


# *The Silver Lining*



*For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass.  
The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away:*

*But the word of the Lord endureth for ever.  
And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.*

September 2003

*Sermon by Brother Greg Stoller, Forrest, IL*  
**Isaiah 28 and St. John 19**

Dear ones, once again we have read the account of how it can be that you and I have this chance. We have this window of time that we call a lifetime - we don't know how long it is going to be, do we? - whereby you and I can seek salvation. You and I who had no chance before this happened. You and I who were heathen would have been cast off. And now because of what Jesus did, we have this chance, this opportunity.

We read in the forereading, a couple of things that struck me. I trust it was the Spirit prompting. Remember we read "The crown of pride, the drunkards of Ephraim..." Isaiah 28:3. It spoke of drunkenness. The partaking of strong drink. The drunkenness that was their stumbling block.

I had to think, how like today. We have become so drunken with what is going on in the world. We have become so overtaken with the opportunities and the things that we can partake of. The world has become our wine and we drink freely, as a people, the things that we become drunken with, that obscure our salvation, that take us away from what is really important.

We can't see eternity. We can't see tomorrow. We only know today. We only know the pleasure at hand. We don't look at what is coming. Let's think what is ahead. What am I going to be feeling tomorrow? Dear ones, today is not terribly important unless it is our last day.

So we strive after the pleasures. We don't stop and think, one day tomorrow won't come. One day it is going to be too late. Then it will be for us just like Jesus said to Pi-

lot, "...he that delivered me unto thee hath the greater sin." St. John 19:11. Sin is what separates us from God. When one day, sin that has prevailed in our life until it was too late, that sin is what is going to spell out damnation.

Judgment is coming and we who have become so drunken with the pleasures of the world and not sought Jesus, we are going to find ourselves - well, we read of Jesus and how He was separated from God. "After this, Jesus knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the scripture might be fulfilled, saith, I thirst." St. John 19:28. When they gave Him vinegar, they put it upon hyssop, like a sponge. Put it to His mouth so He could suck the vinegar. It says, "When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost." St. John 19:30.

Then it was after He was dead that His blood that was required for sin - the Israelites sacrificed and there was always blood that had to be shed for their sins - the blood was shed for your sins and mine. Jesus was there on the cross dead and they pierced His side and it says, "But when they came to Jesus, and saw that he was dead already, they brake not his legs: But one of the soldiers with a spear pierced his side, and forthwith came there out blood and water." St. John 19:33,34.

So in a couple of verses, we read something that, for you and me, it is the most important thing in the whole chapter. That blood that flowed from His side paid the price for your sins and mine. And now, if we believe on that and we believe

the Word of God, we come in repentance, we seek salvation, there is a way that we can be forgiven for the sins that He died with.

I don't remember where exactly it was, but it told of the sins that He was bearing. But He was not good enough. He was cast off. God turned His back on Jesus because He was not good enough. He had

*Sermon continued on page 43*

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

## Light From The Word



Writings based  
on God's Word

September 2003

### Be Ye Separate

"Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing;..." (II Cor. 6:17). From the very beginning of time God warned His people to separate themselves from evil. Not only were they to not become engulfed in evil, they were not even to touch it. In the Garden of Eden God warned Adam and Eve of the danger of becoming involved in sin. In reference to the fruit on the tree of knowledge of good and evil that was in the midst of the garden, God said, "...Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die" (Gen. 3:3).

Separate means to be unconnected, not united, or distinct. If we want to follow Jesus, we must try to do as He did. Jesus was "...holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners,..." (Heb. 7:26).

Because Satan knows that he can cause confusion in the hearts and minds of man by encouraging God's people to ignore the admonishment to live a separated, sanctified life, he has tried to deny the value of separation. He even goes so far as to say that God does not tell the truth about separation. Satan told Eve, "...Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil" (Gen. 3:4-5).

Since that time mankind has been engaged in a battle to understand the consequences of separation or lack of separation from the world. At various times in their history, the children of Israel ignored God's warning to be separate from the world. They moved into the cities of heathen, became very involved in their businesses and even married into their families.

Many of the children of Israel married into heathen families. Many times those who married heathens began to worship the gods of their spouses. This brought reproach to the children of Israel and caused great distress. At the time of Ezra, those who had done so were commanded to "...separate yourselves from the people of the land, and from the strange wives" (Ez. 10:11).

Jeremiah also warned the children of Is-

rael of the dangers of intermingling "...in the assembly of the mockers..." (Jer. 15:17). If they would return to the Lord "...and if thou take forth the precious from the vile,..." (Jer. 15:19), the Lord would deliver them out of the hands of the wicked.

When there was strife between the herdsmen of Lot and Abram, Lot was given the opportunity to choose whether he would go to the right hand or to the left. Lot chose to go to the well watered plains in the direction of Sodom. It was a decision that would cause him to intermingle with those of Sodom who "...were wicked and sinners before the Lord exceedingly" (Gen. 13:13). It was a decision that would bring much sorrow into Lot's life. He would ultimately lose everything except his two daughters and the clothes they were wearing at the time they were led away from the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah.

Separation from evil is especially important in the house of God. The Lord has instructed us in many places to remove evil from among us. We are to examine ourselves first (I Cor. 11:28). In Matthew 18 we are given clear instruction on how to remove evil that might come between us and our brother. After self-examination we should go to our brother "...and tell him his fault between thee and him alone:... if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that ...every word may be established. And if he neglect to hear them, tell it to the church: But if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican" (Verses 15-17).

The Apostle Paul wrote that "...ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly,..." (II Thess. 3:6) and "... have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them" (Eph. 5:11). Other scriptural warnings to separate ourselves from evil include "...avoid them..." (Ro. 16:17), "...not to keep company..., with such an one, no, not to eat" (I Cor. 5:11), "...withdraw thyself" (I Tim. 6:5), "...from such turn away" (II Tim. 3:5), and "...neither bid him God speed" (II Jn. 10).

In spite of all the warnings to separate

ourselves from evil and those who are involved in evil, God's love must continue in our lives toward those who have fallen. We are instructed to "...count him not as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother" (II Thess. 3:15). The ultimate goal of all of this is that the wayward individual may be brought back to the Lord.

In a world so filled with sin, how do we maintain separation? Jesus, in the parable of the tares sowed by an enemy, told us that there would be times when we could not totally remove ourselves physically from all evil. When the servant asked if they should go and gather up the tares the master said "Let them both grow together until the harvest ...and bind (the tares) in bundles to burn them:..." (Mt. 13:28-30).

Although we may not be able to completely and physically separate ourselves from evil, we do not need to allow ourselves to be spiritually unprotected. We can learn from Peter's example after Christ's arrest. Peter wanted desperately to do the right thing. He kept himself somewhat separated from the world as they took Jesus to His trial, but Peter made a very serious mistake. He allowed himself to get too far from Jesus. "And Peter followed him afar off, even into the palace of the high priest:..." (Mk. 14:54). Peter allowed enough space between himself and Jesus to allow Satan to get between them. He tried but failed to keep his promise of faithfulness.

If we want to be separated from the world, we must stay close to Jesus. We cannot always avoid contact with the world but we can avoid being involved in the sin. The Psalmist recognized the progression of evil into the lives of one who may be careless. "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful" (Ps. 1:1). Satan would like us to walk with sinners, stand with them and, finally, sit with them. Jesus did not avoid contact with sinners but he did not allow himself to become a part of their activities. If we stay close to Jesus, He will keep us safe from harm.



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. G 5:10

## Meeting Needs Around the World

### Sewing and craft groups

**N**ow there was at Joppa a certain disciple named Tabitha, which by interpretation is called Dorcas: this woman was full of good works and almsdeeds which she did.

Then Peter arose and went with them. When he was come, they brought him into the upper chamber: and all the widows stood by him weeping, and showing the coats and garments which Dorcas made, while she was with them.

ACTS 9:36 & 39

"The sisters and friends of the church should get together once a week and sew for the poor." These were the words of Samuel Froehlich more than 140 years ago. The church in America, especially following World Wars I and II when clothing and blankets were sent to European refugees, followed this admonition.

The organizing of sewing groups as a part of World Relief began in 1965. Today, a host of local churches participate in this effort. The items made by the sewing groups are sent to our Distribution Centers or distributed locally.

Presently church sewing groups are responding to the suffering at home and abroad in many different ways: Clothing, soap, items for self-help projects, Christmas bundles, bundles for leprosy patients, towels, mittens, used clothing, health kits, school kits, maternity kits, toys, yard goods and sheets, blankets, comforters and quilts for the benefit sales at Gateway Woods, Home for the Handicapped, for church rest homes and for the poor and needy. These are some of the countless

articles gathered and prepared by charitable hands of those in the World Relief sewing groups.

### World Relief Reviews

In 1979, to further encourage these good works, the World Relief sewing groups were divided geographically into two areas, one being the Eastern United States churches, and the other, the Western United States churches, with the Indiana-Illinois states' border being the dividing line. Two regional coordinators are appointed to organize and plan Annual World Relief Reviews for each of these areas. The Eastern area has their annual meeting on the second Saturday of November. The Western area has their meeting on the second Saturday of March.

The projects within each church are assigned to interested persons to encourage participation and find new areas where everyone, whatever their talent, may become a part of giving and helping someone in need.

### What can I do in this labor of love?

1. With the counsel, guidance and encouragement of the local church elder, organize a group of interested sisters to form a sewing group to labor in helping others. Select a sister to lead and plan the activities of the group.
2. Develop a list of projects utilizing ideas from this article and past Silver Lining articles.
3. Attend the annual regional meetings (World Relief Reviews) to view exhibits and discuss needs to learn about additional ideas and activities that can be used in local congregations.

### Distribution Centers

We thank the Lord God that He has blessed us all and that our blessing can be shared with those in need around the world. We would like to inform you of the items given in 2003, because of your generosity, through WR Distribution Centers.

Where does it go? Who receives it? What do we send? How much of it? These are some of the questions asked all the time about the goods given to World Relief. The Lord has opened many doors to the needy. Some of the countries receiving goods are: Iraq, Haiti, Mexico, Honduras, Jamaica, Romania, Tajekistan, India, and the USA.

The recipients are as varied as the needs, and some are: children's homes, our brothers and sisters in Europe, hospitals, homes for the aged, schools, refugees, and many others.

Beans, wheat, corn, soap, chicken and rice meals, clothing, meat, soup, hospital supplies, and many other items too numerous to mention are shipped next door and around the world. Distribution in the States and abroad are made from our distribution centers at Fairbury, Bluffton/Bluffton North, Athens, Goodfield, Rittman/Smithville, Bay City and Western Indiana. About forty plus semi-loads have been shipped already this year. That is 1.6 million pounds or 90,000 cubic feet. This would fill a 100' x 100' building with nine foot sidewalls.

We have a building addition now in progress at the Goodfield, IL distribution center. This will make room for the Roanoke, IL clothing centers work to be moved to Goodfield's building. Thank you for the thousands of hours given to bring glory to God and relieve some of the suffering in this world.



## 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. M. 9:37-38

### Eastern European Projects Provide Help

The Apostolic Christian Mission and World Relief programs have been providing help in Eastern Europe for over two decades. Assisting needy believers in Eastern Europe provides brethren and friends a tremendous opportunity to demonstrate the love of God by sharing the blessings He has given to us. "As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith." (GAL. 6:10)

#### Self-Help program

The Self-Help program provides loans to individuals or families who request assistance to start a business, enabling them to become self-employed and to employ others. Successfully operating a small business helps these individuals earn more income and also to remain and support their home congregations, instead of emigrating elsewhere.

The following small businesses have been supported and are successfully operating: grain and live stock farming, sheet metal work, shoe repair, auto mechanic shop, construction, manufacturing of doors, windows, furniture, brick pavers and many others.

Currently there are over 50 individuals/families on this program in Serbia, plus many in Romania and Ukraine and one in Croatia. The believers on this program are very thankful and appreciate the opportunity to provide a modest income for their families.

#### New and remodeled church buildings

Through the efforts of our brotherhood, numerous churches have been

remodeled and new ones constructed within the last 20 years. Many churches were very old and in dire need of repair. In some areas where the congregation was larger, it was more feasible to erect a new building than to repair the old one, thus also providing for future growth.

#### The economy

In Serbia, Romania, Croatia and Slovakia, the economy is still in transition from the old system to the new more democratic system. Unemployment is very high and wages are low in comparison to their cost of living. Food and merchandise are readily available in their stores and open markets, but money is scarce. Currently the wages are approximately \$70-175 per month, while pensions are \$50-100 per month. The cost of heating oil, water, electricity, and natural gas can easily amount to half of their monthly earnings.

It is usually the elderly with low pensions and those with larger families who receive monthly financial assistance and food packages, all provided by the generous donations of our brotherhood.

#### Project review

As the need arises, representatives from the Mission Committee, World Relief, and European Board travel to Eastern Europe to review the ongoing Self-Help projects, visit the recently remodeled and/or newly constructed churches, and determine the future needs of the believers.

Recently, four brothers representing the Mission Committee visited the brethren in Serbia, Hungary and Romania. The purpose of this trip was to review many

projects and needs as well as to attend the dedication of the new Padina Church in Serbia.

The 100-year old Padina church, built with clay mud, was torn down, and in its place, a simple but beautiful edifice was constructed. The congregation's desire to build a new church was contingent upon the approval of the Mission Committee and European Board. The new 4,000 square foot building can accommodate up to 400 people. The 200 brethren and friends who gather there regularly had put forth much of their time and effort, laboring together to complete the project in a timely manner.

They are so very thankful to our brotherhood for donating approximately \$235,000 so that this church could be built. They just simply say with all sincerity, "Thank the Lord and you."

#### Expressions of thanks

Without the ongoing assistance from our generous brotherhood, many dear souls, including the elderly and children, would be deprived of even their basic daily necessities such as food, clothing, and utilities.

The believers in Eastern Europe, continually express their heartfelt gratitude to our brotherhood for all the assistance they receive. Many times even through their tears, they first thank our Heavenly Father, and then the faithful brethren who are so willing to share with them.

"But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly: and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully."

(2 COR. 9:6)

May the Lord be the rich rewarder of everyone in our brotherhood who has helped and will continue to help these dear brethren.

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

As most of you know, our annual Apostolic Christian Brotherhood Conference was held here in Morton the first week in August. On Wednesday morning of that week we had the privilege of hosting our Elders' wives here at our facilities. These sisters came to Timber Ridge for a presentation of the Apostolic Christian Home for the Handicapped, Inc., and a tour of several of our homes.

How could we condense our vision statement, and communicate what we are and do in a three hour block of time? How could we communicate our vision statement, "serving according to God's purposes", in a meaningful way? In what way could these wives experience sub points in our vision statement, such as "believing all people have dignity and potential"?

Much information was shared with the sisters via a power point CD and presentations by several staff. First, we included presentations on administrative functions (our organizational flow chart, funding issues, names of our homes, etc.), the admission process for residents who live in our homes and information on our waiting list, some information on how our residents' spiritual needs are being met, how residents care and training needs are met, and some agency facts were shared as well. We tried to define the range of services offered our residents who represent a wide range of ages and disabilities. The sisters seemed interested in facts, such as the number of staff we employ (255 staff - 193 full time equivalent staff), of the 95 resi-

dents who live at Timber Ridge, 54 individuals use a wheelchair for ambulation, and 13 individuals at Timber Ridge require "G" or "J" tubes feedings.

Even though those presentations and facts helped shape the picture of our vision statement, the most powerful messages seem to come from the residents the sisters met. For example, it was a joy for the staff to introduce one of our friends who lives at Timber Ridge who is profoundly challenged with physical disabilities. She is unable to move her body and is unable to speak. She can move her head slightly. Yet this woman introduced herself by activating her augmentative communication device. This is a computer that is mounted on her wheelchair within her vision, which speaks for her when she activates a head switch. (This is done with a slight movement of her head.) A sense of wonder and achievement was reached as this lady communicated her age, where she works, and that she enjoyed her vacation at the Lake of the Ozarks this year. She also told the sisters that she likes to shop at Von Maur's department store in Bloomington. After her introduction, several other residents led guided tours of three of our homes.

Do we believe that we are serving according to God's purposes? Do we believe that God's promises are true? Do we believe that all people have dignity and potential? Yes, we can say with affirmation that we do believe. We believe Matthew 7:12, Micah 6:8, Matthew 25:40 and a whole host of other scriptures.

The sisters probably did not re-

alize the effect they had on our residents and staff as well. Their interest, age appropriate responses to our residents, their gracious words and their Godly examples gave us gifts, too. Isn't that just like God? You give and He gives right back. Thanks, sisters, for allowing us to help you experience our life here at Apostolic Christian Home for the Handicapped, Inc.

OCTOBER birthdays at Timber Ridge, 2125 Veterans Rd., Morton, IL 61550 are: Erin York (10/1), Tricia O'Donnell (10/1), Julie Urish (10/3), Carol Fahrni (10/5), Mark Mulnix (10/6), Emma Walker (10/15), Curt Jewett (10/24), Janet Springer (10/30).

At Oakwood Estate, 2213 Veterans Rd., Morton, IL 61550: Lois Baumgartner (10/4), Alan Fischer (10/10), Keren Pickering (10/21).

At Linden Estate, 1000 Linden St., Morton, IL 61550: Kent Knobloch (10/14).

At 652 Detroit, Morton, IL 61550: Anita Schuon (10/13).

At 1001 E. Idlewood, Morton, IL 61550: Chadwick Gerber (10/9).

At 208 S. Indiana, Morton, IL 61550: Bryan Tiezzi (10/30).

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

I sometimes marvel that two people from such different backgrounds can share the same earth. This thought crossed my mind as I reflected on the 27th annual Gateway Woods Benefit Auction. On the one hand, I saw children who had been raised in an Apostolic Christian home. These children sat beside their parents and grand-

parents as they joyfully bid on items to raise money for Gateway Woods. On the other hand, I saw the recipients of those donations – the hurting children that we serve. Many times these children have fractured relationships with their families. Many of them have no relationship at all with their biological father. Many of them are caught up in a cycle of dysfunction that began generations before. Many of them could not imagine sitting beside their parents and grandparents at a Christian charity event; the idea is foreign to them. What a testimony to the Bible's truth! We can clearly see the wonderful fruits of raising a family in the way of the Lord and the disaster that results if one does not.

Those of us who have been raised in a Christian family have been given a precious gift that we must never keep to ourselves! At Gateway Woods, our calling is to "provoke" strong Christian families "to love and good works" by challenging them to share the gift that God has given them with those who lack such a blessing. Gateway Woods provides many opportunities for such service — from house parenting to foster parenting to adopting. Whether at Gateway Woods or in our local neighborhoods and communities, may we all use the gift of family to reach a hurting and confused world with the power of the Good News! Everything we do at Gateway Woods is by a family, to a family, or for a family. We believe that the family is God's primary tool to reach the world. Let us all prayerfully consider how God may use our family to accomplish His holy and perfect will.

We are thankful to have Lisa T,

Holly F, Eric N, and Adam H on our campus. We trust that God will continue to use our Houseparents to bring about true change in the lives of hurting youth. We would also like to welcome Jennifer I. to our foster care program. We pray God will work in her life.

Please pray for our residents and teachers as they head back to school. Gateway Woods School continues to be a huge blessing to our program and we are thankful to all who helped make the school building possible.

Thanks to everyone who has sent in a return envelope from our newsletter, The Gate Post. We so much appreciate hearing from you! We would also like to thank everyone who attended the Gateway Woods Benefit Auction (see additional thank you). We were able to meet and exceed expectations!

Finally, we are pleased to announce that Bro. Kent and Sis. Heather Merritt are expecting their first child. Sis. Heather is a teacher at Gateway Woods School. We rejoice with them!

May the light of the Son shine brightly upon us all!

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**APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN  
PRESCHOOL  
Athens, Alabama  
Bethany Gerber**

Well, we have officially started the school year this month. We are talking about "Back to School" and going over rules and learning the routine. The children are excited as several started Kindergarten and a few were promoted to a higher class here at the preschool. They have adjusted to the new routine very nicely and they are doing well in their classes.

Our daily Bible stories have been about the Creation, Abraham, Lot, Isaac, Jacob and Esau. These are done on the flannel board and the children love the pretty colors and realistic scenes that bring these stories to life for them.

We are looking forward to the rest of the school and the upcoming field trips. The school year is off to a great start and we pray that things will continue to run smoothly. Please keep us in your thoughts and prayers.

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**ALABAMA, ATHENS  
Louise Hall**

Our prayers went out to the Elder body as they met earlier this month for the Conference. It is so wonderful to see the work of the Lord being done through these brothers to guide us in our daily walk with Him.

We had several people from our small congregation sick or in the hospital this past month. Our prayers go out to Sis. Hazel Vibbert, Bro. Milton Ray, Milton Ray Jr., and Sis. Ruby Ross.

Bro. Doyle Frauhiger (Sis. Jane, Bluffton North, IN) and Bro. Duane Reutter (Sis. Kay, Rockville, CT) both lent themselves in service this past month. We appreciate their willingness and efforts to come and serve us. We also had visitors from Lester, IA; Chicago, IL; and Leo, IN. Visitors are always welcome; we love seeing old friends and making new ones!

We are currently looking for a member to be a caretaker for the Tennessee Fellowship Center. The center is located between Nashville, TN, and Athens, AL, just off of I-65. Anyone who might be interested in the position should contact

Bro. Mike Moore at (256) 729-0620 for details. This would be an excellent opportunity for a newly wed or newly retired couple.

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**ARIZONA, PHOENIX**  
**Ron and Ev Hoerr**

"Give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good: because his mercy endureth forever."

*Psalm 118:1*

Our sympathy to Bro. Kenny and Sis. Mary Jo Schmidgall in the death of her sister, Sis. Gladys Koehl (Morris, MN); and to Bro. Clarence and Sis. Gerry Beyer in the death of her brother, Paul Fankhauser, in Kansas.

Bro. Neil Ramseyer (Sis. Sharon, Bay City, MI) was our visiting minister this month. May God bless him for his service.

Our church family continues to grow as we welcome Sis. Maryann Ramseyer from Bay City, MI, as she has taken a teaching position here. We also welcome Andy and Jenny Rokey and their daughters, Lauren and Drew. We pray that you will feel God's love as you settle in Arizona.

We have enjoyed the fellowship of Bro. Ray and Sis. Wendy Blunier and children, Kalea, Nolan, and Madeline, for years. Bidding them farewell is not easy, but we trust it is God's will that they move to Illinois. Phoenix's love goes with you, as we abide in Him.

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

"Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: Who

forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases;"

*Psalm 103:2-3*

We rejoice with Susan Schmidgall (Doug) and her family, on her total recovery from cancer after several months of treatments and a year of concern. We thank the Lord for His love, grace and healing touch on her life.

Approximately 100 adults and children attended our annual corn-on-the-cob picnic in Prescott in August. The weather was lovely and many enjoyed getting away from the heat in Phoenix.

Bro. Herb Knochel Jr. (Phoenix, AZ) was with us the weekend of the picnic and shared in the ministry. May God bless him and his family for showing their love and support to our congregation.

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

We recently enjoyed a visit from Bro. Herb Knochel, Jr. (Phoenix) who shared the Word with us on the pulpit. We thank him for his time and efforts of love.

Our Sunday School classes recently traveled to Imuris, Mexico, to visit the orphanage there (and Bro. Bob and Sis. Joy Huber and family) and deliver some packages that our children made in Vacation Bible School. It was an eye-opening experience to say the least. We were exposed to the living conditions of children who don't have the privileges that we enjoy here in the United States. It was hard for my children to understand why these children weren't wanted or couldn't be cared for by their own families. It was humbling to see

how a small baggie with things like candy and balls and a few containers of chocolate chip cookies made these children's faces light up like it was Christmas. I think we took our children there to make them appreciate how blessed they are and to learn to help people in need. In the process of trying to get three vehicles of American citizens across the Mexican border with proper documentation and Mexican car insurance, the adults learned a few things about the blessings and freedoms we enjoy in our country. All things considered, a Saturday well spent.

We have resumed our monthly fellowship suppers, Sunday School classes and our children are back in school. Unfortunately, summer is a long way from over here in Arizona! We are having a break from the heat with some monsoon type weather. We had some good rains a few weeks ago but now we are just having some threatening clouds that are teasing us with possibilities. (If they keep the temperatures down they can tease me all they want to). Along with praying for more rain, we will be praying for our children as they attend our public schools. We need to pray not only that they can remember what they have been taught at home and in Sunday School, but that they would have opportunities to share what they know about God and Jesus with the other children.

We are looking forward to an ACYF trip to California with the Phoenix Bible Class over Labor Day weekend. Prayers will be offered, I'm sure, for safety on the highways and for hearts to be touched on our trip. Looks like we have a lot of praying to do!



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**CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA**  
**Robin Moser**

“But he that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord.”

*II Corinthians 10:17*

We were recently encouraged by Elder Bro. Tom Klotzle not to take credit for ourselves and our earthly accomplishments, but rather to glory in the Lord. It is easy to seek commendations from others, rather than to focus wholly on His glory.

Our congregation was thankful for the visiting ministers who shared the Word with us this month including: Bro. Carroll Gerber (Sis. Louise, Bluffton North, IN) and Bro. Fred Witzig (Sis. Nancy, Indianapolis, IN). We were reminded of four simple tasks we might emphasize daily – talking to God, listening to God, saying something for God, and doing something for God.

We rejoice with our new sister in Christ, Sis. Rebekah Rokey, as she was baptized in Bern, KS, on August 3. May we provide mutual encouragement with her, and be willing to share the gospel with many around us who need to know Christ in their lives.

Our prayers and well-wishes are with Debra Aberle (Bro. Rich and Sis. LaNae Aberle) who was married to Mark Brucks (Gary and Nancy Brucks) on August 10. They plan to begin their new life together in Atlanta, GA.

We lift up Sis. Judy Crockett (Bro. Bob) in prayer as she received a difficult health report this month. It is hard to understand why those we love do suffer here be-

low. Sis. Judy and Bro. Bob appreciate your prayers. How grateful we can be that the heavenly goal is worth everything we endure today.

Sis. Margaret Kinsinger (Bro. Carl) was also hospitalized this month and we are thankful for her recovery.

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

The blessings of our precious fellowship has been abundant in our steady stream of visitors this summer. We appreciate each one that has come to assemble with us.

Not many of us were able to attend the annual Brotherhood Conference, so we are especially thankful to be able to listen to the tapes of the Conference now.

Our thoughts and prayers are with our Bro. Tibor Bozzay in his recent illness. We pray he will feel the Lord's nearness and will experience a full recovery.

We rejoice as another soul is seeking his salvation through sincere repentance for sin. Andras Molnar has been assembling with us and now has made known his desire to repent. His family is from the Baja, Hungary, church. May the Lord's grace be his in rich measure.

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**CANADA**  
**KITCHENER, ONTARIO**  
**Ingrid Fortenbacher**

We rejoice with Stuart Martin (Landis and Alice) and Marlene Sauder (Edgar and Mary) as they exchanged their wedding vows on July 19. May the Lord bless their union as they live as one in Christ.

On July 23 we heard the wonderful news that Evonna Living-

stone (Bro. Mark and Sis. Myra) has expressed her desire to repent and be converted and live an overcoming life. We wish her much grace as she starts on her way. Our visiting ministers this past month were Elder Bro. Mark Bahr (Sis. Bev, Detroit, MI) and Bro. Hartzell Kaisner (Sis. Mary, Detroit, MI). We are always thankful to those who are willing to travel and minister to us.

The power blackout on August 14 made us realize just how dependant we are on power. It made me think ... Are we as dependant on the Lord?

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**COLORADO, DENVER**  
**Ann Gonglach**

The goodness of God has led another soul to repentance (Rom. 2:4), namely Austin Huber, son of Bro. Eric and Sis. Marcel. May the Lord be with Austin as he seeks to know Him more fully.

On August 16, we were surrounded by some of God's beautiful creation while we enjoyed fun and fellowship at our annual Sunday school picnic in the mountains. Visiting ministers have been Elder Bro. Mark Bahr (Sis. Beverly, Detroit, MI), Bro. Gary Brown (Sis. Jane, Forrest, IL), Bro. David Marquart (Sis. Lori, Taylor, MO), Bro. Neil Ramseyer (Sis. Sharon, Bay City, MI), Bro. Dennis Rassi (Sis. Diane, Fairbury, IL), and Bro. Ed Sauder (Sis. Bonnie, Roanoke, IL). We are, as always, thankful for ministering brothers.

Our sympathies are with Bro. Brian and Sis. Becky Pfeiffer as her brother, Phil Toth, passed away. This young man had suffered with Lou Gehrig's disease, but his trust in the Lord was an inspiration to

many.

We are also mindful of Bro. Tom and Sis. Marlene Leman as her mother, Sis. Martha Stoller (Eureka, IL), passed away. May the Lord be a comfort to these dear ones in their time of loss.

At our Wednesday night Bible studies, we've been reading and discussing some of what the Bible has to say about heaven. It's wonderful to be reminded of the home our Lord has for us and the joy of being with Him forever.

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**CONNECTICUT  
ROCKVILLE  
Laura Virkler  
Amber Reutter**

Greetings dear brethren! Yet another month has passed, and our congregation has continued to feel the love of our Lord and Saviour. This year's Conference in Morton, IL, was truly a blessing to all that were able to attend. Our prayers were certainly answered as we felt the movement of the Holy Spirit, encouraging and exhorting us to a deeper appreciation of our true doctrine, and a closer walk of faith, by grace. May God richly bless the Morton congregation and all who contributed in any way, for their love, kindness, and hospitality, throughout this time. May we also continue to pray for our Elders.

August 1, Austin David was born to Bro. Michael and Sis. Joy Zahner. Grandparents are Bro. Warren and Sis. Bonnie Zahner, and Bro. Richard and Sis. Betsy Hany. Being born a few months early, we pray that the Lord will watch over this dear child as it progressively gains in strength and nourishment. May God grant Bro. Michael and Sis. Joy much grace

and Godly wisdom as they begin this new phase of life.

Lord God, we honor Thee  
And praise Thy mild compassion,  
That Thou so graciously  
Dost hear our supplication!  
Thy love is truly great;  
Thy mercies are untold;  
Thou givest food and drink  
For Spirit, flesh and soul.

*Zion's Harp #13*

Throughout this past month, our congregation has been blessed with the arrival of Sis. Diana Vidakovics (Akron, OH), Bro. Kirby and Sis. Areli Reutter (Ixtlan, Mexico), Bro. Adam and Sis. Jayme Luginbuhl (Philadelphia, PA) and Sis. Gerry O'Brien (Rittman, OH). We are always thankful to have visitors, but it is an extra blessing when loved ones move into our congregation. We pray that the Lord will provide for these dear souls as they make this move and seek out employment or schooling in our area.

As loved ones have come into our area, others find it is time to move on. Sis. Frieda Lanz has moved into the Apostolic Christian nursing home in Rittman, OH. Her husband, Dick, will be moving into the nearby apartments. We wish them help from God in this transition and change.

"The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust..."

*Psalms 18:2*

There is no question that it must cause mixed emotions for the residents at the Longview Village to see loved ones pass away, and new ones

filling their places. However, we do rejoice with Bro. Wilbur and Sis. Marge Schneider, Bro. Ed and Sis. Laura Zahner, Bro. Ken and Sis. Louis Schultz, Sis. Ida Welti, and Bro. Alfred and Sis. Barb Reutter, as they take these steps in faith and make the Longview Village their permanent residency. We pray that the Lord will watch over all, and provide in ways that only He is able.

We have been so thankful for the many visitors that have come through the doors of our congregation this summer. We welcome each one of you to fellowship with us, regardless of the time of year. Now as the Fall approaches, we pray for the many children, young adults, going off to school or college. Or also the many who may be experiencing or contemplating a change in their lives. How important it is to keep Christ as our focus, leading and guiding our every decision, lest it all be for naught.

"Grace be to you and peace from God the Father, and from our Lord Jesus Christ..."

*Galatians 1:3*

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**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
WASHINGTON  
Henrietta Meyer**

"The angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them."

*Psalms 34:7*

Soon after I moved to this area nineteen years ago from the Peoria area, my mother wrote that she and some of the neighbors watched the police dig up the septic system of the house two doors from hers. A

murder suspect had said he had flushed evidence. While I grew up in the Peoria Church, home was that wide spot in the road seven miles east of Princeville known as Edelstein. Mom never voiced any concern about "crime in the big city".

This month our visiting ministers were Bro. Jerry Isch (Sis. Linda, Philadelphia, PA) Bro. Lenard Meyer (Sis. Charlotte, Chicago, IL), Bro. Glen Braker (Sis. Audrey, Princeville, IL), and Bro. Dale Stoller (Sis. Sandra, Fairbury, IL).

Other visitors this month were from Baltimore, MD; Princeville and Congerville, IL; Oakville, IA; Sarasota, FL; and Lacrosse and Bluffton, IN.

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.

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**FLORIDA  
FORT LAUDERDALE  
Renee Mangold**

We were blessed to have many

visiting ministers share God's Word with us this past month. They were: Bros. David Zehr (Sis. Vicki, Gridley, IL), Dan Koch (Sis. Julie, Tremont, IL), Randy Mogler (Sis. Evie, Washington, IL) and Craig Martin (Sis. Terri, Princeville, IL). We pray that God will bless His servants for their faithfulness in His service.

We enjoyed our monthly potluck in the fellowship hall with sharing of food and a time of fellowship.

Mike and Renee Mangold are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Heather Mangold (South Bend, IN), to David Reed (also of South Bend, IN).

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**FLORIDA  
NORTH FORT MYERS  
Mary Masters**

Our Sunday School class has been studying the book of James, and therefore being mindful of the dangers of our speech. Recently, I came across an article about using our tongues in a positive way as an encouragement to others. We don't stop to think what a word of encouragement can mean in the life of another. The article pointed out the reason for a corporate accountant's suicide death. He had left a note behind, saying, "In 30 years I have never had one word of encouragement. I'm fed up!" How simple it is to offer a few words of honest expressions of the good that we see in other's lives! Let each of us be mindful of uplifting those around us with a word of appreciation when we see the opportunity.

We are looking forward to our annual Lakewood retreat which is scheduled for Oct. 10-12. Sign in begins at 5:00. This is a time of

blessed fellowship and worship and it is something that we thoroughly enjoy and cherish.

Bro. Lester Meister, formerly of Fort Myers, and now living in West Lafayette, IN, celebrated his 90th birthday this month. We hope that he enjoyed his special day.

John Furrer, the father of Allen Furrer (Sis. Connie), has spent several days in the hospital this month, some of them in the intensive care unit. We are happy to report that he is doing better at this writing and we pray that he will continue.

Bro. Bob and Sis. Marilyn Hany celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary this month. They divide their time between Fort Myers and Bloomington, IL. We wish them many more years of happiness together.

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**FLORIDA, SARASOTA  
Carol Koehl**

We experienced a very blessed weekend on July 26-27. Elder Bro. Ray Sinn (Latty, OH) assisted our Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann in appointing Bro. Jeff Streitmatter (Sis. Lynne) as Deacon over Sarasota. A church dinner followed the special service on Sunday afternoon. Our continued support and prayers are with Bro. Jeff and Sis. Lynne as they take on this new duty in the Lord's work.

That same weekend Elder Bro. Doug Sabo announced his retirement as Elder and minister. We want to thank Bro. Doug again for his years of service to Sarasota.

Please pray for the two sons of Jean Shackelford (grandsons of Bro. Dave and Sis. Kay Eisenmann) who are serving in the

U.S. Army in Kuwait. PFC Jeffrey Michael T. is in the 4th Infantry Division, while his brother, PFC Joseph Jeffrey L. is in the 1st Armored Division.

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**ILLINOIS, BELVIDERE**  
**Sheila McCoy**  
**Doreen Moser**

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

*Ecclesiastes 3:1*

*A time to be born.* (Eccles. 3:2) Rylan Robert was born to Bob and Alisha Maly on July 18. Joyous grandparents are Dave and Sis. Sheila McCoy. Wade Emerson was born on August 8 to Austin and Kristy Mueller. Other joyous grandparents are Bro. Art and Sis. Marlene Mueller.

*A time to pluck up that which is planted.* (Eccles. 3:2) Our church had a work evening where our children and adults worked together in unity to trim and weed our church's flower beds. We pray our church will always have this love for one another and that we will pluck from our hearts any evil thoughts that enter therein.

*A time to heal.* (Eccles. 3:3) Our ministering Bro. Dean Steffen (Sis. Carol) was a recent hospital patient. We are thankful for his healing.

*A time to break down, and a time to build up.* (Eccles. 3:3) A topical Bible Study on “Self-esteem vs. Self-worth” was given by Bro. Sam Bachtold. We need to have a bro-

ken spirit and a humble heart.

*A time to cast away.* (Eccles. 3:6) Chris Nazarczuk (Michael and Kay) has felt the need to cast away his old sinful nature in search of a new one. We are filled with the same joy as the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth.

*A time to speak.* (Eccles. 3:7) We were blessed with many visiting ministers this month and are grateful for the words of wisdom they have spoken. We thank Bro. Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL) for visiting the Sunday that all of our ministers were absent. Also, we are thankful to Elder Bro. Marvin Leman (Bradford, IL) and Bros. Wayne Laubscher (Cissna Park, IL), John Lehman (Wolcott, IN) and Virgil Metzger (Chicago, IL).

*A time to love. A time to laugh.* (Eccles. 3:4,8) We are rejoicing with Bro. Shannon Stahl on his engagement to Sis. Jill Baurer (Princeville, IL). Parents of the engaged couple are Bro. Ed and Sis. Carol Baurer (Princeville, IL) and Bro. Norman and Sis. Gloria Stahl (Chicago, IL).

*He hath made every thing beautiful in his time.* (Eccles. 3:11) We enjoyed a family vacation to the scenic Turkey Run State Park in Indiana. But let us ever be mindful of the beauty of our eternal home in heaven which we cannot even fathom.

*Enjoy the good of all his labour, it is the gift of God.* (Eccles. 3:13) As we view the fields this fall filled with a bountiful harvest, let us have thankful hearts for God's

gifts.

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**ILLINOIS**  
**BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL**  
**Rebekah Kaufmann**  
**Ann Kellenberger**

This past month we were blessed to have visiting minister, Bro. Nate Lehman, with us from the Denver, CO, congregation. May the Lord bless him for his willingness to serve.

Our congregation extends our sympathy to Bro. Walt Fehr's wife, Mida, and her family as he went to be with the Lord on August 16 after a battle with cancer. We rejoice in the knowledge that Bro. Walt found peace with God shortly before his death and was baptized on August 10. “But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. . . For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words.” (I Thessalonians 4:13, 16-18)

As we say goodbye to one in our congregation, we also welcome two new lives into our church family! On August 13, Katelyn Nicole Masters was born. Her parents are Bro. Rick and Sis. Shawn. Her big brother is Cody. Her grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Mary Masters (Ft. Myers, FL) and Elder Bro. Everett and Sis. Bev Hari. Also on

August 13, Court and Sis. Joyce Sauder welcomed Brock Stephen Sauder into their lives. He is also welcomed by big sister, Brianna. The happy grandparents are Gary and Sis. Phyllis Sauder (Roanoke, IL) and Bro. Curt and Sis. Beth Rocke (Eureka, IL). May God richly bless both families with wisdom and strength as they raise these children.

Our congregation had much to rejoice about as we shared in the joy of two wedding announcements this past month. On July 20, Bro. Jarod Rinkenberger and Sis. Heidi Inoue announced their engagement. Their parents are Bro. Kenny and Sis. Devon Rinkenberger (St. Louis, MO) and Hisato Inoue. On July 27, Bro. Duane Kieser and Sis. Alissa Schmidgall announced their engagement. Their parents are Bro. David and Sis. Wilma Kieser and Bro. Randy and Sis. Marj Schmidgall. May the Lord continue to bless them with peace and joy as they plan their future lives together.

This month we have had to say farewell to several of our church family as they have been relocated to other areas of the country. Sis. Catherine Brame moved to Alta Loma, CA. Bro. Tim and Sis. Beth Leman and their children have moved to Morton, IL. Bro. Chris and Sis. Sara Hattan have relocated to Coralville, IA, and Bro. Bryan Kellenberger has moved to Springfield, IL. We will greatly miss seeing each of them on a regular basis and hope that they are able to come back to visit us. We pray God's blessings on their new homes and endeavors.

This past month our Bible Class

and several adults went on a mission trip to the country of Belize. How thankful we are that they had such a safe and meaningful trip. We were blessed to be able to hear how the Lord worked many miracles and answered prayers on the trip. It has been encouraging to hear how those who went on the trip were able to see God working mightily in the lives of people in other parts of the world.

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### ILLINOIS, BRADFORD Steve Endress

"And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one even as we are one:"

*John 17:22*

It often humbles us when we ponder how Christ's will was never separated from the will of the Father. Never did He let a thought or desire linger in His mind that was not the Father's will. His continued brokenness allowed Him to see the blessing and peace that comes from a truly surrendered heart. Let us never be deceived into thinking that we will gain by holding back a part of our heart and will. True peace and joy comes only from complete surrender.

We are thankful to God that He has led our Bro. Matthew Elsasser (Bro. Jordan and Sis. Sharon) to marry Sis. Becky Bradle (Bro. Roger and Sis. Ila) from Eureka. We trust that they will continue to humbly receive the Lord's blessings as they prepare themselves for this step of faith.

We appreciated having three visiting ministers this past month.

They were Bros. Greg Lehman (Wolcott, IN), Andrew Klaus (Tokyo, Japan), and Don Manz (Junction, OH). To hear the truth from brothers across the land is a great blessing that we should not take lightly. I am reminded of a time that a brother visited an old congregation in Europe. He was shocked to find that the congregation let people from many denominations preach to them. Aren't we thankful that we can hear the certain sound of the trumpet which helps us prepare for battle?! (I Cor. 14:8)

#### *Note of Thanks:*

We would like to say a special thank you to the Bradford congregation for all their kindness shown to our wife and mother while she lived at the Apostolic Christian Skylines these past three years. She especially enjoyed all the visits, cards, and prayers from her "home" church.

*Bro. John Tanner and family*

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### ILLINOIS CHAMPAIGN-URBANA Karla Kieser

"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*

We rejoice with Bro. Neil Banwart (Elder Bro. Wayne and Sis. Charlen) at the announcement of his engagement to Sis. Leann Lehman of Bern, KS (Elder Bro. John and Sis. Connie). It is not often that marriage announcements

are heard in our small church! We pray that they will trust in the Lord and lean on Him to direct them as they begin walking down this new path together.

We mourn with Sam and Dawn Finch (Bro. Eldon and Sis. Darlene Steidinger, Fairbury) as they experienced the passing of his mother, Mary Janette Finch, on July 27. We trust that God will comfort them and Sam's father, Wayne, during this time of loss.

We are very thankful to Bro. Perry Klopfenstein (Gridley, IL) for visiting Wednesday, July 16, to give a talk on our church history. May the Lord bless you for your willingness to come and remind us of our church heritage. We are so thankful not only for the freedom to worship in this country but also for the freedom to assemble together.

We are sorry to see a beloved family leave the Champaign-Urbana area. Bro. Darin and Sis. Kari Blunier have relocated to the Princeville area due to an employment change. We will greatly miss them and their children, Cody, Mallory, Clayton and Madison, and thank them for their years of labor and worship in our small church.

We are also sorry to see Sis. Krista Banwart (Elder Bro. Wayne and Sis. Charlen) leave as she has accepted an offer of employment as an occupational therapist at a hospital in the St. Louis area.

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### ILLINOIS, CHICAGO

#### Rachel Meyer

Several years ago we bought a new car. Although the engine worked well, on the outside it was rusted and had definitely seen

better days. We sold it to a teen we knew. Before it was all over, it turns out it had been named "White Lightning", had lights strung up inside, and been tested for durability when driven through fields. They had a great time with what we were glad to get rid of! Now, "White Lightning" was not an adjective I would have dreamed of using in reference to the car, and the possibility of stringing up lights only applied to the Christmas season. Believe it or not, the car was still running after it was sold for the third time. We were amazed (who knew the possibilities? – maybe we should have kept it!).

God has a promise for us that reminds me of "White Lightning." In II Corinthians 4:16, He says, "...though our outward man perishes, yet the inward man is renewed day by day." How many times do we feel physically exhausted, and it's only nine in the morning? Maybe we are sick – we've caught the flu virus that is going around. Possibly we are feeling depressed and have no motivation to even get up. Can you identify? Jesus could. He tells us in the Bible that everything we feel He felt too. Let's pray and seize the verse and the renewal that is promised. Then it comes. Maybe it is a song or a verse. Maybe the illness or exhaustion doesn't go away, but we feel God's strength flowing through us to get us through the day. Don't worry. God has enough for today, tomorrow, and an eternity of tomorrows.

We are thankful we have brothers and sisters who are willing to share of themselves to teach the Word to our children. Our new Sunday School teachers are Bro. Blake Stahl (Sis. Christine), Sis.

Cindy Eisenmann (Bro. Brad) and Sis. Betty Schlatter. We wish God's grace to these loved ones and extend our heartfelt thanks to the teachers who have finished their terms.

We had two visiting ministers to whom we are grateful. Bro. Duane Reutter (Sis. Kay, Rockville, CT) and Bro. Gary Anliker (Sis. Edith, Elgin, IL) helped share the Word in August. Thank you.

August 10 was the wedding day in Elgin for our dear ones, Sis. Aubrey Schmidgall and Bro. Mark Triplett. Parents are Rick and Sis. Cindy Schmidgall (Elgin, IL) and Bro. Willis and Sis. Shirley Triplett (Peoria, IL). We are thankful they will be continuing to worship with our Chicago family.

We know the Bible says we will experience joy and sorrow while on this earth. We extend our deepest sympathy to Sis. Aubrey Triplett on the death of her grandfather, Bro. Leonard Wulf (Morris, MN). He passed away just two weeks before the wedding. Many of us were touched by the picture on display at the reception of Sis. Aubrey, Bro. Mark, and Bro. Leonard and Sis. Vi that was taken during their engagement. God is a gentle and faithful Comforter.

Finally, as summer comes to an end, let's remember a new season is starting. God tells us in His Word there is a time for all things. He will be with you in the time in which He has placed you. He promised.

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### ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK

#### Susan Waldbeser

#### Denise Walder

On July 27 we were thankful to host a Fort Sam Reunion. We ap-

preciated having many visitors with us, along with many visiting ministers. May God bless Elder Bro. Bob Walder (Congerville, IL) and Bros. Jim Ramseyer (Bay City, MI), Paul Gasser (Akron, OH), Paul Eisenmann (Burlington, IA), Carroll Gerber (Bluffton North, IN) and Walt Herrmann (Princeville, IL) for providing for us the Word of Life. We also thank Bros. Dan Moser (Elgin, IL), Steve Pamer (Akron, OH), Tom Waldbeser (Atlanta, GA) and Duane Reutter (Rockville, CT) for being willing to plant the Word of God into the hearts of men.

We rejoice with Chris and Lynette Rudin as God has blessed them with another baby girl, Macie Lynn. Her big sister, Miranda, welcomed her home. Grandparents, Bro. Sid and Sis. Sandy Kaufmann and Gary and Liz Rudin are thankful for another precious granddaughter to love.

On Sunday, August 10, we said farewell to Bro. Jon and Sis. Cyndee Anderson and their family as Jon has found a new place of employment. They plan to assemble with the Congerville congregation. We pray God will bless them and provide for them. We hope they will come to visit often.

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### ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE Arlene Banwart

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

*I Cor. 1:10*

What a blessing it has been to listen to the Brotherhood Conference tapes on Wednesday evenings! These help us to be of the same mind.

Visiting ministers who shared God's Word this past month were Bros. Tim Hohulin (Roanoke, IL), Leland Plattner (Zapata, TX), Mark Ramsier (Sardis, OH), Ted Luginbuhl (Smithville, OH), Rex Frieden (Lamar, MO), Paul Gasser (Akron, OH), Tim Zimmerman (Lamont-Gridley, KS) and Dale Banwart (Wolcott, IN). The evening of the Brotherhood Conference we had church and received greetings from 27 churches!

The first Sunday evening in August we enjoyed our last all-church singing at our old church. The building, part of which was built in the 1870's, has been sold. This building served us well. Our thanks to many who helped to provide this place of worship where many of us came to know the Lord. Now, in our new edifice, we feel truly blessed to report three young converts: Martha Hoerr (Bro. Max and Sis. Suzanne), Kali Zobrist (Bro. Mike and Sis. Susie) and Craig Steffen (Kent and Sis. Beth). On a tape I listened to this past week, the Elder Bro. told of choosing to follow the Lord. God promises He will provide blessing now, grace, the gift of peace and in time to come eternal life in Heaven.

A sincere welcome to Bro. Jon and Sis. Cyndee Anderson and children: Bro. Zach, Nathan, Whitney and Joseph, who moved here from Cissna Park, IL. Andrew Stevens, who has been living in Rochester, MN, for four years, is welcomed back to our church family. Kent and Sis. Crystal Remmert felt

moved to open their home to foster children and now are sharing their love with a tiny baby boy, Shawn.

The engagement of Sis. Hallie Schieber (Bro. Mike and Sis. Mary) and Bro. Wade Wettstein (Bro. Jake and Sis. Mary) of Eureka was announced. We wish them God's blessings.

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### ILLINOIS, ELGIN Amy Gasser

Come now, ye great, before Jehovah,  
Bring honor to His Majesty!  
His mighty voice is heard with  
thunder;  
Sink down into the dust and pray!  
The mighty God shows forth His  
power,  
The thunders roll in clouds on  
high;  
His lightening flashes on the wa-  
ters,  
And sudden torrents from the sky.  
*Zion's Harp #67*

This song came to mind as we have experienced frequent storms this summer.

A new baby girl, Kia Jade, was born July 17 to Gary and Yoko Kellenberger. They have been visiting from Japan until the birth of Kia and for about a month afterward. She has a brother, Koa. Her grandparents are Bro. Keith and Sis. Ida Kellenberger and Asaji Sugahara (Tokyo, Japan). Wayne and Jennifer Sauder welcomed a son, Colton James, on July 20. He has a sister, Ariana. Sis. Gert Sauder and Dolores March are the grandmothers.

We extend sympathy to those who have lost loved ones recently. Jim (Mary) Krueger's mother,

Orra Mae Krueger, passed away July 14 in Minnesota. Sis. Cindy (Rick) Schmidgall lost her father, Bro. Leonard Wulf (Morris, MN), on July 26 after he had been ill for some time. Ruth Moser, 98, passed away at Resthaven on July 29.

We have had several visiting ministers this past month. They were Bros. Greg Stieglitz (Indianapolis, IN), Matthew Rassi (Chicago, IL), Edwin Strahm (Bern, KS) and Ken Hoerr (Peoria, IL).

Our Sunday School picnic was held on July 27 at the Fellowship Center.

Vacation Bible School was held the week of July 28. Ministers who came to speak to the high school students were Bros. Jeff Grimm (Goodfield, IL), Marvin Dotterer (Forrest, IL), Kevin Knapp (Bloomington, IL) and Greg Lehman (Wolcott, IN). Bro. Dale Stoller (Fairbury, IL) gave a topical presentation July 30 on worldliness.

August 10 was the wedding day of Sis. Aubrey Schmidgall and Bro. Mark Triplett (Chicago, IL). Their parents are Rick and Sis. Cindy Schmidgall and Bro. Willis and Sis. Shirley Triplett (Peoria, IL). We wish them God's blessings as they establish a Christian home.

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

Sis. Mindy Fehr and Bro. Justin Stoller were united in marriage August 3. Their parents are Bro. Ken and Sis. Sandy Fehr and Bro. Jim and Sis. Janet Stoller, all of Eureka. We wish them God's blessings as they begin their walk together in the Lord. We were thankful to have visiting ministers,

Bro. John Hartman (Fairbury, IL) and Bro. Matt Rassi (Chicago, IL), with us for this special occasion.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Sis. Marjorie Stoller (Bro. Melvin) who is suffering with cancer and with Sis. Ethel Schmidgall (Bro. Harold) who was hospitalized for knee surgery recently.

Bro. Wayne Wiegand (Goodfield, IL) and Bro. Darren Fehr (West Bend, IA) were our visiting ministers recently.

We also had many visiting ministers during the week of the Conference, which we were thankful for. They were Bros. Kent Getz (Elgin, IA), Ed Knecht (Silverton, OR), Ted Luginbuhl (Smithville, OH), Art Mueller (Belvidere, IL), Duane Rocke (Minneapolis, MN), Darrel Stoller (Bern, KS) and Warren Zahner (Rockville, CT). May God richly bless each one.

Sis. Becky Bradle (Bro. Roger and Sis. Ila) became engaged to Bro. Matthew Elsasser (Bro. Jordan and Sis. Sharon) of Bradford on August 3. We wish them God's blessings and guidance as they plan for their life together.

We extend our sympathy to Sis. Madeline Cawley (Cy) and Sis. Helen Belsley (Bro. Bill) on the death of their brother, Bro. Walton Fehr, of Bloomington. He died August 16.

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### **ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY** **Joann Zehr** **Tammy Hinrichsen**

Greetings to all of our beloved brothers, sisters and friends. We rejoice with Bro. Karl and Sis. Carrie Steidinger as they begin their life together. Their parents are Bro. Chris and Sis. Kay Steffen

and Bro. Randy and Sis. Dawn Steidinger. May our Lord Jesus remain at the forefront of their lives and may they always be ready for whatever He asks them to do.

Our family has had several loved ones in and out of the hospital this past month. Bro. Duane Kilgus, Sis. Louise Bach, Ardella Zimmerman and Delores Nussbaum have all been in the hospital, but are back home now. We are thankful that they didn't have to stay long and that they are feeling much better. However, our Bro. Dave Kaeb was recently admitted for open heart surgery. We pray for the Lord's healing hand to be with Bro. Dave and that he could be headed back home very soon.

The home of Bro. Rodney and Sis. Denise Steidinger received a blessing on August 11. Beautiful Trinity Nicole is their firstborn and she is sure to bring a lot of joy to her new parents. Grandparents are Bro. Dale and Sis. Donna Banwart and Bro. Tom and Sis. Dianne Steidinger.

We are so very thankful for three souls that have made a beginning in repentance. It is wonderful and uplifting to us all when we can see that God is still calling, and that there are those who are willing to answer the call. Married less than one year, Derrick and Joslyn Steidinger have decided to put Jesus first in their lives. Parents are Dave and Deann Steidinger and Dan and Marcie Grosshans. Renee Slagel (Bro. Ray and Sis. Gladys) is in high school and will face the challenges ahead with Jesus as her strength. Our prayers will be with each of these converts as they begin their journey.

There have been several visiting



ministers this past month and we want to thank each of them for coming and sharing with us God's Word: Bros. Clark Stoller (Gridley, IL), Gary Brown (Forrest, IL) Tom Waldbeser (Atlanta, GA), Virgil Kaeb (Sarasota, FL), Harvey Kuenzi (Silverton, OR) and Elder Bro. Ben Wiegand (Philadelphia, PA).

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### ILLINOIS, FORREST

**Linda Anliker  
Lori Dotterer**

As the Master calls for reapers, we are thankful Andy Rudin (Bro. Craig and Sis. Trudy) has answered the call to labor for Jesus Christ. With humbleness of heart, may he accept the grace from God, which will enable him to walk a new life with Him.

Exchanging vows of Holy Matrimony on July 27 were Bro. Kevin Joos (Morris, MN) and Sis. Kelli Adams. As they unite their hearts in love, may the covenant they have made stand and endure, and God shall ever abide. Their parents are Bro. Harvey and Sis. Debra Joos (Morris, MN) and Sis. Sharon Adams and the late Bro. Terry Adams.

Believing God has directed their lives to become married, Bro. Jacob Kuntz (Bro. Rollyn and Sis. Brenda) and Sis. Brooke Gutwein's (Bro. Jeff and Sis. Wendy) engagement was announced. May they continue to look to God for guidance in their lives.

We thank Elder Bros. Art Nohl (Morris, MN) and Art Metz (Silverton, OR), Bros. Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville, IL), Dan Koch (Tremont, IL), Brandon Emch (Kansas City, MO), Brad Gudeman (Bradford, IL), Jeff Grimm (Goodfield,

IL), Doyle Frauhiger (Bluffton North, IN), Everett Gerber and Dan Goric (Rockville, CT), Harvey Kuenzi (Silverton, OR), Tim Gerber (Mansfield, OH) and Art Mueller (Belvidere, IL) for visiting and lending themselves in service of our Lord.

We have begun to play the tapes of our Elder Conference. As we listen with prepared hearts and humbleness of mind, may the Godly instruction direct our thoughts and motives to a more Christ-like fashion.

Three families in our congregation welcome new babies in their home. Bro. Brent and Sis. Sheila Ifft have been blessed with another baby boy, Jacob Edward. His big brothers, Joseph, Darren, Stephen and Nathan, and grandparents, Bro. Larry and Sis. Shirley Ifft and Bro. Greg and Sis. Jill Stoller, are enjoying this gift from Heaven.

Leah Jo Zimmerman is welcomed into the family circle of Bro. Ben and Sis. Melissa and Rebekah. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Paul and Sis. Loretta Zimmerman and Bro. Bob and Sis. Sally Rinkenberger.

Joining the family of Bro. Kraig and Sis. Carrie Edelman is Kira Ann. Sharing in this happiness is her sister, Andrea, and grandparents, Bro. Levi and Sis. Donna Edelman and Bro. Ray and Sis. Shelly Steidinger.

Those spending time in the hospital this past month were Joel Schneider (Bro. Michael and Sis. Jodi), Sis. Emma (Bro. Elmer) Ifft, Stephen Zimmerman (Bro. Paul and Sis. Loretta), Bro. Leroy (Sis. Janita) Koehl, Bro. Rich and Sis. Marian Rieger, Reuben Metz and Sis. Rachel Wenger (Bro. Ed and

Sis. Renee).

#### *Note of Thanks:*

Many thanks for the thoughtful and encouraging cards sent on my 80th birthday. God bless you everyone.

*Sis. Mildred Zimmerman*

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### ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD

**Heather Hohulin  
Rita Bauman**

Our visiting ministers this past month have been Bros. Ed Knecht (Sis. Judy, Silverton, OR), Tom Leman (Sis. Marlene, Denver, CO), John Jackson (Sis. Peggy, Bay City, MI), Don Manz (Sis. Connie, Junction, OH), Virgil Kaeb (Sis. Sue, Sarasota, FL), Steve Sauder (Sis. Mary, Tremont, IL), and Frederick Knapp (Sis. Marge, Congerville, IL). We thank each one for their efforts in bringing forth His Word.

We had two marriages in the Lord this past month. Bro. Tadd Gerst (Bro. Steve and Sis. Bonnie) married Sis. Jill Leman (Bro. Terry and Sis. Shirley, Eureka, IL). Also, uniting in marriage were Bro. Nathan Zeltwanger (Bro. Loren and Sis. Rhonda) and Sis. Brittany Baker (Joe and Sis. Karen, Washington, IL). May God bless these marriages.

Marisa and Whitney Wiegand (Bro. Brad and Sis. Karen) were hospitalized last month along with Ray Wagner (Sis. Vi) who had hip reconstruction surgery. We are thankful the girls are able to assemble with us again. Ray is recuperating at the Restmor Apostolic Christian Nursing Home. May we continue to lift him up in prayer.

Our church family has grown this past month with the addition

of three new babies. Trevor Eugene was born on July 20 to Thad and Tracy Heffren. Welcoming him home are big sister, Courtney, and grandparents, Bro. Duane and Sis. Vermeda Freidinger and Ron and Pat Heffren.

On July 31, little Gabrielle Eden joined the home of Bro. Josh and Sis. Carolyn Knapp. Her brother Job is thankful for a playmate, along with grandparents, Bro. Carl and Sis. Becky Kieser and Bro. Rick and Sis. Kathy Knapp.

Bro. Tim and Sis. Diana Currier are enjoying their new little bundle who was born on August 22. Nathan Timothy is their first child. Thankful first time grandparents are Bro. Brian and Sis. Teresa Schieler and Art and Sis. Mary Currier. May God bless their families as they adjust to the new member in their home.

We had two funerals in our church this past month. We were saddened at the death of Sis. Marci Schieler. Our prayers are with her husband, Bro. Bob, and their children, Bro. Brian (Sis. Teresa), Kathy (Steve) Clarkson, Rich (Lisa), Bro. Ted (Sis. Peg), and grandchildren.

Bro. Elmer Grusy has gone to his eternal rest. We will miss Bro. Elmer as he was a pillar in our church. Our sympathy goes out to his dear wife, Sis. Minnie, and to their children, Sis. Bonnie (Bro. Steve) Gerst, Vera (Brad) Wieland, Sis. Mardell (Bro. Glenn) Ott, and to Bro. Elmer's sister, Sis. Bertha Wingeier. Also, we wish to extend sympathy to our Sis. Arlene Hinrichsen in the passing of her brother, Bro. Walton Fehr Sr. May God comfort each one of you, as only He can.

The engagement of Sis. Jennifer Wiegand (Bro. Larry and Sis. Lori) and Bro. Darrell Stoller (Bro. Tom and Sis. Edie) of Eureka was made known unto us. May God provide guidance for each decision that comes upon them in the coming days.

With thankful hearts, we are able to again tell of two more souls who have surrendered their lives to the Lord, and have now found peace with God and man. Jenny Royer (Jason) and Caleb Wyss (Bro. Bruce and Sis. Donna) are awaiting their special weekend to give their testimony and to be baptized into the household of faith.

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### ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY Perry A. Klopfenstein

"Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be yet wiser; teach a just man, and he will increase in learning. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding."

*Proverbs 9:9-10*

Several of our Gridley brethren attended the annual General Conference at Morton on Friday, August 9. It was a blessing to hear the exhortations and wise instructions on a daylong basis. May the guidance bear much fruit. In the multitude of counselors there is safety. Also, may these efforts help to preserve the faith of our fathers for coming generations, should the Lord tarry His coming.

Sis. Martha Stoller, 92, was laid to rest on Saturday, August 23, in Gridley. She has resided for many years at the Eureka Home. She is survived by four daughters, Sis.

Dorothy Ringger and Sis. Marge Meiss, Gridley; Sis. Doris Meiss, Peoria; Sis. Marlene Leman, Denver, CO; and one son, Bro. Herbert Stoller, Germantown Hills; one sister, Sis. Gladys Binkele, Peoria; and 16 grandchildren; 37 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

She had enjoyed more than 55 years of marriage to Bro. Ezra Stoller, who passed away on October 10, 1988. Sis. Martha had a gentle, quiet spirit that served her home and brotherhood quite well. She and Bro. Ezra never had fame or riches, but raised their children in a simple homestead in Gridley, and were blessed with each of their children repenting and being baptized in our beloved faith. Sis. Martha's era was such that she could concentrate wholly on homemaking, and being a "keeper at home." A legacy like this speaks wisdom to this generation.

On August 10, Bro. John Kaupp was announced to marry Sis. Wava Kaupp. Sis. Wava is the widow of his brother, the late Bro. Harold Kaupp. Bro. John is the son of Sis. Esther Kaupp, and the late Bro. Walter. May God grant many years of happiness to this couple.

Also, on August 10, the engagement announcement of Sis. Carrie Stoller to Bro. Perry Klopfenstein, Jr., was made. Her parents are Bro. Curt and Sis. Carla Stoller. He is the son of Bro. Perry, Sr. and Sis. Carol Klopfenstein. We offer them our best wishes.

Our system of betrothal is something to be grateful for, and we should be thankful to God. As souls submit their request to God, He is surely able to direct their pathways; and to help select a lifetime

mate. The faith system (vs. the world's dating system) is one that continues to work, and may God grant the brethren grace so it can be continued for coming generations, so long as the dear Lord tarrys.

Visiting ministers were Elder Bro. Bruce Hohulin (Goodfield, IL) and Bro. Brandon Emch (Kansas City, MO).

On August 10, the wedding of Sis. Jill Leman to Bro. Tad Gerst, Goodfield, was held here in Gridley. She is the daughter of Bro. Terry and Sis. Shirley Leman, Eureka; and he is the son of Bro. Steve and Sis. Bonnie Gerst, Goodfield. May God grant them many blessings in the years ahead.

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## ILLINOIS, MORTON

**Julie Bahr  
Christie Zeller**

We are happy to announce the engagement and forthcoming marriage of our Sis. Helen Hermann to Bro. Howard Zobrist (Goodfield, IL). We wish them God's blessings.

Testimonies and baptisms were held on July 23 for Louise Winemiller and Debbie Warner. It was a wonderful and blessed evening.

We rejoice in the marriage of our Sis. Diane Tanner (Bro. Lawrence and Sis. Annette) to our Bro. Daniel Wuthrich (Bro. Mark and Sis. Cheryl) on July 27. May God continue to bless them as they together serve Him.

Morton was the host for our Brotherhood Conference the week of August 5-8. Many willing hands and God's continual love and faithfulness made it a very blessed week.

Bro. Brett and Sis. Lena Grimm

are the thankful parents of a new baby girl, Naya Elizabeth. Little Naya is welcomed home by big sister, Jacie. May God bless their growing family.

Many loved ones went home to be with the Lord. Sis. Edith Wagenbach (Burlington, IA) passed away. She had been a resident in our Home for the Handicapped for many years. Judith Hinds passed away July 23. She is a daughter to our Sis. Betty Buttrick. Eugene Roecker passed away July 31. He is a brother to our Sis. Louise (Bro. Howard) Getz and Bro. Ed (Sis. Bobby) Roecker. Hannah Mooberry passed away July 30. She is a sister to our Sis. Helen Hermann and Eileen (William) Knapp. Perry Weisser passed away. He is a brother to our Bro. Oscar (Sis. Norma) Weisser. Harold Musselman (San Diego, CA) passed away. He is a brother to our Sis. Alice (Bro. Maurice) Schafer, and our Sis. Grace (Elmer) Ziegler. May our Heavenly Father comfort these dear families.

Those who shared the pulpit with us this month were: Bro. Loren Schrenk (Sis. Betsy, St. Louis, MO), Elder Bro. Merle Hartzler (Sis. Bonnie, Rittman, OH), Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr (Sis. Kathy, West Bend, IA), Elder Bro. Lawrence Luthi (Sis. Sandy, Lamar, MO), Bro. Greg Rassi (Sis. Carla, Chicago, IL), Bro. Scott Schafer (Sis. Gigi, South Bend, IN), Bro. Leland Plattner (Sis. Mary, Zapata, TX), and Bro. Ron Allenbach (Sis. Lois, Kiowa, KS). May God richly bless these humble servants for their labors of love.

## Lou and Marjean Lonteen

Our congregation was blessed by the inspirational messages brought by visiting ministers recently: Bro. Marshall Heinold (Ixtlan, Mexico), Bro. Tom Leman (Denver, CO), Bro. Bob Meyer (Bluffton North, IN), Bro. Jeff Thames (Washington, IL), and Bro. Roger Sauder (Ft. Lauderdale, FL).

The angels rejoice with our church family over the souls of our loved ones seeking to submit their lives and hearts to our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, in repentance. Recent converts are: Vanessa Johnson, Aaron Roecker (Bro. Tim and Sis. Diane), Jodi Kieser (Bro. Mark and Sis. Cathy).

Congratulations to Bro. David and Sis. Rita Sauder on the birth of their new granddaughter. Little Naya Elizabeth Grimm was born on July 27 to Bro. Brett and Sis. Anjalena Grimm. Jacie Rae happily welcomes her new little sister. Bro. Mark and Sis. Becky Grimm (Morton, IL) are also grandparents to little Naya. May God bless this dear family circle with His love.

We trust the Lord's blessings upon Bro. Fedi and Sis. Ruth Davidovics and their children: Rebekah, Annie, Ryan, and Steven. This dear family will be located in Eastern Europe near Fedi's birthplace. Bro. Fedi will be assisting the church in Romania as the Lord leads. We will miss you and continue to pray for God's presence with each of you while you are absent from our congregation.

Several new marriages have been established by God's grace and with His peace. On August 3, Sis. Heidi Huthmann and Bro. Ben Hartter were united in marriage.

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## ILLINOIS, PEORIA

Parents are: Bro. George and Sis. Ruth Huthmann and Bro. Bob and Sis. Chris Hartter (Roanoke).

On August 10, Bro. Jason Getz and Sis. Lindsey Schroeder were married in Roanoke. Parents are: Rod Getz (East Peoria) and Sis. Judy Getz (Peoria) and Bro. Duane and Sis. Rachel Schroeder (Roanoke).

On August 10, Bro. Mark Triplett (Chicago) and Sis. Aubrey Schmidgall were married in Elgin. Parents are: Bro. Willie and Sis. Shirley Triplett and Rick and Sis. Cindy Schmidgall (Elgin).

It was a blessing to have the World Relief van in Peoria during the week of August 11-15. The local project was the "Esther House" ... planned to open in 2004 for the purpose of providing a loving Christian home for single mothers from the community. We were blessed to work with our brothers and sisters and experience mission work on a local basis. May God bless Bro. Marv and Sis. Gail Hodel and their family for their diligent planning and hard work to coordinate all aspects of the project. Special thanks to each of our dear sisters who assisted with delicious break and lunch provisions.

*"It's the Word"*

"What is real good?"

I asked in a musing mood:

"Order," said the law court;

"Knowledge," said the school,

"Truth," said the wise man;

"Pleasure," said the fool,

"Love," said the maiden,

"Beauty," said the page,

"Freedom," said the dreamer,

"Home," said the sage,

"Fame," said the soldier,

"Equity," said the seer—

Spake my heart full sadly:

"The answer is not here;"

Then, within my bosom, softly,  
this I heard:

"Each heart holds the secret —  
KINDNESS...is the word."

—*God's Treasury of Virtues*

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**ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE**

**Phyllis Knobloch**

**Crystal Streitmatter**

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

*Isaiah 41:10*

May this verse be an encouragement to Bro. Phil and Sis. Linda Baurer and their children, David, Jonathan, Joshua and Abigail, in that they have recently moved to the Austin, TX, area for Bro. Phil's employment. We are sorry to see them go, but know that the San Marcos, TX, church will appreciate the addition of their family.

Bro. Darin and Sis. Keri Blunier have relocated from the Champaign area and are now attending Princeville church. We welcome them and their children, Cody, Mallory, Clayton and Madison.

We were privileged to have visiting ministers after the Brotherhood Conference: Bros. John Grimm (Columbus, OH) and Kevin Banwart (West Bend, IA). Other visiting ministers this past month were Bros. Joe Gerst (Iowa City, IA) and Andy Klaus (Tokyo, Japan). We were reminded in Hebrews 13:5 to "...be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee." Our congregation is of-

ten blessed with visitors, and we appreciate each one. We are currently listening to the Brotherhood Conference tapes on Wednesday evenings. We pray that the admonishments and encouragements in these exhortations may sink deeply into our hearts and bring forth fruit.

August 3 was the wedding day of Bro. Robert and Sis. Mary (Leman) Herrmann in Roanoke, IL (Bro. Howard and Sis. Mary Ann Herrmann and Bro. Dennis and Sis. Karen Leman). May God's blessings be upon them; we welcome Sis. Mary and look forward to getting to know her better.

The engagement of Sis. Jill Baurer (Bro. Edwin and Sis. Carol) to Bro. Shannon Stahl of Belvidere, IL (Bro. Norman and Sis. Gloria, Chicago, IL) was made known on August 10. We rejoice with this couple as they make plans for their wedding and marriage. "And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity." (I Cor. 13:13)

Bro. Herman Baer (Sis. Mary) has again been experiencing some difficult times with his health. Our prayers and love go out to him, and we miss his presence in our assembly.

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**ILLINOIS, ROANOKE**

**Joan Leman**

**Jenell Hodel**

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

*Mark 1:15*

Our God is so good and faithful. We are thankful that He is continu-

ing to call souls unto Him in repentance and they are submitting unto Him. We rejoice with Jeremy Hodel (Bro. Ken and Sis. Kathy), Steven Ott (Bro. Bob and Sis. Marilyn), Susan Lemman (Bro. Clark and Sis. Lisa), Heather Mellin (Lee Jr. and Marlene and Cindy and Bob Rippon) and Amber Rocke (Sis. Sue) as they have all found grace unto repentance. May they feel God's guidance and direction and the love and prayers of their church family.

We have had a number of weddings in our congregation this past month. They were Bro. Ben Hartter (Bro. Bob and Sis. Chris) and Sis. Heidi Huthman (Bro. George and Sis. Ruth, Peoria) on August 3; Sis. Mary Lemman (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Karen) and Bro. Robert Herrmann (Bro. Howard and Sis. Mary Ann, Princeville) on August 3; Sis. Lindsey Schroeder (Bro. Duane and Sis. Rachel) and Bro. Jason Getz (Rod & Jane, and Sis. Judy, Peoria) on August 10; and Alicia Wettstein (Dean and Mary Jane) and Daniel Endress (Bro. Fred and Sis. Joanne, Morton) on August 16. May God be near and bless each of these couples as they establish their homes.

We also pray God's blessings on Jamie Tibbs (Jim and Julie) and Brian Reifsteck (Bob and Deb) as they have announced their engagement.

We enjoyed many visiting ministers this past month and thank each one for their service to us. They were Bro. Don Gudeman (La-Crosse, IN), Bro. John Steiner (Oakville, IA), Bro. Tom Lemman and Elder Bro. Mike Lemman (Denver, CO), Bro. Craig Martin and Elder Bro. Jim Plattner (Princeville,

IL), Bro. Fred Knapp (Congerville, IL), Bro. Ron Joos (Pulaski, IA), Elder Bro. Tom Klotzle (Altadena, CA), Bro. Tim Funk (Peoria, IL), Elder Bro. Kent Heimer (Taylor, MO), Bro. Everett Gerber (Rockville, CT) and Bro. Dale Wulf (Lester, IA). May God richly bless each of these Brothers and their wives as they faithfully serve Him.

Our congregation appreciated having Dr. Parkhe, Director/Administer of the Rural Gospel Medical Missions of India with us to inform us of the purpose of this mission, the trials they are facing and the work being carried out in India. Retired Elder Bro. John Klotzle also shared with us the history of RGMMI and how it became affiliated with our church. We are so blessed here in the U.S. and we offer up our prayers for the believers and unbelievers in India.

We praise God for another child born to Bro. Dave and Sis. Lori Whitten. They, along with big sisters, Carolyn and Sarah, welcome Matthew Dale into their family. May God bless and be near them as they raise their children in His love. Grandparents are Bro. Gene and Carol Whitten.

Spending time in the hospital this past month was Sis. Marge Fehr (Bro. Gene). May she feel God's strength and healing and the prayers of her church family.

We welcome Bro. Ray, Sis. Wendy, Kaylea, Nolan and Madeline Blunier to our congregation as they have moved to Roanoke from Phoenix. We are thankful to have them worship with us and pray God's blessings upon them.

Our dear Bro. Bill Hodel announced his retirement from the ministry this summer. We are so

thankful to him and his wife, Sis. Betty, for their many years of service as our minister and Ordained Deacon. They have been a real blessing to our congregation. May they feel the love and prayers of our church and may God bless them abundantly.

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## ILLINOIS, TREMONT

### Heather Rassi LaVonne Wagenbach

We want to thank Bros. Kevin Banwart (West Bend, IA), Jerry Bauman (Rittman, OH), Chuck Kellenberger (Elgin, IL), Roger Sauder (Ft. Lauderdale, FL) and Kenneth Dietz (Bradford, IL) for bringing us God's Word this month. We appreciate their efforts and ask that God will richly bless them and their families.

We rejoice with Bro. John and Sis. Jamie Dill as they were blessed with a precious baby boy, Parker Evan. Bro. Glenn and Sis. Marilyn Dill and Bro. Ken and Sis. Amy Koch are his grandparents.

We extend our sympathy to Sis. Eunice (Bro. Dave) Beutel and Sis. Carol (Bro. Alvin) Beutel and their families at the death of their brother, Bro. Walton Fehr, of Bloomington.

We think of our many students as they return to school this fall. We pray that God's protection be upon them as they face the many challenges, both physically and spiritually.

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## ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

### Marcia Koch Dianne Wyss

We were prayerful for our Elder brothers as they met this past month.

We had several visiting ministers and we appreciate their many labors. They were: Elder Bros. Wayne Banwart (Sis. Charlen, Champaign, IL), Bruce Hohulin (Sis. Charlene, Goodfield, IL), Tom Klotzle (Sis. Jody, Altadena, CA) and Bros. Fred Funk (Sis. Diane, Morton, IL), Andy Klaus (Sis. Jana, Tokyo, Japan), Marshall Heinold (Sis. Jan, Ixtlan, Mexico), Paul Gasser (Sis. Joyce, Akron, OH), Frank Sauder (Sis. Kathy, Roanoke, IL), Jeff Grimm (Sis. Ruth, Goodfield, IL), Dale Zeltwanger (Sis. Rachel, Morris, MN), Jeff Neihouser (Sis. Sue, Francesville, IN) and Clark Stoller (Sis. Cindy, Gridley, IL). We were privileged to have Dr. Parkhe from India with us. He along with retired Elder Bro. John Klotzle (Sis. Lois, Altadena, CA) explained the Rural Gospel and Medical Mission of India. It was a blessing to hear of God's working in Dr. Parkhe's country.

Hospital patients this past month were Brent Ricketts and Sis. Gina Martin. We are thankful for God's healing mercies.

We had a full church on August 17 as many came to witness the marriage ceremony of our Sis. Brittany Baker to Bro. Nathan Zeltwanger from Goodfield. Our prayer is for much joy and blessings to them as they begin their walk for the Lord together.

May we all have a safe and blessed harvest season.

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**INDIANA, BLUFFTON**  
**Tiffany Aschliman**  
**Elizabeth Frauhiger**

August 3 was the wedding day for Bro. Michael Reinhard (Bro.

John and Sis. Pam) and Sis. Jane Brazelton (Bluffton North) at Bluffton North. We were pleased to witness the vows of these two dear souls and pray that God will bless their union.

Joshua Michael Mosser was born on August 8 to Michael and Melinda Mosser. Joshua's happy grandparents are Bro. Marvin and Sis. Della Steffen.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Bro. Nathan and Sis. LeAnn Gerber and their family as they mourn the death of Sis. LeAnn's father, Bro. Leonard Wulf (Morris, MN).

Bro. Elmer Isch passed away on August 2. He left behind one son, Bro. Perry Isch (Sis. Becky); two daughters, Sis. Joyce Baumgartner (Bro. Galen) and Sis. Cheryl Gerber (Bro. Mike); one sister, Sis. Dorothy Frank; and one brother, Bro. Harold Isch.

We were privileged to hear from three visiting ministers this month. Bros. Gary Maibach (Sis. Mary Ann, Smithville, OH), Bill Emch (Sis. Susan, Lamont-Gridley, KS) and Ben Manz (Sis. Carolyn, Junction, OH) shared the Word with us.

Bro. Dwight Gerber (Sis. Lucille), Bro. Kenny Gilliom (Sis. Marie), and Sis. Carolyn Gerber (Bro. Bill) have all had health concerns recently and appreciate our prayers.

The call of the Lord has gone forth once again and many souls have responded. Jayson Grube (Bro. Jay and Sis. Ronda), Jessica Reinhard (Bro. Doyle and Sis. Jan), Melanie Shady, Haley Steffen (Bro. Eric and Sis. Marcia) and Lori Steffen (Bro. Craig and Sis. Jean) have begun repenting this past

month. May God richly bless these dear souls as they begin their walk with Christ.

"O God, thou art my God; early will I seek thee; my soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh longeth for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is; To see thy power and thy glory, so as I have seen thee in the sanctuary."

*Psalms 63:1-2*

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**INDIANA**  
**BLUFFTON NORTH**  
**Tiffani Schladenhauffen**  
**Ann Meyer**

"A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you;"

*Ezekiel 36:26*

Rob Jolloff (Bro. Bob and Sis. Bev) and Christina Warren are asking God for new hearts in repentance. What a blessing that God gives His Spirit freely to those that ask.

There were two Soldier Reunions held this past month, so we enjoyed visitors from many different churches. We also appreciated Bros. John Hartman (Sis. Rosemary, Fairbury, IL), John Reinhard (Sis. Pam, Bluffton, IN), Ted Schock (Sis. Heidi, Belvidere, IL) and Elder Bro. Jim Plattner (Sis. Marlene, Princeville, IL) sharing God's Word with us.

A disaster hit Bluffton in July. We experienced a 100 year flood of the Wabash River. The flood damaged many homes, but with it came an outpouring of volunteer help. Our two churches had lots of opportunities to show love in action.

August 3 was the wedding day uniting Sis. Jane Braselton (Lee and Julie) to Bro. Michael Reinhard (Bro. John and Sis. Pam, Bluffton). We pray God's blessings over them as they start up a Christian home together.

Sis. Imogene Aeschliman could finally leave her many health problems behind and join her Saviour on July 26. We remember her husband, Bro. Walt, in sympathy along with her children: Bro. Dale, Bro. Bert, Bro. Alan, Eric, Lynne (Ken) Beer, Andrea (Rich) Stoller, Sis. Jan (Bro. Dennis) Drayer, and Kim (Dave) Bertsch. She was 80 years old and had 28 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

We also remember Sis. Joyce (Bro. Galen) Baumgartner and her children in the loss of her father, Bro. Elmer Isch. He was a faithful "greeter" in church, always welcoming newcomers.

Those spending time in the hospital and needing prayers are Bro. Frank (Sis. Ruth) Ifer, Sis. Gladys Fiechter, Sis. Deb (Bro. Ted) Neuenschwander and Sis. Becky (Bro. Lonnie) Bertsch. We especially pray that God will uphold Sis. Becky and her family in her third battle with cancer.

Grandbabies bring such joy and smiles to their grandparents. Maya Katherine is brightening the lives of Bro. Nile and Sis. Phyllis Bucher. She was born August 9 to Mark and Trina Holocher.

In one of our sermons this month, we heard how the Israelites saw the great miracle of the parting of the Red Sea and all the Egyptians washed up dead on the shore, but they soon grew thirsty in the wilderness. We need to remember how God has worked past miracles in

our own lives during the times when we get thirsty.

### INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE Barbara Huber

Greetings of love to all who will read this article! How thankful we are to know that we are in the care of our Heavenly Father and that He has seen us through a busy summer season once again. We are so blessed to have a fellowship such as ours where we can travel throughout the country and find like-minded brethren, know that a warm welcome will await us and that our worship will always be consistent with Bible truth. We trust that as you have vacationed and visited you have found this to be true.

Our congregation was blessed to have ministering Bro. Ron Palitto (Sis. Lynell, Akron, OH). He urged that we sincerely try to live as the Word of God commands us to live and not be deceived by the shading of Christianity the secular world is providing in our present day and time.

Also visiting us during this month was ministering Bro. Jim Rinkenberger (Sis. Jeanne, Bluffton, IN). How gracious God is to bring our brethren together in love and fellowship. We appreciate our ministers' willingness to serve wherever they are. As we enjoy the efforts of our ministers, may we be consistently praying for the Holy Spirit's anointing for them to speak and for we as followers of Christ to listen and act.

Our hearts are blended in sympathy to our dear friends, John and Violet Wuethrich, at the sudden death of their only daughter, Lynn

DuPont Hisko, of Sahuarita, AZ, on Thursday, July 24. We pray that our God of all comfort will grant them peace in the midst of this storm in their lives and that they will find strength in the promises of His Holy Word. "The Lord is good, a strong hold in the day of trouble; and he knoweth them that trust in him." (Nahum 1:7)

In the midst of worship, joy, praise and many witnesses, Bro. Grant Gudeman and Sis. Cara Baumgartner were united in marriage in the Leo Church on Sunday, August 3. Bro. Bill and Sis. Jan Baumgartner and Bro. Dale and Sis. Peg Gudeman are the thankful parents of the couple. It is our prayer that their home will be blessed with the presence and peace of the Holy Spirit.

Our congregation is busily preparing and happily anticipating the Men's Sing to be held on Saturday, August 23. It is a joy when hearts and voices unite in lovely harmony to sing praises to Him who is worthy of all praise. We pray God blesses all the efforts being put forth.

As the Bible instructs us to "weep with them that do weep" (Romans 12:15), we are weeping with our dear Bro. Wally and Sis. Rosella (Feller) Bucher as their only son, Van, passed away on August 7. Van is survived by his parents, Bro. Wally and Sis. Rosella, and siblings, Sis. Vicky (Ron) Anliker, Veronica (Walt) Steffen, Sis. Valerie Wuthrich, as well as many nieces and nephews. We sincerely pray that God's love will surround them at this difficult time and they will feel our collective love and sympathy. Only the Holy Spirit is capable of truly comforting

our beloved ones through times like this and we claim the Word that says: "Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, Shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 8:37-39)

Sis. Peggy Hillenberg has moved to Remington. We wish her God's blessings in her relocation and are thankful that she will still be around us at our Parkview Haven Retirement Home.

We offer prayers for the recovery and continued health for our Sis. Marian Gutwein, Sis. Gail Gutwein, Bro. Willis (Sis. Margaret) Gudeman and Bro. Sidney (Sis. Fern) Leman. "Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the Lord delivereth him out of them all." (Psalm 34:19). May they all feel His gracious deliverance!

As the school year once again begins for students from the first beginner to those in the highest levels of academic study, we want to wish all of them God's grace and guidance. May all the earthly knowledge they acquire be grounded in He who is the source of all truth! As Jesus said in John 14:6, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father but by me."

May we all continue to walk in love and fellowship and be assured of the precious promise of God which tells us "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." (Matthew 18:20).

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**INDIANA  
INDIANAPOLIS  
Sandy Lichtle  
Gail Bradford**

We lift up in prayer Bro. Bert and Sis. Karen Aeschliman on the death of his mother, Sis. Imogene (Bro. Walter) Aeschliman. May the family take comfort in the love of those around them and faith in God's promise to all those who trust in Him.

We thank visiting ministers, Bro. Jeff Niehouser (Sis. Sue, Francesville, IN) and Bro. Ken Lawson (Sis. Sharon, Dallas, TX). We appreciate the constancy of God's Word, whether the sermons come from visiting or home ministers. Bro. Ron Kipfer (Bluffton) discussed the new age movement on a recent Wednesday night.

We rejoice with Michael and Kristine Barnett on the birth of their third son, Ethan Michael, on July 16. The baby joins brothers, Jacob and John. His grandparents are Dave and Sis. Becky Pearson. His great - grandmother is Sis. Edey Mayer.

Some of us traveled to Morton for the annual Conference. All the topics were very timely and instructive. The exhortations provided guidelines for living as a Christian in these troubled and often confusing times.

Our Sunday school "took a vacation" between mid-July and mid-August. However, those of us who are parents, grandparents and friends know that instructing children in God's Word can never take a vacation. Every day provides situations in which children make choices. Our kids need to be

grounded in Biblical guidelines so they respond rightly.

We welcome Bro. Luke and Sis. Jenny Gutwein to Indianapolis, where they will continue their education. We hope all who move in and out of our city will feel God's love through us.

"Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares."

*Hebrews 13:2*

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**INDIANA, LACROSSE  
Eric and Bobbi Ann Heinold**

This month we had two visiting ministers. Bros. Dale Banwart (Sis. Missy, Wolcott, IN) and Bro. Mike Ursu (Sis. Barb, Kitchener, Ontario) labored in ministering God's Word. May He reward them for their willingness to be used for Him.

Sis. Dorothy Stewart spent time in the hospital this month. We are thankful she is again able to assemble with us.

We welcome home Sam Frank (Bro. Bill and Sis. Jo). He has spent several months in Europe on a study program. We are grateful that God protected him during his trip and brought him home safely.

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**INDIANA, LEO  
Ethelyn Schlatter**

On July 25, Eden Rose Schrock was welcomed into the hearts and home of Bro. Trent and Sis. Heidi. She has three brothers, Hudson, Hunter and Graham, and a sister, Honor. Grandparents are Bro. Byron and Sis. Mary Schrock and Bro. Duane and Sis. Carol Broquard. Our congratulations to all.

Sis. Cara Baumgartner was



united in marriage to Bro. Grant Gudeman on August 3. It was a lovely day and we rejoiced in the Lord's presence as visiting Bros. Jeff Neihouser (Francesville, IN), Ken Wuethrich (Indianapolis, IN), and Neal Widmer (West Lafayette, IN) ministered to us. Elder Bro. Steve Gutwein (Francesville, IN) took the vows of the young couple. Bro. Brian Huber (Francesville, IN) and Bro. Ron Bollier (Indianapolis, IN) also attended the wedding, along with many family and friends. The parable of the marriage feast from Matthew 22 was read. Jesus wants His bride to be ready when He comes again.

Bro. Wally Ramsier was with us Wednesday evening, August 13, for services. He also stayed for Sunday along with many who attended Gateway Woods auction on Saturday, August 16, including Bro. David Oberffel (Sis. Kathleen, Peoria, IL), Walter Herrmann (Sis. Betty, Princeville, IL), and James Kaeb (Sis. Diane, Bern, KS). The Lord greatly blessed us through our many visiting ministers and His provisions for Gateway Woods.

We welcomed our Elder Bro. Lynn Stieglitz back from the Elder Conference and pray the deliberations and counsel will be accepted in loving obedience. "Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall" (II Peter 1:10). "The night is far spent, the day is at hand, let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light" (Romans 13:12)

Our prayers are with those from our congregation who are experiencing the infirmity of the flesh: Sis. Helen Zimmer, Sis. Helen

Maxfield (Bro. Pete) and Bro. Gene Stoller. We were glad to have Sis. Lavada Stieglitz back in church following recuperation from foot surgery.

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### INDIANA, MILFORD

**Cap Beer  
Paula Haab**

The Milford community has been blessed with gracious rains this summer and our sympathy goes out to those who suffered loss from flooding. Our crops look very promising. It is our prayer that our church may flourish even as our crops are.

Our visiting ministers this month were Bros. Wayne Wiegand, Ron Kipfer and Garth Steffen. It increases our faith to see how God gives His grace to each of our ministers, that although they don't know the needs of the congregation, they are able to speak encouraging words to us. It also shows their love for us that they will travel many miles to help our own ministers.

We are thankful that the Lord has given a measure of healing to our Bro. Ray Haab. He is recuperating at home. It is our prayer that the Great God will encourage him and let him know how useful he can be to our Milford Church. All of our children and young people love him. We're also thankful that Sis. Paula has been given grace and strength to stand by.

Our Sis. Carol Hurd had hip surgery this past week and at this point is recovering quite well. We are looking forward to seeing her back in our assembly where she has been useful in Sunday School, food committees and World Relief sewing among other duties.

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### INDIANA, REMINGTON

**Rochelle Ward  
Beth Virkler**

Bro. Ed Bahler Sr. (Sis. Lois) is on the road to recovery following a back surgery. May he feel the strengthening hand of God each and every day.

We are generously being blessed with new life in our church family. First-time parents, Bro. Dana and Sis. Lea Nieman are thankful for their new son, Kade Charles, who was born on July 26. Bro. Dan and Sis. Deb Stoller and Bro. Dennis and Sis. Kay Nieman (Smithville, OH) are Kade's grandparents.

Bro. Alan and Sis. Sarah Schambach welcomed Shelby Jo into their hearts and home on July 30. Big brother, Rustin, is excited to have a little sister to take care of. Grandparents are Bro. Warren and Sis. Delores Zehr (Fairbury, IL) and Bro. Stan and Sis. Norma Schambach (Elgin, IL).

Thank you to the following ministers for visiting and sharing God's Word with us this past month: Bros. Ken Weerts (Cissna Park, IL), Ed Fritz (Washington, IL) and Tom Waldbeser (Atlanta, GA).

We had several opportunities for the Gateway Woods local work projects. The trailer was in the area for two weeks during which 2 houses were painted, a bathroom was remodeled, and a house was re-roofed. Thank you to all who labored physically and prayerfully.

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**INDIANA  
VALPARAISO  
Edward Lester**

"Praise ye the Lord. O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good: for his mercy endureth forever."

*Psalm 106:1*

Greetings of love and affection to all the believers of this world. We want to thank everyone for their love and support for Bro. Brady Moser (Bro. Andy and Sis. Diane). We still need to keep those prayers coming! His battle is far from over. Sis. Aldene Frieden (Bro. Roy) was welcomed home. She had a brief stay in the hospital and we are all glad she is home and doing better. Also, Bro. Andy Bucher (Bro. Tim and Sis. Julie) was home for the summer break. We are all praying for him as he labors in the mission field in Arizona.

As we grow older it is obvious that we are going to have to bear injustice, especially as Christians. We would urge everyone not to get caught up in the things of this world, or you could get swept away. Strong prayer life! Reading the Word! Good Christian fellowship! He can help only if you let Him.

Valpo would like to thank Bro. John Lehman (Sis. Ruthann, Wolcott, IN) for worshipping with us. Also, Bro. Todd Feller (Sis. Karen, Lacrosse, IN), Bro. Bob Meyer (Sis. Lela, Bluffton, IN), Bro. Gary Endress (Sis. Evelyn, Bradford, IL) and Bro. Jim Rinkenburger (Sis. Jeanne, Bluffton, IN).

We had a really spiritually supercharged month with all our visitors and prayerfully hope to fellowship again with them and all our brothers and sisters.

We also want to thank all the Sunday school teachers for their hard work and dedication. It takes

a special blessing to complete that portion of God's work, sowing the seeds of love. Thanks everyone. We had our annual Sunday school picnic and it was a fulfilling get together. Great fellowship, love, and food.

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**INDIANA  
WEST LAFAYETTE**

**Diana Houston  
Nettie Haab**

"Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children."

*Eph 5:1*

Sadie Hoerr (Bro. Don and Sis. Jackie) has heard God's call and wants to be one of His followers. Allen Furrer (Connie) also earlier made this same decision and now has found the precious peace of God that passeth all understanding.

Two dear couples who were recently united in marriage are Sis. Amber Heimer (Elder Bro. Kent and Sis. Jan, Taylor, MO) to Bro. Tim Lehman (Elder Bro. John and Sis. Connie, Bern, KS); and also Sis. Cara Baumgartner (Bro. Bill and Sis. Jan, Leo, IN) to Bro. Grant Gudeman (Bro. Dale and Sis. Peg, Francesville, IN). We wish them God's blessings and are happy both couples are establishing homes in the Lafayette area.

Two new baby boys are a welcome addition to our congregation. Kyler Andrew came to bless the home of Bro. Ryan, Sis. Hollie and Alec Meister on August 10. Kyler's grandparents are Bro. Dick and Sis. Sharon Meister and Michael and Joyce Pearson, all of West Lafayette. On August 11, Avery Nathan arrived to bless the home of

Bro. Nathan and Sis. Kelli Pritts. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Gerry and Sis. Marcia Waibel of West Lafayette and Mike and Pat Pritts of Frankfort.

Our prayers are with John Furrer (Allen and Connie's father) who recently had surgery in Health Park Hospital at Fort Myers, Florida.

We want to thank our visiting ministers who have been Bro. Steve Frauhiger (Sis. Irene, Bluffton North, IN), Bro. Ken Hoerr (Sis. Darlene, Peoria, IL), Bro. Michael Rieker (Sis. Carol Anne, Peoria, IL), Bro. Brian Huber (Sis. Jacki, Francesville, IN), Bro. Greg Stieglitz (Sis. Lisa, Indianapolis, IN), Bro. Gary Tonner (Sis. Diann, Bluffton, IN), and our Elder Bro. Curt Frank (Sis. Lyla, LaCrosse, IN).

We are looking forward to the return of many of our college students who will soon be starting another year of education to prepare for their futures. May they also study the Word of God to learn wisdom.

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**INDIANA, WOLCOTT**  
**Luann Gerber**  
**Heidi Bahler**

Summer and winter, and spring-  
time and harvest,

Sun, moon and stars in their  
courses above,

Join with all nature in manifold  
witness,

To thy great faithfulness, mercy  
and love.

"Great is thy faithfulness! Great is  
Thy faithfulness,"

Morning by morning new mercies I  
see;

All I have needed Thy hand hath

provided –  
 “Great is Thy faithfulness,” Lord,  
 unto me!

As we sense the change of the seasons, the fertile days of summer are left behind, and already cooler nights have come to refresh us.

This time of year is always special for those who attend the Brotherhood Conference. A big “thank you” to the Morton, IL, congregation for welcoming many visitors that week. We trust that God guided and inspired each of the Elders in their duties over the flocks, and now appreciate the privilege of listening to the excellent exhortations by tape on three consecutive Wednesday evenings.

Our Bible class participated in Christian Endeavor, hosted by Remington. Thanks to them for their time and efforts given to that group of young people, and we hope the seeds of goodness will prosper and bear fruit for harvest day.

Elder Bro. Earl Ringger (Sis. Dixie, Gridley, IL) came one Wednesday evening to share a topical Bible study on competition vs. cooperation. May we truly desire God’s will to be done in all areas of our lives that we not become competitive, putting others before ourselves.

The World Relief trailer was in our area recently, and it gave many ambitious ones an opportunity to help with jobs like re-roofing, painting or cooking for the workers! The young group also assisted in cleaning up after flood damage in the Lafayette area.

We can rejoice with the angels in Heaven as Daveana Schieler (Bro. Dave and Sis. Merri) has made a beginning in her walk with the Lord.

May you always remember God as your Creator, best Friend and spiritual Guide.

Bro. Lowell and Sis. Karla Bahler are blessed with another granddaughter, as Rachel Marie was born to Bro. James and Sis. Sandy Hartter of Sabetha, KS.

One by one, school and colleges around the country are welcoming students for their courses – another chance for a fresh start in learning. Let us remember teachers, parents and students with plenty of prayers and encouragement to always do their best! We especially think of those first-timers leaving home and are just thankful God is watching over all.

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**IOWA, ELGIN**  
**Gloria Frieden**  
**Heidi Butikofer**

“Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls...”

May we ever appreciate our Elder body for all their labors on our behalf and their sincere concern for the eternal welfare of our undying souls. “Truly stones could not help crying if the watchmen’s call would cease.” May God richly bless the Morton congregation for hosting this year’s Brotherhood Conference.

With much joy and thankfulness, we heard the testimony and witnessed the baptism of our new Sis. Sharla Schneider (Bro. Charles and Sis. Sue). Surely the angels also rejoice with each soul willing to forsake the pleasures of sin for a season for the pleasures the glorified share. May God be with Sis. Sharla

and grant her much grace and courage as she continues on life’s pathway.

New Sunday School teachers recently elected are Bro. Jim Knobloch (Sis. Marcy), Jr. Bible class; and Sis. Kathy Butikofer (Bro. Tim), primary class. As they teach the youth of God’s love, may their love also grow.

George Schupbach, who was recently in the hospital, has returned back to the nursing home. May God be near him.

We’d like to thank our visiting ministers who traveled to be with us and were willing to be used in God’s ministry. They are Elder Bros. Wayne Banwart (Sis. Charlen, Champaign, IL) and Wayne Fehr (Sis. Kathy, West Bend, IA) and also Bros. Wayne Grimm (Sis. Rose, West Bend, IA) and Myron Knobloch (Sis. Beth, Lester, IA).

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**IOWA, GARDEN GROVE**  
**Willa Clark**

Once again we have been blessed by visits from brothers and sisters in our precious faith, along with their families. We appreciate each visitor, and are especially thankful to ministering brothers who share God’s Word. Visiting ministers this month were Bros. Paul Messner (Winthrop, MN), Glenn Dill (Tremont, IL), and Erik Givens (Princeville, IL).

Another school year has started, and the students go off to school, perhaps eager to spend time with friends, excited about new experiences and a little apprehensive about new teachers. There is always anticipation of a fresh start, with the familiar scent of new glue

and crayons, and the clean white pages of a new notebook. Each day the students will decide—will I write something of worth on this page, or will I just fill it with scribbles? The same is true of our lives, each day we have a clean start, a new page. We can choose to learn from the Master, or just doodle the day away. It is our choice.

A reminder to any who might be coming our way—our church is in the same place, but the road signs have changed. The road is now named 320th Ave. This can cause confusion if you are still looking for Highway 204 as the minister/church directory states. We do want you to find our church and worship with us.

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### IOWA, IOWA CITY Diana Butikofer

We want to welcome Bro. Chris and Sis. Sara Hattan (Bloomington, IL) to our congregation. Bro. Chris is enrolled in a PhD. Program at the University of Iowa in Iowa City.

We held our annual Sunday School picnic last Sunday. We had a good turnout and the children enjoyed the games and activities provided.

We appreciate the visit and ministry of Bro. Duane Metzger (Sis. Ruth, West Bend, IA) in serving our Lord by serving our congregation.

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### IOWA, LESTER Dawn Knobloch Dawn Metzger

Tory James Knobloch was born to Dallas and Amy on July 23. His grandparents are James Moser and Bro. Larry and Sis. Sherryl

Knobloch. Great-grandmothers are Sis. Iola Knobloch and Sis. Donna Metzger. Bro. Harlan and Sis. Betty Wulf are enjoying a new baby in their home, too. Jesse Harlan arrived safely on July 25. Bro. Jake and Sis. Alice Wulf and Bro. Raymond and Sis. Catherine Klopfenstein (Latty, OH) are his grandparents. Macy Linnea is the new daughter of Lonnie and Jammie Kellenberger. Her birth date was August 8. Macy is welcomed home by her brother, Michael; grandparents, Bro. Verlyn and Sis. Linda Kellenberger; and great-grandmothers, Sis. Elaine Kellenberger and Sis. Karoline Doorneweerd.

Bro. Bill Metzger (Sis. Charlotte) and Bro. Mark Metzger (Sis. Audrey) were hospitalized for surgery. Sis. Sherryl Knobloch (Bro. Larry) was involved in a car accident and we are so thankful that she is now home from the hospital and recovering with the help of her family.

“Wherefore let them that suffer according to the will of God commit the keeping of their souls to him in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator.”

*1 Peter 4:19*

Bro. Duane and Sis. Ann, Cassidy, Axel, Zachariah and Garret Wulf are feeling the loss of their dad and grandpa, Bro. Leonard Wulf, of Morris, MN. He passed away on July 26. Other family in our congregation include Bro. Jake and Sis. Alice Wulf, Bro. Bill and Sis. Leona Wulf, Sis. Amelia Roemen, Sis. Karoline Doorneweerd, Leah Doorneweerd, Bro. Lawrence Wulf, Bro. Howard and Sis. Lollie Mogler, and grandson,

Bro. Kevin Wulf. We extend our sympathy to this family in their time of sorrow.

July 26 was the wedding day for Mary Moser and Christopher Fagerness. Mary is the daughter of Jim Moser. May God be with them as they establish their home together.

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### IOWA, OAKVILLE Sharla Wiegand Rosalie Wiegand

“To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven”

*Ecclesiastes 3:1*

The time has come for our faithful Silver Lining reporters to pass on their responsibility after many years of service. We wish to thank Sis. Debbie Wagenbach and Sis. Melody Steiner for their diligent efforts, having served 20 years and 10 years respectively as Oakville's correspondents.

Ministering Bro. Mark Steiner (Smithville, OH) shared the Word of God with us the Wednesday night before the Conference. May he be blessed for allowing himself to be used on our behalf. It is always good for us to hear of our Lord's suffering on the cross where He shed His blood for our sins. May we ever love Him for His sacrifice!

There have been several of our congregation in the hospital over the past few weeks and we pray that they may feel God's nearness. We should remember them in prayer, and sending even a short note can be encouraging during the low times.

*Note of Thanks:*

We would like to thank everyone for their love, prayers, deeds of kindness, and expressions of sympathy extended to us during the loss of our loving husband, father, and grandfather. Every token of kindness shown to us during our loss meant so much to each one of us.

*Sis. Delores Kiefer and family*

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

What a wonderful change in my  
life has been wrought,  
Since Jesus came into my heart!  
I have light in my soul for which  
long I have sought,  
Since Jesus came into my heart!  
Since Jesus came into my heart,  
Since Jesus came into my heart,  
Floods of joy o'er my soul like the  
sea billows roll,  
Since Jesus came into my heart.

Barbara Schock (Elder Bro. Doug and Sis. Clara) and Boni Wettstein (Bro. Jon and Sis. Rita) have opened their hearts to Jesus and have received peace in Him. We are so thankful for them. Also, we are rejoicing with Eric Wuthrich (Bro. Ken and Lora) as he is seeking the Lord in repentance. Our prayers are with all these young people as they are putting God first in their lives.

A special thanks to Bro. Arnie Gerst (Sis. Marjorie, Taylor, MO) for sharing God's Word with us this past month.

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

The Fort Sam Reunion was held in West Bend with many families

able to renew acquaintances which began when men were called to service for our country during the Vietnam war. Included among those visiting were ministering Bros. Beirne Messner (Sis. Joyce, Morris, MN), Tom Schambach (Sis. Connie, Elgin, IL), David Graf (Sis. Barbara, Akron, OH), Jon Zeller (Sis. Christine, Morton, IL), Gary Brown (Sis. Jane, Forrest, IL), Mark Steiner (Sis. Sue, Smithville, OH), Marvin Dotterer (Sis. Nancy, Forrest, IL), Tim Zimmerman (Sis. Barbara, Lamont-Gridley, KS) and Greg Stoller (Sis. Jill, Forrest, IL). We appreciated all of those who traveled over the miles to be here, the ministers for sharing the Word and for the special time of fellowship we shared with those of like mind and faith.

Three Wednesday evenings have been set aside to allow us the privilege of hearing the recordings of our Elder brothers during the recent Brotherhood Conference. May we appreciate their wise counsel and be faithful, contented witnesses that we may be found walking in grace.

We express our sympathy to Henry Fehr, whose wife, Emma, passed away August 6. Survivors include three stepsons: Eldon Fehr (Verdell, Guthrie Center, IA), Gerald Fehr (Teresa, LaSelva, CA) and David Fehr (Marilyn, West Bend); along with brother-in-law, Bro. Elmer Fehr (Sis. Matilda), and sister-in-law, Sis. Hulda Wirtz, and many nieces and nephews of our congregation.

Sis. Lucille Schmidt (Bro. Dwaine), Sisters Doris and Joyce Banwart mourn the loss of their sister, Sis. Gladys Koehl (Morris, MN). Both of these families can be

comforted that their loved ones have been released from their earthly suffering.

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**JAPAN, TOKYO**

**Marie Inoue**

We thank the Lord and the Shioda Church for providing so well for our summer fellowship meeting held in Katsunuma, the center of the grape-growing area in Yamanashi-Ken. The theme of our meetings was "Armor for our Spiritual Battle." We began with Romans 13:12 "...let us cast off the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light." A true repentance and conversion is the first piece of armor, followed by true peace in our hearts, joy, prayer, were all mentioned in the messages. The importance of the precious Holy Spirit, and that it cannot be over-emphasized was also brought to our attention. It was also brought out how necessary it is for the proper understanding of Bible verses among us, especially for those who come to know the ways of the Lord in later years, not having the blessed opportunity of the Sunday school years of studying God's Word. Bros. Willis Ehnle, Toru Saegusa, and Akihiro Ito, who came from the U.S. to be with us, all shared in the above teachings. May God bless them for their time and effort given to serve us. While there we enjoyed rich fellowship, hot spring baths, early morning walks, meals together, and especially the view of the valley with the roof-like canopies of grapes from our building situated on the hill top.

Rika Allen and sons (Bro. Bob, Philadelphia, PA), are visiting Rika's family for a month here in

Japan, and we were so happy they could spend a Sunday with us. We pray for them that God will be with them and grant them safe travels home again.

Our hearts were saddened when we heard the news of the passing of the Hashimoto's daughter-in-law. She battled cancer for 10 years. We all signed a card for those mourning her death, wishing them the comfort of our loving God.

Our special thanks is extended to the Morton Congregation for the love shown to many as they hosted the yearly Brotherhood Conference in August. Our Bro. and Sis. Andrew and Jana Klaus were among those who attended. May God bless all the efforts, spiritually and physically, given by many for the preservation of our precious faith.

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**KANSAS, BERN**  
**Lori Baumgartner**  
**Sally Strahm**

Our hearts are thankful and rejoicing when new lambs are added to the fold. We listened to the testimony and witnessed the baptism of Sis. Rebecca Rokey (Bro. Galen and Sis. Nancy) and Bro. Waymer and Sis. Pauline Esslinger the weekend of August 2-3.

We are thankful that Madison Nicole arrived safely into the home of Bro. Terry and Sis. Dayra Menold. Her older sister, Norea, welcomes her. May God be with them as they raise and nurture her.

"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*

Bro. Tim Lehman (Elder Bro. John and Sis. Connie) and Sis. Amber Heimer (Elder Bro. Kent and Sis. Jan) of the Taylor, MO, congregation were united in marriage on July 27. We pray God's richest blessings on their marriage. May God be with them as they establish their home in West Lafayette, IN.

The engagement of Sis. Leann Lehman (Elder Bro. John and Sis. Connie) to Bro. Neil Banwart (Elder Bro. Wayne and Sis. Charlen) of Champaign, IL, was made known August 3. We wish them God's guidance as they prepare for their future together.

Our visiting ministers this past month were Bro. Brandon Plattner (Sis. Rhoda, Sabetha, KS) and Elder Bro. Tom Klotzle (Sis. Jody, Altadena, CA).

Sis. Marie Grimm is now residing in the Apostolic Christian Home. We pray God will stand by her during this time of change.

We have begun listening to the tapes of the Elder Conference that was held in Morton, IL. We pray that as we each hear the words of exhortations, we can take them to heart and apply them to our own individual lives.

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**KANSAS, FORT SCOTT**  
**Ruth Bahr**

We were encouraged in our faith from God's Word through Elder Bro. Jay Luthi (Sis. Jane, Lamont-Gridley, KS), and Bros. Virgil Metzger (Sis. Mary, Chicago, IL) and Wayne Grimm (Sis. Rose, West Bend, IA). May they feel encouragement from the Heavenly Father as they give of themselves.

The newly elected Sunday

School teacher for the upcoming term is Sis. Karen Kellenberger (Bro. Rick). We appreciate the efforts of the current and reelected teachers over the past year.

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**KANSAS**  
**LAMONT-GRIDLEY**  
**Eileen Bahr**

Bros. Ivan Beyer and Roy Wernli have both been hospitalized at KU Medical Center for heart problems.

Our congregation has started listening to the Brotherhood tapes Wednesday evenings. We thank these brethren for the efforts they put forth traveling many miles, taking time from their work and families. May God richly bless them.

Bro. Don and Sis. Mary Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN) were warmly welcomed, both temperature wise (105 degrees) and Christian greetings Sunday evening. We seldom have visiting ministers and each one is appreciated. In his message the question was asked: "In our lives, whether we live to be 80 or 100, it is but a vapor compared to eternity. How long is a vapor? Blow your breath and count. How do we want to spend eternity?"

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

With much joy and thankfulness we heard the engagement announcement of Bro. Erik Hertzell (Elder Bro. Gerry and Sis. Ellen) and Sis. Shelli Grant (Bro. Phil and Sis. Gloria, Latty, OH). On August 17, many of us had the opportunity to share their wedding day with them in Latty. We wish them much

happiness in their new life together.

Elder Bro. John Lehman (Bern, KS) was present with us for a Sunday afternoon service this past month. We also had the opportunity to be fed from God's Holy Word as Elder Bro. Tom Klotzle shared a few precious moments with us on a Sunday evening. We certainly extend our appreciation to these willing servants.

Bro. James and Sis. Sandy Hartter welcome a new daughter, Rachel Marie, into their family circle. Rachel joins her siblings, Jesse, Elijah, Andrew, and Mary at home. Grandparents are Bro. Virgil and Sis. Marie Hartter and Bro. Lowell and Sis. Karla Bahler (Wolcott, IN). Bro. Jay and Sis. Marilyn Kellenberger have a new grandson, Preston Scott. His parents are Scott and Trisha Gibson.

Our prayers are with Sis. Ruby Grimm (Bro. Gerald) as she spends time in the hospital recovering from an auto accident.

As a church family, we welcome Sis. Brianna Miller to our congregation. Sis. Brianna recently moved here from Portland, OR, to begin her new teaching position in our community.

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

On a recent Sunday in July, both of our ministering brothers were gone; however, they made arrangements to have a visiting minister. Bro. Brandon Plattner, his wife, Sis. Rhoda, and his parents, Bro. Don and Sis. Ada, made the trip from Sabetha. We are a fortunate people to have the advantages of transportation to meet our needs

and Brothers who are willing to make the personal sacrifice for our spiritual benefit.

Stephanie Long (Bro. Jonathon and Sis. Ruthie) was a part of the group who went to Rio Bravo, Mexico, July 5-11 to work on a building at the MCCA School for the deaf. This was Stephanie's first experience on such a mission. She learned much about the life style and opportunities of the students as compared to ours. She felt blessed to be a part of the group.

We rejoice with the Glen Funk family. Both Derek and Tim have returned from their duty in the Iraq conflict. Again, we thank God for answered prayers. Their father, Bro. Glen, had the unique opportunity to meet Tim in Hawaii. Glen boarded the ship and traveled with Tim for ten days on the high seas until they docked in Santiago.

Our Bro. Philip Bowers was hospitalized. Hopefully he will be released and able to continue with his teaching responsibilities.

Elder Bros. John Lehman and Jay Luthi were present in our assembly August 17. At the conclusion of the day, the body of believers submitted their preference for another minister. Bro. Cory Metzger was then commissioned with that responsibility. Bro. Cory and Sis. Jodi will be in our prayers as they accept the responsibility laid on them.

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

"So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom."

*Psalm 90:12*

We pray the Lord will richly bless our visiting ministers for this past month. They were Bros. Ben Manz (Sis. Carolyn, Junction), Nile Bucher (Sis. Phyllis, Bluffton North), and Wayne Leman (Sis. Julie, Roanoke).

On Monday, July 28, our ministering Bro. Lester Huber broke his left leg (the femur bone), while tending to his sheep. We have missed him and his dear wife (Sis. Glendoris) as he has been unable to assemble with us. We praise the Lord for answered prayers, as he is starting to see some healing and progress. "For I will restore health unto thee.....saith the Lord." (Jeremiah 30:17)

#### *Note of Thanks:*

My dear beloved Brothers and Sisters of our most precious faith - With God's help and grace I am humbled to express with deep appreciation for the many words of comfort and support received during the past year of illness and injury. The many visits, prayers, and expressions of support, continue to

Vacation Bible School was also held in Morelia and Acapulco. Bro. Lon and Sis. Sarah Vogt assisted Sis. Fernanda Cervantes and Sis. Pauli Angelito with the VBS in Morelia where they had about 50 in attendance. The following week Sisters Pauli, Rosario Gonzales and Gloria Gonzales traveled to Acapulco to share the stories with the children in the hometown of Sisters Pauli and Fernanda. Nearly 100 children, including many of their nieces and nephews, were able to attend the activities for the week.

With prayers and tears in our eyes we said goodbye to our dear ones, Bro. Kirby and Sis. Areli Reutter. They moved back to Rockville, CT, last Sunday. May the Lord keep and protect them until we meet again.

*Meet Bro. Mario Cabrera:*

My name is Mario and I'm number five in a family of eight siblings. Six members of my family are believers now, including me.

I came to know about the Lord through one of my older sisters who already was a believer and also through other brothers in the church.

My life, before I knew the Lord, was a sinful life. My heart was full of evil and I was tired of living in sin. I was so tired that I thought the only solution would be death. However, as I heard God's Word I understood that there was another answer to my problems...Christ was the solution.

After understanding that Christ was the only way, it was still difficult to surrender my whole life to Him and to confess my sins. As I started attending the church, my

friends rejected me and some of my unbelieving brothers did too, but my parents encouraged me to keep on. The Lord kept talking to my heart day by day and I just said, "Maybe tomorrow, Lord, yes, tomorrow I will follow Thee completely." I kept with that reply until a brother in the church encouraged me saying, "You don't know if tomorrow you will be alive, the best time to repent is today." After hearing those words of encouragement, God gave me the grace to repent and I surrendered my whole life to Him. It was not easy, but the Lord helped me. The love that the brothers and sisters in church showed me was a great encouragement and it is still. I finally found peace in my heart and most of all I was set free, free from sin. I was baptized on January 20, 2002.

As a blessing from the Lord came to my life, I married Sis. Elsa Sibaja who has been a great help in my spiritual life.

"Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the Lord."

*Proverbs 18:22*

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**MICHIGAN, ALTO**

**Rose Watson  
Terri Huber**

August is always a busy month, as many of our people travel to the Conference and the Children's Home sale. Many of us are getting ready for school to start - some of the universities have begun classes already! We are currently listening to the tapes of the Conference on successive Wednesday nights.

We would like to thank our outgoing Sunday School teachers.

peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee."

Isaiah 26:3

What a wonderful promise of peace from God to those who turn their minds from the vanity of the world to God. This past month we were thankful to have ministering Bro. Duane Reutter (Rockville, CT) who shared with us a message of repentance. We appreciate his willingness to share God's Word.

Our VBS, here in Ixtlan, took place from July 28 - August 1. Invitations were delivered to the neighbor children and we are thankful for the many kids that were able to attend. There was an average of 170 children in attendance each day. Our Bible stories were about Daniel trusting in God. May the Lord give the increase to the seeds that have been planted in the little hearts. Thanks to the Young Group for being willing to help and teach the children. We also thank all of you from the U.S. who sent prizes for VBS. May God keep blessing you!



This is such an important job! Filling the vacancies in Sunday School are: Bros. John Schlatter and Nathan Steffen and Sisters Elizabeth Blough, Laura Pardo and Stephanie Gerst.

We can see the excitement on their faces as Stan and Elaine Wingeier welcome first grandson, Andrew Thomas Woolridge, born to Steve and Robin in Southfield, MI.

From the beginning of time on this earth created by God, lives have started and lives have ended. It is with sorrow that Sis. Bertha Wingeier bid farewell to her brother, Bro. Elmer Grusy (Goodfield, IL).

Hospitalized this month were Victoria Schlatter (Bro. John and Sis. Stephanie) and Bro. Denny Koehl.

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## MICHIGAN, BAY CITY

### Sarah Knochel Janelle Ramseyer

Several from our congregation experienced the loss of loved ones this past month. Our sympathy goes to Bro. Sam and Sis. Lorraine Wackerle in the sudden death of their daughter, Renee Strawn. She is survived by her husband, Clinton, and three sons. Her siblings are Alan and Bro. Tom (Kim) from our congregation and Bro. Greg (Sis. Carol) from Silverton, OR.

Sis. Carol Meylan (Bro. Gene) and family mourn the death of their father and grandfather, Robert Schweitzer.

We also want to remember Bro. Henry Meylan in the loss of his sister, Lena Bentuleit.

Sis. Emily Rechsteiner's death

was also mourned amongst our congregation. She is survived by her sister, Sis. Esther Waibel, and several nieces and nephews. Sis. Emily was a special person that everyone will remember.

We want to remember Sis. Loretta Mosher as she is suffering from the frailties of the flesh. May God provide for her and each one that calls upon His name for help in the time of need.

Two families from Bay City have witnessed the marriage of their children. On July 26, Bro. Rod and Sis. Evelyn Wieland witnessed the marriage of their daughter, Beverly, to Lorne Dyar. Bev and Lorne will be making their home in Marysville, OH. August 1 was the day Bro. Jack and Sis. Debbie Knochel's daughter, Ashley, married Paul Reusch. May God be in the forefront of their lives as they make their home in Kentucky.

Take my will and make it Thine,  
It shall be no longer mine;  
Take my heart, it is Thine own,  
It shall be Thy royal throne,  
It shall be Thy royal throne.

*Hymns of Zion, #106*

Our congregation had a reason to rejoice as another soul has turned her life and will over to the Lord for His control. Jennifer Curtis (Jim and Laurel) has turned her heart to the Lord in repentance. We pray that the Lord will continue to encourage her and walk by her side as she faces the daily trials of life.

The Bay City congregation was blessed with two visiting ministers this past month. We wish to thank Bro. Don Gudeman (Sis. Mary, La-Crosse, IN) and Bro. David Steffen

(Sis. Linda, Elgin, IL) for their willingness to serve us. May the Lord continue to bless both of these dear brothers.

We rejoice with Joe and Tara Wieland as they welcomed a son, Parker, into their family. Ashley and Emily are happy to have a baby brother. Parker's grandparents are Bro. Brian and Sis. Char Wieland. Parker had to spend several weeks in the Neonatal unit at the University of Michigan Children's Hospital but the Lord continually provided and has brought him safely home to his family.

We ask the Lord's guidance and blessings on our new Sunday School teachers. Our prayers are with Sis. Kayleen Grew (Bro. Bob), Bro. Bob Knochel (Sis. Rhonda), and Bro. Glen Ruegsegger, Jr. (Sis. Maria) as they will have a great responsibility of teaching our youth.

As the school year begins and our children are immersed in knowledge that the world offers, we pray that the Lord will guide them to be true servants of His and a light to those around Him.

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## MICHIGAN, DETROIT

### Krista Wieland

We rejoice with the angels in heaven as Brooke Knochel (Dana and Beth) has answered the call to repentance. Our prayers are with her as she begins her walk with Christ. We are also thankful to hear that Kristen Hitz (Bro. Tom and Cindy) has found peace and looks forward to baptism.

Many of our congregation were able to recently attend the Elder Conference in Morton, IL. "Behold, how good and how pleasant it

is for brethren to dwell it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!" (Psalm 133:1) As Apostolic Christians, this is truly a wonderful way to follow the pattern of the apostles, who met for the first conference as we read in Acts 15.

A group of Detroit's Sunday School students took part in a weekend of fellowship with other Michigan and Ohio Sunday School students in Mansfield, OH, at the end of July.

Our prayers go with Sis. Michelle Bahr as she returns to Kansas State for another semester.

Sis Ann Tacher and Sis. Anna Sabados have both been hospitalized recently. We pray that God will place His healing hands upon them. Baby Graham Bedolla (Bro. Jesse and Bonnie) recently underwent some outpatient testing. We are thankful to hear that the testing went well and pray that God will continue to bless this young life.

Our thanks to visiting ministers, Bro. Howard Plattner (Sis. Kristen, Alto, MI) and Bro. John Jackson (Sis. Peggy, Bay City, MI) for sharing with us. Bro. John was our visiting minister at Woodhaven this month.

Dr. Parkhe returned for a Wednesday evening to update on the situation in India. We need to continue to pray and support our fellow believers in India, as they are enduring increased persecution.

The recent Black-Out in our region was a reminder of the many blessings we take for granted. The seemingly negative situation was an opportunity for our church family and community to serve one another's needs.

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**MINNESOTA  
MINNEAPOLIS  
Delores Sauder**

Vacation Bible School came to an end July 18. This year's theme was "Brighten the Corner Where You Are". Bro. Wayne Grimm (West Bend, IA) was the guest speaker on Friday evening. It was a real encouragement to all.

We enjoyed a blessed weekend July 26-27 as we heard the testimony and witnessed the baptism of Bro. Tim McMillan. We welcome him into our brotherhood and thank Elder Bros. Wayne Fehr and LeRoy Messner who assisted Bro. Duane Rocke.

We extend our sympathy to Bro. Kent and Sis. Mary Mogler and their family with the death of Mary's mother, Sis. Gladys Koehl, of Morris. We will miss her visits and friendly smile.

Jay, Lisa, Bailey and Alexandra Kent welcomed Olivia Rose into their hearts and home August 11. These little ones certainly are a blessing from God. Grandparents are Sis. Carol Ann Messner (Winthrop, MN) and Travis Kent and Donna Smith (both of St. Cloud, MN).

Sis. Diane Stewart is at home recovering after having foot surgery. We pray that she will soon be able to assemble with us again.

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**MINNESOTA, MORRIS  
Katie Koehl  
Cheryl Messner**

Beyond the sunset, O blissful morning,  
When with our Saviour, heav'n is begun.

Earth's toiling ended, O glorious dawning;  
Beyond the sunset, when day is done.

*Hymns of Zion #172*

Our congregation gave its final farewell to two loved ones in the faith. Our beloved Sis. Gladys Koehl was called Home on July 20. Her husband, Bro. Ernest, died in July of 1996. She is survived by four sons: Keith (Coleen), Bro. Wayne (Sis. Mary), Bro. Roy (Sis. Jenell) and Bro. Jim (Sis. Hildegard); three daughters: Sis. Cheryl, Sis. Mary (Bro. Kent) Mogler and Sis. Ruth (Bro. Shane) Jones; 21 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

Bro. Leonard Wulf was laid to rest on July 31. He was a pillar of our faith and a friend to all. Leonard's family includes his wife, Sis. Violet; children, Bro. Dennis (Sis. Judy), Bro. Douglas (Sis. Joyce), Bro. Davis (Sis. Nancy), Sis. Cynthia Schmidgall, Bro. Jeral (Sis. Linda), Sis. Catherine (Bro. Steve) Backman, Sis. Shirley (Bro. Randy) Koehl, Sis. LeAnn (Bro. Nathan) Gerber, Bro. James (Sis. Twyla), Bro. Duane (Sis. Ann), Patricia (Christopher) Wentte; 47 grandchildren, and 4 great-grandchildren.

How joyful is the hope that lingers  
When loved ones cross earth's sea,  
That we, when all earth's toils are ended,

With them shall ever be!  
We'll never say good-by in heav'n,  
We'll never say good-by,  
For in that land of joy and song,  
We'll never say good-by.

*Hymns of Zion #122*

The betrothal of Bro. Douglas

Koehl and Sis. Maxine Sauder was made known on August 3. Parents are Bro. Ephraim and Sis. Eunice Koehl (both deceased) and Virgil and Mildred Sauder. We pray for this couple as they plan their future together.

Our convert, Kevin Nohl, was seriously injured in a farm accident on August 4. We are so thankful his life was spared and we pray that he will feel God's nearness during his recovery.

First-time parents, Bro. Andrew and Sis. Kara Messner, are thankful for Cody Andrew, born on August 13. May God grant heavenly wisdom to this couple. Grandparents are Bro. Davis and Sis. Nancy Wulf and Bro. Tony and Sis. Nancy Messner.

Visiting ministers included Elder Bro. Lawrence Luthi and Bro. Rex Frieden (Lamar, MO), Bros. Paul Zimmerman (Forrest, IL), Myron Knobloch (Lester, IA) and Elder Bro. Doug Schock (Pulaski, IA). May the Lord reward them for their Godly efforts.

*Note of Thanks:*

Our hearts are deeply touched by the love and prayers we've received during the illness and passing of our loved one, Bro. Leonard. We extend our thanks! We are so blessed to have brethren and friends supporting us during this time. God's blessings to you.

*Sis. Vi Wulf and family*

**MINNESOTA, WINTHROP**

**Marilyn Messner  
Ginny Stoll**

Bro. Mike Messner (Sis. Joyce) wishes to thank everyone who remembered him with cards, prayers

and encouraging words.

Our medical patients were Verna Bruns (Marvin) and Bro. Ed Stoll (Sis. Ginny). Still in the hospital is little Nickalos Messner (Dan and Karen). We extend our prayers that God will completely heal them.

Our Elder Conference was held at Morton, IL.

When we attend our church picnic and Sunday School starts, we know fall can't be far behind. What a joy to gather together with like mind and faith.

Our sympathy goes out to the Bro. Ed Stoll family in the death of Bro. Ed's grandmother, Edlyn Stoll, of Houston, TX. May you know God's comfort.

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

Be present, blessed Jesus,  
To join their loving hands,  
As thou didst bind two natures  
In Thine eternal bands.

*Hymns of Zion #196*

A large contingent of our congregation traveled to Taylor, MO, the weekend of July 26-27 to witness the wedding of Bro. Tim Lehman (Elder Bro. John and Sis. Connie, Bern, KS) and Sis. Amber Heimer (Elder Bro. Kent and Sis. Jan, Taylor, MO). We will greatly miss Bro. Tim as he leaves our assembly to be with Sis. Amber but wish them God's richest blessings as they walk their pilgrim journey, hand in hand. They will be assembling in West Lafayette, IN.

"Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from

thy presence: and take not thy holy spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit."

*Psalms 51:10-12*

We rejoice with Sis. Dona Fehr (Bro. Bob and Sis. Barb, Philadelphia, PA) as she was baptized August 3. We welcome her into our congregation.

Visiting ministers that weekend were Elder Bro. Ben Wiegand (Sis. Michelle, Philadelphia, PA), Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr (Sis. Kathy, West Bend, IA) and Bro. Duane Metzger (Sis. Ruth, West Bend, IA). We thank these brethren for their labors on this joyous weekend.

We read that angels in heaven rejoice when a soul repents. We are blessed with two new converts, Scott Kellenberger (Bro. Randy and Sis. Karen) and Allison Meyer (Bro. DeVere and Sis. Michelle). Our prayers are with these two dear young souls.

**MISSOURI, LAMAR  
Becky Marti  
Wendy Braker**

On August 3, many were gathered to witness the marriage of Bro. David Dotterer (Bro. Bill and Sis. Sharon) and Sis. Carol Braker (Bro. Roy and Sis. Judy). We were thankful to have Bro. Kevin Banwart (Sis. Sandy, West Bend, IA) share God's Word with us on this special day.

We also appreciate having Bro. Brad Funk (Sis. Laura, Garden Grove, IA) minister to us this past month. May he be blessed for his labors in bringing forth the true Word of Life.

### MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS Betsy Schrenk

The St. Louis church has once again been blessed with a new member. Sis. Krista Banwart (Elder Bro. Wayne and Sis. Charlen, Champaign, IL) has accepted employment at Barnes-Jewish Hospital. She has recently completed an occupational therapy hand fellowship in Philadelphia. We appreciate her cheerful, optimistic attitude, and hope that she feels at home here.

Our recent visiting ministers are Elder Bros. Earl Ringger (Sis. Dixie, Gridley, IL) and Kent Heimer (Sis. Jan, Taylor, MO) and Bro. Galen Rokey (Sis. Nancy, Bern, KS). Thank you.

Bro. Ken and Sis. Devon Rinkenberger look forward to the wedding of their son, Bro. Jared, to Sis. Heidi Inoue, both of Bloomington, IL. We rejoice with them.

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### MISSOURI, TAYLOR Susan Haerr

We concluded our annual July Bible studies with retired Elder Bro. Gene Marti (Kansas City, MO). Thanks, Bro. Gene and Sis. Mary, for being here to bless us.

The weekend of July 27 was one of many blessings as we shared in the wedding day of Sis. Amber Heimer (Elder Bro. Kent and Sis. Jan) and Bro. Tim Lehman (Elder Bro. John and Sis. Connie, Bern, KS). We had the privilege of welcoming many visitors. Among those visitors were Dr. and Mrs. Parkhe from the Rural Gospel and Medical Missions of India. Blessing us from the pulpit that day were Bros. Dennis Kaufmann (Sis.

Bonnie, Bloomington, IL), Ted Hirstein (Sis. Joyce, Atlanta, GA), Darren Plattner (Sis. Sue, Champaign, IL), Elder Bro. John Lehman and our own Elder Bro. Kent Heimer. Congratulations to Bro. Tim and Sis. Amber. May your relationship with each other always reflect the wonderful beauty of Christ's love.

In addition to those already mentioned, we were also honored to have the following ministers with us this past month: Bros. Ron Joos (Sis. Christy, Pulaski, IA) and Fred Funk (Sis. Diane, Morton, IL). Thank you for using the gift that God has given you to bless us.

A special thank you to the Sunday School teachers finishing their terms: Bros. Shannon Haerr, Roger Sutter and Mike Stratton, and Sisters Natalie Stratton and Jerilyn Yackley. Our prayers are with those beginning new terms: Bros. Don Grimm, Keith Pflum and Brad Gehring and Sisters Anna Hoerr and Charlotte Hoerr. You each are a very valuable part of our children's spiritual guidance.

Our thanks goes out also to our Elder Bro. Kent and Sis. Jan for representing us at the annual Brotherhood Conference in Morton, IL (in addition to all you do daily!). We are so thankful that there are brothers that God sets up to serve in that role. Our prayers are always with you.

Among those receiving medical attention in the last month were Bro. Norman Haerr (Sis. Sally) and Sis. Rosie Massner (Bro. Allen). We pray that God's perfect will will be played out in your healing.

Last, but not least, we are bidding farewell to our college students. Our prayers go with each of

you. Please come home to visit often. You will be missed.

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### NEW YORK CROGHAN-NAUMBURG Hope Graves

We have been a very blessed people this past month with many special times spent with God's people. Elder Bro. Kevin Ryan (Rockville, CT) was with us on July 20 and again faithfully ministered the Word unto us. We also had many visitors in our midst on the weekend of July 26-27 and gathered together for a potluck and singing on Saturday evening.

Our annual business meeting was held on Monday evening, July 28. We are again thankful for each one that did serve our congregation over the past year. May we continue to work together as a "body fitly joined together". "Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for him hath God the Father sealed." (John 6:27)

We gathered together for our annual Sunday School picnic at Whetstone Gulf State Park on Saturday, August 2. We were thankful for the many from near and far that came and shared in the beautiful day the Lord provided for us.

Our prayers were with the Elder brethren that gathered together in Morton, IL, for the Conference on August 8. May the Lord bless the work that was brought forth and open our hearts to the hearing of the Conference tapes in the coming weeks.

We were thankful for the Lord's faithfulness in watching over

Ambrose Bush who met with accident and surgery and Tessa Farney who has had surgery. May He continue to be with them and grant them healing.

“Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: by whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in the hope of the glory of God.”

*Romans 5:1-2*

We rejoice with our loved ones, Sis. Norma Conde and Bro. Kenneth Farney in their baptism on August 17. What a blessed weekend we had with Elder Bros. William Schlatter (Junction, OH) and Kevin Ryan (Rockville, CT) here for the testimonies Saturday evening as well as many visitors from away. May the Lord continue to touch their lives as He did ours. We certainly could feel the Spirit with us over the weekend and pray that the Lord will continue to bless each one for remembering us at this blessed time.

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

We rejoice that Daniel Pamer (Bro. Steve and Sis. Arliss) has repented and received peace with God. We wish him continued grace, and his desire is for baptism and become a Child of God.

Bro. John Palitto has nearly attained living four score years. His birthday on October 3 would mark the 80 year mark.

A Silver Anniversary is coming for Bro. Greg and Sis. Henico as they were married September 23,

1978.

Bro. Greg Henico had outpatient back surgery. He has been able to assemble with us and we hope he has a full and speedy recovery.

Sis. Marcy Graf has taken the place in teaching in Sunday School to replace Sis. Diana Vidakovics, who moved to Connecticut. Sis. Marcy will do well in teaching the children.

We are happy to give a warm welcome to those who have moved into our area and plan to become a part of our Akron congregation. They are Bro. Al and Sis. Mary Ann Weigele and the family of Kevin and Jennifer Sancraint and their two children, Zackary and Hannah. We are glad to have them with us and hope they like their new locations.

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### **OHIO, COLUMBUS**

#### **Nancy Banks**

Summer months bring plenty of visitors to our church for which we are very thankful. Elder Bro. Mark Masters (Mansfield, OH) and Bros. Craig Martin (Princeville, IL) and Dwight Stoller (Latty, OH) were our visiting ministers for the month.

Our love and prayers are with Sis. Debbie Sauder (Bro. Bill and Sis. Becky) as she prepares to travel to Budapest, Hungary, for a medical internship. May the Lord be ever present in this undertaking.

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### **OHIO, JUNCTION**

#### **Cindy Schlatter**

What a blessed fellowship we have as we can meet and greet brethren from near and far. This month we were blessed to have sev-

eral visiting ministers. We would like to thank Bro. Bill Brake (Sardis, OH), Bro. Ted Luginbuhl (Smithville, OH), Bro. John Hartman (Fairbury, IL), Bro. Darrel Stoller (Bern, KS), and Bro. Tom Schrenk (Athens, AL) as they brought forth the Word to us. May God richly bless you each one.

Sis. Gwen Manz (Bro. Ken) had surgery and spent several days in the hospital. We are thankful that she is home now and hope she will soon be back assembling with us.

Sis. Jennifer Manz (Bro. Dave and Sis. Kathy) and Bro. Tony Manz (Sis. Denise) began their term as our new Sunday School teachers. We trust God will be with you both and will grant you the grace and patience needed as you teach our children. Bro. Ed Schlatter (Sis. Cheryl) finished his term, and we want to thank him for his labors.

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### **OHIO, LATTY** **Amanda Steffen** **Bonny Wenninger**

This is the test of true devotion,  
To keep and hold fast to the Lord;  
And evermore without omission  
In all things to obey His Word.  
In small and unimportant matters,  
Yet to be careful and sincere,  
Not knowingly to faults consenting,

However small they may appear.

*Zion's Harp #179*

The above hymn certainly reminds us to be careful in all things, no matter the size of the matter. We were reminded recently at the General Conference in Morton, IL, that we should not have an independent spirit. We were also encouraged to

hear about being content where God has called us as well as discerning God's will for our lives.

Taking care in trusting God's will for their lives, Sis. Shelli Grant (Bro. Phil and Sis. Gloria) and Bro. Erik Hertzell of Sabetha, KS (Elder Bro. Gerry and Sis. Ellen) were announced to be married on July 20. They have set an August 17 wedding date.

Another convert has found peace with God and man. Carla Laukhuf (Jason) has sought and found forgiveness from God.

Bro. Raymond and Sis. Catherine Klopfenstein rejoice over the birth of another grandson. Bro. Harlan and Sis. Betty Wulf (Lester, IA) are the first-time parents of Jesse Harlan, born on July 25. Also rejoicing over this child are paternal grandparents, Bro. Jake and Sis. Alice Wulf of Lester.

Visiting ministers this past month were Elder Bro. Gerry Hertzell (Sabetha, KS) and Bro. Allen Stoller (Bluffton, IN).

Bro. Loren Stoller and Sis. Lorine Hackenjos (Bro. Myron) have been hospitalized in the past month. May God grant them His healing.

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### OHIO, MANSFIELD

#### John and Marci Pfeiffer

Sis. Kathryn Beer moved to the Rittman Apostolic Christian Nursing Home this past month. We will keep her in our prayers as she adjusts to her new home.

The annual Ohio - Michigan Youth Day was held at Pleasant Valley Ranch. May God reward all who planned and took part in this event. Elder Bro. Mark Masters, Bro. Mike Baumann and Bro. Fred

Domka kindly shared God's Word to our youth.

We rejoice with two families who have recently been blessed with the birth of a daughter. Katrina Lynn was born to Bro. Tim and Sis. Traci Beer on July 25. Her brothers are Trent and Thomas. Her grandparents are Bro. Joel and Sis. Sue Beer and Bro. Pete and Sis. Karen Baltic.

Andy, Tamara, Katlyn and Braeden Pfeiffer welcomed home Jaquelyn Olivia on July 31. Her grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Zuzanna Pfeiffer and Dennis and Marilyn Paramore.

We are thankful that our Father in Heaven has been merciful to Bruce Sauder (Sis. Denise). Bruce has found peace with God and man after a time of repentance.

May God be near and continue to grant healing to all who have been ill or needed hospital care. Among them are Bro. Jason Sabo (Sis. Nora) and Sis. Deanna Masters (Elder Bro. Mark and Sis. Jeannine).

We look forward to hearing the tapes of the General Brotherhood Conference held in Morton, IL. We trust God will continue to inspire all His servants.

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### OHIO, RITTMAN

#### Laurel Indermuhle Anna Schar

Jesus is waiting, oh, come to Him  
now

Waiting today, waiting today;  
Come with thy sins, at His feet  
lowly bow;

Come, and no longer delay.

*Gospel Hymns #308*

Brenda Stoller (Bro. Joe and Sis.

Mim) recently answered God's call. We wish her much grace as she continues on.

Our appreciation to visiting ministers: Elder Bro. Ray Sinn (Latty, OH), Bros. Todd Stoller (Latty, OH), Randy Gasser (Detroit, MI), Vernon Wettstein (Congerville, IL) and John Steiner (Oakville, IA).

On August 4, Nicholas, Noah and Devan welcomed a new baby sister, Jayde Marie. Jayde's parents are Bro. Jeff and Sis. Darlene Lanz. Bro. Ralph and Sis. Diane Lanz and Tim and May Reminder are Jayde's grandparents.

Jed Ronald was born to Doug and Kelly Hanzie on August 13. Jed will have a ready playmate in his older brother, Jacob. Grandparents are Ron and Bev Hanzie (Creston, OH) and Bro. Dan and Sis. Diane Gasser.

We were thankful to hear that the Conference was a blessing and we wish now to look forward to hearing the tapes. May we continue to lift our Elder Brothers up in prayer!

July 23 was the day that Sis. Martha Maag peacefully passed on into eternity. She leaves behind her helpmate, Bob, and children: Sis. Andrea (Brent) Steiner, Michael (Molly) Maag of Orrville, OH; Dennis (Jeanette) Maag of Columbus, OH; Kevin Maag of Orrville, OH; and Diane (Joe) Little of Magnolia, OH. Sis. Martha also had brothers and sisters including, Sis. Wilda (Roy) Fetty from our congregation. May we remember to pray for this family.

Our sympathy also goes out to the family of Bro. Jerry and Sis. Martha Bauman in the loss of Sis. Martha's mother, Frances Little,

on August 9. We trust precious memories from years gone by will linger on.

Randy Saylor (Bro. Bill and Sis. Mary Ellen) was in a car accident, resulting in serious injuries. Thankfully, he is now in stable condition. Also, Sis. Kim (Tim) Hanzie, Sis. Helen Kerstetter and Bro. Dean (Sis. Julia) Ramsier were hospitalized this past month.

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### OHIO, SARDIS Terry Zollinger

While on this narrow pathway  
For grace we do depend  
Upon the Lord and Saviour,  
Who'll lead us to the end.

*Zion's Harp #134*

The General Conference was held in Morton, IL, on August 8. Several brethren were able to attend from Sardis. The Holy Spirit was definitely in the midst that day. Appreciation and thankfulness is expressed for the Morton brethren for all their work, hospitality and love that was shown to each that attended on such a beautiful and blessed day.

"No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon."

*Matthew 6:24*

On Saturday, July 26, the Michigan - Ohio Youth Day weekend started at the Rittman Fellowship Hall with a delicious meal, a singing and a guest speaker (Bro. Art Ingold, Rittman, OH). It was said these young people are the future of the church. Let's hope they are

touched in some way and can turn to the Lord in repentance to keep the faith strong in the Lord. We would like to thank the Rittman and Mansfield congregations for the love and work to prepare for a blessed weekend for our children.

'Tis His will that we have life  
Still in bodies mortal flowing;  
All who won the crown through  
strife,  
Once beneath this yoke were  
groaning.

Death takes us to God at last,  
As it did those of the past.

*Zion's Harp #104*

Love and sympathy is extended to Sis. Marilyn Ice of the loss of her sister, Sis. Martha Maag (Rittman, OH), on July 23. May God give comfort to each in their sorrow.

Please accept my apology for omitting in the last issue that Sis. Marilyn's husband, Harry, spent time in the hospital. Prayers were said and answered for he is home and doing better.

Praise the Lord, with commendation!

To praise our God with true devotion

Our joy and duty e'er shall be.  
When our song to Him ascendeth  
His smile of love on us descendeth  
With blessing kind and heavenly.

Do you His might behold,  
His works of grace untold?

Lo, here standeth Jerusalem  
Thus build of Him Who thro' His  
love is glorified.

*Zion's Harp #233*

Little Malachi Blough (Bro. Alan and Sis. Renee') is home from the hospital! We are so happy for the Blough family! So many prayers were uplifted to the pre-

vious Lord for him and answered. May prayers continue as this young family work together to care for their little ones to teach each one the love of Jesus Christ.

Faithful Saviour, we draw near  
To Thee in devotion.  
Fill our hearts and minds we pray,  
With Thy inspiration.  
Let Thy word, the light divine,  
In our hearts now brightly shine  
And Thy fold enlighten.

*Zion's Harp #144*

Several visiting ministers spread the Word to us throughout this month and would like to thank each one and their families for coming to Sardis. We feel blessed and thankful for each one who comes to visit. They are Bros. Steve Stieglitz (Leo, IN), Greg Stieglitz (Indianapolis, IN), Randy Gasser (Detroit, MI), Clark Stoller (Gridley, IL) and Elder Bro. Merle Hartzler (Rittman, OH).

Bro. Gary and Sis. Terry Zollinger would like to plead for your prayers for our son, Ben, for he is serving in the armed forces and was deployed for several months to Puerto Rico. As of this writing, all I have is his e-mail address but will give his mailing address next month. It is [BCV@saltsmail.salts.navy.mil](mailto:BCV@saltsmail.salts.navy.mil). Please enter Zollinger in the subject so Ben is sure to get it.

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### OHIO, SMITHVILLE Ruth Gasser Alyssa Miller

We were blessed with several visiting ministers this month, including Bros. Bill Brake (Sis. Miriam, Sardis, OH), Marvin Dotterer (Sis. Nancy, Forrest, IL) and Earl

Beery (Sis. Suzie, Rittman, OH). It is humbling to be so richly blessed by hearing the Truth spoken week after week from our pulpits. We are also thankful for the labors of love we felt from Elder Bro. Merle Hartzler (Sis. Bonnie, Rittman, OH) who assisted with the proving and baptism on July 20.

We rejoice to welcome Bro. Craig Dotterer (Bro. Joe and Sis. Rose) into the brotherhood and pray that he will continue to find humility to accept God's grace for the daily battle against the enemy of our souls.

Baptized, I feel His grace  
My sinful mind subduing;  
And look in all distress  
To God, my faith renewing.  
Thou art the central force,  
Help me to manifest  
What true baptism means  
And what it should attest.

*Zion's Harp #43*

Several loved ones were admitted to the hospital recently, and we want to keep them in our prayers. After sickness, we are always more thankful for the gift of health. We trust that Elmer Zieker (Annabel), little Boaz Zollinger (Mark and Michelle) and Sis. Doris Stoller have felt God's healing hand in recent days.

Our deep sympathy is extended to Bro. Mike and Sis. Robin Miller on the loss of Bro. Mike's father. May they feel the nearness of the Lord who said, "I, even I, am He that comforteth you." (Isaiah 51:12)

There are also seasons of great joy in life. Bro. Denny and Sis. Kay Nieman recently became grandparents for the third time when Kade Charles was born to Bro.

Dana and Sis. Lea Nieman (Remington, IN).

Kevin Gasser (Ed and Joan) was united in marriage to Sonya Miller. We wish them the nearness and guidance of God's Spirit as they walk through life together.

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**OHIO, TOLEDO**  
**Rebecca Beard**  
**Dee Beard**

"Take heed to the ministry which thou hast received in the Lord, that thou fulfill it."

*Colossians 4:17*

We are always thankful for visiting ministers to our congregation. Bro. Dwight Stoller (Latty, OH) visited us this past month. May he be blessed for his service in the Lord.

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, vs. 1*

Bro. Al and Sis. Mary Ann Weigele have recently moved and will be attending the Akron church. We wish them God's blessings in their move. They will be truly missed.

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

Greetings to all!

Hopefully, everyone is having a

good summer. We are thankful that those who traveled to the Conference returned home safely and we look forward to be able to listen to the tapes. Many prayers were offered on behalf of our Elder brethren, who labored for our benefit and that of the Church. May the Lord bless them all richly.

We appreciated all of our visitors this past month, especially the following ministering brethren: Bros. Warren Zahner (Sis. Bonnie, Rockville, CT) and Todd Zollinger (Sis. Michele, Silverton, OR).

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**OREGON, SILVERTON**  
**Kelsey Kuenzi**

On the weekend of July 20, Kathryn Kuenzi (Bro. Lynn and Sis. Marilyn) shared her testimony and was baptized. As a new babe in Christ, our prayers are that she would always feel God's nearness and guidance in her life. Assisting Elder Bro. Art Metz with the duties of the weekend was Elder Bro. Don Braker (Sis. Eileen, Kansas City, MO).

On July 20, little Julia Kay was welcomed into the hearts and home of Bro. Adam and Sis. Lori Kuenzi. May the Lord be with them as they strive to raise her to know the Lord. Grandparents are Bro. Jim and Sis. Joan Dietrich and Bro. Terry and Sis. Ann Kuenzi, all of Silverton.

Sis. Jackie Dettwyler (Bro. Loren and Sis. Marlene) has our support as she was elected to help teach the preschool class in Sunday School.

Our prayers have been with Bro. Loren Dettwyler (Sis. Marlene) as he was hospitalized this past month. We are thankful



he has been able to reassemble with us.

The Silvertown congregation has been blessed with many visitors this month. We were thankful to have visiting with us Elder Bro. Don Braker (Sis. Eileen, Kansas City, MO) and Bro. Warren Zahner (Sis. Bonnie, Rockville, CT) who shared the Word with us.

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### **PENNSYLVANIA PHILADELPHIA**

**Nathan and  
MaryElizabeth Gasser**

This month we had to bid farewell to our dear Bro. Adam and Sis. Jami Luginbuhl, as they relocated to Rockville, CT. After studying and working in our area for six years, Bro. Adam is starting medical school in Connecticut. We're thankful for the time that they've been with us, and we pray that God will bless them in their new home. Our small congregation feels a special bond with all those who've spent time with us here in Philadelphia, whether a few short months or many years, and always look forward to return visits.

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### **TENNESSEE, NASHVILLE**

**Mike and Monica Fritz**

We welcome Trent Stuber (Bro. Todd and Sis. Beth, Tremont, IL) to our congregation. Trent has moved to the area for schooling, and we are thankful to have him assembling with us.

We are thankful for the encouragement we have received recently from the Word through our visiting ministers: Elder Bros. Ed Schwartz (Sis. Jeni, Bluffton, IN) and Ted Witzig (Sis. Cindy, Morton, IL), and Bros. Erik Givens (Sis.

Debbie, Princeville, IL), Tom Schrenk (Sis. Joan, Athens, AL), Marvin Dotterer (Sis. Nancy, Forrest, IL), and Rick Plattner (Sis. Mary, Fairbury, IL). We have also enjoyed the fellowship of some larger groups this past month with brethren and friends visiting from Athens, AL; Belvidere, Cissna Park, Congerville, Fairbury, Forrest, Gridley, Peoria, and Princeville, IL; Bluffton, IN; Iowa City, IA; Detroit, MI; Croghan-Naumberg, NY; Junction and Smithville, OH; and Silvertown, OR.

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: Rittman, OH (9/21); Morton, IL (9/28); Mansfield, OH (10/5); Peoria, IL (10/12); Taylor, MO (10/19); Congerville, IL (10/26). If you are planning to worship with us, please call ahead to confirm our schedule. We also usually meet on Wednesday evenings for a song service. Contacts are Bro. Don and Sis. Faye Sauder (615) 373-8928, Bro. Mike and Sis. Monica Fritz (615) 952-9933, and Sis. Gwen Leuthold (615) 662-2946.

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### **TEXAS**

#### **DALLAS - FORT WORTH**

**Carrie Beyer**

"And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely."

*Revelation 22:17*

With prayers of thanksgiving on my heart, I am delighted to begin writing articles for our new assembly of believers in Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas. Our first worship

service was held Sunday, August 31, at the Holiday Inn Express immediately northwest of the D/FW airport. The hotel is located in Grapevine, TX, near the intersection of Highways 121 and 114; it will continue to serve as our meeting place until further notice.

As our small assembly begins worshipping together, we praise God for His faithfulness in guiding us this far. The verse cited at the beginning of this article represents one of our main goals: to serve as Jesus Christ's beacon to lost souls in this constantly expanding metropolitan area. May God grant us the passion to serve Him with just a fragment of the devotion He's shown for us.

We extend a warm invitation to anyone living near or traveling through the area to visit our congregation. For worship times or other information, please contact Bro. Ken and Sis. Sharon Lawson (817-431-0832) or Bro. Kyle and Sis. Carrie Beyer (817-989-0868).

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### **TEXAS, SAN MARCOS**

**Amy Ringger**

The importance of a family is sometimes undervalued. One particular member of our family, not surprisingly, really likes ice cream, and maybe surprisingly, prunes. Once, when we'd been out of ice cream for a few days and prunes for even longer, he announced that when he grows up he'd buy just ice cream and prunes to eat. Dad told him it wouldn't be good for him. Dad also gently told him that God put him in our family because he wasn't quite ready to make decisions on his own. Someday, when our son is more mature, he'll likely

see the value of wise food choices. Yes, earthly families are indeed important, and so much more, a spiritual family who, with Christ as the head, can help us on the way to Heaven.

In our church family, we welcome a new Sister, Serenity Ringger (Bro. Dale and Sis. Amy), who was baptized into Christ's death and resurrection on July 20 here in San Marcos; and now enjoys the special bond of brotherhood in our local congregation and beyond. We pray that she will always treasure the fellowship of the Spirit and never grow too old to benefit from encouragement, instruction and counsel from her spiritual family. We appreciate our Elder Bro. Ray Sinn (Sis. Ann, Latty, OH) and Bro. Leland Plattner (Sis. Mary, Zapata) who served us that day along with Bro. Chris Wuethrich (Sis. Carla, LaCrosse, IN). It was a beautiful day with testimony, baptism, then sharing of Holy Communion.

We extend a warm welcome to Bro. Phil and Sis. Linda Baurer and family. They moved here from the Princeville, IL, congregation. Their children are David (9), Jonathon (7), Joshua (6), and Abigail (2).

Bro. Ray Sinn has been our El-

der for several years and now retires from that position. We're thankful to have Elder Bro. Bob Walder (Congerville, IL) fill that role.

We thank these Brothers and their wives for their ministry and fellowship: Rod Bajema (Sis. Twyla, Lester, IA), Wayne Laubscher (Sis. Gloria, Cissna Park, IL), and Roger Aberle (Sis. LaVonne, Sabetha, KS). We were also blessed with many visitors from Francesville, Bluffton, Detroit, Morton, Forrest, and Oakville.

We look forward to hosting visiting ministers from the following churches in October: Peoria (5), Elgin, IL (12), Washington (19), and Oakville (26). We extend a hearty welcome to anyone else who may be in the area to worship with us. Please call ahead to help us plan for serving lunch and other activities. If you are available for fellowship on Saturday evening, Sunday evening, or during the week, we'd be happy to plan something then as well. Please see the ministers' book for contact information.

Our congregation continues to meet for services at the Quality Inn in San Marcos, TX. San Marcos is located on IH-35, approximately 20 minutes south of Austin or about

50 minutes north of downtown San Antonio. Take Exit #206; the hotel is on the southbound frontage road.

### TEXAS, ZAPATA Mary Plattner

We are anticipating the arrival of some of our winter visitors within the next few weeks. We are looking forward to our winter season as it becomes the home for many from the northern states.

We thank Bro. Ray Sinn (Latty, OH) for his service as Elder for the Zapata congregation for several years. Bro. Bob Walder (Congerville, IL) is now serving as our Elder.

Dallas Ray was born on August 9 to Dallas and Carmen Plattner. He joins sisters, Pamela and Meagan. Grandparents are Bro. Leland and Sis. Mary Plattner and Mr. and Mrs. Jasso of Laredo.



*Sermon continued from page 2*

your sins and my sins. God can't tolerate sin. And Jesus died with those sins on Him so we would have this chance.

It says in the fore reading, "And your covenant with death shall be disannulled, and your agreement with hell shall not stand..." Isaiah 28:18. Dear ones, I know it is not written in the same context, but really, we should have had a covenant with death. Death should have had dominion over us. Death should have been the end of the line and we should have died without hope. Hell should have been our destiny.

But when Jesus came, we can take it in context then, our covenant with death shall be disannulled. That death does not have dominion over us. Death - how does it say it in the scripture? "O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?" I Corinthians 15:55. Now the sting of death is gone. When a Christian dies, when a soldier of the cross dies, there is hope. There can be a victory. We can all have that hope. How thankful we can be for that hope when we lay one to rest who served God.

The sorrow - yes, there is still sorrow. We regret that we will not see them anymore here in life. There is sorrow for those who are going to feel the emptiness. But dear ones, there is only joy for the hope that that soul has, and for the fact that we trust that their suffering is over. No more sorrow, pain. Only bliss, happiness, joy forever. We can only imagine them falling into the hands of the One that died for them.

Jesus suffered so much. We read of the scourging, the beating that He took. Then they mocked Him.

They put the crown of thorns on His head. I don't need to get too literal here. But the head is a nasty place to take an injury. There can be a lot of blood. As those thorns pressed into His skull, we can only imagine that there was blood shed there, wasn't there? Pain. They put it on His head and put on Him a purple robe, mocking Him because He said He was the King of the Jews.

Dear ones, Jesus had many titles. He deserved every one. He was King of the Jews. They did not see that. He was our King. He was our eternal King. Thanks be to God we can recognize that. We have the scriptures to believe.

Then the Jews insisted that they crucify Him. Pilot didn't want to. He tried to set Him free. The chief priests and officers; dear ones, these were the spiritual leaders of Israel, calling for Jesus' crucifixion. The sin on those people is mind boggling. To think that they refused the Son of God. They crucified Him for having said that He was the Son of God, for telling the truth.

Dear ones, we can deny Him too. Those of us who have begun on the way, let's never be ashamed. Let's never compromise our beliefs. But rather, if we can suffer a little something by living the life that we feel like we should, a life free from sin and the influence of evil in this life, let's be thankful that we are counted worthy to suffer even a little bit for Jesus for what He did.

I had to think too, when the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took His garment and made four parts. To every soldier a part. Four soldiers, four parts. And they cast lots for that coat. Don't you wonder what they did with that coat and with those parts of that garment? Who

were those soldiers? Did they think they were in any way special? Or did they just wear them out? The clothes of our Savior. While we don't want to maybe glamorize the earthly things, any part of our Savior is precious.

When we think of Him suffering there on the cross, if there was any way we could have made His lot easier, would we have done it? Would we have been willing to be seen and heard arguing in His favor? Or would we have denied Him? We still have that choice. We still have the opportunity to please Him or deny Him. It is up to us.

As we walk through this life, do we partake of the wine, the wine of temptation? Or are we denying ourselves? Are we standing up for Jesus? Are we willing to be peculiar? Dear ones, after what He did for us, let us not think it grievous. Let's not think it hard. But rather be willing to live for Jesus. To strive to please Him. To make His lot now as joyful as possible. Let's praise Him in our walk of life and in song and in fellowship. Let's walk together at peace with one another and joyfully.

We have a lot to be thankful for. We are the recipients of years of heritage. We are a part of the church. The church that started with Jesus. Started right after Jesus was here on earth. As long as we adhere to the teachings of His Word, God's Word, as long as we follow closely the footsteps of Jesus and the doctrine of the church that has been instituted so long ago, we have still that heritage. We still follow in the footsteps of Jesus. Where He leads, there will be no mistake. If we follow faithfully, one day we will share in the joys that He has prepared for all those

*Sermon continued next page*

*Sermon continued from page 43*  
who love and serve Him.

(Continued by Elder Brother Wayne Anliker...)

Such a basic and keystone of scripture in that the two readings we had correlate together so well. The Lord saying in Isaiah 28 that He would lay in Zion a chief cornerstone, a foundation stone (Isaiah 28:16). Of which then we read in the New Testament. That referred to our Lord Jesus Christ.

All kinds of thoughts went through my mind and I am sure you are just like that, as we read and considered the Word this morning. One thing that as I sat there and listened, just a thought. I have often wondered about the verse there, the fulfillment of scripture where the soldiers parted His garments into four parts. But His coat, it was prophesied, that was without seam, that they cast lots for it (Psalm 22:18). Again, I don't know how important this is. But for whatever it is worth...

My thoughts went back to the Garden of Eden, when sin first entered into the human race. That is when mankind first saw - Adam and Eve - their nakedness and were ashamed and sought to cover that. That came because of sin. We know when God came down and laid the judgment on that sin, one of the earliest prophesies of the work of our Lord that was to come was when God Himself made them coats of animal skins. There we get the first inkling of blood having to be shed as a payment for our sins, that we were reminded so abundantly of this morning. That covered their shame.

Before that, they had tried to cover their shame with their own

efforts, doing the best that they could. The wording, I believe - I did not look it up - is they sewed themselves aprons of fig leaves (Genesis 3:7). A partial covering. That is the best any of us can do. It isn't acceptable before God and it is not anything that will really bring us peace. God had to provide the covering.

It just seems revealing that as our Lord, as Brother Greg mentioned, was there hanging on the cross, laying down His life and shedding His blood, really the fulfillment of that back in Eden, He had a coat on. That was His covering. Though He did not have sin, He was covered because there is a shame to be uncovered. Even to the redeemed that have their sins forgiven, it is a reminder that we live in a fallen world.

Couple of things came to my mind as I thought on that. As Jesus hung there, His coat was removed, obviously, as well as His garments. Because at that point He had sin. It was our sin. And there was shame. He hung there as a spectacle of that shame. It should humble us deeply that He bore our shame. We should always be ashamed of sin and recognize that before a Holy God.

But it was kind of revealing. I don't know if I ever thought of it this way before. In that scripture where they cast lots, that that coat wouldn't be divided, maybe that is a reminder of the coat of salvation and righteousness. That is provided through the death of our Lord Jesus Christ for any and every one of us that will take advantage of it. It is a reminder that it is provided, a complete covering for our sin. Lest we try by some other methods or tactics or thinking, to cover the shame of our sins. There

is only one covering. That is the blood of Christ. But I wonder if it isn't exemplified in that coat that was not divided, that is able really to cover our sins. A type of the blood of Christ.

Then I thought of something else, just in finishing. That was where the soldier pierced His side and forthwith came blood and water (St. John 19:34). Blood seeming, as scripture would reveal over and over and over again, the atonement, the covering of our sins. The payment of our sin, as we were taught this morning, just mentioned a minute ago. And the water seemingly speaking of a cleansing.

My thoughts wend... Tuesday I had the privilege to be in Chicago at a Missions meeting. Always a blessing. We had a very good meeting. Something really came out in that meeting. Nothing new. Something we all know. But like we would all admit, it is good to be reminded. That is in the forming of new churches here and there, in America and foreign lands that we are involved in, that there is a birth of a church. A forming of a church out of the riven side of Christ. Which is typified in God forming Eve out of the side of Adam, a bride for him and the church a bride for Christ wherever that is formed throughout the world. When that takes place, we rejoice and are thankful.

Just as, in another way, last Sunday we had the blessed privilege to be a witness and a partaker of holy baptism. In a sense, the birth, not the conception, but the birth of a Child of God. Just as in that case, because God teaches us the same lesson so we can't miss it, because it is of the primary importance in anyone's life. That is the one thing we don't want to be mis-

taken about. Because as we heard this morning, that determines our eternal destiny. There has to be a birth.

But after that, just as in a natural way, there needs to be a nurturing, doesn't there? That is one of the things that really came up in our Mission meeting Tuesday. But after a church is formed, a new, a young church - and we wish there were more of them, but we so rejoice when we see it happen - but then there has to be a nurturing.

Doesn't that correlate with the blood and the water? The water for our continued cleansing, for our growth, for our nurturing, for our staying true. The blood that covers our sin, makes payment for our sin, sets us free. It is really the plan of God and it is our blessed privilege to be able to walk for the first time ever, after we make an experience of the death of the old sinful nature and the rising to a new creature in Christ, becoming a Child of God. That is the beginning and the blessedness of a salvation

in Christ Jesus, that we are then enabled to walk a life overcoming sin, and in service. And as Brother Greg mentioned, and he is correct, consecration unto God. That really is just giving back to God what He gave us in the first place, and should include everything. And the water that is provided there in the atonement for our cleansing and for our growth, for the peace and the joy of salvation, and for the realization of the hope of salvation.

Once again, in closing because it is so important, and it is really so simple, that God does not want anyone - and it would not be an excuse for anyone - to come short because they didn't understand, because God made it just that basic and simple. And taught us already from creation, already from observing nature, and in all the examples of the Old Testament leading up to the great salvation in Christ. That can really be an experience that every one of us can and should make and have to make if

we are going to have peace with God, the promise of eternal life.

And just because it is of primary importance, that would be exactly where the enemy of our soul would want to attack us. In somehow clouding the simplicity in Christ to the point that somehow we would get confused and say, "well I just don't understand. I am just going to live my life for my own benefit." That is just where Satan will hit us!

Keep it as simple as it really is. Christ died for our sins. He shed His blood to pay the price. He also shed the water of cleansing and gives us a garment of righteousness, a complete covering. That on that day there will be no shame. We will be able to stand before God free from sin because of what Christ has done for us. May none of us cheat our self from the full blessing God intends for us. May the Lord bless His Word.



**NEW  
CHURCH BUILDING  
Construction for the Pulaski,  
IA,  
congregation**

The framing of the new edifice began on Monday, June 9, 2003. By June 21, the building was completely enclosed with shingles, soffit and fascia, waterproof wrap, and roughed in plumbing installed. The exterior doors and windows are expected to be installed by July 4. Brick laying will begin in early July, as the bricks are to be available after July 1. The installation of drywall will take place in August. The HVAC and electrical will be by local contractors, all of which have agreed to use volunteer help.

Volunteers should contact:

Bro. Arnold Gerst  
Phone 217-223-8424  
Fax 217-223-0116  
e-mail [agerst@rnet.com](mailto:agerst@rnet.com)

**U.S.A. BOARD WORK PROJECTS**

For area work projects, please contact the following Disaster Work Project Committee Representative:

**Kansas:** Paul Kaeb  
Phone: 785-284-3261  
Cell: 785-547-5269  
E-mail: [paulkaeb@ksiconveyors.com](mailto:paulkaeb@ksiconveyors.com)

**Iowa:** Martin Zaugg  
Phone/Fax: 515-379-1693  
Cell: 515-320-2404

**Illinois:** Marvin Sauder  
Phone: 309-925-4171  
Fax: 309-925-2409  
Cell: 309-241-8171  
E-mail: [mmksblf@dpc.net](mailto:mmksblf@dpc.net)

**Indiana:** Gerry Waibel  
Phone/Fax: 219-279-2582  
E-mail: [glwaibel@hotmail.com](mailto:glwaibel@hotmail.com)

**Ohio:** Ken Zollinger  
Phone: 330-925-6370  
Fax: 330-927-6370  
Cell: 330-466-2247

**APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN  
HOME OF EUREKA**

*610 W. Cruger Avenue  
Eureka, IL 61530  
(309) 467-2311*

The Apostolic Christian Home of Eureka is looking for a candidate for the position of Director of Nursing at our 119 bed nursing facility. The position is responsible for overseeing the nursing care activities of our residents and supervising the stable staff of 40 nurses. This is a wonderful career opportunity for a qualified person (R.N. required) who wishes to work in a caring Christian environment. Competitive salary and excellent benefits. Interested individuals should contact Bro. Tom Hoffman, Administrator, at the above address.



**Alternate Houseparents Needed**

Gateway Woods has appreciated the Lord's blessing of being fully staffed with Houseparents. At this time, however, we are experiencing a staff opening. Bro. Rich and Sis. Amber Pfister (Bluffton, IN) are planning to leave Gateway Woods in the near future. This offers an opportunity for a couple, directed of the Lord, to come to work in a full-time on going ministry at Gateway Woods. This position offers competitive wages and benefits and a close relationship with brothers and sisters whose hearts and lives are dedicated to a common mission with an eternal reward. If you feel the call to explore these possibilities, please call one of the brothers listed below:

Ed Graf  
Residential Program Director  
PO Box 151  
Leo, IN 46765  
1-888-443-4283  
[ed.graf@gatewaywoods.org](mailto:ed.graf@gatewaywoods.org)

Lynn Stieglitz  
Counseling Elder  
15417 Doty Rd.  
New Haven, IN 46774  
260-657-1033



We would like to sincerely thank everyone who donated items, attended, purchased items, sent a financial contribution, and prayed for our annual Benefit Auction on August 16! We were able to raise over \$300,000 to help the hundreds of hurting children and families we serve through our six programs in Indiana and Illinois. It was truly a special day! May the Lord bless each of you who so willingly supported the children. We continue to marvel at God's faithfulness and provision through each of you. Thank you!!

## CARIBBEAN BOARD PROJECTS - 2003 & 2004

All volunteers should contact the project coordinator. Should you not be able to contact the coordinator, for Haiti direct your inquiry to Bro. Tom Hitz, Ph. 734-454-9229, Fax 1-734-454-9259 or E-mail [thitzhome@juno.com](mailto:thitzhome@juno.com). For Jamaica, direct your inquiry to Bro. Kevin Sauder, Ph./Fax 309-925-2409 or E-mail [ksss@dpc.net](mailto:ksss@dpc.net).

HAITI					
ORG.	DATE	AREA	COORDINATOR	PROJECT	CAPACITY
AWA-FRW	Oct. 16-24, '03	Les Cayes	Rick Wuethrich	Vocational School	4
AWA-T	Oct. 16-24, '03	Les Cayes	Derek Sauder	Water Aid	5
AWA-B	Oct. 16-24, '03	Les Cayes	Bill Rager	Vocational School	2
MEBSH	Nov. 6-14, '03	Les Cayes	Jon Zeller	Construction/Maint.	11
SEED	Nov. 13-21, '03	Les Cayes	Bob Beebe	Agriculture Aid	11
MEBSH	Dec. 4-12, '03	Les Cayes	Ted Habegger	Grade School	11
MEBSH	Dec. 11-19, '03	Les Cayes	Craig Emch	Grade School	11
AWA-T	Jan. 22-30, '04	Les Cayes	Derek Sauder	Water Aid	5
AWA-FRW	Jan. 22-30, '04	Les Cayes	Rick Wuethrich	Vocational School	4
AWA-B	Jan. 22-30, '04	Les Cayes	Bill Rager	Vocational School	2
MEBSH	Feb. 5-13, '04	Les Cayes	Dean Pashak	Grade School	9
Palm Grove	Feb. 20-28, '04	Puit Sales	Tom Hitz	Grade School	11
MEBSH	Mar. 4-12, '04	Les Cayes	Rich Bertschi	Grade School	9
MEBSH	Mar. 11-19, '04	Les Cayes	Phil Isabel	Grade School	9
SEED	Mar. 18-26, '04	Les Cayes	Bob Beebe	Agriculture Aid	9
Palm Grove	Mar. 19-27, '04	Puit Sales	Mike Reinhard	Grade School	11
AWA-FRW	May 6-14, '04	Les Cayes	Rick Wuethrich	Vocational School	4
AWA-T	May 6-14, '04	Les Cayes	Derek Sauder	Water Aid	5
AWA-B	May 6-14, '04	Les Cayes	Bill Rager	Vocational School	2
JAMAICA					
CCCD	November 7-15, '03	Kingston	Terry Miller	Deaf School	--
CCCD	January 1-10, '04	Montego Bay	Greg Herman	Deaf School	40
CCCD	January 10-17, '04	Kingston	Kevin Sauder	Deaf School	40
CCCD	March 13-20, '04	Kingston	Terry Miller	Deaf School	40
CCCD	April 8-16, '04	Kingston	Roanoke BC - Kevin Fischer	Deaf School	50
CCCD	May 20-28, '04	Deaf Village	TBA	Work Place	40
CCCD	June 4-12, '04	Deaf Village	Taylor/Princeville	Work Place	50
CCCD	June 26 - July 3, '04	Knockpatrick	Mansfield - Pete Webel	Deaf School	40

COORDINATOR	PHONE	FAX	E-MAIL
Jon Zeller	309-266-9009		<a href="mailto:jzeller@mtco.com">jzeller@mtco.com</a>
Derek Sauder	309-925-7502		<a href="mailto:Sauder_Derek_A@cat.com">Sauder_Derek_A@cat.com</a>
Jay Maibach	330-939-5234		<a href="mailto:jmmaibach@valkyrie.net">jmmaibach@valkyrie.net</a>
Bob Beebe	574-291-2158	574-299-8173	<a href="mailto:rbeebe@surfpure.com">rbeebe@surfpure.com</a>
Tom Hitz	734-454-9229	734-454-9259	<a href="mailto:thitzhome@juno.com">thitzhome@juno.com</a>
Phil Isabel	219-261-3541	219-261-2885	
Greg (Beth) Herman	309-243-5610		<a href="mailto:gbherman@juno.com">gbherman@juno.com</a>
Craig Emch	330-939-4591	330-939-4591	
Terry Miller	IL Phone: 309-696-7804	FL Phone & Fax: 941-485-4302	
Dean Pashak	517-662-7685	517-662-7099	
Bill Rager	419-263-2989		
Pete (Linda) Webel	419-756-2587		
Kevin Sauder	309-925-2409	309-925-2409	<a href="mailto:ksss@dpc.net">ksss@dpc.net</a>
Rich Bertschi	309-467-6110		<a href="mailto:lemangm@mtco.com">lemangm@mtco.com</a>
Ted Habegger	260-694-6765		<a href="mailto:th@parlorcity.com">th@parlorcity.com</a>
Mike Reinhard	248-477-2287	248-427-0396	<a href="mailto:mlreinhard@msn.com">mlreinhard@msn.com</a>

**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

**- NOTICE -**

**Repair and Distribution of  
Worn Bibles,  
Bible Story Books,  
Hymns of Zion,  
Tabernacle or  
Gospel Hymn Books**

**We have requests for a limited number of Zion's Harps. Please call before sending them.**

Please get your books to us or the Goodfield World Relief Center.

Books are mainly distributed to India, Philippines, and Africa.

Jerry and Arlene Banwart  
307 First St  
Congerville, IL 61729  
(309) 448-2416

### **Apostolic Christian Counseling Services**

73 East Queenwood Rd,  
Morton, IL 61550  
309-263-5536 (local#)  
309-263-6841 (fax)

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

*Counseling for depression, anxiety, relationship problems, etc...*

- Information about mental health issues and relationship problems
- Referrals to qualified mental health professionals in your area
- Telephone consultations with a counselor
- Staffed by professional counselors and registered nurses
- All calls are strictly confidential

### **Dallas/Fort Worth Services Begin**

Throughout the past year, several individuals have expressed interest in starting regular services in the Dallas/Fort Worth area. Therefore, with the support of the Elder body, we have begun holding services as of Sunday, August 31. If you, or someone you know, would be interested in attending church near D/FW, please contact Bro. Ken and Sis. Sharon Lawson (817-431-0832). Thank you for your prayers of support as we worship our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

*Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:*



*That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;*

*But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:*

*Ephesians 4:13-15*



APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN  
**World Relief**

### **Haiti Coordinator Position**

The Caribbean Board of the National World Relief Committee is taking applications for a couple/s to serve as full time coordinators in Haiti.

The job would consist of helping work teams in construction, well drilling, trade schools and assisting the MEBSH construction department with sea containers and lumber shipments. This position would also require some oversight of fund allocation and accounting of funds.

*For information contact Roger Sauder, Chairman, 954-584-0947 or e-mail at [rjsauder@juno.com](mailto:rjsauder@juno.com).*

### **BIBLE DISTRIBUTION**

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

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

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

*To order, contact,*  
Apostolic Christian Church  
**Bible Distribution**  
PO Box 30  
1254 S. Main Street  
Bluffton, IN 46714  
Phone and Fax 260/824-5587  
E-mail: [biblelist@parlorcity.com](mailto:biblelist@parlorcity.com)



## Bay City Centennial Weekend

*September 13-14, 2003*

The Bay City congregation will be celebrating 100 years of church services with a special "Memories" weekend in September. Everyone who worshiped at our church in the past, or who attends at present, is invited to join in the planned activities.

### Saturday, September 13

*Williams Township Hall*

4:00pm	Fellowship Hour
5:30pm	Potluck Dinner
6:30pm	Sharing Memories

### Sunday, September 14

*Bay City Church*

10:30am	Church Services
11:45am	Lunch at Church
12:30pm	Church Services

*Overnight accommodations will be available.*

*For further information, contact:* James Ramseyer  
2012 Oakfield Drive  
Midland, MI 48640  
989-835-5579  
jarinc@tm.net

## Mexico Work Teams 2003

Location	Date	Project	Coordinator	Phone & (e-mail)
Juarez or Creel	Sept. 17 - 24, '03	Medical	Cheryl Herrmann <a href="mailto:cherylh@mtco.com">cherylh@mtco.com</a>	309-385-1082

*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](mailto:mfiechter@parlorcity.com)*

## WORK PROJECT OPPORTUNITY - Kingston, Jamaica

*November 7-15, 2003*

With the scheduled dates in November, we are hopeful that farming brethren and/or couples that would not otherwise be able to participate in frequent spring or summer teams will find these dates convenient. Interested brethren or friends should contact the team leader, Bro. Terry Miller for more information. Thanks for your support! Terry Miller - 309-696-7804



*The third and final excerpt of My Father's Conversion is delayed until next month in order to bring description of the Morton, IL, General Conference held at Morton, IL, on August 8.*

### The General Conference

On Friday, August 9, Jefferson Street in Morton, Illinois, was a busy place, especially in the block between the Apostolic Christian Church and Jefferson School. The annual General Conference was being held. There was a lot of foot traffic back and forth between the church and the school because brothers and sisters were fed lunch and dinner at the school.

At one point during the day, a little girl from the community was riding her bike and saw all the activity. She stopped to inquire about all the noticeable goings on. A brother told her, "We are having a church conference." She replied, "Oh, that's nice." Her quaint response could be magnified a hundred-fold regarding the spiritual inspiration that was taking place. Indeed, the Spirit of the Lord came as a cloud over the Elder and General Conferences during the entire week at Morton. No one could have left Friday evening without thinking they had been in a holy place.

The annual Conference is a binding agent for our denomination. The annual coming together serves to renew our beliefs and acquaintances. As we undergird our common perceptions, it serves to strengthen the beloved faith of our fathers. The Elder brothers are to be commended for secluding themselves (with open Bibles) to seek the Spirit's direction for the flocks across the land, and in foreign places.

Many souls – about 1150 – came from far and near. Perhaps many came for the first time. They had to consult their maps. Following a map toward a first-time destination always leaves one a little uneasy. Yet, when one learns how to find a destination, and then does so repeatedly, the newly-learned pathway gives a sense of comfort. Spiritually, it's no different. The

familiar, secure pathway is much more peaceful. August 9 was a day to focus on the proven, familiar pathway (to Heaven). The well-worn pathways of our faithful foreparents remain valid yet today for the welfare of the beloved church. A strong sense of preserving the faith lingered among the brethren. It was heartening to note that the brethren proposed to build up what Satan wants to tear down.

An aspect of the General Conference that almost goes unnoticed is the pre-conference singing. For the last many years as brothers come into the assembly on Friday morning, the singing from the Zion's Harp is of enormous inspiration. The songs of praise and prayer are phrased with a depth of spirituality that seems to be unmatched in any hymnal, anywhere. As brothers and sisters sing these sacred songs, they symbolize the common "being crucified with Christ" experience they had all experienced at repentance. Indeed, we felt a kinship with the song author who wrote about having the privilege of "the Holy Ghost's communion" (Zion's Harp, pg. 173).

As the host of brothers – beginning before 8:00 a.m. – come in and take their seats, it's as if they are leaving their secular battle stations and coming into camp. They came to hear the doctrine, which was pointed out as "instruction" (from the Greek). And they heeded warnings about false teachings. Knowing what is false makes the truth more clear. As soldiers, hearing wise words of instruction helped to strengthen everyone for the coming fray. As one thinks of warfare, images of muskets, cannons, and powerful weaponry came to mind, but the listeners knew that, in spiritual warfare, the weapons used are not carnal, but spiritual, to the pulling down of strongholds. Among the brethren, as in any army, an independent spirit is ruinous to a final outcome. Elder brethren exhorted this "army" to be united so it could more effectively drive the enemy back.

In 2003, the United States had engaged in a war in Iraq. Any wars are terrible, with untold suffering and heartache.

Yet, as brethren conferred together at Morton, they were engaged in a far greater war – a spiritual war where the souls of men and woman are fought for so they can inherit eternal life through Jesus Christ, our Lord. In carnal warfare, bombs and munitions destroy flesh and buildings, but in spiritual warfare the fiery darts of Satan are more powerful. They can drive souls into hell. In conference, brethren shine their armor to ward off the devil – and to find ways to enlist more soldiers in this glorious cause (of Christ).

Gathering together in conference takes the brethren back to a more riveted focus on their core beliefs. The Word of God remains as the only rule for faith and life. Yet, Scriptures must be defined so the process of application into everyday living can be accomplished. Being perfectly joined together in the same mind and the same judgment are not seen as lifeless instructions, but serve as a clear goal to work toward. The application of Scriptures define us as a brotherhood. As the Word is lived out in the brethren, via the church-defined method of application, it gives a concrete illustration to the world of what the Bible teaches, and what pleases God.

At each year's General Conference the message of faithfulness stays the same. There is a differing emphasis, but obedience is the undergirding theme. Keeping the faith also enshrouds the annual theme. And if one is to keep the faith, one must keep the practice of the faith. Inner beliefs must be lived out in a practical sense each day to fulfill the quest for faithfulness. Hearing Spirit-filled speakers meditate on a specific topic gives the believers encouragement to live faithfully.

Coming together each year also gives a sense of cohesion to the brotherhood. As the Scriptures are applied in a common way among the churches, a Godly and consistent identity is reflected to the world (of unbelief), and God is honored

...continued on page 51

## REMEMBERING

...continued from page 50

and glorified. The Lord is pleased when His children walk in truth, and take care in avoiding offence.

The listeners were warned about the dangers offered by the enemy. Leadership warnings, both in conference and in written memorandums, continue on as a Biblical pattern. Already in 1842, Samuel Froehlich wrote a "circular letter" to all the existing congregations to warn about a false spirit that was coming into the churches. This was only about ten years after he had begun establishing churches in Switzerland and adjacent areas. In that letter it's interesting to note that dissidents wanted to live in a "faith alone" mode, and became critical of holiness patterns.

Also a brother meeting long ago in Switzerland in the 1840's affected us. Some Mennonites in upstate New York had requested that Bro. Samuel Froehlich come to their church to resolve a religious dispute. He declined, but instead summoned the brethren to a special conference to discuss the matter. They ordained Bro. Benedict Weyeneth, 29, as Elder to go to America and address this request. He did and the first of our churches was established in Lewis County, New York. That act has greatly affected us!

The Friday meeting at Morton was packed. And each year it is a delight to see the host facilities filled to capacity. When the main assembly fills up, brothers and sisters are then placed in adjacent rooms, Sunday School rooms and fellowship halls. Such eagerness to be present is a delight to behold. In these extra assembly sites, the listeners often cannot see the speaker, but can only hear their remarks. In this sense, it resembles the fact that when God speaks to us, we cannot see Him, but the message reaches our heart. Those who are humbly willing to sit in venues where the speaker can't be seen are to be commended. It reflects a zeal to hear truthful proclamations.

It was a glorious, refreshing day. The motive was noble - the saving of souls. That is the "bottom line". That is why we exist as a church, and why the Gospel is proclaimed - so souls can be converted to spend eternity in Heaven. God's will is that all (persons) will come to the knowledge of the truth. My prayer is that little girl on her bicycle will someday repent and become a member of the Apostolic Christian Church. - by Perry Klopfenstein

## The Light Of Hope

### From Across The Ocean

# 希望の光

### "One Day At A Time"

Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle, Shioda, Japan

In what little counseling I have done, I notice that a person is apt to be discouraged if he or she dwells too much on the unknown future. The same would be true if a person dwells too much on the past. The Lord Jesus said, "Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof." Matthew 6:34

We might interpret this to mean that tomorrow is going to have a lot of problems so don't start worrying about it already. Or we might think that yesterday was so full of trouble, and failures on our part, that we better be sad and discouraged the rest of our lives. However, the best interpretation is that we should concentrate on one day at a time, committing the past to God and trusting God that the future will be unbelievably beautiful. Let's not borrow trouble from the past, nor from the future. Right now, it's today that matters.

In regard to salvation, it is the present that is emphasized. "Behold, now is the day of salvation." II Cor. 6:2. When we repent, we seek forgiveness for the past and God's grace for the future. The important thing is, "What are we going to do now, today?" This should be the theme of our lives, one day at a time.

Someone has written, "Look to this day, for it is life, the very life of life. In its brief course lies all the verities and realities of your existence, the glory of action, the bliss of hope, and the splendor of achievement. Today well lived makes every yesterday a dream of happiness and every tomorrow a vision of hope. Look well, therefore, to this day." The above quotation is not exact, but as I remember it, having

memorized it in my youth. You, too, have probably memorized it along the way.

In Malachi 3:10 we read, "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts." In regard to helping others, the Lord says that we should try to do something to help others now, today, and quit worrying about ourselves. God will reward us. It might be that we can only help our parents, or our children, but if we can do anything at all for someone else, it helps us to take our minds off ourselves. As followers of Jesus Christ, we are taught in the Bible that we are never to think about what we want or desire. Galatians 2:20 reads, "For I am crucified with Christ, nevertheless, I live."

It might be helpful for each of us to make a list of the six most important things we need to do at the beginning of each day, if possible, in the order of their importance. Charles M. Schwab, former president of the Bethlehem Steel Corporation, once paid an efficiency expert \$5,000 for that idea, as a way to improve the efficiency of his employees. Mr. Schwab died in 1939.

Every day is wonderful and beautiful. Let's take one day at a time, and use it.

# 希望の光



*For every beast of the forest is mine, and the cattle upon a thousand hills.*

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



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

LK                   Seq:1363 P2 PK98  
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533 N 3RD ST  
CISSNA PARK IL 60924-9782