

The Silver Lining



*And I thank God for the Lighthouse, I owe my life to Him
For Jesus is the Lighthouse, and from the rocks of sin
He has shown a light around me, that I could clearly see
If it wasn't for the Lighthouse, where would this ship be.*

October 2003

Sermon by Brother Duane Reutter, Rockville, CT
Numbers 23 and St. John 4:1-30

There are many thoughts beloved, I'm sure, within each one of our hearts as we would give consideration to these two scriptures we have read together. How it is that it seems to be a prevailing thought here between these two scriptures, of how it is that we as man, as created beings upon the earth, how it is that we can please the Father.

We are thankful we are reminded once again that God knoweth all things. Truly there is nothing hid from Him. There is nothing that we can do to cover up anything in our lives before God. We are known as an open book before Him. Yet He extends His mercy unto mankind. He is willing to offer unto us that living water.

It is not what we can build with our hands. It is not what we can offer unto God. Because God has already created all of that and given unto us what we need to sustain us day by day. So what is it then, beloved, that really pleases God? Isn't it simply that we are obedient to His Word and as it is given to us a measure of understanding through His Word?

We sang here in this beautiful hymn (The Field And The Fruit, Zion's Harp #108) how it is that the Word is presented unto us each one. Every time we come into God's house, isn't this so? No doubt, we all find that some days we are more attentive than other days. Some days maybe we are not feeling quite as well as other days. Some days there may be pressing issues upon our

mind. Surely we trust and we pray that God would give us the grace and the strength that we can set aside those things when we come into His house. Because that which He has to give unto us is of eternal nature. And those things which press down upon us day by day, those things will pass away.

So first we find there is a need for that separation in our life of those things which are carnal and those things which are eternal. When we come to the house of God, it behooves us then to set aside those things which are carnal. So that as the Word comes unto us, as we sang together in this hymn, as it would enter into our ear, we have the process, we have the capability within our minds, we can stop that Word right there. We can hear it and we can immediately close the gate and reject the Word and say it is not for me. It is not for today, it is for another time.

But beloved, God in His patience comes to us time and time again and tells us the way unto salvation. He reminds us that we are made of flesh. That our life here upon earth is uncertain at best. And we have opportunity now today to allow the Word to pass through the ear into the heart. Therein the seeds are planted.

What is it beloved, when the gate is open, what is it that we let in? Is it the good Word of God or is it those things of the world that would stir up emotion within us, whatever it might be? And then what comes forth in

our lives? Isn't it that which we feed upon?

If a weed is planted in the garden, a weed grows. The plant may be something desirable even to look upon. It may have a beautiful flower. But in the harvest time there is no fruit. Isn't that the measure that God has for

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

October 2003

The Folly of Sowing Wild Oats

From time to time we hear people say that young people need the opportunity to "sow their wild oats" before they become adults and settle down. This is based on the assumption that they will get their fill of sin, realize that it will not be beneficial to them, and grow out of it.

Is there any scriptural reference that would encourage this thinking? Is there anything in the Bible that would lend support to the idea that if we become heavily involved in the world that we will eventually have enough of the world and be satisfied to lay it all aside?

While there are certainly examples in the scripture that tell us of those who finally reached the point where they understood that sin would not bring them the joy they expected (for example, the prodigal son), there are no examples in which sin is encouraged in youthful years so we will be ready to get it up when we become adults.

There are other examples that explain spiritual immaturity in youth. We read in I Cor. 13:11 "When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things." Paul also reminded us of the importance of spiritual maturity when he wrote "That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine,..." (Eph. 4:14).

Instead of encouraging youth to get sin out of their system by getting their fill of it, the scripture warns against evil sowing. We are warned about the fruit that sin will bring, the misery that results from sin, and the wages of sin. As time goes on sin is more likely to increase than to decrease and this will bring serious consequences. "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap" (Ga. 6:7). If we sow seeds of sin, what are we going to reap?

Seeds of sin can produce bitterness, selfishness, deceitfulness, corruption, a desire for fulfilling the lust of the flesh,

disappointment and separation from God.

As we sow, if our "...vine is the vine of Sodom, and of the fields of Gomorrah; their grapes are grapes of gall, their clusters are bitter:" (De. 32:32). Israel reached the point where as a nation, they were so selfish that they were described as "...an empty vine, he bringeth forth fruit unto himself:..." (Ho. 10:1). Jeremiah, while lamenting over the sins of the people wrote "And they will deceive every one his neighbor, and ...through deceit they refuse to know me..." (Je. 9:5-6).

Jesus reminded us in His Sermon on the Mount that sin must bring forth corruption; "Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit" (Mt. 7:17). Paul wrote "Now the works of the flesh are manifest, ...that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God" (Ga. 5:19-21).

Jeremiah, in praying for his people said "...we looked for peace, and there is no good; and for the time of healing, and behold trouble" (Je. 14:19). Jesus warned of the finality of a life of sin and how it will eternally separate us from God when he said to those who did not serve Him "...Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil, and his angels" (Mt. 25:41).

Sin will bring extreme misery. The fear in the heart of sinners will be so great that "in the morning thou shalt say, Would God it were even! and at even thou shalt say, Would God it were morning" (De. 28:67)! Paul wrote of the fate of evil people that "Destruction and misery are in their ways:" (Ro. 3:16) and that "...the wages of sin is death;..." (Ro. 6:23).

Sin is somewhat of an addiction. The more we are involved in sin, the more likely it is that it will consume us. Rather than getting our fill of sin, we will become a captive of it. Ezra prayed "...O my God, I am ashamed and blush to lift up my face to thee, my God: for

our iniquities are increased over our head, and our trespass is grown up unto the heavens" (Ezr. 9:6). Jesus said "For this people's heart is waxed gross, their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes have they closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them" (Mt. 13:15). Paul wrote to Timothy that "...evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse,..." (II Tim. 3:13).

We cannot deny that sin has consequences, some of which last a lifetime. Solomon wrote "Rejoice, O young man, in thy youth; and let thy heart cheer thee in the days of thy youth, and walk in the ways of thine heart, and in the sight of thine eyes: but know thou, that for all these things God will bring thee into judgment" (Ecc. 11:9).

The story is told of a young boy who was rebellious and refused to listen to his father. Finally in desperation the father told his son that there was a post at the end of the lane. For each disgraceful deed the son committed a nail would be driven into the post. For each honorable deed, a nail would be pulled out. Finally the post was nearly filled with nails. The son realized his life was in shambles and he resolved to do better.

The day finally came when the father could pull the last nail from the post. He took his son with him and as he pulled out the final nail the son began to weep. The father asked what the problem was, thinking the son would be happy that the last nail was gone. "It is true", the son tearfully replied, "all of the nails are gone, but the scars remain."

We do not gain by trying to get our fill of sin. It will only bring us to grief. God reminds parents to teach their children to choose to do good. "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it" (Pr. 22:6).



APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN

Mission Committee

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

Being Sent to Mexico

Penny Stahl & Sandy Leman

This is another in the series of articles on "Being Sent." The purpose is to provide current examples of the Lord's work in calling individuals to be considered for assignment to particular areas of mission work. When an orderly process is followed in seeking the Lord's direction, the strengths of individuals can be matched with specific needs by the Mission Committee. They can then be sent by the church in accord with the pattern established by the Lord Jesus Christ. "Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you." (JOHN 20:21)

Currently Sisters Penny Stahl and Sandy Leman are working long-term in Ixtlán, which is in the state of Michoacán. Sis. Penny first went to Ixtlán in January of 2002 and Sis. Sandy in January of 2003. Both approached their possible involvement in Mexico by talking with their local elders and communicating with the Mission Committee to seek their guidance in this matter.

The Call

Sis. Sandy's interest in Mexico started in 1972 when she was working in a migrant education program in Princeville, IL. After teaching for four summers in this program, she taught in Crystal City, Texas for a year. Then she returned to teaching in Illinois, including an after-school Spanish program in Eureka.

Sis. Sandy also had the opportunity to help in the reconstruction following the 1985 earthquake in Mexico City and later participated with World Relief medical teams, translating for the doctors, dentists,

and nurses. In 1998 she decided to study medicine as a physician's assistant. As part of her schooling she was able to study medical Spanish and complete clinical practice experiences in three Spanish-speaking countries: Guatemala, Ecuador, and Mexico. Sis. Sandy felt the Lord's call and preparation over a number of years.

Sis. Penny's experience was very different. Although Penny had prayerfully supported mission work in the past, she had never contemplated this for her own life. Her first thoughts of serving in Ixtlán came at the Over 25 weekend in Altadena in March of 2001.

Bro. Marshall Heinold was one of the ministers speaking that weekend and his topic was, "Loving Our Neighbor as Ourselves." Sis. Penny was aware that this topic held many potential applications within her own life, so she prayed that God would speak to her during the message. Little did she know the impact of that prayer on her life. Bro. Marshall described the ongoing work in Mexico and by the end of the evening, she felt pretty convinced that God was directly asking her to consider moving to Ixtlán.

Throughout the following months, Sis. Penny prayerfully considered the possibility of service in Ixtlán. Since she had never visited there, she planned a trip that summer. During the trip to Ixtlán, Penny became acquainted with the church family and the town. Most importantly, she felt an assuring peace that God was continuing to direct this step of her life.

The Work

Sisters Sandy and Penny are now both a part of the Ixtlán community. Following the model of a physician/

physician's assistant partnership in the U.S., Sandy works with local doctors in Ixtlán to meet needs in rural Michoacán. The doctors work ten hours a day, Monday through Saturday. Sandy joins them in their work four days a week, and has the opportunity to develop a relationship with the patients and give spiritual input when appropriate.

Sis. Penny's main role is teaching English classes that are open to anyone in the community. The purpose of the classes is two-fold. The first is to teach the students to speak English, while the second is to develop relationships that provide opportunities to share the truth of God's Word. Currently, there are approximately 50 students who range in age from 5-50 years. Class sizes are small, and since they meet once or twice a week, there is time to get to know the students on a personal level.

When not teaching or working with the doctors, Sisters Sandy and Penny are actively involved in helping with the work of the church and assisting when visitors from the States are present. When Brothers Loren Schrenk and Bryan Stoller come to provide free eye care for the needy in Ixtlán, Sandy and Penny are able to take off work to assist them.

Both Sisters Sandy and Penny were given the opportunity to share their experiences with the Mission Committee at recent meetings. It was very helpful to the Committee to hear first hand of the lessons they are learning by sharing and growing spiritually with our dear brethren of the Ixtlán church as well as by serving the surrounding community. They were assured of our support and prayers, which is a special responsibility and opportunity for our entire Brotherhood.



APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN
World Relief

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

Haiti Medical Report September 2003

Haiti is the poorest nation in the western hemisphere and is only a 90 minute flight from the U.S. Seventy five percent of its population of ten million people live in poverty. The average wage is about one dollar per day. Sixty percent of the people cannot read or write and the life expectancy is 51 years of age. The major health problems of Haiti are related to the lack of clean water, inadequate food supplies, crowded conditions, and insufficient knowledge of basic health information. One of every five children die before the age of five. Seventy five percent of pre-school children are malnourished and five percent of the population are infected with HIV-AIDS.

The Center for Health

Centre de Sante Lumiere (CSL) or The Center for Health outpatient clinic in Les Cayes Haiti provides a broad spectrum of outpatient services in family medicine, internal medicine, obstetrics, gynecology, pediatrics, urology, orthopedics, dentistry and community health. Approximately 11,000 patients are treated each year, and since 1947 this regional center has treated more than one million Haitian patients.

Hopital Lumiere

In 1977, Hopital Lumiere, "The Hospital of Light", a 120-bed hospital, was built in Bon Finne. This is a nearby mountainous area which is cooler, away from mosquitos, and has a good water supply from mountain streams. The hospital compound includes an outpatient clinic, guest-house, a number of homes for

personnel, mechanical buildings, and a community health program. The hospital is now equipped with a laboratory, X-ray facilities, pharmacy, central supply, and a physical therapy department.

A hospital chaplain visits the patients each day sharing the gospel and encouraging the patients with God's Word. The community health workers go to the rural areas and hold clinics where they screen for disease, vaccinate, teach good hygiene practice, and give educational material for preventative medicine to families and expectant mothers. The outpatient clinic in Les Cayes serves as the main referral center for Hopital Lumiere.

During one of our work team visits to the hospital, our group gathered at the hospital after supper to sing hymns. As the team members moved from ward to ward the patients were obviously filled with joy. Everyone listened, smiled, some tears were noticed, and those who could move about followed us in wheel chairs. It became evident that the melody of the hymns helped to bridge the language barrier even though they could not understand our words. We noticed that some Haitians were singing with us in Creole. What a memorable experience that was.

The Advantage Program

The Advantage Program is a rehabilitation program for handicapped children and adults of Cayes Clinic, (CSL), and provides assistance to persons with physical disabilities. We provided equipment which is used to make many of the braces and now even artificial limbs. The Advantage Program includes the Bernice Johnson Center, which is a school for handicapped women who

are taught domestic skills so they can become more independent. The 12 handicapped girls in the Bernice Johnson Center pray for the members of the Apostolic Christian Church on a regular basis because of the support that we send.

Asile Dorcas

The Asile Dorcas nursing home is a place we never forget once we have visited. Approximately twenty five aged men and women from the MEBSH churches who have no family to care for them live there. The rooms are small, dark, and equipped only with a bed and a small table. No air-conditioning. No screens on the windows. They have very meager supplies.

When these dear folks hear that a work team from the Apostolic Christian Church is coming to visit, they all gather outside on weathered benches and wait for us to meet them and sing together. We sing "What a Friend we have in Jesus", "When the Roll is Called up Yonder", and other familiar hymns in English. They sing along in Creole, praising our God. World Relief sends monthly support to help maintain the basic needs of these dear ones.

How we are involved

Thanks to your contributions, our Apostolic Christian World Relief sends medical supplies and equipment, medicines, and financial support on a regular basis to assist with the medical work in Haiti. How can you help? Pray for the people of Haiti and for our coordinators who are serving in Haiti. Pray for God's provision of the needs which we can supply for them. Pray for the health and safety of our work teams and that people will continue to volunteer their time to assist those in such desperate need.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

As we draw near to the end of the growing season and harvest is upon us, it is a time we reflect how God has blessed us over the past year. God continues to bless the Home. Over the last twelve months we have received the benefit of many volunteers, donations and prayers prayed on our behalf.

For those who serve as volunteers, whether in physical labor or in prayer, we are very thankful, "Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ." (Colossians 3:24)

We have been performing educational programs for individual churches explaining the services offered, the staffing needs and the financial position. We have completed the regional meetings and are willing to present to local churches as requested.

Our residents have been enjoying being outdoors during these cooler days. Some enjoy taking bike rides, riding horses, sitting in the sun, or playing outdoor games. Others had the opportunity to visit the Morton Pumpkin Festival and parade, a circus, campfires, walks on the riverfront, the zoo, Wildlife Prairie Park or many other activities.

Resident birthdays in NOVEMBER:

Timber Ridge, 2125 Veterans Road, Morton, IL 61550: Susie McGinley (1), Tom Manley (8), Kay Ellis (9), Amy Tucker (11), Sam Sigulas (13), Jen Cox and Janet Worner (17), Kris Furrer and Vernon Heiniger (18).

Oakwood Estate, 2213 Veterans

Road, Morton, IL 61550: Keith Weyeneth (4).

Linden Estate, 1000 Linden Street, Morton, IL 61550: Duane Craig (4).

CILA Homes:

1001 E. Idlewood, Morton, IL 61550: Alan Unsicker (15).

241 S. Minnesota, Morton, IL 61550: Rhonda Pullen (4), Marian Funk (20).

338 E. Hazelwood, Morton, IL 61550: Ken Clauss (2).

GATEWAY WOODS APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME

Jan Baumgartner

I have this poem on my bulletin board, written by an unknown author. It reminds me of where the children in all of our programs at Gateway Woods are at in life. It also makes me aware that they cannot truly make progress in their lives in the educational, social, or spiritual realm unless they can reach the "until" described in the poem below:

I will show cold to the world,
Until I can reach a place of
warmth.
I will show fear to the world,
Until I find a way to conquer it.
I will not know joy,
Until I have seen my pain.
I will not know peace,
Until I have faced my confusion.
I will not know tranquility,
Until I acknowledge my rage.
I will not know love,
Until I can love myself.
I will not know wholeness
Until I can piece the parts together.
I will not know risk,
Until I feel worthy.

I feel that the staff at Gateway Woods, our foster parents, and adoptive parents are an instrument that can be used by God to show these hurting children the love and warmth of God, and the security in leaning on God to face and overcome fears, pain, confusion, and rage. We can also be used to help them realize that God can take the broken pieces and make us whole. Most importantly, we can show them how special each one of us is in God's eyes even though none of us are worthy to be called His children.

We are pleased to welcome Brandy W, and Ben J to our campus. We are currently at our maximum capacity for children. We thank the Lord for sending children to us so that He may work in their lives!

Gateway Woods is pleased to announce that Sis. Jenny Rufener (Smithville, OH) has been hired as the new Foster Care/Adoption Worker. She will be a welcome addition to our team! We are also pleased to announce that Sis. Jodi Kaeb (Bern, KS) has been hired as a teacher at Gateway Woods School. She will be starting in January 04. Please pray that God would bless their transition.

Please see our ad for Alternate Houseparents in this month's Silver Lining. We prayerfully trust that God will once again provide.

May the glory of the Lord and the love of His Son warm and fill you all! On behalf of the hundreds of children and families we serve, we say thank you for your love, generosity, and support.

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

Greetings of love from the Preschool! We have had a gorgeous month! The weather has been cooler and more enjoyable and the days have just been beautiful. It makes me wonder how people can doubt that there is a God when they look and see all of the miracles and beauty around them.

Our Bible stories have been about Moses and his struggle to get God's children out of Egypt and through the desert. God performed so many miracles to prove that He was in control and to make Pharaoh let His people go. It still took a lot of plagues before he believed that God wanted him to let His people go. This story is familiar to most of the children and we have been getting a lot of participation from them. It is fun to watch the children who have never heard this story before and to see their reaction to it. We have seen them grow in their Bible knowledge these last few months and we know that God is working in these children.

The first field trip of the school year is this week to the police and fire stations. The children have been talking about it for weeks and are very excited to go and see everything!

We have been working on the alphabet, shapes, numbers and colors this month. The children get excited about their work and can't wait to show their parents what they have learned at the end of the day. Seeing this and receiving their hugs makes each day worth it and makes us feel blessed to be teaching them.

**ALABAMA, ATHENS
Louise Hall**

Our congregation has felt the loss of two dear loved ones this past month. Ruby Perry, wife of the late Bro. Pete Perry, died on September 13. Milton Ray, Jr. (Bro. Milton and Sis. Joyce) died on September 19 after a battle with cancer. Our prayers and hearts go out to their families during this time.

Carl Haggemaker was in the hospital this month due to heart problems. Our prayers are with him as well as he works to get better.

We have been blessed by many visitors this month. Bro. Earl and Sis. Betty Steffen from Bloomington, IL, were here and Bro. Earl had the Adult Sunday School service. Elder Bro. Wayne and Sis. Judy Anliker and family were here from Forrest, IL, and Bro. Wayne had the services for us. Elder Bro. Andy Stoller from Smithville, OH, and Elder Bro. Phil Stettner from Bluffton North, IN, were here on Wednesday, September 17, to share the Word with us. We also had several visitors from Wolcott, IN; LaCrosse, IN; and Gridley, IL. We appreciate each person for the time and effort that they took to come and visit us.

I was touched by a song that one of the children sings for Special Numbers. The words ring so true:

He's still working on me.
To make me what I ought to be.

It took Him just a week to make
the moon and stars
The sun and the earth and Jupiter
and Mars.

How loving and patient He must
be,
He's still working on me.

In the mirror of His Word,
Reflections that I see,
Makes me wonder why He never
gave up on me.
But He loves me as I am,
And helps me when I need.
Remember He's the potter I'm the
clay (Repeat 1st verse)
—author unknown

**ARIZONA, PHOENIX
Ron and Ev Hoerr**

Our Jr. and Sr. Bible classes left early August 30 for Altadena and a weekend of Christian fellowship. After many activities and getting acquainted, Labor Day came too quickly and time to leave. All enjoyed their time spent in God's presence and thank their peers and teachers in Altadena for a blessed time. One student was thankful that he was one of several of this generation to carry on the tradition of their parents.

Sis. Toni Bentley, Sis. Gerry Beyer and Sis. Clara Banwart were hospital patients. Lindy Knochel had surgery. Our sympathy to Bro. Jim and Sis. Candy Meiss in the death of Jim's aunt, Sis. Edith Joos of Morris, MN.

Justin and Keri Roth became parents on September 17 when Sage Ryann was born. Her grandparents are Bro. Dan and Sis. Patty Roth and Bro. Ken and Sis. Jody Baum (Morton, IL).

**ARIZONA, TUCSON
Lisa Knapp**

We recently enjoyed a visit from ministering Bro. Lynn Fiechter and his wife, Sis. Ronda (Bluffton, IN), who spent Sunday with us as part of the visiting minister rotation. We were happy to have the opportunity to meet them and are

very thankful for their willingness to serve the church. May God richly bless their efforts. We hope they come back sometime and experience more of Tucson so we can fellowship with them again.

Bro. Jay and I were privileged to accompany the Sunday School Bible Class to Altadena, CA, for the Labor Day ACYF activities. We were so thankful to be able to ride on a beautiful chartered bus, courtesy of the Phoenix Bible Class. We thank them once again for their continued hospitality; we are ever grateful! We also want to thank the Altadena church for their many efforts of love on our behalf. We all thoroughly enjoyed our weekend of sunshine and fellowship. We have many great memories that we will cherish. We look forward to hosting you again in the future, Lord willing, and creating even more memories. God bless you all!

Our weather is cooling off a little bit. It's been awhile since we have had a 100 degree day and our mornings and evenings are pleasantly cool. We even ventured outside for our September fellowship dinner to a local park. The children were able to enjoy a playground and some green grass instead of the usual paved parking lot at church.

CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA **Robin Moser**

"For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens."

II Corinthians 5:1

Our congregation mourns with

Bro. Bob and his family on the loss of our dear Sis. Judy Crockett after a long battle with cancer. Sis. Judy went to rest with her Lord on September 8. Her children include: Brian (June) Crockett and Alan Crockett. She left behind one grandson, Noah (Brian and June). We also extend our sympathy to her siblings: Bro. Clarence Graf, Sis. Marilyn (Bro. John) Wagenbach (Oakville, IA), Bro. Virgil Graf (Sis. Marilyn), Lucille Griffeth (Bakersfield, CA) and Dale Graf (Peoria, IL). While nobody can ever take Judy's place, we are all grateful for the time God granted us to spend with her.

We also had three hospital patients this month and are thankful all have rebounded and returned home: Bro. Carl and Sis. Margaret Kinsinger, and Paul Folia (Veronica), who suffered from a stroke.

Our congregation would like to welcome Sis. Kathy Bram, who has recently moved here from the Bloomington congregation. At the same time, we are wishing God's blessings to Bro. Rod Steffen, who will return to Chicago after attending classes in Los Angeles this summer.

We rejoice with Suzanne Klotzle (Elder Bro. Tom and Sis. Jody), as she has found peace with God and man and desires to be baptized. May each of us look to be encouraging examples to our younger Christians believers.

We were thankful for many visiting ministers this month including: Bro. Fred Witzig (Sis. Nancy, Indianapolis, IN), Bro. Jay Knapp (Sis. Lisa, Tucson, AZ), Bro. Curtis Kaufman (Sis. Caroline, Tucson, AZ) and Bro. John Lehman (Sis. Ruth Ann, Wolcott, IN). The latter

three ministers served us at our Sunday School Fellowship weekend. Our Phoenix, Tucson, and Altadena young adults thoroughly enjoyed the weekend of sharing Christian love and building new friendships.

CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO **Peggy Jevremov**

We continue to enjoy the fellowship with our various visitors. This past month ministering Bro. Mike Rieker (Sis. Carol, Peoria, IL) shared God's Holy Word with us. We pray the Lord will bless him for his labors of love.

We were so thankful to have Bro. Tibor Bozzay assemble with us this past Sunday. He has been missing from our assembly for the past several weeks following his stroke. We pray the Lord will continue to touch him with His hand of healing.

It was an oversight on my part not to mention that Bro. Leonard and Sis. Christine Locher celebrated their 50th anniversary in July. We surely want to wish them the Lord's continued blessings in their married life.

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

Our visiting ministers this past month were Bros. Vic Bauman (Sis. Brenda, Smithville, OH), Dan Stoller (Sis. Diane, Rockville, CT), Jerry Bauman (Sis. Martha, Rittman, OH) and Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter (Sis. Emily, Junction, OH). We are so thankful for these brothers and their families who travel the many miles to come and minister to us from the Word of

Life.

“Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.”

Phil. 4:8

Our dear Sis. Johanna Fortenbacher spent time in the hospital this past month. We are so thankful that she is home once again. We pray that the Lord's healing hand can be upon her as she awaits more testing.

Note of Thanks:

A sincere thank you to all those who remembered me in cards and prayers. May God richly reward your Christian kindness.

Sis. Johanna Fortenbacher

COLORADO, DENVER
Ann Gonglach

Baptized into Thy name most holy,
O Father, Son and Holy Ghost,
I claim a place, though weak and
lowly

Among Thy seed, Thy chosen host.
Immersed with Christ, I'm dead to
sin;

Thy Spirit now shall live within.

Zion's Harp #41

Elder Bro. John Lehman (Sis. Connie, Bern, KS) joined us for baptism and assisted Elder Bro. Mike Leman on the weekend of August 23-24. Also ministering to us that weekend was Bro. Galen Rokey (Sis. Nancy, Bern, KS). Bap-

tized were Tara Huber (Bro. Eric and Sis. Marcel) and Ema Gonglach (Bro. Bob and Sis. Ann).

Little Kaden Katanic (Bro. Mike and Sis. Heather) had corrective surgery on his feet. He is wearing casts while he heals. Also having surgery recently was Jed Katanic (Bro. Tom and Sis. Theresa) on his eyes. May God watch over these little ones and heal them according to His will.

Visiting ministers on September 7 were Elder Bro. Earl Ringger (Sis. Dixie, Gridley, IL) who also gave a talk to our young people in the mountains the previous day, and Elder Bro. Bruce Hohulin (Sis. Charlene, Goodfield, IL).

We look forward to hearing Joel Leman's (Elder Bro. Mike and Sis. Deb) testimony on October 25, and hope to have baptism on the 26th.

CONNECTICUT
ROCKVILLE
Amber Reutter
Laura Virkler

Trembling, keep your soul from
falling;

Prize your ransom more and more;
Daily round your mortal body,
Countless dangers hover o'er.

Zion's Harp #47

These past few weeks, our congregation has been blessed with the opportunity to listen to the Conference tapes. It is always an uplifting experience as we gather together and allow the Holy Spirit to provide necessary encouragement or chastisement for our spiritual walks of life. May God now grant us each much grace as we meditate upon our lives and make appropriate changes wherever they are needed.

This month we also had the blessing of having many visitors, including Elder Bro. Lawrence Luthi (Sis. Sandra, Lamar, MO) and also Bro. Loren Schrenk (Sis. Betsy, St. Louis, MO). It is always good to have brethren from across the miles with us. May God strengthen and encourage each who preach the Word.

We rejoice with Bro. Nathan and Sis. Mary Hoffman as they welcome Levi Nathan into the world. Grandparents are Bro. Mike and Luann Hoffman and Bro. Matt and Sis. Gail Steiner. May God grant them grace to bring up their child in the ways of the Lord.

Haste and seek your soul's salvation;

Heed the Word of God today!

Haste to flee His condemnation;

Seek the straight and narrow way.

Zion's Harp #52

We are always thankful and encouraged when a soul turns to the Lord in repentance. Our prayers and encouragement now will be with Miranda Jennings as she seeks the straight and narrow path of life. May God give her much grace.

Our young group had the privilege to spend a weekend with the brethren in Silverton, OR. It is always a blessing to be able to travel across the miles and spend time together with those of like mind and faith.

While visiting us in Rockville, Bro. Ray Luthi (Lamar, MO) was hospitalized for a few days. We are thankful that he is doing better and was able to continue on his trip. We pray that God will continue to watch over him and provide.

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,
WASHINGTON
Henrietta Meyer**

Our thoughts and prayers are with Bro. Kory Langhofer as he leaves to continue his education. We enjoyed having him here this summer as he did an internship.

This month our visiting ministers were Bro. Paul Zimmerman (Sis. Loretta, Forrest, IL), Bro. Shawn Metzger (Sis. Sandy, Philadelphia, PA) and Bro. Fred Funk (Sis. Diane, Morton, IL).

Other visitors this month were from Champaign and Morton, IL; Bluffton, IN; and Bay City, MI.

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

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

**FLORIDA
FORT LAUDERDALE
Renee Mangold**

We are thankful that Hurricane Isabel veered away from the Ft. Lauderdale area. Our prayers are with those who were in the storm's path.

We were again blessed this month with visiting ministers, Bros. Jeff Streitmatter (Sis. Lynne, Sarasota, FL) and Ron Heiniger (Sis. Kayleen, Bloomington, IL). We pray for God's blessings on His servants.

Our church gathered for our monthly potluck at the Mangolds' home. It was a blessed time of fellowship and singing.

We pray that God would comfort Bro. Bud and Sis. Billie Klopfenstein and their family on the passing of Billie's sister, Lois Sage White.

Bro. Rich Sutter was recently hospitalized and underwent by-pass surgery. We pray that the surgery was successful and for God's healing hand to be on Bro. Rich.

**FLORIDA
NORTH FORT MYERS
Mary Masters**

We would like to entreat prayers for several from our congregation. We extend heartfelt sympathy to Sis. Jane Huette (Curtis) in the death of her dear mother following a lengthy illness. Sis. Jane remains in Morton, IL, at the time of this writing to be with her father who is experiencing serious health concerns.

Sis. Jeanette Yergler has undergone tests, but is once again feeling better and assembling with us again. Also, Alice Myer is in the hospital undergoing tests. She and her husband Gene have been absent for many weeks now due to her ongoing health problems. John Furrer has been transferred to a rehabilitation center at Tampa following his surgery and hospital stay. John is unable to talk because of a respi-

rator, but has made it known that he has invited Jesus to be his staff and peace.

Please pray for each of these loved ones that health may return and distress and discouragement would be replaced with God's peace and presence.

A small group of us enjoyed a visit and the listening of hymns at the nursing home where Bro. Rolland Keller resides. It was a joy to catch the sparkle that those familiar hymns produce in these dear ones.

**FLORIDA, SARASOTA
Carol Koehl**

Our Sunday School families recently spent a Saturday at Ichstucknee Springs, with a picnic lunch and dinner. Even though it rained a lot, they all had an enjoyable day together!

Bro. John Krstec and Bro. Orval Rocke both were hospital patients this past month. Sis. Edna Roscher was injured in a fall, but we are thankful there were no broken bones.

"I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

Phil. 3:14

**GEORGIA, ATLANTA
John Brewer**

As our small congregation has been richly blessed by Bro. Daren and Sis. Marie Yergler and their children, Ryan and Grace, we were saddened that Daren's work has transferred him back to central Illinois. Their presence will be sorely missed among our gathering, and our heart-felt prayers and bless-

ings go with them as they move back. Their hope is to settle with the Washington, IL, congregation and we know that church will be blessed by their attendance as ours immeasurably was.

We would like to thank the visiting ministers that have come the past month and a half. They include Bro. Brad Gudeman (Sis. Teresa, Bradford, IL), Bro. Tim Funk (Sis. Debbie, Peoria, IL) and Bro. Paul Gasser (Akron, OH). We thank them for the time they spent to travel down, minister to us and enjoy fellowship one with another.

As autumn approaches, there are many couples that are going to Florida for the winter. We would be honored if you took the opportunity to visit our assembly as you head for your winter destination. We enjoy the fellowship of other believers as they are traveling in or through our area. Our Sunday morning service starts at 10:15 for song service. The church is located off I-85 southwest of Atlanta. We are off exit 64 (Jonesboro Rd) exactly four miles west off the exit on the left hand side. If any questions or want to alert of your coming, please call either Bro. Linn Stoller 770-631-4554, Bro. Keith Kaufman 770-304-8335, Bro. Tom Waldbeser 770-463-4788 or Bro. Ted Hirstien 770-632-1287.

ILLINOIS, BELVIDERE

**Doreen Moser
Sheila McCoy**

“My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments: For length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee.”

Thus, the Lord had granted peace to Josh Steffen as he has been walking the path of repentance. If we keep the Lord's commandments, the Lord will do as He promised.

“Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart: So shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man.”

We gathered to hear the work being done at Gateway Woods on a recent Saturday evening. Here children are introduced to the Word of God and hopefully the Word is written on their hearts and bears fruit. Those who work in the Lord's vineyard with His precious lambs shall surely find favor in the sight of God.

“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.”

At our recent church campout, Bro. Chad and Sis. Kristi Kaeb made it known that they have felt moved by the Lord to move to the central Illinois area. As they have struggled with moving away from Belvidere, surely the Lord will direct their paths if they just trust in Him.

“Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the Lord, and depart from evil. It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones.”

How thankful we are for our

brothers and sisters in the Lord. As we gathered together for the annual Sunday School picnic hosted by Sis. Sheila and Dave McCoy, we were able to strengthen and encourage each other in our Christian walk and to keep the evil one far from our heavenly gatherings here on earth.

“Honor the Lord with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase; So shall thy barns be filled with plenty and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.”

As the fields are ripe with harvest and the fruit of our labors are garnered in, may we remember Who should receive the honor, praise and glory.

ILLINOIS BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL

**Ann Kellenberger
Rebekah Kaufmann**

Our congregation was very thankful to again have a number of visiting ministers worship with us. We thank Elder Bros. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL), Charles Sauder (Tremont, IL), Wayne Anliker (Forrest, IL), Ervin Knecht (Eureka, IL), Earl Ringger (Gridley, IL), Kent Heimer (Taylor, MO) and Bro. Clark Stoller, (Gridley, IL) and trust that God will richly reward each one for their labors of love.

Once again we have some new babies to report! Joshua Lee Kaufmann was born August 25 to Bro. Matt and Sis. Rebekah. Joshua's grandparents are Bro. Dennis and Sis. Bonnie Kaufmann and Hisato and the late Sis. Kathie

Inoue. Zane Jay Strassheim was born the following day (August 26) to Bro. Brian and Sis. Roze Strassheim. Zane was warmly welcomed home by Sant, Killian, Quinn and Savannah. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Dale and Sis. Carol Strassheim and Bro. Miklos and Sis. Aranka Bozzay (Chicago, IL).

Then, on September 1, little Macy Lauren Stickling came to bless the home of Bro. Delayne and Sis. Lori. Her grandparents are Bro. Dale and Sis. Diane Stickling and Bro. Neil and Sis. Linda Schmidgall (Morris, MN). May God bless each of these parents as they seek His wisdom and guidance raising their children.

With much joy, we heard the engagement announcement of Sis. Jessica Basham to Bro. Darin Leman. Jessica is the daughter of Fred and Sis. Mary. Darin is the son of Howard and Sis. Gloria Leman (Morton, IL). We pray they'll feel God's nearness and direction as they plan their future life together in the Lord.

Take my life, and let it be
consecrated, Lord to Thee.

Take my hands and let them move,
at the impulse of thy love.

Take my feet and let them be,
swift and beautiful for Thee.

Take my voice and let me sing,
always, only, for my King.

Take my silver and my gold,
not a mite would I withhold.

Take my moments and my days,
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

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.

Hymns of Zion, #106

Stephen Kupferschmid suffered a broken leg in a dirt bike accident, but is recovering. Sis. Ruthie Leman and Sis. Janelle Scott have recently had surgery. We trust that God will grant each of them a complete recovery.

Our sympathy goes out to Jan Schock, who lost her mother, Sis. Edith Joos (Morris, MN), on August 26.

Note of Thanks:

The family of Bro. Walton Fehr wishes to thank his many friends who helped him along his journey to his heavenly home. Also, for the singers, food, cards and calls while he was at Mayo's and at the nursing home.

Mida and children

ILLINOIS, BRADFORD

Steve Endress

Our congregation bid farewell to one sister and welcomed another this past month. Sis. Donna Kieser (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Wilma) wed Bro. Philip Nenadov from Chicago (Bro. Paul and Sis. Marilyn of Eureka, IL). We are sure that the Chicago congregation will be blessed with the addition of our Sis. Donna.

We are thankful for the addition of Sis. Becky Bradle (Bro. Roger and Sis. Ila, Eureka, IL) to our congregation as she became the wife of Bro. Matthew Elsassner (Bro. Jordan and Sis. Sharon). We hope and trust that she will find the same fervency and love for God here as she

did in the Eureka congregation.

We enjoyed having several visiting ministers bring the Word of Truth to us this month. They were Elder Bros. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL), Jim Plattner (Princeville, IL), and Bros. Gene Lehman (Wolcott, IN), Matthew Rassi (Chicago, IL), and Tom Bolliger (Tremont, IL). May the Lord always stand by them as they preach.

Many times in life we are confronted with a "what if." What if we meet this obstacle or that? How will we react? What if the Lord blesses us with poverty? Will we be thankful? Joshua also presented the children of Israel with these questions. He warned them that the service of the Lord is sometimes difficult. Will we give up?

"But the people said unto Joshua, Nay; but we will serve the Lord."

Joshua 24:21

In this statement is the blessed assurance that to serve the Lord is always better than any alternative. It is a blessed state of being to have this resolve in our minds and trust in our hearts.

ILLINOIS CHAMPAIGN-URBANA Karla Kieser

The new school year has started and we are always glad to see new faces. We had our new student picnic on Sunday, August 24, where we met all the new students. We thank our visiting ministers, Bro. Dewayne Dill from Minneapolis and Bro. Curt Rassi from Tremont for ministering to us that day. The new freshman this year include

Steven Sauder from Bloomington (Technical Systems Management), Jordan Walter from Forrest (Computer Science) and his twin brother Jared (Crop Science), Bro. Jonathon Roth from Forrest (Agricultural Engineering), Andy Hohulin from Ft. Lauderdale (Business), Brett Steffen from Cissna Park, Blake Zehr from Fairbury (Agriculture), Lucas Stoller from Gridley (Business), Andrew Maurer from Bloomington (Agricultural Engineering), Chad Kaeb from Cissna Park, Trisha Young from Cissna Park, Carl Eisenmann from Cissna Park, Steven Webb from Ft. Lauderdale (Chemistry), Sis. Tiffany Zimmerman from Forrest (Physical Therapy Asst.), Sis. Meg Dill from Minneapolis (Dietetics), Ashley Maurer from Cissna Park (Dietetics) and Trisha Bates from Roanoke (Industrial Design). Our junior transfer students are Ben Beutel from Tremont (Business), Bro. Lucas Young from Elgin (Mechanical Engineering), Ryan Aberle from Tremont (Animal Science), Bro. Travis Blunier from Goodfield (Biology) and Ben Wenger from Forrest (Computer Engineering). We also welcome Sis. Rachel Wenger from Forrest who is starting medical school and welcome back Bro. Shane Fehr from Washington who is also starting medical school. I apologize for any unintentional omissions I may have made.

We would like to remind all of those who may wish to visit for a Wednesday evening service that we do occasionally meet on campus at the Illini Union at 1401 W. Green St. in Champaign. This semester we are meeting at the Union on Oc-

tober 27 in Room 407.

Many thanks are in order for our other visiting ministers this month. Elder Bros. Ron Messner from Washington and John Lehman from Bern were here on August 31 and Bro. Gary Endress from Bradford was with us September 14. We appreciate their efforts.

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO

Rachel Meyer

Over the summer, I was able to work with children at a park district camp. There were quite a few camp counselors, of which I was one. Day after day I would go and work directly with several of the same counselors since we were in the same group. Our conversation focused on camp, what was happening this week, and updates on the children. Very superficial. I felt as if I really knew nothing about them except a name and face. It is amazing how we can work so closely with others day after day and yet not know each other.

To my surprise, one afternoon a counselor asked me if she could talk with me for a moment. We had barely exchanged more than a few sentences each day, but worked together agreeably. She asked me for some advice concerning her personal life. Suddenly, she became a person of thought, character, concerns, joys and all of the things I attribute to the people I know and love. It led to an opportunity to share with her God's Word and get a glimpse into her heart. I learned a valuable lesson that day - behind every door there is real life going on. Let's keep our spiritual antenna up and tuned in so we are ready when a door opens.

On August 24, Sis. Donna Kieser (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Wilma, Bradford, IL) became the bride of Bro. Philip Nenadov (Bro. Paul and Sis. Marilyn, Eureka, IL). Bro. Philip has been part of our congregation for some time now and we welcome Sis. Donna with open arms. We are thankful to have this dear couple with us and pray God's blessing on their marriage.

On August 30-31 we were privileged to hear the testimonies and witness the baptisms of Tibor and Maggie Bozzay. It was a blessed weekend and very touching to see them rejoice with their family and two daughters, Abigail and Zoe. We were thankful to have Elder Bro. Bruce Hohulin (Sis. Charlene, Goodfield, IL) to assist our Bro. Dale for the weekend. We were also blessed to have Bro. Dennis Rassi (Sis. Diane, Fairbury, IL) to join us for the weekend.

Also visiting this month was Elder Bro. Wayne Banwart (Sis. Charlen, Champaign, IL) and we were thankful to have him and his family with us for the day.

Our sympathy goes out to Bro. Mark Triplett (Sis. Aubrey) on the loss of his father, Bro. Willis Triplett, of Peoria. We pray that this dear couple can feel God's nearness and comfort during this time.

"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints."

Psalm 116:15

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK

Denise Walder

Susan Waldbeser

We rejoice with Urban and Sis. Judy Edelman in the birth of a new

granddaughter, Kenadee Elise, born to Jason and Madonna Edelman. Grandchildren are indeed a very special gift from God.

We are grateful to the following ministers for serving us this past month: Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL), Bro. Todd Feller (LaCrosse, IN), Bro. Brad Eisenmann (Chicago, IL), Bro. David Oberghel (Peoria, IL) and Bro. Darren Plattner (Champaign, IL). We appreciate the service of each of these brothers and know God will bless each one according to His promise found in Hebrews 6:10 "For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labor of love, which ye have showed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister."

August 24 was the wedding day for Bro. Jess Walder (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Sharon) and Sis. Kelsey Kuenzi (Bro. Terry and Sis. Ann) in Silverton, OR. We will miss Bro. Jess here in Cissna Park but pray that God will lead this dear couple as they now walk hand in hand down life's pathway together towards that heavenly goal.

Our thoughts and prayers have been with Sis. Tillie Rudin as she had surgery this past month. We pray that the Great Physician will send His healing powers.

Sunday, September 14, was the evening for our annual Senior Citizens Dinner sponsored by our Sunday School students grades 3-12.

Note of Thanks:

We would like to extend a sincere thank you to our dear brethren and friends in the Cissna Park congregation who have shown so much

love and support to us during the time of our move. Whenever there was a need of any kind, someone was there to willingly lend a hand. We feel so unworthy of the material and spiritual blessings showered on us during this time. What a priceless blessing we have in our brotherhood!

We know the Lord is with us always, and we have felt very welcomed by the Congerville congregation; yet thoughts of "home" still tug at our hearts, leaving an ache that we know only time can lessen. May the Lord bless and keep you, each one, and truly make His face to shine upon you, as you continue to faithfully serve Him.

In His Love,
Bro. Jon and Sis. Cyndee Anderson and family

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE
Arlene Banwart

In listening to the Brotherhood Conference tapes we heard "We need to be prayerful over and over again." In our church we have so many to pray for.

Jackson Jean Baptist, who had heart surgery, has returned to Haiti. For about one year he lived with Bro. Mike and Sis. Susie Zobrist and family. Along with them we pray that Jackson will use what he learned in America to serve God. Also leaving our congregation are Bro. Kevin, Sis. Cari, and Nathan Knapp who have moved to Lester, IA. We wish them God's blessings in their new home.

We welcome Sis. Mary Anderson, formerly of Cissna Park, IL, to our church. She resides in apartment #234 at the Apostolic Christian Home of Eureka.

With thankfulness we report that David Virkler (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Gayle) and Ryan Schrock (Bro. Ken and Sis. Janet) have started repenting. It's our prayer as in Psalm 70:4 "Let all those that seek thee rejoice and be glad in thee."

"And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more..." (Phil. 1:9). Jason Schrock and Angela Knapp were united in marriage August 23, and we appreciate their presence in our congregation. Their parents are Bro. Steve and Sis. Gerri Schrock and Bro. Bruce and Sis. Mary Knapp.

A new son, Levi Ervin, is welcomed by Bro. Jay and Sis. Melinda Steffen and siblings, Nathan, Justin and Molly. Grandparents are Elder Bro. Ervin and Sis. Sandy Knecht (Eureka) and Bro. Duane and Sis. Lois Steffen.

After preaching in the Congerville church for 41 years, Bro. Frederick Knapp announced on September 10 that he will no longer be active in the ministry. We pray that God will bless him and continue to use him in other ways.

Ray Baer (Dorothy) started repenting August 26. Two weeks later it was announced he had peace. Due to his deteriorating physical condition, he was baptized by sprinkling in his home. Our Bro. Ray passed away September 14, about 26 hours after being baptized. Surviving are his wife, Dorothy; two sons, Steven (Cynthia) and Bradley (Rhonda); two daughters, Sandra (Bill) Lines and Brenda (Matthew) Levatich. May God comfort the sorrowing, yet we rejoice that Bro. Ray was so quickly relieved of his physical suffering.

ILLINOIS, ELGIN**Amy Gasser**

The Elgin congregation appreciated the services of the following visiting ministers in the past month: Bros. Todd Stoller (Latty, OH), Kim Sutter (Taylor, MO), Carroll Gerber (Bluffton North, IN) and Dean Steffen (Belvidere, IL).

Bro. Greg and Sis. Joni Anliker welcomed a new little daughter, Lauren Janelle, on August 17. Darren is her big brother. Her grandparents are Bro. Gary and Sis. Edie Anliker and Bro. Bob and Sis. Jeanne Schambach.

There are also those in our congregation who have lost loved ones recently. Sisters Nina Willaert and Julia Graf lost their sister-in-law, Louise Graf, on September 3. Also, Bro. Delbert (Sis. Jeanette) Schmidt's brother, Don Schmidt, passed away.

Bro. Georg and Sis. Hilde Schumacher celebrated their 51st wedding anniversary September 7 with a dinner at the Fellowship Center. (Illness prevented this celebration last year.) We wish them more happy years together.

August 15 marked a new beginning, the wedding day of Jodi Schifferer (Bro. Tom and Sis. Kathy) and Rob Hammer.

The Bible Class students hosted a successful annual pancake breakfast at the Fellowship Center on September 6.

We are thankful for Jacob Schambach (Bill Schambach, Jr., and Melody Lipscomb) who is repenting.

Jesus, Lover of my soul,
Let me to Thy bosom fly,

While the nearer waters roll,
While the tempest still is high!
Hide me, O my Saviour hide,
Till the storm of life is past;
Safe into the haven guide,
O receive my soul at last!

Thou, O Christ, art all I want;
More than all in Thee I find;
Raise the fallen, cheer the faint,
Heal the sick, and lead the blind.
Just and holy is Thy name,
I am all unrighteousness;
False and full of sin I am,
Thou art full of truth and grace.

Plenteous grace with Thee is
found,
Grace to cover all my sin;
Let the healing streams abound,
Make and keep me pure within.
Thou of life the fountain art;
Freely let me take of Thee;
Spring Thou up within my heart,
Rise to all eternity.

Hymns of Zion #279, vs. 1,3,4

ILLINOIS, EUREKA**Janet Zimmerman**

Thankful and rejoicing for God's many blessings are Bro. Kevin and Sis. Julie Kupferschmid as they became parents of their first boy, Logan Wayne. He was born September 11 and is lovingly welcomed home by his big sisters, Lanae and Kelsey. His grandparents are Randy and Tereza Schertz and Bro. Ed and Sis. Donna Kupferschmid, all of Eureka.

We extend a warm welcome to Bro. Mike Beery (Art and Eileen) who moved here recently from Smithville, OH. We hope he will feel at home here in Eureka.

Sunday, September 21, many gathered together to witness the marriage vows of Sis. Becky Bradle (Bro. Roger and Sis. Ila) and Bro.

Matt Elsasser (Bro. Jordan and Sis. Sharon) of Bradford. We wish them God's richest blessings as they begin their life together as one in the Lord. We will miss Sis. Becky here in Eureka but know that she is welcomed in Bradford. We look forward to their visits. We were thankful to have Elder Bro. Marvin Lemman and Bro. Brad Gudeman (Bradford, IL), Bro. Vernon Wettstein (Congerville, IL), Bro. John Steiner (Oakville, IA) and Elder Bro. Bob Walder (Congerville, IL) with us for this blessed occasion.

We likewise wish God's richest blessings to Bro. Eric Lemman (Bro. Bruce and Sis. Marge) and Sis. ReKeeta Schmidgall (Bro. Mike and Sis. Diane) of Morris, MN, as they were united in Holy Matrimony on Sunday, September 7, in Morris. We extend a warm welcome to Sis. ReKeeta.

On August 24, the engagement announcement of Bro. Darrell Stoller (Bro. Tom and Sis. Edie) and Sis. Jennifer Wiegand (Bro. Larry and Sis. Lori) of Goodfield, IL, was made known. We wish them God's blessings and may they continue to seek God's council and guidance in their decisions as they plan for their future.

Little Burke Wettstein (infant son of Bro. Bill and Sis. Heidi) spent some time in the hospital recently due to a viral infection. We are thankful he is well again. Also, Sis. Elaine Blunier was hospitalized for a time and we pray for God's healing powers upon her.

We are thankful that we could listen to the Brotherhood Conference tapes four Wednesday evenings. So much good direction and council was given to us. All we re-

ally have to do is trust and obey. May God richly bless our Elder brethren. "Trust and obey, for there's no other way, to be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey."

We thank our visiting ministers who were willing to be used in God's service. They were Bro. Tom Leman (Denver, CO), Bro. Brian Huber (Francesville, IN) and Bro. Dan Stoller (Remington, IN).

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY
Tammy Hinrichsen
Joann Zehr

Bro. Darren and Sis. Kendra Fehr have been blessed with a baby boy, Carson Warren, born September 8. His brothers and sisters are Drew, Layne, and Lauren and will be excited to have a new baby to take care of. Thankful grandparents are Sis. Betty Ifft (late Warren Ifft) and Bro. Warren and Sis. Shirley Fehr.

We are thankful that Blake Zehr (Bro. Quinn and Sis. Joan) has answered God's call to repentance and we wish him God's grace and help as he begins his new walk of life. It is so uplifting when a soul comes and we know that God does hear and answer prayers.

Bro. Justin Cottrell (Larry and Doris) and Sis. Karla Kaisner (Robert and Cherie) have announced their engagement and may God be with them with guidance and help as they make their wedding plans.

We want to extend our sympathy to Bro. Jesse Huber (Sis. Donna) in the death of his brother, Ralph Huber, 84.

Sis. Mary Kaeb (Bro. David) and Sis. Bonnie Bach have had surgery and we wish them God's healing mercies.

It is always appreciated when our ministers are willing to visit and share God's Word with us. A special "thank you" to Elder Bro. Tom Hoffman (Roanoke, IL) and Bros. Jerry Wagenbach (Oakville, IA), Dan Moser (Elgin, IL) and Dale Banwart (Wolcott, IN). May God bless each one of them.

We have now completed hearing the Conference tapes and sincerely appreciate all the time and effort that our Elder brothers give for our spiritual welfare. May God richly bless them.

ILLINOIS, FORREST
Linda Anliker
Lori Dotterer

Our congregation is thankful for the safe arrival of two precious babies this month. Morgan Dawn Lanz is welcomed home by Bro. Troy, Sis. Kathleen, Ashton, Trevor, Jensen and Mitchell. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Elmer and Sis. Lavonne Lanz and Jim and Mary Slagel. Loren Edward has come to bless the home of Bro. Joel and Sis. Heidi Beard. His grandparents are Bro. Greg and Sis. Jill Stoller and Bro. Ed and Sis. Dee Beard (Toledo, OH). We pray that these parents will look to God for guidance in raising their children.

We are thankful that there are ministering brothers who are willing to preach the Word by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. May God bless Bro. Earl Beery (Rittman, OH), Bro. Myron Knobloch (Lester, IA) and Bro. Tim Gerber (Mansfield, OH) for being with us this month.

We welcome Bro. Peter Schroder from Silverton, OR, as he

has begun assembling with us. May he feel welcome and feel the love of the brethren.

Our thoughts and prayers have been with young Blake Hall (Bro. Don and Barb) and his family as he underwent surgery this month and continues to have treatments for his cancer. Sis. Aldine Wackerle was also in the hospital and we pray that God will provide for each one what He sees is best.

Note of Thanks:

I sincerely want to thank my family, church family, and friends for the cards and gifts I received on my 90th birthday. It's humbling to feel the love from everyone. God bless you all.

In Christian love,
 Sis. Marie Hohulin

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD
Rita Bauman
Heather Hohulin

Crystal and Frank Lopez gave birth to a precious boy, Xzavier Manuel. Grandparents are Ben and Sis. Lisa Wiegand and Nancy Lopez. Also giving birth to a boy is Bro. Doug and Sis. Trista Ulrich. Little Brooks Douglas was welcomed home by Addison, his sister. Grandparents are Bro. Steve and Sis. Bonnie Gerst and Mike and Mary Lockart. A baby girl, Mary Beth Wiegand, was born to Bro. Nathan and Sis. Laura Wiegand. Grandparents are Bro. Dennis and Sis. Beth Mott and Bro. Roy and Sis. Jan Wiegand. We pray that God would be with each of these families.

Joined together in marriage this past month was Bro. Howard Zobrist and Sis. Helen Hermann.

Also joined in marriage were Carly Schrock and Dustin Cawley. Parents are Chuck and Diane Schrock, Deb and Steve Hodel and Darcy Cawley. May God be with each of these couples and their families as they begin life together.

We were thankful to have two visiting ministers this month: Bro. Jim Rinkenberger and his wife, Sis. Jeanne, and Bro. Dan Beer and his wife, Sis. Deb.

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY

Perry A. Klopfenstein

Bro. John and Sis. Wava Kaupp are now married in the Lord. This took place on September 21. Ministering brothers here for the occasion were Bros. Lenard Meyer (Chicago, IL) and Garry Bucher (Valparaiso, IN). We wish this couple sincere best wishes in the years ahead; and we rejoice in the happiness they have found in following God's will in becoming one in the Lord.

On October 5, the baptisms of four souls took place. They were: Bros. Josh Stoller and Brian Vercler, and Sisters Marissa Witzig and Melissa Kaeb. May God be with them in their new walk of faith. Here to help in this blessed work was Elder Bro. Kent Heimer (Taylor, MO) and we offer our special thanks for his labors. Also, Bro. Jim Kaeb (Bern, KS) was here for the baptisms, and his presence was appreciated.

Don Gilmore (Sis. Alice) is recovering from a stroke, and we pray he will find good health again. Also, Bro. Mike Butikofer has been struggling with his health and we pray for him as well.

As fall is upon us, the beginning

of the new school term is here. Many of your young people (members and friends) are attending colleges and universities. We surely pray for their well being, both in body and soul. May God watch over them and may the truthful seeds planted in their hearts by parents and loved ones remain with them.

Those attending schools away from home are:

Bro. Jamin Ringger, Sis. Leah Stoller, Sis. Callie Prevo, Amanda Funk, Sis. Elise Kaupp, Bro. Brian Vercler, Sis. Tina Gramm, Lindsey Kaupp, and Sis. Kristin Zimmerman are all at Heartland.

Sis. Leslie Ringger is at Parkland.

Melissa Taylor is at Wesleyan.

Bro. Ryan Prevo, Sis. Carrie Stoller, Nathan Hodel, Sis. Candice Dolman, Sis. Becky Romersberger, Bro. Andy Zimmerman, Justin Steffen, Derek Meiss, Seth Campbell, Sis. Tara Wettstein, Sis. Tricia Hodel, Sis. Alison Romersberger and Bro. Matt Zehr are all at ISU.

Sis. Katrina Stoller, Bro. Scott Wettstein, Diana Vercler, and Lucas Stoller are at U of I.

Sis. Nichole Wiegand, Bro. Jeremy Schlipf, Sis. Holly Stoller and Sis. Kate Ringger are at ICC.

Sis. Laura Vercler is at Purdue.

The fall season also brings to mind the harvest, and many families are engaged in the hard work of bringing in corn and beans. Such also brings to mind the spiritual harvest. The Word reminds us that the fields are "white unto harvest" and that the laborers are few. May we all be willing to do what we can in the furtherance of this glorious cause.

The 2003-2004 Sunday School

term is well under way and we pray for Bro. Roger Wiegand, Superintendent; and for the Assistant Superintendent, Bro. Curt Meiss, and for all the teachers as well.

ILLINOIS, MORTON

Julie Bahr

Christie Zeller

"I'm going Home... I'm going Home...". More dear loved ones went Home to be with the Lord. Bro. Leslie Schweigert (Tremont, IL) passed away August 20. He is a brother to our Sis. Pearl (Bro. Elias) Rassi. Sis. Lorine Heiniger passed away August 25. She is a sister to Vi (Bro. Ray) Huette. Sis. Emma Schupbach passed away August 29. May our Heavenly Father comfort these dear families in their loss.

Sis. Mandy Koehl, originally from Sarasota, Florida, has moved to Morton this past year and is making Morton her home church. We welcome this dear sister.

Bro. Tim and Sis. Beth Leman and their family have recently moved to Morton from Bloomington, IL, and are making Morton their home church. We welcome this dear family.

Bro. Tim and Sis. Beth Leman are the thankful parents of a new baby girl, Victoria Lauren. She is welcomed home by big brothers, Nathaniel, Michael, Clinton, and T.J., and big sister, Nicole. God bless this dear family.

Bro. Curt Rassi (Sis. Kathy, Tremont, IL) brought us our Family Worship on September 3 on "Meekness". May we all strive to be meek and humble servants as we serve our great God.

Our other visiting ministers for

the month were: Bro. Ted Hirstein (Sis. Joyce, Atlanta, GA), Bro. Steve Baner (Sis. Donna Lou, Gridley, IL), and Bro. Dennis Kaufmann (Sis. Bonnie, Bloomington, IL). May God bless these brothers for their endless labors of love.

ILLINOIS, PEORIA Lou and Marjean Lonteen

"The Father
Requests the honor of your presence
At the marriage supper of His Son
Jesus Christ
To be held in Heaven
Only those will be admitted
Who come clothed in the Wedding
Garment
Provided by the Father."

"He hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, He hath covered me with the robe of righteousness."

Isaiah 51:10

Our congregation was inspired by the Family Night service, "Forgiveness" by Bro. Wayne Laubscher (Cissna Park). Bro. Rick Plattner (Fairbury) recently ministered from the Peoria pulpit again. We trust the Lord's blessings will follow His dear servants of His Holy Word.

Our congregation grieves with the family of Bro. Willis Triplett. Bro. Willis died on September 1, and services were held on September 4. We remember Sis. Shirley in prayer along with your dear family. May the Comforter be with you always.

Skylines Home Resident, Esther Kieser, died on September 13.

Services were held in Princeville on September 16. Surviving is one sister, Sis. Dorothea Kieser. Esther was preceded in death by one brother and three sisters.

We extend sympathy to: Bro. Bob and Sis. Doris Meiss, and Bro. Herb and Sis. Nancy Stoller in the death of their dear mother, Sis. Martha Stoller (Gridley).

Sis. Eva Gillott passed from this life into eternity on September 13. Our sympathy and prayers are with her dear sister, Sis. Clara Veatch.

Engagements:

Bro. Ben Ginzl (Bro. Dave and Sis. Mary) and Sis. Alexia Blunier (Bro. Daryl and Sis. Lucy) of Goodfield.

Sis. Kary Hoerr and Bro. Trent Scholl were engaged on August 24. Parents are: Bro. Carl II and Sis. Debby Hoerr and the late Wayne and Linda (Scholl) Robinson, of Princeville.

Sunday School resumed on September 7. New Sunday School teachers are: Sis. Peg Hoerr, Sis. Judy Metzger, Sis. Stephanie Wieland, Bro. Dean Ramseyer, Bro. Jesse Schroeder, Bro. Tim Reinhard, and Bro. Kyle Scholl.

The angels in Heaven are rejoicing! Carmen Klopfenstein (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Carol) and Sarah Reinhard (Bro. Tim and Sis. Joan) have called upon the Lord in repentance.

Sis. Joy and Bro. Ryan Hoerr were blessed with a little baby boy on September 15. Denver James was welcomed home by Tecca Joy and Kipling Ryan. Joyful grandparents are: Bro. Howard and Sis. Mary Ann Herrmann (Princeville) and Bro. Carl II and Sis. Debby Hoerr.

Little Claire Lorraine Wuethrich was born to:

Claire is Jill and Andy's first-born. Thankful to have a little granddaughter are: Bro. Allan and Sis. Lois Herman and Bro. Bob and Sis. Phyllis Wuethrich (Francesville, IN).

Special prayer requests:

Sis. Bonnie Bach (surgery), Bro. Walt Geyer, Bro. Frances Wiegand (broken hip), Bro. Kenneth Plattner.

New address:

Bro. Fedi and Sis. Ruth Davidovics Barta Jozef, Rev-din-decembrie 28/B/11, Miercurea Ciuc Cod 4100 Harghita, Romania, Europe.

"Lighthouse Academy Opens in Kickapoo"

Lighthouse Academy, Inc., an Illinois not-for-profit corporation, has established a new school teaching K through 9th grades. The group's board signed a lease in July for 2400 sq. ft. of classroom space and 1400 sq. ft. of activity/gymnasium space at the Windpoint Center in the nearby Kickapoo area. Sis. Christy Wiegand, a certified teacher and recent graduate from Eureka College, will teach grades 1 through 8. Sis. Sallie Hoerr is teaching Lighthouse Academy's kindergarten students.

"And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, these are the true sayings of God."

Revelation 19:9

"And Jesus answered and spake unto them again by parables, and said, The kingdom of heaven is like unto a certain king, which made a

marriage for his son. And sent forth his servants to call them that were bidden to the wedding: and they would not come. Again, he sent forth other servants, saying, Tell them which are bidden, Behold, I have prepared my dinner: my oxen and my fatlings are killed, and all things are ready: come unto the marriage."

Matthew 22:1-4

"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved."

Acts 15:31

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE
Phyllis Knobloch
Crystal Streitmatter

We are happy to announce the marriage of Ryan Siebenthal (Bro. Gene and Sis. Kay) to Rosalie Chwal (Treaasa and Edward) on August 23. We pray they will trust the Lord and seek His guidance.

"For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works that we should walk in them."

Ephesians 2:10

We are thankful to report that our dear friend, Brittany Streitmatter (Bro. David and Sis. Crystal), has begun her repentance and is now walking with the Lord!

On August 31, Bro. Ted Steffen (Alto, MI) ministered to us, and on September 14, we were again blessed to have Bros. Andy Klaus (Japan), Randy Gasser (Detroit, MI), and Ken Hoerr (Peoria, IL) in our midst. Thank Thee, Lord, for sending Thy Word to us through them and also thank you dear brothers for being willing to be

used for our welfare.

"Praise the Lord with harp: sing unto him with the psaltery and an instrument of ten strings."

Psalms 33:2

We had a joyful evening on September 6 when our choir hosted the annual benefit dinner and followed with singing praises to the Lord! God has truly blessed us again! It is a special blessing to me since this was taken away from me thirty years ago following a car accident. My jaws were wired together and I was on a hospital bed many weeks, just waiting and wondering if I'd ever be able to sing again. I could think of the many times my family and others sang around the piano. We loved group singing. Several times a week we spent hours harmonizing. My brother, Uriel, and I were especially lovers of music, possibly because it was handed down from my father who played the violin and also his mother and father played violins. Grandpa taught us many songs he brought from Switzerland. We sang to him the twelve years he was blind, after church on Sundays. We all looked forward to the time together.

Esther Kieser, 93, passed away September 14 at the Peoria Nursing Home. Her funeral will be here in Princeville on Tuesday. We are thankful that she could be relieved of her earthly cares.

Bro. Herman Baer is still having health problems. May we continue to remember him in our prayers.

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

Jenell Hodel
Joan Leman

"...there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth."

Luke 15:10

Our congregation rejoices with our new convert, Larry Edwards, as he has answered God's call to repentance. May he feel the prayers and encouragement of his church family as he begins his walk with the Lord.

"And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you; And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake.

And be at peace among yourselves."

1 Thessalonians 5:12-13

We have had the privilege of listening to the Brotherhood Conference tapes on Wednesday evenings. We appreciate the kindly admonitions and teachings of our Elders. May the Lord richly bless our Elder brethren for their love and concern for our souls' welfare and may we strive to be more submissive.

We appreciated having Bro. Virgil Kaeb (Sarasota) share the Word of Life with us on a Wednesday evening. We also thank Bro. Trent Meiss (Eureka) for speaking at our monthly Bible Study. We were challenged to "...think on these things." (Philippians 4:8) May the Lord ever bless these brothers for their labors on our behalf.

On Sunday, August 24, our con-

gregation enjoyed a potluck supper and singing in recognition of Bro. Bill and Sis. Betty Hodel's many years of service in the ministry. We sincerely thank them for their many labors of love.

Bro. Jesse and Sis. Jenny Martin welcome a baby boy into their hearts and home. Chase Joshua was born September 9. Also welcoming him home are big sister, Payton, and grandparents, Bro. Randy and Sis. Carol Feucht and Glen and Carol Martin.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Sis. Winifred Martin and Bro. Melvin Weyeneth as they have undergone surgery this past month. We trust they have felt the Lord's healing touch. We continue to pray for Sis. Leigh Getz and her parents, Bro. John and Sis. Lynn. May they feel God's comforting presence.

Believing that God has brought their lives together, Bro. Joseph Lemman (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Karen) and Sis. Rachel Selof of South Bend, IN (Richard and Joyce); and Sis. Natalie Lemman (Bro. Bill and Sis. Jeanne) and Bro. Luke Baker of Washington (Joe and Sis. Karen) have announced their engagements. May the Lord continue to guide these couples as they make plans to become one in Him.

Note of Thanks:

I wish to thank my family, my church family and friends for remembering me with cards, gifts, phone calls, flowers and food on my 89th birthday. It was greatly appreciated. I also wish to thank those who left fruits and vegetables on my porch this summer. God's blessings to each of you.

Sis. Mabel Bowald

ILLINOIS, TREMONT
Heather Rassi
LaVonne Wagenbach

The following ministers visited our congregation this month including Elder Bro. Dennis Warner and Bro. Dale Wulf (Lester, IA), Elder Bro. Jim Plattner and Bro. Walt Herrmann (Princeville, IL), Bro. Gary Maibach (Smithville, OH), Bro. Vernon Wettstein (Congerville, IL) and Bro. John Steiner (Oakville, IA). May each one be rewarded for his labor in the ministry of the Word.

We rejoiced at the hearing of four testimonies of conversion. After witnessing their baptisms, we greeted Bro. Steven and Sis. Kari Beutel, as well as Bro. Daniel and Sis. Jeanne Wagenbach. May the Lord be their Guide in their new Christian walk.

During this difficult time of loss, our thoughts and prayers extend to our Sis. Betty Schweigert on the passing of her husband, Bro. Les. May their son, Alan Schweigert (Chillicothe, IL) and his family also feel the Comforter during this time of sorrow. Our sympathy is also with Sis. Cleda Ringenberger (Bro. Ray) while she has experienced the loss of her brother, Richard Farris, of Louisiana, MO.

Sis. Betty Schweigert spent some time in the hospital this month. We wish her God's healing and constant care.

First-time grandparents are Bro. Steve and Sis. Barb Pfloderer. Kenneth James Ober III was born on June 4 to Bro. Kenny and Sis. Stephanie Ober (Peoria, IL). Grandparents, Bro. Ken and Sis. Pam Ober, are also rejoicing at the arrival of their newest grandson.

A daughter has been born to Chris and Julie Cockrell. Chloe Marie was welcomed home by her parents and big brother, Caleb. Grandparents are Bro. Fred and Sis. Jeannette Beutel.

Bro. Dave and Sis. Joanna Sauder also have a new baby, Jacob Alan. His siblings are Heidi, Deborah, and Nathan. Grandparents are Bro. Dale and Sis. Joann Sauder and Bro. Howard and Sis. MaryAnn Herrmann (Princeville, IL).

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON
Dianne Wyss
Marcia Koch

During a recent topical Bible Study, Bro. Frank Sauder (Sis. Kathy, Roanoke, IL) reminded us that the most difficult element concerning God's will is usually not seeking it out, but rather heeding it. He encouraged us to not only obey God's stated will, but to also wait patiently in uncertainty as God uses those times to build character within us. We thank Bro. Frank as well as Bro. Jon Zeller (Sis. Christine, Morton, IL) and Bro. Ken Weerts (Sis. Myrna, Cissna Park, IL) for sharing God's Word with us this month.

We were blessed to hear the testimony of Bro. Tyler Schick (Bro. Bill and Sis. Joan) and to witness his baptism. We were thankful to have Bro. Leland Plattner (Sis. Mary, Zapata, TX) with us to share in this blessed occasion.

We rejoice with Bro. Luke Baker (Joe and Sis. Karen) and Sis. Natalie Lemman (Bro. Bill and Sis. Jeanie, Roanoke, IL) as they announced their engagement. May the Lord be their firm foundation.

Bro. Harvey Martin (Sis. Sharon) was hospitalized this month. We are thankful for the healing touch of the Great Physician.

Our congregation was privileged to host the recent ACYF evenings. "It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, and to sing praises unto thy name, O most High." (Psalm 92:1)

INDIANA, BLUFFTON

**Tiffany Aschliman
Elizabeth Frauhiger**

We were thankful this month to have Bro. Bob Meyer (Sis. Ann, Bluffton North, IN) share the Word with us. We appreciate our ministering brothers in their willingness to serve.

Wedding bells were ringing on September 6 as Bro. Mitch Aschliman (Bro. Kevin and Sis. Beth) and Sis. Dana Gerber (Bro. Keith and Sis. Kay) were united in marriage. We wish them God's richest blessings as they begin their walk together.

Our thoughts and prayers are with those who have spent some time in the hospital this month. We pray that Bros. John Kipfer (Sis. Sue), Phil Moser (Sis. Jean) and Dwight Gerber (Sis. Lucille) will feel God's hand in this period of their lives.

We rejoice with Bro. Bob and Sis. Ida Aschliman as they have recently celebrated 60 years of marriage. We pray that God will grant them many more happy years together.

Bro. Stan and Sis. Cindy Bertsch welcomed their first grandchild on August 25. Landon Matthew Bertsch is the son of Matt and Eliz-

abeth Bertsch.

Ava Grace Ann Clark is the first daughter of Cameron and Mandy Clark. Ava's grandparents are John and Etta Steffen. Ava was born on August 28.

Hadassah Loren Kaehr was born on September 12 to Bro. Jon and Sis. Juli Kaehr. Hadassah joins Sis. Sarah, Bro. Jesse, Hannah, Lydia, Esther, Samuel, Luke, Anna, Abigail and Marcus at home. Thankful grandparents are Sis. Pat Kaehr and Bro. Ken and Sis. Carolyn Isch.

Anna Christine Laukhuf is the first granddaughter of Bro. Ron and Sis. Linda Kipfer. Anna was born on September 12. Her parents are Bro. Darin and Sis. Erin Laukhuf (Latty, OH).

We rejoice with the angels in Heaven as Wendy Neuenchwander (Bro. Dee and Sis. Laura) has sought the Lord in repentance. We wish her much grace as she begins her walk with God.

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

Revelation 22:14

INDIANA BLUFFTON NORTH

**Ann Meyer
Tiffani Schladenhauffen**

"Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it."

Matthew 7:14

We are thankful to have another

soul walking on the strait path with us. We rejoice with Delores Shady (Bill) as she answers the call of our Lord. We pray that she will feel the peace that only comes from serving our Saviour.

Sis. Violet Isch (Bro. Roger) answered the call to go Home to her Heavenly Father this month. We mourn with her husband, Bro. Roger, and daughters, Sis. Phyllis Bucher (Bro. Nile) and Jill Roth (Steve), but we pray that they can find comfort in knowing that she is at peace resting in the Father's arms.

Big brother, Colton Yergler, welcomed his new baby brother into this world, Braysen James. Braysen James' happy parents are Bro. Shawn and Sis. Mindy and grandparents are Bro. Jeff and Sis. Peg. Another set of happy grandparents is Bro. Herman and Sis. Mary Baumgartner at the birth of their new granddaughter, Barbara Lucia. Bro. Greg and Sis. Melissa (Indianapolis, IN) are her parents.

We were thankful this month to have Bro. Ed Sauder (Sis. Bonnie, Roanoke, IL) to share the Word with us. It is always an encouragement to have visiting brethren gather with us.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Bro. Jim Geisel and Bro. Len Francesi (Sis. Mary) as they spend some time in the hospital. Our prayers also continue to be with Sis. Becky Bertsch (Bro. Lonnie) and her family as she continues to battle cancer. We were thankful to have Sis. Deb Neuenchwander (Bro. Ted) back worshipping with us, and we pray for her in her time of recovery.

"Now the God of hope fill you

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

Romans 15:13

INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE Jessica Murray

We had much to be thankful for this past month. What a privilege it was to be the host of the Apostolic Christian Men's Hymn Sing this year. To have so many talented voices in one area, being lifted up to glorify God, was a wonderful experience. We would like to express our gratitude to all those who came to share in the event. It is always a blessing to have a house overflowing when worshipping the Lord. May the Lord greatly reward your time and effort it took to be with us.

This past month we were able to listen to the Conference tapes on Wednesday evenings. We are so thankful for the Elders who spent their days in prayer and preparation to go, and then being there and working together for their flocks. May we all benefit from the tapes and the messages that were spoken so loud and clear. May we apply God's Word in our daily lives.

On September 7, the engagement of Sis. Molly Gutwein to Bro. Jarod Steffen (Remington, IN) was announced. Her parents are Elder Bro. Steve and Sis. Linda Gutwein. He is the son of Bro. Roger and Sis. Vicky Steffen (Remington, IN). We offer them our best wishes and the Lord's guiding hand.

Bro. Nathan and Sis. Sara Huber were blessed with their first child on August 29. Avery Stephen has grandparents, Bro. John and Sis. Bev Huber, Elder Bro. Steve

and Sis. Linda Gutwein, great-grandparents Bro. Eugene Huber, Paul and Loretta Krulik, Bro. Carl and Sis. Yvonne Gutwein, and Bro. Robert and Sis. Norma Pfledderer to welcome him into the world. May you love and cherish your precious one and raise him to know the Lord.

May we continue to pray for those in our area who are recovering, or still carry pain. May you continue to lean on the Lord for His grace, daily.

We would like to thank our visiting ministers this past month for sharing the Word with us. Visiting were Bro. Craig Martin (Sis. Terri, Princeville, IL), Bro. Gary Anliker (Sis. Edith, Elgin, IL), Bro. Kent Mogler (Sis. Mary, Minneapolis, MN), and Bro. Chris Wuethrich (Sis. Carla, LaCrosse, IN). May the Lord continue to bless your lives as you share the Word.

Notes of Thanks:

We wish to sincerely thank our wonderful church family and friends, for your love and prayers, beautiful and uplifting cards sent to us after Van's death. These expressions of love helped carry us through these very difficult days. May God richly reward and bless you.

Bro. Wally and Sis. Rosella Bucher and their families

We wish to thank all those who remembered us on our sixty-first anniversary with such beautiful cards and flowers. Also for the family dinner we enjoyed together, and it was a special treat having our granddaughter from California spend several days with us. May God bless you all for times we could

spend together.

Sincerely, Bro. Morris and Sis. Helen Eshleman

INDIANA INDIANAPOLIS Gail Bradford Sandy Lichtle

Our annual Sunday School picnic was held on August 17 at a local park. We all enjoyed an afternoon of food, fellowship and activities for the children. We appreciate the servant hearts of our dear Sunday School teachers.

"Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing..."

Proverbs 18:22

On August 23, Nathan Freed (Bro. Tom and Sis. Kathy) and April Penrod (Howard Penrod, Anderson, IN) were united in marriage. Also on August 23, Seth Wuethrich (Bro. Ken and Sis. Lyn) and Jenny Steele (Frank and Nancy Steele, Greenfield, IN) exchanged their wedding vows. We pray God will richly bless these two couples as they begin their lives together.

On August 24, the engagement of Bro. Stan Katanic (Sis. Marie, Akron, OH) and Sis. Melissa Cannone (Dan and Jean Cannone, Akron, OH) was announced. We rejoice with them and pray for the Lord's continued guidance and blessings as they prepare for their wedding.

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

Psalms 127:3

Bro. Greg and Sis. Missy

Baumgartner have been blessed with a daughter, Barbara Lucia, born on August 22. Welcoming her home are her siblings, Zachary and Leah, and her grandparents, Bro. Herman and Sis. Mary Baumgartner (Bluffton North, IN) and Bro. Gene and Sis. Barb Huber (Francesville, IN).

We rejoice with first-time parents, Bro. Nate and Sis. Sara Huber, on the birth of their son, Avery Stephen, born on August 29. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Jon and Sis. Bev Huber (Francesville, IN) and Elder Bro. Steve and Sis. Linda Gutwein (Francesville, IN).

Our thoughts and prayers are with Bro. Stan and Sis. Andrea Gutwein and their three children as they have returned to the mission field. It was a joy and blessing to have them home for the summer.

We sincerely welcome Trisha Sauder (Morton, IL), Joel Fischer (Sarasota, FL) and Russ Leman (Francesville, IN) to our congregation. Joel and Trisha are both attending local colleges, and Russ is employed in Anderson, IN.

We extend our heartfelt appreciation to our Elder Bro. Wayne Banwart (Sis. Charlen, Champaign, IL), Bros. Art Mueller (Sis. Marlene, Belvidere, IL) and John Lehman (Sis. Ruth Ann, Wolcott, IN) for bringing the truths of God's Word to us this past month. Also, our prayers are with Bro. John and Sis. Ruth Ann Lehman as their daughter, Takara, is recovering from heart surgery which she had at Riley Hospital for Children here in Indianapolis.

INDIANA, LACROSSE

Eric and Bobbi Ann Heinold

Cry and call ye watchmen, boldly;
Call aloud and spare them not!
Jesus wants a faithful witness...

Zion's Harp #112

We would like to thank Bro. Todd Feller for his years of service ministering to our congregation. On September 14, Bro. Todd retired after 28 years of service in the ministry. We pray that God will bless him and his wife, Sis. Karen, for the many times he labored on our behalf.

Our convert, Kayla Heinold, has felt the peace that comes from knowing her sins have been forgiven. We look forward to hearing her testimony on October 11.

We have several who have returned to college in the past month. Sis. Jessica Feller, Samuel Frank, Karla Frank, Bro. Mark Heinold, Kayla Heinold, Caleb Heinold, Kristi Massner, and Bro. Rudy Troxel have all started a new year of learning. May God be with them as they study for the future.

We have just completed listening to the Conference tapes. Surely there is much for us to think about and improve upon in our lives. We are thankful for the time our Elder brothers are willing to spend to bring us the warnings and encouragement.

INDIANA, LEO Ethelyn Schlatter

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. I am the vine, ye are the branches; He that abideth in me, and I in him the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing."

John 15:1,5

We rejoice with two families. On August 24, Luke David was welcomed in the home of Bro. David and Sis. Jodi Kieser. His brother is Zachary and his sister is Hayli. Grandparents are Sis. Shirley Kieser and Bro. Al and Sis. Vicki Hartzler, both of Princeville, IL.

Jonas Lee arrived August 29 to bless the home of Bro. Erik and Sis. Carrie Wiegand. He has a sister, Savannah and his grandparents are Bro. Ron and Sis. Barb Wiegand and Bro. Mark and Sis. Connie Rocke, all of Goodfield, IL.

I listened, motionless and still;
And as I mounted up the hill,
The music in my heart I bore,
Long after it was heard no more.

—William Wordsworth

When we age and suffer the infirmities of the body, it is like climbing a hill, and we grow weary, but the music can remain in our hearts that we heard "yesterday" as we continue to look to Jesus who cares.

Sis. Helen Zimmer has moved from assisted living to nursing care at The Cedars. Her address is the same. She would appreciate encouraging words as she is having a hard time adjusting.

Bro. Gene Stoller is also lonely. Bro. Marvin Fischer has improved and able to attend church services again.

Bro. Lynn Klopfenstein is experiencing medical problems. Our prayers are with him.

Bro. Brett Wieland would also appreciate prayer. He is studying in Florence, Italy for this term. His address is:

SACI @ Palazzo Dei Cartelloni

via Sant'Antonino 11
50123 Florence, Italy

Bro. Scott Schafer and Sis. Gigi (South Bend, IN) were a great blessing when they responded to Elder Bro. Lynn's invitation to help in the ministry. Bro. Brace Wieland and Bro. Steve Stieglitz and their wives were attending the 100th anniversary celebration at Bay City, MI. We appreciate Bro. Scott's inspiring message as well as their willingness to come.

Sis. Thelma Schlatter (a previous correspondent for the Silver Lining) celebrated her 95th birthday on September 19 with an open house at the Fellowship Center. Sis. Mary Lantz quietly celebrated her 99th birthday at The Cedars on August 30.

How can there be so much difference between a day off and an off day? (Larson)

"This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it."

Psalm 118:24

INDIANA, MILFORD

**Carlton Beer
Paula Haab**

We were privileged to have Elder Bros. Curt Frank (LaCrosse, IN), Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL), Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH), Ray Sinn (Latty, OH) and Ed Schwartz (Bluffton, IN) spend time with us. Bro. Ray retired as our Elder. We thank Bro. Ray for his wise counsel and the many times he and his wife, Sis. Ann, came to visit. We gave support to Bro. Bill to be our non-resident Elder for a time. We welcome the opportunity to get to know him and his wife, Sis. Emily,

and appreciate their interest in our well being. God also gave other brothers the desire to come help our faithful home ministers preach the Gospel of salvation. We were blessed by the messages of Bros. Steve Frauhiger (Bluffton North, IN), Ralph Garber (Morton, IL), Ben Manz (Junction, OH), Dale Frank (Oakville, IA) and Glen Braker (Princeville, IL). It was so nice to have their wives also come, as well as our many other visitors.

Welcoming a new grandson were Bro. Don and Sis. Martha Haab. Trenton John was born to their son, Mike, and his wife, Christy, on August 20. He has a loving brother, Trevor, who continues to need our prayers as he was born nearly three years ago weighing just over a pound and has many health problems.

Bro. Lee Beer (Sis. Sandy) needed to have back surgery and Sis. Ginger Price (Stan) had foot surgery. Bro. Lee is able to worship with us again as well as other not so recent surgery patients, but Bro. Harold Emch (Kathryn), Sis. Melba Hunsberger and Sis. (Everett) Price remain long time shut-ins. We all surely need the prayers of those we love, and take comfort in His Holy Word and many beloved hymns.

Bro. Ryan Steiner (Rittman, OH) has taken employment in our area and has been assembling with us. It is always good to add another one to our church family.

A goodly number of our seasoned brothers, sisters and friends were served an appreciation dinner. It is good to recognize their value as pillars in the church.

While the country's largest blackout in history didn't affect our

area, God did allow us to be reminded how quickly our conveniences we take for granted can be snuffed out. Bro. Don and Sis. Ruth Beer's daughter, Carol, and her husband, who were in the New York area for medical treatment, had to sleep one night on the ground. They bought two newspapers – one to sleep on and one to cover up with. Vendors gave them water. They had to say, God does supply our every need.

INDIANA, REMINGTON

**Rochelle Ward
Beth Virkler**

A unique tradition that has woven its way into our fellowship the past generation exists as "invite a family" weekend. It's special to give different families a chance to travel and visit new churches and see new faces. Since the Scriptures continually encourage hospitality in the home, this tradition is a pleasant motivator to have company and/or invite someone you've been wanting to come visit for months. The first Sunday in September, we had three visiting ministers for our annual "invite-a-guest": Bros. Chuck Kellenberger and Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL) along with Bro. Galen Rokey (Bern, KS). We thank you brothers for ministering the Word.

On September 5, Evan Ray was born to Matt and Heidi Getz. Big brother, Owen, welcomes him along with grandparents, Bro. Eldon and Sis. Charlene Getz and Joe and Betty (Braker) Vaughan.

September 14 brought the news of Bro. Jared Steffen's engagement to Sis. Molly Gutwein from Francesville. Parents, Bro. Roger

and Sis. Vicki and Bro. Steve and Sis. Linda Gutwein are rejoicing together.

The holiest moment of the church service is the moment when God's people – strengthened by preaching and praying – go out of the church door into the world to be the Church. We don't go to church; we are the Church. Let's remind each other of our high calling throughout the week.

INDIANA, SOUTH BEND
Samantha Gramm
Kara Beebe

We are thankful for our many visitors this past month. It is always a blessing to fellowship and worship with brothers and sisters in Christ. We were also thankful to have Bro. Walt Rager (Sis. Sharon, Toledo, OH) and our Elder Bro. Curt Frank (Sis. Lila, LaCrosse, IN) here to share the Word with us. We are always grateful for their sacrifices of love on our behalf. We also want to thank Bro. Jeff Thames (Sis. Brenda, Washington, IL) for presenting the "Greater Love" marriage seminar to our congregation. I believe everyone came away with a greater appreciation for their spouse and a deeper insight into what the Lord desires in our marriages.

We rejoice with Sis. Rachel Selof (Richard and Joyce Selof, Chicago, IL) and Bro. Joseph Leman (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Karen, Roanoke, IL) as their engagement was announced a few weeks ago. They are planning an October 5 wedding. We pray for the Lord's continued guidance and blessing on their union as they seek to serve Him together.

Recently, while visiting with some older people from our church in their home, we sang the hymn "Trust and Obey". It is such a familiar hymn and we all know it by heart but when we truly listen to the words, it gives us such encouragement. Our life is so much more blessed when we let the Lord lead and learn to just "Trust and Obey".

When we walk with the Lord,
 In the light of His word,
 What a glory He sheds on our way!
 While we do His good will,
 He abides with us still,
 And with all who will trust and
 obey.

Trust and obey,
 For there's no other way
 To be happy in Jesus,
 But to trust and obey.

Hymns of Zion #186

INDIANA
VALPARAISO
Edward Lester

"And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight."

1 John 3:22

Prayer, what a wonderful gift for us to relieve ourselves of the pressures of our earthly being. To be able to take time out to ask God for strength, compassion or just to thank Him for the wonderful gifts of mercy and patience He shows us each day. But do we really take advantage of this direct personal link to God? I am reminded of the story of Job. An unflappable soldier in God's army. No matter the level of persecution that Satan put Job

through, he always remained faithful and continued to pray. Thanking God and praising His name earned Job twice as much property and favor with God. PRAYER- the right tool for the right Job!

We would like to thank the Francesville, Remington, Wolcott, West Lafayette, and Lacrosse Sunday school teachers for making this year's AC Youth Fellowship a wonderful fellowship experience. Prayerfully planting some seeds of love. Also, a thank you to Bro. Brandon Moser (Sis. Chris) for their work during this special time. We would also like to thank Elder Bro. Dan Kilgus (Sis. Jenna, Remington) for fellowshiping and sharing the wonderful ACYF day together.

INDIANA
WEST LAFAYETTE
Nettie Haab
Diana Houston

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

Eccles. 3:1

"Whereof I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of his power."

Eph. 3:7

With this in mind we'd like to thank the visiting ministers: Bro. Dale Banwart (Sis. Melissa, Wolcott, IN), Bro. Ken Wuethrich (Sis. Lyn, Indianapolis, IN), Bro. Frank Sauder, (Sis. Kathy, Roanoke, IL), Bro. Chris Huber (Sis. Sharon, Francesville, IN),

Bro. John Lehman, (Sis. RuthAnn, Wolcott, IN), Bro. Tom Troxel, (Sis. LuAnn, LaCrosse, IN) Bro. Bob Meyer, (Sis. Ann, Bluffton North, IN), and Elder Bro. Kent Heimer, (Sis. Jan, Taylor, MO).

We would like to keep in prayer the family members of Rob and Kristen Meister (West Lafayette) as Kristen's mother from Minnesota has been ill and going through some testing. We pray for recovery of her illness and that testings will go well. Rob's parents are Bro. Dick and Sis. Sharon (West Lafayette).

"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof. Selah."

Psalm 46:1

INDIANA, WOLCOTT
Heidi Bahler
Luann Gerber

Now the field is ripe for harvest
 Let us then all garner in
 For if we should stand here idle
 Who would bring the sheaves of
 grain?

Chorus:

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

The fields are ripe for harvest here in Indiana and the farmers are thankfully reaping what was sown! May God watch over them and protect them as they labor!

We were thankful to have two visiting ministers who were here for a family reunion this past month. Bro. Dwight Stoller (Sis. Lori, Latty, OH) and Bro. Doug Harmon (Sis. Lanna, Toledo, OH) shared with us the inspiring Word and we thank them for coming!

We are so thankful for God's healing power for our dear Takara Lehman (Bro. John and Sis. Ruth Ann). Takara had open heart surgery in Indianapolis and is doing great! How sweet the privilege of prayer!

Our Bro. Lee Blume (Bro. Larry and Sis. Lynell) has graduated from college and has joined the working world! We pray God will bless you in your new job, Lee!

Our middle school Sunday School classes enjoyed Youth Fellowship Day in Valparaiso recently. We want to say a special "Thank You" to the Valpo and LaCrosse teachers for all of their efforts in making the day a blessing!

IOWA, BURLINGTON
Lana Metzger
Brenda Schulz

We have had the opportunity to hear the testimony and witness the baptism of our Sis. Sara Massner (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Gail, West Bend, IA). How thankful we are for God's rich blessings. We had several visitors from West Bend, including Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr and Bro. Wayne Grimm. Our Elder Bro. Jon Schmidgall was also here. We thank them for their willing service, and may God continue with them.

We also enjoyed having Bro. Dan Stoller (Rockville, CT) and his wife, Sis. Diane, with us. It was truly a

blessing. May God ever be with them.

IOWA, ELGIN
Gloria Frieden
Heidi Butikofer

By His counsels guide, uphold you,
 With His sheep securely fold you;
 Neath His wings protecting hide
 you,
 Daily manna, still provide you;
 When life's perils thick confound
 you,
 Put His arms unfailing round
 you...
 God be with you till we meet
 again.

"Farewell" is not always an easy word to say, but we trust that God will continue to be with those, from our small flock, who have relocated to other areas. Sis. Abby Schupbach (Bro. John and Sis. Janet) has moved to Morton, IL, and will be worshipping with the brethren there. Bro. Mark, Sis. Sandy and Braden Stork are now residing in Owatonna, MN, and making Minneapolis their home church. They will certainly be missed here and we trust, each one, into God's care and keeping.

Bidding farewell to a loved one who is going into eternity is even more difficult. Severing earthly ties is painful but our loving God allows us to keep precious memories. Our thoughts and prayers have been with the family of George Schupbach who passed away on August 22. His surviving children include Carol (Leo Gage), Sharon (Stan Shaffer), Bro. John (Sis. Janet), Mick (Tammy) and Chuck (Janet). May they find comfort in believing that Jesus knows their

sorrow and will wipe away all tears.

New addresses:

Mark and Sandy Stork
990 Ridge Road
Owatonna, MN 55060

Abby Schupbach
807 S. 1st
Morton, IL 61550

IOWA, GARDEN GROVE
Willa Clark

"Oh, what shall the Harvest be?" wrote the hymn-writer (Gospel Hymns, 662). Many ask that question in an earthly sense, as harvest begins. As in much of the Midwest, early rains made the crops appear lush, but a hot and dry summer with only spotty rains makes one field bountiful while the next yields much less. In a spiritual sense, we don't really know what the harvest will be until the end of life. We begin the spring of Christian life eager to do service for our Lord, but when the cares of daily living sear us with summer's heat, we must care for the precious gift of God, and not allow our salvation to wither on the vine for lack of care. Frequent and thorough watering with God's good Word does much to encourage the harvest in our lives.

We are thankful to those who ministered to us this month, and also to the dear ones who traveled with them. Visiting ministers were Bros. Myron Knobloch of Lester and Dave Marquart of Taylor, and our Elder Bro. Doug Schock. We also appreciate our own Bro. Brad, who sometimes is the only minister standing before us. We are truly blessed to live in a land where we can travel and worship freely, and where brothers may speak the

Word as God directs, without fear of persecution.

Jessica Smith and Jason Smith, daughter and son of Rachel and Gene Smith, graduated from college in the spring and completed summer internships. We congratulate them and pray for God's guidance in their futures.

IOWA, IOWA CITY
Diana Butikofer

We rejoice with Bro. Ben and Sis. Wendy Weyrick on the birth of their son. Spencer Abraham was born September 8 and is welcomed home by big sister, Hope. Grandparents are Bro. Brad and Sis. Joyce Eland and Fred and Joyce Weyrick.

We are also thankful that Erica Bruellman has found peace and wish her the continued grace our Lord offers us.

IOWA, LESTER
Dawn Knobloch
Dawn Metzger

"Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you..."

St. John 14:27

We were thankful to hear that our converts, Dustin and Michelle Knobloch, have found their peace and are looking forward to becoming a part of our church family.

On August 24, Bro. Cory Leman and Sis. Rachel Messner were announced to be united in marriage. Parents of this couple are Bro. Dale and Sis. Lezlee Leman (West Bend, IA) and Bro. Henry and Sis. Charlene Messner. May God's blessings and direction be with

Bro. Cory and Sis. Rachel as they plan for an October 5 wedding.

After being blessed with a long life, Emil Feucht passed away on August 25. Grieving his loss is his wife of 65 years, Ruby, and their son Ron and Sis. Sandra Feucht and their family. We also extend our sympathy to Sis. Emma Gerber, Bro. Ray Feucht and Paul Feucht in the loss of their brother.

Our visiting ministers this past month were Bros. Pat Zaugg (West Bend, IA), Paul Kilgus (Fairbury, IL), Dale Banwart (Wolcott, IN), Randy Mogler (Washington, IL), Brad Funk (Garden Grove, IA), Virgil Metzger (Chicago, IL) and Duane Metzger (West Bend, IA). Let us continue to pray for our ministering brethren as they share God's teaching with us.

Addie Meyer, 6-year-old daughter of Bro. Denis and Sis. Jill Meyer, had surgery for her broken arm. We trust it will heal quickly and she will be back playing as before.

We extend our congratulations to Bro. Benji and Sis. Leah Kellenberger on the birth of a baby boy on September 9. Weston Lee will be welcomed home by big sister Larinda. Grandparents are Bro. Sid and Sis. Cheryl Messner (Morris, MN) and Bro. Dennis and Sis. Shirley Kellenberger. Sis. Elaine Kellenberger is a great-grandmother to Weston.

We rejoice with Anita Knobloch as she is seeking the Lord in repentance. We pray God's grace will be with her daily as she begins her new walk with the Lord. Bro. Terry and Sis. Elaine Knobloch are Anita's parents.

We bid farewell to two sisters who have moved from our congregation. Sis. Michelle Feuchten-

berger is moving back to her home congregation at Morris, MN. Sis. Lyndi Bruellman is now making Peoria, IL, her home.

We want to extend a warm welcome to Bro. Kevin and Sis. Carrie Knapp and Nathan. Sis. Carrie was from the Lester congregation so we trust they will feel right at home.

IOWA, OAKVILLE
Rosalie Wiegand
Sharla Wiegand

Our visiting ministers this month were Bros. Jim Vierling (Eureka, IL) and Rod Bajema (Lester, IA). We want to thank them for lending themselves to preach the Word to us.

On four consecutive Wednesday nights, our congregation had the privilege of listening to the tapes from the Brotherhood Conference. May we ever apply the encouragement and exhortation to our lives and pray for our Elder brethren as they tend to their flocks.

We pray for a safe and bountiful harvest as the Lord wills.

Tearful sowing brings glad harvest
 Where our Master's will is done,
 When for Him, the Lord of harvest,
 vest,

Through His Spirit fruits are
 grown.

Love, humility and meekness,
 Faith and patience, purity,
 Righteousness, although in weakness,
 Are here found in unity.

Zion's Harp #36

IOWA, PULASKI
Katrina Knobloch

"I lifted up mine eyes again, and looked, and behold a man with a

measuring line in his hand."

Zech. 2:1

How wondrous it has been for us here as we have been blessed with brethren and friends appearing at just the right time to help us on our new church building! It has been almost a complete volunteer effort, with some excellent guidance from brothers in construction, World Relief, and our National Building Committee, and the Lord has provided at every turn. Our fondest memories will be of the loved ones who have come and we have been able to labor with, as well as those who have supported in so many other ways. Not forgetting the family that have been left at home, sometimes for weeks. We are hoping someday we, too, can help other congregations in like manner.

The outside of the building is completed. As the bricks went up we were reminded how that our Master builder has laid out lines and measured our ways so that we might be a glorious work of His, fitly framed and joined together. Even a good bricklayer can't make bricks stick together if part of the mortar mix has been left out.

We are in the process of doing electrical and dry walling. Every day produces some visible results, but also quite a mess can be made too, and cleanup becomes a daily part of the job. Just as true in life, choices have to be made as to what to save, what needs to go, and the work can be made more pleasant if there isn't so much clutter.

IOWA, WEST BEND
Berniece Banwart
Lori Skoglund

Encouraging us to a faithful walk were two visiting ministers: Elder Bro. Curt Frank (Sis. Lyla, LaCrosse, IN) and Bro. Mark Streitmatter (Sis. Sara, Bloomington, IL). We thank them for sharing their time and the talents that God has given them.

After seeking the Lord's guidance and direction for them, Bro. Cory Leman (Bro. Dale and Sis. Lezlee) and Sis. Rachel Messner (Bro. Henry and Sis. Charlene, Lester, IA) have become engaged. May this time before their marriage allow them to grow in love and faith.

Erica Bruellman (Bro. Larry and Sis. Teresa) has been announced as having found peace. She regularly attends church in Iowa City as she continues her college education there, so it was special for us to be able to assemble with her and witness her apparent happiness.

Several have been hospitalized and returned home. They are Elijah Banwart (Chris Banwart and Steve Banwart), Bro. Silas (Sis. Della) Metzger, and Sis. Pearl (Louise) Anliker.

Give Me a Kind Heart

Give me a kind heart that will endure.

One that's strong and secure
 To help someone along the way.
 May this be my goal every day.
 Let me lend a helping hand
 To someone whose life has not
 gone as planned.

Reaching out to one in need,
 May this be my daily good deed.
 To provide a guiding light
 For someone lost in the dark of
 night.

Let me take time to care
 For someone experiencing despair.

—Eve Kiley

Quite a large number from our congregation have felt the loss of loved ones. Bro. Art Schmidt's brother, Don Schmidt, of Aurora, IL, passed away after a long illness with cancer. Bro. Greg (Sis. Gwen) Schupbach and Sis. Amy (Bro. Lynn) Mogler each lost a grandparent, George Schupbach (Elgin, IA) and Emil Feucht (Lester, IA). Sherry (Jim) Schmidt will miss her sister, Donna Jean Grubb, of Burt, IA; and Linda (Jamie) Schmidt feels the loss of her father, John Hellesteth, of West Bend. May God comfort each one.

JAPAN, TOKYO
Marie Inoue

Marvelous grace of our loving
Lord,
Grace that exceeds our sin and our
guilt,
Yonder on Calvary's mount
out-poured,
There where the blood of the
Lamb was spilt.
Gospel Hymns #752

It seems like every Sunday someone chooses the above song. Sung in a different language but with the same tune and meaning we are reminded of the price paid for our sins. Oh, that many yet will receive this heavenly grace as stated in the last verse at the end of this article.

This month was our annual church cleaning. The new part was easy to clean with the old part taking more pains. It was a joy to work side by side with brethren and several friends who came to help keep the outside and inside of our build-

ing in good condition.

Born to the Bro. Andrew and Sis. Jana Klaus family was a precious girl, Charity Hope, on August 31 in the U.S. We thank the Lord for the safe arrival of their new bundle and look so forward to their return to Japan in October, the Lord willing.

Marvelous, infinite, matchless
grace,
Freely bestowed on all who be-
lieve;
You that are longing to see His
face,
Will you His heavenly grace re-
ceive?

KANSAS, BERN
Sally Strahm
Lori Baumgartner

So many times it is through the thoughts and words of children that we as adults are given beautiful reminders and admonitions. I was present at a recent function where an assignment was given. The children were supposed to think about and later complete the statement, "I feel special when..." Several days later I crossed paths with one of these children. The young girl glanced up at me, her entire face beaming and she said, "I already know when I feel special... I feel special when I pray." We then had a brief little visit about how that is definitely a time to feel special because that is when we are talking with God. Later, I pondered over her answer, amazed that such a young girl had come up with such a grown-up statement. It was a beautiful reminder to me that "prayer to God" is something that should make all of us feel special. As we pray, let us remember that we have a Saviour, Jesus Christ, in-

terceding on our behalf before God, our Father. We are praying to our Heavenly Father, a Father that is not a respecter of persons, a Father that has created us and given us certain talents, and a Father that knows our beginning and our end. We are praying to the Creator of the universe, the One who has numbered the hairs of our head, the One who knows our thoughts and our desires before we even ask, and the One who knows our down-sitting and our uprising. Let us never forget that when we are communing with God, we are creating a relationship with a God that knows us and loves us better than we know and love ourselves. He is a God that hears our every prayer and knows our every need. Through our prayers we feel refreshed, strengthened and blessed. We can pour out our deepest concerns and fears, and we can cause Satan to flee from us. Most importantly, we don't have to make an appointment to "talk to God". We can pray without ceasing. May we never take this blessed privilege of prayer for granted.

"Praise ye the Lord. O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good..."

Psalm 106:1

We rejoice with Bro. Paul and Sis. Joan Kaeb on the birth of their first grandchild, Cailer Neal Kellenberger, on August 26. Cailer's parents are Bro. Neal and Sis. Kim Kellenberger of Kansas City, MO.

On September 6, Bro. Alan and Sis. Colleen Meyer welcomed Sophia Jean into their family. Sophia is welcomed home by her

siblings, Benjamin, Grant, Matthew and Olivia. Her grandparents are Bro. Roger and Sis. Ilene Hartter (Sabetha, KS) and Bro. James and Sis. Jeanne Meyer.

Our Sr. Bible Class students attended the Kansas youth fellowship weekend in Sabetha, KS, on September 6-7. We wish to thank the Sabetha congregation for hosting this annual event. We realize that it takes a lot of effort and organization. May the Lord richly bless each one who had a part.

KANSAS, FORT SCOTT

Ruth Bahr

Bros. Don Gudeman (Sis. Mary, LaCrosse, IN), Rex Frieden (Sis. Vera, Lamar, MO), Jerry Wagenbach (Sis. Bonnie, Oakville, IA), and Elder Bro. Don Braker and Bro. Randy Kellenberger (both of Kansas City, MO) came to share their ministry with us. We thank them.

Sis. Ida Sinn laid down her life of faith and went to her Heavenly Home on August 23. She lived here prior to going to the Sabetha Rest Home. Our thoughts and prayers go out to her sister, Louise Graff, of Peoria, IL, and to her nieces and nephews.

Sis. Kathryn Banwart (Bro. Raymond) recovered quickly from thyroidectomy surgery in Kansas City. Thankfully the growth was benign.

The entire Bible class of five attended the Sunday School gathering at Sabetha along with their teacher, Bro. Rick Kellenberger, and three other adults. The students enjoyed a succession of well-planned activities. May these gatherings nurture seeds of good-

ness.

We hosted the annual Fort Scott – Kansas City Sunday School picnic (which includes the entire congregations) at Gunn Park. The weather was perfect for an evening of fellowship.

Submitted by Bro. Lon Banwart:

“Behold my servants shall sing for joy...” (Isaiah 65:14). Recently our young single group have been experiencing a servant’s joy of singing to the elderly at our three local nursing homes. “Yea, they shall sing in the ways of the Lord:” (Psalm 138:5).

The residents and staff have expressed their joy of hearing the old familiar hymns sang “accepella” in four part harmony. “...sing us one of the songs of Zion.” (Psalm 137:3).

On a recent Saturday evening of singing, a request was made that the group go into a room where a man lay in a coma. The group did go sing and then they later found out, to the amazement of all, that the comatose man opened his eyes and spoke, “Pretty music.”

While singing to this man, another gentleman came into the room and requested that the group come to his mother’s room. The group accepted and sang Hymns of Zion #216, “God Be With You” till we meet again. The woman was 106 years old. The same man that requested the singing came into our Sunday afternoon church service to thank the group for coming and to announce that his mother, 106 years old, passed away within ten minutes after the group departed.

Oh, what a joy to be carried home by the angels with the echos of “the songs of Zion” resounding.

May our young people be blessed for reaching out to souls afflicted and confined to the nursing facilities.

KANSAS, KIOWA

Jennifer Stewart

Laura Wagenbach

School has started!! Sometimes it feels as though we are honeybees always buzzing about, never slowing down. Thank goodness we can find rest and peace in God’s house with His Word.

We would like to thank Elder Bro. Doug and Sis. Clara Schock (Pulaski, IA) and Elder Bro. Ted and Sis. Cindy Witzig (Morton, IL) for sharing God’s loving words with us, and taking time to visit our congregation.

We enjoyed a wonderful soup potluck and Mexico missions presentation this month.

Several young people spoke on their experiences and the wonderful fellowship shared on their missions.

The singing was awesome as we had several young men and brothers congregate with our assembly this past month. We always are uplifted with their fellowship and singing voices. Thank you to everyone that helped make the weekend possible.

Marvin Diel (Sis. Tillie Diel) was hospitalized, but is better and now staying at the Kiowa Manor. Bro. Elmer Tanner is now living at Beadles nursing home in Alva, OK.

Our thoughts and prayers are with both of these dear people.

**KANSAS
LAMONT-GRIDLEY
Eileen Bahr**

Our sympathy is extended to the family of Sis. Helen (Arnold) Bahr. She was the daughter-in-law of deceased Gridley minister, Bro. Henry Bahr.

A retaining wall structure was designed to withhold the recorded numbers of rainfall for the past 200 years. There was a possible eleven inches at the sight of the turnpike south of Emporia (40 miles from Gridley, we had 8 accumulated inches) when a wall of water swept away several vehicles and lives were lost. A highway patrol car was stopped and flashing red light warnings ... but people drove on by into the water. How many people will go on living their lives without Christ – deciding they are too busy, too young, planning to do “what I want” before giving their life to the Lord and heed the warning too late? Choose life.

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

We’ve completed listening to the Conference tapes and are thankful for these teachings to help us on our pilgrim journey.

Bro. Rick and Sis. Komari Aberle are happy first-time parents of a daughter, Mara Diane Aberle, born August 17. Grandparents are Bro. Roger and Sis. LaVonne Aberle and Samroeun Neal and the late Diane (Farney) Stucky, Mound Ridge, KS.

We appreciated a visit from ministering Bro. Greg Lehman (Wolcott, IN). May God bless him for laboring in His service.

We rejoice with Megan

Kellenberger (Bro. Brad and Sis. Teresa), Brooke Huber (Bro. Gordon and Sis. Sharlyn) and Jerry Meeks (Sis. Christi) who were announced with peace. Provings are planned for October, Lord willing.

We are thankful Sis. Ruby Grimm (Bro. Gerald) is making progress following a car accident and has been able to return to church.

August 31 was the wedding reception for Bro. Erik and Sis. Shelli Hertzell. We welcome Sis. Shelli to our congregation. May God add His blessings to their union in Him.

Joshua and Diane Krogmann welcomed the birth of their first daughter, Sadie Ann, on September 3. First time grandparents are Frank and Sis. Julianne Krogmann and Don and Doris Wiens, Kensington, KS, and great-grandparents, Bro. Harvey and Sis. Arleta Wenger.

A new granddaughter is welcomed by Bro. Roger and Sis. Ilene Hartter. Sophia Jean Meyer was born September 6 to Bro. Alan and Sis. Colleen Meyer (Bern, KS).

Sabetha hosted the Sunday School Regional Youth Fellowship on September 6-7. We were thankful for the presence of visiting minister, Bro. Ed Fritz (Washington, IL).

“In days of youth, seek ye the Lord...” We rejoice with Jacob Hartter (Bro. David and Sis. Beth) who is seeking the Lord in repentance.

September 13 was the wedding day for Gwen Grimm (Bro. Doug and Sis. Jeryl) and Troy Metzger (Bro. Bill and Sis. Charlotte, Lester, IA). It was an extra blessing for us to have ministering Bros. Eugene Metzger (Lester, IA) and

Darrel Stoller (Bern, KS).

**KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY
Brooke Huber**

“For this God is our God for ever and ever: he will be our guide even unto death.”

Psalm 48:14

Once again, another semester begins. It is wonderful to see so many new faces along with those who have returned for yet another year at K-State. Our God has truly given us many blessings in the past and we pray He will continue to do so as we strive to serve Him better. As our knowledge in the world increases, we pray our knowledge in the Father will experience greater growth and remain our first priority.

We extend a warm welcome to those who have decided to make Manhattan their home for the next few years. Newcomers include Bro. Seth Hartter (Bro. Tim and Sis. Charlene, Sabetha), Bro. Aaron Luthi (Bro. Jay and Sis. Jane, Lamont-Gridley), Sis. Dixie Zeltwanger (Bro. Dale and Sis. Rachel, Morris), Kerry Berg (Bro. Bill and Sis. Mary, Bern), Maggi Eisenbise (Bro. Dave and Sis. Shari, Sabetha), Lafe Grimm (Bro. Rod and Sis. Arlene, Sabetha), Mark Hertzell (Bro. Gerry and Sis. Ellen, Sabetha), Tyler Huber (Bro. Gordon and Sis. Sharlyn, Sabetha), Derik Keim (Curtis and Valarie, Sabetha), Jeremiah Meyer (Keith and Debbie, Bern), and Kari Meyer (Bro. Steve and Sis. Kaye, Bern).

The annual K-State picnic was held September 3. A large number

of families, friends and others came to share the event and the wonderful weather. Thank you to those who made the effort to share it with us.

Bi-monthly Wednesday evening services have begun and will be held in Thompson Hall (Rm. 101) at 7:15 p.m. We look forward to having Bro. Randy Mogler (Washington, IL) join us to conduct a Bible study October 3 in Throckmorton Hall (Rm. 1018). Everyone is welcome to come and join in worship. For more information, please contact Tasha Knoblock (785-770-9743).

As this semester unfolds, we ask for your prayers that God will continue to bless us and help us to be shining lights to all of those around.

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

Matthew 5:16

KANSAS, WICHITA

Emma Miller

Bro. Ron Joos and his wife, Sis. Christy, from the Pulaski, IA, congregation were with us in Wichita to fulfill the duties of visiting minister on September 14. I am sure it seemed like a long weekend of driving for them; however, they willingly expended themselves for our spiritual benefit and we thank them for doing so.

Those who are able to gather for Wednesday night services have the privilege of listening to the recent Conference tapes. When they have completed listening to the series, those of us who are homebound will

have the opportunity to listen to the tapes also.

When I wrote the article about Bro. Phil Bowers which appeared in the August issue, I mistakenly used the wrong word. Bro. Phil is a quadriplegic instead of a paraplegic. That makes his achievements more outstanding and a greater testimony of God's mercy.

MEXICO, IXTLAN

Claudia Gonzalez

"And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

John 8:32

As we remember our Independence Day on September 16, we also remember the spiritual freedom we received through the truth who is Jesus Christ. Honor and glory are given to those heroes who made possible our freedom, but we give much more glory and honor to Him who died on the cross to make possible our spiritual freedom.

We rejoice with our friends, Saul (Marcelino and Sis. Leticia Campos) and Paty Campos as they are parents for the first time. Their son was born on August 28.

Once again we appreciate the time and efforts from ministering Bro. Loren Schrenk and his wife, Sis. Betsy (St. Louis, MO), to come down and be a real help for those who have eye diseases. Bro. Loren not only helped us in a physical way, but also spiritually. On Sunday, August 31, God's Word was shared by this brother from the pulpit.

MICHIGAN, ALTO

Rose Watson

Terri Huber

It has been a very busy September. It was our turn to host the Sunday School's annual Michigan Youth Day. There were about 50 junior and high school students who enjoyed getting to know one another. It is a blessing to the whole church to meet these young adults and see the benches filled to overflowing on Sunday!

Also invited that weekend to an all-church potluck dinner was a men's quartet from Bluffton. We would like to thank them for ministering to us in song and fellowshiping with us on Sunday. We appreciated having Bro. Ralph Garber as our visiting minister the same weekend.

Two weeks later, the young group invited several churches for the weekend. Our local singles and visitors from Latty, West Lafayette, Bay City, Detroit, Remington, Valparaiso and Francesville got together to chop wood, pick apples and make applesauce for those who cannot do so for themselves. A hearty thank you to those who traveled a distance to enrich our weekend with beautiful singing and overflowing benches again!

Prayers are uttered daily for those experiencing surgery, illness or hospitalization last month: Gordy Blough (Trisha), Jared Schutte (Nellie) and Penny Couch (daughter of Sis. Louise Desotell).

Back in May, Bro. Aaron Plattner (Bro. Howard and Sis. Kristen) graduated from Kansas State University. We are excited to have him a little closer to home and see him a bit more often as he continues his medical studies at

Wayne State in Detroit.

Saving the best for last, our gratitude for God's mercy knows no bounds as we report four souls seeking God's best for their lives. Our new converts are Melissa Blough (Bro. Martin and Sis. Michele), Hannah Knudstrup (Charles and Mary), Michael Zaagman (Ed and Sis. Joy) and Derek Steffen (Bro. Terry and Sis. Laurie).

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY

**Sarah Knochel
Janelle Ramseyer**

"...Thou has given me the heritage of those that fear thy name."

Psalm 61:5

The Bay City congregation is very thankful that we were able to commemorate 100 years of worship. September 13-14 was the weekend where many who once lived in our area were able to return and share in the memories. Amongst those visiting were several ministering brothers. We thank Elder Bros. Ron Schambach (Sis. Nancy, Elgin, IL), Phil Stettner (Sis. Maureen, Bluffton North, IN), and Bros. Dave Steffen (Sis. Linda, Elgin, IL), Steve Stieglitz (Sis. Jane, Leo, IN), Ned Stoller (Sis. Heidi, Alto, MI) and Brace Wieland (Sis. Brenda, Leo, IN) for being with us and sharing the Gospel message. We pray that should the Lord tarry, He would continue to provide grace and mercy to our congregation for the next 100 years.

We also want to thank Bro. Gary Maibach (Sis. Maryann, Smithville, OH) for being with us

on a Wednesday evening. It is such a joy to have visitors for our mid-week services.

May God be with each one in the coming days.

MICHIGAN, DETROIT

**Jamie Bahr
Krista Wieland**

We would like to welcome Sis. Ethel Rambeau to our congregation as she has moved from Ft. Lauderdale, FL. We also want to welcome Sis. Julie Waibel who has moved from Bay City, MI. We are glad to have you!

We look forward to hearing the testimonies and witnessing the baptisms of Brice Gasser (Bro. Randy and Sis. Sue) and Kristen Hitz (Bro. Tom and Sis. Cindy) the first weekend of October. Mira Matejin also will be sharing her testimony with us that weekend. Praise God for His work in their lives!

A special thank you to Alto for hosting Michigan Youth Day for our young people this month.

Those who have been hospitalized this month are Sis. Ann Tachar and Sis. Anna Sabados. Our prayers and thoughts are with you.

Our visiting minister was Bro. Don Gudeman (Sis. Mary, La-Crosse, IN). Also, Bro. Walt Rager (Sis. Sharon, Toledo, OH) served us at Woodhaven. Thank you both very much.

We pray for a safe and productive week in Mexico for Bro. Randy and Sis. Sue Gasser and Sis. Kristie Meyer as they are there on a work team.

We are thankful that Chuck Leman is recovering from back problems and is able to assemble

with us again.

Our 2nd annual Clothing Drive is September 20, and our Sunday School Picnic is scheduled for September 21. We look forward to and pray for God's blessings on these events.

MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS

Diane Stewart

Our sympathy goes out to Sis. Ethel Bednarski in the death of her brother, Don Schmidt, of Aurora, IL. May God comfort her.

Joy has come to the household of Aric and Rae Lynn Leenderts with the birth of their second child, Tayah Nichole. Big brother Koye leads the way at home. God's richest blessings to their family!

Ministering Bros. Jim Meiss (Phoenix, AZ), Roy Koehl (Morris, MN), Dean Messner (Winthrop, MN), and Kent Getz (Elgin, IA) shared God's Word with us recently. For this we are thankful.

Fall means cooler weather, school and Sunday school beginning and a new start to our year. What a blessed feeling and opportunity to be reminded to work diligently for our Lord!

MINNESOTA, MORRIS

**Cheryl Messner
Katie Koehl**

We are so thankful that Andrea Koehl (Bro. Randy and Sis. Shirley) has started repenting. We wish her God's richest blessing as she begins her repentance.

The following ministering brothers have been with us this past month: Bros. Todd Stoller (Latty, OH), Ken Wuethrich (Indianapolis, IN), Jeff Neihouser

(Francesville, IN), Jim Meiss (Phoenix, AZ), Kim Sutter (Taylor, MO), Duane Metzger (West Bend, IA), Dale Wulf (Lester, IA), Rex Frieden (Lamar, MO) and Elder Bros. Kent Heimer (Taylor, MO), Ray Sinn (Latty, OH), and Wayne Fehr (West Bend, IA). We trust God will be their Rich Rewarder for their labors.

Our thoughts and prayers have been with those who have been hospitalized this past month. They include Bro. Leo Dogotch (Sis. Thelma) and Bro. Don Esterling (Sis. Josie).

We lay the body in the tomb
Until the Lord's voice bids him
"Come".

We sow the seed to rise anew,
And glorified, his God to view.

Zion's Harp #248

Sis. Edith Joos passed away on August 26. We extend our sympathy to her husband, Bro. Albert; two sons, Robert Joos and Jerry (Cathy) Joos; and two daughters, Jan Schock and Sis. Barb (Bro. Rodney) Heimer.

This union of our hearts
Shall stand through grace in Jesus;
We walk the path of life,
While cheer and trust increases.
Where God in truth abides,
Where two join hand and heart,
We find a three-fold cord,
Not lightly rent apart.

Zion's Harp #79

Bro. Eric Leman and Sis. Rekeeta Schmidgall were united in marriage on September 7. Parents are Bro. Bruce and Sis. Marge Leman (Eureka, IL) and Bro. Mike and Sis. Diane Schmidgall. And on September 14, Bro. Doug Koehl

and Sis. Maxine Sauder were married. We trust God will provide for these couples as they begin their lives together in the Lord.

MINNESOTA, WINTHROP

**Marilyn Messner
Ginny Stoll**

Bro. Roland and Sis. Melva Messner celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. May God bless them with more happy years together.

Daughter of Sam and Sandy Miller, Candice and Cody Link were united in marriage. Sis. Sophie Miller is the grandmother. May they walk with God's grace on this new path.

Visiting ministers this month were Bros. Myron Knobloch (Sis. Beth, Lester, IA) and Duane Rocke (Sis. Bonnie, Minneapolis, MN). We appreciate their efforts to share with us.

Baby Olivia Rose was welcomed by big sisters, Bailey and Alix. Parents are Jay and Lisa Kent. Happy grandmother is Sis. Carol Ann Messner. May God guide them and bless them.

How thankful we are that the Elders and ministers continue to expound and bring us God's Word. We've been gathering to listen to the Conference tapes. May God ever give them strength.

Sympathy is extended to the Darrel and Jane Redman family in the death of his mother. May God comfort them.

Medical patients were Marlin (Sis. Becky) Braulick and Gene Schmidt. We pray for continued healing.

MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY

Garry and Marty Rokey

We welcome Cailer Neal Kellenberger, newborn son of Bro. Neal and Sis. Kim, to our church family. Cailer arrived August 26. Grateful and happy first-time grandparents (on both sides) are ministering Bro. Randy and Sis. Karen Kellenberger and Bro. Paul and Sis. Joan Kaeb (Bern, KS).

Sunday School resumed on September 7 and the following Sunday we joined with Ft. Scott's congregation in Ft. Scott for our annual Sunday School (and all church) picnic. Everyone that could attend had a wonderful time - great food and blessed fellowship. We thank those from Ft. Scott for hosting this year and for taking such good care of us!

"And how shall they preach, except they be sent as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!"

Romans 10:15

Our thanks to visiting ministers for the past month: Bro. Robert Beebe (Sis. Sue, South Bend, IN), Bro. Bill Emch (Sis. Susan, Lamont-Gridley, KS) and Bro. John Rowell (Sis. Nelda, Burlington, IA).

MISSOURI, LAMAR

**Wendy Braker
Becky Marti**

Give faithful servants ever
Who have but one endeavor,
Thy Gospel to proclaim;
Who heed Thy Spirit Holy
And strive and labor solely
O, Lord, to glorify Thy name.

Zion's Harp #207

We enjoyed fellowship with many visitors this past month.

Our visiting ministers were Bros. Roger Aberle (Sabetha, KS), Doyle Frauhiger (Bluffton North, IN), Darrel Stoller (Bern, KS), and Greg Stoller (Forrest, IL).

MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS

Betsy Schrenk

Visiting ministers this past month were Bro. John Hartman (Sis. Rosemary, Fairbury, IL), Elder Bro. Don Braker (Sis. Eileen, Kansas City, MO), Bro. Glenn Braker (Sis. Audrey, Princeville, IL), Bro. Ken Hoerr (Sis. Darlene, Peoria, IL) and Bro. Brian Waibel (Sis. Wendy, Champaign, IL). We thank them for lending themselves in the service of the Lord.

Labor Day Weekend was a blessing for Bro. Morris Braker when he hosted his family reunion, and almost all of his family came to our area. Our little church was filled to capacity. We surely look forward to Heaven where we will never have to say "goodbye". We pray that our family circles will be unbroken.

Road construction has changed the best way to get to our church building. From I-70, take Exit 220A (Fifth Street South). Follow the signs to the Family Arena. Keep going for 3 more miles past the arena. The church is down on the right. It is five miles south of I-70. If you get to Jung's Station Road, turn around and go back ¼ mile. Hwy. 94 is undergoing massive changes, and it is somewhat confusing at Jung's Station, but you can still go that way, as described in the Minister Book.

MISSOURI, TAYLOR

Susan Haerr

We extend our deep sympathy to Bro. Rodney and Sis. Barb Heimer, Jesse, Jacob and Sis. Heidi at the passing of their mother and grandmother, Sis. Edith Joos (Bro. Albert, Morris, MN). May God bless you each time you think of her.

Our congratulations go out to Todd and Lisa Bryant (Brimfield, IL) on the arrival of their new son, Andrew Wayne, who was born on September 17. Big sister, Ali, welcomes him home as well. Maternal grandparents are Bro. Donnie and Sis. Elaine Hoerr, and great-grandmother, Sis. Loida Hodel. Paternal grandparents are Don and Nina Bryant, Havana, IL. May God bless this new little gift from Him.

A special thank you to the following ministers for spending time with us in the last month: Bro. Kenny Dietz (Sis. Mardell, Bradford, IL), and Bro. Garry Bucher (Sis. Lois, Valparaiso, IN). You really blessed us.

Among our medical patients in the past month were Nikki Haerr (Bro. Norman and Sis. Sally) and Sis. Loida Hodel. We are thankful both are doing well.

NEW YORK CROGHAN-NAUMBURG

Hope Graves

We were thankful to have ministering Bro. Everett Gerber (Rockville, CT) with us on Wednesday evening, September 3, and Elder Bro. Andy Stoller (Smithville, OH) minister to us on the weekend of September 20-21. Saturday evening we shared a potluck dinner together, followed by a singing in the

Sunday School room. We wish these brothers a special blessing for so willingly laboring on our behalf in bringing forth the Word through the leading of the Holy Spirit.

Our prayers went out to Kenny Virkler, Sis. Bernice Hirschey, Sis. Anna Mellnitz and Sis. Polly Farney who were all hospitalized this past month. We are thankful that all are now home and pray that the Lord will continue to grant them strength and healing in the days ahead.

We have been able to share the Conference tapes together over the past four Sunday and Wednesday evenings. What a blessing to those of us who were unable to attend the meeting to receive such a blessing in hearing the loving exhortations by the Elder brethren. May we remember them in our prayers daily, that the Lord will uphold their arms as they labor in His vineyard.

Our hearts and minds rejoice with John Altimire (Reginald and Marilyn) as he begins upon the pathway of repentance. May the Lord be ever at his side and grant him the much needed grace to continue on this pathway to peace.

Haste, while yet His grace is offered,
waste no time in worldly thought.
Now begin your pilgrim journey,
cleansed from every stain and spot.

You will find by faith revealing,
full redemption in His blood.
For each sinner there is healing,
baptized in this cleansing flood.

Zion's Harp #52, vs. 4

OHIO, AKRON

Joyce Gasser

Bro. Gregory Henico (Bro. Greg

and Sis. Sarah) was united in marriage September 7 at the Smithville church to Sis. Darla Nieman (Bro. Denny and Sis. Kay). We are happy to welcome Sis. Darla into our Akron congregation.

The marriage engagement was announced of Sis. Melissa Canonne (Dan and Jean) to Bro. Stanley Katanic (Maria Katanic). Bro. Stanley has been working in Indianapolis. We wish them God's blessings as they plan for their future.

Sis. Gerri O'Brien, originally from Connecticut, has been working here at our nursing home. She is going to move back to Connecticut and work with children in a hospital. We will miss her, but wish her God's continued blessings.

Sis. Kathy Graf was hospitalized and home again and may God's presence ever be felt with her and her husband, Bro. Carl.

David Burr, 59, passed away and funeral services were held September 3. He was preceded in death by his father and mother, Bro. Fred and Sis. Helen Burr.

We appreciated our visitors who came to be with us on our invite-a-guest weekend on August 30-31. We were thankful for the two visiting ministers among them. Bro. Everett Gerber (Sis. Nancy, Rockville, CT) and Bro. Marvin Dotterer (Sis. Nancy, Forrest, IL) served us in ministering God's Word. Thanks to all of you who visited us.

OHIO, COLUMBUS

Nancy Banks

We wish to thank those that traveled a distance to minister to us this month. Elder Bro. Mark Masters (Mansfield, OH), Bro. Neil

Ramseyer (Bay City, MI) and Bro. Paul Zimmerman (Forrest, IL) visited our congregation and we appreciate their labors of love.

We warmly welcome the return of our college students as the doors of school open this month. Our annual College Welcome Day was held September 21 and a picnic with the students and their families was enjoyed by all.

A sign in front of a church in our community had the following words of wisdom, "The world crowns success ... God crowns faithfulness." May we strive to be ever faithful.

OHIO, JUNCTION

Cindy Schlatter

Elder Bro. Ervin Knecht (Eureka, IL) and Bro. Pat Zaugg (West Bend, IA) were our visiting ministers this past month. We appreciate their effort to be with us and pray God will richly bless them for their labors.

We rejoice with two dear couples as their engagements were recently made known to us. Bro. Doug Schlatter (Bro. Ralph and Sis. Sheila) was announced to Sis. Heidi Domka (Bro. Fred and Sis. Connie) of Mansfield, and Bro. Chad Manz (Bro. Lester and Sis. Karen) was announced to Sis. Loral Schlatter (Bro. Ray and Sis. Corrine). May God be with them each one as they make plans for their future lives together.

Klint Manz and Bro. Kurt Manz (sons of Bro. Dave and Sis. Kathy) both had mishaps that required hospital care. We are thankful for God's healing hand and pray that He will continue to be with them both.

Rachel Clara blessed the home of Bro. Neil and Sis. Sandy Stoller on August 26. Emil, Adam, Ellie, Katie and Katrina are willing helpers at home welcoming their little sister into the family. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Craig and Sis. Ruth Stoller (Latty, OH) and Bro. Walt and Sis. Renee Sinn (Latty, OH).

OHIO, LATTY

Amanda Steffen

Bonny Wenninger

Few fruits ripen from the
spring-time sunshine;
Not till autumn is abundance
shown;
Without waiting we ne'er feel the
rapture
Of a precious, bounteous harvest
grown.
Zion's Harp #244, vs. 5

It is that time of year again when harvest will soon be upon us. It is a time of reflection over what the year has yielded thus far. Autumn can be an encouraging time or a discouraging time. It is a time when we can look to our Heavenly Father for that reinforcement of true purpose for our lives.

Our congregation was blessed to witness the marriage vows of Bro. Erik Hertzell (Elder Bro. Gerry and Sis. Ellen, Sabetha, KS) and Sis. Shelli Grant (Bro. Phil and Sis. Gloria) on August 17. May God be with this couple in the days, months and years to come, God willing. Visiting ministers with us were Elder Bros. Gerry Hertzell (Sabetha, KS) and Ed Schwartz (Sis. Jeni, Bluffton, IN).

August 24 was also a special day for our congregation as we partook

in observing the ordination of Bro. John Laukhuf as our new Elder. Present with us for this occasion were Elder Bros. Ed Schwartz (Sis. Jeni, Bluffton, IN), Curt Frank (Sis. Lila, LaCrosse, IN), Mark Bahr (Sis. Bev, Detroit, MI), Bill Schlatter (Sis. Emily, Junction, OH) and Phil Stettner (Sis. Maureen, Bluffton North, IN), along with Bro. Earl Beery (Sis. Susie, Rittman, OH). We want to give special appreciation and thanks to retiring Elder Bro. Ray Sinn (Sis. Ann) for his thirteen years of service to the Latty congregation. We wish he and Ann God's richest blessings in his retirement. On this same Sunday, one of our converts, Marti Schlatter (Bro. Tim and Sis. Becky), was announced for peace. May God be with Marti as she anticipates a baptism date in the future. Also visiting us on a separate date was Bro. Bill Waibel (Sis. Carol, Bay City, MI).

August 31 was our annual Sunday School picnic. A good time was had by all in attendance.

Our congregation had a bevy of births over the last month. On August 26, Bro. Neil and Sis. Sandy Stoller (Junction, OH) welcomed their sixth child, a girl name Rachel Clara. Welcoming her at home are Emil, Adam, Ellie, Katie, and Katrina, along with grandparents, Bro. Walter and Sis. Renee Sinn and Bro. Craig and Sis. Ruth Stoller, both of Latty.

Bro. Rod and Sis. Edie Laukhuf became grandparents twice over within a week. Bro. Jason and Sis. Lori Whitman have another girl to play with Lindsay. They welcomed Elise Janelle on September 5. Her paternal grandparents are Bro.

Dick and Sis. Eileen Whitman of Latty. Bro. Darin and Sis. Erin Laukhuf are first-time parents of Anna Christine, born on September 12. Welcoming her are maternal grandparents, Bro. Ron and Sis. Linda Kipfer of Bluffton, IN.

September 4 was the birthday of Alexis Joy, daughter of Chad and Jennifer Keysor. Her big brothers, Dylan, Andrew and Kaleb, along with grandparents, Bro. George and Sis. Sharon Keysor and Jack and Joy Landskroener, are eager to play with her.

September 13 was the time of observation of Holy Communion for our congregation. As this was Bro. John's first time in serving Communion, it was also Bro. Ray's last time. Once again, we want to thank Bro. Ray for his efforts in this service over the years.

Some of our community have been ill or hospitalized in the past month. Prayer requests have been given for Helen Burnett and Gene Howell.

Bro. Darl Stoller (Sis. Iva) is retiring from being a song leader. A special thanks goes to him for his many years of service.

OHIO, MANSFIELD John and Marci Pfeiffer

Dearest child, we bid thee welcome
In our blessed brotherhood;
From the wild tree thou art
grafted

On this holy tree and root.

Zion's Harp #34

We were blessed to hear the testimonies and then witness the baptisms of two dear souls on August 23-24. We welcome Sis. Betsy Rufener (Bro. Ron and Sis. Kay)

and Bro. Bruce Sauder (Sis. Denise) into our fellowship. May the Lord reward Elder Bro. Art Nohl (Morris, MN), Bro. Jerry Bauman (Rittman, OH), Bro. Steve Pamer (Akron, OH), and Bro. John Grimm (Columbus, OH) for their service that weekend.

Bro. Joe Dotterer (Smithville, OH) and Bro. Steve Martin (Eureka, IL) also visited us this past month. May God bless them for their labors of love.

Our prayers are with Sis. Lucille Groh as she has spent some time in the hospital. We ask God to keep her in His care.

Joshua Rufener (Bro. Ron and Sis. Kay) and Melissa Thacker (James and Robin, FL) became husband and wife on August 29. May God bless them as they begin their life together.

John Them (Roma) passed away on September 1. We extend our sympathy to his dear wife, Roma, and her family.

We rejoice with Sis. Heidi Domka (Bro. Fred and Sis. Connie) and Bro. Doug Schlatter (Bro. Ralph and Sis. Sheila, Junction, OH) as they look forward to being united in marriage. We wish them God's blessings and guidance as they plan for their wedding on October 19.

On September 6-7, we were blessed with many visiting brethren for the Zapata, TX, Reunion. We thank Bro. Tom Schrenk (Athens, AL) and Bro. Ron Steiner (Rittman, OH) for sharing God's Word with us that weekend.

Bro. Curt and Sis. Elizabeth Walter have recently moved here from Silverton, OR. We welcome them and pray that God would continue to provide for their every

need.

OHIO, RITTMAN
Anna Schar
Laurel Indermuhle

Baptized into Thy name most holy,
O Father, Son and Holy Ghost,
I claim a place, though weak and
lowly
Among Thy seed, Thy chosen host.
Immersed with Christ, I'm dead to
sin;
Thy Spirit now shall live within.
Zion's Harp #41

On September 4, we were blessed to add four new members into the fold. Sis. Joanne Maibach (Bro. Alpha and Sis. Denise), Sis. April Dotterer (Bro. Bob and Sis. Mardell), Bro. Ken Gasser (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Ellen) and Sis. Hannah Beery (Bro. Walt and Sis. Lynda) are welcomed as brethren in Christ. Visiting ministers that shared in this special time were Elder Bros. Dave Graf (Akron, OH), Tom Hoffman (Roanoke, IL) and Andy Stoller (Smithville, OH), and Bro. Steve Pamer (Akron, OH).

On August 16 was the marriage of Jerry Riggenschach (Joe and Sis. Karen) to Michelle Tacchio (Steve Tacchio and Deb Tacchio). August 24 was the engagement announcement of Sis. Tara Steiner (Mark and Sis. Deb) to Bro. Grayson Reinhard (Bro. Doyle and Sis. Jan). Also engaged this month was Adam Gasser (Bro. Neil and Sis. Donna) and Rebecca Turner (Neal and Dorothy). Barry Winkler (Bro. Andy and Sis. Mary Jane) and Kristen Todd (William and Eleanora) exchanged vows on September 4. We pray that God will be the center of each of these mar-

riages and that He may also guide each one in the future.

On September 5, Levi Nathan was born to Bro. Nathan and Sis. Mary Hoffman (Rockville, CT). Grandparents are Bro. Mike and Luann Hoffman (Rockville) and Bro. Matt and Sis. Gail Steiner. On September 10, Reuban Thomas was welcomed into the family of Bro. Tom and Sis. Gretchen Stoller (Smithville, OH). He joins sister Esther. Grandparents are Sis. Luella Stoller (Smithville, OH) and Bro. Rowen and Sis. Judy Schar.

Our prayers continue with Bro. Henry and Sis. Bertha Kiser as their son-in-law, Russell Boyes (Marilyn), passed away on September 3. Also in our prayers are those who have been hospitalized, retired Elder Bro. Henry Dotterer (Sis. Martha) and Joseph Schar (Bro. Gary and Vicki).

"As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in Him: rooted and built up in Him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving."

Colossians 2:6-7

OHIO, SARDIS
Terry Zollinger

"But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness."

I Timothy 6:11

As we listen to the Conference tapes through the month of September, all of us are chastened to flee sinful ways and follow the ways of the Lord Jesus Christ and His

teachings from the Holy Word. May our ministering brethren feel the prayers.

Though often the heart
With storms be oppressed,
Afflictions do smart,
By Satan distressed,
"O what shall befall us?"
We wearily sighed;
Still He who protects us,
"The Lord will provide!"
Zion's Harp #86

Loved ones who were in the hospital and/or had tests are Sis. Hazel Riggenschach, Sis. Ruth Headley (Raymond) and Sis. Janet Indermuhle (Bro. Allen). All are thankfully feeling better now. It has been a blessing to see these dear sisters able to attend church.

All who would live and spend their
days in comfort
Should come and draw unto this
Shepherd nigh;
With heav'nly bread He'll satisfy
their hunger,
Which worldly husks can never
satisfy.
No lack of blessings there shall be,
Since to God's treasures He, the
Shepherd, has the key.
Zion's Harp #16

Sardis congregation was blessed with only one visiting minister for the month. He was Bro. Steve Pamer (Akron, OH). It was a blessed weekend to have the Pamer family for a visit. Thank you for your efforts.

Lord Jesus, honor, thanks and
praise
Be to Thy goodness all our days.
Thy people in Thy grace rejoice,
In comfort they lift up their voice:
"Thou shalt remain in all eter-

nity!"

Thus we repose in blest security.

Zion's Harp #14

Thanksgiving is soon upon us. We need to be thankful every day and not just on the day of celebration. Let us count our blessings!

Reminder: Daylight savings time ends and the clocks need to fall back an hour on October 26.

Note of Thanks:

Dear Brothers, Sisters and Friends,

Greetings in the name of the Lord Jesus! We offer our heartfelt thanks to you for all your prayers, cards, words of encouragement, generous gifts of charity, time and support that you have offered to us during all our times of need. May God richly reward you as only He is able. We are grateful to have a church family to help us through the times in our lives when the load we are carrying is far greater than what we can bear ourselves. Thanks be to God that He carries us in these times and moves the hearts of our brethren to help where they can. Malachi is home and doing fairly well. He no longer needs the assistance of an oxygen tank to breathe and is slowly gaining weight.

Love in Christ,

Bro. Alan and Sis. Renee Blough

Kyria, Haven and Malachi

OHIO, SMITHVILLE
Alyssa Miller
Ruth Gasser

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

Eccles. 3:1

September is the month in which we listen to the Conference tapes at our mid-week services. We appreciate the kindly exhortations of our Elder brothers and pray that they can feel our support. We have also been blessed by the visits of several ministering brothers this past month. Taking part in our services were Bros. Ron Steiner (Rittman, OH), Jim Vierling (Eureka, IL), John Hartman (Fairbury, IL), Dan Stoller (Remington, IN) and Paul Gasser (Akron, OH). May God add His blessing to the labors of each faithful servant.

"A time to be born, and a time to die..."

Eccles. 3:2

On August 16, Bailey Sue Martin came to bless the lives of Adam and Sis. Marcia Martin, Tristin, and Bethany. Grandparents, Bro. Mark and Sis. Sue Steiner, also will share in the blessing and responsibility. Bro. Tom and Sis. Gretchen Stoller are thankful for the safe arrival of Reuben Thomas on September 10. Reuben will also receive love and attention of grandparents, Sis. Luella Stoller, and Bro. Rowen and Sis. Judy Schar (Rittman, OH) and "big" sister, Esther.

Our thoughts and prayers have been with those who have lost loved ones. Teri Neiman (Boyd) has suffered the loss of her father. Sorrow has again visited the lives of Bro. George and Sis. Carol Schuster when her brother-in-law was taken. We trust the Lord will bring healing through His Spirit.

Bro. Elmer Blough (Sis. Lorene) has been hospitalized, and we also pray for physical strengthening as the Lord sees needful.

Many visitors joined us on September 7, the special day when Bro. Greg Henico and Sis. Darla Nieman were joined in Holy Matrimony. Their parents are Bro. Greg and Sis. Sarah Henico (Akron, OH) and Bro. Denny and Sis. Kay Nieman. As they take their place in the Akron congregation, we will miss Sis. Darla, but know she will be an asset in her new home.

Bro. Mike Beery has felt the Lord's leading to relocate, and Eureka, IL, will be his home church. We wish him God's blessings.

OHIO, TOLEDO
Rebecca Beard
Dee Beard

On September 7 we had our annual college weekend picnic. We wish a warm welcome to all of our new and returning college students. May God bless them as they start their new year of studies.

Our visiting ministers this month were Elder Bros. Bill Schlatter (Junction) and Mark Masters (Mansfield) and ministering Bros. Sam Schlatter (Junction) and Art Ingold (Rittman). We appreciate their bringing us God's precious Word.

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

Proverbs 23:6

Loren Edward was born on September 12 to Bro. Joel and Sis. Heidi Beard (Forrest, IL). Thankful grandparents are Bro. Ed and

Sis. Dee Beard and Bro. Greg and Sis. Jill Stoller (Forrest). May they seek the Lord's guidance as they raise their family.

"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. Grayson Reinhard (Bro. Doyle and Sis. Jan, Bluffton) and Sis. Tara Steiner (Mark and Deb Steiner, Orrville) announced their engagement. May they feel God's guidance as they plan their future together.

Sis. Herma Whittaker was hospitalized this month. Our prayers are with her.

"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints."

Psalms 116:15

Our dear sister in the Lord, Sis. Josephine Rehklaue, passed away on September 15. Our love and prayers go out to her family.

OREGON, PORTLAND Louisa Gallup

We do not have much news to share with you this month. We are at this point, about half way through listening to the Conference tapes. This is, as always, inspiring and uplifting. We appreciate those who put forth their efforts and may we never forget to pray for our Elder brethren.

We thank all visitors, and in particular Bro. Kenneth Eisenmann and his wife, Sis. Sharon, for coming to Portland from Cissna Park, IL. Bro. Ken's sermons were very

much appreciated. Our gratitude also to Elder Bro. Art Metz (Sis. Betty) and Bro. Harvey Kuenzi (Sis. Jennifer) from Silverton for their unfailing support of our small congregation.

Visitors are always welcome. Please stop by when you can.

OREGON, SILVERTON Kelsey Walder

We rejoice with Bro. Brian Dietrich (Bro. Jim and Sis. Joan) and Sis. Amanda Sinn (Bro. Don and Sis. Linda) as they were united in marriage on August 17. May the Lord be near them as they begin their lives together.

Also united in marriage was Sis. Kelsey Kuenzi (Bro. Terry and Sis. Ann) and Bro. Jesse Walder (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Sharon) from Cissna Park, IL, on August 24. We wish to extend a special welcome to Bro. Jess into the Silverton congregation.

Peace! Peace! Wonderful peace,
Coming down from the Father
above;

Sweep over my spirit forever, I
pray,

In fathomless billows of love.

Tabernacle Hymns # 149

We're thankful Bethany Kuenzi (Bro. Terry and Sis. Ann) has found that precious pearl of peace with God and man. Our prayers are with her as she awaits baptism.

Feeling God's direction to move, Bro. Curt and Sis. Elizabeth Walter have moved to Ohio. We will miss their presence in Oregon, but know they will find a warm welcome wherever God directs them.

Phil Hari's wife, Pat, was hospitalized for the removal of a brain

tumor, and the tumor is cancerous. She is home again but will be undergoing radiation therapy.

Our thoughts and prayers are with them.

In the hospital this month was little Carson Zollinger (Bro. Jim and Sis. Tresa). We're thankful he is home and able to reassemble with us.

We were blessed with many visitors in this past month including Elder Bro. Tom Stock (Sis. Karol, Cissna Park, IL), ministering Bros. Ken Eisenmann (Sis. Sharon, Cissna Park, IL), Dale Frank (Sis. Christine, Oakville, IA), and Elder Bro. Mark Masters (Sis. Jeannine, Mansfield, OH).

PENNSYLVANIA PHILADELPHIA

Nathan and MaryElizabeth Gasser

This month our small congregation was again blessed with growth! We welcome Daryl and Sis. Norma Luginbuhl who moved here from San Francisco, CA. We're pleased they've found a home in the area and will be worshipping with us.

We wish to extend our thanks to those dear brothers and sisters who've given their time and energy to teach our Sunday School children for the past few years, and express our prayers and thankfulness for those who will be starting a new rotation this month.

We also had the opportunity this month to assemble and listen to the Conference tapes. Hearing the Elder brothers' sincere desire for the well-being, unity, and growth of our churches was a true blessing. May we strive to pray for and lift up our ministers and El-

ders the way they do for us. And may our desire for Christian love and unity grow and strengthen our precious faith.

TENNESSEE, NASHVILLE
Mike and Monica Fritz

We appreciate the blessings brought to us by the ministry of the Word through our visitors: Bros. Dan Stoller (Sis. Deb, Remington, IN), Dan Koch (Sis. Julie, Tremont, IL), and Chris Huber (Sis. Sharon, Francesville, IN), and Elder Bro. Ervin Knecht (Sis. Sandra, Eureka, IL). We are also thankful for and blessed by the fellowship with brethren and friends visiting from Athens, AL; Congerville, Eureka, Forrest, Goodfield, Princeville, and Tremont, IL; Bluffton, Bluffton North, and Remington, IN; Bern, KS; and Rittman, OH.

If you are traveling in or through the Nashville area, please plan to worship with us. The following churches are scheduled for services in the near future: Congerville, IL (10/26); Lamar, MO (11/2); Burlington, IA (11/9); Elgin, IL (11/16); and Sarasota, FL (11/23). We do not have a visiting minister scheduled for the Sunday after Thanksgiving, 11/30. 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.

TEXAS
DALLAS/FORT WORTH

Carrie Beyer

Our congregation rejoices with Bro. Ken and Sis. Sharon Lawson on the birth of their new grandson! Parker was born to Bro. Joel and Sis. Tricia Zeller of Indianapolis on September 18.

It has been amazing to watch our small group grow in number over the past month. Although the weekly increases have been small, they are enough to remind us of God's hand of blessing and protection. We especially thank our guests from Sabetha and Fort Scott for visiting.

We extend a warm invitation to anyone living near or traveling through the area to visit our congregation. For worship times or driving directions, please contact Bro. Ken and Sis. Sharon Lawson (817.431.0832) or Bro. Kyle and Sis. Carrie Beyer (817.989.0868). We currently meet 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.

TEXAS, SAN MARCOS
Amy Ringger

We picked figs fresh off the tree this summer for the first time in our lives! The ripe figs were extremely sweet; the ripe ones were just a bit brownish pink in color on the outside, while the unripe were still light green. When picked, they oozed sticky juice from the top. As we tasted them and loaded up our buckets we couldn't help but think of the verses about figs and fig trees in the Bible (Luke 13:7, 21:29, 6:44, Genesis 3:7; among others). It was an interesting experience seeing the unique shape of the

large leaves, and the style of tree—very different from an apple or peach tree. If you want to have a chance to see and pick fresh figs yourself, plan your vacation for next July. We would enjoy picking figs with you!

We thank these Brothers and their wives for their ministry and fellowship this month: Jim Vierling (Sis. Linda, Eureka), Paul Schmidgall (Sis. Shawn, Morris), Gene Lehman (Sis. Verna, Wolcott), Don Gudeman (Sis. Mary, LaCrosse), Leland Plattner (Zapata) and Jim Meiss (Sis. Candy, Phoenix). We were also blessed with visitors from Latty, South Bend, and Peoria.

We look forward to hosting visiting ministers from the following churches in November: Roanoke (2), Akron (9), Elgin, IA (16), Taylor (23), and Rittman (30). 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 south-bound frontage road.

TEXAS, ZAPATA
Mary Plattner
How blessed to go to church on

Sunday and be able to meet our brethren from the Midwest. Our winter family is returning and we anticipate many blessings from our growing winter congregation. For those traveling to the McAllen-Pharr area, they are encouraged to call Bro. Lloyd Nohl (956-581-8266) in Mission, TX, or Bro. Leland Plattner (956-765-5612) for information concerning services in that area.

We welcome Bro. Tyler Schick as a brother in faith. He is the son of Bro. Bill and Sis. Joan Schick. The Schicks live in Rio Bravo, Mexico and assemble with us in Zapata.

VERMONT, NORWICH Doug Mangers

For those who are now aware, monthly church services are now being held in Norwich, VT. These services were started this past summer when a survey of possible attendees living in Vermont and New Hampshire revealed that

there was an interest in establishing a monthly gathering. A meeting place was rented for four services to be conducted on a trial basis, the first held on May 18 and then one each month through August. These services were attended by 50 to 90 people each month during this time with 14 to 20 individuals living in Vermont and New Hampshire present each Sunday. A strong contingent of visitors from Croghan, Philadelphia, Rockville, and various churches in Illinois, have provided support and helped ensure a nice sized group to worship in our small meeting place each month. After an additional survey of those involved and consultation with the Elder Body, it was decided to continue the services beyond the trial period. Beginning in September, we began holding services the second Sunday of each month in the Norwich Grange Hall in downtown Norwich, VT.

We have been blessed to have two visiting ministers with us each Sunday and greatly appreciate their efforts in traveling to be with us. Elder Bros. Kevin Ryan, Ben Wiegand and Duane Farney, and Bros. Dan Stoller, Warren Zahner and Duane Reutter have all come to share God's Word with us. We especially appreciate the assistance, prayers and support of the Rockville congregation and ministers and Elder Bro. Kevin as we would not be able to continue these services without their continued support. It has certainly been a blessing thus far and we praise God above all for His guiding hand during the entire process.

We invite any who would like to come worship with us to attend our monthly services that begin with Sunday School singing shortly after 10:00 a.m. For information or directions, please contact Bro. Doug Mangers at (720) 979-7912 or Morey Weiss at (802) 295-5981.

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Sermon continued from page 2

each one of us? There is a planting and there is a watering in our life and then at harvest time there is a gathering in.

The hymn writer once wrote, "Must I go and empty handed..." (Must I Go And Empty Handed? Gospel Hymns #174). Must I go empty handed before my Father? Doesn't it cause us to give consideration, to think seriously on the Word of God? That which is given unto us in a day and time such as today, it is a privilege for us that we can read and consider.

We read here this account of our Lord and Master on His way to Samaria. He passed by Jacob's well. It says here it was the sixth hour. "There cometh a woman of Samaria to draw water: Jesus saith unto her, Give me to drink." St. John 4:7. A woman of Samaria. A woman steeped in sin. Yet Christ looked upon her, was offering unto her living water.

She did not understand all that she heard in that hour. She perceived this man was special. There was something different about this man - a prophet. "...I perceive that thou art a prophet." St. John 4:19.

Yet how is it beloved, when the Word comes to us? Do we receive it as such, that the very Spirit of God comes to us through the utterance of man? But truly it is the Word of God. The inspired Word of God. That we all can be nurtured and can all be given that spiritual drink. Lest we go forth upon the journey and we become thirsty and we wither upon the way.

Christ said unto her, "...Give

me to drink." St. John 4:7. "Then saith the woman of Samaria unto him, How is it that thou, being a Jew, askest drink of me, which am a woman of Samaria? for the Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans." St. John 4:9.

Immediately we think of the scripture that God has no respect of persons (Acts 10:34). That Jesus Christ died for all men of all ages. The very sacrifice upon Calvary's cross is all that we need and excludes no one. Have we gone to that well to drink? Have we been refreshed at this well of living water?

"Jesus answered and said unto her, If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water." St. John 4:10. Living water. From the Father who is living. From the Father who loves us so much that He sacrificed His only Son that we could have this hope of life eternal. He says unto us today, each one of us, if thou knewest the gift of God. Have we experienced this, beloved, the very gift of God? Peace within our hearts, a hope for eternal life, peace with man upon the earth. Have we experienced this gift of God and who it is that saith to thee, give me to drink?

How is it, beloved, that we that live some two thousand years after our Lord and our Savior walked upon the earth, can yet fulfill this by giving our Lord a drink? The Word tells us that if we were to give a cup of water to our brother or to our sister, whatever we can do for God's elect, it is the same as giving it

unto the Lord (St. Mark 9:41). So we have this opportunity. Even as He asks, give me to drink, we can respond in interaction with our beloved faith, our brothers and sisters in faith. When they are in need of a cup of cold water or in need of whatever it might be, that we have this opportunity to satisfy our Lord.

"...thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water." St. John 4:10. How often, beloved, do we go to our knees and we ask of our Lord those things which would sustain us for today? Or those things which possibly loom upon the horizon and are big question marks in our minds. We know not how these things will come to pass or whether the blessing of the Lord will yet remain with us. But yet we go forth. Having that faith to believe that through the power of His Spirit and through the inner workings of that Spirit within us, we can be directed in our lives. We can then find the strength to press on in whatever service He would call us, wherever He would take us in this life. We truly want to be obedient to that Spirit.

"The woman with unto him, Sir, thou hast nothing to draw with, and the well is deep: from whence then hast thou that living water?" St. John 4:11. Isn't that the way we question things in our life, beloved? We look upon a situation, whatever it might be, and we start to question. How will this be? How will this work out? I don't have the tools to do this. I don't have the resources to do this. Whatever it might be.

Sermon continued next page

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Yet we feel that there is the drawing, the leading of the Spirit. So it comes back upon our faith. Do we have the faith to believe that even though we have no vessel and the well is deep, that yet the water will come forth? Haven't we found the Lord to be faithful?

Just as we read here together, the faithfulness of God. "...or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?" Numbers 23:19. We can believe, dearly beloved, that if there is a directive given unto us in our lives, whatever it might be, wherever He might take us, that He will make good. Our part is to be true. "Be true; be true! The Lord is by thee standing..." (Be True! Zion's Harp #172). Isn't this a comfort unto us? Because we have the Word, we have understanding. We were reminded this morning that the Word of God and the power of God is beyond knowledge. It is not what we know, not what we can do. It is the faith we have to believe in God.

Just as the woman there at that well, she looked down into that well, and the water, the well was deep. The water line must have been low. There was no vessel there to draw from. And Christ asked for a drink of water. Sometimes He asks of us to take a step forward, to test our faith. To test our obedience unto Him. Then the blessing comes. How thankful we can be, beloved, when we have been through this a time or two in our life. And many of us have. We look back and we just thank God that

through it all, there is a hand that guides us and provides for us and shows us that there is a living God.

There is no sin in Him that He should have to repent (Numbers 23 :19). But He asks of us, because we are of the flesh and because we are of a sinful nature - we were all created after the nature of Adam - and because of that, the scriptures tell us that man must repent. He doesn't say that man should repent. The Bible tells us that all men will repent. It is a matter of timing. But if we do it, beloved, in the acceptable day and time of grace, when salvation is yet offered and the blood of Jesus Christ is yet available, there is hope for that eternal life. There is a wedding garment that must be put on here upon this earth. That is the blood of Jesus Christ.

So as we go forth in this life, and just as it was for this woman at the well, there are steps we take in faith. What an encouragement it is when we can have a faith to believe that He who leads me will provide for me day by day.

"... Sir, thou hast nothing to draw with, and the well is deep: from whence then hast thou that living water?" St. John 4:11. We can ask many questions, can't we beloved, in regards to our precious faith. To our individual faith. How will it be with me? What is planned for me ten years from now? Five years from now? Twenty years from now? We don't know. But what we do know is He that cares for us will care for us. No questions asked.

We have that faith. He knows what is best for us. He knows our very needs this very moment and He will not forsake us.

"Jesus answered and said unto her, Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again:" St. John 4:13. That which is of this earth, the things that come from this earth will return to the earth. We can drink of the water that we drink of daily. And we go back for more. We thirst again. But there is a spiritual feeding and a spiritual drinking that, once we satisfy ourselves with that spiritual water, there is a settling, there is a satisfying and there is no need for anything else.

"But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life." St. John 4:14. There is a well spring of water available for each one of us, that we will never spiritually thirst again. We can be satisfied. And we can be thankful that we can be content in our precious faith. That water is freely given. It is offered by our Lord and our Master. The key to it, simply, we would submit to the Father's will.

The woman heard the recourse of our Lord and Master. Her response was, "The woman saith unto him, Sir, give me this water, that I thirst not, neither come hither to draw." St. John 4:15. There is the desire there to have that well spring of water implanted within her that she would never thirst again. She

was thinking in a physical nature. And the Lord had to remind her of her life.

“Jesus saith unto her, Go, call thy husband, and come hither.” St. John 4:16. Then we read the discourse here, where it was recounted that there were multiple husbands in her life. And there was sin there that needed to be confessed. There was a need for a spiritual washing in her life.

Not one of us in this room have been sin free in our life. We are thankful for the mercy which has

been extended unto each one of us. That we could come to know ourselves as we looked down into that well. We had no pitcher to draw with. The well was deep and the water was low. We would look down into that well of life and we would say there is no way. Yet the Lord met us. Just as it was with this woman, He met us at the well. He said, I have something better for you. A well spring of water that you will never thirst again.

This is offered to us today, be-

loved. It is given so freely. Let us go to that well and let us drink deeply. For the journey could be long for us. We know not how long it will be for us here upon this earth. But if we taste of that water that is given so freely, our Lord and our Master will be with us. He will guide us each step of our way, whether it would be here or whether it would there, God knows. And He will guide us to that heavenly land.



Free LPs from the Prairie Choristers

The Prairie Choristers have not produced LP albums for over 20 years. There are a number of unopened LPs that have been in storage. These are now being made available for the last time. There are limited numbers of the following recordings:

**Praise Ye the Lord
Precious Memories
To God Be the Glory**

**Hymns for All Ages
He Holds the Key
Hymns of Worship
There is a Calm**

**The Home Over There
Christmas on the Prairie
This Great Miracle**

If you would like any of these recordings, please send your request to:

**Prairie Choristers
2055 County Highway 4
Roanoke, IL 61561**

*There is **no charge for these recordings or the postage to send them.** There are **no quantity limits.** Requests will be filled in the order in which they were received until supplies are gone.*

NEW CHURCH BUILDING CONSTRUCTION FOR THE PULASKI, IOWA CONGREGATION

We are excited about the progress of this new Church building. The plumbing and bricklaying are complete. The drywall has been installed in the Sunday school area, the assembly, and the ceiling in the fellowship area. The local HVAC & Electrical contactors are willing to work with experienced volunteers.

Volunteer needs are:

Experienced Finish Carpenters
(10/13-10/17)

Volunteers should contact:

Bro. Arnold Gerst
Home: (217) 223-8424
Fax: (217) 223-0116
E-Mail: agerst@rnet.com

Building Committee Chairman:

Bro. Roger Musselman
Home: (641) 664-3485
E-mail: nancylmu@netins.net

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

Iowa: Martin Zaugg
Phone/Fax: 515-379-1693
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Phone: 330-925-6370
Fax: 330-927-6370
Cell: 330-466-2247



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

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

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. For Jamaica, direct your inquiry to Bro. Kevin Sauder, Ph./Fax 309-925-2409 or E-mail ksss@dpc.net.

HAITI					
ORG.	DATE	AREA	COORDINATOR	PROJECT	CAPACITY
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	January 1-10, '04	Montego Bay	Greg Herman	Deaf School	40
CCCD	January 9-17, '04	Kingston	TBA	Deaf School	40
CCCD	March 13-20, '04	Kingston	Terry Miller	Deaf School	40
CCCD	April 8 - April 16, '04	Kingston	Roanoke BC - Kevin Fischer	Deaf School	50
CCCD	May 21-29, '04	Deaf Village	TBA	Work Place	40
CCCD	June 4 - June 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		jzeller@mtco.com
Derek Sauder	309-925-7502		Sauder_Derek_A@cat.com
Jay Maibach	330-939-5234		jmmaibach@valkyrie.net
Bob Beebe	574-291-2158	574-299-8173	rbeebe@surfpure.com
Tom Hitz	734-454-9229	734-454-9259	thitzhome@juno.com
Phil Isabel	219-261-3541	219-261-2885	
Greg (Beth) Herman	309-243-5610		gberman@juno.com
Craig Emch	330-939-4591	330-939-4591	
Terry Miller	IL Phone: 309-923-9154	FL Phone & Fax: 941-485-4302	none
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	ksss@dpc.net
Rich Bertschi	309-467-6110		lemangn@mtco.com
Ted Habegger	260-694-6765		th@parlorcity.com
Mike Reinhard	248-477-2287	248-427-0396	mlreinhard@msn.com

CCCD = Caribbean Christian Center for the Deaf
MEBSH = Missions of Evangelical Baptists of South Haiti
Palm Grove = Mission of Haiti
S.E.E.D. = An Agricultural School & Extension Service
TBA = To Be Announced
Palm Grove = Mission of Haiti

A.W.A. - B. = Apostolic Water Aid/Bluffton
A.W.A. - FRW = Apostolic Water Aid/Francesville, Remington, Wolcott
A.W.A. - T = Apostolic Water Aid/Tremont
(*) = Changes or additions since last issue
()** = Spring Break Timeframe

- 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.



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.

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

Mexico Work Teams 2004

<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Coordinator</u>	<u>Phone & (e-mail)</u>
Juarez	March 6-13, 2004	Construction	Kurt Ifer	206-824-2829 k.ifer@mchsi.com
Agua Prieta	March 6-13, 2004	Construction	Wayne Lehman	574-773-4373 socks@bnin.net
Agua Prieta	March 13-20, 2004	Construction	Wayne Lehman	574-773-4373 socks@bnin.net
Rio Bravo	March 13-20, 2004	Construction	Jim Barth	309-367-2098 Barthlings6@juno.com
Juarez	March 20-27, 2004	Construction	Bruce Aschliman	260-824-5160 aschlimanb@yahoo.com
Agua Prieta	March 20-27, 2004	Construction	Denis Fry	260-824-3055 fry.d@mchsi.com
Rio Bravo	March 20-27, 2004	Construction	Dean Fiechter	260-565-3439 dafiechter@parlorcity.com
Rio Bravo	April 10-17, 2004	Construction	Jim Rieker	309-693-1721 JRieker@SBCGlobal.net
Juarez	April 14-21, 2004	Medical/Dental	Cheryl Herrman	309-385-1082 cherylh@mtco.com
Rio Bravo	June 19-26, 2004	Construction	Joe Zimmerman	309-263-0254
Rio Bravo	July 3-10, 2004	Construction	Dean Fiechter	260-565-3439 dafiechter@parlorcity.com
Rio Bravo	July 10-17, 2004	Construction	Dean Fiechter	260-565-3439 dafiechter@parlorcity.com
Juarez	October	Medical/Dental	Cheryl Herrman	309-385-1082 cherylh@mtco.com

*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*

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



This is the next installment of "My Father's Conversion", the account of how J. Andrew Braun was drawn to the faith in Switzerland (in 1844). He starts out telling of his life in the church at Strassburg, under the care of Bro. Froehlich.

My Father's Conversion

Following these spiritual advantages, he had to go to his birthplace (Schweinfurt, Bavaria) for conscription (military enrollment) but he had the assurance given him in the spirit that he would be set free, which also came true. However, he knew not at the time how this would come about. On his homeward journey he had an experience which in the course of time proved wonderful. This is as follows:

He imagined to see on the Rossmarkt (Horse Market) in Schweinfurt (a principal street of the city) two men walking; one an old man and one a young man. The tool bags which they carried on their shoulders convinced him that these men were locksmiths which they later proved to be. His immediate thought was that if he could locate these men they might accept the truth, but as Schweinfurt was a city of about twelve thousand inhabitants, he discharged from his mind the hope of ever finding these men.

Braun's Mother

At length he reached his mother's house. From letters which he had written to his mother concerning his conversion, she was concerned and even worried about him, fearing that possibly he had been struck with religious insanity. For this reason she observed him very carefully for a number of days, but one day when he was sitting at the table reading the Bible she broke her silence saying, "Andrew, I have become convinced that you have not gone crazy, but something has come over you for you are so changed. Pray tell me what it is." This gave him the opportunity of telling his mother more particulars concerning his conversion and this proved to be the opening wedge to varied blessed developments in his home city.

Church Meetings

She now gave him permission to hold meetings in her house. These meetings were attended by his former school mates. One of the regular attendants was a Miss Dorothea Schmidt, who reported to her mother what she took up in her heart of the things she had heard in these meetings. Among other things the young man maintained was that infant baptism was no baptism at all.

The ground for this claim (he explained) was because it had been

performed on the subject without his faith and without his or her renouncing the world, and the impossibility of a real yearning for the grace to walk in newness of life. Hence, the need of being called to the Lord through faith which must come by the hearing of His call in the Gospel and thereafter to receive baptism as a result of this faith.

Teaching

The house of the mother of Miss Schmidt was much visited by the Clergy, but as she was not at all satisfied with the conditions in her church she expressed a desire to hear more of this matter for this was something new because there were only the adherents to the Catholic and Lutheran Churches in Schweinfurt.

These wishes of Mrs. Schmidt were made known; for he was invited in the name of the mother to come to her house. This invitation my father accepted, arriving at the house the next Wednesday evening. Here he found the Bible on a little table and a chair awaiting him; also a little audience of thirteen or fourteen souls, and to his surprise and the joy of his heart he met among this number the old man and the young man mentioned before that he had seen in a vision on his way to his home city.

...continued on page 51

REMEMBERING

...continued from page 50

This entire group accepted the truth and inside of several years there were already about forty converts. But now came the fiery test of his faith through tribulations; for again and again he was called before judges and several courts because of his holding religious meetings other than the Catholic or Lutheran faith.

He suffered things at their hands which in return were followed with very painful afflictions upon those who allowed themselves to be used as tools to prevent the progress of the work of the Lord.

In one instance the judge said to him, "Braun, you had best drop the entire matter for the Ministerium or Clergy of the two churches of State will certainly crush you." On a later hearing, one judge said, "My name is Small, and physically I am small, but my power is great." This judge also exercised his power against him with all his might.

My father had often to appear before this judge, but on the last occasion this same haughty judge exclaimed in a loud voice before all that were present, "Braun, pray also for me, for it appears as though the devil was loose in my house." After the court session, this judge went home, seized a revolver and committed suicide.

By: Perry A. Klopfenstein

Next issue:

Final installment

The Light Of Hope

From Across The Ocean

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"The Shining Light"

Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle, Shioda, Japan

In the midst of darkness, have you seen the shining light? We can say yes to that question inasmuch as Christ is the shining light which gives us hope in all circumstances. Christ has the power to dispel darkness and gloom, and to purify our hearts to the extent of becoming whiter than snow. John 1:9 reads concerning the Lord Jesus Christ, "That was the true light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world."

Christ said regarding John the Baptist, "He was a burning and a shining light." (John 5:35). Not only is Christ spoken of as the light, but His followers are supposed to be lights. Ephesians 5:8 reads, "Now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light." The verse which has attracted my attention about the shining light is Proverbs 4:18. "But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day." Have you seen the shining light in the lives of our brothers and sisters in Christ? I have, and I trust you have, too. As the moon reflects the light of the sun, our brothers and sisters reflect the light of the Son of God, and they themselves, become shining lights. "Shining" indicates that the light is not stationary, but it moves and lands on other people. Other people also, begin to shine.

As darkness and hopelessness begin to settle in, the lights are to shine more and more unto the perfect day.

The perfect day is still in the future, perhaps when Christ returns to earth to receive His own.

We recognize Christ as the shining light, and we recognize our brothers and sisters as shining lights, and we are happy. But the verse in Proverbs says, "The path of the just is as the shining light." I want to be included as someone who is "just" so that includes me. We individually are faced with the problem of how to be that shining light. The verse in Proverbs reads, "The path of the just," so that gives us the hint that where we walk, what we do, and what we say, are important factors in being the shining light. It is said that, "Actions speak louder than words," but we must remember that perhaps even more important than the words we speak, is the way in which we speak them. Love and faith can be felt.

So the just are to be the shining light. We have work to do. A smile is not essential to be the shining light, but it helps. Tears are not essential to be the shining light, but they help, when visiting someone who is grief stricken. Being dead to self is an important part of being the shining light.

As we all become the shining light, more and more, our church becomes the shining light. Let's all be the shining light, reflecting the light of the Lord Jesus Christ.

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Like as a father pitieth his children, so the LORD pitieth them that fear Him.

THE SILVER LINING
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*****CAR-RT LOT**R-001

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