those whose responsibility in the church is the ministration of the gospel. Laboring with us this month were Bro. Virgil Kaeb (Sarasota, FL), Bro. Randy Gasser (Detroit, MI), Bro. Ken Dietz (Bradford, IL), Bro. Marvin

Stieglitz (Leo, IN), and Elder Bro. Earl Ringger with Bro. Byron Stoller (Gridley, IL).

We "rejoice with them that do rejoice..." (Romans 12:15). Bro. Mike Knapp and Sis. Janet Kaiser have become one in the union of marriage. Their parents are Bro. Mel and Sis. Marlene Kaiser and Bro. Larry and Sis. Stephanie Knapp (Gridley, IL). By God's grace, may their marriage be a reflection of the love Christ has for His bride, the church.

Our church body continues to grow as newborns enter families of our faith. Bro. Nathan and Sis. Jennifer Fuller have been blessed with another girl. Alli Marie was welcomed home by her big sister, Alayna. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Fred and Sis. Jeannette Beutel, as well as Dave and Jackie Fuller.

Some members of our body of believers have been hospitalized this month, including Bro. Walt Aberle (Sis. Vera), Sis. Dorothy Wagenbach (Bro. Bob), Elder Bro. Charles Sauder (Sis. Miriam), Sis. Betty Schweigert (Bro. Les), and Sis. Ida Schweigert (Bro. Chris).

Note of Thanks:

We wish to thank everyone for the cards, gifts, and meals during the time of my surgery and recovery. May God bless you.

Bro. Curt and Sis. June Zuercher

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON
Dianne Wyss
Marcia Koch

"Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the

world."

James 1:27

With a desire in their hearts to follow God's will and to meet the needs of others, Bro. Bill and Sis. Joan Schick, along with their children, Ryan, Tyler, John, Katie and Ben, will be making Zapata, TX, their home church as they begin their service at the Rio Bravo School for the Deaf.

In like manner, Bro. Mark and Sis. Tammy Herrmann and their children, Adam and Haley, have also relocated to Leo, IN, to serve at Gateway Woods. We will surely miss all of them, but give thanks that our ever present Father walks beside His children and leads the way.

We would also like to thank Bro. Doug Wagenbach and his wife, Sis. Lillian (San Diego, CA) and Bro. Zolton Zsabo (Budapest, Hungary) for bringing the truths of God's Word to us this past month.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON
Elizabeth Aschliman
Tiffany Aschliman

"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

✦ We rejoice this month with several souls who have followed Christ's call and begun repenting. Abby Reinhard (Bro. Steve and Sis. Renee), Tyler Scott, Kim Kaehr (Bro. Lyle and Sis. Connie), Jacki Moser (Bro. Mark and Sis. Wanda), Nichole Fiechter (Bro. Brian and Sis. Deb), Jamy Fiechter (Bro. Jim and Sis. Jenny), Travis Fiechter (Bro.

Doug and Sis. Jill), Kyle Kipfer (Bro. Ron and Sis. Linda), Kelsey Compton (Bro. Gary and Sis. Jean), Paul Aschliman (Bro. Keith and Sis. Connie), Justin Dubach (Bro. Ken), and Amber DeHoff (Scott and Sis. Rita) have all turned their backs on the world to follow our Lord and Saviour.

Our prayers have been with Bro. Steve Reinhard (Sis. Renee), Bro. Herman Drayer (Sis. Marie), Bro. Dwight Gerber (Sis. Lucille), Bro. Adam McAfee (Bro. Jeff and Sis. Linda), Bro. Abe Habegger (Bro. Ted and Sis. Jane), and Bro. Jeremy Reinhard (Bro. Jerome and Sis. Gale) as they have each spent some time in the hospital this month.

We were blessed with the opportunity to have several visiting ministers this month. We are thankful to have had Elder Bro. Ken Indermuhle (Sis. Linda, Sardis, OH), Bro. Hartzell Kaisner (Sis. Mary, Detroit, MI), Bro. Steve Frauhiger (Sis. Irene, Bluffton North), Elder Bro. Phil Stettner (Sis. Maureen, Bluffton North) and Bro. Carroll Gerber (Sis. Louise, Bluffton North). May God bless them for their service in Him.

The Bluffton congregation was blessed with three babies over the last month. Bro. Linc and Sis. Catrina Rinkenberger (Francesville, IN) welcomed little Joel William on August 12. He joins Chase, Caitleigh, Drew, Hannah and Colt, as well as the happy grandparents, Bro. Jim and Sis. Jeanne Rinkenberger and Bro. Dave and Sis. Julie Westfall (Francesville, IN).

Caitlin Ann came into this world on August 20 to Chad and Tricia Coppess. Her grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Shirley Fiechter.

Bro. Shawn and Sis. Marci Reinhard rejoice with their newest addition to their family, little Carr Lloyd was born on September 6. He joins big brothers Cole, Gage and Graham, along with his grandparents, Bro. Dave and Sis. Marcene Gilliom, Karen Reinhard and Bro. Clem and Sis. Joni Reinhard (Bluffton North).

We mourn with the family of Sis. Lillian Isch in her passing on August 17. Surviving are her brother, Reuben Isch of Bradenton, FL, and several nieces and nephews.

Our prayers are with Bro. Dan and Sis. Delores Reinhard as they move to Croghan-Naumburg, NY. We will miss them as they leave our Bluffton congregation.

We had two weddings in the Bluffton area this month. Rachelle Reimschisel (Bro. Todd and Sis. Lori) and Jeff Lindblum were married on August 10. Wedding bells were also ringing for Shane Maller (Bro. Joe and Sis. Denise) and Katie Nyffeler on August 24. We pray God will bless them as they begin their lives together. Congratulations.

On August 24-25 we listened to and witnessed the testimonies and baptisms of four young men. Bro. Taylor Aschliman (Bro. Derryl and Sis. Peggy), Bro. Brian Steffen (Bro. Allen and Sis. Arlene), Bro. Jim Frauhiger (Bro. Lynn and Sis. Jenny), and Bro. Jason Gerber (Bro. Gene and Sis. Becky). We ask God to bless them as they continue in their walk with Him.

We are also looking forward to the testimonies and baptisms of five dear souls as they have been announced for peace with God and fellow man. Deone Maller (Bro. Bob and Sis. Kim), Kara Drayer (Bro. Herman and Sis.

Julie), Kasha Gerber (Bro. Kent and Sis. Kim), Amber Steffen (Bro. Eric and Sis. Marcia) and Lisa Frauhiger (Bro. Lynn and Sis. Jenny). We are very thankful for the beginning these five have made.

Celebrating 50 years of marriage are Edson and Evelyn Ivins. We are so blessed to have such great examples in our congregation. We pray that God will continue to bless them in the future.

“Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.”
Matthew 16:24

**INDIANA
BLUFFTON NORTH
Ann Meyer
Tiffani Schladenhauffen**

“But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.”

1 John 1:7

We are thankful this month that Bryan Steffen answered the call of the Lord. Bryan is the son of Bro. Mark and Sis. Lori. We wish him God's blessings as he seeks to grow closer to the Lord.

Bro. Ryan and Sis. Sarah Corkwell welcomed their first little one, Wyatt Conrad, into the world this month. We rejoice with them and with grandparents, Bro. Bob and Sis. Mary Jo Troxel.

For the Gateway Woods Sale, our Bluffton and Bluffton North Young Group invited several churches out for the weekend. It was such an encouragement to see our congregation full of young

brothers, sisters, and converts. It was just another reminder of how much the Lord has blessed us.

We were also blessed to have Bro. Zoltan Szabo from Budapest, Hungary, to worship with us one Sunday this month. We pray that the Lord would continue to bless our churches in Europe.

Visiting the hospital this month were Sis. Julia Gerber (Bro. Vic), Sis. Maureen Reinhard (Bro. Roger), Sis. Imogene Aeschliman (Bro. Walt), and Sis. Becky Bertsch (Bro. Lonnie). Our prayers are with them as they go through their recoveries.

“How excellent is thy loving kindness, O God! Therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of Thy wings.”

Psalm 36:7

**INDIANA
FRANCESVILLE
Pam Huber**

“Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit.”

John 12:24

As the autumn colors cover the landscape and we enjoy the crisp, cool weather, there is also a hint of the coming winter. Maybe we don't always stop and think of the cold barren season as we enjoy the bounty of this time, yet in the natural world, these are signs of dying. Dying to self will bring forth a harvest in our children, by God's grace, and many of those around us. As Bro. Jeff Thames explained during our seminar on parenting, “The Gospel is not just about life after death, it is also gloriously

about life before death, where we live out the mastery over sin that we've been given.” “For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.” (Romans 6:14)

It was very refreshing to be able to listen to the Conference tapes last month and be encouraged in various areas of our walk with the Lord. Thanks to all our brethren who shared with us God's Word.

We are thankful that Elder Bro. Steve Gutwein (Sis. Linda) and Sis. Carol Gutwein (Bro. Phil) are recovering from their surgeries. We pray God continues to grant you increasing health as the days progress. “When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.” (Isaiah 43:2)

“Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready.”

Rev. 19:7

Weddings are such joyful reminders of the day we will be united with our Lord in eternity. On August 31, Mindy Neihouser (Bro. Perry and Sis. Sally) and Robert Taylor (Robert Taylor and Esther Taylor) of Encinitas, CA, exchanged wedding vows. May God bless you as your relationship grows as a part of His wonderful plan.

Our heart-felt appreciation goes out to the visiting ministers who joined us this past month: Bros. Ron Bollier (Indianapolis, IN), Steve Ringger (Bluffton North, IN), Lester Huber

(Lexington, KY), Jeff Thames (Washington, IL) and Nelson Beer (Milford, IN).

Note of Thanks:

I wish to express my sincere thanks to each one who remembered me on my 90th birthday, with many lovely cards and well wishes. They were all appreciated very much. I just thank God for the love and mercy toward Emilie and I through all these many years. God bless each one for your love and thoughtfulness. We are thankful to be a part of this church family.

Bro. Elmer Anliker

**INDIANA
INDIANAPOLIS**

**Sue Levy
Sandy Lichtle**

Our annual Sunday School picnic was held on August 25 at Fort Harrison State Park. We all enjoyed an afternoon of food, fellowship, and activities for the children. We appreciate the servant hearts of our dear Sunday School teachers.

We rejoice with five new lambs recently added to the fold. Bro. Stan Katanic (Maria Katanic, Akron, OH) gave his testimony and was baptized in Akron on August 24-25. It was a blessing September 14-15 to hear the testimonies and witness the baptisms of Bro. Eric and Sis. Ginny Zeller's children, Bro. Michael and Sis. Suzanne; Sis. Anna Bollier (Bro. Ron and Sis. Edie); and Sis. Marta Witzig (Bro. Fred and Sis. Nancy).

Visiting ministers this month were Elder Bros. Wayne Banwart (Sis. Charlen, Champaign, IL) and Lynn Stieglitz (Sis. Leonda, Leo, IN), and Bros. Todd Feller (Sis. Karen, LaCrosse, IN), Mark

Gerber (Sis. Barb, Bluffton, IN), Erik Givens (Sis. Debbie, Princeville, IL), and Jon Zeller (Sis. Christine, Morton, IL). We appreciate their labors of love.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Sis. Jeni Hart (Bro. Doug) and family as she is on bed rest at home during the last month of her pregnancy.

INDIANA, LACROSSE Eric and Bobbi Ann Heinold

The farmer ploughs through
The fields of green
And the blade of the plough
Is sharp and keen,
But the seed must be sown
To bring forth grain,
For nothing is born
Without suffering and pain —
And God never ploughs
In the soul of man
Without intention
And purpose and plan,
So whenever you feel
The plough's sharp blade
Let not your heart
Be sorely afraid
For, like the farmer,
God chooses a field
From which He expects
An excellent yield —
So rejoice though your heart
Is broken in two,
God seeks to bring forth
A rich harvest in you.
"How Great the Yield from a Fertile Field"

by Helen Steiner Rice

Our congregation has had loved ones sick again this month. Sis. Lucille Nuest has been in and out of the hospital again, and is still in need of our thoughts and prayers. Also, Sis. Kerri Gudeman (Bro. Glen) underwent surgery and is doing well. Bro. Levi Wuethrich (Bro. Chris and Sis.

Carla) is still undergoing treatment for an infection in his foot. We continue to keep him in our thoughts and prayers as he goes through these struggles.

We would like to thank Bro. Ken Eisenmann (Sis. Sharon, Cissna Park, IL) for coming and sharing the Word with our congregation. May God bless you both for your efforts.

As we see Fall approaching, and realize that in the next month many in our area will spend long hours to complete the harvest, our prayers go out for their safety.

INDIANA, LEO Ethelyn Schlatter

Sis. Katherine Norr went through brain surgery and therapy and is now slowly recuperating in Parkview Hospital's long term care section.

Bro. Gene Stoller visited the Mayo clinic for assessment of his health problems. We pray God will comfort and grant patience until He restores them to renewed health.

Elder Bro. Bruce Hohulin and Sis. Charlene (Goodfield, IL) and Bro. Brian Huber and family (Francesville, IN) each spent a Sunday with us. We were greatly encouraged by the messages they shared through the Spirit's inspiration. We give thanks unto God our Father.

Letting Go

To let go doesn't mean to stop caring, it means I can't do it for someone else.

To let go is not to cut myself off, it's the realization that I don't control another.

To let go is not to enable, but to allow learning from natural consequences.

To let go is to admit powerlessness, which means the outcome is not in my hands.

To let go is not to try to change or blame another, I can only change myself.

To let go is not to care for, but to care about.

To let go is not to fix, but to be supportive.

To let go is not to judge, but to allow another to be a human being.

To let go is not to be in the middle arranging all the outcomes, but to allow others to affect their own outcomes.

To let go is not to be protective, it is to permit another to face reality.

To let go is not to deny but to accept.

To let go is not to nag, scold, or argue, but to search out my own shortcomings and to correct them.

To let go is not to adjust everything to my desires but to take each day as it comes and to cherish the moment.

To let go is not to criticize and regulate anyone but to try to become what I dream I can be.

To let go is not to regret the past but to grow and live for the future.

To let go is to fear less and love more.

We welcome Bro. Luke and Sis. Tina Gerke and Tamara Raber to our Leo fellowship. They have been attending here for some time.

INDIANA, MILFORD Paula Haab Stacey Feller

Our congregation had a special weekend August 31-September 1. Our church was full and rejoicing

as we listened to the testimony and witnessed the baptism of Sis. Jodi Beer (Bro. Fred and Sis. Pat). Adding to the joy of the weekend was the repentance of Jodi's brother, Regg Beer, as well as Seth Beer (Bro. Steve and Sis. Connie) just days prior. May God bless and guide each of these young souls in the days ahead.

We appreciate and extend thanks to our visiting ministers this month. Our Elder Bro. Ray Sinn (Latty, OH) was with us for the baptism weekend. Bro. Scott Schafer from our neighboring congregation of South Bend assisted on the pulpit when one of our ministers was alone for the day. Our potluck's invite-a-couple weekend brought to us Bro. Dale Stoller (Fairbury, IL) and Bro. Wayne Lehman (South Bend, IN).

We recently have had to bid farewell to two special brothers from our congregation. Bro. Phil Yargosz has moved to Ixtlan, Mexico, where he plans to spend the year in the work of the Lord there. Bro. Marvin Wieland has taken a new job and relocated to New Mexico. We have been blessed by having these brothers with us for several years and both will be missed. May the blessing of the Lord be upon them in their new endeavors.

Two families are rejoicing over tiny additions to their homes. On August 28, Riley James was born to Tom and Jodi Haab. Welcoming their new brother home were Cody and Dalton, and happy grandparents are Bro. Don and Sis. Martha Haab. On September 6, Bro. Shawn and Sis. Marci Reinhard were blessed with little Carr Lloyd. He joins brothers Cole, Gage, and Grahm, and grandparents, Bro. Dave and Sis.

Marcene Gilliom (Bluffton, IN) and Bro. Clem and Sis. Joni Reinhard (Bluffton North, IN). God's blessings be upon these loved ones as they open their hearts and homes to include new life. May the promise of Isaiah 40:11 that the Lord "shall gently lead those that are with young" be an encouragement to these and all families raising children.

INDIANA, REMINGTON

Beth Virkler

Rochelle Ward

Kaitlin Bahler (Bro. Ed and Sis. Annette) is seeking the Lord in repentance. She confesses to have felt the condemnation in her soul from living with a sinful nature and needs a Saviour.

Four visiting ministers were a part of our fellowship this past month: Bro. Paul Gasser (Akron, OH), Bro. Vic Bauman (Smithville, OH), Elder Bro. John Klotzle (Altadena, CA), and Bro. Art Mueller (Belvidere, IL).

It seems that a week doesn't go by without hearing of a loved one who has been stricken with cancer, heart attack, or other debilitating physical conditions. Perhaps the following words can be helpful in training our minds how to think about any health challenge we are facing.

Cancer is Limited

(or name your disease)

It cannot cripple love.
It cannot shatter hope.
It cannot corrode faith.
It cannot eat away peace.
It cannot destroy confidence.
It cannot kill friendship.
It cannot shut out memories.
It cannot silence courage.
It cannot invade the soul.
It cannot reduce eternal life.

It cannot quench the Spirit.
It cannot lessen the power of the resurrection.

—*Author unknown*

INDIANA, SOUTH BEND

Samantha Schafer

Kara Beebe

There are friendships that we cherish

In our daily walk of life

Friends with whom we meet and labor

In our earthly toil and strife,

Friends among the aged and youthful,

Friends that live from us apart

Friends of higher rank and station
Find a place within my heart.

Hymns of Zion # 91

Our prayers are with Andy Yergler as he has moved home to Bluffton. We will miss him and the visits by his parents, Bro. Kim and Sis. Sue, and many others from Bluffton. We pray that God will continue to guide him as he seeks to do His will.

"...a threefold cord is not quickly broken."

Eccles. 4:12

We rejoice at the engagement of two from our congregation. Bro. Richard Gramm (Bro. Ed and Sis. Lucille, Eureka, IL) and Sis. Samantha Schafer (Bro. Scott and Sis. Gigi) believe through faith that the Lord has led them together. We pray that God will bless you as you serve Him together.

INDIANA, VALPARAISO

Darel and Janet Walker

A county hospital in our community is holding hearings to get

input from the public on whether to continue to perform abortions. We hope and pray they will decide to respect human life and stop supporting this sinful behavior. A prominent visitor from another country was asked the following question while on a speaking tour in the United States several years ago: "How have you liked spending your entire career working in such a poor country as India?" She thought a minute and replied, "America is a poor country. Any country that allows innocent, unborn children to be killed is a poor country."

Several visiting ministers shared the Word with us this past month. Many thanks to Bro. Arnold Gerst (Taylor, MO), Elder Bro. Marvin Leman (Bradford, IL), Bro. Todd Feller (LaCrosse, IN), and Bro. Randy Gudeman (Francesville, IN). We greatly appreciate these brothers' willingness to support our small church whenever our ministers are away.

September 22 was a special Sunday as another precious soul was brought into the fold. We wish to thank Elder Bro. Steve Gutwein (Francesville, IN) and Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL) for assisting with Ed Lester, Jr's testimony and baptism. Also joining us for Sunday services was Bro. Tom Troxel (LaCrosse, IN). We greatly appreciate these dear brothers for bringing us the Word of God and teaching us. Bro. Steve spoke to us about giving up our inheritance. He read from I Kings, chapter 21, about the account of King Ahab and Jezebel. These teachings are still powerful today. Ahab's downfall was his greed and his abuse of authority. He believed he should have Naboth's vineyard just because he was

King. But Naboth refused to give up his inheritance, and gave his life because he would not. Bro. Steve encouraged us all not to give up our inheritance, purchased by the precious blood of our Lord and Saviour, no matter what temptation faces us.

We always consider it a blessing when visitors join us at our church in Valparaiso. If your travels bring you to the Chicago area, come worship with us. The church is located on Highway 49 two miles south of Valparaiso. Sunday services begin at 10:15 am.

**INDIANA
WEST LAFAYETTE
Nettie Haab
Diana Houston**

"If there be any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies; Fulfill ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves."

Philippians 2:1-3

Visiting ministers have been Elder Bro. Steve Gutwein (Sis. Linda, Francesville, IN), and Bros. Al Schambach (Sis. Sarah, Remington, IN), Todd Feller (Sis. Karen, LaCrosse, IN), Ron Kipfer (Sis. Linda, Bluffton, IN), Greg Lehman (Sis. Mary Beth, Wolcott, IN), Ken Wuethrich (Sis. Lynn, Indianapolis, IN), John Klotzle (Sis. Lois, Altadena, CA), Doyle Frauhiger (Sis. Jane, Bluffton North, IN) and John Hartman (Sis. Rosemary, Fairbury, IL).

Many thanks for being willing

to travel and minister the Gospel, and also the many visitors and friends willing to travel along to support the ministers.

**INDIANA, WOLCOTT
Erica Wagenbach
Luann Gerber**

Our congregation has been richly blessed this past month with a visit from Elder Bro. John Klotzle (Sis. Lois, Altadena, CA), Bro. Frank Sauder (Sis. Kathy, Roanoke, IL), and Elder Bro. Dan Kilgus (Sis. Jenna, Remington, IN). Our cups were filled to overflowing, and we welcome them back any time.

A precious little boy has brought joy to the home of Bro. Greg and Sis. Mary Beth Lehman. Big sisters Kimberly, Maria, and Adrienne, and big brother David are thrilled to welcome him into their family! Thankful grandparents are Elder Bro. John and Sis. Lois Klotzle (Altadena, CA) and Bro. Gene and Sis. Verna Lehman.

In days of youth seek ye the Lord,
His love and truth with one accord.

Go offer Him thy youthful days,
And walk within the Saviour's ways.

It is with much joy that we share the news of two new converts. Emily Bahler (Bro. Jeff and Sis. Heidi) and Maria Lehman (Bro. Greg and Sis. Mary Beth) have made the decision to turn their back on sin and this world. We, as a congregation, humbly accept our responsibilities of helping them on this pathway as they turn their hearts over to Jesus in their youth.

Our dear Sis. Jo Kyburz has

suffered a stroke and is a hospital patient at this time. Brett Gerber (Bro. Bob and Sis. Luann) suffered an eye injury at school and had to undergo surgery. Also, last month, it was reported that Mindy Furrer (Bro. Bruce and Sis. Pam) had had an appendectomy. It was her sister Katie that had the surgery, not Mindy. We apologize for the error.

IOWA, BURLINGTON
Brenda Schulz
Lana Metzger

Our congregation had many visiting ministers this past month. They were Bro. Andy Moser (Valparaiso, IN), Bro. Arnold Gerst (Taylor, MO), Elder Bro. Jon Schmidgall (Oakville, IA), Bro. David Marquart (Taylor, MO), Bro. Fred Funk (Morton, IL), and retired Elder Bro. Ed Lanz (Oakville, IA).

The engagement of Sis. Brook Esslinger, Peoria, IL, (Bro. Lee and Sis. Patsy) to Bro. Nathan Herman (Bro. Greg and Sis. Beth, Peoria) was announced on September 1. We wish them many blessings as they plan their wedding.

At this time of year, children and young adults are heading back to school. We pray that God will watch over them as they go off to school each day or as they leave their families behind to attend college away from home. As students arrive to our area congregations, let us make them feel loved and at home. Let us also pray that they, especially those at the age of accountability, will give their hearts to their heavenly Father.

Sis. Lulu Landes, 101, passed from this life on August 21. She had resided at the Klein Care Center in Burlington for several

years.

Sis. Martha Buehler has moved to the Burlington Klein Care Center after living in the Wapello Care Center. She had previously resided in Burlington and attended the Burlington church. We pray that she and others in retirement and nursing homes will feel God's love and comfort.

IOWA, ELGIN
Gloria Frieden
Heidi Butikofer

"Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations ... teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you..."

Matthew 28:19-20

WWJD — It seemed I noticed these letters frequently while wandering around in a Christian book store. They are an abbreviation for the words "What Would Jesus Do"? While reading through the Gospels it was easy to find several teachings of our Lord, regarding what He would do and have us to do, and I would like to share a few of them with you:

1. Repent ye and believe the Gospel.
2. Love one another.
3. Love your enemies.
4. Bless them that curse you.
5. Do good to them that hate you.
6. Pray for them which despitefully use you and persecute you.
7. Whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also.
8. If any man will sue thee and take thy coat, let him have thy cloke also.
9. Whosoever will compel thee to go with him a mile, go with him twain.
10. Give to him that asketh of thee

and from him that would borrow of thee turn not away.

11. Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them.
12. Do not your alms before men to be seen of them.
13. Judge not. Condemn not.
14. Be ye, therefore, merciful as your Father also is merciful.
15. Consider first the beam in thine own eye before beholding the mote in thy brother's eye.
16. Render unto Caesar the things that are Caesars and unto God the things that are God's.
17. Swear not at all ... but let your communication be yea, yea or nay, nay.
18. Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness ...
19. Keep my commandments.
20. Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: For I was an hungered, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger and ye took me in: Naked and ye clothed me: I was sick and ye visited me: I was in prison and ye came unto me ... for inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.

Sis. Joy Frieden recently spent a few days in the hospital. We are thankful she is able to be back home again.

We are also very thankful that serious injuries were not sustained by Bro. Bert and Sis. Beulah Butikofer in their recent auto accident on their way to church. Certainly another reminder to us all of how suddenly serious injuries and even death can come to each of us. May we ever stand pre-

pared to meet our God.

IOWA, GARDEN GROVE
Willa Clark

Our church roof has been reshingled, and we are so grateful for the many brethren who came to help us. Fifty-four brothers from seven churches helped, and soon had removed all the old shingles. Before evening arrived, the entire church and carport had new shingles. We are so thankful for the labors of each and every one. Sisters also came and helped with meals. Churches represented were: Sabetha, Bern, Pulaski, West Bend, Gridley, Tremont and Taylor. Thank you, and God bless each one. Thank you also to the churches who have contributed monetary gifts to this and other physical improvements to our church building.

Visiting ministering brothers this month have been Bros. Kim Sutter (Taylor, MO) and Paul Eisenmann (Burlington, IA). We thank you for traveling and sharing God's precious Word.

"There are friendships that we cherish, in this daily walk of life, . . . but we prize the friendships highest, of the one whose heart is true, Friends who live by truth and goodness, and who live in Him anew..." (Hymns of Zion # 91). The words of this hymn say it all, when it comes to working and worshipping together with brothers and sisters in the Lord.

IOWA, IOWA CITY
Diana Butikofer

We held our annual college student picnic last week to welcome those that move to our area to attend college. We were pleased that several students and their fami-

lies were able to attend.

Our visiting ministers this month were Bros. Gary Anliker (Sis. Edie, Elgin, IL), Kent Getz (Sis. Betty, Elgin, IA), and Jim Vierling (Sis. Linda, Eureka, IL). We appreciate these brothers' willingness to serve our church, even in the absence of a home minister.

IOWA, LESTER
Dawn Knobloch
Dawn Metzger

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

Proverbs 3:12

So many encouragements to renew our zeal to serve the Living God came from our home and visiting ministers this past month. Labor Day weekend visitors were Elder Bro. Doug Schock (Pulaski, IA), Bros. Gary Brown (Forrest, IL), Jim Butikofer (Iowa City, IA), Doyle Frauhiger (Bluffton North, IN) and Roy Koehl (Morris, MN).

That same weekend was the wedding of Sis. Jane Knobloch to Bro. Darren Freidinger at Bloomington-Normal, IL. Sis. Jane is the daughter of Bro. Bill and Sis. Ellie of our congregation. May God bless this union.

Our sympathy goes to Bro. Gene and Sis. Shirley Nester as we hear of the death of her brother, Reuben Butikofer.

Bro. Eli Metzger (Sis. Alice) has been hospitalized for surgery. Philip Feucht (Bro. Roy and Sis. Melisa), Lee Leuthold (Mark) and Ashley Leuthold (Bro. Brad and Sis. Michelle) also required hospital care. We pray God's healing hand will be upon each of these loved ones.

The weekend of September 14-15 we were privileged to hear the proving service and witness the baptism of Sis. Kristin DeSmet (Bro. Bob and Sis. Shirley). We also rejoice with Brian and Angie Metzger as they have found peace with God and mankind.

Visiting Elder Bros. Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH) and Wayne Fehr (West Bend, IA) were here to assist with this important work. Ministering Bros. Dean Messner (Winthrop, MN), Duane Metzger (West Bend, IA) and Pat Zaugg (West Bend, IA) were also with us.

Correction to last month's news — the birth announcement should have read: Gavin DeVere was born to Blake and Denise Wysong on July 10. He has a sister, Avery, to welcome him. Sis. Janet Wysong is Gavin's grandmother. I apologize for this mistake.

IOWA, OAKVILLE
Debbie Wagenbach
Melody Steiner

Our prayers and sympathy are extended to our dear Sis. Gladys Vierling in the loss of her stepson, Bill Vierling. May the Lord strengthen and comfort her and may she ever feel our love and support in the days to come.

We welcome a new little lamb to the fold. What a blessing to hear the testimony and witness the baptism of our precious Sis. Janella Gerst (Bro. Charles and Sis. Charlene). May the Lord continue to give her the grace and strength she needs to serve Him for many years to come.

We want to thank her uncle, Bro. Joe Gerst (Iowa City, IA), for

assisting Bro. Jon with this most important step in life.

Special thanks to Bro. Rod Bajema (Lester, IA) for his labors in ministering to us this month. May the Lord continue to bless him and his family.

IOWA, PULASKI
Katrina Knobloch

We express our thanks to the following ministers for being willing to travel and share God's word with us the past month: Bros. Duane Metzger (Sis. Ruth, West Bend IA), Brad Funk (Sis. Laura, Garden Grove IA), Dale Frank (Sis. Christine, Oakville IA) and Robert Pflederer (Sis. Ellie, Morton IL). Also, Elder Bro. Gerry Hertzell (Sis. Ellen, Sabetha KS) and retired Elder Bro. Ed Lanz (Sis. Joann, Oakville IA) were here for the testimony of Bro. Robert Wuthrich and to witness his baptism. We are thankful Bro. Robert saw his need for a Saviour and was able to turn his life to the Lord.

Another soul has caused much rejoicing in our congregation as he has decided to turn his back on the world. Our prayers are with Adam Hootman as he has turned to the Lord in repentance.

We are thankful Sis. Irene Musselman is home from the hospital and again able to assemble with us.

IOWA, WEST BEND
Berniece Banwart
Lori Skoglund

The Apostolic Christian Timber Ridge regional meeting was held here on August 24. Visiting ministers attending were Elder Bro. Ron Messner (Sis. Pam, Washington, IL), Bro. Paul

Butikofer (Sis. Mildred) and Bro. Floyd Frieden (Sis. Jan), both of Elgin, IA, Bro. Ron Joos (Sis. Christy, Pulaski, IA), Bro. Dale Zeltwanger (Sis. Rachel, Morris, MN), and Bro. Dewayne Dill (Sis. LaRae, Minneapolis, MN). We were privileged to have three of the brothers remain for Sunday services to proclaim the Word in truth and purity.

On September 7-8, our Bible Class hosted Oakville, Burlington, and Pulaski Bible Classes. Bro. Gary Endress (Sis. Evelyn) and Bro. Bradley Gudeman (Sis. Teresa), both of Bradford, IL, brought words of encouragement to the Bible Classes and our congregation, and we are thankful for their willingness to be used.

Many traveled to Lester, IA, for the testimony and baptism of Kristen DeSmet. She has been going to college for nursing while working in our area, and we welcome her now as a dear sister-in-faith. May she experience continued grace and peace as she walks with the Lord.

Clinton Metzger (Bro. Harlan and Sis. Shirley) was announced as having peace, and we anticipate his testimony and baptism on the last weekend in September. Clinton is presently employed in Illinois and assembles with the Eureka congregation.

The special joy that comes with a newborn has been felt by Bro. Jeff and Sis. LaRae Montag with the new arrival of their daughter, Jenna Marie, on August 27. She has a sister, Karissa, and two sets of grandparents, Bro. Ken and Sis. Marlene Banwart and Mr. and Mrs. Ed Montag. May God continue to bless this family circle.

There are many who have been thankful for competent, caring

health professionals during their hospitalizations. Sis. Madeline Banwart, Eli Gerber, Irene Banwart, Sis. Doris Banwart, Sis. Julie Zaugg (Darrell), and Jamie Moser have all been able to return to their homes. Due to a fracture, Sis. Helen Zaugg underwent surgery and is now recuperating and receiving therapy at the West Bend Care Center.

"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

JAPAN, TOKYO

"...that we might be fellowhelpers to the truth." (III John 1:8). Bro. Galen Rokey (Bern, KS) ably meditated on this portion of Scripture as he explained that as brethren we all work together as a body to bring forth the glorious gospel of Christ. We so appreciated his visit as he left his business pursuits of Wenger, Inc., for a Sunday to assemble with us in God's house.

The Klaus family thank the Lord for their new and precious bundle, Elizabeth Andrea, born September 6, on her Dad's birthday, and given a middle name similar to his name. Her parents, Bro. Andrew, Sis. Jana, and siblings, Caleb, Sarah, Hannah, Rachel and Amy, make up this family. Other "fellowhelpers" in their family circle include Grandma (Sis. Shirley) Kieser (Princeville, IL) who arrived in mid-August to assist them, Aunt (Sis.) Grace who resides here, and John and Betty Klaus of Washington, IL.

We also enjoyed a visit from

Bro. Phil Baurer (Princeville, IL) as he assisted in our afternoon Bible Class on August 25. The next weekend, Dr. and Mrs. Parkhe, Nasik, India, likewise favored us with a "question and answer" period held later in the afternoon to inform us of the Lord's work in India. We were reminded that freedom of speech is not a blessing of their government, but they feel free to invite loved ones into their homes to sing praises to the Lord. Items that are useful for them especially at Christmas time are used small toys and used sweaters.

My husband and I shared in the joy of the Philadelphia congregation as they joyfully added Bro. Robert (Bob) Allen to their fold. To listen to the beautiful singing alone was a wonderful reason to be there that day. A special blessing that day was to greet loved ones from Gridley, IL, and Rittman, OH, who were "fellowhelpers" to the truth on the pathway of Bro. Bob's conversion. He visited their homes and churches as he traveled across the Midwest for his work. Bro. Bob's wife, Rika, and two sons complete their family circle.

The work will soon be completed on our new addition to our church. We have many reasons to be thankful to our Lord.

KANSAS, BERN
Sally Strahm
Lori Baumgartner

I love this time of year when the hot, humid days of summer change over to the cooler days of fall. The changing of the seasons is just one more example of God's great sovereignty. As we see the changes take place, not only in the seasons, but also in the world

around us, we can often allow ourselves to feel anxious about what lies ahead. But yet we have nothing to fear, for our great God is in control.

"Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever: for wisdom and might are his: And he changeth the times and the seasons: he removeth kings, and setteth up kings: he giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding:"

Daniel 2:20-21

We rejoice with Bro. Todd and Sis. Sheila Rokey, who have received another blessing from God. A son, Jared Roy, was born to them on August 18. He is welcomed home by one brother, Travis, and two sisters, Hannah and Kristen. His grandparents are Bro. Allen and Sis. Glenda Rokey and Eugene and Judy Edelman.

"And they two shall be one flesh..."

St. Mark 10:8

On August 25, our congregation was able to witness the wedding vows of Bro. Brandon Plattner (Sabetha, KS) and Sis. Rhoda Meyer. Bro. Brandon's parents are Bro. Don and Sis. Ada Plattner (Sabetha, KS), and Sis. Rhoda's parents are Earl and Sis. Darlene Meyer. We wish them God's blessings and guidance as they establish their home together in Sabetha.

One week later, on September 1, we were able to witness another marriage in the Lord—that of Bro. Neil Kellenberger (Kansas City, MO) and Sis. Kim Kaeb. Bro. Neil's parents are Bro. Randy and Sis. Karen Kellenberger (Kansas

City, MO), and Sis. Kim's parents are Bro. Paul and Sis. Joan Kaeb. May the Lord be at the head of their newly established home.

We were thankful to have several visiting ministers assemble with us during the past month. They were Bro. Leland Plattner (Zapata, TX), Bro. Howard Plattner (Alto, MI), Bro. Brandon Emch (Kansas City, MO), Bro. Randy Kellenberger (Kansas City, MO), Bro. Greg Rassi (Chicago, IL), Bro. Jeff Bahr (Kiowa, KS), and Elder Bro. Don Braker (Kansas City, MO).

Our prayers have been with those battling illness. Bro. Joe Marti has spent time in the hospital. We are thankful that Sis. Diane Kaeb (Bro. Jim) is doing better after doctoring for an extended illness.

KANSAS, FORT SCOTT
Ruth Bahr

The ministering brothers who served us since the last report include Bros. David Marquart (Sis. Lori, Taylor, MO) and Jeff Bahr (Sis. Janice, Kiowa, KS). We thank them.

A young convert, Alyssa Banwart (Bro. Don and Sis. Aleta), testified to the relief of feeling forgiven of her past life and now the joy of becoming a child of the Lord. We wish her fruitful growth in the direction she has chosen. Elder Bros. John Lehman and Dennis Warner officiated at the testimony and the baptism.

We are presently listening to the Conference tapes on Wednesday evenings. As we listen, let us hear.

**KANSAS
LAMONT-GRIDLEY
Sarah Somerhalder**

Our sympathy is extended to Bro. Ivan Beyer (Sis. Ada) in the passing of his sister-in-law, Rose Marie Beyer (the late Bro. Vernon). Also, we extend our sympathy to Bro. Rudy Bahr (Sis. Eileen) in the death of his brother-in-law, Bro. Godfrey Miller (Sis. Emma, Wichita, KS).

Our small congregation always appreciates having visitors assemble with us. September 21 and 22 was our biannual "Invite-a-guest" weekend. Thanks to all who were with us, especially ministering Bros. Marvin Stieglitz (Leo, IN), Bill Dotterer (Lamar, MO) and Brandon Emch (Kansas City, MO). May the Lord bless them for their willingness to proclaim God's Word to us.

**KANSAS, SABETHA
Mary Kay Wenger
Jeanelle Plattner**

We were thankful for our visitors this month, including ministering Bros. Wayne Grimm (West Bend, IA), Leland Plattner (Zapata, TX), John Rowell (Burlington, IA), Edwin Strahm (Bern, KS), Brandon Emch (Kansas City, MO), and Elder Bro. Art Nohl (Morris, MN).

Bro. Brandon Plattner (Bro. Don and Sis. Ada) and Sis. Rhoda Meyer (Earl and Sis. Darlene) were recently married at the Bern church. We welcome Sis. Rhoda to our congregation.

We sometimes see how quickly our lives can be changed. Wil Edelman (Bro. Brad and Sis. Teresa) was in a farm accident. How thankful we are for God's healing power as he begins his recovery process. Also, Sis. Marie

Hartter (Bro. Virgil) has received some strength restored with surgery.

Bro. Korbin and Sis. Marla Beyer recently moved to our area from Kansas City. We are very thankful to have them with us.

As we look back a year from September 11, we find God has been very good to us. Sometimes it seems our ship of faith struggles to stay afloat with the trials of life. We need to put our faith and trust in Him and pray for our leaders and enemies. We are being watched by others as to how we treat our fellow man.

A card shower was held for Bro. Harlan and Sis. Florence Meyer for their 50th wedding anniversary. May God continue to bless their union.

Note of Thanks:

We would like to thank all those who remembered us with phone calls, cards, gifts, visits, and prayers while Andy was in the hospital and since recuperating with therapy treatments at the Apostolic Christian Home in Sabetha.

May God richly bless you all.

Bro. Andy and Sis. Irene Lehman

**KANSAS, WICHITA
Emma Miller**

Bro. Howard and Sis. Ann Warner recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. Though their home is in Hutchinson, they faithfully drive the miles to worship with us in Wichita. Bro. Howard, a retired Cessna aircraft worker, is responsible for operating the sound system at church. Sis. Ann serves as a substitute school bus driver and makes the best homemade rolls

when it is her turn to be hostess for our fellowship hour. They are the parents of eight children, one of whom is deceased. They have 26 grandchildren and 26 great-grandchildren.

Bro. Jeff Thames and Sis. Brenda (Washington, IL) were in Wichita on September 8. We appreciate Bro. Jeff's willingness to bring the Gospel message.

God in His mercy called Bro. Godfrey Miller to his eternal rest on September 8. Our children, Chris, Larry, and Jane, and their respective families gathered around me, as did members of his extended family. I thank God for their support.

September 13 marked the 96th birthday of Sis. Nellie Lambert. Just recently, Sis. Kathleen Gallatin gave me some articles that Nellie had written on previous occasions. Truly, Nellie is a historian. She is the oldest member in our congregation and is the last survivor of the original nucleus of founding members in our Wichita church.

At the age of four, she was adopted into the family of Kate Mangold Gramm and grew up in a loving Christian environment. In 1992, she wrote "A Sentimental Tribute of Remembrance to George Michael Mangold and others of his family tree". Rather than striving for hard facts and dates, she portrayed the tempo – the pulse – the faith, hope and charity of this man and his family.

Nellie also compiled a history of the Wichita church dating back to the 1930's when services were held in the homes of four couples on a rotating basis. She and her husband, the late Bro. Ernie Lambert, were steadfast pillars of faith.

She maintains an apartment

which, before she moved into it, was remodeled so she could do what she does so graciously – entertain family, church family, friends and visiting relatives. She calls a taxi to take her to church and rarely misses a Sunday. Her lovely voice often rescues a hymn when we falter at a difficult or unfamiliar passage.

Another of her special talents is organization. It was through her leadership that the Wichita women invited guests from Lamont-Gridley and Kiowa to spend a pleasant time sharing their quilts this past summer and strengthening our Christian fellowship.

Nellie tells the story of a little girl who came home from Sunday School and told her mother about their lesson on the life of Enoch. Each day God would say to Enoch, "Enoch, let's take a walk." Each day Enoch waited for God to come and the two became good friends. One day, they walked farther than usual and Enoch said, "Oh, my, it's getting late. I had better go home." Then God said to him, "Well, Enoch, you are really closer to my home than you are to yours. Why don't you just come home with me?" So Enoch did.

Sis. Nellie's goal is to walk faithfully with her Lord and as she comes closer to His house, He will invite her in.

MEXICO, IXTLAN
Gloria Gonzalez

"O praise the Lord, all ye nations: praise him, all ye people. For his merciful kindness is great toward us: and the truth of the Lord endureth forever. Praise ye the Lord."

Psalm 117:1-2

Every day is a special day for praising our dear Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ for all that He has done for us.

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

Mark 10:14

The week of July 12, Sis. Claudia González and Sis. Penny Stahl went to Morelia to assist Sis. Fernanda Cervantes with teaching Vacation Bible School. Thank you, Sisters, for your labors of love. Our prayers are with each of these children. May God guard their hearts from the evils of this world.

"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."

I Corinthians 15:58

We are always thankful for visiting ministers. May God bless Bro. Loren Schrenk (St. Louis, MO) for the words of instruction he shared with our church the week of August 17. Many thanks to Bro. Loren and those who assisted him with the eye clinic.

MEXICO, MORELIA
Fernanda Cervantes

Greetings dear Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ!

This is some news about our little church here in Morelia, Michoacan. This summer two Brothers from the United States came to visit us. Both came to study Spanish and learn about

Mexico: Daniel Messner and Robert. Bro. Robert stayed here for a week and a half, and Bro. Daniel stayed for almost a month. We were also happy because we were able to have our Vacation Bible School.

Our Sisters Penny Stahl from the States and Claudia Gonzalez from Ixtlan came to help us in our little Vacation Bible School.

We are also thankful that ministering Bro. Loren Schrenk and his wife, Sis. Betsy, were here on a weekend for services.

By the way, we are also happy because in our church in Morelia we have two new members: Bro. Kirby Reutter and his wife, Sis. Areli Sibaja (de Reutter). They have been living here since their wedding in July. This is all of our good news for this time.

Continue to pray for our little church in Morelia. Please come and visit us some time! May God bless you.

MICHIGAN, ALTO
Terri Huber
Rose Watson

It is a joy to write this column, knowing that soon I will be reading news and encouragement of my brothers and sisters across the land! "Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ." I Corinthians 1:3. Have you ever noticed how many of Paul's epistles have this exact greeting in the salutation? There must be great value in it. We pray God's grace and peace for you, and greetings from Alto. What a wonderful custom we have in passing "Greetings" along from church to church. It is encouraging and unifying to hear from both visitors and homefolk returning with

greetings. In fact, last month we were blessed by many visitors. Included were visiting ministers Bro. Tom Schrenk (Sis. Joan, Athens, AL) and Bro. Bob Beebe (Sis. Sue, South Bend, IN). Summer is when we see many brothers and sisters traveling to enjoy the Lake and northern Michigan.

Again, the community struggles with a sudden loss. The beloved grandmother of Sis. Julie Sanders (Bro. Ed) and Jeanine Overholt passed away. Marion Overholt of Freeport, MI, was killed in a car accident while taking an elderly friend on errands. In the words of one grandchild, Marion was "busy living life to the fullest" even after her husband passed away two years ago. She will be missed greatly by her family.

Our hospital patient this month was Sis. Virginia Schutte. We continue to pray for her health and recovery.

Sunday School is underway again. Teachers put in for the new term are: Sis. Susan Steffen (replacing Sis. Laurie Pardo, whose term has expired) and Bros. Jake Gerst and Ryan Huber for the Bible Class.

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY

**Sarah Knochel
Janelle Ramseyer**

Hark, the Master calls for reapers;
Rich and ripe the harvest, see;
Idle not, but quickly flying,
Answer Lord, send me, send me.

Gospel Hymns #800

As we get ready to reap in the harvest of the earthly fields, we rejoice that the Lord is still calling reapers to serve him in the fields of faith. Ann Jacobs (Girard and

Sis. Diana) has turned her heart over to the Lord in repentance. We pray that the Lord will be with her and guide her as she starts on the path of serving Him and reaps the rewards therein.

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

Phil. 4:7

Nathan Knochel (Bro. Bob and Sis. Rhonda) has professed peace with God and man. We look forward to hearing his testimony soon and having him join the brotherhood. We pray that the Lord will continue to walk with him and guide him as he moves forward in service to the Lord.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to several in our congregation who have spent some time in the hospital this past month. They are Sis. Florence Wieland, Sis. Irma Bragiell, and convert Alan Schlatter (Vicki). We pray the Lord will continue to be their constant Provider.

We also want to remember the family of Sis. Marie Wieland as she went to her eternal reward on September 5 at the age of 95. Sis. Marie left behind five children, including Sis. Delores (Bro. Fred) Mumsel and Bro. Roger Wieland from our congregation.

Omitted from our July article: Bro. Mike and Sis. Valerie Howell have relocated to the Phoenix, AZ, congregation. We wish them the Lord's blessings.

May God be with each one in the coming days.

MICHIGAN, DETROIT

**Sarah Beard
Holly Barton**

The new school year has brought two new students to our area. We welcome Bro. Brian Knudstrup (Alto, MI), who is attending college in Detroit, and Sis. Carissa Klopfenstein (Peoria, IL), who is in Flint. We hope that they will feel at home in our congregation and feel God's presence during their years of schooling.

We are so grateful for Bro. Leonard Hitz's quick recovery from surgery. Our prayers continue for Bro. Leonard and his wife, Sis. Audrey.

Two new babies have made an appearance! Jacob Anthony Wallace was born to Laura Kujawa (Bro. Bill and Sis. Darlene) and Daniel Wallace on September 8. David and Karen deReyna also welcomed a little boy, William Hartzell, on September 19. William's grandparents are Bro. Hartzell and Sis. Mary Kaisner. We pray for God's blessings and wisdom for these families.

As these babies begin new life, other loved ones have now finished theirs to join their Savior and Lord. We extend sympathy to Sis. Stephanie Kellenberger on the death of her grandmother, Sis. Velma Kellenberger (Washington, IL), and to Sis. Joyce Germaine (Bro. Milan) on the passing of her mother, Sis. Helen Ramsier (Bro. Wally, Mansfield, OH).

This year's Sunday School picnic was the coldest in several years but was still enjoyed by all!

Bro. John Jackson (Bay City, MI) was our visiting minister this month, and Bro. Walt Rager (Toledo, OH) had our monthly service

at Woodhaven. Thank you both for your willingness to serve!

MINNESOTA, MORRIS

Cheryl Messner

Katie Messner

"Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip."

Hebrews 2:1

We are thankful to have visiting ministers with us this past month. They were Bros. Kent Mogler (Minneapolis, MN), Gene Lehman (Wolcott, IN) and Pat Zaugg (West Bend, IA). May God bless them for their labors.

Two families have received a new bundle of joy. First-time parents, Joe and Angie Koehl, welcomed Jacob Donald on August 19. Grandparents are Bro. Jacob and Sis. Mary Koehl and Donald and Janet Hacker.

Also, first-time parents, Bro. Kurt and Sis. Rachel Domnick welcomed Morgan Marie on September 4. Grandparents are Bro. Gary and Sis. Velma Domnick and Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Sherry Stoller (Eureka, IL). May the Lord grant them wisdom as they raise their precious little ones.

This union of our hearts
Shall stand through grace in Jesus;
We walk the path of life,
While cheer and trust increases.
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

Bro. Quinn Messner and Sis. Kristi Koehl were united in mar-

riage on August 25. May God bless them as they begin their lives together in the Lord. Parents are Bro. Sid and Sis. Cheryl Messner and Bro. Karl and Sis. Marilyn Koehl.

Also, the engagement of Bro. Gary Nohl (Bro. DeWayne and Sis. Janice) to Sis. Heidi Stoller (Bro. Todd and Sis. Pam, Latty, OH) was announced. May God bless them as they look to Him for further guidance in their lives.

Those who have been in the hospital include Bro. Richard Schmidgall (Sis. Corrine), Cathy Joos (Pete), Bro. Leonard Wulf (Sis. Violet), Bro. Albert Joos (Sis. Edith), Mitchell Fehr (Bro. Gary and Sis. Sandy), and Aaron Jones (Bro. Shane and Sis. Ruth). We pray God will heal where it is His will.

MINNESOTA, WINTHROP

Marilyn Messner

Ginny Stoll

As visitors gathered from near and far, we enjoyed a time of precious fellowship at our annual pork chop supper. What a blessing to live in a country where we can travel so freely!

We had a farewell singing for Sis. Rebecca Schaefer, who has moved to the Rockville, CT, area for continued education. May the Lord continue to bless and guide Sis. Rebecca.

We want to extend a warm welcome to Sis. Nancy Belsley from the Oakville area. We are thankful God has placed another of His own in our small congregation.

MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY

Garry and Marty Rokey

On September 1, most of our congregation traveled to Bern,

KS, for the wedding of Sis. Kim Kaeb (Bro. Paul and Sis. Joan) and Bro. Neal Kellenberger (ministering Bro. Randy and Sis. Karen). Retired Elder Bro. Gene Marti (Sis. Mary) ministered to our visitors and those unable to attend the wedding that Sunday. We wish to extend to the Bern church our appreciation for their gracious hospitality. We pray for God's richest blessings on Bro. Neal and Sis. Kim as they make their new Christian home here in Kansas City.

As they go forth upon life's way,
Sustain them by Thy grace;
May they Thy holy laws obey
And live in joy and peace.

"O God of Wisdom" - Hymns of
Zion #286

Bro. Bill Emch (Sis. Susan, Lamont-Gridley, KS) was our visiting minister on September 15. We are grateful for his labor on our behalf. That afternoon we welcomed Fort Scott, KS, Sunday School and congregation to Kansas City for our annual picnic.

Found: The weekend of Bro. Kenton Snyder's baptism (July 6-7) someone left a pair of men's black dress shoes. If the owner will contact us (Rokeys 816-454-5306), we will make sure they are returned to you.

MISSOURI, LAMAR

Becky Marti

Kristen Leman

We were thankful to hear Haley Braker (Bro. Jay and Sis. Sharon) has found the grace to make a beginning in her repentance. May she continue to feel the Lord's grace as she takes this most important step in life.

This past month, we have been blessed to hear God's Word brought forth in truth and sincerity. Among those laboring on our behalf were visiting Elder Bro. Don Braker (Kansas City, MO) and ministering Bro. Glen Braker (Princeville, IL). May they each feel the Lord's rich blessings upon them.

MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS
Betsy Schrenk

Elder Bro. John Lehman (Sis. Connie, Bern, KS) and Bro. Dale Stoller (Sis. Sandra, Fairbury, IL) brought the Word to St. Louis in August while we were in Ixtlan and in Champaign, where our youngest son, Matthew, has started college. We appreciate the extra burden the visiting ministers accept when we are gone. May God richly reward them.

A group of students from Champaign/Urbana came to St. Louis along with Elder Bro. Wayne Banwart (Sis. Charlen, Champaign, IL) in September. On Saturday evening, we enjoyed a meal together and a time of joyful worship, singing around the piano. We were blessed and encouraged by the message brought by Bro. Wayne, and with the fellowship of all our visitors.

MISSOURI, TAYLOR
Susan Haerr

On the weekend of August 18, we were blessed in a very special way. Dr. Parkhe and his wife, Samayante, from the Rural Gospel Medical Missions of India worshipped with us. Following the church service, we had a potluck meal and were deeply humbled as we listened to Dr. Parkhe share his testimony and relate what it is

like for Christians in India at this time. We have a very special opportunity and responsibility to pray for those in other countries where freedom to share God's awesome plan of salvation is not guaranteed.

Those that are receiving or have received medical care in some way in the last month are Pam Hoenes, Sis. Charlene Sutter, Bro. Jim Sutter (Sis. Kris), Sis. Vonette Sutter (Bro. Kim), Bro. Roy Grimm (Sis. Dona), Sis. Marcia Sutter, Brian Sutter and Dean Redd (Gaye). Our prayers are with each of you.

We are thankful for our visiting ministers this past month. They include: Bros. Virgil Kaeb (Sis. Sue Ellen, Sarasota, FL), Brad Eisenmann (Sis. Cindy, Chicago, IL), and Garry Bucher (Sis. Lois, Valparaiso, IN). God bless you. We truly appreciate you.

NEW YORK
CROGHAN-NAUMBURG
Hope Graves

We thank Elder Bro. Merle Hartzler (Rittman, OH) for sharing God's Word with us on the weekend of August 25. What a blessing it is to hear the same Word preached no matter what church we are from.

Our prayers were with Sis. Charlotte Virkler in the loss of her brother, Ralph Virkler, on August 26. We pray that the Lord will be a strength unto the family in this time of loss. "And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever. Even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. I will

not leave you comfortless: I will come to you." (John 14:16-18)

Bro. Lowell Virkler underwent surgery on August 29 and we are thankful that the Lord did answer the many prayers that went out in his behalf. We are thankful that he has been able to return home after many weeks in the hospital and pray for his continued strength and healing. Our prayers were also with Sis. Charlotte Virkler who underwent eye surgery on September 4, and we are thankful that all went well.

How sweet the privilege of prayer,
when we our cares and sorrows
share,
with Him who understands.
Our Father's house has large supplies,
He owns and rules the earth and
skies,
And bounteous are His hands.
'Tis not command nor mere decree
that makes men come on bended
knee,
to seek His holy face.
When'er the soul's deep needs
arise,
In fears and trials it relies,
On His sustaining grace.
As friend to friend will oft confide,
In prayer we seek the Saviour's
side,
And tell Him all our grief.
If we but ask, He'll lend His aid,
When on His altar prayers are laid,
He'll send the soul relief.

Hymns of Zion #205, vs. 1-3

We are pleased to welcome Bro. Dan and Sis. Delores Reinhard into our midst from Bluffton, IN. They moved to our area at the end of August and we pray that they will feel the love of our congregation as they make this area their new home. We were blessed to have several visiting brothers

from their home congregation with us on their first weekend here. We spent Saturday evening, August 31, gathered together in singing hymns of praise unto our great God.

We were all invited to celebrate with Sis. Bernice Hirschey and her family on her 90th birthday on September 1. A few from our congregation were also able to go to Akron, OH, on the weekend of September 7-8 to remember the 60th anniversary of Bro. Dave and Sis. Lois Schambach. We are thankful for these loved ones and that the Lord does provide so richly for each of His children.

We were thankful for the opportunity to listen to the Conference tapes over the past few weeks and pray that the Lord will help us to keep in remembrance the many wonderful teachings that we have heard.

May Thy good Spirit further Lord,
Work in us through Thy mighty

Word

and guide our souls forever.

O may it shine forth clear and
bright.

That in our house the one true

Light

May there be lacking never.

Lord, now bestow food from
heaven,

Morn and even, while we're living
And ourselves to Thee are giving.

Zion's Harp #160

OHIO, AKRON **Joyce Gasser**

With the angels in heaven, we are rejoicing that Stanley Katanic surrendered his life to the Lord, gave his testimony of his faith in Jesus Christ, and was baptized. Also, we welcome into our membership Peter and Elvyra (Gal)

Ordogh, as they gave their testimonies. They moved here from Canada, and they have three children: Melissa, David, and Brandon. Elder Bros. Andy Stoller and Mark Masters assisted our Elder Bro. Dave Graf for the occasion.

Also, the special occasion of a 60th wedding anniversary of Bro. Dave and Sis. Lois Schambach brought many visitors, including Elder Bros. Duane Farney (Croghan-Naumburg, NY) and Ronald Schambach (Elgin, IL).

We were blessed to have additional Elders and ministers to visit us: Elder Bros. Wayne Anliker (Forrest, IL) and Alfred Bahler (Wolcott, IN), and ministering Bros. Earl Beery and Ron Steiner (Rittman, OH), Tom Lemman (Denver, CO), Curt Rassi (Tremont, IL), Dennis Rassi (Fairbury, IL), and Ken Wuethrich (Indianapolis, IN).

We are thankful that the Lord has opened the way that we can have our own church cemetery. Bro. Emery Gal has been appointed to be our cemetery caretaker. We appreciate Bro. Emery's willingness to serve in this way.

OHIO, COLUMBUS **Nancy Banks**

We are thankful for the brothers who visit our congregation and share God's Word with us. We are very grateful for the timely exhortations we receive. As Bro. Tim Gerber (Mansfield, OH) so lovingly warned us, we must liken our Christian lives to concrete ... Satan will use every crack as a wedge in our life. We must beware!

Other visiting ministers with us this month were Elder Bros.

Mark Masters (Mansfield, OH) and Wayne Anliker (Forrest, IL) and Bros. Randy Gasser (Detroit, MI) and Ben Manz (Junction, OH).

We enjoyed meeting our new college students and their families at College Welcome Day. A picnic in the park was enjoyed by all and it was great to see our students return after summer break.

OHIO, JUNCTION **Cindy Schlatter**

Ministering Bro. Steve Pamer (Akron, OH) spent a recent weekend with us. We trust our Heavenly Father will bless him for his efforts.

Sis. Inez Rose recently moved to one of the apartments located by the Latty, OH, church. May God continue to be with you, Sis. Inez, as you settle into your new place.

Our congregation was blessed with four new babies. Caleb Anthony Manz was born August 20. Bro. Tony and Sis. Denise, along with big sister Heather, welcome him into their family. Caleb's grandparents are Bro. Ken and Sis. Gwen Manz and Elder Bro. Ervin and Sis. Sandra Knecht (Eureka, IL). Adrian Christopher Manz joined Bro. Chris and Sis. Erica and Shana on August 26. His grandparents are Bro. Don and Sis. Connie Manz and Bro. Larry and Sis. Joyce Wenninger (Latty, OH). Joanna Catherine Schlatter joined the family of Bro. Warren and Sis. Cindy Schlatter on September 6. Jesse, Nathan, and Naomi are her siblings. Her grandparents are Elder Bro. Bill and Sis. Emily Schlatter and Bro. Walt and Sis. Renee Sinn (Latty, OH). Maggie Sue Manz joined the family of Bro. Mark and Sis. Cathy

Manz on September 11. Her big sisters and brother are Taylor, Audrey, and Bailey. Maggie's grandparents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Kathy Manz and Carol Benroth and Thomas Leatherman. We wish these families much grace and wisdom as they daily strive to raise their children to know and serve our Heavenly Father.

OHIO, LATTY

Kathy Sinn

Bonny Wenninger

Our congregation has been blessed by the visits of several ministering brothers. They include: Bros. Dale Zeltwanger (Morris, MN), Earl Beery (Rittman, OH), Dan Stoller (Remington, IN), Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville, IL), and Curt Rassi (Tremont, IL). Later in the month, we were blessed with four more visiting ministering brothers who were Bros. Mike Baumann (Mansfield, OH), John Jackson (Bay City, MI), Bill Waibel (Bay City, MI) and Tom Schrenk (Athens, AL). We wish these brothers God's richest blessings as they serve each congregation that they attend.

Our annual Sunday School picnic was held August 25 at a local park. We enjoyed the time of fellowship in the outdoors.

We rejoice with three souls who have begun on the paths of repentance. Danielle Stoller (Bro. Kirk and Sis. Eileen), Joy Stoller (Bro. Craig and Sis. Ruth) and Laura Gerber (Bro. Dave and Sis. Patty) have answered God's call and are giving Him time to convert their hearts and lives. May our prayers and examples serve to guide and strengthen them.

During the past month we have also joined together two couples. Reid Stoller (Bro. Bill and Sis. Barb) and Amanda La Bounty were united on August 17. Nicole Steffen (Bro. Don and Sis. Karen) and Paul Suvar (George and Becky) became one in the Lord on August 24. We wish each couple the guidance of the Holy Spirit and God's nearness in their lives.

On August 20, God's call came to another soul, Sis. Clara Sinn, as He called her from time into eternity and her eternal reward. She leaves behind one daughter, Sis. Minnie Sinn; two sons, Elder Bro. Ray Sinn (Sis. Ann) and Bro. Walter Sinn (Sis. Renee), and many grandchildren. During the 100 years of her life, she was a steadfast and unmovable example of an Apostolic Christian's walk of life. May her family be comforted by the prayers during this time of loss.

The engagement of Sis. Heidi Stoller (Bro. Todd and Sis. Pam) to Bro. Gary Nohl (Bro. DeWayne and Sis. Janis, Morris, MN) was announced on August 25. We pray for God's guidance and direction as these two plan for their lives together.

We enjoyed the visitors who traveled to be at the Zapata Reunion which was hosted here at Latty and then assembled with us on Sunday. May God continue to bless the tie that binds one to another even though miles may separate us.

Our Bro. Charles Dunham has again experienced surgery this month. Our prayer is that the Lord will be ever near Bro. Charles and his family.

Bro. Mark and Sis. Diane Sinn welcome little Julie Lynda into their family. Her big brothers, Luke and Weston, are looking for-

ward to enjoying her as a playmate. Julie's grandparents are Elder Bro. Ray and Sis. Ann Sinn and Sis. Marian Sinn (Silverton, OR).

On Saturday evening, September 14, the brethren gathered to partake in Holy Communion. What a blessing we received as Elder Bro. Ron Messner (Washington, IL) assisted Elder Bro. Ray Sinn with this work. On Sunday, Bro. Ron also brought forth the Truth of God's Word as he gathered with us. May God richly bless him and his efforts.

Another family, the Huber's, gathered in Latty for a reunion. Among those gathering with us on Sunday were ministering Bros. Bill Hodel (Roanoke, IL) and Paul Gasser (Akron, OH). Thanks to the efforts of others, we were blessed with many visitors.

Note of Thanks:

The family of Sis. Clara Sinn wishes to thank everyone for their prayers, expressions of sympathy, memorials, flowers, food and help at the time of her passing. May God richly bless and keep you each one.

OHIO, MANSFIELD

John and Marci Pfeiffer

Who hath bid me to believe
And the gift of life receive?
Who hath made me just and free,
And a child of God to be?
Jesus Christ, the glorified!

Zion's Harp #225

We welcome Sis. Anne Gromen into the family of God. We are thankful that God is still inviting souls to come unto Him.

Bro. Steve and Sis. Brenda Domka were blessed with the

birth of a son on August 14. Daniel Douglas has an excited sister Alora. Daniel's grandparents are Bro. Dan and Sis. Mary Ann Domka and Bro. John and Sis. Eszter Orcsik (Detroit, MI).

Many have suffered illness and/or surgery recently and need our prayers. We remember Bro. Wayne Rufener (Sis. Nina), John Them (Roma), Sis. Alice Graszl (Bro. Frank), Sis. Christine Dotterer (Bro. LaVern), Sis. Lore Stuenzi (Bro. Art), Sis. Helen Ramsier (Bro. Wally), Archie Tucker (Dan and Sis. Barb), and Aaron Moser (Bro. Lonny and Sis. Becky).

We had two visiting ministers this past month. We thank Bro. Carroll Gerber (Bluffton North, IN) and Bro. Sam Schlatter (Junction, OH). May God bless them for telling us the Truth.

We are thankful we can bow before God and tell Him all about our troubles. He does forgive us of our sins and gives us peace. We rejoice with Nora Sabo (Jason) and Sara Sabo (Bro. Greg and Sis. Sharon), who have found peace with God and man.

We extend our love and sympathy to those who have lost loved ones this past month. Sis. Lena Jampen went to be with the Lord. She had recently lived at the Apostolic Christian Nursing Home in Rittman, OH.

Our sympathy is also extended to Elder Bro. Mark Masters (Sis. Jeannine) and his family as his grandmother, Myrtle Masters, passed away.

Bro. Alvin Riegenbach, 99, passed away unto his new home above. May God comfort his children: Richard (Helen), Betty Florence (Paul), Ronald (LeAnn), Duane (Jackie), and Diane Sutliff (Jim).

OHIO, RITTMAN
Anna Schar
Sandy Zollinger

"Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost."

Romans 15:13

We are thankful to report the repentance of two dear souls in our Rittman congregation: Dustin Riegenbach (Joe and Sis. Karen) and Ken Gasser (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Ellen). We pray that they will be granted much grace to lay a firm foundation in the Lord.

We would like to thank Bro. Nelson Beer (Milford, IN) and Bro. Bill Brake (Sardis, OH) for lending themselves to further the gospel of the Lord.

Our prayers for healing are with Stacy Bauman (Sis. Nancy) and Sis. Ann Gerber (Bro. Joe), who were hospitalized this past month, and also Bro. David Ault (Sis. Kathy), who is ill. It is hard to see loved ones suffer, and our prayers are also with their families.

We are thinking of and praying for Judy Hilty (Sam), as she mourns the loss of her father, Millard Wilson.

August 30 brought two more souls into the world. Brenda Elaine will join the Ramsier family of Bro. Joe and Sis. Kendra. Elizabeth and Kenneth are glad for another playmate. Grandparents are Bro. Marvin and Sis. Terry Ramsier and Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Janice Steffen (Forrest, IL). Also, Bro. Sam and Sis. Gail Hartzler, along with Sarah and

Heidi, welcome Julia Ann into their home. Grandparents are Bro. Merle and Sis. Bonnie Hartzler and Bro. Virgil and Sis. Lois Gasser. Brystal Faith was born on September 5 to Bro. Eric and Sis. Tricia Steiner. I am sure Braelyn will love helping with her little sister. Grandparents are Bro. David and Sis. Carol Steiner and Bro. Galen and Sis. Cheryl Indermuhle.

Also made known was the marriage announcement of Sis. Mary Steiner (Bro. Matt and Sis. Gail) to Bro. Nathan Hoffman (Bro. Michael and Luann) from Rockville, CT. May the Lord bless this couple as they make plans for the future.

"God be merciful unto us, and bless us; and cause his face to shine upon us; Selah. That thy way may be known upon the earth, thy saving health among all nations. Let the people praise thee, O God; let all the people praise thee. O let the nations be glad and sing for joy: for thou shalt judge the people righteously, and govern the nations upon earth. Selah. Let the people praise thee, O God; let all the people praise thee. Then shall the earth yield her increase; and God, even our own God, shall bless us. God shall bless us; and all the ends of the earth shall fear him."

Psalms 67

OHIO, SARDIS
Terry Zollinger

"And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely."

Revelations 22:17

The congregation would like to welcome Eric Hartzler (Bro. Dean and Sis. Jan, Rittman, OH), who found employment and is now living in the Sardis area. It is a joy to see Eric as he comes to church. May we be a light as he makes his home here.

“For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe.”

I Thessalonians 2:13

Hopefully, the Sunday School students can believe that the teaching of the Word of God through our dear Sunday School teachers is the truth of the Holy Bible and not of man alone. Sis. Angi Figel (Bro. Rob) gave her teaching position to Sis. Karen Indermuhle (Bro. Bob). She teaches the 1st through 3rd grade classes. May the Lord bless Sis. Angi for her time and Sis. Karen for her willingness to spread the precious stories from the Holy Word of Life to the young children.

“And let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us: and establish thou the work of our hands upon us; yea, the work of our hands establish thou it.”

Psalms 90:17

There have been a few work-days recently at the New Martinsville, WV, church, the fellowship center, and the Sardis church. May showers of blessings be for the willing workers that spent

time making these establishments well maintained for use of fellowship and of worship.

“Thus saith the Lord, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls.”

Jeremiah 6:16

During the month of September, on Wednesdays, the congregation has been listening to the tapes of the General Conference in August. With so much of the world changing all the time, it has been stressed continually that keeping the traditions and doctrine that has been passed down is the best and should not be changed. May the Lord bless each of us that we can be a faithful and willing servant that supports the teaching of the Word.

“Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the Lord your God: for he hath given you the former rain moderately, and he will cause to come down for the rain, . . .”

Joel 2:23

What a blessing to see the gentle rain coming down on and off on the Sabbath. The rain was much needed on the parched earth. A brother mentioned that his springs in the pasture are trickles that he had not seen happen for a long time. May the Lord bless us with more rain in the coming days.

OHIO, SMITHVILLE

**Ruth Gasser
Edith Miller**

Word which God has spoken,

Word of peaceful token,
Gospel of the Lord!
Fount of benediction,
Comfort in affliction,
Holy Spirit's sword!
Source of might,
Of life and light!
Joyful message of God given,
Sent to us from heaven!

Zion's Harp #97

We were thankful for the gospel message given to us through Bro. Mike Baumann (Mansfield, OH) when visiting us. May God bless him for ministering the Word to us.

We extend our sympathy to those who have recently lost loved ones. Sis. Shirley Klotzle's (Bro. Bob) grandmother, Sis. Clara Sinn (Latty, OH), recently passed away. Sis. Laura Oppliger and Sis. Louise Spangler laid their brother to rest, Bro. Alvin Rigenbach (Mansfield, OH). Also, Bro. Jim Ramsier (Sis. Dorothy) and Bro. Bob Ramsier (Sis. Inez) bid farewell to their sister-in-law, Sis. Helen Ramsier (Bro. Wallace, Mansfield, OH). May these dear ones find strength in “the God of all comfort; who comforteth us in all our tribulation” (II Cor. 1:3-4).

We are thankful that God can also bring us comfort in affliction. Boyd Nieman (Terri), Sis. Mildred Hartzler, and Sis. Louise Spangler have all spent time in the hospital this past month. May God grant His healing power to them as He sees fit.

We are currently listening to the General Conference tapes. We can be so thankful for our Elders who are willing to shepherd us. May we do our part by taking heed to the exhortations we hear, as they are meant for our well-being.

OHIO, TOLEDO
Rebecca Beard
Dee Beard

As the beginning of the new school year starts, we once again held our annual college weekend picnic. We wish to welcome our new and returning college students. May God bless them as they start a new year of studying. Visiting ministers for the weekend were Elder Bros. Mark Masters (Mansfield, OH) and Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH) and Bro. Gary Maibach (Smithville, OH). May they be richly blessed for their willingness to serve the Lord.

On September 7, Michael Beard (Bro. Dave and Sis. Geri) and Lindsay Glassner (Bob and Kathy) were united in marriage. On September 14, Nick Sancraint (Sis. Connie and Dave) and Andrea Sheets (Tony and Carol) were also joined in marriage.

“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 wish to remember Dave Sancraint and his family as his father recently had surgery.

OREGON, PORTLAND
Louisa Gallup

Greetings everyone!

Summer is gone and we are looking towards fall. We are thankful for the wonderful weather we have had these past months and are now enjoying some needed rainfall in the area. This summer we have had quite a few visitors and among them a good number of ministering

brethren. We truly appreciate all who made the effort to join us in worship and fellowship; it always is a blessing to us.

We would like to thank especially Elder Bro. Peter Petrovic and his dear wife, Sis. Marian, from San Diego for joining us on a recent Wednesday night. We thank them for their support and appreciated the sermon. Bro. Peter then graciously agreed to share with us some of the history and experiences of his own family as well as other brethren in Eastern Europe during very trying times. It was humbling to listen to and made us realize all the more how precious freedom to worship is.

In addition, our congregation has been blessed with the following visiting brethren this past month: Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen (Elgin, IL), Bros. Ed Knecht (Sis. Judie), Todd Zollinger (Sis. Michele) and Harvey Kuenzi (Sis. Jennifer), all from Silverton, OR. It was a pleasure to worship and visit with you all. May God bless you and your families for your kindness.

OREGON, SILVERTON
Kelsey Kuenzi

This month we share in the joy of Bro. Tim and Sis. Dana Schneider with the birth of their son Nathan Walter on August 18. Also welcoming him are brothers Sam, Jacob, Christian, and Jonathan, and sister Lydia. Grandparents are Bro. Wilbur and Sis. Marge Schneider and Bro. Jim and Sis. Jane Moser (both of Rockville, CT). We wish them God's loving direction in the raising of their children.

Little Warren James joined Bro. Bill and Sis. Kris Luthi on September 4. Welcoming him

home are brothers Aaron, Zayne, Weston, Quintin, Wade, Sterling, and Colton, and sister Brooke. Grandparents include Bro. Rich and Sis. RosaLee Kuenzi and Bro. Ray and Sis. Violet Luthi (Lamar, MO). Special prayers are with Sis. Kris as she remained in the hospital for additional care.

I'm baptized in Christ's name
 And in His death I'm buried;
 How shall I further bear
 The load so long I carried?
 Thou, Lord, art He who died
 And who arose again;
 Therefore in holiness
 Through life I will remain.

Zion's Harp #43 vs. 2

This month also, we welcomed four more babes in Christ. The weekend of August 24-25 we heard the testimonies and witnessed the baptisms of Bro. Marvin and Sis. Lana Kuenzi (Bro. Nick and Sis. Mary Kuenzi and Bro. Rod and Sis. Arlene Grimm, Sabetha, KS, Bro. Zach Kuenzi (Bro. Myron and Sis. Diane), and Sis. Tennille Kuenzi (Bro. Bob and Sis. Linda). We want to welcome them into the family of God and desire that they will always feel His loving guidance in their lives. Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr (Sis. Kathy, West Bend, IA) and Elder Bro. Peter Petrovic (Sis. Marian, San Diego, CA) assisted our Elder Bro. Art Metz (Sis. Betty) in the duties of the weekend.

When pure and upright hearts,
 By flames of love ignited,
 Are by the bond of faith
 More firmly yet united,
 The light of hope beams forth
 In radiance far and nigh,
 Invites us to partake
 The blessings from on high.

Zion's Harp #79

September 1 was a beautiful day for Bro. Phillip Petrovic (Elder Bro. Peter and Sis. Marian) of San Diego, CA, and Sis. Tasha Kuenzi (Bro. Bob and Sis. Linda) as they joined their hearts and lives in marriage. May their love for each other grow as they have made that three-fold cord that is not lightly broken. We will miss Sis. Tasha here in the Silverton congregation and wish her the best as she makes her home in California.

We are also rejoicing with Bro. James Schneider (Bro. Jim and Sis. Sandra, Forrest, IL) and Sis. Tonya Kuenzi (Bro. Bob and Sis. Linda) as they feel the Lord has led them to become married. May God be with them as they begin to make their plans to be married on November 24.

Feeling God's direction to each other, Bro. Kevin Dettwyler (Bro. Loren and Sis. Marlene) and Sis. Jill Dietrich (Bro. Jim and Sis. Joan) were engaged to be married. We rejoice with them as they begin to make preparation to join their hearts and lives in marriage on December 1.

This month there were a few in our congregation that were in the hospital, including Bro. Lewis Kuenzi (Sis. Gloria) and Cliff Kuenzi (Violet). We are prayerful for Bro. Lewis and Cliff as they are progressing with rehabilitation. Our prayers are also with our friend Taleatha Powell as she is on the mend from an injury earlier this month.

This month we were blessed with many visitors, including Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr (Sis. Kathy, West Bend, IA), Elder Bro. Peter Petrovic (Sis. Marian, San Diego, CA), Bro. Roger Aberle (Sis. La Vonne, Sabetha, KS), Bro. Darrel

Stoller (Sis. Gloria, Bern, KS), Bro. Doug Wagenbach (Sis. Lillian, San Diego, CA), Bro. Galen Rokey (Sis. Nancy, Bern, KS), and Elder Bro. Mark Masters (Sis. Jeannine, Mansfield, OH). We wish to thank each one for sharing the Word with us.

PENNSYLVANIA PHILADELPHIA

Nathan and MaryElizabeth Gasser

We rejoiced this month as we witnessed the testimony and baptism of our Bro. Bob Allen (Rika). It's always a blessing to hear how the Lord has worked in another's life, bringing another soul into His fold. We wish Bro. Bob the Lord's continued grace and strength as he pursues a new life in Him. May God use him, and each of us, as a light and an example in this world, and may we all strive to share the message of His Good News with others.

We had the blessed opportunity this month to welcome a large group of single group visitors from our Rittman, Smithville, and Akron, OH, churches. We had a singing Saturday evening, and although the Sunday picnic was rained out, we enjoyed a dinner in our church building. The weekend reminded us how blessed we are to have the freedom and opportunity to travel and fellowship as we please. May we remember to thank God often for these blessings.

Finally, we were pleased to welcome Elder Bro. Akito Inoue and his wife, Sis. Marie, from our church in Tokyo, Japan, and Bro. Jerry Bauman (Rittman, OH) who shared the Word with us this month.

TENNESSEE, NASHVILLE Mike and Monica Fritz

We have been so richly blessed in this past month through the ministry of God's Living Word brought so clearly to us by willing ministering brothers. They were Bro. Randy Gudeman (Sis. Becky) and retired Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Sis. Marcella), both of Francesville, IN, and Bros. Erik Givens (Sis. Debbie, Princeville, IL), Ralph Garber (Sis. Lynn, Morton, IL), Jerry Bauman (Sis. Martha, Rittman, OH) and Elder Bro. Bob Walder (Sis. Gloria, Congerville, IL). We have also received blessings and encouragement through the fellowship of brethren and friends from Athens, AL; Bradford, Chicago, Congerville, Eureka, Goodfield, Gridley, Morton, Princeville, Roanoke and Tremont, IL; Bluffton, Bluffton North, Francesville, and Valparaiso, IN; West Bend, IA; Akron, Junction, Rittman, and Smithville, OH.

If you are traveling in or through the Nashville area, please plan to worship with us. The following churches are scheduled for services in the near future: Lamar, MO (10/20); Oakville, IA (10/27); Elgin, IL (11/3); Sarasota, FL (11/10); and Goodfield, IL (11/17). We also usually meet on Wednesday evenings for a song service. We do not have a visiting minister scheduled for Thanksgiving weekend (11/24). 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, SAN MARCOS Carrie Beyer

“Peace be to the brethren, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ”
Ephesians 6:24

It's always a pleasure to host visitors in San Marcos. Our ministers over the past month included Bros. Todd Stoller (Latty, OH), Jeff Neihouser (Sis. Sue, Francesville, IN), Brian Waibel (Sis. Wendy, Champaign, IL), Paul Butikofer (Elgin, IA), Leland Plattner (Sis. Mary, Zapata, TX), and Beirne Messner (Sis. Joyce, Morris, MN). Additional guests visited from Winthrop, MN, and Mansfield, OH.

November's calendar shows visiting ministers from the following churches: Rittman, OH (11-3); Princeville, IL (11-10); Elgin, IL (11-17); and Remington, IN (11-24). We extend a hearty welcome to anyone else who may be in the area to worship with us. Let us know if you would be available for fellowship on Sat. evening, Sun. evening, or during the week. And please call ahead to help us plan for serving lunch and other activities. Contacts are (Austin area) Bro. David and Sis. Shella Brummitt, 512-360-3379; Brian and Terri Kaisner, 512-266-0178; Bro. Dale and Sis. Amy Ringger, 512-933-1380; Dale Kaisner, 512-255-7583; (Round Top/Houston area) Bro. Bill Zeltwanger, 979-249-5102; (San Antonio area) Sis. Dorothy Martin, 210-658-1968; (Ft. Worth area) Bro. Kyle and Sis. Carrie Beyer, 817-989-0868; and (Corpus Christi area) Sis. Dorothy Wenger and Joy Pipkin, 361-526-5556.

We continue to meet for ser-

vices 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. Take Exit #206; the hotel is on the southwest side access road.

TEXAS, ZAPATA Joyce Nohl

Blest be the tie that binds
Our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds
Is like to that above.

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

It is with deep sadness that we bid farewell to Bro. John and Sis. Viola Perdelwitz. They have sold their home in Zapata due to declining health and have bought a home in Mediapolis, IA. We wish them God's blessings as they adjust to their new home and pray that He will wrap His loving arms around them and keep them in His care. Many of us have felt their Christian love by their deeds of kindness and words of encouragement. Their new address is:

121 South St.
Mediapolis, IA 52637

We extend our sympathy to Sis. Jennifer Kellenberger in the recent death of her grandmother. May God comfort her and her family during this time of sorrow.

We welcome Sis. Tiffany Wieland from Princeville, IL, to our congregation. She is working in the Valley and living in Harlingen with her friend,

Jessica Herrmann, also from Princeville. We wish them well as they start their new jobs and make new friends in a place where cultures are varied.

Once again this writer was unable to attend the Zapata reunion. Following is an article submitted by Sis. Melva Messner from Winthrop, MN. Thank you, Melva, for your labour of love.

This year the snow bird reunion was held in Latty, OH, on September 7-8. We wish to thank the host who provided for us so abundantly. It is always a joy and blessing to meet again with those who worship in Zapata during the winter. We appreciated the loving effort and kindnesses shown unto us while there. May God bless each one. There were 114 in attendance.

We have had the privilege of listening to the Conference tapes. We are thankful for the admonitions, encouragement and teachings given by the Elders. We appreciate the love and concern our shepherds have for each one of us. May God bless each one and their families for their efforts.

On September 1 we held services in the Valley for the first time in several years. Bro. Leland Plattner shared the Word with us. May God bless Bro. Leland and Sis. Mary for their efforts of love. Lord willing, we will again assemble this Sunday at the same location. At this time no schedule of worship services have been made. We extend a warm welcome to anyone who may be in the area to worship with us. You may want to contact Bro. Leland Plattner at (956) 765-5612 or Bro. Lloyd Nohl at (956) 581-8266 for confirmation of services.

The following was written and

submitted by Sis. Jennifer Kellenberger:

"I need the prayers of those I love,
while trav'ling o'er life's rugged
way,
that I may true and faithful be,
and live for Jesus every day.

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

I want my friends to pray for me,
to hold me up on wings of faith,
that I may walk the narrow way,
kept by our Father's glorious
grace.

I want my friends to pray for me,
to bear my tempted soul above,
and intercede with God for me,
I need the prayers of those I love."
Hymns of Zion #201

What beautiful words found in this precious hymn. How true it is that we need the prayers of those we love. May the Lord bless all of you that lift the staff, the students, and the ministry of ICCD/MCCS up in prayer. We need your prayers and we are thankful for them.

The summer quickly came and it quickly went. August marked the end of our summer work

teams and it was hard for each of us to say good-bye to that last team. It was especially hard for us to say "adios" to all of our summer staff. Thanks again to all those that came and served with us this summer, whether it was on a team or as part-time or full-time summer staff. A special thanks to Bro. Phil Kellenberger, Bro. Tom Kellenberger and Sis. Erin Knobloch, all from the Washington, IL, congregation, and Jacki Maller of the Bluffton, IN, congregation. We appreciate all that you did for MCCS this summer. May the Lord bless you each one.

Summer has ended but things have not slowed down for all of the full-time staff down here in Rio Bravo. September 9 marked the first day of the new school year. Our head teacher, Corry Moore, along with our three Mexican teachers worked hard in preparation for the big day. We currently have 18 students and two of them are new to us this year. We are excited to welcome Brenda, 4, and Saul, 5, to our school. They are both a delight to have around and are definitely little bundles of energy. All of the students are especially enjoying their newly-tiled classrooms thanks to the generous donations from the Washington, Peoria, and Morton, IL, Vacation Bible School collections. Thanks to all of you who gave.

Your gift is much appreciated and the new tile looks great!

As the Lord continues to lead new staff to our campus, Bro. Bill and Sis. Joan Schick and family (Washington, IL) and Sis. Kim Kaiser (Morton, IL) are currently studying Spanish at the Spanish Language Institute in San Jose, Costa Rica and plan to arrive in Rio Bravo early next year. He also continues to expand the ministry and the work load. In early September, Ernest Clark, ICCD's General Director, and his wife, Mary, along with Nono Beale, Director of MCCS, and his wife, Kate, and myself were blessed with the opportunity to take an exploratory trip into Mexico. We traveled to three different Mexican states - Nuevo Leon, Chiapas and Yucatan - where we met with the different governors and government officials of each state to explore the options for future campuses. We were received warmly and were invited to return to start a new campus in all three states. Please join us in praying for the Lord's leading in the expansion of the ministry of MCCS. He has definitely blessed this ministry and it is exciting to be a part of it and to watch as He expands things one step at a time.



Sermon continued from page 2

emotion and somebody comes to us and asks us what is motivating us, do we all of a sudden shrink back into our shell and not talk about it? No we do not. When something exciting is happening in our lives and somebody asks us about it, we are ready to share the news! We are ready to tell them about it. But why is it then when we come to the spiritual aspect, it is so easy for us to not share the good news? Not tell the people about what is exciting in our lives?

You can see it happen time and time again in a physical aspect. I can just think of the time perhaps, when parents have a new baby. They carry pictures of that baby. And they want to show those pictures to everybody they see. Or grandparents, when they have a new grandchild, they want to share the news. They want to tell everybody about this wonderful event that has taken place in their lives. But you really do not ever see anyone sharing the news about Jesus Christ in that fashion, do you?

When somebody just turns to the Lord and they are excited, they are filled with joy. They are so thankful that Christ died and shed His blood for them. Maybe they knew it for a long time. But they never really were willing to yield themselves to the ways of Christ. Yet, when that event takes place and they are yielded and submissive and they have asked God for forgiveness and God has given them that peace, do you ever see somebody walking down the street just overflowing with joy, willing to stop anyone on the street and show them, this is what God has done for me? Just like a grandparent would say, here is a picture of my grandson. You just do not do it, you do not see it.

Why not? Are we kind of like Pe-

ter? We are followers of Christ but yet when somebody asks us about it, it is kind of like well um, well um and we maybe change the subject a little bit? We see what happened to Peter. He denied that he even knew who Christ was. Three times he denied that he knew about Christ. But when he realized what he did, he went out and he wept bitterly.

How many times do we pass up the chance of just offering encouragement to someone? And then maybe sometime later we look back and we can see that we have missed the opportunity of sharing with someone who is struggling. And then we can look back, maybe it is a week later, maybe a month later or two or three years later, that individual's life takes a turn for the worst. Maybe they are clear off the deep end. And we can look back to where we had that opportunity to share with them and we did not do it because we were uncomfortable. Wouldn't we be in the same situation as Peter, where we would weep bitterly because we did not do our part? We denied that individual the opportunity to hear about Christ, just as Peter denied making a stand and saying, yes he was a follower of Christ.

There has been so many times we had that opportunity of doing our part, of fulfilling the responsibility that Christ asked us to do but it seems like it slips from our grasp. There are other things that we find that perhaps we are more comfortable to talk about, that we are more willing to do. And we do not even have our life put on the line.

Perhaps Peter could say he feared for his life, because he did not know what was going to happen. The trial was about to take place, and Christ was about to be condemned to death. And Peter could

say well, he feared for his own life. But I do not think you and I have ever had to fear for our life in making a stand of serving God.

Perhaps we do not even have the opportunity. Perhaps people do not come to us and say, are you a follower of the Lord? Are you a Christian? Have you repented and been baptized? Maybe nobody asks us that. So we say we have never been in that situation. But there are times people ask us to do other things that cause us to compromise our belief, whether it be to go do something with them, help them on a Sunday morning, pass up the opportunity to be at church on Wednesday evening because of something else going on. If it would compromise and we say well, maybe this one time I can do that, but in a way we need to make the stand. We need to say no, I cannot help you do what ever you are doing on that day because that is the day I go to church.

Or perhaps it is eating in a restaurant, where we sit down to eat. The custom has always been for us to bow our head in prayer. But if we are sitting with other people do we say well, we will pass up this chance to pray because we do not want to put them in a bad situation, we do not want to make them feel bad? Who are we trying to impress? What are we trying to do? Are we trying to compromise our beliefs, our thoughts, our ways so that everybody around us is comfortable? Or are we continuing to serve our God, our Lord? Are we doing what is necessary for us to do? It is a tradition for us to always pray before we eat. And yet how many times when you are in a restaurant, do you really make the effort to bow your head in prayer before that meal is served?

Sermon continued on next page...

Sermon continued from page 45

There are so many small things.

I had an individual one time tell me - he was a brother in our church - he really felt he looked forward to the opportunity to where his life would be put on the line in his serving of God. He said you can read in the Bible of people who, if they would not denounce God, would die. He said he looked forward to that opportunity. He never experienced it but he said he thinks that would be the greatest feat for him if he was put in that position where someone would say, denounce your Lord or your life will be taken. He would be willing to give his life. He said he was sure he could make that stand, that he would give his life and never, never deny the Lord. And we often hear of being faithful in small things. It is interesting that after that brother had told me that, a few years later that brother fell into sin. It was just a little small thing. But he was looking forward to the time of giving his life for the Lord, but yet he could not hold true in just a little small thing.

We would say yes if a gun was placed to our head and we were told we had to deny Jesus Christ was the Son of God or we would be shot. I think perhaps in a situation like that we would know that, yes our life would be taken from us but we could not deny such a major statement as Jesus Christ being the Son of God. But maybe it is in just a little thing that we would say, well, it really does not matter. We have to realize that all those little things matter. We cannot ever lose focus of who we are and Who we are serving.

Peter lost that focus there for a little while. He was fearful for his life and he denied Christ. And he wept bitterly for it. And throughout all his life, that was one point in his life that he could look back and he

could see where he had failed. He had fallen short. So let's not you or I get to the point where we would say we are going to be faithful in the great things, we are going to be steadfast and we are never going to be weak, but yet be swept aside by some little matter that we didn't think really amounted to anything.

We read about Queen Esther. It was a very important step in her life and a very important stand that she had to make. And she did it. But she had to be convinced by Mordecai that that was what she had to do. She was going to say well, it was not that big of a thing. She was of no power. She had no greatness. She was just a queen and the king did not have to listen to her. She had a lot of things to fear. But yet Mordecai went to her and said, you have got to do this! Then she recognized that, yes, she had to do it and she did it and it worked out. God's plan was fulfilled in that the Jewish race was continued. They were not wiped out, that Jesus Christ could come here upon the earth.

Can you imagine the victory that the devil would have had if Haman could have carried out his wishes in having the Jewish race completely wiped out off the face of the earth! But God was victorious and His plan continued on. God's plan was fulfilled even that Jesus, the man that we read about here today, that He was capable of coming here upon the earth, of fulfilling the plan that God had made to Adam and Eve clear back in the Garden of Eden. God's plan will be fulfilled. It will be carried out.

The question we have to ask ourselves, are we doing what God wants us to do? Are we working at fulfilling God's plan? Are we allowing ourselves to be tools for the Lord? Or are we saying, I am uncomfortable

doing that? It makes me feel uneasy and I can not make that stand. God's plan is going to be carried out. It is going to be fulfilled with or without us. But we can do our part. So let us be like Mordecai was or Esther. Let's make the stand. Let's be diligent. Let's follow God's words. Let's not become to the point that we feel we are of no use for the Lord. The Lord can use us no matter how great we are or how small we are.

Esther was the queen. You would think she had a pretty high position in that country. God used her. Mordecai sat in the gate. God used him. You and I, whether we sit in the pew or we stand behind the pulpit, whether we teach Sunday school, what ever we do, God can use us. But we need to let Him do that. If we resist and draw away from God, we know what the Word tells us about who we need to draw close to and the benefits of it. So let's draw nigh to the Lord. Let us follow Him. Let us serve Him. Let's resist the devil. Let us not get those two ways mixed up and draw close to the ways of the world and deny God what He really wants of us.

USED EYEGLASSES ARE NEEDED FOR FREE IXTLAN CLINIC

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

Bryan Stoller
817 S. Locust
Pontiac, IL 61764

CARIBBEAN BOARD PROJECTS - 2002, 2003

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. 17-25, '02	Les Cayes	Rick Wuethrich	Vocational School	4	100%
AWA-T	Oct. 17-25, '02	Les Cayes	Derek Sauder	Water Aid	5	50%
AWA-B	Oct. 17-25, '02	Les Cayes	Bill Rager	Vocational School	2	100%
MEBSH	Dec. 5-13, '02	Les Cayes	Ted Habegger	Grade School	9	80%
MEBSH	Jan. 2-10, '03	Les Cayes	Craig Emch	Grade School	9	100%
AWA-FRW	Jan. 9-17, '03	Les Cayes	Rick Wuethrich	Vocational School	4	100%
AWA-T	Jan. 9-17, '03	Les Cayes	Derek Sauder	Water Aid	5	50%
AWA-B	Jan. 9-17, '03	Les Cayes	Bill Rager	Vocational School	2	100%
MEBSH	Jan. 30 - Feb. 7, '03	Les Cayes	Dean Pashak	Grade School	9	50%
Palm Grove	Jan. 31-Feb. 8, '03	Puit Sales	Tom Hitz	Grade School	11	70%
SEED	Feb. 6-14, '03	Les Cayes	Bob Beebe	Agriculture Aid	9	0%
MEBSH	Feb. 13-21, '03	Les Cayes	Rich Bertschi	Grade School	9	100%
SEED	Mar. 13-21, '03	Les Cayes	Bob Beebe	Agriculture Aid	9	0%
Palm Grove	Mar. 28-Apr. 5, '03	Puit Sales	Mike Reinhard	Grade School	11	0%
AWA-FRW	May 8-16, '03	Les Cayes	Rick Wuethrich	Vocational School	4	100%
AWA-T	May 8-16, '03	Les Cayes	Derek Sauder	Water Aid	5	50%
AWA-B	May 8-16, '03	Les Cayes	Bill Rager	Vocational School	2	100%
MEBSH	May 5-23, '03	Les Cayes	Phil Isabel	Grade School	9	0%
JAMAICA						
CCCD	Jan 2-11, '03	Montego Bay	Mark Criss	Deaf School	50/60	0%
CCCD	Mar 7-15, '03	Kingston	Terry Miller	Deaf School	40	50%
CCCD	Mar 14-22, '03	Deaf Village	Kevin Sauder	Work Place	40	0%
CCCD	May 23-31, '03	Deaf Village	Ted Hirstein / Kevin Sauder	Work Place	40	0%
CCCD	Jun 28 - Jul 5, '03	Deaf Village	(1) Rittville, Akron, Rittman BC	Work Place	70	0%

COORDINATOR	PHONE	FAX	E-MAIL
Bob Beebe	574-291-2158	574-299-8173	rbeebe@surfpure.com
Tom Hitz	734-454-9229	734-454-9259	thitzhome@juno.com
Phil Isabel	219-261-3541	219-261-2885	
Mark Criss	309-693-2532		redemed1@aol.com
Craig Emch	330-939-4591	330-939-4591	
Terry Miller	309-923-9154 or 941-485-4302	same as phone number	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
Rich Bertschi	309-467-6110		lemangm@mtco.com
Ted Habegger	260-694-6765		th@parlorcity.com
Mike Reinhard	248-427-0396	248-427-0396	mlreinhard@msn.com
Rick Wuethrich	219-567-9488	219-567-2542	topnotch@home.ffni.com

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

Attention: Sunday School Superintendents: Now is the time to reserve your place for a 2003 Sunday School work project at the Caribbean Christian Center of the Deaf in Jamaica, which is already filling its 2003 project calendar. We do not want you to be disappointed by not getting the schedule date you want. All interested in scheduling a project should feel free to contact Bro. Kevin Sauder, PO Box 354, Tremont, IL 61568-0345. Phone/Fax (309) 925-2409 or e-mail: ksss@dpc.net.

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Morton, IL 61550
309-263-5536 (local#)
309-263-6841 (fax)

877-370-9988 (toll free)

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Assistant Houseparent Needed

Gateway Woods has appreciated the Lord's blessing of being fully staffed with Houseparents for some time now. Sis. Chelby Kaeb (Bloomington, IL) will be leaving Gateway Woods in Summer 2002 so we will have an opening for a single sister, led of the Lord, to work in a full-time ministry with troubled children. The assistant Houseparent position offers competitive wages and benefits and a close relationship with brothers and sisters whose hearts and lives are dedicated to a mission with an eternal reward. If you feel the call to explore the possibilities, please call one of the brothers listed below:

Ed Graf
Childcare Supervisor
PO Box 151
Leo, IN 46765
260-627-2159
888-443-4283

Lynn Stieglitz
Counseling Elder
260-657-1033 (home)

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

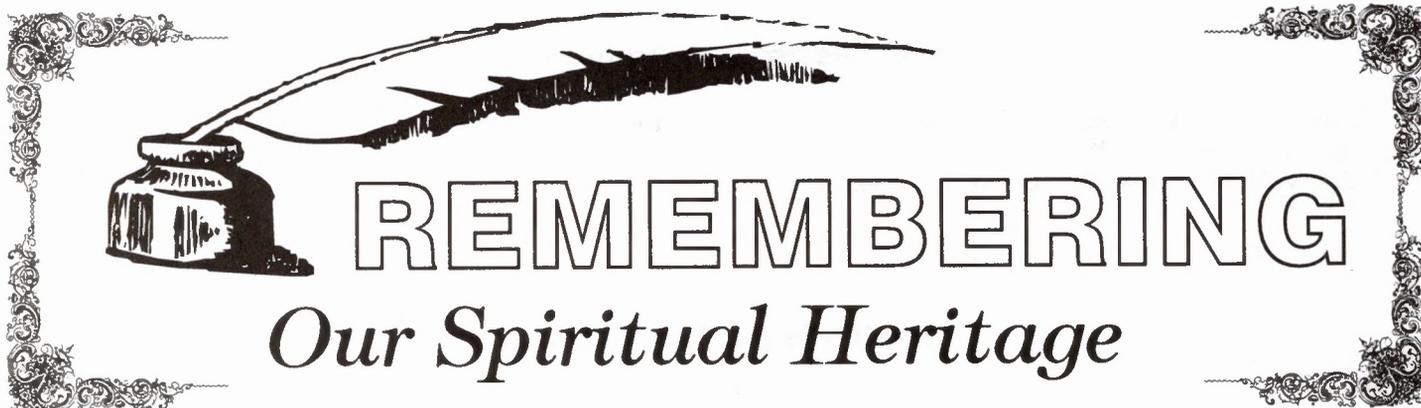
Volunteer Needs For the Navajo Project

There is an immediate need for installers for floor tile, kitchen cabinetry, and bathroom components. Finish carpenters are also needed. Please contact: Bro. Arnold Gerst, 1107 Madonna Dr., Quincy, IL 62305-7149, phone 217-223-8424, or via e-mail: agerst@rnet.com.

Mexico Work Teams 2002 - 2003

<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Coordinator</u>	<u>Phone & (e-mail)</u>
Juarez or Copper Canyon	October 23-31, '02	Medical	Cheryl Herman cherylh@mtco.com	309-385-1082
Juarez	Nov. 9-16, '02	Construction	Bruce Aschliman aschliman@onlyinternet.net	260-824-5160
Juarez	Dec. 27 - Jan.3 , '03	Construction	Doug Schock dcschock@juno.com	641-929-3377
Juarez	Mar. 8 - 15, '03	Construction	Kurt Ifer kurt@stevesconstruction.com	260-824-2829
Imuris	Mar. 8 - 15, '03	Construction	Jerry Tooley jtooley@mcdavisco.com	480-460-4531
Agua Prieta	Mar. 8 - 15, '03	Construction	Wayne Lehman socks@bnin.net	574-773-4373
Juarez	Mar. 15 - 22, '03	Construction	Rick Yergler ryergler@yahoo.com	260-824-4513
Agua Prieta	Mar. 15 - 22, '03	Construction	Wayne Lehman socks@bnin.net	574-773-4373
Rio Bravo	Mar. 15 - 22, '03	Construction	Joe Maller jmaller@adamswells.com	260-565-3211
Juarez	Mar. 20 - 27, '03	Medical	Cheryl Herrmann cherylh@mtco.com	309-385-1082
Imuris	Mar. 22 - 29, '03	Construction	Jerry Tooley jtooley@mcdavisco.com	480-460-4531
Rio Bravo	Mar. 22 - 29, '03	Construction	Joe Maller jmaller@adamswells.com	260-565-3211
Rio Bravo	Jun. 14 - 21, '03	Construction	Joe Maller jmaller@adamswells.com	260-565-3211

If anyone would desire to go to Mexico at a time not listed on the schedule, please contact Bro. Mike Fiechter at 260-597-7330 or e-mail: mfiechter@parlorcity.com



*This begins a two-part series on Bro. Benedict Weyeneth (1819-1887), the first American Elder in the Apostolic Christian Church. Portions of the following are taken from *Marching to Zion*.*

Benedict Weyeneth

This energetic leader was born in canton Solothurn, Switzerland, on June 2, 1819. He died December 11, 1887, and is buried in the church cemetery east of the church at Roanoke, IL. He was from the Weyeneth family that lived at (or came from) Luterkofen, canton Solothurn, Switzerland.

At age 28, he was the first Elder to come to America, having been ordained specifically to travel to Lewis County, New York. After establishing the first church of the faith in America among a group of Mennonites in 1847, he returned to Europe for a period of time. On November 20, 1850, he married Elizabeth Blunier, daughter of Casper and Elizabeth Schoental Blunier of Trub, Bern, Switzerland.

Weyeneth came from fairly devout religious parentage as evidenced by the inscription on the Weyeneth home in Luterkofen:

In hope and trust in God did Jakob and Daniel Weyeneth have this house built in 1812. It was erected the 17th of April. O, Lord, watch over this house and those that go in and out, the housewife and the children of mine and all that is therein, let to Thee, O Lord, be committed.

New York State

When a group of Mennonites in upstate New York were having religious difficulties (in the 1840's), they wrote to Bro. Samuel Froehlich in Switzer-

land.

He dispatched Bro. Benedict, 29 and single, to travel to America and address their problem(s). In talking to them, he related two major points: (1) conversion must take place, and (2) baptism should be by immersion.

On hearing this, one-half of the Mennonite church in the Croghan-Naumburg area followed such advice. This constituted our first congregation in 1847.

Preaching in America

Weyeneth and his young bride returned to settle in America in 1851, first going to New York (possibly to visit the church there). From there they moved to Ohio where he was employed as a tailor.

Farming opportunities soon unfolded, and in time Weyeneth moved to Elgin, IA, an area similar in terrain to Switzerland. Because he was very active in the promotion of the Gospel, it is likely he held meetings in this area which laid the foundation for an eventual congregation at Elgin. His stay in Elgin was short as he moved to the vicinity of Peoria, IL, in 1853

The exact sequence of Weyeneth's life in the early 1850's is rather sketchy. Whether he actually became a permanent resident in the Elgin, IA, area is difficult to establish. In a letter to Christian Steffen of Switzerland, dated January 25, 1853, he indicates that he was staying in Peoria with John Kreinbill and that he planned to become an Iowan "as I have bought land in that area." He also states that "my wife is still in Ohio with her parents. They urged me to leave her with them and promised to bring her to me last autumn, but it did not come to pass, but I hope that someone will

bring her next spring."

A Farmer

A check of court records in the Elgin, IA, area yields no information that Benedict Weyeneth ever owned land in that area. Thus, it is possible he went to Elgin in either 1851 or 1852 and spent some time there. He returned to Peoria early in 1853 for a visit (he came by boat) with the intention of establishing a residence in Iowa. He probably went back to Elgin, changed his mind about settling there, and moved to the Peoria area later in 1853.

His residence was later established near Dillon, IL. He continued farming and reportedly raised soybeans, hoeing the soil by hand. He thought his calling was more as a minister than as a farmer.

After harvesting his crops in the fall, he would set out during the winter to preach the gospel. He flung himself vigorously into an extraordinary amount of activity in the Lord's vineyard. He would continue this activity until spring.

One spring his schedule was so busy he hardly had time to return to his home. In fact, his wife exclaimed, "Benedict, it is high time you come home." During the winter he would hold meetings every evening except Saturday. In the winter of 1879, there was a great awakening, and he baptized 159 souls.

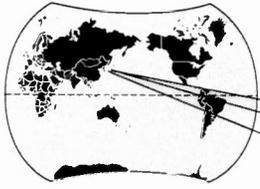
By: Perry A. Klopfenstein

Next issue:

More on Bro. Benedict Weyeneth

The Light Of Hope

From Across The Ocean



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“Our Reaction to Someone’s Concern”

Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle, Shioda, Japan

In our church, a person who is baptized is usually asked if he or she is willing to go to a brother or sister about whom he or she has a concern. This is based on Matthew 18:15, “Go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone.”

Something else which we should consider is our reaction if someone has the grace and the courage to come to tell us our fault. If our reaction is, “Mind your own business,” or “Don’t be ridiculous,” it probably will not build love and unity.

If I went to someone about whom I had a concern, how would I want him to respond? This is what we should be asking ourselves based on Luke 6:31, “And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise.” We would like for the person about whom we have a concern to at least give some consideration to what we say. We may be mistaken about our concern but we would appreciate it if the response was something like this, “Thank you for telling me your concern. I will

certainly give it prayerful consideration.”

If the person being cautioned believes that he is indeed at fault, he might respond with these words, “I realize that I have been somewhat careless in some things. I will certainly try to do better. Please pray for me and I will pray for you.”

In our church we often sign our names to a letter with these words, “Your least brother in faith” or “Your least sister in faith”. This is based on I Corinthians 15:9, “For I am the least of the apostles,” as well as Ephesians 3:8, “Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints.”

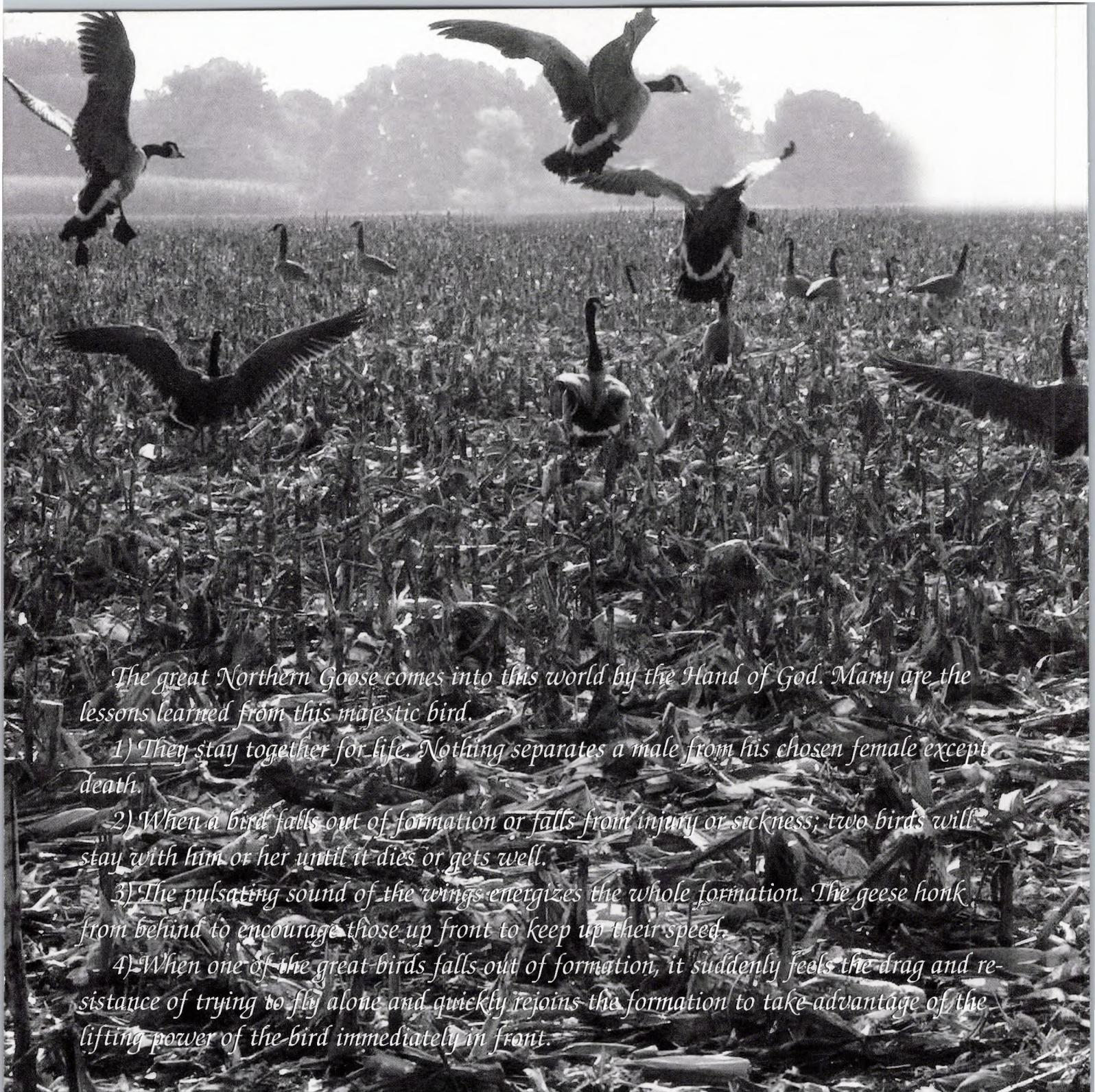
Based on the above scriptures, it is important that we never put ourselves above someone else, as if we are better than they. Romans 12:3 reads, “For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think.” When we take a concern to someone else, we should be careful to be very kind and humble in

our approach. We might begin by saying, “I feel I should share with you something that I wonder about.” Certainly a soft approach is usually better received than a condemning approach.

On one occasion the Apostle Paul expressed a concern to the Apostle Peter. Galatians 2:11, “But when Peter was come to Antioch, I withstood him to the face, because he was to be blamed.” We agree with Bro. Paul, that Bro. Peter had gone too far in placating the Jews. However, Bro. Paul, himself, had also placated the Jews at a different time. Acts 16:3 “Him (Timothy) would Paul have to go forth with him; and took and circumcised him because of the Jews which were in those quarters.”

Paul had a strong personality, but so did Peter. Such brethren are often greatly used by God. But all of us must be careful how we express and receive concern.

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The great Northern Goose comes into this world by the Hand of God. Many are the lessons learned from this majestic bird.

1) They stay together for life. Nothing separates a male from his chosen female except death.

2) When a bird falls out of formation or falls from injury or sickness; two birds will stay with him or her until it dies or gets well.

3) The pulsating sound of the wings energizes the whole formation. The geese honk from behind to encourage those up front to keep up their speed.

4) When one of the great birds falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of trying to fly alone and quickly rejoins the formation to take advantage of the lifting power of the bird immediately in front.

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